

2015  
May  
Issue 47

## EURAXESS LINKS INDIA

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to present to you the fifth 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 features the first of a series on science communication, with an article on “*Bodystorming hits Bangalore – A dance science interaction at National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS)*”.

In addition to the **EU Insight** on “*Innovation Union Scoreboard 2015*” you will find information on **News** related to research and innovation in Europe and India, including the recent *annual event by the EU STI Platform in India*, a selection of **Grants and Fellowships**, a collection of **Job opportunities** (over **8025** in **EURAXESS Jobs** - including fellowships) as well as information on upcoming **Events** (in Europe and India).

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 very important to us.

Ainhitze Bizkarralegorra-Bravo  
Country Representative  
EURAXESS Links India  
[india@euraxess.net](mailto:india@euraxess.net)



# Contents

1	EU Insight – Innovation Union Scoreboard 2015.....	5
2	Feature – Bodystorming hits Bangalore – A dance science interaction at NCBS, Bangalore.....	7
3	EURAXESS in India.....	8
3.1	EURAXESS Events in 2015.....	8
3.2	EURAXESS Links India on-site visits.....	9
4	News & Developments .....	9
4.1	<b>EU, Member States and Associated Countries</b> .....	9
4.1.1	President Juncker welcomes world-leading scientists, discusses role of science in competitiveness and announces new mechanism for scientific advice .....	9
4.1.2	Watchdogs of the system’: the EU’s new scientific advisory panel explained.....	10
4.1.3	161 highly innovative SMEs funded by Horizon 2020 SME Instrument.....	10
4.1.4	Royal Society elects new Fellows.....	10
4.1.5	EU Boost for Polar Science .....	11
4.1.6	Pint of Science Festival also in Europe .....	11
4.2	<b>India</b> .....	12
4.2.1	Education and Skills connecting India to the world at 1 <sup>st</sup> Global Exhibition on Services (GSE), New Delhi 25 April 2015.....	12
4.2.2	Living with Earthquake in South Asia: Multi-pronged Strategy Required for Preparedness, Prediction, Surveillance, Structural Reinforcement and Insurance.....	13
4.2.3	AICTE sponsored two weeks Faculty Development Programme on Solar Radiations-Green options for Energy at Manav Rachna University (MRU) .....	14
4.3	<b>India-Europe cooperation</b> .....	15
4.3.1	Annual Event of the EU STI Platform in India - “How can European institutions and industry engage with India’s new research universities?”.....	15
4.3.2	Opinion on how European institutions and industry can engage with India’s new research universities?” .....	16
4.3.3	New Round of Focal Point Training Welcomes India’s New Universities .....	18

EURAXESS Links India Newsletter is a monthly electronic newsletter, edited by EURAXESS Links India, which provides information of specific interest to European and non-European researchers in India who are interested in the European research landscape and conducting research in Europe or with European partners.

The information contained in this publication is intended for personal use only. It should not be taken in any way to reflect the views of the European Commission nor of the Delegation of the European Union to India.

Please email to [india@euraxess.net](mailto:india@euraxess.net) for any comments on this newsletter, contributions you would like to make, if you think any other colleagues would be interested in receiving this newsletter, or if you wish to unsubscribe.

Editor: Ainhitze Bizkarralegorra Bravo, EURAXESS Links India, Country Representative



4.3.4	2nd Regional EU R&I Tour Northeast Region – Jorhat & Tezpur   27-30 April 2015.....	19
4.3.5	'Inspiring Change: Impact of UK-India Research Partnership' .....	20
4.3.6	Semester course in Peace and Conflict Studies, Pondicherry India - APPLY NOW for fall term 2015! .....	22
4.3.7	New Computer Aid Engineeringg (CAE) software by Ingeciber (Spain) .....	22
4.3.8	DAAD Young Ambassador Programme 2015-16 .....	22
4.3.9	Information Session – Higher Education and Research in Germany .....	23
4.3.10	SESEI latest Newsletter-EUROPE (Issue 08) is online.....	23
<b>5</b>	<b>Grants &amp; Fellowships.....</b>	<b>23</b>
5.1	National EURAXESS Portals .....	23
5.2	Industrial Leadership I Horizon Prize I Breaking the Optical Transmission barriers.....	24
5.3	Industrial Leadership I Horizon Prize I Collaborative Sharing of Spectrum .....	25
5.4	Call open for engaged scientists with strong competence in CRISPR technology by EU Marie Curie Chair .....	26
5.5	Indo French Call for Networking Project on Water Treatment .....	26
5.6	3rd Indo-Spanish Joint Call for Technological Co-operation in Biotechnology.....	27
5.7	BBSRC-Newton Fund Call for Virtual Joint Centres with Brazil, China and India in Agricultural Nitrogen.....	28
5.8	Newton-Bhabha PhD Placements Programme.....	29
5.9	Spain and USA: International Call for Fellowships in Biomedical Imaging M+VISION COFUND 2015 I 10 fellowships .....	29
5.10	IGSTC calls for Pre-Proposals for joint R&D projects in New Materials for Energy Efficiency and Water and Wastewater Technologies .....	31
5.11	DAAD Project-Based Personnel Exchange Programme 2016/2017 .....	31
5.12	PhD and Postdoc Positions at the Freie University Berlin (Germany) .....	31
5.13	Forthcoming calls .....	32
5.14	Calls still open (over 50 opportunities!!).....	32
<b>6</b>	<b>Jobs.....</b>	<b>35</b>
6.1	EURAXESS Portal and EURAXESS Jobs .....	35



6.2 JRC Call for expressions: European Researchers (postdocs) –  
*Still open*.....36

6.3 Vacancies for PhD in Europe at DSM .....36

6.4 Join us on LinkedIn: linkedin.euraxess.org .....36

6.5 India: Jobs at DevNetJobsIndia .....37

6.6 India: Jobs at IndiaBioScience .....37

7 Events in Europe and India..... 37



# 1 EU Insight – Innovation Union Scoreboard 2015

On 7 May 2015, the European Commission released its latest study on the state of innovation in the European Union. Like its predecessors, the [Innovation Union Scoreboard 2015](#) (now in its 14<sup>th</sup> edition), provides a comparative assessment of the research and innovation performance of the 28 EU Member States and selected associated and neighbouring countries. The aim of the assessment is to help Member States identify and better understand areas of strength and/or weakness regarding innovation and to determine appropriate actions to facilitate their respective innovation performances.

## The report

To determine the state of affairs concerning innovation across individual Member States, the report draws on a methodology used in previous editions. This methodology is based on a composite indicator, which is comprised of 25 different individual indicators. This composite indicator, known as the “Summary Innovation Index,” summarises a range of indicators” which are broken down into three main types—Enablers, Firm activities and Outputs—and eight key dimensions. (\*because of changes to some of the indicators used, a direct comparison with the results of the 2014 Scoreboard was not possible)

According to this year’s report, although stable, innovation in the EU is stalling, and in some cases, is in decline. The reasons for this finding are manifold, but key amongst them are lingering effects of the 2008 financial crisis. For many Member States, the financial crisis has had a major impact on private sector innovation, with many innovation firms going into decline, less patents applied for, investments in venture capital shrinking, and high-tech products importation and general product sales being down, to name just a few of the problems affecting this sector. In addition to this finding, this year’s Scoreboard also points out that the decline in innovation is present in 13 of 28 Member States. However, not all is bad news for Europe in relation to innovation. Even though 13 Member States demonstrate a poor or weakening performance in terms of innovation, the remaining 15 have, however, actually improved their performance. This is especially true for Malta, Latvia and Bulgaria. Also to come out the Innovation Scoreboard is the fact that while convergence in terms of innovation growth is occurring, it is happening too slowly.

## Categories and Leaders

Using the performance indicators for innovation mentioned above, the Member States were divided into four classifications. These performance groups are broken down into the following types: innovation leaders, innovation followers, moderate innovators, and modest innovators. Ranked in the top group of innovation leaders are Sweden, Germany, Denmark and Finland. These countries are in turn followed by Austria, Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Slovenia and the UK. Behind these two groups are Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and Spain. While the last group, that of modest innovators, is made up of Bulgaria, Latvia and Romania. These rankings position the various EU Member States in terms of their innovation performance relevant to the EU average. Countries in the first category of innovation leaders are all well above the EU average, while those in the second innovation followers group are



either above or close to the average. Those in the moderate innovators category are viewed as performing well below the EU average.

