

2013
Issue 2

EURAXESS Links Network Newsletter

Editorial

By Robert-Jan Smits

Dear Readers,



Robert-Jan Smits
Director-General Research and
Innovation
European Commission

Let me start by saying how delighted I am to share my thoughts with you in the EURAXESS Links Network Newsletter. EURAXESS plays a unique role in providing information on carrying out research in Europe. EURAXESS Links provides all of the information international researchers need to take part in European research and plays a crucial role as a link between Europe and the global research community by raising awareness about the opportunities that exist in Europe. I am particularly pleased to address the EURAXESS Links community with representatives in ASEAN, Brazil, China, India, Japan and North America.

Europe, and indeed the world, are facing major societal challenges. The Commission is determined to fund research that can find answers to these challenges including climate change, energy supply and food security. A challenge-based approach will bring together resources and knowledge across different fields, technologies and disciplines, including social sciences and the humanities. Global challenges need a global commitment, which is why we are keen to attract the best researchers to collaborate on joint projects.

The EU is making progress in its efforts to become a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy by 2020 as outlined in the Europe 2020 strategy. Our flagship initiative 'Innovation Union' aims to improve the conditions for an attractive research and innovation climate and lists initiatives to facilitate lab-to-



market ideas such as the new unitary patent protection. We are building a European Research Area open to the world where researchers, scientific knowledge and technology will circulate freely.

Our research framework programme marks an important shift in research policy in Europe. Innovation is the key ingredient for economic growth, and the new funding programme reflects this reality. Horizon 2020, the EU's next research framework programme, will fund those who want to make a difference with ground-breaking research that seeks market-oriented solutions.

Horizon 2020 is scheduled to begin in 2014 with the first calls for proposals to be published at the end of 2013. I am happy to say that agreement on funding of €70 bn has been reached. This represents about a 25% increase on FP7 and, as a result, Horizon 2020 will offer many exciting opportunities for researchers, also internationally.

Europe is looking ahead with determination. We want to reward those who pursue excellent research and come up with innovative ideas. We are aware that innovative ideas carry an element of risk, which is why funding for early-stage research and business breakthroughs built on emerging technologies will increase. We are cutting down on bureaucracy and thereby making it easier to apply for funding. We are confident we can attract the best researchers to Europe and strengthen the European Research Area with this approach.

Europe has a lot to offer ambitious researchers worldwide. Horizon 2020 will be the biggest research funding programme in the world and is open to researchers from every country. Europe has world-class research institutes and laboratories that generate the highest number of scientific publications worldwide and we aim to attract the best researchers to complement these. Non-European researchers can join project teams or apply for individual grants from the European Research Council or the Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions. There are also developments concerning visas for researchers, as a new proposal is being discussed which should further facilitate the entry into and mobility within Europe for third country nationals.

In essence, Horizon 2020 will strengthen the European Research Area and make it an even more attractive place to work, one that is open to the world. Cooperation with our partners is essential in tackling our common issues, and EURAXESS is a valuable tool in bringing together the global research community. I hope you take advantage of the opportunities we offer and contribute to the richness of research that is underway. I encourage you to accept this challenge and look forward to working together.



Foreword

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the second edition of the EURAXESS Links Network Newsletter!

After the first edition – published in May 2013 – focused on introducing EURAXESS Links, its team, services and the new mandate, this edition will present the network highlights of the past trimester and offer policy and strategy insights as well as an overview of our planned activities. This edition also has a new layout which we hope you like.

First of all, we would like to thank Director-General Robert-Jan Smits for sharing his thoughts on [Horizon 2020](#) with us in this newsletter's editorial.

The first article in this edition takes a look at an exciting milestone in the EURAXESS Links network: the launch of our sixth network, [EURAXESS Links Brazil](#) in May 2013. Three events were organised in Brasilia, Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro with high-level participants to celebrate this occasion.

Our EURAXESS Links representatives based in the respective Links countries also provide insight into EU-third country cooperation and strategic and political developments in seven short articles. In addition, we give you a brief overview of how the EURAXESS Service Centres can help you. The results of the bi-annual EURAXESS Conference are also presented. This conference took place in Dubrovnik at the end of April 2013 and encouraged synergies between two important EURAXESS pillars: EURAXESS Links and EURAXESS Services.

We also would like to draw your attention to our newly created EURAXESS Links LinkedIn [group](#) for internationally mobile researchers and ask for your help to spread the word and enhance its value for everyone.

Finally, our last section “EURAXESS Links Events” features upcoming activities and events. This trimester's highlight is our very first global EURAXESS Science Slam which will take place in all EURAXESS Links countries and hubs in September and October. Don't miss it!

We hope you enjoy reading this edition of our newsletter!

Your EURAXESS Links Editorial Team



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EURAXESS Links Network Newsletter is a quarterly electronic newsletter edited by the EURAXESS Links Central Coordination team which provides information of specific interest to all EURAXESS Links community members.

The information contained in this publication is intended for personal use only. It should not be taken in any way to reflect the views of the European Commission nor of the Delegation of the European Union to Country.

Please email to euraxess@dlr.de for any comments on this newsletter or contributions you would like to make.

If you think any other colleagues would be interested in receiving this newsletter, or if you want to unsubscribe please contact the EURAXESS Links Representative in your respective network community.

Editor:

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1 EURAXESS Links Highlight: Launch of EURAXESS Links Brazil

By Paulo Lopes

[EURAXESS Links Brazil](#) was officially launched in Brasilia on 10 May. The launch took place at the headquarters of the [National Council for Technological and Scientific Development \(CNPq\)](#), an agency under the supervision of the Brazilian [Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation \(MCTI\)](#). The event was attended by more than 50 participants.

FLTR: Dr Piero Venturi, EU Research & Innovation Counsellor of EU Delegation to Brazil; Ambassador Ana Paula Zacarias, Head of the EU Delegation to Brazil; Dr Anna Karaoglou, Deputy Head of the EC DG RTD “Skills” unit responsible for the EURAXESS initiative; Mr Guilherme Melo, Interim President of CNPq.

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EURAXESS Links Brazil’s mandate is to promote researcher mobility and provide a wide range of information and support services for European and Brazilian researchers who want to pursue research careers in Europe. It is a networking tool for European researchers

living and working in Brazil to connect with one another and remain in contact with Europe. It is also open to local researchers at all stages of their careers in order to stimulate scientific cooperation between Europe and Brazil.

