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news

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for excellence in ICT

## News

Special Edition May/June 2005

### Top News

- @ Interregional Cooperation I
- @ Africa E-Projects
- @ InWEnt-ToT: Debian Sarge Mirror
- @ IDLELO2
- @ Africa and FOSS
- @ Press Cuttings
- @ CODI4 adopts FOSS recommendations
- @ IT Specialist News Corner I
- @ Books and more

## Interregional Cooperation I - Follow-up it@ab Conference in Malawi successfully held

The it@ab conference "Interregional Cooperation I" aimed at strengthening the it@ab network and build upon the positive results regarding business planning and business generation of the it@ab conference in Maputo in November 2004. The conference thus assisted it@ab to plan and implement crucial activities for the future and the sustainability of the network in the SADC region.

The conference consisted of two parts: First, a public opening and project presentation to the media with the Malawian Minister for Information and Tourism, Dr. Ken Lipenga, and second the it@ab conference on interregional cooperation with selected senior

managers of it@ab member companies and institutions from throughout the SADC region.



The conference took place in Mangochi, Malawi, with 20 representatives from it@ab members out of five countries from the SADC region.

High level officials contributed to the success of the conference. The Hon. Dr. Ken Lipenga, Minister of Information and Tourism (Malawi) emphasized during the opening session that the it@ab network is an amazing achievement in the field of ICT in Africa. He informed the audience about the involvement of Malawi in ICT for development in Africa including being part of the council of ministers for the preparation of World Summit on Information Systems in Tunis later this year. The minister reminded the audience about the SADC declaration that calls for cooperation in ICT for development at the government level in SADC and that this is in line with cooperation that is promoted by the network.

Also as part of the official opening of the conference was a presentation of it@ab as it stands now by Prof. Thomson Sinkala, Chairman of it@ab as well as Derek Lakudzala as chief representative of it@ab Malawi and Managing Director of BUMAS International, which organized and hosted the conference. On behalf of

the German government agency InWEnt – Capacity Building International, project manager Ms. Christiane Weber reiterated the reasons and objectives of Germany to support the it@ab network for the development of southern Africa.

The internal conference following the public opening concentrated on the practical, target oriented agreements based on the Business Plan 2005-06 and the Project Planning Matrix designed for it@ab towards sustainability. The network set up standing committees for several key activities envisaged by the members to operate successfully in the sector of ICT in southern Africa.

Main result of the it@ab conference on interregional cooperation definitely was the agreement by all members to intensify concrete collaboration in mutual business sectors as a means for the sustainable operations of the network in the medium-term future.

The conference documentation and presentations are to be found in CLE 2 - the virtual cooperation platform of it@ab: »The it@ab Network « InWEnt IT-AB Workshop Malawi / 11-16 April 2005.



## Africa E-projects: The challenge of implementation

### Visit to six former it@ab-upgrade participants in South Africa and Mozambique

„This was a lifetime achievement.“ Seven months after returning to Emdeni Township close to Johannesburg 2003-2004 it@ab-upgrade participant Margaret Ntimbane is still euphoric about the year she spent in Germany. Her technical and business skills have greatly improved, as has her understanding of project management and business planning. “When I came back I was sharp like a knife” she says, “and I became a role model for my community.”

Her community is one of the most poverty stricken parts of Soweto, HIV and unemployment being serious problems. To have someone spending a year on a training programme is quite rare here. And to do this in the field of IT and even outside the country is something never heard of before. However, not everything was fine when Margaret Ntimbane came back to Emdeni. Her workplace, the local “Digital Village”, is in serious trouble. Most funding expired and the board didn’t find any other source of income. It is only volunteers who keep doors open and offer some basic computer training. For Margaret Ntimbane there is no possibility to implement the E-Learning-project she was busy working on in Germany. Lack of funds, insufficient availability of hard- and software and time constraints are a common threat to

all E-projects of former it@ab-upgrade participants. Not one of the six German trained IT-specialists from South Africa and Mozambique visited in April has so far been able to implement his or her E-project at home. And only one of them hopes to do so in the near future.

