



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

Community Research



Seventh Framework Programme  
FP7

Cooperation Specific Programme - Information & Communication Technologies - Call 4  
FP7 ICT Call 4 (FP7-ICT-2009-4)

Strategic Objective 9.1a  
(Support to Information Society Policy & Strengthening of International Cooperation)  
ICT-4-9.1a

Coordination & Support Action  
CSA-SA



Project Acronym : EuroAfrica-ICT.org  
Project Full Title : Policy Dialogues & Strengthened Cooperation with sub-Saharan Africa  
Grant Agreement : 248376  
Project Duration : 24 months (Jan. 2010 - Dec. 2011)

## D2.2 – Cooperation Events: Final report

Deliverable Status : Final  
File Name : EuroAfrica-ICT\_D2.2.pdf  
Due Date : November 2011  
Submission Date : December 2011  
Dissemination Level : Public  
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## PROJECT ABSTRACT

The EuroAfrica-ICT.org project is defined in full continuity with and builds upon the substantial results obtained and the significant momentum created by two previous European projects: the FP6/IST START and the FP7/ICT EuroAfriCa-ICT FP7 projects.

“The EuroAfrica-ICT initiative”, which has been developing since 2006 through these two projects and which is supported by a high number of key stakeholders in Europe and in Africa, has established close synergies with most national and international programmes and initiatives; has already started to identify research priorities to support the development of policy dialogues; and has provided the European and African research communities with continuous and reliable support and guidance.

The EuroAfrica-ICT.org partnership built this new support action by capitalising on its past experience, its significant network of contacts, its past achievements, and the conclusions of the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> “Euro-Africa Cooperation Forums on ICT Research” which has been successfully and respectively organised in March 2009 in Belgium and in February 2010 in Ethiopia by the FP7/ICT EuroAfriCa-ICT project.

Project activities (all specifically targeting Europe and sub-Saharan Africa) will be implemented over a 24-month period:

- Research priorities in the ICT field will be explored through an approach involving the highest number of stakeholders from the two continents and recommendations for future cooperation opportunities will be derived from them,
- Cooperation events will be organised both in Europe and Africa, synchronised whenever and wherever possible with policy dialogue meetings in order to facilitate the development of synergies with other programmes and initiatives (including the CAAST-Net INCO project), involve key stakeholders in the field (such as the ETPs and JTIs in the ICT area), fine tune priorities, etc. To be noted: two key cooperation events organised by the project will be the 2010 and 2011 editions of the “Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research”, which provide key stakeholders in the field with a key opportunity to celebrate and further strengthen the development of cooperation on ICT research between Europe and Africa,
- Support and guidance will be provided to European and African organisations in their efforts to connect and develop joint research projects in the ICT field (through an active online community of researchers from both regions, a database of African excellence research centres, proactive helpdesk services, etc.),
- Dissemination activities will support all other project activities and maximise the overall project impact.

The EuroAfrica-ICT.org project is therefore:

- A focused, result-oriented and ambitious project,
- Presented by a limited yet well-established partnership, offering all necessary skills to efficiently implement planned activities from the very beginning of the project.

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## Introduction

The present document is a deliverable of the EuroAfrica-ICT.org project, funded by the European Commission's Directorate-General Information Society and Media (DG INFSO), under its 7th EU Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7).

The EuroAfrica-ICT.org project is divided into Work Packages (WP), each of them being subdivided into Tasks (T). WP2, led by TWAS, is to organise in Europe and in sub-Saharan Africa at least eight cooperation events during the two-year period of the project, to be synchronised with policy dialogue meetings, in order to provide inputs to these meetings, facilitate the development of synergies with other programmes and initiatives, involve key stakeholders in project activities, fine-tune the identification of priorities and recommendations (WP1), etc.

Among the project Tasks covered in this report are:

- Task 2.1: Concertation meetings (Task leader, Sigma Orionis);
- Task 2.2: Awareness and thematic workshops (Task leader, AUF);
- Task 2.3: Cooperation Forums on ICT Research (Task leader, TWAS).

The objectives of these three Tasks were met through the successful organisation, respectively, of:

- 8<sup>th</sup> Concertation Meeting, Brussels, 23 June 2010;
- 9<sup>th</sup> Concertation Meeting, Pretoria, South Africa, 6 June 2011;
- 14<sup>th</sup> Awareness and thematic workshop, Reduit, Mauritius, 3-4 November 2010;
- 15<sup>th</sup> Awareness and thematic workshop, Khartoum, Sudan, 6-7 April 2011;
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research, Helsinki, Finland, 7-8 December 2010.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research, Cape Town, South Africa, 14-15 November 2011.

Although this amounts to only six meetings, there was an agreement with the EuroAfrica-ICT project officer (Thierry Devars, DG INFSO) that funds allocated to one of the Awareness workshops and one of the Concertation meetings should be used instead to support the organisation of the Cooperation Forums, especially as these major events have gained a high profile, attracted a high number of participants, and were more expensive to support, especially to cover the costs of suitable high-level venues and to offer mobility grants to African delegates (who could not attend otherwise).

The present deliverable (D2.2 – Cooperation Events: final report), prepared by Peter McGrath (TWAS, Project Task Leader), is the final report related to these activities.

WP2 has also received inputs from WP1 ("Policy and research priorities") since progress in WP1 has required the organisation of some focused events (depending on identified priorities and recommendations). It was also anticipated that WP2 should provide inputs to WP1 (since event outputs could support the work developed through WP1).

WP2 is also related to WP4 (Task 4.2: "Contribution to events") so that full advantage can be taken of any policy dialogue meetings that are organised during the project lifetime. The aim is to synchronise at least some of the EuroAfrica-ICT.org cooperation events with other programmes and initiatives and to contribute to these initiatives.

## 1 – EuroAfrica-ICT concertation meetings

### 1.1 – Introduction

An increasing number of regional, national and international initiatives addressing Euro-Africa S&T cooperation in ICT have been developed in the last few years. Two EuroAfrica-ICT Concertation Meetings were held during the 2010-2011 period of the project both in Europe and in Africa. These meetings facilitated closer interaction and the development of synergies between the EuroAfrica-ICT initiative and other national or international programmes and related projects.

Within T2.1 (Task leader, Sigma Orionis), two Concertation Meetings were organised, one in Europe and one in Africa, each with the aim of attracting 40 to 60 participants. Such a format follows the examples of the seven successful one-day Concertation Meetings already organised in the framework of the FP6/IST START and the FP7/ICT EuroAfrica-ICT projects. These meetings are free of charge (no registration fees are requested from participants) with the project covering event expenses, including the invitation of a few delegates. Delegate surveys are systematically performed after each event, the results of which are integrated into an event report detailing the organisation and the outputs of the event.

Notwithstanding what was planned in the EuroAfrica-ICT.org Technical Annex, the EC Project Officer (i.e. Thierry Devars) decided, in close liaison with the Project Coordinator, that two Concertation Meetings were to be organised during the project lifetime (instead of three), one in Europe (Belgium) by Sigma Orionis (month 6) and one in Africa (South Africa) by Meraka/CSIR (month 16), and that the resources allocated for the organisation of the third meeting were reallocated for the organisation of the 4th Cooperation Forum (second Forum during this project lifetime) since funds were missing to offer additional mobility grants to African researchers/scientists and to better plan and promote the event (see correspondence of Oct. 2010).

### 1.2 – 8<sup>th</sup> Concertation Meeting



The 8th Concertation Meeting was organised by Sigma Orionis and took place at the Radisson Hotel, Brussels, Belgium, on 23 June 2010. The date was set to coincide with the 24 June meeting of the European members of the Joint Expert Group for the “8th Africa-EU Strategic Partnership for Science, Information Society and Space” (JEG8), so fulfilling one of the objectives of the series of cooperation events being organised under the EuroAfrica-ICT.org project.

Moderated by Karine Valin (Sigma Orionis), the meeting was attended by 73 participants from 17 different countries in Europe and Africa. The programme was divided into three parts:

- Cooperation perspectives on ICT with sub-Saharan Africa;
- Sharing visions and experiences;
- Specific workshop: identifying ICT policy and research priorities.

Question and answer discussions took place at the end of each main session contributing to a full exchange of visions, ideas and opinions. As usual for such meetings, several breaks throughout the day were designed to develop fruitful networking among all participants.

### *1.2.1 - Cooperation perspectives on ICT with sub-Saharan Africa*

The opening session welcomed representatives from three European Commission Directorates-General: DG Research (DG RTD), DG Development (DG DEV) and DG Information Society and Media (DG INFSO: International Relations Unit, A4 + GEANT & e-Infrastructures Unit, F3). Roland Zinzius (Deputy Head of Unit 'Pan African Issues' Sector at DG DEV and Relations with African, Caribbean and Pacific States) introduced the recent developments and perspectives for the relations between Europe and Africa and provided the meeting attendees with an update related to the implementation of the "Africa-EU Joint Strategy" and action plan. Then Thierry Devars (Scientific Officer, International Relations Unit, DG INFSO) gave a presentation on the recent developments and the perspectives of EU-Africa cooperation on ICT research together with a short overview of the draft ICT Work Programme 2011-2012 and the upcoming "Cooperation Call 7" (FP7-ICT-2010-7). Leonardo Flores (Scientific Officer, International Cooperation, 'GEANT & e-Infrastructures' Unit, DG INFSO) then updated participants on the AfricaConnect and the FEAST feasibility study for interconnection of sub-Saharan Africa to GEANT. Flores also introduced the upcoming "Capacities Call 9" (FP7-Infrastructures-2011-2).

### *1.2.2 - Sharing vision and experiences*

The second session provided several concrete examples of EU-Africa S&T cooperation initiatives, with speakers from several different European and African countries. Nicolas Chevrollier (ICT4D Team Leader of TNO Information and Communication Technology, Netherlands) looked at mobile services as a means to improve health in rural areas (innovation for development). Christian Merz (Senior Researcher, SAP Research, Germany) presented the Living Lab methodology and evolution in South Africa as a successful system for enhancing economic growth, highlighting the opportunities and positive implications created by this system in the developing world in general. Daan du Toit (Minister Counsellor S&T, South African Mission to the EU, DST, South Africa) made a more general presentation on South Africa's participation in FP7 ICT cooperation activities, pointing out that South Africa is Europe's fifth largest partner in ICT, after the USA, Russia, China and India. James Waterworth (Director, EU Representatives Office, Nokia, Belgium) focused on mobile technologies as a key sector to create sustainable businesses in the Knowledge Economy, having a high potential and several possible applications in different sectors (e.g. agriculture, health, etc.). Mohamadou Arabani Saibou (Director, ESMT, Senegal) illustrated problems and expectations encountered by African organisations when taking part in European projects. Bernard Yvetot (Vice President, Strategy International Business, France Telecom/Orange, France) presented his company's strategy in Africa and how it could contribute to the development of telecommunication services there. More and more mobile services will be available in the coming years, for example, and mobile banking has already transformed the way people transfer money (with successful initiatives in Ivory Coast, Senegal, Mali, Madagascar). David Cromar (Director, Solvebrand, United Kingdom) closed the session by illustrating the idea of growing Africa through incubation. This system is founded on the belief that we need to share our learning and to support each other: the creation of a business incubator to enhance the economic promotion of a region, the diversification of the local economy, the transfer of technology, and the creation of new jobs and skills in a community. The African Incubator Network aims at developing a collaborative network of African incubators and other business development service providers, and at facilitating the provision of appropriate knowledge to support the development of innovative small enterprises.

### *1.2.3 - Specific workshop: identifying ICT policy and research priorities*

The last session of the day – chaired by Daan du Toit (Minister Counsellor S&T, South African Mission to the EU, DST, South Africa) – started with a presentation of Dr Andrew Cherry (the Africa Unit, ACU and EuroAfrica-ICT project partner, United Kingdom). Through this specific workshop, Cherry introduced the work undertaken so far by the EuroAfrica-ICT project in identifying Euro-Africa ICT policy and research priorities and the preliminary results – hence also linking the Concertation Meeting to WP1. He then outlined the different steps of the process that will be used to identify the relevant research priorities, which will lead to recommendations to be taken into consideration in facilitating the rapid emergence of Euro-African collaborative projects addressing identified ICT research areas (consultation, analysis, recommendations and validation). Daan du Toit then led the debate: people were asked to give their opinion and suggestions on the methodology in what can be considered as the first public consultation of the task. The result was a series of comments and views which helped the EuroAfrica-ICT initiative to understand the



general feelings of people towards the proposed methodology. A series of ICT research priorities were suggested as well, including: mobile telephony, transport & technology, e-Education, e-Libraries and e-Environment.

What emerged is that a bottom up approach is useful to get a background orientation on what people expect and is of high interest to the European Commission. However, to understand specifically what should be done and why, a public consultation is necessary to involve in the dialogue all stakeholders, industry associations and other relevant players with strong industry focus, in order to obtain a set of well motivated ideas on how to concretely proceed. (The EuroAfrica-ICT team has since undertaken such a public consultation via an on-line survey: See Deliverable D1.1: Policy and research priorities).

#### 1.2.4 – Follow-up

Soon after the event, a full report was posted on the EuroAfrica-ICT.org website along with a list of the 73 participants and copies of the presentations. Members of the EuroAfrica-ICT community, which has been developed since the beginning of the START project, were also alerted to the results of the discussions that took place during the meeting via the regular EuroAfrica-ICT newsletter – so extending the reach of the meeting to a much larger audience (See Deliverable D4.2: Project dissemination).

- Event report:

<http://euroafrica-ict.org/2010/06/28/8th-euroafrica-ict-concertation-meeting-june-23-2010--event-report/>

- Proceedings & Agenda:

<http://euroafrica-ict.org/2010/06/25/8th-euroafrica-ict-concertation-meeting-june-23-2010-presentations-available/>

- Attendee list:

<http://euroafrica-ict.org/2010/06/16/8th-euroafrica-ict-concertation-meeting-attendees-list-available-june-23-2010/>

- Survey:

A survey of the participants was carried out soon after the event and the results were very positive. For example, 95% of participants considered the event to be either 'very interesting' or 'quite interesting', while every participant considered the agenda to fall into these categories. A majority of respondents (75%) also informed that they had made more than 5 new contacts from the event, with only 5% saying they had made no new contacts. There was also good feedback on the event location (70% very good, 30% good); and 93% said they planned to attend the next Concertation meeting.

For full details of the survey, see Annex 1, or: <http://euroafrica-ict.org/files/2010/7/Questionnaire.pdf>.

#### 1.2.5 – Summary

The event was well-attended, with the number of participants (73) significantly higher than the expected 40-60 outlined in the Description of Work.

The level of the participants was also high, with good representation from relevant EU DGs as well as a number of directors of ICT companies, initiatives and institutions.

Organising the event to tie in with the following day's JEG8 meeting and including the workshop on identifying ICT policy and research priorities also helped achieve some of the overall objective of the EuroAfrica-ICT project with regard to synergies with other initiatives and feeding into WP1.

