



Dear Reader

One of the youngest associates to the European Framework Programme is Moldova.

The Republic joined in January 2012, thus becoming the 14th country to be associated to FP7 (the others being Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Faroe Islands, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Israel, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland and Turkey). Associated countries can participate in the Framework Programme on the same conditions as EU Member States. In return they contribute financially to the overall FP7 budget.

Three articles in this issue cover current efforts retaled to the integration of Moldova into the European Research Area.

Find out more...

FP7 Information Days on Public Private Partnerships in Research

The last calls of the EU's 7th Framework Programme will open around 20 July 2012, with deadlines at the end of 2012 and beginning of 2013. Among the numerous events related to these calls are the 'Joint Information Days on Public Private Partnerships', which will be organised on 9 and 10 July in Brussels. More than 800 participants from the EU and beyond are expected.

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Analytical paper on the use of Lifelong Learning Programmes for Science and Technology cooperation with Eastern Europe and Central Asia

A new report, recently published by the IncoNet EECA project, addresses the participation of the EECA countries in the Life Long Learning programme (LLP), Erasmus Mundus and Tempus with regards to academic institution building, human potential development, research and joint training activities.

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Good practice instruments and barriers for successful EU-Russia cooperation

The BILAT-RUS project compiled a document, which provides an overview of bilateral funding programmes for research, development and innovation between selected EU MS/AC and Russia. The report is structured in an overview of funding programmes per country, including statistics, and an annex presenting bilateral cooperation programmes in table form.

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EU news



FP7 Information Days on Public Private Partnerships in Research

Numerous events accompany the launch of the final calls under the 7th Framework Programme, which is expected around 20 July 2012.

For the last PPP calls in FP7, Joint Information Days will be organised on 9 and 10 July in Brussels. More than 800 participants coming from the EU and beyond are expected.

Commission representatives and industrial partners will present the PPPs progress and success stories, and discuss about future opportunities and challenges.

Day 1:

- Formal opening with invited speech by Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn
- Overview of activities supported by the three Public Private Partnerships
- Information on the 4th (and last) cross-thematic Coordinated Calls under FP7:
 - Research topics
 - Conditions for participation
- Brokerage (Matchmaking) event with presentation of project ideas by potential applicants

Day 2:

Morning:

- Outcome of the Impact Workshops for the Energy Efficient Buildings (EeB) and Factories of the Future (FoF) from March 2012
- Roundtable discussions on future outlook of the 3 PPPs in Horizon 2020

Afternoon:

Networking activities and workshops on Financial and legal information, Proposal writing, Standardisation, IPR, etc.

During the whole event, National Contact Points will be present to provide tailored advice to applicants.

<u>Link to practical information</u> (venue, registration, etc.)

Source: http://ec.europa.eu/research/industrial_technologies/events-fp7-practical-info-2012 en.html

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Wanted: Bright Minds with Green Ideas Apply now for the German Federal Government's Green Talents Competition!

One pressing issue of high societal relevance is on the minds of young scientists all over the world: How to raise life quality for a growing world population without wasting resources?

The topic of sustainable development has also been top priority for the Federal Government for many years. Germany is spearheading in sustainability research which is why the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) is now holding its fourth Green Talents Competition under the patronage of the Federal Minister, Professor Annette Schavan.



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Young international scientists working on cutting-edge projects in research fields related to sustainable development are invited to apply for 'Green Talents - The International Forum for High-Potentials in Sustainable Development'.

Winners will be selected by a high-calibre jury of experts from academia, public institutions and industry. Which are the selection criteria to become a 'Green Talent'? Relevance of the research field of the candidate and his/her scientific merits. The jury nominates excellent scientists with a research focus on e.g. renewable energies, environmental protection, urban development, mobility research or climatology.

In fall 2012, the awardees will be taken on an approximately two-week tour, visiting outstanding German research institutions and gaining first-hand insights into sustainability research in Germany. They will also have the opportunity to establish new contacts, to discuss their own research projects with experts from academia and industry, and to actively contribute to the ongoing scientific discussion – not least at the 9th BMBF Forum for Sustainability (FONA-Forum) in Berlin.

In 2013, the 'Green Talents' will be invited to spend an additional research stay of up to three months in Germany, to gain new experiences in an inspiring environment and to advance their work while establishing long-lasting relationships with partners from the German R&D landscape.

Fore more information about 'Green Talents 2012' including winners and activities of previous years, please visit <u>www.greentalents.de</u>. Kindly note, that the deadline for applications is 10 June 2012.

regional news

New Document: 'Analytical paper on the use of Lifelong Learning Programmes to Science and Technology cooperation'

IncoNet EECA project has recently published an "Analytical paper on the use of Lifelong Learning Programmes to Science and Technology cooperation". The document addresses the participation of the EECA countries in the Life Long Learning programme (LLP), Erasmus Mundus and Tempus with regards to academic institution building, human potential development, research and joint training activities.

