

GLOBAL FORUM

Shaping the Future



THE GLOBAL FORUM
Shaping the Future

“Who we are...”



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About the Global Forum / Shaping the Future

The “**Global Forum / Shaping the Future**” is an annual, independent, international and invitation-only event dedicated to business and policy issues that affect the successful evolution of the Information Society. It is a not-for-profit initiative of Items International and the Sophia Antipolis Foundation.

Since its inception in 1992, the Global Forum brings together international key actors and experts from advanced economies - the USA, Canada, Western Europe and Asia - and increasingly from developing countries, including countries of the Mediterranean fringe of Europe, countries upgrading their telecommunications infrastructure, such as Russia and the Central and Eastern European countries, and Mexico in the sphere of NAFTA.

The “Global Forum / Shaping the Future” provides a neutral platform for the identification of representative trends, the discussion of latest developments in the ICT sector and divergent points of views. The expertise of its speakers selected from the ICT industry, regulators and implementing agencies illustrates the complexity of the ICT landscape and contributes to a solid contemporary knowledge base.

As a high profile and international think tank bringing together government, business and civil society, the Global Forum acts as a catalyst for a wide range of communications applications. It supports the creation of synergies between suppliers and users of communications applications and assists in connecting practical applications and innovative ideas. The Global Forum provides the ideal opportunity for its participants to jointly develop imaginative solutions in partnership during formal and informal face-to-face discussions during the days of the event and afterwards by electronic networking.

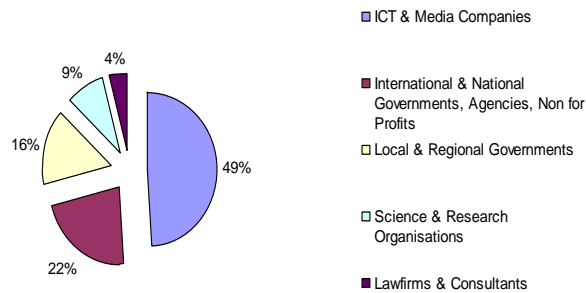
The “Global Forum / Shaping the Future” is sponsored by organisations around the world, interested in sharing and influencing global IT agendas, and enabling business and government leaders from all sectors of the Information & Communication Technology (ICT) communities to meet and work with suppliers and service providers.

Each year, the “Global Forum / Shaping the Future” succeeds in bringing together the diverse expertise of more than 300 high-profile delegates, including both industrial leaders and senior policy makers, from more than 40 countries. After 16 years of networking, the Global Forum is today much more than just another ICT-conference, but a real networking event connecting practical applications and innovative ideas – and first and foremost people. The warm and creative atmosphere of the Forum provides best conditions for people to get and to work together and to establish new partnerships, collaborations and other valuable contacts. The fact that many leaders stay beyond their speaking slots, listen intently to others speakers, and participate actively in hallway conversations provides evidence that this concept is successful.

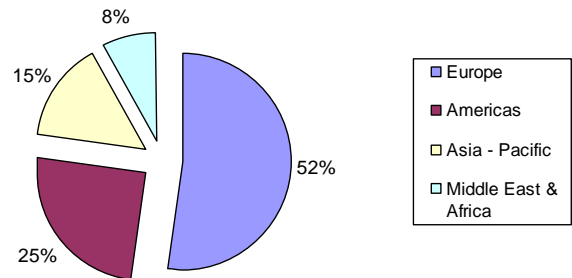
Global Forum – Profiles of Attendees

Each year, the Global Forum / Shaping the Future is attended by more than 300 high-level participants coming from more than 40 countries from all continents. Over the years 60 countries have been represented at the Global Forum.

Participation per Sector (%)



Participation per World Region (%)



Our highly valued speakers and audience come from the following sectors:

- Senior Officials from the European Commission, EU-25, Europe, United States, South America, Asia-Pacific, Middle East, Africa other Governments, including Competition Entities and top Regulators
- Regional / National / Local Authorities
- Representatives from International Organizations, including ENISA, ETSI, ICANN, ICC, INTUG, ITU, WTO, WSIS...
- Fixed & Mobile Providers and Media Companies (Telecom, Satellite, Broadband, Internet, Wireless, MVNOs ...)
- Equipment and Software Providers
- Content and Information Providers
- Computing Companies
- Application Editors (e-Business, e-Content, e-Government, e-Health, e-Learning,...)
- Utilities
- Business Users: SME's, MNCs; Banking, Insurance & Finance Analysts
- Smartcard Manufacturers
- R&D Centers and Clusters
- Defence Experts
- Lawyers
- Regulators
- Standards Organizations
- Non-profit Associations
- User Groups and Consumer Advocates
- Think Tank Representatives & other Opinion Leaders

The Global Forum / Shaping the Future attracts sponsorship from both private and public sector organisations interested in sharing and influencing global IT agendas.

Global Forum / Shaping the Future The Organisers



ITEMS INTERNATIONAL
(www.items-int.com)

Items International is an international consulting firm based in Paris, dedicated to delivering Information & Communication Technology (ICT) strategies. The company's activities cover:

- Strategic consultancy on telecommunications, market segmentation, support to the development of European businesses in the US, Japan and other countries, as well as of foreign businesses in Europe.
- Research and development in areas such as regulatory policy and economic aspects, interconnection issues, Information & Communication Technology (ICT) market research and international comparative analyses, strategic development for industrialists, operators and local/ regional/ national authorities.
- Items annually organizes the "Global Forum / Shaping the Future" think tank in association with the Sophia-Antipolis Foundation, the European Commission and a number of international sponsors and experts.

Dr. Sylviane Toporkoff, Founder Partner of Items International, President Global Forum, created and launched the "Global Forum / Shaping the Future" initiative in 1992 and has run the event for over a decade now all over the world. Her academic research and numerous contributions to private and public sector projects all over the world, including the European Union, has enabled her to build a unique and high-quality network of relationships among those who shape the future of our society, throughout Europe, the United States, Japan, South East Asia, Latin America and elsewhere.



FOUNDATION SOPHIA ANTIPOLIS

The French Sophia Antipolis Foundation was created in 1984 by Senator Pierre Laffitte, and received state-approval for playing a fundamental role in the development of scientific and cultural activities.

The purpose of the Foundation is to encourage the exchange of ideas and cooperation in scientific, industrial and cultural matters at a national, European and international level, in order to create a new entrepreneurial culture, thereby turning Sophia Antipolis into an experimental laboratory for the future.

Sophia Antipolis is a Science Park taking pride in being internationally recognized as one of the most dynamic and fastest growing technological and scientific hubs in Europe and a "best practice" site for innovation.

Global Forum/Shaping the Future Sponsors Over the Years



LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

LDCOM
NETWORKS



Microsoft



netsize
Mobile Business & Entertainment



northern rock



OMNIOLOGIC

ORACLE



øresund it



øresund IT
Academy



PoliticsOnline
News, Tools & Strategies



Postelink



ROMTELECOM
business solutions



SES GLOBAL SIEMENS



Sony Ericsson



TELEGLOBE

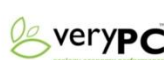
THE e-WORLD COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY



THALES



UNISYS



Wethington International LLC



WHITE & CASE



XEROX
GLOBAL
SERVICES



The Global Forums – 20 Years of Networking

Since 1992, eleven interactive events were held in the USA, Japan and Europe, with the support of the European Commission, and also of prominent hosts and sponsors.

The Global Forum investigated “The Merits and Drawbacks of Cooperation and Competition in Telecommunications” in Washington and New York in 1992. It subsequently extended the dialogue to Europe in Rome in 1993 and Paris in 1994 where Japan joined in.

A “Forum on Communications” took place in Kyoto in 1995, followed by a road show with demonstrations on “Cities and Local Development in the Information Age” in New York, Washington, San Francisco and the Silicon Valley.

Together with the Sophia Antipolis Foundation and Professor Sergio Antocicco of the University of Rome, ITEMS International organised the first “World Forum on Smart Communities: Shaping the Future” in Sophia Antipolis, France and Rome, Italy in September 1997.

In 1998, ITEMS International curated a Global Forum on “Shaping the Future” in Paris, together with the Foundation Euromed Com, headed by Pierre Laffitte, the French Senator for Alpes Maritimes.

In 1999 and for the Millennium, the Global Forum took place in the science park of Sophia Antipolis, in France, under the aegis of ITEMS International and the Foundation Sophia-Antipolis. They focused respectively on “New satellite and terrestrial applications” and “The future of a global e-society”.

In 2001, the Global Forum took place in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, United Kingdom. It was hosted by the city administration which provided access to hands-on demonstrations of its many ICTs applications. Newcastle City Council chose the Global Forum as the occasion to sign a memorandum of cooperation on ICT for civil society between several cities from the North East of England and Scotland.

In 2002, the Global Forum moved to Washington DC in the USA. It examined the promise of broadband services towards the multimedia and knowledge society.

In 2003, the Global Forum took place in the historical Palazzo Taverna, situated in the heart of Rome, Italy. The main topic of discussion was on how “Connecting Communities & Businesses in a knowledge based economy”.

In 2004, the Global Forum on Shaping the Future moved on to Malmö, Sweden. The topic under discussion was how to promote as well as how to deal with the challenges of ‘The Broad Convergence’.

In 2005, the Global Forum took place under the topic “The Broad convergence – Act II” in the historic Palais d’Egmont in Brussels - a site where history has been written and a centre of European diplomacy. In the tradition of the past think tanks, the Global Forum 2005 provided a platform for governmental representatives, the private sector, the users, and the academia to meet and discuss the various challenges of the evolution of the Information Society today and in the future.

In 2006, the Global Forum took place in the wonderful City Hall of Paris under the topic “Digital Convergence: Ways towards a more competitive, mobile and inclusive knowledge-based society”.

In 2007, the Global Forum moved to the historical and magic City of Venice. The topic under discussion was “Global Convergence 2.0- Integration & Innovation”

In 2008, the Global Forum took place in Athens, Greece; the theme was COLLABORATIVE CONVERGENCE, Users Empowerment in the Global Digital Economy.

In 2009, the Global Forum has been organized in an historical place of the city of Bucharest: The Palace of the Parliament in Bucharest, Romania. The main theme was: ICT & The Future of Internet, Opportunities for Stimulating & Reshaping the Economy.

In 2010, for its return in Washington DC, the Global Forum 2010 took place in the Marvin Center, George Washington University. The main topic discussed was: ICT For an Empowered Society, A Smart and Innovative World.

1992-2010 GLOBAL FORUM / SHAPING THE FUTURE

November 2010	Washington DC, USA	ICT For an Empowered Society A Smart and Innovative World
October 2009	Bucharest, Romania	ICT & The Future of Internet Opportunities for Stimulating & Reshaping the Economy
October 2008	Athens, Greece	Collaborative Convergence Users Empowerment in the Global Digital Economy
November 2007	Venice, Italy	Global Convergence 2.0 – Integration & Innovation Building the Collaborative Knowledge Society
November 2006	Paris, France	Digital Convergence: Ways towards a more competitive, mobile and inclusive knowledge-based society
November 2005	Brussels, Belgium	The Broad Convergence Act II: Promoting Services for Businesses & Communities in a Global Knowledge Based Economy
November 2004	Malmö, Sweden	The Broad Convergence: Promoting Services & Applications for Businesses & Communities in a Knowledge Based Economy
November 2003	Rome, Italy	Connecting Businesses & Communities: ICT strategies in an Emerging Knowledge Based Economy & Society
October 2002	Washington DC, USA	The Promise of Broadband Services
October 2001	Newcastle, United Kingdom	Expanding the Global e-Society
October 2000	Sophia-Antipolis, France	Towards a Global e-Society
November 1999	Sophia-Antipolis, France	New Satellite and Terrestrial Applications
November 1998	French Senate, Paris, France	Networked Communities
September 1997	Sophia-Antipolis, France & Rome, Italy	Smart Communities Forum: Economic Development in a Global Information Society
June 1996	New York / Washington / San Francisco / Silicon Valley, USA	Smart Communities Forum: US Tour of Cities and Regions
September 1995	Kyoto, Japan	The Second Europe / Japan Forum on Communications
June 1994	Paris, France	Europe / Japan Forum on Cooperation and Competition in Communications
June 1993	Rome, Italy	Europe / United States Meetings on Cooperation and Competition in the Field of Com.
January -February 1992	Washington / New York, USA	Europe / United States Meetings on Cooperation and Competition in Telecommunications

What Participants Say over the years...

