Association for Progressive Communications (APC)  
Application to MDG3 Fund: Investing in Equality  

*Strengthening Women's Strategic Use of Information and Communications Technologies to Combat Violence against Women and Girls*

Submitted to the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
14 May 2008  

**APPLICATION FORM**  
**MDG3 FUND: INVESTING IN EQUALITY**
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Project name: **Strengthening Women’s Strategic Use of Information and Communication Technologies to Combat Violence Against Women and Girls**

Amount of grant requested: € 1,858,675

I. **Applicant**

a) Name of organisation: Association for Progressive Communications (APC)

b) Name of contacts:

   Anriette Esterhuysen, Executive Director
   Chat Garcia Ramilo, Manager, APC Women's Networking Support Programme

C) Country or countries where the organisation is established:

   APC has been operating as an international membership-based organisation since 1990. Our value and uniqueness comes from the local perspectives and contact with grassroots organisations that we gain through our members. Members of APC are organisations that agree with and work to further APC’s mission. They work actively with civil society and social movements in using ICTs to empower and support others to build strategic communities and initiatives contributing to equitable human development, social justice, participatory political processes and environmental sustainability.

   As of May 2008, APC has 52 members in 37 countries (Africa - Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of Congo (Brazzaville), Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and Uganda; Asia-Pacific: Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Japan, Pakistan, Philippines and South Korea; Latin America and the Caribbean – Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela; Europe – Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Macedonia, Spain and the United Kingdom; North America – Canada and USA).

   APC office and Staff: The APC Executive Director’s office is located in South Africa while APC’s 28 staff members work and live in the various countries where APC implements its programs and projects.

d) Legal form of the organisation:

   APC is incorporated as a non-profit under section 501(c)(3), Public Charity Status 170 (b)(1)(A)(vi) State of California, USA.

e) Bank and account number:

   Name of Bank: Bank of The West - Professional Banking Group; Attn: Daniel Tondeau
   Address of Bank: 295 Bush St. San Francisco CA 94104
   City: San Francisco, CA 94104
   SWIFT code: BWSTUS66
   ABA Number: 121 100 782
   Account Number: 042 000 281
II. Description of MDG3 Fund project proposal

1. Summary of Project Proposal

In 2001, a man was charged with murdering his wife after he intercepted her email and learnt that she planned to leave him. Today, hundreds of women make the private domain public by testifying about street sexual harassment in the ‘Blank Noise Project Blogathon’ in India. Meanwhile, the best-selling video game series “Grand Theft Auto” encourages its millions of players to treat female sex workers as objects of aggression and murder. These are just some examples of the tense and ambiguous relationship between the growth in use of information and communications technologies (ICTs)\(^1\) and the preservation and expansion of women’s rights, in particular the right of women and girls to live lives free from gender-based violence.

The “Strengthening Women’s Strategic Use of Information and Communications Technologies to Combat Violence Against Women and Girls” project aims to help women participants negotiate the fraught terrain of this new digital landscape, in which ICTs hold out the promise of greatly increased freedoms but are burdened with growing privacy and security concerns. Complicating the situation further is the presence of a gender-based digital divide which limits women’s access to and ability to critically engage with ICTs, particularly in developing countries.

To APC, the empowerment of women and girls through skills, knowledge and community-building is the most realistic and sustainable solution to the host of problems presented by these issues. With this in mind, the project will adopt a nuanced, multifaceted approach to the intersection between ICT use and violence against women and girls through the implementation of project activities in 10 to 15 different countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Project activities will include: administering small grants for women’s ICT for development projects; localising the annual global Take Back the Tech! campaign; conducting research and analysis on policy issues related to women’s rights and ICTs; promoting women’s engagement in ICT policy spaces that impact on women’s rights and gender equality; and designing and implementing ICT-enabled interventions.

Ultimately, we aim to foster the creation of a global community of women and adolescent girls able to critically engage with ICT tools and use them to change what the Millenium Project has called a global epidemic of violence. We will accomplish this aim by working to integrate rights-based, women-centred perspectives into national, regional, and global policy-making on ICT issues; expanding the development and adoption of creative and integrated ICT-enabled interventions; ensuring that interventions by women's rights groups and activists are able to reach wider and more diverse audiences, including policy makers; and forming new and strategic partnerships across sectors in the effort to end violence against women and girls.

2. Relevance to Millennium Development Goal 3

a) Main principles

\(^{1}\) The term information and communications technologies (ICT) has been used to encompass technological innovation and convergence in information and communication leading to the development of so-called information or knowledge societies, with resulting changes in social interaction, economic and business practices, political engagement, education, health, leisure and entertainment. ICT is identified in Target 18 under Goal 8 of the MDGs. Chat Garcia Ramilo and Pi Villanueva (2001), p.6.
The Millennium Declaration, adopted in 2000, underscored the urgency of ensuring that the benefits of new technologies, especially ICTs, become available to all. While the role of ICTs in fostering development and social transformation is well recognised, the benefits of ICTs have been unevenly distributed within and between countries, across sectors and economic groups, and particularly along gender lines. This gender disparity is due to differential access to the technologies, knowledge and skills needed to derive optimal benefit from ICTs, as well as the existing social and cultural barriers that women face. For women with the resources to access and use ICTs, there are real benefits. For society as a whole, ICTs offer immense possibilities for reducing poverty, overcoming women’s isolation, ensuring women’s voices are heard, improving governance and advancing gender equality. But this potential will only be realised if the factors that contribute to the current gender divide are recognised and addressed.

Since the Beijing World Conference on women in 1995, the significance of ICTs for achieving women’s empowerment and gender equality has been identified as a critical area of concern. This has been the impetus for much of the work that sought to harness the power of information and communication for women’s advocacies, including in addressing violence against women and girls. The strategic importance of ICTs was further highlighted in 2003, largely as a result of the work of gender advocates, when the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) recognised that the development of ICTs ought to provide enormous opportunities for women’s full and equal participation in all spheres of society and in all decision-making processes.

The Association for Progressive Communications (APC) believes that the strategic use of ICTs can fundamentally contribute to the Millennium Development Goal of eliminating gender disparity at all levels of society. All of the seven priorities areas identified by the UN Millennium Project Task Force require that women have access to timely and useful information that will enable them to make informed choices and to fully participate in public life. At the same time, women’s rights—to the means of communication, to share information freely and to gain the knowledge and skills in ICTs—are essential in addressing these priorities. Women need the resources, the capacity and the ability to be decision-makers, to get the information they need, to communicate with other women, to organise among themselves and to mobilise for their own empowerment. When it comes to mobilising to stop violence against women and girls, the strategic use of ICTs is a critical component of any multi-pronged approach.

This project aims to work with primary change agents (women’s rights defenders and their organisations and networks, policy makers and communication rights activists) to achieve the priority areas of the MDG3 with a strategic focus on combating violence against women and girls. APC’s holistic approach to project implementation will focus on three key domains for combating violence against women and girls: i) capabilities; ii) access to resources and opportunities; and iii) security.

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2 Paragraph 12 of the WSIS Declaration states that: “We affirm that development of ICTs provides enormous opportunities for women, who should be an integral part of, and key actors, in the Information Society. We are committed to ensuring that the Information Society enables women’s empowerment and their full participation on the basis on equality in all spheres of society and in all decision-making processes. To this end, we should mainstream a gender equality perspective and use ICTs as a tool to that end.”

3 APC’s Internet Rights Charter identifies rights associated with the Internet that are consistent with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. http://www.apc.org/en/pubs/briefs.

4 These are activists who advocate for community and alternative media, freedom of information, freedom of the press, etc.

5 These domains were identified by the UN Millenium Task Force on Education and Gender Equality in their report Gender Equality: Taking action: achieving gender equality and empowering women. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals.
i) Capabilities Domain

The project will adopt an integrated approach towards capacity-building for women's organisations and women's rights activists by strengthening interventions designed to address domestic violence, sexual abuse, women in armed conflict and all other forms of violence against women and girls. Special efforts will be made to develop information and communication tools and platforms. These platforms will provide women and girls with essential technical, communication and organising skills. They will also facilitate the growth of partnerships that will be instrumental in developing a community of trainers to ensure sustained capacity-building. Broadly, the project will aim to catalyse dialogue and the development of collective solutions among key stakeholders with an eye to strengthening national advocacy networks focusing on addressing violence against women and girls.

In addition to building up capacities for community-based interventions, the project will also work towards increasing women's participation and representation in public policy processes by building capacities for stronger advocacy and networking at national, regional and international levels. Campaigns and collaborative policy interventions will aim to link the local with the global and vice-versa.

APC seeks to create momentum and consolidate efforts to stop violence against women and girls through its annual 'Take Back the Tech' (TBTT) campaign, (www.Take Back The_Tech.net). This APC Women’s Networking Support Programme (WNSP) campaign, now in its 3rd year, calls for ICT users, especially women and adolescent girls, to reclaim control over technology to fight all forms of violence perpetrated against women and girls. In the process, participants demand and realise their right to define, access, use and shape ICTs. The project will focus on localising the campaign in national contexts to broaden awareness of issues in relation to violence against women and girls and to garner public support for a greater commitment to eliminating violence against women and girls.

The project will bring to light the connections between policy advocacies on ICT issues and women's rights while building women's rights perspectives into global, regional and national ICT policy processes. This will include: (a) research and analysis of policy issues that complements human rights instruments, especially the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (commonly referred to as CEDAW); (b) promoting women’s engagement in ICT policy spaces that impact on women's rights and gender equality in order to strengthen female participation in politics and public policy; and (c) facilitating networking and partnerships among women’s rights defenders, communication rights activists and policy makers.

The project will engage with national-level networks of women, women policy makers and key ICT policy actors to develop strategies to ensure that national ICT policies, programs and projects being adopted in their countries address gender issues and concerns.

ii) Access to Resources and Opportunities Domain

ICT for development projects have shown that if women are knowledgeable about technology, their status increases in the eyes of their community and their level of self-confidence is boosted tremendously. A higher level of respect for women will in turn translate to better personal safety and an increased ability to negotiate their rights. The project will promote the strategic use of ICTs among marginalised and vulnerable women
and adolescent girls through small grants to enhance their access to resources, strengthen their voices and build their agency.  

The small grants are expected to stimulate community-building and innovative practices of ICTs which address the constraints encountered by women (such as limited time and opportunity to participate in training and use of ICTs, minimal access to technology such as radios, mobile telephones, computers and the internet, and lack of information in local languages that is relevant to local contexts and women’s needs and rights). Ensuring women’s access to timely and useful information and communication resources will increase their economic independence and enable them to remain informed on decisions relating to their livelihoods, health and safety, and the exercise of their rights.

For this purpose, project organizers will make a special call to groups who work with, or may themselves be, women and adolescent girl survivors of violence. Successful grantees will apply ICTs to increase the visibility of their own issues and perspectives, encourage local participation in awareness raising campaigns, develop community support mechanisms, and intervene in national and local policy processes that seek to address violence against women and girls.

iii) Security Domain

The project will build the capacities of women and adolescent girl survivors of violence to use ICTs for confidence-building, self-empowerment and most importantly, for their own self-defined healing processes. This domain will focus on the strategic and creative use of ICTs to self-represent, document abuses, build knowledge, disseminate information, mobilise support and amplify pressures for change, through an approach that combines ICTs with women’s empowerment and healing.

