Dear Colleagues,

It is our pleasure to present you the latest edition of the EURAXESS Links ASEAN e-newsletter.

We are happy to announce a new feature EURAXESS Members in Focus in our newsletter where we will introduce one of the 41 European members of the EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion network. This month we highlight EURAXESS member UK including an interview with the Director of Science at the British Council, Dr Claire McNulty.

In this month’s EU insight section we introduce you to some of the measures that have been introduced under Horizon 2020 in order to widen participation of low-research performing Member States in the European Research Area.

Our News, Grants and Fellowships section contains a round-up of the most important developments and opportunities.

We hope you do enjoy reading our newsletter.

Wishing you a great month ahead!

Your EURAXESS Links ASEAN team
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1 EU Insight – Spreading Excellence and Widening participation

Under Horizon 2020, the EU’s research funding programme, a strong packet of measures with up to EUR 800 million in funding will be available for widening participation of low-research performing Member States. Such actions include special awards like the ERA Chairs instrument, Teaming or Twinning. These three instruments will be introduced in this EU Insight.

Thirteen universities, technical institutes and private organisations in those parts of Europe that have not done as well as they could in research and innovation are to receive up to EUR 2.5 million each in EU funding to boost their research capacity through the appointment of "ERA Chairs", the European Commission announced on 13 February 2015.

Following the pilot call under FP7, this first Horizon 2020 call on ERA Chairs was launched on 11 December 2013 with a budget of EUR 33.6 million. The selected institutions have to award ERA Chairs to outstanding academics who have the capacity to raise standards and attract more high level staff as well as money from other sources, such as EU research funding or regional funds. The positions must be published and respect ERA guidelines (gender balance, fairness, transparency, etc.). ERA Chair holders can come from anywhere in the world.

List of projects to be funded under the first Horizon 2020 ERA Chairs Call

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<th>Countries</th>
<th>ERA Chair Institution</th>
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<td>Croatia</td>
<td>RUDE R BOSKOVIC INSTITUTE</td>
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<td>Romania</td>
<td>INSTITUTUL DE CHIMIE MACROMOLECULARA PETRU PONI</td>
<td>SupraChem Lab</td>
<td>Chemistry &amp; Physics</td>
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"To make European research the best in the world, we need to unlock the potential in all parts of Europe. With the new ERA chairs we are helping promising regions attract the best research talent and strengthen their standing as research excellence centres."

European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation Carlos Moedas
On 30 January 2015, the EU announced new grants that will help bridge the research excellence gap between Member States and strengthen competitiveness and growth across Europe. The new **Teaming** instrument, under which these grants are awarded, will help improve research performance and increase investment in countries with lower research excellence rankings. With funding from Horizon 2020, 31 projects from such countries have now been selected to prepare operational plans for new Centres of Excellence by teaming up with high-calibre institutions from all over Europe.

Eligible Member states under Teaming include all those which joined the EU after 2004 plus Portugal and Luxembourg, as well as eight of the non-EU countries associated with Horizon 2020. Teaming will help them to start new collaborations, build new scientific networks and seize new market opportunities.

The first Teaming projects selected for funding will be led by research institutions or agencies as well as national or regional authorities. In phase 1 of this action, the projects will receive up to EUR 500,000 each (EUR 14.5 million in total) to prepare operational plans for new Centres of Excellence or for upgrading existing ones.

**Twinning** aims to significantly strengthen a defined field of research in a particular knowledge institution (a research-active university or a public research organisation or a private non-profit research organisation) by creating a link between this institution and at least two internationally-leading research institutions in other Member States. Twinning strategies can include short term staff exchanges; expert visits and short-term on-site or virtual training; workshops; conference attendance; organisation of joint summer school type activities; dissemination and outreach activities. Twinning activities will provide no support to infrastructure and equipment and no support for hiring new permanent research staff. The call for applications is still open until 7 May 2015.

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"Put simply, we want Horizon 2020 funds to benefit as wide a range of European universities and research institutes as possible. We are determined to see that no part of Europe is left behind in research and innovation. Teaming now helps to achieve this by creating partnerships between those at the top and those with the most potential. Horizon 2020 rewards excellence and, most importantly, the pursuit of excellence."

-European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation Carlos Moedas-
2 Editorial: The UK and ASEAN – Partners in Research & Innovation

Matt Crossman, Regional Director South-East Asia, UK Science & Innovation

The United Kingdom has a long and proud history in science and innovation and British scientists have been responsible for many fundamental discoveries and developments that have transformed the way we live. Examples include the principles of maths and physics established by Sir Isaac Newton, Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution, the discovery of the double helix structure of DNA by James Watson and Francis Crick as well as the development of the internet by Sir Tim Berners-Lee.

Despite having less than 1% of the global population, the UK is second only to the United States when ranked by number of Nobel Prizes and produces almost 16% of the most highly cited scientific articles. This excellent science is inherently worthwhile, but it is the practical application that delivers wider social and economic benefits. The development of UK as a world-leading knowledge economy is at the heart of a long-term plan for economic growth. Government activities focus on the 8 Great Technologies and Industrial Strategy, capitalising on excellent science and translating it into new products and services. However, science and innovation are international and collaboration is essential. UK researchers work closely with a wide range of partners through joint projects, institutes, programmes and networks.