I thought that this year the Global Forum was particularly interesting. I am so pleased that you invited me.

**Donald Abelson, Fellow,
University of Southern California, USA**

I just wanted to warmly thank you for the invitation to the Global Forum 2006. I really loved the people I met during the Forum. It is a wonderful and unique event bringing together so many diverse, creative, and intellectual people and the City Hall of Paris is wonderful.

Hélène Abrand, Consulta France

Thank you again for hosting another excellent Global Forum. Judging from the calibre of participation this was the best Global Forum ever and I think you deserve tremendous credit for pulling together so many diverse and talented individuals from across political, business, and academic institutions. There were many excellent intellectual presentations. You have a special audience and a special gift for bringing people together.

There is no substitute for physical meetings

Anyway, I hope you can tell that I am a big fan of the Global Forum and will be delighted to participate and support you in the future. Thanks so much for including me again this year. C'est fantastique!

Steven Adler, Program Director, IBM Data Governance Solutions, IBM Corp., USA

Hello and thanks for a wonderful event.

Pras Anand, Journalist/EU Correspondant, Social Computer Mag, UK

Congratulations on a very successful Global Forum. I was very impressed with the high level and the diversity of the discussions as well as I was fascinated by exceptional quality of your organization.

Raphael Attias, Director Innovation & Development, ORT France, France

Thank you for a memorable event!

Robert Bell, Executive Director, Intelligent Community Forum (ICF), USA

*Greetings from Ottawa! I am writing to thank you for the successful global forum you put for us. I was very happy to be there. I learned a lot about many different things. I made some good contacts and I am looking forward to see you again next year at the Global forum 2007
Merci!*

Youssef Berbash, ICT Resercher, Ottawa Global Marketing, Ottawa Centre for Research & Innovation, Canada

"Just want to send you a short message to congratulate you on a well organized Global Forum this year (as last year). Thank you very much for inviting me. I met several people with common interests, and I am already discussing further collaboration with some of them."

Lasse Berntzen, Associate Professor Estfold University College, Norway

Back in Geneva, we would like to send you these few lines to thank you for your hospitality and the opportunity you have given to Geneva in the framework of the Global Forum 2006. We have been particularly fascinated by the density of this event and the very easy and amicable nature of the exchanges and established contacts.

Claude Bonard, République et Canton De Genève, Switzerland

Just a word to thank you again for having invited me to this marvellous forum. The session on the evolution of public services and democracy has been of great interest for me. My very best congratulations for having succeeded in raising and bringing to maturity the tree who's planting I still remember.

Bruno Brochier, Conseiller Cour des comptes, France

"Thank you so much for having me at the conference. I made excellent contacts and I have been recommending the conference since to many people and asked them to join next year. Looking forward to the next time"

Hellmuth Broda, Vice-President Business Development, First Ondemand, Switzerland

*The positive outcome of the Global Forum of this year has been already announced to me by my collaborators.
It is with great pleasure that I express my congratulations to you and to the entire staff that has supported you!*

Danilo Oreste Broggi, Chief Executive Officer, Consip S.p.A., Italy

Thanks you once again for a very stimulating conference.

Peter F Brown, Chair, CEN eGovernment Focus Group Austrian Federal Chancellery, ICT-Strategy Unit, Austria

"I so enjoyed the conference. Thank you for including me."

Judith Carr, Founder and CEO Envision Consulting, USA

I am sending you these few lines to thank you for your hospitality and the great opportunity you have given us in the framework of the Global Forum 2006.

This edition of the forum has been the occasion to establish valuable contacts and to initiate new projects. The remarks on the forum I heard from other participants have been extremely positive, especially from the U.S. attendees, and I share them:

- this is my favourite event in the year; I attend each time; the content is rich. Bravo and thank you

Michel Chevallier, Secrétaire d'Etat, Chancellerie d'état, Switzerland

I just wanted to warmly thank you for the invitation of Proxim in Athens and to give such a important place to us to the Global Forum 2006. This was great and a very impressive event due to the high level and quality of speakers and attendees.. En un mot, un sans faute, et nous nous réjouissons d'avance de pouvoir participer au prochain. Congratulations for this edition

Lionel Chmielewsky, Senior Vice President , Proxim International, France

It was a delight to work with you all at the Global Forum. Thank you, -- I thought the attendance at this Global Forum was unparalleled -- very knowledgeable crowd and genteel too!

Patricia Cooper, Chief, Regional & Bilateral Affairs,FCC International Bureau, USA

Thanks for all, the opportunity to explain my point of view and to appreciate the other ones and also for the gentleness!

Fiorello Cortiana , Senator, Italy

I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate to those two captivating days. I was very impressed with the high level and the diversity of the discussions as well as I was fascinated by exceptional quality of your organization. Besides the important actuality of the subject, this forum allowed me to get a lot of contacts which will be fructuous for my Ministry in a long term.

Sophie Coutor, Civil Administrator ; Chargée de Mission, Ministère de l'intérieur, France

Congratulations for this fantastic Global Forum.

Edith Cresson, Former French Prime Minister- Presidente Fondation Ecole de la Deuxième Chance

It was a real pleasure to attend the Global Forum Forum 2006. Thank you again regarding the quality of the speakers and the dinner cruise on the "Seine".

Joao Da Silva, Director for Network and Communication Technologies, DG Information Society and Media, European Commission

Thank you for the opportunity of attending the Global Forum 2005 this week. I was impressed with the quality of both the presenters and delegates. I found the short presentations very useful and it meant the presenters had to be much focussed and through having many presenters, different viewpoints could be given. Thanks again for a very informative forum.

Peter Daniel, Business Development Manager ,Selex Communications Limited, UK

Congratulation for your very nice and fruitful symposium.

Alain Ducass, Head of "Digital Country planning team", DIACT - French Prime Minister Service, France

"A wonderful pleasure to join you and participate in this excellent event. I appreciate the opportunity and I look very forward to continued communications together and participation in the future.

Would like to refer back to a few that I thought added great value and generation of ideas for innovation and growth in collaboration."

Michael Dziekan, Director of Research & Solutions Strategy, Cognos an IBM Company, USA

I wanted to thank you for everything you did and for your organization efforts before and during the Global Forum

Nehal F. El Naggat , Ministry of State for Administrative Development, Egypt

Thank you again for having me speak at the Global Forum. The conference was a huge success and you did a fantastic job....as usual. You had a great selection of top-notch people attending and it was great meeting a lot of them.

Robert Flaim, Supervisory Special Agent, US Department of Justice – FBI, USA

"I wanted to thank you and your team very much for having had the opportunity to participate at the Global Forum in Athens and present our party profiling tool 'EU Profiler' for the EU elections 2009

I enormously appreciated the warm welcome at this wonderful place in the city of Athens, the interesting conversations with so many participants as well as the inspiring exchanges about the projects among the session 8 participants."

Gabriela Felder, National Competence Center for Research -NCCR- Zurich University, Switzerland

"The Global Forum 2008 was a huge success. Thank you!"

Susan Fisenne, Confidential Assistant Office of Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate, USA

Warm thanks. It was really, a great experience.

Piero Formica, Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Jonkoping University, Sweden

Thank you once again for this excellent conference and the splendid framework as well as for your positive feedback on the presentations of the European Commission. I am sure that the conference has contributed to creating or strengthening networks of contacts.

Peter Friess, Project officer, Directorate D: Network and Communication Technologies, European Commission

Thank you so much for inviting me to participate in the Global Forum 2006. You have done a fantastic job. Thank you for the USB key given during the Forum, the speaker profile was very useful. Following the Global Forum, I have been invited to work in a workshop in the framework of the European Program « e-gouvernet ». Thank you!

Jacques Gautier, Project manager in broadband networks & services, Conseil Général du Finistère, France

I wanted to thank you so very much again for inviting me to participate in the Global Forum.

This year's Global Forum was an incredibly impressive event – engaging, high level speakers, breath taking setting and exquisite food. All in all – a perfect combination!!!

Julia Glidden, Managing Director, 21c Consultancy Ltd, UK

Thanks so much for allowing me to sit in on the Global Forum 2007 in Paris. Although my time was very limited this time, I thought the format, attendees and content were excellent and very interesting.

This type of platform to share on so many topics and levels is rare. I was proud to be a small part and hope to be more involved in the future.

LaVeta Gibbs, Directeur IP Telephony, Cisco systems, USA

« Thank you very much for your invitation in Athens. It was very interesting. »

Stephane Grumbach, French director of the Sino-French IT Lab LIAMA, INRIA, China

It was wonderful. Thank you for all the good work you do. Yes, I look forward to going next year. Have you chosen a location yet.

L. Marie Guillory, Guillory & Hjort, PLLC, USA

On behalf of all of us at e-Ja in Poland and CLAN in Scotland I would like to thank you and your efficient Global Forum team for the opportunity to have participated in this exciting and prestigious event. We greatly enjoyed all of it: the sessions, the discussions, accompanying events, the plentiful opportunities to meet others, Brussels itself, and last, but not least, your competent hospitality. I do sincerely hope and wish you that each next Global Forum will be even more successful than its predecessor because the event truly deserves it.

Igor Hansen e-Ja & CLAN Systems Ltd, Poland

"First and foremost of all: thank you so much for another great conference, which gave us (and the Chinese delegation in particular, of course) a splendid opportunity to connect to the international discussions on convergence. I think I can see on behalf of every group member: We all enjoyed the conference and the social setting very much!"

Thomas Hart, Regulatory Expert EU-China Information Society Project, China

"I would like to congratulate you on the success of this edition of the Global Forum. It has been a great pleasure for me to be involved in this event on "Shaping the Future.

ITEMS International has done a great job both in the organisational aspects and in bringing together speakers of very high level.

All the presentations were most interesting, and to have them available online is of great use for us. "

Marta Cimas Hernando, Advisor of Francisco Ros, State Secretary for Telecommunications and Information Society Ministry of Industry, Spain

Thank you very much for inviting me to Global Forum 2006. I really enjoyed it.

Maitland Hyslop, Strategic Development Director, ONYX GROUP, UK

Thank you again for inviting me to Paris last week. I enjoyed the conference and made many new friends.

John Jung, Chairman, Intelligent Community Forum (ICF), USA

"Congratulations for the success of your conference."

Irene Kamberidou, Senior Lecturer of the University of Athens & Member The European Centre for Women and Technology –ECWT-, Greece

It was our pleasure to be able to participate in the Forum early this month. It was both very informative and inspirational. We have appreciated also the meeting arrangements that you have made with governments. We truly appreciate the efforts you have taken for us.

Hiroko Kasahara, Research and Consulting Division, Japan Research Institute Ltd. Japan

It was a great pleasure to attend the Global Forum. I have really enjoyed the exchanges

Christoforos Korakas, Project Manager, ACCESS2dEMOCRACY, Greece

I want to express my sincere gratitude for having invited our Company to participate in the Global Forum 2006 Shaping the Future.

It was of tremendous value for me to have the opportunity to talk and discuss topics on ICT with many qualified participants. They were always absolutely friendly and ready to share opinions and find common interests. I'm very glad that I've become acquainted with you.