#### 1.2.6 – Related annexes

Annex 1: Survey results

## 1.3 – 9th Concertation Meeting



The 9th EuroAfrica-ICT Concertation Meeting, organised by the CSIR/Meraka Institute with the support of the EuroAfrica-ICT EU/FP7 Project Coordinator (Sigma Orionis), successfully took place on 6 June 2011, at the CSIR Campus, Building 43, Auditorium in Pretoria, South Africa.

The aim of the Concertation Meeting was to facilitate a closer interaction and the development of synergies between the EuroAfrica-ICT initiative and other related initiatives addressing Euro-Africa S&T cooperation on ICT research in South Africa. Over and above this objective, the meeting was organised to allow FP7 stakeholders and researchers to share success stories, experiences and innovative practices on ICT research, development and innovation and to encourage industry participation on the FP7 programme. This meeting was organised in partnership with Segopotso Moshapo (the South African FP7 National Contact Point for ICT), Thato Foko (Deputy FP7 National Contact Point for ICT) and Barend Taute (FP7, National Contact Point for Security Theme in South Africa).

Facilitated by Tshepang Mosiea and Thato Foko (EuroAfrica-ICT project team members at the CSIR Meraka Institute) the meeting was attended by 32 participants, mainly coming from South Africa.

### 1.3.1 - Setting the scene - Presentation of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)

Laurens Cloete (Acting Executive Director, CSIR/Meraka Institute, South Africa) welcomed the participants and introduced the first session on 'Setting the scene - Presentation of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)', chaired by Tshepang Mosiea, EuroAfrica-ICT project partner.

The first presentation was delivered by Segopotso Moshapo (FP7/ICT National Contact Point), who provided an overview of the 7th Framework Programme (FP7) and its ICT thematic area. Mr Moshapo also introduced how to participate in the EU Programme, highlighting in particular how South African researchers can participate in the forthcoming (July 2011) call that is due to close in January 2012. He also presented an overview of various objectives that researchers should respond to. Mr Moshapo was followed by Tshepang Mosiea (Senior Project Manager, CSIR Meraka Institute and EuroAfrica-ICT project partner). Mr Mosiea introduced the EuroAfrica-ICT initiative and outlined the project's results and outcomes, besides the benefits for African researchers to get involved in the events of the EuroAfrica-ICT initiative. The second part of his presentation focused on the Research Priorities study (WP1), which is one of the core objectives of the EuroAfrica-ICT project. Tshepang Mosiea presented the results of the online survey and of the interviews with key ICT stakeholders carried out in the framework of this study. A comparison of the responses on how African and European research community ranked and prioritised the existing FP7 thematic topics formed the core of his presentation. The third presentation of the morning session of the meeting was presented by Anwar Vahed (Research Group Leader for the ICT4EO Research Group, CSIR Meraka Institute). His presentation covered three FP7 projects namely: Cluva, EO2Heaven and IRMA. The core of his presentation addressed the importance of these projects for managing and monitoring risks related to disasters and climate change, and the impact thereof on cities and human health. He described how these projects will develop a suite of tools and methods for the mitigation of risks, analysis, explore and model risks and disasters related to climate change. Cluva, for example, will explore the issues of climate change vulnerability, resilience, risk management and adaptation in selected African cities with local case study partners. The outcome is to improve the capacity of scientific institutions, local councils and civil society to cope with climate change. The final presentation of the opening session was delivered

by Adele Botha (Senior Researcher, CSIR Meraka Institute), who presented the VOICES EU/FP7 funded project, the aim of which is to provide technology tools to support the use of under-resourced and under-researched languages in order to harness local content creation. The VOICES project intends to make a major step forward in realizing the potential and uptake of mobile ICT services, particularly in the African context, through an integrated bundle of activities that will resolve key challenges in terms of ICT services. The project aims at delivering: (1) open and wider access (VOICES will improve voice-based access to content and mobile ICT services by building a toolbox for the development of voice services that will be made available to local communities and entrepreneurs as Open Source); (2) an integration of local community radios and ICT (among its features and functionalities, the toolbox will enable the bridge with local community radios, by offering a web archiving option and off-line individual access, making the broadcasted content available to people, through a mobile voice-based application, independently of radiophonic programming schedules); (3) a better support of languages (the project will deliver supporting tools and methodology for under-researched and under-resourced languages that facilitates the local creation of content in African languages); (4) a long term sustainability (to ensure the local adoption and exploitation of the VOICES tools and methods beyond the project, it will provide a sustainable architecture and business model for its results, co-developed with local partners and communities); and finally (5) a faster uptake (VOICES will furthermore enhance uptake by delivering a mobile training lab that offers education for local partners and entrepreneurs in developing mobile ICT and web services). VOICES will strive to demonstrate the adaptability of its results to the African context by extensive local pilots and associated community building (focused on health services in Senegal, and agricultural and re-greening knowledge sharing in the Sahel countries).

‘Question and answer’ discussions took place at the end of each presentation contributing to exchanging ideas and opinions about ICT RDI in general and on the importance for African players to participate in the FP7 programme. Also, several breaks throughout the day were used to develop fruitful networking opportunities among participants. From the comments that were noted during the discussions it emerged that cost and policy are the main hindrances to technology uptake in Africa. Scientific research has to move to the next phase of implementation: it does not have to end when the research projects are done, but there must be modalities to allow exploitation of research results in Africa. It also emerged that there is a need to use FP projects as a foundation for marketing and launching new projects. There is general consensus around the fact that latest technology innovations seems to be driven by a few companies in the world and they seem to be having a big share on global ICT market sector, while a lot of people, especially in Africa, is still excluded and do not have digital access.

### *1.3.2 – Group discussions*

The afternoon session of the meeting was dedicated to group discussions focusing on the following topics:

- Group 1: EuroAfrica-ICT Research priorities, facilitated by Tshepang Mosiea;
- Group 2: African participation in the FP7 ICT theme, facilitated by Barend Taute.

The important points emerging from each group were:

Group 1 – Since ICT is composed of different sectors, the approach of identifying ICT research priorities for Africa will not yield many results if this is done in silos. Also, there is a need for creative ways to solve problems through technology. Technology research and innovation should address real problems afflicting the African continent. Both the African and the European research communities should study innovative technology solutions, even if this means finding ways to innovate around the restrictive regulations, because regulations can hinder innovation if not carefully implemented. It is important that the Euro-Africa collaboration becomes a catalyst and a driver to solve problems mutual to both regions: it should become the key driver of innovation.

There is a need for EU–African research stakeholders to understand how politics and the global environment are linked together and decide on projects/partnerships based on that assumption, for example, ICT could be exploited in Africa

to enhance and strengthen trade through the application of common technology architectures. However, in order to achieve this, emphasis has to be placed on the importance of understanding key technologies and ICT research and innovation priorities between the 2 regions.

The discussion was around identifying mechanisms and tools that could be exploited in the framework of the EuroAfrica-ICT project to investigate and clearly uncover key research priorities that should drive cooperation between Africa and Europe in the short-medium term. Amongst tools recommended for this purpose were among others the use of:

- Technology Foresight / forecasting
- Technology Roadmapping exercises
- Technology Markets and Industry Analysis by region /country
- ICT Research and Development Trends and Market Opportunities
- Industry ICT R&D investment by country
- ICT research and innovation competitive advantage per country

Digital accessibility through cognitive radio will ensure universal access to broadband in Africa.

Group 2 – There was consensus on the fact that FP7 participation has significant personal and organisational benefits in terms of networks, learning, collaboration and relationships, but it has also a potential real impact on local needs, priorities and policies. Challenges for participation include: the complexity of the Programme, the difficulty of building a good partnership, co-funding, the level of effort required, IP protection and the local take-up of results. These challenges can be overcome through a clearer identification of regional/national research priorities, by measuring the benefits of current projects, by partnering with local and European industry and by empowering champions to make it happen.

The meeting was closed by Hina Patel (Strategic Research Manager, CSIR Meraka Institute). The following points emerged from the concluding remarks: return on investment is key for collaboration with other partners; these partnerships work well when they are driven by tangible objectives; developing FP7 proposals should be all about delivering valuable and tangible results in order to realize return on investments; the African ICT sector does not have to be the consumer of imported technologies but should represent a competitive edge or advantage for such industry.

### 1.3.3 – Follow-up

Soon after the event, a full report was posted on the EuroAfrica-ICT.org website along with a list of the 32 participants and copies of the presentations. Members of the EuroAfrica-ICT community, which has been developed since the beginning of the START project, were also alerted to the results of the discussions that took place during the meeting via the regular EuroAfrica-ICT newsletter – so extending the reach of the meeting to a much larger audience (See Deliverable D4.2: Project dissemination).

- Event report:

<http://euroafrica-ict.org/2011/06/21/9th-euroafrica-ict-concertation-meeting-june-6-2011--south-africa--event-report/>

- Proceedings & Agenda:

<http://euroafrica-ict.org/2011/05/11/9thcm-agenda/>

- Attendee list:

<http://euroafrica-ict.org/2011/06/05/9th-euroafrica-ict-concertation-meeting-june-6-2011-south-africa-attendee-list/>

### 1.3.4 – Summary

Given the realisation that there has been generally and accumulated awareness, interest, knowledge and understanding of FP7 programmes across various research communities, institutions and stakeholders throughout South Africa over the past years, and the fact that the Concertation Meeting may have been organised parallel to other FP7 related activities and meetings hosted by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) during this period, a targeted approach was adopted to keep the workshop a small focused group discussion.

A restricted group of people was invited to attend the event. As a result, 32 participants attended the workshop, especially representatives from CSIR institutions, other South African government agencies, the Academy of Sciences of South Africa, and various IT consultants. This allowed the discussions to be more focused and to have a small number of people per discussion group, allowing efficient and in depth exchange of views over different topics related to FP7 cooperation and Euro-African research priorities.

Various topics across the spectrum of ICT innovation, cooperation modalities, relevant programmes to support African participation in the FP7, challenges for effective participation in the cooperation programmes, and how to go about analysing and assessing future bi-regional research priorities and ensuring return on investment through research, were discussed.

## 2 – EuroAfrica-ICT awareness and thematic workshops

### 2.1 – Introduction

These workshops aim at raising awareness on FP7/ICT and at enhancing Euro-African collaborative projects on ICT research. The aim of each workshop is to bring together 40-60 delegates representing institutions, national and international organisations, SMEs, academia, research institutes, etc. Such workshops extend over a 2-day period.

Within T2.2 (Task leader, AUF), three awareness and/or thematic workshops were scheduled to be organised in Europe and in Africa in order to promote the involvement of European and African organisations in project activities and to support the identification of policy and research priorities.

Notwithstanding what was planned in the EuroAfrica-ICT.org Description of Work, the EC Project Officer decided, in close liaison with the Project Coordinator (see correspondence of Oct. 2010 and note in 'Introduction, above), that only two awareness workshops were to be organised during the project lifetime, the first by AUF (Belgium) in a francophone African country (month 11) and the second by Makerere University (Uganda) in an anglophone African country (month 16). The resources allocated for the organisation of the third meeting were reallocated to the organisation of the 4<sup>th</sup> Cooperation Forum (second Forum under this project lifetime) since funds were missing to offer additional mobility grants to African researchers/scientists and to better plan and promote the event.

Awareness workshops are free of charge (no registration fees are requested from participants), with the project covering event expenses, including the invitation of some delegates. Delegate surveys are systematically performed after each event, the results of which are integrated into an event report detailing the organisation and the outputs of the event.

### 2.2 – 14<sup>th</sup> Awareness and thematic workshop



The 14<sup>th</sup> EuroAfrica-ICT FP7 Awareness Workshop was organised by AUF, with strong support from the project coordinator, and took place at the University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius on 3-4 November 2010. The meeting was held in French, so fulfilling the obligation to hold one such workshop in a francophone African country.

The meeting was attended by a vibrant mix of Mauritian authorities, the European Commission, and ICT stakeholders from Europe, Mauritius and neighbouring countries such as Madagascar, Comoros and the Seychelles. In total, some 50 people attended. The importance of the event to the local ICT community was highlighted by the fact that the opening session was attended by two Ministers from the Government of Mauritius.

#### 2.2.1 – Day One

Konrad Morgan, vice-chancellor, University of Mauritius, welcomed the participants and highlighted the importance of mobile technologies. Then, the Director of the Bureau for the Indian Ocean of AUF spoke of the importance of ICTs for the development of knowledge-based societies in a North-South perspective. Next, Honourable Dr. Rajeshwar Jeetah, Mauritius' Minister of Higher Education, Sciences, Research and Technology pointed out areas of actual and potential cooperation in ICTs, such as digital libraries. Finally, Honourable Pillay Chedumbrum Tassarajen, Minister of Information Communication and Technologies, insisted on the importance of ICTs for the economic and social

development of Mauritius. As ICTs are already high on the agenda in Mauritius, he noted, the country would like to expand and cooperate with neighbouring countries at the regional level. The ICT Minister then officially opened the 14<sup>th</sup> EuroAfrica-ICT FP7 Awareness Workshop.

To begin with, the speakers (Didier Oillo, AUF; Kavi Kumar Khedo, Mauritius University; Fouady Goulame, Comoros University) focused on the technical and scientific research on ICT at the country and regional level. Next, Karine Valin (Sigma Orionis) introduced the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme and its ICT component, while Erol Kùlahci (AUF) introduced the EuroAfrica-ICT.org project. In particular, they highlighted the importance of thinking about ICT research projects at the Euro-African level. The following speakers (Didier Oillo; A. Toolseeya, National Computer Board; Olivier Robinson, Antananarivo University) presented exchanges on perspectives and prospects for Euro-African cooperation. During the final session of the first day, speakers (Lala Andriamapianina, Antananarivo University; R. Sungkur and V. Hurbungs, Mauritius University; Nawaz Mohamudally, University of Technology, Mauritius; and Jayantee Gukhool, Institut Francophone pour l'Entrepreneuriat à Maurice) informed participants about national, regional, African and Euro-African projects. Private Mauritian (M. Joseph Tsan Man King and M. Pather, REDSAT) and European (Rooktabir N. Sauba, GL Noble Denton) stakeholders then presented their ongoing projects and main obstacles in managing those initiatives.

### 2.2.2 – Day Two

During the second day of the workshop, participants divided themselves into thematic groups focusing on e-Learning, digital libraries, e-Inclusion and e-Health. In the morning, the organisers of the workshop allowed the participants to share their insights and perspectives regarding ICT research priorities and to provide more detailed feedback on areas of collaboration in these thematic areas. Again, this part of the workshop was designed to feed into WP1 (Policy and research priorities), so providing synergy between the different project WPs.

Next, participants were asked to think about credible ICT research projects at the Euro-African level. One of the main problems highlighted by participants related to the lack of connections with European partners.

In the afternoon, the facilitator and the rapporteurs presented the results of each of the break-out debates and discussions. These reports were followed by question/answer sessions that allowed participants attending other thematic sessions to express themselves and to eventually make links with the concerns of their own break-out groups. All in all, the participants made a significant effort to respond to the questionnaire on insights and perspectives regarding Euro-African ICT research priorities and to develop ideas for credible Euro-African ICT research projects.

### 2.2.3 – Follow-up

Soon after the event, a full report was posted on the EuroAfrica-ICT.org website along with a list of the 50 participants and copies of the presentations (in French) and AUF sent a message to all attendees informing them that these resources were now available:

- Event report:

<http://euroafrica-ict.org/2010/11/10/14th-euroafrica-ict-fp7-awareness-workshop-report-november-3-4-2010--mauritius/>

- Proceedings & Agenda:

<http://euroafrica-ict.org/2010/12/15/14th-euroafrica-ict-fp7-awareness-workshop-proceedings/>

- Attendee list:

<http://euroafrica-ict.org/2010/11/30/14th-euroafrica-ict-fp7-awareness-workshop-attendee-list-available/>

- Survey:

Immediately following the meeting, an online survey to judge the relevance and success of the meeting was carried out. 26 participants replied. Among the items of feedback were that 67% of respondents agreed that the relevance of the topics was either very good or excellent, 87% agreed that the presenters' knowledge of their topics was very good

or excellent, while every respondent agreed that the events had provided an invaluable networking opportunity, with 60% of respondents making more than 5 new connections. In addition, 100% of respondents said that they would recommend future similar events to others.

Members of the EuroAfrica-ICT community were also alerted to the results of the discussions that took place during the meeting via the regular EuroAfrica-ICT newsletter – so extending the reach of the meeting to a much larger audience (See Deliverable D4.2: Project dissemination).

In addition, the results of the discussion of the thematic groups (on e-Learning, e-Health, e-Libraries and e-Inclusion) have been fed into the reflection process for WP1 (Policy and research priorities). Delegates have been informed of the results of this process at the end of the project.

#### 2.2.4 - Summary

The event was well-attended, with the number of participants (51) well within the anticipated 40-60 outlined in the DoW.

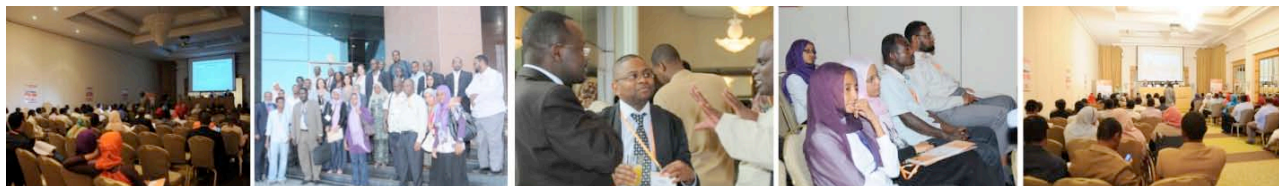
The level of the participants was also high, with two Ministers from the Government of Mauritius in attendance, plus the vice-chancellor of the university and a range of representatives from such local institutions as the National Computer Board, the *Institut Supérieur de Technologie*, the Mauritius Institute of Health, etc.

Organising part of the event to assist with identifying ICT research priorities also fed into the WP1 objective of the EuroAfrica-ICT project, and feedback from the event was very positive.

#### 2.2.5 – Related annexes

Annex 2: Newspaper report of the Awareness Workshop.

### 2.3 – 15th Awareness and thematic workshop



Under the aegis of the European Commission (DG INFSO, International Relations Unit), the EuroAfrica-ICT consortium (primarily Sigma Orionis and Makerere University), with the support of the University of Khartoum, successfully organised the 15<sup>th</sup> EuroAfrica-ICT Awareness Workshop on 6-7 April 2011. More than 70 delegates attended the workshop, among them Sudanese and European authorities and key ICT stakeholders from Europe, Sudan (North and South), Kenya, Tanzania, Tunisia and Uganda. The main objective of this Workshop was to raise awareness on FP7/ICT and to promote the development of Euro-African collaborative projects on ICT research between sub-Saharan African and European research institutes.

#### 2.3.1 – Day One

Sahar Alamin, from the UN Radio Station, Republic of Sudan, introduced the first day of the workshop, briefly presenting the history of the University of Khartoum and giving an overview of the EuroAfrica-ICT FP7 Awareness Workshops. Then Venansius Baryamureeba, Vice Chancellor of the Makerere University (EuroAfrica-ICT project partner), took over as chair for the opening session. In his remarks, he acknowledged the importance of ICTs as resources for knowledge creation, information storage and distance learning.

On behalf of the organising team at the University of Khartoum, El Siddig Ahmed El Mustafa El Sheikh, Vice Chancellor of the University of Khartoum, welcomed all participants to Sudan.



Speaking in the opening session, Heiberg Claus, Councillor, Delegation of the European Union to Sudan, stressed that the EU devoted resources to the development of ICTs for its citizens and for the rest of the world, in line with the objectives of the European Digital Agenda that aims at maximizing the social and economic potential of ICTs, and most notably the Internet, a vital medium of economic and societal activity for doing business, working, playing and communicating freely.

The opening speeches concluded with the Guest of Honour, Her Excellency Teresa Siricio Iro, State Minister of ICT, Republic of Sudan, who insisted on the importance of ICT for the economic and social development of Sudan. The main objective of the country is to provide reliable and affordable ICT services to all Sudanese citizens towards achieving information and knowledge based society, she said. In demonstrating how the government is planning to achieve this, she mentioned that Sudan is already connected to Egypt and Ethiopia through a 20,000 km optical fibre cable, with ongoing branches towards Eritrea and Chad. She then officially opened the 15th Regional EuroAfrica-ICT FP7 Awareness Workshop.

The presentations began with a keynote address by Izzeldin Kamil Amin, National Telecommunication Corporation (NTC) & CITMC Representative, addressing the programmes and projects of regional and continental scope for the development of the ICT sector in Africa. Speakers then focused on the opportunities and challenges resulting from S&T/ICT Research in North and East Africa: Bazara Barry (University of Khartoum), Leila Azouz Saidane (National School of Sciences and Informatics, Tunisia), and Eric Mwangi (Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Kenya).

In the following session the European Union Framework Programme 7 for Research & Development (FP7), and the EuroAfrica-ICT.org initiative were presented by Karine Valin (Sigma Orionis) and Idris A. Rai (Makerere University), respectively. In both presentations they particularly stressed the importance of thinking about ICT collaborative research projects at the Euro-African level.

The next session focused on Euro-African S&T/ICT collaborative projects. Case studies were selected from Sudan (presented by Hisham Abushama, University of Khartoum) and Uganda (presented by Jude Lubega, Makerere University).

The following session, chaired by the Vice Chancellor of Makerere University, concerned experiences and lessons learned participating in FP7/ICT collaborative projects. Presenters during the session included Segopotso Moshapo (SAP/Meraka Unit for Technology Development, South Africa), Walid Barhoumi (Superior School of Technology and Computing, Tunisia), and Idris A. Rai (Makerere University).

In the closing session of the first day, Idris A. Rai introduced the objectives of the 'birds-of-a-feather' sessions to participants, who were then divided into four groups to discuss four ICT research themes (e-Learning, e-Health, e-Governance and Mobile applications) during break-out sessions that took place on the second day of the workshop

### 2.3.2 – Day Two

During day two, members of the four thematic groups shared their insights and perspectives regarding ICT research priorities in each area, expressing their views on challenges, priorities and recommendations related to future EU-African collaboration. The rapporteurs of the four sessions presented the results of each discussion during a wrap-up session, followed by a question/answer session that allowed participants attending other thematic groups to express themselves and to eventually make links with the concerns of their own working group. All in all, the participants made a significant effort to develop ideas for credible Euro-African ICT research projects. The challenge now is to develop and refine further these emerging projects ideas.

In the afternoon, workshop participants visited the following ICT laboratories:

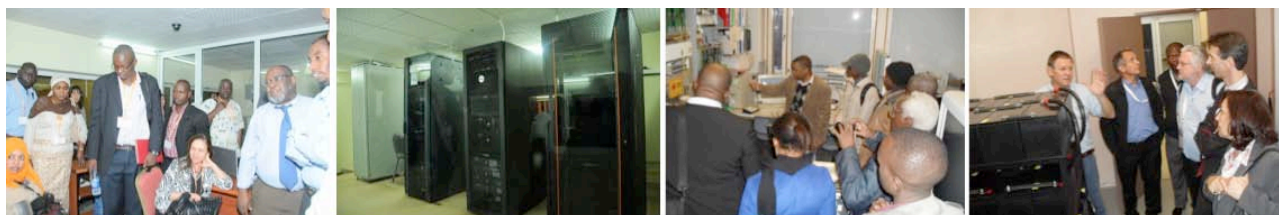
1. The Data Centre of the University of Khartoum, which is managed by the Administration of Information Technology and Networks, located at the central campus of the university. This centre provides ICT services to students, academic and management staff and researchers in all campuses of the university. It contains servers, routers, firewalls and other network facilities that provide e-services and Internet 24x7 to the university community, thanks to a qualified network of engineers, software developers and administrative staff.
2. The Network Operation Centres (NOC) of the Sudanese Universities Information Network, at the Data Centre of the University of Khartoum. A NOC consists of one or more locations from which control is exercised over a computer

network. The NOCs of the Sudanese Universities Information Network (SUIN) are hosted and technically managed at the University of Khartoum and at the Sudan University of Science and Technology. The SUIN is the National Research and Education Network in Sudan, the main objective of which is to collectively secure broadband connectivity between the Sudanese research and educational institutions, with other national research networks (NRENs) in the region and with the rest of the World. An additional objective is to increase sharing of knowledge and collaboration for research, education and development activities.

3. An exhibition of innovative ICT research projects of Sudanese students and graduates at the Telecom Tower, set up on the second floor of the Telecom Tower by the University of Khartoum and the Sudan University of Science and Technology. The exhibition consisted of 10 projects from both electronics and communication engineering and from IT and computer science, implemented using both hardware and software tools. Projects included a stereo vision robotic arm, a mobile backup system, secure SMS in mobile banking and a multi-touch screen.

On the occasion of the visit at the Telecom Tower, the Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Mr Yahia Abdalla M. Hamed, who was not able to attend the first day of the workshop, invited Karine Valin and Idris Rai for a meeting in his cabinet, at the presence of the State Minister of ICT, Ms Teresa Siricio Iro. This meeting, together with the warm welcome reserved to all workshop organisers and participants, confirmed the strong interest of this country in cooperating with Europe on ICT Research. The Minister also asked Ms Valin to provide him with more information on the EuroAfrica-ICT project and expressed his favourable opinion (and willingness to act as a facilitator) about the participation of Sudan in future EU FP7 projects.

The second day of the workshop concluded with a Nile cruise, offered by the Ministry of Communication and IT of Sudan, and a dinner at the Guest House of the University of Khartoum, which was the occasion to further strengthen the links between participants and to reassert the intention of both Europeans and Africans to work together in the near future.



*Delegates from the 15<sup>th</sup> Awareness Workshop attending technical laboratory visits at Telecom Tower and University of Khartoum.*

### 2.3.3 – Follow-up

Soon after the event, a full report was posted on the EuroAfrica-ICT.org website along with a list of the 70 participants and copies of the presentations, and Makerere University sent a message to all attendees informing them that these resources were now available:

- Event report:

<http://euroafrica-ict.org/2011/04/27/15th-regional-euroafrica-ict-fp7-awareness-workshop-april-6-7-2011---sudan---event-report/>

- Proceedings & Agenda:

<http://euroafrica-ict.org/2011/02/25/15th-regional-euroafrica-ict-fp7-awareness-workshop-april-6-7-2011-sudan-agenda-available/>

- Attendee list:

<http://euroafrica-ict.org/2011/03/17/15th-regional-euroafrica-ict-fp7-awareness-workshop-april-6-7-2011---sudan---attendee-list-available/>

- Survey

Immediately following the meeting, an online survey to judge the relevance and success of the meeting was carried out. 26 participants replied. Among the items of feedback were that 96% of respondents agreed that the relevance of

the topics was either very good or excellent, 87% agreed that the presenters' knowledge of their topics was very good or excellent. The opportunity to network was also evident as 79% of respondents made more than 5 new connections. Once again, 100% of respondents said that they would recommend future similar events to others.

Members of the EuroAfrica-ICT community were also alerted to the results of the discussions that took place during the meeting via the regular EuroAfrica-ICT newsletter – so extending the reach of the meeting to a much larger audience.

In addition, the results of the discussion of the thematic groups (on e-Learning, e-Health, e-Libraries and e-Inclusion) have been fed into the reflection process for WP1 (Policy and research priorities). Delegates have been informed of the results of this process at the end of the project.

#### *2.3.4 - Summary*

The event was very well attended, with the number of participants (76) well above the anticipated 40-60 outlined in the DoW.

The level of the participants was also high, being attended by the State Minister of ICT, the Minister of Communications and Information Technology, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Khartoum and a Councillor to the EU. Also, although most participants came from Sudan, there were representatives from 7 countries, including Egypt and Tunisia as well as sub-Saharan countries such as Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

#### *2.3.5 – Related Annexes*

Annex 3: Newspaper report of the Awareness Workshop.

## 3 – Euro-Africa Cooperation Forums on ICT Research

### 3.1 – Introduction

The ‘Euro-African Cooperation Forums on ICT Research’ are organised by the EuroAfrica-ICT initiative under the aegis of the European Commission (DG INFSO, International Relations Unit) and the African Union Commission (AUC).

Under the previous EuroAfrica-ICT FP7 project (2008-2009), two successful Forums were organised:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Euro-African Cooperation Forums on ICT Research, Brussels, Belgium, March 2009;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Euro-African Cooperation Forums on ICT Research, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, February 2010.

Within T3.1 (Task leader, TWAS), it was agreed in the DoW that the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> editions of the ‘Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research’ would be organised in Europe (one by TWAS and one by Meraka/CSIR with the support of Sigma Orionis). Note, however, that the original proposal from the EuroAfrica-ICT.org consortium (23 March 2009) suggested organising the 2010 edition of the Forum in Europe and the 2011 edition in Africa. Upon the recommendations of the EuroAfrica-ICT.org and IST-Africa’s project officer (Thierry Devars), it was agreed that the EuroAfrica-ICT.org project should organise both its Forums in Europe while the IST-Africa project would organise its conferences in Africa. However, this situation was held under constant review while a suitable host country and venue were sought for the 4<sup>th</sup> Forum. Eventually, it was agreed with the EC that the 4<sup>th</sup> Forum should indeed be held in Africa and, in particular, in South Africa.

It was envisioned that each Euro-African Cooperation Forum on ICT Research would have host at least 200 participants over two days. These events were free of charge (no registration fees are requested from the Forum participants) with the project covering event expenses, including the invitation of some delegates. EuroAfrica-ICT.org consortium members also spent considerable effort contacting and lobbying potential sponsors to augment the budget and, especially, help to cover the travel and local expenses of African delegates. As with the Concertation Meetings and Awareness Workshops, delegate surveys have been systematically performed after each event, the results of which were integrated into an event report detailing the organisation and the outputs of the event.

### 3.2 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research



#### 3.2.1 - Planning

##### 3.2.1.1 – POLITICAL SUPPORT

During the initial phase of preparation for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research there was a strong interest from Finland to host the event. This developed, in particular, from a series of discussions between Antti Peltomäki (Deputy Director-General, DG INFSO), Thierry Devars (EuroAfrica-ICT.org Project Officer at DG INFSO at the time), Karine Valin (Project Coordinator), and members of the Finnish government, in particular at the Ministry for Foreign Trade and Development and Ilari Lindy (Adviser, Information Society for Development, Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs).

