ARE WE OVERLOOKING A POWERFUL ENGINE FOR
Social & Economic Change?

Information access is CRITICAL to global development

But millions worldwide can’t access the information they need to improve their lives.

8 in 10 in developing countries lack Internet access
Fewer than 1 in 10 has access to mobile broadband in developing countries

Now, imagine if all developing countries had a resource specifically designed to enable information access and promote:

Join Beyond Access to make public libraries everywhere engines for doing development differently.

BeyondAccess.net
@beyond_access
Facebook.com/BeyondAccessInitiative

FACT: Public libraries exist in almost every country, no matter what its stage of development.

FACT: There are more than 230K public libraries in the developing world.

FACT: There are 13 times more public libraries than there are hospitals worldwide.

Locally based
Sustainable
Professionally staffed by librarians
Trusted by the communities they serve

Hundreds of library innovators worldwide are already doing development work.

Ghana – public libraries are running a technology training program to fight high unemployment and dropout rates.

Colombia – innovative public library parks within at-risk communities are helping reduce the country’s 40% poverty rate.

Nepal – public libraries are facilitating social and financial inclusion programs for the 1/3 of their population living on less than US$1/day.

As development policymakers and practitioners face shrinking budgets, public libraries are ideal partners for cost-effective 21st development.

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