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**DOT-COM Holds First Annual TAG Meeting, October 22, 2002**

The DOT-COM Alliance held its first annual Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting on October 22nd, 2002, at the Academy for Educational Development's (AED) conference center. The purpose of the meeting was for the DOT-COM Alliance to receive programmatic and technical guidance from industry and field experts.

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/tag.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/tag.htm)**



Haitian kids leaving school

**Haiti Distance Education Inside and Beyond the Classroom: dot-EDU**

Continuing the progress of previous USAID programs, dot-EDU is working closely with the Haitian Foundation for Private Education (FONHEP) to strengthening and expanding Interactive Radio Instruction (IRI) in Haiti. The intervention, which has proven successful in basic primary education, will be examined to see how it can be used to address other audiences and subject matters fit for radio.

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/haiti.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/haiti.htm)**

**Building Capacity in Afghanistan's Ministry of Communications: dot-GOV**

Through pilot project funds from the core dot-GOV grant, Internews is providing support to the Ministry of Communications, Afghanistan through external training of staff tasked with telecommunications (in collaboration with the USAID/State Department Telecom Leadership Program and USTTI), and advising the Minister of Communications on telecom policy.



- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/afghanistan.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/afghanistan.htm)**

**dot-ORG & Intel Collaborate for Sustainable Computer Clubhouses: dot-ORG**



Clubhouse Girls Day, Mckay School  
Photo by Ingeborg Endler

The dot-ORG project is investing some of its pilot project funds to collaborate with [Intel Computer Clubhouses](#) in Brazil and South Africa to design and test strategies and business plans that may enable these Clubhouse and other types of public access centers become sustainable enterprises. To facilitate this collaborative pilot project, Intel and the Academy for Educational Development (AED) signed a memorandum of understanding in October 2002. - **Full Story at [<http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/>](http://www.dot-com-</a></b></p>
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[alliance.org/intel.htm](http://alliance.org/intel.htm)

### **Building of Bilingual Virtual Learning Community Underway in Quiché Region, Guatemala: dot-EDU**

Proyecto Enlace Quiché uses ICTs to strengthen the training of intercultural, bilingual educators. New plans include the opening of seven additional technology centers, training of new technology center staff, and the creation of a web portal which will serve as a virtual bilingual learning community for Mayan language teachers, community members, and partners affiliated with the project. - **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/guatemala2.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/guatemala2.htm)**

### **NetTel@Africa - Network for Capacity Building and Knowledge Exchange in the Telecommunications Sector: dot-GOV**

NetTel@Africa will improve provision of ICTs and services by establishing an African-led network for capacity building and knowledge exchange in the African telecommunications sector. The project has four primary activities: training, a knowledge exchange network, research, and a community to community component.

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/nettel2.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/nettel2.htm)**

### **IT Training for Disadvantaged Brazilian Youth: dot-ORG**

In partnership with USAID/Brazil, dot-ORG has stated a new 18-month project to develop and carryout an innovative IT training and employability program for disadvantaged Brazilian youth in Recife, Brazil. To implement this challenging project, dot-ORG is partnering with four Brazilian NGOs via sub-agreements. Also, with help from USAID/Brazil and EGAT/EIT/IT, the project team, comprised of staff from dot-ORG and the four collaborating NGOs, is establishing public-private partnerships with local, national and multinational companies to help with this initiative. - **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/brazil.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/brazil.htm)**

### **Building Romanian Regulatory Capacity: dot-GOV**

Internews' Romania Information Technology Initiative - Policy project has completed two initial capacity-building workshops and one US study tour for Romania's newly created National Regulatory Authority for Communications (ANRC).

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/romania2.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/romania2.htm)**

### **Academic Computing at the University of Bamako, Mali: dot-EDU**

The Educational Exchange with the University of Bamako Project, will enhance the university's capacity to administer its IT network, and to help faculty and students use this network for academic purposes. Nineteen Internet-connected computer labs for teachers and students will open in November at the University of Bamako. - **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/mali.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/mali.htm)**



### **Legal and Regulatory Reform in Rwanda's Telecommunications and Information Technology Sector: dot-GOV**

Rwandan Telecommunications and Information Technology Sector Project has made great progress since the last consultancy ended in July 2002, which outlined the organization and job descriptions of the new regulatory agency. The Rwandan Government (GOR) has named a Managing Director, Mr. François Mutembere, who was formerly the Governor of the Rwandan National Bank. - **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/rwanda3.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/rwanda3.htm)**

## **Promoting Innovation at Community Internet Centers: dot-ORG**

The Community Internet Centers Project, known as CIC, will pilot new and innovative uses of ICTs via community internet centers and other public Internet access points worldwide. CIC will also provide rapid technical assistance to USAID Missions by project and resource partner staff. - **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/cic.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/cic.htm)**

Core funding for the DOT-COM Alliance is provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture & Trade, Office of Energy and Information Technology (EGAT/EIT/IT) and Office of Women in Development (EGAT/WID), under the terms of Award numbers: GDG-A-00-01-00009-00, dot-GOV (led by Internews Network); GDG-A-00-01-00014-00, dot-ORG (led by the Academy for Educational Development); GDG-A-00-01-00011-00, dot-EDU (led by the Educational Development Center).

The opinions expressed herein are those of the DOT-COM Alliance and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Agency for International Development. For more information, contact: **Siobhan Green, Information & Dissemination Coordinator, DOT-COM Alliance at Email: [sgreen@aed.org](mailto:sgreen@aed.org) Tel: +1 202 884-8948.**

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## DOT-COM Holds First Annual TAG meeting, October 22nd

The DOT-COM Alliance held its first annual Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting on October 22nd, 2002, at the Academy for Educational Development's (AED) conference center. The purpose of the meeting was for the DOT-COM Alliance to receive programmatic and technical guidance from industry and field experts.



