Namugongo Shrine, where 22 martyrs were burnt in 1885-1887 by King Mwanga

Kasubi tombs, cultural ground for Buganda Kingdom

Kampala, the Capital City of Uganda

The Source of the Nile, discovered by John Hanning Speke in 1856

www.ictforafrica.org
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1.0 ABOUT ICT FOR AFRICA CONFERENCES.

The International Conference on ICT for Africa is an annual conference that brings together stakeholders of the educational and industrial sectors in Africa, with the aim of reflecting on how to transfer, diffuse and adopt the Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) within the African context; the innovation and development of ICT solutions for and within this context; impacts of ICT on society and of society on ICT; and other relevant normative, empirical, and theoretical concerns of ICT development, implementation, strategy, management and policy that are distinctive to Africa and associated developing economies.

The conference was initiated three (3) years ago by the International Centre for Information Technology and Development (ICITD). MUBS and ICITD have signed a memorandum of understanding and have collaborated on various areas in Information and Communication Technology for over four years now. The previous conferences held in Cameroon (2008, 2009) and Nigeria (2010) were a success as it attracted many academicians, practitioners, researchers and policy makers from within the African continent and across the globe.

1.1 ABOUT ICT FOR AFRICA 2012 CONFERENCE

1.1.1 Conference Overview

The 4th ICT for Africa 2012 conference under the theme: “Africa’s E-Inclusion: Defying the Odds and Leading the Way in Global ICT Innovation” will be held in Kampala, Uganda at the Imperial Royal Hotel, from March 21-24, 2012. Makerere University Business School is the lead host institution and organizer and is working closely Makerere University College of computing and Informatics technology, Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST), Uganda National Health and Research Organization (UNHRO) among others.

The conference’s objective is to highlight the synergy of collaboration between African countries and other developing countries, and between African countries and the developed countries towards ICT advancements and also towards development solutions for Africa. It creates a forum where participants can disseminate their research to a wide audience of scholars and practitioners of ICT in Africa and beyond. Conference presentations and discussions will be guided by the conference themes listed below;

1. ICT, Entrepreneurship and Business
2. Security, Privacy, and Risk Management
3. ICT in Education and E-learning
4. Cloud Computing In Africa
5. ICT in Healthcare
6. ICT and Indigenous Knowledge Management
7. Innovation, Open-source and Software Development
8. ICT and Creative Industries: Gaming, Fashion, Music and Movies
9. ICT, Development and Poverty Reduction
10. Accounting Information Systems at the Workplace
11. Ubiquitous / Mobile Computing & Applications
12. Internet Governance and Society
13. ICT and Climate Change
14. Scalable Computer Architecture & Web 2.0
15. Electronic Government and Public Sector Reform
17. ICT, Media and Journalism
18. Bio-informatics/Computational Biology
19. ICT, Youth and Gender
20. ICT in Urban and Rural Management/Planning
21. ICT, Agriculture, Food Production and Rural Development
22. ICT for Development, Economic Prosperity and good governance

1.1.2 Conference Rationale

Digital technology has changed numerous activities in the world and continues to do so. The digital revolution has already matured in developed countries however, developing countries, especially in Africa, are yet to realize the full potential of the benefits of technology. It is true that Africa has in recent years made tremendous progress from being a technological desert to a growing technological forest.

The adoption and diffusion of Information and Telecommunication Technology (ICT) in Africa is growing as evidenced by the upsurge in mobile markets and emerging innovative application in e-banking, e-business, telemedicine (e-health), e-learning, e-government, e-democracy, e-agriculture, e-procurement and more. As we entered the new millennium, Africa progressed from technological desert to emergent sustainable growth in ICT. Within the first decade of the millennium, several innovations emanated from African countries, such as, The continent is also joining the league of ICT producing countries and Africa is witnessing increased capacity for consumption. While the problems being reported on the development of ICT in Africa might have not completely disappeared, the current challenges are definitely different. For example, the problem is no longer about access to modern ICT devices but the continent is now being confronted with the effect of the adoption and utilization of ICT. Electronic payments system is taking root on the continent where public servants are paid salaries and pensioners receive their pension directly to their accounts. Mobile commerce through mobile/cell phone transactions without going through traditional banking systems has penetrated both rural and urban centres of some African nations. East African countries have embraced the M-Commerce.

