

Instruments to support Africa-EU radio astronomy cooperation: Infrastructure investments

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Objective

- Stay away from the jargon / alphabet soup
- Demystify
- Point the way to concrete next steps
- Focus on development cooperation instruments specific to Africa-EU cooperation
 - Policy context same as focus in EU on structural funds
- Not a specific focus on Horizon 2020 – but Elena available for questions!

Framework: Joint Africa-EU Strategy: Action Plan 2011-2013

- Objective: To strengthen African capacities in the area of science and technology, in order to enhance the use of science and technology and to improve S&T cooperation between Africa and Europe
- Finance:
 - Dedicated Financing Tools
 - 10th EDF, DCI, FP7, ENPI, EIB, AfDB
 - Bilateral contributions from EU and AU Member States, from the RECs and the European regions and from local authorities
 - Multilateral cooperation between Member States, e.g. a grouping of African and European Member States, who initiate and finance joint projects of mutual interest
 - Private Sector and Foundations that support R&D

Current context

- Current EU Multi-Annual Financial Framework coming to an end, next MFF (2014-2020) being prepared
- Next European Development Fund and Development Cooperation Instrument (2014-2020) also in preparation
- Limited opportunities in 2013 in current instruments

European Development Fund Background

- Supports African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Countries in:
 - Economic development;
 - Human and social development;
 - Regional cooperation and integration.
- Co-decision on priorities / projects by ACP and EU
- 10th EDF total budget of €22 682 million (2007-2013)
 - More than 80 % National Programmes
 - Also regional programmes: E.g. €116 for Southern African Development Community region
 - Regional Economic Integration focus on infrastructures
 - **Intra-ACP programme examples of radio astronomy relevant investments**
 - **€12 million for setting up Africa research and education networks and linking them to GEANT**
 - **€20 million for GMES and Africa Action Plan**

European Development Fund Opportunities

- Plans for 11th European Development Fund:
 - Proposed budget : €32 218 million
 - Majority national and regional programmes
 - Approximately €4 billion for Intra ACP and inter-regional programmes
 - Liaise with decision-makers based on AU Statement and EP Written Declaration for inclusion support early programming cycle
 - Projects / programmes have to be aligned with “Agenda for Change”: Inclusive and sustainable growth for human development

Development Cooperation Instrument

- Currently example
 - EU Development Cooperation Instrument for South Africa €980 million for 2007-2013 including €30 million for Innovation for Poverty Alleviation
- Proposed new “Pan African Instrument” (2014 - 2020)
 - To implement Joint Africa-EU Strategy
 - Foreseen budget €1 billion
 - Support Joint Africa-EU Strategy including science, information society and space
 - “Support Joint Africa-EU initiatives” in global arena

EDF and DCI how does it work

- Programmes launched by EC and partner government / body
 - Calls for proposals / tender
 - African and European organisations eligible
 - Could be physical infrastructure investments, training programmes, etc.
 - Budgets from few €100 000 to e.g. €200 million

EU-Africa Infrastructures Trust Fund

- Financing of infrastructure programmes which facilitate interconnectivity and regional integration on the African continent (African ownership / long-term sustainability)
- Combines lending and technical resources of Investment Banks (including European Investment Bank) with grant operations of European Commission and Member States (access several hundred million €)
- Funding support:
 - Interest rate subsidies
 - Technical assistance – e.g. feasibility studies
 - Direct grants – social or environmental components
 - Insurance premia
- Sectors:
 - Transport
 - Energy
 - Water
 - ICT including telecommunications

Mobility, staff exchange, and training opportunities

- FP7 call closing during January:
 - Industry Academia Partnerships Pathways (IAPP)
 - Funding longer-term research cooperation programme between industry and academia participants from Africa and Europe knowledge-sharing and inter-sector mobility based human resource interaction
 - Could serve as preparation for more ambitious programmes in 2014

What next

- AERAP continue to engage with decision-makers
- Work with stakeholders (African and European reflection) to prepare specific “investment opportunities” at national, regional and inter-regional level
- Not one single pot funding or cheque
- Specific proposals should emerge first quarter of 2013
- Milestones:
 - February 2013 – Joint Expert Group meeting in Brussels of Africa-EU Science, Information Society and Space Partnership
 - March 2013 – Conference in European Parliament on Global Science Cooperation , Irish Presidency of the EU: AERAP Focus
- Goal is to have AERAP priorities included in 2014 programming
- Opportunistic funding as available, e.g. foundations