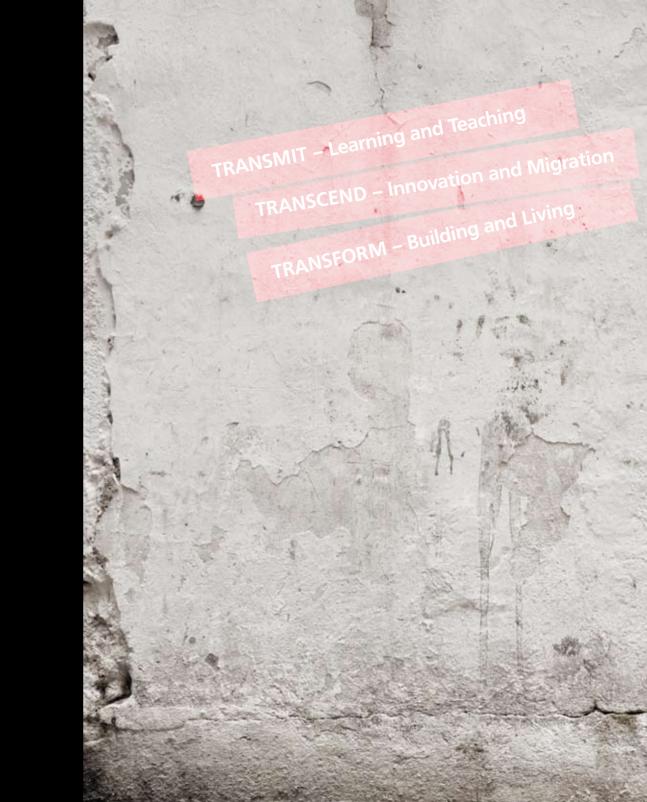
TRANSMIT - Learning and Teaching TRANSCEND - Innovation and Migration TRANSFORM - Building and Living transition

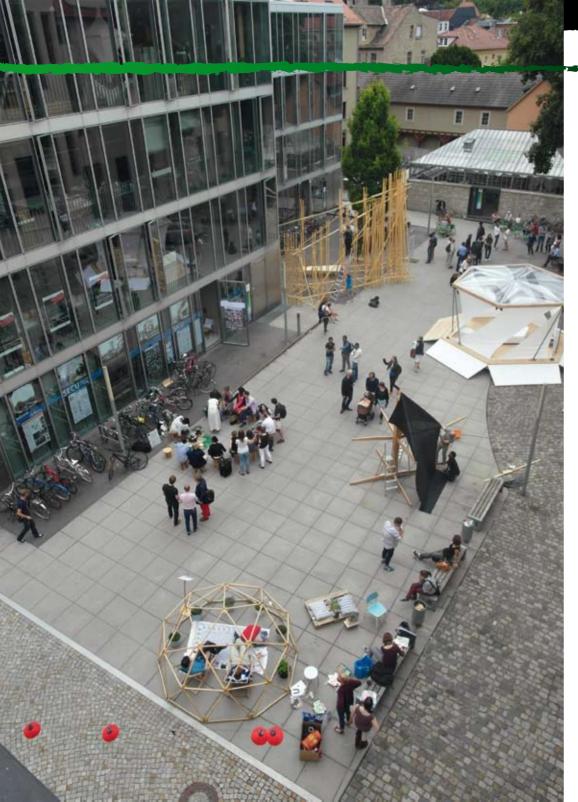
africa re:load 2013

Documentation of the annual **ice**bauhaus convention 11-13 July in Weimar, Germany









africa re:load 2013

frica re:load, our annual convention of innovators, collaborators and social entrepreneurs from Africa & Europe was held July of 2013, for the third time in Weimar. Once again, we hosted an interesting mix of action-oriented African and European participants from academia, private sector and development cooperation, including both new and familiar faces.

