

The NEPAD Science and Technology Plan of Action

*Presentation for the
AfrICANDO 2006 Hemispheric Summit on
Science, Technology and Research for Africa's Development,
Miami, USA, 20 July 2006*

Sibusiso Manzini, Director: African Cooperation,
Department of Science and Technology, South Africa

E-mail: sibusiso.manzini@dst.gov.za

Tel.: +27 12 843 6389



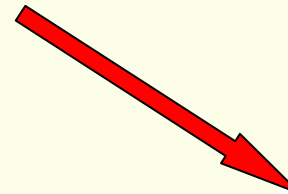
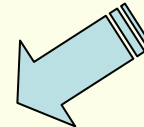
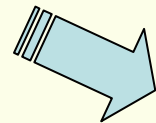
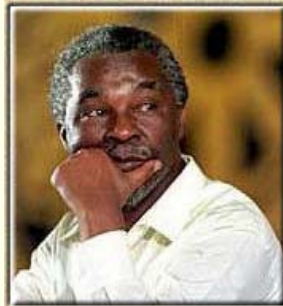
Outline

- Introduction
- Objectives, Principles and Pillars
- Process and Governance
- Content: Flagship Programmes
- Implementation Mechanisms
- Role of the Diaspora
- Conclusion

Africa's Past History...

- Lack of common vision and integrated development programme
 - Role of S&T in development not universally recognized
 - Shaky political will
 - Low investments in S&T
 - Lack of STI policies at government level
- = *“Long dark night” ... Prof. Odhiambo*

Realignment and Convergence ...



A New Vision Powered by...

- Renewed search for an **African Renaissance**
- Visionary political and corporate **leadership**
- Increasing recognition of the role of STI in human **development** and economic growth
- Emerging technological **opportunities**
- Increasing global **consensus** on Africa's sustainable growth needs

A New Plan with a History...

- 2 African Ministerial Conferences
- Africa's Consolidated S&T Plan of Action
- 12 + 1 Flagship programmes
- Governance mechanisms
- International recognition and commitment
- Programmes on the ground: ALC, AIMS, Biosciences Initiative



Johannesburg 2003, AMCOST 1:

- Agenda setting
- Galvanize political will
- Agreement on priorities
- Governance structures
- Flagship programmes



Dakar 2005, AMCOST 2:

- Consolidation of Business Plan
- Decision on Innovation Facility
- Implementation set in motion
- Pledges by international partners

Overall Objectives

- Improve infrastructure for R&D
- Build and use Africa's scientists, technicians and engineers
- Turn ideas/knowledge into products and services
- Improve quality of policies for science and innovation
- Increase African demand for science and technology

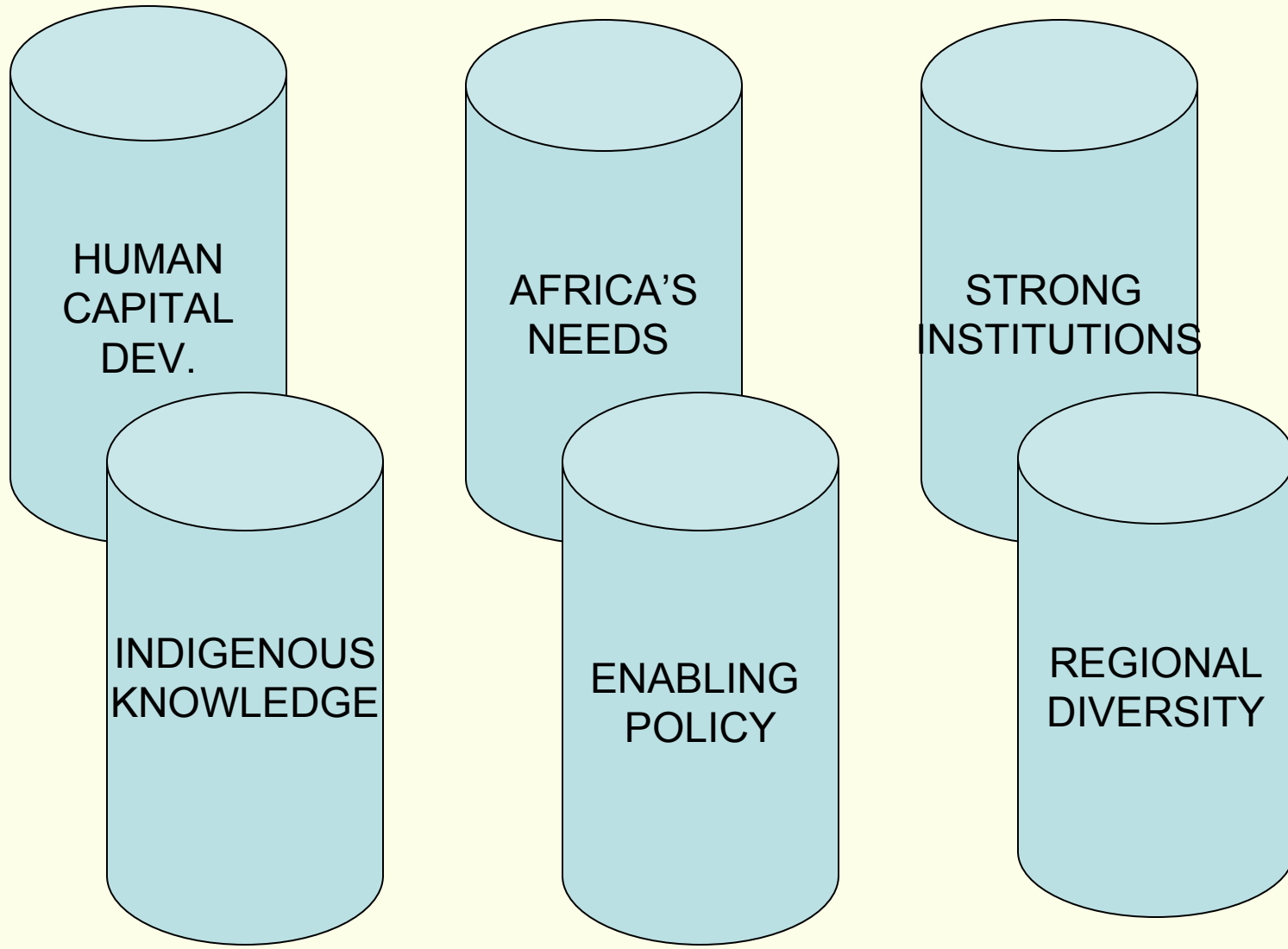
Principles

- Africa setting its **own** agenda based on own priorities
- Collective action on **common** challenges
- Collective **ownership**
- **Shared** commitment and responsibility
- **Adding** new value to existing national, regional and continental efforts
- **Building on** prior progress

Principles... (cont.)

- **Sharing** progress, outputs and impacts
- **Substantive** joint programmes
- **Flexibility** to adjust priorities, programmes and projects
- **Sharing** differentiated capabilities (resources, infrastructure, etc.)
- **Open** to international partnerships
- Dependent on **Africa's own** efforts

