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## UN Launches Network for Sustainable Development

A network of universities, research centres and technical institutions to provide practical sustainable development solutions has been launched by the UN. The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), launched last month (9 August), will work with governments, UN agencies, the private sector and civil society organisations to identify and demonstrate new approaches to sustainable development. Poverty alleviation, social inclusion and environmental sustainability – three of the major sustainable development goals laid out in the Rio+20 outcome document, 'The Future We Want' – will be the network's main targets.

The network will generate ideas and review documents for governments and institutions, mobilise funds, and provide a platform to showcase projects in a pre-commercial stage such as carbon capture and agroecology technologies. SDSN also aims to serve as an open-access information store, although the specific member commitments for this are still under discussion.

SDSN's director, Jeffrey Sachs, who is also the UN secretary-general's special advisor for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), said that in particular, the network will have close ties with the high level panel formed recently to set a new development agenda beyond 2015 – the official 'end' of the MDGs. It will also link with other bodies, including the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) international scientific advisory board, which grew out of Rio+20.

### Quelle

→ <http://www.scidev.net/en/science-and-innovation-policy/news/un-launches-network-for-sustainable-development.html>

### Download

Rio+20 Outcome Document – The Future We Want

→ <http://www.uncsd2012.org/content/documents/727The%20Future%20We%20Want%2019%20June%201230pm.pdf>



### Weitere Informationen

Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

→ <http://www.unsdsn.org>

UNESCO

→ <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/>

### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus UNESCO

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/unesco>

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### Schlagworte

Umwelt, Rahmenbedingungen, Kooperation Wissenschaft- Wirtschaft, Internationalisierung



## Innovation: Wirtschaftskrise und Wachstumsschwäche treffen auch Forschung und Entwicklung, sagt OECD

Die Unternehmensausgaben für FuE sind durch die Wirtschaftskrise stark betroffen. Neue OECD-Daten zeigen, dass in beinahe allen OECD-Ländern die Investitionen rückläufig waren, die Innovation und langfristiges Wachstum beeinflussen können. Der gerade veröffentlichte OECD-Ausblick zu Wissenschaft, Technologie und Industrie 2012 weist auf einen Rekordrückgang von 4.5 % der FuE-Ausgaben des Privatsektors im Jahr 2009 hin.

Die Unternehmen in Frankreich und Südkorea haben allerdings diesem Trend widerstanden. Die abgeschwächte wirtschaftliche Erholung wird vermutlich in naher Zukunft auch das Wachstum der FuE-Ausgaben der Wirtschaft reduzieren, vor allem in Süd- und Osteuropa. Auch die Zukunftsaussichten für Frankreich, Deutschland, Großbritannien und die USA sind demnach unsicher.

In den Volkswirtschaften China, Indien und Südkorea wuchsen während der Wirtschaftskrise die FuE-Ausgaben dagegen deutlich. 2010 gab es im Vergleich

zu 2009 ein Wachstum von 29.5 % in China und von 20.5 % in Südkorea und Indien.

Teilweise wurde die Reduktion der FuE-Ausgaben im Privatsektor der OECD durch erhöhte Ausgaben der öffentlichen Hand ausgeglichen. So investierten viele Regierungen einen größeren Anteil ihrer Stimuluspakete in FuE. Die durchschnittlichen FuE-Ausgaben erreichten so 0.82 % des BIP im Jahr 2009, verglichen mit 0.78 % 2005. Während der Krise erhöhten einige Länder ihre Ausgaben für Bildungs- und Forschungseinrichtungen, so z. B. Australien, Kanada, China, Italien, die Schweiz und die USA. Deutschland, Estland und Schweden bauten laufende Programme aus, um Innovation zu fördern.

Die Pläne für zukünftige öffentliche Ausgaben unterscheiden sich innerhalb der OECD stark. Griechenland, Irland, die Slowakei, Slowenien und Spanien rechnen mit einer Reduzierung in den kommenden Jahren. Andere Länder wie Chile, Dänemark, Deutschland und die Türkei planen, kurzfristig ihre öffentlichen Ausgaben zu erhöhen.

Die OECD hat Daten zu den einzelnen Ländern in Form von 43 Länderkurzprofilen aufbereitet, die auch über die OECD-Webseite frei zugänglich sind. Abgedeckt sind die 34 OECD-Mitgliedsländer, Argentinien, Ägypten, Kolumbien und Russland sowie die OECD-Schlüsselpartner Brasilien, China, Indien, Indonesien und Südafrika.

Außerdem werden politische Trends in Profilen (z. B. zu Politikstrategien, Patenten und Humanressourcen) zusammengefasst. Drei thematische Kapitel behandeln Forschung und Innovation im Dienst von umweltverträglichem Wachstum („Green Growth“), Entwicklung und demografischem Wandel.

#### **Quelle und Downloadmöglichkeit für Länderkurzprofile**

→ <http://www.oecd.org/sti/oecdscientechnologyandindustryoutlook.htm>

#### **Download**

OECD STI Outlook 2012 Volltext für OECDiLibrary Abonnenten

→ [http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/science-and-technology/oecd-science-technology-and-industry-outlook-2012\\_sti\\_outlook-2012-en](http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/science-and-technology/oecd-science-technology-and-industry-outlook-2012_sti_outlook-2012-en)

OECD-Zusammenfassung STI Outlook 2012 (dtsh.)

→ [http://www.oecd.org/berlin/sti\\_outlook-2012-sum-de.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/berlin/sti_outlook-2012-sum-de.pdf)

#### **Weitere Informationen**

Browse Only OECD STI Outlook

→ [http://www.keepeek.com/oecd/media/science-and-technology/oecd-science-technology-and-industry-outlook-2012\\_sti\\_outlook-2012-en](http://www.keepeek.com/oecd/media/science-and-technology/oecd-science-technology-and-industry-outlook-2012_sti_outlook-2012-en)

OECD Berlin Centre (Bestellmöglichkeit für Druckausgabe)

→ <http://www.oecd.org/berlin/publikationen/oecdscientechnologyandindustryoutlook2012.htm>

#### **Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international**

Fokus OECD

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/oecd>

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#### **Schlagworte**

Rahmenbedingungen, Indikatorik



## OECD: New Key Biotechnology Indicators Published

The biotechnology indicators are produced by the OECD's Directorate for Science Technology and Industry (DSTI). They provide statistics on biotechnology firms, biotechnology R&D (including public sector expenditures), biotech applications and patents.

#### **Quelle und Downloadmöglichkeit**

→ <http://www.oecd.org/sti/keybiotechnologyindicators.htm>

#### **Weitere Informationen**

OECD: Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry

→ <http://www.oecd.org/sti/>

#### **Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international**

Fokus OECD

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/oecd>



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**Schlagworte**

Lebenswissenschaften, Indikatorik



## South Asian Academies to Boost Science Cooperation

The first summit of South Asian science academies agreed to set up a regional network to foster science collaboration on common challenges related to infectious diseases, the environment and science education earlier this month.

The three-day summit was attended by presidents and senior scientists from the science academies of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka; as well as from Iran, Mauritius, and the 32-nation African Academy of Science.

A declaration issued at the end of the summit recommended creating a network of South Asian academies, which would meet yearly and work on areas of common concern. These include energy, including nuclear and renewables; control of infectious diseases and development of multi-disciplinary expertise and sharing of data; science education through use of information communication technologies (ICTs) as well as by providing scholarships and internships; climate change; and inclusive innovation.

Delegates accepted a proposal, by Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) president Atta-ur-Rahman, that the summit should kick-start at least one inter-academy activity: long-distance learning. Rahman offered to extend Pakistan's successful long-distance interactive lectures through video-conferencing, to other South Asian countries, and invited the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and Indian Institute of Technology to show lectures.