This year's event, themed "transition", emphasized the creative potentials provided to those individuals and societies who find themselves in a state of passage. The workshop format was designed to allow a closer look at such transitory processes within three parallel main tracks, each of them focused around finding answers to different sets of guiding questions: transmit dealt with changes in educational systems and institutions, concepts of professional development and emerging informal learning environments, transform looked at the development of African urban centers, rapidly growing from traditionally rooted rural settlements into internationally networked mega-cities, while transcend reflected upon migrants' potential role as accelerators of innovation due to their transitory position between cultural spheres and geographic contexts. The activity- and output-driven workshop format also stipulated interaction between the tracks and the formation of cross-disciplinary action teams aimed at the further development of existing projects, as well as the conception of new ones. Examples of outcomes include a collaborative businessplan for the establishment of new innovation hubs, a network for sustainable decentralized infrastructure, a "maker tour" connecting African tech-hubs and the groundwork for international academic institutional cooperation in experimental architecture.

africa re:load again meant a welcome opportunity for members of existing icehubs to exchange experiences and discuss strategies, as well as for encounters with other individuals and organizations interested in expanding the network into new geographic contexts. Longtime ice-partner and africa re:load supporter, Center for International Migration & Development (CIM), plays an important role in these developments through their "returning" and "integrated experts" programs, as well as their support for diaspora networks in Germany. An example of how these synergies work out in practice is provided by Freweini Mamai who through the support of CIM can now link her background as an active member of the Ethiopian diaspora community in Germany to her new challenges as iceaddis space manager in Addis Ababa. Further related conference output include a diaspora business plan competition and a new project of artistic research on migrants' influence on innovation processes. Jörn Schultz, icebauhaus



SICU - RESEARCH VS PRACTICE by Brook Teklehaimanot, EiABC

SICU, "Sustainable Incremental Construction Unit", is an experimental process oriented building prototype, created in a real environment with real site conditions in a highly dense neighborhood of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia through participatory design involving architecture teachers, students, neighborhood administration and local dwellers. The project aims to research a parallel strategy to the existing governmental housing project by experimenting with innovative and cost efficient prefab construction techniques and materials.



OPEN SPACE

#OSWARRAP – SOUTH SUDAN OPEN SYSTEMS STRATEGY by Clemens

Lerche, agency for open culture & critical transformation Berlin

Tackling the many challenges in creating stable peace and democracy, South Sudan, the newest United Nations member state, has a unique window of opportunity to apply the power of open systems solutions to become the model of innovation and sustainability. r0g-media's #OSWARRAP initiative aims to help communities create their

own 'sharable memory' resources with which to build new narratives to address key challenge areas such post-conflict dialogue, improving education and economic development, or simply enabling new forms of communication with officials to improve government responsiveness with its citizens.

SAUTI YA WAKULIMA – MOBILE BASED FARMERS KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

by Eugenio Tisselli, Z-Node Barcelona

Sauti ya wakulima, "The voice of the farmers", is a collaborative knowledge base created by farmers from the Bagamoyo District in Tanzania by gathering audiovisual evidence of their practices using smartphones to publish images and voice recordings on the Internet. The farmers document their daily practices, report observations regard-

ing changes in climate and interview other farmers, thus expanding their network of social relationships. By communicating their observations to extension officers and scientific researchers, who can be in remote locations, they can participate in the design of new strategies for adaptation.



AFRICAHACKTRIP

by Victoria Wenzelmann

The AfricaHackTrip will take place in September 2013 and span the whole month with 5-7 destination in East, Southern, and Western Africa. We are a group of developers & designers from Europe and the United States, curious about the emerging African tech hubs we keep hearing about lately. We want to explore and connect with the emerging African tech communities, get to know their creatives, learn about their projects, challenges, and potentials, whilst documenting our experiences.

OPEN SPACE

MYCEL.ORG - COMMUNICATION IN A SECURE AND UNINTERUPTABLE WAY

by Julia Handl, Lisa Kiesel, Ralph Lano, Richard Lucke, Stefan Negele, Pavlina Pavlova, Martin Weisse of Georg Simon Ohm University, Nuremberg

With the recent events, the NSA scandal and the Arab revolution, we have become aware how easy it is to control our information infrastructure. But also when natural disaster strikes, this infrastructure often has been wiped out or is unreliable. In addition, there are still many areas in the world with basically no or very expensive network coverage, hindering modern communication. The project Mycel.org aims at providing an insuppressible, secure communication infrastructure using smart phones.

MAABARA AQUAPONICS

by Timo Lassak

We are developing low-tech, low-cost aquaponics kits for the developing world. Maa-Bara means "water farm" and comes from the Ogoni language of the Niger Delta. The Maa-Bara system increases food security by boosting the productivity of small-holder farmers allowing families to grow their own food at a quantity and quality they desire in almost any location and in places where food has never been grown before. The output of our system is an empowered and employed community which grows their own food.



