



## **A tracer study of the Communication Policy Research South (CPRsouth) community of participants from 2013 to 2018**

By

Sujata N Gamage and Thavisha Perera-Gomez  
12, Balcombe Place, Colombo 00800, Sri Lanka  
Inquiries to: +94 77 774 8470; [sujata@lirneasia.net](mailto:sujata@lirneasia.net)  
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## 1. INTRODUCTION

CPR*south* is a capacity building initiative to develop policy intellectuals in the ICT space from among junior to mid-level scholars and practitioners in Asia and Africa.

The main activity of the initiative is a conference held once a year preceded by tutorials on communication policy research to interested young researchers from academia, government, industry or non-government organizations. These young scholars (YS) are introduced to the theory and practice of taking research to policy. The young scholar tutorials are followed by the three-day conference where 20-30 papers are presented. Papers are selected in a double-blind review process. Young scholars participate in the conference.

A paper presenter (PP) typically spends three days at the conference venue and young scholars are hosted for all five days of the conference. Both young scholars (YS) and paper presenters (PP) are provided travel and accommodation. The cost of the conferences has been borne through grants from International Development Research Center (IDRC) of Canada and other funders, contributions from the host country and a nominal registration fee introduced in 2011.

The purpose of the present tracer study is to follow up on 261 individuals who participated in the past conferences of CPR*south* from 2013 to 2018 as young scholars or paper presenters to see if the conference has lived up to its goal of producing individuals who are willing and able to influence communication policy in their countries. Further, the responses of young scholars from the 2017 and 2018 conferences are examined in detail to see how the improvements that were introduced to the YS program effective 2017 have been received by the young scholars.

## 2. HISTORY OF CPRSOUTH

CPR*south* has been existence since 2007 as an initiative serving the Asia Pacific region. An African counterpart was initiated in 2010. In 2012 the Asian and African conferences were brought together as one.

The first four CPR*south* conferences were Asia-based. First conference was held in Manila in January 2007 followed by the second one held in Chennai in December of the same year. The third and fourth conferences were held in Beijing and Negombo, in December of 2008 and 2009, respectively (

Table 1.).

The first CPR*afrika* conference was held in Cape Town in 2010, followed by one in Nairobi in 2011. The parallel Asian conferences, then known simply as CPR*south*, were held in Xi'an and Bangkok, respectively.

From 2013-2018, the conference was held jointly in Mysore, Maropeng and Taipei, Zanzibar, Yangon and Maputo respectively. Before the merger, each conference accommodated a maximum of 20 papers for 40 slots in the two conferences put together.

After the merger, the number of papers was 30. Researchers from Africa and Asia had to compete for fewer slots in total, and the increased competition was expected to increase the quality of the selected papers.

Table 1. CPR*south* conferences, 2007-2018

#	YEAR	CPR <i>south</i> (ASIA)	CPR <i>south</i> (AFRICA)	NOTES <sup>1</sup>
1	2007	Manila, Jan	-	Asia only
2	2007	Chennai, Dec	-	Asia only
3	2008	Beijing, Dec	-	Asia only
4	2009	Negombo, Dec	-	Asia only
5	2010	Xian, Dec	Cape town, Apr	Asia and Africa, separate conferences
6	2011	Bangkok, Dec	Nairobi, Apr	Asia and Africa, separate conferences
7	2012	Port Louis, Aug		Jointly with a quota of 15 papers for each
8	2013	Mysore, Aug		Jointly with a quota of 15 papers for each
9	2014	Maropeng, Aug		One entity, no quotas, Maximum of 30 papers
10	2015	Taipei, Aug		One entity, no quotas, Maximum of 30 papers
11	2016	Zanzibar, Sep		One entity, no quotas, Maximum of 30 papers
12	2017	Yangon, Aug & Sep		One entity, no quotas, Maximum of 30 papers
13	2018	Maputo, Sep		One entity, no quotas, Maximum of 30 papers

Since its inception, LIRNE*asia*, the administrative partner of CPR*south*, has periodically tracked the conference in terms of the objectives of the conference. The success of the conference was assessed by criteria including graduation of young scholars to paper presenters, acceptance rate of the papers presented, connectedness among the community of the scholars brought together and their success in the policy world. This is the first time that all participants were traced and evaluated.

### 3. METHOD

Since the 2016 survey captured the responses from conferences participants from inception in 2007 to 2015, the 2018 survey population included 261 participants from the latest six conferences from 2013-2018. The cover letter (Appendix 1) and the survey questionnaire (Appendix 2) that were used in the 2018 Online Tracer Study are appended. The survey was carried out during the November 2018 to February 2019 Period.

### 4. RESULTS

For the purpose of analysis we define three categories of participants using past conference records. PPs are Paper Presenters who have not has YS training, YSs are Young scholars who participated in YS training but did not present a paper at a CPR*south* conference and YS&PPs include Young scholars who presented papers at CPR*south* conferences subsequent to the their YS training.

Of the 261 in the survey population, the final distribution of PPs, YS and YS&PPS in the survey population was 87, 145, and 29, respectively, or 33%, 56% and 11% of the population, respectively. The YS&PP category showed better performance in almost all the survey questionnaire items including the response rate and the overall traceability of the conference participants.

#### 4.1. YS&PPs are more responsive than YS-only or PP-only categories

The overall response rate was 37%, but the 55% of the 29 YS&PPS responded, Paper presenter responded at 41% and YSs who did not return as paper presenters responded least at 31%.

Table 2. Response rate by type of participants

Survey population	# Respondents	% Respondents

<sup>1</sup> The young scholar program admitted a maximum of 30 scholars including local young scholars.

All paper presenters and young scholars		261	96	37%
PP	Paper Presenters who have not has YS training	87	35	41%
YS	Young scholars who participated in YS training but did not present a paper at a CPRsouth conference	145	45	31%
YS&PP	Young scholars who presented papers at CPRsouth conferences subsequent to the their YS training	29	16	55%

#### 4.2. Overall traceability is also the highest for YS&PPs

Although only 96 participants responded for a response rate of 39%, we were able to trace an additional 84 conference participants through their Linked In pages for a total of 180 participants or total traceability rate of 69%. The overall traceability was highest for YS&PPs at 96%. For further analysis we only used the information from the 37% who responded.

#### 4.3. At least one third of the conference participants are policy active

In the tracer study we asked about the research and/or policy activities of the respondents after their participation in the conference. Of the 96 respondents 85 (or 89%) reported some activity (research outputs<sup>2</sup> or policy outputs<sup>3</sup>). The highest level of activity was reported by YS&PPs at 96%.

**Table 3. Percent of respondents active in policy or research**

PP	81%
YS	90%
YS&PP	96%
ALL	89%

Assuming that those who did not respond are more likely to have being more or less inactive in communication research or policy, it is safe to assume that 85 out of the 261 in the survey population (or one third of the CPRsouth participants from 2013-2018 conferences) are active in communication policy research and/or policy. This fraction of post-conference activity is consistent with our observations from the 2016 tracer study.

The objective of CPRsouth is not just about doing policy research but converting the research to 'policy outputs' such as --Policy papers/Briefs, Policy submissions/Presentations; Op-Ed pieces in the media; Interviews to the media, Blogs. The higher level of research and policy outputs by the YS&PP group indicates the importance of this group for furthering CPRsouth objectives. When we look in detail at the type of activity (e.g., whether research outputs only, policy outputs only or research outputs and policy outputs), 80% of respondents said they produced both research and policy outputs.