The report concludes that the most relevant programmes with regards to the studied aspects are Tempus and Erasmus Mundus, although also LLP contains a number of actions that help universities and educational institutions to network, conduct staff training or exchange of knowledge. This paper summarises that all of the programmes are continuously opening up towards third countries including EECA countries. Positive is also the fact that budget reserved for the Eastern Partnership Countries in Erasmus Mundus and Tempus will be massively topped up for the next year Call. To provide a comprehensive view of the topic, Erasmus4all, the new programme integrating and simplifying the previous programme lines is discussed at the end.

The analytical findings of this report result in the Draft recommendations for exploiting the opportunities and the synergies between S&T cooperation and Lifelong Learning Programme, that are tailored to the EC stakeholders, EECA stakeholders and the EECA Higher Education Institutions.

Download Analytical Paper

Source and further information: IncoNet EECA project website; provided by ZSI

incrEAST EECA Country Reports updated in spring 2012

incrEAST provides European researchers and policy makers with up to date information about 12 Eastern European, Central Asian and South Caucasus countries. EECA Regional Correspondents – experts for the science landscapes and research policies of their countries – regularly update the information of our <u>Country Reports</u>.

In spring 2012 the Country Reports for <u>Armenia</u>, <u>Belarus</u> and <u>Russia</u> (both English and Russian versions), <u>Kyrgyzstan</u>, <u>Turkmenistan</u>, and <u>Ukraine</u> (all English versions) and for <u>Uzbekistan</u> (Russian version) have been updated. The new report for <u>Kazakhstan</u> will be added very soon.

All reports are available online and for download in PDF format. They offer an overview of science and technology infrastructures, main research policies and international cooperation experience in EECA countries.

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Armenia: New portable X-ray for chemistry analysis to be developed

On the initiative of Mr. Alpik Mkrtchyan, Academician of National Academy of Sciences of RA, research supervisor at the Institute of Applied Problems of Physics of NAS RA, the joint Russian-Armenian scientific educational laboratory 'X-Ray Optics' was opened at the Tomsk National Research Polytechnic University on February 10, 2012.

The main activity of the lab aims at the development of fundamental and applied research in the direction of 'Conventional and nuclear power and alternative energy technologies,' according to or exceeding world analogues, creation of laboratory of unique equipment, instruments, methods and technologies in accordance with international standards and the critical areas of research of the Russian Federation, commercialization of scientific developments and the results of scientific work, development of material science and technology base for fundamental and applied research.

The scientists of the joint Russian-Armenian scientific educational laboratory 'X-Ray Optics' will design a machine for the analysis of the chemical composition of any material. The X-ray will differ from existing analogues by its compact dimensions.

The researchers were intending to create not just a compact device but the portable one, which could be placed where it is needed on a regular basis – for instance, in airports, at belt loaders by luggage examination.

According to Alexander Potylitsyn, head of the Department of Applied Physics, the device is planned to be put into production by 2014.

For more information please visit: http://tpu.ru/en/discussion/49/

Source: CIT

Call for Innovative Ideas

Yerevan State University and 'Unisoft Development' Company have announced call for innovative ideas among the CIS countries' youth. The aim of the project is to support the realization of student's leading ideas and provide their application in different life spheres. Successful ideas will be granted financial awards and 'Unisoft Development' will assure their final implementation in forms of a particular product or project.

The call is open for CIS students or their groups, engaged in BA, MA and PhD

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Call for Innovative Ideas (... continued)

degree programs, who have a particular idea that is unique, innovative, hasn't been articulated before and will contribute to development of a certain life sphere.

Proposals should be with regard to making innovation in a certain field and actually facilitate human productivity. Proposals related to software, hardware, security and business are encouraged. However, ideas concerning other fields of human activity will be also appreciated.

The deadline for application submission is September 15, 2012.

For further information and application procedure please write to the following e-mail address:

<u>m.yeghyan@ysu.am</u> with "Innovative Idea" in the subject field.

For information about YSU please visit: www.ysu.am

For information about 'Unisoft Development' Company please visit: http://www.unisoft-bg.com

Source: <u>CIT</u>

Workshop in Stochastic and PDE Methods in Financial Mathematics

The Institute of Mathematics of the National Academy of Sciences in association with Yerevan State University and the American University of Armenia is organizing a Workshop in Stochastic and PDE Methods in Financial Mathematics, which will be held on **September 7 - 12, 2012 in Yerevan, Armenia**.

The objective of this workshop is to bring together experts in the area of Partial Differential Equations and Stochastic Analysis, working within Financial Mathematics to encourage and give an opportunity to young mathematicians in the region, to initiate contacts with experts in this area, and to stimulate contacts between theoretical and applied science and financial companies of the region having interests in development of mathematical modeling and research.

The program of the workshop will consist of invited 50 minutes plenary lectures and contributed 20 minutes talks, poster sessions as well as short presentations.

The participation fee for the workshop includes all local expences. There are two options for registration:

600 Euro for participants and 500 Euro for accompanying persons, which includes: registration, transportation to and from airport, accommodation

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Workshop in Stochastic and PDE Methods ... (continued)

in one of the 4-star hotels Metropol or Ararat, beakfast and lunch, full day sightseeing tour, banquet, welcome party, coffee breaks, abstracts volume.

