Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to present to you the third 2015 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.

This issue is dedicated to the topic “Women in Science”. You will find the EU Insight on “Creating Gender Equality in Science & Research”. In addition, a special feature with Women in Science includes interview with Sabena Mannilthodi - promising Indian researcher and finalist of the EURAXESS Science Slam India 2014 – and a note on the ‘Absent Revolution’, an article on Women in leadership in South Asia.

Although the two reports under the ‘Absent Revolution’ refer to South Asia, it is no secret that its main conclusions apply to all regions, including Europe. In spite of female students getting the top academic results, only 30 % of us become researchers and only a marginal proportion reaches the highest positions. Every year in March we have one day (International Women’s Day) to remind us of the work to be carried out in the field of gender equality in the next 364 days. The promotion of gender equality in research and innovation is one of the cross-cutting issues in Horizon 2020 and the EURAXESS Links network.

You will find information on News related to research and innovation in Europe and India, a selection of Grants and Fellowships (e.g. MSCA Individual Fellowships, ERC Advanced Grant), of Job opportunities (over 11065 in EURAXESS Jobs-including fellowships) as well as of upcoming Events.

ImpactE is conducting an online survey on Intercultural Integration targeting Indian researchers as part of the EURAXESS initiative. You can participate until 15th April 2015. Thank you.
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 meant to be a communication tool for its readers. Interacting with you is important to us.

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1 EU Insight – Creating Gender Equality in Science & Research

On 8 March 2015, International Women’s Day was celebrated around the world. Gender equality is a cornerstone of the European Union and applies to all European policies including research and innovation. The Strategy for equality between women and men (2010-2015), adopted in September 2010, is the European Commission’s (EC) comprehensive work programme on gender equality and pursues three objectives, namely: gender equality in careers, gender balance in decision-making and the integration of the gender dimension in the content of research.

Gender equality in the European Research Area (ERA)

To create the very best conditions for researchers and scientists, the 28 member states of the European Union (EU) are working towards the creation of single European Research Area (ERA). Their common goal is to establish a unified research area which is open to the world, and in which researchers and knowledge circulate freely. Creating equal opportunities for women and men is an integral part of ERA, and a key priority since 2012.

To this end, EU member states are invited to remove barriers to the recruitment, retention and career progression of female researchers, address gender balance in decision-making and strengthen the gender dimension in research programmes. The European Commission encourages EU member states to create the appropriate legal and policy environment to incentivise institutional changes.

Funding agencies, research organisations and universities are on the forefront in the implementation of institutional changes, in particular through Gender Equality Plans. Scientists themselves can contribute to change practices: Networking among practitioners and professional associations, platforms of women scientists and other networks play a key role in this context.

Gender Equality in Horizon 2020

Gender is a cross-cutting issue in Horizon 2020. The promotion of gender equality in research and innovation is a commitment of the European Commission. It is enshrined in the core documents establishing Horizon 2020, with the following three objectives:

1. Gender balance in decision-making

The Commission has set a target of 40% of the under-represented sex in expert groups and evaluation panels. Whereas H2020 Advisory groups have a target of 50% for the under-represented sex in expert groups and evaluation panels. For 2014-2015, there is a 52% representation of women.
2. Gender balance in research teams at all levels

Applicants for funding are encouraged to promote gender balance at all levels in their teams and in management structures. Gender balance in teams will also be taken into account when ranking proposals with the same evaluation scores.

By signing the grant agreement, beneficiaries commit to promoting equal opportunities between men and women in the implementation of their action. They also commit to aim, as far as possible, for gender balance at all levels of personnel assigned to the action, including at supervisory and managerial level.

3. Integrating the gender dimension in the content of R&I

R&I needs to adequately take into account the needs, behaviours and attitudes of both women and men.

In Horizon 2020, the gender dimension is explicitly integrated from the outset in many of the specific programmes. So far, more than 100 topics out of 610 are concerned with gender. These topics are spread across 13 different programmes out of 20. For each of these topics, one or more proposals will be selected. This gives a promising outlook on the number of projects that will be developing a gender dimension and on the new knowledge that they will bring about.

Facts and figures: She Figures

What is the proportion of female to male researchers in Europe, and how is this proportion evolving over time? In which scientific fields are women better represented? Do the career paths of female and male researchers follow similar patterns? Are statistics on women in science comparable across Europe? How many women occupy senior positions in scientific research in Europe?

Published every three years since 2003, She Figures replies to these questions. This publication presents human resource statistics and indicators in the research and technological development (RTD) sector and on gender equality in science.

The She Figures 2012 show that despite progress, gender inequalities in science tend to persist. The publication provides an overview of the scientific fields where women are better or less represented, and compares the research workforce in different economic sectors (e.g. higher education, government, and business sectors). In 2015, the next edition of She Figures will be published.

Sources and further information:

European Research Area - homepage
Horizon 2020 - Promoting Gender Equality in Research and Innovation
European Commission’s Strategy for equality between women and men (2010-2015)
She Figures 2012
2 Feature – Promising Indian female researcher: Sabeena Mannilthodi and the ‘Absent Revolution’

EURAXESS Links India has interviewed Sabeena Mannilthodi, a woman that promises contributing to her research field and to society at large. Sabeena can already serve as role model to other female researchers. She was finalist at the EURAXESS Science Slam 2014. Sabeena showed courageously and discretion performing in front of a non-experts audience towards the end of her pregnancy. EURAXESS Links India welcomes in this issue our sixth finalist at the science slam: little Amelia who slammed inside her young mother!

In the April issue our readers will be able to meet Priti Gupta, another role model for female researchers and finalist at the 2014 EURAXESS Science Slam. India has a new generation of female researchers. EURAXESS Links India was honoured to meet three of them at the last science slam (i.e. Shreejata Gupta, Sabeena Mannilthodi and Priti Gupta).

To close this special issue focusing on women in science we have also featured a recent conference that tackled the: ‘Absence of female leaders and researchers in South Asia’. Two concluding reports where presented on the occasion (see 2.2).

2.1 Sabeena M. young mother and young researcher

Sabeena Mannilthodi (picture below) is a Senior Research Fellow at Homi Bhaba National Institute (HBNI), Mumbai, India. Working at Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), Department of Atomic Energy, Kalpakkam, India. She is working on non equilibrium phase transformation mechanisms in binary alloys of Titanium-Molybdenum system, under the supervision and guidance of Dr. M Vijayalaksmi, Associate Director, Physical Metallurgy Group (PMG), at IGCAR.

She has done her schooling in her native village, Kizhuparamba, in Malappuram district of Kerala State, India. She was attracted to scientific research, during her graduation at Farook College, Calicut, India. However, she started taking it more seriously during her Master’s course in Physics at the School of Pure and Applied Physics (SPAP), Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala, India. She reckons she is fortunate that she got an opportunity to fulfill her dream.

What motivates Sabeena as a researcher? Did you have any role model when you were growing up?

The fruits of scientific research have been the backbone of the all human advancements. Science has been always a better platform to fight against superstitions. Progress in science and technology helps us to lead better life style, fight against diseases, and even address philosophical questions.
As a student I found that science is a better platform to use my knowledge and energy to serve my society. These are my perceptions that motivate me as a researcher.

My real role model is Madam Curie. During my school days, her biography made an indelible respect towards dedicated and obsessed scientific research in my mind. Her passion towards science and dedication towards the society even in the most adverse days of her life was really motivating to me. Decades later, we are still enjoying the fruits of her selfless contributions to science and mankind. The same radio-active rays that took her life are now saving the life of millions of patients.

Do you think that it is more challenging for a woman being a researcher than for a man? Can you tell if India is any different in this regard?

