IST-Africa Newsletter June 2014

Dear Colleagues,

We hope you are keeping well. This newsletter is primarily focused on raising awareness of upcoming Calls under Horizon 2020, Recent Activities, Publications and Upcoming Events.

IST-Africa 2014 – Conference Report

Hosted by the Government of Mauritius through the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology and the National Computer Board, and Supported by the European Commission (EC) and African Union Commission (AUC), IST-Africa 2014 (06 - 09 May) was the ninth in an annual series of Ministerial Level Technology Research Conferences. IST-Africa 2014 was technically co-sponsored by IEEE Mauritius Subsection and IEEE UK&RI Social Implications of Technology Chapter. Final papers accepted for inclusion in the Proceedings (following updates as a result of the blind peer review) will also be submitted to IEEE Xplore for publication.

IST-Africa 2014 was very successful with over 460 delegates from 44 countries actively participated over the 4 days. Please download the Conference Report for more information.

Horizon 2020

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. Download Guide to ICT-related Activities in Work Programmes

The IST-Africa portal has a specific Horizon 2020 section, which provides links to all the Work Programmes - Marie Curie, Infrastructures, Societal Challenges (Health, Food Security and Agriculture, Energy, Transport, Climate action and Environment, Inclusive and Reflective Societies; Secure Societies) and LEIT. Click here to download the individual work programmes.

Due to the high number of Work Programmes and the short timeframe for Calls in some thematic areas, IST-Africa has prepared a Guide to 2014 Calls for Proposals in Horizon 2020. This guide lists each thematic area, deadlines and links to the Participants portal for more detailed information. Please click here to download.

Please visit the Participants portal for the details of calls open in 2014 with specific Societal Challenges themes and the associated deadlines
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/index.html

Horizon 2020 – Upcoming Calls

H2020 Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture, Marine and Maritime Research, and the Bio-Economy Calls Deadline 17:00 CET, 26 June 2014
H2020-BG-2014-2 (Stage 2 Deadline)
H2020-SFS-2014-2 (Stage 2 Deadline)
H2020-ISIB-2014-2 (Stage 2 Deadline)

H2020-BG-2014-1

IST-Africa Newsletter June 2014

H2020-SFS-2014-1
H2020-ISIB-2014-1

H2020 Health Call H2020-PHC-2014-two-stage Deadline 17:00 CET, **19 Aug 2014**

H2020 Secure Societies Calls Deadline 17:00 CET, 28 Aug 2014
H2020-FCT-2014
H2020-BES-2014
H2020-DRS-2014
H2020-DS-2014-1

H2020 Smart, Green and Integrated Transport Calls Deadline 17:00 CET, 28 Aug 2014
H2020-MG-2014_SingleStage_B
H2020-GV-2014
H2020-MG-2014_TwoStages (Stage 2 Deadline)

H2020 eInfrastructures Calls Deadline CET 17:00, 2 Sep 2014
H2020-INFRADEV-1-2014-1
H2020-EINFRA-2014-2
H2020-INFRASUPP-2014-2
H2020-INFRAIA-2014-2015

H2020 Secure, Clean and Efficient Energy Calls Deadline 17:00 CET, 3 Sep 2014
H2020-LCE-2015-1

IST-Africa CAAST-Net Plus Horizon 2020 Workshop & NCP Training, 07 – 09 May

IST-Africa and CAAST-Net Plus organised a joint Horizon 2020 Workshop on 09 May during IST-Africa 2014 in Mauritius. Mr Morten Møller, Programme Coordination, DG CONNECT, European Commission provided a detailed presentation on Horizon 2020 and highlighted the ICT-39 International Cooperation Call that closes in April 2015. IST-Africa and CAAST-Net Plus outlined upcoming Calls under Societal Challenges (Health, Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture, Environment) and LEIT, Horizon 2020 Participation Rules and Instruments and steps involved in preparing a proposal and associated budget. This session was very well attended and was interactive in style with a lot of questions and discussion.

