



HORIZON 2020

First calls for proposals – 11 December 2013



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Main topics:

- The **policy context**
- South Africa in **FP7**
- **Horizon 2020** – the new EU programme for Research & Innovation (2014-2020)
- **International cooperation** in Research & Innovation

The policy context

South Africa and EU as partners

- Trade, Development and Cooperation Agreement (TDCA) – 2000
- Strategic Partnership and Action Plan – 2007
- S&T Cooperation Agreement - 1997
- Cooperation on science, technology and innovation a *flagship* of the wider relationship
- Strong cooperation on STI in regional context
 - Joint Africa-EU Strategy
 - EU-Africa High Level Policy Dialogue on STI

Drivers/Benefit of EU cooperation with SA on STI?

- Support to growth and job creating strategies
- Mutual benefit, building critical mass to find solutions to common problems
- Complementary knowledge and geographic conditions
- Access to each other's market
- Optimising use of research infrastructures
- Making progress towards international commitments
- Science Diplomacy

SA participation in the seventh Framework Programme

EU-SA cooperation in FP7

South Africa is the **5th** most active international partner country in FP7 – following Russia, the US, China and India

South Africa ranks **1st** amongst African countries in FP7

- **250** participants in **231** signed contracts (1 ERC, 52 MCA projects)
- EU participant contribution: **€ 38** million (ERC: € 2.5 million, MCA €4 million)

Most active in:

Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology, Health, and Environment

EU-SA cooperation in FP7

Top five collaborative links: United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands.

Success rate: 27 % *higher than the European average success rate (20.9%) and the third countries average rate (23.2%)*

Most active organisations:

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research

University of Cape Town

Department of Science and Technology

University of Kwazulu-Natal

Stellenbosch University/University of Pretoria

Flagships of EU-SA STI cooperation

- Global Health: European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP)
- Earth Observation: Group on Earth Observation (GEO)
- Research Infrastructures (radio astronomy): Square Kilometer Array (SKA)

Examples of projects – Bilateral – FP7 Capacities

ESASTAP Plus: Enhance STI cooperation between SA and EU
November 2012 – 2015
EC Contribution: 1.5 M €
Focus on: awareness raising campaigns,
promote SA-EU cooperation, support NCP
network, brokerage events, enhance
coordination between EU MS STI cooperation
programmes with SA, cooperation in
innovation

Examples of projects – Regional – FP7 Capacities

ERAfrica:

15 EU and African countries established 3 joint calls for 11 M € - will finance 20 projects to start soon

Initial EC Contribution: 2 M €
2010-2013

CAAST-Net Plus:

Enhance African participation in H2020

Societal challenges - Food security; Climate change; Health
January 2013-2017

EC Contribution: 4 M €

ERC-funded projects with activities in South Africa

ERC grant

- Prof Christopher Stuart HENSHILWOOD at the University of Bergen (Norway).

ERC projects in SA:

- **SOLARIS** project of Dr Maciej Konacki from the Nicolaus Copernicus Astronomical Center in Poland. Measurements for detecting circumbinary planets are done with robotic telescopes located in **South Africa (Sutherland)**, Australia, and Chile.
- **HYRAX** project of Dr Brian M. Chase (CNRS), investigating long-term climate change (records in **southern Africa** spanning the last 50,000 years)

Examples of SA IRSES projects

- **LEGIM** – Legume improvement (2009-2011) - University of Pretoria, Newcastle University, UK and VIB Ghent work together on "legume" improvement. 20 researchers have participated in the exchange programme.
- **ESAP-NutRes** - European-South African Partnership in Nutrition Research (2009-2012) Wageningen University, the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule (ETH) and the North-West University in Potchefstroom.

STI capacity-building projects

Part of development cooperation:

- Innovation for poverty alleviation
- Innovation Dialogue
- ACP S&T Programme
- African Union Research Grants

Horizon 2020

The new Programme for Research and
Innovation (2014-2020)

What is Horizon 2020?