Other bilateral collaborations on science were formed on the sidelines of the summit. The Academy of Sciences of Afghanistan and host Indian National Science Academy (INSA) initiated steps towards closer collaboration. In addition, Rahman announced that PAS and the Nepal Academy of Sciences would work on introducing 40 PhD scholarships for masters and PhD students from Nepal. And ahead of the summit, INSA forged new formal ties with the pan-African science academy and Iran's science academy.

The conclusion of the academy summit in New Delhi coincided with a meeting of India and Pakistan's foreign ministers in Islamabad, which resulted in a proposed collaboration in the following sectors: science and technology; agriculture, including biotechnology and irrigation; health, including vaccination and drug regulation; the environment, including climate change, biodiversity and renewable energy; education; and information technology.

India's external affairs minister S M Krishna and Pakistan's foreign minister Hina Rabbani Khar also agreed to loosen the visa requirements between the two countries that have fought three wars over the disputed territory of Kashmir since becoming independent in 1947, and came close to a fourth one in 1999. The new visa agreement does not yet specify ease of visa curbs for scientists – but it raised hopes of an easier visa regime eventually for scientists from the two countries that still do not have a formal bilateral science agreement.

**Quelle**

→ <http://www.scidev.net/en/science-and-innovation-policy/south-south-cooperation/news/south-asian-academies-to-boost-science-cooperation.html>

**Download**

Delhi Declaration of Summit of South Asian Academies

→ [http://insaindia.org/pdf/DELHI\\_DECLARATION.pdf](http://insaindia.org/pdf/DELHI_DECLARATION.pdf)

**Weitere Informationen**

Summit of South Asian Academies

→ <http://insaindia.org/summit.php>

**Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international**

Fokus Global

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/global>





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**Schlagworte**

Energie, Umwelt, Lebenswissenschaften, Kommunikation, Bildung, Hochschulen, Fachkräfte, Rahmenbedingungen, Internationalisierung



## Rapid Growth in International Student Mobility

A global shift towards science and technology and rapid growth in international student mobility are trends impacting on the standing of the world's finest universities, according to the 2012-13 QS rankings. Universities from a record 72 countries are in the top 700 list published on 11 September.

The top 100 universities average nearly 10 % more international students this year than in 2011, "the biggest single-year increase in the rankings' nine-year history", according to the latest World University Rankings.

"The unprecedented acceleration in international recruitment reflects an escalating global battle for talent: 120,000 more international students were reported by the top 500 universities this year," said head of research Ben Sowter in a statement. "The total number of international students now exceeds 4.1 million globally."

**Quelle**

→ <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20120911125606693>

**Weitere Informationen**

QS World University Rankings 2012/2013

→ <http://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings>

**Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international**

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/global>

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**Schlagworte**

Hochschulen, Indikatorik, Internationalisierung



## Education Spending Rising but Access to Higher Education Remains Unequal

Governments should increase investment in early childhood programmes and maintain reasonable costs for higher education in order to reduce inequality, boost social mobility and improve people's employment prospects, according to a new OECD report.

Education at a Glance 2012 reveals stark differences between countries in the opportunities they offer young people to enter higher education, notably for children of poor families or whose parents have had a limited education.

Australia, Finland, Ireland and Sweden have the highest success rates in the OECD for young people with poorly-educated parents attaining a tertiary degree.

But in Italy, Portugal, Turkey and the United States, more than 40 % of young people from low educational backgrounds have not completed upper secondary education, and less than 20 % have attained tertiary qualifications.

Enrolling children early in formal education and keeping schools mixed in terms of social backgrounds have more impact in boosting educational equality than other factors, such as parental support or the cost of tuition fees. Addressing inequality early is key as little can be done to remedy poor outcomes later in school, without compromising the quality of higher education, says the OECD.

Starting school at an early age pays off in the long run: OECD's PISA tests of 15-year-olds show that, in most countries, pupils who have attended pre-primary education tend to perform better than those who have not. It also shows that

Education at a Glance provides comparable national statistics about education for the 34 OECD member countries, as well as Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russia, Saudi Arabia and South Africa. This year's report includes indicators on public and private spending on education, tuition fees, adult participation in education, class sizes, teacher salaries and decision-making powers of schools, and analysis of national exam systems and the criteria for attending tertiary education.

longer pre-primary education, smaller pupil-to-teacher ratios and higher public expenditure per child all enhance the positive effects of pre-primary schooling.

Public and private spending on education continued to rise, even during the economic downturn. Between 2008 and 2009, total investment – by governments, enterprises and individuals – increased in 24 out of 31 OECD countries for which data are available. But while public spending on education as a percentage of total public expenditure remained at 13 % on average across the OECD in both 2005 and 2009, it fell in 19 out of 32 countries over that period.

#### Quelle

→ [http://www.oecd.org/edu/educationspendingrisingbutaccesstohighereducationremain\\_sunequalinmostcountriessaysoecd.htm](http://www.oecd.org/edu/educationspendingrisingbutaccesstohighereducationremain_sunequalinmostcountriessaysoecd.htm)

#### Download

Education at a glance 2012

→ [http://www.oecd.org/edu/eag2012%20\(eng\)--Ebook%20\(FINAL%2011%2009%202012\).pdf](http://www.oecd.org/edu/eag2012%20(eng)--Ebook%20(FINAL%2011%2009%202012).pdf)

#### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

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#### Schlagworte

Bildung, Indikatorik



## EU / Europa

### Europas Unternehmen investieren in FuE – trotz Krise

Europäische Unternehmen wollen weiterhin mehr Geld in Forschung und Entwicklung (FuE) investieren. Zu diesem Ergebnis kommt eine Umfrage, welche die EU-Kommission Ende August 2012 veröffentlicht hat. Befragt wurden im ersten Quartal 2012 insgesamt 187 Unternehmen mit FuE-Investitionen von insgesamt fast 45 Milliarden Euro, rund 40 % der gesamten FuE-Investitionen aus 1.000 im EU-Anzeiger erfassten Unternehmen.

Die Firmen wollen ihre Investitionen um durchschnittlich 4 % pro Jahr steigern, die Software- und Computerbranche sogar um 11 % pro Jahr. Bei staatlichen Anreizen und Rahmenbedingungen zeigten sich die befragten Unternehmen zufrieden mit steuerlichen Anreizen für FuE-Investitionen (in einigen Mitgliedstaaten), aber auch mit der direkten Forschungsförderung und dem Instrument gemeinsamer FuE in öffentlich-privaten Partnerschaften. Allerdings schnitten hier europäische Förderangebote deutlich schlechter ab als die jeweils nationalen Maßnahmen.

DIHK-Position: Der DIHK kritisiert die geringe Beteiligung der Wirtschaft in der europäischen Forschungsförderung. Der auf Unternehmen entfallende Anteil dieser Fördermittel liegt aktuell gerade noch bei 23 % im Vergleich zu 60 % in den 90er-Jahren. Daher fordert der DIHK, dass die Umkehr dieses Trends in Brüssel höchste Priorität haben muss: Bei der Ausgestaltung des neuen Forschungsrahmenprogramms "Horizon 2020" ab 2013 bedarf es einer Willkommenskultur für Unternehmen in der Forschungsförderung. Forschende und innovative Unternehmen gehören auf die Überholspur. Nach dem Vorbild von ZIM und KMU-innovativ soll "Horizon 2020" ein neues Instrument einrichten, das eine technologie- bzw. themenoffene Förderung für Unternehmen vorsieht. Dabei geht es um einen „Bottom-up-Ansatz“, bei dem Unternehmen ihre Forschungsthemen mit Marktpotenzial in einem beschleunigten, standardisierten Verfahren als Forschungsgegenstand vorschlagen und eine kofinanzierte Förderung der EU-Kommission beantragen können.

#### Quelle

→ [http://de.sitestat.com/hk/dihk/s?themenfelder.international.info.bab.bab10092012&am;ns\\_type=pdf&ns\\_url=http://www.dihk.de/themenfelder/international/info/bab/2012/bab10092012/at\\_download/file?mdate=1347291329428](http://de.sitestat.com/hk/dihk/s?themenfelder.international.info.bab.bab10092012&am;ns_type=pdf&ns_url=http://www.dihk.de/themenfelder/international/info/bab/2012/bab10092012/at_download/file?mdate=1347291329428)

#### Weitere Informationen

The 2012 EU Survey on R&D Investment Business Trends

→ [http://iri.jrc.ec.europa.eu/survey\\_2012.html](http://iri.jrc.ec.europa.eu/survey_2012.html)

The 2011 EU Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard

→ [http://iri.jrc.ec.europa.eu/research/scoreboard\\_2011.htm](http://iri.jrc.ec.europa.eu/research/scoreboard_2011.htm)

Deutscher Industrie- und Handelskammertag e.V. (DIHK)

→ <http://www.dihk.de>

#### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus EU

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/eu>

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#### Schlagworte

Rahmenbedingungen, KMU, Wirtschaft und Märkte



## Großbritannien

### Royal Society and DFID Launch Fund for African Research

A £ 15.3 million (US\$ 24 million) fund to build links between African research laboratories and strengthen their research capacity through mentoring has been launched by the Royal Society (the UK's science academy) and the UK Department for International Development (DFID). The aim is to provide equipment and training for African scientists, and to establish researcher exchange programmes between the United Kingdom and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Start-up grants of up to US\$ 39,000 will assist the formation of research consortia, and larger grants of almost US \$2 million will then support specific research programmes over a five-year period. To qualify for the larger grants, projects must involve a consortium of one UK laboratory and three African laboratories. Applications for grants will open in November 2012.

The Royal Society-DFID Africa Capacity Building Initiative will mainly fund research focusing on water and sanitation, renewable energy, and soil, and it will encourage a cross-disciplinary approach to research. It will build on the "extremely effective" Leverhulme-Royal Society Africa Awards, which were launched in 2008 to support research collaborations between the UK and Ghana or Tanzania, according to Poliakoff. But it will also expand the number of countries involved, and include French-speaking countries.

#### Quelle

→ <http://www.scidev.net/en/science-and-innovation-policy/r-d-in-africa/news/royal-society-and-dfid-launch-fund-for-african-research.html>

#### Weitere Informationen

Royal Society-DFID Africa Capacity Building Initiative

→ <http://royalsociety.org/grants/schemes/africa-capacity-building/>

Leverhulme-Royal Society Africa Award

→ <http://royalsociety.org/grants/schemes/leverhulme-africa/>

Royal Society

→ <http://royalsociety.org>

Department for International Development (DFID)

→ <http://www.dfid.gov.uk>

#### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus Großbritannien

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/grossbritannien>

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#### Schlagworte

Fachkräfte, Förderung, Internationalisierung



## UK Government Invests £ 10 Million to Help Universities Move to Open Access

A £ 10 million Government investment announced earlier this month by Universities and Science Minister David Willetts will help universities with the transition to open access to publicly-funded research findings. The investment will enable a number of research-intensive UK institutions to kick-start the process of developing policies and setting up funds to meet the costs of article processing charges (APCs). This is in line with the recommendations of the Finch report on open access, published in June.

The investment will be made to 30 institutions receiving funding through Research Councils and UK higher education funding councils. It is in addition to the contribution RCUK will be making to institutions to support payment of APCs associated with open access through block funding grants from 1 April 2013 onwards. More details of this will be announced in the autumn.

The UK Funding Councils will launch a consultation this autumn on implementing a requirement that research outputs submitted to any future Research Excellence Framework (REF) should be as widely accessible as possible.

The Government has already formally responded to the Finch report on open access and accepted the main recommendations. The details of how the measures detailed in the report should be developed are being worked on by funders in consultation with universities, research institutions, authors and publishers.

### Quelle

→ <http://news.bis.gov.uk/Press-Releases/Government-invests-10-million-to-help-universities-move-to-open-access-67fac.aspx>

### Download

The Report of the Working Group on Expanding Access to Published Research Findings, chaired by Dame Janet Finch

→ <http://www.researchinfonet.org/publish/finch/>

The Government response to the Finch report

→ <http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/science/docs/l/12-975-letter-government-response-to-finch-report-research-publications.pdf>



### Weitere Informationen

List of institutions that will receive the additional funding

→ <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/media/news/2012news/Pages/070912.aspx>

RCUK's full open access policy

→ <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/Pages/outputs.aspx>

### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus Großbritannien

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/grossbritannien>

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### Schlagworte

Hochschulen, Rahmenbedingungen, Förderung



## Kanada

### The Canadian High Arctic Research Station

On 23 August 2012, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced \$ 142.4 million over six years (beginning in 2012) for the construction, equipment, and fit-up of the Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS) and an additional 46.2 million over six years (starting in 2012) for the CHARS Science and Technology Program. The station's Science and Technology Program will be phased in beginning in 2012.

The Prime Minister also announced that an additional \$ 26.5 million per year has been set aside, as of 2018-19, for the on-going program and operations of the station.

CHARS, which will be located in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut, will play a key role in delivering on the priorities of the Northern Strategy by strengthening Canada's position as a global leader in Arctic science and technology.

The objectives of the Canadian High Arctic Research Station, which is targeted to be operational in 2017, are to:

- Develop and diversify the economy in Canada's Arctic;
- Support the effective stewardship of Canada's Arctic lands, waters, and resources;
- Create a hub for scientific activity in Canada's vast and diverse Arctic;
- Promote self-sufficient, vibrant, and healthy Northern communities;
- Inspire and build capacity through training, education and outreach; and,
- Enhance Canada's visible presence in the Arctic and strengthen Canada's leadership on Arctic issues.

As the Science and Technology Program is phased in, it will provide Northerners with skills and experience to better participate in the labour force, from mining and energy, to natural resource and wildlife management, and to health and life sciences. It is estimated that the construction of the station will generate up to 150 jobs locally, across the North and in more specialized sectors in other parts of Canada.

The Station will also contribute to the development and diversification of Northern economies. Canada needs to know its North in order to effectively exercise sovereignty and stewardship of Canada's Arctic lands, waters and resources. CHARS will anchor a year-round research presence in Canada's Arctic to serve Canada and the world.

The Station is mandated to undertake and broker science and technology focused on solutions in four priority areas:

- Resource development
- Exercising sovereignty
- Environmental stewardship and climate change
- Strong and healthy communities

A key goal for CHARS is capacity building for Northerners and Aboriginal peoples in particular. Academic institutions in the North such as Nunavut Arctic College, which has a campus in Cambridge Bay, territorial governments, industry, and organizations representing northern Aboriginal peoples are well placed to contribute to the S&T Program while strengthening Northern participation in and leadership of Arctic science and technology. Relationships will be developed with southern academic institutions to determine opportunities for partnership such as joint research projects, the establishment of field courses, and academic postings at CHARS.

The Government of Canada is committed to improving the quality of life of Northerners to better understand the North, and to exercise sovereignty over Canadian territory. As global interest in the North increases, Canada is taking a leadership role in shaping the stewardship and responsible development of the Arctic and has articulated a clear vision for a strong and prosperous North through its Northern Strategy.

#### Quelle

→ <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-eng.do?nid=692159>

#### Weitere Informationen

Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS)

→ [http://www.science.gc.ca/Canadian\\_High\\_Arctic\\_Research\\_Station-WS74E65368-1\\_En.htm](http://www.science.gc.ca/Canadian_High_Arctic_Research_Station-WS74E65368-1_En.htm)

#### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus Kanada

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/kanada>

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#### Schlagworte

Umwelt, Bildung, Berufliche Bildung, FuE-Infrastruktur



## Harper Government Supports Innovative Renewable Energy Project and Innovation in British Columbia

Wai Young, Member of Parliament for Vancouver South, participated in the official opening of the Bioenergy Research and Demonstration Facility at the University of British Columbia (UBC).

This project funded by the Government of Canada converts local, renewable wood fuel to energy by means of a biomass gasification technology. Once completed, this facility will produce approximately two megawatts of electricity – enough to power approximately 1,500 homes. It will also provide approximately 12 % of the campus demand for heat.

This research lab is the first facility of its kind in North America, and was recently voted in KPMG's Infrastructure 100: World Cities Edition as one of the 100 most innovative and inspiring urban infrastructure projects in the world.

The Harper Government announced \$ 13.7 million in funding for this innovative renewable energy laboratory in February 2011.

### Quelle

→ <http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/media-room/news-release/2012/6521>

### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus Kanada

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/kanada>

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### Schlagworte

Energie, FuE-Infrastruktur



## USA

### International Collaboration Key to Science and Engineering Globalization

International collaboration is a key aspect of the globalization of science and engineering. A recent report and data evaluation released by the National Science Foundation (NSF) showed that one in six scientists and engineers in the United States reported working with individuals in other countries in a given week. International collaboration was more likely to occur among persons working in the for-profit sector, men, and those with higher levels of educational attainment. Individuals who earned postsecondary degrees both in the United States and abroad reported the highest levels of international collaboration.

The InfoBrief released by NSF examines the profile of U.S. scientists and engineers who work with colleagues in other countries, the means of communication they used, and the relationship between work activities in their principal job and the extent to which they collaborated internationally. Data are from 2006, the only year data on international collaboration were collected.

### Quelle

→ [http://www.nsf.gov/news/news\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=125318&org=NSF&from=news](http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=125318&org=NSF&from=news)

### Download

International Collaborations of Scientists and Engineers in the United States

→ <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/infbrief/nsf12323/nsf12323.pdf>

### Weitere Informationen

National Science Foundation (NSF)

→ <http://www.nsf.gov>

### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus USA

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/usa>

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**Schlagworte**

Indikatorik, Internationalisierung



## Engineering Research Centers Awarded \$ 55.5 Million to Innovate in Nanoscale Science and Engineering

The National Science Foundation (NSF) recently awarded \$ 55.5 million to university consortia to establish three new Engineering Research Centers (ERCs) that will advance interdisciplinary nanosystems research and education in partnership with industry.

Over the next five years, these Nanosystems ERCs, or NERCS, will advance knowledge and create innovations that address significant

societal issues, such as the human health and environmental implications of nanotechnology. At the same time, they will advance the competitiveness of U.S. industry. The centers will support research and innovation in electromagnetic systems, mobile computing and energy technologies, nanomanufacturing, and health and environmental sensing.

Since 1985, NSF's ERC program has fostered extensive collaborations to create technological breakthroughs for new products and services and to prepare U.S. engineering graduates for successful participation in the global economy. The three centers launched this year, as part of the third generation of NSF ERCs, place increased emphasis on innovation and entrepreneurship, partnerships with small research firms in translational research, education of an innovative engineering workforce, and international collaboration and cultural exchange.

The NERCs will be a part of NSF's contributions to the National Nanotechnology Initiative, which is a government-wide activity designed to ensure that investments in this area are made in a coordinated and timely manner and to accelerate the pace of revolutionary nanotechnology discoveries. A long-term view for nanotechnology research and education needs is documented in the 2010 NSF/WTEC report, "Nanotechnology Research Directions for Societal Needs in 2020."

The NERCs are expected to create transformational science and engineering platforms for the respective fields of nanoscale research, education, and innovation. As appropriate to its particular areas of research, each NERC will include the societal and environmental implications of the nano-enabled scientific and technological breakthroughs.

The NERCs will link with the resources of NSF's Network for Computational Nanotechnology as the main cyber-platform for dissemination of computational and simulation tools and educational materials. Additionally, the centers will leverage the experimental resources of the NSF National Nanotechnology Infrastructure Network.

### Quelle

→ [http://www.nsf.gov/news/news\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=125280&org=NSF&from=news](http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=125280&org=NSF&from=news)

### Download

Nanotechnology Research Directions for Societal Needs in 2020

→ [http://www.wtec.org/nano2/Nanotechnology\\_Research\\_Directions\\_to\\_2020/Nano\\_Research\\_Directions\\_to\\_2020.pdf](http://www.wtec.org/nano2/Nanotechnology_Research_Directions_to_2020/Nano_Research_Directions_to_2020.pdf)

### Weitere Informationen

ERC Program

→ <http://www.erc-assoc.org>

National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI)

→ <http://nano.gov>

National Nanotechnology Initiative at NSF

→ <http://www.nsf.gov/nano>

### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus USA

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/usa>

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### Schlagworte

Schlüsseltechnologien, Umwelt, Lebenswissenschaften, Innovation, Kooperation Wissenschaft- Wirtschaft



## NIH Continues Its Commitment to High Risk-High Reward Research

Eighty-one awards are being given to pursue visionary science that exhibit the potential to transform scientific fields and speed the translation of research into improved health, under the High Risk-High Reward program supported by the National Institutes of Health Common Fund.

"The Common Fund High Risk-High Reward program provides opportunities for innovative investigators in any area of health research to take risks when the potential impact in biomedical and behavioral science is high," said NIH Director Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.

The NIH Director's Pioneer, New Innovator, and Transformative Research awards encourage creative thinkers to pursue exciting and innovative ideas about biomedical and behavioral research. The Pioneer award, established in 2004, challenges investigators at all career levels to develop highly innovative approaches that have the potential to produce a high impact on a broad area of biomedical or behavioral research. The Transformative Research awards program, established in 2009, promotes cross-cutting, interdisciplinary approaches and is open to individuals and teams of investigators who propose research that has the potential to create or overturn fundamental paradigms. The New Innovator award initiative, established in 2007, supports investigators who are within 10 years of their terminal degree or clinical residency, but who have not yet received a Research Project Grant (R01) or equivalent NIH grant, to conduct exceptionally innovative research.

In 2012, the NIH is awarding 10 Pioneer awards, 51 New Innovator awards, and 20 Transformative Research awards. The total funding, which represents contributions from the NIH Common Fund and multiple NIH institutes and centers, is approximately \$ 155 million.

### Quelle

→ <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/sep2012/od-13.htm>



### Weitere Informationen

National Institutes of Health

→ <http://www.nih.gov/>

### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

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### Schlagworte

Lebenswissenschaften, Innovation



## Australien

### Launch of the AusAID Research Strategy 2012-16 and the AusAID Development Research Awards Scheme (ADRAS) 2012

AusAID has released its Research Strategy for 2012-16 setting out how they will fund research over the next four years. It will help them work with their research partners more effectively and to increase the impact of research for the world's poorest people.

The Australian Government is now calling for proposals for the 2012 round of the AusAID Development Research Awards Scheme. AusAID is offering competitive grants to researchers within Australia and internationally to support long term primary research on priority themes.

AusAID funds research to improve the relevance, quality and effectiveness of Australian aid in developing countries. The research assists decision-making and plays a lead role in finding solutions to development challenges and opportunities.



AusAID's Research Strategy 2012-16 aims to increase the relevance, quality and effectiveness of research they fund by:

- Setting research priorities to guide research investment
- Increasing the proportion of competitively funded research
- Enhancing performance oversight and quality through stronger central governance and support
- Improving access to and transparency of research results
- Building capacity to undertake and use research in Australia and our partner countries

**Quelle**

→ <http://www.ausaid.gov.au/HotTopics/Pages/Display.aspx?QID=744>

**Download**

AusAID Research Strategy 2012–16

→ <http://www.ausaid.gov.au/research/Documents/research-strategy-2012-16.pdf>

**Weitere Informationen**

AusAID Development Research Awards Scheme

→ <http://www.ausaid.gov.au/research/Pages/adras.aspx>

Australian AID - AusAID

→ <http://www.ausaid.gov.au>

**Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international**

Fokus Australien

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/australien>

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**Schlagworte**

Rahmenbedingungen, Förderung, Internationalisierung



## Release of AusAID's Draft Medical Research Strategy

AusAID is seeking comments on a draft Medical Research Strategy which outlines a plan to invest in medical technology and innovations that will help save lives in the Asia-Pacific region.

