



Innovative eHealth Solutions for Africa Award



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is launching a competition for innovative
and sustainable information and communication technology
(ICT) initiatives for the health sector in Africa.**

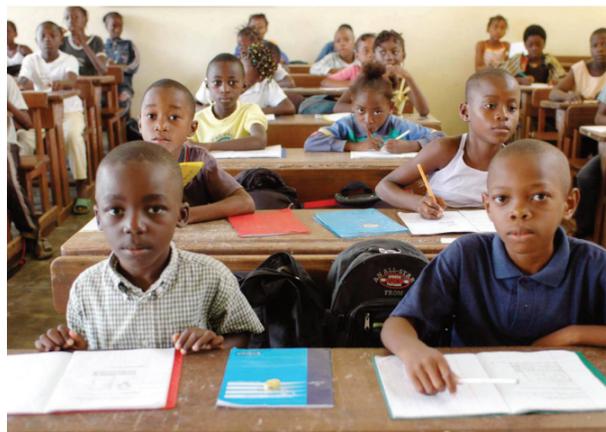
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Call for Expression of Interest: Innovative eHealth Solutions for Africa Award

Health is central to the development agenda in Africa. The high burden of disease in Africa is a major economic and social development issue. Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for 12% of the world's population, 49% of maternal deaths, 50% of under-five child mortality deaths, and 67% of HIV/AIDS cases. While there has been overall progress in the MDG decades, from 1990 to 2010, a closer look at the data shows a varied pattern of gains and stagnation. Largely, the Sub-Saharan Africa region has lagged behind other regions. The enormity of the challenges call for continued efforts to sustain the gains that has been made so far and an increased emphasis on scaling up successful strategies in order to accomplish the goals that have not yet been reached.

The use of information and communication technology in the health sector, commonly known as eHealth, is an appealing solution to addressing the many challenges facing health systems in Africa. However, interventions in e-



and mHealth on the continent have remained small in scale. A lack of evidence-based knowledge on effectiveness, sustainability and best practices has prevented interventions from being rolled out on a larger scale.

The African Development Bank is launching a competition for innovative and sustainable information and communication technology (ICT) initiatives for the health sector in Africa.

Objective of the Award

We are looking for you to identify for the best authentic African ICT solutions in the health sector and to help fill the knowledge gap on e and mHealth pilots and programs in Africa. More specifically the competition aims to a) document what is being done in the field of e- and mHealth in Africa, b) encourage the production and sharing of evidence on eHealth solutions and c) provide an added value through the sharing of lessons learnt in e and mHealth.



Focus and Problems to be Addressed

The award is focused on improving the delivery and quality of health services in Africa. The criteria for the award will focus on:

- ➔ Using ICT to increase access to health services, in particular for the poor and marginalized;
- ➔ Using ICT to increase the utilization of essential health services;
- ➔ Evaluation of eHealth solutions to improve efficiency in the delivery of health services.

Who Can Participate?

- ➔ Individuals, NGOs or development partners based in Africa involved in the design and/or implementation of e- and mHealth programs in Africa;
- ➔ Companies (e.g. mobile phone companies) that are either based in Africa or that have local partners in Africa and are involved in the design and/or implementation of e- and mHealth programs in Africa;
- ➔ African universities, research institutes, etc. involved in the evaluation of e- and mHealth programs in Africa.

Selection Process

The project proposals will be reviewed by a panel of international experts.

The winning project will:

- ➔ Be an innovative African solution: There are many ICT solutions out there but in this case it must be relevant and applicable to the African context.
- ➔ Involve African stakeholders: It must be demand driven and focusing on a real need.
- ➔ Include some form of evaluation.
- ➔ Prove effectiveness in improving health service delivery in Africa.
- ➔ Propose a scale-up plan: beyond showing that the solution can improve service delivery beyond its initial context, a plan for a sustainable scale-up should be proposed.





- ➔ Results
- ➔ Conclusions
- ➔ Recommendations

Expression of Interest:

Each participant should submit before May 30th, 2012 a 500-word abstract on the e- or mHealth program running for the competition with the following details:

- ➔ Objective of the project;
- ➔ Start date and end date of the project;
- ➔ Designers and implementers of the project;
- ➔ Coordination with Government and other stakeholders;
- ➔ Target population and target area of the project;
- ➔ Expected results;
- ➔ Type of evaluation planned.

Requirements for the Final Submission

Short-listed candidates should send by October 31st 2012 an evaluation report of 5,000 words maximum (excluding annexes) with the following outline:

- ➔ Background
- ➔ Objectives
- ➔ Methods

Winners

Short-listed candidates and winners will be announced on the AfDB website. Winning evaluation reports will be published in an AfDB publication and in-kind prizes will be granted to the winners.

Contact

For further information and for the submission of expressions of interest and evaluation reports:

Ms. Laurence Lannes

African Development Bank Group, ATR Building/OSHD3, B.P. 323,
1002 Tunis, Belvedere, Tunisia, l.lannes@afdb.org