400 Euro for participants and 300 Euro for accompanying persons, which includes: registration, transportation to and from airport, accommodation in 2-star Yerevan State University Guesthouse, beakfast and lunch, full day sightseeing tour, banquet, welcome party, coffee breaks, abstracts volume.

The registration deadline is August 10, 2012.
The deadline for abstract submission is July 31, 2012.

Contact person:

Yerevan State University Michael Poghosyan, Department of Mathematics and Mechanics E-mail: mathconf@gmail.com

Source: CIT



Belarus: 2013 Call for Presidential Scholarships for talented young researchers

The Decree of President of Belarus of 11.08.2005 № 367 "On improving the promotion of young researchers' creative work "has established 100 scholarships of the President of the Republic of Belarus for talented young researchers, who work in organizations that perform research and development in the field of natural, engineering, social sciences and humanities. Scholarships are awarded for one calendar year. The size of a scholarship is approved by the President basing on a proposal of an Interdepartmental Commission specifically set up for these purposes.

To take part in the Call, a nominee should demonstrate the best results in research, technology and innovation by the age of 45 years for a doctor of sciences, 35 years – for a candidate of sciences and 30 years – for a researcher without a degree.

While nominating talented young researchers, their achievements in the priority areas of basic and applied research, science, technology and innovation, as well as contribution to the socio-economic development of Belarus have to be taken into account with a particular focus on meeting the following criteria (one or more):

 opening of previously unknown patterns, obtaining of fundamentally new scientific results, developing of new scientific theories and concepts that next article

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2013 Call for Presidential Scho-larships for young researchers ... (continued)

have received practical confirmation and (or) the recognition in Belarus and (or) abroad;

- developing of new methods, devices, substances, strains of microorganisms, cell cultures, plants and animals indigenous, their substantial improving or applying for a new purpose (confirmed by patents for invention), as well as their practical use;
- developing of new techniques (methods, devices, processes) for which the majority of technical parameters are relevant to the world level or exceed it (confirmed by patents for invention), and their practical use.

The above criteria are taken into account in the following way:

- the results by doctors of science must include the full cycle of works from a scientific concept to implementation, and (or) recognition of research results in the Republic of Belarus and (or) abroad;
- the results by candidates of science must be in significant basic or applied relevance, recognition in the Republic of Belarus and (or) abroad;
- the results by young researchers without a degree should be a participation in development of an idea which is of significant scientific and (or) the practical importance, or in conducting basic and (or) applied research aimed to confirm such an idea, and (or) its practical implementation.

In 2012, the President has awarded 92 scholarships for talented young researchers, including 7 doctors of sciences, 59 candidates of ssciences, 26 young researchers without a degree. Among the winners, 24 represent technical sciences, 19 - medicine, 35 - natural sciences and 14 - the humanities. The group includes forward-looking fellows, researchers who have proven themselves as active participants in a number of important research projects and received the results that have significant scientific and practical value.

Deadline for submission of proposals by R&D organizations, universities and companies: **1 July 2012**.

Source: Bellsa

List of exhibitions, scientific conferences and seminars 2012

Almost 700 scientific conferences, seminars, workshops and exhibitions have been scheduled for 2012 in Belarus. They are presented in the bi-lingual "List of exhibitions, scientific conferences and seminars in the Republic of Belarus for 2012" collected by the Belarusian Institute of System Analysis and Information Support of Scientific and Technical Sphere. This is an annual edition supported by the State Committee on Science and Technology of Belarus.

The List has been prepared based on the information provided by the National Academy of Sciences, ministries, concerns, state committees, departments, enterprises and organizations of Belarus by early 2012.

The electronic version of the edition is available on the <u>Belarus National Science</u> and <u>Technology Portal</u>.

Source: Bellsa

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Academician V.A. Koptyug Prize for 2011 awarded

By the decision of the Presidium of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus (NASB), Academician V.A.Koptyug's Prize for 2011 has been awarded to a Belarusian-Russian research team for the series of research works on "Developing the scientific basis for creating the composite and nanostructured materials for advanced hydrogen energy systems, and also investigation of devices based on them". The Prize is named after V.Koptyug, Belarusian by his nationality who chaired the Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences (SB RAS) in 1980-1997. It is awarded annually, in turn by NASB and SB RAS for the best joint research project or series of joint research projects within the areas of common interest defined in the agreement between the NASB and SB RAS.

The group of 6 winners includes Alexander Ilyushchenko, Director, Institute of Powder Metallurgy, NASB and Oleg Smorygo, Head, Laboratory of highly porous materials of the same institute - from Belarusian side and Vladimir Sobyanin, Head, Laboratory of catalytic processes in fuel cells, Institute of Catalysis named after G.Boreskov, SB RAS, Rector of Novosibirsk State University; Vladislav Sadykov, Head, Laboratory of the catalysts of deep oxidation of the same institute; Nikolai Uvarov, Head, Laboratory of nonequilibrium solid-phase processes, Institute of Solid State Chemistry and Mechanochemistry; Oleg Bobrenok, Researcher, Institute of Thermophysics named after S.Kutateladze – from Russian side.

