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EURAXESS LINKS INDIA

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to present to you the 36th issue of the EURAXESS Links India Newsletter.

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

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. The World Environment Day on June 5th has been taken into account when selecting news from India.

A selection of Grants and Fellowships (e.g. ERC Advanced Grant and 20 incoming fellowships to Germany), Job opportunities as well as upcoming Events is also available.

I am happy to announce that the EURAXESS Science Slam India 2014 has been launched. Get creative, record a maximum 5 minutes video and submit it to us by 21 September 2014 (see Section 2.1.).

I am also planning on-site EURAXESS presentations for after the summer. Requests are most welcome (see Section 2.3.).

Our 'EU Insight' section this month focuses on the Innovation Union Status Report.

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. I look forward to interacting with you.

Enjoy the reading and end of the Indian summer!

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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 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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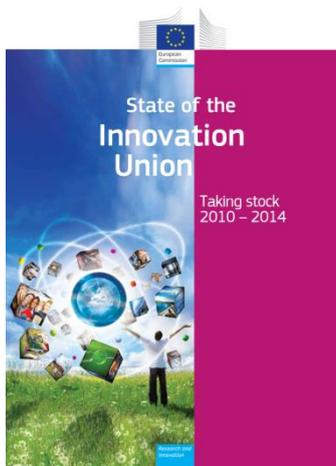


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1 EU Insight – Innovation Union Status Report

In September 2013, the [EU Insight](#) section in our monthly newsletter introduced the *Innovation Union* - one of the seven flagship initiatives in the Europe 2020 strategy to promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. This initiative places innovation as overarching policy objective and as the best means of successfully tackling major societal challenges, such as climate change, energy and resource scarcity or health and ageing. On June 10th, 2014, the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation published the 2014 Staff Working Document "State of the Innovation Union – Taking stock 2010-2014".



The report and Innovation Union achievements so far

Four years after the launch of the Innovation Union, the report takes stock of how the initiative has been implemented so far. The assessment systematically follows the key messages and 34 commitments (so-called "[action points](#)") made under the "Innovation Union" initiative and analyses the progress made, the measures implemented as well as the challenges and gaps remaining. Overall, the document concludes that ***"the Innovation Union is succeeding in building momentum around innovation, mobilizing stakeholders and mainstreaming innovation in key European, national and regional policies"***.

Substantial progress has been made, for example,

- (1) in promoting excellence in education and skills development, the European Research Area (ERA) and in supporting business-academia collaborations;
- (2) towards the creation of a genuine single European market for innovation and the stimulation of private sector investment for a more innovation-friendly business environment in Europe;
- (3) towards the maximization of regional and social cohesion to improve the innovation performance across European regions and Member States, without compromising on excellence;
- (4) in establishing European Innovation Partnerships (EIPs) as a new approach of [bringing together public and private actors](#) at EU, national and regional levels. Since 2015 five EIPs have already been launched in key areas, namely active and healthy ageing, agricultural productivity and sustainability, smart cities and communities, raw materials, and water;
- (5) in making Europe more attractive as a research destination.

To monitor the Innovation Union and progress at EU and Member State's innovation performance, several instruments and indicators have been put in place, including the [Innovation Union Scoreboard](#), the [Innovation Output Indicator](#), the Innovation Union Self-Assessment Tool (SAT) or peer review exercises.

Challenges ahead and gaps remaining



While progress can be reported in all areas, the report also identifies several challenges ahead to fully reach the goals set under the Innovation Union strategy until 2020. For instance, it detects the inconsistencies of rules and practices despite the progress made in the development of a single market. These inconsistencies are still remaining and are recognized as an obstacle to the development of high growth innovative firms. Better coordination between policies at the European and Members States level would be highly profitable, notably with regards to researchers' mobility, open recruitment and uptake of the Innovative Doctoral Training Principles. Furthermore, the skills shortage is still evident despite great progress made through the [European Institute of Innovation and Technology](#), the [Knowledge Alliances](#) and other skills development schemes. The document highlights the need to involve the society in all phases of the innovation cycle to foster a wider innovation culture in Europe, to make innovation more relevant and acceptable and to improve its uptake, and concludes that the peer review exercises or the SAT have also only been requested or used by a small number of countries. As an increasingly recognized key driver of innovation, the public sector's role in promoting innovation through regulation, fiscal policies, standard setting, procurement and supply-side policies has been tested in the past. While there is still room for an increased uptake of such tools in the future and for a better mix of supply and demand policies – its capacity to innovate itself so as to become more user-friendly, efficient and effective should be further explored.

All of the Innovation Union commitments are currently on course, setting the building blocks for increased growth and jobs. To continue to reap the fruit of all the measures that the Innovation Union has put in motion, it is now essential to ensure their full roll-out and use as well as to anticipate, where possible, further actions to optimise their impact, based on the lessons learnt during the first years of implementation.

Sources and further information:

[1] European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation: ["State of the Innovation Union – Taking stock 2010-2014"](#), Brussels, 10 June 2014.

[2] [Innovation Union website](#)



2 EURAXESS Events in India

2.1 EURAXESS Science Slam 2014

The 2nd global EURAXESS Science Slam has been launched in India in June. The **video submission** period is open **up to 21 September 2014**.

The Science Slam is a **competition** open to researchers (PhD candidate and holders) of **all research fields**, *including Social Sciences and Humanities, Life Sciences and Physical Sciences and Engineering*. It comprises a pre-selection phase and the live finals event where the EURAXESS Science Slam India 2014 winner will be selected and awarded.

The live finals event will take place around the same dates in all EURAXESS Links locations (ASEAN, Brazil, China, India, Japan and North America). If you want to test your science communication skills, are creative and have a research idea to present, don't miss sending your video before the deadline in September (the sooner the better as no videos will be accepted once the number of posted videos exceeds 50). Up to 5 finalists will be invited to the **Live finals** of the EURAXESS Science Slam India 2014 on **1 November** in **Mumbai**. International and Indian researchers based in India can participate. **The prize** is a **free trip to Europe** to attend a **science communication workshop** and visit a **research institute** of the winner's choice. EURAXESS Links will assist in arranging this meeting at one research organisation/institution of the winner's choice within the European Research Area. In case of a successful arrangement, EURAXESS Links will finance the trip to this institute.

Click on [EURAXESS Science Slam India 2014](#) for more information.

The European Union Delegation to India will also follow the event on [Facebook EU in India](#).

2.2 Other EURAXESS events

Two other EURAXESS events planned for after the summer will be networking events most likely around the following research fields: **social sciences and humanities** in **Delhi** (end of September/mid-October) and **energy** in **Chennai** (mid November). A third event is planned for early December in **Kolkata**. This one will most likely be open to **researchers in any field**.

We will give you further details for these events in our August Newsletter. EURAXESS Links India Community members will be the first ones to know about these events.

2.3 EURAXESS Links India on-site visits

The country representative can present the services offered by EURAXESS Links India, cooperation and career opportunities with Europe



etc. The **planning** of on-site presentations between **August 2014** and **January 2015** is under going. If you wish to organize such a presentation in your organization, please contact us at india@euraxess.net.

2.4 The EURAXESS Researchers' World Cup Contest 2014

In our July Newsletter we will let you know the outcome of the EURAXESS contest in connection to the on-going FIFA World Cup. Registration was open in June. Indian researchers positively answered to the call. Thank you!!

3 News & Developments

3.1 Europe

3.1.1 EU and EIB Group join forces to support up to €48 billion in R&I investment

The European Commission and the European Investment Bank Group (EIB) launched on 12th June a new generation of EU financial instruments and advisory services to help innovative firms access finance more easily. Over the next seven years, it is expected that the "InnovFin – EU Finance for Innovators" products will make available more than €24 billion of financing for research and innovation (R&I) by small, medium and large companies and the promoters of research infrastructures. This finance is expected to support up to €48 billion of final R&I investments.

"InnovFin – EU Finance for Innovators" will consist of a range of tailored products – from guarantees for intermediaries that lend to SMEs to direct loans to enterprises - helping support the smallest to the largest R&I projects in the EU and countries associated to Horizon 2020, the new EU research programme for 2014-20. InnovFin builds on the success of the Risk-Sharing Finance Facility, developed under the seventh EU framework programme for research and technological development (FP7), which helped provide over €11 billion of finance to 114 R&I projects worth more than €30 billion.

The EIB Group consists of the European Investment Bank and the European Investment Fund (EIF). The European Investment Bank will provide loans to medium to larger companies, or guarantees to banks lending to them. The EIF will provide guarantees to banks lending to small and medium-sized firms and – at a later stage – invest in venture capital funds providing start ups and fast-growing firms with equity.

The launch took place at a two-day [conference](#), organised by the Greek Presidency of the EU, to discuss how to improve access to finance for research and innovation.

InnovFin guarantees and loans will be backed by funds set aside under Horizon 2020 and by the EIB Group for the purpose of supporting R&I investment, which by nature is riskier and harder to appraise than tangible



investments. All are demand-driven instruments, with no prior allocations between sectors, countries or regions. These debt instruments will be complemented in the near future by a suite of equity instruments managed by the EIF. In total, some €2.7 billion of Horizon 2020's near €80 billion budget will support these financial instruments.

Source: [European Commission](#)

3.1.2 European Commission points to innovation reforms to sustain economic recovery

The European Commission has highlighted on 10th June the importance of research and innovation (R&I) investments and reforms for economic recovery in the European Union, and made proposals to help EU Member States maximise the impact of their budgets at a time when many countries still face spending constraints. Increasing R&I investment is a proven driver of growth, while improving the efficiency and quality of public R&I spending is also critical if Europe is to maintain or achieve a leading position in many fields of knowledge and key technologies. The Commission has pledged support to Member States in pursuing R&I reforms best suited to their needs, including by providing policy support, world-class data and examples of best practice.