<sup>2</sup> QUESITON 4: RESEARCH OUTPUTS: Since your first participation in the conference, have you completed, by yourself or in collaboration, any of the following research outputs on topics within the scope\* of CPRsouth? (Please check all that apply)

\*The scope of the conference includes any endeavours to facilitate the use of information, knowledge or information communication technologies to improve the lives of people in the global South.

<sup>3</sup> QUESITON 5: POLICY OUTPUTS: Since your first participation in the conference, have you used or provided, by yourself or in collaboration, any of the following policy outputs to support decision making on topics within the scope of CPRsouth, in your organization or in the wider policy arena? (Please check all that apply)

Table 4. Type of activity by type of CPRsouth participant

	Research Only	Policy Only	Research & Policy Both	None	ALL
ALL	8%	-	80%	11%	96

PP	3%	-	77%	19%	31
YS	17%	-	73%	10%	41
YS&PP	0%	-	96%	4%	24

In terms of variation across group 96% of YS&PP groups reported that they produced both research outputs and policy outputs indicating their awareness about the importance of both to be successful as policy intellectuals. .

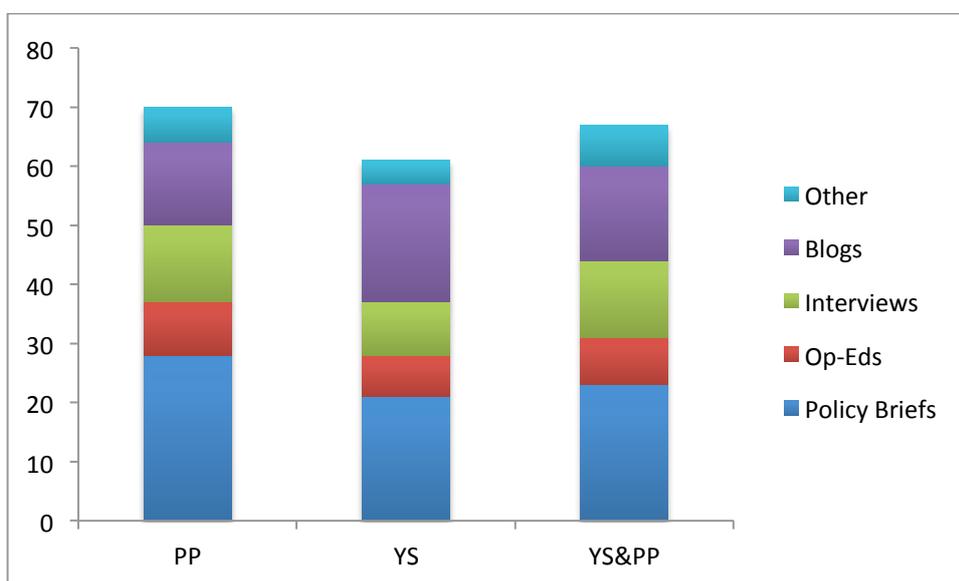


Figure 1. Type and number of policy outputs reported by the CPRsouth community, 2013-2018 (35, 45, 16)

In regard to the type of policy outputs, policy briefs and policy presentations and blogs topped the list across all three groups (Figure 1)

#### 4.4. YS&PP group ahead in policy initiatives too

Of the 96 respondents only 18 (or 19%) reported policy initiatives. Consistent with higher engagement by YS&PP group, 46% of the YS&PP sub-group reported policy initiatives compared to 10% and 10%, respectively for the other two groups.

Table 5. Policy initiatives by respondents

Type	Number Respondents	Percent naming initiatives
ALL	96	19%

PP	31	10%
YS	41	10%

YS&PP	24	46%
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#### 4.5. Policy initiatives split between access and application issues

In the early years of CPRsouth most of the policy papers were concerned with access to telecom including regulation of networks, pricing, spectrum allocation and access to women, youth and low income groups. Increasingly, the community's interest has included application in e-government, e-commerce, e-health, digital literacy and other issues.

Among the policy initiatives reported by the community members we found 10 access related issues and 9 applications related issues (Table 6).

**Table 6. Examples of policy changes given by 19 out of 96 respondents**

(a) Access to telecom

1. Affordable Internet	Fibre optic infrastructure laid
2. BYOD Policy, EWaste Policy	
3. Data price	Reduction of Prices in Botswana
4. Digital Literacy Inclusion	-
5. Free Internet Access in Public Places	Successfully included a provision that promotes technology neutrality and allows nontelcos to access emerging Internet technologies to offer free Wi-Fi under government programs
6. Huge gender gap in Internet use in India	Ministry of IT saw our research, sent staff on
7. internet accessibility	setting up of public Wi-Fi keeping in mind the access issues of poor
8. IPv6 Network Migration, Domain Administration >> Telecommunication Policy	Telecom Policy amended for IPv6 addressing and CCTLD domain management
9. Pricing for USSD for MFS	Pricing directive promulgated
10. Universal Service Funds in Myanmar	Research used to direct funds towards digital literacy being a key area of focus for USF

(B) Applications

11. Confusion in the Accounts in Social Media by Local Governments	Local Governments were able to put up Official Accounts under their Information Offices
12. Disaster risks	Use of social media platforms in disaster risk
13. E-Government strategy	Diffusion of innovation
14. For a long time young people have not been engaged as key stakeholders during elections in Malawi despite their numbers being superior to other age groups.	The NDI (my employer) call for proposals on Issue Based Civic Education (ICVE) has shifted its focus to youth engagement. This is the first time such a change has happened.
15. Harmful Micro finance practices in Northern Sri Lanka	Regulation / New MFI act
16. ICTS for PWDs	Coordinated the development of the ICT Policy for PWDs
17. Lack of National e-Health policy	National Health ICT was developed
18. Media Literacy/Digital Inclusion	Indirect influence on South African policy
19. Transport planning	Use of insights from high frequency pseudonymized CDRs in government planning

#### 4.6. Indirect evidence for satisfaction with the improvements to the YS program

The 2016 Tracer Study respondents strongly advocated for more hands-on and interactive sessions in the Young Scholar tutorials. In fact, 8 out of the 25 comments about the young scholar program were about the need to move away from lecture format to more interactive format. In response LIRNEasia assigned Dr. Sujata Gamage who served as a tutor from inception to redesign the program (See Appendix 3).

The 2018 Tracer study included 32 young scholars who had gone through the improved program. Although it was difficult ask a question about the effect of the changes because the respondents had no experience with previous programs, we monitored their responses to see whether they raised any issues about the need for more interactivity. Whereas one third of the young scholars from previous years raised the issue of need for more interactivity and hands-on activities, none of the 16 young scholars from 2017 and 2018 raised any issues. In fact only 8 of the 16 YSs gave any comments and they essentially saw no need for any changes to the program.

#### 4.7. Other findings from the survey

The same questionnaire more or less was used in the 2016 and 2018 Tracer Studies. In both cases participants were given opportunity give their opinions about the Young Scholar Program, the conference and maintaining of CPRsouth network. We received an overwhelming response to those questions asking for their comments with most comments being about the post-conference networking ideas (Table 7).

**Table 7. Comments by respondents by Type question and survey year**

	2016	2018	ALL
YS Academy	23	31	54
Conference	43	56	99
Network	58	82	140
ALL	129	169	293

The comments regarding YS Academy was discussed in Section 4.6. The comments about the conference and post-conference networking from both 2016 and 2018 survys are summarized in Appendix 5.

The comments about the conference included suggestions for more support for the presenters before the conference, changes to the format and changes to content to include more applications, case studies and industry and regular participation. Respondents were more active on commenting on post-conference activities are essentially repeats of comments from the 2016 tracer study.

There was much interest in post-conference networking with about 82 comments received from 96 respondents.

