Dear Colleagues, and friends,

It is our pleasure to present you with the latest edition of the EURAXESS Links ASEAN e-newsletter. The December edition marks the end of a fantastic year for the EURAXESS Links ASEAN community – we welcomed over 300 new members, many of which joined the network after attending one of the inspiring events we organised together with our colleagues and partners in Southeast Asia.

We hope you do enjoy reading our newsletter and we wish you and your families happy holidays and a happy, healthy and successful 2015!

Your EURAXESS Links ASEAN team

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EURAXESS Links Satisfaction Survey 2014

Dear EURAXESS Links community members!

EURAXESS Links would like to hear from you how we can further improve our services to keep you updated about research mobility opportunities.

We would appreciate you taking the time to please take our brief user survey, which is designed to help us to better understand what you need. The survey should take between 3-5 minutes to complete.

Thank you very much for your feedback!

Your EURAXESS Links Team

EURAXESS Links ASEAN Newsletter is a monthly electronic newsletter, edited by EURAXESS Links ASEAN, which provides information of specific interest to European researchers in ASEAN and international researchers who are interested in the European research landscape and conducting research in Europe or with European partners.

The information contained in this publication is intended for personal use only. It should not be taken in any way to reflect the views of the European Commission nor of the Delegations of the European Union.

Please email to asean@euraxess.net for any comments on this newsletter, contributions you would like to make, if you think any other colleagues would be interested in receiving this newsletter, or if you wish to unsubscribe.

Editor: Dr Susanne RENTZOW-VASU, EURAXESS Links ASEAN, Regional Representative

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1 EU Insight – RESAVER: boost to supporting researcher mobility

In August 2014, this newsletter’s ‘EU Insight’ section introduced the pan-European Retirement Savings Vehicle for European Research Institutions (RESAVER)[1]. This pension arrangement will enable researchers to remain affiliated to the same pension fund, even when changing jobs and moving between different countries within the European Research Area (ERA). Singled out as a priority in the 2012 Communication on ERA [2], in which the European Commission pledged to “support stakeholders in setting up pan-European supplementary pension fund(s) for researchers”, this initiative received two major boosts within the past months:

First, on 1 October, the consortium was launched that aims to establish this new pan-European pension arrangement [3]; and second, on 16 December, the Commission reported that a four-year, four million euro framework contract in support of creating RESAVER has been awarded to Aon Belgium [4] in response to the call for tender launched by the Commission in summer 2014.

Two major boosts to RESAVER establishment

The RESAVER consortium, a group of committed employers, will be working as an international not-for-profit association registered in Belgium. The founding members are: Central European University Budapest; Central European Research Infrastructure Consortium (CERIC-ERIC); Elettra - Sincrotrone Trieste S.C.p.A; Fondazione Edmund Mach; Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia; Technical University of Vienna; and the Association of universities in the Netherlands (VSNU)[3].

The consortium plans to set up the pension arrangement with the first contribution being paid in 2015. The four-year framework contract awarded by the Commission in mid-December will cover the initial set-up costs. This will enable the consortium to roll out the single European pension arrangement across the European Economic Area by 2018.

By participating in RESAVER, employers will be able to sponsor a single European pension arrangement capable of delivering:

- Cross-border pooling of pension plans;
- Continuity of the accumulation of pension benefits as professionals move between different organisations and countries during their career;
- Lower overhead costs (and therefore improved member benefits) through economies of scale;
- Access to high quality investments regardless of the country where the employee is based (where legally possible), thereby improving overall member benefits;
- A pan-European risk pooling solution covering death benefits;
• A centralised portal for tracking and administering pension contribution [4].

"Mobile researchers face obstacles related to social security, in particular with regard to their pensions. [...] By removing barriers to researchers’ mobility and ensuring safe and sustainable pensions for research professionals, [RESAVER] will contribute to the establishment of a European labour market for researchers.” European Commission, ERA Progress Report 2014 [5]

Sources and further information on RESAVER


1 Spotlight on:
European Research Area (ERA) – Creating Opportunities for Researchers in Europe

The European Research Area (ERA) was launched by the European Commission in 2000 with the idea of developing truly attractive opportunities for researchers within Europe. It brings together the resources of the European Community to better coordinate research and innovation activities at the level of both the Member States and the European Union.

ERA is composed of research and development activities, programmes and policies with a transnational angle. The national research systems of the EU Member States, funded from national tax revenues, remain as they are. They are however encouraged to be more open to each other and the world, more inter-connected and more inter-operable. The following definition of ERA is taken from the Lisbon Treaty and the European Council’s conclusions:

“A unified research area open to the world based on the Internal Market, in which researchers, scientific knowledge and technology circulate freely and through which the Union and its Member States strengthen their scientific and technological bases, their competitiveness and their capacity to collectively address grand challenges”.

With the explicit objective of connecting EU research systems, and opening these to the world, the ERA reform agenda focuses on five key priorities:

- **More effective national research systems** that include increased competition within national borders and sustained investment in research;
- **Transnational cooperation and competition** which define and implement common research agendas on challenges, raise quality through Europe-wide open competition, and construct and run key research infrastructures on a pan-European basis;
• **An open labour market for researchers** so as to ensure the removal of barriers to researcher mobility, training and attractive careers;

• **Gender equality and gender mainstreaming in research** to end the waste of talent and to diversify views and approaches in research and to foster excellence;

• **Optimal circulation, access to and transfer of scientific knowledge including via digital ERA** to guarantee access to and uptake of knowledge by all.

Previously, research at European level had faced numerous difficulties: fragmentation of activities, isolation of national research systems, disparity of regulatory and administrative frameworks, and low levels of investment in knowledge. Through the resources made available, the ERA should make it possible to share data, compare results, carry out multi-disciplinary studies, transfer and protect new scientific knowledge and gain access to centres of excellence and state-of-the-art equipment. The European Research Area should thus fulfill a great ambition of the European Union, namely to develop a genuine common research policy.

**More information:**

European Research Area website

http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/index_en.htm

Key documents

http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/key-documents_en.htm

ERA Progress Report 2014

http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/eraprogress_en.htm
2 European Research Council – It’s all about Excellence!

Set up in 2007 by the European Union, the European Research Council (ERC) is the first European funding organisation for excellent frontier research. Every year, it selects and funds the very best, creative researchers of any nationality and age, to run five-year projects based anywhere in Europe.

The thirteen completed competitions¹ have yielded over 40,000 proposals out of which more than 4,300 have been selected for funding through a rigorous peer review process with a total commitment of over € 7.5 billion. The projects are implemented in nearly 600 Host Institutions in 30 countries by ERC Principal Investigators and their teams which include 15 000 young PhD and post-doc researchers.

