

OneWorld South Asia  
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**Knowledge-based advocacy for achieving  
Millennium Development Goals**

**Workshop Theme: Poverty Alleviation and Creating  
Livelihoods Opportunities**

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# Outcomes of the Workshop

## Overview of progress on MDGs

- Good progress has been made but how to speed up and sustain it
- But need to ensure equitable development
- Resource constraint
- Issues land rights, migrant labourers, wage employment, gender; marginalised groups
- Localisation of poverty indicators
- Encouraging investment in villages, promoting self sufficiency in villages to fight food insecurity and hunger
- Promotion of microenterprise
- Telecentres as rural knowledge based advocacy centers for creating livelihood opportunities
- Encouraging multi-stakeholder partnerships and building CoPs
- Mainstreaming ICTs into poverty alleviation efforts

# ICTs for Creating Livelihood Opportunities

- Using ICTs can to promote livelihood opportunities in non-farm rural sector
- Telecentres to promote livelihoods opportunities
- Training on vocational skills
- Promoting ICT facilitated microenterprise programmes
- Involving local institutions in ICT promoted livelihoods initiatives
- Promoting e-commerce
- Utilising radio for promoting livelihoods opportunities
- Addressing challenges of connectivity and local content

## ICTs to promote microfinance activities

- Creating awareness about ICTs in microfinance sector
- Capacity building of people in using ICTs in microfinance is required and also change in attitude
- Microfinance does not support 'ultra poor'
- Microfinance has the capacity to prevent distress selling by farmers
- Geographically difficult and dispersed poor population and poor infrastructure possesses challenge to ICT
- If the investment opportunity in a local area are limited, investment in ICT can be a burden on microfinance programme
- Learnings should be shared with each other and ICTs can facilitate this processes
- Self-help groups should be networked to improve their productivity

# ICTs for access to markets

- ICTs can extend access to markets
- Prevent exploitation by middlemen by increasing competition, improving transparency and accountability
- Alternative approaches facilitated by ICTs should be encouraged
- ICTs should be mainstreamed to ensure social equity
- Networking of farmers is important
- Producer companies should be encouraged, potential of telecentres should be harnessed, similarly community radio should be used
- Empowerment of women is also important

## In Conclusion

- MSPs to overcome constraints and achieve set goals by Mainstreaming ICTs and building CoPs

**Thank You!**