Building Knowledge Societies: From Digital Government to Digital Empowerment
ICEGOV is a series of International Conferences on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance (ICEGOV) organised annually, around the world. The series focuses on the use of technology to transform the working of government and its relationships with citizens, businesses and other non-state actors in order to improve public governance and its contribution to public policy and development (EGOV). The ICEGOV conference is coordinated by the United Nations University Operating Unit on Policy-Driven Electronic Governance (UNU-EGOV), based in the city of Guimarães, Portugal. It is a continuation of the work started by the Center for Electronic Governance at UNU-IIST, which was based in Macau SAR, China. The ICEGOV conference series was founded precisely there, with the first edition taking place in Macau.

The series brings together academia, governments, international organizations, civil society, and the private sector to share the insights and experiences in theory and practice of Digital Government. ICEGOV promotes interactions between stakeholders-policymakers, government officials, elected representatives, researchers, innovators and educators from developing and developed countries - all sharing a concern that public investment in Digital Government advances public policy and development.

Following the earlier conferences in Macau (ICEGOV2007), Cairo (ICEGOV2008), Bogotá (ICEGOV2009), Beijing (ICEGOV2010), Tallinn (ICEGOV2011), Albany (ICEGOV2012), Seoul (ICEGOV2013), Guimarães (ICEGOV2014) and Montevideo (ICEGOV2016), the ICEGOV series has become a source of significant research and policy insight, able to reach national and global policy and research audiences. The ICEGOV community includes 1548 authors and reviewer from 102 countries - 69% from academia, 18% from government, 9% from industry and 4% from international and other organization. Also, on average, every ICEGOV conference attracts 140 submissions from 49 countries and is attended by over 400 participants from 50 countries including government (40%), academia (36%), industry and civil society (14%), and international

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Several years after accepting Electronic Government as part of their administrative reform initiatives, governments are recognizing that over-reliance on technology, insufficient collaboration in government, lack of emphasis on building human capacity and inadequate public consultation, all limit possible benefits of such initiatives. As a result, the focus has been shifting from utilizing technology for improving internal government operations (Electronic Government) to improving interactions between government, citizens, businesses and other non-state actors (Electronic Governance or EGOV).

In order to move beyond technical or organizational concerns characteristic of Electronic Government policy and programming, Electronic Governance requires a multi-disciplinary, multi-stakeholder and community-oriented approach. This, in turn, requires closer interaction between EGOV stakeholders from different sides of the national, development, sectoral, thematic and other borders. The ICEGOV conference series was established to facilitate such interactions, to help initiate and sustain cross-border relationships, and to contribute to the development of the global EGOV community that bridges the research and policy worlds. ICEGOV has, over the years, established its identity as a:

- **Global Conference**: ICEGOV consistently attracts submissions from more than 50 countries, with up to 60% representation from developing and transition countries;
- **Multi-Stakeholder Conference**: ICEGOV is well attended by all major stakeholders of technology-enabled innovation in government: academia, industry, government and NGOs;
- **Networking Conference**: ICEGOV brings participation from across thematic, national, and development borders, with common interests in transformational use of technology in government;
- **Research and Practice Conference**: ICEGOV includes a healthy balance of research-, practice- and solution-related work - looking at technology, at the processes surrounding its implementation and management, or at the wider context of Electronic Governance;
- **Capacity Building Conference**: ICEGOV features a rich program of invited talks, sessions, tutorials, workshops, panel discussions, posters, demos, etc. All taught, moderated or organized by leading researchers and practitioners in the area;
- **International Development Conference**: The focus on Electronic Governance helps consider how government investments in technology, resulting in expected social and economic benefits, contribute to the fulfilment of sustainable development goals;
- **UN Conference**: With international development focus, with United Nations University as the founder of and a force behind its editions, and with several UN organizations being actively involved, ICEGOV exhibits a strong UN character.
Government of India with UNESCO and the United Nations University's unit on policy-driven electronic governance are organizing the 10th edition of ICEGOV - The International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance.

The venue for ICEGOV 2017 is The Ashok, New Delhi, India (7-9 March 2017). The conference theme is "Building Knowledge Societies: From Digital Government to Digital Empowerment".

The event is jointly organized by the United Nations University Operating Unit on Policy-Driven Electronic Governance (UNU-EGOV), the National e-Governance Division (NeGD) of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The objectives of the ICEGOV series resonate with the participative and inclusive ethos and intent of the flagship Digital India programme, which, under the guidance and leadership at the highest levels in the country, has amplified the focus on e-governance with major thrusts on infrastructure for electronic connectivity, access to e-services in real time, and digital empowerment of citizens.