Pillars



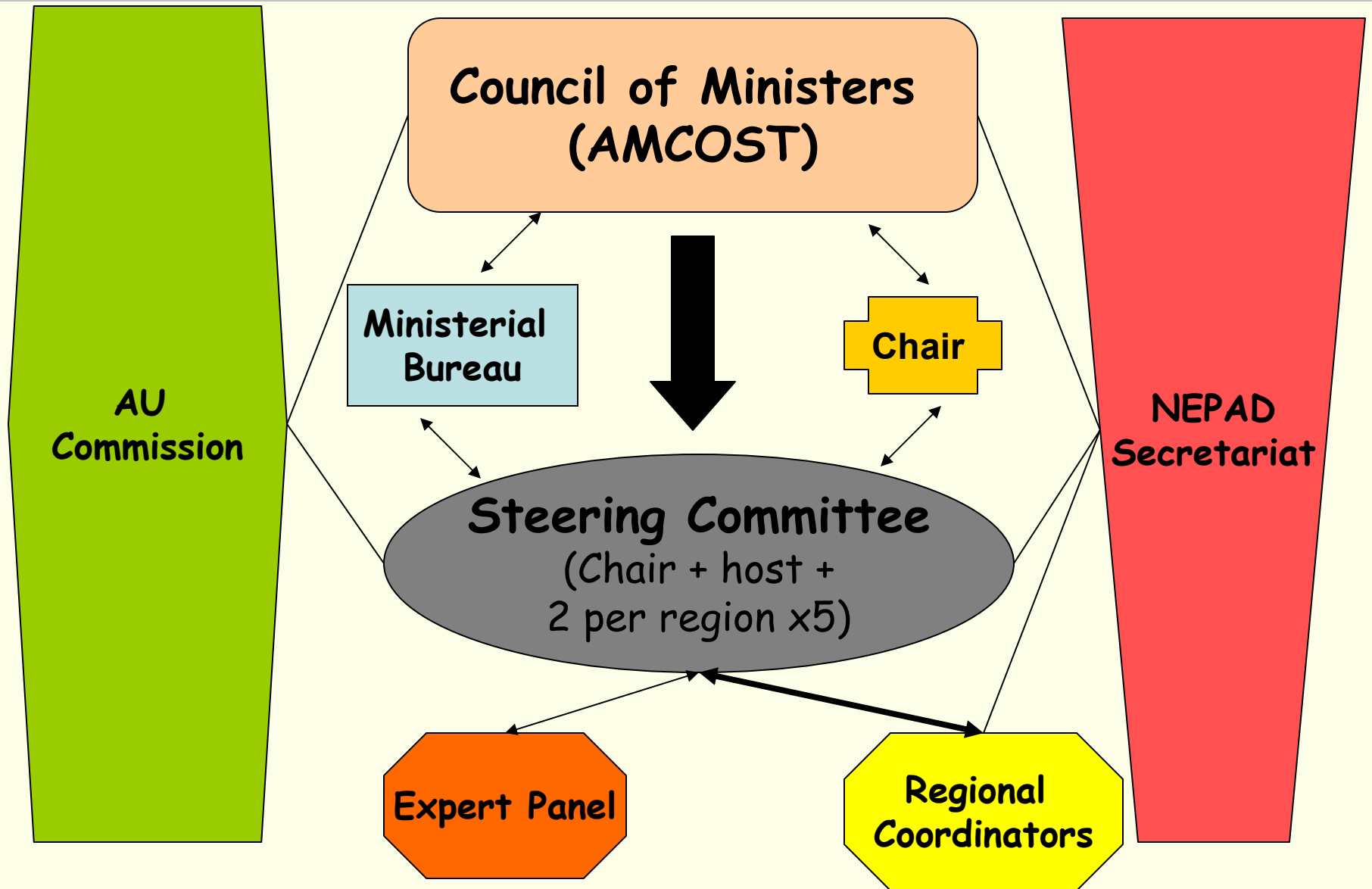
Process

- *Participatory*: grassroots participation since Feb 2003
- *Knowledge based*: questionnaires, background studies, national submissions, etc.
- *High-level political engagement*: AMCOST, AU Commission
- *Action focused*: programmes implemented as soon as possible
- *Learning*: adjusting priority setting and programme design based on lessons learnt

