



# EU Development Aid

## Experiences and Recommendations from Stakeholders Driving Science and Innovation

21 January 2015

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# African-European Radio Astronomy Platform

## Objectives

- Develop and update **science policy options agendas** for African-European cooperation in radio astronomy and related disciplines (ICT, renewable energies, engineering, education, etc.);
- Harness research and technological advances through **radio astronomy cooperation**;
- Improve **knowledge transfer** between industry/SMEs and academia;
- Promote **science capacity building** as a tool for competitiveness across both continents;
- **Utilise EU-Africa collaboration in radio astronomy as a platform for broader global partnerships (e.g. with Australia, Asia, USA, etc.).**

# African-European Radio Astronomy Platform

## Policy Context

- European Parliament’s Written Declaration 45/2011 on **“Science Capacity Building in Africa: promoting European-African radio astronomy partnerships”**
- Decision **“Assembly/AU/Dec.407 CXVIII”** of the Heads of State of the African Union: **“radio astronomy to be a priority focus area for Africa-EU cooperation”**
- State of the Nation Address by SA President Jacob G. Zuma: **“We are proud of our successes in science and technology. The construction of the first telescope of the 64-dish forerunner to the Square Kilometre Array, the MeerKAT, will be completed in the first quarter of 2014.”**



# The African-European Radio Astronomy Platform

## Participants

- ASTRON (Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy)



- Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France



- CIGGE-University of Porto, Portugal



- Coriant (formerly Nokia Siemens Networks), Germany



- European Industrial Engineering SRL, Italy



EIE GROUP

- Gestamp Solar Steel, Spain



- Ghana Space Science and Technology Centre



- Ghent University, Belgium



- Goonhilly Earth Station Ltd., United Kingdom



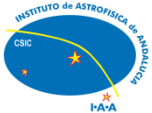
- IBM, Netherlands



- INAF Institute for Radio Astronomy, Italy



- Institute for Astrophysics Andalusia, Spain



- Institute for Telecommunications, Portugal



- International Programme in the Physical Sciences, Sweden



UPPSALA  
UNIVERSITET

- JIVE - Joint Institute for VLBI in Europe



JOINT INSTITUTE FOR VLBI IN EUROPE

- Omnisys Instruments, Sweden



- Onsala Space Observatory, Sweden



- Leiden Observatory, Netherlands



- Max Planck Institute for Radio Astronomy, Germany



# The African-European Radio Astronomy Platform

## Participants

- NWO (Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research)



- RadioNet



- Rhodes University, South Africa



RHODES UNIVERSITY  
*Where leaders learn*

- Science & Technology Facilities Council, United Kingdom



- SKA South Africa



- SKA Organisation, United Kingdom



- University of Cambridge, United Kingdom



- University of Groningen, Netherlands



- University of Hertfordshire, United Kingdom



- University of Leeds, United Kingdom



- University of Manchester, United Kingdom



- University of Nairobi, Kenya



- University of Oxford, United Kingdom



- University of Zambia



- VIA-SKA, Spain



# AERAP Activities

## AERAP offers practical assistance for the building of African-European Partnerships

- Provide **early information on funding opportunities** (e.g. Horizon 2020) and **advise** on the conditions and the application rules and procedures
- **Bring together researchers and companies interested in radio astronomy cooperation projects** by:
  - Organising workshops and seminars
  - Facilitating the contact with potential industry partners
  - Facilitating seed funding for proposal coordination meetings between African and European researchers
  - Guidance in writing proposals and contact to successful applicants
  - Advice in legal and financial matters

Contact and further information: [helpdesk@aerap.org](mailto:helpdesk@aerap.org)



**For further information:**

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