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Rwanda in FP7 (2007-2013): 10 participations in EU-funded projects* €1.06 million of EU contribution for research.

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

Rwanda is the 20th most successful African country in the 7th Framework programme (FP7) in terms of numbers of participations in projects and 23rd 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 projects involving participants from Rwanda:

IT

EIAFRICA - Teaming-up for exploiting e-Infrastructures' potential to boost RTDI in Africa Aim: to boost the research, technological development and innovation potential of African e-Infrastructures and support policy dialogues and Euro-African cooperation in the framework of the Joint Africa-EU Strategic Partnership on 'trade, regional integration and infrastructures', as well as the Joint Africa-EU Strategic Partnership on 'science, information society and space'. The project runs from November 2012 to Oct. 2014 with an EU contribution of €0.92 million. It is led by Sigma Orionis (France) with 5 other European partners and 2 African partners: **Kigali Institute of Science and Technology (Rwanda)** and Dar es Salam Institute of Technology (Tanzania).

[<u>http://ei4africa.eu/</u>]

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RURBANAFRICA - African Rural-City Connections.

Aim: to explore the connections between rural transformations, mobility and urbanization processes and analyse how these contribute to an understanding of the scale, nature and location of poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. The project focuses on four country cases: Rwanda, Tanzania, Cameroon and Ghana.

The project runs from April 2012 to March 2016 with an EU contribution of €2.7 million. It is led by Copenhagen University (DK) with 3 other European partners, the International Institute for Environment and Development, and 4 African partners: **National University of Rwanda**, Université Dschang (Cameroon), University of Ghana and Sokoine University of Agriculture (Tanzania). [<u>http://geo.ku.dk/rurbanafrica/</u>]

IT

EUROAFRICA-ICT.ORG - Supporting Policy Dialogues and Strengthened Cooperation with sub-Saharan Africa

Aim: to explore policy and research priorities, by involving all interested stakeholders, and derive recommendations for future cooperation opportunities, organise cooperation events in Europe and in Africa, synchronized whenever possible with policy dialogue meetings, in order to provide inputs to these meetings, facilitate the development of synergies with other programmes and initiatives, involve key stakeholders, fine tune priorities, etc.

The project ran from January 2010 to December 2011 with an EU contribution of ≤ 0.6 million. It was led by Sigma Orionis (France) with 3 other European partners, and 3 African partners, **Kigali Institute of Science and Technology (Rwanda)**, Makerere University (Uganda) and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (South Africa). [<u>http://euroafrica-ict.org/</u>]

ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

HEALTHY FUTURES - Health, environmental change and adaptive capacity

This project addresses concerns for the health impacts of environmental changes by constructing a disease risk mapping system for 3 water-related vector-borne diseases (malaria, Rift valley fever & schistosomiasis) in Africa, accounting for environmental/climatic trends to predict future risk, concentrating on eastern Africa as a study area.

It runs from January 2011 to December 2014 with an EU contribution of €3.4 million and is led by Trinity College Dublin (Ireland) with 6 other European partners, University of Singapore, and 7 African partners: **the National University of Rwanda and TRAC Plus in the Ministry of Health (Rwanda),** University of Nairobi (Kenya), Kenya Medical Research Institute (Kenya), the International Livestock Research Institute (Kenya), University of Cape Town (South Africa) and Ministry of Health (Uganda). [www.healthyfutures.eu]

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 \notin 4 million. It is led by the Association of Commonwealth Universities (UK) with 11 other European partners and 13 African partners. [<u>www.caast-net-plus.org</u>]

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