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## EURAXESS LINKS INDIA

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to present to you the first issue of the 2014 edition of the EURAXESS Links India Newsletter.

I have taken up the role of Country Representative for EURAXESS Links India starting in February 2014. I would like to thank Aurélie Pachkoff-Singh for her support in making this transition smooth.

Trained in law and economics, I bring over ten years of professional experience in European Union affairs, including management of European Commission co-funded projects in various fields, with jobs in Brussels and New Dehi (EU Delegation to India). I have also worked with NGOs as active volunteer. Research and Innovation are fields that I have been following in my recent career break. I come from a European region where there is a very active agency working in innovation (Innobasque – Basque Innovation Agency).

Being myself a product of several exchange programmes, I look forward to contributing as much as EURAXESS Links India can to connecting and supporting European as well as non-European researchers and innovators with links in the sub-continent and who are interested in Research & Innovation work in Europe.

I hope that you will find this issue interesting and useful. Feel free to circulate it, asking your correspondents to [register](#) so that they can receive future editions directly.

As usual, below you will find information on the latest News related to research and innovation in Europe, in India and related to the cooperation between the two of them. A selection of Grants and Fellowships, Job opportunities as well as upcoming Events is also available. Busy with the internal transition, news coverage in India, is less than usual this month.



Several funding opportunities are presented in this issue (some of them with tight deadlines) from the European Commission as well as bilateral/transnational funding organisations from India-Spain, India-the United Kingdom and Infect-ERA.

There is a very interesting call for proposals aiming at promoting EU-India Research and Innovation Partnership, by the European Commission (see section 3).

Our 'EU Insight' section focuses this month on different aspects of mobility in higher education and research.

In order for us to improve our services and tailor them better to your needs, you can still complete our very short survey (only 3 minutes): [EURAXESS Links satisfaction survey](#).

I look forward to interacting with you.

Together I hope that we can be part of or contribute to enlarging scopes for cooperation and exchange in the fields of research and innovation between India and Europe. The new programme Horizon 2020 and new events organised by EURAXESS Links India should help in this direction.

If you have any comments or remarks on the newsletter or the website, or if you would like to include an event or news item, please let us know. The monthly Newsletter is also meant to be a communication tool for its readers.

Enjoy the reading!

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EURAXESS Links India Newsletter is a monthly electronic newsletter, edited by EURAXESS Links India, which provides information of specific interest to European and non-European researchers in India 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 Delegation of the European Union to India.

Please email to [india@euraxess.net](mailto:india@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.

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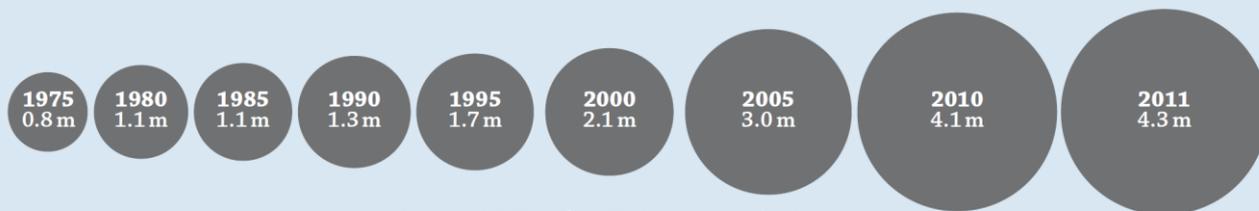
# 1 EU Insight – Mobility in Higher Education and Research

The increasing mobility of students in tertiary education and researchers, is a key feature of the global science system. This issue of *EU Insight* will touch on recent mobility trends in tertiary education and explore the implications of the different aspects of mobility developed in one of the science policy briefs by the European Science Foundation's Member Organisation Forum 'European Alliance on Research Careers Development' entitled *New Concepts of Researcher Mobility – a comprehensive approach including combined/part-time positions*.

In 2011 the number of students in tertiary education enrolled outside their country of citizenship reached 4.3 million, which is more than double when compared to the year 2000 (see Figure 1).

## Box C4.1. Long-term growth in the number of students enrolled outside their country of citizenship

*Growth in internationalisation of tertiary education (1975-2011, in millions)*



Source: OECD and UNESCO Institute for Statistics.

Figure 1: Growth in internationalisation of tertiary education [2]

Europe is the top destination for students at the tertiary level of education enrolled outside their country of origin, hosting 48% of these students, followed by North America, which hosts 21% of all international students.

The factors driving the general increase already in student mobility include the exploding demand for higher education worldwide, the perceived value of studying at prestigious post-secondary institutions abroad, specific policies that aim to foster student mobility within a geographic region and countries' and institutions' efforts to attract students from outside their boundaries. The top five source countries for internationally mobile students are China, India, South-Korea, Germany and France. Overall, 53% of the world's mobile students come from Asia.

