

Nancy J. Hafkin



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Named in 2012 to the inaugural group of inductees of the *Internet Society Hall of Fame* in the category Global Connector.

Summary of qualifications

Decades of experience in information technology, gender and development issues, including 25 years at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. Pioneering work on statistics and indicators of gender inclusion.

Awards

- International Telecommunication Union & UN-Women, Global Achiever Award, 2015
- Women in Computing Galley, National Museum of Computing, Bletchley Park, UK, 2013+
- Member, Internet Hall of Fame (first inductee group), 2012
- Association for Progressive Communications, *Nancy J. Hafkin Prize* to encourage and recognize innovative African initiatives in information and communication technologies, 2000+

Education

Ph.D. Boston University, History (certificate: African Studies)
M.A. Boston University, History (concentration: Africa)
B.A. Brandeis University, History

Professional experience

2005-present. Senior Associate, WISAT.

WISAT is a non-profit entity that promotes innovation, science and technology strategies to enable women, especially those living in developing countries, to actively participate in technology and innovation for development. Women should be able to benefit from the advantages of technological development equally with men, including access to and use of technologies and full participation in innovation systems. As a senior associate, I direct the program activities on information technology for development and have taken a lead in the group's work on gender statistics and indicators.

2000-present. Director, Knowledge Working.

Consultancy specializing in information technology, gender and international development. Clients included the World Bank, the United Nations, Cisco Systems, Unesco, International Development Research Center, the Worldwide Web Foundation, International Telecommunication Union, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Harvard University, Government of Japan, Development Gateway, *infoDev*, Ford and Rockefeller Foundations, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), International Women's Tribune Center, Partnership for Higher Education in Africa, Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) and the Academy for Educational Development.

1995–2000. Chief, Development Information, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Team leader of ECA's activities to promote information technology for development and Coordinator, African Information Society Initiative. Major activities included organization of African-wide conferences (Regional Symposium on Access to Telematics for Development (1995, with UNESCO, International Development Research Centre, and the International Telecommunication Union), Global Connectivity for Africa (1998, with the World Bank, the African Development Bank and the ITU), and the first ECA *African Development Forum on the Challenge to Africa of Globalisation and the Information Age* (1999).

Organized track on gender and information technology for ECA 40th anniversary conference on gender and development in Africa (1998). Developed and secured funding from Cisco Systems and World Bank *infoDev* for Internet Networking Academy for African Women established at ECA, the first such regional educational opportunity for women in Africa.

Managed multi-country research projects including impact of electronic communication on development and information technology policy. Responsible for partner relationships (multi-lateral, bi-lateral and non-governmental organizations) and organization of partnership on Information and Communication Technologies in Africa (PICTA).

1986–1995. Chief, Pan African Development Information System. ECA. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Directed development information management system and network (42 national centers, 36 institutional centers) on information for development. Drafted, secured funding for and implemented pioneer projects to promote electronic connectivity in Africa, including "Capacity Building for Electronic Communication in Africa" to establish initial electronic communication nodes in 24 African countries. Established PADISnet, first electronic communication system in Ethiopia, serving 3000 users.

Focal point in UN system under United Nations Special Initiative on Africa for priority area of Harnessing Information for Development. Provided technical advice to African countries on development information management systems).

1976–1986. Chief, Research and Publications. African Training and Research Center for Women. ECA. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Head of research and documentation at United Nations regional program on the integration of women in development. Responsible for the management of African women's information network (WIN), research and publications program, including production of 115 titles in five languages. Mobilized resources and directed

research projects, including women and the industrial development decade in Africa, statistics and indicators on women and development in Africa, women, science and technology, and African women in the year 2000.

Worked with United Nations Statistical Office to develop syllabus and training materials for training users and producers in compiling statistics and indicators of women in development, which culminated in an Africa regional seminar held in Harare in 1985. With UNIFEM founder Margaret Snyder, edited and published pioneering studies on developing measurement of women's time use and unpaid work in Africa at United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

Developed and secured funding for information and research projects on women and development totaling US\$12.5 million, including \$3.5 project to increase science and technology educational opportunities for girls in Africa. Organized ECA participation in United Nations World Conferences on Women (Copenhagen, 1980; Nairobi, 1985).

1969-1976. Assistant Professor, History and African Studies. Boston State College, Boston MA.

Tenured position. Taught undergraduate and master's level courses in World History, African History and Politics, and Women in Cross-Cultural Perspective. Faculty advisor to international students and to women's center.

