

ESASTAP Plus

**Strengthening Technology, Research
and Innovation Cooperation
between Europe and South Africa**



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

Mamohloding Tihagale
Director: Strategic Partnerships Unit, DST

Context

- ESASTAP background
- Achievements
- ESASTAP plus objectives
- Partners
- Support Instruments
- Upcoming activities



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

ESASTAP background

- ESASTAP is a dedicated platform aimed at:
 - promoting S&T cooperation between SA and the EU,
 - addressing challenges encountered by SA researchers
- 1st and 2nd phases implemented by DST
 - Main focus was raising awareness of FP7 and other EU funding opportunities amongst the SA research communities
- 3rd phase (ESASTAP Plus)
 - more partners
 - duration 3 yrs starting in November 2012



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

ESASTAP achievements

- Awareness of the EU funding programmes in SA
- Established a good partnership with HLI, science councils
- Increased SA participation in FP7, currently the first 3rd country participant
- Established funding instrument to support SA participants in the EU funding programmes
- Establishment of an effective SA National Contact Point (NCP) network for all FP7 themes including non thematic areas
- Assisted with establishment of NCP networks in other African countries (concerted efforts of ESASTAP 2 and CAAST-Net projects)



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

Achievements...

- Growth in the ICT and space research in the last few years (Traditional partner in the health, environment and KBBE)
- Increased uptake of the MCA opportunities
- Partner matching activities (portal, NCPs, Brussels office and SAccess)
- Highlighted the SA-EU research cooperation during the SA-EU Summits since 2008
- Increase SA participation also in the EDCTP and COST programmes



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

Strategic approach to promoting SA participation in FP

- SA own responsibility to promote cooperation, understand nature of EU instruments
- Participation should be aligned with own national strategic objectives
- Create enabling national environment for researchers to participate – proactively (*Noting that FP will not be appropriate in all instances*):
 - FP topics relevant to SA priorities and strengths
 - SA researchers best placed to respond
 - Support SA links to leading European groups
- Promote long-term strategic relations
- Enrich and complement bilateral cooperation



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

SA participation in other programmes

- EU Bilateral S&T Cooperation Agreements
- Cooperation with multinational companies
- Interface with multilateral forums (e.g. OECD, Carnegie Group, GEO, etc.)
- Bi-regional frameworks (e.g. AU-EU)
- Thematic dialogues (e.g. Space, Information Society, KBBE, Energy)
- Thematic partnerships (e.g. EDCTP)
- INCO projects – BILAT, INCO-NETs and ERA-Nets



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

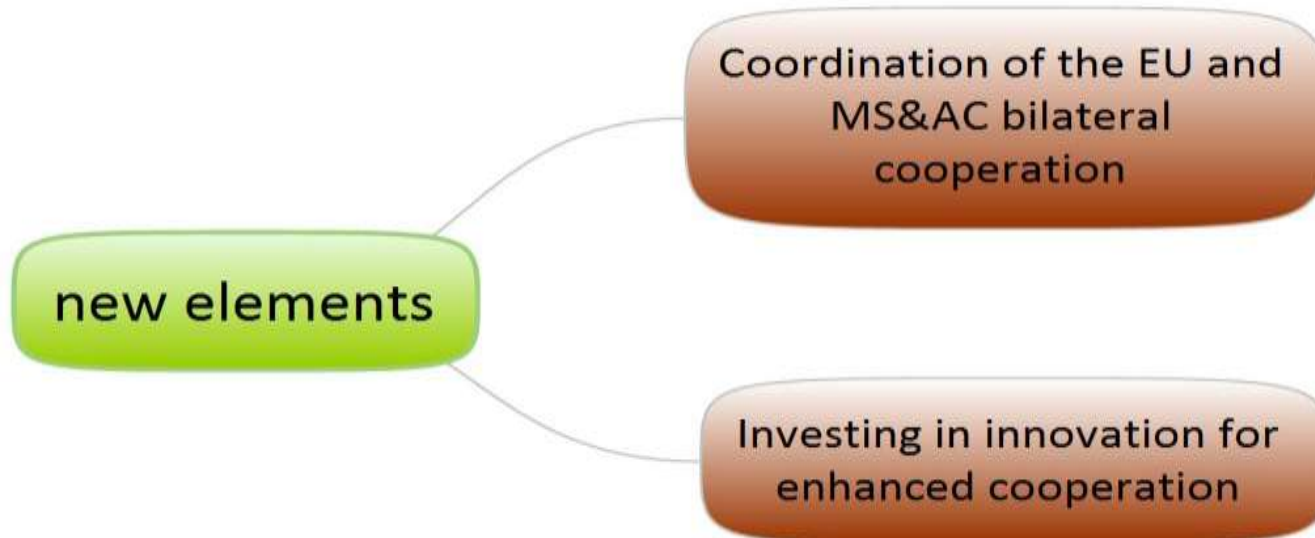
ESASTAP Plus Evolution

- **ESASTAP Plus** is the successor of a long and successful efforts, namely **ESASTAP** and **ESASTAP²**
- But also **SAccess**



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

What's New?



