What are the biggest constraints preventing people with disabilities in Pakistan being empowered through the use of ICTs, and how can they be overcome?

- Need for subsidies
- Lack of trained people, especially in public spaces
- Ignorance in terms of potential of IT
- We need focus more on disasters etc. and could include people with disabilities within this re-orientation

ICT can play a big role in creating awareness

Role of media in very important, civil society.

Note PTA’s initiatives, conference and driving agenda.

Financial issues

- Need to education people and use social, electronic and print media
- Government should introduce incentives, tax reductions. Must enable PWDs to earn money and education is necessary.

Social stigma and attitudes?

- Families feel isolated
- Awareness on behalf of policy makers not aware of needs and requirements
- Conference etc are very important; need for advocacy at Parliamentary level – they are policy makers

Access to special education especially in rural areas

- We don’t have data
- Need for qualified teachers especially in public spaces
- Using Skype on phone for sign language

Technology

- Only affordable in developed countries - is expensive here
- Technology availability locally
- Access should be available for everyone
- Mobility issue
- Ignorance in terms of potential of IT

Access for people with disabilities

- Equipment at affordable prices

Inclusion of people with disabilities in routine life

- Adapting to needs of people with disabilities
- Inclusion of people with disabilities in routine life

Education

- High quality education for people with disabilities
- Special curriculum
- E-learning

Employment

- Lack of opportunities for people with disabilities

Government should introduce incentives systems. Schools should have people with disabilities. People with disabilities should also have incentives on education and health

Local and foreign investment for low-cost technology

- We only have sympathy for them

Local industry is not working on this

Need for subsidies

- Need for trained people
- Ignorance in terms of potential of IT

Socio-psychological

- Need psychological training to empower them
- Lack of psychological empowerment amongst people with disabilities

Socio-economic

- Need training, workshops, educate people about challenges faced by people with disabilities

Media

- Role of media is very important; civil society

We have focused in past on IT for commercial; we need to focus more on disasters etc. and could include people with disabilities within this re-orientation

We must ensure that we work with local government: academia need to make officials aware

Technology 6

String collaboration: Industry, government, academia. Students can develop low-cost solutions. Government should provide money to HE so students can develop projects.