1968-1969. Associate Producer, National Educational Television (PBS), WGBH-TV, Boston MA.

Responsible for program planning, script writing and content for nationally broadcast National Educational Television Public Broadcasting series "City Makers" interview program with American urban leaders.

Publications

Measuring ICT and Gender: An Assessment. 2014. United Nations: UNCTAD, Geneva.

<http://unctad.org/en/pages/PublicationWebflyer.aspx?publicationid=924>.

Gender Issues in the Internet and Information Society in Developing Countries, in George Sadowsky, editor. *Accelerating Development Using the Web: Empowering Poor and Marginalized Populations*. 2012. Geneva: WorldWide Web Foundation.

Engendering Innovation and Technology: Measuring Women's Contributions Globally. 2011. In *Agenda 2011. Temas de Indicadores de Ciencia y Tecnología*, compiled by Mario Albornoz Y Luis Plaza. Buenos Aires: Ibero-American and Inter-American Network for Science and Technology Indicators (RICYT).

"Whatsupoch" on the Net: The Role of Information and Communication Technology in the Shaping of Transnational Ethiopian Identity. 2011. *Diaspora: A Journal of Transnational Studies*, 15, 2/3. 221-245

Social expressions of the Digital Divide in Ten African Countries. 2011. In *Pedagogical Integration of ICT: Successes and Challenges from 87 African schools*. Ed. By Thierry Karsenti et al. IDRC: Ottawa.

Information and communications technology and gender equality: new opportunities and challenges for public administration to implement Millennium Development Goals, with Gloria Bonder and Sophia Huyer. 2010. (E/C.16/2010/4). Presented at UNESCO Committee of Experts on Public Administration. <http://www.unpan.org/DPADM/CEPA/9thSession/tabid/1136/language/en-US/Default.aspx>.

E-government in Africa: An Overview of Progress Made and Challenges Ahead. 2009. Paper for the UNDESA/UNPAN workshop on electronic/mobile government in Africa: Building Capacity in Knowledge Management through Partnership, held at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, 17-19 February 2009.

<http://unpan1.un.org/intradoc/groups/public/documents/un/unpan033526.pdf>.

A Preliminary look through a gender lens at PanAf Observatory data. 2009. *PanAf Edu* (Newsletter of the Panafican Research Agenda on the Pedagogical International of ICT's).

<http://www.emwaca.org/panaf/spip.php?article256>.

