

Europe-Africa Research & Innovation News

n°1 – October 2012

[Delegation of the European Union to the African Union]



Headlines:

- **EU announces largest ever annual funding round - €8.1 billion - for research and innovation for last year of FP7.**
- **Commission adopts new Communication on International Cooperation in R&I, preparing the ground to implement Horizon 2020.**
- **New project to set health-related development goals beyond 2015.**
- **10th EUMETSAT user forum in Addis Ababa**

EU announces largest ever annual funding round for research and innovation

On 9 July 2012, the European Commission announced a package of calls for proposals totalling €8.1 billion, as part of the last year of the 7th Framework Programme (FP7). The main areas tackled include Health, Agro-food, Environment, Energy and ICT. This constitutes the EU's largest ever annual investment for research and innovation to support European competitiveness and growth. As before, these calls are open to international cooperation.

For general information: http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/index_en.cfm

For details on calls: http://www.ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7_calls

Commission adopts new Communication on International Cooperation in R&I

On 14 September 2012, the Commission adopted a Communication entitled 'Enhancing and focusing EU international cooperation in research and innovation: a strategic approach' (COM(2012) 497). The Communication sets out a new strategy for international cooperation in research and innovation, in particular with a view to implementing Horizon 2020. The Communication is accompanied by a Staff Working Document providing further background information and analysis.

For more information: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp>

Setting new health-related development goals beyond 2015.

On 19-20 September 2012, the first meeting of Go4Health was held in Entebbe, Uganda. Go4Health is a new coordination action funded by the 7th Framework Programme (FP7) to assess the MDGs related to health and establish a basis to formulate new goals for global health for the period after 2015. The project brings together 12 partners from 10 different countries spanning 5 continents. It is led by the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Belgium and involves the universities of Heidelberg (DE), Georgetown (US), Oxford (UK), Nairobi (KE), Queensland (Australia), Toronto (CA) and BRAC University (Bangladesh), as well as the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (UK), Medico International (DE), the Center for Health, Human Rights and Development (Uganda) and CEGSS (Guatemala).

For more information, contact the project coordinator, Dr Gorik Ooms, at the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Belgium (gooms@itg.be).

EUMETSAT 10th user forum

On 1-5 October 2012, in Addis Ababa, took place the 10th user forum organized by the European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT) bringing together more than 200 participants interested in sharing tools and information for Earth observation. A recurrent theme this year was providing tools and information to address the impact of climate variability and change. It was also the occasion for the representatives of the African Union Commission (AUC), the Regional Economic Communities (CEMAC, ECOWAS, IOC, IGAD, SADC) and the Secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP Secretariat) Group of States, to declare their support for the Addis Ababa Declaration which supports the development of an African regional implementation plan for the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS).

For more information: <http://ufa.eumetsat.int>

Upcoming events

- 9-10 October 2012, Mombasa – GMES & Africa Workshop on Marine and Coastal Areas.
- 18 October 2012, Cairo – African Union workshop on "Science, Technology and Innovation Resource Mobilisation"
- 19-20 October 2012, Addis Ababa – 2nd Annual conference on Climate Change and Development in Africa (http://new.uneca.org/ccda2/home_ccda2.aspx).
- 23-24 October, Addis Ababa – Policy dialogue workshop: the interlinking roles of academic collaboration and research collaboration as a contribution to knowledge generation, exchange & capacity building (<http://african-higher-education.teamwork.fr> – code: NPEC)
- 5 November 2012, Cape Town – EDCTP-II conference (www.edctp.org) with opening address by Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn.
- 6 November 2012, Cape Town – South Africa-EU Joint S&T Coordination Committee, with the participation of DG Robert-Jan Smits.
- 6-8 November 2012, Cape Town – Joint Africa-European Union Strategy (JAES) Priority 8 (Science, Information Society & Space) – Joint Expert Group (JEG-8) meeting.
- 28-29 November 2012, Lisbon, Portugal – 2012 Africa-EU Cooperation Forum on ICT.
- 29-30 November 2012, Addis Ababa – Africa-EU Joint Task Force meeting.

These news items can also be found on the following web sites:

- EU Delegation to the African Union: http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/african_union
- Africa-EU Partnership: www.africa-eu-partnership.org