Tag member, Peter Cowhey, sitting with other TAG members, answers a question from the audience.

### TAG members

Eight of the thirteen TAG members (listed below) were able to attend this year's meeting.

#### dot-GOV

[Dr. Vint Cerf](#) \*\*  
[Dr. Peter Cowhey](#)  
[William Kennard](#) \*\*  
[Elliot E. Maxwell](#)  
[Dr. Michael Nelson](#)

#### dot-ORG

[Steve Cisler](#)  
[Clotilde Fonseca](#)  
[Dr. Nancy Hafkin](#)  
[Dr. Don Richardson](#) \*\*

#### dot-EDU

[Dr. Pedro Hepp](#) \*\*  
[Dr. Ernesto Laval](#)  
[Dr. John Mayo](#)  
[Dr. Linda Roberts](#) \*\*

\*\* Unable to attend 2002 TAG Meeting

To see TAG member's biographies, - [visit www.dot-com-alliance.org/bios.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/bios.htm).

### Overview of Day



George Sadowsky and Sarah Tisch present the dot-GOV program activities at the TAG meeting.

The morning sessions were opened by Emmy Simmons, Assistant Administrator of USAID, Economic Growth, Agriculture, and Trade (EGAT) and Anthony Meyer, Director of Information Technology, USAID/EGAT, Office of Energy and Information Technology (EIT), after a welcome speech by Steve Moseley, CEO of AED. Before lunch, the TAG members and other participants were given presentations by the three Cooperative Agreements (dot-GOV, dot-ORG, and dot-EDU) on their strategies and activities.

The afternoon was devoted to smaller group discussions between the TAG and the DOT-COM alliance. In the first session, each TAG member gave a brief statement on what they believed was down the road for ICT for Development, followed by a discussion on the many issues raised. Final

breakout groups discussed "dot" specific issues with their TAG experts and the DOT-COM Alliance staff.

### Results

A summary of the TAG meeting is currently under development, as is a compilation of the TAG member statements.

**For more information, please contact**

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## Building Capacity in Afghanistan's Ministry of Communications: dot-GOV

Through pilot project funds from the core dot-GOV grant, Internews is providing support to the Ministry of Communications, Afghanistan in two areas:



- Support for external training of staff tasked with telecommunications (in collaboration with the USAID/State Department Telecom Leadership Program and USTTI), and
- Advising the Minister of Communications on telecom policy.

### Telecommunications Policy Workshop

In April 2002, two Afghans from the Ministry attended a regional workshop on Telecommunications Policy, held in Rabat, Morocco, with the assistance of Internews. Dr. George Sadowsky, Senior Technical Advisor, dot-GOV worked with the Afghans to develop follow-on activities after the workshop. A request for a longer-term advisor from the Minister of Communications was received soon after the workshop. Mr. Dale Hatfield, [University of Colorado at Boulder](#), helped identify candidates for potential advisors.

### Telecom Technical Assistance

Working closely with USAID/Kabul and Minister of Communications Stanekzai, dot-GOV sent an Afghan-American advisor, Mr. Bary Azmi, to Kabul in October and November 2002. Experienced in spectrum management and knowledgeable in new telecom technologies and policy issues, Mr. Azmi provided technical assistance to the Minister on longer-term needs such as a draft Internet policy and on numerous proposals for ISP licenses, wireless, wire line, and microwave operations. Mr. Azmi also has helped the Ministry reevaluate a microwave link project, examined rehabilitation of a former ICT training Institute, and helped the Directors of the Ministry prioritize their needs.

### DC-based Training and Study Tour in Spectrum Management

During the second week of November, Mr. Azmi is accompanying four Ministry staff to Washington DC area, where they will take a special FCC course in Spectrum Management. They will also participate in a study tour organized by the [U.S. Telecommunications Training Institute](#) and funded under the USAID/State Department Telecom Leadership Program.

Internews expects to field a second advisor shortly to follow on Mr. Azmi's work and the needs expressed by the Minister. Mr. Azmi will continue to stay involved with this pilot project.

Internews is currently reviewing other proposals from its partners regarding various aspects of telecommunications reform. Internews was awarded the dot-GOV Leader Award No. GDG-A-00-01-00009-00 on 21 September, 2001.

## For more information

### CONTACT

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### RELATED LINKS

- University of Colorado at Boulder <http://www.colorado.edu>
- U.S. Telecommunications Training Institute <http://www.ustti.org>

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## NetTel@Africa - Network for Capacity Building and Knowledge Exchange in the Telecommunications Sector: dot-GOV



[NetTel@Africa](#) is establishing an African-led network for capacity building and knowledge exchange in the African telecommunications sector. The project has four primary activities: [training](#), a [knowledge exchange network](#), a [community to community](#) component, and [research](#).

### Training

The project work plan was agreed upon and successfully refined during a September workshop held in Cape Town, South Africa. Implementing a key decision to migrate the NetTel@Africa website from the US to an African-based server is commencing with the University of West Cape and University of Dar es Salaam. The new site address is [nettelafrica.org](http://nettelafrica.org). Information can still be accessed from the old website: [cbdd.wsu.edu/networks/nettelhome.html](http://cbdd.wsu.edu/networks/nettelhome.html)

A core activity of NetTel@Africa is the development of ten learning modules for regulators that will be hosted on the website. These modules are developed through partnerships between seven African universities (Universities of Zambia, Botswana, Dar es Salaam, West Cape Town, South Africa, Fort Hare, and Witwatersrand) and three US universities (University of Colorado-Boulder, University of Florida-Gainesville, and Michigan State University).

Representatives from the University of Zambia and University of Botswana visited the University of Maryland and University of Colorado-Boulder on development of modules concerning Financial Analysis, ICT Industry and Markets, and ICT Applications. Preliminary research regarding a toolkit for quality assurance of the ten modules has been completed. Final development of this toolkit will be the responsibility of the University of Colorado-Boulder.

