DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES,
SOUTH-SOUTH SOLUTIONS

E-newsletter of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation in UNDP

October 2012

1) Chinese Building Solution for Rapidly Urbanizing Global South

The global South is currently experiencing the biggest surge in urban population ever seen in human history. This transformation from urban to rural is happening in many different ways across the global South. Some countries have highly detailed plans and are building new cities from scratch, while other countries feel overwhelmed by their booming urban populations.

By 2025, it is estimated the developing world could become home to 37 megacities with more than 10 million residents (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Megacity) (The Guardian). Sixty years ago there were just two megacities: New York and Tokyo. Today, there are between 21 and 23, and the UN is forecasting that by 2025 Asia will have nine new megacities. By 2025, the majority of the world's megacities will be in the global South.

But how will these cities be built? How will they use resources well and ensure the rapidly rising new buildings are safe and healthy?

A Chinese innovator and Internet sensation has developed a way to rapidly build high-density, high-rise structures that are also safe and meet strict earthquake-proofing standards. Building upwards is an efficient way to get more use out of space and to free up land for things like parks.

Just as the first megacities such as New York began building skyscrapers a century ago, going upwards will be the solution many of the new megacities will choose as they feel the pressing twin demands of rising populations and financial restraints.

Based in Changsha, China (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Changsha), the BROAD Group (http://www.broad.com/) (http://www.broad.com:8089/english/) has become an Internet sensation for posting videos of it rapidly building skyscrapers. It does this to show off its innovative technologies, which have significantly reduced the time it takes to build high-rise buildings.

The BROAD Group calls itself "an enterprise based on the vision of unique technologies and the philosophy of preserving life."

The company is a pioneer in making non-electric air conditioning equipment, energy systems, and sustainable building technology.

The company has come a long way since it was started in 1988 with just US $3,000. By 1995, it had shed its debts and loans. It sees its mission as confronting the two major crises facing the world today: atmospheric pollution and global warming. The company hopes to evolve into a social enterprise.

BROAD calls itself a world leader in making central air conditioning powered by natural gas and waste heat (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Broad_Group). The company is currently exporting its systems to more than 60 countries and was an official supplier to the 2010 Shanghai Expo.

BROAD has recently been expanding its product range and moving into constructing sustainable buildings. In particular, it is developing an expertise in rapid construction techniques. This is important in the modern world as cities across the global South experience population growth and the pressing need to house people and create workplaces efficiently. BROAD is proud of its

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15-storey hotel in Dongting Lake in Hunan Province that it built in just six days, which became a hit on YouTube (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjGhHl-W8Wg). After this achievement, BROAD constructed a 30-storey hotel in 15 days.

Part of the BROAD Group, Broad Sustainable Building (BSB) claims to make the "World's first factory-made building." BROAD says its buildings are sustainable because they efficiently use recycled construction materials, rely on materials free of formaldehyde, lead, radiation and asbestos and avoid "construction sewage" dust or waste.

BROAD was provoked into making sustainable buildings after the Wenchuan Earthquake in 2008 (http://quake.mit.edu/~changli/wenchuan.html). A year after the earthquake, 300 researchers from BROAD developed an earthquake-resistant building technology.

The factory-made building works like this: a "main board" is prepared with a floor and ceiling, ventilation, water supply and drainage, electricity and lighting. This is then placed on a truck and taken to the building site. All the workers need to do on site is assemble the building by screwing in the bolts and finishing it with the painting and other decorating. This makes the time spent assembling the building on site, according to BROAD, just 7 per cent of the total construction hours. This means 93 per cent of the building is prefabricated in a factory compared to an industry norm of 40 per cent.

BROAD's latest project and biggest challenge is to build Sky City One (http://skycityone.wordpress.com/) – the world's tallest tower at 220 floors and 838 metres – in Changsha in just 90 days. A mix of residential, commercial and retail space, it will allow between 70,000 and 120,000 people to work and live. The start date could be November 2012 and the building completed by early 2013.

The finished building will be 10 metres taller than the current tallest tower, the Burj Khalifa (http://www.burjkhalifa.ae/) in Dubai.

LINKS:

1) 20th Century World Architecture: The Phaidon Atlas by The Phaidon Editors, Publisher: Phaidon. Focusing on 750 of the most outstanding works built between 1900 and 1999, the book features every imaginable building type. **Website:** http://uk.phaidon.com/store/

2) Megacities Foundation: The Megacities initiative originates from the awareness of the future role of cities as the dominant type of settlement for humanity. Cities will play this role not just as a matter of fact but out of necessity as the only way of housing the world's increasing population. **Website:** http://megacities.nl/

3) Andrew Marr's Megacities: A BBC series exploring the rise of the megacities and what life will be like for their residents. **Website:** http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b011ql6k

4) The Rise of Megacities Interactive: An online resource on the world's rising megacities. **Website:** http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/interactive/2012/oct/04/rise-of-megacities-interactive

2) Diaspora Bonds to Help Build up Infrastructure

Many people are aware of the significant role played in global development by remittance payments from migrant workers working in the wealthy North to the global South. But they may not be aware of the significant sums migrant workers have saved in bank accounts in these wealthy countries. Across the global South, efforts are underway to lure these sums back to home countries to boost development efforts.

As the hard-earned money migrant workers save sits in bank accounts in wealthy Western countries earning very low interest rates – a consequence of the current global economic crisis - so-called "Diaspora Bonds" seek to offer a way to earn good interest returns and help build up home countries at the same time.

The money can help developing countries build facilities they need but cannot afford: roads, bridges, railways, water supplies, power, sewerage, street lighting. It is a way to bypass dependence on foreign aid and borrowing from aid agencies or the general marketplace.

US $501 billion in remittance payments was sent in 2011, of which US $372 billion went to developing countries, involving some 192 million migrants or 3 per cent of the world's population (World Bank). On top of this, migrants from developing countries have saved an estimated US $400 billion - and these funds are being targeted by those selling diaspora bonds (The Economist).

The idea is being promoted by the World Bank and draws on the successful experiences with bonds for Israel and India. Both countries have long histories of turning to diaspora communities to raise funds through bonds.

The bonds work by playing on patriotism and the genuine desire of migrants to want to see conditions improve back home. As the thinking goes, patriotic investors are more likely to be patient. This is critical because many countries cannot offer rapid profits and a quick pay off – something sought by short-term investors obsessed with the ups and downs of the stock market. They are also sterner investors, less likely to run away when the going gets tough. Their local knowledge means they will not panic and pull their investments when bad news hits the headlines. And probably best of all, they don't mind if the local currency declines in value – that just means they can pick up a local house on the cheap or buy a business for even less money.

