

Europe-Africa Research & Innovation News

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Conference "EU Science: Global Challenges & Global Collaboration"

5-8 March 2013, Brussels: The conference "*EU Science: Global Challenges & Global Collaboration*" (ES:GC2) was convened by ISC, in association with the Irish Council Presidency and with several Members of the European Parliament, which hosted the event.

The conference brought together science policymakers, scientists and industry representatives from 100 different countries and placed EU research at the centre of the international response to global challenges. ES:GC2 included several sessions focussing on Africa-Europe collaboration, such as the **African-European Radio Astronomy Platform (AERAP)** workshop and the conference on **Promoting Africa-EU Research Infrastructures Partnerships (PAERIP)**, which focussed on the conclusions of the December 2012 CAAST-Net – PAERIP conference on the *Role of Research Infrastructures in Africa-EU cooperation*, which were published recently (see link below).

For information: www.globalsciencecollaboration.org – contact: declan.kirrane@iscintelligence.com
Research Infrastructures conference conclusions: http://ei4africa.eu/files/2013/04/CAAST-Net_PAERIP_Conference_Conclusions.pdf

Last FP7 calls for Marie Curie grants launched - €227 million to be awarded in 2013

14 March 2013, Brussels: The EC has published the last set of calls for proposals for Marie Curie Actions in the 7th Framework programme (FP7), with a total budget of €227 million for various types of grants addressed to *experienced researchers*.

- **Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowships (IEF)** – indicative budget: €134m
- **Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowships (IIF)** – indicative budget: €44.5m
- **Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellowships (IOF)** – indicative budget: €44.5m

The closing date for all applications is 14 August 2013. The success rate is generally around 20%. Potential applicants must consult the calls for proposals regarding eligibility and other conditions.

Since the beginning of FP7, **€780m has been awarded for over 4000 Marie Curie Fellowships to researchers from more than 90 nationalities working in 50 countries**. The grant normally covers 2 years of salary, a mobility allowance, research costs and overheads for the host organisation.

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

Uganda to create Science Ministry

15 March 2013, Kampala: The Ugandan parliament passed a bill providing for the creation of a Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation. Until now these responsibilities were overseen by several government departments. President Museveni is soon expected to approve the bill for it to become law.

Source: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201303151288.html>

EDCTP Awards to Outstanding African Scientists – open for nominations

18 March 2013, The Hague: The European & Developing Countries Clinical Trial Partnership (EDCTP) invites nominations for the 2013 Awards for African researchers working on HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria.

Deadline for submission: 31 May 2013. For more information see: www.edctp.org

JRC releases *Soil Atlas of Africa*

25 April 2013, Addis Ababa: the *Soil Atlas of Africa* was presented by the EC to the AU Commission on the occasion of the annual College-to-College meeting of the EU and AU Commissions. The Atlas was produced by the EC's Joint Research Centres (JRC). It uses earth observation and computer mapping techniques to describe the different soil types that can be found in Africa, show the changing nature of soil across the continent, explain the origin and functions of soil and their relevance to both local and global issues. The atlas also addresses the principal threats to soil and what can be done to protect it.

JRC Soil Atlas of Africa: http://eusoiils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/library/maps/africa_atlas/

EU supports malaria research

25 April 2013, Brussels: **since 2002 the EU has invested €209 million in malaria research**, to better understand the disease and to develop vaccines, diagnostics and drugs, as well as control the vector of the disease. Examples of research projects to control the disease vector are given below.

In addition, since its launch in 2003, **EDCTP has provided €49 million for clinical trials on malaria**, for example to determine "*More cost-effective treatment regimen for malaria in children*".

EU research: http://ec.europa.eu/research/health/infectious-diseases/poverty-diseases/malaria_en.html
European & Developing Countries Clinical Trial Partnership (EDCTP): www.edctp.org

Showcasing EU-Africa collaboration in Research: tackling malaria

Europe and Africa collaborate through hundreds of research projects funded by the EU's Framework programme, as well as other research funding programmes. Each issue of EARI News will showcase some of these projects.

In this edition the focus is on **controlling Malaria**.

AvecNet - African Vector Control: New Tools

This FP7 project aims to develop and evaluate new insecticides and approaches to overcome insecticide resistance; to develop and evaluate new tools for malaria control in Africa, ie by targeting mosquitoes; to learn more on the biology and behaviour of mosquitoes and plan for vector control in a changing environment; to develop research capacity and strengthen research partnerships in Africa.

The project is running from February 2011 to January 2016, with an EU contribution: €12 million. It is led by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (UK) with 8 other European partners and 6 African partners in Burkina Faso, Kenya, Malawi and Tanzania (3). For more information: www.avecnet.eu.

MALAREO - Earth Observation in Malaria Vector Control and Management

This FP7 project promotes the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Earth Observation (EO), Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and spatial statistics to provide tools for the Malaria research and control community. MALAREO's map atlas is now available on-line. (see: www.malareo.eu).

The project ran from February 2011 to January 2013 and received an EU contribution of €0.5m. It was led by Eurosense Belfotop NV (BE) with two other European partners and two African partners: the Council for Scientific & Industrial Research of South Africa and the Ministry of Health of Swaziland.

Upcoming events:

- 19-27 May 2013, Addis Ababa: **Summit of the African Union – 50th Anniversary** celebration.
- 28-31 May 2013, Nairobi: **IST-Africa** (www.IST-Africa.org/Conference2013)
- 28-30 May 2013, East London, SA: **5th Global Innovation Forum on Innovation and Technology**.
- 24-25 June 2013, Addis: **Recovering critical raw materials through recycling** - seminar
- 24-26 June 2013, Addis: **CAAST-Net+ annual meeting**
- 26-28 June 2013, Addis: **EC-AUC workshop on Resources for Research** and **JEG-8 meeting**.
- 16-19 September, Cape Town: **ICGEB workshop "Stimulating the Bio-Economy in Africa"**

EARI news can also be found here: Africa-EU Partnership: www.africa-eu-partnership.org/node/71/
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