



Gabon in FP7 (2007-2013):

7 participations in EU-funded projects
€1.86 million of EU contribution for research.

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

Gabon is the 26th most successful African country in the 7th Framework programme (FP7) in terms of numbers of participations in projects and 20th in terms of total EU contribution.

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>

Examples of FP7 projects involving participants from Gabon:

HEALTH

IDEA - Immunological Interplay between Poverty Related Diseases and Helminth Infections: An African-European Research Initiative.

Aim: to determine whether and how the presence of worm infections modulate (i) immune responses specific to HIV, TB and Malaria; (ii) the clinical course of these diseases and (iii) vaccination and vaccine-induced immune responses. The project involves an alliance between African and European leading scientists in the field of worms, HIV, TB and malaria

The project runs from March 2010 to February 2015 with an EU contribution of €10.3 million. It is led by Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois (Switzerland) with 15 other European partners, a US partner and 6 African partners: Centre de Recherches Médicales de Lambaréné (**Gabon**), Fondation Internationale de l'Hôpital Albert Schweitzer (**Gabon**), Kenya Medical Research Institute (Kenya), University of Ibadan (Nigeria), National Institute for Medical Research (Tanzania) and Ifakara Health Institute (Tanzania).

[www.idearesearch.eu]

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HEALTH

THESCHISTOVAC - The targeted development of a new generation vaccine for Schistosomiasis

Aim: to develop a new generation vaccine for schistosomiasis based on specific targets, making it safe and effective. The life stage-specific vaccine target selection strategy is based on state-of-the-art technologies and data, and unique serum and sample libraries from endemic areas are key to identifying protective immune responses and effective targets.

The project runs from February 2010 to January 2014 with an EU contribution of €3.8 million. It is led by Leiden University Medical Centre (The Netherlands) with 7 other European partners and 5 African partners: Centre de Recherches Médicales de Lambaréné (**Gabon**), Fondation Internationale de l'Hôpital Albert Schweitzer (**Gabon**), University of Ghana, Kenya Medical Research Institute (Kenya) and the Ministry of Health (Uganda).

[www.theschistovac.eu]

HEALTH

HOOKVAC - Developing and testing a novel, low-cost, effective HOOKworm VACCine to control human Hookworm infection in endemic countries

Aim: to develop the first and only vaccine for human hookworm infection. A bivalent, low-cost vaccine candidate will be clinically tested for the first time in an African disease endemic population – Gabon – a very typical setting within the Central African rainforest belt, where the incidence of hookworm infections is 30%.

The project runs from October 2013 to September 2017 with an EU contribution of €6 million. It is led by Academic Medical Centre (The Netherlands) with 4 other European partners, 3 US partners and 1 African partner: Centre de Recherches Médicales de Lambaréné (**Gabon**).

[<http://aighd.org/projects/hookvac/>]

EARTH OBSERVATION & ENVIRONMENT

REDDINESS - Support EO-driven forest and carbon monitoring in Central Africa for REDD

Aim: the overarching objective is to assist Gabon and the Republic of Congo to accurately report on the rate of deforestation. REDDiness is a development project built on an international partnership between state-of-the-art entities specialized in forest management and earth observation techniques that aims to assist Gabon and the Republic of Congo in establishing their national forest monitoring centres.

The project ran from February 2011 to January 2013 with an EU contribution of €0.5 million. It was led by Eurosense Belfotop (Belgium) with 2 other European partners and 3 African partners: Ministère des Eaux et Forêts (**Gabon**), Centre National d'Inventaire et d'Aménagement des Ressources Forestières et Fauniques – CNIAF (Congo) and Observatoire Satellital des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale (Democratic Republic of Congo).

[www.reddiness-en.eu]

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