

The Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA) **-An Update on its implementation-**

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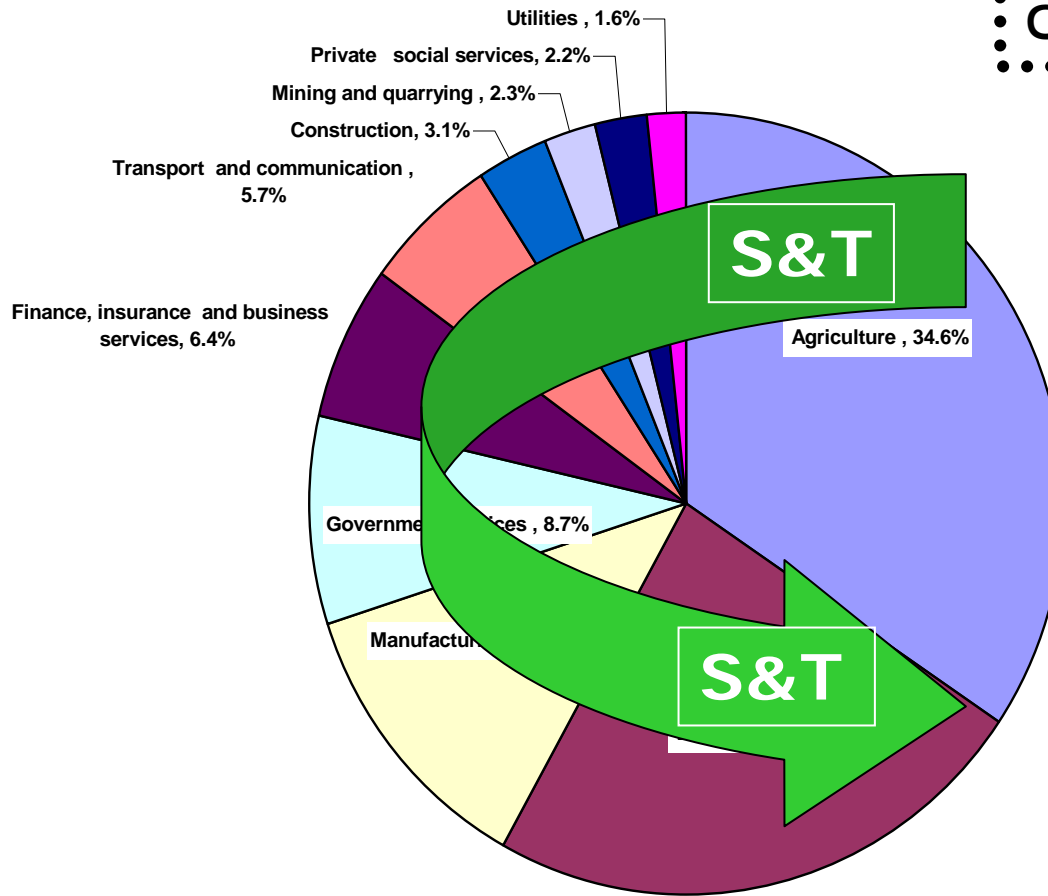
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Outline

- The CPA
- R&D Flagship programmes
- ICT research and R&D flagship programmes

STI for socio-economic development



Question of interest?
Role,
impact,
of
STI

Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA)

- A plan of action that consolidates **science and technology programmes** of the African Union (AU) Commission and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). www.nepadst.org or www.africa-union.org
- The CPA was **adopted by** African Ministerial Council on Science and Technology (AMCOST) in September 2005, **endorsed** by the African Union Summit in 2006.
- The CPA has been **embedded in the Regional Economic Communities STI strategies**
- **The CPA is erected on three interrelated pillars:**
 - Capacity building; Knowledge production and Technological innovation

Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA)

- **The CPA contains the following Programmes**
 - ✓ **R&D Flagship Programmes**

 - ✓ **Programmes for Improving Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Conditions**

 - ✓ **Implementation, Funding and Governance**

R&D Flagship Programmes

- **Cluster 1 : Biodiversity, Biotechnology and Indigenous Knowledge**
- **Cluster 2 : Energy, Water and Desertification**
- **Cluster 3 : Material sciences, manufacturing, Laser Technologies and Post-Harvest Technologies**
- **Cluster 4: ICTs and Space Sciences**
- **Cluster 5 : Mathematical Sciences**

Programmes for Policies

1. African Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators
2. Regional S&T Cooperation
3. Public Understanding of S&T
4. Common Biotechnology Strategy and Policy
5. Science and Technology Policy Capacity
6. Establishing Technology Parks

