

**IST-AFRICA 2012 – 2013**

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D5.2 Periodic Progress Report 1 (Dec '12 – Jan '14) – Publishable Summary

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Project Coordinator:	Name	Miriam Cunningham
	Partner	IIMC Ltd
	Address	13 Docklands Innovation Park, Dublin 3, Ireland
	Phone	+353-1-8170607
	Fax	+353-1-8170606
	E-mail	<a href="mailto:Miriam@iimg.com">Miriam@iimg.com</a>

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## 1. PUBLISHABLE SUMMARY

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**IST-Africa (2012 – 2013)** is a strategic collaboration between IIMC (Ireland) and 18 African government partners: 14 Ministries & 4 National Councils responsible for Information Society, ICT and/or Innovation adoption, policy and research in **North Africa** (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Egypt; Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique, Tunisia), **Southern Africa** (Department of Science & Technology, South Africa; Ministry of Education/National Commission on Research, Science and Technology, Namibia; Ministry of Communications, Science and Technology, Lesotho; Instituto Nacional de Tecnologias de Informacao e Comunicacao, Mozambique; Ministry of Transport and Communications, Botswana and National Computer Board, Mauritius; Ministry of Information Communication Technology, Swaziland; National Commission for Science and Technology, Malawi), **East Africa** (Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology; Uganda National Council for Science and Technology; Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Kenya; Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique, Burundi and Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, Ethiopia), **West Africa** (Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur de la Recherche, Senegal and Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology, Ghana) & **Central Africa** (Agence Nationale des Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication, Cameroon).

Co-funded under Grant Agreement 288691, the objectives of IST-Africa (2012 – 2013) were to:

- Support Implementation of ICT and Innovation aspects of the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership
- Strengthen the research dimension of Information Society policy dialogues between the EC, AUC, European and African Member States and other regional stakeholders
- Organise community building 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 and their alignment with EU priorities, to provide necessary insight and recommendations to inform future co-operation
- Strengthen cooperative research links between European organisations and relevant African national & regional organisations with the aim of establishing strategic partnerships
- Support establishment of National Contact Points (NCP) in IST-Africa Partner Countries.

**IST-Africa (2012 – 2013)** carried out the following activities:

- Actively participated in EEG8 and JEG8 Meetings to share results from two IST-Africa surveys (ICT Initiative and Research Capacity, Bilateral Cooperation) during the following meetings: JEG8 Meeting hosted by IST-Africa 2012 (Dar es Salaam 08 - 11 May); EEG8 Meeting (Brussels, 04 June 2012); EEG8 Information Society Meeting (Helsinki, 04 October 2012); EEG8 Meeting (Brussels, 24 October 2012), JEG8 Meeting (Cape Town, 06 - 08 November 2012)
- Organised [IST-Africa 2012](#) in Dar es Salaam in May 2012 (over 480 participants from Europe, Africa, Australia and North America) and [IST-Africa 2013](#) in Nairobi in May 2013 (over 490 participants from Europe, Africa, Cambodia and US). A series of bi-lateral/multi-lateral meetings among key stakeholders were facilitated around each IST-Africa conference.
- Organised [2nd IST-Africa Living Labs Thematic Working Group](#) (Dar es Salaam, 08 May 2012 - over 90 participants from Africa and Europe) and [3rd IST-Africa Living Lab Thematic Working Group](#) (Nairobi, 28 May 2013 - over 80 participants from Africa and Europe).
- Organised five [IST-Africa FP7 Training Workshops](#) in Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia, Ethiopia and Mauritius and eleven [Horizon 2020 Training Workshops](#) in Lesotho, Namibia, Botswana, Mauritius, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Tunisia, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Malawi
- Strengthened international cooperation by promoting research cooperation between European and African organizations under FP7-ICT and Horizon 2020 (LEIT and Societal Challenges)
- Organised IST-Africa workshops during eChallenges e2012 (Lisbon, 17 October) and eChallenges e2013 (Dublin, 09 October) to raise awareness of African research capacity
- Presented African Research Capacity during International Cooperation Session at ICT 2013
- The [IST-Africa Guide to National ICT Initiatives and Research Capacity](#) provides insight and 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
- The [IST-Africa Guide to Bilateral & Multilateral Cooperation Agreements Supporting ICT / STI related Activities](#) provides insight for 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
  - Publishing reports, news, papers and presentations related to FP7, Horizon 2020, other relevant research Calls and the 8<sup>th</sup> Africa-EU Strategic Partnership on the IST-Africa portal
  - New National Contact Points have been established in Ethiopia (MCIT), Ghana, Kenya (MoEST), Lesotho (MCST), Senegal (MESR), Tunisia (MHESR) and Uganda (UNCST). NCPs already exist in South Africa and Egypt under existing Scientific Cooperation agreements.

