

Africa UniNet GA-Session

**Expanding the Horizon: Funding Opportunities
beyond Africa-UniNet**

Carol Nonkwelo, University of Pretoria
Peter Mayr, Paris Lodron Univ. of Salzburg

Thursday, 14 September, 13:00-14:00

Africa Uni Net Session - Outline

1. Introduction
2. African funding sources
3. Austrian Nationally funded programmes – OeAD, Agency for Education and Internationalization
4. European strategies, funding programmes and upcoming calls for proposals
5. Summary & Discussion: What next?

2. African funding programmes

Austrian national funding programmes

- Source: www.grants.at

Ernst Mach Grant – worldwide

Target group	Postgraduates PhD students, post docs
Country of origin	All except Austria
Field of study	Natural Sciences Technical Sciences Human Medicine, Health Sciences Agricultural Sciences Social Sciences Humanities Arts
Duration	1 to 9 months
Grant amount	Graduates: 1,150 EUR/month Postdocs: 1,250 EUR/month From 2024/25 onwards: 1.250,- for all levels
Deadline	February 1
More details	https://grants.at/en/?=MzQ0MTNfMzYyNzlfMg==
Application	online at www.scholarships.at

Ernst Mach Grant for studying at an Austrian University of Applied Sciences

Target group	Undergraduates, Graduates Non-European countries + Ukraine
Field of study	Natural sciences Technical sciences Human medicine, health sciences Agricultural sciences Social sciences
Duration	4 to 10 months
Grant amount	1,150,- EUR/month From 2024/25 onwards: 1,250,-
Deadline	February 1
More details	https://grants.at/en/?=MzMzMtDfMzUxMTIfMw==
Application	online at www.scholarships.at

Ernst Mach Follow-up Grant

Target group	PhD holders, post docs (non-European developing countries)
Field of study	Natural Sciences Technical Sciences Human Medicine, Health Sciences Agricultural Sciences Social Sciences Humanities Arts
Duration	1-3 months
Grant amount	1,250,- EUR/month
Deadline	September 1
More details	https://grants.at/en/?=MzUyOTVfMzcxNjNfNg==
Application	online at www.scholarships.at

Franz Werfel Fellowship

Target group	PhD students PhD holders, post docs Researchers
Field of study	German or Austrian Studies with a focus on Austrian literature
Duration	4 to 9 months
Grant amount	1,250 EUR/month and a mobility subsidy of up to EUR 600 (for research stays of 3 months or longer)/month
Deadline	March 1, September 15
More details	https://grants.at/en/?=MzMyNTdfMzUwNThfMA==
Application	online www.scholarships.at

Richard Plaschka Grant

Target group	PhD students PhD holders, post docs Researchers
Field of study	Humanities History, Archaeology
Duration	4 to 18 months
Grant amount	1,250,- EUR/month and a mobility subsidy of up to EUR 600 (for research stays of 3 months or longer)/month
Deadline	September 15
More details	https://grants.at/en/?=Mzc1MDZfMzkzODFfMg==
Application	online at www.scholarships.at

Technology Scholarships

Huawei Technology Scholarships

University of Klagenfurt Technology Scholarships

Target group	PhD students
Field of study	Natural Sciences Mathematics, Computer Sciences Technical Sciences Other and Interdisciplinary Technical Sciences, Electrical Engineering, Electronics, Information Engineering Social Sciences Economics, Media and Communication Sciences, Other and Interdisciplinary Social Sciences
Duration	12 months
Grant amount	Supplementary grant, own funds are required. Monthly scholarship: 800,- EUR/month
Deadline	September 1
More details	https://grants.at/de/?=MzY4NzRfMzg3NDIfMA==
Application	online at www.scholarships.at

Outgoing: Marietta Blau Grant

Target group	PhD students
Country of origin	All except Austria
Field of study	Natural Sciences Technical Sciences Human Medicine, Health Sciences Agricultural Sciences Social Sciences Humanities Arts
Duration	6 to 12 months, no extension
Grant amount	Up to 1,660,- EUR/month
Deadline	September 1
More details	https://grants.at/en/?=MzY4NzRfMzg3NDIfMA==
Application	online at www.scholarships.at

Austrian Partnership Programme in Higher Education and Research for Development | APPEAR

appear

- APPEAR is a programme of the Austrian Development Cooperation
- **Overall objective:** to strengthen scientific foundation and institutional capacities in higher education, research and management in the partner countries through academic partnerships with Austrian higher education institutions and master's and PhD scholarships as a contribution to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Furthermore, APPEAR contributes to increasing the commitment on development cooperation at Austrian higher education institutions.
- Currently **16 (Advanced) Academic Partnership Projects** and **10 Preparatory Funding Initiatives** are implemented
- Total budget (2020-2027): ca. 18.7 million euros
- 11th call will be open from 1 March 2024 – 31 May 2024 | www.appear.at
 - Academic Partnership
 - Advanced Academic Partnership
 - Extended Impact Partnership

Priority countries:

- Ethiopia
- Uganda
- Mozambique
- Burkina Faso
- Bhutan
- Palestine
- Armenia
- Georgia
- Republic of Moldova
- Kosovo
- Albania

With funding from

 Austrian
Development
Cooperation

Cooperation Development Research

- **24 KoEF projects** with participation of 37 institutions in 11 countries in Africa
- **4th Call open** – 1st September to 30th November 2023
- **Aim:**
 - foster research on the two main principles of excellency and cooperation in development research
 - support application-oriented cooperation projects between Austrian higher education institutions/research institutions and institutions in countries of the Global South (according to DAC List of OECD 2022/2023)
- **Eligible:** institutions – not individual scientists/researchers!
- **Funding:** Mobility costs, project-relevant consumables
- For details on funding, application & selection process see [KoEF 4th Call](#)

Country	Sum of Project Participation
Burkina Faso	4
Cameroon	1
Egypt	3
Ethiopia	6
Kenya	2
Malawi	2
Nigeria	1
Tanzania	3
Tunesia	3
Zambia	1
Zimbabwe	1
Total	27

KOOPERATION ENTWICKLUNGSFORSCHUNG
COOPERATION DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH

International Cooperation

Cooperation Development Research

(launched in 2019) with the aim of:

- stimulation of international research cooperation, development of sustainable partnerships between higher education and research institutions in the global south
- contribute to analysing and solving local challenges and to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- mobility and material expenses for researchers at Austrian and international higher education institutions/research institutions within the framework of one- to three-year research projects.
- Next call autumn 2022
- More details: www.oead.at/koef
- Projects between Vietnam and Austria: e.g., Towards A Semantic Knowledge-based Question Answering System for Vietnamese Tourism

European strategies and funding sources

Erasmus+

Innovation Agenda of the EU with Africa / Horizon Europe

Sources:

- **Austrian Erasmus National Agency (OeAD) in Vienna - www.erasmus.at**
- **Expert interview with Nienke BUISMAN Head of Unit/deputy Director Global Approach & International Cooperation in R&I Asia, Africa, Middle East & External Relations, DG Research, European Kommission, on 7 Sept 2023**
- **'Roadmap' Document of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda**

