EU-Africa 8th Partnership
Science, Information Society, Space
European Parliament, Brussels, 7th Nov 2011

Luis Magalhães

President of Knowledge Society Agency, Portugal

European Co-Chair of EU–Africa 8th Partnership

CONTEXT
EU-Africa Summits

EU-Africa Summits

➔ **1st EU-Africa Summit, Cairo, 3-4APR2000**
Declaration of Cairo and Joint EU-Africa Cairo Plan of Action, for trade, debt, political issues, peace building and conflict prevention, and development

➔ **2nd EU-Africa Summit, Lisbon, 8DEC2007**
New Strategic Partnership and Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES), vision and roadmap for future cooperation, Action Plan I (2007-2010)

➔ **3rd EU-Africa Summit, Tripoli, 29-30NOV2010**
Joint Africa-EU Strategy, Action Plan II (2011-2013)
Established in the 8th Partnership the AU-EU High Level S&T Policy Dialogue

EU-Africa 8th Partnership
Action Plans I and II

1. Peace and Security

2. Democratic Governance and Human Rights

3. Regional integration, Trade and infrastructure

4. Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

5. Energy

6. Climate change and Environment

7. Migration, Mobility and Employment

8. **Science, Information Society and Space**

EU-Africa 8th Partnership Action Plan II
Science, Information Society, Space

PRIORITY ACTION 1:

S&T capacity building for the implementation of Africa's S&T Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA)

PRIORITY ACTION 2:

Support the development of an inclusive Information Society in Africa

PRIORITY ACTION 3:

Enhance Cooperation on Space Applications and Technology

MAIN INSTRUMENTS
EU-Africa S&T Cooperation with Increased Support

EU International Cooperation in S&T
Main Instruments

➜ **FP7 2007-2013**

General calls on themes in the Cooperation Programme

Geographically targeted calls

Coordinated calls

European and international programmes, e.g., EDCTP, HFSP

Coordination and Support Actions in the Capacities Programme
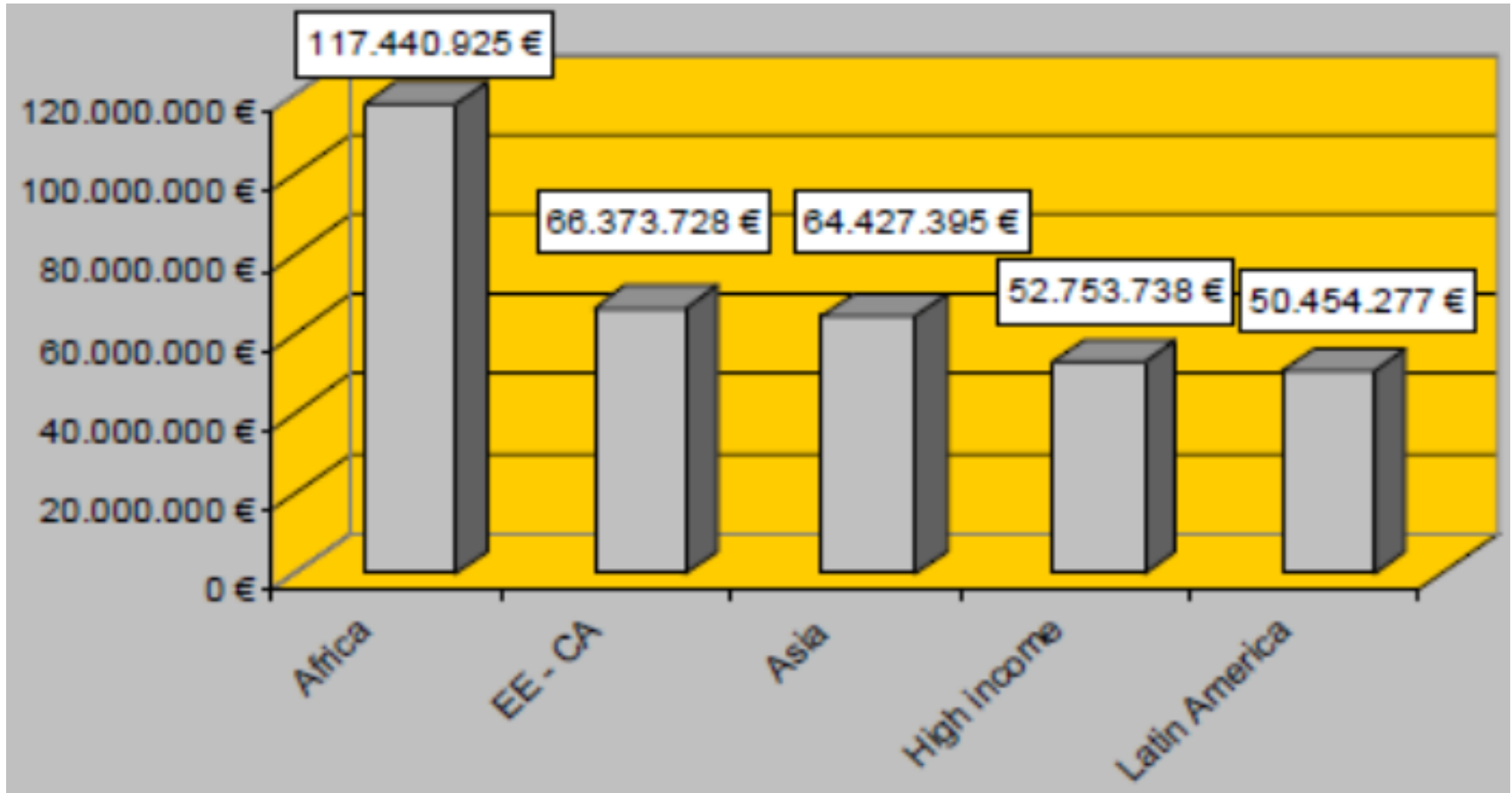
➜ **EDF – European Development Fund**

