

Strengthening the European-South African Science and Technology Advancement Programme (ESASTAP2)



Overview of Presentation

- **Context for ESASTAP2**
 - concept
 - ESASTAP background
- **ESASTAP 2 objectives**
- **Work packages**
- **DST support**
- **Potential impact**



ESASTAP2 concept

- SA and EU enjoy a privileged partnership marked by longstanding political, economic and development cooperation ties
- SA-EU strategic partnerships in international S&T relations:
 - The first SA-EU intergovernmental agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation signed in 1996
 - SA-EU S&T cooperation incorporates a multilateral dimension encompassing Africa – EU programmes
 - Agreement falls within the jurisdiction of the SA-EU Cooperation Council established by the Trade, Development and Cooperation Agreement (TDCA)



ESASTAP

- European-South African Science and Technology Advancement Programme (ESASTAP), was a Specific Support Action funded under EU FP6
- Aimed at promoting SA participation in the FP6
- Implemented by the DST (CSIR as implementation partner)
- A dedicated platform aimed at promoting scientific and technological cooperation between SA and the EU
- FP6 funding from 2005-2007
- DST also co-invested in the project



ESASTAP's activities

- Showcasing the excellence and innovation of SA science, and reciprocally, S&T activities of individual EU member states, and fostering the development of S&T networks and partnerships
- Promoting greater SA participation in the activities of the Framework Programmes
- Creating and maintaining systems and forums promoting increased awareness and utilisation by both SA and EU countries of existing and future S&T cooperative initiatives
- Developing targeted initiatives that facilitate the SA and the EU to jointly identify S&T priorities for enhancing cooperation

ESASTAP2

- DST has submitted a coordination and support action proposal for funding under FP7,
- Main aim is to strengthen ESASTAP and improve SA participation in FP7
- DST is the only partner participation and IR will be accountable for the project organisation and management structure, leadership and implementation of all work packages
- May require additional resources from the research communities
- The project duration 2008-2011



Budget

- Total project cost: € 1,206,003.00
- Requested EC contribution: € 500,000.00
- DST's contribution: € 706,003.00



ESASTAP2 objectives

- **To improve and increase participation in FP7**
 - targeted initiatives to private and public sectors and priority thematic areas
- **To develop and enhance networks and partnerships between EU and SA researchers and institutions**
 - assisting SA researchers' entry into long-standing partnerships / consortia
- **To better identify and demonstrate mutual interest and benefit in S&T cooperation between the EU and SA**
 - to provide mechanisms and conduct activities in support of JSTCC recommendations

Work Packages

ESASTAP2 Work packages

WP1: FP7 participation

WP2: Networks and partnerships

WP3: S&T cooperation

WP4: Project management



WP1: FP7 participation

- **Increasing sector-specific participation** (conduct workshops targeted at specific sectors of the research community: large industry, SMEs, government, universities of technologies)
- **Improving thematic areas project participation** (support and resource SA NCP Network, engagement with EU NCP counterparts and the EC, thematic area specific workshops on open calls)

WP1...

- **Improving project development skills**
(development of training material specific to the SA community, proposal drafting, legal and finance workshops highlighting negotiation process, grant and consortium agreements and other contractual details, IPR workshops)

WP2: Networks and partnerships

- **Promotion of the SA research community** (EU member state institutional visits and workshops, Invite FP6, FP7 and other R&D project coordinators and partners to SA and showcase SA initiatives, expertise and resources, development of networks and partnerships through leveraging resources with other Third Country / ICPC / Emerging Economy countries, (CAAST-Net), leverage bilateral and multilateral initiatives)
- **Facilitating SA entry into partnerships / consortia** (facilitate partner identification and consortium entry, National and international meetings / workshops / conferences with country representatives, research organisations, industry players, public sector National Contact Point (NCP) network, Framework Seed Funding Instrument)
- **Promote participation in mobility opportunities** (incoming and outgoing fellowships, IRSES, IAPP, mobility portal)

WP3: S&T cooperation

- **Mechanisms and activities in support of cooperation agreements** (Maintenance and enhancement of information relating to SA multi- and bilaterals, provide information on other EU funding instruments, assist the DST's Senior S&T representative's office in Brussels, participate in promotional events, recognise excellence and impact of SA participation in Framework Programmes)



WP3...

- **Identification of mutual needs and advancement of mutual benefits** (Leverage JSTCC recommendations and road map, Establish / establish expert groups of researchers to advise on research areas of joint research needs and priorities, provide resources to support mechanisms developed under FP6 and FP7, advance relationships with other Third Country information platforms “twinning” of NCP networks

WP4: Project management

- **Effective operational project management**
(Manage project legal and contractual issues, manage and ensure regular and quality communication between participants to facilitate knowledge sharing, integration of all efforts, gender and transformation issues, and WPs progress)
- **Administrative and financial management**
(Manage overall financial issues, including facilitation of audits by the EC, justification of management costs, provision of financial statements, payments of money to applicants)

WP4...

- **Project outcomes dissemination** (Managing information flow within the project team and the EC, Managing information flow to the external environment)
- **Monitoring and evaluation** (Manage ESASTAP2 such that all contractual deliverables are met on time by all participants.)



DST SUPPORT

- **Financial support:**
 - Seed funding
 - Co-investment funding
 - Mobility matching fund
- **Advisory support:**
 - ESASTAP team
 - NCP network



POTENTIAL IMPACT

ESASTAP2's success and impact assessment will be based on:

- An overall increase in participation in FP7 by the general SA research community, the identified SA research community groupings, thematic areas
- Success in bringing about increased networking and partnering in the S&T community (measured by determining the greater extent of FP7 consortium arrangements, and range and number of partner organisations with which SA collaborates)
- The extent to which cooperative relationships have been leveraged through joint identification of needs and priorities for collaboration.

Thank you!

More information
www.esastap.org.za



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