

This e-newsletter can be downloaded at the following address:

<http://www.eramed.gr>

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1. Editorial

The ERA-MED project aims to strengthen the ERA and FP7 in the Mediterranean Countries, by the organization of FP7 thematic workshops of key interest to the national research community in the premises of each Mediterranean Partner Country. Following the FP7 information day, organised in 6th July by the FP7 Lebanese National Contact Point at the UNESCO center in the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, and within the framework of the announcement of new FP7 calls under 2008 work programmes (http://www.eramed.gr/eramed/news/OPEN-CALLS_Nov07.pdf) more FP7 workshops are planned to take place in the premises of the Mediterranean Partner Countries.

For more information, please visit:

http://www.eramed.gr/opencms/opencms/eramed/events/event_060707.html

2. EU News

Results of first call for Marie Curie Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways Fellowships

Some 103 proposals were submitted in response to the first Marie Curie Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways Fellowships (IAPP) call of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7), which closed on 31 May. Having passed the first phase of evaluation, 41 project proposals will now be put forward for a second round of evaluation. The projects most eligible for funding will be those that involve the transfer of technology and know-how between industry and the academia.

With a total budget of €38.5 million, the call seeks to open and foster dynamic pathways between public research organisations and private commercial enterprises, including in particular small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

For more information, please visit:

http://cordis.europa.eu/search/index.cfm?fuseaction=news.simpledocument&N_RCN=28477

Source: CORDIS

New FP7 Environment research information service on CORDIS

CORDIS, the Community Research and Development Service has launched a new environment information service under the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). This will provide a gateway to this high-level theme, including Climate Change, under the auspices of the Cooperation programme. The primary objective of research for the environment is to promote sustainable management of both man-made and natural environments and their resources. This means that the theme has, and will continue to have, a broad global and dynamic impact.

For more information, please visit:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=FP7_NEWS&ACTION=D&DOC=7&CAT=NEWS&QUERY=1188300621532&RCN=28147

Source: CORDIS

FP7 call for proposals: Capacities programme

The European Commission has launched a call for proposals under the 'Capacities' programme of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7).

The call refers to Activity 6-2-2, which aims to provide support to the bottom up policy coordination initiatives undertaken by several countries and regions. Proposals should address the following policy areas:

- developing an appropriate research and development (R&D) policy mix;
- creating appropriate framework conditions for stimulating private research and development (R&D) investment;
- improving the cooperation and transfer of technologies between public research institutes and private enterprises, including through developing public-private partnerships;
- developing and making better use of incentives to leverage private R&D;
- modernising the management of research institutions and universities;
- enhancing the career development and the European, international as well as inter-sectoral mobility of R&D personnel.

For more information, please visit:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS_FP7&ACTION=D&DOC=16&CAT=NEWS&QUERY=1194958877377&RCN=28552

Source: CORDIS

First FP7 aeronautics projects announced

Some 36 projects have been selected for funding following the first aeronautics and air transport call for proposals under the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). The projects will seek to make air transport greener, safer and more secure, and to improve cost efficiency in aeronautics.

The response rate to this first call was high, with the Commission receiving nearly 200 proposals. There was a particularly high interest from teams in Central and Eastern Europe and third countries.

For more information, please visit:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS_FP7&ACTION=D&DOC=17&CAT=NEWS&QUERY=1194958877377&RCN=28539

Source: CORDIS

Results of first call for Marie Curie Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways Fellowships

Some 103 proposals were submitted in response to the first Marie Curie Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways Fellowships (IAPP) call of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7), which closed on 31 May.

For more information, please visit:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS_FP7&ACTION=D&DOC=28&CAT=NEWS&QUERY=1194959659971&RCN=28477

Source: CORDIS

CORDIS launches Energy Research information service for FP7

Increasing global demand for energy to power economic growth requires the development of cost-effective technologies for a more sustainable energy economy for Europe and the world. Assisting the actors involved in this ambitious objective, CORDIS, the Community Research

and Development Information Service, has launched a new information service on Energy Research in the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7).

For more information, please visit:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS_FP7&ACTION=D&DOC=60&CAT=NEWS&QUERY=1194960270097&RCN=28195

Source: CORDIS

New FP7 Environment research information service on CORDIS

CORDIS, the Community Research and Development Service has launched a new environment information service under the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). This will provide a gateway to this high-level theme, including Climate Change, under the auspices of the Cooperation programme.

For more information, please visit:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS_FP7&ACTION=D&DOC=64&CAT=NEWS&QUERY=1194960368283&RCN=28147

Source: CORDIS

EUROBAROMETER: Europeans support greater cooperation with neighbouring countries

A survey conducted for the European Commission by Eurobarometer confirms that a significant majority of people in EU Member States support efforts to intensify co-operation with the countries neighbouring the Union. The overwhelming majority of those polled believe that working with neighbours on fighting organised crime and terrorism, on environment and energy, on economic development, immigration, democracy, education and training is important. Most Europeans believe that EU assistance to its neighbours can serve to extend peace and democracy beyond the borders of the Union, and around half believe that neighbouring countries are indeed willing to co-operate with the EU to introduce internal reforms.

