ICTworks

The Global List of All ICT4D Meetings and Meetups

By Matt Haikin on February 16, 2017

Recently, I took a sabbatical and traveled around the globe to see what ICT4D looks like in East Africa, Southeast Asia, and South America.

Every place I went, I would try to meet the local social-tech players and attend technology for development gatherings and events. I was surprised at how few there were. Or perhaps just at how difficult they are to find.

Help Build a List of ICT4D Meetings

It should not be that hard to find ICT4D meetings. You probably know of a few in your area – we're just missing a central list. So let's build one!

Here are the meetings I know of. Please add more in the comments and we'll update this page as we find more.

ICT4D Meetings and Networking Opportunities

United Kingdom

- **London ICT4D Meetup**
  Vibrant and well-attended monthly meetup – alternates between facilitated sessions with speakers, and general networking in a central London bar.
- **Brighton Technology for Social Change Meetup**
  Broader than just ICT4D, focusing on domestic and international tech.
- **BOND NGOs group on Technology for Development**
  Bond is the UK's network for NGOs – this group meets quarterly and brings together NGO staff with an interested in technology.
- **Citizen Beta (London)**
  Monthly civic tech get together in East London.
- **Digital Charities**
  Group of people working in UK charities with digital technologies – not just International Development charities but lots of overlap. Monthly meets.
- **Communication 4 Development Network** meet-ups.

United States of America

- **ICT4Drinks**
  The largest happy hour for ICT4D professionals, with regular events in *Washington DC,* and occasional drinks in *New York*, *San Francisco, Seattle*.
- **Tech4Dem Happy Hour**
  Informal happy hour focused on using technology to improve the quality of democracy. Quarterly meetings in *Washington, DC.*
- **ICT4D Boston**

Hot Right Now

TC116: Blockchain for International Development
Apply Today
Course starts September 9th
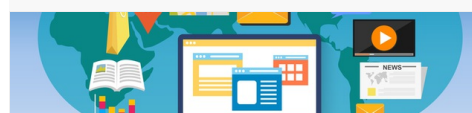
What Impact Will Facebook Libra Blockchain Have on International Development? 1

Please Do Not Create Yet Another Development Knowledge Portal

Want DFID Grant Funding? Then Use Digital Principles in Your Proposals 5

Recent Comments

Grace on Help Bridge the Language Translation Technology Digital Divide

Marga Eichleay on Help Bridge the Language Translation Technology Digital Divide

Cavin Mugarura on Help Bridge the Language Translation Technology Digital Divide

Bashir Quadri on Please Register Now: 2019 CGIAR Big Data in Agriculture Convention

William Otto Okumu on How Engineers Can Leverage Internet of Things for Better Development Interventions

Current Themes

Regular meetup for ICT4D practitioners in Boston.

Kenya

- **Nairobi ICT4D Group**
  Relatively new group seeking to bring together the vibrant tech and NGO communities in Nairobi.

Zambia

- **Zambia ICT4D Meetup**
  Join the Facebook group to find out more.

Global Meetings

- **Technology Salon**
  Intimate events with extremely interesting attendees – take place regularly in *Accra, Amman, Bangkok, Denver, Helsinki, London, Lusaka, Nairobi, New York, San Francisco, Toronto* and *Washington DC*.

ICT4D-related Conferences

- **ICTD Conference**
  Primarily academic ICTD conference (some practitioners) held every 18 months or so. The 2017 conference will be in *Pakistan* in November.
- **ICT4D Conference**
  The other big annual conference for the sector – typically more practitioner, NGO and private-sector focused (with some academia). In 2017 it will be held in *India* in May.
- **International Conference on Social Implications of Computers in Developing Countries**
  More formally academic annual conference, for 2017 the venue is in *Indonesia* in May
- **Participatory Design Conference**
  Broader than just development but of significant interest to anyone developing technology for or with local communities. Bi-annual, next is 2018 in *Belgium*.
- **TICTeC**
  Annual conference from mySociety exploring the impacts of civic technology – 2017 sees it in *Italy* in April.
- **WSIS Forum**
  World Summit on the Information Society forum organised by the major multi-lateral donors. In 2017 it will focus on the SDGs, in *Switzerland* in June.

(*More conferences here*)

Do you know of other digital development groups, meets or networking opportunities? Please add them in the comments so we can add them to this list.

Now Read These Related Posts

How Do We Break Oscar Night Syndrome in ICT4D M&E?

Introducing ICT4D Africa Twitters List for FollowFriday

On the social networking site Twitter, there are many people who talk about ICT4D, and many who talk about Africa. But there are few who talk only and consistently about IC4D in Africa. So to try and cut through the clutter and hone in on the relevant voices for ICTworks,…

How Can Social Networking Increase ICT Usage? February #ICT4D Twitter Chat

Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn - these social networking technologies are driving ICT adoption worldwide. They're also increasing revenues and efficiencies in leading American and European companies. Share But what's the impact, if any, of social networking technologies on businesses and communities in the developing world? Are they really driving ICT…

Filed Under: Featured, Thought Leadership
More About: Digital Development, Happy Hour, ICT4D, ICT4D Meetup, ICT4Drinks, Kenya, London, Meetups, Nairoib, New York, Seattle, Social Change, social networking, Tech4Dem, Technology Salon, Washington DC, Zambia

Written by Matt Haikin

Matt Haikin is an ICT4D practitioner, researcher, evaluator and consultant specialising in participatory approaches to technology. He has managed software development for NGOs and governments in the global South, conducted primary research into the role of technology in participatory budgeting in Brazil, and the impact of digital technologies on the role of international NGOs in Africa.

4 Comments to "The Global List of All ICT4D Meetings and Meetups"

Ellen Ward says: February 16, 2017 at 3:21 am

This is a great list, very useful. I am co-founding a new Tech for Good group starts in March in Dublin, Ireland. Monthly meetings with interesting speakers planned for 2017. Find out more here: Check out TechForGood Dublin
http://meetu.ps/c/33lDY/jN3xb/a

Yared says: February 16, 2017 at 9:57 pm

These meetings are very much interesting and the list is useful. Is there any meeting sponsoring participants and ICT4D practitioners from developing countries?

Wayan Vota says: February 16, 2017 at 10:15 pm

Last night I did my part – I launched ICT4Drinks at IRRI here in Los Baños. We had trivia bingo, karaoke, and a fun time for all: https://goo.gl/Mps3Xc

Izaac says: February 19, 2017 at 11:31 pm

Hello, we organize the "ICT for Transport and Insurance EXPO" every year here in Uganda. Please, email me how we can add our event to the list.