

WRAP-UP NOTES

JOINT AFRICA-EU STRATEGIC (JAES) PARTNERSHIP 8 (ICT COMPONENT) MULTI-STAKEHOLDER IMPLEMENTATION GROUP MEETING (IG8/ICT)

**Nov. 30, 2012
LISBON, PORTUGAL**





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INTRODUCTION

The Joint Africa-EU Strategic (JAES) Partnership 8 (ICT Component) multi-stakeholder Implementation Group (IG8/ICT) co-chaired by the African Union Commission (AUC) and the European Commission (EC) was formed to provide key stakeholders active in the information society areas with periodic opportunities to meet, network, exchange views, develop collaborative work, agree on common action plans, launch consultations, etc.

The second formal IG8/ICT meeting took place at the Knowledge Pavilion in Lisbon on November 30, 2012, in the framework of the '2012 Africa-EU Cooperation Week on ICT' organised by the [EuroAfrica-ICT/P8](#) Partnership.

Co-chaired by the African Union Commission (represented by Mr Moctar Yedaly, Head of the Information Society Division) and the European Commission (represented by Mr Klaus Pendl, Africa Desk Officer, International Relations Unit, DG CONNECT) the meeting was attended by 43 individuals (policy-makers, senior representatives from governments, representatives from 5 African Regional Economic Communities, the NEPAD Planning & Coordinating Agency, the UN Economic Commission for Africa, representatives from international development cooperation agencies, ICT project managers, programme managers, heads of research labs, researchers, IT engineers, lecturers and researchers from universities and the higher education sector, managers of NGOs, managers of professional associations, and industry stakeholders).

This very interactive and lively meeting, intended to facilitate cooperation and enhance better coordination of national and regional programmes, was a resounding success and the meeting outcomes are included in this report.

The next section gives the Event Agenda, followed by brief summaries of the main points from each session.

1. FROM AN ACADEMIC PERSPECTIVE

1.1. ANALYSIS OF CURRENT SITUATION AND WHAT IS REQUIRED TO MAKE IT WORK

Raising Awareness - Many research collaboration activities are on a one-to-one basis. The opportunities for collaboration, and the benefits it can bring, should be known more widely. From the African side we don't see stakeholders applying for the

opportunities, they also don't know that the African Union Commission can help.

Community Building - Enabling researchers to meet personally in order to trust each other and have confidence in each other's technical competence at



academic level is key. So is to trigger bottom-up collaboration. Community building has to be done to act as a human network, a real human network as peers who are interested in collaborating.

Capacity Development - The biggest hurdle is the institutional capacity to write project proposals in response to EC Calls for Proposals since most universities do not have dedicated or enough staff to do that. If that is not addressed we will always remain in a situation where the European universities come up with an idea, prepare the project proposal and related documents (work-plan, costing, etc.), and only ask the African institution to sign off with probable negative consequences regarding the project proposal ownership.

Diaspora - The group also debated on mobility of researchers and access to resources (capacity building and

infrastructures). African researchers stay in Europe due to limited working opportunities and insufficient working conditions once back home (including salaries). More importantly, there is limited access to the resources required for innovative research (including financial resources but also infrastructural resources and human resources). Surveys have shown that the research environment and intellectual reward are the most important factors for retaining researchers.

Broadband - The technical broadband archipelago makes it easier for some African universities/countries to talk to European countries than to talk to each other. A university is not a university until it is connected to the Internet. While there are forerunners (e.g. the UbuntuNet Alliance), one third out of all 54 African States do not even reply to queries about Research Networks.

1.2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Seek other ways of making the JAES P8 and IG8/ICT activities and objectives known in order to harness the potential of collaboration between Europe and Africa, but also inter-African collaboration.
- Provide guidance (documentation and people) and capacity building on the JAES P8 and IG8/ICT associated programmes and opportunities to apply for research funding for both European and African researchers
- Promote more mobility of academic staff and students within Africa and between Africa and Europe
- Mitigate brain-drain by linking overseas programmes to job security upon return back home, encourage and support the diaspora working in ICT research to get involved in R&D with home countries (e.g. by conducting remote seminars and lectures, participating in research groups, developing project proposals, etc.)
- Enhance working conditions for African researchers at African universities (instrumentation, people who can work with the researcher, funding for research, intellectual rewards)
- Enhance technical capacities to overcome the 'broadband archipelago' and invest in other technical infrastructure required for advancing Research & Education (e.g. large computing