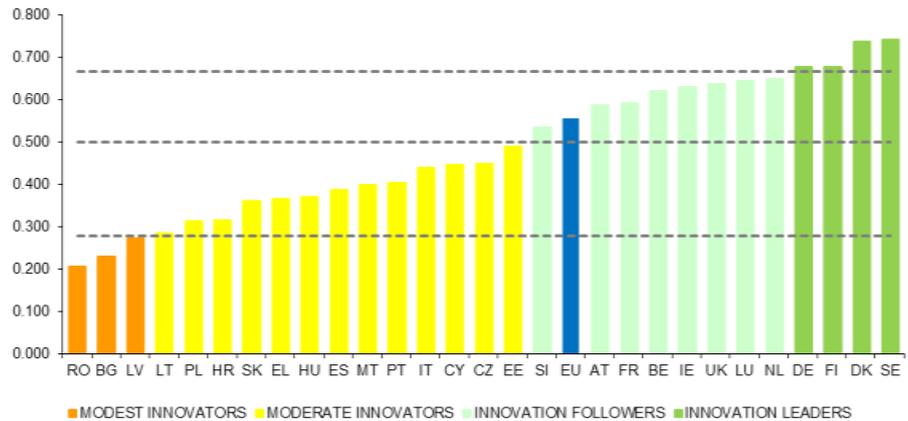


Figure 1: EU Member States's innovation performance

Of all the countries studied, Sweden performs the best innovatively. Furthermore, all the countries listed in the top group have remained stable from the previous year (2014), with only Cyprus and Estonia changing group membership (downward). Where change becomes most obvious is within the various groups themselves. For example, amongst the innovation leaders, Finland and Germany have exchanged places.

To further understand how EU Member States are performing, the Innovation Union Scoreboard 2015 also assessed other European and non-European countries. Among European countries, Switzerland is the top performer in general, outperforming all EU Member States combined. Whereas globally, South Korea and the United States rank as the best innovators.

To learn more about the Innovation Union Scoreboards and how the EU Member States have fared in the last decade, please follow this link: [http://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/innovation/facts-figures/scoreboards/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/innovation/facts-figures/scoreboards/index_en.htm).

Sources

- 1) Innovation Union Scoreboard 2015. European Commission. [http://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/innovation/facts-figures/scoreboards/files/ius-2015\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/innovation/facts-figures/scoreboards/files/ius-2015_en.pdf) Accessed 22 May.
- 2) Innovation Union Scoreboard 2015: Executive Summary. European Commission. Accessed 22 May 2015.
- 3) "Unleash Innovation to Spur Growth in Europe. European Commission. Press Release. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-15-4927\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-4927_en.htm). Accessed 22 May 2015.





## 2 Feature – Bodystorming hits Bangalore – A dance science interaction at NCBS, Bangalore

*By Anjali Vaidya*



Bodystorming means brainstorming with the physical world. The term entered the vocabulary of design circles about fifteen years ago, stemming from the idea that creativity is not just a product of the logical, conscious mind. Creative work arises from intuition and imagination as well, which may be stifled if we do all our thinking while sitting at a desk all day. We think best when mind and body are integrated.

In the past few years, bodystorming has been adapted to bridge the “two culture” divide between science and art by the Black Label Movement (BLM), a Minnesota-based dance company under the direction of Carl Flink (University of Minnesota), working together with biomedical engineer David Odde (University of Minnesota). Flink and Odde first used bodystorming to model violent intra-cellular dynamics, riding off of a mutual interest in catastrophe. Each was surprised by the creative insights that this collaboration led to in their own research, with Odde gaining intuitions about the effect of “crowders” on chemical reactions, and Flink creating dance pieces with the BLM that drew artistic inspiration from the cell.



Odde, Flink and eight BLM dancers (or “movers,” as they are called) spent eight event-filled days in Bangalore from April 25<sup>th</sup> to May 2<sup>nd</sup>, working with Indian biologists and dancers to initiate new collaborations between science and art. The interaction was the brain-child of biologists Satyajit Mayor and Darius Köster at the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS), who first encountered bodystorming at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Massachusetts in 2014. This April they finally succeeded in bringing bodystorming to Bangalore, hosted by the NCBS Science and Society programme and supported by the Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance and the University of Minnesota. Community engagement and outreach support was provided by the Antara Artists' Collective and IndiaBioscience.



Bodystorming Hits Bangalore began with a weekend where BLM movers taught bodystorming techniques to 25 Indian dancers. This initial training was followed by a residency at NCBS, where biologists and dancers worked together to model systems ranging from the dynamics of virus propagation in bacterial populations to glycosylation, honey bee behaviour and speciation in frogs. Scientists searched for insights about their systems through the physicality of dance, often participating in their own models. Dancers, in turn, spent afternoons improvising on scientific structures to create art. Both products of the workshop came together on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the



National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), Bangalore, as dancers showcased the human simulations and art pieces created over the past week.



Several plans are now in the works to take bodystorming forward in India. Aparna Banerjee, head of the NCBS Science and Society programme and one of the bodystorming organizers, is working with Carl Flink and others to create a bodystorming node in India, with a focus on community engagement. One possibility is to expand bodystorming beyond biology (for instance to economics), given that bodystorming could help individuals build intuition for any problems involving dynamic systems.

Another plan is to look at the potential for bodystorming as a pedagogical tool. This is a specific interest of both Aparna Banerjee, also a dancer, and Shabari Rao, Research Artist in Residence at the Antara Artists' Collective, who managed the documentation process for this residency. Bodystorming may be one way to give students in a classroom a more visceral understanding of complex scientific concepts. A "bodystorming club" may also be started at NCBS, where scientists, dancers, and scientists with dance proclivities can continue the efforts of April's week-long residency and expand to cover new questions.

For more information, contact Aparna Banerjee (aparnaub@ncbs.res.in) and Darius Köster (darius@ncbs.res.in).

## 3 EURAXESS in India

### 3.1 EURAXESS Events in 2015



With the monsoon, the 2015 edition of the *EURAXESS Science Slam India* will be launched in June (2<sup>nd</sup> half). The live finals will take place in Bengaluru in October 2015. This will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of this global event, which takes place in all the EURAXESS Links regions: ASEAN, Brazil, China, India, Japan and North America. You can already start **warming up** by watching one of the **videos** that will be released in the coming weeks: [click here](#).

After the summer break EURAXESS Links India will be coming to Kolkata with a EURAXESS Share event: *"Advancing Your Research Career in Europe: Funding and Fellowship Opportunities for Indian Researchers"* on 3<sup>rd</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> September. Registration to attend this one-day event will open one month before. The June newsletter will introduce this event.

A third event is planned for later in the year. It will be a EURAXESS Connect event most likely addressed to Marie Curie (now Marie Skłodowska-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 and EU Research & Innovation news on Facebook via the site of the Delegation of the European Union to India: [Facebook EU in India](#).



### 3.2 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 on the sub-continent.

If you wish to host such a presentation in your organization, please contact us at [india@euraxess.net](mailto:india@euraxess.net).

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

- In late August/early September, at BITS-Pilani K K Birla Goa Campus in **Zuarinagar** (Goa)
- In September, **Mumbai** (*possible to request a presentation*)
- Other cities on the agenda with no fixed date as of yet: Chennai, Nagkor, Aurangabad or Mandi.

## 4 News & Developments

### 4.1 EU, Member States and Associated Countries

#### 4.1.1 President Juncker welcomes world-leading scientists, discusses role of science in competitiveness and announces new mechanism for scientific advice

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker hosted a working lunch for a group of eminent, internationally awarded scientists to discuss how to ensure that Europe remains a centre of excellence for science, how to foster innovative ideas that are brought to market, and how to ensure that EU policy benefits from the best scientific advice.

President Juncker said: *"The thirst for discovery is what has helped move society from the Stone Ages. The world has changed, but for our society to continue advancing and our economy to grow, we need the highest ambition in pursuing knowledge, breakthroughs, and innovations. For that to happen, a formidable brain alone doesn't always suffice. We need additional sources of finance and investment for research and innovation. The [Investment Plan for Europe](#) will play a fundamental role in achieving that. Investing in research is a priority for Europe. [...]"*

The meeting was also an opportunity to discuss how to best institutionalise independent scientific advice in the European Commission.

**Full article:** [European Commission](#)





#### 4.1.2 Watchdogs of the system': the EU's new scientific advisory panel explained

On May 13, the EC announced a new Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM) – a seven-member panel of experts to oversee the process of how the Commission gets scientific advice on controversial issues like shale gas or GMOs.

