

## **Digital Learning – India, March 10, 2009**

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## **Pan-African eLearning Network to convene in Senegal in 2009**

10 March 2009

eLearning Africa 2009 cooperates with Senegalese State IT Agency in the organisation of the 2009 event in Dakar. eLearning Africa continues to expand its network over the Continent. For the organisation of the conference 2009 in Senegal, eLearning Africa is cooperating with the Senegalese state IT agency ADIE (Agence de l'Informatique de l'Etat). The fourth event in the series of pan-African conferences on ICT for Development, Education and Training will take place from May 27 - 29 in the Hotel Le Méridien in Dakar. 'Senegal is delighted to be hosting this event. It will provide the opportunity to show what we can do, as well as discover the initiatives of other countries in terms of eTraining. I believe that experience-sharing is the best way to convince people who are reluctant or sceptical,' says ADIE Director Tidiane Seck.

ADIE's mission is to encourage the use of new technology within government but also, more broadly, by all citizens. For this purpose, the agency has set up an online training platform for both government personnel and corporate staff where everyone can develop their skills throughout their careers. At eLearning Africa, major education institutions from Senegal will present to an international audience what the country has done to train government civil servants as well as what is happening in universities and in the medical field. In terms of infrastructure, this is possible thanks to the government's intranet resource centre, which is currently being completed. The five Senegalese universities will very shortly be interconnected through fibre optics, thus being able to provide real-life teleconference experiences for training purposes. For example, a professor at Dakar University will be able to lecture to students in Ziguinchor or elsewhere in the country.