



Mathemafrica
{Mathematics} n {Africa}

A STATUS REPORT

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EXPECTATIONS FOR THE AIMS- IMAGINARY MEETING

- A RARE CHANCE TO GET TOGETHER EXPERTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD INCLUDING A NUMBER OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES (SENEGAL, TANZANIA, MOZAMBIQUE, GHANA, SOUTH AFRICA, SUDAN, COTE D'IVOIRE)
- TO DISCUSS TOPICS OF EXTREME IMPORTANCE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF MATHEMATICS UNDERSTANDING AND EDUCATION IN THESE COUNTRIES
- TO DISCOVER WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OTHER COUNTRIES
- TO SHARE EXPERIENCES IN TEACHING AND COMMUNICATING MATHEMATICS IN AFRICA

THE BIRTH OF MATHEMAFRICA.ORG

- NOT A BLOG, BUT A **BLOGGING PLATFORM**
- FACILITATING ACCESS AND A VOICE TO THOSE IN AFRICA WHO CURRENTLY MAY NOT HAVE AN EASY PLACE TO READ ABOUT AND WRITE ABOUT MATHEMATICS**
- WE DO NOT WANT TO TELL PEOPLE WHAT TO SAY OR WRITE ABOUT, BUT GIVE THEM AN EASY PLACE TO DO SO AND BE HEARD BY A BIG AUDIENCE**
- MULTI-LINGUAL, MULTI-BLOGGER**

PURPOSES OF MATHEMAFRICA

- INSPIRE YOUNG PEOPLE
- EDUCATE ABOUT THE RELEVANCE OF MATHEMATICS
- ALLOW A COMMUNITY TO FORM
- INFORM ABOUT DISCOVERIES IN AND OUTSIDE OF AFRICA
- GIVE A SHOWCASE FOR ROLE MODELS
- COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS IN DIFFERENT AFRICAN COUNTRIES
- PUBLICISE EVENTS

BLOG FUNCTIONALITY

- WE WANT THE PLATFORM ITSELF TO BE AS **MULTILINGUAL** AS POSSIBLE - WE NEED **VOLUNTEERS** TO **TRANSLATE** BOTH THE FRAMEWORK AND CONTENT IN THEIR MOTHER TONGUES - FRAMEWORK IS KEY.
- ANYONE WHO WANTS TO WRITE CAN CONTACT US AND WE WILL SET THEM UP
- WE WANT **MARGINAL POLICING**, THOUGH A REPORTING SERVICE SHOULD BE INCLUDED
- BLOGGERS CAN DECIDE ON **THEIR OWN COMMENT POLICIES**

MOVING FORWARD

- CONTACTING MATHEMATICAL SOCIETIES AROUND AFRICA
- CREATING A NETWORK
- ALLOWING OTHERS FREEDOM TO MOVE THE PLATFORM IN THE DIRECTIONS THEY SEE AS USEFUL
- FINDING CURRENT STAR MATHEMATICIANS IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES (FOR INSTANCE, IN SOUTH AFRICA MAMOKGETHI PHAKENG)
- OPENING IT TO THE PUBLIC VERY SOON!