

Dear Reader

This is the 25th issue of the incrEAST newsletter. Much has happened since we first brought you current information about STI policy dialogue and research cooperation between the EU and its Eastern neighbours in Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in 2008.

While in some countries research and innovation thrive, playing a central role in national politics, others still lag behind and are yet to realise their full science, technology and innovation potential. What we all have in common is the need to find solutions for the global challenges that lie ahead.

With incrEAST we hope to offer you information that will help you create successful international STI cooperation activities. We wish you a peaceful festive season and good start into 2015!

'Program for Action on Global Health'

was the title of the latest Global Health Policy Forum in Brussels on 28 October. This series of events – organised by the European Commission – brings together Commission DGs, the European External Action Service, the Member States, third country representatives, non-government organisations, industry representatives, as well as representatives of international organisations to exchange views on various topics in global health and maximise synergies between the different actors.

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[more on health](#)

New publication highlights Energy Developments in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia

A new publication by the International Energy Agency (IEA) highlights the energy policies and sector developments of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan during 2012-13 and provides a summary of key recommendations for policy makers in the region. This publication has been produced with EU financial assistance provided through ENPI.

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Tajik-German project CADEX investigates dust over Central Asia

The dust over Central Asia plays a crucial role in Central Asia's climate change. To understand this, knowledge about the dust's properties and transport needs to be gained. On that account, the Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan and the Leibniz Institute for Tropospheric Research (TROPOS) will conduct a joint measurement campaign until fall 2016. A cooperation agreement was signed by both partners whereby the basis for the joint Tajik-German project CADEX (Central Asian Dust Experiment) was set up.

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issues of the incrEAST newsletter

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This newsletter is being compiled and edited by the Central Information Office of IncoNet EaP and IncoNet CA, which is located at the DLR Project Management Agency in Bonn, Germany.



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EU-Central Asia STI Policy Stakeholders Conference on Climate Change

Bishkek | 23-24 September 2014

The IncoNet CA (STI International Cooperation Network for Central Asian countries) project is dedicated to the promotion of the bi-regional policy dialogue in Science, Technology and Innovation between the EU Member States (and Associated countries) and the Central Asian countries, aiming at the identification of priorities for action especially in the three Societal Challenges of particular importance for EU and Central Asia, namely Climate Change, Energy and Health.

In this context, the Centre for Regional and International STI Studies and Support (CeRISS), the Eurasian Institute of International Relations (EIMO) and the Regional Centre for Information and Scientific Development (RCISD), with the support of the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sport and the Committee on Agrarian Policy, Water, Environment and Regional Development of the Kyrgyz Republic, organised a Policy Stakeholders Conference titled 'EU-CA STI cooperation in addressing Climate Change' in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, on 23-24 September 2014, hosted by the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The conference was attended by members of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic, officials of the Office of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, experts of the European Commission, project partners of the IncoNet CA from Central Asian countries and European Union, scientists and researchers from Germany, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Italy, Lithuania, Romania, Poland, Mongolia, Greece, France, Portugal, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Tajikistan.

About 150 stakeholders attended the conference with speakers from five Central Asian countries, several EU Member States and international and regional organisations. The conference was widely covered in the media. The first day of the Policy Stakeholders Conference, which took place on the premises of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic (Jogorku Kenesh), was broadcast live on radio and the main TV channels of Kyrgyzstan.

The Conference provided the opportunity for an in-depth exchange of views among high-level policymakers, and representatives of the research communities. The aim of the Conference was to increase synergies among stakeholders and actions as well as to shape future cooperative initiatives addressing Climate Change.

[Full report in English](#) | [Отчет на русском языке](#)

Source and further information: [IncoNet CA](#)

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EU-Russia STI collaboration: Good practice examples from the Year of Science and beyond

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A scientific conference to close the EU-Russia Year of Science 2014

Brussels | 25 November 2014

The EU-Russia Year of Science 2014 was a joint initiative of the EU-Commission and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation organised with the EU Member States across the EU and Russia. Its objective was to highlight the achievements and the potential of the rich science and research cooperation between Russia and Europe.

The European Union and Russia are both world leaders in the generation of scientific insights. The EU produces a third of the world's scientific knowledge and is at the forefront in many research areas. Russia has a long and proud history as one of the world's leading scientific nations and has stood at the origins of many of today's scientific schools and knowledge.

EU-Russia Year of Science 2014

A year-long series of events and initiatives to promote EU-Russia cooperation in research, higher education and innovation



The EU-Russia Year of Science 2014 provided a unique opportunity for participants to showcase past and present achievements. It aimed to generate new dynamics, create fresh enthusiasm, and provide a boost for new, innovative forms of collaboration.

The timing of the Year of Science benefited from the conjunction of key related events in 2014, including: the launch of Horizon 2020; the renewal of the EU-Russia S&T Agreement; the start of the Russian State Programme and Federal Targeted Programmes for R&D; and the hosting by Russia of the Carnegie Group meeting.

The Closing Conference in Brussels on 25 November 2014 was the occasion to highlight the achievements of the Year of Science, present good practice from the areas of mutually beneficial cooperation and finally illustrate the potential for Science, Technology and Innovation cooperation in the future.

Conference results and related materials will be published through the web portal of the EU-Russia Year of Science 2014 as soon as they become available.

[Download the Conference Agenda](#)

Source: [EU-Russia Year of Science 2014](#)

EU and regional news

Successful Thematic Workshop on Climate Change to identify Research Priorities for EU-EaP science cooperation

This workshop was one of the events organised by IncoNet EaP to identify relevant topics and sub-themes for EU-EaP STI cooperation. The current meeting focused on 'Fighting and adapting to climate change' and 'Protecting the environment, sustainably managing natural resources, water, biodiversity and ecosystems'. 21 participants from all six EaP countries and from seven EU Member States took part in the workshop.

Following the decision of the 2nd meeting of the Eastern Partnership Panel on Research & Innovation (R&I), the IncoNet EaP Project has undertaken to organise three Thematic Workshops in order to identify relevant topics and sub-themes for the EU-EaP STI cooperation. Each workshop should address one of the three Societal Challenges that the EU and the EaP countries have identified as common priorities, namely, Climate Change, Energy and Health.

Under this context, the IncoNet EaP project has organised in Athens on 6-7 November 2014 a Thematic Workshop on Climate Change for the identification of relevant research topics with a particular focus on:

- Fighting and adapting to climate change
- Protecting the environment, sustainably managing natural resources, water, biodiversity and ecosystems.

In order to narrow down to the aforementioned sub-themes and determine more specifically the profile of scientific experts to be invited, two main sources were used:

- The output of the Bibliometric Analysis prepared by the IncoNet EaP project which showed that out of 80 most recent co-publications (2012-2014) involving EU and EaP researchers, the majority of them dealt with issues related to Fighting Climate Change (22 papers) and Protecting the environment, sustainably managing natural resources, water, biodiversity and ecosystems (21 papers).
- The Conclusions of the 2012 IncoNet EECA Workshop on “Opportunities for joint EU-EECA policy approaches addressing global challenges at the example of climate change, health, energy”.

Twenty-one participants from all the six EaP countries and from seven EU member-states took part at the workshop. During the event, researchers identified five topics of mutual EU-EaP interest that could be considered in future H2020 calls for proposals. The identified topics will be submitted to the European Commission (DG Research) and the forthcoming meeting of the EaP Panel on R&I.

[Download the report \(PDF\).](#)

Source: [CeRISS](#)

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EU and regional news

Global Health Policy Forum: 'Program for Action on Global Health'

On 28 October 2014, the EU held another Global Health Policy Forum in Brussels. The EU presented a Program for Action on Global Health. This program will – unfortunately – not become an official communication, but an internal document for informal discussions with stakeholders. It has 27 action points, which will be published soon on the Commission's website.

DEVCO presented an overview of their Global Health activities, with a focus on improving the impact of EU aid on global health, strengthening health system financing and enhancing access to medicines.

The European Academic Global Health Alliance (EAGHA) presented key topics of concern. These included the post 2015 process, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, adapting to and mitigating climate change, strengthening health systems and measuring aid effectiveness.

Save the Children presented lessons learned from the Ebola outbreak for global health. The main conclusion of the presentation was that more investment is needed for public health surveillance and health worker trainings.

In the view of HealthWorkers4all, Ebola exposes the dramatic results of weak health systems and health workforce shortages.

The agenda and presentations are available from the European Commission's [website on Public Health](#).

The next Global Health Policy Forum will be held on 27. November on the topic of EU Humanitarian Aid & Response. For registration to the event and additional information, please visit the related [website](#).

Sources: [European Commission](#) and [Global Health Europe Project](#)

EU Progress Report on the Implementation of the Strategy for International Cooperation in Research and Innovation

In September 2012 the Commission adopted a Communication entitled 'Enhancing and focusing EU international cooperation in research and innovation: a strategic approach' (COM(2012) 497). The Communication sets out a new strategy for international cooperation in research and innovation, in particular with a view to implementing Horizon 2020.

The current report, published on 12 September 2014, reflects on the progress that has been made and outlines the tasks that still lie ahead.