One business working in this area is Homestrings (homestrings.com): Motto "Come make a difference." An Internet platform offering diaspora bonds, it is run by founder and chief executive officer Eric-Vincent Guichard. An American born to a Guinean father and American mother, he spent 20 years growing up in rural Guinea and knows the country well. He also heads up GRAVITAS Capital Advisors, Inc. (gravitascapital.com), founded in 1996, which advises governments on how to manage their assets. A graduate of Harvard Business School and a former World Bank scholar, he is based in Washington, D.C.

According to its website, Homestrings works like this: "It all starts with your ability to scan through a catalog of projects, funds and public-private partnership opportunities that focus on regions you come from or that you care deeply about. Each of these projects and/or funds is detailed in a Fact Sheet that is set up to help you do the due diligence needed to make an investment decision. Then, Homestrings directs your investment into the selected project or fund, with the help of our administrator."

Investments are monitored on a monthly or quarterly basis and are selected for their socio-economic impact and investment profitability.

The website has a personal "Dashboard" that allows investors to use the site to vote for or against investments and make comments. And Homestrings will promote the investments that receive the most support and positive comments.

To make an investment, a potential investor selects a fund or project that matches their interest. They read the Fact Sheet and choose. The funds are then passed on to the investment bond and an interest percentage or dividend is paid at regular intervals. Investors can keep track of the investment through the personal Dashboard on the website.

Fact Sheets are organized by geographical region, industry focus, and development theme. Investments "cover infrastructure, health care, education, transportation, and small and medium sized enterprise finance – all critical areas of economic growth."

The Homestrings Catalog of investments includes the governments of Kenya, Senegal, Ghana, Nigeria and also AFREN PLC, which is looking to finance oil and gas exploration off the coast of Nigeria.

Dramatic improvements in global communications in the past five years have also made it much easier for everyone involved to stay in touch and for bond promoters to identify and target potential customers.

The World Bank is currently advising countries on how to run diaspora bond schemes. Kenya, Nigeria and the Philippines have schemes in the works, according to The Economist.

Ethiopia has announced the "Renaissance Dam Bond" (http://grandmillenniumdam.net/). Proceeds will be used to fund the construction of the Grand Renaissance Dam, the largest hydroelectric power plant in Africa, able to generate 5,250 megawatts. Ethiopia tried a similar scheme before with the Millennium Corporate Bond to raise funds for the Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EEPCO). This did not entirely meet expectations and sales were slow. Reasons given for this included a perception that EEPCO could not meet payment expectations when the hydroelectric power plant was operating. There was also a lack of trust in the government and its financial stability and the overall political risks.

The second attempt at a bond is believed to better thought through. It comes with an aggressive marketing and awareness-raising campaign aimed at the diaspora, and it starts at US $50, making it more affordable for more people. It can be used as collateral in Ethiopia – an advantage for those wanting to do business back in the home country.

For potential investors, it is worth remembering that bonds are debts that are rewarded with regular interest payments and paid back at the end of the bond term. They are not risk-free and the risk can lie either in the sovereign solvency of the country or in the investment.

The secret to a successful bond issue is to keep up good relations with the diaspora; countries that are too oppressive could find themselves short of people willing to take up the offer.

3) African Supercomputers to Power Next Phase of Development

Information technology developments in Africa have long lagged behind those in other parts of the world. But the transformation being brought about by the widespread adoption and use of mobile phones – each one a mini-computer – and the expansion of undersea fibre optic cable connections to Africa are creating the conditions for an exciting new phase of computing growth on the continent.

Despite the global economic crisis, Africa is on course to see annual consumer spending reach US $1.4 trillion by 2020, nearly double the US $860 billion in 2008 (McKinsey). On top of this, by 2050, a projected 63 per cent of Africa's population will be urban dwellers. With Africa's middle class the fastest-growing in the world - doubling in less than 20 years – matching computing power with this consuming urban population could unleash a treasure trove of opportunity for information technology entrepreneurs.

These developments are creating the conditions for game-changing computing in the next years. And this is encouraging the creation of a new supercomputer (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Supercomputer) for Africa in Kenya that will double the total number of supercomputers in Africa. Hugely powerful compared to personal or commercial computers, supercomputers use cutting-edge technology to carry out high-speed calculations involving vast quantities of data.

Expanded supercomputing power brings numerous advantages to both economic and human development. It will radically alter what can be accomplished in Africa – allowing mass data processing to be done, highly complex and data dense applications to be run, and very large research projects to be conducted on the continent rather than overseas.

Increasing computing power in Africa will bring in its wake, it is hoped, a surge in economic and research opportunities.

It will help African researchers and scientists to undertake globally competitive projects, rather than seeing this work done overseas. It will also open up a vast range of possibilities for African entrepreneurs and businesses to do complex data processing, modelling and research and will enable them to become more sophisticated operations.

The new supercomputer, the iHub Cluster, is being built in the Kenyan capital by one of Africa's pioneering information technology hubs – iHub Nairobi (http://ihub.co.ke/pages/home.php) – in partnership with Internet products and services company Google and microchip maker Intel Corporation.

Africa's first supercomputer is located in South Africa and is ranked 497 in terms of computing power on the list of 500 supercomputers in the world (http://www.top500.org/).

It is located in the "Tsessebe cluster" in Cape Town's Centre for High Performance Computing (http://www.chpc.ac.za/).

"With mobile devices coming in multiple cores, it is important for developers to be exposed to higher performance computing; we are hoping to debut at a higher level than 'Tsessebe cluster'," Jimmy Gitonga, the project team leader for the iHub cluster, told Computer World.

Africa suffers from poor supercomputer capacity and this has had a knock-on effect on everything to do with economic development. The iHub supercomputer hopes to help universities and colleges to gain a competitive edge and be able to undertake more complex research in the fields of media, pharmaceuticals and biomedical engineering.

"In Africa, we need to be on top of the mobile scene, it's our widest used device," Gitonga told Computer World.

Some of the practical applications for the iHub supercomputer in East Africa and the Horn of Africa include improving weather forecasting and drought prediction, increasing the ability to give advance warning of droughts and famines in the region.

"Most of the United Nations agencies and international agencies operating in the region have extensive field research on how to tackle natural disasters in the region. Imagine if they had affordable space where they can meet with developers and test resource-hungry applications," Gitonga said.

The iHub also wants to offer the services of the supercomputer to researchers and organizations who have had to go abroad to have their data processed.

The iHub supercomputer hopes to be used by mobile phone developers, gamers, universities and research institutions.

In the last two years, China had pushed the United States out of the number one spot for supercomputers. The Tianhe-1A located at the National Supercomputing Center in Tianjin (http://www.nscc-tj.gov.cn/en/), China, was the fastest computer in the world from October 2010 to June 2011.