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

After 13 conferences, CPRsouth has brought together 600+ communication policy researchers, potential or established. The 2016 survey confirms the findings of the 2016 Tracer study that young scholars who returned as paper presenters at subsequent conference are more engaged as policy intellectuals, as compared to those who attended as paper presenters only or as young scholars only. It is testimony to the tutorial program aimed at these young scholars.

Almost everybody had something to say about improving the conference or post-conference activities. The comments about the conference and networking after conference repeated many comments from the 2016 Tracer Study. There were calls for more industry participation, more timely topics, more sessions, more mentoring prior to the conference and may ideas for post conference networking. Since the 2016 tracer Study the Board had acted on the suggestions, within the resource limitations of the conference, to clarify the objective of the conference to address cutting-edge issue in in communication policy through invited papers, but give at least one place in each panel to young scholars from the program (Appendix 4). CPRsouth web site too has been improved to give

more complete follow-up opportunities for participants ([www.cprsouth.org](http://www.cprsouth.org)). If further conferences are to be held, participants should be informed of these changes better.

An improved Young Scholar program (Appendix 3) too has been in place since 2017 taking heed of the calls for more interactivity in the tutorials in 2016 survey. It was difficult judge the impact because young scholars in 2017 or 2018 did not have information about the quality of the previous programs. However, we found that though there were complaints about lack of hands-on activity and interactivity young scholars responding to the 2016 survey, there were no such complains in 2018 survey, but after 2017 reforms there were no such complaints in the 2018 survey..

Finally, the difficulties in tracing past participants and the utility of the LinkedIn platform in finding information for non-respondents suggests that CPRsouth should mandate a complete profile on LinkedIn or platform as a registration requirement of all participants.

## **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- a) Continue the new and improved format adopted in 2017 for both the young scholar program and the conference since it responds to suggestions by participants in both tracer studies (i.e. tracer studies of 2016 and 2018, respectively)
- b) Require all participants to complete their profiles on LinkedIn before they leave the conference. Create a CPRsouth group within LinkedIn.
- c) Do profiles of all or some of the 35 who reported achievements in policy change and share those videos at forthcoming conference
- d) Formalize the young scholar tutorials as a year-long process and rebrand it as the Communication Policy Research Academy or similar. Some services such as on-going research guidance can be offered for a nominal fee to cover costs.

(Items c and d are already being implemented.)

## **Appendix 1. Letter to participants**

Dated November 3, 2018

Dear *CPRsouth* participant:

I write to request your participation in a tracer study of past *CPRsouth* conference participants. As you are aware, this series of conferences were generously funded by contributions from IDRC and the countries that hosted each event. IDRC has rightly requested that we conduct a tracer study of all past participants before moving onto the next phase. In that regard, the response of each and every one of you is critical for the future of *CPRsouth*. Please complete the online survey from the given link below. The survey will take only 5-10 minutes to complete, but will go a long way in furthering the cause of communication policy making in the global South.

I thank you in advance for your valuable contribution.

Sujata Gamage, PhD

Coordinator

*CPRsouth* Tracer Study

## Appendix 2. Survey Questionnaire 2018

CPR*south* (or Communication Policy Research South) is an annual conference dedicated to building policy research capacity in the global south. The scope of the conference includes any endeavors to facilitate the use of information, knowledge or information communication technologies to improve the lives of people in the global South.

As a past participant in one or more CPR*south* conferences in the last 13 years, we are pleased to welcome you to the community of CPR*south* past participants. CPR*south* community is currently made up of about 600 scholars or practitioners from over 50 countries in the global South. The information you provide through this survey will help us improve future CPR*south* conferences and identify ways to make the present community more effective in making a difference in our part of the world.

*There are fifteen questions. Please answer all the questions as best as you can.*

\* 1. Name

\* 2. Preferred Email

\* 3. Contact number

Country Code

Phone Number

\* 4. Employment details

Current Position

Department

Organization

Country

\* 5. In which CPR*south* Conference/s did you participate?

*	Young Scholar (YS)	Paper Presenter (PP)
2007-1-Manila	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2007-2-Chennai	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2008- Beijing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2009- Negombo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2010- Cape Town/ Xian	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2011- Nairobi / Bangkok	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2012- Mauritius	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2013- Mysore	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2014- Maropeng	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2015- Taipei	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2016- Zanzibar

\*

2017- Yangong

2018- Maputo

\* 6. RESEARCH OUTPUTS: Since your last attendance at a CPRsouth conference, have you completed, by yourself or in collaboration, any of the following research outputs on topics within the scope\* of CPRsouth? (Please check all that apply)

The scope of the conference includes any endeavors to facilitate the use of information, knowledge or information communication technologies to improve the lives of people in the global South.

- Journal Publications
- Conference Papers
- Theses Completed
- Research / Theses Proposals
- Grant Proposals
- Grant, Received
- Technical Reports
- Other
- Research outputs are not relevant to my work

7. POLICY OUTPUTS: Since your last attendance at a CPRsouth conference, have you used or provided, by yourself or in collaboration, any of the following policy outputs to support decision making on topics within the scope of CPRsouth, in your organization or in the wider policy arena? (Please check all that apply)

	Within My Organization	Outside in the wider policy arena
Policy papers/Briefs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Policy submissions / Presentations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Policy implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Op-Ed pieces in the media	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interviews to the media	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Blogs / Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No efforts yet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\* 8. POLICY CHANGES: Has your policy outputs led to any policy changes, however small? The path from policy outputs to policy change is a difficult one. *If you have nothing to report please click on 'Not Yet' or 'Not Applicable' in the line below.*

Yes

Not Yet

N/A

9. If Yes for question 8, Describe the most significant policy change giving the Year, Policy issue and Policy change.

Year

Policy Issue

Policy change

10. Do you plan to (or are you able to) engage in communication policy issues in the future?

- Yes  May be
- No

\* 11. Were you a young scholar at “CPRsouth-2017-Yangong” or “CPRsouth-2018-Maputo”?

- Yes
- No

12. Of the following sessions at the CPRsouth tutorials, pick one session that could be improved further, or pick the last option of “No need for any substantial changes”.

- What is policy research and why communication policy research?
- Issues in communication policy research
- Research to policy process
- Preparing and presenting a policy brief as an ‘elevator pitch’
- Mechanics of policy research (Research question/Theory of change/Literature review/ Target Population, Sample Frame
- and Data Sources/ Data Collection, Analysis, Synthesis and Reporting)
- Preparing own research proposal
- Presenting one’s proposals
- No need for any substantial changes
- Other (please specify)

13. How would you change the above-selected session/s?

14. Any other positive or negative comments about the young scholar program.

15. Do you have any suggestions to make the conference more productive or enjoyable?

16. Do you have any suggestions to make the international network of over 600 past CPRsouth participants more useful?

### **Appendix 3. Improved Young Scholar Program implemented from 2017**

In the new program the objective of the Young Scholar Academy was sharpened to require that all scholars complete a mock submissions to the next CPRsouth conference. Each scholar was required to submit a draft research proposal to qualify for the program and work on it throughout the program as each topic was covered.

The programs was divided into five sessions of three hours (or one-half days) each. First session on Day 1 was devoted to presentations by senior scholars introducing the field of communication policy research. The session was concluded with Q&A session with the three speakers as panellists. Second session of Day 1 was devoted to the research to policy process, culminating in a mock elevator pitch made to policymakers by the scholars using a policy papers.

Both sessions on the next day was devoted to mechanics of policy research including 101-5 minute lectures on research question, theory of chance, literature search and synthesis and data collection and analysis, with each lecture followed by 45 minutes where students applied the concepts to their own proposal or sample proposals and sharing each relevant component of their proposals with the class. Students started working in earnest on their research proposals during the last session and continue working through the night to prepare for the presentations next day.

