

Notes from Round Table

Workshop presentation

Dan Dionisie Ist session

UNDP is very interested in the CMC model. On the possibility we see for undp involvement: Why do we need partnerships? first because these are complex projects, not just about IT. They combine TV & radio and link to many other aspects of social development. They are not easy to carry out, so each partner brings added value. Must be approached from a development aspect, making difference in peoples' lives. Partnership also important for us to measure impact & assess results in development terms. Our resources in this are limited – we need to see if this is the most effective way to use resources.

The CMC programme is at the cutting edge of development work as it includes new tech, new relationships & synergies between techs

Must innovate to find best solutions in local context – not transfer model mechanically

Cmcs are a powerful model especially as they combine ict with community empowerment & development

Undp contribution – we bring broader picture. Can help insert projects in broader development context & help evaluate projects.

How should we organise the partnership? We are rigid; each organisation has its own tools & methods.

Need flexibility, open, dynamic, approach involving especially civil society & private sector –must not disrupt private sector initiatives.

Tom Blinkhorn World Bank

5 knoweldge development initiatives recently by World bank

today focus on global dev learning network – knowl-sharing and content –using un satellites- 30 centres worldwide reaching senior & middle level officials with content

in this region, one focus is on english language. Another is the reform agenda & this tech is used for health or ed reform. In Poland & baltics – want EU accession so must harmonise tax regs etc. Working + brit council on learning and info centres – Russia

GDLN centres in Kiev, Ankara, Moscow, st petersberg, 10 by end of june 2002

Developing content also with Soros

KEY is language- only answer is local capacity for content dev

Sustainability & problem of reaching rural centres with network? Rural center must be set up to provide basic info on daily needs – pension rights, disability payment etc. Offer training in these centres PM & weekends. SME level Pilot project in Romania, Ukraine Poland & Russia for unemployed miners with info they need & training & exchange experience

Feature of libraries here is that they have not made leap into local community

Session 2 Networks

J Davies

OW is Internet portal for ngos & broadcasters.

FAO important for beneficiaries to be part of planning process. Participatory methodology. Probs of tech & infrastructure require us to innovate, Agri info has to be adapted & packaged to be readily comprehensible to local people

Must also address needs of rural world from social perspective – education, health etc

Rural radio is effective tool and nicts converge usefully with it to meet basic needs

Gaps between research centres and extension workers centres – which don't have skills to address farmers needs

CEE FAO prog is web-based with info on agri issues & institutions – from universities to libraries etc. Needs inventory on all agri info outlets in the region Collaborate with cmcs and network of agri actors

OSI network supports transition & promotes democratic values

Soros = educational & economic development, etc

Has one new information programme including old library, media & ict?

Programmes

Public libraries as civil community centres & community informatics projects both relevant for cmc level. OSI supports on matching funds basis the country initiatives for applications eg health, local govt info – very important role for libraries as access points for this info, also ngos

Cooperation with local govt is essential for sustainability after project support over

Egs of POSS COLLAB

Great focus on minorities and refugees . one emphasis could be on work with roma population. Infobus meets needs of these people: Albania, kosovo, Serbia, macedonia, montenegro

Work with senior & disabled could also be focus for cmc collab, also local government info centres

Also focus on professional expertise in region

Building digital communities of ngos, farmers.....networks

Working intensively with EU programmes (nb EU key to funding in the region)

Stephan Roman British council:

Council has 250 libraries round world & also help libraries; now rethinking this because of web etc. our library info remain important centres of activity but now developing world net of “knowledge & learning centres” ; cybercafé style

planning 50 – one in Belgrade in march,

talking with stability pact, gdln, we seek partnership when ever there is already a partner present

not involved with rural areas; involved goverment etc

Info Society – looking to collaborate with initiatives for global & local info society

Worked with soros, EU, w bank etc

Content development – web based – important aspect

GKP

Jackie: great wealth of activity – lets focus on this region & seminar outcomes

GKP could be useful coordinating place to brief each other? Prob of overload of info & not selected info

M Fontaine: should do good needs assessment to see what is already going on before u start a new project – eg we are all working in Benin but don't know each other's work

So our design work should start here

Some sectoral initiatives more coordinated but key issue is to get information updates

Unesco Proposal : circulate list of project ideas for all to give info

Bulgaria – AED funding is ending in march – we are very keen for someone to build on this

Russia – farm radio network part of 13 member coop in Russia.

Stability pact is important funding partner

Session 3

UNFPA : info & advocacy activities

Farm radio network: support activities on all areas in rural environment
Partner of association for agrarian research in moscow we co-manage project – rural network

We train broadcasters to develop content – radio reaches all and is interactive engaging the community – we try to effect social change

1 provide tools to analyse audience needs

2 then seek local info to meet needs –collect data – then seek further data

3 adapt data

drama, quiz shows, soaps, documentaries

produce quarterly packages

conduct research for partners, do internet-based searching

Rockefeller

Want to develop training courses/contents for development communicators

Need to draw knowledge & experience out of community and train people to help do that

Importance of legislation

Q what can you do to help projects?

Unfpa is free to programme communication activities at country level as they want – so get in touch with unfpa office in each country

Rockefeller committed to idea of cmc our research shows that radio is most effective comm. tool even though also important to look at ICTs

Can't say if will get involved in funding in CEE

Can use the communication initiative

Group 4

AED worked in 17 countries on ICT use for development (learn link)

Bulgaria is hybrid model – business operate telecentres but also provide social good services (content and access to social change agents)

Romania project tried online learning as lower-cost but high-outcome learning

DOTCOM initiative – alliance of 3 partners(AED+internews + 30 resource partners and EDC edu devel centre) on

Policy & regulatory reform (Internews)

Access & application (aed)

Local learning applications (edc)

Training is important for telecentres – managers and users

Needs creative outreach, marketing, needs assessment
Gender issue in training & need for progressive training
Value chain of education: data – info- knowl – wisdom

World bank institute

Training body – not loans. Learning programs around themes eg CESI
Officially, we work with those who work at community level

Have been doing face to face training

Now do distance learning for cost & outreach reasons

Video conf – limited to big cities for policy leaders

Web based courses

Cd rom courses

These not yet used for training of trainers but could be

CESI has top down work with govts to promote decentralisation of decision making and with local govts to decentralise further

Also bottom up approach

She has teams in AF/AS/Latam microenterprise, youth, women etc training for economic empowerment

Our added value as training partner : can help illiterate populations plan strategically, market their products, manage their resources

So, we are not help for training cmc staff & don't do computer training

Can help with development of content, hi quality, practical knowledge and assess and evaluate.

This partnership gives us opportunity to scale up kind of thing that we are doing
And deliver messages

M. Fontaine – good to use project-based training – ie don't teach computing, teach a useful skill that uses the computing

APC

Apc is assoc of ngo internet providers – work on human rights, gender & environment

So apc provides basic services, connex, web pages, then began training & develop tools for info sharing

Can do training in basic use of icts as well as building contents

Among our projects are women's networks in marginalized communities

Open source training material database on apc website

I train online

(EU's Leonardo davinci prog funds training materials in local languages)

AED in Ghana has 3 telecentres and has done training in ICT maintenance

Have been sustainable for 3 years because have very good training programmes
– materials in english