For those looking to see how they can make the most of the growing supercomputer capability in Africa, examples from other countries offer a good idea. Supercomputers can be used for weather forecasting, climate research, oil and gas exploration, physical simulations like when testing aircraft, complex modelling for medical research, processing complex social data necessary for delivering effective social programmes or running modern health care systems.

LINKS:

1) A video on how to use a supercomputer. **Website:** http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvbSX--LOko

2) Southern Innovator Issue 1: Mobile Phones and Information Technology. **Website:** http://www.scribd.com/doc/95410448/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-1-Mobile-Phones-and-Information-Technology?in_collection=3643685

3) Read more about the iHub supercomputer. **Website:** http://www.ihub.co.ke/blog/2012/09/the-ihub-cluster/

4) More on High Performance Computing from Intel Corporation. **Website:** http://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/high-performance-computing/server-reliability.html

4) Africa to Get Own Internet Domain

Africa is in the midst of an Internet revolution that is set only to accelerate. The continent is one of the last places to experience the information technology revolution that has swept the world in the past two decades.

Africa has been at a disadvantage for several reasons, the most basic of which has been the lack of bandwidth capacity available from the undersea cables that connect other continents to the Internet. A map showing the world's undersea cable links says it all: the majority of traffic goes between Europe and the United States (http://www.telegeography.com/telecom-resources/telegeography-infographics/submarine-cable-map/).

But this is changing: a glance at recent developments with the launching of the Seacom, EASSy, MainOne and other cables shows a continent getting better connected by the year (http://manypossibilities.net/african-undersea-cables/).

With seven out of the 10 fastest-growing economies in the world between 2011 and 2015 projected to be in sub-Saharan Africa, the conditions are ripe to grow African Internet businesses. For example, Ghana, with its booming information technology sector, boasted 13 percent economic growth last year, among the fastest in the world.

In eight of the past 10 years, sub-Saharan Africa has grown faster than Asia (The Globe and Mail).

While Africa has come late to the Internet party, the continent can benefit from two decades of experience elsewhere to avoid making the mistakes others have. Africa can upload tried and tested Internet platforms and can also create new, Africa-specific platforms that tackle the continent's own needs and challenges.

One of the ways to make the most of the opportunities presented by the Internet is to have an Africa-specific Internet domain name. A domain name (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domain_name) is the suffix placed after the period in Internet URL (uniform resource locator) (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uniform_resource_locator)

addresses. Common ones familiar to most people who use the Internet include .com (for commercial websites), .org (for non-profit websites and organizations), .co.uk (for British businesses) or .ca (for Canadian organizations).

The dot Africa (.africa) domain name will be available in the next 15 months according to the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) (http://www.icann.org/). It is currently reviewing 500 African organizations that have expressed interest in managing the domain name registrations, and will choose one at the beginning of 2013.

Countries such as Kenya and South Africa – two places in Africa with booming information technology sectors – are hoping to make the most of the new dot Africa domain name.

The idea is to use the dot Africa domain name to build a stronger brand for the continent's Internet that will be bigger than the individual country domain names. Sophia Bekele, executive director of DotConnectAfrica, told CNN the suffixes for individual African countries had proven unpopular during the decade since their introduction.

Her organization found that 80 per cent of African domain name registrants had opted for ".com" or ".org" suffixes, which were price competitive, reliable to register and had wide recognition.

The country-level domain names suffered from being "usually owned by governments, and governments are typically not very good at marketing," she told CNN.

Bekele's research found young developers involved in creating local content felt a stronger affinity with the ".africa" suffix than to the ".com" domains. And the new suffix will let companies unify their presence across the continent under a single online brand.

A major benefit of the ".africa" domain will be that proceeds from African domain registrations remain on the continent, rather than flowing offshore. DotConnectAfrica says it plans to reinvest surpluses into developing the African Internet sector.

The African Union Commission (http://www.au.int/en/commission) is also looking to register the .afrique (French language websites) and .afriqia (Arabic language websites).

The AUC's head of information society, Moctar Yedaly, told CNN the commission's vision for the .africa domain is not just commercial.

"It may well be a very good business in terms of money generating. If it may generate some revenue we can use for the development of ICT in Africa, then that is all very good, but that's not my primary goal," he told CNN. "My primary goal is to ensure the identity of Africa, the image, the culture are well-maintained."

LINKS:

1) The Wikipedia page on the .africa initiative. **Website:** http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/.africa

2) ICANN: To reach another person on the Internet you have to type an address into your computer -- a name or a number. That address must be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN coordinates these unique identifiers across the world. **Website:** http://www.icann.org/

3) DotConnectAfrica, a non-profit organization registered in Mauritius, is one of the organizations trying win the right to manage the dot africa name space for businesses and individuals across the continent. **Website:** http://www.dotconnectafrica.org/

4) Dot.Africa: Dot.Africa specialises in realising internet access for international organisations with sites in Africa. **Website:** http://www.dotafrica.com/about/index.html

5) Geothermal Energy to Boost Global South's Development

The geothermal heat produced by the earth's molten core is a resource receiving more and more attention across the global South. Properly harnessed, geothermal energy (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geothermal_energy) offers a low-cost, non-polluting source of power and hot water that does not harm the environment or contribute to climate change (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate_change).

The country that has made the most of this resource is the Scandinavian island nation of Iceland (http://www.visiticeland.com/), one of the world's most volcanically active places.

The country was once one of the poorest in Europe, dependent on fishing as its main income source. But by 2007-2008, Iceland was ranked as having the highest level of human development in the world.

One of the contributors to this impressive improvement in human development is the tapping of the country's geothermal energy reserves (http://www.geothermal.is/).

According to the Geothermal Energy Association (GEA), "Iceland is widely considered the success story of the geothermal community. The country of just over 300,000 people is now fully powered by renewable forms of energy, with 17 per cent of electricity and 87 per cent of heating needs provided by geothermal energy."

Worldwide, geothermal energy supplies power to 24 countries, producing enough electricity to meet the needs of 60 million people (GEA).

The Philippines generates 23 per cent of its electricity from geothermal energy, and is the world's second biggest producer behind the U.S. Geothermal energy is also helping provide power in Indonesia, Guatemala, Costa Rica and Mexico.

Energy is critical to advances in human development. Electricity enables the introduction of lighting in homes, the use of washing machines and other modern appliances and of communications tools such as computers and televisions.

Geothermally heated water can be used to heat homes, provide hot water for bathing, heat swimming pools and bathing places and power electricity turbines. Industry can benefit from the low-cost energy, giving a boost to economic development.

And, crucially, it does not harm the natural environment like conventional energy sources such as coal, gas or nuclear power with its legacy of radioactive waste.

While not all countries are as well positioned as volcanically active Iceland or the Philippines, many can find a way to tap this natural resource.

Interest in this power source is increasing in Central and South America, whose energy consumption is forecast to increase by 72 per cent by 2035 (International Energy Outlook 2011).

