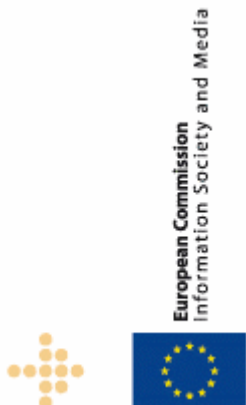# IST-AFRICA 2010 – 2011
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D5.2 Periodic Progress Report 2 (Dec '10 – Jan'12) – Publishable Summary

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PUBLISHABLE SUMMARY

IST-Africa (2010 – 2011) is a collaborative Initiative between 1 European and 13 African partners: 11 Ministries & 2 National Councils responsible for ICT (Information Communication Technologies) and/or STI (Science, Technology & Innovation) adoption, policy and research in **North Africa** (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Egypt), **Southern Africa** (Department of Science & Technology, South Africa; Ministry of Education, Namibia; Ministry of Communications, Science and Technology, Lesotho; Unidade Technica de Implementacao da Politica de Informatica, Mozambique; Ministry of Communications, Science and Technology, Botswana and National Computer Board, Mauritius), **East Africa** (Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology; Uganda National Council for Science and Technology; Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Kenya and Ministere de l'Enseignement Superieur et de la Recherche Scientifique, Burundi), **West Africa** (Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur, des Universités et des Centres Universitaires Régionaux et de la Recherche Scientifique, Senegal) & **Central Africa** (Agence Nationale des Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication, Cameroon).

The main objectives of the IST-Africa Initiative (2010 – 2011) are to:

➢ Strengthen the research dimension of Information Society policy dialogues between the EC, AUC, European and African Member States and other regional stakeholders

➢ Support the Implementation of the 8th Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

➢ Organise events in Europe and Africa synchronised with policy dialogue meetings, provide input on common policy and R&D priorities, opportunities and challenges

➢ Identify and analyse African ICT policy and research priorities aligned with EU priorities, to provide necessary insight and recommendations for future co-operation

➢ Develop synergies with Africa focused on international dialogues and activities under the Capacities and People Programmes, and related activities by EU Member States and Associated States.

IST-Africa (2010 – 2011) achieved these goals through the following actions:

➢ Organised 2 Ministerial level international research conferences ([IST-Africa 2010](#), [IST-Africa 2011](#)) and a series of bi-lateral/multi-lateral meetings in Africa with Regional Economic Communities (RECs) & other key Regional stakeholders

➢ Authored and Validated White Paper on "Supporting the Evolution of Sustainable Living Labs and Living Labs Networks in Africa" through consultation with key stakeholders at Living Lab Workshops in IST-Africa Partner Countries, thus supporting the Implementation of the [Second Action Plan](#) of the 8th Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

➢ Organised 2 IST-Africa Workshops at European research conferences (ICT and eChallenges Conferences) to raise awareness of research capacity in IST-Africa Partner Countries

➢ Published a [Repository of ICT Policies](#) and a [Guide to National ICT Policies](#) in IST-Africa Partner Countries

➢ Published a [Guide](#) to current National ICT initiatives, capacity and priorities for cooperation through National consultation, for IST-Africa Partner Countries

➢ Contributed to two multi-lateral Informal Policy Meetings in Europe (hosted by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland on 12 November '09 and the European Commission in Brussels on 28 April '10), focused on facilitating a more coordinated approach to ICT related engagement in Africa by EU Member States, and developing synergies with European government agencies supporting ICT related research, developmental projects and training across Africa

➢ Published a [Guide to ICT-related Bilateral Cooperation](#) involving IST-Africa Partner Countries to create awareness of Initiatives currently funded and to encourage a more coordinated

approach to ICT-related Support under the Second Action Plan

➢ Organised six [IST-Africa FP7 Training Workshops](#) in new Partner Countries (Senegal, Cameroon, Rwanda, Burundi, Kenya and Mauritius) to raise awareness of FP7 Calls for Proposals and to validate national and regional research activities and research priorities

➢ Published IST-Africa Guide to FP7 for newcomers, which has been regularly updated based on Open Calls during 2010 – 2011

➢ Strengthened international cooperation by promoting research cooperation between European and African organizations under FP7-ICT in proposals addressing:

  o Challenge 1: Pervasive and Trusted Network and Service Infrastructures
  o Challenge 4: Digital Libraries and Content
  o Challenge 5: Towards sustainable and personalised healthcare
  o Challenge 6: ICT for Mobility, Environmental Sustainability and Energy Efficiency
  o Challenge 7: ICT for Independent Living and Inclusion
  o Research Infrastructures

➢ Publishing relevant content (reports, news, papers, presentations) related to FP7, other relevant Calls for research funding and the 8th Africa-EU Strategic Partnership on the IST-Africa portal

IST-Africa (2010 – 2011) commenced in October 2009 for a twenty-eight month period, concluding in January 2012.

