



## **Work Package 2 - Deliverable 2.5**

### **Congruence between EU Research Themes in the Pacific and INCO-Net science Foci**

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## 1.0 Introduction

INCO Net projects are being conducted under the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) (2007-2013). INCO Net has bi-regional coordination of S&T cooperation, including priority setting and the definition of Science and Technology (S&T) cooperation policies.

INCO-NET projects aim to support bi-regional dialogue in order to:

- Promote and structure the participation of third countries in the activities of FP7;
- Promote regional integration, as well as the identification and prioritization of common research areas of mutual interest and benefit; and
- Facilitate the uptake and use of common identified research areas, as well as the monitoring of the performance and impacts of international S&T cooperation across the Specific Programmes of FP7.

The INCO-NET projects establish balanced partnerships and regroup multiple international stakeholders (partners from research, industry, government and civil society) for research actions.

**Table 1: Lists the names of projects being carried out under the Seventh Framework.**

INCO-NET	Bi-regional coordination of S&T cooperation, including priority setting and definition of S&T cooperation policies
BILAT	Bilateral coordination for the enhancement and development of S&T Partnerships
ERA-NET	Supports the coordination of national policies, and activities of Member States and Associated States, on international S&T
NCO-NCP project	INCONTACT network of the INCO-NCPs
ACCESS4EU	Supports EU access to Third Country programmes

## **2.0 INCO Net Projects**

### **2.1 Fostering the European Union - Caribbean Research and Innovation Networks - EUCARINET**

The project 'EUCARINET' is a four-year INCONET Coordination Action, the main goal of which is to strengthen bi-regional sustainable policy dialogue on Science and Technology (including in the ICT field) between EU Member and Associated States and the Caribbean Region. The main goal of the project is to establish a long lasting sustainable bi-regional multi-stakeholders policy dialogue on Science and Technology at policy, programme and institutional (research entities) level.

The first Experts Dialogue of the EUCARINET project focused on three thematic priorities: Health, Knowledge- Based Bio- Economy and Environment.

Moreover, the EU-LAC Senior Officials Meeting of 28-29 March 2011 agreed on efforts to enhance bi-regional cooperation by focusing initially on the following pilot activities:

- Bio-economy, including food security;
- Biodiversity and Climate Change;
- ICT for meeting societal needs; and
- Energy.

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

ENLACE aims to support the bi-regional dialogue between the EU and Central American Countries. It includes a set of activities to enhance networking among EU and Central American researchers through the organization of S&T dialogues, the identification of research priorities of mutual interest, and awareness raising on FP7 in Central America, mainly through the establishment of a network of FP7 National Contact Points in Central America.

Thematic priorities:

- The first Experts dialogue of the ENLACE project focused on three thematic priorities: Environment, Energy and Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Biotechnology.
- The second Experts dialogue focused on: Health, Knowledge- Based Bio- Economy and Environment.

### **2.3 INCO-NET for Eastern Europe and Central Asia - EECA**

ECCA established a Regional S&T Policy Dialogue Platform that brings together National Representatives/policymakers from the EU, Member States and Associated Countries, and from the Eastern Europe and Central Asian countries, as well as representatives of the European Commission's (EC) services. The platform provides a forum for the discussion of research priorities and initiatives and addresses the regional (i.e. multilateral) dimension of S&T cooperation. The platform also acts as Advisory Committee to the project.

The ECCA project also set up and sustains a S&T senior officials' group, involving stakeholders from Russia, EU Member States, Associated Countries and representatives of the EC's services. Such a distinct platform is essential due to the particular importance and dynamics of the cooperation with Russia, and the specific character of the bilateral relations between the EU and its Member States and Russia. It highlights and improves the existing cooperation in S&T with Ukraine and develops new opportunities and links between the Ukrainian and EU scientific communities.

A specific methodology for the identification of research topics within the different thematic priorities of FP7 was used. This identification was done through a series of organized workshops, each focusing on a different theme of FP7. The themes covered were:

- Health (human genomics)
- Environment (conservation and sustainable management of natural man-made resources and biodiversity)
- Transport (sustainable surface transport)
- ICT (Nano electronics and photonics)
- Energy (renewables and smart energy networks)
- Social Sciences and Humanities (Europe in the world)

Experts were identified from all the countries of the region as well as EU Member States (approx. 30 experts per workshop). They brain stormed research topics of common interest that could be included in future work programmes (such as SICAs, targeted calls etc.).

