

Nov. 14-15, 2011 - CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

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4TH EURO-AFRICA COOPERATION FORUM ON ICT RESEARCH

An event designed to anyone with an interest in Euro-African collaborative research on ICT & ICT4D

A conference organized by the EuroAfrica-ICT Initiative (www.euroafrica-ict.org) under the aegis of the European Commission (DG INFSO, International Relations Unit) and the African Union Commission (AUC) with the support of the Department of Science & Technology (DST) of South Africa

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CALL FOR PAPERS & COMMUNICATIONS

Important deadlines

- Submission of paper/communication abstracts : 26/08/2011
- Notification of paper/communication acceptance : 02/09/2011
- Submission of PowerPoint presentations : 31/10/2011

Call for papers/communications

EuroAfrica-ICT Cooperation Forums have traditionally provided an indisputable focal point for all Euro-African stakeholders in the public and private sectors involved in collaborative ICT research and ICT for development with a specific emphasis on networking-opportunities, knowledge-sharing and consensus-building. EuroAfrica-ICT Cooperation Forums have also a long-established reputation for being events filled in with in-depth discussions and lively debates, networking opportunities and knowledge sharing among key stakeholders in the field and policymakers coming from all over Europe and Africa.

The "4th Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research" (Cape Town, Nov. 14-15, 2011) organizers invite the Euro-African ICT community to share information on technological developments that will support the strengthening of cooperation between the two regions. Contributions are welcomed from players across the entire ICT sphere and are intended to reflect ongoing technological advances and capabilities within R&D/ICT communities as well as forthcoming commercial deployments. Contributions have to include a consideration of relevant challenges in emerging economies and markets.

Topics of interest include (but are not limited to) the following ICT Research/Development themes:

- Technology Enhanced Learning: e-Learning (ICT for Education) & e-Skills
- Advanced Technology to Improve Health: e-Health (ICT for Health)
- Secure Services to Citizens & Business: e-Governance (including ICT policies and regulation)
- Infrastructures & Access: e-Infrastructures & GÉANT (from research networking to global virtual research collaboration)
- Digital Library Services & Digital Content Infrastructures: e-Libraries & e-Content
- ICT for inclusion (social inclusion) & independent living: e-Inclusion, e-Adoption & e-Accessibility
- ICT for Environmental Sustainability and Energy Efficiency: e-Agriculture & e-Environment
- Evolution and convergence of networks, infrastructures, equipment and services towards Future Network solutions
- Software and services (in various sectors: enterprise, agriculture, etc.)
- Linking European and African ICT communities
- Trust, privacy and security in the Information Society
- Mobile devices and applications for development





Submission guidelines

Authors are invited to submit half-a-page abstracts to the conference selection committee (info@euroafrica-ict.org). Submissions have to be written in English and commercial presentations will be automatically rejected. Papers must be submitted electronically.

All received abstracts will be carefully evaluated on the following criteria: originality, significance, technical soundness, clarity of expression and interest to a wide audience. PPT presentations should not be more than 7-8 minutes. The "4th Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research" proceedings will be published online a couple of weeks after the event.

At least one of the authors of an accepted paper must attend the Conference to present the paper. An accepted paper must be registered before the registration deadline. The organizers reserve the right to exclude a paper from distribution after the conference if the paper is not presented at the Conference.

Event objectives

- Allow European and African stakeholders involved in the development of cooperation on ICT to get together
- Allow participants to exchange views, share information, and identify synergies in order to increase the impact of their activities
- Further support policy dialogues, discuss medium- to long term perspectives and agree on an overall and coherent vision
- Give the highest visibility to ongoing initiatives addressing Euro-Africa S&T cooperation in ICT
- Increase the number of African organizations involved in EU/FP7 collaborative projects on ICT research and enhance the development of Euro-Africa collaborative projects in the field
- Highlight the range and excellence of ICT research in Africa and in Europe
- Allow participative and interactive working sessions on ICT research and development through panel debates and interactive thematic sessions

Why should people attend?

The "4th Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research" will be a unique opportunity for all parties interested in the ICT domain to:

- Expand their knowledge in the field
- Evaluate progresses made and lessons learnt on ICT research and development in Africa and to assess their impact on partnerships, economic growth, quality of life and service delivery
- Gain an insight into the status and perspectives of the 8th Partnership ("African-EU Partnership for Science, Information Society and Space") and its action plan
- Learn more about the status and perspectives of Programs and Action Plans of the European Commission (EC) and the African Union Commission (AUC)
- Identify potential partners
- Network with key stakeholders in the field (private/public bodies) and discuss with high-level policymakers
- Get detailed information on successful EU-African FP7 cooperation projects and EU-African Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)
- Hear about opportunities to enhance African participation in FP7
- Understand what is important when implementing collaborative research projects
- Meet with worldwide peers and to debate/discuss best practices





- Hear about success stories and case studies presenting innovative approaches and strategies
- Benefit from valuable opinions and long experience of acknowledged experts in the field
- Find out how to increase the visibility and impact of their projects/programs
- Stay up to date with latest developments and trends in the ICT field

Audience

About 300 European and African key stakeholders in the field (coming from Institutions, National and international companies, SMEs, Academia, Research institutes, etc.) are expected to participate in the conference. Among them: Policymakers | Senior representatives from Governments | Representatives from international development cooperation agencies | ICT project managers | Programme managers | Heads of research labs | Researchers | IT engineers | Deans, directors, lecturers and researchers from universities and the higher education sector | Managers of NGOs, professional associations, centres of excellence, trade unions, chambers of commerce, etc. | Industry stakeholders | Etc.

Event format

The Forum will feature various session types:

- Plenary sessions (featuring officials from the EC, the AUC, European and African MS, and internationally acknowledged experts in the field)
- Presentation sessions (organized around 10-12 main conference themes)
- Discussions and debate sessions (offering participants the opportunity to actively contribute to the Conference outputs)
- Networking sessions (aiming at facilitating additional and informal networking opportunities)

