

Bridging the nanodivide:African Nanoscience and nanotechnology

Dr Ejembi John Onah

Founding President Focus Nanotechnology Africa Inc (FONAI), Ithaca USA
Chairman Steering Committee,US-EU-Africa-Asia-Pacific and Caribbean
Nanotechnology Initiative (USEACANI), CO-Chair-US-EU-Africa-Asia-Pacific and
Caribbean Academy of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (USEACANN) and Editor-In-
Chief, Journal Nanotechnology Progress International (JONPI).

African Nanoscience and nanotechnology:

Despite the fact that billions of dollar are being spent on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology by developed countries of North America, Western Europe and Asia-Japan as in the figure 1 below [1-2]; African nanoscience and nanotechnology are at a very early stage of development without any concrete funding.

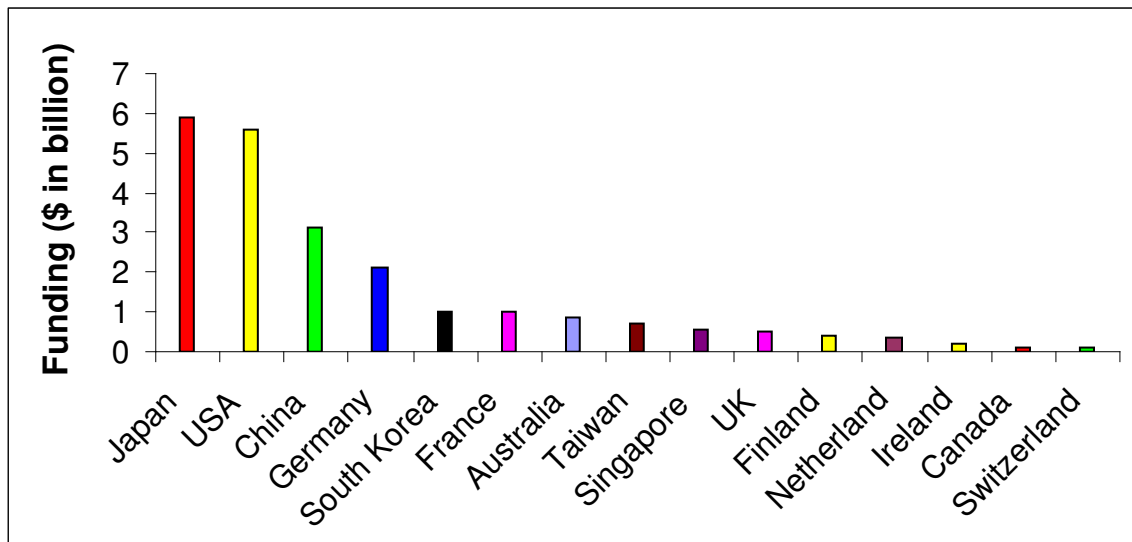


Figure 4. Global country nanotechnology fund ranking 2006-2010 (converted to US dollar from Euro x 1.4). [1-2]

There is no serious government commitment in terms of funding but there are increasing interests. There are some government sponsored initiatives in South Africa and Nigeria which was started Focus Nanotechnology Africa Inc.(FONAI). Nanotechnology in Africa is built strongly at this present stage on individual investigators around nanomaterials, nanochemistry, nanoenergy, nanomedicine, nanosensor, nanoagriculture, etc. Majority of

the 53 countries in Africa has nanoscience and nanotechnology presence with the heaviest density in South Africa. One of the objectives of FONAI-USEACANI is to catalyze nanoscience and nanotechnology in Africa with its proposed budget of \$10 billion for next ten years. This funding should come mostly from investment inform of grants from developed countries of North America, Western Europe and Asia-Japan. The benefits of such investments for developed countries are too great to be overlooked because of the vast untapped market in Africa. So far FONAI-USEACANI has been able to form a strong network in Africa of policy makers, academia and private sector and it is ongoing. Aggressive nanoeducation is ongoing too.

Donation Request! To continue this focused nano educational campaign especially to the less privileged developing nations, we need immediately \$1 million emergency relief fund

for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology education through workshops, seminars, lectures, conferences, publications, etc especially in Africa, Caribbean, Latin America and Asia-Pacific.

Donate now please by visiting <http://www.Fonai.org> .

Nothing is too small or too big,

Individuals, academia, policy makers (government institutions), private sector, not-for-profits, etc

Please give your kind donation

Reference

1. Onah E. Editorial Review, J. Nanotech. Progr. Int. 2009, 1, 4

<http://fonai.org/Journal.html>

2. Technology Transfer Center; government funding, companies and applications in nanotechnology worldwide 2007