

Introduction to National Contact Points



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Building Bi-regional Partnerships for Global Challenges



CAAST-Net Plus is funded by the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement n° 311806. This document reflects only the author's views and the European Union cannot be held liable for any use that may be made of the information contained herein.

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NCP system in Horizon 2020

- a) A system of National Contact Points is/will be established for Horizon 2020, building on the experience of previous Framework Programmes

- b) The system of National Contact Points will be established, operated and financed under the responsibility of the Member States and countries associated to the programme

NCP system in Horizon 2020

Mission:

Highly professional support services operating nationally will form an essential component of Horizon 2020 implementation. By spreading awareness, giving specialist advice, and providing on-the-ground guidance, they will ensure that the new programme becomes known and readily accessible to all potential applicants, irrespective of sector or discipline.

NCP Services

- The type and level of services offered differ from country to country. In general, the following basic services will be available in accordance with the minimum standards and guiding principles:
 - Guidance on choosing thematic priorities and instruments
 - Advice on administrative procedures and contractual issues
 - Training and assistance on proposal writing
 - Distribution of EC documentation (forms, guidelines, manuals etc.)
 - Assistance in partner search and networking

NCPs– a system with flexibility and diversity

The NCP systems in the different countries show

- A wide **variety of architectures**, from highly **centralised** (All thematic NCPs are affiliated to one organization) to **decentralised networks** (Scattered thematic NCPs with a National Coordinator linking them all and aligning their work with the National Strategies),
- A number of very different actors, from ministries to universities, research centres and special agencies to private consulting companies

**flexibility to each country to establish a tailor-made
NCP structure**

Advantages and disadvantages of the current NCP system

Advantages:

- Tailored to national structures and needs
- Can be set up and made operational quickly
- No central “control” from Commission

Disadvantages:

- Variable coverage and quality of services
- Variable levels of national funding
- No standardised quality control of services delivered

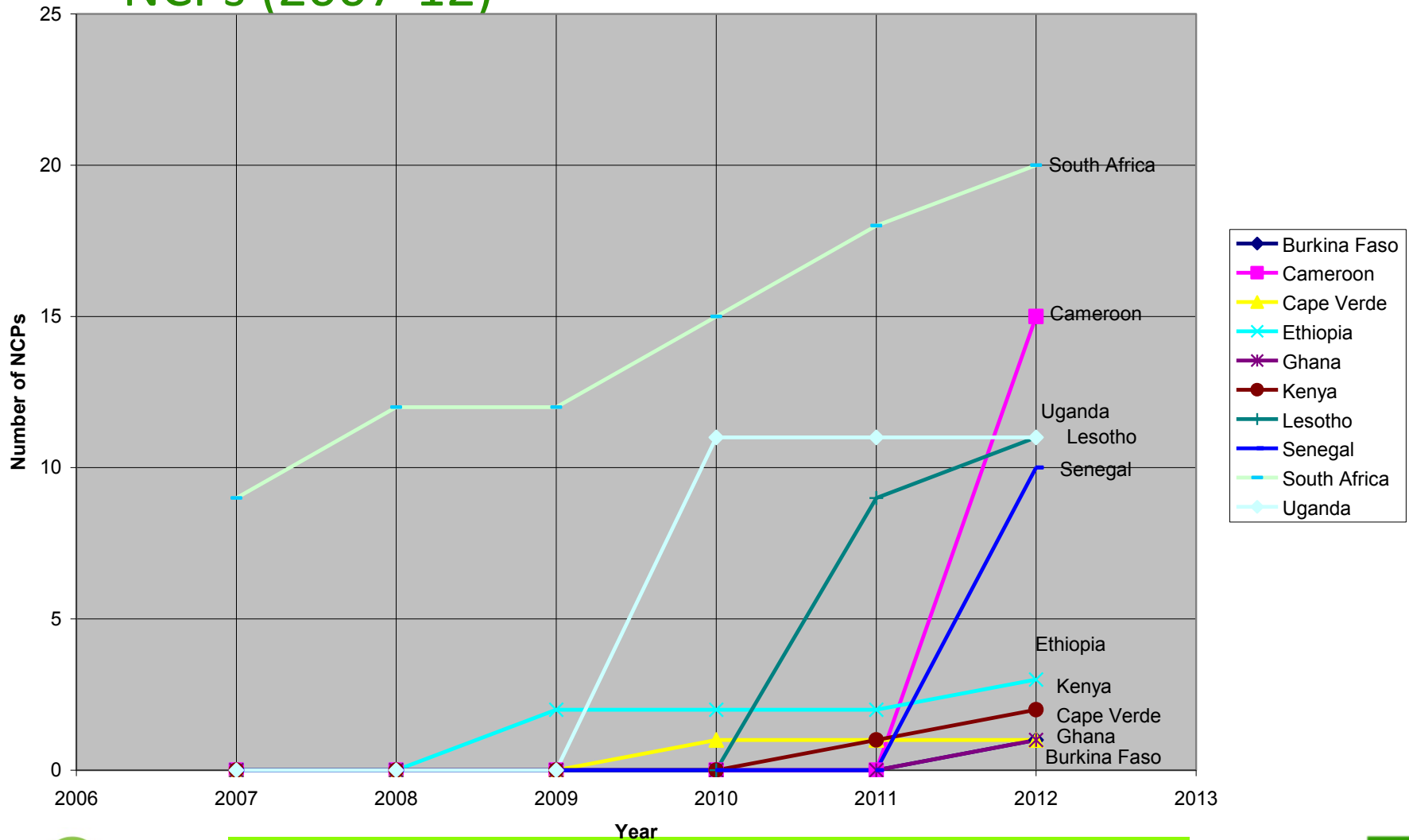
Benefits of establishing and maintaining a robust NCP system

