

Introducing the APD networks

Issue 40, August 2009



Dear readers,

A warm welcome to you all our readers to the August Newsflash.

Our focus this month is on the Alumniportal Deutschland (APD) networks.

There are over 40 networks on the APD that alumni can join and benefit from.

These range from specialised, regional and partner-related networks.

Some of the partner organisations' networks include the Alumni Portal of InWEnt, which provides a pool of information for alumni and anyone interested. The portal also supports international learning groups and facilitates long-term discussions with alumni.

The Returning Experts Programme supports both junior and experienced experts who acquired professional skills in Germany and are interested in returning to their home countries.

Humboldt Foundation seeks to promote academic cooperation among scientists and scholars worldwide. The network comprises over 23 000 members from 130 countries.

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) network enables

Stories in this Issue

Editorial	1
Alumni invited to share working day experiences	2
APD to train community promoters	3
Alumni chilli project	4
Male circumcision - our only hope?	10
Training offers	11

alumni to interact, access a calendar of events, job offers and contacts of alumni associations worldwide.

Deutsche Welle (DW) - Akademie offers training to journalists around the world. DW will soon establish a social network for its alumni.

Apart from networking, the APD offers job opportunities and links alumni and other visitors with potential employers. Alumni can publish their profiles, which can be accessed by potential employers in the strictest confidence. Communication with interested organisations or companies will be done through your APD mail account.

To benefit from the portal it is critical to become a registered member. So far over 4 000 people are registered on the APD.

You are welcome to make suggestions on how best to improve the APD website. See page 3 for more information on the portal.

Happy reading!

Chipo Musoko - Editor



APD - connecting people from across the globe. Photo: APD website

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Letters to the Editor

All letters to the Editor should be addressed to: musokoc@zol.co.zw

Your suggestions, opinions and recommendations are most welcome!

International approaches to health financing and insurance



The International Approaches to Health Financing and Health Insurance is an online course offered by InWEnt.

It targets professionals in partner countries involved in health financing issues in their daily work.

Two alumni from Tanzania and Rwanda who took part in the course explain how the challenge of a comprehensive health care is being tackled in their respective countries.

"Distribute the costs of health care and minimize the negative effects of illness unpredictability."



Joseph Lulinga works for a faith-based organisation as a coordinator in Bukoba, Tanzania. He introduces the topic of health financing and reports on his fieldwork.

For more information on this article visit the Alumni Portal at: <http://www.inwent.org/alumni>

"High quality health care accessible to all"



Beatrice Uwayezu works as a health professional in charge of hospital management at the Ministry of Health's Department of Policy, Planning and Capacity Building in Kigali, Rwanda. She talks about the ministry's efforts in improving the health sector in her country.

For more on this article visit the Alumni Portal: <http://www.inwent.org/alumni>

Poverty creates illness and illness creates poverty



Without health funding, poverty and social injustices are bound to intensify. Partners in development cooperation join in the fight for fairer health systems.

Read more about this initiative at: <http://www.inwent.org/alumni>

"The gap between rich and poor increasing"



Health expert Diah Puspandari develops strategies for health financing in Indonesia.

But her commitment to research, teaching and networking exceeds the archipelago by far.

For more visit: <http://www.inwent.org/alumni>

Tell us about your working day



Are you a medical doctor? Do you work as a nurse at a hospital? Or do you have any other connections with the medical field? If yes, then we would like to hear about your working day experience.

What kind of difficult situations do you have to deal with daily? What positive experience enriches your working day? Is it an open-air waiting room, mysterious symptoms or a happy event in a delivery room - which experience touched you the most?

Write about your working day experience in the form of a diary and send it by e-mail using the code word "Medical Diaries" to: alumni-postmaster@inwent.org

Have you seen our Brainpool - HIV/AIDS education - reaching people?

Tell us about interesting campaigns, strategies and events on HIV and AIDS taking place in your country.

Send your report, pictures or a web-link and we will publish the report in our Brainpool in the Alumni Café.

To read more about the Alumni Portal and its activities visit: <http://www.inwent.org/alumni>

APD to hold training for community promoters

The Alumniportal Deutschland (APD) this month holds a five-day training course for community promoters in Bonn, Germany.

Twenty-six participants from different parts of the world including Africa will attend the course to take place from 17 - 22 August 2009.

After the training, the community promoters will be equipped with the requisite skills to support Germany alumni in creating and using networks on the APD.

Community promoters will also be responsible for coming up with topics for online discussions and disseminating information on various activities taking place in their respective countries.

Marketing and public relations work related to the APD will also be the responsibility of the community promoters.

For more information on the APD visit:
<http://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org>



"Online networks provide an opportunity to support each other and create joint projects," says Awa Gandema from Burkina Faso.

