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Regional Follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Information Society in the ESCWA Region

Telecentre.org – a platform for collaboration and Cooperation

Damascus 16-18 June 2009

Karim A. Kasim

العِلم والعَمَل

المصدر: موقع منظمة الطلاب العرب بجامعة ماستشوستس http://web.mit.edu/arab/www/index.html

Empowering Communities through Telecenter Networking

Outline:

Goal and objectives; What we want to achieve in these 20 minutes?

Main points;

- Background; the evolution of telecentres in Egypt/similarities with the region
  - Telecentre/Access Point
  - Context, challenges and opportunities
  - Sustainability?
- **Telecentre.org project in the MENA region**
  - **know ledge Sharing and Networking and its role as Vehicles for Sustainability of telecentre and eventually socio-economic development impact.**

Telecentre/Access Point ?

A telecentre is a public place where people can access computers, the Internet, and other digital technologies that enable them to gather information, create, learn, and communicate with others while they develop essential digital skills. While each telecentre is different, their common focus is on the use of digital technologies to support community, economic, educational, and social development—reducing isolation, bridging the digital divide, promoting health issues, creating economic opportunities, and reaching out to youth for example.

Our own context

- ESCWA Countries
- Middle East North Africa
- The Global South

Challenges

- Language
- Infrastructure
- Content

Opportunities

- Commitments
- Government support
- International organizations
- Experiences and local knowledge built during the last decade

A coordinated set of programmes has been created to support these centres:

- –Mobile ICT unit (MICTU)
- –The Community Development Portal (CDP)
- –IT for illiteracy eradication CDROM
- –Telecentres for individuals with special needs
- –ICT for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (ICT4M/SMEs)

Sustainability .. *A multidimensional Sustainability*

- •Social and Cultural Sustainability
- •Technical Sustainability
- •Policy/Strategy Sustainability

- •Human Resources Sustainability
- •Financial Sustainability
- •Services ICT, Functional ICT, non-ICT

Knowledge .. Networking ... For Sustainability

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Empowering Communities Through Telecentres' Networking –TC Egypt& MENA Project

Project Goal:

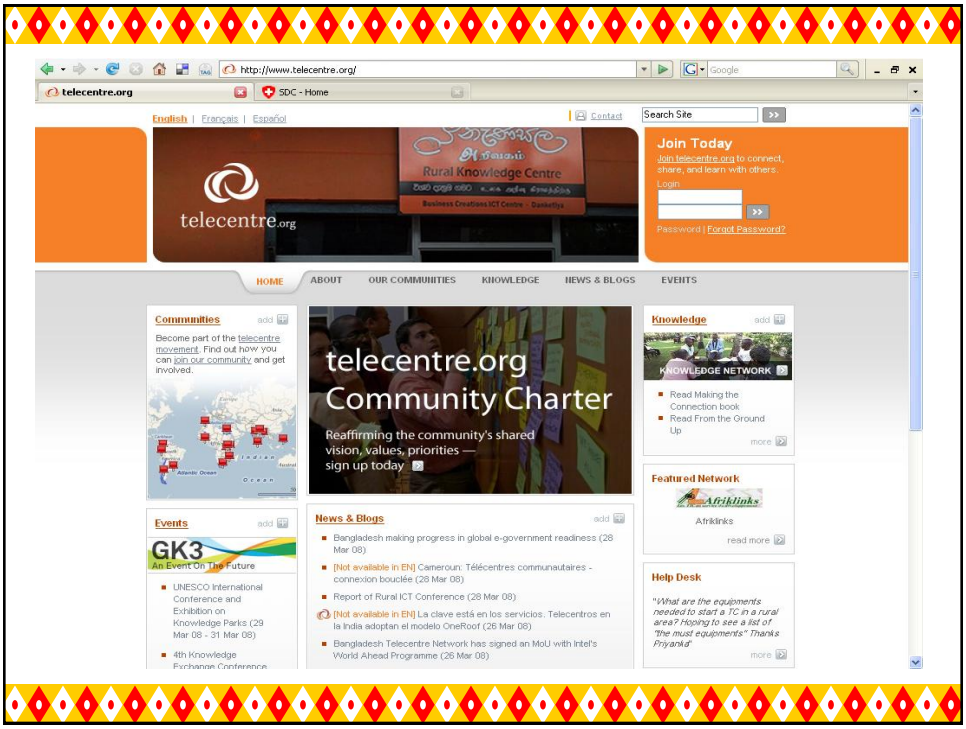
Support the creation of a strong and independent national and regional telecentre network that provides on demand support services to all IT Clubs in Egypt and spearhead the creation of a vibrant telecentre community in the MENA region. The initiative is jointly supported by UNDP – Egypt and Egyptian Government through MCIT (Egypt ICT Trust Fund).