### Knowledge Exchange Network

A survey to the members of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) is being administered to see how many peer-to-peer relationships can be established with African regulatory bodies and associations of African regulators.

### Community-to-Community

Five Knowledge Exchange and Learning Partnerships (KELP) sub-agreements (University of Pretoria, University of the North, University of Zululand, and University of Fort Hare) are now being negotiated to implement this component. Each of the KELPs is a demonstration of ICT applications -- the reason why ICT policy and regulation is important.

### Research

Editorial work continues on the case studies concerning the impact of ICTs on higher education where use of ICTs in developing local capacities in pedagogy, research, publishing, healthcare, e-commerce and cyberlaw is demonstrated. These cases will be presented in the book "Africa.Dot.Edu" which will be published by McGraw Hill-India.



In November, Dr. Maria Beebe, Project Director, presented a white paper to the USAID/South Africa Mission and the South African Department of Education describing a policy framework for e-education in South Africa, which included discussions of telecommunication issues such as universal service funds and e-rate.

NetTel@Africa is funded by the Leland Initiative and USAID/RCSA, and implemented by the [Center to Bridge the Digital Divide \(CBDD\)](#), Washington State University.

Internews was awarded NetTel@Africa on June 1, 2002 for three years. The total value of the project is about \$3.5 million (Associate Cooperative Agreement No. GDG-A-00-02-00008-00 under the dot-GOV Leader Award No. GDG-A-00-02-00008-00).

### **For more information**

#### **CONTACT**

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#### **RELATED LINKS**

- NetTel@Africa <http://nettelafrica.org>
- Washington State University's Center to Bridge the Digital Divide (CBDD) <http://cbdd.wsu.edu>
- [NetTel@Africa: An African-led Telecommunication Regulator Associations Network](#) [from DOT-COMments Issue I: Fall 2002]

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## Legal and Regulatory Reform in Rwanda's Telecommunications and Information Technology Sector: dot-GOV

Work is progressing on the Rwandan Telecommunications and Information Technology Sector Project, supported by USAID/Rwanda and implemented by Internews.

### Managing Director Named for Rwandan Regulatory Agency

Great progress has been made since the last consultancy ended in July 2002, which outlined the organization and job descriptions of the new regulatory agency. The Rwandan Government (GOR) has named a Managing Director, Mr. François Mutembere, who was formerly the Governor of the Rwandan National Bank. Seven individuals (including two women) have also been named to the Board of Directors. This action by the GOR means the administrative and operational development of the regulator can continue.

### Agency Staff to Attend E-Government Conference

Additionally, three Rwandans who have been active with the development of the regulatory agency, (Mr. Albert Nsengiyumva, Mr. Rutaboba and Eugene Nyagahene) will be attending the US State Department conference on e-government to be held November 19-22 in Washington DC.

Paige Anderson, Project Manager, [Center for Democracy and Technology](#) is planning the second major technical assistance consultancy for approximately December 2002.

Internews was awarded the Rwanda Project on March 18, 2002 for a period of 6 months (Associate Cooperative Agreement No. 696-A-00-02-00108-00 under the dot-GOV Leader Award No. GDG-A-00-01-00009-00)

### For more information

#### CONTACT

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#### RELATED LINKS

- Center for Democracy and Technology (CDT) <http://www.cdt.org/international>
- [All Three dots in Rwanda](#) [from DOT-COMments Issue I: Fall 2002]
- [Supporting Rwandan National Voter Database: dot-ORG](#) [from DOT-COMments Issue II: Fall 2002]

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## Building Romanian Regulatory Capacity: dot-GOV

Internews' implementation of the Romania Information Technology Initiative - Policy component continues apace, having completed two initial capacity-building workshops and one US study tour for Romania's newly created National Regulatory Authority for Communications (ANRC).

### Regulatory Principles Workshop

The first workshop, held September 2002 in Bucharest, addressed the characteristics of a modern regulator and its working methods, key regulatory challenges and priorities, and pending tasks for each division of ANRC. Trainers included EU regulators and EU industry representatives, and the US perspective was presented by the FCC.

The workshop results were:

- A strong team spirit was created. ANRC staff members now identify themselves with ANRC and regard ANRC as a dynamic organization, designed to create an open competitive market.
- ANRC staff understands the difference between the "letter" of the regulation and the "intent" of regulation.
- ANRC will give priority to issues of essential importance to new entrants and to customer interests.
- ANRC is sensitized to the challenges they will face as they operate as regulators.

### Washington, DC Study Tour of Regulator Operations

In October 2002, all five ANRC division directors and the ANRC President completed a study tour to Washington, DC to observe how a regulator actually operates. The ANRC spent a whole day at the FCC reviewing the various functions of the FCC, which was followed by visits to the Virginia State Corporation Commission, the National Telecommunications Information Agency, the State Department, Verizon, Cingular, and the Washington DC Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications.

These visits sparked extensive discussions on topics such as spectrum allocation, economic analysis, cost allocation, legal issues, personnel issues, public relations, and consumer awareness and protection, with considerable attention to the latter, a major challenge for ANRC staff.

In their evaluation of the study tour, the ANRC highlighted the following as most immediately useful to their work:

- The opportunity to hear the perspective of various sides of the U.S. telecom sector, from government, industry, and civil society organizations.
- How economic factors drive many of the positions taken by telecom stakeholders.
- The experience of spending time with people directly involved in a regulatory process and ask them questions.
- The emphasis on transparency, expressed during all the meetings, and the innovative ways to involve consumers in the regulatory process.
- The balance between public and private interests and the challenge of keeping both industry and consumers happy.

The participants emphasized how the visit helped them see "the forest for the trees," and the study tour had given them immediate benefits to their current and future work.