The Communication published today by the Commission highlights three key areas of reform:

- Improving the quality of strategy development and the policy-making process, bringing together both research and innovation activities, and underpinned by a stable multi-annual budget that strategically focuses resources;
- Improving the quality of R&I programmes, including through reductions of administrative burdens and more competitive allocating of funding;
- Improving the quality of public institutions performing research and innovation, including through new partnerships with industry.

The Commission has also called on Member States to prioritise R&I, as public authorities regain margins for growth-enhancing investment. With current R&I spending across the public and private sector worth just over 2% of GDP, the EU remains well behind international competitors like the United States, Japan and South Korea, with China also now very close to overtaking the EU (see graph). Increasing R&I spending to 3% of GDP therefore remains a key target for the EU, but the Communication today shows that improving the quality of public spending in this area is also essential in order to increase the economic impact of investment. The Communication points equally to the need for the EU needs to put in place the right framework conditions to encourage European companies to innovate further.

Source: [European Commission](#)

3.1.3 Research meets diplomacy: Europe as a Global Actor

On 5th June the European Commission's Directorate General for Research and Innovation, in cooperation with the FLASH-IT project,



organized a conference on “Research Meets Diplomacy: Europe as a Global Actor”. This conference was on the one hand intended to take stock of the rich research financed under the Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities programme under the 7th Framework Programme. On the other hand, through an exchange between researchers and EU foreign policy-makers, ideas were discussed on future topics for research on the EU as a global actor under Societal Challenge 6 “Europe in a changing world - Inclusive, Innovative and Reflective Societies” of Horizon 2020.

The debates concentrated on three major themes:

- the EU’s capacities as a global actor,
- the EU’s neighbourhood with an emphasis on the Mediterranean, and
- the EU’s role in the wider world and key global challenges, focussing on two regions that have been less in the spotlight: Latin America and the Caribbean and the Pacific.

The event brought together over 120 participants from the public and private sector, including many academics and policy-makers.

Source: [European Commission](#)

3.1.4 EU launches world’s largest civilian robotics programme – 240,000 new jobs expected

The European Commission and **180 companies and research organisations** (under the umbrella of **euRobotics**) launched on the 3rd June the world’s largest civilian research and innovation programme in robotics. Covering manufacturing, agriculture, health, transport, civil security and households, the initiative – called **SPARC** – is the EU’s industrial policy effort to strengthen Europe’s position in the global robotics market (€60 billion a year by 2020). This initiative is expected to create over 240,000 jobs in Europe, and increase Europe’s share of the global market to 42% (a boost of €4 billion per year). The European Commission will invest €700 million and **euRobotics** €2.1 billion.

Robotics enables companies to continue manufacturing in Europe, where they might otherwise move operations to lower-cost countries. But the potential of robotics goes far beyond the factory: from helping nurses in hospitals to inspecting dangerous power plants and tedious farm work. Autonomous cars and drones are other examples of robots. (see: [What robots can do for you](#)).

Source: [European Commission](#)

3.1.5 More than €3 billion invested in European smart grids projects

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) recently published its 2014 edition of the “Smart Grid projects outlook”, which presents the most comprehensive database of smart grid and smart metering initiatives up until the first quarter of 2014 across the European Union, Switzerland and Norway. The results can also now be visualised using new interactive, freely available web tools. In this update, more than 450 smart grid projects were identified, accounting for a total investment of €3.15 billion.



Although the work from the preceding reports cannot be directly compared with this inventory a positive trend can be confirmed. The previous edition of this study reported 281 projects and a €1.8 billion budget.

With its 135 projects, Germany has the largest number of initiatives, while France and the United Kingdom have invested the most, at €500 million each. In both countries €5 million is on average pumped into a project. Denmark has the highest investment in smart grids per capita and per national electricity consumption followed by Slovenia, which together with the Czech Republic, is one of the leading countries within the newer Member States in establishing a strategy for smart grid testing and implementation. However, Eastern European countries only account for less than 1% of the total budget.

EU-15 organisations still manage the bulk of the investments in smart grid projects, of these, 90% are supported by some form of public funding. Private capital investment amounts to 49%; the rest comes from EC (22%), national (18%) and regulatory funding (9%), and the remaining 2% is unclassified. Several types of organisations, such as universities and distribution system operators – which together manage more than half of the budget –, transmission system operators, manufacturers and ICT companies participate to significant degrees in smart grid projects. Around 200 million smart electricity meters in Europe (ca. 72% of EU customers) are expected to be deployed by 2020 with an estimated investment of €35 billion. In EU Member States where the roll-out of smart metering is positively assessed, the expected penetration rate for electricity may even exceed the EU target of 80% by 2020.

