

IST-Africa 2013

Living Lab Working Group Meeting Report

Nairobi, Kenya

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Introduction

IST-Africa 2013 Living Lab Thematic Workshop Group Meeting took place as a pre-conference event on 28 May 2013 in Nairobi, Kenya. It was organised as part of the activities of the **IST-Africa Initiative**, by IIMC Ltd (IST-Africa Coordinator) in cooperation with MoEST (Ministry of Education Science and Technology), the National **IST-Africa** Partner. The IST-Africa Initiative is Supported by the European Commission (EC) and African Union Commission (AUC), and Co-Funded under FP7 (Contract No. 288691)

Within the context of developing the socio-economic & research potential of the African ICT (Information Communication Technologies) & STI (Science, Technology, Innovation) landscape the **8th Africa-EU Strategic Partnership (Science, Information Society, Space)** provides a political mandate based on mutually agreed priorities, for the European Commission (EC), African Union Commission (AUC), European Union (EU) and African Union (AU) Member States, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Research Community, Private Sector, Civil Society and NGOs, Local Authorities, International Financing Institutions, International Donor Organisations & Foundations to collaborate in Science, Information Society and Space.

The **Second Action Plan** (2011 – 2013) of the **8th Africa-EU Strategic Partnership** (Science, Information Society, Space) has identified a number of priority areas for public sector, private sector and research community collaboration between Africa and Europe to complement investments in ICT infrastructure deployment by exploiting synergies between the EU 2020 Digital Agenda and the African Union (AU) ICT development frameworks.

The goal is to support STI and ICT capacity-building initiatives for mass diffusion of ICTs and related services, as key enablers for poverty reduction, economic growth, social development and regional integration. One of the activities identified under the Information Society Priority is to support the establishment of sustainable Living Labs Networks across Africa as a tool to enhance ICT research cooperation, local innovation, entrepreneurship and wider socio-economic and community development.

IST-Africa undertook a comprehensive survey of existing and emerging Living Labs across Africa from May 2011 – January 2012, and in cooperation with LLiSA (Living Labs Network for Southern Africa) and other key stakeholders, identified priorities and recommendations for sustainable Living Labs and Living Labs Networks in Africa. An extensive public consultation was undertaken and the report findings were further validated at a series of interactive workshops in IST-Africa Partner Countries across East Africa and Southern Africa. IST-Africa Living Labs Validation Workshops undertaken by IIMC with national stakeholders in East Africa - hosted by Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Burundi (26 - 27 September 2011); Tanzania National Commission for Science and Technology (29 - 30 September 2011), Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (06 - 07 October 2011), Ministry of Science and Technology, Ethiopia (24 November 2011), and in Southern Africa - hosted by the National Commission for Science and Technology, Malawi (17 November 2011); Ministry of Communications and Transport, Zambia (22 November 2011); and Ministry of Information Communication Technology, Swaziland (29 November 2011).

This **IST-Africa 2013 Living Lab Thematic Working Group Meeting** follows on from the inaugural IST-Africa Living Labs Workshop organised by IIMC (IST-Africa Coordinator) on 10 May 2011 in Gaborone, Botswana, and the second Living Lab Working Group Meeting held as a pre-conference event in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on 08 May 2012.

The **IST-Africa Living Labs Report** “Supporting the Evolution of Sustainable Living Labs and Living Labs Networks in Africa ” ISBN 978-1-905824-28-1 can be downloaded from

www.IST-Africa.org/home/default.asp?page=reports

Focus of IST-Africa Living Labs Thematic Working Group Meeting

This **IST-Africa Living Labs Thematic Working Group Meeting** provides an opportunity for all key stakeholders interested in learning more about the potential of Living Labs for socio-economic development to work together to co-create a framework for future emerging Living Labs and Networks in a developing country context.

While each annual meeting is attended by stakeholders who wish to learn about Living Lab Methodologies and how these are leveraged successfully in other African countries, there are also stakeholders participating who are actively involved in running and emerging Living Labs who can share practical experiences and lessons learnt. This mix of participants and knowledge helps to consolidate a network of European and African experts and key stakeholders to support existing and emerging Living Labs across Africa through networking and sharing knowledge, experiences and expertise.

TANZICT is now supporting six Living Labs in Tanzania. One of the goals of this workshop is to identify potential areas where Living Labs would be beneficial in Kenya.

