

e-Primers to be Available Shortly

ICT and Gender - Focuses on the importance of mainstreaming gender issues and the role ICT can play to ensure a sustainable livelihood via developing economic opportunities for women.

ICT Policy Formulation and e-Strategy Development - Addresses the fundamental questions faced by policy-makers in formulating appropriate and strategic ICT policies and national e-strategies; highlights the importance of co-relating ICT policies with key human development ideals.

A mini-series on Free/Open Source Software (FOSS)

This FOSS e-Primers series serve as introductory documents to FOSS in general, as well as covering particular topics in greater detail. The aim of the series is to raise FOSS awareness, particularly among policy-makers, practitioners, and educators. The series will encompass 1) Free/Open Source Software: A General Introduction (available now); 2) FOSS in Government; 3) Localization; 4) FOSS in Education; 5) FOSS and Network Infrastructure; and 6) Licensing.

e-Primers Website and Other Language Versions

To ensure a wider dissemination of the e-Primers, UNDP-APDIP has made available all e-Primers on the World Wide Web at www.eprimers.org and www.apdip.net. In addition, several e-Primers are also being translated into Vietnamese, Tamil, and Sinhala by various Government due to local demand and interest.



www.eprimers.org

For Further Information:

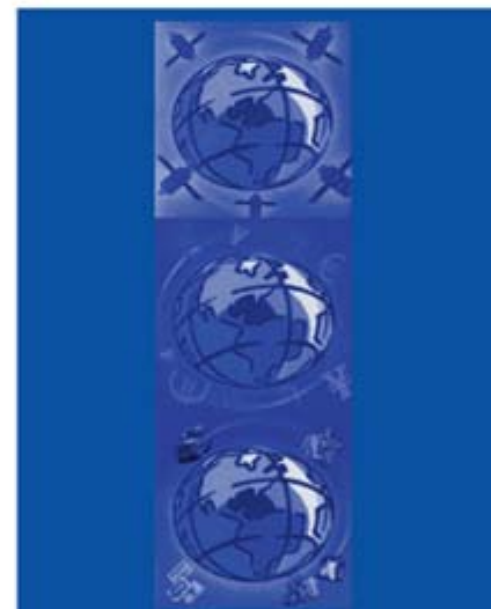
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**e-PRIMERS ON THE
INFORMATION ECONOMY,
SOCIETY, AND POLITY**



**An Initiative of UNDP's
Asia-Pacific Development
Information Programme**

e-Primers on the Information Economy, Society, and Polity

The impact of the Information Revolution has been the subject of much scholarship in the past decade, as it has uniquely provided an unrivalled platform for the access, production, movement and utilization of data and information by various actors globally. Inevitably, this has also led to a profusion of new terminologies coined in attempts of on-going analysis and discourse on the state of the world as it is shaped by the forces of the information society.

In line with this critical need to filter through the vast amount of literature available, UNDP-APDIP has produced a series of e-Primers that seek to provide developing countries with a clear understanding of the pertinent issues. This series of e-Primers is part of a region-wide public information initiative to highlight the central areas of ICT for development issues.

Target Audiences

The e-Primers are intended primarily to help planners, policy- and decision-makers, and other laypersons to understand the various terminologies, definitions, developments, and issues surrounding the practical usage of ICT in human development and poverty alleviation.

e-Primers Already Available

A regional public information effort of UNDP-APDIP and the e-ASEAN Task Force Secretariat on the information economy.

1) Information Economy and the Digital Divide - Provides a comprehensive understanding of the emerging new economy; and an overview of the trends, developments, and issues of the digital economy.

2) Nets, Webs and the Information Infrastructure - Issues covered include an introduction to the Internet and World Wide Web; building information infrastructures; technical and legal issues regarding open access and inter-operability; competition; universal access/ service; and the convergence of technologies.

3) e-Commerce and e-Business - Provides an introduction to electronic commerce: what it is; how it works; and how it can affect and transform businesses.



4) Legal and Regulatory Issues in the Information Economy - Issues surrounding cyberlaws and other matters related to the creation of a legal and regulatory framework are discussed, with a focus on the complexities of governing the new information economy.

5) e-Government - Reviews global best practices on e-government and e-governance, highlighting basic information on what e-government is about; its benefits and challenges; and its usefulness within a developing country context.



6) ICT in Education - Highlights the latest trends and developments in information technology tools for improving education, and other applications for e-learning, and the appropriate framework for human resources development within countries.

7) Genes, Technology and Policy - Provides definitions of various terminology, explains the many issues surrounding this broad field of research and its supposed benefits; and provides important answers to help clarify the controversial questions that plague the practice and the industry of life sciences.

8) ICT for Poverty Alleviation - Addresses the so-called digital divide and describes how ICTs are being used to alleviate poverty; provides several examples of how ICTs have contributed to poverty alleviation.