Intellectually men and women are equal. But the number of women who have succeeded in their scientific career is far less than their counterparts. Just compare the Nobel laureates in any of the disciplines. The fact is crystal clear. Years of undisturbed dedication in a manner which include burning midnight oil in lab even in holidays are the essential part of scientific career. After marriage, it will be slightly challenging for a woman to dedicate herself to a scientific career in this manner by balancing the family life having husband and kids. But these challenges are the same for a man in research also, in our current changing society, where men and women have equal parts in all responsibilities.

In addition to that, in order to get a permanent position in this field, at least few years of post-doctoral experience are essential. The competition will be more for that depending on the reputation of the institute. So, to be a winner in that, we have to dedicate the best time (more than 30 plus) in our lives to the career. These issues are common for men and women. Hence, there are no “women specific challenges” in research, if we can build a societal mindset of equal opportunities.

Though the present society has progressed far compared to the past, where women scientists did not get entry into labs or could not receive Noble Prize because of being female, we are far below the ideal situation. Even today, there is a false notion that women are less competitive. I strongly believe that the presence of more women in research fields is necessary for bringing more popularity to the profession of scientific research. Therefore, governments and policy makers should pay attention to create even more favourable conditions to make our laboratories a better place for women.

I do not believe Indian laboratories are any better or worse place in this regard, with respect to opportunities. However, India has been conservative and lot more has to change with respect to flexitime, easy transferability of jobs, better amenities in workplace and finally, the societal engineering to enhance the infrastructure to factor the requirements of working women.

How is life like when two researchers live under the same roof? Does your mind get to get a rest?
I feel it will be better for a researcher to have a life partner in the same field. I am married to Ameen Poyli who is a PhD student, working in Nanophotonics, at DIPC (Donostia International Physics Center), Donostia-San Sebastian, the Basque Country in Spain. He is a constant supporter of mine in all my happiness and sorrows in both professional and personal life. Life is more excited as well as challenging when two researchers share the same roof.

Our home is not a research laboratory. So, we have enough free time to be relaxed.

How will you pass your passion for science to your daughter?

I am keen to convey my passion for science to Amelia. I would enjoy introducing the joy of science to Amelia, with appropriate observations in nature around us and the stories of the rich experience of the past. However, I am open to identify her natural inclination and encourage her interest in the field of her choice.

Do you think that international mobility can contribute to having more girls and women researchers?

I definitely think so. International mobility allows motivated girl students to pursue science research in more favorable parts of the world.

Do you have any suggestion that could increase the number of female scientists and make research a job more representative of our societies?

My observation is, till undergraduate science course, the participation of girls is high. The drop out is more at levels beyond this. Following step can promote women participation in research better:

(1) Encourage self learning of post-graduate through internet, write exams on-line, augmenting the course with practical classes and examination, for a shorter period. Have such opportunities in many places across the country. If required, financial assistance for travel can also help.

(2) More number of post-graduates would do Ph.D., if they can do Ph.D. near their place of settlement. Hence, increase the number of universities where Ph.D. can be done especially in rural places.

(3) Better infrastructural facilities, flexitime and transferability of jobs, could help women to retain their research or academic jobs. If more women enter the job and “successful women scientists” becomes order of the day, the societal changes would automatically be in place.

Back to the EURAXESS Science Slam, why “Playing with Molybdenum atoms in Titanium lattice”? Tell EURAXESS Links India Newsletter readers about the live presentation that you made. What was the message that you wanted to reach out the audience attending the live finals in Mumbai last November?

The resources in the earth are limited. But the demand for materials for a better life keeps on increasing. The answer to the increased demand of new materials is in material science research. The advancements in material science research made it possible.
For bio-medical implants, currently Ti based material is used. They are not as soft as our bones. I am trying to examine the possibility of getting softer materials, by rearranging the position of atoms and playing with different types of atoms in the titanium base. The softness of a material depends on how strongly the two atoms in a material get bonded. We have techniques in materials science like the X-Ray diffraction to see how different atoms in materials are bonded with each other. The strength of the material depends on different types of ‘constituents’, which we call as ‘phases’. Transmission electron microscopy helps me to identify these phases and find out which combination will yield softness as close to bone as possible. Mathematical modeling enables us to understand the experimental observations, which has also been used in my studies. Understanding the material in the atomic scale will help to modify it for better applications in the biomedical field. I tried to convey this message in my presentation.

How was your experience as finalist of the 2nd global EURAXESS Science Slam in India? Would you recommend the experience to other researchers? Why?

It was an excellent experience. I was able to convey my research and interests to a scientific and non-scientific community in an enjoyable way. In the future, it will definitely help me to present scientific facts in a simple manner. I have enjoyed similar thrilling presentations of other participants as well. The questions from audience were thought-provoking. The organization of the event was laudable. Experiencing different flavors will always help to enjoy the work more.

So I recommend to all my fellow researchers, to make use of such opportunities in the research life. This will help us to have fun, enjoy science and formulate better perspectives of science research.

Q10: Where did you hear about the 2nd EURAXESS Science Slam India competition? Why did you decide to participate?
I came to know about the event from my PhD supervisor. She always says a good researcher should be able to explain her research interests to anyone from a primary school student to a pioneer in the field. There are so many occasions where we need to explain our research and interests to general public and authorities. Since the Science Slam offers an opportunity to address audience from scientific and non scientific field at same time, I thought it could be a good place to start with.

Any tips that you would like to give to prospective EURAXESS Science Slam participants?

I believe that the opportunity to present our research work in EURAXESS Science Slam brings some great responsibilities on us. This includes the inception of a positive attitude in the public audiences towards science and scientific research and also instilling a scientific attitude towards life in them. If you try to appreciate this, you will enjoy the event!! It is also necessary to exhibit to the public that if we have moved from the days of Homo sapiens to Mangalyaan of today, one of the major contributions is from dedicated, not so visible, scientific research in the backstage.

Thank You Sabeena!

2.2 Absence of female leaders and researchers in South Asia

New research has found that women academics in South Asia are not being identified and prepared for leadership. There is evidence that women who aspire for leadership are frequently rejected from senior positions, and many do not aim for senior leadership as they perceive it as an unattractive career option.

This report, *Women in Higher Education Leadership in South Asia: Rejection, Refusal, Reluctance, Revisioning*, by Professor Louise Morley and Dr Barbara Crossouard from the Centre of Higher Education and Equity research at the University of Sussex, was commissioned by the British Council in conjunction with a series of South Asian Global Education Dialogues. The research covers six countries in the region - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

The findings show complex barriers to women’s leadership in higher education. These range from social, cultural and economic barriers in each country, the organisational culture in universities, discrimination in recruitment and selection, and unequal power relations.

There were also in some instances enablers to women achieving leadership positions, including training and development, support and mentorship and international networks and mobility across the region.

Another report from the region found that the rise in female educational enrolment in South Asia is not leading to careers in research, to the long-term detriment of the region. Inequalities in the hiring process, unfavourable workplace practices and other institutional barriers may be to blame.

The report, *Defined by absence: Women and research in South Asia* prepared by the Economist Intelligence Unit on behalf of the British Council.
Council, states that “The rise in female higher education participation has been driven by rising incomes, the creation of a rapidly growing labour market for the higher skilled and gradually changing attitudes regarding women in the workforce. Higher education has become both more affordable and often a pre-requisite to region’s competitive labour markets. However, female enrolment in postgraduate degree programmes has not risen as rapidly, and women as researchers are notably missing”.

The report found that in 2014, cultural restrictions and a lack of career opportunities play a major role in contributing to the gradual drop off of women researchers after PhD level. But there is a serious lack of gender specific data to help evaluate the gap in the workplace within the region. Good initiatives are in short supply, and in cases where they do exist sustainable funding can be a problem. The report suggests that this gender imbalance is not being taken seriously enough at the highest levels or by the women themselves.

Rob Lynes, Director British Council India said: “To create long term, sustainable and mutually beneficial education links with South Asia it is critical for the UK to understand the context in which South Asia operates. Gender and equality opportunity is an important area. We welcome the delegates from across the region and hope this dialogue helps them build links between countries in the region and with the UK.”

These reports were launched at the Global Education Dialogue taking place today and tomorrow in New Delhi: Women and leadership: ‘the absent revolution’.

Source: British Council

3 EURAXESS in India

3.1 Survey Open: Intercultural Integration in Europe

EURAXESS Links Network’s annual survey to keep improving our services closed on 15th March 2015. Thank you to those from our community who have replied and stay tuned for the results!

ImpactE is now conducting for EURAXESS a research on cultural integration of Indian researchers in Europe. This brief online survey will enable to collect your opinions, suggestions and comments, which are extremely helpful for the improvement of EURAXESS services and prioritising new aims.

This survey is addressed to Indian researchers in Europe as well as those of you who were in Europe and are now back in India. This 12 questions survey will close on 15th April 2015. Thank you for participating.

New online survey: [click here](#)
3.2 EURAXESS Events in 2015

EURAXESS Links India will be coming to Kolkata after the summer break that soon starts in India with a EURAXESS Share event: “Advancing Your Research Career in Europe: Funding and Fellowship Opportunities for Indian Researchers”. The exact date and content of this event will be announced in the April newsletter.

With the monsoon, the 2015 edition of the EURAXESS Science Slam India will be launched in June. The live finals will take place in October 2015. This will be the 3rd edition of this global event taking place in all the EURAXESS Links regions: ASEAN, Brazil, China, India, Japan and North America.

The third and last event of the year is planned for after the monsoon. It will be a EURAXESS Connect event most likely addressed to Marie Curie (now Marie Sklodowska-Curie) fellows and European Research Council grantees in India. EURAXESS Links India newsletter readers will be informed well in advance.

Follow the latest on EURAXESS Links India events here.

You can follow the EURAXESS Links India events on Facebook via the site of the Delegation of the European Union to India: Facebook EU in India.

3.3 EURAXESS Links India on-site visits

The Country Representative can present the services offered by ‘EURAXESS-Researchers in Motion’ and cooperation and career opportunities with Europe on-site – at your university or your research institution, including European or Indian companies in the sub-continent.

If you wish to host such a presentation in your organization, please contact us at india@euraxess.net.

You may also contact us if you are nearby any of the locations listed below and wish to host another ‘EURAXESS Info Day’ session around the same date:

- In April, Bengaluru (possible to request a presentation)
- In late August/early September, at BITS-Pilani K K Birla Goa Campus in Zuarinagar (Goa)
- In late August/early September, Mumbai (possible to request a presentation)
- Other cities on the agenda with no date fixed yet: Chennai, Nagkor or Aurangabad
3.4 EU Delegation to India has moved

The part of the EU Delegation to India and main building sitting in Golf Links for so many years, has recently moved to the following address. Research & Innovation Section sits there too:

5/5, Shantiniketan
New Delhi - 110 021, INDIA

**New address and numbers:**
Telephone: +91 11 66781919
Fax: +91 11 66781955

E-mail: DELEGATION-INDIA@eeas.europa.eu
Research & Innovation Section: DELEGATION-INDIA-RI@eeas.europa.eu

As part of a European Commission initiative that it is, EURAXESS Links India closely cooperates and coordinates its work with the EU Delegation to India.
4 News & Developments

4.1 European Union

4.1.1 High-Level Event on Women's Empowerment and Sustainable Development

As part of the European Year for Development 2015 events, to highlight the importance of women and girls as central actors in moving towards sustainable development and to combine proposals for unlocking women's full economic potential in context of post-2015 framework, a high level political event was organized in Riga on March 2 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs together with the European Commission, the Latvian government, and in close cooperation with civil society, specially women's movement and private sector.

Girls and women over the world are eager to contribute to research and innovation in their respective country. How long will they have to wait until their rights to education and equal pay for the same job are part of the reality and their - our - dream fulfilled? What about facilitating access of female researchers? EURAXESS Links Network is committed to putting its share on it.

Read more: European Year for Development 2015 and EURAXESS Links

4.1.2 EU European Parliament takes an important step towards gender equality

The European Parliament has adopted a resolution which supports the fight for wage impartiality, parental leave proposals and promote educational policies that encourage women to make their careers in science, technology and ICT sectors.

Read more: European Parliament

“The present report outlines the progress achieved in 2014 in the six priority areas of the Commission's 2010-15 strategy for equality between women and men. It is a way for the Commission to review EU and Member State action on gender equality and identify remaining challenges and gender gaps, on the basis of updated information and statistics.

It strengthens the EU’s accountability and lays the ground for evidence-based policies. Although gender gaps have narrowed in recent decades, inequalities within and between Member States have grown overall and challenges remain in critical areas such as:

• Men drop out of school more often and perform less well in reading. Women are more likely to have a higher education degree but are significantly under-represented in STEM studies and careers, in research and in senior posts at all levels of education, including higher education;

Find out other critical areas and the Full Report here: European Commission

4.1.4 10 years of commitment to better working conditions for researchers

On 3rd March, the first two hundred Deans and Rectors from universities and research institutes to have implemented the European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers received the ‘HR Excellence in Research Award’ for their efforts to create attractive working conditions for researchers in Europe. These two tools are at the core of EURAXESS Rights component within EURAXESS-Researchers in Motion.

To mark the event, the European Commission hosted a conference to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Charter and Code, celebrating the creation of an attractive, open and sustainable labour market for researchers in Europe.

“I congratulate the 206 Deans and Rectors who were the first to take up the Human Resources Strategy for Researchers. Attracting and keeping the best minds in Europe is essential for competitiveness,” said Research, Science and Innovation Commissioner Carlos Moedas. “The Charter and Code have done well in making working conditions for researchers far more appealing. We want Europe to remain a popular destination for the most talented researchers to pursue their careers. It's very encouraging that more than 1500 research institutions and funders from 40 countries in Europe have endorsed the Charter and Code to improve their human resources policies. This is building a strong foundation of research excellence from which we will benefit long into the future.”

Researchers relentlessly highlight the importance of mobility for their careers: at EU level, 80 % of internationally mobile researchers believe mobility has strongly increased the advancement of their research skills
and 62 % believe mobility has had a positive impact on the quality of their research publications

Read more: European Commission and EURAXESS

4.1.5 European Research Council backs additional 47 top researchers in 2014 Starting Grant call

In addition to 328 early-career scientists awarded ERC Starting Grants in December, the European Research Council today announces another 47 winners as part of this 2014 call. They will receive funding, worth up to € 2 million per project, to build their own research teams and pursue their best ideas at the frontiers of knowledge.

ERC Starting Grants are intended for the best junior researchers to help them fully develop their potential and become a new generation of European research leaders.

ERC funding is part of the EU Horizon 2020 framework programme for research and innovation.

Read more: ERC Press release

4.1.6 New MSCA Individual Fellowships (IF) Call launched

If you have more than 4 years research experience or you have a doctoral degree (PhD) this is for you.

The goal of Individual Fellowships is to enhance the creative and innovative potential of experienced researchers wishing to diversify their individual competence in terms of skill acquisition at multi- or interdisciplinary level through advanced training, international and intersectoral mobility. This call will close on 10 September 2015.

