Building emerging leaders in communications policy in Africa and Asia

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Synthesis

Based on 13 years of experience, evaluations and a tracer study conducted in 2016, we proposed to offer a redesigned Communication Policy Research south (CPR*south*) program in Asia and Africa for the years 2017 and 2018 that gives greater weight to the formation of policy intellectuals through an improved Young Scholar (YS) program and also through mentoring of paper givers.

In the redesigned program, mentoring of paper givers was enhanced, not only through senior scholars who serve on the Board, but also through more experienced peers. With regard to the young scholar program, we responded to the previous scholars' requests for greater use of case studies and interactive learning in the tutorials and for the maintenance of the community in the periods between conferences by means of social media. Over-reliance on lectures delivered by Board Members was reduced, giving greater weight to interactive learning. The duration of the tutorial component was extended by half a day. The program's emphasis on a gender-balanced "pipeline" of young scholars was strengthened.

A comprehensive end-line tracer study was conducted in 2018-19 to supplement the baseline tracer study of 2016 and assess the efficacy of the changes and also establish outcomes that have been achieved, in terms of the shaping of policy intellectuals who have the commitment and knowledge to make to useful contributions to ICT policy and regulatory processes in their own countries.

In addition, ten alumni, who had gone through the academy program and whose actions and experiences could be used to educate Young Scholars in the coming years, participated in a two-day workshop in Sri Lanka on "Success Stories of Young Scholars". The stories and videos generated from this workshop are posted on cprsouth.org for use in future online or face-to-face capacity building programs. They are also being disseminated over social media. An e-learning series "Tools of the trade for policy intellectuals," was developed to be used in future academies and on the web. The www.cprsouth.org web site was overhauled to capture the outputs of 13 conferences from 2017-2018.

Keywords: Asia, evidence-based policymaking, ICTs, capacity building, policy research, regulation.

Introduction

The Research Problem and Objectives

It is widely recognized that more efficient and equitable provision of ICT infrastructure services will greatly advance economic growth and poverty alleviation in the Global South. Too often, innovative applications of ICTs for these ends are stymied by the absence, high price or low quality of ICT infrastructure services.

Research has demonstrated the importance of effective policy formulation and regulation for the achievement of good ICT infrastructure sector performance. Effective policy and regulation may be created by expert and motivated government officials, who are not always present in countries in the Global South. However, even countries with highly skilled and motivated government officials require the participation of experts not in government employ to represent or assist stakeholders and the public in the policy-making process. Such experts who have both the necessary knowledge and the motivation to participate in policy and regulatory processes from the outside are described as policy intellectuals.

The Global South lacks good policy and regulation. It lacks not only committed government officials but also effective policy intellectuals. The objective of CPRsouth is to seed the growth of such policy intellectuals or young leaders capable of evidence-based policy intervention in low- and lower-middle-income countries in Asia and Africa. The expectation is that good policy and regulation will result, yielding the desired contributions to economic growth and poverty alleviation.

Over the past decade, CPR*south* has indeed produced highly engaged and effective young leaders such as Grace Mirandilla Santos in the Philippines (e.g., driving the broadband quality debate and now engaging in an evidence-based manner with proposals to create a government-owned telco as a solution, in addition to writing a column in Telecom Asia: https://www.telecomasia.net/blog/list/Grace%20Mirandilla-Santos) and Ibrahim Rohman in Indonesia (many op-ed articles at critical junctures in ICT policy and whose opinion is valued by the current Minister in charge of the subject: http://www.thejakartapost.com/academia/2017/06/05/the-perplexity-of-mobile-internet-prices.html). While it is somewhat unfair to claim credit for the already significant achievements of 2017 Young Scholar Ranjeet Rane (http://www.thedialogue.co/team_member/ranjeet-rane/) because he was already a policy intellectual, it is possible to claim that the 2016 Ford Foundation program that he participated in as well the 2017 CPRsouth program improved his efficacy.

Moreover 2011 Bangkok Young Scholar Tasmia Tahmid has been promoted to Deputy Director at Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC). Onkokame Mothobi attributes his effective performance at Research ICT Africa to what he learned at the Academy in 2017 (https://www.cprsouth.org/2019/04/a-struggle-for-visibility-onkokame-mothobi/).

Ibrahim Rohman and Ayesha Zainudeen, former Young Scholars and Paper Presenters argued against Indonesia's Facebook ban in the Jakarta Post with data from LIRNEasia surveys. The Ministry announced shortly thereafter that they would not block Facebook. (http://www.thejakartapost.com/academia/2018/04/30/facebook-controversy-to-ban-or-not-to-ban.html?fbclid=IwAR3Z_GipifYScQXlpKPmqqw25CJX4suHj7xnClEIWs7V9FrXFgzYIOrC0is)

A Brief History of CPRsouth

CPR*south* was established in 2006. The first conference was held in January 2007 in Manila, Philippines. The main activity was an annual conference that included a young scholars' program intended to build capacity to take research to policy. CPR*africa* was initiated in 2010 with a conference in Cape Town.

In 2012 and 2013, LIRNE*asia* and Research ICT Africa (RIA) jointly organized CPR*africa*-CPR*south*. A decision to merge was taken in 2013. Administrative activities for CPR*south* were subsequently taken over by RIA for the years 2015 and 2016.

In 2016, LIRNE*asia* was commissioned by RIA to conduct a tracer study of all participants over the years. Using the lessons of this study, recent evaluations and a repository of ten years of experience, we redesigned and delivered two annual Communication Policy Research south programs in Asia and Africa for 2017 and 2018. The new design gave greater weight to the formation of policy intellectuals through improved young scholar programs and also through prior feedback given to paper presenters.

Our intention was to respond to alumni requests for greater use of case studies and interactive learning in the tutorials and for the maintenance of the community in between conferences by means of social media. We reduced reliance on lectures delivered by Board Members, and focused more on interactive learning. The duration of the tutorial component was be extended by half a day.

A second tracer study was conducted in 2018 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 were examined in detail to see how the improvements that were introduced to the YS program from 2017 had been received by the young scholars.

The selection criteria for paper presenters has also changed since 2018, from double-blind peer review of papers submitted per an open call for submission, to an invited paper format where a person responsible for a particular session makes the selections, invites papers if needed, provides feedback to improve the quality and so on.

In October 2018, a reallocation request was approved to convene a two-day workshop, 'Capacity building for policy influence - Stories from CPRsouth Young Scholars,' to systematically capture success stories of CPRsouth alumni who have gone on to influence policy in their own countries. Videographers and writers captured the participants' experiences in taking research to policy.

