



# Managing Research & Innovation in Southern Africa

Professor Pieter van der Bij  
Project Manager

# Introduction: 1

What does SARIMA stand for?

- Southern African Research & Innovation Management Association
- Its objective: Strengthening the Research and Innovation (R & I) system to ensure the social and economic development of the region

... to ensure that the excellent R & I currently being implemented in South Africa is translated into relevancy and public benefit... to the sustainable social and economic development of the region.

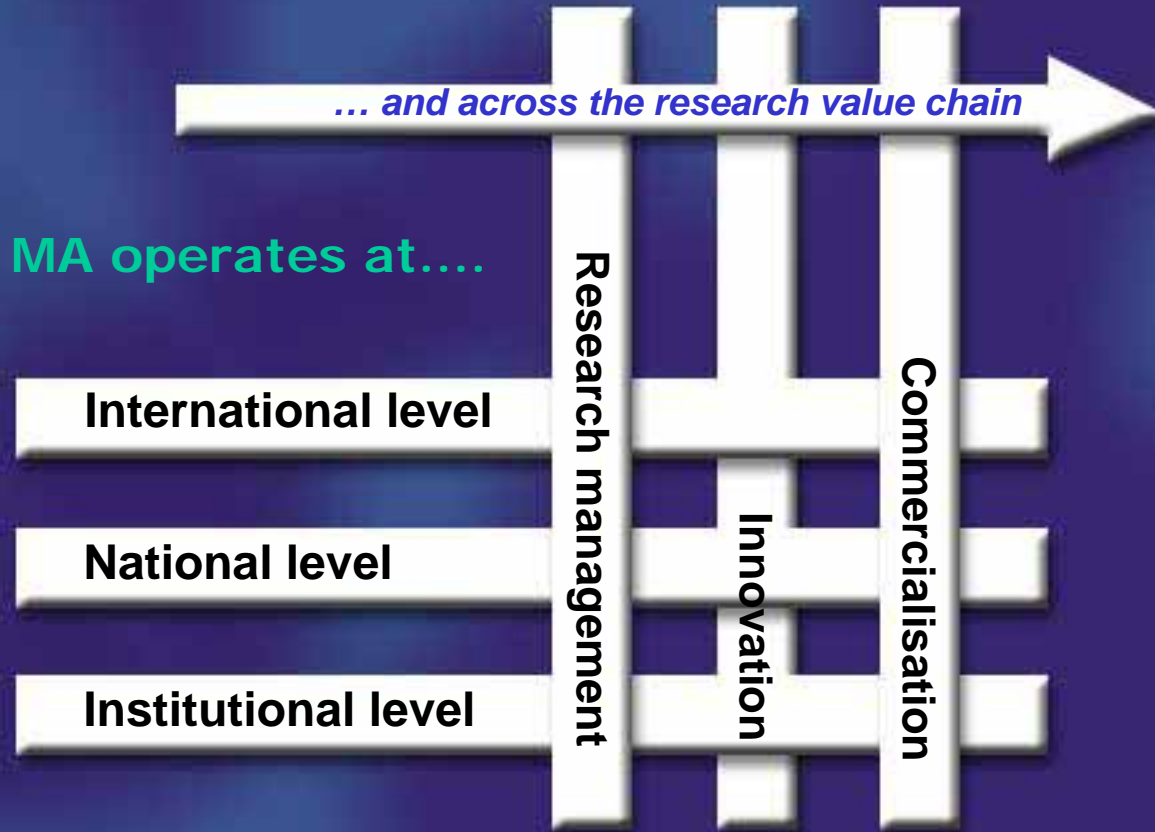
# Introduction: 2

## What does SARIMA offer:

- Conferences, workshops, training
- Networking, national, international
- Publications, audiovisual, e-learning materials
- Workshop groups, focus areas, staff exchanges

# Introduction: 3

SARIMA operates at....



....to weave research into the fabric of society

# Objectives: 4

- **Advancement** of R & I for sustainable economic and social development
- **Professional development** and capacity building of those involved in R & I in South Africa
- **Best Practice** in the management and administration of R & I to create value for education, public benefit and economic development
- **Policy** - advocacy of appropriate national and institutional policies, and participation in their development and implementation

# Membership: 5

- **Open to anyone involved in R & I management activities**
- **Individual members include persons in research institutes, universities and industry at all levels of management of R & I and technology development**
- **Individual members can join SARIMA as well as institutional members**
- **SARIMA currently has 101 members in South Africa and 9 members from other countries**

# Main Activities: 6

- **Technology transfer:** Models for technology transfer and downstream-related activities
- **Communicating** the importance of R & I to all stakeholders, through lobbying, promotional activity and policy development
- **Data collection, analysis and dissemination,** including benchmarks, research performance indicators, funding sources, and information sources
- **Ethics:** promoting development of and compliance with ethical principles for R & I
- **Contract research models:** including appropriate costing and pricing

# Projects: 7

- **Research Africa Project**
- **Annual SARIMA Conference (19-20 May 2009)**
- **INORMS Conference 2010**
- **NRF internships**
- **Concept Note to DFID**
- **Information guides for innovators**
- **Establishment of a postgraduate qualification (diploma/degree) in R & I management**
- **Professional capacity building for R & I managers in Southern and rest of Africa**
- **ACP Grant application**

# Research Africa Project: 8

- **The project over past 3 years:**
  - **Sponsored by DFID (Dept for Int Development)**
  - **Partners: ACU, RRLtd & SARIMA**
  - **Achievements (Monthly RA Newsletter, website, launching of RRA(Pty)Ltd, ACU e-library (database on R & I management policies of HE institutions worldwide)**
  - **NEPAD S&T policy e-library (S&T policies of African countries developed by CREST US)**
  - **Development of Research-Africa.net platform**

# Conference 2009: 9

- **Date:** 19-20 May 2009
- **Venue:** The Farm Inn, Pretoria, South Africa
- **Theme:** Research and Innovation Management for Africa's Development
- **Conference will consist of two workshops:**
  - **Workshop A:** Gateway to international funding: an African perspective
  - **Workshop B:** Advanced topics in Technology Transfer

# Conference 2009 (cont.): 10

## **Workshop A** will address:

- Intro to grants administration processes
- Grantsmanship for research managers
- Ethics- Legislation and Compliance
- Facilitating collaboration for collaborative grant applications
- Project and Financial Management principles
- Tools for grants administrators (RA platform)
- Intro to Development Funding
- Intro to EU and NIH funding

# Conference 2009 (cont.): 11

## Workshop B will address:

- **Converting opportunities into fundable propositions**
- **Transferring technologies to SMME's**
- **Lessons learned in growing and building technology**
- **Getting into the market**
- **Implementing the IPR Bill**
- **Creating a commercialisation company**
- **Valuation of IP/ technologies, licence fees and royalties**
- **IP and tax issues**
- **Foreign exchange transactions**
- **Getting out of not-so-good deals**

# INORMS 2010: 12

## INORMS 2010 Conference (11 -15 April):

- **Date:** 11-15 April 2010
- **Venue:** Cape Town International Conference Centre, South Africa
- **Theme:** Managing for Impact: new Approaches to Research and Innovation Management
- Conference will be hosted jointly by SARIMA and the ACU



science and technology

Department:  
Science and Technology  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# NRF Internships: 13



National  
Research  
Foundation

- Capacity for research management and administration and innovation is inadequate at universities, science councils and industry in SA
- Many research offices under- or inappropriately staffed
- DST, NRF and SARIMA have agreed to sponsor internships for young South Africans who wish to further their careers in research management, research support and administration
- Applications invited from suitably qualified candidates
- Successful candidates will be placed at various Higher Education Institutions
- Will work under guidance of an experienced mentor

# Concept Note to DFID: 14

- Consortium (SARIMA, ACU and Research Research Africa (Pty) Ltd) invited by DFID to update draft on Research Management Capacity Building in Africa
- Strategic opportunity for moving research management into SADC + Africa
- Once positive response received, full proposal needs to be developed

# Guides for Innovators: 15

- SARIMA has been instrumental in developing two information guides for innovators
  - SARIMA Inventor's Guide
  - **Systems and Support Mechanisms for Developing, Protecting, Managing and Exploiting Intellectual Property in South Africa**
- These guides will be published ( hard copy and e-format) within the next month

# Postgraduate course: 16

- **SARIMA is consulting with universities (local and abroad) to establish a formal postgraduate course (diploma/degree ) in R & I management**
- **The qualification must confer professional status to R & I managers**
- **The diploma/degree must be recognised internationally**

# Capacity building: 17

- **Biggest challenge for SARIMA over the next five years is:**
  - Professional capacity building of R & I managers in Southern and the rest of Africa
  - Close collaboration with WARIMA (West Africa)
  - Planning of establishment of EARIMA (East Africa)

# ACP Application: 18

- ACP application – Improvement of R & I Management Capacity in Africa & Caribbean for successful Stimulation & Dissemination of Research Results
  - **Partners:** SARIMA, R&I Management Services, (Belgium); ACU (UK); RRA (Pty) Ltd SA; U of Botswana (Botswana); SU (SA); U of Ibadan (Nigeria); U of Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania); U of Buea (Cameroon); U of Technology (Jamaica)

# Conclusions: 19

## **SARIMA :**

- **Has succeeded in uniting the R & I management of institutions under a single umbrella**
- **Has successfully participated in policy development on various matters related to R & I**
- **Is now acknowledged as a key organisation within the Southern African setting fostering partnerships and joint collaboration amongst institutions**

## Conclusions (cont.): 20

- SARIMA fosters strong international links with R & I institutions throughout the Southern African region (SADC), the EU, the USA and the Commonwealth
- SARIMA acts as the key “clearing house” of these institutions
- For further information on SARIMA visit their website:
  - [www.sarima.co.za](http://www.sarima.co.za)

**Thank you for  
your attention**