These topics were then sent to the respective EC Thematic directorate for consideration.

### **2.4 Science and Technology International Cooperation Network for Gulf Cooperation Countries aiming at the promotion of bi-regional dialogue -INCONET GCC**

INCONET-GCC aims to develop and support bi-regional dialogue by bringing together policymakers and stakeholders of the Gulf Countries and EU Member States. It creates a dialogue and action platform to identify common interests in research areas, set up Science and Technology priorities, support capacity building activities, and enhance the interaction between the different cooperation instruments of the European Commission and EU

Member States. It will promote actions in order to monitor, develop, promote and contribute to the creation of synergies among the various Science and Technology cooperation programmes between the GCC and the EU Member States, and foster the participation of the GCC in the FP7. In this sense, an observatory of EU-GCC cooperation in S&T will be created in the project framework. The main outputs of INCONET-GCC will be

- Creation of the INCONET-GCC open networking platform for policy dialogue and the future S&T;
- Contribution of INCONET-GCC to the European Strategic Framework for International Cooperation in Science and Technology;
- Report on Collaborative plan in S&T policy advisory contributing to the decisions of the GCC-EU Joint Council;
- INCONET-GCC White Paper;
- Integration of the GCC NCPs with the European NCP network;
- INCONET-GCC roadmap and sustainability report ; and
- Organization of one International Conference and other dissemination events.

The priorities are for INCONET GCC is:

- Food and Agriculture – Food Security, Biotechnology used in Agriculture
- Health – Nano- medicine, Genetics and Early Detection of Disease
- Geology, Water Resources, Oil and Remote Sensing – Geological Analysis for Application to Water Resources, Treatment and Oil Industry, Wastewater Treatment and Conservation, Water Desalination, Penetrating Radar Technologies
- Environment –Pollution, Emmissions and Abatement, Marine Environment and Ecosystems , Marine Biotechnologies and Climate Change monitoring
- ICT – E-Services for economic and social challenges, Modernisation of the region’s Public Sector, Knowledge, Cognitive and Learning Systems, and Interaction and Robotics

## **2.5 Coordinating Latin American Research and Innovation Networks - EULARINET**

Source: EULARINET D3.1

EULARINET started in March 2008 and is a 48 month project for the Latin American countries. EULARINET’s goal is to strengthen bi-regional dialogue on S&T between EU Member States, Associated States and Latin American Partner Countries (LAPC) at the policy, programme and institutional (research and industry entities) levels, thus contributing to a three-fold objective:

- promote the joint identification, establishment, implementation and monitoring of priorities of mutual interest and benefit in future work programmes;
- jointly support the definition of Science and Technology cooperation policies; and
- Support and stimulate the participation of LAPC in FP7.

EULARINET had a Bi-regional Policy Dialogue Meeting in Mexico City, Mexico, and a major activity proposed in the meeting was the development of ICT.

## **2.6 Mediterranean Innovation and Research Coordination Action MIRA**

The present Coordination Action aims to develop the objectives of the INCO-Net Mediterranean Partner Countries' (MPC) action by:

- Creating a dialogue platform using the state- of- the- art ICT technologies that will enable discussion between relevant stakeholders from both sides of the Mediterranean to improve S&T cooperation;
- Addressing training activities to improve the quality of participation and management of the partners of FP7 from the MPC;
- Creating discussion platforms and organizing meetings to monitor and discuss the content of the thematic priorities of FP7, in terms of the common interests of the EU and MPC;
- Creating an Observatory of EU-MPC S&T cooperation, which will agree indicators for the monitoring of R&D cooperation activities; and
- Creating networks of research institutions and technological transfer services from both sides of the Mediterranean to support strategic collaboration and provide a reference element for the development of the Euro-Mediterranean Innovation Space.

All these activities aimed to provide a strong institutional basis for the EU-MPC S&T cooperation.

The main areas for thematic cooperation include, Environment; Food and Agriculture; Health; Energy; and ICT.

## **2.7 Pacific Europe Network for Science and Technology – PACE-Net**

This network fosters cooperation between the EU and the Pacific with regard to Science and Technology research, cooperation and strategies. It has been established to strengthen regional and international cooperation in S&T research for development between the Pacific Island Countries of the Asian Caribbean Pacific group, the Pacific Overseas Countries and Territories , Australia, New Zealand and the European Union (EU) member countries. PACE-Net will also seek to incorporate Science and Technology issues in the development policies of the Pacific in order enhance the effectiveness of those policies.

