YOUNG INNOVATORS COMPETITION

On behalf of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), the Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) would like to announce second edition of ITU's **Young Innovators Competition (YIC).** Young innovators will also have the chance to win funding, mentorship and ongoing support.

The competition, which is open to **18-25 year olds** worldwide, gives young, talented social entrepreneurs the opportunity to attend the ITU Telecom World 2012 due to take place in **Dubai, United Arab Emirates** from of **October 14-18, 2012**. ITU Telecom World is ITU's key global networking and knowledge sharing event.

Accordingly, ITU calls for projects/concepts which engage the power of ICTs to meet real-world developmental challenges relevant to one of eight core areas under the theme ***"Youth Innovation for Development"***:

- Cybersecurity
- Education
- Empowerment of Women
- Environmental Sustainability
- Healthcare
- Human Rights
- Transparency
- Youth Employment

Submissions consisting of everything from well researched concepts to ongoing operations showing preliminary results are welcome. From these, the **twelve (12)** most outstanding entries -– judged to have the greatest possible social impact and potential for business success -– will win the chance to attend and participate in above-mentioned ITU Telecom World 2012.

The 12 finalists can benefit from one-on-one mentorship sessions with top level representatives from various sectors, hands-on workshops focused on developing entrepreneurial skills and the chance to showcase concepts and projects at a centrally located stand before the uniquely influential audience of World 2012 delegates.

They can also benefit from the rich opportunities for networking with the leading names and key decision makers from industry, government and academia plus visionaries and digital thought leaders present at the event.

Final winners will also benefit from prize money of up to **CHF10,000** to realise entrepreneurial dreams. In addition winners will have access to the network of mentors offering ongoing support for up to one year, be invited to form an active part of the Young Innovators community and update their submission as featured on our website with regular progress report.

"Participation in this competition offers a great opportunity for the next generation of young visionaries to demonstrate their ideas and innovations on a truly global stage at our event, and show how their fresh digital thinking can change the world for the better," said ITU Secretary-

General Hamadoun Touré. "Crucially, the reach of the Young Innovators Programme will also extend way beyond the event, building a cohesive international community of highly talented social entrepreneurs working on ICT-based initiatives in areas that are vital to developmental issues facing the world today."

The deadline for initial submissions is **July 1, 2012**.

ITU is an international organisation within the United Nations system where governments and the private sector coordinate global telecommunications networks and services. It has its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Uganda is one of the ITU member states.

For further details and the application procedure, please visit world2012.itu.int/young-innovators-competition

Further information could be found on:
http://www.itu.int/net/pressoffice/press_releases/2012/22.aspx.
Applications should be uploaded directly to the competition website:
http://world2012.itu.int/young-innovators-competition.

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