

# INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH *December 2014*

## HORIZON 2020

Commissioner Moedas attended the 6<sup>th</sup> European Innovation Summit. The Commissioner also went to Lithuania for the opening of the Santaka Valley KTU Science and Technology Centre and its new Business Incubator, then to Portugal where he met Mr Anibal Cavaco Silva, President of Portugal, and Mr Pedro Passos Coelho, Prime Minister of Portugal.



« We are prioritising commercialisation.  
Turning science into technology.  
Bringing technology to market. »

*Carlos Moedas*

For full speeches please visit: [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_SPEECH-14-1887\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-14-1887_en.htm)

*Dear Reader,*

December marks the first anniversary of Horizon 2020, the world's largest multinational funding programme for research and innovation!

H2020 is «Open to the world», allowing researchers from around the globe to participate and co-operate in innovative projects.

Do you want to be part of it? Have a look at the [Participant Portal](#) to find calls and topics relevant to you.

The agreement associating Switzerland to parts of H2020 was signed on 5 December. You will find more information on the [Participant Portal](#) and in our January issue.

Let us take this opportunity to already wish you a Merry Christmas!

Best regards,

The Editors

## IN THIS ISSUE

- > EU-Canada JSTCC meeting was a success!
- > EuroMED Cooperation, Inland and Marine Water Challenges conference
- > International NCPs Workshop
- > H2020 new call opening
- > «Developing the Social Innovation Ecosystem in Egypt»

And many [more...](#)



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## EU - Canada Joint S&T Coordination Committee (JSTCC) meeting was a success

EU-Canada S&T cooperation has become very strong in recent years and was prominent in the recent EU-Canada summit statement:

«Canada and EU are strategic partners in the field of research and innovation. We wish to reinforce our collaboration under the existing Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation between Canada and the European Community through active participation in the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme, including in priority areas of Arctic and marine research, in follow-up to the 2013 Galway Statement.»

The EU and Canada have had a Science and Technology (S&T) cooperation agreement since 1995. Its implementation is overseen by a Joint S&T Coordination Committee (JSTCC). The latest JSTCC meeting took place on 19 November 2014 in Ottawa. The meeting was co-chaired by Louis Marcotte, Director-General at Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (DFATD) and Maria-Cristina Russo Director International Cooperation at the European Commission Directorate-General Research and Innovation.

Marine and Arctic research featured prominently in the discussions. A high level marine working group facilitates the alignment of Canadian and EU ocean research and observation activities as well as programme level coordination between Canadian and Horizon 2020 activities. This working group reported major progress.

The JSTCC co-chairs thanked in particular Dave Gilles, Assistant Deputy Minister at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, who is departing on retirement, for his engagement in the working group during the past two years.

The EU-Canada Arctic working group reported on its start-up phase and is expected to follow the same model of successful dialogue as in the marine working group.

In the area of aeronautics, a coordinated call between the EU and Canada was recently launched. This call combines an announcement under Horizon 2020 with funding support channelled through the newly created Canadian Aerospace Research and Innovation Consortium (CARIC).

Other positive models of cooperation can be found in the health field, including multilateral engagements in global consortia and other Joint Programming Initiatives or ERA-NET type initiatives.

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada reported on its country-wide outreach activities in its role as National Contact Point for Researcher's Mobility. First calls funded by Marie Skłodowska Curie actions under Horizon 2020 are already very popular and Canadian participants have been successful.

New areas with high potential for cooperation were agreed to at the meeting. These included Information and Communication Technologies (Big-Data in particular), Social Sciences and Humanities (in particular the [trans-Atlantic platform "T-AP"](#) involving many EU and trans-Atlantic funding agencies) as well as possible future cooperation forms to

be defined in the Bio-economy area.

The JSTCC discussions also focused on Framework conditions for cooperation between both sides. The support project [ERA-CAN Plus](#) is planning to compile an overview of the Framework conditions for cooperation, including the Canadian funds offered in various areas of cooperation such as those existing in Canadian provinces. The ERA-CAN Plus project has already established a vast National Contact Point network in Canada and organised country-wide Horizon 2020 info sessions in all Canadian provinces. Further information exchange took place on existing and future cooperation opportunities related to research infrastructure activities and the activities of the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME) association as member of the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN).



Photo: Participants to the JSTCC meeting in Ottawa

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## EuroMED Cooperation, Inland and Marine Water Challenges: conference highlights

The objective of the conference that took place in Naples on 3-4 November 2014, was to strengthen the collaboration in research and innovation between the EU and the Southern Mediterranean countries regarding the interconnections between «Inland» and «Marine Water» challenges in the Mediterranean basin.