The network’s website (brazil.euraxess.org) was also officially launched at this event. Moreover, EURAXESS Links Brazil publishes a [monthly newsletter](#) and organises networking [events](#).

Photo on the right: FLTR: Paulo Lopes, EURAXESS Links Brazil Country Representative; Dr Piero Venturi; Prof. Julie Schmiedt, Jean Monnet Chair, University of Brasilia; Dr Anna Karaoglou; Charlotte Grawitz, EURAXESS Links Brazil Country Representative; Oscar Borja, Researcher, UnB.

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European Member States have shown great interest in publishing their national information (cooperation development, funding opportunities) on the EURAXESS Links Brazil website and in the newsletter. European research institutions welcomed the initiative as well and have already been announcing job





vacancies open in Brazil on the platform.

The opportunities offered by EURAXESS have also been well received by the Brazilian dialogue partners, notably in view of the potential to link with ongoing activities in the context of EU-Brazil S, T&I cooperation, as well as the ambitious “[Science without Borders](#)” (SwB) programme initiated by the Brazilian government in 2011, which provides scholarships to 100,000 students and researchers for studying at top universities worldwide until 2014. Furthermore, Brazilian funding agencies have expressed their interests in EURAXESS to promote their programmes with the aim of attracting European researchers to Brazil.

For more information, please [contact](#) Charlotte Grawitz and Paulo Lopes, EURAXESS Links Brazil Country Representatives.

2 Policy and Strategy Insights from Our EURAXESS Links Representatives

2.1 ASEAN: ASEAN Ranks 5th in FP7 Participation

By Simon Grimley

Researchers from across Southeast Asia are actively participating in the European Union’s [Seventh Framework Program for Research and Technological Development \(FP7\)](#) (2007-2013), and have shown a significant increase in participation and funding rates over FP6. ASEAN as a region now ranks 5th in FP7 participation after Russia, the US, China and India.

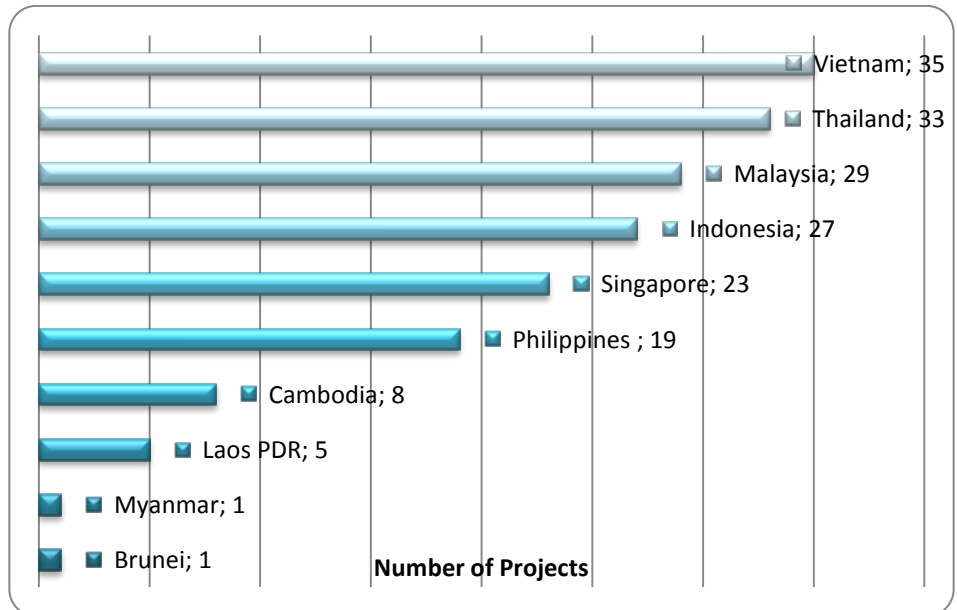
[ASEAN](#) comprises the following ten countries in Southeast Asia: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. As of June 2013, ASEAN countries had participated in 212 FP7 projects worth more than 517 million euros. In FP6 ASEAN partners participated in 149 projects .

ASEAN researchers are most active in the areas of health, KBBE (knowledge based bio-economy) and the environment, and have demonstrated success rates comparable with Europe ranging from 17% in case of Indonesia to 30% for Vietnam. ASEAN researchers are also benefiting from the mobility component of FP7: 153 researchers from the region have conducted research in Europe as [Marie Curie Fellows](#).



ASEAN FP7 Projects

Source: CORDA Data,
May 2013



2.2 ASEAN: ASEAN moves towards full economic integration

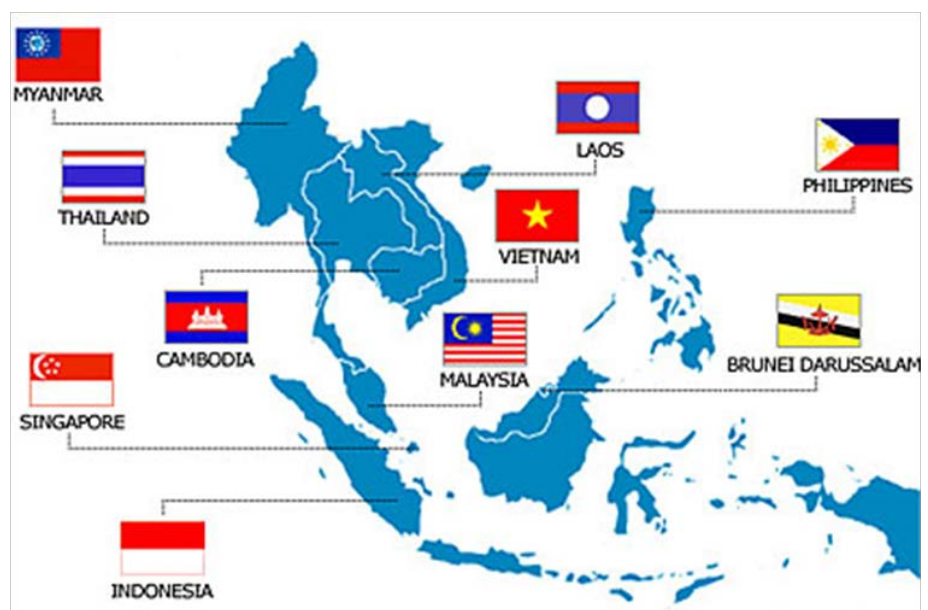
By Simon Grimley

ASEAN's GDP in 2010 reached USD 1.85 trillion, or 3% of global GDP, with total trade of more than USD 2 trillion, comprising 6.8% of world trade.

