**Shared Access Point to Empower Rural Communities – Connectivity**
Sharing APTN Experiences and Potentials

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Definition of Telecentres

• A ‘Telecentre’ is a shared access point or ICT enabled information centre
• Owned / managed by entrepreneur, government, academic institutes or NGOs
• Basic ICT facilities (phone, computers, printer, scanner, internet connectivity, digital camera etc.) in rural set-up.
• Services offer: Livelihood, communication, training, financial, entertainment and secretarial
Service Delivery Flow of Telecentres

Users → Reply from Web / online resources

Experts → Specialist, Extension department, Service Provider

Help Desk with Host Org. → Advisory Panel

Telecentre/ BP / Operator maintain the contact and communicate to get the solution as asked by the customers

Content update team will contact with the sector Specific focal point to meet the query and update content

Service delivered by using Internet / mobile or any other media

Services (Information and service) Solution in ICT enabled and traditional media

Host Organization

Experts may directly contacted
Models and Networks of Telecentres

- Government led
- Private Sector
- NGO Driven
- Hi-Breed / PPP Model
- School based

Around 185,000 shared access points are available within the network of APTN
Starting of Telecentres

In 2000, Multi Purpose Telecentre was established in Bangladesh.

BRAC introduced school based ICT enabled knowledge centre in 2002.
Transformation and Innovation

The MPTC model has been introduced back in 2000 (Left) to address health issues and Union Digital Centre (UDC) to take the services at doorstep (Below)
Different Models
Kiosks at Telecentres
Intel® Easy Steps Training Program
Now in Bangladesh

The Intel® Easy Steps is a technology based practical program which promises to make local citizens socially and financially independent. This program will aid the participants in enhancing their skills which will help them to secure jobs or develop their entrepreneurship skills.

BIID is looking for local computer training service providers to offer the program at local level (District, Upazilla & Union).

Interested entrepreneurs are requested to contact:

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Introduction of APTN

1. Asia Pacific Telecentre Network (APTN), a regional network of 8 member countries namely Bangladesh, Thailand, India, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Cambodia with Secretariat based in Dhaka.

2. APTN foster telecentre movement and promote ICT4D in the region to empower communities towards building an inclusive information society.

3. APTN was initiated by UN ESCAP and Telecentre.org Foundation in 2005.
Strategic Themes

APTN address the following strategic themes on ICT4D through the telecentres

1. Research, Knowledge Management and Advocacy
2. Gender and Equality
3. Entrepreneurship and SME
4. Environment and climate change
5. Rural development and livelihood (SMART Village)
6. Cybercrime and Child Protection
APTN Understanding on inclusive access

Artistic rendering by Nazrul Islam Rakib; commissioned by INGENAES, October 2015
Evolution .... Mobile based solutions

Screenshot of mobile version of Farmbook (Index Page)

- Summary reports on the data available for the users
- Profitability calculator and Business Planning Canvass application
- User's detail including contacts and farm related information

- e-Krishok service brand of BIID
- Brief about the e-Krishok services offered by BIID
- All contact details, farmers and field facilitators can communicate as when required
- Fact sheets on Marketing, Business Planning, Innovations, NRM, Access to finance and Tip sheets on farming
Does telecentres have relevancy in present scenario?

• Ensure inclusive access for all
• Penetration of smart phone is still very low in rural areas
• The services offered by telecentres are unique
• Best service delivery options for citizen services and business development services
• Promote entrepreneurship
Addressing the changed scenario

APTN Members are aware of the changed technological (ICT) dynamics to adjust and accommodate changes along with integrate relevant services to best fit in.

Innovation, knowledge sharing and action learning are the foundation of APTN to cope up with the new ICT eco-system
The Sri Lanka Model

Public Private Partnership

Ownership

- Entrepreneurs
- Religious Institutions
- Community Based Organizations
- Selected Rural Schools
- Public Libraries
Services offered by Nenasala

**Balangoda Nenasala:**
*Aspiring to become an IT University in five years*

Owner: Udesh Mallikaratne
Location: Balangoda
Total number of trainees:
- since inception: 1000 people
Total number of staff: 15
Number of entrepreneurs: 3
Main activities:
- IT training
- Tamil language courses
- Spoken and written English courses
- Browsing and chat
Features & Services offered by Union Digital Centre (UDC), Bangladesh

- Under “Digital Bangladesh” mandate
- 4500+ UDC rolled out all over the country
- PPP Model (Local entrepreneur and government)
- Established on existing infrastructures
- Focusing on citizen services
- Gender inclusion
Case from Bangladesh

G2G Migration: Bringing Transparency through Digital Centers

Ashikur Rahman (36), Baragachi union, Paba upazilla of Rajshahi district, dreamed for a long time of going abroad for overseas employment. About 4/5 years ago, he along with his friend gave about BDT 200,000 to one middlemen of a recruiting agency. After a long time passed, they came to learn from sources that the agency was shutdown. Ashikur was very disappointed and lost all interest of his dream abroad. On 16th January, he stood in a long queue in front of the Baragachi Union Digital Centre (UDC), of paba upazilla in Rajshahi district. He knew, through the advertisement of Digital Centers, that passport was not mandatory for the initial registration process. He completed his registration through the Digital Centers without going through a layer of intermediaries in the form of middlemen.
How telecentres fits with SDG?

Telecentres facilitate services to address the Goals set in - 1 (No Poverty), 2 (No Hunger), 3 (Good Health), 4 (Quality Education), 5 (Gender Equality), 8 (Good Job & Economic Growth), 9 (Innovation and Infrastructure), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 16 (Peace and Justice)
Interconnection of Telecentre and SDG

SDG is more about Action
Telecentres address the Goals set in SDG through various interventions in collaboration with relevant stakeholders
Way Forward

• APTN will foster broader ICT4D issues
• Partnership with relevant organizations on wide range of services including research, innovation and implementation
• Promote inclusive society based on targets set in SDG
Thank You

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