

# The 3rd annual Connecting Rural Communities Asia Forum 2009

Early bird  
offer expires  
1st June 2009

Organised by:



COMMONWEALTH  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
ORGANISATION

## Delivering sustainable connectivity for all

23 - 25 June 2009  
Taj Palace Hotel  
New Delhi, India



### Event Highlights:

- Developing your infrastructure network
- Delivering effective e-Services
- Reducing costs to rural end users
- Training rural communities
- Realising the potential for growth

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ALL CONCESSIONS AND EARLY BIRD PRICING EXPIRE ON 1ST JUNE 2009

Cocktail Evening  
23rd June

# 5

## Key Reasons

why **you must** attend the CRC Asia Forum

### Why your organisation needs to be represented at this critical forum:

- 1 **Meet** the people setting the agenda, making the decisions and funding the initiatives for greater rural connectivity
- 2 **Learn** from world class broadband delivery, e-services and tele-centre schemes for rural areas
- 3 **Get** the latest techniques for empowering and training rural communities via effective ICT - Overcome the practical barriers
- 4 **Hear** the latest solutions for reducing the costs to your rural communities and end users
- 5 **Make** the business case for increasing the tele-density of rural areas - Sourcing funding and support for your initiatives

### Key points of discussion:

- 1 Best practice for delivering the next generational of rural infrastructure
- 2 Using ICT to deliver world class e-services
- 3 Working with Universal Service Funds and foreign direct investors
- 4 Regulating the rural ITC market to enable growth
- 5 Defining the business case for development
- 6 Understanding the unique connectivity challenges facing South Asia

### Who will attend:

#### Private Sector

- Chief Executives
- Managing Directors
- Business Development Directors
- Corporate Social Responsibility Directors
- Asia Regional Directors
- Technologists
- Development Specialists
- Tele-Centre Managers
- Fixed Line Specialists
- Broadband Specialists

#### Public Sector

- Directors of ICT Development
- Senior Regulators
- Universal Service Fund Directors
- Capacity Development Specialists
- Rural Infrastructure Development Specialists
- Public/Private Partnership Managers

#### Third Sector Organisations

- Managing Directors/Directors
- Rural Development Specialists/ Programme Managers
- Connectivity Development Specialists/Programme Managers

### Gold Sponsor



Ericsson is the world's leading provider of technology and services to telecom operators. The market leader in 2G and 3G mobile technologies, Ericsson supplies communications services and manages networks that serve more than 250 million subscribers. The company's portfolio comprises mobile and fixed network infrastructure, and broadband and multimedia solutions for operators, enterprises and developers. The Sony Ericsson joint venture provides consumers with feature-rich personal mobile devices. Ericsson is advancing its vision of 'communication for all' through innovation, technology, and sustainable business solutions.

For more information, visit: [www.ericsson.com](http://www.ericsson.com)

### Silver Sponsor



#### Connecting rural Asia to the Internet, with mobile broadband

This GSMA hosted workshop will provide the compelling case for how mobile broadband networks are used to connect rural communities to the Internet, to achieve social, economic and commercial targets. Drawing on International experience and industry leaders, this session will present the significant global economics driving down the financial barriers for network deployment, showcase a range of community and consumer applications delivering improvements to rural living standards, and highlight the economic costs incurred in delaying spectrum availability.

Panel representatives from GSMA, Ericsson, Qualcomm and McKinsey

For more information, visit: [www.gsmworld.com/hspa](http://www.gsmworld.com/hspa)

Confirmed Speakers include:



→ **Shri N.K. Goyal**  
President  
Communications  
and Manufacturing  
Association of India



→ **Parvez Iftikhar**  
Chief Executive  
Officer  
Universal Service  
Fund, Pakistan



