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On 23rd October 2012 the Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbaryev met with experts from the European Union to discuss the future of science, technology and innovation cooperation between the EU and Kazakhstan and in particular the results of the S&T Policy Mix Peer Review for Kazakhstan, which the country had commissioned earlier this year and which was conducted in the frame of the recently completed IncoNet EECA project.

Both sides expressed their interest in intensifying EU-Kazakh cooperation in science, technology and innovation. The meeting in Vienna had been initiated and was moderated by Kazakhstan's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Industry and New Technologies, Asset O. Issekeshv.

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#### **New EU International Strategy for Research and Innovation**

The European Commission has set out a new strategy for developing international cooperation in research and innovation. It was published on 14 September 2012 and lays a particular emphasis on global challenges such as climate change, food security and fighting diseases. The new strategy will be mainly implemented through Horizon 2020, which will start in 2014.

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#### **Conference on future coordination of EU cooperation with Eastern Europe and Central Asia**

In order to develop perspectives for a future STI cooperation that is coordinated in a multilateral way, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) invited to an international conference, which took place in Bonn on 10 and 11 of October 2012.

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#### **Moldovan Science and Innovation Day in Brussels: 'Moldova towards the European Research Area'**

Integration into the European Research Area is one of the main priorities of the Moldovan Research and Development system. The most important accomplishment in this regard so far has been the association of Moldova to the Seventh Framework Programme.

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## EU news

### New EU International Strategy for Research and Innovation

The European Commission has set out a new strategy for developing international cooperation in research and innovation. It was adopted on 14 September 2012 and has a particular focus on global challenges such as climate change, food security and fighting diseases. The new strategy will be mainly implemented through Horizon 2020, the new funding program for research and innovation starting in 2014.

#### Why a new strategy?

Research and innovation are increasingly globalised activities: the number of internationally co-authored scientific publications and the international mobility of researchers are increasing. Many of today's challenges, such as combatting climate change or securing a sustainable supply of clean energy, are of a global nature. Furthermore, emerging economies account for an increasing share of expenditure on research and innovation, and are challenging the leadership of the classic triad of the EU, Japan and the USA. The European Union is still strong: with 7% of the world population, the EU is responsible for 24% of world expenditure on research, 32% of high impact publications, and 32% of patent applications. However, we need also to be able to access the growing share of knowledge being produced outside the EU.

#### Objectives of the new strategy:

- strengthening the Union's excellence and attractiveness in research and innovation and thus its economic and industrial competitiveness;
- tackling global societal challenges, such as food and energy security and climate change; and,
- supporting the Union's external policies by improving access to knowledge, people and markets and contributing to the socio-economic development of poorer countries.

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## New EU International Strategy for Research and Innovation (...continued)

### How will the funding mechanisms for international cooperation change under Horizon 2020?

While international cooperation is broader than the framework programmes – encompassing Science & Technology Agreements and external policies, for example – most funding will continue to be delivered via Horizon 2020. Building on the experience of previous programmes, Horizon 2020 will be the most open publicly-funded programme for research and innovation in the world. This general openness will be complemented by targeted actions in specific areas and with specific partner countries and/or regions, based on the principle of common interest and mutual benefit. Horizon 2020 funding mechanisms can set additional criteria to require participation of entities from a third country where this is considered necessary.

### How will access to EU funding be regulated?

Under FP7, automatic funding has been restricted to those countries that are not high-income (as defined by the World Bank). Entities from high-income countries are only funded in exceptional circumstances (for example where there is a reciprocal agreement in place, such as with the NIH in the United States, or where it is clear that the contribution of the third country partner would be essential for the project to go ahead successfully). The same policy will follow through into Horizon 2020 with the exception that automatic funding will be limited where GDP is exceptionally large, even where the country is not classified as high-income. In addition, further restrictions are possible if a country fails, for example, to respect intellectual property rights. Such issues are typically considered as part of the Science & Technology Agreements and would be discussed with the countries concerned. The countries which can expect automatic funding, and any potential restrictions, will be identified in the work programmes.

### What will change for the growth economies, such as Russia?

As the Communication points out, countries such as China, Brazil, Russia, India and other economies that have grown strongly over the past years will continue to be important partners for the EU. This is reflected in the fact that all of these countries will still be able to participate in all parts of Horizon 2020, allowing their researchers to cooperate with their counterparts in the EU on topics of their choice.

Some of these countries, and in particular those where GDP is exceptionally large, will, however, no longer enjoy automatic access to EU funding, even if the country in question is classified as middle-income by the World Bank. This reflects the fact that these countries have over the past years made considerable efforts to invest in their research and innovation system and strengthen its quality. These countries are therefore now capable to cooperate with the EU on the basis of a partnership among equals.

## New EU International Strategy for Research and Innovation (...continued)

### Will the strategy affect third country scientists' access to the EU?

The EU needs to be an attractive location for the world's best brains. The [EURAXESS Researchers in Motion Portal](#) has been providing comprehensive and improved information on mobility within and towards Europe ranging from fellowship and career opportunities to practical information on moving and settling-in as a researcher in Europe. There is also legislation in force to facilitate the provision of visas to third country researchers. The 'Scientific Visa Package<sup>3</sup>' is a familiar term bringing together a Directive and a Recommendation that address researchers' permission to enter, stay and work in the EU for the purpose of carrying out scientific research. Both instruments aim at accelerating national admission and visa procedures for non-EU researchers entering the European Union.. The Directive adopted by the Council in 2005 covers long-term stays (more than 3 months), while the Recommendation is for short-term stays. All the twenty-five concerned Member States (those countries that have opted out of Schengen are not bound by the Directive) have notified measures to transpose the Directive. Ireland has decided to opt-in and is therefore also using the the Directive.

Source and further information: [European Commission](#)

## Current EU Publications on international STI cooperation and more

### International Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation – Strategies for a Changing World

'In the past decades, the European Union has made great strides in developing a European research community. The successive Framework Programmes for RTD have been a key contributing factor in this development, proving incentives and mechanisms for cross-border cooperation in STI. In addition, several programmes and other initiatives have broadened the scope of European cooperation, such as ERA-NETs, European Technology Platforms and Joint Technology Initiatives. The next Framework Programme called Horizon 2020, signal an even greater effort to leverage STI for European economic and social development in the overall policy context of the Europe 2020 strategy. [...]Against this backdrop, the Commission set up an Expert Group on international science, technology and innovation cooperation to provide advice for the further development of international cooperation policy and the international dimension of ERA.'



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source: [European Commission, DG Research & Innovation](#)

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## Current EU Publications (...continued)

### eurostat compact guide: European Neighbourhood Policy Countries – Recent economic developments

'In May 2011, partly in response to the 'Arab Spring', the European Commission and the European External Action Service launched a revised and ambitious European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) - confirming the EU's determined and reinforced engagement with its neighbours. The proposal sets out the main priorities and directions of a revitalised ENP strategy which seeks to strengthen individual and regional relationships between the EU and countries in its neighbourhood through a 'more funds for more reform' approach. The renewed ENP introduces more incentives to pursue reform built around a number of important principles, among others: 1. to support progress towards 'deep democracy' and 2. to support sustainable economic and social development. In the light of these changes, statistics need to capture the countries of the region in both their static and dynamic forms, helping policymakers identify needs, formulate objectives and orientate policies, and to enable progress towards agreed goals to be monitored and measured – a key component of governance.'



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### Foresight Report 'Global Europe 2050'

The European Commission asked twenty five leading analysts to look into the future and work through a number of scenarios to see where the EU might be in 2050. Their work, presented in the Global Europe 2050 report, analyses three key scenarios which describe different but nonetheless possible pathways that Europe could choose to follow over the decades to come.

- The first scenario is what if *nobody cares* and Europe just muddles along with no clear vision or direction. In this scenario the analysis shows that economic growth will remain stubbornly lower than in the US and China, and that Europe will fail to exploit its potential for innovation and will, in consequence, lose its position in terms of global competitiveness to other regions in the world.
- At the other extreme, the *EU under threat* scenario paints a bleak picture of global economic decline followed by reactionary protectionist measures. The EU will see its share of world GDP fall by almost a half by 2050. Frequent food and oil crises will occur. EU Member States will become more inward-looking leading to inefficient fragmentation of effort that will touch every sector especially research – so vital for our future prosperity.
- Fortunately, the third scenario, which the experts call the *European*

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## Current EU Publications (...continued)

*Renaissance*, describes a much more attractive pathway. The EU continues to enlarge and become stronger. It consolidates its political, fiscal and military integration. Innovation systems become more efficient with an increased role given to users. Investment in technological and services innovations will have a direct impact on economic and social development. Member States will work together to make the European Research Area fully functional with research agendas being decided in common across Europe.

These scenarios are presented by some of Europe's leading foresight and macro-economic modelling experts. The report is the result of a European Commission Expert Group and a close collaboration between DG RTD and BEPA.



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Source: EU Bookshop

## Unleashing the Potential of Cloud Computing in Europe

The European Commission endorsed a communication on 'Unleashing the Potential of Cloud Computing in Europe' intended to create a friendlier and more active environment for 24/7 access to computing power and content.

On the basis of an analysis of the overall policy, regulatory and technology landscapes and a wide consultation of stakeholders, undertaken to identify what needs to be done to achieve that goal, the European Commission endorsed a communication on 'Unleashing the Potential of Cloud Computing in Europe'. This document sets out the most important and urgent additional actions. It represents a political commitment of the Commission and serves as a call on all stakeholders to participate in the implementation of these actions.

The strategy includes three key actions regarding:

- Standards and Certification
- Contract terms and Conditions
- European Cloud Partnership.

### Cutting through the Jungle of Standards

Cutting through the jungle of technical standards so that cloud users enjoy interoperability, data portability and reversibility is one of the aims of the strategy. Necessary standards need to be identified by 2013.

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## Unleashing the Potential of Cloud Computing in Europe (... continued)

### Safe and Fair Contract Terms and Conditions

The Commission's proposal for a Regulation on a Common European Sales Law addresses many of the obstacles stemming from diverging national sales law rules by providing contractual parties with a uniform set of rules. The proposal includes rules adapted to the supply of "digital content" that cover some aspects of cloud computing.

The aim of the cloud computing strategy is the development of model contract terms to cover issues not covered by the Common European Sales Law such as:

- data preservation after termination of the contract,
- data disclosure and integrity,
- data location and transfer,
- ownership of the data,
- direct and indirect liability change of service by cloud providers and subcontracting.

Identifying and disseminating best practices in respect of model contract terms will accelerate the take-up of cloud computing by increasing the trust of prospective consumers.

### Establishing a European Cloud Partnership to drive innovation and growth from the public sector

The public sector has a key role to play in shaping the cloud computing market. But with the public sector market fragmented, its requirements have little impact, services integration is low and citizens do not get the best value for money.

This year, the European Commission is therefore setting up a European Cloud Partnership (ECP), bringing together industry experts and public sector users to work on common procurement requirements for cloud computing in an open and fully transparent way.

### Further information:

- [Document 'Unleashing the Potential of Cloud Computing in Europe'](#)
- [Full Speech of European Commissioner Neelie Kroes on "Setting up the European Cloud Partnership"](#)
- [Unleashing the Potential of Cloud Computing in Europe: What is it and what does it mean for me?](#)

Source: [European Commission](#)



## Upcoming networking events 2013

The Enterprise Europe Network offers two brokerage events in conjunction with two of the world's largest high technology fairs: CeBIT and HANNOVERMESSE.

### Future Match 2013

5-9 March 2013, Hanover/Germany

at the CeBIT, the world's largest computer expo, in Hanover, is the 15th edition of one of the biggest and most successful international brokerage events in the Enterprise Europe Network.

Since 1999 Future Match has enabled exhibitors and visitors at the fair to find partners for cooperation, e.g. for product development, research & development, joint ventures, manufacturing, marketing and/or licensing agreements.

Companies, universities and research institutes in the ICT sector are again invited to use this unique opportunity to establish new cross-border contacts for future cooperation at Future Match 2013. More concrete Information will be available soon at: <http://www.b2match.eu/futurematch>

EEN contact person: Matthias Wurch

### Technology Cooperation Days on Industrial Energy Efficiency

9-11 April 2013, Hanover/Germany

The brokerage event takes place in parallel to the HANNOVER MESSE 2013, the world's leading showcase for new industrial technologies, materials and product ideas. It is the ideal place to obtain latest industrial know-how.

Topics:

- Solutions to improve energy efficiency in factories and in industrial production
- Energy efficiency in industrial buildings
- Micro-/Nanotechnology to improve energy efficiency
- Materials technology for energy efficiency
- Services, advice, financing, funding for energy efficiency
- Ideas, proposals, partnerships for projects within EU or other funding schemes

Target group:

SMEs, large companies offering or requesting innovative technologies, tools or services, materials, concepts to improve energy efficiency. Universities, Research Institutes, potential partners for research, technology and innovation projects (EU-funded or other).

EEN contact person: Steven Amenda

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### 6th Policy Stakeholders' Conference: 'EU-SC/CA Science, Technology and Innovation cooperation in addressing Societal Challenges'

Tackling societal challenges is one of the key priorities of Horizon 2020, the upcoming Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. Taking this into account, the global challenges climate change, health and energy are considered to be of particular relevance and mutual interest to both EU and CASC countries.

In this context, the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation (SRNSF), the Georgian Research and Development Foundation (GRDF) and the Caucasus School of Business (CSB) in cooperation with the International Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research at the Project Management Agency c/o German Aerospace Center (DLR) and the International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) organised a Policy Stakeholders Conference (PSC) focusing on 'EU-SC/CA Science, Technology and Innovation cooperation in addressing Societal Challenges: priorities, modalities and synergies between policies and instruments' in Tbilisi, Georgia, on 14-15 November 2012.

The PSC in Tbilisi was the last (6th) in the series of policy dialogue events organised under the IncoNet EECA and IncoNet CA/SC projects. The Conference provided opportunities for an in-depth exchange of views among policy makers and other key stakeholders from EU MS and AC and CASC countries on the present state-of-the-art and global trends in the three Societal Challenges Climate Change, Energy and Health, as well as on the regional initiatives, common objectives and operational instruments through which research on these challenges could be further supported.

The conclusions of this conference will be published on the [Inconet CA/SC website](#) as soon as they become available.

To learn more about the entire series of Policy Stakeholders' Conferences, please visit the [related web page at incrEAST](#).

### CIS member states publish Declaration on Ethical Principles of Scientific

The Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the CIS member states has approved a Declaration on Ethical Principles of Scientific Activities. The Declaration establishes a standard of ethically justified research activity as a foundation for its own arranging, as well as for public policy focused on its support.

The Declaration addressed the parliaments and governments of the CIS member states, national and public academies of sciences, scientific organisations and institutions, scientific associations, researchers, community organisations and groups involved in the science and interested in its development.

The full text of the Declaration [in Russian](#) and [in English](#) is available online. In many aspects, the Declaration correlates with the European Charter for Researchers (2005).

Source: [Olga Meerovskaya, Bellsa](#)

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## regional news

### Advanced training for Central Asian NCPs

The National Contact Point of the Kyrgyz Republic held an Advanced Training to enhance the capabilities of FP7 Contact Points in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan in the conference room of the National Library of the Kyrgyz Republic on 15-17 October 2012, within the frame of the project 'International S&T Cooperation Network with the countries of Central Asia and South Caucasus' (IncoNet CA/SC).



© image kindly provided by Olaf Ripken/DLR

The emphasis was given to the advanced training of the FP7 CPs, who had received a first training within the IncoNet EECA project, as well as to an introductory training for new FP7 Contact Points that will be nominated within the next years. Moreover, this training did not only focus on FP7 issues but also on NCP office operational and strategic issues as well as on HORIZON 2020. Additionally, continuous support and networking of the partners in the region is foreseen for optimum information dissemination.