“There was quite some fuss, notably in the UK; it was quite a surprise,” observed Robert-Jan Smits, Director-General for Research and Innovation, [in an interview with Science|Business](#). The new system is intended to make the whole process of providing scientific advice more transparent and of higher quality.

According to Smits, the SAM will be a complete system of advice, supported by Commission staff and connected to all the academies of science of the member-states. It is based on matching demand (Commission services) with supply (the national academies and learned societies). It will be overseen by a seven-member group of “very senior people” – including possibly an economist, a social scientist and others. “We are not talking about a panel of Nobel Prize winners,” he said. The aim is to appoint people with the varied experience to judge and oversee the complex process of providing balanced, high-quality scientific advice on important issues. The panel, which reports directly to Moedas, will be supported by a unit to be created inside Smits’ Directorate-General for Research and Innovation.

**Full interview:** [Science | Business](#)

#### 4.1.3 161 highly innovative SMEs funded by Horizon 2020 SME Instrument

One-hundred and sixty-one companies from 23 countries have been selected in the latest round of Horizon 2020 SME Instrument Phase 1. For each project, the participants will receive EUR 50,000 to finance feasibility studies. They can also request up to three days of business coaching.

**Full article:** [European Commission](#)

#### 4.1.4 Royal Society elects new Fellows

Outstanding scientists, including pioneers in climate modelling, the treatment of infectious diseases and plant genetics, make up the 47 new Fellows and 10 new Foreign Members announced by the Royal Society today.

**Source:** [Royal Society](#)



#### 4.1.5 EU Boost for Polar Science

A new initiative to enhance the integration of Europe's scientific and operational capabilities in the Polar Regions has been funded by the EU Horizon 2020 programme

The EUR 2 million five-year EU-PolarNet programme brings together 22 of Europe's internationally-respected multi-disciplinary research institutions to develop and deliver an integrated European polar research programme that is supported by access to first-class operational polar infrastructures. EU-PolarNet will involve stakeholders from the outset to create a suite of research proposals whose scientific outcomes are directly relevant and beneficial to European society and its economy.

**Full article:** [ResearchinGermany](#)

#### 4.1.6 Pint of Science Festival also in Europe



The festival took place over three days in the evenings of Monday 18th – Wednesday 20th May 2015. It happened simultaneously in the UK, Ireland, France, Italy, USA, Spain, Germany and Australia.

In 2012 Michael Motskin and Praveen Paul were two research scientists at Imperial College London. They started and organised an event called 'Meet the Researchers' which brought people affected by Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, motor neurone disease and multiple sclerosis into their labs to show them the kind of research they do. It was inspirational for both visitors and researchers. They thought if people want to come into labs to meet scientists, why not bring the scientists out to the people? And so Pint of Science was born. In May 2013 they held the first Pint of Science festival which featured some of the biggest names in their fields to explain their ground-breaking work to lovers of science and beer. It was a phenomenal success of course!

The aim of the organisers is to deliver science talks in a fun, engaging and approachable way by bringing them to a pub close to you. They will bring you the most interesting and knowledgeable scientists around to give a talk about their research. You just sit back, sip your drink, listen and then you can either ask questions, have a drink with them or even tell them about your crazy idea to save humanity.

If you are thinking of organising a talk for the next edition or want to know more about this science communication event, you may contact Pint of Science team at <contact@pintofscience.com>

Read more: [Pint of Science](#)



## 4.2 India

### 4.2.1 Education and Skills connecting India to the world at 1<sup>st</sup> Global Exhibition on Services (GSE), New Delhi 25 April 2015

The Indian Education system is the largest in the world in terms of institutions and still Indians form the second largest ethnic group on the world education stage with more than 150,000 students travelling abroad every year to study at various levels. The education conference at the 1<sup>st</sup> GSE deliberated on India being poised to play a global role in being an international education hub. The conference was opened by the Irish Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Mr. Richard Bruton T.D. who visited New Delhi and Mumbai to promote business links between India and Ireland. He mentioned Horizon 2020 as part of the efforts and offer by the European Union to enhance research and innovation between Europe and India.

With the new Indian education policy being restructured and quality education with international standards being introduced by both public and private universities, India is poised to get the equation of two way mobility right. This conference was an occasion to discuss 'what needs to be done at policy level' and 'what needs to be done at ground level' to pave a way where globalization is a two way street.

The conference had four sessions (see full programme [here](#)). EURAXESS Links India was invited to make a presentation at the session discussing "Higher Education; connecting local to global markets" where the Indian, Australian and European perspectives were presented. Ainhitze Bizkarralegorra Bravo, Country Representative, EURAXESS Links India, mentioned that it would be desirable to make more visible the contribution of prominent Indian female researchers and in academia at the next edition (i.e. very few panelists out of the over 30 guests were women in a field where women have a strong presence). She also encouraged participants to invite their female colleagues to apply for grants and fellowships in Europe or think of ways to ensure that research and innovation takes into account the needs and contributions of everyone, women and men

Participants at the conference will not easily forget this event. The earthquake in Nepal taking place at the same time was very much felt. It was also a good occasion for the EURAXESS Links India Country Representative to meet some community members and make new connections that will help bring research and innovation opportunities in Europe closer to India and vice-versa.

Read more: [2<sup>nd</sup> Global Exhibition on Services](#), 24-26 February 2016



#### 4.2.2 Living with Earthquake in South Asia: Multi-pronged Strategy Required for Preparedness, Prediction, Surveillance, Structural Reinforcement and Insurance

By R. B. Singh (\*)

*In response to the recent earthquakes of 25 April and 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015 in Nepal, Professor R. B. Singh has elaborated a detailed agenda addressed to policy makers and communities that we are honoured to share with EURAXESS Links India newsletter readers.*

Over the past decade, the number of natural and man-made disasters has increased significantly. The types of disaster, their intensity and frequency have increased manifold over the past few decades (Table 1 in full article). The largest increase was observed in countries of low human development, which suffered an increase of 142%. This is attributed to population increase and standard of living. Of the total geographical area, 85% of India's land is prone to various kinds of disasters. Of this, nearly 59% of the Indian land mass is susceptible to seismic hazard (moderate, high and very high zone). Dangers from earthquakes in the Himalayan region in general and South Asian mega-cities in particular are very high (Figure 1 in full article). This is exacerbated due to the dense clusters of population, lack of awareness and prevalent poverty. As recent earthquakes in Nepal and India caused large scale loss of human life and damage to properties through direct and indirect impacts like faulting, cracks, upheaval, subsidence and dislocation etc. It is high time to give foremost importance of disaster prediction, monitoring and mitigation.

*Lessons Learned: Are Delhi and other Mega Cities of South Asia Prepared for Earthquake? - Agenda before Government and Communities of South Asia:*

Delhi has experienced frequent tremors in recent days. Many people believe that energy release through these tremors reduces the risk for earthquake but this assumption is not based on definite proposition. Based on assessment of poor status of earthquake preparedness and delay in response of the government in dealing with rescue and relief operations in past earthquakes, the need of the hour is to review the vulnerability maps of the city. Delhi is presently in Zone IV of seismic zones of India. The magnitude of the probable earthquake will range between 5 to 6 on the Richter scale which could be extremely devastating in the present state of preparedness in Delhi. The loopholes are both in the physical structures like houses, buildings, old bridges, heritage monuments etc. and human awareness is extremely poor in regard to earthquake related information in view of evacuation, prevention, emotional development etc. The author suggests what to keep in mind while preparing earthquake preparedness plans and policies in Delhi *Response of Present Nepal Earthquake: Concluding Remarks*

It is necessary to coordinate the relief and aid packages amongst different countries. Cracks and damaged runways also hinder relief efforts at the Kathmandu airport. Armed forces, paramilitary, medicine, government and



self-help groups should work in an integrated manner for response, rescue, resettlement and rehabilitation of disaster victims. Nepal has been shaken by around 70 aftershocks. The response of the Indian government was quick and effective. Other countries and international communities joined immediately. A multi-dimensional livelihood framework can play an instrumental role for rehabilitation beyond rescue and relief.

