CIC Model

Set up with technical assistance from the GSM Association, Grameenphone Community Information Centers (GPCICs) are equipped with the minimum of a computer, a printer, a scanner, a webcam and an EDGE-enabled modem, to access the Internet using Grameenphone’s nation-wide EDGE connectivity.

GPCICs are designed to be run independently as small businesses by local entrepreneurs. The entrepreneurs are trained and are provided with continuous support from Grameenphone. To help the entrepreneurs earn a living, Community Information Centers also provide other Grameenphone services, such as payphones (again using Grameenphone’s mobile network) and electronic recharges (Flexi load) for prepaid and postpaid mobile accounts.

Services in CIC

- Internet surfing and e-mailing
- Content on health, agriculture, etc.
- Locally relevant customized and open content
- Chatting with Voice, Picture
- Video conferencing
- Typing
- Scanning, Printing
- Commercial Mobile Call
- E-governance services
- GP value added services such as FlexiLoad, Ring tones downloading etc.
- E-Fax
- CD Writing
- Telemedicine services (to be introduced)
- Multimedia education for children (Meena Cartoon, courtesy of UNDP)
Strategic partners

In order to achieve its vision, Grameenphone has united with different organizations and institutions, in various categories, as strategic partners. The rollout partners of Grameenphone in this initiative are Grameen Telecom, Society for Economic and Basic Advancement (SEBA), and Eagle, nationwide, and Kalikapur Daridro Kallan Sangsta (KDKS), Socio-Economic Development Association (SEDA), Karmakutir, Goriber Asroy, and SSTD Communication, divisionally. All of these organizations are Non-Governmental Developmental organizations working with the rural populace for the development of the individual and the community.

Noakhali Web, an on-line newspaper for the greater Noakhali and Community Portal; and Anovatec, a Health Service Provider (http://www.anovatechbd.com/), are also strategic partners of Grameenphone on the CIC project.

In addition, Grameenphone is working directly with international organizations like KATALYST and GSMA to make the initiative successful. Frequent programs and discussions are also held with UN bodies, such as UNDP, UNICEF and UNESCO, who share the common goal of making a significant contribution for the betterment of rural the mass.