→ **Radha Basu**  
Founder Director  
ANUDIP Foundation  
for Social Welfare



→ **Anil Prakash**  
President  
Telecommunications  
Users Group of India



→ **Naimur Rahman**  
Director  
OneWorld  
South Asia



→ **Vijay Pratap Singh  
Aditya**  
Chief Executive  
Officer  
Ekgaon Technologies



→ **Shri Kuldeep Goyal**  
Chairman and  
Managing Director,  
Bharat Sanchar Nigam  
Ltd., India



→ **Hon. Dr. Arbab  
Alamgir Khan**  
Minister of  
Communications,  
Government of Pakistan



→ **Hon. Eng. Mohammad  
Jamil A. Mulla**  
Minister of Communication  
and Information Technology,  
Saudi Arabia



→ **Hon. Amir Zai Sangin**  
Minister of  
Communications and  
Information Technology,  
Government of  
Afghanistan

Invited Speakers include:

The Venue



**Taj Palace Hotel**  
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Diplomatic Enclave  
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India

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ICT investment opportunities in Africa

The CTO presents a showcase for South Asia telecom investors looking for opportunities in Africa. Meet your new partners in sustainable growth. Attend this exclusive networking forum on the third day of the conference.

**Contact us now if you want to be part of this exclusive opportunity.**

How to register

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and save up to £125**

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Delegate Sales Officer

Tel: +44 (0) 20 8600 3810  
E-mail: j.taylor@cto.int

**Mr. Marco de Kock,**  
Senior Sales Officer

Tel: +44 (0) 20 8600 3811  
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**To register online  
please visit: [www.cto.int](http://www.cto.int)**

Main Conference: Day 1  
Tuesday, 23rd June 2009

08.30 **Conference Registration**

09.00 **Welcome Address**

**Dr. Ekwow Spio-Garbrah**, Chief Executive Officer,  
Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation

09.15 **Chairman's Opening Remarks**

09.20 **Keynote Address**

**Driving rural connectivity in partnership with rural people**  
**Representative**, Ministry of Communications and Information  
Technology, India

**MINISTERIAL PANEL**

09.40 **Ministerial Panel Discussion - How can governments best support the creation of self-sustaining rural connectivity initiatives that benefit local people?**

- Establishing sustainable targets
- Creating successful public/private partnerships
- International cooperation on rural development

**Senior Representative**, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, India

**Senior Representative**, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Afghanistan

**Senior Representative**, Ministry of Posts and Telecommunication, Sri Lanka

*Invited* **H.E. Mr Rajiuddin Ahmed Raju**, Minister, Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications Bangladesh

*Invited* **Hon. Dr. Arbab Alamgir Khan**, Minister of Communications, Government of Pakistan

*Invited* **Hon. Krishna Bahadur Mahara**, Minister of Information and Communications, Government of Nepal

*Invited* **H.E. Eng. Mohamed Jamil A. Mulla**, Minister of Communication and Information Technology, Saudi Arabia

10.40 **Question and Answer Session**

10.55 **Morning Coffee Break - Group Photograph and press conference**

**REGULATORY PANEL**

11.25 **Panel Discussion**  
**Using regulation as a tool to increase rural broadband uptake: Enabling all providers to access regional rural markets**

- Working successfully with rural service providers
- Directing resources to low-teledensity areas
- Creating a transparent regulatory environment

**Dr. Muhammed Yaseen**, Chairman, PTA

**Mr. Ananda Raj Khanal**, Director and Secretary, Nepal Telecommunications Authority

**Robindhra Mangtani**, GSMA

*Invited* **Brig. Gen Zia Ahmed**, psc (retd), Chairman, Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission

*Invited* **Sh. Nripendra Misra**, Chairman, TRAI

*Invited* **Mr. Priyantha Kariyapperuma**, Director General and CEO, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka

*Invited* **H.E. Dr. Abdulrahman A. Al-Jafary**, Governor, Communications and Information Technology Commission Saudi Arabia

12.10 **Question and Answer Session**

12.15 **Lunch and Networking Opportunities**

**What is the best strategic approach to increasing connectivity in your region?**

13.15 **Panel Discussion**

**International progress on delivering the promise of the Universal Service Fund**

- Accessing the impact of the schemes thus far; what has been achieved?
- Identifying the main areas to receive funding in 2009: Where will the remaining strategic funding be concentrated for South Asia?
- How can community groups, businesses and public sector organisations work in partnership to drive connectivity

**Mr. Parvez Iftikhar**, Chief Executive Officer, Universal Service Fund, Pakistan

**Ms. Payal Malik**, Senior Researcher, Department of Telecommunication, India

*Invited* **Ganesh Ramalignum**, Chairman, Data Communications, Mauritius

13.55 **Panel Discussion**

**Identifying successful and transferable lessons for connecting rural areas: Practical insights from national operators**

- Understanding the priorities of operators expanding into rural markets
- Working successfully in partnership with community groups
- Overcoming the practical barriers to greater rural connectivity

**Yogesh Koshhar**, Director of Corporate Social Responsibility, Microsoft India

*Invited* **Kuldeep Goyal**, Chairman and Managing Director, BSNL

*Invited* **Mr. Ehsan Bayat**, Chairman, Afghan Wireless Communication Company

*Invited* **Mr. Sher Bahadar**, Executive Vice President, International Business Relations, Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited

*Invited* **Mr. Wajed Ali Khan**, Director General, National Broadcasting Authority, Bangladesh

*Invited* **Srinath Narasimhan**, Managing Director & CEO, Tata Communications

14.40 **Assessment of M-content requirements in India and Uganda**

- What are the users' current requirements?
- What demand is not met?
- What do people use M-content for today?
- What will be the future demand?
- What are the obstacles, challenges and opportunities?

**Kojo Boakye**, Manager Programmes, Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation

15.10 **Employing Public-Private-People partnerships to deliver sustainable connectivity programmes**

- Working together in new ways - Innovative ideas and practice
- Establishing an effective joint working framework for your partnerships
- Using community engagement to maximise the impact of connectivity programmes
- Performance managing the ongoing work of your partnerships

**N.K. Goyal**, President, Communications and Manufacturing Association of India

15.40 **Question and Answer Session**

15.50 **Afternoon Refreshments**

**Solving the major technical barriers to increasing rural tele-density**

16.20 **Developing a world-class telecentre rural development programme**

- Ensuring your telecentre strategy is self sustaining and independent of non-sustainable funding sources
- Successfully training staff to support their community in accessing information and services
- Using a telecentre as the centre of a capacity building network

**Representative**, Asia-Pacific Telecentre Network, UN-ESCAP

16.50 **How can micro-payments and expert guidance be best used for community-led connectivity projects?**

- Where should money be best employed to have the maximum impact for rural communities?
- Empowering marginalised groups to maximise the effectiveness of your spending
- Preparing a business case for strategic funding

**Dipak Basu & Radha Basu**, Founder Directors, ANUDIP Foundation for Social Welfare

17.20 **Question and Answer Session**

17.30 **Chairperson's Closing Comments**

17.40 **End of Day 1**

19.00 **Cocktail Reception hosted by Ericsson**

**Main Conference: Day 2**  
Wednesday, 24th June 2009

09.00 **Re-registration and Coffee**

09.45 **Chairperson's Opening Remarks**

**Practical models for funding and delivering Rural Connectivity**

09.55 **Meeting the challenges of radical increases in demand: Strategic infrastructure solutions**

- Planning and implementing the creation of Service Access Islands
- Successful approaches to improving backhaul services that support rural connectivity

- Viable business model for Common Services Centres, keeping in view of stratified economic power in rural India

**Ashis Sanyal**, Director, e-Governance, Department of Information Technology, Government of India and Rural ICT Activists

10.40 **Improve your life - mobile healthcare in developing countries**

- How mobile communications enables access to healthcare
- How mobile communications improves delivery of healthcare
- How M-health benefits individuals, institutions and society