Around hundred scientists and stakeholders from EU countries, South Mediterranean countries and other international partners (USA) attended as speakers, rapporteurs, participants. The conference was opened by G. Benedetti, adviser to the Italian Minister of Research, C. Russo, Director for International Cooperation at DG RTD of the European Commission, and E. Brugnoli of CNR (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche).

Four parallel workshops addressed the state of the art in key aspects related to the links between inland and marine waters in their broader socio-economic context. The plenary session included two interesting and complementary keynotes, one focusing on historical and ecological dimension and the other on foresight and socio-economic dimension. The final round table provided a synoptic and useful overview of major initiatives at EU level (JPIs Water and Ocean; WssTP), by MS (PRIMA) and MEP (funded by DEVCO and linked to the Barcelona Convention). As a follow up of the conference, a conference report is under preparation and due for submission by the end of December.

The conference has been widely advertised, including through its dedicated [website](#). Prior to the conference, Director Russo went to Città della Scienza to visit the exhibition on [Sea Horizon](#), funded under the Science in Society Programme.



Photo: C. Russo delivering an opening speech at the EuroMED Cooperation, Inland and Marine Water Challenges conference

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## Launch of the ERANETMED joint call

On 1 November 2014 the [ERANETMED JOINT CALL](#) on Renewable Energies, Water Resources and their connections for the Mediterranean Region was launched. The ERA-NET scheme is an instrument of the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme providing funding to improve the cooperation and coordination of national research activities and thus strengthen the European Research Area (ERA) with other regions of the world. [ERANETMED](#) is an EU FP7 initiative that aims to coordinate the research activities of the different national research programmes of EU Members States, Associated Countries to the EU Research Framework Programmes and Mediterranean Partner Countries. In particular, the ERANETMED objective is to strengthen the collaboration and common capacity of research programme owners from these countries to address the major challenges that the Mediterranean is facing and strengthen Euro-Mediterranean research co-operation. Building on the joint interest of Research Programme Owners, the present call is launched based on a Virtual Common Pot scheme, whereby each Funding Agency funds its own national research organizations within a multilateral project selected through a peer review process. This call is co-funded by the following Euro-Mediterranean countries: Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia, and Turkey. The total financial contribution to the call is 13.420.000 Euros. Research teams from the above mentioned countries are eligible for funding, unless otherwise specified in national rules of funding agencies which will be published along with the joint call. Research teams from other countries are eligible provided that they fund their own involvement.

The themes and scientific scope are:

- Renewable energies and energy efficiency  
(call identifier: JC-ENERGY-2014)
- Water resources management  
(call identifier JC-WATER-2014)
- ENERGY-WATER nexus  
(call identifier: JC-NEXUS-2014)

The deadline for submission of proposals is 2 February 2015.



Photo: the ERANETMED consortium

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## EU-Brazil cooperation on Marine Research and Blue Growth

At a recent meeting of the EU-Brazil Sector Dialogue on Marine Research (Pernambuco, 6-7 November) the importance of joint technology development and sharing of infrastructure in marine research was highlighted. Cooperation in marine sciences within the Horizon 2020 programme was discussed, as well as a regional alliance for the Atlantic Ocean. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Brazil, the Brazilian Navy, the Federal University of Pernambuco, the European Union Delegation in Brazil and the Marine Resources Unit of DG RTD, as well as researchers from various institutions. As part of the Dialogue, a videoconference was held with the participation of the Head of Marine Resources Unit of DG RTD, Ms Sieglinde Gruber and the Secretary for Policy and Research Programs of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation in Brazil, Dr Carlos Nobre. Both parties agreed that the joint development of technologies and infrastructure sharing for conducting marine research are essential in EU-Brazil cooperation. On 11 November, representatives of Germany, France, Finland, Ireland, Belgium, Norway, Slovenia and Portugal attended the event «Brazilian and European joint actions for Blue Growth» (organised by the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture of Finland, along with the Delegation of the European Union, and the Secretariat of Science and Technology of Pernambuco) which is part of the «Tour of Brazil» promotional initiative. At the event, the Head of the EU Delegation in Brazil, Ambassador Ana Paula Zacarias, highlighted that **Blue Growth** is essential to achieving the strategic objectives – smart, sustainable and inclusive growth – of Europe 2020.