APC, in partnership with women’s rights organisations like Women’sNet in South Africa, conducts workshops on Digital Storytelling, where women and adolescent girl survivors of violence use ICTs to tell their stories to the world. These digital stories are already being screened, with permission from the storytellers, in international, regional, national and local fora. The project will continue to expand on this work and extend outreach to countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The project will also build the ICT skills of women while teaching them how to ensure that their privacy and security is protected. Using ICTs, including the internet and telecommunications, is especially critical for women in conflict situations. Secure communications training will be done using the methodology adopted by the “Feminist Practices of Technology Exchange” that APC WNSP has developed over more than a decade of training women in strategic uses of ICTs.

In summary, across the three key domains of work described above, the project will encourage, facilitate and strengthen:

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6 APC is currently managing a small grants fund for rural women and technology in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP Countries) and will build on this experience. The third phase of the GenARDIS (Gender, Agriculture and Rural Development in the Information Society) grants will involve a deeper focus on capacity-building, knowledge-sharing and policy outputs. It aims to sustain and deepen the integration of gender perspectives into rural development and ICT4D initiatives. The Fund will offer 15 grants of 7,000 Euros in 2008. [http://www.apcwomen.org/node/557](http://www.apcwomen.org/node/557)

7 APC WNSP in partnership with the Association for Women’s Rights in Development (AWID) is conducting a Feminist Tech Exchange (FTX) to empower women’s rights organisations, advocates and feminists. The Exchange has been developed in response to the expressed needs of feminist and women’s rights movements for greater understanding of emerging ICT and applications.
• The use of ICTs to enhance interventions addressing domestic violence, sexual abuse, and other forms of violence against women and girls, implemented by women's rights organizations;
• The application of ICTs for the healing of women and adolescent girl survivors of violence;
• The provision of small grants for women and adolescent girl survivors of violence to enhance the visibility of their issues and perspectives and enable them to participate in combating violence against women and girls;
• Efforts to address the new forms of violence perpetuated against women and girls through the internet, the mobile phone and the use of emerging technologies such as the global positioning system;
• Advocacies towards better formulation and implementation of rights-based ICT related policies that impact on violence against women and girls.

b) Background and problem
Describe the main problems to be addressed.

Violent acts against women and girls “profit” from women’s disadvantaged position in society. Today, ICTs are often used in ways that exacerbate this unequal situation by providing new avenues for the violation of women’s and girls’ rights. The broad diffusion of digital technologies, the internet in particular, has resulted in the replication of existing acts of violence against women in digital mediums and virtual spaces. For example, the internet is increasingly being used to facilitate trafficking of women and girls, practice sexual harassment and violate women’s privacy. Perpetrators of domestic violence have used tools like spyware and global positioning system (GPS) technology to track and control their partners’ mobility, and instances of cyberstalking and online harassment are becoming disturbingly common.

At the same time however, women’s organisations and networks are using online resources, websites, and chatrooms to share experiences, mobilise support for specific actions and develop global action strategies to combat violence against women and girls. For example, secure online spaces enable women and girl survivors of violence to communicate their situation and seek help. The internet also provides critical spaces for the articulation of perspectives by disadvantaged groups, such as lesbian and bisexual women, who face severe forms of discrimination and violence. This enables disadvantaged groups to form communities and networks that can amplify their marginalised concerns. The right to self-representation, communicate, own, and share knowledge is even more important for women who exist in diverse realities facing different forms of discrimination. In particular, the internet and mobile phones have become a lifeline for women living in isolated conditions that make it difficult to escape their disempowering situations.

ICTs therefore introduce new facets to the problem of violence against women and girls. These facets require that we look at the problem from the following new angles:

First, there now exists a gender digital divide which is rapidly widening.

Women’s capacity to optimise the potential of new ICTs as tools for empowerment is constrained in different ways in different countries. Some differences are linked to factors that affect both female and male populations in a generalised way: these include technical infrastructure, connection costs, digital literacy and language skills. Yet in many cases, these overall constraints are filtered through specific gender-based determinants that cause women to be particularly disadvantaged. Access to ICTs is inhibited by factors that go far beyond questions of technological infrastructure and socio-economic environment. Socially and culturally constructed gender roles and relationships affect not

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8 Because of various reasons including issues of national security, personal details of mobile phone users are kept on record and women have become victims of sexual harassment and are at risk of physical abuse when their personal data is shared, sold or stolen.
simply women’s technical skills, mobility and available time. They also help to determine perceptions of users’ needs and preferences, design of hardware and software, location and staffing of access points, and many other gender-based decisions that impinge on the capacity of women and men to participate on equal terms in utilising the development and empowering potential of ICTs. As a result, the majority of ICT for development projects that focus on enhancing employment opportunities in rural communities have not created conditions that offer equal participation for women.

Second, women’s strategic use of ICTs and women’s strategic participation in ICT-related arenas are limited. Though the value of ICTs for feminist advocacy and organising has now been recognised, many women’s rights advocates are limited in their ability to use ICTs due to a lack of technical skills and resources as well as a limited understanding of how to engage ICTs both as a site of resistance and empowerment. There is, therefore, a need to build the capacity of women’s rights organisations for greater understanding of emerging ICTs and their applications to stop violence against women and girls. This involves developing women’s technical skills to enable them to reclaim and reshape the use of technologies, documenting practices that address violence against women and girls, advocating policies that protect women’s rights and finally ensuring that women’s rights organisations participate in policy decisions around the regulation of the internet and other digital spaces. Women and girls lack access to opportunities for suitable training on ICT skills, skills that will ensure their privacy and security in online spaces. Because of these limited technical skills, women and girls are unable to participate more meaningfully in various online spaces without possibly endangering themselves, especially at risk with online sexual harassment. Though able to speak, they remain unheard or worse, silenced due to various forms of violence.

Third, there is a marked lack of a women’s rights perspective and women’s political engagement in ICT policy processes. The discourse in ICT for development is sorely lacking in feminist viewpoints, and the field of ICTs—from governance and control of resources to usage—is heavily dominated by men. Women, particularly women in developing countries, are far less able to benefit from and influence current approaches, thinking and policies behind ICT for development.

A critical part of the problem is the lack of understanding among governments and policy makers of the intersection of gender policy and information and communication policy. Most governments assume that there is no need to focus on how policy will impact differently on men and women, unless they are dealing with policy that relates specifically to women, for example in the area of public health, policies addressing cervical cancer, teenage pregnancy, and so on. The result is that most national ICT policies and strategies are gender-blind. Much of the research done in the lead up to the WSIS provides evidence showing that policy-making in the ICT field has often ignored the needs, requirements, and aspirations of women, and have not included a gender equality perspective. This is reinforced by the fact that there are very few women participating in ICT policy processes.

In addition, agencies, governments, networks and organizations that have started to incorporate a gender perspective in their initiatives struggle with the imperative to align their ICT programme objectives (and within that, their gender and ICT policies) with poverty reduction strategies and the Millennium Development Goals, which now underpin much of the ICT for development agenda. There is little understanding of how ICT policies, programmes and projects in any context are changing women’s impoverished state. Similarly, little attention is given to how information and communication flows are affecting women’s rights, an essential element of development.

**APC’s motives for submitting the proposal**
The APC is an international network of civil society organisations (CSOs) dedicated to empowering and supporting people working for peace, human rights, development and protection of the environment through the strategic use of ICTs.

APC sees the intersection of violence against women and girls and ICTs as a critical area for engagement in which only a handful of women’s rights activists are active. This means that as a political space for engagement, control of the internet and telecommunications—and related issues of exploitation, filtering and surveillance—remain the domain of men. Women and girls are increasingly vulnerable when entering online spaces and when using mobile technology. To APC, their empowerment through skills, knowledge and community-building is the most realistic and sustainable solution. We also recognise that women’s rights organisations working to address violence against women and girls have not been able to use ICTs in a more strategic manner. For example, few view ICTs as embodying the potential to build up a sense of security among women and girls or to contribute towards the healing process of women and girl survivors of violence. Often, ICTs are simply seen as tools for basic organisational operations and communications.

ICTs have evolved and diversified so quickly that their uses have yet to be fully explored by women’s rights groups. For example, the use of short message service (SMS) technology on mobile phones has been a very effective organising method for civil society, but has been utilised less by women’s organisations. Likewise, the importance of the internet to civil society, particularly to civil society networks and organisations that work internationally, is indisputable. This value extends beyond, but interacts dynamically with, the ability of individual citizens to make use of the internet to voice their opinions and participate in political processes. The emerging "social" nature of the internet has evolved with tools and platforms that make it easy for people to create and share content and knowledge and to build networks and mobilise.

Finally, there is a need for women’s rights groups who work on stopping violence against women and girls to fully understand the complex intersection between these violations and ICTs, especially in relation to access to information, privacy and security issues that impact on communication rights, and to invest themselves in ICT-related policy-making processes and arenas.

APC's work in women’s rights and gender equality is done through its Women’s Networking Support Programme (WNSP), a global network of women that has supported women's networking for social change and empowerment since 1993. APC WNSP is an international facilitator of civil society’s engagement with ICTs and its related concerns in policies and practices. Contributions have been made at global, regional and national levels, and particularly in developing countries through raising awareness, technical training for women, developing tools and information resources, building capacity in gender evaluation and influencing policies to ensure that ICTs benefit women in transformative and empowering ways.

APC WNSP has also a long history of working with the women’s movement through collaborative efforts and partnerships with groups like the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID), Isis International Manila and WICCE in Uganda, the International Women’s Tribune Center, KnowHow and the International Information Centre and Archives for the Women's Movement and many regional networks. APC's commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment is expressed as one of two thematic crosscuts in APC’s strategic plan of 2004-2008.

c) Subjects

Describe which MDG3 priority areas, as identified in the Policy Rules on the MDG3 Fund: Investing in Equality, are targeted by the proposal.
The project addresses two of the identified MDG3 priority areas in the following ways:

- Stopping violence against women – through raising awareness about the intersections of ICT and violence against women and girls, building the capacity of women's rights organizations to use ICTs to stop these violations, encouraging and strengthening women's and adolescent girls' capacities in using ICTs for their needs, (specifically livelihood, health and safety) while learning how to protect their security and privacy, and to advocate for policies related to ICT that reflect women's perspectives, voices and rights.

- Participation and representation of women in politics and public administration – through increasing participation of women's organizations, women's rights defenders and women policy makers in ICT policy spaces at national, regional and international levels.

3. Target group

To what extent do the proposed activities focus on one of the three target groups identified in the Policy Rules on the MDG3 Fund: Investing in equality, and why? If the proposed project focuses on more than one group, answer this question separately for each target group.

- Marginalised women: The project will focus on survivors of domestic and sexual violence who will participate directly in training activities. Vulnerable women, especially poor, rural and migrant women, will be reached in partnership with women's rights organizations and work will be aimed at increasing their capacity to use ICTs (specifically the internet, radio, mobile phones and other mobile technology, and wireless technology) for awareness-raising and educational rights-based campaigns, to extend the accessibility of livelihood, health, healing and support services, to extend the effectiveness of a rapid response and needs-based system in relation to accessibility of information and communication, in 12 to 16 developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean.

- Adolescents: The project will reach out to adolescent girls and girls' networks in target countries for participation in training activities, digital story telling workshops, and in the Take Back the Tech campaign. Special emphasis will be placed on raising awareness about safe and secure online practices and in building up their confidence and skills in using ICTs to take part in the combat to stop violence against women and girls.