The Themes of PACE-Net are:

- Agriculture and Food Supply;
- Biology and Medicine;
- Energy;
- Environment and Climate;
- Industry and Industrial Technology;

- Information and Communication Technology;
- Social and Economic Concerns; and
- Transport and Construction.

## **2.8 South Caucasus and Central Asia (DLR) INCO-NET CA/SC**

INCO Net CA/SC is an EU project directed at Central Asian/ South Caucasus countries. This project promotes bi-regional cooperation in development policy. Specific activities include roundtable discussions to foster networking among political decision- makers and local research stakeholders, thereby creating awareness about the need for greater bi-regional policy dialogue. The discussions bring together key players from a single country to enhance exchange and dialogue between different pillars of the S&T system.

INCO Net CA/SC aims to:

- deepen understanding of research policies in the region;
- raise awareness through the organisation of bi-regional stakeholder conferences;
- expand the network and get additional stakeholders involved and
- organise one mission in CA and one in SC, including partners from the EU MS/AC, with visits to each country in the respective sub-region. These missions will be organised with the support of local partners and regional correspondents of the IncoNet EECA project.

To date no specific thematic areas have been identified under this project.

## **2.9 Facilitating the Bi-Regional EU-ASEAN Science and Technology Dialog SEA-EU-NET**

SEA-EU-NET is a joint South East Asian- European project for Research and Technological Development. SEA-EU-NET was launched on 1 January 2008 and is funded through 2011. SEA-EU-NET's stated aim is to increase the quality, quantity, profile and impact of bi-regional Science and Technology co-operation between the ten member countries of the Association of South East Asian Nations and the Member and Associate Member States of the European Union.

To increase efficiency, avoid redundancies, ensure the sustainability of successful activities of the past, and to learn lessons, the SEA-EU-NET considers relevant previous and ongoing bi-regional and bi-lateral activities both inside and outside the EU Framework Programme for the ASEAN Region. Moreover it hopes to function as a hub for the integration of upcoming FP7 projects and activities related to ASEAN, thus helping to incorporate them into the larger framework of the bi-regional dialogue.

In the past three years, the consortium has worked in the following areas:

- Health (Emerging/Neglected Infectious Diseases);

- Knowledge Based Bio Economy (Food security, Food quality & safety);
- Environment (Biodiversity, Climate Change);
- Energy (2nd Generation Biofuels); and
- Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies (Photo catalytic materials).

Since the project is coming to an end they have now stopped the process of identifying thematic priorities.

## **2.10 Coordination and Advancement of Sub-Saharan Africa- EU Science & Technology Cooperation Network CAAST-NET**

CAAST-Net is a five-year joint Africa-Europe platform dedicated to advancing bi-regional cooperation in science and technology. The Joint Africa-EU Strategic Partnership, endorsed at the December 2007 Summit in Lisbon, is a political vision and roadmap for cooperation between the two continents in existing and new areas. CAAST-Net's goal is to increase the quality and quantity of bi-regional cooperation in science and technology between Europe and Africa, targeting areas of mutual interest and benefit through greater use of instruments under the FP7 (as well as through other instruments of international cooperation), and through lobbying for greater synergy between R&D and development instruments.

In support of its goal, CAAST-Net has a range of activity clusters all of which aim to:

- Support and inform existing Europe-Africa S&T policy dialogue and cooperation processes;
- Identify and prioritize common research areas of mutual interest and benefit, especially for inclusion in the thematic priorities of the FP7 Cooperation Programme, harnessing cooperation to address specific problems faced locally and regionally within Africa, as well as common problems of a global nature;
- Promote synergies between Europe-Africa S&T partnerships and development cooperation instruments, in order to enhance the creation and application of new knowledge in support of achieving the MDGs, poverty alleviation and economic growth;
- Undertake specific activities dedicated to strengthening the participation of African countries in the Framework Programme through a series of events aimed at raising awareness, providing information, brokering partnerships and optimizing synergies;
- Monitor the performance and impact of Europe-Africa S&T cooperation under the Framework Programme to inform future cooperation policy.