The seminar was opened by Bakyt Torobaev, Vice-Speaker of Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic; Gulmira Kudaiberdieva, Executive Secretary of the Commission for Education, Science and Culture at the Administration of President of the Kyrgyz Republic and Chantal Hebberecht, EU Ambassador to Kyrgyzstan.

The training was conducted by Mr. Olaf Ripken - EU Bureau of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Bonn), and Mr. Firat Gedikli - Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK)(Ankara). The 35 participants represented FP7 Contact Points from Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and included additional representatives of scientific institutions and universities from different regions of Kyrgyzstan. NCPs from Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan shared their experience of participating in the FP7 process and about activities in their countries. Additionally, research institutions shared their experience in participating FP7 calls: these presentations were followed by animated discussions. Particularly the presentation of Professor Almaz Aldashev, Director of the Institute of Molecular Biology and Medicine KR, was met with high interest from the auditorium and followed with questions on participation in FP7 calls.

The workshop was widely covered by local media, and the trainers were interviewed by two main TV stations of the country.

At the end of the workshop, certifications were awarded to all participants and the workshop organisers were thanked by participants for a well organised event, a thoughtfully arranged programme and interesting presentations.

Source: [Kyrgyz Republic FP7 NCP](#)

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## regional news

### Central Asia and the Caucasus represented at Global Agricultural Research Conference 2012

The Second Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD) was held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, 29 October to 1 November 2012. The event focused on ways to implement the objectives identified in the GCARD Roadmap, which was endorsed at the first GCARD two years ago. Specifically, attention was given to foresight and partnerships for innovation and impact on smallholder livelihoods.

The conference was set to become an effective platform to build cooperation around key forward-looking agendas and to plan joint actions among all stakeholders to facilitate wider international partnerships and development oriented research programmes that could lead through to substantive impacts. The conference was opened by Prof. Monty Jones, Chair of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), Dr. Carlos Perez del Castillo, CGIAR Consortium Board Chair and H.E. Tabaré Aguerre, Minister of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries of Uruguay. It was mainly held in the format of thematic parallel sessions addressing foresight, partnerships and capacity building for impact on smallholder farmers. A 'market place' with lots of information and knowledge sharing opportunities was also open to the participants, and six different field trips were organised on the last day. GFAR and its regional organisations held a number of pre-conference meetings of the key partners.

About 700 participants representing different partner groups of agricultural research for development attended. A small delegation from Central Asia and the Caucasus (CAC) was led by Acad. Dzhamin Akimaliev, chair of the Central Asia and the Caucasus Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (CACAARI), one of the six regional fora of GFAR. The delegation comprised representatives of national farmers' associations from Georgia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, education and extension services (Georgia, Kyrgyz Republic, Uzbekistan), private sector (Armenia), non-governmental organisations (Uzbekistan) and research organisations (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan). The regional consortium of agricultural universities for development (called 'CASCADE') also attended. Universities traditionally play a crucial role in agricultural research in this part of the world.

The participants from the CAC Region made two presentations in the technical sessions. Dr. Oleg Shatberashvili (Georgia, CACAARI) highlighted regional views on research and innovation priorities for future needs and impacts, combined with foresight. He made specific reference to the recently adopted Regional Synthesis report of CACAARI. Key identified problems faced by agricultural research at national level include inadequate attention and lack of political commitment, poor linkages between research and development agendas, and lack of involvement of all relevant stakeholders. At CAC Regional level, absence of a larger international policy commitment represents one of the key challenges.

In his presentation made in the session 'Partnerships for Environmental Resilience: Land, Water, Forests and Landscapes', Dr. Jozef Turok (CGIAR Program Facilitation Unit for CAC and ICARDA Regional Coordinator) focused on international actions for the Aral Sea. The drying up of the Aral Sea was called by the United Nations one of the worst manmade environmental disasters in the world. He shaped his message to the audience in three steps: challenges immediately around the Aral Sea and in the wider Basin; on-going initiatives and partnerships; and perspectives with specific emphasis on large scale investment

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### Central Asia and the Caucasus represented at Global Agricultural Research Conference (...continued)

needs in agriculture and water management. The presentation highlighted the role of national, regional and international institutions in place, the partnership mechanisms they have built and the success stories, which some of them could be counted as the results of implementation of the tasks set up by the GCARD Roadmap.

Several new collaborative initiatives aimed at strengthening environmental resilience in different parts of the world were presented during the session. The lively discussion focused on the role and perspectives of natural resource management in the CGIAR. Two global Research Programs, namely Water, Land and Ecosystems; and Forests, Trees and Agroforestry, were introduced.

No conference without clear commitments by 'stakeholders' (partner groups) will have substantial impact on the ground. So what are the outcomes of GCARD 2012? At the time of writing this article, the comprehensive list of outcomes and commitments made by all of the constituencies were not yet publicly available. Dr. Frank Rijsberman, chief executive officer of the CGIAR Consortium of research centers gave an overview of fifteen key commitments made by his organisation in the event in Punta del Este. These commitments are related to foresight, knowledge, capacity building and partnerships.

'Taken together, these commitments will shape and drive the next-year collaborative research agenda of the CGIAR Consortium in partnership with the CGIAR Fund Council and advisory bodies, numerous partners and stakeholders outside the system', he said. Provided that there are eight CGIAR centers (and three non-CGIAR international centers) operating in CAC, these commitments will surely re-define the way of thinking and the progress of work undertaken and supported through the Regional Program for Sustainable Agricultural Development in the CAC Region.

As a last note but not least, this year's GCARD has seen a dramatic increase in the youth voice in agricultural research for development. Bringing almost thirty young professionals from around the world (12 of them as fully funded trainees) to act as young social reporters is the reflection of this point. Initiated by Dr. Enrica Porcari, chief information officer at CGIAR and coordinated by Young Professionals' Platform for Agricultural Research for Development (YPARD), the project was hugely successful in bringing the youth voice into the conference and taking and spreading the outcomes of the conference to the world. Above all, the social reporters were given freedom in expressing their thoughts and insights through the tools they had at hand. CAC was represented by Firdavs Kabilov of International Water Management Institute's Tashkent office and Meerim Shakirova of Central Asian Regional Environmental Centre – Bishkek office. In fact, they contributed this article for the E-Newsletter.

'GCARD is a unique space, where the world's agricultural research for development stakeholders meet to plan together, take stock of progress and make joint commitments. GCARD is a process but not merely an event' said Prof. Monty Jones while opening the event.

Further information on the conference: [www.egfar.org/gcard-2012](http://www.egfar.org/gcard-2012)

Source: *Regional Program for Sustainable Agricultural Development in Central Asia and the Caucasus*

## regional news

### Conference on future coordination of EU cooperation with Eastern Europe and Central Asia

The EU sponsored Science and Technology cooperation with Russia, the countries of the EU's Eastern neighbourhood, South Caucasus and Central Asia is looking back on a splendid track record. In order to develop perspectives for a future cooperation that is coordinated in a more multilateral way, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) invited to an international conference, which took place in Bonn on 10 and 11 of October 2012.



© image kindly provided by Jörn Grünewald/DLR

On initiative of BMBF, participants from Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan discussed with representatives of various EU countries, Turkey, Switzerland and Norway and of the EU Commission. The 70 participants at first reflected the experiences of cooperation made so far. Above all, they discussed tangible proposals for a more multilateral coordination of common S&T funding.

Michael Schlicht, Director for Cooperation with Russia and CIS-Countries of BMBF, outlined the concern of the event and the thematic scope of the discussions. He stressed the need to critically reflect the bi- and multilateral cooperation between Europe and its neighbouring regions to the East. Promising scenarios of cooperation would have to be developed. Subsequently, within three keynote speeches representatives of the EU Commission, of the Ukrainian Science and Innovation Agency and participants of the FP7 project ERA.Net RUS asked programmatic questions for the following course of the conference.

