



## IFIP WG 9.4-University of Pretoria Joint Workshop

23-24 September 2008

### Call for Papers

#### Theme: Towards an ICT Research Agenda for African Development

The goal of this workshop is to provide a forum for academics, researchers, practitioners and policy-makers working in the field of ICT in Africa to exchange ideas and experiences on various topics within the field. For the purpose of this workshop we have identified three research tracks that research on ICT and African development must focus on. These three tracks are:

**Evaluation research** – in this track we will attempt to provide evaluation of current ICT-based projects in Africa. There are quite a substantial number of ICT projects in infrastructure development, health, education, government, and community development, sponsored by national governments and international aid agencies. Papers in this area can discuss new and appropriate methods for conducting evaluative studies in Africa; evaluation of current projects; case studies of improvisation and how to make things work despite all odds. Appreciative enquiry based papers that draw lessons from successful cases will be given priority.

**Action-oriented research** – will look at interventionist projects in the continent. Examples of such projects will include those in the field of Health informatics/Telemedicine; in the area of education and capacity building; in the area of poverty reduction; as well as e-governance initiatives. Action-oriented research will address real-world problems and emphasize specific interventions that were undertaken and discuss impact/effect of such interventions.

**Policy research** – we will engage policy makers in different aspects of ICT policy issues such as: importance of ICT policy, factors affecting policy making in the region, policy implementation issues, consequences of national, regional and international ICT policy on Africa and specific case studies (critical analyses) of current ICT policies.

#### Who Should Attend

The workshop will bring together academics, practitioners, and policy advisors who are involved with ICT in Africa.

#### Types of Submissions

We plan to have a combination of paper presentations, panel discussions and tutorials such as:

- Full research papers (max. 5000 words)
- Research-in-progress papers (max. 3000 words)
- Panel and tutorial proposals (3 pages)

#### Format for Paper Submissions

Documents to be in Microsoft Word; Single Spacing

Cover page with title of manuscript, authors' names and authors' contact details for correspondence

Abstract of not more than 200 words

Negotiations are at an advanced stage for selected papers from this workshop to be reviewed for a special issue of the African Journal of Information Systems (AJIS)

#### Submissions should be sent via emails to all of the Conference Chairs:

1. Abiodun Bada, The George Washington University, DC, [abada@gwu.edu](mailto:abada@gwu.edu) Joint Programme Chair
2. Phillip Musa, University of Alabama at Birmingham, [musa@uab.edu](mailto:musa@uab.edu) Joint Programme Chair
3. Awie Leonard, University of Pretoria, South Africa, [awie.leonard@up.ac.za](mailto:awie.leonard@up.ac.za) Organizing Chair

#### IMPORTANT DATES

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 30 January 2008 | Deadline for receipt of full papers/proposals |
| 31 March 2008   | Notification of acceptance of papers          |
| 30 May 2008     | Camera Ready manuscript due from authors      |

#### Programme Committee

|                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Adekunle Okunoye, USA     | Peter Meso, USA             |
| Juma Lungo, Tanzania      | Dili Ojukwu, UK             |
| Vesper Owei, South Africa | Patience Akpan-Obong, USA   |
| Shirin Madon, UK          | Mikko Korpela, Finland      |
| Victor Mbarika, USA       | Esselina Macome, Mozambique |
| Sheriff Karmel, Egypt     | Vincent Shaw, South Africa  |
| Geoff Waslsham, UK        | Alemayehu Molla, Australia  |
| Sundeeep Sahay, Norway    | Muhammadou Kah, Nigeria     |