

# Europe-Africa Research & Innovation News

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[ Delegation of the European Union to the African Union ]



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## **Horizon 2020 calls for proposals for 2016 and 2017**

14 October 2015 – Brussels: the European Commission published the 2016 and 2017 calls for proposals of the Horizon 2020 programme, with a number of targeted actions address issues specific to certain regions of the world, including several topics of particular interest to researchers in Africa.

- in Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture, etc., 3 complementary topics to support the EU-AFRICA Partnership of Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA):
  - 1) EU-Africa Research and Innovation partnership on FNSSA (deadline: 17/02/16)
  - 2) Promoting FNSSA: the role of innovation (deadline: 17/02/16)
  - 3) Earth observation services for the monitoring of agricultural production in Africa (deadline: 14/02/17)
- in ICT: International partnership on needs of end-user communities (Support Action) (deadline: 19/01/16)
- in Transport: a Euro-African initiative on road safety and traffic management. (deadline: 26/01/16)
- in Energy: a study on international cooperation in the energy area (deadline: TBC)
- in Research Infrastructures: policy and international cooperation measures (deadline: 30/03/16)

Horizon 2020 is "open to the world" so that researchers from any country can participate, for instance:

- in Health: vaccine development for malaria and/or neglected infectious diseases (deadline: 13/04/16)

In addition, the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) include Individual Fellowships (deadline: 14/09/16 & 14/09/17) and Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (deadline: 28/04/16 & 05/04/17).

All documents related to these calls for proposals, including the work programmes, are available online through the Participant Portal: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal>.

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## **ERASMUS Plus calls for proposals: open to African researchers**

20 October 2015, Brussels: new calls for proposals include the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees, the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility action and Capacity-building projects.

See web site for details: <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/>

**AU: 1<sup>st</sup> Specialised Technical Committee Meeting on Education, Science & Technology (STC-STI)**

27-30 October 2015, Addis Ababa: the African Union's STC-EST replaces and combines the African Ministerial Committee meetings for Science & Technology (AMCOST) and for Education (COMEDAF). Aside from procedural issues for the formation of this new body which will be led by Egypt, the main points on STI discussed during the experts meeting and approved by the ministers included the establishment of the "Committee of Ten (heads of states) promoting Education, Science, Technology and Innovation", the updated African Space Policy and Space Strategy, progress reports on the Pan African University and the African Observatory for Science, Technology and Innovation (AOSTI). Ample reference was made to EU-African collaboration in STI, notably the Roadmap for research on Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) and to the African Union Research Grants supported by the EU.

AUC web site: <http://hrst.au.int/en/STC/STE>

### **Expo Milan: Round-table on the role of EU-Africa cooperation in STI supporting FNSSA**

18 October 2015, Milan: the focus was on successful cooperation models with Africa and discussions involved key stakeholders and international experts from both the public and the private sector.

Web: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=events&eventcode=66B1445A-05AA-1966-D70B6C297C9CB7BC>

### **2015 Kwame Nkrumah Scientific Awards – deadline extended**

October 2015, Addis Ababa: the deadline for the 2015 Kwame Nkrumah (continental) Scientific Awards is extended until 15 November 2015. Since 2008, these awards honour outstanding African researchers. They are organised by the AUC with the support of the EU. For procedures, see AUC web site.

web site: <http://hrst.au.int/en/content/african-union-kwame-nkrumah-scientific-awards-%E2%80%93-2015-edition-0>

email: [scientific-awards@africa-union.org](mailto:scientific-awards@africa-union.org)

### **EU-South Africa Innovation Days**

19-21 October 2015, Pretoria: The EU-South Africa Innovation Policy dialogue is intended to facilitate the exchange of best practices and experiences in innovation policy. "*This mutual policy learning should contribute to enhancing the enabling policy environment for cooperation in science, technology and innovation between South Africa and the EU.*" The Innovation Days organised by South Africa's Department of Science and Technology (DST) with the support of the EU Delegation to South Africa, encouraged further discussions in five thematic areas: 1) Intellectual Property, 2) Funding instruments for commercialisation, 3) Supporting "knowledge triangle partnerships" between academia, industry and research to boost innovation, 4) Synergy between R&D and development funding, 5) STI measurements for contribution to economic growth. A report will be available soon.

### **EDCTP issues next calls for proposals & seeks new Director of South-South Cooperation**

October 2015, The Hague: the European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) recently published the last calls for 2015, including Career development fellowships (deadline: 04/02/2016); Senior fellowships (deadline: 04/02/2016); EDCTP Regional Networks (deadline: 18/02/2016); Ethics and regulatory capacities (deadline: 21/01/2016). [www.edctp.org/news/announcement-remaining-2015-calls-proposals/](http://www.edctp.org/news/announcement-remaining-2015-calls-proposals/)

EDCTP is seeking a new Director of South-South Cooperation and Head of Africa Office, based in Cape Town. Responsibilities will include liaising and building on partnership initiatives with the African political leadership, policy makers, product development partnerships, like-minded funding agencies and foundations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), pharmaceutical industry, and the scientific community. [www.edctp.org/vacancies/director-south-south-cooperation-head-africa-office](http://www.edctp.org/vacancies/director-south-south-cooperation-head-africa-office)

### **Showcasing EU-Africa Cooperation in Horizon 2020 – focus on Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy:**

**nEUROSTRESSPEP** – Novel Biocontrol Agents for Insect Pests from Neuroendocrinology.

Led by University of Glasgow (UK) with 14 partners, including University of Cape Town, South Africa:  
EU grant: €7m. ([http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/193282\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/193282_en.html))

**PROTEIN2FOOD** – Developing High Quality Food Protein through Sustainable Production & Processing.

Led by University of Copenhagen (DK) with 19 partners including University of Makerere (Uganda).  
EU grant: €8.8m. ([http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/193345\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/193345_en.html))

**PROIntenseAfrica** – Towards a long-term Africa-EU partnership to raise sustainable food and nutrition security in Africa. (Coordination & support action)

Led by Wageningen University and Research Centre (NL) with 23 partners, including 7 from Africa.  
EU grant: €1m. ([http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/194806\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/194806_en.html))

**AtlantOS** – Optimizing and Enhancing the Integrated Atlantic Ocean Observing System.

Led by Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research (Germany) with 62 partners, including the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research – CSIR (South Africa).

EU grant: €20.6m. ([http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/193188\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/193188_en.html))

### Upcoming events:

- 11-13 November 2015 – Cairo: 1<sup>st</sup> conference of **African Scientific Research & Innovation Council**.
- 23-27 November – Pretoria: **Africa Techno 2015** innovation forum ([www.africatechno.com/en](http://www.africatechno.com/en))
- 23-25 Nov. – Nairobi: **African Network for Drugs & Diagnostics Innovation (ANDi)** stakeholder forum
- 8 December – Brussels: **Research and Innovation for Maternal & Newborn Health**  
(<http://ec.europa.eu/research/conferences/2015/mnh/index.cfm>)
- 8-9 December – Pretoria: **Science Forum South Africa** ([www.sfsa.co.za](http://www.sfsa.co.za))
- 21-23 February 2016 – Addis Ababa: **Symposium on Climate Change Adaptation in Africa**  
(<http://start.org/announcements/call-for-papers-symposium-on-climate-change-adaptation-in-africa>)

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Website of EU Delegation to the African Union (AU): [http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/african\\_union](http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/african_union)