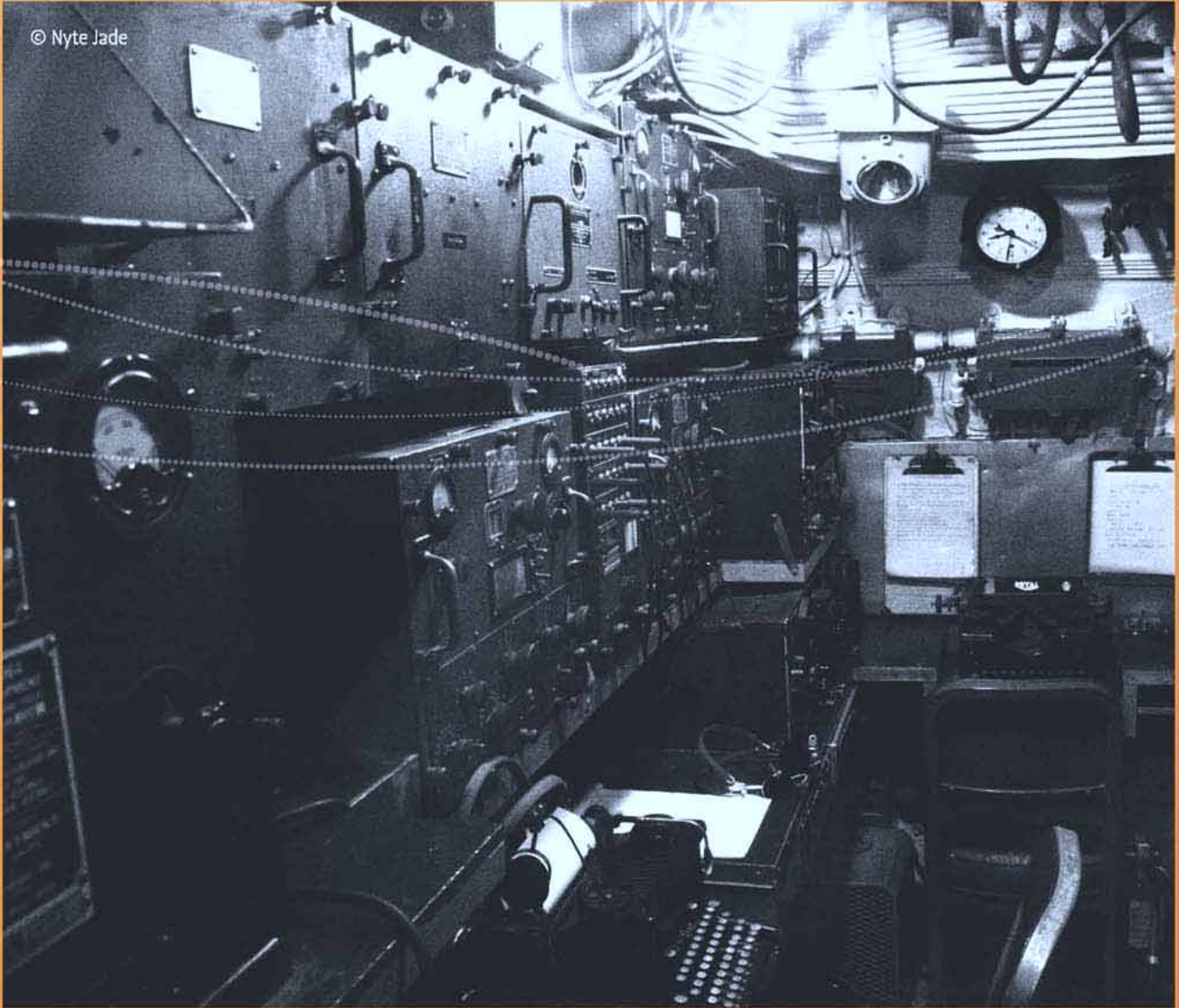


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Communication and Information UNESCO Bangkok



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CI Focus Areas

The Communication and Information Sector (CI) is one of the five sectors of UNESCO. It consists of three Divisions:
Communication Development
Freedom of Expression, Democracy and Peace
Information Society

CI Bangkok is involved in the efforts of two intergovernmental programmes – the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) and the Information for All Programme (IFAP). CI also participates in the Asia Pacific Information Network (APIN).

CI is dedicated to the promotion of the free flow of ideas, universal access to information, preservation of documentary heritage, expression of pluralism and cultural diversity in the media, and training of communication and information professionals. This unit's area of coverage is Lao PDR, Myanmar, Singapore and Thailand.

UNESCO is not a funding agency. However, CI Bangkok supports training, research, publications, testing, evaluation, and meetings.

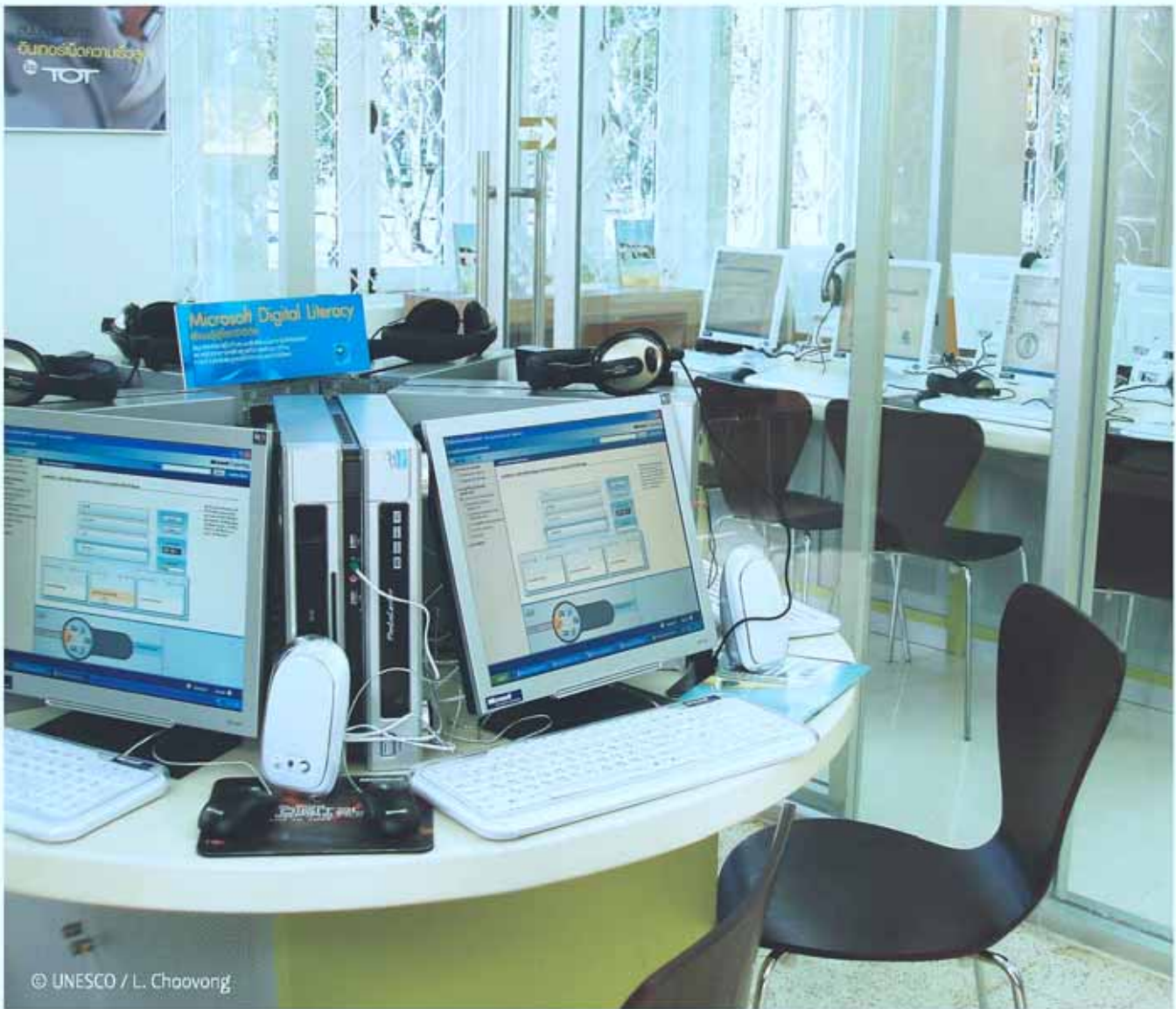


Access to Information

To empower rural and poor communities, CI introduces new information and communication technology through Community Multimedia Centres (CMC). People confined to these areas have greater access to information as well as a means to communicate and consult with those outside their communities: local representatives, local central governments and beyond. CMCs allow communities to better and more effectively participate in political and developmental activities.

Freedom of Expression

Freedom of expression (of individuals and the media) is the right to have an opinion and express it freely. In collaboration with national and regional media organizations, CI helps to raise public awareness of and encourages discussion on freedom of expression.



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Information Literacy

Information literacy, which includes ICT and media literacy, is a skill combining critical reception, assessment and use of information for personal and professional development. For a society to have information literate adults, information literacy education needs to start as early as possible. CI works with librarians and teachers to support information literacy development in schools.

Training

CI provides training opportunities in the areas of competence of the sector. CI is currently focusing on media training to promote science journalism, good governance, the application of information retrieval software, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.



Partners

CI works in cooperation with its parent Sector in Paris, other UNESCO offices, especially in the Asia and Pacific region, and within the UNESCO Bangkok office in implementing intersectoral projects. CI also collaborates with international organizations such as UNDP regional center, FAO and ITU and also with regional and national organizations such as AIBD, AMIC, AIT and SEAPA.

Products

CI produces a variety of publications and products: DVDs, CD-ROMs, reports, handbooks, research studies, bookmarks, and posters. All of CI's products are in the public domain and can be copied or used for non-profit purposes without charge.



Memory of the World

Documentary heritage is a part of the world's memory. It reflects peoples and cultures as well as records traditional indigenous knowledge in local languages. Without proper care, the world's documentary heritage may disappear forever.

UNESCO launched the Memory of the World (MOW) Programme in 1992 in order to safeguard materials from being displaced, dispersed, or inaccessible. The Programme focuses on preserving, providing equal access to, and encouraging universal awareness of the world's documentary heritage.

Documents included in the International Register from the Region are of great historical importance from vastly different origins: the first successful petition for women's suffrage, the oldest copy of the Koran, audio recordings of radio broadcasts during the People Power Revolution, and more.

As of 2007, the MOW Register contains 38 documents from 15 countries from the Asia Pacific Region.