



Contributing to foster universally accessible and affordable broadband across the continent by facilitating efficient and harmonised spectrum utilisation and harmonising measurable ICT/ Telecommunication policy, legal and regulatory frameworks.

#### *Facts and figures*

- ❖ Total budget: EUR 8 million
- ❖ EU contribution: EUR 7.5 million
- ❖ Action of the 2017 Annual Action Programme of the Pan-African Programme

#### *Partner*

- ❖ International Telecommunications Union (ITU)
- ❖ African Union Commission (AUC)

## Policy and Regulation Initiative for Digital Africa (PRIDA)

### Objective

The Policy and Regulation Initiative for Digital Africa (PRIDA) programme aims at fostering universally accessible and affordable broadband across the continent to unlock future benefits of internet based services. Its specific objective is to create a more harmonised and enabling legal and regulatory framework for the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for social and economic development, with an emphasis on boosting the spectrum market across Africa.

### Activities

The main indicative activities are based on three pillars:

- *Efficient and harmonised spectrum utilisation*: improvement of spectrum allocation based on international best practices and terms and conditions for spectrum licensing, enhancement of spectrum pricing predictability and alignment on international best practices, strengthening of cooperation on treatment of harmful interference, increased awareness and acceptance of the concept and economic models of Internet of things (IoT), strengthening the capacities of national frequency agencies;
- *Harmonisation of measurable ICT/Telecommunications policy, legal and regulatory frameworks*: development of continental ICT/ Telecommunications Legislative and Regulatory Monitoring & Evaluation methodology, strengthening continental cooperation between national telecommunications regulatory authorities (NRAs), raising awareness of cross cutting use of ICTs (policy) by public authorities and civil society;
- *African decision makers' active participation in the global internet governance debate*: continental situation assessment, identification of challenges for African involvement and synergies between initiatives, strengthening the African Internet Governance Forum and exploring the establishment of a "Digital policy clinics" framework to offer on-demand assistance to African negotiators;

### Implementation

A part of this action dealing with efficient and harmonised spectrum utilisation may be implemented in indirect management with International Telecommunications Union (ITU). Technical Assistance to the African Union Commission (AUC) is also foreseen to support the remaining activities of the programme.