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ICT APPLICATIONS

A. Objectives

1. To provide African countries with consistent applications drawn from their national cyber-strategies, thus enabling them to use modern data and Internet transmission networks to provide electronic services for administration, health, education, trade and the economy as a whole.
2. To share the identified medical expertise by saving factor-related costs and skilful human resource deployment-related costs in tele-health projects.
3. To provide all with reliable teaching facilities as part of NEPAD's cyber-school projects and other e-education initiatives.
4. To use the postal network to reach out to rural areas as part of the implementation of the cyber-post project for Africa.
5. To improve and optimize administration management through introduction of simplified, fast and reliable procedures (government, customs, revenue authority, local governments, etc.).
6. To improve food self-sufficiency through an optimal use of climatic data for agriculture and animal husbandry and to achieve better sale of production based on market needs (e-agriculture), and facilitate heritage conservation (wildlife, forests), as part of the implementation of e-environment projects.
7. To contribute in bridging the digital divide.

B. Expected Results

1. Reliable and real time updated administrative information are published and provided to populations.
2. Gains in terms of time and productivity, improved operations and optimized income and tax collection in the public service.

3. Governmental web sites established in each country with online services.
4. Qualified medical assistance and appropriate and quality care provided to populations and timely responses provided to crisis situations generated by various pandemics through the establishment of early warning systems and confirmation of diagnosis in the event of communicable diseases (e.g. the case of the Ebola virus or other epizootics requiring that patients be quarantined). Improved prevention of chronic diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis, and support to HIV/AIDS initiatives.
5. Strengthened traditional education establishment through the facilitation of access to knowledge to populations in need, and increased literacy and education rates among populations, especially in rural areas.
6. Improved management of natural resources and enhanced cost-effectiveness of agricultural and livestock products, while adding value to tourist business.
7. Public availability of modern information and messaging portals by providing people with access to communication facilities that are useful to their family environment and productive enough to help improve their living conditions.
8. Effective contribution to the building of an all-inclusive information society.

C. Participants

- ITU Member States / Sector Members: African countries.
- International/Regional Organizations: ITU, ATU, UNECA, UNDP, PAFU, international organizations involved in their respective sectors (WHO, UNAIDS, UNICEF, UPU, UNEP, UNESCO, FAO, etc.).
- Potential Donors: EU, AU, AfDB, World Bank, OECD, developed countries, various funds.
- Other Stakeholders: Regional Economic Communities (ECOWAS, COMESA, CEN-SAD, SADC, ECCAS, UMA, IGAD, WAEMU, CEMAC), Private Sector (CISCO etc..)

D. Linkages with ITU-D Action Plan and WSIS Action Plan

Corresponding BDT Programmes	Corresponding WSIS Activity Directions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Technologies and telecommunication [and security] network development ❑ Cyber-strategies, cyber-services/applications 	C2 – ICT Infrastructure C3 – Access to information and knowledge C7 – ICT Applications C11 – International Cooperation

E. Implementation Plan

Phase 1: Preparation – April - December 2006

Tasks: Development and Design
1.1. Assisting countries in validating a master plan of national cyber-strategies where such plan does not exist and planning for the extension of successful pilot projects to other countries as part of e-administration and e-government.
1.2. Designing model portals or websites with useful online services as appropriate, especially for LDCs, to optimize central and local governments' administrative and financial management procedures.
1.3. Planning for the extension of e-education pilot projects and validating supporting actions to the NEPAD e-school project.
1.4. Identifying systems applicable to agriculture as a whole, including through the needed tools for the establishment of databases for appropriate information in each sub-region.
1.5. Identifying North-South and South-South tele-health projects in cooperation with WHO.

Phase 2: Implementation – January 2007 - December 2008

Tasks
2.1. Performing an analysis the e-learning and e-teaching needs and conducting feasibility studies in cooperation with UNESCO, and calling for tenders for the provision of the required equipments for projects already structured and approved (NEPAD cyber-schools, etc.).
2.2. Selecting pilot hospital sites in the various countries and compiling the studies conducted in each country to monitor the establishment of the multipurpose mobile means needed to support caravans in rural areas (health, maternal and infant protection, immunization campaigns, primary schools, administration, census, etc.).
2.3. Preparing the final configuration of equipments and software for each country and opening negotiations with suppliers in a bid to achieving bulk purchase or obtaining collective use licenses.
2.4. Providing the required expertise for the calling and opening of bids.
2.5. Assisting countries during the various engineering phases, if appropriate
2.6. Assisting countries for funds mobilization for ICT Applications

Phase 3: Operation – January 2008 - December 2009

Tasks
3.1. Gradual implementation of the actions identified and planning for the inclusion of the new needs expressed by countries in the various e-application sectors.
3.2. Performing tests and, if appropriate, designing replicable and adaptable prototypes according to existing conditions in the selected actions.
3.3. Gradual extension of the successful applications installed to applicant countries.
3.4. Supporting special initiatives for university and research networks (AFUNET, etc.), for women and youth associations or for other special groups.

Phase 4: Evaluation – July 2009 - December 2009

Tasks
4.1. Analyzing and assessing results against targeted objectives.
4.2. Analyzing the performance and quality of service and assessing operational improvements and indicators in terms of management of health care and health disasters, of education rates and access to knowledge and in terms of protection of wildlife and environment.
4.3. Performing an audit and an assessment of the operation of administrative departments and the level of facilitation of procedures for users.

