

ICT@INNOVATION
VOUCHER SYSTEM

Introduction

The voucher system defines the application process and criteria to obtain financial support (subsidies) for the roll-out phase where these trainers act as multipliers and train IT SMEs and other interested persons in the participating countries, also referred to as national trainings.

The voucher system takes into consideration amongst others the overall training concept (outreach, quality & sustainability), the strength of the local economy and FOSS movements and is targeted at national trainings

Purpose of the Voucher System

The system is to create a conducive environment to assist participants to develop sustainable FOSS-based IT businesses and FOSS Communities in the participating countries. With support of the FOSS Business Models Group and the Master Trainers, the applicant is expected to develop a sustainable plan for national follow-up trainings on the modules of the “African FOSS Business Models” course.

The national follow-up trainings could comprise one to all of the course's modules, this depends on the needs and market demands in the country.

To provide impetus for the national follow-up trainings and attract more participants, InWent will offer financial support (subsidies) to the applicants with the most promising training plans and help to seed them. Further trainings must be however self-supporting (sustainable) and the national training plans must provide a detailed concept for this.

Application process

Participants are expected to submit a detailed plan for the national trainings roll-out in their countries in the dropbox tool for module 8.

(<http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/e-learning/main/dropbox/index.php?cidReq=M008>).

For more information on how to submit files using the dropbox tool download the file how2usedropbox.pdf on the platform. Follow the instructions below to download the file:

- Login to the learning platform <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/e-learning>
- Click on [National Trainings - Africa FOSS Business Model](#)

Select Dropbox and download the file how2usedropbox.pdf.

The plan should also mention any previous trainings which the participant has undertaken after the Regional Trainer of Trainers (ToT). The **deadline for the submission** of the plan is **31st December, 2009**. The plans will be evaluated and the results of those who qualify for support will be published on

the InWEnt portal by **January 2010**. If you miss this deadline, or in the case your rollout plan and sustainability plan requires seeding capital (subsidies) for a longer period, then you can apply for 2nd round funding until **March 2010** (subject to the availability of remaining funding through InWEnt).

A summary of the assessment criteria and the points allocated to each are as follows:

Assessment Criteria	Points Awarded
Workshop Attendance	5
Final Test	10
Online Participation	15
National Roll Out Plan	70
Localization of Materials	10
Training/Advocacy Done After Workshop	5
Country & Network	10
Total	125 points

The minimum number of points required to qualify for financial support (subsidies) through InWEnt will be determined based on the number and quality of the national training plans submitted.

In principal InWEnt would be pleased to provide some type of financial support (subsidies) for all applications – as long as the national training plans meet the quality criteria as detailed below. For this reason we encourage all of the participants to collaboratively develop their national training plans, but not to compete one against the other!!!

Details

Assessment Criteria for Financial Support

- **TRAINING ACTIVITIES (30)**

1. **Workshop attendance - (an attendance score of about 90% required)** **[5pts]**
2. **Final Test - (pass mark of 50%)** **[10pts]**
 - Online test across all six modules
 - 2 attempts are allowed
 - Only first attempt would be considered for the voucher
3. **Online participation** **[15pts]**
 - total time spent on platform (unable to judge hours spent on each module) **[1 pt]**

- Contribution on the platform [14pts]
 - Chat Facility {0.5pts}
 - Forums {1.5pts}
 - Assignments {9pts}
 - Each of the six modules has 1.5pts
 - Answering 1 assignment per module qualifies the participant for the 1.5pts
 - Practice tests {3pts}
- **PLAN - National Roll-Out (70)**
 1. **Detail plan on how to roll out the national training may include:** [20pts]
 - Outreach Strategy – (how you intend to get participants) [5pts]
 - Participants Selection Criteria – (how do you intend to select participants) [5pts] (e.g. code of conduct in place, equality of selections, consideration of skills, etc.)
 - Training Schedule (for national roll out) [10pts]
 - 1st deadline for rollout plan December 2009 and training to start prior to June 2010,
 - 2nd deadline for rollout plan March 2010 and training to start prior to September, 2010
 2. **Sustainability Plan** [45pts]
 - How realistic is the plan? [5pts]
 - Is it self-supporting? [5pts]
 - Will it be integrated into the training offering of the training institution? [5pts]
 - Will the trainers be able to attract enough participants for further courses according to the costs they budgeted and the fees they have to take from the participants? [5pts]
 - Participation fee model [4pts]
 - Number of models to be included in your training and how they are imbedded into your sustainability plan [4pts]
 - External revenue models (e.g. Sponsorship Opportunities, local funding, etc.) [4pts]
 - Overall funding concepts [10pts]
 - Mid to long term training provision plan [2pts]
 4. **Other Ideas** [5pts]
 - Interesting Concepts
 - Advocacy
 - Marketing ideas
- **LOCALIZATION OF TRAINING MATERIALS (10)**
Training materials are localized and made freely available as Open Educational Resources
- **TRAINING / ADVOCACY DONE AFTER THE WORKSHOP (5)**
This section is to award extra points to participants have already started some post workshop FOSS training/advocacy (with the knowledge acquired from the workshop) prior to the National Roll Out.

1. Number of Trainings, Advocacy Reports, etc. [3pts]
2. Duration, Evidence of training, Publicity & Promotion – pictures, videos, etc.... [2pts]

- **COUNTRY & NETWORK(10)**

The Per Capita Income was used as a yardstick to measure the participants ability to pay for the training during National Roll-Out and the difficulty/ease of obtaining participants. Countries with lower Per Capita Income were awarded higher points.

1. **Per Capita Income** [2pts]
 - Ability to pay
 - {\$0-\$3000} per capita income [2pts]
 - {\$3001+ } per capita income [0.5pts]

2. **FOSS Movement** [8pts]

As part of the project requirement, the participants of the regional trainings are to create FOSS Business communities in their countries. This section awards some points to persons who have already formed or can show some proof of plans to form some FOSS networks.

- Form FOSS networks
 - Linux User Groups (LUGs) [2pts]
 - Alumni [2pts]
 - Local FOSS Business Community is integrated within the [ict@Innovation](#) online community (link) [2pts]
 - Others [2pts]

Financial Support Packages

The sustainable plan for national follow-up trainings on the modules of the “African FOSS Business Models” course should clearly outline and justify the financial support (subsidies) looked for, the period the financial support should cover, and how the training would be further maintained once the financial support (subsidies) dries out.

The sustainability plan should also detail at which moment which financial amounts would be required and for which purpose. Please note, that payments would be provided by InWEnt close to actual needs and divided in tranches where applicable (but in general not as a ‘one-time-off’ advance payments for the entire period).

Further details on the financial support packages will be provided after the 4th Training of Trainers (ToT) that will take place in Maputo from October 19th to 30th.