A series of works nominated in 2012 has been prepared within the framework of the integrating project "Fundamental principles of design of medium-temperature solid oxide fuel cells on porous metal substrates" completed in 2011. It includes 27 works united by a common theme - articles in leading international journals, chapters in collective international monographs and reports presented at international scientific conferences.

In the works submitted to the competition, various scientific aspects of designing the new materials for advanced processes and devices for hydrogen energy have been considered. The authors have developed a new promising type of materials - a functionally structured composite materials consisting of layers with the gradient of the composition and porosity inflicted on macro-porous metal media (tubular, planar), providing the necessary thermo-mechanical stability and structural adaptability. They have successfully solved the main challenges in developing of such materials, including design of media, synthesis and optimization of the composition of nanocomposite active materials, development of processes of applying them in the form of functionally structured layers on the media, as well as testing of the materials obtained in a variety of devices.

No doubt that the fruitful cooperation of the partner institutions will continue to ensure the forefront of the two countries in the described area.

Source: <u>National Academy of Sciences of Belarus</u>, <u>Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences provided by Bellsa</u>

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Moldova: TAIEX Expert Mission 'Developing a strategy to integrate the Republic of Moldova into the European Research Area'

The Academy of Sciences of Moldova hosted an Expert Mission on Developing the Strategy of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova for the Integration of the Republic of Moldova into the European Research Area.

The event took place in the period of 19-23 March 2012 and was supported by Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument of the European Commission (TAIEX).

The objective of the mission consisted in:

- Exchange of information and experience on strategies and their implementation with respect to European and international cooperation in science, technological development and innovation;
- Development of a draft strategy of Moldova for the integration in the European Research Area (ERA);
- Identification of scenarios for making the association of Moldova to the 7th RTD Framework Programme of the EU a success.

Mr. Joern Sonnenburg, from the International Bureau of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research located at the German Aerospace Center, was invited as an expert to assist the Academy of Sciences of Moldova in developing the draft strategy of Moldova for the integration in the European Research Area.

During the opening session of the event, there was present, also Vice-president of ASM, Pprof. Ion Tighineanu, as well as Mr. Cornel Riscanu, representative of the EU Delegation to Moldova, who addressed welcome speeches, encouraging the scientific community to continue the development of scientific cooperation partnerships, and wishing fruitful results.

The strategy will be in line with the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova on the association of the Republic of Moldova to the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (2007-2013), acquis communautaire, specifically with the 'Strategic European Framework for International Science and Technology Cooperation' (Brussels, 24.9.2008 COM(2008) 588 final) and other relevant framework EU documents.

Please also visit the event's photo gallery.

Source: Academy of Sciences of Moldova

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Policy Mix Peer Review Exercise in Moldova

From 2-5 of April, the Academy of Sciences of Moldova hosted a group of international experts involved in an evaluation exercise of the research, development and innovation (RDI) system in the Republic of Moldova.

The main goal of the mission was to identify existing practices concerning the implementation of RDI development policies. Within this frame, expert meetings were held with

- Mr. Chiril Lucinschi, President of the Parliamentary Committee on Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sports and Mass-media,
- representatives of the EU Delegation to Moldova,
- the Ministry of Education,
- the Ministry of Economy,
- the Ministry of Finance,
- the Ministry of Health,
- the State Agency on Intellectual Property,
- the Chamber of Commerce and Industry,
- the National Council for Accreditation and Attestation,
- Rectors' Council,
- the National Bureau of Statistics,
- the Free International University of Moldova,
- the Analytical Center Expert-Group,
- the Agency for Innovation and Technology Transfer and others.

The mission ended on Thursday, April 5, with a round table, which was attended by ASM leadership, representatives and members of the Supreme Council for Science and Technological Development (SCSTD) and other guests. The event was used to present the systems governing RDI in Austria, Greece, Estonia and Belarus. This was also an opportunity for those present to gain first hand insight into the characteristics of these systems and perform a comparative analysis. In addition, the newly founded Center for Fundamental and Applied Research Funding (CFARF) of Moldova was presented at the event, which aims to support and promote national scientific community activities at the expense of public funds allocated through an open competition system.

Evaluation exercise of the RDI system in Moldova is conducted within the EU funded project IncoNet EECA ("S&T International Cooperation Network for Eastern European and Central Asian Countries") and will end in June with a final report performed by the experts. This document will provide an assessment of the current system of governance of science in the Republic of Moldova and will contain recommendations on how to improve and align it to the best international practices in this field.

The Group of Experts chaired by Mr. Manfred Spiesberger of the Centre for Social Innovation in Austria, includes specialists from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research in Germany, General Secretariat for Research and Technology of Greece, the Innovation Fund of Belarus, Ministry of Education and Research of Estonia, Ministry of Science and Research of Austria.

Source: Academy of Sciences of Moldova

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Workshop on FP7 in Chisinau presented by experts from TUBITAK

In the period of 17-18 May 2012, the Academy of Sciences of Moldova hosted a workshop on FP7 aspects presented by the experts from the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (<u>TUBITAK</u>).