- resources, large bandwidth, access to people and scientific publications).
- Strengthen research and education environments with competent units/personnel with time and resources to apply for funding ICT research.
- Address application complexities at the EC, AUC and regional institution levels: rather than writing guidelines and 'How To' books for the complex application procedures, it would be better for the EC/AUC to have people that can discuss and assess whether ideas from small groups of people are good, and to avoid the complex application process.
- Revisit the system of country focal points: not everybody gets the information, knows when the calls come and what the deadlines are. The African ministries for Science and Technology must promote and support the partnership in their countries in order to advance.
- Do not wait for calls when there are good ideas for collaboration – a good idea cannot wait for two years.
- At the Partnership 8 level: define indicators of progress – rethink what we are going to measure to assess whether we are moving in the right direction, or to change course if needed.

2. FROM THE MEMBER STATES' PERSPECTIVE

2.1. ANALYSIS OF CURRENT SITUATION AND WHAT IS REQUIRED TO MAKE IT WORK

Partnership - There is a need to use existing tools to cooperate better, not in a 'North-South' relationship but in a relationship as peers, without reference to a geographical region as lagging behind another – this is a simplification of reality and a stigma.

Connecting Researchers - Excellent research groups exist both in Africa and in Europe – these need to cooperate, and build on existing resources such as Open Access to digital libraries of scientific research, regional deals with publishers, grid computing environments, cooperation mechanisms between national education and research networks, etc.

Historical Ties - Strong Africa-EU ties exist in line with the historical relationships,

including very rich research ties and strong funding relationships. But this is not the case for pan-African or pan-European relationships. Broad relationships are slower and therefore lessons can be learned from the faster relationships.

Research Networking - There is a need for a forum for presenting research ideas, research results and suggestions for follow-up actions, to identify who is presenting which research, to create linkages between researchers and research groups, and to consolidate results.

The Role of RECs - From the Regional Economic Communities' (RECs') point of view, RECs are part of the African Union and UNECA. Since RECs do not have



direct links with universities, there is not a big role for the RECs in addressing the space and science areas. The bilateral relationships should be opened up to be multinational.

Pan African collaboration – Collaboration between African Member States can be improved. 'We need proper alignment of our own needs that we want our European partners to help us with. We need to do proper housekeeping first. All of the recommendations that were submitted to the EC have been implemented by the EC.'

Raising the profile of ICT - Lobby needs to come from African Member States to the EC in order to list ICT high in the national programmes and agendas, as well as to advocate the value of support actions like EuroAfrica-ICT/P8. It appears that ICT is currently not high on the development cooperation agendas of EU Member

States (refer to Harry de Backer's presentation at the '2012 EuroAfrica Cooperation Forum on ICT'). ICT issues have to be linked to thematic programmes such as education and health, and not as separate programmes.

One of the EU MS attending the meeting observed the existence of numerous ICT cooperation instruments in the ministries but a complexity of responsibilities between Ministries.

The Partnership 8 has succeeded in putting ICT on the agenda of the AU EU partnership, but at the same time when looking at other aspects of the European policy in Africa (e.g. education), ICT lacks visibility. This IG8/ICT group have a role to convince the others, and to help put ICT on the agenda and have ICT components included in all the other large and important public policy programmes.

2.2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Explore how the Partnership 8 (ICT component) activities can make use of the collaboration around Internet Governance (IG) issues, especially to enable the relevant national ministries to know each other better and exchange plans and requirements around ICT programmes. Use relationships around IG to boost dialogue, but avoid the politicisation of issues.
- 'Goodwill programmes': if a European country has a bilateral agreement with a country in Africa, these bilateral calls could be opened up to another country in Europe and another country in Africa. Such opening up of bilateral programmes is difficult for researchers to do by themselves. They can lobby their ministries, but it should be part of the general S&T policy dialogue.
- Revisit how the Member State representatives are identified and tasked to represent and make decisions at relevant gatherings. Initiate the establishment of a three-dimensional group (space, ICT, science) in each country, which can officially represent the country and participate in programmes. Within the larger three-dimensional group, create subgroups for space, science and ICT, in order to be more specific.
- Sensitization and awareness-raising at the level of Member States:



- Clarify objectives as they relate to the interests of the member states and highlight the potential benefits for the stakeholder groups.
- Present examples of successful partnerships, between Europe and Africa, but also among African Member States.
- Enhance the communication around the partnership – clarify that the partnership is about collaboration, and not about funding.
- African Member States should foster this kind of cooperation and join forces for a Framework Programme call for Africa.
- Establish advisory programmes on the value and integration of ICT in the different key development programmes – IICD & EuroAfrica-P8 to pick up with the AUC to design strategies on how to do this.

