

# Project Funding

*To date, the Project Funding programme has supported more than 40 projects in all regions of the world, impacting the local communities of end users and regional technologists.*

## ISOC Encourages Local Growth

In 2005, the Internet Society (ISOC) launched a small grants programme for its Chapters and Individual Members as a way to encourage locally based Internet capacity building in technical, educational, and policy fields. Projects are awarded up to a maximum of US\$10,000. To encourage sustainability and ongoing partnerships, ISOC requires that at least 50 percent of the total project budget come from other sources of funding. For projects that involve ongoing activities, ISOC expects that the proposed activities will continue after the grant is expended. For other projects, the outputs will assist in the sustainability of those who benefit from them.

## Assisting ISOC Chapters and Individual Members

All current ISOC Chapters and Individual Members are encouraged to apply for project funding, particularly to support projects that will:

- Advance ISOC's mission and goals, specifically those aligned with ISOC's major strategic initiatives
- Serve the Chapters' communities
- Nurture collaborative work among Chapters and Individual Members
- Improve knowledge sharing in the Internet community
- Encourage Chapters' sustainability and relevance

In December 2007, the ISOC Board of Trustees approved a small set of longer-term, more strategic activities, referred to as "initiatives." The three initiatives are called Enabling Access, InterNetWorks, and Trust and Identity. When assessing project funding applications, the grants committee ensures that projects are consistent with ISOC's mission and goals, giving preference to projects that also promote work within the initiatives.

## Elements of Successful Project Applications

Common elements of successful projects include the following:

- Project leaders agree to share the knowledge, experience, and outcomes with the ISOC community at large.
- The project involves developing or applying electronic networking (Internet) technologies, information and communications technology (ICT) policy, or work on policies concerning the application of technology.
- Preference is given to projects and research rather than events, unless the proposed event leads to a higher-level outcome or clearly contributes to a major strategic initiative.
- The project has clear outputs—such as reports relating to the primary project objectives—or useful new technologies, techniques, information, or educational benefits.
- The project includes a clear description of how the results will be disseminated, or the outputs are produced in a form that can be readily disseminated.



*Children at Patukae school, Solomon Islands, during training on One Laptop Per Child laptops, part of the multipartner Marovo Learning Network project, cofunded by ISOC in February 2007.*

