



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

The Joint EU-Africa Strategy and the Partnership on the Information Society, Science and Space Technologies.

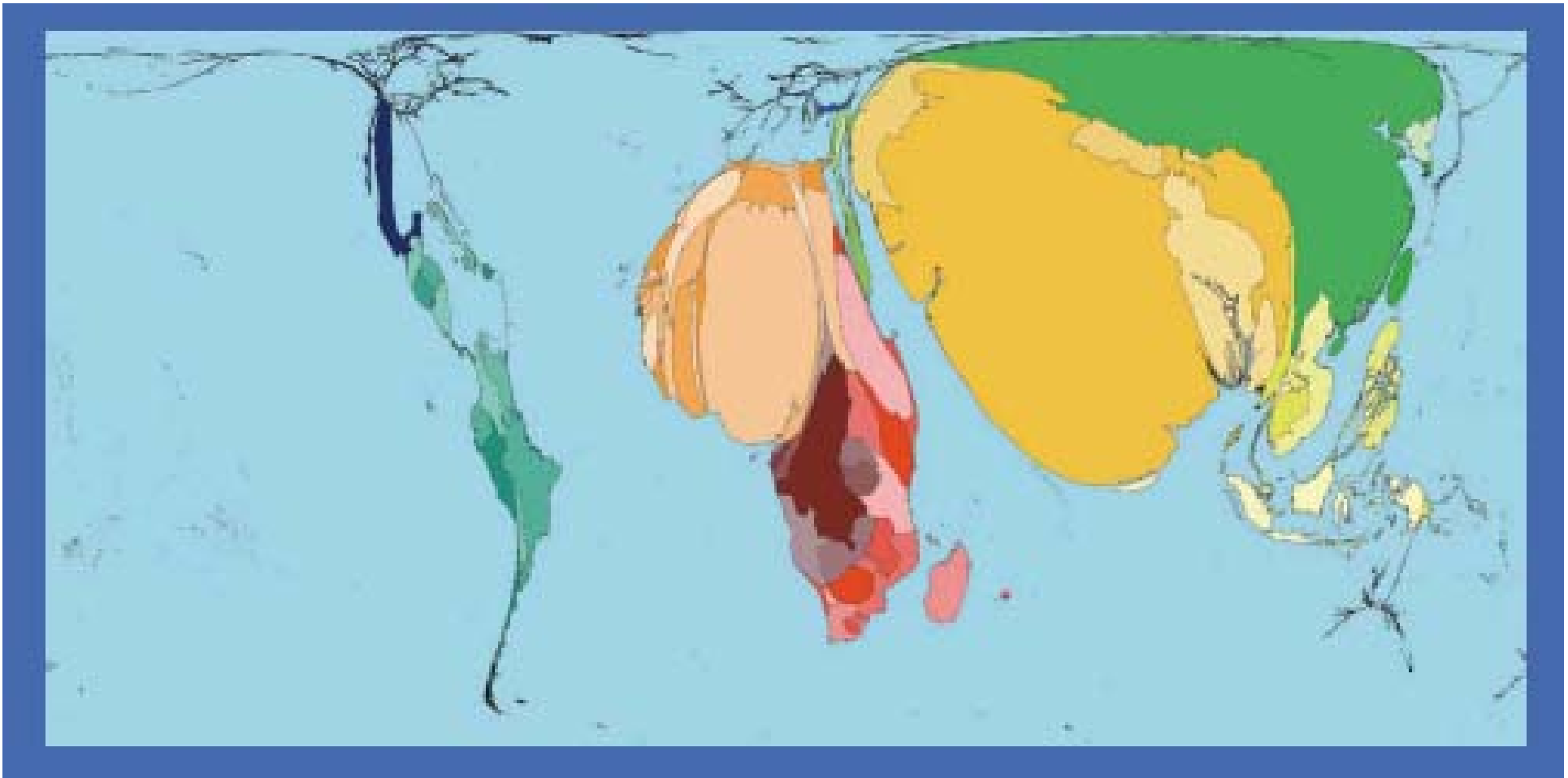
Harry De Backer

First Counselor at the EU
Delegation to the African Union