These discussions resulted in the meeting being organised in Helsinki, the capital of Finland. The two Finnish ministries concerned, as well as providing political support, provided some financial assistance and nominated the VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland to coordinate with the EuroAfrica-ICT team in the organisation of the meeting. The assistance of the VTT team became invaluable asset for the EuroAfrica-ICT consortium organisers as it was especially useful to have “on-the-ground” contacts in Helsinki.

In parallel, a series of discussions between the European Commission, the African Union Commission and Sigma Orionis, led to the declaration that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research was designated as an official side event to the 3rd Africa-EU Summit held on 29-30 November 2010 in Tripoli, Libya.

Both these agreements meant that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research received a very high level of political support that enabled the organisers to attract the highest caliber of speakers and participants.

### 3.2.1.2 – PRELIMINARY ORGANISATION

Part of the reason for the high-level political support was the idea to hold two related meetings back to back. Hence the ‘2010 Euro-Africa Week for ICT Research and e-Infrastructures’ started to take shape – “A week organised under the aegis of the European Commission (DG INFSO / International Relations Unit + GEANT & e- Infrastructures Unit) and the African Union Commission (Department of Human Resources, Science & Technology, HRST + Department for Infrastructure & Energy) with the support of the Finnish Government (MFA - Ministry for Foreign Affairs)” – with three events planned:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research, 7-8 December 2010;
- 2010 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference, 9-10 December 2010;
- Technical laboratory visits, afternoon of 10 December 2010.

Given the high-level political support provided to the Euro-Africa Week, a number of key people were invited to participate in a series of committees. The full list of those participating in the Honorary Committee (comprising European Commission and African Union Commission officials / international, regional and local authorities), the Advisory and Programme Committee, and the Organising Committee (the European Commission, the African Union Commission and EuroAfrica-ICT project members) was provided in Deliverable D2.1.

### 3.2.1.3 – PRELIMINARY LOGISTICS

Early in the planning phase, TWAS started contacting potential venues in Helsinki (with the help of VTT) asking them to prepare a competitive tender to host the back-to-back meetings. After reviewing the bids, it was decided that the Scandic Marina Congress Centre, close to the centre of Helsinki, was the most competitive and would provide the first-class conference facilities expected of such a high-level meeting. Contracts were therefore developed between the Scandic Centre and TWAS for hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Forum and between the Scandic and Sigma Orionis for hosting the e-Infrastructures Conference.



The venue for the ‘2010 Euro-Africa Week for ICT Research and e-Infrastructures’: The Scandic Marina Congress Centre, Helsinki, Finland.

Around this time, Sigma Orionis also created a preliminary registration form on the EuroAfrica-ICT website. The link together with background information on the 2010 Euro-Africa Week was distributed widely, including being posted on the respective websites of all members of the consortium and distributed to their relevant networks. For example, regular updates were announced on the EuroAfrica-ICT website and distributed by e-mail to community members; meeting announcements were distributed in the 'TWAS e-Bulletin' in both March and August 2010 to more than 3,000 scientists in developing countries; participants at the June Concertation meeting in Brussels and the November Awareness workshop in Mauritius were fully briefed on the meeting; ACU publicised the event in its July 2010 issue of the CAAST-Net Bulletin and within the CAAST-Net newsletter 'The Network', no. 5, 5 in August 2010; and AUF enlisted its bureau in Bucharest, Romania, to inform its 86 member universities in 20 countries of central and eastern Europe (both EU and non-EU members). Announcements were also made on other websites and on-line fora, including Ideal-IST, DG INFSO portal, EU Agenda, Cordis Wire, Africa-Europe partnership, ResearchSEA and others. A number of Associated Organisations and Media Partners also agreed to publicise the meeting through their networks (see section 3.2.5 below). In addition, these announcements were picked up and disseminated by at least six other websites dealing with either ICT or Euro-Africa cooperation issues.

The result of this publicity drive was that the number of people pre-registering for the event rose rapidly. To deal with this, and to ensure and maintain the desired high level of participants, TWAS (with assistance from Sigma Orionis when necessary) reviewed the data provided by each pre-registrant and either accepted or declined their request to attend. This process was done in parallel with a similar process carried out by Sigma Orionis concerning the e-Infrastructures Conference part of the Euro-Africa Week.

- No. of people pre-registering for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum: 649.
- No. of people pre-registering for the 2010 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference: 400.
- No. of people accepted for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum: 493, of whom 353 re-confirmed nearer the time of the meeting.
- No. of people accepted for the 2010 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference: 315 of whom 262 re-confirmed nearer the time of the meeting.

Once accepted, the details of the registrants were uploaded into a dedicated database specially developed and maintained by TWAS. From this database, visa invitation letters were automatically sent out by e-mail to those registrants requesting them on the pre-registration form.

A brochure was designed and disseminated at various meetings as advance publicity for the Euro-Africa Week.





A Delegate Information Package was also prepared outlining the details of the Euro-Africa Week and providing information on the venue, how to reach the venue from the airport, expected weather in Helsinki in December, local currency and other useful information. See: <http://euroafrica-ict.org/files/2010/09/Delegate-Information-Package.pdf>.

### 3.2.1.4 – BRANDING

The co-organisation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research with the 2010 e-Infrastructures Africa Conference as part of the Euro-Africa Week created some issues of branding that were settled through the 'Week' being identified through a grey/green motif, and all documents, badges and posters etc. that related to the Euro-Africa Week itself followed this colour scheme. For example, see the brochure (above) and Annex 4 (a roll-up banner – designed for publicity purposes in the run-up to the event and updated for display at the meeting venue: in the lobby and conference hall), as well as Annex 6 (the meeting folder).

In addition, documents relating the 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Forum were branded orange (as the website has been since the beginning of the EuroAfrica-ICT project). Such documents included the meeting agenda.



Likewise, documents such as the agenda that related only to the e-Infrastructures meeting were branded green. In this way, each separate meeting was provided with and maintained its own identity, but there was also a single, all-encompassing identity of the week's activities as a whole.

### 3.2.1.5 – SPONSORSHIP

In order to assist with the participation of African delegates and various others, including African speakers, that requested travel assistance, it was necessary to find organisations or companies to sponsor the Euro-Africa Week. Sigma Orionis, with assistance from TWAS and other consortium partners drew up a list of potential sponsors. Indeed, TWAS hosted an intern from March to September 2010 and one of her responsibilities was to identify potential sponsors and to follow up with enquiries as to their willingness to support the event.

In total, more than 120 national or multi-national companies and national or international organisations etc. were identified. The list was then divided (mostly on a regional basis) and consortium partners were tasked with contacting their sub-set of the total. All partners participated in this process, including follow-up enquiries if no response was received from the initial letter.

By the time of the meeting, seven sponsors had been identified, contributing more than Euro 60,000 to funds available to cover the travel and accommodation costs of more than 70 delegates (mostly from sub-Saharan Africa) and to sponsor the networking dinner and the lab visits. The full list of sponsors is available in Annex 5. A full list of supported participants was provided in Deliverable D2.1.

In addition, the Department of S&T of South Africa (DST) - through the ESASTAP Project (a dedicated platform for the advancement of European-SA scientific and technological cooperation: [www.esastap.org.za](http://www.esastap.org.za)) - offered about 10 mobility grants to South African researchers to participate in the meetings.

Note: All sponsorship agreements were for the 2010 Euro-Africa Week, and not specific to either the 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum or the 2010 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference.

*Receipts for the Euro-Africa Week:*

- Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs (Euro 55,000, of which Euro 10,000 refunded to VTT Finland as a compensation for logistical support);
- Finnish Ministry for Economy and Transport (Euro 5,000) paid to VTT (to organise the lab visits);
- ICWE (Euro 2,500) paid to TWAS (EuroAfrica-ICT consortium partner);

- Google (Euro 2,500) paid to TWAS (EuroAfrica-ICT consortium partner);
- Nokia (Euro 2,500) paid to VTT (to organise the lab visits).

*Important note: ALL receipts will be declared in the framework of the EuroAfrica-ICT project as agreed with the eI-Africa Project Coordinator (Leonardo Flores), the EuroAfrica-ICT Project Coordinator (Thierry Devars), and the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs (Ilari Lindy).*

Under the terms of the sponsorship agreements, one piece of sponsor publicity material could be placed in the meeting folder and their logos would be displayed on the meeting folder, the Forum and Conference websites, and projected during breaks and between presentations during the actual meeting in Helsinki, so providing good visibility to the sponsors.

### 3.2.1.6 – ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS AND MEDIA PARTNERS

To further disseminate information about the 2010 Euro-Africa Week, consortium partners also developed a list of potential Associated Organisations and Media Partners. These lists eventually consisted of more than 50 organisations with interests in line with the goals of the EuroAfrica-ICT and eI-Africa projects and more than 60 Media Partners with an interest in either ICT, ICT for development, European, African or Euro-Africa issues.

Again, the lists were broken down by region and consortium partners were each designated the task of contacting a number of organisations.

By the time of the meeting, the consortium had entered into agreements with 10 Associated Organisations and one Media Partner. A full list is presented in 5.

Under the terms of these agreements, these partners agreed to publicise the 2010 Euro-Africa Week on their websites and through their networks and, in the case of the Media Partners, to inform the consortium of any press releases and reports they publish during and after the event. In one case, GDCO, more than 200 photographs of the Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum were uploaded to their website ([www.telecentre.org](http://www.telecentre.org)) during the actual meeting.

### 3.2.1.7 – PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

Among the several major lines of preparation for the meeting was the development of the agenda. This task was led by Karine Valin (Sigma Orionis) in consultation with the DG INSFO Project officer. Input was requested from all consortium partners, especially during a Consortium Meeting held in Brussels in September (linked to the EC ICT Event). Consortium partners especially pushed for various thematic sessions to be included among the envisaged parallel sessions, including a Workshop on Capacity Building (session 2c) and a Workshop on Identifying Joint ICT Research priorities (session 3d) that tied in with WP1. Consortium partners also provided their input and expertise in identifying suitable speakers for each of the sessions, including last-minute replacements when necessary.

The first tentative agenda was released on 23 September (via the EuroAfrica-ICT website) and updated continually until the time of the event.

### 3.2.1.8 – MOBILITY GRANTS/VISAS

Following discussions within the consortium led by Sigma Orionis and TWAS, mobility grants (generally partial grants up to a maximum of euro 1,500 to cover air travel, accommodation and some incidental expenses) were offered to some 70 “2010 Euro-Africa Week” participants. Priority was given to speakers from sub-Saharan Africa, with other mobility grants offered to key individuals, including those representing associated organisations, with the money to be refunded after the event on receipt of suitable documentation. In some cases, participants had difficulty in paying for air tickets and (in two cases) hotels in advance, so efforts were made to cover these costs. For example, TWAS provided e-tickets for five participants. Responsibility for refunds lies between TWAS and Sigma Orionis. A full list of supported delegates was provided in Deliverable 2.1.

Many participants also required a Schengen visa to enter the EU and Finland, in particular. Although TWAS was automatically sending out visa invitation letters to delegates on acceptance of their registration, many delegates



required extra assistance. Considerable effort was expended by TWAS (assisted when necessary by VTT, as an organisation based in Finland, and Sigma Orionis), for example, contacting Finnish embassies or consulates in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Nigeria and elsewhere. The situation was compounded by the large number of Nigerians that registered, plus the fact that many countries in west Africa do not host a Finnish embassy and nationals from these countries (such as Cameroon) needed to make appointments at the embassy in Nigeria in order to obtain their visas. At a certain point the embassy in Nigeria informed us that it could no longer issue any visas as there were no more time-slots available for interviews. Indeed, in one or two cases even speakers were unable to obtain visas, despite TWAS requesting priority for them from the embassies. Such problems not only reduced the potential number of delegates, but also created last minute difficulties in rearranging the agenda.

Obviously the awarding of visas is something that we cannot control and is entirely up to the country concerned. However, pointing out participants when their registration has been accepted that they need to apply for their visa in good time (at least one month and preferably two months before the meeting) might have helped avoid some of this bottleneck.

### 3.2.2 – *The event*

#### 3.2.2.1 – *ATTENDANCE*

Despite a FinnAir strike that affected many flights into Helsinki through either cancellations or severe delays, attendance at the 2010 Euro-Africa Week was good and both the 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum and the 2010 e-Infrastructures Conference exceeded their target number of delegates.

A total of around 325 people attended one or other event or the whole of the 2010 Euro-Africa week divided as follows:

- Attended 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum only: 92
- Attended e-I only: 58
- Attended both meetings: 175
- Total number of delegates: 325.

There was also a good balance between European and African delegates, with 34% coming from sub-Saharan Africa, 58% from Europe and the remaining 8% from elsewhere, including North Africa.

#### 3.2.2.2 – *DELEGATE PACKS*

A delegate package, presented in a specially-designed folder, was distributed to all attendees when collecting their badges onsite.

Main features:

- Personal badge;
- Lanyard / USB stick;
- Conference agenda;
- Event brochure;
- Euro-Africa-ICT project factsheet and 'Community' postcard;
- Event partners promotional material.

Pictures of these items are available in Annex 6.

### 3.2.2.3 – PROGRAMME AND SPEAKERS

On the first day, the programme was divided into seven plenary sessions.

The meeting opened with welcoming addresses from high-level delegates, including:

- Paavo Väyrynen, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development, Finland;
- Vera Brenda Ngosi, Director, Department of Human Resources, Science & Technology (HRST), African Union Commission (AUC);
- Antti Peltomäki, Deputy director-general, Directorate-General Information Society & Media (DG INFSO), European Commission (EC); and
- Laurent Besançon, ICT coordinator for the Africa region at the World Bank.

Other sessions on the opening day included:

- A review of the UNCTAD 2010 Information Economy Report: ICT, Enterprises & Poverty Alleviation by Torbjörn Fredriksson, Chief ICT Analysis, UNCTAD;
- A review of AU and EU Frameworks, covering priorities, implementation status, and remaining challenges;
- A discussion on how capacities are being strengthened under Africa-EU partnerships;
- ICT Key Mechanisms for Innovation - The Enabling Environment: Tangible Case Studies & Flagship projects;
- A roundtable discussion on Financing ICT Development & Innovation in Africa; and
- A roundtable discussion on Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) - The Private Sector's Viewpoint.

The second day began with a plenary lecture by Thierry Devars (DG INFSO and EuroAfrica-ICT.org project officer) on 'Recent developments and perspectives for EU-Africa cooperation on ICT'.