The RITI-Policy Project staff will work with the ANRC with follow-on activities from this study tour. The ANRC noted that the full participation in the tour by the RITI Chief-of-Party, Mr. Jerker Torngren, made it easier for them to focus on important information. The ANRC expressed appreciation to the individuals they met who agreed to stay in email contact after their return to Romania.

### **Romanian Private Sector ICT Industry Workshop**

A one-day workshop with representatives of the Romanian private sector ICT industry was held in Bucharest in September 2002. The purpose of the workshop was to help the Romanian ICT industry become more aware of the role of the ANRC and the industry benefits of supporting transparent licensing processes adopted by the ANRC. A consultative group was formed and is working on an informal basis with the ANRC.

The RITI-Policy Project began on May 21st, 2002 and will run three years (Associate Cooperative Agreement No. 186-A-00-02-00101-00 under the dot-GOV Leader Award No. GDG-A-00-01-00009-00).

### **For more information**

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#### **RELATED LINKS**

[Official launch of the Romania Information Technology Initiative](#) [from DOT-COMments Issue I: Fall 2002]

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## dot-ORG & Intel Collaborate for Sustainable Computer Clubhouses: dot-ORG

### Intel Corporation and dot-ORG initiate a collaborative Pilot Project



Clubhouse Girls Day, McKay School  
Photo by Ingeborg Endler

The dot-ORG project is investing some of its pilot project funds to collaborate with [Intel Computer Clubhouses](#) in Brazil and South Africa to design and test strategies and business plans that may enable these Clubhouse and other types of public access centers become sustainable enterprises. To facilitate this collaborative pilot project, Intel and the Academy for Educational Development (AED) signed a memorandum of understanding in October 2002.

### Creative Learning Environments for Underserved Youth

Intel Corporation has initiated an effort to establish three Computer Clubhouse in both Brasil and South Africa. Through partner NGOs in both countries, the Clubhouse will provide creative and safe after-school learning environment where young people from under-served communities work with adult mentors to explore their own ideas, develop skills, and build confidence through the use of technology.

At the Computer Clubhouse, youth develop projects based on their own interests, creating computer-generated art, music, and animations; designing their own science simulations; writing and illustrating interactive poetry and stories; building kinetic sculptures and robotic constructions; and designing their own web pages. In the process, youth become excited about learning and fluent with new technologies, developing skills and experiences that will help them succeed in their careers, contribute to their communities, and lead outstanding lives.

### Collaborating for Sustainability

Intel's and their partners' investments in these Clubhouses are spread out over four years during which the NGOs hosting these centers are expected to establish mechanisms to sustain Clubhouse activities and to expand the approach to learning to other educational programs. Achieving sustainability is a challenge for all public access computer and Internet faculties around the world, especially for those in underserved communities. Intel Corporation, dot-ORG and USAID are especially concerned about enabling sustainability of these facilities so that investments to promote digital inclusion continue beyond the support provided by donors.

In response to this need and concern, dot-ORG staff will work in partnerships with staff from the NGOs hosting Clubhouses in South Africa and Brazil to develop and test different strategies and business plans that will seek to enable the Clubhouses to continue and expand their operations after funding from Intel is completed. Once these strategies and business plans are developed, they will be shared via the DOT-COM web site with the development community so that the pilot can benefit from experiences of other initiatives and so that lessons from the pilot can contribute to a global effort to increase and sustain access by underserved people to information and communication technologies.

AED signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Intel Corporation on October

16th, 2002 to guide this collaborative project with Intel.

### **For more information**

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#### **RELATED LINKS**

Intel Computer Clubhouses <http://www.intel.com/education/icc/index.htm>

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## Promoting Innovation at Community Internet Centers: dot-ORG

The Community Internet Centers Project, known as CIC, will pilot new and innovative uses of ICTs via community Internet centers and other public Internet access points worldwide. CIC will also provide rapid technical assistance to USAID Missions by project and resource partner staff. At the end of the two year project, a report will be written which documents these new models and the lessons learned from CIC.



Benin Telecenter

### Growth of Public Internet Access

Public Internet access points, such as community Internet centers, can be powerful tools to stimulate local economic growth, deliver development interventions, and increase access to ICTs for underserved people. The last few years have seen an explosion in the establishment of such centers, created by private entrepreneurs and by public sector groups looking to use them to serve the community.

Many questions have been asked about how to use these centers to fulfill development objectives:

- What opportunities do these centers give us in delivering development interventions and how do they work?
- How can we help the community use these centers to serve their own needs?
- What about the underserved, such as the poor, minorities, and women?
- And how do these centers provide public service interventions, remain accessible to the underserved, and still be sustainable?

### Answering the Questions

The CIC project will address these central, challenging questions, by using a variety of models and combinations of interventions. Tailored to the location and community context, dot-ORG will help these centers adapt innovative applications and increase services to a wide group of users, which in turn, helps centers improve revenue streams and sustainability.

A combination of pilot initiatives and technical assistance missions (TAMs) will be used to develop project activities. Through these TAMs, experts from dot-ORG and its resource partners will provide strategic and technical advice on digital technologies and business strategies for newly created or already established CICs.

CIC will work in multiple countries in multiple regions and draw on the extensive experiences of dot-ORG and its resource partners. Approaches will also include partnering with international and local private, public, and NGO groups.

This exciting initiative will be overseen by a new Program Officer, who will coordinate partner participation and work with USAID missions to develop these innovative activities. At the end of the project, dot-ORG will produce a report of impact and lessons learned. This report will describe the new models for applying next generation ICTs at community Internet centers and other Internet access points.

AED was awarded the New Generation of Information Technologies at Community Internet Centers Project on September 30, 2002 for a period of two years (Award No.GDG-A-00-02-0016-00 under the dot-ORG Leader Award No.GDG-A-00-01-00014-00).