Under the [ASEAN Economic Community \(AEC\)](#), a single regional common market and production base comprising the ten member countries of ASEAN: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam will be created by 2015. There will be a free flow of goods, services, investment capital and skilled labour following market liberalisation. The AEC will have an aggregate population of 580 million which will be larger than the European Union.

ASEAN

Source: ASEAN Secretariat
© ASEAN Secretariat





Source: various sources, i.a.
European Commission,
World Bank, etc.

ASEAN Facts & Figures

Pop. 600 million
9th largest economy
9% of world's pop.
7% of global trade
GDP - USD1.9 trillion
GDP per capita – USD 8,000

EU Facts & Figures

Pop. 500 million
World's largest economy
7% of world's pop
20% of global trade
GDP- USD17.5 trillion
GDP per capita USD 35,100

Much of the liberalisation of trade in goods is already in place under the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement which was concluded in 2010.

At this point the move towards the AEC is largely government driven, and many of the of the supranational agencies which facilitated the emergence of a single market in the EU such as a common central bank and regulatory authorities are for the most part still absent in planning for the AEC. The private sector is assuming an increasingly important role in the integration.

Key AEC initiatives relating to research and research mobility include enhanced cooperation among the [ASEAN University Network \(AUN\)](#) members to increase mobility for both students and staff within the region, and strengthening the research capabilities of each ASEAN member country in terms of skill promotion, job placement, and the creation of job market information networks among ASEAN member countries.

2.3 Brazil: EU-Brazil Scientific Cooperation

By Paulo Lopes

[EU-Brazil scientific cooperation](#) has been stepped up after the [bilateral agreement for scientific and technological cooperation](#) came into force in 2007. This agreement was renewed in 2012 for another five years.

The main bilateral cooperation instrument has been the EU's [7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development \(FP7\)](#) covering the 2007-2013 period. Brazil ranks sixth among the third country participants in FP7 involvement. Under the "[Cooperation](#)" and "[Capacities](#)" programmes some 200 Brazilian partners have participated in more than 140 FP7 research projects, and the EU has contributed approximately €28 million to the Brazilian partners. The main areas of cooperation have been: environment, knowledge based bio-economy, ICT, health, transport and energy. In the area of nuclear research, there are presently about 15 ongoing collaborative efforts involving 17 European research institutions or fusion associations and 14 Brazilian entities in the field of fusion energy research.

More than 40 [Marie Skłodowska-Curie researcher mobility actions](#) are in place. Brazilian institutions have so far benefited from an EU contribution of €7 million for collaborative activities and the exchange of researchers under the "[People](#)" programme/Marie Curie Actions.



EU scientific cooperation with Brazil does not only take place in a bilateral context: regional cooperation (EU - Latin America and Caribbean) also plays an important role. This is particularly the case for cooperation in health research.

In [Horizon 2020](#), the general openness of the programme for bottom-up participation of organisations from non-associated third countries will continue. However, Brazilian participants will not be funded automatically. Therefore, potential matching funding mechanisms would need to be discussed and implemented by the Brazilian side.

Meanwhile, the Brazilian context has been changing significantly. Brazil is now one of the largest economies in the world (6th by GDP in 2011) and aims to play a bigger role on the international stage. Domestically, successive governments have recognised the importance of science, technology and innovation. This has resulted in significantly increased funding and important institutional and policy reforms.

Brazil is among the world leaders in several fields, such as agro-biotechnology, biofuels, deep sea petroleum extraction, aeronautics, etc. It also has several strong and internationally acknowledged universities. Its performance in these areas, however, does not spill over to the entire and very diverse Brazilian economy. In particular, the many SMEs have a rather limited record in terms of innovation. Inadequate framework conditions and substantial social challenges, such as education and poverty, result in generally low performance in science, technology and innovation.

In this context, Brazil is undergoing profound and rapid changes to strengthen its innovation system today. In March 2013, the Brazilian government announced that about €12 billion will be available to support innovation in enterprises. The measures announced include the creation of the [EMBRAPII](#), a dedicated institute for research and innovation in industry.

The need to improve the qualification of Brazilian researchers has also been recognised as essential by Brazilian authorities, especially through the promotion of the international mobility of researchers. The ambitious “[Science without Borders](#)” programme is an initiative of the Brazilian government to address this problem and aims to give more than 100,000 students and researchers international experience by 2014.

Although federal sources account for most science funding, state-funded programmes also play a significant role in some Brazilian states. In 2010, public-sector expenditure on R&D in Brazil totalled R\$ 23 billion (€ 8.5 billion). Of that amount, R\$ 7 billion (€ 2.5 billion) came from state coffers, approximately a third of the total public investment in science and innovation. São Paulo alone accounts for nearly three quarters of this total (R\$ 5 billion; around € 1.8 billion).



2.4 China: On the Relevance of International Cooperation for Innovation from a Chinese Perspective

By Jacques de Soyres

In May 2012, a consensus was reached between the Chinese Vice-Prime Minister Li Keqiang and the European Commission's President José Manuel Barroso on establishing a mechanism for EU-China cooperation in innovation and in September 2012, at the last EU-China Summit, both sides [formally decided to initiate a High-Level Innovation Cooperation Dialogue](#).

This mechanism, which is in addition to and should complement existing bilateral dialogue on innovation between certain EU Member States and China, is designed to stimulate discussion between the two sides on innovation strategies and encourage cooperation in innovation among various stakeholders including universities, research institutions and industry. Expected outcomes of this dialogue cover a wide range of areas: from human resources and research infrastructure to capitalising on research findings and creating the framework conditions for innovation.

Given these high expectations and the fact that the first round of discussions is currently in the planning stages, it might prove useful to look once more at the relevance of innovation and international cooperation from the Chinese perspective.