Forum's well thought-out program made me see the high quality of organization and great work done by its management during years. I'm sure all participants felt very comfortable at the event. The Forum encouraged me to generate new ideas and widen my business outlook.

As first participants from Ukraine we would like to maintain our business relationships and involve Ukrainian ICT community to International and Global Opinions exchange if you don't mind certainly.

Maria Konskaya, VP Finance and Strategy Department PDS Ltd, Ukrainia

I would like to thank very much for the invitation to attend the 2006 Global Forum. It was a great experience and I and Tigran enjoyed very much the inspiring meetings and the company of the international community gathered on that occasion. We were able to establish and strengthen contacts which are very useful for the endeavours of the OSCE Office in Yerevan to support Armenia's international IT activities.

May I also express my respect for the excellent organization of the event and the hospitality we had the privilege to enjoy, not least due to your outstanding personality.

Jeannette Kloetzer, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Yerevan office, Armenia

You have all done a good job. The conferences were of high standard and run in a professional manner. I enjoyed my stay in Paris.

Nitya Karmakar, Professor, University of Western Sydney, Australia

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to participate at the Global Forum. The event was very well organized bringing together very bright minds and key officials on a common platform to share ideas and thoughts on the important topic of Convergence. I greatly benefited from attending the event.

Sai Sandeep Krishna, National Institute for Smart Government, India

Thank you so much for inviting me to participate in the 2005 Global Forum. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting the government officials and industry leaders who are helping to shape the course of electronic commerce- it was a truly exciting event. Additionally, the venues you selected around the Forum were nothing short of spectacular. The Global Forum is quite an accomplishment- you should be very, very proud.

Jon Leibowitz, Commissioner, Federal Trade Commission, USA

*You have done a fantastic job and all team members were very cooperative. I was impressed with the quality of both the presenters and delegate and met interesting people.
See you next year!*

Professor Louis Lareng, France

Many thanks The conference in Venice was outstanding.

Andrew Lipman, Partner and Head of Telecom Group, Bingham McCutchen, USA

Congratulations for the Quality of the Global Forum and thank you so much for having been associated.

Eric Legale, Managing Director Issy-Media, City of Issy-les-Moulineaux

I would like to congratulate you on a successful conference and to thank you for inviting me to participate. So many interesting people created a stimulating forum and good conversation and ideas.

Judith G. Logan, U.S. Department of the Treasury, International Affairs, USA

For me and Mario it was a great pleasure to be part of the Global Forum

Massimiliano Lisa, Amministratore Delegato, Leonardo3 Srl, Italy

I warmly thank you for your kind invitation for such a high level conference (organized so well by your care) within a so splendid framework. I can assure you that the very positive echoes of the debates which take place during the conferences have already reached Brussels and particularly the Head of the European Commission.

Cecilio Madero, Director DG Competition, European Commission

"Thank you for the invitation and the opportunity to be part of this great event".

Rolf Lührs, Head of Department for Interactive Communication, TuTech Innovation GmbH, Germany

It was a great pleasure meeting you and to have participated in the Global Forum that have been a great experience.

Ranjit Makkuni, President, Sacred World foundation, India

Thank you very much for the excellent organisation, the warm hospitality and the opportunity to present some of our ideas and realisations in providing support to enterprises. I would like to add that you made an excellent choice regarding the premises; I have been impressed by the splendour and the beauty of the City Hall of Paris. I will also remember the various interesting meetings during the conference. A great success! It is with great pleasure that I will join you next year if you decide to renew this experience.

Cristina Martinez Gonzalez,

ICT for Enterprise Networking, European Commission

I would like to thank you for your hospitality and effectiveness. The Global Forum also allowed us to make some interesting contacts It was a great pleasure to assist at this 15th Global Forum..

**Francis Merlin, Responsable des Opérations Extérieures,
TDF, France**

Thank you very much for this globally great event: interesting and inspiring program in inspiring environment with many high level and nice participants.

Eunika Mercier-Laurent, Global Innovation Strategies, France

"As usual, the Conference was very well organized and I thanks to it, I had good possibilities to meet interesting people.

The Conference served to better understanding the problems, which are very important now for the current state of the Armenian science and economy."

Hamlet Navasardyan, Head of Armenian Branch Office of ISTC, Armenia

I appreciate all your hospitality that you gave me at Global Forum.

It is always a wonderful conference, and I can exchange information regarding many topics and be inspired through the conversation with many VIPs from various kinds of sectors and companies/entities.

I am very honoured that I could attend the wonderful conference.

Eikazu Niwano, Senior Research Engineer NTT Corporation, Japan

"I found it a very interesting event where it was possible to exchange ideas with very knowledgeable participants."

Thomas Nagues, Director of Technology EMEA, Motion Picture Association, Belgium

Congratulations for this successful event according to what I saw and what I heard from the attendees. I found the quality of the presentations very high and loved their perspectives in the future

Catherine Nouaillhac, France

Before the holiday season takes over and the New Year begins, I just wanted to make sure I took the opportunity to officially thank you for inviting me to participate in this year's Global Forum. This year's forum proved to be the best so far, which is saying quite a bit, since the previous two were incredibly thought-provoking themselves. So, I expect that the Global Forum will continue to be a valuable venue for us to exchange ideas and information.

Brent Olson, Assistant Vice President , SBC Services, Inc., USA.

"This is just a quick note to say how much I appreciated the opportunity to attend the Global Forum in Athens which I found richly rewarding and stimulating and I'd like to thank the conference organisers (and speakers) for a great job. There were excellent presentations which could served as useful reference points for some time to come".

Kevin A. Painting Senior Programme Coordinator, Communication Channels and Services Department (CCSD) CTA

"Thank you for your hard work in organising the conference."

Nancy Pascall, Gender Policy Coordinator, DG INFSO, Directorate C - Lisbon Strategy and Policies for the Information Society, European Commission/

I would like to thank you for inviting me to this international event. The Global Forum is one of the rare conferences which allows participants to get useful contacts in both convivial and professional atmosphere with a real thought on the ITs' future and usefulness in every continent of the globe.

Congratulations!

Pierre Pecastaings, head of Mission, French Ministry of Economy and Finance

A big « MERCI » to you! It was fascinating!

Alice Pézard, Président de Chambre, Cour d'appel de Paris, France

First, congratulations and my personal thanks to you both on another very enjoyable, bracing and successful Global Forum! It was a great privilege and pleasure to participate in Global Forum 2006 in Paris. The content, environment and networking were excellent with many new friendships and potential partnerships being established. It was also my first and very enjoyable boat trip "under the bridges of Paris".

Tracey Pitt Chief Executive ETR²A, UK

"Thanks to both of the Global Forum 2008 the high level of organizational proficiency and the very useful and interesting professional part. I will definitely want to be present at the next event as well" :-)

It was a pleasure for Marianna to participate on such a wonderfully organized and professionally challenging event. Congratulations and keep up the good work!"

Marianna Posfai, leader of the eHungary Project, eHungary Center, Hungary

"Thank you for the feedback and for including me in your program. I continue to believe this is one of the best events for networking with global government and industry leaders."

Todd Ramsey, Managing Director, US Federal, IBM Corporation, USA

"It has been a great pleasure for me to meet you in Athens, and to take part in The Global Forum 2008 "Shaping the Future".

The Global Forum enables governments, corporations and representatives of the civil society to meet and share different points of view in order to work together on the evolution of the Information Society, which I believe is the required approach. As geographic and social barriers vanish, the challenges we face become global and demand efforts that go beyond the powers of local authorities.

I would like to congratulate ITEMS International, and especially both of you, on the success of this edition of The Global Forum. The presentations of all the speakers were most interesting, and to have them available online is a very useful initiative.

The motto of The Global Forum 2008 "Collaborative Convergence: Users Empowerment in the Global Digital Economy" is totally in line with the concerns of Spain on these issues. As I had the opportunity to explain in my presentation, convergence has become the new paradigm. One of the goals of our "Plan Avanza" is to improve IT technological awareness and usage for all citizens, focusing on areas such as e-Government, e-Education and e-Health.

Spain is deeply committed to the development of the Telecommunications sector and the Information Society, and thus we are willing to participate in any future events of this nature.

I would also like to thank you on behalf of the entire Spanish delegation for your kind attention towards us."

Francisco Ros, Spanish State Secretary for Telecommunications and the Information Society

Thank you. The Advisory Council members were very impressed with the setting at the Palais and appreciated the opportunity to attend the forum sessions. The dinner was marvellous an excellent opportunity to network with the other forum delegations

Henry J F Ryan, Managing Director, Lios Geal Consultants Ltd, Ireland

Dear Dr. Toporkoff,

Thank you so much for your hospitality and useful networking opportunities at your Global Forum.

I really enjoyed. With Best Regards from Finland,

Aatto J. Repo, Finland

Sylviane, this is just a note to tell you that Kitzi and I absolutely LOVED the Global Forum. It was a great program.

The conference itself was very rich in its content, and, as usual, the social events were spectacular. We count ourselves as very fortunate to have been invited. In the meantime, again please accept our gratitude for this very special occasion.

Thomas J. Rosch, Commissioner, Federal Trade Commission, USA

«Once again thank you very much for the Global Forum 2008 in Athens, evrybody agree that it was a huge success. Everything was excellent : the 'organisation, the quality of the speakers, The depth of the debates, the exceptional site and the welcome»

Gérald Santucci, Head of Unit, D.4: Networked Enterprise & Radio Frequency Identification - RFID-, European Commission

“Congratulation for another successful Global Forum.”

Miriam Sapiro, President Summit Strategies International, USA

It was a pleasure to be there and participate in a very interesting session. I am sure my Managing Director is looking forward to next year opportunity to join. The networking part with the attendees was also very interesting.

Roberto Saracco, Telecom Italia Lab

« I am particularly anxious to thank you for this edition(publishing) of Global Forum. There were many meetings and interesting and fruitful discussions.”

Philippe Scheimann, CEO Ayala Alternative Organizational Consulting, Israel

On behalf of Motorola, I would like to thank you for our opportunity to participate in the Global Forum 2005. You are to be congratulated for organizing a very worthwhile and lively event to which we are proud to associate our name. The wealth of ideas and thought leadership this forum has generated together with the tremendous opportunities it gave us to network with business and government leaders certainly ensures Motorola's admiration and support for your endeavours. Again, many thanks! Félicitations et Bravo!!

Lizanne Scott, Senior Director Government Relations Europe Government & Enterprise Mobility Solutions , Motorola, Inc

I was extremely pleased to participate to the 16' Global Forum held in Venice!

Francesco Serra, Engineer, Noemalife spa, Italy

Many thanks for an excellent event in Venice.

I made new contacts and really had the opportunity to inform about eGovernet.

Madeleine Siosteen Thiel, Senior Programme Manager, Vinnova, Sweden

Thank you. Athens was an excellent event. An interesting well-run event as always

William Sloan Coats, White & Case LLP, USA

First you are to be congratulated for once again providing excellent leadership and vision for putting together this year's Global Forum. I think everyone had a great time and made or re-established good contacts. I guess you hear this each year when people say how can you top this?! I know how much work goes into an event like this but you are by far the most talented and gifted person I know who can get such wonderful people and venue together!

Alan Shark, Executive Director, PTI Public Technology Institute, USA

“My sincere congratulations for the Global Forum that I had the privilege to attend in Athens.”

Mario Soares de Freitas, Director Icp-Anacom, Portugal

“It was a very interesting event and hopefully even useful!

There were very interesting sessions and speakers. I've caught some new project ideas that could be of success in our area. As I said, it was a pleasure to participate in Athens.”

Kaj Söderman, Project Manager Archipelago Networks LTD, Finland

I am back in the office today and I just want to send you a follow-up note to congratulate you on a very successful Global Forum!!

It was wonderful and I know everybody really enjoyed it--all of your hard work, efforts and advance planning really paid off!