To read more about online networks visit
<http://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org>

Competition time



You have got to be in it to win it! Win great prizes including e-Learning courses, dictionaries and USB-flash drives by entering the first ever competition on the APD. The competition runs until August 31.

To participate in the competition write to:
wettbewerb@alumniportal-deutschland.org

or visit:
<http://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org>

What is networking?



"From a marginal issue to a major event - networks on the Internet." An article, written by an expert on online-networks, Daniel Langwasser.

To read the full article visit:
<http://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org>

How to publish an article in the APD community

You want to publish your own article about a particular topic in the APD community, but you do not know how. To get the necessary support, do not hesitate to ask us.

Simply write to:
team@alumniportal-deutschland.de

Success unites - a film about the Alumniportal Deutschland



In September 2008 the Alumniportal Deutschland was put online. See and hear what the participants said about the concepts and intentions of the APD.

For more visit:
<http://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org>

Germany, one of the most popular student host countries

At 233 606, the number of foreign students studying in Germany remained at an all-time high in 2008.

Rated third after United States and Great Britain, Germany is still one of the most popular host countries for foreign students. This is one of the findings in the current edition of the study "Wissenschaft weltoffen" (Cosmopolitan Science) published by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) together with the Hochschul-Informations-Systeme GmbH (HIS) on the internationalisation of studying at German universities.

For more information on the outcome of this research visit:
<http://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org>

Alumniportal Deutschland guide now out

The APD user's guide is now out.

The booklet contains information on the alumni fair held in October last year in Johannesburg, South Africa and lists networks associated with the APD to encourage alumni, companies and organisations to register.

This publication is also available in hard copy. Should you wish to receive a hard copy, please send your name and postal address to:
helga.wenhold@inwent.co.za

Alumni to embark on chilli growing project

by James Tembo - Zambia

The Trade Africa Network (TAN) Zambia southern province has identified a project involving chilli growing and processing that it plans to exploit in Livingstone, Zambia.

The project was identified during a workshop held in the area last month.

TAN provincial Coordinator Cathleen Chandenda said the chilli project could promote self-sustainability if properly implemented.

She urged the network members to move away from donor dependency and start their own income generating projects.

"What kills most non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in Africa is heavy dependence on donor aid," she said.

Marion Teichmann, the German Development Service (DED) NGO advisor said for any NGO to succeed there was need for members to work together in a co-ordinated manner.

She encouraged TAN members especially those from Livingstone to feel free to consult her on matters pertaining to managing NGOs.



Participants at the Livingstone workshop

Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives official Akalala Tebuho pledge government's support towards the chilli project.

Malvern Karidozo from Elephant Pepper Development Trust made a presentation on the feasibility of the project.

He said chilli was the only agro-produce that could survive in Livingstone due to the huge number of elephants found in the area, which made it difficult to grow other crops.

"Chilli, is one of the few crops that will reduce conflict between the Livingstone residents and the elephant population," he said.

Other TAN members made presentations on potential projects of rice growing and honey processing.

TAN members including those from Mongu and Lusaka attended the workshop.

Recently TAN alumni in the Kabwe province embarked on an organic manure production project.

James Tembo is a Marketing Consultant and an alumnus of InWEnt. He can be contacted at: medaid032001@yahoo.com

MONASA network holds first workshop

by Musa Mndaweni - South Africa

One of the resolutions taken at last year's Quality Management (QM) workshop was to cluster the QM countries, hence the establishment of MONASA.

The name MONASA emanates from three countries Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa that are members of the QM network.

In May, MONASA held its first workshop in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Mathew Ponde, a consultant presented a paper on the topic of networking. He used schematic diagrams to elaborate how individuals could contribute towards the growth of a network.

"If you keep your ideas to yourself, you will get very little value out of your knowledge but, if you share them with others, a lot can be achieved," he said.

Ponde said: "Through word of mouth your ideas can grow and that is how networks are built."

Dr Richard Hayward, a retired college principal who is passionate about quality presented on the topic "Making quality education happen."

He talked about the "My School," a project that seeks to implement the quality model in schools. Some of the companies sponsoring this project include Woolworths store and South Africa Quality Institute (SAQI).

The quality model focuses on five quality pillars, which includes values, leadership, school improvement plans and communication.



Some of the participants who attended the MONASA workshop in Johannesburg

Last year QM South Africa introduced quality at a local underprivileged school. MONASA now intends to take the schools project further.

The network will partner with Dr Hayward in improving the quality of local schools. Thembisa High School in Johannesburg and Isilimela in Cape Town were identified as targets for the implementation of the quality model.

The schools project will be rolled-out to other member countries of MONASA.

MONASA Chairperson Musa Mndaweni organised the workshop with assistance from the QM SADC Network chairperson, Unami Mpofu. The InWEnt Alumni Programme Coordinator Aneesha Vahle also attended the workshop. The next workshop is set for September 2009.