The discussions have been followed by authoritative political actors, representing amongst others the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation or the State Committee of Science of the Republic of Armenia. An active part was played also by representatives of research performing institutions and funding agencies (e.g. various Academies of Sciences), and also by researchers active in multilateral cooperation as e.g. the Scientific Managing Director of the international research facility FAIR, Boris Sharkov.

The conference proved the high significance of S&T cooperation between the EU and the countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia, which is manifested not least of all in the high participation of the CIS-countries in the 7th Framework Programme. The discussions also underlined the need for common measures and instruments for funding. At the same time, it was stressed that the impact and sustainability of common cooperation should also be measured.

The conference was organised by BMBF in cooperation with the FP7-projects ERA.Net RUS, Black Sea ERA.Net, Inco Net CA/SC, BILAT-RUS and BILAT UKR\*AINA.

Source: *Jörn Grünewald, International Bureau of the BMBF*

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### Central Asian networks will cooperate on water issues in the framework of the UNECE Water Convention

Thirty-five representatives of civil society organisations from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Switzerland and Germany created the network of Central Asian non-governmental organisations (NGOs) on 'Climate. Water. Energy. Health', during the Central Asian Water Meeting held on 12 September in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

The meeting focused on the benefits of transboundary cooperation for climate protection and better water management within the framework of the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) and its Protocol on Water and Health.

The civil society representatives developed a resolution with recommendations, which were presented to Central Asian Government representatives at the second workshop of the European Union-Central Asia Strategy Partnership, held in Almaty on 13 and 14 September. The recommendations will also be presented to the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention at their sixth session in November 2012.

Addressing the meeting, Sascha Gabizon, Director of Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF), observed that 'immediate action is needed' to address climate change in Central Asia, where temperatures are rising faster than globally. She noted that due to the over-consumption of water in the region, the Aral Sea — once among the largest lakes worldwide — is mostly dry and that salt dust from the Aral Sea bed has spread into the environment and is now found on the glaciers of the Central Asian and Himalaya mountains, leading to their rapid melting, resulting in floods and droughts. 'The Central Asian countries should of course move to less water-consuming agriculture, and should work together on water monitoring and retention dams, instead of each [individual] country [working] for itself', Ms. Gabizon urged.

Civil society participants recommended to refocus on the Aral Sea; even if the sea could not be restored, as a minimum the bottom should be kept moist, to retain the salt dust. It was felt that transboundary cooperation on the river basins also needed to be developed further and participants recommended the establishment of Inter-State Basin Councils for the Chu-Talas and other basins. Many such basin councils work successfully in other parts of the region. Participants also recommended the creation of an independent Public Council of the Aral Sea Basin. Furthermore, NGOs called for increased transparency and accountability of the existing Inter-State Commissions.

In other recommendations, participants called for sharing of best practices among the countries on climate and water, such as, for example, the progressive legislation on Energy Performance of Buildings in Kyrgyzstan. Renewable energy was singled out as an area where regional cooperation could benefit all countries as Central Asia has a vast potential for wind, solar and hydro power. Finally, the participants all agreed that the countries of the region could no longer address their environmental problems by one-theme-focused legislation. To resolve such complex issues as soil degradation, water contamination, unstable and uneven water supply and inefficient use, national Governments together with civil society should adopt a water-food-energy nexus approach and link mitigation efforts to water security, energy security and food security.

Source: [UNECE](#)

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## regional news

### EU - Belarus/Moldova/Ukraine: BMU-MID 2nd Call for Applications

The 2nd Call for Applications of BMU-MID was launched on 18 October 2012 for exchanges starting in autumn term 2013. Grants are available for study, research and professional visit purposes at all mobility levels. Opportunities are available to EU citizens to Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine (BMU) and for citizens of BMU countries to EU. Application deadline is 13 December 2012, 14:00 Finnish time (GMT +2).

Erasmus Mundus (EMA2) BMU-MID is an European Union funded academic mobility project consisting of 20 partner institutions from Europe and Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine. Erasmus Mundus is a cooperation and mobility programme in the field of higher education that aims to enhance the quality of European higher education and to promote dialogue and understanding between people and cultures through cooperation with Third-countries. BMU-MID project aims to promote internationalisation and cultural diversity, and to enhance international cooperation in the field of higher education by awarding scholarships for students and university staff in partner universities. Academic opportunities are available to EU citizens to BMU countries, and Belarusians, Moldovans and Ukrainians to EU.

Available grants:

BMU-MID scholarships are available for undergraduate, master, doctorate, post-doctorate and academic/administrative staff mobilities. Available grants in the second cohort are mainly for short-term mobilities from 1 to 22 months, depending on the mobility level and purpose. The duration of grants for staff is mainly one (1) month. All mobilities must start during autumn semester 2013 in December at the latest, and end by 17 May 2015.

Preference is given to eligible applicants as follows (indicative only!):

- Undergraduate - number of grants: 32 - 37
- Master - number of grants: 15 - 25
- Doctorate - number of grants: 17 - 24
- Post-doctorate - number of grants: 7 - 13
- Academic and administrative staff - number of grants: 6 - 16

Preference will also be given to eligible Moldovan applicants in order to fill in the country quota. Total number of awarded applicants in each mobility type is dependent on number of received applications and length of applied mobilities. The final decision on nominated grantees is subject to Selection Committee's conclusion.

Applicants are requested to acquaint themselves with the [eligibility criteria](#) and [application instructions](#). Further guidance on applying is available from [bmu-mid.admissions@utu.fi](mailto:bmu-mid.admissions@utu.fi). In academic questions prospective applicants are encouraged to see the page [Study and Research Opportunities](#) or contact the BMU-MID contact person(s) at Partner Universities.

Timetable for applying: Online application form opens on 18 October 2012, and applications are to be submitted by 13 December 2012, 14:00 Finnish time (GMT +2) at the latest. Required enclosures must be submitted by 20 December 2012, 14:00 Finnish time (GMT +2) at the latest.

Source: [EU Delegation to Belarus](#)

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## regional news

### Recommendations of the regional workshop on Science Academies in Central and Eastern Europe

The National Academy of Sciences of Belarus and the IAP, the global network of science academies, jointly organised a regional Workshop on Science Academies in Central and Eastern Europe and their role in knowledge-based Society. It was supported by the Central European Initiative.

IAP is a global network of the world's science academies, launched in 1993 and comprised of 105 academies. Its primary goal is to help member academies to work together to advise citizens and public officials on the scientific aspects of critical global issues.

The workshop, held at the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus in Minsk (Belarus) on 11–12 June 2012, brought together 23 participants from 10 countries representing the Region of Central and Eastern Europe to discuss common regional issues and challenges of Academy organisations. Sessions addressed topics such as Academy and Knowledge-based Society, Academy and Excellence, Academy and Youth, Academy and Regional Challenges, Academy and Policy Advice.

The workshop has come to the conclusion that despite the many local differences in historical development, the staff of Academies across Central and Eastern Europe actually plays similar roles and face many common challenges. These include the need of engaging youth in academy activities, of effectively communicating science and of interacting with decision makers. Some Academies made attempts to diversify their fellowship. Focusing on key outcomes of the discussions among participants, several conclusions were drawn to guide potential 'next steps'.

Source: *Olga Meerovskaya, Bellsa*

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### Armenian research organisations join 'Web of Knowledge'

On October 4, the Armenian State Committee of Science and Thomson Reuters Inc. signed a three-year Agreement on Cooperation, which aims to provide Armenian scientific organisations with free access to the 'Web of Knowledge' resources (<http://webofknowledge.com>).

'Web of Knowledge' is an academic citation indexing and search service, which is combined with web linking. It covers the natural sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities and provides bibliographic content and tools to access, analyse, and manage research information. Multiple databases can be searched simultaneously.

Resources from the 'Web of Knowledge' include the Science Citation Index, Journal Citation Reports – Science Editions, and the Conference Proceeding Citation Index.