Interestingly, 90% of the mobile students in Europe are European and 75% originate from EU member states. This data is not surprising, as the Bologna process has been strongly encouraging the bidirectional student mobility within Europe for the past 20 years.

It is widely accepted that international researcher mobility and cross-disciplinary research collaboration are indispensable for fruitful scientific



The [European Science Foundation](#) is currently focusing on the responsible winding down of its traditional research instruments and the transfer of policy activities to [Science Europe](#), an association of European Research Funding Organisations (RFO) and Research Performing Organisations (RPO), based in Brussels. Science Europe promotes the collective interests of the RFOs and RPOs of Europe. It supports its [Member Organisations](#) in their efforts to foster European research. It will strengthen the [European Research Area \(ERA\)](#) through its direct engagement with key partners.

research and also essential for the realization of the European Research Area. As the Science Policy Briefing *New Concepts of Researcher Mobility – a comprehensive approach including combined/part-time positions* explains,

***Mobility is not a goal in itself, but rather a means for international research collaboration across fields and sectors.***

At the same time brain drain from less scientifically attractive areas should be counteracted.

The paper introduces four different types of mobility:

*International mobility* which means physical mobility across countries and is hampered by the challenges in establishing smooth immigration and work permit procedures for incoming researchers, or the incompatibility of different systems for social benefits, pension rights, etc.

Two further aspects of mobility, *intersectoral* and *interdisciplinary mobility* refer to mobility across academia, industry or the public sector and mobility across different research fields, respectively. While both forms of mobility are widely encouraged, they can imply later disadvantages caused, i.e., by the limitation on research publications due to stricter IPR rules in industry or by individual and thus disciplinary review procedures.

A last form of mobility introduced in the report is *virtual mobility*, which encompasses virtual platforms, such as multidisciplinary network research centers. Such platforms facilitate the collaboration between excellent research groups worldwide without the need for physical mobility. Such flexible opportunities should be encouraged, stimulating the effective use of human and financial resources in research.

Mobility leads to the diversification of careers that will require new concepts when it comes to researcher positions or transnational institutional research collaboration. Examples for transnational institutional research collaboration include the existing European Molecular Laboratories, the Nordic Centres of Excellence or the first schemes for industrial PhD degrees.

One of the new concepts presented to address researcher mobility is based on a Harvard University/MIT scheme: the implementation of a 'Professor 2' combined/part-time position scheme. Here full professors could have a 20% position at another university or employees in industry have a 20% position in academia. Such schemes could be introduced as part of existing EU instruments, i.e. the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions or in combination with the proposed ERA Chairs programme. As stated in the Science Policy Brief „such combined part-time positions may also counteract brain drain by preserving the link to frontline research institutions for future collaboration.“



Sources

[1] [European Science Foundation](#)

[2] [Science Europe](#)

[3] [European Science Foundation Science Policy Briefing: New Concepts of Researcher Mobility](#)

[4] [OECD Education at a Glance 2013](#)

[5] [University World News, 2 February 2014: Special Report on student mobility](#)





## 2 News & Developments

### 2.1 Europe

#### 2.1.1 First "ERA Chairs" to boost research excellence in 11 regions

Eleven universities and technical institutes in Europe are to receive up to €2.4 million each in EU funding to boost their research capacity through the appointment of the first ever "ERA Chairs", Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science, announced recently. The initiative aims to bridge Europe's innovation divide by attracting top academics to organisations so that they can compete with centres of excellence elsewhere in the European Research Area (ERA).

[More information](#)

#### 2.1.2 Capital of Innovation: six finalist cities announced

Barcelona, Espoo, Grenoble, Groningen, Malaga and Paris are the six cities shortlisted for the first European Capital of Innovation award, or iCapital. An independent panel of experts has agreed on the six finalists for the €500000 prize. The money will go to the city building the best "innovation ecosystem" - connecting citizens, public organisations, academia, and business - with a view to helping the city scale up its efforts in this field. The winning city will be announced at the [Innovation Convention 2014](#), Europe's premier innovation event which will take place in Brussels on 10 and 11 March.

[More information](#)

#### 2.1.3 Nearly 5 million jobs in European app sector by 2018, says EU report

The EU's app sector has gone from zero to digital superhero in less than five years. By 2018 it could employ 4.8 million people and contribute €63 billion to the EU economy according to a report presented in Brussels. The study, carried out by GIGAOM and NUI Galway for the European Commission, shows that Europe's app developers are up to the challenge of taking the global lead. Currently, EU and North American developers generate the same levels (42% each) of app revenues in crucial EU and US markets. Although the future is bright, developers have raised concerns about the skills gap, connectivity and fragmentation which could put the app boom at risk.

