

## Next issue of the *KM4D Journal*

The first issue of the *KM4D Journal* second volume (April 2006) will deal with 'Effective knowledge sharing for development in Africa.'

Guest editors comprise Dina El Halaby (Global Development Network), Reine Djuidje Kouam (Young Entrepreneurs for the NEPAD), Kingo Mchombu (University of Namibia) and Alice Mungwa (African Union Commission), working with Chief Editor, Julie Ferguson (Hivos).

It is widely felt that policies informed by a local understanding of development problems and solutions are more likely to have positive outcomes for poor people in developing and transition countries. However, national producers of knowledge may face problems in communicating this understanding and knowledge to national, regional and international audiences due to limiting factors, such as lack of access to the Internet, closed institutional cultures, lack of resources and capacity to share knowledge. At the same time, potential end-users of knowledge may have problems accessing locally generated knowledge due to factors such as atomised availability, lack of time, variable quality and the wider availability of Northern knowledge.

This issue of the *KM4D Journal* will present the challenges that African institutes face in knowledge sharing (KS), how to overcome these challenges, who will play a role and the potential for partnerships and capacity building efforts to share knowledge more effectively across the continent.. Case studies of KS initiatives in Africa – both successes and failures – will be presented.

This issue will include the following contributions:

- A case study by Ednah Karamagi on an initiative towards improving farmers' livelihoods through knowledge exchange in rural Uganda.
- A comparative analysis of two networks focusing on knowledge management and natural resources in Africa, by Tony Prior, Anna van der Heijden and Lars Soeftestad.
- An article by Amenya Nyakundi focusing on the challenges faced by communities in Kenya to sustain, pass-on and effectively use indigenous knowledge sharing methods, in the absence of modern health facilities.
- Zenobia Africa will share experiences using peer reviews in building a learning network for local government in South Africa.
- Contributions from DR Congo, Kenya, Tanzania, and more, plus an interview with Kingo Mchombu.

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