# Newsletter July 2011

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, Partners and Friends,

As we mark the half way of 2011, ict@innovation looks back into the last six months of programme implementation. In this edition of our ict@innovation newsletter we review our achievements in 2011 thus far, including a detailed overview of the completed FOSS Business Model Trainings, and take a preview at the highlights awaiting us in 2011, including upcoming events and activities.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all partners for their ongoing engagement and to thank you, the ict@innovation community, for your interest and support.

George G Nyambuya,
on behalf of the ict@innovation programme management team

## Review of first-half 2011

## 1) FOSS Business Models

a) More than 12 trainings on African FOSS Business Models were conducted by our FOSS Business Trainers in 2010, and in 2011 trainers continue the roll-out of the trainings in their countries. Please visit http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/courses to find out about upcoming trainings in your country.

b) The ict@innovation community of FOSS business experts now comprises 300 members. If you are interested in joining the community and discuss subjects concerning FOSS Business models, please register here: http://lists.it-inwent.org/listinfo/fbt.



FBT Training at STAM- Kampala Uganda

c) E-learning Africa: A special FOSS Business Models workshop was conducted during the e-Learning Africa Conference held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on May, 25th: http://www.elearning-africa.com/workshops/workshop_f2.php. More than 20 participants from all over Africa learned about African FOSS Business Models and the ict@innovation community during the workshop.

d) Community Support: In the spirit of strengthening the ict@innovation community of FOSS Business experts, a special Self Governance Group was launched, http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/wiki/public-wiki/advanced-training-material-african-foss-business-models/fbt-way-forward, with the idea that the community can feed on issues that can further build and sustain the community as it grows.

## 2) Linux Admin Certifcation

The regional drive to increase the number of qualified Linux Administrators gather pace and momentum. In the later part of 2010, we witnessed the first regional training of this nature in Kenya.

a) **Regional Linux Administrator Trainings**: The second of such training was held in Johannesburg, South Africa during the month of February 2011: http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/blog/%5Buser-raw%5D/second-lpi-training-trainers-workshop-kicks-johannesburg. The Johannesburg training was previlaged to be graced by Ms Faye Macheke from ICDL, the Linux Professional Institute Associate for South Africa, who shared information and experience with the participants. John Fordyce of Computer Skills Africa Durban, South Africa had this to say of the training "Quite simply, the best Linux training ever", please also see: http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/blog/%5Buser-raw%5D/best-linux-training-ever

b) The free advanced **training guide on *Linux System Administration - LPI Level 1*** has been lauched at the e-Learning Africa conference in Dar es Salaam in May. The training guide has been specifically created for aspiring system administrators working in industry either in small and medium size enterprises or in large enterprise environments, both in the public and private sector. The book is available for **free download** at the following link of the ict@innovation website: http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/wiki/public-wiki/foss-certification-training-material/lpi-testing-engines

c) A pool of almost 40 qualified ict@innovation Linux Administration trainers are preparing for national **trainings on Linux system administration** in their countries. Please watch out for trainings in your country at: http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/courses-certification

## 3) Coding FOSS in Africa

The Mentored Internship Programme (MIP) in cooperation with the AVOIR Network came into swing at the beginning of 2011. At the University Computing Centre (UCC), Dar es Salaam, nine interns began work on different coding projects. Some of UCC's interns are working on a School Management Information System using Chisimba. There is a ready market for this kind of a system in the education system in Tanzania, as well as other countries. Modules implemented by the students are an Academic and a Fees Modules. See http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/node/5207 for more information on the interns projects.

## 4) FOSSFA and ict@innovation at CODIST II



A delegation of the FOSSFA/ ICT@INNOVATION team participated at the CODIST II Conference with the theme "Innovation for industrial Development in Africa'" in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in March. CODIST is organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

In participating in this conference ict@innovation jointly expressed some resolutions with FOSSFA, to the conference which the committee noted and adopted:

- The delegates recommend that African countries develop ICT policies on Open Standards in general, and Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) in particular, with a view to ensuring that procurement and promotion of ICTs provide a level playing field for proprietary and FOSS software.
- Delegates also recommend that UNECA to include the promotion of FOSS in its ICT promotion and development program. Toward this end, UNECA should develop strong, fruitful partnerships with FOSS advocacy groups such as the Free Software and Open Source Foundation for Africa (FOSSFA), as well as UNESCO and other UN agencies.
- Delegates further recommend that African governments work together to implement FOSS recommendations emanating from CODI IV, including raising awareness about FOSS and building capacity in FOSS, encouraging the participation of FOSS communities in NICI formulation and implementation, and that ECA should support member states to develop capacity in FOSS.
- Delegates also called for the collection and analysis of accurate and complete data on government expenditure on proprietary and non-proprietary software with a view toward determining trends in expenditure, value for money, and involvement of local software companies in government procurement.
- Efforts should be made by the UNECA and member states to support the growth of Africa's software industry, particularly FOSS-based companies that are using established, as well as innovative business models

## 5) E-Learning Africa 2011 Actions and Happenings!

ict@innovation participated in the e-learning conference in Dar es Salaam in May, which attracted over 1700 participants. FOSSFA and GIZ were represented with a conference booth to showcase their activities and especially the ict@innovation programme. Also a number of key activtiies of the ict@innovation programme took place, namley:



a) ict@innovation Steering Committee Meeting
b)The FOSS Business Models Workshop (see above)
c) Proctor Training for the Linux Admin Certification Pillar
d) The Evaluation of the Mentored Internship Programme for the UCC Node in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
e) Launch of the training guide on Linux System Administration - LPI Level 1 (see above)

For more information please visit: http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/blog/%5Buser-raw%5D/e-learning-africa-2011-actions-and-happenings

# Outlook second half 2011

The year 2011 will be a busy and exciting period, as we are looking forward to the further implementation of a number of programme activities. Here is a short overview:

## FOSS Business Models (Pillar A)

- Strengthening of the **FOSS Business Community** through self-governance

  If you are interested in supporting the FOSS Business community activities and be part of the marketing, the training material, training advisory or other community team, please contact George Nyambuya at george.nyambuya@giz.de.

  For details on the self-governance group, please see: http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/wiki/public-wiki/advanced-training-material-african-foss-business-models/fbt-way-forward

- More **National Training** roll outs in Southern and East Africa

  Please visit http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/courses to find out about upcoming trainings on FOSS Business Models in your country. If you are planning to offer a course on FOSS Business Models, please register your course at the above link.

- Expansion into **West Africa**

  - A first training-of-trainers course on African FOSS Business Models in West Africa is planned in Nigeria in October. Please watch out for the call for participation, which will be published soon at the ict@innovation websites.

  - During the next months the ict@innovation FOSS Business Models Training manual will be translated into French for our French-speaking community members and trainers.

## Linux Admin Certification (Pillar B)

- The third Regional **Training-of-Trainers of the Linux Administrators** (LPI) will be implemented in Tanzania from 1- 12 August 2011

- FOSS certification trainers are preparing for national **trainings on Linux system administration** in their countries. Please watch out for trainings in your country at: http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/courses-certification

## Coding FOSS in Africa (Pillar C)

- Relaunch of the Coding FOSS in Africa Pillar for a broad based inclusion of universities, private and public sector. A plan is under way to reach more African coders by this Pillar.

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We look forward to keeping you updated on these and other activities via this newsletter and of course to hearing from you – please send comments or suggestions to george.nyambuya@giz.de. For current ict@innovation news please also visit http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net

Sincerely,

*George G Nyambuya*

on behalf of the ict@innovation programme team

GIZ,Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH