



***Local Governance and ICTs
Research Network for Africa***

LOG-IN Africa

Support to the development of the Project Proposal

***by
Gianluca Misuraca***

Draft May 2005

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction.....	3
2. Background.....	3
3. Preparation of the Project Proposal.....	3
4. Annex 1: Proposed Workplan.....	5
5. Annex 2: Estimated Budget	6

1. Introduction

The present document, in addition to serve as a request for funding of the Pre-Project Activities of establishment of the Research Network on Local Governance and ICT in Africa (proposed denomination: LOG-IN Africa), intends to stimulate the debate among potential interested researchers/partners and the proposed coordinating institution and Project Manager, in order to guarantee a successful production of a project proposal to be submitted to IDRC.

2. Background

Following the PICTA meeting in Tunis, in 2003, where a Research and assessment of tools for local government has been indicated as a priority action, IDRC and UNECA, in collaboration with UNCDF, convened the “International Workshop on Innovative Applications of ICT for Local Governance in Africa” (7-9 June 2004). The main output of the workshop was the proposal of setting a Research Agenda for ICT and Local Governance in Africa. After identifying and categorizing research issues, it was proposed to establish a Network of Institutions and researchers to develop and conduct a Research to analyse the impact of ICT on Local governance. In order to guarantee an effective coordination and high-level political dissemination of results, it was proposed that the African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD) will lead and coordinate the Network. The proposal of establishment of the Network was further discussed during a partner meeting alongside the “Workshop on e-Government in Morocco: realities and perspectives”, organized by the Alakhawayn University in Ifrane, (Ifrane, Morocco, 14-16 June 2004), and the Project Idea was presented to the African Development Forum-ADF 2004, and the Preparatory Meeting of the WSIS-II, Tunis 2005. To establish the LOG-IN Africa Research, upon the recommendations of the Workshop and the discussion of the restricted meeting, Mr Gianluca Misuraca (Consultant for CAFRAD and IDRC), was proposed to draft a Project Proposal of the Network, to be discussed with other researchers to be involved. The project proposal will be submitted to IDRC for funding.

3. Preparation of the Project Proposal

The Project Proposal of “Establishment and management of a “Research Network on Local Governance and ICT in Africa” has the global objective of supporting and orientating African countries in their policies of application of ICTs for local governance.

The Project Proposal will be developed according to a 2 (two) years timeframe, to be eventually implemented further.

In order to prepare the Project Proposal for the design, launch, implementation and management of the LOG-IN Africa Research, it is proposed that Mr Gianluca Carlo Misuraca (Consultant for IDRC and CAFRAD) will undertake the following preparatory activities, in collaboration with IDRC Officers. In addition, a contract should be issue to CAFRAD to organize and manage the Pre-Project researchers Meeting.

The activities to be carried out by Mr Misuraca will be as follows:

1. Preparation of the Guidelines for selection of research partner institution to be part of the Network’s development and implementation;
2. Identification and selection of the research partners to be invited to participate in the Network;

3. Networking and Coordination of Pre-Project activities by identified Research partner institution. This will involve an online coordination of activities, providing guidelines and indication to the selected researchers/consultants for the Pre-Project Activity of “Country/Sub-Region Needs Assessment and Identification of Research Priorities”;
4. Preliminary outline of the draft Project Proposal;
5. Coordination of organization and management of the Research Partner Meeting to discuss the Preliminary draft Project Proposal in collaboration with CAFRAD and IDRC;
6. Revision of the draft Project Proposal including the outcome of the Pre-Project Research Partners contribution and dissemination to research partners for comments;
7. Integration of research partners comments into the Project Proposal and eventual restricted meeting to finalize issues related to the management arrangements;
8. Final draft of the Project Proposal and dissemination to research partner for final comments;
9. Finalization of the Project Proposal and submission to IDRC for funding;
10. Co-ordination, Networking, and follow-up of the Project Proposal.

CAFRAD, under the coordination of Mr Misuraca and the assistance of an identified staff of CAFRAD, and in collaboration with IDRC, will undertake the following activities:

1. Information and organization of the research partners Meeting to discuss the Preliminary draft Project Proposal, under the coordination of Mr Misuraca and the assistance of an identified staff of CAFRAD, and in collaboration with IDRC. This will involve:
 - a. Identification and arrangement of location, venue, transportation and hosting;
 - b. Preparation of Letter of Invitation, Information Circular, Aide memoire and Agenda;
 - c. Issuing of Prepaid-Ticket to participants;
 - d. Administration of funding;
 - e. Supporting of participants request related to the Meeting;
2. Contracting a professional rapporteur who will take notes and write-up the proceedings of the Research Partner meeting.
3. Contracting the selected Researchers/Consultants to conduct the Pre-Project Activity of “Country/Sub-Region Needs Assessment and Identification of Research Priorities”, including monitoring and financial control of activities.
4. Information and organization, under the coordination of Mr Misuraca and the assistance of an identified staff of CAFRAD, and in collaboration with IDRC, of an eventual restricted meeting to finalize the Project Proposal.
5. Administrative support to activities 1 and 2.

The Research Partner Meeting shall take place during the first half of September 2005.

The exact location and date of the meeting will be defined by Mr Misuraca, CAFRAD and IDRC, in consultation with identified Research partners that shall participate and according to cost/effectiveness of the activity.

4. **Annex 1: Proposed Workplan**

It is proposed to launch the Network during the WSIS-II, in Tunis, in November 2005. Therefore, the preparatory activities will be conducted in the period May-October 2005, according to the following Workplan (Annex 1):

Activity: Network Coordinator		May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.
1	Preparation of the Guidelines for selection of research partner institution to be part of the Network's development and implementation						
2	Identification and selection of the research partners to be invited to participate in the Network						
3	Networking and Coordination of Pre-Project activities by identified Research Partners						
4	Preliminary outline of the draft Project Proposal						
5	Coordination of organization and management of the Research Partner Meeting to discuss the Preliminary draft Project Proposal						
6	Revision of the draft Project Proposal and dissemination to research partners for comments						
7	Integration of Partners comments into the Project Proposal and eventual Restricted Meeting to finalize issues related to the management arrangements**						
8	Final draft of the Project Proposal and dissemination to research partners for final comments						
9	Finalization of the Project Proposal and submission to IDRC for funding						
10	Co-ordination, Networking and Follow-up of the Project Proposal						

*Date and Location to be defined

**To be defined

Activity: CAFRAD		May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.
1	Information and organization of the research partners Meeting* to discuss the Preliminary draft Project Proposal, under the coordination of Mr Misuraca and the assistance of an identified staff of CAFRAD, and in collaboration with IDRC						
2	Contracting a professional rapporteur who will take notes and write-up the proceedings of the Research Partner meeting						
3	Contracting the selected Researchers/Consultants to conduct the Pre-Project Activity of "Country/Sub-Region Needs Assessment and Identification of Research Priorities", including monitoring and financial control of activities						
4	4. Information and organization, under the coordination of Mr Misuraca and the assistance of an identified staff of CAFRAD, and in collaboration with IDRC, of an eventual restricted meeting** to finalize the Project Proposal						
5	Administrative support						

*Date and Location to be defined

**To be defined

5. *Annex 2: Estimated Budget*

The estimated budget required to undertake the preparatory activities is reported hereafter (Annex 2).