- Women in armed conflict: The project will offer training on safe practices for internet and telecommunications use to women and women's organizations working in conflict situations, in partnership with the Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice and Isis International WICCE in Uganda.

4. Countries and/or regions where activities will be implemented and support base

a) Countries/regions

A total of 12-16 countries from the following will be selected based on very specific criteria in consultation with project partners:

- Africa: Cameroon, Nigeria, Republic of Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo - DRC, Senegal, South Africa, Uganda
- Latin America: Argentina, Ecuador, Colombia, Mexico, Brazil, Peru
- Asia: Pakistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Malaysia, Philippines

b) Support base
Our support base in the countries identified comes from a combination of APC members and WNSP’s regional network members and strategic partners.

APC WNSP is composed of feminists, activists and women’s organisations, who are either involved in women’s movements in their countries or in ICT-related organisations. In our ranks are ICT technical experts and trainers who help women’s organisations and other civil society groups take control of the tools they use to advance their mission and advocacies. More than 175 women from 55 countries - librarians, programmers, journalists, trainers, designers, scholars, researchers, communicators - come together online to work jointly in various projects in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe and Latin America.

In Africa, APC has member organisations in Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Senegal, South Africa and Uganda.

APC-Africa-Women (AAW) is WNSP’s regional network in Africa. AAW’s membership is made up of women and women’s organisations that use ICTs to support women's empowerment in Africa. We have 84 members based in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Namibia, Zambia, Kenya, Mali, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Togo, Cameroon, Tunisia, Tanzania, Senegal, Botswana, Nigeria, Niger, Swaziland, Malawi, Mauritania, Egypt, Congo Brazzaville, Ethiopia. AAW’s Coordinator and Co-Coordinator are based in South Africa and Congo Brazzaville respectively.

**AAW works in partnership with:**

- **Women’sNet** (also a member) who acts as a co-trainer in our Women's Electronic Network Training (WENT) workshops, held every two years. Women'sNet works with violence against women (VAW) organisations and activists through access to and production of relevant information and quality content; facilitating access to content development, information-sharing and social networking tools and skills. They have expertise in digital storytelling training, and in hosting online databases for VAW Organisations. Women’sNet also works with girls through Girls'Net (http://womensnet.org.za/GirlsNet/) to get South African girls actively involved with technology for their own development. Girls'Net aims to use ICTs to help girls realise their full potential. A major focus is on violence and safety.

- **Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET)** (also a member) who assisted with GenARDIS in 2005, localised Take Back the Tech in Uganda and partnered in our WENT workshop in Uganda. WOUGNET is an NGO initiated by women’s organisations in Uganda to develop the use of ICTs among women as tools to share information and address issues collectively. Amongst these are NGOs working on VAW, HIV-AIDS, conflict and war, and peacebuilding.

- **Isis-WICCE, Uganda** who partnered in our WENT workshop in Uganda. One of the core activities of Isis-WICCE is documenting women’s experiences of violence, war and conflict and using innovative means to share this information. Isis-WICCE works in displaced people’s camps in Northern Uganda, as well as conducting research and documentation projects in Liberia, Sierra Leone and the Democratic Republic of Congo dealing with issues of mass rape, HIV-AIDS and linking health practitioners to survivors.

AAW works with individual members on projects in the Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Unit and is developing a training programme for women Members of Parliament on gender and ICT policy issues. AAW partnered with the UN Division for the Advancement of Women on a two-year project entitled “Strengthening the Capacity of National Machineries of Women in Africa” through the effective use of ICTs.
In Asia, APC has member organizations in Bangladesh, Cambodia, the Philippines and a South Asian network that is based in Pakistan. WNSP’s Asia regional network is made up of 20 members from Indonesia, Cambodia, Philippines and China.

We also work closely with organisations that focus on women’s empowerment and ICTs in Bangladesh, Pakistan, the Philippines and Malaysia through campaigns like Take Back the Tech, training workshops, capacity-building in gender evaluation of ICT for development projects and gender advocacy in ICT policy processes.

**WNSP Asia works in partnership with:**

- The Centre for Independent Journalism in Malaysia, Bytes for All in Pakistan, Voices in Bangladesh and Foundation for Media Alternatives in the Philippines to develop a gender framework for a research project that investigates filtering of internet and mobile content.
- WNSP’s Asia regional network is made up of 20 members from Indonesia, Cambodia, Philippines and China.
- D.Net and the Bangladesh Friendship Education Society to reach poor rural women through projects that use ICTs to provide health, livelihood and educational information and services in rural villages.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, APC has members in Mexico, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Peru, Brazil, Ecuador, Argentina and Uruguay.

PARM LAC, the WNSP’s member network in Latin America and the Caribbean, is made up of women and women’s organisations that work in the ICT field as trainers, researchers, developers, and content managers. They support the advancement of women’s rights and women’s empowerment in their work. The network is made up of 35 members, based in Mexico, Honduras, Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Uruguay, Costa Rica and Argentina. The regional coordinator is based in Argentina.

**PARM LAC works in partnership with:**

- Modemmujer, in Mexico (also a member) to develop a project on rural women and ICTs (2006.) Modemmujer has an extensive reach within the women’s movement in Latin America through its electronic networking platforms.
- AMARC AL and AMARC Women’s Network, to contribute to research projects and ICT training with a gender perspective and ALER (Radio Education in Latin America), to contribute to workshops and debate on women and media and violence against women and ICTs.

PARM LAC is a member of DECAL (Communications Rights Campaign in Latin America) and the Coalition for a Democratic Broadcasting System in Argentina.

### 5. Intervention strategy

#### a) Objectives

5.a.1. **To mobilise key stakeholders to stop violence against women and girls by building feminist analysis into global, regional and national ICT policy processes.** We will: increase women’s participation in knowledge-building on the impact and benefits of ICTs for women’s rights to safety, security, privacy, expression, information and association; design strategic policy interventions; catalyse dialogue and develop collective solutions.

5.a.2. **To build and strengthen the capacity of women and adolescent girls and women’s rights organisations to use, reclaim and shape ICTs to stop violence against women and girls.** We will: identify cultural and infrastructural barriers to
women’s and adolescent girls’ access to ICTs; support the development of technical and contextual solutions to enable access and participation; provide essential technical, communication and organising skills; and facilitate partnerships to foster the long-term sustainability of ICT capacity-building and policy advocacy efforts.

5.a.3. **To create platforms and opportunities for women and adolescent girls to critically engage with ICTs to combat violence, and as survivors of violence, to contribute towards self and collective healing.** We will adopt an integrated approach that combines ICTs with women’s empowerment and healing. This includes the strategic and creative use of ICTs to self-represent, document abuses, strengthen support and communities, disseminate information, and amplify pressures for change.

**b) Results**

5.b.1. Increased participation of women and adolescent girls in efforts to combat violence against women and girls and an increased amplification of women’s and girls’ voices on these issues.

5.b.2. Increased development and adoption of creative and integrated ICT-enabled interventions to prevent and stop violence against women and girls.

5.b.3. Interventions to stop violence against women and girls by women’s rights groups and activists are able to reach wider and more diverse audiences, including policy makers.

5.b.4. Integration of women’s rights perspectives in policy-making that protect women’s rights to privacy, expression, association, information, communication and security.

5.b.5. Formation of new and strategic partnerships across sectors in the combat against violence against women and girls.

**C (1) Activities Summary**

**Intended Result No. 1:** Increased participation of women and adolescent girls to combat violence against women and girls, and an increased amplification of women’s and girls’ voices on the issues.

This intended result will be achieved through the application of small grants for and by women and the localisation of the annual, global “Take Back the Tech” campaign.

**Intended Result No. 2:** Increased development and adoption of creative and integrated ICT-enabled interventions to prevent and stop violence against women and girls.

This intended result will be achieved through skills-building exchanges and feminist-activist dialogues.

**Intended Result No. 3:** Interventions to stop violence against women and girls by women’s rights groups and activists are able to reach wider and more diverse audiences, including policy makers.

This intended result will be achieved through the creation and identification of platforms and opportunities that enable the development of a national strategy, considering community and national needs, and through the facilitation of cross-country learning.

**Intended Result No. 4:** Integration of women’s rights perspectives in policy-making that protect women’s rights to privacy, expression, association, information, communication and security.
This intended result will be achieved through activities centred on the conduct of research and analysis on policy issues that complement human rights instrument, with a particular focus on CEDAW, and through the promotion of women’s engagement in ICT policy spaces that impact on women’s rights and gender equality.

**Intended Result No. 5: Formation of new and strategic partnerships across sectors in the combat against violence against women and girls.**

To achieve this intended result, activities will specifically centre on the facilitation of networking, and collaborative design and implementation of ICT-enabled interventions among women’s rights defenders, communication rights activists and policy makers.

In summary, there will be five key types of activities implemented under this proposed project that will serve to realize the three project objectives:

- National strategy development and cross-country learning. This includes the development of issue papers and the conduct of national strategy workshops and cross-country learning workshops;
- Strategic grant-giving to women and adolescent girls in rural and agricultural settings;
- Capacity-building and peer learning. This will specifically centre on the conduct and implementation of regular exchanges on feminist practices of technology;
- Localising the “Take Back the Tech” campaign;
- Policy advocacy and women’s participation in ICT-related policy processes and arenas.

**C (2) Activities description**

**5.c.1 Research and strategy workshops**

**5.c.1.1 Issue papers.**

Issue papers that explore key aspects of the intersections between ICTs and violence against women and girls will be commissioned in target countries. These papers will map the current state of affairs in both ICTs and violence against women and girls in a specific context or country, identifying critical issues, key stakeholders and multi-sectoral policy platforms and processes, as well as documenting best practices in the strategic use of ICTs to combat violence.

All papers will be aimed at stimulating action-oriented policy dialogues which identify concrete solutions and interventions for ending violence against women and girls, particularly through the strategic use of ICTs. Although rich in diversity and complexity, the papers will be directly relevant to addressing the issue at hand. For example, the issue paper in Mexico may focus on the violence faced by women in rural to urban migration and the strategic use of ICTs to address this issue, whereas the issue paper in the Congo Brazzaville-DRC may focus on the issue of domestic violence faced by women due to the use of mobile telephones in the exercise of their social, economic and political rights.

Primarily, these issue papers will serve as stimulants to dialogue and the development of collective solutions at national workshops (activity 5.c.4.2).

**5.c.1.2 National Strategy Workshops**
A national workshop will be conducted in each of the identified countries to bring together different stakeholders and to catalyse dialogue towards finding collective and integrated solutions to end violence against women and girls. It will be structured to fulfil these aims:

- Sharing the findings emerging from issue paper research;
- Establishing and publicising a national discourse on the issue of violence against women and girls through dialogue between stakeholders from different sectors of society;
- Finding integrated and common solutions to combat the issue nationally through national and local communications and media strategy;
- Supporting partnerships through a small grants initiative (activity 5.c.1) for the implementation of follow-up projects, with a focus on collaborative initiatives that address the concerns of marginalised women and girls.

Participants of the national workshops will be identified through consultation with key informants from the issues paper research activity, and will encompass:

- Policymakers on women's rights, economic development and ICT from national machineries;
- Civil society organisations, networks and advocates working on violence against women, ICTs for development, and communication and media rights;
- Members of academia focusing on the above themes;
- Content creators, including mainstream and alternative media practitioners, journalists and bloggers;
- telecommunications companies and internet service providers.