IST-Africa and the annual IST-Africa Week supports Information Society, ICT and Innovation aspects of the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership, 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).

### Support to 8<sup>th</sup> Africa-EU Strategic Partnership, EEG8 and JEG8

During the Africa-EU Summit (Lisbon, December 2007), the **8<sup>th</sup> Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space**<sup>1</sup> was agreed and the process to shortlist flagship projects and agree funding mechanisms commenced. This introduced a wider policy dimension<sup>2</sup> and opened up new cooperation opportunities between the European Commission & African Union Commission. A Joint 8th Partnership Implementation Task Force meet regularly to discuss progress and put necessary systems in place. Joint Expert Groups were established by EU and African Member States to provide input to this process and technical expertise. The 2nd Action Plan 2011 - 2013<sup>3</sup> was adopted at the 3rd Africa EU Summit<sup>4</sup> (Tripoli, 29 - 30 November 2010).

IST-Africa ensured timely contributions from eighteen African Member States to inform this important dialogue by sharing information on current initiatives and national priorities.

IST-Africa hosted the JEG8 Meeting in Dar es Salaam (08 - 11 May) during IST-Africa 2012 to ensure that the maximum number of African and European experts could contribute. IST-Africa contributed to EEG8 and JEG8 meetings in Brussels, 04 June; Helsinki, 04 October; Brussels 24 October and Cape Town, 06 - 08 November 2012, by sharing interim results from IST-Africa surveys on ICT Research Initiatives and Research Capacity and Bilateral Cooperation.

IST-Africa 2012 and IST-Africa 2013 highlighted Information Society, ICT and Innovation developments under the Africa EU Strategic Partnership through High-Level Plenary Roundtables.

IST-Africa results were disseminated at the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Africa-Ireland Economic Forums (Dublin, 22 October 2012, 03 October 2013), attracting high level public, private and research sector interest.

The [IST-Africa Guide to Bilateral & Multilateral Cooperation Agreements Supporting ICT / STI related Activities](#) provides insight for 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. This raises awareness of currently funded projects to encourage a more coordinated approach by all key stakeholders.

IST-Africa organised the [2nd IST-Africa Living Labs Thematic Working Group Meeting](#) (Dar es Salaam, 08 May 2012) in cooperation with [TANZICT](#) during IST-Africa Week 2012. Amongst the almost 90 participants, other organisations represented included the EC and AUC, Co-chairs of 8th Africa – EU Strategic Partnership (Portugal and Tunisia), IST-Africa National Partners, World Bank, LLIISA Network (Living Labs in Southern Africa), ENoLL (European Network of Living Labs), and other thematic experts from the government, education and research and private sectors.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.IST-Africa.org/home/default.asp?page=euafrica](http://www.IST-Africa.org/home/default.asp?page=euafrica)

<sup>2</sup> <http://africa-eu-partnership.org>

<sup>3</sup> [http://africa-eu-partnership.org/sites/default/files/doc\\_jaes\\_action\\_plan\\_2011\\_13\\_en.pdf](http://africa-eu-partnership.org/sites/default/files/doc_jaes_action_plan_2011_13_en.pdf) - page=6

