

UNITWIN UNESCO Chairs Programme

UNESCO Chair Annual Progress Report

UNESCO Chair:	ICT for Development www.unesco.org.uk/RoyalHollowayChair
Institution:	Royal Holloway, University of London Egham Hill, Egham, TW20 0EX, United Kingdom www.rhul.ac.uk
Date Chair Established: (mm, yyyy)	August 2007
Period of Activity Under Report: (mm, yyyy - mm, yyyy)	August 2009 – July 2010
Report Established By: (name, position)	Professor Tim Unwin: Chairholder Email: t.unwin@rhul.ac.uk ; Tel : + 44(0)1784 443-655

1. Executive Summary:

*Major outcomes, results and impact of the Chair in relation to its objectives as stated in Article 2 of the Chair Agreement (between the Institution and UNESCO)
(Not exceeding 500 words)*

This has been another productive and active year for the UNESCO Chair in ICT4D. Over and above our ongoing activities as reported in previous years, three key developments and activities have taken place in 2009-10:

- Much of our work this year has focused on preparation for the ICTD2010 conference (<http://www.ictd2010.org>) to be hosted by the Chair and held at Royal Holloway, University of London from 13th-16th December 2010. This conference follows on from previous ICTD conferences held in Berkeley (2006), Bangalore (2007) and Doha (2009), and following participation in the 2009 conference, we were invited to host the 2010 conference. In contrast to previous ICTD conferences, we are committed to making this event more innovative and participatory, and have already had an excellent amount of interest in the conference. 19 papers have been accepted for the plenary sessions, with a further 38 papers being accepted as posters. There will also be 38 workshop sessions. 16 organisations, including IDRC, FAO, UNCTAD, Aptivate and IKM Emergent have agreed to be conference partners, and sponsors include Microsoft, SPIDER, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, GTZ on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and Intel, who together have confirmed c. £100,000 in sponsorship to enable us to offer scholarships for people to attend from poorer countries and backgrounds. We are delighted that the UK National Commission for UNESCO is a partner, with various colleagues from the Communication and Information Committee participating.
- The Chair through the College's Centre for ICT4D also launched an interdisciplinary seminar series in 2009-10, with contributions from 13 colleagues from across the world (including the USA, Nepal, Australia, Zimbabwe and Brazil) and including private sector (Vodafone) and civil society organisations (Aptivate, Colalife, LifeLine Network, and Digital Opportunity Trust). Recordings of all of these (where agreed by the speakers) are made available through our website at (<http://www.ict4d.org.uk>).
- We have also begun to host an increasing number of visitors from overseas, either as visiting fellows or as visiting scholars, and this is a trend that we would like to see continue in the years ahead. Visitors have included Veronica Chuma (Tumaini University, Iringa, Tanzania), Ilaria Amerise (University of Calabria, Italy) and Teresa Graziano, (Catania University, Sicily). In this context, we are particularly delighted that Dr. Thao Nguyen has joined us on a prestigious Newton Fellowship for two years to undertake research on the use of ICTs by women entrepreneurs.

In addition, and in line with Article 2 of our Chair agreement,

- We have continued to undertake high quality research as expressed in our publication and conference activity
- We maintain a flourishing postgraduate community, with around 20 postgraduates working on ICT4D

across the Departments involved in the Centre

- Our undergraduate course on ICT4D retains its popularity, being described as “ICT4D is the best course I took this year. The content was fantastic, teaching brilliant and the group dynamic was fab”
- Consultancy work has increased considerably this year, notably through running the awards process for the prestigious World Innovation Summit for Education hosted by the Qatar Foundation, undertaking an external review for IDRC on the Pan Asia Networking programme, and starting on a systematic review for DFID on ICT4D partnerships.

2) **Activities:**

Overview of activities undertaken by the Chair in the reporting period

a) **Education/Training/Research**

(key education programmes and training delivered and research undertaken by the Chair in the reporting period)

i) Education	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undergraduate course in ICT4D at Royal Holloway, University of London (c. 30% women) 2. Lectures to UK schools on ICT4D (most talks to schools this year were to girls' schools) 3. Contributions on ICT4D to Master's Programme in Practising Sustainable Development <p>In connection with the third of these, Dorothea Kleine is spearheading a much expanded stream on ICT4D in the Geography Department's Master's programme on Practising Sustainable Development, and we hope to draw in expertise from other Departments and individuals in developing this further in the years ahead.</p> <p>A highlight of the year was the opportunity for undergraduates (1 above) to spend a day at the World Economic Forum in Geneva, where they gave presentations on aspects of ICT4D before a selected audience.</p>
ii) Training	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Postgraduate Supervision has again been the dominant modality of training, with there being some 20 PhD students within the College's Centre for ICT4D who are undertaking research degrees in ICT4D. 2. We have continued to contribute training across Africa through our Edulink funded partnership with European and African universities in the field of ICT4D, with workshops in this reporting year in Mozambique (January 2010), and Ghana (June 2010).
iii) Research	<p>Academic staff members of the Chair/College Centre, continue to work on the following main ICT4D research themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G. Harindranath (School of Management): Information infrastructure policy and electronic government initiatives in transition economies; information systems management especially in SMEs; ICT and economic development • Dorothea Kleine (Geography): Globalisation and ethical trade; ICT4D; local and regional economic development • David Simon (Geography): interface between development and the environment; political geography; urbanisation and transport policy • Kostas Stathis (Computer Science): computational logic and cognitive systems for social computing applications; and computational intelligence • Tim Unwin (Geography): partnerships in ICT4D; the use of ICT in teacher training; ICTs for people with disabilities and out-of-school youth

b) Conferences/Meeting

(key conferences and meetings organised by the Chair or to which its Chairholder contributed)

Key conference and workshops hosted by the Chair in 2009-10 included:

- 4th IPID postgraduate symposium, 11-12 September 2009 held at Royal Holloway, University of London
- Workshop on Child Headed Households, hosted at Royal Holloway, University of London on 11 June 2010, on behalf of LifeLine Network and FrontLine Development Trust

Other conference organisational activities undertaken by G. Harindranath in 2009-10 include:

- 2010, Associate Editor, *European Conference on Information Systems (ECIS)*, Pretoria, South Africa, June 7-9 <http://ECIS2010.up.ac.za>
- 2010, International Co-Chair & Conf-IRM Organising/Steering Committee Member, *International Conference on Information Resource Management (Conf-IRM)*, Montego Bay, Jamaica, 16-18 May <http://www.conf-irm.org>

Conference and meetings to which the Chairholder contributed include:

2009 Keynote 'ICTs, citizens and the state: moral philosophy and development practices in an African context' at the EuroAfrica-ICT 7th concertation meeting organised by the EC DG INFSO with the support of the EuroAfrica-ICT FP& project, held in Brussels, 1st October 2009

2010 'Understanding theory in ICT4D', workshop presentation, ICT4D Consortium workshop Eduardo Mondlane University, Maputo, Mozambique, 18th January 2010

Keynote 'On the richness of Africa: implications for e-learning', Technology for Innovation and Education in Developing Countries, 2010 Conference held in Maputo, Mozambique, 21st January 2010.

Invited Lecture 'ICTs, citizens and the state: moral philosophy and development practices', College of Communication Arts and Sciences, Michigan State University, 19th February 2010

Conference paper 'ICTs, citizens and the state: moral philosophy and development practices', ICTs and Development conference, IIT Delhi, 12th March 2010.

Keynote at Computer Science Days and SciFest, entitled "Unleashing the potential: ICTs for Development", Joensuu, Finland, 15th April 2010.

'Open Educational Resources and ICT for Development', Beyond Borders – Oxford University Open Content Conference, 20th April 2010 (video presentation as a result of Icelandic volcanic eruption)

'Commonwealth Scholarships in the UK: the value of split-site awards', SA PhD Project Conference 2010, Johannesburg, 6th May 2010 (by video)

Information, knowledge and human rights in a digital world, University of Örebro, Sweden, 18th May 2010

A selection of conference presentations by other colleagues

- Kleine, D. (2010) "*None but ourselves can free our minds*" – *Development, Technological Change and Escaping the Tyranny of Direct Impact*, paper presented at the IFIP 9.4 Workshop Theorising Development and Technological Change, London School of Economics, 26th May 2010
- Future Scenarios for Ethical Consumption. Invited panellist on an ECIS webcast, Ethical Consumer Information System, London, 16 July 2010
- Kleine, D. (2010) Hybrid products – the marketing of ethical food production processes, paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Washington D.C., USA, 16 April 2010, (with Ann Light)
- Placing Place, Placing Food – Adventures in (Agri)culture. Invited panellist at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Washington D.C., USA, 16 April 2010
- Using IT to show the value chain: The FairTracing Project, paper presented at the Fairtrade Futures

conference, Said Business School, University of Oxford, Nov 7, 2009 (with Ian Brown)

- The capability approach and the “medium of choice”: Using the Choice Framework for a holistic analysis of internet usage, paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Human Development and Capabilities Association, PUCP, Lima, Peru, September 10, 2009
- Fairtracing.org – Using the internet and subversive meshing to create alternative global flows, paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) in the session: Follow the things: New cultural/economic geographies (EGRG/SCRG sponsored), Manchester, 27 August, 2009, (with Ian Brown, Ashima Chopra, Apurba Kundu, Ann Light, Maria Montero, Christian Wallenta)

c) Interuniversity Exchanges/Partnerships

(principal exchanges/partnerships between the Chair and other institutions)

Our formal interuniversity partnership activities have revolved mainly around the EDULINK-funded partnership, led by Joensuu University and including all of our former DelPHE partners (the University of Education Winneba (Ghana), the University of Maseno (Kenya), and Eduardo Mondlane University (Mozambique)) as well as Tumaini University in Iringa, Tanzania and Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar Senegal. In 2009 our DelPHE funded partnership concluded its formal funding, but collaborative work has continued through our EDULINK programme.

The Centre now has more than 120 full and associate members (<http://www.gg.rhul.ac.uk/ict4d/collective.html>) and more than 40 official partners and co-operating organisations (<http://www.gg.rhul.ac.uk/ict4d/partnership.html>)

d) Publications/Multimedia Materials

(major publications and teaching/learning materials)

tick relevant fields of output and indicate volume of output:

	[tick]	[no.]
Books	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Books (edited)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Books (chapters)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2
Monographs	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Research Reports	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Journal Articles (refereed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6
Conference Proceedings & Occasional Papers	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Teaching/Learning Materials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Multimedia Materials (CD-Rom)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Multimedia Materials (Video)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Multimedia Materials (Other)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Give details of major publications and materials including full citations.

PhD theses

(completed and awarded in 2009-10):

- Marije Geldof, Literacy and ICT: social constructions in the lives of low-literate youth in Ethiopia and Malawi

Publications

- Tim Unwin and Godfred Bonnah Nkansah (2010) The contribution of ICTs to the delivery of Special Educational Needs in Ghana: practices and potential, *Journal of Information Technology for Development*, 16(3), 191-211
- G. Harindranath 2010, Special Issue Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Information Technology for Development* – ‘IT success factors in developing and emerging economies’.
- Tim Unwin with Beate Kleessen, David Hollow, James Williams, Leonard Mware Oloo, John Alwala, Inocente Mutimucuo, Feliciano Eduardo and Xavier Muianga (2010) Digital Learning Management Systems in Africa: rhetoric and reality, *Open Learning: The Journal of Open and Distance Education*, 25(1), 5-23.
- Light, A., Kleine, D. and M. Vivent (2009): Performing Charlotte: A Technique to Bridge Cultures in

Participatory Design, *International Journal of Sociotechnology and Knowledge Development*, 2(1), 36-58

- Dorothea Kleine and Tim Unwin (2009) Technological revolution, evolution and new dependencies: what's new about ICT4D?, *Third World Quarterly*, 30(5), 1045-67
- G. Harindranath (with R. Dyerson and D. Barnes) (2009) "National survey of SMEs' use of IT in four sectors", *Electronic Journal of Information Systems Evaluation*, 12(1), pp. 39-50, 2009, ISSN 1566-6379
- Tim Unwin with Geraldine de Bastion (2009) Bridging the digital divide, in: Kitchin, R. and Thrift, N. (eds) *International Encyclopedia of Human Geography*, Amsterdam: Elsevier, 191-97
- Kleine, D. (2009): "Case-Study: Chilean ICT policies and micro-entrepreneurs". In: Unwin, T. (ed.), *ICT4D - Information Technologies for International Development*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 198-199

Digital environments, regularly updated

- ICT4D website (<http://www.ict4d.org.uk>) - currently ranked 1st out of 344,000 for searches for ICT4D on www.google.co.uk, and 1st out of 2,010,000 on <http://uk.search.yahoo.com>
- ICT4D consortium research networking environment (<http://ict4dconsortium.rhul.ac.uk/elgg/>)

UNESCO Centre and ICT4D Collective Working Paper Series

- Kleine, D. (2010) "None but ourselves can free our minds" – development, technological change and escaping the tyranny of direct impact, paper presented at the IFIP 9.4 workshop, London School of Economics, 26 May 2010
- Liyanage, H. (2009) From agriclincs to FarmerNet: applying mobile phones and the internet to support rural farmers, paper presented at CABI Global Summit, October 2009
- Unwin, T. (2009) ICTs, citizens and the state: moral philosophy and development practices

e) Other

(any other activities to report)

Members of the Chair have taken an active role in wider UNESCO and UK National Commission activities during the reporting year as follows:

- Dr. Dorothea Kleine is a member of the UK National Commission for UNESCO's Working Group on the Information Society
- Tim Unwin is a member of the UK National Commission for UNESCO's Communication and Information Committee
- Tim Unwin serves as senior advisor to UNESCO and the World Economic Forum's Partnerships for Education initiative

3. Available Resources

Overview of resources placed at the disposal of the Chair in the reporting period

a) Human Resources

Full details of the Collective structure are available at <http://www.gg.rhul.ac.uk/ict4d/collective.html>, which notes that the following are associated with the College Centre and ICT4D Collective and thus also with the Chair (numbers in parentheses are figures as at August 2008):

	2007-8	2008-9	2009-10
Staff at Royal Holloway, University of London	11	16	21
Honorary research associate at Royal Holloway, University of London	1	1	1
Associate members of the ICT4D Collective across the world	47	77	95
MPhil/PhD students at Royal Holloway, University of London	18	20	19

b) Other Resources

<i>tick sources of financial contribution</i>	[tick]
Host Institution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Partner Institution	<input type="checkbox"/>
Government Body	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other Public Institution/Body (incl. Research Councils)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
UNESCO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other UN Agency	<input type="checkbox"/>
IGO	<input type="checkbox"/>
NGO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other Private	<input type="checkbox"/>

Give details of financial contributions, material resources and space.

In 2009, in recognition of the work of the UNESCO Chair and ICT4D Collective, Royal Holloway, University of London created an interdisciplinary Centre for ICT4D. Although this is not an independent cost Centre, it does provide a focus for interdisciplinary work within the College. This is managed by a Management Board that meets at least on a termly basis, and which has concentrated in 2009-10 on developing a research strategy and preparing for the ICTD2010 conference

The Chairholder is a member of the Geography Department, as is Dr. Kleine, and the majority of the research students. These are therefore resourced and funded through the Geography Department. Likewise, other members of the ICT4D Collective, who contribute to the work of the 'Chair' and Centre are members of other Departments, and funded accordingly. Some administrative support is also available, particularly through the Research and Enterprise Office, which provides assistance in the preparation of grant applications.

In addition, during the review period, the following resources pertain directly to the work of the Chairholder:

- EDULINK funded partnership led by the Univeristy of Joensuu/Eastern Finland (total grant led by Joensuu c. €500,000)

- Systematic review on partnerships in ICT4D (2010) funded by DFID (Geldof, Kleine, Unwin) (£34,850)
- Review of Pan Asia Networking programme for IDRC (£12,500)

A key issue for the Centre is to identify ways in which it can fund a Secretariat. Funding is currently being sought for a research administrator who can help build on the capacity that exists, to help the Centre attract increased research funding, especially from UK Research Councils. In August 2010, funding from the private sector enabled a part-time Project Manager, Peter Dell'Osa, to be appointed to deliver aspects of the ICTD2010 conference.

The Chair has also received assurances of c. £100,000 sponsorship for the ICTD2010 conference.

4. Future Plans and Development Prospects:

Outline of action plan for the next biennium. And short/medium and long term development prospects. Please feel free to refer to difficulties that the Chair has experienced (Not exceeding 500 words)

Short term plans

Key short-term plans for 2010-12 include

- Effective delivery of ICTD2010 conference (this is the dominant activity for the first part of the 2010-11 reporting period), including
 - the appointment of a new part-time project manager (Peter Dell'Osa from 4 August 2010)
 - gaining of additional sponsorship for scholarships
 - ensuring between 300 and 450 attendees
- Cementing the status of the ICT4D Centre within Royal Holloway, University of London
- Completion of PhDs and MPhils on schedule
- Gaining of additional research funding, primarily from UK Research Councils
- Effective continuation of multi-disciplinary seminar series
- Continuation of active research publications
- Continuation of participation in high level international conferences
- Closer engagement with new UNESCO senior management in CI Division
- Identification of ways of continuing to support the Elgg environment following the end of EDULINK funding in August 2010
- Development of Master's stream on ICT4D within Practising Sustainable Development programme

Medium term (2012-2015)

Medium term strategic objectives include:

- Expansion in the number of partnerships with civil society, the private sector, and bilateral donors
- Development and implementation of specific short courses on aspects of ICT4D
- Expansion in consultancy delivered through Royal Holloway
- Continued enhancement of research activities, particularly FEC grants from UK Research Councils
- Renewal of status of UNESCO Chair
- To establish reputation as one of the leading international centres in the field of ICT4D

Overall, our activities during 2010-11 will be dominated by the ICTD2010 conference, and we are conscious that effective delivery on this will mean that some of four other activities will be less prominent during the next reporting year.