For more information contact Musa at: sasa575m@yahoo.com

Alleviating poverty in rural communities through improved access to safe water

Participants at a recent breakfast talk in Arusha, Tanzania called for provision of safe water to combat poverty.

Water, they said, was a basic natural resource that sustained life hence the need to avail it especially to rural communities.

In Tanzania, rural development is a key issue as 80 percent of the country's population resides in the rural areas while nearly 60 percent of the population lives below the poverty datum line.

Engineer Edmund Mahugi from Kiliwater said there was a link between improved access to safe water in rural communities in the East Kilimanjaro region and the reduction of poverty through agricultural activities.

"In poor communities, people especially women and children, spend a lot of time walking long distances of over five kilometres to fetch water," he said, quoting a 2003 study.

He said as a result of walking long distances in search of water, adults spent less time on productive economic activities while children spent less time at school.

The long distances walked, often in remote areas also gave rise to gender-based violence including rape thus contributing to the spread of HIV and AIDS.

Since 1993 the German Development Cooperation has been running a water project in East Kilimanjaro to avail clean and affordable water to the community.

The project, Eng Mahugi said, supported rehabilitation and expansion of the then abandoned infrastructure and Kiliwater into a financially viable utility.

It introduced community ownership and adopted socially affordable water tariffs based on payment according to consumption.

To date Kiliwater services span the whole of Rombo district and part of Moshi with a total supply area of 1050 km². The area has a population of about 350 000 people living in 70 villages.

"Given the overall low access to adequate water in the area, rain water harvesting is likely to generate more water for economic activities thereby contributing towards poverty alleviation," said Mahugi.



Participants at the breakfast talk in Arusha

Chairperson of the People's Voice for Development, Mathias Mulagwanda said he envisioned a community with access to safe water, reliable sanitation facilities and improved livelihood.

He said the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (NSGRP) popularly known as MKUKUTA was the second national framework that placed poverty reduction high on the country's development agenda.

MKUKUTA Cluster II focuses on improving the quality of life and social well being of the nation.

Goal three, of MKUKUTA, he said, focuses on increased access to clean, affordable and safe water, sanitation, decent shelter, and a safe and sustainable environment.

He said interventions should be geared towards increasing the proportion of the population with

access to protected water as their main drinking source.

Reducing walking distances to fetch water, he said, increased the time for other productive and leisure activities.

"On the other hand, safe water provision reduces incidences of waterborne and water related diseases. It also improves the quality of life as well as the economy," he said.

Mulagwanda said there was need to involve local communities in water projects for them to succeed.

The breakfast meeting was the second in a series of breakfast talks organised by the InWEnt office in Tanzania.

Twenty-one alumni including journalists and the general public attended the breakfast talk.

For more information contact Mathias Mulagwanda at: mulagwanda@hotmail.com

or the InWEnt office in Tanzania at: alumni@inwent-tanzania.de

Editor's memo

The editor invites you all alumni to share with us articles on any interesting events that are happening in your alumni associations, networks, at your workplaces or in your respective countries.

Also welcome are Opinion articles for the Open Forum, feature articles, alumni profiles, company profiles and advertisements which will be published free of charge to promote alumni work.

Please share your views on articles discussed in the Newsflash through the Open Forum or Letters to the Editor's platform.

All material for the October 2009 Issue of the Newsflash should be sent to musokoc@zol.co.zw by September 20, 2009.

FOSSFA, InWent launch first regional course on business and open source

by George Nyambuya - South Africa

"How can Southern African Information Technology (IT) businesses make money from Free and Open Source Software (FOSS)?" This was one of the questions discussed at the regional course on "Advanced African Business Models with FOSS."

The two-week event that started on July 13 at University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa was the first in a series of training-of-trainers (ToT) courses to be held in Southern and Eastern Africa.

The course brought together over 17 experts from universities, training institutions and the private sector from Malawi, South Africa and Zambia.

Its main goal was to form a corps of trainers and advocates equipped to spread the word on FOSS and its potential for IT companies in Africa.

The course built on more than eight practical case studies of African IT companies that use FOSS to generate income, drive innovation, add local value and provide legal, low-cost and high quality software solutions to businesses.



Participants at the regional course on business and open source held in Johannesburg recently

The course was part of the ict@innovation programmes that seek to build capacities of African small and medium information and communication technology (ICT) enterprises.

It was organised by the Free and Open Source Software Foundation for Africa (FOSSFA) and InWent. The main training and facilitating partners were the Ghana-India Kofi Annan Center for Excellence in ICT's, Advanced Information Technology Institute, United Nations and the UNU-MERIT University of the Netherlands.

ict@innovation is a partnership between FOSSFA, InWent and OSISA. The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is the sole funding partner.