[Download the Progress Report](#)

Source: [European Commission](#)

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Policy Background: Should the EU rethink Relationships in Europe's East?

FRIDE is a European think tank for global action, which provides analysis of key debates in international relations. Their primary interlocutors are policy-makers at the EU and national levels, opinion-shapers and other international stakeholders from civil society and business.

A recent article from the FRIDE blog draws attention to the European Union's policy towards the Eastern neighbourhood and urges the new high representative for foreign affairs and security policy, Federica Mogherini, to set the neighbourhood policy as a top priority for the coming term. The author, Jos Boonstra, suggests that the EU's Eastern Partnership policy must be more flexible, bilaterally customised, and extend cooperation beyond the six Eastern Partnership countries.

The article further envisages persisting problematic relations with Russia and re-iterates the importance of safeguarding democracy in the region through civil society.

Source: [*FRIDE*](#)

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New Publication highlights Energy Developments in EaP and CA Countries

A new publication by the International Energy Agency (IEA) highlights the energy policies and sector developments of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan during 2012-13 and provides a summary of key recommendations for policy makers in the region.

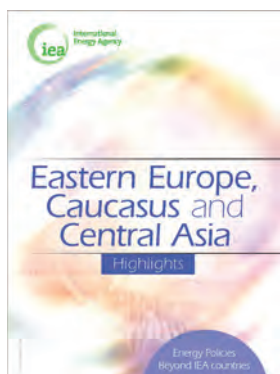
Energy policy analysis was conducted in line with the INOGATE programme's pillars of energy development: energy market convergence, energy security, sustainable development and investment attraction.

The publication has been produced with EU financial assistance provided through the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument.

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Source: [*International Energy Agency*](#)

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Discussing the the Future of Innovation Policy

A new European Commission has just taken office, and an updated UK strategy for science and innovation is expected in the next few weeks, so this might be a good moment to debate the future of innovation policy.

In an article published in The Guardian, Johan Schot, Director of the Science Policy Research Unit at the University of Sussex, raises the question whether 'innovation' can really be an end in itself and what needs to be done to develop innovation policies that creatively tackle the societal challenges of the future.

Source: [*The Guardian*](#)

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IncoNet EaP and CA Twinning Grants - Information now also in Russian

The IncoNet Eastern Partnership and IncoNet Central Asia projects offer Twinning Grants to strengthen STI cooperation between the EU member states and the target regions. Their aim is to plant the seed for sustainable international scientific, technological and innovation cooperation projects.

This goal shall be practically implemented through granting projects of twinning teams, which will ultimately lead to the preparation of proposals for EU Horizon 2020 calls.

There are two slightly different approaches:

- [IncoNet Eastern Partnership Twinning Grants support the 'Clustering of Scientific Projects and Institutions'](#)
- [IncoNet Central Asia Twinning Grants support the 'Twinning between Research Institutions'](#)

The calls will be continuously open until March 2016. The final call deadline is 31.03.2016. Applications will be accepted continuously as long as a funding budget in the IncoNet EaP and IncoNet CA projects is available.

The grant can cover travel expenses (in economy/2nd class), daily allowance/accommodation, technical and/or logistical support for event preparation (e.g. organisation of workshops), temporary staff (e.g. students). The budget will not cover salaries for permanent staff.

Information about both Twinning Grants is now also available in Russian:

- [Твиннинг-гранты IncoNet ЦА \(Центральная Азия\) – Информация на русском языке](#)
- [Твиннинг-гранты IncoNet ВП \(Восточное партнёрство\) – Информация на русском языке](#)

Sources: [*IncoNet EaP*](#) and [*IncoNet CA*](#)

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Travel Grants to participate in EU Brokerage Events – Deadline ahead

Open until 31 January 2015

The IncoNet EaP and IncoNet CA projects have developed a grant scheme to financially support the participation of local researchers from Eastern Partnership and Central Asian countries in large-scale brokerage events and other similar activities related to Horizon2020 in EU Member States or Associated Countries. Such events provide an excellent arena for researchers to liaise and develop synergies, therefore the participation of researchers from the targeted countries will increase their opportunities to get involved and be taken onboard in consortia set up in EU MS/AC countries. It will also allow the researchers to make their institutions and/or their research networks better known.

The thematic priorities of the call are the three Societal Challenges, targeted by the project, namely: Health, Energy and Climate Change. The events that can be chosen from will be: Networking events, Brokerage events organised by the European Commission, large international events organised by other European networks (e.g Enterprise Europe Network).

Sources: [*IncoNet EaP*](#) and [*IncoNet CA*](#)

New Guide on EU Funding for SMEs that develop Dual Use Technologies

In October a new publication has been released by the European Commission's Directorate General for Enterprise and Industry. The guide is intended for small and medium-sized companies developing technologies for use on both civil and military markets (so called 'dual use' technologies). It presents funding opportunities offered by Horizon 2020 and COSME (the EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises).

Apart from SMEs the document is also directed at regional authorities who intend to foster dual use developments in their areas.



[Download the document](#)

Source: [*DG Enterprise and Industry*](#)

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Information on Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions now available in Russian

A new flyer titled 'Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions in brief: your next career move!' has been released in Russian language, providing a general overview of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) 2014-2020.



[Download the flyer in Russian](#) | [in English](#)

The objective of the MSCA is to support the career development and training of researchers – with a focus on innovation skills – in all scientific disciplines through worldwide and cross-sector mobility. For this, the MSCA provide grants at all stages of researchers' careers, from PhD candidates to highly experienced researchers, and encourage transnational, intersectoral and interdisciplinary mobility.

Source: [European Commission](#)

Modification of the H2020 Model Grant Agreement

The European Commission has recently published an updated version of the Model Grant Agreement.

The changes regard article 20.6 concerning the conversion of foreign currencies into euro, the regulations of article 21.2. concerning the possible option of the pre-financing payment 10 days before the start of the project, and article 38.1.2. referring to the use of EU-emblems by the projects. T

he updated Model Grant Agreement with detailed information about the changes has been published on the participant portal under '[Reference Documents](#)' (see 'Model Grant Agreement -> General Grant Agreement').

Direct download links:

- [H2020 General MGA -Multi_V2.0](#)
- [H2020 General MGA -Mono_V2.0](#)

Source: [European Commission](#)

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Open Calls: Funding Opportunities under Horizon 2020 and beyond

Horizon 2020

There is a common misconception regarding the international dimension of Horizon 2020: There are very few calls specifically addressing any non-EU country or region, so which calls are open to participation from Central Asia, Russia and the Eastern Partnership?

The answer is: Applicants from non-EU countries (you may also encounter the term "third country" to describe these countries) are always free to take part in Horizon 2020 programmes – even if the call for proposals or topic text do not state this explicitly. However, this does not automatically imply that entities from third countries are eligible for funding the Union budget.

Applicants from non-EU countries fall into 2 categories:

- those automatically eligible for funding
(including Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan)
- those not automatically eligible for funding
(though they may still be funded in exceptional cases)

Source: [*EU web portal on International Cooperation in Research and Innovation*](#)

Other funding opportunities

There is a wealth of funding opportunities on national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral level, e.g. from government bodies, international organisations and public foundations. Here are some examples of opportunities that address the Eastern Partnership region, Russia and/or Central Asia:

- [Alfa Fellowship Program | Next deadline: 1 December 2014](#)
(An international initiative that each year offers up to 18 accomplished young Americans, Britons, and Germans the opportunity to complete a high-level professional development program in Russia.)
- [Bavaria/Germany: Scholarships for graduates from Central-, Eastern- and Southeastern Europe | Deadline: 1 December 2014](#)
(Scholarships for the academic year 2015/16. Among others, graduates from Russia and Ukraine are eligible to apply for postgraduate studies at Bavarian universities.)
- [Russian-French research projects competition | Deadline: 3 March 2015](#)
(A joint initiative of the Russian Foundation for Basic research (RFBR) and Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) in various disciplines)
- ["Between Europe and the Orient - A Focus on Research and Higher Education in/on Central Asia and the Caucasus" | continuous](#)
(With this funding initiative the Volkswagen Foundation intends to stimulate interest within Germany to engage in research in Central Asia and the Caucasus, and opens up possibilities for cooperation in research with academics in these countries.)

