

# South African Marine Research Plan



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# South African Marine Research Plan

- **To develop a single comprehensive national marine and coastal research agenda as part of the overarching Marine & Antarctic Research Strategy**
- **To identify and prioritise mechanisms for optimising marine and coastal research funding using existing instruments**
- **Identify areas of marine research that require new instruments**





# Process followed

## Oceans and marine ecosystems under global change

- Seasonal, inter-annual and decadal climate projections in Southern Africa

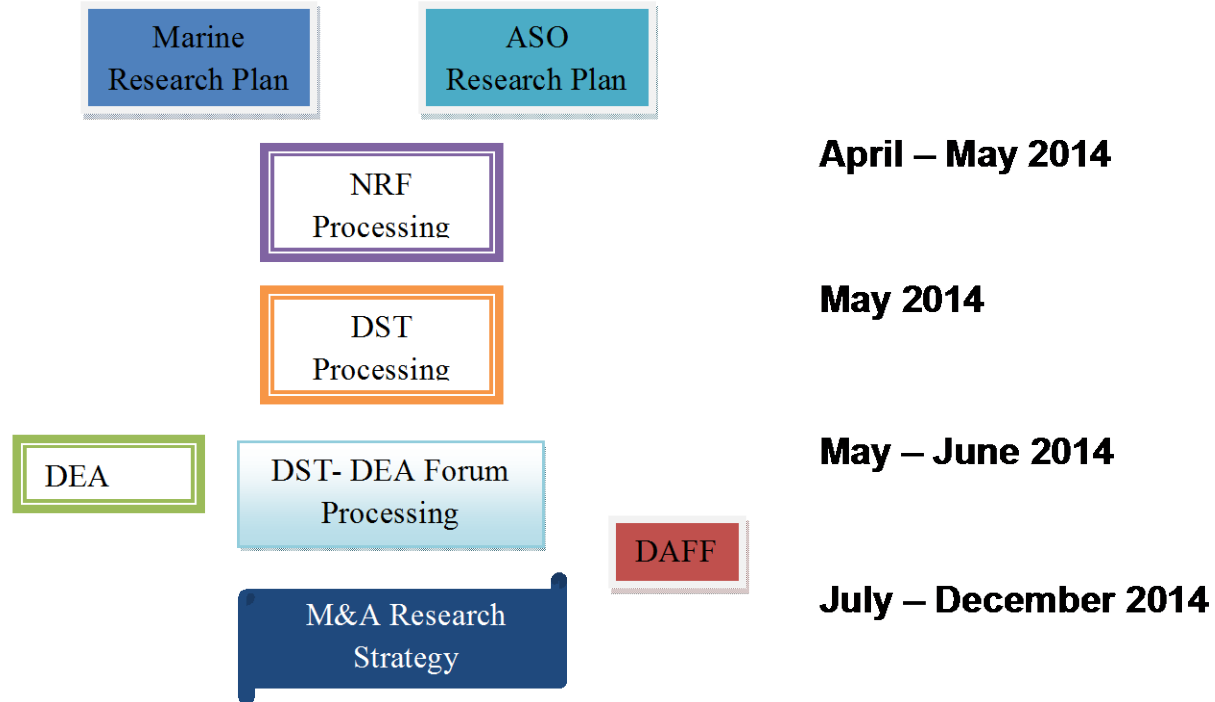
## Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Biodiscovery

- The response of coastal & marine ecosystems and ecosystem services to global and climate change
- Biodiscovery and biotechnology

## Coastal and marine resources, society and development

- Sustainable coastal and ocean development: vulnerability, risks and responsibility
- Marine Technology

# Government Partnerships

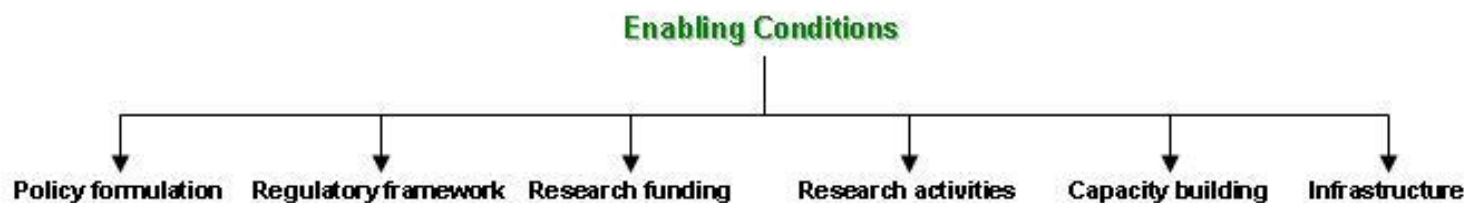


- Elevation of Research Themes to Priority Areas
  - High Key Questions
  - Geographic Advantage
  - Leveraging resources
  - Societal Benefits

# Research Strategy Focus



## Framework for Research Strategy



# Opportunities

- NT Financial Support
- Optimal Access to SA Research Platforms
- Accessing International Resources e.g.
  - Horizon 2020
  - Twining



Strengthening Technology, Research and Innovation  
Cooperation between Europe and South Africa

## Blue Growth

- **Sustainably exploiting the diversity of marine life**
- **New offshore challenges**
- **Ocean observation technologies/systems**
- **Socio-economic dimension - engagement with society**



- The SA-EU Joint S&T Cooperation Committee (JSTCC) in January 2014 identified several challenges for strengthening EU-SA cooperation on RDI.
- *ESASTAP plus* selected 2 areas to strengthen a small number of strategic alliances between South African and European groups as:
  - **Marine Sciences including Polar Science**  
oceanography, marine ecology, marine geology, marine biology, maritime meteorology and climatology,
  - **Raw Materials, Mineral & Mining Research**  
recovery and supply of raw materials through sustainable extraction (e.g. novel mining techniques), waste managed as a resource (recycling).
- A call is now open to provide twinning opportunities



A systems approach will enable the Marine sciences community to access to huge resources



Thank you