The programme seeks to promote the growth of African ICT industries and private sector development, particularly in Southern and East Africa. This is done through three main actions: spreading FOSS business models for enterprises in Africa, fostering FOSS certification and supporting innovative local FOSS applications for social and economic development.

The programme focuses on FOSS as a key technology to drive innovation, add local value and create sustainable and affordable ICT solutions. ict@innovation aims to enhance regional networking, strengthen consulting capacities of regional and national ICT associations, training institutions and other relevant change agents.

For more information visit: www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net
Or contact George Nyambuya at: george.nyambuya@inwent.co.za

Responsible people know their status, do you?

by Marga Janse - Zambia

Voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) uptake in Zambia is only 15,3 percent hence the need to motivate people to go for HIV testing.

Knowing your status is important because it enables you to protect yourself and your loved ones.

Those who are HIV positive should ensure that they lead healthy lifestyles.

Recently the AIDS Workplace Programmes in Southern Africa (AWISA) Zambia developed three information materials on HIV and AIDS.



One of the brochures designed as part of a campaign to curb the spread of AIDS

The material includes a poster carrying information for workplace programme implementers, a management handbook and a leaflet for HIV positive people.



AWISA is a member of the Zambia AIDS Workplace Partnership, which qualified for the European Development Fund last year.

The grant is released through the Ministry of Finance with the objective of enhancing private sector response to HIV in Zambia. This entails information exchange and experience sharing among companies with regards to workplace programmes and the development and production of information, education and communication material for the private sector.

For more information about AWISA activities contact Marga Janse at: zambia@awisa.de

**CHANCE Southern Africa:
InWent partners with the SADC
Gender Unit on economic
empowerment of women**

by Inge Meier Ewert - Germany

The SADC Gender Unit, last month invited 50 representatives of businesswomen associations and departments responsible for gender equality from the region for an exchange workshop in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The unit is a partner of the InWent programme - Chamber and Advisory Network for Women Entrepreneurs (CHANCE).

Interesting contributions came out of the meeting. Topics covered included "SADC Trade Policies Entry Point for Women," "The Female Face of Informal Cross Border Trade" and "Gender Mainstreaming in the region."

Head of the Gender Unit, Magdeline Madibela, presented the training and dialogue components of the CHANCE programme as part of the roadmap for future activities.

A contribution by India's Kala Gopalakrishnan on activities of the Indian project partners was met with great enthusiasm. This prompted the organisers to plan for an international exchange of experience forum.



Right: Kala Gopalakrishnan presenting activities from Indian project partners

With its mandate to strengthen participation of women in business in member countries, the Gender Unit welcomed InWent's support as an important contribution towards economic empowerment of women in the region.

As part of the programme, InWent in cooperation with the other programme partners Nepad Business Foundation, Business Women's Association South Africa and the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry will conduct a training-of-trainers to establish a pool of trainers and prepare the primarily gender sensitive teaching methods.

A women business fair targeting businesswomen from SADC countries is scheduled to take place during next year's World Cup. The fair seeks to create a platform for women associations and their members to establish international contacts.

Later this year, a summer school will be hosted in South Africa during which representatives of businesswomen associations from the region will have an opportunity to acquire knowledge on topics of management of associations as well as improve their business activities.

Inge is the Senior Project Manager at InWent's department of Business Development and Infrastructure

For more information contact Annamarie Grobler the Programme Coordinator SADC at: annamarie.grobler@inwent.co.za

Trade Africa Network set to enhance trade

by Stephen Deusdedit - Tanzania

The first Trade African Network (TAN) Tanzania executive council meeting was held at the end of June in Dar es Salaam.

The meeting focused on the needs and strategies to stimulate export trade in the region by utilising existing opportunities through regional blocks such as the East Africa Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

Speaking during the official opening of the meeting, InWent Coordinator for Tanzania Michael Winklmaier said:

"You have a huge task ahead of you which needs concerted efforts to fulfil."

Participants said the network should learn from its neighbours how to exploit trade opportunities and favourable trade policies.

Members agreed to enhance dialogue with the government on issues pertaining to local and export trade focusing on tariff and non-tariff barriers, available markets and financing opportunities.

They said exchange programmes for local and external experts, producers and farmers within the region and other countries in Africa would help to improve the competitiveness of products on the market.



Participants at the TAN executive meeting held in Dar es Salaam recently

It was noted that some African countries faced challenges of accessing markets and networking. Participants proposed that TAN should promote networking to share knowledge, skills and expertise.

Meanwhile, an interim executive was appointed during the meeting. Gaspar Macha assumed the post of Chairperson and Country Coordinator while Stephen Deusdedit assumed the post of Vice Chairperson. Zuhura Rwamo was appointed Secretary General and Wilfred Kahwa Treasurer. Two zone representatives were also appointed.

