

Information Management

Information and communication are integral parts of the process of social and economic development. Staying productive and competitive in any field demands a strategic response to the changes and innovations emanating from the information processing and communications industries. This calls for an effective means of identifying, organizing, storing and retrieving burgeoning information resources.

To meet these challenges, the ICDF is implementing computerized operations in all of its divisions. It has two principal goals in mind: creating a platform for knowledge based management and ensuring the availability of safe and reliable information. To ensure the security of information, the ICDF is continually strengthening its firewalls and antivirus systems.

The past fiscal year saw the implementation of the following information management initiatives.

1. Creation of a website database. A comprehensive database was produced and installed on the website, thus increasing the usefulness of this resource. Also, an electronic newsletter was created in order to inform subscribers of the ICDF's work and most recent accomplishments.
2. Installation of the human resources management system. This has integrated data on all operations related to human resources functions: personnel assessment, salary computation, education and training, management of foreign mission personnel, and the provision of information required by labor, national health insurance and tax administrations. Further integration with the accounting and payment systems is facilitating the preparation of reports and responses to inquiries and allowing real time auditing.
3. Investment and lending management system. This covers investment planning, finance planning, payment, loans, repayment, and credit guarantees related to investment and lending projects. The system also delivers financing projections and makes it easy to compute financial asset data.
4. Establishment of computer firewalls. Previous firewalls designed to protect the ICDF's computerized information and precious intellectual property were limited to one way control, thus could not conclusively thwart outside threats. The adoption of a more sophisticated firewall system has eliminated this threat by adding an additional level of security.

The ICDF is sparing no effort in establishing and protecting the information hardware and software platforms that guard the valued information on which it relies. The continual updating of these tools will help maintain an environment that emphasizes knowledge and innovation and, by encouraging the acquisition of knowledge by all employees, serves to raise productivity and competitiveness throughout the entire organization.