

2015
August
Issue 54

EURAXESS LINKS ASEAN

Dear Colleagues,

It is our pleasure to present to you the 54th edition of the EURAXESS Links ASEAN e-newsletter.

In this month's EU Insight section, you will find a summary of the main conclusions of the ***Internationalisation of Higher Education report*** recently published by the European Parliament. The report identifies key factors currently influencing higher education globally, but in particular within Europe.

In our **EURAXESS Members in Focus** series we introduce you to **Austria**, a central European country with a rich tradition of academic research and industrial innovation.

We have just launched the **3rd EURAXESS Science Slam** and have six events lined up for researchers across ASEAN. Do make sure to visit the Science Slam event page [here](#) to find out how you can participate.

Our **News, Grants and Fellowships** sections contain our latest round-up of the most important developments and opportunities.

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter, and welcome your feedback.

Wishing you a great month ahead!

Your EURAXESS Links ASEAN team



Contents

1	EU Insight: Internationalisation of Higher Education in Europe.....	5
2	EURAXESS Members in Focus: Austria – A Place for Research & Technology	8
2.1	ASEAN European Academic University Network (ASEA-UNINET)	15
2.2	Singaporean-Austrian Science and Business Day to explore scientific collaboration opportunities.....	17
2.3	Research partnerships in focus	18
2.4	Meet the Researcher: Thai Marie Curie Fellow Dr Patchanita Thamyongkit	21
2.5	Meet the Researcher: Austrian ZSI researcher Alexander Degelsegger 24	
3	News & Developments	28
3.1	EU, Member States and Associated Countries	28
3.1.1	ERC announces its 2016 budget and grant competitions	28
3.1.2	10 European companies named 'tech pioneers'	28
3.1.3	50 groundbreaking scientists who are changing the way we see the world	28
3.1.4	JRC annual conference to focus on building a resilient Europe	29
3.1.5	Tracking Innovation in intelligent transport systems.....	29
3.1.6	X-Ray experts export excellence	29
3.1.7	What space exploration says about Europe	29
3.2	ASEAN.....	30
3.2.1	Indonesia announces plans to build nuclear park	30
3.2.2	Move to boost the number of science, engineering and IT professionals in Singapore	30
3.2.3	UK confirms close ties in science and innovation with SEA	30
3.2.4	Higher salaries needed to attract scientists in Vietnam.....	30
3.2.5	Indonesian Institute of Sciences preparing for AEC	30
3.2.6	Singapore has major role in advancing medical sciences.....	31
3.2.7	IPR key to science, technology and innovation says Vietnam's Deputy Minister of Science and Technology	31
4	Grants & Fellowships	32

EURAXESS Links ASEAN Newsletter is a monthly electronic newsletter, edited by EURAXESS Links ASEAN, which provides information of specific interest to European researchers in ASEAN and international researchers who are interested in the European research landscape and conducting research in Europe or with European partners.

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 Delegations of the European Union.

Please email to asean@euraxess.net for any comments on this newsletter, contributions you would like to make, if you think any other colleagues would be interested in receiving this newsletter, or if you wish to unsubscribe.

Editors: Dr Susanne RENTZOW-VASU and Simon GRIMLEY, EURAXESS Links ASEAN, Regional Representatives



4.1	Austria: Lise Meitner Programme for Scientists from Abroad	32
4.2	Austria: ISTFELLOW Postdoctoral Fellowships	32
4.3	H2020 – 2016 Calls soon to be announced	33
4.4	Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships	33
4.5	The European Research Council (ERC) Work Programme – Indicative Call Dates 2016	34
4.6	European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grants	34
4.7	European Research Council (ERC) Proof of Concept Grants.....	35
4.8	National EURAXESS portals	35
4.9	Southeast Asia - Europe Pilot Joint Call.....	35
4.10	UK Newton Fund Institutional Links Grants Open to Researchers in Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines	36
4.11	Newton Advanced Fellowships Open to Thai and Malaysian Scientists 36	
4.12	EMBO Short-Term Fellowships Open to Researchers in ASEAN. Three-month research visits to labs in Europe.	37
4.13	EMBO Courses and Workshops.....	37
4.14	Germany - Georg Forster Research Fellowship - Excellent Opportunity for Researchers from ASEAN.....	37
4.15	Germany - George Forster Research Award - Open to ASEAN scientists	38
4.16	European University - Jean Monnet Postdoctoral Fellowships	38
4.17	Merlion Programme supports researcher mobility between Singapore and France.....	38
4.18	Singapore-Israel Joint Research Programme Call	39
4.19	Poland: Foundation for Polish Science: IDEAS FOR POLAND	39
4.20	CERN Postdoctoral Fellowships.....	40
4.21	Turkey: TÜBİTAK Fellowships for Visiting Scientists	40
5	Jobs	41
6	Events	42
6.1	3 rd EURAXESS Science Slam launched – six events lined up across ASEAN.....	42
6.2	EURAXESS Links ASEAN Events September to November 2015.....	43
6.3	Techventure 2015, 21-22 September 2015, Singapore	44



