

Foundation Partners



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Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is one of the world's leading institutions in the generation and application of new knowledge to meet the challenges facing developing countries.

IDRC funds applied research by researchers from developing countries on the problems they identify as crucial to their communities. It also provides technical support to those researchers. IDRC builds local capacity in developing countries to undertake research and create innovations, believing that people from developing countries must take the lead in producing and applying

knowledge for the benefit of their own communities. IDRC also fosters alliances and knowledge sharing between scientific, academic, and development communities in Canada and developing countries.

The mission of IDRC remains "Empowerment through Knowledge," i.e. to promote interaction, and foster a spirit of cooperation and mutual learning within and among social groups, nations and societies through the creation, and adaptation of the knowledge that the people of developing countries judge to be of greatest relevance to their own prosperity, security and equity.



<www.infodev.org>

infoDev is a consortium of public bilateral and multilateral development agencies, working in close cooperation with partners from civil society and the private sector, and assisted by an expert secretariat housed at the World Bank. Its mission is to help developing countries and their international partners use information and communication technologies (ICTs) broadly and effectively as

tools of poverty reduction, sustainable economic growth, and empowerment of individuals and communities. Its work is rooted in the conviction that information and communication are indispensable elements of effective and responsive institutions (including governments), markets and societies.



<www.lirne.net>

LIRNE.NET is a strategic collaboration between researchers and faculty from: the **Center for Information and Communication Technologies (CICT)**, Technical University of Denmark; **DIRSI – the Regional Dialogue on the Information Society**, Latin America and the Caribbean; **Economics of Infrastructures (EI)**, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands; **LINK Centre**, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa; **LIRNEasia**, Sri Lanka; **Media and Communications Department (media@LSE)**, London School of Economics, UK; and **Fundación Comunica**, Uruguay.

The LIRNE.NET mission is twofold:

- To facilitate ICT-related institutional reform throughout the world – through research, training, dialogue, policy and regulatory advice; and to build human capital in this new area as the foundation for effective policy, regulation, governance, management and development in new 'network' or 'knowledge' economies.

LIRNE.NET activities include:

- External Training Initiatives (for government, industry and NGOs); Research Activities and Reports; World Dialogue on Regulation for Network Economies <regulateonline.org> and Expert Analysis & Commentary on Current Issues.

About the Authors

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ANDREW J BARENDSE (PhD) has 20 years professional experience in the management of the telecom sector. He spent 15 of those years as a practitioner for a large telecom operator and the last five years as a Research Fellow and Assistant Professor at Delft University of Technology where his ongoing work addresses international telecom, policy, regulation and the strategic behavior of firms. In industry he has worked in regulatory affairs (as a senior manager), sales (as a sales account manager), corporate training and development (as a lecturer) and network operations (as a planning officer).

SAMUEL BRAITHWAITE is a Junior Researcher at the Institute of Development Studies University of Guyana, a job he has held since graduating with a Distinction in Economics in 2003. His duties include assisting in the research activities of the Institute, doing personal research and teaching in the Department of Economics, University of Guyana.

Mr. Braithwaite's research interests include telecoms and ICTs, and as such he has attended regional and national workshops on ICTs and the information society, in addition to being involved in related research activities. He has also participated in workshops and seminars about commercial diplomacy, project planning, and other related themes. His ambition is to obtain a PhD in Economics.

HARSHA DE SILVA is a consultant economist with thirteen years experience in policy reforms, public interest regulation, research and development finance, mainly in rural infrastructure. His current focus is on the economics of ICT for development with various multilateral agencies and governments across Asia. He is also, amateur journalist with highly rated television show on how economic policy impacts people. Harsha holds a PhD in economics from the University of Missouri, Columbia.