Photo: Opening table: (l-r) Scientific Counsellor of EU Delegation in Brazil, Piero Venturi - Ambassador of Slovenia, Milena Smith, Head of EU Delegation in Brazil - Ambassador Ana Paula Zacarias, Rector of the Federal University of Pernambuco - Anísio Brasileiro - Secretary Jose Bertotti from SECTEC and Markku Virri, Ambassador of Finland

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Ministry of Education, Science and Culture of Finland

## Australia links to the Innovation Union Scoreboard

In an Australian first, the Hunter region of New South Wales (just north of Sydney) has aligned its **Hunter Innovation Scorecard** with the **Innovation Union Scoreboard**. This allows the Hunter region to compare itself with 190 regions throughout the EU and beyond. Regional Development Australia (RDA) for the Hunter region compared itself on four indicators:

- Introducing new or significantly improved methods and processes. The Hunter region is ranked 70<sup>th</sup>, or just outside the top third of EU regions;
- Introducing marketing or organisational innovations. The Hunter region ranked 72<sup>nd</sup>, also just outside the top third of EU regions;
- Innovative businesses collaborating with others. The Hunter region ranked 25<sup>th</sup>, within the top 15% of EU regions; and
- Businesses innovating in-house. The Hunter region ranked 37<sup>th</sup>, within the top 20% of EU regions.

In releasing the report, Todd Williams, the CEO of RDA Hunter, **concluded** that «There is room for the region to improve, but we now have a clear understanding of our position against some of the world's best innovators and we will forge a path for the future.» While Australia's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, Warren Truss **said** that the figures send «a clear message to the rest of Australia and to the world that the Hunter region is a first-class location for investment and business innovation». Also commenting on the figures, EU Ambassador Sem Fabrizi said, «Europe 2020 is our strategy for a smart, sustainable, and inclusive EU economy, delivering high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion. We keep to this goal through monitoring our performance. I'm pleased to see that same monitoring and performance assessment system being used to benefit Australia.»



Photo: (l-r) Todd Williams, CEO RDA Hunter - Ivano Casella, Counsellor, Delegation of the European Union to Australia and the Senator Arthur Sinodinos AO at the launch of RDA Hunter Innovation Scorecard

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## 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the S.Korea-Euratom Fusion Coordinating Committee

The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the S.Korea-Euratom Coordinating Committee (CC-4) under the Fusion Cooperation Agreement took place in St. Petersburg on 15 October 2014 in the margins of the IAEA Fusion Energy Conference. The Korean delegation was led by Mr Myeun KWON, President of the National Fusion Research Institute (NFRI), while the Euratom delegation was led by Mr Simon Webster (RTD-G5) and included representatives from the European Joint Programme EUROfusion.

The CC confirmed ITER as the main priority for both programmes, and adopted the mapping of bilateral collaboration activities between entities from Euratom and South Korea focussed mainly on support to ITER, e.g. ITER vacuum vessel, test blanket modules, diagnostics, and materials. The mapping, presently includes about 36 on-going collaborations involving 12 European and 11 Korean entities. The reinforcement of cooperation between KSTAR and JET, between Asdex-U and WEST, and the Korean interest in Broader Approach activities were discussed. Moreover, the CC agreed to deepen bilateral discussion on the principles of establishing an international network of facilities in support to the ITER research needs. The CC also agreed to intensify bilateral interactions in the various IEA Implementing Agreements and in the IAEA-IFRC.

Finally, the CC updated the bilateral Work Programme composed of the following topics:

- ITER project remains the main pillar and priority for both Parties in the next years;
- Consolidation of collaborative activities between Korean and Euratom entities;
- Specific cooperation between the JET and KSTAR programmes.
- Discussion on principles of an international networking of facilities in support to ITER;
- Potential Korean participation in specific Broader Approach activities.



Photo: Participants to the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the S.Korea-Euratom Coordinating Committee

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## His Majesty King Willem-Alexander and Her Majesty Queen Máxima of the Netherlands at the Horizon 2020 booth in Tokyo

On the occasion of the State Visit of His Majesty King Willem-Alexander and Her Majesty Queen Máxima and the visit by the Netherlands' Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr Henk Kamp, the royal couple visited the EU delegation's Horizon 2020 booth at the conference «Energy Decisions, with focus on renewables and offshore wind» organised by the Embassy of the Netherlands in Tokyo on 30 October 2014. His Majesty King Willem-Alexander expressed support for Dutch companies participating in Horizon 2020 and was very interested to hear how the multilateral co-operation under Horizon 2020 reinforces bilateral co-operation of the Member States with Japan. Inviting the EU Delegation to actively participate in such a high-level bilateral event (with the participation of over 200 researchers and representatives of the renewable industries of the Netherlands and Japan), is an example of support by a Member State in promoting Horizon 2020 in Japan. The S&T Counsellor of the EU delegation to Japan, Leonidas Karapiperis, delivered a presentation on the research carried out at EU level in the area of renewable energy. The Delegation's booth offered information material on Horizon 2020, attracted the interest of many representatives of Dutch companies active in EU programmes, and the interest of Japanese industrialists and researchers who had heard about the Horizon 2020 programme for the first time at the Conference.



