



AAU-UNCST Support to the Digitalization of Grants Management Systems in SGCI Africa Consortium.

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Background



Under Work Area II - Support the establishment of online grants management systems and databases of peer reviewers at national/regional levels.

The Science Granting Councils Initiative Africa (SGCI-Africa) prioritized the development and issuance of expressions of interest (EOI) to all the SGCs so that those interested in digitization of their systems could apply.

Subsequently, the Association of African Universities (AAU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST) for the development of an Online Grants Management System.

The digitalization of the SGCs' grants management system is technically led by the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST).

The UNCST undertook to upgrade the granting system and position it for the adoption of all the participating SGCs. To this effect, a generic online grants management system with multi-lingual functionalities and the flexibility to accommodate the different needs of the SGCs has been developed.



Project Intervention



1. A generic GMS was developed.
2. The system, installation, and user guides have been provided.
3. Nine (9) SGCs in the process of installation, customization, and/or implementation of the system.

The implementing SGCs;

- **UNCST – Uganda – GMS Installed and Trained**
- **FONRID – Burkina FASO - Installed and Trained**
- **MESTI – Ghana – Installed and Trained**
- **NCST – Malawi – Installed and Training**
- **RCZ-Zimbabwe – Installed and Trained**
- **FONSTI – Ivory Coast – Installed and Trained**
- **NCRST Namibia – Installed and Trained**
- **NSTIC Siera Leone – Installed and trained**
- **NRF Kenya – Installed and Trained**



Engagements and Co-Creation Sessions



Training of staff from the Ministry of Environment Science Technology and Innovation (MESTI) and other research institutions in Ghana.

The two (2) days of training were held in Accra and hosted by the AAU from 12-13 April 2022.

The trainees included monitoring, evaluation, learning experts, grants officers, software developers, project managers, and other ICT technical support staff.



20 Staff Trained



Training of staff from FONRID Burkina Faso.

The two (2) days of training were held in Ouagadougou at the FONRID headquarters from 5th – 6th May 2022.

The trainees included monitoring, evaluation, learning experts, grants officers, software developers, project managers, and other ICT technical support staff.



15 Staff Trained



Training of staff from RCZ Zimbabwe.

The two (2) days of training were held in Harare from 14th – 15th June 2022.

The trainees included monitoring, evaluation, learning experts, grants officers, software developers, project managers, and other ICT technical support staff.



15 Staff Trained



Training of staff from NCST Malawi.

The two (2) days of training were held in Lilongwe from 14th – 15th July 2022.

The trainees included monitoring, evaluation, learning experts, grants officers, software developers, project managers, and other ICT technical support staff.

9 Staff Trained





Training of staff from NCRST Namibia.

The three (3) days of training were held in Lilongwe from 4th – 6th July 2023.

The trainees included monitoring, evaluation, learning experts, grants officers, software developers, project managers, and other ICT technical support staff.

17 Staff Trained.



Training of staff from NSTIC Siera Leone.

The three (3) days of training were held in Siera Leone from 29th – 31st October 2024.

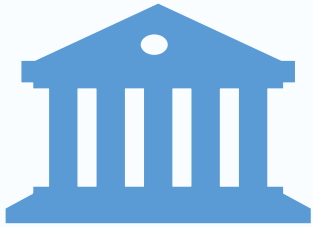
The trainees included monitoring, evaluation, learning experts, grants officers, software developers, project managers, and other ICT technical support staff.

13 Staff Trained.

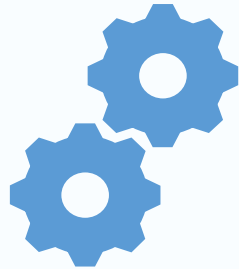




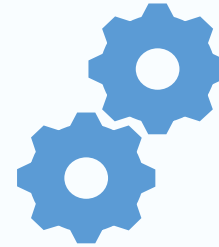
Summary Outputs



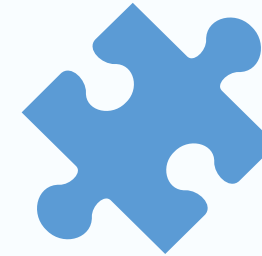
Grants Management system Developed.



9 Installations in SGCs have been undertaken (customized).



Grants Management System User guide developed.



Capacity building and shared Learning in 9 SGCs.



Over 100 resource persons have been directly actively engaged/trained.



IT Governance and Sustainability



- 1. IT Policy**
- 2. IT Strategy**
- 3. IT Structure**

No of submissions

42,185

Number of Approvals

25,166

RECs Accredited

38

Registered Users

19,817



Grant Management

Active Calls:0

Total Submissions:121

Grants Awarded:9

Total Users:18409



Credit Points

Accredited Recs:38

Total Points:9663

Total Users:18559



Research Application

Total Users:19817

Total Submissions:22578

Number of approvals:4598



REC APPROVALS

Total Users:18921

Total Submissions:19607

Number of approvals:20568

Dashboard

Welcome to National Research Information Management System : NRIMS

[Home](#) > Dashboard

NRIMS-Application for REC Approval



REC Applicant?REC Member?CLICK HERE

UNCST-Application for Research Permit



Submit to UNCST for a research permit

Grants Management



Grant Applicant?Reviewer?CLICK HERE

Credit Points



Submit Credit Points

ABS



Coming Soon



The Future.



Proposed Future

Train a technical French/Portuguese-speaking to assist with the adoption in the French/Portuguese-speaking SGCs (Mozambique, Burkina Faso, Cote d Ivoire and Senegal).

Knowledge Transfer, Training, and Capacity building.

Continuous system improvement

Integration with existing systems in the different SGCs.



Proposed Future...

MEL to tell Data driven stories of change.

Sustain peer-to-peer meetings with the SGCs to effectively support digitalization [Formal, Informal, Virtual, Physical]

Provide supporting mechanism to continuously develop system improvements and upgrades where necessary.

Institute change management and communication plan to popularize this achievement of SGCI-Africa.

Designate the GMS as a certified system for grants management within SGCI-Africa.

*****Establish a consortium of software developers available within the participating SGCs to undertake system upgrades and development of new modules in open-source culture.****

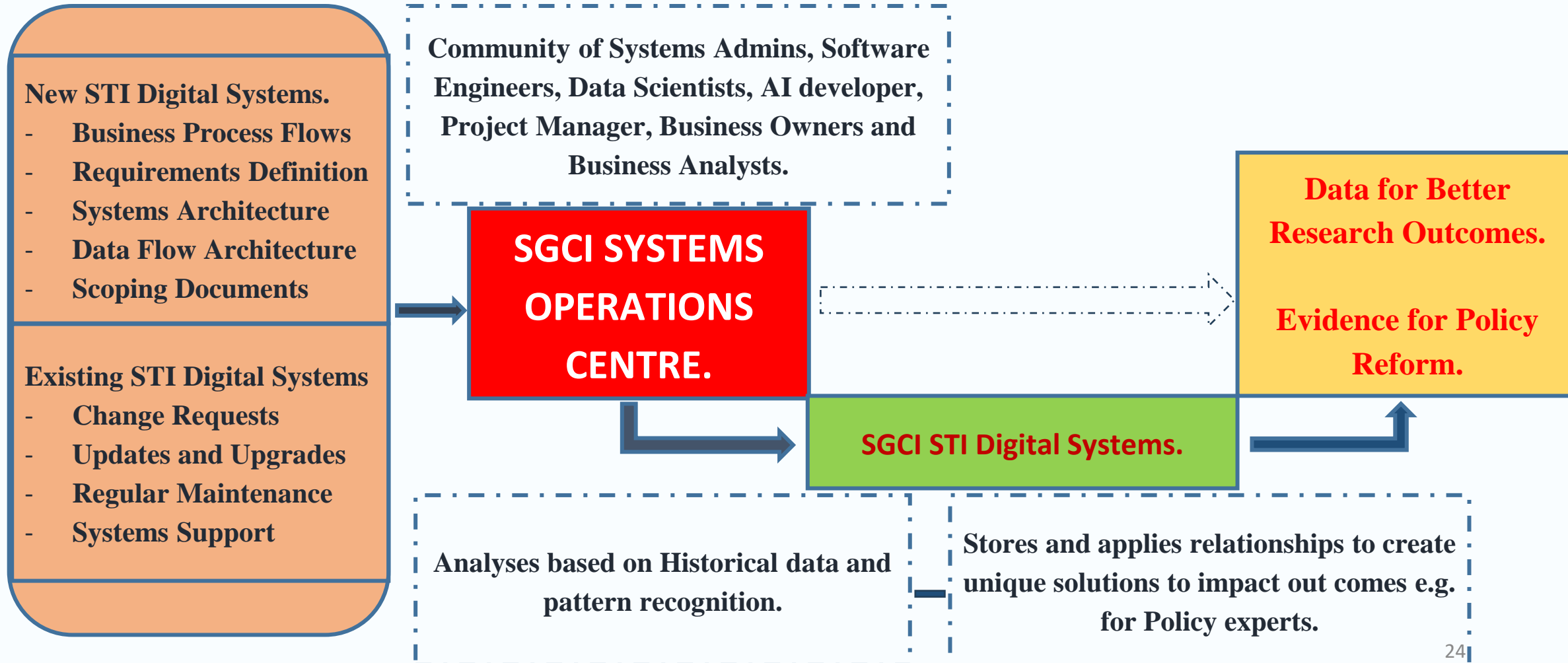
Establish, implement, and sustain an internship program within the AAU member Universities.



Collective Sustainability



The Future: **An SGCI SOC?**





Conclusion

Continuously contribute to aligning ICT initiatives to Institutional and Sector Strategic Objectives of our respective SGCs.

*Accelerate our posture towards the thickening of our respective SGCs '**digital Footprint**' on the global STI ecosystem.*



We aspire for a 'more Joyful' Stakeholder (Local and International) Community.



Thank you very much / **Mwebale Nnyo** / Asanteni sana / **Merci beaucoup** / **Muito Obrigado**