On Day 3, students continued to work on their proposal for presentation after the mid-morning break. Students were divided into thematic panels of 3-4 as customary for presentations at CPRsouth conference and they were asked presented the research proposals to their peers and a panel of reviewers. They had to plan their presentations such that in three minutes they present the policy issue underscoring its policy relevance, the research questions arising from the issue and the planned methodology for addressing the questions. The academy concluded with all participants getting an opportunity to present their proposals and receiving expert and/or peer review. The program for YS academy of 018 is appended.

#### **Appendix 4. Improved conference format implemented from 2018**

Call for Submission of Policy-Relevant Research  
Communication Policy Research South (CPRsouth) Conference 2018  
SEPTEMBER 3-5, 2018 (MONDAY-WEDNESDAY)  
Polana Serena Hotel, Maputo, Mozambique

CPRsouth is a funded conference that seeks to enhance the abilities of scholars and reflective practitioners based in the Global South to produce and effectively communicate policy-relevant research in the broadly defined ICT space. It is an opportunity to join a community of like-minded researchers who want to see their knowledge make a real difference in the world.

If you are selected to participate AND you are a citizen/permanent resident of a low or middle-income country in Africa or Asia, we will cover your economy airfare to Maputo, accommodation and most meals.

The 2018 CPRsouth conference consists of eight curated sessions where ICT policy-relevant research from the Global South will be showcased. The 2018 conference format is a departure from the previous conferences in that the focus now will be on repurposing published or nearly completed research into substantive policy briefs.

#### **Your research paper or report along with a cover page is due by April 30, 2018.**

The conference will accommodate approximately 30 presenters from Africa and the Asia-Pacific during a two-and-a-half-day period. The topics and the curators for the eight sessions are as follows:

1. What is the impact of national broadband plans, policies or strategies on ICT access? **Tim Mwolo Waema**
2. What comes after access: hate harassment and manipulation? **Pirongrong Ramasoota**
3. Digital literacy as the next big challenge. **Wallace Chigona**
4. Gender at the intersection of other divides. **Alison Gillwald**
5. Platforms, livelihoods, and consumer benefits. **Helani Galpaya & Payal Malik**
6. Are ICTs contributing to financial inclusion? **Supriya Singh**
7. Egovernment and “smart” cities. **Erwin Alampay**
8. Cyber policy: Scanning the horizon from the Global South. **Rohan Samarajiva & Sriganesh Lokanathan**

#### **Submission guidelines**

Read the [Conference Program](#) and select a session that best fits the research you have done or are close to completing. The research can be a previous conference paper, a publication, a thesis, an evaluation report or any document that is based on evidence. You must be the principal author. If not, you must attach a note describing the significant contribution you made along with the email and phone contacts of co-authors that may be used to verify your contribution.

Send the research paper or the report that you think fits the session, along with a Cover Note of one page, to [info\[at\]cprsouth\[dot\]org](mailto:info[at]cprsouth[dot]org).

The cover note must include:

1. Title of the proposed policy brief
2. Relevant Conference session
3. Author Name, Designation, Department, Institution, Address, Email and Phone
4. Policy problem/s addressed
5. Proposed solution/s
6. Summary of supporting evidence, and
7. Attachment (Can be a link to a document or a physical attachment to your email)



## Appendix 5. Comments from 2016 and 2018 Tracer Studies

### YS Program

Commendation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I had a very positive experience with CPRSouth in 2008. The topics were very informative. I appreciated that there was an opportunity to meet and get to know other researchers from different places. I hope that this practice is continued...</li> <li>2. I joined CPR south young scholars 2011 in Bangkok and particularly enjoyed the session on writing a policy brief. It was a really great experience.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. although it was for only a few days, the YS program was a really enriching experience. I specifically liked the sessions on drafting a policy and how one could develop a proposal..</li> <li>2. excellent platform for capacity building..</li> <li>3. I really enjoyed that we were able to stay over for the extra two days to listen in on the conference...</li> <li>4. interesting and relevant program..</li> <li>5. It was a very informative and useful programme for me as it helped me develop my research knowledge further...</li> <li>6. It was mind opening experience for me, and I believe it is an important opportunity for many young people from African and Asia. In addition to its research training, through the program, I was able to build a great friendship with people I would not think is possible. I feel like I have a place in Asia because of the great friends I was able to have. And I thank you for that ..</li> <li>7. The sessions are very interactive and diverse, however I am yet to implement the policy research that I have done...</li> <li>8. The overall program was amazing and quite an eye opener..</li> <li>9. The program has been really useful in terms of preparing the future researcher in the area of communication policy...</li> <li>10. The program is a very good initiative of imparting knowledge and building a network of budding policy entrepreneurs, The training should be increased to three days and perhaps a day/session for interactions...</li> <li>11. The program is a very good initiative which broadens or research capacity...</li> <li>12. The program offers young scholars a good opportunity to turn their research into policy..</li> <li>13. The programme helped me to enhance my research and learning skills. I now have submitted multiple conference papers and published a journal and in all my work, I try to identify/suggest policy impacts.</li> <li>14. The speakers and the facilitators were all experts in their own fields. The program was well organized and the participants were carefully selected..</li> <li>15. This is a good program and should continue..</li> <li>16. Very intense yet fruitful..</li> </ol>
Suggestions-Interactivity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Demonstrating some case studies of successful research..</li> <li>4. Doing practical sessions like writing a small policy brief/paper...</li> <li>5. Feedback we (RIA) have received is more interactive and role playing...</li> <li>6. Group assignments after every session..</li> <li>7. I will recommend that the Young Scholars should be grouped around the specific areas they need capacity building ; then organizers should focus on that with hands on exercise in order to achieve measurable impact at the conference and follow-on activities post ..</li> <li>8. Make your scholars presentation more interactive. Ask Young Scholars to present during the sessions and facilitate their presentations and discussions.</li> <li>9. More hands-on work..</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17. There is a need for more time for presentations..</li> </ol>