ICEGOV events feature rich academic, capacity-building and network programme of keynote lectures, plenary discussions, paper tracks (that include tutorials, paper sessions and workshops), thematic sessions, invited sessions, poster exhibitions, and doctoral colloquia, all built from submitted or invited contributions by researchers and experts from around the world. The submissions have been targeted at one of 12 defined tracks, the emerging topics track, the doctoral track and the poster track. ICEGOV2017 invited submissions of original work including research, experience or both, not published or considered for publication elsewhere, that contribute to the conference theme ‘Building Knowledge Societies - From Digital Government to Digital Empowerment’.

In response to the Call for Papers, ICEGOV2017 received a total of 564 submissions written by 1078 authors from 47 countries. Subsequently, the double-blind peer-review process carried out by the Programme Committee, three independent reviews were obtained for most of the submissions. On this basis, 132 papers were accepted, including: 54 full papers, 19 short papers, 50 posters and 9 doctoral research papers. After a very few withdrawn papers, a total of 120 papers were then revised to address the comments received from the reviewers and were presented at the conference as part of the track sessions, the poster exhibition, and the doctoral colloquium.
RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD
Hon’ble Minister of Electronics & Information Technology
and Law & Justice,
Government of India

Ravi Shankar Prasad is the Cabinet Minister of Electronics & Information Technology and Law & Justice, in the Government of India. He is an eminent Lawyer and a Senior Advocate in the Supreme Court of India. He is a Member of Parliament since the year 2000 and has been the member of important Parliamentary Committees in the Parliament like Finance, Communication & IT, and Petroleum & Chemicals.

Since his appointment as the Minister for Electronics and Information Technology and on 26th May, 2014, he has been leading the task of developing India into a global electronics manufacturing hub and improving competitiveness of IT and ITeS further. India is sitting at the cusp of a Digital Revolution. It is a priority agenda for present government and as the Minister for Electronics & IT, he is at the forefront of its implementation. The flagship program of Digital India, which aims to bring about good governance by extensive use of Information Technology, is being implemented under his leadership. He is also spearheading reforms in the Indian legal and judicial system.
MARIA MANUEL LEITÃO MARQUES
Minister of the Presidency and of Administrative Modernisation, Portuguese Government, Portugal

Maria Manuel Leitão Marques is the Minister of the Presidency and of Administrative Modernisation of the Portuguese Government, headed by Prime Minister Mr. António Costa. Deputy of the Assembly of Republic, she represents Viseu’s constituency (2015). She graduated in Law and holds a PhD in Economics. She is Professor at the School of Economics of the University of Coimbra (since 2003) and permanent researcher of its social studies centre (since 1979). She was Secretary of State for the Administrative Modernization both of the XVIII and XVII Government. She is vice-president of Association Internationale de Droit Économique since 1993.

Between September 2013 and September/October 2014, she was member of the selection committee from the Bloomberg Philanthropies 2013-2014 Mayors Challenge’s competition. She was member of High Level Group on Administrative Burdens (advisory group from the European Commission to reduce companies’ administrative burdens, specially the small and medium ones) (2013-14). She was international consultant of Casa Civil da Presidência da República do Brasil during the «Exchange between European Union and Brazil» project and international consultant of the «Conducting an evaluation of services of the one stop shop» project in Mozambique. She was Chairman of Observatório do Comércio do Ministério da Economia (1998-2002).
Jane E Fountain is a distinguished Professor of Political Science and Public Policy, and adjunct Professor of Computer Science at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She is the founder and director of the National Center for Digital Government, established in 2002 with support from the National Science Foundation, and directs the Science, Technology and Society Initiative, an interdisciplinary forum for research, teaching and engagement related to emerging technologies.

She received her Ph.D. from Yale University, in Organizational Behavior and in Political Science, in 1990, and Masters’ degrees from Harvard and Yale Universities. She has been a Yale Fellow, a Mellon Fellow, and Fellow of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. She served on the faculty of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University for 16 years. She is an inaugural Fellow of the Information Technology and Politics section of the American Political Science Association and an elected Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration. She has received the Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Accomplishments in Research and Creative Activity and the Chancellor’s Medal, the university’s highest award.