What distinguishes the ERC from other schemes is the 'investigator-driven', or 'bottom-up', approach that allows researchers to identify new opportunities and directions in any field of research, rather than being led by priorities set by politicians. This ensures that funds are channelled into new and promising areas of research with a greater degree of flexibility. The key ingredient for a successful grant application is scientific excellence.

There are 3 main types of ERC grants:

- **Starting Grant** (StG) for researchers 2-7 years after award of PhD.
- **Consolidator Grant** (CoG) for researchers 7-12 years after award of PhD.
- **Advanced Grant** (AdG) for established research leaders.

Additionally, ERC grant holders can apply for top-up funding (Proof of Concept Grant; PoC) to explore the innovation potential of their research results.

Researchers from anywhere in the world can apply for ERC grants provided the research they undertake will be carried out in an **EU Member State** or **Associated Country**.

One of the ERC Scientific Council's goals for the future is to increase the number of excellent researchers from outside the ERA applying for ERC grants (be they of European origin or not). Working towards this goal implies devising a medium- to long-term internationalisation strategy with clear priorities and an overall strengthening of efforts. The Scientific Council has decided to intensify current 'outreach' measures and to make sure that this goal will be reached in the years ahead.

¹ Thirteen calls in the main grant competitions (Starting, Consolidator, and Advanced Grants). The ERC has launched other calls including Proof of Concept (PoC) funding for existing grantees, and two pilot Synergy Grant calls.
The ERC currently funds three researchers from ASEAN; three Singaporean nationals and one Malaysian researcher.

Alerting research talents in Southeast Asia to the opportunities offered by the ERC is a key concern to ERC President Prof Bourguignon. A highly accomplished scientist himself, the Frenchman will engage Singapore’s international research community during an open forum to be held at INSEAD on 11 February 2015. Further details on this public event will be announced shortly on the websites of the EU Centre Singapore and EURAXESS Links ASEAN.

Important information on ERC grants is found in the ERC Work Programme 2015, ERC Rules for Submission and Evaluation and the ERC Website.
3 Interview with Singaporean ERC Grantee Dr Ari Sadanandom

With an average success rate of 12%, securing an ERC grant is far from easy. Each competition attracts a large number of proposals from promising research talents across the globe. Excellence is the sole criterion for selection. There are neither thematic priorities, nor geographical quotas for funding. The aim is to recognise the best ideas, and confer status and visibility to the best research in Europe, while also attracting talent from abroad. That the ERC’s approach pays off has been highlighted most recently with the award of the 2014 Nobel Prize in Medicine to two ERC Advanced Grant holders².

Currently, four Southeast Asian researchers are among the highly talented ERC grantees. One of them is Singaporean Dr Ari Sadanandom, a plant biologist with the University of Durham in the UK where he heads the Durham Centre for Crop Improvement Technology. Dr Ari Sadanandom was awarded an ERC Starting Grant worth 1.5 million Euro in 2012. Here he tells EURAXESS Links ASEAN about his work.

Dr Sadanandom, can you describe your research in accessible terms?

The project concentrates on rice, which is the principal food source for a vast part of the world population. Up to 75% of rice yields are lost due to lack of water and high salt levels. In order to combat these threats, plant scientists are developing crop strains equipped to survive in these conditions. The new plants would overcome their natural response that is to stop growing when facing environmental stress.

This is a considerable challenge because rice production is water-intensive. If we can make the production of rice more efficient, then the impact on the water supply will be correspondingly less acute: a particular benefit in areas with unpredictable rainfall. To answer this problem I gathered an inter-disciplinary team including geneticists, biologists and plant breeders.

Our research aims to identify the molecular mechanisms which control the plants’ responses to adverse environments and develop a drought-resistant and

² Professor Edvard I. Moser and Professor May-Britt Moser together with Professor John O’Keefe, received the award for their discoveries of cells that constitute a positioning system in the brain.
less salt-sensitive strain of rice. If successfully developed, this new generation of crops has the potential to raise both yield and quality.

More widely, the data generated by this project could provide the basis for the technology to be applied to other cereals varieties.

What would you pick as the scientific highlight of your career so far?

The discovery of the role of the protein degradation system in plant innate immunity.

You were raised and educated in Singapore and you are currently working in the UK. How important do you think is mobility to researchers?

Working in different cultures gives you space to evaluate your priorities and think about your career path and goals. This, in my opinion, makes you a better scientist.

Do you maintain research ties with institutions in Singapore or do you have any plans for research collaborations?

Yes, I have just set up a joint PhD studentship programme with the Department of Biology at the National University of Singapore.

How has the ERC Starting Grant made a difference for you?

It has allowed me to pursue my scientific goals with greater pace and urgency.

What advice do you have for young researchers in Singapore or ASEAN applying for the ERC grant?

Come up with a really good idea and just apply for it.

What research problems and areas are you likely to explore in the future?

Discover how phytohormones allow plants to better adapt to their environment.

How do you spend your time when you are not engaged in research activities?

Play with my kids and take long walks with my wife.

Thank you Ari!

Dr. Ari SADANANDOM

I am the director of the Durham Centre for Crop Improvement Technology and Reader (Associate Professor) at the University of Durham, UK. In my relatively young career as a plant biologist I had the privilege of discovering novel genes and mechanisms in plant stress biology that go beyond the state of art. This discovery process has allowed me to develop an instinct for identifying and revealing new facets of fundamental aspects of plant biology. I believe this intuition will be crucial for establishing myself as a leading independent researcher. Publications from my laboratory and others have begun to establish ubiquitin (Ub) and Ub-like proteins as central modifiers of signalling mechanisms in plants. His laboratory has contributed to revealing that...
ubiquitination allows eukaryotic cells to respond rapidly to intracellular signals and changing environmental conditions by adjusting the levels and activities of key proteins. My research papers have citations of more than 1300 times indicating the influential nature of my work in such a short career time. My unique insight into protein modification mechanisms has allowed me to make groundbreaking progress in plant stress biology, all the while constantly publishing these findings in high impact journals, such as Nature. I serve on the editorial board of Scientific Reports and New Phytologist, both journals with an international reputation.

My efforts to maintain a good profile in the protein modification and plant stress signaling research area has been recognized with a prestigious 5-year European Research Council (ERC) consolidator grant aimed at defining the role of SUMO in plants. The innovative nature of our work was rewarded with multiple industrial consultancies, grants and two recent patents.
4 Connecting ICT in Europe and Southeast Asia: CONNECT2SEA

Interview with Svetlana Klessova, CONNECT2SEA project coordinator, Director, Inno TSD, France

CONNECT2SEA is a Support Action funded under the European Union’s Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development. The project will contribute to the creation of strategic synergies in the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) research, development and innovation between the European Union and Southeast Asia (SEA) as well as between SEA countries. The activities include the transfer of experiences and cross-fertilisation in order to leverage synergies between the countries involved and lay the foundations for strategic partnerships with sustainable impacts. EURAXESS Links ASEAN interviewed the project’s coordinator Svetlana Klessova to find out more about this initiative.