Support to 8th Africa-EU Strategic Partnership and JEG8

During December 2007, the Africa-EU Summit in Lisbon agreed the **8th Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space**[1] and the process to shortlist flagship projects and agree funding mechanisms commenced. This introduced a wider policy dimension[2] and opened up new opportunities for cooperation between the EC & African Union Commission. A Joint Implementation Task Force focused on Implementation of the 8th Partnership meet regularly to discuss progress and put necessary systems in place. Joint Expert Groups have been established by the EU and African Member States to provide input to this process and technical expertise.

The IST-Africa Initiative through its partnership ensures the contributions of the relevant Ministries and National Councils for ICT/STI in thirteen African Member States in this important dialogue (**North Africa** (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Egypt), **Southern Africa** (Department of Science & Technology, South Africa; Ministry of Education, Namibia; Ministry of Communications, Science and Technology, Lesotho; Unidade Technica de Implementacao da Politica de Informatica, Mozambique; Ministry of Communications, Science and Technology, Botswana and National Computer Board, Mauritius), **East Africa** (Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology; Uganda National Council for Science and Technology; Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Kenya and Ministere de l'Enseignement Superieur et de la Recherche Scientifique, Burundi), **West Africa** (Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur, des Universités et des Centres Universitaires Régionaux et de la Recherche Scientifique, Senegal) & **Central Africa** (Agence Nationale des Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication, Cameroon)).

IST-Africa has actively participated in the formal JEG8 Meetings organised in Africa: Hammamat, Tunisia on 23 November 2009, in Cairo on 05 – 06 March 2010, in Durban on 19 – 20 May 2010 and in Gaborone 11 – 13 May 2011, as well as hosting the meetings in Durban and Gaborone.

IST-Africa has participated in the informal meetings of the Information Society Group of the JEG8 in Europe: Helsinki, Finland on 12 November 2009 (hosted by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland)

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and Brussels, Belgium on 21 April 2010 (hosted by European Commission).

The IST-Africa 2010 and IST-Africa 2011 Conferences highlighted developments under the 8th Africa EU Strategic Partnership through interactive High-Level Plenary Roundtables and hosted a track focused on the Information Society Track of the 8th Partnership bringing together relevant stakeholders from Europe and Africa (Representatives from EU, AUC, UNESCO, ITU, World Bank, EU Business Forum, Government, Research and Civil Society).

IST-Africa has undertaken a **Survey of ICT-related Bilateral Cooperation** between Europe and Africa (focusing in particular on IST-Africa Partner Countries) in order to raise awareness of current projects being funded and to encourage a more coordinated approach to ICT engagement. It is important that European and African governments look at the range of projects already funded through bilateral cooperation to identify projects that could be replicated and expanded to have a regional impact.

IST-Africa organised an IST-Africa **Living Lab Workshop** as a pre-conference event in Gaborone on 10 May 2011, thus directly supporting one of the main focuses of the Second Action Plan. IST-Africa invited key stakeholders including European Commission (EC) and African Union Commission (AUC), Co-chairs of the 8th Africa – EU Strategic Partnership - represented by the Knowledge Society Agency (UMIC) Portugal, IST-Africa National Partners, World Bank, LLiSA Network (Living Labs in Southern Africa), ENoLL (European Network of Living Labs), as well as other thematic experts from government, research and private sector to contribute to this Workshop. There were almost 100 participants. As a direct result of this meeting, the EC and AUC established an EC – AUC Living Labs Task Force for Africa to develop an implementation strategy to support the rollout of Living Labs across Africa.

