

Communication for Policy Research South-South
Revised proposal submitted to IDRC by LIRNEasia,
Research ICT Africa and DIRSI

June 20, 2010



A. Project overview

Title of the project : Communication for Policy Research South-South

Project proponents : LIRNEasia, Colombo, Sri Lanka; African Communications Research Institute (dba Research ICT Africa) (RIA), Cape Town, South Africa and DIRSI, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Abstract :

It is widely recognized that more efficient and equitable provision of ICT infrastructure services will greatly advance economic growth and poverty alleviation in the Global South. Too often, innovative applications of ICTs for these ends are stymied by the absence of, the high price of, or the low quality of ICT infrastructure services. Research by, among others, the proponents of the present initiative has demonstrated the importance of effective policy formulation and regulation for the achievement of good ICT infrastructure sector performance. Effective policy and regulation may be created by expert and motivated government officials. However, it is uncommon even in the countries with the most highly skilled and motivated government officials for policy and regulation not to require the participation of experts not in government employ, representing or assisting stakeholders and the public.

The Global South lacks good policy and regulation. It lacks not only expert and committed government officials; it also lacks experts who can help shape policy and regulation from the outside. Such outside experts who have both the necessary knowledge and the motivation to participate in policy and regulatory processes from the outside for the most part but in some circumstances from within government are described as policy intellectuals. The objective of this proposal is to foster such policy intellectuals so that good policy and regulation may result, yielding the desired contributions to economic growth and poverty alleviation.

Over the course of two previous cycles of funding LIRNEasia established a stand-alone capacity-building initiative known as CPR_{south}. This activity was intended “to facilitate the creation, sustenance and continuous advancement of policy intellectuals capable of

informed and effective intervention in ICT policy and regulation processes in specific country and regional contexts in the south, broadly constituted to include the Asia-Pacific (AP), Africa (AF), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and Central Asian regions (CIS)” and “to develop capacity, stimulate interest, and promote research and systematic study in information and communication technology (ICT) policy and regulatory issues in the south.”

CPR_{south} was established in 2006, and the first conference was held in January 2007 in Manila, the Philippines (slightly lagged due to scheduling issues). Subsequent conferences were held within Asia. There have also been inter-conference activities, including internships. Until now CPR_{south} has been a *de facto* an Asia-Pacific entity in governance and operations, though it received abstracts and accepted papers from both Africa and the Latin America-Caribbean regions.

On the basis of participation in CPR_{south} since its inception, Research ICT Africa has seen the need for a forum to bring together African ICT scholars focusing on policy and regulation in Africa. Accordingly Phase 3 of its funding included resources to launch CPRAfrica and hold the first conference in Cape Town in April 2010.

The intention of CPR_{south} was always to include activities in Africa and Latin America. DIRSI, the Latin American component of LIRNE.net was however already engaged in ACORN-REDECOM, a North-South academic ICT policy and regulatory conference on Latin America, first held in Mexico City in 2009 and then in Brasilia in 2010.

The main activities that are proposed (but funding is requested only for two years for LIRNE_{asia}) are three annual conferences in the three regions that will include multi-regional panels to encourage cross-fertilization of ideas across the regions. In the third year of funding (July 2012 – June 2013), LIRNE_{asia} and RIA will organize additional multi-regional components as part of their conferences, with DIRSI organizing its first multi-regional addition in 2014, subject to funds availability. All nine conferences will include tutorials for young scholars. Ancillary activities such as knowledge mapping are included in LIRNE_{asia}'s RIA and DISI components, and RIA and DIRSI propose internship programs.

Objective:

To facilitate the creation, sustenance and continuous advancement of policy intellectuals capable of informed and effective intervention in ICT policy and regulation processes in specific country and regional contexts in the global south, thereby contributing to economic growth and poverty alleviation through the effective use of ICTs.

Estimated budget: USD XXXXXX

Estimated duration: 36 months, commencing July 1, 2010 (24 months for LIRNEasia)

B. Administrative information

Project leader : Rohan Samarajiva, Chair and CEO
Address : LIRNEasia
12 Balcombe Place
Colombo 00080
Sri Lanka
E-mail : rohan@lirneasia.net
Telephone : +94 11 267 1160 / +94 77 735 2361 (mobile)
Fax : +94 11 267 5212
Web site : <http://www.lirneasia.net>

CPAfrica

Project leader : Alison Gillwald, Executive Director
Address : 414 The Studios, Old Castle Brewery
6 Beach Road
Woodstock
Cape Town
South Africa.

E-mail : agillwald@researchICTAfrica.net
Telephone : +27 21 4476332

Fax : +94 11 267 5212
Web site : <http://www.researchICTafrica.net>

DIRSI

Project leader : Hernan Galperin, Member of DIRSI Management Team
Address : Director, Center for Technology and Society
Universidad de San Andres
Vito Dumas 284
Buenos Aires (B1644BID)
Argentina.

E-mail : hernang@usc.edu
Telephone : +54 11 4725 7042
Fax :
Web site : <http://www.dirsi.net>

Table of contents

1. Introduction.....	7
2. CPR<i>south</i> (Asia Pacific).....	11
2.1. Tutorials for young scholars	17
2.2. Internships	18
3. CPR<i>africa</i>.....	20
3.1. Organizing Institution and conference participation	20
3.2. Young Scholars program.....	21
3.3. Knowledge mapping.....	22
3.4. Internships	22
4. ACORN-REDECOM (Latin America).....	23
4.1. Knowledge mapping.....	25
4.2. Internships	25
Annex 1.....	26
Annex 2.....	29
Annex 4.....	31

1. Introduction

It is widely recognized that more efficient and equitable provision of ICT infrastructure services will greatly advance economic growth and poverty alleviation in the Global South. Too often, innovative applications of ICTs for these ends are stymied by the absence of, the high price of, or the low quality of ICT infrastructure services. Research by, among others, the proponents of the present initiative has demonstrated the importance of effective policy formulation and regulation for the achievement of good ICT infrastructure sector performance. Effective policy and regulation may be created by expert and motivated government officials. However, it is uncommon even in the countries with the most highly skilled and motivated government officials for policy and regulation not to require the participation of experts not in government employ, representing or assisting stakeholders and the public.

The Global South lacks good policy and regulation. It lacks not only expert and committed government officials; it also lacks experts who can help shape policy and regulation from the outside. Such outside experts who have both the necessary knowledge and the motivation to participate in policy and regulatory processes from the outside for the most part but in some circumstances from within government are described as policy intellectuals. The objective of this proposal is to foster such policy intellectuals so that good policy and regulation may result, yielding the desired contributions to economic growth and poverty alleviation.

