

First EuroAfriCa-ICT Summit

27-28 November 2008

Lyon, France

Call for papers

The gulf in access to information and communication technologies (ICT) between the developed North and the developing South is known as the 'Digital Divide'. Among those countries that lag furthest behind in their access to ICT are many in sub-Saharan Africa. Most countries in the Caribbean are similarly afflicted. This situation is found not just in access to ICTs, including internet connectivity, but also in the connectivity of research groups in Africa and the Caribbean with their peers in Europe and elsewhere.

As part of the EuroAfriCa-ICT project (www.euroafrica-ict.org), two international ICT summits are being planned for 2008 and 2009.

The First EuroAfriCa-ICT Summit will be held in Lyon, France, on 27-28 November 2008. The two-day Summit will include high-level presentations, research and awareness sessions on the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development from the European Commission (FP7), round-table discussions and opportunities for networking and identifying new partners for research projects in ICT. African, Caribbean and European political stakeholders in the field of science and technology will have the opportunity to meet ICT experts from Europe, Africa and the Caribbean, heads of key institutions and international organizations involved in R&D issues on ICT, as well as representatives from each of the EuroAfriCa-ICT partner organizations. **The aim of the Summit is to expand the dialogue between the European and African ICT research communities and authorities of both regions.** Over 200 delegates are expected to attend this Summit.

Engineers, innovators, researchers, scientists and organizations from sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and Europe working in all ICT fields are invited to submit an abstract of their ICT research work **by 1 July 2008**. A selection committee will evaluate the proposals received and invite the selected candidates by July 31 to present their research at the Summit. Abstracts focusing on the ICT themes outlined in FP7 will be given priority, namely:

- Pervasive and trusted network and service infrastructures
- Cognitive systems, interaction and robotics
- Components, systems and engineering
- Digital libraries and content
- Sustainable and personalised healthcare
- Mobility, environmental sustainability and energy efficiency
- Independent living and inclusion
- Future and emerging technologies.

Partial funding for travel will be made available for some selected speakers from Africa and the Caribbean. Abstracts should be sent to: ict-summit@twas.org

Contact: ict-summit@twas.org - info@euroafrica-ict.org

The EuroAfriCa-ICT project is funded by the European Commission under the 7th Framework Programme (FP7) and includes the following project partners: Orionis, France (as the project coordinator); TWAS, the academy of sciences for the developing world, Italy; the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF), Belgium; the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), United Kingdom; the Caribbean Academy of Sciences (CAS), Jamaica; the Kigali Institute of Science and Technology (KIST), Rwanda; Makerere University, Uganda; the Meraka Institute of CSIR, South Africa; and Panos Institute West Africa (PIWA), Senegal.