

PROJECT FINAL REPORT



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Name of the scientific representative of the project's co-ordinator¹, Title and Organisation:

Panagiotis Karniouras,
Co-ordinator
PRAXI / HELP-FORWARD Network

Tel: (+30) 210 36 07 690

Fax: (+30) 210 36 36 109

E-mail: karniouras@help-forward.gr

Project website² address: <http://www.saccess-project.eu>

¹ Usually the contact person of the coordinator as specified in Art. 8.1. of the Grant Agreement.

² The home page of the website should contain the generic European flag and the FP7 logo which are available in electronic format at the Europa website (logo of the European flag: http://europa.eu/abc/symbols/emblem/index_en.htm logo of the 7th FP: http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/index_en.cfm?pg=logos). The area of activity of the project should also be mentioned.

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2. FINAL REPORT ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION	Σφάλμα! Δεν έχει οριστεί σελιδοδείκτης.
Report on the distribution of the European Union financial contribution between beneficiaries	Σφάλμα! Δεν έχει οριστεί σελιδοδείκτης.

1. FINAL PUBLISHABLE SUMMARY REPORT

1.1.1 Executing Summary

This ACCESS4EU project was aimed at enhancing the access opportunities, and hence the participation, of EU member states and associate countries, private and public research units in the national research and innovation programmes facilitated by South Africa. The project focused on the substantial collection of information regarding national research and innovation capacities and programmes within South Africa with the objective to disseminate that information to the widest possible number of researchers and other stakeholders, aiming at the creation of effective collaborations between the EU and the South Africa R&D communities. In addition the project contributed to the work programme of the Joint Science and Technology Cooperation Committee (JSTCC). The articulation of information with other ACCESS4EU was targeted with the aim of achieving greater dissemination of the knowledge on the existent participation opportunities at research and innovation programmes managed by South Africa, as well as to magnify the context and effect of the disseminated information.

1.1.2 Description of project context and objectives

SAccess (www.saccess-project.eu) is aimed at enhancing scientific cooperation between SA and the EU by identifying and promoting to EU researcher's research collaboration opportunities through South Africa's research and innovation programmes. From its conception and design, the work is split into three pillars.

- The first pillar is concerned with the mapping of the existing opportunities for EU researchers which involves close cooperation with South Africa's programme owners.
- The second pillar is concerned with the wide dissemination of such access opportunities to EU researchers. Effectively reaching out to EU researchers and informing them about the research and innovation collaboration opportunities that exist within programmes managed by South Africa. A series of tools for this purpose need to be in place especially with regards to the pan-European approach the project will follow to reach out to as many researchers as possible.
- The third pillar is concerned with the collection of valuable information to contribute and further boost policy dialogue, and to add to the works of the African – European Union joint science and technology committee (JSTCC) with regards to facilitating reciprocity between Europe and South Africa.

1.1.3 Description of results achieved

Since the beginning of the project a significant amount of the projects activities has been achieved. The first 18 months of the project were related mostly to the two first pillars. As such the efforts of the partners have been focused in identifying the programme owners on South Africa as well as trying to set up the tools which will assist with information dissemination within Europe with the aim of stimulating the interest of European researchers to take advantage of the existing South African research and innovation opportunities.

More specifically, with regards to identifying the South African opportunities for research and innovation cooperation, an awareness raising session was delivered to the European project partners with the view of informing them about the innovation system, the structure of the research function, the administration of

research grants, the latest funding innovation and research programmes, and the basics of the framework for SA-EU research collaboration.

DST, along with IRD, have generated two reports which include very detailed information about the innovation landscape in South Africa, but most importantly about South African research and innovation opportunities. Such information did not exist in previous documents and a series of interviews needed to take place following the identification of suitable programme owners. The interviews carried out revealed quite some opportunities, especially in the form of fellowships, and gave a clear idea to all partners of the extent to which South African are open to European participation. Finally, templates were also devised, to allow for appropriate presentation of the data collected.

Following the first successful 18 months of its duration, SAccess not only has managed to maintain its robust performance, but has accelerated even further to secure high impact results. The second half of the project, which is chiefly the matter this report focuses on, was concerned with the dissemination of the research and innovation opportunities for cooperation through South African funded programmes to the European Union research community. The work undertaken is based entirely on the project's previous activities of indentifying those research and innovation opportunities for cooperation.