With best regards et a bientôt,

Christina Speck, Office of International Affairs, US Department of Commerce, USA

*Thank you so much for your hospitality and for inviting me in the wonderful City Hall of Paris. Guillaume and I, have met a lot of interesting and high level people during the lunch. It was a pleasure to share our ideas on convergence.
Please receive my kindest regards.*

Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate, Federal Communications Commission, USA

Thank you for the invitation and for a great event. I liked it very much and I have got a lot of new contacts in the ebusiness world. I am looking forward to the next event, Global Forum 2006, and I hope that you will provide us with date and place as soon as you know.

Terje Tøndel, Managing Director, ETIS, Belgium

“Thank you very much for your feedback and congratulations for the organization of this high profile event in Athens.”

Nina Trifonopoulou, PR & Citizenship Specialist, Microsoft Hellas, Greece

Thank you for the excellent organisation of the Global Forum 2006, in an interesting location and with many interesting participants.

Dirk Van Rooy, Principal Scientific Officer, Directorate-General Information Society and Media, European Commission

I wish to thank you for the interesting information that was given at the Global Forum. My collaborator Marc Caen, who represented me at the event, has briefed me about certain aspects which were discussed. A further reflection on the future of our Information and Knowledge Society is indeed an important matter. I will have a discussion about the Forum with my collaborators and I will let you know what the items are that we consider worthy of being discussed at a next Global Forum.

Luc Vanneste, Director General Institutions and Population, SPF Intérieur, Belgium

First of all I would like to congratulate you for the Global Forum 2005 success. I think that it was a very high level event. The Global Forum is one of the rare conferences which allows participants to get useful contacts in both convivial and professional atmosphere with a real thought on the ITs' future and usefulness in every continent of the globe. All ingredients are combined to make the innovating ideas succeeding and to speed up new ones. Thank you for all what you do.

Edouard Varvarian, General Manager, iDDOON, France

Thank you very much for your kind words and let me assure you that it was a great pleasure for me to participate in this year's Global Forum 2008.

Anne Marie Vesdrevanis, DG INFSO - European Commission

Thank you for the invitation at Global Forum 2006! It was a really well done Forum and for me personally, it was very useful.

Stan Virgiliu, Initiator and Manager, Vidaco Identity Management, Romania

I want to congratulate you on another outstanding Global Forum and thank you for including me in the event. It was superb! High quality on substance. Outstanding representation, sponsorships and speakers and exceptionally well-managed. Your Forum is always such an outstanding event. You continue to contribute to the international dialogue on information technologies and their economic, financial and political implications.

Olin Wethington, Lawyer, USA

Thank you for all your hospitality which was shown in Paris last week.

First, the Global Forum was very well organized by Items International, and was very useful to know many VIPs in ICT world.

We really enjoyed the Gala Dinner Cruise, and the lunch at the magnificent room in the Paris City Hall.

Kotaro Watanabe, Senior Manager, NTT Communications, Japan

"Thank you for organizing this wonderful event. It was my pleasure to join you and the other participants this week."

Jim C. Williams, Senior Vice President & Chief Technology Officer Motion Picture Association of America, Inc., USA

Congratulations of what was, once again, a very good Global Forum.

David Wood, Councillor, Newcastle Upon Tyne City Council, UK

"It was really very nice to meet you in Athens this year. You have finished another great Global Forum.

Hope to meet you again in the near future."

Xu Junqi, Deputy Director, China Academy of Telecommunications Research, Ministry of Information Industry, China

Global Forum 2010 – Washington DC, USA



ICT FOR AN EMPOWERED SOCIETY A SMART AND INNOVATIVE WORLD



MONDAY 8TH & TUESDAY 9TH, NOVEMBER, 2010
MARVIN CENTER, GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON DC, USA

ITEMS INTERNATIONAL



Items International is an international consulting firm based in Paris, dedicated to delivering Information & Communication Technology strategies.

Created in 1994, the company has a long experience in strategic and marketing consulting, networking, knowledge sharing and transfer. ITEMS International is specialized on ICT-related projects and initiatives and has carried out various international studies in a vast range of ICT-related fields for private Telecoms and public and private institutions, including the European Commission and the French government.

The different backgrounds and the versatility of our consultants lead to a unique company's expertise in the areas of ICT strategies, project management, services and usages.

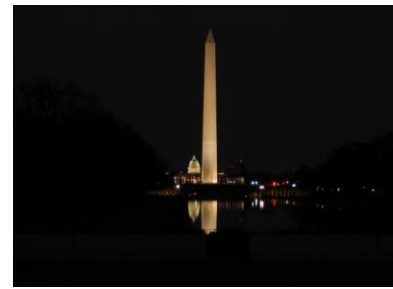


FOUNDATION SOPHIA ANTIPOLIS

The French **Sophia Antipolis Foundation** was created in 1984 by Senator Pierre Laffitte, and received state-approval for playing a fundamental role in the development of scientific and cultural activities. The purpose of the Foundation is to encourage the exchange of ideas and cooperation in scientific, industrial and cultural matters at a national, European and international level in order to create a new entrepreneurial culture, thereby turning Sophia Antipolis into an experimental laboratory for the future. Sophia Antipolis is a Science Park taking pride in being internationally recognized as one of the most dynamic and fastest growing technological and scientific hubs in Europe and a "best practice" site for innovation.



GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY (GW, GWU, or George Washington) is a private, coeducational comprehensive research university located in Washington, D.C. The university was chartered on February 9, 1821 as The Columbian College in the District of Columbia by an Act of Congress. It is the largest university in the nation's capital.



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Without the help and generosity of our sponsors, it would not have been possible to organise such an event. Even if these organizations are evolving in a world of competition, their support shows that they are fully aware of the importance of both formal and informal face to face discussions and the great opportunity the Forum offers to its participants to develop imaginative solutions in partnership and to create a global network based on friendly relations.

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Global Forum 2009 – Bucharest, Romania



ICT & THE FUTURE OF INTERNET

Opportunities for Stimulating & Reshaping the Economy



MONDAY 19TH & TUESDAY 20TH, OCTOBER, 2009

PALACE OF THE PARLIAMENT, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

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MINISTRY of COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION SOCIETY, Government of Romania

The mission of the Ministry of Communications and Information Society is to create solid premises that will ensure the transition to the Information Society in Romania. Changes in all domains: in administration (e-government), in business (electronic commerce), in education (long distance education), in culture (multimedia centers and virtual libraries) and in the manner of working (long distance working).



ANCOM, National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications of Romania

ANCOM is the national regulatory authority for communications of Romania, the institution that sets the rules for the national communications market and manages the radio spectrum and numbering resources. Further information about ANCOM can be found on www.ancom.org.ro.



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Global Forum 2008 – Athens, Greece



COLLABORATIVE CONVERGENCE

Users Empowerment in the Global Digital Economy

TUESDAY 21 & WEDNESDAY 22, OCTOBER, 2008
ZAPPEION MANSION, ATHENS, GREECE



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HELLENIC MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE, SPECIAL SECRETARIAT FOR DIGITAL PLANNING

The Special Secretariat of Digital Planning of the Hellenic Ministry of Economy and Finance plays a predominant role in the implementation of the Operational Program "Information Society" in Greece. The Operational Program for IS (OPIS) has been formed in order to promote IS in Greece in a cohesive and comprehensive fashion. It follows the European and International

Policies concerning IS. Digital Greece plays a crucial role in the shaping of the national policy for the development of IT in the economy and in the public administration.

Professor Vassilios Asimakopoulos has been the Digital Planning Secretary Special since the 5th of April 2004.



CITY OF ATHENS

The enchanting capital of Greece has always been a birthplace for civilization. It is the city where democracy was born and most of the wise men of ancient times. The most important civilization of ancient world flourished in Athens and relives through some of the world's most formidable edifices. Nikitas Kakkamanis, a medical doctor, former European parliamentarian and government minister, became Athens' 50th mayor at the beginning of 2007. He is very involved with his international responsibilities. The City of Athens has developed a series of modern IT systems to accommodate not only the internal needs of the Municipality of Athens but also to facilitate citizens in their everyday life.



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Global Forum 2007 – Venice, Italy

Alto Patronato del Presidente della Repubblica Italiana
Haut Patronage du Président de la République Française
Patrocinio del Ministro Italiano per le Riforme e le Innovazioni nella Pubblica Amministrazione
Patrocinio della Confindustria Servizi Innovativi e Tecnologici



GLOBAL CONVERGENCE 2.0 INTEGRATION & INNOVATION

Building the Collaborative Knowledge Society

MONDAY 5 & TUESDAY 6 NOVEMBER, 2007

FONDAZIONE GIORGIO CINI, VENICE, ITALY

Isola di San Giorgio Maggiore, Venezia



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CITY OF VENICE



Venice is an extraordinary city, a unique place in the world, but it is also a usual place where people live, work and study. Venice is one of the most visited cities in the world. In Venice, every day, the Mayor and the Councillor can both meet "ambassadors" from all over the world, to discuss important matters in the field of art, culture, finance, science and politics, and meet their own citizens: Information and Communication Technology must be at the service of this peculiar city.

According to the Mayor Massimo Cacciari policies, ICT projects in Venice are therefore oriented to the creation of communication infrastructures and services for people living, working or studying in the city (i.e. local e-government, portals of the various services, the broadband network for the local government,...) and for the nearly 20 million tourists visiting Venice every year (i.e. the "Value Added Services" - the new network of services supporting transport, the access to artistic and cultural resources, global information and communication, mobility...).



ULSS 8 of Asolo

Realizing an organized plan of e-health, the Corporation ULSS 8 of Asolo achieved some best practices: the digital clinical Report File (depository) with 6 millions of case histories on line; a system of information's tracing RFID for sick person / trained nurse / drug; the self bringing of personal clinical history for each private citizen; the clinical reports are consulting on line from the private citizen; an evolved system of e-learning and of multimedia e education; the financial management with digital signature.

The ULSS of Asolo takes part to international actions on digital developments.



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Global Forum 2006 – Paris, France

DIGITAL CONVERGENCE

Towards a more competitive, mobile and inclusive knowledge-based information society

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH & FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH, 2006
HÔTEL DE VILLE de PARIS, FRANCE
5 Rue Lobau – 75004 Paris



ITEMS INTERNATIONAL

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- Strategic consultancy on telecommunications, market segmentation, support to the development of European businesses in the US, Japan and other countries, as well as of foreign businesses in Europe.
- Research and development in areas such as regulatory policy and economic aspects, interconnection issues, Information & Communication Technology (ICT) market research and international comparative analyses, strategic development for industrialists, operators and local/ regional/ national authorities.

Items annually organizes the "Global Forum / Shaping the Future" think tank in association with the Sophia-Antipolis Foundation, the European Commission and a number of international sponsors and experts. Dr. Sylviane Toporkoff, Vice-President of Items International, created and launched the "Global Forum / Shaping the Future" initiative in 1992 and has run the event for over a decade now. Her academic research and numerous contributions to private and public sector projects all over the world, including the European Union, enabled her to build a unique and high-quality network of relationships among those who shape the future of our society, throughout Europe, the United States, Japan, South East Asia, Latin America and elsewhere.



