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S&T Initiatives to Promote African Cooperation

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WAITRO/ST-EAP EU FP7 Workshop

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Presentation Outline

- Strategic Intent
- Collective Approach
- Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action (ASTCPA)
- Science and Technology – Europe Africa Project (ST-EAP)
- World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organisation (WAITRO)
- Q&A/Discussion



Strategic Intent

- The overall intent is to strengthen research capacity in favour of national, regional, and continental priorities
- The focus is to develop the African S&T base research in a manner that will establish critical mass in areas relevant to country needs and such that scientific institutes can provide national and regional S&T leadership
- We seek alignment of our research agendas with the objectives of AU and RECs (Regional Communities) through systematic involvement in specific programmes



Collective Approach

- Objective
 - Contribute to Africa's development in line with the AU framework through strategic contract R&D engagement and opportunities
- Main Initiatives
 - Involvement in the NEPAD S&T Consolidated Plan of Action
 - S&T country bilaterals
 - Strategic partnerships with relevant international development agencies
 - Contract research and development with the public and private sector



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Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action

ASTCPA



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Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action (ASTCPA)

- ASTCPA articulates Africa's common objectives and commitment to collective actions to develop and use science and technology for the socio-economic transformation of the continent
- ASTCPA is erected on three interrelated conceptual pillars:
 - capacity building
 - knowledge production, and
 - technological innovation
- ASTCPA identifies 12 flagship R&D programmes



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ASTCPA 12 Flagship Programmes

- Biodiversity science and technology
- Biotechnology
- Information and Communication Technologies
- Energy technologies
- Materials science
- Space science and technologies
- Post harvest food technologies
- Water sciences and technology
- Indigenous Knowledge and technologies
- Desertification research
- S&T for manufacturing
- Laser technology



Supporting & Related Initiatives

- African Laser Centre (ALC)
- Southern African Network for Biosciences (SANBIO)
- NEPAD e-schools (ICT)
- World Association of Industrial and Technology Research Organisations (WAITRO) Africa Regional Focal Point
- Sector plans
 - Water
 - Materials sciences
 - Peace and security
 - Energy
 - Health
 - Infrastructure
 - Improving ICT Infrastructure and accessibility
 - Others



Strategic Response

- Response to Flagship R&D Programmes
- Response to NEPAD Sectoral Programmes (Peace and Security, Health, e-Commission, Market Access and Diversification, Infrastructure, etc.)
- Utilise cross-cutting and Support Mechanisms (WAITRO, EU, ST-EAP, AU, ICSU, etc.)



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**United Nations Economic Commission for
Africa**

UNECA

Science in Africa



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UNECA Science in Africa

- The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) has distributed an invitation to an ongoing e-discussion group on science, technology and innovation for development in Africa
- It is recommended that interested parties join the discussion to assist in developing African countries
- Themes:
 - Science policy
 - Innovation
 - Energy
 - Transport and Infrastructure
 - Health
 - ICT
 - Water



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ST-EAP



Science & Technology-Europe Africa Project (ST-EAP)

- Purpose:
 - Strengthen science and technology co-operation between African scientists and European scientists
 - Create an increased awareness of the role of the EU Framework Programme



ST-EAP Deliverables

- Create opportunities for enhanced networking and partnership development
- Promote FP mobility instruments to African partners
- Facilitation of funding instruments for regional participation in FP7
- Targeted initiatives to increase the regional NEPAD involvement in FPs
- Gender promotion



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ST-EAP Consortia

Consortium Partners

- Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), South Africa
- African Academy of Sciences (AAS), Kenya

Input Providers

- Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW)
- New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)
- Department of Science and Technology (DST), South Africa
- Network of African Science Academies (NASAC) and individual country academies
- ICSU (International Council for Science)
- WAITRO (World Association of industrial and Technological Research Associations)



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ST-EAP Look-a-Likes

“ST-EAP forms part of a linked series of EU supported projects which will provide Africa with critical networking platforms to position African S&T in the upcoming FP7”

Examples

- ESASTAP-European-South Africa Science and Technology Advancement Programme (INCO)
- SIMBA-Strengthening road transport research cooperation between Europe and emerging international markets (Theme 6)
- AFSAGA-Satellite telecommunications; the potential applications that could be unlocked as a combination of Galileo and satellite communications in South Africa and the SADC region (Theme 4)
- START-Developing a strategic R&D partnership between the EU and Africa in the ICT field (Theme 2)
- EUDEVLAS-A framework for innovation comprising EU and Developing Country researchers in the field of laser manufacturing (Theme 3)
- Other key projects in the areas of environment and water e.g. AFRICAN WATER, INTER-LINK



