



PACE-Net Newsletter

N. 2 – July 2011

The PACE-Net Project held its first bi-regional Platform in Brisbane in July 2011. This number of the newsletter contains a summary of the main outcomes. The next issue will be focused on the results produced in the first period of the project. The Coordinator wants to address a special thanks to all the participants taking part at the Brisbane event through the following message:

Thank you for attending!

The project Coordinator would like to thank all those who attended the first PACE-Net bi-regional Platform in Brisbane.

We wish to thank the Consortium members, the EC representatives (from the EU Research Directorate and the EU External Action Service), the experts (in health and in environmental issues) as well as the key stakeholders engaged in the debates and discussions over the three days of the meeting, as detailed in the following pages of this newsletter.

We owe a special 'thank you' to the ANU, FEAST and the Queensland Government whose efficiency and support made the organization of this event possible. A special 'thanks' to the various key stakeholders who attended the platform on their own funds and to "our" experts who came from various countries or territories in the Pacific and in Europe to contribute to the workshops (some of you challenged even harder administrative hurdles in order to be there with a colleague living in the remotest location of our marvelous region).

We are deeply indebted to all active participants who gave freely of their time and energy so that the whole Research community could benefit from their work; their high spirits and drive made this conference not only possible but a thoroughly enjoyable experience.

You will find various presentations and summaries of the outcomes of this event in our Webpage: www.pacenet.eu

Thank you all very much; we all eagerly welcome the development of the next meeting in Brussels (Platform and workshops on topics to be defined) and we look forward to seeing you there in March next year.

Sincerely,
Dr Claude Payri
PACE-Net scientific coordinator

PACE-Net «Pacific Europe network for Science and Technology» is an INCO-Net project financed by the European Commission under the [7th Framework Programme](#) that aim to achieve the following main objectives:

- * reinforce existing dialogues and Networks and promote regional integration for these networks.
- * identify S&T international cooperation activities and programmes towards the Pacific region.
- * strengthen the coordination of S&T cooperation and the complementarities with activities and programmes carried out by other Community instruments.

For further information please visit: www.pacenet.eu

If you would like to provide inputs for the newsletter or in case of any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at pace-net@apre.eu.

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www.pacenet.eu

Pacific and European researchers meet in Brisbane for bi-regional dialogue

The first bi-regional platform of the PACE-Net project was held in July 2011 in Brisbane with more than 60 participants from Pacific ACP countries and overseas territories (OCT), New Zealand, Australia and Europe.



The platform concluded on Thursday, the 7th of July, after four days of dialogue and exchange. Discussions were kicked off on the first day by presentations on analyses and inventories of cooperation programmes in science and technology in the Pacific, which had been carried out by the University of the South Pacific (USP) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC).

Assessments by the University of Papua New Guinea are equally being undertaken to supplement these analyses. During the

dialogue, Pacific representatives insisted on the importance of understanding Pacific regional science and technology priorities as a basis for developing actions of mutual interest with European partners.

A range of European financial instruments were also presented and discussed, to understand their purposes and the eligibility requirements.

This event, jointly organized by IRD and the ANU at the new Ecosciences Precinct,

brought together experts and representatives of key Pacific and European stakeholder institutions, as well as representatives from the 10 partner institutions of the PACE-Net consortium. The highlights of the week included the expert thematic workshops on the 3rd of July, focusing on the topics of climate change, water, energy, health and ecosystems.

The experts' conclusions and recommendations will be communicated to the European Commission Directorate for Research and Innovation, so that they can be taken into account for the next phase of scientific programming.

The four-day event was also attended by two members of the project's External Advisory Board who delivered their opinions and recommendations on the preliminary project results and forthcoming project actions. The next bi-regional platform is

planned for March 2012 in Brussels, to be organized by the German partner (PT-DLR) of the PACE-Net consortium. In the interim, activities will continue according to the project's agenda and the consortium will endeavor to maintain a strong and sustainable network of Pacific and European actors with mutual science and technology interests, who can work together to ensure positive Pacific region development.

The PACE-Net project consortium includes 11 research institutions

from the European Union (France, Italy, Germany, Malta) and the Pacific region (Papua New Guinea, Australia, New Zealand), as well as two Pacific regional organizations (SPC and USP).

The network is coordinated by the French IRD centre in New Caledonia, and aims to promote scientific cooperation in the natural and social sciences between Pacific and European institutes.