*Source: State Committee of Science of the Republic of Armenia*

### New Popular Science Supplement 'Most' (Bridge) to be published in Armenia

With the support of the State Committee of Science of the RA Ministry of Education and Science (RA MES SCS), the Institute for Ecological Noosphere Studies of National Academy of Sciences of Armenia and „Golos Armenii' have initiated the publication of a new popular science supplement Most (Bridge). The aim of the supplement is to introduce the recent achievements of science, technology and medicine in Armenia and overseas.

Most will come out on the last Thursday of each month and will be free of charge. Most's scope of major concerns includes publication of articles on the role of science and innovation in the development of society, new tendencies and expected discoveries. Special attention will be paid to the history of the Armenian nation and apostolic church, present problems of the Armenian society, history and culture of other nations, as well as Armenia's historic relations with other counties and nations. The articles will be provided both by professional journalists and renowned scientists, economists, doctors and others.

Welcoming this initiative, Samvel Haroutiunian wished the project success and expressed willingness to provide the supplement with up-to-date material.

*Source: State Committee of Science of the Republic of Armenia*

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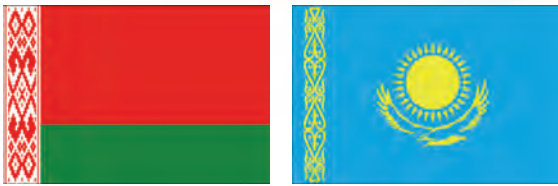
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## country news



### Kazakhstan to produce Belarusian atomic microscopes

There are plans to set up a joint production of Belarusian atomic force microscopes in Kazakhstan, Deputy Chairman of the Presidium of the National Academy of Sciences Sergei Chizhik told Belarusian media on 25 October.

According to him, Belarusian atomic force microscopes are in high demand both in the country and beyond its boundaries. Belarus satisfied Russia's needs in this product. The talks are underway to set up a joint company to produce Belarusian atomic force microscopes in Kazakhstan. The same opportunity is being worked out with Germany.

However, Sergei Chizhik said that atomic force microscopes were piece-goods. They are not needed in big amounts. These products can be promoted through the establishment of small enterprises that would interact with potential clients and search for new buyers.

The NAS Deputy Chairman also drew attention to other technologies that are being developed in Belarus. In particular, the Institute of Biophysics and Cell Engineering together with the Second Department of Surgical Diseases of Belarusian State Medical University has developed a method of treatment using autologous mesenchymal cells from fatty tissue in patients with trophic ulcers. Besides, Belarus is working on technology for regenerative cell therapy of ischemic and necrotic lesions of the heart. Belarusian scientists have developed new methods of DNA-diagnostics of hereditary hearing loss, evaluation of genetic predisposition for atherosclerosis and cardiovascular disease in patients with rheumatoid arthritis.

Source: *Belta* provided by *Olga Meerovskaya*, *Bellsa*

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## Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev discusses STI cooperation with Europe in Vienna

On 23rd October 2012 the Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev met with experts from the European Union to discuss the future of science, technology and innovation cooperation between the EU and Kazakhstan and in particular the results of the S&T Policy Mix Peer Review for Kazakhstan, which the country had commissioned earlier this year and which was conducted in the frame of the recently completed [IncoNet EECA project](#).



*Participants in the meeting with the President of Kazakhstan, from left to right:*

*Manfred Horvat - Vienna University of Technology; Jürgen Sanders - EC, DG Research & Innovation; Kamila Magzieva - FP7 NCP Kazakhstan, and Independent Expert Consulting Board to Promote Scientific Research Activity in Kazakhstan (InExCB-KZ); Aidyn Kulseitov - National Agency for Technology Development (NATD); Josef Hochgerner - Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI)*

*© image kindly provided by Kamila Magzieva/ InExCB-KZ*

The meeting in Vienna had been initiated and was moderated by Kazakhstan's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Industry and New Technologies, Asset O. Issekeshv.

In a preparatory meeting on the evening before, Asset O. Issekeshv discussed different ways of cooperation with the EU experts. Jürgen Sanders, the EC Programme Officer, explained that the EC is not interested in transferring technologies, but that the EU innovation model is based on cooperation and platforms for sustainable win-win situations, which can create thousands of jobs. The Minister was well interested in that, but rather expressed his interest to explore the 13,000 technologies offered by the database of the [Competitiveness and Innovation Programme \(CIP\)](#).

The Minister was well informed about the details of the Policy Mix Review study, he knew Horizon 2020, FP7 and CIP. He told the EU experts that he had

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## country news

### **Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev discusses STI cooperation with Europe in Vienna (... continued)**

a strong interest in promoting innovation in Kazakhstan. A recent law requires Kazakh state enterprises to invest a minimum percentage of their turnover into Research and Innovation.

To promote links with the EU, he promised his full support for cooperating within Horizon 2020, which could also include the funding of project participants from Kazakhstan. The Minister was also interested in exploiting results from the CIP database and from FP7 projects, for example through demonstration projects financed by Kazak firms.

The meeting with the President Nazarbayev had been organised by Deputy Prime Minister Asset O. Issekeshov to inform the President about S&T and innovation cooperation between the EU and Kazakhstan, and to get support of the President to strengthen and widen the cooperation. The moderated the meeting himself and outlined the topic of 'Innovation' and cooperation with the EU.

Jürgen Sanders from the European Commission's Directorate International Cooperation, made a short introduction into the Framework programme and the involvement of Kazakhstan in European research and technology activities since 1992 and gave an outlook on the planned start of the Horizon2020 program with a proposed budget of EUR 80 billion.

Afterwards Manfred Horvat from the Vienna University of Technology and team leader of the EU experts group, presented the main outcomes of the Policy Mix Peer Review for Kazakhstan. He praised Kazakhstan's favourable legal and institutional framework for innovation, and the new Nazarbayev University (an advanced research university in Astana). Main recommendations from the policy mix study are (1) to support links between Kazakhstan's innovation actors, (2) to support international technology cooperation and knowledge transfer with third countries, and (3) participate in the EU Research and Innovation programs.

The presentation included short comparative analysis of the EU Technological Platforms and the State Targeted Technology Programmes of Kazakhstan. Special emphasizes were given to the EU technologies developed in the FP6/FP7, which are offered at the Technology Market of the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP).

Josef Hochgerner, Director of the Austrian Center for Social Innovation (ZSI), presented the role of the ZSI in the\_IncoNet EECA project in the areas of S&T Policy Mix, Benchmarking, S&T programme development. He also reported about an MoU signed between ZSI and Kazakhstan's NATD that should lead to joint activities, exchanges, workshops, etc.

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### **Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev discusses STI cooperation with Europe in Vienna (... continued)**

Finally, Kamila Magzieva, Director of the Independent Expert Consulting Board to Promote Scientific Research Activity in Kazakhstan (INEXCB-Kz), reviewed the long history of EU-Kazakh cooperation starting with the INTAS calls. Then she presented the [EU-PERARLS project](#) as a best practise cooperation example. This FP7 project with an investment of 8 million EUR developed alternative sources of latex, based on Russian [Kazakh dandelion plants](#) (*Taraxacum Koksaghyz*). The project was completed in September 2012 and currently the Kazakh Ministry of Industry and New Technologies (MINT) develops a state target technological programme based on knowledge and technologies transferred by EU-PEARLS. Aim of the programme is to create new production industry in Kazakhstan using the natural rubber from its domestic plant. Kamila Magzieva also reported that the CIP database could be exploited by Kazakh firms. The President showed great interest in this project, which may lead to establishing a new industry in Kazakhstan for growing natural latex. Kazakhstan considers investing initially EUR 150 million to develop this industry, together with European researchers and tyre manufacturers.

President Nazarbayev emphasized the importance of innovation for the further development of Kazakhstan and underlined how much he values the advice of independent external experts. He said that the Kazakh Government is very keen to support participation of Kazakh institutions in Horizon-2020 and will, if necessary, create a special department within the Ministry of Industry and New Technologies. With FP7 ending, he learned that Horizon 2020 will have a strong focus on innovation. The President said he would support whatever is necessary to develop the Kazakh innovation system. President Nazarbayev wished to meet again in Kazakhstan, where he would have more time for the EU experts. Kazakhstan would finance necessary activities for the cooperation.

