

# IST-Africa 2026 Call for Papers

May 2026

## Thematic Priorities include

- Technology-enabled Healthcare (mHealth / eHealth)
- Technology-enhanced Learning and eSkills
- Technology-enabled Agriculture (mAgriculture / eAgriculture) & Environmental Sustainability
- Energy - ICT for Power Delivery, Micro-grids
- eInfrastructures and NRENs (National Research and Education Networks)
- Next Generation Computing (Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, Cloud Computing, Future Internet, IoT)
- eGovernment and Public Service Delivery
- Content Technologies (including Language; Digital Preservation)
- Cybersecurity, Privacy and Trust
- Collaborative Open Innovation and Technology-enabled Entrepreneurship (including Social Entrepreneurship)
- Global Development (including ICT4D)
- Societal Implications of Technology

## Deadlines

- Online Submission Extended Deadline: **31 October 2025**
- Provisional Acceptance: **mid January 2026**
- Submission of Final Paper: **28 February 2026**
- Presenter Registration: **mid March 2026**

## Submission of Papers

- Papers must highlight level of Innovation and Actual or Expected Impact
- Paper Focus – Technical, Case Study or Visionary
- Papers must present either a Case Study, or Analysis of Initial / Final Research or Implementation Project Results
- Papers (maximum 4,000 words) should use the **IST-Africa** Paper Template

Each presenter will present **one paper** in the Programme.

## Call for Support Organisations

Please Contact [Secretariat@IST-Africa.org](mailto:Secretariat@IST-Africa.org)

## Supported by



# ISTAfrica 2026

## IST-Africa Initiative

Hosted by **IST-Africa Partner Governments** since 2006, **IST-Africa Week** is the flagship event of the **IST-Africa Institute**. Founded in 2002, **IST-Africa** is supported by European Commission and African Union Commission.

Coordinated by the IST-Africa Institute and IIMC (Ireland), **IST-Africa** is a Strategic Partnership with Ministries and National Councils responsible for Innovation, Science and Technology in 18 African Countries. **IST-Africa** facilitates and supports:

- Strategic engagement with Africa focused on International Research, Innovation and Policy Cooperation
- Knowledge sharing, capacity building and skills transfer between IST-Africa Partner Countries
- Collaborative Open Innovation, Technology-enabled Entrepreneurship (including Social Entrepreneurship) and Global Development (including ICT4D)
- Africa - EU Strategic Partnership (Technology-enabled Research and Innovation supporting Sustainable Development)

## Conference Profile

**IST-Africa Week 2026** is the twenty first annual Ministerial-level Technology Research and Innovation Conference. It brings together senior representatives from leading public, private, education and research, societal and funding organisations around the world to share knowledge and experience of technology-enabled Innovation, Science and Technology related Adoption, Policy and Research in the context of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The **IST-Africa Conference Series** provides a platform to strengthen technology-enabled Innovation, Science and Technology related policy dialogues within Africa, and between Africa, Europe and the rest of the world. This is achieved through strategy and policy oriented Plenary Sessions, rich thematic knowledge exchange through the Scientific Programme, and co-located multi-lateral and bi-lateral meetings. The reputation of **IST-Africa** is based on a high quality Scientific Programme showcasing innovative technology-enabled Innovation, Science and Technology related applications and research results.

Each Conference places a special emphasis on showcasing host country progress in achieving the Information Society and Knowledge Economy, as well as technology-enabled Research, Innovation Capacity and Entrepreneurship (**IST-Africa 2006** - South Africa, **IST-Africa 2007** - Mozambique, **IST-Africa 2008** - Namibia, **IST-Africa 2009** - Uganda, **IST-Africa 2010** - South Africa, **IST-Africa 2011** - Botswana, **IST-Africa 2012** - Tanzania, **IST-Africa 2013** - Kenya, **IST-Africa 2014** - Mauritius, **IST-Africa 2015** - Malawi, **IST-Africa 2016** - South Africa, **IST-Africa 2017** - Namibia, **IST-Africa 2018** - Botswana, **IST-Africa 2019** - Kenya, **IST-Africa 2020** - Uganda, **IST-Africa 2023** - South Africa, **IST-Africa 2025** - Kenya).

**IST-Africa Week 2026** will feature technology-enabled Innovation, Science and Technology, Entrepreneurship, ICT4D and Global Development discussion, showcase research, innovation and implementation related results, and focus on Research and Innovation Collaboration Opportunities between Africa and Europe under Horizon Europe.

## Call for Support Organisations

The **IST-Africa Week Conference Series** is self-funding through public, private and donor sector support and registrations. As a **Support Organisation**, your generosity can facilitate the provision of scholarships for deserving African participants and delivery of additional services for delegates. Please contact [Secretariat@IST-Africa.org](mailto:Secretariat@IST-Africa.org)

## Publishing Schedule

- Draft Final Papers submitted online by **deadline of 31 October 2025**
- Provisional Acceptance of Draft Final Papers with IPC feedback by **mid January 2026**
- Final Papers to be submitted online by **28 February 2026** for editorial review & quality check
- Accepted Presenters must register and pay the Presenter Fee by **mid March 2026**
- Papers accepted and presented author or co-author during the event (each presenter will present **one paper**) will be included in the Conference Proceedings (with ISBN Number) on USB flash drive, published in the **IST-Africa Open Access Paper Repository**.

There are **three** different presentation opportunities during **IST-Africa Week 2026**: i) Published paper sharing Research, Innovation or Implementation results with oral presentation; ii) Published case study with oral presentation; and iii) Oral Presentation of interim results within a thematic parallel session.

## International Programme Committee

A distinguished International Programme Committee (IPC) is being formed by Prof. Paul Cunningham, the **IST-Africa** Conference Chair. The IPC will evaluate and provide actionable feedback to help authors improve their paper.

[www.IST-Africa.org/Conference2026](http://www.IST-Africa.org/Conference2026)