Dr Klessova, can you tell us about your project and its objectives?

The CONNECT2SEA project supports ICT policy dialogue between the European Union and South East Asia (SEA) and helps to enhance EU-SEA ICT research, development and innovation collaboration. To make it simple - we aim to bring EU and SEA ICT research and innovation teams closer together. We support a number of initiatives coming from EU and Southeast Asia to initiate and to broaden collaborative ICT research, and we also want to summarise feedback coming out of the project activities, and formulate policy recommendations to EU and SEA policy makers to reinforce EU-SEA ICT collaboration. The project is funded by the European Commission DG CONNECT, Communications Networks, Content and Technology. It is endorsed by the ASEAN COST.

The project unites partners from several countries. Can you briefly introduce the consortium members to us and tell us how the cooperation came about?

The consortium has 10 members from EU and Southeast Asia, but our activities cover all EU countries and all ASEAN member countries, not only the home countries of the consortium members. The Southeast Asian members of the consortium are the National Electronics and Computer Technology Center – NECTEC, Thailand, Advanced Science and Technology Institute – ASTI, the Philippines, Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology - BPPT, Indonesia, Information Technology Institute - Vietnam National University, Vietnam and University Sains Malaysia, Malaysia. From Europe, the consortium members are Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique - CNRS, France, Technical University of Dortmund, Germany, the Institute of Computer Science, Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas (FORTH), Greece, Athens
Svetlana Klessova

Svetlana Klessova is Director and senior consultant at inno TSD, Sophia Antipolis, France. Svetlana started her research career as visiting research fellow at Harvard University in 1990 and then moved into innovation consultancy. She has 20+ years of experience in project management, innovation policies, technology commercialization, entrepreneurship and in international R&D cooperation, in particularly focused on ICT. Svetlana has been leading many science, technology and innovation related projects with R&D partners and industrial partners all over the world. She is the coordinator of CONNECT2SEA, an FP7-funded (DG CONNECT) initiative launched in December 2013 “Supporting European Union and Southeast Asia ICT strategic partnership and policy dialogue: Connecting ICT EU-SEA Research, Development and Innovation Knowledge Networks”.

Technology Center, Greece, and our company inno TSD, France, coordinates the project.

The experience shows that success is linked not only to the competences of partners, but especially to the trustful relations of partners, their reputation, their networks, their motivation to contribute to the project success. It was easy to bring partners from the European side, we have been working with them for years. But it was less easy for Southeast Asian partners, we needed recommendations, I was not sure who is deeply involved in EU-ASEAN policy dialogue... I contacted DLR in Germany, they have a very long track record of work in Southeast Asia and coordinate the SEA-EU-NET project aiming to support EU-ASEAN policy dialogue and reinforce EU-Southeast Asia science and technology collaboration. They recommended Southeast Asian partners with good fits in ICT policy, we started to work with NECTEC, NECTEC recommended their partners, and from there on it developed, step by step.

How does the work undertaken by your project contribute to increased research cooperation between Europe and Southeast Asia?

Our main role is to bring ICT specialists, team and networks – those who works on similar research topics - closer together. We contribute to the first step, leaving the researchers from Europe and Southeast Asia to advance if they see collaboration opportunities. The project started less than a year ago, but I can already give several examples of such contribution. The project organized the workshop in Manila, the Philippines, in November 2014, it focused on ICT technologies for better human learning and teaching. The representatives of two networks – School of Internet Asia, SOI, and MENON, the European research and innovation network specialized in education and lifelong learning – met to expose their work, to exchange ideas about the research collaboration, there are already proposals for a joint project. The presidents of the two networks, SOI and MENON, participated in the workshop. Another example – we plan to analyse the national cybersecurity research priorities in some EU and Southeast Asia countries, highlight commonalities and differences, we think that it will reveal potential fields for collaboration for the two regions. We also will organize a cybersecurity event to be held in 2015, bringing together relevant experts from the EU and Southeast Asia to discuss the challenges and opportunities, and research collaboration.

What would you point out as being some of the project's most notable achievements or greatest successes?

We organised a call for proposal to select and fund bottom up initiatives to initiate or enhance ICT research collaboration. The call was opened in April-May 2014, and we received 55 applications, involving more than 136 organisations! That's a success that shows the interest of the research teams in such “light” support schemes. Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam responded the most to this call, with their EU partners. The selection committee evaluated the applications, mainly considering three selection criteria: excellence, relevance and impact. 21 applications have been selected; 15 events and 6 travels can be funded thanks to this initiative, and we allocated 100 000 euros to support these bottom up initiatives. Actually, these activities involve more than 40
organisations in 21 countries - 7 from South East Asia and 14 from Europe - and most of them will seek to attract additional participants where appropriate.

What have been the biggest challenges for the project in attempting to foster bi-regional cooperation?

There are not enough funding programmes to support small scale research collaborations between Europe and SEA countries. Horizon 2020 focuses on rather big projects – but often it would be more appropriate to start with smaller scale activities. The researchers have great project ideas for transregional projects, with clear market potential, but local funding is very limited. Thus “low threshold” funding schemes are needed. This is a direction where research policies should be adapted.

There are also other obstacles, coming from the researchers themselves. Let me give an example - in most countries in Europe there is a culture of competitive research with funding schemes that have success rates between 10 and 50%, and the calls for European projects are highly competitive. Even the best teams cannot always win and not to win is not considered as as negative as not to try. Often it takes several attempts and progressive improvements to set up a winning proposal. In Southeast Asia, I feel that the ICT researchers – especially those with high scientific reputation - have fear of losing, of damaging their image when their proposals are not selected for funding. This does not help to foster collaboration!

Where do you see the biggest opportunities for increased cooperation between Europe and Southeast Asia?

While there certainly are many opportunities for the joint development of new technologies, we believe that the biggest potential is in using ICT to address social challenges, such as smart cities, transportation, health care, water management and energy efficiency.

What advice would you give to Southeast Asian researchers seeking closer collaboration with Europe?

The international visibility of the SEA researchers and team is very important. It can be improved by the publication of articles, participation in international conferences, initiation of/participation in LinkedIn groups and discussions, participation in EC-organised brokerage events and ICT proposal days … without such visibility, and without personal connections, it’s difficult to achieve closer collaboration. And more advice for the ICT specialists from both regions - check the CONNECT2SEA project website www.connect2sea.eu and don’t hesitate to contact us, provide suggestions and feedback. We would love to help, when we can!

