

Tunis, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2005

## After UN Info-Summit: InWEnt's networks on ICT capacity building reinforced

*“What do we mean by an 'information society'? We mean one in which human capacity is expanded, built up, nourished and liberated, by giving people access to the tools and technologies they need, with the education and training to use them effectively”, said UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan at the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS II) in Tunis. The final Tunis Commitment endorsed at the Summit emphasizes the need to build human capacities especially in developing countries.*

*InWEnt – Capacity Building International from Germany saw its capacity-building approach reconfirmed, which focuses on providing IT-training, developing e-learning systems and capacities and fostering e-business opportunities, open source solutions and virtual cooperation. InWEnt actively participated in the Summit by organizing two exhibition stands and two parallel events.*

The second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society closed on Thursday 18 November after almost a week of intense negotiations, plenary sessions, a large ICT for all exhibition and parallel events attracting around 19.000 participants from more than 800 entities including UN agencies, private sector companies and civil society organizations.

Supported by InWEnt – Capacity Building International, practitioners from the South exhibited three innovative ICT networks at the ICT4All exhibition and gave several presentations. The three networks are:

- 1) it@ab - The Southern African Network on “Information Technology in African Business
- 2) Teaching & the AIDS Pandemic - A blended learning course for teacher educators in Africa
- 3) it@coops - Information Technology for Southeast Asian cooperatives.

*“I got many interesting contacts for the it@coops project through the stand, such as with the Philippine National Computer Centre and the Commissioner of the Philippine National Commission on ICT”, says Cresente Paez, CEO of NATCCO, one of InWEnt's partners for the it@coops project.*

InWEnt also showcased its expertise in *ICT for development* at the German pavilion and organised two official parallel events, which attracted large audiences:

- a panel discussion on “How does the Internet change Journalism?” together with the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) and
- a workshop on “Electronic governance in developing countries” with the United Nations University International Institute for Software Technology (UNU-IIST) and GTZ.

In addition, Journalists from Africa and Asia reported from the World Summit with support from InWEnt's International Institute for Journalism (IJ).

More information on InWEnt's ICT programmes is online at: [www.it-inwent.net](http://www.it-inwent.net)

## More on InWEnt's programmes in the area of ICT for development

### it@inwent - Supporting ICT Networks in the South

We support partners in Africa, Asia and the Middle East in providing advanced know-how in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). Through capacity-building and training, we create new business opportunities and help our partners generate income and high-quality jobs. With our partners we also support a wide variety of economic and social ICT -initiatives and develop IT products for local and international markets.

### Global Campus 21® and Regional Capacity Building for e-Learning

In an age when the world is moving closer together through Internet-based virtual communication, e-learning acquires an important role as a new method in distance education. Learning and communication without borders – this is the idea behind Global Campus 21® our platform for international advanced training and cooperation on the Internet. In addition, InWEnt is supporting the establishment of a network of regional e-learning centers in Africa, Asia, and Latin America with local partners.

### Our flagship projects are:

- **it@ab - Southern African Network on "Information Technology in African Business"** – supporting SMEs, IT training institutions and universities in the field of ICT training, e-business development and regional cooperation.
- **it@foss - Free and open source software in Southeast Asia** – promoting the use of free and open source software for development in fields such as business development and e-governance.
- **it@coops - Information Technology for Southeast Asian cooperatives** – providing poverty-oriented cooperatives with ICT skills and stimulating virtual cooperation.
- **Global Campus 21®** - InWEnt's Internet platform for international advanced training. The aim of this platform is to build an international learning community, to exchange experience across subjects and borders, and to initiate cooperation. Global Campus 21 is used by participants of InWEnt's programmes for learning, sharing information and experience, and working on joint projects.
- **Regional Capacity Building for e-Learning** - supporting the creation and development of regional e-learning centers in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.  
**ELDI – e-Learning Development & Implementation** – offering courses on e-learning issues. Currently, five courses are being offered to administrators, project managers, decision makers, trainers and content experts in developing countries on eLearning Strategy, eLearning Management, Content Development, Tutoring & Support of Virtual Learning Communities and eLearning Technology.
- **Training Programme for Journalists on Multimedia and Online Journalism** – InWEnt's International Institute for Journalism (IJ) of InWEnt offers in-depth training courses for online journalists in order to support the growing demand in developing countries for well trained online journalists who understand the technical features and the journalistic opportunities of this new medium.

## About InWEnt

InWEnt Capacity Building International stands for the development of human resources and organizations through international cooperation. InWEnt's training and dialogue services cater to managers, skilled and executive personnel and decision makers from business, politics, administration and civil society worldwide. Reaching about 55,000 people per year InWEnt works with partners in developing, transition and industrialized countries. Programmes and measures at InWEnt aim to foster the capacity for change on three levels: They strengthen the capacity of individuals to act, increase the performance of businesses, organizations and administrations, and improve the capacity for action and decision-making at the political level. InWEnt's methodological tools are designed in modular form, so that they can be used for customized services development, according to needs and demand. In addition to face-to-face training situations, exchange and policy dialogue, emphasis is given to networking with the help of e-learning. InWEnt's shareholders are the Federal Republic of Germany represented by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft representing the business world and the German Foundation for

International Development representing the German federal states. InWEnt was established in 2002 through the merger of Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft (CDG) and the German Foundation for International Development (DSE).

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