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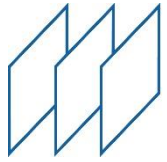
Cooperation Lounge Africa-Europe: Science meets Politics

10 & 11 December 2024

Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to the EU, Brussels



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Research and
Innovation Agency



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Thank you for joining the *Cooperation Lounge Africa-Europe: Science meets Politics in Brussels*



The Team of the Bavarian Research Alliance,
Scientific Coordination Office Bavaria-Africa

Email:

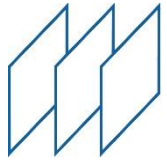
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Let's stay in contact!

Subscribe to our quarterly newsletter for calls, events, projects, news from the Bavarian Office for Africa in Addis Ababa

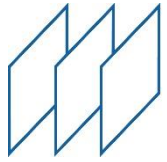


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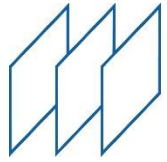


Day 1: Agenda

- 5:30 – 6:30 pm **Registration**
Poster Exhibition and Pre-reception with African Finger Food
- 6:30 – 6:45 pm **Welcome**
Martin Hinterdobler, *Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to the EU*
Eric Beißwenger, *Government of the Free State of Bavaria*
Mohamed Igueh Ofleh, *African Union Permanent Mission to the European Union*
- 6:45 – 7:00 pm **Keynote Speech** Nicola Bellomo, *European Union*
- 7:00 – 8:00 pm **Panel Discussion**
“How to enhance the dialogue between science and policy for African-European research and innovation activities?”
Moderation: Alison April, *Stellenbosch University*
Speakers: Professor Willem Fourie, Professor John O. Gyapong, Dr Vincenzo Lorusso, Dr Daphne Keilmann-Gondhalekar, Eudy Mabuza
- 8:00 – 8:15 pm **Project Presentation: INCiTIS Food** Dr Emmanuel Benjamin
- 8:15 – 10:00 pm **Reception with Bavarian Food & Poster Exhibition**



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Day 2: Agenda

9:00 – 9:15 am **Registration**

9:15 – 9:30 am **Welcome**

Keynote: Introduction to Science-Policy and Science-Diplomacy
Angela Schindler-Daniels, *DLR Projektträger, EU Science Diplomacy Alliance*

9:30 – 11:30 am **Interactive Workshop/World-Café:**

Developing Suggestions for Improving Cooperation in African and European
Research & Innovation Projects

11:30 – 12:00 am **Coffee Break**

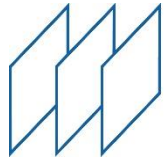
12:00 – 12:30 pm **Synthesis of Group Results & Closing**

12:30 – 2:00 pm **Lunch**



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Keynote

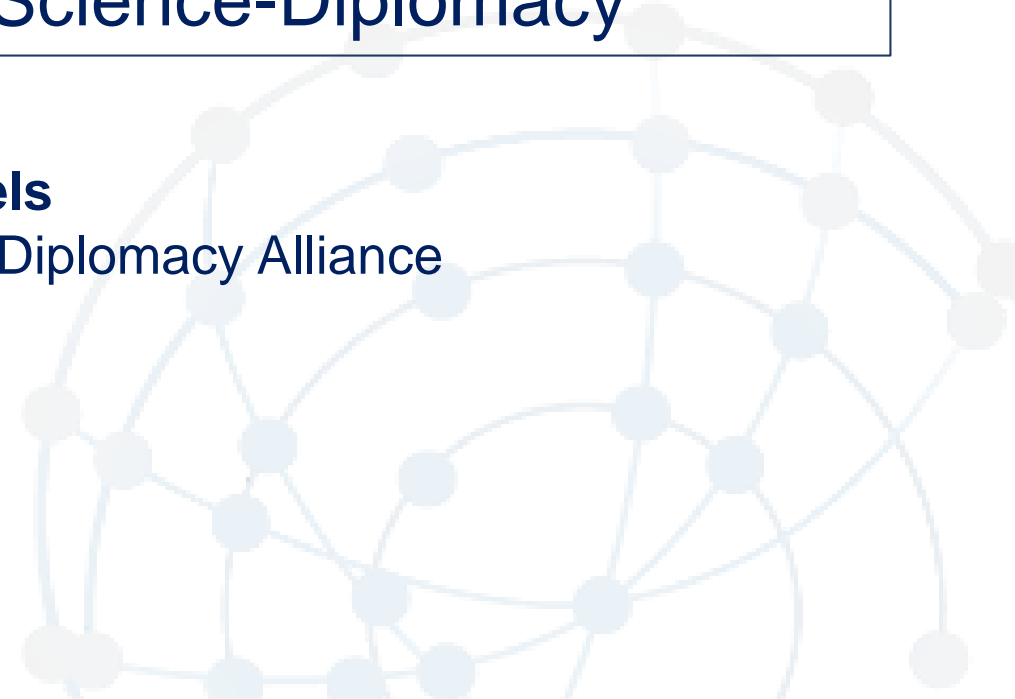
Introduction to Science-Policy and Science-Diplomacy