Photo: Tom Kuczynski (Delegation) explaining Horizon 2020 to His Majesty King Willem-Alexander and Her Majesty Queen Máxima

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## International NCPs Workshop «Promoting the International Dimension of Horizon 2020»

The workshop was organized in Brussels on 26 November by the International Cooperation Directorate (C.3) and the INCONTACT 2020 project which promotes the capacity building, coordination and networking of all National Focal Points for International Cooperation. The workshop aimed to highlight the global dimension of Horizon 2020 and to facilitate the exchange of views for the enhancement of international research cooperation. The Workshop brought together the National Contact Points (NCPs) of International Partner Countries, EU Member States, Associated countries NCPs involved in international cooperation activities, and European Commission officials in order to discuss ways to improve international participation in the new Framework Programme. The objectives of this workshop were two-fold: first, to explain and discuss the main features of International Cooperation in Horizon 2020 including the implementation of the International Cooperation Strategy, and second, to show support to NCPs, listen to their comments, identify best practices, and help them address various challenges such as forging better links between NCPs in the International Partner Countries and NCPs in the Member States and Associated Countries and allowing International Partner Country NCPs to receive faster and better information from the European Commission. The report of the workshop will be ready in December.



Photo: speakers at the International NCPs workshop

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## 4<sup>th</sup> People's Republic of China-Euratom Fusion meeting under the bilateral RD PUNE Agreement

The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Euratom-China Subcommittee on Fusion Energy Research (FU-4) under the «Agreement between Euratom and the Government of the People's Republic of China for R&D Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy» (RD-PUNE Agreement) took place in St. Petersburg on 16 October 2014 during the IAEA Fusion Energy Conference. The Chinese delegation was led by DDG Mr LUO Delong (Chinese ITER Domestic Agency) from the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), while the Euratom delegation was led by Mr Simon Webster (RTD-G5) also including representatives from the European Joint Programme EUROfusion. At the FU-4, the parties endorsed the preliminary report of the Joint Programming Working Group (JPWG) and agreed to revise the JPWG Terms of Reference regarding objectives and deadlines. The present objectives of the JPWG are to select specific priorities (notably JET, CFETR and specific technologies) linked to the five programmatic objectives of the Work Programme 2013-2020 (each of them associated with specific priorities in support to ITER and DEMO), and to elaborate concrete proposals aimed at submitting a final report to the Fusion Subcommittee on activities to be conducted with allocated budget as a basis for a balanced strategic long-term partnership. Two months were given to JPWG for preparing the final JPWG report to be submitted to the bilateral Fusion Subcommittee by the end of November. In this work structured advantage will be taken of the 85 running collaborative activities involving 13 European and 14 Chinese entities.



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## HORIZON 2020 - publication EU Collaborative Research and Innovation Opportunities - USA

This brochure published by the Delegation of the European Union to the United States describes Horizon 2020 in a nutshell, lists the eligibility criteria and how to apply. A very handy tool!

It is available for download here:

[http://www.euintheus.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/TRIFOLD\\_BROCHURE\\_HORIZON\\_2020\\_low\\_res.pdf](http://www.euintheus.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/TRIFOLD_BROCHURE_HORIZON_2020_low_res.pdf)

## Information Seminar of the European Information Consulting Centre in Russia

On 23-24 October 2014, the Russian Agency for the Support of Small and Medium Business (RA) and the Russian Ministry of Economic Development held a training seminar for representatives of the regional network of the European Information Consulting Centre in Russia. The Centre is operated by the RA, which is one of the leading organisations in Russia working to support the development and activities of small and medium business and a member of the Gate2RuBIN project consortium. The Gate2RuBIN initiative («Gate to Russian Business and Innovation Networks») started in 2008 under the EU's Competitiveness and Innovation Programme with the purpose of integrating Russia into the Enterprise Europe Network. The activities of the project consortium include support for Russian SMEs participation in the EU's Framework Programmes for research and innovation, including through their established network of so-called Regional Integrated Centres. As part of the training programme of the seminar the EU Delegation to Russia made a presentation and distributed information materials on the Horizon 2020 programme to the representatives of these Centres.



Photo: Participants to the information seminar of the European Information Consulting Centre in Russia

## Information seminar for Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Education

On 29 October, the EU Delegation in Russia participated in a seminar organised by the Embassy of the Kingdom of Norway for a visiting delegation from the Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Education (Norway's academic exchange service). The Norwegian delegation was in Russia for a visit with the local Erasmus+ office and to follow-up on ongoing projects that are being implemented with partner organisations in Russia. A representative of the Russian State National Research University 'Higher School of Economics' gave an overview presentation about recent developments in Russia's university and higher education sector, while the EU Delegation made a presentation about the European Union's research and innovation cooperation with Russia and its links to cooperation in the higher education area.

