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Closing the digital divide in Sub-Saharan Africa: meeting the challenges of the information age

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Abstract: This paper aims to suggest approaches that can be applied to close the digital divide between Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) and the rest of the world, including the provision of information and communication technology (ICT) infrastructure, access to ICTs and the development of appropriate content and information literacy skills. We identify some international initiatives to develop ICT infrastructure and proposes the development of telecenters, techmobiles and technology resource centers, and the use of the 'old boy network' or 'past students' associations', to provide access to digital technology. This paper identifies the need to create Internet content in African languages, developing African language keyboards and conduct needs assessments of local users. This paper makes proposals for training teachers to teach information literacy skills, involving libraries in information literacy skills development and instituting mass information literacy programs. We conclude that implementing these approaches to closing the digital divide calls for strategic interventions by governments

Accession Number: 8525582**Document Type:** Journal Paper**Language:** English**Treatment:** General or Review**Controlled Indexing:** computer literacy; social aspects of automation; training**Uncontrolled Indexing:** digital divide; Sub-Saharan Africa; information and communication technology; information literacy; telecenters; techmobiles; technology resource centers; Internet; content development; teacher training**Classification Codes:** C0230 Economic, social and political aspects of computing**Author Address:** Gyamfi, A.; State Univ. of New York, Albany, NY, USA**Publisher:** Reed Business Information, UK**Number of References:** 40**Abstract Number:** C2005-09-0230-031**CODEN:** INDEE8**ISSN:**  0266-6669**SICI:** 0266-6669(200503)21:1L:22:CDDS;1-Q**DOI:** 10.1177/0266666905051910**Additional information****View this record in other databases:**

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