Innovation began to appear at the centre of top-level policy speeches under the term of the former leadership (whose main ideological contributions have been the concepts of 'scientific development' and 'indigenous innovation'). The increase in China's capabilities for 'indigenous innovation' and the creation of a high-performance national innovation system are two of the main objectives outlined in the 12th Five-Year Plan for S&T Development (2011-2015).

Under this framework, former Premier Wen Jiabao repeatedly called for reform in the country's science system to enable science and technology to develop hand-in-hand with the economy. Encouraging enterprises to become the main source of technological innovation and bringing science and technology more closely into line with the economy were placed at the core of the government's action roadmap in 2012.

Taking over from the previous administration earlier this year, the new leadership has made innovation one of its priorities. Earlier this year, President Xi Jinping stressed the importance of implementing a strategy of innovation-driven development to accelerate the transformation of China's growth pattern, 'solving deep-rooted problems related to economic development and enhancing economic vitality'.

New Chinese Premier Li Keqiang has also already repeatedly stressed the significance of innovation and called for enterprises to be more innovation-oriented. As the view which was expressed recently by Vice-Minister for Science and Technology, Zhang Laiwu, at the third Annual Meeting of China's Independent Innovation, that many of the economic bottlenecks now faced by



China – such as the supply of land and labour – can be resolved only through innovation, not only in technology, but also with the "introduction of new products, exploration of new markets, or acquisitions of new material sources", becomes more mainstream, Chinese companies also seem to grow more receptive to policymakers' appeals. A survey published in April this year showed that Chinese entrepreneurs perceived innovation as the new main driver for both their businesses and the Chinese economy. 91.8% of respondents believed innovation in entrepreneurship and technologies would be the key to supporting healthy and sustainable business development in the future.

To achieve the goal of strengthening the capability of Chinese enterprises to innovate, internal reform within China but also international cooperation will be necessary. In his latest visit to Europe, Premier Li Keqiang called for international cooperation and exchange between companies and welcomed European investment, which many in the Chinese policymaking and business realms would like to see increasingly diverted to core technologies and manufacturing activities with high added value.

From the Chinese perspective, innovation thus appears to be viewed as the key factor in achieving the long-sought change in growth patterns and ensuring the sustainability of China's economic growth. Improving Chinese enterprises' ability to innovate is at the core of the country's innovation strategy and includes reforms to the national S&T management system and the higher education system (among others). International cooperation is considered one tool that will help bring about this improvement and will thus be driven on the Chinese side by this objective and the high stakes linked to it.

2.5 India: India, the European Union and its Member States: Symmetry, Reciprocity and Mutual Benefit for a Strategic Partnership

By Aurélie Pachkoff-Singh

Representing the two largest democracies in the world, India with its 1.1 billion population and the European Union with its almost 500 million share many common values and ideals that make them natural partners in the modern world. Both India and the EU believe in unity in diversity. Within the context of the rapid internationalisation of science and technology, the EU and India have decided to significantly increase their collaboration in science and innovation.

EU-India Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement

Formal collaboration in science and technology (S&T) with India started with the signature of the European Community-India [Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement](#) on 23 November 2001.

Science and technology also play an important part in the [EU-India Strategic Partnership](#). The Joint Action Plan which was drawn up to implement this partnership contains a number of action items that have important S&T dimensions. The significance of EU-India cooperation in S&T has also been



underscored at the highest political level. The [Joint Statement](#) of the EU-India Summit held in Helsinki on 13 October 2006 states that: “The EU and India recognise the critical role of science and technology (S&T) in striving towards their respective knowledge-based economies and the mutual benefits of further strengthening joint research and S&T cooperation. Within the framework of the India-EU S&T Cooperation Agreement which was renewed during the [Summit in New Delhi on 30 November 2007](#), the leaders stated that they would welcome strengthened partnership initiatives such as joint projects with co-investment of resources in selected fields of mutual priority.

The “[New Delhi Communiqué](#)”, issued at the end of the India-EU Ministerial Science Conference from 7-8 February 2007 and co-signed by the Conference Co-chairs, underlined the importance of a strong science and knowledge base as a major prerequisite for competitiveness, and the strong role of international S&T collaboration. It confirmed that the S&T cooperation between the EU and India should be based on the principles of symmetry, reciprocity, mutual benefit and, where appropriate, the co-investment of resources in joint activities.

More coordination between the European Union and its Member States

Within the [Strategic Forum for International Science and Technology Cooperation \(SFIC\)](#), the Member States and European Commission have been working on an [India pilot initiative](#) on water and bio-resources related challenges since 2009. To bring the process to a higher, more comprehensive and strategic level, SFIC decided in 2011 to work on a draft strategic agenda outlining a broader range of common challenges, objectives, priority areas and instruments for EU/MS-India cooperation for the coming years.

This policy development process received a boost at the EU-India Summit held on 10 February 2012 when, at the initiative of the Indian side, a [joint declaration on research and innovation](#) was signed. It aims to enhance the scale, scope and impact of cooperation and to establish an "Indo-European research and innovation partnership" with a focus on common societal challenges and enhanced synergies between India and the EU. A ministerial meeting took place in Brussels on 31 May 2012 with the participation of Commissioner Maire Geoghegan-Quinn, Morten Østergaard, Danish Science and Innovation Minister, and Shri Vilasrao Deshmuk'h, Indian Minister of Science and Technology and Earth Sciences. They agreed on a “[Brussels Communiqué](#)” which called for 1) jointly defining the scope and development of a Strategic Research & Innovation Agenda – a White Paper, 2) establishing a Group of Senior Officials (GSO) and iii) setting up an industry-driven India-Europe stakeholder group for research and innovation.

Implementation

Many European countries collaborate with India at institutional level and through bilateral agreements and structured cooperation, from fellowships and mobility projects to joint calls for proposals in research and/or innovation, and even joint laboratories. Through the [7th Framework Programme](#) (FP7), India also ranks number 4 in terms of number of third country participation. One particular



feature of EU-India S&T relations is the launch of coordinated calls for proposals, on Computational Materials Science (2007), Food and Nutrition Research (2008), Solar Energy Systems (2009), Partnering Initiative on Biomass and Biowastes (2010) and Water Research (2011).

In addition, two multilateral initiatives support the research and innovation cooperation: the [Open Research Area Plus](#) (ORA) joint programme between ANR (France), BBSRC (UK), DFG (Germany), NWO (NL) and ICSSR (India) in Social Sciences and Humanities (1 call in 2011, 6 projects selected) and [New INDIGO](#), which implemented 4 calls for proposals in biotechnology and health, water research and energy between 2010 and 2013 (28 projects selected in the first three calls with the participation of Austria, Belgium (Flanders), Finland, France, Germany, India, Israel, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain and Turkey). The New INDIGO call for proposal on [Energy research](#) is open until 23 August 2013.

2.6 Japan: “Japan is Back” and EU-Japan S&T Cooperation

By Lee Woolgar

There were three major highlights in Japan over recent months. The first was the publication of an economic growth strategy by the Cabinet Office. This forms the so-called third pillar for economic growth along with the first pillar which is monetary expansion to reach an inflation target of around 2%, and a large supplementary budget that was introduced in January 2013. The growth strategy is intended to outline a series of structural and other economic reforms. The second highlight is a new comprehensive strategy for science and technology that was adopted by the [Cabinet](#) on 7 June. This comprehensive strategy lays out a set of policy objectives and strategies up to the period for 2030. Thirdly, the shape of cooperation and future priorities were discussed at the [EU-Japan Science and Technology Summit](#) in late June.

“Japan is Back” & the New Comprehensive Strategy for Science and Technology

The [Japan Revitalisation Strategy](#) is a broad ranging economic strategy designed to stimulate structural change, new business and venture industries, and encourage more women to participate in the labour force, increase youth employment, expand overseas markets as well as a set of other general economic objectives.

Over time, we have gone from “Japan bashing” at the height of Japan’s economic power in the 1980s to “Japan passing” during the depths of concern over Japan’s prominence on the world stage. The new strategy clearly aims to reverse such trends with a confident and powerful message in the strategy’s subtitle: “Japan is Back”.

The Comprehensive Strategy for Science and Technology meanwhile adds to the existing policy framework for STI, expanding the scope and longer term



objectives, as well as placing greater emphasis on research infrastructures and adding a broader ambition to be the most innovation-friendly nation.

Taken together, there are a number of issues as they relate to researchers or students.

- Review and possible revision to the new points based system to enable high level human resources to settle in Japan
- Double the number of overseas student exchanges for Japanese students to 120,000 by 2020; increase the number of foreign students in Japan to 300,000 by 2020 (this second plan was already in place)
- Increase the number of universities in the top 100 ranking to 10 over the next ten years
- Over the next three years, expand the number of positions at national universities for younger researchers and foreigners by around 1,500
- Generally seek to promote and extend the flows and inward, outward and intersectoral mobility patterns, including for foreign researchers

EU-Japan Joint Committee on Cooperation in S&T

After the [EU-Japan Science and Technology Agreement](#) in 2011, there was a second committee meeting between policymakers from Japan and the European Commission with Robert-Jan Smits leading discussions from the Commission side joined by H.E. Shin Maruo, the Ambassador for Science and Technology Cooperation of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Japan on the other.

The meeting reviewed recent developments in European and Japanese science and technology policies as well as the five joint calls in the areas of energy, aeronautics, information and communication technologies, and critical raw materials that have been developed since the agreement passed. A total of 17 joint projects have been funded as a result.

The committee also reviewed the progress of the [CONCERT-Japan ERA-NET](#) which has just announced the selection and funding of nine joint projects in the areas of disaster resilience and efficient energy storage and distribution.

Both sides give priority to researcher mobility and the need to reinforce exchange of scientists between Europe and Japan, in particular by maximising the use of existing schemes in Europe (Marie Curie Actions, [ERC](#) grants, [Erasmus Mundus](#)) and in Japan ([Open Partnership Joint Research Projects/Seminars](#), [JSPS Fellowship Programs](#)).

Links to further information:

Click here for an [English summary](#) of the Growth Strategy.

Click here for an English overview of the [Comprehensive Strategy for Science and Technology](#).



[Summary](#) of the EU-Japan Joint Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation

Overview of the [CONCERT-Japan funding announcement](#)

2.7 North America: EU-North American S&T Cooperation and the Role of EURAXESS Links North America

By Jean-Michel Sers

The activities of [EURAXESS in North America](#) are at the interface between two important EU strategies that aim to make the [European Research Area](#) a more attractive place for talent outside Europe and to enhance and focus EU international cooperation in research and innovation with key partner countries including the U.S. and Canada. EURAXESS Links North America also acts as a liaison in the relationships between some Member and Associated States (MS/AC) and the United States and Canada supported by diverse cultural and economic links.

Making the EU an attractive destination for researchers based in North America is still a challenge given the continual appeal of the latter region and the lack of knowledge about the potential of research and innovation in Europe. Many Europeans are eager to go to North America while Americans and Canadians often are reluctant to leave their countries at a pre-tenure stage of their careers or for extended periods of time. More than 100,000 European researchers are working in North America, some for a short period of their career while others are well integrated in the scientific and academic communities. Connecting a larger proportion of researchers based in North America is a major priority of EURAXESS Links North America via internet-based media (i.e. [newsletter](#), [LinkedIn](#)), participation and presentation in career fair [events](#) and missions to relevant research institutions and universities.

Both continents equally value the benefits of internationalisation of research and innovation, as well as the need to build better global networks, particularly through increased mobility and exchange. Another endeavour shared by the two continents is to increase the scale of cooperation in selected areas and to develop a more ambitious innovation dimension within the existing cooperation. On the European side, this approach was endorsed in 2009 by the 'Strategic Forum for International Science and Technology Cooperation' (SFIC)¹ and followed by an unprecedented package of joint initiatives. In addition, recent Joint Steering Committees meetings with the U.S. and Canada under the existing [EU-USA](#) and [EU-Canada](#) S&T agreements have made it possible to identify a number of priority areas of cooperation, including transport, health, material sciences (U.S.) and agriculture, energy, health, and the environment (Canada). More recently the EU, the U.S. and Canada have also agreed to

¹ The SFIC is comprised of representatives of the 27 EU Member States, the European Commission and the 10 Associated Countries as observers.



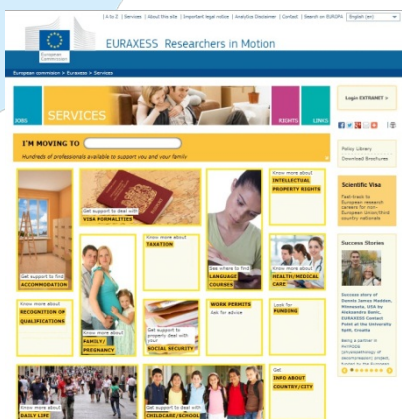
launch a multilateral partnership on marine and maritime research² to which EURAXESS will contribute by promoting researcher mobility.

The actions of EURAXESS Links North America are being carried out in line with these priorities through participation in events related to these issues and through dissemination activities. In addition EURAXESS Links North America will continue to participate in career fairs and other high-profile events or meetings where large researcher communities and advocates can be reached. EURAXESS Links North America works closely with the European Commission, the Member and Associated States and FP7 policy platform projects³ to join efforts in stimulating transatlantic cooperation (i.e. 'Destination Europe' events) and increase impact. The team will actively network with other EURAXESS Links network communities to exchange best practices and increase social networking with researchers from all over the world. Finally, EURAXESS Links North America has started to initiate new partnerships with companies and professional associations (i.e. [Euro-American Chamber of Commerce](#), [American Chemical Society](#)) to mutually promote jobs and funding opportunities available on the labour market.

3 EURAXESS Service Centers: Are you considering a research career in Europe?

"In Europe researchers get access to lots of different cultures, languages, cuisines and history" (Baroness Susan Greenfield, Director of the Institute for the Future of the Mind, Professor of Pharmacology at Oxford University)

Researchers who want to take up a position in Europe have to tackle a number of issues before arriving at their new positions. EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion is a unique initiative launched by the European Commission to facilitate researcher mobility across Europe. EURAXESS centers offer a variety of services to help researchers find and secure an ideal research position no matter where they are from. Researchers have a team of well-informed staff at their disposal from more than 260 EURAXESS Service Centers located in 40 European countries. These centers help researchers and their families plan and organise their stay in a European country. The friendly staff recognises the challenges a researcher may face in getting the right documents together, visas, social services, family requirements, recognition of diplomas, etc. Family issues, language courses and schools for children can also be handled by the EURAXESS staff.



For more information, please visit the EURAXESS Services website.

² ["Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Cooperation"](#), 24 May 2013.

³ ['ERA-Can'](#) and ['BILAT USA 2.0'](#) projects.



One of the most important services these centers provide is support for visa applications. Twenty-five European countries (with the exception of the UK and Denmark) participate in the “Scientific Visa Package” which helps researchers obtain a permit to enter, stay and work in the European Union Member States to carry out scientific research. The Scientific Visa Package is designed to make it easier to obtain residence permits for short-term (up to 3 months) or long-term (more than 3 months) stays in the European Union.

The service provided is free and helps researchers save time on administrative issues. Let EURAXESS help with the formalities so that you can get on with what you do best – research.

EURAXESS provides information and support to research talent: this is why the EURAXESS Service Centers and the EURAXESS Links Country Representatives work closely together to help researchers in their mobility and career development.

For more information about the Scientific Visa Package, see:
<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/services/scientificVisa>

To contact one of the EURAXESS Service Centers, see:
<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/services/networks>

4 Synergies between EURAXESS Services and EURAXESS Links

By Viktoria Bodnarova

Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science, [Maire Geoghegan-Quinn](#), stressed the importance of offering internationally competitive research careers to attract the best scientists from abroad. Her speech underlined the current policy developments and the need for over one million researchers in the European Research Area in the upcoming decade. One operational tool which can help narrow the gap is [EURAXESS](#).

The mandate change of the EURAXESS Links Country/Regional Representatives from January 2013 led to an expansion of each Links community to include also non-European researchers which was not the case in the previous years. The European network of EURAXESS Service Centres has been engaged in supporting the researchers from third countries on a daily basis with the various issues they face in foreign countries. Therefore, the collaboration between EURAXESS Links and the EURAXESS Service Centres should be strengthened to accommodate this new mandate. During the conference workshop “Destination Europe: EURAXESS Links transforming the ERA”, both sides – EURAXESS Links and Services – worked on fully understanding each other’s roles and the needs they all have in their day-to-day jobs and how they could improve networking and collaboration between them.



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Our EURAXESS Links team up with EURAXESS Services representatives to discuss synergies between the two EURAXESS pillars.

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Ideally, communication should work as follows: the scientist who has found a job/fellowship opportunity in Europe (for instance via the EURAXESS Jobs website or the monthly newsletter drafted by all EURAXESS Links representatives) contacts the individual

Country/Regional Representative in the third country and expresses his/her intention to move to Europe. The Links representative then informs the national coordinator of the EURAXESS Service network in the chosen country who then contacts the researcher and helps in all administrative issues to facilitate the relocation (visa, housing, social security, health insurance, family related aspects, etc.). If the stay is longer than three months which is subject to a visa restriction, the researcher is advised to apply for a long-term permit for scientific research which was transposed into the national legislation of each EU Member State (except the UK and Denmark). The staff in the Service Centres provides all the necessary information and helps facilitate and speed up the relocation process.

This information flow between the Links representatives and European Service Centres could save a lot of time when a researcher moves from one country to another. It could also help researchers decide whether to move to Europe especially when they have a family and more arrangements are needed in the host country (job for spouses, schools for children etc.). Last but not least, the knowledge of the above mentioned support services would surely minimise the administrative workload so that researchers can concentrate on the real purpose of their stay in Europe: research.

The results of the workshops in Dubrovnik will enable EURAXESS Links and Services to better assist the scientists who want to pursue a short research stay or an academic career in Europe.

The participants at the 6th EURAXESS Conference “We communicate” in Dubrovnik, Croatia came together to discuss various topics of interest to further optimise the services for researchers interested in a research career in or collaboration with Europe.

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5 New LinkedIn Group for Internationally Mobile Researchers

By Lee Woolgar



Social media is increasingly recognised by businesses, the public sector and other organisations as an important tool for raising awareness and nurturing interactivity and a sense of community around a brand.

