IST-Africa Newsletter March 2018

Dear Colleagues,

We hope you are keeping well. This newsletter is primarily focused on raising awareness of the IST-Africa 2018 Advance Programme, IST-Africa participation in WSIS, 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), IEEE funding mechanisms to support volunteer Sustainable Development "feet on the ground" activities and upcoming events. Click here to download this newsletter in pdf format.

IST-Africa 2018 Advance Programme

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.

The IST-Africa Advance Programme incorporates 38 thematically focused sessions featuring over 180 presenters from the public, private, education, research and societal organisations from 30 countries. Thematic areas addressed include: Collaborative Open Innovation; CyberSecurity; eAgriculture; eHealth; eGovernment; eInfrastructure; Geospatial Sciences and Land Administration; ICT4D; Open Data; Next Generation Computing; Research Capacities and Priorities; and Technology-enhanced Learning.

In addition to paper sessions, workshops include: Research Capacity and Priorities in IST-Africa partner countries; Strategic Capacity Building for Open Innovation; Research Cyber-Infrastructure and NRENs; mHealth4Afrika; WAZIUP; Geospatial Sciences and Land Administration; Open Data Open Science.

Early bird delegate registration is available up to 31 March.

IST-Africa Recognised as WSIS Prizes 2018 Champion for International and Regional Cooperation

The World Summit on the Information Society Forum (WSIS) 2018 takes place in Geneva from 19 - 23 March bringing together ICT for development stakeholders from around the world.

IST-Africa and mHealth4Afrika are sharing results during a joint workshop on Thursday 22 March from 09:00 - 10:45. This is complemented by a demonstration stand in the WSIS Exhibition from 19 - 23 March.

WSIS 2018 received over 685 project submissions to be considered for WSIS Prizes 2018. Following an online voting procedure and comprehensive review by an Export Group, 90 ICT-related projects and initiatives were selected across 18 different categories.

IST-Africa was selected as a WSIS Prizes 2018 Champion for International and Regional Cooperation (category 18). See https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/prizes/2018/ for more details. IST-

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Africa will be awarded a Champion's certificate from the ITU Secretary-General during an Awards ceremony on Tuesday 20 March in Geneva.

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.

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 Sklodowska-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 **- Closed**
- 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 African Union) and a minimum of eight participants from Africa / Sub-topic B: proposals

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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 - **Closed**
- 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.

IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee - Calls for Sustainable Development related Projects and Events

The IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee supports the IEEE Board of Directors' Vision of IEEE Volunteer "feet-on-the-ground" activities. HAC supports Sustainable Development & Humanitarian Technology related IEEE volunteer activities by
- Providing educational, mentoring and networking support
- Promoting and supporting collaboration by IEEE and non-IEEE volunteers through IEEE SIGHT (Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology) Program
- Building strategic partnerships with other relevant stakeholders
- Providing assistance to volunteers who support local teams undertaking "feet-on-the ground" community based activities
- Providing financial support to relevant projects and events

IEEE HAC provides funding towards volunteer projects with communities, funding towards events showcasing sustainable development and humanitarian technology activities within existing events and funding for SIGHTs. Upcoming deadlines: Events (15 March); Projects (31 March) and SIGHT projects (31 March). Click here for more information.

IST-Africa results shared during Third Africa Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation, 10 - 12 February, Cairo

The African Development Bank in cooperation with partner organisations organised the Third Africa Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation in Cairo, Egypt on 10 - 12 February 2018.

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It aimed to accelerate investments in higher education, science and research to contribute to the knowledge economy that drives industrial revolution. Africa STI Forum is part of the implementation of the AfDB's Ten Year Strategy 2013-2022 and its Human Capital Strategy 2014-2018. It is aligned with the Agenda 2063 of the African Union (AU) and the AU Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation for Africa (STISA-2024).

Gift Kadzamira, National Commission for Science and Technology Malawi is presenting IST-Africa results during the European Union – Africa Research and Innovation Partnership: Policy Framework and Funding Instruments Session on 11 February.

Click here for more details.

2018 IEEE International Symposium on Technology and Society - Call for Papers Deadline 18 May

The IEEE Society for Social Implications of Technology (SSIT) invites you to attend and participate in the 2018 IEEE International Symposium on Technology and Society (ISTAS 2018). ISTAS is hosted by the School of Engineering and Applied Science in Washington, DC U.S.A. on 13–14 November 2018.

ISTAS is a multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary forum for engineers, policy makers, entrepreneurs, philosophers, researchers, social scientists, technologists, and polymaths to collaborate, exchange experiences, and discuss the social implications of technology. For more information, please visit http://bit.ly/2nY9IFR

The Call for Papers and Panels has a deadline of 18 May. Click here for more details.

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 - Early Bird Registration Deadline 31 March
- 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
- IEEE 2018 ISTAS, 13 - 14 November 2018, Washington DC, USA

Contact Details

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