Two examples of cluster Programmes

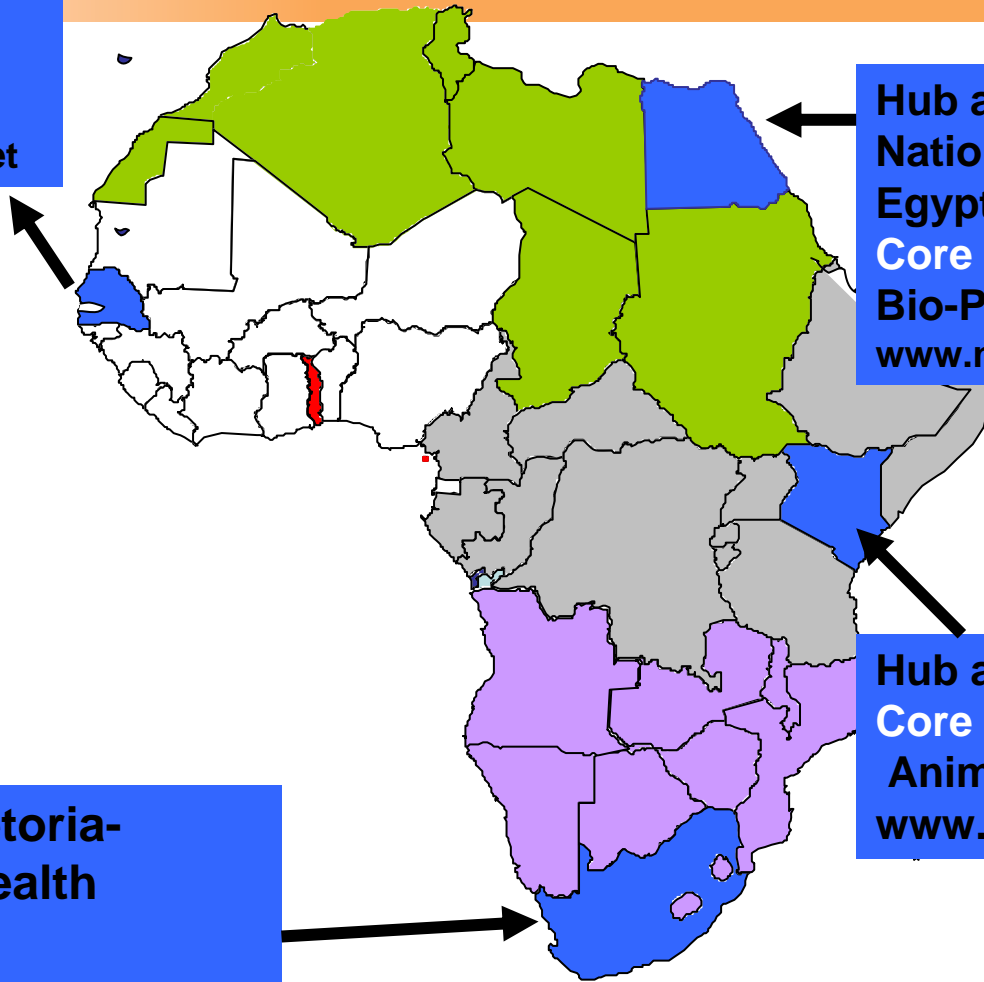
Cluster 1 : Biodiversity, Biotechnology , and Indigenous Knowledge

- **Objective:** To build capacity for life sciences technologies applications
- **R&D Co-operation** with Individual **researchers**, **researcher teams** and **research units** to address **capacity building and knowledge production** in identified areas
- **Fellowships awarded to Masters & Ph. D students to undertake research on the above and other areas of common interest**

Cluster 1 : Biodiversity, Biotechnology , and Indigenous Knowledge

- programmes of Cluster 1 are implemented through regional networks:
 1. Southern Africa Biosciences Network (SANBio)
 2. East and Central Africa Biosciences Network (BecANet),
 3. West Africa Biosciences Network (WABNet),
 4. North Africa Biosciences Network (NABNet),

Hub at ISRA, Dakar-
Core Mission:
Crop Biotechnology.
www.nepadbiosafety.net



Hub at
National Research Centre of
Egypt, Cairo –
Core Mission:
Bio-Pharmaceuticals.
www.nrc.sci.eg/nepad/default.html

Hub at ILRI, Nairobi-
Core Mission: Forest &
Animal Biotechnology
www.africabiosciences.org

Hub at CSIR Pretoria-
Core Mission: Health
Biotechnology.
www.sanbio.co.za

Cluster 5: African Mathematical Institutes Network (AMI-Net)

- **AMI-Net goal** : to build a critical mass of mathematical scientists engaging in interdisciplinary research on a wide range of topic, especially those of greatest relevant to African development . The African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) in Cape Town, South Africa to serve as model.
- **To date:** AIMS(cape Town, 2003), AIMS (Abuja @ the African University of Science and Technology 2008)
- **Next potential AIMS- centres:** Ghana, Madagascar, Sudan and Ethiopia
- **Ongoing activities:** Pursuit and support the “Next Einstein Initiative”; identification of AMI-Net Champions.
www.nexteinstein.org

- Clusters 1 and 5 are examples of **decentralised networks** with regional sub-networks:

- **cluster 1:** the global network of the NEPAD Biosciences Initiative

- **cluster 5:** the African Mathematical Institutes Network - networks of research institutes /universities, students

- ❖ *linkages within and between the regional networks are dynamic*

Networks and ICT Research

▪Necessity of **Innovation and Research** in the **development**, **maintenance** and **support** of **ICT solutions** for

- Access to information and knowledge
- collaboration
- Stimulate technical change

▪Challenges to sustain the programmes

- Improve **Bandwidth quality, quantity and cost** (*pooling demand*)
- Create Local contents
- Access to skills in local software research and development;

Need for sustainable mechanisms for mobilizing domestic and international resources for implementing the CPA

Thank you for your attention!

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