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Core funding for the DOT-COM Alliance is provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture & Trade, Office of Energy and Information Technology (EGAT/EIT/IT) and Office of Women in Development (EGAT/WID), under the terms of Award numbers: GDG-A-00-01-00009-00, dot-GOV (led by Internews Network); GDG-A-00-01-00014-00, dot-ORG (led by the Academy for Educational Development); GDG-A-00-01-00011-00, dot-EDU (led by the Educational Development Center).

For more information, contact: **Siobhan Green, Information & Dissemination Coordinator, DOT-COM Alliance at Email: [sgreen@aed.org](mailto:sgreen@aed.org) Tel: +1 202 884-8948.**

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## IT Training for Disadvantaged Brazilian Youth: dot-ORG

### Programa Para o Futuro



Brazilian youth learning for a better future

In partnership with USAID/Brazil, dot-ORG has stated a new 18-month project to develop and carryout an innovative IT training and employability program for disadvantaged Brazilian youth in Recife, Brazil. To implement this challenging project, dot-ORG is partnering with four Brazilian NGOs via sub-agreements. Also, with help from USAID/Brazil and EGAT/EIT/IT, the project team, comprised of staff from dot-ORG and the four collaborating NGOs, is establishing public-private partnerships with local, national and multinational companies to help with this initiative.

### Partnering for Development

Providing disadvantaged youth with the needed combination of marketable technical skills, positive attitudes and behaviors, experience in the modern workplace, strong basic education knowledge and creative problem solving abilities is extremely difficult and challenging.

To achieve these essential objectives in Brazil, dot-ORG is partnering with the following four very professional Brazilian NGOs:



[Casa de Passagem](#)



[CDI-Pernambuco](#)



[PortoDigital](#)



[LTNet-Brasil](#)

Each of these partners will play an integral role in planning and implement the project. The following illustrates a few of the many activities that each of the partners will be engaged in.

- [Casa de Passagem](#) will coordinate the employability and life skills education activities as well as ensuring that the program addresses the special needs of disadvantaged girls and young women.
- [CDI-Pernambuco](#) will take principal responsibility for creating the training facility which will include space for hands-on experience with computer software, hardware and networking, different aspects of IT instruction, supplemental Portuguese, math and English education, and to learn essential work-place and life skills.
- [PortoDigital](#) will provide free high-speed Internet access to the training facility and help develop and coordinate the e-mentoring activity that will connect participating youth to IT professionals in Recife and around Brazil via a mix of Internet communication tools and help organize the guided internships that will provide the youth with their first formal work experience.

- [LTNet-Brasil](#) will coordinate the development of the curriculum and the training-of-trainers activity for the integrated training program. A resident Brazilian Project Coordinator will facilitate the complexity of daily activities as well as working, in partnership with dot-ORG staff, to establish and expand private sectors partnerships for critical project inputs and internship and employment opportunities for the youth.

Partnering with the private sector is a key element of the design of this project. Discussions are underway with a rich set of Brazilian and US companies to see how each can contribute to the project. For example, the Bank of Brasil has agreed to provide the physical space for the training facility on the 10th floor of their modern building in the historical district of Recife.

### **Preparing Youth for the Modern Workplace**

The IT portion of the training program will focus on providing the youth with a broad spectrum of skills to enable them to succeed as entry-level technical support specialists in small, medium and large companies, NGOs, schools or government offices. The training will be on hands-on and experiential with a focus on strengthening problem solving skills and creating abilities for self-managed life-long learning.

To build team work skills, the youth will be organized into learning teams. The members of these teams will collaborate on project-base learning activities over the six to eight months of the formal training program.

About half way through their IT training program, youth will select a specialization in one of four areas, web sites and graphics, databases, local area networks and Linux. Two of the four hours that the youth are in the program each day will be spent engaged in a dynamic mix of supplemental education and employability learning activities that support their IT training activities and us the IT skills they are learning.

At the end of the formal training activity, youth will join local companies as interns for about three quarters of the work week. During the remaining quarter of the work week they will return to the training facility for ongoing learning and skill enhancement, to share their experiences with their internships among themselves, and take advantage of counseling services.

Toward the end of the program the youth will compete for jobs from a pool of opportunities offered to them from local companies. All aspects of the program will be integrated and designed to imitate aspects of the real-world work environment.

AED was awarded the Brazil Project which starts on November 1, 2002 for a period of two years (Award No. 512-A-00-02-00017-00 under the dot-ORG Leader Award No.GDG-A-00-01-00014-00.)

### **For more information**

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#### **RELATED LINKS**

- Casa de Passagem <http://www.casadepassagem.org.br/>
- CDI-Pernambuco <http://www.cdi-pe.org.br/>
- PortoDigital <http://www.portodigital.org/>
- LTNet-Brasil <http://www.ltnet.org>

Core funding for the DOT-COM Alliance is provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture & Trade, Office of Energy and Information Technology (EGAT/EIT/IT) and Office of Women in Development (EGAT/WID), under the terms of Award numbers: GDG-A-00-01-00009-00, dot-GOV (led by Internews Network); GDG-A-00-01-00014-00, dot-ORG (led by the Academy for Educational Development); GDG-A-00-01-00011-00, dot-EDU (led by the Educational Development Center).

## Building of Bilingual Virtual Learning Community Underway in Quiché Region, Guatemala: dot-EDU

Expansion plans are off to a great start for former LearnLink project, Enlace Quiché in Guatemala. Under its new cooperative agreement, [Proyecto Enlace Quiché](#) is using ICTs to strengthen the training of intercultural, bilingual educators. New plans include the opening of seven additional technology centers, training of new technology center staff, and the creation of a web portal which will serve as a virtual bilingual learning community for Mayan language teachers, community members, and partners affiliated with the project.



With Enlace Quiche materials in hand, Rigoberta Menchu is pictured with local Enlace staff.

### Activity Partners

Various partners include: The Academy of Mayan Languages, The Office of Bilingual Education in the Ministry of Education, World Learning's Bilingual Education Project, PAEBI, as well as many other local NGO's and learning institutions also working in the area of bilingual and intercultural education.

