



Joining hands to provide business & IT training for job creation

Building on the successful cooperation in Africa and the Middle East, in 2010 the UNIDO – HP partnership programme reached a global coverage including Asia and Latin America. The core of the partnership is HP’s Learning Initiative for Entrepreneurs (HP LIFE) programme. The LIFE curriculum, developed by the Micro-Enterprise Acceleration Institute (MEA-I), teaches hands-on business and IT solutions in the areas of marketing, operations, communication and finance for all stages of entrepreneurship. It contains five entrepreneurship levels to help entrepreneurs start and run their business.

In 2010, UNIDO and HP established ten new training centers in Brazil to deliver HP LIFE trainings; concurrently, the LIFE center network in Africa and the Middle East has been strengthened through HP LIFE leadership grants. In China and India, UNIDO, HP and the Education Development Center (EDC) started joint initiatives to promote the HP LIFE programme. Additionally, UNIDO and HP created new synergies by linking HP LIFE with the UNIDO Entrepreneurship Curriculum Programme (ECP) and the Enterprise Development and Investment Programme (EDIP).

FAST FACTS

The UNIDO-HP partnership programme, in collaboration with MEA-I and EDC, has:

- created over 17,000 jobs
- trained more than 42,000 students
- set up 93 LIFE centers in 13 countries
- certified more than 270 trainers

The centers are operational in:

Algeria	India	Saudi Arabia
Brazil	Kenya	South Africa
China	Morocco	Tunisia
Egypt	Nigeria	UAE
		Uganda



In 2011, the merged LIFE and ECP curricula will be piloted in secondary schools in Nigeria. The cooperation on the HP LIFE and EDIP programmes will empower aspiring entrepreneurs with relevant IT and business skills and help them convert their business plans into commercial ventures. Further, it is planned to link HP

LIFE with UNIDO environmental programmes and cooperate in the development of an environmental management module for the LIFE curriculum. The programme provides a number of relevant opportunities for the global LIFE center network, such as regional LIFE trainings of trainers

(ToT) and master trainings, programmatic workshops and various other tools, including serious online games, a global virtual community for trainers and students, webinars, online trainings, the training management system, Smart Tool, as well as a global Monitoring and Evaluation System to assess the program impact.

News from around the world

NIGERIA: CENSIRT



In 2008, the Centre for Small Industry Research and Training (CENSIRT), located in Ebonyi State, Nigeria, joined the UNIDO-HP Partnership Programme. Since then, 15,000 students have received face-to-face LIFE training.

In 2009, CENSIRT received the 'World Best Achiever' award in the LIFE network. On account of this outstanding engagement and performance, UNIDO and HP provided support to upgrade the center. The above picture shows the newly-renovated UNIDO Regional ICT Centre of Excellence – LIFE center which was inaugurated in July 2010.

TUNISIA: BUSINESS FORUM

In October 2010, a two-day International Entrepreneurs Forum took place in Tunis in the framework of the Salon of Enterprise Creation and Technological Development. The forum was jointly organized by the Tunisian Ministry of Industry, Vocational Training and Employment, UNIDO and other UN Agencies. Over 100 young Tunisian entrepreneurs and 40 entrepreneurs from Bahrain, Iraq and Lebanon took part in the event which focused on youth and enterprise creation. The event included workshops, bilateral meetings between Tunisian and foreign entrepreneurs and a LIFE training for 14 young entrepreneurs from Gafsa and el Kef.



KENYA: TEARS GROUP



Tears Group is a community- and youth-based organization in Kenya. It has established a youth talent development and empowerment village to spread life- and self-reliance skills among young people for job and employment creation.

Walter Adoyo, a diploma graduate in Fine Arts and Graphics, enrolled for the LIFE course and learned how to use a computer to facilitate his tasks, document his previous art works and keep track of financial records. The training helped him gain confidence, express himself and become more creative. With the skills he gained from the course, he now designs his own posters, business cards and other creative works.

Being able to make a living out of his passion, and wanting to give something back to the community, today Walter teaches Fine Arts and Graphics at TEARS Group.

SOUTH AFRICA: SLOT

Joyce Nxele was a staff member of the School Leaver's Opportunity Training (SLOT), South Africa since 2006. However, her dream was always to start her own tuck shop business and become an independent woman. At the end of 2009, Joyce attended the LIFE course, learnt how to operate a computer, and how to do spreadsheets, invoices and flyers for a business.

At the beginning of 2010, Joyce finally started her own tuck shop business and since then experienced great success. The business has grown to support her and her family. In the eyes of the business world, her business



may seem small, but to Joyce and her family her business is a source of joy and pride, and especially, of support.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: DWC



Dubai Women's College (DWC), a Higher Colleges of Technology (HCT) flagship institution, hosted a graduation ceremony in March 2010 for 22 students who completed the UNIDO-HP LIFE programme. Mr. Dwight Anthony, certified LIFE trainer, sees the programme as an opportunity to offer the students a taste of professional life.

According to the Chair of the IT Department, Dr. Nasser Nassiri, the main goal of the program is to bridge the divide between pure business skills courses and technical skills courses. "This program enables the students to understand the benefits of a wide range of IT solutions to address a number of different business challenges in areas such as management, operations, finance, communications and marketing".



The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations. Its mandate is to promote and accelerate sustainable industrial development in developing countries and economies in transition, and work towards improving living conditions in the world's poorest countries by drawing on its combined global resources and expertise.

In recent years, UNIDO has assumed an enhanced role in the global development agenda by focusing its activities on poverty reduction, inclusive globalization and environmental sustainability.

www.unido.org/ict



Hewlett-Packard (HP) creates new possibilities for technology to have a meaningful impact on people, businesses, governments and society. The world's largest technology company, HP brings together a portfolio that spans printing, personal computing, software, services and IT infrastructure to solve customer problems. More information about HP (NYSE: HPQ) is available at www.hp.com



The **Micro-Enterprise Acceleration Institute (MEA-I)** is a non-profit organisation and key partner that develops immersive training and works with local authorities and business associations to help advance teaching and learning programmes for young entrepreneurs and small business owners.

www.me-a-i.org



Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC) is an international nonprofit organization, applying research and education strategies to address global challenges in health, education, and employment.

www.edc.org

Further information on LIFE activities is available at:

www.life-global.org

www.lifeasia.org

www.life-europe.info

<http://life-americas.edc.org>