

Corporate briefs

Internet, computer centre for slum residents

Mukuru Kwa Njenga, an informal settlement in Nairobi is set to cross the digital divide and access a global network of opportunity thanks to a new state-of-the-art community centre. The centre was custom-designed for Slums Information Development Resource Centre (SIDAREC) and the needs of Nairobi youth, including access to the Internet, computer and technology training, health clinic services, early childhood development programmes, and a community theatre.

Alfred Khangati Assistant Minister in the office of the Prime Minister said the Government recently launched the Sh50 million Kazi Kwa Vijana initiative which is geared towards creating 300,000 jobs for the youth in the next six months. He urged the 50x15 Foundation, which intends to provide Internet access to 50 per cent of the unreachable by 2015 and other such organizations to work with the Government to ensure the success of the venture.

Dan Shine, the President of the 50x15 Foundation said the foundation's global goal is to provide affordable Internet access and computing capability to 50 percent of world's population by 2015. "This project is aimed at creating a path to individual and community empowerment within the community and Nairobi city at large," Shine added. The centre was financed by the 50x15 Foundation and Architecture for Humanity.

Executive Director of SIDAREC Lucy Maathai said the organisation was given an opportunity by its partners to expand the resources of its existing efforts with a brand new community and technology center that will incubate our youths' potential to improve their lives and living conditions.