



African Internet Connectivity Project

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African Internet Connectivity Project

Higher Education Uses of Internet Technologies - New Applications for International Development

Policy Roundtable

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AICP Partners



- **H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences OnLine**



- **African Studies Center, Michigan State University**



- **Computers, Libraries, and Technology, Michigan State University**



In Cooperation With:

- **WARC: West African Research Center**
- **IAD: Institute for African Democracy**
- **CODESRIA: The Council for Development of Social Science Research in Africa**
- **Center for Scientific Development, Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa**



Current Funding From:

- **United States Information Agency**
- **Michigan State University**



Goals

- **Build Bridges through the Internet**
- **Capacitating African Universities**
- **Enlightening and Enriching American Academe**



Principles

- **Putting Universities First**
- **Building Reciprocity and Partnerships**
- **Using the Internet as a Tool**
- **Developing an Integrated Multi-Staged Project**



Strategies

4 sided project:

- 1. Equipment/Connectivity/Training**
- 2. Academic
Networking/Partnerships**
- 3. Reciprocal Content Exchange**
- 4. Collaborative Research and
Teaching**



I. Connectivity

- **Goal is to augment Leland Initiative and local projects**
- **Place Connectivity into hands of Professors and advanced students**
- **Provide discipline specific training**



Training

Focus on Key Players:

- **Policy Makers/Administrators**
- **Librarians/ Information Technologists**
- **Key Academic Leaders**



Summer Workshops

- **Demonstrate the Potential of the Internet**
- **Focus on Internet Research Tools**
- **Focus on Academic Networking**
- **Hands-On Familiarity**

Ongoing Support and Online Training





Caching Servers: Dakar, Lusaka, Durban, Cape Town

- **MSU software for Michigan School Districts (SCNC)**
- **Caching to speed Internet local access**
- **Mirrored at MSU to speed access from elsewhere**
- **Web Based Administration to permit local management**
- **UNIX systems permitting remote support**



Lab at West African Research Center at Dakar

- **Radio Transmission**
- **Five workstations, printers, up-to-date software**
- **Trained support personnel**
- **Serve Faculty and Students**
- **Increases capacity of University Computing Center**
- **Builds Partnerships with scholarly organizations and NGOs Throughout Dakar**

II. Academic Networking

<http://www.h-net.msu.edu/lists/>



The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the H-Net Discussion Networks website. The address bar shows the URL <http://www.h-net.msu.edu/lists/>. The page features a navigation menu on the left with links such as "Subscribe to an H-Net List", "Help With Your Subscription", "Discussion Logs", "Becoming an H-Net Editor", and "Starting a New Network". The main content area is titled "H-Net Discussion Networks" and includes a sub-header "Over 100 E-mail lists spanning various fields of study." Below this is a paragraph describing the function of H-Net's e-mail lists as electronic networks for academic exchange. A table lists various discussion lists with their names and descriptions.

List Name	Description
EDTECH	Educational Technology
H-AfrArts	African Expressive Culture
H-AfrResearch	Primary Sources in African Studies
H-Africa	African History and Culture
H-AfrLitCine	Teaching and Study of African Literature and Cinema
H-Afro-Am	African-American Studies
H-AfrPol	Current African Politics
H-AfrTeach	Teaching African History and Studies
H-AHC	Association for History and Computing
H-Albion	British and Irish History
H-AmIndian	American Indian History and Culture
H-AmRel	American Religious History
H-Amstdy	American Studies



Networking Potential for African Scholars and Students

- **Participation in Academic Networks**
- **Editing Networks**
- **Hosting Networks**

H-Net African Studies Networks

<http://www.h-net.msu.edu/gateways/africa>

Gateway
to African Studies on H-Net

Gateway to African Studies on H-Net

H-Africa
African History & Culture

H-SAfrica
South African History

H-AfrPol
Current African Politics

H-AfrTeach
Teaching African Studies

H-AfrArts
African Expressive Culture

H-AfrLitCine
African Literature & Cinema

H-WAfrica
West Africa History & Culture

H-AfrResearch
Research in African Primary Sources

Activities

[Academic Partnerships](#)

[Connectivity Workshop](#)

[Networks in South Africa](#)

ethiopia
traditions of creativity

[Zerihun Yetmgeta](#)
ethiopian artist

[Richard Hunt](#)
american artist

For African Studies book

Internet



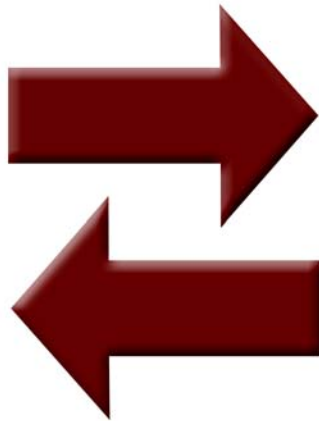
Building a Developmental Studies Network

- **Phase One: UNCSTD: United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development Network**
- **Phase Two: A H-Net Family of Development Focused Networks????**



III. Reciprocal Content Exchange

Providing African partners with access to current international scholarship



Providing Americans with access to African scholarship and up-to-date information

Moving Beyond the Inequalities of the Print World: The Digital Library of the Future



H-Net/MSU Projects to bring African Content OnLine:

- **H-Net Reviews in the Humanities and Social Sciences, H-Net website**
- **African Studies Center: African Media Project**
- **OnLine African Social Science and Humanities Journals OnLine (Pending: U.S. Department of Education)**
- **International Digital Library Partnerships (Pending: National Science Foundation)**
- **South African National Cultural Heritage Project: (Mellon and Ford Foundations)**





IV. Collaborative Research and Teaching

Partnerships that benefit both sides:

- **"Virtual University" that capacitates African students and faculty**
- **The importance of faculty exchange: Strengthening the African University**
- **Joint course development: Adapting U.S. courses for African Institutions**
- **Collaborative research projects**
- **Matching interests and expertise**
- **Cooperative research and publication**



Looking Toward The Future

- **The Internet, African Universities, and Development**

