

# ESASTAP Plus

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



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Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

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# Context

- SA's strategic approach to the Framework Programme
- ESASTAP background
- Achievements and challenges
- ESASTAP plus objectives
- ESASTAP Plus partners
- Other EU programmes
- Support Instruments
- Upcoming activities



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# SA Strategic approach to 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 identifying
  - FP topics relevant to SA priorities and strengths
  - SA researchers best placed to respond
  - Support SA links to leading European groups
- FP will not be appropriate in all instances
- Promote long-term strategic relations
- Enrich and complement bilateral cooperation



# ESASTAP background

- ESASTAP is a dedicated platform aimed at:
  - promoting S&T cooperation between SA and the EU,
  - addressing challenges encountered by SA researchers
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> phases implemented by DST
  - Main focus was raising awareness of FP7 and other EU funding opportunities amongst the SA research communities
- 3<sup>rd</sup> phase (ESASTAP Plus)
  - more partners
  - duration 3 yrs starting in November 2013



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# ESASTAP achievements

- 250 participations, R544 million, 68 institutions, (CSIR, DST, UCT, SU, UKZN and UP)
- Success rate: 27 % (*European 21% and 3<sup>rd</sup> countries 23%*)
- Awareness of the EU funding programmes in SA
- Established a good partnership with HLI, science councils
- Increased SA participation in FP7, currently the first 3<sup>rd</sup> country participant and 5<sup>th</sup> non-EU partner country
- Established funding and support instrument to support SA participants in the EU funding programmes
- Growth in the ICT, space, mobility (1 ERC, 52 MCA projects), research in the last few years (Traditional partner in the health, environment and KBBE)
- Increase SA participation also in other EU programmes EDCTP and COST programmes



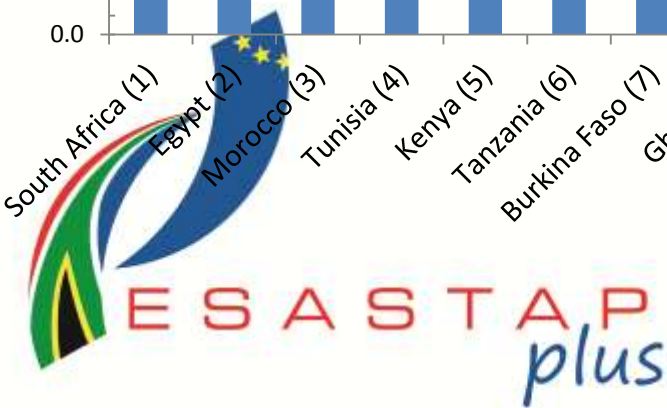
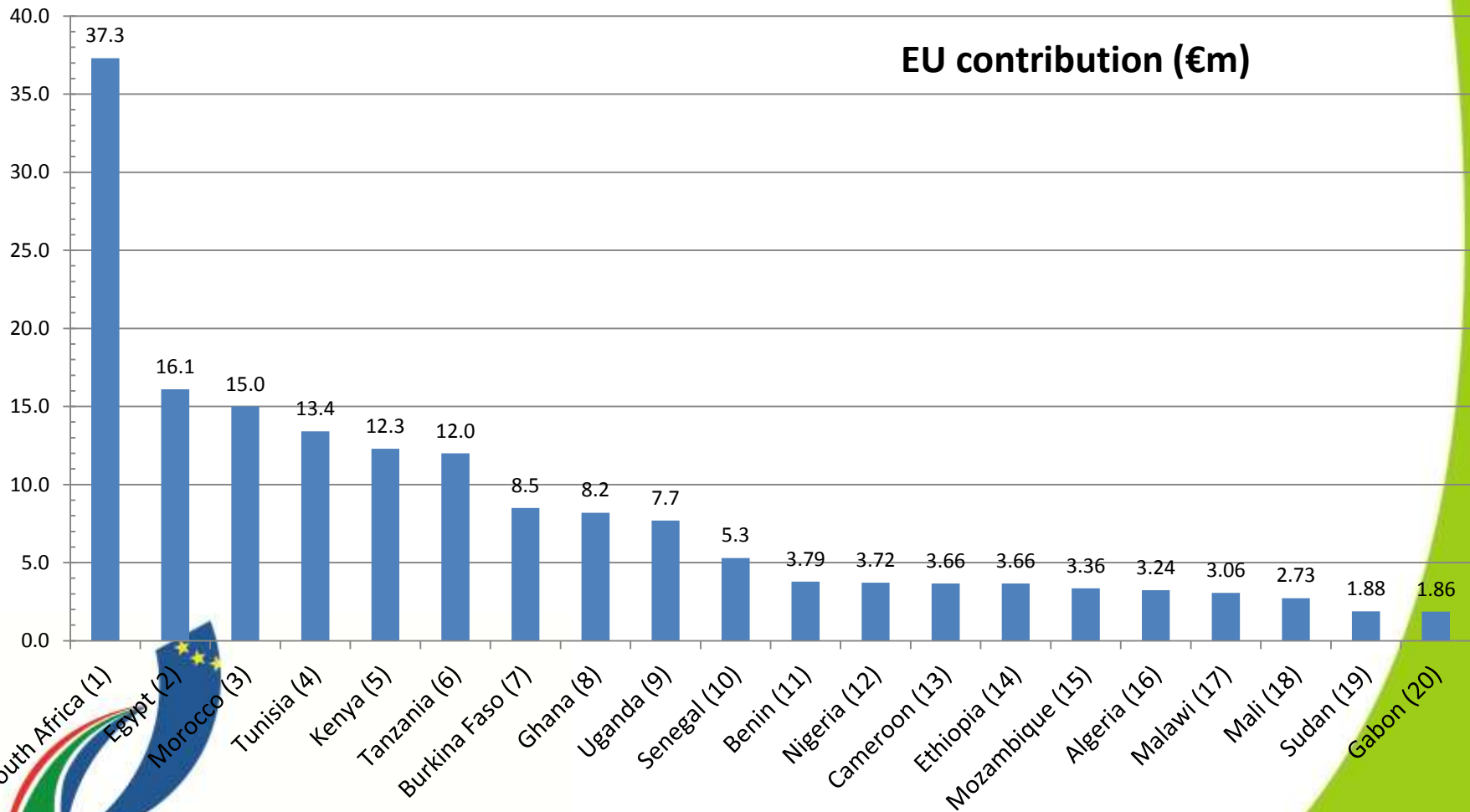
# Challenges from FP7