Today the app economy employs 1 million developers, and 800,000 people in marketing & support posts. This could rise to 2.7 million developers + 2.1 million support staff by 2018. EU buyers and advertisers spent €6.1 billion on apps in 2013, 30% of total global app spending, growing to €18.7 billion in 2018. Consumer spending combined with advertising and contract work



could lead to €63 billion annual revenue for the app sector within five years.

**Source:** [European Commission](#)

#### 2.1.4 Bridging the gap to the market: ERC funds 67 innovative projects

The European Research Council (ERC) has announced the winners of the latest competition for its top-up funding 'Proof of Concept'. A total of 67 researchers, who already hold ERC grants, have received up to €150,000 each to bring their pioneering 'blue sky' research closer to the market. The projects cover everything from an exploration of the molecular foundations of psychiatric disorders to technological innovations that could help rescue skiers caught in avalanches or measure extreme waves. Fundamental, 'blue sky' science – the type of research that the ERC supports – is focused on advancing knowledge, but it can sometimes generate unexpected applications. With its 'Proof of Concept' scheme, the ERC enables the full exploitation of the excellent ideas it funds. This top – up funding can cover activities aimed at commercial and societal applications, such as establishing intellectual property rights, investigating commercial and business opportunities or technical validation.

**Source:** [ERC](#)

#### 2.1.5 HORIZON 2020 new Participant Portal



On this new and friendly portal you can find and secure funding for research & innovation projects under Horizon 2020. In particular the call search tool has several filtering options to help you select funding opportunities that are most relevant to your activities.

[Read more](#)

#### 2.1.6 'Innovation Union' on Twitter!

@innovationunion, the only official European Commission account for #Innovation & #Research. Supplied by the Communication Unit of the #EC's Research & Innovation DG. Please follow us!



## 2.2 India

### 2.2.1 Indian scientists develop software to catch computer botnets

Indian scientists have developed a monitoring software that can detect the telltale signs of botnet activity on a computer and disable the malware. Botnet, a network of computers infected with malware -so-called zombies - that allow a third party to take control of those machines can be detected using a statistical tool first published in 1966, according to researchers from PSG College of Technology, Coimbatore.

In a study published in the International Journal of Electronic Security and Digital Forensics, researchers wrote that millions of computers across the globe are infected with malware, despite the best efforts of public awareness campaigns about phishing attacks and antivirus software. Security and software companies do monitor internet activity and there have been successes in destroying such botnets but malware writers are always developing new tools and techniques that allow them to infect unprotected computers and rebuild botnets, researchers said.

Researcher R Anitha and colleagues at PSG College of Technology have turned to a statistical tool known as the hidden semi-Markov model (HsMM) to help them develop monitoring software to detect botnet activity on a computer. In probability theory and statistics, a Markov process is one in which someone can predict the next state of a process based on its current state without knowing the full history of the process. A hidden-Markov model would thus include variables of which the observer has no sight but can infer and so predict an outcome.

Predicting whether it rained on a given day based on whether a fair-weather-only walker was out on a given day without you having a weather report for their area involves a hidden-Markov process. A hidden semi-Markov model then involves a process of this sort but where the time-elapsed into the current state affects the prediction. The team has applied the statistical logic of the hidden semi-Markov model to forecast the characteristics of internet activity on a given computer suspected of being a "zombie computer" in a botnet based on management information base (MIB) variables.

These variables are the components used to control the flow of data packets in and out of the computer via the internet protocol. Their approach can model the "normal" behaviour and then highlight botnet activity as being a deviation from the normal without the specific variables that are altered by the malware being in plain sight. Tests on a small zombie computer network shows that the hidden semi-Markov model researchers have developed as a lightweight and real-time detection system can see through this disguise easily. If implemented widely such a system could lock down this kind of botnet very quickly and slow the assimilation of zombie computers by criminals and others with malicious intent, researchers said.

Source: [Hindustan Times](#)



### 2.2.2 New Technological Skills and Programmes for Seismology and Earthquake Prediction Related Research

The Government has adopted new technological skills and programmes for seismology and earthquake prediction related research. Under it Preparatory studies have been initiated to carry out scientific investigations and select the suitable site for deep borehole drilling in the Koyna-Warna region. The investigations include, Seismological, Geophysical (seismic, gravity, magnetic), LIDAR, geomorphology and structural geological studies, apart from a few shallow (~ 1 km) exploratory boreholes. However, no apparent increase in the frequency of the tremors of earthquake in the country has been noticed.

As a part of the Koyna Deep Borehole Programme it is envisaged to set up a Research Laboratory at Karad. The Maharashtra Government has provided 125 acres of land in Hazarmachi area of Karad Taluka and Foundation Stone has already been laid by Hon'ble Minister of Earth Science on 24th May 2012 in presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Maharashtra and Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences.

