

# Electronic Governance in Developing Countries

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Network-Building Workshop



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

UNeGov.net/Bethlehem  
Bethlehem, 21 November 2005

### Invitation

The 2nd Network-Building Workshop on Electronic Governance in Developing Countries will be organized in Bethlehem, Palestine, as the second in a series of workshops under the [UNU-IIST's UNeGov.net](http://www.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 Bethlehem Workshop is to introduce the UNeGov.net initiative, discuss the barriers to the development of Electronic Governance in Palestine, and how UNeGov.net can contribute to overcoming them.

### Target Audience

- 1) Experts in Public Administration, Information Technology, 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 to address such challenges, bringing together the stakeholders in government, academia, industry, etc.

time	09:30 - 13:00	
venue	Cardinal Furno Hall, Bethlehem University	
homepage	<a href="http://www.unegov.net">http://www.unegov.net</a>	
contacts	Dr. Tomasz Janowski	Dr. Saleem Zougbi
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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
09:30 - 09:40	Welcome	Brother Daniel Casey, F.S.C., Bethlehem University
09:40 - 09:50	Opening Remarks	Dr. Sabri Saidam, Minister for Telecommunication and Information Technology (MTiT), Palestinian Authority
09:50 - 10:30	Building a Community of Practice for Electronic Governance - The UNeGov.net Initiative	Dr. Tomasz Janowski, The United Nations University International Institute for Software Technology, UNeGov.net Coordinator
10:30 - 11:10	Electronic Government in Palestine, Relevance and Challenges	Mr. Ahmed F ElFarra, Senior Coordinator e-Government Working initiative, MTiT, PA
11:10 - 11:20	Break	
11:20 - 11:40	Viability and Sustainability of the Palestinian State and the Role of Electronic Government	Dr. Jad Ishaq, Director General, Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem
11:40 - 11:50	Summary	Dr. Saleem Zougbi, Bethlehem University
11:50 - 12:40	Panel Discussion	moderated by Dr. Saleem Zougbi
12:40 - 13:00	Concluding Remarks	Dr. Sabri Saidam, Minister, MTiT, PA

### Organizers



### Partners