5.c.1.3 Cross Country Learning Workshop

Towards the end of the project, a workshop that will gather all the country projects for collective learning and evaluation will be held to develop effective models for the use of ICTs to end all forms of violence against women and girls.

An issue paper that draws together the commonalities and details the specificities of this global phenomenon will be produced to inform the development of collective norms in regional and global policy processes relating to women's rights, communication rights and ICTs.

5.c.2 Small grants initiative supporting implementation of strategic interventions

Small grants of Euros 5,000 per project will be awarded in the identified countries to implement strategic interventions to end violence against women and girls, with a maximum of Euros 20,000 in small grants to be awarded in each country. The small grants initiative will ensure that there are adequate resources and support to actualise and operationalise concrete interventions towards eliminating violence against women and girls.

The small grants initiative will be an open call to any organisation, network, group or collective operating from a not-for-profit framework to implement a project that seeks to address the intersection between violence against women and girls and ICTs, and/or to stop violence against women and girls through the strategic use of ICTs. Projects that directly engage with the concerns of marginalised women and girls and contribute to securing their safety and strengthening their agency will be given priority.

Projects that would qualify include:
Capacity-building workshops that aim to build the skills of women and girls in the strategic use of ICTs to end violence against women and girls;
Advocacy campaigns to lobby for policy changes that increase access to information and communication resources and expand communication rights for women and girls;
Awareness raising campaigns to build common knowledge, establish and amplify context-specific discourses on the issue of violence against women and girls and ICTs;
Empowerment and self-healing methodologies through strategic use of ICTs for women and adolescent girl survivors of violence;
Development of tools and platforms that will facilitate women and girls’ access, use and development of ICTs, with a particular focus on secure online communication;
Implementation of strategies that strengthen women's participation in ICT policy processes.

Project implementation will be supported through APC WNSP, building upon our experience in the implementation of diverse interventions for the strategic use of ICT to combat violence against women and girls.

Initiatives that APC WNSP members and partners have worked on include:

- **Philippines.** Womenshub was engaged by the National Commission on the Role of the Filipino Woman to develop a Documentation and Reporting technical system that can support integrated data and statistical reporting of cases of violence against women and girls gathered from front-line units of the Filipino government (police, social workers, hospitals and judicial offices). The system aims to provide an accurate record of the number of VAW cases, track government service efficiency in meeting VAW survivors’ needs, and lessen the trauma that survivors face in seeking support and redress from the state.

- **Mexico.** According to national statistics, 6 out of 10 Mexican women suffer from some form of violence, whether physical, sexual, economic or psychological. In response to this devastating statistic, LaNeta, the APC member in Mexico, developed the Mujemtic (Women Empowered by Technology) programme in 2004. Last year, Mujemtic II focused on violence against women and girls by promoting the use of web 2.0 tools to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls and to strengthen activism. Partners in this capacity-building initiative included women’s organisations in Michoacan, Morelos, Mexico DF, Chiapas and Oaxaca, and CIMAC, a Mexican news agency with a gender perspective (see [www.cimac.org.mx](http://www.cimac.org.mx), [www.cimacnoticias.com](http://www.cimacnoticias.com), [http://www.apcwomen.org/node/461](http://www.apcwomen.org/node/461))

- **Senegal.** Enda Third World of Senegal, an APC member, launched a research programme to explore how ICTs can be employed in the fight against female circumcision, a harmful practice carried out on over a hundred million girls and women in West African countries. The project aims to enhance the participation of youth in the development of policy interventions to stop this practice. ICTs enable young women, who are subject to the harmful effects of female circumcision, to communicate amongst themselves, to exchange and develop strategies, but also to express themselves freely. An internet portal has been developed to disseminate relevant local content on female circumcision and to present information on international human rights instruments, national laws and policies, programmes and project related to the issue in text, audio and video form.

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• **Republic of Congo.** During the 16 days of global activism against violence against women, APC member Azur Development encouraged people to blog on issues of violence against women. Topics included definitions of violence, causes and consequences of this violence, and ideas of how to eradicate it. [http://azurweb.blogspot.com/2007/11/dites-non-la-violence-faite-aux-femmes.html](http://azurweb.blogspot.com/2007/11/dites-non-la-violence-faite-aux-femmes.html)

A radio show was organised by AZUR Développement Congo Brazzaville with 15 young women to discuss how ICTs can be employed to challenge violence against women.

### 5.c.3 Capacity building and peer learning – Feminist Technology Exchange

A capacity-building and peer-learning activity entitled the "Feminist Tech Exchange" (FTX) will be conducted in each country to directly benefit marginalised communities of women and adolescent girls as well as women's activists and advocates. The FTX will provide participants with essential ICT skills, enabling them to harness the potential of ICTs to document abuses, build knowledge, disseminate information, mobilise support and amplify pressures for change.

Using an approach that prioritises feminist perspectives, women’s rights and movement building, the FTX aims to:

- Build the capacity of women and girls in the creative and strategic use of ICTs;
- Support the development of a community of trainers who can continue to augment knowledge and skills of women’s rights and feminist advocates in different locales, advocacy areas and movements;
- Promote solidarity between women and girls working in the fields of ICTs and women’s rights to sustain movement-building;
- Provide a venue for open discussions on the intersection between ICT issues and VAW, and women’s rights issues more broadly.

Each country will conduct one to three training activities targeting around 60 participants. Depending on the specific needs of the site country or community, FTX training workshops will build the capacity of participants in particular skill areas, such as digital storytelling, social networking technologies, wireless and mobile technologies, audio for action, citizen journalism, community and alternative media, secure online communications and the use of video for advocacy and activism.

APC will draw on its solid experience and expertise in conducting capacity-building workshops for women. Some recent examples of our work in this area include:

- **APC Africa Women (AAW),** in partnership with WomensNet, an APC member in South Africa, conducted a Digital Storytelling Workshop to document the lives of women affected by violence in Africa. Thirteen women from Kenya, Uganda, Mali, the Gambia, Malawi, South Africa, Congo and Zimbabwe spent 5 days creating digital stories (short videos) on their personal and political journeys as witnesses to violence. It was an empowering and healing experiential learning process for the participants. (See [http://takebackthetech.net/media/digital_stories](http://takebackthetech.net/media/digital_stories)).

- **APC WNSP's Asia network organised** the Women’s Electronic Network Training (WENT), with partners in the region, from 1999 until 2003. WENT trained 115 women from 22 countries on skills such as website development tools, internet-based group communications, web-based information management, local area networking, using ICT for advocacy, and e-commerce. This five-year training program contributed to greater networking among women’s organisations in the region and enhanced their capabilities to use ICTs to advance their social and policy advocacy.
A shared FTX portal will be developed for publishing content produced by FTX participants and enabling cross-community interaction between different FTX events. This portal will also extend knowledge-sharing beyond the initial pool of FTX participants.

5.c.4 Localising the Take Back the Tech Campaign

Take Back The Tech (TBTT) is a collaborative global campaign that calls on all ICT users—especially women and adolescent girls—to take control of technology and use it to change power relations. The campaign demands that women’s rights to define, access, use and shape ICTs be respected.

Since 2006, organisations, collectives and individuals from all over the world have participated in and localised the campaigns in their communities. Hundreds of bloggers—female and male, old and young—posted their thoughts on issues related to violence against women and ICTs in their communities. Content has been produced and translated into multiple languages, and campaign resources were used to support local advocacy issues. For example, the Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication translated and published a “Take Back The Tech” resource booklet in Bengali and English, and used the campaign as a platform to advocate for the increase of women’s access to community radio as a critical platform for addressing violence against women and girls.

Building from the lessons learnt during Take Back the Tech, especially in relation to support for local initiatives and facilitating partnerships between stakeholders, resources will be developed for localising the campaign in the countries identified in this proposal. These will include:

- A shared online working space for peer support, networking, exchange, discussions, planning, and documentation of activity implementation, whether in the form of a wiki, mailing list or project collaboration software, based on the lowest denominator for ease of access;
- A shared central website, the Take Back The Tech global campaign website (www.takebackthetech.net), where participants can take control of their own content for archiving, information dissemination, calls for participation and/or interaction with other applicants and the larger TBTT community.

This online infrastructure will play an important role in documenting strategic interventions in various countries and in highlighting local priority issues. These materials will be collated into a resource for the strategic use of ICTs to end violence against women and girls, to support future strategic interventions. APC WNSP will make use of this resource during interventions in global policy processes in which we are actively engaged, such as the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and the Committee on the Status of Women.

All of these efforts will be brought together in the annual ‘Take Back the Tech’ Campaign, held from 26 November 26 to 10 December, as part of the 16 days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence, an event which brings global attention to women’s actions against violence to a global audience.

5.c.5 Policy advocacy

The project’s policy advocacy component will aim to integrate women’s rights perspectives in ICT policies that impact on violence against women and girls, and to increase the participation of women’s rights organisations and women policy makers in national and international ICT policy making processes. Some of the ICT policy issues that can potentially have an impact on stopping violence against women and girls are...
security and rights to privacy, content regulation on the internet, financing ICT for development and universal access funds and access to information and knowledge. Policy advocacy will be done through production and dissemination of policy analysis briefs, construction of advocacy networks and identification of specific policy interventions.

5.c.5.1 GenderIT.org

GenderIT.org (www.genderit.org) is a gender and ICT policy portal by APC WNSP in English and Spanish. It is targeted at women’s rights advocates, policy makers and others concerned about gender-inclusive ICT policies. It has a cross-sectoral approach, and is widely cited by women’s rights and communication rights advocates and members of academia working on issues of ICT and gender.

As part of this project, GenderIT.org editions will focus on mapping the terrain of ICT policy issues that are critical in stopping violence against women and girls. These editions will also include policy briefing papers on priorities to deepen understanding of women’s rights advocates and women decision-makers about why gender matters in ICT policy and provide them with the arguments, language and recommendations needed for their advocacy efforts at national, regional and global levels.

In addition, GenderIT.org will provide on-site coverage of key policy processes from a gender perspective to keep women’s rights advocates and decision-makers informed about key developments at the IGF, the UN Commission on the Status of Women and the UN Global Alliance for ICT and Development (GAID).

5.c.5.2 National policy processes

ICT policies and processes critical for advocacy interventions at the national level will be identified in each country through national strategy workshops. An advocacy plan will be agreed upon by participants to support policy initiatives that will have local relevance. This national process will facilitate the building of a network of advocates for campaigns and actions that will work to increase women’s participation and representation in policy-making bodies and processes in ICT-related arenas.

5.c.5.3 International policy processes

Three major international policy processes are important to the identified issues and advocacy objectives of the project:

- The Internet Governance Forum, as an experimental but influential policy forum on ICT issues concerning security, privacy and content regulation;
- The UN Global Alliance for ICT and Development (GAID), as an emerging critical space for addressing political concerns in the financing of ICTs for development;
- The Commission on the Status of Women, as the critical space to link with national gender machineries and to open debates on convergence between ICT issues and women’s rights agendas.

Activities will focus on facilitating the engagement of women from participating countries in these policy arenas.