LA VOÛTE NUBIENNE – SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS WITH APPROPRIATE ARCHI-TECTURE by Félicité Sène, Association la Voûte Nubienne

The Association la Voûte Nubienne (AVN), has been working for 14 years to generate and support a growing market in sustainable housing, especially in rural areas in the Sahel region of Africa by successfully implementing a promotional strategy (A Roof + A Skill + A Market) involving the training and support of independent masons. The Nubian Vault is an ancient timberless construction technique, which is cheaper, more comfortable and more environmentally friendly (using only earth for building) than the wide-spread iron sheet roofing method.

EPAD – ENTREPRENEURS PLATFORM OF AFRICA DIASPORA by Estifanos Samuel

Epad's goal is to empower and prepare skilled returnees by supporting their business activities. The idea is to get them involved in the economic development of their countries and to enhance their connection to the medium-sized sector. Support for repatriates is important, because they play a de-

cisive role in terms of entrepreneurship and as "bridge builders" between countries. The intention of the EPAD Business Plan Award is to train participants on how to develop business plans and find investors. The winner with the best business idea will be given support to start his/her company in Africa.

















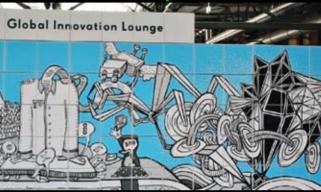
innovation collaboration entrepreneurship

ice is an ever-growing international network of greentech and social innovation hubs. Four different icehubs are currently up and running. Expansion of the network is currently being planned. The icehubs in Cairo, Alexandria, Addis Ababa offer support to innovators and their ideas as they are expected to devise solutions to local and global challenges within a regional context. icebauhaus is the German partner in the international ice network and is geared towards a bottom-up strategy that combines both local and international trends with state-of-the-art technological developments. The icehubs network bring together an eclectic mix of conceptual and increasingly practical local initiatives, international collaboration, company start-ups, investors, inspired and curious individuals, technical and social innovations, improvisatory and collaborative working methods, along with high-tech and low-tech - all this in the form of a flexible matrix.













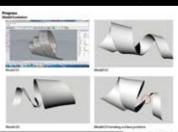














africa:reload 2013

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 11 JULY

REGISTRATION & WELCOME



OPEN ICE NETWORK

Learn more about the ice network and our principles! Explore the icehubs network!



OPEN SPACE – PRESENT YOUR IDEAS

Check out the projects submitted by our re:load participants.





SCHLEMMER-INSELN – A PARTICIPATIVE FOOD COURSE

Food & drinks in experimental culinary installations designed by Bauhaus architecture students.



GUIDED WALK TO WORKSHOP LOCATIONS

pre:flect during a 20 minutes collaborative morning walk through the beautiful city of Weimar.



WORKSHOPS: TRANSMIT • TRANSFORM • TRANSCEND

A total of seven hours to be filled up by short presentations, discussions and collaborative activities.



INTEGRATIVE PRESENTATIONS / CLOSING

We bring together and network the insights, ideas and concepts.





MOBILE DINNER BOX @ SUMMERNIGHT OPEN-AIR CONCERT

Enjoy international Jazz star Till Brönner & Band in an open air concert. You will get a carefully prepared snack package.



SATURDAY, 13 JULY





PROJECT DEVELOPMENT / COLLABORATION

Project groups formed at the end of the previous workshop day are given the opportunity for focussed work.

