It is rather hard to find trusted publications addressing the raw information required by ICT researchers and policy makers in governmental, educational and large corporate institutions that would support them in contriving facts-based policies and decisions. The deficiency is far more acute when it comes to the Arab world. Hence, the exceptional value of this tome.

Although Arab talent played a substantive role in shaping the building-bricks of the information society, it is rather sad to see that the fruits of this endeavour scarcely realised in this part of the world. It is therefore very inspiring to see researchers and practitioners coming together to produce an excellent reference material on promoting and integrating ICT culture in the region, with strong emphasis on applicable knowledge and real-life, locally relevant, case studies.

Apart from the first chapter, which discusses the current status and obstacles facing the adoption of ICT in the Arab world, the reader may wish to fast-forward to select the studies of particular relevance to their industry, areas of interest, or region of choice. Nonetheless, it is rather likely that all topics covered would ultimately come to the forefront of attention at some point in time.

In short, this is a most welcome volume, providing a significant contribution to required knowledge infrastructure imperative to the enablement of ICT for a thriving Arab region.

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