

# Imfundo: Partnership for IT in Education

DFID, 1 Palace Street, London, SW1E 5HE

[www.imfundo.org](http://www.imfundo.org)

## Newsletter 32 - December 2003

The start of December brings with it a reminder that Christmas is once more almost upon us. The Imfundo team would like to take this opportunity of sending seasonal greetings to all readers of this Newsletter across the world, and to wish you a peaceful New Year.

And for those who don't live in South London, and will therefore have missed the pre-Christmas run of gigs at The Albany in Deptford, we are all delighted to congratulate Imfundo's latest team member, Femi Iloyi, on his recent session there as one of Royal Priesthood's dynamic trio. Their blend of jazz, hip-hop and soul music has already seen them reach the semi-finals of MOBO Unsung as well as earning them a nomination for Best Gospel hip-hop group at the hip-hop Awards in 2002.

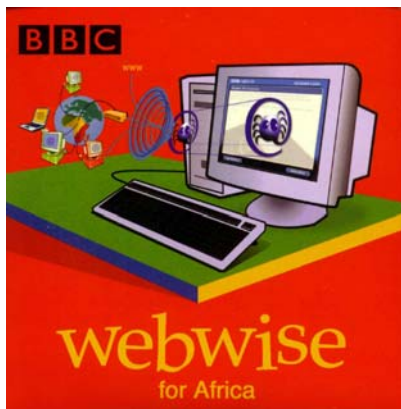


*Tim Unwin*

4<sup>th</sup> December 2003

### Webwise for Africa - available free

We are delighted to announce the launch of Imfundo's latest freely available software package, designed to provide interactive, hands



on and easy to use information for people in Africa about how to use a computer to gain access to the Internet. Working in partnership with the BBC,

Imfundo commissioned the production of this CD-ROM as one of its KnowledgeBank activities.

*Webwise for Africa* includes a step-by-step interactive introduction to the use of computers, covering everything from what a mouse is and how to use it, to the various components of a computer, and health and safety issues. The main menu has four options:

- *Introduction*, providing a short guide to the Internet, its history and uses
- *Taster session*, providing interactive sessions that help users to get to grips with the World Wide Web, e-mail and searching
- *Getting online*, which gives information on connecting to the Internet and online communities, and
- *Going live*, enabling users to go online to explore a number of selected sites.

There is also a helpful section on jargon, which provides simple definitions of commonly used terms, such as spam and hardcopy, to HTP and WAN. *Webwise for Africa* is freely available from the Imfundo team for use in Africa. Please contact Sue Ramsay ([s-ramsay@dfid.gov.uk](mailto:s-ramsay@dfid.gov.uk)) should you wish to receive copies, or ask a member of the Imfundo team to give you a copy when next you meet them!

### Ghana update

Liz Harmer, Imfundo's Senior Programme Officer, was in Ghana from 16<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> November to move forward Imfundo's package of support to the Ghana Education Service in its development of a national ICT enhanced strategy for teacher education. Whilst this focused primarily on meetings with partners and colleagues in DFID Ghana and the Teacher Education Division of the Ghana Education Service, it also provided an opportunity to discuss the implementation of the short-term vision to enhance the latter's information and communication structures through the appropriate deployment of ICTs.



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## Improved feedback form on the Imfundo web-site [www.imfundo.org](http://www.imfundo.org)

Jimin Patel has been taking forward a number of improvements to the Imfundo web-site. We hope you like the enhancements that are gradually being introduced. Check out [www.imfundo.org](http://www.imfundo.org) for the latest developments! In particular, Jimin has improved the feedback form on the web-site, and users can also now access this from our front page. Please provide us with relevant feedback at <http://imfundo.digitalbrain.com/imfundo/web/feedback/form/feedback1.htm>.

## NCAL and OECD Roundtable on ICT in non-formal and adult education

Tim Unwin participated in the above Roundtable held at the University of Pennsylvania from 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> November, at the invitation of Imfundo's ResourceBank partner, the International Literacy Institute. This provided a forum for sharing international experience in the use of ICT for out-of-school youth and adults. The key papers presented are available at [www.literacy.org/ICTconf](http://www.literacy.org/ICTconf).

## UNDP/UNESCO FOSS consultation

Bas Kotterink, Imfundo's ICT Adviser, participated on behalf of Imfundo in UNDP/UNESCO's Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) Consultation on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November in Paris. This was an opportunity to consult with specialists and FOSS community members in the South to identify needs and inform policy development.

## Contribution to HP's conference on Digital Community Centers

Tim Unwin gave a keynote address on *Sustainable futures? ICT for Education in Africa* at HP's conference on Digital Community Centers at Université Paris XIII, 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> November.

## Imfundo activities in December

Please take the opportunity to meet members of the Imfundo team during their visits in December to South Africa, Kenya and Geneva:

- South Africa: Bas Kotterink will be in South Africa from 10<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> December to participate in the Khanyisa Programme Steering Committee meetings, and discuss ways of enhancing Imfundo's contribution with partners and DFID colleagues in South Africa.
- Kenya: Caroline Pontefract, will be in Kenya from 7<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> December to continue Imfundo's support for the design and development of the capacity building dimension of the World Bank supported Free Primary Education Support Programme. Andrew Law from the BBC will accompany her to lead on a workshop for Ministry officials.
- WSIS, Geneva 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> December: Tim Unwin will be contributing to UNESCO and ICT4D's roundtable on *Language, literacies and new technologies* to be held during the World Summit on the Information Society.

## Imfundo database on ICT for education initiatives in Africa

Do you want to find out about ICT for education initiatives focusing specifically on the Arts in Africa? Or perhaps you are interested in Special Needs ICT initiatives in South Africa? Check out Imfundo's revised database of ICT for education initiatives, now with some 342 activities listed (see <http://imfundo.digitalbrain.com/imfundo/frontpage/linkresources/?verb=view>).

## Partner requests and information

- The British Council has recently advertised the post of Adviser in ICT and Distance Education for the Universal Basic Education Project in Nigeria, funded by DFID and the World Bank. For more detail see [www.britishcouncil.org/work/jobs.htm](http://www.britishcouncil.org/work/jobs.htm).

