Central Asia Symposium on ICT in Education (CASIE):
Innovative ICT Practices on Lifelong Learning
28-30 January 2013, Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan

Guidelines for Plenary Session Chairs (Sessions 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B and 3)

CASIE convenes a policy dialogue among national decision makers, practitioners and development partners to exchange and cross-fertilize experiences in using ICT for education and learning in Central Asian countries. For this reason, the Symposium seeks to achieve a purposeful discussion guided by focused presentations. As Chair, please consider the following points:

Presentation Content & Time Allocation
- Each presenter will have 20 minutes to present highlights/key findings about the topic through a slide presentation. Presentations will respond to the Guiding Questions for your particular session, as listed below.

For the Session Chair: You are strongly encouraged to communicate with all the panelists in your session in advance and learn what each panelist will present. Your main role as Chair is to analyze and summarize cross-country lessons and identify common issues and challenges from the session’s discussion that may be useful for collective deliberation during the open discussion. Please also advise all the panelists to stick to their allotted time during the session.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

| Plenary: Session 1A and 1B, Monday 28 January |
| Policies and initiatives to promote lifelong learning through ICT |

- **General Questions:**
  - Briefly introduce the background of the policy, programme and/or initiative (needs, purpose, scope, the role of government, main actors) in relation to the use of ICT in education planning and management.
  - What strategies were used to implement the policy, programme and/or initiative? How did you monitor the progress? What were the main challenges and lessons learned? What were considered as key success factors? What was the result/impact?
  - Were there any partnerships established/involved? In what way?
  - What strategies were considered to ensure sustainability?

- **For Country Delegate presenters:**
  - How is ICT used in your country to facilitate evidence-based policy making, implementation, and monitoring in education sector?

  - What strategies were used to ensure that there is coherence in ICT-related policies across sub-sectors and learning pathways/ channels (e.g., general and vocational, formal, non-formal and informal)?

  - What are the challenges and lessons learned of your existing initiatives in using ICT in education planning and management?

  - What are the future plans and/or policy responses in relation to the use of ICT to support a) lifelong learning and b) education planning and management?
**CHAIRMAN’S COPY**

**Plenary: Session 2A and 2B, Tuesday 29 January**

*Open and distance learning through various ICT-supported modalities*

- **For Country Delegate presenters:**
  - Briefly introduce the overall status of the open and distance learning in your country
  - From your Country perspective, how is the use of ICT being strengthened in the areas of: access to learning, school management, curricula, assessment, teaching-learning process in/out of the classroom? Are there any documented good practices?
  - Describe a couple of projects or examples where ICT has supported lifelong learning. How is the project(s) in line with the government’s overall policy and plan? Are there any examples of “scaling up” smaller ICT projects/partnerships to the national level?
  - What are the success factors and/or barriers to the lifelong learning projects supported by ICT? (or any project for ICT-education integration)
  - Are there any future plans to enhance lifelong learning through ICT-supported open and distance learning?

- **For multi-country reports:**
  - Briefly introduce the project/study (needs, goals, the role of government and policy, main actors)
  - Are there any trends in terms of ICT-supported lifelong learning policy and implementation strategies across countries?
  - What were the main challenges and lessons learned? What were considered as key success factors? What was the result/impact?

**Plenary: Session 3, Tuesday 29 January**

*Innovative practices and partnerships to promote ICT-supported learning*

- Briefly introduce the project(s) (needs, goals, the role of government and policy, main actors, partnership)
- Has the project been scaled up to the broader or national level? If so, how?
- What were the main challenges and lessons learned from the project? What were considered as key success factors? What was the result/impact?
- Are there any future plans of the described project?