F. Coordinating Agency

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ACRONYMS

ICT	Information and Telecommunication Technology
AU	African Union
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
ATU	African Telecommunication Union
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
URTNA	Union National Radio and Television Organizations of Africa
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
COMESA	Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
CEN-SAD	Economic Community of Sahel and Sahara States
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
UMA	Union of Arab Maghreb States
IGAD	Intergovernmental Agency for Development
WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union
CEMAC	Central African Economic and Monetary Community
ITU-D	ITU Development Sector
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society
EC	European Commission
AfDB	African Development Bank
PAPU	Pan-African Postal Union
UPU	Universal Postal Union

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ANNEX 1(E-STRATEGIES/APPLICATIONS INITIATIVE)

THE NEPAD E-SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

A. Objectives:

(Region of interest: Africa)

- To provide ICT skills and knowledge to African primary and secondary school students that will enable them to function in the emerging Information Society and Knowledge Economy
- To provide teachers with ICT skills to enable them to use ICT as tools to enhance teaching and learning in Africa;
- To provide African school managers with ICT skills so as to facilitate the efficient management and administration in the schools;
- To make every African learner health literate

(The NEPAD e-Schools Initiative has started with its demonstration component (pilot phase); the Initiative is being executed over a ten-year period, with the secondary schools component being completed in the first five years from inception. Implementation is being carried out in three phases comprising 15- 20 countries in each phase in order to cover the whole continent. The phases are staggered by one year.

B. Expected Results

- ICT-related capacity strengthened in Africa and hence improved efficiency and effectiveness of government, private sector and civil society including women.
- Improved African cooperation and integration
- Reduced knowledge gap within Africa and between Africa and the rest of the world.

C. Participants:

- Countries in phase-1 (first 20 African Peer Review Mechanism Signatories) of the NEPAD e-Schools Initiative include: Algeria, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Gabon, Nigeria, Rwanda, Congo, Mozambique, South Africa, Mauritius, Ghana, Uganda, Mali, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Egypt, Lesotho, Angola, Benin.
- **ITU Member States /Sectors Members**

Participating Governments to (i) provide Country-level coordination,(ii) Make available schools and personnel for training, (iii), Provide physical infrastructure such as buildings, furniture, etc.(iv) Assist with monitoring & evaluation, (v) Promote sustainability (vi)Appoint necessary in-country structures

Participating Schools to (i) Facilitate physical implementation in schools, (ii) Identify and deal appropriately with community issues, (iii) Assist with monitoring and evaluation, (iv) Schedule activities & ensuring adherence , (v) Facilitate a school environment that is conducive to effective use of ICTs

- **International/regional organizations**

- Roles of International/regional organizations in the NEPAD e-Schools Demonstration Project (Demo) (see section F below for the implementation phase of this element
 1. The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, South Africa (CSIR), contributes towards making available human recourses to undertake the continental management of the Demo;
 2. the Commonwealth of Learning and the World Bank InfoDev Programme contributes towards the implementation of the monitoring and evaluation plan;

3. the International Telecommunications Union contributes towards supporting the teacher training programme as well as other aspects of management and coordination;
 4. the Medical Research Council (MRC) of South Africa contributes towards assisting with the development of the “Health Points” in NEPAD e-Schools
- **Private Sector:** The following five consortia led by HP, Microsoft, Oracle, Cisco and AMD are each responsible for providing, deploying and operating an appropriate Education and Health ICT solution for approximately twenty schools at their own cost for a period of one year.
 - These consortia are members of the Information Society Partnership for Africa’s Development (ISPAD) which is the general partnership created by the NEPAD e-Africa Commission for the purpose of fulfilling the objectives of the NEPAD ICT programme
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 - **Other stakeholders.** Regional Economic Communities (REC)

D. Linkages with ITU-D Action Plan and WSIS Plan of Action

Corresponding BDT programs	Corresponding WSIS Activity Directions
XTechnologies and Telecommunication [Security and] Network Development; Xe-Strategies, e-Services/Applications; XICT Statistics, Indicators and Information XPartnerships & Promotion	- Paragraph 43 of the WSIS Declaration of Principles

E. Implementation Plan

Phase 1: NEPAD e-Schools Demonstration Project: – From 2005 to 2006

Tasks
Task 1.1: Implementation (on going)
Task 1.2: Monitoring and Evaluation (on going)

Phase 2: NEPAD e-Schools Business Plan and Implementation Plan (2006)

Tasks
Task 2.1: Business Plan development
Task 2.2: Fund arising for implementation

Phase 3: NEPAD e-Schools National Implementing Agencies (NIAs)

Tasks
Task 3.1: Concept agreement
Task 3.2: Fund arising
Task 3.3. Roll-Out in Secondary Schools;
Task 3. 4: Roll-Out in Primary Schools

Phase 4: NEPAD e-Schools Satellite Network Project (*This project is at the core of enabling the Internet-based connectivity for the NEPAD e-Schools Initiative at continental level*)

Tasks
Task 4.1: Definition and Preliminary Design of the NEPAD e-Schools Satellite Network
Task 4.2: Full system specification including operations centre
Task 4.3: Project implementation and Operation Centre establishment
Task 4.4: Lease Capacity

Phase 5: Capacity Building at the NEPAD e-Africa Commission in the following area

Tasks
Task 5.1: Teacher training
Task 5.2: Content development
Task 5.3: Standardization
Task 5.4: Overall coordination

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