Read more: Participant Portal or under Grants & Fellowship section of this newsletter.

4.1.7 Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) blog with FAQ

Net4Mobility is managing a blog with Frequently Asked Questions on MSCA actions (IF, ITN, COFUND, RISE). Net4Mobility is the Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions National Contact Point project with the objectives to increase the knowledge among the NCPs.

Theis blog can also be useful to individual mobile researchers, especially the IF (Individual Fellowships) section.

Access the blog: here
4.1.8 EU Prize for women innovators 2016 | Call open

The EU Prize for Women Innovators was launched in 2011 to give public recognition to outstanding women entrepreneurs who brought their innovative ideas to the market. After two successful editions in 2011 and 2014, the European Commission is launching the third edition of the prize on 9 March 2015. Three prizes will be awarded at the end of the competition: 1st prize: €100 000 / 2nd prize: €50 000 / 3rd prize: €30 000. Contestants will be able to submit their entries until 20 October 2015.

"Gender equality is not only a moral imperative but it also makes economic sense", said Věra Jourová, European Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality. “Diversity is good for innovation and entrepreneurship, because it brings new talent and fresh ideas. The EU Prize for Women Innovators showcases female talent and can encourage other women to pursue careers in science and entrepreneurship where women are still underrepresented."

Read more: European Commission

Watch video: European Commission

4.1.9 Positive role models are key to gender equality - Prof. Caroline Dean

Female role models are an important way to promote gender equality among senior scientists, according to Professor Caroline Dean, a plant biologist at the John Innes Centre, in Norwich, UK.

Prof. Dean is the winner of the 2015 European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) and Federation of European Biochemical Societies (FEBS) Women in Science Award for her work in plant biology and working to promote women in science.

Read full interview: Horizon-The EU Research and Innovation magazine

4.1.10 The 17th edition of the L’Oréal-UNESCO Awards

Although not a European Union award, with the inclusion of the announcement of the latest edition of the L’Oréal-UNESCO Awards, EURAXESS Links Network wants to contribute to the recognition of the contribution to science and society of five exceptional women honoured for their ground-breaking discoveries in the physical sciences. The five scientists were selected in the 5 regions of the world by an independent International Awards Jury made up of 12 prominent international scientists who were personally chosen by the President of the Jury and 1999 Nobel Prize winner, Prof. Ahmed Zewail.

These five exceptional (women) researchers are:

AFRICA AND THE ARAB STATES: Prof. Rajaâ Cherkaoui El Moursli - High Energy Physics and Nuclear Physics. Professor, Mohammed V-Agdal University, Rabat, MOROCCO
4.1.11 Women in Science | Horizon | The EU Research and Innovation Magazine

Where are the women?

Regarding women in science, some countries are leading with more than 30% of women holding full academic positions, while others are way below. More women are reaching senior levels in science and engineering, however gender equality is not yet fulfilled in the EU. Addressing this situation is a priority for the European Commission.

Women In Science is one of the four key themes under Horizon magazine, being the other three Bioeconomy, Horizon 2020 and Innovation Union.

Read more: Horizon | Women In Science

4.1.12 Inadequate Childcare Policies Affect Scientists’ Careers

European Platform of Women Scientist (EPWS) Vice-President Prof. Claudine Hermann has been interviewed for a recent article on Euroscientist - Inadequate Childcare Policies Affect Scientists’ Careers.

It is not due to science but due to the cultures of the different countries that the problem of childcare is more on the shoulder of women than men. But the role models and the family models are changing slowly and that affects scientists and other high educated women," says Claudine Hermann , vice-president of the European Platform of Women Scientists, retired professor of physics at the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris, France, with three children.

Hermann claims that scientific institutions should invest more money to support female and male scientists with children to compensate the fact that the number of scientists with children varies much from country to country."

Read full article: Euroscientist
4.1.13 Massive migration from the steppe was a source for Indo-European languages in Europe

[Article available to be read from the source on the screen]
Read full article: Nature

4.1.14 Report | Growing a Digital Social Innovation Ecosystem for Europe

According to Fabrizio Sestini, European Commission Directorate-General Communications Networks, Content & Technology, this report is like an open window looking out onto a wholly new, and largely unexplored, world. The emerging applications that we globally call “digital social innovations” are fascinating examples of how humans can find new ways to collaborate in amazing manners, overcoming geographical, cultural and social barriers, and reinventing the way society can thrive in a world with ever decreasing availability of natural resources.

There is only one natural resource that is now available in larger amounts than in the past: humans. Connecting them, in novel, pervasive, widespread and affordable manners, is perhaps the biggest breakthrough enabled by digital technologies.

Several names have been given to this: network effects, collective intelligence, hyperconnected societies. This hyperconnectivity is generating a new currency, more sustainable and ethical than money: data – open data. Open data increases awareness and coordination, creates new opportunities for innovation, and strengthens inclusion, participation and, ultimately, human well-being.

Society, economy, and even human psychology itself are undergoing an irreversible change, which we as citizens and policymakers are still struggling to understand. This understanding is key to anticipating possible developments, while at the same time to maximising the positive impacts on society, as well as averting the risks of misuses that inevitably accompany any step of human evolution.

This study has been prepared for the European Commission DG CONNECT by Digital Social Innovation. Read full report: NESTA

4.1.15 Report - Statistical Data on Women Entrepreneurs in Europe – 2014

This report presents the key findings of an analysis of available data on women entrepreneurs in 37 countries, which include the 28 EU Member States, Albania, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Iceland, Israel, Turkey, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, Norway and Serbia. This group of countries is referred to as Europe-37.

The study objective was to collect, analyse, and systematically present the most recent data on women entrepreneurs in Europe-37. These data will be used to develop evidence-based policy and actions, and thus include number of women entrepreneurs, the type of entrepreneurship, the sectors...
in which women entrepreneurs are mainly active, age cohort and educational level.

Full report: European Commission

4.2 India

4.2.1 International Conference on Innovation for Inclusive Growth

Jointly organised by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), the World Bank Group (WBG) and the United Nations University - Maastricht Economic and Social Research and Training Centre on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT), the objective of the three-day conference (New Delhi, 10-12 February 2015) was to share lessons learned and foster discussion and policy exchange among stakeholders on the contributions of innovations to inclusive growth.

A central question participants addressed was what role governments, private sector, research community and other entities can play in enabling inclusive innovations to emerge and scale up: “How can we create an enabling environment for inclusive innovations to widely contribute to social and economic development?” The conference consisted of three parts providing a multidimensional perspective on the question and leveraging the joint expertise of participating institutions.

Read more: OECD

4.2.2 It’s Indian history in the remaking at ICHR

It may soon be right side up for history writing in India with a new team taking charge at the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) last week, comprising scholars who have worked on topics such as Ram and Ayodhya, and written on Hindu gods and sacred animals.

The new members – some of whom are known to be close to the BJP and its ideological fountainhead the RSS – have also conducted research on the condition of Hindus in Bangladesh, Kashmir and Kerala and are taking on the country’s top left-leaning historians.

The discourse on medieval India is witnessing the most heated debate as the composite culture theory that highlights Hindu-Muslim syncretism is being challenged by an assertion that Hindus were persecuted during the period.

Read more: Hindustan Times

4.2.3 How to be smart I SMART CITIES

According to Mihir Bholey, first India must clearly articulate its vision of what constitutes a smart city.