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

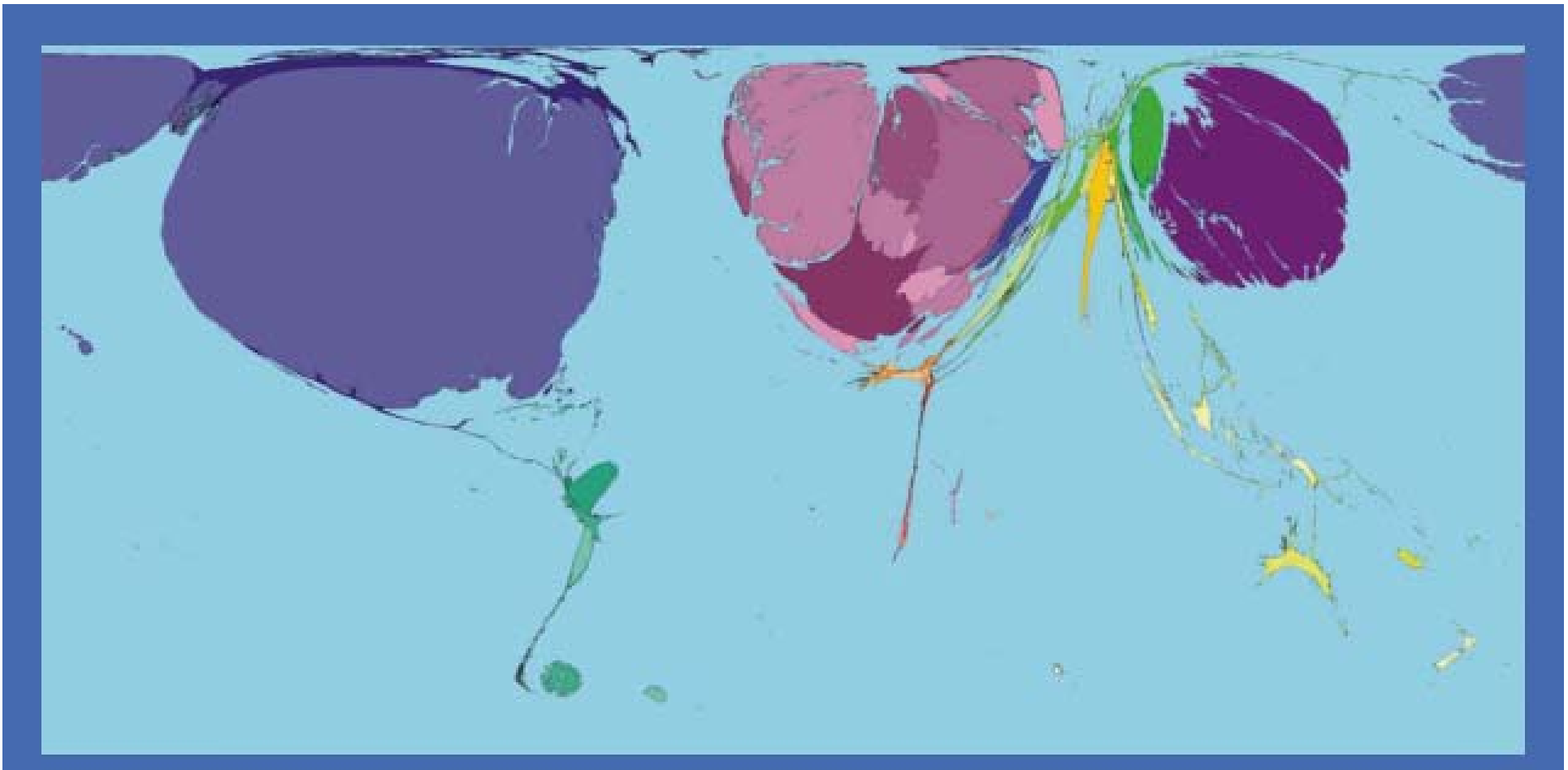
Global Distribution of Extreme Poverty ©UNCTAD





Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

Global Distribution of Knowledge ©UNCTAD





Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

The solution!

