Interim reports of WSIS Community (www.wsis-community.org)
Open Debate on the WSIS Forum 2011
(23 November 2010)

This document provides the overview of contributions made by stakeholders from 15 October to 22 November 2010 in WSIS Community. The listing of submitted comments is available on the “WSIS Forum 2011 Open Consultation Group” page at the http://www.wsis-community.org/pg/groups/15325/wsis-forum-2011-open-consultation-on-the-format-and-the-thematic-focus/. Open debate will go on until 15 December 2010.

WSIS Community is an online collaborative platform launched by UNESCO at the WSIS Forum 2009. Over 600 people have joined the Community so far and continue discussions and exchange their ideas and experiences to advance the WSIS commitments towards 2015. For more information, please send e-mail to wsiscommunity-invitation@unesco.org.

Thematic Focus of the Forum 2011

The future of e-government: Open government and collaboration

- The dynamics of ICT is often faster and e-government key factors must evolve. How the governments should be prepared for rapid changes in ICT?
- What is the impact of Web 2.0 concept and tools for empowering citizens: advantage and disadvantage?
- What is the role of ICT in changing citizens’ current culture and disseminating awareness about their new role?
- The need of creating common international ICT language to minimize the global gap in using ICT terminologies, definitions and concept.

Inclusion of disadvantaged community including people with special needs and nomads children through ICT

- Disabled individuals are still excluded in many ways of life, especially information communication technology (ICT), so ICT training is an important key qualification and the Standard ICT training is insufficient for marginalized community.
- In Sudan, hundreds of thousands of nomad's children are excluded from education and they are out of school due to climate change or poverty. ICT can play a great role to get them back to the education system.

WSIS and MDGs
- Developing countries need a more effective and “bottom-up” approach to information processes:
  - What role can play the information society to give a voice to marginalized people?
  - What role can play bottom-up media to strengthen peace-building processes?
  - How to develop an international consensus over ethic in media and ethical public policies on media?

**ICT and Assistive Technology**

- How will the use of ICT&AT promote inclusion of the individual into activities in the school and community?
- What are the features/capabilities of the technology that would assist the persons with disabilities?

"Vendor capture" problem in the context of e-government procurement and interoperability enforcement by the public sector

- Governments often lack awareness about strategic procurement and many professional consultants are only prepared to provide vendor-side strategies.
- In a situation where several governments consider massive spending on e-government solutions a procurement strategy is essential to reap the benefits and cut costs.

**Impact of ICTs on Knowledge production, sharing and access**

- Is there a change in the nature of knowledge influenced by ICTs?
- How to encourage an active participation of developing countries instead of passive consumption?

**Open educational resources and the related fields of Open Access (OA) to scientific information, and Free and Open Source Software (FOSS)**

- It is important to increase awareness and access to, as well as building the capacities to viably develop OERs in building inclusive knowledge societies and in achieving sustainable development.
- Open Access to scientific and technical knowledge is an essential component of the information society. Aspects of two Action Lines from the WSIS Plan of Action – Action Line C3 (“Access to Information and Knowledge”) and Action Line C7 (“e-Learning” -- specifically as it relates to e-Science) – are tied to Open Access.

**Formulating new ICT indicators in light of emerged ICT developments**

- How to formulate new ICT realistic and comparable indicators? It should be in line with today’s ICT development which would permit measuring and following-up the WSIS targets. Maybe it could be necessary to harmonize both groups of indicators: WSIS targets indicators and the IDI indicators.

**The International framework for global cooperation against cyber crimes and threats**

- At present there is not any global framework to act against cyber crimes. The question is whether international conventions such as Budapest Convention can work or not.
- We need several interactive panels which discuss different aspects of the issue. In addition,
panelists should be geographically-balanced.

**Child Online Protection**

- How to further enhance cooperation between governments and public and private sections in different countries?

**The development, diffusion and implementation of knowledge-based community-building virtual platforms for social innovations**

- This should look at the roles of different types of knowledge within processes of social learning that integrate the physical and virtual dimensions of ICT4D projects and initiatives. This theme is deeply related to the problem of scaling up of projects into ICT4D or social-innovation movements.

---

**Format of the Forum 2011**

**Shortening duration of the event**

- 2-3 days will be sufficient

**Enhancing remote participation**

- Using WebEx (used at the 5th IGF meeting)
- Exploring further Web.2.0 tool