Read more: [complete article by R. B. Singh](#) Vice President: International Geographical Union (IGU) and Head, Department of Geography, Delhi school of Economics, University of Delhi, Delhi-7; e-mail: [rbsgeo@hotmail.com](mailto:rbsgeo@hotmail.com)

(\*) *R. B. Singh is EURAXESS Links India community member*

#### 4.2.3 AICTE sponsored two weeks Faculty Development Programme on Solar Radiations-Green options for Energy at Manav Rachna University (MRU)

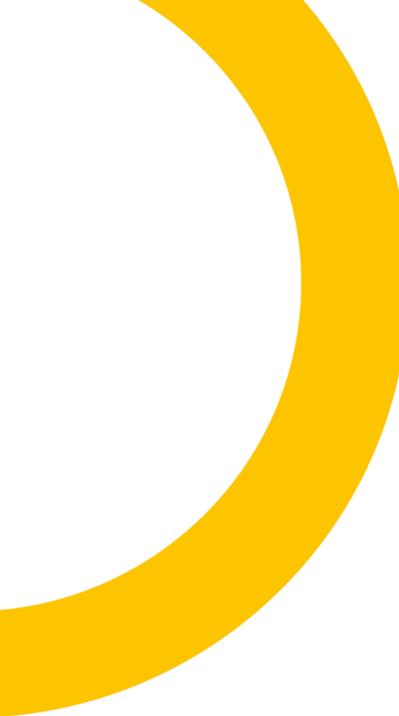
Manav Rachna University (Formerly Manav Rachna College of Engineering) conducted an AICTE sponsored, two weeks Faculty Development Programme on Solar Radiations-Green options for Energy from May 11-23-2015. The inaugural session of the Programme was successfully launched amidst dignitaries like Dr G.N.Tiwari (Professor, Centre for Energy Studies, IIT Delhi); Ainhitz Bizkarralegorra Bravo (Country Representative, EURAXESS Links India); Dr Meenakshi Khurana (Dean – Academics, MRU); Dr R P Sambhi (HOD, Deptt of Mechanical Engineering- MRU); Dr Sujata Nayak (Course – Coordinator); Mr. Kapil Narwal (Course – Co-coordinator) along with the participants and faculty members of the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

The Programme was aimed at providing an interactive platform for faculty participants to interact with renowned experts from academia and industry. The Programme was a comprehensive mix of lecture sessions, industrial workshops, onsite visits and experimental studies. A total of twenty five speakers from all over the country visited the campus to present their research, and deliver sessions on solar radiations.

The Programme turned out to be a success with the participation of more than fifty faculty members from all over the country. Valedictory lectures were delivered by Dr. Sunjay Sarivastava, Honorable Vice Chancellor, Manav Rachna University. The Programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Sujata Nayak on May 23, 2015.

For further information please contact the Course Co-ordinators: **Dr. Sujata Nayak** ([dashsuj@gmail.com](mailto:dashsuj@gmail.com)) and **Mr. Kapil Narwal** ([mr.k.narwal@gmail.com](mailto:mr.k.narwal@gmail.com))

Read more: [Manav Rachna University](#)





## 4.3 India-Europe cooperation

### 4.3.1 Annual Event of the EU STI Platform in India - “How can European institutions and industry engage with India’s new research universities?”

*By Dr Srinivasa Kaveri*

The second annual event of the EU STI Platform in India was held in New Delhi on 15 April 2015. The Platform, a component within the framework of the INDIGO POLICY project, aims to support STI cooperation between the EU and India. EU STI platform is a consortium of over 20 European members that are operational in India. The event focussed on “How can European Institutions and Industry engage with India’s New Research Universities”. The topic evoked great interest among a strong gathering of more than 120 participants from both the European and Indian research community.



The event was opened by Dr Srinivasa Kaveri, Director of CNRS Office in India, and coordinator of the EU STI Platform in India. CNRS and IndoGenius are the two main partners supervising the EU STI Platform activities and development. The main objectives of the Platform are to network and collaborate with the Indian counterparts in a coordinated and cohesive way.

Dr João Cravinho, Ambassador of the European Union to India reminded in the inaugural address, that the Bologna process, which introduced a common qualification process (the three cycle system of Bachelor/Master/Doctorate) was crucial in the European Union and encouraged the new Indian universities to gain momentum towards better harmonization at the national level.

In the keynote lecture, Professor L.S. Shashidhara, IISER Pune, explained how the new Indian universities have emerged and the context for their emergence, with the case study of IISER Pune. Poul V. Jensen, introduced the mission of EBTC and shared EBTC’s experience with the Indian innovation ecosystem. Denis Dambois, First Counsellor, Head of Science & Technology at the Delegation of the European Union to India gave an account of the efforts that have been made at the European level by the EU to better coordinate Knowledge Transfer policy and actions.



The panel session, which was moderated by Professor V.V. Krishna, JNU was a great opportunity for the audience to learn from the experience of new Indian universities with the contribution of Professor Rupamanjari Ghosh (Shiv Nadar University), Dr OP Vyas (IIIT Allahabad), and Dr Prem Siri (IIT Mandi). Questions by the audience included how the EU STI Platform can help the Indian research universities to interlink with the European research and innovation organizations.

Nick Booker closed the session emphasizing the necessity of increasing the visibility of the work done by Indian institutions, for raising awareness of opportunities with Europe and for alignment of scientific priorities between European organizations and new Indian universities. The EU STI Platform in India can serve this function.

EURAXESS Links India newsletter readers wanting to know more about the event or the EU STI Platform in India may contact Dr Srinivasa Kaveri, Director of CNRS Office in India at <Srinivasa.Kaveri@crc.jussieu.fr>

*Note:* As member of the platform, EURAXESS Links India co-organised the [first event of the EU STI India Platform, "Public Private Partnership and Innovation" in 2013.](#)

#### 4.3.2 Opinion on how European institutions and industry can engage with India's new research universities?"

*By Mohan Dongare (\*)*

On 15 April in New Delhi, the EU STI PLATFORM WORKSHOP took place which focused on "How can European institutions and industry engage with India's new research universities?"

From the objective and agenda of the 2<sup>nd</sup> event of the EU STI Platform meeting (see above 4.3.1) it is very clear that European institutions and European companies are very keen to interact/collaborate with Indian R&D institutes. The programme included people from government institutions, including CSIR, IISER where a lot of funding is available for the concerned scientists and professors. These researchers normally work on frontline areas such as "Nanotechnology, Biotechnology, Renewable Energy, green chemistry, etc" more on the basic side of these areas, whereas European industries are more interested in working in these areas with more focus on applications. Unfortunately, in government institutions/universities in India research is focused on publications and at the most, filing patents. Somehow, going further from lab to product development, pilot plant trials do not interest researchers in these organisations and hence the research results remain in the laboratories and people shift to a new area from time to time when the funding is available at the government level.

Fortunately, prominent European companies present in India such as BASF, Degussa, Evonik, Archema Chematur, Siemens and many other automobile companies have already started their laboratories and are developing processes/technologies for products to be marketed in India. Hence EU institutions and industry will be keen to collaborate with the



researchers who will work on the projects of the EU company's interest rather than the projects of academic interest.

*It is better to find out researchers from India whether they are in Government National Institute/ Universities or private laboratories who are working on the basic as well as on applied science.*

Hence, it is better to find out from researchers from India whether they are in Government national institutes/universities or private laboratories which are working on the basic as well as on applied science, and identify people with common interests with well defined achievable targets so that people can effectively collaborate. It will be better for the EU to identify some projects with achievable targets for developing processes/products and support the individual researchers in Indian institutes by providing supports to PhD students who will work on these projects with some incentives to the supervisors guiding these students. The student can be guided jointly by EU institutions and Indian researchers.

I have been associated with the University of Science and Technology (USTL) Lille (France), as coordinator from Indian side collaborating under LIA for the last six years and with Humboldt University, Berlin, University of Rostock (Germany) collaborating in the area of Catalysis.

My experience with these collaborations where the objectives were more of an academic nature, and in some cases where the results were of industrial importance, could not be filed as a joint "patent" because of lack of clear guidelines for intellectual property protection.

I, therefore, suggest the following:

*EU institutions, universities should identify the areas such as renewable material based processes, solid waste management, waste to value addition, water treatment, and initiate some projects based on the opportunities in India and of mutual interests (for both the EU and India).*

EU institutions, universities should identify the areas such as renewable material based processes, solid waste management, waste to value addition, water treatment, and initiate some projects based on the opportunities in India and of mutual interests (for both the EU and India).

Provide PhD/postdoctoral fellowships at new institutions, university and industrial R&D and jointly monitor the progress of the project.