Mr. Huseyin METIN, FP7 ICT NCP and Mr. Orbay Bulbul, FP7 Legal and Financial NCP, representatives of TUBITAK, focused on the following topics during their presentations:

- enhancement of the status of associated country to FP7,
- consortium creation,
- promoting organization's visibility,
- grant agreement negotiation,
- financial management of a project,
- reporting and
- representation in Programme Committees.

The agenda included also a meeting of the experts with the representatives of Moldovan NCP Network, in order to make acquaintance with NCP systems of the both countries, share experience, and best practices.

The two-days event took place in Chisinau, capital of the Republic of Moldova, and Comrat City, Gagauz Autonomy.

The Workshop was organized in the frame of implementing the Action Plan 'Moldova towards Horizon-2020'.

Impressions of this event can be found on the website of the academy.

Source: Academy of Sciences of Moldova

Russia: New document 'Good practice instruments and barriers for successful EU-Russia S&T cooperation'

This document, which was compiled by the BILAT-RUS project, provides an overview of bilateral funding programmes for research, development and innovation (RDI) between selected EU MS/AC and Russia, including statistics.

In an annex, bilateral cooperation programmes are presented in table form, as a complementary input for an online RDI programme database prepared in the framework of the ERA.Net RUS project.

Dowlnoad Report.

Source: BILAT-RUS Project

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International innovation forum wraps up in Moscow and Dubna

Finding ways of better cooperation between the state, investors and scientists topped the agenda of the international forum 'Innovations. CIS. Future' that wrapped up in Moscow and the Moscow Region town of Dubna last week.

On the table was a whole array of issues which were of paramount importance to each and every participant in the innovation process. Young scientists need money to elaborate and implement their new projects which should be dully assessed by the investors. As for the state, it wants concrete results and places a main focus on funding scientific research. According to Dr. Robert Aymar, former director of European organization for nuclear research, Russia has all necessary brain resources to successfully develop innovation.

Alexander Ruzaev, head of the International Innovation Center for CIS nanotechnology, says, in turn, that despite the fact that Russian authorities have already adopted an array of successful reforms in the innovation sector scientists are yet to be supported by big business. One can clearly see the lack of interaction between the state, the business community and scientists — a problem that Ruzayev says should be resolved by Russia cooperating with the EU countries rather than the United States.

'I think that Russia as part of the CIS and the CIS itself are lagging behind the EU when it comes to innovation management,' Ruzayev says. 'This raises eyebrows given that Europe is closer to Russia than the US both mentally and geographically. With all my respect to the Silicon Valley, I think that the European experience related to innovation management is underestimated in Russia,' Ruzaev concludes.

Vice President of Russia's Skolkovo Fund Oleg Alekseyev says, for his part, that the fund is actively cooperating both with Russian scientists and their colleagues from the CIS countries.

'Our fund,' Alekseyev says, 'is an international organization which is why we develop collaboration with partners from Belarus, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Armenia. I think that we will use these opportunities step by step,' he concludes.

High on the agenda of the Moscow-Dubna forum was the creation of more mechanisms of interaction between investors. Many, however, said that Russia has already made great progress as far as the foray into innovation market is concerned. Yevgeny Kuznetsov, of the Russian Venture Company, in turn, pointed to an active presence of a host of new players in the market's main segments.

'Right now,' Kuyznetsov says, 'we should focus on achieving tangible results in other sectors of the Russian economy, because our current achievements are mainly concentrated in the Internet and IT segment.'

Part of the Moscow-Dubna forum was an exhibition which was attended by representatives of high-tech companies from Russia and beyond. The exhibition was preceded by the holding of the Russian Academician Alexei Sisyakyan Prize award ceremony. The prize is called Fantastic Reality — something that participants said reflects the role of innovations in modern-day world.

Source: The Voice of Russia provided by HSE

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XFEL Project Needs Extra EUR150 Million with Russia's Contribution of EUR 60 Million

On 4 April 2012 the Director of the Department for international integration of the Ministry of education and science of the Russian Federation Igor Protsenko declared that the XFEL project devoted to X-ray laser-based on free electrons investigations would require extra financial provisions, which account for EUR 150 million with the contribution of the Russian Federation of EUR 59.2 million.

X-ray Free-Electron Laser is 3 km long construction, which is planned to be created in Germany on the basis of scientific center DESY in Hamburg. At the launch stage the cost of the project was assessed at EUR 1.082 billion with participation of 12 countries. The Russian Federation has joined the group in 2009 with a share of 26.24%, which amounts EUR 250 million.

Extra financial resources will be allocated by ROSNANO on behalf of the Russian Federation during the period of 2012 - 2014.

Source: RIA Novosti provided by HSE

Russian Foundation for Humanities and the Russian Foundation for Basic Research will receive extra RUB 2.5 bln

During the meeting on budgetary planning for 2013-2015 the Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said that Russian Government would allocate an additional RUB 2.5 billion to the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR) and the Russian Foundation for Humanities (RFH).