To support further cooperation in the innovation sector, the [IncoNet CA/SC project](#) will organise an exhibition of more FP7 research projects at the [Astana Economic Forum](#) in May 2013. Projects interested in participating in the exhibition should contact [George Bonas](#) (IncoNet CA/SC Project Coordinator).

#### **Further Information:**

- [incrEAST article about the Policy Mix Peer Review of Kazakhstan](#)
- Kazakh television reported about the President's visit to Austria [in Russian](#) and [in English](#) language

Sources: [Kamila Magzieva, FP7 NCP Kazakhstan, InExCB-KZ](#);  
[Manfred Horvat, Vienna University of Technology](#);  
[Jürgen Sanders, DG Research & Innovation, Directorate International Cooperation](#)

## country news



### **Moldovan Science and Innovation Day in Brussels: 'Moldova towards the European Research Area'**

Integration into the European Research Area is one of the main priorities of the Moldovan Research and Development (R&D) System. The most important accomplishment in this regard, represents the association of the Republic of Moldova to the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities, from January 1, 2012.

Setting up European partnerships and establishing collaborative relations with EU's Member States and Associated Countries institutions within the scientific-technological field, based on principles of scientific excellence and mutual advantage, is necessary as a prerequisite for exploring the status of an associated country. Thus, promotion of the Moldovan scientific results and cooperation opportunities of Moldovan R&D institutions represents an imperative.

In this respect, the Academy of Sciences of Moldova (ASM) with the support of the Mission of the Republic of Moldova to the European Union, and the Romanian Office for Science and Technology (ROST) organised the event entitled 'Moldova towards the European Research Area', held on 21 September 2012, in Brussels, Belgium.

European Commission was represented by Dr Martin Penny, Assistant to the Director General of DG Research and Innovation; Dr Elisabeth Lipiatou, Head of Unit European Neighbourhood, Africa and Gulf; Dr. Laurent Bochereau, Head of Unit International Cooperation Policy; Dr Gediminas Ramanauskas, Policy Officer, European Eastern Neighbourhood; Dr Sebastiano Fumero, Head of Unit FP7 Support, Research Executive Agency. The event was also attended by representatives of Offices for Science and Technology of Romania, Poland, Italy, Hungary, France, Austria, Spain, Estonia which have the headquarters in Brussels, and representatives of different international institutions.

Moldova's delegation was composed of Acad. Gheorghe Duca, President of ASM; Dr. Vladimir Hotineanu, Chair of the Parliamentary Committee for Social Protection, Health and Family; Dr. Valentina Stratan, Deputy in the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova; Dr. Mihail Sleahitichi, adviser to the President of the Republic of Moldova in the field of culture, education, science; representatives of Moldovan NCP Network.

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### Moldovan Science and Innovation Day in Brussels: 'Moldova towards the European Research Area' (... continued)

Dr. Martin Penny has been awarded the ASM's honorific distinction of 'Dimitrie Cantemir' for consistent support provided to Moldova in the process of negotiating and signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova on the association of the Republic of Moldova to the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (2007-2013).

Source: *Diana Grozav, Academy of Sciences of Moldova*

### Workshop 'Science Evaluation as prerequisite for promoting Excellence in Research'

The Academy of Sciences of Moldova, under the aegis of the Eastern Partnership (EaP) Platform 4 'Contacts between People' and in partnership with European Commission Directorate General for Research and Innovation, organised the regional workshop focusing on 'Science evaluation as a prerequisite for promoting excellence in research' which was held in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova on November 6, 2012.

The aim of the event was to share experience and best practices on research and innovation proposals evaluation and to strengthen capacity in peer review practices in the EaP countries. This workshop gathered about 30 potential evaluators, project coordinators, registered FP7 experts, representatives of expert councils in charge of projects evaluation, national coordinators of joint international programmes, academies of sciences and research foundations in the EaP countries.

The opening ceremony was attended by Acad. Gheroghe Duca, President of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova, Dr. Mihail Sleahitichi, Adviser to the President of the Republic of Moldova in the field of culture, education, science, Mr. Chiril Lucinschi, Head of the Parliamentary Commission for culture, education, research, youth, sport and mass-media, Dr. Loretta Handrabura, Deputy Minister of Education, Mr. Hubert Duhot, EU Delegation to the Republic of Moldova.

The European Commission was represented by Dr. Gediminas Ramanauskas, Policy Officer, European Eastern Neighbourhood, DG Research and Innovation and Dr. Sebastiano Fumero, Research Executive Agency.

Presentations were delivered by experts from EU Member States: Mr. Klaus Schuch, Centre for Social Innovation, Austria; Mrs. Irina Slosar, Austrian Research Promotion Agency; Dr. Madis Saluveer, Estonian Research Council.

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### Workshop 'Science Evaluation as prerequisite for promoting Excellence in Research' (...continued)

EaP countries experience in research proposals evaluation and selection was presented by Dr. Aleksan G. Shahkhatuni, State Committee of Science, Armenia; Dr. Elchin Babayev, Science Development Foundation under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan; Dr. Anatoly Hryshanovich, Belarusian Innovation Fund; Dr. Veaceslav Kulcitki, Advisory Expertise Council, ASM, Moldova; Dr. Igor Yegorov, Centre for S&T Potential and Science History Studies, State Service of Statistics of Ukraine and Dr. George Kordzakhia, National Environmental Agency of Monitoring.

As a result of the Workshop, a resolution on setting a platform for international cooperation between EU MS and EaP countries in project evaluation was concluded.

#### Downloads

- [Workshop Resolution](#)
- [Press Release in Romanian language and Workshop Presentations in English](#)
- [Photo Gallery](#)

Source: [Diana Grozav](#), [Acadmy of Sciences of Moldova](#)

### Workshop on fighting brain-drain and re-connecting the scientific diaspora with research and development in Moldova

The Academy of Sciences of Moldova (ASM) in cooperation with the Federal Institute of Technology of Lausanne (EPFL – Switzerland) and International Organisation for Migration, mission to Moldova, organised on October 12, 2012 in Chisinau the regional workshop: 'The highly-qualified mobility and the development of Moldova's research and innovation sector: the necessity of a strategic vision'.

The event brought together some relevant national and international representatives that play an active role in the approach of mobility and development phenomenon as an instrument of socio-economic development.

International experts, representatives of international organisations/ donors and Moldovan scientific community members discussed the importance and the most effective ways of co-opting highly skilled diaspora in the development of their home country. Thus, the first session of the workshop was devoted to presenting and discussing the results and success stories of the pilot project conducted by IOM and ASM entitled 'Addressing brain-drain through temporary return of expatriated Moldovan scientists and overseas young researchers to strengthen Moldova as a research & development hub and to promote temporary and permanent return and skill transfer'.

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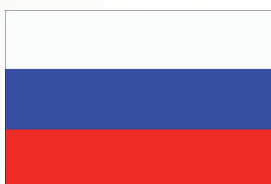
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The main results of the project implemented by ASM and EPFL entitled 'Connecting the Moldovan scientific diaspora to scientific and economic development of the country of origin' were presented in the second session. Last session of the event was dedicated to national regional and international experiences, in developing and implementing policies, instruments and initiatives to attract highly skilled diaspora in the development strategies of countries of origin.

As a result of the workshop, a policy document that will contain recommendations addressed to public institutions in Moldova responsible for highly skilled migration, and members of the scientific community from Moldova, international organisations and donors will be issued.

Source: *Vitalie Varzari, Department for European Integration and International Cooperation, Academy of Sciences of Moldova*



### Russia's STI chances and challenges according to OECD Science and Innovation Report 2012

Based on the latest information and indicators in science and innovation, the OECD Science, Technology and Industry Outlook 2012 reviews key trends in STI policies and performance in OECD countries and major emerging economies, and across a number of thematic areas. In the current edition, individual policy profiles and country profiles trace the driving role that science, technology and innovation are expected to continue to play towards a sustainable and lasting recovery from the economic crisis.