The author, Stephen Deusdedit is an alumnus of InWent and can be contacted at: imitrailala@yahoo.co.uk

Is South Africa ready to host the World Cup?

by Susanne Scholle - South Africa

“Ke Nako! It’s time!,” shouted Jacob Zuma, the President of South Africa as he addressed cheering spectators recently during the official opening of the Confederations Cup at the Coca Cola Park in Johannesburg, South Africa.

“It is the day we have all been waiting for - a big day for Africa and for South Africa,” he said. “But this is not the day to hold long speeches. Let us get started and enjoy the match!”

To enjoy the match was not the reason why Henriette Waegerle, former World Cup (WC) Host City Coordinator from Munich and Thomas Jedlitschka from the WC Office Berlin flew from Germany.

Both host city advisors have since the commencement of the Host City project in 2007, been travelling to South Africa regularly to consult the host cities of Johannesburg and Tshwane.

This time the purpose of their visit was to monitor how the Confederations Cup was being conducted. They observed the organisation of the Cup from the perspective of visitors and experts.

Their long advice list carried points ranging from city dressing and host city events, the organisation of transport to business opportunities for small and medium enterprises.

The monitoring exercise started at OR Tambo Airport. The test was to establish the processing speed at customs clearance and passport control. They also monitored the type of information that was available for football tourists. The advisors also sought for information about where one could watch matches without advance tickets and the quickest way to the stadium.

Displayed at the FIFA welcoming stand was information on the matches, but general information on

Public Viewing or *Fan Parks* was not available at the tourism information stand.

The closest *Park and Ride* facility was at Wits University, but it was full two hours prior to the match. There was no information regarding this problem or where the other *Park and Rides* were located.



Independently in search of parking, the advisors accompanied by InWent staff were led by the GPS tracking system through the inner city and continuously bumped into roadblocks in the area of the stadium. Eventually they parked near the stadium and walked.

In Johannesburg’s central business district the advisors said they felt safe because of the high security presence. However, there were no street vendors, a common sight at local matches. The way through the security zones seemed wiped clean.

During the debriefing, the following day, the advisors were informed that the so-called “mamas” had, according to FIFA regulations, been allocated space at the Doornfontein train station, where they were allowed to sell their products.

The football fever was thus only apparent in the stadium, where the fans celebrated wildly and blew their *vuvuzelas* (horns). Everyone who was involved in the organisation from the volunteers to the police and security officers at the roadblocks were friendly, well trained and motivated to help.

The atmosphere in the stadium was cheerful, loud but not aggressive.

Even the result (0:0) draw between South Africa and Iraq did not dampen their spirits.

After observing two more matches in Tshwane at the Tshwane volunteer centre and a public viewing in the Soshanguve Township, the verdict of Henriette and Thomas was overall very positive.

Most points, which they felt needed to be addressed had already been noted and were discussed during the debriefing. The issues raised were the badly signposted *Park and Rides* and wrong information given to spectators regarding the shuttle services to ferry them to their cars after the matches.

Some of the topics the cities might have to think about for example are the printing of fan guides by the city of Johannesburg, which should be distributed at the airport and accommodation facilities. The guides should carry relevant information on the stadia, transport and public viewing areas.

Additionally, the cities should develop a strategy to curb exorbitant accommodation price hikes. Hotel managers are already considering a ten-fold price increase during the World Cup. The advisors also recommended involving food and art vendors around the match venues to make the WC 2010 an African event.

Two other host city advisors, Gerd Kolbe and Helmut Hausmann, came to South Africa to monitor the cities of Rustenburg and Bloemfontein. They gave positive feedback and also commended the well-organised *Park and Rides* in Bloemfontein.

All four stressed the importance of bearing in mind that the Confederations Cup was a local event mainly visited by South Africans while foreign fans are expected for the World Cup. Hence there will be additional tasks for the cities in order

Knowledge and capacity building creating bridges

by Valéria Salles - Mozambique

The German Development Cooperation (GDC) has been playing an active role in the education sector in Mozambique since 1996.

It has built a reputation of building bridges and facilitating joint projects among institutions active in the education sector.

In 2004, InWEnt and the Ministry of Education in Mozambique developed a concept for a three-year modular training in education planning and finance (MECOFIBU), targeting officers working in planning and finance in the education sector.

An evaluation of the programme in 2007 recommended its continuation and anchoring it to national institutions to increase sustainability and ownership. It further recommended optimising its modular format to produce self-instructional material for education officers working at district level.

Decentralisation in Mozambique has happened at a fast pace in recent years with the country's President, Armando Guebuza, declaring districts as the core territorial hubs of the country's development policy.

