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IRC NEWS - 009

I - Conference in the IRC

Three years ago, the World Bank released a Policy Research Report called: "Breaking the Conflict Trap: Civil War and Development Policy." It was translated into French and published by ARS-Paris as a Nouveaux Horizons title for francophone African audiences. It's a great book -- pragmatic, hard-headed, fact-filled, and loaded with plenty of African examples and case studies (including, unfortunately, the Cote d'Ivoire). So when the IRC in Abidjan organized a book discussion on it January 25, we had a full house and some very high-level participation (i.e., the Prime Minister's Office and a host of Ministers). U.S. Ambassador Aubrey Hooks opened the session, encouraging participants to examine the conflict resolution strategies given in the Report with an eye out to any that might be tried in the Ivorian context. Over the course of the two hour discussion, our panelists and program participants focused on the negative and long term impact of civil war on a nation's economic and social development – something everyone present realized they would be dealing with for years to come.

The result was outstanding. ARS Paris provided the right title, the time was right (the stalled peace process in Cote d'Ivoire is seeing some movement), and the IRC staff invited the right audience. No one wanted the session to end, and we several follow-on programs linked to the Report and topic were suggested. PAS Abidjan is pursuing a DVC proposal with the Report's authors. Print and electronic media coverage of the program was extensive.



*Ambassador Aubrey Hooks
Minister Jean-Claude Kouassi
Minister Yed A. Esaïe (Lecturer)
Mr. Honoré Guié (Moderator)
[From left to right]*



Participants actively contributing to the conference.

<http://news.abidjan.net/dossiers/dossier.asp?ID=943> (for more photos)

II - MOOV Company CEO and staffers visited the Embassy

The IRC Abidjan welcomed 32 staff members from the Mobile Company MOOV on January 26, 2007 for an immersion session. It consisted in a powerpoint presentation of the Embassy homepage, the IRC services, programs and resources, followed by a guided tour. They appreciated the IRC programs and mainly the "book of the year" based on the NH title "The Contrarian's Guide to Leadership". The participants were impressed by the abundant and top quality print and online information resources available in the IRC. After the presentation, the Director of the Company immediately ordered 22 copies of the above-mentioned title from "Librairie de France", one of the main Partners of Nouveaux Horizons in Cote d'Ivoire.



Moov CEO and staffers carefully following the IRC Powerpoint presentation.



Ambassador Aubrey Hooks and Moov Staffers in the IRC

III - PAS Staff at the Ministry of Communication

To promote IRC resources and IIP products, PAS staff organized an Information Technology session with the Ministry of Communication on Thursday January 4. Twenty nine contacts including the Minister of Communication, and head of Medias and information institutions attended this important outreach program. PAO David Andresen introduced the session. The IRCD demonstrated the Embassy home page with the services and different programs available for contacts. The audience was impressed by the relevant resources on communication, particularly the commercial data bases such as Lexis-Nexis, the Economist Intelligent Unit and the Nouveaux Horizons collection. The event was widely covered by the National Television. The result was outstanding. All the participants including the Minister registered for IRC membership and E-services to receive materials on their interest.



PAO David Andresen presenting some books to the Minister



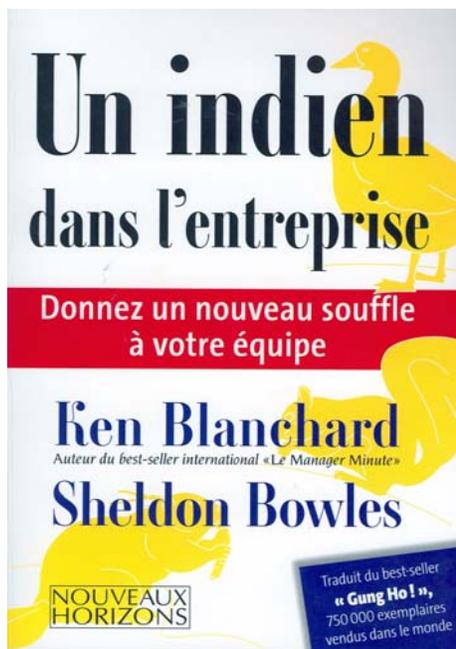
Participants following the IRC Presentation



Minister of Communication thanking PAS

COMING SOON!
COMING SOON!
FEBRUARY 15 @ 2:30 PM
Venue: IRC #103

IRC Seminars - Maximize Knowledge @ Work
4TH Edition



Please join the next Seminar based on the best seller '*Un indien dans l'entreprise*' on Thursday February 15, 2007 from 2:30 PM to 5:30 PM.

To register: just reply to this email.
Books are available in the IRC!