UK shares strong bonds with the countries of South-East Asia and there are extensive collaborations with universities, companies and research institutions in the region. For example, UK and South-East Asian co-authors have published 6,800 research publications on health over the past decade. Collaborations take different forms but there are opportunities throughout the region:

- The Prime Ministers of UK and Singapore have agreed to an Innovation and Research Partnership. This will drive economic growth and societal impact by leveraging investment in research and innovation from both nations.
- The Newton Fund is part of the UK’s official development assistance uses the UK strength in research and innovation to promote the economic development and social welfare of partners. These are genuine collaborations, with both sides contributing and joint decision making. Up to £12 million a year from UK is available for work with Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.
- The UK South-East Asia Knowledge Partnership joins up UK activities on education, research and innovation within the region, and provides some funding to develop collaborations in countries which don’t benefit from the Newton Fund.
UK participates actively in networks such as SEA-EU-NET which is funded through the European Union to promote region to region collaboration with South-East Asia.

The UK Science & Innovation team work closely with the research community in South-East Asia to develop relationships that can best use our combined capabilities to secure mutual benefits. Please do contact us if you would like more information about the opportunities for collaboration with UK.

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EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion is an initiative of the European Research Area (ERA) that addresses barriers to the mobility of researchers and seeks to enhance their career development. This pan-houses several national service centres. Each month, EURAXESS Links ASEAN will profile one EURAXESS member country. This month, we focus on the United Kingdom.

- The United Kingdom has over 150 universities carrying out different combinations of teaching and research, including 29 of the top 200 universities in the world. With less than 1% of global population the UK is 4th largest global producer of PhDs (over 21,000) and has 3.9% of global total of researchers including 123 Nobel Prize Laureates.

World leader in research productivity, with 3% of global level of spending, 0.9% of global population and 4.1% of the world’s researchers, the UK produces 9.5% of article downloads, 11.6% of citations and 15.9% of the world’s most highly-cited articles.

- Highly diverse research environment, as 32% of all doctoral students in the UK come from outside the EU, while approx 40% of researchers in the UK are non-UK nationals.

- The government’s Industrial Strategy supports technologies where our science strengths and business capabilities combine.

- The UK ranked 2nd in the WIPO Global Innovation Index in 2014.

- Between 2000-2008, nearly one third of productivity growth was attributable to changes in technology and other forms of innovation.
Areas where the UK has world-leading research, a range of applications across a spectrum of industries and the potential to be at the forefront of commercialisation, known as ‘The Eight Great Technologies’:

- big data and energy-efficient computing
- satellites and commercial applications of space
- robotics and autonomous systems
- synthetic biology
- regenerative medicine
- agri-science
- advanced materials and nanotechnology
- energy and its storage

UK is working with researchers and industry to foster world class technology capability.

Why choose the UK as a research partner?

- The University of Cambridge, Imperial College London and the University of Oxford have 3 of the top 5 of the world’s most highly-regarded university-based entrepreneurial environments.

- The UK universities have a strong track record of higher skills development and are highly sought after in the global market.

- UK universities and research institutes have a significant impact on the UK economy, contributing £3.4 billion in 2012 through commercialisation of new knowledge, delivery of professional training and consultancy.

Science & Innovation Research Collaboration with Southeast Asia

- The new UK-Singapore Innovation and Research Partnership, signed by the Prime Ministers of the UK and Singapore, was announced after President Tony Tan’s meeting with David Cameron on Wednesday, 22 October 2014. It is a joint commitment to leverage both nations’ investment in research and innovation to drive economic growth and societal impact.

- The Newton Fund is part of the UK’s official development assistance programme. Through the Newton Fund, the UK will use its strength in research and innovation to promote economic development and social welfare of partner countries including Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.
Euraxess UK is a British Council hub, which aids researchers in their career development, supporting mobility and acting as a support mechanism for researchers moving abroad or moving to the UK.

There are currently 15 EURAXESS national contact points located at universities across the UK.

Euraxess UK provides support, with the funding database providing a good source of funding opportunities, and the Euraxess newsletter keeping readers up-to-date on relevant opportunities and events.

To international researchers wishing to work in the UK, Euraxess UK offers a wealth of information and personalised assistance on moving to the UK. The Euraxess funding database, is a great resource for finding research funding opportunities from all over the world and the UK research jobs page is the page to go for vacancies.

For more information please visit the EURAXESS UK website.
Last month the UK and Thailand launched the “Newton UK - Thailand Research and Innovation Partnership Fund” to build science and innovation partnerships over the next 5 years. EURAXESS Links ASEAN had an opportunity to speak with Dr. Claire McNulty, Director of Science at the British Council, to learn more about the Newton Fund as well as the British Council’s science and research priorities for Southeast Asia.

As Director of Science at the British Council, what are your responsibilities?

I am responsible for leading the development, delivery and evaluation of the British Council’s global strategy for Science, which covers research activity in all disciplines, including the Humanities and Social Sciences, and ensuring this is aligned with our wider work in Education and makes a significant and high quality contribution to the British Council’s cultural relations impact.

Could you give us a brief overview of the scientific and research aims of the British Council?

Everything that the British Council does is about building trust and relationships between the UK and other countries – our work in science and technology gives us an excellent channel to do this, and provide people the opportunity to work together, across country and cultural boundaries, on a shared goal. The UK is a world leader in terms of scientific research, just behind the US on many indicators, and with just 0.9% of the global population, the UK produces 16% of the world’s most highly cited articles. This means that people around the world are interested in engaging with the UK on collaborative research, and this produces a win-win situation, as international collaborative articles are more highly cited, and internationally mobile researchers are more productive. And I would argue that one of the reasons that the UK is so strong in research, is because of the highly international nature of our research community: 47% of doctoral students come from other countries; 48% of articles are produced with an international collaborator, and a staggering 72% of researchers were internationally mobile for a substantial period of time between 1996 and 2012. Our aim is to make sure that we continue to work with the best, most talented researchers around the world, and build relationships with emerging economies around science and innovation, as well as keeping strong links with our traditional partners. We also aim to work across the education and society spectrum, from STEM schools work to community engagement of researchers, to ensure that we are supporting both the pipeline of talent, and the wider impact of research on society, as well as catalysing research links themselves.
The British Council is well known in Southeast Asia for the work it does in terms of language education and culture. Can you outline what the British Council’s strategic priorities are for Southeast Asia in terms of research and science, and how are these being implemented?