- Lack of awareness of opportunities
- Dissemination not filtering down to researchers
- The need for more partner matching support
- Lack of resources to top up DST and FP funds in PDI
- Need for proposal writing training
- Lack of IPR information
- Lack of inter-institution cooperation
- Need for dedicated FP personnel



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# African participation stats



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# ESASTAP Plus Evolution

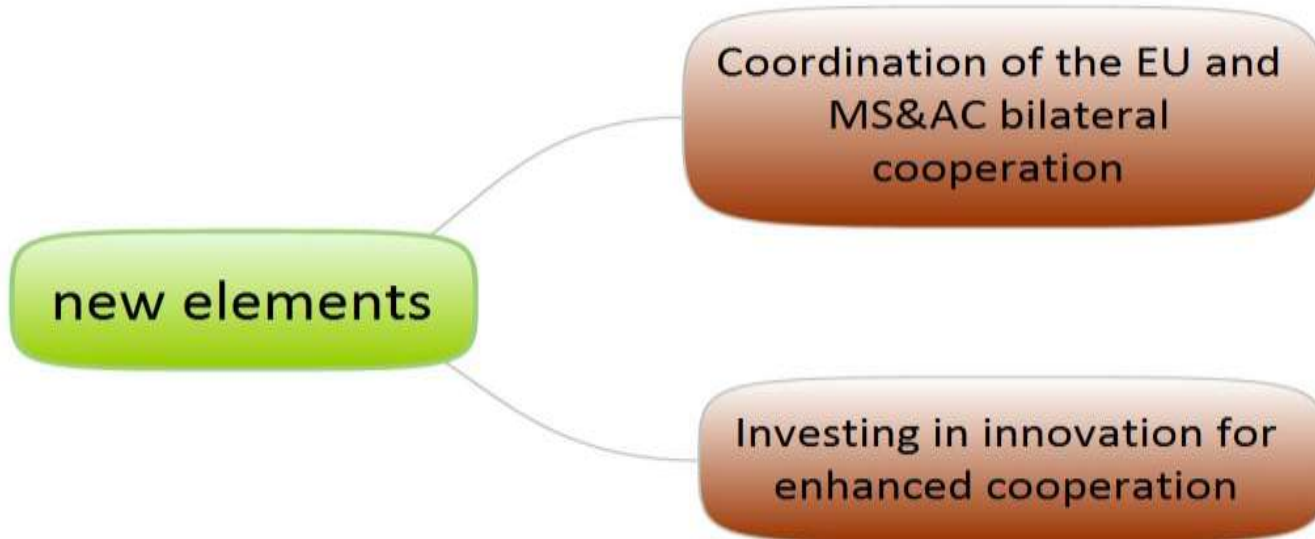
- **ESASTAP Plus** is the successor of a long and successful efforts, namely **ESASTAP** and **ESASTAP<sup>2</sup>**
- But also **SAccess**



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# What's New?