The meeting was then split into a series of three sessions each of which included four thematic sessions:

- 1 (a): e-Learning, e-Skills (Technology Enhanced Learning);
- 1 (b): e-Infrastructures & GÉANT (from research networking to global virtual research collaboration - infrastructures & access);
- 1 (c): e-Health (Advanced Technology to Improve Health);
- 1 (d): e-Libraries (Services & Digital Content Infrastructures) ;
- 2 (a): e-Agriculture, e-Food, ICT for Environmental Sustainability and Energy Efficiency;
- 2 (b): Evolution and Convergence of Networks, Infrastructures, Equipment and Services Towards Future Network Solutions;
- 2 (c): Building and Strengthening Capacities in ICT Research in Africa (training programmes, ongoing initiatives, etc.);
- 2 (d): e-Governance (Secure Services to Citizens and Business);
- 3 (a): Local Innovation and Technology Transfer;
- 3 (b): m-Banking;
- 3 (c): e-Inclusion and e-Accessibility (ICT for Independent Living, Social Inclusion, Youth/Women and the Information Society, etc.);
- 3 (d): Workshop – Identifying Joint ICT Research Priorities.

Again the level of speakers and chairs was excellent. Notable examples include Boubakar Barry, Coordinator, Research and Education Networking Unit, Association of African Universities; Indrajit Banerjee, Director, Information Society Division, UNESCO; Vasilis Koulolias, Executive director, Gov2U, Greece; Laurens Cloete, Acting executive director, CSIR Meraka Institute, South Africa; Danie Kok, Director, SAP Research CEC Pretoria, South Africa; Effat El-Shooky,

Advisor to the Minister for International Cooperation, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Egypt; and Tim Kelly, ICT Expert, InfoDev, World Bank, USA.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research closed in plenary with final addresses from Thierry Devars (DG INFSO), Ahmed Hamdy (HRST, AUC) and Ilari Lindy, Advisor, Information Society, Science and Innovation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland – so providing a high-level finale and book-ending neatly with the high profile start of the event.

In total, there were more than 100 people directly involved in the Forum agenda, either as speakers, chairs or rapporteurs. Rapporteurs were tasked with capturing the main points of each speaker, a flavour of any discussions session, and producing a short report for the EuroAfrica-ICT website. Rapporteurs were appointed mainly from EuroAfrica-ICT consortium members and VTT, Finland.

The agenda was also made 'interactive' through the use of a 'hash-tag' on Twitter, the social-networking website. Several delegates took the opportunity to post 'tweets' during the sessions that could be followed by any interested party wherever in the world. Tweets were also scrolled on the screen above the main stage during session breaks.

Pictures of the event were provided in Deliverable D2.1 and are also available online at: <http://euroafrica-ict.org/project-resources/photogallery/>

### 3.2.2.4 – MAIN OUTCOMES

A short report, approved by the EC and AUC, was published on the EuroAfrica-ICT website. See: [euroafrica-ict.org/2010/12/14/2010-euro-africa-week-on-ict-research-and-e-infrastructures-short-week-report/](http://euroafrica-ict.org/2010/12/14/2010-euro-africa-week-on-ict-research-and-e-infrastructures-short-week-report/).

This report was prepared by TWAS and Sigma Orionis, with the assistance of the Project Officer, using the inputs contained in the rapporteur reports: each session has been summarised by a rapporteur, that was in charge of taking note of the main issues discussed and the conclusions of each session. These single reports are available upon request.

What clearly emerged from the event is that there is a strengthening partnership between the EC and the AUC; the number of operative EU-Africa collaborative initiatives in the ICT field is increasing; and there are several more important initiatives in the pipeline. There are also many other relevant initiatives under the ICT-for-development (ICT4D) banner that are also active in Africa with support from Europe or elsewhere.

Among the main issues that came under the spotlight of the meeting were:

- Identification of leading S&T/ICT research areas of common interest and mutual benefits to the two regions (especially in the health and the education sectors);
- Reassertion of the necessity to have, in Africa, more inclusive and affordable access to ICT applications and services and a widespread use of ICTs (in particular the internet) across all socio-economic sectors in order to fast-track the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals;
- Identification of impediments to be overcome, such as the lack of a dedicated financing tool and appropriate financing sources which constitute a prerequisite for the implementation of Partnership 8 - this despite recognition at the highest level of ICT as a critical driver to fast-track African transformation (i.e. the 2010 Addis Ababa AU Summit Declaration on ICT for Africa's development where African Union leaders declared ICTs as a top-level priority in their development programmes);
- Reassertion of the need to enhance cooperation with regard to the digital economy and to reduce the digital divide (including among the private sector, international financial institutions and United Nations agencies); and
- Reaffirmation of the absolute necessity to promote cooperation in research and education networking to exploit the interconnection between the European GEANT network and established African regional networks, and to support the development of an integrated pan-African Research and Education Network.

However, as was pointed out by several speakers (and examined in detail in break-out session 2c), in order to take full advantage of the technology and opportunities that are arriving, there is a drastic need for qualified and trained

personnel. Without such a cadre of trained professionals, the benefits of all these combined efforts threaten to remain restricted to the few rather than extending through the whole of African society.

The fact that, to access funds for research through FP7, African scientists must join consortia containing European researchers and that these consortia then compete directly against all-European consortia is also seen as somewhat of a disadvantage – both on the part of the African scientists and perhaps also on the part of the Europeans who may consider their proposal ‘weakened’ by the presence of African partners. There was a call, therefore, for some funds to be set aside for competitive proposals open to consortia containing research groups from both continents.

The overall consensus among the participants who attended the event was that the 2010 Euro-Africa Week on ICT Research and e-Infrastructures had provided them with significant insights into the ongoing and planned EU-AU programmes for ICTs. Delegates found the opportunity to meet key players from the region and exchange experiences with international experts of great value and generally departed in an optimistic mood knowing that significant advances have been made since the launch of the ‘Africa-EU Strategic Partnership’ in Lisbon in 2007 and the ‘1st Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research’ that was convened in Brussels in March 2009.

### 3.2.2.5 – 2010 EI-AFRICA CONFERENCE

Many of the delegates attending the 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum also registered for and attended the following 2010 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference, which was organised as the second event of the 2010 Euro-Africa Week. A full report on this 1.5-day meeting is being provided by Sigma Orionis as part of their reporting obligations under the e-Infrastructures project (eI-Africa\_D22.pdf).

### 3.2.2.6 – TECHNICAL LABORATORY VISITS

Following the final session of the 2010 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference, a group of about 60 delegates, most of them from Africa, visited two local ICT institutions based at the nearby Otaniemi Research Campus as part of the final event of the 2010 Euro-Africa Week on ICT Research and e-Infrastructures.

The first stop was the Faculty of Electronics, Communication and Automation, Department of Communications and Networking (COMNET), Aalto University. The visitors were introduced to the work of the faculty by Raimo Kantola, the department head, and Anita Bisi, international affairs coordinator. COMNET, they confirmed, is by far the largest unit of research and higher education in communications and networking in Finland – and probably the largest in Europe. It caters for almost 4,000 students, of which some 17% are PhD students and 12% are from outside Finland. Courses are taught in six core areas, including: communications engineering; communications theory; network engineering and traffic theory; internetworking; network economics; and human factors in network design.

COMNET has also launched a series of ‘Grand Challenges’ in areas it sees as require concerted effort to solve. These include: carbon-neutral networking to connect the remaining 2 billion to the mobile network and 5 billion to the internet; instant wireless internet, with delays below the level of human perception; and scaling the internet so that each user can have up to a thousand devices.

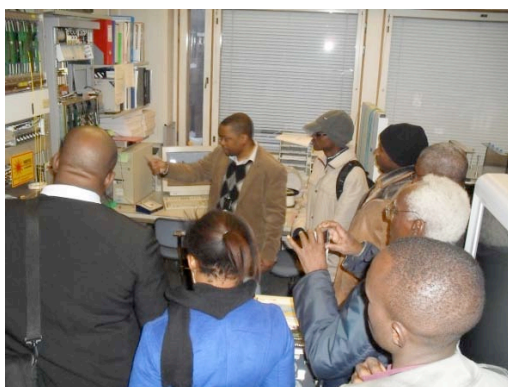
A tour of the laboratory areas also gave visitors an idea of the research being carried out by COMNET staff. Research at COMNET focuses on both theoretical and experimental methodologies in the areas mentioned above, including economic perspectives in communication networks. The labs are equipped with modern equipment to support research in various wired and wireless networking. For instance, the lab has a WiMAX base station and relay nodes specifically for experimental purposes. These help students to gain practical hands-on skills and help researchers to experiment new ideas in practical systems.

Moving on to the VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, the group was introduced to the work of the institute by Caj Sodergard, of the Media Technologies section. VTT, he explained, operates between the universities and industry, taking the most promising results from basic research and fast-tracking their development for industry. “In Finland, a country with few natural resources, this process has worked well,” confirmed Sodergard. “We have 1,100 patents, 364 notifications of inventions in 2009 alone, and some 20 spin-off companies.”

VTT’s research portfolio is necessarily diverse, and it also operates with subsidiary laboratories in such places as Belgium, California, China, Japan, Russia, South Korea and, most recently, Brazil.

Concerning the Media Technologies section, Sodergard noted that the aim was not necessarily to develop products, but concepts and prototypes. One of the inventions he was involved in, for example, is the 'up-code' – a sort of two-dimensional barcode that can direct ICT equipment with built-in cameras directly to a website. The Media Technologies section is also working on projects such as converged networks for emerging regions, such as mesh networks to reduce the costs of communication, and 'augmented reality'. As example of augmented reality, Sodergard showed an actual landscape viewed through an i-phone with a simulated image of a proposed factory in the same image.

He also wowed the audience with a new kind of children's book. By combining an upcodes on various with downloadable software, children can manipulate the book in front of a webcam, in a laptop, for example, and a three-dimensional image will emerge from the page. Better still, the image can be rotated or even programmed to speak. As well as offering a new form of entertainment, the technology has great potential in e-learning.



*Delegates from the 2010 Euro-Africa Week attending technical laboratory visits at COMNET, Aalto University (left), and VTT Technical Research Centre (right).*

### 3.2.3 – Follow-up

#### 3.2.3.1 – FINAL REPORTING

Within a few days of the close of the Forum a full report, approved by the EC and AUC, was published on the EuroAfrica-ICT website and distributed widely, including to the EuroAfrica-ICT community. The report highlighted the successful nature of the meeting and reviewed some of the important announcements and discussions. Excerpts from the report are included above (section 3.2.2.4 – Main Outcomes).

Presentations of the majority of the speakers were also uploaded to the EuroAfrica-ICT website and participants and others in the EuroAfrica-ICT community were informed that they are now available for download.

Likewise, a report of the technical laboratory visits was also uploaded.

As a courtesy, all speakers and chairs were sent an email thanking them for their contribution towards making the event a success. In addition, all attendees were thanked, via e-mail, for their participation, especially in the discussion sessions, and informed of the event material that had since been made available for download.

All participants were also asked to complete a brief survey in order to obtain concrete feedback about their experiences and thoughts on the meeting.

Reports of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research were also posted on the EuroAfrica-ICT project partners websites, in the Africa-EU partnership website and in the CAAST-Net Bulletin (February 2011).

### 3.2.3.2 – PARTICIPANT SURVEY

Following the events of Euro-Africa Week, Sigma Orionis carried out a participants' survey to obtain feedback on the success of the event and to gain insight on how organisational and thematic aspects could be improved for the next Forum.

Among the key responses were:

- Each day's sessions were attended by about 80% of the total number of participants (excluding the Lab Visits, as numbers were restricted);
- Most people heard about the event from a colleague (50%), with good numbers also being informed by eI-Africa and EuroAfrica-ICT newsletters (38% and 33%, respectively), with just a few receiving their information via the printed brochure (1.5%);
- When asked what attracted them to the event, 83% cited networking opportunities, 65% the agenda and 46% the speakers;
- Various aspects of the content (level of knowledge of the speakers, clarity and relevance of information provided, etc.) were assessed generally as either excellent or very good, with some respondents assessing the length of sessions as 'acceptable';
- 75% of respondents found the event very interesting and a further 23.5% quite interesting;
- Some 86% of respondents made 5 or more useful contacts, with about half of these actually making more than 10 new contacts;
- An overwhelming majority said they would attend a similar event next year (81%) – nobody said they would not;
- 97% of respondents said they would recommend the event to others.

Thus, the responses show a favourable reaction to the meeting, which provided many opportunities for both African and European participants to interact with decision-makers and ICT experts and to build networks of contacts. The final two points above show that there was certainly a strong feeling that the event had been a considerable success.

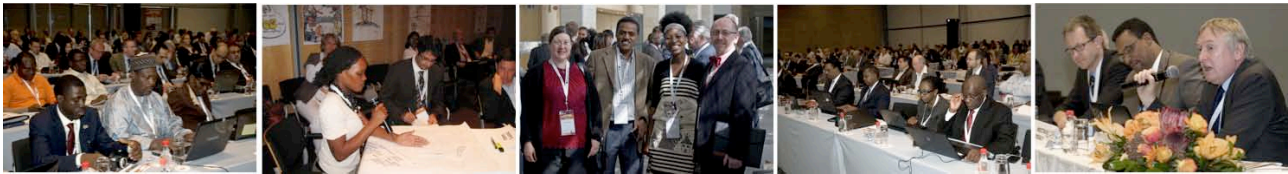
### 3.2.3.3 – RELATED ANNEXES

Annex 4: Roll-up banner.

Annex 5: List of sponsors, associated organisations and media partners.

Annex 6: Folder design for Delegate Information Package and Euro-Africa Week material.

### 3.3 – 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research



#### 3.3.1 - Planning

##### 3.3.1.1 – POLITICAL SUPPORT

Held under the aegis of the European Commission and the African Union Commission, in the framework of the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership, the event was organised by the EuroAfrica-ICT initiative and hosted and supported by the Government of South Africa through the Department of Science and Technology (DST).

##### 3.3.1.2 – PRELIMINARY LOGISTICS

Early in the planning phase, CSIR/Meraka started contacting potential venues in South Africa, including potential venues in the Johannesburg/Pretoria area, Durban and Cape Town. Following discussions with other project partners, as well as feedback from the programme officer at DG INFSO regarding suitable dates for the meeting, it was decided to opt for the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, with the dates of the meeting to be 14-15 November 2011. The CTICC itself is a top class conference venue able to supply all the equipment and facilities required for a high level meeting such as the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum.



*The venue for the 4th Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research: The Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa.*

Around this time, Sigma Orionis also created a preliminary registration form on the EuroAfrica-ICT website. The link together with background information on the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum was distributed widely, including being posted on the respective websites of all members of the consortium, along with a call for papers, and distributed to their relevant networks. For example, regular updates were announced on the EuroAfrica-ICT website and distributed by e-mail to community member; participants at the June Concertation Meeting in Pretoria and the April Awareness Workshop in Sudan were fully briefed on the meeting; Sigma Orionis publicised the event in the March 2011 edition of the Caast-Net Bulletin and ACU in the September 2011. Announcements were also made on other websites and on-line fora, including Ideal-IST, DG INFSO portal, EU Agenda, Cordis Wire, Africa-EU partnership, and others. In addition, flyers promoting the event were distributed at such meetings as the 2011 NEM Summit (<http://nem-summit.eu/>),



Torino, Italy, 27-29 September 2011, with 400 participants, the Paradiso project (<http://paradiso-fp7.eu/>) meeting at the EC, Brussels, 7-9 September, on 'Internet Societies and New Innovation Paths' that hosted 600 participants, an EU-India Grid (<http://www.euindiagrid.eu>) meeting on 'The Role of e-Infrastructure for Climate Change Research' held at the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy, in May 2011 and several other events (the full list is available in D4.2).

Concerning the call for papers, which was announced in June 2011, the deadline was set as 22 July, with authors being informed by 31 August. Over 60 papers were submitted in response to this call, of which 18 were selected.



The flyer that was disseminated at various meetings as advance publicity for the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum.

Under the terms of the agreement, all Sponsors and Associated Organisations also publicised the meeting through their networks (see section 3.3.1.5 below). In addition, these announcements were picked up and disseminated by a number of other websites dealing with either ICT or Euro-Africa cooperation issues.

The result of this publicity drive was that the number of people pre-registering for the event rose rapidly. To deal with this, and to ensure and maintain the desired high level of participants, CSIR/Meraka and Sigma Orionis reviewed the data provided by each pre-registrant and either accepted or declined their request to attend.

- No. of people pre-registering for the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum: 482
- No. of people accepted for the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum: 400 of whom 204 re-confirmed nearer the time of the meeting.

A Delegate Information Package was also prepared outlining the details of the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum and providing information on the venue, local hotels, how to reach the venue from the airport, expected weather in Cape Town in November, local currency and other useful information. See <http://euroafrica-ict.org/files/2011/09/Information-Package.pdf>.



### 3.3.1.3 – BRANDING

Documents relating the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum were branded orange (as the website has been since the beginning of the Euro-Africa-ICT project). Such documents included the meeting agenda, roll-up banners, lanyards and badges, etc.



*Examples of lanyard, a badge and printed material showing the orange branding of the EuroAfrica-ICT project. Note logos of host also appeared on the event lanyard.*

### 3.3.1.4 – SPONSORSHIP

In order to assist with the participation of African delegates and speakers, that requested travel assistance, it was necessary to find organisations or companies to sponsor the Forum. Sigma Orionis, with assistance from CSIR and other consortium partners drew up a list of potential sponsors.

In total, more than 120 national or multi-national companies and national or international organisations etc. were identified. The list was then divided (mostly on a regional basis) and, as with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum, consortium partners were tasked with contacting their sub-set of the total. All partners participated in this process, including follow-up enquiries if no response was received from the initial letter.

By the time of the meeting, seven sponsors had been identified, contributing Euro 31 007 to funds available to cover the (mostly partial) travel and accommodation costs of a number of African delegates and to sponsor the networking cocktail, the lab visits and part of the venue expenses. In addition to these sponsors, Sigma Orionis used part of its project budget to offer more mobility grants to African delegates: there was an agreement with the EuroAfrica-ICT.org Project Officer that funds allocated to the organisation of one of the Awareness Workshops and one of the Concertation meetings should be used to this aim. In addition, remaining travel funds allocated to TWAS for the organisation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cooperation Forum, served the same purpose. As a result, mobility grants (generally partial grants up to 1500€, to cover air travel, accommodation and some incidental expenses) were offered to some 60 delegates. These participants were reimbursed after the event on submission of their travel documents and accommodation receipts. The recipients of support were divided into three groups, based on available funds held by CSIR, Sigma Orionis and TWAS, and reimbursements dealt with by each partner organisation accordingly.

The full list of sponsors is available in Annex 8, and the list of supported participants in Annex 9.

*Receipts for the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum:*

- DST South Africa, Euro 13 657
- e-Learning Africa, Euro 3 500
- SPIDER, Euro 2 500
- TWAS-AAS-Microsoft, Euro 3 600
- SMART Technologies, Euro 4 000
- CiTi, Euro 935
- CHPC, Euro 2815

Under the terms of the sponsorship agreements, one piece of sponsor publicity material could be placed in the meeting folder and their logos would be displayed on the meeting folder, the Forum and Conference websites, and projected during breaks and between presentations during the actual meeting in Cape Town, so providing good visibility to the sponsors.

### 3.3.1.5 – ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS

To further disseminate information about the 4th Euro-Africa Forum, consortium partners also developed lists of potential Associated Organisations. These lists eventually consisted of more than 100 organisations with interests in line with the goals of the EuroAfrica-ICT project, i.e. in either ICT, ICT for development, European, African or Euro-Africa issues.

Again, the lists were broken down by region and consortium partners were each designated the task of contacting a number of organisations.

By the time of the meeting, the consortium had entered into agreements with 25 Associated Organisations. A full list is presented in Annex 10.

Under the terms of these agreements, these partners agreed to publicise the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on their websites and through their networks, thus increasing the impact of the project partners' dissemination efforts.

### 3.3.1.6 – PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

Development of the agenda was led by Karine Valin (Sigma Orionis) in consultation with the DG INSFO Project officer. As with previous Forums, input was requested from all consortium partners. Consortium partners especially pushed for various thematic sessions to be included among the envisaged parallel sessions, including a session on Joint ICT Research Priorities (eventual session 3a, chaired by CSIR and feeding in to WP1), a session on Building and Strengthening Capacities in ICT Research (eventual session 3d, chaired by TWAS) and another session on Guidance for FP& Newcomers (session 4d, chaired by DST and Sigma-Orionis). Consortium partners also provided their input and expertise in identifying suitable speakers for each of the sessions, including last-minute replacements when necessary.

The first tentative agenda was released in early October (via the EuroAfrica-ICT website and disseminated through other partners' websites, Twitter, etc.) and updated continually until the time of the event.

The outline of the agenda is presented in Annex 11.

### 3.3.1.7 – MOBILITY GRANTS/VISAS

Following discussions within the consortium led by Sigma Orionis and CSIR, mobility grants (generally partial grants up to a maximum of euro 1,500 to cover air travel, accommodation and some incidental expenses) were offered to some 60 participants of the 4<sup>th</sup> Forum. As mentioned above, priority was given to speakers from sub-Saharan Africa, with other mobility grants offered to key individuals, including those representing associated organisations, with the money to be refunded after the event on receipt of suitable documentation. In some cases, participants had difficulty in paying for air tickets and (in one case) hotels in advance, so efforts were made to cover these costs. Responsibility

for refunds lies between CSIR, TWAS and Sigma Orionis and efforts have been made to finalise these payments before the end of the project.

A number of participants also required a visa to enter South Africa. CSIR/Meraka staff dealt with correspondence for those requiring a visa in a timely and efficient manner.

### 3.3.2 – *The event*

#### 3.3.2.1 – *ATTENDANCE*

Some 250 people attended the event. There was also a good balance between European and African delegates, with 64% coming from Africa, 36% from Europe. Although this was fewer than the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum, this can be explained as follows:

- The meeting was not linked to another, as in the case of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cooperation Forum in Helsinki;
- European participants had to cover their own travel and accommodation in Cape Town (only a few mobility grants were offered to speakers from Europe);
- The closing date of the EC Call for Proposal on Infrastructures (FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2012-1) was on November 23, 2011. This deadline prevented some potential attendees from travelling;
- The UbuntuNet Connect Annual Conference took place in November 23-25, 2011 in Kenya, that is just one week after the Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum;
- Since the event took place on Monday and Tuesday, delegates had to travel to Cape Town during the weekend, and this is always an issue. Unfortunately we could not change the dates because the venue we chose was available on those days only (the International Convention Centre is regarded as one of the leading convention centres in South Africa).

#### 3.3.2.2 – *DELEGATE PACKS*

A delegate package, presented in a specially-designed 'concertina' folder, was distributed to all attendees when collecting their badges on site.

Main features:

- Personal badge;
- Lanyard;
- Conference agenda;
- Event brochure;
- Euro-Africa-ICT project factsheet;
- Event partners promotional material;
- Small doll gift, handmade by a small business woman from a deprived area of Cape Town.

#### 3.3.2.3 – *PROGRAMME AND SPEAKERS*

On the first day, the programme was divided into seven plenary sessions, including an opening, three sessions of presentations, two roundtable discussion sessions and a conclusion.

The event was opened on Monday 14 November by Karine Valin (Managing Director of Sigma-Orionis & Coordinator of the EuroAfrica-ICT project), who welcomed all the speakers, delegates and session chairs to the conference and laid down three challenges to the participants:

- To investigate and analyse the progress made so far;
- To identify the impediments and find the right instruments to overcome them; and
- To ensure we deliver tangible and win-win outcomes are delivered.

During the opening session Ms Valin introduced Isaac Maredi (Acting Chief Director: Sector Innovation and Global Change & Director: ICT, DST, South Africa), Harry de Backer (Minister Counselor, EU Delegation to the African Union, European Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia), Nezaam Joseph, (Director, Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Provincial Government Western Cape, South Africa), Laurens Cloete (Executive Director, CSIR Meraka Institute, South Africa) and Moctar Yedaly (Head of the Information Society Division, African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia).

Other sessions on the opening day included:

- ICT-enabled Development Strategies chaired by Laurens Cloete, Executive Director, CSIR Meraka Institute, South Africa, that included a presentation by Alvis Ancans, Programme officer, DG INFSO;
- The AU & EU Programmes and their Supporting Cooperation Frameworks - Priorities, Implementation Status, and Remaining Challenges, chaired by Anneline Morgan, Director at Department of Science and Technology, South Africa, and Towela Nyirenda-Jere, Programme manager, NEPAD e-Africa Commission, South Africa;
- The Role and Priorities of the African Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as Building Blocks for Regional Integration through ICT Networks, a roundtable session chaired by Moctar Yedaly, Head of Information Society Division, African Union Commission (AUC) and Edmund Katiti - Acting Head of the NEPAD e-Africa Programme, South Africa;
- How to support efficient and innovative ICT Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)?, another roundtable discussion on chaired by Gillian Marcelle, Director of International Partnerships and Associate Professor: Strategy & Innovation, Wits Business School, South Africa, and John Wood, Secretary General of the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), UK; and
- Africa-EU Cooperation on Open Living Labs (local innovation & technology transfer): Status & Perspectives, chaired by Marlien Herselman, Chair, Living Labs in Southern Africa (LLiSA), CSIR, South Africa, and Alvaro Oliveira, President of the European Network of Living Labs (EnoLL) and Chair of the EnoLL Council, Portugal.
- Barend Taute, Manager: Contract R&D at CSIR Meraka Institute, and EuroAfrica-ICT Project Partner, South Africa, and Neeraj Suri, TUD Chair, Professor, Dependable Embedded Systems & Software Dept. of Computer Science, TU Darmstadt, Germany, concluded the day's presentations.

The second day began with a plenary lecture by John Wood (ACU) on his 'Vision of the future of the ERA and how it interacts with the outside world'.

The meeting was then split into a series of four sessions each of which included four thematic sessions (i.e. a total of 16 parallel sessions):

- 1 (a): Technology Enhanced Learning (e-Learning & e-Skills);
- 2 (a): Research and Education Networking;
- 3 (a): Joint ICT Research Priorities;
- 4 (a): ICT Deployment;
- 1 (b): ICT for Environmental Sustainability & Energy Efficiency (e-Agriculture, e-Food, e-Environment);
- 2 (b): Mobile Technologies & Mobile Applications (m-Apps);

- 3 (b): Connecting the EU & Africa for Collaborative Research;
- 4 (b): Taking RDI Results to the Market;
- 1 (c): Advanced Technology to Improve Health (e-Health);
- 2 (c): ipv6 & Future Internet;
- 3 (c): European & African Mechanisms for Funding Collaborative ICT Research;
- 5: Support Actions in the Regulatory Field;
- 1 (d): Building International Collaboration on Trustworthy ICT;
- 2 (d): Social Networking;
- 3 (d): Building & Strengthening Capacities in ICT Research;
- 6: Guidance for FP7 Newcomers.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research closed with a plenary session chaired by Laurens Cloete (Executive Director, CSIR/Meraka Institute, South Africa), with final addresses from; Motcar Yedaly (Head of Information Society Division, African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia) Isaac Maredi (Acting Chief Director: Sector Innovation and Global Change & Director: ICT, DST, South Africa), Luis Magalhaes (President, UMIC, Knowledge Society Agency, Ministry of Education and Science, Portugal & European Co-Chair, EU–Africa 8th Partnership), Harry de Backer (Minister Counsellor, EU Delegation to the African Union, European Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia), Rached Hamza (General Director, CERT, Centre d'Etudes et de Recherche des Telecommunications, Tunisia).

In total, there were more than 120 people directly involved in the Forum agenda, either as speakers, chairs or rapporteurs. Rapporteurs – all of whom were EuroAfrica-ICT project partners – were tasked with capturing the main points of each speaker, a flavour of any discussions session, and producing a short report for the EuroAfrica-ICT website.

Pictures of the event are provided in Annex 12 and are available online at: <http://euroafrica-ict.org/project-resources/photogallery/>

### 3.3.2.4 – MAIN OUTCOMES

A short report has been prepared by EuroAfrica-ICT project partners (TWAS, CSIR/Meraka and Sigma Orionis) and approved by the EC and AUC and it has been published on the EuroAfrica-ICT website.

For a more complete synthesis of the main outcomes of each session, it is best to refer to the rapporteurs' reports that were posted on the EuroAfrica-ICT website within a week of the event under the title 'Proceedings'.

See: <http://euroafrica-ict.org/2011/11/29/proceedings-4th-euro-africa-cooperation-forum-on-ict-research/>

Among the main issues that came under the spotlight of the meeting were:

- This event again confirmed the importance of the EuroAfrica-ICT project (and its successor EuroAfrica-P8) to bring together African and European researchers and policy makers to share experiences, hold dialogues on joint agendas, and build networks. A unique combination of researchers and policy makers attended, representing many research institutions, as well as the EC, the AUC and member states;
- The event is important in terms of its core goals of supporting Africa-Europe dialogue, but also as a platform for African researchers to meet and collaborate;

- The Forum allowed for the discussion of important engineering and technical challenges that need to be overcome to work towards the information society and knowledge economy that are known to be enablers of socio-economic growth;
- In many cases specific topics of joint interest, such as the Future Internet and Trustworthy ICT, were explored to the point where research topics unique to Africa and relevant to Europe were identified, together with current and future funding opportunities. It is now up to the researchers to make use of every available opportunity for collaborative research and to turn those into benefit for both continents.

However, as was pointed out by several speakers (and examined in detail in break-out session 3d), in order to take full advantage of the technology and opportunities opening up in sub-Saharan Africa, there is a drastic need for qualified and trained personnel. Without such a cadre of trained professionals, the benefits of all these combined efforts threaten to remain restricted to the few rather than extending through the whole of African society. It was also noted that opportunities are often available, e.g. with AUC funding, but are not being fully utilized.

The overall consensus among those who attended the event was that the 4<sup>th</sup> Forum had provided them with an excellent overview of the latest developments into the ongoing and the planned EU-AU programmes for ICTs. Delegates also found the opportunity to meet key players from the region and exchange experiences with international experts of great value.

### 3.3.2.5 – TECHNICAL LABORATORY VISITS

Following the final session of the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Forum, some 50 participants visited the nearby CSIR Centre for High Performance Computing (CHPC).

