

IST-Africa Newsletter January 2018

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Dear Colleagues,

Happy New Year - we hope you are keeping well. This newsletter is primarily focused on raising awareness of the IST-Africa 2018 Call for Papers, Horizon 2020 2018 - 2020 Work Programmes, IST-Africa Resources to support participation in Horizon 2020 (IST-Africa Guide to 2018 Calls for Proposals in Horizon 2020, IST-Africa Report on ICT Initiatives, Research and Innovation Priorities and Capacity) and upcoming events.

Click [here](#) to download this newsletter in pdf format.

IST-Africa 2018 Call for Papers Extended Deadline 22 January 2018

Supported by the European Commission and African Union Commission, IST-Africa 2018 (08 - 11 May, Gaborone) is the thirteenth in an annual series of Ministerial level Technology Research Conferences.

IST-Africa provides a platform in Africa to strengthen ICT-enabled Innovation, Science and Technology related policy dialogues within Africa and between Africa and Europe, Global Development, Research and Innovation Cooperation and Community Building. It also provides an opportunity to identify potential partners for future research cooperation under Horizon 2020. IST-Africa is a unique community that brings together cross-disciplinary stakeholders from public, private, education and research, societal sector with end user communities focused on ICT and STI Research and Innovation.

IST-Africa 2018 Call for Papers invited full papers (8 pages in length) using the paper guidelines and IST-Africa template to be submitted online for review by **22 January**. All papers are double blind peer reviewed. Each presenter can present one paper in the Programme. Full Papers accepted for the Conference Proceedings and presented during the conference will be submitted for publication to IEEE Xplore as an additional dissemination channel.

Thematic areas include: eHealth/mHealth; Technology-enhanced Learning; eAgriculture/mAgriculture; eInfrastructures and NRENs; Energy; Next Generation Computing (Big data, Cloud computing, Future Internet, Internet of Things); eGovernment; Content Technologies (Languages, Digital Preservation); Cyber Security; Collaborative Open Innovation and ICT-enabled Entrepreneurship; Global Development including ICT4D and Societal Implications of Technology.

Please download the [Call for Papers](#) for more information.

Horizon 2020 2018 - 2020 Work Programmes

[Horizon 2020](#) commenced in January 2014 as the new Framework Programme for research and innovation from 2014 – 2020. There are three main pillars – Excellence Science, Industrial Leadership, Societal Challenges.

ICT is a horizontal activity that is included across a number of Work Programmes within LEIT and within Societal Challenges.

The European Commission published the 2018 - 2020 Work Programmes on 27 October 2017. The work programmes can be downloaded from the [Horizon 2020 section](#) of the IST-Africa portal.

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IST-Africa Guide to 2018 Calls for Proposals in Horizon 2020

The [IST-Africa Guide to 2018 Calls for Proposals](#) provides an overview of Calls, themes and deadlines during 2018 within the Marie Curie, eInfrastructures, Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies (LEIT) and each of the Societal Challenges (Health, Food Security and Agriculture, Energy, Transport, Environment, Inclusive and Reflective Societies, Secure Societies) Work Programmes.

Upcoming closing dates include:

- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks (ITN) - 17 January 2018
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation: European Researchers' Night - 14 February 2018
- Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture - 13 February 2018
- Energy - Global leadership in renewables - 13 February 2018
- Climate Action Calls - 27 February 2018
- Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies - Migration, Transformation, Governance Calls - 13 March 2018
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE) - 21 March 2018
- Research Infrastructures - Support to policy and international cooperation - INFRASUPP-01-2018-2019 (CSA): Policy and international cooperation measures for research infrastructures; INFRASUPP-01-2018-2019 (RIA): Policy and international cooperation measures for research infrastructures - 22 March 2018
- Transport - Low-Carbon and Sustainable Transport; Safe, integrated and resilient transport systems, Accounting for people, Blue Growth, Automated Road Transport, Green Vehicles - 04 April 2018
- ICT 2018 - 17 April 2018

Increased African participation in Horizon 2020

As at October 2017, representatives from 31 African Member States are involved in 139 Horizon 2020 projects, bringing research funding of €65.178 into African institutions. IST-Africa partner countries have secured 75% of this research funding to date (€49.3 million).

Horizon 2020 is open to international cooperation and African and European researchers should work to identify opportunities for cooperation under general calls.

There are also some specific calls that should be explored for their international cooperation potential including:

Food and Agriculture Work Programme

- SFS-33-2018: Support to the implementation of the EU-Africa Research and Innovation Partnership on Food and Nutrition Security & Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) - Coordination and Support Action requiring at least eight participants from Africa - deadline 13 February 2018
- SFS-12-2019: A vaccine against African swine fever - Innovation Action - deadline 23 January 2019
- SFS-35-2019-2020: Sustainable Intensification in Africa - Research and Innovation Action - deadlines: First Stage: 23 Jan 2019; Second stage 04 Sept 2019. Sub-topic A: proposals shall include at least five participants from specific region of Africa (as defined by the

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African Union) and a minimum of eight participants from Africa / Sub-topic B: proposals shall include at least eight participants from Africa. Due to logistics the laboratory for soil sample analysis should be located on the African continent.

