

## PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The FIRE programme gives partners and sponsors the opportunity to support a broad range of projects across the African region.

Partnership package  
US\$ 30,000 to 100,000  
75% goes towards project funding and 25% funds the FIRE mentoring, workshop and collaboration initiatives.

As a partner, you will be a member of the FIRE Steering Committee, participating directly in decision making processes relating to the programme.

You will also have the opportunity to appoint a representative to the Grant Evaluation Committee that selects final grant recipients.

Sponsorship packages  
You can support the FIRE programme through a variety of packages, namely:

Platinum	- US\$ 25,000
Gold	- US\$ 15,000
Bronze	- US\$ 10,000

Through these sponsorship packages, partners and supporters have the opportunity to fund an entire grant with the possibility of choosing a particular area or economy of interest. In addition, sponsors can:

- Use the FIRE logo in their marketing material
- Upload their name and logo onto the FIRE website
- Use their name and logo in all FIRE publications
- Tailor their communications activities in line with FIRE's communications and philanthropic activities

## PARTNERS



## SPONSOR



### For information, please contact us on:

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## INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

[www.fireafrica.org](http://www.fireafrica.org)

## ABOUT FIRE

The Fund for Internet Research and Education (FIRE) is a Grants and Awards programme designed to encourage and support the development of solutions to information and communication needs in the African Region. It specifically emphasises the role of the Internet in the social and economic development for the benefit of the African community. This comes at a critical time when the Internet and related technologies are playing an increasingly important role in the way people communicate, work, do business and live their lives.

The programme aims at encouraging and promoting the development and application of innovative ideas that can contribute not only to the solution of challenges in Africa and the Indian Ocean region but also enhance Internet and technological deployment, uptake and utility for the benefit of society.

The FIRE programme is specifically aimed at:

- Supporting the development of affordable and efficient Internet infrastructure
- Developing and promoting the adoption of innovative applications and services
- Supporting individual rights awareness and strengthen trust between organisations and individuals in the region

Launched in May 2012, the FIRE programme is a member of the Seed Alliance, a global initiative bringing together partners in Africa (AFRINIC), Asia Pacific (ISIF.aisa) and Latin America (FRIDA).

*This project sets a new milestone in AFRINIC's support for ICT development in Africa. We are committed to supporting projects intended to develop and promote Internet access and use in Africa.*

*-- Adiel Akplogan, AFRINIC CEO*

## WHY SMALL Grants

By giving local organisations small Grants, AFRINIC seeks to promote homegrown solutions to local challenges. Evidence shows that local organisations better understand local problems and challenges based on lived experiences and knowledge. In effect, the involvement of grassroots organisations is considered critical to the wellbeing of the environment in which they operate as they have a genuine interest in uplifting not only the living standards but also enhancing the socio-economic development of the community.

The Grants enable and empower organisations to develop initiatives that take into account local needs that do not require huge resources. They also enable organisations to innovate and experiment with new projects aimed at benefiting communities in which they operate.

The Awards thus recognise the important role local and grassroots organisations play, and reward efforts meant to better the lives and conditions of communities throughout Africa.

## THE SUPPORT

The FIRE Programme provides two levels of support, namely:

A US\$ 10,000 grant for local groups and organisations to design and test technical solutions to local issues.

An award of US\$ 3,000 acknowledging contributions to Internet development made by ongoing initiatives.

Awardees are also funded to attend a local Internet Governance event to build contacts and understand the Internet Ecosystem.

*The programme is designed to encourage, foster and facilitate the entire ICT development process in Africa with a particular focus on innovation and access provision, e-development and freedom of expression.*

## CATEGORIES

We work with local organisations and focus on projects promoting the following:

**Innovation on Access Provision:** This category focuses on two key issues under the banner of access. The first is available, reliable and scalable access to communications especially in rural areas. Secondly, we encourage innovations that reduce barriers to communications within marginalised or disadvantaged groups, including the disabled.

**E-Development:** The development, deployment and enhancement of content and applications to support timely and relevant information sharing on a large scale using a range of network infrastructures through a variety of devices.

**Freedom of expression:** Initiatives related to freedom of expression, freedom of association, privacy, security, consumer rights, new forms of intellectual property in the digital environment, and a wide range of issues related to Internet and human rights.

## OTHER SUPPORT

The FIRE programme provides a complete cycle of support for grantees to further advance their creativity, innovation and commitment. The FIRE programme also mentors prospective applicants throughout the entire application process to ensure better submissions.