In return, such companies gain useful information on who their users are as well as how people respond to particular topics. Furthermore, as social media becomes ever more widely disseminated, sharing or commenting on topics becomes ever more common and natural; people begin to instinctively expect such opportunities.

In many ways, the content of EURAXESS is uniquely well suited for sharing or commenting upon. For instance, fellowships, research programmes or other developments are all topics where people tend to either seek out further information or have strong opinions. There is a typically high likelihood of researchers discussing funding developments, opportunities or strategies, as well as sharing information that may be pertinent to their colleagues or students.

To try and link with these trends, EURAXESS Links have developed a [LinkedIn Group](https://www.linkedin.com/groups?trk=hp_group-card) ([linkedin.euraxess.org](https://www.linkedin.com/groups?trk=hp_group-card)) to further expand and highlight various opportunities, developments and issues for internationally mobile researchers.

The group was established in May and has witnessed a quite dramatic growth in members since then with close to 500 members as of mid-August. Most of the members are indeed employed in research (~30%) but others are involved in higher education, or international affairs. Close to 40% are recognised as having a senior position.

The key challenge with any form of social media is in providing timely and relevant information, consistently and with regularity. With this in mind, those responsible for Links have been feeding in information that is relevant to research careers, with new developments, job opportunities or funding announcements appearing. What is also extremely encouraging is that other members have also been posting things and providing information.

Discussions have also begun to emerge, with one on the role of networking in researcher careers generating a number of responses both on the positive and negative aspects of such tactics for career development. This is, in many ways, social media in action: it can go in any direction. There is no control over such discussions and they are based on the experiences and knowledge of the participants. It will thus provide insights, unvarnished truths, but ultimately, and hopefully, useful information both to other researchers and those of us involved in the EURAXESS initiative.



Please help us add to the range of information and topics of discussion so that we can all learn of the most recent developments, funding opportunities or schemes, as well as what researchers really think. Please join us on [LinkedIn!](#)

Our “EURAXESS Links – Internationally Mobile Researchers” LinkedIn group does not only provide the latest information on general EU policy and job and funding opportunities but also offers country and hub specific information in our six **subgroups:**

[ASEAN](#)
[Brazil](#)
[China](#)
[India](#)
[Japan](#)
[North America](#)

EURAXESS Links – Internationally Mobile Researchers

Discussions Members Promotions Jobs Search Manage More...

This group is for internationally mobile researchers to learn of jobs and career opportunities around the world, as well as share experiences.

It is part of the EURAXESS initiative, which is the European Commission's programme to support researchers.

On the EURAXESS Jobs website there are over 10,000 research positions at any given time.

Throughout Europe there are nearly 300 support centres helping researchers move around, through helping with their visas, accommodation, nursery needs and other types of help.

If you are internationally mobile, EURAXESS Links enables you to learn of all the latest international and European opportunities as well as maintain a connection with European research.

One of our LinkedIn group members, Natalie Cernecka (JSPS Invited Fellow, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan) shared her EURAXESS experience with us:

“When I was a young PhD student, I went to ask advice from my mentor before attending my first conference. Great Eric Handley, Emeritus Regius Professor of Greek at University of Cambridge, told me in a very matter-of-fact way that the main interest in any conference was its informal part, 'parties and drinks', as he put it. Then, I did not quite know what to think, but over the years, my own experiences taking me from Latvia to the UK to France to Japan, I became convinced in the importance of making connections and talking to people of different backgrounds and fields. For me, EURAXESS is a valuable networking venue, EURAXESS newsletters provide up-to-date information on trends, events and opportunities, and EURAXESS 'parties and drinks' are a good way of meeting new people.”

Indeed, informal communication amongst scientists often provides them with important opportunities for more in-depth exchange and communication than formal settings would allow. Collaboration planning among scientists often takes place at informal occasions. EURAXESS Links not only informs scientists about policy developments, funding and job openings, but also endeavours to create both formal and informal platforms for scientists to set up their cooperation. The EURAXESS LinkedIn group builds an additional virtual space to animate further networking of researchers within and beyond the EURAXESS Links researchers' community and will help us create our global EURAXESS community.

As Natalie says: “I joined the EURAXESS LinkedIn group to be alerted to news from all six EURAXESS hubs.”



6 EURAXESS Links Events

6.1 EURAXESS Science Slam 2013: First Global Event of its Kind

We proudly announce the first EURAXESS Links global event which will take place in all six countries and hubs where EURAXESS Links is present: [ASEAN](#), [Brazil](#), [China](#), [India](#), [Japan](#) and [North America](#) at the end of September 2013 and mid-October. This is the first global event of its kind.

The EURAXESS Science Slam combines science with fun factors and gives you the chance to share your research to a large audience in a relaxed atmosphere and at a nice location.

The LIVE Finals: When and Where?



ASEAN: [25 September 2013, Singapore](#)

Brazil: [24 September 2013, Rio de Janeiro](#)

China: [26 September 2013, Beijing](#)

India: [29 September 2013, Pune](#)

Japan: [16 October 2013, Tokyo](#)

North America: [24 September 2013, Washington, DC](#)

Do you have what it takes to become the 1st EURAXESS Science Slammer? Then slam your way to a free trip to Brussels! As a Slam winner you will also be invited to the first EURAXESS Voice of Researchers Conference in November 2013 and join the other researchers to network and share experiences.

Be part of this unique global event and you may have a science rock star moment!

And don't miss our [trailer](#) for a first impression and fun!

To participate check out our country websites for more information and terms and conditions or get in touch with our country and regional representatives!