The idea of 100 smart cities for India feels like a dream coming true. After all, who doesn’t want our ailing cities to be rejuvenated? Demographic
changes in India are alarming. Our present 410-million-strong urban population, 31 per cent of the total, is second only to China’s 758 million. But, by 2050, we will add 404 million city dwellers, whereas China will add only 292 million. Not only that, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Punjab will become more than 50 per cent urban in the next 15 years, which means they will face tremendous pressure on existing infrastructure.

Read full article: The India Express

4.2.3 Education expenditure: Dropping the ball in the states’ court

The slogan ‘Padhe Bharat, Badhe Bharat’ seems rational when this Budget announces an allocation of Rs 1,000 crore to set an IIT in Karnataka, upgrade the Indian School of Mines to an IIT, open an IIM in Jammu & Kashmir and Andhra Pradesh, sets up the Student Financial Aid Authority to administer and monitor scholarship as well educational loan schemes through the Pradhan Mantri Vidyakshmi Karyakram (PMVLK).

There is no doubt that education is key to a better tomorrow and is aptly identified as the “priority of priorities”, but has this concern been adequately addressed in the Budget FY16 through the above announcements? More importantly, will it help India take a flight and reap the benefits of the demographic dividend from its huge pool of human resource by replenishing the human capital?

Read full article by Debdulal Thakur (EURAXESS Links India community member): The Financial Express

4.2.4 Coming I Global Exhibition on Services, 23-25 April 2015

The Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry in association with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC) is organizing the Global Exhibition on Services from 23 to 25 April 2015 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

The main objective of the Global Exhibition on Services is to create a global platform for increased trade in services. GES will enhance strategic cooperation and develop synergies to strengthen multilateral relationships between all stakeholders, tap the potential for services’ exports and to increase FDI flow in the services sector.

There will be deliberation on issues of concern and on ways to take global services trade to a higher level. The Exhibition would be a meeting place
for countries, for global service sector players to forge new business relationships and enhance international trade in services.

Education and Research & Development are two of the selected ten focus sectors for the exhibition. EURAXESS Links India has been invited as speaker at the “Education & Training – Connecting India to World” Conference on Saturday 25th April 2015.

Registration free: EURAXESS Links India community visitors can contact Anamika Kalia <anamika.kalia@cii.in> for free of cost registration.

Read more: GES 2015

4.2.5 New I CII Knowledge Economy E-Newsletter

India's key aspirations through its flagship initiatives like "Make in India", "Digital India", "Clean India", "Skill India", "Smart City" and many others have opened up significant opportunities for increasing investments in India. In order to scale-up and sustain investments in India, apart from upgrading "ease of doing business" parameters, it is also very important to strengthen and scale up India's knowledge ecosystem in the areas of research & development, design, higher education, intellectual property rights, innovation and entrepreneurship through national and global knowledge partnerships.

In order to systematically derive economic benefits from the investments made in the knowledge ecosystem and also to connect Indian industry, government (including states) and institutions with the globe for forging knowledge-partnerships towards mutual economic benefits, the Confederation of Indian Industry has launched "Knowledge-Economy Movement" which includes this first edition of CII Knowledge Economy e-Newsletter explaining CII's key initiatives in this area.

Read newsletter: KnowledgExpo

4.3 India-Europe cooperation

4.3.1 The 7th EU-India Environment Forum I Resource efficiency and business opportunities

The 7th European Union-India Environment Forum took place in New Delhi on 25th February 2015 on the theme 'The role played by resource efficiency and the circular economy in meeting environmental challenges', with a focus on waste management. It was jointly organised by the Indian Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change and by the Environment Directorate-General of the European Commission, and was opened by the Head of the European Union Delegation to India, Ambassador João Cravinho (see picture), by Additional Secretary Susheel Kumar (Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change, New Delhi) and by Director Timo Mäkelä (Director for Global and Regional Challenges, Environment Directorate-General, European Commission, Brussels).
Participants heard that the issue of waste management in India was one of immediate concern, as limited land resources only compounded the problem. It was underlined that there were many local solutions, but there was a need to scale them up to make effective changes. No government could tackle waste problems alone – all stakeholders had to come and work together in order to achieve this.

Among the issues that were mentioned as meriting further thoughts in the context of EU-India policy cooperation could be mentioned (1) supporting awareness raising activities, particularly of children but also of local administrator and the wider public, about waste management options, especially the importance of separate collection for supporting high-quality recycling; (2) exchanging technical information on operating conditions and standards for landfills, incinerators (waste-to-energy plants) and recycling installations on the basis of best practice, with a view to aligning waste management practices with the waste hierarchy of prevention-reuse-recycling-energy recovery-disposal in the context of a circular economy; (3) implementing and enforcing waste legislation, for example on hazardous waste, e-waste, waste packaging, waste batteries, and end-of-life vehicles; (4) collecting already existing best practice and successful experiences in waste management in India, for example those involving the informal sector on e-waste and batteries, and evaluate their potential to be up-scaled at the state or national level, and (5) contributing to the Smart Cities Programme of the new Indian Government to support a circular economy approach, in particular concerning waste management and water issues (without forgetting energy efficiency, transport sustainability and the need to preserve agricultural and natural land from urban sprawling).

When ready, EURAXESS Links India will share with its readers the final report on the 7th EU-India Environment Forum.

Contacts:
4.3.2 EU Environment Conference I Resource Efficiency and the Circular Economy

The EU Environment Conference on 26 February focused on showcasing lessons learned from concrete project examples on the circular economy, particularly waste and water management.

Dr. Johann Hesse, Counsellor, Head of EU Cooperation to India, gave an overview of the activities of the EU Delegation to India in the environment field, introduced the upcoming changes to modalities for India and mapped the future expectations. Then Timo Mäkelä, Director in the Environment Directorate-General of the European Commission, presented the conclusions drawn from the 7th EU-India Environment Forum the day before. He underlined that the three main priorities of the EU are climate change, the loss of biodiversity and the green economy. These can be mapped onto six areas of cooperation between India and the EU: Waste to energy requirements; Resource efficiency/resource productivity; Increased social awareness (especially of the young generation); Legal implementation & enforcement; Dissemination of best practices and scaling up; Incorporation of environmental issues in smart cities.

The introduction was closed by presenting the Indian perspective on the scope of resource efficiency in India, including specific recommendations by TERI: Increase use of secondary materials; Develop innovative financing instruments; Streamlining the informal sector; Increase awareness and change mindsets.

Different initiatives were presented aiming at incorporating resource efficiency to form the circular economy. The need for changing consumption and productions patterns was presented by Society in Action. Further, an EU climate change adaptation initiative was presented by Dr. Annmarie Groot that will form an Asian researcher platform CASCO, whilst the ECO-Cities project presented ideas on the comprehensive urban circular economy approach in India by EU.

In his closing remarks, Dr Johann Hesse, Head of EU Cooperation to India, concluded that the need to act is acknowledged by all, from SWACH Bharat to individual initiatives of Mr Gautam Mehra. He acknowledged the importance of informal sector and their successful integration and urged the participants to pay special attention to awareness raising of environmental issues, to consider the appropriate ‘up-scaling’ of successful projects, and to pay more attention to how legislation can be improved and implemented successfully and/or the institutional deficiencies adequately addressed.
4.3.3 “Regional EU R&I tour” in Pune

From 16 to 18 February 2015, the Research & Innovation Section of the EU Delegation to India organised a “Regional EU R&I tour” in the Pune area. The participants in this "tour" – representatives from the EU Delegation to India, from 6 European countries, from the EBTC and from the Indian CSIR – had meetings in both public research institutions and private-sector companies, and also visited a EU-funded project site.