3. FROM A RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE

3.1. ANALYSIS OF CURRENT SITUATION AND WHAT IS REQUIRED TO MAKE IT WORK

Linking Researchers with Industry - There is a weak link between academia and industry in the African higher learning institutions. Local industry has very little interest in R&D - they do not see the need or added value. Most of the private sector R&D in Africa is done by foreign companies. Multinationals with offices in Africa often do R&D within their own national institutions, generally not with the local institutions.

Enabling Environment – For R&D to happen one needs a critical mass of researchers as well as the enabling environment / ecosystem such as policies.

Innovation - R&D should be more application and problem-solving oriented, and R&D should lead to results and innovation, including a business model for entrepreneurship.

Good R&D that makes a (socio-economic) difference needs people that

are motivated to make a difference. How can we identify and tap into that talent? How can we utilise the people that have the brain and the motivation, but do not have the papers (i.e. the academic qualifications).

Business incentives: The Fraunhofer business model is interesting: 30-50% of the budget comes from the Industry. This is the indicator to show motivation and ownership. This is a clear challenge in Africa, where local industry is interested in products to buy and use, but not in R&D. There is a perception that industry conducts its own R&D and industry funding for research is almost non-existent. Universities do their R&D, but cannot bring it to the market.

SMEs - Fraunhofer, Portugal commented that they are struggling to find industries that are interested in applied research. Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and Telcos are no longer the very innovative companies - SMEs are the ones



developing game-changing services and applications.

Localisation - Orange has set up research labs in Cairo and in Abidjan, plus working relationships with universities, in order to build projects that could be rapidly operationalized. Orange considers this as localisation of their research activity. The work that companies like SAP and Orange do to establish labs on the African continent gives local researchers a valuable opportunity to participate and gives the companies a footprint in the African market. Another Orange experience is the incubator in Dakar which supports the development of new ICT-related companies (with a programme supported by the World Bank). Sonatel (Orange) is very involved in the functioning of this incubator. This is maybe something we have to build on, and include research partners in such initiatives. To conclude, private sector should help to create jobs for researchers.

Socio-economic value of R&D - The vision of industry leaders and governments on the value of R&D as results for innovation and economic growth is paramount. E.g. the incubator in Dar es Salaam (Tz) was supported by a Telco until the CEO changed and the new CEO pulled out. Is there a role here to take up on stimulating the vision of industry leaders and governments? For most of the policy

makers and politicians, research is not accountable from a budget point of view, it is seen as a risk and a 'budgetivore.' They don't see a clear practical outcome.


Basic and applied research - Science and applied research are two different stories. It takes time and long term investment to build applied research capacity. Industry definitely needs applied research. If the outputs are too much in theory and papers, there is not much value for industry. Some basic research needs twenty years in order to build up the knowledge, train the staff and have all the levels of expertise required. Applied research on the other hand has a 2-year timeframe maximum. If it takes longer, industry is not interested. But it is very dangerous to think that one can do the work of the other! Both need to exist.

African industry - In this IG8-ICT group, African participants are mainly from research and not from African industry. For future events (in Africa), we should deploy even more effort to ensure participation of local industry and demonstrate how the collaboration between research & industry works in Europe. Maybe that can serve to inspire closer working relationships between research and industry in Africa.

3.2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- An analysis is required in order to understand why international companies generally do R&D with institutions from their own countries and not with local initiatives.
- African countries need to make R&D attractive. For example, tax benefits

for local research is a way that a country can help industry to establish research capacity. Incentives could encourage private sector to investment in R&D, recruit researchers and PhDs, and make strategic cooperation with local universities and research centres.

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- The way forward is to shift the focus to applied/directed research and to create linkages with industry. The focus needs to be on problem-solving R&D.

4. FROM AN INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

4.1. ANALYSIS OF CURRENT SITUATION AND WHAT IS REQUIRED TO MAKE IT WORK

Public-private-partnership - SAP Research in South Africa is in partnership with the Meraka Institute (CSIR South Africa) and reports globally to SAP. The main partner is the South African government through the Department of Science and Technology. This is one model that works. The research lab (ca. 40 people) conducts 'directed research' that take 12 to 18 months to have some deliverables coming out, such as prototypes at the pre-commercialisation phase.

