

Focus on...ICT

Doorway to jobs, prosperity and the world

Information and communication technologies (ICT) can help speed up economic development and employment creation; enable life-long learning; support democratic processes and a human rights culture by providing access to information and quick communication; increase accessibility of government services; and make government processes and feedback to citizens more transparent and accessible.

ANSA-Africa identifies access to ICT services as an important sphere in which government accountability should be examined. In pursuit of the goal of "universal service", governments must aim for an adequate balance between two objectives: first, secure conditions in private sector ICT markets that do not unreasonably exclude poor or spatially marginal populations; and second, augment market-driven services with public ICT facilities.



**UN Millennium
Development Goal 8:**

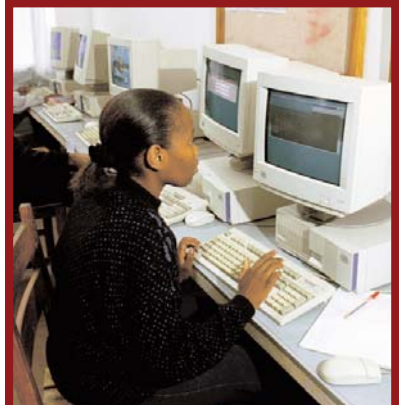
**Develop a global
partnership for
development**

- Fortune magazine predicts that the number of personal computers worldwide will increase from 775 million in 2007 to 2.25 billion in 2015.
- Most of that growth will take place in the developing world, with the Middle East and Africa projected to add 110 million PCs by 2015.
- As of May 2007, Mali was the ninth country to join the e-school programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development – designed to improve education curriculum across the continent.

Source: "Tech's biggest trend: everywhere"
Fortune Online, June 15, 2007 CNNMoney.com

- As of 2001, only 4% of Sub-Saharan Africa's population had a telephone at home, and only 1% used the Internet.

Source: State of the World's Children, Unicef, 2001



ANSA-Africa is a growing network, jointly created by the World Bank and the Human Sciences Research Council of South Africa, to advocate across the continent of Africa for citizen involvement in demand-side governance initiatives – particularly in how governments spend budget at community level

**ANSA
AFRICA**
AFFILIATED NETWORK FOR SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

For resources, insight and tools to build up ICT resources in developing nations, please visit:
www.ansa-africa.net or email: ansa@hsrc.ac.za