6.4 EMBO conference 'Emerging technologies - Hype, hope and hard reality', 5-6 November, Heidelberg, Germany45

7 Resources.....46



1 EU Insight: Internationalisation of Higher Education in Europe

“The internationalisation of higher education has been influenced by the globalisation of our economies and societies and the increased importance of knowledge...it is driven by a dynamic and constantly evolving combination of political, economic socio-cultural and academic rationales.” This statement succinctly captures the tone of a recently published (end of July 2015) report by the European Parliament’s Committee on Culture and Education entitled *Internationalisation of Higher Education*, which comments on factors currently influencing higher education globally, but in particular within Europe.

The report

Internationalisation of Higher Education is the end product of a large-scale study focused on not only understanding, but more so, scrutinising internationalisation strategies utilised within higher education systems around the world. The study, commissioned by the European Parliament and conducted by a consortium of Europe-based researchers,¹ carried the specific aim of addressing the different forms internationalisation strategies take on and, more importantly, *what* such strategies *should aim to achieve* as a way of helping different regions, nations and institutions within Europe meet new education and societal demands. A secondary aim of the study primarily focused on informing future EU policy.

Using a mixed-methodology of two quantitative surveys and a Delphi panel (a qualitative forecasting method where experts are interviewed for their opinions on future outcomes related to a specific subject/set of questions), the study sought out to provide answers to the following questions:

- 1) How can 'internationalisation' be understood in the context of higher education, and what strategies are being pursued globally in this regard?**

- 2) How far and by which means is the European Union and its Member States responding to the challenges of internationalisation?**

- 3) What are the perspectives of future development, and which recommendations can be made both for policy makers and higher education institutions?**

¹ The consortium was comprised of researchers from the Centre for Higher Education Internationalisation (CHEI, Milan), Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan), International Association of Universities (IAU) and the European Association for International Education (EIAE).





4) Should national governments and/or the European Union play a more active role in the development, supervision and coordination of national/European internationalization policies?²

To further address these questions, researchers also examined 17 different national reports—10 from within Europe and 7 from without, to gain a sense of the various approaches and rationales guiding global higher education internationalisation strategies. Countries examined within Europe included Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain and the UK. Such a focus intentionally looked beyond the “big three” of England, Germany, and France, which so often dominate internationalisation studies and discussions. Non-European countries examined by the study included Australia, Canada, Colombia, Japan, Malaysia, South Africa and the USA, with the intentional of introducing regional diversity into the assessment.

What *is* internationalisation in the context of higher education, anyway?

Upon reading the report one learns that the internationalisation of higher education, while a relatively new phenomenon in-and-of-itself, is “both broad and varied”, meaning that it lacks any sort of unified global form. And yet while broadly different, commonalities do exist across national approaches, primarily in the form of features like: visibility and reputation (combined with increased competitiveness); competition for talented students and scholars; a divide in strategy between short-term economic gains or long-term economic development and soft power, or a mixture of short and long-term objectives; increased strategic partnership development; more attention to employability and/or social engagement.³

Within Europe, the internationalisation of higher education is not new. The process stretches back at least 30 years, beginning with the ERASMUS programme and followed by the Marie Curie Fellowships. Yet, like many internationalisation strategies, these efforts have a heavy focus on short or long-term and many of the other features mentioned above. But what does this all actually mean in terms of next steps?

According to *Internationalisation of Higher Education*, a key next step for policy decision makers is to recognise that the end goal for post-secondary education in Europe cannot simply be internationalisation. Rather, emphasis must be shifted towards quality (in this case curriculum and learning outcomes for students and staff), and not be based on economic rationales. While still of value, mobility as a motor of internationalisation must also be rethought, in order to shift the nature of mobility opportunities from being only open to a selected elite, to being a component common to all higher educational experiences. As such, a new definition of internationalisation delivered by the report is to recognise it as “the *intentional* process of integrating an

² De Wit Hans, Fiona Hunter, Laura Howard, Eva Egron-Polak. *Internationalisation of Higher Education*. European Parliament. (2015).

³ Ibid.



international, intercultural or global dimension into the purpose, functions and delivery of post-secondary education, *in order to enhance the quality of education and research for all students and staff, and to make a meaningful contribution to society.*"⁴

For more information regarding the report's findings, discover more on how the questions behind the study were answered, and to learn about additional policy recommendations, please click [here](#).



⁴ O'Malley, Brendan. "Internationalisation should be for all—Landmark Study". *University World News* (Global Edition), 377. 14 August 2015. <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20150814220104557>



EURAXESS Members in
Focus: AUSTRIA

2 EURAXESS Members in Focus: Austria – A Place for Research & Technology

EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion is an initiative of the European Research Area (ERA) that addresses barriers to the mobility of researchers and seeks to enhance their career development. This pan-European effort is currently supported by 40 countries, of which we will profile one in our monthly EURAXESS Links ASEAN e-newsletter. This month, we focus on Austria.

Numerous measures have been put in place in Austria with the main aim of promoting close cooperation between business and research. The objective is to move Austria forward into the group of Europe's most innovative countries. Companies and research institutes will benefit equally from this increased cooperation.

With **research and development accounting for 3,01 percent of the country's economic output (GDP)**, Austria is performing well above the EU and OECD average. But it needs more than just high levels of investment. Numerous structural reforms have paved the way to growth in the area of research expenditure: milestones have been reached with the establishment of the universities of applied sciences sector in the mid-1990s, the reform of the study system (Bologna Process) in the European Higher Education Area and the granting of full autonomy to universities. The system of research funding was reformed, and important new funding programmes and tax credits for research activities introduced. The non-university research institutes were also reorganised, and means for funding application-based research (business-oriented research) were increased. Various measures were implemented to **significantly expand the collaboration between science and business**, competence centres were set up – such as within the framework of the research funding programme COMET – and research headquarters were established.

Austria has a top position in industrial technologies and high-tech materials. This includes above-average productivity growth, excellent growth and export performance of the manufacturing industry, a high level of research and development and the successful niche strategies of individual companies, especially in the manufacture of high-quality products in the



‘MATURE’, MODERN INNOVATION SYSTEM

The joint efforts of the two federal ministries responsible for the Austrian research and technology policy, the Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWFW) and the Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology (BMVIT) are bearing fruit: today, Austria boasts **several universities and non-university institutes with an international reputation** and an excellent scientific output. The number of scientific publications has been significantly increased; **Austrian researchers are also very active internationally**, evidenced, for example, by their **highly successful participation in the EU research framework programme**.

The achievements of the active research policy are visible: for example, Austria’s patent activities since 2000 have seen above-average growth and are – in proportion to its number of inhabitants – clearly above EU average. **At 56 percent, the share of innovative companies is also far above the European average**. Small and medium-sized companies in particular have been set on the path of innovation through a custom-tailored funding programme.



SMART RESEARCH INCENTIVES

Austria’s economic policy has long since recognised the huge significance of entrepreneurial innovation and has constantly sought to promote innovative entrepreneurial performance with the appropriate support tools. **The proportion of companies that enjoy innovation-specific funding is higher in Austria than in all other EU Member States**. The collaboration between science and business has been strongly expanded in recent years. There has also been a sharp rise both in the earnings from research and development work that the universities generated for clients and joint venture partners from the world of business, and in the number of spin-off foundations from universities.



In Austria, innovative companies can make use of a support system that is recognized as a global model. **The funding quota for company research projects ranks at the top end of the international scale.** With more than one third, the public sector, in international comparison, supports a high proportion of the total research and development expenditure. Similarly, in basic research and tertiary education, the federal government also makes huge contributions. Thus the public financing share of universities of around 90 percent is far above the EU average.

Particularly in recent years it has been possible to interest an increasing number of companies for R&D so that the innovative base in Austria continues to grow, which is also a result of the good framework conditions for business-oriented research in Austria. A refined system of research funding, support through regional business agencies and tax breaks, such as the research bonus which was raised to ten percent in 2010, form an excellent breeding ground and represent an important advantage for Austria as a business location.