It was agreed that a White Paper on Supporting Sustainable Living Labs in Africa would be prepared by Task Force members to provide a framework for next steps. IIMC (Founder and Coordinator, IST-Africa Initiative) and the chair of LLiSA Network (Living Labs in Southern Africa) as Task Force Members collaborated on authoring this White Paper, which presents a proposed approach to achieving the sustainable adoption of Living Labs Networks (and Living Labs Methodologies) across Africa and identified key areas where adoption of Living Labs methodologies has the potential to have considerable socio-economic impact at a national and regional level across Africa.

All relevant stakeholders including all members of the EC – AUC Living Labs Task Force for Africa were regularly consulted throughout the preparation of this White Paper and invited to provide contributions and case study summaries for inclusion in different drafts.

The IST-Africa partners undertook a survey of existing and emerging Living Labs in Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda.

Based on the first public version of the White Paper, a wide scale public consultation was undertaken during September – December. A further validation of the proposed approach was undertaken with national stakeholders through a series of Living Labs Workshops organized by IST-Africa in East Africa (Burundi, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia) and Southern Africa (Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia), during the period September – December 2011. This work was undertaken by IIMC in partnership with the national IST-Africa Partners, within the framework of the IST-Africa Initiative. LLiSA contributed to the IST-Africa Living Labs Validation Workshops in Burundi and Tanzania to share their experiences supporting Living Labs in Southern Africa.

FP7 Training Workshops & Mobilisation of the Research Community

IST-Africa organised the first FP7 Training Workshops[3] in Burundi on 30 October '09 (hosted by Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology), Rwanda on 02 November '09 (hosted by hosted by Ministry in President's Office in charge of Information and Communication Technology) and Mauritius on 09 November '09 (hosted by National Computer Board) focused on FP7-AFRICA-

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3 http://www.ist-africa.org/home/default.asp?page=fp7ws

2010 and FP7-ICT-Call 6.

During September 2010, IST-Africa provided FP7 Training Workshops focused on FP7-ICT-Calls 7 – 9 in Namibia hosted by the Ministry of Education on 15 September '10 and in Botswana hosted by the Department of Research, Science and Technology on 21 September.

The first IST-Africa FP7 Training Workshop in Senegal was hosted by Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur, des Universités et des Centres Universitaires Régionaux et de la Recherche Scientifique on Wednesday 24 November '10 and focused on FP7-ICT-Calls 7 – 9.

IST-Africa organised the first FP7 Training Workshops in Nairobi, Kenya on 18 March 2011 (hosted by the Ministry of Higher Education Science and Technology) and in Yaounde, Cameroon on 21 March 2011 (hosted by the Agence Nationale des Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication) (Cameroon). These workshops focused on FP7-ICT-Call 8 - 9 Calls for Proposals.

The goal of the IST-Africa FP7 Training Workshops is to inform researchers and government officials responsible for supporting research at national level in Burundi, Rwanda, Mauritius and Senegal about FP7-ICT and specific opportunities to participate, qualify organisations with the necessary track record and research capacity to participate in FP7-ICT, and promote such organisations to potential European partners. Each national IST-Africa partner was responsible for organising the workshop and mobilising the participation of the national research community. IIMC (IST-Africa Co-ordinator) provided the training during these workshops as part of the "Train the Trainer" strategy to support each national partner. The training workshops were very interactive in design, with frequent questions from participants as the workshops proceeded.

As part of the IST-Africa FP7 Training workshops, a consultation is held with the research community in each country in relation to mapping research activities and expertise at national level with research areas that can be funded under FP7-ICT. This analysis is then incorporated into the Research Priorities Report.

Updated Training Materials are prepared following the publication of relevant Calls. All IST-Africa partners circulated the pack to their national research community to ensure that they are aware of upcoming opportunities for collaborative projects.

It is clear that FP7 is of considerable interest. As part of the qualification process, each workshop participant was requested to do further internal research to prepare organisational profiles and identify specific research areas where they could demonstrate capacity to participate in collaborative research with international partners.

Many of the universities have at least some existing co-operation agreements with European universities and Embassies. Other universities clearly need to build these relationships over time. Following these training workshops the national IST-Africa partners followed up and provided coaching for those organisations identified as having high potential, to help them prepare material to forward to European organisations with whom existing co-operation agreements are in place and to prepare an organisation profile to help attract new potential partners.

Support was also provided in relation to proposals submitted under FP7-AFRICA-2010, FP7-ICT-Call 6 – Call 9 in terms of providing introductions to relevant organisations as partners and providing the African partners with direct support to prepare their contributions for the proposals submitted. A number of proposals were submitted under each open Call.