ERASMUS+

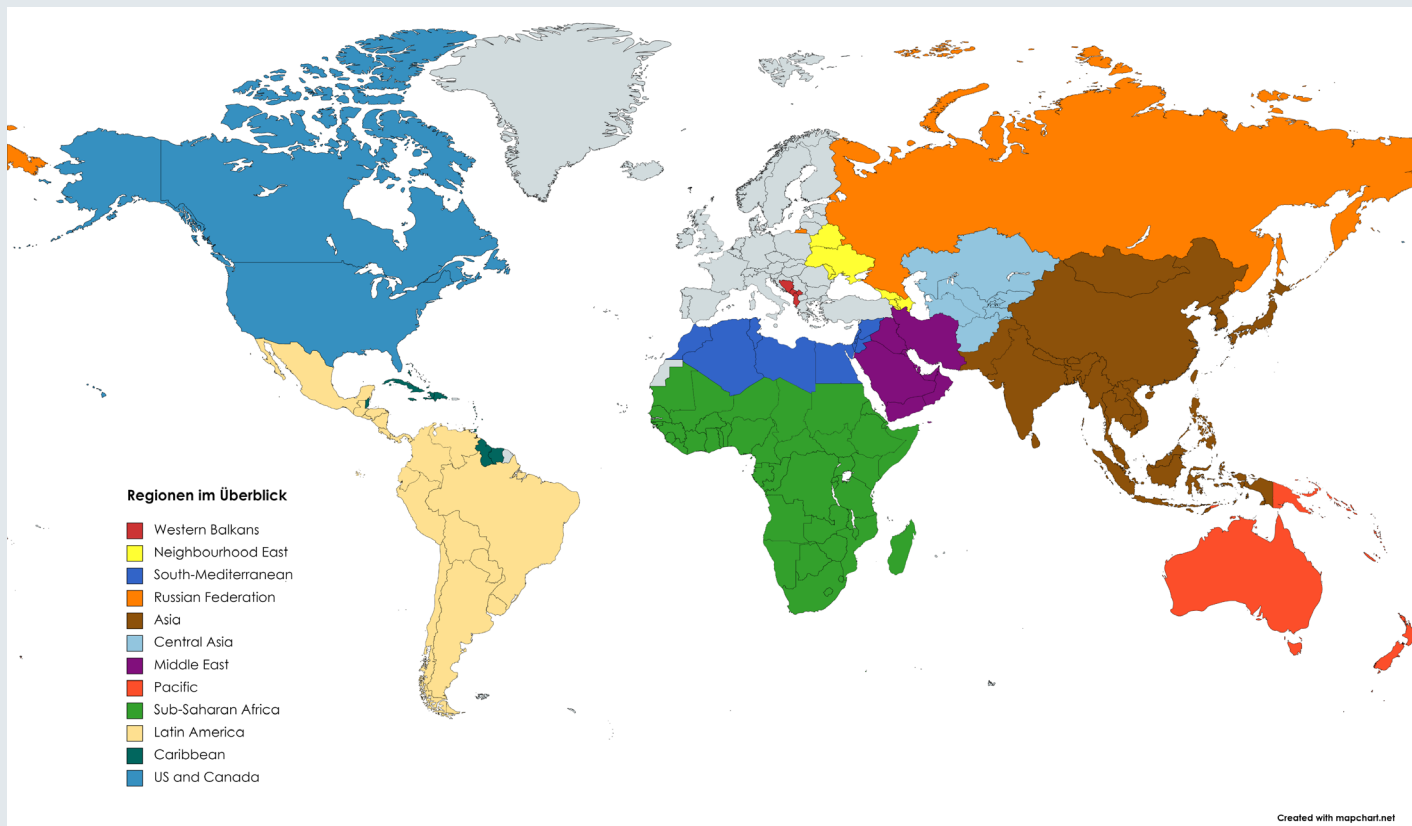
Erasmus+ Higher Education worldwide

Erasmus+ KA 171

Erasmus+ K2

www.erasmus.at

Countries not associated to the E+ programme

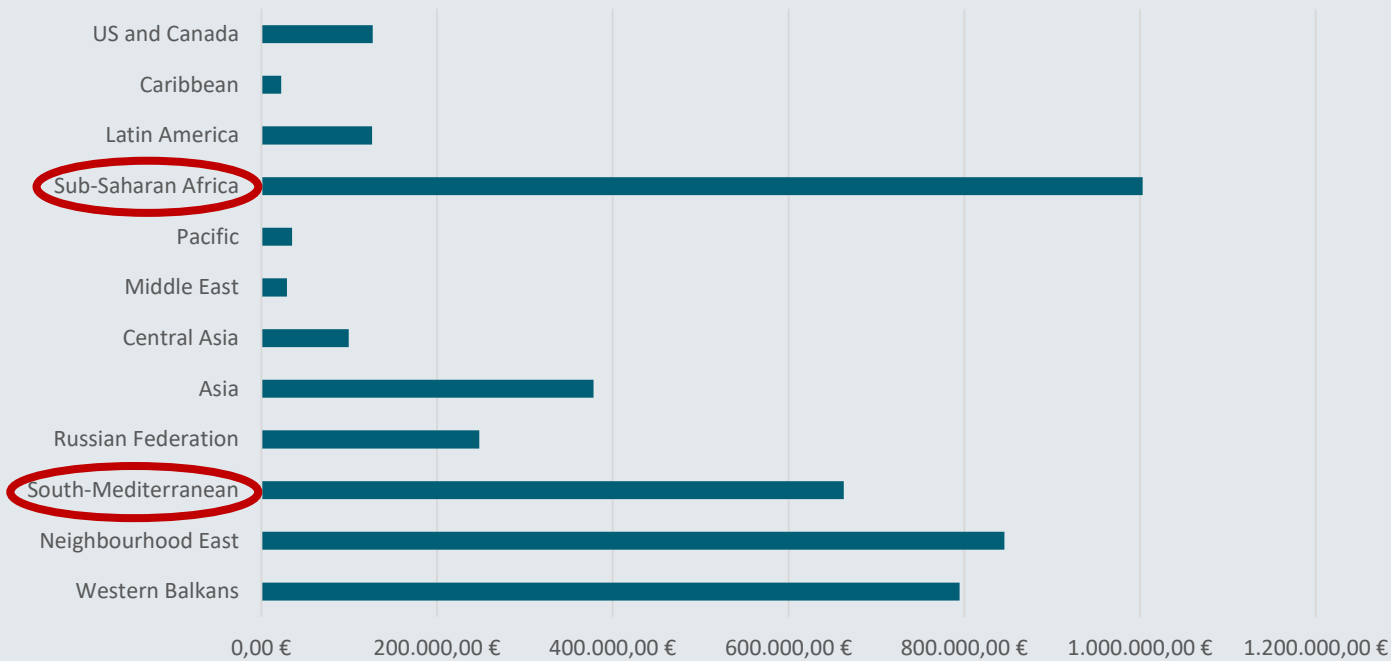


KA171: Activity types for students

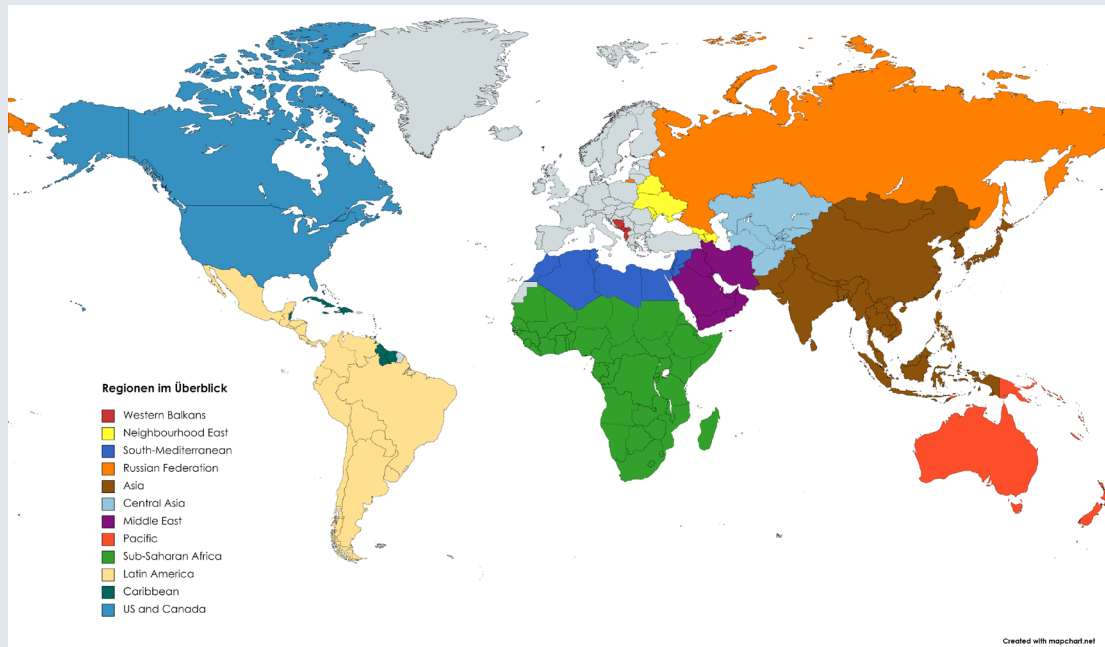
- Student mobility for studies (SMS)
 - Duration: 2-12 months
- Student mobility for traineeships (SMT)
 - Duration: 2-12 months
 - Traineeship for recent graduates
- Short-term mobilities with a compulsory virtual component (5-30 days)
- **Blended mobility:** virtual components in SMS and SMT

KA171: Available Budget Call 2022

- EU funds: € 4, 371,025 + national co-funding



KA171: Available Budget Call 2022



- Sub-Saharan Africa (Region 9)
- +
- South-Mediterranean (Region 3)

Erasmus KA171: the case of University of Salzburg – application rounds 2022 versus 2023

Call 2022	Call 2023
Budget Austria Call 2022: € 5.5 Million	Budget Austria Call 2023: € 5.66 Million
31 (out of 62) Austrian higher educations institutions applied successfully	38 (out of 62) Austrian higher educations institutions applied successfully
University of Salzburg raised € 510.670,-	University of Salzburg raised € 416.525,-
Sub-Saharan Africa budget for Salzburg: € 76.350,-	Sub-Saharan Africa budget for Salzburg: € 55.110,-
South Mediterranean budget: € 42.990,-	South Mediterranean budget: € 25.305,-
Approved African Erasmus+ partner universities for Salzburg: 14	Approved African Erasmus+ partner universities for Salzburg: 28
Financial support: Outgoing staff from Salzburg/Austria: 3 Incoming staff to Salzburg/Austria: 15 Student mobility to/from Salzburg/Austria: 16	Financial support: Outgoing staff from Salzburg/Austria: 5 Incoming staff to Salzburg/Austria: 4 Student mobility to/from Salzburg/Austria: 13

Erasmus+ Higher Education worldwide

Cooperation with third countries (academic mobility)

International Mobility between Programme countries & countries not associated to the programme

- **Student or Staff Mobility** to / from Erasmus+ Partner Countries
 - **Studies:** 2 – 12 months (credit mobility) in a partner university
 - **Traineeship:** 2 – 12 months in a relevant organisation; recognition foreseen
 - **Teaching** (short-term) at a partner university abroad or
 - **Job-related training** at suitable institutions (university, company, NGO) abroad
 - **Short-term mobilities for students for studies- and traineeships** 5-30 days
 - Financial support for travel and subsistence
- **Funding**
 - **Student mobility:** 700 – 850 Euro per month;
 - **Staff mobility:** 160 – 180 Euro per day;
 - One-time payment of the **travel grant** according to distance

Related Programmes

Partnerships for Cooperation (KA2)

Cooperation partnerships
Small-scale partnerships

Partnerships for Excellence (KA2)

European Universities
Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees, etc.

The Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme

EU's programme to encourage international learning mobility across the African continent by providing support for consortia of African Higher Education Institutions and scholarship opportunities for African trainees, students and staff.

Example of an ongoing EU project

Jean Monnet Network "PolyCIVIS: Confronting the Polycrisis in Europe and Africa":

- 21 partner universities incl **University of Salzburg**

Example of an ongoing European University initiative with African participation

