Call for Technology/Innovation Institutions


The partnerships are in the context of the OpenNet Africa initiative (www.opennetafrica.org) which is aimed at promoting internet freedom in the region through digital security and safety skills development, creating awareness on the status of online freedoms, building a network of the region’s actors in this domain, and advocacy to engender more progressive digital rights regimes. OpenNet Africa is supported by the Humanist Institute for Co-operation with Developing Countries (Hivos), the Open Technology Fund (OTF) and the Citizen Lab at the University of Toronto.

Scope
It is envisaged that the successful applicants will, among others, work with CIPESA on the following:

- Websites catalogue development for technical audits on website blocking in the focus countries
- Digital safety and security tools testing and/or localization
- Digital safety and security technical support to at-risk groups
- Online safety toolkit development, skills building and awareness raising
- Research and documentation of threats to access, privacy and security online in East Africa

The initial timeline for partnerships is 6 months. Thereafter, institutions will be subject to progress reviews to assess their performance for potential future collaboration.

Eligibility
This Call is open to institutions that are interested and preferably have experience in internet freedoms research and/or tech innovation, and who are based in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and Ethiopia. Applicants may include ICT research groups, incubators, labs, hubs, universities, and civil society organisations.

To apply
Expressions of interest of no more than six pages should be submitted to programmes@cipesa.org.

Proposals should state which country the applicant is interested in partnering with CIPESA and include the following:

- The institution's profile including resources and facilities
- Resumes of relevant personnel, and track record of recent relevant projects
- Understanding of internet freedom issues that the partnership would address.
- The activities and deliverables which the applicant proposes to contribute to under the partnership with CIPESA.
- Proposed budget

Preference will be given to institutions based in each target country.

The deadline for submissions is 18:00 Hours East African Time on Friday January 9, 2015.