Source and further information: [*incrEAST - calls page*](#)

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Upcoming Events: Save these Dates for 2015

- [Fast Track to Innovation Pilot \(2015-2016\) Interactive Information Event](#)
9 Jan 2015 | Brussels
- [Enhancing Ukraine's Competitiveness in RI on the way to the Association to Horizon 2020 \(2nd Stakeholders' Forum of BILAT-UKR*AINA\)](#)
27-28 Jan 2015 | Kyiv
- [Information Day on Smart, Green and Integrated Transport](#)
5 Feb 2015 | Brussels
- [High-level Seminar in Research and Innovation Policy](#)
16-20 Feb 2015 | Vienna
- [Communication & Safety Forum](#)
27 Feb - 1 Mar 2015 | Kazan
- [11th Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Forum South-East Europe](#)
11-13 Mar 2015 | Sofia
- [European Cluster Days 2015](#)
18-19 Mar 2015 | Strasbourg
- [ICIPCE 2015 – Information Processing and Control Engineering](#)
17-19 Apr 2015 | Moscow
- [Cities of the Future Conference](#)
28-30 Apr 2015 | Muehlheim an der Ruhr
- [22nd International "Stress and Behavior" Conference](#)
16-19 May 2015 | St. Petersburg
- [EUBCE 2015 – 23rd Biomass Conference and Exhibition](#)
1-4 Jun 2015 | Vienna
- [USE 2015 – Understanding Small Enterprises Conference: "A Healthy Working Life in a Healthy Business"](#)
11-23 Oct 2015 | Groningen

Source and further information: [incrEAST - calendar](#)

Please also check these calendars:

- [European Commission: Calendar of Research and Innovation Events](#)
- [CORDIS \(Community Research and Development Informatio Service\) events calendar](#)

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Armenia: Horizon 2020 NCP Meeting in Yerevan

On 29 October 2014, a meeting of the H2020 National Contact Points of Armenia took place at the State Committee of Science of the Republic of Armenia (SCS RA). This meeting of NCPs was an opportunity for the newly appointed H2020 NCPs to get to know each other, as well as to discuss the format and manner of their work and cooperation to further promote participation of Armenian organisations and researchers in H2020 Programme.

Prof. Samvel Harutyunyan, the Chairman of SCS RA, opened the meeting with a welcome speech and stressed the importance of NCP activity to raise awareness on EU programmes, and support more active participation of Armenian entities in H2020. The NCP Coordinator, Mr. Tigran Arzumanyan made a presentation on standards and guiding principles established for operation of NCP network, overview of H2020 and main responsibilities of NCPs.

A lot of points were discussed, including the core functions of the NCPs, trainings and reporting as well as possibilities for allocation of national funding to support core NCP activities.

The development and maintenance of a local H2020 website, which will further serve as communication platform for the NCPs was also on the agenda.

Source: *International S&T Programmes Department, NAS RA*

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Armenia: UNECE to help Armenia reform innovation policies

On the occasion of the official launch of the UNECE Innovation Performance Review of Armenia in Yerevan on 14 November 2014, the two sides agreed to cooperate on innovation policy reform. Under the agreement, which is to be signed at the 66th session of the Economic Commission for Europe in April 2015, UNECE will provide policy advice and capacity building services to Armenia over the coming three years to strengthen the innovative capacity of the Armenian economy. Armenia also invited UNECE to conduct a second Innovation Performance Review in 2017 to assess progress.

The current review analyses the national innovation system of Armenia, benchmarks it against international best practice, and provides a range of recommendations for improvement. The review was conducted by a team of international experts under the leadership of UNECE in cooperation with the State Committee of Science of Armenia. It is the fourth in a series of national innovation performance reviews after Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine. UNECE is currently preparing a similar review of Tajikistan.

For more information, please contact: Mr. Ralph Heinrich, Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 1269 or by email ✉: ralph.heinrich@unece.org

Source: *United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Information Unit*

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Georgia: Horizon 2020 Info Day on Energy, Climate Change, and Health

An Information Day on Horizon 2020 in Tbilisi on 14 November 2014 in the frame of the IncoNet EaP project. The event was hosted by the Tbilisi State Medical University and opened by Marine Chitashvili, Director General of the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation.

Extensive reports were delivered at the plenary session by Tamaz Marsagishvili – Deputy Minister of Education and Science; Polish expert Katarzyna Sobótka-Demianowska – Horizon 2020 coordinator for 'Secure, clean and efficient energy' at the National Contact Point for Research Programmes; and Lika Glonti, coordinator of the EU programme 'ERASMUS +' in Georgia.

The plenary was followed by two parallel thematic sessions on 'Health' and 'Clean Energy and Climate Change'. The final session was held in the form of a round table discussion. Georgian scientists and specialists in the 'Horizon 2020' engagement focused on the dissemination of information and consulting assistance to activate participation. The speakers talked about chances to make better use of the business and academic sectors in the context of initiating cooperation.

[Link to agenda and presentations on the website of IncoNet EaP](#)

Source and further information: [Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation](#)



Kazakhstan: Analysing the Country's Deepening Ties with Europe

In an article for the 'Central Asia-Caucasus Analyst' Nicklas Norling, Research Fellow at the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute, has a closer look at the new enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Kazakhstan.

According to Norling the EU is still underestimating Kazakhstan's role as a key oil supplier to Europe and one of the most important sources of energy diversification. He also points out that Kazakhstan is among the most economically EU-oriented post-Soviet states and one of only three whose trade with the EU is growing relative to that with other countries.

Source: [The Central Asia-Caucasus Analyst](#)

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Kazakhstan: The Next Chapter in Kazakhstan-EU Relations

In an article published on the web portal 'European Dialogue' Nursultan Nazarbayev, the President of Kazakhstan, talks about the current negotiations for a new, enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, or PCA, with the European Union.

He emphasizes the importance of EU-Kazakh cooperation, especially in STI: 'The new PCA extends beyond trade, investments and energy, encompassing 29 different areas. Cooperation in the fields of innovation, science, education and competitiveness rank particularly high on our joint agenda.' says the President.

He adds: 'Kazakhstan's social and cultural ties with the EU are also strong and expanding, particularly in education. Our Bolashak International Scholarship Program allows Kazakhstan's most talented youth to study in the best schools world-wide, and European universities are among the most popular destinations for its recipients. Kazakhstan in 2010 was one of the first post-Soviet states to join the Bologna Process, which harmonizes and brings education systems closer together with the goal of creating a European Higher Education Area.'

Source and full article: [European Dialogue](#)

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Kazakhstan: Online Masters Programme 'Studies on the EU & Central Asia'

From 23 until 30 August 2014, the third workshop of the online master programme 'Studies on the EU and Central Asia in the International System' (EUCAIS) took place in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

It was the kick-off for the programme's third semester and, at the first time since the launch of the programme in 2010, took place in a Central Asian city. The workshop was attended not only by the programme's current students, but also by EUCAIS alumni students, who benefitted from the workshop's lectures and contributed to the networking among the present and alumni students and experts.

Background:

The Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP) and the Centre international de formation européenne (CIFE) offer a 3 semesters online master programme 'Studies on the EU and Central Asia in the International System'. The programme is open to postgraduates and young professionals from wider Central Asia (Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, as well as from the Chinese region of Xinjiang and the Indian region of Kashmir).

The programme enables its participants to build up and intensify their knowledge of the EU integration process, and to better understand recent developments in the relations between the EU and Central Asia.

Source and further information: [EUACIS](#)

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Kyrgyzstan: 13th meeting of the EU-Kyrgyzstan Cooperation Council

Brussels | 18 November 2014

The European Union and the Kyrgyz Republic held their thirteenth Cooperation Council meeting on 18 November 2014. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Benedetto Della Vedova, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Italy, as the head of the EU delegation. The delegation of the Kyrgyz Republic was led by Mr Erlan Abdyldaev, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The Cooperation Council discussed developments in the areas of democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms. EU commended the Kyrgyz leadership's efforts to stabilise a parliamentary democracy in the country in a challenging context. The EU encouraged the Kyrgyz government to implement lessons of previous elections to ensure that the general elections of 2015 meet international standards and further anchor the principles of democratic governance.

The Cooperation Council further discussed economic developments in the Kyrgyz Republic and in the region, including the Eurasian Economic Union. The EU stressed the importance of regional cooperation in search for sustainable settlement regarding energy, water management and environment.

Further EU support for the development of Kyrgyz Republic

In the margins of the Cooperation Council, the European Commission also announced new development funding of € 184 million to the Kyrgyz Republic for the period 2014-2020. The funds will focus on sectors essential for the democratic and social-economic transition process in Kyrgyz Republic: Rule of Law, Education and Integrated Rural Development.

The EU will focus its support to the Kyrgyz Republic in the next seven years on:

- rule of law (receiving a sector allocation of €38 million)
- education (receiving a sector allocation of € 72 million)
- rural development (receiving a sector allocation of €72 million)

The signature confirms the endorsement of the new development programme by both parties. An additional €2 million will go into support measures.

[Link to video footage of the press conference](#)

Source and further information: [Council of the European Union | Press Office](#)

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Moldova: Moldovan Innovations awarded in Brussels

Moldovan inventions were presented at the 63rd edition of 'Brussels Innova', the world exhibition on inventions, research and new technologies, which was held from 13-15 November 2014.

The Republic of Moldova was represented by the Agency for Innovation and Technology Transfer, and the State Agency on Intellectual Property. They showcased nine new products developed in the last two years. Following the assessment of an international jury, Moldovan inventors were awarded six gold medals, two silver medals, one bronze medal, and two special prizes.