Further, the Earth System Science Organization (ESSO) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) is in the process of re-structuring the operational seismology and earthquake research in the country under the umbrella of a dedicated Center of excellence in Seismology. The broad objectives of the Center are as follows:

- i) Provide earthquake (M:3.0 and above) related information to all user agencies in shortest possible time
- ii) Provide earthquake hazard and risk related products of specific region, required by various agencies for institutionalizing various preventive measures for design and construction of earthquake resistant structures, land use planning and for enacting building bye-laws towards minimizing damage to property and loss of lives due to earthquakes.

Carry out research in pure and applied seismology and earthquake precursory phenomena, earthquake processes and modeling.

Earthquake prone areas of the county have been identified on the basis of scientific inputs relating to seismicity, earthquakes occurred in the past and tectonic setup of the region. Based on these inputs, Bureau of Indian Standards [IS 1893 (Part I):2002], has grouped the country into four seismic zones viz. Zone-II, -III, -IV and -V. Of these, Zone V is seismically the most active region, while zone II is the least. Broadly, Zone - V comprises entire northeastern India, parts of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Rann of Kutch in Gujarat, part of North Bihar and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Zone - IV covers remaining parts of Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh, National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi, Sikkim, Northern Parts of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal, parts of Gujarat and small portions of Maharashtra near the west coast and Rajasthan. Zone - III comprises Kerala, Goa, Lakshadweep islands, remaining parts of Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and West Bengal, Parts



of Punjab, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu and Karnataka. Zone – II covers remaining parts of country.

Union Minister of Science & Technology and Earth Sciences Shri S.Jaipal Reddy gave this information in reply to a written question in the Lok Sabha.

Source: [India Current Affairs](#)

## 2.3 India-Europe cooperation

### 2.3.1 'Research, Innovation & Higher Education: European Roadshow 2014 in India' (9 January-31 March 2014)

The roadshow is a series of one-day information sessions organized throughout India to showcase and promote EU-India collaboration in R&I and Higher Education.

The Delegation of the European Union to India, in partnership with its Member States, Countries Associated to the Horizon 2020 program, and associated partners such as R&I support services are jointly organizing a third series of information seminars throughout India to raise awareness amongst Indian research and innovation (R&I) community about EU-India co-operation opportunities in R&I and Higher Education, including mobility schemes open to Indian students and support services such as partner search tools.

Throughout the roadshow, about 30 European\* R&I counsellors and representatives of European research organizations will make some 84 presentations in 16 key R&I hot spots in India over a three months period. Indian participants in past cooperation programs with Europe will also present their experiences and lessons learnt.

A key objective of the roadshow is to promote Indian participation in EU research programmes, in accordance with the EU-India Joint Declaration on Research and Innovation Cooperation signed at the last EU-India Summit (New Delhi, February 2012). They will also encourage new stakeholders – e.g. research institutes less accustomed to EU programs, and industry – to take part, and to engage into international cooperation in areas of mutual interest.

Information on dates and locations for next stops are also available in section 5 Events of the Newsletter.

Participation is free-of-charge but registration is required. Online registration click [here](#)

Source: [The European Union Delegation to India](#)



### 2.3.2 India, Netherlands to jointly research stroke, dementia causes

India and the Netherlands have launched a joint research project to go into the cause of stroke and dementia.

Visiting Dutch Health, Welfare and Sports Minister Edith Schippers, and India's Science and Technology Minister Jaipal Reddy launched the research project to be jointly executed by the All India Institute for Medical Sciences (AIIMS) here and Erasmus Medical Center, Rotterdam (the Netherlands).

The two top medical research institutes will research into the causes of stroke and dementia.

India's department of biotechnology, under the science and technology ministry, has committed around Rs.33 crore towards the project, said a Netherlands Embassy press release.

The study consists of a large-scale, long-term study following thousands of people. The launching ceremony took place in AIIMS here.

Stroke mortality in India is 25 times that of malaria and research has shown that Indians may be more susceptible to stroke than their western counterparts.

The joint Indo-Dutch study will investigate into this intriguing finding. Beginning in 2015, a group of 15,000 people aged 50 and above from Delhi and Gurgaon area will be followed for 10 years to assess risk factors associated with stroke and Alzheimer's disease.

The findings will be compared with those of similar studies being carried out by Erasmus MC in the area around Rotterdam.

Although epidemics still do occur in India year after year, the majority of the disease burden is now caused by non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes and stroke.

These diseases largely affect the middle-aged and older populations. As India's population is ageing rapidly, the number of Indians suffering from NCDs will see a tremendous increase as well. With a view of improving the quality of life of its older people the Indian government is stepping up its research into aging and associated diseases.

Other collaborations between AIIMS and the Erasmus MC in the areas of neuroscience and gastroenterology are also ongoing, the statement said.

