

Call to Participation

WSIS (World Summit on Information Technology) + 10 Organizational Observational Data

Target: *Specific Pakistan Education NGOs – TCF, DIL and Learn Smart Pakistan*

To be shared by FESF (in collaboration with APF) at the WSIS+10 UN General Assembly High Level Meeting

The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) was held in Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005). Its outcomes and implementations of outcomes are now open for stakeholder review. The General Assembly is hosting a stakeholder review of the World Summit on the Information Society in New York City. They have invited Family Education Services Foundation (FESF) to offer inputs for the intergovernmental negotiation process.

This interactive opportunity will allow stakeholders to discuss and share views on issues such as the digital divide, multi-stakeholder participation, role of Internet Governance Forum (IGF), Information & Communication Technologies (ICTs) as enabling tools for socio-economic growth, and the importance of maintaining a stable, open and secure internet. A heavy focus will center on understanding the needs of developing countries' capacity building.

FESF will submit a non-paper at WSIS+10. *A non-paper is a discussion document designed to stimulate discussion on particular issues. A non-paper does not represent the official position of the drafting organization. However, they are useful in starting debates on particular issues allowing decision makers to talk about sensitive issues.* This is a wonderful opportunity for NGOs working in Pakistan's education realm to assist with information regarding technology capacity. FESF will be the only organization at the high level WSIS+10 Stakeholder's Meeting representing Pakistan.

Terms Defined:

Information society: society where the creation, distribution, use, integration and manipulation of information is a significant economic, political, and cultural activity.

ICTs (Information and communications technologies): an umbrella term that includes any communication device or application, encompassing radio, television, cellular phones, computer & network hardware & software, satellite systems, etc.

Questions:

1. In your organization's experience, over the last ten years has there been progress of information society towards a more people-centered, inclusive and development oriented vision?
2. In your organization's experience:
 - a. Do villages have access to and distribution of ICTs? Are public access points established in villages?
 - b. Do universities, colleges, secondary schools and primary schools have access to ICTs?
 - c. Do primary and secondary school curricula allow for creation, distribution, use, integration and manipulation of information through technology?
 - d. Do universities, colleges, secondary schools and primary schools encourage the development of content and facilitate use of all world languages on the internet?
 - e. Does your organization believe that more than half of the world's inhabitants have access to ICTs within their reach? Why or Why not?
3. In your organization's experience, what should be the priorities in seeking to achieve progress towards Information Society, taking into account emerging trends?
4. Specifically, what are some examples of projects that your organization has established which helps in promoting an information society?

Please send your responses to Jocelyne Jeannot at jjeannot@americanpakistan.org no later than September 24th, 2015.

For more information please contact APF UN Consultant Ameena Mohyuddin Zia at ameenamohyuddin@gmail.com.

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