



ICT for National Development

Acia 2013 Information Pack

Introduction

Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) in a bid to promote innovation within the ICT sector will hold the 3rd ACIA Award, to celebrate, recognise and reward persons that have developed innovative ICT products, services and applications in Uganda.

In recognition of the linkage between innovation and economic development, the ACIA Awards seek to foster greater local involvement and research in the development and use of ICTs in Uganda.

Objectives of the ACIA initiative

1. To recognize outstanding innovations in the development and adoption of ICTs in Uganda,
2. To encourage individuals, academia, industry, government agencies and other entities to harness ICTs in creating solutions to Uganda's development challenges
3. To inspire, nurture, and facilitate Ugandan youth to develop a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship by leveraging ICT
4. To raise awareness of the value of ICTs in the development of the country.
5. To create a platform for showcasing innovations within the ICT industry in Uganda

Eligibility

ACIA 2013 is open to the different categories of stakeholders. Accordingly, entries can be made by the following:

- Individuals,
- Students currently enrolled in secondary school
- Students currently enrolled in tertiary and vocational institutions,
- Group/team of individuals,
- Micro, small, medium and large enterprises,
- Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)
- UCC licensees/operators
- Government institutions

Award categories

1. Young ICT Innovators award

This award has two sub categories.

1a) Uganda's rising stars

This award shall recognise extraordinary application of ICTs by secondary school students towards reduction of the digital divide in Uganda. This may be with regard to ICT access, affordability, availability and/or its applicability meeting the socio – economic needs of a community of their choice.

For this category, student applicants are required to acquire secondment from a relevant school teacher and head teacher of their institution.

1b) Uganda's ICT visionaries

This award shall recognize an ICT based innovation developed by students in a tertiary or a vocational institution that seeks to make a city or town of their choice, smarter by:

- a. Improving the attractiveness of the natural conditions;
- b. Improving energy efficiency through the use of ICT;
- c. Reducing pollution including sustainable management of the End of Life (EOL) of ICT equipment;
- d. Facilitating sustainable resource management;
- e. Raising awareness and promoting sustainable behavioural change.

The city or town of choice should be selected from among these: Kampala, Arua, Gulu, Hoima, Mukono, Jinja, Mbale, Wakiso, Mbarara or Soroti

2. Business Excellence Award

This award shall recognise outstanding use of ICTs by an organisation, whose core business is not ICT, to improve the organisation's performance - efficiency, effectiveness or both.

3. ICT for Development Award

This award shall recognise the extraordinary use of ICTs to improve the livelihoods of communities by facilitating Uganda's achievement of any of the millennium development goals:

- eradication of poverty and hunger;
- universal primary education;
- promote gender equity and empower women;
- reduce child mortality;
- improve maternal health;
- combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases;
- ensure environmental sustainability.

4. Service Excellence Award

4a) *Enabling communication for all.*

This award shall recognise outstanding innovative approaches by licensed telecom providers to eliminate barriers to ICT inclusion in Uganda

4b) *Content for all*

This award shall recognise the most creative programming that ensures accessibility and applicability of information to the diverse local audiences

4c) *Modernising post and courier*

This award shall recognise the outstanding compilation of text, images including video, or sound into an application or product that enhances the value and use of communication networks and services within local communities in Uganda.

5. Digital Content Award

This award shall recognise the outstanding compilation of text, images including video, or sound into an application or product that enhances the value and use of networks within local communities in Uganda.

Prizes and other benefits to the winners

- Certificates will be given to all participants
- Trophies/plaques shall be to all the winners in the various categories.
- Uganda's rising stars winners shall receive school fees for one academic year
- The Uganda ICT Visionaries winner shall receive apprenticeship program with a prominent local ICT company and mobile/portable telecom access device or terminal with six months internet subscription.
- The Digital Content winner will receive financial contribution towards commercialization his/her products.
- The winners of the young ICT innovators, ICT for Development and the Digital Content shall also show case at Uganda's pavilion at the ITU Telecom World 2013 exhibition.

The Process for Selection of Winners

The entries submitted online shall be subjected to an evaluation process that will be carried out by a panel of judges constituted of professionals from within the communications sector and other related commercial sectors.

These shall then be reviewed by a panel of independent judges drawn from different backgrounds within the ICT sector.

Winners in each category shall be selected based on the following criteria:

- Creativity and originality – What new idea is being presented? Is the entry an improvement of an existing product, service or process?
- Significance, effectiveness and impact - the importance of the innovation, the ability of the innovation to deliver the intended benefits and the degree to which it provides a solution to the problem it was intended to solve
- Sustainability and feasibility, –How does the innovation optimally exploit the resources utilized in the production and consumption processes, and what is its potential for successful implementation in the desired context/environment
- Scalability or transferability – The degree to which the entry can serve as a model or to which its components, concepts, principles, or insights are transferable to other initiatives
- Spark – Does the entry generate collective excitement for its originality, execution and potential benefits? The judges may utilise any other supplementary and publically available information to inform their decision.

General Rules, Guidelines, Provisions and Requirements for all Entries

All entries for consideration will be required to satisfy the following cross-cutting requirements:

1. All entries must be submitted online. Supplementary information that is not electronic may be submitted physically to the UCC headquarters in Bugolobi or any of its branch offices.
2. All entries must be completed according to the specified information, on the online portal.
3. All entries must relate to initiatives or developments that have a demonstrated proof of concept and which have been developed during the period January 1, 2011- April 30, 2013.
4. All entries must be based on initiatives that are implemented in Uganda or by organisations based in Uganda.
5. An applicant may submit at most three different entries to the same or different categories of the awards, provided all the entries are clearly distinctive.
6. Where an innovation/application/product/service has been the result of collaboration amongst various parties, appropriate consent should be sought or consideration made to submit the entry as a group/team entry. In cases where a group/team entry is not made, proof of consent of the collaborating partner(s) should be submitted along with the rest of the supporting documentation.
7. Additional supporting documents or evidence, not listed in entry requirements may be requested during the selection process where deemed necessary.
8. Applicants are required to provide documents to verify their identity and provide references who may be contacted to validate information submitted in their submissions
9. Entrants must supply full details as required in the application form, and comply with all rules to be eligible for the award(s). Further to this, applicants will be required to sign a declaration form testifying that the submission is a product of their own effort and intellect and indemnifying the Commission from any intellectual property infringements that the submission may cause.
10. Validation visits to verify information presented in the applications may be necessary. Where this is necessary, UCC shall undertake to respect the required confidentiality of the concerned applicants.
11. The decisions of the judges shall be final.
12. An entry may be moved to a category other than that into which the applicant entered it, if the panel of judges deem it better suited to compete there. Due notification shall be given and consent sought from the applicant in this event.
13. Participants may be required to participate in ACIA related publicity events.
14. UCC reserves the right to cancel this awards process at any stage, if deemed necessary in its opinion, and if circumstances arise outside of its control.
15. All information submitted will be treated with utmost confidentiality.
16. Applicants shall be deemed to have accepted these Provisions and Rules, and to agree to be bound by them, when they submit their applications.

Key dates in the 2013 edition

- ACIA launch 23rd January 2013
- Beginning date for submission of entries is 1st February 2013
- Closing date for submission of entries is 30th April 2013
- Awards gala is on 7th June 2012

For more information contact us on
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0312 339000, 0414 339000
or email us at **awards@ucc.co.ug**

Toll free 0800133911

****Deadline for entries is April 30, 2013.***



Uganda Communications Commission



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