

Agenda & Discussion Paper **(19th November 2014)**

Transferring Knowledge into Solutions
Africa-EU Strategies for Science, Technology & Innovation (STI)
Addressing Societal Challenges

1st CAAST-Net Plus Stakeholder Forum

Monday, 24th – Tuesday 25th November 2014
Laico Lake Victoria Hotel, Entebbe, Uganda



caast-net-plus.org

Building Bi-regional Partnerships for Global Challenges



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Authors: Mmampei Chaba, Tinyiko Mushwana, Phumelele Higgings, Andy Cherry, Stefan A. Haffner, Ismael Barrughara
Organisation Name: DST, ACU, PT-DLR, UNCST

Version 19th November 2014

Day 1 Agenda

9:00 Welcome and Introduction

Welcome by UNCT (host)

Mr. Dr. Peter Ndemere, Uganda

Welcome by CAAST-Net Plus

Mr. Prof. John Kirkland, ACU, UK (rep. coordination) | Mr. Dr. Eric Mwangi, MoHEST, Kenya (African Region coordinator)

Welcome by Forum's chairs

Mr. Prof. John Ouma-Mugabe, University of Pretoria, South Africa | N.N. (Europe)

PRESENTATIONS

Towards enhanced Africa-EU Partnership – Transferring Knowledge into solutions

Mr. Cheka Mailula, DST, South Africa (CAAST-Net Plus member)

Roadmap towards a jointly funded EU-Africa Research and Innovation Partnership with first focus on FNSSA

Mr. Hambani Masheleni, AUC-HRST, Ethiopia, Africa-EU HLPD representative

PANEL 1

9:40 How do the challenges of Climate Change, Food and Nutrition Security and Health affect each other and what, in this context, is the role of R&D in providing sustainable and appropriate solutions?

Panel Chairs

Mr. Dr. George Essegbey, CSIR-STEPRI, Ghana | Mr. Dr. James Haselip, DTU, Denmark

Rapporteur

Mr. Dr. Arne Tostensen, CMI, Norway

Speakers

Mr. Dr. Simon Agwale, Innovative Biotech LTD, Nigeria

Mr. Patrick, Worms, ICRAF, Belgium

Mr. Kenneth Williams Aduda Onyango, ATPS, Kenya

Discussants

Mr. Frederik Staun, UNDP, Uganda

Mr. Francoise, Stepman, PAEPARD, Belgium

Mr. Dr. Garry Aslanyan, TDR-WHO, Switzerland

1. Presentations and podium discussion | 2. Open plenary discussion | 3. Summary

11:00 Tea and coffee break

13:00 Lunch

PANEL 2

14:00 How can Africa-EU research collaborations strengthen knowledge creation that feeds directly into the development and/or patenting of new technologies?

Panel Chairs

Ms. Zeinab El-Sadr, MHESRT, Egypt | Ms. Prof. Angela Brand, FHML, The Netherlands

Rapporteur

Mr. Jan M. Haakonsen, RCN, Norway

Speaker

Mr. Simon Jochim, Foundation Entrepreneurship, Germany

Mr. Ole Olesen, EDCTP, The Netherlands

Discussants

Mr. Nicholas, Ozor, ATPS, Kenya

Mr. Gregory Chishinba, AU-Private Sector Network, Zambia

Mr. Dr. Thanyani Simon, University of Pretoria - Department of Research and Innovation Support, South Africa

1. Presentations and podium discussion | 2. Open plenary discussion | 3. Summary

16:00 Tea and coffee break

18:00 Dinner

Day 2 Agenda

9:00 Welcome and Résumé of the 1st Day

Welcome by Forum's chairs

Mr. Prof. John Ouma-Mugabe, University of Pretoria, South Africa | N.N. (Europe)

Rapporteur for Day 1

N.N.

Panel 3

9:30 What can be done to ensure that African and EU policy makers, private sector and civil society organisations are able to identify, fully understand and act upon relevant research projects?

Panel Chairs

Mr. Prof. Rukudzo Murapa, FANRPAN, South Africa | Ms. Dr. Najia Musolino, COHRED, Switzerland

Rapporteur

N.N.

Speakers

Ms. Marième Ba, Pharmalys, Senegal

Mr. Andi Friedman, Mobenzi Software Development, South Africa

Mr. John Kirkland, ACU, UK

Discussants

Mr. Dr. Ousmane Kane, ANSTS, Senegal

Ms. Judith Helfmann, AV, Germany

Mr. Leluma Matoane, DST, South Africa

1. Presentations and podium discussion | 2. Open plenary discussion | 3. Summary

11:00 Tea and coffee break

13:00 Lunch

14:00 Résumé of the Panel Discussions and further comments from the plenum

1. Résumé Forum's chairs Mr. Prof. John Ouma-Mugabe, University of Pretoria, South Africa | N.N. (Europe)

2. Comments HLPD Mr. Dr. Hambani Masheleni, AUC-HRST, Ethiopia and representative for Africa-EU HLPD

3. Open plenary discussion

4. Summary résumé

15:00 STISA-2024 and Horizon 2020 – A chance and a challenge

Session Chairs

Mr. Prof. John Ouma-Mugabe, University of Pretoria, South Africa | N.N. (Europe)