Angela Schindler-Daniels

DLR Projektträger and former Chair, EU Science Diplomacy Alliance



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Cooperation Lounge Africa-Europe: Science meets Politics – Science Policy and Science Diplomacy

11.12.2024, Brussels

Angela Schindler-Daniels, DLR-PT



DLR Projektträger



What are we talking about:

Science for Policy
Science Advice
Science Diplomacy



What are we talking about:

Science for Policy

the process by which information is transferred from the scientific community or individual researcher to policymakers with the intention to produce evidence-informed policy.

See more:

https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/futures-science-policy-europe-scenarios-and-policy-implications-2023-10-10_en



What are we talking about:

Science Advice:

scientists providing advice to policy makers and the public (on any given level).



Examples: INGSA (International Network of Science Advice, STOA (Panel for the Future of Science and Technology) SAM (Scientific Advice Mechanism)

Taxonomy of Science Advice:

<https://www.sciencediplomacy.org/article/2016/science-advice-governments>

What are we talking about:



Science Diplomacy:

Still missing a universally accepted definition;
A fluid and evolving concept

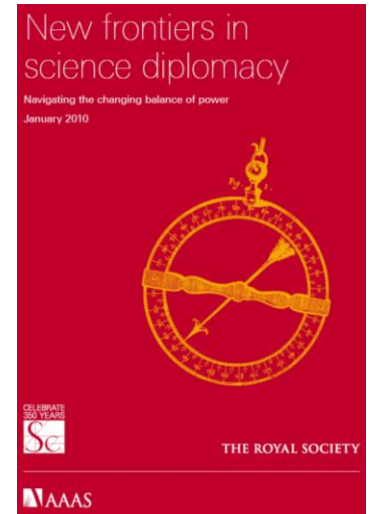
Diplomacy for Science

*Facilitating
international science
cooperation*

Science for Diplomacy

*Using science
cooperation in
international relations
between countries*

**Science in
Diplomacy**
*Informing
foreign policy
objectives with
scientific advice*

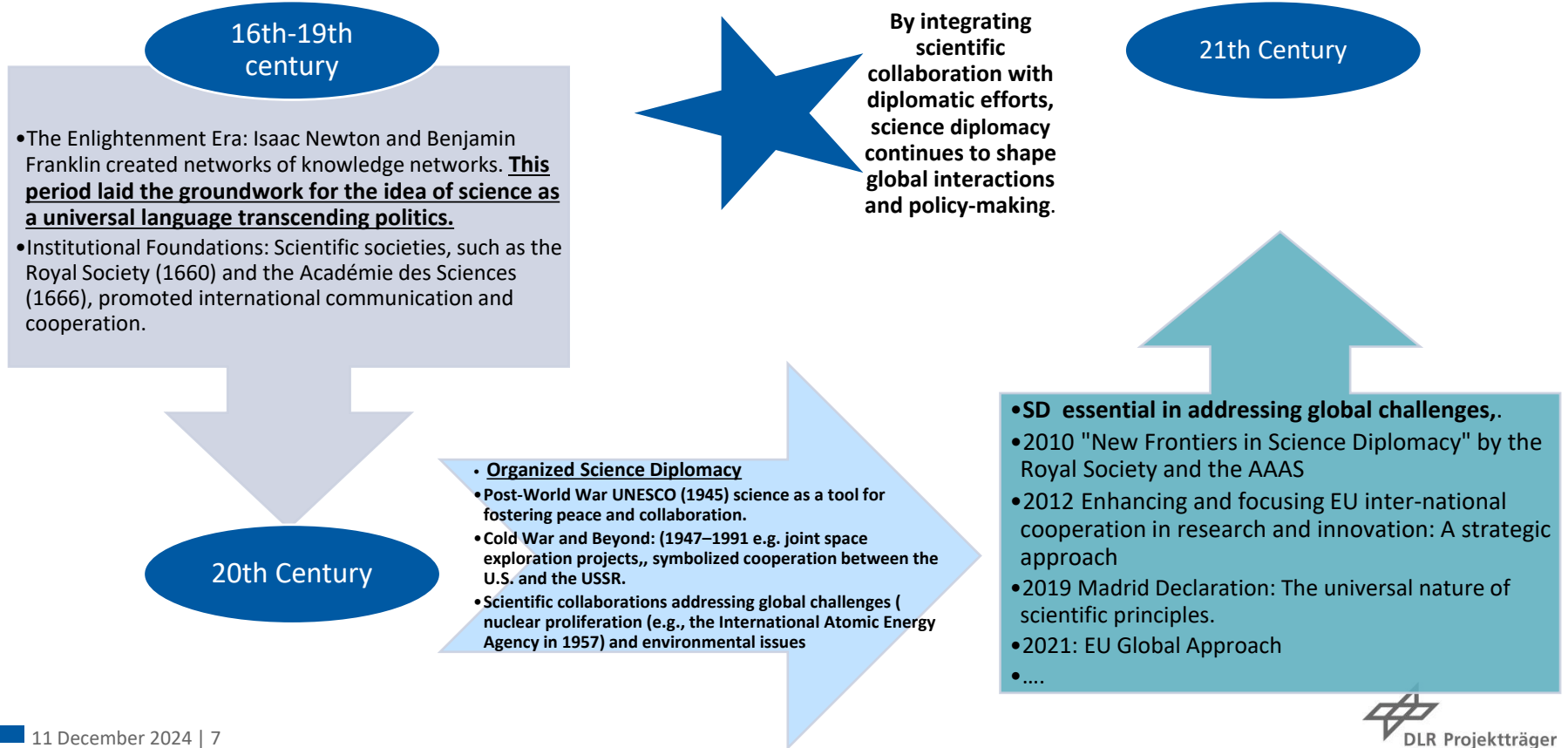


Researcher's Definition of Science Diplomacy



History of Science Diplomacy (in a micro-nut)

A well established tool with a new mission



Why the hype



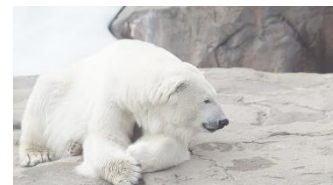
Because it:

1. Addresses Global Challenges
2. Fosters Collaboration Amid Geopolitical Tensions
3. Is a Soft Power with International Influence
4. Fosters Innovation and Economic Growth
5. Strengthens Multilateral Institutions
6. Addresses Emerging Trends and Challenges



Examples of Science Diplomacy in Action:

1. The Antarctic Treaty: An agreement to preserve Antarctica for peaceful purposes and scientific research.
2. International Space Station (ISS): A symbol of collaboration between space agencies from multiple nations, even during political tensions.
3. COVAX Initiative: A global collaboration to ensure equitable vaccine distribution.