Project Implementation and Management

As of December 2018, CPR*south* is a community of over six hundred policy-oriented researchers across Asia and Africa, developed through a series of 13 conferences and young scholar training programs. Each of these conferences and training programs was funded by IDRC (with contributions from UK Aid/DFID in some years). Additional funds and contributions in kind have been raised from local partners, the Ford Foundation and Facebook. Participants have also contributed.

Leadership and Management

Project Management

LIRNE*asia* successfully organized 11 CPR*south* programs. The activities during the project period covered a larger area with the inclusion of Africa, but this did not pose difficulties given our experience and relationships.

The project leader held overall responsibility for the program and direct management of the conference component and Board relations. The tutorials were designed and coordinated by the Tutorial Coordinator, reflecting the new, higher profile assigned to them in the new design.

Control of expenditure on airfares is critical to containing costs. Organizing a multi-component program including complex local travel is challenging. These critical event-organizer functions must be performed by a senior person with the required skills and tact. LIRNE*asia's* most experienced manager with a proven track record of cost control as well as the highest performance ratings handled this aspect.

All regular event coordination activities were conducted by the Project coordinator Website and social media were managed by the researcher as well as the communications specialist.

Board of Directors

In order to fulfill its objectives, CPR*south* seeks to identify and develop aspiring junior and mid-level policy intellectuals in the Asia-Pacific and Africa. It is governed by a 20-member Board of Directors comprising senior policy intellectuals (Table 1)

Table 1: CPRsouth Board Members

Name	Designation	Gender	Country
Erwin Alampay, PhD	Associate Professor, University of the Philippines	Male	Philippines
Tracy Cohen, PhD	Director – Convergence and New Media, Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr	Female	South Africa
Helani Galpaya	Chief Executive Officer, LIRNE*asia*	Female	Sri Lanka
Ashok Jhunjhunwala, PhD	Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras	Male	India

Masanori Kondo	Deputy Secretary General, Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT)	Male	Thailand
Monica Kerrets Makau, PhD	Senior Faculty, Strathmore Business School	Female	Kenya
Payal Malik	Advisor Economics and Head of the Economics Division, Competition Commission of India (on deputation from Delhi University)	Female	India
Nirmita Narasimhan, PhD	Senior Fellow and Programme Director, Global Initiative for Inclusive ICT	Female	India
Olivier Nana Nzepa, PhD	Head, ICT Department, University of Yaounde II, Cameroon	Male	Cameroon
Americo Muchanga, PhD	Managing Director of INCM – National Communications Institute of Mozambique	Male	Mozambique
Krishna Oolun, PhD	Independent Expert	Male	Mauritius
Pirongrong Ramasoota, PhD	Vice President, Chulalongkorn University	Female	Thailand
Rohan Samarajiva, PhD, Chair	Chairman, LIRNE*asia*	Male	Sri Lanka
Don D. H. Shin, PhD	Professor, School of Media and Communication, Chung-Ang University, Sungkyunkwan University		Don D. H. Shin, PhD
Supriya Singh, PhD	Professor, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) University	Female	Australia
Rasheda Sultana	Head Financial Services, Grameenphone	Female	Bangladesh
Timothy Waema, PhD	Professor of Information Systems, School of Computing and Informatics, University of Nairobi, Kenya	Male	Kenya
Zhong Liu, PhD	Associate Professor, Southwestern University of Finance and Economics	Male	China

Location

Unlike its peer conferences in the US and Europe, CPRsouth is nomadic.

Table 2: CPRsouth and CPRafrica event locations over the years

Conference ID	Month	CPRsouth	CPRafrica

01-2007-Manila	January	Manila, Philippines	-
02-2007-Chennai	December	Chennai, India	-
03-2008-Beijing	December	Beijing, China	-
04-2009-Negombo	December	Negombo, Sri Lanka	-
05-2010-Xian	December/April	Xi'an, China	Cape Town, South Africa
06-2011-Bangkok	December/April	Bangkok, Thailand	Nairobi, Kenya
07-2012-Mauritius	September	Port Louis, Mauritius	Port Louis, Mauritius
08-2013-Madurai	September	Mysore, India	Mysore, India
09-2014-Maropeng	September	Maropeng, South Africa	-
10-2015-Taipei	September	Taipei, Taiwan	-
11-2016-Zanzibar	September	Zanzibar, Tanzania	-
12-2017-Yangon	September	Yangon, Myanmar	-
13-2018-Maputo	September	Maputo, Mozambique	-

Given its multi-country nature, locating the event close to relevant policy makers and regulators as is the case in the US and Europe is impractical. Best efforts are made to attract government representatives from the host country.

Upon assessing two offers for hosting the 2017 YS program and conference, a decision was made to locate the 2017 event in Yangon, given the major benefits that would accrue to the country partner, MIDO, and also the lessons that could be gleaned from one of the greatest ICT connectivity success stories. Difficulties were expected with visas, given the country was unused to hosting international events. They did occur, but with the dedicated efforts of the organizers and local partners, all participants arrived without delay and major inconvenience.

For the 2018 event, the Board decided to hold the academy and conference in in Maputo, Mozambique. Even though SADC country citizens did not need visas to enter to the country, there were considerable amount of participants from other countries who did not have Mozambican consulate or Mozambique high commission. But with the dedicated efforts of the organizers and local partner, INCM, all participants arrived without any visa issue.

It was decided to hold the workshop on 'Success stories of past young scholars' in Negombo Sri Lanka as Sri Lanka was a central location for both the African partners and Asian partners. Moreover, it was decided to invite resource persons with government and media experience from nearby countries (namely, those with first-hand knowledge of the "demand" side of the research-to-policy relationship) to enrich the discussion. Except for Tracy Cohen of South Africa, all invited resource persons were able to attend.

CPRsouth Young Scholars Academy

The focus remains that of training participants on how to engage in the policy process. This training takes place through the Young Scholars (YS) Academy Participants learn how to become policy intellectuals through direct instruction and observation in the first instance. Some go on to prepare and present policy relevant papers and policy briefs at subsequent CPRsouth conferences.

The baseline tracer study of 2016 showed that within the group which had gone through the tutorials only 71% reported activity whereas the average for all participants reporting activity was 48%. A higher percent of the YS&PP group also reported doing research as well as policy work. (Table 3).