Automated teller machines (ATM) have spread across the continent but this technological adoption faces issues of security and identity theft. Teledensity is no longer an issue but the effect of the telecom on the environment is posing a serious threat. These concerns are now similar to the issues in the western world. It is time that the concept of digital divide be re-examined and the stock of innovation and technological advancement from Africa for Africans be taken and reported. There are numerous cases of African championed initiatives for Africa which are worth showcasing. From
launching of submarine fibre optics cable linking Africa to Europe to Financial Switching backbone. Such success stories abound.

With this background, Africa is ready to position itself for the three foremost interrelated technological advances namely; the mobile platform, cloud computing and software as a service. All these will be examined in the context of green computing or green ICT. As a follow-up to our previous three conferences, this conference will bring together some of Africa’s leaders in this area to discuss creation of culturally sensitive applications that are applicable in the African context.

1.1.3 ICT for Africa’s traditional medicines summit:
For the most part, the herbal medicines consumed in the USA and Europe is imported from Asia. Little attention has been given to similar medicines coming from Africa. While Africa is well known for its wealth in natural resources such as oil, gold, diamonds and Agricultural produce, its rich flora of organic herbs used in the treatment of many diseases is often overlooked in other parts of the world. The necessity of documentation of the current cultural practices of medicinal herbs is urgent because the older generation that posse’s knowledge on preparation and usage is quickly dying out. Younger generations of Africans, in benefiting from conventional medicine, are unfortunate often neglecting and underestimating the value of Africa’s alternate medicine. This creates a serious risk of losing this valuable information that can be of great importance for the treatment of many diseases and illnesses across the world. There is an urgent need for a concerted effort to document and preserve the types and uses of Africa’s alternative medicine.

2.0 ABOUT THE ORGANIZER (ICITD)

The International Center for Information Technology and Development (ICITD) is funded through the National Science Foundation, Division of Information & Intelligent Systems for a five-year period to investigate information technology transfer to developing nations. Specifically the Center will perform a multi-national research and education program on the adoption of robust IT applications such as tele-medicine, tele-education, tele-democracy and E-government. The Center also provides support and consulting services to governments of developing nations in sub-Saharan Africa, South America, and South East Asia, as well as US agencies interested in IT investments in those regions of the world.

The overarching goal of ICITD is to conduct highly empirical and hypotheses-driven research in IT Transfer to Developing Nations and to translate such research into practical applications for managers and policy makers to make well informed decisions in the context of their respective countries.

MUBS has been collaborating with Professor Victor Mbarika, the Executive Director of ICITD, Southern University, Louisiana for several years and he currently a visiting Professor at MUBS. MUBS and the ICITD have previously partnered in ICT research and developing online learning resources at MUBS. The development of the MUBS ICT Centre is the product of this sustained joint effort to deliver ICT solutions to Africa’s resource poor settings.
3.0 ABOUT 2012 HOST (MUBS)

Makerere University Business School (MUBS) is the premier Business School in Uganda and region, engaged in a wide range of academic and professional programmes. Through the ICT Centre, MUBS conducts research, consultancy and training in ICT with a view of exploring how and what technologies Uganda and other developing economies may adopt and/or adapt as a catalyst for positive change. The School collaborates with local and international Universities and centres to promote research. The MUBS Information and Communications Technology Centre (MUBS ICT Centre) was created as a result of this sustained collaboration.

4.0 COLLABORATING UNIVERSITIES/INSTITUTIONS

Other Collaborating Universities and institutions include;

1. Makerere University, College of Computing and Information Sciences (CIS)
2. Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST)
3. Uganda National Health Research Organization (UNHRO)
4. National Chemotherapeutics Research Institute (NCR)-Ministry of Health,
5. International Centre for Information Technology and Development (ICITD), USA
6. University of Ibadan, Nigeria
7. University of Benin, Nigeria
8. Bells University of Technology, Nigeria
9. Covenant University, Nigeria
10. University of Buea, Cameroon

5.0 SPONSORS

The organizing committee has invited academic institutions, Government organizations and Non Governmental organizations both local and internationally to sponsor this very impotent event. We have so far received confirmations from the following;

1. The National Science Foundation (NSF)
2. Louisiana Board of Regents
3. NASA
4. The ICT University (ICT-U)
5. The Africa Society for Information Communications Technology (ASICT)