The lab visit, hosted by Kevin Colville, Nicholas Thorne and Chris Petzer, highlighted the infrastructure developments required to install and host Africa's first supercomputer as well as details of the machine itself and the jobs that it runs. Internationally the machines are ranked according to their performance when running the High Performance Linpack (HPL) benchmark and tracked on a list referred to as the Top500. The CHPC cluster is currently ranked 329 on the Top500 list and achieved 61.33 Tera ( $10^{12}$  or a million x million) floating-point operations per second (FLOPS). The calculations are performed by 6336 compute cores, all operating in parallel and connected together using the Infiniband networking system. Such massive computing power has been used in such projects as astronomy, aeronautics, electronic engineering and oceanography. Two projects in particular have involved modelling the biomechanical behaviour of the human heart, and the simulation of the complex microstructure of lithium manganese oxide for potential use in high-capacity composite electrodes in rechargeable batteries for cars. The CHPC caters to academic users and has over 450 individual users across a wide spectrum of research disciplines.



*Delegates from the 4th Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research attending a technical laboratory visit at the CSIR Centre for High Performance Computing, Cape Town.*

### 3.3.2.6 – ICT EXPERT GROUP MEETING

On the second day of the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum, an expert group meeting was conducted as part of data collection for the EuroAfrica-ICT study on ICT Research priorities (WP1). The purpose of the meeting was to consult a targeted group of experts in the fields of m-Application, e-Health and e-Learning to provide inputs on the identification of research priorities in these 3 domains.

This expert group meeting was attended by 11 researchers selected according to their experience and expertise in the field. This meeting started with an introduction by Tshepang Mosiea to the research priorities study conducted by ACU and CSIR in the first phase of the study (2010).

Subsequently, an open but focused discussion was held, intended to identify areas of mutual interest and key research priorities that should be the centre of focus in the EuroAfrica-ICT cooperation programmes in the 3 domains. Technology needs not yet fulfilled in these domains, technology innovation opportunities in the domains and the niche areas for innovation relevant to Africa and Europe were also discussed.

The following section presents an annotated summary of the views and opinions of the participants of the forum experts' group meeting. The participants of the group were asked to focus on two questions:

#### Enabling environment

New innovation models are needed to bridge technology gaps, to meet societal needs and reduce the digital divide. Also, new cooperation models and mechanisms, for example cooperation with industry regarding mobile applications in the education sector, are important. Learners from rich families may be able to share information through smart phones and learners from disadvantaged backgrounds do not have phones with the same capabilities. Hence, this may pose new technology uptake constraints depending on individuals' background and economic status. In this way there is a huge need for standardisation and interoperability on mobile devices and platforms.

European industries could benefit from outsourcing to Africa and establishing subsidiary research companies in Africa and this will strengthen ICT R&D capability in Africa and help to maximise benefits of the already existing cooperation programmes between the two regions.

Understanding who the users are, what their needs are, and what socio economic problems they confront is necessary in order to help project technology innovation needed in the future. User needs' analysis (i.e. market analysis) have to be undertaken in order to decide what the ICT research priorities should be.

Geography and specific context in each African country influence innovation in each region. Innovation is unique to geographic areas, thus nomadic people in Nigeria would not face similar social challenges to populations in urban centres. Therefore, various urban and rural communities in Africa provide a fertile ground for new technology solutions and products to be developed, but these must be context specific solutions.

Research priorities should be about innovations for competitive advantage in different sectors of the economy and society, and not a one-size-fits-all approach as this will not work. Regional technology roadmaps should be established to build capacity in modelling future technologies.

Europe and Africa should cooperate to find projects that are of mutual interest to both regions in specific sectors. Sustainable energy and renewable energy sources should be amongst the priorities for cooperation and low energy consuming technologies should not be ignored. It is important to find equilibrium between African and European interests.

### Innovation Opportunities

From the discussions emerged a list of areas and considerations identified for innovation through ICT and where there is a need to develop technology applications. Any future research activity has to take the following areas into account:

- Consumer supply chain;
- Exportable solutions;
- Better, cheaper, faster technologies;
- Technology localisation;
- Mobile language translation services;
- e-Learning – students and teachers;
- Resources – open access technologies;
- Applications to change the entire education system;
- e-Learning: teachers, students, administrators;
- Mobile technology – infrastructure – distance learning;
- Entrepreneurial content.

### 3.3.3 – *Follow-up*

#### 3.3.3.1 – *FINAL REPORTING*

Within a few days of the close of the Forum presentations of the majority of the speakers plus the rapporteurs' reports of each session were uploaded to the EuroAfrica-ICT website and participants and others in the EuroAfrica-ICT community were informed that they were available for download.

A full report of the event was prepared and sent for approval by the EC and AUC before publication on the website and further distribution. The report highlights the successful nature of the meeting and reviewed some of the important announcements and discussions. Excerpts from the report are included above (sections 3.3.2.3, 3.3.2.4 and 3.3.2.5).

As a courtesy, all speakers and chairs were sent an email thanking them for their contribution towards making the event a success. In addition, all attendees were thanked, via e-mail, for their participation, especially in the discussion sessions, and informed of the event material that had since been made available for download.

All participants were also asked to complete a brief survey in order to obtain concrete feedback about their experiences and thoughts on the meeting.

On the first day of the conference, an online article about the conference was published on Bizcommunity website. See <http://www.bizcommunity.com/Article/196/379/67065.html>.

In addition, a strategic decision was also taken by CSIR to focus the attention in facilitating coverage with a journalist to do interviews and stories that he would circulate to Research Africa (South Africa), SciDev.Net (UK) and University World News (South Africa).

Reports of the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research will be published in the next CAAST-Net Bulletin (scheduled for February 2012) and Research Africa, a continent-wide newsletter. During 2012, TWAS also plans to publish a full-length feature article on the activities of the EuroAfrica-ICT project, including details of the Forum.

An article on EU-Africa ICT Cooperation was published to the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership website in Nov. 2011: <http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/focus/ict-research-joining-forces-build-capacities>. The article, prepared in the context of the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa ICT Forum, includes three interviews of three Forum delegates: Mr Luis Magalhaes (European co-chair of the EU-Africa 8<sup>th</sup> Partnership and chair of the European Experts Group of the EU-Africa 8<sup>th</sup> Partnership), Mr Duncan Martin (chief executive of TENET and non-executive director of UbuntuNet Alliance) and Mr Moctar Yedaly (head of the Information Society Division within the AU Commission).



### 3.3.3.2 – PARTICIPANT SURVEY

Following the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum, Sigma Orionis carried out an online participants' survey to obtain feedback on the relevance and success of the event.

Among the key responses were:

- Each day's sessions were attended by more than 80% of the total number of participants (excluding the Lab Visits, 38% - as numbers were restricted);
- Most people heard about the event from a colleague (59%), with good numbers also being informed by the EuroAfrica-ICT newsletter and website (39% in each case), with less than 10% receiving their information via the printed brochure;
- When asked what attracted them to the event, 50% cited the agenda, 50% cited the speakers, and every respondent (100%) cited the networking opportunities;
- Various aspects of the content (level of knowledge of the speakers, clarity and relevance of information provided, etc.) were assessed generally as either excellent or very good, with some respondents assessing the length of sessions as 'acceptable';
- Some 83% of respondents made 5 or more useful contacts, with some people (16% of the total) claiming to have made more than 10 new contacts;
- A large majority said they would attend a similar event next year (75%), with the remaining 25% replying 'maybe. Nobody said they would not attend a similar event next year';
- 97% of respondents said they would recommend the event to others.

Thus, the responses show a favourable reaction to the meeting, which provided many opportunities for both African and European participants to interact with decision-makers and ICT experts and to build networks of contacts. The final two points above show that there was certainly a strong feeling that the event had been a considerable success.

### 3.3.3.3 – RELATED ANNEXES

Annex 7: Cover design of brochure included in the delegates' conference packs for the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum.

Annex 8: Sponsors of the 4<sup>th</sup> Forum.

Annex 9: List of participants provided with mobility grants.

Annex 10: Associated organisations and media partners of the 4<sup>th</sup> Forum.

Annex 11: Outline agenda.

Annex 12: Selected photographs from the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research.

## 4 - Conclusions

Many aspects of all six meetings reported here can be considered a success. For example, each meeting, whether an awareness workshop, concertation meeting or cooperation forum, consistently attracted a high level of participant, often including ministers of ICT or equivalent, deans of universities, heads of important research centres, etc., as well as representations from the EU and AUC.

In addition, the number of participants and the range of nationalities and types of organisation that they represented and the quality of the discussions that took place during the sessions, provided excellent content for the meetings themselves. Such success is down to the networking capabilities of the project partners and the experiences gained from organising two successful previous Forums (in Brussels and Addis Ababa in March 2009 and February 2010, respectively), as well as the strong and vibrant network of interested parties that make up the EuroAfrica-ICT online community – features of WP3 (Support for EU and AU organisations) and WP4 (Project dissemination).

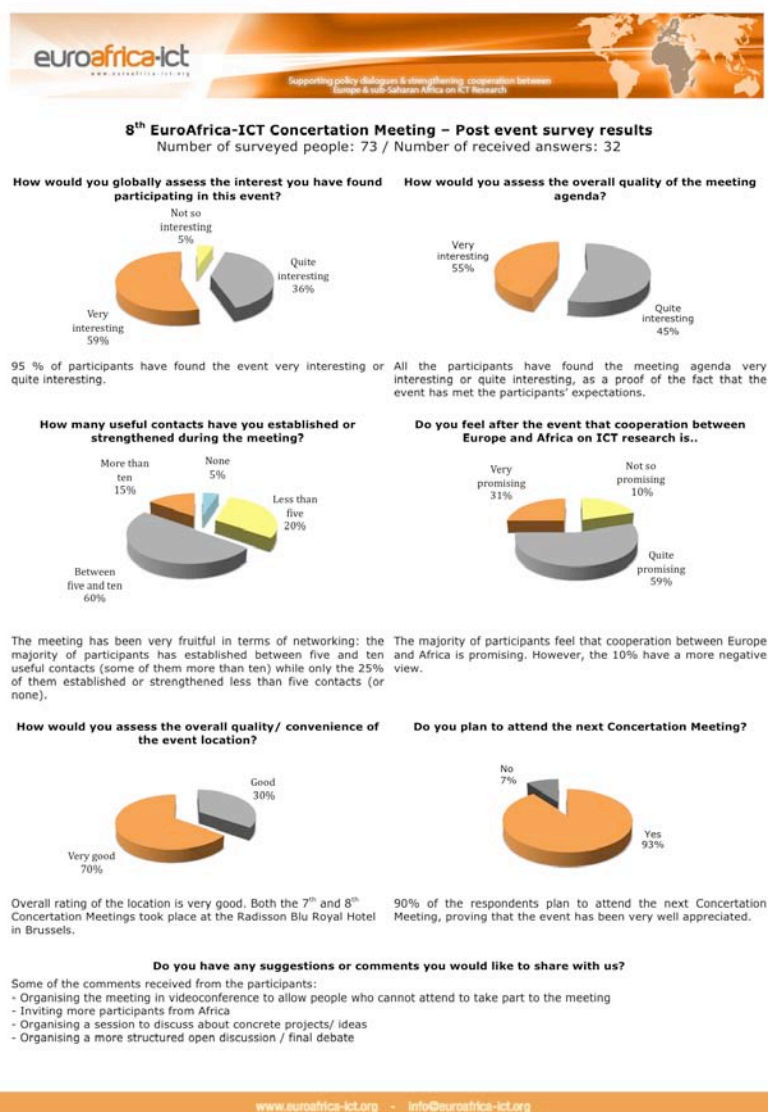
Feedback from the participants' surveys carried out after each event was also positive, especially in relation to the level of the speakers and the information they presented, and to the networking opportunities provided.

As the current EuroAfrica-ICT project (January 2010 – December 2011) comes to a close, all project participants can be proud of the achievements they have made in either taking the lead or providing assistance to six very successful meetings – two of which (the Forums) were major undertakings.

## 5 – Annexes

### Annex 1

Results of a survey carried out with participants of the 8<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Concertation Meeting.



## Annex 2

Press report of the 14<sup>th</sup> Awareness Workshop, held in Mauritius



Samedi 6 novembre 2010

4

Projet Euro Africa-ICT.org

# Un des objectifs: définir le contexte du paysage TIC à Maurice

L'atelier que l'Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) souhaite mettre en place dans le cadre du projet Euro Africa-ICT.org, est un projet co-financé par le 7<sup>e</sup> Programme cadre de recherche et de développement (7<sup>e</sup> PCRD) de la Direction Générale Société de l'Information et Média (DG INFSO), de la Communauté européenne; d'où l'atelier organisé à l'île Maurice par l'AUF les 3 et 4 novembre derniers à l'auditorium Octave Wiélé et dont l'ouverture était assurée par Rajesh Jeetah, ministre de l'Enseignement supérieur.

Pour rappel, Rajesh Jeetah s'était réjoui que la petite île Maurice, malgré son éloignement géographique, dispose du Campus numérique Francophone à Réduit où se situe le cœur de ces nouvelles technologies. Il avait rappelé les réalisations dans le domaine de la formation et l'ouverture prochaine de l'Open University. Le ministre avait aussi affirmé qu'avec l'AUF, une nouvelle page de la bonne gouvernance numérique a été ouverte.

L'atelier s'adresse aux personnes concernées par la recherche sur les TIC et intéressées par des projets de coopération avec l'Europe: représentants de gouvernement représentant d'agences de développement et de



coopération internationales; gestionnaires de projet TIC; directeurs de laboratoires de recherche; ingénieurs TIC; doyens, directeurs enseignants et chercheurs d'universités et d'établissements d'enseignement supérieur; responsables d'ONG, d'associations professionnelles, de centres d'excellence de chambres de commerce, industriels, entre autres.