Table 3 Type of activity by type of CPRsouth participants from 2007 to 2015 (or Tracer 2016)

	Research Only	Policy Only	Research & Policy	None	Total
PP Only	5%	3%	31%	60%	210
YS Only	7%	6%	39%	48%	165
YS&PP	13%	4%	53%	29%	45
All	7%	4%	37%	52%	420

Based on responses to a survey questionnaire as well as information from LinkedIn

Based on the above finding, greater prominence was given to the Academy in 2017 and 2018. Scholars and interested practitioners below 35 were recruited with the assistance of the Board members and the CPR*south* community, ensuring gender and regional representation. The recruitment campaign included email and Facebook as tools. The email recruitment campaign targeted previous CPR*south* and Ford Foundation course participants and those in the secretariat's network. The Facebook campaign directly targeted potential participants who fit the defined criteria.

A tracer study of a more recent group of participants shows that the YS&PP groups not only respond at a higher rate[1] but also that 96% of the YS&PP respondents are engaged in both research and policy (Table 4).

Table 4. Type of activity by type of CPRsouth participants from 2013-2018 (or Tracer 2018)

	Research Only	Policy Only	Research & Policy Both	None	ALL
PP	3%	-	77%	19%	31
YS	17%	-	73%	10%	41
YS&PP	0%	-	96%	4%	24
ALL	8%	-	80%	11%	96

Based on responses to a survey questionnaire

In the 2018 tracer study all respondents reported higher levels of activity with only 11% reporting no activity compared to the larger sample from the 2018 Tracer study of 2007-2015 participants where 52% reported no activity. The higher level of activity for Tracer 2018 was probably due to the fact that there we considered only those who responded to a survey questionnaire whereas for the Tracer 2016 we obtained about half the data from LinkedIn, and those who respond are likely to be the more active ones as well.

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[1] See Annex 2 for the full report of the 2018 Tracer Study

CPRsouth12 – Yangon 2017

A total of 93 applications were received in response to two separate calls for the Young Scholar Academy – first for international participants and second for Myanmar residents. The highest number of responses were received in response to a CPRsouth secretariat email which was forwarded to potential applicants (26%), followed by social media (22%) and recommendations from previous CPRsouth participants (19%) (Table 5).

Table 5 Number of responses to call for Young Scholar applications, by channel of publication, CPR*south*12

Young Scholar Applications (Myanmar and International)	
Forwarded email	26
Social media sites (Facebook, Twitter etc.)	22
Recommended by previous CPRsouth participant	19
Email from CPRsouth	9
Notice on CPRsouth website	6
Recommended by MIDO	2
Notice on other website	1
Other	8

Thirteen Myanmarese applied through the Myanmar Young Scholars application interface as well as through personal recommendations from associates of LIRNEasia and MIDO.

CPRsouth13 – Maputo 2018

A total of 147 applications were received in response to a call for the YS Academy. INCM, the local host partner was to recruit Mozambique Young Scholars. The highest number of responses was received in response to Social media call (34%), followed by CPRsouth secretariat email, which was forwarded, to potential applicants (24.5%) and recommendations from previous CPRsouth participants (12.3%) (Table 6).

Table 6 Number of responses to call for Young Scholar applications, by channel of publication, CPR*south*13

Young Scholar Applications	
Social media sites (Facebook, Twitter etc.)	49
Forwarded email	36
Recommended by previous CPRsouth participant	18
Email from CPRsouth	13
Other	11
Notice on other website	10
Notice on CPRsouth website	9
Discussion board	1

Three Mozambiquans who applied to the Young Scholars program through general application process. INCM suggested another three Young Scholars along with the applicants through general process.

Final numbers were lower because of 2 dropouts from Asia and 5 from Africa, including 3 from Mozambique.

The course content for CPR*south12* and CPR*south13* was redesigned to highlight active learning, understanding of the policy process and the fostering of attitudes that give primacy to policy engagement over the conventional university imperatives of publishing in peer-reviewed journals. The full agendas of the YS academy are in Annex 3 and 4. Interactive sessions were planned and facilitated by Dr. Sujata Gamage, the coordinator of the Young Scholar's Program, with the support of members of the Board of Directors and several alumni.

The facilitators offered interactive learning opportunities and ensured that resource personnel functioned within a context that privileged interaction. Learning material in the form of a toolkit was provided to the class. All participants were required to prepare and present a research proposal for a future CPRsouth conference.

CPRsouth Conference

CPRsouth12 – Yangon 2017

The initial call for abstracts for CPRsouth12 was publicized via multiple channels, primarily email and a Facebook. A total of 113 abstracts were received, a satisfactory number.

Table 7 Number of responses to different calls for abstracts, CPR*south*12

Abstract Submissions	
CPRsouth email	31
Forwarded email	23
Recommended by previous participant	23
Notice on the CPRsouth website	16
Social media	9
Notice on other website	1
Other	9
No information	1

The method that yielded the highest response was the official email sent by the CPR*south* secretariat, followed by forwarded emails and recommendations by previous participants. Based on these data, the mailing list is being expanded and will be used for similar communications in the future.

The abstracts were subjected to review by a 35-person panel comprising CPRsouth Board Members and successful alumni (listed in Table 7), following which 54 abstracts were shortlisted. Procedures for avoiding conflicts of interests were implemented.

Table 8 Reviewers who are not part of the Board of Directors

Name	Country
Christoph Stork	South Africa/Namibia
Danaja Maldeniya	US/Sri Lanka
Enrico Calandro	South Africa/Italy
Fortune Nwaiwu	Ghana
Goodiel Moshi	Tanzania
Grace Mirandilla	Philippines
Ibrahim Rohman	Spain/Indonesia
Jude William Genilo	Bangladesh/Philippines
Margaret Nyambura	Kenya
Rasheda Sultana	Bangladesh
Rodney Junio	Japan/Philippines
Safia Khan	South Africa
Sriganesh Lokanathan	Sri Lanka
Sujata Gamage	Sri Lanka

Nuwan Waidyanatha	China/Sri Lanka

Fifty-four abstracts were shortlisted based on double-blind review and applicants were requested to submit final papers. The deadline for submitting final papers was extended twice, but only 24 completed papers were received, with researchers from LIRNEasia and RIA over-represented. Of the 25 papers selected, two were withdrawn as presenter (from Korea) was not able to fund himself. Two more papers were withdrawn close to the date and 21 papers were included in the final agenda. Plagiarism checks were conducted.

The importance of policy engagement was communicated throughout the main conference. Session discussants' analyses of the strengths and weaknesses of papers focused on taking research to policy.

CPRsouth13 – Maputo 2018

The initial call for papers for CPR*south*13 was publicized via multiple channels, primarily email and a Facebook. A total of 78 proposals were received, a satisfactory number.

According to the new method a general call was made for completed or partially completed papers for eight selected sessions with an accompanying cover sheet in a policy brief format, with a curator was assigned for each session.