Tlou France Nkoe is busy with final touches to his E-learning-project which will help to train staff and partners of “African Access”. This company runs the central warehouse for the delivery of books and other material to schools in South Africa’s Gauteng province. If everything goes well at “African Access” there is a good chance for Lehlaka Technologies, the it@ab member company Tlou France Nkoe works for, to market the E-learning-product also to other provinces.

At Maputo University Nelson Chamba, another it@ab-upgrade participant of 2003/2004, does not have access to an appropriate server to install his E-project (online help desk). He, however, does otherwise make good use of the skills he received in Germany. Together with his it@ab-upgrade colleague Messias Mandua of Matrix Group he taught the first two courses on “open source” ever held in Mozambique.

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With support by InWEnt these courses began to spread the open source idea amongst teachers, administration staff and other professionals in this Portuguese speaking country.



*(IT specialist Nelson Chamba teaches Mozambique's first course on open source tools at Matrix Centro de Informática in Maputo)*

Here the potential of the it@ab network becomes obvious. It can bring expertise together and help marketing new products even across borders. Today South Africa doesn't seem to be too excited about the open source idea. But some business success with open source tools in neighbouring Mozambique might lead to a rapid change of mind.

It@ab-upgrade participants are at the forefront to spread the message. Most of them try to keep in touch with each other over chats on the internet or email communication. They don't only exchange private news, but sometimes share professional know-how. Tlou France Nkoe from Johannesburg and the two IT-specialists from Maputo event

think of joining forces on a common project in the field of E-Learning. As they all have good Internet connectivity at their workplace cooperation across the border is not too difficult.

This is an advantage Margaret Ntimbane and Moses Makathini, her colleague at Soweto Digital Village, don't enjoy. For them even email communication is often out of reach. This is one of the reasons why Margaret Ntimbane couldn't ask other it@ab members for help with her latest plan. Her idea is to offer basic computer training to teachers at local schools in her township. All schools were given computers over the last years. But most schools locked them away and never touched them again because teachers lack computer skills. To help change this situation would be a very useful activity and could also contribute to the survival of Emdeni Digital Village. If only more experienced it@ab members could help Margaret Ntimbane to negotiate a contract with the department of education.



*(Emdeni youth enjoy some Computer games at their Digital Village)  
(Continued on next page)*



*(IT specialist Margaret Ntimbane (far right) and three other volunteers who keep Emdeni Digital Village up and running)*

The visit to all former it@ab-upgrade participants from South Africa and Mozambique shows: Implementing E-projects and using the know-how of it@ab-upgrade participants is not only a challenge to themselves and to their senior managers, but should become an important concern for the whole it@ab network.

Dr. Dirk Asendorpf (consultant)

**[Malawi, April 2005]** - Through the InWEnt it@ab conference in Malawi in April 2005 it@ab members from Namibia, Malawi and Tanzania have started a very ambitious process called Wise Africa. It is a training, rural development and technology project aiming at helping different kinds of African Communities. This is happening by giving citizens and their communities, businesses, NGOs, CBOs and other groups access to the digital world through e-Centres, training and easy-to-use tools. Mor information at:

- [africa.basewell.com/Wise\\_Africa](http://africa.basewell.com/Wise_Africa)
- [africa.basewell.com/WiseNet](http://africa.basewell.com/WiseNet)

## AWiSA

### AIDS Workplace Programs in Southern Africa (AWiSA)

"By far the worst-affected region, sub-Saharan Africa is now home to 29.4 million people living with HIV/AIDS. Approximately 3.5 million new infections occurred there in 2002, while the epidemic claimed the lives of an estimated 2.4 million Africans in the past year. Ten million young people (aged 15-24) and almost 3 million children under 15 are living with HIV." (UNAIDS December 2002)

AWiSA wants to create awareness for the problem of HIV/AIDS in workplaces in Southern Africa as well as implement workplace programs with full monitoring support.



HIV/AIDS workplace programs are an important tool to help cope with the pandemic both in planning and on day-to-day basis.

AWiSA workshops and training modules are implemented by DED experts. The participants of Malawi conference have been introduced to the programme. Please visit [www.awisa.de](http://www.awisa.de) for more information.

## InWEnt-Train the Trainer: Debian Sarge Mirror

### Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) has increased in population

No other topic is momentarily discussed more in IT software industry. There is a controversial discussion about the assets and drawbacks using Open Source Software.