Our Royal Charter sets out our charitable purposes, and one of these is to “encourage scientific, technological and other educational cooperation between the UK and other countries.” So science and technology are a key part of our work around the world, including Southeast Asia. We will be working in four main areas; linking researchers between the UK and key countries in Southeast Asia; building the capacity and skills of researchers to enable them to engage internationally (for example through communication skills training); supporting STEM education initiatives; and using public engagement of science to enthuse and engage people in a global conversation around the integral place of science in society.

In Southeast Asia our priority is to work with partner countries to use science and innovation to support economic development and social welfare, and build up mutually beneficial partnerships for long term prosperity. We work with both UK and in-country partners in order to achieve this, especially the Science and Innovation Network officers based at the Embassies, to ensure a joined up UK approach. One of the key mechanisms that we use is the UK Government's Newton Fund initiative, but we also work outside of this, for example in the Republic of Korea on the Researcher Links programme for early career researchers, or the Inspiring Science programme in Thailand supporting STEM education.

The UK recently signed the "Newton UK - Thailand Research and Innovation Partnership Fund". What is the Newton Fund, what are its objectives, and how is it managed?

The Newton Fund is part of the UK's official development assistance and its aim is to develop research and innovation partnerships that promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries. Through the Newton Fund, the UK will use its strength in research and innovation to promote the economic development and social welfare of 15 partner countries, including Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. By working together on bi-lateral and multi-lateral programmes with a research and innovation focus, the UK will build strong, sustainable, systemic relationships with partner countries. This will support the continued excellence of the UK research base and innovation ecosystem and act as a golden key to unlock opportunities for wider collaboration and trade. On the UK side we work with several delivery partners including the British Council, the Research Councils, the Academies, InnovateUK, and the Higher Education International Unit, as well as in each of our partner countries (such as the Thailand Research Fund) to ensure that the activities developed under the fund are a result of true partnerships, and are driven by the needs and priorities of the countries we work with. Under the fund there will be opportunities for researcher mobility, research and innovation partnerships, PhD placements, capacity building for researchers and SMEs,
STEM education initiatives, and technical and vocational training partnerships. More information here.

The British Council is the bridgehead organisation for EURAXESS in the UK. Can you share with us your views on researcher mobility?

I think that researcher mobility is extremely important – it has been shown that internationally mobile researchers are more productive and they also have the opportunity to broaden their horizons and take part in different cultural experiences. However, not all researchers can be mobile for a long period, because of family commitments for example, and so it’s important that there are also opportunities for researchers to have short international experiences, for example through workshops or conferences, so that they can build up relationships which can then be carried on remotely. It’s becoming easier than ever before to collaborate remotely, and this should be encouraged and advanced with new tools and skills development - but there’s nothing yet that really compares to a face to face meeting for building up trust.

What is the British Council doing to support research mobility?

As well as being part of EURAXESS, and thereby providing practical information and support for mobile researchers, we also run a number of programmes supporting international researcher mobility, such as our Researcher Links programme which runs across 18 countries worldwide with a number of national partners, and provides travel grants for up to six months. This is targeted at early career researchers, at the post-doc level and above, as it is at this stage that we can have the maximum impact on a person’s career. We also support researchers gain the skills that they need to be able to operate internationally, for example through our Researcher Connect training programme, which builds up communication skills and helps researchers gain the expertise and confidence to write scientific articles and present at international conferences.

Can more be done to attract young people towards scientific research, education and careers?

Although this area has improved immensely since I was a child, with museums and science centres being more like interactive hi-tech playgrounds than the dry mausoleums of the past, there’s always more that can be done. I think that one key area is in the provision of more role models, to inspire and enthuse the next generation of scientists and engineers – particularly female ones. It’s important that young people see scientists and engineers that are close enough to them in age to relate to, and that they see then enjoying their work and making progress in their careers. It’s also crucial that young people understand the relevance of science to their everyday lives and appreciate the huge contribution that science can make towards solving key global challenges and improving lives for the better. And there shouldn’t be the imposition of a ‘two cultures’ approach, with children being shoehorned into either sciences or the humanities, but not both. Science and engineering can’t solve problems in isolation, as there always has to be a human aspect to any solution, and interdisciplinary working will
become more important over the next decades so we need to start appreciating the value of all types of knowledge, and working out better ways of sharing it!

The public’s perception of science is not always positive. What is the British Council doing to improve communication between scientists and the public?

One example of our work in this area is FameLab International. This is a global science communication competition, running in more than 25 countries around the world, including Hong Kong, Malaysia, Vietnam, Republic of Korea and Australia. FameLab is an initiative of Cheltenham Festivals which started in 2005, and the British Council took globally in 2007 and since then it has grown into arguably the world’s leading science communication competition. More than 5500 young scientists and engineers have participated from over 30 different countries, and they have just three minutes to talk about their science to a general audience. They are judged by a panel of scientists and communication experts according to FameLab’s golden rule - the 3C’s: Content, Clarity and Charisma, and the national winner get to participate in the International Final, held at the Cheltenham Science Festival in the UK. In some countries the show is televised, and it has reached millions of viewers and spawned a large number of spin out science communication activities around the world.

What new initiatives are you working on?

At the moment we are focussing on getting the Newton Fund off to a flying start, as well as supporting the ongoing development of our existing programmes – but watch this space for new ideas...... www.britishcouncil.org/science

Thank you!