Thank you, Dr Klessova!
5  News & Developments

5.1  European Union, Member States and Associated Countries

5.1.1  Europe and Africa double research efforts to tackle AIDS, Ebola and other infectious diseases

The EU and Africa are doubling the research efforts to develop new and better medicines for poverty-related diseases affecting sub-Saharan Africa such as AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, hookworms and Ebola.

Building on the success of the first programme, the second European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership programme (EDCTP2) will work with a budget of €2 billion over the next ten years to fight infectious diseases in developing countries. For this, the EU will contribute €683 million from Horizon 2020, the EU’s research and innovation programme, and around €1.5 billion will come from European countries. EDCTP2 heralds a new era of cooperation between Europe and Africa in medical research with countries from both continents working as equal partners.

Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, said: "Infectious diseases like AIDS, Ebola or malaria are a major global threat, but they hit poor communities hardest. The latest Ebola outbreak reminds us that more research is needed to find new medicines and vaccines that will help save millions of lives. Today, Europe and Africa are stepping up their efforts to fight the spread of infectious diseases together. With the investment of EUR 700 million from Horizon 2020, the EU will boost research efforts to prevent new epidemics in the future."

Prof. John Gyapong, Board Member of the EDCTP Association said: "The birth of EDCTP2 is very timely. Neglected Infectious Diseases and Implementation Science Research are now covered. This presents a great opportunity for African countries to improve their health care delivery systems through good science. The prospects are indeed very bright."

The EDCTP Association now includes 13 European countries (Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom) and 11 African countries (Cameroon, the Republic of the Congo, the Gambia, Ghana, Mozambique, Niger, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia). Mali, Burkina Faso, Sweden and Switzerland are about to join as well.

Read more (Source: European Commission)

See also EDCTP Calls for Proposals: EDCTP-TDR Clinical Research and Development Fellowships (Deadline: 30 January 2015) and Diagnostic tools for poverty-related diseases (Deadline: 2 March 2015)
5.1.2 EU companies must boost R&D investment to stay globally competitive

Investment in research and development by companies based in the EU grew by 2.6% in 2013, despite the unfavourable economic environment. However, this growth has slowed in comparison to the previous year's 6.8%. It is also below the 2013 world average (4.9%), and lags behind companies based in the US (5%) and Japan (5.5%).

These results are published this month in the European Commission's 2014 EU Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard, which analyses the top 2500 companies worldwide, representing about 90% of the total business R&D expenditure. Data show that EU-based companies (633) invested €162.4 billion in 2013, whereas US-based companies (804) invested €193.7 billion and the 387 Japanese ones €85.6 billion.

Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation said: “Despite the harsh economic climate, EU companies continue to invest in R&D. That is good news, but more is needed to keep up with our competitors. With public resources limited, attracting private R&D investment is even more essential. Horizon 2020 is already engaging more businesses than ever before, but now we’re ready to step up our game. The EUR 315 billion investment plan presented by the Commission and European Investment Bank will help to raise more private investment for riskier projects, benefiting R&D across Europe."

Tibor Navracsics, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport highlighted: "Thanks to the presence of excellent researchers and good knowledge-sharing opportunities Europe is an attractive destination for R&D investment. But to keep up with global competitors we need to boost investments – and these should benefit a range of research disciplines and sectors. Building a knowledge economy requires strong foundations and we count on our industry partners to help us in these efforts."

Read more (Source: European Commission)

See also the Fact sheet "World trends in R&D private investment. Facts and figures"

5.1.3 Switzerland and EU join forces in science and research

The European Union and Switzerland signed on 5 December 2014, a comprehensive international agreement associating Switzerland to parts of Horizon 2020, Research and Training Programme of Euratom and the ITER project. This will see Switzerland participate in project consortia in eligible programmes on an equal footing with EU Member States, while financially contributing to these programmes with an estimated €400 million until the end of 2016.

Commenting on the signature of the agreement, Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Science, Research and Innovation said: “This agreement is of paramount importance for our scientific communities. EU researchers benefit
from access to excellent Swiss research facilities and institutions. At the same time, access to schemes for researcher mobility like Marie Skłodowska-Curie or to excellent research in programmes like ERC and Future and Emerging Technologies is vital for the Swiss. Furthermore, with this agreement Switzerland renews its commitment towards our long standing and fruitful collaboration.”

As part of the Horizon 2020 programme, Swiss beneficiaries will be able to participate with an associated status in actions under the “Excellent Science” pillar, which contains the European Research Council, Future and Emerging Technologies, Research Infrastructures and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions as well as in actions under the specific objective “Spreading excellence and widening participation”. In addition, Switzerland will also participate as an associated country in the Euratom Programme and the ITER project.

The participation of Switzerland is effective from 15 September 2014 until 31 December 2016. Beyond 2016, association to these programmes will depend on Swiss measures to ensure the non-discrimination of Croatian citizens and researchers. If Switzerland resolves the issue of the free movement of persons by February 2017, the association will expand to the whole of Horizon 2020 including the parts not yet covered. Otherwise, the whole agreement will be automatically terminated.

Read more (Source: European Commission)

5.1.4 EU backs 328 top early-career researchers with €485 million

The European Research Council (ERC) has selected 328 first class scientists to receive its prestigious Starting Grants, worth up to €2 million each. The awarded €485 million contributes to supporting a new generation of top scientists in Europe developing so-called “blue sky research”: ambitious high-risk, high-gain research projects in any field.

The projects selected cover a wide array of topics, including wearable electronic textiles powered by body heat, detection of bacteria by smell, ‘toxic expertise’ in the petrochemical industry, the origins of human rationality, combatting cancer related inflammation, as well as optimising user interface design. Read about some of the selected projects here.

Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science said: “To create tomorrow’s innovation and growth, cutting-edge research is a must. With its Starting Grants, the European Research Council nurtures the next generation of excellent scientists allowing them to follow their scientific curiosity and take risks. To be at the forefront, Europe needs this gutsy mindset, and to invest in young talent.”

This year, grants are awarded to researchers of 38 nationalities, hosted in 180 different institutions throughout Europe. In terms of host institutions, Germany (70 grants) and the UK (55 grants) are in the lead, followed by France (43) and The Netherlands (34). Researchers are also hosted in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Hungary,
Ireland, Israel, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Sweden and Turkey, along with one project in CERN in Switzerland.

Around 40 of the researchers are of non-European nationality; for instance North and South Americans, Asians, Australians, New Zealanders and Russians. Many of them were already based in Europe.

There are also 18 researchers coming to Europe to carry out their ERC-funded projects, including 13 returning Europeans, as well as scientists moving to Europe from Australia and North America. This is in line with the ERC mission to attract more excellent researchers to Europe.