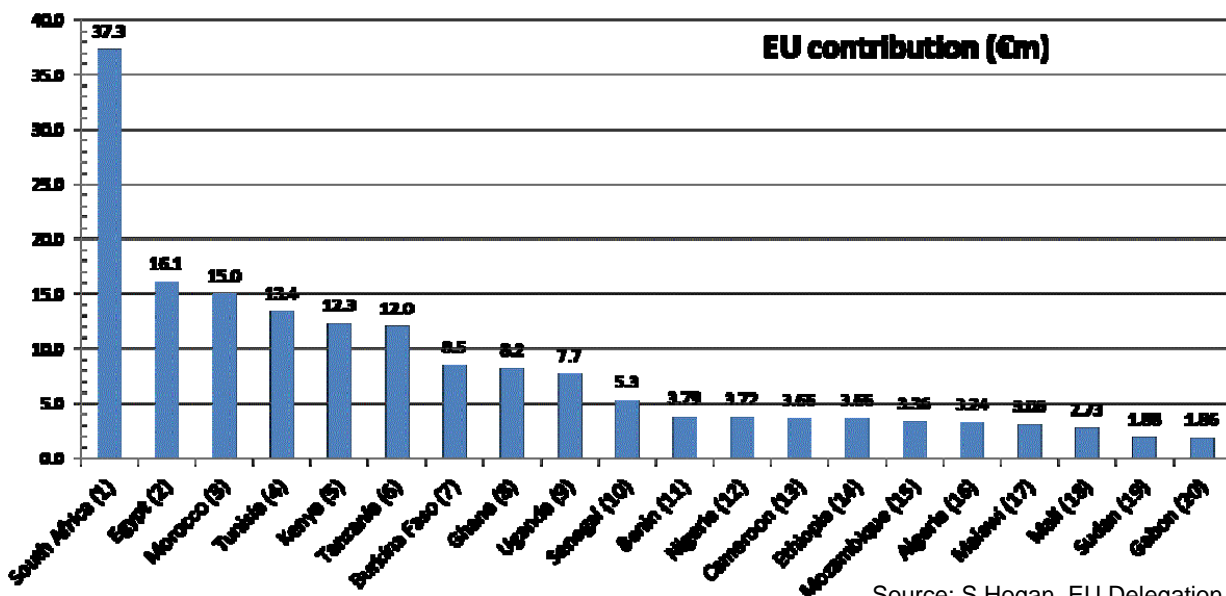
<sup>4</sup> <http://africa-eu-partnership.org/node/398>

As a direct result of this meeting, TANZICT is now supporting six emerging Living Labs in Tanzania and Meraka Institute, CSIR secured a grant from National Research Foundation (NSF) South Africa to cooperate with Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology in relation to Living Labs.

IST-Africa organised the [3rd IST-Africa Living Lab Thematic Working Group Meeting](#) (Nairobi, 28 May 2013) during IST-Africa Week 2013 with over 80 participants from Europe and Africa including existing and emerging Living Labs and other stakeholders interested in learning about Living Lab methodologies. Considerable knowledge was exchanged in relation to practical issues and thematic areas where Living Labs would be beneficial in Kenya were identified.

African governments have expressed an interest in leveraging Living Lab methodologies to support the Innovation Ecosystems at national and regional level and as a mechanism to facilitate co-creation between government, industry, education and research, communities and civil society. IST-Africa Living Lab Workshops have been hosted by a number of IST-Africa partner governments.

### FP7, Horizon 2020 Training Workshops & Research Community Mobilisation



Source: S Hogan, EU Delegation to AU

As at September 2013, there were 1,315 participations from 45 African countries in 565 FP7 projects, with total EU-funding of €178 million to African partners. The diagram above outlines the leading African countries in terms of the total level of EU research funding secured.

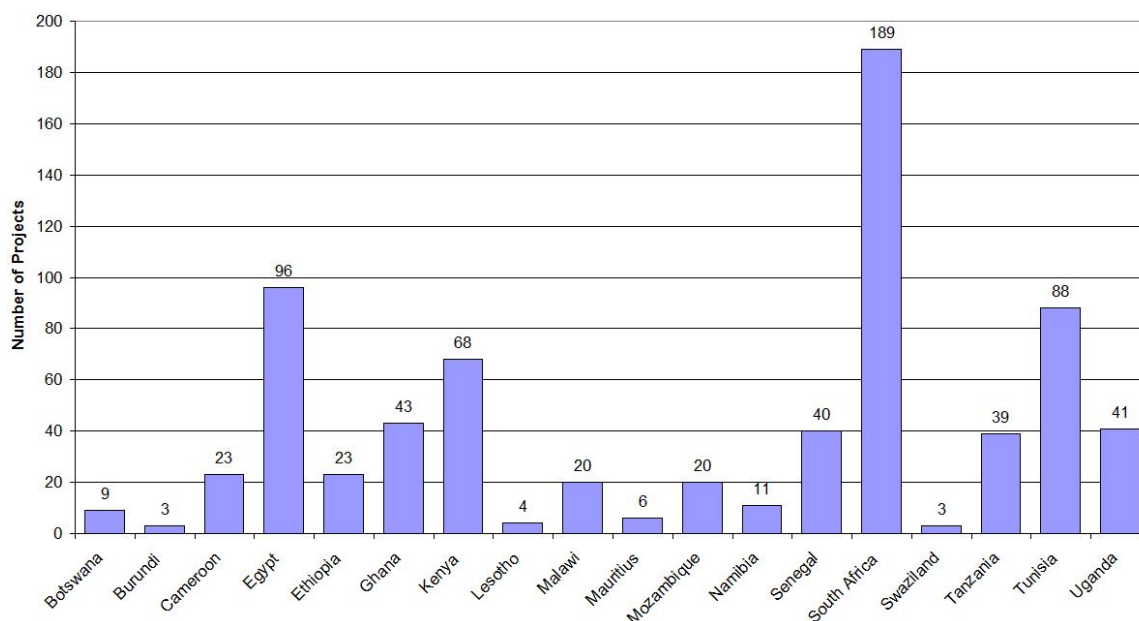
IST-Africa organised FP7 Training Workshops in **Malawi** (16 November 2011, hosted by National Commission for Science and Technology), **Swaziland** (29 November 2011, hosted by Ministry of Information and Communication Technologies) **Zambia** (01 December 2011 hosted by Ministry of Transport and Communications), **Ethiopia** (24 November 2011, hosted by Ministry of Science and Technology) and **Mauritius** (15 November 2012, hosted by National Computer Board). These workshops complemented other activities carried out by IST-Africa to support mobilisation of national research communities and raising awareness in Europe of African Research potential.