The new European Union programme for research and innovation for 2014-2020

- An integrated programme coupling research to innovation
- Challenge based
- Strong focus on SMEs
- Major simplification
- Open to the world



What Horizon 2020 is not:

- **A development aid programme**
- **A bilateral cooperation programme**

It is a programme focussed on European needs and global challenges, open to international cooperation.

New approach to work programmes and calls

- **More strategic**
- **Two year work programmes**
(2014-2015: > € 15 billion)
- **Less prescriptive calls**
(64 calls in 2014)
 - ✓ Broader and fewer topics
 - ✓ First call deadlines as from March 2014



Major Simplification for the benefit of applicants

1. A single set of rules for all funding under Horizon 2020

- ✓ Fewer, more flexible, funding instruments

2. Simpler reimbursement: 1 project = 1 funding rate

- ✓ 100% of the total eligible costs (70% for innovation actions)
- ✓ Non-profit legal entities can also receive 100% in innovation actions
- ✓ Single flat rate for indirect costs (25% of eligible costs)

3. Faster time to grant

- ✓ Within 8 months of call deadline



Major Simplification for the benefit of applicants

- 4. Fewer, better targeted controls and audits**
- 5. Coherent implementation**
 - ✓ Through dedicated agencies
 - ✓ Single IT system
- 6. Simplification in grant agreements**



International Cooperation in Horizon 2020

Objectives of international cooperation under H2020

- **Strengthening excellence, attractiveness and competitiveness** by joining forces across borders (win-win cooperation; attracting talent and investment; access to knowledge and markets; common values...)
- Tackling **global societal challenges** together (building critical mass; optimising use of infrastructures...)
- Supporting **EU external policies** (development, making progress towards international commitments...)
- **Doubling** international participation in H2020

How to implement the objectives?

- **International cooperation strategy** : step away from an "add-on" approach based on "ad hoc agreements" towards a strategy based on multi-annual roadmaps for cooperation with key partners such as South Africa
- H2020 : **fully open** to third countries participation, including South Africa
- **Same rules** for EU and SA participants, also in terms of funding
- Importance of cross-cutting dimension of international cooperation in H2020 - **targeted** international cooperation activities, with key partners such as South Africa, with the scale and scope necessary to maximise impact

First Work Programme: 2014-15

- All actions are open to participation by SA researchers
- Several actions are specifically targeting cooperation with researchers from Africa, including South Africa
- Examples to mention are:
- **2014: Research Infrastructures:** International cooperation for research infrastructures (Africa)
- **2014: Challenge 2:** Sustainable intensification pathways of agro-food systems in Africa
- **2014: Challenge 5:** Coordinating and supporting raw materials research and innovation – Strategic international dialogues and cooperation on raw materials with technologically advanced countries (South Africa)
- **2015: Challenge 6:** Enhancing and focusing research and innovation cooperation with the Union's key international partner countries (South Africa)

Preparing for the first calls (first deadlines March)

- Your presence today!
- Obtain and study the work programmes
- Get involved if you see an opportunity that fits your strategy
- Find partners rapidly, but chose them carefully
- Create/develop your profile (capacities, achievements, ...)
- Participation in a FP project involves some reporting duties – these need to be properly planned & resourced.
- Use support structures:
ie National Contact Points (NCPs) if available;
if support is not available, ask for some...

Preparing for the first calls

- **Obtain and analyse calls texts asap**
- **Develop and maintain your international contacts**
- **Be proactive !**

Sources of information

- **Horizon 2020 web site:** <http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020>
- **Participant portal:** <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal>
- **Google, LinkedIn...** & specialised databases (eg: Healthcompetence.eu)

- **Horizon 2020 information events in Europe:**
http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020/index_en.cfm?pg=h2020-events
- **Horizon 2020 information events in South-Africa:**
 - 27-31 January 2014

Thank you for your attention!

Find out more:

www.ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020