Profile: Dr Claire McNulty, Director of Science, British Council

After finishing her degree in Chemistry and Biochemistry at Leeds University, Claire moved into the field of Developmental Biology, completing her PhD in heart development at King’s College London in 2000, and then working as a post-doc in the Netherlands at the Hubrecht Institute for Developmental Biology. In 2004 she moved into scientific publishing, working for Excerpta Medica, an Elsevier company. In 2005 she became an independent Science Consultant. From 2005 to 2008 she worked on several science-related projects for the British Council, including ‘Next Generation Science’, aimed at school children, and ‘Network UK’, a support service for international researchers in the UK.

In 2008 she was appointed Adviser in Life Sciences and Science Policy, for the British Council and in May 2012 she was appointed to the Director of Science role.

From September 2011 – May 2012 she also took on a part-time role at the Royal Society, as a senior science policy adviser, where she worked on the Pfizer-Royal Society African Academies Programme; an initiative aimed at building capacity within the national academies of science in Ghana, Tanzania and Ethiopia.
Networking with colleagues in other countries can boost a research career. Claire McNulty, the British Council’s director of science and research, explains how the Researcher Links programme can help.

Collaborating internationally or spending time abroad can be very beneficial to a researcher’s career. As well as the added impact and reach that internationally authored articles garner, time abroad can give researchers access to expertise, facilities and research environments that broaden their experience and networks and, particularly for early-career researchers, support their career development.

A recent report commissioned by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills showed that 72 per cent of UK researchers had been internationally mobile between 1996 and 2012, and that internationally mobile researchers were more productive than others.

Where to start?

There are various funding sources for international collaboration. A good place to start looking is the Euraxess website, which has a searchable funding database for international opportunities. But once you have identified a potential source of funding, how should you go about writing the ideal application?

The British Council, in partnership with research councils and funders in many countries, has recently launched the Researcher Links initiative, which focuses on providing opportunities for researchers to link up via workshops and travel grants.

Here are a few tips for researchers who wanting to apply for funding through Researcher Links or similar schemes.

Read the guidelines carefully

It sounds simple, but many people don’t do it. Read all the guidance notes before starting your application and make sure that you meet any eligibility criteria. Otherwise, you will be wasting your time in applying. If there are priority research areas, consider whether your work can fit into them or how you could adapt it by making interdisciplinary connections. Through Researcher Links we often encourage interdisciplinary connections, but these need to be for real added value, not just as a box-ticking exercise.

If something is not clear, ask for advice

Unfortunately, guidelines are sometimes unclear or ambiguous. This could be because the various eventualities, or different interpretations, have not been considered by the authors, or it could be deliberate to allow flexibility. In either
case it is best to ask for guidance directly from the funder, and there will usually be an email address or contact number provided. For Researcher Links we have a dedicated email address for such enquiries.

Understand the motivation of the funder, and design your project and proposal accordingly

Sometimes schemes that look similar from the outside may have different goals. For instance, one travel grant scheme may be focused on enhancing the excellence of UK researchers through access to the best facilities, while another (such as Researcher Links) is focused on building up relationships for long-term collaborations and mutual benefit.

When applying for a travel grant from Researcher Links, you should emphasise the mutual benefit and capacity-building aspects. Research visits that are just about field work and do not bring any benefit to the partner country or lead to long-term relationships are unlikely to be funded.

For the workshops strand, applications must come jointly from one senior researcher in the UK and one in a partner country. It is important to understand that the goal of the workshops is not simply the sharing of research with other senior researchers or the one-way flow of information from senior to junior researchers. Rather, the focus should be on capacity building of early-career researchers, providing a space for them to share their research, build their skills for working internationally and establish links for the future.

Make sure the objectives of your proposal are realistic and feasible

Very often, funders receive project proposals that are excellent in terms of the research quality but stand no chance of being funded because they are too ambitious and not commensurate to the grant offered. It is important to keep an eye on the long-term plan, but at the same time it is essential to think about feasible and realistic objectives that can be achieved using the requested budget during the lifetime of the grant.

Only proposals with an appropriate budget and achievable goals are likely to be funded. For example, you might want to request funds for a preparatory project or activity that will lead to a larger and more ambitious project. Competition for funding is high, and funders want to make sure that their money is spent well.

Think about the lay reader and the bigger picture

Researchers can become so absorbed in their own area that they forget to think about or articulate the bigger picture. If a section in a proposal asks for a lay person’s summary, try to ensure that what you write really is understandable to someone outside research. You could try it out on a friend or a family member. These summaries need to get across the idea that your research is important, whether it is about pure ‘discovery’ science, which pushes the boundaries of human knowledge, or more applied research that has the potential for societal or economic benefit down the line.

There’s no need for hyperbole or to make wild claims about solving world hunger as an outcome of a three-month research visit, but a simple explanation

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**McNulty's top tips for Researcher Links applicants**

- Read the guidelines carefully.
- If something is not clear, ask for advice.
- Understand the motivation of the funder, and design your project and proposal accordingly.
- Make sure the objectives of your proposal are realistic and feasible.
- Think about the lay reader and the bigger picture.
- Think about the long-term plan.
- Remember that dissemination of results is important.
- Don’t get discouraged if you are not successful.
of how your research project will advance knowledge or create impact is often essential. For Researcher Links, in many countries we have priority areas that have been identified by our partner countries as important for their development, and a concrete explanation of how your work fits these priority areas and will support the development of the partner country will greatly enhance your chances of success.

Think about the long-term plan

Most funders want to see the benefits last beyond the lifetime of the project. Particularly for travel grants and workshops, which don’t last for very long, it is important to think about the long-term plan and how you will ensure the sustainability of any links or collaborations brought about by the funded activity.

For the Researcher Links travel grants we are looking for proposals that demonstrate that the applicants have investigated the potential next steps in a collaboration. They may have done this by identifying potential sources of funding to bid for longer-term collaborations or by embedding links in an institutional strategy. We want our funding to be the first rung on the ladder, and to know that you have thought about the next steps.

Remember that dissemination of results is important

This is always true, even when funders do not explicitly request a dissemination plan. It is important to demonstrate that a wider group of people will benefit from the results of your project. Think about how you can maximise the impact of your research, how your project can trigger further activities carried out by others and how you can reach out to the people and organisations to which the results of your project may be interesting and relevant. Funders want to make sure that they generate benefits beyond the duration and the direct beneficiaries of the project.

Don’t get discouraged if you are not successful

The success rates for different schemes vary enormously, but don’t get discouraged if you’re not selected. If possible ask for feedback, as this could help you improve any future submissions.

This article is taken from Funding Insight, an online publication from *Research that aims to help researchers write better, more targeted funding proposals by providing in-depth case studies, funder profiles and insider information.

You can get more information on Funding Insight here [http://info.researchprofessional.com/] or follow @Funding_Insight on Twitter.

The British Council’s Researcher Links scheme is also freely available online here [http://rsrch.co/1JLKVUHF].
Fostering EU-ASEAN Research Cooperation & Policy Dialogue: the SUSTAIN project

The European Commission supports a number of projects designed to foster research cooperation and policy dialogue between Europe and Southeast Asia. We have profiled a number of these projects in previous newsletters. This month we have been fortunate to meet with Oliver Lah from the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy in Berlin, Germany. He is the coordinator of a project funded under the EU FP7 programme called “SUSTAIN EU-ASEAN” which is working to sustain and enhance cooperation in the area of sustainable development between Europe and Southeast Asia.

Can you tell us about the SUSTAIN EU-ASEAN project and its objectives?

SUSTAIN EU-ASEAN, an European Union FP7 project, focuses on climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials issues and aims to enhance collaboration between researchers in the EU and the ASEAN region. Addressing these issues in a coherent way is vital for sustainable development that leads to economic prosperity, social cohesion and environmental integrity. Both ASEAN and the EU have developed innovative ideas to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, to adapt to climate change, improve resource efficiency and manage raw materials. A wealth of knowledge has been generated by EU-funded projects and other initiatives relevant for the ASEAN region. The key objective of our project – which will run from 2013 to 2016 – is to boost the uptake of these research results in Southeast Asia and foster climate action, resource efficiency and environmental safeguard in the region.

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 SUSTAIN EU-ASEAN consortium brings together 14 partners from 9 countries in Europe and Southeast Asia. The team consists of environment research organisations as well as funding and research cooperation agencies reflecting the key objectives of the project of fostering collaboration and fill thematic gaps in the areas for climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials.

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

What we have done so far in the SUSTAIN EU-ASEAN project is to identify relevant projects in the EU and the ASEAN region and initiate exchange between researchers on both sides to explore future cooperation opportunities either through new joint research activities or by developing research further.
into implementation action. This builds on existing partnerships and also generates new ones to boost joint European and Southeast Asian climate, environment, and resource efficiency research.

Based on the work done by the project so far, where do you see the biggest opportunities for increased cooperation between Europe and Southeast Asia in the area of environment?

The area that we are covering in the project ranges from biodiversity, water management, earth observation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, resources management all of which provide great potential for further research cooperation. More specifically, we are establishing relationships with Southeast Asian counterparts to test whether the findings of two EU projects working on energy efficiency and sustainable urban development are also applicable in the Asian context.

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

We are currently working towards new partnerships between European and Southeast Asian research organisations and boosting the impact of their projects. The greatest success of the project would be if by the end of SUSTAIN EU-ASEAN in 2016 these seven partnerships have developed concrete steps towards closing research gaps that we have identified and some of them even went further and are on the route to implementation action and bring research into real climate action.

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

Language and cultural barriers exist, but can be overcome. The more challenging task is to identify barriers that can inhibit the take-up of environmental policy or technology measures. The fact that these solutions have worked in Europe does not automatically mean they are also applicable in the Southeast Asian context. Transferring solutions always needs a deeper understanding of the local conditions and the ability to adapt to them.

What advice would you give to Southeast Asian researchers seeking closer collaboration with Europe, and vice versa?

The SUSTAIN EU-ASEAN project website (http://www.sustain-eu-asean.net) will soon provide a database of researchers, projects and institutions working in the areas of climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials. In addition to that, researchers are welcome to contact us (office@sustain-eu-asean.net) and we are happy to assist in finding relevant partners in the respective region to work on collaboration opportunities.

Thank you Oliver!

Profile: Oliver Lah
Project Coordinator, Wuppertal Institute

Oliver Lah is a project coordinator at the Wuppertal Institute and focuses on climate change mitigation policy analysis and sustainable urban mobility. Oliver currently coordinates several projects, such as the SOLUTIONS project on urban mobility solutions around the world and the SUSTAIN EU-ASEAN project that facilitates collaboration on climate and resource issues between Europe and Southeast Asia.

Oliver worked with international organisations, such as the OECD/ITF, UN-Habitat and GIZ and is a Lead Author for the Fifth IPCC Assessment Report. Prior to that Oliver worked for the New Zealand government, the University of Munich and the Minister of State to the German Federal Chancellor. He holds a Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Political Science, and a Master of Environmental Studies from Victoria University of Wellington.
7 News & Developments

7.1 EU, Member States and Associated Countries

7.1.1 Commission helps bring Europe's best innovations to the market

With the support of the European Research Council (ERC) "Proof of Concept" grants, 59 researchers in Europe will now get the chance to turn their inventions into viable products. Among these mould-breaking ideas are such innovations as a simple blood test to diagnose breast cancer, a timber wood tracking device to help prevent illegal deforestation, and artificial veins modelled on marine sponges. Worth up to €150,000, these grants will allow selected ERC grantees to build start-ups, establish intellectual property rights for their inventions or explore other ways to test their ideas on the market.