During November 2013 to January 2014 IST-Africa organised eleven [Horizon 2020 Training Workshops](#) in **Lesotho** (11 November, hosted by Ministry of Communications, Science and Technology), **Namibia** (14 November, hosted by National Commission on Research, Science and Technology), **Botswana** (21 November, hosted by Ministry of Transport and Communications), **Mauritius** (28 November, hosted by National Computer Board), **Mozambique** (02 December, hosted by Instituto Nacional de Tecnologias de Informacao e Comunicacao), **Ethiopia** (05 December, hosted by Ministry of Communication and Information Technology), **Tunisia** (16 December, hosted by Ministere de l'Enseignement Superieur et de la Recherche Scientifique) and four joint IST-Africa CAAST-Net Plus Workshop in **Tanzania** (20 January '14, hosted by COSTECH), **Kenya** (21 January '14, hosted by Ministry of Education, Science and Technology), **Uganda** (22 January '14, hosted by Uganda National Council for Science and Technology) and

**Malawi** (24 January '14, hosted by National Council for Science and Technology). These workshops raised awareness of H2020 (LEIT and Societal Challenges) and captured intelligence.

IST-Africa activities have clearly had a significant impact on the level of FP7 participation across all IST-Africa partner countries, which has grown significantly over the past seven years as illustrated in the diagram below and analysed in the [IST-Africa Guide to National ICT Initiatives and Research Capacity](#) and [IST-Africa Guide to Bilateral & Multilateral Cooperation Agreements Supporting ICT / STI related Activities](#). This successful participation provides a considerable wealth of experience and invaluable network of existing research collaborators upon which to build for Horizon 2020.

IST-Africa Partner Countries - Participation in FP7 (Nov 2013)



### Community Building Events in Africa and Europe

In addition to networking facilitated at IST-Africa training workshops, IST-Africa organises an International Scientific Conference in Africa supported by the EC and AUC and Technically Co-Sponsored by IEEE, and a public workshop during a Scientific Conference in Europe each year to showcase and raise awareness of African research capacity and facilitate partnerships.

#### IST-Africa 2012, Dar es Salaam

The [IST-Africa 2012](#) Conference and Exhibition (Dar es Salaam, 09 - 11 May) was hosted by the Government of Tanzania through the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH). IST-Africa facilitated a JEG8 Meeting on 08 May and JEG8 sessions during IST-Africa 2012 and bilateral meetings between the EC, AUC and other strategic stakeholders.

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 48 thematically focused parallel sessions featuring different aspects of International Cooperation, eHealth, eInfrastructures, Technology Enhanced Learning & ICT Skills, ICT for Inclusion, ICT for Networked Enterprise and eGovernment and eDemocracy. The conference programme was complemented by an Exhibition showcasing demonstrations and a Gala Dinner facilitating networking and community building.

The Opening Plenary started with high-level presentations from the Host Government, EC, AUC and Member States supporting Information Society activities in Tanzania, to provide an overall political context. Plenary Presentations were delivered by the Honourable Prof Makame Mbarawa, Minister of Communications, Science and Technology, Tanzania; Dr Florens Turuka, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications Science and Technology; Dr. Hassan Mshinda, Director General, Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology; Moctar Yedaly, African Union Commission, Ethiopia; Kostas Glinos, European Commission, Belgium; Enrico Strampelli, Head of

Operations, European Delegation and Ambassador Sinikka Antila, Embassy of Finland, Tanzania.

