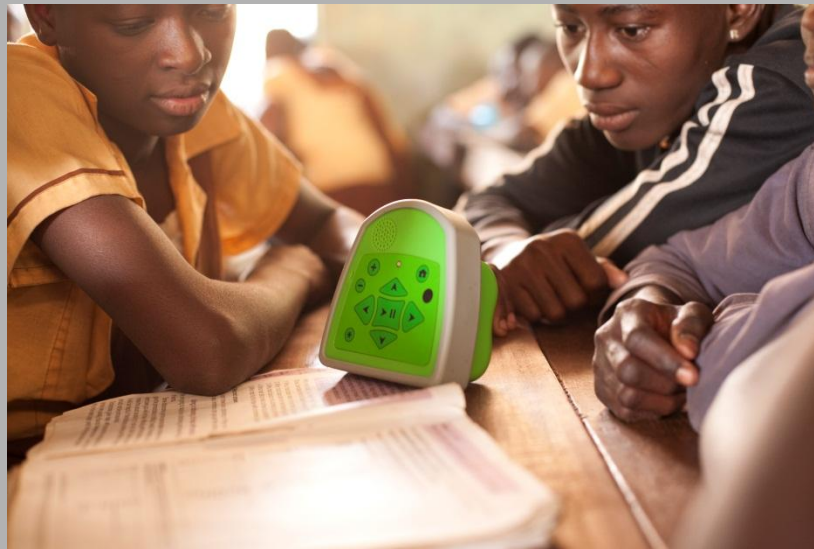


LITERACY BRIDGE

*Improving health, education and
income of impoverished rural families
through knowledge*



LITERACY BRIDGE

United Nations

Office of the Under-Secretary-General - Statements

United Nations > Economic and social development > DESA > Office of the Under-Secretary-General > Statements by the Under-Secretary-General

Statement by Mr. Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs to the Global Forum on ICT and Innovation for Education Monterrey, Mexico, 3 September 2009

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Distinguished Participants,

I wish to thank the Government and people of Mexico, and of the State of Nuevo León, for their generous hospitality and support in hosting this meeting.

We are also grateful to our host, Indigo Brainmedia, and its CEO Mr. Ramón Garza, who is Co-Chair of the Global Alliance for ICT and Development (UNDESA-GAID). Indigo Brainmedia has shown how new multimedia technologies can open new vistas of knowledge and opportunities for all.

The Global Alliance for ICT and Development has been a catalyst for partnerships,...

With some significant progress towards the target. For instance, in the area of decreasing school enrolment, significant reductions in the number of out-of-school children are estimated that...

Technology and digital applications are key to a thriving economic development...

Yet, many developing countries lack the scale that may be needed to afford to send their children to overcrowded schools...

ICT and innovation can help bridge the digital divide in regions, by providing...

The advent of low-cost software, low-cost hardware, and low-cost developing countries in the information market can help bridge the digital divide to literacy learning tools and relevant locally created knowledge in regions with the least infrastructure.

“The advent of universally accessible information and knowledge...low-cost hardware...all present a real opportunity to developing countries to employ ICT to lift the quality of education and make it universally accessible.

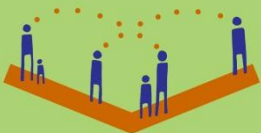
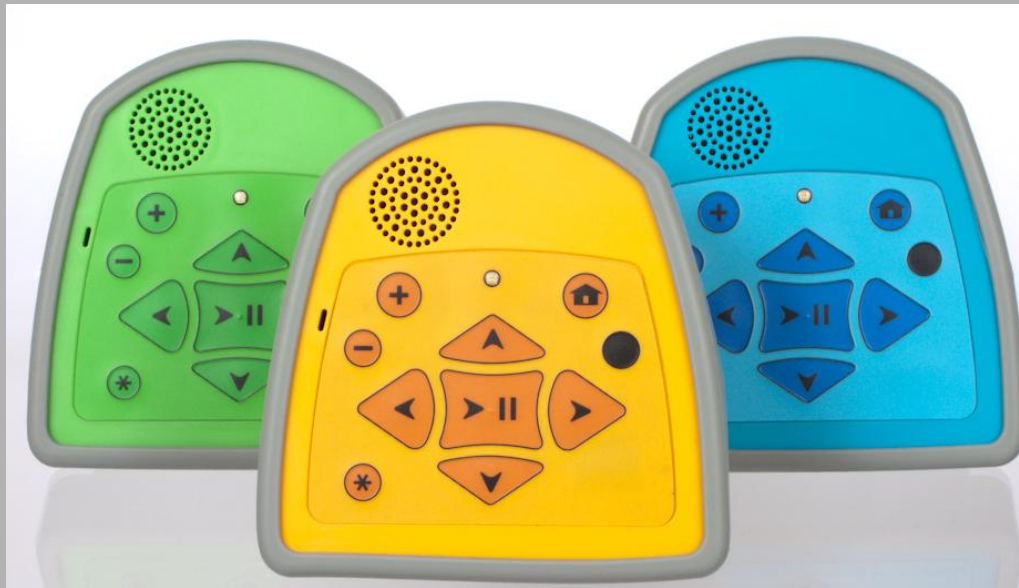
***The Talking Book, for example,* uses a low-cost audio device to provide affordable access to literacy learning tools and relevant locally created knowledge in regions with the least infrastructure.”**



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The Talking Book

- Low-cost audio computer designed for oral cultures
- Improves health & income of, and educational opportunities for, the poorest rural families
- Easy, on-demand access to local expertise





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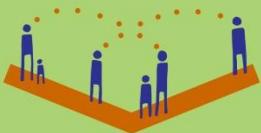
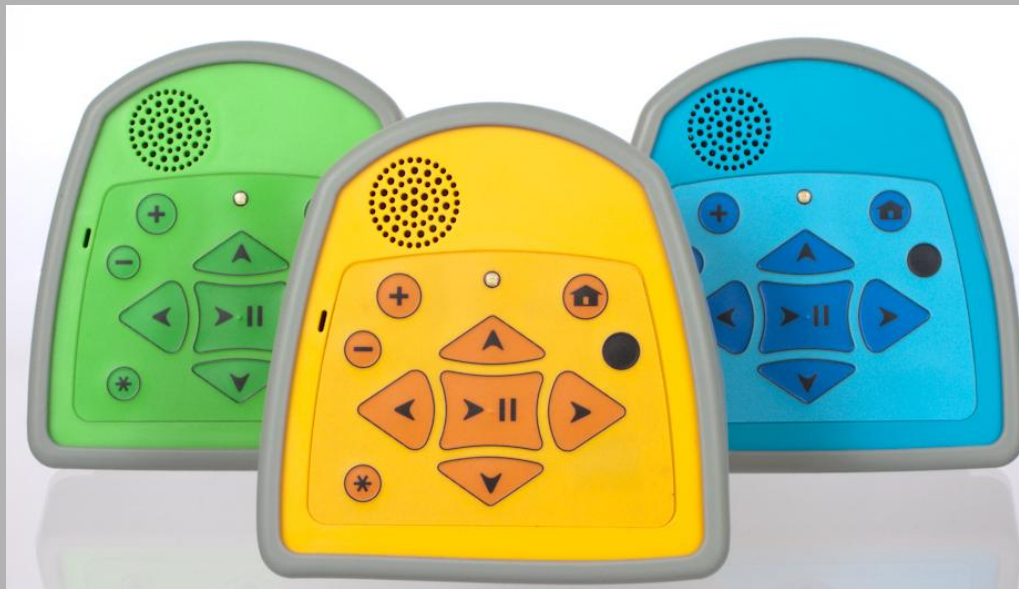




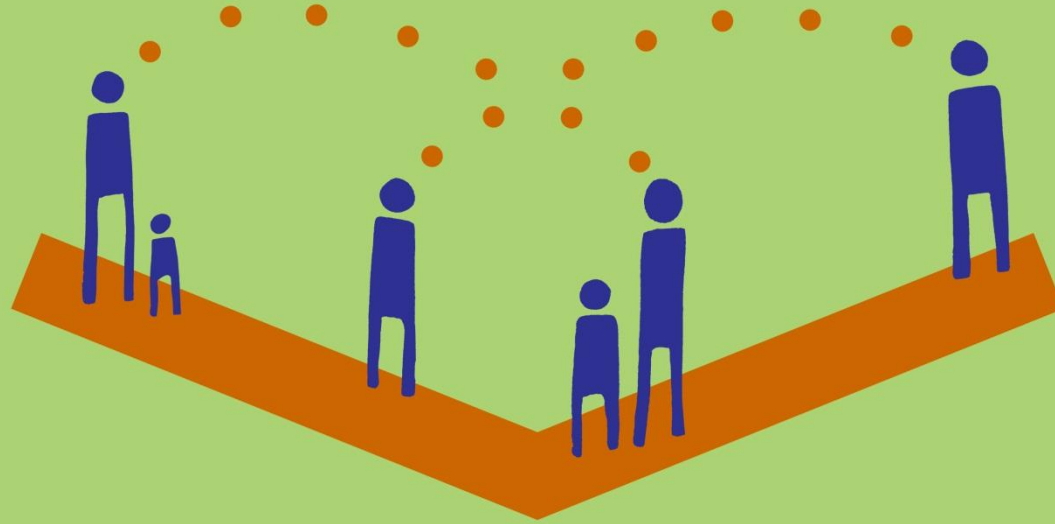
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Thank You!



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