Enhanced STI cooperation with the EU

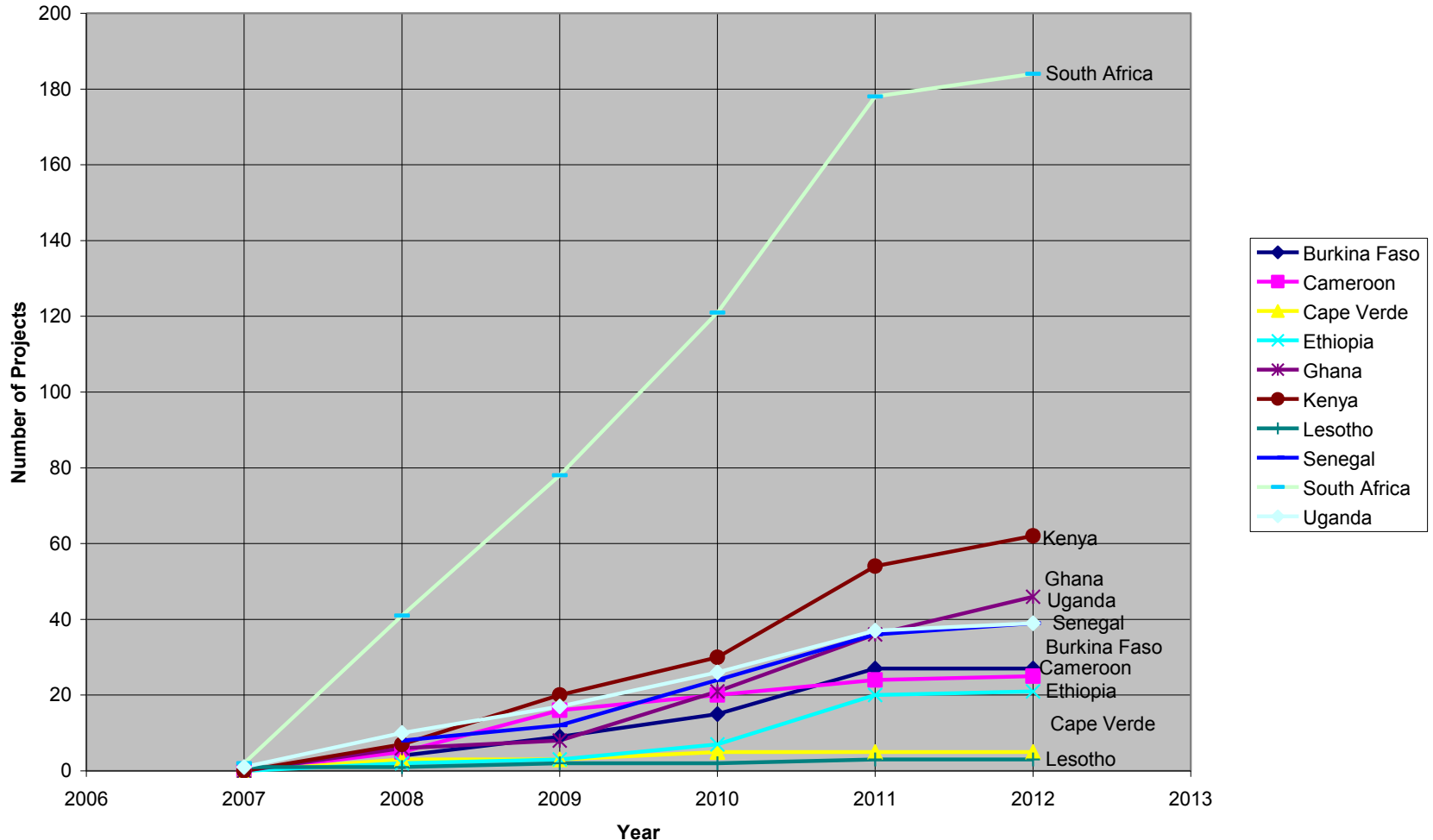
Increased participation through:

- Increased awareness of EU funding instruments (How the EC works)
- Timely and precise information on specific calls
- Technical understanding of requirements
- Support to partner search and networking
- Support with regards to legal and financial administration issues

The 7th Frammework Programme and it's achievements: Evolution of sub-Saharan-African NCPs (2007-12)



The 7th Framework Programme and its achievements: Participation of sub-Saharan-African countries with appointed NCPs in FP7 projects by year



NCPs in Horizon 2020

- National NCP Coordinator
- Legal and Financial aspects
- SMEs
- Access to Finance*
- European Research Council
- 'Future and Emerging Technologies';
- 'Marie Curie actions on skills, training and career development';
- 'European research infrastructures';
- 'Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)';
- 'Nanotechnologies, advanced materials and advanced manufacturing and processing';
- 'Space';
- 'Health, demographic change and wellbeing';
- 'Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research and the bio-economy'; & 'Biotechnology';
- 'Secure, clean and efficient energy';
- 'Smart, green and integrated transport';
- 'Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials';
- 'Inclusive, innovative and secure societies';
- Security'
- Joint Research Centre

Current African NCPs in H2020 by Theme

Thematic Priority	# of NCPs
Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials	5
Euratom	1
European Research Council	1
European Research Infrastructures	2
Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research and the bio-economy, and Biotechnology	8
Future and Emerging Technologies	1
Health, demographic change and wellbeing	7
Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies	7
Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)	8
Joint Research Centre	1
Legal and Financial Aspects	1

Current African NCPs in H2020 by Theme

Thematic Priority	# of NCPs
Marie Sklodowska-Curie actions on skills, training and career development	3
Nanotechnologies, advanced materials and advanced manufacturing and processing	4
National NCP coordinator	15
Science with and for Society	2
Secure, clean and efficient energy	5
Security	3
Smart, green and integrated transport	3
SMEs	2
Space	3
Total	82

Current* African NCPs in H2020 by Country

Thematic Priority	# of NCPs
Algeria	1
Angola	2
Burkina Faso	1**
Cameroon	1
Cape Verde	1
Egypt	7
Ethiopia	2
Gambia	1
Ghana	11
Kenya	3
Lesotho	9
Malawi	7*
Morocco	1
Senegal	1
South Africa	20
South Sudan	1*
Tunisia	1
Uganda	9
Zimbabwe	1

Thank you



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