European Mathematical Society

COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Aims and Objectives

• to assist developing countries in all possible ways

• some examples:

  ∗ Mathematics curriculum development

  ∗ Cooperation with local staff in conducting M.Sc. and Ph.D. programs

  ∗ helping to build up libraries

  ∗ helping to build up regional centres and networks

  ∗ to provide information about further studies for students from developing regions

  ∗ to mobilize funds for junior and senior researchers to attend conferences

Plans for the immediate future

• Establish more ERCE (emerging regional centres of excellence) after the first one ASSMS in Lahore

  * ensure there are good students

  * get more funding

  *get international support

• Strengthen the M.Sc. Programme in Cambodia

  * send good students to ERCE/Europe

  * get international support

• Electronic literature access workshops

  * actual and virtual

  * train more mathematicians to do these

  * get support

Members:

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http://ems-cdc.org

CDC activities: some highlights

ZENTRALBLATT-MATH

Their reviewers = our main donors

Free access for developing countries: list supplied by CDC

Any interested individual mathematician or mathematical department
in a developing country can apply

Book donation scheme

Books and (some) journals (over 17 tonnes)

developed countries ---> developing countries

supported by our usual friends

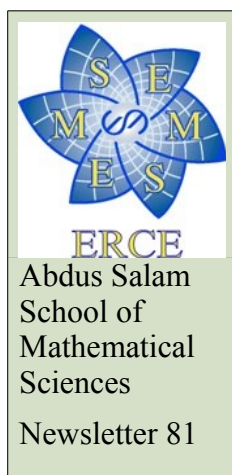e-Workshop in Bamako 2011

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT IS VITAL

In many places, we encounter some local difficulty/resistance to the development work, and if the local authorities know that the programmes are supported by international organizations such as the EMS and IMU, and are addressed by them, then the chances are that they will accept the programmes, and even promote and support them, much more willingly.

Places under consideration: Kurdistan Iraq, Cambodia.

Abdus Salam
School of
Mathematical
Sciences

Newsletter 81

ERCE: an ongoing initiative

With the proliferation of emerging economies worldwide there are among developing countries of varying degrees of development, just as among the developed world. In order to benefit from this situation our strategy of cooperation and help has to be adapted to the different levels of development.

To train mathematicians from the least developed regions to say the master level, it is not efficient, nor necessary, to send them to institutions of the highest level. On the other hand, among the emerging economical regions there are very good centres which can train mathematicians to the master level and higher.

The Abdus Salam School of Mathematical Sciences is the first ERCE, and we are looking for more such excellent centres.

CDC Collaborations

We have close cooperation and share active members with other centres

CIMPA
We are at a CIMPA School now! More details in a separate presentation.

BORDEAUXTHEQUE
It supplies mathematical literature to developing countries. Just ask.

e-Math-for-Africa
A brave one-man show from member Anders Wandahl! Consult the website.

CEMAT
Spanish mathematical society with many developing activities, e.g. in Latin America.

ICTP
A Unesco centre based in Trieste, it is well known throughout the developing world.

ICIAM
International society for applied mathematics: many of CDC members are active in their developing work.

IWR
Applied maths group based in Heidelberg and active mainly in South-East Asia.

IMU-CDC
The International Mathematical Union's committee for developing countries funds many of our activities.

ISP
Swedish Science Programme active all over the world.

SMF and SMAI
Both French mathematical societies have active programmes for developing countries, where many of our members contribute.

LMS
The London Mathematical Society funds many of our book donation shipments.

PACM
Joint Sweden-Tanzania venture to be operative soon. We already send them books and journals.

… and many others we hope!