



Registration

You can register for one or both events by sending an e-mail to wsis@hivos.nl. During the ICT 4 all Exhibition you can also register at the Hivos-stand (BCO-pavillion, standno. 2201) in the KRAM Exhibition Park.

This seminar is an initiative of Hivos and organised together with Global Voices.

Hivos is a non-governmental organisation, rooted in the Netherlands and guided by humanist values, that wants to contribute to a free, fair and sustainable world where citizens, women and men, have equal access to resources, opportunities and markets and can participate actively and equally in decision-making processes that determine their lives, their society and their future.

Hivos' Media, Information and Communication programme (MIC) aims to empower citizens in developing countries – especially the poor and the marginalized and the organizations that support them – to express their voices and make them heard.

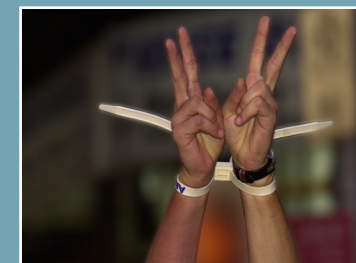
Since 2003 **Hivos** has been participating actively in the World Summit on the Information Society. The issues discussed within the summit process link directly to Hivos' work, especially in the field of ICT4D. In the month leading up to the Geneva summit Hivos - together with IICD and Oneworld - organised several expert debates resulting in a list of recommendations to the Dutch government. Together the organisations also created the Fill the Gap seminars that took place the last three years, providing a stage for awareness and lobby on ICT4D-issues within The Netherlands.

Both in 2003 and 2005 **Hivos** emphasised the development angle of the issues at stake as a member of the Dutch delegation. Our input is based on both our own years of experience in the field of ICT4D, as well as on the work of our partners. The southern voices in the WSIS are also supported by facilitating the participation of **Hivos** partners to Tunis.

<http://www.hivos.nl>

Global Voices Online is a non-profit global citizens' media project, sponsored by and launched from the Berkman Center for Internet and Society at the Harvard Law School. Founded in 2004 at an international bloggers' meeting, **Global Voices** publishes a weblog that features citizen journalists from around the world, maintains a wiki-based index of "bridge blogs", and develops tools, techniques and teaching materials to help journalists and activists around the world express themselves through blogs.

<http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/home/>



Expression under Repression

**World Summit on the Information Society
ICT 4 all Exhibition**

Kram Exhibition Park
17 - 18 November 2005
Tunis, Tunisia

Expression under Repression

Over 50 years ago the members of the United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration on Human rights. One prominent article, number 19, states that **“everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression”**. This fundamental and basic right is challenged in the virtual era on many fronts, but also strengthened on others at the same time.

Internet strengthens the right to freedom of expression by providing individuals across the globe with new means of sharing and accessing information. Despite the continued exclusion of marginalized communities and many people in the developing world, everyone with access can voice his or her opinion and access decision-makers and local politicians: whether on forum discussions, via blogs or by e-mail, ICTs have potential as a tool for enabling democratic participation and for open information sharing.

But many try to limit the openness and freedom of the virtual domain. Some governments censor the Internet, many register surfing behaviour - openly or not. Others ask all websites or bloggers to register. And some rely on the concept of self-censorship next to real censorship. Many Internet users are jailed throughout the world.

The seminar, with the title of **“Expression under Repression”** on the 17th November will focus on a discussion on this issue with experts from the field – journalists, organisations working under repressing conditions. What are their experiences? What are the borders of freedom of expression? How do they deal with restrictions? And what role can new media play in challenging them? The key idea is to share knowledge and experiences.

The workshop on the 18th November consists of basic training in secure communication and blogging.

Seminar Expression under Repression

Date: 17th of November 2005, 14.00 – 17.30

Location: Expo 2 (no. 3103)

14.00 Opening statement

Jaap Dijkstra, Director External Relations, Hivos.

14.10 Expression under Repression

Introduction by Rebecca MacKinnon, co-founder Global Voices Berkman Center for Internet and Society, Harvard Law School.

14.30 “Local Repression, Global Lessons” - Case studies and interviews

This panel discussion presents a variety of local perspectives on a global issue, with speakers discussing constraints to speech in their local environments and ways they’ve been able to combat these restrictions and share news and opinions.

Case studies presenters:

- Taurai Maduna, Kubataba, Zimbabwe;
- Hossein Derakshan, Iranian weblogger and activist;
- Isaac Mao, Managing Director of Blogbus.com, bloghosting provider, China.

Moderator: Rebecca MacKinnon

15.45 Break

16.00 “Internet Filtering: Realities and Myths”

Address by Nart Villeneuve, Director of Technical Research, Citizen Lab, Canada. As the Internet becomes an increasingly important tool for content distribution, individuals, organizations and governments are taking steps to limit access to content available online. What’s the current state of government-sponsored internet filtering around the world? What are the similarities and differences between commercially available filtering software and government mandated filters? How transparent are governments in their use of filters?

16.30 “Freedom of Expression - Limits and Absolutes” - Panel discussion

To what extent is “freedom of expression” a universal principle? To what extent is this principle limited by local concerns for political stability, societal values, national security, etc.? Does defending freedom of expression mean defending a “right” for extremists to speak online? Are there limits we’re willing to accept to freedom of expression, or is this an absolute freedom that doesn’t allow compromise?

Panellists:

- Jeff Ooi, blogger and political commentator, Malaysia;
- Sussan Tahmasebi, political scientist and activist, Iran;
- Mohamed Marwen Meddah, blogger, Tunisia;
- Sjoera Nas, Bits of Freedom, The Netherlands.

Moderator: Loe Schout, Head of Bureau Culture, ICT & Media, Hivos

17.15 Reaction on the theme

H.E. Minister of Economic Affairs L.J. Brinkhorst (The Netherlands).

17.25 Closing remarks

Jaap Dijkstra, Director External Relations, Hivos.

17.30 Hivos reception for partner organisations and delegation members

Workshop Expression under Repression

Date: 18th of November 2005, 09.00 – 12.00

Location: Beja-room (event 238)

9.00 Introduction to Tools and Techniques

Overview of the morning workshops by Ethan Zuckermann, Global Voices Online.

9.10 Secure Online Communications

An overview of encryption tools and techniques to keep email, data and voice communication secure for NGOs in repressive environments. Followed by a short introduction and training on the NGO in a Box (Security Edition) toolkit that has been produced by Frontline and Tactical Technology Collaborative. Led by Wojtek Bogusz, consultant and content editor.

10.40 Break

10.55 Secure Online Publishing

Techniques and tools for publishing blogs and websites without compromising anonymity. Led by Ethan Zuckerman with assistance from Rebecca MacKinnon.

11.45 Closing remarks