CIVIS – the European University alliance of 11 leading research higher education institutions across Europe incl the **Univ. of Salzburg** & the following universities:

- Makerere University, Uganda.
- Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique.
- Université Hassan II de Casablanca, Morocco.
- University of Sfax, Tunisia.
- Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar, Senegal.
- University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Erasmus+ Higher Education worldwide

Cooperation with Partner Countries (projects and HE system level)

Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE)

- **Cooperation projects** together with non-industrialised countries worldwide
- Focus on their **needs**:
 - Modernising Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and their HEI- systems
 - Increasing the cooperation between HEIs and the regional integration
 - Fostering of innovation and governance
- **Project types**
 - **Strand 1: Fostering access to cooperation in Higher Education** (esp. for newcomer)
Duration: 2 or 3 years; Funding: 200.000 – 400.000 Euro
 - **Strand 2: Partnership for transformation** (focus on innovation and management)
Duration: 2 or 3 years; Funding: 400.000 – 800.000 Euro
 - **Strand 3: Structural reform projects** (focus on reform of HEI-systems)
Duration: 3 or 4 years; Funding: 800.000 –1.000.000 Euro
- **Annual call**
 - Next deadline **February 2024**

European strategies and funding sources II

Innovation Agenda of the EU with Africa / Horizon Europe

Sources:

- **Expert interview with Nienke BUISMAN Head of Unit/deputy Director Global Approach & International Cooperation in R&I Asia, Africa, Middle East & External Relations, DG Research, European Kommission, on 7 Sept 2023**
- **'Roadmap' Document of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda**



The AU - EU Innovation Agenda

4 August 2023

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EU-Africa cooperation in Research & Innovation (R&I)

- As a strategic partner, the EU seeks to **enhance cooperation with Africa** to promote actions targeted to finding locally adapted solutions to global challenges, that often hit Africa hardest.
- The [Comprehensive EU strategy with Africa](#) and the [Global Approach to Research & Innovation \(R&I\)](#) are the EU's most recent policy initiatives that **prioritise R&I** as a key dimension of **sustainable development**.
 - The *Comprehensive EU Strategy with Africa* proposes to **scale up the EU's academic and scientific cooperation with Africa**, with a view to creating **prosperous knowledge societies** in both continents.
 - The *EU Global Approach to R&I* foresees **special openness vis-à-vis African countries** that wish to thrive as knowledge-based economies and accelerate their **sustainable and inclusive development**.
- The [AU-EU High Level Policy Dialogue \(HLPD\) on Science, Technology and Innovation \(STI\)](#) (est. 2010) is the **policy forum** where regular exchanges on R&I policy take place and where **long-term priorities** to strengthen cooperation are established. Under its aegis, the **first ever AU-EU R&I Ministerial Meeting** took place in **July 2020**, establishing the **4 joint priorities** of the AU-EU cooperation in R&I:



Public Health



Green Transition



Innovation & Technology



Capacities for Science



EU-Africa: Global Gateway Investment Package.