FP7 EU-Africa Related Projects

➔ 778 African participations

➔ Contribution to African participants approx. 120 M€

➔ FP7 Africa Call 2010 (67 M€)
Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Biotechnologies

➔ EDCTP – European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Platform

➔ Coordination and Support Actions
S&T Europe Africa Programme (ST-EAP) ● INCONet for Africa (CAAST-Net) ● INCONet for Mediterranean countries (MIRA) ● ERA-Net Africa
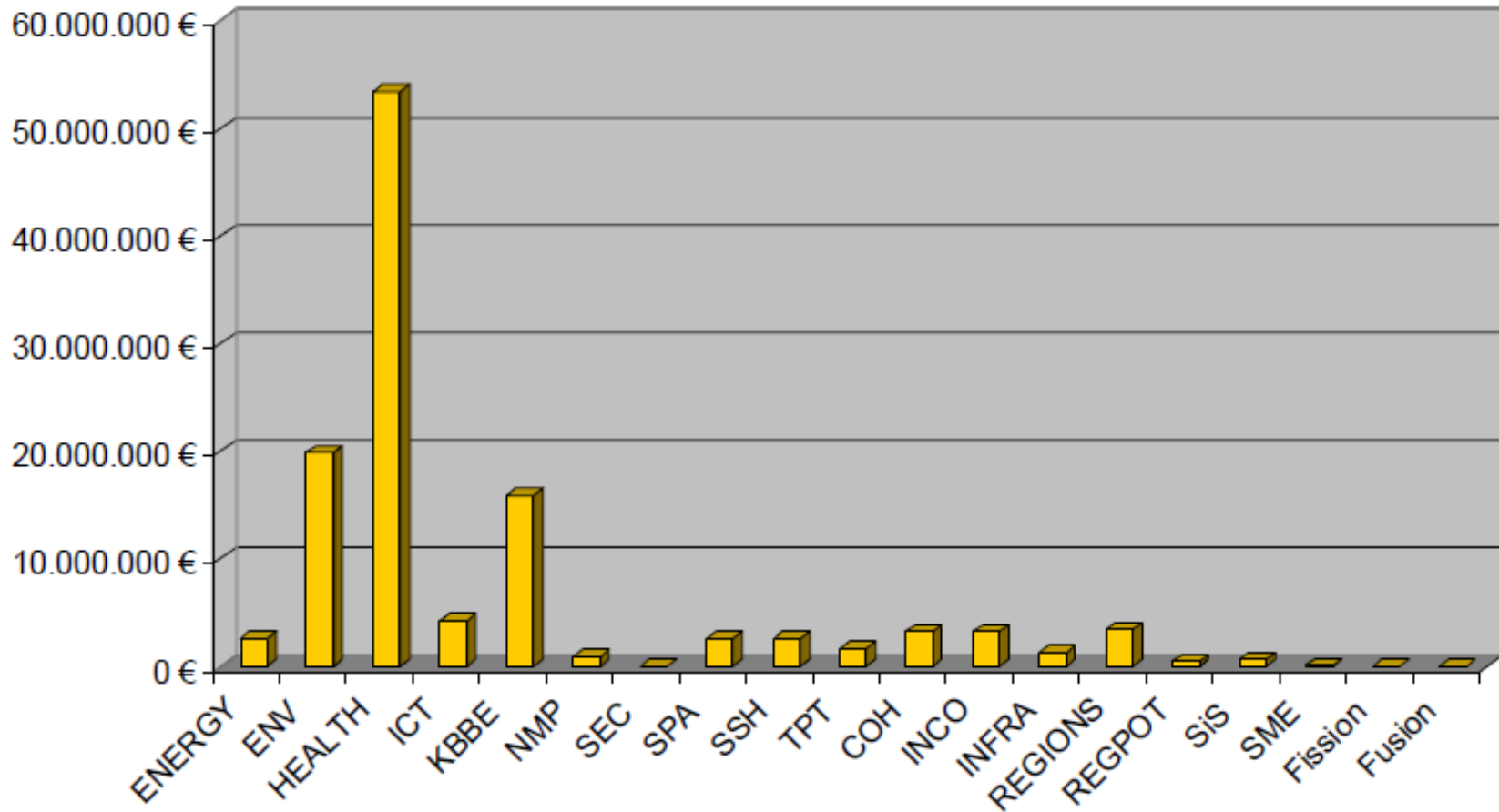
FP7 Contributions to Participants from External Countries – signed contracts per region

Source: DG Research and Innovation, European Commission

FP7 Contributions to Participants from External Countries – signed contracts per theme

Source: DG Research and Innovation, European Commission

Main EDF EU-Africa Related Projects

➔ **AfricaConnect (12 M€)**
Connection of Eastern and Southern Africa NRENs to European GEANT

➔ **African Union Research Grants (20 M€)**
1st Call (7 M€): Water and Sanitation, Post-harvest and Agriculture, Renewable and Sustainable Energy

➔ **HIPSSA (8.5 M€)**
Harmonisation of ICT Policies in Sub-Saharan Africa

GOVERNANCE

EU-Africa Partnership Overall Governance

➔ **Guidance: Africa-EU Ministerial Troika (biannual)**
with inputs from sector-specific Ministerial Troikas

➔ **Monitoring: College-to-College (C2C) Commissioners Meetings (annual)**

➔ **Monitoring: Joint AU-EU Task Force (JTF) (6-monthly)**
AUC, EUC and EEAS, Parliaments, African and EU JEG co-chairs, chefs de files, RECs, private sector and civil society representatives (for the African side through AU-ECOSOCC)

➔ **Implementation Follow Up of each of the 8 Partnerships: Joint Experts Group (JEG)**

➔ **Implementation Coordination in EU:** Jointly COM and EEAS

EU-Africa 8ᵗʰ Partnership Governance

➔ **Co-Chairs** (MS): EU (Luis Magalhães, **Portugal**), AU (Rached Hamza, **Tunisia**)

➔ Joint Experts Group of 8ᵗʰ Partnership (JEG8)

➔ European Experts Group of 8ᵗʰ Partnership (EEG8)
EU members of JEG8 (no African counterpart)

- o EEG8 Sub-group for Science (Chair: France)

- o EEG8 Sub-group for Information Society (Chair: Finland)

- o EEG8 Sub-group for Space (Chair: vacant, Malta expressed interest)

EU-Africa 8th Partnership Governance
AU-EU High Level S&T Policy Dialogue

➔ **Ministerial Level**
AU: AMCOST – African Ministerial Conference on S&T
EU: Competitiveness/Research Council

➔ **Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)**
1st SOM in Addis Ababa on 10-11OCT2011

➔ **Task Force to prepare SOM**
AU: AMCOST Bureau (Egypt, South Africa, Congo and the AUC as Secretariat)
EU: Troika of past, present and forthcoming EU Presidency
(BE, HU, PL; but also involving DK), DG RTD, EEAS, EEG8 Chair

ULTIMATE GOALS
MUST BE
CENTRED ON PEOPLE

EU-Africa 8ᵗʰ Partnership
Ultimate Goals Must be Centred on **PEOPLE**

➔ Importance of S&T to the knowledge based economy and to the benefit of Africa and Europe **PEOPLE**

➔ Scientific cooperation is built on strong relationships of **TRUST** and **CONFIDENCE** for high quality collaborative work, and stands on the adoption of appropriate processes for their sustainability.

TRUST and **CONFIDENCE** ultimately depends on **PERSONAL** relationships between researchers, and on Knowledge Networks involving research institutions, universities and enterprises.

The best possible framework must be established for **BOTTOM UP** collaborations to flourish and to produce excellent research contributions to **SCIENCE**, **SOCIETY** and **ECONOMY**.