FOUNDATION SOPHIA ANTIPOLIS

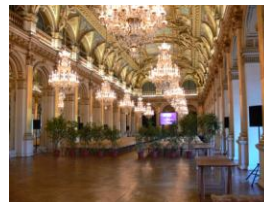
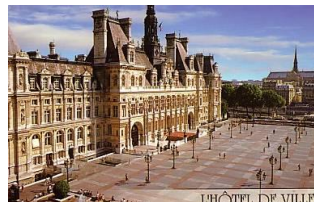
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CITY OF PARIS, The Digital City



Paris, one of the leading ICT cities in the world, disposes of a unique network in terms of coverage and the number of Internet providers offering high speed connections. Universal Internet service will be offered for free to the Parisians by 2008 – this also includes WiFi for a 100% coverage in the near future. Several hundreds of companies working in the ICT sector are located in Paris and its neighbouring departments. The ICT sector alone generated more than 300,000 jobs in the region. As regards the social dimension, the City of Paris benefits from an important network of associations deeply rooted in the life of the city's districts. They support the efforts of the municipality by providing access to ICT for those who don't have access elsewhere. Paris also possesses a strong potential of technological projects emanating from high level universities and a large number of internationally recognized research institutes



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Global Forum 2005 – Brussels, Belgium

THE BROAD CONVERGENCE – ACT II

Promoting Services & Applications for Businesses & Communities in a Knowledge Based Society

NOVEMBER, MONDAY 7TH & TUESDAY 8TH, 2005
PALAIS D'EGMONT – BRUSSELS – BELGIUM



ITEMS INTERNATIONAL
 (www.items-int.com)

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- Research and development in areas such as regulatory policy and economic aspects, interconnection issues, Information & Communication Technology (ICT) market research and international comparative analyses, strategic development for industrialists, operators and local/ regional/ national authorities.
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BELGIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The **Belgian Federal Government** has a long tradition in using ICT in administrations and governance: Already a decade ago, the Belgian Social Security Administration was using breaking edge technology with its Crossroads Bank for Social Security – an electronic information system connecting different databases in respect with all privacy issues related to social security, health information etc.

Today, with the introduction of the Electronic Identity Card, Belgium is attracting major partners in the ICT industry and positions itself as one of the more advanced countries in the field of eGovernment.

In 2005, Belgium is celebrating the 175th anniversary of its independence and the 25th anniversary of the federal state. This festive year, which is dedicated to looking forward to the future, encourages and provides many opportunities for coming together. This special year is about exchanging ideas between cultures, between generations, between the political, economic and social worlds, and between citizens. The Global Forum/Shaping the Future fits very well with these objectives.



PALAIS D'EGMONT The magnificent **Palais d'Egmont** belongs to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and is used for meetings of Heads of State and Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

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Global Forum 2004 – Malmö, Sweden

THE BROAD CONVERGENCE

Promoting Services & Applications for Businesses & Communities in a Knowledge Based Economy

**NOVEMBER, THURSDAY 4TH & FRIDAY 5TH, 2004
MALMÖ CITY HALL – SWEDEN**



THE CITY OF MALMÖ

Host for the Global Forum 2004 was the City of Malmö, capital of the Region of Skane, the commercial center of southern Sweden and part of the crossborder Oresund Region between Sweden and Denmark.

Sweden prides itself of being one of the world's foremost countries of innovation and Skåne belong to the most innovative regions in Europe. The Region has shown itself to be an excellent breeding ground for innovations and new technology. Long-term investments in education, research and communications in order to create good conditions for growth and sustainable development are paying off.

The success story of Malmö is a perfect example. In recent years Malmö has undergone a transition from being an industrial city to a city of knowledge. Older industries have been replaced by investments in new technology and training programmes of high calibre. There are a number of well-known companies within IT and digital media fields, biotechnology and medical technology & environmental technology. Co-operation between colleges, science parks, and companies provides a platform for innovations, creative development and new businesses, in Malmö.

The promotion of transborder co-operation in the Oresund Region, linking southern Sweden with the Danish Capital area has generated one of the most dynamic growth area in Europe.



MALMÖ TOWN HALL

Erected in 1546, this building was altered and improved in 1812, and enlarged and embellished in 1864-69. The gilded inscription above the second storey's windows gives a brief account of the history of the Town Hall. The original building, which is hidden behind the present walls, was erected at a time when Malmö had reached the height of its glory during the mayoralty of the celebrated mayor Jörgen Kock.

The style of architecture is Late Gothic, with stepped gables and oriel-like windows in the upper storey. It was in the same period that the 'great market place' was created. In the 1860's, the Town Hall was transformed. The Gallery of Mirror at Versailles served as model for the Knut Banqueting Chamber. The rich stucco ornamentation now makes closer to the Baroque style. For the exterior, the architect chose a touch of Dutch Renaissance. During the 1950's, the latest major rebuilding was begun, all of which was completed by 1965.

Throughout three centuries the Town Hall has accommodated every kind of activity. Here evening entertainments, concerts and banquets have been held, and here weddings and Royal Commemoration Days have been celebrated. In olden days, criminals were kept in safe custody in the cellar vault, while close by, German beer and Rhine wine of various sorts were being handed out. The latter activity still takes place in the cellar – the part of the Town Hall that has best preserved its original character.

International Press Coverage Over the Years

Global Forum 2010

NETWORKWORLD

This story appeared on Network World at <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2010/111210-global-forum.html>

Global Forum 2010 spotlights trends in "Open Innovation" and Broadband Economic Development

By Jay Gillette, Special to Network World, Network World
November 12, 2010

With a theme of advancing economic development worldwide, the 19th annual Global Forum met this week in the U.S. for the first time since 2002.

Called "the Davos of IT," Global Forum's annual themes often track world trends in the information and communication industries. Attracting invited participants from 28 countries, this year's talks focused on the theme, "ICT for an Empowered Society: A Smart and Innovative World."

Japan, for example is pursuing a "Smart Cloud" development strategy. It takes as given that there is a foundation of advanced infrastructure, and is now targeting applications with greater user participation and market uptake.

Yasuhiko Taniwaki, of Japan's Global ICT Strategy Bureau, notes that by next March, Japan will have 90% penetration in fiber-to-the-home, and 98% of subscribers will have 3G mobile devices. "So we have the broadband infrastructure," he said, and the challenge now is to increase uptake from the current 60% use of broadband services, when in fact Japan effectively has 100% availability.

In contrast, the United States is still working on a national broadband policy. Former FCC Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein, now Administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Services (RUS) program, used the conference to reinforce his agency's Nov. 9 announcement that it will partner with the FCC's continuing development of the national broadband plan. The RUS program will add value by its long experience and database of information on rural communications deployment, he said.

Numerous questions arose in the conference about the FCC's way forward in policy, after the midterm elections. FCC representatives, including Chairman Julius Genachowski, said policy initiatives already announced will continue.

Potential conflicts on [network neutrality](#) or spectrum reallocation were not emphasized, so those issues continue to loom unresolved in the United States policy arena.

Europeans, however, are incorporating communications policy as part of advancing the region's development. A new "Europe2020" economic initiative counts information and communication technology as one of its seven pillars of support. In May, the European Commission released its "[Digital Agenda for Europe](#)," with the vision "Every European Digital."

The "Digital Agenda" includes a heavy emphasis on research and development investment. Europe lags in information and communications R&D at 17% of total ICT spend, compared with the United States at 29% of ICT spend. Government innovation and support for R&D need new investment, and new intellectual premises, the Europeans argue.

Francisco García Morán, of the European Directorate General for Informatics, introduced his organization's new initiative on "Interoperability Solutions for Public Administration." Funded at 164 million euros for the next five years, its purpose is to coordinate eGovernment framework, policies and law, services, and generic tools across the EU's 27 member countries.

Europe now leads the world with six of the top 10 eGovernment countries. The "Digital Agenda" seeks to develop eGovernment actions support the EU's policy of allowing any European to be an entrepreneur, to work, to study, to retire, in any European country.

Concerns about shortcomings in R&D have also led the Global Forum to focus on new approaches and intellectual ideas for innovation. The largest session in the conference was titled "Open Innovation: Strategies and Policies," with 13 speakers.

Following the approach of California-Berkeley professor Henry Chesbrough, Europe's Open Innovation

Strategy and Policy Group identified five key elements in the new innovation process:

1. Networking
2. Collaboration involving partners, competitors, universities, and users
3. Corporate entrepreneurship, corporate venturing, start-ups and spin-offs
4. Proactive intellectual property management: to buy and sell intellectual property and so create markets for technology
5. Research and development (R&D): for competitive advantage on the marketplace

However, session chair Bror Salmelin, of the European Commission, said the open innovation movement needed to advance beyond the Chesbrough foundations:

"We would like strongly to communicate a more modern view on open innovation. We need to go far beyond, towards crowdsourcing, co-creativity and collaborative open innovation ecosystems," Salmelin declared.

In that spirit, for the first time ever, the Global Forum introduced a new session emphasizing female technology engagement called "Global Network for Empowering Women's Innovation and Entrepreneurship."

Its keynote speaker was the U.S. State Department Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues, Melanne Verveer.

She was followed by a panel of 11 women leaders from public organizations and international companies, including Verizon, Microsoft, HP, the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), the FCC, AT&T, among others. Session moderator was attorney Thaima Samman, president of the European Network for Women in Leadership.

Verveer cited research that in developing regions, a woman is 21% less likely than a man to own a phone. Women are two-thirds of the untapped market in mobile telephony. Now mobile equipment operators are working to cut in half the ownership gap.

This initiative is encouraged and assisted as appropriate by USAID and the U.S. State Department. The State Department has also launched "Tech Women", an international program bringing female technical professionals to the U.S. for business-to-business internships.

Encouraging girls early to go into technical careers was seen as critical. This is the "pipeline behind the pipeline" for technical talent, as the panelists termed it.

Linda Zecher of Microsoft said the number of women majoring in computer science now has dropped about half. There are fewer girls taking science classes at lower education levels. Some reasons may be that girls perceive teachers favor boys in science classes; girls don't see science as "cool"; some girls won't settle for grades lower than "A" for any class, so they avoid hard science classes. To counter the

trends, Microsoft for example has a program called "DigiGirls," a mentoring program to help girls early in their educational experience to orient themselves toward technology careers.

The 2010 Global Forum conference was held at George Washington University. Sylviane Toporkoff, president of Global Forum, and a founding partner of sponsor ITEMS International, said the next Global Forum will be held in Asia or in Europe, with the city still to be announced, in fall 2011.

Gillette is professor of information and communication sciences at Ball State University, director of its Human Factors Institute, and a senior research fellow at the Digital Policy Institute. He can be reached at jgillette@bsu.edu.

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Conference Update

Countries With High, Low Broadband Adoption Both Need to Boost 'Net Usage, Panelists Say

While countries with strong broadband penetration may be looking for ways to make broadband applications more of an "everyday" experience, many people in developing countries still need to develop online experience, according to panelists at a forum on information and communications technology (ICT).

Speaking during a Nov. 8 session on collaborative government at the Global Forum in Washington, whose theme this year was "ICT for an Empowered Society," **Jeremy Millard**, senior consultant at the Danish Technological Institute, said that the next step in Denmark is to move to "everyday e-government," rather than e-government that people use only two or three times a year. Initial e-government applications, such as paying taxes or submitting license applications, make government's job easier for government, but don't address the everyday needs of citizens, he said.

Samia Melhem, senior operations officer in the Global ICT Department at the World Bank Group, said that in many developing countries, there is "no tradition of writing on the Internet." In such an environment, "our biggest asset is the educated youth in these countries," she said.

Ms. Melhem also said there is a "myth out there ... that government ... can do this by themselves." She said that when she visits e-government efforts, "I see one or two tired IT guys — rarely women — and they are saying, 'Please, tell them to outsource.'"

In response to an audience request to react to the idea put forth by Finland last year that all citizens should have a right to broadband connectivity, Ms. Melhem said, "As more and more lifesaving services are delivered over broadband, how can you deny that?"

During a Nov. 8 session on broadband investment, Rural Utilities Service Administrator **Jonathan S. Adelstein** said that his agency was able to leverage loans to "stretch" \$2.5 billion in budget authority for the Broadband Initiatives Program into \$3.5 billion in loans and grants. He emphasized the importance of broadband connections to rural areas, saying that businesses won't locate where there is no broadband service and "young

people won't stay" where there is no broadband, adding that "the biggest problem for rural areas is outmigration."