Table 9 No of applicants to the conference sessions

Session	Curator	No of Applications
7. Platforms, livelihoods, and consumer benefits	Helani Galpaya	15
10. E government and "smart" cities	Erwin Alampay	14
9. Are ICTs contributing to financial inclusion?	Supriya Singh	12
3. Barriers to Broadband	Rohan Samarajiva	11
8. Cyber policy: Scanning the horizon from the Global South	Sriganesh Lokanathan	9
4. Digital literacy as the next big challenge	Wallace Chigona	6
5. Gender at the intersection of other divides	Alison Gilliwald	6
6. What comes after access: hate, harassment and manipulation?	Pirongrong Ramasoota	5
Total		78

The importance of policy engagement was communicated throughout the main conference. Session discussants' analyses of the strengths and weaknesses of papers focused on taking research to policy.

Workshop on Stories of Past Young Scholars

Input from a tracer study conducted in 2016 and another conducted in 2018, as well as grey literature helped identify 42 participants who had gone on to influence policy in their countries.

A subset of high-performing participants from the above group was invited to the workshop based on their experience. A call for participants was sent out to the other participants identified through the tracer study to submit a 500-word statement on their experience in taking research to policy, successfully or otherwise. This was sent via email and publicized through the CPRsouth Facebook page.

The participants selected in the first round were also requested to submit this 500-word statement. Statements from 15 participants were received. Four were from Africa. A total of 11 alumni were invited to the workshop, with one person declining the invitation due to an injury that limited his travel.

Geographical representation

CPRsouth12 – Yangon 2017

Of the 80 international applicants to the Young Scholars Academy and 93 abstracts submitted to the conference, over 60 percent or more (51 for YS Academy and 68 for conference) were from Asia and 33 percent (26 YS and 37 for conference) from Africa.

Because of a higher rate of non-submissions of completed papers from Africa, the Asia: Africa ratio shifted from 1.8:1 to 3:1 (Table 12 9).

Table 10 Regional representation by applicants to the conference

	Abstracts	%	Accepted	%	Presented	%
Asia	68	60	35	65	15	71
Africa	37	33	15	28	5	24
Other	8	7	4	7	1	5

Regional representation among Young Scholars was nevertheless improved in line with CPRsouth goals, from 1:2 at application to 1:1.3 following review.

Table 11 Regional representation by applicants to the Young Scholars Academy

	Applied	%	Selected	%
Asia	51	55	9	29
Africa	26	28	7	23
Myanmar	13	14	13	42
Other	3	3	2	6

CPRsouth13 - Maputo 2018

There were 147 international applicants to the Young Scholars Program and 78 proposals were submitted to the conference. The total applicants for Young Scholar program and conference are more or less equally distributed (Table 12 and 13)

Table 12 Regional representation by applicants to the conference

	Proposals	%	Accepted	%
Asia	42	53	19	60
Africa	36	47	12	40
ALL	78	100%	31	100%

Table 13 Regional representation by applicants to the Young Scholars program

	Applied	%	Selected	%
Asia	73	48	13	42
Africa	74	48	12	38
Mozambique	06	4	06	20

Workshop on Stories of Past Young Scholars

Of the 15 alumni who sent in their 500-word statements, four were from Africa and 11 from Asia. Of the 10 participants, two were from Africa and eight from Asia.

Gender representation at CPRsouth

The gender composition of past CPR*south* conferences and tutorials are given below in Table 14 . Compared to many telecom and technology policy events, CPR*south* has generally been in the acceptable range since the 2010 Xi'an Tutorials and Conference (CPR*south*5), which showed the highest imbalance. That event caused greater attention to be paid, especially to the "pipeline" Young Scholar component.

Table 14 Gender composition among Young Scholars and Paper Presenters, 2007-2018

	Young Scholars	Paper Presenters
	Male to 1 Female	Male to 1 Female
CPRsouth1	2.8	1.3
CPRsouth2	2.5	1
CPRsouth3	1	0.7
CPRsouth4	0.8	0.8
CPRsouth5	2.5	4
CPRsouth6	0.9	0.8
CPRsouth7	0.9	1.8

CPRsouth8	0.9	0.9
CPRsouth9	1.3	1.1
CPRsouth10	0.9	2
CPRsouth11	1.3	1
CPRsouth12	1.4	1.3
CPRsouth13	1.8	1.3

CPRsouth12 – Yangon 2017

Forty nine men and 44 women applied to the Academy. Of these, 37 percent of the male applicants and 30 percent of the female applicants were accepted. Thus, the class constituted 18 men (58%) and 13 women (42%).

Table 15 Gender analysis of YS applicants and those accepted (accepted % affected by offers being declined)

	Applied	%	Accepted	%
Male	49	53%	18	58%
Female	44	47%	13	42%

Given greater emphasis placed on Young Scholars, efforts were made to keep the ratio at around 1:1, which was the level in 2011, 2012 and 2013 when LIRNE*asia* was mostly responsible for the program and which is approximately the current ratio in the Board (1:0.9). No practical solutions exist to reduce the number of declinations, especially by women.

The number of abstracts submitted to the main conference was 113. Of these, 65 (58 percent) were submitted by men, while 48 (42 percent) were submitted by women. The gender balance marginally improved following the evaluation of abstracts and submission of final papers, resulting in a final count of 12 male presenters (57 percent) and 9 female presenters (43 percent).

Table 16 Gender analysis of submissions and presentations (many papers had multiple authors; papers coded by presenter, not by senior author)

	Submitted	%	Presented	%
Male	65	58	12	57
Female	48	42	9	43

CPRsouth13 – Maputo 2018

A total of 147 men and women applied to the 2018 Academy, 86 men and 61 women. Of these, 24 percent of the male applicants and 18 percent of the female applicants were accepted in to the program. Thus, the class constituted 20 men (64%) and 11 women (36%). The actual number was lower due to dropouts.

Table 17 Gender analysis of YS applicants and those accepted (accepted % affected by offers being declined)

	Applied	Percent	Accepted	Percent
Male	86	53%	20	58%
Female	61	47%	11	42%
ALL	147	100%	31	100%

Given greater emphasis placed on Young Scholars, efforts were made to keep the ratio at around 1:1, which was the level in 2011, 2012 and 2013 when LIRNEasia was mostly responsible for the program and which is approximately the current ratio in the Board (1:0.9). No practical solutions exist to reduce the number of declinations, especially by women. All the Mozambique nominees/ applicants were male. It was the major reason for the increase in the male female ratio among Young Scholars.