EU Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science Carlos Moedas said: "Europe has plenty of world-class research, but not enough of it reaches the marketable product stage as commercialised, pioneering goods and services. The Proof of Concept grants will enable some of our top research to compete with the best innovations out there. This will help improve our ability to bring innovations to market, boost competitiveness and create the jobs and growth needed in Europe."

Source: European Commission

7.1.2 Leading the fight against neglected and emerging viruses

EU-funded researchers have developed a streamlined approach for identifying and testing antiviral compounds that promises to accelerate the search for treatments for a range of deadly diseases including Ebola, SARS and dengue fever. Negotiations are underway for a class of compounds which are nearly ready for the pharmaceutical industry to pursue.

In the battle against viral epidemics, such as the recent Ebola outbreak in West Africa or the emergence of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) in Saudi Arabia in 2012, time is always of the essence. But until recently a number of diseases caused by viruses – including Ebola – have not been considered suitable targets for drug discovery by the global pharmaceutical industry because it was not deemed commercially viable.

EU funding is helping to fill this void through the SILVER project, which brings together some of Europe and Asia's leading virologists, molecular biologists, crystallographers, biochemists, medicinal chemists and bioinformaticists.

Over four years, they have screened thousands of molecules, compounds and proprietary drugs for their inhibitory activity against a range of RNA viruses that have either been largely neglected by the pharmaceutical industry, such as human enteroviruses, respiratory viruses, rabies, West Nile encephalitis and dengue haemorrhagic fever, or viruses that are emerging as epidemic threats, such as the SARS and MERS coronaviruses.
7.1.3 German universities raising their international profiles

A recent study financed by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research counted some As of mid-2014, the study counted some 31,000 international collaborations between nearly 300 German universities and approximately 5,000 university partners in 150 countries. A good half of these collaborations involved exchanges for students and university personnel in connection with the Europe-wide Erasmus programme, a level that clearly underscores its importance for collaboration in European research and academia.

Source: Humboldt Foundation

7.1.4 Public consultation: have your say on the achievements of FP7

The European Commission has launched a public consultation on the achievements of FP7, the EU's 7th Framework Programme for research and innovation worth €53 billion of funding for the period 2007-2013. The results of the consultation will feed into the ex-post evaluation of FP7 carried out by an independent external High Level Expert Group.

The evaluation is an important instrument for assessing the achievements and wider impact of FP7. In addition the aim is to improve both the implementation of Horizon 2020, the current EU's funding programme for research and innovation, and the design of future framework programmes. The consultation collects views on the overall management of FP7, the impact of the simplification measures, and the achievements of the supported activities. Individuals, groups or organisations who have had a direct experience with FP7 or just wish to give their opinion are invited to contribute until 22 May 2015.

The consultation as well as background information can be found on the Research & Innovation consultations site as well as the European Commission website Your voice in Europe. (Horizon Magazine)

7.1.5 New Vice Presidents and members of the ERC Scientific Council

Professors Sierd Cloetingh and Mart Saarma have been appointed new Vice Presidents of the European Research Council. This news was coupled with the European Commission’s appointment today of three new members of the Scientific Council. Sierd Cloetingh, who also serves as a President of Academia Europaea, is a Dutch professor of Earth Sciences and Tectonics at the Utrecht University. He will be in charge of supervision of the ERC activities in the domain of Physical Science and Engineering. Mart Saarma, an Estonian national, is a professor and a director of the Centre of Excellence in Molecular
and Integrated Neuroscience Research at the University of Helsinki. He will take over the Life Sciences domain.

Source: ERC

7.1.6 The EU is recruiting researchers

The JRC has just launched a call to recruit on fixed-term contracts. As the Commission's in-house science service, the provides the science for EU policy making, providing a unique opportunity to make your work count. Successful candidates will work in one of the JRC sites, located in Germany, Belgium, Italy, Spain and the Netherlands.

The selection is open to applicants from the EU Member States or from one of the countries associated with the Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme.

Eligible fields are: Biology, Chemistry, Natural Sciences, Life Sciences, Biochemistry, Oceanography / Marine Sciences, Nanotechnology, Nanobiotechnology, Veterinary, Engineering, Mathematics, Physics, Computer Sciences, Statistics, Material Sciences, Economics, Political Sciences, Social Sciences, Educational Sciences, Psychology, Geography, Environmental Sciences, Agricultural Sciences, Agricultural Engineering, Meteorology, Ecology, Forestry, Geology, Hydrological Sciences, Medical Sciences, Pharmacy, Nutritional Sciences.

Source: JRC

7.1.7 EU Research Highlight: Medication timing key in cancer treatment

An internal clock determines many of our bodily functions. The same is true for tumour cells, EU-funded research suggests. This discovery could point the way to a more efficient, personalised approach to cancer treatment. “During the last 30 years, the potential of using chronotherapy to improve the efficacy of anticancer therapy has been demonstrated,” says Maria Comas Soberats, the beneficiary of the EU-funded CANCERTIME research grant. “If we can understand how daily patterns of toxicity and sensitivity to cancer treatment vary throughout the day and how chronotherapy functions at the cellular level for each type of treatment, this should stimulate novel approaches for treating the disease,” explains Comas Soberats.

Source: EU Research & Innovation

7.1.8 EU Research Highlight: Tomatoes with a can do attitude

Every year Europe’s tomato industry produces around 200 thousand tons of waste consisting mainly of skins, pips and fibers. Researchers in a European project are trying to find out if this material can be used in an ecological and economically viable way. At a tomato processing plant near Parma, in Italy,
around 2,200 tons of fresh tomatoes are processed and packaged every season.