The average age of selected researchers is about 35 years.

Read more (Source: European Commission)

5.1.5 Strengthening the SET-Plan

Over 650 energy stakeholders from Europe and beyond gathered in Rome this month for the 7th Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) Conference. The conference offered a unique opportunity for all stakeholders and representatives of national and EU institutions to have in-depth discussions on the new developments of the SET Plan towards an integrated roadmap and action plan addressing research & innovation challenges and needs of the EU energy system.

The "towards an integrated Roadmap" document which will ultimately lead to the Action Plan was presented at the event, and is the result of in depth consultation and inputs from more than 150 stakeholders and the SET-Plan steering committee from the Member States. The document has been compiled based on these inputs by the European Commission's Directorates-General for Energy, Research and Innovation and the Joint Research Centre. The JRC coordinated the technical and scientific input to the consultation process.

Source: Joint Research Center

5.1.6 Crop, dairy and meat markets projections for the next 10 years

JRC expertise in modelling with a focus on baseline projections and particularly on uncertainty scenarios has fed into the latest issue of the European Commission’s agricultural outlook for the next decade. The outlook “Prospects for EU Agricultural Markets and Income,” was compiled by the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development and presented during a dedicated conference. The publication describes the trends for major EU agricultural commodity markets such as crop, milk and meat markets until 2024.

Read more (Source: Joint Research Center)
5.1.7 FRONTIER RESEARCH: Using the science of invisibility to make black holes in the lab – Prof. Ulf Leonhardt

From the galactic to the quantum, the science of invisibility is revealing new ways to manipulate the world, said Professor Ulf Leonhardt, from Israel’s Weizmann Institute, after giving a presentation at TEDxBrussels “The Science of invisibility” on 1 December.

Read the interview on HORIZON The EU Research & Innovation Magazine.

5.1.8 INTERVIEW: ‘Kitchen blender’ graphene could enable printable circuits and sensors – Prof. Jonathan Coleman

Graphene that can be made in a kitchen blender is opening up a new world of printable electronic devices, according to Professor Jonathan Coleman, speaking after making a presentation at the TEDxBrussels conference “How the magic of nano connects blenders, printers and rubber bands” on 1 December.

Read the interview on HORIZON The EU Research & Innovation Magazine.

5.1.9 The light fantastic

Light pulses that last just a billionth of a billionth of a second are allowing scientists to view the movement of electrons in detail for the first time. In the darkest month of the year, Horizon turns its gaze towards the science of light.

We discover how these rapid light pulses are helping scientists make ‘molecular movies’ of chemical reactions, and learn how Europe is leading the way in the use of extreme light, from the world’s brightest X-ray to one of the world’s most powerful lasers.

We investigate the new materials that are harnessing sunlight to clean our environment, from pollution-absorbing bus lanes to paint that purifies drinking water. Finally, we explore how new LED technology could not only dramatically cut Europe’s lighting bills but also influence the way we interact with our environment.

Read more (Source: HORIZON The EU Research & Innovation Magazine)

5.1.10 Marie Curie Fellow Leads Analysis of the Genomes of Malaria-Carrying Mosquitoes

Dr Robert Waterhouse, a Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has published his findings on malaria-carrying mosquitoes genome analysis in ‘Science’.

Read more (Source: Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA))

EU Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Commissioner Karmenu Vella announced the winners of the European Business Awards for the Environment 2014-15 at an evening ceremony early December. The awards recognise companies that combine competitiveness with respect for the environment in five categories: management, product and services, process innovation, business and biodiversity and international business cooperation. This year's winners include large corporations and SMEs:

- **Eczacıbaşı Yapı Gereçleri (Turkey)**, a leading producer of ceramic bathroom products and tiles, for management
- **EcoNation (Belgium)**, a company supplying lighting solutions, for product and services
- **Daimler AG (Germany)**, a motor vehicle and engine manufacturer, for process innovation
- **Interface Nederland BV (Netherlands)**, the world's largest designer and maker of carpet tiles, for international business cooperation
- **Red Eléctrica de España (Spain)**, an electricity operator, for business and biodiversity

[Read more](Source: European Commission)

5.1.12 10 December - A Magic Date: The Nobel Prize Award Ceremony 2014

The Nobel Laureates have taken center stage in Stockholm on 10 December, when they received the Nobel Medal, Nobel Diploma and a document confirming the Nobel Prize amount from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden.

In Oslo, the Nobel Peace Prize Laureates received their Nobel Peace Prize from the Chairman of the Norwegian Nobel Committee in the presence of King Harald V of Norway. An important part was the presentation of the Nobel Lectures by the Nobel Laureates.

In Stockholm, the lectures are presented days before the Nobel Prize Award Ceremony. In Oslo, the Nobel Laureates deliver their lectures during the Nobel Peace Prize Award Ceremony.

Watch the Award Ceremonies:

- [2014 Nobel Peace Prize Award Ceremony](2014 Nobel Peace Prize Award Ceremony)
- [2014 Nobel Prize Award Ceremony](2014 Nobel Prize Award Ceremony)
- [Video clips from the 2014 Nobel Banquet in Stockholm](Video clips from the 2014 Nobel Banquet in Stockholm)

Source: [Nobelprize.org](http://www.nobelprize.org)
5.1.13 2% of GDP in the EU in 2013 spent on R&D&I

New data published by Eurostat shows that in 2013 EU Member States spent €273 billion on research and development (R&D). R&D intensity, which is the R&D expenditure as a percentage of GDP, has sensibly grown over the past decade and stood at 2.02% in the EU in 2013, compared with 1.76% in 2004. An increase in R&D intensity in the EU is one of the five main targets of the union's growth strategy.

Source: EUREKA

5.1.14 2.1 million patent applications filed at IP5 offices in 2013, up 11%

More than 2 million patent applications were filed at the world's five largest IP offices in 2013, an increase of 11% over 2012, according to a new report published jointly by the EPO, the Japan Patent Office, the Korean Intellectual Property Office, the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China, and the United States Patent and Trademark Office, collectively known as the IP5 offices. The 2013 edition of the IP5 Statistics Report also finds that together the IP5 offices granted 956,644 patents in 2013 (+4%). At the end of 2012, 8.5 million patents were in force in the world (+8.3%). Ninety per cent of these patents were valid in one of the IP5 offices jurisdictions.

Source: EPO

5.1.15 New surgical tool minimises cross-contamination risk

An EU-funded project has developed a prototype of a surgical tool for operations that will help prevent potential cross-contamination. Thanks to a novel welding method, the new tool does not have any crevices where bacteria can hide and is also easier to clean than traditional tools.