**Senior Ericsson representative**

**Dr. K. Ganapathy**, President of Apollo Telemedicine Networking Foundation

11.10 **Question and Answer Session**

11.20 **Morning Coffee Break and Networking Opportunity**

**GSMA Workshop : Connecting rural Asia to the Internet with mobile broadband**

11.50 **This GSMA hosted workshop presents the compelling case for how mobile broadband networks are used to connect rural communities to the Internet, to achieve social, economic and commercial targets.**

- Key trends of the global and Asian Mobile Broadband marketplace
- Potential of broadband access to increase a country's GDP and the economic costs incurred in delaying spectrum availability
- Proving the affordability of mobile broadband, using HSPA technology, as a solution for delivering internet access to rural communities
- Key drivers for mobile broadband growth
- Showcasing a range of community and consumer applications, used around the world, to deliver improvements to rural living standards
- The latest information in products and services to facilitate broadband access in rural communities including low cost devices, shared access kiosks and green initiatives for power generation

Time will be provided for an interactive panel discussion with the audience.

**Panel representatives** from GSMA, Ericsson, Qualcomm and McKinsey

13.30 **Lunch and Networking**

**Realising the benefits of greater rural connectivity through the delivery of E-services**

14.30 **How can an e-enabled centre can improve the life chances of all members of a community?**

**Anil Prakash**, President, Telecommunications Users Group of India

- 15.00 **E-learning - A paradigm shift in rural education?**
- Making the local case for e-learning: Involving local people to tailor learning programme to local needs
  - Sourcing high quality and diverse educational content
  - Maintaining the political will to sustain a successful e-learning programme

**T.V. Partha Saradhi**, Director of the Department of Information Technology and Communications, Government of Andhra Pradesh

- 15.30 **Defining what is possible in E-service delivery and E-Governance**
- Lessons from a successful scheme; Creating tangible developmental benefits from increased connectivity
  - Working with stakeholders to ensure all members of the community have full access to e-services
  - Embedding online services into the mainstream of services delivery

**Vikas Kanungo**, Chairman, The Society for Promotion of e-Governance, India

- 16.00 **Afternoon Refreshments Break**

**Ensuring rural communities can make the most of the digital transformation**

- 16.25 **4RF Communications delivers Carrier Class Connectivity to rural regions**

**Adrian Horrell**, Business Development Director Utilities, 4RF

- 16.50 **Mobile miles, E-line and digital courier - Exploring the new solutions in last mile connectivity**

**H.C. Soni**, Vice-President, ITU-APT Foundation of India

- 17.05 **Ensuring effective rural service delivery for accelerated socio-economic development**

- Driving growth through the delivery of value-based services to rural areas
- Using mobile phone-based communication systems to deliver value based services The importance of a sustainable operations framework
- Overcoming the challenges in managing social security schemes
- Lessons from MERCComs public-private scheme - Tracking social welfare entitlements online

**Vijay Pratap Singh Aditya**, Chief Executive Officer, Ekgaon technologies

- 17.30 **Question and Answer Session**

- 17.40 **Chairperson's Closing Comments**

- 17.50 **End of Day 2**

- 18.00 **Cocktail Reception available for Sponsorship**

- 19.00 **Gala Dinner available for Sponsorship**

## Day 3, Special Focus Day, Thursday 25th June 2009

- 08.30 **Re-registration and Coffee**

- 09.30 **Chairperson's Opening Remarks**

**Raj Kumar Prasad**, Chief Executive Officer  
Commonwealth Centre for e-Governance

### Delivering ICT Opportunities

- 09.40 **Identifying the hardest to connect areas and connecting the digitally excluded: New approaches and solutions**