Over the course of two previous cycles of funding LIRNE*asia* established a stand-alone capacity-building initiative known as CPR*south*. This activity was intended “to facilitate the creation, sustenance and continuous advancement of policy intellectuals capable of informed and effective intervention in ICT policy and regulation processes in specific country and regional contexts in the south, broadly constituted to include the Asia-Pacific (AP), Africa (AF), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and Central Asian regions (CIS)” and “to develop capacity, stimulate interest, and promote research and systematic study in information and communication technology (ICT) policy and regulatory issues in the south.”

The formation of policy intellectuals has significant positive externalities for societies and economies. Therefore, strong justifications exist for government support. This was the case in the US in the early days of TPRC and in Europe in the early days of ECPR. However, the regions that are being served by the three initiatives under CPRglobal lack the equivalents of the National Science Foundation and the philanthropic foundations of the US and European Commission/the Economic and Social Research Council of UK.

The possibility of governments, or regional groupings of governments such as ASEAN, partially funding CPRglobal activities in the future cannot be ruled out, but the only realistic assessment is that such funding is unlikely in the short term. From the beginning, CPRsouth sought to establish links with two of the major ICT hardware exporting nations in the region, Japan and Korea (described below), seeing the logic of CPRsouth being included in their aid portfolios. This is an ongoing effort. A second focus is being placed on China and India, two countries that are becoming more assertive and self-confident in their outreach within the Asia-Pacific region, in addition to being major beneficiaries of CPRsouth's work. The CPRsouth Board, especially its Chair Ashok Jhunjhunwala who sits of several high-powered corporate boards, is leading the thinking on how CPRsouth may mobilize corporate funds. These are all, admittedly, not short-term solutions.

The short-term solutions include cost-cutting and cost-sharing by participants, also described in more detail in the CPRsouth section.

CPRsouth has no direct competition in the Asia-Pacific. The Asian Media and Communication Information Centre (AMIC) could be seen as including policy and regulation, but its real focus is media, and over the years it has begun to focus more on research per se, rather than research applied to policy. CPRafrica is a unique initiative with no competition whatsoever. In Latin America, DIRSI does not seek to compete with the new entity in the policy-relevant communication research space, ACORN-REDECOM, but instead is working to leverage what ACORN-REDECOM is doing.

CPR*south* was established in 2006, and the first conference was held in January 2007 in Manila, the Philippines (slightly lagged due to scheduling issues). The founding Board of Directors comprised senior scholars from the Asia-Pacific and subsequent conferences

were held within this region, in Chennai (India) (2007), Beijing (2008) and Negombo (Sri Lanka) (2009). There have also been inter-conference activities, including internships. Until now CPR_{south} has been a *de facto* an Asia-Pacific entity in governance and operations, though it received abstracts and accepted papers from both Africa and the Latin America-Caribbean regions, based on decisions taken by the Board at its first meeting and with the support and encouragement of IDRC.

Table 1 shows that most abstracts were received and most papers accepted from South, East and South East Asia (the West Asian data being anomalous because of the small base). Asia, as conventionally understood (West Asia = MENA region does not sit well with the rest) has been clearly at the heart of CPR_{south} in 2007-09. Latin America and Africa were represented, but have been affected both by low submissions and low acceptances. Interestingly, Africa's acceptance rate was higher than that for papers submitted from Europe.

One should not read too much into the regional identifications, because the people who participate in CPR_{south} appear to be highly mobile. For example there was a Filipino living in Bangladesh and a Bangladeshi living in Japan who presented papers at CPR_{south}4. Many of those applying from Europe and North America are from the south, but temporarily relocated for studies.

Table 1: Abstracts received and papers accepted by region, 2007-2009

Region	Abstract received	Papers accepted	Acceptance rate
West Asia	2	1	50.0%
Australasia	8	3	37.5%
South Asia	83	26	31.3%
SE Asia	57	17	29.8%
N America	17	5	29.4%
East Asia	55	16	29.1%
Total	276	79	28.6%
Africa	17	4	23.5%
Europe	24	5	20.8%

LAC	13	2	15.4%
-----	----	---	-------

Source: CPR_{south} database

The Charter originally adopted by the Board made provision for chapters to be created as and when administrative partners representing regions other than the Asia-Pacific mobilize the necessary resources and so request. The advancement of CPR_{south} objectives outside the Asia Pacific has commenced with the launch of CPR_{africa} by RIA in 2010 April and this joint global south proposal. At its meeting in December 2009, the CPR_{south} Board decided to amend the Charter, replacing the chapter-based model that was originally envisioned with a looser model that would allow regionally appropriate initiatives to flourish while ensuring that efficient mechanisms for cross fertilization of ideas across regions were set in place. The amended Charter is given as Annex 1.

Because of the considerably higher costs of running conferences for the global south (higher than even for holding such events, say, in Europe, because travel costs wash out accommodation savings) and the complications of working in multiple languages, it is proposed to have a decentralized, yet articulated, set of activities based in the three regions of the Asia Pacific (AP), Africa (AF) and Latin America & the Caribbean (LAC). Each region will organize annual regional conferences at times that are most appropriate for their conditions. Each of these conferences will include at least one inter-regional session that will provide windows on the relevant research that is being undertaken in the other regions. This will necessitate travel to each other's conferences by senior scholars from among the regions. They will also participate in teaching the tutorials.

In addition, every three years, each region will organize an extended multi-regional conference that will include an extra day that accommodates research from the other regions, ideally representing the best work by mid-level scholars. The first such event will be organized by LIRNE_{asia} as part of CPR_{south7} in 2012 (but funding is not sought in this cycle). This will give adequate time for all three units to set up mechanisms for selecting best papers for the multi-regional event. This will be followed by the CPR_{africa} event organized by RIA in 2013 April and so on, with CPR_{south10} in 2015 being the next extended multiregional event in the Asia Pacific (again however, funding is not sought in this cycle). Table 2, with the shaded boxes indicating the activities covered by the present proposal, indicates the sequence of activities.

Table 2: Proposed schedule of regional and intercontinental activities

Year	RIA	DIRSI	LIRNEasia
2010	Cape Town, April	Brasilia, May	Xi'an, December
2011	TBA, April	TBA, ??	SE Asia, December
2012	TBA, April	TBA, ??	S Asia, December + multiregional (1 day)
2013	TBA, April+ multiregional (1 day)	TBA, ??	E Asia, December
2014	TBA, April	TBA, ?? + multiregional (1 day)	S Asia, December
2015	TBA, April	TBA, ??	SE Asia, December+ multiregional (1 day)

Note: Shaded boxes are those **covered by this proposal**

The graduated approach to multiregional activity is timely. The multi-regional collaboration effort initiated at the CPR_{south4} conference in Beijing in 2008 has yielded results on a broader scale and faster than envisaged. Multi-regional panels with funded invitations extended to the three southern entities are now the norm at Euro CPR.¹ TPRC has also made some moves in this direction, inviting representatives from the Asia-Pacific and African units to its conference and featuring them on high-profile panels.² Already, CPRAfrica and ACORN/REDECOM have invited speakers from the other regions and included multi-regional panels in their programs.