For more information, please visit:

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/07/1264&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Source: EUROPA

3. News from MPCs

EU-Morocco: Association Council decides to strengthen bilateral relations

The European Commission represented by Eneko Landaburu, the director general for External Relations, and Morocco, represented by Taïb Fassi-Fihri, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, took part in the sixth session of the Association Council bringing together the European Union and Morocco, which was held in Brussels. The Association Council discussed the state of bilateral relations between the two partners and ways to instigate a process of reflection on how to strengthen these relations. The European Commission and Morocco used the occasion to sign a joint declaration supporting energy cooperation, notably with a view to preparing for the eventual integration of the Moroccan energy market with that of the European Union. A memorandum of understanding will be signed regarding the support programme for Morocco for the coming years. This will involve more than €650

million and will provide back-up for the implementation of the EU-Morocco Action Plan drawn up under the neighbourhood policy.

For more information, please visit:

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/07/1155&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Source: EUROPA

EU and Egypt – partners for the future

Benita Ferrero-Waldner, European Commissioner for External Relations and European Neighbourhood Policy visited Cairo in 31 October, 2007. He was hosted by the Egyptian-European Council.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/07/677&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Source: EUROPA

Mediterranean Region and Grid Infrastructure

The EUMEDGRID initiative aims to set up in the Mediterranean Region a grid infrastructure for Research, which can eventually become part of EGEE and be integrated with analogous initiatives in the Balkans, North Europe, Latin America and Far-East Asia. The core of the EUMEDGRID approach is to establish a human network in the eScience area, enlarging and training this community and establishing a pilot Grid infrastructure supporting proof of concept regional applications.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.eumedgrid.org/index.htm>

4. EU Events

European Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technical Review Days

Brussels, 10-11 October 2007

The European Commission with support from the European Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technology Platform Secretariat (HFP) are organising an event in Brussels on 10-11 October 2007 with the objective to:

- To offer a forum to promote information exchange between EU-funded projects and disseminate results.
- To review the main achievements of the FP6 projects' portfolio in the different technical research areas and provide orientations for future actions.
- To inform stakeholders about the EU state of play in the area.

For more information, please visit:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/energy/gp/gp_events/article_1567_en.htm#roads2hycom

Source: EUROPA

Future of Science and Technology in Europe

Portugal, 8-10 October 2007

The European Commission Directorate General for Research and the Portuguese Presidency are organizing a High-level Conference on 'The Future of Science and Technology in Europe' in Lisbon, Portugal to take place from 8 to 10 October 2007 at the premises of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.

The conference consists of a series of sessions aimed at discussing a broad range of issues at the centre of the debate on future research policy developments in the EU and brings together many of the relevant institutional actors and stakeholders. The central agenda for the conference is provided both by the Portuguese Presidency priorities and the recent Commission Green Paper entitled "The European Research Area: New Perspectives".

The topics for plenary sessions include 'Challenges for science and technology in Europe', 'Promoting and attracting human resources in research', 'Public and private investment in research', and 'A Vision for the future of S&T in Europe'. Up to nine parallel sessions will also take place covering each of the main issues raised in the Green Paper and some additional cross-cutting topics such as 'ERA Rationales', 'Governance issues and links with Lisbon strategy' and 'Science and Society'. The parallel sessions are expected to bring a substantial input to the work of the European Commission in drawing the main conclusions of the debate on the Green Paper and to prepare concrete proposals for the future. In particular, the first results of independent expert work, which the Commission is currently gathering, will be submitted for discussion in each of the parallel sessions.

For more information, please visit:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/conferences/2007/fst/index_en.htm

Source: EUROPA

The European Union Neighbourhood Policy Conference

Brussels, 3 September 2007

On 3 September, Benita Ferrero-Waldner, Commissioner for External Relations and European Neighbourhood Policy, hosted in Brussels the first ever meeting of Ministers and other representatives from all of the countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) with their counterparts from the European Union. This international conference: "Working Together – Strengthening the European Neighbourhood Policy", organised and hosted by the European Commission, included a ministerial-level morning session, which focused particularly on the opportunities for trade liberalisation, mobility, and the challenges of climate change and energy security. The afternoon session opened up the debate to other stakeholders including business groupings and non-governmental organisations. The conference was opened by José Manuel Barroso, President of the Commission, Luis Amado, Foreign Minister of Portugal and the current EU Presidency, and Benita Ferrero-Waldner.

For more information, please visit:

http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/conferences_2007_en.htm

Source: EUROPA

EU and Egypt hold joint Committee Meeting on Science and Technology for the first time

Egypt, 20 June 2007

Egypt and the EU held the Joint Committee meeting on Science and Technology for the first time in Egypt on Wednesday, 20th June 2007 at the Smart Village. This was the second Joint Committee meeting of its kind since the signature of the EU/Egypt Science and Technology Co-operation Agreement in Egypt exactly two years previously.

