ISTAfrica

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IST-Africa Newsletter July 2020

Dear Colleagues,

We hope you are keeping well. This newsletter is primarily focused on raising awareness of the Conference Report and a selection of video presentations for IST-Africa 2020, IST-Africa 2020 Proceedings, IST-Africa 2021 Call for Papers and Upcoming Horizon 2020 Calls. Click here to download this newsletter in pdf format.

IST-Africa 2020 - Conference Report & Access to selection of video presentations

Due to the unprecedented circumstances during the COVID-19 pandemic, IST-Africa 2020 took place as a virtual event from 18 - 22 May. An activity of IST-Africa, IST-Africa 2020 was the fifteenth in an Annual Conference Series bringing together senior representatives from leading public, private, education & research organisations, to discuss ICT policy, showcase research results and share knowledge.

Hosted by the Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Supported by the European Commission and African Union Commission, IEEE Africa Council, IEEE Uganda Section, UK and Ireland IEEE Society on Social Implications of Technology Chapter and IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee, IST-Africa 2020 attracted over 400 delegates from 44 countries representing policy makers, practitioners and researchers from leading commercial, government, research and societal organisations around the world. IST-Africa directly supports Information Society, Innovation and ICT aspects of the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership, the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA-2024), the Digital Transformation Strategy for Africa (2020-30) and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The Programme incorporated a mix of plenary presentations, paper sessions and interactive workshops. Thematic areas included: eInfrastructure, Global Development, Societal Implications of Technology, eGovernment, Content Technologies, eHealth, Entrepreneurship, Next Generation Computing, CyberSecurity, Technology-enhanced Learning and eAgriculture, Environment Sustainability.

Plenary presenters included:
- Paul Cunningham, IST-Africa Institute, Ireland
- Moctar Yedaly, Head, Information Society, African Union Commission
- Prof. Magdalena Salazar Palma, Director, IEEE Region 8
- Dr. Elioda Tumwesigye, Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation, Uganda
- Daan du Toit, Deputy Director-General: International Cooperation and Resources, Department of Science and Innovation, South Africa
- Dr Fadila Boughanemi, Deputy Head, International Cooperation II (Asia, Africa, Middle East & External Relations), DG Research and Innovation, European Commission
- Moses Bayingana, Senior Policy Officer for ICT, African Union Commission
- Ilari Lindy, SAIS2, Namibia
- Tom Fryer and Leila Dekkar, GÉANT in cooperation with UbuntunNet Alliance, WACREN and ASREN
- Paul Kostek, IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee Events Chair
- Vincent Kaabunga, IEEE Africa Council Chair

The IST-Africa 2020 conference has been highly participatory, which is even more important this year when interacting remotely. This has facilitated an excellent level of knowledge sharing with participation from a broad range of public, private, research, innovation and education,

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societal and funding organisations from 44 countries around the world. The feedback received from participants to date has been very positive. Click here to download the conference report.

A selection of plenary and paper video presentations are available on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJ7ZOQCGJFbHPnzIK81Y24A

IST-Africa 2020 Proceedings

The Scientific Programme incorporated over 95 presenters from public, private, education and research organisations in 21 countries in 31 thematically focused sessions. Themes addressed include eGovernment, eHealth, eInfrastructure, Global Development, Societal Implications of Technology, Content Technologies, Next Generation Computing, CyberSecurity, Technology-enhanced Learning and eAgriculture, Environment Sustainability.

The IST-Africa 2020 Proceedings is available on an open access basis to members of the IST-Africa community - simply register is you do not have an existing account. Please note that each author retains the copyright in relation to their individual paper. Therefore no paper or part thereof may be reproduced without the written permission of the appropriate author(s).

IST-Africa Community Members can download and use the blind peer reviewed papers for personal use. IST-Africa papers should not be stored on electronic repositories without permission from the publisher.

IST-Africa 2021 Call for Papers - Deadline 30 November

The IST-Africa 2021 Call for Papers will open during September 2020. 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 2021 Call for Papers invites **full papers** (8 pages in length) using the paper guidelines and IST-Africa template provided to be submitted online for blind peer review by 30 November.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.

Papers must present analysis of initial or final research results or a case study. **General project descriptions are not appropriate**. It is important to highlight actual or expected impact as well as the level of innovation.

It is necessary for the paper submitted to include a unique element that has not previously been published and any previous published materials to be clearly referenced (including material previously published by the authors).

Each presenter can present ONE paper in the Programme. It is necessary for papers to be physically presented during the event to ensure inclusion in the Proceedings.

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

Horizon 2020 Work Programmes for 2018 - 2020 were published on 27 October 2017, with the updated version for 2020 published on 02 July 2019. Click here to download the updated Work Programmes for 2020.

The IST-Africa Guide to 2020 Calls for Proposals provides an overview of Calls, themes and deadlines during 20202 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 for Horizon 2020 Calls:

- Digital Security - Deadline 27 August 2020
- Global leadership in Renewables - Smart Cities and Communities - Deadline 1 September 2020
- Marie Sklodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships (IF) - Deadline 09 September 2020
- Building a Low-Carbon, Climate resilient Future: Secure, Clean and efficient Energy - Buildings in Energy Transition B4E - Deadline 10 September 2020
- Development and long-term sustainability of new pan-European research infrastructures (INFRADEV) - Deadline 12 November 2020
- Digital transformation in Health and Care - Deadline 13 November 2020

IST-Africa Reports

Download IST-Africa Reports to learn more about the ICT Innovation ecosystem and ICT Research Capacity.

The **IST-Africa Report on ICT Initiatives, Research and Innovation Priorities and Capacity** (ISBN No: 978-1-905824-58-8, December 2018) provides an update on the ICT enabling Environment, ICT-related Initiatives and Research Capacity in IST-Africa Partner countries (Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Eswatini, Tanzania, Tunisia and Uganda) as at December 2018. It provides insights into National Research Priorities, Priority areas for collaboration in the context of H2020 and Horizon Europe and a mapping of research organisations and research priorities to H2020 themes. It highlights African participation as at December 2018 in Horizon 2020 and showcases ongoing activities and results from projects funded under the ICT-39-2015 and ICT-39-2017 Horizon 2020 Calls. It provides insights into the Digital4Development framework launched by the European Commission and profiles some of the short term and medium term actions currently ongoing. It provides an update and mapping of Innovation Spaces in IST-Africa partner countries. It is an excellent resource to identify partners in other countries and to learn more about achievements in policy development and ongoing projects in each IST-Africa partner country.

The **IST-Africa Report on ICT and Innovation-related Bilateral & Multilateral Cooperation Initiatives** (ISBN No: 978-1-905824-61-8, December 2018) provides an overview of bi-lateral and multi-lateral cooperation with Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Tunisia and Uganda as at December 2018. It incorporates a mapping of donors who are supporting ICT, Innovation and Research capacity in IST-Africa partner countries with examples of projects funded. It also provides insights into European Commission funded initiatives supported through Horizon 2020, European Development Funds and the Digital4Development framework.

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