IST-Africa 2010, Durban & IST-Africa 2011, Gaborone

The IST-Africa 2010[4] Conference and Exhibition took place in Durban from 19 – 21 May 2010, Hosted by the Government of South Africa through the Department of Science and Technology, Supported by the European Commission and Technically Co-Sponsored by IEEE.

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[4] http://www.ist-africa.org/Conference2010/

The IST-Africa 2011[5] Conference and Exhibition took place in Gaborone from 11 – 13 May 2011, Hosted by the Government of Botswana through the Department of Research, Science and Technology, Supported by the European Commission and Technically Co-Sponsored by IEEE.

IST-Africa 2010 and IST-Africa 2011 focused on the Role of ICT for Africa's Development, and specifically on Applied ICT research topics addressing major societal and economic challenges, which is part of the European Commission's ICT Theme of FP7. The Conference Programme combined strategic keynote presentations, technical and policy papers, case studies, workshops, an exhibition and social activities.

The IST-Africa Initiative and the IST-Africa Conference Series directly supports the goals of the 8th Africa-EU Strategic Partnership (Science, Information Society and Space), the African Ministerial Council on Science and Technology (AMCOST) and the Consolidated Plan of Action for the African Regional Action Plan on the Knowledge Economy (ARAPKE).

The 3-day programme featured an invigorating mix of business and government case studies, technical and policy papers and interactive workshops. As well as Opening and Closing Plenary Sessions, delegates could participate in 40 thematically focused parallel sessions featuring different aspects of International Cooperation, eHealth, eInfrastructures, Technology Enhanced Learning and ICT Skills, ICT for Inclusion, ICT for Networked Enterprise and eGovernment and eDemocracy.

The conference programmes were complemented by an Exhibition focused on showcasing demonstrations and technology exploitation, a Networking Reception and a Gala Dinner to facilitate Networking, community and partnership building.

The Opening Plenary Session was in two parts, starting with a number of high-level presentations from the Host Government, European Commission and African Union Commission to provide an overall political context for the IST-Africa Conference & Exhibition.

2010 Plenary Presentations were delivered by the Honourable Naledi Pandor, Minister of Science and Technology, South Africa; Honourable Maged El Sherbiny on behalf of Hon. Prof. Hany Helal, Minister of Higher Education and State for Scientific Research, Egypt (AMCOST Chair); Mrs Vera Brenda Ngosi, Director, HRST, African Union Commission; Dr. Phil Mjwara, Director-General, Department of Science and Technology, South Africa and Mr. Antti Peltomäki, Deputy Director-General, DG Information Society and Media, European Commission.

This was then complemented by a High-level Round Table on the Implementation of the Africa-EU Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space, with representation from the African Union Commission; European Commission; Department of Science and Technology, South Africa; Department of Communications, South Africa; Minister of Higher Education and State for Scientific Research, Egypt (AMCOST Chair); Centre d'Etudes et de Recherche des Télécommunications (CERT), Tunisia (Co-Chair JEG8); Conseil d'Etat, France (Co-Chair JEG8); Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (Chair, Information Society Track, JEG8); Vodafone Health Solutions and European Research Area. The Round Table was very interactive in nature and provided delegates with a unique opportunity to experience first-hand the intricacies involved in planning the Implementation of a new programme and sourcing funding for international flagship projects.

The Closing Plenary focused primarily on Initiatives Supporting Development of Regional S&T, with presentations from Honourable Naledi Pandor, Minister of Science and Technology, South Africa; Ms. Helena Tapper, Counsellor for Information Society for Development, Science and Technology, Embassy of Finland, South Africa; Thierry Devars, DG Information Society and Media, European Commission and Ms.Fadila Boughanemi, DG Research, European Commission.

Over 450 delegates from Europe and Africa participated at IST-Africa 2010.

