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Released: July 2011

Libraries, Telecentres, Cybercafes and Public Access to ICT: International Comparisons

Ricardo Gomez (University of Washington, USA)

Public venues are vital to information access across the globe, yet few formal studies exist of the complex ways people in developing countries use information technologies in public access places.

Libraries, Telecentres, Cybercafes and Public Access to ICT: International Comparisons presents groundbreaking research on the new challenges and opportunities faced by public libraries, community telecentres, and cybercafes that offer public access to computers and other information and communication technologies. Written in plain language, the book presents an in-depth analysis of the spaces that serve underserved populations, bridge “digital divides,” and further social and economic development objectives, including employability. With examples and experiences from around the world, this book sheds light on a surprising and understudied facet of the digital revolution at a time when effective digital inclusion strategies are needed more than ever.

Topics Covered:
• Community Informatics
• Cybercafé Access
• Digital Divides
• Digital Inclusion Strategies
• Information and Communication Technologies Access
• Information and Communication Technologies for Development (ICTD)
• Libraries and Accessibility
• Public Access
• Public Access Venues
• Telecentre Access

Dr. Ricardo Gomez specializes in the social impacts of communication technologies, especially in community development settings. He is also interested in qualitative research methods, and in group facilitation and process design. He seeks creative ways to communicate complex ideas and research results in everyday language. He has worked with private, public and non-profit sectors around the world, with a particular focus on Latin America and the Caribbean. Before joining the University of Washington he worked with Microsoft Community Affairs, and with the International Development Research Center in Canada. He holds an MA from Université du Québec à Montréal (1992) and a Ph.D. from Cornell University (1997).

Market: This premier publication is essential for all academic and research library reference collections. It is a crucial tool for academicians, researchers, and practitioners and is ideal for classroom use.

Print: US $195.00 | Perpetual: US $295.00 | Print + Perpetual: US $390.00
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