

# Agenda

## EDICT2010: Enabling Access to Education through ICT

*How can accessible information and communication and assistive technologies for persons with disabilities be best deployed in schools and universities?*

October 27-29, 2010

India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India

**Co-organized by:**



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## **Enabling Access to Education through ICTs: How Can Accessible Information and Communication and Assistive Technologies for Persons with Disabilities be Best Deployed in Schools and Universities?**

An international inquiry organized by the Centre for Internet and Society in cooperation with G3ict, an advocacy initiative of the United Nations Global Alliance for ICT and Development with the support of UNESCO, the International Telecommunication Union, the DAISY Consortium and the World Intellectual Property Organization

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

08.30 – 09.30 **Registration opens**

09.30 – 11.00 **Opening session**

- Welcome note from the organizers, CIS, G3ict, UNESCO, ITU and WIPO
  - Remarks by  
Smt Vibha Puri Das  
Secretary, Higher Education, Ministry for Human Resource and Development

Ms. Sangeeta Gayrola  
Additional Secretary, Ministry for Social Justice and Empowerment

Dr.Indrajit Banerjee, Director, UNESCO

11.0 – 11.15 Tea break

11.15 – 13.00 Axel Leblois, *Executive Director, G3ict*

*ICT Accessibility and Reasonable Accommodation in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Implications of Article 9 and 24 for State Parties and Education Ministries*

### **Why Accessible and Assistive Technologies Matter? – An Overview of ICT Barriers to Access and Solutions**

- Live examples and case studies of ICT accessibility issues and solutions in education. The topics – (access to websites), (published works and libraries),(classroom materials and tests), (hardware and software) and (K to 12 and university perspectives)

#### Speakers

- Cindy Rowland  
*Visible and Hidden Barriers for Students and Faculty, Impact of Lack of Accessible ICTs for Students with Disabilities – An International Perspective*
- Dr. Sushmita Mitra, National Institute of Open Schooling  
*School Textbooks and Educational Resources – Making Distance Education Work*
- Dr.Hemalata- IGNOU  
*Information Communication Technology (ICT) for Inclusion*

- Mr.S.C.Kunthiya, Joint Secretary Elementary Education, Ministry of HRD  
*Barriers and Initiatives of the HRD Ministry*
- James Thurston, Microsoft  
*Accessibility Guide for Educators*

Q & A discussion

Moderator- Ambassador Swashpawan Singh

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch break

14.00 – 15.30 **Beyond Accessibility: Implementing Assistive Technologies for Students with Disabilities**

- Live examples and demos. Topics - (input / output devices), (screen readers), (text to speech and voice recognition), (language support) and
- The need for individual solutions and
- Training and support essentials

Speakers

- Srinivasa Chakravartula  
*An Overview of Assistive Technologies and Accessibility Tools*
- Prof S R Mittal, Department of Education, University of Delhi  
*Challenges faced by students with disabilities in higher education*
- Arun Rao, The Deaf Way Foundation  
*ICT Applications in Deaf Education*
- Prof Tanmoy Bhattacharya, Coordinator, Equal Opportunities Cell, Delhi University  
*Education of Students with Disabilities: An Evaluation of the Indian Educational Policies*
- Representative from Ministry of IT (TBC)  
*Challenges and initiatives for the MICT*

15.30 – 16.00 Tea break

16.00 – 17.30 **Shifting Paradigms for Accessible and Assistive Solutions: Can India Schools Leapfrog Current Solutions?**

Speakers

- Prabir Purkayastha and Mandar Naik, Director - *Platform Strategy with Microsoft India Open Source Software and Proprietary Software, The Need for Interoperability*
- Susan Schorr, ITU  
*Connecting Schools: Global Challenges and Solutions*
- Claudio Giugliemma, President, Dominic Foundation (Switzerland)  
*Accessible e-learning*
- Professor Kenryu Nakamura  
*University of Tokyo*  
*99 Tips in My Pocket In-Class Use of Mobile Phones for Students with Disabilities*
- 17.30 **Adjournment, Announcements for Next Day Program**