2. CPR_{south} (Asia Pacific)

Over the four conferences that have been held, the quality of the papers has improved. Persons who attended as young scholars have submitted papers and succeeded in getting their papers accepted in a double-blind and competitive process. Repeat participation is also evident. A sense of community is developing.

Table 3: Deepening of CPR_{south} community: repeat applicants relative to all, 2007-09

	CPR _{south1}	CPR _{south2}	CPR _{south3}	CPR _{south4}
Applicants	52	66	85	75
Repeat applicants	-	11	25	18

¹ <http://lirneasia.net/2009/04/cpr-intercontinental/>; and <http://lirneasia.net/2010/03/lirneasia-coo-speaks-at-25th-eurocpr-conference-brussels-march-2010/>

² <http://lirneasia.net/2009/10/tprc-gains-interest-of-washington-policy-officials/>

Repeat applicants as % of applicants	-	17%	29%	24%
Applicants accepted	19	20	19	21
Repeat applicants accepted	-	5	2	9
Repeat applicants as % of paper givers	-	25%	10.50%	43%
Acceptance rate all applicants	37%	30%	22%	28%

Source: CPR_{south} database

In addition, there is recent evidence generated by the special survey conducted for the internal evaluation of CPR_{south} that the participants at the CPR_{south} conferences are becoming active in policy and academic arenas (see Annex 2).

The tables below show the results from the regular surveys that seek to identify whether a person who has been to CPR_{south} is active. No data are collected on what they have produced in the regular surveys.

Table 4: Productivity of paper givers, 2007-09

	After CPRs1	After CPRs2	After CPRs3
Produced academic output	5	2	5
Produced policy output	0	1	3
Produced both	4	13	10
No response (assume no output)	10	18	34
Total surveyed	19	34	52
Productive percentage	47%	47%	35%

Source: CPR_{south} data base

The results are not significantly different for young scholars:

Table 5: Productivity of young scholars

	After CPRs1	After CPRs2	After CPRs3
Produced academic output	6	6	4
Produced policy output	1	2	6
Produced both	2	10	6
No response (assume no output)	9	22	50
Total surveyed	18	40	66
Productive percentage	50%	45%	24%

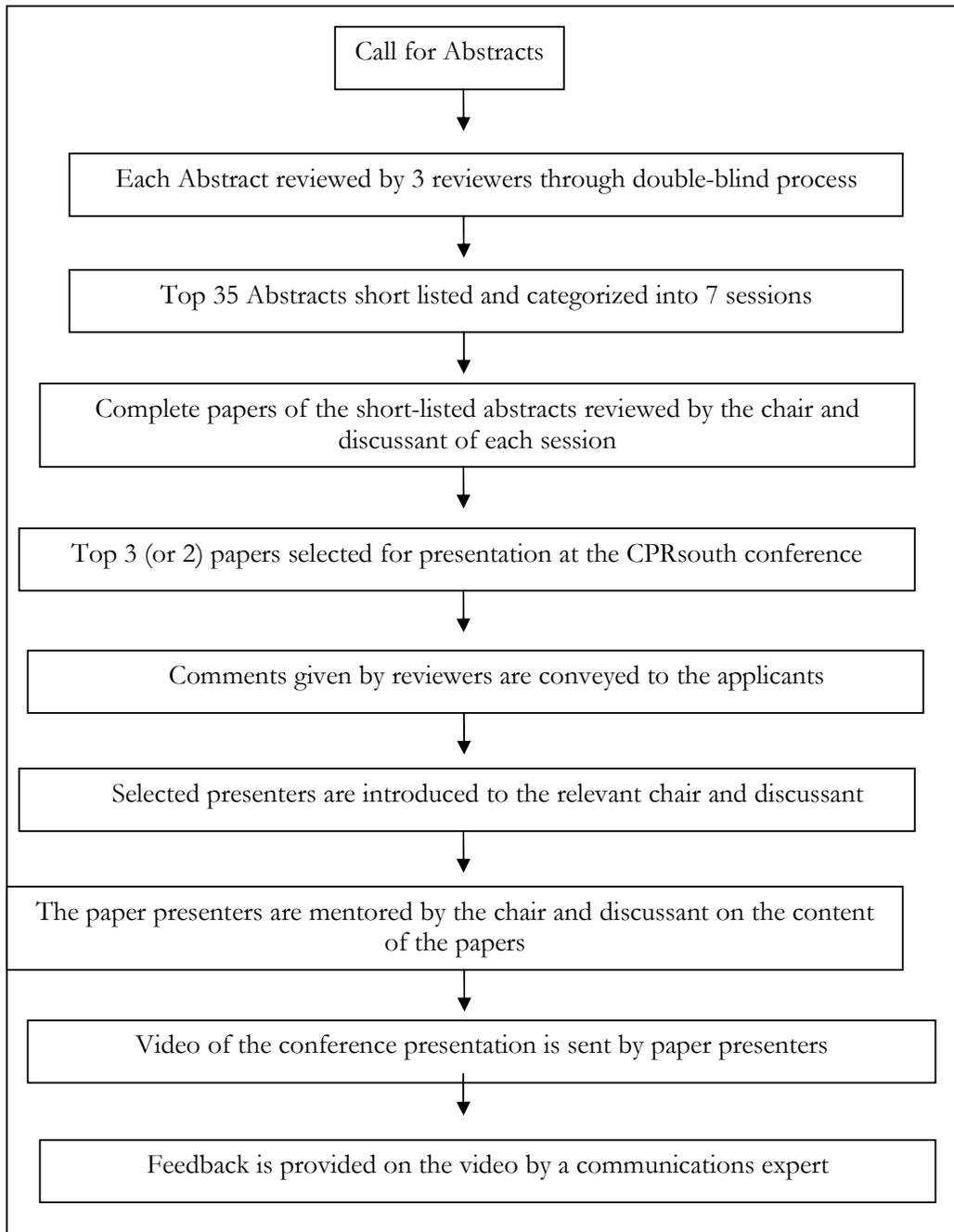
Source: CPR*south* data base

In both cases the response rate is dropping fast. This suggests that for some former participants, CPR*south* is no longer of interest. One possible solution is to delete names after consecutive failures to respond. This will assess the productive and engaged members, rather than dilute the numbers with persons who are no longer interested.

