



ERADICATE
EXTREME POVERTY
AND HUNGER



ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL
PRIMARY EDUCATION



PROMOTE GENDER
EQUALITY AND
EMPOWER WOMEN



REDUCE
CHILD MORTALITY



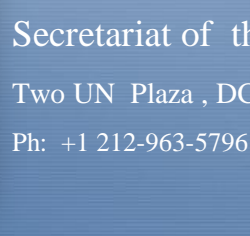
IMPROVE MATERNAL
HEALTH



COMBAT HIV/AIDS,
MALARIA AND OTHER
DISEASES



ENSURE
ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY



A GLOBAL
PARTNERSHIP FOR
DEVELOPMENT



MDG eNabler

ICT4MDG Matrix | Planner | Knowledge Sharing

*...The Virtual Engine for MDG Achievement :
from Advocacy to Action !*

Secretariat of the Global Alliance for ICT and Development (GAID)

Two UN Plaza , DC2-1439 , New York , NY , 10017

Ph: +1 212-963-5796 Fax: +1 917-367-4340 Email: gaid@un.org Web: www.un-gaid.org



Message from Mr Ban Ki-moon United Nations Secretary-General

“Information and communication technologies have a central role to play in the quest for development, dignity and peace. The international consensus on this point is clear. We saw it at the 2000 Millennium Summit and at the 2005 World Summit. And we saw it in the two phases of the World Summit on the Information Society.

With the launch of the Global Alliance for ICT and Development last March 2006, the international community has taken that consensus a crucial step further. The Alliance is well placed to promote the use of ICT in fighting poverty, illiteracy and disease, in protecting the environment and empowering women and girls.

It is important that you work as a true partnership of all essential stakeholders - Governments, civil society, the private sector, academia and others. All of you are needed if we are to succeed.”

**Delivered during the “UN meets Silicon Valley”, California, February 2007*



The Millennium Development Goals

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) place the issues of over a billion people living in extreme poverty at the center of national and international agendas and bring to light core issues faced by women, children, persons with disabilities, and marginalized and neglected communities worldwide. Poverty weakens not only the individual, but the fabric of communities, diminishes human potential, inhibits participation in global marketplace, and can leave entire countries in critical condition. But this does not have to be so, and the vision of the MDGs promotes stability, security, and justice for all. We must advocate for this vision in any way we can.

The Importance of ICT for MDGs

The world is more technologically advanced and more prosperous today than during any other period in history. However, unprecedented challenges like climate change, natural and man-made disasters, conflicts, food and energy crises, environmental and economic collapse, threaten already tenuous gains. It is therefore imperative that the international community redouble efforts to meet the MDGs by 2015 and strengthen the fight for human dignity, enhanced capabilities and, ultimately, global peace and security. With less than five years remaining to meet the targets established in the MDGs, we must take advantage of every tool that helps us get closer to accomplishing these vital goals.

Information and communication technologies (ICT) are a critical tool and a key enabler in addressing development issues. From boosting agricultural yield in Andhra Pradesh, to delivering clean water and sanitation to slum dwellers in Brazil, to monitoring child malnutrition in Malawi, even providing government accountability through Web 2.0, ICT have become instrumental in the fight against poverty and hunger and the delivery of quality services to the most disadvantaged. ICT include a variety of media such as computers, satellite communication, radio, televisions, telecentres, internet, mobile phones and emerging ways of using these technologies. ICT can transform development through the creation of new sectors of employment and enhancing livelihoods, upgrades in healthcare and other services, and improved channels for networking, participation, and advocacy within society. Although the costs associated with building new information infrastructure may be high, the cost of not doing so is even higher. ICT provide a bridge of communication among countries. They are tools for creating a common language that fosters opportunities, connects



people, and provides a platform for development. For these reasons, now more than ever, having access to ICT can signal the difference between progress and inequalities in our rapidly changing world.

Global Alliance for ICT and Development: Overview

In 2000, the United Nations put forth its Millennium Declaration with a consensus among world leaders that one of the most pressing issues for the coming years was the mandate to spread the benefits of ICT to all citizens of the world.

Following this, Secretary-General Kofi Annan formed the United Nations' first ICT Task Force to harness the potential of ICT for economic and social development. In 2005, the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) led to the creation of the Global Alliance for ICT and Development with the mission of fostering partnerships for policy dialogue and action to accelerate progress toward achieving the MDGs.