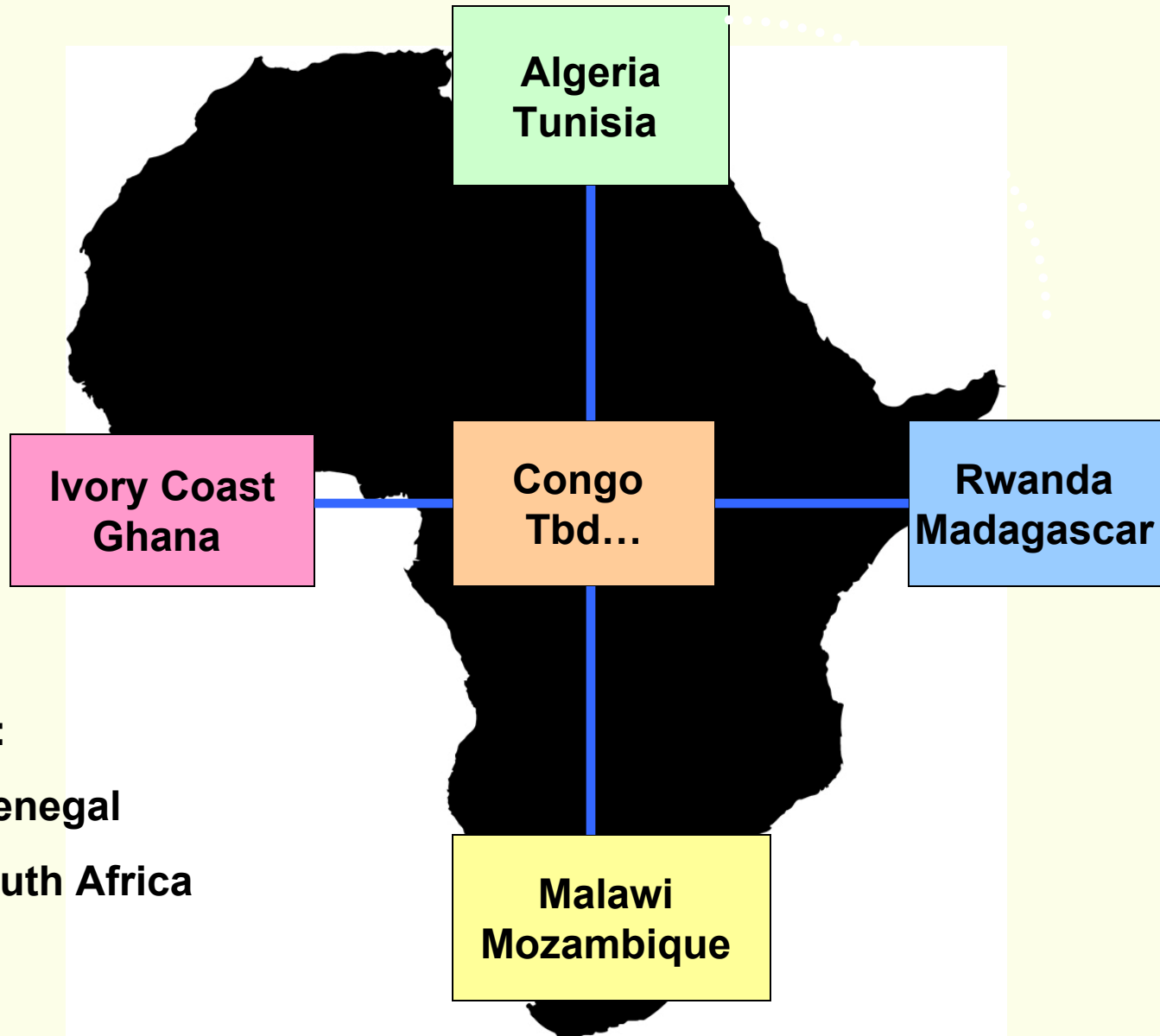
Overall Governance

- **AMCOST** - Overall policy making and political oversight
- **Steering Committee** - Technical oversight and implementation direction
- **AU Commission** - Political and policy leadership
- **NEPAD Secretariat** - Financial and technical resource mobilization

GOVERNANCE: Diagram



Countries on the S&T Steering Committee



Ex officio:

CHAIR: Senegal

HOST: South Africa

Flagship Programmes:

- **Biodiversity science and technology**
- **Biotechnology**
- **Information and Communication Technology**
- **Energy technologies**
- **Materials science**
- **Space science and technologies**
- **Post-harvest food technologies**
- **Water science and technology**
- **Indigenous knowledge and technologies**
- **Desertification research**
- **Science and technology for manufacturing**
- **Laser technology**

Clusters of Programmes

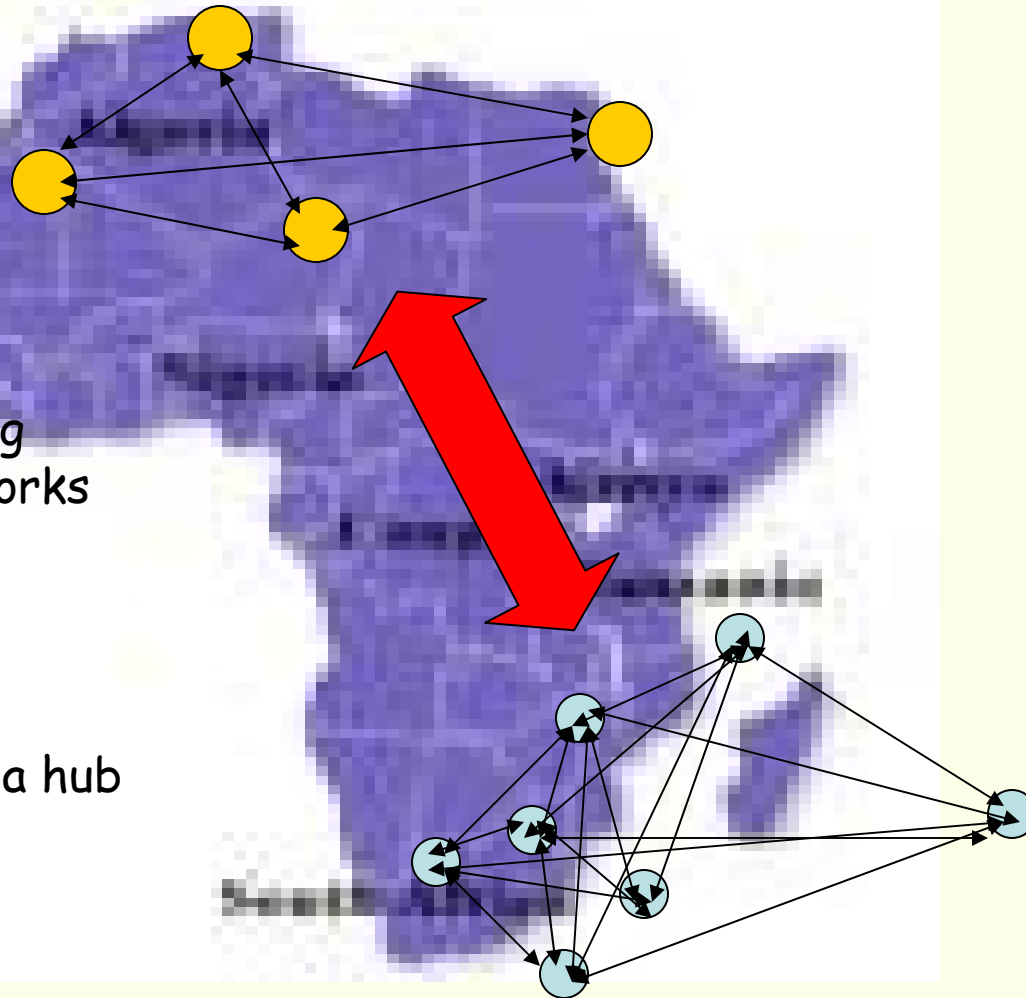
- Cluster 1: Biodiversity, Biotechnology and Indigenous Knowledge
- Cluster 2: Energy, Water and Desertification
- Cluster 3: Materials Science, Manufacturing, Laser Technologies and Post-Harvest Technologies
- Cluster 4: ICTs and Space Sciences
- Cluster 5: Mathematical Sciences*

Policy Development Programmes

- African Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (ASTII)
- Bilateral and Regional S&T Cooperation
- Public Understanding of S&T
- Expert Biotechnology Advice
- Capacity building in STI Policy

Implementation Mechanism

- Nodes forming regional networks
- Including universities
- Each regional network with a hub
- Integration continentally





African Science and Innovation Facility

1. Mobilize financial and technical resources
2. Allocations and disbursements
3. Monitor resource use and accounting
4. Monitor R&D trends and inform priority setting

Next Steps...

- Resource mobilization
- Internal resources: commitments from participating countries
- Conference with international partners
- Build implementation momentum
- Finalize details on ASIF
- 2007 AU Summit: Focus on S&T

Role of the African Diaspora

- Direct participation in implementation by individuals and institutions
- Provide human and technical resources
- Lobby governments, institutions and foundations to support the programme
- Participate in networks to benefit communities and nations in the Diaspora
- Representation in governance structures
- Policy and technical advice

Proposed Way Forward ...

- Conference to map out modalities
- SA could co-host with FDA under the auspices of AU/NEPAD
- Link interested institutions to specific programmes and networks



Thank You.

A large, glowing blue and white object, possibly a comet or meteor, streaks across a dark night sky. The object has a bright white core and a long, diffuse blue tail. The background is a dark, starry night sky.

Thank You!

The NEPAD Science and Technology Plan of Action

*Presentation for the
AfrICANDO 2006 Hemispheric Summit on
Science, Technology and Research for Africa's Development,
Miami, USA, 20 July 2006*

Sibusiso Manzini, Director: African Cooperation,
Department of Science and Technology, South Africa

E-mail: sibusiso.manzini@dst.gov.za

Tel.: +27 12 843 6389

