

Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development



PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Promoting development
through ICT statistics

About the Partnership

The demand for ICT statistics has risen sharply as countries recognize the benefits and potential of ICT as a tool for social and economic development. To reap the benefits of the rapidly changing information society, governments need to monitor and benchmark progress in ICT indicators with a view to designing and reviewing national policies and strategies.

The Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development is a multi-stakeholder initiative aimed at improving the availability and quality of internationally comparable ICT statistics. Through its work, the Partnership helps policy-makers produce statistics that are crucial to informed decision-making.

The initiative is a direct response to the request made by the World Summit on the Information Society to produce official statistics to monitor the information society. The Partnership was officially launched during UNCTAD XI in June 2004. The Partnership helps measure the information society by:

- Defining a core list of ICT indicators and methodologies to collect these indicators. This list, endorsed by the United Nations Statistical Commission, will be expanded and revised regularly;
- Helping developing countries collect ICT statistics, particularly through capacity-building and hands-on training for national statistical offices;
- Collecting and disseminating information society statistics in a number of formats, including global reports and databases.

Partners contribute their expertise and resources to the development and implementation of Partnership projects.

Achievements

The Partnership helps close the global ICT data gap by:

- Taking stock of the availability and lack of country-level ICT data;
- Contributing to the follow-up and implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on the Information Society;
- Promoting the adoption of a standardized core list of ICT indicators endorsed by the United Nations Statistical Commission in 2007;
- Developing core indicators relating to the following areas:
 - ICT access and infrastructure;
 - Use of ICT by households, individuals and businesses;
 - The ICT sector and trade in ICT goods;
 - ICT in education and government.
- Developing methodological material on the production of ICT statistics;
- Conducting regional and global events, workshops and training courses to raise awareness of and build capacity in ICT measurement.



Assistance to developing countries

The Partnership provides technical assistance to enhance the capacity of national statistical systems to produce statistics on the information society based on the core list of ICT indicators, as follow:

- Raises awareness among policymakers of the importance of ICT statistics in monitoring and evaluating ICT policies;
- Helps statistical agencies in developing countries collect, analyse and disseminate ICT data;
- Provides specialized training courses on the production of statistics relating to the information society;
- Holds technical workshops at the regional level to exchange experiences, discuss methodological and operational aspects of ICT data collection and promote standardization.

The Partnership actively seeks contributions from donors to support capacity-building in developing countries.

Partners



International Telecommunication Union (ITU)



Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)



United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)



UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS)



World Bank



United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)



United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)



United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)



United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)



Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat)

To find out more

If you would like to know more about the Partnership and its activities, please visit the following website: <http://measuring-ict.unctad.org>

or write to emeasurement@unctad.org

Partnership publications

- Core ICT indicators, Geneva 2009
- ITU Manual for measuring ICT access and use by households and individuals, Geneva 2009
- UNCTAD Manual for the production of statistics on the information economy, New York/Geneva 2009
- The global information society: a statistical view, New York/Santiago 2008
- Measuring ICT: the global status of ICT indicators, New York/Geneva 2005

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