#GlobalGateway #AfricaEU #TeamEurope

- Announced during the **6th EU-AU Summit – A joint vision for 2030** of February 2022, it aims to support Africa for a **strong, inclusive, green and digital recovery**.
Budget: **150 BEUR**.

- **3 flagship initiatives** foreseen for **Science, Technology and Innovation**:
 - (1) AU-EU Innovation Agenda
 - (2) Earth observation and Space
 - (3) Regional Centres of Excellence in the area of Green Transition



The Joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda

*For building stronger value chains
for sustainable growth and decent jobs*

- Mainstay of the **AU-EU Cooperation in R&I** for the next decade, outcome of the **1st AU-EU R&I Ministerial** meeting of July 2020.
- Aiming to **translate R&I endeavours into tangible products, services, businesses and jobs in both Africa and Europe** and develop a long-term and sustainable operational **AU-EU R&I cooperation model**.
- Acknowledged in the final Declaration of the **6th EU-AU Summit – A Joint Vision for 2030**; final version endorsed by **AU-EU Senior Officials Meeting of May 2023**.
- **Adopted** on 19 July 2023.
- Strategic partnership supported, from the EU side, by the **Global Gateway Africa – Europe Investment Package** as well as **Horizon Europe**.



The Joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda

*Aiming to translate R&I into tangible products, services, businesses and jobs in both Africa and Europe
For building stronger value chains for sustainable growth and decent jobs*

- Drafted through a comprehensive concerted “**Team Africa-Europe**” work, involving AU and the EU Member States and Commissions, under the **AU-EU High-Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)**.

4 objectives:



Make it real

- Translate **innovative capacities and achievements into tangible outputs**, supporting sustainable growth and jobs, in particular for the youth



Generate impact by design

- **Foster - strengthen innovation ecosystems** to enhance socio-economic impact



Strengthen people, communities & institutions

- **Develop sustainable, long lasting and mutually beneficial higher education and R&I partnerships**



Learn, monitor, and scale it up

- Scale-up instruments that can take forward existing successful programmes and projects, enable - strengthen the knowledge triangle of education, R&I & place special focus on **public participation, transparency, and inclusion**



Short-, medium- and long-term set of actions, according to four joint priority areas:



- i. Public Health
- ii. Green Transition
- iii. Innovation & Technology
- iv. Capacities for Science
+ the additional
- v. Cross-cutting issues

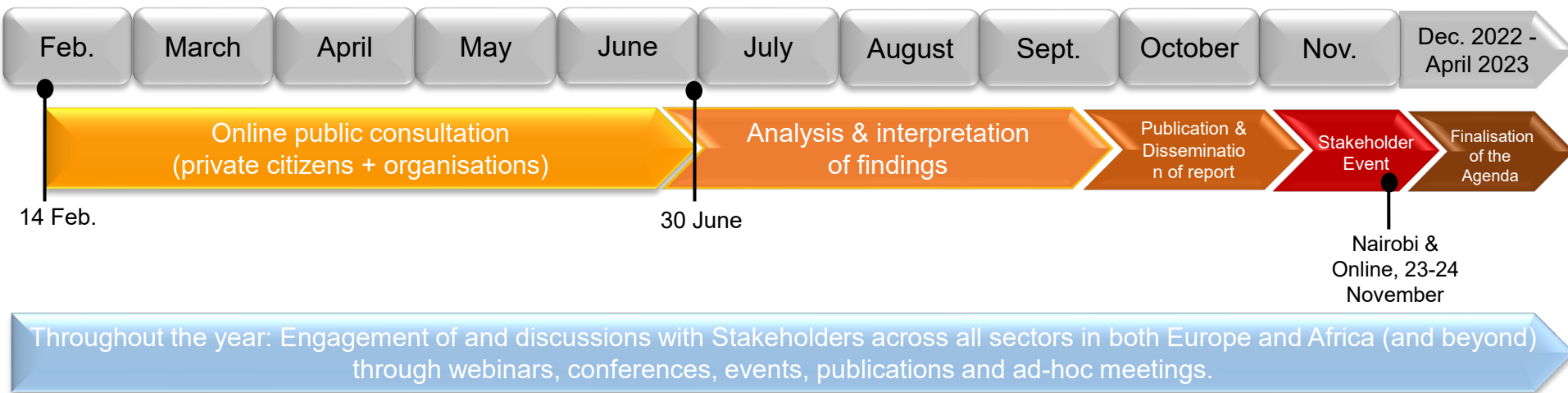


Mapping of **gaps & needs** for each priority area

- Working document published on **14 February 2022**, under public consultation until **30 June 2022**, further discussed with Stakeholders over a ‘**Stakeholder Dialogue Process**’ throughout the year 2022, culminated in the [AU-EU Innovation Agenda Stakeholder Event](#) in November 2022 in Nairobi.
- **Final version** of the Agenda **fully adopted on 19 July 2023**. Prepared through a continued concerted “**Team Africa-Europe**”, building on the feedback and input received from Stakeholders.

Year 2022: Stakeholder Dialogue Process

- The year 2022 entails a (multi-sectoral) **Stakeholder Dialogue Process**, to ensure the final version of the Innovation Agenda will address actual societal needs.
- Several initiatives planned:



**Report on Feedback and Input from the Public Consultation on the
Working Document of the Joint
“African Union (AU) – European Union (EU)
Innovation Agenda”**



Prepared by the Task Force of the Ad-hoc Innovation Agenda Working Group
of the Bureau of the High-Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on Science,
Technology and Innovation (STI)

October 2022

- Report on the **online public consultation** available [here](#).
- Report on the **AU-EU Innovation Agenda Stakeholder Event** to be published very soon.

Year 2022: Stakeholder Dialogue Process



AU-EU Innovation Agenda Stakeholder Event

(23-24 November 2022, Nairobi & virtual)

<https://aueu-innovationagenda-stakeholderevent.com/>



#AUEU #InnovationAgenda #MakingItHappen #PositiveAgenda

8 parallel Thematic Workshops according to the 4 priority areas



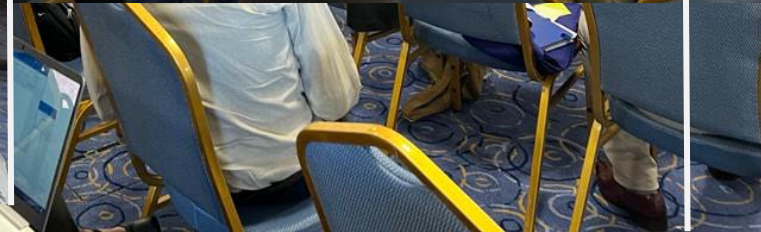
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**AU-EU INNOVATION AGENDA STAKEHOLDER EVENT
HYBRID FORMAT (NAIROBI, KENYA & VIRTUAL PLATFORM)**



EVENT REPORT

Event report available [here](#)
(published on 18 July 2023)

Structure of the *Final Version* of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda ([link here](#))

1. Policy Content
2. Objectives (n=4)
3. Actions
 - 3.1 Short-term
 - 3.2 Medium-term
 - 3.3 Long-term
4. Monitoring & Evaluation
5. Roadmap
6. Annex 1: Summary of needs and gaps



Additional sections were addressed through a supplementary '**Roadmap Document**' composed of 5 sections (dealt in the next presentation).