Avec cet atelier, le projet vise à contribuer à la réalisation de

plusieurs objectifs: définir le contexte du paysage TIC à Maurice et dans la région; sensibiliser les participants sur l'existence du 7<sup>e</sup> PCRD, et particulièrement a) la priorité thématique 4 (les Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication -TIC) et b) les actions spécifiques de coopération internationale (Specific international cooperation action - SICA); identifier les acteurs et partenaires clés avec lesquels il sera possible de travailler, contribuer à bâtir une communauté

TIC sur la recherche euro-africaine; favoriser l'émergence de propositions de coopération en matière de recherche TIC, y compris des projets en lien avec d'autres domaines comme l'agriculture, les services de données, ou encore les business plan d'exploitation... a) idéalement, les projets crédibles devraient être financés i) par la priorité thématique TIC du 7<sup>e</sup> PCRD, et en général du 7<sup>e</sup> PCRD ii) par des programmes autres que le 7<sup>e</sup> PCRD, b) les indicateurs des

projets crédibles sont, au moins, au nombre de deux :i) appui politique aux niveaux local, national, ii) implication d'acteurs pertinents: universités, centres de recherche, acteurs du monde de l'entreprise offrir des opportunités de contacts et de rencontres dans la région océan indien entre les acteurs européens et africains; et créer des ponts entre l'Afrique et l'Union européenne (UE)

## Aspects pratiques:

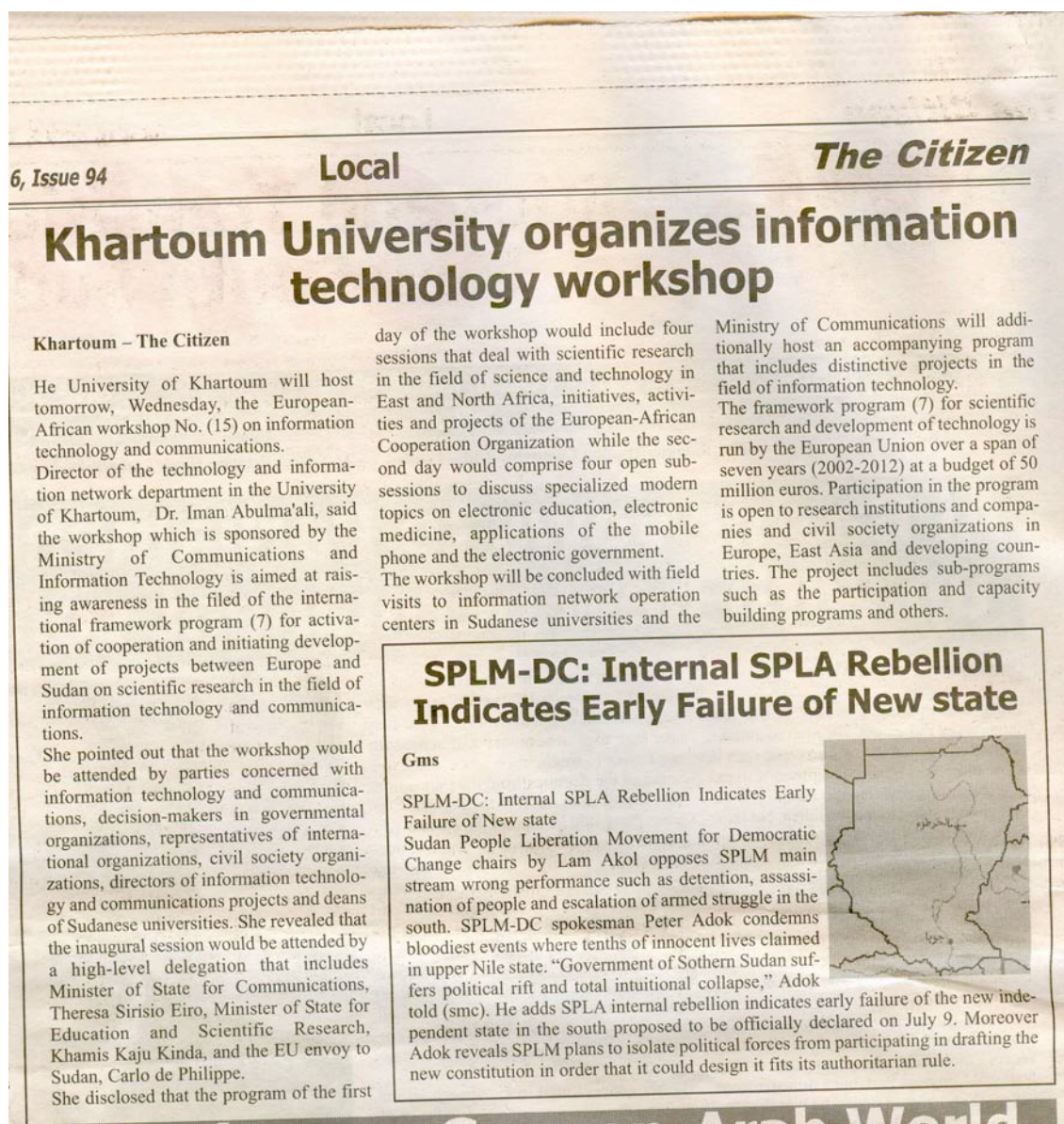
Sur le plan pratique, cet atelier s'est décliné en trois moments: Communication générale, échange et information sur les opportunités de coopération euro-africaines et soutien à des projets crédibles TIC euro-africain; et contribuer à l'identification de priorités de recherche communes à l'Europe et l'Afrique en matière de TIC.

Le Conseil des ministres de la République de l'île Maurice du 3 septembre dernier en a pris acte et a recommandé à l'Agence universitaire de la Francophonie de travailler avec les ministères concernés pour la mise en place de cet important événement pour que les opérateurs mauriciens, de la région et de l'UE aient une belle occasion d'échange et d'informations sur les opportunités de coopération euro-africaines et de soutien à des projets crédibles TIC euro-africain.



## Annex 3

Press report of the 15<sup>th</sup> Awareness Workshop, held in Sudan



## Annex 4

Roll-up banner advertising the 2010 Euro-Africa Week on ICT Research and e-Infrastructures.



**2010 EURO-AFRICA WEEK**  
ON ICT RESEARCH & E-INFRASTRUCTURES

Marina Congress Centre  
Helsinki, Finland  
December 6-10, 2010

A series of events held under the aegis of the European Commission (DG INFSO, International Relations Unit + GEANT and e-Infrastructures Unit) and the African Union Commission with the support of the Finnish Government (Ministry for Foreign Affairs + Ministry of Employment and the Economy).

A week organized by the FP7 EuroAfrica-ICT ([www.euroafrica-ict.org](http://www.euroafrica-ict.org)) and the e-Africa ([www.e-africa.eu](http://www.e-africa.eu)) EU-funded projects with the support of the VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland ([www.vtt.fi](http://www.vtt.fi)) and the ERUNA-Africa EU-funded project ([www.erunafrica.eu](http://www.erunafrica.eu)).

Logos: European Union, African Union, FP7, GEANT, e-Africa, VTT, ERUNA-Africa, euroafrica-ict, e-africa, VTT, ERUNA-Africa.

3rd Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research  
2012 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference  
Lab Visits

	Tues. 6/12	Wed. 7/12	Thurs. 8/12	Fri. 9/12
3rd Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research				
2012 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference				
Lab Visits				

**SPONSORS**

Logos: ARISE, CSIR, eLearning Africa, FORTH, Google, KIST, NOKIA, The Association of Commonwealth Universities, twas, VTT, sigma, chronos.

[www.euroafrica-ict.org](http://www.euroafrica-ict.org)  
[info@euroafrica-ict.org](mailto:info@euroafrica-ict.org)

[www.e-africa.eu](http://www.e-africa.eu)  
[info@e-africa.eu](mailto:info@e-africa.eu)

## Annex 5

Sponsors of the 2010 Euro-Africa Week on ICT Research and e-Infrastructures.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland



Ministry of the Environment and the Economy, Finland



VTT Technical Research Centre, Finland



e-Learning Africa, ICWE, Germany



Nokia, Finland



Department of Science and Technology of South Africa (DST) and of the European South Africa Science and Technology Advancement Programme (ESASTAP)



Google, USA

Associated organisations and media partners of the 2010 Euro-Africa Week on ICT Research and e-Infrastructures.



AbidjanLiveNews.com



Consortium d'Appui aux Actions pour la Promotion et le Développement de l'Afrique (CAPDA)



Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation



e-Mobility European Technology Platform Network and Electronic Media



e-Science Talk (part-funded under FP7)



Gedaref Digital City Organisation (GDCO)



ICT4D: Collective and Multidisciplinary Centre for ICT4D at Royal Holloway, University of London



Integral Satcom Initiative (ISI)



NEM European Technology Platform



Networked European Software and Services Initiative (NESSI)



ITU/WSIS Stocktaking Platform



## Annex 6

Folder design and inserts for the delegate pack, received on registration at the event.



## Annex 7

Cover design of brochure included in the delegates' conference packs for the 4<sup>th</sup> Forum.



## Annex 8

Sponsors of the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research.



CSIR Centre for High Performance Computing, South Africa



Cape Information Technology Initiative, South Africa



Department of Science and Technology of South Africa (DST)



eLearning Africa



SMART Technologies, France



SPIDER, the Swedish Programme for ICT in Developing Regions



The TWAS-AAS-Microsoft support to computer science meetings in Africa programme, sponsored by Microsoft Research, UK



Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, South Africa



TWAS, the academy of sciences for the developing world, Italy



Sigma Orionis, France

## Annex 9

Participants at the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum who received partial sponsorship to assist with their travel and accommodation.

- Towela Nyirenda-Jere
- Rached Hamza
- Chisita Collense Takaingenhamo
- Robert Achieng
- Edmund Katiti
- Moctar Yedaly
- Moses Bayingana
- Emmanuel Kamdem
- Deepti Garg
- Gillian Marcelle
- McLean Sibanda
- Hamilton Juma
- Effat El-Shooky
- Sibukele Gumbo
- Hilda Moraa
- Shafika Isaacs
- Iman Abuel Maaly Abdelrahman
- Omo Oaiya
- Tina James
- Alex Twinomugisha
- Janet Thomson
- Saibou Mohamadou Arabani
- Brenda Mallinson
- Haaveshe Nekongo-Nielsen
- Catherine Wangeci
- Pascal Hoba
- Eric M. K. Osiakwan
- Margaret Nyambura Ndung'u
- Patricia Swarts
- Idris Rai
- Nawaz Mohamudally
- Martti Ranin
- Stephan J. Lamprecht
- Samuel Igbatayo
- Titilayo Aladesanmi
- Ryan Littman-Quinn
- Ben Zaaiman
- Aaron Bere
- Nicolas Rogodoo
- Dumisa Ngwenya (Silas Phoshoko)
- Neeraj Suri
- Sabine Moebs
- Mmamakanye Pitse-Boshomane
- Jessica Colaco
- Abiodun Jagun
- Seydina Moussa Ndiaye
- Mbangwana Moses Atezah
- Roger Layton
- Laurens Cloete
- Marlien Herselman
- Fisseha Mekuria
- Hina Patel
- Anwar Vahed
- Adele Botha
- Barend Taute
- Dikeledi
- Thato Foko
- Tshepang Mosiea
- Kobus Roux
- Biffy Van Rooyen

## Annex 10

Organisations that signed up to be associated with the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research.



Agence pour la Cooperation Scientifique Afrique Luxembourg, ACSAL



Africa Connect



Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF), Belgium \*



Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN)



Building International Cooperation (BIC) for Trustworthy ICT – coordination action project



CAAST-Net: A Network for the Coordination and Advancement of Sub-Saharan Africa-EU Science & Technology Cooperation



CAPDA, Consortium d'Appui aux Actions pour la Promotion et le Développement de l'Afrique



Commonwealth Telecommunication Organisation (CTO)



EUMED Connect 2



Gedaref Digital City Organisation (GDCO)



Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Italy



infoDev



it News



Kigali Institute of Science and Technology (KIST), Rwanda \*



Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda \*



NEM – Networked and Electronic Media



Net!Works



New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)



PAERIP, EU FP7 project



Photonics 21



SciDev.Net



Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), United Kingdom \*



The Courier



UbuntuNet Alliance



University of Cape Town Centre in ICT4D

\* = EuroAfrica-ICT project partner



## Annex 11

Outline agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum.





### 4th Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research

Agenda at a glance\*








EXPLORING HOW TO SUPPORT EFFICIENT & INNOVATIVE ICT PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP)

#### DAY 1 - November 14, 2011

07:30h - 08:00h	Registration & welcome of participants
08:00 - 09:00 am	Opening Session & Welcome & address
09:00 - 10:00 am	ICT enabled Sustainable Development Strategies
10:00 - 11:00 am	Coffee & tea break
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Track 1 & 2: Progress and the 3rd European Cooperation Framework: Priorities, Implementation, Success, and Remaining Challenges
12:00 - 01:00 pm	Roundtable Discussion: The Role and Position of the African Region/ Countries/ Communities (PRCA) in Building Blocks for Digital Integration through ICT Initiatives
01:00 - 02:00 pm	Networking lunch break
02:00 - 03:00 pm	Roundtable Discussion: How to support Africa and succeed in ICT Public-Private Partnership (PPP)?
03:00 - 04:00 pm	Coffee & tea break
04:00 - 05:00 pm	Africa-ICT Cooperation in a Global Context: Latin American & Technology Transfer: Status & Perspectives
05:00 - 06:00 pm	Conclusions of the day
06:00 pm	End of Day 1
07:00 - 10:00 pm	Networking cocktail offered by the ICT4 (Eupho) Initiative and CERIC (Centre for High Performance Computing) with drinks and interactive discussion






#### DAY 2 - November 15, 2011

08:00h - 09:00 am	Registration and welcome of participants			
09:00 - 10:00 am	Morning Session: Track 1 - Part I			
	TRACK 1 ICT RESEARCH THEMES	TRACK 2 ICT RESEARCH THEMES	TRACK 3 THE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT	TRACK 4 DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETS
	Session 1a TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION (SMEs, start-ups, etc.)	Session 2a TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION (SMEs, start-ups, etc.)	Session 3a JOINT ICT RESEARCH PROJECTS	Session 4a ICT DEPLOYMENT
10:00 - 11:00 am	Coffee & tea break			
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Morning Session: Track 1 - Part II			
	TRACK 1 ICT RESEARCH THEMES	TRACK 2 ICT RESEARCH THEMES	TRACK 3 THE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT	TRACK 4 DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETS
	Session 1b ICT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT & URBAN ECONOMY (e-governance, e-health, etc.)	Session 2b MOBILE TECHNOLOGIES & URBAN APPLICATIONS (e-governance, e-health, etc.)	Session 3b CONNECTING THE DOTS & INTEGRATING COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH	Session 4b TAKING ACTION TO THE MARKET
12:00 - 01:00 pm	Networking lunch break			
01:00 - 02:00 pm	Afternoon Session: Track 1 - Part I			
	TRACK 1 ICT RESEARCH THEMES	TRACK 2 ICT RESEARCH THEMES	TRACK 3 THE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT	TRACK 4 DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETS
	Session 1c IMPACT & TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE HEALTH (e-health, etc.)	Session 2c IMPACT & TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE HEALTH (e-health, etc.)	Session 3c IMPACT & TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE HEALTH (e-health, etc.)	Session 4c IMPACT & TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE HEALTH (e-health, etc.)
02:00 - 03:00 pm	Coffee & tea break			
03:00 - 04:00 pm	Afternoon Session: Track 1 - Part II			
	TRACK 1 ICT RESEARCH THEMES	TRACK 2 ICT RESEARCH THEMES	TRACK 3 THE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT	TRACK 4 DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETS
	Session 1d BUILDING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON TECHNOLOGY ICT	Session 2d BUILDING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON TECHNOLOGY ICT	Session 3d BUILDING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON TECHNOLOGY ICT	Session 4d BUILDING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON TECHNOLOGY ICT
04:00 - 05:00 pm	Closing Session & Concluding Address			
05:00 - 06:00 pm	End of the day			
06:00 pm	End of the 4th Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research			
08:00 - 09:00 pm	Work of the Centre for High Performance Computing (CERIC)			

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## Annex 12

Selected photographs from the 4<sup>th</sup> Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum showing keynote speakers and chairs, participants in the auditorium, networking breaks, roundtable discussion sessions and breakout sessions.