Gold medals were awarded to six inventions from five different disciplines:

Medicine and Health Care:

- Istrati D., Burlacu V. with 'Treatment of the mature permanent teeth affected by destructive apical chronic periodontitis' and
- Lupan I., Pantea V., Gribenco V., Nistor L., Fala V., Burlacu V. with 'Method of prosthetic treatment for temporomandibular dysfunctions';

Farming and Food Industry:

- Toderas I., Gulea A., Floquet S., Cadot E., Cebotari V., Buzu I. with 'New stimulators containing molybdenum in feeding of bee families Apismellifera';

Hygiene and Cosmetics direction:

- Rudic V., Bogdan V, Stefarta R., Gulea A., Chiriac T., Fala V. with 'BioR® spray's';

Safety Protection category:

- Gulea A. Tsapcov V. for the invention of an 'Excellent antifungal and antibacterial agent';

Other inventions category:

- Moraru I. and Moraru N with a new ecological product.

Silver medals appreciated the works presented by

- Lupan I., Gribenco V., Pantea V., Nistor L. Fala V., Burlacu V. – 'Modern method of fixing bridgeworks with the use of implanted support' within the medicine and health care category and by

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Moldova: Moldovan Innovations awarded in Brussels (continued...)

- Caraus V., Rudic V. – 'New natural balsams', which competed at farming and food industry category.

A bronze medal was received by Grossu T., Rudic V., Bogdan V., Gulea A., Chiriac T., Chirilov A., Cepoi L. for the invention of 'Phytobior – a new bio preparation for improving productivity and quality of agriculture plants' within the farming and food industry category.

At the same time, Mr. Aurelian Gulea and Mr. Victor Tsapcov, was awarded the special prize of the Romanian Ministry of National Education for the invention of an „excellent antifungal and antibacterial agent” and Mr. Dorin Istrati and Mr. Valery Burlacu received the prize of the Union of Croatian Innovators for the treatment of the mature permanent teeth affected by destructive apical chronic periodontitis.

Institutions from more than 20 countries with more than 200 inventions took part in this year's edition of 'Brussels Innova'. For the Republic of Moldova this was the 22nd consecutive presence at this important and well know exhibition.

Further information at: [Brussels INNOVA](#)

Source: *Gheorghe RICIU, [Agency for Innovation and Technology Transfer](#)*

Moldova: Upcoming ener2i Brokerage Event and Training Workshop

Chisinau | 10-11 December 2014

The FP7 funded ener2i project organises a brokerage and energy training workshop in Moldova on renewable energies, energy efficiency and innovation issues.

The brokerage event will provide a platform for face-2-face meetings of researchers, companies and multipliers (technoparks, etc.) on energy, and for stimulating partnerships and new projects for bi-lateral cooperation and in Horizon 2020.

The training workshop will provide state of the art information on energy and innovation issues.

Target Group: Researchers, companies and multipliers (technoparks, etc.) from the EU, Moldova, other EaP countries and countries associated to Horizon 2020.

Source: [ener2i project](#)

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Moldova: Info Day and Training for EU Cooperation under Horizon 2020

On 26 August 2014, the Centre of International Projects of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova, in its capacity of partner in the FP7 IncoNet EaP project, organised an information seminar dedicated to the Energy and Environment fields in the European Union Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020. The event was held at the Academy of Sciences of Moldova (ASM) and aimed to disseminate theoretical and practical information on the areas mentioned, to ensure an extensive exploitation of existing opportunities in Horizon 2020.

The seminar was opened by Acad. Gheorghe Duca, President of ASM. He stressed the importance of the energy and environment sectors for the Republic of Moldova: Besides the existing scientific potential represented by research institutions and specialised chairs, a number of issues related to energy security and environmental protection, which require scientific procedures, still persist. Thus, through a significant participation in Horizon 2020 calls in these areas, Moldova could realise its potential via a strengthened cooperation with colleagues from the EU countries.

European experts, Mr. Viorel Vulturescu (Ministry of National Education of Romania), Mr. Krzysztof Frajs and Mr. Jan Lisowski (National Contact Point for Research Programmes of the EU, Polish Academy of Sciences) presented relevant information on the work programmes 2014-2015 in the fields of environment and energy, as well as the 'SME Instrument', illustrating examples of good practice.

It is worth mentioning that on 1 July 2014, the Republic of Moldova together with five Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia), signed their Association Agreements to Horizon 2020, thus ensuring that researchers from these countries have full access to the calls in this programme. This also urges the newly associated partners to develop their national capacities, establishing successful partnerships with institutions of the European Research Area, strengthening European project management capacities and a better framework for management of these funds.

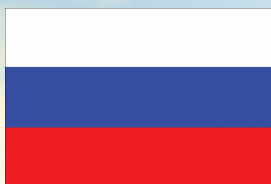
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Source: [Center of International Projects](#)

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Russia: Outcomes of the International Forum on 'Open Innovations' in Moscow

The third annual forum and exhibition 'Open Innovations' was held in Moscow on 14-16 October 2014, bringing together over 15 thousand participants from 70 countries. As the People's Republic of China became an official partner country of the event, Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, was an honorable guest at the 'Open Innovations' Forum 2014. This global discussion platform is dedicated to emerging technologies and to furthering innovation prospects and collaboration worldwide.

The business programme of the forum and exhibition featured over 160 events that brought together representatives of technological companies, academic and research communities, public authorities, investors, and innovators.

There is evidence of growing popularity of the forum: While in 2013, 286 startups were represented at the forum, in 2014, this number has risen to over 800, giving their representatives an opportunity to meet potential investors, to demonstrate R&D, to gain useful knowledge, and to exchange experience.

Key speakers at the forum included: Richard Roberts (New England Biolabs; Nobel Prize in Chemistry (1993); Kurt Wüthrich (EZH Zürich, Scripps Research Institute, Nobel Prize in Chemistry (2002); Zhores Alferov (Vice President of the Russian Academy of Sciences, academician, Nobel Prize in Physics (2000); Bertrand Piccard (Solar Impulse); Eckard Foltin (Bayer MaterialScience AG); Bo Andersson (OAO «AVTOVAZ»); Dmitry Konov (OOO «SIBUR»); Guo Ping (Huawei); Henry Itzkovits (H-STAR Institute, Stanford University); Rubert Keely (Paypal); Dominique Fache (Sophia Antipolis), and numerous other representatives of research and business community.

Source: *[Nauka i tehnologii RF – S&T RF](#)*

Russia: Cooperation Projects play crucial role in EU-Russia STI Partnership

Since 2005 the EU and Russia have committed to creating a 'Common Space on Research, Education and Culture'. An article on the web portal of the European Commission highlights the role of **ERA.Net RUS** and **BILAT-RUS** in developing this 'Common Space'. While BILAT-RUS promoted the Science & Technology (S&T) potential between Russia, the EU, Candidate Countries and other Associated Countries, ERA.Net RUS focused more on enhancing the joint funding mechanism. [ERA.Net RUS Plus](#) and [BILAT-RUS-Advanced](#) are seen as an important next step to completing the European Research Area (ERA).

Source: *[European Commission](#)*

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Russia: German-Russian Institute of Advanced Technology (GRIAT) opened

On 2 September 2014 the 'German-Russian Institute of Advanced Technologies' (GRIAT) opened in Kazan, the capital of the Russian Autonomous Republic of Tatarstan. GRIAT is supported by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Republic of Tartastan in the framework of a project of the same name, aiming to establish study programmes in engineering at the Kazan State Technical Research University (KNRTU) according to German standards.

The TU Ilmenau as the head of this project profiles study programmes in engineering together with the Otto-von-Guericke-University Magdeburg to be implemented at the Kazan National Technical Research University (KNRTU). The KNTRU named 'Tupolev University' after the Russian aircraft constructor Andrei Nikolayevich Tupolev is one of the most prestigious research universities of Russia and regarded as an elite university. At GRIAT, which is affiliated to KNTRU, the first four programmes exported by the universities of Ilmenau and Magdeburg start with the academic year 2014/15.

The programmes:

- Master of Science in Research in Computer and Systems Engineering
- Master of Science in Communications and Signal Processing
- Master of Science in Electrical Engineering and Information Technology
- Master of Science in Chemical and Energy Engineering

In the long run, the aim is to establish a 'German-Russian University' in Kazan – the world's first such teaching and research institution in a modern industrialised state.

Source: *TU Ilmenau International School*

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Russia: International Workshop 'Horizon 2020 & Researchers' Mobility'

The International Workshop 'Horizon 2020 & International Researchers' Mobility: EU Supporting Tools' took place in Moscow on 6 October 2014. The event was organised by National Research University Higher School of Economics in the frame of the BILAT RUS Advanced project. Its objective was to promote opportunities for EU-Russia STI cooperation through the dissemination of information on the new EU framework programme Horizon 2020, EU tools for supporting international researchers' mobility, and the Russian Federal Targeted Programme 'Research and Development in Priority Areas of Russia's Scientific and Technological Complex 2014-2020'.

The workshop brought together leading experts in EU-Russia science and technology cooperation – representatives of the Delegation of the European Union to the Russian Federation; of the International Centre for Innovation in Science, Technology, and Education (Russia); the Institute of Technology and Development (Sophia, Bulgaria); the EURAXESS portal; Innovation Projects and Development Ltd. (Israel); Russian National Contact Points (NCPs); et al.