The Board has taken a series of actions to improving the learning experience and the incentives for producing good-quality work, including

- Introduction of best-paper and runner-up awards, starting in 2008. Here the awards are based on scores given by judges (65%) as well as by the audience (35%).
- Introduction of policy briefs as supplements to the papers, and from 2010, converting the actual presentations to 10 minute policy presentations.
- Assistance to improve communication skills starting in 2008, with prior coaching based on videoed presentations starting in 2009.
- With the increased number of persons who are part of the “pipeline” for CPR*south*, it is becoming more and more difficult to get papers accepted, as the absolute number of papers has remained static at 21 between 2007 and 2009.

Figure 1: Flow chart of how papers are selected and input/mentoring provided



In addition, the between-conference survey/push-poll and website activities will continue.

From the beginning, CPR_{south} was not seen simply as an administrative task, but as a research project as well.³ Knowledge mapping was done to identify active researchers and sites of research and teaching activity. After each CPR_{south} conference, a census is conducted to assess how the participants had done in terms of development as policy intellectuals and the web presence and citation records of the participants tracked.

LIRNE_{asia} believes that the methods being tested in CPR_{south} and now in CPR_{global} have applicability beyond the ICT policy and regulation sector. Our ongoing research based on the analysis of the questionnaires administered as part of the IDRC supported internal evaluation and being worked up for presentation to the Board and invitees in Xi'an in December 2010 suggests that what hold together the CPR_{south} community is not ICT policy and regulation, but the focus on policy intervention. Therefore, there is no reason why this cannot be extended to other sectors where there are opportunities (and need) for evidence to be brought to bear on policy/strategy processes. Indeed, we proposed this to the assessors of the Think Tank Initiative, as something we could do across the selected South Asian think tanks, but in their wisdom, they did not choose to give us funding. Therefore, a platform for extending the approach does not currently exist. However, we do intend to discuss the issues in the scholarly publications that will be worked up.

Despite a stated commitment to identifying and fostering Mode 2 intellectuals,⁴ universities played an important role at the outset in CPR_{south}, generating the bulk of submissions to the conferences and acceptances, especially among the paper givers. The Board has taken action to increase the presence of Mode 2 intellectuals and it appears that progress is being made. More Mode 2 applications are being received and more are being accepted for the conferences.

Table 6: Applicants and participants not from Educational and Research Institutions (Mode 2), both paper-givers and young scholars

³ Gamage, S.N. & R. Samarajiva (2008), Internet presence as knowledge capacity: The case of information and communication technology infrastructure reform, *Information Technology and International Development*, 4(3): 89-96. <http://itidjournal.org/itid/issue/view/16> and Samarajiva, R. & S. Gamage (2007), Bridging the digital divide: Building Asia-Pacific capacity for effective reforms, *The Information Society*, 23(2), 109-117.

⁴ Gibbons, M, Limoges, C, Nowotny, H, Schwartzman, S, Scott, P and Trow, M (1994). The New Production of Knowledge, in *The Dynamics of Science and Research in Contemporary Societies*. Thousand Oaks CA, London, New Delhi: Sage.

	CPRsouth1	CPRsouth2	CPRsouth3	CPRsouth4
Applied	30%	11%	21%	28%
Accepted	11%	2%	21%	34%

Source: CPR*south* database

Students have started on PhD programs represented at CPR*south*. Collaboration is starting among institutions represented on the Board.⁵ The payoff from the work done in connecting Mode 1 institutions is becoming visible sooner than originally thought.

Funding is sought in the amount of USD XXXXXXXX for two CPR*south* conferences (inclusive of tutorials described below), the first in Xi'an in December 2010, the second at a location in South or South East Asia to be determined in December 2010, which will also include a multi-regional component. The request includes the holding of tutorials and board meetings as part of each conference. Please note that only 83 percent of the budget of CPR*south5*, and only 81 percent of CPR*south6* is requested from IDRC, based on the Board's decisions to obtain USD XXXXXX in contributions in cash or kind from the host organization and other sources and cost savings at each event.

Originally, a 1.5 day expert meeting on the techniques of capacity building including analysis of data collected over the past five years of operating CPRsouth was planned as a separate event adjacent to the Xi'an conference and tutorials. It was intended to invite key personnel from RIA, DIRSI and other organizations such as ECPR and TPRC, in addition to pure subject experts. In the end, budget constraints compelled us to cancel this event. However, the research that was undertaken for this will be presented at an extended Board Meeting in Xi'an to which the key representatives of RIA and DIRSI will be invited. We will make special efforts to disseminate the research and the discussion to RIA and DIRSI and also get a subset published in scholarly journals, as we did with the formative research.

It is fully recognized by LIRNE*Asia* as administrative partner and by the Board that IDRC cannot continue to be the sole funder of CPR*south*. The engagement with KADO [Korea Agency for Digital Opportunity and Promotion] has hit a dead-end as a

⁵ <http://cprsouth.org/node/112>

result of a major reorganization of Korean ICT organizations. The engagement with JICA [Japan International Cooperation Agency] is ongoing, with representatives attending two consecutive conferences. Action is underway to appoint a Japanese Board member as part of this effort. Starting with CPRsouth3, local hosts have started to contribute to the costs of organizing the conferences. The Board has established a finance committee to pursue funding strategies. The actual budgeted costs for the three future conferences are higher than the amounts requested.

The shortfall of USD XXXXX per conference will be met by eliciting contributions in cash or kind and/or cost savings. The Board has already decided on cost-savings that include:

- Only 50 percent of lowest-cost travel will be reimbursed for paper-givers and young scholars who are citizens of countries with per capita GDP equal to or higher than Malaysia.
- All paper-givers and young scholars will be expected to make some contribution, in the form of paying for transportation to and from airports in home and conference countries and visa fees if any.
- Hosting organizations will be requested to bear some of the costs of bringing in the Board members, by arranging workshops and lectures that involve them and thereby bear some of the costs of Board Member travel and accommodation.
- Plans are being explored on ways to reduce the cost burden from board members.

In addition, resources in the amount of USD XXXXXX are requested to continue the knowledge mapping, maintaining the website and other support activities that have resulted in the rapid proliferation of the core ideas of capacity building across the world.

2.1. Tutorials for young scholars

In conjunction with the conferences, LIRNEasia conducted tutorial sessions for young scholars. The costs were kept down by using CPRsouth board members and others attending CPRsouth as speakers as much as possible. Speakers are not paid any fees. The tutorials also contribute to the success of CPRsouth, by supplying an international audience for the paper givers in the first instance and by creating a pool of potential

paper givers for subsequent conferences. It is proposed that up to 15 scholarships for young scholars from the country/region where the CPR_{south} conference is being held and up to 15 scholarships for young scholars from outside the host country be provided. The tutorial costs are included in the conference totals.