Provide incentives to the Indian R&D personal working on these projects.

These PhD students could work in both Indian and EU laboratories during their PhD so that they could work later either in the EU or Indian laboratories.

Another important suggestions I would like to make to the EU is to collaborate with small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) where a lot of innovators are trying to commercialise technologies/products, and can be considered for collaboration and support by EU.

(\* *Mohan Dongare is member of EURAXESS Links India community*)



### 4.3.3 New Round of Focal Point Training Welcomes India's New Universities

*By Sean Angiolillo*

15 April 2015 saw a new round of training for the Horizon 2020 Focal Point Network. Sixteen researchers from across the country gathered in New Delhi to learn about opportunities for European collaboration from expert trainers from the European Delegation to India, Indigo Policy, and EURAXESS Links India.

Placing special emphasis on European collaboration with India's new research universities, trainees represented many of the new IITs (Ropar, Mandi, Bhubaneswar, and Gandhinagar), the new IISERs (Mohali, Pune, Bhopal and Thiruvananthapuram), the new IIITs (Allahabad), and new public-private universities (IIIT-Bangalore).



The Focal Point Network initiative was launched in 2010 by the New Indigo, India Gate and EUINEC project with the objective to increase the participation of Indians in the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. This activity is now run under the [INDIGO-POLICY](#) initiative.

Considering the new rules and opportunities under the current EU Framework Programme for research and innovation, as well as the level of research capacity around the country, there is a need for informing researchers about new opportunities under [HORIZON 2020](#) and other opportunities at the Member States and Associated Countries level.

In hopes of establishing a sustainable network, the training focused on providing insights into Indian participation with the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme. In addition to providing networking opportunities, the training provided a space for the Indian researchers to openly discuss how this kind of informal support network could thrive and support each other moving forward.

For more information about the Focal Point Network, please visit [www.indigoprojects.eu](http://www.indigoprojects.eu) or email [sean@indogenius.com](mailto:sean@indogenius.com).

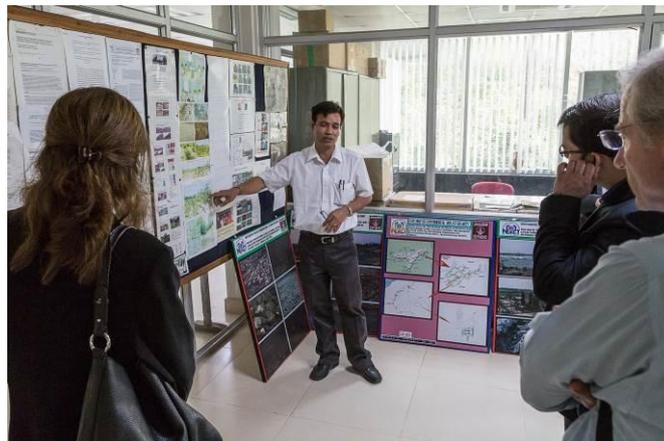


#### 4.3.4 2nd Regional EU R&I Tour Northeast Region – Jorhat & Tezpur | 27-30 April 2015

The Research & Innovation Section of the EU Delegation to India organised a second "Regional EU R&I Tour" on 27-30 April 2015 in Jorhat and Tezpur (Assam). This Tour included information seminars and several meetings/visits in research institutions and universities.



A key objective of the Tour was to promote Indian participation in EU research programmes, in particular Horizon 2020, but also certain EU member states' programmes. This was mainly achieved through the seminars held in NEIST (North-East Institute of Science and Technology, Jorhat) and in Tezpur University. Speakers in these seminars included members of the R&I Section of the EU Delegation to India, officials from the Norwegian embassy, and a representative from the EU-funded EBTC.



Apart from these information seminars, several meetings and laboratory visits were organised, primarily to give interlocutors a broad idea of what the EU (including its MSs/ACs) is offering in terms of R&I cooperation, but also to collect their feedback regarding their opportunities and expectations on this front.

In addition to several specialised departments or laboratories of the institutions mentioned above, visits/meetings were also conducted in Kaziranga University and in the Assam Agricultural University (AAU, Jorhat – which is involved in a Erasmus Mundus programme on plant virology).



On the afternoon of 29 April, D. Dambois gave a detailed presentation on intellectual property in Tezpur University (TU), in the context of the event organised by TU's IPR Cell on the occasion of the World IP Day 2015.



To learn more about this regional tour contact Denis Dambois, R&I Counsellor, EU Delegation to india at [Denis.Dambois@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:Denis.Dambois@eeas.europa.eu)

#### 4.3.5 'Inspiring Change: Impact of UK-India Research Partnership'

RCUK India hosted 'Inspiring Change: Impact of UK-India Research Partnership' an event which took place on 21 May 2015, in New Delhi, to demonstrate how the UK and Indian research ties have delivered impact.



*Image (L-R): Dr Nafees Meah, Sir James Bevan, Prof Jane Elliott, Prof Ashutosh Sharma and Prof VijayRaghavan*



It was a full house event attended by Sir James Bevan KCMG, British High Commissioner to India as well as senior representatives from the science and research organisations from the UK and India, including Professor Jane Elliott, RCUK's International Lead and Chief Executive of the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC); Professor Vijay Raghavan, Secretary to India's Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Professor Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary to India's Department of Science and Technology (DST) along with researchers, senior policy makers and the media.

The keynote speakers emphasised that the UK-India research collaboration is based on agreed priorities of both the nations and seeks to promote high-impact research that improves lives and delivers innovation and prosperity.

This research partnership, which has supported 84 major projects thus far and has grown to over £150 million in the last six years since the establishment of RCUK India, demonstrates the real commitment of the two nations to work together on some of the really big challenges that face us.

Read more: [Research Councils UK](#)

*Related additional information:*

#### **Inspiring Change – A short film by RCUK India on Impact**

One of the highlights of the event was a short film by RCUK India featuring selected UK-India case studies which showed how the UK-India partnership exemplifies the **R**esearch, **I**nnovate and **G**row agendas of both countries. [See the film](#)

#### **Impact Highlights of UK-India Research Partnership**

At the event, RCUK India launched a new publication that provides clear examples of how UK-India research projects are delivering impact to end users and policy makers. The publication

#### **Mapping the Indian Research and Innovation Landscape**

RCUK India along with the UK's Science and Innovation Network (SIN) in India, in order to better understand the research and innovation ecosystem in India, published three reports on the Indian research and innovation landscape focusing on the three grand challenge areas that were identified by the UK-India Task Force on Science and Innovation.

These are:

- Water-Energy-Food Nexus Research Area by TERI. [Read more](#)
- Sustainable Cities and Rapid Urbanisation by Amaltas India [Read more](#)
- Public Health and Well-Being by Amaltas India. [Read more](#)



#### 4.3.6 Semester course in Peace and Conflict Studies, Pondicherry India - APPLY NOW for fall term 2015!

Peace and Conflict studies provides an interdisciplinary introduction to the study of social and political process of peace and conflict resolution on a local, regional and global scale, and with a focus on South Asia. Peace and Conflict studies is a full semester program, 30 ECTS, and is offered by Kulturstudier, associate member of the Nordic Centre in India, in cooperation with Oslo and Akershus University College. Forthcoming semesters start 31 August 2015 and 1 February 2016.

For more information please visit: [KULTUR STUDIER](#)

#### 4.3.7 New Computer Aid Engineeringg (CAE) software by Ingeciber (Spain)

Ingeciber has over 60 customers in India to whom it is pleased to offer the following new product and courses:

The new "CivilFEM INTRO" has recently been launched. After over four and a half years of work, Ingeciber's Development & Engineering team has developed the first version of a very qualified and easy CAE software for Civil Infrastructures (Bridges, Dams, Tunnels, High Rise Buildings, Nuclear Power Market, etc) with a Windows like Graphical Interface and advanced features in linear and non linear FEM calculus. See software here: [www.civildfem.com](http://www.civildfem.com)

Ingeciber has also introduced a new e-learning Course on "CivilFEM INTRO". See more here: "[INTERNATIONAL ON LINE CAE EDUCATION CENTER](#)"

The CAE Education Center is a collaboration by Spanish University [UNED](#), [INGECIBER](#) and [FUNDACION UNED](#)

Moreover, INGEICIBER and UNED have been offering for the last twenty one years the International Master in Finite Element Method (FEM): , where now these specific courses about CivilFEM are part of FEM civil subjects. See more here: [www.uned.es/mastermef](http://www.uned.es/mastermef)

For further queries contact Juan José Dominguez at [j.dominguez@ingeciber.com](mailto:j.dominguez@ingeciber.com).