[>> For further information](#) about the Brisbane event or the PACE-Net

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FOCUS on the PACE-Net Key Stakeholder Panel members: The CRIOBE

The CRIOBE (Centre de Recherches Insulaires et Observatoire de l'Environnement - Insular Research Center and Environment Observatory) is a field station for French as well as international researchers. Located in Moorea, French Polynesia, the CRIOBE is connected with the Practical School of High Studies (EPHE) and is part of the CNRS French marine stations national network.

The CRIOBE's scientific activities are focused on applied and fundamental research, education and training (Thesis and master's degree student's internships) and information (press articles, awareness rising, science fair).

The center is directed by Serge Planes, Research Director at the CNRS and studies Director at the EPHE. Several permanent employees are in charge of the maintenance of the buildings and equipments and are welcoming the researchers and technicians coming for specific projects.

MISSION

- » To be an observatory of the South Pacific coralline ecosystem.
- » To be a reception and promotion centre for the habitat research and South Pacific insular societies.
- » To enhance communication and



popularization of the coralline ecosystem who's also an expert on coralline habitat environment questions.

[>> Further information](#)



PACE-Net EVENTS

PACE-Net will promote Pacific participation in FP7 and other S&T funding opportunities through explicit opening to Pacific partners: it will work towards identifying Specific International Cooperation Activities (SICAs) in terms of

topics of mutual interest and benefit between the EU and Pacific countries.

In order to achieve this goal, PACE-Net will organise several workshops and dialogue platforms to bring Pacific and EU scientists together to

share latest findings, approaches, etc. in priority focal science areas and explore collaborative opportunities (including the possibility to create innovative research SMEs).

Announcement of the 2nd Pacific-European bi-regional Dialogue and Supporting Stakeholder Conference in Brussels: 20th-23rd March 2012

The 2nd Pacific-European bi-regional dialogue and supporting stakeholder conference is scheduled to take place in Brussels between 20th and 23rd March 2012.

The objective of the conference is to provide a forum for dialogue between representatives of the Pacific and the EU on joint research and capacity building activities in the Pacific. This dialogue intends to strengthen the bi-regional cooperation and integration of Pacific countries in the activities of the 7th Framework Programme and to support the renewed EU-Pacific development partnership.

The conference includes a practical training on FP7 issues, keynote speeches from science and policy representatives, thematic workshops on environment, in particular climate change adaptation in relation to different aspects (e.g. water, agriculture, fisheries, natural hazards), good examples of (bi-lateral and FP7)

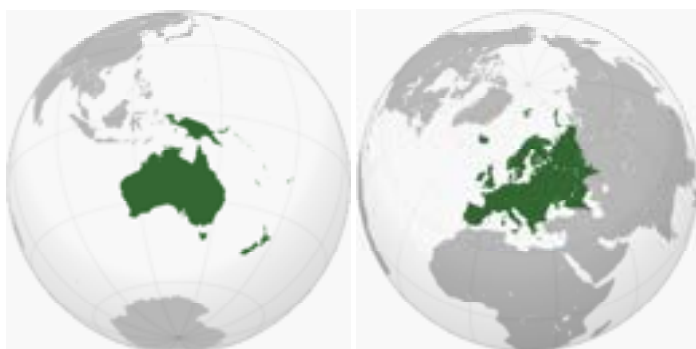


S&T cooperation projects, meetings with high-level EU-delegates, matchmaking between researchers/representatives of development organizations, and provision of key information on S&T systems in the Pacific. The date of the conference connects to a global water event in Europe - the 6th World Water Forum in France (12th-17th March).

The conference addresses the participation of a high-level audience of science and technology experts as well as stakeholders such as

regional research and development organizations, policy makers from the EU and Member States, National Contact Points (NCPs), further donors such as multi-lateral and national development organizations, foundations. The conference will be organized by PT-DLR in collaboration with core consortium members.

>> [For further information](#) please contact Dr. Gerd Rücker (gerd.ruecker@dlr.de).



The EU's relations with the Pacific

Pacific Islands – EU relations: Focus on Climate change

The Pacific Plan for Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Integration, adopted by Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) leaders in 2005, sets out the Region's cooperation and integration goals from 2006 to 2015 in four areas: economic growth, sustainable development, governance and security. As a response to the Pacific Plan, the European Union adopted in 2006 the EU Strategy for a Strengthened Partnership with the Pacific. The Commission uses a comprehensive mix of policies and financial resources to put the Strategy into effect:

- * Increased development assistance to Pacific Countries and the region.
- * Enhanced EU-PIF political dialogue, through participation in the Annual Forum Meetings and Ministerial Troika Meetings. The dialogue covers matters of common interest ranging

from regional security and governance to economic stability and growth, international trade, environment, climate change and development cooperation.