InWEnt and its GDC partners in 2008 mapped the potential Mozambican institutions to anchor the future module development and training activities. The mapping exercise identified the Higher Institute of Public Administration (ISAP) as a suitable partner, since its mandate is to provide capacity building for public officers.

A needs-assessment and decentralized financial process mapping took place in early this year followed by a planning workshop between the Ministry of Education, InWEnt and ISAP held in February.

The workshop outlined the concept, steps to be taken, expected products and the timeframe for development of the modules.

The modules will focus on the education management cycle: planning, budgeting, implementation and accounting, monitoring, evaluation, assets and human resources management (POEMA, in Portuguese).

To commence the module design process, a workshop held in May brought together 28 participants from the Mozambican education, planning, finance and infrastructure sectors as well as from ISAP and GTZ programmes (Education and Decentralisation) to be trained in the POEMA topics.



Participants at the module-designing workshop held recently in Mozambique

Five of the participants are currently enrolled in the regional programme, Professional Certificate in Education Finance, jointly offered by InWEnt and the School of Education at Wits University in South Africa.

Experts are designing the eight POEMA modules capturing the tacit knowledge on decentralised education planning and financing in the country.

The modules will be ready for testing at the end of November and their launch is scheduled for March 2010.

For more visit:

www.poema-educacao-mocambique.blogspot.com

or contact InWEnt Representative in Mozambique, Felix Cossa at: felix.cossa@inwent.org.mz

(From Page 8)

Two German Federal Police officers observed that the South African football fans were different from their rowdy European counterparts in terms of discipline.

Their work focused on railway safety in the host cities. They were impressed by the friendliness and discipline of the fans that made use of the trains.

The orderliness was attributed to the fact that during the Confederations Cup, security personnel outnumbered passengers by approximately three to one.

The two railway security experts recommended the use of trains as a mode of transport in 2010.

Apart from the Host City advisors and the railway security officers, two members of the provincial police - NRW and two teams of fire officers were also in the country during the Confederations Cup.

They gave the stadia "thumbs-up" and were especially impressed by the Royal Bafokeng Stadium in Rustenburg. It is the only stadium where emergency vehicles can circle the stadium completely.

A total of 12 German experts visited South Africa for two weeks in June and unanimously concluded that South Africa was on the right track to successfully host the World Cup, which is less than one year away.

FIFA president Sepp Blatter gave the Confederations Cup a 7,5 out of ten points while Irvin Khosa, Chairperson of the Organizing Committee said it was "the best Confederations Cup of all time."

The author Susanne Scholle is the Programme Assistant for the World Cup programme.

She can be contacted at: susanne.scholle@inwent.co.za

Male circumcision - our only hope?

by Tembo James Harrison - Zambia

When I got an email from the AWiSA office in Zambia to attend the 9th AWiSA roundtable in June, I thought it was going to be just like any other roundtables I have attended before - how wrong I was!

The roundtable sought to among others talk about male circumcision (MC).

The presentation by the Society for Family Health (SFH) specialists, Dr Michael Silumbe and Chivuli Ukwimi on male circumcision inspired participants who pledged to promote MC in their workplace programmes.

I could not believe it when the specialists told us that they conducted MC free of charge.

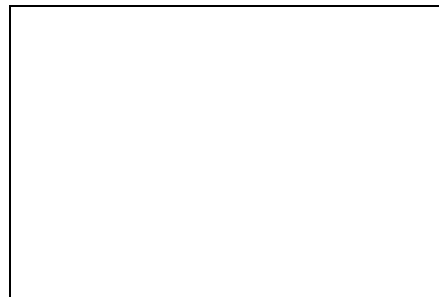
A day before the roundtable, I came across an article in the Post of Zambia in which the Women and Law in Southern Africa reported that about 70 girls were recently sexually molested in one month. The article quoted sources from the University Teaching Hospital who indicated that an average of nine cases of sexual molestation were attended to in a shift.

These statistics left me wondering how many innocent people got exposed to HIV and AIDS given such scenarios. Having learnt that MC reduces the risk of infection by nearly 60 percent, I wished the victims had met circumcised perpetrators to reduce their chances of getting infected by the deadly virus.

The only hope we can talk about now is male circumcision. It is for this reason that we, as members of Lusaka Business and Technical College Management Board resolved that the theme of our activities for the national voluntary, counselling and testing day held on June 30 be male circumcision. About 30 students turned up for voluntary counselling and testing while 14 booked for MC.

The Zambian government recently declared that all Zambia police recruits undergo MC as a way of reducing new HIV infections. I feel it is time that the Church also endorsed MC.