Source: [Business Standard](#)



## 3 Grants & Fellowships

### 3.1 New Call for Proposals EU-India Research and Innovation Partnership

(Ref.EuropeAid/135474/DD/ACT/IN)

**Deadline for submission of Concept note 21 March 2014**

**Deadline for submission of Full application 30 May 2014**

The **overall objective** of the action is to support the implementation of the Indo-European Partnership for Research and Innovation.

The **specific objectives** of the action are:

- i) To create and strengthen EU-India research and innovation partnerships
- ii) To increase the mobility of European researchers and innovators from research based clusters in Europe to clusters in India

**Focus Areas:**

This call for proposal consists of the following 6 lots: (i) Environment, (ii) Biotechnology, (iii) Transport, (iv) Energy, (v) Health, (vi) Information and communication technologies.

The aims of this action are: i) to stimulate the setting up of EU-India cluster-to-cluster partnerships in research and innovation, and ii) to support mobility of European research and innovation stakeholders from research based clusters in Europe to clusters in India.

This will result in increased knowledge, human resources and mutual understanding between the EU and India, contributing to fully exploiting the potential of Indo-European research and innovation cooperation towards finding solutions to common societal challenges.

**Applicants must:**

- Be specific types of organisations such as: non-governmental organisations, public sector operators, local authorities, international (inter-governmental) organisations as defined by Article 43 of the Implementing Rules to the EC Financial Regulation **or**
- Be entities conducting research (universities, research organisations and research for-profit bodies) and business entities (large enterprises and SMEs)

**Budget-** EUR **2,000,000** made available under this Call for Proposals – Indicative allocation of funds by lot: EUR 333 333.

**Size of grants-** The EU grant must fall between the following minimum and maximum amounts for each lot: € 300,000 - € 333,333

The proposed contribution of the EU must be between 72-80% of the total estimated cost of the action.

Detailed Guidelines for the call clicking [here](#).

Questions can be sent to:

[DELEGATION-INDIA-PROPOSALS2014@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:DELEGATION-INDIA-PROPOSALS2014@eeas.europa.eu)



### 3.2 Calls open under Previous Framework Programmes (FP7 – CIP)

Below is a list of all calls still open under [FP7](#) and [CIP](#). You can click on each of the calls for full details.

Capacities	Deadline
<a href="#">Support for the coherent development of research policies</a>	15 April 2014
Cooperation	Deadline
<a href="#">Joint technology initiative (IMI JU)</a>	8 April 2014
<a href="#">Joint technology initiative (FCH JU)</a>	27 February 2014
<a href="#">Joint technology initiative (Clean Sky)</a>	3 March 2014
Entrepreneurship and Innovation (EIP)	Deadline
<a href="#">Transfer of business</a>	5 March 2014

Source: [Research and Innovation Participant Portal](#)



### 3.3 Horizon 2020– First calls

**Deadline for submission:** please check under specific call.

Two calls are highlighted in this section (i.e. Marie Skłodowska-Curie's RISE and one on Water Innovation with special attention to India).

145 calls were published in December 2013 under the new EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, [Horizon 2020](#).

The calls cover a wide range of research fields, from basic research to social sciences and humanities, and including various funding schemes, from international project-based grants to individual fellowships.

They are distributed among the three pillars of Horizon 2020:

- **Excellent Science:** 22 open calls (including European Research Council Starting and Consolidator Grant – see further below - and [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange \(RISE\)](#))

**Deadline for MSC RISE: 24 April 2014)**

- **Industrial Leadership:** more than 40 calls.

- **Societal Challenges:** around 80 calls (including one on Water Innovation of particular interest to India – see below -).

Access all open calls on the [Horizon 2020 Participant Portal](#).



### 3.3.1 Water Innovation: Boosting its value for Europe

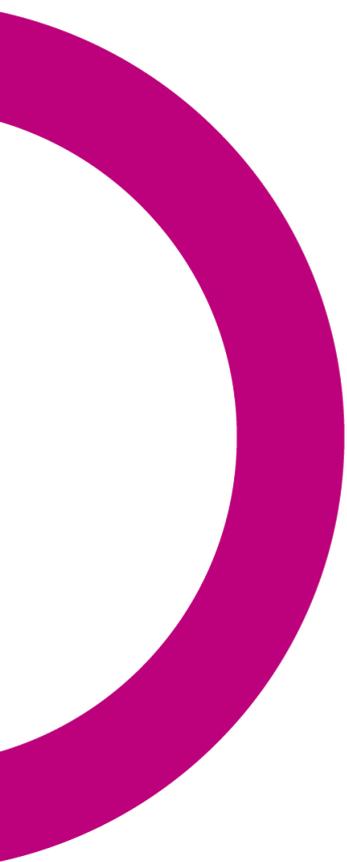
**Deadline for submission of proposals: 8 April 2014**

Scope: Proposals addresseing **strategic partnerships**. Proposals contributing to implementing on-going international activities and partnerships where the EU Member States are jointly committed to providing a more coherent approach to research and innovation (**e.g. EU/Member States-India research and innovation partnership on water**, China-Europe Water Platform) that aim at establishing a shared strategic research and innovation agenda will be given priority.