The workshop commenced with an overview of the EU programme Horizon 2020 and Russia's new Federal Targeted Programme 'Research and Development in Priority Areas of Russia's Scientific and Technological Complex 2014-2020', with special emphasis on opportunities for EU-Russia S&T cooperation envisaged in their framework.

Another topic discussed in the framework of the event was intellectual property rights as one of key issues of international S&T cooperation. In particular, opportunities of the European IPR Helpdesk, IPR trainings, and Technology Transfer Offices experience were highlighted.

Furthermore, workshop participants learnt about the EURAXESS portal – a unique pan-European initiative providing access to a complete range of information and support services to researchers wishing to pursue their research careers in Europe.

In addition, the workshop featured a presentation on European Research & Mobility Financing Tools, with emphasis on: 'Innovation Union: EU Strategy for ERA development'; Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions; the European Research Council; and Financial Tools for SMEs.

Finally, the floor was given to representatives of four (out of six) Russian National Contact Points (NCPs) selected as a result of an open competition under FTP-R&D in Priority Areas: 'Food and Agricultural Biotechnology', 'Environment and Climate Change', 'Research Infrastructures', and 'Aeronautics'. In their presentations, representatives of the successful tenderers – organisations that will host Russian NCPs – put emphasis on the perspectives of EU-Russia S&T cooperation in related thematic areas.

Workshop topics inspired great interest of the participants. In total, over 60 representatives of Russian and European research and academic communities took part in the workshop.

Source and further information: [HSE](#)

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Russia: New Master's Programme 'Governance of Science, Technology, and Innovation' launched by HSE-ISSEK

In September 2014, first 33 Russian and international students commenced their studies in the framework of 2-year English-language Master's Programme 'Governance of Science, Technology, and Innovation' recently launched by HSE ISSEK.

The Master's Programme 'Governance of Science, Technology and Innovation' pioneers Masters Education by taking account of the complexity of science, technology and innovation (STI) management and policy. Education targets at equipping students with competences which are frequently in short supply to companies and public institutions.

The programme delivers competences to students giving them a global perspective and horizon on science, technology and innovation, the ability to make assessments in the field of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy and Management, taking into account relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects, and demonstrate an awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work. The programme provides students the opportunity to choose optional courses in either STI policy or in STI management.

Students will receive instruction at the HSE Moscow, take courses at the HSE's international partner universities, do internships in Russia or abroad, and undertake a Master's thesis during their final semester of study. This programme combines theoretical education and practical experience, and includes international expertise and experience.

The personal qualities and intellectual potential of the students enrolled in the programme will be enriched and developed so that they will be able to apply policy and management skills in science, technology, and innovation to work undertaken during their subsequent careers with companies, organisations and government bodies.

The Programme is taught by Russian and international experts widely recognized by the world academic and business communities and having vast experience of work for international organisations. Faculty members include representatives of the universities of Manchester (Great Britain), Strasbourg (France), Ottawa (Canada), Aalto (Finland), Lund (Sweden), Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich), University of Applied Sciences – FH Joanneum (Austria), Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI, Austria), Chinese Academy of Sciences, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (the OECD).

Source and further information: [HSE-ISSEK](#)

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Russia: 2nd Round of Support Allocation to Russian Innovative Territorial Clusters

On June 9th, 2014, the Russian Ministry of Economic Development announced the second round of allocating support to innovative territorial clusters. Starting from this year onwards, federal subsidies will increase to 2.5 billion roubles, and all 25 Russian pilot clusters will be eligible for this funding.

It is planned that to support the implementation of measures included in the development programmes of innovative territorial clusters, budgetary appropriations of 2.5 billion roubles will be made out of the reserve fund of the Russian government to be allocated as subsidies from the federal budget to the budgets of the subjects of the Russian Federation.

Two novel features of the conditions for allocating subsidies for the development of innovative territorial clusters should be mentioned:

- The total amount of funding from the federal budget has increased, while the ratio of regional and federal budgets' shares in jointly funded projects has changed. While last year, the clusters received 1.3 billion roubles from the federal budget, this year, the amount will nearly double and reach 2.5 billion roubles. Also, while in 2013, the share of the funds provided by the region where the pilot innovative territorial cluster is located constituted between 30% and 70%, this year, it will decrease and will constitute between 5% and 30%. On the one hand, this will allow to save regional budgets' funds and to increase the motivation of the regional authorities to support pilot innovative territorial clusters located on their territory. On the other hand, the total amount of subsidies provided to territorial clusters may decrease due to reduced share of the regions.
- Starting from this year, all pilot innovative clusters (there are 25 of them altogether) are eligible to receive federal subsidies. At the same time, clusters of the first group (14 clusters) will be given priority: they will receive up to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the total amount of the federal subsidy. However, the final distribution will eventually depend on the quality of projects and on the amount of funds allocated for cluster development by regional authorities.

The evaluation of applications for federal subsidies will consider not only the quality of the project but also the availability of a coherent program of cluster development. The list of activities that can be funded from a federal subsidy include those aimed at promoting international cooperation, e.g., advanced professional training and secondments, organisation of and participation in exhibitions, conferences, and forums, etc.

Source: [HSE-ISSEK](#)

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Tajikistan: Tajik-German project CADEX investigates Dust over Central Asia

The dust over Central Asia plays a crucial role in Central Asia's climate change. To understand this, knowledge about the dust's properties and transport needs to be gained. On that account, the Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan and the Leibniz Institute for Tropospheric Research (TROPOS) will conduct a joint measurement campaign until fall 2016. A cooperation agreement was signed by both partners whereby the basis for the joint Tajik-German project CADEX (Central Asian Dust Experiment) was set up. The planned investigations will be the first vertical resolved measurements since 1989 in Tajikistan and the first measurements with a LiDAR in Tajikistan at all. It is still little known about the amount and composition of dust over Central Asia, due to the lack of available measurement technology in this region.

Climate change is already clearly noticeable in Central Asia: For instance, the glaciers of Tajikistan have shrunk in recent decades by a third. Dust deposits on glacier surfaces play a role in that shrinking, particularly as they change the glacier surfaces and their radiation properties and thereby contribute to the melting of the ice. Tajikistan is surrounded by arid areas and deserts. The Taklamakan desert or the partially desiccated Aral Sea are just two of the famous ones. Consequently, dust events occur frequently and reach regions far beyond. Nevertheless, there has been no systematic long-term observations of these dust particles so far. Particularly the vertical distribution and the optical properties of the aerosol particles are mostly unknown. However, such data is important in order to calculate the earth's radiation budget and hence the heating of the atmosphere accurately.

'These knowledge gaps we want to fill with the CADEX project in the next two years,' said Dr. Dietrich Althausen from TROPOS. 'The colleagues from the Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan measure the solar radiation on the ground and contribute weather data. We from TROPOS will bring one of our portable LiDARs to Dushanbe and use it to examine the vertical profiles of dust particles from the ground.'

The measurements will be performed by the Polly-XT system, a multi-wavelength depolarization Raman LiDAR which was developed at TROPOS. 'We hope that the CADEX campaign will provide new insights into the processes that lead to atmospheric warming. After all, strong dust layers can lead to a decrease of daytime temperatures by up to 4 degrees Celsius and to an increase at night by up to 3 degrees Celsius. It is of big interest whether and how this is currently happening in Central Asia,' said the LiDAR expert Althausen.

Source and further information: [TROPOS](#)

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Tajikistan: 4th Meeting of EU-Tajikistan Cooperation Council

4th Meeting of EU-Tajikistan Cooperation Council: EU announces further support for development

The European Union (EU) and the Republic of Tajikistan held their fourth Cooperation Council meeting on 20 October 2014. The meeting was chaired by Mr Benedetto Della Vedova, Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, as the head of the EU delegation. The delegation of Tajikistan was led by Mr Sirodjidin Aslov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan.

During the Cooperation Council, the European Commission also announced new development funding of €251 million to Tajikistan for the period 2014-2020. The funds will focus on vital sectors for growth and social stability, such as rural development, health, and education.

EU Commissioner for Development, Andris Piebalgs, said: 'Development support is still vital for much of the Tajikistan population. We are committed to achieving the greatest possible results of every euro spent, and that is why we have defined our priorities in close discussions with the government. Ultimately, we hope to create the conditions for the country to become self-reliant.'

The Cooperation Council reaffirmed the commitment of both parties to strengthen relations in a number of cooperation areas and took stock of the progress made since the third Cooperation Council between the EU and the Republic of Tajikistan in October 2013.

The Cooperation Council reiterated the importance of a comprehensive implementation of the EU Strategy for Central Asia both on a regional and national basis and welcomed Tajikistan's active engagement in the EU regional initiatives for Central Asia. Developments were discussed as regards concrete flagship initiatives, such as on the Rule of Law, Education and Environment.

The signature of the development programme (known as Multiannual Indicative Programme), between European Commissioner for Development, Andris Piebalgs, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan, Sirodjidin Aslov, was finalised in the margins of the EU-Tajikistan Cooperation Council.

