

Outline of the seminar

Panel 1 will address the social inclusion best practices and try to project better regulatory initiatives. Bruce Girard should talk about the microtelco initiatives and community networks in Latin America as a contrast to the traditional universal service approach to social inclusion. Radhika Lal will speak on the demand side, debating policies that build on network usage through applications directed to low cost initiatives. Helani Galpaya will address the experience of Sri Lanka in using ICT to deliver governmental services as a means of social inclusion. Murilo Ramos will debate the role of public services as a policy instrument to social inclusion.

Panel 2 will deal with more general aspects of broadband and regulatory institutions and try to answer why broadband is important, why should it have specific policies and what is the general role of the government either to regulate, finance or deploy broadband networks. Raul Katz will make a presentation regarding the prospects of broadband development in Latin America and its implications in economic opportunities. Paulo Lopes will talk about the regulatory challenges of EU regarding broadband expansion, as well as the community regulations that prevent government to take a too strong hold on the market - which could harmfully impact private investment. Alison Gillwald will address the South African experience of a public operator of infrastructure and draw conclusions on regulatory policies and the framework for Government intervention. Márcio Aranha was asked to address the necessary regulatory measures to stimulate a more dynamic broadband market and to ensure that small operators have a fair chance. And Márcio Wohlers will be asked to address the general outcome of Brazilian policies regarding broadband and depict the scenarios necessary for broadband development.

In Panel 3, the idea is to address the regulatory policies in infrastructure, debating the many international initiatives in that area. Prabir Neogi will talk about the Canadian experience in managing publicly owned infrastructure and in dealing with rights of way issues. Malcolm Webb will address the current Government-sponsored, national fibre roll-out projects in Singapore, Australia and New Zealand. Marcus Boklund was asked to speak on policies regarding spectrum second-hand trading and a public grid operator. And Tomoyuki Saruwatari will debate the Japanese experience in broadband policy.