CAAST-Net does not have specific thematic priorities; however, it has conducted EU-Africa research prioritization exercises in the following three areas:

- Non-Communicable Diseases: Cancer, diabetes and obesity;
- Renewable Fuel Generation, Rural Electrification, and CO2 capture and storage;
- Social Sciences, including Migration, Cities and Governance , Local Heritage and Sustainable Development, and Agricultural Policies, Land Use, Land Tenure, and Adaptation to Global Changes in Sub Saharan Africa Agriculture

### **2.11 Coordination of Research Policies with the Western Balkan Countries WBC-INCO.NET**

The Western Balkans Countries INCO-NET enhances integration of the Western Balkans countries (WBC) in the European Research Area.

The core objectives of WBC-INCO.NET are to:

- Support the bi-regional dialogue on science and technology by benefiting from and interacting with the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan countries;
- Identify Research and Development potential and priorities for take-up in FP7 and other European programmes in a transparent and methodologically sound way;
- Enhance participation of researchers from the region in European projects of mutual interest and benefit by implementing capacity building measures and accompanying networking activities;
- Analyze innovation needs and barriers to innovation in the WBC, exchange information and best practices on innovation policies, and prepare an Action Plan for further WBC cooperation in the field of innovation and; and
- Establish closer cooperation between research and innovation to strengthen the inter-sectoral dialogue and support the training of innovation stakeholders.

The objectives are being achieved in close consultation with the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan countries. The platform members are the EU Member States, the Candidate and Potential Candidate countries, the countries associated with FP7 and the European Commission. It meets twice a year and is typically hosted by the EU Presidency or a Western Balkan country. WBC-INCO.NET supports these meetings logistically and cooperates in an efficient division of labor.

The Western Balkans INCO-NET has been running since 2008, and deals with different thematic areas in different work packages. The topics which have been dealt with to date are as follows:

- ICT and Agro Food;
- Social Sciences / Social Innovation;
- Energy; and Environment and Health.

The project works with projects funded in the respective schemes (e.g. SCORE / WINS-ICT / ICT-WEB-PROMS for ICT projects with a focus on Western Balkans). Other general issues

which are dealt with by WBC-INCO.NET include: innovation management, entrepreneurship, research policy, policy development, and R&D for growth.

## 2.0 INCO Net Science Foci in Summary

**Table 2: INCO Net Project Themes**

<b>Territory</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Theme</b>
Caribbean	EUCARINET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Bio Economy</li> <li>✓ Bio Diversity -Climate Change</li> <li>✓ ICT</li> <li>✓ Energy</li> </ul>
Central America	ENLANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Environment</li> <li>✓ Energy</li> <li>✓ Food, Agriculture</li> <li>✓ Fisheries</li> <li>✓ Bio Technology</li> <li>✓ Health</li> </ul>
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	INCONET-GCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Health</li> <li>✓ Environment</li> <li>✓ Transport</li> <li>✓ ICT</li> <li>✓ Energy</li> <li>✓ Social Science and Humanities</li> </ul>
Gulf Countries	INCONET-GCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Food and Agriculture</li> <li>✓ Health</li> <li>✓ Geology, water resource, oil, remote sensing</li> <li>✓ Environment</li> <li>✓ ICT</li> </ul>
Latin America	EULARINET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ ICT</li> </ul>
Mediterranean Partners	MIRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Environment</li> <li>✓ Food and Agriculture</li> <li>✓ Health</li> <li>✓ Energy</li> <li>✓ ICT</li> </ul>
Pacific	PACE Net	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Agriculture and food supply</li> <li>✓ Biology and medicine</li> <li>✓ Energy</li> <li>✓ Environment and climate</li> <li>✓ Industry and industrial technology</li> <li>✓ Information and communication technology</li> <li>✓ Social and economic concerns</li> <li>✓ Transport and construction</li> </ul>
South Caucasus and	Inco Net CA/SC	No theme has been identified

Central Asia		
South East Asia	SEA-EU-NET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Health (Emerging/Neglected infectious diseases)</li> <li>✓ Knowledge Based Bio Economy (Food security, Food quality &amp; safety)</li> <li>✓ Environment (Biodiversity, Climate Change)</li> <li>✓ Energy (2nd Generation Biofuels)</li> <li>✓ Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies (Photo-catalytic materials)</li> </ul>
Sub-Saharan Africa	CAAST-Net	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Non-Communicable Diseases; Cancer, Diabetes and Obesity</li> <li>✓ Renewable Fuel, Rural Electrification and CO2 Capture and Storage</li> <li>✓ Social sciences, including Migration, Cities and Governance, Local Heritage and Sustainable Development, and Agricultural Policies, Land Use, Land Tenure, and Adaptation to Global Changes in Sub Saharan Africa Agriculture.</li> </ul>
Western Balkan Countries	WBC-INCO.NET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ ICT and Agro Food for priority setting</li> <li>✓ Transport research</li> <li>✓ Social Sciences / Social Innovation</li> <li>✓ Energy</li> <li>✓ Environment and health</li> </ul>