Energy

- LC-SC3-JA-4-2018: Support action in preparation of a Joint Programming activity - Coordination & Support Action, deadline: 31 January 2018
- LC-SC3-JA-5-2019: Joint Programming with EU and African partners for a R&I actions in the area of renewable energy - COFUND (European Joint Programme), deadline: 27 August 2019

Health

- SC1-BHC-16-2018: Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD) - Scaling-up of evidence-based health interventions at population level for the prevention and management of hypertension and/or diabetes in low- and middle-income countries - Research and Innovation action, deadline: 18 April 2018
- SC1-HCO-06-2018: Establishment of an International Network of Social Sciences Research Centres to help address governance and other challenges in the preparedness for and the response to infectious threats - Coordination & Support Action, deadline: 18 April 2018
- SC1-BHC-19-2019: Implementation research for maternal and child health - Research and Innovation action, deadlines: First Stage: 02 October 2018; Second Stage: 16 April 2019

Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials

- LC-CLA-05-2019: Human dynamics of climate change - Research and Innovation action, deadlines: First Stage: 19 Feb 2019; Second stage 04 Sept 2019. Proposals addressing sub-topic a) shall include at least three participants from at least two different African countries.

IST-Africa Report on ICT Initiatives, Research and Innovation Priorities and Capacity

[IST-Africa Report on ICT Initiatives, Research and Innovation Priorities and Capacity](#) provides an update on the ICT enabling Environment, ICT-related Initiatives and Research Capacity in the targeted countries; National Research Priorities, Priority areas for collaboration in the context of the ICT-39-2017 Call of H2020, a mapping of research priorities to H2020 themes, summary of participation under FP7 and Horizon 2020 and a mapping of Innovation Spaces in Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania and Uganda as at October 2017 ISBN No: 978-1-905824-58-8. This reference document is a valuable resource to identify partners and learn more about ongoing activities in IST-Africa partner countries.

IST-Africa showcased African research capacity during VSMM 2017

VSMM 2017 took place in University College Dublin, organised by SMARTlab, on 31 Oct - 02 November as the 23rd International Conference on Virtual Systems and Multimedia: "Through the Looking Glass - Back to the Future of Virtual Reality". It focused on ground-breaking applications of new media, VR, sensing, and imaging in creative societies, bringing together over 150 participants from Europe, US and Australia.

IST-Africa results including the mapping of common research priorities, research organisations and Innovation Spaces were showcased during two plenary sessions on 01 November and 02 November to raise awareness of opportunities for cooperation between Europe and Africa. A case study was presented on the [mHealth4Afrika](#) initiative, one of the projects co-funded under the ICT-39-2015 Call, focused on supporting primary health care delivery in deprived semi-

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urban, rural and deep rural clinics in Southern Africa (Malawi, South Africa), East Africa (Kenya) & Horn of Africa (Ethiopia).

Click [here](#) to read more.

IST-Africa results shared during H2020 Workshop to Launch H2020 Work Programme 2018 - 2020, Cairo

On 12 December 2017, the European Union (EU) Delegation to Egypt in collaboration with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research and the Egyptian National Contact Points Network organized a workshop in Cairo to launch the 2018-2020 Work Programme of Horizon 2020. More than 100 professionals including policy makers, researchers, representatives from the academia and technology transfer centers and all R&I community interested in the EU-Egypt Cooperation attended the workshop.

ITIDA, the IST-Africa partner and ICT NCP in Egypt, presented IST-Africa results. This presentation provided insights into IST-Africa activities, opportunities to support EU-Africa research cooperation including interim results from the ICT-39-2017 Call, an overview of participation in H2020 from IST-Africa partner countries, the mapping of research capacity in IST-Africa partners countries to common research priorities and mapping of Innovation Spaces.

Click [here](#) to read more.

IST-Africa Reports

Download [IST-Africa Reports](#) to learn more about the ICT Innovation ecosystem and ICT Research Capacity.

IST-Africa Project Repository

Visit the IST-Africa [Project Repository](#) to research projects and stakeholders involved in previous successful projects in your thematic area

IST-Africa Organisational Repository

Visit the IST-Africa [Organisational Repository](#) to identify potential partners

Upcoming Events

- [IST-Africa 2018](#) - 08 - 11 May 2018, Gaborone - Call for Papers Deadline 22 December
- [WACREN Conference 2018](#) - 15 - 16 March 2018, Togo
- [WSIS Forum](#) - 19 - 23 March 2018, Geneva, Switzerland
- [TNC18](#) - 10 - 14 June 2018, Trondheim, Norway
- [2018 International TecDev Conference](#) - 28 - 30 June 2018, Lausanne, Switzerland

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