<p>Suggestions-Other</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. I have a suggestion that please include one extra session of past young scholars to participate as paper presenters in next/coming session. So they can share their CPRsouth YS learning experience as paper presenter e.g. 2015 YS encourage to present paper in next 2016 CPRsouth conference...</li> <li>11. Involve past scholars and beneficiaries of scholarships to motivate young scholars...</li> <li>12. Maybe pair up a young scholar with a paper presenter for more mentoring opportunities for the young scholar and encourage collaboration between the two...</li> <li>13. More exposure and knowledge sharing..</li> <li>14. More exposure with policy practitioners from different governments or fields would be helpful for young scholars to get the ideas from the practical (e.g.open lecture, Q&amp;A, seminars, mentoring etc.).</li> <li>15. My suggestion is that the topic of the session should focus on the recent high-interest topic in ICT policy, where world renowned experts from this topic can be invited to give lecture..</li> <li>16. Similar to the CPRsouth in Taipei, invite young scholars who became actively and successfully engaged in the policy reform process to share their journey.I think this would make it easier for the young participants to relate to their experience and aim for their achievement..</li> <li>17. Supporting next young scholars to connect with OBS [Board Members?] to collaborate diverse researches..</li> <li>18. Tackling a relationship life policy situation in the tutorials..</li> <li>19. The young scholars and paper presenters can be assigned professional mentors from the team of qualified board members on ICT policy issues taking into consideration specific country contexts and the emerging policy issues.For example young scholars from Africa could be assigned board members/ experienced policy professors from Africa and the ones from Asia or Latin America the same.</li> <li>20. The YS should be made to present their proposals for a much broader discussion of their topics.This will make it peer reviewed as well as being reviewed by the authorities.</li> <li>21. To give further chance to young scholar at least for the second time of sharing his experience at research field..</li> <li>22. Widen scope of tutorials to include not just the young scholars but even the older guys...</li> <li>23. Young scholars are given competitive grant to do their research (theses) or report..</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18. A bit of focus on the methodology part (or different types) with examples can enhance the understandings to write a proposal...</li> <li>19. A more inclusive process throughout the conference, particularly during proposal development and presentation, where discussion around communication policy issues generally perceived unpopular are equally accommodated as much as the popular ones and local/national contexts other than that conference facilitators and participants are already familiar with are given the same significance...</li> <li>20. bring some real life / market examples..</li> <li>21. Give a more structured process as the last time was bit haphazard..</li> <li>22. Give more time to prepare and rehearse the pitch..</li> <li>23. Initial oral and power point three minutes presentation from participants for about half a day, so facilitators can narrow down policy issues from the beginning of the programs for scholars...</li> <li>24. Make sure it is allocated enough time and enough mentors to work with the young scholars and other participants...</li> <li>25. More communication theory and its practical application to every day case studies of the South...</li> <li>26. More in-depth session on how to strengthen your research to ensure it is policy-relevant...</li> <li>27. More time to discuss project proposals, both individually with mentors or collectively with the assessing panel...</li> <li>28. Presentation time should be 15 minutes..</li> <li>29. Tailor the program to the needs of the young scholar other than having a generic program not informed by the scholars themselves...</li> <li>30. The inclusion of story building(or usage of metaphors/cases) to generate interest and anxiety, theme building to structure the policy in brief, and methods to craft a proper abstract for a glance of 30 seconds...</li> <li>31. The program schedule is so tight that the participants are not left with any time to explore. Being young scholar it is often the case that this is our first visit to country and young scholars are eager to explore the country. Some private time should be provided so scholars can cross city exploration from the list...</li> </ol>
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## Conference

<p>Commendation</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It was wonderful learning experience and it was very well structured...</li> <li>2. It's a great platform to learn and interact internationally.Should continue the great work..</li> <li>3. So far, I am comfortable with the way the CPRsouth is organized and structured..</li> <li>4. Thanks..</li> <li>5. Yes two of my junior researchers have benefitted after me..</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conferences are very intellectually engaging.Perhaps, we can make use of mobile apps to aid in interaction with participants such as menti.com..</li> <li>2. From my experience, I must say everything was good..</li> <li>3. I think the format is appropriate in itself and wish to be associated with it for a longer run...</li> <li>4. It's conference that really help the Young Scholar to learn about bringing up policies..</li> <li>5. The process and inputs given to paper presenters is very constructive and helps us to improve the</li> </ol>
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		<p>research output..</p> <p>6. The two conferences I have attended in 2017 and 2018 have been very enjoyable...</p> <p>7. This is one of the best conference I have ever attended. Therefore, I would say, it is enough enjoyable..</p>
Suggestions	<p>6. A robust mechanism should be developed to find out promising papers and research works to avoid the monotonous rehashing of the similar findings that are reported over the years. CPRsouth should focus on incorporating dedicated young researchers to review the papers who would have time to comment for the betterment of the authors and the community. Also the scope of the papers / panels should be broaden...</p> <p>7. Accept papers from wider areas not only of policy related. Some papers which are not directly linked with policy however indirectly related and make greater role in policy formulation..</p> <p>8. Although I understand that the conference is more policy-oriented than theory (academic), I believe it will help to make a session specifically for theoretical papers; or may be just making 'theoretical input' a part of the inputs which the reviewers provide...</p> <p>9. Case studies were very useful..</p> <p>10. Communication between conferences..</p> <p>11. Constant in communication with the fellows so that they get motivated along with virtual participation even though they cannot attend the program. Also, a mass gathering of the scholars would be great..</p> <p>12. Continue to have more discussions on current events / topics of interest..</p> <p>13. Could the CPRsouth issues some articles or commentaries to introduce the outstanding CPRsouth participants every month or quarter including their research path or their update research outcomes through email? I believe it will be an effective way to encourage all the young scholars to keep on moving as well as setting a role model for them...</p> <p>14. CPR south should target to address the problems we face in our countries on a day to day basis..</p> <p>15. CPRsouth conference should be more frequent..</p> <p>16. CPRsouth is a great platform and network for scholars and practitioners. So, quality papers and presentations (100%) matters a lot. Sometimes noticed that some (I will say few) of the papers are not up to the mark. So, I think CPRsouth should take strong position in selecting good quality papers. ..</p> <p>17. Do a rigorous peer review of papers..</p> <p>18. Finding a mechanism to ensure that the YS and PP participate in the entire conference..</p> <p>19. Hold panel discussions that could take policy changes forward..</p> <p>20. I think a session on how best to engage with the policy makers, challenges faced by civil societies to get them into discussions and take relevant actions at local levels, how the individuals/ organizations can follow them up/pursue and affect policy making at local and national level...</p> <p>21. I think presenters should be encouraged to be collaborating even at international levels..</p> <p>22. ICT is very interdisciplinary domain, but other academic disciplines could hardly find their way to this conference..</p> <p>23. Identify how the papers / research presented can be socialised widely, by identifying what steps can be taken next to get the key messages out...</p>	<p>8. A little free free time..</p> <p>9. A session wherein participants will break-out into more specific thematic areas, maybe around maximum 15 in a group and share their work in promoting the ideals of CPRsouth...</p> <p>10. A visit to a policy implementing agency in host countries can help participants see how their work is used to impact lives...</p> <p>11. Adding a session more and a case study provided so that participants can prepare and come to discuss their views. One case study - different views from multiple perspectives..</p> <p>12. always chose a really exotic location :- ) 2. don't accept crap papers.</p> <p>13. An alumni fellowship track may be added..</p> <p>14. An ample time for individual consultation sessions with the speakers and facilitators can be considered. During the sessions/workshops only a few questions from the participants were entertained because of time constraints. A longer Q&amp;A segment maybe considered. Some of the cases used during the workshop were context specific which can be a bit difficult to find affinity with if you are coming from a different region. The cases/materials used may need to be reviewed. Although the teaching and learning process during the sessions were superb, the organization may consider deploying a simple form of assessment to measure the learning /progress of the participants. The organization may also consider deploying group dynamic activities as part of the adult learning principle in running seminars and workshops. ...</p> <p>15. Cast the net wider in terms of presenters. What I saw last time was LirneAsia/RIA domination..</p> <p>16. Collaborative researches among previous presenters of the same interest or field may be initiated..</p> <p>17. Do an online version of the YS academy to give opportunities to those apply but cannot be accommodated and serve as an always-on resource for future participants...</p> <p>18. Exchange of best practices among the Young Scholars..</p> <p>19. Fund some of the research proposals by the fellows..</p> <p>20. Have the past CPRsouth publications been useful for subsequent CPRsouth participants?..</p> <p>21. I have suggestion that conference proceedings must be published in any of international indexing such as EBSCO, ProQuest, SCOPUS, and so on...</p> <p>22. I last attended the CPRSouth Conference in 2014 and am sure a lot must have been improved since that time...</p> <p>23. I think as the conference is about the policy research, it has to balance between presentation of the research results and other angles of policy formulation. Once a while, a keynote speaker with the knowledge of a more recent policy topic could be invited. The conference could also be organized around with cutting edge topics such as Data science for development, Artificial Intelligence, etc...</p> <p>24. I think successful case-based presentation (From</p>

