

DST support instruments

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

Context

- ESASTAP background
- ESASTAP plus objectives
- Partners
- Support Instruments



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ESASTAP background

- ESASTAP is a dedicated platform aimed at:
 - promoting S&T cooperation between SA and the EU,
 - addressing challenges encountered by SA researchers wishing to participate in the EU FP and other programmes
- 1st and 2nd implemented by the Department of Science and Technology under FP6 and FP7
- Main focus was raising awareness of FP7 and other EU funding opportunities amongst the SA research communities
- 3rd (ESASTAP Plus) duration 3 yrs starting in November 2013



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ESASTAP achievements to date

- Awareness of the EU funding programmes in SA (research communities and also government departments)
 - have established a good partnership with HLI, science councils with most having a dedicated FP7 liaison officers
- Increased SA participation since FP6, currently the first 3rd country participant in FP7
- Established funding instrument to support SA participants in the EU funding programmes
- Establishment of the SA National Contact Point (NCP) network for all FP7 themes including people, ideas, SME NCPs
- Assisted with establishment of NCP networks in other African countries (concerted efforts of ESASTAP 2 and CAAST-Net)



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



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ESASTAP plus

- A dedicated platform for the enhancement of European – SA S&T cooperation, **with an emphasis on innovation**
- Supporting South Africa's participation in the FP, but also reciprocal European participation in SA programmes
- Support the bilateral policy dialogue to identify priority areas for mutually beneficial cooperation
- Encourage the development of new joint initiatives by MS, AC and SA research policies and programmes
- Encouraging synergy between different EU cooperation initiatives



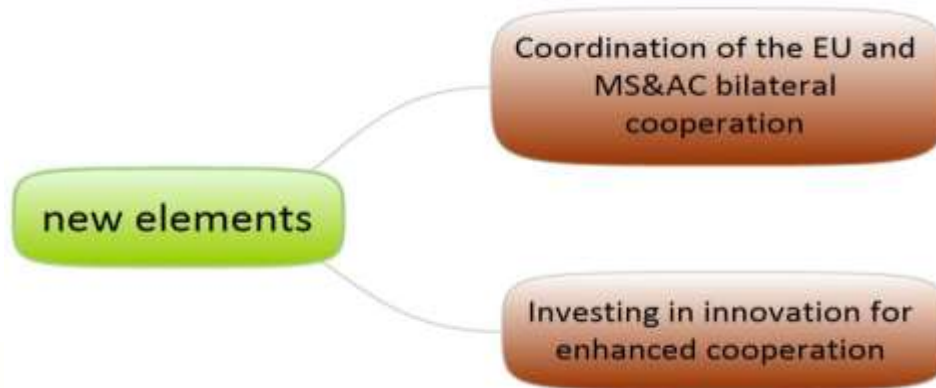
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ESASTAP plus objectives

- 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.



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Support Instruments

- **Awareness-raising & information:**
 - Website: <http://www.esastap.org.za>, and E-mail updates to ESASTAP Plus community
 - Brochures, Information sessions, trainings and thematic workshop (specific to SA audience for FP, and to EU audience for reciprocal programmes)
 - Twitter@ESASTAPPlus
- **Advisory and support mechanisms:**
 - Help desks (contact@esastap.org.za)
 - DST S&T representative in Brussels



Support Instruments

- **Financial support**

- [Framework Programme Seed Funding](#)

support the travel costs of South African researchers traveling to Europe to engage with European partners regarding FP collaboration. Alternatively funding can be granted to support the travel of European researchers to South Africa

- [Framework Programme Strategic Co-investment Funding](#)

successful South African FP participants which do not receive full funding from the European Commission for their FP project costs - as is possible under the FP funding rules - can apply for a strategic co-investment in their participation and receive funding for part of the remaining projects costs from DST



Support Instruments

- **National Contact Point Network:**
 - Support and training to the NCP network
- **Partner-matching service:**
 - Mobility portal at www.esastap.org.za
 - Dedicated partner-matching events locally and internationally
 - Through non-Framework Programme instruments, eg. the European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership ([EDCTP](#)) or the European CO-operation in Scientific and Technical Research ([COST](#)) programme



Support Instruments

- **Twinning activities:**
 - Exchange of information, ideas, and best practices between researchers
- **Innovation cooperation:**
 - Brokerage events both in Europe and South Africa
 - Events/training on IP, technology transfer / exploitation



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Thank you!

For more information:

www.esastap.org.za
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