Together with this study, several interactive visualisation tools were launched, allowing the user to generate customisable maps, graphs and charts to track the progress on the European smart grid projects.

Source: [Joint Research Centre](#)

3.1.6 SMEs participating in EU R&D funding programmes perform better than others

A report published last May by the EU reveals that its research funding programmes have a considerable impact on participating small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Employment, remarkably, increased almost five times faster in the evaluated SMEs as compared to a control group of companies not having taken part in European projects. Two European programmes including several sub-schemes, the cooperation programme and Research for the Benefit of SMEs were also evaluated for their capacities to increase SMEs' turnover and exports. Small businesses capacity to innovate and the added value of European collaboration in research were also positively evaluated.

The increase in turnover is estimated by the SMEs surveyed as between 16% and 22%. More than 67% of all SMEs reported having implemented an innovation and 59% increased their involvement in collaborative research with access to technological knowledge from abroad being the most important reason for collaboration.



Read the full interim evaluation of SME performance under the EU's Seventh Framework Programme [here](#).

3.1.7 Samos 2014 Summit on ICT-enabled Governance

More than 80 high-level experts in electronic governance from 20 countries will participate in the 5th International Samos Summit on "ICT-enabled Governance". The key issues for this year's summit are Open Data, powered by the SHARE PSI 2.0 project and Global Systems Science, an attempt to enable policy makers with scientific method and tools for evidence-based decision making.

The Summit will present the new approaches and guidelines for internet technologies in the context of the Digital Agenda 2020 and the new HORIZON 2020 framework for research and development in the European Union. More than 15 international research projects will present their proposals for new electronic services and tools for policymakers, citizen participation in decision making, open governance and effective management through open data initiatives at national and local level, including the CONSENSUS, e-POLICY, e-GOVPOLINET, GEN6 , PERIKLIS and POLICY COMPASS projects.

The involvement of the younger generation of scientists takes place through the organization of the [2nd Summer School](#) on "Open and Collaborative Governance".

More information [here](#).

3.2 India

3.2.1 India's New Science and Technology Minister

On the 26th of May 2014, the now Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi announced Dr Jitendra Singh as the new Science and Technology Minister of India. An endocrinologist by profession, Dr Singh has been an active figure in the academia, having authored eight books and many articles. His profile also includes Ministry of Earth Sciences, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space, among others. On his first day in office, he announced that promoting research and development and bringing about scientific temper will be his priority to make India the world leader in this area.

Read more: [Outlook India](#)

3.2.2 New Human Resource Development Minister promises rise in education spending

India will strive to increase public spending on education to 6% of gross domestic product from less than 4% currently, new Human Resource Development Minister Smriti Irani announced during her maiden press conference last week. Irani took charge after the National Democratic Alliance government came to power, sweeping the recent Lok Sabha polls.

Read more: [University World News](#)



3.2.3 New minister prioritises HE commission restructuring

Human Resource Development Minister Smriti Irani is turning her attention to transforming the University Grants Commission into a bona fide higher education regulator that is in tune with the sector's changing landscape, writes Urmi A Goswami for *The Economic Times*.

Read more: [University World News](#)

3.2.4 Fake PhD degree scam accused gets bail

The Meghalaya High Court last week granted bail to Chandra Mohan Jha who was arrested after his CMJ University was found selling fake PhD degrees to thousands of students all over the country, reports the *Press Trust of India*.

Read more: [University World News](#)

3.2.5 University regulator moots anti-corruption course

College principals and students have given positive feedback on the University Grants Commission's direction to include anti-corruption as a subject in the higher education curriculum, writes Piyush Bhusari for TNN.

Read more: [University World News](#)

3.2.6 Turmoil as medical degree places cut in quality drive

Moves by the regulatory body the Medical Council of India, or MCI, to scrap almost a third of medical degree places across the country in order to improve the quality of medical education have thrown this year's admissions into disarray.

In early June, the MCI withdrew permission for 15,890 of the 49,950 MBBS undergraduate medical degree seats in medical colleges, saying the institutions had failed to maintain the minimum infrastructure requirements, or had poor faculty-to-student ratios.

Read more: [University World News](#)

3.2.7 Delhi University rolls back four-year degrees after 'politicised' row

The recruitment season at Delhi University – India's top university – has been thrown into chaos. A number of its constituent colleges were forced this week to defer undergraduate admissions in a highly politicised row over the university's attempt to switch to four-year degrees from a three-year British-style model.

Read more: [University World News](#)

3.2.8 India, the second largest LinkedIn user base

At around 26 million users, India is the second largest user base for professional networking site LinkedIn. China, however, may be close on the heels given that just over five months into the launch of a Chinese version the user base has already touched 5 million.