Some 4 per cent of the raw material ends up as waste and is partially used to produce biogas. But managers at the Parma factory have more ambitious plans, as vice-president Aldo Rodolfi explained: “At the moment we are working with researchers on how to use this waste in different ways. We especially want to use it for the packaging of food products”. To that end, scientists from a European research project have become specialised cooks.

Source: EU Research & Innovation

7.1.9 UK Academies' issue joint statement on research and innovation

The Royal Society has joined with its sister Academies – Academy of Medical Sciences, British Academy and Royal Academy of Engineering – to publish a joint statement setting out why research and innovation should be high on the incoming government’s agenda. Together, the Academies speak for UK research and innovation across the full range of the natural, engineering, medical and social sciences, and the humanities.

Source: Royal Society

7.2 ASEAN

7.2.1 Vietnamese Mathematician Wins Elsevier Foundation Award

Four physicists and a mathematician have been named winners of the 2015 Elsevier Foundation Awards for Early Career Women Scientists in the Developing World, in recognition of research that has strong potential social and economic benefits. The Elsevier Foundation awards are given in partnership with the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD) and The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) for the advancement of science in developing countries.

Source: Asian Scientist

7.2.2 Thales partners with Singapore’s NTU

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is collaborating with Thales Alenia Space and Thales teams in Singapore, Europe’s largest satellite manufacturer and the only Thales corporate research center in Asia respectively. The
partnership aims to leverage the rapidly growing nanosatellite and microsatellite segments of the global satellite industry which usually refers to satellites less than 100 kg. The partners will set up a joint research laboratory in NTU named S4TIN, short for Smart Small Satellite Systems - Thales in NTU.

Source: Asian Scientist

7.2.3 Asia Set To Overtake US In Medical Research

From 2004 to 2012, the rate of investment in medical research in the U.S. declined, while there has been an increase in research investment globally, particularly in Asia, according to a study in JAMA.

Full article: Asian Scientist

7.2.4 Inauguration of Thailand Bioresource Research Center

Thailand Bioresource Research Center (TBRC) was officiated on 20 February 2015 as witnessed by over 100 local and international guests from the scientific community of bioresources research and management.

TBRC will serve as a foundation for the development of the nation’s bio-industry and bio-economy. The Center is fully equipped with a system that complies with the Nagoya Protocol (NP), to effectively facilitate access and benefit sharing (ABS) of genetic resources to industry under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Through the linkage developed with the Thailand Network of Culture Collections and academic and research institutes, TBRC currently has a membership of 130 institutes from Thailand and overseas, and therefore is able to provide access to comprehensive and diverse biological material to serve the needs of industries.

Source: Biotec

7.2.5 France Signs 8 Partnerships in Research and Education with Singapore

The French-Singaporean cooperation in scientific research and higher education has received a major boost with French universities and research institutes recently having signed or renewed not less than 8 agreements of partnership and cooperation.

Source: Institut Francais Singapore

7.2.6 ASEAN and the EU Strengthen their Partnership and Cooperation

The 22nd Meeting of the ASEAN-EU Joint Cooperation Committee was held in Jakarta, Indonesia on February 5 during which the ASEAN and the EU underlined their partnership’s impressive recent progress in a number of areas including science and technology.
The EU will substantially increase its financing for cooperation with ASEAN from €70 million to €170 million for 2014-2020. It was confirmed that the future cooperation would focus on (i) connectivity through sustainable and inclusive economic integration and trade; (ii) climate change, environment and disaster management; and (iii) a comprehensive dialogue facility.

More information here

7.2.7 ERC President visits Singapore

ERC President Prof Bourguignon visited Singapore on 11 & 12 February 2015 and delivered a lecture on the European Research Council's role in advancing research and innovation in Europe to members of the local research community. Prof Bourguignon also met with a group of Southeast Asian researchers who benefited from the “The International European Research Council Starting Grants Support Scheme” implemented by SEA-EU-NET in autumn of 2014. The scheme supports Southeast Asian researchers in ERC proposal preparation so as to increase their chances of being awarded an ERC grant.

© ELA
EC President Prof Bourguignon met with Southeast Asian research talent
8.1 In Focus: UK launches Newton Fund with Thailand

In January 2015, the UK and Thailand launched the “Newton UK - Thailand Research and Innovation Partnership Fund” with support of up to €25 million over five years, for science and innovation partnerships with Thailand. Through the implementation of this fund, the UK and Thailand will build strong, sustainable, systematic relationships that enable research and innovation to contribute to Thailand’s economic development and social welfare.

At the launch, Prof. Robin Grimes, who is a Fellow of UK’s Royal Academy of Engineering (RAEng), signed two MOUs on behalf of the RAEng for the “Leaders in Innovation Fellowship Program” with Thailand’s National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA) and the Thailand Research Fund (TRF). This programme aims to build the capacity of researchers for entrepreneurship and commercialisation of research. Fifteen Thai researchers will be selected based on the excellence of their research, the potential of their idea for commercialisation, and their potential in taking the idea forward. They will benefit from a focussed period of training in the UK, access to expert mentors, and opportunities for international networking.

Further details.

About the Newton Fund

The Newton Fund is part of the UK’s official development assistance programme. The fund is £75 million each year from 2014 for five years. Through the Newton Fund, the UK will use its strength in research and innovation to promote economic development and social welfare of partner countries. By working together on research and innovation projects, the UK will build strong and sustainable relationships with partner countries. The Fund will cover three broad categories of activity: * People: capacity building, people exchange and joint centres; * Programmes: research collaborations on development topics; and * Translation: innovation partnerships.