Tembo James Harrison can be contacted at:
medaid032001@yahoo.com



A young boy goes through circumcision. Photo AP

The MC debate has become so topical and controversial with some people strongly believing that MC is a panacea to curbing the spread of HIV. Others are of the opinion that while MC may reduce the rate of infection, it is not 100 percent foolproof.

To get a different perspective on the issue below is an article extracted from a Zimbabwean weekly, the Standard titled "Cutting Into the Debate: Male Circumcision." The article was written by Fungai Machirori.

Editor

In 2007, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and UNAIDS recommended MC as an effective HIV prevention measure.

In the article, Fungai Machirori talks about his MC fears. He said: "Once a man had an MC operation done, he would begin to believe that all the risk of contracting HIV had lain within a flap of skin removed from his genitals."

"With that hotspot for HIV finally snipped off, he would think that he was now immune to the virus and engage in risky sexual activities - all to the detriment of himself, and his partners," he said.

The author wondered what a 60 percent reduction in risk of heterosexually acquired HIV infection

for men (as the three trials in South Africa, Uganda and Kenya collectively approximated) really meant if there was no way to estimate similar harm reduction for women with HIV positive male partners.

He said a new study - carried out in Rakai district, Uganda - now gave a glimpse into the answers.

"Sadly, they are not what activists in gender and HIV were hoping to hear, for it would seem that male circumcision may actually increase women's transmission risk from their HIV positive circumcised male partners," he said.

"Out of 92 couples in a group of circumcised men (used as the experiment group), 18 percent of the women became infected during the study period. This was compared to 12 percent of women in the uncircumcised control group also becoming infected.

In other words, more women became infected with the use of MC as an HIV prevention intervention," he said.

The health ministries of Botswana and Zambia have reportedly put in place ambitious targets for national MC coverage, while several other sub-Saharan nations - where HIV still has its most fertile breeding ground - are in the process of conducting situational analyses and crafting policies around the practice.

"Immediately after MC surgery, a couple may become more cautious about their sexual practices. Wounds from circumcision are said to take at least six weeks to heal, meaning no sexual activity for that whole period," he said.

"And so at first, the diligence about hygiene and abstinence may all be there. But who knows how long that lasts. Some men I know have said that they would never consider circumcision because they just wouldn't be able to live without sex for six whole weeks.

"The new Uganda study ascertained that after six months, women whose partners ignored advice to abstain from sex for at least six weeks after the circumcision procedure had an HIV acquisition rate of...

Training Programmes

InWEnt conducts training activities on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development. These activities are planned and developed with partner organisations in respective countries under Development Cooperation.

In order to increase the impact of these activities, InWEnt engages participation of suitable partners within Development Cooperation.

From time to time opportunities for courses and conferences arise.

Our programmes also target people active in the field of Development Cooperation.

For further information refer to our contact details.

ToT courses on offer

The ict@innovation programme is organising four regional training of trainers (ToT) workshops in the Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) Business Models between July and October 2009.

FOSS is a computer software, which offers different opportunities and can be freely modified and distributed.

The courses will consist of face-to-face training for two weeks followed by four to six weeks of part-time online training.

Courses schedule:

2nd regional ToT: 31 August to 11 September 2009 in Uganda.

Target group: Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

3rd regional ToT: 14 September - October 2009 in Tanzania.

Target: Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda Tanzania and Uganda.

4th regional ToT: 19 - 30 October 2009 in Mozambique.

Target: Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Namibia and Zambia.

For further information contact the Project Manager (Africa) George Nyambuya at: george@inwent.co.za or visit:

<http://www.ict-innovation.fossfa.net>

Online course on HIV and AIDS 09.10.09 - 31.01.10

Deadline: 14 September 2009

This course provides a starting point for developing a clear understanding of HIV and AIDS. It also presents an opportunity for participants to examine their own beliefs and attitudes towards HIV and AIDS and those affected by the disease.

Taking into consideration the 'feminisation' of the HIV pandemic in sub-Saharan Africa, the course will also focus on gender as it relates to HIV and AIDS.

The online course is designed for non-medical professionals who deal with HIV and AIDS issues in various contexts such as health, education, civil society, business or development cooperation.

The course seeks to encourage and empower participants to respond to the pandemic in their home countries.

It targets applicants from Cameroon, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa and Tanzania.

After the online phase, a five-day face-to-face seminar will be held in Tanzania from 8 to 12 March 2010.

For more information contact Seynabou Fachinger - Health Division at: seynabou.fachinger@inwent.org

Summer Academy Johannesburg, South Africa November 9 - 20, 2009

Deadline: 14 September 2009

The course aims at promoting media freedom and journalistic ethics.

It targets young journalists from SADC countries.

For more information contact: Leela Parbhoo at: leela@iaj.org.za or visit: www.iaj.org.za

Online Media Management Berlin, Germany October 12 - 23, 2009 Deadline: 14 August 2009

This course targets senior editorial and managerial staff including editors, deputy editors, assistant editors, news editors as well as business/commercial managers from media houses that have online editions or plan to go online.

