

## **ICT for Development**

The rapid spread of information and communications technologies (ICT) is changing the way economic and social development occurs in most countries. New ICT-related tools can make institutions and markets more productive, enhance skills and learning, improve governance at all levels, and make it easier for the poor to access services and make their voices heard.

### **Innovative and Evolving**

The uses of ICT to further development goals are evolving. Techniques to boost crop yield, improve well-drilling, or teach mothers how to better care for infants can be sent instantly around the world. Health specialists can more effectively coordinate to halt the spread of diseases. Citizens can learn about how to open a company online, instead of waiting in long lines at government offices, saving time and money for everyone involved.

Most encouraging is that the brightest ideas are nowadays coming not from a garage in Silicon Valley, but from a software shop in Bangalore, a government data administration office in Pretoria, or an Internet café in São Paulo. The globalization of ICT is freeing millions of bright minds to work together in ways never before possible.

### **Unlocking Potential**

Helping unlock ICT's development potential and spreading it around the globe is the motivating force behind the Development Gateway Foundation. Our programs target both the global and local levels, and the reach of our work is extended through hundreds of partnerships for development.

**Source: Development Gateway Foundation**

**Website Links:** <http://www.dgfoundation.org/issues/ict-for-development.html>