Thursday, October 28, 2010

09.30 – 11.00 **Morning Session – UNESCO-CIS Case Studies Overview Education in ICTs Initiatives in the Asia Pacific Region: Success Stories**

### Speakers

- Dr.Indrajit Banerjee , UNESCO and presentations by other case study presenters  
*Band Case Studies Research Program Overview*
- James Mathew- Insite  
*Insight ICT for the Differently abled*
- Professor Mamoru Iwabuchi, University of Tokyo  
*Development of ICT based Assistive Technology for Minority Languages*
- Sachin Malhan, Inclusive Planet  
*The Global Social Library for the Visually Impaired*

11.00 – 11.20 Tea break

### **11.20 – 13.00 Plenary Session with DAISY Speakers - The New Frontier for Access to Published Works: Success Stories and Roadblocks**

#### Speakers

- Hiroshi Kawamura, Daisy Consortium Presentation
- Viji Dilip  
*The Bookshare Success Story*
- Mr.Andrew Tu, WIPO  
*Facilitating Access to Copyright Works for Visually Impaired Persons – The WPO VIP Initiative*
- Mr. Vivek, Mehra, MD and CEO Sage publications
- Dr. Sam Taraporevala  
*India's situation*
- Discussion and Q & As

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch break

### **14.00 – 15.30 DAISY Best Practices for Educators**

#### Speakers

- George Kerscher  
*Latest Technical Developments and Sample Implementations such as in DAISY Mathematics*
- Prashant Ranjan Verma  
*Over view of Hardware and Software Tools for Authoring and Playback of DAISY Books*
- Birendra Raj Pokharel  
*Sharing of Experiences on Implementation of DAISY Book Production and Distribution in Developing Countries*
- Michael Katzmann, National Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, USA

#### *Best Practices in Providing Accessible Materials to Persons with Disabilities*

- Sunil Abraham, Centre for Internet and Society  
*Open Educational Resources*

15.30 – 16.00 Tea break

- 16.00 – 17.30 Break-out Sessions:  
Group 1: Primary education
  - Group 2: Secondary education
  - Group 3: Tertiary education
  - Group 4: Vocational and lifelong learning

Each group covers

- Covers 2 to 3 case studies presented by field practitioners with Q&As
- Discuss key challenges and success factors as described by field practitioners

Agreed on key policy recommendations to be presented in plenary session

Facilitator: Sunil Abraham

Moderators and rapporteurs to be identified for each group

17.30 Adjournment

Friday, October 29, 2010

**09.30 – 11.00 Developing an ICT Accessibility and Assistive Technology Support Ecosystem for Educators**

The topics – (centers of excellence and peer support), (training the trainers), (employing disabled persons as trainers), (resources for field practitioners), (role of universities), (standards), (public procurement), (international examples), (discussion with selected case studies leaders and participants and India's Ministry of Education officials)

Speakers

- Cyndi Roland- University of Utah
- Arun Mehta  
*Opportunities and Challenges for Education in a Neuro-Diverse World*
- Joyojeet Pal  
*Developing a curriculum in Disability Studies and Assistive Technology for higher education*
- Shanti Raghavan- Enable India  
*Centres of Excellence, Train the Trainers, Employing Disabled Persons as Trainers*

- 11.00 - 11.20 Tea break

11.20 – 13.00 Wrap-up session presentation of group work, feedback and action points. On site web based survey of participants on policy priorities. Will be used to edit white paper.

13.00 – 14.00 Closing lunch

14.00 – 15.30 **Afternoon Organizer's Private Session**

- Summarizing key findings
- Looking at on-line survey results
- Drafting key points of white paper
- Drafting table of contents

Next steps

15.30 – 16.00 Tea break

Moderator: George Abraham, CEO, Score Foundation

16.00 Adjournment