Priority areas will be agreed between the partners and it is expected that joint funding will support projects such as:

- joint research on development topics;
- student and researcher fellowships and mobility schemes;
- challenge funds to develop innovative solutions on topics of interest to developing nations;
- science and innovation capacity building.
8.2 H2020

The European Commission has launched the first calls under Horizon 2020. Calls in the 2014 - 2015 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.

8.3 European Research Council (ERC) Grants

8.3.1 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.

Deadline: 12 March 2015.

Further details

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

Call now open.
Deadline: 5 March 2015, 28 May 2015, 1 October 2015

8.4 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.
8.5 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, FYRoMacedonia, 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.

8.6 HFSP Frontier Research Grants

The HSFP is a program of funding for frontier research in the life sciences. It is implemented by the HFSP Organization, of which the EU, several of its Member States, and SINGAPORE among others are Supporting Parties.

The Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP) supports novel, innovative and interdisciplinary basic research focused on the complex mechanisms of living organism. A clear emphasis is placed on novel international collaborations that bring biologists together with scientists from other fields to focus on problems at the frontier of the life sciences.

Guidelines for 2016 Program Grants and Young Investigator Grants applications are now available. Applications have to be made via the HFSP extranet website, which will be operational from mid-January 2015. Successful projects may receive up to USD 450,000 (EUR 350,000) per year.

The Principal Applicant representing the international team must be located in one of the member countries, but participants can be located in any country.

Application deadline: 19 March 2015

Further details

8.7 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 month 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.

8.8 Belgium: Federal Science Policy Office – 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.

8.9 France – Singapore: Joint Bilateral Grant Call of Singapore’s National Research Fundation and France’s Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR)

This 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.

Deadline: The closing date for the inaugural grant call has been rescheduled to 27 April 2015, 1900hrs (Singapore Time)

Details here

8.10 Germany: Free University Berlin - 20 Incoming Postdoc Fellowships

Starting in November 2015, each research fellowship will be awarded for 18 months. Applicants have to submit a project plan based around the research fields/ key topics of the participating Excellence Projects or Focus Areas.
List of participating Excellence Projects or Focus Areas here.

Deadline for applications: 13 March 2015

Further details

8.11 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
8.12 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.

8.13 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.

8.14 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](#).

**8.15 Spain: 15 Ikerbasque Postdoctoral Research Positions**

Ikerbasque offers 15 contract positions for postdoctoral researchers, within any of the Basque Research Institution (Universities, BERC - Basque Excellence Research Centres, CIC - Cooperative Research Centres, Biomedical institutions and Technology Corporations, among others). Specific information on [Research Groups](#).

Maximum duration of contract: 5 years

Eligible applicants must have completed their PhD between 1/1/2005 and 31/12/2012.

**Deadline: 15 April 2015.**

Application details [here](#)
9 Jobs

There are currently 10557 research jobs and fellowship programmes (all over Europe and partner countries and in all disciplines) accessible via the EURAXESS Jobs database.

BELGIUM (Leuven): Medpace, a global, full-service Clinical Research Organization (CRO) specializing in a multitude of therapeutic areas is looking for an Associate Director, Clinical Laboratory.

Details

FINLAND (Helsinki): The Institute of Biotechnology, a leading European research institute within the University of Helsinki, is recruiting a Group leader in the areas of Molecular Cell Biology, Genomics and Quantitative Biology, Plant Biology, or Developmental Biology.

Details

IRELAND (Dublin): The School of Medicine and Medical Sciences at University College Dublin is seeking to recruit one Postdoctoral Fellow in the field of Rheumatoid arthritis (RA).

Details

NETHERLANDS (Utrecht): One Early Stage Researcher (ESR/PhD) position is available at BrainView, a pan-European Marie-Curie (ITN) project. BrainView aims to investigate underlying mechanisms of early onset neurodevelopmental disorders as autism and ADHD.

Details

Examples of Jobs supported by Marie Curie Actions

PhD Fellowship at University College London in the UK as part of the project “Simulating Robotic Feedback”.

Details

PhD Fellowship in Bioinformatics with Pensoft Publishers Ltd., based in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Details


Details
10 Events

10.1 EURAXESS Links ASEAN Events March to May 2015

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<th>Country</th>
<th>Title of Event/Activity</th>
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<th>Audience</th>
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<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Advancing Your Research Career in Europe: Inauguration of Mobility Ambassadors for Southeast Asia</td>
<td>May 2015 Bangkok, Thailand</td>
<td>Southeast Asian researchers that have benefited from the Marie Curie Actions and ERC Grants</td>
<td>To establish a regional alumni network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Advancing Your Research Career in Europe: Funding and Fellowship Opportunities for Southeast Asian Researchers</td>
<td>May 2015 Bangkok, Thailand &amp; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia</td>
<td>Southeast Asian researchers, research administrators, policy-makers</td>
<td>Information event offering detailed information on European funding opportunities for Southeast Asian Researchers</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
10.2 Shaping the Future of Food Safety, Together – Milan (Italy), 14 – 16 October 2015

Conference on the occasion of World EXPO 2015. The conference will focus on two major themes:

- Assessment Science and
- Science, Innovation and Society

Register on-line by 15 May 2015 or Submit an abstract for the poster session by 3 April 2015!

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"
11 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 and non-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 and non-European researchers abroad, please go to our website and
click on the Join the EURAXESS Links ASEAN community hyperlink on the right-hand side of the page.

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\*This EU Insight is a compilation of the following two press releases from the European Commission:

[Press Release ERA Chairs from February 13, 2015](#)

[Press Release Teaming from January 30, 2015](#)

The information on the Twinning instrument was taken from the call text:

[Twinning Call from the European Commission](#)