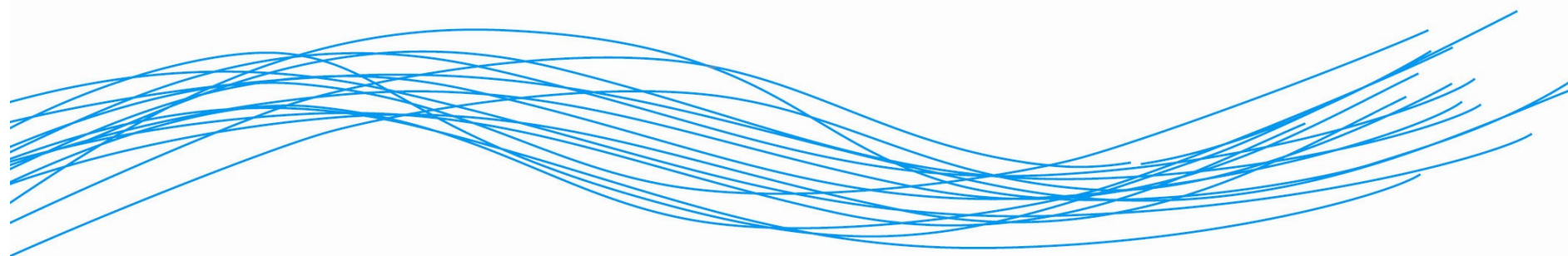




European climate change research & Africa



Anastasios Kentarchos
European Commission
Directorate General - Research
Climate Change and Environmental Risks Unit

*'Open Science Conference on Africa and
Carbon Cycle - the CARBOAFRICA project'
(Accra, 25-27 November, 2008)*





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Climate change: International Policy context

- Science: The **IPCC's 4th Assessment Report**
- **Kyoto Protocol**: Important but only a first step
- United Nations Convention on Climate Change (**UNFCCC**)
- **'Bali Roadmap'**, negotiation on agreement for the period after 2012
- EU target: global temperature increase will not exceed 2°C over pre-industrial times





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European Research on Climate Change: key elements

- Contribution to understand Earth system functioning, the origin and impacts of Climate Change and to predict its future evolution
- Guidance and support to EU's international commitments and EU policies
- Basis for effective mitigation and adaptation measures





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EU research: the story so far

- 
- 1952:** ECSC treaty; first projects started March 1955
 - 1957:** EURATOM treaty; Joint Research Centre set up
 - 1983:** ESPRIT programme
 - 1984:** First Framework Programme (1984-1987)
 - 1987:** ‘European Single Act’ – science becomes a Community responsibility;
Second Framework Programme (1987-1991)
 - 1990:** Third Framework Programme (1990-1994)
 - 1993:** Treaty on European Union;
role of RTD in the enlarged EU
 - 1994:** Fourth Framework Programme (1994-1998)
 - 1998:** Fifth Framework Programme (1998-2002)
 - 2000:** European Research Area
 - 2002:** Sixth Framework Programme (2002-2006)
 - 2007:** Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013)





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The 7th FP: Collaborative Research

Ten+ themes

1. Health
 2. Food, agriculture and biotechnology
 3. Information and communication technologies
 4. Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies
 5. Energy
 - 6. Environment (including climate change)**
 7. Transport (including aeronautics)
 8. Socio-economic sciences and the humanities
 9. Space
 10. Security
- Euratom: Fusion energy research, nuclear fission
+ and radiation protection





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Climate change research in the 7th Framework Program: some key elements

- Quantification of climate change feedbacks in Europe and beyond.
- Regional climate change projections, aiming at local-scale information.
- Quantification of climate change impacts on vulnerable ecosystems, and key economic sectors.
- Climate change and human health
- Coupling between climate and economic models
- Feasibility and related costs of adaptation and mitigation measures in Europe and beyond.
- Assessment of the effectiveness and risks of novel options to combat climate change.