Michael Bartholomew, director of the European Telecommunications Network Operators Association (ETNO), said he sees "a strong convergence of both the U.S. national broadband plan and Europe's digital agenda," adding that he "would like to see a transatlantic digital plan." He noted that the European Union's digital agenda goals call for all European households to have access to 30 megabits per second connections by 2020 and for 50% of households to subscribe to 100 Mbps service by that date.

Thierry Zylberberg, executive vice president—strategic partnerships and general manager of the health line of business at France Telecom, said that "all sorts of [e-Health] applications don't require broadband. However, some of them will need broadband. Where you want to transfer medical images, you need broadband," he said, as well as for teleconsultation.

During a Nov. 8 keynote session, **Jean-François Junger**, who heads the ICT Sector for government and public services (DG INFSO & Media) at the European Commission, said that the political priorities of the European digital agenda are user empowerment, which includes user-driven services and transparency; a single European market; and efficiency and effectiveness.

Asked whether the U.S. would be moving to online voting anytime soon, **Tom Wilkey**, executive director of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, said, "We are taking a very cautious approach to e-voting." He added that the ECA is working with the National Institute of Standards and Technology and "hope we will be able at least to provide states and localities some best practices, standards, and technologies" for online voting. "If there's anything that will drive [online voting], it will be our zeal to accommodate our overseas voters," he said.

Industry-Government Collaboration Urged

Panelists during the forum's opening keynote session argued for industry and government collaboration to move forward "next-generation" ICT, while generally agreeing that there is no single "magic bullet" that will work in all situations.

Jose Fernandez, assistant secretary for economic, energy, and business affairs, at the U.S. State Department, said that "cooperation and dialogue on this issue is unavoidable."

Kathy Brown, senior VP-public policy development and corporate responsibility at Verizon Communications, Inc., agreed that there needs to be collaboration. "Government cannot make decisions without industry; industry cannot exclude government."

Gabrielle Gauthey, EVP-global government and public affairs at Alcatel-Lucent, said, "A new law is not needed. What is needed is to work together in envisaging ... what is reasonable network management [and] what is reasonable transparency."

Responding to a question about encouraging broadband adoption, FCC Chief of Staff **Edward Lazarus** said, "I don't think the adoption problem can be tackled by government alone." Rather, he said, industry and government "have to work together."

However, the approach will have to vary from one country to another, according to Federal Trade Commission Chairman **Jon Leibowitz**. There's "no magic bullet" for governments to use in addressing ICT issues, despite globalization he said, adding that "different nations have different regimes."

Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission Chairman **Konrad Von Finckenstein** agreed that there is "no magic bullet."

Speaking about cloud computing and Japan's "smart cloud strategy," **Yasuhiko Taniwaki**, director of the ICT Strategy Policy Division in Japan's Global ICT Strategy Bureau, said that it's important to have ways "to share the best practices of each country." However, he said that it's "too early for standardization" on smart cloud technology, but he called for avoiding "excessive 'lock-in'" to a particular approach.

Mr. Leibowitz said that the FTC is taking a "two-pronged approach" to privacy and Internet fraud, to ensure that people feel secure when using the Internet. One prong is enforcement, and the other is the policy function that the FTC has started using "more in the last 10 years," he said, although he emphasized that the agency

has had a policy-setting function since its establishment. He noted that the FTC hopes to issue its pending report on privacy "probably before the end of the year."

As for some of the things the FTC has seen in developing the report, Chairman Leibowitz said, "Our sense is that privacy policies have become way too long." He also said that the FCC wants to encourage "privacy by design." He added that companies "shouldn't collect information they don't need" and shouldn't retain information after they no longer need it. "We also want to see more transparency and consumer choice," he said.

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Net Neutrality Urged for Cloud Computing

As the European Union pursues its digital agenda, making Europe "cloud-ready" will be one of the goals, and "cloud providers need net neutrality," according to an official from the European Commission.

Maria Tsakali, a scientific officer in the European Union's Information Society and Media Directorate-General, said that European Commissioner for Digital Agenda Neelie Kroes "agrees with the FCC" in its approach to network neutrality and has "added" two more network principles to those espoused by the FCC: "the ability of national regulators to ensure a minimum level of service" and "transparency measures to assure consumers get what they pay for."

Another panelist, **Reinhard Wieck**, managing director-U.S. for Deutsche Telekom, said that two areas in technology policy on which Europe "is a little bit ahead" of the U.S. are privacy and efficient use of spectrum. European regulators enforce policies against spectrum "warehousing" by forcing licensees that don't use their spectrum to give it back, he said.

Session moderator **Andrew Lipman**, a partner in the law firm of Bingham McCutchen LLP and head of the

TELECOMMUNICATIONS REPORTS

firm's telecom group, asked the panel to predict what would be discussed at a regulatory policy panel five years hence.

Brent Olson, assistant VP—public policy at AT&T, Inc., predicted that “more and more what you're going to see is the need for cross-border balancing and coordination” regarding which rules apply as users' networks are in one country and their data is in another.

Rick Whitt, Washington telecom and media counsel for Google, Inc., said that the increasingly important role of the Web “doesn't necessarily create new issues but

casts new light on ones that have been out there.”

Jean-Pierre Chamoux, a professor at the Université Paris Descartes, said that the tension between rapid change in technology and business and slow change by government “is the problem we always cope with in technology and telecommunications.”

The forum was hosted by Paris-based consulting firm Items International, the Fondation Sophia Antipolis of France, and the George Washington University.

—*Lynn Stanton, lynn.stanton@wolterskluwer.com*

Daily, November 8th 2010

MORE 'NET USE, FROM DIFFERENT STARTING POINTS, URGED FOR DEVELOPING, DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

While countries with strong broadband penetration may be looking for ways to make broadband applications more of an “everyday” experience, many people in developing countries still need to develop online experience, according to panelists at a forum on information and communications technology (ICT) today.

Speaking a session on collaborative government at the Global Forum in Washington, whose theme this year is “ICT for an Empowered Society,” Jeremy Millard, senior consultant at the Danish Technological Institute, said that the next step in Denmark is to move to “everyday e-government,” rather than e-government that people use only two or three times a year. Initial d-government applications, such as paying taxes or submitting license applications, make government's job easier for government, but don't address the everyday needs of citizens, he said.

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Ms. Melhem also said there is a “myth out there ... that government ... can do this by themselves.” She said that when she visits e-government efforts, “I see one or two tired IT guys - rarely women - and they are saying, ‘Please, tell them to outsource.’”

In response to an audience request to react to the idea put forth by Finland last year that all citizens should have a right to broadband connectivity (TRDaily, Nov. 5, 2009), Ms. Melhem said, “As more and more life-saving services are delivered over broadband, how can you deny that?”

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INDUSTRY-GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION VIEWED AS NECESSARY TO ICT ADVANCES

Panelists at a forum on information and communications technology (ICT) today argued for industry and government collaboration to move forward "next-generation" ICT, while generally agreeing that there is no single "magic bullet" that will work in all situations.

Speaking during the keynote opening session this morning at the Global Forum, whose theme this year is "ICT for an Empowered Society," Jose Fernandez, assistant secretary for economic, energy, and business affairs, at the U.S. State Department, said that "cooperation and dialogue on this issue is unavoidable."

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COMMUNICATIONS DAILY—12 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2010

Government Input Critical for ICT, Forum Told

The urgency to solve privacy and security problems, the rise of mobile broadband use that leads to capacity crunches, and the emergence of digital media all call for the government to step up its efforts to better protect consumers, encourage investment and ensure the diversity of content, officials said at the Global Forum at George Washington University Monday.

Enforcement and policy are two approaches by the FTC to address privacy and security issues, Chairman Jon Leibowitz said. The consumers really don't understand the privacy implications and current privacy notices for the most part don't really solve the problem, he said. The commission will release a report by the end of the year outlining recommendations to offer clearer notice on data-collection practices and offer meaningful privacy safeguards, he said. Despite good practices by some companies, implementation of privacy practices has been too slow, he said. Right now it's hard to conclude that self-regulation is working well, he said. The industry should know that the Congress will step in if the industry can't protect privacy more robustly, he said, calling privacy and security a bipartisan issue. The FTC doesn't have rulemaking authority over the issue, he said. Another focus at the FTC is having international privacy dialogues with governments and groups around the world to ensure privacy protection benefits consumers across borders, he said.

The FCC is looking at government inputs like spectrum allocation and a Universal Service Fund revamp that are of great significance, said Eddie Lazarus, FCC chief of staff. The government also has a role in tackling economic issues of adoption, he said. The government itself is also an important player in the IT space, he said.

The agency also seeks to work with other countries on Internet censorship, cybersecurity and privacy issues, he said. These problems won't solve themselves, he said. Making more spectrum available is critical for the future of mobile broadband, said Tom Sugrue a vice president with T-Mobile USA.

With stimulus funds awarded, the Rural Utilities Service will continue to use its existing telecom and broadband loan programs to finance more broadband projects, said RUS Administrator Jonathan Adelstein. It's not just about building the infrastructure, it's also about building the business model, he

said. Jose Fernandez, assistant secretary for Economic, Energy and Business Affairs with the Department of State, urged governments around the world to promote innovation and development in the information and communications and technology (ICT) sector, advancing IT policy, protecting free flow of information and providing ICT support for other sectors. Digital technologies have caused and continue to cause major shifts in audience expectations and demands in Canada, said Konrad Von Finckenstein, chairman of the Canadian Radio TV and Telecom Commission. The fragmentation of traditional audiences and the challenge of new technologies have driven the industry into a wave of corporate consolidation, he said. Such consolidation means companies that own cable, satellite and Internet services, even wireless networks, now also have control over content, he said. It's critical to maintain a diversity of voices in the broadcasting system, he said.

Gabrielle Gauthey, an executive vice president at Alcatel-Lucent, urged public authorities to regulate telecom infrastructure sharing models to lower market entry barriers. Public authorities should also organize new competition models and foster competition and coverage, she said. The "explosion" of mobile data makes a new round of investment in networks absolutely necessary, she said. The rapid shift in consumer behavior toward data consumption is leading to network capacity crunch, she said. Privacy and security is a growing concern in Europe and there's not a consistent approach on data privacy, she said. Stakeholders around the world should work together on how to create better network resilience, she said.

In Japan, infrastructure coverage is moving ahead while the service lags behind, said Yasuhiko Taniwaki, a director with Global ICT Strategy Bureau in Japan. Tackling the gap between adoption rates and availability is a major task, he said. The Japanese government is encouraging cloud computing technology, he said. — ***Yu-Ting Wang***

Global Forum 2009

NETWORKWORLD

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<http://www.networkworld.com/news/2009/102709-global-forum.html>

Global Forum sees information technology driving recovery and boosting democracy

By Jay Gillette, Network World, 10/27/2009

Bucharest, Romania — Against a background of economic and political crisis, the 18th annual Global Forum this week met in Eastern Europe for the first time.

Global Forum highlights digital trust

The prestigious technology policy and development meeting emphasized the economic potential of information and communication technology (ICT) to pull the world into [recovery](#). The conference also underscored ICT's power to reinforce democratic movements in Eastern Europe and globally that are still experimental and potentially unstable.

Called "the Davos of IT," Global Forum's annual themes often track world trends in the information and communication industries. Attracting invited participants from 35 countries, conference panelists repeatedly emphasized this year's theme, "ICT and the Future of Internet: Opportunities for Stimulating and Reshaping the Economy."

The 2009 Global Forum was in part sponsored by the Office of the President of Romania and the nation's Ministry of Communications and Information Society. The head of state, President Traian Băsescu, addressed the delegates on the importance of information and communication technology to the future of his country and the region. Yet he cautioned that the industry must safeguard information integrity given widespread mistrust of state agencies and private enterprise institutions.