ASEAN: [Dr Susanne Rentzow-Vasu and Simon Grimley](#), Regional Representatives
scienceslamasean.euraxess.org



SHOW YOUR RESEARCH





- Brazil: [Charlotte Grawitz and Paulo Lopes](http://scienceslambrasil.euraxess.org), Country Representatives
scienceslambrasil.euraxess.org
- China: [Jacques de Soyres](http://scienceslamchina.euraxess.org), Country Representative,
scienceslamchina.euraxess.org
- India: [Aur lie Pachkoff-Singh](http://scienceslamindia.euraxess.org), Country Representative,
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- Japan: [Dr Lee Woolgar](http://scienceslamjapan.euraxess.org), Country Representative,
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- North America: [Viktoria Bodnarova and Jean-Michel Sers](http://scienceslamnorthamerica.euraxess.org),
Regional Representatives,
scienceslamnorthamerica.euraxess.org

6.2 Other EURAXESS Links Events

Country/ Hub	Title of Event/Activity	Date/Venue	Audience	Objectives	Link to event
ASEAN	"EURAXESS Share: Facilitating research mobility between Europe and ASEAN" at the "National Technology Awareness Day"	26-28 August 2013 in Jakarta, Indonesia	Broad general public	EURAXESS Links ASEAN will be present at the "National Technology Awareness Day" organised and hosted by Indonesia's Ministry of Research and Technology informing participants about its services and activities.	N.A.
ASEAN	"EURAXESS Connect: Strengthening EU-Vietnam Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation: Opportunities to Increase Researcher Mobility", co-organised with Vietnam's Ministry of Science and Technology	10 September 2013, Hanoi, Vietnam	European and international researchers and stakeholders	EURAXESS Connect provides a platform for dialogue and exchange between European and international researchers with the aim of fostering closer research collaboration. This event will focus on exploring opportunities for enhanced collaboration between Europe and Vietnam.	N.A.
ASEAN	EURAXESS Links ASEAN @ European Higher Education Fair	28 September, Singapore 11-13 October, Jakarta, Indonesia 14-15 October, Manila, The Philippines	Young researchers	EURAXESS Links ASEAN will be on hand to inform young researchers how the EURAXESS Links network can help with their mobility ambitions.	N.A.



ASEAN	“EURAXESS Connect: Strengthening EU-Vietnam Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation: Opportunities to Increase Researcher Mobility”, co-organised with Vietnam’s Ministry of Science and Technology	10 September 2013, Hanoi, Vietnam	European and international researchers and stakeholders	EURAXESS Connect provides a platform for dialogue and exchange between European and international researchers with the aim of fostering closer research collaboration. This event will focus on exploring opportunities for enhanced collaboration between Europe and Vietnam.	N.A.
Brazil	Clim-Amazon Workshop	4 July 2013	EU and Brazilian researchers, project partners	Lecture on EURAXESS to increase EURAXESS Links Brazil's visibility and community outreach	Clim-Amazon
Brazil	ExpoT&C, the science, technology and innovation exhibit organised during the 65th annual meeting of the Brazilian Society for the Progress of Science (SBPC),	21-26 July 2013 at the Federal University of Pernambuco (UFPE) in Recife, Pernambuco	Researchers, teachers, students, main S, T & I stakeholders in Brazil, general public	EURAXESS Links Brazil booth to increase EURAXESS Links Brazil's visibility and community outreach	ExpoT&C .
Brazil (tbc)	Third annual congress of the Institute for Studies Brazil-Europe (IBE) , entitled “Innovation, culture and sustainability: challenges for Brazil and Europe”	9-11 October 2013, Federal University of Santa Catarina, Florianopolis, Brazil		Lecture on EURAXESS to increase EURAXESS Links Brazil's visibility with European and Brazilian universities, community promotion.	Institute for Studies Brazil-Europe (IBE) ,
China	2nd OpenChina-ICT Thematic Workshop on Internet of Things and the Future Internet	23 August 2013	Around 50 to 70 policy and main research stakeholders from Europe and China	The concept of the OpenChina ICT Thematic Workshops is to organise a forum bringing together policy and main research stakeholders from Europe and China who specialise in the issues and to create feasible research collaboration with the emergence of concrete projects. The CR is a member of the advisory board of the OpenChina ICT project and will present EURAXESS and its services.	OpenChina-ICT
China	ERC Goes Global Campaign – China Stage	2-7 September 2013	Chinese researchers and stakeholders in 6 Chinese	The objective is to promote the ERC in China. EURAXESS Links China assisted in the preparation and promotion of the visit and will join the ERC delegation and give presentations in some of cities	N.A.



			cities	toured (Beijing, Wuhan and Xi'an).	
India	"Focal Points Training"	28-29 August 2013, Pune	India Focal Points: selected researcher with a first experience of FP7, volunteers to be a relay of information in their institute/state	Prepare the Indian Focal Points to transition to Horizon 2020 and prepare them in the organisation of their own information sessions	Focal Points Training - EU India Cooperation
India	EU-India STI Forum 2013 on Public Private Partnership and Innovation, the first event of the EU STI Platform in India	19 September 2013, from 13:00, Le Méridien, New Delhi	Participation free of charge upon registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn from speakers from different backgrounds and participate in an interactive dialogue • Access high level insight on the operation of PPPs and innovation projects in both India and Europe • Identify and share best practices in India and in Europe in relation to innovation and PPPs • Discuss and develop a new project with selected participants 	EU India Forum
North America	Participation at the career workshops at the ASPB conference (American Society of Plant Biologists)	21-22 July, Providence, RI, USA	200 PhD and post-doctoral researchers	Roundtable discussion about career options for PhD and post-doctoral researchers seeking research careers outside of the US	Link
North America	Participation at the 55th Annual Meeting of the NCURA	August 4-7, Washington DC, USA	National Council of University Administrators (2,000 participants expected)	Annual meeting with a long history of EURAXESS participation	Link
North America	Participation at the 13th GAIN Annual Meeting: Priority for Science and Research	30 August -1 September, San Francisco, CA, USA	400 scientists and industry representatives mostly from Germany active in the U.S. and Canada	Promotion of EURAXESS to a large Member State audience of professionals and researchers	Link



<p>North America</p>	<p>Participation at the 246th ACS National Meeting & Exposition (American Chemical Society)</p>	<p>8-12 September, Indianapolis, IN, USA</p>	<p>Participants from the biggest chemical society in the US with 163,000 members in 75 countries</p>	<p>Promotion of EURAXESS to a large and diverse audience</p>	<p>Link</p>
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About EURAXESS Links

EURAXESS Links is a networking tool for European researchers working outside Europe and non-European researchers who want to collaborate and/or pursue a research career in Europe. It has thus far been launched in North America (Canada and the US), Japan, China, India, the ASEAN hub encompassing Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia, and Brazil. EURAXESS Links provides information about research in Europe, European research policy, opportunities for research funding, international collaboration and trans-national mobility. Membership is free.

Contact Information

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