Link to the online version of the:  
[OECD Science, Technology and Industry Outlook 2012](#)

The report offers also offers a country profile on Russia's performance in science and innovation (pages 368-371).

It identifies 3 'hot STI issues' for Russia:

- increasing firm's innovation activities and strengthening the research activities of universities;
- better exploiting the commercial potential of public-sector R&D; and
- improving framework conditions for entrepreneurship and innovation.

Source: [OECD iLibrary](#)

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### Germany presents national campaign for Russia at the 'Open Innovations Expo'

With the help of the 'National campaign for Russia' funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany will use the next two years as an opportunity to present itself to Russia as a location of research and innovation. In a first stage, the four selected campaign networks featured at the premiere of the 'Open Innovations Expo' in Moscow to demonstrate what Germany has to offer in terms of innovation.

What innovations will shape the world in 2030? How can they be developed efficiently and practically? And most importantly: Which technologies are already promising pioneering developments? These, and other topics were addressed at the first 'Moscow International Forum for Innovative Development – Open Innovations' at the 'Open Innovations Expo' held from 31 October to 3 November 2012 in Moscow (previously 'RUSNANOTECH').

The four campaign networks, with their focal points optical technologies, nanotechnology and environmental technology, were almost predestined for the newly developed 'Open Innovations Expo'. This event was therefore the perfect opportunity to showcase the pooled expertise of the national campaign for Russia networks and the newest research ideas at the BMBF stand.

In addition to their attendance at the 'Open Innovations Expo', the four R&D networks NanoBRIDGE – Bridging of German and Russian Nanotechnology Excellence, ENNA – Energy Efficiency and Sustainability of Buildings), SOYUZ Bioenergy - SOYUZ Marketing Russia and Light4LIFE – Marketing for Germany, Center of Innovation in Optical Technologies, delivered brief presentations and reported on the networks they have already established. Additional overviews and talks by SOYUZ Bioenergy on the topic of biofuels from bioalcohol and by Light4LIFE on the topic of clinical biophotonics were given at the BMBF stand.

In addition, the innovation networks will be holding NanoBRIDGE and ENNA specialist workshops: the ENNA workshop on 31 October will focus on solar heating and cooling with 'Renewable energy in energy-efficient urban areas' and on innovative energy concepts in buildings. On 1 November, the NanoBRIDGE workshop will look at the topic of 'Applied nanotechnology – the key to success in German-Russian cooperation', with the main focus on joint nanotechnology projects and the applicability of micro and nanoporous membranes.

Contact: [Ilona Roberts](#), Promoting Innovation in Germany,  
International Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and  
Research at the Project Management Agency c/o DLR

Further information at: [Research in Germany](#).

Source: [International Bureau of the BMBF](#)

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### European Research Council presents funding opportunities in Russia

On 17-22 September, the European Research Council (ERC) visited Russia as part of its 'ERC Goes Global' campaign. These meetings aimed at informing top Russian researchers about ERC funding opportunities, and at fostering relations with Russian organisations.

The delegation was headed by Professor Donald Dingwell, ERC Secretary General, who declared: 'Russia with its longstanding tradition in science remains one of the world's research hotspots. That is why the ERC is very pleased to visit Russia; we are here to forge closer ties, learn from each other and raise the levels of support for our very best researchers. We are keen to encourage excellent Russian scientists to perform some of their research in Europe, to contribute to global 'brain circulation' and to exchange of the best scientific ideas.'

The delegation visited the most prestigious universities and research institutes in St. Petersburg, Moscow and Novosibirsk (including the Ioffe Institute, St. Petersburg State University, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russian Foundation for Basic Research, Moscow State University, Higher School of Economics, Novosibirsk State University and institutes of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Akademgorodok).

Professor Dingwell was accompanied by ERC Vice-President Professor Pavel Exner and by Russian ERC grant holder Professor Sergej Zilitinkevich, who holds both an ERC Advanced Grant and a Russian Megagrant.

Source: [DG Research Newsletter Oct 2012](#)

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## BILAT UKR\* AINA project offers support to identify call partners in Ukraine

The new [BILAT-UKR\\* AINA project](#) can help you to find partners for the currently open EU call 'Reinforcing cooperation with European Neighbourhood Policy countries on bridging the gap between research and innovation (R2I-ENP)'. Deadline for proposal submission is 18 December 2012.

The call is open to researchers and innovators from all scientific fields related to one of the following challenges:

- Health, demographic change and wellbeing; Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bio-economy;
- Secure, clean and efficient energy;
- Smart, green and integrated transport;
- Inclusive, innovative and secure societies;
- Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials)

Eligible parties can submit proposals (FP7/CSA, 100% funding of direct costs) to get involved with different stakeholders along the value chain, in particular industry, industry associations, science parks, specialists for risk analysis, clusters, etc. to promote networking, to facilitate exploitation of research results, e.g. through the organization of brokerage events.

The budget is 1 mio euro per project max. for minimum of 2 participants from EU Member States and Associated Countries (including e.g. Switzerland, Norway, Serbia, Macedonia, Moldova, etc.) and a minimum of 2 participants from the targeted ENP region (Ukraine, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus or Georgia). Also from these minimum of 4 participations, 2 should be research representatives and 2 representatives from industry/business companies (e.g. associations, chambers of commerce, incubators, etc.)

Further information on the call is available in form of this [presentation](#) and via the [EC Participant Portal call page](#) .

ZSI, in the frame of its projects such as BILAT UKR\* AINA, has many contacts to the target region and together with its project partners (National Information Points in the region) is available to support your partner search.

If you are interested in this offer, please contact Ms. Elke Dall ([dall@zsi.at](mailto:dall@zsi.at)) and Ms. Gabriela Cikikyan ([cikikyan@zsi.at](mailto:cikikyan@zsi.at)).

Source: [ZSI](#)

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АНГЛИЙСКОМ ЯЗЫКЕ

## Новости на русском языке

### Центральная Азия и Южный Кавказ на Глобальной конференции по сельскохозяйственным исследованиям -2012

Вторая глобальная конференция по сельскохозяйственным исследованиям в целях развития (ГКСХИР) прошла в Пунта-дель-Эсте, Уругвай, с 29 октября по 1 ноября 2012 года. Мероприятие было посвящено обсуждению реализации задач, определенных в Дорожной карте ГКСХИР, которая была одобрена на первом ГКСХИР два года назад.

В частности, особое внимание было уделено прогнозированию, партнерству в области инноваций и влиянию результатов исследований на уровень жизни мелких фермеров. Конференция была призвана стать эффективной платформой для создания сотрудничества по основным предстоящим мероприятиям, а также планирования совместных действий между всеми заинтересованными сторонами для обеспечения широкого международного партнерства и реализации научно-исследовательских программ, ориентированных на развитие, посредством которых можно достичь существенного воздействия.

Конференцию открыли проф. Монти Джонс, Председатель Глобального форума по сельскохозяйственным исследованиям (ГФСХИ), д-р Карлос Перес дель Кастильо, Председатель правления Консорциума КГМСХИ и Е. П. Табарэ Агирре, Министр животноводства, сельского хозяйства и рыболовства Уругвая. Мероприятие, в основном, прошло в формате тематических параллельных сессий, направленных на обсуждение вопросов прогнозирования, партнерства и наращивания потенциала для улучшения уровня жизни мелких фермеров. Для участников мероприятия был организован «Публичный информационный отдел» с большим количеством возможностей обмена информацией и знаниями, а в последний день конференции - шесть различных полевых выездов. ГФСХИ и региональные организации форума провели ряд предварительных встреч с ключевыми партнерами.