- Can Africa solve this on its own?
 - No doubt yes,but not within our lifetime
- Concentrate on Innovation and products that are immediately applicable on the continent. More applied science than research in nano-technologies (UNCTAD-2007: Knowledge, Technological Learning and Innovation for Development)
- Start knocking at the door of the Finance Ministers of your country because they hold the key to the ODA.
- Europe offers Africa a unique opportunity to close the Scientific Divide. The EU-Africa Partnership on Science. This is no philanthropy, but bare necessity.



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

Content

1. **EU views on Science and Innovation**
2. Lisbon Summit: the Joint EU-Africa Strategy
3. The Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space Technologies
4. Organisational set-up
5. Joint EU-Africa Strategy: State of Play
6. Assessment by the Political Leaders
7. Conclusion



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

1. EU views on Science and Innovation

The European consensus recognizes the importance of research for development:” *The EU will promote the integration of development objectives, where appropriate, into its RTD and innovation policies, and will continue to assist developing countries in enhancing their domestic capacities in this area.*”

However **the implementation is still lacking** because the demand from the African side is really limited to not existing.



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

1. European Parliament

The Resolution of the EP of 18.02.2008, calls for the

- reinforcement of existing research infrastructure in Africa,
- urges the EU MS to promote S&T cooperation with Africa,
- recommend EU MS to promote knowledge and technology transfer between the EU and Africa.



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

Content

1. EU views on Science and Innovation
2. **Lisbon Summit: the Joint EU-Africa Strategy**
3. The Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space Technologies
4. Organisational set-up
5. Joint EU-Africa Strategy: State of Play
6. Assessment by the Political Leaders
7. Conclusion



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

2. Lisbon Summit

- United we stand!
- Joint Africa-EU Strategy: long-term policy framework
- A partnership of equals: **from donorship to partnership**
- Every Member state has been requested to take its share of the burden.



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

2. Lisbon Summit

Political alliance on key issues such as

- Peace & Security,
- Democratic Governance & Human Rights,,
- Trade & Regional Integration, Infrastructure
- Millennium Development Goals
- Energy
- Climate change,
- Migration, mobility and employment
- Information Society, Science and Space Technologies



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

Content

1. EU views on Science and Innovation
2. Lisbon Summit: the Joint EU-Africa Strategy
3. **The Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space Technologies**
4. Organisational set-up
5. Joint EU-Africa Strategy: State of Play
6. Assessment by the Political Leaders
7. Conclusion



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

3. P8: Science, Information Society and Space

Objectives (Chair: France, Co-chair: Portugal, Finland)

1. Support development of inclusive Information Society in Africa & implementation of the African Regional Action Plan for the Knowledge Economy (ARAPKE)
2. Support S&T capacity building in Africa & implementation of Africa's S&T Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA)
3. Enhance cooperation on Space applications & Technology



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

3. P8: Information Society - Progress so far

- Telecom Regulation project in collaboration with the ITU and African Telecom Union
- EASSy: Investments of 4M€ in grants and 15.6M\$ in loans
- C2C Early Deliverables
 - Connect Africa: R&D Networking
 - AXIS: Improved Internet Access



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

3. P8: Science Progress so far

- C2C Early Deliverables
 - African Research Grant
 - Food security in the Nile basin
 - African Science rewards.
- Screening of 12 S&T Flagship projects proposed by AUC
- FP7 Africa 2010 Call – 63M€ for Water, Food Security and Better Health, launch: 9.9.09.



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

WHO IS THIS DAY FOR?

The Info Day is for everyone interested in the research opportunities offered by the Call FP7-AFRICA-2010. That means researchers and research institutions, universities, industry, small and medium size enterprises, civil society organizations, other non state actors, and National Contact Points. Participants from African international cooperation partner countries (ICPC) are particularly welcome.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

You must register to participate.

Registrations will be accepted on a 'first come first served basis'. Please note that we may have to limit the number of representatives from each organisation, if the event is oversubscribed. Please, register before 14 September 2009 by filling in the online registration form.