South America currently relies heavily on hydro-electric power, but this is proving insufficient to meet the growing demand (http://www.esmap.org/esmap/node/1136). A World Bank study says "Latin American and Caribbean countries could boost region-wide electricity supply by 30 percent by 2030 by diversifying the energy mix to include hydropower, natural gas, and renewable energy" (ESMAP).

The report estimates the region has the potential to generate 300 terawatts of geothermal energy per year, roughly equivalent to the output of fifty 1,000-megawatt power plants or the emission of 210 million metric tons of carbon greenhouse gases (ARPA).

The areas best placed to tap this resource are located along the Pacific Rim from Mexico to Chile, and in parts of the Caribbean.

The 2012 Geothermal International Market Overview Report by the Geothermal Energy Association (GEA) (http://www.geo-energy.org/reports.aspx) found Argentina, Chile and Peru are moving ahead with plans.

In Argentina, Earth Heat Resources (http://www.earthheat.com.au/) is developing geothermal energy in the volcanic Copahue region in partnership with Xtrata Pachon SA (http://www.xstratacopper.com/EN/Operations/Pages/ElPachon.aspx).

Because of government support and legislation, there are now 83 geothermal exploration concessions under review in Chile, according to Renewable Energy World.com.

The Renewable Energy Center (http://www.ecpamericas.org/initiatives/?id=23) has been established in Chile and is the fruit of a partnership between the US Department of Energy (DOE) and the Chilean National Energy Commission. It is being used to gather data on global best practices and techniques to be adapted for use in Chile, and hopes to become a knowledge source for the region. A law is also in place to oblige power utilities with a capacity above 200 megawatts (MW) to have 10 per cent of their energy come from renewable sources.

Central America has already enthusiastically embraced geothermal resources, according to the report by the GEA.

Currently, El Salvador and Costa Rica derive 24 per cent (204 MW) and 12 per cent (163 MW) of their electricity production from geothermal energy. Nicaragua and Guatemala are also generating a portion of their electricity from geothermal energy.

And Central America has still more geothermal potential it can tap. Estimates place this between 3,000 megawatts and 13,000 megawatts at 50 identified geothermal sites.

LINKS:

      1) Geothermal Basic from the Geothermal Energy Association. **Website:** http://www.geo-energy.org/currentUse.aspx

2) Geothermal information for children. **Website:**
http://www.eia.gov/kids/energy.cfm?page=geothermal_home-basics

3) Geoexchange: A website connecting contractors, manufacturers , drilling contractors, ground loop installers, engineers, designers, distributors, architects, builders, utilities, training, financing, software and suppliers. **Website:** http://www.geoexchange.org/

4) Iceland Geothermal: Icelandic geothermal cluster mapping, geothermal energy consumption. **Website:** http://www.icelandgeothermal.is/index.php/e-samstarfsverkefni/data-collection.html

5) Iceland Geothermal Conference 2013: An international conference on geothermal will be held 5-8 March 2013 at Harpa Conference Centre in Reykjavik, Iceland and is hosted by the Iceland Geothermal initiative. **Website:** http://geothermalconference.is/

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

Southern Innovator (ISSN 2222-9280) magazine's third issue is now online and print copies are available for distribution. The third issue's theme is agribusiness and food security. View the issue online here: http://www.scribd.com/doc/106055665/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-3-Agribusiness-and-Food-Security. Contact us about opportunities to sponsor this issue or any future issues and we can send you more information on how it works.

Issue 4, on cities and urbanization, is in development and will be published later this year. Please contact the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation if you would like a copy (copies) of Southern Innovator (http://ssc.undp.org/content/ssc.html).

The covers for Issues 2 and 3 are below:

Contact us about opportunities to sponsor this issue or any future issues and we can send you more information on how it works.

Issue 3, on agribusiness and food security, is now ready and will be published shortly. Issues 4 and 5 are also in the works for 2012. Please contact the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation if you would like a copy (copies) of Southern Innovator (http://ssc.undp.org/content/ssc.html).

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Issue 1 of Southern Innovator was called "...a terrific tour de force of what is interesting, cutting edge and relevant in the global mobile/ICT space..."

Also check out our South-South Expo: 2012's Expo will be in Vienna, Austria: www.southsouthexpo.org

BOOKS

The New Harvest: Agricultural Innovation in Africa by Calestous Juma, Publisher: Oxford University Press. **Website:** http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20504/new_harvest.html

Innovative Africa: The New Face of Africa: Essays on the Rise of Africa's Innovation Age by Will Mutua and Mbwana Ally, Publisher: Afrinnovator. **Website:** http://book.afrinnovator.com/

The Coming Prosperity by Philip Auerswald, Publisher: Oxford University Press. **Website:** http://auerswald.org/

The Landgrabbers by Fred Pearce, Publisher: Eden Project Books. **Website:** http://www.randomhouse.co.uk/editions/9781905811731

The Revenge of Geography by Robert D. Kaplan, Publisher: Random House. **Website:** http://www.randomhouse.com/book/209683/the-revenge-of-geography-by-robert-d-kaplan

Need, Speed and Greed: How the New Rules of Innovation Can Transform Businesses, Propel Nations to Greatness, and Tame the World's Most Wicked Problems by Vijay Vaitheeswaran, Publisher: Harper Business. **Website:** www.amazon.com

Emerging Economies: The Geopolitics of the BRICS Nations Publisher: Stratfor. They make up nearly half the world's population and wield significant influence within their respective regions. Combined, their GDPs are not too far behind that of the United States. Understand the geopolitics of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. **Website:** www.stratfor.com

China's Regulatory State: A New Strategy for Globalization by Roselyn Hsueh, Publisher: Cornell University Press. **Website:** www.cornellpress.cornell.edu

Living in the Endless City edited by Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic, Publisher: Phaidon. The city is the subject of the 21st century. All over the world, populations are shifting towards urban centres. *Living in the Endless City* depicts an authoritative survey of cities of today and the prospects for our urban future of tomorrow. 36 contributors from across Europe, South America, China, Africa and the U.S. set the agenda for the city - detailing its successes as well as its failures. **Website:** http://www.urban-age.net/publications/living-in-the-endless-city/

Consumptionomics: Asia's Role in Reshaping Capitalism by Chandran Nair, Publisher: Infinite Ideas. **Website:** www.amazon.com

World 3.0: Global Prosperity and How to Achieve It by Pankaj Ghemawa, Publisher: Harvard Business School Press**. Website:** www.amazon.com

The China Miracle: Development Strategy and Economic Reform by Justin Yifu Lin, Publisher: The Chinese University Press. **Website:**www.eurospanbookstore.com

The End of Cheap China: Economic and Cultural Trends that will Disrupt the World by Shaun Rein, Publisher: John Wiley and Sons. **Website:** www.amazon.com