The dissemination activities were thoroughly planned from the very beginning of the project, and the partners had adequate experience and networks to satisfy the challenging role. Moreover, it should be noted that the partners of SAccess went the extra mile by performing activities not necessarily agreed initially, but activities with increased importance that offered further visibility about the project and its objectives but most importantly offered enhanced awareness raising for research and innovation cooperation between EU and South African researchers.

1.1.4 Impact and dissemination

Before SAccess little had been done to enforce the participation of European researchers to programmes managed by South Africa. The concept, and subsequently the structure of the SAccess project, was based upon the this identified need.

Through SAccess much has been achieved. This is a shared South African and European view as SAccess managed:

- to map the research and innovation capacity in South Africa
- to map the available collaboration opportunities through South Africa's programmes
- to create mechanisms to disseminate information on collaboration opportunities through South Africa's programmes
- to identify problems related to European researchers participation, with the aim to plan initiatives to increase success rates

SAccess focused on enhancing research collaboration by encouraging the participation of European researchers to South Africa's programmes, with the aim to identify S&T activities of mutual interest. The main objective was thus, to provide a comprehensive mapping of the research and innovation capacity (identifying main organisations and their particular interests and activities), the existent collaboration opportunities and the barriers to access. Furthermore, to disseminate information to the relevant stakeholders within Europe and to act as a focal point of communication and promotion with regards to participation in South Africa's programmes. Lastly, to generate and provide feedback which will contribute to improved policy making in the field of enhancing Europe - South Africa cooperation.

In conclusion, SAccess managed:

- Increase the participation of European stakeholders to South Africa's research and innovation programmes
- To improve the prospects of research activities which are of international dimension and of mutual interest to Europe and South Africa

1.1.5 Project website

From the very beginning of its operations SAccess established its own website. The website was immediately filled with information related to EU-SA S&T Collaboration. Such information included the EU-SA Agreement for scientific cooperation (View the EU-SA Agreement), as well as a list of bilateral cooperation agreements for all South Africa's country-to-country engagements in science and technology with European Countries. The website also includes information on Strategic S&T policy including documents such as [The State of Science in South Africa](#), the [Corporate Strategy 2010-2013](#), the [National research and development strategy 2002](#), as well as a series of links with research centers in South Africa including the [Agricultural Research Council \(ARC\)](#), [Astrophysics & Cosmology Research Unit](#), [European CO-operation in Scientific and Technical Research - COST](#), [Council for Scientific and Industrial Research \(CSIR\)](#), [Medical Research Council \(MRC\)](#), [National Research Foundation \(NRF\)](#) just to mention but a few. In addition the website includes information on the partners that make up and support the SAccess project with thorough organisational and personal contact details.

The screenshot shows the SAccess project website homepage. At the top left is the SAccess logo, which consists of the European Union flag and the South African flag, with the text 'Supporting the EU access to South Africa's Research and Innovation Programmes' below it. To the right of the logo is a photograph of a yellow flower, identified as 'National flower - Pincushion protea'. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links for 'Home page', 'About SAccess', 'EU-SA S&T Collaboration', and 'Strategic S&T policy information'. A search bar is located to the right of the navigation menu. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'Welcome to the website of SAccess project' with a brief description of the project's goals; 'Additional Info' with links for 'News', 'Downloads', and 'Contact Us'; 'Newsletter Sign Up' with an email address input field and an 'Add' button; 'SAccess project calendar' showing a calendar for April 2011; and 'OPEN Calls and Programmes' with a search bar and a 'See all news >>' link. At the bottom right, there is a 'Bookmark & Share' section and a 'Helpline' section with contact information for the SAccess team.

Most importantly the website includes a calendar of events where Access4EU info-days are promoted along with other events aimed at scientific cooperation between SA and EU. The website also offers a help-line for interested researchers that are willing to seek further information for a particular opportunity published through the website. Programmes/calls/fellowships are promoted through the news section of the website. In addition there is a direct link to the common calls database for all access4eu projects where third country research cooperation opportunities can be found. The common calls database can be found at <http://www.access4.eu>.

The website of SAccess can be found at <http://www.saccess-project.eu>

The DVD of SAccess can be found at <http://www.saccess-project.eu/dvd>

SAccess has also been part, and will continue to do so, with regards to the common efforts (e.g. common dissemination task force) from the very beginning. The common efforts of partners involved in access4eu project is aimed at creating synergies and utilising in the best possible way project resources with the view to reach out to as many European researchers as possible. In this way, synergies are being sought to co-organise events between two or more projects and thus present more opportunities, thus enhancing the wider concept of cooperating with third countries on the one hand, as well as enhancing the reciprocity effect on the other.