GAID's momentum is fueled by a fresh approach and multi-sector input on development issues that draws not only the support of government leaders and civil society, but academic and private sector initiatives in the field of ICT. GAID's primary objectives are to mainstream ICT into the United Nations development agenda, bring together all important stakeholders, promote technological innovation, as well as pro-poor business models that spur growth and development.

In its most recent initiative to achieve these objectives, GAID launched a web-based MDG eNabler, a crucial new interactive clearinghouse and matrix for effective ICT tools, solutions, resources and services, offering contextualized scenarios, strategic planning and resources organized thematically by the Millennium Development Goals they address.

MDG eNabler

Matrix: As the backbone of the MDG eNabler, the Matrix collects global ICT tools and solutions, and organizes them under their respective MDG. The Matrix aims to aggregate and convert a breadth of raw data into a comprehensive tool for addressing development challenges around the world. The Matrix is currently being populated in open collaborations with multiple stakeholders.

Meta-Portal: A "Portal of Portals" or a "yellow pages" of sorts, it links the content of other major existing portals that promote the use of technology for development.



Compendium of Excellence in ICT for MDGs: The Compendium of Excellence highlights and recommends the most outstanding and effective ICT tools and solutions worldwide.

Computer-Aided Strategic Planner: It is a hands-on tool that integrates knowledge and data from a variety of sources and produces highly customized plans for government officials and development practitioners. Other resources, such as a detailed planning and ICT simulation/business game tools and project controls and verification help enhance the accuracy and ultimate success of the Strategic Planner's output.

The Difference

The MDG eNabler is unique for the following reasons:

- ***The United Nations:*** As the convener of the MDG eNabler, the United Nations provides a globally recognized platform ensuring universality, legitimacy and neutrality.
- ***Multi-Stakeholder Approach:*** The MDG eNabler is inclusive of the global community and draws upon the expertise of the public and private sectors, civil society and a multitude of international organizations.
- ***One-Stop Shop:*** Unlike other initiatives, the MDG eNabler is not just a knowledge repository, but rather a tool that converts raw data and experiences into user-specific information to help the global community address various development challenges.

These differences make the MDG eNabler the first innovative tool of its kind and a crucial instrument in advancing progress towards the achievement of the MDGs.

Why it is Useful

The eNabler offers an entire clearinghouse of answers to the basic question: "*Which ICT tools and solutions for Development are available and actually working?*" As a convenient, all-in-one instrument for planning and implementation services, the MDG eNabler provides a repository for not only best practices, but powerful business intelligence tools for customized consulting and planning of future ICT projects.

Focus on MDGs

This is the first time such a site has been organized thematically around ICT for advancing specific Millennium Development Goals. The MDG eNabler provides



information not only on successful projects, organizations, leading actors and financial mechanisms, but a realistic take on the barriers and challenges addressed in implementing the best solutions and tools.

Customized Solutions

The Matrix for ICT solutions, as the core of the eNabler, displays which ICT solutions and projects have had tangible results in meeting the MDG targets, and how they can be applied to situations on the ground.

Strategic Planning

The Strategic Planner includes region specific information, applying data from the United Nations to guide and customize reports. This tool presents information on all aspects of ICT planning including business, technologies and management, thus providing a service for planning and strategizing ICT projects that would otherwise be too costly for many practitioners to consider.

Easy Access

The MDG eNabler's accessibility online makes it an excellent source for anyone, from government officials to development practitioners, international organizations and civil society.

Why you should be involved

As an open source compendium of best practices and ICT solutions for meeting the Millennium Development Goals, the MDG eNabler is an ongoing collaboration between GAID and development practitioners around the world, from national governments, to International and local organizations, from civil society to the private sector. Therefore, its success relies on the support and involvement of a network of users and contributors.

Much like a wiki-based system, the building of MDG eNabler's content is an ongoing process, and we encourage participation of all stakeholders in making it a success. Your involvement is integral to both the mission of the eNabler, but also its continued relevance and utility as a source for ICT solutions, tools and services.

Transparency & Peer Review

While an open and participatory platform for ICT solutions, the MDG eNabler must also be reliable and transparent. New content must be proven, replicable, scalable and self-sustainable in terms of resources and capacity.



Secretariat of the Global Alliance For ICT and Development (GAID)

Two United Nations Plaza , DC2-1439 , New York , NY , 10017

Ph: +1 212-963-5796 Fax: +1 917-367-4340 Email: gaid@un.org Web: www.un-gaid.org