A key objective of the mission was to promote Indian participation in EU research programmes, by interacting with representatives of key local institutions/companies and giving them a broad idea of what the European Union (including its member states) have to offer in terms of R&I cooperation with India. Another objective was to collect their feedback regarding their own opportunities and expectations on this front.

The visited institutions/companies included:

- The Center for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), that is active in both R&D and education & training, and has developed a range of high-performance parallel computers.

- The Venture Centre, housed on the campus of the National Chemical Laboratory, whose mission is to nucleate and nurture technology and knowledge-based enterprises by leveraging scientific and engineering competencies of institutions in the Pune region.

- The Inter-University Center for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), a small (18 faculty) autonomous institution set up by the University Grants Commission to promote nucleation and growth of active groups in Astronomy and Astrophysics in Indian universities.
• The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune, established in 2006, that aims at fostering education and interdisciplinary research in the basic sciences.

• The National Chemical Laboratory, a research, development and consulting organisation with focus on chemistry and chemical engineering, that has a successful track record of research partnerships with industry.

• The site of the EU-funded NAWaTECH project (“Natural Water systems and treatment Technologies”), run by an international consortium of 7 organizations from India and 7 organizations from 5 European countries, whose objective is to evolve strategy to cope with water shortages in urbanized areas in India.

• The Tata Research Development and Design Centre (TRDDC), established in 1981 to apply the existing knowledge for the benefit of industry in particular and society in general, that offers in-house R&D and in-plant consulting services for a variety of process industries.

• The Auto Cluster, inaugurated in 2006 to support the MSMEs in and around Pune to meet the expectations of OEMs in terms of product quality, reliability and cost competitiveness, and that, amongst other activities, provides assistance in the development and testing of components, and in prototyping.

• The Interactive Research School for Health Affairs (IRSHA), part of Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University, that is dedicated to research on human health and nutrition with special attention to mother & child health and adult disorders.

Contact: Denis Dambois, Research and Innovation Cousselor, EU Delegation to India: DELEGATION-INDIA-RI@eeas.europa.eu
4.3.4 Road Show on Water and Energy in the Basque Region

On 26-27 February 2015, ETI Dynamics in collaboration with the EIF, SPRI, INNOBASQUE, ACLIMA, URA and EBTC hosted a roadshow in Bilbao, the Basque Country in Spain. The intent of this event was to provide insights into the Indian market and showcase opportunities in the multitude of projects of ETI Dynamics. Through this roadshow the organiser wished to encourage Basque entities to participate in its projects. Within the context of connecting Spanish cleantech companies to the Indian market, this conference also offered a pan-European dimension via the European Business and Technology Centre’s (EBTC) participation. EBTC is co-funded by the EU, coordinated by EUROCHAMBRES, and continuously works to support the entry, establishment and success of EU Cleantech SMEs in the Indian Market thorough Market Intelligence and tailor-made services.

The focus of the road show was oriented towards Water and Energy. Participants discussed the tightening regulatory aspects around these sectors and the current market scenario in India. While these sectors face many challenges in India, ETI Dynamics presented solutions and also, the types of economic and financial models required to tackle major problems present in the Indian Industrial environmental landscape. Companies interested in project opportunities in India could meet the ETI Dynamics’ team individually. In addition to the exclusive project opportunities, companies can also participate in other projects in the portfolio of ETI Dynamics through a competitive bidding process by submitting their Expressions of Interest (EoI).

Read more: EBTC and ETI Dynamics

4.3.5 Solar-Powered Plane Lands in India on 2nd Leg of World Trip

A Swiss-made solar powered aircraft landed in western India on 10th March, completing the second leg — and its first sea crossing — of its historic round-the-world trip.

The Solar Impulse 2 touched down at Ahmadabad airport in Gujarat state about 16 hours after it took off from Muscat, Oman, for the 1,465-kilometer (910-mile) flight without a drop of fuel.

The world's first aircraft powered by solar energy was to remain in Ahmadabad for two days before flying to the holy city of Varanasi in northern India on Saturday.
The Swiss pilots, Bertrand Piccard and Andre Boschberg, are taking turns at the controls of the aircraft during their 35,000-kilometer (21,700-mile) journey.

The aircraft's wings are covered by more than 17,000 solar cells that recharge the plane's batteries. It flies ideally at around 25 knots, or 45 kph (28 mph).

On Monday, Borschberg, who co-founded the Solar Impulse company that built the plane, flew the Si2 from Abu Dhabi, the capital of United Arab Emirates, to nearby Oman in the first leg of the epic journey. Piccard flew the second leg, to Ahmadabad.

The Swiss explorers say their aim is to highlight the importance of renewable energy and the spirit of innovation. They say the visionary journey is a "strong message for clean technologies."

Si2 is slated to make 12 stops during its 35,000-kilometer (21,700-mile) journey, including in China and Myanmar, before it crosses over the Pacific Ocean. It will then land in Hawaii and the U.S. Midwest and East Coast before flying over the Atlantic Ocean. It may also stop in southern Europe or North Africa, depending on weather conditions.

Read more: [abc News](#)

4.3.6 New project: REACH-Rural broadband intErnet Access using Cooperative mesh networking in wHite space spectrum

REACH is a new EU funded project awarded under the ICI+ Programme in a call for proposals by the EU Delegation to India – aiming at developing a cluster-to-cluster partnership between research centres in the EU and India to develop advanced technical solutions for providing high-speed broadband internet access in rural areas by deploying cooperative mesh networking in the unlicensed (white space) spectrum. The project was launched in December 2014.

Read more: [REACH’s website](#)
5 Grants & Fellowships

5.1 National EURAXESS Portals

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

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

Access to all national EURAXESS Portals (overview): here

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

5.2 Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions - Call for Individual Fellowships (IF)

Deadline: 10 September 2015

The goal of Individual Fellowships is to enhance the creative and innovative potential of experienced researchers (i.e. more than 4 years research experience or have a doctoral degree (PhD)) wishing to diversify their individual competence in terms of skill acquisition at multi- or interdisciplinary level through advanced training, international and intersectoral mobility.

Individual Fellowships provide opportunities to acquire and transfer new knowledge and to work on research in a European context (EU Member States and Associated Countries) or outside Europe. The scheme particularly 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.

Scope:

Support is foreseen for individual, trans-national fellowships awarded to the best or most promising researchers for employment in EU Member States or Associated Countries, based on an application made jointly by the
researcher and host organisation in the academic or non-academic sectors.

Fellowships are either **European Fellowships** or **Global Fellowships**. **European Fellowships** are held in EU Member States or Associated Countries and are open to researchers currently within and outside Europe. The country where the European Fellowship is held is subject to the rules of mobility. **Global Fellowships** are based on a secondment to a third country and a mandatory 12 month return period to a European host. The country where the Global Fellowship secondment takes place is subject to the rules of mobility, whereas the return phase is not.

Return and reintegration of researchers into a longer term research position in Europe, including in their country of origin, is supported via a separate multi-disciplinary reintegration panel of the European Fellowships. For the reintegration panel, there shall be mobility into Europe.

Support to individuals to resume research in Europe after a career break, e.g. after parental leave, is ensured via a separate multi-disciplinary career restart panel of the European Fellowships. To qualify for the career restart panel, researchers must not have been active in research for at least 12 months immediately prior to the deadline for submission.

Researchers receiving an Individual Fellowship may opt to include a secondment phase in Europe, notably in the non-academic sector, within the overall duration of their fellowship. For a fellowship of 18 months or less, the secondment phase may last up to three months. For a fellowship of more than 18 months, the secondment phase may last up to six months. The secondment phase can be a single period or be divided into shorter mobility periods. The secondment should significantly add to the impact of the fellowship.