This is the first positive financial news for the Russian research funds in the post-crisis period. Earlier, the Government of the Russian Federation has pursued a policy to reduce the total funding allocated to the RFBR and the RFH. The medium-term programme of activities of the RFBR in 2011-2013 published months ago envisaged the extraordinary decrease from 6 to RUB 4.3 billion.

Now the Government of the Russian Federation made a decision to increase the RFBR and RFH budgets.

Source: http://www.strf.ru/material.aspx?CatalogId=221&d_no=46384 provided by <u>HSE</u>

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Enhancing Russian-German STI Cooperation

In early April 2012 the new scientific research initiative 'Russia and Germany: Partnership of Ideas' was launched by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) to extend Russian-German cooperation.

About 250 participants represented the Russian and German academic community, scientific foundations and science-intensive business together with the Director of the Department for International Integration of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation Igor Protsenko and BMBF state secretary Georg Schuette.

The initiative is considered to push forward the results achieved during the Russian-German year of education 2011/2012. It also assumes to present the scientific achievements in the sphere of science and technological development. The main topics of the campaign cover energy and resource efficiency, nanotechnologies and health.

Source: POISK provided by HSE

Financial Support of Three Scientific Mega-projects to be increased

The financial support of three Russian scientific mega-projects will be increased.

Among these are a high-flux research nuclear reactor (PIK), a Tokamak fusion reactor called IGNITOR, and NICA, a Nuclotron based Ion Collider Facility.

The financial support of three Russian scientific mega-projects will be increased. Among these are:

- 1. High-flux research nuclear reactor (PIK) St.-Petersburg Institute of Nuclear Physics in Gatchina, near St.-Petersburg (in partnership with Germany and with probable involvement of North European and Baltic States);
- 2. Tokamak fusion reactor called IGNITOR (Russia-Italy joint project open to accession of other international partners), Troitsk Institute for Innovation & Fusion Research (TRINITI);
- 3. NICA, Nuclotron based Ion Collider Facility, Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna.

The working group of the Ministry for Education and Science of the Russian Federation made such conclusion in January 2012 after consideration of interest expressed and contribution proposed by international organizations in respect of approved in June 2011 six mega-science projects. Mega-science projects are not only about the prestige of a nation. One of the criteria to select such projects was willingness of over countries to take part in their development.

Source: POISK provided by HSE

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Russian Ministry of Education and Science and European University Institute in Florence sign agreement

The agreement focuses on opportunity for education of Russian students on doctoral programmes provided by European University Institute (EUI) in political and social sciences as well as in justice, economics and history. Russian students will obtain financial support from the federal budget of Russia. The new department will be created at the EUI to strength cooperation with Russia.

The agreement is a significant event in Russia-EU cooperation development, and integration of Russian young researchers not only into European Research Area but to the world scientific community as well.

Source: <u>http://минобрнауки.pф</u> provided by <u>HSE</u>

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Roscosmos and ESA agree on joint Mars research

Russia's space agency Roscosmos said on Friday it agreed Russia's participation in a Mars research project with the European Space Agency (ESA), a spokeswoman for the Roscosmos chief said.

Roscosmos and ESA chiefs Vladimir Popovkin and Jean-Jacques Dordain met in Moscow on Friday.

'The sides consider this project feasible and promising,' Popovkin's spokeswoman Anna Vedishcheva said. 'The sides are to sign the deal by year-end.' A Russian space industry source earlier said that the final agreement on Russia's participation in ExoMars is expected to be signed in November 'and by this date the sides should confirm their financing.'

The ExoMars program to send an orbiter to Mars in 2016 and a robot rover two years later was run jointly by NASA and ESA. NASA later said it would cut its participation in the project and will not provide its Atlas carrier for the launch. Russian scientists and space officials repeatedly hinted at their intention to join the project, offering to provide Proton carrier rockets for the launches in exchange for full membership. Russian space agency chief Vladimir Popovkin said that Russia's financing of ExoMars could be partially covered by insurance payments of 1.2 billion rubles (about U\$ 40.7 million) for the lost Phobos-Grunt sample probe to Martian moon Phobos. Russia's participation in the project was also approved by the space council of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Source: RIA Novosti provided by HSE

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Uzbekistan: Day of German Science held in Tashkent

Tashkent hosted the Day of German Science in Uzbekistan on 28 March 2012. The event was organized by the Coordinating Committee for Science and Technology Development under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, and the German Embassy in Uzbekistan. It was attended by representatives of relevant ministries and agencies of the two countries, international organizations and research institutes, professors, academics, experts, scholars and professionals.

At the seminar, Sh.Salihov, chairman of the Coordinating Committee for Science and Technology Development under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, stressed the gradual development of ties between Uzbekistan and Germany in all fields, particularly in the field of science.

In Uzbekistan, under the leadership of President Islam Karimov, special attention is paid to the acceleration of scientific progress, ensuring the integration of education, science and industry, as well as the development of advanced technologies. International cooperation is an important tool for further enhancing the effectiveness of the work in this field.

Cooperation between the higher education institutions, and research institutes of both countries is dynamically developing.