In an Effective Aid Program for Australia, the Australian Government signalled its support (in principle) for 'more aid funding for research by Australian and international institutions, particularly in medicine'.

Once finalised, AusAID's Medical Research Strategy will guide future research.

The draft Medical Research Strategy outlines how AusAID will support research to:

- create new medical products such as diagnostics, drugs or vaccines
- improve clinical treatment of people in poor communities.

Investing in medical research will also address the failure of commercial markets to invest in diseases that primarily affect the poor. For example, between 1974 and 2004, only 21 of the 1,556 new drugs that came onto the market were for neglected and poverty-related diseases.

**Quelle**

→ <http://www.ausaid.gov.au/HotTopics/Pages/Display.aspx?QID=755>

**Download**

Draft Medical Research Strategy

→ <http://www.ausaid.gov.au/aidissues/health/Documents/medical-research-strategy-draft.pdf>

**Weitere Informationen**

Australian AID - AusAID

→ <http://www.ausaid.gov.au>

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**Schlagworte**

Lebenswissenschaften, Internationalisierung



## Brasilien

### I.T. Maior Will Receive Investments of BRL 500 Million

The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MCTI) launched the Strategic Program for Software and IT Services in São Paulo last month. The 'IT Maior' program seeks to develop the Information Technology (IT) software and services sector. With investments of approximately BRL 500 million (ca. € 193 million) planned for the period 2012-2015, 'IT Maior' is structured around five pillars: economic and social development, international positioning, innovation and entrepreneurship, scientific, technology & innovation, and competitiveness. The resources will be subsidized by the Studies and Projects Fund (FINEP/MCTI) and the National Council of Technological and Scientific Development (CNPq/MCTI).

'IT Maior' includes actions such as acceleration of the development of technology-based companies, the consolidation of digital ecosystems, preference in government procurement for software using national technology, training young people to work in I.T., and attracting global research centers.

"We want to grow software production in Brazil at a very high rate – that growth represents income for the country, generating cash flow for businesses and creation of skilled jobs for Brazilians. Brazilian software must compete with foreign products", said the Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Marco Antonio Raupp.

The Secretary for Information Technology Policy at the MCTI, Virgilio Almeida, said that one of the biggest challenges of the program will be to reduce the gap in science and technology that separates Brazil from more developed nations. "The Brazilian IT sector already has 73,000 companies and had a turnover of

US\$ 37 billion in 2011, that is to say that our industry has the capability. 'IT Maior' seeks to develop this sector, which brings innovation and accelerates the development of other sectors of the country's economy", said Virgilio.

**Quelle**

→ [http://www.brasil.gov.br/news/history/2012/08/21/i.t.-maior-will-receive-investments-of-r-500-million/newsitem\\_view?set\\_language=en](http://www.brasil.gov.br/news/history/2012/08/21/i.t.-maior-will-receive-investments-of-r-500-million/newsitem_view?set_language=en)

**Weitere Informationen**

Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MCTI)

→ <http://www.mcti.gov.br>

Studies and Projects Fund (FINEP/MCTI)

→ <http://www.finep.gov.br>

National Council of Technological and Scientific Development (CNPq/MCTI)

→ <http://www.cnpq.br>

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**Schlagworte**

Schlüsseltechnologien, Förderung, Innovation, Wirtschaft und Märkte



### Brazil Joins International Marine Research Effort

Brazil recently joined an international marine research effort to document environmental change by monitoring and sampling the unseen world beneath the sea floor. The country's inclusion made it the newest of 26 member countries in the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP).

IODP scientists conduct research aboard specialized scientific drilling vessels to advance understanding of the Earth through drilling, coring, monitoring and documenting Earth processes and effects, solid Earth cycles, the subsurface biosphere, and geodynamics.

The first IODP expedition with Brazilian researchers will begin in two weeks off the coast of Costa Rica. Scientists plan to learn more about the processes that trigger large earthquakes. The research will take place aboard the drill ship JOIDES Resolution as part of the Costa Rica Seismogenesis Project. Geoscientists will investigate an erosional subduction zone – a zone where the Earth's crust is returning to the mantle at an eroding undersea trench. It's the only known seismogenic zone at an erosional trench that's not too deep for current scientific drilling capabilities. Expedition scientists will work to understand how "unstable slip" is triggered in this zone.

Brazil's membership in IODP will enable recipients of grants through Brazil's "Science Without Frontiers" program to use IODP scientific facilities for their studies. In addition, an organization in Brazil known as Coordination for Improvement of Higher Education Personnel will host IODP's Brazil offices. Additional support comes from the European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling, the Australia-New Zealand IODP Consortium, India's Ministry of Earth Sciences, the People's Republic of China's Ministry of Science and Technology and the Korea Institute of Geoscience and Mineral Resources.

The US National Science Foundation (NSF) manages the program along with Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

#### Quelle

→ [http://www.nsf.gov/news/news\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=125234&org=NSF&from=news](http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=125234&org=NSF&from=news)

#### Weitere Informationen

Integrated Ocean Drilling Program: Exploring the Earth Under the Sea

→ <http://www.iodp.org>

Science Without Borders

→ <http://www.cienciasemfronteiras.gov.br/web/csf-eng/>

National Science Foundation (NSF)

→ <http://www.nsf.gov>

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technolog (MEXT)

→ <http://www.mext.go.jp/english/>

#### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus Brasilien

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/brasilien>



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#### Schlagworte

Umwelt, Internationalisierung



## Dänemark

### RESEARCH2020 Catalogue to Create Strategic Basis for Danish Research

A new, visionary RESEARCH2020 catalogue identifies the most promising areas for research investment. The catalogue will form the knowledge basis and foundation for decision-making for the Danish Parliament's distribution of funds for strategic investments in future research.

“Denmark is among those European countries that invest the most in research and development. The investments strengthen Denmark's global competitiveness. New, intelligent investments must contribute to solving great societal challenges and lay the foundation for future jobs and welfare. RESEARCH2020 provides us with a visionary basis for decision which gives a solid starting point for targeted investments in research that has the greatest societal potential,” says Higher Education Minister Morten Østergaard.

The catalogue contains five visions. The visions are the result of a year's thorough analysis and dialogue process. Universities, organisations, ministries and research councils have been among those to help identify the research that will be needed by societal and industry development in the coming years. The five visions are:

- A society with a green economy
- A society with health and quality of life

- A high-tech society with innovation capacity
- An efficient and competitive society
- A competent, cohesive society

RESEARCH2020 shows that research-based solutions to great societal challenges combined with unique Danish positions of strength have the potential to act as drivers for growth and employment in Denmark. The catalogue provides knowledge and inspiration to politicians, as well as universities, businesses and private foundations on how to strengthen public-private research collaboration within important societal areas, says Morten Østergaard.

A survey from TNS Gallup shows that more than 9 out of 10 Danes believe that research and new technology has great or crucial importance for solving the future's significant societal challenges.

The catalogue is not an expression of the Government's priorities, but reflects what central research policy stakeholders have identified as the most important areas for strategic investments in research in the coming years.