India, which leads in the APAC (Asia Pacific) region, accounts for 8.6 per cent of the global user base, behind the U.S. which accounts for 33 per cent. Most of the growth was witnessed in the past 4-5 years, when awareness about professional networking has grown, said Ganesan Venkatasubramaniam, head of engineering at LinkedIn Technology Center, India.

Read more: [The Hindu](#)

3.2.9 India's Mobile Seva initiative wins UN award

An initiative conceptualized by Indian government's Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) to enable delivery of public services electronically through the mobile platform has been awarded a United Nations public service award.

Mobile Seva, a nationwide initiative conceptualized, funded and implemented by the Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY), is among the second place winners of the 2014 UN Public Service Awards, along with Bahrain, Brazil, Cameroon, Republic of Korea and Spain.

Read more: [Times of India](#)

3.2.10 Indus basin will get hotter by 4 degree C by the end of the century

By the turn of the century, global warming could radically alter the climatic anatomy of one of the world's most populated river basins — the Indus — thereby impacting millions of livelihoods, says a new study.

The 1.1 million sq. km basin, shared by India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and China, is projected to warm “significantly and progressively”, with average temperatures set to increase by around 4 degrees C by 2080, says a paper published recently in the journal *Climate Dynamics*.

Read more: [The Hindu](#)

3.2.11 Getting creative with waste

Are we throwing away things that someone else could use? Can we refashion these items and enjoy them in a new avatar? These are questions worth asking, and luckily several of Bangalore's eco-citizens have come up with answers.

Read more: [The Hindu](#)

3.2.12 E-waste looms large over India

In just over a decade, India will have on its hands a whopping 130 million obsolete desktop computers and 900 million laptops to dispose of, a new research paper estimates.

Besides the sheer volume of non-biodegradable material this entails, e-waste involves distinctly hazardous substances such as cadmium, mercury, lead, arsenic and a blend of plastics that are difficult to remove from the environment, says the study published in the latest edition of *International Journal of Environmental Technology and Management*.



A yawning gap exists already between the ewaste generated in India and its capacity to deal with it.

Read more: [The Hindu](#)

3.2.13 Mumbaiikars can calculate their carbon footprint online

Starting this World Environment Day, environment-conscious Mumbaiites will be enabled, with the click of a mouse, to keep tabs on the impact of climate change on their city.

The website www.mmr-ccrt.org.in, put together by a group of young professionals and launched at the Maharashtra Nature Park at Dharavi here on Wednesday, has tools to help calculate carbon footprints and suggest sustainable lifestyle changes conducive to environmental health.

Read more: [The Hindu](#)

3.2.14 Wonders woven from Nature

The Kottapuram Integrated Development Society (KIDS) is empowering women's groups economically by helping them craft attractive products from natural fibre.

Read more: [The Hindu](#)

3.2.15 Indian cities score high in global IT talent survey

As much as half the world's top 10 cities based on the percentage of new residents with technology skills is in India, a LinkedIn study has found.

Bangalore, Pune, Hyderabad and Chennai topped the list, with Gurgaon coming in at the end. The ranking is based on an analysis of the geographic movements of the social networking site's 300 million members, looking at every new position added to their profiles between November 2012 and November 2013.

Read more: [Times of India](#)

3.3 India-Europe cooperation

3.3.1 EU-India Platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities (EqUIP)

This is a new project funded under FP7 that will bring together research funding and support organisations in Europe and India in order to develop a stronger strategic partnership in the fields of social sciences and humanities. This platform will support research agencies across Europe and India in stepping up international collaboration: through sharing best practice, networking and closer coordination of existing collaborative activities and the establishment of new relationships. It will map existing collaborative activity with the aim of identifying barriers and challenges to effective research co-operation, as well as identify opportunities and priorities for future research collaboration. This is three year project with 1.5 M€ grant from the European Commission. The partner countries/organisations are UK (ESRC, AHRC), India (ICSSR), Finland (AKA), France (ANR), Italy (APRE), Germany (DFG, DLR), Portugal (FCT),



Slovenia (MIZS), Netherlands (NOW), Norway (RCN) and Austria (ZSI). EURAXESS Links India is already working with EqUIP's team to explore joint collaborations. The EqUIP website is under construction. EqUIP will be launched in India after the summer. Keep an eye on the [EURAXESS Links India website](#) and Newsletter.

3.3.2 India-EU workshop: III Coastal zone management and impact on society

On 6-9 October 2014 Nansen Environmental Research Centre India (NERCI) is organizing a workshop as part of the Indo-European Research Facilities for studies on marine ecosystems and climate in India (INDO-MARECLIM, a FP7 project), to discuss the current status of work on coastal zone management and to explore future collaboration possibilities, at Abad Turtle Beach Resort (Kerala). INDO-MARECLIM aims at facilitating and improving co-operation between the EU/MSs/ACs and India, and currently includes partners from UK, France, Italy, the Netherlands and Norway. The Strategy of INDO-MARECLIM is to organize and host workshops and winter school inviting European and Indian scientists, post-docs and PhDs.

For more information and applying for the workshop check on [IndoMareClim](#).

3.3.3 IGCS Summer Schools 2014 on Sustainable Management of Resources

On 16-28 June 2014, the Institute for Sanitary Engineering, Water Quality and Solid Waste Management (ISWA) of the University of Stuttgart, Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) and RWTH Aachen University held the Indo-German Centre of Sustainability (IGCS) Summer School. The theme of the summer school was "Closing the Loop: Solid Waste and Waste Water Management". The summer school addressed technical, social and also economic aspects. The aim was to develop sustainable systems in solid waste and water management. The IGCS including the schools are part of the "A new passage to India" initiative funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

Read more: [IGCS](#)

3.3.4 64th Lindau Nobel Laureate meeting

On 29 June-11 July 2014, 20 young Indian researchers will attend the 64th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting dedicated to medicine. They will be among the 600 aspiring young researchers selected from 80 countries who will meet 37 Nobel Laureates to exchange ideas, discuss projects and build international network. Since 2001, the Indian Department of Science & Technology (DST), Lindau Committee and the German Research Foundation (DFG) have jointly collaborated in the participation of young Indian students and researchers at the annual Nobel Laureates Meeting in Lindau. The first week of the two-week long programme is funded by the the DST and Lindau Committee. The second week - which includes visits to



best German universities and institutes - will be funded and coordinated by the DFG.

Read more: [Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings](#)

3.3.5 Israel to open centres on agri-horticulture in Bihar

Israel is planning to open two centres of excellence at Nalanda and Vaishali in Bihar in the field of vegetables and mango respectively to help cultivators increase their productivity.

In these centres, Israeli agricultural experts along with local farm scientists would impart knowhow of the latest technology to growers to help them raise the production level; Ohad Horsandi, Israeli Embassy spokesman, said in Patna..

Read more: [The Hindu](#)

3.3.6 European Higher Education Fair India – 2014

Organised by the Delegation of the European Union in India, the European Higher Education Fair India 2014, which will take place from 30th November to 5th December 2014 in three different cities - New Delhi, Bangalore and Kolkata - , will promote European higher education in India by providing a platform for European Union member states and higher education institutions to showcase their education opportunities. Indian students and researchers will get an opportunity to interact directly with representatives from the European universities of their choice. Interested higher education institutions are invited to register online at the EHEF website. Registration dates for HE institutions: 15 June – 15 July, 2014

Read more: [EHEF India 2014](#)

Note: Although the focus of the fair will be on master courses rather than research, EURAXESS Links India will be there. Keep an eye on our Newsletter for further information on Research and the EHEF India 2014.

4 Grants & Fellowships

4.1 Call for Proposals for ERC Advanced Grant

Deadline: 21 October 2014

Advanced Grants are designed to support excellent Principal Investigators at the career stage at which they are already established research leaders with a recognised track record of research achievements. This action is open to researchers of any nationality who intend to conduct their research activity in any Member State or Associated Country.

The ERC's frontier research grants operate on a 'bottom-up' basis without predetermined priorities.

The call 'ERC-2014-AdG' consists of one call with a single deadline applying to each of the three main research domains:

- Physical Sciences & Engineering (Panels: PE1 – PE10),
- Life Sciences (Panels: LS1 – LS9),
- Social Sciences & Humanities (Panels: SH1 – SH6).

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Full details on the call [here](#)

4.2 New M-ERA.Net Transnational Call 2014 (engineering and science materials)

Deadline for submission: 16 September 2014

The M-ERA.NET transnational Call 2014 opened on 6 June 2014. 36 funding organisations participate with around 30 million € total committed public funding.

It is a two step application procedure. The Guide for Proposers including the full Call text is published on www.m-era.net. Each applicant is requested to contact his / her national / regional contact person to check for national funding rules. Contact persons are listed in the Guide for Proposers.

M-ERA.NET will enable easy access to collaboration between leading research partners and industry across and also outside Europe and create a powerful network to tackle European and global challenges. Increasing interdisciplinary cooperation with a series of joint calls and activities will enable European researchers and industry to access previously inaccessible new markets, creating a new innovation oriented economy.

Funding is offered to innovative projects focusing on:

- Integrated Computational Materials Engineering
- Materials for Surfaces and Coatings
- Composite Technology
- Materials for Health
- Functional Materials Focusing on Sensors
- Materials for Sustainable and Affordable Low Carbon Energy Technologies

Detailed description of the topical fields and the application procedure is given in the Guide for Proposers.

[Read more](#)

4.3 20 Incoming Postdoc Fellowships at Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

Deadline: 4 July 2014

Freie Universität (FU) Berlin invites applications for 20 postdoc fellowships. The "Postdoc International" POINT research fellowship program, co-financed by the German Excellence Initiative and the Marie Curie Program of the European Commission, provides funding for outstanding postdoctoral researchers from all disciplines to conduct their own research project at Freie Universität Berlin. Starting in January 2015, each research fellowship will be awarded for 18 months. The call is open to experienced researchers from all disciplines and of all nationalities. Applicants will have to submit a project plan based around the research fields/ key topics of the participating excellence projects or focus areas.

[Read more](#)



4.4 Policy Internships in the UK

Application deadline: 18 August 2014

A 3-month internship opportunity for BBSRC-, NERC- and AHRC-funded PhD students to work in one of a selected group of highly influential science policy organisations.

Internship placements provide an opportunity for current BBSRC-, NERC- and AHRC-funded PhD students to work in one of eight host organisations on a policy topic relevant to both the student and the host. The student will be expected to: produce a briefing paper, participate in a policy inquiry, and/or organise a policy event.

[Read more](#)

4.5 UK: Industrial Biotechnology (IB) Catalyst

Expression of interest:

Registration deadline: 3 September 2014

Application deadline: 10 September 2014

Feasibility studies:

Registration deadline: 3 December 2014

Application deadline: 10 December 2014

Together with the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and the Technology Strategy Board (TSB) BBSRC is committed to supporting the development and commercialisation of innovative Industrial Biotechnology (IB) processes (see strategic plan in related links) arising from the UK's excellent research base.

To register the lead partner must register via the competition website at www.innovateuk.org/funding-competitions.

Committed up to £45M in 2014-15 for R&D to address one or more of the major challenges using biological processes, or processes in which biological and chemical approaches are used in combination to support a number of actions.

[Read more](#)

4.6 Scientific Prize Gustave Boël - Sofina Fellowships to go to China or India

Deadline for application: 4 November 2014

The King Baudouin Foundation (Belgium), acting on behalf of the Platform for Education and Talent, attaches great importance to encouraging the international mobility of researchers. Through the patronage of the King Baudouin Foundation, young researchers can apply for a Gustave Boël – Sofina Fellowship to go to China or India for a research or training stay of either 6 months or 12 months.



Among the conditions: You are a doctoral student or a postdoctoral researchers (max. PhD + 3 yrs.), affiliated to a Belgian university and with EU-nationality (28 member states).

[Read more](#)

4.7 Forthcoming call

Spreading excellence and widening participation - Call for Twinning (H2020-TWINN-2015). Foreseen publication date: 2 July 2014. Check on [Horizon 2020 Participant Portal](#).

4.8 Calls still open (see previous newsletters for more details)

Horizon 2020 – First calls: Many of the 145 calls published in December 2013 are still open in the fields of Societal Challenges, Industrial Leadership and Science with and for Society).

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

Deadline for submission (many by late August/September/October, also in early 2015): **check under specific call**.

Three *calls under Horizon 2020* are *highlighted* here:

[Marie Skłodowska-Curie action's Individual Fellowships \(H2020-MSCA-IF-2014\)](#): IF provide opportunities to acquire and transfer new knowledge and to work on research in a European context or outside Europe. The scheme supports the return and reintegration of researchers from outside Europe who have previously worked here. It also develops or helps to restart the careers of individual researchers that show great potential, considering their experience.

Deadline: **11 September 2014**

[Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions Co-funding of Regional, National and International Programmes \(H2020-MSCA-COFUND-2014\)](#): The COFUND scheme aims at stimulating regional, national or international programmes to foster excellence in researchers' training, mobility and career development, spreading the best practices of Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions.

Deadline: **2 October 2014**

Call for proposals for ERC [Proof of Concept Grants](#)

Deadline: **1 October 2014** (2nd deadline in 2014)

Other calls:

UK: BBSRC Anniversary Awards for [Excellence in Bioscience and Bioscience Communication](#)

Deadline: **15 July 2014**

UK: [FLexible Interchange Programme \(FLIP\)](#)

Deadline: **16 July 2014**





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**

PORTUGAL: [New Media and Pervasive Systems PhD Programme by COPELABS and University Lusofona](#)

Deadline for application: **different deadlines**

GERMANY: [German Chancellor Fellowships for Prospective Leaders](#):

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation offers prospective leaders from Brazil, China, India, Russia and the USA the opportunity to conduct a project as guests of the partner of their choice in Germany.

Deadline: **15 September 2014**



Horizon 2020: 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. The call for expression of interest will remain open for the lifetime of Horizon 2020.

5 Jobs

5.1 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!

Currently, there are 6920 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 latest positions open for Indian participants:

[Postdoctoral Researchers in Structural and Functional Plasticity in Amygdala and Cortical Circuits](#) in animal models of Intellectual Disability and Autism Spectrum Disorders. The positions are part of a collaboration between Shona Chattarji (inStem and NCBS, Bangalore) and Peter Kind, David Wyllie (University of Edinburgh). Positions available: one.