### 3.0 EU Research Themes in Pacific (From D1.4 EU Development Programmes in Pacific)

**Table 3: Pacific EU Development Programmes Themes**

Pacific Regional Indicative Programme (PRIP)	✓ Science and Technology
Rehabilitation and Re-Vegetation of Mining Sites - SYSMIN	✓ Mining – Industry and Industrial Technology
TEP VERTES program	✓ Energy
EU-ASIA-Pacific Cooperation on ICT – EURASIAPAC	✓ ICT
The PRIDE Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Education</li> <li>✓ eLearning</li> </ul>
Networking Tropical and Subtropical Biodiversity Research in Other Most regions and Territories of Europe in Support of Sustainable Development – NET-BIOME	✓ Environment and Climate
Global Climate Change Alliance - GCCA	✓ Environment and Climate
INCO-NET: Strengthening Bi-regional (INCO-NET) and Bilateral Dialogues	✓ Science and Technology
The Forum for European–Australian Science and	✓ Science and Technology

Technology Cooperation -FEAST	
Facilitating Research co-operation between Europe and New Zealand -FRENZ	✓ Science and Technology
Prevention and Management of Natural Hazards	✓ Environment and Climate
Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources Including Energy - ENRTP	✓ Environment and Climate ✓ Agriculture and Food ✓ Energy ✓ Industry and Industrial Technology ✓ Transport
Supporting EU Access to Australian Research Programmes - Australia ACCESS4EU	✓ Science and Technology
Supporting EU Access to New Zealand Research Programmes – New Zealand ACCESS4EU	✓ Science and Technology
ACP EU Cooperation in Higher Education - Edulink	✓ Climate and Environment
Support the GCCA through Capacity Building, Community Engagement, and Applied Research	✓ Climate and Environment
The EU-ACP Support Programme to Cultural Industries in ACP	✓ Culture
National Adaptation Strategy - Sugar	✓ Sugar - Agriculture
ACP Science and Technology Programme	✓ Science and Technology

#### 4.0 Congruence between EU Research Themes and INCO Net Science Foci

**Table 4: EU Programmes themes and INCO Net Science Foci**

Theme	EU Programmes	Frequency	INCO Net Science Foci
Agriculture and food supply	✓	9	✓
Biology and medicine	✓	7	✓
Energy	✓	9	✓
Environment and climate	✓	13	✓
Industry and industrial technology	✓	10	✓
Information and communication technology	✓	8	✓
Social and economic concerns	✓	9	✓

Transport and construction	✓	8	✓
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The table shows that the INCO Net Science Foci matches very well with the EU programmes. All the Research and Development sector is being covered by INCO Net.

We can group specific themes into the following groups:

**Agriculture and Food Supply:** veterinary and animal sciences; agriculture; food production and food security; agricultural biotechnology and resources of the land and sea

**Biology and Medicine:** medicine; health, including public health and sanitation; biotechnology; life sciences; healthcare delivery/services; medical biotechnology

**Energy:** nuclear fission; nuclear fusion; fossil fuels; renewable sources of energy; energy storage; energy transport; energy saving; biofuels; hydrogen and fuel cells; other energy topics; clean coal technologies

**Environment and Climate:** meteorology; environmental protection; radiation protection; waste management; radioactive waste; sustainable development; earth sciences; climate change and carbon cycle research; water resource management; biodiversity; disaster management, sanitation

**Industry and Industrial Technology:** industrial manufacturing; materials technology; nanotechnology and nanoscience; industrial biotechnology; mineral and metal mining; sea bed resources

**Information and Communication Technology:** electronics and microelectronics; information processing, information systems; telecommunications; automation; robotics; ICT application; network technologies

**Social and Economic Concerns:** social aspects; education and training; information and media; economic aspects; regional development; employment issues; safety; security; governance; private sector; poverty alleviation; gender equality; culture

**Transport and Construction:** construction technology; transport; aerospace technology; space and satellite research; other technology not included elsewhere

For more details on type of information covered by the themes please consult the following website: [http://cordis.europa.eu/themes/home\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/themes/home_en.html)