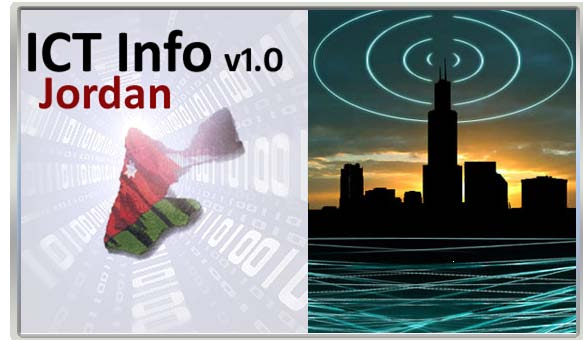




New Online Database Launched in Jordan to Share National Perspectives on Trends in Technology *(August 2010)*

The Ministry of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in Jordan, in partnership with the Jordan Department of Statistics, has launched a new online database – ICT Info - to disseminate national data on the country's information and communications technology indicators. The online database, which can be accessed at <http://www.moict.gov.jo/di6web/>, is an adaptation of the DevInfo database system.



According to Maram Barqawi, Economic Researcher, Ministry of ICT, the impetus behind the creation of this online database was to respond to inaccurate human development data on Jordan, published by several international agencies and circulated global reports. As a result, Jordan was being compared unfavorably with other countries using erroneous data. In response, the Ministry of ICT decided to create a committee to collect and disseminate accurate data on Jordan's ICT and other basic socio-economic indicators. The committee elected to use the DevInfo database system as the chosen software tool, finding it to be the most suitable option for building and launching an online database containing development indicators.

DevInfo is a powerful database system for monitoring human development endorsed by the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) to assist countries in monitoring achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). To access other available online human development databases from other countries in the Middle East such as Iraq, the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Yemen, please visit http://www.devinform.org/di_online.html.

For more information on ICT Info, please contact Maram Barqawi, Economic Researcher, Ministry of Information and Communications Technology at maram.bargawi@moict.gov.jo.