* Trilateral Pacific dialogue with Australia and New Zealand at

Heads of Mission level, covering: country situations, peace and security in the region, Cairns Compact, climate change, Aid for Trade, energy, budget support and delegated arrangements.



Pacific Islands Forum

Founded in 1971, it is the region's major political and economic policy institution with a mission to strengthen regional cooperation and integration. The PIF comprises of 16 member states – fourteen

Pacific Island countries plus Australia and New Zealand. The Forum Leaders meet annually and give political guidance to the region. The European Commission is in a privileged position and is the

only partner invited to deliver a speech at the Pacific - ACP leaders' meetings.

Participation at the Annual Forum is a great opportunity for the Commission to meet with leaders

of the PIF Member States and key regional partners. In December 2010 the Commission successfully concluded discussions with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat on a Memorandum of Understanding for a Joint Pacific-EU initiative on climate change, which was signed by the PIF Secretary General and Commissioner Piebalgs in Strasbourg. The objective is to facilitate implementation of the Joint Declaration adopted in November 2008 and also to attract international climate change funding to the Pacific.



Pacific Islands and Millennium Development Goals

While some countries have made good progress towards, and even achieved, some Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the region as a whole remains off track to meet the 2015 targets, although, at sub-regional levels some differences could be observed with Polynesian countries performing relatively better. 3.2 million people in the region (including Timor-Leste) are living in poverty and do not have the income to satisfy their basic human needs. Around 480,000 children are not enrolled in primary school and 64 out of every 1000 children die before the age of five. Lately all countries



with the exception of Nauru have reported steady improvement in infant and under-5 year mortality rates. Maternal mortality rates have risen significantly since 1990 in the Federated States of

Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati and Tonga. Papua New Guinea is most off-track country in the region in combating HIV.

[>> Further information](#)



7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development

EU 7th Framework Programme: €7 billion boost for research and innovation will create jobs and growth

The Work Programmes for 2012 with about **€7 billion** - **which is the European Commission's biggest** ever funding package under the EU's Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7) - were published on 20 July 2011. It is expected to create around 174.000 jobs in the short-term and nearly 450.000 jobs and nearly €80 billion in GDP growth over 15 years. Grants will promote research to tackle the biggest societal challenges facing Europe and the world. Universities, research organisations and industry will be among more than 16.000 funding recipients. The publication of this round of calls for proposals has been moved from [CORDIS](#) to the [Participant Portal](#) which is now the European Commission's single authoritative website for FP7 calls.

In principle, Third Countries, including Pacific Countries are eligible for the participation and funding in all other project proposals submitted to the European Commission in response to the general open calls provided that the minimum conditions laid down in the Rules for Participation in FP7 have been met, including any additional conditions laid down by FP7 Specific Programmes or individual FP7 Work Programmes.

In addition, 2 topics of the newly opened FP7 calls target directly research cooperation between

the EU and the Pacific Region (one with Australia and one with New Zealand).

Programme	COOPERATION
Theme:	HEALTH
Call title:	FP7-HEALTH-2012-INNOVATION-1
Topic:	HEALTH.2012.1.4-3 Innovative Strategies for translation of stem cell based therapies in regenerative medicine (European Union-Australia cooperation)
Funding Scheme:	Collaborative Project (small or medium-scale focused research project)
Target Region:	European Union-Australia cooperation
Link to the call:	http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/cooperation?callIdentifier=FP7-HEALTH-2012-INNOVATION-1

Programme	COOPERATION
Theme:	ICT
Call title:	FP7-ICT-2011-8
Topic:	Objective ICT-2011 9.6: FET Proactive: Unconventional Computation (UCOMP)
Funding Scheme:	STRP
Target Region:	Global international research cooperation in this area, in particular with participants from the USA, Canada, New Zealand and Japan
Link to the call:	http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/cooperation?callIdentifier=FP7-ICT-2011-8

>> All topics open and of particular interest for Australian and New Zealand participation

Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation

The proposed Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, which will be introduced post-2013, will build upon the successes of the current Framework Programme for Research (FP7), the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT).

