

Joint call of FOSSFA and InWEnt - Capacity Building International, Germany

Call for resource persons/experts on FOSS Business Models and Capacity Building at the Idlelo 3 conference 2008

This includes participation in InWEnt's Planning Workshop for African FOSS Business Models within InWEnt's ict@innovation programme

Application deadline: 22.2.2008 : Reception of result: 29.2.2008

Timeline: 16.-20. March: Idlelo 3
20.-21. March: Planning Workshop of InWEnt's programme ict@innovation

Place: Dakar, Senegal

Limited sponsorship options available for experts from: Southern and Eastern Africa (as the programme ict@innovation is limited to these countries in a first phase)

1. Summary

FOSSFA and InWEnt are looking for ICT experts from Southern and Eastern Africa to serve as resource persons and actively shape the two Idlelo conference tracks "Human capacities, capabilities and competencies" and "Business models and community development" as well as the first planning workshop of InWEnt's project ict@innovation.

If you have a strong background in "FOSS business models" and/or "FOSS capacity building" and would like to contribute your expertise, e.g. in the form of a talk, input, lecture, panellist, resource person for the planning workshop, then please get back to

James Wire Lunghabo
Track Leader: FOSS Business Models
lunghabo@gmail.com

and **cc** to Petra Hagemann, InWEnt
petra.hagemann@inwent.org

until Friday, **22nd February 2008**. (see below for needed documentation)

Further involvement in ict@innovation and the planning team is desired. You may for example engage as co-author for writing of training materials or taking part in the trainings of the programme).

Please see the draft programme of the conference tracks 2 and 3 and the planning workshop to get a feeling of needed input.

Application and Sponsorship

In order to be able to process your application, we would like to ask you to provide us with the following documentations:

- 1) Filled in application form (attached) including overview of possible input related to "African FOSS Business Models and Skills for ICT-based SMEs" or "Capacity Building for African ICT-based SMEs"
- 2) CV

In particular, we are looking for the following profile of experts:

- Good knowledge of ICT
- Interest in and experience with Free and Open Source Software
- Knowledge or ideas about African FOSS business models or Capacity Building (e.g. own experience in running FOSS-based business)
- Working at an IT company, ICT training institution, university or other multiplier organization, e.g. a regional and national association in the field of FOSS, ICTs and business

Female experts are explicitly asked to apply.

Sponsorship options

FOSSFA and InWEnt will bear the costs of the daily allowance and the Idlelo entrance fees of the nominated participants from countries of Southern or Eastern Africa.

All travel costs shall be born by the participants or her/his employer. Exceptions can be made, if the participant provides evidence that (s)he or third parties are not able to cover the expenses for the round-trip airfare (economy class) to Dakar.

Interest in [ict@innovation beyond Idlelo 3?](#)

If you are not able to attend Idlelo 3, but you would like to get involved in [ict@innovation](#), please send a brief note including Name, Institution, and Type of interest to Petra Hagemann, InWEnt: petra.hagemann@inwent.org. You will then be notified of further action and calls related to the programme.

2. Background

Idlelo 3

The conference Idlelo 3 is organized by The Free and Open Source Software Foundation for Africa (FOSSFA) and will take place in Dakar, Senegal from 16.-20. March 2008. The theme of the conference is "Achieving a Knowledge Economy in Africa".

Within this context, FOSSFA and InWEnt are together organising the two conference tracks

- Conference Track 2 - Human Capacities, capabilities and competencies (on 17th March)
- Conference Track 3 - Business models and community development (on 18th March)

The aim of these conference tracks is regional and international exchange on African ICT key issues such as FOSS business models or human capacities. In a first call for submitting papers, the following lectures for the conference tracks were identified. Now InWEnt and FOSSFA are offering limited sponsorship for resource persons to provide additional perspectives:

Conference Track 2 - Human Capacities, capabilities and competencies

- Open knowledge infrastructures: cultural, organization, and social factors
- Acceptance of the open-source software development paradigm among undergraduates: perspectives from Nigeria
- OSIWA – Building FOSS Capacity across West Africa
- Construction and maintenance of socio-technical systems that create, communicate, store, and maintain human knowledge
- Certification roundtable
- Presentation and discussion: Quality management for FOSS services through certification & innovative local FOSS applications for social and economic development through InWEnt's new programme [ict@innovation](#)
- [your input / perspective]

Conference Track 3 - Business models and community development

- Accessibility in the Virtual Workplace: Opportunities and Challenges for students, employees and business owners
- Taking care of today with offline
- Presentation and discussion: African FOSS Business Models and Skills for ICT-based SME to develop and deliver innovative and appropriate FOSS products, services, and training through InWent's new programme *ict@innovation*
- [your input / perspective]

For updates of the programme see <http://www.aiti-kace.com.gh/idlelo>

ict@innovation

At Idlelo 3 in Dakar, Senegal, InWent in cooperation with FOSSFA will kick-start a new ICT programme called "ICT@INNOVATION - Capacity Building in Innovative Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) through Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) in Africa (2008-2010)" The objective of the programme is to foster an African ICT industry based on small and medium-sized companies (SME) capable of providing adapted applications and services to governments and businesses. The focus is on Free/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 will be key vehicle of the programme.

ict@innovation will therefore apply instruments of regional capacity building, training and networking at the intersection of FOSS developer networks, business development, FOSS business models, certification and local innovation, as well as cooperation with German and international networks.