A Career Development Plan should be established jointly by the supervisor(s) and the researcher. In addition to research objectives, this plan comprises the researcher's training and career needs, including training on transferable skills, planning for publications and participation in conferences.

**Expected impact:**

• Individual Fellowships are expected to add significantly to the development of the best and most promising researchers active in Europe, in order to enhance and maximise their contribution to the knowledge-based economy and society.

• The action will also strengthen the contact network of both the researcher and the host organisation.

• The fellowship will contribute to realising the full potential of researchers and to catalysing significant development in their careers in both the academic and non-academic sectors.

• Some researchers will be resuming a research career in Europe after a break, or reintegrating within Europe after living abroad.

Read more: Participant Portal
5.3 European Research Council: ERC ADVANCED GRANT 2015

**Deadline: 28 May 2015**

Advanced Grants are designed to support excellent Principal Investigators (10-year excellent scientific track record) at the career stage at which they are already established research leaders with a recognised track record of research achievements. Applicant Principal Investigators must demonstrate the ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility of their scientific proposal.

Read more: [Participant Portal](#)

5.4 Belgium: BEWARE Fellowships I Industry and Academia

A new call has been launched in February 2015 (cut-off dates: **April 30, June 30, September 30 and November 30 2015**).

To promote the mobility of researchers towards Belgium, two funding schemes are now open to attract researchers* in Wallonia / Federation Wallonia - Brussels. The BEWARE FELLOWSHIPS (BElgium WAllonia REsearch) programmes are co-financed by the COFUND program of the European Union (Marie Curie Actions).

1. **BEWARE FELLOWSHIPS Industry**

This program enables SMEs or accredited research centers to benefit from the expertise of highly qualified researchers to encourage the innovation process within the Walloon host.

2. **BEWARE FELLOWSHIPS Academia**

This program focuses on technology transfer. It enables researchers to perform a research stay in a French-speaking university, in partnership with a Walloon company. Over the period covered by the mandate (18-36 months), 25% of it must be spent in the company.

Read more: [Gateway to Research and Technologies in Wallonia](#)

5.5 France: “Connect Talent” 2015 International Call for Projects I three deadlines

**Deadlines: 28 April 2015, September 2015 and February 2016**

**WHAT?** Support funded by Pays de la Loire Region to research, training and innovation “breakthrough projects”

According to Pays de la Loire Region, a "breakthrough project" is a project that has the aim and potential to meet one or more of the major scientific or technological challenges of our time, inside one discipline or in
a transdisciplinary logic; a project that is capable of meeting one or several challenges in the field of training; an innovative project whose societal and economic impacts in the medium and long term are indisputable; a daring project capable of significantly accelerating the march of progress in our region, winning it scientific and academic recognition and enhancing its reputation and attractiveness on a worldwide level.

**Eligible fields:** acoustics, vegetal, renewable marine energies, numeric, professional electronics, agro food, tourism, material for molecular photonics and organic electronics, European studies, creative and cultural industries, among others.

**WHO?** The call for projects addresses a great variety of candidates:

- **Talents:** the call for projects is aimed at international scientific leaders (junior or senior researchers) working alone or with a team in order to kick-start a new research programme or accelerate the development of existing programmes
- **Technological research and development projects:** the call for projects is open to large research facilities, private R&D centres and critically-sized laboratories both in France and internationally
- **Training projects:** the call is open to educational establishments already present in the region and those from outside, provided they present ambitious development projects.

Read more: [Connect Talent](#)

### 5.5 Hungary: Stipendium Hungaricum I PhD students - Indian nationals eligible

**Deadline: 30 April 2015**

The Hungarian Government announced the policy of "Global Opening", as part of which the Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Programme was launched in 2013 for foreign students.

The aim of the programme is to promote cultural understanding, economic and political relations between Hungary and other countries. Full time studies:

- BA/BSc (undergraduate – 3 years)
- MA/MSc (graduate – 2 years)
- PhD studies (doctoral – 3 years)
- medical insurance

**FOR INDIA:**

(*) **Levels:** full BA/BSc, MA/MSc or one-cycle BA+MA or PhD studies.

(**) **Fields:** natural and life sciences, information technology, economics, business and management and engineering, for full PhD studies in any field of interest

All information and application documents are available: [here](#)
5.7 Italy: 2nd Call of '2020 RESEARCHERS: TRAIN TO MOVE (T2M)' I 14 Grants

**Deadline: 5 May 2015**

The University of Turin, with the support of the European Commission and the banking foundation Compagnia di San Paolo under FP7-PEOPLE-2013-COFUND Action, has launched the 2nd Call of 2020 RESEARCHERS: TRAIN TO MOVE (T2M) programme. Open to researchers of any nationality.

With the 2nd Call, T2M programme intends to offer 14 more grants to high skilled researchers, giving them the opportunity to carry out a research project at one of 26 hosting departments of the University and to attend a unique training on soft skills.

The T2M experience will contribute to the development of personal transferable skills of awarded fellows and will train them for developing careers in academic and non-academic sectors.

The 2nd T2M call for proposals is now open.

All useful information is available [here](#).

5.8 Forthcoming calls

*Under HORIZON 2020:*

**Revised HORIZON 2020 Work Programme 2014-2015:** [here](#) ([check for documents ending with "v.2" under H2020/Work Programmes/2014-15/Main WP]).

**European Research Council (ERC)'s Work Programme 2015:** [here](#)

**Excellent Science I Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) I Co-funding of Regional, National and International Programmes (COFUND):** Planned opening date 14/04/2015 (Planned deadline: 1/10/2015) - *Indian entities cannot receive funding under this call but can participate. Indian nationals are eligible for CONFUND fellowships to be awarded under CONFUND projects.*

5.9 Calls still open (over 50 opportunities!!)

*(see previous newsletters or click on the respective link for more details)*
EURAXESS LINKS INDIA

HORIZON 2020 – Calls for proposals: access all calls under Industrial Leadership and Societal Challenges pillars on the Horizon 2020 Participant Portal.
Deadline for submission: check under specific call
EURAXESS Links India pays particular attention to calls open to individual researchers under Excellent Science pillar (see below).

The following calls under HORIZON 2020 are highlighted here:

Excellent Science – ERC Proof of Concept Grant (ERC grantee)
There are 3 deadlines for submission to the ERC-2015-Proof of Concept:
First deadline: 5 February 2015 at 17:00 (Brussels local time) - CLOSED
Intermediate deadline: 28 May 2015 at 17:00 (Brussels local time)
Final deadline: 1 October 2015 at 17:00 (Brussels local time)

Excellent Science I Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff (RISE) – Indian entities cannot receive funding
Deadline: 28 April 2015 at 17:00 (Brussels local time)

Societal Challenges I «Europe as a global actor»
Deadline for submissions: 12 May 2015
INT-01-2015 - targeting Australia, USA, Brazil, South Africa, Ukraine
INT-02-2015 - targeting Southern Mediterranean, Neighbourhood, Eastern Partnership

Industrial Leadership I Fast Track Innovation - Pilot (2015-2016)
Proposals can be submitted at any time as of January 9 2015, yet will be ranked following three cut-off dates in 2015: April 29, September 1 and December 1. The three cut-off dates for 2016 will be made public at a later time. FTI Pilot in Horizon Work Programme 2014-2015: here

Other European calls (Europe-India specific or where India involved):

Indo-Dutch: Cooperation between The Netherlands and India on X-ray Astronomy and Technology
Deadline: no deadline applicable.