- Enabled women in knowledge societies: case study of the Philippines and Thailand. *I4D*, VI, 7, July 2008.
www.i4donline.net. <http://www.i4donline.net/articles/current-article.asp?articleid=2039&typ=Features>.
- Knowledge society needs all the women it can get! *Egov Monitor*, 28 February 2008.
<http://www.egovmonitor.com/node/17358>.
- Women and Gender in ICT Statistics and Indicators for Development. 2008. *Information Technologies and International Development*, 4, 2.
- Engendering the Knowledge Society: Measuring Women's Participation*, 2007. With Sophia Huyer. Montreal: ORBICOM.
- Cyberella or Cinderella: empowering women in the knowledge society*. 2006. Edited, with Sophia Huyer. Kumarian Press.
- What it's Like Out There: Profiles of Connectivity at African Universities. 2006. In Margaret Grieco, Muna Ndulo and Royal Colle, eds., *Meeting the Information Challenge: the Experience of Africa*. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Press.
- Women in the Information Society: From the Digital Divide to Digital Opportunities*. 2005. With Sophia Huyer, Heidi Ertl and Heather Dryburgh. Montreal: International Communication Network ORBICOM.
http://www.orbicom.uqam.ca/in_focus/publications/details/2005_chap6_en.pdf.
- Gender equality and empowerment of women through ICT. With Sonia Jorge and Chat Ramilo Garcia. September 2005 issue of *Women 2000 and beyond*. United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women.
- Gender and ICT empowerment: addressing some usage questions. 2005. In *APWIN Journal 7* special issue on Gender equity and equality in the Knowledge-based Information Society. Seoul.
- Gender issues at WSIS. In *Information Technologies and International Development* 1, II, 2004.
- Nancy Hafkin, study coordinator. *Engendering ICT: Ensuring Gender Equality in ICT for Development*. The World Bank. 2003.
<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTINFORMATIONANDCOMMUNICATIONANDTECHNOLOGIES/Resources/EngenderingICTFinalDraft.pdf>
- Gender and ICT policy in developing countries. *APWIN Journal* 3, 3, 2003.
- The African Information Society Initiative: an evaluation of progress. In Paul Tiyambe Zeleza and Ibulaimu Kakoma, eds. *Science and Technology in Africa*. Africa World Press: 2003.
- Lessons on Gender in ICT Applications: case Studies of *infoDev* Projects. With Sophia Huyer. 2002. *infoDev* Working Paper no. 18. <http://www.infodev.org/en/Publication.539.html>.
- Meet the Champions: DG Interview with Dr. Nancy Hafkin on ICT and Gender in Africa. October 2002.
<http://developmentgateway.org/node/133831/sdm/docview?docid=346156>.
- ICTs and Mainstreaming Gender. With Helen Hambley. *ICT Update*, 8, 30 October 2002.
<http://ictupdate.cta.int/index.php/article/articleview/30/1/8/>.
- Gender and Agriculture in the Information Society. With Helen Hambley Odame, Gesa Wesseler, and Isolina Boto. International Service for National Agricultural Research Briefing Paper no.55, September 2002.
<http://www.isnar.cgiar.org/publications/briefing/bp55.htm>.
- Gender, ICTs and Agriculture: A Situation Analysis for the 5th Consultative Expert Meeting of CTA's ICT Observatory meeting on Gender and Agriculture in the Information Society. With Helen Hambley Odame. August 2002. http://www.agricta.org/observatory2002/background_paper.pdf.
- Get in and Get in Early: Ensuring women's access to and participation in ICT projects. 2002. *Women in Action 2*. Special issue on Women and Communications. ISIS-Manila.
<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/wia/wia202/getin.htm>.
- Are ICTs gender neutral? 2002. Lead paper for United Nations INSTRAW discussion list on gender and the digital divide. <http://www.un-instraw.org>.
- The African Information Society Initiative: a seven-year assessment (1996-2002). 2002. In *Perspectives on Global Development and Technology* 1. Leiden: Brill Publishers.
- ICT in Africa: the challenge to donors in a global information society. With Kate Wild, in Lisbeth Levey, ed., *Rowing Upstream: Snapshots of Pioneers of the Information Age in Africa*, 2002. Johannesburg: Sharp Sharp Media.

- Editor, with Gert Nulens, Leo Van Audenhove and Bart Cammaerts, 2002. *The digital divide in developing countries: towards an information society in Africa 2002*. Brussels: University of Brussels Press and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.
- A Policy Response to the Informal Economy: Addressing Informality, Reducing Poverty*. 2002. Cambridge: Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.
- Gender Digital Divide: What can be done. 2001. Interview with Nancy Hafkin. *InfoDev exchange*.8, April-June. <http://infodev.org/exchange/exch8/4exch8.htm>.
- Ensuring Women's Ability to take advantage of information technology opportunities. 2001. *Journal of Development Communication* 12, 2.
- Women in the Informal Economy*. 2001. (Published in Spanish as: Las Mujeres en la Economía Informal). Cambridge: Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.
- Nancy Hafkin and Nancy Taggart 2001. *Gender, Information Technology, and Developing Countries: an analytic study*. Academy for Educational Development LearnLink for the Office of Women in Development, United States Agency for International Development. Available at www.aed.org.
- Convergence of Concepts: Gender and Information and Communication Technologies in Africa. 2000. In Eva M. Rathgeber and Edith O. Adera, eds. *Gender and the Information Revolution in Africa*. Ottawa: International Development Research Centre.
- Nancy Hafkin and Karima Bounemra Ben Soltane. 1999. A Place for Africa in the Information Society: major issues in the promotion of information and communication technologies for Africa. In *Connect-Info World* 3, 4.
- Nancy J. Hafkin and Michel Menou. 1998. Connectivity in Africa: use, benefits and constraints of electronic communications, Synthesis Report-part 2: overview of the project findings. <http://www.bellanet.org/partners/aisi/prof/findings.htm>.
- Nancy J. Hafkin and Derrick L. Cogburn, editors. 1997. *Meeting the Challenges of Building National Information and Communications Infrastructure in Africa with Public and Private Sector Cooperation*. Washington: CSIS and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.
- Measuring the impact of electronic communication on development in Africa 1996. In Paul McConnell, ed., *Making a Difference: Measuring the Impact of Information on Development*. Ottawa: International Development Research Center.
- Capacity Building for Electronic Communication in Africa: the Pan African Development Information System 1994. In *Federation of Information for Development Bulletin*, 44.
- Nancy Hafkin and Lishan Adam. 1992. The PADISnet project and the future potential for networking in Africa. In *Electronic Networking in Africa*. Washington: American Association for the Advancement of Science.
- Women and Development in Africa: indicators of integration of women. In Gideon S. Were, ed., *Development in Africa: developments of the last decade*. Nairobi: Gideon S. Were Press.
- Women and the media in Africa. 1985. In Gideon S. Were, ed., *Women and Development in Africa*. Nairobi: Gideon S. Were Press.
- As research and publications editor at the African Training and Research Centre for Women (1977-1986, edited and produced for publication 115 publications in five languages on women and development. (Full listing available in Margaret Snyder and Mary Tadesse, 1995, *African Women and Development: a history*. London: Zed Press.
- Women and Development in Africa: An Annotated Bibliography. 1984, *Women's Studies International*, 3, 32-34. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/40213453>.
- Women and Development in Africa: an annotated bibliography*. 1977. Addis Ababa: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.
- Co-editor, with Edna G. Bay 1976. *Women in Africa: Studies in Social and Economic Change*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Co-editor, with Edna G. Bay 1976. Women in Africa, special issue of *African Studies Review*, 3.

