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## EURAXESS LINKS INDIA

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to present to you the 35<sup>th</sup> 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. A selection of Grants and Fellowships (i.e. Green Talents-International Forum for High Potentials in Sustainable Development), Job opportunities (e.g. 15 positions for senior researchers at Ikerbasque) as well as upcoming Events is also available.

There is also one new funding opportunity with tight deadline from the Indo-Poland Research Programme 2014.

To join the celebration of Europe Day on 9 May, we have included more news & development than usually from Europe. There is also a new section dedicated to EURAXESS Links India events.

Our 'EU Insight' section this month focuses on the launch of U-Multirank, a new, multidimensional ranking tool.

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 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.

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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 – Launch of U-Multirank

A new global university ranking tool, [U-Multirank](#), which assesses the performance of more than 850 higher education institutions worldwide, was launched by the European Commission (EC) on May 13, 2014.

With U-Multirank, the universities are tested against up to 30 separate indicators and rated in **five performance groups: teaching and learning, research, international orientation, knowledge transfer and regional engagement.**

As a multidimensional ranking tool, U-Multirank demonstrates the diversity of university profiles in the international context for the first time. It provides no composite overall scores, as the adding and weighting of scores to one overall score, leads to a loss of transparency.

The European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, Androulla Vassiliou said:

*“We are proud of our world-class higher education, but we need many kinds of universities, catering for a wide range of needs; that means strong technical and regional universities just as much as outstanding research universities. U-Multirank highlights many excellent performers that do not show up in current, research-focused, global rankings- including more than 300 universities that have never appeared in any world ranking until now.”*

Results show that while over 95% of institutions achieve an ‘A’ score on at least one measure, only 12% have more than 10 top scores. Of the 850 universities in the ranking 62% are from Europe, 17% from North America, 14% from Asia and 7% from Oceania, Latin America and Africa.

U-Multirank is a flexible learning tool for students, academics, policy-makers and administrators looking for information to support decision-making. **At this stage** it covers **four subject areas**, namely **business studies, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and physics.** Fields of study to be included in 2015 are psychology, computer science and medicine. Another target for 2015 is also to increase the number of institutions in U-Multirank to a total of 1000-1100 universities.

The U-Multirank project receives seed funding through the European Commission’s Lifelong Learning Programme (now Erasmus+) for an initial period of two years (2013-2015) totaling €2 million with the option of an extension for a further two years (2015-2017). The goal is for an independent organization to manage the ranking on a sustainable funding model thereafter.



To register your institution for the participation, complete registration form online at [www.umultirank.org](http://www.umultirank.org), until early autumn

The initiative originated at a conference under the 2008 French Presidency of the European Union, which called for a new methodology to measure the different dimensions of excellence of higher education and research institutions in Europe and in an international context. Subsequently, the EC commissioned a feasibility study on a multi-dimensional ranking in 2011.

An independent consortium led by the Centre for Higher Education (CHE) in Germany and the Center for Higher Education Policy Studies (CHEPS) in the Netherlands compiled the new ranking. Other partner organisations include the Centre for Science and Technology at Leiden University (the Netherlands), Catholic University Leuven (Belgium), academic publishers Elsevier, the Bertelsmann Foundation, the student advice organisation Push and software firm Folge 3.

Sources:

- [1] [U-Multirank website](#)
- [2] [U-Multirank May Newsletter](#)
- [3] [Q+A Memo U-Multirank](#)
- [4] [Press Release U-Multirank from the European Commission](#)
- [5] [Presentation on U-Multirank from the European Commission](#)
- [6] [Multidimensional Ranking- The Design and Development of U-Multirank](#)

## 2 EURAXESS Events in India

### 2.1 EURAXESS Science Slam 2014

*A science slam is a scientific talk where scientists present their own scientific research work in a given time frame – usually 10 minutes or less - in front of a non-expert audience. The focus lies on teaching current science to a diverse audience in an entertaining way. The presentation is judged by the audience [and if applicable a jury]. A science slam is a form of science communication. (Source: Wikipedia)*

The 2<sup>nd</sup> global EURAXESS Science Slam is almost ready to be launched in India in June. It is a **competition** open to **all research fields**. 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 in **Mumbai** in early November. 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.

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

## 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) 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 hope to give you further details for the events in Delhi and Chennai in our June/July newsletter. EURAXESS Links India Community members will be the first ones to know about these events.

## 2.3 EURAXESS Links India on-site visits

In addition to the bigger EURAXESS events (Science Slam, Euraxess Share and Euraxess Connect – see also [here](#)), it is possible to invite EURAXESS Links India country representative to universities, research institutes and companies in India, either as a stand-alone session or during a larger event.

Depending on your needs, the interactive session can target faculty members, senior scientists or young researchers.

The country representative can present the services offered by EURAXESS Links India, cooperation and career opportunities with Europe etc. If you wish to organize such a presentation in your organization, please contact us at [india@euraxess.net](mailto:india@euraxess.net).

## 2.4 Take part in the EURAXESS Researchers' World Cup Contest 2014

With the upcoming FIFA World Cup in Brazil, EURAXESS Links wants to reach out to all researchers who love football and dream about “playing in a different field”. That's why we have created a fun game: the EURAXESS Tipping Competition for the 2014 FIFA World Cup! You simply predict the scores of each match of the World Cup. In the end, the three top players with the most accurate predictions from every EURAXESS Links country/hub will win surprise EURAXESS goodies. All players can also invite their friends to join the game.

Click [here](#) to read more about the competition. Signing in is possible until the very first kick-off on June 12th, 2014!



## 3 News & Developments

### 3.1 Europe

#### 3.1.1 A global forum for food and fuel forestry



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The Kyoto Protocol was one of the first major international treaties that focused on human caused climate change. Signed in 1997 by 192 countries, it came into effect in 2005 with a set of legal requirements for industrialised nations to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. One aspect of the Protocol is the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), which enables developed nations to reach their emissions targets by sponsoring emissions-reducing projects in the CDM countries - namely China, India, Brazil and most of Africa.

One of these emissions-reducing initiatives was the European Union (EU)-funded BENWOOD project. Project Coordinator and Director of Energieautark Consulting in Vienna, Thomas Lewis, perceived a “lack of exchange” between agroforestry scientists and practitioners of Short Rotation Forestry (SRF) in Europe and elsewhere. Combining crops with trees and shrubs, agroforestry improves yields and biodiversity and it is practiced worldwide.

Read more: [European Commission](#)

#### 3.1.2 Developing high-efficiency lasers to manufacture solar panels

As the world continues its efforts to combat climate change and to move away from its dependence on fossil fuels, solar energy looks set to become an important technology for the future.

The manufacturing of solar energy panels is therefore likely to grow into a significant industry, offering large rewards for whoever can establish an advantage. The aim of the European Union (EU)-funded ALPINE project was to develop new laser techniques which would enhance the manufacturing of solar energy panels, making them more efficient and less expensive than anything currently available.

The project could have multiple benefits – not only boosting Europe’s leadership position in lasers and in the photovoltaic (PV) industry, but also delivering environmental benefits through the development of improved methods for harnessing solar energy.

Read more: [European Commission](#)



### 3.1.3 Factories of the future: assembly-line machines do their own 'thinking'



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A major consumer of time and money in the manufacturing of aircraft, motor vehicles, electronic equipment and other products is adapting assembly lines to produce different sizes, shapes and styles of such complex items. Work must stop along the line while machines are reconfigured to change how raw materials are cut, holes are drilled, and rivets are punched into place.

Each machine in a factory needs to be equipped with specific instructions – a sort of recipe – to carry out a certain task in a certain way. This decades-old technique could be on the verge of changing. An EU-funded project has developed assembly-line machines that can do their own “thinking.” Peschl coordinated the XPRESS project - short for “Flexible Production Experts for Reconfigurable Assembly Technology.”

Read more: [European Commission](#)

### 3.1.4 Help for failing eyesight



© Tyler Olson fotolia

The EU-funded CREST project is tackling the debilitating effects of age-related macular degeneration, a condition that affects a high proportion of older citizens. But the results could have far-reaching implications for the normally sighted as well, enabling what some have called 'super-vision'.

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is a medical condition involving damage to the retina. It is the leading cause of blindness in the developed world, usually affecting older adults. “Nutritional pigments at the back of the eye are central to understanding AMD,” explains Professor John Nolan of the Waterford Institute of Technology. In 2011, he was awarded a European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grant for the CREST project, aimed at measuring the impact of these substances on vision.

Read more: [European Commission](#)

### 3.1.5 The telltale blood of schizophrenics



© Stocksnapper - Fotolia.com

It can take a long time for schizophrenia sufferers to receive the treatment they need – partly because diagnosis is not necessarily straightforward. Many of the symptoms could just as easily be caused by other disorders. A revolutionary blood test developed by EU-funded researchers helps doctors to make the right call.

The EU-funded SchizDX project has developed the world’s first blood test for schizophrenia. This breakthrough dramatically reduces the time needed to confirm suspected cases and provide treatment.

Finding the best combination of drugs for individual patients is another key challenge in the treatment of this disorder. Currently, the process can take months or even years. In time, SchizDX’s results could help speed this up as well.

Read more: [European Commission](#)



### 3.1.6 Helping premature babies breathe normally



© Steve Lovegrove - Fotolia.com

Premature newborn babies frequently suffer from difficulties in breathing during their first weeks of life, a condition known as respiratory distress syndrome. In such cases, they are normally given oxygen therapy with the aid of an airway pressure machine or a ventilator.

However, this treatment can stop the normal lung development and can trigger a major complication known as bronchopulmonary dysplasia, or BPD. In the United Kingdom the overall incidence of BPD is reported at about 20% of ventilated newborns; in the US it is estimated to cost over \$ 2.4 billion per year.

To address the BPD problem, the European Union (EU)-funded NEUROSIS project, led by Tübingen University Hospital in Germany, is conducting one of the largest randomised and controlled studies of the breathing problems of premature babies ever done in Europe.

Read more: [European Commission](#)

### 3.1.7 Making buildings more sustainable to improve health and comfort



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How buildings can affect a person's health is often overlooked, despite the fact that people spend an average of 90 per cent of their time indoors—whether in homes, offices or other spaces.

Though often taken for granted, healthy and comfortable indoor environments are in the interest of everyone – families, employees and children alike. To further these goals, the European Union (EU)-funded project Clear-up has developed designs for healthy homes and workplaces that also deliver environmental benefits.

When inside, a person's primary needs are ample amounts of daylight and fresh air as well as exposure to the right temperature. For society at large, sustainability is also identified as a key priority. The Clear-up project team developed techniques to fulfill all these needs affordably while also reducing energy consumption and using environmentally sustainable materials.

Read more: [European Commission](#)

### 3.1.8 Self-healing concrete lives longer



© Robert Kneschke fotolia

Small cracks in concrete are hard to avoid. These tiny fissures are no immediate threat to safety, but they can affect a building's durability: water seeping in can corrode reinforcements, for example. Millions of euros could be saved every year in maintenance if concrete could be designed to repair itself. EU researchers are working on it.

Healcon set out in 2013 to select and improve promising techniques for the production of concrete that will automatically fill any small cracks forming throughout its lifetime. One year on, the team has already found ways to tackle several of the complex challenges associated with the chosen experimental approaches.



Read more: [European Commission](#)

### 3.1.9 How fish DNA tests can trace illegal catches



© Sergey Nivens fotolia

Several fish stocks are at risk of collapsing almost everywhere around the world and a large part of the problem is down to illegal catches.

But a recent research project, funded by the European Commission, found a way to improve control and enforcement of regulations against these practices by using genetic markers to trace the exact location where the catches were pulled out of the sea.

The project, FishPopTrace, offers a cost effective and reliable DNA test that could give the authorities the means to identify illegally caught fish. Started in 2008, the project built a forensics database for Europe's four important exploited species: cod, hake, sole and herring.

Read more: [European Commission](#)

### 3.1.10 Advising researchers on how to balance science and ethics



© Krasimira Nevenova fotolia

Although science is often seen as a discipline concerned with hard facts, it can be difficult to separate research from its ethical, social and political setting. Researchers struggling to balance science with ethics can now count on advice from a European project, EGAIS, that looked at how best to handle the wider ethical context.

EGAIS researchers identified ethical governance approaches after they examined the EU's monitoring of ethical aspects of emerging technologies, including ICT research projects. The team then made suggestions on improving ethical governance by taking account of rules, values and contexts related to each new technology in a multi-faceted approach.

Read more: [European Commission](#)

### 3.1.11 Finalists gear up for European Inventor Award 2014



Fifteen inventors of ground-breaking technologies will gather in Berlin next month to vie for prizes at the European Inventor Award 2014.

Finalists include top scientists, engineers and inventors in the fields of biotechnology, construction, environment, mechanics, medical technology, pharmaceuticals, telecommunications and traffic safety.

An international jury has whittled down the original 300 candidates to 15 inventors and inventor teams. All of the finalists have developed technologies that contribute towards social, technological and economic progress.

Presented by the European Patent Office (EPO), the European Inventor Award honours inventive individuals and teams whose pioneering work provides answers to the challenges of our age and contributes to social progress, economic growth and prosperity. EPO President Benoît Battistelli notes, 'The genius of these inventors underlines Europe's role as a prime

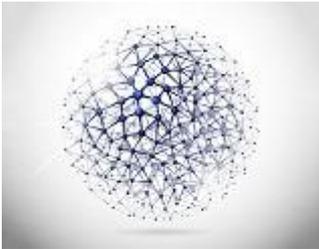


hub of innovation, fostering the successful deployment of new technologies from all over the world.'

[Vote online](#) for your favourite inventor to win the 'Popular Prize'.

More information: [European Patent Office](#)

### 3.1.12 'Science Hub' – the new portal bringing together scientific knowledge for Europe



Science Hub - JRC

The newly launched 'Science Hub' brings together, on one single platform, all scientific knowledge produced by the European Commission's in-house science service - the Joint Research Centre (JRC) - and its research institutes across Europe. The Science Hub enhances the transparency and openness of the European Commission's in-house science service and facilitates the open access policy of our scientific research. The Hub is a gateway to ten science areas and a variety of related research topics.

Access to the new website: [JRC Science Hub](#)

### 3.1.13 Updated Horizon 2020 country factsheets



The Horizon 2020 Framework Programme for Research and Innovation European Union country factsheets have been updated with the latest figures including new data on:

Innovation Output Indicator position | SME participation | The number of ERC Principal Investigators | The number of Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Fellows | Top 10 beneficiaries in each country

These fact sheets give an overview of the research & innovation landscape of the 28 EU member states. It includes country profiles and featured projects in each country.

Read more: [Horizon 2020](#)

### 3.1.14 Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions: Pocket guide

Considering a doctoral degree? Looking for partnerships between academic and non-academic organisations or staff exchanges? Keen on outreach activities? There is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie action for you.

The EU's Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions fund all kind of opportunities for researchers from Europe and beyond. This starter booklet gives you the needed information to make the right first choice.

Guide available for downloading or on-line reading [here](#)



## 3.2 India

### 3.2.1 Twitter to take India election innovations global

U.S. social networking company Twitter is planning to replicate parts of its India election strategy across countries that go to polls this year, after it emerged as a key tool for politicians and media companies during the world's largest democratic exercise.



In India, Twitter Inc worked closely with politicians including the victor Narendra Modi who used the platform for election campaigning, and also partnered with mobile and media firms to distribute tweets online and offline.

Now, with polling due in countries such as Brazil, Indonesia and the United States later this year, the San Francisco-based company plans to take its India lessons abroad to expand its foothold in the political arena and increase its user base.

Read more: [Reuters](#)

### 3.2.2 Why is there no Indian equivalent of Microsoft or Google?

Why don't Indian software services companies develop products? Companies like TCS, Infosys and Wipro may be very profitable, but why is there no Indian equivalent of Microsoft, Google or Oracle? Such questions have dogged the Indian software services industry for many years (Krishnan and Prabhu, 2003).

What services do these Indian companies offer? One service is developing new software systems for clients, starting from a set of requirements and a choice of platform: a programming language, an operating system and a database system. However, most of their business (perhaps 70-80 per cent) comes from upgrading and supporting large operational software systems, removing software bugs as they appear and adding features to meet new requirements. A major function of software services companies is to reduce the inherent risk of developing and maintaining software systems for its clients.

There are excellent reasons for software services companies to do R&D.

Read more: [The Hindu](#)

### 3.2.3 Najeeb Jung forms committee to look into Delhi pollution levels

To examine all aspects of pollution, cause and steps to check

A week after the World Health Organization report dubbed Delhi as the most polluted city in the world, Lieutenant-Governor Najeeb Jung on Tuesday constituted a high-power committee to look into pollution levels in the city.

As per the mandate, the committee will specifically look into pollution caused by the growing number of vehicles and the pollution levels in Yamuna due to the industrial and sewer waste being flown in the river. The committee has been asked to submit a report in a month.

Read more: [The Hindu](#)

### 3.2.4 Only 200 Great Indian Bustards left: WWF

The Indian Government urged to evolve an action plan to protect the bird, which is on the verge of extinction.



“We are losing our Great Indian Bustard,” WWF-India Secretary-General and CEO, Ravi Singh told The Hindu here on Friday. The total number of birds now was as low as 200, he said, calling for quick efforts to protect the species.

Read more: [The Hindu](#)

### 3.2.5 IISR releases farmer friendly technologies

In the recent annual Institute Research Committee meeting of Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR), Kozhikode, new technologies suitable for spice growers were identified.

In the technology transfer session new and promising technologies were discussed with representatives of Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur, Spices Board, Kochi, Directorate of Arecanut and Spices, Kozhikode and Department of Agriculture, Kerala and recommended for spices growers.

Read more: [The Hindu](#)

### 3.2.6 ‘Pulse panchayat’ gains momentum in Tamil Nadu

The project has been started in Edaiyapatti panchayat in Pudukottai

Pudukottai district is one of the driest regions in Tamil Nadu. The major crops under tank fed and open well irrigation system in this region in Tamil Nadu are paddy, millets, black gram and groundnut. Pulses like green, black and red gram are generally grown as a rainfed crops especially during summer.

But the harvested pulses do not fetch a good net income because of low yields due to pest and disease attack and poor processing facilities for value addition.

The M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), working in Illuppur taluk, Annavasal Block, Pudukottai district, for the past seven years to improve the livelihoods of small farmers, designed a project for increasing the production of pulses in the region.

Read more: [The Hindu](#)

### 3.2.7 Indian scientist wins top British fellowship

An Indian scientist in Britain has been granted a prestigious fellowship worth £1,068,000 (about \$1.8 million) by a top British agency that funds research in engineering and the physical sciences.

Ravinder Dahiya, a senior lecturer at the University of Glasgow’s electronic and nano scale engineering division, is among the eight leading academics from 10 British universities to be endowed with ‘Engineering Fellowships for Growth’ by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) aimed at maintaining Britain’s research leadership in three areas identified as Great British Technologies — advanced materials, robotic and autonomous systems, and synthetic biology.

Read more: [The Hindu](#)



### 3.2.8 Record number of Indian varsities feature in the new Asian Universities Ranking by QS

There is finally some good news for Indian universities that have lately found no place in the world's top rankings or have figured right at the bottom of the list

A record number of Indian universities feature in the new Asian Universities Ranking published by QS: 17 compared with only 11 last year.

As with all other recent rankings, the Indian Institutes of Technology lead the way. The top position has been taken by IIT Delhi which holds on to 38th place, pulling clear of IIT Bombay at 41st.

Read more: [The Times of India](#)

### 3.2.9 Reforming higher education with transparency

Is the Indian Institute of Technology a university? What is the difference between a deemed-to-be-university and a state private university? How does the University of Pune 'affiliate' more than 600 colleges? How does the authority and control of multiple regulatory bodies differ?

These are some of the confusing and frustrating questions that researchers, policy-makers and foreign institutions who are interested in India have to confront. They expose the complexity of the current condition of higher education in India.

Indian higher education has expanded at a break-neck speed. Between 2007-08 and 2010-11, post-secondary student enrolments grew by nearly five million students.

In the same five-year period, the number of institutions increased by nearly 10,000. But this much needed expansion came at the expense of quality, primarily due to an inadequate and incoherent policy and legal framework.

One of the most challenging problems facing Indian higher education institutions is funding mechanisms. According to the policy framework, institutions are required to have a non-profit structure, irrespective of how they are funded – by public or private sources.

Read more: [University World News](#)

## 3.3 India-Europe cooperation

### 3.3.1 Celebrating Europe Day: 9 May 2014



2014 is a special year for the EU. Ten years ago ten new members joined the European Union. The 2004 enlargement was a crucial step towards overcoming decades of division on our continent. Since then three new members have joined our club; a testament to the continuing attraction of closer ties to the EU. The EU has 28 Member States in 2014.



This year is also special for European citizens. From 22-25 May voters will go to the polls to cast their ballot in the elections to the next European Parliament. This means citizens will have a clear say in what should be the EU's priorities for the next five years.



The new European Parliament will also have a say in the implementation of Horizon 2020 as well as in the start of the discussions for the Research & Innovation policies beyond 2020.

The EU Delegation to India celebrated the occasion with a reception in New Delhi where EURAXESS Links India was also present.

To read the full speech by João Cravinho, Ambassador of the European Union to India go to: [EU Delegation to India](#)

### 3.3.2 Europe-India Workshop on Energy – Towards Future Collaborations

On 11 April 2014 an EU/MS/India workshop on Energy took place in Paris. The event was organised by the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research, which holds the position as European co-chair of the Thematic Working Group on Energy in the Group of Senior Officials (GSO) policy process. The event gathered a number of members of the Thematic Working Group on Energy, Ministries/ programme owners, policy makers and representatives from industries.

At the event the participants discussed in general on possible topics of common interest based on the *Shared EU/MS – India strategic agenda for research and innovation in Energy* that has been endorsed by the Group of Senior Official (GSO) in October 2013.

In the first part, the event aimed to bring together the members of the Thematic Working Group on Energy with funding agencies and other actors such as the European Energy Research Alliance (EERA) and the two new international cooperation projects INNO INDIGO and INDIGO POLICY. INNO INDIGO and INDIGO POLICY presented their structure and aims to the audience and further elaborated how the projects can be interlinked with the work of the Thematic Working Groups of the GSO and how it can support their work. Furthermore, the EERA presented its structure and activities in order to find potential synergies between its activities and the EU/MS-India GSO process.

In the second part, the event continued a discussion about how to further narrow down the subtopics which had been defined by the Thematic Working Group and which had been endorsed by the GSO. The results will be further discussed by the Thematic Working Group.

To find more on the thematic workshop you may contact [Audrey.GAHERY@cnsr-dir.fr](mailto:Audrey.GAHERY@cnsr-dir.fr) from CNRS.



### 3.3.3 India-EU Workshop on Research & Innovation on ICT



On 29 April the Indian Department of Electronics and IT (DeitY) organised a workshop with high level participation from key Indian organisations and European participants in New Delhi. The event was organised in close cooperation with the EU Delegation. Electronics has strong potential for closer cooperation at industrial and research level. STMicroelectronics is a technology leader in a consortium negotiating financial closure with the Government of India for setting up a multi-billion dollar wafer fab, and IMEC is launching complementary research activities in India. Other potentially promising areas could include language technologies, smart cards, cyber-physical systems, High Performance Computing, cloud computing, Internet of Things, software, and digital (incl. 3D) heritage preservation.

The introductory part of the workshop focused on the Indian and European R&I systems and funding mechanisms. Morten Moller, Head of Unit for Programme Coordination at DG Connect, presented Horizon 2020 and its ICT elements (by videoconference) while the Spanish S&T Counsellor illustrated his country's ICT landscape and the Spanish Programme of R&D cooperation with India, and referred to a call for proposals with ICT focus currently under evaluation and to another upcoming call in 2014/15 (other Member States with similar initiatives include Finland, the UK, the Netherlands, Ireland, Germany, and France).

For the rest of the day, the workshop provided many participants with the opportunity to give short - "elevator pitch" style - presentations. European participants introduced examples of European research institutions (CNRS, INRIA), past cooperation projects (FP7 ICT BIC project on trust and security; EU-India Grid and Chain-Reds were mentioned by Indian participants), the European Business and Technology Centre (which will in future also work on ICT), IPR in the context of European research, as well as the support action project EURAXESS Links India.

Several Indian institutions presented relevant ICT work, and expressed interest in cooperation with European institutions. For example, the Society for Applied Microelectronics Engineering/SAMEER in Mumbai (and Chennai, Kolkata) is working on medical electronics for diagnostics (cancer, diabetes, malaria, dengue fever), microwave-based technologies for agro-food products, or environmental monitoring (e.g. a lightning detection system). IIT-Bombay mentioned work on electronics for disease diagnosis or the detection of explosives. C-DAC and IISc highlighted their work and cooperation interest on High Performance Computing, and several participants mentioned cloud computing, language technologies (C-DAC e.g. a semantic search engine), software (FOSS) and digital heritage preservation. IIT-Delhi expressed interest in the EU's Human Brain Project. Interesting to note is that both a representative of DeitY and IIT-Madras mentioned their experience and interest in work on wireless communications standards (3GPP).



Klaus Pendl, EU Counsellor for ICT, summarised the overall cooperation possibilities:

1. Horizon 2020 - collaborative research and innovation: the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation now covering the full value chain; the possibility of "a la carte participation" by Indian organisations, targeted openings and coordinated calls were described, underlining however the complexity of the task and the need for thorough long-term preparation.
2. Horizon 2020 - e-Infrastructures: Link between GEANT and TEIN (Asia-Pacific) with Indian National Knowledge Network/NKN as important partner representing an important foundation for scientific cooperation (e.g. India-CERN).
3. Mobility actions (and related): Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions and European Research Council Grants, EU Delegation Call for Proposals in support of mobility for cluster-to-cluster cooperation.
4. Joint calls between funding institutions from several EU Member States and India: Interesting flexible model established by the FP7 "New Indigo" project, under which several Indian and EU Member States' funding institutions have defined and implemented joint calls for proposals (continued by the new "Inno Indigo" project).
5. Individual EU Member State – India cooperation initiatives.
6. Cluster-to-cluster cooperation (industry/research): e.g. significant cooperation openings around a potential wafer-fab.
7. Institutional cooperation between research organisations (e.g.. C-DAC & INRIA).

To know more on EU-India ICT cooperation you may contact [Klaus.PENDL@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:Klaus.PENDL@eeas.europa.eu) from the EU Delegation to India.

### 3.3.4 Indo-European research & innovation and social media

Johanna Peltola of the Tampere University of Applied Sciences in Finland is pursuing her doctoral thesis on Indo-European research & innovation and social media. She has prepared a short survey for her thesis. She is specially targeting SME's based in India.

Support Indo-European research & innovation by filling out this short 5-minute survey. Your views are highly valuable in improving the digital communication strategy to enhance the Indo-European collaboration.

Your input will be kept strictly confidential. The results will be used in the final thesis conducted in Tampere University of Applied Sciences in collaboration with Tekes, the Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation. Your input to open ended questions might be cited in the final work.

Johanna Peltola would like to already thank everyone responding to her survey call.



To participate at the survey click [here](#)

## 4 Grants & Fellowships

### 4.1 Indo - Poland Joint Research Programme 2014

**Deadline: 31 May 2014**

The Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India and the Ministry of Science & Higher Education of the Government of Poland (MNISW) invite proposals for Joint Research projects in bilateral mode involving scientists & technologists from India and Poland.

The DST and the MNISW invite Indian and Polish scientists/researchers to submit proposals for Joint Research Projects in any of the scientific areas in terms of the provisions set out in the call.

Full details on the call [here](#)

### 4.2 Green Talents - International Forum for High Potentials in Sustainable Development (GERMANY)

**Deadline: 16 June 2014**



Since 2009, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) has held the prestigious "Green Talents - International Forum for High Potentials in Sustainable Development" to promote the international exchange of ideas regarding green solutions. The award, whose patron is Minister Professor Johanna Wanka, honours **25 young researchers** from around the world each year. The winners come from various scientific disciplines and are recognised for their outstanding achievements in making our societies more sustainable. The Green Talents 2014 will be selected by a high-ranking jury of German experts and are granted unique access to the elite of the country's sustainability research field. This includes:

- An invitation to Germany in 2014 to participate in the fully funded **two-week science forum**. While touring Germany, top locations will open their doors to the Green Talents and offer them an exclusive insight into their facilities and projects.
- A chance to present themselves and their work in personal discussions held as part of **individual appointments** with experts of their choice (during the two-week science forum).
- A second invitation to Germany in 2015 for a **fully funded research stay** of up to three months. At an inspiring location of their choice, the Green Talents will gain new experiences and advance their professional careers while establishing long-lasting partnerships.
- Exclusive access to the "**Green Talents Network**" of over 100 high potentials in sustainable development from over 35 countries.



Open to non-German nationals and not residing in Germany.  
More information [here](#)

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



**Horizon 2020 – First calls:** 145 calls were published in December 2013 under the new EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (On Excellent Science 22 calls; on Industrial Leadership over 40 calls; and on Societal Challenges around 80 calls. Most of these calls are still open). Access all open calls on the [Horizon 2020 Participant Portal](#)  
Deadline for submission: **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**



**European Research Council: [ERC Work Programme 2014](#)**  
**Call for proposals for ERC [Proof of Concept Grants](#)**

Deadline: **1 October 2014** (2<sup>nd</sup> deadline in 2014)

#### **Other calls:**

**France & Sweden: [Common Research and Training Programme on Climate and Environment](#)**

Deadline: **13 June 2014**

**UK: [Anniversary Future Leader Fellowship](#):** The AFLF will support the transition of early stage researchers to fully independent research leaders.

Deadline: **26 June 2014**



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

Deadline: **15 July 2014**



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

Deadline: 16 July 2014

**Indo–Finnish cooperation: [Industrial Technology, R&D and Innovation Programme in Cleantech, Smart city development and Affordable health care](#)**

Deadline for submission: 30 June 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

Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation



**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 7584 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 positions to study structural and functional plasticity in amygdala and cortical circuits](#) in animal models of Intellectual Disability and Autism Spectrum Disorders

[Long-Term Professorship for Waste Management](#) at the Indo-German Centre for Sustainability (IGCS) at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai / India





## 5.2 Senior Researchers - Ikerbasque Research Professors (Basque Country, Spain)



**Deadline: 10 September 2014 | Positions: 15**

Ikerbasque, the Basque Foundation for Science, has launched a new international call to reinforce research and scientific career in the Basque Country (Spain) with 15 positions for Senior Researchers Ikerbasque Research Professors.

It offers permanent contract positions within any of the Basque Research Institutes (Universities, BERC - Basque Excellence Research Centres, CIC - Cooperative Research Centres, Biomedical institutions and Technology Corporations, among others).

Requirements of applicants:

- The applicants must have their PhD completed before 1/1/2006.
- Only researchers with a solid research track, senior level and international research experience are considered.
- Two reference letters are mandatory.
- Support letters from host institutions are not mandatory but strongly welcomed.
- Women candidates are specially welcomed.

For further information click [here](#)

This call is co-financed by the European Commission [SMARTbrain project](#).

## 5.3 Join us on LinkedIn: [linkedin.euraxess.org](http://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).

One example of a recent fellowship opportunity published on EURAXESS Links-Internationally Mobile Researchers is provided below. For further information click on the position:

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

**Deadline: 31 July 2014**

## 5.4 India: Example of jobs at [DevNetJobsIndia](http://DevNetJobsIndia)

For further information click on the position:

[Program Coordinator – \(Tissue Culture\)](#)

Himalayan Action Research Centre (HARC)

Location: Uttarkashi (Naugaon), Uttarakhand

**Apply by: 01 Jun 2014**



[Program Manager \( Agriculture\)](#)

Himalayan Action Research Centre (HARC)

Location: Dehradun, Uttarakhand

**Apply by: 01 Jun 2014**

[Senior Research Associate](#)

Creative Agri Solutions Pvt. Ltd. (CASPL)

Location: Delhi

**Apply by: 02 Jun 2014**

[Manager - Research](#)

Child Rights and you

Location: Delhi

**Apply by: 05 Jun 2014**

## 5 Events

Event	Location	Date
<b>5.1 Europe</b>		
<a href="#">Research meets diplomacy: Europe as a Global Actor</a> by the European Commission (EC)	Brussels, Belgium	5 June 2014
<a href="#">Biochemicals and Bioplastics 2014</a>	Dusseldorf, Germany	10-11 June 2014
<a href="#">Week of Innovative Regions in Europe (WIRE2014)</a> by EKT and EC	Athens, Greece	12-13 June 2014
<a href="#">Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions satellite event at ESOF 2014 Conference</a> by EC	Copenhagen, Denmark	19-20 June 2014
<a href="#">5th International Conference and School Geometry, Dynamics, Integrable Systems</a> by ICTP	Trieste, Italy	16-27 June 2014
<a href="#">Workshop on Frontiers of new physics: colliders and beyond</a> by ICTP	Trieste, Italy	23-27 June 2014
<a href="#">EuroScience Forum 2014 (ESOF)</a> by Euroscience	Copenhagen, Denmark	21-26 June 2014
<a href="#">Info Day on "Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation Calls in Horizon 2020"</a> by EC	Brussels, Belgium	3 July 2014
<a href="#">European Biogas Association Conference</a> by EBA	Alkmaar, The Netherlands	30/09-1/10 2014
<b>5.2 India</b>		
<a href="#">2<sup>nd</sup> SAHYOG (Strengthening Networking on Biomass Research and Biowaste Conversion – Biotechnology for Europe India Integration) Summer School</a> by Tezpur University	Tezpur, Assam	20-26 July 2014
<a href="#">Indo-French workshop on "Himalayan Tectonics"</a>	Srinagar & Leh	20-28 July 2014
<a href="#">Biotechnology Mission 2014 'Synergies between India and the EU'</a> by EBTC	Pune & Mumbai	29-30 September 2014
<a href="#">India-EU workshop: III Coastal zone management and impact on</a>	Abad Turtle	6-9 October 2014



<a href="#">society</a> by Nansen Environmental Research Centre India (NERCI)	Beach Resort, Kerala	
<a href="#">Confederation of Indian Industry's KNoWLEDGeXPO</a>	Noida, Delhi NCR	20-22 November 2014
<a href="#">Commonwealth Science Conference</a>	Bangalore	25-28 November 2014
<a href="#">European Higher Education Fair India 2014 (EHEF)</a>	New Delhi	30 November-1 December 2014
<a href="#">European Higher Education Fair India 2014 (EHEF)</a>	Bengaluru	3 December 2014
<a href="#">European Higher Education Fair India 2014 (EHEF)</a>	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 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, Indonesia and Vietnam), Brazil, China, India, Japan, and North America (USA & Canada).