1. Welcome and introduction

2. Presentation STISA-2024

3. Presentation H2020 and related CAAST-Net Plus activities

3. Discussion

4. Summary

18:00 Closing

Forum's Chairs

Mr. Prof. John Ouma-Mugabe, University of Pretoria, South Africa | N.N. (Europe)

HLPD

Mr. Dr. Hambani Masheleni, AUC-HRST, Ethiopia and representative for Africa-EU HLPD

CAAST-Net Plus

Mr. Prof. John Kirkland, ACU, UK (rep. coordination) | Mr. Dr. Eric Mwangi, MoHEST, Kenya (African Region coordinator)

UNCST (Host)

Mr. Dr. Peter Ndemere, Uganda

18:30 End of the Forum

Towards Enhanced EU-Africa Partnership - Discussion Paper -

Introduction

Transferring knowledge into solutions is key to adapting societies to the current global challenges such as climate change, food and nutrition security, and improved health for all. Knowledge obtained from indigenous knowledge systems or generated through research has to reach those who have the ability to translate it into goods, services or societal norms and frameworks for it to contribute toward advancement of society. Knowledge transfer and the evolution of innovation systems require the cooperation of a broad diversity of actors¹. The involvement of these actors, and surely more than those stated here, needs the development of efficient strategic networks for cooperation. The forum is based on analytical work on the societal challenges conducted by CAAST-Net Plus as a contribution towards the on-going efforts towards enhancing EU-Africa cooperation in STI. The paper in combination with the summaries of findings and recommendations of the CAAST-Net Plus analyses on bi-regional cooperation in Food and Nutrition Security, Climate Change and Health that have been made available to the forum's participants, seeks to catalyse stakeholder discussions on mechanisms for transfer of knowledge into solutions that traverse thematic boundaries and create synergies across global challenges.

Africa-EU collaboration in STI

Africa and Europe have a rich and dynamic relationship for cooperation in STI across a broad diversity of domains. The Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) that has been developed since 2007 with two action plans (2008-2010 and 2011-2013) and the current roadmap (2014-2017) as well as the African Union's Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA-2024) and the Europe 2020 Strategy illustrate our shared values and interests, and our common policy objectives.

Broadly speaking, the consensus across Africa and Europe around the contribution of STI to societal and economic growth and to addressing our common challenges has created a favourable environment for bi-regional cooperation in STI. A draft of the roadmap on FNSSA (Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture) of the HLPD expert working group (EWG) on that issue is due for release in April 2015 and has been made available to participants at this forum as an illustration of the potential application of our discussions.

¹ owners and producers of knowledge; producers and service providers; consumers and users of products and services; financiers or promoters; regulators and legislators; policy-makers; business incubators and venture capitalists; as well as representatives from innovation clusters and other interfaces.

CAAAT-Net Plus Stakeholder Forum

The purposes of this forum are to

1. Identify the supporting roles of research for solutions that is done in the context of FNSSA, climate change and health,
2. Collect relevant examples of good practice in successful knowledge transfer and identify the mechanisms, methods and structures upon which they depend, and
3. Identify concrete steps and developing specific scenarios towards fostering knowledge transferring to solutions by bringing together those who are doing research and innovation.

Our aim in the forum is not to develop a "blue-print for innovation systems", rather to collect concrete examples of knowledge transfer from bi-regional cooperation in STI and to explore their applicability to translation for on-going policy dialogues and to practical cooperation. Implicit in this aim is the need to discuss the interfaces between structures and actors, and the framework conditions effective knowledge transfer. Stakeholders in the formal Africa-EU STI partnership as well as in the broader Africa-EU STI cooperation landscape have a vested interest in using knowledge and optimising the efficiency and impact of research and innovation cooperation. Addressing an acknowledged set of barriers and constraints of concern, this forum and its outputs have relevance to both these audiences and beyond.

Conclusion

The forum provides a platform for interaction among vital actors in the process of knowledge transfer into solutions to address societal challenges in the priority thematic domains for CAAST-Net Plus. The critical considerations for optimising the translation of knowledge into solutions that have emerged from analytical work conducted by CAAST-Net Plus include the need to

- A. promote systematic collaboration with civil society and private business lobbying sectors that have expertise in advocating policy change in support of (health, climate and food and nutrition security) technology development and targeted uptake of research projects;
- B. coordinate existing data platforms in order for Africa-EU partnerships on research and innovation to 'speak with one voice'. EU-Africa research collaborations should seek to cooperate more with many networks and portals already in existence and that aim to inform the research-policy nexus.

The forum will over the next two days expound upon these considerations with a view to generating stakeholder contributions to the on-going policy dialogues focusing on areas CAAST-Net Plus has been tasked to and related bi-regional development initiatives.

Please find all relevant documents for the forum at: <http://caast-net-plus.org/object/news/994>