Science is becoming a diplomatic player

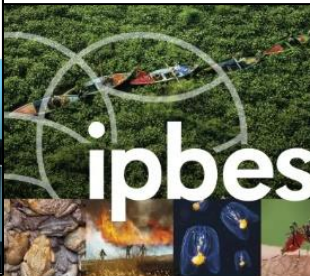


 **United Nations** | Secretary-General
Scientific Advisory Board

**We bridge science,
policy and impact.**


 Yoshua Bengio	 Lidia Arthur Brito	 Sandra Diaz	 Ismahane Elouafi	 Jeremy Farrar	 Amandeep Gill	 Andrea Hinwood
 Saleemul Huq	 Fei-Fei Li	 Alan Lightman	 Jürg Luterbacher	 Thuli Madonsela	 Tshilidzi Marwala	 Thomas Südhof

 **International
Science Council**
The global voice for science



ipbes

The thematic assessment report on
**INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES
AND THEIR CONTROL**



**WORLD SCIENCE FORUM
2017 JORDAN
SCIENCE FOR PEACE**



ipcc
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON
climate change

 **GLOBAL RESEARCH COUNCIL**
4th ANNUAL MEETING | IN TOKYO 27-28 MAY 2015



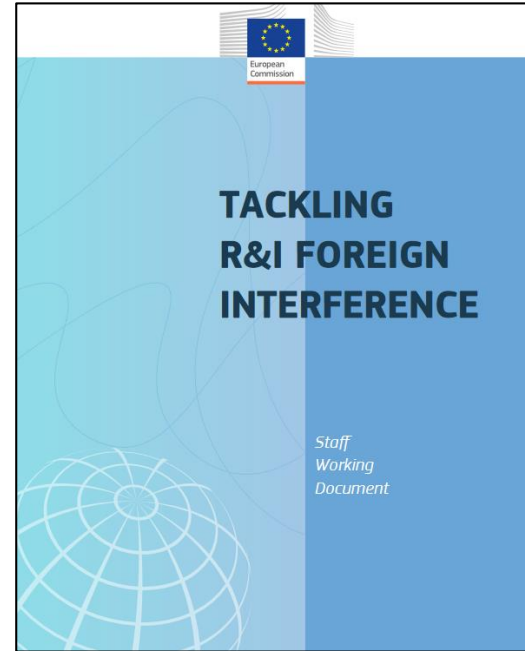
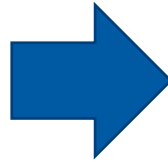
OPEN ACCESS



Science Diplomacy is changing (in the EU) context



2016



2022

Towards a new European framework for Science Diplomacy



Commission and the European External Action Service are currently developing a European Science Diplomacy Agenda.



A Science Diplomacy Instrument: The new AU-EU Innovation Agenda



What is it about?

- crafted collaboratively over 3 years under the AU-EU High-Level Policy Dialogue
- 4 priority areas: Public Health, Green Transition, Innovation & Technology, Capacity4Science

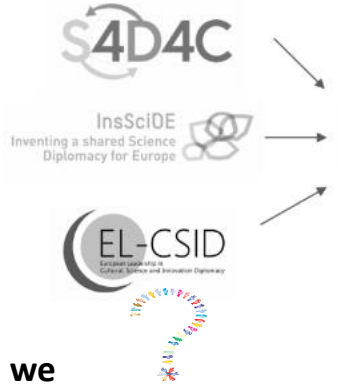
And the (many) challenges to Science Diplomacy are e.g.:

- 1. Political Challenges: Geopolitical Tensions; National Security Concerns: Sovereignty Issues:**
- 2. Institutional Challenges: Fragmented Governance; Bureaucratic Hurdles; Lack of Representation** (Smaller or developing countries struggle to have an equal voice in international scientific collaborations).
- 3. Cultural and Communication Barriers (including Science versus Policy)**
- 4. Resource Constraints: Funding Issues; Human Resources; Access to Technology:**
- 5. Ethical and Normative Issues**

- 6. Emerging Challenges**
 - **Misinformation and Distrust in Science:**
 - **Rapid Technological Changes:**
 - **Global Inequalities:**

Science Diplomacy needs leadership, mutual trust, capacity-building initiatives, and the development of inclusive, adaptable frameworks for global scientific cooperation....and inter- and transdisciplinary research

The EU Science Diplomacy Alliance at a glance



Who are we

- Bottom-up collaborative initiative; launched 2021
- Connect and nurture a science diplomacy community in the EU and globally
- Raise awareness, catalyse policy debate on science diplomacy
- Promote knowledge exchange and interaction interfaces
- Contribute to Science Diplomacy capacity building (open online course)
- Encourage project collaboration