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STEVE ESSELAAR is a researcher at the LINK Centre University of the Witwatersrand. In 2003, Esselaar worked on a set of case studies on VSAT in Algeria, Tanzania and Nigeria. In 2004 he oversaw several of the e-Index country studies' data capture and graphic presentation, including that of South Africa. Arising from the African e-Index he produced a paper with Research ICT Africa! colleague Christoph Stork on ICT Diffusion in Sub-Saharan Africa. He has a joint honours degree in Politics and Philosophy from Rhodes University and an MBA from the Gordon Institute of Business Science University of Pretoria where his dissertation was on the strategic impact of Voice over Internet Protocol on South African Telecommunication Operators.

HERNAN GALPERIN (Ph.D., Stanford University) is Associate Professor at the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Southern California (USA) and Visiting Professor at the Universidad de San Andrés (Argentina). He is also Steering Committee member for DIRSI, an ICT policy research consortium for Latin America and the Caribbean. An expert on telecommunications policy and development, Dr. Galperin

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BRUCE GIRARD is executive director of the Comunica Foundation. Based in Uruguay, Comunica coordinates a network of researchers and activists specialised in ICTs and media and telecommunications policy and regulation. Girard is active in policy areas related to media, information and communication technologies and communication rights. He regularly consults to UNDP on a pro-poor ICT networks, applications and services project and some conclusions of this ongoing work were published in *Community-based Networks and Innovative Technologies: New models to serve and empower the poor*. While at Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands from 1998-2002, Girard researched trends in international governance of media and communication, co-authoring the book *Global Media Governance*. Girard was a founder of the Communication Rights in the Information Society (CRIS) and co-edited the book *Communicating in the Information Society* (2003).

Girard is also an expert in local and community-based media and one of the founders of the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC). He has published numerous articles, reports and books about local broadcasting. Recent reports include *Empowering Radio*, a report on good practices in development & operation of community radio in five countries prepared for the World Bank (2007), a needs assessment for community radio in Senegal (2003), and *The Potential for Community Radio in Afghanistan* (2002). He has edited two books on community radio: *The One to Watch: Radio, ICTs and Interactivity* (2003) and *A Passion for Radio: Radio Waves and Community* (1992).

GUSTAVO GÓMEZ is a communicator and researcher and has been the director of the Communication Rights and Legislation Programme at AMARC-LAC (World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters-Latin America and the Caribbean) since November 2001. An expert on public policy and regulatory frameworks in broadcasting, ICTs, freedom of expression and communication rights, he has conducted research, provided advisory services and/or drafted recommendations in a number of countries in the region, at the invitation of governments, Congresses, social organizations and international agencies (UNESCO, FAO, World Bank, among others).

He was a member of the promotion committee for the "La Onda Rural" a Latin American Initiative on Communication for

Development (United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation 2004-2007), the AMARC Action Committee on Digital Technologies before the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and recently formed part of the National Commission on Open Digital Terrestrial Television in Uruguay established to advise the government. He served on the advisory committee for the Association for Progressive Communications (APC) ICT Policy Monitor project (2002-2003) and was the coordinator of the Latin American Broadcasting Legislation Database project (UNESCO-AMARC-ALER, 2002-2003).

He actively participated in the first and second phases of the World Summit on the Information Society, as well as in regional events related to the WSIS process, and is a member of the AMARC permanent delegation to international agencies such as the OAS Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

MALATHY KNIGHT-JOHN is the lead researcher on LIRNEasia's project to investigate the replicability of GrameenPhone's approach to extending rural connectivity through the use of micro-finance in Bangladesh. She was one of the co-authors of the National Early Warning System (NEWS:SL) concept paper produced by LIRNEasia. She is a Research Fellow and Head of Public Enterprise Reform, Competition Policy and Regulation research at the Institute of Policy Studies (Colombo). Knight-John has written extensively in these areas both locally and internationally and has also contributed directly to national economic policy by producing policy briefs and serving on various committees appointed by the government. She is currently reading for a PhD at the Institute of Development Policy and Management (IDPM), University of Manchester, focusing on The Political Economy of Telecommunications Reform and Regulation in Developing Countries: The Case of Sri Lanka.