Apply by: 10 August 2014

[Postdoctoral Researchers in Computational and Experimental Neuroscience](#): Postdoctoral positions in computational and experimental neuroscience, as part of a collaboration between Matt Nolan (University of Edinburgh) and Upi Bhalla (National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore). The projects are to examine representations, connectivity and plasticity in the Hippocampal-Entorhinal circuitry. Positions available: two.

One position is for a computational analysis of representations, sequence formation and plasticity.





The other position is more experimental, and will involve patch, tetrode, and 2-photon recordings in mice as they learn representations and associations.

These roles involve working at both CBDR in Bangalore, India and the University of Edinburgh, for defined, mutually agreed periods of time.

Apply by: 10 August 2014

5.2 Join us on LinkedIn: linkedin.euraxess.org



The EURAXESS Links group on LinkedIn is for **internationally mobile researchers** to share their experiences and learn of jobs and career opportunities around the world..

It is part of the EURAXESS initiative, the European Commission's programme to support researchers, of which EURAXESS Links is its external window (i.e. for outside Europe).

Examples of recent employment or fellowship opportunity published on EURAXESS Links-Internationally Mobile Researchers are provided below. For further information click on the position:

[Senior Researchers \(15 positions\) as Ikerbasque Research Professors \(Basque Country, Spain\)](#)

Deadline: 10 September 2014

[Fellowship for Science Journalists 2014 "Falling Walls"](#)

Deadline: 31 July 2014

5.3 India: Example of jobs at DevNetJobsIndia

For further information click on the position:

[Researcher Trainer](#)

Ignis Careers

Location: Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

Apply by: 16 Jul 2014

[Gynecologist](#)

Schieffelin Institute of Health - Research & Leprosy Centre

Location: Karigiri, Tamil Nadu

Apply by: 18 Jul 2014

[Director - Policy, Research and Campaigns](#)

Oxfam India

Location: Delhi

Apply by: 14 Jul 2014

[Associate Director – Policy & Research](#)

SaveLIFE Foundation (SLF)

Location: Delhi

Apply by: 05 Jul 2014

[Network Development Officer, Research Associate](#)

Vasudha Foundation

Location: New Delhi, Delhi

Apply by: 14 Jul 2014



[Research Communications Coordinator](#)

Save the Children

Location: Delhi

Apply by: 04 Jul 2014

[Program Manager](#)

Embrace Innovations

Location: Bangalore, Karnataka

Apply by: 13 Jul 2014

[Field Pilot Manager](#)

Embrace Innovations

Location: Bangalore, Karnataka

Apply by: 13 Jul 2014

5 Events

Event (click for more details)	Location	Date
5.1 Europe		
5th International Summit on "ICT-enabled Governance"	Samos, Greece	30 June – 5 July 2014
Info Day on "Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation Calls in Horizon 2020" by European Commission	Brussels, Belgium	3 July 2014
eGovernment & eHealth - 11th International Conference and Exhibition	Monza, Italy	10–12 July 2014
European Alpbach Forum 2014 (Note: Scholarships available. Several symposia, including one on 'Research and Innovation at the Crossroads' and summer schools.)	Alpbach, Austria	10-29 August 2014
European Biogas Association Conference by EBA	Alkmaar, The Netherlands	30/09-1/10 2014
ICT Proposers' Day 2014 by European Commission	Florence, Italy	9-10 October 2014
Seventh International Conference of Education, Research and Innovation	Seville, Spain	17–19 November 2014
5.2 India		
2nd SAHYOG (Strengthening Networking on Biomass Research and Biowaste Conversion – Biotechnology for Europe India Integration) Summer School by Tezpur University	Tezpur, Assam	20-26 July 2014
Indo-French workshop on "Himalayan Tectonics"	Srinagar & Leh	20-28 July 2014
EnerAsia2014 - Global Energy Summit by Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDPU)	Gandhinagar, Gujarat	26-28 September 2014
Biotechnology Mission 2014 'Synergies between India and the EU' by EBTC	Pune & Mumbai	29-30 September 2014



India-EU workshop: III Coastal zone management and impact on society by Nansen Environmental Research Centre India (NERCI)	Abad Turtle Beach Resort, Kerala	6-9 October 2014
EURAXESS Science Slam India 2014 – LIVE finals by EURAXESS Links India in partnership with TIFR	Mumbai	1 November 2014
Confederation of Indian Industry's KNoWLEDGeXPO	Noida, Delhi NCR	20-22 November 2014
Commonwealth Science Conference	Bangalore	25-28 November 2014
European Higher Education Fair India 2014 (EHEF)	New Delhi	30 November-1 December 2014
European Higher Education Fair India 2014 (EHEF)	Bengaluru	3 December 2014
European Higher Education Fair India 2014 (EHEF)	Kolkata	5 December 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 trans-national mobility. Membership is free.

Visit us at 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, Indonesia and Vietnam), Brazil, China, India, Japan, and North America (USA & Canada).