AU-EU Innovation Agenda, Final Version ([link here](#))



- Final version taking into account:
 - Feedback and input provided by stakeholders (quantitatively and qualitatively) on the Draft Agenda, throughout the year 2022
 - Additional comments by Members of the HLPD Bureau
- How the updated version compares with the draft AU-EU Innovation Agenda:
 1. **Same objectives** (n=4), with some expansions and specifications
 2. **More actions**, across priority areas, especially for the **short-term**
 3. Some of the **existing actions** were **strengthened, fine-tuned**
 4. **Additional needs & gaps** identified (with respective actions addressing them)
 5. A 'living' **Roadmap** document was added.

Updated Objectives (still 4, same titles, expanded language*)



1. Make it real

- **Translate innovative capacities and achievements into tangible outputs across sectors**, supporting sustainable growth and jobs, in particular for the youth. **Ensure that also local innovation, grassroots' projects and less codified forms of knowledge are taken into account, leveraging also knowledge from humanities and social sciences.**



2. Generate impact by design

- **Foster - strengthen innovation ecosystems to enhance socio-economic impact**, through exchange of knowledge, technology, competences, human resources and experience. **To achieve this, openness in science and innovation will be enhanced, while entrepreneurship, joint ventures, PPPs, support to incubation and access to funding for R&I will be strengthened, aiming for just twin (digital and green) transitions.**



3. Strengthen people, communities & institutions

- **Develop sustainable, long lasting and mutually beneficial higher education and R&I partnerships** between AU and EU partners. **In doing so, care will be taken in involving also the African Diaspora, and in empowering communities, also through citizen science initiatives, aiming for gender balance. Special care will be paid to training of researchers and recognition of curricula, as well as to strengthening R&I infrastructures and cooperation therein, considering the need for creating and sustaining employment opportunities and job attractiveness for youth and women.**



4. Learn, monitor, and scale it up

- **Scale-up instruments that can take forward existing successful bilateral or multilateral programmes and projects between AU and EU**, enable - strengthen the knowledge triangle of education, R&I & place special focus on **public participation, transparency, and inclusion particularly for the youth, women and vulnerable groups**, advancing knowledge and fostering entrepreneurship and co-creation, **to limit and counteract talent drain. A special effort will be put in ensuring the full involvement of all actors in the innovation ecosystem** (science, citizens, industry and policy).

*Here presented as a summary, a slightly more expanded language will be found in the Agenda – additional/amended text in red.

Needs and gaps analysis

Needs and gaps analysis identified five areas:



A The innovation ecosystem



B Innovation management



C Knowledge exchange,
including technology transfer








D Access to finance



E Human capacity development

Throughout all the aforementioned areas of needs and gaps, the importance of engaging the African diaspora in Europe (and elsewhere) is recognised as crucial for knowledge and experience sharing for developing expertise and innovations in Africa and Europe.

Short-term Actions

 <h3>Cross-cutting</h3>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ① Networking of business, government, higher education and NPO sectors through platforms ② Pro-active involvement of citizens in the innovation ecosystems ③ Fostering the participation of financing partners ④ Create easily accessible and widely available microcredit schemes for researchers & innovators
 <h3>Public Health</h3>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ① Support to Health R&I outputs to turn into relevant products, policy guidance and services ② Developing joint R&I agendas on health priorities, enhancing best practices and common standards, using emerging tech (e.g. genomics digitalisation, ICT internet of things, robotics, AI) encompassing communicable and non-communicable diseases (including, among others, poverty related-neglected diseases, antimicrobial resistance and zoonoses) as well as mental health, in infants, youth and adults
 <h3>Green Transition</h3>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ① Identifying/Sharing climate resilience and adaptation practices (SDGs 13) during consultative meetings ② Developing transferring and supporting the market uptake of innovative renewable energy solution and use devices, suitable for easy and prompt adoption by 'energy communities' ③ Supporting the development of innovative climate services through a new "space STI cooperation" action for risk reduction at local and regional level ④ Fostering the development and enhancement of sustainable and resilient agricultural and food systems value chains ⑤ Supporting the development and scale up of efficient and sustainable management of water resources ⑥ Supporting the development and scale up of efficient and sustainable management of cultural heritage and cultural practices, encouraging a green management of cultural and natural heritage
 <h3>Innovation & Technology</h3>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ① Supporting research and innovation cooperation between AU and EU research organizations and companies (in particular SMEs) from low tech to high tech ② Supporting tech/innovation hubs, networks, & operations of accelerators and incubators ③ Linking science with education, by promoting a culture of innovation and scientific communication programmes at all education levels
 <h3>Capacities for Science</h3>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ① Strengthening R&D cooperation between AU-EU Higher Education / Governmental institutions through knowledge transfer, teaming, twinning and learning mobility activities ② Improving transparency/recognition of qualifications/relevance of curricula for enhanced mobility ③ Setting up training programmes in the priority areas of AU-EU cooperation in R&I to increase youth's employability ④ Fostering the development of high-performing digital education systems and upgrade digital skills and competences for digital transformation

Medium-term Actions



Cross-Cutting

- ① Re-skilling / upskilling citizens to profit from innovation and technologies to prevent inequalities and / or discriminations (SDGs 8-9-13)
- ② Ensuring sustainability of research mobility programmes by providing conducive support infrastructures for scholars returning to Africa to create jobs / entrepreneurship/start-ups



Public Health

- ① Ensuring tech-transfer and improving and developing affordable, equitably available and accessible and quality vaccine, medicines and health technologies
- ② Ensuring the development of specific training curricula and capacity building throughout the value chain of health technologies



Green Transition

- ① Fostering digital applications and green technologies to enhance climate resilience and adaptation for agricultural and agro-ecological production, healthy and sustainable food processing and consumption
- ② Developing in Africa renewable fuels energy in a changing world for climate change mitigation and adaptation
- ③ Catalysing the development of circular economy strategy and policies in both FNSSA and CCSE
- ④ Developing citizen science and engage key players to reduce unprecedented climate risks in line with the climate adaptation pillar of the CCSE partnership



Innovation & Technology

- ① Enhancing R&I infrastructure and manufacturing capacity in Africa, so to strengthen supply and value chains within the continent, to enable also the fulfilment of medium- and long-term of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda



Capacities for Science

- ① Promoting joint master/doctoral degrees between AU-EU universities, mobility of researchers
- ② Creating enabling STI environment for sustainable innovation ecosystems (Quadruple helix actors)

Long-term actions



Cross-cutting

- ① Promoting R&D with a special focus on youth, women, **vulnerable groups** and demography, mitigation and management of global challenges



Public Health

- ① Designing and implementing new methods and tools to **monitor, prevent and** counteract future health threats (long standing/re-emerging/antimicrobial resistant pathogens **as well as chronic diseases**), promoting One Health and precision medicine, in a changing environment, **embedding the mental health dimension in this approach**



Green Transition

- ① Improving the agricultural innovation ecosystem to ~~co-invest in start-ups and agro-SME~~ strengthen capacities of actors to co-design, co-invest and **scale up and employ innovative technologies and methodologies through a multi-stakeholder approach, engaging the private sector and fostering PPPs in the areas of FNSSA and CCSE**, enhancing capacity for **job creation in agriculture / fisheries** and for proactive innovation policy



Innovation & Technology

- ① **Reinforcing and** Facilitating inclusive / affordable access to world-class R&I infrastructures
- ② Dissemination of knowledge through digital transformation



Capacities for Science

- ① Bridging R&I in fostering the emergence of new or strengthening of existing centres of excellence
- ② Modernising and reinforcing R&D & Higher education systems (RHESs)

‘Roadmap’ Document of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda

([link here](#))

AU-EU Innovation Agenda

Roadmap Document



Roadmap of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda

4 May 2023

A strategic partnership supported by Global Gateway

- A “**living document**” supplementing the final version of the AU - EU Innovation Agenda.
- It consists of **5 sections** illustrating:
 1. **Governance** of the Innovation Agenda
 2. **Monitoring & Evaluation** methodology
 3. **Inventory of relevant past and present AU and EU initiatives on STI** on which the Innovation Agenda will build
 4. **Results of the mapping of joint AU - EU R&I projects in the area of FNSSA**, assessed for their innovation and business potential and unmet needs to be addressed for their potential scale up
 5. A “**toolkit**” for initiatives that will enable the **implementation** of the short-, medium- and long-term actions of the Innovation Agenda

5. Toolkit for initiatives that will implement the Agenda ([link here](#))

- **Two checklists of criteria** was developed as a “toolkit” to identify initiatives contributing to the implementation of the actions of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda, with a view to enhancing its positive impact on the ground:
 1. One for **projects, programmes and partnerships**
 2. One for **scholarships** (of both **educational and research** nature)
- Initiatives fulfilling all the criteria proposed would be recognised as officially contributing to the implementation of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda.
- Beyond enhanced visibility, initiatives recognised as such would also gain an opportunity to potentially synergise with each other, especially when aligned under the same actions of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda. This, in turn, is hoped to generate a catalyst momentum for future initiatives.

5. Toolkit for initiatives that will implement the Agenda

Checklists proposed ([link here](#))

Programmes / projects / partnerships



1. Alignment with one or multiple objectives of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda.
2. Fall under one of the actions of the 4 thematic areas (i.e. Public Health, Green Transition, Innovation & Technology and Capacities for Science) or the area of “Cross-cutting issues”, as they are defined in the AU-EU Innovation Agenda.
3. Include an action plan and already one or more secured funding sources (i.e. project/programme/partnership ready to start).
4. Ensure AU-EU co-ownership, whether financial or in-kind, from conceptualisation to implementation and M&E of results.
5. When possible, catalyse synergies with other initiatives, triggering collaboration among multiple funders (e.g. AU, EU and beyond).
6. Provide tangible/measurable socio-economic development, either directly or indirectly, in Africa and/or Europe (with clear economic, social and environmental Key Performance Indicators included in the programming).
7. Include a clear sustainability component, with an action plan being foreseen also for the aftermath of the initiative.
8. Aim for active local engagement and uptake of proposed innovative solutions.
9. Empower youth and/or women and/or vulnerable groups and their entrepreneurship.
10. Foresee a clear inclusive communication package (on action plan, results and impact) for the general public/civil society, at local level too.

(Educational and Research) Scholarships

1. Alignment with one or multiple objectives of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda.
2. Fall under one of the actions of the 4 thematic areas (i.e. Public Health, Green Transition, Innovation & Technology and Capacities for Science) or the area of “Cross-cutting issues”, as they are defined in the AU-EU Innovation Agenda.
3. Include one or more secured funding sources (i.e. scholarship programme ready to start).
4. For research scholarships: ensure Africa-Europe co-ownership, whether financial or in-kind, from conceptualisation to implementation and M&E of results.
5. When possible, catalyse synergies with other scholarship schemes (e.g. AU, EU and beyond).
6. Provide tangible/measurable socio-economic development, either directly or indirectly, in Africa and/or Europe (with clear economic, social and environmental Key Performance Indicators included in the programming).
7. Include a clear sustainability component, for the aftermath of the scholarship programme (e.g. future training by those who were trained; measures to counteract talent drain).
8. Entail research and/or curricular activities involving at least one African and one European institution.
9. Empower youth and/or women and/or vulnerable groups and their entrepreneurship.
10. Foresee a clear inclusive communication package (on scholarship scheme, beneficiaries and results) for the general public/civil society, at local level too.

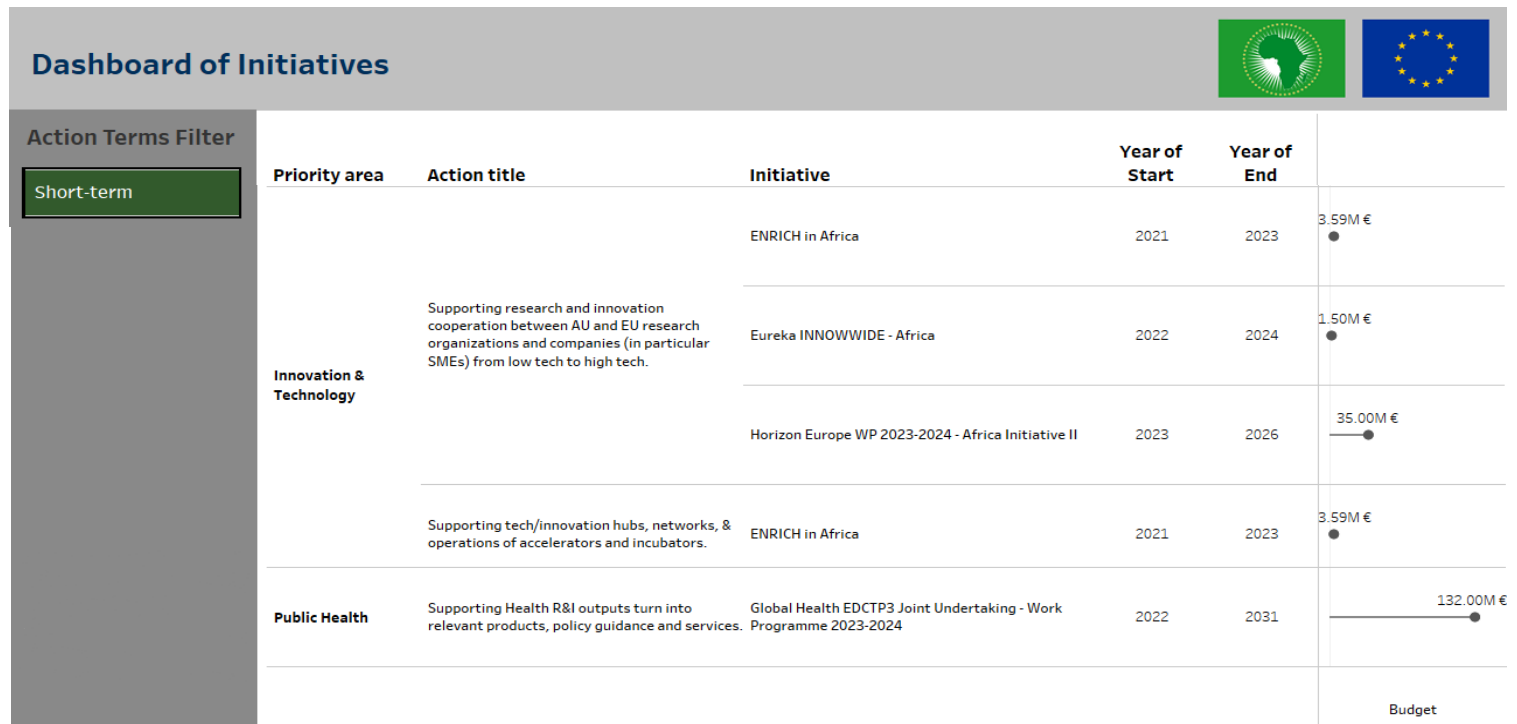
5. Toolkit for initiatives that will implement the Agenda

“Dashboard” of initiatives (sample, 1 of 2)

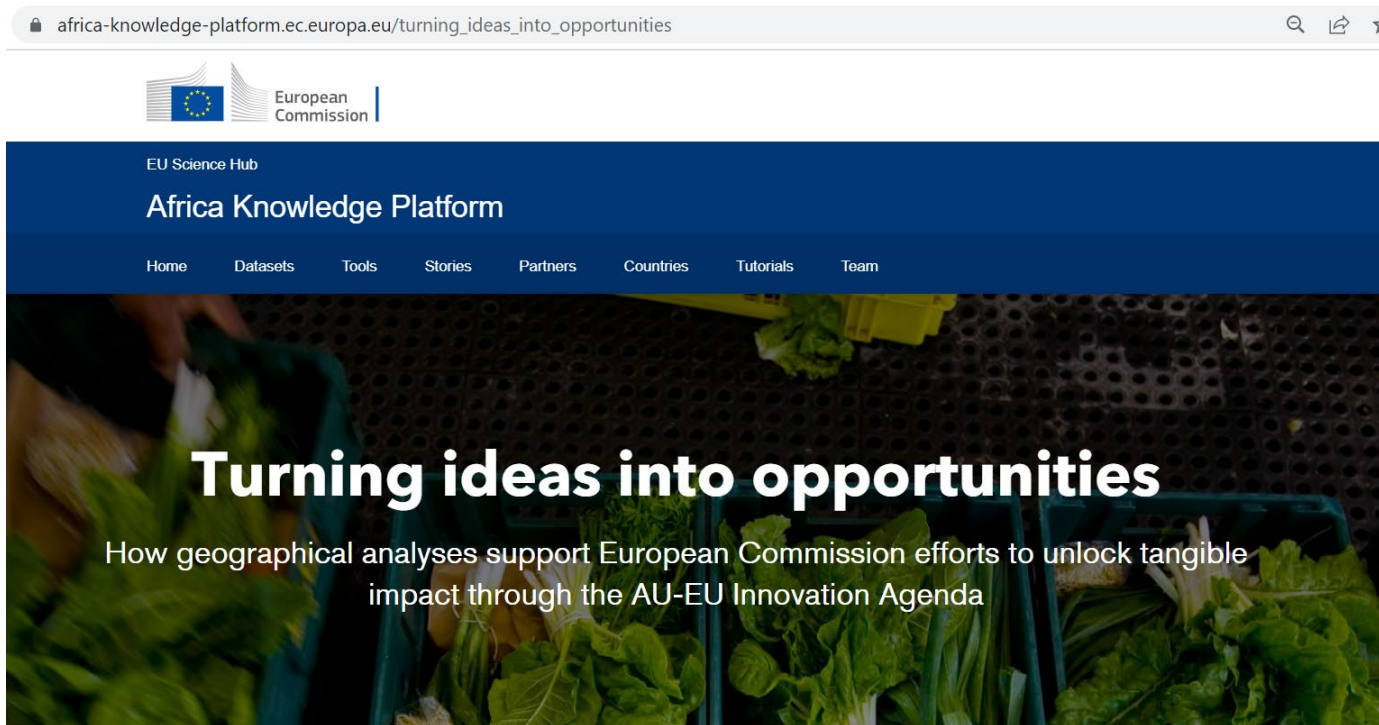
Dashboard of Initiatives							
Action Terms Filter		Priority area	Action title	Initiative	Year of Start	Year of End	
Short-term		Capacities for Science	Strengthening R&D cooperation between AU-EU HE/Gov. institutions through knowledge transfer, teaming, twinning and learning mobility activities.	Horizon Europe WP 2023-2024 - Africa Initiative II - The African Union-European Union Innovation Platform	2024	2028	2.50M €
Medium-Term							●
Long-Term		Cross-cutting	Networking of business, government, higher education and NPO sectors through platforms.	Horizon Europe WP 2023-2024 - Africa Initiative II - The African Union-European Union Innovation Platform	2024	2026	2.50M €
							●
		Green Transition	Fostering the development and enhancement of sustainable and resilient agricultural and food systems value chains.	Horizon Europe WP 2023-2024 - Africa Initiative II - Support for the implementation of a sustainable platform for the EU-AU cooperation under the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership	2023	2027	104.00M €
							—●
							4.00M €
		Green Transition	Developing and transferring innovative renewable energy production and use devices, suitable for easy and prompt adoption by 'energy communities'.	Horizon Europe WP 2023-2024 - Africa Initiative II - Accelerating the green transition and energy access in Africa	2024	2029	20.00M €
							—●
		Green Transition	Supporting the development of innovative climate services through a new "space STI cooperation" action for risk reduction at local and regional level.	Horizon Europe WP 2023-2024 - Africa Initiative II	2024	2029	10.00M €
							—●
		Green Transition	Supporting the development of innovative climate services through a new "space STI cooperation" action for risk reduction at local and regional level.	Horizon Europe WP 2023-2024 - Africa Initiative II	2023	2026	152.00M €
							—●

5. Toolkit for initiatives that will implement the Agenda

“Dashboard” of initiatives (sample, 2 of 2)



Mapping and identification of further support /scale up needs of R&I projects pertaining to the AU-EU Partnership on Food & Nutrition Security & Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA)



Link [here](#)

AU-EU Innovation *Festival*

Cape Town
15th June 2023

#AUEU #InnovationFestival
#InnovationAgenda #MakingItHappen
#PositiveAgenda

CAPE TOWN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER
(CTICC)

<https://au-eu-innovationfestival.service-facility.eu/>

 **Global
Gateway**



High-level institutional opening



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Agora session on Women-led innovations