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International Cooperation

- Climate change has a global dimension that requires a strong effort on international cooperation
- International cooperation on research can have many benefits including the exchange and share of knowledge, skills, and risks, assist in building effective policies, and providing effective and equitable response to the scale required.
- Currently a number of EU-funded projects focus on important climate change issues in developing countries
- The 7th Framework Program gives additional emphasis on international cooperation (with additional mechanisms to support it)





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International Cooperation

- Openness to third countries remains a key characteristic of FP7
- Establishment of Specific International Cooperation Actions (SICAs) targeting specific geographical areas/countries outside Europe
- Decisions on international cooperation topics are taken through bilateral or multilateral dialogue (S&T Agreements, participation in multilateral bodies -e.g. GEOSS, UNFCCC- and international workshops).





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The Africa-EU strategic partnership

- EU-AU summit in Lisbon (Dec 2007)
 - A strategic partnership agreed for the benefit of the people of Africa and Europe
 - 8 thematic partnerships agreed:
 1. peace & security
 2. democratic governance
 3. trade, regional integration infrastructure
 4. Millennium Development Goals
 5. energy
 6. **climate change**
 7. migration, mobility, employment
 8. **science**, information society and space
 - First Action Plan (2008-2010)





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EU-AU (College to College) meeting Brussels, October 2008

- Highlighted the increased cooperation since the establishment of the first Action Plan
- Discussions focused on priority actions to be undertaken (aim: build capacities, fight diseases, stem environmental degradation, improve economic competitiveness)
- Reinforce further EU-Africa cooperation in Science and Technology (The 7th Framework Program for Research is one of the key tools to pursuit this objective)





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The 6th Framework Program for Research (FP6: 2002-2006): 'Environment Program'

- 18 research projects involving 45 African partners
- Overall EU grant to African partners ~ 2.5 m €
- Examples of projects:
 - **AMMA** (African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analysis)
 - **LUPIS** (Land Use Policies and Sustainable Development in Developing Countries)
 - **CARBO-AFRICA** (Carbon Cycle and GHGs in Sub-Sahara Africa)
 - **TWINBASIN** (Promoting Twinning at River Basins for Developing Integrated Water Resources management Practices)
 - **INTERLINK** (Africa-EC dialogue on Environmental Research)





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The 7th Framework Program for Research (FP7: 2007-2013): 'Environment Program'

Current call for proposals in the area of environment and climate change:
Africa a priority in the Work Program 2009:

- Climate change predictions in Sub-Saharan Africa , quantification of impacts and assessment of adequate adaptation measures
- Method to quantify the impacts of climate and weather on health in developing low-income countries
- Climate induced changes in water resources in southern Europe and neighbouring countries (North Africa) as a threat to security
- Desertification process and land degradation (North Africa/Mediterranean)
- Action in the domain of Earth Observations to support Capacity building in developing countries
- Supporting sustainable nationwide and local wastes processing industry in ACP countries: legal framework, economic incentives, organisational know-how

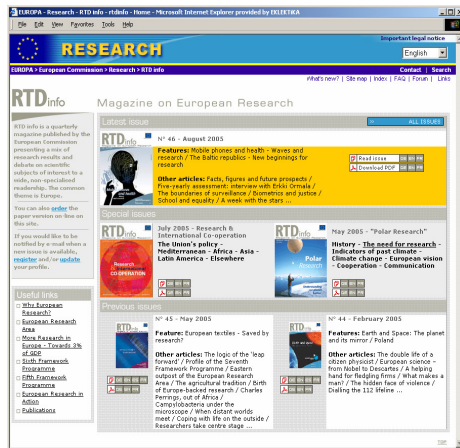




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Information



- EU research:
<http://ec.europa.eu/research>
- Seventh Framework Programme:
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7>
- Info on programmes and projects:
<http://www.cordis.lu/>
- RTD *info* magazine:
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/rtdinfo/>
- Information requests:
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/enquiries/>





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**Thank you very much for
your attention !**



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