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

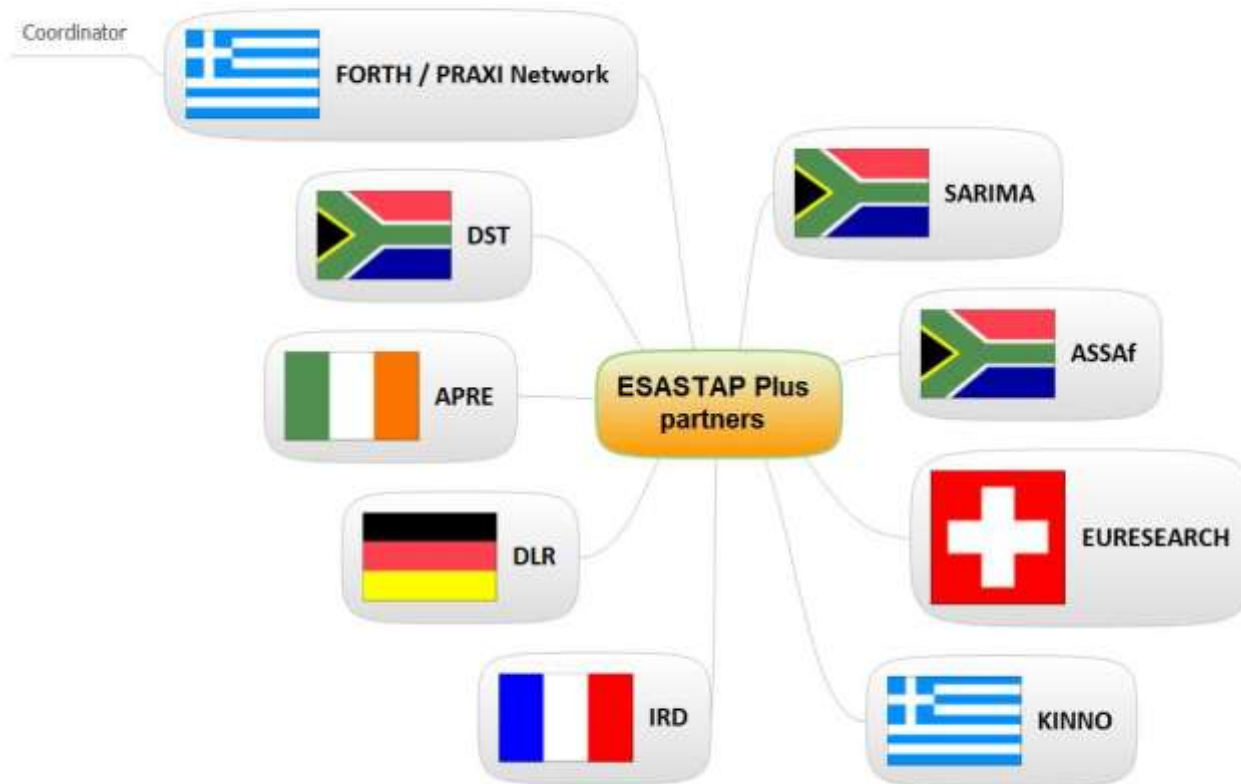
ESASTAP plus objectives

- Enrich the science, technology and innovation policy dialogue;
- Promote strategic cooperation under the main instruments, chiefly the Framework Programme;
- Better coordinate and exploit synergy between different EU and national programmes; and
- Expand cooperation to specifically address innovation partnerships.



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

Partners



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

Support Instruments

- Awareness raising and information
- Advisory and support mechanisms
- Financial support
 - Seed and co-investment
- Partner-matching service
- Twinning activities
 - Exchange of information, ideas, and best practices between researchers
 - Events/training on IP, technology transfer / exploitation



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

Upcoming activities for promoting SA-EU cooperation

Framework Programmes

- Finalising the SA H2020 NCP network, and training
- Establishment of a forum to facilitated SA programmes awareness activities in Europe (reciprocity)
- National road shows for first calls to targeted institutions
- Finalising the General Assembly membership for SA in EDCTP2
- ESASTAP Plus activities to be held in Jan, Europe
- Finalising funding for ERAfrica projects



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

Upcoming activities for promoting SA-EU cooperation...

Policy

- Finalise the preparations of the S&T dialogue to be held on 13 Jan, Brussels
- Establishment of the SC for the SA-EU Innovation policy dialogue and implementation of activities
- Finalising the EUREKA associate membership
- Establishing the EEN node in SA
- Start planning for S&T events to the SA-EU Summit (consider a space side event)



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

Thank you!

For more information:

www.esastap.org.za

contact@esastap.org.za

Twitter@ESASTAP Plus



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa