



ict@innovation



## ict@innovation - Creating Business and Learning Opportunities with Free and Open Source Software

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) represent key elements for economic and social development in Sub-Saharan Africa in sectors such as education, administration and business development. However, the region lacks sustainable local ICT service providers, ICT-driven businesses, IT-experts, and innovation managers, particularly in the promising field of Free and

Open Source Software (FOSS). Therefore, InWEnt's new programme ict@innovation focuses on fostering small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) in the field of ICT in Southern and East Africa capable of providing adapted applications and services to the public and private sector. The focus is on Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) as a

key technology to drive innovation, add local value and foster development-oriented and affordable ICT applications. The improvement of regional networking and strengthening of consulting capacities of ICT associations and training institutions as well as of other relevant change agents is a key vehicle of the programme.

### ict@innovation in brief:

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|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Objective:</b>          | Fostering small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) in the field of Free and Open Source Software through regional networking and strengthening of consulting capacities of ICT associations and training institutions. |
| <b>Region:</b>             | Southern and East Africa   |
| <b>Strategic partners:</b> | The Free and Open Source Software Foundation for Africa (FOSSFA), other regional and national ICT-associations, ICT-training institutions, universities and other change agents  |
| <b>Beneficiaries:</b>      | African ICT-SME and their customers, especially national public administrations and SME  |
| <b>Duration:</b>           | 2008 - 2010  |

- Are you interested in business opportunities and innovation arising from FOSS in Africa?
- Are you part of an ICT training institution, university or regional or national ICT association?
- Do you want to become a trainer for FOSS business models or FOSS certification?

Then join ict@innovation and register on our webportal at: [www.ict-innovation.org](http://www.ict-innovation.org)

on behalf of:



Federal Ministry  
for Economic Cooperation  
and Development

inWEnt

Capacity Building International  
Germany

# Main Pillars

## African FOSS Business Models and Skills for ICT-based SME

to develop and deliver innovative and appropriate FOSS products, services, and training

- Capturing profitable business models for FOSS products, services and training, adapted to the African context
- Disseminating such model business approaches and related skills in the African ICT sector

## Spreading FOSS Certification

Quality Management for FOSS Services through Certification

- Promotion of internationally accepted quality standards in the field of FOSS such as Linux Professional Institute (LPI)-Certification
- Enlargement of training base for certification and accreditation of FOSS training courses, materials and tests

## Innovative local FOSS Applications for social and economic development

- “Learning by Coding”: Application of technical skills in locally relevant software development/ implementation projects
- Development and dissemination of FOSS products adapted to the needs of the SME and the public sector

## Crosscutting: Regional networking and international exchange

### InWEnt – Qualified to Shape the Future

InWEnt – Capacity Building International, Germany, is a non-profit organisation with worldwide operations dedicated to human resource development, advanced training, and dialogue. Our capacity building programmes are directed at experts and executives from politics, administration, the business community, and civil society. We are commissioned by the German federal government to assist with the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations. In addition, we provide the German business sector with support for public private partnership projects. Through exchange programmes, InWEnt also offers young people from Germany the opportunity to gain professional experience abroad.

### it@inwent - Supporting ICT Networks in the South

InWEnt - Capacity Building International, Germany supports its partners in Africa and Asia to provide advanced knowledge in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). The key objectives of our it@inwent programmes are to strengthen IT sectors, foster vital innovations in ICT for sustainable human development, and use ICT as enabling tools for poverty reduction. it@inwent focuses on providing IT training and blended learning, fostering business opportunities and virtual networking, and promoting innovative ICT solutions such as free and open source software. For more information see

[www.it-inwent.org](http://www.it-inwent.org)

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