

Electronic Governance in Developing Countries

1st Network-Building Workshop



United Nations University
International Institute for Software Technology
(UNU-IIST), Macao

UNeGov.net/Workshops/Tunis
Tunis, 17 November 2005

Invitation

The 1st Network-Building Workshop on Electronic Governance in Developing Countries will be organized as a parallel event of the [World Summit on Information Society](#), and the first in a series of workshops under the [UNU-IIST's UNeGov.net](#) initiative. The aim is to build a Community of Practice interested in developing, sharing and applying concrete solutions for Electronic Governance, especially in developing countries. In addition to [Workshops](#), the Community will be supported by a [Portal](#) and an annual [Conference](#) on the Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance. The purpose of the Tunis Workshop is to introduce the UNeGov.net initiative, enlist the initial members and discuss future development of this initiative.

Target Audience

- 1) Experts in Public Administration, Information Technology, Knowledge Management, Sociology, Economics, etc.
- 2) Managers leading government technology programmes
- 3) Government practitioners, researchers and educators
- 4) Government decision-makers and CIOs

Rationale

Governments are under pressure from citizens, businesses and civil society to address public needs, to support local industries, to deliver high-quality services at reasonable cost to the public, etc. In response, they try to develop Electronic Governance - leverage the use of Information and Communication Technology to bring about customer orientation, businessline management, new forms of public service delivery and other public sector reforms. In doing so, government leaders face many challenges, such as:

- 1) Leading necessary process and structural changes to accompany technical solutions, against resistance from various stakeholders.
- 2) Finding ways to effectively cooperate on cross-agency projects, against traditionally hierarchical structures of governments.
- 3) Building stable, long-lasting solutions for the public sector, while facing volatility of supporting technologies.

UNeGov.net will provide a forum for addressing these challenges, bringing together the stakeholders in government, civil society, academia and industry. Specific solutions will be also addressed, for instance how open-source software may be used for e-Governance.

time	13:00 - 15:00		
venue	La Goulette room, Kram Centre, Tunis		
contact	Dr. Tomasz Janowski		
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UNeGov.net

Developing Electronic Governance merits a multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder approach whereby the experts and practitioners in different disciplines come together to exchange experiences, share technical know-how, transfer skills and knowledge and reach consensus on the best practices in the field. UNeGov.net aims to bring together such experts within the framework of a Community of Practice supported by:

- 1) a community portal
- 2) a series of network-building workshops
- 3) a conference on the Theory and Practice of e-Governance

The focus is as much on solving concrete problems as it is on consensus-building and advancing the practice in the field. The portal, for instance, will provide technical support for collaborative problem-solving by offering a rich collection of web resources - papers, software, projects, people, etc. and the mechanism to assemble such resources into "solution patterns".

UNeGov.net/Workshops

The workshops aim to build the Community in terms of its membership, geographic and discipline diversity, and capacity to tackle concrete problems. Each workshop will provide a forum:

- 1) to raise particular societal needs
- 2) to present government-adopted measures to address such needs, along with the challenges faced
- 3) to discuss a possible solution frameworks based on international and local experience in Electronic Governance
- 4) to disseminate the knowledge gained through the portal

Programme

time	topic	speaker	affiliation
13:00 - 13:05	Opening	Prof. Hans van Ginkel	Rector, United Nations University (UNU)
13:05 - 13:20	Building a Community of Practice for Electronic Governance - The UNeGov.net Initiative	Dr. Tomasz Janowski	Research Fellow, UNU-IIST Coordinator, UNeGov.net
13:20 - 13:35	Implementing Electronic Governance in Developing Countries - Benefits, Challenges, Programmes	Prof. Cleopas Angaye	Director General, National IT Development Agency, Nigeria
13:35 - 13:50	The Benefits and Risks of Open Source for Electronic Governance in Developing Countries	Mr. Hannes Karkowski	German Technical Cooperation (GTZ)
13:50 - 14:05	Building Knowledge Networks to Enable Electronic Governance in Developing Countries	Prof. Noshir Contractor	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
14:05 - 14:10	Summary	Dr. Adegboyega Ojo	Post-Doctoral Fellow, UNU-IIST
14:10 - 14:55	Discussion		
14:55 - 15:00	Closing	Dr. Mike Reed	Director, UNU-IIST

Organizer

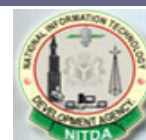


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