

# The EU Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)

Tembela Eweje (DST)

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# Outline

## FP7

- European Union's Framework Programmes
- FP7 structure
- Thematic areas
- Participation
- Marie Curie Actions (mobility)

## ESASTAP<sup>2</sup>

- Objectives
- Instruments

## DST support instruments

# European Union's Framework Programmes

- EU's main instrument for funding R&D
- FP1: (1984-1987)  
FP2-FP6 : 4 years  
(R150 Million investment in SA research)
- FP7: 7 years (2007-2013) - 50,5 billion EURO  
April 2009 (R120 Million investment)

# FP7 Structure

## Four Specific Programmes

- Cooperation: Collaborative research, research networks, coordination research programmes and support actions
- Ideas: Frontier research, researcher driven
- People: Human capital: training & mobility
- Capacities: Research infrastructures, SMEs, Science and Society and Horizontal international cooperation actions

# FP7 Participation

- Implementation through defined calls for proposals
- European partners are needed for participation
- Full electronic submission
- Institution registration: Unique registration facility (URF)  
[http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/urf\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/urf_en.html)  
: Participant identification code (PIC)  
: Legal Entity Authorised Representative (LEAR)
- Guidance for IP in consortium agreements  
(<http://cordis.europa.eu/ipr-helpdesk/en/>)
- Independent experts for evaluation and monitoring (  
<https://cordis.europa.eu/emmfp7/index.cfm?fuseaction=wel.welcome>)

# Thematic Areas

1. Health
2. Food, agriculture and biotechnology
3. Information and communication technologies
4. Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies
5. Energy
6. Environment (including climate change)
7. Transport (including aeronautics)
8. Socio-economic sciences and the humanities
9. Space and
10. Security

# South Africa's FP7 Participation Statistics

In April 2009

- 41% success rate 82 participations in 69 projects
- EC investment R120 million
- Health and FAB (11 participations each)  
ICT and transport (8), SSH (5), Space (4)

Top 10 partners

UK, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands, Spain,  
Sweden, Switzerland and India

# Marie Curie Actions (MCA)

# Overall Scope

- Human resource development in R&D in Europe
- Numerous, well-trained, motivated researchers
- Attract students to SET careers
- Skills and sustainable career development

# MCA Building blocks

- Initial training of researchers (ITN)
- Industry dimension (Industry Academia Pathways and Partnerships)
- International dimension Incoming and outgoing fellowships, reintegration and international research staff exchange scheme (IOF, IIF, IRG, IRSES)
- Specific actions (Networking of NCPs and awards)

# Overview of MCA

## Host Actions

- Aimed at building institutional capacity
- Open for researchers, management and technical staff
- IRSES, IAPP, ITN

## Individual Actions

- Aimed at building individual capacity
- Open for experienced researchers (PhD or 4 years full time in research)
- IIF, IOF, IRG

# Host Actions

## 1. International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES)

Objectives: to strengthen partnership between research organisations within EU member states/associated countries and third countries

- Countries with existing or in a process of negotiating S&T agreements with the EU, or countries covered by European neighbourhood policy
- Exchange of researchers, technical and management staff between organisations
- Short term exchanges (max 12 months) and stay can be split into several periods
- Seconded researchers should maintain their salary at home institution and return
- Balanced exchanges principle, but EU funding of Third countries is possible
  - EU provide 1800€ /person/month as lump sum
  - DST will provide 3000€ /p/m/project support for successful SA participants

Next call open 28 November 2009- close 25 March 2010

# IAPP

Objective: to encourage knowledge sharing, cultural exchange, technical expertise and sustainable cooperation between industry and academia (in particular SMEs)

- Research, technical & managerial staff of all levels of experience
- Longer-term (4yrs full cost)
- Co-operation between sectors (1 University+ Private Sector)
- Organisation of workshops/conferences, including for researchers from outside the partnership
- Special measure: equipment costs for SMEs

Call currently closed

# ITN

Objective: to strengthen and structure Early Stage training

- “*early-stage*” Training (Incl. first post-docs) and *visiting scientists* position, short training events (also open to researchers from outside the network) and training and networking activities
- Must have industry participation and a letter of commitment is required from industry partners
- Funding for up to 4 years
- Open to researchers from Third countries (motivation)

Call currently closed

# Individual Actions

## International Incoming fellowship (IIF)

Objectives: to reinforce the scientific excellence of Member States (MS) and Associated Countries (AC) through knowledge sharing with incoming researchers from Third Countries (TC)

- Aimed at experienced researchers
- Fellows work full time on the project, can't replace a fellow who withdraws in the middle of the project
- Project duration: 12 up to 24 months

Call closed 18 August 2009

## 2. International Outgoing Fellowship (IOF)

Objective: to reinforce the international dimension of the career of European researchers by training and acquisition of new knowledge in a Third Country (TC)

- Long term structured professional development
- Advanced training and life-long learning
- Project duration: up to 36 months (outgoing phase: 1-2 years  
reintegration phase: 1 year)

Call closed 18 August 2009

# ESASTAP2

# What is ESASTAP

- First SA-EU intergovernmental agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation signed in 1996
- European-South African Science and Technology Advancement Programme (ESASTAP) initiated to address challenges encountered by SA researchers wishing to participate in the European Union Framework Programme
  - insufficient awareness of FP7 opportunities (both within SA and the EU)
  - Difficulties in finding European FP partners
  - Need to broaden range of participants

## ESASTAP 2 Objectives

- improve & increase SA participation in FP7
  - targeted initiatives to private and public sectors (industry and HLIs) and priority thematic areas
- develop & enhance networks and partnerships between EU and SA researchers and institutions
  - assisting SA researchers' entry into long-standing partnerships / consortia (partner search database)
- better identify and demonstrate mutual interest and benefit in EU-SA S&T cooperation
  - facilitate consideration of Specific International Cooperation Activities (SICAs) in FP7

# Activities

- Raising awareness of FP6 in 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

# Instruments (1)

## Awareness-raising & information:

- Website: <http://www.esastap.org.za>
- E-mail updates twice a month
- Brochures and electronic document library
- Seminars and workshops both local and international

## Advisory and support mechanisms:

- Guidance and support to SA FP participants through dedicated help desks
- Expert and technical advice by NCPs
- S&T office in Brussels

## Instruments (2)

- 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

# DST Financial Support

- Seed funding
- Co-investment funding
- Mobility matching fund
- Support for COST participants

# Thank you!

*More information: [www.esastap.org.za](http://www.esastap.org.za)*

*Enquiries: [contact@esastap.org.za](mailto:contact@esastap.org.za)*