



EU-Africa cooperation on ICT in MFF 2014-2020

**Joint Africa-EU Strategy
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MFF 2014-2020: *Why* ICT for Africa?

Africa's "mobile decade": From less than 10 million fixed-line phones in 2000 to around 650 million mobile subscriptions by 2012

Impact on growth (2011): > 5 million jobs; around €11 billion direct government revenues (sales and import taxes, regulatory fees)

Africa's GDP: 7% by ICT

Solutions/Challenges: education (e-learning vs. illiteracy/innumeracy); health (e-health vs. infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS); agriculture (e.g. *Esoko* in Ghana); services (e.g. online financial services like *M-PESA* in Kenya); government (transparent and open, e.g. Kenya's *Open Data Initiative*)

“ICTs can empower the lives of Africans and drive entrepreneurship, innovation and income growth”



MFF 2014-2020: EU ICT Priorities for Africa

- Priority 1:** ***Approximation of the e-communications and media policies and regulatory environments***

- Priority 2:** ***Interconnection of the research and education network infrastructures – e-infrastructures***

- Priority 3:** ***ICT capacity building***

MFF 2014-2020: EU ICT Priorities for Africa

Priority 1: Approximation of the e-communications and media policies and regulatory environments

- Objective: an improved global regulatory system, fair and transparent
 - ✓ Example: - **HIPSSA**-Harmonised policies for the ICT market in Sub-Saharan Africa (*ending Sep-13*)
 - ? HIPSSA-type project; Transition from analogue to digital broadcasting and related spectrum policy issues, e.g. Digital Dividend; Cyber-Security Convention for Africa ?

Success story in Priority 1: HIPSSA

8 Priorities:

- ☐ Licensing
- ☐ Universal service
- ☐ Numbering
- ☐ Cross-Border Frequency Management
- ☐ Interconnection (Cost Modelling, Open Submarine Cable)
- ☐ Cyber-security
- ☐ Analogue to Digital Migration
- ☐ Regional Statistics

Achievements (e.g.):

- ✓ *Cyber-security (national transposition):* Guinea Conakry (ECOWAS), Guinea-Bissau (ECOWAS), Namibia, Tanzania (SADC), Zimbabwe, Lesotho
- ✓ ***Access to submarine cables: WATRA / ECOWAS Policy and Guidelines*** (impact: drop in international bandwidth prices in Ghana and Nigeria, experience sharing with Rwanda, etc.)



MFF 2014-2020: EU ICT Priorities for Africa

Priority 2: Interconnection of the research and education network infrastructures – e-infrastructures

- Objective: increased R&D cooperation, generating scientific excellence, fighting 'brain drain' and contributing to economic and social well-being
- ✓ Example: - **AfricaConnect**, interconnecting the Southern and Eastern Africa with **GÉANT** – the pan-European Research and Education Network
 - ? Expansion to the *Central and Western Africa (ongoing feasibility study)*; to the *whole* of the Sub-Saharan Africa in the longer term ?

AfricaConnect - background



- Nov 2005 - Foundation of UbuntuNet Alliance at WSIS
- Jan 2008 - UbuntuNet Alliance link to GÉANT2
- Sept 2008 –AfricaConnect (regional R&E backbone network and connectivity to GEANT) becomes one of the 19 "lighthouse projects" for early implementation of the EU-AU Partnership on Information Society
- Dec. 2008-February 2010 –FEAST Study to establish AfricaConnect
- Jan 2010- ACP-EC agreement for ACP Connect (including AfricaConnect: 14.8 M€ costs, EC **ACP** Funding: 11.8M€)
- May 2011 – Start of AfricaConnect
- March 2013 - Feasibility study launched by DEVCO for potential extension of AfricaConnect



The Research and Education Network
for sub-Saharan Africa

Achievements to date



- Launch of implementation phase event celebrated in Dar Es Salaam and Lisbon (2012)
- Real impact of the network: Significant increase in the traffic flows with Europe (GEANT) and intra-region over the last two years.
- Connectivity Procurement
 - Contract with WIOCC announced
 - Backbone link connecting Mtunzini to Nairobi with drops in Maputo and Dar
 - Direct link between Nairobi and Mtunzini
 - Link between Nairobi and Kigali, with a drop in Kampala
 - Intercontinental link between Nairobi and Amsterdam
 - All STM-4 IRUs
 - Second Round of Connectivity procurement has started
 - for connectivity to Botswana, DR Congo, Malawi, Namibia and Zambia
- Equipment procurement result announced in June 2013
- Dissemination and Capacity Building activities ongoing