It is the goal of Enlace Quiché that these partnerships will strengthen throughout the duration of the project, and that the portal will not only become a repository of relevant bilingual educational materials, but serve as a vital communication link between teachers, community members and partners across the rural highland regions of Guatemala as well.

### Mayan Educational Congress

Recent events included attendance at the Mayan Educational Congress by some of the local Enlace staff. Staff members presented the primary aspects of the Enlace Project, and how ICTs can be used to strengthen bilingual, intercultural education. Also in attendance was 1992 Nobel Peace Prize Winner and fellow Mayan, Rigoberta Menchu. Upon seeing the materials created under the LearnLink agreement, she expressed the desire for possible future collaboration between Enlace and the Rigoberta Menchu Foundation.

### Partner Meeting

In addition, local Enlace staff organized a meeting in Guatemala City during the first week of October with potential partners and key stakeholders to define strategies for the construction and use of the portal. The meeting will follow up during the week of October 7-11 with a visit to the Enlace Project by consultant Daniel Light, a specialist from EDC in online community building. Mr Light will assist the local team in the actual creation of the bilingual portal. Plans for the inauguration and opening of the new technology centers are scheduled for January 2003.

EDC was awarded the G/EGAT/EIT Project on June 6, 2002 for 20 months (Award No. GDG-A-00-01-00011-00 under the dot-EDU Leader Award No: 520-A-00-02-00109-00).

## For more information

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### RELATED LINKS

- [Supporting Multilingual Education in Guatemala, dot-EDU](#) [from DOT-COMments Issue I: Fall 2002]
- Proyecto Enlace Quiché <http://www.enlacequiche.org.gt>

Core funding for the DOT-COM Alliance is provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture & Trade, Office of Energy and Information Technology (EGAT/EIT/IT) and Office of Women in Development (EGAT/WID), under the terms of Award numbers: GDG-A-00-01-00009-00, dot-GOV (led by Internews Network); GDG-A-00-01-00014-00, dot-ORG (led by the Academy for Educational Development); GDG-A-00-01-00011-00, dot-EDU (led by the Educational Development Center).

For more information, contact: **Siobhan Green, Information & Dissemination Coordinator, DOT-COM Alliance at Email: [sgreen@aed.org](mailto:sgreen@aed.org) Tel: +1 202 884-8948.**

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## Education over the Airways - New Directions for Interactive Radio Instruction in Haiti: dot-EDU

Continuing the progress of previous USAID programs, dot-EDU is working closely with the Haitian Foundation for Private Education (FONHEP) to strengthen and expand Interactive Radio Instruction (IRI) in Haiti. The intervention, which has proven successful in basic primary education, will be examined to see how it can be used to address other audiences and subject matters fit for radio.



### Expanding IRI in Haiti

The Haiti Distance Education Inside and Beyond the Classroom Project follows two USAID distance education initiatives in Haiti, designed to improve educational quality in a country where many teachers lack training and support. IRI allows teachers and students to follow solid programs via radio that use games, songs, dramas, and activities to assist teachers in the instruction of educational objectives from the curriculum.

The official language of instruction in Haiti is Creole and the lessons provide solid instruction in a language that many Haitian teachers have not mastered in its written form but are nonetheless expected to use as the language of instruction.

### Additional IRI Subjects

Potential additional subject matters for IRI include democracy building, health education, and environmental education. Additional audiences include adults, domestic servants, and underserved populations.

### Satellite Broadcasting System

The other area of focus will be the establishment of a satellite broadcasting system that would work in conjunction with community radio stations on the ground to improve communication potential in Haiti. dot-EDU will build on the solid work achieved thus far through the previous USAID initiatives and its local partners.

### IRI in Haiti: Background

Since the mid-1990's, USAID has supported distance education initiatives in Haiti designed to improve educational quality in a country where many teachers lack training and support. Under two previous USAID-funded initiatives (the LearnTech Project and Education 2004), Haiti has demonstrated its ability to produce high-quality interactive radio instruction programs in both math and reading.

Both the LearnTech Project and Education 2004 provided a means for training local Haitian educators, primarily working with the Haitian Foundation for Private Education (FONHEP), in the complicated art of scriptwriting for interactive radio. Over the years, the local capacity has developed to the extent that these Haitian educators are now being asked to provide their expertise to other USAID projects initiating an IRI intervention. The responsibility of providing the IRI programs is now in the hands of FONHEP. dot-EDU continues USAID's assistance in distance education in Haiti by providing support to FONHEP in its management of IRI programming for grades 2, 3, and 4.

EDC was awarded the Haiti Distance Education Inside and Beyond the Classroom Project on September 1, 2002 and will continue until September 15, 2004 (Award No. 521-A-00-02-00069-00 under the dot-EDU Leader Award No: GDG-A-00-01-00011-00).

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For more information, contact: **Siobhan Green, Information & Dissemination Coordinator, DOT-COM Alliance at Email: [sgreen@aed.org](mailto:sgreen@aed.org) Tel: +1 202 884-8948.**

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## Academic Computing at the University of Bamako, Mali: dot-EDU



Members of the University Steering Committee, Technical Committee, SOTELMA, USAID/MALI, EDC and MSI outside the Recorate.

The Educational Exchange with the University of Bamako Project will enhance the university's capacity to administer its IT network, and to help faculty and students use this network for academic purposes. Nineteen Internet-connected computer labs for teachers and students will open in November at the University of Bamako.