Much of the European research results presented at IST-Africa 2010 was co-funded under the FP6 IST Programme and FP7 ICT Programme - IST-Africa (FP7), MAP-IT (FP7), Think-Trust EU-IST (FP7 Coordination Action), HealthCycle (FP7), iWebcare (FP7), Contrapunctus (FP7), MaPEeR

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[5] http://www.ist-africa.org/Conference2011/

SME (FP7), C@R (FP6), EU SEAMLESS (FP7), EU ACVDCC (Leonardo da Vinci), Africa4All (ACP/EuropeAid), OASIS (FP7), Remote (FP7), SAVE ME (FP7), ACCESSIBLE (FP7), ACCESS2ALL (FP7), Europeana, 3D-COFORM (FP7), PLANETS (FP7), DRIVER (FP7), OPENAire (FP7), 6DEPLOY (FP7), BELIEF II (FP7), EELA2 (FP7), GILDA (FP), EUGrid (FP), FEAST Feasibility Study, Erina4Africa (FP7), ESASTAP (FP7), CAAST-NET (FP7), INCONTACT (FP7), ST-EAP (FP7), EuroAfrica-ICT (FP7).

IST-Africa 2011 Plenary Presentations were delivered by Honourable Johnie K. Swartz, Minister of Infrastructure Science and Technology, Botswana, Nkatla C. Morupisi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Infrastructure Science and Technology, Dr Ahmed Hamdy, Deputy Director, HRST, African Union Commission, Prof Luis Magalhães, European Chair of the Africa-EU 8th Partnership, Mabua L. Mabua, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Communication and Kostas Glinos (representing Zoran Stancic, DDG, DG Information Society and Media, European Commission).

This was then complemented by a High-level Round Table on the Implementation of the Africa-EU Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space, with representation from the African Union Commission; European Commission; Ministry of Infrastructure Science and Technology, Botswana; Minister of Transport and Communication, Botswana; Africa-EU 8th Partnership Co-chairs, World Bank, Mascom, BotswanaPost, CISCO and Europe Africa Business Forum. The Round Table was very interactive in nature and provided delegates with a unique opportunity to experience first-hand the challenges and coordination involved in planning the Implementation of a new programme and sourcing funding for international flagship projects.

Over 500 delegates from Europe and Africa participated at IST-Africa 2011.

Much of the European research results presented at IST-Africa 2011 was co-funded under the FP7 ICT Programme: MOMENTUM, IST-Africa Initiative, MICIE, ENOLL, C@R, Africa4All Parliamentary Initiative, MERLINGO, CONSPECT, CONFIDENCE, Future Farm project, enviroGRIDS @ Black Sea Catchment, FLOSSInclude, Voices, ESS, EO2HEAVEN, LarKC, AfricaConnect, CHAIN, ESASTAP (FP7).

IST-Africa Awareness Workshops in Europe

IST-Africa has organised a demonstration stand[6] as well as networking session[7] during ICT 2010 in Brussels. IST-Africa also organised a demonstration stand and public awareness-raising workshop of research capacity and ICT Initiatives being undertaken in the 14 participating African countries during eChallenges e2010 in Poland in October 2010.

Repository of National ICT/STI Policy Documents

A Repository of ICT Policies for IST-Africa Partner Countries has been published on the IST-Africa portal. Based on the current national ICT and STI Policy Documents, the Consortium authored a Guide to National ICT Policies in IST-Africa Partner Countries. It is important that there is an the widest possible awareness of current national policies across Africa to ensure that future regional and international projects launched are aligned with national priorities.

Survey of ICT Initiatives and Research priorities

It is important that national ICT research priorities are aligned with national strategic priorities and available expertise. As a result the IST-Africa Consortium has undertaken an extensive consultation with the research communities in 13 African Countries across North Africa (Egypt), West Africa (Senegal), East Africa (Burundi, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda), Central Africa (Cameroon) and Southern Africa (Botswana, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa). This consultation has been undertaken as part of national workshop supplemented by direct one-on-one engagement with senior representatives of key stakeholders undertaking ICT-related research at a national level. All organisations have been encouraged and provided with

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[6] http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/events/cf/ict2010/item-display.cfm?id=3366&displaypage=main

[7] http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/events/cf/ict2010/item-display.cfm?id=3512&displaypage=main

assistance as requested, in relation to preparing an organisational profile to highlight their track record and expertise.

A survey has also been undertaken to provide an overview of the ICT Environment at a national level and ICT related initiatives currently based on consultation of all key research actors.

An IST-Africa Guide to current National ICT initiatives, capacity and priorities for cooperation in IST-Africa Partner Countries has been published.

For more information on IST-Africa, please visit www.IST-Africa.org

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