Austria supports the entire innovation process from basic research to founding a company. Three agencies in particular are responsible:

- The Austrian **Science Fund (FWF)** provides almost EUR 200 million per year for basic research projects and thereby funds around 4000 mostly early stage researchers. One of the objectives of the FWF is to strengthen Austria's international performance and capability in science and research as well as the country's attractiveness for frontier research. This is achieved, by funding individuals and research teams and thus enhancing the competitiveness of Austria's innovation system and its research facilities.

With 723 companies active in the biotechnology, pharma or medical technology business, life sciences are an important part of Austria's economy.

The life science industry in Austria is fully diversified with companies large and small as well as a number of multinational companies headquartered in or with facilities here – though it is SMEs that dominate across a whole range of disciplines.

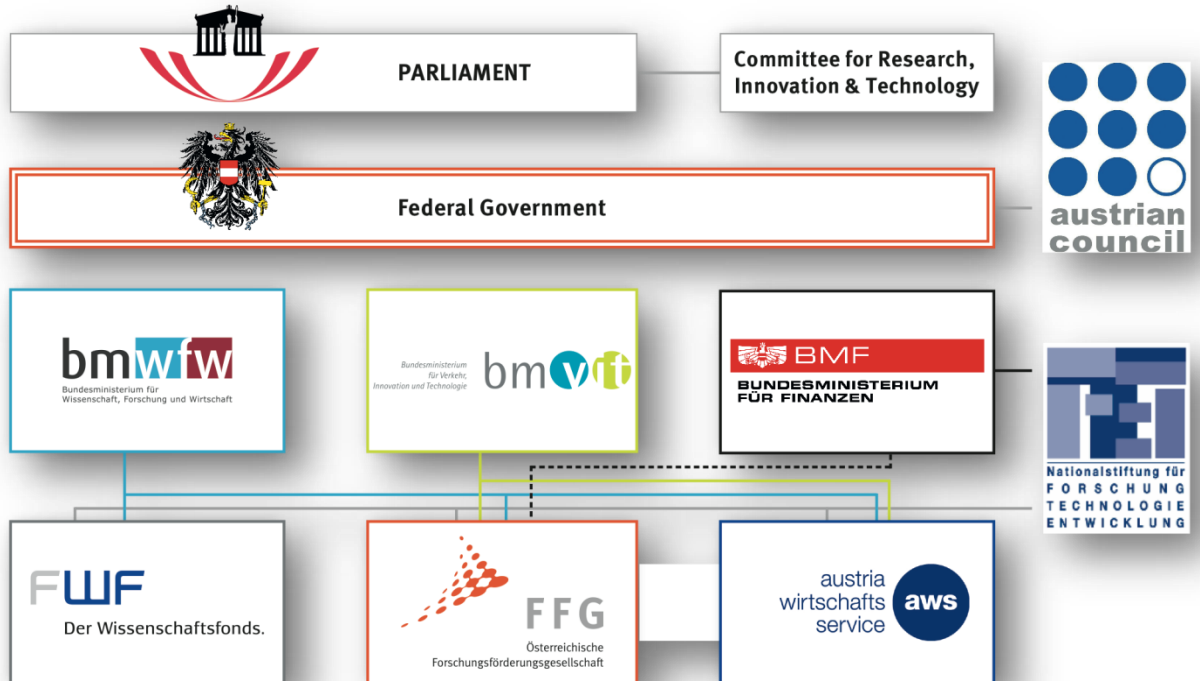
- The **Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)** supports industry-oriented research with an extensive programme of grants and services. Over EUR 400 million are invested annually into application-oriented projects. The FFG offer ranges from 'Entry' programmes to the funding of large excellence and competence centres

- The **Austrian Business Service (aws)** is the development bank of the Republic of Austria. It offers low-interest loans, grants and guarantees to companies. It also provides information, know-how, consultations and other services



Research Performers

There are currently 22 public universities in Austria (including six universities of the arts and three technical universities), 21 universities of applied sciences and



13 private universities - with a total of around **374,000 students** (2014). In terms of investment per pupil and university student across their entire educational career, **Austria ranks fourth in the OECD.**

Austrian universities are also strongly advancing internationalisation in the field of research: this is impressively demonstrated by above-average participation in the EU funding framework programme, with **Austria ranking fifth in the success rate of the prestigious ERC grants.** Furthermore public universities, as the backbone of basic research in Austria, have been increasingly expected to cooperate with companies and other partners from practice.

