



# Research Collaboration through IST Africa

- **IST-Africa is Supported by the European Commission (EC) and African Union Commission (AUC)**

**Founded in 2002 and Co-funded under European Framework Programme since 2005**

**Strategic Partnership between IIMC (Ireland) & Ministries and National Councils responsible for Innovation, Science and Technology related Adoption, Implementation, Policy and Research in 18 African Member States**

- **IST-Africa facilitates and supports**

**Strategic engagement with Africa focused on International Research, Innovation and Policy Cooperation**

**Knowledge sharing, capacity building and skills transfer between IST-Africa Partner Countries**

**Collaborative Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Adoption of Living Labs Methodologies**

**ICT and Innovation aspects of the Africa - EU Strategic Partnership**

**Awareness of African Research Capacity, cross-border cooperation & participation in H2020**

**Establishment of National Contact Points (NCP) in IST-Africa Partner Countries**





# IST-Africa Consortium

- **IIMC International Information Management Corporation Limited (“IIMC”, Ireland)**
- **Ministry of Transport and Communications (“MTC”, Botswana)**
- **Ministere de l’Enseignement Superieur et de la Recherche Scientifique (“MESRS”, Burundi)**
- **Agence Nationale des Technologies de l’Information et de la Communication (“ANTIC”, Cameroon)**
- **Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (“MCIT”, Egypt)**
- **Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (“MCIT”, Ethiopia)**
- **Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (“MOEST”, Kenya)**
- **Ministry of Communications, Science and Technology (“MCST-L”, Lesotho)**
- **National Commission for Science and Technology (“NCST”, Malawi)**
- **National Computer Board (“NCB”, Mauritius)**
- **Instituto Nacional de Tecnologias de Informacao e Comunicacao (“INTIC”, Mozambique)**
- **National Commission on Research, Science and Technology (“NCRST”, Namibia)**
- **Ministère de l’Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche (“MESR”, Senegal)**
- **Department of Science and Technology (“DST”, South Africa)**
- **Ministry of Information Communication Technology (“MICT-S”, Swaziland)**
- **Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (“COSTECH”, Tanzania)**
- **Ministere de l’Enseignement Superieur, de la Recherche Scientifique, (“MHESR”, Tunisia)**
- **Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (“UNCST”, Uganda)**



## NCB as partner of IST-Africa Initiatives

NCB leverages the IST-Africa Initiative to actively promote the National Research Community through

- Presentations at International events
- Chapter on Mauritius as part of the overall IST-Africa Study on ICT Initiatives and Research capacity
- Chapter on Innovation Spaces and Living Labs in Mauritius as part of overall IST-Africa Study on Innovation ecosystem
- Publishing articles on ongoing and emerging ICT and Innovation activities in Mauritius on the IST-Africa portal and in the Newsletter
- Raising awareness of upcoming Calls for Proposals and international funding opportunities
- Assists institutions in the submission of research proposals for Horizon 2020
- Raises awareness of activities being undertaken in other African countries
- Supporting the publishing of Organisational profiles on IST-Africa portal to raise awareness of activities in the wider community
- Has access to IST-Africa Network including Ministries and National Councils in 17 African Countries to share knowledge, experiences and success stories
- Has first-hand experience of what is involved in being part of International funded activities under the European Framework Programme



## Awareness on Horizon 2020

### Action taken by NCB

- Hosting of a webpage on IST-Africa Initiative on the NCB website
- Build up a database of researchers in Mauritius in view of disseminating Information on Call for Papers and Research Proposals
- Organisation of training workshops
  - EU FP7 Programme and Living Labs in November 2012
  - Horizon 2020 in November 2013
  - Horizon 2020 and ICT39-2017 Call in December 2016
- Organisation of IST-Africa conference in May 2014



## Challenges

- To enhance Research institutions to submit research proposals for EU funding under Horizon 2020 Programme
- There is a need to continue requesting inputs from Research institutions to submit relevant reports to IST Africa.
- Although Horizon 2020 comprise 3 key pillars: Excellent Science, Industrial Leadership and Societal challenges, the IST Africa aim mainly At Societal Challenges: supporting research in areas such as health, climate, food, Security, transport and energy and there have not been any submission comprehensive research programme
- The number of researchers submitting call for papers are increasing. However, due to lack of funding they are not able to present their papers at International events



## Successes

- More and more researchers are aware of the possibility of Mauritian researchers to participate in Horizon 2020 funded projects.
- The number of researchers submitting call for papers are increasing.
- Several institutions are submitting research proposals for funding. At least three institutions are in the process of submitting research projects for the coming ICT-39 2017 call.



# Thank you

## Email

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## Website

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