PROSPECTS OF REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS, ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNCTIONING OF EURASIAN TELECENTRE NETWORK

BANGKOK – 2009

Regional Knowledge Network

The term assumes that there should be a network of people with a high interest in learning, researching, developing and improving the knowledge and shared common expertise of their occupational field and their organization's expertise. Ideally the network should be self-directed by its members, although it does require good facilitation and a moderator's support

"TELECENTRE"

• **Inclusive of all centers offering access to the internet, providing value-added services to the community (e.g. training, info services, consulting, etc.) and allowing citizens to communicate and find information.**

• **It should be socially-oriented. This could be a centre in a library, NGO, school, or other generally accessible public space.**

• **Some services of a telecentre could be fee-based, but a telecentre grouping would not include cyber cafes. Any paid service at a telecentre is intended for cost recovery rather than for profit.**

Regional Knowledge Network prospects

Mission:

"Community of people and organizations working together to improve the social and economic impact of grassroots telecentres."

General goals:

- Enabling a policy environment for the promotion of community e-centres/telecentres, and their transformation into knowledge-hubs/networks including issues of their sustainability

- Community e-centres/telecentres for sustainable development and poverty reduction through services, such as, e-business, e-government, e-health, e-agriculture, disaster risk reduction

- Building knowledge-hubs/networks through transformation of selected Information and Communication Technology (ICT) access points
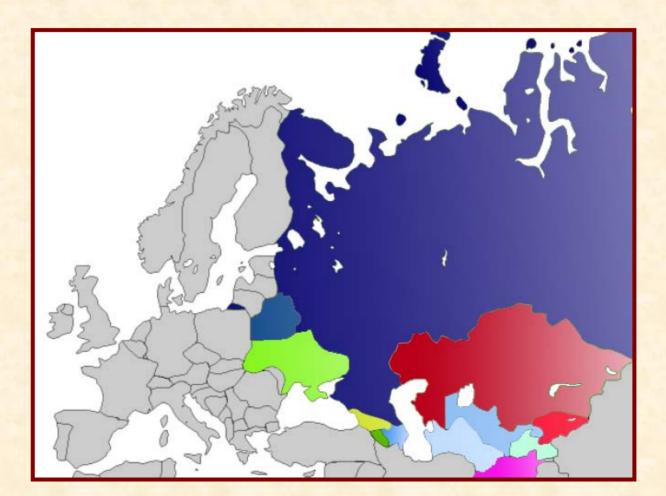
Establishment and functioning of Eurasian Telecentre Network

- **Makes ICT4D priorities closer in each country**
- **Increases interaction between Eurasian countries in ICT initiatives by strengthening local telecentres**
- **Supports the dialogue between existing telecentres**
- **Raises stakeholders' awareness of existing ICT4D resources**
- **Establishes new partnerships**
- **Facilitates the exchange of experience, knowledge, best practices, assistance**
- **Provides access and visibility to donors**
- **Supports policy improvements for the telecentre movement and influences government to support it at all levels, including the grassroots level**
- **Increases the number of strategic partnerships between ICT researchers from Eurasian countries**

Establishment and functioning of Eurasian Telecentre Network: Geography

Eurasia Network

- Uses the common languages of English and Russian
- Benefits from more advanced ICT countries, such as Ukraine and Russia

n of Eurasian Telecentre Network goals
uilding of cooperation in defined fields

e with existing projects/programs
geted organizations/stakeholders/telecentres
ountry leaders with stakeholders in targeted countries

ults:

n campaigns through listservs and websites
membership
aboration on existing initiatives in targeted ICT and other fields
ndations to donors about defining priorities in each of the regions