2.2. Internships

Capacity building requires a range of approaches and actions. Internships were successfully trialed by LIRNE_{asia} in the previous cycles. An internship program that will enable the creation of a mentoring relationship over a long period of time is an important component of a comprehensive capacity-building program.

The CPR_{south} Board in 2007 decided to explore the possibilities of internships. A survey of the then Board members (Table 7) showed interest and commitment.

Table 7: Responses to internship questionnaire

Name of Board Member	Interest in Internship
Ashok Jhunjunwala	Interested and committed
Ledivina Carino	
Milagros Rivera	Interested but unable to commit
Rekha Jain	
Myeong Cheol Park	
Rohan Samarajiva	Interested and committed
Patrick Xavier	
Yuli Liu	
Xu Yan	

LIRNE_{asia} has brought interns from Latin America and Africa, in addition to those from the Asia-Pacific (Table 8).

Table 8: LIRNE_{asia} interns

Name	Duration	Country, Region	Institution	Gender
Priyanwada Herath	6 months (October 2008-	Sri Lanka, South Asia	University	F

	February 2009)			
Aileen Aguero	6 months (May-December 2009)	Peru, Latin America	Research Institution	F
Pratichi Joshi	5 Months (July –Dec 09)	India, South Asia	Post graduate	F
Il-Haam Petersen	3 Months (Oct-Dec 2009)	South Africa, Africa	Research Institution	F
Haymar Win Tun	1 month (Dec 2009 – Jan 2010) ⁶	Singapore/Myanmar, SE Asia	University	F

Like any capacity-building activity, internships take time to show results. As can be seen from the dates above, the internships that were granted in the previous round are of very recent vintage. However, the expected productivity can be illustrated by the output of Aileen Aguero, one of our last year’s interns (Table 9). These outputs are in addition to the benefits of strengthening cross-learning within entities that are part of LIRNE.NET and which are collectively submitting the present proposal.

Table 9: Outputs by Aileen Aguero during internship at LIRNEasia

Project	Output
Teleuse@BOP	Research papers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bottom of the Pyramid Expenditure Patterns on Mobile Phone Services in Selected Emerging Asian Countries (Co-authored with Harsha de Silva, presented at CPRsouth4 and at Pacific Telecommunications Council – PTC; currently under consideration for publication in Telecommunications Policy journal) • The potential for mobile remittances at the bottom of the pyramid: findings from emerging Asia (Co-authored with Nirmali Sivapragasam, presented at CPRAfrica and ICA 2010) Dataset management (cleaning up Teleuse@BOP3 dataset)
Preparatory work for 2010-2012 proposal	Background research on the World Bank’s Knowledge Assessment Methodology on developing Indicators for the knowledge based economy.
Advocacy and dissemination	Assisted with work on media coverage categorization.
Indicators	Studied the similarities and differences on the methodologies for the OECD baskets in Latin America and Asia, as well as the available data on ICTs in both regions.

⁶ Actual engagement was longer, starting in August 2009; visit was postponed and compressed for health reasons.

Funds are sought to support 10 intern-months per year, for three years. Based on experience, we find that it is necessary to set apart mentoring fees and some management fees as well. The latter is especially important when we have interns from outside the country. A total of USD XXXXX is requested for internships over two years.

3. CPRafrica

Communication Policy Research (Africa) CPRafrica was launched in April 2010 and is hosted by Research ICT Africa with the intention of encouraging intellectual endeavor and research in the area of ICT policy and regulation in Africa . It seeks to create a forum in which African academics and researchers can engage and profile their research and provide a base from which they can contribute to global debates from an African perspective. The overall objective is to nurture policy intellectuals capable of informed and effective intervention in ICT policy and regulatory processes, specifically in developing-country contexts.

The conference provides the only forum in Africa for senior, junior and mid-career scholars in the area of ICT policy and regulation to meet face-to-face and exchange ideas, network and improve the quality of their scholarly work. The long-term objective is to facilitate the fostering of the next generation of active scholars and local experts capable of contributing to good ICT policy and regulation in the region.

3.1. Organizing Institution and conference participation

The organizing institution of the first CPRafrica conference is Research ICT Africa (See Annex 2). The possibility of rotating the meeting will be explored but in order to get it going it may initially continue to be run at the University of Cape Town.

RIA has participated in CPR_{south}, submitting papers and mentoring (also serving as chair and discussant) since its inception and so has drawn strongly on those experiences in its launch of CPRafrica in April 2010. RIA received 44 abstracts of which 37 were accepted for preparation of papers and of which 25 papers were finally accepted through the referee/mentor review process.

Table 9: Analysis of abstracts received by CPRafrica, 2010

Total Abstracts received for CPRafrica Conference	44
Profile of Abstracts	
Asian	3 + two co-authors
Africans	31+ 1 Co-author
Northern European	2 + 1 co-author
South American	1+1 co-author
Northern Hemisphere based Africans	2
African based Northern Hemisphere scholar	1 + 1 co-author
Abstracts Accepted	37
Abstracts withdrawn	7
Final papers received	27
Papers rejected	2
Papers to be presented at Conference	
Asian	2 Co authors + 2
Africans based in Africa	17
Northern European	1
South American	1 + Co-author
Northern Hemisphere based Africans	1
African based scholar	2

Source: RIA

3.2. Young Scholars program

In conjunction with the conference, Research ICT Africa, like LIRNEasia, conducted tutorial sessions for young scholars largely from Africa but all from the South (two from Asia and one from Latin America). This allowed practitioners returning to academia to start their doctorates and post-graduate students without policy and regulatory experience to gain exposure prior to the conference so they are able to engage in it more actively from a research and policy perspective. Again the costs have been kept down by using the CPRafrica peer reviewing panel and RIA's international advisory panel and board members as much as possible. Facilitators are not paid any fees. It is anticipated that that in the forthcoming years up to 20 scholarships for young scholars will be required.

Table 10: Analysis of CPRafrica Young Scholar applications in 2010

Total Motivations received for Young Scholars Programme	17
Applicants Accepted	12
Asian	1
African	5
South American	1
Northern Hemisphere based Africans	1

For the three CPRAfrica conferences described above, including tutorials and one multi-regional add-on day in 2013, funding in the amount of USD XXXXXXXX is requested.