The ultimate aim is to maximise the contribution of EU funded research and innovation to sustainable growth and jobs and to tackling the

grand challenges facing Europe – for example climate change, energy and food security, health and our ageing population.

This will be achieved by creating a coherent set of instruments, along the whole “innovation chain” starting from basic research, culminating in bringing innovative products and services to market; and also to support non-technological innovation, for example in design and marketing.



Consultation: Green Paper on a Common Strategic Framework for future EU Research and Innovation Funding

On 10 June 2011 the outcome of the consultation on future EU research and innovation funding was discussed at a major conference in Brussels. The consultation was based on a European Commission Green Paper, published on 9 February 2011, with a deadline for contributions of 20 May 2011. The Green Paper proposed major changes to EU research and innovation funding to make participation easier, increase scientific and economic impact and provide better value for money. The outcomes of the consultation are available through this website:

- * A summary analysis of the consultation, based on written responses and around 1300

online questionnaires that were submitted by interested individuals, companies, research institutes and citizens.

- * The written responses provided by over 750 associations, large organisations and others that provide in-depth views which are published on this website,



organised by country.

- * An interactive blog, where various questions and topics from the Green Paper were posted for open comment, debate and ideas.
- * Links to events, in particular the major event on 10 June to bring together and discuss the main outcomes.

The outcomes are being used to design the legislative proposals for Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, to be presented by the Commission by the end of 2011, for decisions of the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament.

Multi-annual Financial Framework - A Budget for Europe 2020

On 29 June 2011 the European Commission presented the Multiannual Financial Framework which translates into financial terms the Union's political priorities for the period 2014-2020. Investment in research and

innovation in the next seven years will be significantly increased. The common EU strategy "Horizon 2020" worth €80 billion will boost Europe's global competitiveness and help create the jobs and ideas of tomorrow. It will gather all

projects in this area to eliminate fragmentation and make sure EU-funded projects better complement and help coordinate national efforts.

[>> Further information 1](#)

[>> Further information 2](#)

“INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS TO MEET GLOBAL CHALLENGES”

27th September 2011 Johannesburg, South Africa

The INCO Conference 2011 “International Research and Innovation Partnerships to meet Global Challenges” will take place on 27th September 2011 in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The theme for the 2011 conference revolves around issues of International Research and Development cooperation to address global challenges, with particular, but not exclusive, focus on African EU Science and Technology cooperation. The conference will be open to stakeholders interested in international scientific cooperation and will include several relevant topics.

BACKGROUND

The recent economic crisis has underlined again the need to invest

on a knowledge based economy and highlighted the need for global action. Global action is also a necessity for addressing several challenges (environmental, health, societal, etc) that require immediate attention.

Addressing this need of an

interconnected world, the European Union has invested in the development of the International Scientific Cooperation (INCO) over the last 25 years to address the needs and opportunities, and to contribute to peace and prosperity for European citizens. The European Commission (EC) has specifically



come forward with a communication (A Strategic European Framework for International S&T Cooperation) that identifies general principles and specific orientations for action: to strengthen the international dimension of the European Research Area (ERA); to improve the framework conditions for international S&T cooperation; and to promote European technologies in the world.

In this context, the EU has opened to Third countries the Framework Programme (FP), its main central funding instrument for scientific

research. The current Framework Programme, the 7th Framework Programme (FP7), lasts from 2007 through 2013. To maximise impact, funding for international research activities is spread throughout the various activities of FP7, with limited exceptions, while the INCO programme is specially designed to support the participation of third countries in FP7.

The 2011 conference occurs at a time when Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation - is under development and offers an opportunity for the

role of international cooperation to be considered.

The objectives of the INCO Conference 2011 are to:

- * Outline the policy for international S&T cooperation and global challenges,
- * Examine the experiences of S&T partnership initiatives,
- * Discuss International co-operation in the Common Strategic Framework for Research and Innovation.

[>> Further information](#)

NEW PARTNER SEARCH SERVICE ON CORDIS

CORDIS, the Community Research and Development Information Service, has just launched a new Partners Service. Designed to be an interactive platform, this free online service can help you promote your expertise and organisations, find business or research partners, create groups, join networks and find the right components for funding bids and proposals. Developed in cooperation with a range of stakeholders, the new service builds on three fundamental ideas: personalization, collaboration and networking.