India-Spain: Programme of Co-operation on Industrial R&D 2014
Deadline: 15 April 2015
Thematic areas:
1. Clean Technologies
2. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)
3. Smart Cities

India–UK: Collaborative Industrial R&D Programme 2014
Deadline: 15 April 2015 (prior registration required)
Areas of focus are:
• Cleantech Energy
• Affordable healthcare

http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess
Advanced Manufacturing
Use of Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) in any of the above focus areas.

*Calls by European Research Area countries (not only for India):*

**AUSTRIA:** [Lise Meitner Programme for scientists from abroad](#)
Deadline: accepted continuously, no application deadlines

**GERMANY:** [Anneliese Maier Research Award](#)
Deadline for nominations: 30 April 2015

**GERMANY:** [Georg Forster Research Fellowship (HERMES) - Top opportunities for researchers from developing countries](#)
Deadline: There is no closing date for submitting applications.

**GERMANY:** [Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers](#)
Deadline: There is no closing date for submitting application

**ITALY:** [Call for 86 posts in PhD courses at the Scuola Normale Superiore](#)
Applications registered by: 31 August 2015, for the autumn session

**NORWAY:** [Joint Indo-Norwegian researcher projects under Polar Research Programme (POLARPROG)](#)
Deadline: 15 April 2015

**POLAND:** [Foundation for Polish Science – Ideas for Poland](#)
Deadline: Applications accepted on a rolling basis
Eligible applicants: Winners of the “ERC Starting Grants” competition who intend to pursue scientific research in Poland.

**PORTUGAL:** [New Media and Pervasive Systems PhD Programme by COPELABS and University Lusofona](#)
Deadline for application: different deadlines

**SPAIN-Basque Country:** [Ikerbasque Research Fellows Call 2015: 15 positions for postdoctoral researchers](#)
Deadline: 15 April 2015

**TURKEY:** [TÜBITAK – Research Fellowship Programme for International Researchers](#)
Applications will be accepted twice a year. Application deadlines for 2014 were:
II. Period : 10 October 2014 - 12 November 2014

**UK:** [Wellcome Trust- Investigator Awards](#)
Applications are considered three times a year (February, July, November). Next full application closing date: February 2015 (tbc)
**Horizon 2020: Call of expression of interest for experts**

Additional details can be found in the Participant Portal. We encourage experienced researchers to check it and register as an expert. The call for expression of interest will remain open for the lifetime of Horizon 2020.

### 6 Jobs

#### 6.1 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! It includes fellowships such as Marie Sklodowska-Curie ones as well as vacancies advertised by AAAs, Naturejobs and Science.

Currently, there are 11065 research jobs and fellowship programmes (all over Europe but also in other countries such as in India (95 positions) and in all disciplines) accessible via the EURAXESS Jobs database.

Most jobs are open to researchers of any nationality.

#### 6.2 JRC Call for expressions: European Researchers (postdocs) – Still open

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

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

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

More info: Joint Research Centre
6.3 Graphene Based Nanostructures and Materials (France, UK, Spain, Greece) | 13 positions

**Deadline: 29 May 2015**

Applications are invited for 13 PhD positions working in graphene-based materials, funded by the EU commission Marie Skłodowska-Curie ITN initiative. The network entitled “Enabling Excellence” offers integral R&D training at PhD level around one of the most active and exciting topics at the forefront of nanoscience and nanotechnology, graphene-based nanostructures and materials, and associated instrumentation development. This is accompanied by a unique and continuous Communication training programme throughout the duration of the project.

We are looking for: 13 excellent candidates to pursue research leading to a PhD from 2015 to 2018 in a European network of excellent academic and non-academic institutions. The successful candidates will have a background in Chemistry, Physics, Materials Science, Engineering or a related discipline. They will be highly motivated researchers with an excellent academic background, team players ready to actively contribute to the network activities.

Read more: [EURAXESS Jobs](#)

6.4 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).

*The global EURAXESS LinkedIn group is complementary to the country based EURAXESS Links India community.*

Example of recent employment or fellowship opportunity published on EURAXESS Links-Internationally Mobile Researchers is provided below.

For further information click on the position:

**Ikerbasque Call: 15 positions for postdocs in the Basque Country (Spain)**

**Deadline: 15 April 2015**

Ikerbasque offers **15 contract positions** for postdoctoral researchers, within any of the Basque Research Institution (Universities, BERC - Basque Excellence Research Centres, CIC - Cooperative Research Centres, Biomedical institutions and Technology Corporations, among others). Find also specific information about some Research Groups.

**Maximum** duration of contract: **5 years**

Call with the **support of the European Union (FP7)**.
These Fellowships are directed to promising young researchers; they are intended to offer a track towards a PI role and independent research. The evaluation committee will only consider strongest candidates with excellent leadership capabilities and an outstanding research record. The applicants must have their PhD completed between 1/1/2005 and 31/12/2012.

Applications from women are especially welcomed. The eligibility period is extended under special circumstances such as maternity or long-term illness.

6.5 India: Jobs at DevNetJobsIndia

At the time of writing this issue, DevNetJobsIndia offers positions in research and innovation. Best is to check it up in the beginning of the month when new positions are advertised.

7 Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event (click for more details)</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>7.1 Europe</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Events announced under Horizon 2020 website</td>
<td>Check link</td>
<td>Check link</td>
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<tr>
<td>It includes the Information Days by the EC and Brokerage events</td>
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<tr>
<td>TechnologyCooperationDays at the Hannover Fair/Messe with India as Guest Country</td>
<td>Hannover, Germany</td>
<td>14-15 April</td>
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<td>Brain Conferences 2015: Bridging Neural Mechanisms and Cognition</td>
<td>Copenhagen, Denmark</td>
<td>19-22 April</td>
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<td>12th International Conference of Young Scientists on ENergy Issues (CYSENI 2015)</td>
<td>Kaunas, Lithuania</td>
<td>27-28 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>A new start for Europe: Opening up to an ERA of Innovation by the European Comission</td>
<td>Brussels, Belgium</td>
<td>22-23 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th European Union Contest for Young Scientists by the European Commission</td>
<td>Milan, Italy</td>
<td>17-22 September</td>
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<td>ICT 2015 - Innovate, Connect, Transform by the European Commission with the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia Portugal</td>
<td>Lisbon, Portugal</td>
<td>20-22 October</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7.2 India</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Exhibition on Services</td>
<td>New Delhi (Pragati Maidan)</td>
<td>23-25 April</td>
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<td>EURAXESS Links India will participate at the conference on education on 25/04 (confirmed) and exhibition (tbc)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Busworld India 2015</td>
<td>Mumbai (Bombay Exhibition Centre)</td>
<td>28-29 April</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smart Cities India 2015</td>
<td>New Delhi (Pragati Maidan)</td>
<td>20-22 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EURAXESS event: Advancing Your Research Career in Europe: Funding and Fellowship Opportunities for Indian Researchers</td>
<td>Kolkata, Bengal</td>
<td>August</td>
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<tr>
<td>EURAXESS Information Session</td>
<td>Mumbai, Maharashtra</td>
<td>August/September</td>
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<tr>
<td>EURAXESS Information Session</td>
<td>Zuarinagar, Goa</td>
<td>August/September</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th Renewable Energy India Expo 2015</td>
<td>Greater Noida, NCR</td>
<td>23-25 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>EURAXESS Science Slam India 2015 Live finals</td>
<td>Bengaluru (tbc)</td>
<td>October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intersolar India 2015</td>
<td>Mumbai, Maharashtra</td>
<td>18-20 November</td>
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</tbody>
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**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 **Login Community / 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 the ASEAN (encompassing Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam), Brazil, China, India, Japan, and North America (USA & Canada).