

2011 AfricaCom Awards shortlist announced

Informa Media & Telecoms, organisers of the [AfricaCom](#) Awards, which acknowledges the growth and importance of the telecoms and digital sectors across the African continent, have released the shortlisted finalists.



"We are pleased to announce that we had a record number of entries for this year's awards with an exceptionally high level of competence and quality" commented Emily Martyr, conference manager at Informa Telecoms & Media.

France Telecom Orange features strongly in a number of categories whilst South Africa's MTN has been shortlisted in six of the eleven categories, including the 'Most Improved Network' and 'Changing Lives' sections.

The AfricaCom Awards, now in its fourth year, takes place at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC) on 9 November 2011.

These Awards are a serious recognition of the commitment and professionalism of these entrants to their core business and to changing the landscape of the continent, for the better.

The complete list of finalists:

Best Network Improvement:

- Alepo
- Dark Fibre Africa - Telecommunication Infrastructure Provider
- France Orange Telecom - Village Phone
- France Orange Telecom - QOS Ivory Coast (Reconstruction)
- Helios Towers Africa - Pioneering sale/leaseback model for telecoms infrastructure across Africa
- MTN South Africa - Long Term Evolution (pilot)
- ZTE - ZXR10 T8000, ZXR10 M6000

Best New Service:

- Comviva and Tigo Tanzania - Tigo PEsa Tigo Tanzania
- Emerging Markets Communications - HD Connect
- Etisalat - Apps Store
- ForgetMeNot Africa - eTXT Facebook from Econet Wireless Zimbabwe

- France Telecom - Surf & Pay
- Intersec - Loyalty Management Suite
- Spice VAS Africa - Spice Mobile Radio

Best Cost Efficiency Initiative for Africa:

- France Telecom Orange - Universal Scratch Card
- France Telecom Orange - Pay for ME
- France Telecom Orange - MultiVAS
- Helios Towers Africa - Pioneering sale/leaseback model for telecoms infrastructure across Africa - a model that saw significant development in 2010/2011
- Nokia Siemens Networks - Nokia Siemens Networks Flexi Multiradio Base Station
- SafariCom - Buy Airtime Service - M-PESA

Rural Telecoms Award:

- Ericsson - Rural Netco
- Flexenclosure - E-site with Community Power
- Movirtu Limited - Cloud Phone
- MTN Nigeria - Rural Telephony Business
- MTN Uganda & Alvarion - MTN Internet's rural cafes connected by Alvarion's WiMAX network
- SafariCom - Safaricom Digital Villages

Best Backhaul Solution for Africa:

- Ceragon Networks - Evolution Series Ip Long Haul Product Family
- Gateway Communication - Cell Direct
- Huawei Technologies - Huawei for Building IP Backhaul in South Africa
- Open Ideas - MAIS - Backhaul aggregation & Optimisation
- ZTE - ZXCTN 9000/6000 Series

Customer Service Excellence Awards:

- France Telecom Orange - Mobile Subscription tool
- France Telecom Orange - Emergency Credit
- Gateway Communications - Customer Service
- Huawei Technologies - Huawei for Managed Service in Ghana
- MTN South Africa - Directory Enquiries

Best Marketing Campaign:

- France Telecom Orange - Orange Money Madagascar street campaign
- France Telecom Orange - Orange Expo Mauritius
- Mobitainment Pty Ltd - Mobile Marketing
- MTN South Africa - MTN Zone
- Zamtel - Brand Launch

Satellite Service Provider of the Year:

- France Telecom - Satellite offer point-multipoint TDM / TDMA with space shared resource
- SkyVision

Best ICT Solution Provider for Enterprise markets in Africa:

- France Telecom Orange - Video 2 Protect
- France Telecom Orange - Low Cost Audio Conferencing
- France Telecom Orange - Low Cost Managed Hotspots
- France Telecom Orange - My Office
- SafariCom - 'Tele Justice' using Telepresence Technology
- SkyVision - Corporate Services / VPN

Best Pan Africa Initiative:

- AfriNIC - Training and Outreach Programs
- Etisalat - Apps Store
- France Telecom Orange - Orange Money
- Helios Towers Africa - Pioneering sale/leaseback model for telecoms infrastructure across Africa - a model that saw significant development in 2010/2011
- MTN Group - MTN Football
- Seacom & Main One

Changing Lives Award:

- Ericsson - Refugee United
- France Orange Telecom - Orange Money
- France Orange Telecom - Village Phone
- MTN South Africa - School Connectivity Project
- Open Idea (MAS) - MAIS
- SafariCom - M-PESA Pay Bill Service used for a Nationwide fundraising Initiative

For more, go to www.africacomawards.com.