

The Nigeria ICT Forum of Partnership Institutions

An initiative of Nigerian Research and Education Institutions

Advanced Computing for Nigerian Science & Technology Research Collaboration

The resource and strategy discussions that held on Tuesday July 24, 2007 at the Digital Bridge Institute (DBI), Abuja, featured an update by the Coordinator of the Science and Technology Education Post-Basic project (STEP-B) on funding opportunities for collaborative activities, and a presentation by Hewlett Packard's Director of University Relations, on the UNESCO/Hewlett-Packard Company's Brain Gain (BG) project in Eastern Europe (http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=34396&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html), and Africa (http://portal.unesco.org/unesco/ev.php?URL_ID=35764&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201).

The purpose of the seminar was to bring together Forum member institutions other research & education institutions, professional bodies, associations and councils, public and private sector organizations to explore their interests (individually, in groups, and/or in partnership with others) in applying for support under STEP-B and UNESCO/HP Brain Gain grants.

The Nigeria ICT Forum and HP offer a platform to facilitate development and submission in September 2007, of comprehensive collaborative strategic proposals on "Advanced Academic Computing for Science & Technology Teaching and Research Collaboration" for funding under STEP-B.

HP will explore contributing to enhance utilization of STEP-B grants, by donating such items as itanium servers to build a GRID, networking equipment, workstations or laptops for research, and cash for exchange visits with colleagues in the Diaspora, collaborating institutions and private sector allies.

Subject to stakeholder interests and requests, the Forum will explore extending its services beyond its membership on this subject, for example by:

- continuing to serve as platform for collaboration and identification of partners
- organizing training on proposal writing and fund-raising
- organizing extensive training for ICT staff and academic network operators on how to leverage, maintain and integrate advanced academic computing equipment into the larger campus IT infrastructure for specific S&T teaching and research, including research beyond the BG proposals

Visit <http://forum.org.ng/Funding/STEP-B> for more information about the seminar and STEP-B.

Express your interest to join this program, submit your project concept and/ or your special request for service by sending mail to info@forum.org.ng

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