The number of proposals submitted to the main conference was 78. Of these, 53 (67 percent) were submitted by men, while 25 (33 percent) were submitted by women. Final count was 18 male presenters (58 percent) and 13 female presenters (42 percent). (Table 18)

Table 18 Gender analysis of submissions and presentations (many papers had multiple authors; papers coded by presenter, not by senior author)

	Submitted	Percent	Presented	Percent
Male	53	67%	18	58%
Female	25	33%	13	42%
ALL	78	100%	31	100%

Workshop on Stories of Past Young Scholars

In total, we received statements from 15 alumni, four were women and 11 men. Two of the participants were women and eight were men.

Community Building

The tracer study of 2016 suggested the need to strengthen community building. A LinkedIn group was established. The CPR*south* website which had deteriorated was re-structured with an updated layout and software integration. Multiple Facebook groups and pages existed for the community. They were consolidated to one publicly visible page and one community group page. A map of past alumni of both the Young Scholar academy and the CPRsouth conference was generated for the CPRsouth website.

Financials

All financial details are contained in the Financial Report submitted separately.

Project Outputs and Dissemination

Capacity Building

Young Scholars Program and CPRsouth Conference

This component of the research program aimed initially to build local capacity in ICT policy and regulation in the Asia-Pacific and then in the South. It was broadened to include Africa subsequently. Thus it is primarily a capacity building initiative. *CPRsouth12 and CPRsouth13* included tutorials for young scholars on the technical and economic aspects ICT policy and regulation. The requirement of paper presenters to construct policy briefs based on their research was aimed at helping researchers make effective evidence-based policy interventions.

CPR*south12* - Tutorials were held for 30 young scholars on 28-30 August 2017 (Annex 6).

CPR*south13*- Tutorials were held for 23 young scholars on 1-3 September 2018 (Annex 5).

The topics covered in the Tutorials for both programs included:

- What is policy research? What is special about communication policy research (CPR)?
- Issues in CPR
    - Infrastructure, access, price and quality
    - Applications including agriculture, education and disaster management applications
    - Internet
- Research to policy process
- Research questions and theories of change
- Prior work: Searching the literature and assessing quality
- New evidence
    - Supply-side data
    - Demand side data
    - New Evidence: Meta data and other sources
- Data analysis and reporting

The full Young Scholars Program Agenda is attached as Annex 3 and Annex 4.

In keeping with the request for more interactive sessions during the Young Scholar Academy, the tutorials were geared to support individual participants on the drafting of their own proposals. Participants were expected to complete their own proposals. Certificates of participation were awarded only to those who successfully completed the proposals. Revised and improved proposals were submitted by all who completed the program after they returned home.

The tracer study conducted in 2016 showed that Young Scholars who later participated as Paper Presenters at the CPR*south* conference were most likely to engage in the policy-making process. Therefore, Young Scholars from the 2017 class were followed up and mentored, with the expectation that they would return to CPR*south*13 in 2018 as Paper Presenters.

The objective was successfully achieved as 2 paper presenters out of 31 were from 2017 Young Scholars; and 7 out of 31 were previous Young Scholars. The objective of the young scholar Academy was to give the participants tools they need to submit draft of paper proposals as per CPRsouth guidelines. All 23 participants who completed the 2.5 day program submitted proposals. Detailed comments have been provided on how to improve the proposals which they submitted. The proposals are being considered by the board for constructing panels for next CPR*south*.

In previous years, the two-stage double-blind review process gave no special treatment to alumni of the Young Scholar Program. Given the findings of the Tracer Study 2016 and the disappointing rate of completion of shortlisted proposals, the Board decided to adopt a different procedure for paper selection in 2018, based on crowd-sourced/expert views on most relevant topics and the development of curated sessions which gave priority to CPR*south* community members including alumni of the Young Scholar Academy.

Workshop on Stories of Past Young Scholars

The two-day workshop on 'Capacity building for policy influence' provided an opportunity to capture the experiences of CPRsouth alumni who have gone on to influence policy in their own countries. In addition, it created opportunities for experienced resource persons (from the "demand side" of the research to policy relationship) from India, Myanmar and Sri Lanka to both share valuable insights with the selected alumni (South Africa had to cancel at last minute).

On the first day when the participants led the discussion, they spoke for 5-10 minutes about one example of policy engagement, successful or not. Statements about their policy engagements were circulated beforehand. Throughout the day, moderators ensured that the emphasis was placed on interaction, not speeches. On the second day, the resource persons briefly shared two key takeaways before opening up for a discussion of factors that supported the research to policy process.

Based on the material circulated and the travel schedules, interview slots were be arranged with each of the participants, including during tea and lunch breaks. The cameras also sought to capture some of the interactions between participants and resource persons. Some additional footage was recorded as required.

Stories and videos for each of the 10 alumni were created, and have been published on the CPRsouth website (http://www.cprsouth.org/). At the moment, the stories and videos can be accessed here and here. While the initial plan was to generate 5-10 min video clips, it was suggested that short clips would be more effective in communicating the story while retaining the viewer's attention. As such, the video clips tend to be around 4-6 minutes long.

The workshop report with the agenda, list of participants, meeting procedures as well as statements from participants has been attached as an Annex (see Annex 1).

e-learning Series

An e-learning series on "Tools of the trade for policy intellectual," was also developed to further CPRsouth's goal to develop policy intellectuals in the ICT space from among junior to mid-level scholars and practitioners in Asia and Africa.

The e-learning series is a culmination of the presentations made by senior scholars from Asia and Africa in the Young Scholar Academy of the CPRsouth conferences from 2007-2018. The modules in the series include: Module 1-Introduction to the e-learning series on policy research; Module 2-Literature reviews as policy research; Module 3-Quantitative research; Module 4-Qualitative research; Module 5-Legal research; Module 6-Taking research to policy and Module 7-Writing a policy brief. These will be available on the CPRsouth website (www.cprsouth.org). At the moment they can be accessed here.

Tracer Study 2018

The purpose of the tracer study that was completed in March 2019 was 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 were examined in detail to see how the improvements that were introduced to the YS program effective 2017 have been received by the young scholars.

In November 2018, a survey was sent to past CPR*south* paper presenters and young scholars who have participated since 2013. Respondents were queried on their involvement in academic and policy activities. Academic activities include journal publications and conference papers while policy activities include making presentations to policy makers and writing policy briefs. The report of the study has been attached as Annex 2.

One point of feedback that was captured was the interest in an online portal for CPRsouth alumni that would enable paper sharing and opportunities for co-authorship. To address this, a map of CPRsouth alumni is developed, capturing each YS/PP, their country of origin and the academy/conference they took part in. This will be published on the CPRsouth website.

Impact

The real impacts of the kinds of activities supported by CPR*south* take several years to become evident.