This was followed by a High-level Round Table on Implementation of the 8<sup>th</sup> Africa-EU Strategic Partnership, with interventions from Dr Florens Turuka, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications Science and Technology; Moctar Yedaly, Head of Information Society Division, AUC; Kostas Glinos, Head of Unit GEANT & e-Infrastructures, DG Information Society and Media, EC; Prof John S Nkoma, Director General, Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority; Dr Rached Hamza, DG, CERT & African Co-chair of the Africa-EU 8th Partnership; Prof. Luis Magalhães, European Co-chair of JEG8, Portugal; Ambassador Lennarth Hjelmåker, Embassy of Sweden, Tanzania; Dr Jyrki Pulkkinen, Senior Adviser, Information Society & STI for Development, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland; Prof. Samuel Wangwe, Executive Secretary, Research on Poverty Alleviation (REPOA), Tanzania; Mr. Anthony Maduekwe, Program Specialist, UNESCO, Tanzania; Jussi Hinkkanen, Vice President, Corporate Relations and Business Environment, Nokia Middle East and Africa and Catherinerose Barretto, KINU, Tanzania. The Round Table was very interactive and provided delegates with a unique opportunity to gain insight into the intricacies involved in planning programme implementation and sourcing funding for flagship projects.

The Closing Plenary focused primarily on Initiatives Supporting Development of Regional S&T, with presentations on Horizon 2020 by Ms Fadila Boughanemi, DG Research, European Commission; African Internet Exchange System (AXIS) by Moses Bayingana, African Union Commission, Ethiopia; African Leadership in ICT (ALICT) by Jerome Morrissey, GESCI, Kenya; TANZICT Programme by Kristiina Lahde, TanzICT Programme, Tanzania; World Bank Initiatives by Philippe Dongier, Country Manager, WorldBank, Tanzania and Entrepreneurship and ICT Incubation by George Mulamula, Dar Teknohama Business Incubator, Tanzania.

Over 490 delegates from Europe and Africa participated at IST-Africa 2012. Following a blind peer review process the Conference proceedings are available in the [Paper Repository](#).

### **IST-Africa 2013, Nairobi**

The [IST-Africa 2013](#) Conference and Exhibition (Nairobi, 29 - 31 May) was Hosted by the Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. IST-Africa facilitated bilateral meetings between the EC, AUC, UNECA, Regional Economic Community representatives and NEPAD and a series of closed meetings focused on African research capacity between Morten Moller, EC and the IST-Africa Consortium, Kenya Educational Network (KENET), Vice Chancellors of key Kenyan Universities, other relevant EU-funded projects and the private sector.

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, 44 thematically focused parallel sessions featured different aspects of International Cooperation, eHealth, eInfrastructures, Technology Enhanced Learning and ICT Skills, Living Labs, Digital Libraries, eInclusion, Mobile Applications, ICT for Environmental Sustainability, eAgriculture and eGovernment and eDemocracy. The conference programme was complemented by an Exhibition and a Gala Dinner facilitating networking and community building.

The Opening Plenary started with high-level presentations from the Host Government, EC and AUC to provide an overall political context. This was followed by a High-level Round Table on Implementation of the Information Society in Africa, with interventions from Dr Katherine Getao, ICT Secretary, eGovernment Directorate; Christopher Kemei, Assistant Director, Licensing – Compliance and Standards, Communications Commission of Kenya; Daniel Obam, Ministry of ICT; Moctar Yedaly, Head of Information Society Division, African Union Commission; Prof. Meoli Kashorda, Executive Director, Kenya Education Network (KENET); Prof. Koi Muchira Tirima, Deputy Vice Chancellor-ARS, Inoorero University / LIWA and Jerome Morrissey, CEO, GESCI, Kenya. The Round Table was very interactive and provided delegates with a unique opportunity to gain insight into the intricacies involved in supporting the evolution of the Information Society.

Roundtable Panels “ICT Education, Innovation & Research” and “Supporting Entrepreneurship in East Africa” provided compelling insight from Senior University Leadership and Innovation Spaces.