Austrian scientists and researchers are amongst the world's elite in numerous areas, such as quantum physics, mathematics and medicine, as well as in humanities and

The oldest public research organization and learned society in Austria is the [Austrian Academy of Sciences \(ÖAW\)](#), with 1382 employees, whereby two thirds of the staff work scientifically. The OeAW operates complementary to Austrian universities and other research organizations . At the 28 OeAW institutes, scientists and researchers participate in (non-application-specific) basic research that is on par with internationally recognized scientific standards. The goal is to gain new insights, even apart from current research trends.



The [Institute of Science and Technology \(IST Austria\)](#), established in 2006, is an internationally competitive frontier research institute which is located in Klosterneuburg on the outskirts of Vienna. The focus is currently on basic research and graduate education in the physical sciences, the formal sciences, and the life sciences. IST Austria fosters both theoretical and experimental research. It is committed to conducting world-class research. By 2026, up to 100 research groups will perform research in an international state-of-the-art environment.

The “cooperative sector” i.e. non-university research is the fastest growing field in Austria’s research landscape, with R&D expenditures almost tripling over the past ten years. More than 7,000 people are employed at 57 non-university research facilities.

- The [Austrian Institute of Technology \(AIT\)](#) is the largest non-university research institute. AIT is jointly owned by the Republic of Austria (with a share of 50.5%) and by a consortium of companies. Its main task is to perform application-oriented R&D for / with companies
- [Austrian Cooperative Research \(ACR\)](#) supports Austrian SMEs in the innovation process in the form of 500 cooperative research projects each year
- [Joanneum Research](#), with its five research units in Materials, Health, Digital, Resources and Policies, Joanneum Research ranks as one of the largest non-university research institutions in Austria today
- More than 70 [Christian Doppler laboratories](#) at Austrian universities create an extremely productive bridgehead between science and business and give the business community effective access to application-oriented basic research. The temporary facilities operating for a period of seven years boast annual budgets of up to EUR 600,000, 50% of which are financed by public sector funding
- The [Ludwig Boltzmann Gesellschaft \(LBG\)](#) specializes in cooperative research and operates towards mission-oriented RTD Policy. The LBG initiates the highest quality research issues together with academic and corporate partners. One of the main defining features of the LBG is the incubator function of its research operations. The current call for proposals of the LBG has a strong focus on Health Science. By this means, the LBG also takes the grand challenges of Horizon 2020 into account.
- Other recognized research partners for industrial companies include arsenal research in Vienna, [Salzburg Research](#), [Fraunhofer Research GmbH](#), [Upper Austrian Research](#), [V-Research](#) and [Carinthian Tech Research](#).

Austria belongs to the leading nations in energy technologies. With 32.2% of the energy consumption being covered by renewable energy Austria is among the European top leaders. Renewable energy sources account for 65.3% of the electricity consumption. Generally the dominant power sources are solid wood fuels and hydropower. Austrian companies are among the world leaders in solar heating and cooling, bioenergy technologies and zero emission buildings.



The **Centres of Excellence or Competence Centres** are a special case. Through the funding programmes [COMET](#), and the former K-plus and K-ind, more than 40 'Centres of Excellence' have been established since 1998, linking partners from science and industry in jointly defined long-term research programmes. More than 1,500 researchers both from science and business are working together on basis of jointly defined research programmes. The actual 'Centre of Excellence' is a legal entity (e.g. a limited company) and receives up to 60% of public funding. They have had a strong positive impact on the Austrian innovation system.

Business Enterprise Sector

3,326 companies conducted systematically R&D in Austria in 2013. This number has significantly grown compared to the 1,317 companies in 1998. Together, they employed in 2013 70% of all researchers in Austria, i.e. 46,411,8 fulltime equivalent employees, which more than doubled compared to 1998 (Source: Statistik Austria, latest available data).

3,326 companies reported R&D expenditures in 2013. 62% of these companies employed less than 50 people, however, these small companies accounted for only 10% of corporate R&D expenditures. 72% of R&D expenditures come from the 456 large companies with more than 250 employees, although they account for only 14% of all companies financing R&D.