Specific:

- To build and nurture a vibrant telecentre community in the MENA region
- To develop capacity of staff so that they effectively manage the network and create high value services to strength IT Club activities across the country
- To support telecentres in achieving sustainability in direct and indirect ways.
- To create and manage an online telecentre helpdesk in order to deliver on-demand online support to practitioners
- To create platforms for online and offline knowledge sharing within Egypt and across the region

Tools/outputs:

- **Research knowledge needs**, expectations, opportunities and challenges (Egypt ICT Trust Fund Outreach team, Connecting to/look for regional partners)
- **Telecentre Times Arabic** (newspaper/newsletter)– biannual; first and second issues out, third is coming in fewdays
- **TC-MENA mail list** tc-mena@dgroups.idrc.ca ONGOING
- **Portal:** Knowledge Sharing/Community Content (KS/CC) Arabic Section of the global site www.telecentre.org , http://mogtamaa.telecentre.org/
- **Networking Workshops (F2F):** Workshops, field visits, staff exchange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telecentre.org
Community Charter
Reaffirming the community's shared vision, values, priorities — sign up today
Knowledge
KNOWLEDGE NETWORK
Read Making the Connection book
Read From the Ground Up
more
Featured Network
Afriklinks
read more
Events
GK3
An Event On The Future
UNESCO International Conference and Exhibition on Knowledge Parks (29 Mar 08 - 31 Mar 08)
4th Knowledge Exchange Conference
News & Blogs
Bangladesh making progress in global e-government readiness (28 Mar 08)
[Not available in EN] Cameroun: Télécentres communautaires - connexion bouclée (28 Mar 08)
Report of Rural ICT Conference (28 Mar 08)
[Not available in EN] La clave está en los servicios. Telecentros en la India adoptan el modelo OneRoof (26 Mar 08)
Bangladesh Telecentre Network has signed an MoU with Intel's World Ahead Programme (26 Mar 08)
Help Desk
"What are the equipments needed to start a TC in a rural area? Hoping to see a list of "the must equipments" Thanks Priyanka"
more

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Welcome
telecentre.org is a community of people and organizations working together to improve the social and economic impact of grassroots telecentres. Learn more...
This is our English-language community. We also have a Spanish site, and will soon launch communities in French and Arabic.
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Groups
Features & Highlights
Happening Now: Francophone Telecentre Leaders Forum at Bamako, Mali
telecentre.org in partnership with Afriklinks is organizing 'Francophone Telecentre Leaders Forum' at Bamako, Mali from the 2nd till 4th of December, 2008. This event also supported by USAID and the French Cooperation, is going to gather many telecentre practioners, managers, researchers and other social investors in the region and will discuss issues related to their services and the network. Read more about the event and Read the content contributed by the participants .
Telecentre-Europe Network goes official
The Telecentre-Europe network keeps growing and pushing the movement forward and now is ready to have its official launch. The announcement will take place at the e-Inclusion Ministerial Conference in Vienna, Austria, which will take place from November 30 to December 2. More...
telecentre.org Spanish Website is now live
The new telecentre.org website is now available in Spanish. It will soon be followed by sites in French and Arabic. More...
Forum
Feature requests 1 Reply
Started by telecentre.org in Website Help & Feedback. Last reply by telecentre.org Nov 11.
Resources on online facilitation...
Started by Partha Sarker in Knowledge-sharing: Tools & Practices Nov 6.
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Help & Feedback
How to Participate
Resources
Who We Are
What We Do
Initiatives
HELPDESK
NETWORK SUPPORT

4- بوابة التليسينتر العربية http://mogtamaa.telecentre.org/

موقع الكترونى للمشروع يتيح كل الخبرات والمعلومات الممكنة التى تسهم فى تفعيل التليسينتر

اهم محتويات الموقع

- صفحتى(الصفحة الخاصة بكل عضو)
- المدونات
- المجموعات
- منتدى المناقشات
- الاعضاء
- الصور والألبومات
- مقاطع الفيديو

Opportunities:

- Experience
- Infrastructure
- Networks/partnerships

Challenges:

- Sustainability
- Awareness
- Responsiveness/Participation (national/regional)
- Human resources and budget

Some Key ideas to leave you with:

- A telecentre is a general term/name of an ICT for Development Community Center (serving local communities with focus on rural and less attended to, underprivileged ones)
- It can make money .. Well to spend it on more services
- It can also be a social business, making living of people running it, not buy stocks, and a new Ferrari
- Well, some partners thing it can be SME, it can a business model to start your own small project and make money

- All the above is valid as the telecentre community's values are inclusion, accepting of all working ideas and models
- But our focus still be at least more on those who don't have ACCESS, Opportunities, content ..etc
- Knowledge (most of it) is out there, we do not need to invent it, empower people to share it
- Knowledge is power and "sharing is caring"

WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF TELECENTRES

Empowering Communities through Telecenter Networking

22.08.2008 17:49

شكرا

Thank you