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This **3rd Annual IST-Africa Living Labs Thematic Working Group Meeting** provided an opportunity for all key Innovation Stakeholders to (a) learn more about the potential of leveraging Living Labs methodologies for socio-economic development, (b) share experiences and lessons learnt from running and emerging Living Labs and (c) contribute to the establishment of a network of experts and key stakeholders committed to supporting national and cross-border Collaborative Open Innovation in Africa.

The participatory workshop was formally opened by **Dr Eric Mwangi** of Ministry of Education Science and Technology on behalf of Prof Crispus Kiamba, Permanent Secretary of MoEST. Dr Mwangi welcomed the participants and thanked the organisers for mobilising stakeholders from Europe and Africa to work together to share knowledge and experiences in relation to Living Labs.



Mr Moctar Yedaly, Head of Information Society Division, African Union Commission outlined his pleasure and honour to engage with Innovation Stakeholders during this participatory workshop. He thanked IST-Africa for inviting him to participate and welcomed the African and European stakeholders. Mr Yedaly highlighted that the African Union wishes to support ICT-related Innovation. Living Labs provide a good methodological framework to support capacity building and co-creation of products, services and processes that are focused on socio-economic development and poverty reduction.

The moderators of the Working Group Meeting were introduced: Paul Cunningham (IST-Africa), Miriam Cunningham (IST-Africa) and Prof. Marlien Herselmann (LLISA Network, South Africa). This working group meeting is part of an ongoing longer term study by **IST-Africa**, and the results will be incorporated into this ongoing research.

The workshop was structured to provide an Introduction to Living Labs including key Innovative elements of a Living Lab, Types of Innovation including a Living Lab enabled Collaborative Open Innovation

Framework, followed by group work to identify the Motivation, Expectations and Contributions of different stakeholders and presentations from a number of African running Living Labs.

Miriam Cunningham provided an Introduction to Living Labs, which is focused on user-driven Innovation in real-life settings to co-create new services, products and societal infrastructures and outlined the intersection of Living Labs within the Technology Adoption Cycle. Most Living Labs in Africa started as an output of action research (Masters and PhD thesis work) with no seed funding. There are five key components of Living Labs: ICT and Infrastructure; Research; Approach (methods and techniques); Living Lab Partners and Users and Management. It is a concept that is living and should be adapted based on the constraints, challenges and opportunities being addressed. In an African context it is important to address research that has a socio-economic relevance and impact, engage with communities and be aligned with national priorities.

Based on an integrated Developed and Developing Country perspective, Cunningham [2013] proposes the following definition: "Living Labs are environments or a methodical approach focused on user-driven open innovation. End-user communities collaborate with Innovation Stakeholders (public, private, education and research, societal and funding sectors) in real-life settings to co-create innovative products, services, processes, business models or policies, or adapt existing ones, to better match market or societal needs. Successful deployments can be replicated or networked to achieve scale and wider impact". Leveraging Living Labs methodologies and Living Labs Networks in Africa provide an important opportunity to collaborate, co-create, prototype and test new products and services, technologies, processes, business models or ideas customised for developing markets. It is important to monitor and evaluate progress so there is sufficient documentation to be able to replicate the achievements and to be able to provide evidence of success.

Living Labs can be focused around societal and technological innovation. The types of Living Lab should be based on the environment, national priorities, socio-economic drivers and innovation goals. Miriam provided examples of rural Living Labs which address rural communication challenges, provide training and technology support in rural communities, support innovation and entrepreneurship, support specific sectoral and process challenges

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and validate new business models, processes, services and products. While Urban Living Labs also support capacity building, innovation and entrepreneurship, they are also focused on the Innovation Economy, City Infrastructures and utilities and Governance. Knowledge transfer between the different stakeholders is critical for long term success.

Paul Cunningham provided an overview of the different types of Innovation including; Social Innovation, Technology Innovation, Business Innovation, Learning Innovation and Aesthetic Innovation, providing examples of each. Paul highlighted the Key Innovation Elements in Living Labs, the Innovation Life cycle and outlined a proposed Living Labs Enabled Collaborative Open Innovation Framework.