Professor Fountain is currently a member of the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on the Future of Government. She is an appointed member of the Massachusetts Governor’s Council on Innovation, served on the American Bar Association Blue Ribbon Commission on the Future of e-Rulemaking and has served on several national and international advisory bodies including work with the Social Science Research Council, the Internet Policy Institute, the National Science Foundation, the World Bank, and the European Commission.
TOMASZ JANOWSKI
Gdańsk University of Technology, Poland;
Danube University Krems, Austria

Tomasz Janowski is an invited Professor at the Gdańsk University of Technology, Poland and Danube University Krems, Austria; Co-Editor-in-Chief of Government Information Quarterly, a leading journal in the area; and Founder and Coordinator of the International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance (ICEGOV), a leading global conference in the area and a bridge between Digital Government research and policy communities. He established and directed between 2004 and 2016 the Electronic Governance programme within the United Nations University (UNU), recently as the Founding Head of the UNU Operating Unit on Policy-Driven Electronic Governance (UNU-EGOV). He also established in 2007 the ICEGOV conference series, and led it to international recognition through ten editions in Macau (2007), Cairo (2008), Bogotá (2009), Beijing (2010), Tallinn (2011), Albany (2012), Seoul (2013), Guimarães (2014), Montevideo (2016) and New Delhi (2017).

He conducts and directs research focused on Digital Government and its impact on public policy and development, translates research findings into policy instruments, and consults for many governments and international organizations in this area. He lectured and organized activities in 52 countries around the world, and led many projects and research and development efforts with funding from the Commonwealth Secretariat, European Commission, IDRC, Macao Foundation, Microsoft, OSCE, UNDP, UNESCO, World Bank and several national governments. He holds PhD in Computer Science from the University of Warwick, UK, and MSc in Applied Mathematics from the University of Gdańsk, Poland.
Professor Walsham worked for four years as an operational research analyst at BP Chemicals before taking up academic posts in operational research and then information systems. He has extensive international experience having worked as a teacher, researcher or consultant in over 25 countries in Europe, the Americas, Africa and Asia. He was a part of the senior management team for the telecommunications company Analysys during its start-up and early growth phases. Professor Walsham has also held university management posts including being Director of the Cambridge MBA.

He has wide editorial experience, having been a Senior Editor of both MIS Quarterly and Information Systems Research. He is currently an editorial board member of a number of other academic journals. Professor Walsham has held lectureships at Mindanao State University in the Philippines, the University of Nairobi in Kenya, and the University of Cambridge, and a professorship at the University of Lancaster. His research interests include the development, use and management of information and communication technologies and systems; and implications for work, organisations and societies. Walsham is a member of the Operations, Information & Technology subject group.
Frank La Rue is a Guatemalan labour and human rights lawyer and was appointed to serve as UNESCO’s new Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information in March 2016. From August 2008 to August 2014, he served as UN Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression.

During his tenure, he wrote and presented 10 landmark reports on the state of freedom of expression to the UN Human Rights Council and UN General Assembly. The reports presented important findings on topics such as the protection of journalists, freedom of expression exercised through the internet, and the impact of state surveillance on privacy and freedom of expression.

La Rue has previously participated in a number of UNESCO events, including annual celebrations of World Press Freedom Day and the commemoration of the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists. Previously, he has held positions as President of the Board of Directors of DEMOS, the Central American Institute for the Study of Social Democracy, and as Director for Europe of the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights foundation. He is the founder of the Center for Legal Action for Human Rights (CALDH) and has been involved in the promotion of human rights for over 25 years. He was nominated for the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize by Mairead Corrigan, Northern Irish peace activist and 1976 laureate.
P P CHAUDHARY  
Hon’ble Minister of State for Electronics & Information Technology and Law & Justice,  
Government of India

P P Chaudhary is the Minister of State for Electronics & Information Technology and Law & Justice. Formerly, he was the Chairperson of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Offices of Profit and was also a member of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation and the Standing Committee on Personnel, Committee on Public Grievances, Law and Justice.

He has represented the nation at various International Forums including the prestigious International Parliamentary Conference on Human Rights in the Houses of London, U.K as well as the Common Wealth Parliamentary Association London, U.K. He won the prestigious Sansad Ratna Award in the year 2015 and 2016 for his exceptional record as a Legislator in the Lok Sabha.

He has extensively worked to improve and uplift the educational status of children by developing hostel facilities in urban areas for students of rural areas to facilitate higher education especially among girls. Specialising in constitutional matters, he has argued nearly 11,000 cases in his long legal career of almost four decades before joining the Union Council of Ministers in July 2016.
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