After one year of implementation of the EU/Egypt Science and Technology Agreement, the fruits of co-operation are already bountiful: over 88 Egyptians participated in 70 projects in partnership with EU institutions under the FP6 programme, with a total of €6.6 million. In addition, the establishment of new EU/Egypt Innovation Fund of more than €6 million was recently signed. Furthermore, a network of over 30 focal points was established to disseminate information on FP7 in Egyptian universities, research and technology centres.

Last but not least, a mobility portal for researchers in Egypt is currently under preparation. For more information, please visit: <http://www.eu-delegation.org.eg/en/News/509.asp>

Source: *The European Commission's Delegation to Egypt*

ERAMED FP7 Events Calendar

A list of FP7 national events in MS, AS and the Mediterranean Countries is available in the ERAMED website in the following link:

http://www.eramed.gr/opencms/opencms/eramed/event_list.jsp

5. Events in the Mediterranean Countries

Project FP7 Information Days

- **Lebanon, 6th July 2007**

An FP7 information day was organised by the FP7 Lebanese National Contact Point at the UNESCO center in the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Beirut. The event which marked the launching of the first FP7 activity in the Mediterranean region (ERA-MED project) attracted around 200 participants. Representatives of various research institutes, SMEs, the Ministries of Agriculture, Environment, Tourism, and Industry participated. The event was supported by the Minister of Education and Higher Education, Dr. Khaled Kabani, the Head of the Delegation of the European Commission in Lebanon, Ambassador Patrick Laurent, the representative of DG Research and the Scientific Officer for the ERA-MED project, Dr. Philippe Froissard.

Photos from the FP7 information day



Following the launch of new FP7 calls under 2008 work programmes more information days are planned to be organised in the Mediterranean Partner Countries as follows:

- **Jordan, 8th-10th January 2008**

An FP7 information day will be organised by the FP7 Jordanian National Contact Point.

- **Egypt, 15th-17th January 2008**

An FP7 information day will be organised by the FP7 Egyptian National Contact Point.

- **Lebanon, January 2008**

A workshop on the Energy specific programme will be organised by the FP7 Lebanese National Contact Point.

- **Tunisia, 12th-14th February 2008**

An FP7 information day will be organised by the FP7 Tunisian National Contact Point.

- **Syria, 8th-10th April 2008**

An FP7 information day will be organised by the FP7 Syrian National Contact Point.

For more information, please visit:

http://www.eramed.gr/opencms/opencms/eramed/event_list.jsp

Events in Med. Countries

Lebanon, 14 October 200 and 15 November 2007

In the 14th of October, 2007, Dr. Fairouz Sarkis, representing the Lebanese FP7 National Contact Point participated in the meeting of the General Assembly of the Lebanese NGOs, which took place in the premises of the Secretariat General of the Catholic Council for

Patriarchs and Archbishops in Lebanon. Dr. Sarkis, presented an overview of FP7 and pointed out the benefits and opportunities of participation of NGOs in FP7. More than 35

established and prominent NGOs such as Caritas, Arconceil, YMCA, participated in this FP7 workshop. Furthermore, in the 15th of November 2007, the Lebanese FP7 National Contact Point (NCP) and the Faculty of Sciences in the Lebanese University (LU) organized a seminar entitled: "The 7th Framework Program (FP7) and the ICT Priority Theme". The event took place at the LU Hadath science campus and was attended by around 50 ICT specialized researchers. The event was supported by the Dean of the Faculty of Sciences in the Lebanese University, Dr. Ali Mneimneh and representatives of several prominent universities. The Lebanese FP7 National Contact Point (NCP), summarized the 2007-2008 ICT work programme and highlighted the important aspects for the Lebanese research community. Attendees of both events were provided with a folder including FP7 information material and expressed interest for registration to the Lebanese NCP database and the future ERAMED database.

Syria, 7-11 November 2007

The principal exhibition for Syrian Information and communication technology "Shaam 2007" was held in Damascus between 7 and 11 November 2007. HIAST's stand in this exhibition presented many of its activities and projects, particularly general information about FP7, and ERA-MED, PromedAccess, and EumedGrid projects.

6. FP7 Open Calls- Useful links

[New FP7 Calls under 2008 workprogrammes announced](#)

- CORDIS: <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7OpenCallsPage>
- ERAMED : http://www.eramed.gr/eramed/news/OPEN-CALLs_Nov07.pdf

CORDIS

- CORDIS Wire: <http://cordis.europa.eu/wire/index.cfm>
- CORDIS News: http://cordis.europa.eu/news/home_en.html

EUROPA

- *A new approach to International International S&T Cooperation in the EU's 7th Framework Programme (2007-2013):*
http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/newapproach_en.pdf
- *International Cooperation Research Activities: FP7-INCO-2007:*
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm>
- *European Neighborhood Policy:*
http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/policy_en.htm
- *The Delegation of the European Commission in the Mediterranean Countries:*
http://www.deldza.ec.europa.eu/fr/ue_med/sites.htm
- *The EU and the Mediterranean Countries:*
http://www.deldza.ec.europa.eu/fr/ue_med/index.htm
- *The European Union Neighbourhood Policy*
http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/policy_en.htm