Since the emergence of the 21st century, governments around the globe have been striving to offer Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) infrastructures, namely broadband. During the first 4 to 5 years, interest was focused upon whether the infrastructure was being provided and focus was on the issue of accessibility. Since then countries and research both from industry and academe have changed their focus, as accessibility has been examined and now the emphasis is on how households and various segments of societal settings are diffusing, adopting, and using ICTs with further consideration of the impacts of the ICTs.

The aim of this minitrack will be to offer a global perspective of how ICTs are being diffused, used and adopted within society. We will focus on how ICTS such as, Broadband, smartphones, mobile phones, and tablets are being adopted, used, diffused in a multitude of societal settings such as households, social communities such as work places, external locations such as internet cafes, locations and organisations providing knowledge building and support to social entrepreneurs; for instance, community centres in local communities that are capacity building, building awareness and collaboration for non-profit organizations, local government agencies and private sector organizations.

By undertaking this research academics, industry and government agencies will learn how ICTs are being utilised by various societies segments and what measures are being undertaken to have households and the various social communities adopt and use the ICTs with a further consideration of the impacts of the ICTs.

Academic research has been focusing upon the diffusion, adoption and usage of broadband since early 2000. Within this minitrack the focus could offer innovative ideas and exemplars of diffusing, adopting and using ICTs that have not been considered before. For this, we will seek empirical studies, theoretical and/or conceptual frameworks.

Topics of interest to this minitrack include:

- The adoption and use of ICTs, for example, broadband, mobile phones, smartphones, online social networks and other ICTs within societal settings such as, households, workplaces, internet cafes or knowledge building organisations
- Evaluating the impacts of ICTs upon households in comparison to other societal settings
- The adoption and usage of ICTs upon various social communities (eg. Residential neighbourhoods)
- Evaluating the impacts of ICTs upon various social communities
• Evaluation of the technological and non-technological aspects of the adoption and usage of ICTs
• Evaluating the technological and non-technological aspects of the impacts of ICTs
• The diffusion, adoption and usage of ICTs within households, internet cafes
• Comparative case studies examining impacts of ICTS adopted and diffused within households and compared to other societal settings.
• The diffusion, adoption and usage of ICTs within various social communities
• Human Computer Interaction issues related to the adoption, usage and impact factors in the context of ICTs.
• Comparative studies of the first generation of broadband versus very high speed broadband using any of the ICTs stated above.
• Actor Network theory used to examine the adoption, use and diffusion of broadband (1st generation and subsequent generations), smartphones, netbooks and other forms of ICTs that society uses in the household.
• Stakeholder theory and the adoption, diffusion and usage of ICTs
• Policies and diffusion theories that lead to the adoption, diffusion and usage of ICTs

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