Interactivity is a hallmark of social media and Web 2.0. Users have, for example, become accustomed to package and configure information according to their own wishes. The Partners Service takes this into account, combining a vast array of social media tools, CORDIS resources

and back-office technologies. The aim is to provide a space where users can talk, debate and engage.

For users, a focal point of the new service is their online profile, which has significant room for them to feature their expertise, knowledge and work. Another important characteristic of the new service is the possibility for users to form partnerships. With links to official information sources, basic data will be uploaded when funding opportunities are announced. This will help participants to discuss and review their ideas and proposals with one another ahead of submission deadlines.

For projects, finding the right people or entities to perform specialized work or even comply with funding requirements can take significant amounts of time. The new service

aims to shorten this process by using an automated matching system that brings together data and hundreds of partnership requests supplied by companies, research-related entities and universities across Europe and around the world.

Active engagement is also crucial for success, so the new service offers users the opportunity to build and expand their networks. This can be done via participating in discussions, offering support in on-line groups or creating cross-disciplinary networks. The service provides the tools to users, allowing them to create and build according to their own needs as a group.

The best way to find out about the new CORDIS Partners Service is to try it out. Take the next step, and see what it has to offer: [Cordis Partners Service](#).



Pacific research programme



Seed – Funding: Mechanism to Initiate Pacific Research Networks and Projects

The focus of many Pacific Island Governments is simply on survival. Research is not high on the list of their priorities, even though many development and aid projects carried out in the Pacific and the work plans of Pacific regional organizations have significant research components.

It is therefore often difficult to attract a broad spectrum of Pacific countries to participate in large research networks and purely research projects. What is needed is a mechanism to raise recognition of the potential of research to address urgent Pacific needs and to build interest and participation in research.

One successful mechanism is the use of seed-funding. With seed-funding, relatively small amounts of relatively-easily accessed money (two to three page application forms) are used to enable organizations and people in a particular area of research to meet together, share

experiences, discuss needs and priorities, form alliances and, in some cases, initiate the first phase of a collaborative research pilot-project or training component.

The advantages of seed-funding are: minimal administrative overheads and time penalties for research participants; small risks of failure for funding agencies; and the building of an investment in increasing research awareness,

collaboration and initiating effective networks.

The philosophy behind seed funding is to start small and to build awareness, collaboration and capability.

Ian White

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Other News

ENLACE - Enhancing Scientific Cooperation between the European Union and Central America

Focus on INCONET projects



ENLACE is a project funded by the European Commission, under the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development - International Cooperation. The project ENLACE aims at supporting the bi-regional dialogue between the EU and the Central America Countries and includes a set of activities to enhance the networking among EU and Central America researchers through the organization of S&T dialogues, to identify research priorities of mutual interest and to raise awareness on FP7 in Central America mainly by setting up the network of FP7 National Contact Point in Central America. The consortium includes 15 multi-skilled partners, 6 from the EU and 8 from the Central America, regrouping multiple international stakeholders (partners from research, industry, government and civil society) for research actions, that will ensure the fulfillment of ENLACE's objectives.

The main objective and services of the ENLACE project are:

- * Identification of common research areas of mutual interest and benefit
- * Setting-up a network of FP7 National Contact Points in Central America
- * Promotion of innovation dialogue
- * Fostering the participation of CA researchers in EU FP7 projects

These activities will be mainly performed through a series of training, thematic workshops, dissemination events, networking and partner search activities and an interactive online helpdesk(Q&A). So far, the ENLACE project has reached the following main achievements:

- **The Experts Dialogues** are expected to produce recommendations for such priority topics to be presented to the European Commission for consideration in future FP7 Work Programme and established a shared platform of RTD thematic priorities. The first Experts' Dialogue was held in Athens on 11th June 2010. The second Experts' Dialogue was carried out in Santo Domingo on 7-8th of March 2011 as a joint initiative of ENLACE and EUCARINET projects. The workshops focused on the following themes:

- * Knowledge-Based Bio-Economy (KBBE)
- * Health (only during the second

dialogue)

- * Environment
- * Energy (only during the first dialogue)

- Appointment and training of **National Contact Point in Central America**. The first training was held in Santo Domingo on 8-9 March 2011 in conjunction with the second expert dialogue. The NCPS will also participate to a staff exchange in European NCPs organizations to increase their capacities and knowledge of the role of NCPs.

