

LIRNEasia @ five:**research --> policy --> knowledge-based economies*****Speaker bio: Ilyas Ahmed***

Ahmed, Ilyas is the Chief Executive of the Communications Authority of Maldives. Prior to this, he was the Deputy Director General of the Telecommunications Authority of Maldives, where he headed the Department for Telecom Development, International Coordination and Technical Regulation. Ahmed is also a member of the Telecommunications Regulatory Board. Ahmed holds a master's degree in operational telecommunications from Coventry University, UK, and bachelor's of engineering degree in information and electronics from Curtin University of Australia. Upon completion of his postgraduate degree in 2001 in, he joined the Telecommunications Department of the Ministry of Communication, Science & Technology in 2002. Since then, he has been heavily involved in activities to restructure and develop the country's telecommunication sector. Prior to this, he worked for the national telecommunications company Dhiraagu, as the Product Manager for mobile communication. He was a key member of the team that introduced GSM mobile services to the country. Ahmed has twenty years of experience in the field of communications. With his extensive knowledge of ICT, he has worked in many development initiatives of the country. Ahmed has also attended and actively participated in numerous regional and international events and conferences on ICT.