ST-EAP Work Packages

- WP 1 – Establishment of ST-EAP
 - development of business plan
 - launch of ST-EAP
 - evaluation of ST-EAP structure, impact and sustainability
- WP 2 – Communicating ST-EAP and African S&T expertise with the EU
 - create website
 - map Africa's S&T expertise and produce promotional and communication material
 - fostering networks
 - create opportunities for enhanced networking and partnership development
- WP 3 – Communicating information on EU co-operation instruments across Africa
 - generic briefings and workshops in selected regions of the continent
 - analysis of African FP participation, development of FP success stories and case studies
- WP 4 – Project co-ordination and management
 - administrative and financial management
 - project outcomes dissemination
 - gender and transformation promotion



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World Association of Industrial & Technological Research Organisations

WAITRO



World Association of Industrial & Technological Research Organisations (WAITRO)

Mission

- WAITRO aims “to be an enabler for developing action oriented partnerships among member organizations for sustainable development”

Objectives

- Encourage and facilitate transfer of research results and technical know how
- Promote exchange of experience in research and technology management
- Promote technological research and capability building in the developing countries



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WAITRO African Regional Focal Point (RFP)

- The African RFP has 60 members across 26 countries (see handout)
- Supported by WAITRO Secretariat, SIRIM Malaysia
- Supported by the Department of Science & Technology, South Africa
- Hosted by CSIR, South Africa



Key Priority Areas of WAITRO Africa RFP

1. Supporting regional S&T development
2. Mobilising African institutions/researchers for EU-FP7
 - ST-EAP a major boost
3. Mobilising support for NEPAD S&T programmes
 - Africa Laser Centre
 - SANBIO
 - NEPAD e-Schools
4. Capacity and capability building
 - African country priorities
5. Strengthening international partnerships and project cooperation
 - RTO cooperation
6. Joint WAITRO/STEAP awareness workshops
 - Sharing learning and best practices



What is in it for you?



Africa RFP Activities 2008/09

**WAITRO/DST meeting
9 July 2008, Pretoria, South Africa**

- Objectives:
 - to give DST an over view of WAITRO i.e. objectives, mission and activities
- Target Audience:
 - Technology Managers, Researchers, Scientists and Government officials
- Expected Outcome:
 - How to get DST involved in WAITRO activities and aligned with key African Processes (AU, SADC and Country Bilaterals)



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Africa RFP Activities 2008/09

**WAITRO 61st EXCOM & 19th General Assembly and Biennial Congress
Malaysia, 12-14 August 2008**

- Objectives:
 - provide ideas on funding mechanisms and sourcing to stimulate innovation, leading to commercialisation
 - provide a platform for sharing the know-how and best practices on effective linking of business and technology for entrepreneurship and enterprise nurturing
 - provide a platform for exchange of ideas and experience on the importance of innovation and the key role of public-private sector linkages in innovation
- Target Audience:
 - Technology Managers, Researchers, Scientists and Government officials
- Expected Outcome:
 - Sharing learning and international benchmarking



Africa RFP Activities 2008/09

**South Africa/Kenya Technical Visit
11-15 August 2008, Nairobi, Kenya**

- Objectives:
 - to reflect and shape the bilateral that exists between the two countries
 - promoting science and technology in the continent
- Target Audience:
 - National Research Foundation, Agriculture Research Council, Water Research Commission, Tshwane University of Technology, NECSA, WITS, and Radio Astronomy Advances
- Expected Outcome:
 - ensuring relevance with regard to what is happening externally and aligning activities
 - DSTs and key sector departments will have to ensure that S&T is driven in the region



Africa RFP Activities 2008/09

Mobility and FP7 Proposal Writing and Evaluation Workshop 8-10 September 2008, Pretoria, South Africa

- Objectives:
 - In addressing the needs and weaknesses of the SA research community, ESASTAP is organising this mobility workshop to raise awareness among the researcher community and to equip them with the technical skill and knowledge of how to draft winning proposals
- Target Audience
 - Researchers
 - Scientists
 - Academics
- Expected Outcome:
 - to raise awareness among the researcher community and to equip them with the technical skill and knowledge on how to draft winning proposals



Africa RFP Activities 2008/09

**Technical Visit by Congo Brazzaville Delegation
17 September 2008, CSIR, South Africa**

- Objectives:
 - Advancing science and technology for development
 - Understand CSIR Meraka ICT model and programmes
- Target Audience:
 - Technology Managers, Researchers, Scientists and Government officials
- Expected Outcome:
 - Regional cooperation
 - Sharing learning



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Africa RFP Activities 2008/09

Sharing Information on Opportunities for Researchers in Social-Economics and Humanities, HSRC

31 October 2008, Pretoria, South Africa

- Objectives:
 - The objective of the meeting was to discuss and share experiences on how to prepare a proposal on recent calls that have been released under the EU FP7, in areas that are relevant to researchers specialising in the socio-economic sciences and humanities
- Target Audience:
 - Researchers and academics
- Expected Outcome:
 - FP7 project proposals
 - Sharing learning



Africa RFP Activities 2008/09

**The Africa/European Commission Dialogue
6- 7 November 2008, Brussels, Belgium**

- Objectives:
 - promote the role played by the Framework Programme in enabling International Cooperation on Global Change and Ecosystems research
 - to facilitate the uptake of the results of the research being carried out
- Target Audience:
 - Two regions outside of the EU: Africa and the Newly Independent States (NIS) in Europe because enhanced cooperation with these regions would have a high impact on the implementation of both the Research and Sustainable Development policies
- Expected Outcome:
 - to identify research topics of a strategic nature and of a regional dimension which would attract the mutual interest of the EU and Africa for S&T collaboration
 - to make an input to the elaboration of the future research work programmes of the EU in the area of the environment (including climate change), with a view to addressing common problems, enhancing scientific excellence and promoting the participation of African researchers in European projects



Africa RFP Activities 2008/09

**ST-EAP/SANBIO Collaboration meeting
12 November 2008, CSIR, South Africa**

- Objectives:
 - highlighting the benefits of participating in Framework Programmes
- Target Audience:
 - SANBIO
- Expected Outcome:
 - Prof. Mumba's office will provide a database of SANBio researchers



Africa RFP Activities 2008/09

Africa Investment Forum

18-19 November 2008, Johannesburg, South Africa

- Objectives:
 - To provide a platform to bring investors and projects together to enhance African trade and investment to build new business partnerships, and to strengthen linkages between African economies as a means to promote new investment
- Target Audience:
 - African investment promotion agencies from East, Central and Southern Africa
- Expected Outcome:
 - Strengthening linkages between African economies as a means to promote new investments to promote development



Africa RFP Activities 2008/09

INCONTACT Workshop

1-2 December 2008, Pretoria, South Africa

- Objectives:

- to facilitate contact between African National Information Point (NIP) and international cooperation (INCO), National Contact Points (NCPs) to share experiences and identify best practice in provision of NCP/NIP services and creating platform for future cooperation in FP7 and fostering appropriate integration of African NIP into the FP7/NCP network

- Target Audience:

- Researchers
- Scientists
- Academics

- Expected Outcome:

- Audience to identify potential NCP in their countries and to get government engagement



Africa RFP Activities 2008/09

Conference of African Ministers in Industry (CAMI) 22 August 2008, Pretoria, South Africa

- Objectives:
 - The objectives of the meeting was to provide input that would assist in a preparatory conference hosted in South Africa for African Ministers involved in Trade and Industry
- Target Audience:
 - The conference was targeted at African Ministers together with their senior officials in their departments, continent wide. It also included business leaders, CEO's through out the continent
- Expected Outcome:
 - CAMI Action Plan for Accelerating Africa's Industrial Development to guide AU Member States, AU organs and Regional Economic Communities on key priorities for Africa's Industrialisation



Ongoing Activities 2008/09

Africa Forum

- DST, CSIR, SANBio, African Laser Centre, NEPAD eSchools, NEPAD S&T office, WAITRO Africa RFP, ICSU ST-EAP, DOFA, the dti

- Objective:

- to provide active S&T support to NEPAD programmes

- Target Audience:

- RTOs, member states and funders

- Expected Outcomes:

S&T projects

Regional and international cooperation



Activities for 2009/10

- 3rd WAITRO Africa RFP EXCOM
 - Cuernavaca, Mexico, 18 March 2009
- ST-EAP Workshop
 - Nairobi, Kenya, 26-27 March 2009
- IST Africa 2009
 - Uganda, 6-8 May 2009
- 4th International Conference on ICT for Development, Education and Training
 - Dakar, Senegal, 27-29 May 2009
- WAITRO EXCOM and Strengthening RTOs and SMEs for Sustainable Development
 - Accra, Ghana, 5-9 October 2009
- WAITRO Africa RFP/DST Workshop
 - Pretoria, South Africa, 18-19 November 2009



Challenges Ahead

- Active involvement by African RTOs
- Cooperation with other regions and RTOs
- Project cooperation amongst African RTOs
- Active S&T support by RTOs to NEPAD and regional programmes
- Preparing project proposals for EU FP7
- Securing new projects in EU FP7
- Securing national, regional and international Contract R&D projects



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Thank you

www.csir.co.za

www.waitro.org

www.st-eap.org

www.aas.org