## Head of the EU Delegation to Russia visits Yekaterinburg

On 20-21 November 2014, the Head of the EU Delegation to Russia, Ambassador Vygaudas Ušackas, visited Yekaterinburg, Russia's fourth largest city, the centre of the Russian Ural region and one of the most important industrial centres of the country. It is also the birthplace of the first Russian President Boris Yeltsin and a city that positions itself as the «capital of Eurasia». The programme of the visit included lectures to the students of two local universities – the Ural Federal University and the Ural State University of Economics, as well as attendance of a meeting of the Presidium of the Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences. During the latter, Ambassador Ušackas addressed the audience, consisting of the Presidium members and directors of scientific institutes of the Ural region, with a speech on current relations between the European Union and Russia. He also underlined the importance of cooperation in research and called for a more active participation of research organisations from the region in the EU's Framework Programme, Horizon 2020. The visit received extensive coverage in the local press.

## ESA Moscow - Witnessing the Philae landing on Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko

On 12 November, the EU Delegation in Russia participated in a special event organised by the Permanent Mission of the European Space Agency (ESA) to the Russian Federation dedicated to the first ever attempt to land a spacecraft on a comet. The participants included the representative in Russia of the French Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES), representatives of several European Embassies, the Japanese Space Agency JAXA, the U.S. Space Agency NASA, the Russian Space Agency Roscosmos, and the Helmholtz Association's Moscow office. They were treated to a presentation about the ten-year journey through the solar system of ESA's 'Rosetta' spacecraft prior to its arrival at the Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko on 6 August and about the planned landing operation of Rosetta's landing craft 'Philae'. A live video transmission from the European Space Operations Centre in Darmstadt, Germany, brought news of the fact that the long expected landing was carried out successfully at just after 17:00 CET – a 'cosmic precedent' and a huge success for European Space policies and technologies. Philae's landing on Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko received wide coverage in Russia, where, in view of Russia's own pioneering history in Space travel, developments in Space exploration are followed with great interest.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION (ALL PAGE)

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## EURAXESS Science Slam winners from Japan and ASEAN announced

The EURAXESS Science Slams took place in Japan and in Thailand in early November. The laureate of the Science Slam Japan 2014, Mr Kai Narita from Tokyo Institute of Technology will join Bhamini Bhujun from Nottingham University Malaysia Campus, winner of the region-wide competition in South-East Asia, for a unique networking trip to Europe in spring 2015. They will join the Science Slam Champions from Brazil, China, India, and North America for to visit a research lab of their choice anywhere in the European Research Area. In Japan, the opening address was delivered by Professor Yoshinao Mishima, President of the Tokyo Institute of Technology (host) and Leonidas Karapiperis, S&T Counsellor at the EU Delegation. After an exciting voting session, the audience decided that Mr Kai Narita's presentation, 'Na-rry Potter and Mg' on materials for enhanced medicine, was the most accessible to the non-experts, the most original and creative and, overall, embodied the best concept of the Science Slam. High up on the roof top bar of the Banyan Tree Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand, the 5 finalists in the EURAXESS Science Slam ASEAN had 10 minutes to convince the audience of their superior science communication skills. Bhamini Bhujun, a doctoral candidate working on the subject of supercapacitors, impressed with an inspiring presentation. The electrical engineering expert was crowned EURAXESS Science Slam Winner ASEAN 2014 to thundering applause. Bhamini follows in the footsteps of last year's champion Dr. Phanramphoei Frantz who moderated this year's slam finals. Following her win in 2013, Dr. Frantz secured a fellowship with the prestigious Institut Pasteur in Paris. Congratulations to all the EURAXESS Science Slam Winners!



Photo: (l-r) EURAXESS Science Slam Winner ASEAN 2014, Bhamini Bhujun, and EURAXESS Links Japan winner, Kai Narita with Matthieu Py, EURAXESS Links Japan officer

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## EURAXESS LINKS Conferences «Linking Researcher Worldwide»

The hugely successful EURAXESS Links Conferences 2014 took place in Singapore on 11 November and in Bangkok, Thailand, on 13 November, after the highly appreciated conference in 2012 in Beijing, China.

Organised by the European Commission, the two-day event celebrated the strong scientific links between Europe and Southeast Asia with a number of workshops and panel discussions. Around 400 researchers from across ASEAN engaged with high calibre experts from Europe to jointly explore mutually beneficial opportunities for inter-regional researcher mobility and cooperation under Horizon 2020. The high ranking representatives of the two host countries, Thailand's Minister of Science and Technology Dr Pichet Durongkaveroj and the Head of Singapore's A\*STAR Graduate Academy Prof. Alfred Huan delivered the welcome addresses. H.E. Ambassador Dr. Michael Pulch and H.E. Dr. Jésus Miguel Sanz representing the European Union opened the conferences.

A keynote speech was given by Deputy Head of Unit, RTD-B2, Dr. Anna Karaoglou on [Horizon 2020](#), Open to the World and on the European Research Area., Kitty Fehring, RTD-B2, moderated both conferences.

