

Electronic Governance in Developing Countries

5th Network-Building Workshop



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

UNeGov.net/Kathmandu
Kathmandu, 12 December 2005

Invitation

The 5th Network-Building Workshop on Electronic Governance in Developing Countries will be organized in Kathmandu, Nepal, as the fifth 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 Kathmandu Workshop is to introduce the UNeGov.net initiative, discuss the barriers to the development of Electronic Governance in Nepal, and how UNeGov.net can contribute to overcoming them.

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.
- 4) Relying on private sector assistance to deliver public services, while keeping data secure and avoiding vendor lock-in strategies.

UNeGov.net will provide a forum for addressing these challenges, bringing together the stakeholders in government, civil society, academia and industry.

time	10:00 - 12:40	
venue	Hotel Soltee Crowne Plaza	
homepage	http://www.unegov.net	
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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
10:00 - 10:10	Opening	Mr. Sharad Chandra Shah	Vice Chairman, High Level Commission for Information Technology (HLCIT)
10:10 - 10:40	Building a Community of Practice for Electronic Governance - The UNeGov.net Initiative	Dr. Tomasz Janowski	Research Fellow, UNU-IIST Coordinator, UNeGov.net
10:40 - 11:10	Nepalese Government Experience with ICT	Mr. Atma Ram Ghimire	Member Secretary, HLCIT
11:10 - 11:20	Break		
11:20 - 11:50	Citizen-Friendly e-Governance in Nepal, Rhetoric or Reality	Dr. Rohit Kumar Nepali	Executive Director, South Asia Partnership International
11:50 - 12:00	Summary	Mr. Sharad Chandra Shah	Vice Chairman, HLCIT
12:00 - 12:30	Electronic Governance in Nepal - Discussion	Dr. Mike Reed (moderator)	Director, UNU-IIST
12:30 - 12:40	Closing	Dr. Mike Reed	Director, UNU-IIST



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