

ARP News

There are many more Charities and Not-for-Profit organisations that have affiliated with Aussie Recycling Program in the past 12 months. Aussie Recycling Program welcomes all our affiliated organisations who are also our friends in the recycling commitment.

- RACV Foundation
- La Trobe University
- QLD & NSW Lions Medical Research Foundation
- Asylum Seekers Resource Centre
- Future Employment Opportunities (FEO)
- UTS University Of Technology Sydney
- Melbourne Zoo
- Yooralla
- The Developing Foundation
- Karuna Hospice Services

Landcare Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER 2008

All Month - Biodiversity Month
 1st - Wattle Day
 1st - 7th Landcare Week
 7th - National Threatened Species Day
 13th-14th Sustainable House Day
 14th - National Bilby Day
 18th - World Water Monitoring Day
 20th-21st Clean Up the World Weekend
 22nd - World Car-Free Day

OCTOBER 2008

All Month - Energy Awareness Month
 All Month - International Walk to School
 3rd - Walk to Work Day
 4th - World Animal Day
 6th - World Habitat Day
 15th - National Ride to Work Day
 16th - World Food Day
 19th-25th National Water Week
 29th - National Bird Day

SOLAR RECHARGE



Here's a great way to recharge your mobile phone. *If only it were possible.* . .



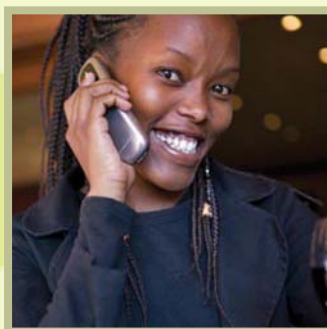
Mobile Phones in Nepal

In and around Nepulganj, Pokhara and Biratnagar, the International Committee of the Red Cross is working closely with the Nepal Red Cross Society.

Rajendra is an aid worker with ICRC. He relies on mobile phone contact for updates on the situation throughout the city.

"If first-aid services are needed," he says, "I can mobilize volunteers within 20 minutes." Asked how many emergencies he has responded to, he quickly answers, "I haven't counted, it has been too many."

Sometimes Rajendra spends the entire day waiting by the phone and listening to the latest news in the city. He may receive information by phone or text message from the volunteer network of Kathmandu's 19 sub-chapters. He might even pick up the latest news from the streets.



Greater Benefits for Developing Countries

Used mobile phones lower cost barrier to entry helping people in developing countries take control of their lives where telephony was not previously available. Further, in many developing countries mobile penetration is strongly correlated with the country's economic growth.

In 2004, analysts estimated that used mobile phones accounted for 10-15% of all handsets sold in China. The same statistic was 10-25% for markets in Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

The GSMA, the global trade group for the mobile industry, in April 2008 reported that total connections to GSM mobile communications networks had passed the 3 billion mark globally. The third billion landmark was reached just four years after the GSM industry surpassed its first billion. In 2006, the GSMA had predicted this to be reach by 2010.

Today more than 700 mobile operators across 218 countries and territories of the world are adding new connections at the rate of 1.3 million per day.

The world's biggest GSM markets today are:-

- **China** (509 million), which is growing at a rate of more than 7 million new connections a month and accounts for 14% of the third billion growth;
- **India** (193 million), growing at 6 million per month accounts for 12% of the third billion growth
- **Russia** (178 million) and
- **Brazil** (93 million) which both contributed 4% of the third billion growth.

In Africa, mobile phones now account for 75% of all phone connections in 19 of the least developed African Countries; due to phone sharing the number of actual users is estimated to be even greater.

Assistance & Support in Emergencies

A report by Enlightenment Economics in November 2005 assessed the impact that the widespread availability of mobile phones had on the recovery from specific disasters and atrocities, such as the Indian Ocean tsunami, Hurricane Katrina, the summer floods in central Europe, and terrorist attacks in Istanbul and London.

According to the ICRC: "Relief and risk reduction have been revolutionized by mobile phones." The importance of mobile communications in the information-poor context of developing countries enhances their potential contribution in disasters, even greater than in the developed world with its richer infrastructure.