Порядка 700 участников, представляющих различные партнерские группы по сельскохозяйственным исследованиям в целях развития, присутствовали на конференции. Небольшую делегацию из Центральной Азии и Южного Кавказа (ЦАК) возглавил акад. Джамин Акималиев, Председатель Ассоциации сельскохозяйственных научно-исследовательских организаций Центральной Азии и Южного Кавказа (АСНИОЦАК), которая исполняет роль одного из шести региональных форумов ГФСХИ. В состав делегации вошли представители национальных ассоциаций фермеров (Грузия, Таджикистан и Туркменистан), систем образования и распространения результатов научных исследований (Грузия, Кыргызская Республика, Узбекистан), частного сектора (Армения), неправительственных организаций (Узбекистан) и научно-исследовательских организаций (Азербайджан, Казахстан, Кыргызская Республика и Таджикистан). Так же в конференции принял участие Региональный консорциум сельскохозяйственных университетов для

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## Центральная Азия и Южный Кавказ на Глобальной конференции по сельскохозяйственным исследованиям -2012 (... продолжающийся)

развития («CASCADE»). В данном регионе, университетам отведена важная роль в сельскохозяйственных исследованиях.

Участники из региона ЦАК представили два доклада в рамках технических сессий. Д-р Олег Шатберашвили (Грузия, АСНИОЦАК) отметил региональную позицию относительно научных исследований и приоритетов инновационного процесса для оценки будущих потребностей и воздействий, в сочетании с прогнозированием, включая недавно принятый доклад по Региональному синтезу АСНИОЦАК. Основные выявленные проблемы, с которыми сталкиваются сельскохозяйственные исследования на национальном уровне, включают в себя недостаточное внимание и отсутствие политической поддержки, плохую связь между исследованиями и программами развития, а также неполное участие заинтересованных сторон. На уровне региона ЦАК, отсутствие должного внимания со стороны международного сообщества является одной из ключевых проблем.

В своем докладе, представленном на сессии «Партнерство для укрепления устойчивости окружающей среды: земля, вода, леса и ландшафты», д-р Джозеф Турок (Глава Отдела по реализации Программы КГМСХИ и Региональный координатор ИКАРДА в ЦАК), уделил особое внимание международным действиям в регионе Аральского моря. Высыхание Аральского моря, по мнению Организации Объединенных Наций, является одной из опаснейших экологических катастроф в мире. Доклад состоял из трех основных частей: проблемы Аральского моря и вокруг него, требующие незамедлительного решения; текущие инициативы и партнерства; а также перспективы с особым упором на крупные инвестиционные потребности в сфере сельского хозяйства и управления водными ресурсами. В презентации была подчеркнута роль национальных, региональных и международных организаций; механизмов партнерства данных организаций; положительный опыт («истории успеха»), который может быть рассмотрен как достигнутый результат в решении задач, определенных в Дорожной карте ГКСХИР.

Сессия прошла на фоне оживленных дискуссий о роли и перспективах рационального использования природных ресурсов в рамках программ КГМСХИ. Данные аспекты, по-прежнему, рассматриваются отдельно от интенсификации растениеводства в сельском хозяйстве. Наряду с рядом других новых совместных инициатив, направленных на укрепление экологической устойчивости в различных частях мира были представлены две глобальные Исследовательские программы КГМСХИ (ИПК): Вода, Земля и Экосистемы; и, Леса, Деревья и Агролесомелиорация (агролесоводство).

В своем интервью, д-р Алишер Ташматов, Исполнительный секретарь ИСНИОЦАК, упомянул о Ташкентской декларации по адаптации к

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изменению климата и стратегиям по обеспечению продовольственной безопасности в регионе ЦАК. Он также подчеркнул важность обмена знаниями, которому способствует данная глобальная конференция.

Ни одна конференция без четких обязательств со стороны «заинтересованных сторон» (партнерских групп) не будет иметь существенного влияния на местах. Итак, каковы же результаты ГКСХИР - 2012?

На момент создания данной статьи, полный список результатов и обязательств, взятых всеми партнерскими сторонами, еще не был предоставлен. Д-р Франк Рийсберман, Главный исполнительный директор Консорциума научно-исследовательских центров КГМСХИ предоставил обзор пятнадцати ключевых обязательств, составленных в рамках мероприятия в Пунта-дель-Эсте. Данные обязательства, напрямую связаны с прогнозированием, знаниями, наращиванием потенциала и партнерством .

«Комплекс данных обязательств будет формировать, и направлять совместную программу исследований Консорциума КГМСХИ в партнерстве с Советом фонда КГМСХИ и консультативными органами, многочисленными партнерами и заинтересованными сторонами за пределами системы», отметил Франк Рийсберман. При наличии восьми Центров КГМСХИ (и трех международных центров, не являющихся членами КГМСХИ), осуществляющих свою деятельность в ЦАК, данные обязательства, безусловно, внесут изменения в мышление и ход работы, поддерживаемой и осуществляемой в рамках Региональной Программы по устойчивому развитию сельского хозяйства в регионе ЦАК.

В заключении следует отметить, что в этом году ГКСХИР отметил резкое увеличение активности молодежи в сфере сельскохозяйственных исследований для развития. Например, почти тридцать молодых специалистов из разных стран мира (12 из них имеют полную финансовую поддержку в обучении) были привлечены в качестве молодых социо-репортеров. По инициативе д-ра Энрика Поркари, Директор информационных технологий КГМСХИ и при координации Платформы молодых специалистов по сельскохозяйственным исследованиям в целях развития (YPARD), проект имел большой успех в привлечении интереса молодежи к проводимой конференции и процессу принятия и распространения итогов конференции по всему миру. Социо- репортерам была предоставлена полная свобода в выражении своих мыслей посредством имеющихся в наличии приспособлений. Регион ЦАК был представлен Фирдавсом Кабиловым, Ташкентский офис Международного института управления водными ресурсами и Мээрим Шакировой из Центрально-Азиатского Регионального экологического центра, Бишкек,



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которые внесли в клад в создание данной статьи.

«ГКСХИР - это уникальное пространство, где собираются вместе заинтересованные стороны всемирных сельскохозяйственных исследований для развития, чтобы вместе спланировать и определить совместные обязательства, а также подвести итоги достигнутого прогресса. ГКСХИР - это процесс, а не просто мероприятие», сказал проф. Монти Джонс, открывая мероприятие.

Более подробная информация на [www.egfar.org/gcard-2012](http://www.egfar.org/gcard-2012).

*Источник: Региональная Программа по устойчивому развитию сельского хозяйства в Центральной Азии и Южном Кавказе*

### Опубликована Декларация об этических принципах научной деятельности стран-участников СНГ

Декларация провозглашает стандарт этически оправданной научной деятельности в качестве фундамента как ее собственной организации, так и государственно-общественной политики, направленной на ее обеспечение и поддержку. Декларация об этических принципах научной деятельности обращена к парламентам и правительствам государств — участников СНГ, национальным и общественным академиям наук, научным организациям и учреждениям, научным ассоциациям, научным работникам, общественным организациям и группам, занимающимся научной деятельностью и заинтересованным в ее развитии. С ее текстом можно ознакомиться [здесь](#).

*Источник: Национальная академия наук Беларуси*

### Новое научно – популярное приложение „МОСТ' будет выпускаться в Армении

При поддержке Государственного комитета по науке МОН РА, Центр эколого-ноосферных исследований НАН РА и газета „Голос Армении' начинают выпускать новое научно – популярное приложение „ГА' „МОСТ', которое будет знакомить с достижениями науки, техники и медицины как в Армении, так и за рубежом.

„МОСТ' будет выходить в каждый последний четверг месяца и бесплатно распространяться вместе с очередным номером газеты. Предполагается публикация материалов о роли науки и инновационных преобразований в развитии современного общества, новых тенденциях и ожидаемых научных открытиях. Особое внимание будет уделяться истории Армянского

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народа и Армянской Апостольской Церкви, проблемам современного армянского общества, истории и культуре других народов, а также историческим отношениям Армении с другими странами и народами. Авторы публикаций будут не только профессиональные журналисты, но и авторитетные ученые, экономисты, врачи, специалисты других профилей.

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