With support from USAID/MALI, this innovative one-year project includes the following activities:

- Training for the University of Bamako WAN administrators and LAN managers - security, network management, and help desk assistance.
- Training for teachers, students and training of trainers, covering all the basics of using the Internet; training in web page development and maintenance for selected University webmasters.
- Three pilot projects developed and implemented that will allow selected faculty members to integrate information technology in their academic curricula.
- Proactive Internet user groups established in each department of the University of Bamako to ensure sustainability and creativity in the use of information technology in an academic environment.
- A strategic plan for 2003-2005 to create a unit focused on technology use and evaluation. When created, the unit will assist the University in assuming full ownership of its system, coordinating, advising and planning its growth or modifications to better serve its purpose of contributing to the improvement of the education system in the University of Bamako.
- Plans for establishing a computerized Information Resource Center which would capture information resources on IT sponsored by the University and gather, organize and provide accessibility for research, lessons learned, results and best practices on the general process of introduction of IT utilization in the University of Bamako.



The dot-EDU team, made up of the [Education Development Center \(EDC\)](#), [USAID/MALI](#), [Howard University \(HU\)](#), [Management Systems International \(MSI\)](#), [Michigan State University \(MSU\)](#), [World Space Foundation \(WSF\)](#) and two Malian training partners (TBD), in collaboration with the University of Bamako will use the computer labs, in the spirit of information and knowledge sharing, to harness the potential of Internet use for academia.

The first visit to the USAID/MALI Mission and the University of Bamako was in September, by Rosemary Lombard, EDC and Zoey Breslar, MSI.

A needs assessment was conducted and some of the more urgent issues were addressed with the University Steering and Technical Committees. A project launch and a "journée de salle ouvert," (open house) is scheduled for early November. Representatives from all partners are planning to attend. A total of 240 Internet connected computers and 29 printers will be accessible to teachers, researchers and students after the computer labs are open. This month, the wide area network administrators are busy preparing and planning for the increase in network use, security and university e-mail accounts that will be made available to teachers and students.

HU, MSU and MSI are in direct contact with people from the University Steering and Technical Committees planning the next visits and technical assistance. All partners eagerly await the November launch and the IT training due to start in January.

The groundwork for planning and communication between partners has been laid so that each partner can bring their unique skills and assistance to the University of Bamako and the Malian community at large.

EDC was awarded the Educational Exchange with the University of Bamako Project on August 21, 2002 and will continue until September 15, 2003 (Award No. 688-G-00-02-00063-00 under the dot-EDU Leader Award No: GDG-A-00-01-00011-00).

### For more information

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#### RELATED LINKS

- Educational Development Center (EDC) <http://www.edc.org>
- USAID/MALI <http://www.usaid.gov>
- Howard University (HU) <http://www.howard.edu>
- Management Systems International (MSI) <http://www.msiworldwide.com>
- Michigan State University (MSU) <http://www.msu.edu>
- World Space Foundation (WSF) <http://www.worldspace.org>

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For more information, contact: **Siobhan Green, Information & Dissemination Coordinator, DOT-COM Alliance at Email: [sgreen@aed.org](mailto:sgreen@aed.org) Tel: +1 202 884-8948.**

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## DOT-COMments Archive

- [Download PDF of Issue I: Fall 2002](#) (Adobe Acrobat 5.0 468K)
- [Global](#)
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## Global

### USAID Welcome

#### **USAID Welcomes You to DOT-COMments!**

[from Issue I: Fall 2002]

Welcome to the first issue of our e-newsletter, **DOT-COMments**, a quarterly review of the recent accomplishments and activities of the DOT-COM Alliance.

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/welcome.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/welcome.htm)**

### Technical Advisory Group

#### **DOT-COM Holds First Annual TAG meeting, October 22, 2002**

[from Issue II: Fall 2002]

The DOT-COM Alliance held its first annual Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting on October 22nd, 2002, at the Academy for Educational Development's (AED) conference center. The purpose of the meeting was for the DOT-COM Alliance to receive programmatic and technical guidance from industry and field experts.

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/tag.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/tag.htm)**

### Pilots and Innovations

#### **Promoting Innovation at Community Internet Centers: dot-ORG**

[from Issue II: Fall 2002]

The Community Internet Centers Project, known as CIC, will pilot new and innovative uses of ICTs via community Internet centers and other public Internet access points worldwide. CIC will also provide rapid technical assistance to USAID Missions by project and resource partner staff. - **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/cic.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/cic.htm)**

### **dot-ORG & Intel Collaborate for Sustainable Computer Clubhouses: dot-ORG**

[from Issue II: Fall 2002]

The dot-ORG project is investing some of its pilot project funds to collaborate with Intel Computer Clubhouses in Brazil and South Africa to design and test strategies and business plans that may enable these Clubhouse and other types of public access centers become sustainable enterprises. To facilitate this collaborative pilot project, Intel and the Academy for Educational Development (AED) signed a memorandum of understanding in October 2002. - **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/intel.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/intel.htm)**

### **Pilot Projects Offer Specialized Technical Assistance: dot-GOV**

[from Issue I: Fall 2002]

Since October 2001, Internews Network, through dot-GOV, has responded to five requests for pilot technical assistance activities funded by the core dot-GOV cooperative agreement. These pilot projects have been short in duration but provide the host government with key information that helps move telecommunications restructuring forward, with the ultimate goal of providing universal access and service.

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/pilot.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/pilot.htm)**

## **Africa**

### **NetTel@Africa - Network for Capacity Building and Knowledge Exchange in the Telecommunications Sector: dot-GOV**

[from Issue II: Fall 2002]

The goal of [NetTel@frica](http://www.nettel2.org) is to improve provision of ICTs and services by establishing an African-led network for capacity building and knowledge exchange in the African telecommunications sector. The project has four primary activities: training, a knowledge exchange network, research, and a community to community component. NetTel@frica is funded by the Leland Initiative and USAID/RCSA, and implemented by the Center to Bridge the Digital Divide, Washington State University.