Communications Strategy

To ensure that all of the activities described develop in a consolidated and integrated manner, a communications strategy will be developed to 1) to encourage exchange of information and learning internally, and 2) to impact on broader public opinion through:
• Multi-modal (textual, visual and audio) information packaging and distribution methods to ensure the biggest possible impact of issue papers among project participants as well as in external events and processes;
• Discussions and outcomes of national workshops will be documented and disseminated through national mainstream mass media, online and alternative information sites such as blogs;
• APC media channels including the APC and APC WNSP websites, genderIT.org and websites of APC members, national ICT policy portal sites by APC members and partners and community information channels such as participants’ organisational newsletters will be utilised to publish and distribute information emerging from the project;
• Online platform utilising different tools such as a wiki, mailing list and project collaboration software to support discussions, community building, peer-support, information exchange, development of research questions and methodologies and documentation of the research process between writers and research teams located at different countries;
• FTX portal and ‘Take Back The Tech’ portals, which will act as repositories for material that will be produced during the project.

Locations for project activities
The project will be carried out in 10 to 15 developing countries in the regions of Africa, Latin America and Asia depending on amount of funding that will be secured.

Africa: South Africa, Uganda, Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville-DRC, Senegal.
Latin America: Argentina, Ecuador, Colombia, Mexico, Brazil.
Asia: Pakistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Malaysia, Philippines.

The countries will be selected using the following criteria:

• APC has members or partners who are actively working or interested in the issue of violence against women and girls with the capacity to implement a national project with strong community involvement;
• There is an active network of violence against women and communication rights organisations services that can be identified for participation and collaboration;
• Implementing partners are actively engaged with policy advocacy and processes in women’s rights, violence against women and girls, ICTs for development and/or communication rights issues, particularly and minimally, at national levels.
• There is a minimum level of access to ICTs in the country.
### Start and end dates for activities (timeline)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Research and strategy workshops</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Research and writing of issue papers</td>
<td>January 2009</td>
<td>June 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>- National strategy workshops</td>
<td>July 2009</td>
<td>November 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Writing of cross country issue paper</td>
<td>January 2010</td>
<td>April 2010</td>
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<td>- Cross country learning workshop</td>
<td>September 2010</td>
<td>February 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Repackaging of information from issues paper for dissemination and distribution</td>
<td>July 2009</td>
<td>December 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2. Small grants</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Selection of projects</td>
<td>July 2009</td>
<td>September 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Implementation of projects and online and on-site mentoring</td>
<td>October 2009</td>
<td>March 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Capacity building workshop for grantees</td>
<td>January 2010</td>
<td>June 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3. Feminist Technology Exchanges (FTX)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Training workshop in countries</td>
<td>September 2009</td>
<td>March 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Developing FTX portal</td>
<td>January 2009</td>
<td>December 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4. Localising ‘Take Back the Tech’ campaign</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Participation in 16 Days of Activism to Stop Gender-based Violence – November 26 – December 10</td>
<td>August 2009</td>
<td>December 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Advocacy and participation in national ICT policy processes</td>
<td>September 2009</td>
<td>June 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Advocacy and participation in international policy processes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Commission on Status of Women</td>
<td>February 2010</td>
<td>March 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Internet Governance Forum (IGF)</td>
<td>December 2009</td>
<td>December 2010</td>
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Strengthening Women's Strategic Use of ICTs to Combat Violence Against Women and Girls – APC
Project team

The APC WNSP program will take responsibility for the overall coordination of the project and will appoint the following project roles to current and new staff:

1. Project Manager: Overall management of the project and supervision of country activity implementation;
2. Training Coordinator: Coordination of Feminist Technology Exchange (FTX) activities including the development of training workshops, provision of training support to country coordinators and management of the FTX online space;
3. Campaign and Policy Advocacy Coordinator: Coordination of policy advocacy activities at the international level and support for the development of country-level policy advocacy strategies;
4. Communications Coordinator: Coordination of overall communications strategy for the project including localisation of the ‘Take Back the Tech Campaign;’
5. Technical Administrator: Development and management of all technical requirements for information and communication platforms and training activities for the project.

Country partners will be selected from members and partners of APC and APC WNSP in identified countries. A country coordinator to manage project activities in each country will be recruited jointly by the country partner and APC. Country partners will be responsible for the implementation of the following country activities:

1. Developing an overall country implementation plan.
2. Research and writing of country issue papers.
3. Organising a national strategy workshop and building a national network of advocates.
4. Coordinating small grants for women and girls.
5. Organising a Feminist Tech Exchange for women’s rights organisations, advocates and activists.
6. Implementing advocacy activities including localisation of the ‘Take Back the Tech’ campaign, communications outreach and participation of women in policy processes.

Members and partners of APC will participate at consultative and networking levels and those with the capacity to participate will be invited to join in national-level activities. Their expertise in ICT training, technical platforms, research and policy advocacy will be tapped for relevant project activities.

Local women’s rights organisations, particularly those working on issues related to violence against women and girls and those working directly with the communities targeted as intended beneficiaries will be invited to participate as project collaborators. Their expertise in addressing the issues and managing interventions will guide the implementation of project activities designed for women and girls.

APC will also draw on its international partners such as the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC), Panos, Isis International (Manila and WICCE), the Association for Women’s Rights and Development, Tactical Tech, Radio FIRE and many other media and communication networks, for expertise and support.
### d) Resources required

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intended result</th>
<th>Producer goods, Capital goods, Personnel</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Increased participation of women and adolescent girls to combat violence against women and girls, and an increased amplification of women’s and girls’ voices on the issues.</td>
<td>TBTT website Small grants fund Writers, researchers Campaign and policy advocacy coordinator, Communications coordinator, technical administrator, project manager,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Increased development and adoption of creative and integrated ICT-enabled interventions to prevent and stop violence against women and girls.</td>
<td>FTX portal Small grants fund Training expertise in using ICTs for more effective communication and information capacity - Technical mentors for grantees - ICT, media and communication trainers in countries Equipment such as cameras, mp3 players and other ICT tools for use by trainees Training coordinator, technical administrator, country coordinators, project manager,</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Interventions to stop violence against women and girls by women's rights groups and activists are able to reach wider and more diverse audiences, including policy makers.</td>
<td>FTX Portal, TBTT website, GenderIT.org, APC websites, National ICT Policy Portal websites of APC members and partners in countries, Media contacts of APC APC communications team including multilingual editors and translators Communications coordinator Campaign and policy advocacy coordinator, country coordinators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Integration of women's rights perspectives in policy-making that protect women's rights to privacy, expression, association, information, communication and security.</td>
<td>GenderIT.org website, APC's Communications and information Programme team and partners with global expertise in global, regional and national policy processeses. APC's policy research projects on privacy, security and access to knowledge in some identified countries in this project. Campaign and policy advocacy coordinator, country coordinators, project manager, technical administrator,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Formation of new and strategic partnerships across sectors in the combat against violence against women and girls.

APC members and partners in countries who are all actively engaged in national ICT advocacy networks.

Partnerships with women’s organisations and networks internationally and within countries.

Expertise of APC staff gained from long experience of involvement in national ICT advocacy in each country.

Country coordinators, campaign and policy advocacy coordinator, project manager.
e) Requested funding

5.e.1. Project financing

The proposal will be financed through financial contributions from the Ford Foundation, IDRC’s OpenNet Initiative on Privacy and Security, and the DGIS MDG3 fund. The Ford Foundation’s ‘Sexuality on the Internet’ grant will contribute to issue paper research, project members’ participation in the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), and content development for GenderIT.org. Funding from IDRC’s OpenNet initiative will contribute to the development of a methodological framework for research. All other components of the project will be financed by the MDG3 fund.

5.e.2. Grant requested and amounts per year

The amount requested from the MDG3 fund is €1,858,675 for three years, from 2009 to 2011. The amounts for each year are as follows: €781,100 for 2009 (year one); €788,050 for 2010 (year two); and €289,525 for 2011 (year three.) The requested grant from the MDG3 fund will represent 95.4% of the total budget.

f) Risk analysis

Depending on a given country’s political commitment to combatting violence against women and girls and other violations of women’s rights, supporting and promoting the amplification of women’s and adolescent girls’ voices regarding their rights can often be seen as a threat to national security. This project will heighten the visibility of such issues while presenting community solutions and policy prescriptions from a rights-based perspective.

These efforts will be an affront to those policy-makers and community members who see women and girls only in supporting roles and who would prefer to promote a protectionist approach rather than one of empowerment. This is why APC will endeavour to work with women’s rights groups and activists who are already very experienced in negotiating difficult spaces and arenas to ensure that the protection of women’s and girls’ rights are essential considerations for development rather than negotiable conditions for development, often bartered vis-à-vis cultural, traditional and national sovereignty issues.

APC is therefore consciously adopting a multi-pronged approach to the design and implementation of this project. The four key foundations underlying this approach, of (a) self-determination and empowerment platforms, processes and mechanisms for women and adolescent girls; (b) feminist research and sound analysis; (c) community-building; and (d) strategic partnerships, are aimed at ensuring that women and adolescent girls are able to access needed resources, tools and information, as well as participate in key networks and and locate supportive individuals, groups and communities.
6. **Description of the project’s intended results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intended Result</th>
<th>In relation to Project Objectives</th>
<th>S-M-A-R-T</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Intended Result No. 1:** Increased participation of women and adolescent girls to combat violence against women and girls, and an increased amplification of women’s and girls’ voices on the issues. | **Objective 1:** To mobilise key stakeholders and actors to stop violence against women and girls through building feminist analysis into global, regional and national ICT policy processes. This involves increasing women's participation in building knowledge about the impact and benefits of ICTs on women’s right to safety, security, privacy, expression, information and association; designing strategic policy interventions; catalysing dialogue and developing collective solutions. | The project will support efforts to ensure greater impetus for the Take Back The Tech campaign, research and analytical work for content development at genderIT.org, and the development of issue papers in relation to the national strategy and cross-country learning workshops.  
**ACCEPTABLE:**  
The activities of the Take Back the Tech campaign have proven to be very relevant and useful to the target groups identified, and the numbers who participate each year (including men), continue to grow. However, there is a need to localise these initiatives, to ensure that language is no longer a barrier to participation and that content is relevant to local realities.  
Amplification of women’s and girl’s voices will be reflected within the Take Back the Tech campaign website. Their experiences and perspectives will also be included in articles and issue papers produced for genderIT.org. Women and girls will be encouraged to participate as writers and researchers for these portals.  
Small grants will directly benefit women and adolescent girl survivors of violence. APC’s digital storytelling workshops will enable women to produce short videos reflecting on their... |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intended Results</th>
<th>In relation to Project Objectives</th>
<th>S-M-A-R-T experiences.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 2.</strong></td>
<td>To build and strengthen the capacity of women and adolescent girls and women’s rights organisations to use, reclaim and shape ICTs to stop violence against women and girls. This involves identifying cultural and infrastructural barriers to women’s and adolescent girls’ access to ICTs, supporting the development of technical and contextual solutions to enable access and participation, providing essential technical, communication and organising skills, and facilitating partnerships towards sustainability of ICT capacity-building and policy advocacy efforts.</td>
<td>APC, in partnership with Women’sNet South Africa, have already developed and tested the Digital Stories for Transformation methodology. It reflects real experiences, covering issues such as sexual violence, domestic violence, HIV and coming out as a lesbian. Stories are used in education and training on human rights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 3.</strong></td>
<td>To create platforms and opportunities for women and adolescent girls to critically engage with ICTs to combat violence, and as survivors of violence, to contribute towards self and collective healing. An integrated approach that combines ICTs with women’s empowerment and healing will be adopted. This includes strategic and creative use of ICTs to self-represent, document abuses, strengthen support and communities, disseminate information, and amplify pressures for change.</td>
<td>APC WNSP’s Gender Evaluation Methodology (GEM) will be used to develop result indicators with key stakeholders and project partners. This approach will be complemented by the use of IDRC’s Outcome Mapping methodology to measure behavioural change, a critical indicator of project success. Result indicators will include, among others:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>a) Increased level of confidence with newly acquired ICT skills, observed when teaching others or sharing what they have done with their new skills.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>b) Level of engagement with project activities (when measuring this, other factors would have to be considered like availability of time, ease and frequency of access to ICTs).</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Measurement of participation levels can also be conducted during community networking and national strategy development processes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Intended Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intended Result No. 2: Increased development and adoption of creative and integrated ICT-enabled interventions to prevent and stop violence against women and girls. This intended result will be achieved through skills-building exchanges and feminist-activist dialogues.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In relation to Project Objectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Objective 1. To mobilise key stakeholders and actors to stop violence against women and girls through building feminist analysis into global, regional and national ICT policy processes.** This involves increasing women’s participation in building knowledge about the impact and benefits of ICTs on women’s right to safety, security, privacy, expression, information and association; designing strategic policy interventions; catalysing dialogue and developing collective solutions.  