	<p>24. If possible please make a communication with the young scholars and paper presenters with the policy level peoples of the respective countries...</p> <p>25. If possible, introduce a journal so that people who cannot make it to a conference can still submit and participate in this sphere?..</p> <p>26. Improving mentorship process for paper givers.Right now there is too much variation in quality.</p> <p>27. In last three to four years, it has deteriorated..</p> <p>28. In Taiwan, there was a paper presented by the host organization but the paper did not follow the stipulated paper acceptance process.CPRsouth needs to be consistent in its rules to maintain the integrity and quality of papers..</p> <p>29. Integrating professionals from different backgrounds..</p> <p>30. It should continue with a broader focus of policy making for the upcoming technologies..</p> <p>31. Make the attendance compulsory for all participants...</p> <p>32. Make the mailing list more active rather than a Facebook page...</p> <p>33. More collaboration with Fellows will be useful...</p> <p>34. More sessions to interact with senior professors..</p> <p>35. More small group break-out sessions, with a network to facilitate communication post-event..</p> <p>36. Organize the next event other parts of Africa..</p> <p>37. Panel wise selection in different corners of the conference so that the participant must select it according to their own choices and to select an appropriate mentor during the tutorial who really does know about the topic.Last time in Taiwan I faced this problem where my mentor did not have any single bit of knowledge regarding the policy which I presented including language barrier..</p> <p>38. Participants are on full scholarship with their travel and accommodation paid by IDRC.Since there are no parallel sessions, participation in all sessions should be made mandatory..</p> <p>39. Participants of the Conferences should be engage in LIRNEasia research work...</p> <p>40. Possibility of hosting in south East Asia so closer for Pacific Islands participation..</p> <p>41. Post-Conference short Assignments and deadlines to young-scholar-participants..</p> <p>42. The organisation can develop an interactive blog where members can interact productively and benefit one-another..</p> <p>43. Varying topics on ICT for Development, especially on Education, Literacy..</p> <p>44. Yes perhaps CPR-south could have sessions on internet governance issues. I think there needs to be more wide interaction with the community prior and post CPRsouth in particular for paper presenters. The community also needs to grow in terms of new participants it brings, currently it looks very exclusive...</p> <p>45. Yes, screening should be more relevant by giving industry experience its due weight (and not merely academic!)..</p>	<p>the Industry) will help more for future policy angle...</p> <p>25. I think the conference should engage greater researchers. It seems that the CPR community are owned by particular group of researcher pertaining high barrier to entry. With due respect, the more emerging topics might be better organized by younger researcher...</p> <p>26. I think the conference was a bit too theoretical and therefore, tedious (which is natural for a research conference) and could be enhanced by adding a few entertainment sessions or just having a break to let the participants steam off.Otherwise, it's an amazing conference..</p> <p>27. I will recommend that scholars who are to presenting or submitting papers to engage with mentors prior to the conference...</p> <p>28. If CPRsouth can connect with an academic/ publishing platform like conference proceedings or so, it will help academic communities (and/or researchers) to refer and cite these policy briefs in their future work.This will add credibility to the work of CPR young scholars like me..</p> <p>29. If possible I would like to see papers from distinguished scholars of the global south.Furthermore, after the events, if possible, arrangements should be made for conference participants to explore few things about the host country..</p> <p>30. Include case studies and discussions of successful and unsuccessful policy research interventions..</p> <p>31. Include more case study discussions about engaging and involving policy makers for addressing issues..</p> <p>32. Including recorded sessions which the scholars/participants can access at a later date...</p> <p>33. Invite a keynote speaker. 2. In addition to the plenary session style we have now, perhaps the committee could consider having several parallel sessions. ..</p> <p>34. It would be good if you can do a follow up on the participants especially the former attendants as young scholar if they have done research and maybe can present in later conferences...</p> <p>35. Keynote speakers from industry..</p> <p>36. Less presentations (slides) and more engagement with audience. Workshopping of topics in smaller break out groups based on paper presentations. Lightning presentations...</p> <p>37. Live Demos of projects similar to the one I presented at ICTD 2016, at School of Information Michigan was a great way to engage researchers and get feedback...</p> <p>38. Make it a 3 minutes sharing proposal for the young scholar, and sort of make it a conversational rather in format...</p> <p>39. Make online participation possible...</p> <p>40. Mentorship of young scholars in a continuous process should be encouraged so that at least within the immediate 3 years after participation, a young scholar should have produced a conference papers...</p> <p>41. More focus on practical applications of research and the stories that led to successful communication or adoption of evidence-based policy, which may or may not follow the usual path or the policy process...</p> <p>42. More focused papers, additional mentoring prior to conference (e.g.sample policy briefs/ presentations + guides for same)..</p> <p>43. More stakeholders should participate..</p>
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## Network

Commendation	1. -	1. The is an important program that should continue. I have benefited alot personally. I did not know how to conduct and research and convert it into a policy brief. Thanks to CPRsouth...
Suggestions	<p>2. 10th year workshop to gather everyone (without paper submission but for pure networking) would be good.A web page to look up former participants and to link them, besides facebook, would also be good..</p> <p>3. A get-to-gether conference after some years, e.g.every four years, where participants are to do poster-presentations on what they have been up to with regards to their work within the CPRSouth scope..</p> <p>4. Collaborate more with other countries..</p> <p>5. Could we setting up a LinkedIn Group and shared our academic viewpoint or</p>	<p>2. I think keeping in touch and following on the progress of the young scholars would be important. The young scholar of 2018, we have what's up group where we share opportunities and also check upon each other from time to time. I believe building a group where we can network, share opportunities and more importantly support of each other will be good. I also believe that future CPR programmes/opportunities should be open first for the past participants to strength our relationship and unity. ..</p> <p>3. A communication portal with frequent discussions on selected topics, along with open discussion portal would be great..</p> <p>4. A mailing list would be useful...</p> <p>5. Alumni reunion. Call for paper or special track for alumnae. 2) Make a dedicated website that can be filled up by us. I</p>