Paul outlined outputs from the 2nd IST-Africa Living Lab Thematic Working Group Meeting in May 2012 as this provided a start point for group work to be undertaken during this meeting. Paul also highlighted that TANZICT, a bilateral programme between Finland and Tanzania is now actively supporting six emerging Living Labs in Tanzania

Key Stakeholder Groups

During the 2nd IST-Africa Living Labs Thematic Working Group Meeting in Dar es Salaam in May 2012, the participants discussed stakeholder roles and compiled a list of synonyms to assist in creating a common understanding for the other group exercises. This list of key stakeholder groups and synonyms was presented to the participants as outlined in the table below.

Key Stakeholder Groups	Synonyms Used By Working Group Members
Public Sector	Government
	Policy Makers
	Development Agencies
	Local Government
	Parliament/Legislature/Local Council
	National Politicians and Local Politicians
Private Sector	Corporate
	SMMES/SMEs
	Telecoms Operators
	Internet/WiFi/WiMax Providers/Internet Service Providers (ISPs)
	Technologists and ICT Experts
	Inventors/Innovators
Education	Academia
	Universities
	Research Institutions
	Primary and Secondary Schools
	Researchers
	Teachers
Community	Village Community
	Community Leaders
	Community Champions
	Local Tribal Leaders/Authority
	Sub-Communities (Youth, Women, Elderly)
	End Users
Civil Society	NGOs (Non Governmental Organisations)
	Community Organisations

Other	Utilities
	Media
	Hospitals
	Observers
	Financial Institutions
	Donors/Other Funders

The Education Category has been extended beyond traditional universities and research institutions to include primary and secondary schools, as these have strong trust relationships with local communities and stakeholders in a Developing Country context can also provide useful and necessary skills training and infrastructure.

The Other Category includes organisations that could otherwise be classified either as Public Sector (Utilities, Hospitals) and Private Sector (Financial Institutions), but who have not traditionally been involved in Living Labs in developed countries. There is a relatively high level of financial innovation in Africa, particularly through delivery of mobile banking solutions by telecoms operators. As such, financial institutions have potentially a valuable role to play going forward, as private bank accounts becomes more common. Local delivery of healthcare in developing countries will increasingly rely on leveraging technology for telemedicine, in cooperation with both regional hospitals and national primary healthcare facilities. This involves testing and evaluating a range of technologies. The Other Category also includes organisational types such as Media that could be held in either private or public ownership, as well as organisational types such as Observers and Donors/Other Funders that could traditionally be classified as Civil Society, but increasingly due to the establishment of private foundations, take more of a business perspective on delivery.

Stakeholder Roles – Motivation, Expectation, Contribution



The Working Group Members then discussed the perceived motivations (why would they get involved?), expectations (what would they hope to achieve?) and contributions (how they could make a difference?) of each stakeholder type as sub-groups and presented their findings back to the full Group.

The goal was twofold (a) to provide a better understanding of both the different and complementary interests of each stakeholder group and (b) to help working group participants better appreciate why it is either beneficial or necessary for different stakeholder groups to be engaged in the design, planning, implementation and exploitation of Living Labs in a Developing Country context.

The images below present Word Clouds produced by Wordle.net, reflecting the universe of terms presented by

Working Group Meeting Participants associated with different types of Stakeholders engaging with Living Labs. The primary purpose is to help identify common Motivations (what do they hope to achieve or how do they hope to benefit?), Expectations (what do they expect to happen as a result?) and Contributions (how can they increase the likelihood of success?). The larger the word or phrase, the higher the frequency of selection by participants.



Private Sector - Motivation



Private Sector - Expectation



Civil Society - Motivation



Civil Society - Expectation



Civil Society - Expectation



The participants found this team work to be very enjoyable and stimulating. They had a better perspective and insight into how other stakeholders think and it was interesting during the presentations from each group to see that while some concepts were similar from one group to another, there were often new concepts introduced based on the experiences of specific team members.

The group outputs provide interesting insights into what motivations different stakeholders would have, what their expectations may be and what contributions they can make. In a Living Lab, it is important that it is a win-win situation for all stakeholders.

Knowledge Sharing from Existing Living Labs

As part of the Knowledge Sharing between existing and emerging Living Labs, Sibukele Gumbo, University of Fort Hare shared experiences from the Siyakhula Living Lab, which has been running since 2005 and Prof. Darelle van Greunen, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University shared experiences from the NMMU-Emmanuel Haven Living Lab, which commenced in 2011.