The Commission travelled with high ranking representatives from Europe, such as Dr. Ari Sadanandom, one of the four European Research Council (ERC) grantees from the ASEAN region, based in the United Kingdom and Austrian Simon Feigl, a MCSA (Marie-Curie-Słodowska) fellow at the CERN. Together with Massimo Gaudina, representing the ERC, they addressed funding opportunities and mobility related aspects when moving to Europe. Members of the European EURAXESS Services network underlined the openness of Europe towards international researchers. «We take care of research talent in Europe» was the overarching theme of the discussions on mobility aspects between ASEAN and Europe.

The ASEAN Talent Mobility programme will open avenues for better collaboration and more mobility of ASEAN researchers towards Europe.

The next EURAXESS Links Conference «Linking Researchers Worldwide» will be held in 2016.

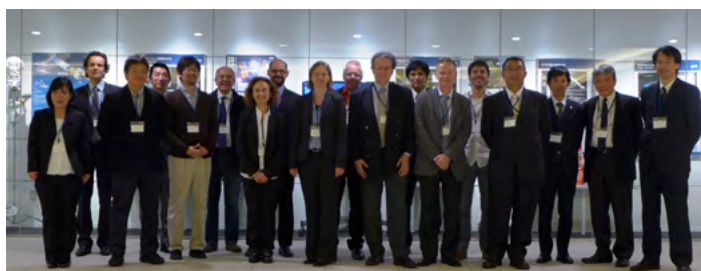
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## 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EU-Japan de-icing project

The 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the JEDI-ACE project was hosted by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) in Tokyo and Chofu from 17 to 19 November. In this successful meeting, representatives of the industry and academia from the EU (Fraunhofer DE, Dassault FR and Universitat Rovira I Virgili ES) and Japan (JAXA, Subaru/Fuji Heavy Industry, Kanagawa Institute of Technology) discussed the progress of the project aiming at developing new de-icing coatings for aircrafts, the ice sensor system for real-time measurements of ice accretion and an integrated ice protection system. The joint consortium discussed also the prospects for future co-operation, possibly in CLEAN SKY 2 and SESAR. During the opening session Leonidas Karapiperis, S&T Counsellor at the EU Delegation, welcomed this successful industry-academia co-operation between the EU and Japan, and urged the partners to think about the next stage of collaboration, as well as about the possible early spill-overs in other sectors. JEDI-ACE has been co-funded by the EU's FP7 and the Japanese Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry. Together with ICT and Rare Earths, Aeronautics is one of the three priority areas of R&I collaboration between the EU and Japan.



© Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency

Photo: Members of the JEDI-ACE meeting, 17-20 November, Tokyo

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### How to contribute to the International Research Newsletter?

Should you wish to contribute to the next issue of our publication, kindly send us:

- An article relating your event (maximum 2200 characters - spaces included - with picture - 2500 characters without picture);
- A good quality picture (free of rights).

Do not forget to mention the title of the article and the caption of the picture, and a Commission internal contact point.

## JEUPISTE Innovation Workshops

The FP7 project, Japan-EU Partnership in Innovation, Science and Technology (JEUPISTE) is engaged in various activities to reinforce Europe-Japan cooperation in science, technology and innovation (STI). During the fall, JEUPISTE has launched a series of Innovation Workshops, designed to actively foster Europe-Japan Cooperation in innovation, highlighting the overarching and multi-disciplinary theme of «smart communities» from various angles. The first two pilot events were held in Europe, whilst future events will be organised in Japan. The Innovation Workshop No.1 was held in Brussels on 13 October in cooperation with the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and looked at the upstream side of the innovation value chain, identification of issues, ideation and team-building. Policies related to smart communities in Europe and Japan were summarised and strategic partnerships were sought through shared ideas and experiences, current collaboration status and future perspectives. A series of presentations were made along the line of workshop objectives, from concept and policies to ideation and actual implementation of projects in living cities (Barcelona and Yokohama), which were followed by discussions and networking activities. Twinned with the first event, Innovation Workshop No.2 was held in Turin on 13 November in connection with the Torino Smart Mobility World. This Workshop focused on the downstream side of the innovation value chain and highlighted more business-oriented topics, including how to bring research results into business, use alternative funding mechanisms like crowd funding, which would also act as a tool for social engagement, with real examples of Higashi Matsushima city and Turin city.



Photo: Participants at the JEUPISTE Innovation Workshops

### FOR MORE INFORMATION (ALL PAGE)

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## EU jointly organizes a seminar with Misr El Kheir Foundation on «Developing the Social Innovation Ecosystem in Egypt»

On 10 November 2014 the Delegation of the European Union to Egypt and Misr El Kheir Foundation organised a seminar titled «Developing the Social Innovation Ecosystem in Egypt». The «EU-Egypt Innovation seminar series» is an initiative that aims at sharing experiences in enhancing research and innovation ecosystems. The seminar hosted a session by Hubconcepts - Finland, on developing Innovation hubs, followed by four parallel workshops that addressed development of different components of the social innovation ecosystem.