Expected impacts: Creation of market opportunities for European water innovations outside Europe, thus supporting the implementation of the EIP 'Water' and its priority areas. Support to the implementation of the objectives set by the Strategic Forum for International Science and Technology Cooperation.

Type of action: coordination and support actions.

Further details [here](#)





### 3.4 European Research Council (ERC)-Open calls



The ERC's frontier research grants operate on a 'bottom-up' basis without predetermined priorities ([ERC Work Programme 2014](#)). Both calls below (ERC-2014-STG and ERC-2014-CoG) consist of one call with a single deadline applying to each of the three main research domains:

- Physical Sciences & Engineering
- Life Sciences
- Social Sciences & Humanities

#### About ERC

Set up in 2007 by the EU, the [European Research Council](#) is the first pan-European funding organization for frontier research. It aims to stimulate scientific excellence in Europe by encouraging competition for funding between the very best, creative researchers of any nationality and age. The ERC also strives to attract top researchers from anywhere in the world to come to Europe. It funds young, early-career top researchers ('[ERC Starting grants](#)'), already independent excellent scientists ('[ERC Consolidator Grants](#)'), and senior research leaders ('[ERC Advanced Grants](#)'). More: [ERC](#)

#### Call for proposals for ERC Starting Grant

**Deadline for submission: 25 March 2014.**

ERC Starting Grants are designed to support excellent Principal Investigators at the career stage at which they are starting their own independent research team or programme. This action is open to researchers of any nationality who intend to conduct their research activity in any Member State or Associated Country.

Starting Grants may be awarded up to a maximum of EUR 1 500 000 for a period of 5 years.

Further information [here](#).

#### Call for proposals for ERC Consolidator Grant

**Deadline for submission: 20 May 2014**

ERC Consolidator Grants are designed to support excellent Principal Investigators at the career stage at which they may still be consolidating their own independent research team or programme. This action is open to researchers of any nationality who intend to conduct their research activity in any Member State or Associated Country.

Consolidator Grants may be awarded up to a maximum of EUR 2 000 000 for a period of 5 years with a possible additional of 750 000 EUR.

Further information [here](#).

#### Call for proposals for ERC Proof of Concept Grants

**Deadlines: 1 April 2014 (1<sup>st</sup> deadline). 1 October 2014 (2<sup>nd</sup> deadline).**

Frontier research often generates unexpected or new opportunities for commercial or societal application. The ERC Proof of Concept Grants aim to maximise the value of the excellent research that the ERC funds, by funding further work (i.e. activities which were not scheduled to be funded by the original ERC frontier research grant) to verify the innovation potential of ideas arising from ERC funded projects.

Proof of Concept Grants are therefore on offer only to Principal Investigators whose proposals draw substantially on their ERC funded research. The financial contribution will be up to a maximum of EUR 150 000 for a period of 18 months.

Further information [here](#).



### 3.5 Infect-ERA 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Call for Proposals: Coordination of European funding for infectious diseases research

**Deadline for submission: 2 April 2014**

Transnational research consortia are invited to submit proposals related with at least one of the following themes, which are equal in relevance for this call:

1. **Assess the role of commensal flora in homeostasis and microbe's pathogenicity, and elucidate how commensal organisms or probiotics can be used to prevent or treat infections.**
2. **Development and application of new techniques to investigate the initial steps of the infection process.**

To address these themes, the proposals should integrate one of the following approaches:

- (i) Application of novel approaches and technologies such as metagenomics, transcriptomics, and metabolomics.
- (ii) Integration of new approaches to understand the effect of the pathogen upon infection and to develop biomarkers, preventive, diagnostic and therapeutic tools.

**Proposals focused on HIV/AIDS, hepatitis B/C, malaria and tuberculosis are not in the scope of the call.**

Each consortium applying to this call must include a **maximum of six participants** (maximum of two partners per country) from a **minimum of three participating countries (Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, India, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden).**

**Young scientists.** - Part of the available funding is dedicated especially to consortia of young scientists. Each project leader of such consortia must be a "young scientist", which is defined as having been awarded a PhD or equivalent at least two and a maximum of nine years before the deadline for submission of pre proposals (periods of maternity/paternity leave or military service shall be taken into account).

Further information [here](#).

### 3.6 India-Spain Cooperation on Industrial R&D

**Application deadline: 15 March 2014**

Funding support for industry-driven and close to market R&D Projects between India and Spain leading to commercialization.

Application must be led by the industry from India and Spain and the participation of research institutes and the academia in the projects is strongly encouraged. Minimum Eligibility Criteria: one qualified partner from each country (1 Indian Company + 1 Spanish Company).



