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Role of ICT in Development

ICT (information and communications technology- or technologies) is an umbrella term that includes any communication device or application, encompassing: radio, television, cellular phones, computer and network hardware and software, satellite systems and so on, as well as the various services and applications associated with them, such as videoconferencing and distance learning.

ICT is the digital processing and utilization of information by the use of electronic computers. It comprises the storage ,retrieval, conversion and transmission of information.

Types of ICTs

- Old –newspapers, radio and television

- New –networked computers, satellite-sources communications, wireless technology and the internet. A feature of these technologies is their capacity to be networked and interlinked to form a massive infrastructure of interconnected telephone services, standardized computing hardware, the internet, radio and TV, which reaches every corner of the globe.

Characteristics of ICT

ICT is *pervasive and cross-cutting*

- From personal use to business and Govt.
- Can be tailored to meet personal, local, diverse needs.

 ICT *creates networks*

- Those connected benefit from the network
- The Network externalities increases as it grows

ICT *disseminates information and Knowledge*

- Separates content from its physical location
- Makes knowledge available to remote Communities

ICT allows for *zero or declining marginal Costs*

- Replication of content is free
- Distribution of marginal cost is near zero
- ICT reduces transaction costs

ICT enhances **efficiency**

- Has power to store, retrieve, sorts, filter and
- distribute information
- Makes processes and transactions leaner and more effective

ICT reduces the need for **intermediaries**

- Links consumers directly to producers
- Allows users to acquire products and services directly

ICT is *global*

- Transcends cultural and linguistic barriers
- Allows local communities to be part of the global network

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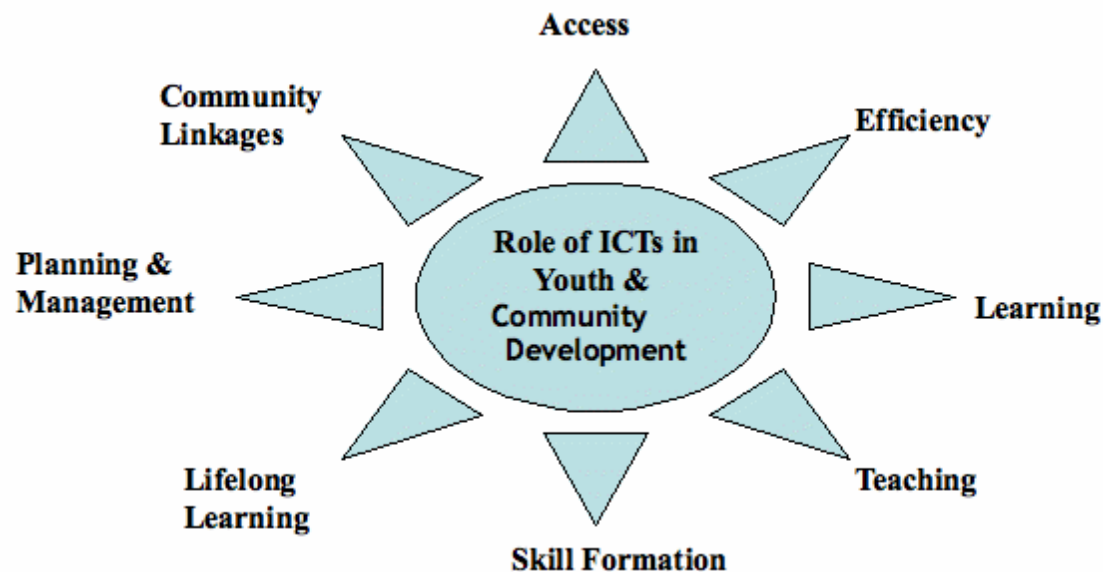, EMAIL-VIJAY.RAJNI3@GMAIL.COM

Reclassification of ICT4D (ICT For Development)

ICT4D Typology	ICT Application
Political/Governance / Empowerment	E-government
Economic/Livelihood	E-business
	E-employment
	E-agriculture
Social/Education	E-learning
	E-health
	E-environment
Infrastructure/Access	E-science

ICT for Development

1. **Innovating for Equitable Access**

2. **Enhancing Human Capacity and Empowerment**

3. **Strengthening Communications for Development**

4. **Promoting Local Content and knowledge**

5. **Fostering Policy Implementation**

References:

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