

Europe-Africa Research & Innovation News

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COHRED Africa launched in Botswana

6 November – Gaborone: the Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED) opened its Africa office, which will implement COHRED's programmes in Africa, in particular technical support to governments and private sectors in research and innovation for health. COHRED Africa will also strive to advance health research and innovation on the continent (www.cohred.org).

Renewable Energy: workshops on research and innovation needs in Africa

13-14 & 20-21 November – Johannesburg & Addis Ababa: 2 workshops on research and innovation (R&I) needs in renewable energy (RE) enabled the consolidation and validation of a study commissioned by the EC to assess research capacities and needs in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). The study aims to identify how applied R&I initiatives could help promote RE in SSA and to draft recommendations for possible cooperation in between the EU and SSA in the field of RE research that would of benefit to both regions.

www.ecorys.com/news/ecorys-contributes-identifying-potential-research-and-innovation-cooperation-between-eu-and-sub

Horizon 2020 workshop on ICT in Ethiopia

17 November – Addis Ababa: a Horizon 2020 workshop organised jointly by EU-funded IST-Africa project and the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology of Ethiopia, confirmed the interest of the Ethiopian research community for upcoming Horizon 2020 calls for proposals, in particular topic ICT39 - 2015 on "International Partnership Building with Africa".

IST Africa: www.ist-africa.org & Horizon 2020 portal: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal>

Horizon 2020 workshop in Algeria

26 November 2014 – Algiers: a Horizon 2020 workshop organised by the Algerian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, with the participation of the EU Counsellor for R&I to the AU, enabled the Algerian research community to become better acquainted with the recent evolutions of the EU framework programme and confirmed their interest for collaboration with EU researchers.

Agence Thématique de Recherche en Sciences et Technologie: www.atrst.dz/H2020

"Transferring knowledge into solutions": 1st CAAST-Net Plus stakeholder forum

24-25 November 2014 – Entebbe: the forum aimed to gather information and ideas on the experiences, mechanisms and options for 'translating knowledge into solutions', concerning research design, the involvement of business and civil society, as well as government support and enabling frameworks. These ideas will help CN+ design cross-thematic interventions.

see: www.caast-net-plus.org/tag/view/Stakeholder%20Forum

EU Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation visits Africa

1 December 2014 – Cape Town: EU Commissioner Carlos Moedas' first visit outside the EU was to South Africa for the launch the 2nd European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP2).
see: http://ec.europa.eu/commission/2014-2019/moedas_en

EU – South Africa collaboration in Science & Technology

1 December 2014 – Cape Town: in the context of the well-established S&T Cooperation Agreement between the EU and South Africa, the 13th Joint S&T Coordination Committee (JSTCC) meeting confirmed that the collaboration is flourishing. A number of areas were identified for further action, especially in research infrastructures, health and Earth observation. Other potential areas for enhanced collaboration include marine research, eco-innovation, mining & minerals, energy, ICT and space.
see: http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?pg=south_africa#policydialogue

Launch of EDCTP2

2 December 2014 – Cape Town: the 2nd European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP2) was launched, with a budget of approximately €2 billion over the next 10 years. The EU is contributing €683 million from Horizon 2020, to be matched by EU Member States and further augmented by African countries and by industry. The EDCTP Association now includes 13 European countries and 13 African countries, with other expected to join (http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-2273_en.htm).
On that day EDCTP2 also published its first call for proposals, with €15m, which closes on 2 March 2015.
EDCTP: www.edctp.org & call page: www.edctp.org/call/diagnostic-tools-poverty-related-diseases-2

Max Planck Society invests €11 million in MeerKAT radio telescope

2 December 2014 – Bonn: the Max-Planck-Institute for Radio Astronomy will provide €11 million for radio receivers for the South African MeerKAT radio telescope (www.mpifr-bonn.mpg.de/announcements/).

CAAST-Net Plus workshop on EU-Africa collaboration in Health research

3 December 2014 – Cape Town: a CAAST-Net Plus workshop explored possible niches to enhance EU-Africa cooperation in health research, focussing on finding new possibilities and mechanisms of collaboration rather than specific themes, including greater involvement by the private sector.
see: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?pg=africa>

Kwame Nkrumah Scientific Awards for Women

19 December 2014 – Addis Ababa: the African regional scientific awards for women, intended to promote gender equality and careers in research, which are funded by the EU, were awarded to researchers from Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia & Ghana, representing 4 of the African regions, for their work in soil science, software engineering, plant breeding and immunology respectively (<http://hrst.au.int/>).

New report: "A Decade of Development: STEM Research in Sub-Saharan Africa"

Jointly published by Elsevier and the World Bank, the report is now available online:
<http://www.elsevier.com/online-tools/research-intelligence/research-initiatives/world-bank-2014>

FP7 project delivers atlas for health risk and vulnerability in eastern Africa

December 2014 – Austria & Singapore.: The Healthy Futures project, funded through the FP7 programme, has developed an online visualisation tool to support decision makers in tackling Vector Borne Diseases such as malaria, Rift Valley fever and schistosomiasis, in eastern Africa. The project examined how environmental change will affect the future distribution and spread of infectious diseases, and in particular the health impacts of changes in transmission and outbreaks of vector-borne diseases. This work has been done in collaboration with sister FP7 project QWeCI (Quantifying Weather & Climate Impacts on Health in Developing Countries). Project web sites: www.healthyfutures.eu & www.liv.ac.uk/qweci/

Upcoming events:

- 29-31 January 2015 – Equatorial Guinea: **CARIMA Annual Conference and training workshops** on "Promoting Intra-Regional Collaboration in Research and Innovation: Stakes and Challenges". (www.carima-net.org/en/Annual%20Conference/) – contact: Josepha Foba Tendo (infoba@gmail.com).
- 3-4 February 2015 – Addis Ababa: **AfriMalaR conference** on malaria research (www.evimalar.org)
- 28-30 April 2015 – Cape Town: **Africa Gender Summit** (<http://gender-summit.com/g5-about>)
- 20-22 May 2015 – Addis Ababa: **eLearning Africa** conference (www.elearning-africa.com)
- 24-26 June 2015 – Addis Ababa: **PopPov Research Conference** on Population, Reproductive Health and Economic Development (<http://poppov.org/Events/2015/Ninth-Annual-PopPov-Conference.aspx>)

Website of EU Delegation to the African Union (AU): http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/african_union
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