All partners contributed successfully to this activity by undertaking support activities to assist with quality being achieved in all tools that had to be developed. The result was good and the tools were used through the project and especially during the infodays that were organised in Europe.

The Project poster can be found at <http://www.saccess-project.eu/resources>

The Project leaflet can be found at <http://www.saccess-project.eu/resources>

The Project DVD can be found at <http://www.saccess-project.eu/resources>

The project website was updated continuously and revealed a variety of useful information about collaboration potential for European researchers with South Africa. All promotional material can be downloaded directly from the website.

The link below to access all common Access4EU newsletters to which SAccess contributed largely is:

<http://newsletter.apre.it/newsletterhandler.ashx?>

As a common portal (www.access4.eu) was designed by DLR by sharing efforts of all Access4EU projects, the content management portal was not implemented as agreed with the European Commission.

1.2 Use and dissemination of foreground

This report contains the overview of the dissemination activities carried out by the SAccess partners. The information is presented following the categories used in the online reporting tool in SESAM.

TEMPLATE A2: LIST OF DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES								
NO.	Type of activities ³	Main leader	Title	Date/Period	Place	Type of audience ⁴	Size of audience	Countries addressed
1	Workshop	Vinnova/ DST	Research Infrastructure	29/09/2010	Brussels	Scientific Community, Policy makers	65	EU
2	Workshop	Vinnova	Materials, Astronom	17/05/2011	Stockholm		32	EU
3	Workshop	Vinnova	SA research and innovation opportunities	19/05/2011	Brussels	General	30	EU

³ A drop down list allows choosing the dissemination activity: publications, conferences, workshops, web, press releases, flyers, articles published in the popular press, videos, media briefings, presentations, exhibitions, thesis, interviews, films, TV clips, posters, Other.

⁴ A drop down list allows choosing the type of public: Scientific Community (higher education, Research), Industry, Civil Society, Policy makers, Medias, Other ('multiple choices' is possible).

4	Workshop	APRE	SPACE Conference	12-13/05/2011	Budapest, Hungary	SPACE Conference		EU
5	Workshop	APRE	HEALTH	09-10/06/2011	Brussels/ Belgium	HEALTH	100	EU
6	Workshop	APRE	Environmental biotechnology	5-6/09/2011	Gdansk, Poland	Environmental biotechnology	40	EU
7	Workshop	FORTH/ APRE	ICT (ICT proposers' day)	20/05/2011	Budapest, Hungary	ICT (ICT proposers' day)	24	EU
8	Workshop	FORTH	Working opportunities and mobility issues	07/12/2011	Crete, Greece	Working opportunities and mobility issues	100	EU
9	Workshop	FORTH/ APRE	Mobility opportunities	17/02/2012	Rome, Italy	Mobility opportunities	51	EU
10	Workshop	FORTH/ DST	1. ICT industrial applications – smart infrastructure, sensor networks 2. Environment and Climate change: adaptation technology	17/01/2012	Berlin, Germany	1. ICT industrial applications – smart infrastructure, sensor networks 2. Environment and Climate change: adaptation technology	42	EU

			development			development		
11	Workshop	IRD/DST	1. ICT industrial applications: smart infrastructures, sensor networks 2. Nanotechnologies: high resolution transmission electron microscopy	20/01/2012	Paris, France	1. ICT industrial applications: smart infrastructures, sensor networks 2. Nanotechnologies: high resolution transmission electron microscopy	26	EU
12	Workshop	APRE /DST	Environmental and industrial biotechnology	24/01/2012	the Hague, Netherlands	Environmental and industrial biotechnology	17	EU
13	Workshop	Vinnova/ DST	Synthetic biology; Photonics	27/01/2012	London, UK	Synthetic biology; Photonics	44	EU
14	Workshop	FORTH/VINNOVA/DST/IRD/ APRE	Stand to promote SA research and innovation programmes	11-15/07/2012	Dublin, Ireland	Stand to promote SA research and innovation programmes	Exhibition delegates	EU
15	Workshop	Vinnova/ DST/IRD	Seminar on	19/09/2012	Brussels,	Seminar on	25	EU

			Harnessing Research & Innovation for Societal Challenges: New Opportunities for SA – EU Cooperation		Belgium	Harnessing Research & Innovation for Societal Challenges: New Opportunities for SA – EU Cooperation		
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1.3 Report on societal implications

The report on societal implications is fully comprehended/filled within the SESAM webtool.