Sibukele Gumbo provided a context for the establishment of the **Siyakhula Living Lab**, which is based in the Eastern Cape, South Africa and was set up in 2005 by stakeholders from academia (i.e. Rhodes University and the University of Fort Hare's Telkom Centres of Excellence), industry (i.e. Telkom, Saab Grintek, Tellabs, Converse and Easttel), government (DTI THRIP Programme, DST and Finland Partnerships) and the Dwesa community. A strong trust relationship with the Dwesa community had previously been established as a result of a successful land restitution claim facilitated by Rhodes University.

The Siyakhula Living Lab has two main objectives: (a) to facilitate user-driven innovation and (b) to build technically skilled human resources in the context of supporting eService activities in marginalised communities. Action research is an important component.

The Siyakhula Living Lab takes an integrated research, development and training approach to address the communications and accessibility challenges experienced by remote rural communities (e.g. e-business and basic Internet connectivity, access via GSM and WiMAX, VSAT and Digital Access Nodes). It is primarily focused on developing and field-testing a robust, cost-effective and integrated e-business/telecommunications platform. It has rolling out communication services and IT training at local schools, which are used as points-of-presence for the community's IT needs.



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During 2010 a spinoff technology provider (Reed House Systems) was established with the support of SAFIPA (bilateral Programme between Finland and South Africa). It aims to replicate implementation of the e-business/telecommunications platform (Teleweaver) tested in the Siyakhula Living Lab in other marginalized communities. The Siyakhula Living Lab evaluates itself through peer review (e.g. publications, student outputs) and - with the support of LLiSA, is currently developing continuous evaluation and impact assessment tools.

During 2012 eSkills training was provided in 17 rural communities within the Living Lab catchment area, which has increased the usage of internet-based mobile device application usage. A needs assessment was undertaken prior to the training sessions and 40 individuals (3 school principals, 26 educators and 11 community members) were successfully trained.

The Siyakhula Living Lab has been supported by COFISA (2008 – 2009) and SAFIPA (2010 – 2011) - Programmes co-funded by Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland and RSA Department of Science & Technology. It also received significant funding from the Telkom Centres of Excellence in Universities of Fort Hare and Rhodes. The continuous engagement between the Universities, Industry and the Community has been mutually beneficial.



Prof. Darelle van Greunen commenced by providing some background for the NMMU-Emmanuel Haven Living Lab, which is based in Motherwell, Port Elisabeth, Eastern Cape, South Africa. It was established in November 2011 based on a common shared vision of Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU), School of Information Communication Technology and Emmanuel Haven NGO to use ICT for the improvement and management of community health, poverty alleviation, well-being and social justice. A community needs assessment was undertaken across 1,500 households in order to plan relevant interventions. The focus areas identified to be most relevant included: Education and Training; Healthcare; Youth Development Programmes and Hydroponic Farming.

Within a Living Lab it is important that relevant stakeholders contribute to the Innovation ecosystem. In this case NMMU set up a computer Lab as a training centre in the Living Lab in Motherwell and students from the School of ICT provide the eSkills certified training and maintain the equipment. To ensure sustainability it was envisaged from the start that computer literacy training would be provided to private, public and corporate sectors at a reasonable fee.

During 2013, the eSkills for Community Healthcare Workers commenced as short courses over a three month period and a mobile phone application was launched to assist Community Health Workers to improve the care services offered to members of the Motherwell community. The application is used to register patients, record details of patient visits and raise an alert when a patient requires urgent medical care. This should assist in automation of the current paper based system and weekly delivery of patient records. The application can be used offline if there is no connectivity and can be used on low end mobile phones.

There is clear win-win situation for the various stakeholders involved in the NMMU-Emmanuel Haven Living Lab.



Catherinerosse Barretto provided insight into interventions being supported by the KINU Innovation Space in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. KINU was established in January 2012 by six young Tanzanian entrepreneurs as a social enterprise to provide an open space for Tanzania's tech community to foster co-creation, innovation and capacity building. Initial funding towards operational costs was secured from Indigo Trust and Google Africa. Other partners include SMILE and RAHA. In September 2012 SEACOM donated 30mb of Internet connectivity for one year to support KINU. Samsung provided equipment for a test lab.

