



Benin in FP7 (2007-2013):

13 participations in EU-funded projects*
€3.8 million of EU contribution for research.

*(total by September 2013, excluding Marie Curie actions)

Benin is the 18th most successful African country in the 7th Framework programme (FP7) in terms of numbers of participations in projects and 11th in terms of total EU contribution.

The Framework programme is the European Union (EU) funding instrument 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>

Examples of FP7 projects involving participants from Benin:

ENVIRONMENT

PREFACE - Enhancing prediction of tropical Atlantic climate and its impacts.

Aims: to improve climate prediction and the quantification of climate change impacts in the region; to improve understanding of the cumulative effects of the multiple stressors of climate variability, greenhouse induced climate change, and fisheries on marine ecosystems, and ecosystem services (e.g., fisheries, coastal vulnerability); to assess the socio-economic vulnerabilities and evaluate the resilience of Atlantic African fishing communities to climate-driven ecosystem shifts and global markets. The target region includes areas more affected by climate change, European outermost regions, and African countries bordering the Atlantic.

The project runs from November 2013 to October 2017 with an EU contribution of €9 million. It is led by the University of Bergen (Norway) with 17 other European partners and 10 African partners: Instituto Nacional de Investigação Pesqueira (Angola), **Université d'Abomey-Calavi (Benin)**, Instituto Nacional de Desenvolvimento das Pescas (Cape Verde), Centre de Recherche Océanographique (Ivory Coast), Institut National de Recherches Halieutique (Morocco), University of Nigeria, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (Namibia), Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (Senegal), Université Cheikh Anta Diop (Senegal), University of Cape Town (South Africa). [project web site: <http://preface.b.uib.no>]

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For more information on FP7 projects: <http://cordis.europa.eu/projects/>

AGRICULTURE

JOLISAA - JOint Learning about Innovation Systems in African Agriculture.

Aims: to increase understanding of agricultural innovation systems focusing on small holders' livelihoods and the articulation of local/traditional and global knowledge.

The project ran from February 2010 to July 2013 with an EU contribution of €1 million. It was led by the CIRAD (France) with 3 other European partners and 3 African partners: **Université d'Abomey-Calavi (Benin)**, Kenya Agricultural Research Institute, University of Pretoria (South Africa). [www.jolisaa.net]

AGRICULTURE & NUTRITION

AFTER - African Food Tradition Revisited by Research

Aim: to revisit traditional African products, knowledge and know-how with new technologies for the benefit of consumers, producers and processors in Africa and Europe. To apply S&T to African traditional food products, to develop innovative technologies and products that are commercially viable in both European and African markets.

The project runs from September 2010 to May 2014 with an EU contribution of €2.9 million. It is led by CIRAD (France) with 6 other European partners and 9 African partners: **Université d'Abomey Calavi (Benin)**, Université de Ngaoundéré (Cameroon), Alexandria University (Egypt), National Research Centre (Egypt), The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (Ghana), University of Antananarivo (Madagascar), Université Cheikh Anta Diop (Senegal), Association AFrique agro Export (Senegal) and Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (South Africa). [www.after-fp7.eu]

AGRICULTURE & NUTRITION

INSTAPA - Novel staple food-based strategies to improve nutrition for better health

This project aims to identify novel staple food-based approaches to improve micronutrient nutrition for better health and development of women and children in sub-Saharan Africa. It focusses on improving millet-, sorghum-, maize-, and cassava based (complementary) foods.

The project runs from June 2008 to November 2013 with an EU contribution of €5.9 million. It is led by Wageningen University (The Netherlands) with 3 other European partners, a US partner and 6 African partners: **Université d'Abomey Calavi (Benin)**, University of Nairobi (Kenya), International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (Mali), Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique et Technologique (Burkina-Faso), International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (Nigeria) & University of KwaZulu Natal (South Africa).

[www.instapa.org]

HEALTH

BURULIVAC - Identification and development of vaccine candidates for Buruli Ulcer Disease

Aim: to identify and develop novel vaccine candidates suitable for translation into clinical application. This objective will be achieved by a multidisciplinary approach involving among others basic and applied research in immunology, bioinformatics, molecular genetics, tropical medicine, microbiology and clinical bacteriology.

The project runs from March 2010 to May 2013 with an EU contribution of €4.6 million. It was led by the Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine (Germany) with 11 other European partners and 4 African partners: **Centre National Hospitalier (Benin)**, **Ministère de la Santé (Benin)**, Institut Médical Evangélique (Dem. Rep. Congo) and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (Ghana). [www.burulivac.eu]

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