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Message from the Editor



Dear colleagues,

When the ict@innovation programme was launched in 2008, the aim was to build capacity in FOSS in Africa and build a community around FOSS Business models, certification and a mentoring activities. A number of activities have been carried out since the start and a lot of successes to be celebrated. The greatest of which is the establishment of a strong network of FOSS experts all over Africa.

It is now four years on and as per the project plan, GIZ, will exit the programme at the end of 2012. A final programme evaluation is being conducted by contractors of GIZ to study the programme. In this news letter we give more information about the people carrying out the evaluation and how you can participate. An evaluation workshop is also planned from September 17th to 21st. You will receive more information as the date approaches.

More thought needs to be applied on how the ict@innovation community will continue in 2013. We invite your thoughts on this.

Mawusee Komla Foli-Awli

Editor

5th September 2012

[Final Evaluation of ict@innovation](#)

After four years of implementation ict@innovation is currently being evaluated by FAKT Consult. A team of external experts is taking a close look at all components and activities to evaluate the impact the programme has had over the years. The evaluation is an important step in this final phase of the programme as at the end of the year the programme ict@innovation the GIZ funding will end.

The results promise to be interesting also for the community and show that ict@innovation has brought about change - for more details see the blog here, where we report on some initial results: <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/blog/%5Buser-raw%5D/ictinnovation-enhanced-foss-use-participants> The results and recommendations of the evaluation will be fed back to the managing organizations FOSSFA & GIZ and will of course be shared with the ict@innovation community. Our hope is that recommendations of the evaluation, will provide direction to the ict@innovation programme in the future.

For substantial results we need more responses. We therefore urgently request all participants to fill in the evaluation questionnaire, if you have not done so yet. We have extended the deadline to **September 10**. Please check your inboxes - you received invitations on August 13 and again on August 21/22. If you did not receive the link - please contact Kerstin.Deibert@fakt-consult.de to send you the link. If you do so, please briefly inform Kerstin whether you have participated in a follow-up training or whether you have conducted a training yourself as a trainer.

We would like to extend a big thank you from all of us to those who have responded already, or who sent us addresses - please do not to respond a second time. All respondents can participate in a raffle. You will get more information about the raffle in the survey.

We will report more results when there are more responses.

The evaluation will be completed by October 2012, so we hope to share first results with the community by November.

Volunteer Community

As the GIZ-funded phase of the project is coming to an end, the project management team is finding new ways to make sure that ict@innovation will be self-managed after 2012. To identify volunteers interested in helping manage the programme from 2012 on, a Call to Volunteer was sent out a few weeks ago. We are very happy that more than a dozen of volunteers have taken the bull by its horns - the group of volunteers is consolidating!

Currently, we are defining all necessary volunteer roles, tasks and responsibilities. These tasks will range from administrating the mailing lists to keeping the training material up to date, from updating the website to providing marketing material for follow-up trainings.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with the Community Empowerment Manager (CEM, cem@fossfa.net) if you are interested in volunteering!

Find more information here: <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/wiki/public-wiki/how-sustain-ictinnovation-communities>

French FOSS Business Models Training of Trainers

The first French FOSS Business Models was launch on 3rd September 2012 in Dakar, Senegal. The training brought together 26 enthusiastic participants – comprising of professors and entrepreneurs from various francophone African countries. Participants came from countries across the Western African region, including Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo.

The training was officially opened by the Principal Technical Advisor PACC-PME/PMF of GIZ in Senegal, Susanne Geipert and the Technical Advisor of the PACC-PME/PMF, Oumou DIOP programme organised by GIZ.

Trainers of this course are Omar CISSE, Olivier KOUAMI, Fode CAMARA, Stefano AMEKOUDI and Yann LEBEUX.

Follow the training on Twitter [#ELLA-DAKAR](https://twitter.com/ELLA-DAKAR)



Illustration 1: A participant presenting during the training

Software Freedom Day

The global Software Freedom Day(SFD) celebrated on September 15th is around the corner. The SFD is an celebration of Free and Open Source Software is a global event with activities taking place all over the world. And we are proud to announce that a number of Software Freedom Day events initiated by the ict@innovation community are taking place across Africa!

Activities are planned in the following countries:

- Cameroon
- Egypt
- Ghana
- Kenya
- Madagascar
- Nigeria
- Senegal
- South Africa
- Tanzania
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe
- And many more...

Check out our blog to read about activities that have already taken place like the developer challenge in Kenya and those that are coming up. Software Freedom Day in Kenya: <http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net/blog/%5Buser-raw%5D/maddog-give-keynote-address-software-freedom-day-2012-kenya>

More information is also found at: <http://softwarefreedomday.org/>

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To Contribute to this newsletter please write to cem@fossfa.net