



Information Technology Applications Center

Resources, knowledge, leadership and partnerships
to accelerate social and economic development



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Youth employability training in Brazil

Increasing Access to Technology

The AED Information Technology Applications Center (ITAC) is a globally recognized leader in applying information and communication technology (ICT) to accelerate economic and social development. From the emergence of radio and television as new technologies into the present era of worldwide broadband connectivity, AED has been at the forefront of helping countries actively participate in the benefits of ICT.

Working closely with our partners, ITAC develops self-sustaining solutions that help governments, private companies and civic institutions leverage the most appropriate mix of technologies to meet their goals. ITAC combines the resources of multiple AED centers of excellence and other technical organizations to enable cross-sector and cross-technology solutions that optimize benefits for people across the world.

ITAC:

- **Analyzes Development Challenges and Opportunities:** Conducts need assessments and feasibility studies
- **Designs Sustainable Solutions:** Creates innovative and effective approaches to complex topics
- **Builds Partnerships:** Facilitates equitable public-private sector partnerships to accomplish goals
- **Strengthens Capacity:** Equips local institutions and professionals with essential skills and resources
- **Works with a Range of Funders:** Leads or directs ICT initiatives for the U.S. Agency for International Development and other international donors, private sector firms, and local and national governments
- **Understands What Works:** Monitors and evaluates ICT initiatives to achieve impact

ITAC Applications

High impact programs in education, economic growth, trade, agriculture, democracy & governance, and health have been implemented and managed by ITAC in every region of the world.

► Learn more about our solutions on the following pages.

Community members participate in web design training in Paraguay





Pilot program for mobile computer lab solution in Jordan

Improving Teaching and Learning

Our programs use ICT to improve the quality of pre and in-service teacher training, use innovative models to enhance student-centered learning, and improve educators' collaborative work through cross-border and national virtual networks. Examples include:

- **Integrating technology into teacher training** to improve the quality of teacher professional development, enable educators to create e-learning support materials, form teacher networks and provide access to digital educational resources in **Morocco**.
- **Utilizing ICT tools in primary schools** to ensure better access to and improve the quality of education, with a special focus on girls and other vulnerable populations in **India**.
- **Developing instructional materials, training teachers and creating interactive radio instruction programs** for teaching English in one-room primary schools for girls in **Egypt**.
- **Providing integrated, decentralized Education Management Information Systems (EMIS)** from the school level up to the national level in **Pakistan**. The EMIS includes integrated Geographic Information Systems (GIS), simulation capacity, and decentralized reporting.
- **Increasing the use of information** by senior education officials in **Uganda** through the distribution of handheld computers.



Reaching the last mile in Mongolia

Promoting Economic Growth and Trade

ITAC addresses the twin challenges of ensuring equal access to and effective utilization of ICT by enabling the necessary infrastructure in underserved areas, and by developing applications that foster economic growth and development. ITAC supports entrepreneurs to help create new businesses and enable small- and medium-sized enterprises to compete in local and global markets. Examples include:

- **Connecting the country** with Internet connectivity and hands-on training in basic ICT skills, web content development, and sustainable business models in **Paraguay**.
- **Establishing Community Learning and Information Centers (CLICs)** in underserved communities to accelerate economic, social, and political growth and strengthen community institutions as well as provide easy access to information technologies services in **Mali**.
- **Enhancing Supply Chain Management** for tropical marine fish leading to certified origin and 'reef to retail' through an electronic tracking system in **Philippines**.
- **Developing an agribusiness portal** to promote local investment, share cultivation techniques and improve marketing and pricing systems that enable agribusiness in **Romania** to become more competitive.
- **Writing *Making the Connection: Scaling Telecenters for Development***, a handbook that addresses scalable and equitable access to ICT for all people through sustainable community telecenter models.

Supporting Democracy, Governance and Health

ITAC helps governments apply ICT to streamline the delivery of government services, maximize transparency, ensure fair elections, and increase citizen participation. Examples include:

- Enhancing government services by establishing a computerized document management system that accepts applications and tracks the issuance of licenses, thereby improving the transparency of tax collection by rural municipalities across **Romania**.
- Supporting the National Election Commission in improving the management of a database of registered voters and using handheld computers to facilitate voter registration for a free and fair election in **Rwanda**.
- Enabling municipal governments to communicate with each other, and establishing effective knowledge sharing mechanisms among rural mayors across six Central American countries, via electronic networks.
- Increasing the efficiency of data collection in health centers in **Nepal** by using handheld computers, thus contributing to more timely data analysis and decision making.



Government officials in Rwanda using PDAs for voter registration



Reaching out to youth across the world



Broadening Communication Networks in Rural Areas

Selected ITAC Initiatives

- **Macedonia Connects:** Established the 1st wireless country in the world by working closely with the government and commercial providers. Connectivity began in the schools and quickly grew into an expanded effort to promote economic development and a more open society. Today, the network already covers 95% of the Macedonian population.
- **Global Learning Portal:** Promote the exchange of proven instructional materials and teaching techniques and supports the Education for All global commitment. For example, **Rwanda Education Commons** project will use a multi-stakeholder, decentralized and open-source approach to connect teachers, institutions and education activities to improve teaching and learning outcomes and link Rwanda's educators with groups and colleagues worldwide.
- **Incorporating ICT into youth employability training** to include a comprehensive mix of analytical, social and IT skills. This training led to a 92% employability rate for program graduates in **Brazil**. Now the program is being replicated in Southern Africa.



Connecting People > Creating Change

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AED is a nonprofit organization working globally to improve health, education, civil society, and the environment in collaboration with local and national partners. AED creates sustainable results through practical, comprehensive approaches to complex social issues.

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