'For many years we have been effectively cooperating with Uzbekistan in the sphere of science,' said Michael Schlicht, Head of Cooperation with Russia and the CIS States at the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. 'We intend to further develop mutual ties with Uzbek scholars and universities.' Large-scale reforms are being implemented in Uzbekistan to modernize and develop the education system of the country.

At the event, the two sides exchanged views on further developing and strengthening links between scientific institutions of Uzbekistan and Germany, to intensify the practical dialogue between scientists of the two countries, further improve the mutual exchange of experiences and information, and develop and implement promising joint projects.

Source: Uzbekistan National News Agency

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Армения: Портативный рентгеновский аппарат для химического анализа будет спроектирован совместной русско-армянской научно-образовательной лабораторией.

10 февраля, 2012г. в Национальном исследовательском Томском политехническом университете состоялось открытие совместной русскоармянской научно-образовательной лаборатории «X-Ray Оптика». Инициатором организации лаборатории выступил Мкртчян Альпик Рафаелович - научный руководитель Института прикладных проблем физики, Академик Национальной Академии Наук Армении.

Основной целью деятельности лаборатории является развитие фундаментальных и прикладных научных исследований по направлению «Традиционная и атомная энергетика, альтернативные технологии производства энергии» в соответствии или превосходя мировые аналоги, развитие материальной научно-технической базы для фундаментальных и прикладных научных исследований.

Ученые совместной лаборатории «X-Ray Оптика» будут проектировать машину для анализа химического состава любого материала. Рентгеновский аппарат будет отличаться от существующих аналогов своими компактными размерами и портативностью.

Для более подробной информации посетите: http://tpu.ru/en/discussion/49/

Армения: Конкурс инновационных идей.

Ереванский государственный университет и компания "Unisoft Development" объявили конкурс инновационных идей для студентов стран СНГ. Цель проекта — поддержать реализацию передовых студенческих идей и обеспечить их применение в разных жизненных сферах. Успешные идеи удостоятся денежных премий, а компания "Unisoft Development" обеспечит их конечную реализацию в форме того или иного продукта или проекта.

Заявки на конкурс могут подавать студенты, которые вовлечены в учебные программы бакалавриата, магистратуры или аспирантуры вузов стран СНГ, имеют определенную идею, являющейся уникальной, инновационной, которая внесет свой вклад в развитие конкретной отрасли.

Конечный срок подачи заявок 15 сентября, 2012 года.

Для более подробной информаци и процедуры подачи заявок обращайтесь по ел. adpecy <u>m.yeghyan@ysu.am</u> с темой письма "Innovative Idea".

Дальнейшие сведения о ЕГУ могут быть найдены по адресу www.ysu.am Дальнейшие сведения о компании "Unisoft Development" могут быть найдены по адресу http://www.unisoft-bg.com.

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Россия: Международный инвестиционный форум в Москве и Дубне.

Как государству создать комфортные условия для развития инноваций в России? Какие реформы нужны, чтобы упростить ученым поиск инвесторов, а бизнесу - поиск перспективных проектов? Эти вопросы стали главными на международном форуме «Инновации. СНГ. Будущее», прошедшем в Москве и Дубне.

У каждого участника инновационного процесса есть своя проблема. Для молодых ученых - это отсутствие финансовой поддержки на разработку и реализацию новых проектов. Инвесторы, которые решили вложиться в инновации, сталкиваются с другой проблемой - сложностью оценки перспективности очередной идеи. Государству же, которое по традиции поддерживает науку, необходимы конкретные результаты. Кроме того, важный вопрос - как управлять инновациями и монетизировать научные исследования? По мнению члена правления Европейского совета по исследованиям доктора Роберта Эймара, у России есть все ресурсы (умы) для успешной инновационной деятельности:

«Каждый раз, когда вы видите успешно реализованную инновацию, это лишь очередной результат хорошего образования. И до сегодняшнего дня Россия в этом преуспевала. Исторически сложилось, что Россия давала порой даже лучшее образование, чем во многих западных странах».

Российская власть уже предприняла ряд успешных реформ в сфере инноваций. Однако ученые по-прежнему сетуют на недостаток интереса со стороны крупного бизнеса. Здесь прослеживается явная нехватка опыта взаимодействия между государством, бизнесом и учеными. Ее нужно восполнять по европейским, а не только американским лекалам, считает директор Международного инновационного центра нанотехнологий СНГ Александр Рузаев.

В рамках форума прошла выставка с участием высокотехнологичных компаний. Кроме того, в первый день форума впервые торжественно вручалась премия имени академика РАН Алексея Сисякяна с необычным названием «Фантастическая реальность». По общему мнению участников, перспективы инноваций с каждым днем становятся все более реальными.

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Россия: Проект XFEL требует еще 150 млн евро, доля РФ - около 60 млн евро.

4 апреля 2012 г. директор Департамента международной интеграции Минобрнауки РФ Игорь Проценко сообщил РИА Новости о том, что проект европейского рентгеновского лазера на свободных электронах XFEL требует дополнительных финансовых вливаний на сумму около 150 миллионов евро, дополнительный взнос России может составить до 59,2 млн евро.