- * Guatemala: Ms. Rosa Maria Amaya – Conacyt
- * Honduras: Mr. Eduardo Pavon - SePlan
- * Nicaragua: Mr. Abel Reyes – Conicyt
- * Costa Rica: Mr. Henning Jensen – UCR (already existed)
- * Panama: Senacyt (ongoing)

- **Travel Grant Scheme** implemented to promote exchange between Central American and European researchers as well as to encourage contacts between research institutions for joint participation in the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). The grant scheme works as a mechanism to facilitate networking or even joint proposal writing.

[>>> Further information: www.enlace-project.eu](http://www.enlace-project.eu)

Near Neighbour Travel Award for ARMS 2011 Conference

The Australasian Research Management Society (ARMS) is organizing the 13th Annual National Conference 'Imagine the Transformation... Transform your Imagination', that will be held at Dockside, Sydney from Tuesday 13 to Friday 16 September 2011.

The aim of the Conference is to provide a stimulating and practical programme with social events and networking opportunities. The programme has been developed to reflect the transformation that

can take place during a Research Management career. It starts with topics that will support those early in their careers and ends with topics related to industry collaborations. The conference will include workshops, panel sessions, plenary and parallel information sessions. The ARMS Secretariat has launched the "Near Neighbour Travel Award for ARMS 2011 Conference". The aim of this travel award is to support a delegate's attendance at the conference. Applicants who are involved in the management or

administration of research from the following countries in the Pacific Rim region are invited to apply: Fiji, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu. Previous recipients of ARMS travel awards are not eligible. If you would like a copy of the form, please contact the ARMS Secretariat.

[>> More information about the conference](#)

[>> More information about the travel award](#)

THE OCEAN OF TOMORROW 2012 - THE APPROACH AT A GLANCE

Oceans offer huge opportunities for innovation and economic development. However, the impact of human activities on the marine environment keeps increasing. Maritime transport, offshore energy, tourism, coastal development, resource extraction, fisheries and aquaculture are examples of activities which can have a major impact on the marine environment, putting at risk fragile marine ecosystems. The European Union has taken up this challenge with the Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) of which the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)

is the environmental pillar. "The Ocean of Tomorrow 2012" initiative is consistent with the two previous cross-thematic calls FP7-OCEAN-2010 and FP7-OCEAN-2011. It is one of the actions undertaken in order to implement the European Strategy for Marine and Maritime Research COM (2008) 534 "The Ocean of Tomorrow" 2012 initiative requires a multi-disciplinary approach and the involvement of various scientific and technological research fields directly relevant for advancing the knowledge base on the good environmental status (GES). It is implemented through

9 coordinated topics addressing a wide range of marine related issues relevant to several descriptors of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Cooperation will involve Theme 2 Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and biotechnology, Theme 5 Energy, Theme 6 Environment, (including climate change), and Theme 7 Transport (including Aeronautics). The focus will be on research gaps about the definition and monitoring of the "Good Environment Status" (GES) of EU waters, to be achieved by 2020.

[>> Further information](#)



Promoting Green Investments in the Eastern Caribbean through Innovation and Clean Technology

The EMBASSIES OF THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN STATES & MISSIONS TO THE EUROPEAN UNION invite to The Green Growth Investment Forum that will be held 6-7 of October 2011 in "The hotel" situated in the boulevard de Waterloo, 38, Brussels.

This forum will bring together on one hand, businessmen and investors in Brussels and elsewhere in the European Union

as well as appeal to specific public consumers likely to be interested in the Eastern Caribbean, and on the other, representatives from businesses and stakeholders in the Eastern Caribbean and Central America, as well as experts in policy development from the public and private sector.

If you desire to get more details, you can visit the institutional

webpage of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS):

[>> Further information](#)



International Cooperation - Information Meeting, 27th July 2011 Presentation available

The European Commission, Directorate General for Research and Innovation organised on 27th July 2011 an Information Meeting about the new calls for proposals under the 2012 Work Programme of the Activities of International Cooperation. The meeting was addressed to stakeholders and multipliers across Europe and beyond. Detailed information was

provided on the activities targeted by the calls, namely the "bi-regional coordination of S&T cooperation including priority setting and definition of S&T cooperation policies (INCO-NET)" and the "Bilateral coordination for the enhancement and development of S&T Partnerships (BILAT)".

[>> Further information](#)



Poland takes over EU Council Presidency

On 1st July 2011, Poland takes over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union. Between then and 31st December 2011 the key role of research, development and innovation in finding solutions to the challenges facing Europe will be in the spotlight.

[>> Further information](#)



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