- On line registration:
<http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=AFRICAInfoday&lang=en>

FLASH PRESENTATIONS

The Info Day offers participants the possibility of giving a '2-3 minutes flash' (3 slides max) presentation. This should be a presentation related to a project idea, to competence in the specific field or to interest in starting or joining a consortium. Presentations will be uploaded on the Conference website for public access. Please, indicate in the registration form if you want to give a short presentation of your project ideas during a brokerage session.

- Presentations must be sent by 14th September 2009 to:
RTD-AFRICA-2010-CALL@ec.europa.eu

INFO DAY
AFRICA CALL
(FP7-AFRICA-2010)
63 million €

© European Communities, 2009
Reproduction is authorised provided
the source is acknowledged



18 September 2009, Brussels

**A targeted research effort to meet
the challenges for Water, Food
Security and Better Health for
Africa**

Conference Centre "Albert Borchette"
Rue Froidart 36, Brussels
(Metro Station SCHUMAN)



INFO DAY



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

3. P8: Space Technologies: Progress so far

- Lisbon Process on GMES and Africa:
 - Action Plan in Consultation phase.
 - Results will be presented to the EU-Africa Summit in December 2010.
- EC Joint Research Centre African Observatory
- ESA Telemedicine project (INFRA)
- EGNOS extension to Africa