Young Scholar Academy

The baseline tracer study conducted in 2016 revealed that after 10 conferences from 2007-2016, CPRsouth has brought together 400+ communication policy researchers, potential or established. The overarching finding from this survey is the higher performance of 45 young scholars who returned as paper presenters at subsequent conferences, 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. However, suggestions for improvements were overwhelmingly towards more hands-on work during tutorials.

The Young Scholar program for 2017 and 2018 was modified as result of the feedback from the 2016 survey. A follow up tracer study was conducted in late 2018. Since the 2016 survey captured the responses from conference participants from inception in 2007 to 2015, the 2018 survey population

included 261 participants from the latest six conferences from 2013-2018. The survey was carried out from November 2018 to February 2019.

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. Only 8 of the 16 YSs gave any comments and they essentially saw no need for any changes to the program.

The workshop on capacity building for policy influence sought to capture the stories of ten alumni who have gone through the academy program and whose actions and experiences could be used to educate Young Scholars in the coming years. In general, CPRsouth has tended to give greater weight to the value of evidence and rational argument (*logos*). Here, through the capture of stories, we also sought to give weight to emotional appeal (*pathos*). Each of the ten alumni shared their experience in taking research to policy, successfully or not. Some of the key benefits highlighted by the alumni were the opportunity to tap into the CPRsouth community when conducting research/writing news articles and the benefits of building on connections formed through the Young Scholar program.

<u>The Conference</u>

Since the 2016 tracer Study the Board had acted on the suggestions regarding the Conference, within the resource limitations of the conference, to clarify the objective of the conference to address cutting-edge issues in communication policy through invited papers, but give at least one place in each panel to young scholars from the program. The CPRsouth web site too has been improved to give more complete follow-up opportunities for participants (www.cprsouth.org). If further conferences are held, participants should be informed of these changes.

All academic papers presented at the CPRsouth 12 and CPR*south*13 conference have been published on the Social Science Research Network. A full list is available in this report under the headings Annex 7 – Papers from CPRsouth 2018 on SSRN and Annex 8 – Papers from CPRsouth2017 on SSRN. Slide-sets and policy briefs have been disseminated via the CPR*south* website. (see http://www.cprsouth.org/2018-maputo-mozambique/2018-policy-briefs-slides/, and http://www.cprsouth.org/past-conferences/cprsouth-2017-connecting-next-billion/2017-slides-papers-policy-briefs/).

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. This has been expanded on in the report on the tracer study (Annex 2).

Observations and Lessons Learned

The CPRsouth academy and conference process is constantly reviewed by the Board. The main observations made and lessons learned from the various events held during the project period have been summarized below.

Young Scholar Academy
CPR*south12* – Yangon 2017
- Rather than focusing solely on paper qualifications which privilege exam-taking skills, it is important to look also for attitudes and likelihood of taking research to policy, when considering applicants.

CPR*south13* – Maputo 2018
- Continue the new format of Young Scholar academy with revised topics to induct young scholars into the community of those who take ICT related research to policy and keep them engaged and reinforced between conferences.
- To enable continued participation of young scholars between conferences, the Chair suggested a project. The universal service fund disbursements in various jurisdictions being of great significance and this information be easily accessed (in several jurisdictions), this could be a starting point for engagement. This was based on a paper from the Yangon conference: Samarajiva, R. & Hurulle, G. (2019). Metrics to improve universal-service fund disbursements, *Digital Policy, Regulation and Governance*, 21(2): 102-114. https://doi.org/10.1108/DPRG-07-2018-0035

The Conference
CPR*south12* – Yangon 2017
- Do not treat the conference as a stand-alone activity, but see it as a way of inducting young scholars into the community of those who take ICT related research to policy and keep them engaged and reinforced between conferences.
- Giving concrete examples during the conference of how good research can be converted into forms that are more likely to be absorbed by policy makers is an effective method of changing/reinforcing attitudes.

CPR*south13* – Maputo 2018
- The format of in the 2018 shifted to "curators and moderators" format for choosing papers and the mechanism of decentralizing the decisions on the basis of subject (as was followed in the present conference). Since this mechanism had only been adopted in 2017, it was agreed by the Board that it would continue for the next conference with revised topics.
- Board decided to select 'The Best Policy Brief' among first time participants only.

Workshop on success stories of past young scholars – Negombo 2019

- Alumni credited the contributions of the CPRsouth conference, particularly the role of the Young Scholar Academy in molding strong demand-side researchers to influence policy.
- Alumni also noted the benefits of tapping into the CPRsouth community when conducting research
- The importance of building networks for policy influence by policy intellectuals in each country was highlighted.

Tracer Study 2018

- 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 studiers of 2016 and 2018, respectively)
- Require all participants to complete their profiles on LinkedIn before they leave the conference. Create a CPR*south* group within LinkedIn.
- Do profiles of all or some of the 35 who reported achievements in policy change and share those videos at forthcoming conference
- 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.

Recommendations and Future Steps

CPR*south*14 will not be held in September 2019 as planned due to funding constraints. CPRsouth conferences have been held without a break for the past thirteen years with the generous support of IDRC, and 2019 marks the first break in the series. While we reassess the future of CPRsouth, we did the utmost with resources available to document the achievements while putting into practice some of the lessons learned to date.

For example, the online community of CPR*south* has been consolidated with a full list of 600+ participants from 60+ countries listed on the cprsouth.org Web site and shared on Facebook. A map with the list of CPRsouth alumni has been generated and will be available on the website. The stories and videos of the CPRsouth alumni who participated at the two-workshop held in March 2019 and an e-learning series which is a culmination of material covered in the last 13 Young Scholar Academies too has been be shared through the web site and Facebook. The findings from the tracer studies of 2016 and 2018 too will be available on the web site and Facebook for use in a future rejuvenation of CPRsouth, or for use in any capacity building efforts in the global south.

Annex 1 – Workshop Report on Stories of Past Young Scholars

This report has been included as a separate attachment.

Annex 2 – A Tracer Study of CPRsouth Community of Participants from 2013 to 2018

This study has been included as a separate attachment.