KINU provides co-working space, dedicated working space, facilities for application testing, workshops and training courses to support the tech community (start-ups, freelancers, SMEs and established companies). Regular training courses include CSS/Java, Cyber Security and Search engine optimisation. Past events organised

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included information sessions on upcoming competitions (Google Apps Developer Challenge, African News Innovation Challenge, Vodacom AppsStar), funding opportunities (Savannah Fund), Mobile Monday meetings, Workshops on Open source software, Policy discussions on the ICT Policy and IP Laws, Google MapUp Events for Google Student Ambassadors and supporting participation in the Sanitation Hackathon. In November KINU hosted a User Acceptance & Stress Test of the mRushwa platform with Honourable January Makamba, Tanzania's Deputy Minister for Communication, Science & Technology. mRushwa is a web and mobile based corruption reporting application in Tanzania, that aims to increase citizen reporting.

To assist in developing skills, KINU starting a Code Ninja Programme, which takes place on a Saturday every two months to test competencies in different programme languages as part of programming competitions that are judged by an automated judging system.

KINU also wishes to support a more active role for women and children in technology. KINU is co-organising a Girls Nights Out session for 2.5 hours once a month with TANZICT to support female entrepreneurs to leverage ICT in their businesses. An agreement has been reached with ISOC to provide training for women and to support 2 – 3 Tanzanian women to become ISOC certified trainers. A six week Robotics Programme is being provided for children (6 – 12 year olds) of members of the KINU community. Future coding programs for children will be organised during 2013.

These three short presentations triggered a lot of discussion and questions in relation to practical issues associated with setting up Living Labs, providing eSkills training and how to motivate and manage different stakeholders to work together based on a common vision.

Prof Marlien Herselman, Chair of Living Labs of Southern Africa (LLiSA) provided insights from some of the Living Labs set up in South Africa over the past eight to nine years and how they have addressed challenges.



Potential Role of Living Labs in Kenya

There was a general discussion in relation to the potential role of Living Labs in Kenya. Some of the Universities present expressed an interest to cooperate and see if they can set up a Living Lab focused on eSkills.



Dr Katherine Getao, ICT Secretary, eGovernment Directorate, Kenya outlined her belief that Living Lab methodologies could be applied in Kenya to support locally developed applications and services. She requested the national stakeholders participating to consider further how this could be realised.

In Kenya the public sector is one of the largest buyers of equipment and services. For example the Government now wishes to provide laptops in schools. If these laptops can be built by national Universities the funds would then stay in the local economy. Kenya imports a lot of things for different applications.

It would make sense to consider setting up a Gov Hub where Universities, Research, Entrepreneurs, Industry, Community Members and Government could work together to provide new applications and services that are relevant for the national market. This would provide a place where Kenyans could focus on value added services and encourage stakeholders to think about what is actually required to address current and future challenges. It would

provide a bridge between what young people can do now as a start to developing a Silicon Valley for Kenya. Living Labs can also provide a platform for stakeholders to identify relevant business models and to tap into skills, knowledge and expertise from different stakeholders who are all interested in addressing the same challenge. Areas where Living Labs could add value for Kenya include Agriculture, Health and Public Service Delivery.

The Ministry of Agriculture are using laptops and mobile phones to support farmers, There is a lot of innovation going on in this area as it is one of the largest part of the economy. However, presently there is no mechanism for communities to be involved in co-creation. By using Living Lab methodologies, Government in cooperation with Universities and communities could co-create robust realistic and sustainable applications for agriculture. Katherine invited the participants to come back with ideas in relation to tangible activities that could start in Kenya.

Paul thanked the participants for their active participation and knowledge sharing during the day. He thanked Sibukele Gumbo, University of Fort Hare, South Africa, Prof. Darelle van Greunen, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa, Catherinerose Barretto, KINU, Tanzania, Prof Marlien Herselman, Chair of Living Labs of Southern Africa (LLISA) and Dr Katherine Getao, ICT Secretary, eGovernment Directorate, Kenya for sharing their insights.