**Objective 2. To build and strengthen the capacity of women and adolescent girls and women’s rights organisations to use, reclaim and shape ICTs to stop violence against women and girls.** This involves identifying cultural and infrastructural barriers to women’s and adolescent girls’ access to ICTs, supporting the development of technical and contextual solutions to enable access and participation, providing essential technical, communication ACCEPTABLE:  

**REALISTIC AND TIME-RELATED:**  
The project’s proposed timeframe of three years, with two and a half years dedicated to strengthening women’s and adolescent girls’ participation is realistic considering the achievements already made within two years of the Take Back The Tech campaign and three years of genderIT.org. APC has already built up a good foundation of work and relationships for both types of activities.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intended Results</th>
<th>In relation to Project Objectives</th>
<th>S-M-A-R-T</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>and organising skills, and facilitating partnerships towards sustainability of ICT capacity-building and policy advocacy efforts. <strong>Objective 3. To create platforms and opportunities for women and adolescent girls</strong> to critically engage with ICTs to combat violence, and as survivors of violence, to contribute towards self and collective healing. An integrated approach that combines ICTs with women’s empowerment and healing will be adopted. This includes strategic and creative use of ICTs to self-represent, document abuses, strengthen support and communities, disseminate information, and amplify pressures for change.</td>
<td><strong>REALISTIC:</strong> APC WNSP has developed strong relationships with some women's rights groups who work on issues of violence against women and girls as expressed in section 5. The project will also build on the successful collaboration with Women'sNet on the conduct of digital story telling workshops with women and adolescent girl survivors of violence, which were first conducted in 2007. <strong>MEASURABLE:</strong> Some of the result indicators will look at: a) new collaborations forged with ICT know-how b) new activities designed and implemented with ICT know-how c) existing interventions complemented and/or strengthened through the strategic use of ICTs. <strong>TIME-RELATED:</strong> Considering the activities planned to achieve the intended result, APC WNSP would already have a solid foundation to have a very good project start in January 2009. Therefore, this intended result will be achieved by the end of the three year project implementation period.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Intended Result No. 3: **Interventions to stop violence** | **Objective 1. To mobilise key stakeholders and actors to stop violence against women** | **National advocacy strategy development workshops and cross-country learning workshops** |
### Intended Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intended Result</th>
<th>In relation to Project Objectives</th>
<th>S-M-A-R-T</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1. To mobilise key stakeholders and actors to stop violence against women and girls through building feminist analysis into global, regional and national ICT policy processes. This involves increasing women’s participation in building knowledge about the impact and benefits of ICTs on women’s right to safety, security, privacy, expression, information and association; designing strategic policy interventions; catalysing dialogue and developing collective solutions.</td>
<td>will serve to achieve these objectives and intended result.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**MEASURABLE:**

Result indicators will most likely take the form of:

- a) level of participation in the development and implementation of the national strategy and in sharing lessons learnt
- b) feasibility and quality or level of innovation in the design and implementation of ICT-enabled interventions
- c) quality of contributions (data and arguments presented, gender analysis) to genderIT.org
- d) quality (data and arguments presented, gender analysis of issues) of contributions to the FTX portal
- e) level of participation and types of contributions to localising the Take Back The Tech campaign

Level of sense of ownership of stakeholders in this project would also be a useful indicator, and could be obtained through evaluation feedback.

**TIME-RELATED:**

This intended result will be achieved by the end of the three-year project implementation period.

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### Intended Result No. 4: Integration of women’s rights perspectives in policy-making that protect women’s rights

**Objective 1. To mobilise key stakeholders and actors to stop violence against women and girls through building feminist analysis into global, regional and national ICT policy processes.**

This intended result will be achieved through the creation and identification of platforms and opportunities that enable the development of a national strategy, considering community and national needs, and through the facilitation of cross-country learning.

**Intended Results**

against women and girls by women’s rights groups and activists are able to reach wider and more diverse audiences, including policy makers.

This intended result will be achieved through the creation and identification of platforms and opportunities that enable the development of a national strategy, considering community and national needs, and through the facilitation of cross-country learning.
### Intended Results

#### In relation to Project Objectives

**Objective 1. To mobilise key stakeholders and actors to stop violence against women and girls through building feminist analysis into global, regional and national ICT policy processes.** This involves increasing women’s participation in building knowledge about the impact and benefits of ICTs on women’s right to safety, security, privacy, expression, information and association; designing strategic policy interventions; catalysing dialogue and developing collective solutions.

**Objective 2. To build and strengthen the capacity of women and adolescent girls and women’s rights organisations to use, reclaim and shape ICTs to stop violence against women and girls.** This involves identifying cultural and infrastructural barriers to women’s and adolescent girls’ access to ICTs, supporting the development of technical and contextual solutions to enable access and participation, providing essential technical, communication and organising skills, and facilitating partnerships towards sustainability of ICT capacity-building and policy advocacy efforts.

**Objective 5. Formation of new and strategic partnerships across sectors in the combat against violence against women and girls.**

This intended result will be achieved through activities centred on the conduct of research and analysis on policy issues that complement human rights instrument, with a particular focus on CEDAW, and through the promotion of women’s engagement in ICT policy spaces that impact on women’s rights and gender equality.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intended Result No. 5: Formation of new and strategic partnerships across sectors in the combat against violence against women and girls.</th>
<th><strong>Insight</strong></th>
<th><strong>S-M-A-R-T</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 1. To mobilise key stakeholders and actors to stop violence against women and girls through building feminist analysis into global, regional and national ICT policy processes.</strong> This involves increasing women’s participation in building knowledge about the impact and benefits of ICTs on women’s right to safety, security, privacy, expression, information and association; designing strategic policy interventions; catalysing dialogue and developing collective solutions.</td>
<td><strong>TIME-RELATED AND REALISTIC:</strong></td>
<td>This is another intended result that to be achieved on an ongoing basis throughout the project’s three-year term. However, the number of new strategic partnerships will likely increase towards the end of the three-year term as national opportunities and platforms for policy intervention and policy advocacy in the first year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 2. To build and strengthen the capacity of women and adolescent girls and women’s rights organisations to use, reclaim and shape ICTs to stop violence against women and girls.</strong> This involves identifying cultural and infrastructural barriers to women’s and adolescent girls’ access to ICTs, supporting the development of technical and contextual solutions to enable access and participation, providing essential technical, communication and organising skills, and facilitating partnerships towards sustainability of ICT capacity-building and policy advocacy efforts.</td>
<td><strong>SPECIFIC AND ACCEPTABLE:</strong></td>
<td>Documentation from the first FTX in November 2008 and reflections from women’s rights organisations and activist participants is expected to contribute towards the achievement of this intended result. Hence, by the end of the first year of the project, some new perspectives, analysis, and data will emerge for issue papers and policy advocacy position statements/papers. With the regular publication of genderIT.org, work towards securing feminist analysis of emerging issues and to interrogate the intersections of violence against women and girls and ICTs will achieve this intended result in different ways, and possibly in incremental ways, i.e. where new arguments and analysis may build on previous arguments and analysis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 5. Formation of new and strategic partnerships across sectors in the combat against violence against women and girls.</strong></td>
<td><strong>TIME-RELATED AND REALISTIC:</strong></td>
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This intended result will be achieved through activities centred on the conduct of research and analysis on policy issues that complement human rights instrument, with a particular focus on CEDAW, and through the promotion of women’s engagement in ICT policy spaces that impact on women’s rights and gender equality.
### Intended Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facilitation of networking and collaborative design and implementation of ICT-enabled interventions among women’s rights defenders, communication rights activists and policy makers.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Privacy, expression, information and association; designing strategic policy interventions; catalysing dialogue and developing collective solutions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Objective 2.

**To build and strengthen the capacity of women and adolescent girls and women’s rights organisations** to use, reclaim and shape ICTs to stop violence against women and girls. This involves identifying cultural and infrastructural barriers to women’s and adolescent girls’ access to ICTs, supporting the development of technical and contextual solutions to enable access and participation, providing essential technical, communication and organising skills, and facilitating partnerships towards sustainability of ICT capacity-building and policy advocacy efforts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Networks and local support mechanisms and communities start to consolidate their initial successes. The small grants to be provided could also contribute towards the strengthening of these new and strategic partnerships.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MEASURABLE:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Some of the result indicators could therefore include:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- types and extent (local, national, regional, global) of new and strategic partnerships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- number of new and strategic partnerships formed and applying for the small grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- level and type of contributions of partners. For example, resources contributed could come from a funded project or partners are contributing their own resources from other projects or core funds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- type and extent of outreach of new and strategic partnerships (who are they reaching and where)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. **Sustainability**

a) **Sustainability of the activity**

Several factors support our belief that the achievements of the project can and will be sustained after it has ended, namely:

1. long-term, solid relationships with members, other organisations and networks;
2. APC’s integrated and holistic approach to strategic planning;
3. APC WNSP’s past successes in gender equality advocacy;
4. APC’s and APC WNSP’s work values and principles;
5. Facilitation of women’s empowerment – women participants will have the potential, skills and knowledge to access new opportunities and to claim their rights to access and control information and other resources.

Through the work of APC WNSP, APC is committed to addressing gender and ICT issues, especially in relation to gross violations of women’s rights and the promotion and protection of women’s information and communication rights.

APC WNSP has been an active and growing network since 1993. It has proven experience and expertise in gender equality advocacy around media, communication and ICT issues and is able to rely on the strength of its memberships and funding base to develop and sustain strong relationships with organisations operating at local, regional and international levels. In addition, by building regional representation into our activities through our concerted efforts towards global outreach, we are able to reach a very wide constituency and sustain cross-regional interaction and learning.

Apart from our membership base, we have solid and long-standing work relationships built through collaborative campaigns during the Beijing+5 and Beijing+10 processes, the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) at regional and global levels and active involvement in the Association for Women in Development (AWID) Forums.

The Take Back the Tech (TBTT) Campaign has facilitated new partnerships through its localisation activities. This ensures that violence against women issues are addressed at the local level and that organisations take on their own activities and contributes these to the larger project. This has created an informal, global network of projects and organisations learning from each other. The Take Back the Tech! Campaign is thus an extremely effective facilitating structure.