#### 4.3.8 DAAD Young Ambassador Programme 2015-16

If you are a student or student researcher and have recently returned from a study stay in Germany and you loved it, tell others how great it was. Become a DAAD Young Ambassador! Young Ambassadors are students or young professionals who have studied or carried out research at a university or research institute in Germany and are interested in promoting education in Germany. Interested professionals may attend a workshop which will take place from 19 Aug – 22 Aug.



Application deadline: 25 June 2015

For more information and application form: [DAAD New Delhi](#)

#### 4.3.9 Information Session – Higher Education and Research in Germany

DAAD Information sessions are organized for students and scholars who want to know more about the German University system, research scenario in Germany, application procedures and funding opportunities.

Two of these types of sessions will take place in June (check on the website for latest updates):

Bangalore: June 22, 2015, 14:30, Goethe Institute, no. 716, CMH Road, Indiranagar 1st stage, Bangalore

Read more: [DAAD New Delhi](#)

#### 4.3.10 SESEI latest Newsletter-EUROPE (Issue 08) is online

The first [SESEI](#)-Newsletter Europe for the year 2015 has been released. India has taken a technology leap in many areas recognising the need to align with the developed countries. Plus, government initiatives are adding impetus to projects of national importance e.g. [Digital India](#), [Smart Cities](#) including Smart Grid, Intelligent transport, Internet of Things and the “[Make in India](#)” Programme, of course.

During this quarter, Smart Cities was one of the most important activities, fast gaining momentum in India. Project SESEI recognised its importance and mapped it against the work being carried out in Europe on Smart Cities has now included it as a priority activity and a dedicated section is included in this newsletter. During this quarter, representatives from CEN, CENELEC and ETSI led SSCC-CG (Smart and Sustainable Cities and Communities Coordination Group) visited India to participate in a Smart Cities related event and Innovation summit. SESEI used this opportunity to organise meetings with important government and standardization officials to exchange information and discuss Smart Cities related standards activities and developments.

Read full Newsletter: [SESEI](#)

## 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](#),



*SESEI's mission is to enhance the visibility of European standardization activities, increase the cooperation between Indian and European standardization bodies and support European companies facing standardization related issues hampering market access to India. The project also supports India in standardization related aspects of its integration in the WTO trading system, by identifying all potential opportunities for enhanced international cooperation and global harmonization of standards. Ultimately, the SESEI project aims at reducing the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) both between EU and India and globally, thus supporting European and Indian industries by facilitating international trade*



[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 Industrial Leadership | Horizon Prize | Breaking the Optical Transmission barriers



**Deadline: 15 March 2016**

The Horizon Prize for **breaking the optical transmission barriers** is a EUR 500,000 challenge prize. It will be awarded to a solution that maximises the fibre capacity per channel, spectrum range and/or spectral efficiency and reach. It should also be energy efficient, economically viable, and easy to install and deploy. The solution should have a strong potential to be adopted in future generations of optical-system products. The feasibility of the approach will have to be demonstrated through clear experimental results.

### OBJECTIVES:

- To overcome the current limitations of long-distance, optical transmission systems;
- To meet the bandwidth demand explosion;
- To provide the resources for future applications;
- To address the aspects of energy efficiency and economic viability of such optical breakthrough systems;
- To stimulate creative thinking across established SMEs, industrial and academic research organisations, but also to seed new industry to address the key component and system related questions, resulting in breakthrough solutions that can drive the European industry forward.

### EXPECTED RESULTS:

This prize will lead to a significant amount of research and potentially significant breakthroughs in the field of optical transmission which will ultimately find their way into future optical networks.

It will help foster European leadership in optical transmission, by further capitalizing on the awarded results, and to the international visibility of Europe's excellence in this area.



The research produced will assist in supporting networks that deliver the insatiable demand for bandwidth, and in providing the resources for future applications that haven't been conceived of yet.

Read more: [Participant Portal](#)

### 5.3 Industrial Leadership | Horizon Prize | Collaborative Sharing of Spectrum

**Deadline: 17 December 2015**



The Horizon Prize for **collaborative spectrum sharing** is a EUR 500,000 challenge prize. It will be awarded to an innovative and disruptive approach which will enable a significant increase in spectrum sharing and re-use, beyond the currently applicable spectrum sharing methods and centralised techniques. The winning solution should be a significant step forward from current technologies and solutions in terms of shared spectrum usage metrics and will have to prove its economic viability. The feasibility of the approach will have to be demonstrated through clear experimental results.

#### OBJECTIVES:

- To tackle the expected capacity crunch of wireless networks faced with booming traffic and usages;
- To provide innovative yet implementable solutions enabling a significant efficiency improvement in the usage of scarce spectrum resources;
- To reward excellence in demonstrating one or several innovative methods focusing on the provision of empowerment of local user communities with decentralised spectrum management capabilities;
- To address the lack of demonstrated system capabilities of disruptive spectrum access and sharing methods, which go beyond the traditional cellular evolution and database-based sharing methods;
- To foster experimental R&D and early proof-of-concept development to encourage innovation, business, and regulation in the domain of collaborative sharing of spectrum.

#### EXPECTED RESULTS:

This prize will lead to a significant amount of research and potentially demonstrated capabilities of disruptive spectrum access and sharing methods, which go beyond the traditional cellular evolution and centralised sharing approaches.

It will contribute to the development of low cost, energy efficient systems solutions that will increase the efficient use of spectrum resources for enabling new services and driving the development of wireless systems.

It will also help overcome the heterogeneous nature of spectrum access implementation in Europe. It will demonstrate societal and economic benefits for Europe with a clear innovation potential, business opportunities, and where applicable, required modernisation of European regulation in the domain of collaborative sharing of spectrum.

Read more: [Participant Portal](#)



## 5.4 Call open for engaged scientists with strong competence in CRISPR technology by EU Marie Curie Chair

The [EU Marie Curie Chair I Birgit Arnholdt-Schmitt](#) is especially dedicated to initiating new directions in thinking in the area of applied botany by combining interdisciplinarity and systemic thinking, and through linking fundamental leading-edge research directly to application in molecular plant breeding for sustainable agriculture and for alternative energy supply.

The Chair encourages highly qualified scientists to integrate running and new research activities by applying for international fellowships. Enthusiastic scientists with diverse backgrounds and interest in working on plants and/or microalgae are welcome to submit one-page proposals. We appreciate 'new winds' coming in... even when 'a bit crazy' (but solid)... or let's say: especially then!

Further information on: [EU Marie Curie Chair I Birgit Arnholdt-Schmitt](#)

## 5.5 Indo French Call for Networking Project on Water Treatment

**Deadline: 1 July 2015**

Considering the strong urge of the French and Indian governments to reinforce scientific collaboration to address prevalent and emerging challenges in water, the French Embassy in India and the Indian Department of Science & Technology (DST) have joined forces for a Indo-French Scientific Networking Programme in the field of water. This networking programme will be implemented by the Indo French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research (CEFIPRA). CEFIPRA has launched this Call to invite joint proposals from the Indian and French Researchers of Academia and Industry. The networking projects will be funded for a period of two years.

**Objectives** of the programme are:

- Form dedicated networks of Indian and French research groups & industries to address identified water issues.
- Strengthen and expand the quality and potential of water research in both countries by building greater interaction between France and India.
- Build stronger relationships between industry and academic communities in France and India coupled with better knowledge exchange, to form the basis for future collaborations, research projects, and joint endeavor related to Water technology, research & innovations.

**Priority fields:** Proposals in the following areas are encouraged:

May 2015 | Issue 47 | Page 26 of 38



- **Waste water treatment (Industrial/ Domestic)**
- **Natural water treatment systems.**

Proposals in line with the DST's Technology Mission "WAR for Water" and/or the goals of the Indo French Water Network (IFWN) ([www.ifwn.org](http://www.ifwn.org)) are particularly encouraged.

Further details for this call: [IFWN](#)

## 5.6 3rd Indo-Spanish Joint Call for Technological Co-operation in Biotechnology

**Deadline: 30 September 2015**

This joint call for proposals aims to launch ambitious joint projects of a high international standard between Indian and Spanish organizations. Potential projects will be funded by [DBT](#) in India and [CDTI](#) (Spain's National Innovation Agency) in Spain.

