

DST SUPPORT TO PARTICIPANTS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION FUNDED PROGRAMMES



Overview of Presentation

- ESASTAP background
- COST programme
- DST support for FP7 and COST participants



ESASTAP BACKGROUND

- European-South African Science and Technology Advancement Programme (ESASTAP)
- Implemented by the DST
- 1st ESASTAP duration from 2005-2007
- A dedicated platform aimed at promoting S&T cooperation between SA and the EU, and to address challenges encountered by SA researchers wishing to participate in the European Union Framework Programme



ESASTAP's activities

- Raising awareness of FP6 among the SA research community
- Showcasing SA S&T excellence and innovation in Europe
- Promoting SA participation in the activities of the FP6
- Raising awareness of existing and future S&T cooperative initiatives in SA and EU
- Facilitate SA and the EU meetings to identify S&T priorities for enhancing cooperation



ESASTAP2

- DST responded to a coordination and support action call for proposals, for FP7 funding in 2007
- To strengthen ESASTAP and improve SA participation in FP7
- DST is the only partner in the project
- The project duration 2008-2011
- DST also co-invest in the project



ESASTAP2 objectives

- **To improve and increase participation in FP7**
 - targeted initiatives to private, public sectors
- **To develop and enhance networks and partnerships between EU and SA researchers and institutions**
 - facilitate entry into long-standing partnerships / consortia
- **To better identify and demonstrate mutual interest and benefit in S&T cooperation between the EU and SA**
 - facilitate consideration of Specific International Cooperation Activities (SICAs) in FP7

ESASTAP2 INSTRUMENTS

- **Awareness-raising & information:**
 - Website: <http://www.esastap.org.za>
 - E-mail updates
 - Brochures and electronic document library
 - Seminars and workshops both local and international



ESASTAP2 INSTRUMENTS...

- **Advisory and support mechanisms:**
 - Guidance and support to SA FP participants through dedicated help desks (contact@esastap.org.za)
 - Preparation of SA specific FP materials and other instrument guidance notes
 - Expert and technical advice by NCPs
 - S&T office in Brussels



ESASTAP2 INSTRUMENTS...

- **Partner-matching service:**
 - Active on the ESASTAP website
 - Mobility portal also linked to EURAXESS
 - Dissemination of information via European and South African networks
 - Dedicated partner-matching events
 - NCP facilitated partner matching activities



COST PROGRAMME

- European Cooperation in Science and Technology which started in the 80s
- “Bottom-up” approach
- Focus on multidisciplinary cooperation
- Promote early stage researcher
- Coordination through cooperation in networks
- Complements FP



SA-COST RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT

- South Africa (SA) through the Department of Science and Technology (DST) signed a Reciprocal Agreement with the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) office in June 2009.
- Aims to respectively fund SA and EU researchers undertaking short-term scientific missions to Europe and SA, related to SA's participation in COST actions
- DST has designated the European South African Science and Technology Advancement Programme (ESASTAP) to implement the Agreement.



How to participate in an Action from South Africa?

- Get in touch with the Action Chair
- Agree on the mutual benefit of your participation
- The Action Chair starts a formal procedure to get the non-COST country (your institution) participation approved
- Contact ESASTAP in the meanwhile about your COST application
- Travel to Europe and establish scientifically productive and trustful collaborations



DST SUPPORT...

1. Marketing of SA S&T excellence

- Partner search service on ESASTAP website (mobility portal)
- Distribution on SA research vacancies in Europe
- International theme specific events in Europe
- Distribute thematic brochures during international and local events



DST SUPPORT...

2. Financial support

- Seed funding – for SA researchers preparing for participation in FP7, up to 80% of expenses
- Co-investment funding – for SA researchers participating in approved FP7 project needing matching funding
- Mobility matching fund – for SA researchers participating in approved IRSES project, R 30 000/month/person
- Support for COST participants, R50 000/visit/institution

Thank you!

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For more information:

FP7: www.esastap.org.za or www.cordis.lu

COST: www.esastap.org.za or www.cost.esf.org



European - South African Science and Technology
Advancement Programme

www.esastap.org.za