OSS offers new chances in it@ab countries. The transparency keeps the transfer of knowledge open. By this the software is not only taken over but can be critically examined and adapted to one's needs – the passive user becomes an active co-developer. This is certainly an important approach for the it@ab countries to catch up with the top developers of free software in Europe. Right now Debian is a very popular Distribution. This Linux Distribution has been trained in the long term training because it is very secure, offers a lot of software and is the basic Distribution of Ubuntu, the African Distribution. We would like to introduce your company and the previous participants of the InWEnt IT-Specialist Program in Germany Debian. But that does not mean that InWEnt advises the it@ab-network to choose this Distribution.

To get the most benefit out of the training in Germany, regular support toward it@ab countries need to be established. We already notice a big gap between current and previous participants concerning the Debian Distribution. Unfortunately support on SuSE specific questions cannot be answered any longer, because the trainers migrated to Debian. Setting up systems on SUSE for answering those questions would be beyond the scope of volunteer hotline support. InWEnt is not in the financial position to offer support for every Distribution. It is limited to the Distribution we train in our long-term training. We kindly request you to look in the forums and chats of the Distributions for support.

All those actions are completely free on your own decision. Consider however that current participants do not have the knowledge on SuSE Distributions and trainers finished the migration. For that reason we started the **train the trainer coaching**.

(continued on next page)

A short overview with useful links you will find under

- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Debian> for Debian
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suse> for SUSE
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mandrake\\_linux](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mandrake_linux) for Mandrake
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Redhat\\_Linux](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Redhat_Linux) for RedHat

(continued from page 6):

To circumvent the known bandwidth problems in Africa, we supported each it@ab country with an hard drive holding Debian mirrors. The following it@ab Partners have received the hard drive directly or via the it@ab secretariat:

- Malawi = Bumasi International
- Mozambique = Eduardo Mondlane University
- Namibia = BITS
- Tanzania = UCC
- Zambia = Computing Center
- South Africa = Lehlaka Technologies
- Angola = University of Luanda,

Just mount this new hard drive into your system to have your own mirror available. 50 DVDs have been distributed to further increase the possibility to migrate to Debian. Within a short time a Linux Server with ftp or http support can be set up.

The coaching part will be done by part of our current participants in Germany. As a support tool we have been offered the Moodle classroom from [www.FreiOSS.net/moodle](http://www.FreiOSS.net/moodle). This enables our trainers to do the coaching without any additional cost. We didn't put up a time schedule, because we want to leave the classroom open as long as possible.

It@ab participants may use this coaching whenever they find some time. This may be a good chance for it@ab Seniors too, to get involved into our long term Open Source strategies.

Interested people may contact Mr. Hans Peter Merkel [h.merkel@a-2-a.net](mailto:h.merkel@a-2-a.net) (FreiOSS / Freiburg) to receive trainer access privileges as well as InWEnt participant of the IT Specialist Training 2004-2005 / Freiburg Mr. Ricardo Taca [r.taca@a-2-a.net](mailto:r.taca@a-2-a.net)

On [www.a-2-a.net](http://www.a-2-a.net) we announced next steps on "Train the trainer" for our Debian mirror project.

An open Moodle e-learning module (guest login at the time) is available at [www.freioss.net/moodle](http://www.freioss.net/moodle). for coaching purposes.

If you join the **Train the trainer coaching** we would be glad to get a feed back. A report about training and your decision concerning the Distribution will be highly appreciated. Please contact (Renate Finke - [renate.finke@inwent.org](mailto:renate.finke@inwent.org))

### Latest Info from Debian

Now available:

- Openoffice 2.0 beta (incl. Migration instructions)
- Mozilla Firefox 1.04.2 (security upgrades)
- Skype for Debian (.deb package)
- AND KDE 3.4 !!!

## IDLELO2

### Achieving Millennium Development Goals through Community Software



The Free Software & Open Source Foundation for Africa (FOSSFA) in Collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the United Nations Conference on Trade & Development (UNCTAD) are pleased to announce the Second IDLELO Conference on Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) to be held at the Nairobi Safari Park Hotel in Kenya from the 23rd to 25th February 2006. The first IDLELO Conference which attracted over 250 delegates was held in January 2004 in Cape Town, South Africa. IDLELO is a Zulu word for a common grazing ground.

#### WHY IS FOSS SIGNIFICANT IN ACHIEVING THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS?

Increased use of FOSS is sustainable development, because FOSS is a technology that the local people (in Africa or anywhere) can understand, maintain, and adapt to other needs. Use of non-FOSS software is not true development, because the users are helplessly and permanently dependent on a single developer, who alone can fix or change it. In addition, closed software creates a user only community, preventing users from becoming developers of software. So it is a trap that Africa should avoid.

#### WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES?

- Stimulate a local FOSS Software Industry in Africa by the end of the Conference.
- Bring together Practitioners, Decision Makers and FOSS Software Developers to learn how FOSS works.

#### WHO IS THE TARGET AUDIENCE FOR IDLELO2?

- Key Decision/Policy Makers in African Governments with emphasis on The Central Government/E-Government Teams, Ministry of Education and The Ministry of Health.
- FOSSFA/GNU Linux User Groups National Leaders
- Leading FOSS Industry players from the Private Sector

#### INCORPORATING THE GENDER COMPONENT IN FOSS?

During the Africa Development Forum (ADF4) held in Addis Ababa Ethiopia in 2004, Delegates requested the working group on ICTs and Governance to explore the challenges that hinder active participation of young Women in Software Development. IDLELO2 was identified as a potential opportunity to gather opinion on this issue.

## "Africa should make more use of Free and Open Source Software"

By Mercy Wambui, Communication Officer, ECA

(found at <http://africa.rights.apc.org/index.shtml>)

24 April 2005 - Africa should make better use of free and open source software, a group of African information experts in Addis Ababa heard at a session of ECA's Committee on Development Information (CODI).

Speaking at the opening session on Sunday, Ms. Aida Opoku-Mensah, Officer in Charge at ECA's Development Information Services Division (DISD) said that free and open source software (FOSS) is attracting a lot of attention from the media, academia and policy-makers. There is an urgent need, she said, to promote the cost-effectiveness of FOSS in Africa's socio-economic development.

FOSS is non-proprietary "open" software that attracts no license fees, allows enhancements to be shared with all users and can be customised for the user's purposes without major financial outlay.

"Several developing countries including Korea, China and Argentina have decided to move their entire government systems to Open Source Software," Ms. Opoku-Mensah noted. "ECA believes that open source software is an especially useful tool to allow developing countries to leapfrog into the information age," she added.

ECA is leading by example, she said, detailing a joint project with Addis

Ababa University to develop a multilingual e-government platform based on FOSS. She also noted other partnerships forged with ECA's Information Technology Centre for Africa (ITCA) that focus on FOSS advocacy, technical capacity and awareness among policy makers. Also addressing the meeting, Ambassador Makan Moussa Camara of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) noted commitments by his organisation to promote and adopt the use of FOSS, particularly in supporting the participation of African FOSS champions in regional and international fora.

He also urged FOSS advocates to support the Digital Solidarity Fund (DSF), an initiative of Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade, as a mechanism that can fund and promote content creation in the context of cultural and language diversity.

Many governments in Asia and Latin America now support FOSS applications in day-to-day government operations, viewing these applications as viable and less expensive alternatives to proprietary software. Participants were therefore keen to see CODI-IV make concrete recommendations on the economic value and benefits of FOSS development in Africa.

## Press-Cuttings

### Africa needs IT for business growth

"WE are going to build highly competent business incubation centres in Windhoek, other parts of Namibia and around the SADC", Tom Mukaiwa of BITS said yesterday. (by AUGETTO GRAIG)

BITS (Business Information Technology Solutions) is one of the Namibian partners of Information Technology in African Business (IT@AB), a capacity-building network of 31 member organisations from seven countries in the SADC.

Mukaiwa is lobbying for the first Business Incubation Centre to be built in Windhoek. At the four-day workshop that started at the University of Namibia (UNAM) on Tuesday, (IT@AB), called on participants to discuss inter-regional collaboration.

Regarding information technology, Mukaiwa said that a 'quantum leap' in development was needed in Africa and that IT@AB's strategy was to shortcut the process through the wholesale importing of technology to leapfrog digital-divide obstacles. UNAM and Telecom Namibia are the other two Namibian partners spear-heading the initiative.

The German government and InWEnt (Capacity Building International, Germany) have been staunch supporters of the initiative since its inception in 2001.

The workshop played host to representatives from universities, IT



consultancies, Internet service and application providers, trade promotion institutions and other training institutions from Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Namibia, Tanzania and Zambia.

At the opening, Mukaiwa said the initiative - involving a group of private individuals collaborating with public entities - was something that had never been attempted in Africa before.

The exploration of public-private partnerships and the interaction with donor communities was of particular interest to the workshop participants.

IT@AB's main objective was to promote the adoption and infusion of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) into regional Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and State Enterprises (SE) as an enabling tool to foster sustainable economic development.

Using open-source (free-to-download) programmes and operating systems as well as providing training and equipment support, IT@AB aims to incubate businesses as well as to nurture and support them while instilling ICT proficiency and building capacity until the businesses grew strong enough to stand on their own.

Then new ideas could be incubated. InWEnt and the World Bank are expected to help fund the business incubator initiative.

(source: Namibian)

## CODI 4 ADOPTS FOSS RECOMMENDATIONS

### CODI organised its second FOSS meeting in April 2005

The Committee on Development Information (CODI) which is one of the seven main organs of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) organised its second FOSS meeting in collaboration with Francophonie(OIF) and FOSSFA on 23rd April 2005 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Among the recommendations tabled was that the African Governments (53 Member States of CODI) should use the resolutions and outcomes of the IDLELO2 Conference ([www.fossfa.net/idlelo2](http://www.fossfa.net/idlelo2)) as a platform to develop a political document to stimulate Governments put enabling strategies and policies that will enhance a local (Free and Open Source Software) FOSS industry in line with the Millennium Development Goals.

In their deliberations, the Governments noted that computer operating systems should be considered as basic infrastructure like roads, waterways, air routes or for the technologically savvy, TCP/IP which is available as an infrastructure for the internet. That means that Government Operating Systems are better placed to be powered on GNU/Linux. The other applications that will run on this basic infrastructure can be proprietary or open source depending on the quality and market dynamics. It was also felt that Education Systems are best implemented running open source technology.

The Governments were also quick to highlight that proprietary software has a significant role in Government especially on applications and that African Companies should also start developing their own intellectual property.

The State IT Agency (SITA) in South Africa which has just completed the first phase of deploying open source as the Government Operating System was identified as a best practice which should be watched to see how it works upon completion and replicated. [www.sita.co.za](http://www.sita.co.za)

CODI4 formally adopted the resolutions on 28th April 2005. Over 400 delegates mostly comprising of Govt Officers in ICTs, Statistics, Libraries and Geo-Information attended the meeting in Addis Ababa. The Draft Report of CODI4 is available on the FOSSFA Website. [www.fossfa.net](http://www.fossfa.net)

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## IT Specialist News Corner I

### News for the IT specialist in Germany

#### Update from IT-Specialists in Germany (April 2005)

April was the second month of face-to-face (f2f) training phase among the IT@AB specialists. Among the various activities that happened this month, there were not only the normally training sessions, but also extra-activities, such as the war driving in Lörrach and the Evaluation in Cologne. The goal of this paper is to give the reader an overview of these events that took place during this month.

#### War Driving in Lörrach

In terms of media in use, the computer local area networks can be divided in two groups, the wired and wireless based networks. As the name implies the wired networks use some sort of tangible media and the wireless use the atmosphere. The advantages of wireless local area networks (WLAN) are mainly centralized in mobility and scalability (easier to expand), and the disadvantages are related to rather poor or complicated security mechanisms and rather lower speeds compared to the wired. However because of the referred advantages they are being adopted internationally in homes, offices, conference rooms and also in public places such as restaurants and airports.

The main purpose of the war driving is first to raise awareness on the

participants about the rapid proliferation of the WLANs and to analyse the security issues around the implementation of such kind of networks.

#### Evaluation

During this month we were also invited by InWEnt to Köln where we took part in the Zwischenevaluation of the whole It@ab program. The aim of this evaluation was to get the point of view of the participants namely us on how we felt about the whole programme in general. Various discussions were held on how and where we felt things should change and how we felt about the training and how life in Germany was for us. The evaluation process was conducted during two days in the InWEnt Head offices. The event was very productive as we had a chance to give our point of views on the issues at hand as well as having a chance to enjoy the beautiful city called Köln.

This was the biggest and unusual events that took place during the month of April, please stay tuned as we conclude the f2f training next month and hopefully get started to the practical internships.

*(by Alberto Muchanga and Lionel Thobias)*



To read the full article, please visit:

[http://www.it-ab.net/e1685/e1764/e2435/e2447/index\\_eng.html](http://www.it-ab.net/e1685/e1764/e2435/e2447/index_eng.html)

## IT Specialist News Corner II

### News for the IT specialist in Germany

#### IT Specialists are visiting Treuchtlingen

On Tuesday, 17 May 2005, 21 IT experts from Southern Africa visited Treuchtlingen. They participate in a Training Programme of InWEnt – Capacity Building International, Germany for a period of 12 months. The training is called “IT economic advisor”

Die city administration of Treuchtlingen is using open-source software. “The use of non-commercial software with regard to limited resources is an interesting alternative also for African countries. We are prepared to implement the experiences of Treuchtlingen in our home countries”, comments Fausta Nguzo, spokeswoman of the group.

The experts from Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia are members of the it@ab network (Information Technology in African Business) which is coordinated by InWEnt. Christiane Weber, responsible Project Co-ordinator of InWEnt, pointed out „Development cooperation meanwhile takes place also in the high-tech sector. Through this programme we promote the sustainable existence of the IT consulting network in the Southern African region.

After three years of experience Treuchtlingen draws a positive conclusion. Wolfgang Herrmann, City Major, states: “Following this strategy more than 40 % of cost for computer systems could be saved which is much more then we expected”. In personnel

talks to the staff the visitors learned also about the challenges of this change to open source software. Heinz-Markus Gräsing, system administrator of the city administration said: „It goes without saying that at the beginning there was a huge workload to convince the staff, but finally this was profitable.”

Deutsche Telekom AG is a partner of InWEnt in this project with the target to overcome the „digital divide“ between well furnished industrial countries and lesser developed developing countries. The project is financed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development. Additionally to a language course and technical training the participants passed an internship of 10 weeks in German enterprises. The training will end with a management training before the participants will leave for their home countries in September 2005.

**(by Christiane Weber)**

## Books

### ICT4D Connecting People for a Better World

05/06/2005 (GKP) -- This book seeks to address how information and communication technologies (ICTs) such as computers, mobile phones, radio, TV, video and the Internet can help empower people, reduce poverty and improve lives. The book is intended as a resource for individuals including leading CEOs, top-level government leaders and grass-roots practitioners.

The chapters in Part II and the synthesis in Part I seek to provide an introduction to those who are not ICT specialists and to give an up-to-date overview to others involved with ICT for development. Part I provides an overview with an emphasis on the development and poverty reduction perspective; Part II is organised by these themes: Innovating for equitable access; Fostering policy and implementation; Enhancing human capacity and empowerment; Capacity building; Strengthening communications for development; Promoting local content and knowledge; and Cross-cutting themes.

Each theme is preceded by a section called Key Findings, which is briefly summarised under these headings: Lessons Learned; Trends and Innovations; Priorities / Potential for Action; and Burning Questions. The book seeks to answer questions such as: Are ICT deepening existing inequalities and divisions in the world? Are ICTs helping individuals in developing countries?

Found at **APC Africa ICT Policy Monitor**

<http://africa.rights.apc.org/index.shtml>

### www.a-2-a.net

Visit the Website of A2A. here you can find the latest news of the Advanced Training Programme in Germany 2004-2005 in "Business related IT Consultancy". This group of IT-Specialists from Southern Africa have come together to provide new IT solutions in a very dynamic fast-changing environment. Possessing unique skills and competent technical capabilities, already the team is producing 'high powered' results. The team focuses on producing products in Open Source in support of the Open Source IT area, promoted by InWEnt gGmbH.

### Database update

All members of it@ab are kindly requested to update the it@ab database. The database of experts, products, services and members are the strongest marketing and promotion tool of it@ab.

All members should as far as possible please submit the CVs of it@ab IT specialist and senior managers of it@ab members, as well as company profiles, project references and products and services offered to the it@ab secretariat by 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2005. Forms are to be found in CLE2.