Annex 3 – CPRsouth2018 Young Scholar Academy Agenda

DAY 1 (September 01st, 2018)

Introduction to communication policy research: At the end of the day participants should be sufficiently informed about the communication policy research and the research to policy process.		
08h30-09h30	What is policy research? What is special about communication policy research (CPR)?	Rohan Samarajiva
09h30 - 10h30	Issues in CPR (1):	Alison Gillwald
10h30 - 11h00	TEA BEAK	
11h00 - 12h00	Issues in CPR (2):	Helani Galpaya
12h00 - 13h00	Issues and CPR (3): Q&A session	Samarajiva/Gilwald/Galpaya
13h00 - 14h00	LUNCH	
14h00 - 15h00	Research to policy process and the anatomy of a policy brief	Sujata Gamage
15h00 - 16h00	Preparing a policy brief - A practicum	Sujata Gamage
16h00 - 16h30	TEA BREAK	
16h30 - 17h30	Presenting a policy brief – A practicum	Sujata/ Rohan
19h00 – 10h00	Welcome dinner, Marnabrasa Restaurant	Samali Perera

DAY 2 (September 02nd, 2018)

Mechanics of policy research: In each session, a 10-15 minute presentation will be followed by participants working individually or in pairs on in-class exercises. At the end of the day participants should have completed a draft of a policy research proposal for the next CPRsouth conference.	
08h30 - 09h30	Research questions and theories of change
09h30 - 10h30	Literature review: How to Search, Screen, Assess and Synthesize the literature

10h30 - 11h00	TEA BREAK
11h00 - 12h00	Survey Population, Sample Frame and Data Sources
12h00 - 13h00	Data Collection, Analysis, Synthesis and Reporting
13h00 - 14h00	**LUNCH**
14h00 - 15h00	Work on own research proposal and presentation as per CPRsouth guidelines
15h00 - 16h00	Work on own research proposal and presentation as per CPRsouth guidelines
16h00 - 16h30	TEA BREAK
16h30 - 17h30	Work on own research proposal and presentation as per CPRsouth guidelines
17h30 - 18h30	Complete research proposal and presentation, and submit

DAY 3 (September 03rd, 2018)

Gearing up CPRsouth 2019	
At the end of the session participants should have completed (a) all their assignments and (b) 2-page research proposal for CPRsouth 2019	
08h30-09h30	Presentations, peer review and panel feedback
09h30 - 10h30	Presentations, peer review and panel feedback
10h30 - 11h30	Presentations, peer review and panel feedback
END OF PROGRAM	

Annex 4 – CPRsouth2017 Young Scholar Program Agenda

DAY 1 (28 August 2017)Introduction to communication policy research		
The program for the day consists of four lectures followed by exercises or guided practicums. <u>At the end of the day</u> participants should be sufficiently informed to (a) make the most of the CPR*south* 2017 conference (b) select a topic for a paper to be submitted to CPR*south* 2018		
08h00-08h30	Registration	
08h30-09h30	What is policy research? What is special about communication policy research (CPR)?	Rohan Samarajiva
09h30 - 10h30	Issues in CPR (1): Infrastructure, access, price and quality	Alison Gillwald
10h30 - 11h00	TEA BREAK	
11h00 - 12h00	Issues in CPR (2): Applications including agriculture, education and disaster management applications	Rohan Samarajiva
12h00 - 13h00	Issues in CPR (3): Internet	Helani Galpaya
13h00 - 14h00	LUNCH	
14h00 - 15h00	In-class assignment	Sujata Gamage
15h00 - 16h00	Research to policy process	Alison Gillwald
16h00 - 16h30	TEA BREAK	
16h30 - 17h30	Preparing and presenting a policy brief – A practicum	Sujata Gamage / Rohan Samarajiva
DAY 2 (29 August 2017) Mechanics of policy research		
In each session, a 10-15-minute presentation will be followed by participants working individually or in pairs on exercises or applying the concepts learned to one's own research proposal. <u>At the end of the day</u> participants should have completed a draft research proposal for CPRsouth 2018		
08h30 - 09h30	Research questions and theories of change	
09h30 - 10h30	Prior work: Searching the literature and assessing quality	
10h30 - 11h00	TEA BREAK	
11h00 - 12h00	New evidence: Supply-side data	
12h00 - 13h00	New evidence: Demand side data	
13h00 – 14h00	LUNCH	
14h00 - 15h00	New Evidence: Meta data and other sources	
15h00 - 16h00	Data analysis and reporting	
16h00 – 16h30	TEA BREAK	
16h30 - 17h30	Complete the exercises and work on own research proposal as per CPRsouth guidelines	
DAY 3 (30 August 2017) Gearing up for CPRsouth 2018		
At the end of the session participants should have completed (a) all their assignments and (b) 2-page research proposal for CPRsouth 2018		
08h30-09h30	Complete research proposals and/or assigned exercises.	
09h30 - 10h30	Peer review of research proposals	
10h30 - 11h30	Presentations and final grades	
END OF TUTORIALS		

*Annex 5 – Young Scholars 2018 ***

1. Deepanjalie Abeywardana   Female   Sri Lanka
2. Surbhi   Bhatia   Female   India
3. Debora Christine   Female   Indonesia
4. Arijit   Das   Male   India
5. Abu Tayub Mohammed Farhad   Male   Bangladesh
6. Samik   Kharel   Male   Nepal
7. Wairimu Macharia   Female   Kenya
8. Matsie Molope   Female   South Africa
9. Kenneth Msiska   Male   Malawi
10. Oarabile Mudongo   Male   Botswana
11. Daniel   Mwesigwa   Male   Uganda
12. Ashwini Natesan   Female   India
13. Thanh   Nguyen   Male   Vietnam
14. Sithar   Norbu   Male   Bhutan
15. Raymond Onuoha   Male   Nigeria
16. Faisal   Rasool   Male   Pakistan
17. Mark Sirapob Ruckthongsuk   Male   Thailand
18. Jaypy   Tenerife   Male   Philippines
19. Judith Urielle Tossou   Female   Benin
20. Zulaiha Yakubu   Female   Ghana
21. Yodit   Zegeye   Female   Ethiopia
22. Afonso   Madivadua Junior   Male   Mozambique
23. Herman Ramos   Male   Mozambique

* Please note that names of participants are mentioned only. (31 Participants selected initially)

Annex 6 – Young Scholars 2017

Name	Gender	Country
Aye Hninn Khine	Female	Myanmar
Donald Flywell Malanga	Male	Malawi
Elyzabeth Cureg	Female	Philippines
Hlaing Min Tun	Male	Myanmar
Hnin Nu Nu Nain	Female	Myanmar
Joash Moitui	Male	Kenya
Kwaku Antwi	Male	Ghana
La Wun Ye	Female	Myanmar
Iwando Mdleleni	Male	South Africa
Mose Mose	Male	Samoa
Namali Premawardhana	Female	Sri Lanka
Nang May Thu Aung	Female	Myanmar
Nathan Beard	Male	United States (paid participant)
Nimish Joseph	Male	India
Onkokame Mothobi	Male	South Africa
Pema Wangmo	Female	Bhutan
Phyu Sin Moe	Female	Myanmar
Ranjeet Rane	Male	India
Saarim Saghir	Male	Pakistan
Samiul Islam	Male	Bangladesh
Seble Girma	Female	Ethiopia
Sharadha Srinivasan	Female	India
Surat Giri	Male	Nepal
Thant Zin Oo	Male	Myanmar
Van Bawi Mang	Male	Myanmar
Wilfried Adohinzin	Male	Benin
Xavier Asuncion	Male	Philippines
Yesha Paul	Female	India
Yolanda Mlonzi	Female	South Africa
Zaw Min thu	Male	Myanmar