Board and panel memberships

International Advisory Board, Internet Society Hall of Fame, 2016 +
Member, Working Group on Gender, United Nations Broadband Commission, 2013-2015
Member, Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, 2012 -2014
Advisory Committee member, e-Learning Africa, 2011.
Vice-president, Board of Trustees, Pact Inc.. Washington, D.C. (Board member 2000-2012)
Chair, Governance Committee, 2006-2012
Chair, Advisory Board, AED-SATELLIFE. Watertown, MA. 2006- 2010
Member Awards Committee, International Conferences on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance, United Nations University, 2009-
Scientific Committee member, PanAfrican Research Agenda on the Pedagogical Integration of ICTs, 2007-2011.
Steering Committee, Women and ICT International Task Force, 2006-
High-level Panel of Advisors member, United Nations Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development (UNGAID), 2006-
Advisory Board member, Global Women's Leadership Network, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara CA, 2004-
Healthnet-Satellite, Board member since 2000.
Panel of Judges (chair), World Bank Web4Dev Awards, Washington, D.C., 2006.
Advisory Group member, Kabissa. (NGO working on technology as a force for change in Africa.) 2006-.
Advisory Board member, Village Computing Consultation, Center for Internet Studies-University of Washington, Grameen Foundation, University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication, Telecentre.org, 2005-2006
Advisory Board Member, Asia and Pacific Women's Information Network, 2003-
Global Advisory Board, Gender Digital Diaspora Initiative, United Nations Fund for Women (UNIFEM), 2003-
International advisory committee, Research on gender and information technology network (Régentic) in francophone West Africa, Dakar, Senegal, 2003-2005.
Nominating Committee, Board of Trustees, Internet Society. 2003-2004.
Expert Group Member, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) ICT-Knowledge Management Initiative, 2003-2004.
Expert, United Nations Expert Group on information and communication technologies and their impact on and use as an instrument for the advancement and empowerment of women. Seoul, Republic of Korea, November 2002.
Member, Technical Advisory Group, USAID DOT-COM Alliance, 2002-6
Member, Technical Advisory Panel, *infoDev* (World Bank Group), 2002-5
Member, country gateway selection panel, Development Gateway Foundation, 2002-4.
Nominator and fellow, world leaders in technology policy, World Technology Network, 2002-3.
Member, *infoDev* project review panel, 2002.
Editorial Board, *Information Technology for Development*, 1996-
International advisory board member, School of Information Studies in Africa (Addis Ababa University) and African Regional Centre for Information Science (University of Ibadan), 1995-2000.
Expert member, Infoterra Advisory Committee (UNEP). 1995-1997.
Chairperson, Board of Governors. International Community School of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. 1994-1999.
Advisory panel member, Scientific and Technological Information in Africa, National Research Council, USA, 1995-1999.

Languages

English-native language

French- good speaking, reading and writing ability

Portuguese- good comprehension, fair speaking and writing ability

Spanish-good comprehension, fair speaking and writing ability

Amharic- good speaking, fair reading and writing ability

Swahili-fair comprehension and speaking ability