science & technology

Department:
Science and Technology
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE DIGITAL AGENDA FOR EUROPE 2013 EVENT

6 TO 8 NOVEMBER 2013

VILNIUS, LITHUANIA

The Digital Agenda for Europe ICT 2013 event is targeted at innovators, entrepreneurs, academics and industry representatives. The Digital Agenda for Europe which forms an integral part of the Europe 2020 strategy, to stimulate the digital economy and address societal challenges through ICT was adopted in 2010 by the European Commission. The European Council and the European Parliament have since called for further strengthening of the European digital leadership and completion of the Digital Single Market by 2015. The Digital Agenda for Europe event is part of structured efforts to bring together relevant European organisations and individuals to assess the progress and challenges in implementation. The event seeks to:

- showcase examples from across the EU and collect visions and experiences of policy makers, industry, research organisations, NGOs, SMEs and regulators; and
- introduce and prepare participants for the Horizon 2020 - the EU's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation for 2014 – 2020.

The Digital Agenda for Europe ICT 2013 event includes the following:

- a conference, which will feature top ICT professionals from academia, industry and research;
- a networking session, which will provide an opportunity for the South African delegation to present on policy matters, instruments for cooperation available, research expertise and discussions on strategies for improving cooperation between SA and EU;
- an entrepreneurship and investment forum, which will allow networking between researchers, entrepreneurs, start-ups, innovative companies, students, investors and EU officials; as well as an exhibition to showcase research, ICT products, innovative creations; and
- opportunities for South African and European research and technology organisations to identify topics to collaborate on.

South Africa ICT Networking Event

Date: 07 November 2013

Venue: Vilnius, Lithuania

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) will be hosting an ICT Networking Session on 7 November 2013 in Vilnius, Lithuania. The objective of the session is to highlight the South Africa-EU ICT research and innovation cooperation as part of the Digital Agenda for Europe ICT 2013 event and in preparation for H2020. The South Africa networking session will highlight the many exciting ICT opportunities that South African and European research and technology organisations can cooperate on. The theme for the networking sessions is *"Accelerating the South African Digital Advantage Vision through Enhanced ICT Research and Innovation Cooperation between South Africa – European Union (EU)"*.

The networking session presents an opportunity for the DST to present to the Europeans, the Cabinet approved ICT Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Implementation Roadmap, which provides a strategic direction, a set of action-plans and an implementation framework to guide, plan, coordinate and manage South Africa's portfolio of investment for the next ten years in the associated ICT programmes of research, technology development and innovation activity. The DST exhibition stand will also showcase the South African – ICT projects that could be of interest to European researchers. Along with the exhibition stand will be an information booth which will serve as a focal point for interested European participants to meet with members of the South African delegation which will consist of DST officials and 5 selected South African researchers attending the event.

For more information regarding the Euro ICT 2013 event, kindly visit the link: http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda

A detailed report and presentation will be posted on the following websites post the event:

- http://www.dst.gov.za/
- http://www.esastap.org.za/

The following DST officials can be contacted for more information:

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