

# ASIAN JOURNAL of Communication

## *Call for Papers*

### **Special Issue Vol. 18(4)**

New Perspectives on Development Communication:

Emerging Technologies, Shifting Paradigms

Guest Editor: Prof. Mark R. Levy

The issue will examine two interrelated trends — one technological and one scholarly. The technological trend is best exemplified by the rapid diffusion of mobile phones in the developing world. Indeed, the growing availability of the full range of information and communication technologies (ICTs), including the mobile internet, holds out the possibility that closing the development gap will be enabled in part by a growing participation in local, regional or even global online networks. The community of development practitioners now devotes considerable energy to applications of ICTs for development (ICT4D). But few scholarly studies have tracked how the newest communication technologies are in fact being deployed for development in Asia.

Meanwhile, academic scholarship has made important conceptual and theoretical advances in understanding information societies. These advances have been empirically tested almost exclusively in wealthy, developed nations. But theoretical insights regarding the changing modalities of communication, particularly online innovations, could also be studied in the context of ICTs for development, thus moving development communication away from its long-running and increasingly sterile debate between paradigms of diffusion and of participation.

Manuscripts should bring new theoretical approaches to the study of emerging communication technologies for development. Submissions should be rooted in the Asian experience, should have clear implications for development communication, and should investigate the following or closely related research questions: how is access to and use of ICTs, especially the mobile internet, stratified in developing Asian countries; are the newest communication technologies, particularly the mobile internet, facilitating social and economic change; are individuals in developing nations using social software to collaboratively create information, knowledge, or culture in online social networks; how do political or cultural factors influence the growth of online communities, collaboration, social support, and the creation of social capital.

Submissions should be sent to: Professor Mark Levy, Department of Telecommunication, Information Studies and Media, Michigan State University, 409 Communication Arts & Science, East Lansing, MI 48824, USA.

Or, by email to: [mlevy@msu.edu](mailto:mlevy@msu.edu)

The deadline for submissions is 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007.

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