



Mathemafrika
{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!