



## AN EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW EVENT AT WSIS

Date: 11 December 2003  
Time: 16.00-18.00 hrs  
Venue: GKP Pavillion, Showcase Gallery, Hall 4,  
Stand # 331, Communication Street,  
Geneva Palexpo Exhibition Centre

### **A PIONEERING REGIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT ON *PROMOTING ICT FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA 2004: REALISING THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS***

An exclusive PREVIEW EVENT of a forthcoming Regional Human Development Report on ***Promoting ICT for Human Development in Asia 2004: Realising the Millennium Development Goals*** will be held at the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in Geneva at the **ICT4Development Platform**.

The Preview Event will present the **Summary** of key research findings towards a pioneering Regional Human Development Report, which attempts to go beyond the hype surrounding the potential and promise of ICT for developing countries.

The research across **NINE** countries in Asia -- China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam -- is a systematic study exploring the potential of ICT towards human development, using the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as a benchmark. The strength of this research lies in its attempt to combine both qualitative and quantitative linkages between ICT and the eight MDGs, making a significant contribution to the dialogue on the subject.

The Summary research findings encompass:

- Exploration of the potential and promise of ICT
- Mapping of the status of ICT use and diffusion in Asia
- Identification of challenges of ICT application, including the issue of digital divide, both between and within Asian countries
- Selection of ICT indicators of relevance for human development
- Construction of a composite aggregate index that ranks the nine countries on their ICT use for achieving human development goals. This ICTforHD index is the first such exercise for Asia.
- Documentation of case studies and best practices of ICT applications from the nine countries across each of the MDGs

The Report has been jointly prepared by UNDP's Asia-Pacific Development Information Programme (APDIP) and the Asia-Pacific Regional Human Development Reports Initiative (APRI), Human Development Resource Centre.

## **Preview Event Details:**

**Presentation of the Key Findings** of the Regional Human Development Report on *Promoting ICT for Human Development in Asia 2004: Realising the Millennium Development Goals*

- Anuradha Rajivan, Programme Coordinator, UNDP Asia Pacific Regional HDR Initiative (APRI), New Delhi

**Panel Discussion** by experts and key people associated with the Report

Discussants:

- Richard Simpson, Director General, Electronic Commerce Branch, Industry Canada, Ottawa

- Kiran Karnik, President, National Association of Software and Service Companies, (NASSCOM), New Delhi

- Bruno Lanvin, Manager, Information for Development Programme (infoDev), World Bank, Washington D.C.

- Indrajit Banerjee, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, and Research Coordinator, Regional Human Development Report

Chairperson: Shahid Akhtar, Programme Coordinator, UNDP Asia Pacific Development Information Programme (APDIP), Kuala Lumpur

**Media Q and A** session

**Refreshments**

*For more information, please contact:*

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