Global Slump: The Economics and Politics of Crisis and Resistance by David McNally, Publisher: PM Press. *Global Slump* analyzes the global financial meltdown as the first systemic crisis of the neoliberal stage of capitalism. It argues that – far from having ended – the crisis has ushered in a whole period of worldwide economic and political turbulence. In developing an account of the crisis as rooted in fundamental features of capitalism, *Global*

Slump challenges the view that its source lies in financial deregulation. **Website:** https://secure.pmpress.org/index.php?l=product_detail&p=271

Creative Ecologies: Where Thinking is a Proper Job by John Howkins, Publisher: UQP. **Website:** www.creativeeconomy.com/think.htm

Breakout Nations by Ruchir Sharma, Publisher: Penguin. *Breakout Nations* offers journeys through more than two dozen of the most interesting economies in the emerging world. **Website:** http://breakoutnations.com/

Light Manufacturing in Africa by Hinh T. Dinh et al, Publisher: World Bank. This book examines how light manufacturing can offer a viable solution for sub-Saharan Africa's need for structural transformation and productive job creation, given its potential competitiveness based on low wage costs and an abundance of natural resources that supply raw materials needed for industries. **Website:** http://issuu.com/world.bank.publications/docs/9780821389614

Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty by Daron Acemoglu and James A. Robinson, Publisher: Profile Books. **Website:** www.amazon.com

Arrival City by Doug Saunders, Publisher: Pantheon. A third of humanity is on the move. History's largest migration is creating new urban spaces that are this century's focal points of conflict and change — centres of febrile settlement that will reshape our cities and reconfigure our economies. **Website:** http://arrivalcity.net/

China: And the End of Poverty in Africa – Towards Mutual Benefit? by Penny Davis, Publisher: Diakonia and the European Network on Debt and Development. **Website:** www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats_New/Reports/Kinarapport_A4.pdf

Globalization and Competition: Why Some Emergent Countries Succeed while Others Fall Behind by Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira, Publisher: Cambridge University Press. **Website:** www.networkideas.org/book/jan2010/bk12_GACL.htm

State of the Field in Youth Enterprise, Employment, and Livelihoods Development Publisher: Making Cents International. This practical resource features learning from over 80 leading organizations that are working around the world to increase and improve economic opportunities for young people. Topics include youth enterprise development; workforce development; youth-inclusive financial services; working with adolescent girls and young women; and monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment. **Website:** www.YouthEconomicOpportunities.org/media.asp

Vitamin Green: The Definitive Guide to the World of Contemporary Sustainable Design: Features 100 Innovative Projects from Around the World by editors of Phaidon Press, Publisher: Phaidon Press. **Website:** http://uk.phaidon.com/store/architecture/vitamin-green-9780714862293/

Makers: The New Industrial Revolution By Chris Anderson, Publisher: Crown Business. **Website:** www.amazon.com

Papers and Reports

African Economic Outlook 2012: Promoting Youth Employment Publisher: Various. With almost 200 million people aged between 15 and 24, Africa has the youngest population in the world. This number will double by 2045. Many jobs have been created over the last decade, but the pace needs to accelerate significantly to match the demand of Africa's next generations.

Website: http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/

State of China's Cities: 2010/2011: Better City, Better Life Publisher: UNHABITAT.

Website: www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011

Still our Common Interest: Commission for Africa Report 2010 Publisher: Commission for Africa

Website: www.commissionforafrica.info/2010-report

World Economic Outlook Update: Restoring Confidence without Harming Recovery Publisher: IMF.

Website: www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2010/update/02/index.htm

Empowering People and Transforming Society: The World Economic Forum's Technology Pioneers 2011 Publisher: World Economic Forum.

Website: www.scribd.com/doc/35953976/Technology-Pioneers-2011

The Emerging Middle Class in Developing Countries Publisher: OECD.

Website: www.oecdilibrary.org/oecd/content/workingpaper/5kmmp8lncrns-en (PDF - 2.09 mb)

The Implications of China's Ascendancy for Africa by Hany Besada, Publisher: The Centre for International Governance Innovation. This paper examines the extent to which China's engagement with Africa has produced mutual benefits for both and whether Africa is reaping the necessary benefits required for poverty alleviation and economic development.

Website: http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper_40-web.pdf

Global Economic Decoupling Alive and Well Emerging economies decouple from the US, come closer to Europe.

Website: http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article23670.html

The Global Financial Crisis and Africa's "Immiserizing Wealth" ,Research Brief, United Nations University, Number 1 2010.

Website: www.unu.edu/publications/briefs/policy-briefs/2010/UNU_ResearchBrief_10-01.pdf

Africa begins to make poverty history: US economists challenge conventional view that the continent is a basket case

Website: www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/mar/03/africa-makes-povery-history

New Magazine

African Innovator Magazine has launched: AIM showcases innovative technology solutions to business challenges on the continent.

Website: http://www.africaninnovatormagazine.com/

On the Web

Blogs and Websites

African Robotics Network: The African Robotics Network (AFRON) is a community of institutions, organizations and individuals engaged in robotics in Africa. AFRON seeks to promote communication and collaborations that will enhance robotics-related education, research and industry on the continent. To achieve this, AFRON organizes projects, meetings and events in Africa at robotics and automation conferences abroad.

Website: http://robotics-africa.org/

Polis: A collaborative blog about cities around the globe.

Website: http://www.thepolisblog.org/2012/03/coca-cola-in-africa.html

mDirectory: The mDirectory is the most comprehensive database of information on mobile tech for social change on the Web: case studies, mobile tools, research, and how-to guides.

 Website: http://mobileactive.org/directory

Global Development: Launched in September 2010, this website from the Guardian newspaper tracks progress on the MDGs, encourages debate on its blogs, offers a rich store of datasets from around the world, and features monthly podcasts and resources for schools.

Website: www.guardian.co.uk/global-development

Latameconomy Website: Latameconomy.org is the latest evolution of the annual Latin American Economic Outlook report, essentially bringing its trusted, high quality content into the digital age. Its wide country coverage and methods of analysis are essential for anyone seeking to understand the economic, social and political developments of Latin American countries.

Website: www.latameconomy.org/en/

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs): International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs) is a pluralist network of progressive economists across the world, engaged in research, teaching and dissemination of critical analyses of economic policy and development.

Website: www.networkideas.org/

OECD: Tackling the economic crisis website:The global economic crisis is entering a new phase amid signs of a return to positive growth in many countries. But unemployment is likely to remain high and much still needs to be done to underpin a durable recovery. This website will track the recovery.

Website: http://www.oecd.org/document/24/0,3343,en_2649_201185_41707672_1_1_1_1,00.html

The Global Urbanist: News and analysis of cities around the world: planning, governance, economy, communities, environment and international.