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The EU Science Diplomacy Alliance – what have we done so far



27-28 April 2022
in Brussels and online

Science advice under pressure



NEWS

AU-EU Summit: Science diplomacy as a powerful instrument to foster European-African cooperation



For example:

- Trainings: COST, EEAS, Institut Pasteur
- Events: 2 UNGA Science Summit Workshops, 3 Brussels: FutureTalks; SAPEA Workshop, 1st EU Science Diplomacy conference, World Science Forum side-event
- Policy Briefs



Co-creating a European Framework for Science Diplomacy: Sneak Preview of the Expert Recommendations

Wednesday, November 30, 2024



Co-funded by the European Union



The EU Science Diplomacy Alliance – what's ahead



1. Current Priority: How to build equitable Science Diplomacy between the North and the South
2. March 27, 2025: Science diplomacy training for science diplomats – A workshop organized with UNESCO and co-funded by the EU COM, Paris
3. Further key topics the Alliance is working on: academic freedom, research security, tech diplomacy etc.
4. Save-the-date: 2nd European Science Diplomacy Conference, 18.-19. December, Copenhagen

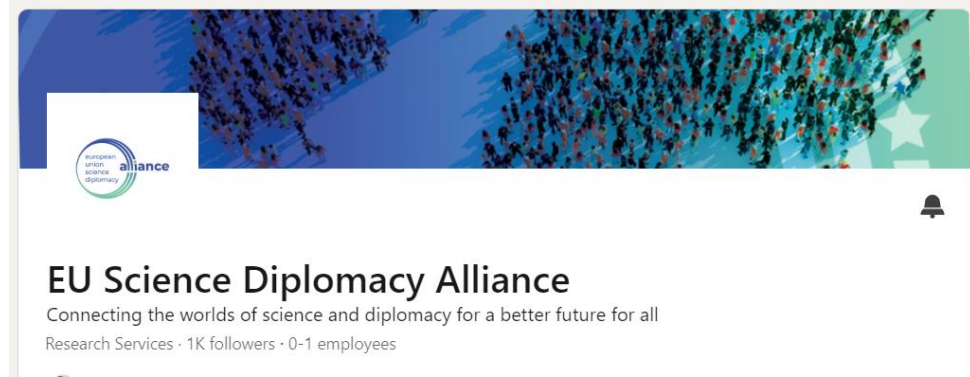


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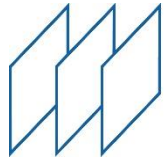


Let's connect:

Your contact at the DLR Project Management Agency in Brussels



Angela Schindler-Daniels
Head of Brussels Representation
Rue du Trône 98
1050 Brussels
Angela.schindler@dlr.de



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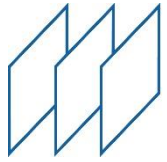


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Interactive Workshop / World Café





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Room 1: Calls for Proposals

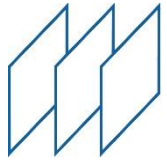
Table Moderators:

Professor Carsten Lorz, Vice President for International Affairs and Diversity, University of Applied Sciences
Weihenstephan-Triesdorf

Sean Rowlands, Senior Policy Officer for International Cooperation, The Guild, Brussels

Dr Harison Kipkulei, Research Group for Climate Resilience of human-made ecosystems, University of Augsburg





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What are current topics that you think are worth to be funded in your field for future AU-EU cooperation?

- **Contextualization**
 - Afro-centric
 - Societal needs
 - Interdisciplinary
 - Differences in countries and regions

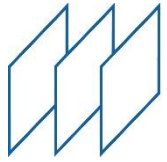




How should a funding programme for this chosen topic look like (timeframe, budget, responsibilities, administration, ...)?

- Short-term integrated with long-term
- Shared budget responsibilities
- Institutional strengthening and funding
- Availability of funding to networks





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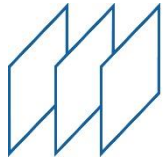
What general adjustments would you like for calls for proposals with African-European participation?

