



The African Union in FP7 (2007-2013): 2 participations in EU-funded projects.

(by September 2013)

The Framework programme is the European Union (EU) funding instruments to support research and innovation. It does so mainly through large collaborative research projects.

International collaboration is a key feature of the Framework programme, so that it is open to the participation of organisations in countries outside the EU, in most cases with funding.

Participation is open to any (legally established) organisation performing research, including universities, institutes, governments departments, companies, NGOs, etc.

The current (7th) framework programme (FP7) was launched in 2007 and ends in 2013. In total there were over 1300 participations from African organisations in some 565 projects.

The new Horizon 2020 programme starts in 2014. <http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020>

FP7 projects involving the African Union:

HEALTH

EVAL HEALTH - Developing and Testing of New Methodologies to Monitor and Evaluate Health Related EU-Funded Interventions in Cooperation Partner Countries

The main goal of this project is to contribute to strengthen monitoring and evaluation of EU-funded interventions in developing countries in the specific area of health.

The project runs from January 2011 to October 2014 with an EU contribution of €2.85 million. It is led by Innovatec (Spain) with 3 other European partners, partners from Colombia, India, Thailand and 2 African organisations: **the African Union/NEPAD** and the College of Medicine of the University of Nigeria. [www.eval-health.eu]

AGRICULTURE

STAR-IDAZ - Global Strategic Alliances for the Coordination of Research on the Major Infectious Diseases of Animals and Zoonoses

The aim of this initiative is to improve coordination of research activities on major infectious diseases of livestock and zoonoses to accelerate delivery of improved control methods.

The project runs from February 2011 to January 2015 with an EU contribution of €1 million. It is led by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs - Defra (UK) with 10 other European partners and 11 international partners, including **the African Union - Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)**. [www.star-idaz.net]

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Contact:

Stéphane Hogan, Counsellor for Research & Innovation, EU Delegation to the African Union, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Email: stephane.hogan@eeas.europa.eu

Other FP7 projects of pan-African scope

RESEARCH COOPERATION

CAAST-Net Plus - Advancing SSA-EU cooperation in R&I for global challenges

The project objectives encourage more and better bi-regional STI cooperation for enhanced outcomes around topics of mutual interest, and particularly in relation to the global societal challenges of climate change, food security and health.

The project runs from January 2013 to December 2016 with an EU contribution of €4 million. It is led by the Association of Commonwealth Universities (UK) with 11 other European partners and 13 African partners. [www.caast-net-plus.org]

RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

PAERIP - Promoting African - European Research Infrastructure Partnerships

This project will develop specific and novel breeding approaches integrated with management practices to improve the performance, quality, sustainability and stability of crops adapted to organic and low-input systems, in Europe and taking into account small-scale farms in Africa.

The project ran from April 2011 to March 2013 with an EU contribution of €450,000. It was led by the Department of Science and Technology (South Africa) with 4 European partners and 3 other African partners. [www.paerip.org]

ICT

IST-Africa - Regional Impact of Information Society Technologies in Africa

IST-Africa (2012 - 2013) is a strategic collaboration between an European partner and 18 African Ministries and National Councils responsible for ICT/STI adoption, policy and research.

The project runs from October 2011 to January 2014 with an EU contribution of €933,000. It is led by International Information Management Corporation (Ireland) with 18 African partners. [www.ist-africa.org]

SPACE

BRAGMA – Bridging Actions for GMES and Africa

This project will support and facilitate the necessary dialogue to implement the GMES & Africa process, through improved coordination and adequate information flow and dissemination strengthening the partnership.

The project runs from January 2012 to December 2013 with an EU contribution of €1 million. It is led by Instituto de Investigacao Cientifica Tropical (Portugal) with 5 other European partners and 5 African partners. [www.bragma.eu]

TRANSPORT

TRANS-AFRICA - Promoting public transport in Africa

This project aimed to examine the impact of public transport on African cities and to use the findings to convince the political decision takers and international agencies to invest in a sustainable and cost-efficient transport system for African cities.

The project ran from June 2008 to Nov. 2010 with an EU contribution of €400,000. It was led by the International Organisation for Public Transport (Belgium) with Union Africaine des Transports Publics (Ivory Coast). [www.uitp.org/knowledge/projects-details.cfm?id=444]

For more information on FP7 projects: http://cordis.europa.eu/projects/home_en.html