Băsescu said estimates of ICT impact on the Romanian economy showed it stimulates 4% of GDP savings annually through electronic payments; makes tax evasion difficult; and can result in a 10% to 15% decrease in the gray economy.

However, ICT providers and governments must assure both transparency and trust for end users, he said. Băsescu declared that given his country's prior history of governmental intrusion in personal affairs, citizens are rightly skeptical of providing ICT information, no matter how benign the application.

Băsescu spoke against a background of political crisis in Romania, as a parliamentary deadlock has resulted in calls for formation of a new government and the appointment of a new prime minister, the operational leader of government here. United States Vice President Joe Biden also visited the region this week to demonstrate American commitment to the region and its security.

President Băsescu also pointed out that the commitment to democracy may also be more compelling among the people of Eastern Europe, given that they have lived under repressive governments longer in modern times than people in more established democratic countries. Open governments with empowered people are more unusual, and more precious, he suggested, to people who have been deprived of them for long periods of their history.

Another notable plenary speaker was American ambassador Mark Gitenstein. Appointed by Barak Obama and in office in Bucharest only since July 2009, he is the first Romanian-American ever to serve in the position. Gitenstein said ICT is the economic engine that will propel continuing prosperity, especially here.

It is fitting that Romania is hosting the Global Forum this year, Gitenstein said, since ICT has been a major driver of economic development in the country. ICT here produces annual business revenues of 6.5 billion euros [\$9.77 billion], and 8% of GDP. ICT employs 50,000 workers, and the nation ranks third in global outsourcing services.

In other news, China's telecommunications and Internet growth is the continuing phenomenon of the era. According to the official Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), [China's](#) total population is 1.328 billion people, (54 % in rural areas). China's combined fixed and mobile telephone subscribers now number 1.03 billion—with 700 million mobile subscribers among them.

As of June 2009, Internet subscribers total 338 million, larger than the entire population of the United States. Of these, in August 2009, broadband users topped 97 million. The majority access the Internet through xDSL, accounting for 82% of the users.

Under the heading "Broadband as a driving force of the transformation of the economy and society of China," MIIT provided these statistics for the number of "Netizens" using each of these most popular Internet applications:

- SNS [Social Networking Sites]*, 300 million (*registration accounts)
- Online music, 289 million
- Internet news, 266 million
- Instant message, 244 million
- Search engine, 235 million
- Online video, 222 million
- Online gaming 217 million
- Email, 187 million
- Blog, 182 million
- BBS, 103 million
- Online shopping, 88 million

Xiaohui Yu of the MIIT indicated that "sales of e-commerce reached RMB 3.1 trillion [\$454 billion], 9.7% of the total retail turnover; the scale of B2C broke hundred billion RMB [\$14 billion]." Regarding e-government, he noted 100% of the branches of the central government, 100% of the province governments, 98.5% of the cities, [and] more than 95% of the county have portal Web sites" at this point for government services to Internet users.

Presenters from the China Academy of Telecommunications Research claimed [net neutrality](#) is not as pressing an issue in China as in the United States, but there have been a few recent cases where net neutrality policy would apply. For example, in 2008 a south China operator blocked or slowed traffic from competitor BT. There was another, compulsory tying case in 2007, where third-party advertisements were inserted without the agreement of users. Additionally, operators have introduced tiered services, with fast lane access to some subscribers who pay a premium for it.

The conference was held in the monumental People's Palace, the parliament building constructed by the Ceausescu government — the second largest office building in the world after the U.S.'s Pentagon. Memorably evoked by Herta Müller, winner of the 2009 Nobel Prize in Literature, the Ceausescu regime was notorious for repression and the use of extensive information apparatus for persecution of the population.

Sylviane Toporkoff, president of Global Forum, and a Founding Partner in sponsor ITEMS International, said it was symbolic of the changing era that Global Forum's open debates now take place in a building which once allowed no alternative opinions. It appears that against the shadows of political repression and global economic recession, information and communication technologies today are seen as guiding lights for a more hopeful 21st century world.

Global Forum 2010 will be held in the United States, most likely in Washington D.C. The 2011 meeting is planned for Asia, probably China, according to sources in the sponsoring organization.

Gillette is professor of information and communication sciences at Ball State University, director of its Human Factors Institute, and a senior research fellow at the Digital Policy Institute.

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Global Forum 2008

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Global Forum eyes digital trust, broadband race

By JAY GILLETTE,  IDG
Published: October 28, 2008

This year's Global Forum met last week in this paradoxically ancient and modern European city, and celebrated technological advance while noting chaotic policy environment conditions.

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Called the "Davos of IT" after the prestigious Swiss economic-policy meeting, Global Forum 2008 focused on issues of digital trust and identity, the frantic international race for broadband leadership, and pressures for reregulation in a world enduring economic crisis.

In its 17th year, Global Forum 2008 brought together information and communication technology (ICT) professionals from more than 40 countries. Among the speakers from the United States were FCC Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate and FTC Commissioner J. Thomas

Rosch. The presentations ranged from strategic to practical, from industry-centered to public-policy concerns.?

Global Forum President and co-founder Sylviane Toporkoff, who's also professor and director of a University of Paris graduate business program, noted that global ICT accounts for 8% of the world's gross domestic product. The core of Global Forum topics today is convergence, not just of new technologies and services but also of access and content, she said.

Repeated issues with digital trust and identity dominated access concerns. One of the most intriguing organizations participating in the forum was the [Global Trust Center](#). This Swedish nongovernmental organization seeks to act as a clearinghouse of digital-identity policy and rights management. It plans a global trusted-identity repository, allowing anonymous "claimed identity" as one possible orientation.

French Senator Pierre Laffitte, originator of the [Fondation Sophia Antipolis](#), a "technopolis" community and industrial complex in the French Riviera, welcomed the delegates as a forum co-sponsor. Laffitte emphasized that promotion of advanced R&D in Europe and elsewhere requires public-private venture-capital networking.

Public-private venturing was the dominant theme marking broadband-development policy. Competitive providers were seen as able to deliver broadband to urban areas worldwide, but services to rural and developing regions will require government interventions in such forms as capital guarantees, municipal networks and technology-uptake education for users.

The Greek government, for example, has embarked on an ambitious plan to provide broadband to Athens, Thessaloniki, and Greece's 50 largest cities. Four million people of

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Yet Greece intends to provide broadband at 100Mbps downstream and upstream to all these cities early in the next decade, starting as early as 2010. These are goals met today only by Korea and Japan, the world's leaders, the general focus of which historically has been on the largest urban areas.

The European Union's 2008 average broadband-penetration rate is more than 21%. Eight member states are ahead of the United States' broadband-penetration rate. Europe has 99 million broadband access lines. The United States has 75 million broadband subscribers and a penetration rate of about 25%.

China has the largest total online population, with 250 million people online overall, but not necessarily using broadband. Forty percent of access, for example, is from Internet cafes, 30% from mobile phones.

In terms of IP addresses, China is second globally with about 6% of the world's total, following the first-place United States' 57%. China's IP-address growth is 34% annually. Mandarin Chinese is now the second-largest linguistic group on the Internet at 19%. English is first, at about 29%, while Spanish is third, at about 8.5%.

The U.S. FCC's presentations, along with the FTC's talk, emphasized deregulation and the encouragement of private capital investment in infrastructure deployment. The growth of U.S. broadband was noted, with spreading competitive conditions after statewide franchise deregulation at the state level.

Both FCC presentations repeated the set of four principles released in 2005 as continuing the FCC's recommended guidelines for broadband policy (consumers' right of content access; choice of legal applications and service; right to connect legal and nonharmful devices; and right to competitive service providers). According to the speakers, these nonbinding principles address issues of network neutrality, which the FCC followed in its recent decision against Comcast network-management practices.

The Global Forum 2008 program will be accessible at the organization's Web site. The speakers had only brief periods to make their points. This enforced a fast-paced and intense burst of information from each presenter.

Because the conference took place just before U.S. elections, there was an intense and knowledgeable discussion by delegates on the presidential race. A nonscientific sample indicated overwhelming support for Barack Obama's candidacy among these international professionals.

Global Forum 2009 will be held in Bucharest, Romania, the first time the event will take place in an Eastern European venue.

Jay Gillette is professor of information and communication sciences at Ball State University, director of its Human Factors Institute, and a senior research fellow at the Digital Policy Institute.?

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On the Website www.items-int.com, you will find many selected articles about the Global Forum 2007 and Venice.

Blog www.salgues.net, well known and respected French blog with analysis and comments of some presentations given in Venice during the Global Forum 2007.

Global Forum 2006

www.itrmanager.com

Global Forum 2006

Implications et bénéfices de la convergence



Jeudi 09 novembre 2006

Par Guy Hervier. Pour sa quinzième édition, qui se tient à Paris cette semaine, le Global Forum s'est concentré sur la notion de convergence numérique dont on parle depuis longtemps, mais qui a fini par devenir une réalité. Une évolution lente, mais continue, qui couvre plusieurs dimensions, technique bien sûr, mais aussi sociale, politique, économique, administrative... Bref, il n'est pas un domaine d'activités qui ne soit impacté. « *Les maires sont les acteurs essentiels du développement des technologies de l'information, car si on se place au niveau des Etats, on ne*

peut que constater une accumulation d'échecs », constatait André Santini, d'Issy-les-Moulineaux, une des communes françaises les plus avancées dans ce domaine. Le maire de Taipei, Ying-jeou Ma, ne pouvait que confirmer cette assertion en présentant les initiatives qui ont notamment fait de sa ville la plus grande cité Wi-Fi au monde.

Taipei : plus grande cité Wi-Fi du monde

Partant du principe que l'espace physique était totalement saturé – Taipei compte environ 2,6 millions d'habitants sur une surface très réduite – il fallait donc organiser une nouvelle dimension, basée bien sûr sur les technologies de l'information. Lancé en 1999 lorsque Ying-jeou Ma est arrivé en poste, le programme Cybercity Initiative a été organisé en deux phases. De 1999 à 2002, il a consisté à construire une ville numérique (e-city) en mettant en place une infrastructure solide et une e-administration. Aujourd'hui, 88 % de tous les documents administratifs sont dématérialisés et sont traités numériquement, ce qui représente 500 000 chaque mois. La seconde phase s'est attaché à mettre en place ce que le maire de Taipei appelle une « mobile-city ».

Dans la première phase, la ville de Taipei a par exemple généralisé la messagerie électronique en offrant gratuitement une adresse à chaque habitant et en lui proposant des formations également gratuites. A ce jour, quelque 350 000 personnes ont bénéficié de ces prestations. « *Un jour, j'ai un reçu un mail me disant "Mon fils, tu avais l'air fatigué à la télévision"* » raconte Ying-jeou Ma. *J'étais plutôt surpris car j'habite jusqu'à côté de chez elle. Quand je lui demandé comment elle avait fait pour m'envoyer un mail, elle m'a tout simplement expliqué qu'elle avait utilisé un des points d'accès à Internet gratuit de la Ville et qu'elle s'était initiée grâce aux formations proposées par la municipalité. Plutôt surprenant pour une personne âgée de plus de 80 ans. Le lendemain, je lui ai acheté un ordinateur.* »

La deuxième phase a été baptisée B&O (Build & Operate) ; elle a permis d'ouvrir plus de 4000 points

d'accès à Internet et de toucher plus de 90 % des habitants de la ville. En juin 2006, Taipei a été certifiée la ville Wi-Fi la plus importante de la planète. « *Maintenant, forts de cette infrastructure, nous faisons la promotion de notre ville, conclut Ying-jeou Ma, auprès des sociétés européennes qui souhaiteraient s'implanter dans la zone APAC (Asie-Pacifique)* ».