3.3. Knowledge mapping

Drawing on the knowledge mapping techniques refined by LIRNEasia, RIA will undertake a project to map the development of scholars associated with RIA, and establish other active researchers and nascent networks that may have been overlooked. This will also allow RIA to adopt a more systematic approach to connections among scholars engaged in ICT policy and regulation research and to engage them on future research and presentation of their research at CPRAfrica in the next rounds. This will allow for far more thorough and comprehensive knowledge mapping to identify current and potential ICT policy and regulation researchers in universities, research organizations and elsewhere than was undertaken for the initial CPRAfrica conference. Ideally the monitoring and evaluation of researchers their connections and their outputs will stimulate research opportunities, knowledge sharing and improved quality with the purpose of more effective policy influence, through the linking of a critical mass of scholars on the continent. For the knowledge mapping activities described above, funding in the amount of USD XXXXXX is requested.

3.4. Internships

RIA has had interns for three years from the Free University of Brussels (VUB). The costs of their flights and accommodation have been covered by (VUB) and RIA has contributed only supervision support for their thesis research. The interns have in exchange put considerable time and energy into resource intensive survey data inputting, cleaning and database development for which RIA lacked capacity. This has been a valuable exchange, drawing on much needed basic research skills from the North which have been enhanced and refined and further instilling in them a knowledge of African issues and usually a commitment to further African research.

RIA wishes to be able to reciprocate with students from its PhD program, to provide them with the same valuable exposure to other research environments. Further RIA wishes to respond positively to requests for work exchanges from DIRSI and

LIRNE*asia*. Therefore RIA requests USD XXXXX in support of these initiatives for 10 intern months per year for three years.

4. ACORN-REDECOM (Latin America)

ACORN-REDECOM is a cross-disciplinary academic conference which seeks to advance knowledge on the social, economic and political impact of ICT in the Americas. Modelled after TPRC (Telecommunications Policy Research Conference, which is in its 38th edition), its main goals are to foster dialog among researchers who examine the economic, technological and policy issues that affect ICT-enabled development in Latin America, and to develop local research capacity. The first conference was hosted by CIDE in Mexico D.F. in 2009, and the 2010 meeting will be hosted by Universidade de Brasilia during May.

ACORN has a loose governance structure which includes representatives from 29 universities and ICT research centres throughout the Americas (for a list of research centres affiliated with Acorn see Annex 4). From the outset, DIRSI members have been deeply involved in efforts to build ACORN. More specifically, Dr. Judith Mariscal, a member of DIRSI's Steering Committee, is also a Board Member of ACORN, while both Dr. Hernan Galperin and Dr. Roxana Barrantes (the other two DIRSI Steering Committee members) have contributed to ACORN in various capacities (reviewing papers, fundraising, attending meetings, etc.).

The complementarities between DIRSI and ACORN are manifold. In particular, while DIRSI is an organization primarily dedicated to policy research and knowledge dissemination on an ongoing basis, ACORN's main mission is the organization of an annual conference and related activities (e.g., pre conference workshops). As a meeting point for academics, regulators, civil society and the private sector, ACORN provides ample opportunities for DIRSI to showcase its research, support young scholars and more generally contribute to building the ICT4D field in the region.

Despite only in its second year, ACORN has already established itself as the premier academic conference for ICT scholars in the region. As shown in Table 12, the

conference is quite competitive (acceptance rate below 50%) and submissions are on the rise.

Table 12: ACORN 2009-10: Submissions and acceptance rates

	2009	2010
Total submissions	106	114
Acceptance rate ⁷	33%	44%

Source: ACORN

ACORN funding so far has been secured through a combination of in-kind support from host universities and private sector donations. The latter has been exclusively used to finance travel grants for paper presenters. These funds are allocated by the local organizing committee and are primarily targeted at scholars and students based at Latin American institutions. In 2009, 20 young scholars received travel support to participate in the ACORN conference.

In 2010, DIRSI has engaged with ACORN to organize a pre-conference workshop session aimed at building ICT research capacity among young scholars (in particular those whose papers have been accepted at ACORN), regulators, specialized journalists and members of civil society organizations. The goal of the workshop is to provide an overview of key regulatory issues in the ICT industry today, and help attendees develop the necessary tools to plan and evaluate ICT4D initiatives. As part of its capacity-building mission, DIRSI will provide funding to support travel costs for young academics and regulators based in the region to attend the workshop, as well as fund minor local costs (translations, etc.).

DIRSI seeks funding from IDRC in the amount of USD XXXXXX to broaden its support for the ACORN conference and related training activities, in particular the ongoing organization of pre-conference workshops for young scholars, regulators and civil society members. These funds will guarantee that young scholars, regulators and civil society members from the region are able to attend the next three ACORN conferences (2011-2013), and that local universities from poorer nations are able to host the conference. We also seek support to fully integrate ACORN into the larger CPR

⁷ The decision to hold parallel session in the 2010 conference resulted in a slighter higher acceptance rates despite the increase in the number of applicants.

network, which as noted above requires regional organizations to organize multi-regional panels every year plus a one-day multi-regional conference every three years.

This funding will not replace but complement existing funding sources. ACORN is committed to continue its fundraising efforts, and, to the extent possible, local host institutions will continue playing a key role in providing in-kind support. However, IDRC's support will help consolidate ACORN as the premier ICT4D conference in the region, and significantly strengthen its capacity-building component.

A key goal is to reduce the burden on local host institutions, mainly local universities. Hosting ACORN requires significant resources, in particular to cover local costs (venue costs, translations, room and board for participants, etc.). Given the limited funding available so far, only relatively wealthy institutions in relatively wealthy countries in the region have so far been able to host the conference. Securing IDRC support will allow ACORN to be hosted in poorer countries and host institutions, with significant spill-overs in terms of local capacity-building for local hosts.

4.1. Knowledge mapping

DIRSI is happy to replicate knowledge mapping in LAC (in fact one was done at the very beginning of the network 5 years ago). This item has added to the budget. The rationale for the difference in funds across years is that the first mapping is always the most difficult; in the second year we essentially follow up and update, and we do another full mapping in the third year (still less expensive as it builds on year 1 mapping). Therefore, funding of the amount of USD XXXXX is requested for knowledge mapping activities over the three year period.

4.2. Internships

DIRSI also includes a request for an internship program. The idea was discussed many times. The initial reluctance was because of DIRSI's distributed nature (no headquarters essentially), but after further discussion and in light of positive feedback, it is believed that it would be a good addition to the proposal. Therefore funding of USD XXXXX is requested to support the internship program over three years.

Annex 1

COMMUNICATION POLICY RESEARCH SOUTH CHARTER

CLAUSE I: NAME AND DOMAIN

1. The name of the entity shall be the Communication Policy Research south (*CPR_{south}*).
2. *CPR_{south}* shall have the region usually described as the Asia Pacific as its domain.

