



Leveraging the “ICT tool” for development in the Tourism, Trade and Industry sector in Uganda

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is an increasingly powerful tool for participating in global markets; promoting political accountability; improving the delivery of basic services; and enhancing local development opportunities. But without **innovative ICT policies**, many people in developing countries - especially the poor - will be left behind.

UNDP - 2005

Indeed, the critical role that ICTs play in development in the tourism, trade and industry sector has been long appreciated, as evidenced by their use in all the sector organisations. However, a lesson has also been learned that after implementing ICTs in organisations, the benefits expected to be enjoyed are sometimes not realised owing to lack of implementation policies, guidelines and plans.

The Tourism, Trade & Industry sector, supported by IICD (www.iicd.org) is carrying out a *participatory process* aimed at developing a sector ICT policy and implementation plans. The sector policy is expected to provide guidelines for leveraging ICTs as a tool for achieving the sector specific goals in line with the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Objectives of the Round Table workshop

- To achieve clear and shared understanding of the ICT Policy implementation process
- To develop a sector ICT policy statement
- To understand to roles played by the different organisations in the ICT policy implementation process
- To create linkages between organisational ICT Policies and both organisational and sector objectives
- To develop implementation programs, both at organisational and sector levels, from the sector ICT policy statement.

As part of the process, a ‘*Round Table workshop*’ with key stakeholders is scheduled for 1st to 3rd December, 2005.

The Round Table workshop (RTW) discussions will be guided by a Reference Paper that will among others include the following:

- Sector organisational objectives
- Guidelines for ICT activities
- Standardisation and investment guidelines
- Existing sector ICT policies and plans
- Overview of sector ICT deployment

As part of the process, research is being carried out in collaboration with key stakeholders, to compile the Reference Paper to be used at the Round Table workshop.

Your participation will be of great importance to this process.

For more information please contact:

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