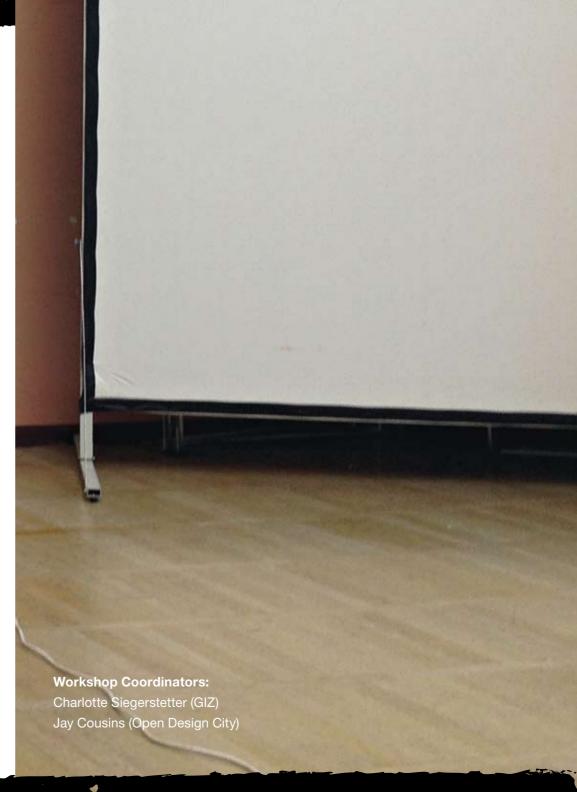
TRANSMIT Learning and Teaching

Most African nations are realizing that their greatest resource (as well as threat) is their exponentially growing populations. As urban populations grow rapidly, young people need skills to work their way out of poverty and to actively participate in society. While young Africans have long been denied a quality education and while still half the world's out-of-school children remain in sub-Saharan Africa, the situation in the education sector has dramatically improved in the last 10 years.

"Ethiopia, for example, is making skills development a cornerstone of its ambitious and inclusive growth strategy, with the hope of attaining middle income country status by 2025" (EFA Global Monitoring Report, UNESCO 2012). Especially the Higher Education sector has an essential role in developing these skills necessary to bring the process of sustainable social, economic and political development to new levels. On the one hand, institutions of formal higher education often have problems of catering to the high population pressure. They are unable to provide equal access, qualified teaching personnel, teaching content with high local relevance, teaching methods,

which encourage critical thinking, innovation and problem solving or international networks and access to global knowledge. They are chronically overburdened, underfunded and poorly networked and therefore inflexible to meet the ever more changing demands of the private sector.

On the other hand, different types of parallel and complementing learning infrastructures are rapidly emerging: Web-based and mobile knowledge & productivity-tools become ubiquitous, which enable young people to take matters into their own hands in self-organized learning environments. Knowledge- and learning-networks and communities of practice emerge from online platforms as well as physical community hubs and labs, promoting co-creation and prototyping as learning methods. International Universities are starting to offer better access to quality education through different forms of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) and Open Educational Resources (OER). Governmental organizations and NGO offer increased access to information through Open Data and Open Science portals.



How do we make locally relevant content accessible?

HOW CAN TRANSCONTINENTAL COLLABORATION
LEVERAGE THE NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR PARTHERSHIPS
ON EQUAL
ON EQUAL
AHMED BASTAWY ICEAL EXANDRIA / BO2YATY ALEXTERMS?

ERICK TAMBO, UN-UNIVERSITY BONN: "THE GEO-POLITICAL CHANGES IN AFRICA IN THE LAST DEC-ADES. THE ECONOMIC POTENTIAL GENERATED BY THIS DYNAMIC ARGUES FOR A PARADIGM SHIFT IN THE ACADEMIC. SCIENTIFIC AND ECONOMIC COOP-ERATION BETWEEN AFRICA AND ITS INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS, LOW TECHNOLOGY, APPROPRIATE INNO-VATIONS, ACTION ORIENTED THINKING, TECHNOL-OGY ENHANCED COLLABORATION, TEACHING AND LEARNING. SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP. ADDED VALUE TO THE REMITTANCES. ROLE OF THE DIASPO-RA IN CONTEXT OF MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT. THESE ARE THE INDICATORS OF THE NEW DYNAMIC MENTIONED ABOVE AND DISCUSSED DURING THE CONVENTION IN CONTRAST TO THE CLASSICAL CONCEPTS OF 'DEVELOPMENT AID/ASSISTANCE'

AHMED BASTAWY, ICEALEXANDRIA / RO2YATY, ALEX-ANDRIA: "EGYPT AS A SOCIETY IS RATHER BASED ON VERTICAL THAN HORIZONTAL STRUCTURES. WHICH ALSO REFLECTS ON THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM. IN THE PAST YEARS. THIS SYSTEM HAS BEEN QUESTIONED MORE AND MORE, TURNING OLD VALUES UPSIDE DOWN, STUDENTS OFTEN SEEK TO LEARNING EN-VIRONMENTS APART FROM UNIVERSITY. BY PARTICI-PATING IN TRAININGS AND/OR GETTING ENGAGED IN CIVIL SOCIETY AND NGO WORK ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS. THIS DOES NOT COMPETE WITH THE WORK OF UNIVERSITIES BUT IS BATHER SEEN AS ENRICH-MENT FOR THE STUDENTS' OWN LIFE, NON-FORMAL EDUCATION METHODS SHOULD BE INTRODUCED ALREADY IN SCHOOLS. THIS HOWEVER NEEDS A RE-THINKING IN THE PRACTICAL TRAINING AND QUALI-FYING OF TEACHERS.'