The Closing Plenary focused primarily on Regional S&T, with presentations on Horizon 2020 by Dr

Stephane Hogan, Science Counsellor, EU Delegation to the African Union; African Internet Exchange System (AXIS) by Moses Bayingana, AUC, Ethiopia; IEEE's Information Society Activities in Africa by Vincent Kaabunga, IEEE Kenya Section; Role of ICT in Vision 2030 by Grace Wandera, Director of Strategy, Vision 2030 Delivery Secretariat and Future of Innovation and ICT Research in Kenya by Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, National Council for Science and Technology.

Over 490 participants from Europe, Africa, Cambodia and US participated in IST-Africa 2013. Following a blind peer review process, the IST-Africa 2013 Conference proceedings are available in the [Paper Repository](#) and in IEEE Xplore.

#### **IST-Africa Awareness Raising Workshop during eChallenges e2012, Lisbon 17 October**

IST-Africa organised a half-day public awareness-raising workshop of research capacity and ICT Initiatives being undertaken in the 18 participating African countries during eChallenges e2012 to raise awareness among the wider European Research Community. Ms Christine Tome, European Co-Chair, 8th Africa-EU Strategic Partnership and IICT Vice-President attended the workshop to meet the representatives of the African Member States presenting. Participants included representatives from Flensburg University, Germany; EGI.eu, Netherlands; Fraunhofer Institute SCAI, Germany; Fraunhofer Institute for Biomedical Engineering, Germany; ISS International Business School of Service Management, Germany; SingularLogic S.A, Greece; Instituto Superior Técnico, Portugal; IICT, Portugal; Turku University of Applied Sciences, Finland; Innovation Impact, Sweden; Center for Documentation of Cultural and Natural Heritage-CULTNAT, Egypt; National Science and Technology Commission, South Korea. It was a productive, interactive workshop with lively discussion. Discussion focused on Infrastructure, relevant applications and cyber security. IST-Africa partners also actively participated in other sessions to identify relevant complementary initiatives. The IST-Africa 2013 Call for Papers was widely disseminated.

#### **IST-Africa Awareness Raising Workshop during eChallenges e2013, Dublin 09 October**

IST-Africa organised a half-day public awareness-raising workshop of research capacity and ICT Initiatives being undertaken in the 18 participating African countries during eChallenges e2013 to raise awareness amongst the European Research Community in the context of Horizon 2020. Participants included representatives from Trinity College Dublin, University College Cork, Cork University Hospital, NUI, Enterprise Ireland, Department of Enterprise, Trade & Investment (Northern Ireland), Open University, Korora Ltd (United Kingdom), IBM Research (Israel), Region Västerbotten, Stockholm University (Sweden), Turku University of Applied Sciences (Finland), CSI Piedmont (Italy), Göttingen University (Germany), DTU-AQUA (Denmark), Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Strategy and Finance (Republic of Korea) and DPSA (South Africa). The workshop generated a lot of discussion, IST-Africa partners actively participated in other sessions to identify relevant complementary activities and IST-Africa 2014 Call for Papers was widely disseminated.

IIMC arranged a series of meetings on 07 and 08 October to provide insight into how Ireland promotes and supports research (Gearóid Mooney, Head of Research and Commercialisation, Enterprise Ireland; Dr Imelda Lambkin, National Director of Ireland's National Support Network for FP7, Enterprise Ireland; Ciara Cotter, Science Foundation Ireland), activities of leading research universities (Dr Ciara Leonard, Office of the Vice-President for Innovation, University College Dublin; Audrey Crosbie, Trinity Research & Innovation) and how Innovation Spaces support ICT Entrepreneurship (Amy Neale, National Digital Research Centre; Bernadette O'Reilly, DIT Hothouse Incubation; Ruth Flynn, The Digital Hub Development Agency). IIMC brought representatives from NCST (Malawi), MoEST (Kenya) and MICT (Swaziland) to meet with the Health Information Systems Research Centre (HISRC), at University College Cork on 12 October to learn more about Supporting LIFE FP7 project and identify other cooperation opportunities.

#### **Presentations during ICT2013**

IST-Africa presented in the [International Cooperation Networking Session on Developing Countries](#) during ICT2013 on 07 November to raise awareness of research potential in African countries and priorities of interest. There was a high level of interest during the session.

For more information on IST-Africa, please visit [www.IST-Africa.org](http://www.IST-Africa.org)

Contact details: Miriam Cunningham, Coordinator, IIMC Ltd, Ireland

Email: [Miriam@iimg.com](mailto:Miriam@iimg.com), Phone: +353-1-8170607