IST-Africa and CAAST-Net Plus jointly organised a closed Horizon 2020 Training Session for African National Contact Points (NCPs) during IST-Africa 2014. IST-Africa supported the participation of ICT National Contact Points from Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Tunisia and Uganda. CAAST-Net Plus supported the participation of Health NCPs from Ethiopia, Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda. The private training session provided an opportunity for the NCPs to learn more about how NCP Networks function in other African countries, information sources that they can access to support their activities, to meet NCPs from other African countries and to ask questions in relation to practical challenges that they are facing while supporting their national institutions. This session was considered to be very beneficial in supporting capacity building.

IST-Africa Newsletter June 2014

IST-Africa presented Living Labs in Developing Country context during Tech4Dev 2014

Paul Cunningham represented IST-Africa to share experiences in relation to "Living Labs in a Developing Country Context" during Session 3C of the UNESCO Tech4Dev 2014 Conference in Lausanne on Friday 06 June. The presentation was well received resulting in a lot of questions. Click here for more information

AfDB approves first Human Capital Strategy

The African Development Bank Group (AfDB) first Human Capital Strategy (HCS) was approved by the Board of Executive Directors on 28 May 2014 in Tunis. This four-year strategy (2014 – 2018), which is focused on Skills and Technology, provides the operational framework for the Bank's interventions in development in areas such as education, skills development, health, science, technology, innovation, social protection, safety nets and youth employment. The vision is to build skills and make the most efficient use of new technologies to improve competitiveness and create jobs. Click here for more information and to download the Strategy

Fourth EU-Africa Summit – Roadmap for 2014 - 2017

The Fourth EU-Africa Summit took place in Brussels from 02 - 03 April 2014, focused on the theme of "Investing in People, Prosperity and Peace". The Heads of State from the EU and Africa confirmed that the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) adopted at the Lisbon Summit in 2007 remains the strategic political reference for EU-Africa relations. Key outputs from the Summit are the Declaration and Roadmap for 2014 – 2017, which outlines the key priorities and areas for joint actions. Click here for more information and to download the Roadmap

E+ STEP 2014 Short-term Exchanges for RSA and EU researchers involved in technology transfer - Deadline 16 June

ESASTAP Plus published the E+ STEP programme on 08 April, which aims to faciliate exchange of best practices in technology transfer and promote Innovation collaboration between South Africa and Europe. This programme will support individuals working in the field of technology transfer from South Africa and Europe to undertake a short-term exchange. The 2014 Call closes on 16 June. Click here for more information and to download the Criteria

UbuntuNet-Connect 2014– Call for Papers Deadline 31 July

UbuntuNet-Connect 2014 will take place in Lusaka, Zambia from 11 – 12 November hosted by Zambia Research and Education Network (ZAMREN). UbuntuNet Alliance invites authors to submit 500 word abstracts by 31 July. Click here for more information.

IST-Africa Guide to ICT Initiatives and Research Capacity

Download the IST-Africa Guide to National ICT Initiatives and Research Capacity to learn more about current ICT Initiatives, Research capacity, FP7 participation and initial mapping of research priorities under Horizon 2020 in Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania and Uganda as at January 2014. ISBN No: 978-1-905824-41-0

IST-Africa Guide to Bilateral & Multilateral Cooperation Agreements Supporting ICT and Innovation Related Activities

Download the IST-Africa Guide to Bilateral & Multilateral Cooperation Agreements Supporting ICT / STI related Activities to learn more about bi-lateral and multi-lateral cooperation with

www.IST-Africa.org

IST-Africa Newsletter June 2014

Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania and Uganda as at January 2014. ISBN No: 978-1-905824-42-7

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

- 10 - 12 June 2014, SANORD Symposium 2014, Karlstad, Sweden
- 17 - 19 June 2014, 2nd CAAST-Net Plus Annual Meeting, Lisbon, Portugal
- 21 - 25 June 2014, Euroscience Open Forum 2014, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 30 June - 02 July 2014, EDCTP Forum, Berlin, Germany
- 06 - 10 July 2014, Sarima Conference 2014, Gaborone, Botswana,
- 09 - 10 October 2014, ICT proposers day, Florence, Italy
- 29 - 31 October 2014, eChallenges e2014, Belfast, Northern Ireland
- 11 – 12 November 2014 – UbuntuNet-Connect 2014, Zambia

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