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/nettel2.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/nettel2.htm)**

### **NetTel@Africa: An African-led Telecommunication Regulator Associations Network: dot-GOV**

[from Issue I: Fall 2002]

NetTel@Africa, a five year program funded through the USAID dot-GOV project, led by Internews Network, and managed by Washington State University's Center to Bridge the Digital Divide (CBDD), is establishing an African-led network for capacity building and knowledge exchange among telecommunication regulator associations. This network will improve sector policy formulation, harmonization, implementation, and help develop regulator training programs within African universities.

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/nettel.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/nettel.htm)**

## **Mali**

### **Academic Computing at the University of Bamako, Mali: dot-EDU**

[from Issue II: Fall 2002]

The Educational Exchange with the University of Bamako Project will enhance the university's capacity to administer its IT network, and to help faculty and students use this network for academic purposes. Nineteen Internet-connected computer labs for teachers and students will open in November at the University of Bamako. - **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/mali.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/mali.htm)**



## Rwanda

### **Legal and Regulatory Reform in Rwanda's Telecommunications and Information Technology Sector: dot-GOV**

[from Issue II: Fall 2002]

Rwandan Telecommunications and Information Technology Sector Project has made great progress since the last consultancy ended in July 2002, which outlined the organization and job descriptions of the new regulatory agency. The Rwandan Government (GOR) has named a Managing Director, Mr. François Mutembere, formerly the Governor of the National Bank. - **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/rwanda3.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/rwanda3.htm)**

### **All Three dots in Rwanda**

[from Issue I: Fall 2002]

All three DOT-COM Alliance members are working in Rwanda to help strengthen the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in government, education, and broad development through three different projects. Each project draws on the expertise areas of each Alliance member:

- [Telecommunications and Information Technology Sector: dot-GOV](#);
- [ICTs for Elections and Community Access: dot-ORG](#);
- [Teacher Professional Development and ICT Equipment Provision: dot-EDU](#).

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/rwanda.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/rwanda.htm)**

## Asia and Near East

### Afghanistan

#### **Building Capacity in Afghanistan's Ministry of Communications: dot-GOV**

[from Issue II: Fall 2002]

Through pilot project funds from the core dot-GOV grant, Internews is providing support to the Ministry of Communications, Afghanistan, by supporting external training of telecommunications staff and by advising the Minister of Communications on telecom policy.

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/afghanistan.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/afghanistan.htm)**

### Morocco

#### **Strengthening Moroccan Women's Political Participation: dot-ORG**

[from Issue I: Fall 2002]

In July 2002, USAID/Morocco and dot-ORG began a three-month information and communications technology (ICT) training project, aimed at enhancing the political participation of Moroccan women. Forty six women political candidates and NGO representatives participated in two three-day training events where they learned how to use ICTs to enhance political campaigns, strengthen advocacy skills, carryout Internet research for informed decision-making, and better serve their communities.

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/morocco.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/morocco.htm)**

## Europe and Eurasia

### Romania

#### **Building Romanian Regulatory Capacity: dot-GOV**

[from Issue II: Fall 2002]

Internews' Romania Information Technology Initiative - Policy project has completed two initial capacity-building workshops and one US study tour for Romania's newly created National Regulatory Authority for Communications (ANRC).

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/romania2.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/romania2.htm)**

## **Romania Information Technology Initiative Launches**

[from Issue I: Fall 2002]

On July 29, 2002 in Bucharest, the Romanian Information Technology Initiative (RITI) was launched by representatives of the Romanian Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT), USAID, and the DOT-COM Alliance. MCIT Minister Dan Nica and Dr. Kent Hill, USAID Europe and Eurasia Bureau's Assistant Administrator, officiated at the ceremony.

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/romania.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/romania.htm)**

## **Latin America and Caribbean**

### **Brazil**

#### **IT Training for Disadvantaged Brazilian Youth**

[from Issue II: Fall 2002]

In partnership with USAID/Brazil, dot-ORG has stated a new 18-month project to develop and carryout an innovative IT training and employability program for disadvantaged Brazilian youth in Recife, Brazil. To implement this challenging project, dot-ORG is partnering with four Brazilian NGOs via sub-agreements. Also, with help from USAID/Brazil and EGAT/EIT/IT, the project team, comprised of staff from dot-ORG and the four collaborating NGOs, is establishing public-private partnerships with local, national and multinational companies to help with this initiative. - **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/brazil.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/brazil.htm)**

### **Guatemala**

#### **Building of Bilingual Virtual Learning Community Underway in Quiché Region, Guatemala: dot-EDU**

[from Issue II: Fall 2002]

Proyecto Enlace Quiché uses ICTs to strengthen the training of intercultural, bilingual educators. New plans include the opening of seven additional technology centers, training of new technology center staff, and the creation of a web portal which will serve as a virtual bilingual learning community for Mayan language teachers, community members, and partners affiliated with the project. - **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/guatemala2.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/guatemala2.htm)**

#### **Supporting Multilingual Education in Guatemala: dot-EDU**

[from Issue I: Fall 2002]

USAID/Guatemala-Central American Programs (G-CAP) has signed an Associate Award with dot-EDU to expand the success of an existing activity in the Quiché region that is using ICTs to strengthen the training of intercultural, bilingual educators.

This existing activity, *Proyecto Enlace Quiché*, was conducted under the LearnLink contract and established computer-assisted teacher training centers in five of the region's teacher training schools (*escuelas normales*).

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/guatemala.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/guatemala.htm)**

### **Haiti**

#### **Haiti Distance Education Inside and Beyond the Classroom: dot-EDU**

[from Issue II: Fall 2002]

Continuing the progress of previous USAID programs, dot-EDU is working closely with the Haitian Foundation for Private Education (FONHEP) to strengthening and expanding Interactive Radio Instruction (IRI) in Haiti. The intervention, which has proven successful in basic primary education, will be examined to see how it can be used to address other audiences and subject matters fit for radio.

- **Full Story at [www.dot-com-alliance.org/haiti.htm](http://www.dot-com-alliance.org/haiti.htm)**

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