The EU will thus focus its support to Tajikistan in the next seven years on:

- rural development (€110 million)
- health (€62.2million)
- education and vocational training (€75 million)

Source and further information: [Council of the European Union](#)

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Ukraine: National Technology Platform on Advanced Materials launched

On 24 October, the launch conference for the Ukrainian National Technology Platform on Advanced Materials took place in Kyiv. Bringing together the capacities of Ukrainian material science research and industry in this field, UNTPAM aims to strengthen innovative developments, facilitate coherence in national and international cooperation and initiate the definition of a strategic research agenda for Ukraine. Expected long-term results include a significant acceleration of the implementation of scientific results, improved research funding, an increase in the number of work places and an improved access to the European and world markets.

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Participants at the UNTPAM launch event | © DLR, kindly provided by Dr. Erich Rathske

The event gathered more than 80 participants from the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine) and branch institutes, Ukrainian universities, industrial entities and public organisations.

The Ukrainian National Technology Platform on Advanced Materials was established with the support of the BILAT-UKR*AINA project (Pilot Activity 1) by the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, I. Frantsevych Institute for Problems of Materials Sciences, and Ukrainian Materials Research Society. Ten representatives of research, industrial and public sectors of Ukraine are the founding members of the UNTPAM Association, the legal entity for the created platform.

The BILAT-UKR*AINA project will further support the UNTPAM international activities by enhancing the cooperation between UNTPAM and the EU technology platforms as well as national technology platform from the EU Member states.

Source and further information: [BILAT-UKR*AINA](#)

country news

Ukraine: 1st NoGAP Brokerage Event on Energy met with Great Response from Researchers and Entrepreneurs

The first brokerage event of NoGAP was held at the International Exhibition Center in Kyiv on 4 November 2014. It was organised in conjunction with the VII. International Trade Fair 'Energy Efficiency. Renewable Energy 2014'. More than 60 participants from Ukraine, Georgia, Germany, Romania and Turkey took part.

Twelve representatives from research institutes, universities and SMEs presented the offers and requests for new forms of cooperation in the energy sectors. Presented projects covered a wide range of topics, from fuel cells and technology for space applications to burner technology, energy-efficient buildings, and new technologies for light bulbs. An overview of institutions and projects will be soon be made available online.

NoGAP training sessions for multipliers and SMEs were conducted in Kyiv on 5 November 2014. The training for multipliers was held by Steinbeis-Europa-Zentrum (SEZ); the training for SMEs was coordinated by the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca (UTC-N). Both sessions were organised in collaboration with NoGAP's local partner NTUU KPI - National Technical University of Ukraine - Kyiv Polytechnic Institute. Approximately 30 participants from Ukraine and Moldova took part in the two training options offered. At the end of very successful and fruitful training sessions, the trainees' efforts were valued by certificates handed over by the trainers of UTC-N and SEZ. Training participants as well as trainers intend to stay in touch with the help of NoGAP's Facebook presence and google groups.

NoGAP'S objective of bridging the gap between research and innovation in the EU and the Eastern Partnership countries will be pursued by generating offers and requests and expressions of interest, and matching them with partners in other countries. A second brokerage event will take place in Stuttgart/ Germany, in cooperation with the KIC Inno Energy, to open up new opportunities for networking and cooperation in the field of energy.

Information about open calls by the European Union in topics relevant to energy is disseminated frequently through various channels, e.g. the project newsletter. The events are complemented by training measures for researchers, entrepreneurs and multipliers to disseminate knowledge about issues of innovation management in the countries of the Eastern Partnership. The handbooks for researchers, SMEs and multipliers, which are used for these trainings, are available for free online.

Source: [NoGAP project](#) and [NoGAP facebook page](#)

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Ukraine: Now also in Ukrainian – info on Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

Comprehensive information about the 'Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions' in Ukrainian language has been published on the website of NIP Ukraine. An eight pages flyer in PDF format is available for download.

The objective of the MSCA is to support the career development and training of researchers – with a focus on innovation skills – in all scientific disciplines through worldwide and cross-sector mobility. For this, the MSCA provide grants at all stages of researchers' careers, from PhD candidates to highly experienced researchers, and encourage transnational, intersectoral and interdisciplinary mobility.



Source and download: [NIP Ukraine](#)

Ukraine: H2020 Information Guides for Ukrainian Applicants in two languages

Are you planning to participate in an EU call under Horizon 2020?

Step by step information manuals in Ukrainian language on partner search, organisation registration, LEAR registration, and self registration at the Participant Portal are available on the website of the National Information Point for Ukraine.

The BILAT-UKR*AINA projects has compiled a 'Horizon 2020 Handbook for Ukrainian Researchers' in English language, which is available for download from the project's website.

- [Link to Horizon 2020 information for Ukrainian researches in Ukrainian](#)
- [Link to Horizon 2020 information for Ukrainian researches in English](#)

Sources: [NIP Ukraine](#) and [BILAT-UKR*AINA project](#)

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Ukraine: BILAT-UKR*AINA Summer School and Follow-up Activities

BILAT-UKR*AINA Summer School

The BILAT-UKR*AINA Summer School on 'European RTDI policies, instruments and participation possibilities' was successfully held in Kyiv on 15-18th September 2014. The aim of the Summer School was to provide a comprehensive hands-on training on project development and management in the frame of Horizon 2020. The Summer School focused on the following four scientific fields: ICT, Nanomaterials, Biotechnologies and Transport.

Thirty young Ukrainian researchers and project managers from various regions of Ukraine participated actively in the four-day-long program. The opening of the event was attended by the EC project officer of BILAT-UKR*AINA, Mr Thierry Devars, who provided a general overview of Horizon2020.



Participants of the BILAT-UKR*AINA Summer School | © RCISD, kindly provided by Ms. Zsuzsanna Angyal

Following this, the program of the initial day included introductory lectures on the thematic work programmes of Horizon 2020 delivered by National Contact Points from Ukraine and senior project managers from EU countries. From Day 2 a hands-on training on proposal writing and project management was provided by project partners and invited experts from EU.

On the final day, participants presented their project proposal elaborated during the event with active discussion and mutual evaluation. Overall, participants were very positive, interactive and cooperative during the Summer School.

1st Follow-Up Summer School: Webinar on Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

The first of two online meetings for participants of the summer school on 20 November 2014 provided information about the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA). The objective of the MSCA is to support the career development and training of researchers – with a focus on innovation skills – in all scientific disciplines through worldwide and cross-sector mobility.

On the agenda:

- General overview on MSCA & special view on opportunities for individuals by Ms Magdolna Somos, Hungarian MSCA NCP
- Application procedure by Ms Karina Shakhbazyan, Ukrainian MSCA NCP
- Experiences of former MSCA fellows: András Zlinszky, former MSCA fellow, Hungary

Source and further information: [BILAT-UKR*AINA project](#)

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Ukraine: ICT Training for Ukrainian Researchers held in Budapest

Budapest | 6-7 October 2014

Following the Summer School on RTDI policies & instruments held in Kyiv, RCISD – the Regional Centre for Information and Scientific Development – organised an ICT in-house training for experienced Ukrainian researchers and research project managers in Budapest. The training took place on 6-7 October 2014, with the aim to offer intensive training for just a few of the best or most promising Ukrainian researchers of top-level Ukrainian RTDI organisations, as well as to increase their likelihood of participation in RTDI projects with European partners.



ICT training in Budapest | © RCISD, kindly provided by Ms. Zsuzsanna Angyal

Leading Hungarian trainers, experts, and project managers accepted the invitation; thanks to their preparedness, knowledge and experience instructive and interesting presentations were offered during the two-day training. Creative and useful group work – led by experienced trainers – improved the practical skills of the trainees on project preparation and proposal writing. During the discussions the experts gave useful advice and shared their experience with the trainees.

As the aim of BILAT UKR*AINA is to promote EU MS/AC – Ukraine cooperation in Science and Technology, the training supported participation in joint projects by providing concrete information and practical training on proposal writing.

The in-house training gathered senior Hungarian researchers in the field who shared their experience through presentations or roundtable discussions. The participants coming from various top-level universities or research institutes of Ukraine also had the chance to get hands-on experience in H2020 proposal writing with the support of their Hungarian fellows. Opportunities for networking aimed to increase the likelihood of formulating joint projects. The in-house training was closed by a study visit to the CERN Wigner Data Center.

- [Download the agenda and presentations](#)

The ICT in-house training in Budapest was the first of the four BILAT UKR*AINA training sessions; the upcoming events will be organised by other project partners in Warsaw and Paris.

*Source and further information: [BILAT-UKR*AINA project](#)*

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Ukraine: German-Ukrainian School of Governance founded

The Government in Kiev is further advancing the modernisation of its public administration systems. These activities are also supported from Germany. Upon the initiative of the Karl-Georg Wellmann, Member of the German Parliament, scholars of the 'Hochschule für Wirtschaft und Recht (HWR)' (University of Economics and Law) have founded the 'German-Ukrainian School of Governance e. V.' in a joint effort with experts from politics and administration.

Basic tasks of German-Ukrainian School of Governance will be the development of modern management-related courses in Ukraine, the establishment of training centres for the public service in Berlin and Kiev, as well as guidance on issues regarding the implementation of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement.

