



it@ab  
news

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for excellence in ICT

## InWEnt news for it@ab Alumni - March 2006

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Dear InWEnt [it@ab](#) Alumni, dear [it@ab](#) Network Partners,

Today we are sending you some of our ideas for this year, as already discussed at the AGM in Lusaka last year. We would also like to give you an update on the various activities, workshops and conferences of the past months.

### Apply now: e-project support 2006

As discussed in the AGM, we would like to make a follow up on the issue of how to leverage the e-projects done by the Junior Consults / IT Specialists. InWEnt stands ready to offer an e-project support in 2006 for 3 different fields of e-projects for the 2004-2005 Alumni. The idea behind the e-project support is to create visible results and to transfer the IT-knowledge into all [it@ab](#) countries. The further development and success of the e-projects can be a visible sign for the sustainability of the projects and the success of the parent company and the important role of the [it@ab](#) network.

*Take the chance to apply for e-project support in the area of e-security.*

We have secured our IT-wizard, HP Merkel for this area. He agreed to support a group of max 5 IT-Specialists for the implementation of their e-projects.

it@ab network is supported by

**inWEnt**

Internationale Weiterbildung  
und Entwicklung gGmbH

Capacity Building  
International, Germany

For IT-Specialists interested in participation of a coaching in this area, please visit [www.4n6.de](http://www.4n6.de) -> LuLu Internship and login as guest

### Procedure for e-security:

- If you are interested in the support of your e-project, please send a mail to Hans Peter Merkel ([hpm@hpmerkel.com](mailto:hpm@hpmerkel.com)) and cc Christiane Weber ([christiane.weber@inwent.org](mailto:christiane.weber@inwent.org)) not **later than the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 2006**.
- You will receive an online e-security test from Hans Peter Merkel to be successfully completed until Friday, 31 of March. Selection of the final candidates will be based on the results.

**For other e-projects:** These coaching's are being selected based on the competition on e-projects in Germany last year.

- Hans Peter Merkel will communicate the needs and demand for the coaching as well as the work and coaching plan. The technical reception of the deliverables will have to be made until October 2006.
- The following results will have to be achieved by each InWEnt it@ab Alumni:
  - a. creation of one e-learning module of each supported e-projects (including the two topics: did the business model work and how did it work / Technical consideration and modifications)
  - b. writing of one final report of each supported e-project on CLE/it@ab

### Give input: Themes of planned alumni-workshop

As announced in Zambia, we are planning to facilitate a gathering of all it@ab alumni (=IT-specialists, who participated in the it@ab advanced training programme on "business related IT consultancy" 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005) before August of this year. We have already received some interesting proposals on possible content of training and networking activities. Also, an informal group of initiators has formed itself at idlelo2, including Wilfred Warioba –Tanzania, Consuela Mwambeshi – Zambia, Nelson Champa – Mozambique, Pricila maliwichi – Malawi and Dickson Chinguo - Malawi. In addition to this, we would still want to get feedback from more of you on your needs and topics as well as preferences for dates and location. Please do not hesitate to contact Christiane: (email: [christiane.weber@inwent.org](mailto:christiane.weber@inwent.org)). We will make sure that your input will be discussed for the planned meeting.

### Join the team: it@ab website support for 2006

Referring to the Minutes of the IT@AB Annual General Meeting of 20th October 2005 09:00 hrs in the Taj Pamodzi Hotel in Lusaka, Zambia InWEnt is glad to announce the support of the it@ab website maintenance.

2.	The IT@AB website maintenance would be the responsibility of the network with the secretariat being accountable and the University of Dar Es Salaam volunteering to do the initial updates for the next six months.
3.	InWEnt to transfer ownership of the IT@AB website to the Network.

With the support of Mr. Carlos Zarate we are planning to build a core group of InWEnt it@ab Alumni (max 4-5 Admins) to support the secretariat and the institutions responsible for updating the it@ab website. We kindly ask all InWEnt it@ab Alumni who are interested to work in this core group to contact InWEnt (Christiane Weber email: [christiane.weber@inwent.org](mailto:christiane.weber@inwent.org)) **not later than 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 2006.**

### Event I it@ab and InWEnt contributed to Idlelo2 Conference

Kenya, 25th of February 2006 - More than 200 IT-Experts, governmental representatives and entrepreneurs gathered in Kenya's capital Nairobi from 23-25 February 2006 for the international conference "Idlelo 2 - Second Conference on the Digital Commons", the second pan-African conference on Free and Open Source software. it@ab, with support from InWEnt sent twenty-five delegates from six SADC countries (from Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia, Mozambique, South Africa and Namibia), Europe and Asia at IDLELO2 as speakers and participants.

Idlelo2 brought together key decision makers from all African countries and experts from Europe, Asia and America. The conference proved to be instrumental in

- exposing African Governments, civil society and private sector to leading Open Source Technology
- stimulating e-government strategies in Africa
- stimulating a local Open Source Software Industry in African countries
- bringing together Practitioners, Decision Makers and FOSS Software Developers to learn how FOSS works
- developing an African FOSS Action Plan from 2006 to 2008

(g) giving a strong impetus to the gender component of the FOSS activities in Africa and

(h) charting a way forward towards the use of FOSS in African development. To read the full press statement please visit the [it@ab](http://www.it-ab.net) website: [www.it-ab.net](http://www.it-ab.net). The records of the conference are online at [www.fossfa.net](http://www.fossfa.net)

### Event II: [it@ab](http://www.it-ab.net) IT-Specialists report of Africa Source II available

We would like to share the REPORT ON AFRICA SOURCE II CONFERENCE IN UGANDA FROM 8th TO 16th January 2006 with all [it@ab](http://www.it-ab.net) partners. Thank you very much to all participants of the Africa Source II workshop for their feedback, input, pictures and the report.

We are happy to hear that Africa Source II provided you with challenges and chances such as:

- \* Networking with other young software experts and IT-networks from Africa
- \* Exploring interesting potential customers (NGOs etc) as well as products and
- \* Sharing experience acquired through [it@ab](http://www.it-ab.net) and other participants

Please find more information about Africa Source II on the [it@ab](http://www.it-ab.net) website under [http://www.it-ab.net/e2320/e2763/index\\_eng.html](http://www.it-ab.net/e2320/e2763/index_eng.html)

Please do not hesitate to contact InWEnt for any additional questions and / or feedback. Finally, we would like to thank the InWEnt [it@ab](http://www.it-ab.net) Alumni, who contributed reports and their time and support for various activities.

Balthas Seibold and Christiane Weber

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Please note our new address, effective as of January 23, 2006:

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InWEnt - Capacity Building International, Germany

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