### THEMATIC AREAS

This call for proposals is a generic call open to collaborative R&D projects in all areas of biotechnology e.g. health biotechnology, industrial biotechnology, nano-biotechnology, agro-biotechnology, including biofuels and bioenergy, bioinformatics and biomedical engineering.

Industry-driven and market-oriented R&D projects, joint technological co-operation projects between researchers and/or companies in India and companies in Spain consisting in the development or substantial improvement of new products, processes or services will be considered.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Minimum eligibility criteria: at least one qualified partner from India and one qualified partner from Spain (1 company from Spain +1 entity from India).

### TIMETABLE

Deadline for submission of completed applications: 30 September 2015

Funding decisions: before 15 December 2015

Kindly review the text for proposals appended to this email. For further information or clarifications: [<india@cdti.es>](mailto:india@cdti.es); [<shailja@dbt.nic.in>](mailto:shailja@dbt.nic.in)

For more information & Guidelines for Applications visit: [CDTI](#) or [DBT](#)



## 5.7 BBSRC-Newton Fund Call for Virtual Joint Centres with Brazil, China and India in Agricultural Nitrogen

**Deadline: 22 July 2015**

BBSRC, NERC and partners in Brazil, China and India are delighted to announce a Newton Fund call for Virtual Joint Centres in Agricultural Nitrogen.

Applications are invited to enable bilateral research activities in the form of Virtual Joint Centres with one of Brazil, China or India for up to three years in duration.

### *Background*

The purpose of the call is to establish a number of Virtual Joint Centres to explore ways to sustain or improve current levels of crop production with lower energy inputs and reduced environmental impacts. Virtual Joint Centres should enable innovative research which will lead to the production of high yields of crops with lower inputs of nitrogen fertiliser.

A Virtual Joint Centre should include a core research programme supported by a range of partnering activities. Where applicable, project partners should align existing resources and infrastructure to augment the research programme thereby building new links or strengthening existing links. The output from the Virtual Joint Centre should be the delivery of exciting new research and strengthened bilateral strategic relationships between the UK and partner countries.

The types, and combinations, of activities which can be supported in a Virtual Joint Centre are intended to be fairly flexible to enable the most appropriate activities and ways of working to support the research programme.

Further information, including exemplar activities and the relevant assessment criteria, is provided within the Call Text Document.

### *Scientific objectives*

The funders aim to support innovative basic, strategic or applied research that will enable crop production to be enhanced in ways that make appropriate use of fertilisers (or potential alternative sources of nitrogen) to optimise yields, while maintaining the quality of soil, water and air, and reducing adverse impacts on terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems.

New advances in bioscience, precision agriculture and phenomics, coupled with improvements in agronomy, offer the potential to optimise nitrogen application rates and develop management practices tailored to specific environmental conditions and crop species. Such advances make more effective management of nitrogen use within farming systems a valid and timely target.



Relevant *scientific themes* that could be supported by Virtual Joint Centres include:

*Agronomic nitrogen use efficiency*: optimising farm practices and soil management to make more effective use of fertilisers and reduce losses of reactive nitrogen to the environment.

*Biological nitrogen use efficiency*: improving the efficiency of nitrogen uptake or metabolism by plants.

*Biological nitrogen fixation (BNF)*: enhancing nitrogen-fixation in legumes or exploiting the potential of BNF in non-leguminous plants.

Read more: [BBSRC](#)

## 5.8 Newton-Bhabha PhD Placements Programme

**Deadline: 31 July 2015**

The Department of Business, Innovation and Skills, UK and the Ministry of Science and Technology, India, British Council- India and the Department of Science and Technology, India are pleased to invite applications for funding to support short-term PhD placements between UK and Indian institutions.

The programme will sponsor UK and Indian PhD scholars to spend a period of their study (3 to 6 months) in Indian and UK higher education institutions taking place between January 2016 - October 2016.

KEY DATES:

Deadline for receipt of applications: **Friday 31 July 2015**

Selection results announced by **mid October 2015**

Placements to take place **between January 2016 to October 2016**

ELIGIBILITY:

Applications are invited from PhD scholars in the UK currently enrolled at a regionally accredited institution of higher education institute in the UK. In India, the application is open to INSPIRE PhD Senior Research Fellows. Please refer to call guidelines for full details of eligibility criteria.

Read more: [British Council](#)

## 5.9 Spain and USA: International Call for Fellowships in Biomedical Imaging M+VISION COFUND 2015 | 10 fellowships

**Deadline: 15 June 2015**

The international call M+VISION COFUND 2015 offering fellowships for researchers in biomedical imaging in Madrid (Spain) and Boston (USA) was published on 14 May. Deadline closes on 15 June 2015.



The Regional Ministry for Education of Comunidad de Madrid offers 10 fellowships for specialists on advanced research in biomedical imaging. This call is part of M + VISION, a program in collaboration of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and co-funded by the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Union (Marie Curie Actions-COFUND).

Initially, the fellowship lasts for 12 months and can be prolonged with a 24-month contract, provided that there is a host organisation (university, research centre, hospital or firm) based in Madrid that hires the researchers during the second and third year. Host organizations will have a co-financing of up to 57% for hiring the researchers.

*The economic support consists of:*

- Fellowship (first year): EUR 43,000/year
- Employment contract (second and third year): EUR65,000/year (employer cost, including social security charges)
- Research costs: EUR 2.300/year
- Travel costs: EUR 3.300/year

There are two types of fellowships depending on the type of mobility that they include:

- Incoming modality (7 fellowships): the three years of fellowship take place in Spain.
- Outgoing modality (3 fellowships): the first two years of fellowship take place in the United States and the third year in Spain.

*Who can apply for a fellowship?*

- Researchers in possession of a doctoral degree or with at least four years of research experience FTE
- That submit a research project idea
- That wish to develop their research project in a Spanish host organization
- That meet the mobility requirements for the selected fellowship modality:
  - Incoming modality: at the time of the application, the applicant must not have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Spain for more than twelve months in the last three years immediately prior to the call deadline.
  - Outgoing modality: at the time of the application the applicant must be resident in Spain and must not have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the United States for more than twelve months in the three years immediately prior to the call deadline.

More information for candidates and host organizations:  
sara.alfonso@madrimasd.org

Read more: [Madrid-MIT M+Visión Consortium](#)



## 5.10 IGSTC calls for Pre-Proposals for joint R&D projects in New Materials for Energy Efficiency and Water and Wastewater Technologies

**Application Deadline: 3 July, 2015**

Indo-German Science & Technology Centre (IGSTC), a joint initiative of Government of India (DST) and Government of Germany (BMBF) to promote research partnership of industrial relevance invites Pre-Proposals for joint R&D projects of industrial relevance in 2+2 mode of partnership in the theme areas like New Materials for Energy Efficiency and Water and Wastewater Technologies.

Read more: [IGSTC](#)

## 5.11 DAAD Project-Based Personnel Exchange Programme 2016/2017

**Application deadline: 15 June 2015**

*DAAD – DST Project- based Personnel Exchange Programme (PPP) 2016/2017*

University professors and scientists from German and Indian universities and those in permanent employment at independent research institutes are eligible to apply for 2 years funding for collaborative research projects between Indian and German research groups in the field of engineering and natural sciences.

*DAAD – UGC Project- based Personnel Exchange Programme (PPP) 2016/2017*

University professors and scientists from German and Indian universities and those in permanent employment at independent research institutes are eligible to apply for 2 years funding for collaborative research projects between Indian and German research groups in the field of humanities and social sciences.

Read more: [DAAD New Delhi](#)

## 5.12 PhD and Postdoc Positions at the Freie University Berlin (Germany)

Freie University Berlin invites applications for 21 Ph.D. Positions in the field of Social Science and Natural Science (11 in Social Science & Humanities, 6 in Natural Science) and also 10 positions for Post Docs (4 on Social Science, 6 in Natural Science).

Read more: [Freie Universität Berlin](#)



## 5.13 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](#)

**Industrial Leadership | Horizon Prize | [MATERIALS FOR CLEAN AIR](#)**

Planned opening date on 26/01/2017



**Societal Challenges | [Green Vehicles 2014-2015](#)**

Planned opening date on 24 June 2015

**Societal Challenges | [Mobility for Growth 2014-2015](#)**

Planned opening date on 24 June 2015

## 5.14 Calls still open (over 50 opportunities!!)

(see previous newsletters or click on the respective link for more details)



**HORIZON 2020 – Calls for proposals (collaborative projects):** access all calls under **Industrial Leadership** and **Societal Challenges** pillars on the [Horizon 2020 Participant Portal](#).