#### Quelle

→ <http://en.fivu.dk/press/2012/research2020-catalogue-to-create-strategic-basis-for-danish-research>

#### Weitere Informationen

RESEARCH2020

→ <http://en.fi.dk/research/research2020>

#### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus Dänemark

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/daenemark>

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#### Schlagworte

Rahmenbedingungen



## Finnland

### An International Evaluation of the Academy Launched

An international evaluation of the Academy of Finland has been launched by the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture. The Academy operates within the administrative branch of the Ministry. The evaluation will be conducted by the international Technopolis Group. Technopolis Group has recently evaluated Tekes, the Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation, which is the other major funding agency in Finland. It is also evaluating, among others, the Research Council of Norway for the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research.

The objective of the evaluation is to produce a comprehensive idea on international and national expertise of the activities of the Academy and to find out means for improving its operation, structures and impact. The evaluation aims to assess how the activities of the Academy should be developed in a changing operating environment to ensure that it can optimally contribute to enhancing the quality and impact of research and the functioning of the innovation system. The evaluation also aims to produce additional information and development proposals to improve the operation of the Academy, performance steering of the Academy and legislation on the Academy. The evaluation is due to be completed by the end of May 2013.

Significant reforms are taking place in the Finnish research and innovation system. Priorities for development include the universities reform, improving the quality and impact of research, restructuring and internationalisation of the entire system. As a key organisation providing funding for basic research, the Academy of Finland plays a crucial role in promoting these goals.

#### Quelle

→ <http://www.aka.fi/en-GB/A/Academy-of-Finland/Media-services/Newsletter/Academy-of-Finland-Newsletter-August-2012/#evaluation>

#### Weitere Informationen

Technopolis Group

→ <http://www.technopolis.fi/en/technopolis/Pages/default.aspx>



**Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international**

Fokus Finnland

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/finnland>

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**Schlagworte**

Evaluation



## Tekes Receives Good Evaluation from International Experts

According to international evaluators, Tekes has succeeded well in its activities and is, based on an international comparison, one of the forerunners in the promotion of innovation activities. The evaluators put forward a group of development targets that can be used to further develop the activities.

"The evaluation provided by the international experts on Tekes is very good. The report includes a thorough review of the justification and need for Tekes' existence. According to the evaluators, Tekes has functioned appropriately and generated impact," Veli-Pekka Saarnivaara, Director General of Tekes, comments on the main message of the report.

According to the evaluation group, led by Dutch Geert van der Veen, Tekes has functioned efficiently and its measures have contributed to an increase in research and development activities and the strengthening of cooperation between companies and research organisations. This has created competence and capabilities that improve the international competitiveness of Finnish companies.

Tekes has reacted to changes in the operational environment by renewing its strategy that, according to the evaluators, responds particularly well to challenges brought on by the renewing business structures and the needs of new businesses and growth companies.

The report contains roughly ten recommendations regarding aspects in which Tekes could improve its activities. The most central of these are strengthening support to internationalisation, closer cooperation with partnering organisations and more active participation in public debate.

"It is easy to agree with the recommendations given by the evaluators. They are very much in line with our self assessment. In our internal change programme, we will immediately begin to work on the recommendations to process them further into practical measures. For example, in the processing of funding applications, we aim to speed up operations by introducing an electronic process for handing the applications and by simplifying the process," states Saarnivaara.

According to customer feedback collected by the evaluators, almost all customers consider Tekes' processes and personnel to be of a very high quality and find that funding for the projects meets their needs.

"We at Tekes are very pleased about the international regard for Tekes and the good feedback received in the evaluation. I myself am happy to be able to leave a competent and well-functioning organisation to my successor Pekka Soini," says Veli-Pekka Saarnivaara, who retired in September.

The evaluation was carried out by the international Technopolis Group upon commission by the Ministry of Employment and the Economy

**Quelle**

→ <http://www.tekes.fi/en/community/News/482/News/1344?name=Tekes+receives+good+evaluation+from+international+experts>

**Weitere Informationen**

Tekes

→ <http://www.tekes.fi/en/community/Home/351/Home/473/>

Technopolis Group

→ <http://www.technopolis.fi/en/technopolis/Pages/default.aspx>

**Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international**

Fokus Finnland

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/finnland>

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**Schlagworte**

Evaluation



## Pekka Soini Wants to Increase Internationalisation, Customer-Oriented and Speed to Tekes

Pekka Soini started as Director General of Tekes on 1 September 2012. He brings with him a business perspective and years of experience in internationalisation.

"As Director General of Tekes, I will be able to use my experience as a corporate executive for the benefit of companies and the research environment in Finland. I believe that my expertise and experience will be extremely useful in my duties as Director General at Tekes," says Soini.

Pekka Soini, M.Sc. Eng. (52), joined Tekes from his position as the Head of Corporate Development and Country Director for Nokia Siemens Networks. Prior to this, he served, among others, as Head of Strategy and Business Development for Nokia Siemens Networks, SVP Strategy and Business Development at Nokia Telecommunications as well as Business Development and Marketing & Sales in the United States. He has over 20 years of experience in the internationalisation of global corporations and various executive duties as well as a broad range of experience and knowledge in the business world.

Internationalisation is one of the things he wants to introduce to Tekes' field of operations. In addition to this, he wants to make Tekes more customer-oriented and faster.

"In promoting internationalisation, Tekes can, for example, expand the Global Access programme, in which companies aiming to expand abroad are offered individualised coaching by top international players," explains Soini.

"A customer-oriented approach involves the comprehensive analysis of a company's situation and needs. Even though Tekes is a project funding agency, it is essential to discuss a company's overall needs with research and development

heads. Indeed, Tekes has already made a great deal of progress in this regard, so we're off to an excellent start," says Soini.

"Where speed is concerned, I want to cut the processing time needed for funding applications, make reporting more efficient and get all Tekes services online. Here too, Tekes has already made excellent progress and, for example, processing times were reduced at the beginning of this year," explains Soini.

**Quelle**

→ <http://www.tekes.fi/en/community/News/482/News/1344?name=Pekka+Soini+wants+to+increase+internationalisation>

**Weitere Informationen**

Tekes

→ <http://www.tekes.fi/en/community/Home/351/Home/473/>

**Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international**

Fokus Finnland

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**Schlagworte**

Rahmenbedingungen



## Academy Currently Finalising Its Review of the State of Scientific Research in Finland

The next review of the state of scientific research in Finland will be released by the Academy of Finland on 8 October. The whole report in English will be published on 12 December.

The 2012 review consists of three parts. Part I looks at the structure and impact of the Finnish research system in international comparison. In Part II, the Academy's four Research Councils analyse the areas of strengths, weaknesses, op-

portunities and threats in their disciplines and make development proposals. The review covers a total of 47 scientific disciplines. In the implementation of the review, the discipline-specific task forces have played a key role. The 366 members of these task forces, invited by the Academy, are top scientific experts and key actors in their respective fields. The task forces made use of statistical and bibliometric data as background material for their work. The Academy's latest discipline evaluations were also used in the review project. Part III provides a thematic overview of the Academy-funded research within selected research fields that address the grand challenges faced by society.

#### Quelle

→ <http://www.aka.fi/en-GB/A/Academy-of-Finland/Media-services/Newsletter/Academy-of-Finland-Newsletter-August-2012/#review>

#### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus Finnland

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/finland>

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#### Schlagworte

Evaluation



## Indien

### India Launches a New Lab for HIV Research

Pallava Bagla reports in *ScienceInsider* that last month, "India opened a \$ 12 million, government-backed laboratory whose mission is to create a new vaccine against HIV. The HIV Vaccine Translational Research Laboratory, which aims to recruit about 30 scientists, is embedded within the Translational Health Science and Technology Institute, a \$ 200 million facility under development on the outskirts of New Delhi. It will work in collaboration with the New York based-

International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI); operating costs will be shared equally."