All projects that APC WNSP undertakes form part of the larger and more holistic strategic plan of APC, building upon work already implemented and achievements made during the previous strategic plan. Thus, the work conducted forms part of an integrated whole, with very strong linkages between each project and the work of the other APC programmes. As an integral part of APC, APC WNSP benefits from the institutional base of an international organisation and network successfully operating since 1990. We have the experience and support of all of the APC programs and management as well as of the global APC-member community. APC WNSP has also worked to ensure that gender equality is a cross-cutting issue in all of APC’s work. This has built a consistent and sustainable women’s empowerment agenda into the work of APC and, indirectly, into the work of APC members.

Thanks to the effective role of APC WNSP at national, regional and global levels, women with a technical background in ICTs have been able to learn about gender and ICT issues while collaborating on projects. Many have remained engaged as members. Similarly, gender equality advocates and women’s rights defenders have been able to learn about ICTs and ICT-related issues and have also remained engaged through the membership structure. Our proven strengths are in the areas of training, network facilitation and
network-building, small grants management, ICT-related awards management, gender evaluation, research and analysis, and gender and ICT policy advocacy.

APC WNSP has long been a leader in creating innovative work on the ground. For example, recognising the total absence of suitable tools for gender evaluation of ICT-related projects, APC WNSP developed the Gender Evaluation Methodology (GEM.) What began as a consultative process in 2000 has since evolved into one of our most successful projects and network of practitioners, GEM (http://www.apcwomen.org/gem/.) GEM is both a guide to integrating gender analysis into the evaluation of ICTs for social change initiatives and a methodology that facilitates the learning process in regards to the use of ICTs for gender equality.

In 2004, Karen Banks, the former coordinator of APC WNSP, was awarded the Anita Borg Award, a prize that serves to recognise significant and sustained contributions to the fields of women's rights, ICTs and social impact. (http://www.gracehopper.org/2004/ghc_press_award_winners.html).

One aspect of APC's holistic, sustainable approach to project implementation is the documentation of policy recommendations for use in our advocacy work. We are constantly integrating our research findings into policy advocacy initiatives aimed at changing inequitable policies and gender relations.

Our capacity building activities with other organisations ensure that our staff is able to make wider skills sharing possible. We design training methodologies, based on goals of empowerment and self-healing, which are sustained through integration into the lived experiences of women participants.

Localisation of project activities enables local ownership and speaks to conditions on the ground. Activities in the project will be operationalised according to specific contexts and realities so that resulting changes become lasting ones.

Research and documentation is uploaded onto websites and remains available after the project has ended. Blogs, podcasts, digital stories and the many other forms of documented experiences will be available in a variety of formats, to be disseminated in creative and strategic ways that result in a wider sharing of experiences. All information and products produced by the APC are disseminated based on progressive copyright terms and principles, facilitating access especially to resource-poor countries and individuals.

b) Involvement of the target group

Project activities will target groups that are already active in implementing interventions to address violence against women and girls, and will be coordinated by members of APC and APC WNSP. They will build largely on existing work that will continue to contribute to local and national activities after this grant ends.

Ultimately, all project activities will aim to catalyse dialogue and develop collective solutions among key stakeholders. Sustainability is integrated into the structure of each activity through the four key bases of (a) self-determination and empowerment platforms, processes and mechanisms for women and adolescent girls, (b) feminist research and sound analysis, (c) community-building and (d) strategic partnerships.
8. **Ensuring quality, monitoring and evaluation**

a) **Quality of objectives**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Criteria to Measure Impact</th>
<th>Instruments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 1. To mobilise key stakeholders and actors to stop violence against women and girls through building feminist analysis into global, regional and national ICT policy processes.</strong> This involves increasing women’s participation in building knowledge about the impact and benefits of ICTs on women’s right to safety, security, privacy, expression, information and association; designing strategic policy interventions; catalysing dialogue and developing collective solutions.</td>
<td>1. Level (including number) and type (including decision-making roles) of women’s participation in policy advocacy and public policy processes arising out of the project at local, national, regional and international levels.</td>
<td>Stakeholder analysis – prior and after the project intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Number and type of measures adopted to address violence against women and girls in global, regional and national ICT policies.</td>
<td>Content analysis of key policy documents and media, especially during key events and critical moments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. New feminist analysis and arguments for policy advocacy positions in relation to ICT policy-making, and the different political spaces in which these have been applied.</td>
<td>Observations of key policy spaces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 2. To build and strengthen the capacity of women and adolescent girls and women’s rights organisations to use, reclaim and shape ICTs to stop violence against women and girls.</strong> This involves identifying cultural and infrastructural barriers to women’s and adolescent girls’ access to ICTs, supporting the development of technical and contextual solutions to enable access and participation, providing essential technical, communication and organising skills, and facilitating partnerships towards sustainability of ICT capacity-building and policy advocacy efforts.</td>
<td>4. Number and types of activities developed and implemented by women’s organisations that strengthen their intervention programs addressing violence against women as a result of new knowledge learned from training provided through the project. (e.g. using mobile phones, websites, and chatrooms to share experiences, document abuses, mobilise support for specific actions and develop global action strategies to combat violence against women and girls)</td>
<td>Post-FTX questionnaires for participants will be administered six to 12 months after each event, to obtain updates on how participants have applied the training and peer learning, and the challenges they have faced.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Number and type of ICT platforms and applications designed to enable diverse post-FTX contributions, including tracking and observation of key online spaces.</td>
<td>Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with key project partners and selected beneficiaries, i.e. women’s rights organisations who work to address violence against women and girls. Tracking and observation of key online spaces.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Objective 3. To create platforms and opportunities for women and adolescent girls to critically engage with ICTs to combat violence, and as survivors of violence, to contribute towards self and collective healing. An integrated approach that combines ICTs with women's empowerment and healing will be adopted. This includes strategic and creative use of ICTs to self-represent, document abuses, strengthen support and communities, disseminate information, and amplify pressures for change.

6. Level and type of participation of women and girls in the design and adaptation of ICT platforms and applications to stop violence against women and girls.

7. Level of confidence and sense of personal security/safety of women and girl to speak publicly on the issues of violence against women (use of real name, use of pseudonym, frequency of online publishing of comments, feedback, responses or articles, etc.; for example, own blog versus responding to viewpoints and comments published by another)

8. Level of confidence of women and girls with newly acquired ICT skills, such as teaching others, or sharing what they have done with the new skills and knowledge and getting feedback, etc.

9. Extent to which policymakers, media, and other key actors are receiving, responding and acting on the information about violence against women and girls documented and disseminated through platforms created by the project.

Post-FTX questionnaires for participants will be administered six to 12 months after each event, to obtain updates on how participants have applied the training and peer-learning, and the challenges they have faced.

Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with key project partners and selected beneficiaries, i.e. women’s rights organisations who work to address violence against women and girls.

Tracking and observation of key online spaces.

Online tracking of content/exchanges on the TakeBacktheTech campaign’s and GenderIT.org website and on the Feminist Technology Exchange portal.

b) Quality of results
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intended Results</th>
<th>Criteria to Measure Results</th>
<th>Instruments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intended Result No. 1: Increased participation of women and adolescent girls to combat violence against women and girls, and an increased amplification of women’s and girls’ voices on the issues.</td>
<td>1. Level and type of participation of women and girls in efforts to combat violence against women initiated as the part of this project (responsive vs. proactive; self-initiated or initiated by others)</td>
<td>Online tracking of content/exchanges on the Take Back the Tech campaign’s and GenderIT.org website and on the Feminist Technology Exchange portal. Post-FTX questionnaires for participants will be administered six to 12 months after each event, to obtain updates on how participants have applied the training and peer-learning, and the challenges they have faced. Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with key project partners and selected beneficiaries, i.e. women’s rights organisations who work to address violence against women and girls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intended Result No. 2: Increased development and adoption of creative and integrated-ICT enabled interventions to prevent and stop violence against women and girls.</td>
<td>2. Number of and ways in which women and girls survivors of violence are using new knowledge and skills acquired through project activities for self and collective healing (such as self-expression, documentation of abuse, safety and other healing strategies).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intended Result No. 3: Interventions to stop violence against women and girls by women’s rights groups and activists are able to reach wider and more diverse audiences, including policy makers.</td>
<td>3. Number of and ways in which women and girls are using new knowledge and skills learned from training activities, that contribute to increasing access to new resources and building their agency.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4. Level and types of participation to the Take Back the Tech campaign, including in localising the campaign.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Number and quality (data and arguments presented, gender analysis) of contributions to the FTX portal.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intended Result No. 4: Integration of women’s rights perspectives in policy-making that protect women’s rights to privacy, expression, association, information, communication and security.</td>
<td>6. Number and type of policy interventions of diverse stakeholders (including women’s decision makers) in relation to the issues identified in each country that emerges from the project. (i.e. women’s</td>
<td>A questionnaire survey tool (a maximum of ten questions) will be used to sought feedback and responses from key stakeholders and project partners, as well as partners of project partners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intended Result No. 5: Formation of new and strategic partnerships across sectors in combatting violence against women and girls.</td>
<td>8. Number and types of resources and opportunities for capacity building of women and girls as a result of partnerships developed in each country (For example, partners are contributing their own resources from other projects or core funds.)</td>
<td>A questionnaire survey tool (a maximum of ten questions) will be used to sought feedback and responses from key stakeholders and project partners, as well as partners of project partners. Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with key project partners and selected beneficiaries, i.e. women’s rights organisations who work to address violence against women and girls.</td>
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<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>7. Number and type of new research and arguments emerged on the issues identified in each country that emerges from the project. (i.e women’s right to safety, security, privacy, expression, information and association)</td>
<td>Tracking of contributions, online feedback and responses to genderIT.org editions. (data and arguments presented, gender analysis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Number, types and extent (local, national, regional, global) of new and strategic partnerships formed to combat against violence against women and girls.</td>
<td>10. Type and extent of outreach of new and strategic partnerships (who are they reaching and where).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### c) Availability of resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Resources</th>
<th>Criteria to Measure Availability of Resources</th>
<th>Instruments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| External experts and consultants: ICT, media and communication trainers, writers, researchers, technical mentors for grantees. | 1. Number, area of expertise of available and potential contribution of experts and consultants in each country.  
2. Trainees' and grantees' perceptions on usability of knowledge and skills gained/learned through training exchanges and mentoring  
3. Responsiveness and quality of contributions of experts and consultants (data and arguments presented, gender analysis) to the Take Back the Tech campaign’s and GenderIT.org website, and to the FTX portal. | Recommendations and references of trusted sources of APC.  
Observation during capacity-building workshops and the Feminist Technology Exchanges.  
Online tracking of content on the Take Back the Tech campaign’s and GenderIT.org website and on the Feminist Technology Exchange portal.(Quarterly) |
| Project team: Project manager, technical administrator, campaign and policy advocacy, coordinator communications coordinator, country coordinators | 4. Capacity and expertise of the project team to coordinate the project and to respond to challenges and problems occurred during the project implementation  
5. Responsiveness to project partners needs and concerns  
6. Active respect and sensitivity to the cultural and language diversity | Performance self-assessment and review interview (yearly)  
A questionnaire survey tool (a maximum of ten questions) will be used to sought feedback and responses from key stakeholders and project partners, as well as partners of project partners.  
Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with key project partners and selected beneficiaries, i.e. women’s rights organisations who work to address violence against women and girls. |
| Communication platforms/Media: FTX portal, TBTT website, GenderIT.org and national policy portal sites in various countries |
|---|---|---|
| 7. Level of outreach, e.g. number of visitors, number of visits per visitor, pages viewed per visit | Tracking of website traffic (Quarterly) |
| 8. Number and diversity of accessible content on VAW and ICT issues | Online tracking of content on the Take Back the Tech campaign’s and GenderIT.org website and on the Feminist Technology Exchange portal. (Quarterly) |
| 9. Quotation index by other media and resources | Review of citations in other online and offline media (Quarterly) |
III. Description of the organisation

a) Organisational capacity assessment

The Ministry has given a positive assessment of APC’s organisational capacity in the last four years. The positive COCA assessment was given in 2004, as part of APC’s application for ‘Theme-based cofinancing 2005-2008.’ The valid status of our COCA assessment was confirmed by an email from Price Waterhouse Coopers dated 7 May 2008, which stated "I [have] checked your question with DGIS and your Coca test is still valid."