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

A few new calls were launched in March under the Societal Challenges pillar.

**EURAXESS Links India** pays particular attention to calls open to individual researchers under the **Excellent Science** pillar (see below).

The following *calls under HORIZON 2020* are highlighted here:



**Excellent Science – [ERC Proof of Concept Grant](#)**

There are 3 deadlines for submission to the ERC-2015-Proof of Concept:

First deadline: 5 February 2015 - **CLOSED**

Intermediate deadline: 28 May 2015 - **CLOSED**

Final deadline: **1 October 2015** at 17:00 (Brussels local time)

**Excellent Science | [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships \(IF\)](#) – Deadline: **2 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.

### **MSCA (IF) | Expression of Interest– Spanish Host Institutions | Great tool for MSCA (IF) Applicants!**

If you are looking for a host institution in Spain [click here](#) to help you identify one.



### **Excellent Science | [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Co-funding of Regional, National and International Programmes \(COFUND\)](#)**

Deadline: **1 October 2015**

*Indian entities are not entitled to automatic funding under this call. Indian nationals, however, are usually eligible for CONFUND funding to be awarded under CONFUND projects. This can be to pursue a doctoral programme or as part of a fellowship programme.*

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.

### **Industrial Leadership | [Horizon Prize | Better use of Antibiotics](#)**

Deadline: **17 August 2018**

The Horizon Prize for **better use of antibiotics** is a EUR 1 million prize that will be awarded to the person or team who can most effectively meet the following challenge: develop a rapid test that can identify at the point of care patients with upper respiratory tract infections that can safely be managed without antibiotics. In this context "Upper Respiratory Tract Infections" include pharyngitis, sinusitis, otitis as well as bronchitis.



### **Industrial Leadership | [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 (closed), **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):*



### **EU-India [joint call for proposals on "Diagnostics and interventions in Chronic non-communicable diseases"](#) by INNO INDIGO**

Deadline: **22 June 2015**

### **The Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR): [Call for Industry Originated R&D Concept Proposals](#)**

Deadline: **15 June 2015**

### **Indo-Dutch: [Cooperation between The Netherlands and India on X-ray Astronomy and Technology](#)**

Deadline: **no deadline applicable.**



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

**EMBO: [EMBO Long-Term Fellowship](#)**

Deadline: **14 August 2015**

The European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO) brings together more than 1,500 leading researchers from 27 Member states and promotes excellence in the life sciences.

**AUSTRIA: [Lise Meitner Programme for scientists from abroad](#)**

Deadline: accepted continuously, **no application deadlines**

**AUSTRIA: [Austrian Database for Scholarships and Research Grants](#)**

**BELGIUM-Wallonia: [BEWARE Fellowships | Industry and Academia](#)**

Deadline (cut-off dates: April 30 (CLOSED), **June 30, September 30** and **November 30 2015**).

Two funding schemes are open to attract researchers in Wallonia/Federation Wallonia – Brussels: (1) BEWARE FELLOWSHIPS Industry and (2) BEWARE FELLOWSHIPS Academia.

The BEWARE FELLOWSHIPS (BElgium WALLonia REsearch) programmes are co-financed by the COFUND program of the European Union (Marie Curie Actions).

**FRANCE: [“Connect Talent” 2015 International Call for Projects](#)**

Deadlines: 28 April 2015 (closed), **September 2015** and **February 2016**

Support funded by Pays de la Loire Region to research, training and innovation "breakthrough projects".

*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.

**GERMANY: [German Chancellor Fellowship of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation | India target](#)**

Deadline: **15 September 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**

**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**

**TURKEY: [TÜBİTAK – Research Fellowship Programme for International Researchers](#)**

Applications will be accepted **twice a year**. Application deadlines for 2015:

I. Period : 16 March 2015 - 20 April 2015 - **CLOSED**

II. Period : **14 September 2015 - 19 October 2015**

**UK: [Wellcome Trust- Investigator Awards](#)**

Applications are considered **three times a year** (February, July, November).

Next full application closing dates: **17 July 2015** and **6 November 2015**

**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 out 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 Skłodowska-Curie ones as well as vacancies advertised by Science AAAS (the American Association for the Advancement of Science) and Alumniportal (Germany).** EURAXESS Jobs vacancies are also seen at the Naturejobs portal.

Currently, there are 8025 research jobs and fellowship programmes (all over Europe but also in other countries such as in India and in all disciplines, including social sciences and humanities) 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*



Joint Research Centre

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 Vacancies for PhD in Europe at DSM

Royal DSM is a global **science-based** company active in **health, nutrition and materials** (headquarters in the Netherlands). By connecting its unique competences in **Life Sciences and Materials Sciences** DSM is driving economic prosperity, environmental progress and social advances to create sustainable value for all stakeholders simultaneously.

More on DSM: [here](#) | Vacancies: [here](#)

## 6.4 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).

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

An example of recent employment, fellowship or course opportunity published on EURAXESS Links - Internationally Mobile Researchers is provided below. For further information click on the title:

[Digital Communications Officer at EMBO](#)

**Deadline: 12 June 2015**



Three years contract on offer (renewable up to 9 years)

Place of work: Heidelberg, Germany

*EMBO stands for excellence in the life sciences. It enables the best science by supporting talented researchers, stimulating scientific exchange and advancing policies for a world-class European research environment.*

## 6.5 India: Jobs at [DevNetJobsIndia](#)

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

## 6.6 India: Jobs at [IndiaBioScience](#)

IndiaBioscience is a non-profit science outreach initiative created to fulfill the niche gap within the Life Science sector in India. IBS is envisioned to function as a catalyst organisation that will invigorate the various activities associated with establishing a strong hold for scientific research on the global scene – this includes recruitment, networking, collaborations, research oriented education and science communication.

IndiaBioScience is your Gateway to Indian Biology!

# 7 Events in Europe and India

Event (click on event title for more details)	Location	Date
<b>7.1 Europe</b>		
<a href="#">Events announced under Horizon 2020 website</a> The website includes information on the Information Days by the European Commission and Brokerage events	<i>Check link</i>	<i>Check link</i>
<a href="#">EXPO Milano 2015: Feeding the Planet   Energy for Life</a>	Milan, Italy	1 May-31 October
<a href="#">A new start for Europe: Opening up to an ERA of Innovation</a> by the European Commission	Brussels, Belgium	22-23 June
<a href="#">65th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting</a>	Lindau, Germany	28 June-3 July
<a href="#">6th EMBO Meeting</a>	Birmingham, UK	5-8 September
<a href="#">27th European Union Contest for Young Scientists</a> by the European Commission	Milan, Italy	17-22 September
<a href="#">ICT 2015 - Innovate, Connect, Transform</a> by the European Commission with the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia Portugal	Lisbon, Portugal	20-22 October
<a href="#">ESOF 2016</a> (next year!)	Manchester, UK	22-27 July 2016



<b>7.2 India</b>		
EURAXESS MSCA IF and ERC Session at Indian Institute of Science (IISc)	Bengaluru, Karnataka	2 June
One day workshop on ' <a href="#">Using patent information for business intelligence and IPR commercialisation</a> '	Kolkata, West Bengal	1 June
One day workshop on ' <a href="#">Using patent information for business intelligence and IPR commercialisation</a> '	Bhubaneswar, Odhisa	3 June
<a href="#">Indo-European Conference on Fostering Co-operation in Research, Innovation and IPR</a> by CII with EBTC and EPO	New Delhi	5 June
<a href="#">EURAXESS Science Slam India 2015</a>   Pre-selection	On-line	July-September
EURAXESS Information Session at BITS-Pilani	Zuarinagar, Goa	August/September
EURAXESS event: <i>Advancing Your Research Career in Europe: Funding and Fellowship Opportunities for Indian Researchers</i>	Kolkata, West Bengal	3 or 10 September (tbc)
EURAXESS Information Session	Mumbai, Maharashtra	September
<a href="#">9th Renewable Energy India Expo 2015</a>	Greater Noida, NCR	23-25 September
<a href="#">EURAXESS Science Slam India 2015</a>   Live finals	Bengaluru	30 October (tbc)
<a href="#">Intersolar India 2015</a>	Mumbai, Maharashtra	18-20 November

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

Visit us at [india.euraxess.org](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).