Report on IMAGINARY activities in Africa

Gert-Martin Greuel (April 2016)

Past events:

2015:

- 4) AIMS-IMAGINARY-Exhibition-Road-Show in Dakar and Mbour, Senegal http://imaginary.org/event/aims-imaginary-maths-and-science-exhibition-and-workshop
- 5) IMAGINARY- Exhibition at the Next Einstein Forum, Dakar, Senegal http://imaginary.org/event/nef-2016-senegal

2014:

- 1) IMAGINARY-Event at the Pi Day in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania http://imaginary.org/event/imaginary-in-cooperation-with-aims-at-p-day-in-dar-es-salaam
- 2) IMAGINARY-Event at the STI-Meeting in Rabat, Morocco http://imaginary.org/event/aims-imaginary-at-africa-sti-forum-2014
- 3) AIMS-IMAGINARY-Workshop and Exhibition in Cape Town, South Africa http://imaginary.org/event/aims-imaginary-maths-communication-in-africa

Events in the next few years:

A series of exhibitions (including Teacher Training and "How to make maths exhibitions" training) is planned in several cities in Cameroon, in December 2016 (the week from Dec. 5) Cedric Villani will also be there. It is again a collaboration with AIMS (AIMS Cameroon), they look still for more partners.

We have another specific request from Tunisia (a Science Museum in Monastir). A museum concept is developed (in cooperation with a local university). They have already received all IMAGINARY content.

UNESCO wants to organize exhibitions in Angola and Rwanda (they provided contacts for IMAGINARY in Angola, it appears that a new high-tech university has been built). the next Next Einstein Forum takes place in Rwanda in 2018 and they are doing a lot (AIMS just changed its headquarters to Kigali).

IMAGINARY has made contacts and got exhibition inquiries:

- Cape Verde
- Moçambique
- Tanzania (with AIMS, they plan a pop-up museum, i.e. a museum that you can easily set up); there will be a workshop at the IMAGINARY conference (with the director of AIMS-Tanzania)
- Democratic Republic Congo (DRC)
- Senegal (multiple requests and partners)
- Ethiopia
- Ivory Coast
- Sudan
- Morocco (with AIMS)
- Guinea (Conakry)
- Nigeria

These are partially already concrete inquiries (with possible data, some e-mails), partially still vague ideas.

IMAGINARY cooperation partner for the Africa-activities:

AIMS: multiple projects (South Africa, Morocco, Tanzania, Senegal), some with funding from AIMS partners or ICTP (Travel Grants for South Africa-participants) or UNESCO.

UNESCO and IMU promised support for a new Mathematics of Planet Earth (MPE) Competition, together with IMU and MPE. The competition will be officially launced at the Next Einstein Forum.

With UNESCO, another major project about MPE exhibitions in Africa is planned. http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/science-technology/basic-sciences/mathematics/unesco-mpe-and-imaginary-organize-exhibitions-in-africa/

The MMACA (Mathematics Museum in Barcelona) wants to create with IMAGINARY Hands-On Modules for exhibitions also in Africa. For this they have received an initial commitment for funding of a foundation from Japan. This will be concretely discussed in the coming weeks.

The platform www.mathemafrica.org was created after an IMAGINARY workshop in South Africa and is co-supervised by IMAINARY (but it is organized completely locally).