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AMY MAHAN is LIRNE.NET coordinator and senior researcher for the World Dialogue on Regulation (WDR). She has worked in the field of regulation and policy research during the past 15 years. Current research areas focus on ICT for development,

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Former Chief Economist, US FCC, and adviser and expert witness for the US Department of Justice in *US v. AT&T*, Melody has a PhD in Economics (Nebraska, 1966), and has held academic appointments leading new multidisciplinary programme development in seven countries: University of Pennsylvania 1971-76; Simon Fraser University 1976-85; Economic and Social Research Council and Oxford University 1985-89; Centre for International Research on Communication and Information Technologies, Melbourne 1989-94; Technical University of Denmark 1995-97; Delft University of Technology 1997-02.

Melody is a contributor to the research and policy literature with more than 150 publications, and former editor, *Telecommunications Policy*, and Policy Review editor, *info*. His edited volume, *Telecom Reform: Principles, Policies and Regulatory Practices* (1997), is used in training programs in more than 100 countries. He is a periodic consultant and advisor to universities and research centres around the world, for UN and other international organisations, government and corporate organisations.

CLAIRE MILNE is an independent telecoms policy consultant, and Visiting Research Associate in the Department of Media and Communications at the London School of Economics. Throughout her career, first with BT and then in consultancy, she has had a constant interest in shaping telecommunica-

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AVANTI MOONESINGHE is a freelance writer focused on preparing content for the marketing initiatives of both private and public sector organisations. In this capacity she works with several of Sri Lanka's top-20 companies, across a wide spectrum of industries. She previously overlooked Internet strategy development at Affno, a Sri Lankan software company. She was also the Deputy Secretary General of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Sri Lanka. Moonesinghe was a research analyst at Lanka Securities, a financial investment firm where she prepared a paper on *Corporate Finance and Venture Capital Opportunities in Sri Lanka*. She has also worked at the Policy Support Unit, a USAID funded project. She has a Bachelors degree in Business and Economics from Wilson College, USA and a Postgraduate Diploma in Business from the University of Lincoln, UK.

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He is Founding director of CTI and its follower CICT. The development of the Center is based on combined financing from the university, industry and research grants. He has published a number of scientific papers in journals and conference proceedings. He has further contributed to a number of consultancy reports and studies for the Danish telecom and broadcast administration, the European Union and the World Bank.

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He has worked for the Nepal Telecommunication Authority (telecom regulatory body) during its initial setup period and during that time assisted the authority to achieve its goal of introducing competition in the telecommunication field in Nepal; as National Consultant supporting the International Experts in the SASEC ICT Development Master Plan Project under the Asian Development Bank; as local consultant and Human Resources expert with Pentascope International BV, The Netherlands, supporting the international team of consultants in the consulting project for "Nepal Telecom Commercialization and Restructuring", a World Bank Telecommunications Sector Reform Project carried out on behalf of the MOIC (Ministry of Information and Communication); and as a National Consultant in the "Task Force on Technical Training Engineering Education Project" in 1994 formed by Tribhuvan University, Institute of Engineering.

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AYESHA ZAINUDEEN is a researcher at LIRNEasia, where her research focus is on understanding ICT needs of as well as improving ICT access for the marginal user. Currently she is managing LIRNEasia's five-country telecom user study '*Teleuse on a Shoestring 2: A Study of the Financially Constrained in Asia*,' which looks at the use of telecom services among low-income earners in India, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka & Thailand. She also coordinated the 2005 *Teleuse on a Shoestring* study, which had a similar focus in three countries. She was also a co-researcher on a study which sought to investigate the replicability of GrameenPhone's approach to extending rural connectivity through the use of micro-finance in Bangladesh. She is also coordinating the compilation of a book, which will look at policy and regulation to extend ICT connectivity to the underseved, for which she is also a contributing author. Before joining LIRNEasia, Ayesha worked at the Public Interest Program Unit (Ministry for Economic Reform, Sri Lanka) as a Young Professional, engaged in research assistance in infra-structural reform projects. Prior to that, she was employed at the A.C.S Hameed Peace Foundation involved in social research in Sri Lanka. She holds a Bachelors degree in economics from the London School of Economics.