Mr Reinhold Brender, Deputy Head of the European Union Delegation to Egypt said: «This seminar is a great example of how science should be linked to society and how innovation should be driven by societal needs». The seminar brought together more than 150 stakeholders from academic institutions, researchers and representatives of industry, financial institutions, NGOs and governments, as well as, innovators, entrepreneurs, and start-ups. During the seminar, the EU Delegation to Egypt presented research and innovation funding and collaboration opportunities under H2020. Egypt was the top FP7 participant in the southern Mediterranean region with more than 100 funded projects, covering all areas of collaborative research including energy, environment, water, ICT, food and agriculture as well as social sciences.



Photo: Reinhold Brender, Deputy Head of the European Union Delegation to Egypt addressing the participants

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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## Upcoming events

### BILAT USA 2.0 - EU-U.S. Innovation Conference

14-15 January 2015 - Brussels, Belgium

- [conference and agenda](#)
- [pre-conference workshop](#)

For more information and further events kindly click [here](#)

## H2020 Calls update

### «Europe as a global actor» - CALL OPENING!

«Europe as a global actor» aims to enhance and encourage research and innovation cooperation between the Union and certain International partner countries or regions.

The two calls opening in December intend to:

- support the general opening of Horizon 2020 (H2020) by encouraging researchers from all over the world to participate in H2020;
- support the development and implementation of targeted international cooperation activities, by identifying areas of mutual benefit;
- identify and eliminate remaining obstacles to cooperation.

Partners from Australia, USA and Brazil will be eligible for funding, under the corresponding topic.

Planned Opening Date:  
10-12-2014

Deadline for submissions:  
12-05-2015 - 17:00 (Brussels local time)

For more information:

[INT-01-2015](#) - targeting Australia, USA, Brazil, South Africa, Ukraine

[INT-02-2015](#) - targeting Southern Mediterranean Neighbourhood, Eastern Partnership

Helpdesk  
[Europe Direct](#)

### Personalising health and care

Topic: New approaches to improve predictive human safety testing

Closing date: 24-02-2015 - 17:00 (Brussels local time)

For more information on this call and other calls click [here](#)

## New European Union Ambassador to the USA

Ambassador David O'Sullivan presented his credentials to President Barack Obama at a White House ceremony on 18 November 2014, formally taking the role of [European Union Ambassador](#) to the United States.

He represents the Presidents of the European Commission and of the European Council, under the authority of the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.



Photo: President Barack Obama and Ambassador David O'Sullivan at a White House ceremony

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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EU Delegation to the US

## The European Union Delegation to Egypt Participates in «Cairo Innovates»

Cairo's first International Exhibition of Science, Research, and Innovation, Cairo Innovates, took place on 19-20 November 2014. Aiming at stimulating scientific innovation in Egypt through the creation of a hub that connects innovators to enablers and key stakeholders, and allows local innovators to exhibit and commercialise their inventions. Within the framework of the EU-Egypt cooperation in research and innovation, the EU delegation organised a session on the first day of the event to present Horizon 2020. The EU Delegation, in collaboration with the RDI programme at the Ministry of Scientific research, showcased the EU research and innovation programmes and disseminated information about participation in these programmes. Ambassador James Moran, Head of EU Delegation to Egypt said: «Governments and society as a whole have a duty to create a climate that fosters innovation and allows young people to create their own jobs». The event was organised by the Academy of Scientific Research & Technology (ASRT). The Ministry of scientific research and ASRT are both active partners and participants in different EU research, innovation and development programmes.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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EU Delegation to Egypt

## Brazil-Germany Seminar of Innovation

The second Brazil-Germany Seminar of Innovation was held in São Paulo, on 12 November. The aim of the event was to encourage the Brazilian business sector to use the expertise of the German scientific sector in research and development of innovation. The success stories of partnerships between research institutes and companies were highlighted. European research institutions which are interested to cooperate in the area of innovation with the Brazilian business sector were also presented. The main German companies present in Brazil, such as Siemens, Volkswagen, Bayer, BASF, and Continental amongst others, attended the event.