Participants

Participants included

- Mr Adiel Akplogan, AfriNIC, Mauritius
- Mr Damien Alline, IRD, France
- Dr Edwin Ataro, Moi University, Kenya
- Mr Philip Ayoo, The Inter-University Council for East Africa, Uganda
- Prof Paul Baki, eGy Africa, Kenya
- Ms Catherinerose Barretto, KINU, Tanzania
- Mr Moses Bayingana, African Union Commission
- Mr Chabalala Stephen Chabalala, The National University of Lesotho
- Mr Njei Check, National Agency for Information and Communication Technologies (ANTIC), Cameroon
- Mr Paul Cunningham, IIMC, Ireland
- Ms Miriam Cunningham, IIMC, Ireland
- Mr Girma Dessalegn, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
- Mr Peacemaker Dlamini, Department of Science and Technology, South Africa
- Mr Toumane Doumbouya, Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche, Senegal
- Prof Dirk Elias, Fraunhofer Portugal Research Center for Assistive Information and Communication Solutions, Portugal
- Ms Inas Fateem, Ministry of Communications & IT, Egypt
- Dr Katherine Getao, ICT Secretary, eGovernment Directorate, Kenya
- Mr Gatama Gichini, Ministry of Education Science and Technology, Kenya
- Dr David Gichoya, Moi University, Kenya
- Dr Wilfred Gikaru, Egerton University, Kenya
- Mr Barnabas Gikonyo, Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Kenya
- Mr Matthias Groessler, University of Koblenz-Landau, Campus Landau, Germany
- Mrs Khoudia Gueye, LINPICO, France
- Ms Sibukele Gumbo, University of Fort Hare, South Africa
- Prof Noureddine Hamdi, Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique, Tunisia
- Prof Marlien Herselman, Meraka Institute, CSIR / LLISA, South Africa
- Mr Jemal Hussien Yusuf, African Union Commission
- Ms Sabine Jaume-Rajaonia, RENATER, France
- Mr John Paul Kasse, MUBS, Uganda
- Dr Edmund Katiti, NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, South Africa
- Ms Mary Kiguru, Kenya Methodist University, Kenya
- Dr Raphael Koffi, ECOWAS Commission, Nigeria
- Mr Lebohang Kompfi, Science & Mathematics Educators' Federation - Lesotho, National Commission for UNESCO, Lesotho
- Ms Senei Leluata, Ashoka, Kenya
- Prof Jimmy Macharia, United States International University, Kenya
- Ms Mathe Maema, Rhodes University, South Africa
- Ms Napalite Magingo, TCRA, Tanzania
- Dr Everlyne Makhanu, Strathmore University, Kenya
- Ms Cecilia Mamelodi-Onyadile, Southern African Development Community (SADC), Botswana
- Dr Muthoni Masinde, Central University of Technology, South Africa

- Ms Tugela Matubatuba, Department of Science and Technology, South Africa
- Mr Michael Maua, Pwani University, Kenya
- Mr Rodriguez Msechu, Ashoka, Kenya
- Mr Ebony Msikawanthu, National Commission for Science and Technology, Malawi
- Prof Koi Muchira Tirima, Inoorero University, Kenya
- Mr Resty Mushi, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
- Dr Eric Mwangi, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Kenya
- Mr Moses Mwaura, Autonomous Systems Research, Kenya
- Mr Collins Mwesigwa, Icon Frontiers Uganda Limited, Uganda
- Mr Omar Mzee, Sida, Tanzania
- Ms Loi Namugenyi, Uganda National Council for Science & Technology, Uganda
- Mr Jacob Njagih, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Kenya
- Ms Maureen Njue, Kenya Education Network, Kenya
- Mr Augustin Nsabiyumva, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Burundi
- Mr Joseph Nyaga, InterDisciplinary Centre for Law and ICT (ICRI), Belgium
- Dr Towela Nyirenda-Jere, NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, South Africa
- Mr Vincent Ochieng, Agoro Oyombe Secondary School, Kenya
- Mr Justin Omwonyo, Egerton University, Kenya
- Prof Bjorn Pehrson, KTH, Sweden
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- Ms Therese Samy, Ministry of Communications & IT, Egypt
- Mr Ashwin Seegolam, National Computer Board, Mauritius
- Mr Joël Sor, CIRAD, France
- Mr Abdoukarim Soumaila, African Telecommunications Union, Kenya
- Mr Simon Stumpf, Ashoka, Kenya
- Ms Helena Tapper, GESCI, Kenya
- Ms Lieketseng Tjokotsi, Department of Science and Technology, Lesotho
- Ms Karine Valin, Sigma Orionis, France
- Prof Darelle Van Greunen, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa
- Ms Alida Veldsman, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa
- Mr Wilfred Warioba, Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance, Tanzania
- Mr Moctar Yedaly, African Union Commission
- Mr Moses Zungu, Ministry of Information and Communications Technology, Swaziland