

IT Networking in Developing Countries

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Introduction:

- Participants gave brief introductions
- 'Networking' defined
- Agreed that networking exists at various levels: between donor agencies, project partners, on particular subject
- Networking is more difficult than one may think

Prerequisites to Effective Networking

- Appropriate infrastructure
- Training
- Use of focal points or facilitators to promote dialogue and interaction
- Commitment of network participants
- Trust
- Importance of occasional face-to-face meetings

Deterrents to Networking (Barriers)

- Lack of familiarity or discomfort with computers
- Language
- Lack of training, trust
- Lack of culture of information sharing and exchange

Examples of Successful and Less Successful Networks

- North-South
- South-South
- Successful – Bolivia
- Unsuccessful – ListServ

Interest in Further Discussion