Рентгеновский лазер на свободных электронах XFEL (X-ray Free-Electron Laser) - сооружение длиной более трех километров, которое планируется построить в Германии, на базе научного центра DESY в Гамбурге. Стоимость проекта ранее оценивалась в 1,082 миллиарда евро, в нем участвуют 12 стран. Россия присоединилась к проекту в июле 2009 года, ее доля составляет 26,24%, и РФ ранее заявляла, что выделит на проект 250 млн евро.

Денежные средства от имени России передает ОАО "Роснано", в декабре 2011 года корпорация заявила, что перечислит на проект в 2012-2014 годах 9 млрд рублей.

Россия: РФФИ и РГНФ получат дополнительные 2,5 млрд рублей.

Российский фонд фундаментальных исследований (РФФИ) и Российский государственный научный фонд (РГНФ) получат дополнительные 2,5 млрд рублей. Об этом заявил председатель правительства России Владимир Путин на совещании по бюджетным проектировкам на 2013-2015 годы.

Ранее правительство РФ проводило политику по сокращению финансирования бюджетов РФФИ и РГНФ. В опубликованной несколько месяцев назад среднесрочной программе деятельности Российского фонда фундаментальных исследований на 2011—2013 годы говорилось о небывалом секвестре: с 6 до 4,3 миллиарда рублей. С учётом инфляции это было возвращение на уровень начала 2000-х годов.

Теперь правительство РФ изменило решение. Чем мотивировано решение о дополнительном финансировании РФФИ и РГНФ, Владимир Путин не уточнил, сказал лишь, что это увеличение финансовой поддержки отечественной науки.

Российский фонд фундаментальных исследований и Российский гуманитарный научный фонд, несмотря на повсеместное увлечение крупнейших инвесторов науки прикладными инновационными проектами, поддерживают, прежде всего, фундаментальные исследования.

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Россия: Кампания в компании. Стартовал новый этап российско-германского сотрудничества.

В лектории Политехнического музея был дан старт новой кампании в сфере научных исследований под девизом "Россия и Германия - партнерство идей", запущенной Федеральным министерством образования и научных исследований Германии (ВМВГ) в целях расширения российскогерманского сотрудничества. Более 250 участников мероприятия - российских и немецких ученых, преподавателей ведущих вузов, представителей научных фондов и наукоемкого бизнеса - приветствовали директор Департамента международной интеграции Министерства образования и науки РФ Игорь Проценко и статс-секретарь ВМВГ Георг Шютте.

Предполагается, что новая кампания продолжит традиции, заложенные Российско-германским годом образования, науки и инноваций 2011/2012, в рамках которого уже успешно прошло более 150 совместных мероприятий. Основная цель кампании - презентация в России ведущих немецких научных разработок и технологий. Среди главных тем кампании нанотехнологии, оптические технологии, энерго - и ресурсоэффективность, а также здравоохранение

Россия: Увеличение финансирования трех российских научных мегапроектов.

Финансирование трех российских научных мегапроектов, отобранных для первоочередного развития, - термоядерной установки "Игнитор", нейтронного реактора ПИК и коллайдера NICA - будет увеличено. Об этом журналистам сообщил замминистра образования и науки Сергей Мазуренко.

В июне 2011 года рабочая группа Минобрнауки определила шесть самых перспективных проектов класса "меганаука", реализуемых на исследовательских установках, финансирование создания и эксплуатации которых выходит за рамки возможностей отдельных государств. Одним из критериев отбора проекта была готовность других стран участвовать в их развитии.

В середине января 2012 года рабочая группа министерства рассмотрела поступившие по всем шести мегапроектам дополнительные материалы и пришла к выводу, что реальный вклад зарубежных организаций подтвержден по трем мегапроектам - по реактору ПИК, термоядерной установке "Игнитор" и по коллайдеру тяжелых ионов NICA.

"Это не дополнительное финансирование, просто будет увеличен объем целевого финансирования", - цитирует С.Мазуренко РИА "Новости". Возросшие суммы на проекты будут выделены уже через год.

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Россия: 22 марта 2012 года в г. Флоренции состоялось подписание Соглашения между Министерством образования и науки Российской Федерации и Европейским университетским институтом во Флоренции.

Соглашение было заключено с целью обеспечения возможности обучения российских студентов на докторских программах Института по четырем направлениям: политические и социальные науки, право, экономика, история. Обучение будет финансироваться за счет средств, выделяемых из федерального бюджета Российской Федерации. Кроме того, для проведения исследований в интересах Российской Федерации и укрепления взаимодействия, создается дополнительная кафедра.

Учредителями Института являются 20 государств-членов Европейского союза. Европейский университетский институт имеет одну из крупнейших в мире докторских программ по социальным наукам. В ее работе задействованы лучшие ученые из более чем 60 стран мира.

Заключение соглашения с Европейским университетским институтом — это значимый шаг в сближении России и Европейского союза, интеграции российских молодых ученых не только в европейское, но и мировое научное сообщество.

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