The spirit of the Programme is to promote co-operation between companies in a voluntary basis, meaning cooperation between independent companies.

Eligible sectors: **1. Water Technologies** and **2. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)**

Funding support will be given to each partner by its own Implementing Organisation (GITA in India, CDTI in Spain) in accordance with their internal regulations.

Full details of the request for proposals [here](#)

### 3.7 India-UK Collaborative Industrial R&D Programme

**Deadline for registration as applicant: 2 April 2014**

**Deadline for submission of proposal: 9 April 2014**

The programme is open to Indian & UK based businesses of all sizes and research & academic organisations working in collaboration with business partners. The minimum collaboration desired is one business from India working in collaboration with one business from the UK. The joint project has to be led by businesses, with a lead business partner from India and the UK.

Areas of proposals to be funded: **1 Cleantech with a focus on energy systems** and **2 Affordable healthcare**

Funding will be limited up to 50% of the total eligible cost of the project with a limit of INR 15 million (150 lakhs) per project from Indian funding agency and £300,000 per project from UK funding agency over the total duration of project.

Full details of the request for proposals [here](#).

### 3.8 Calls still open (see previous newsletters for more details)

**Erasmus Mundus – 2014 Call for Proposals Action 2 (Partnerships):**

Open to European higher education institutions and institutions in other countries. Deadline for submission: 3 March 2014.

Further information: [Erasmus Mundus](#)

**Indo-Belgian Research and Technology Cooperation-Call for Proposals Support of Networking Activities**

Deadline for submission: 3 March 2014

Further information: [DST](#)



**EPSRC-DST Indo-UK Initiative** in [Applied Mathematics](#): programme for organising 12-14 workshops in Applied Mathematics in 2014-2016. Deadline for submission of proposals: 31 August 2014

**Horizon 2020: First Call of expression of interest for experts**

Additional details can be found in the [Participant Portal](#). We encourage you to check it and register as an expert.

**Indo-Swiss cooperation:** Call for Joint Research Projects in translational biomedical research and medical technology and renewable energy research. Further information: [pre-announcement](#)

**Indo-Finnish cooperation:** Industrial Technology, R&D and Innovation Programme in Cleantech, Smart city development and Affordable health care. Further information: [pre-announcement](#)

## 4 Jobs

### 4.1 EURAXESS Portal and EURAXESS Jobs

The [EURAXESS Portal](#) provides links to information on career and grant opportunities in science and technology mainly in European countries.

For research careers in Europe and the world, visit the [EURAXESS Jobs](#) website!

The number of job adverts published on the EURAXESS Jobs Platform in 2013 reached 40 207! It registered a 10% increase compared to 2012. The first five countries posting the most are: UK (8,668), Poland (7,664), Netherlands (4,266), France (3,880) and Sweden (3,080).

Currently, there are 7811 research jobs and fellowship programmes (all over Europe but also in other countries such as in India and in all disciplines) accessible via the EURAXESS Jobs database.

**Example of the latest positions including India:**

[Singapore National Research Foundation Fellowship, Class of 2015](#)

A five-year research grant of up to S\$3 million (approximately USD2.4 million) and complete independence to pursue ground-breaking research in host institution of choice.

Research fields: Biological sciences, Chemistry, Computer science, Engineering, Environmental science, Physics, Technology.

**Deadline: 31 March 2014**

[WHRI-ACADEMY - William Harvey International Translational Research Academy](#)

70 post-doctoral fellows working on projects lasting at least 12 months and a maximum of 36 months.

Research fields: Pharmacological sciences, Medical sciences, Chemistry.

**Deadline: 6 April 2014**





### [PLANT FELLOWS](#)

More than 60 international post doc fellowship programme in plant sciences co-funded by the Marie Curie Action COFUND and centrally managed at the Zurich-Basel Plant Science Center, a competence center of three Swiss universities: University of Zurich, University of Basel and ETH Zurich.

Research fields: Biological sciences, Botany, Environmental science, Ecology, Agricultural sciences, Other.

**Deadline: 31 March 2014**

## 4.2 Europe: Several positions at the JRC

The European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) is currently advertising several vacancies, with **various application deadlines**, including these:

Ph.D. students (1 position) **Deadline: 2 March 2014**

Senior Researchers (2 positions) **Deadline: 16 and 30 March 2014**

The positions are located in Karlsruhe (Germany) and Pettern (The Netherlands).

