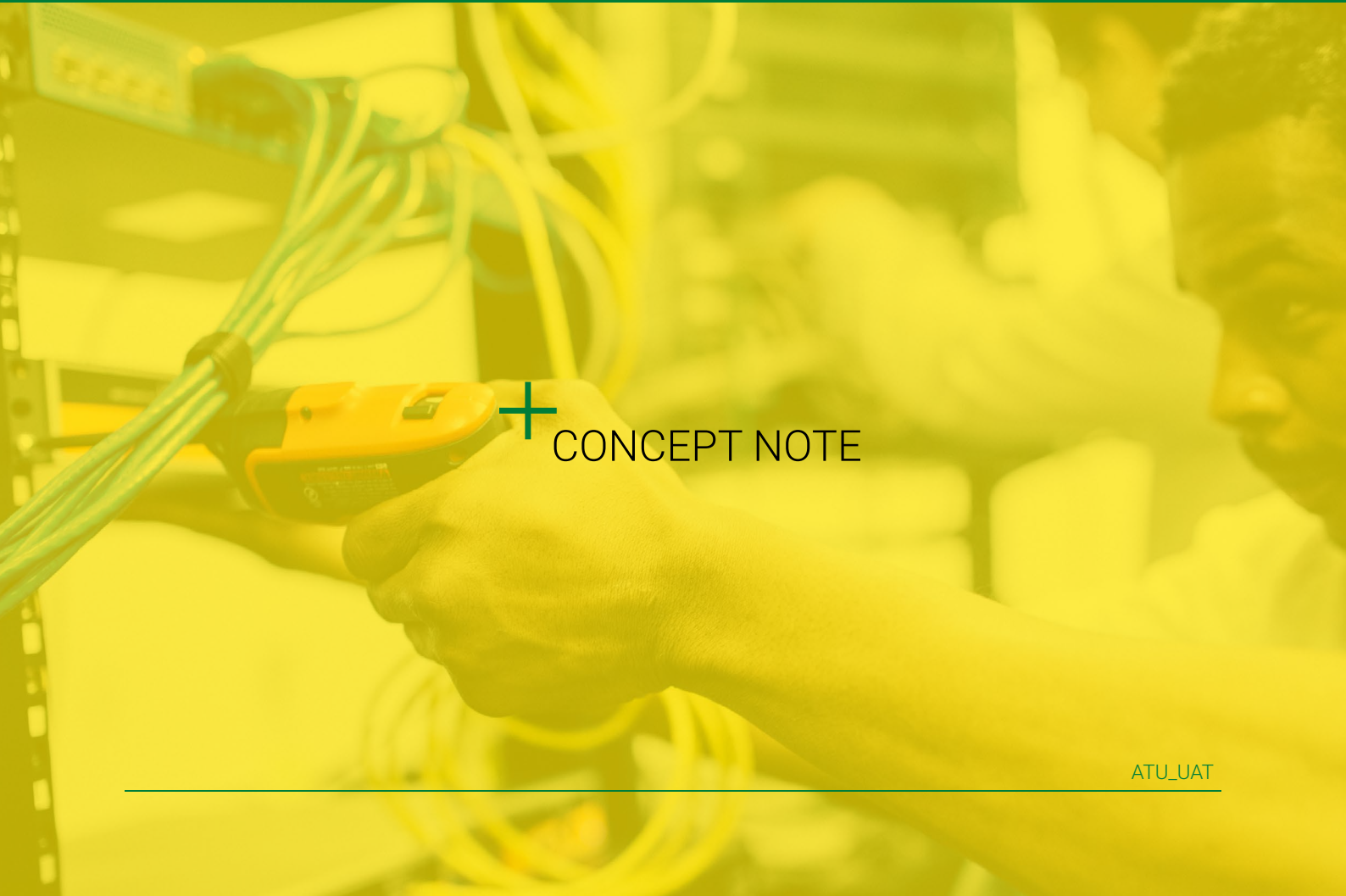


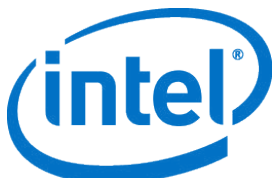


AFRICA INNOVATION CHALLENGE 2020



+ CONCEPT NOTE

ATU_UAT



Background

African Telecommunications Union (ATU) as a specialised agency of the African Union in the field of telecommunications provides a forum for stakeholders involved in ICT to formulate effective policies and strategies aimed at improving access to information infrastructure and services. The Union additionally represents the interests of its Members at global decision-making conferences and promotes initiatives aimed at integrating regional markets, attracting investment into ICT infrastructure, and building institutional and human capacity.

With increased suppression of the social fabric in many communities in Africa as a result of COVID-19, and in consideration of the fact that a large population of Africans are generally living in difficult conditions, the ability for countries' readiness for digital solutions, could significantly help address some of these challenges. The ATU Africa Innovation Challenge 2020 therefore seeks to recognize the disruptive innovations and new business models that have the capacity to change Africa.

The Challenge is a call for innovators in Africa to submit their applications/innovations designed with the ability to respond to societal issues, and in particular, offer unique solutions to Africa during the COVID-19 pandemic period. The innovation should also have the capacity to transcend COVID-19 and retain applicability in other emergency situations.

The ATU Africa Innovation Challenge is anticipated to be instrumental in identifying, testing and highlighting innovative adaptation approaches with potential to be replicated and scaled up through cooperation with institutional investors, bilateral or multilateral providers of finance, and other sources. The emphasis for the Challenge will be on continuous innovation and learning with regard to the need for offering pragmatic solutions.

Top Prize(s)

USD.5000 winner

USD.3000 1st runners up

USD.1000 2nd runners up

All participants who will not emerge as winners but make it to the 2nd and final phase of the competition will be awarded with USD. 100 each.

Competition Structure

The contestants for the ATU Innovation Challenge 2020 will be drawn from all African countries with membership to ATU, to compete at a regional level during the 1st phase of the competition. The best from each region will then compete at the continental level during the last and final phase of the competition.

Competition Terms and Conditions

Every participant will be required to be responsive to the following terms and conditions as a minimum, to be able to take part in the Challenge

- i. The competition is open to all persons not born before the year 1985 and who hold citizenship of any of the African countries that form the membership of the African Telecommunications Union.
- ii. Each participant can submit one entry only.

- iii. The competition runs from 20th August 2020 to 14th October 2020.
- iv. All entries must be submitted before 14th September 2020.
- v. Entries will be judged by a panel of judges according to the set guidelines, theme of the competition, novelty/ originality of the entry as well as the pragmatic promise of the entry.
- vi. All participants must register for the competition by completing the official registration entry form.
- vii. All submissions must be the participant's own work.
- viii. All winning participants as outlined in the category of winners must agree to the subsequent use of their submitted entries for non-profit reference and promotional use only on ATU and partner communications and engagements.
- ix. All participants retain full rights of their entries with the exception of winners who will surrender ONLY the right to the subsequent use of their entries for non-profit reference and promotional use only on ATU and partner communications and engagements.
- x. Employees of ATU, ICT Regulatory Bodies and Associate Members cannot take part in the Challenge.
- xi. There is no fee to enter the competition.

Important Dates

Step 1 – Launch of competition: 20th August 2020

Step 2 – Deadline for submission of entries: 14th September 2020

Step 3 – Notification of shortlisted participants: 25th September 2020

Step 4 – Final selection of the winners: 5th October 2020

Step 5 – Awards ceremony: 14th October 2020

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