#### Quelle

→ <http://news.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2012/08/india-launches-a-new-lab-for-hiv.html>

#### Weitere Informationen

Translational Health Science and Technology Institute

→ <http://www.vidrc.thsti.res.in/index.php>

AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI)

→ <http://www.iavi.org>

#### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus Indien

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/indien>

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#### Schlagworte

Lebenswissenschaften, FuE-Infrastruktur



### India Backs Exploration of Rare Earths in Deep Sea

India has joined the race to explore and develop deep-sea mining for rare earth elements – further complicating the geopolitics surrounding untapped sources of valuable minerals beneath the oceans. The country is building a rare-earth mineral processing plant in the east coast state of Orissa and it is spending around US\$ 135 million to buy a new exploration ship and to retool another for sophisticated deep-water exploration off its coast.

The Indian government also plans to bring together its marine science experts and engineers in nuclear energy, space research and defence, using their expertise to help accelerate mineral extraction, according to a July press statement.

The Central Indian Basin, for example, is rich in nickel, copper, cobalt and potentially rare-earth minerals, which are highly lucrative and used widely in manufacturing electronics such as mobile phone batteries. They are found in potato-shaped nodules on the deep-sea floor.

The recent push for deep-sea mining exploration reflects India's concerns that China's deep-sea excavations will further increase China's dominance over rare-earth elements, which are used in aviation and defence manufacturing, as well as electronics. Late last year, the China Ocean Mineral Resources Research and Development Association (COMRA) obtained a licence to mine polymetallic sulphides in the Southwest Indian Ridge (SWIR). The SWIR is a divergent tectonic plate boundary between the African and Antarctic plates, running from the South Atlantic to a junction – the place where two or more plates meet – in the Indian Ocean just south of Madagascar.

#### Quelle

→ [www.scidev.net/en/agriculture-and-environment/earth-science/features/india-backs-exploration-of-rare-earths-in-deep-sea-1.html](http://www.scidev.net/en/agriculture-and-environment/earth-science/features/india-backs-exploration-of-rare-earths-in-deep-sea-1.html)

#### Weitere Informationen

National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT)

→ <http://www.niot.res.in>

National Institute of Oceanography (NIO)

→ <http://www.nio.org>

#### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus Indien

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/indien>

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#### Schlagworte

Umwelt, Wirtschaft und Märkte



## Niederlande

### Young Scientific Talent Gains Foreign Experience Thanks to NWO

The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) has awarded 19 young, highly promising researchers funding from the Rubicon programme. With Rubicon, NWO gives researchers who have recently obtained their PhD the opportunity to gain research experience at international top institutes.

Eleven laureates are going to the United States, two to the United Kingdom, two to Germany, one to France, one to Sweden and one to Australia. For many researchers foreign research experience is an important part of their curriculum vitae. One researcher is staying in the Netherlands. This exception is possible for scientists who are investigating a typically Dutch subject.

The Rubicon laureates will carry out research into subjects such as chronic liver diseases, children of criminal parents, the fall of a black hole and how to deal with unexpected climate changes.

With their Rubicon grant the laureates can do research for a period of up to 24 months. The size of the grant depends upon the destination chosen and the duration of the stay.

NWO received a total of 75 applications for Rubicon. This number is lower than usual due to the stricter requirements. Twenty-five percent of the proposals could be awarded funding. The award rates for men and women were more or less the same.

The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) is the national research council in the Netherlands and has a budget of more than 500 million euros per year. NWO promotes quality and innovation in science by selecting and funding the best research. It manages research institutes of national and international importance, contributes to strategic programming of scientific research and brings science and society closer together. Research proposals are reviewed and selected by researchers of international repute. More than 5000 scientists can carry out research thanks to funding from NWO.



As a result of funding cutbacks, NWO has decided to severely limit the possibilities for doing research in the Netherlands with Rubicon funding with effect from January 2012. The annual budget for Rubicon has decreased from 9 million euros to 7 million euros. The requirements have also been tightened and a researcher applying for a Rubicon grant must have done research in the Netherlands for at least 3 of the previous 5 years.

**Quelle**

→ [http://www.nwo.nl/nwohome.nsf/pages/NWOP\\_8VTC99\\_Eng](http://www.nwo.nl/nwohome.nsf/pages/NWOP_8VTC99_Eng)

**Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international**

Fokus Niederlande

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/niederlande>

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**Schlagworte**

Förderung, Internationalisierung



## Supporting Science in the Field of Education

The Academy Board has awarded seven universities funding in support of their “Science Node”. The one-off grant is financed in part by the National Science and Technology Platform.

Science Nodes bring together universities, primary and secondary schools, teacher training colleges, science centres, science museums and other similar organisations. The purpose of a Science Node is to get young people interested in science and to familiarise them with scientific research. In March, the Academy and the National Science and Technology Platform issued a call for proposals in order to give these important links between science and society a solid financial basis at the universities.

Seven applicants – five universities and two university consortiums – were awarded a maximum of 650,000 euros each for their Science Nodes. Unfortunately, the Academy was unable to extend funding to all of the applicants due to the limited budget available. It received applications for a total of 5.76 million euros, whereas it had only 3.25 million euros available.

An Academy committee evaluated the proposals and ranked them according to the assessment criteria described in the guidelines to the call for proposals. The proposals that ranked highest were then awarded funding until the budget was exhausted.

The Academy and the National S&T Platform will organise joint meetings of all the Science Nodes in the years ahead to give them an opportunity to “learn from one another”. An expert committee will advise the Science Nodes on how best to share their knowledge and lessons learned. After two years, the National S&T Platform will conduct a mid-term review.

Science Nodes bring together institutions for tertiary, secondary and primary education and intermediary organisations for the purpose of familiarising primary and secondary school pupils with science. Inquiry-based learning and learning by design are at the heart of the Science Node concept. Their activities can take many different forms. Examples include organising inspiring courses for teachers; developing teaching methods and materials; having scientists teach pupils; arranging joint activities with teacher training colleges; offering work placements; and so on. The Science Nodes are also keen to show parents, counsellors and teachers what science is and what it can do. The Dutch Ministry of Education launched the Science Nodes in 2009, with the assistance of the National Science and Technology Platform.

**Quelle**

→ <http://www.knaw.nl/Pages/DEF/33/470.bGFuZz1FTkc.html>

**Weitere Informationen**

National Science and Technology Platform

→ <http://www.platformbetatechniek.nl/english.html>

**Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international**

Fokus Niederlande

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/niederlande>

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**Schlagworte**

Bildung, Förderung



## Norwegen

### Research Council of Norway: More Research on Societal Security

The Research Council of Norway has appointed a committee to undertake the planning of a new research programme on societal security. Their work will be based, among other things, on the report of the 22 July Commission appointed by the Government to probe the handling of the terrorist attacks on Oslo and Utøya on 22 July of last year.

The programme planning committee is headed by Professor Tore Bjørgo of the Norwegian Police University College. Dr Bjørgo is also affiliated with the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs.

The committee is comprised of nine researchers from different fields and institutions in addition to representatives from the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Transport and Communications. The Ministry of Justice and Public Security has also been invited to participate. The committee will draw up the underlying thematic and scientific orientation for a five-year research programme by the end of the year.

Societal security denotes the ability of society to maintain critical societal functions while safeguarding the lives, health and basic needs of inhabitants during events involving various types of emergencies. The committee's mandate states that the new programme must address the need for knowledge, understanding

and solutions in situations caused by diverse catastrophic events such as malicious, hostile or criminal acts or incidents, accidents and natural disasters.

The funding framework for the programme has not been finalised yet, but the committee has been asked to draw up plans based on a budget of NOK 20-30 million per year for the duration of the programme period. This represents a funding amount of up to three times greater than the budget for the Societal Security and Risk (SAMRISK) programme, which was concluded in 2010. The Research Council expects to see an increase in the funding allocated to this area of research on the national budget.

The committee will assess how best to coordinate the activities of the new programme with the security programme under Horizon 2020 (the new EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation), with other international programmes and with a possible Nordic programme under Nordforsk. The work programme will build on the conclusions of the previous SAMRISK programme.