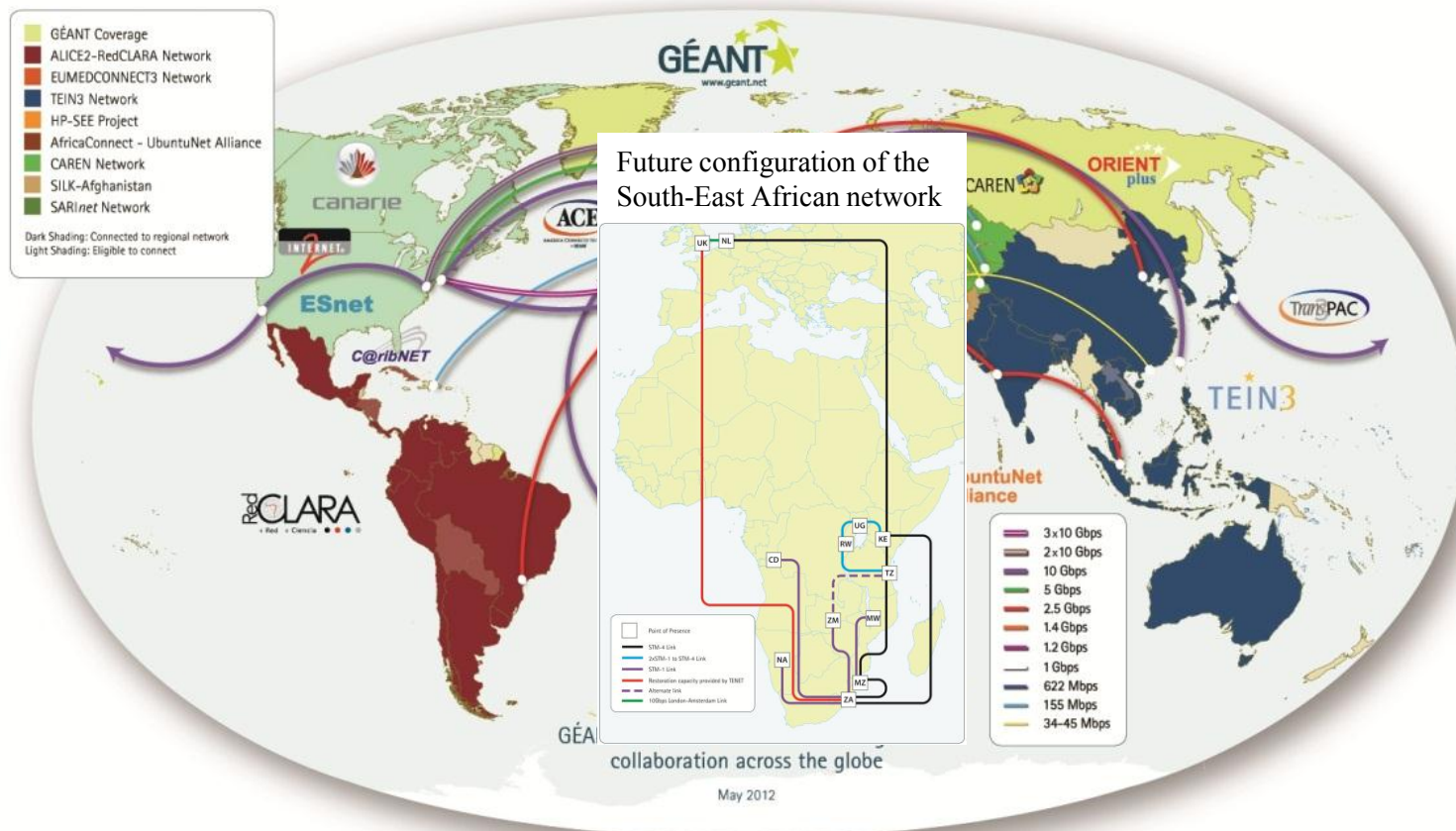


The Research and Education Network
for sub-Saharan Africa

GÉANT: At the heart of the Global R&E Village



GÉANT At the Heart of Global Research Networking



DANTE
www.dante.net

GÉANT
www.geant.net

connect • communicate • collaborate

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MFF 2014-2020: EU ICT Priorities for Africa

Priority 3: ICT capacity building – ICT uptake, broadband, resilient systems, free and open access to the Internet

➤ Objective: solutions adapted to local needs and environment (e.g. in e-health, e-learning, e-government, cyber-security, civil protection, Living Labs)

✓ Example: - FP7-ICT projects **IST-Africa 2012-13, EuroAfrica-P8**

? *IST-Africa 2014-15*; specific objectives in **H2020** ICT Work Programmes; more University graduates in telecom engineering and computational sciences; training on broadband network management; training of women; African Network of LL (ANoLL); targeted actions in the African **CSPs, RSPs** ?



European
Commission

European Research Area

International cooperation

H2020 – ICT R&D

Shared objectives and principles

Tackling Societal Challenges

- Health, demographic change and wellbeing
- Food security and the bio-based economy
- Secure, clean and efficient energy
- Smart, green and integrated transport
- Climate action, resource efficiency, including raw materials
- Inclusive, innovative and secure societies

EIT and JRC will contribute to addressing these challenges

Creating Industrial Leadership and Competitive Frameworks

- Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies
- **Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)**
- Nanotechnology, Materials, Manufacturing and Processing
- Biotechnology
- Space
- Access to risk finance
- Innovation in SMEs

Excellence in the Science Base

- Frontier research (ERC)
- Future and Emerging Technologies (FET)
- Skills and career development (Marie Curie)
- Research infrastructures

Common rules, toolkit of funding schemes

Coherent with other EU and MS actions

Simplified access



EU-Africa cooperation on ICT: 'Win-Win'

2014 Africa-EU Summit: “**Connected Africa**”

Thank you

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