'First and foremost these efforts aim to promote democratisation and the rule of law. Good Governance should become a guiding principle of administrative action in Ukraine', stresses founding member Prof. Dr. Oesten Baller. He is professor for general police law and security management and Director of the Institute for Administrative Modernisation and Police Reform in Central and Eastern Europe (IMO) at the HWR Berlin. He works closely with the National Academy of State Administration at the President of Ukraine (NAPA), which has been a key partner of the newly founded German Ukrainian Association.

The German-Ukrainian School of Governance will implement its projects, such as the creation of a Bachelor's degree for a new generation of managers in civil service, with the support of institutions and universities in Ukraine, Poland, Germany and Italy as well as in cooperation with Eastern Europe experts of the EU. A close cooperation with the OSCE and the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe is also planned.

European standards, rule of law, citizen-friendliness, service orientation and in particular impartiality and incorruptness will be treated as basic skills and prerequisites. When developing training programs for all levels of the public service, main issues will be decentralisation or federalisation, tax justice, minority languages and minority rights and anti-corruption.

The nine founding members of the German-Ukrainian School of Governance e. V. are Prof. Dr. Oesten Baller (chairperson), Prof. Dr. Heinrich Bücker-Gärtner (vice-chair) and Prof. Dr. Dörte Busch (treasurer) – all from HWR Berlin.

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Source: Kooperation International (in German)

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Uzbekistan: Workshop on the 'Enterprise Europe Network'

Tashkent | 28 October 2014

The Indo-Uzbek Center for Promotion of Science and Technology Cooperation recently conducted a workshop about the Enterprise Europe Network in the frame of IncoNet CA. Representatives of the European Union, young scientists from research institutes and experts of SMEs from Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan, participated in the event. The aim of the Workshop was to reflect successful examples of cooperation of Central Asian (CA) countries with the Enterprise Europe Network and to propose ways to extend the network in CA countries.

The workshop was officially opened by Dr. Odilkhuja Parpiev. In his welcoming speech he emphasized the importance of innovative developments and the crucial role of science and technology for the economy of Uzbekistan. Then Ms. Katarzyna Walczyk-Matuszyk from the National Contact Point for Research Programmes acquainted the participants with the main purposes of the IncoNet CA project. In turn, Ms. Monika Anna Łuczak, representative of the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development, provided information about purpose and structure of her organisation, and the activities of the Enterprise Europe Network in Poland. Ms. Elena Giglio, member of the National Contact Point for SMEs and of the Enterprise Europe Network, described previous projects of the EU, and support ways for enterprises.

Mr. Karen Gevorgyan, representative of the National SME Development Center of Armenia, presented the activities of his organisation, portrayed its cooperation with the Enterprise Europe Network and gave some successful examples. The presentation of Mr. Grigorios Kontzoglou, team leader of the EU funded project 'Management Training Program for Uzbekistan's SMEs' introduced this Program to the participants and informed them about the terms of internships for Uzbek enterprise managers in EU countries.

This workshop opened opportunities for researchers and entrepreneurs of Uzbekistan to set up cooperations with research institutes and enterprises in the EU, raise the experience of researches and entrepreneurs, and involve foreign capital in the infrastructure of Uzbekistan through the participation in projects and programmes of the EU. It also presented possibilities to develop the activity of research institutes and SMEs by introducing science and technology into the production.

Source: ✉ [Durdona Komilova](#), Indo-Uzbek Center for the Promotion of S&T

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Кыргызстан: Тринадцатое заседание Совета по сотрудничеству между Европейским Союзом и Кыргызской Республикой

Европейский Союз и Кыргызская Республика провели тринадцатое заседание Совета по сотрудничеству. На встрече в качестве главы делегации ЕС председательствовал г-н Бенедетто Делла Ведова, Государственный секретарь Министерства иностранных дел Италии. Делегацию Кыргызской Республики возглавил г-н Эрлан Абдылдаев, Министр иностранных дел Кыргызской Республики.

Совет по сотрудничеству вновь подтвердил приверженность двух сторон к укреплению отношений в ряде сфер сотрудничества и рассмотрел ключевые аспекты реализации Соглашения о партнерстве и сотрудничестве 1999 г. и Стратегии ЕС-Центральная Азия. ЕС приветствовал конструктивный и открытый диалог и активное участие Кыргызской Республики, в том числе в региональных инициативах ЕС в Центральной Азии.

Совет по сотрудничеству обсудил изменения в областях демократии, верховенства права, прав человека и фундаментальных свобод. ЕС выразил признательность руководству Кыргызстана за усилия по стабилизации парламентской демократии в стране в непростых условиях. ЕС призвал Правительство Кыргызстана к реализации уроков предыдущих выборов с тем, чтобы гарантировать соответствие всеобщих выборов 2015 года международным стандартам и дальнейшее укрепление принципов демократического управления. ЕС призвал Правительство Кыргызстана к проведению реформ, ведущих к транспарентности, независимости судебной власти, межнациональному примирению и уважению прав человека, как ключевых факторов долгосрочного устойчивого развития.

Совет по сотрудничеству также обсудил экономическое развитие в Кыргызской Республике и в регионе, включая Евразийский экономический союз. ЕС подчеркнул значение регионального сотрудничества в поиске устойчивого решения вопросов энергии, водопользования и окружающей среды. В ходе обсуждения актуальных международных событий, были обсуждены вызовы и угрозы, связанные с переходным процессом в Афганистане. ЕС призвал Кыргызскую Республику к тесной работе со своими соседями и вновь подтвердил свою конкретную поддержку в рассмотрении вопросов региональной безопасности и стабильности.

Дальнейшая поддержка ЕС в целях развития Кыргызской Республики В кулуарах Совета по сотрудничеству, Европейская Комиссия также объявила о новом финансировании Кыргызской Республики в целях развития в размере € 184 млн на период 2014-2020 гг. Эти средства будут направлены в секторы, имеющие важнейшее значение для демократического и социально-экономического переходного процесса в Кыргызской Республике: верховенство права, образование и комплексное развитие сельских районов.

Комиссар ЕС по международному сотрудничеству и развитию, Невен Мимица, сказал: "ЕС оказывал Кыргызской Республике помощь в целях развития начиная с обретения страной независимости в 1991 г., и мне приятно подчеркнуть нашу неизменную приверженность совместной работе на пути развития, в особенности в ключевых областях демократии, сокращении бедности и достижении устойчивого развития, а также в поддержке собственной программ реформ правительства."

По случаю заседания Совета по сотрудничеству, Европейский Комиссар по международному сотрудничеству и развитию, Невен Мимица провел встречу с Министром иностранных дел Кыргызской Республики, Эрланом Абдылдаевым,

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с целью обсуждения среди прочего вопросов двустороннего сотрудничества на период 2014 – 2020 гг. В ходе этой встречи, состоявшейся 17 ноября, Министр и Комиссар подписали программу развития (так называемую Многолетнюю индикативную программу) между ЕС и Кыргызской Республикой.

В следующий 7-летний период, ЕС сосредоточит свою поддержку Кыргызской Республики на:

- верховенстве права (данный сектор получит средства в размере €38 млн)
- образовании (этот сектор получит финансовые средства в размере € 72 млн)
- развитии сельских районов (с получением средств в размере €72 млн)

Подписание документа подтверждает утверждение сторонами новой программы развития. Дополнительная сумма в размере €2 млн будет направлена на меры поддержки.

- [Ссылка на видео кадры пресс-конференции](#)

Источник: [Представительство Европейского Союза в Кыргызской Республике](#)

Твиннинг-гранты – информация доступна на русском языке

Твиннинг имеет многолетнюю традицию в Европе в качестве эффективного инструмента в процессе наращивания потенциала. Он успешно использовался в возведении правительственных возможностей в новых странах-членах, а затем перешёл и в другие области. Схема грант IncoNet CA (Центральная Азия) & EaP (Страны "Восточного партнерства") как ожидается, станет инструментом для разработки устойчивого сотрудничества с опытными партнерами.

- [Твиннинг-гранты IncoNet ЦА \(Центральная Азия\)](#)
- [Твиннинг-гранты IncoNet ВП \(Восточное партнёрство\)](#)

Источник: [incrEAST](#)

Программа имени Марии Склодовской-Кюри

Хотите продвинуться в своей исследовательской карьере? Воспользуйтесь программой имени Марии Склодовской-Кюри! Программа предлагает много вариантов для карьерного роста научных сотрудников в Европе и за её пределами. Предусмотрены направления, отвечающие любым требованиям.



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Россия: Итоги III Московского международного форума «Открытые инновации»

Ежегодный Форум и Выставка «Открытые инновации» прошел в российской столице 14–16 октября 2014 года в третий раз и собрал более 15 тысяч участников из 70 стран мира. Официальной страной-партнером Форума и Выставки стала Китайская Народная Республика. Главы правительств России и Китая Дмитрий Медведев и Ли Кэцян приняли участие в работе III Московского международного форума инновационного развития «Открытые инновации» и ознакомились с экспозицией Выставки Open Innovations Expo.

