



International Newsletter – August 2010

From the Trustees...

We are pleased to bring news of progress in both Kenya and Cameroon – see below. Elsewhere, Democratic Republic of Congo has now officially registered a local IGI, and we are delighted to welcome them.

Naturally, this growth leads to pressure on funding. Both the Kenyan and Cameroonian leaders have done well in lining up external funding, but there remains the need for central IGI to help support them in their overheads, as well as the cost of setting up projects – not to mention the new FITs in Southern Sudan, DRC and Mozambique, which are all trying to get projects off the ground. The latest proposal has just been received from DRC.

Members from UK were able to visit both Kenya and Cameroon over the Summer to see the work at first hand.

Comments and suggestions welcome at: paul@igi-integrity.com. To support IGI: www.igi-integrity.com/support.aspx

The Kenyan Referendum – an opportunity for CTAs

On 4th August, Kenya went to the polls to vote on a new constitution, the culmination of many years of political promises. Educating voters in the issues was an interesting challenge to the CTAs (Community Taxpayers' Assemblies), thirty of which have now been started in and around Nairobi.

The CTAs ran workshops and seminars to help voters debate and understand the issues, as well as producing a simple and helpful guide. The CTAs were almost unique in providing non-partisan education, and the material was so well-regarded that others asked permission to use it.

The Interim Independent Electoral Commission also formally requested IGI Kenya to field Election Observers in 30 stations around the country. In the next issue we hope to report their findings. Needless to say, all of this called for considerable effort and expense from Sakwa our General Secretary and other members, but it also raises the profile of the CTAs for the longer term.



For more on CTAs: www.igi-integrity.com/CTA.aspx



Buea... Siantou... Yaoundé... – cleaning Cameroon's Universities

In last newsletter we reported plans to build on the success of the project to train and empower the anti-corruption committee of the University of Buea. On 23rd August, the new project in Siantou University in Yaoundé was finally launched. The event was attended by state ministers for the departments of Communication, Tourism and Higher Education, and the representative of the Minister of Secondary Education, as well as rectors of four state universities - Dschang, Yaoundé I, Douala, Buea.

www.igi-integrity.com/Documents/Siantou-2010.pdf

Earlier problems with getting support to roll the project out in Douala (second city of Cameroon) reminds us that vested interests also oppose this work.

Spreading the Word –if your church/ community group would like a presentation on the work of IGI, please contact us. UK: paul@igi-integrity.com; Cameroon: asek@igi-integrity.com; other countries: sakwa@igi-integrity.com

“[T]he one in authority...is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.” Romans 13:3-4