HART FEUER, CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH: "AS EVIDENT BY THE DIVERSITY OF ACTORS IN THE 'TRANSMIT' TRACK, EDUCATION HAS MOVED BEYOND THE TRADITIONAL DOMAIN OF TRAINED TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS AND BUREAUCRATS. THE OPTIMISTIC ORIENTATION ON EDUCATIONAL MOBILITY, TECHNOLOGY FOR CHOICE AND ACCESSIBILITY, AND ON NON-TRADITIONAL LEARNING AND ENTREPRENEURIALISM SUGGEST THAT HIGHER EDUCATION IS NOW A TRANSNATIONAL GOOD. WE NONETHELESS HAD TO SIT BACK TO CONSIDER THE ETHICAL CHALLENGES THIS REPRESENTS AND WHAT THE NATIONAL EXPERIENCE CONTRIBUTES."

Can the existing.
ligher education culture
accomodate more flat
and inkractive ways of
ways of learner enjagement?

TRANSFORM Building and Living

The urbanization rate in Africa is higher than any other region of the world and in the coming years it is projected to grow even more. Unlike other regions of the world, the phenomenon of urbanization in Africa is fueled by a unique combination of forces: Population growth, economic growth, emerging industrialization and poverty.

Spatial (environmental), economic, cultural and political reorganizations are characteristics of this complex phenomenon. In Africa, guiding such a multifold transformation is a daunting task for political, social and academic establishments which themselves are in the state of continuous transformation in order to adapt to the ever changing and uncertain global realities. In order to approach the challenge in a more pragmatic sense, much beyond the over simplified prescriptions of 'stop population growth!' and 'stop exploiting the environment!', it is necessary to first ask the right questions more broadly and open heartedly so as to ground our projections of the future on sound understanding.

Referring to the fair way that the human habitat shall be organized; education, research

and practice become the three important pillars of such projections. Hence collaborative and interdisciplinary discussion about these elements becomes fruitful in order to seek an action-oriented strategy.

Cities are the primary venue for transformations in their both physical and nonphysical assemblages.

Architecture, construction and planning are key fields, which operate on the frontline on such societal transformation. The production of livable cities and buildings; and the construction of efficient and effective infrastructures of communication, health, and education are the major tasks of these fields that demand creativity based on the sound understanding of contextual social, political and environmental realities. Guiding the spatial dimension of the transformation processes calls for an extended but pragmatic intervention ranging from designing a household utensil up to an urban plan; inventions of new tools and materials based on socio-ecological understanding up to formulating complex policies and strategies for equitable development.



What is the status goo of building and urban development in Africa?

HANY ABO EL WAFA, TU MUNICH: "IIT WAS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THE TRANSFORMERS' THAT ARE CURRENTLY ACTIVE ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENT. I HAVE LEARNED ABOUT THEIR DIFFERENT INITIATIVES AND METHODS IN THEIR EFFORTS TO STEER THE CHAOTIC PROCESS OF URBANIZATION IN AFRICA. WE WORKED TOGETHER IN SMALL GROUPS AND DEFINED WHAT WOULD BE NEEDED FROM BOTH RESEARCH AND PRACTICE AND HOW EACH COULD CONTRIBUTE IN HIS OWN WAY. I TRULY APPRECIATE THE INNOVATORS NETWORK THAT I HAVE ACQUIRED DURING THE AFRICA RE:LOAD AND LOOKING FORWARD TO THE FRUITFUL COOPERATION THAT WOULD RESULT FROM SUCH A BROAD NETWORK."

How can networked technology make life easier for those living in urban communities?