Source: Horizon 2020

5.1.16 Lighter and cheaper aircraft parts on course for industry take-off

Lighter aircraft parts are on the runway following the development of new, cheaper and faster manufacturing methods by EU-funded researchers. The technology puts European industry on course to produce high performance, lighter parts at lower cost, and will eventually make possible increased payloads and decreased emissions.

Source: Horizon 2020
5.2 ASEAN

5.2.1 ASEAN publishes Directory of Outstanding ASEAN SMEs 2015

With a view to the launch of the ASEAN Economic Community end of 2015, ASEAN has published an updated directory of outstanding SMEs, arranged by sector and ASEAN Member State.

Source and download: ASEAN

5.2.2 Cultivating EU-ASEAN Science Collaboration

The European Community is batting for increased scientific cooperation and cross-border exchanges of researchers with South-East Asia, which has emerged as one of the world’s fastest growing regions. In recent twin conferences in Singapore (November 11) and Bangkok, Thailand (November 13), the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Anna Karaoglou, emphasized the importance of research and collaboration between the two regions and the mobility of researchers for career development. The conferences were organized by the European Commission through Euraxess Links, which is part of the Euraxess services network that provides access to information and support services to researchers. "We have to acknowledge that being a researcher is not an easy career choice. You have to fight for funding and vacancies and you will encounter mobility obstacles when moving jobs. It is our task to make the research profession as attractive as possible," Karaoglou said. She said that through the twin conferences, European and South-East Asian researchers could come together to share information and knowledge, enabling more of them to travel between the two regions.

Source and full article: Asian Scientist

5.2.3 Lao, Thai Officials Tighten Technology Links

Representatives from Thailand and Laos met in Vientiane earlier this month to discuss cooperation in diverse fields relating to science and technology.

The meeting reviewed progress on matters agreed to at the 6th Lao-Thai meeting of senior officials of both nations' ministries of science and technology in Bangkok last year.

Topics covered included harmonisation of standards, meteorology, water management, biodiversity and biotechnology, technology parks, innovation promotion, building of public awareness on science, astronomy, nuclear and radiation issues, synchrotron technology, alternative energies, space technology, remote sensors and archaeology.

Further details.
6 Grants & Fellowships

6.1 National EURAXESS portals

The latest information on open calls for national grants and fellowships in the 40 member countries of the EURAXESS network can be accessed on the respective national EURAXESS portal.

Austria, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, FYR Macedonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, UK.

Besides providing information on funding opportunities for incoming international and European researchers, staff at the EURAXESS Service Centres offer individual assistance on all aspects of researcher mobility.

6.2 H2020

The European Commission has launched the first calls under Horizon 2020. Calls in the 2014 budget focus on the three key pillars of Horizon 2020:

- **Excellent Science**: Around €3 billion, including €1.7 billion for grants from the European Research Council for top scientists, and €800 million for Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowships for younger researchers.

- **Industrial Leadership**: €1.8 billion to support Europe’s industrial leadership in areas like ICT, nanotechnologies, advanced manufacturing, robotics, biotechnologies and space.

- **Societal Challenges**: €2.8 billion for innovative projects addressing Horizon 2020’s seven societal challenges, broadly: health; agriculture, maritime and bioeconomy; energy; transport; climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials; reflective societies; and security.

To find out more about EU funding opportunities for your research or innovation project please visit the European Commission’s Participant Portal where all calls will be published.

International researchers are also invited to join the database of independent experts for European research and innovation. Distinguished specialists are strongly encouraged to join the database of independent experts, through which they can participate in the evaluation of project proposals and monitoring of actions, submitted under Horizon 2020.
6.3 ERC Starting Grant

ERC Starting Grants aim to support up-and-coming research leaders who are about to establish a proper research team and to start conducting independent research in Europe. The scheme targets promising researchers who have the proven potential of becoming independent research leaders. It will support the creation of excellent new research teams.

**ERC Starting Grants in brief**

- For researchers of any nationality with 2-7 years of experience since completion of PhD (or equivalent degree) and scientific track record showing great promise
- An excellent research proposal
- Research must be conducted in a public or private research organisation (known as a Host Institution/HI) located in one of the EU Member State or Associated Countries
- Funding per grant: up to € 1.5 million (in some circumstances up to € 2 million)
- Duration: up to 5 years
- Sole evaluation criterion: scientific excellence of researcher and research proposal
- Calls for proposals: published once a year

**Deadline: 3 February 2015.**

Further [details](#).

6.4 ERC Consolidator Grants

ERC Consolidator Grants are designed to support researchers at the stage at which they are consolidating their own independent research team or programme. The scheme will strengthen independent and excellent new individual research teams that have been recently created.

**ERC Consolidator Grants in brief**

- For researchers of any nationality with over 7 and up to 12 years of experience since completion of PhD (or equivalent degree) and scientific track record showing great promise
- An excellent research proposal
- Research must be conducted in a public or private research organisation (known as a Host Institution/HI) located in one of the EU Member State or Associated Countries
- Funding per grant: up to € 2 million (in some circumstances up to € 2.75 million)
- Duration: up to 5 years
- Sole evaluation criterion: scientific excellence of researcher and research proposal
- Calls for proposals: published once a year.

Further details

6.5 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions – Innovative Training Networks

Innovative training networks bring together universities, research centres and companies from different countries worldwide to train a new generation of researchers. The funding boosts scientific excellence and business innovation, and enhances researchers’ career prospects through developing their skills in entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation.

ITN project proposals may take one of three forms:

**European Training Networks (ETN)**

Joint research training, implemented by at least three partners from in and outside academia. The aim is for the researcher to experience different sectors and develop their transferable skills by working on joint research projects. The organisations should be established in at least three different EU or associated countries.

Additional participants from any organisation anywhere in the world can also join a network.

**European Industrial Doctorates (EID)**

Joint doctoral training delivered by at least one academic partner entitled to award doctoral degrees, and at least one partner from outside academia, primarily enterprise. Each participating researcher is enrolled in a doctoral programme and is jointly supervised by supervisors from the academic and non-academic sector, where they spend at least 50% of their time. The aim is for the doctoral candidates to develop skills inside and outside academia that respond to public and private sector needs.

The organisations should be established in at least two different EU or associated countries. A wider set of partner organisations from anywhere in the world may also complement the training.

**European Joint Doctorates (EJD)**

A minimum of three academic organisations form a network with the aim of delivering joint, double or multiple degrees. Joint supervision of the research fellow and a joint governance structure are mandatory. The aim is to promote international, intersectoral and multi/interdisciplinary collaboration in doctoral training in Europe.
The organisations should be from different EU or associated countries. The participation of additional organisations from anywhere in the world, including from the non-academic sector, is encouraged.

The closing date for this call is 13 January 2015.

Further details.

6.6 European Respiratory Society/EU RESPIRE2 postdoctoral Marie Curie Fellowship

ERS/EU RESPIRE2 postdoctoral Marie Curie Fellowship opportunities in the broad field of respiratory science, co-funded by the European Union. The programme is aimed at experienced researchers from any discipline and will help fellows to become the future leaders in respiratory research.

3rd and final round to be launched in early 2015.

Details here.

6.7 EMBO Courses and Workshops

EMBO offers the largest number of life science events in Europe. EMBO Courses & Workshops funds approximately 80 events attracting more than 8,000 participants every year. Funding is available to organize conferences, EMBO | EMBL Symposia, workshops, EMBO | FEBS Lecture Courses, Global Exchange Lecture Courses and practical courses, as well as for keynote lectures, Travel grants support the attendance of participants from countries with less-developed scientific infrastructures. EMBO assists the organizer with the design of a poster, set-up of a website and registration system, and with promotion of the event.

The consistent high quality and novelty of EMBO Courses & Workshops is ensured through a committee of EMBO Members, which selects the events that EMBO funds. Dedicated scientific organizers guarantee the long-term success of the programme to share research results and train scientists at all career stages.

Further details.

6.8 Austria: Lise Meitner Programme for Scientists from Abroad

This programme targets highly qualified scientists of any discipline who could contribute to the scientific development of an Austrian research institution by working at it. It funds 12 or 24 months postdocs with an annual personal allowance between EUR 62,500 and EUR 68,700.
Requirements: completed doctoral studies, record of international scientific publications, invitation from an Austrian research institution and co-application with an Austrian researcher. No age limit.

Applications continuously reviewed.

Further information can be found here.

6.9 Belgium: Postdoc fellowships to non-EU researchers

The stimulation of international mobility and the attraction of researchers from abroad is one of the priorities of the European Research Area. In this context, and intending to stimulate S&T cooperation, the Federal Science Policy Office (BELSPO) implements a fellowship scheme for highly qualified non EU researchers (i.e., postdoctoral level or equivalent experience), granting them an opportunity to work 6 to 18 months in a Belgian research team.

More information here.

6.10 Croatia: Ministry of Science, Education and Sport: New International Fellowship Mobility Programme for Experienced Researchers in Croatia (NEWFELPRO)

The project is co-financed through the Marie Curie FP7-PEOPLE-2011-COFUND program. Its total value is 7 million euros, out of which 60% is financed from national sources. Project duration is from 2013 until 2017. NEWFELPRO allows applicants to freely apply within any scientific area of their choice and fellows/grants are assigned only on the basis of excellence and quality of research projects. Fellows shall sign an employment contract in accordance with national regulations and their engagement shall also be in line with the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers. Host institution will be responsible for committing a stimulating environment and adequate infrastructure, equipment and consumables required to implement the project.

Third call is open at the moment with closing date 31 December 2014 at 12.00 a.m. CET.

Call is open only for incoming and reintegration schemes, i.e. for foreign researchers wishing to come to Croatia. There are 12 available fellowships within the incoming scheme and 3 within the reintegration scheme.

The earliest starting date of the research project is 1 July 2015.

More information here.
6.11 Franco-Thai Scholarship Program 2015

The Franco-Thai Scholarship Program is directed to Thai students under the age of 35 who intend to study in French universities or Higher Education Institutions, at Master’s degree or Ph.D. level. Further The Franco-Thai Scholarship Program is directed to Thai people under the age of 35 who intend to study in French universities or Higher Education Institutions, at Master's degree or Ph.D. level.

Further details

6.12 Germany: Alexander von Humboldt Foundation - Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers

Submit an application if you are a researcher from abroad with above average qualifications, at the beginning of your academic career and only completed your doctorate in the last four years. A Humboldt Research Fellowship for postdoctoral researchers allows you to carry out long-term research (6-24 months) in Germany. Applicants choose their own topic of research and their academic host.

Scientists and scholars of all nationalities and disciplines may apply to the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation directly at any time. The Humboldt Foundation grants approximately 500 Humboldt Research Fellowships for postdoctoral researchers and experienced researchers annually. Short-term study visits, participation in congresses and training courses cannot be financed.

Further details

6.13 Germany: Alexander von Humboldt Foundation - Georg Forster Research Fellowship (HERMES)

Top opportunities for researchers from developing countries who fulfil the following criteria:

- Researchers with above average qualifications in a developing or transition country (see list of countries),
- Intention to carry out long-term research of own choice (6 to 24 months) at a research institution in Germany together with a chosen academic host,
• Research outline includes aspects that are important for the continued development of applicant’s home country or region of origin and

• Desire to contribute to the exchange of knowledge and methods between Germany and country of origin.

AvH offers

• a monthly fellowship of 2,650 EUR for postdoctoral researchers (doctorate completed within the last four years) or 3,150 EUR for experienced researchers (doctorate completed within the last 12 years),

• a flexible starting date and - for experienced researchers - the option of splitting the fellowship up into a maximum of three stays,

• individual mentoring during the sponsorship period,

• intensive German language course for fellows and their marital partners prior to the fellowship,

• additional financial support for accompanying family members, for example, or for items like travel expenses or pension plans and

• comprehensive alumni sponsorship once the research stay has come to an end, such as a Return Fellowship or further stays in Germany.

As many as 80 Georg Forster Research Fellowships can be granted annually. In the last few years, about one third of applications were successful (see also positive selection decisions since March 2013).

In addition, the Humboldt Foundation grants up to four Georg Forster Research Awards every year to leading researchers from developing countries.

Further details

6.14 Germany: DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships in the fields of Space, Aeronautics, Energy and Transportation Research

‘DLR – DAAD Research Fellowships’ is a new programme implemented by the ‘Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt’ (DLR) and the ‘German Academic Exchange Service’ (DAAD).

DLR is Germany’s national research center for aeronautics and space. Its extensive research and development work in Aeronautics, Space, Transportation and Energy is integrated into national and international cooperative ventures.

This special programme is intended for highly-qualified foreign doctoral and postdoctoral students as well as senior scientists. DLR-DAAD Fellowships offer outstanding scientists and researchers the opportunity to conduct special research at the institutes of the DLR in Germany.
DLR-DAAD Fellowships are defined and awarded on an individual basis. Each Fellowship announcement will indicate the specific qualification requirements and terms of the visit. The current offers are published under ‘DLR-DAAD Fellowships - Current Offers’ on the homepages of the DAAD and the DLR.

Varying application deadlines.

6.15 Germany: DAAD offers research grants and fellowships for PhD studies and research stays in Germany

The German Academic Exchange Service offers funding opportunities for researchers of all disciplines and at various career stages including funding for PhD studies and research stays at a research institute or university in Germany.

Deadlines vary.

The funding database can be accessed here.

6.16 Poland: Foundation for Polish Science: IDEAS FOR POLAND

The objective of the programme is to encourage young, brilliant researchers from all over the world to choose Poland as the place to carry out their research projects submitted for the ERC competition. The program is designed for people whose previous scientific record demonstrates that they are highly independent as researchers, and warrants that they will conduct world-class quality research.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis

Details here.

6.17 Singapore-France: Joint Bilateral Grant Call

The joint bilateral grant call between Singapore’s National Research Foundation (NRF) and Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR), France, is a national level collaboration between Singapore and France for French-Singapore collaborative research projects. The grant call seeks to strengthen the collaboration between French and Singaporean research communities in areas of mutual interest in order to achieve world-class scientific and technical results, leading to new and innovative technologies.

Selected projects must reflect a high degree of collaboration between both the French and Singaporean partners in planning, development and execution. Collaborating investigators must be mutually engaged throughout the course of the project. The focus of the inaugural grant call is basic research. The priority area for the inaugural grant call is materials, nanotechnologies and nano systems.
Timeline of Inaugural Grant Call

- Pre-registration of projects: 18 November 2014, 2000hrs (Singapore Time)
- Call closure date: 30 March 2015, 1900hrs (Singapore Time)

Details [here](#).


Thailand’s National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC) has post-doctoral positions available in the following of Molecular biology, Genetics, Cell biology and Computational Chemistry, Molecular Modeling, Crystal Structure.

Details [here](#).

6.19 Thailand / France: Junior Research Fellowship Program

The Junior Research Fellowship Program aims at jumpstarting the career of young Thai researchers by giving them the opportunity to develop promising collaboration with their French counterparts. This program supports Thai post doctorates, graduated in 2010 or after, who intend to conduct a research project of two to six months within a French laboratory. All fields of research will be considered and the selection will be made based on the criteria of excellence.

The fellowship from the French Embassy includes:

- a round trip ticket from Thailand to France,
- a monthly living allowance of 1200€
- the OFII and visa fees
- health insurance coverage for the duration of the stay in France.

Further [details](#).
7 Jobs

There are currently over 7500 research jobs and fellowship programmes (all over Europe and partner countries and in all disciplines) accessible via the EURAXESS Jobs database

CHINA (Xi’an): Faculty Position in Biology and Biomedical Engineering at School of Life Science and Technology, Xi’an Jiaotong University.

Details

FRANCE (Strasbourg): Permanent position for physicists with a strong background in nuclear physics, particule or astroparticule physics open at IPHC (Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curien).

Details

IRELAND (Maynooth): The Callan Institute is seeking an experienced researcher in the area of RF systems, and in particular a focus on radio receivers for mobile communications.

Details

SINGAPORE (Singapore): The Biological & Biomimetic Materials Laboratory in the School of Materials Science and Engineering at Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is looking for 1 Senior Research Fellow/Post-doc to participate in multi-disciplinary research program in the field of molecular biomimetic/bioinspired materials.

Details

SWEDEN (Gothenburg): Senior Lecturer in Intellectual Property and Business Law at Chalmers University of Technology

Details

Examples of Jobs supported by Marie Curie Actions Research Fellowships

PhD positions with Environmental Engineering and Bioprocesses Research Group (Biogrup ) at University de Santiago Compostela, Spain

Details

Positions for Early Stage Researchers and Experienced Researchers with DREAMS Initial Training Network to investigate the problem of modeling, controlling, removing, and synthesizing acoustic reverberation, Imperial College London, UK

Details
## 8 Events

### 8.1 EURAXESS Links ASEAN Events January to April 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title of Event/Activity</th>
<th>Date/Venue</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Open Lecture with ERC President Prof Bourguignon</td>
<td>Singapore, INSEAD</td>
<td>Researchers, Research Administrators</td>
<td>Introduction of the opportunities offered by the European Research Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASEAN (various)</td>
<td>“Advancing Your Research Career in Europe: Regional Workshop on science communication and research mobility”,</td>
<td>Various Spring 2015</td>
<td>Researchers and Research Administrators</td>
<td>Multi-stop workshop focusing on the details of preparing a proposal for H2020 with a focus on the Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions Programme</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Not listed are presentations on EURAXESS Links and European mobility schemes at research institutions held by the regional representatives upon invitation across ASEAN. If you would like for our team to visit your research organisation please email us at: asean@euraxess.net
8.2 Going Global 2015, 1 & 2 June 2015, London, UK

Going Global is an annual conference hosted by the British Council, which offers an open forum for global leaders of international education to discuss current issues. Since 2004, it has grown from a biennial event in the UK to an annual event alternating between the UK and major international cities. In addition to the platform for education world leaders to debate international higher and further education issues and challenges, and to discuss collaborative solutions, the event provides an opportunity for networking, and has become a fixture of the global education calendar. The conference consists of a series of collaborative sessions that focus on the year’s chosen themes.

Over 1,000 registered delegates from across the tertiary (further and higher) education sectors and various other sectors with perspectives on international education attend each year.

Further Details

For more information on research events across Europe and across all disciplines please visit the European Commission managed page “What’s New in European Research”
9 Resources

Latest Calls
Here you can find the latest calls on the newly set up Research Participant Portal.

International Cooperation Activities
Access the portal of the European Commission’s International Cooperation Activities here.

Other Research Career Sites
Find A Postdoc: http://www.findapostdoc.com/
Find Scholarships in Europe: http://www.scholarshipportal.eu/
Find PhDs in Europe: http://www.phdportal.eu/
Academic Jobs EU: http://www.academicjobseu.com
Euro Science Jobs: http://www.eurosciencejobs.com/
EMBO excellence in life sciences: http://www.embo.org
EuroBrussels: http://www.eurobrussels.com/
Jobs at ITER: http://www.iter.org/jobs
Nature jobs: http://www.nature.com/naturejobs/index.html
Jobs.ac.uk: www.jobs.ac.uk
Research Jobs in Germany: Research-in-Germany.de
Scholarship Database of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
Brainpower Austria: http://www.brainpower-austria.at/

About EURAXESS Links ASEAN

EURAXESS Links ASEAN is a network of European researchers, scientists, and scholars working in or commuting to ASEAN. This multidisciplinary network includes members at all stages of their careers. It allows them to connect with each other and with Europe, ensuring that they are recognized as an important resource for European research, whether they remain in ASEAN or return to Europe. For further information and to sign up for membership in our network, as well as in the virtual SINAPSE community of European researchers abroad,
please go to our [website](https://www.ea.europa.eu/euraxess) and click on the Join the EURAXESS Links ASEAN community hyperlink on the right-hand side of the page.