

1 To raise understanding of participants on cutting edge practical methods and techniques employed by ICT professionals in problem solving involving the fields of education, healthcare and agriculture;

2 To explore an enabling policy framework for strengthening ICT policies in OIC and COMSATS member states for enhancement of their national technological capabilities hence resulting in the achievement of developmental goals; and

3 To provide a platform for research students, and IT experts from Education, Healthcare and Agriculture sectors to jointly explore avenues of scientific cooperation in solving problems impeding development.

Focus Areas

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

- Contemporary concepts in applying ICTs to expanding literacy;
- ICTs development;
- Examples of ICTs in Healthcare Research;
- ICTs in agriculture sector integrating concepts of GPS and new technologies towards enhancing productivity;
- Improving ICTs environment for entrepreneurship; and
- IP issues in ICTs application development etc

Who Should Attend the Workshop

Industry Experts, academicians, PhD students, entrepreneurs, policy planners and system administrators coming from OIC and COMSATS member states are specifically welcome to attend the workshop. The incentives include developing a network and an understanding of the present state of ICTs for applications in developing technological capability and enhancing productivity to respond effectively to the challenges of competitiveness amid globalization and rapid socio-economic change.

Eligibility Criteria

Candidates with at least a Master's Degree and/or demonstrated work experience in the areas relevant to the workshop them are eligible to attend the Workshop.

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3rd International Workshop on
Applications of ICTs in

**EDUCATION
HEALTHCARE
&
AGRICULTURE**

31 May to 1 June 2016

RSS, Amman - Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Organized by



Introduction and Background

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) are tools for management and utilization of information and data for developing and enhancing proficiency of system in various applications.

Owing to the technological advancements that have been achieved in this modern age, these tools are now able to work together, and can be combined to form the 'networked world' as we know it today. This results in a state of the art infrastructure of interconnected telephone services, standardized computing hardware and different forms of electronic media (the internet, radio and television), that enable one to broadcast information globally, further shrinking distances between masses of land, making knowledge sharing more feasible than it has ever been.

In cognizance of the global humanitarian agenda of widespread knowledge distribution, the 3rd International Workshop on 'Applications of ICTs in Education, Healthcare and Agriculture' is being organized on 31 May to 1 June 2016 in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The workshop is a continuation of the series of workshops that highlight and address key issues in sectors such as Education, Healthcare and Agriculture that affect a vast majority of the masses.

The Workshop is the third of the series, with the second edition held in November, 2015, in Rabat, Morocco and the first edition in December, 2014, in Islamabad, Pakistan. The earlier workshops were highly successful and were attended by over 100 delegates, representing 40 institutions from 14 different countries.

ICTs in Education

The role of ICTs in education can never be negated especially in poverty stricken regions where mobility and access to already non-existent educational facilities is a fundamental challenge, while a dearth of equity in allocation of resources regarding the dissemination of knowledge to all is at an all time high. In the present day and age, the usefulness and importance

of education cannot be overemphasized and the issue of adult literacy in developing and third world countries can only be solved by ensuring quality education for the masses for which ICTs can prove extremely practical. Newly developed technologies enable us to bypass infrastructure building and development activities that would otherwise require decades by providing us with the advantage of easy access with rapid delivery and no deterioration in quality; extended outreach; personalization of learning and interactivity at a cost lower than ever before.



ICTs in Healthcare

It has been proven that ICTs have a major role to play regarding improvement of health conditions of the marginalized communities in the society. Despite their obvious benefits, ICTs have not been deployed in a manner that allows universal access to healthcare facilities. Many of the approaches being used are still at a relatively initial stage of implementation with insufficient studies having been conducted to determine the level of relevance, applicability and cost effectiveness that ICTs can achieve.

ICT techniques have been implemented to make an impact on health care by improved dissemination of information regarding public health issues and facilitation of open dialogue around major public health threats including those that are considered unmentionable; enabling distant consultation, diagnosis and treatment through telemedicine; and also facilitation of collaboration and cooperation among health workers. The collaboration in healthcare, facilitated by ICTs, includes sharing of widely adapted training approaches; more effective health research and dissemination of and access to modern medical research findings; strengthening of the ability to monitor and respond in a more timely and effective manner; and improvement of the efficiency with which administrative systems in healthcare facilities can perform. This directly results in lives and resources being saved while having a direct influence on the condition of public health.



ICTs in Agriculture

An industry as diverse and detail oriented as agriculture requires, not only the acquisition of real time information but also equipment that can ensure the delivery of the said information. The information delivered must be user friendly, easily accessible, cost effective and encrypted to deter unauthorized access. e-Agriculture is an emerging field in this regard focusing on the enhancement of agricultural development in the context of rural usage through the use of improved processes for information gathering and communication. Hence, e-Agriculture involves conceiving, planning, developing, evaluating and applying groundbreaking techniques of using ICT equipment, having agriculture as the sole point of focus.



The Workshop

In view of the above, the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), the Inter Islamic Network on Information Technology (INIT), the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), and the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan are jointly organizing the 3rd International Workshop on 'Applications of ICTs in Education, Healthcare and Agriculture' scheduled to be held on 31 May to 1 June 2016, in Amman, Jordan.

The workshop will focus on applications and latest techniques in e-education, e-health, telemedicine, drug information services and will highlight the impact of ICTs in education, health and agriculture for developing countries, including those that enhance automation in education, health care services, agricultural resources and service management and those that can integrate modern concepts of global positioning systems, geographic information systems, computer-controlled devices (automated systems), to provide better knowledge management to the agriculture industry as well as expand literacy in the subject and enhance innovation that leads to enrichment in learning.

Aims and Objectives

The workshop aims at conducting a knowledge sharing exercise about the role of ICTs in the continued innovation in the sectors of Education, Healthcare and Agriculture and their impact on the socioeconomic landscape of a country. The main objective of the workshop is to develop capability of the participants from the OIC and COMSATS member states to understand and develop new technologies and developing capabilities for responding effectively to the challenges of building competitiveness amid globalization and rapid technological change. The specific objectives of the sessions include but are not limited to the following: