

**UNDP**

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Regional Centre in Bangkok  
*Serving Asia and the Pacific*



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Workshop Report

## E-Inclusion and Media for Asia's Indigenous Peoples

Bario, Sarawak, Malaysia

6-8 December 2007

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Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

12 December 2007

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February 2008

Asia Pacific Regional Governance Programme (ARGP) and Regional Initiative on  
Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Development (RIPP)

## Abbreviations

APDIP	UNDP Asia Pacific Development Information Programme
ARGP	UNDP Asia Regional Governance Programme
EU	European Union
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IITF	International Indigenous ICT Task Force
NGO	Non Government Organisation
RIPP	UNDP Regional Initiative on Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Development in the Asia Pacific
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society

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## 1. Executive Summary<sup>1</sup>

Indigenous Peoples continue to feature among the least-served sections of society and the adoption on 13th September 2007 by the United Nations General Assembly of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples reflects the continuing concern that Indigenous Peoples suffer from historic injustices that still prevent them from exercising their right to development.

The UNDP Workshop on e-Inclusion and Media for Indigenous Peoples was held at the e-Bario Knowledge Fair, Bario, Sarawak, Malaysia on 6-8 December 2007. Bario is the traditional home of the Kelabit people, one of Malaysia's smallest indigenous ethnic minority groups. It is also the home of the multi-award winning e-Bario project that introduced ICTs to this hitherto remote and isolated community. The Workshop brought together a group of Indigenous Peoples working in the fields of media and ICTs. The purpose was to;

- Raise awareness by sharing good practices on ICT and media for Indigenous Peoples;
- Brainstorm on and develop proposals for modalities and mechanisms for increasing e-inclusion for Asia's Indigenous Peoples;
- Formulate an agenda on e-inclusion in the context of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- Obtain inputs to create a knowledge primer on e-inclusion for Indigenous Peoples;
- Develop a strategy for producing a knowledge portal for Asia's Indigenous Peoples.

While the Declaration makes mention of the use of the media, it does not mention the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) as tools for advancing the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Noting that ICTs offer considerable potential for alleviating many of the problems that Indigenous Peoples face, as exemplified by the e-Bario project and the others that were presented at the Workshop, participants formulated a set of proposals for using ICTs to accelerate Indigenous Peoples towards e-inclusion; the use of ICTs to serve the social and economic interests of marginalised sections of society. The proposals put forward included actions for;

- Content Creation
- Networking
- Policy
- Advocacy
- Capacity Building
- Technology
- Research

The Workshop also formulated the "e-Bario Vision for Indigenous Peoples and ICTs", recognizing the need for widespread development and deployment of contemporary and future ICTs and new media for the realisation of creative and effective solutions for the problems faced by Indigenous Peoples. The Vision was presented to the 3rd Global Knowledge Conference (GK3) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the following week. Follow up actions arising from the Workshop include;

- Advocacy for the use of the media and ICTs to raise awareness of the problems of Indigenous Peoples and to promote the opportunities that exist for using media and ICTs towards achieving solutions for them.
- Formulation of partnerships with donors, aid agencies, civil society and government institutions, and especially Indigenous organisations, towards the implementation of pilot solutions that will demonstrate the efficacy of media and ICTs in achieving e-inclusion for Indigenous Peoples.
- Approaches to donor agencies and other funders to acquire the necessary resources to proceed with the agreed implementations.

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<sup>1</sup> The draft report was outlined by the consultant recruited for the project, Dr. Roger Harris.

## 2. Introduction

Indigenous Peoples continue to feature among the least-served sections of many societies. They face a diverse range of issues and concerns associated with their status and their interaction with other cultural groups, and changes in their inhabited environment. These issues include cultural and linguistic preservation, land rights, ownership and exploitation of natural resources, political determination and autonomy, environmental degradation and incursion, high rates of poverty, poor health, substandard education and discrimination.

The adoption on 13th September 2007 by the United Nations General Assembly of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples reflects the continuing concern that Indigenous Peoples suffer from historic injustices that still prevent them from exercising their right to development. The Declaration further welcomes the fact that Indigenous Peoples are organizing themselves for political, economic, social and cultural enhancement; acknowledging that they have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, while retaining their right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State.

Moreover, the Declaration affirms several key rights that Indigenous Peoples retain, including the following;

- The right to revitalize, use, develop and transmit to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures.
- The right to establish their own media in their own languages and to have access to all forms of non-indigenous media.
- The right to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including education, employment, training, housing, sanitation, health and social security.
- The right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as the manifestations of their sciences, technologies and cultures, including human and genetic resources, seeds, medicines, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literatures, designs, sports and traditional games and visual and performing arts.
- The right to maintain, control, protect and develop their intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions.

Many of the problems that the Declaration addresses are not exclusive to Indigenous Peoples. Some are typical of those that suffer from one or more of the various manifestations of social exclusion; yet the Declaration affirms the specificity of the problems of Indigenous Peoples and the particular difficulties that they face in overcoming them. Social exclusion describes a process by which certain groups are systematically disadvantaged because they are discriminated against on the basis of their ethnicity, race, religion, sexual orientation, caste, descent, gender, age, disability, HIV status, migrant status or where they live.

Discrimination occurs in public institutions, such as the legal system or education and health services, as well as social institutions like the household. Building socially inclusive societies based on the values of equality and non-discrimination is critical if all peoples are to be able to claim their human rights.<sup>2</sup>

Alongside such affirmations, solutions to the problems of social exclusion are actively being sought, developed and implemented with the help of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and new media; comprising computers and the internet and also the more traditional forms of print, radio and television as well as the newer mobile and wireless technologies. ICTs, often in the form of community-based telecentres and/or Community TV/Radio broadcasting, are rapidly spreading throughout the rural and sometimes isolated areas in which

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<sup>2</sup> Reducing Poverty by Tackling Social Exclusion, a DFID Policy Paper. Published by the Department for International Development, September 2005

many Indigenous Peoples live, offering them opportunities to deal with some, potentially all, of the issues highlighted by the Declaration. Many countries in Asia are in the process of setting up national networks of rural telecentres and other communication channels towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as well as greater levels of social inclusion, giving rise to the concept of e-inclusion. E-inclusion adopts ICTs and new media as strategic tools for achieving social and economic inclusion; raising living standards and providing opportunities for underserved sections of society for full and equal participation in the processes of globalisation and democratic governance from which indigenous societies are often excluded. Such implementations have special relevance for Indigenous Peoples: i) they address the specifics of the Declaration; ii) they acknowledge the underserved and excluded status of Indigenous Peoples; and iii) they provide a communication channel for indigenous voice and self expression, and for information-intensive development activities that has hitherto been denied to remote and isolated communities.

For the most part, they remain marginalised in terms of social and economic development, compared with their national compatriots. In Vietnam, for example, the government estimates that by 2010, 90% of the poverty in the country will be among the ethnic minorities. In China, although ethnic minorities make up less than 9% of the population, they account for 37% of the known cases of HIV. If Indigenous Peoples are to achieve enhanced levels of social and political inclusion new and innovative approaches are called for. The Declaration obliges those concerned; governments, aid agencies and indigenous institutions, to explore all available modalities towards realising the human rights for development that have been denied to Indigenous Peoples for too long. ICTs and new media provide such opportunities; offering increasingly potent solutions to development initiatives that are information-driven, such as those that are highlighted within the Declaration.

### **3. Purpose of the Workshop**

The Workshop was organised by the following agencies of the UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok;

- UNDP Asia-Pacific Development Information Programme (APDIP) - A UNDP programme that aims to promote the development and application of ICT for sustainable human development in the Asia-Pacific region<sup>3</sup>
- UNDP Regional Initiative on Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Development in the Asia and the Pacific (RIPP) - A UNDP programme that aims to strengthen policy dialogue on Indigenous Peoples' rights and sustainable development, and information sharing amongst Indigenous Peoples

The overall objectives of the workshop were to:

- Raise awareness by sharing good practices on ICT and media for Indigenous Peoples
- Brainstorm on and develop proposals for modalities and mechanisms for increasing e-inclusion for Asia's Indigenous Peoples
- Formulate an agenda on e-inclusion in the context of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Obtain inputs to create a knowledge primer on e-inclusion for Indigenous Peoples
- Develop a strategy for producing a knowledge portal for Asia's Indigenous Peoples

More specifically the workshop sought to;

- Bring together researchers, practitioners and Indigenous Peoples to share their knowledge and to develop proposals for increasing e-inclusion for the world's Indigenous Peoples.

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<sup>3</sup> The APDIP programme ended on 31 December 2007 and has from 1 January 2008 been merged under the UNDP Asia Regional Governance Programme (ARGP) - UNDP's regional democratic governance programme for Asia -Pacific

- Review the outcomes of the e-Bario telecentre project and its impact in promoting e-inclusion for the indigenous Kelabit community in Borneo, since its inception in 1998.
- Solicit contributions from the indigenous Kelabit community, arising from the review and from their own evaluations and aspirations, for the continued development of e-services for enhancing their level of e-inclusion within Malaysian society in particular, within the wider processes of globalisation and towards the achievement of the principles of the Declaration.
- Raise awareness, through the sharing of experiences and ideas, among other indigenous communities, within Borneo, Malaysia and beyond, of the opportunities and potential for ICTs and new media to enhance the prospects for elevated levels of e-inclusion for them.
- Document the findings in a relevant peer-reviewed journal, and also in other forms of publication.
- Propose appropriate modalities and mechanisms that will accelerate the pace towards e-inclusion for the world's Indigenous Peoples, including a time-based action plan with follow-up mechanisms to determine benchmarks and the measurement of progress.
- Formulate a proposal for a global network of Indigenous Peoples' telecentres that will foster the exchange of experiences and knowledge towards accelerating the pace of achieving e-inclusion for the world's Indigenous Peoples.
- Establish the e-Bario Agenda on E-Inclusion for Indigenous Peoples; a supplement to the United Nations General Assembly of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, that will highlight their rights of access to information and the required access to contemporary ICTs and new media that will enable Indigenous Peoples to exercise such rights towards enhanced levels of e-inclusion.

#### **4. Workshop Concept and Location**

The workshop took place in connection with the e-Bario Knowledge Fair 6-8 December 2007<sup>4</sup>. Bario is a small indigenous community in the highlands of northern Sarawak, Malaysia. The e-Bario Knowledge Fair represented a unique experience whereby indigenous community was able to demonstrate how it has utilized ICTs and new media and what the outcome has been. The Knowledge Fair centred on the e-Bario telecentre, and the indigenous community that it serves.

The location was intended to bring home to the visiting participants the reality of life for an indigenous community living in a remote area and the impact that ICTs can have in such locations. At the same time, the indigenous community in Bario were provided with an opportunity to learn from the experiences of the visitors and to jointly develop their own use of media and ICTs in accordance with their development aspirations.

Participants:

The workshop brought together 18 indigenous representatives from:

- The Pacific, including Australia and New Zealand (2)
- North and Latin America (1)
- South and South East Asia (15)

Selected participants from other regions presented lesson learnt through case studies and analyses on how Indigenous Peoples in their respective regions has been using the ICT to ensure access to information for Indigenous peoples. Experiences and analyses will be the basis in developing a strategic future action plan for Indigenous Peoples in Asia.

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<sup>4</sup> For more information on this please visit: <http://www.ebarioknowledgefair.org/>

## Follow-up actions

UNDP will use the workshop as the foundation for developing a project on e-inclusion and media for Asia's Indigenous Peoples in the context of the Regional Programme Document 2008-2011. The workshop is therefore intended to take stock and get a lay of land of the current situation and to develop ideas as well as identifying needs, opportunities and setting priorities for future high impact actions in the realm of access to information, independent media development and ICT for Asia's Indigenous Peoples.

Moreover, the workshop provided essential input on the current status, lessons learnt, good practices and the way forward which will be included in a knowledge primer to be released in 2008. The first draft of the primer was presented at the workshop.

## 5. Workshop Programme and Presentations

Each participant was asked to present for ten minutes and they were asked to organise their material according to the following outline:

Slide Number	Topic
1	Introduction of yourself and your project/activity related to the Workshop theme. What are you doing and trying to achieve, for whom, and who are you working with.
2	Summary highlights of your project/activity. What has been achieved?
3	Issues and challenges within your project/activity. What were the problems, how were they overcome?
4	Lesson learned. What lessons are to be learned from the experience that can be used by others working in similar circumstances?
5	The wider significance of your project/activity and its outcomes against the background of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the theme of the Workshop. How is your project/activity contributing to e-inclusion for Indigenous Peoples? Consider measures that have been effective and which you would like to see happening on a wider front.



Bario



e-Bario Knowledge Fair



Cultural Activities

The following table summarises the lessons and the wider significance of each presentation.

Presentation Topic	Lessons	Wider Significance
<b>Ms. Tongam Rina</b> Hydro projects: Development Conflicts, Displacement and the Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The local media, both print and television could act as information channels</li> <li>▪ But analysis shows that without many influential and informed civil society organizations, the media which itself is in an infant stage, has failed to create informed public opinion on such projects.</li> <li>▪ With only state-run radio as the most common mass medium, other independent media forms remain accessible by only about 5% of the total population.</li> <li>▪</li> <li>▪ In these circumstances, it is almost impossible to initiate a public debate and create informed opinions. Also, with weak media houses, the state and project proponents remain uninfluenced by whatever little protests or opinions that emanate every once a while.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sensitize media persons and indigenous civil society organizations on rights of indigenous peoples to promote their full and effective participation in all matters that concern them</li> <li>▪ Local media to emerge as a proactive platform for dialogue on issue</li> <li>▪ More media writings to create awareness on power project issues</li> <li>▪ Giving additional “news space” to civil society in order to maximize their outreach</li> </ul>
<b>Mr. Khim Prasad Ghale</b> Indigenous Peoples Issues in Nepalese Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ANIJ is a common platform for indigenous journalists from both mainstream and alternative media.</li> <li>▪ It is necessary to have different strategies to make voices of Indigenous Peoples to be heard and printed in mainstream and alternative media</li> <li>▪ The mainstream media plays a vital role to influence the government agencies and policymakers, while the alternative media plays important role to make aware a particular community like Indigenous Peoples to their rights.</li> <li>▪ Considering that it is most important to participate and take journalism as profession in the mainstream media, our training programs and network mainly focus on how to make journalists from the indigenous community capable for the mainstream media. In order to make familiar with the mainstream media environment, we conduct orientation and interaction with editors and program directors from time to time.</li> <li>▪ On the other hand, it is important to build professional skills for the alternative media persons in terms of news writing, presentation, investigation and other communication skills.</li> <li>▪ Presently we are working how to use electronic medium such as FM radios to advocate indigenous peoples’ rights to a broader extent. That’s why ANIJ is running a weekly radio program and being transmitted through 14 different FM radio stations.</li> <li>▪ In my country, literacy rate is very low and people’s access to other means of media such as newspaper, TV and neo-media is very limited. Under this circumstances, we found that community radio can play a pivotal role to raise issues of Indigenous Peoples. Often the cases are that when the local radio raise the issues of Indigenous Peoples, then the reporters of mainstream media do the same.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Indigenous peoples continually remain marginalised from the mainstream development process and are often deprived access to media and other tools of ICTs. IPs are hardly touched by media and tools of information communication technologies</li> <li>▪ So, it calls for an urgent need of retrospection in ongoing development efforts in order to involve Indigenous Peoples, particularly from remote and rural areas, into the process of e-inclusion.</li> <li>▪ Address to the barrier of language (ICT &amp; media) will also ensure better accessibility for Indigenous Peoples to media and ICTs.</li> </ul>
<b>Mr. Pio Verzola</b> The Northern Media and Information Network-Northern Dispatch experience and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The valuable concept of grassroots media</li> <li>▪ The need to combine both internally-generated resources (human, financial) and externally-mobilized resources through extensive networking within both IP-focused and media-focused organizations and groups</li> <li>▪ The need to focus on the most practicable media channels while gradually developing work in long-term media facilities and resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The valuable experiences of NMIN-Nordis, and insights and lessons gained, are offered for other IP groups to consider</li> <li>▪ Since Cordillera IP organizations are among the better-developed formations, we have a modest capacity to share these lessons among other IP groups not just in the Philippines, but in other countries</li> <li>▪ We see the immediacy of NMIN-Nordis networking with other Asian IP formations in the field of media and information,</li> </ul>

Presentation Topic	Lessons	Wider Significance
the Asian Indigenous Peoples perspective		particularly in print, Internet, and broadcast
<b>Mr. Stefanus Masiun</b> Experiences in Empowering Indigenous Peoples in West Kalimantan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Empowerment should be holistically and paralelly created (social, economic, cultural, political and ecological sectors);</li> <li>▪ Empowerment should be rebuilding characters of people by building meanings of lives</li> <li>▪ Need to accelerate social cultural based movement to social political based movement</li> <li>▪ Media plays very important role in empowering and struggling of IPs in west Kalimantan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Media or ICT is very important for IPs. It is hard to imagine the struggle and the empowerment of IPs without using media or ICT!</li> </ul>
<b>Mr. Jianhua Ayoe Wang</b> Surviving Beyond Political Borders: Communication Challenges of the Akha People in Highlands of Mainland Southeast Asia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Radio broadcasting in Akha language</li> <li>▪ in Xishuangbanna (XSBN), China (1981)</li> <li>▪ in Chiang Mai (1972) and Mae Chan (1987), Thailand</li> <li>▪ TV program in Akha language in XSBN (1990)</li> <li>▪ Efforts of uniting the writing systems (2000)</li> <li>▪ An international committee of Akha language is needed</li> <li>▪ A future plan</li> <li>▪ Creating a unitary Akha writing system</li> <li>▪ Setting up a website and an e-community of Akha people</li> <li>▪ Looking for supports from outside</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is related to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</li> <li>▪ Article 13: right to own languages</li> <li>▪ Article 16: right to media</li> <li>▪ Article 36: right to maintain and develop contacts, relations and cooperation beyond international borders</li> </ul>
<b>Mr. Hari Kishore Chakma</b> Indigenous Peoples of Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prejudices and bias against IPs (noble savages...) and lack of awareness in media</li> <li>▪ Issues related to IPs often judged through political prism (BD abstained from endorsing the UN IP Declaration).</li> <li>▪ Lack of institutional support (though my paper is an exception)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dissemination and mobilization on the UN IP Declaration and IP rights</li> <li>▪ Sensitization on the IP issues and the CHT's historical, cultural and administrative context</li> <li>▪ Seek collaboration/partnerships with media and other stakeholders on the IP issues</li> </ul>
<b>Ms. Jennifer Lasimbang</b> An Introduction to Indigenous Peoples of Sabah, Malaysia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Experiment involved remote and rural indigenous communities</li> <li>▪ Build trust with and within communities</li> <li>▪ Enthusiasm from local champions ensure continued progress</li> <li>▪ Difficult for communities to initiate efforts – they need help</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Takes a lot to reach out to them – but they are there waiting for IT to be put into their hands ...Idea 1: establish regional network of IP ICT volunteers</li> <li>▪ ICT is the tool to create and disseminated indigenous contents, documentation of an indigenous culture and knowledge is part of preserving its identity but ....Idea 2: establish guideline what &amp; how to document</li> </ul>
<b>Mr. Jesse Fiddler</b> The Kuh-Ke-Nah Network – Enabling Indigenous Peoples to choose how they want to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Communities need to drive the applications.</li> <li>▪ We Need to “Walk the Talk”.</li> <li>▪ Common Vision and Partnerships on all levels required for it to work.</li> <li>▪ It helps to invite the decision-makers, government, academics, corporate leaders, etc to visit the communities.</li> <li>▪ Much of the work involves demanding access and demonstrating the effective use of these communication tools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The “Kuh-Ke-Nah” model is based on Indigenous values of community, cooperation, openness, and inter-dependability.</li> <li>▪ Indigenous communities are often remote and close to the land. Technology can build and bring services in the community while keeping our connection to the Land alive.</li> <li>▪ Lands are our Life. We need to demand fair compensation from colonial governments for the use of our lands and resources.</li> </ul>

Presentation Topic	Lessons	Wider Significance
be included in the Information Society of the 21st Century	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Other communities see this and the “Me Too” effect drives cooperation.</li> <li>▪ It takes a lot of innovation to include Everyone in the communication processes using these tools.</li> <li>▪ Supporting our languages helps ensuring our people control and make user of these tools.</li> <li>▪ Community building is an ongoing and evolutionary process. The tools and technology change and we always adapt.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ We need to establish international reporting bodies and processes that document and publish finding about “fair market return” from the use of our lands by governments and corporations</li> <li>▪ We need to ensure that there are public programs in place to support the inclusion of Indigenous peoples in the ownership and maintenance of the communication infrastructure that delivers quality 2-way communication</li> <li>▪ We are not building networks, We are building Communities using networks.</li> </ul>
<b>Mr. Dillip Pattanaik</b> Knowledge-Livelihood-Prosperity: Community Information Centre – Empowering the isolated tribal communities through ICT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Development approaches need to touch the inaccessible and remote tribal pockets on priority</li> <li>▪ All development interventions need to be community centred and local communities need to be actively involved in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, which could ensure sustainability</li> <li>▪ Before any development interventions among the tribal communities, sincere efforts are necessary for gaining their confidence as they feel that all outsiders are exploiters</li> <li>▪ Basic infrastructure like power, telecommunication and roads should be made available to remote tribal areas for fostering the development process. Convergence approach of different interveners is also essential.</li> <li>▪ The approach for development of tribals is to be holistic covering their social, cultural, economic, environmental and human needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mainstreaming of ICT in development interventions by government as well as other development agencies for indigenous communities, wherever possible.</li> <li>▪ Provision and incorporation of modern/new technologies for further strengthening the community information centers / kiosks functioning currently.</li> <li>▪ Replication and scaling up of the model and experience in other indigenous community</li> <li>▪ Computer companies being a stakeholder, should think of investing some portion of their profit in partnership mode.</li> <li>▪ All these combinely can serve as boosting factors significantly for wider results.</li> </ul>
<b>Mr. Sombat Boongamanong</b> Bannok TV: Empowering the Mae Yao Hilltribe Community through Media and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Middle or lower level educated youth can sucessfully produce media with hi-tech equipment.</li> <li>▪ It is necessary that costs calculation and progress must be simple.</li> <li>▪ Meeting quality standards ensure recognition and acceptance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Empower communities’ confidence in their capacities to media production.</li> <li>▪ Increase awareness and pride in indigenous cultures and in their respective communities.</li> <li>▪ Enable electronic media archives in the communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Mr. Suchin Petcharugsa</b> Exploration of bi-lingual education for Pwo-Karen community: Experience from Thailand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Education Ministry will lift its ban next year on the Yawi language at state schools in the three southernmost provinces and begin teaching a Thai-Yawi bilingual programme to integrate Muslim children into Thai society.</li> <li>▪ Education permanent secretary Khunying Kasama Vorawan said the four-decade old ban had been aimed at forcing Muslim students in Narathiwat, Yala and Pattani to learn Thai, but had failed. She admitted yesterday the approach caused children to reject the Thai language and their parents eventually pulled them out of state schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 12 state primary schools in the three provinces, where Yawi is the mother tongue of 80% people, will pioneer bilingual studies next years.</li> </ul>
<b>Mr. Teanau Tuono</b> The Indigenous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The development of an indigenous portal was endorsed by the indigenous caucus at WSIS and presented by President Joe Shirley of the Navajo Nation at the WSIS plenary where he said:</li> <li>▪ “A portal is much more than a web interface. It is a focal point where Indigenous content will be</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Our Vision is strengthening the global indigenous community by bridging the digital divide</li> <li>▪ Other Visions are:</li> </ul>

Presentation Topic	Lessons	Wider Significance
ICT Taskforce (IITF)	available from our peoples and other stakeholders. Our portal will allow us to share, with our own voices, our traditions, values, history and language as well as our aspirations for the future.”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ *Universal indigenous connectivity</li> <li>▪ *Bridging the digital divide between Indigenous Peoples</li> <li>▪ *Our values and beliefs reflected</li> <li>▪ Our Objective is an indigenous owned and operated portal for and about Indigenous Peoples that disseminates reliable information</li> </ul>
<b>Mr. Jim Remedio</b> Station Manager, Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentation of the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA)</li> <li>▪ In the late 1970's, in the heart of Australia, two Aboriginal people and a non-Aboriginal associate had a dream.</li> <li>▪ The dream was for Aboriginal voices to be heard throughout the world and for Aboriginal people to take ownership and control of their own destiny through a strong and vibrant media centre to be located in Alice Springs.</li> <li>▪ The dream became a reality in 1980, when the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA) was established.</li> <li>▪ CAAMA's objectives focus on the social, cultural and economic advancement of Aboriginal peoples.</li> <li>▪ Jim provided examples of CAAMA TV and Radio Productions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ CAAMA is promoting Aboriginal culture, language, dance and music while generating economic benefits, including training, employment and income generation. CAAMA produces media products that engender pride in Aboriginal culture and informs and educates the wider community of the richness and diversity of the Aboriginal peoples of Australia.</li> </ul>



UNDP Workshop



UNDP Workshop Speaker



UNDP Workshop Speaker



UNDP Workshop Ideas Board

## 6. Workshop Discussions

### 6.1. Summary

The Workshop presentations focused on examples of the use of media and ICTs in support of issues of concern to Indigenous Peoples. The following questions and points of discussion emerged as the presentations were given;

- Environmental Impact Assessments relating to hydro-electricity infrastructure projects, in Andhra Pradesh, India, where conducted, where not released to the indigenous residents affected by them. Local activists can make good use of the media to pressure authorities to release such information, as a first step towards having them act upon it.
- Community radio is demonstrating its utility for voicing local development issues in Nepal, and could be more widely deployed in support of Indigenous Peoples there. Radio sets are ubiquitous among Nepalese households of all social and ethnic backgrounds.
- As media and ICTs increasingly converge, there are opportunities for internet based community radio that should also be further exploited. Combining internet access at a community telecentre with a community radio, for example, can provide a potent form of local empowerment through improved access to information for a wider audience.
- The example in Kalimantan, Indonesia, of a Credit Union sponsoring community media organisations was noted as interesting and unusual and was seen as indicative of how far an

NGO can go. The issue requiring attention was how to win government support for such an initiative that would be capable of sustaining it and diffusing it to a wider audience.

- As it becomes easier to use contemporary and increasingly converging media technologies; such as video and the internet, it becomes increasingly possible to empower hitherto disadvantaged groups within Indigenous Peoples, for example, children and the elderly. The issue at hand is how to turn this potential into reality.
- Problems over the issue of language among Indigenous Peoples were highlighted by the case of the Akha People, who span five countries, where there are differing scripts for writing. A similar problem emerges with religion, whereby national influences, combined with local variations, have resulted in a variety of religions being adopted by the Akha people in different locations. The question is whether and how such differences might or could be unified. Where there other pan-Akha institutions that could be used as a platform to promote commonality of language writing, for instance, assuming that this was accepted as a desirable development. It was noted that other Indigenous Peoples; Sami and Mohawk, have faced similar issues.
- The nature of the relationships between Indigenous Peoples groups and their respective national governments emerged as an issue that needed careful consideration against the background of addressing the other issues of concern to Indigenous Peoples.
- When community telecentres were discussed, questions regarding community ownership, government involvement and impact research were raised.
- Discussions on community telecentres lead into the topic of community networks, as exemplified by the Kuh-Ke-Nah Network and The Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association. It became evident that well-organised Indigenous groups can become viable players in telecommunications; serving their own social and economic needs as well as fulfilling government commitments to deliver connectivity and public services.
- Other discussions touched upon: Providing information to telecentres that do not have an internet connection; Community based Tourism as a source of income; Re-use of second-hand computers and; National language training in education.

## **6.2. Action Plan**

After the presentations and associated discussions, Workshop participants were asked to formulate two proposals that they would like to see in a UNDP programme on e-Inclusion and Media for Asia's Indigenous Peoples. Participants were asked to name one proposal that they would welcome as locally relevant to their own activities and one that would consider as being regionally or globally relevant, based on their wider experiences and on the interactions at the Workshop.

The responses were tabulated and were seen to cluster into the following categories:

- **Content Creation:** The provision of increased media content, on the internet as well as other channels, that is relevant to Indigenous Peoples and to the issues that they face.
- **Networking:** Sharing of knowledge and experience, at all levels, among and between Indigenous Peoples as well as non- Indigenous Peoples.
- **Policy:** Government policy to facilitate technology deployments that benefit Indigenous Peoples.
- **Advocacy:** Raising awareness of Indigenous Peoples issues, especially internationally.

- Capacity Building: Training Indigenous Peoples; journalists, elders, rural communities, in the use of media and ICTs.
- Technology: Converging technologies, increasing bandwidth, and widening access for Indigenous Peoples.
- Research: Evaluating pilots, new technologies, funding.

The following table details the suggestions from all the participants.

	<b>Local</b>	<b>Regional / Global</b>
<b>Content Creation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Explore using media and ICTs for purposes of preserving cultural heritage &amp; identity of Indigenous Peoples – making dictionary, community stories, etc</li> <li>▪ How to protect Intellectual Property for Indigenous Peoples? Guidelines needed.</li> <li>▪ Indigenous Peoples youth in making film &amp; community radio</li> <li>▪ Translation to local language.</li> <li>▪ Make media (video, CDs etc) to promote eco-tourism.</li> <li>▪ TV should have news on hill tribes every month.</li> <li>▪ Capacity building of young people &amp; community &amp; developing stories about them by using ICT e.g. oral dictionaries (for inter-generational culture &amp; language).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Eco-tourism – media and ICTs used to provide control over tourism development in Indigenous communities</li> <li>▪ Put information on Indigenous Peoples on Wikimedia</li> <li>▪ Make Akha dictionaries in the primary languages – Akha &amp; English and Akha people in each country can generate own local version where possible.</li> <li>▪ To set up regional online service readily accessible to Indigenous Peoples groups that offers deep levels of documentation &amp; archiving that can satisfy the requirements of academic &amp; policy research.</li> </ul>
<b>Networking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community communication framework for peer to peer interaction to support a project in Borneo to build a radio network in 5 regional communities and put in a hub station to develop 5 new sites along the e-Bario example.</li> <li>▪ Set internet connectivity in the districts.</li> <li>▪ Networking with non-Indigenous Peoples organizations in promoting Indigenous Peoples rights.</li> <li>▪ Enhance Indigenous culture &amp; local activities.</li> <li>▪ To form an international</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mapping of Indigenous Peoples globally.</li> <li>▪ Create a template for Indigenous Peoples to provide background knowledge.</li> <li>▪ Networking of CSOs – to learn from other Indigenous Peoples groups.</li> <li>▪ Build a regional network including Indigenous journalists &amp; ICT activists to promote rights to dissemination of information &amp; press freedom.</li> <li>▪ Organize periodic conferences to gather ideas &amp; make strategies to fight for common problems.</li> <li>▪ UNDP to help provide Bangla website for Indigenous Peoples.</li> <li>▪ Indigenous online meeting area on ICTs (e.g. to share technological skills/share training &amp; education).</li> <li>▪ Bring in other Indigenous Peoples groups.</li> </ul>

	<b>Local</b>	<b>Regional / Global</b>
	<p>committee (ideally trained in linguistics) for the Akha language whose major tasks are to unite the Akha writing system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Standardize the mechanism by which Akha people adopt a vocabulary; and make Akha dictionaries</li> <li>▪ Develop a nationwide network of community driven media training centers, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> physical offices to focus resources &amp; efforts</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> emphasis on Indigenous Peoples youth journalists; and</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> internship programme in established media outlets</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To set-up a website for Akha people and establish an e-community of Akha people based on some regional ICT centers (e.g. at least one information center – China, Laos, Thailand, Myanmar, Vietnam)</li> <li>▪ Create an international network in sharing best practices in this field.</li> <li>▪ A network to look at issues in culture &amp; language.</li> </ul>
<b>Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intervention at policy level – to make community radio effective</li> </ul>	
<b>Advocacy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Strengthening Indigenous Peoples use of ICTs in West &amp; East Kalimantan’s campaign against the encroachment of palm oil plantation in Malaysian &amp; along the Indonesian border.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ UNDP role’s in delivering information to national/regional levels.</li> <li>▪ UNDP to provide a platform for policy dialogues with governments on freedom and rights to information of Indigenous Peoples media.</li> <li>▪ UNDP &amp; development partners to organize conferences/workshops/seminars/meetings for advocacy with policy making bodies, journalists, politicians with Indigenous Peoples.</li> <li>▪ To campaign for the adoption of international legal standards that recognize and protect low powered or community radio especially among Indigenous Peoples.</li> </ul>
<b>Capacity Building</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Training &amp; facilitating on meetings with media.</li> <li>▪ Village elders to manage community media – to be the owner of the media.</li> <li>▪ Set-up information centre for Indigenous Peoples journalists in Kathmandu &amp; provide ICT training to them to help Indigenous Peoples.</li> <li>▪ Set-up information centre for Indigenous Peoples</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ UNDP to provide computer training in rural areas.</li> <li>▪ National/state level workshops on e-Inclusion involving stakeholders from Indigenous Peoples geographies.</li> <li>▪ Global Indigenous Peoples ICT Conference.</li> <li>▪ Publication of awareness booklets.</li> <li>▪ Organize external training in border areas.</li> </ul>

	<b>Local</b>	<b>Regional / Global</b>
	<p>journalists in district levels &amp; provide ICT training to them to help Indigenous Peoples.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Make ICT training &amp; awareness programme.</li> <li>▪ Setting up community art &amp; craft centres with support of website to sell products – marketing / e-commerce.</li> </ul>	
<b>Technology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bridge communication mediums – connecting community radios, internet &amp; other mediums.</li> <li>▪ Set-up a telecentre at Long Pasia (Sabah) and Long Bawan (Indonesia).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Defining internet access in terms of what people can access eg. Internet browsing, VoIP, streaming, video conferencing.</li> <li>▪ Developed countries to donate 2nd hand PCs to poor countries.</li> </ul>
<b>Research</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop capacity &amp; structures for doing ongoing assessment &amp; feedback on pilots &amp; for identifying good practices.</li> <li>▪ Funding mechanisms other than governmental – researching &amp; developing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop capacity &amp; structures for doing ongoing assessment &amp; feedback on pilots &amp; for identifying good practices</li> <li>▪ UNDP &amp; other UN organizations to provide technical and financial support on research and environment friendly/green technology which is cost effective and that can be used for Indigenous Peoples.</li> <li>▪ Develop agenda to observe, encourage, define and measure the social appropriation of ICT into local Indigenous cultures.</li> </ul>

## **7. Workshop Outputs**

### **7.1. Programme Proposals**

From the discussions and the suggestions, the following set of activities was synthesised and agreed among the Workshop participants.

- a. Sensitize and raise awareness of policy makers and civil society organizations on freedom of expression and rights to information for Indigenous Peoples in Asia.
- b. Training of indigenous journalists and other media professional in reporting on indigenous issues and in harnessing ICT/new media.
- c. Develop the capacity of Indigenous Peoples' organisations for setting up ICT pilot interventions for e-inclusion to test applications of common interest (e.g. land, culture, poverty, health, access to information, freedom of expression, etc.).
- d. Develop the capacity in setting up a number of indigenous community radio facilities.
- e. Establish a community of practice for Indigenous Peoples' affairs and sharing of good practices on e-inclusion and media.
- f. Research on the need and availability of disaggregated data that reflects the situation of Asia's Indigenous Peoples, as they themselves would wish to express it.

### **7.2. The e-Bario Vision for Indigenous Peoples and ICTs**

In the light of the background to the Workshop, and within the context of the recent adoption by the UN General Assembly of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Workshop participants, in collaboration with their hosts, formulated the e-Bario Vision for Indigenous Peoples and ICTs.

The Vision reads as follows:

#### **THE E-BARIO VISION FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND ICTS**

We welcome the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Declaration serves to further invigorate our own energies towards realising our rights and we note that the Declaration is a single, albeit vital step towards the ultimate goal of fully realising them.

We acknowledge the work Indigenous Peoples have done in bridging the digital divide with reference to the WSIS process and note Article 15 of the WSIS Declaration states, 'In the evolution of the Information Society, particular attention must be given to the special situation of Indigenous Peoples, as well as the preservation of their heritage and cultural legacy'. This further supports the work of the Global Indigenous Community in protecting Indigenous Knowledge.

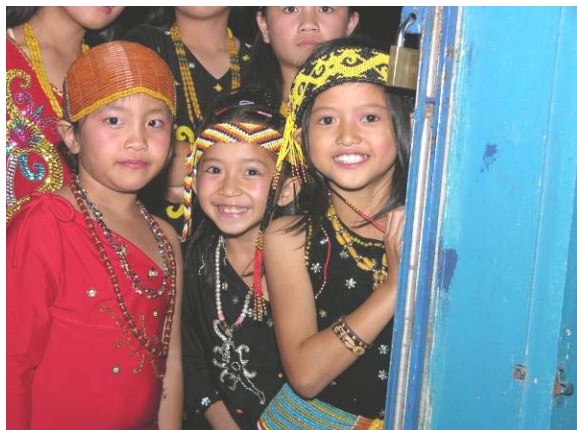
ICTs with quality rich applications and media provide significant opportunities that support aspirations of Indigenous Peoples, as demonstrated by the E-Bario Telecentre and many other Indigenous driven examples around the world.

The E-Bario Vision for Indigenous Peoples and ICTs foresees a world in which all Indigenous Peoples everywhere, irrespective of our location, are able to make full and effective use of new media and ICTs whilst retaining our strength in diversity and simultaneously uniting in purpose towards our common goal of self-determination. In this Vision, we will pursue our development and self-reliance on our own terms whilst retaining the full intent of the Declaration.

The Vision recognises the need for widespread development and deployment of contemporary and future ICTs and new media for the realisation of creative and effective solutions for the problems faced by Indigenous Peoples.

We acknowledge the role of governments and other stakeholders and consequently we are looking for respective partnerships in the following priority areas:

- Sensitise and raise awareness of policy makers and civil society organisations on freedom of expression and rights to information for Indigenous Peoples in Asia
- Training of Indigenous journalists and other media professionals in reporting in Indigenous Peoples issues and in harnessing ICT/new media
- Develop the capacity of Indigenous Peoples organisations for setting up ICT interventions for e-inclusion to test applications of common interest (e.g. land, culture, poverty, health, access to information, freedom of expression)
- Develop the capacity in setting up a number of Indigenous community media facilities (radio, website, telecentre etc)
- Establish a “community of practice” for sharing of good practices on e-inclusion and media for Indigenous Peoples
- Research on the need and availability of disaggregated data that reflects the situation of Asia’s Indigenous Peoples, as they themselves would like to express it



Kelabit Children at the Conference



Indigenous Peoples Finalising the Vision

The Vision was presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Knowledge Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 14 December 2007. This is detailed in a later section.

## **8. Panel Session at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Knowledge Conference**

### **8.1. Background to GK3**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Knowledge Conference (GK3)<sup>5</sup> was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 11-13 December 2007, immediately following the Workshop, which was timed deliberately just prior to GK3 in order to attract participants. The Global Knowledge Partnership (GKP) claims to be the world's first international multi-stakeholder network committed to harnessing the power of knowledge and utilising Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for sustainable and equitable development.

With over 100 members, the GKP Network connects private and public sectors, international institutions and civil society groups, reaching across continents, to share their experience, ideas and solutions to unleash the potential of knowledge and ICT to improve lives, reduce poverty and empower people. GKP is actively involved in programmes that address development opportunities and challenges within four strategic themes - Access to Knowledge, Education, Poverty Reduction and Resource Mobilisation. According to itself, "GK3 is a platform created by and for stakeholders from every sector - private companies, governments, international institutions and civil society groups. Gathering over 1,700 global visionaries, innovators, practitioners and policy makers over 3 days to debate on the development and human dimension of ICT, GK3 successfully engaged participants in intensive discussions on how the threads of emerging people, markets and technologies will intertwine to deliver the future." UNDP is a member of GKP.

### **8.2. Purpose of the Panel Session**

The GK3 workshop was proposed as a means of refining the e-Bario Vision for Indigenous Peoples and ICTs and presenting it to a wider, global, audience in order to raise awareness, gain support and propose modalities for its implementation. The flyer for the workshop is shown in appendix 3. The key questions to be addressed were;

- How can better access to ICTs, media and information accelerate the progress of development for Asia's Indigenous Peoples?
- What constraints exist that might inhibit the wider use of information for their development?
- How can these constraints be mitigated?
- Who; organisations, individuals, institutions, are willing to form partnerships to address these issues?

### **8.3. Presenters and Presentations**

The session took the form of a panel presentation, which was moderated by Michael Gurstein, Centre for Community Informatics Research, Development and Training. The following presentations were delivered;

1. Rukka Sombolinggi, UNDP Regional Initiative on Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Development (RIPP) and Lars Bestle, UNDP Regional Initiative on e-Inclusion and Media for Indigenous Peoples, presented their respective programmes.

- There are 300m Indigenous Peoples worldwide – 70 percent of them in Asia.
- Indigenous Peoples include ethnic minorities and tribal people.
- UNDP has a Policy of Engagement with Indigenous Peoples since 2001.

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1. <sup>5</sup> <http://www.gkpeventsonthefuture.org/gk3/>

- UNDP provides a forum for dialogue and cooperation, and presence at the national level, as well as raising sensitive issues and developing a trans-border perspective.
- UNDP Indigenous People-related areas of work: Law and policy, capacity development, access to justice/judiciary pluralism, and land and natural resources management.
- The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; the most comprehensive instrument concerning Indigenous Peoples' rights. It was drafted and formally debated for more than 20 years. It addresses both individual and collective rights.
- Article 16 says Indigenous Peoples have rights to establish their own media in their own languages and to have access to all forms of non-indigenous media without discrimination.
- The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) – Article 15 – on the evolution of the Information Society, says that particular attention must be given to the special situation of Indigenous Peoples, as well as the preservation of their heritage and cultural legacy.

2. Dr. Roger Harris, Roger Harris Associates, explained what e-inclusion means.

- E-Inclusion is a demand side perspective of the digital divide, which focuses more on access to technologies than on what access can achieve. It has subsequently become apparent that empowerment is not an automatic consequence of access, so discussions of the digital divide do not necessarily embody the concept of social inclusion.
- The default with ICTs is that their benefits go to the more advantaged. Therefore, narrowing the digital divide may not lead to the inclusion of the disadvantaged in the information society. Disadvantaged sections of society remain disadvantaged and national statistics average out the groups that do not have access.
- In the European Union context, the term is linked with disadvantaged people – including the unemployed, elderly and disabled. In the Asian and Latin American contexts – the term is additionally applied to Indigenous Peoples.
- E-Inclusion uses ICTs to deliver material benefits to all members of society, emphasizing that disadvantaged people should not be left out. In Asia, e-Inclusion is not an objective; it hardly exists in the vocabulary of most Asian governments, much less as a target for their Indigenous Peoples.

3. Ina Hume, of Vanishing Rites & Jumma Peoples Network International shared her experiences working with Indigenous Peoples on participatory media, human rights issues and gender-based violence. With UNICEF Uganda, Ina worked with the Girls Education Movement (GEM), which;

- Used creative media to promote girls education.
- Included youths as facilitators with children.
- Developed the skills of the youths.
- Raised awareness of issues faced by girls among communities.
- Allowed children's voices to be heard.
- Mixed new with traditional media (e.g. drums, plays, songs).
- Tackled difficult issues by bringing them out in play form, rather than discussing them openly in interviews.
- Developed a soundtrack and film that looked at the process of working with GEM.
- Ran a 'Back to School' campaign in conflict-affected areas of Northern Uganda, due to resistance to development and schooling introduced by missionaries.
- Uploaded stories on the Internet.
- Used YouTube for posting stories so that children and UNICEF can give comments.

Other Indigenous Peoples initiatives included:

- CAAMA TV and Radio, Australia – response to racist propaganda – developed by Aboriginals
- K-Net Services, Canada – delivering telemedicine.
- Indigenous Portal – website to link Indigenous People from around the world – at early stage.
- Sami Radio – Scandinavian and European Indigenous Peoples.

4. Poline Bala, of Centre of Excellence in Rural Informatics, at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Malaysia (UNIMAS), shared lessons learned from the e-Bario project;

- Poline introduced Bario and the people of Bario, and explained how e-Bario came about:
  - As a research initiative to introduce computers, VSATs, telephones and the Internet to people of Bario. It was implemented by UNIMAS with funding from IDRC and later by the Government of Malaysia.
  - It used the Smart School as a demonstrator application.
  - A community telecentre was set up.
  - Bario is outside the national grid and with little information and communication infrastructure, which presented a technical challenge.
  - The project delivered benefits to the local people, which was a social and economic challenge.
- Lessons Learned:
  - Indigenous Peoples see ICTs as new means to engage in the development process as well as in preserving their culture.
  - It was necessary to promote partnerships with the head of the community, volunteers, university researchers, government, school teachers and private companies (technology providers).
  - It is essential to build on social relations and establish areas of common interests.

5. John Tarawe and Roger Harris introduced the e-Bario Knowledge Fair and results of the UNDP workshop.

- The e-Bario Knowledge Fair was a multi-disciplinary conference held in the remote village of Bario in the Kelabit Highlands of Sarawak. This year, a UNDP Workshop on e-Inclusion and Media for Indigenous Peoples was incorporated.
- Topics combined visitors' presentations with those of Kelabit People on topics such as e-Culture, e-Language, e-Development, and e-Tourism.
- The workshop resulted in the formulation of an e-Vision for Indigenous Peoples and ICTs. John Tarawe read the e-vision statement (now available online at <http://www.apdip.net/news/indigenouspeoples>).

#### **8.4. Discussion**

During question time, the following emerged;

- Professor Heather Hudson proposed some next steps, based on the e-Bario experience, including an action plan and consideration on how Indigenous Peoples can apply for licensing for community radio, telephone networks, etc. to provide information and communications – a regulatory issue.
- Professor Hudson also asked about the issue of telecentre ownership by the community - what it entails in terms of taking responsibility for various functions and how does the community arrive at consensus. In response, it was mentioned that the e-Bario project has been transferred to the community and is now managed by e-Bario Sdn Bhd, led by John Tarawe who is very much part of the community.
- A questioner, Patrick, who has resided in Sri Lanka for 17-18 years and has worked with Indigenous Peoples living in the forest, mentioned that 25 years ago the Government of Sri Lanka converted the forest into a national park and evicted the Indigenous Peoples living in the forest. In parallel he is also involved in the telecentre movement. However, he never proposed to the Indigenous Peoples to set up a telecentre and the Indigenous Peoples never

proposed the same to him. He is interested in speaking with panellists on the possibility of setting up something like the e-Bario project in Sri Lanka.

- Panellists emphasized that communities should set the agenda and develop any initiative on their own terms. The process of introducing an idea or initiative to the Indigenous Peoples community is crucial to its success. They should not feel threatened. ICTs can be used to preserve culture, survey cultural sites, and preserve songs and poems.
- Kyle, from the Philippines, works with an NGO on Indigenous Peoples' Land Rights. It is a stereotype that Indigenous Peoples do not want development. It is a matter of what their needs are. Kyle's NGO trained about 100 Indigenous Peoples who are illiterate on GIS and other applications such as various open source software, Java and Ajax. It was successful because they needed these applications to help defend their land.

6. As a footnote, Roger Harris presented the concept of 'Development Conferencing', as exemplified by the e-Bario Knowledge Fair and the UNDP Workshop.

Key points:

- Development planning as a development process.
- Development planning that takes place at the locations that it affects.
- Development planning that takes place with the people that it affects.
- Contributes immediate benefits to the local economy.
- Engenders empathy with the issues discussed.
- Promotes equality in participation.
- Ensure grass-roots input.

## **9. Next Steps**

The goal of the workshop and of this outcome proposal is to accelerate the pace of Asia's Indigenous Peoples towards e-inclusion through the widespread deployment of ICTs in support of the realisation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Following on from the Workshop outputs, the programme for e-Inclusion and Media for Asia's Indigenous Peoples is envisaged as an initiative of the United Nations Development Programme Regional Indigenous Peoples Programme (RIPP) and the Asia Regional Governance Programme (ARGP) of the UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok and relevant UNDP Country Offices. UNDP is actively seeking partnerships with relevant organisations at all levels in order to proceed with this initiative into 2008.

The strategy for progressing with the programme for e-Inclusion and Media for Asia's Indigenous Peoples has several components, including;

### **Advocacy**

Use of the media and ICTs to raise awareness of the problems of Indigenous Peoples and to promote the opportunities that exist for using media and ICTs towards achieving solutions for them. Several articles by participants and facilitators have already been produced following the workshop but the team will continue to promote and advocate for issues using the event as the foundation. A web site documenting the event and promoting the issue for the way forward will also be created.

### **Partnerships**

Formulation of partnerships with donors, aid agencies, civil society and government institutions, and especially Indigenous organisations, towards the implementation of pilot solutions that will demonstrate the efficacy of media and ICTs in achieving e-inclusion for Indigenous Peoples. The RIPP and ARGP team is now planning to hold a separate session (side-event) at the Seventh Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York in April 2008<sup>6</sup>. The session will be a valuable opportunity to advocate further for e-inclusion and media for Indigenous Peoples as well as expanding its partnerships. The intention is to; present the outcomes of the Workshop to the members of the Forum, solicit support and partnerships for the project implementations already identified and any others that may be forthcoming from them, and to propose a supplement to the Declaration on Human Rights for Indigenous Peoples along the lines of the e-Barrio Vision.

### **Resource Mobilisation**

Approaches to donor agencies and other funders to acquire the necessary resources to proceed with the agreed implementations. Based on the results of the workshop, particularly the vision and the priorities defined by the participants, a project brief is being produced. This will lead the way for an eventual project document. The project brief will also be used for the purpose of fund raising among donors as well as for identifying development partners.

The following table suggests indicative activities arising from the Workshop outputs.

### **Workshop Outputs and Resultant Indicative Activities**

<b>Components</b>	<b>Indicative Activities</b>	<b>Expected Results and Deliverables</b>
i. Sensitise and raise awareness of policy makers and civil society organisations on freedom of expression and rights to information for Indigenous Peoples in Asia.	Seminars, workshops and publications targeting policy-makers and Indigenous organisations.	Elevated levels of awareness within policy-making processes and Indigenous organisations of the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Increased sensitivity among the wider population towards Indigenous concerns. Policy-making and social programmes that are more closely focussed on the problems of Indigenous Peoples.
ii. Training of Indigenous journalists and other media professionals in reporting in Indigenous Peoples issues and in harnessing ICT/new media.		
iii. Develop the capacity of Indigenous Peoples organisations for setting up ICT interventions for e-inclusion to test applications of common interest (e.g. land, culture, poverty, health, access to	Pilot implementations of replicable ICT and media based applications that deal with issues of collective concern; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Global Positioning and Geographic Information Systems for mapping land boundaries.</li> </ul>	Applications of ICTs and media that demonstrate their utility in contributing to some of the most pressing and generic problems faced by Indigenous Peoples. An action plan for their widespread replication.

2. <sup>6</sup><http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/>

information, freedom of expression).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A Virtual Museum.</li> <li>▪ e-Enterprise; (e.g., Pro-poor e-Community-Based Tourism), and e-Commerce (e.g., e-Handicrafts).</li> <li>▪ e-Health; (e.g., Nutrition, HIV/AIDS awareness)</li> <li>▪ Rights of access to information awareness and enforcement.</li> <li>▪ On-line Publishing.</li> </ul>	
iv. Develop the capacity in setting up a number of Indigenous community media facilities (radio, website, telecentre etc).	Pilot implementations of media and ICT facilities followed by capacity building for replication.	
v. Establish a “community of practice” for sharing of good practices on e-inclusion and media for Indigenous Peoples.	On-line discussion groups and publications under an Indigenous Portal.	Elevated levels of awareness among Indigenous organisations of the opportunities for ICTs and media for accelerating e-inclusion among Indigenous Peoples.
vi. Research on the need and availability of disaggregated data that reflects the situation of Asia’s Indigenous Peoples, as they themselves would like to express it.	Research on statistical methods for data collection and representation of Indigenous Peoples; workshops with Indigenous organisations and government officials to define data requirements and data interpretation.	Disaggregated data within national and regional social statistics that better reflects the conditions of Indigenous Peoples according to their own interpretations.

## Annex 1. Agenda of Workshop on e-Inclusion and Media for Indigenous Peoples

Thursday 6 December
<b>Session 1: Press and the Media</b>
<i>Introduction to the Workshop.</i> Mr. Lars Bestle, UNDP-Asia Pacific Development Information Programme (APDIP) and Rukka Sombolinggi, UNDP-Regional Indigenous Peoples Programme (RIPP), UNDP Regional Centre, Bangkok and Dr. Roger Harris, Consultant UNDP.
<i>The Indigenous Peoples of Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh.</i> Mr. Hari Kishore Chakma, Bangladesh
<i>Hydro Projects: Development Conflicts and Displacement.</i> Tongam Rina, India
<i>Indigenous Peoples Issues in Nepalese Media.</i> Khim Prasad Ghale, Nepal
<i>Effectiveness of Media in the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.</i> Tuidim Tawkliana, India
<i>The Northern Media and Information Network -Nordis Experience and its Relevance to the Asian Indigenous Peoples Perspective.</i> Pio Jun Verzola, Philippines
<b>Session 2: Radio, TV and Film</b>
<i>Central Australian Aboriginal Media.</i> Jim Remedio, Australia
<i>Experiences in Empowering Indigenous Peoples in West Kalimantan.</i> Stefanus Masiun, Indonesia
<i>Participatory Media and Advocacy: Case Study of Documenting Children and Community Perspectives of Conflict in North and Northeast Uganda.</i> Ina Hume, Uganda
<i>Surviving Beyond Political Borders: Communication Challenges of the Akha People in the Highlands of Mainland Southeast Asia.</i> Wang Jianhua, Chinese Akha / Thailand
Nyan Nea & Sovann Hien, Cambodia
<b>Community Dinner</b>
Friday 7 December
<b>Session 3: ICTs and Telecentres</b>
<i>Indigenous Peoples Experimentation with ICTs in Sabah, Malaysia.</i> Jennifer Lasimbang, Malaysia
<i>The Kuh-Ke-Nah Network – Enabling Indigenous Peoples to Choose how they want to be Included in the Information Society of the 21st Century.</i> Jesse Fiddler, Canada
<i>Knowledge-Livelihood-Prosperity: Community Information Centres – Empowering Isolated Tribal Communities through ICTs.</i> Dillip Pattanaik, India
<i>Bannok TV: Empowering the Mae Yao Hill Tribe Community through Media and Technology.</i> Sombat Boongamanong, Thailand
<i>Exploration of Bi-lingual Education for Pwo-Karen community: Experience from Thailand.</i> Suchin Petcharuga, Thailand
<b>Session 4: The Way Forward for e-Inclusion and Media for Indigenous Peoples: A Regional Action Plan</b>
<i>The Development of the Indigenous Portal and the Work of the World Summit on the Information Society.</i> Teanau Tuiono, New Zealand
Saturday 8 December
<b>Wrap up: Formulation of the Concept Note on e-Inclusion and Media for Indigenous Peoples in Asia</b>
<b>Formulation of The e-Bario Vision for Indigenous Peoples and ICTs</b>

## Annex 2. List of Participants

No	Name	Organization/Sector
1.	Ms. Angusina Indira Hume	Director Vanishing Rites 82 Lake Road, Henleaze Bristol, BS10 5JF, UK Tel: 00-44-796-770-1480 Fax: N/A Email: <a href="mailto:vanishingrites@hotmail.com">vanishingrites@hotmail.com</a>
2.	Mr. Dillip Pattanaik	Director Information Resource Management Association, IRMA-India A-57 (Phase II) Krishna Garden Jagamara, Bhubaneswar 751030 Orissa, India Tel: +91-674-235-0384, 641-8197 Cell: +91-9937310528 Fax: +91-674-235-0384 Email: <a href="mailto:Pattanaik.dillip@rediffmail.com">Pattanaik.dillip@rediffmail.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:Dillip@irma-india.org">Dillip@irma-india.org</a>
3.	Mr. Hari Kishore Chakma	Staff Reporter, Rangamati The Daily PROTHOM ALO PROTHOM ALO office Katapahar lane, Bonorupa, Rangamati, Rangamati hill Tracts - 4500 Bangladesh Tel: 088-0351-61204 Fax: 088-0351-61109 Email: <a href="mailto:harichakma@yahoo.com">harichakma@yahoo.com</a>
4.	Ms. Jennifer Lasimbang	Lecturer School of Engineering and IT Universiti Malaysia Sabah  Volunteer and IT Resource Person PACOS Trust, Sabah Universiti Malaysia Sabah and PACOS Trust P.O. Box 511 89507 Penampang, Sabah Malaysia Tel: +6012-802-9922 Fax: +608-832-0348 Email: <a href="mailto:Lasimbang@hotmail.com">Lasimbang@hotmail.com</a> , <a href="mailto:Jenifer@ums.edu.my">Jenifer@ums.edu.my</a>
5.	Mr. Jesse Fiddler	Kuh-Ke-Nah Network, K-Net Services Box 28, Muskrat Dam Ontario P0V 3B0 - Canada Tel: +807-737-1135 Ext. 1712, +807-471-2682 Fax: +807-471-2682

No	Name	Organization/Sector
		Email: <a href="mailto:jessefiddler@knet.ca">jessefiddler@knet.ca</a>
6.	Mr. Jianhua Wang	Indigenous Researcher Independent Researcher Akha/ University of California 344/284 Moo 8, Maehia Muang, Chiang Mai 50100 Thailand Tel: +6689-264-4828 Fax: +6653-804-335 Email: <a href="mailto:jwang005@ucr.edu">jwang005@ucr.edu</a>
7.	Mr. James Daniel Remedio	Manager CAAMA Radio The Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA) 101 Todd Street, Alice Springs Australia Tel: +61-08-8951-9720, +61-04-0952-6156 Fax: +61-08-8951-9727 Email: <a href="mailto:j.remedio@caama.com.au">j.remedio@caama.com.au</a>
8.	Mr. Khim Prasad Ghale	President Association of Nepalese Indigenous Nationalities Journalists (ANIJ) Post Box No. 24287, Annamnagar Kathmandu, Nepal Tel: 974-103-8047 Fax: 0977-1-445-6569 Email: <a href="mailto:anij@enet.com.np">anij@enet.com.np</a>
9.	Mr. Lars H. Bestle	Programme Specialist Access to Information, e-Governance and Media Development Asia Regional Governance Programme (ARGP) UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok 3rd Floor, UN Service Building Rajdamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok, Thailand Tel.: +66 (2) 288 2737. Fax: +66 (2) 280 0556 E-mail: <a href="mailto:lars.bestle@undp.org">lars.bestle@undp.org</a>
10.	Mr. Nyan Nea	Media Unit Officers
11.	Mr. Sovann Hien	Indigenous Community Support Organization c/o: ICSO Phnom Penh office Cambodia Tel: +855-0121-840-115 Fax: NA Email: <a href="mailto:fmv-icso@online.com.kh">fmv-icso@online.com.kh</a> , <a href="mailto:ratanakirioffice-icso@online.com.kh">ratanakirioffice-icso@online.com.kh</a> , <a href="mailto:Sophal-icso@online.com.kh">Sophal-icso@online.com.kh</a>
12.	Mr. Pio Verzola JR.	Executive Director Northern Media And Information Network 2/F Rulite Hall, EDNCP Compound 356 Magsaysay Avenue Baguio City 2600 Philippines Tel: +63-074-300-4631

No	Name	Organization/Sector
		Fax: +63-074-300-4631 Email: <a href="mailto:junverzola@gmail.com">junverzola@gmail.com</a> , <a href="mailto:jun@nordis.net">jun@nordis.net</a>
13.	Mr. Roger Harris	Roger Harris Associates 5/B Angel Court, Ville de Cascade No. 2 Lai Wo Lane, Shatin, New Territories Hong Kong SAR, Peoples' Republic of China Tel: +852-2698-6132 Fax: NA Email: <a href="mailto:harris38@netvigator.com">harris38@netvigator.com</a>
14.	Ms. Rukka Sombolinggi	UNDP Regional Initiative in Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Development (UNDP PIPP) UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok 3rd Floor, UN Service Building Rajdamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok, Thailand Tel.: +66 (2) 288 2763, Fax: +66 (2) 280 2700 Email: <a href="mailto:rukka.sombolinggi@undp.org">rukka.sombolinggi@undp.org</a>
15.	Mr. Sombat Boon-ngam-anong	Director The Mirror Foundation 41 Room 907 Lertpanya Building, Soi Lertpanya Sri Ayuthaya Road, Rajthevee, Bangkok 10400 Thailand Tel: +662-642-7991 Fax: +662-642-7991 Ext 18 Email: <a href="mailto:sombat@bannok.com">sombat@bannok.com</a>
16.	Mr. Stefanus Masiun	Director Ruai Television Jalan Budi Utomo No. 25 - 26 Pontianak 78241, West Kalimantan, Indonesia Tel: 0561-884524, 0811569520 Fax: 0561-884524 Email: <a href="mailto:s_masiun@yahoo.com">s_masiun@yahoo.com</a>
17.	Mr. Suchin Petcharugsa	Instructor Head of Research and Development Section Northern Region Non-Formal Education Center Muang, Lampang 52100 Thailand Tel: +6681-885-7555, +6654-224-862 Fax: +6654-221-127 Email: <a href="mailto:suchin_pp@yahoo.com">suchin_pp@yahoo.com</a>
18.	Mr. Teanau Tuiono	Indigenous Portal Manager Indigenous ICT Task Force 236 Botanical Road, Takaro Palmerston North, New Zealand Tel: +64-6-358-7340 Fax: NA Email: <a href="mailto:Teanau.tuiono@gmail.com">Teanau.tuiono@gmail.com</a>
19.	Ms. Tongam Rina	Associate Editor The Arunachal Times Siang Building, Itanagar Arunachal Pradesh 791111 India

No	Name	Organization/Sector
		Tel: +91-943-604-1932, +91-0360-2213515 Fax: +91-0360-221-1426 Email: <a href="mailto:tongamrina@gmail.com">tongamrina@gmail.com</a>
20.	Mr. Tuidim Tawkliana	Editor Khonumthung News Group P.O. Box 94, Main Post Office Aizawl 796001, Mizoram State INDIA Tel: 099-5865-6232 Fax: NA Email: <a href="mailto:tuidim@yahoo.co.in">tuidim@yahoo.co.in</a>