ANNEX
EXPECTED OUTCOMES
AND
MAIN THEMATIC ACTIVITIES
in Action Plan II

EU-Africa 8th Partnership Action Plan II
Priority Action 1: S&T capacity building for the implementation of Africa's S&T Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA)

Expected outcomes are the strengthening of:

➔ African S&T capacities and EU capacities for working with Africa

➔ Training of African and EU scientists, technicians and engineers

➔ Exchange programmes

➔ S&T in REC's sectoral programmes and projects

➔ Pan-African infrastructure and facilities for R&D

➔ AU-EU High-Level S&T Policy Dialogue

➔ S&T cooperation (bilateral, bi-regional, bi-continental, REC-level)

➔ Innovation capability of African and European SMEs

➔ STI evidence-based AU-EU policy making, including Africa STI observatory

EU-Africa 8th Partnership Action Plan II
Priority Action 1: S&T capacity building for the implementation of Africa's S&T Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA)

Thematic activities include:

- Support the AU objective of designing a multi-annual African Research Framework, *inter alia* by implementing the **African Research Grants** Initiative, as well as providing the AUC with the requisite experience and management capacity
- Complete the formulation of S&T for the development of **African SMEs and Business Incubators** network Lighthouse project
- Explore possibilities for Africa to support the deployment of regional and global high quality **research infrastructures**
- Set up an adequate mechanism to promote an **African brain-gain programme**
- Cooperate in **capacity building** in R&D and R&D policy in Africa and EU
- Focus on the grand challenges faced by Africa and Europe, e.g., **Climate Change / Energy**, **Sustainable Agriculture** and **National Resources Management**, **Desertification** and **Forestry**, **Water** and **Food** Security, Global **Health** (emphasis on Maternal and Child Health and Infectious Diseases)

EU-Africa 8th Partnership Action Plan II
Priority Action 2: Support the development of an inclusive Information Society in Africa

Expected outcomes are the strengthening of:

➔ Inclusive and affordable access and use of ICT applications and services in order to fast-track the MDGs objectives, notably in health and education

➔ Cooperation on the digital economy and the reduction of the digital divide

➔ African economy competitiveness through ICT uptake and innovation

➔ Consultations on African-EU positions and approaches in international and regional ICT *fora*

➔ Mutually beneficial economic collaboration AU-EU regarding ICT industries and SMEs

EU-Africa 8th Partnership Action Plan II
Priority Action 2: Support the development of an inclusive Information Society in Africa

Thematic activities include:

- Develop **Research and Education Networks (RENs)** interconnecting the European GEANT to African regional networks and progressing to a pan-African REN
- Set up an **AU-EU Information Society Dialogue** for ICT-related cooperation and to coordinate EU and African positions in global ICT *fora*, e.g. on digital literacy, inclusion, skills for RTD, regulatory issues, infrastructure deployment, use of e-applications
- Establish a **multi-stakeholders implementation group** to facilitate cooperation and better coordination of national and regional programmes, and to identify concrete initiatives of mutual interest, focused on:
  - Harmonisation of ICT Policies in Sub-Saharan Africa (HIPSSA)
  - Sharing of ICT best practices and successful PPPs, and improving the links of local/national/regional initiatives with international financing institutions active in ICT
  - Designing initiatives on digital literacy, e-skills, local digital content, high socio-economic impact applications
  - ICT research cooperation, local ICT innovation and entrepreneurship, promoting ICT business incubators and Living Labs

EU-Africa 8ᵗʰ Partnership Action Plan II

Priority Action 3: Enhance Cooperation on Space Applications and Technology

Expected outcomes are the strengthening of:

➔ Pan-African Institutions in space applications and technology

➔ Integration of space-related issues in specific dialogues and cooperation initiatives in areas such as navigation, telecommunications and Earth observation for the environment and resource management, climate change, peace and security

➔ Specific projects based on existing space infrastructure (such as telemedicine) to achieve regional and global development goals

EU-Africa 8th Partnership Action Plan II
Priority Action 3: Enhance Cooperation on Space Applications and Technology

Thematic activities include:

- Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) and Africa: Pursue the process initiated in 2007 at the Lisbon Summit, by finalizing and implementing the **Action Plan on GMES and Africa**, by developing the necessary capacity building efforts at continental, regional and national levels, by designing and implementing appropriate coordination and governance mechanisms aiming at a long-term cooperation

- Reformulate and support the implementation of the **African Geodetic Reference Frame (AFREF)** by providing an essential element for regional and multinational projects requiring precise positioning and geo-referencing

- Jointly establish a strong **African institutional and policy framework** for:
  - Promoting the exploitation of space-based applications and technologies in support of development goals
  - Assessing the feasibility of an African Space Agency, drawing on the expertise of the European and African Commissions, ESA, EUMETSAT and committed African States