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Focus Areas

The following are few of the major focus areas of the Workshop:

- ICT Development
- Examples of ICTs in Health Research
- Applying ICTs to expanding literacy
- New concepts in improving learning experience by ICT use
- ICTs in agriculture sector integrating concepts of GPS and new technologies towards enhancing productivity
- Improving ICT environment for entrepreneurship
- IP Issues in ICT application development etc

Workshops will provide forums for discussion among researchers and practitioners on focused topics or emerging research areas.

Important Deadlines

- 20th October 2015 – Submission of Abstracts/Workshop Proposals
- 22nd October 2015 – Notification about acceptance or rejection of Workshops and Papers
- 23rd - 25th November 2015 – Workshop Days

Any inquiries regarding workshop proposals should be addressed to the workshop Organizers.

Who Should Attend Workshop

The participants would be industry experts, academicians, PhD students, entrepreneurs, system administrators and programmers coming from the COMSATS & ISESCO & INIT Member states. The incentives would include developing and understanding of the state of ICT applications in developing technological capability and enhancing productivity to respond effectively to the challenges of competitiveness and rapid technological change.

Eligibility Criteria

At least a Master's Degree / Demonstrated working experience in the areas relevant to the workshop title.

International Workshop on
Applications of ICTs in

EDUCATION
HEALTHCARE
& AGRICULTURE

November 23-25, 2015
Rabat, Morocco

Organized by

Introduction and Background

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) are electronic means used in conveying, manipulation and storage of data. ICTs are basically information-handling tools-a varied set of goods, applications and services that are used to produce, store, process, distribute and exchange information. These different tools are now able to work together, and can be combined to form our 'networked world' with a massive infrastructure of interconnected telephone services, standardized computing hardware, the Internet, radio and television, which reaches to every corner of the globe.

ICTs in Education

ICTs have an ever increasing role in education, particularly in the South Asian and African contexts, where mobility possess a fundamental problem to the existing education systems on one hand, while the reality that the existing educational system cannot cope with the demand for education on the other hand, not foregoing issues of access, equity, and resources.

In the new scenarios, education has been identified as one of the twelve main services, which need to be opened up for free flow of trade between countries.

The new technologies offer us the chance to telescope decades of infrastructure building and development activities by providing us with the advantage of high speed delivery with no dilution in quality; wide reach; individualization of learning in a anytime, anywhere situation; and interactivity, a low per unit cost.

ICTs in Healthcare

There has been considerable international discussion about the potential of ICTs to make major impacts in improving the health and well-being of poor and marginalized populations, combating poverty, and encouraging sustainable development and governance. However, despite all their potential, ICTs have not been widely used as tools to advance equitable health care access.

A critical mass of professional and community users of ICTs in health has not yet been reached in developing countries. Many of the approaches being used are still at a relatively new stage of implementation, with insufficient studies to establish their relevance, applicability or cost effectiveness.

ICTs have clearly made an impact on health care by improved dissemination of public health information and facilitating public discourse and dialogue around major public health threats; enabling remote consultation, diagnosis and treatment through telemedicine; facilitating collaboration and cooperation among health workers, including sharing of learning and training approaches; supporting more effective health research and the dissemination and access to research findings; strengthening the ability to monitor the incidence of public health threats and respond in a more timely and effective manner; and by improving the efficiency of administrative systems in healthcare facilities. This translates into saving lives, resources and directly improves peoples health.

ICTs in Agriculture

All stakeholders of agriculture industry need information and knowledge about these phases to manage them efficiently. Any system applied for getting information and knowledge for making decisions in any industry should deliver accurate, complete, concise information in time or on time. The information provided by the system must be in user-friendly form, easy to access, cost-effective and well protected from unauthorized accesses.

The application of information and communications technology (ICT) in agriculture is increasingly important. E-Agriculture is an emerging field focusing on the enhancement of agricultural and rural development through improved information and communication processes. More specifically, e-Agriculture involves the conceptualization, design, development, evaluation and application of innovative ways to use information and communication technologies (IT) in the rural domain, with a primary focus on agriculture.

The Workshop

In view of the importance of the foregoing, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) will organize jointly with the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), the Inter Islamic Network on Information Technology (INIT), and the National Institute of Posts and Telecommunications (INPT) the second International Workshop on 'Applications of ICTs in Education, Healthcare and Agriculture' scheduled to be held on November 23-25, 2015 at Rabat, Morocco.

Aims and Objectives

The International Workshop on 'Applications of ICTs in Education, Healthcare and Agriculture' aims to conduct a knowledge sharing exercise, about the impact of ICTs in innovating the sectors of Education, Health and Agriculture and their impact on a country's socioeconomic development. The main objective of the Workshop is developing capability of the participants from the OIC and COMSATS Member States to understand and possibly develop new technologies for strengthening technical capability, as well as responding effectively to the challenges of building competitiveness amid globalization and rapid technological change. The specific objectives of the session include:

- To raise understanding of participants on cutting edge methods and techniques employed by ICT professional in solving practical problems;
- To explore an enabling policy framework and ideas for strengthening ICT policies in developing countries for enhancing the national technological capability in achieving their development goals; and
- To provide a platform for research students, IT and sector experts from Health, Education and Agriculture to jointly explore avenues of scientific cooperation in solving problems affecting development.