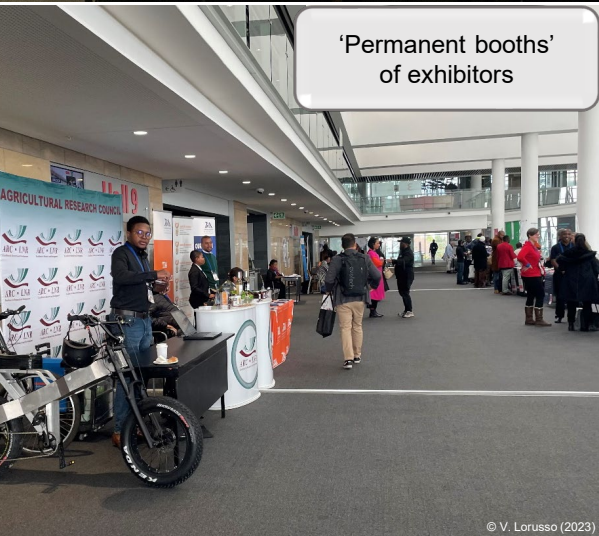
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Agora session on Youth-led innovations



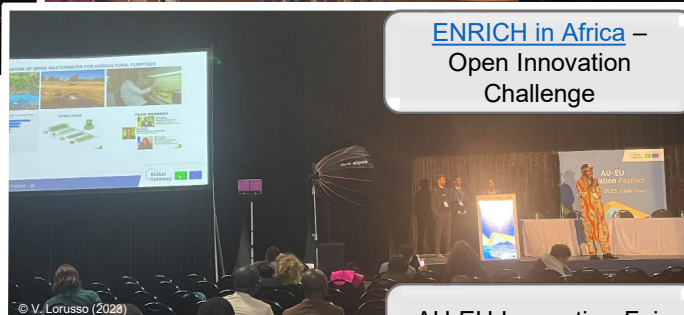
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'Permanent booths' of exhibitors



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ENRICH in Africa – Open Innovation Challenge



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AU-EU Innovation Fair – Meet the Innovators



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AU-EU Innovation Agenda

Main Next Steps Ahead



- Kick-starting of the **implementation**.
- **Large virtual events** to occur on a **6 months basis** in continuity with the AU-EU Innovation Festival, to include **training, experience-sharing, matchmaking, networking** for innovators, investors, researchers, R&I stakeholders!
First session: before end of the year (second half of **November 2023**)
- **Launch and roll-out of several initiatives** to contribute to the implementation of the Innovation Agenda.
- **Several follow-up communication actions** stemming from last year's Stakeholder Event and this year's AU-EU Innovation Festival.
- Stay updated and engage through our [website](#).



Welcome to the new **African Union (AU) - European Union (EU) Innovation Interface**, part of the Innovation Talent Platform! The AU-EU Innovation Interface will bring information on initiatives, resources and opportunities addressed to innovators, entrepreneurs, researchers and investors, generated as part of the implementation of the joint **AU-EU Innovation Agenda**. By doing so, the Interface aims to connect Research and Innovator Stakeholders and ecosystems at the interface between Africa and Europe and therefore bring value to the impact of the Innovation Agenda.

Launched on the adoption of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda –
Link [here](#)



Join the ENRICH in Africa virtual Community Platform!



Funded under the EU Framework Programme Horizon 2020, Enrich in Africa (EIA) brings together key stakeholders from the European and African innovation ecosystem to upgrade the capacity of incubators and accelerators and benefit entrepreneurs in both regions. It supports knowledge exchange, provides co-creation opportunities, and enables the delivery of quality services for European and African innovators. Join this community to learn more about what ENRICH in Africa has to offer, expand your network, and find partners and investors!

[Read more >](#)

Online workshops



Stay tuned for the announcement of the first session of bi-annual (online) Workshops dedicated to the implementation of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda. Each Workshop will focus on topics related to the priority areas of the AU-EU cooperation in Research and Innovation, such as (i) Public Health, (ii) Green Transition, (iii) Innovation & Technology and (iv) Capacities for Science.

In addition to training on Deep Tech, Workshops are expected to promote experience sharing, foster networking and matchmaking sessions, to promote the establishment and strengthening of collaborations among innovators, Research and Innovation performing organisations, hubs, accelerators and investors. First session to take place during the last quarter of 2023.

AU-EU Deep Tech Transformation Training Scheme

Watch this space for upcoming training sessions in the area of Deep Tech applied to the context of EU-Africa cooperation on Research and Innovation. The AU-EU Deep Tech Transformation Training Scheme will be delivered in the form of 7 consecutive modules to be held within dedicated workshops to take place throughout the timeframe of implementation of the short-term actions of the Agenda (between June 2023 and March 2027). The following key topics will be covered: Artificial Intelligence (AI) (big data included), quantum computing, blockchain and biotech, delivered through dedicated online Workshops and applied to case studies pertaining to the AU-EU cooperation.



EURAXESS Africa

EURAXESS Africa is an initiative of the European Commission established with the aim to provide free access to information about research in Europe, opportunities for research funding, international collaboration and trans-national mobility. It links researchers in Africa to Europe. Furthermore, the network is open to all nationalities and research fields.

[Read more >](#)



Link [here](#)

Latest News

The European Union and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) sign a Letter of Intent to join forces on the implementation of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda

News link 
[here](#)

Today, 19 June, the Commission, on behalf of the European Union, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) signed a "Letter of Intent" (LoI) expressing their willingness to cooperate on the implementation of the African Union (AU) - European Union (EU) Innovation Agenda. The signing ceremony took place in the margins of the High-Level Meeting between the European Commission and UNEP, which was convened on the same day.

The joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda, currently in the process of adoption, aims to strengthen the cooperation on research and innovation (R&I) between Europe and Africa, by fostering the translation of R&I into products, services, businesses and jobs, in both continents. This Agenda includes four objectives, articulated into short-, medium- and long-term actions across the four priority areas of the AU-EU cooperation in R&I, such as (i) Public Health, (ii) Green Transition, (iii) Innovation & Technology and (iv) Capacities for Science, in addition to (v) Cross-cutting issues.

This LoI represents the outcome of a dialogue initiated by the Commission with several International and UN Organisations, with a view to identifying potential collaboration avenues towards the implementation of this Innovation Agenda. The LoI foresees the collaboration between the EU and UNEP, also in partnership with third party organisations such as the AU, on several innovation-focused initiatives, especially, though not exclusively, in the Green Transition, such as wastewater management.

The LoI was signed by Ms Maria Cristina Russo, Director for Global Approach and International Cooperation in Research and Innovation at the European Commission, and Ms Sonja Leighton-Kone, Director of UNEP's Corporate Service Division, headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya.



Sonja Leighton-Kone, Director of UNEP's Corporate Service Division headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya and Maria Cristina Russo, Director for Global approach and International Cooperation, European Commission

Acknowledgements

- EC-AUC co-chairs & Bureau Members of the EU/AU HLPD-STI
- Ad-hoc Innovation Agenda Working Group of the AU-EU HLPD Bureau on STI and its dedicated Taskforce team (Team Africa-Europe)
- Participating EC, AUC and AUDA-NEPAD Directorates and/or Departments, such as
 - **EC** DGs RTD, INTPA, EAC, JRC, EEAS
 - **AUC** Departments of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation
 - **AUDA-NEPAD**, through both Technical Cooperation & Programme Funding (TCPF, CEO's Office) and Programme Innovation and Planning Directorate (PIPD)
- AU & EU MS experts (Team Africa and Team Europe)
- All Stakeholders involved (from AU, EU and beyond)

Discussion
