



*Young women from Kuppum, India where World Links will provide training.*



*Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman, Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co International, Egypt, led the private sector's commitment to the Jordan education pilot at the Arab World Competitiveness Meeting.*

The missing cornerstone piece of funding is US\$ 75,000 to support the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology's faculty in training teachers from participating local primary and secondary schools in the instructional use of the Internet; their computer science students learning to maintain the computers, servers and networks in the local participating primary and secondary schools; and their faculty working with the teachers in the participating local primary and secondary schools in adapting, developing and sharing local content. These funds will also support the pilot coordination, website development, iEARN's involvement and the evaluation of this pilot.

### **India**

Accenture and World Links are the lead partners for the pilot in India. Additional partners include JPMorgan Chase Foundation, the Ministry of Human Resource Development and State Departments of Education, and the International Literacy Institute.

World Links is operational now in 35 schools in rural Karnataka and Delhi, with over 150 teachers trained, reaching approximately 7,000 students. By the end of 2003 World Links should be in approximately 150 schools in India, having trained at least 750 teachers and reaching approximately 30,000 secondary level students. In addition, at least 4,000 community members should be regularly accessing the dual-use telecentre sites for life-long learning and ICT-based development activities.

In partnership with Accenture Foundation, World Links will convert school-based computer labs into dual-use school-based telecentres (open to students and teachers during school hours, and to the community at large on a fee basis during non-school hours) in Bombay.

In partnership with the International Literacy Institute, JPMorganChase Foundation and the World Bank, World Links will expand its programme into 50 schools in Andhra Pradesh. In partnership with Shiksha, contribute portions of its training materials and important e-learning resources for the educational portal now under construction. World Links will also expand into 50 additional schools in Delhi and Karnataka and pursue a partnership with the American Indian Foundation for expansion into Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Maharashtra.

*The overall goals of the project are to promote the successful use of ICT in education in Arab nations as well as to increase the participation and competitiveness of Arab nations in the global knowledge economy.*

### **Jordan**

Private sector partners in the Jordan pilot include Saudi Oger, Al Karma Productions, Aramex International, Astrolabe IT, Pinacotes Finance and Trade Group, HSBC Financial Services, Consolidated Contractors Company (CCC), Astra, Pepsi-Cola International, Zouk Ventures and Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Company International. The World Bank's InfoDEV programme plans to match this funding to support a local NGO's contribution to the pilot. World Links is the NGO lead for the Jordan pilot.



*Students at the Monterrey Institute of Technology, one of the partner universities in the Mexico pilot.*

World Links conducted a feasibility study in Jordan in January 2003 to establish institutional ties with the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Planning and to fit activities into ongoing efforts launched by the Jordanian Government and other development agencies.

The pilot will provide translation/adaptation of 160 hours of teacher professional development materials in Arabic, training of 500 teachers in approximately 100 secondary schools, involvement of thousands of students in international online collaborative projects and an extensive impact assessment. This pilot should contribute to much larger government efforts to shape the education system.

The overall goals of the project are to promote the successful use of ICT in education in Arab nations as well as to increase the participation and competitiveness of Arab nations in the global knowledge economy. If proven cost-effective and sustainable the pilot can be scaled to a national level in Jordan and other Middle Eastern countries and disseminate knowledge about the use of ICTs to improve education, via online collaborative learning projects, systematic monitoring and widely distributed impact assessment studies.

Outstanding resource needs include approximately US\$ 150,000 to complete the teacher-training programme for teachers in the 100 schools, develop local content and conduct impact evaluation.

***The pilot will provide 400 donated used computers worth US\$ 120,000 sourced by World Computer Exchange to connect 30 primary and secondary schools with 18,000 students.***

### **Mexico**

McGraw-Hill, Sun Microsystems and World Computer Exchange are the lead partners in the education pilot in Mexico. The pilot uses a local NGO, university and an ISP to implement a scalable and sustainable plan to use telecentres in schools using donated used computers to connect schools to the Internet that would otherwise not be connected for several years. If funded, the container of computers will be shipped in the first half of 2003.

The pilot will provide 400 donated used computers worth US\$ 120,000 sourced by World Computer Exchange to connect 30 primary and secondary schools with 18,000 students. The teacher training will be coordinated and provided by the Monterrey Institute of Technology which will also install and provide initial maintenance for the computers and assist in providing teacher training and connectivity. Sun Microsystems is donating US\$ 27,000 of StarOffice software. The local NGO, Committee for Democracy in Information Technology-Mexico will provide training and content.

Each participating school will receive assistance in preparing their school, teacher training, recycled Pentium computers, software, an iEARN sister school in another country, online website development partially funded by US\$ 13,000 committed from InterConnection, and free connectivity for the first nine months until community demand can sustain free school connection and computer maintenance via after-school fees. The I.T. Group at Harvard's Berkman Center has committed US\$ 15,000 to provide self and peer evaluation of computer status, use and impact.

The missing cornerstone piece of funding is US\$ 75,000 to support Monterrey Institute of Technology's faculty in training teachers from participating local primary and secondary schools in the instructional use of the Internet; their computer science students learning to maintain the