The initiative is financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and contributes to the focus of German development cooperation on an enabling environment for sustainable economic development and promotion of the private sector.

The four main pillars of the programme are:

1. African **FOSS Business Models** and Skills for ICT-based SMEs to develop and deliver innovative and appropriate FOSS products, services, and training
2. Spreading FOSS **Certification**: Quality Management for FOSS Services through Certification
3. Innovative local **FOSS Applications** for social and economic development
4. Crosscutting: Regional **networking** and international exchange

Planning workshop of FOSSFA and InWent for *ict@innovation* in conjunction with Idlelo 3

Subsequent to Idlelo InWent will hold a planning workshop for the programme *ict@innovation* on 20th and 21st March. The planning workshop will focus the 1st action of the programme (Business Models) with the following issues:

1. Short introduction of the planned pillar **Business Models** of the programme *ict@innovation*:
African FOSS Business Models and Skills for ICT-based SMEs to develop and deliver innovative and appropriate FOSS products, services, and training
 - ➔ Capturing profitable business models for FOSS products and services and training adapted to the African context and targeted towards disadvantaged segments of the population
 - ➔ Disseminating such model business approaches and related skills in the African ICT sector
 - Action 1: Collaborative development of hands-on training material on "African FOSS business models", including African case studies
 - Action 2: Collaborative development of hands-on training material on "How to communicate FOSS to customers", on "How to innovate through open approaches" and on "How to build a FOSS ecosystem".
 - Action 3: Regional trainings for FOSS associations, training institutions and SMEs on "African FOSS business models" and the other topics above (targeting regional and national intermediary

organizations/associations in the field of FOSS, ICTs and business (particularly training and multiplier organizations) and SME with outreach potential

2. Collection of first ideas for good African Business Models with FOSS
-> RESULT: have 4-5 suggestions of good business models for African ICT-SMEs, e.g. services to be offered to SME or administration, products, training
3. Discussion about the best implementation of the Business Model Component
-> RESULTS:
 - good co-authors for writing of the trainings materials
 - suggestions for good training institutions, intermediaries to take part in the training
 - best organization of the regional trainings
 - best way to organize follow-up trainings
4. Discussion about how to develop hands-on training material on "African FOSS business models"
-> RESULT: suggestion for best way of developing training material (i.e. via online-wiki and one or two face-to-face meetings)
5. Draft Terms of Reference (TORs) for implementation of the Business Models pillar
-> RESULT: TORs for a consultant to implement the business models pillar (together with FOSSFA members, co-authors of the training materials etc.)
6. Work Plan, further meetings and involvement until the end of the year
-> RESULT: detailed work plan, next steps to take, tasks, planning of next meeting etc.

3. About FOSSFA: The vision of FOSSFA is to promote the use of FOSS and the FOSS model in African development. FOSSFA supports the integration of FOSS in national policies, coordinates, promotes and adds value to African FOSS initiatives, creativity, industry, expertise, efforts and activities at all levels. FOSSFA partners with development organizations who share these goals towards a participatory and gender-mainstreamed sustainable development and the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa. FOSSFA is governed by a Council elected during Idlelo, from which the executive is chosen. FOSSFA members may be individuals, organisations, development agencies or governmental FOSS bureaus. The present FOSSFA Secretariat is hosted in a partnership framework between the Meraka Institute, the Department of Science and Technology and the Department of Public Service and Administration, all of the Republic of South Africa. The South African Minister of Public Service and Administration, Ms Geraldine Fraser-Moloketi, is FOSSFA's present Patron. <http://www.fossfa.net>

IDLELO 3 – the conference: Idlelo is a Southern Africa word meaning common grazing ground. Idlelo captures the essence of FOSSFA's existence as well as the fundamental objective of the conference. The original idea of an African conference on FOSS and the Digital Commons was born at about the same time as FOSSFA itself. <http://www.aiti-kace.com.gh/idlelo>

InWEnt - Capacity Building International, Germany: InWEnt 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. <http://www.inwent.org>

it@inwent: Through its it@inwent programmes, InWEnt supports its partners in Africa and Asia to provide advanced knowledge in ICTs. The it@inwent key objectives are to
a) strengthen IT sectors, / b) foster key innovations in ICT for development, and c) use ICTs as enabling tools for poverty reduction. <http://www.it-inwent.org>

Application Form for resource persons on FOSS Business Models and Capacity Building at Idlelo 3, including input to InWEnt's Planning Workshop for African FOSS Business Models

Please send this form and your CV to: lunghabo@gmail.com & cc petra.hagemann@inwent.org until 22/02/2008

| | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|--|
| Given Name: | | Surname: | |
| Place of Birth | | Date of Birth: | |
| Country: | | Sex: | |
| Address: | | | |
| Phone No.: | | Email Address | |
| Institution: | | | |
| Possible input on "African FOSS Business Models and Skills for ICT-based SMEs" or "Capacity building for African ICT-based SMEs" with reference to programme of the conference tracks and the planning workshop | | | |
| Professional duties and responsibility related to ICT: | | | |
| Experiences with Open Source Software: | | | |
| Outreach potential of your institution/company as an intermediary / multiplier for FOSS trainings/solutions: | | | |

Conditions: In case of sponsorship InWEnt will bear the costs for daily allowance and entrance fees for Idlelo3.

- My institution / company is able to bear the travel costs to and from Dakar (or)
- I would like to apply for sponsorship of roundtrip air fare. Please provide written statement why you/your employer is not able to bear the travel costs:

Date, Place

Signature