



Tunisia in FP7 (2007-2013):

98 participations in EU-funded projects*
€13.4 million of EU contribution for research.

*(total by September 2013, excluding Marie Curie actions)

Tunisia is the 4th most successful African country in the 7th Framework programme (FP7) both in terms of numbers of participations in projects and in terms of total EU contribution.

The Framework programme is the European Union (EU) funding instruments to support research and innovation. It does so mainly through large collaborative research projects.

International collaboration is a key feature of the Framework programme, so that it is open to the participation of organisations in countries outside the EU, in most cases with funding.

Participation is open to any (legally established) organisation performing research, including universities, institutes, governments departments, companies, NGOs, etc.

The current (7th) framework programme (FP7) was launched in 2007 and ends in 2013. In total there were over 1300 participations from African organisations in some 565 projects.

The new Horizon 2020 programme starts in 2014. <http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020>

Examples of projects involving participants from Tunisia:

EARTH OBSERVATION & AGRICULTURE

AGRICAB - Enhancing EO capacity for Agriculture and Forest Management in Africa

Aim: to strengthen Earth Observation (EO) capacities in Africa by building on open data sharing, connecting available satellite and other data with predictive models in order to facilitate integration in agriculture and forestry planning and management processes.

The project runs from October 2011 to March 2015, with an EU contribution of €3.5 million. It is led by the Flemish Institute for Technological Research (Belgium) with 5 other European partners, a Brazilian partner & 10 African partners: Geosas Consulting Service (Ethiopia), Department of Resource Surveys & Remote Sensing (Kenya), International Livestock Research Institute (Kenya), the Regional Centre for Mapping Resources for Development (Kenya), Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia & Universidade Eduardo Mondlane (Mozambique), Centre Regional AGRHYMET (Niger), Centre de Suivi Ecologique (Senegal), Council for Scientific and Industrial Research - CSIR (South Africa) and **Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel (Tunisia)**.

[www.agricab.info]

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For more information on FP7 projects: <http://cordis.europa.eu/projects/>

ENVIRONMENT & WATER

WAHARA - Water Harvesting for Rainfed Africa: investing in dryland agriculture for growth and resilience

Aim: to develop innovative, locally adapted water harvesting solutions with wider relevance to rain-fed Africa. Water harvesting technologies are vital to increase agricultural productivity and improve food and water security in rural areas. To ensure continental relevance, research will concentrate on four diverse study sites in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Tunisia and Zambia.

The project runs from March 2011 to February 2016 with an EU contribution of €2 million. It is led by DLO/Wageningen University (The Netherlands) with 4 other European partners and 4 African partners: National Institute for Environment & Agricultural Research (Burkina Faso), Mekelle University (Ethiopia), **Institut des Régions Arides (Tunisia)** and Golden Valley Agricultural Research Trust (Zambia). [www.wahara.eu]

WATER

WATERBIOTECH - Biotechnology for Africa's sustainable water supply

Aim: to help cope with water scarcity in Africa by providing access to know-how in biotechnologies, good practices and management solutions adapted to local conditions for the sustainable management of polluted water resources.

The project runs from August 2011 to January 2014 with an EU contribution of €1 million. It is led by TTZ (Germany) with 8 other European partners, 1 partner from Saudi Arabia and 6 African partners: **Centre de Biotechnologie de Sfax (Tunisia)**, **Centre International Des Technologies de l'Environnement de Tunis (Tunisia)**, CREPA (Burkina Faso), National Research Center (Egypt), International Water Management Institut (Ghana), Université Cadi Ayyad (Morocco) & Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar (Senegal). [www.waterbiotech.eu]

ENERGY

REELCOOP - Research cooperation in renewable energy technol. for electricity generation

Aim: to significantly enhance research cooperation and knowledge creation on renewable electricity generation, involving Mediterranean partner countries (MPC), while at the same time developing and testing new renewable electricity generation systems.

The project runs from September 2013 to August 2017 with an EU contribution of €5.3 million led by University of Porto (Portugal) with 9 other European partners, a Turkish partner and 4 African partners: Centre de Développement des Energies Renouvelables (Algeria), Institut de Recherche en Energie Solaire et Energies Nouvelles (Morocco), **Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Tunis (Tunisia)** and **Alternative Energy Systems (Tunisia)**.

HEALTH

MEDIGENE - Genetic and environmental factors of insulin resistance syndrome and its long-term complications in immigrant Mediterranean populations

Aim: to study genetic and environmental determinants of the metabolic syndrome in recent immigrants in Europe by a novel approach integrating ancestry of Mediterranean populations in epidemiology, locus refining and Genome Wide Association Studies.

The project runs from January 2012 to December 2015 with an EU contribution of €3 million. It is led by the University of Montpellier (France) with 12 other European partners, the Russian Federation, Turkey and 3 African partners: Université d'Alger, Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire (Morocco) and Institut Pasteur de Tunis (Tunisia). [www.medigene-fp7.eu]

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