	<p>outcomes there?..</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. CPR Alumni- with online portal where paper sharing and co-authorship along with debate could run with some moderation- VIRTUAL platform yet real and effective...</li> <li>7. Create a LinkedIn (or similar) group for CPRsouth so that participants are updated of what each other is working on. This would hopefully help in raising awareness and encouraging collaborations. Also, maybe include a Social Media 101 course for academics and researchers to help them use online social networks for communicating their research and for reaching out to a wider audience effectively...</li> <li>8. Create a more interactive platform or work groups based on participants areas of topics that moves beyond social media platforms...</li> <li>9. Create an online network...</li> <li>10. Create an Alumni on Social Media like Facebook and LinkedIn making it accessible to connect, collaborate and work on mutual issues of interests..</li> <li>11. Create closed email list / news group or Facebook and disseminate all information there..</li> <li>12. creating a database (or links) of paper/publication products..</li> <li>13. Creation of an online forum (e.g. Facebook Secret Group) where all CPRsouth Alumni can communicate, collaborate and share latest activities on policy issues in their Countries..</li> <li>14. Enable more ways for participants to stay in touch following the conference..</li> <li>15. Encourage CPRsouth scholars to engage in more non-academic writing / communication on policy issues, so that research and policy solutions can reach a wider audience. Maybe suggest a requirement of 2-3 articles (in the immediate year of participation, at least)..</li> <li>16. Encouraging collaboration and cross country studies amongst participants. Announcing availability of funds or sourcing of funds for conduct collaborative work. Building a platform where people can post their expertise or cv something, showing area of expertise. Participants will be able to share publications or blog about hot topics. Share country experiences or ask for assistance for work they are involved in from a now expert on the platform...</li> <li>17. Engage alumni in potential studies around the region...</li> <li>18. Establish a LinkedIn network for all active participants..</li> <li>19. Facilitating increased communication between past participants and information sharing amongst these participants..</li> <li>20. For better collaboration, I believe community can be involved in the review of papers. As of now I believe the group handling the reviews is a closed community. Opening it to all the</li> </ol>	<p>have like Chalmers alumnae website that gives information of anyone whereabouts. ..</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. An association of participants can be created so that we can connect with others we would not have the chance of meeting. 2. A reunion conference can be held for previous participants to come together ..</li> <li>7. As I was from Computer Science background, I felt that there are less topics from our side that could easily blend into the conference theme. Adding those will surely attract more audiences..</li> <li>8. Broader dissemination of the work and more participation from the academia..</li> <li>9. build up connection and dialogue. Share a platform for interests and research ideas..</li> <li>10. Business like and fun-filled enough..</li> <li>11. Can bring online Research Journals involve more participants and create more opportunities for interaction...</li> <li>12. Can we each year target a country and accumulate wealth of policy research papers for the specific country?..</li> <li>13. Collaborative researches among previous presenters of the same interest or field may be initiated..</li> <li>14. Connectivity over social media platforms - LinkedIn, facebook, etc. 2. Peer-reviews and a proceeding for the conference 3. Assignments and workshops to develop leaders and interaction via mentors from the community..</li> <li>15. CPRsouth Alumni group to be maintained in any of the social media platform to continue with the network and bonding we shared during the conference; and also to share the ideas/information on relevant policies..</li> <li>16. Create a alumni platform so that each has their own profile and people could collaborate within the platform...</li> <li>17. Create a platform to share policy challenges and experiences ranging from ideas to academic works and even on the field implementation across the Global South. Example, how different countries within the Global South deal with OTT in terms of regulation and policy in terms of governance, but also rising demand and investment costs on network providers.</li> <li>18. develop a bigger outreach campaign on social media..</li> <li>19. Directory. I think I should sign up again in the FB group..</li> <li>20. Does CPRsouth has a journal and accept publications?..</li> <li>21. Engage them to share ideas on how to go about a specific policy..</li> <li>22. Establish a more formal network, especially among Young Scholars, and come up with a collective policy output as a network, through surveys on specific issues regarding communication policy, where hopefully, over 600 voices can be heard..</li> <li>23. Even though we have participated in the previous CPR young scholar program, it is still difficult to put into action in our country which takes time..</li> <li>24. facilitated networking as a community of practice..</li> <li>25. Give out a "policy impact" award every 2 years or something. Ask all past participants to send in an application with their biggest "win". 1 paragraph type thing. Invite the winner to that year's conference. Tell them to do the dinner speech. ..</li> <li>26. Have a database of participants, with information on their expertise, areas of research, and country/ geographic focus, organized for easy reference...</li> <li>27. Have a group/network online that connects/lists all the paper presenters and scholars with their research interests to facilitate collaboration..</li> <li>28. Have an online community of CPRSouth participants..</li> <li>29. Have local chapter meeting - online or offline - to maintain collaboration and engagement among network members...</li> <li>30. Have networking events, small grants for fellows..</li> <li>31. How does a presented paper not get published? What must presenter do to have the paper published?..</li> <li>32. I am sorry but I didn't know that there was an international</li> </ol>
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	<p>participants (as a second or third reviewer) will be a significant value add as well as keep the community alive...</p> <p>21. Formation of research teams and updating of databases...</p> <p>22. Hoping Re-Union Programs during next ITS or CPRSouth Conferences (Such as special presentation session)..</p> <p>23. I think that there should be a directory of topics that each participant is actively working on and a way to contact them since we are not all present in all of the CPRSouth activities...</p> <p>24. I would think the same approach used by a university alumni association.You can start by register the alumni, develop an alumni database, and plan activities for them to contribute (seminars, discussion forum etc)..</p> <p>25. Identify and engage 'Young Scholars' for cross country research and projects.."</p> <p>26. Identify the policy and research interests of the YS and forward research areas and proposals to them for development not as an option but an obligation..</p> <p>27. increased networking opportunities on an offline basis, mentor-ship, working together on projects etc..</p> <p>28. Introduce or improve communication network..</p> <p>29. Invite past participants to work on projects that they can contribute to from their respective bases, setup a group where information useful information can be disseminated e.g academic study vacancies, fellowship/internship positions, etc..</p> <p>30. Just wish people in the network do keep participating /posting their work , challenges they face with the governments/policy making/grants/programme implementations etc in the network for getting wider reflections and learning for each one of us.CPR network can also initiate online discussions every month on a topic and people can contribute which can be compiled to come up with best practices or possible solutions regarding challenges related to influencing policy making.</p> <p>31. knowing what the members are doing in terms of ICT4D..</p> <p>32. Linkage with government in the respective participating countries be encouraged..</p> <p>33. Make effective different social media group for all CPRsouth participants to discuss different different policy and research issues..</p> <p>34. Maximize online presence- keep website up to date/ create local chapters of past scholars to make it easier for scholars in one country to collaborate or make database of past scholars searchable for the entire CPRsouth community/ reunions outside the once a year cpsouth conference- can be done on a per country level and not necessarily spearheaded by the secretariat but actively supported by it...</p>	<p>network of past CPRsouth participants. I mean I am not aware of any formal platforms or even forums for connecting to them. If there were such forums where I could connect to them and learn more from them, that would be great. If such platform exists, it would be great to promote it more among the participants. <a href="https://www.kcl.ac.uk/sspp/departments/alc/people/core-staff-kings/abiodunlao.aspx">https://www.kcl.ac.uk/sspp/departments/alc/people/core-staff-kings/abiodunlao.aspx</a> ..</p> <p>33. I suggest to identify CPRsouth "Champions/Leaders" between the 600 participants who will commit themselves to drive collaborative research efforts and projects..</p> <p>34. I think CPRsouth is doing great since the conference is organized in each and every year..</p> <p>35. I think having an online discussion forum will be great..</p> <p>36. I think there should be some mechanisms to bring together people either regionally/nationally over a communications platform for enhancing coordination and networking of professionals working in different communication related domains [research/programme/Internet governance-technical /social aspects ] such as in form of a coalition that advocates for discussing and addressing the issues and bring effective change in the policy and programmatic issues.May be an online portal where people can share their work, ideas, seek information for resources, discuss issues in their region and get some pointers /suggestions from experts..</p> <p>37. I think we should communicate more on social media, say through creating a Facebook Page specifically for past participants to share information and knowledge..</p> <p>38. If possible make the contact details and research interest of participants public and searchable so we can find people to collaborate on projects..</p> <p>39. In order for the network to be useful, a platform should be arranged.This will connect past participants..