African footprint - For industry-led research such as the SAP Research Lab it is hugely important to expand its footprint in other countries. The collaboration programmes could support mobility programmes for young researchers (Masters, Doctoral students) among institutions and countries in Africa, based on a concrete working relationship with concrete and defined benefits for industry.

Triggering industry - Industry is generally not aware of the partnerships and opportunities. Industry could be triggered to become involved by creating an industry stream at the EuroAfrica-ICT/P8 Cooperation Forum on ICT, and the

EuroAfrica-ICT/P8 partnership should organise side events at relevant industry gatherings in Africa.

Multiple African partners - The current composition of the consortia for EC funded projects makes it very difficult for African organisations to fulfil the expectations the consortia have of them, leading to low levels of impact on the African continent. 2 or 3 African countries collaborating with a research organisation in Europe would make the impact bigger and the consortium activities and outputs more manageable.

Reach the market - From the private sector perspective, it is hugely important to bring the results of research to the market: 'Africa is the future of Europe'. With respect to FP5, FP6, FP7 projects – the opinion was expressed that no many of these projects resulted in something that goes into exploitation. If it is not possible to motivate researchers and research organisations to go a step further and really go into exploitation, then industry will not be interested.

Mixed development teams - It was observed that only very sporadically do we generate completely new products.



Specialised skills are needed at the beginning of the research in order to generate business plans for potential products. Then comes the typical R&D phase which ends in a prototype with a trial. In order to avoid the 'valley of death', it is recommended that mixed development teams with European and African researchers should be assisted with entrepreneurship support to bring results to market.

4.2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Make industry aware of the JAES IG8-ICT collaboration activities and clarify what is in it for industry. Try to get them involved in the yearly Euro-Africa ICT Forum (e.g. Intel, HP, others). Create more balance between academia and industry by establishing an industry stream and inviting people from industry in Africa to present what they are working on and to put their research agenda's on the table (e.g. SAP: mobile cloud for emerging economies).
- Create IT research career opportunities which are linked to industry to retain the talent in Africa. Explore the mobility of Masters and Doctoral students among countries in Africa. Look into the model of the European ERASMUS programme to create a mobility programme for young researchers to move between different institutions and different countries.
- Create an event at the time of the annual Informa Africa conference in Cape Town (and explain what Africa EU collaboration on ICT is doing).
- Reconsider the composition of the consortia: 2 or 3 African countries collaborating with a research organisation in Europe.
- Look into how smaller projects can be taken up by incubators to conduct trials and other ICT innovation processes at a larger scale.
- Support African/European innovation teams with relevant entrepreneurship skills: e.g. business plans for potential products (pre-research), and skills to bring results to the market (post-research).

It is well known that the next EC programme, Horizon 2020, will address the exploitation of innovations.

Scaling up for jobs - Today the challenge is to scale the proven projects up in order to create jobs. Incubators should be established and put into practice in different places. All the small projects can then be taken up and deployed in the larger programmes.



5. FROM THE RECs' PERSPECTIVE

5.1. ANALYSIS OF CURRENT SITUATION AND WHAT IS REQUIRED TO MAKE IT WORK

The African Union has been in existence since 1963, but for many years it was mainly focusing its activities on the independence and apartheid issues.

Governments' role in ICT - The RECs have been more focused on development issues. The ICT sector is now becoming a challenge for Africa since, in the 1990s, there was the (imposed) privatisation of the telecom companies. A negative effect of that has been the disengagement of African governments and the public sector from ICT issues. The private sector is looking for profit, and where they cannot generate profit they are not investing time and money.

Mobile - Despite rapid advances in mobile coverage, large groups of African populations are still unconnected - if they do have a phone, they may not know how to use it for socio-economic advancement.

SADC Strategy - SADC has been involved in the EU-Africa collaboration activities from the Space side, and is very active in S&T as well, but not so much on ICT issues. The [e-SADC Strategic Framework](#) allows for the integration of ICT with health, education, etc. It was established in 2010 under the UNECA African Information Society Initiative, [AISI](#)). The SADC REC will endeavour to bring more SADC member states on-board for the P8 discussions.

ECCAS and WSIS - ECCAS makes mention of the relationship of this partnership with the WSIS action lines. Alignment and linkages can serve to strengthen this partnership. It is necessary to consider whether the WSIS 11 lines of action have the same priority at the levels of the countries and the region. E.g. C1: awareness of decision-makers and policy makers, C2: connectivity and infrastructure, C3: Capacity Building, etc. Euro African collaboration should focus on the priority lines.

WACREN experience - Experience from the West African Monetary and Economic Commission is that they were able to access funding to procure equipment, support training centres, etc. This was important for setting up R&D labs, e.g. on electromagnetic capability, radio spectrum for health, etc.

ECOWAS and processes - The experience from ECOWAS is that the money for R&D is there, but the problem is the process to access the money: the papers and application processes are complex and long.

Information about RECs: It was observed that information about the ICT cooperation programmes of RECs should be made more visible.



5.2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- The role of the AUC to align and harmonise the policies that involve the RECs with those of the AUC and Member States was reinforced.
- Provide information on how the RECs are handling ICT-related programmes and are helping to promote the ICT initiatives such as AfricaConnect and EuroAfrica-ICT/P8.
- RECs should make sure that they are implementing programmes with and for Member States – communication lines, information provision and appropriate representation with and for member states is essential.
- Active RECs should bring more Member States on board of the P8 related meetings and activities.

6. CLOSING SESSION

The African Union Commission (Moukoko Yedali) concluded with the following sentiment: “no more North-South, no more Poor-Rich, no stigma of anything. This is about partnership”.

He also quoted Thomas Sankara: *“I would like to leave behind me the conviction that if we maintain a certain amount of caution and organization we deserve victory [...] You cannot carry out fundamental change without a certain amount of madness. In this case, it comes from nonconformity, the courage to turn your back on the old formulas, the courage to invent the future. It took the madmen of yesterday for us to be able to act with extreme clarity today. I want to be one of those madmen. [...] We must dare to invent the future.”* 1985. We need

a fundamental change of the way we do things, and the way we see Europe and Africa. We have to have the courage to build the future.

The European Commission (Klaus Pendl) thanked Karine Valin and the EuroAfrica-ICT/P8 Partnership for bringing together such a kaleidoscope of participants for this meeting (AUC, EC, MS, RECs, NEPAD, UNECA, international development cooperation agencies, academia, industry, research agency, NGOs, etc.) This has brought more knowledge than just another meeting. ‘The world is only as big as the window you open towards it’ – we have to open the window to our partners and our neighbours to make it work. This meeting was an excellent example of how it can work.

ANNEX 1: EVENT AGENDA


| NOVEMBER 30, 2012 | |
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| Venue: Knowledge Pavilion, Alameda dos Oceanos, Parque das Nações | |
| 07:30 - Registrations & Welcome of Participants | |
| 08:30-08:45 - Opening Remarks & Welcome Addresses from the two co-Chairs | |
| | Moctar Yedaly Head: Information Society Division, African Union Commission (AUC) |
| | Klaus Pendl Africa Desk Officer, International Relations Unit, DG CONNECT, European Commission (EC) |
| 08:45-09:30 - From Member States' Perspective... | |
| Facilitators Ana Neves (Director of Department of Information Society, Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT), Ministry of Education and Science) & Eric Mwangi (Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (MoHEST) - Kenya) | |
| 09:30-10:15 - From an Academic Perspective... | |
| Facilitators Bjorn Pehrson (Researcher & Lecturer, KTH Telecommunication Systems Laboratory - Sweden) & Boubakar Barry (Coordinator, African Association University, AAU - Ghana) | |
| 10:15-11:00 - Networking Coffee & Tea Break | |
| 11:00-11:30 - From a R&D Perspective... | |
| Facilitators George Mulamula (ICT Senior Advisor, COSTEC - Tanzania) & Karl Jonas (Head of CC RESCON, Resource Optimized Networks, Fraunhofer FOKUS - Germany) | |
| 11:30-12:15 - From an Industry Perspective... | |
| Facilitators Jan Eloff (Research Director, SAP Research, Meraka UTD - South Africa) & Bernard Yvetot (VP France telecom - France) | |
| 12:15-13:00 - From the RECs' Perspective... | |
| Facilitators Moctar Yedaly (Head of the Information Society Division, African Union Commission) & Moses Bayingana (ICT Expert, Directorate of Human Resources Science and Technology, African Union Commission) | |
| 13:00-13:15 - The way forward... | |
| | Wrap-up Saskia Harmsen : Officer Community Relations: Innovation & Capacity Development, IICD - The Netherlands |
| | Conclusions & Vote of Thanks Moctar Yedaly (Head, Information Society Division, African Union Commission - AUC) & Edmund Katiti (Acting Head of the NEPAD e-Africa Programme - South Africa) Klaus Pendl (Africa Desk Officer, International Relations Unit, DG CONNECT, European Commission - EC) |
| 13:15 - End of the Meeting | |