Annex 7 – Papers from CPRsouth2018 on SSRN

http://www.cprsouth.org/2018-maputo-mozambique/2018-policy-briefs-slides/

ID	Title	Name of Presenter	Country of Presenter
3269698	1. How ICT policy and regulation is failing the 'less connected' in South Africa	Indra de Lanerolle	South Africa
3269710	2. The impact of remote hosting on Internet performance	Enrico Calandro	South Africa/Italy
3274554	3. Drivers of broadband connectivity in Asia-Pacific developing economies	Siope Vakataki 'Ofa	Thailand/Tonga
3274561	4. Spectrum Pricing in India: Roadblock to Affordable and Quality Broadband Access	Rasheda Sultana	Bangladesh
3274573	5. Digital Information Literacy of Undergraduate Students in Higher Education Institutions in Malawi: Challenges and Policy Implications	Donald Flywell Malanga	South Africa/ Malawi
3274577	6. Promoting Local Content Creation through user centric mobile application design	Priyanka Chauhan	India
3274591	7. An Impact Assessment Study of the Digital Literacy Training Programmes in India	Nimish Joseph	India
3274605	8. Policy initiatives to address non consensual pornography on the social media platform in Kenya	Evelyne Wanjiku	Kenya
3275099	9. Can the Internet be the disruptor needed to deal with the intractable problems faced by African youth?	Chenai Chair	South Africa
3275100	10. Beyond the veil: identifying the underlying factors of digital inequality between men and women	Mariamma Deen Swarray	South Africa
3275104	11. Policy initiatives to enhance contribution of mobile internet for women's capabilities in the rural areas of Tanzania	Edda Tandi Lowga,	Tanzania
3275106	12. The Control of Hate Speech on Social Media: Lessons from Sri Lanka	Yudhanjaya Wijeratne	Sri Lanka
3275109	13. Policy initiatives to address the problems faced by Internet & Social media users in relation to online harassment in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh & Cambodia	Tharaka Amarasinghe	Sri Lanka
3275114	14. Policy initiatives to facilitate a safer online experience for Myanmar users	Helani Galpaya	Sri Lanka
3275115	15. Exploring Digital Fake News Phenomenon in Indonesia	Riri Kusumarani	South Korea/ Indonesia
3275120	16. Bundling in platform markets in the presence of data advantage	Gaurav Jakhu	India
3275121	17. Antitrust Issues of E-commerce	Khusbu Kumari	India
3275122	18. Addressing the Unemployment Challenge through	Pitso	South Africa

		Tsibolane	
	Mobile Digital Microwork		
3275123	19. Privacy in Digital Age: Judicial Approach in South Asia	Babu Ram Aryal	Nepal
3275125	20. Promoting cyber security through stronger collaboration in Africa	Anri van der Spuy	South Africa
	21. Artificial Humanity: Counteracting the Threat of Bot Networks on Social Media	Yudhanjaya Wijeratne	Sri Lanka
3275130	22. Technology sans Accountability	Sakina Dhorajiwala	India
3275133	23. Mobile money and financial inclusion in Sub-Saharan Africa countries	Onkokame Mothobi	South Africa
3275134	24. Connecting Financial Inclusion and ICTs to Women's Empowerment	Supriya Singh	Australia/India
3275135	25. Advancing Open Data for Open Governance in Asia	Michael P. Canares	Philippines
3275137	26. Policy recommendations for the implementation of "One Data" policy at sub-national level in Indonesia	Arthur Glenn Maail	Indonesia
3275138	27. Fundamentals of an e-Government Interoperability Policy: Case Study of Uganda	Silas Ngabirano	Uganda
3275140	28. Mobile Pictographs for Disaster Communication: Inclusive Public Service	Nuwan Waidyanatha	China/Sri Lanka

Annex 8 – Papers from CPRsouth2017 on SSRN

http://www.cprsouth.org/past-conferences/cprsouth-2017-connecting-next-billion/2017-slides-papers-policy-briefs/

ID	Title	Views	Downloads
3058646	Hello from the Other Side: Have Myanmar's Mobile Adoption Trends Changed Over the Years?	2	0
3058659	Negotiating Access to Information: The Case of Sri Lankan Cucurbit Farmer	6	2
3058640	Enhancing Affordability of Roof-Top Solar Using Communications	2	1
3058631	Sustainability of Digital Intermediaries in Rural Development: A Case Study of E-Gram Vishwagram Project of Gujarat, India.	3	3
3058626	Students' Conceptual Reasoning in Secondary School Computer Applications Through Meta-Cognitive Strategy	3	2
3058565	Information Communications Technology and Economic Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Panel Data Approach	2	1
3058530	Leveraging Big Data to Support Measurement of the Sustainable Development Goals	5	2
3058537	Examining the Role of ICT on Financial Inclusion in World's Biggest Public Employment Programme in Uttarakhand, India	8	5
3058506	Predicting Population-Level Socio-Economic Characteristics Using Call Detail Records (CDRS) in Sri Lanka	6	1
3044298	Improving Disease Outbreak Forecasting Models for Efficient Targeting of Public Health Resources	41	7
3044296	Understanding Complex Social Network of Government Officials in Decision Making	42	1
3044273	Enumerating the Obstacles of Accelerating the Use of Digital Classroom: Lessons from Bangladesh	46	6
3044267	Exploring the Challenges Faced by Sri Lankan Workers in Web Based Digital Labour Platforms	50	4
3044265	Freedom from Social Echo Chambers: Policy Implications of an Algorithmic Bias	36	2
3044254	Measuring Disbursement Efficacy of Universal Service Funds: Case Studies from India, Malaysia, Pakistan & Sri Lanka	54	7
3043721	Understanding ICT's Role in Microfinance to Improve Financial Inclusion in Northern Sri Lanka	37	3
3043719	Analysis Instead of Summation: Why Indices Are Not Enough for ICT Policy and Regulation	42	6
3043690	Developing Smart Free Public Wi-Fi in South Africa: Can Public Wi-Fi Help Redress Digital Inequality, and If So, How? Emerging Lessons from South Africa's Diverse Implementations	86	9