CLAUSE II: OBJECTIVES

1. To facilitate the creation, sustenance and continuous advancement of policy intellectuals capable of informed and effective intervention in ICT policy and regulation processes in specific country and regional contexts in the south, broadly constituted by the Asia-Pacific (AP), Africa (AF), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and Central Asian regions (CIS).
2. To develop capacity, stimulate interest, and promote research and systematic study in information and communication technology (ICT) policy and regulatory issues in the south.

CLAUSE III: FUNCTIONS

CPR_{south} shall:

1. Encourage and promote high scholarly standards in research on ICT policy, strategy and regulation in the South.
2. Facilitate systematic interactions among academics, researchers, national policy makers, industry representatives and civil-society representatives.
3. Encourage well grounded theoretical and empirical research relevant to current policy issues.
4. Facilitate mentoring relationships for young researchers and partnerships among universities and research organizations in the south, and among organizations with similar objectives and the broader global research network.
5. Undertake field-building activities in the areas of ICT policy and regulation research in the south, anchored on periodic research conferences and the Internet, to identify and provide a focus for intra-south and inter-regional linkages among current and potential ICT policy and regulation researchers in universities, research organizations and elsewhere.
6. Disseminate research with emphasis on influencing the policy and regulatory processes.
7. Encourage the use of ICTs for greater collaboration and mutual support among ICT policy and regulation researchers in the south.

CLAUSE IV: REGIONAL COORDINATION AND ARCHIVING

1. The Board may cooperate with organizations with similar objectives to provide mechanisms for cross-fertilization of ideas among regions of the south and elsewhere.
2. A coordinating group that shall include a Board Member and a representative of the Administrative Partner shall be formed to provide

overall management, coordination and administration of all related functions in cooperation with the partner organizations.

3. Mechanisms for self-archiving publications and conference papers among researchers who are part of CPRsouth shall be established.

CLAUSE V: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The business of CPR_{south} shall be managed by the Board of Directors in cooperation with an administrative partner appointed by the Board. The Chair shall be advised by an advisory panel.
2. The Board of Directors shall consist of 13 members, each with a term of four years. The nine founding directors were appointed in groups of three, totaling nine, for terms of two, four and six years, with effect from January 2007. The determination of the terms of the founding directors was made by lot at the first meeting. Subsequently, four additional directors were appointed. In the event the conference takes place within six months of the end of a term of a director, the term shall be deemed to continue until the said conference is held.
3. The Board of Directors shall be individuals well regarded in the ICT policy and regulation space and reflect geographical and gender balance. While the founding members were predominantly senior scholars, the Board subsequently decided to broaden its membership to include consumers and funders of ICT policy and regulation research.
4. The Board members shall be appointed from nominations compiled by the administrative partner according to a procedure approved by the Board and selected by a majority vote of the Board. Each selection shall be supported by a written justification that shall subsequently be posted on the CPR_{south} website.
5. Two unexcused consecutive absences from Board meetings (or two consecutive failures to participate in decisions taken by circulation or conference calls) by a director shall result in vacation of his/her position. Upon the resignation or vacation of a director position, the Board may choose to appoint a successor for the remainder of the term.
6. The Chair and Alternate Chair of the Board are appointed by majority vote for a period of two years with no limitation on successive terms. Upon expiry of the term or vacation of the positions, the Board shall fill the vacancies from among directors with two years left in their term.
7. The Board of Directors shall meet face-to-face or virtually at least once a year and as often as required. A duly constituted meeting requires one month's prior notice, except in the case of a meeting convened to amend the Charter, which shall satisfy the requirements set out in Clause X. A meeting may be convened by the Chair or by any four Directors acting together.
8. Meetings need not necessarily be face to face. Alternative processes such as conference calls and decisions by circulation may be used.
9. The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Board shall be five directors.
10. The Board may invite observers to Board meetings. It is expected that representatives of the Administrative Partner and funders may attend meetings as observers.
11. Report of the Board meeting shall be posted on the website no later than three months from the termination of the meeting.

CLAUSE VI: CHAIR'S ADVISORY PANEL

1. Upon the expiry of their terms, members of the Board shall be invited to serve on the Chair's Advisory Panel (CAP), which shall advise and assist the Chair in the achievement of the objectives.
2. The Chair may, in consultation with the Board, develop procedures for appointing additional members to the CAP.
3. The CAP shall in particular assist the Chair to raise additional funds and attract goodwill and new participants to CPRsouth.
4. The Chair shall coordinate the activities of the CAP.

CLAUSE VII: ADMINISTRATIVE PARTNER

1. The Administrative Partner shall be appointed by the Board of Directors based on procedures that it may devise from time to time.
2. The Administrative partner shall be responsible for the organization, administration and implementation of all activities related to CPR*south*, subject to the direction of the Board of Directors. These include secretariat functions, fundraising and financial management, organizing and promoting seminars, workshops, conferences and other associated tasks required to progress the objectives of CPR*south*.
3. The Board shall appoint an entity to serve as the administrative partner of CPR*south* as applicable for an initial period of three years and subsequent periods as it may see fit.

CLAUSE VIII: FINANCES/ACCOUNTS

1. The Board shall cause proper books of accounts to be kept in respect of:
 - a. all sums of money received and expended by CPRsouth and the matters in respect of which the receipt and expenditure take place;
 - b. all sales and purchases of goods, and
 - c. any assets and liabilities.
2. The Board shall appoint auditors for a period of its choice. The Administrative partner shall present audited accounts to the Board at its annual meeting.
3. Prior to formal incorporation, the responsibilities of Clause VIII shall be discharged by inspection and approval of the accounts presented by the Administrative Partner. Following incorporation, the provisions of the relevant statute and the incorporation documents shall govern the discharge of Clause VIII responsibilities.

CLAUSE IX: DISSOLUTION

1. The Board may dissolve the operation of CPR*south* when it considers it appropriate in an orderly manner, disposing of its assets according to the relevant legal provisions, if legally incorporated, or in a manner determined by the Board otherwise.
2. If the Board is unable to perform the functions set out in this document for a period of 24 months for whatever reason, CPR*south*, shall be considered dissolved.

CLAUSE X: AMENDMENTS

1. The Board may amend this Charter with a two-thirds majority at a meeting which has been convened with two months notice, including prior notification of the specific amendatory proposals.

