



Delhi, India
17 September 2009



ISOC
Presents

'INET DELHI 2009'

"Towards an Enabling Internet Access Environment"

Hotel Intercontinental, Nehru Place, New Delhi

Conference Themes

INET 2009 is structured into the following Themes:

- Internet for Development
- Decentralisation of the Internet & Citizen Advantage
- Building National Internet Infrastructure
- An Enabling Technology Framework
- Managing the Internet as a Development Resource
- Internet Governance and Regulation

In Collaboration & Knowledge Partnership with

Digital Empowerment Foundation

BACKGROUND

The Internet Society's INET meeting programme

Building Internet expertise and regional capacity

The importance of connecting with regional Internet communities has never been greater. Local conditions require local solutions, assisted and informed by the technical expertise and policy experience of leading Internet community experts. Since 1994, the Internet Society has organized INET conferences around the world. Originally staged as annual global conferences, over time we have refined their focus, targetting the specific needs of previously underserved regions.

Today, the Internet Society holds multiple INETS each year, each with a unique regional focus and a selection of topics most relevant to the communities involved. The mutual benefits of this approach are clear. Local Internet communities get exposure to Internet issues of global and regional importance, and access to world class technology and policy experts. In return, the experience of each unique INET enriches The Internet Society's presence on the global stage.

INETs are characterized by:

Engagement of multiple Internet stakeholders: Consistent with the Internet Model of development, INETs encourage diverse participation from multiple stakeholder groups. In particular, INETs provide an excellent platform to network our Chapters, Organizational and Individual members, with other partners from the technical community, government, and civil society.

Strategic locations: We hold INETs at the regional locations where they are most needed. This reduces barriers such as travel time and cost, which are critical considerations in the developing world. Also, where possible, we hold INETs alongside other relevant meetings to increase participation.

Agendas tailored to regional needs: INET meetings are more than just a narrow policy seminar or educational workshop. Each INET agenda is developed in consultation with local

representatives to address a range of topics which meet their specific needs.

The INET meetings continue a longstanding tradition of extending the benefits of the Internet to communities in all parts of the world. Like the Internet itself, INETs continue to evolve and grow in importance, changing to suit local environments, refined and re-defined by the needs of Internet users themselves.

INET Delhi: "Towards an Enabling Internet Access Environment"

The Internet Society, in collaboration with Digital Empowerment Foundation will organize the ISOC's South Asia focused event 'INET Delhi 2009', a special conference in New Delhi on September 17, 2009. The conference, part of the Internet Society's INET series of regional conferences, will be focused on " An Enabling Internet Access Environment in South Asia with a critical focus on Inclusive Development through the Internet".

INET Delhi 2009 will bring together regional and local focus on the scope, role, capacity and reality of key Internet technology development programmes. This will include policy elements in determining outcomes towards bridging the digital divide between technology haves and have-nots, ultimately leading to sustainable social and economic advantages for local communities. The one day intensive conference will bring together key policy and technical experts, government representatives, network operators, the private sector and the user community to discuss and deliberate what the region needs to do to make the Internet truly inclusive for large scale development and mass participation by all parts of the community.

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the current state of play of the Internet access environment in the region. It will look at the scope, role, capacity and reality of key Internet technology development programmes, including policy elements in determining outcomes towards bridging the digital divide between have technology haves and have-nots, and the role Internet technology can play for socio-economic development.

The conference will discuss issues in creating and sustaining an enabling Internet access environment, including Internet for development through accessibility, inclusion and growth, multi-stakeholder participation, online content and local languages, and strategies to ensure the continued growth and evolution of the User Centric Internet through appropriate and consultative policy action.

INET Delhi 2009 will culminate in a panel discussion deliberating the next steps required to further escalate Internet outreach in the region to fulfill socio-economic development objectives.

Objectives

The objectives of INET Delhi 2009 include:

- @ To understand the layers of Internet deployment for Development in South Asia towards digital inclusion and growth for all;
- @ To examine the range and operation of decentralisation of Internet technology and whether it provides a platform for citizens advantage using the bottom up process in the region;
- @ Understand the activities towards building National Internet Infrastructure in the region in meeting key development infrastructure needs for greater information and communication accessibility, reach, security and stability
- @ Examine the management programmes in effective and utility deployment of the Internet as a Development Resource in the region;
- @ Examine and understand key regulatory and governance issues pertaining to the Internet

Stakeholders

INET Delhi 2009 will witness participants as speakers, panelists, panel participants representing:

- Public Agencies / Authorities from South Asia
- Academic Institutions
- Civil Society Sector
- Private Sector
- Independent practitioners / pioneers
- Best practitioners
- Researchers

Participating Countries

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- India
- Maldives
- Nepal
- Pakistan
- Sri Lanka

Outcome

INET Delhi 2009 will arrive at key outcomes:

- Better understanding of the essential links between community needs & Internet resources;
- Better examination and analysis of Internet resource deployment and usage in the region;
- Listing and understanding of scope and opportunities in Internet deployment to meet key development limitations and needs;
- Greater understanding of key limitations and challenges in Internet technology deployment including social, cultural, financial;
- Arriving at a common agenda of how effective and organized Internet technology deployment could supplement infrastructure development efforts in the region;
- Communicating key deliberation outcome recommendations for South Asian Governments through '**20 point INET Delhi 2009 Internet for Development Recommendations**'.

Organisers

INET Delhi 2009 is organized by Internet Society. As a knowledge partner New Delhi based Digital Empowerment Foundation is providing all knowledge resource inputs and support to this event.

About ISOC

The Internet Society (ISOC) is a nonprofit organisation founded in 1992 to provide leadership in Internet related standards, education, and policy. With offices in Washington D.C., USA, and Geneva, Switzerland, it is dedicated to ensuring the open development, evolution and use of the Internet for the benefit of people throughout the world. The Internet Society provides leadership in addressing issues that confront the future of the Internet, and is the organisational home for the groups responsible for Internet infrastructure standards, including the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) and the Internet Architecture Board (IAB). (For ISOC details Please visit <http://www.isoc.org/>)

About DEF

Digital Empowerment Foundation (DEF) is a New Delhi (India) not-for-profit ICTD entity to provide key ICTD knowledge solutions including digital technology and content in meeting key development objectives in India and South Asia. Set up in 2002, DEF's vision is to see ICT get its due application in grassroots empowerment and development purposes. DEF's programme interventions so far included- e-Content creation and delivery, language content creation, providing e-solutions in areas of health, education, livelihood, governance and other areas. It is into research and advocacy, networking and guidance in ICT and e-Content application and dissemination. It is running Community Information Resource Centers (CIRCs) for community needs. DEF organises the annual Manthan Award (www.manthanaward.org) at South Asia level to identify and recognize best digital content innovations and practices for inclusive development. (For DEF details Please visit www.defindia.net)
