

Horizon 2020 Information Session

at the CARIMA Annual Conference
9-11 April 2015

Background

In 2014, the European Commission launched Horizon 2020, the European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. Horizon 2020, running from 2014-2020, makes nearly €80 billion available for research and innovation projects. Focusing on excellent science, industrial leadership and tackling societal challenges, the goal is to ensure Europe produces world-class science, remove barriers to innovation, and make it easier for the public and private sectors to work together in delivering innovation.

Horizon 2020 is fully open for participation from around the world, including from Africa. With this new openness, Africa's research and innovation actors have a better chance than ever to leverage the opportunities presented by Horizon 2020 for greater cooperation with European partners. However, despite this opportunity, African researchers have not participated in as great of numbers as could be expected. Reversing this trend can be at least partly achieved by increasing the understanding of Horizon 2020 – and the opportunities it offers – in Africa and increasing the number of trained National Contact Points (NCPs) located in African countries.

The CAAST-Net Plus project, funded by the European Commission, has convened Horizon 2020 Information Sessions across Africa with the aim of increasing African researcher's understanding of the programme. In addition, CAAST-Net Plus has encouraged and supported the nomination of NCPs in African countries and previously held training events in Ghana and Mauritius.

Overall Objective:

The overall objective of the workshop is to increase the awareness of Horizon 2020 and its opportunities amongst CARIMA Annual Conference participants.

Agenda:

Horizon 2020 Information Session		
CAAST-Net Plus	10 mins	Masahudu Fuseini, CSIR, Ghana
Introduction to Horizon 2020	30 mins	Melissa Plath, UniPID, Finland
African Participation in Horizon 2020: First statistics	20 mins	Masahudu Fuseini
Overview of Horizon 2020: Rules & instruments	20 mins	Melissa Plath
Opportunities for African Participation in Horizon 2020	20 mins	Melissa Plath
Finding Partners for a Horizon Proposal	20 mins	Masahudu Fuseini
Proposal Submission Process	15 mins	Masahudu Fuseini
Introduction to National Contact Points	15 mins	Melissa Plath
Discussion	30 mins	