Further Information: [JRC](#)

## 4.3 India: Example of jobs at DevNetJobsIndia

For further information click on the position:

### [Research Analyst](#)

The World Bank

Location: India

**Apply by: 3 Mar 2014**

### [Research Executive](#)

SaveLIFE Foundation (SLF)

Location: Delhi

**Apply by: 6 Mar 2014**

### [Manager Research, Monitoring & Evaluation](#)

Swades Foundation

Location: Maharashtra

**Apply by: 13 Mar 2014**

### [Research Associate](#)

Public Interest Foundation

Location: New Delhi, Delhi

**Apply by: 31 Mar 2014**

### [Senior Research Scientist](#)

Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI)

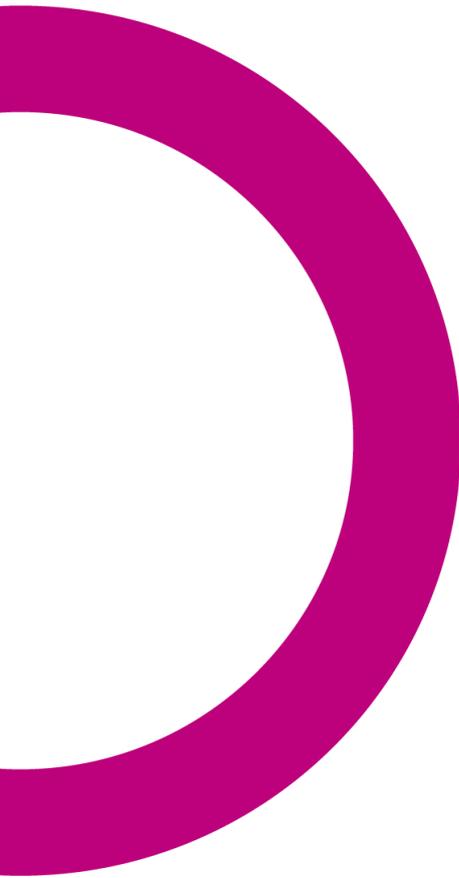
Location: Delhi

**Apply by: 20 Apr 2014**



## 5 Events

Event	Location	Date
<b>5.1 Europe</b>		
<a href="#">EURAXESS BUS ROADSHOW – Kick off event</a> by European Commission	Brussels, Belgium	3 March 2014
<a href="#">EURAXESS BUS ROADSHOW – 22 countries and 29 cities</a> by European Commission	22 countries	3 March – 30 April 2014
<a href="#">Smart Cities International Exhibition</a> by Via Expo	Sofia, Bulgaria	5-7 March 2014
<a href="#">Innovation Convention 2014</a> by European Commission	Brussels, Belgium	10-11 March 2014
<a href="#">Funding student mobility - Scholarships, grants and loans</a> by Academic Cooperation Association	Brussels, Belgium	10 April 2014
<a href="#">Industrial Technologies 2014 conference</a> by Greek EU Presidency	Athens, Greece	9-11 April 2014
<a href="#">Transport Research Arena (TRA) 2014: Innovate Mobility, Mobilise Innovation</a> by TRA	Paris, France	14-17 April 2014
<a href="#">Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions satellite event at ESOF 2014 Conference</a> by European Commission	Copenhagen, Denmark	19-20 June 2014
<a href="#">EuroScience Forum 2014 (ESOF)</a> by Euroscience	Copenhagen, Denmark	21-26 June 2014
<b>5.2 India</b>		
<a href="#">European Roadshow 2014-Research, Innovation &amp; Higher Education</a>	Varanasi	10 March 2014
<a href="#">European Roadshow 2014-Research, Innovation &amp; Higher Education</a>	Kanpur	12 March 2014
<a href="#">International Conference 2014 Power and Energy systems</a>	Delhi	13-15 March 2014
<a href="#">European Roadshow 2014-Research, Innovation &amp; Higher Education</a>	Chandigarh	18 March 2014
<a href="#">European Roadshow 2014-Research, Innovation &amp; Higher Education</a>	Kharagpur	21 March 2014
<a href="#">European Roadshow 2014-Research, Innovation &amp; Higher Education</a>	Kolkata	24 March 2014
<a href="#">European Roadshow 2014-Research, Innovation &amp; Higher Education</a>	Bhubaneswar	28 March 2014
<a href="#">European Roadshow 2014-Research, Innovation &amp; Higher Education</a>	Hyderabad	31 March 2014
<a href="#">10th Indo-Australian Conference on Biotechnology: Epithelial Development Function and Disease – New Frontiers and Therapies</a>	Manipal	11-13/04/2014



EURAXESS Links India is a networking tool for European researchers active in India and Indian ones wishing to collaborate and/or pursue a research career in Europe. EURAXESS Links India provides information about research in Europe, European research policy, opportunities for research funding, for EU-India and international collaboration and for transnational mobility. Membership is free.

Visit us at [india.euraxess.org](http://india.euraxess.org) and click on the Join the EURAXESS Links India community on the right-hand side of the page.

EURAXESS Links is a European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation initiative. It has thus far been launched in ASEAN (encompassing Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia), Brazil, China, India Japan, and North America (USA & Canada).