</p> <p>40. Increase opportunities for publication..</p> <p>41. It could be useful to have a directory with some areas of interest etc...</p> <p>42. It is up to the single individuals as well to keep in touch with people they meet at their conference.If for some this is not straightforward, maybe you want to include a module in the young scholar programme on the importance of networking and collaborating with reseachers met during CPRsouth?.</p> <p>43. It would be good if there was a directory of participants and their points/topics of interest.Or at least have opportunities where the participants can be tapped to provide input/contribute to research, etc.</p> <p>44. It would be useful to first gather all the past participants (who are actively contributing to global south efforts) through a conference or a brainstorming session. This can lead to coordinated efforts. A bi-yearly publication where each can contribute by writing on themes of CPRsouth is another initiative that maybe considered. ..</p> <p>45. Keep up the good work..</p> <p>46. Leverage their experience in future conferences..</p> <p>47. mailing list should be activated and local partnerships to promote CPRSouth work may be encouraged..</p> <p>48. Making our social media platforms more active and vibrant.Trying not to lose our weak ties and consider more activities of the community, even in a small scale at possible geographies.</p> <p>49. match up collaboration prior to sessions.Linkedin Group matched on interests or areas where one needs support..</p> <p>50. Meraka Institute, CSIR Research Group Leader Meraka Institute, CSIR August 2017 – Present 1 year 5 months Pretoria Drive the strategic vision of the research group..</p> <p>51. My suggestions would be internet meetups via Skype or Blue Jean and can either be arranged regionally (i.e.My suggestions would be internet meetups via Skype or Blue Jean and can either be arranged regionally (i.e. East Africa) or by by interest groups (i.e. data privacy policy, content</p>
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	<p>35. More collaborative networking arenas..</p> <p>36. More cross-country collaborations and funded exchange residencies...</p> <p>37. My involvement in ICT policies post CPRsouth was unfortunately limited as my work was in a different field. I would be very happy to collaborate with others in this network to develop knowledge in ICT policies over a period of time. If CPRsouth can facilitate this, that will be really useful..</p> <p>38. need to focus on impact, rather than scholarly article...</p> <p>39. Perhaps, we can receive updates about activities of CPRsouth...</p> <p>40. Possibly registry of alumni will be registered in repository of resources to people wishing to find out more about developments within countries,..</p> <p>41. Seems there are many one time participants and some veteran participants but only a few participants who fall in between. My understanding is the people who are in-between, have experienced cprsouth a few number of times, want really to contribute to the policy arena. Maybe we should find ways to encourage them to write evidence based policy works - that will promote them and bringforth new ideas and issues and make a strong community. ..</p> <p>42. Sharing of research &amp; policy papers for the benefit of those who are still learning..</p> <p>43. Stemming from the response to question 11, the blog can also provide useful information to members on research collaborations, opportunities etc..</p> <p>44. Thanks..</p> <p>45. That's the job of CPRsouth - I am not sure what it has done lately to achieve it so far,..</p> <p>46. The alumni networks should be re developed..</p> <p>47. There are should deliberate effort to galvanize mentors - mentee relationship within the group.Also smaller team across borders can be formed and research targets should be given to these groups to encourage research publications..</p> <p>48. There is need to organize a conference may be once every three years for past CPRsouth participants to brainstorm and share their experience on the policy issues affecting lives in their country contexts..</p> <p>49. There may be joint research organized across the operating geographies of the participants, in the ambit of the areas of interest for CPR.This will help the participants share their findings and get updated on the research areas.</p> <p>50. There may be projects/research where participants can join and work in group from distance.It should be a formal research project and the outcome may be presented in good conferences.</p> <p>51. There needs to be a group at any of the social network site to bring closer the people and ideas..</p>	<p>policy or other common interests in communication research and policy)..</p> <p>52. Need more connections with other initiations (e.g.TPRC, ITS).</p> <p>53. New blood in the program committee. So that young and energetic academics and industry guys can bring in new idea and manage the conference. New reviewers list and incentives for the reviewers who do a good and honest job. The last conference had a novel idea but maybe had single point failure. Maybe a team of folks should be assigned for each track. Conference dates should not be changed abruptly. New ideas should be incorporated. This confrence should work as a open platform for novel research and Policy- the papers may not be rigorous but they should have new insights of whatever field that interacts with the theme of the conference. ..</p> <p>54. Not everyone in the developing country is given the opportunity to be part of the CPR south events.It could be useful if more regional events are organized to enable many scholars to attend the sessions and to learn from the panelists..</p> <p>55. One thing that could be definitely helpful for next editions would be to start as early as possible the research proposals tutorials during the YS program, which can enable young scholars to present early drafts of their ideas and get significant feedback...</p> <p>56. Organise regular community calls.For example, once in every six months..</p> <p>57. organise some workshops/courses on proposal development etc..</p> <p>58. Papers presented in the conference needs to be published in refereed academic journals.If the CPRsouth can assist with arranging potential journals, or a special edition of a journal for publication of the best papers, it will attract more scholars with quality papers to submit and present in the CPRsouth knowing that their paper may be selected afterwards for publication with an Academic Journal.</p> <p>59. Past participants can share their success stories in a common forum and the best practices followed by their administration in respective fields..</p> <p>60. Perhaps a mailing list for CPRsouth participants to share findings/interesting research etc?..</p> <p>61. Possibly provide small grants to enable research collaborations on topics arising from the conference to be presented at the next conference...</p> <p>62. Promote events from networks(paper,conference,scholarship) on both facebook and website..</p> <p>63. Promote more collaborations in the form of a fellowship, research visit etc. - Having a journal publication to showcase the research outputs of the CPRSouth participants..</p> <p>64. Provide more opportunity to participate previous young scholar like me in the future conference and provide platform to share experiences as well presentation in the workshop...</p> <p>65. Publish a directory of all participants with the country of origin, title of paper or research proposal.Keep reminding participants.</p> <p>66. Regular communication such as newsletters, grant and collaborative opportunities..</p> <p>67. Regularly update website Country-specific or regional networking events among alumni/ listserv or groupchat for alumni for those not on facebook..</p> <p>68. Share reports on policy research interventions..</p> <p>69. The activities must be shared through networking platform..</p> <p>70. The international network should have a harmonized mailing list where topical issues are highlighted or discussed.Differences in political, socio and economic contexts in Asia and Africa -- despite belonging to the</p>
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	<p>52. To nominate and award each and every year 1 successful participant who made the best out of it including alumni gathering once in a year.1 successful alumni might have a chance to work as a research fellow based on her/ his policy paper along with the CPR South team in South Africa.</p> <p>53. Use a multistakeholder format (such as the IGF but in a much smaller scale) where policy makers, private sector, and state actors' representatives attend the conference to engage in direct discussions on the policy issues..</p> <p>54. was very useful..</p> <p>55. We can include a database of all the past and future participants so we can share information and for future collaborations..</p> <p>56. Yes better to have a meeting sharing experience..</p> <p>57. Yes have some suggestions. 1. Need to engage the Young Scholars in writing proposals, research and for grant hunting..</p> <p>58. Yes, Definitely..</p>	<p>global south -- might spell out the need to for adequate moderation, or even different lists altogether.</p> <p>71. The organization may consider conducting followup activities e.g., learning sessions per region. Conduct of smaller events e.g., technical fora, symposia and the like that could be country or region specific. The organization may also tap past participants to be resources speakers/panel members and/or mentor for other activities. ..</p> <p>72. There are various social platforms available over which the participants can be brought together. I am sure there must be a system in place. But I have not been added to such group. So, I would humbly request to be added to such group. ..</p> <p>73. There should be an online platform to engender continuous engagement..</p> <p>74. There should be participants online alumni forum where past participants and present participants can communicate and share ideas just like a WhatsApp group...</p> <p>75. There should be ways to build research cooperation among CPRsouth scholars...</p> <p>76. This can probably happen if the participants are willing to work more towards their research paper which can be achieved in the later times..</p> <p>77. To improve the quality of papers presented, the papers can be sent to 2-3 reviewers (from past CPRSouth attendees).Most of the past attendees would have experience and interest in reviewing the papers.</p> <p>78. Undertake collaborative research studies..</p> <p>79. Use more of social media to engage with CPRsouth community..</p> <p>80. We should expand more geographical areas and research topics to make collaboration projects..</p> <p>81. We would like to have our policy proposals featured by other organizations to build credibility over the work output by fellows...</p> <p>82. Would be good to have an annually updated list of the network ..</p>
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