ANNEX 2: EVENT ATTENDEE LIST

| # | Family Name | First Name | Position | Organisation | Country |
|----|-------------------|----------------------|---|--|------------------------------|
| 1 | Attafir | Girum Asnake | ICT Director | Ambo University | Ethiopia |
| 2 | Barretto | Catherinerose | Co-Founder | KINU | Tanzania, United Republic of |
| 3 | Barry | Boubakar | Coordinator, Research & Education Network. Unit | Association of African Universities (AAU) | Ghana |
| 4 | Bayingana | Moses | ICT Expert | African Union Commission | AUC |
| 5 | Coetzee | Marijke | Associate Professor | University of Johannesburg | South Africa |
| 6 | Coudeville | Damien | ICT4D Advisor | French Ministry of Foreign Affairs | France |
| 7 | Dafalla | Abu Sufian | Acting Director Infrastructure Development | COMESA | Zambia |
| 8 | De Nale | Laura | Project Assistant | Sigma Orionis | France |
| 9 | Elbrish | Therese | Bilateral Cooperation dep manager | MCIT | Egypt |
| 10 | Elias | Dirk | Director | Fraunhofer Portugal | Portugal |
| 11 | Eloff | Jan | Professor | University of Pretoria | South Africa |
| 12 | Fateem | Inas | R&D Manager | MCIT | Egypt |
| 13 | Faye | Makane | Officer-in-Charge ICT Policy and E-Application Sections | United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) | Ethiopia |
| 14 | Hamza | Rached | General Director | CERT (Centre d' Etudes et de Recherche des Télécommunications) | Tunisia |
| 15 | Harmsen | Saskia | officer Community Relations | IICD | Netherlands |
| 16 | Jonas | Karl | Head of Network research | Fraunhofer FOKUS | Germany |
| 17 | Kamdem | Emmanuel | Responsable TIC | CEEAC | Gabon |
| 18 | Katiti | Edmund | Acting Head | NEPAD e-Africa Commission | South Africa |
| 19 | Kone | Tiemoman | President | WACREN | Ivory Coast |
| 20 | Le Marec | Jacques | International Partnership Unit | Ministry for Economic Regeneration | France |



| | | | | | |
|----|------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|------------------------------|
| 21 | Lyytinen | Tatu | Research Scientist | VTT | Finland |
| 22 | Mamelodi | Cecilia | Senior Programme Manager Communications | SADC | Botswana |
| 23 | Matos | Pedro | International Relations | FCT | Portugal |
| 24 | Mulamula | George | CEO & Senior ICT Advisor | COSTECH | Tanzania, United Republic of |
| 25 | Mussa | Patrick | Assistant Lecturer in ICT | University of Malawi | Malawi |
| 26 | Mwangi | Eric | Research Scientist | MOHEST | Kenya |
| 27 | Neves | Ana | Director, Department of Information Society | Ministry of Education and Science | Portugal |
| 28 | Nuno | Cunha | Innovation Manager | AAVANZ | Portugal |
| 29 | Pehrson | Bjorn | Professor | KTH | Sweden |
| 30 | Pendl | Klaus | Africa Desk Officer | European Commission - DG CONNECT | EC |
| 31 | Ribeiro | Margarida | International Affairs Officer | FCT | Portugal |
| 32 | Ruggieri | Federico | Director of Research | INFN | Italy |
| 33 | Saibou | Mohamadou Arabani | Director General | ESMT | Senegal |
| 34 | Stevenot | Bernard | Senior Advisor | SPACEBEL | Belgium |
| 35 | Taute | Barend | Manager: ICT Contract R&D | Meraka Institute of CSIR | South Africa |
| 36 | Thoiithi | Grace | Professor | University of Nairobi | Kenya |
| 37 | Tomé | Cristina | Vice President | IICT - Instituto de Investigação Científica Tropical | Portugal |
| 38 | Valin | Karine | Managing Director | Sigma Orionis | France |
| 39 | van den Homberg | Marc | Senior business developer ICT for development | TNO | Netherlands |



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|----|----------------------|----------------|--|--------------------------|--------------|
| 40 | Van der Merwe | Alta | Head of Department | University of Pretoria | South Africa |
| 41 | Yahiaoui | Ali | Chief ICT Officer | African Development Bank | Tunisia |
| 42 | Yedaly | Moctar | Head of Information Society, Infrastructure and energy | African Union Commission | AUC |
| 43 | Yvetot | Bernard | Vice-president international strategy | France Telecom/Orange | France |