Annex 2

Results of 2010 survey conducted for evaluation showing nature of output from CPRsouth participants (2007-09)

		Survey 2007 (response rate - 49%)*		Survey 2008 (response rate - 41%)		Survey 2009 (response rate - 38%)	
		Paper Presenters	Young Scholars	Paper Presenters	Young Scholars	Paper Presenters	Young Scholars
1	# of respondents who wrote Policy Papers / Brief			11	7	11	11
2	# of respondents who made Policy submissions / Presentations	2	1	12	5	9	10
3	# of respondents who wrote Op-ed pieces in the media	1		2	1	4	1
4	# of respondents who gave Interviews to the media	1		4	2	1	1
5	# of respondents who participated in blogs			6	5	6	3
6	# of respondents who had Journal Publications	4		9	5	7	6
7	# of respondents who presented Conference papers	5	4	13	7	13	8
8	# of respondents who submitted their Theses	2		2	2	3	3
9	# of respondents who submitted Theses proposals		1	3	6	3	4
10	# of respondents who received Grants	1		5	4	4	6
11	# of respondents who submitted Grant Proposals		1	7	4	7	5

Source: <http://www.cprsouth.org/about/evaluation/>

Research ICT Africa, CPRAfrica Organizing Entity

Research ICT Africa fills a strategic gap in the development of a sustainable information society and network knowledge economy by building the ICT policy and regulatory research capacity needed to inform effective ICT governance in Africa. The network was launched to extend its activities through national, regional and continental partnerships. The establishment of the Research ICT Africa (RIA) network emanates from the growing demand for data and analysis necessary for the appropriate and visionary policy required to catapult the continent into the information age.

Through network development RIA seeks to build an African knowledge base in support of ICT policy and regulatory design processes, and to monitor and review policy and regulatory developments on the continent. The research arising from a public interest agenda is made available in the public domain, and individuals and entities from the public and private sector and civil society are encouraged to use it for teaching, further research or to enable them to participate more effectively in national, regional and global ICT policy formulation and governance. This research is made possible by the significant funding received from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Ottawa, Canada. The network is based at the RIA offices in Woodstock Cape Town and is affiliated to the University of Cape Town's Graduate School of Business, Management in Infrastructure Reform and Regulation Programme (MIR).

The network operates under the directorship of Dr Alison Gillwald, across 17 African countries including: Dr Augustin Chabossou (Benin), Dr Patricia Makepe (Botswana), Dr Pam Zahonogo (Burkina Faso), Dr Olivier Nana Nzèpa (Cameroon), Prof. Dr Arsene Kouadio (Cote d'Ivoire), Dr Lishan Adam (Ethiopia), Dr Godfred Frempong (Ghana), Dr Tim Waema (Kenya), Mr Francisco Mabila (Mozambique), Dr Christoph Stork (Namibia), Prof. Dr Ike Mowete (Nigeria), Mr Albert Nsengiyumva (Rwanda), Prof. Dr Abdoulaye Diagne (Senegal), Ms Mpho Moyo (South Africa), Ms Bitrina Diyamett (Tanzania), Dr F. F. Tusubira and Dr Nora Mulira (Uganda), Mr Shuller Habenzu and Mr Sikaaba Mulavu (Zambia).

Annex 4

Constituent organizations of ACORN/REDECOM

Argentina (1)

Center: [Centro de Tecnología y Sociedad](#)
University: Universidad de San Andrés
Representative: Prof. Hernán Galperin

Brazil (4)

Center: [Centro de Políticas, Direito, Economia e Tecnologias das Comunicações](#)
University: Universidade de Brasília
Representative: Prof. Márcio Iorio Aranha

Center: [Gynet-Programa de Educação a Distância](#)
University: Fundação Getúlio Vargas
Representative: Profa. Marta de Campos Maia

Center: [Departamento de Antropologia, Política e Filosofia](#)
University: Universidade Estadual Paulista
Representative: Prof. Jose Luis Bizelli

Center: [Instituto de Estudos Avançados](#)
University: Universidade de São Paulo
Representative: Prof. Cesar Ades

Canada (1)

Center: [Center for the Study of Regulated Industries](#)
University: McGill University
Representative: Prof. Rich Schultz

Chile (2)

Center: [Departamento Ciencia de la Computación-Facultad de Ingeniería](#)
University: Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
Representative: Prof. Marcos Sepúlveda Fernández

Center: [Centro de Estudios Públicos](#)
University: Universidad de Chile
Representative: Prof. Lucas Sierra

Colombia (2)

Center: Centro de Estudios de Competitividad
University: Universidad de los Andes
Representative: Prof. Martha Cecilia Rodríguez Delgado

Center: Dept. Comunicación, División de Humanidades
University: Universidad del Norte de Barranquilla
Representative: Prof. Elias Said Hung

Ecuador (3)

Center: [Diploma Conjunto en Economía-PUCE-UPMF](#)
University: Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador
Representative: Omar Carrera Félix

Center: [Facultad de Ingeniería](#)
University: Universidad de Cuenca
Representative: Dean Fabián Jaramillo Palacios
Center: [Centro de Investigación, Desarrollo e Innovación](#)
University: Universidad de Cuenca-Facultad de Ingeniería
Representative: Villie Morocho Zurita, Ph.D.

México (3)

Center: [Programa de Investigación en Telecomunicaciones](#)
University: Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económica (CIDE)
Representative: Prof. Judith Mariscal

University: [Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México](#)
Representative: Clara Luz Álvarez

Center: [Graduate School of Business Management EGADE](#)
University: Monterrey Institute of Technology ITESM, Monterrey Campus
Representative: Prof. Carlos Scheel-Mayenberger

Peru (2)

Center: [Instituto Perú](#)
University: Universidad San Martín de Porras
Representative: Liliana Ruiz de Alonso

Center: Instituto para Estudios Avanzados
Representative: Dean Ivan Mifflin

Venezuela (3)

Center: [Maestría en "Información y Comunicación para el Desarrollo"](#),
Postgrado Interfacultades - Dirección de Postgrado, Facultad de Humanidades y
Educación
University: Universidad Central de Venezuela
Representative: Dra. Olga Oropeza de Ojeda

Center: [Proyecto Gestión del Conocimiento de la Universidad Central de Venezuela](#).
Vicerectorado Académico
University: Universidad Central de Venezuela.
Representative: Dra. Nydia Ruiz
Center: [Centro nacional de Cálculo Científico](#)
University: Universidad de Los Andes
Representative: Isabel Briceño

United States (3)

Center: [Columbia Institute for Tele-Information](#)
University: Columbia University
Representative: Prof. Raul Katz

Center: [Convergence Center](#)
School of Information Studies, University: Syracuse University

Representative: Prof. Martha Garcia-Murillo

Center: [Center for Information and Society](#)

University of Washington

Representative: Maria Garrido , Ph.D