- Cost actions for Africa – funding for collaboration building and preparation
- Systems around/before call for proposals
- Self-confidence



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Room 2: Project Implementation and Management

Table Moderators:

Dr Celine Dondeynaz, Project Advisor, European Research Executive Agency

Dr Shem Kuyah, Senior Lecturer at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

Anna Stegmann, Bavarian Research Alliance, Scientific Coordination Office Bavaria-Africa

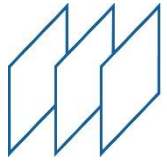




What administrative challenges do you see for African-European cooperation projects in research and innovation (R&I)?

- Mobility: visa issues, research permit
- Bureaucracy: overcomplex administration procedures
- Limited budget:
 - Limited resources for project administration support / funding is allocated for the actual research only
 - Inability to facilitate research when prefinancing and disbursement is delayed
 - Inflation / exchange rate / fund transfer
- Language constraints
- Lack of capacity for project management
- Poor incentives for participating African partners
- Data management & intellectual property
- Communication challenges
- Lack of accountability
- Mismatch of policies between EU & AU





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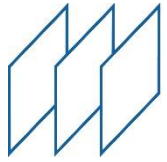
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What concrete, small steps can be taken to make the cooperation on an administrative level easier?

- capacity building: experience exchange → network of project managers
- Flexibility in accounting: accept different types of payments & receipts (e.g. mobile money)
- co-creation: administration being involved in the proposal
- adaptation to local conditions
- developing a catalogue of best practices in project management/administration
- hold events on-site, instead of online
- support the mobility of staff and administrative personnel
- enhance accountability
- changing policies on taxation





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Room 3: Equitable Cooperation between Africa and Europe in Research and Innovation

Table Moderators:

Professor Isabella Aboderin, Chair in Africa Research and Partnerships and Director of the Perivoli Africa Research Institute (PARC) / Africa Charter, University of Bristol

Dr Nico Elema, Director of Centre for Collaboration in Africa, Stellenbosch University International

Dr Kathrin Knodel, International Affairs, German Research Foundation (DFG)



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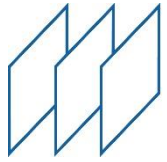
What are the most needed changes that you want to see for research and innovation cooperation between Africa and Europe?

- From aid and development-oriented research to investment in knowledges, solutions from the African continent and mutual learning between Europe and Africa
- Requires change in mindsets and structures - policy adjustments, politics
- Agenda setting - locus shifted to African continent ,bottom up', (not just high-level continental, but regional, national and beyond governments) recognising diversity within African continent
- Relationships (of trust) need to be built - as a basis for cooperation. That basis needs to be actively established
- Co-lead and coordination from the African continent
- No imposition of European standards, benchmarks, models for managing, administrating, coordinating research, embrace of, making space for different approaches suited to realities in the African continent
- Strengthened research management environments



What needs to be changed in *calls for proposals* to enable equitable cooperation between African and European partners in research and innovation?

- More time and funding to ensure context/cultural awareness, trust and relationship building - mobility
- Toolbox of opportunities: shorter, medium, longer-term, for scholars as well as research management and administrative staff
- Funding to strengthen research management and administration capacities, infrastructures (support initiatives from the African continent eg. [SARIMA](#), WARIMA)
- Include actors from the African continent in call development (to ensure they speak/are sensitive to realities in the continent)
- Upscaling- continuity of cooperation – develop long term programmes of collaboration
- Within context of huge competition – need for explicit scope to build on, recycle unsuccessful bids.



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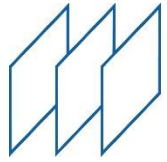


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What can you personally do differently when you go to work tomorrow to support equitable partnerships?

- Identify, share positive initiatives and approaches – toward communities of practice
- Be more intentional and proactive in listening to partners, learning from each other
- Look at policy structures within own institutions to examine where/how they enable and incentivise equitable partnership working, and where adjustments are needed
- Promote Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in own institutional environment
- Create more opportunities for formal and informal networking of African and European researchers, to better understand respective contexts, generate ideas
- Challenge one's mindset, attitudes, the way we speak about things, reflexivity
- Sign [Africa Charter](#) as framework to guide action



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Thank you for your participation!

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