Most Austrian companies active in R&D perform these activities in-house, however, some (large) companies have turned their R&D departments into dedicated research companies, for example the Research Institute of Molecular Pathology which is owned by the Boehringer Ingelheim Group, or the Novartis Institute for BioMedical Research, owned by Novartis.

Internationalization of S&T cooperation

In mid-2013, the government's Task Force on "STI" launched an official document outlining the current internationalization strategy as regards "internationalization of research, innovation and technology beyond Europe". The strategic recommendations for international cooperation with the following countries

USA, China, India, Russia, Canada, Brazil, Israel, South Africa (incl. Southern Africa), Japan, South Korea, Australia, Singapore/Malaysia are:

- Expanding the network of Offices of Science and Technology Austria/Science counselors
- Concluding bilateral agreements
- Implementing mobility programs
- Establishing European instruments (EUREKA, H2020, Erasmus +, COST etc.)
- Establishing Joint Labs
- Enhancing technology transfer

The Austrian agency for international mobility and cooperation in education, science and research (OeAD)



The OeAD is the central service point for European and international mobility and cooperation programmes in education, science and research. It supports strategic development, guides implementation measures, analyses international developments and works out appropriate recommendations and measures to be taken.

For more information and enquiries:

Austrian Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology

A-1030 Vienna, Radetzkystraße 2

URL: www.bmvit.gv.at

Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy

A-1011 Vienna, Stubenring 1

URL: www.bmwf.gv.at

Austrian Research Promotion Agency

A-1090 Vienna, Sensengasse 1

+43 (05) 7755-0

URL: www.ffg.at

Austrian Embassy - Commercial Section

#24-04/05 Parkview Square

600 North Bridge Road

188778 Singapore

Phone: (+65) 63 96 63 50, (+65) 63 96 63 51

Email: embassy.singapore@austriantrade.org



EURAXESS Members in
Focus: AUSTRIA



2.1 ASEAN European Academic University Network (ASEA-UNINET)

Based on many fruitful co-operation activities between Austrian and South-East-Asian universities the AUSTRIAN - South-East Asian University Partnership Network was founded in HoChiMinh-City in 1994. At that time this network comprised 25 universities from Austria, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam. With the accession of Austria to the European Union the network underwent a geographical enlargement and was renamed ASEAN EUROPEAN ACADEMIC UNIVERSITY NETWORK (ASEA-UNINET). Top-ranked-universities have joined the network and today ASEA-UNINET consists of 75 universities from 17 countries. Seventeen of the twenty-one Austrian public universities are members of this network. In 2014 another 102 projects between Austrian and ASEAN member universities were co-financed by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy through the ASEA-UNINET Network. Furthermore 107 persons were involved in the academic exchange activities of ASEA-UNINET, including PhD-scholarships, short-term visits, short-term scholarships etc. Some scholarships were additionally awarded with the support of European private enterprises.

At the plenary meeting of ASEA-UNINET in July 2014 the delegates decided to focus the cooperation in science and technology on the following areas: Computational Science, Automotive Engineering, Material Sciences and Nanotechnology, Environmental Sciences / Disaster Management / Climate Change, Applied Mathematics, Energy, Food Safety and Security, Geographical Information Systems, Biomedical Engineering, Transportation and Tunnel Engineering, Sustainable Engineering and Textile Engineering. A second focus of research cooperation is laid on the area of Health, Pharmacy and Medicine. In addition to science and technology, ASEA-UNINET is also very much involved in the area of Humanities, Social Sciences and Economics.

In December 2014 a one-week strategic meeting was held in Austria between high representatives from the ASEAN-member countries and their Austrian counterparts. At this strategic meeting it was decided to recommend additional areas of cooperation which are relevant for the fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations such as: Renewable Energy, Sustainable Supply Chain Management, Development of Remote Areas and Urbanisation.

The establishment of two joint labs in chemistry, the Austrian-Thai Centre (ATC) and the Austrian-Indonesian Centre (AIC) for computational chemistry are best practice and excellent examples of the trend-setting cooperation activities of ASEA-UNINET. Thanks to the close cooperation between Thailand and Austria many different research topics have been jointly worked on, leading to many outstanding publications in internationally renowned journals. Furthermore, the research area of Theoretical and Computational Chemistry was established as a separate academic subject at the partner universities. Moreover, in 2014, the



donation of a High Performance Computing (HPC) system to the AIC was made possible. This donation is associated with appropriate scientific programs.

