

Germany, 10th November 2005

InWEnt presents innovative ICT networks from the South at UN World Summit

Business executives, e-learning specialists, cooperatives and journalists from InWEnt-networks in Africa and Asia showcase their solutions to ICT for development at the World Summit on the Information Society in Tunis from 15 to 19 November 2005. InWEnt – Capacity Building International from Germany organizes two exhibition stands and two parallel events at the World Summit.

How can Information- and Communication Technologies (ICTs) contribute to business development, enhanced learning, better journalism, and empowerment of small economic entities in developing countries? ICT networks partnering with InWEnt will provide answers to such questions at the second phase of the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS II). The World Summit and exhibition will be held from 15 to 19 November in Tunis, Tunisia and are expected to attract some 10.000 participants from UN agencies, governments, the private sector and civil society. The main focus is on strategies to bridge the digital divide and harness the power of information and communication technologies (ICTs) to spur progress towards human development and poverty eradication.

Supported by InWEnt – Capacity Building International from Germany, practitioners from the South will exhibit three innovative ICT networks at stand number 1125 of the main ICT4All exhibition: *it@ab - The Southern African Network on “Information Technology in African Business”, it@coops - Information Technology for Southeast Asian cooperatives and Teaching and the AIDS Pandemic - A blended learning course for teacher educators in Africa.*

In addition, InWEnt - Capacity Building International, will present all of its corporate ICT projects and expertise at the German stand at WSIS pavilion on ‘German Partnership for ICT Challenges - Worldwide’ (No. 2413). In the field of ICT for development, InWEnt notably provides IT-training, develops e-learning systems, contents & capacities and fosters e-business opportunities, open source solutions and virtual cooperation (see below for an overview of flagship projects). On three occasions, InWEnt and its partners will hold introductory presentations on concrete projects in the fields of ICT for Business Development (*it@ab*), ICT for Education (HIV/AIDS Prevention in Southern Africa) and ICT for Rural Development (*it@coops*) at the German stand (see below for date and time).

In addition, InWEnt is co-organizing two official parallel events at WSIS II. The first one is a panel discussion on “How does the Internet change Journalism?” together with the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA). The second parallel event is organized by the United Nations University International Institute for Software Technology (UNU-IIST) on “Electronic governance in developing countries” (event No 34) – InWEnt and GTZ from Germany are associated as sponsoring and presenting organizations.

Journalists are cordially invited to visit us at the stands, presentations and parallel events. A general press conference of the German stand will be held on November 16th from 10.00 to 10:45 at the Press Interview Room. In addition, German activities in the field of ICT for development will be presented to journalists on November 16th from 17.00 to 17:30 at the German Pavilion, Stand No. 2413 (with snacks and drinks). Also feel free to contact us in advance for any other specific media inquiry, for contact details see below.

Highlights of InWEnt's participation at WSIS II:

1. Presentations on our concrete ICT-Projects at the German Pavilion, Stand No. 2413

- ICT for Business Development - "[it@ab](#): IT in African Business"
→ Thursday, November 17th, 14:00-14:30, Stand No. 2413
- ICT for Education - "HIV / AIDS Prevention in Southern Africa"
→ Thursday, November 17th, 16:00-16:30, Stand No. 2413
- ICT for Rural Development – "[it@coops](#): IT for SE-Asian Cooperatives"
→ Friday, November 18th, 16:00-16:30, Stand No. 2413

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2. Event for Journalists on "ICT4D in German Development Cooperation"

Presentation and Discussion – "ICT4D in German Development Cooperation"
→ Wednesday, November 16th, 17:00-17:30, Stand No. 2413, with snacks and drinks

Contact: German Pavilion, Stand No. 2413

3. Parallel Events to WSIS II

Panel Discussion of Journalism Experts: "In which ways has the Internet changed Journalism?"

→ Venue: Room Hammamet, Kram PalExpo, → Time: Tuesday, November 15th, 13:00

with Guy Berger (Rhodes University, South Africa), Premesh Chandran (Malaysiakini, Malaysia), Dan Gillmor (Grossroots Media Corp., USA), Jeanette Hofmann (WZ Berlin, Germany), Brenda Zulu (genderIT.org, Zambia). Chaired by: Luckson Chipare (Media Institute of Southern Africa, Namibia), Werner Eggert (International Institute for Journalism of InWEnt, Germany)

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Workshop by UNU-IIST with InWEnt: "Electronic Governance in Developing Countries"

→ Venue: Room La Goulette, Kram PalExpo
→ Time: Thursday, November 17th, 13:00 – 15:00

The main purpose of the parallel event is the building of a global network and community of practice in the field of e-governance, especially in developing countries. It will also showcase specific solutions for instance how open-source software may be used for e-Governance, including a German presentation by GTZ/InWEnt.

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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 (IIJ) 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).

Contact (Tunis and Germany)

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