Website: globalurbanist.com

ICT Update: A bimonthly printed bulletin, a web magazine, and an accompanying email newsletter that explores innovative uses of information technology in agriculture and rural development in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries.

Website: http://ictupdate.cta.int/en/Regulars/Perspectives/%28issue%29/56

Youth-Inclusive Financial Services (YFS-Link) Program: The first space for financial services providers (FSPs) and youth-service organizations (YSOs) to gather, learn and share about youth-inclusive financial services.

Website: yfslink.org

Triple Crisis Blog: Global Perspectives on Finance, Development and Environment

Website: http://triplecrisis.com/

Full Disclosure: The Aid Transparency Blog: A Devex blog, written by members of the international community.

Website: www.devex.com/en/blogs/full-disclosure

Africa Portal: An online knowledge resource offering researchers and opinion leaders a forum to share their insights on Africa and publish their work on pressing areas of concern to policymakers and the public. It aims to fill the gap in accessibility to research and information on policy issues on the continent.

Website: africaportal.org

African Economic Outlook: A unique online tool that puts rigorous economic data, information and research on Africa at your fingertips. A few clicks gives access to comprehensive analyses of African economies, placed in their social and political contexts. This is the only place where African countries are examined through a common analytical framework, allowing you to compare economic prospects at the regional, sub-regional and country levels.

Website: africaneconomicoutlook.org/en

Africa Renewal: The *Africa Renewal* information programme, produced by the Africa Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information, provides up-to-date information and analysis of the major economic and development challenges facing Africa today.

Website: www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/

Timbuktu Chronicles: *A blog by Emeka Okafor* : "a view of Africa and Africans with a focus on entrepreneurship, innovation, technology, practical remedies and other self-sustaining activities."

Website: http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.com/

AfriGadget: AfriGadget is a must-read for African invention junkies. They are always on the look out for ingenious innovation that is new or a repurposing of existing technology in a new way, interesting in the sense that the story captures the imagination of others, inspiring others to see solutions in uncommon ways, practical ideas that solve problems in a demonstrable way, and entrepreneurs who are inventing new products or solutions.

Website: www.afrigadget.com

Interesting Blogger

Emeka Okafor, Timbuktu Chronicles: Emeka Okafor is an entrepreneur and venture catalyst who lives in New York City. He is the curator of Maker Faire Africa. He was the director for TED Global 2007 that took place in Arusha, Tanzania. In addition he is a member of the TED fellowship team. His interests include sustainable technologies in the developing world and paradigm-breaking technologies in general. His blog, Timbuktu Chronicles, seeks to spur dialogue in areas of entrepreneurship, technology and the scientific method as it impacts Africa.

Website: http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.co.uk/

Notable Website

African Brains: The Home of Intelligent Networking: African Brains - for forward thinking, intelligent Africans to network and propose new ideas and technologies to the world.

Website: www.africanbrains.net

Arab Brains: The Home of Intelligent Networking: Arab Brains has been established to connect innovative Arabs across the Arab World and beyond.

Website: http://arabbrains.com/

Social Media

Africa Entrepreneurship Platform: This ground breaking initiative is created as a forum to showcase innovative ideas and businesses from Africa that have the ability to scale internationally, driving job creation and sustainable economic development between Africa and the Americas.

Website: www.sacca.biz

AfriGadget on Facebook: 'Solving everyday problems with African ingenuity':

Website: www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2402629579

Start-up Funding

Hubs!: They are sprouting up all over the place and now there is a map showing where they are in Africa.

Website: https://africahubs.crowdmap.com/#

And there are 18 in Latin America too.

Website: http://thenextweb.com/la/2012/08/11/18-latin-american-tech-hubs-know/

The SEED Initiative

Hosted by the UN Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the SEED Initiative is a global partnership for action on the Green Economy. The annual SEED Awards help to develop the most promising social and environmental start-ups in emerging economies and developing countries.

Website: http://unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=2647&ArticleID=8798&l=en

The Pioneers of Prosperity Grant and Award

This competition is a partnership between the OTF Group and the John F. Templeton Foundation of the United States, and promotes companies in East Africa by identifying local role models that act as examples of sustainable businesses in their country/region. It is open to businesses from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda.

Five pioneers will receive US $50,000 to re-invest in their business. It is open to for-profit businesses that provide high wages to their workers and that operate in sustainable ways.

Website: http://pioneersofprosperity.org/index.php

Oxford Said Business School Youth Business Development Competition

Open to youth between 16 and 21 across the world, the competition is run by students at Oxford University to promote social enterprise. A prize fund of £2,000 in seed capital is up for grabs. It calls itself the 'world's first global youth development competition'.

Website: www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/oba/se/ybd

Challenge

InnoCentive

 (www.innocentive.com/) is a challenge to the world's inventors to find solutions to real scientific and technological problems affecting the poor and vulnerable. It is an open marketplace where anybody with a problem can post it, and rewards for effective solutions stretch up to US $100,000. They use rigorous intellectual property protection so ideas are not stolen without credit being given to the inventor.

Website: www.rockfound.org/about_us/news/2007/0720first_seeker.shtml

Video

Forum for the Future

 Compelling animated videos exploring the hard choices of an urbanizing world and the need to promote sustainable development and environmental harmony.

Website: http://www.youtube.com/user/forumforthefuture96

UPCOMING EVENTS

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

2012

October

Digital UNDivided: Focus 100

New York, New York, USA (6 October 2012)

Connect with thought leaders, rockstar start-ups, and top brands who are using emerging technologies to engage black women.

Website: http://www.digitalundivided.com/

ITU Telecom World 2012

Dubai (14-18 October 2012)

ITU Telecom World 2012 is the leading platform for the global ICT community to connect, debate, network and share knowledge. Key stakeholders from across the entire industry ecosystem will come together in Dubai from 14 -18 October to harness the power of ICTs to create real change.

Website: http://world2012.itu.int/

4th OECD World Forum on "Statistics, Knowledge and Policies" - Measuring Well-being and Fostering the Progress of Societies

New Delhi, India (16-19 October 2012)

The goal of the 4th OECD World Forum on "Statistics, Knowledge and Policies" is to assess progress in implementing the Istanbul Declaration (2007), to share results and lessons learned from work undertaken by OECD and other organizations, and to give impetus to concrete measurement programmes based on existing national and regional statistical capacities, mechanisms and tools.