6.0 CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

Participants in this summit include Government ministers from Several African Countries, University Deans, Chancellors and Principals, Directors of Agricultural institutes across Africa, the Academia, ICT professionals and other leading world experts in the subject area. Some specific major highlights and expected outcomes of the conference include;
1. Africa’s Traditional, Complementary, and Alternative Medicine
2. Discussions by worlds leading experts on Agriculture and Food production Policies
3. Discussion of theoretical models on ICT and food production
4. Free materials on current issues of ICT and Agriculture
5. Networking with other experts on ICT, sustainable development and food production
6. Grant opportunities to fund Africa’s complementary and alternative medicine
7. Opportunities for collaboration between African, Asian, and US and European Universities,
8. Information on exchange opportunities

7.0 REGISTRATION FOR CONFERENCE

This registration covers participation in the main conference events, from the 23rd -26th March, including conference package, coffee breaks and meals during lunch and all social events.

Student Participants from Africa .............$70 or 200,000 Uganda Shillings
All other Participants from Africa .............$135 or 400,000 Uganda Shillings
All other Participants (Students) ............. $140
All other Participants (Non-Students) ...... $185

Except for Keynote Speakers and Workshop Conveners, the conference committee does not offer free registration, lodging and transportation to the conference. These costs will be borne by delegates.

Specific provisions for Keynote Speakers and Workshop Conveners will be stated in their letters of invitation. Registration fees exclude Sight-seeing tours during the conference.

Payment should be made at conference grounds in US Dollars ($) or Ugandan Shillings. Registration can be made online on our website http://icitd.us2.list-manager1.com/subscribe?u=af9297a34b7e80f19e9830011&id=f4ef278804

8.0 HOTEL INFORMATION

8.1 Conference Hotel Venue:
A special rate on accommodation has been arranged for delegates at the Imperial Royal Hotel at a rate of US$ 85 Net per night for Single Standard Delux Room, Bed and breakfast. The package includes 13 television channels, Gym with Sauna, Steam, and Swimming Pool among others. Please view the video clip of the hotel facilities on our site www.ictforafrica.org. To access special rate please book through ronald@hoteleq.com or contact the secretariat olupot@mubs.ac.ug.

8.2 Other selected hotels located within the vicinity of the conference venue.
Other than the conference venue hotel, there are other hotels located within the vicinity of the Conference venue in the city center, making it easy to access conference the venue. In addition, they
equally provide the best services that are worth what you pay for. The selected hotels have a provision for advanced online booking.

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<th>Exec. Suites Sgl</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sheraton</td>
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<td>US $ 175</td>
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For more hotels please visit [www.hotelsinuganda.com](http://www.hotelsinuganda.com) and [www.imperialhotels.co.ug](http://www.imperialhotels.co.ug)

All hotels listed above provide airport shuttles at a cost between US $ 15 - 20.

### 9.0 TOURIST INFORMATION

Uganda offers a variety of tourist attractions ranging from echo tourism, historical sites to modern entertainment. Among the major tourist attractions are the national park these include Kidepo valley National Park in North Eastern Uganda, Murchison falls, Semliki, Kibale, Rwenzori, Queen Elizabeth, Bwindi and Lake Mburo National parks. for more information please visit [http://www.visituganda.com/](http://www.visituganda.com/) or [http://www.mtti.go.ug/index.php](http://www.mtti.go.ug/index.php) or [http://www.ugandatourism.org/](http://www.ugandatourism.org/)

These offer opportunity for visitors observe and experience Nature.Uganda is a bird sanctuary and is a reserve for over 400 different types of birds.

These can be seen in Entebbe reserve area. The country also has a bit of the tropical rain forest and you may enjoy forest walks in in different parks of the country the nearest being Mabira forest. Other recreational facilities include restaurants, Art galleries, Night clubs among others

### 10.0 SITE VISITS FOR CONFERENCE DELEGATES

Uganda is gifted by nature and has a number of tourist attraction sites. A Special package has been arranged for the conference guests who wish to undertake excursion. The tours and site visits will cost **US$ 50 per participants.** The selected places will include; Tour of Kampala City Centre, Uganda Wildlife Centre ([www.uwec.ug](http://www.uwec.ug)), Namugongo martyrs shrine ([www.ugandamartyrsshrine.org.ug](http://www.ugandamartyrsshrine.org.ug)), Mabira Forest and the Source of the Nile. For more information on these sites please visit ([www.ugandatourism.org](http://www.ugandatourism.org))

A post-conference programme for international participants who wish to prolong their stay in Uganda can be arranged on request. Please contact the secretariat for information.