The course is open to applicants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Tanzania, Uganda, Vietnam and Zimbabwe.

For more information contact Britta Scholtys, Senior Project Manager at: brita.scholtys@inwent.org or Eberhard Pflieger, Project Manager at: eberhard.pflieger@inwent.org

InWEnt alumni conference in Ghana

The second alumni conference in sub-Saharan Africa will be held from 5 to 7 November 2009 in Accra, Ghana under the theme "Global Crisis - African Challenges."

The conference will take place at the Kofi Annan Peace Keeping Training Center and La Palm Beach Hotel.

For more information visit the Alumni Portal at: <http://www.inwent.org/alumni>

First all Africa horticulture congress: grown under the sun 31.08.09 - 03.09.09 Nairobi, Kenya

The congress will take place at the Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya. The congress will focus on how horticultural crops are and shall continue to be naturally grown under the sun in Africa.

For more information visit: www.globalhort.org/news-events/all-africa-horticulture-congress/

**Newspaper Management
Berlin, Germany
November 6 - 20, 2009
Deadline: 4 September 2009**

The course targets senior editorial and managerial staff including editors, deputy editors, assistant editors, news editors as well as business/commercial managers in small and medium sized newspapers that have an online edition or are considering going online.

The course is open to candidates from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Vietnam, and Zambia.

Applications should be submitted to the German Embassies in the listed countries.

For more information contact InWEnt International Institute for Journalism (IIJ) - Sabine Emmerich at: sabine.emmerich@inwent.org

**Population Services
International: Project Director
Deadline: 8 September 2009**

Population Services International (PSI) is the world's leading non-profit social marketing organisation, with a mission to measurably improve the health of poor and vulnerable people in the developing world by influencing their behaviour, principally through social marketing of family planning and health products, services and health communications.

PSI has programmes in more than 60 countries and works in malaria, HIV, reproductive health, child survival, and tuberculosis.

PSI seeks to appoint a Project Director - Condom Social Marketing and Regional Capacity Building for the Southern Africa Region.

This position is based in Johannesburg and the successful candidate will report to the Regional Director - Southern Africa.

For more information visit: <http://www.ngopulse.org/opportunity/population-services-international-project-director>

**Project Officer: Centre for the
Development of Enterprise
(CDE) Regional Office for
Southern Africa - Gaborone,
Botswana
Deadline: 15 August 2009**

CDE is a joint institution of the Group of ACP States (Africa, Caribbean and Pacific) and the European Union funded by the European Development Fund.

Its role is to ensure the development of the private sector in ACP countries focusing on SMEs through technical assistance programmes. CDE wishes to recruit a citizen of Southern African countries for the position of Project Officer for its Regional Office in Gaborone, Botswana.

For more information contact: cqp@info.bw
The PSI and CDE job adverts were extracted from: www.kubatana.net

New member of staff



Kauna Jonas (34) joined the InWEnt Namibia office at the beginning of August as a Focal Person.

She holds a diploma in Travel and Tourism from the Intec College in South Africa as well as various secretarial certificates.

Previously she worked as a Project Secretary/Administrator for the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in Namibia.

Kauna is married with two children. Her hobbies and interests are literature, culture, volunteer work, nature, writing poems and prose.

She can be contacted at: inwent@iway.na

(From Page 10)

.... 27,8 percent, compared to 9,5 percent among women whose male partners delayed sex until healing was complete.

"There can be complacency about condoms too. Male circumcision always comes with a "disclaimer" - the practice should be carried out in tandem with continuing condom use for sex.

"MC is not a vaccine for HIV negative men and it is not a 100 percent foolproof measure for women against becoming infected. It just reduces risks of transmission.

Condoms, regular HIV testing and faithfulness are all still prerequisites in the effort to avoid infection and re-infection," he said.

"The second factor about MC relates to faithfulness. HIV negative men use the MC to avoid initial infection, while men who are already HIV positive get circumcised to avoid re-infection, as well as onward transmission of the virus. There is much to be lost for both groups in the eventuality that they begin to believe that MC has afforded them some sort of exemption from becoming infected with HIV.

Contrary to what many might think, MC is not a passport to risk-free sex, and men still need to be responsible and faithful, where possible.

"Perhaps these new study findings are the jolt we all needed to realise that there is more work to be done in terms of correctly communicating the benefits of MC. Certainly, it is an important component of a holistic approach to HIV reduction, but it must be linked to other critical services such as HIV counselling and testing, partner reduction and monogamy.

On the other hand, when coupled with complacency and recklessness, MC becomes more of a bane than boon in our efforts towards eliminating HIV, said Machirori.

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