Website: http://www.oecd.org/document/47/0,3746,en_2649_33715_49312751_1_1_1_1,00.html

Innovation Africa Summit

Cape Town, South Africa (5-7 October 2012)

The conference will feature keynote addresses from both government and private sector leaders, focusing on the transformation of African economies the realisation of advances in technology for the benefit of education and research in Africa. Conference attendees will have the opportunity to debate key issues such as developing e-skills and the knowledge economy, investment in African digital content, e-learning, improving connectivity and advancing multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Website: http://africanbrains.net/ia/

Integrated Soil Fertility Management in Africa: From Microbes to Markets

Nairobi, Kenya (22-26 October 2012)

This conference assembles the strengths of several organizations and collaborative research projects committed to designing, refining and delivering potent solutions to food insecurity and agricultural resource degradation in sub-Saharan Africa.

Website: http://www.isfmafrica2012.org/index.html

Second Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development

Punta del Este, Uruguay (29 October – 1 November 2012)

The GCARD II will focus on the ways to implement the tasks identified in the GCARD RoadMap with special attention to "Foresight and partnership for innovation and impact on small-holder livelihoods".

Website: http://www.egfar.org/gcard-2012

2012 African Economic Conference

Kigali, Rwanda (30 October – 2 November 2012)

The main objective of the African Economic Conference is to provide a platform for experts on Africa, both within and outside the continent, to reflect and dialogue on new directions for growth policy on the continent in order to determine the best approaches to attain the Millennium Development Goals, achieve the objectives of NEPAD and accelerate Africa's sustainable development.

Website: http://www.africaneconomicconference.org/2012/index.htm

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

Implementing Rio+20 for Drylands and Desertification

Sede Boqer Campus, Israel (12-15 November 2012)

The International Conference on Drylands, Deserts and Desertification (DDD) has emerged as an important global gathering of scientists, field workers, industry, government, CSOs, international development aid agencies and other stakeholders from over 60 countries concerned about land degradation in the drylands, and their sustainable use and development land degradation and development.

Website: http://in.bgu.ac.il/en/desertification/Pages/default.aspx

2012 COMESA Summit

Kampala, Uganda (16 November 2012)

Website: http://www.comesa.int/

Global South-South Development Expo 2012

Vienna, Austria (19-23 November 2012)

Theme: Energy and Climate Change: Inclusive Partnerships for Development

2012 is the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All, and developing countries also strive for inclusive partnerships for sustainable development in the field of Energy and Climate Change. Furthermore, the theme, which also pays tribute to UNIDO's strength in delivering environment and energy-related solutions, fully resonates with the main topics that were discussed throughout the year, including in Rio. The GSSD Expo will showcase successful initiatives from developing countries that address development challenges related to Energy and Climate Change issues.

Website: www.southsouthexpo.org

December

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

2013

April

Source Africa – The African Textile, Apparel and Footwear Trade Event

Cape Town, South Africa (9-12 April 2013)

Source Africa shows off the quality, creativity, reliability, and sophistication of apparel manufacturing in Africa targeting a global audience of buyers, business leaders and service providers. SOURCE Africa will bring together business leaders and decision makers from across Africa, providing opportunities for international buyers to network with African manufacturers. By bringing Africa to the world of Sourcing, SOURCE Africa provides unparalleled resources and opportunities to buyers ... all under one roof.

Website: http://www.sourceafrica.co.za/

7th ECOWAS Trade Fair

Accra, Ghana (24 October to 4 November 2013)

The regional fair, which is now a biennial event, was instituted to boost intra-community trade which presently hovers between 11 and 15 percent, and thereby contributing to the improved implementation of the ECOWAS Trade Liberalisation Scheme (ETLS). It will also contribute to empowering local producers and stimulating the regional economy.

Website: http://www.ecowas.int/

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

AWARDS AND FUNDING

The EU Contest for Young Scientists
The European Union (EU) Contest for Young Scientists, an initiative of the European Commission, was set up to promote the ideals of co-operation and interchange between young scientists.
Website: http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/index_en.cfm?pg=history

2013 Innovation Prize for Africa
The second round of the Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA), which aims to reward innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest, has been launched. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) expect the prize to promote among young African men and women in the pursuit of science, technology and engineering careers and business applications. The aims are to:
-   Mobilize leaders from all sectors to fuel African innovation;
-   Promote innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest through the competition;
-   Promote science, technology and engineering as rewarding, exciting and noble career options among the youth in Africa by profiling success applicants; and
-   Encourage entrepreneurs, innovators, funding bodies and business development service providers to exchange ideas and explore innovative business opportunities.
Website: innovationPrizeForArica.org

World Summit Youth Award
The international contest for young people using the Internet and mobiles to take action on the UN Millennium Development Goals.
Website: www.youthaward.org

Grand Challenges Canada: Request for Proposals
Grand Challenges Canada is pleased to announce a new initiative in its Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health grand challenge. It's called Saving Brains. Its goal is to unlock potential in children and dramatically transform lives in the developing world. The money to fund this program comes from the Development Innovation Fund. In Budget 2008, the Government of Canada committed $225 million CAD over five years to the Development Innovation Fund, to support the best minds in the world in a collaborative search for solutions to global health challenges. For the Request for Proposals:
Website: http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request_for_Proposals-Saving_Brains_EN.pdf

Zayad Future Energy Prize
The world is in desperate need of innovative solutions to create a new, sustainable energy future. No one knows who or where the next great energy solution will come from. Solutions and technologies that could change the world are being developed globally, and the $2.2 million Zayed Future Energy Prize, managed by Masdar in Abu Dhabi, recognizes and rewards innovation, leadership, and long-term vision in renewable energy and sustainability.
Website: www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com/

Philips Liveable Cities Award
Philips is looking for individuals and community or non-government organizations and businesses with ideas for "simple solutions" that will improve people's health and well-being in a city to enter the Philips Liveable Cities Award. To help translate these ideas into reality, three Award grants totalling €125,000 are on the line. One overall winning idea from any of the three categories outlined below will receive a grant of €75,000, while the two additional ideas will receive grants of €25,000.
Website: http://www.because.philips.com/livable-cities-award/about-the-award

Piramal Foundation in India
Has established a US $25,000 prize for ideas that help advance full access to effective public health care in India. The Piramal Prize is a $25,000 Social Entrepreneurship Competition focused on democratizing health care in India that seeks to encourage and support bold entrepreneurial ideas which can profoundly impact access to higher standards of health for India's rural and marginalized urban communities. The award recognizes high-impact, scalable business models and innovative solutions that directly or indirectly address India's health-care crisis.
Website: www.piramalprize.org

Special Award for South-South Transfer
The aim of the award is to identify, provide visibility, and honour those who have successfully shared their projects and approaches internationally, thereby increasing the impact of the initiative. The winning practice receives US $15,000 to further transfer the awarded practice to other communities in developing countries.
Website: www.southsouthexpo.org