Photo: Dr Piero Venturi (third from left to right) Head of R&I Sector of the EU Delegation in Brazil and Thomas Schroeder, Science Counsellor of the German Embassy in Brazil (third from right to left) participated in the seminar

### FOR MORE INFORMATION (ALL PAGE)

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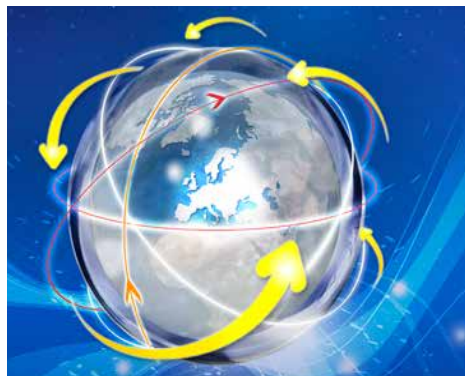
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*This page provides a regular update on recent Research and Innovation (R&I) policy news from our network of R&I Counsellors in the EU delegations in Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, India, Israel, Japan, Korea, Russia, the United States (US) and the African Union (AU).*

*With a particular focus on international cooperation, different policy related themes are highlighted in relation to a number of countries to illustrate trends, similarities and different approaches. This issue covers policy news from Australia, China, India, Russia, the US, and the African Union. The next will focus on developments in Brazil, Canada, Egypt, Israel, Japan and Korea.*

### Policy News from the Delegations

In **China**, the Reform agenda of its national science and technology (S&T) funding programmes has been approved by the [State Council](#) and will soon be released. Chinese national S&T programmes will be re-structured and streamlined which is expected to bring profound changes in China's S&T system. The reform, which implies a strengthened role of the [Ministry of S&T](#), should contribute positively to the overall EU-China research and innovation (R&I) collaboration and provide common grounds and favourable settings for future dialogues and cooperation.

**Australia** has released an [Industry Innovation and Competitiveness Agenda](#) as a central part of the Government's Economic Action Strategy. This involves 6 initiatives to boost Australian competitiveness to be implemented over the next 18 months with ~\$A400mn (€275mn) in funding. The formation of the [Commonwealth Science Council](#) has also been announced as the pre-eminent body for advice on S&T, which replaces the previous Prime Minister's Science Engineering and Innovation Council (PMSEIC). In addition, [Regional Development Australia Hunter](#) has released its [Hunter Innovation Scorecard](#) and announced it has aligned its scorecard with the EU [Innovation Union Scoreboard](#), which allows the Hunter region to compare itself with 190 EU regions.

In **India**, Prime Minister N. Modi has expanded his [Council of Ministers](#). Dr. H. Vardhan has been shifted from the heavyweight Health and Family Welfare

Ministry to the S&T and Earth Sciences Ministries and will become the eighth S&T Minister in five years. Y. S. Chowdary – founder and chairman of the Sujana Group of Industries – has been appointed Minister of State for S&T and Earth Sciences. He stresses the need to improve the financial health of research institutes in the country and wants all the research institutes to be financially autonomous enabling them to take up projects on their own, without being dependent on governmental funds. He also considers that these institutions can perform better by improving the use of intellectual property.

The [African Development Bank](#) (AfDB) has approved loans amounting to \$98.2 million to finance the first phase of East Africa's Centres of Excellence for Skills and Tertiary Education in biomedical sciences and engineering in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Rwanda. The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase will include a Centre in Burundi. In addition, the AfDB and the Government of Finland have organised the [2<sup>nd</sup> Ministerial Meeting on STI](#) with other partners such as UNESCO and UNECA, and limited involvement of the African Union Commission, to review the current state of STI in Africa. It gave a large space to ICT capacities and applications, with the AfDB launching a virtual collaborative platform – [Africa STI Hub](#).

The **United States** administration has reinforced its efforts to reinstate competitive manufacturing at the heart of the economy by announcing [new executive actions](#) to strengthen US advanced manufacturing, spur innovation, and continue to take steps to make the US a magnet for new jobs and investment.

The executive actions promote making investments in emerging, cross-cutting manufacturing technologies, training the workforce with the skills for middle-class jobs in manufacturing, and equipping small manufacturers to adopt cutting-edge technologies. These actions are aligned with the recommendations of the report by the President's Council of Advisors on S&T (PCAST) «[Accelerating U.S. Advanced Manufacturing](#)» on innovation, on the talent pipeline and on improving the business climate.

In **Russia**, the Parliament has approved the 2015 draft federal budget, where planned R&D expenditure is not significantly reduced despite current economic difficulties. Proposed expenditure for the State Programme «Development of Science and Technology» (2013–2020) in 2015 is 164.4 billion Roubles (~2.8 billion Euro), and for the Russian Federal Targeted Programme «R&D in Priority Areas of Russian S&T Development 2014–2020», 23.7 billion Roubles (~409 million Euro). In addition, the creation of the National (aviation & aeronautics) Research Centre «[Zhukovsky Institute](#)» has been approved by law. The Centre includes five leading research organisations: [TsAGI](#), [CIAM](#), [GosNIIAS](#), [SibNIA](#) and [FKP «GKNIPAS»](#). The new organisation is expected to pursue an active international cooperation strategy, including partnerships through Horizon 2020.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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