How important are experiments master plans or prototypes? MARTIN SOBOTA, CITYFÖRSTER: "OUR EXPERIENCE IS THAT AFRICA'S URBANIZATION AND RAPID DEVELOPMENT IS ALSO SHIFTING THE SCALE OF PROJECTS. FOR EXAMPLE, ONCE YOU MOVE FROM A RURAL SETTING TO THE URBAN, NOT ONLY DO THE PROBLEMS GET MORE COMPLEX, THE SOLUTIONS ALSO DEMAND A MUCH MORE FORMAL AND ORGANIZED APPROACH, SIMPLY BECAUSE PROJECTS NEED TO BE PROPERLY TENDERED FOR CONSTRUCTION. ALSO, URBAN AFRICA ISN'T AS FASCINATED WITH ITS OWN VERNACULAR TRADITION AS WE ARE. ARCHITECTS AND URBANISTS SHOULDN'T MISS THAT CHANCE. WE SHOULD EMBRACE FOR EXAMPLE MASS-HOUSING, PLANNING AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF MATERIALS AND BRING THOSE ISSUES INTO OUR DISCOURSE. WE HAVE A LOT OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE TO BRING IN AND SHOULDN'T LEAVE THESE JOBS TO THE MARKET."

DR. CORNELIA REDEKER, ASSOCIATE PROF. ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN, GERMAN UNIVERSITY CAIRO: "AFRICA RELOAD IS A RARE FORMAT AND A GREAT PLACE FOR EXCHANGE WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE INVOLVED IN TRANSFORMATION PROJECTS AND THE ICEHUBS. FROM SUSTAINABLE LARGE-SCALE COMMISSIONS FOR PUBLIC CLIENTS TO DECENTRALIZED SANITATION, AN INTERESTING COLLECTION OF PRESENTATIONS GAVE AN OVERVIEW OF THE BROADNESS OF TOPICS AT HAND. TO TAP EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS SEEMS LIKE A GOOD WAY TO GO. FOR FUTURE EVENTS IT WOULD BE GREAT TO INVOLVE THE INDUSTRY MORE."

TRANSCEND Innovation and Migration

In each country or cultural context the term innovation has a different meaning, based on diverse cultural, economic, political and social values. Global innovation reports usually discuss the country performance but also what companies are doing and should be doing to spur innovation, but ignore the cultural context. By the choice of those categories of innovation, mutual innovation indexes exclude countries that do not fit in the western dominated categories of innovation.

A decisive factor for learning, the development and the acquisition of new knowledge is interaction. Innovation is often created by re-combining existing knowledge. Interaction is favored through geographic closeness, but interaction can also take place crossing borders. For developing countries which often lack a critical mass of innovative companies and research institutions, external influences and transnational cooperation is of utmost importance in order to stimulate and enable innovation.

Migrants can play a decisive role in this context as they often times maintain links

to both their country of origin and host country, even upon return to the former. These networks can function as bridges, narrowing the gaps between the different educational systems, market contexts and cultures of two countries, e.g. the country of origin and the host country of a migrant. They can support individuals before they travel abroad, they can provide both a vision and guidance for people abroad who consider returning, and they can help returnees to maintain their academic and professional ties to their former host country upon their return to the country of origin.

To accomplish this, the support networks need increased visibility and accessibility in both countries. They should aim at providing easy central (virtual) access to information & contacts targeted to individual needs, but also provide opportunities of physical encounters and participation in collaborative projects. An ongoing community based process of exchanging ideas through internet platforms as well as moderated physical meetings of the core members are the essential instruments to build up a continuous growing network.



How do people active in the field of international collaboration interpret the idea of innovation?

ESKINDER MAMO, DEUTSCH-ÄTHIOPISCHER STUDENTEN & AKADEMIKER VEREIN: "TRANSNATIONAL DIASPORA NETWORKS CAN ENABLE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN TO BENEFIT FROM HIGHLY SKILLED MIGRANTS BY FACILITATING KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER. AN INCREASING USE OF ICT LIKE MOBILE COMMUNICATION OR NETWORKED DIGITAL DEVICES PROVIDE NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR EFFICIENT INTERACTION BETWEEN THE DIASPORA AND THOSE LIVING IN AFRICA, E.G. IN THE EDUCATION SECTOR. FURTHERMORE THE DIASPORA STAY CONNECTED WITH THEIR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN, CONSEQUENTLY INCREASING SELF-AWARENESS OF THEIR DUAL IDENTITY."



TO UHAT EXTENT ARE AFRICA-BASED INCUBATORS
AND HUBS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EMERGENCE
OF AN INNOVATIVE SPIRIT?

How do migrant organisations help to juster a spirit of innovation,?



HELGE ODER, DIPL. DES., BAUHAUS UNIVERSITY WFIMAR: "TRANSNATIONAL DIASPORA IS AN IM-PORTANT FACTOR OF THE CREATION OF CULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY, ON THE ONE HAND, THE TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE AND THE SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH-ING OF PROJECTS AND BUSINESSES IN THE ORIGIN COUNTRIES, ON THE OTHER HAND, THE ATTITUDE OF RETURNING MIGRANTS FOSTERED BY THE EX-PERIENCE OF TRANSCULTURALISM AND POSTNA-TIONALISM AND THE ENTERING IN NEW SPACES OF POSSIBILLITIES. THIS ATTITUDE. THAT IS AN INHER-ENTLY PART OF THESE PROJECTS AND CREATED ARTIFACTS CAN BE EXPERIENCED BY MANY STAKE-HOLDERS. THE CONTINUATIVE EFFECTS DRIVEN BY THIS AND THE ROLE OF NEW STRUCTURES OF COMMUNALITY BEHIND HAS TO BE RESEARCHED AND COMMUNICATED."

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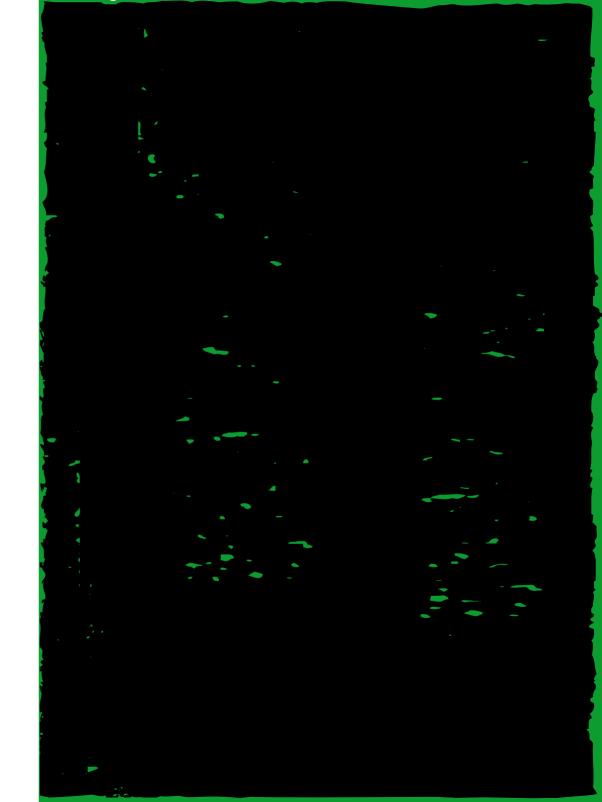
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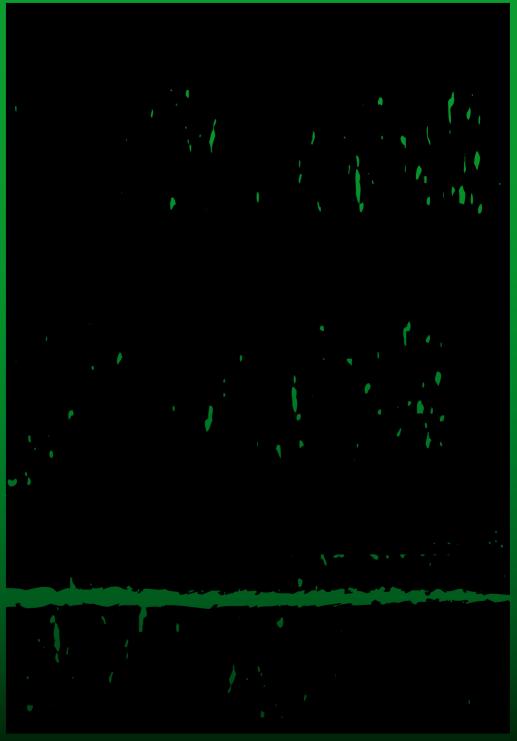
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