APC’s application for ‘theme-based cofinancing 2005-2008 ‘was accepted by DGIS. The resulting grant, grant number 10375, ends in December 2008. APC is seeking funding from the MDG3 fund for the years 2009-2011, at which point our funding under the theme-based co-financing programme will have ended.

b) Organisational structure

APC follows a strategic action plan based on priorities developed by our members. Working closely with members and partners enables us to widen our reach, support local institutions and build stronger locally owned networks. Our objectives and responsibilities are expressed in our programme as follows:

- Defend and promote internet rights through awareness-raising, capacity-building, and the creation of plain-language resources and opportunities for discussion and learning about the impact of ICT policy decisions on civil society.
- Strengthen local, regional and thematic information communities by creating opportunities for the development and exchange of skills and methodology, and by producing lasting, shareable tools and resources.
- Facilitate the strategic use of ICTs in support of women’s actions and agenda to amplify attention to issues of concern to women, enhance women’s networking activities, defend rights of women to participate equally in both civil and public spheres and challenge the inequities often faced by women as they adopt electronic technologies.

APC WNSP is an international facilitator of civil society engagement with ICTs and ICT-related policies and practices. We have worked to ensure that ICTs benefit women in transformative and empowering ways through awareness raising, technical training for women, the development of tools and information resources, capacity-building in gender evaluation and policy interventions at global, regional and national levels, with a particular focus on the needs of developing countries.

Expertise in ICT training for women’s rights

APC WNSP has been training women's organizations in areas such as Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) applications, gender content training, secure computing and online communications and wireless networking, content management systems, digital storytelling, audio training for girls, and technology planning since the Beijing World conference on Women and Beijing + 5.
Expertise in gender and ICT policy

APC WNSP has been developing expertise in the area of **gender and ICT policy** advocacy at local, national, regional and international levels for well over a decade, particularly over the course of the UN World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process. We worked with civil society groups to push for the integration of a gender perspective into all deliberations and drafting of documents of the Summit. APC WNSP has worked on national ICT policy training curricula with the APC to help civil society organisations develop gender-sensitive, people-centred national ICT policies. Evaluation and research efforts have informed local practice in the Philippines, Uganda, South Africa, Ecuador and many other countries.

Expertise in facilitating the strategic use of ICTs

APC WNSP is active in promoting the **strategic use of ICTs** for women’s empowerment in many ways. Through the gender and ICT awards, innovative and effective projects by women to use ICTs for the promotion of gender equality and/or women’s empowerment are honoured and given international recognition. These projects promote women’s economic empowerment and independence. The GenARDIS small grants fund, administered by APC WNSP, supports projects that create employment opportunities, encourage entrepreneurship and support livelihoods. These initiatives provide much needed opportunities to develop new collaborations, partnerships and opportunities for expanding small-scale and community-based initiatives.

Expertise in feminist research and analysis of ICT

APC WNSP undertakes and publishes **research** to bring to light and engage with issues relating to ICTs and women's empowerment. A key issue we have recently focused on is the relationship between ICTs and violence against women and girls. We have published issue papers on this topic and explored how technologies are re-shaping or facilitating trafficking of women and girls. This research convinced APC WNSP to start the 'Take Back the Tech!' Campaign, a collaborative campaign to reclaim information & communications technologies (ICTs) to end violence against women and girls.

Expertise in developing communication platforms that amplify women’s advocacies

APC WNSP, working as a global networked organisation, has developed competencies in **electronic networking tools**. As a network, we use these tools for communication and advocacies and to integrate and encourage membership involvement. We use mailing lists and our website as communication tools and have developed extensive Web 2.0 skills. 'Take Back the Tech!' is an example of an online campaign that uses Web 2.0 tools such as blogs, podcasts, videos and digital postcards to facilitate user participation in myriad ways.

c) The organisation’s support base

APC’s support base extends across the following countries, either directly through regional projects such as Communication for Influence in Central, East and West Africa (CICEWA), Gender Evaluation Methodology for Internet and ICTs (GEM), TRICALCAR (Latin American Regional Initiative for Wireless Networking) or through our members or project partners who are based locally.

**Africa**: Botswana, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Congo Brazzaville, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Asia-Pacific: Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China (Hong Kong), India, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Caledonia, Pakistan, Philippines, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand

Europe: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Kosovo, Lithuania, Macedonia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Romania, Serbia, Spain, United Kingdom.

North America: Canada, Mexico, United States of America

South and Central America: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela.

In Africa, APC has member organisations in Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya, Republic of Congo, Senegal, South Africa and Uganda. APC-Africa-Women (AAW) is WNSP's regional network in Africa. AAW's membership is made up of women and women's organisations that use ICTs to support women's empowerment in Africa. We have 84 members based in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Namibia, Zambia, Kenya, Mali, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Togo, Cameroon, Tunisia, Tanzania, Senegal, Botswana, Nigeria, Niger, Swaziland, Malawi, Mauritania, Egypt, Congo Brazzaville, Ethiopia. AAW's Coordinator and Co-Coordinator are based in South Africa and Congo Brazzaville respectively.

AAW works with individual members on projects in the Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Unit and is developing a training programme for women Members of Parliament on gender and ICT policy issues. AAW partnered with the UN Division for the Advancement of Women on a two-year project entitled "Strengthening the Capacity of National Machineries of Women in Africa" through the effective use of ICTs.

In Asia, APC has member organizations in Bangladesh, Cambodia, the Philippines and a South Asian network that is based in Pakistan. WNSP's Asia regional network is made up of 20 members from Indonesia. Cambodia, Philippines and China. We also work closely with organisations that focus on women's empowerment and ICTs in Bangladesh, Pakistan, the Philippines and Malaysia through campaigns like Take Back the Tech, training workshops, capacity-building in gender evaluation of ICT for development projects and gender advocacy in ICT policy processes.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, APC has members in Mexico, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, Ecuador and Argentina. PARM LAC, the WNSP’s member network in Latin America and the Caribbean, is made up of women and women’s organisations that work in the ICT field as trainers, researchers, developers, and content managers. They support the advancement of women’s rights and women’s empowerment in their work. The network is made up of 35 members, based in Mexico, Honduras, Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Uruguay, Costa Rica and Argentina. The regional coordinator is based in Argentina. PARM LAC is a member of DECAL (Communications Rights Campaign in Latin America) and the Coalition for a Democratic Broadcasting System in Argentina.

d) Method

APC works in many ways to secure rights and opportunities for women and girls in developing countries. One aspect of this work is our extensive set of partnerships with members based in the global South. APC WNSP has members organised into regions, the strongest and most active being in Africa, LAC and Asia. Our membership base is strongest in developing countries.

We engage in research, evaluation, training, information, and support activities in the field of ICT policy, skills-sharing in the access and use of ICT, and women's network-building. Since 1993, the programme has implemented a diverse range of activities...
designed to respond to our mission and goals. These activities are centred around our main areas of work which are research, evaluation, training, information, and support activities in the field of ICT policy, skills-sharing in the access and use of ICT, and women's network-building. The overall aim is women's empowerment and change.

We believe that change happens through linking practice and policy, so we engage in ICT policy work and the strategic use of ICTs for social justice. Our practice involves engaging in facilitating creative and strategic use of ICTs at the local level, which includes people, the skills, the tools and the content. All need to be included in a holistic and integrated way in order to facilitate change and empowerment. At the policy level, we advocate for social and digital inclusion, gender equality and internet rights.

The model we are working with as an organisation looks at seven dimensions of change. Central to this vision is that all people have easy and affordable access to the use of ICTs to improve their lives and to create a more just world. This has to be fed by changes in various arenas, including:

1. recognition of internet rights as defined by the Internet Rights charter
2. policy and government mechanisms to remove barriers to access to infrastructure and to knowledge
3. use of existing and emerging ICTs for social change agents
4. strength, collaboration and diversity of “social justice in the information society” networks
5. capacities to address gender inequality and the women's movement
6. use of existing and emerging ICTs for social change agents
7. awareness of the environmental impact of ICTs and practice of sustainable use of ICTs

e) APC WNSP’s target groups

APC WNSP’s main target group is the women's movement at local, regional, national and global levels. We are actively engaged with international organisations such as the Association for Women In Development (AWID) and the International Women’s Tribune Centre (IWTC). Women and women's organisations working in the area of gender justice and women's empowerment (including those focused on issue-based rights such as land, health, sexualities etc) are our target constituencies.

Gender and ICT policy advocates who are working towards defending and promoting the internet as an accessible and secure global communications medium for all of civil society, including women and girls, as well as researchers who are exploring the intersection between women's empowerment and ICTs are another main target group. Broadly, this group includes communication rights activists who work to ensure that communication rights are included in ICT policy processes, and media rights advocates who work in media law reform to ensure that journalists’ rights are upheld and who monitor media rights abuses including those of women.

Our third main target group is ICT for development practitioners who work to ensure that ICTs are deployed to improve socio-economic conditions, including challenging monopolies and censorship laws. We also consider UN agencies such as UNDAW, UNIFEM, UNDP and regional UN structures part of our target groups.

f) Subjects

The project addresses two of the identified MDG3 priority areas in the following ways:
• Stopping violence against women – through raising awareness about the intersections of ICT and violence against women and girls, building the capacity of women’s rights organisations in use of ICTs to stop these violations, encouraging and strengthening women’s and adolescent girls’ capacities in using ICTs for their needs, (specifically livelihood, health and safety) while learning how to protect their security and privacy, and to advocate for policies related to ICT that reflect women’s perspectives, voices and rights.

• Participation and representation of women in politics and public administration – through increasing participation of women’s organisations, women’s rights defenders and women policy makers in ICT policy spaces at national, regional and international levels.

IV. **List of documents to be submitted with an MDG3 Fund grant application**

6. The application form should be completed and submitted in duplicate with the following accompanying documents:
   a. project proposal;
   b. detailed budget;
   c. activity plan and timeframe.

7. The Checklist for Organisational Capacity Assessment (COCA) should be completed and submitted with the following accompanying documents:
   a. the organisation’s articles of association/constitution;
   b. annual reports and financial statements (with an unqualified audit opinion or otherwise) for the last two years;
   c. organigram and overall distribution of staff, number of staff and division of tasks;
   d. the organisation’s administrative organisation / internal control system;
   e. external evaluation report;
   f. other documents.

V. **Signature**

I declare that I have truthfully completed the application form and all accompanying documents.

Signed
Name of legal representative: Anriette Esterhuysen
Name of organisation: Association for Progressive Communications
Signed in Johannesburg, South Africa on 13 May 2008