South-South Experience Exchange Facility
Supported by Mexico, China, India, Denmark, Spain, The Netherlands, and the U.K. and now Colombia, the South-South Experience Exchange Facility is a multi-donor trust fund that promotes the idea that developing countries can learn from the successes of other developing countries in overcoming similar challenges. In the past 12 months, the trust has given out 35 grants to countries for learning activities ranging from working with at risk youth in the Caribbean to outsourcing IT services in Africa.
Website: www.southsouthcases.info

African Writers Fund
Together with the Ford Foundation, the Fund supports the work of independent creative writers living on the continent. The Fund recognizes the vital role that poets and novelists play in Africa by anticipating and reflecting the cultural, economic and political forces that continuously shape and reshape societies.
Website: http://www.trustafrica.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=90&lang=fr

Joint NAM S&T Centre - ICCS Fellowship Programme
Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) and International Center for Chemical Sciences (ICCS), (H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry and Dr. Panjwani Centre for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research), University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan
Click here for more information
or contact: namstct@vsnl.com, namstct@bol.net.in, apknam@gmail.com

PhD Plant Breeding Scholarships at the University of Ghana
The University of Ghana (www.ug.edu.gh) has been awarded a project support grant by the Alliance for a Green Revolution (www.agra-alliance.org) in Africa (a joint venture between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, for the establishment of a West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI). This is available to scientists working at NARIs, universities and international centres in West Africa. Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply for a fellowship under this programme.
Website: www.acci.org.za/Default.asp?nav=Home&idno=10

Genesis: India's Premier Social Entrepreneurship Competition
Is a social entrepreneurship competition aiming to bring together social entrepreneurs, students, NGOs, innovators, incubators, corporations and financiers and encourage them to come up with innovative ideas which are socially relevant and feasible.
Website: http://genesis.iitm.ac.in/

TRAINING AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Weitzenegger's International Development Job Market
Website: www.weitzenegger.de/new/jobmarket.php

Global Knowledge Initiative
The Global Knowledge Initiative seeks to build global knowledge partnerships between individuals and institutions of higher education and research. It seeks to help partners access the global knowledge, technology, and human resources needed to sustain growth and achieve prosperity for all."
Website: www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org/

ExportHelp - Promoting and supporting access to the European market
The European Commission runs a database for the explicit support of market players in developing countries who want to bring their products to the EU market. The database gives an overview on the EU´s preferential trade regimes established for developing countries as well as lists all tariffs, taxes and other requirements for goods imported into the EU.
Website: http://exporthelp.europa.eu

Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website
Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects.
Website: www.devex.org

Website Offers Career Advice to Young Africans
Set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat, Africancareerguidance.com is aimed at providing career guidance to African youth and helping them to link with prospective employers. AfricaRecruit is a human resources organization that provides skills training for African professionals in the Diaspora and on the continent. The website has an inbuilt email subscriber list for all its users and offers a searchable database of career profiles for job seekers and prospective employers. It also offers skills and interest assessments and advice on CV and résumé preparation. It provides tips about interviewing techniques, as well as information on internship and volunteer opportunities, and entrepreneurial skills.
Website: www.africacareerguidance.com

African Diaspora Skills Database
This database was compiled to provide an overview of qualified African Diaspora professionals with varied areas of expertise and experience. The African Diaspora contributes substantially to the social, economic and political development of Africa, and this database is set up to further mobilize this considerable potential.
Website: www.diaspora-centre.org/NEWSLETTER/Database

Aid Workers Network (AWN)
Aid Workers Network (AWN) is an online platform for aid, relief and development workers to ask and answer questions of each other, and to exchange resources and information. AWN is registered in the United Kingdom as a charity. You will find discussions about a range of questions and issues on the AWN forum from aid, relief and development workers all over the world and representing a variety of fields, with new threads or responses posted daily. The forum is a great way to get in contact with
other aid and development workers in your geographic area or working in a similar area of work.
Website: www.aidworkers.net

Bizzlounge
Bizzlounge is where people committed to ethical behaviour meet, who want to establish and maintain business contacts in an exclusive and relaxed environment.
Website: http://bizzlounge.com

Business Action for Africa
Business Action for Africa is a network of businesses and business organizations working collectively to accelerate growth and poverty reduction in Africa.
Website: http://businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com

Business Fights Poverty
Business Fights Poverty is a professional network for all those passionate about fighting world poverty through the power of good business.
Website: http://businessfightspoverty.ning.com

Business in Development Network (BiD)
The BiD Network Foundation runs the BiD Challenge to contribute to sustainable economic development by stimulating entrepreneurship in developing countries.
Website: www.bidnetwork.org

Zunia
By Development Exchange, it offers news, publications and networking opportunities with the world's development community.
Website: www.zunia.org

Catalogue of Poverty Networks
UNDP is organizing an online catalogue of Poverty Networks as a means to facilitate access to knowledge and sharing this to a wider audience in 189 countries. Poverty Networks are web-based platforms that provide space for sharing and disseminating development-related information and initiatives. Below you will find information on IPC's collaborating networks, which help foster dialogue between researchers, policymakers, civil society and multilateral organizations.
Website: www.undp-povertycentre.org/povnet.do

Connections for Development (CfD)
CfD is a UK, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) led, membership based organization committed to ensuring that UK BME communities, and the organizations they are involved in, are supported in the process of shaping and delivering policy and projects that affect their countries of origin or interest – collectively ''our world''.
Website: www.cfdnetwork.co.uk

Development Crossing
Development Crossing was set up in 2006 by a small group of friends with diverse backgrounds ranging from business consulting to international development. In a world where the environment, corporate responsibility, and sustainable development are becoming increasingly intertwined, our goal was to create a site where individuals that shared our passion could keep up-to-date with relevant happenings in the world and connect with like-minded individuals. The idea behind Development Crossing is to provide a social network that brings together people from a variety of sectors, countries and professions to discuss corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.

Website: www.developmentcrossing.com

DevelopmentAid.org
The one-stop-information-shop for the developmental sector, DevelopmentAid.org is a membership organization that brings together information for developmental professionals, NGOs, consultancy firms and donors.
Website: www.developmentaid.org

Zunia.org
Zunia.org, a free online service by the Development Gateway Foundation is devoted to knowledge-sharing and collaboration for people working to reduce poverty in the developing world.
Website: http://topics.developmentgateway.org

Diaspora African Forum
This Forum exists ''to invite and encourage the full participation of Africans in the Diaspora in the building of the African Union, in its capacity as an important part of the Continent''. We will provide the vital linkage for Diaspora Africans to become involved in Africa's development as well as reap the fruits of African unity.
Website: www.diasporaafricanforum.org

Business Planet: a new data map on Entrepreneurship
Business Planet, an interactive Google map, now includes data on new business creation around the world. Measures of entrepreneurial activity are based on the number of total and newly registered corporations. Click on colour markers to learn more about each country.
Website: http://rru.worldbank.org/businessplanet/default.aspx?pid=8