**Sandeep Bhargava**, Head-Corporate Affairs  
(APAC Region), Nokia Siemens Networks

- 10.10 **Realising the economic benefits of e-services in the rural areas**

**Naimur Rahman**, Director, Oneworld South Asia

- 10.40 **Question and Answer session**

- 10.50 **Morning Coffee Break and Networking Opportunity**

- 11.20 **Successfully targeting the poorest areas with cost effective connectivity**

**Ravi Kumar**, Project Manager, Alternatives for India  
Development

- 11.50 **Developing self sustaining business and commercial opportunities by increasing broadband connectivity**

**Allen Bailochan Tuladhar**, Chairperson,  
Forum for Information Technology, Nepal

- 12.20 **Question and Answer session**

- 12.40 **Lunch and Networking Opportunity with African Stakeholders**

- 13.40 **Sharing practical insights and identifying opportunities: African and Asian partnership in ICT development**

- 14.00 **Panel Discussion: ICT Business opportunities in Commonwealth African Countries**

- 15.00 **Afternoon Refreshments**

- 15.15 **Overview of Indian ICT opportunities: Where can synergy be realised**

- 15.45 **Delivering Innovative Collaborations: Practical Insights from Successful Schemes**

- 16.30 **Question and Answer Session**

- 16.45 **Chairman's closing remarks**

- 17.00 **End of Focus day**

## The **Three Pillars** of the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation

**1**

### Capacity Building and Training

- Over 100 bilateral and over 500 online training courses available.
- Unique bespoke programmes for switchover technical training, content development and programming can be made available.
- Our Programme for Development and Training has helped to develop the skills of more than 30,000 staff over the last 10 years.
- Open to all industry stakeholders. Training given to develop skill sets specifically designed to your organisations capacity building timetable.
- Uses faculty of industry experts and trainers from around the world.

**2**

### International Events and Conferences

- At least 10 networking events held per year in Africa, Europe, the Americas, Asia and the South Pacific.
- All events organised are highly topical, educative, informative and accessible to all for knowledge sharing.
- Bringing together the key stakeholder groups for knowledge sharing and commercial relationship building.
- CTO welcomes all to participate and contribute to the discussions on the market sector that your business works in.

**3**

### Research and Consultancy Programmes

- Research and consultancy work is carried out cost effectively to support Public Agencies and private sector enterprises.
- Reputation built on key areas of competences on policy and regulatory, ICT planning and implementation, pilot projects evaluation and monitoring.
- In-depth industry knowledge and long standing relationships provide support to all stakeholders in the ICT arenas to prepare them for the future.
- Need to fully understand your requirements and propose tailor made solutions that deal specifically with your needs and challenges.



## Upcoming CTO Events

**The 2nd annual Asian Pacific e-Gov Forum 2009**  
28th-30th July 2009  
Brunei

**The 4th annual Connecting Rural Communities Africa Forum 2009**  
25th-27th August 2009  
Lusaka, Zambia

**The 7th annual CTO Forum 2009**  
14th-16th September 2009  
Suva, Fiji

**Commonwealth ICT Ministerial Summit 2009**  
17th-19th November 2009  
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

**The 2nd annual Investing in ICTs in Emerging Markets**  
8th-10th December 2009  
London, UK

### Your points of contact at the CTO:



Capacity Building, Development and Training  
**Mr. Marcel Belingue**  
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Email: m.belingue@cto.int



International Events and Conferences  
**Mr. Samuel Fletcher**  
Tel: +44 (0) 20 8600 3809  
Email: s.fletcher@cto.int



Research and Consultancy Programmes  
**Mr. Lasantha De Alwis**  
Tel: +44 (0) 20 8600 3814  
Email: l.dealwis@cto.int

## Conference Registration Form

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Early Bird Discount before 1st June 2009		Complete Conference Package	
Member Rate*		\$350	
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Delegate Fee after 1st June 2009	2 Day Conference	Focus Day	Complete Conference Package
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\* Members Include: Staff of PDT Institutions, Staff of Country member representative institutions, and Staff of sector member institutions

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