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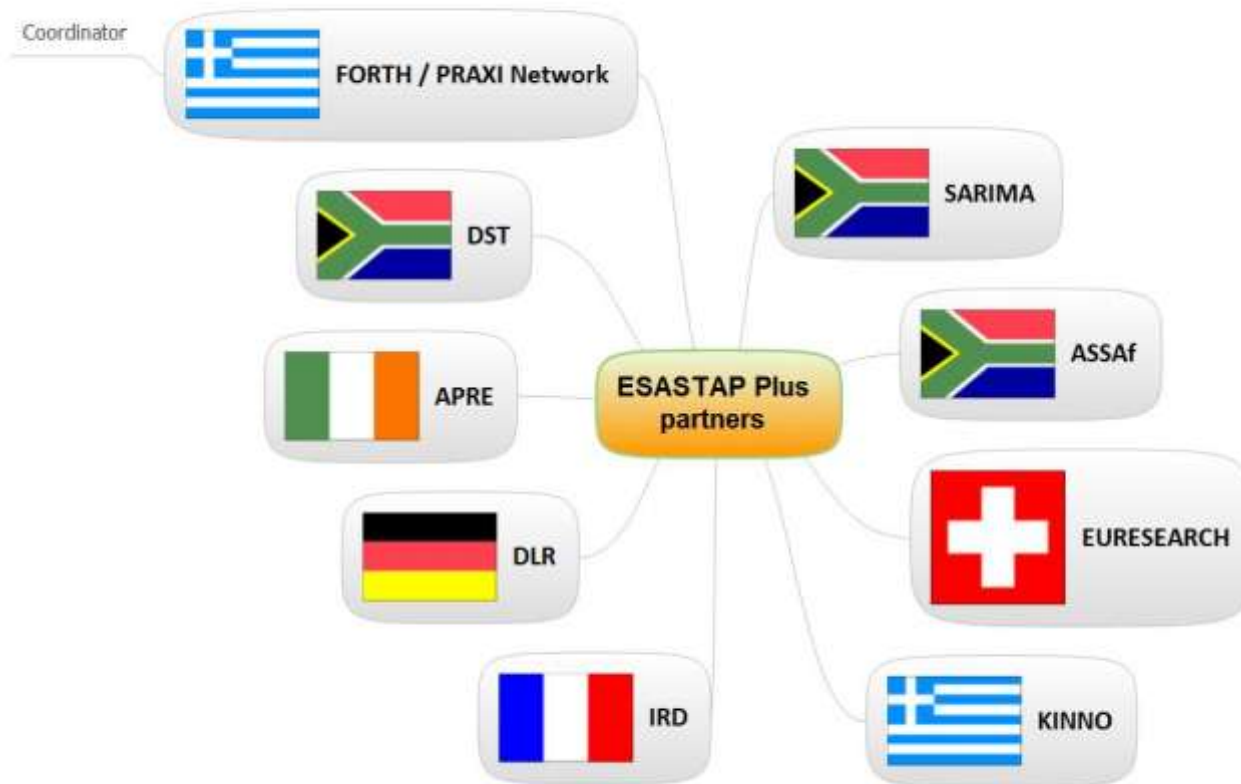
# ESASTAP plus objectives

- 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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# Partners



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# 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



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# Other EU programmes and networks

- European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnerships (EDCTP)
- African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) S&T programme
- European Cooperation in S&T (COST)
- EUREKA network
- Europe Enterprise Network (EEN)
- ESOF (Euroscience Open Forum)



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# Upcoming activities for promoting SA-EU cooperation

## Framework Programmes

- Briefing of the SA H2020 NCP network, and exposure to training and networking opportunities
- Establishment of a forum to facilitate SA programmes awareness activities in Europe (reciprocity)
- National road shows for first calls to targeted institutions (UL and Univen)
- Finalising the General Assembly membership for SA in EDCTP2
- ESASTAP Plus activities to be held in March and April in Greece
- Finalising funding for ERAfrica successful projects
- ACP S&T programme



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# Upcoming activities for promoting SA-EU cooperation...

## Policy

- 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 (S&T side event)



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# Thank you!

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