



ict@innovation



ict@innovation - Capacity Building in Innovative Information and Communication Technologies through Free and Open Source Software in Southern and East Africa

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) represent key elements for economic and social development in Sub-Saharan Africa in sectors such as education, administration and business development. However, the region lacks sustainable local ICT service providers, ICT-driven businesses, IT-experts, and innovation managers, particularly in the promising field of Free and

Open Source Software (FOSS). Therefore, InWEnt's new programme ict@innovation focuses on fostering small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) in the field of ICT in Southern and East Africa capable of providing adapted applications and services to the public and private sector. The focus is on Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) as a

key technology to drive innovation, add local value and foster development-oriented and affordable ICT applications. The improvement of regional networking and strengthening of consulting capacities of ICT associations and training institutions as well as of other relevant change agents is a key vehicle of the programme.

ict@innovation in brief:

- Objective:** Fostering small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) in the field of Free and Open Source Software through regional networking and strengthening of consulting capacities of ICT associations and training institutions.
- Region:** Southern and East Africa
- Strategic partners:** The Free Software and Open Source Foundation for Africa (FOSSFA), other regional and national ICT-associations, ICT-training institutions, universities and other change agents
- Beneficiaries:** African ICT-SME and their customers, especially national public administrations and SME
- Duration:** 2008 - 2010
- Website:** www.inwent.org/ict-innovation/



on behalf of:

Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development



Capacity Building International
Germany

Main Pillars

African FOSS Business Models and Skills for ICT-based SME

to develop and deliver innovative and appropriate FOSS products, services, and training

- Capturing profitable business models for FOSS products, services and training, adapted to the African context
- Disseminating such model business approaches and related skills in the African ICT sector

Spreading FOSS Certification

Quality Management for FOSS Services through Certification

- Promotion of internationally accepted quality standards in the field of FOSS such as Linux Professional Institute (LPI)-Certification
- Enlargement of training base for certification and accreditation of FOSS training courses, materials and tests

Innovative local FOSS Applications for social and economic development

- “Learning by Coding”: Application of technical skills in locally relevant software development/ implementation projects
- Development and dissemination of FOSS products adapted to the needs of the SME and the public sector

Crosscutting: Regional networking and international exchange

InWEnt – Qualified to Shape the Future

InWEnt – Capacity Building International, Germany, is a non-profit organisation with worldwide operations dedicated to human resource development, advanced training, and dialogue. Our capacity building programmes are directed at experts and executives from politics, administration, the business community, and civil society. We are commissioned by the German federal government to assist with the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations. In addition, we provide the German business sector with support for public private partnership projects. Through exchange programmes, InWEnt also offers young people from Germany the opportunity to gain professional experience abroad.

it@inwent - Supporting ICT Networks in the South

InWEnt - Capacity Building International, Germany supports its partners in Africa and Asia to provide advanced knowledge in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). The key objectives of our it@inwent programmes are to strengthen IT sectors, foster vital innovations in ICT for sustainable human development, and use ICT as enabling tools for poverty reduction. it@inwent focuses on providing IT training and blended learning, fostering business opportunities and virtual networking, and promoting innovative ICT solutions such as free and open source software. For more information see

www.it-inwent.org

Division 4.04 Business Development and Infrastructure, ICT for Development Team

- Balthas Seibold, Senior Project Manager
- Petra Hagemann, Project Manager
- Ursula van Look, Project Manager
- Corinna von Hartrott-Nöldeke, Project Manager

balthas.seibold@inwent.org
petra.hagemann@inwent.org
ursula.van.look@inwent.org
corinna.von.hartrott@inwent.org

InWEnt
Internationale Weiterbildung und Entwicklung gGmbH
Capacity Building International, Germany
Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 40
53113 Bonn, Germany
Fon +49 228 4460-0
Fax +49 228 4460-1766
www.inwent.org
February 2008
4.04i-0003-2008