Issy-les-Moulineaux joue la démocratie participative

André Santini ne peut que partager cette vision. Même si Issy-les-Moulineaux n'a pas la taille de Taipei, les réalisations n'en sont pas moins impressionnantes. Parmi les différents projets en cours, le maire de la ville a fait part de son dernier projet, le Fort numérique construit sur le fort historique qui a été conçu du temps de d'Adolphe Thiers avec comme objectif de protéger Paris de l'invasion étrangère, tout particulièrement venue de la Prusse.

« *Nous sommes aussi en train de mettre la fibre optique (FTTH ou Fiber To the Home) afin d'offrir le débit nécessaire aux applications d'aujourd'hui, mais nous nous heurtons à des difficultés, en particulier les gestionnaires d'immeuble* ». Issy joue la carte de la démocratie participative, notamment avec la diffusion des conseils municipaux sur une chaîne de télévision locale (IssyTV) et la possibilité aux citoyens de poser des questions en quasi temps réel. « *Suite à la mise en place de ces différents outils, nous avons constaté une plus grande implication des Isséens* », se réjouit André Santini.

Le logiciel, défi pour l'Europe

Passant à un niveau plus global, en l'occurrence à l'échelle du Vieux continent, « la convergence devrait avoir deux conséquences majeures », selon Edith Cresson, ancien Premier ministre et ancien commissaire européen, chargée de la science, de la recherche et du développement, « *sur l'industrie de l'audiovisuel et du cinéma avec une implication plus forte des opérateurs de télécoms et avec une importance croissante du logiciel qui est omniprésent et pour lequel l'Europe est très faible, par rapport aux Etats-Unis, mais aussi à la zone APAC (Asie-Pacifique) où le nombre de développeurs est en très forte croissance. Mais la situation n'est pas figée et rien n'empêche une redistribution des cartes. Le modèle Open Source constitue une réelle opportunité pour l'Europe* », a-t-elle conclu.

Pour qu'elle s'accomplisse sous les meilleurs auspices, « *la convergence doit être menée dans des conditions de saine concurrence*, enchaînait Thomas Rosch, commissaire de la FTC (Federal Trade Commission), l'autorité de concurrence américaine. *Et les occasions où cette concurrence peut être faussée sont relativement nombreuses : par l'innovation, la dynamique du marché, le cadre réglementaire, les fusions & acquisitions...* ». Bref, cela nécessite une surveillance de tous les instants.

Global Forum 2005

LETTRE INFORMATIQUE ET COLLECTIVITES LOCALES 26/12/2005

Documentation

Quelques sites internet

Institut Politech et résultats des European eDemocracy Award :

* www.politech-institute.org/edem_award.asp

** <http://leadershipblogging.com>

*** http://europa.eu.int/comm/commission_barroso/wallstrom/index_en.htm

**** <http://news.minnesota.publicradio.org/projects/2005/03/budget/>

***** www.scottish.parliament.uk/home.htm ; www.bundestag.de

Au Global Forum, deux journées de convergence

Il s'est tenu à Bruxelles les 7 et 8 novembre derniers, mais le Global Forum, en fait, existe depuis 1992. "C'est plus un lieu de réflexion pour le futur de la société de l'information qu'un forum", explique Sylviane Toporkoff, sa présidente. Il rassemble des experts internationaux d'origines diverses - organisations internationales, secteurs privé, public, télécoms, industrie du contenu... - de **plus de trente pays**. Chaque édition du Global Forum, commente la responsable, s'est tenue dans un lieu "symbolique" et en prise directe avec l'actualité des TIC : Bruxelles pour la proximité géographique avec la commission Europe, mais aussi New York, le Japon, Sofia Antipolis, le Sénat (France), Rome, Los Angeles, San Francisco... Le site internet d'Items International restitue bien cette volonté de diversité (des intervenants et des sujets traités) que promeut depuis des années le Global Forum. Le site constitue, à ce titre, une excellente ressource documentaire. L'occasion de découvrir, via les supports d'intervention des "speakers", les sujets évoqués au cours de l'édition 2005 : **l'impact de la convergence** (FCC américaine), la stratégie japonaise pour parvenir à créer une **"Ubiquitous Network Society"**, triple play sur mobile, le rôle des satellites dans la mobilité, **l'ouragan Katrina** et le rôle du régulateur (FCC américaine) dans la gestion du désastre, l'identification électronique, l'évaluation de l'administration électronique, les contenus dans un environnement de convergence, l'écologie des infrastructures numériques... Toutes ces personnes présentes au Global Forum ont en commun l'intérêt accordé à la convergence, insiste Sylviane Toporkoff. Mais alors que les thèmes abordés ont beaucoup évolué depuis la création du Global Forum - en 1992, on évoque la déréglementation à venir ! - 2005 est la première édition à se dérouler au moment où une réelle convergence apparaît. Ce qui ne modifie pas l'objectif du Global Forum qui est de continuer à demeurer le "Davos des TIC", et à garder constant le nombre de ses membres : 350 au maximum.

Agir en connaissance de cause

"Customize !" : c'est le conseil donné aux collectivités par Sylviane Toporkoff, présidente du Global Forum. Selon la responsable, les collectivités ne se penchent pas suffisamment sur la question de **l'adéquation des moyens** qu'elles peuvent mobiliser pour un projet, avec les besoins réels en l'occurrence. "Bien souvent, c'est trop ou pas assez", constate-t-elle. En matière de Wifi, il arrive que certaines portions de réseau sont développées alors que l'on sait pertinemment qu'elles ne serviront pas. Les collectivités doivent aussi **s'efforcer d'associer les citoyens à leurs projets**, explique Sylviane Toporkoff qui, par ailleurs, intervient comme consultante pour la ville d'Issy-les-Moulineaux en tant que vice-présidente d'Items. A Issy, commente-t-elle, la population est régulièrement consultée et informée (conseil municipal en ligne) : nous avons pris du temps pour expliquer ce qu'était le projet de crèche en ligne, mais c'était nécessaire. Naturellement, dans ce contexte TIC mouvant par nature, une **coopération internationale entre villes** devenait nécessaire : c'est ainsi qu'est né le Global Cities Dialogue (GCD), une autre initiative inspirée par Items. Rappelons, en quelques mots, que le GCD est un réseau international de villes "intéressées à travailler ensemble pour bâtir une société de l'information pour tous, basée sur le développement durable". Son président est actuellement André Santini (Issy), la vice-présidence revenant à Willi Lemke (Brême).

Quelques sites internet

www.items.fr/index_fr.php3

www.globalcitiesdialogue.org

www.items.fr/globalforum.php3?id_rubrique=75

26.12.2005 - LETTRE INFORMATIQUE ET COLLECTIVITES LOCALES n° 456 - page 7

Global Forum 2004

Dagens Industri, Wednesday 3 Nov. 2004

(* Dagens Industri is Sweden's most important Business Journal.)

Ideas meet at IT mingle in Malmö

It has been called the Davos meeting of the IT industry. Tomorrow, 200 specially invited decision-makers from 25 different countries will meet in Malmö Town Hall for the Global Forum Conference.

"The Conference has two purposes. Firstly, to keep up-to-date with the new developments in the business and hence better understand the future, and; secondly, to be a meeting place for different actors and open up the networks", says Sylviane Toporkoff, from the French company ITEMS International.

ITEMS International organises the Global Forum in collaboration with the Science Park Sophia-Antipolis Foundation, the City of Malmö, as well as with a number of sponsors, such as the European Commission, Microsoft, IBM, and Sony Ericsson.

The conference aims at establishing different development projects in ICT and be a platform for discussions.

"Great opportunities"

The participants are often competitors on the market, but to the Global Forum you are invited to market your ideas and not your products, underlines Sébastien Lévy from ITEMS International.

"There will be great opportunities to meet, over a cup of coffee, the real top personalities in the industry, such as the CTO of Sun Microsystems, John Gage, or Microsoft's chief of security, says Peter Höjerback, CEO for Øresund IT.

A number of delegates also come from national and international organisations, regions and cities.

The theme for this year's conference is Convergence. One issue that will be debated is "e-learning", computer aided distance education, another issue regards how IT can be used in order to give people better healthcare.

Øresund has IT cluster

The Øresund Region is a perfect exemple of convergence between healthcare and IT. In the Region you will find strong clusters of IT companies as well as the entire Medicon Valley. We work together in order to position the region, says Peter Höjerback.

The Global Forum has been held every year since 1992. This year's edition will be held tomorrow and Friday (04-05/11) in Malmö Town Hall.

(Translated by Paulina Lundqvist, ITEMS International)

Sydsvenskan, Thursday 4 Nov. 2004



The Davos meeting of the IT world opens its doors in Malmö

SYDSVENSKAN

Torsdag 4 november 2004

IT-världens Davosmöte invigs i Malmö

► Malmö lockar till sig allt fler betydelsefulla konferenser. Idag invigs det som ibland kallas för IT-branschens Davosmöte. Global forum heter det två dagar långa IT-mötet med 200 inbjudna beslutsfattare från 25 länder.

Bland deltagarna finns dataföretagen Suns vice vd John Gage och Bulls vice vd Geraldine Capdeboscq, Microsofts europeiske ordförande Patrick de Smedt, Frankrikes tidigare premiärminister Edith Cresson och Pierre Lafitte som grundat den franska forskarbyn Sophie Antipolis.

Konferensen handlar dels om vad som kommer att hända i IT-branschen, dels om att skapa en mötesplats för aktörer och nätverk. Arrangör är franska Items International tillsammans med Sophia-Antipolis Foundation, Malmö stad och sponsorer som Sony Ericsson, IBM, Microsoft och EU-kommissionen.

Malmö is attracting more and more important conferences. Today is the inauguration of what is sometimes called the Davos meeting of the IT world. This two day long IT meeting, called Global Forum, gathers 200 invited decision-makers from 25 countries.

Among the participants the Vice President of Sun Microsystems, John Gage, the Vice President of Bull, Geraldine Capdeboscq, the Chairman of Microsoft EMEA, Patrick de Smedt, the former Prime Minister of France, Edith Cresson, and Pierre Laffitte, founder of the French Science Park Sophia Antipolis.

The conference deals partly with new developments and trends in the IT industry, partly with creating a meeting place for actors and networks. Organiser is the French company ITEMS International in co-operation with the Sophia Antipolis Foundation, the City of Malmö, and sponsors such as Sony Ericsson, IBM, Microsoft, and the European Commission.

(Translated by Paulina Lundqvist, ITEMS International)

Global Forum 2003

Adnkronos, 2 Nov. 2003

Thursday 6 and Friday 7 November will host at the Palazzo Taverna one of the most important international annual conference on ICT. 300 experts from governments, industry, academics and European Commission representatives will debate on diverse issues such as cultural, technological, regulatory, social, security and privacy, and economical issues, to shape the future of the information society.

The participants come from all over the world, Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Ireland, Morocco, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, etc... A delegation from the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) will participate.

This event is organised by Items International and the Foundation Sophia Antipolis and the opening will be held in the presence of the Italian Minister of Communications, Maurizio Gasparri.

ANSA, Rome, 1 Nov. 2003

Global Forum will design the future of ICT, Palazzo Taverna, Rome

ASCA (Daily News National Agency), 6 Nov. 2003

Privacy and technological developments, especially in the field of ICT, are creating difficulties. Privacy is necessary for the future of the ICT development. This was one of the aspects that were discussed at the Global Forum held in the Palazzo Taverna in Rome.

Il Sole 24 ORE (the Italian daily financial, political and economical newspaper), 5 Nov. 2003

What is the future of ICT? 300 experts from 28 countries will meet at the Global Forum in Rome, November 6 and 7, in the presence of the Minister Gasparri.

La Repubblica, 7 Nov. 2003

November 6th and 7th at the Palazzo Taverna, 300 experts from all over the world have debated on "connecting businesses and Communities". This powerful and international forum has been very successful.



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