**Quelle**

→ [http://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Newsarticle/More\\_research\\_on\\_societal\\_security/1253979551305/p1177315753918](http://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Newsarticle/More_research_on_societal_security/1253979551305/p1177315753918)

**Weitere Informationen**

Societal Security and Risk (SAMRISK)

→ [http://www.forskningsradet.no/prognett-samrisk/Home\\_page/1228296552859](http://www.forskningsradet.no/prognett-samrisk/Home_page/1228296552859)

Norwegischer Forschungsrat (RCN)

→ [http://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Home\\_page/1177315753906](http://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Home_page/1177315753906)

**Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international**

Fokus Norwegen

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/norwegen>

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**Schlagworte**

Sicherheit, Rahmenbedingungen, Internationalisierung



## High Anticipation for Nordic Energy Technology Perspectives

The Norwegian Minister of Petroleum and Energy and the Executive Director of the International Energy Agency (IEA) both expressed their anticipation for Nordic Energy Technology Perspectives at the ONS (Offshore North Sea) energy conference in Stavanger, Norway.

The IEA's Maria van der Hoeven headlined a very popular session at ONS to launch one of the IEA's flagship publications, the global edition of Energy Technology Perspectives. The publication provides pathways to a clean energy system in 2050, detailing the role of technologies and policies in limiting global temperature increase to 2 degrees.

Ola Borten Moe was first to comment on the results, in a high-powered panel that included the CEO's of Statkraft, Statnett and Lyse. The Minister provided insight into Norway's role in the global transition to a clean energy system, and noted his anticipation for the first Nordic edition of Energy Technology Perspectives:

"In some months the main results of the first Nordic Energy Technology Perspectives will be published. I'm looking forward to this study from the IEA which will provide us with further analysis of the special energy situation in the Nordic region."

The IEA are working with Nordic Energy Research and researchers from leading institutes in the Nordic region to produce this unique new publication. It will bring the internationally recognised scenarios and analysis of the global edition down to a more detailed, Nordic resolution.

By offering pathways to a carbon-neutral energy sector in Nordic region by 2050, the publication will provide a common reference document to policy-makers looking to fulfil their ambitious national climate goals.

### Quelle

→ <http://www.norden.org/en/news-and-events/news/high-anticipation-for-nordic-energy-technology-perspectives>



### Weitere Informationen

International Energy Agency

→ <http://www.iea.org/>

ONS 2012

→ <http://www.ons.no/>

### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus Norwegen

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/norwegen>

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### Schlagworte

Energie, Rahmenbedingungen



## Österreich

### Neue Wege in der Forschungsförderung zeigen Wirkung

Österreich hat sich im aktuellen „Global Competitiveness Index“ des World Economic Forum im Gesamtranking um drei Ränge verbessert und liegt aktuell auf dem 16. Platz von 144 Staaten. In der Kategorie „Innovation“ ist der Aufholprozess noch deutlicher, hier konnte sich Österreich immerhin von Rang 20 (2010) auf Rang 13 verbessern. „Die Anstrengungen, die Österreich bei Forschung und Entwicklung unternimmt, zeigen Wirkung“, so die Geschäftsführer der Österreichischen Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft FFG, Henrietta Egerth und Klaus Pseiner.

Der jährlich erscheinende „Global Competitiveness Index“ wird vom World Economic Forum (WEF) herausgegeben. Das Ranking untersucht und bewertet die Wettbewerbsfähigkeit von weltweit 144 Staaten auf Basis von insgesamt 111 Indikatoren. Besonders gute Werte erzielt Österreich in den Subkategorien „Kapazität für Innovationen“ mit Rang 9 (Rang 12 im letzten Bericht) sowie „Unternehmensausgaben für Forschung und Entwicklung“ mit Rang 13 (zuletzt Rang

17). Auch in der neu eingeführten Subkategorie „internationale (PCT-) Patentanmeldungen“ liegt Österreich auf dem hervorragenden 10. Platz.

„Österreich ist bei Forschung und Entwicklung sehr gut aufgestellt. Wir konnten gemeinsam mit unseren Eigentümerressorts, dem Innovations- und dem Wirtschaftsministerium, die Anzahl der forschungsaktiven Unternehmen in den letzten Jahren deutlich erhöhen“, so FFG-Geschäftsführerin Henrietta Egerth. „Die Zusammenarbeit zwischen Wirtschaft und Wissenschaft läuft hervorragend und wir haben sehr wirkungsvolle Programme zur Förderung der Humanressourcen.“

„Auch das differenzierte Angebot für kleine und mittlere Unternehmen wird sehr gut angenommen“, so FFG-Geschäftsführer Klaus Pseiner. „Diese Unternehmen, die das Rückgrat der heimischen Wirtschaft bilden, sind gerade in schwierigen Zeiten besonders auf effektive Unterstützungen und stabile Rahmenbedingungen angewiesen. Nicht nur das Ranking des WEF, auch die allgemeinen Wirtschaftsdaten zeigen: Wer auf Forschung, Entwicklung und Innovation setzt, sichert nicht nur die Wettbewerbsfähigkeit, sondern schafft auch deutlich mehr Arbeitsplätze.“

#### Quelle

→ <http://www.ffg.at/presse/ffg-neue-wege-der-forschungsforderung-zeigen-wirkung>

#### Download

Global Competitiveness Report 2012-2013

→ [http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_GlobalCompetitivenessReport\\_2012-13.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GlobalCompetitivenessReport_2012-13.pdf)

#### Weitere Informationen

World Economic Forum

→ <http://www.weforum.org>

#### Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen bei Kooperation international

Fokus Österreich

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/oesterreich>

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#### Schlagworte

Wirtschaft und Märkte, Indikatorik



## Südafrika

### High-Speed Internet Links Southern African Universities

The first high-speed Internet link between national research networks in Sub-Saharan Africa was launched in July when Zambia was linked up to South Africa by a cable passing through Zimbabwe. It will allow Zambian scientists to join Géant, a European high speed internet network dedicated to researchers, through the SEACOM submarine cable node in South Africa, opening the door to them to participate in advanced regional and global research collaborations.

The link connects higher education institutions within the Zambia Research and Education Network to those in South Africa's Tertiary Education Network (TENET), using internet infrastructure supplied by the UbuntuNet Alliance – a Malawi-based association of research and education networks covering southern and eastern Africa. The link will in particular enable Zambia's researchers to participate in global e-learning schemes, and help them share large datasets with colleagues around the world.

The Zambian link was funded by a 2.25 million euros (US\$ 2.8 million) grant from the Netherlands Initiative for Capacity development in Higher Education, and a 350,000 euros (US\$ 432,294) grant from the Zambia Information and Communications Technology Authority.

#### Quelle

→ <http://www.scidev.net/en/new-technologies/digital-divide/news/high-speed-internet-links-southern-african-universities.html>

#### Weitere Informationen

Tertiary Education and Research Network of South Africa

→ <http://www.tenet.ac.za>

Zambia Research and Education Network

→ <http://www.ubuntunet.net/zamren>

UbuntuNet Alliance

→ <http://www.ubuntunet.net>

Netherlands Initiative for Capacity development in Higher Education

→ <http://www.nuffic.nl/ontwikkelingssamenwerking/niche>

Géant

→ <http://www.geant.net/pages/home.aspx>

SEACOM

→ <http://www.seacom.mu>

### ***Ausführliche Länder- und Themeninformationen Kooperation international***



Fokus Südafrika

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/suedafrika>

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### ***Schlagworte***

Kommunikation, Bildung, FuE-Infrastruktur; Internationalisierung



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### Archiv

→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de/archiv/itb-infoservice-berichterstattung-zur-forschungs-bildungs-technologie-und-innovationspolitik-weltweit.html>

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→ <http://www.kooperation-international.de>