Более 160 мероприятий деловой программы Форума и Выставки объединили представителей технологических компаний, науки, образования, органов власти и управления, инвесторов и авторов прорывных идей. Популярность Форума и Выставки «Открытые инновации» постоянно растет. Так, в 2013 году здесь были представлены 286 стартапов, а в 2014-м – уже более 800 стартапов из 19 стран мира смогли пообщаться с потенциальными инвесторами, продемонстрировать свои разработки, получить полезные знания и обменяться опытом. В 2014 году официальной страной-партнером Форума стала Китайская Народная Республика.

Ключевыми спикерами Форума стали: Ричард Робертс, New England Biolabs, лауреат Нобелевской премии по химии 1993 года; Курт Вютрих, Университет EZH Zürich, Scripps Research Institute, лауреат Нобелевской премии по химии 2002 года; Жорес Алфёров, Вице-президент Российской Академии наук; академик, лауреат Нобелевской премии по физике 2000; Бертран Пикар, Solar Impulse; Экард Фолтин, Bayer MaterialScience AG; Бу Андерссон, ОАО «АВТОВАЗ»; Дмитрий Конов, ООО «СИБУР»; Го Пин, Huawei; Джо Лью, 3M; Генри Ицковиц, H-STAR Institute, Stanford University; Руперт Кили, PayPal; Доминик Фаш, Sophia Antipolis и многие другие представители науки и бизнеса.

Источник:

http://www.strf.ru/material.aspx?CatalogId=222&d_no=88519#.VEjnP2c7pcA

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Россия: Запущена новая магистерская программа «Управление в сфере науки, технологий и инноваций»

С сентября этого года основы «Управления в сфере науки, технологий и инноваций» на базе Национального исследовательского университета «Высшая школа экономики» начнут осваивать 33 российских и иностранных студента.

Англоязычная магистерская программа нацелена на подготовку специалистов нового поколения, обладающих системными и актуальными знаниями для анализа и управления сферой науки, технологий и инноваций. По итогам обучения студенты научатся эффективно управлять технологиями и инновациями на всех этапах — от их зарождения до реализации, и на разных уровнях — корпоративном, региональном, национальном и международном. НИУ ВШЭ — единственный в мире университет, где политика и менеджмент в сфере науки, технологий и инноваций объединены в рамках одной магистерской программы.

Программу организует Институт статистических исследований и экономики знаний НИУ ВШЭ, ведущий российский научный и аналитический центр в

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рассматриваемой сфере. Специалисты института имеют многолетний опыт проведения исследований в области науки, технологий и инноваций, а также оказания экспертно-аналитической и консультационной поддержки деятельности федеральных и региональных органов государственной власти, институтов развития, крупных компаний и международных организаций.

Преподаватели — российские и зарубежные эксперты, заслужившие признание в мировой академической среде и в бизнес-сообществе, в том числе имеющие богатый опыт работы в международных организациях. Среди них — сотрудники университетов Манчестера (Великобритания), Страсбурга (Франция), Оттавы (Канада), Аалто (Финляндия), Лунда (Швеция), Швейцарского федерального технологического института (ETH Zurich), Университета прикладных наук «Йоаннеум» (Австрия), Центра социальных инноваций (Австрия), Китайской академии наук, а также Организации экономического сотрудничества и развития (ОЭСР).

Источник и более подробная информация о программе: <http://issek.hse.ru/ru/sti/>

Россия: Объявлен второй раунд поддержки инновационных территориальных кластеров

На совещании в Минэкономразвития России 9 июня 2014 года был анонсирован второй раунд поддержки инновационных территориальных кластеров. С этого года объем федеральной субсидии увеличится до 2,5 млрд рублей, и претендовать на нее могут все 25 пилотных кластеров.

Планируется, что на реализацию мероприятий, предусмотренных программами развития пилотных инновационных территориальных кластеров, в 2014 году из резервного фонда Правительства Российской Федерации будут выделены бюджетные ассигнования в размере 2,5 млрд рублей на предоставление субсидий из федерального бюджета бюджетам субъектов Российской Федерации.

Следует обратить внимание на два основных изменения в условиях предоставления субсидии на развитие пилотных инновационных территориальных кластеров:

1. Выросла сумма финансирования из федерального бюджета, и изменились пропорции софинансирования мероприятий из средств федерального и регионального бюджетов. Если в прошлом году кластеры получили 1,3 млрд рублей из федерального бюджета, то в текущем эта сумма увеличивается до 2,5 млрд рублей. В 2013 году доля бюджета субъекта Российской Федерации, на территории которого расположен пилотный инновационный территориальный кластер, составляла от 30 до 70% в зависимости от бюджетной обеспеченности, то в нынешнем году она сократится практически вдвое и составит от 5 до 30%. С одной стороны, это нововведение позволяет сэкономить средства региональных бюджетов и увеличивает стимулы для региональных органов власти поддерживать развитие пилотных ИТК на своей территории. С другой — общий объем субсидии, получаемой пилотными кластерами, может снизиться за счет уменьшения региональной части.
2. С этого года все пилотные инновационные кластеры (в настоящее время их 25) имеют право участвовать в распределении федеральной субсидии. Вместе с тем приоритет в распределении финансирования между кластерами будет отдан кластерам первой группы (14 кластеров): на их развитие может быть направлено до $\frac{3}{4}$ общего объема средств

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федеральной субсидии. Однако окончательное распределение будет зависеть от качества проектов и размера средств, направляемых на развитие кластера региональными органами исполнительной власти.

Представители Минэкономразвития России подчеркнули, что неотъемлемой частью заявки является целостная программа развития кластера, которая, наряду с оценкой проектов, также будет приниматься во внимание при распределении средств федеральной субсидии.

Мероприятия, на которые можно запрашивать федеральную субсидию, предусматривают поддержку международной кооперации и включают, в том числе: профессиональную переподготовку, повышение квалификации и проведение стажировок работников организаций-участников по направлениям реализации программ (в том числе за рубежом); проведение выставочно-ярмарочных мероприятий, а также участие представителей организаций-участников в выставочно-ярмарочных и коммуникативных мероприятиях (форумы, конференции, семинары, круглые столы), в том числе зарубежных, и др.

Источник: [HSE ISSEK](#)

Международная Конференция “Научно-технологическое сотрудничество ЕС-ЦА в области изменения климата”

Бишкек | 23-24 Сентября 2014

В рамках Проекта «Сеть Международного Сотрудничества в области Науки, Технологии и Инноваций-IncoNet CA» 23-24 сентября 2014 года в Бишкеке, Кыргызстан, состоялась Международная Конференция «Научно – технологическое сотрудничество Евросоюза и Центральной Азии в области изменения климата», ставшая одной из самых значимых научных мероприятий года.

Конференция была организована Центром Изучения и Поддержки Регионального и Международного Сотрудничества в области Науки, Технологий и Инноваций (CeRISS -Греция), Евразийским Институтом Международных Отношений (EIMO - Кыргызстан) и Региональным Центром Развития Информации и Науки (RCISD- Венгрия), при активном участии и поддержке Комитета по образованию, науке, культуре и спорту и Комитета по аграрной политике, водным ресурсам, экологии и региональному развитию Жогорку Кенеша (Парламента) Кыргызской Республики.

В конференции приняли участие депутаты Парламента КР, официальные лица Аппарата Президента КР и Правительства КР, эксперты Европейской Комиссии, партнеры Проекта IncoNet Central Asia из стран Центральной Азии и Европейского Союза, ученые и исследователи из Германии, Швейцарии, Люксембурга, Италии, Литвы, Румынии, Польши, Монголии, Греции, Франции, Португалии, Венгрии, Кыргызстана, Казахстана, Узбекистана, Туркменистана и Таджикистана а также представители крупных международных исследовательских институтов таких, как Германский аэрокосмический центр (Германия), Центр социальных инноваций (Австрия), Международный институт управления водными ресурсами (Узбекистан) Национальный исследовательский совет (Италия) и др., международных организаций таких, как Продовольственная и сельскохозяйственная организация ООН (ФАО ООН), Программа развития Организации Объединенных Наций

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(ПРООН), Европейский инвестиционный банк (ЕИБ), Всемирный Банк, Европейский Банк Реконструкции и Развития (ЕБРР), Азиатского Банка Развития (АБР), USAID/Кыргызская Республика, Организация по безопасности и сотрудничеству в Европе (ОБСЕ), Германское общество по международному сотрудничеству (GIZ) и др., министерств, частных и государственных учреждений, ведущие ученые академических институтов и ВУЗов из всех стран Центральной Азии, работающих в сфере изменения климата и охраны окружающей среды. Общее число участников конференции составило 149 человек.

Конференция предоставила возможность для обмена углубленными мнениями в области изменения климата между участниками из разных стран. Целью конференции была повышение взаимодействия между заинтересованными сторонами и странами ЕС и ЦА, а также для формирования будущих совместных инициатив по решению проблем изменения климата.

Конференция была широко освещена во всех СМИ КР (прилагается список СМИ). В первый день конференции велась прямая трансляция из Парламента по главному национальному телеканалу и радио Кыргызстана.

Так что в конференции участвовали не только люди, сидевшие в зале заседания. Статья о конференции была размещена на официальном сайте Парламента КР.

Парламент КР и Правительство КР придали конференции очень большое значение.

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