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

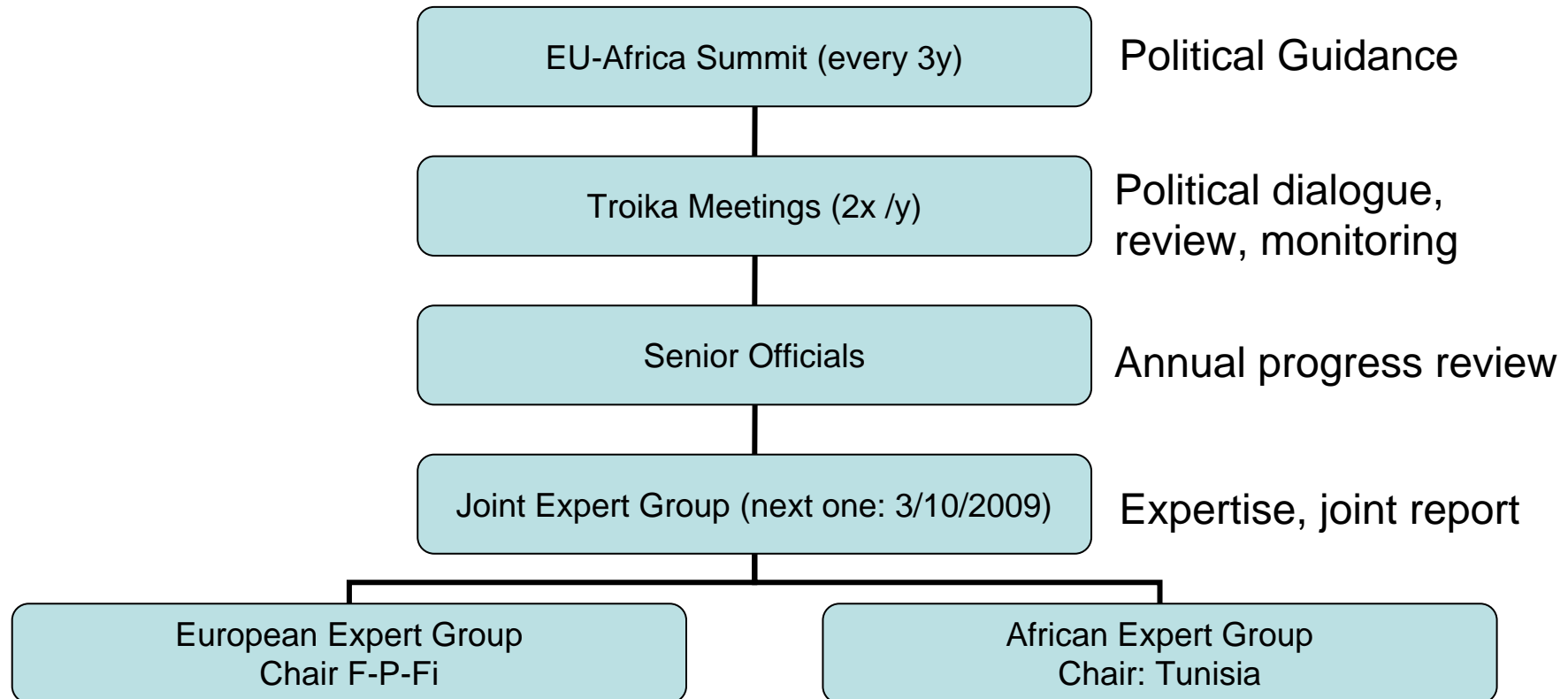
Content

1. EU views on Science and Innovation
2. Lisbon Summit: the Joint EU-Africa Strategy
3. The Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space Technologies
4. **Organisational set-up**
5. Joint EU-Africa Strategy: State of Play
6. Assessment by the Political Leaders
7. Conclusion



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

4. Organisational Set-up





Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

Content

1. EU views on Science and Innovation
2. Lisbon Summit: the Joint EU-Africa Strategy
3. The Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space Technologies
4. Organisational set-up
5. **Joint EU-Africa Strategy: State of Play**
6. Assessment by the Political Leaders
7. Conclusion



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

5. P8: State of play

- EU Delegation to the AU has been and will be further bestowed with S&T and ICT expertise.
- In spite of the enormous effort of the French Chair (IRD), progress has been limited
- Meetings are not always attended by the appropriate persons: diplomats are no Science, ICT or Space experts
- Not all Member states are represented at the EU Implementation Group.
- Financing of the Partnership remains an issue. A mapping exercise of EC + MS initiatives and instruments could solve the issue.
- African interest is very limited!



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

5. P8: The Future

- The Lighthouse Projects are only a start!
- Africa and the EU need to engage in a Policy dialogue on how this Partnership should evolve. This should lead to:
 - Much stronger collaboration between African and European scientists that should lead to BRAIN GAIN for both continents.
 - Learning from each other: We hope for a highly increased twinning of EU and African research centers..
 - **SEND** Drastic increase of the R&D budgets in Africa
+ MORE through proper means
MONEY but also ODA and Direct Foreign Investment.



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

5. State of play for the other Partnerships

General assessment: Novel comprehensive dialogue and implementation structure in place, but AUC is not yet EC:

- Implementation Delays on the level of the AU (many actors involved, very ambitious, technically complex and multi-layered process);
- Mixed assessment of core objectives of the partnership (beyond development, beyond Africa, beyond institutions);
- Overall, structuring of a new relationship which will bring visible results in the long run.



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

Content

1. EU views on Science and Innovation
2. Lisbon Summit: the Joint EU-Africa Strategy
3. The Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space Technologies
4. Organisational set-up
5. Joint EU-Africa Strategy: State of Play
6. **Assessment by the Political Leaders**
7. Conclusion



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

6. Assessment by the Political Leaders: **Slow start, but good learning curve**

- Troika Ministers welcomed efforts to strengthen the dialogue between the two sides.
- Full implementation of the Strategic Partnership is a long-term project and progress is achieved only step by step.
- Ministers stressed the need for adequate financial resources to implement the Joint Strategy and reiterated their request for efforts to be made by both sides to allocate the necessary funds in order to foster implementation.



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

Content

1. EU views on Science and Innovation
2. Lisbon Summit: the Joint EU-Africa Strategy
3. The Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space Technologies
4. Organisational set-up
5. Joint EU-Africa Strategy: State of Play
6. Assessment by the Political Leaders
7. **Conclusion**



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

7. Conclusion

- The EU-Africa Joint Strategy and its Partnerships is a unique occasion for the continent to make a giant leap in the socio-economic development of the African continent.
- It is the responsibility of every EU Member state to carry his share of the burden and to fully co-operate in the Partnerships.
- But it is also necessary that the African side organises itself in an appropriate way to grab the opportunity.



Africa-EU Strategic Partnership

<http://africa-eu-partnership.org/>

<http://circa.ec.europa.eu/public/irc/rtd/tdafr2010call/library>

harry.de-backer@ec.europa.eu

+251 910 87 54 32