Another best practice example can be seen in the involvement of ASEA-UNINET in many graduate and post-graduate training initiatives. An example of this is the 2015 Summer School on “The Future of Rice” at the Gajah Mada University with participants and trainers from Austrian and ASEAN-member universities in exploring how the shift to sustainable and resilient rice cultivation can be made. The much discussed System of Rice Intensification (SRI) is investigated as a possible option to achieve this goal.

Univ.-Prof. DI Dr. A Min Tjoa, National ASEA-UNINET Coordinator for Austria

For more information please visit the website of ASEA-UNINET [here](#).



EURAXESS Members in
Focus: AUSTRIA

2.2 Singaporean-Austrian Science and Business Day to explore scientific collaboration opportunities

The „Singaporean-Austrian Science and Business Day“ on 23 October 2015 will put science and technology cooperation between Singapore and Austria into the spotlight, and carve out the potential for deepened or novel cooperation between the two scientific communities.

The event will feature interactive discussions with distinguished representatives from the Singaporean and Austrian science and business communities, networking and showcasing opportunities, and include information on funding opportunities to support enhanced RTI cooperation between the two countries. A central aim of the event is to provide the framework for an inspiring exchange that will support the planning and implementation of concrete follow-ups.

[More here](#)

In order to **REGISTER** for the „Singaporean-Austrian Science and Business Day“ on 23 October 2015, which is organised in cooperation between A*STAR, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research and the Commercial Section at the Austrian Embassy in Singapore, please follow this [link](#)



EURAXESS Members in
Focus: AUSTRIA



2.3 Research partnerships in focus

The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU) in Vienna, Austria is leading a consortium that seeks to discover means for the enhancement of Higher Education and Continuing Professional Development training for the beverage industry in Southeast Asia.

The problem

Currently, Thailand lacks capacities to supply the beverage industry with adequately trained students and qualified non-academic staff. This is confirmed by SINGHA and THAIBEV, who cover more than 90% of the beverage production in Thailand. There are either technical engineers with technical knowledge and skills, but lacking of deeper knowledge on food quality, hygiene, production processes, or food scientists, less skilled in engineering and without deeper knowledge of beverage technology. Currently, employees of the Thai beverage industry are being trained in-house or, in a limited number, by universities overseas. The latter is only possible for a few selected employees. A properly structured and sustainable collaborative concept for high quality Continuing Professional Development training for beverage technology is not established.

The proposed solution

To overcome these gaps, a consortium of Thai and EU universities and companies in the beverage industry will systematically establish an independent JOINT EU-SEA-ACADEMY, with hubs in Thailand and EU, to enable a new sustainable collaboration between the partners for a continuing needs analysis, for developing new demand driven educational products using innovative pedagogical approaches and teaching tools to be used in CPD and HE. Special emphasis will be given to hygiene and environmental aspects (energy saving, waste reduction) and soft skills like teamwork, critical thinking and English language skills.

The proposed educational products will be qualified according to international standards. They will be implemented in a postgraduate Master for beverage technology, and incorporated in existing curricula with an optional focus on beverage technology with the possibility for double/joint degrees with EU universities. Furthermore, the Academy will establish a high quality and certified LifeLongLearning programme using existing facilities and a certification scheme for different profiles such as quality and safety manager, brewing technologist, wine technologist, and others.

The postgraduate education programme and the CPD training are expected to produce results in relatively short time. In the long term, the adjusted curricula is expected to produce qualified staff for the beverage industry in Thailand and SEA.

Expected outcome

The consortium seeks to establish a joint (SEA-EU) network for all stakeholders in the beverage sector:



- a Postgraduate Diploma in Beverage Technology offered by Kasetsart University (KU) in collaboration with Chulalongkorn University (CU) and King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL): a multi-disciplinary, industrial oriented diploma programme serving industry needs, accredited with international EQAS-Food Award for transnational recognition of qualifications, based on EU-standards
- modified existing MSc programmes: + beverage focus, soft skills, new teaching methods
- a joint master curriculum on "Beverage technology" between a Thai and an European University
- a certified CPD training to certify participants for transnational recognition of selected qualifications/professions at different levels, e.g. Certified Hygiene Officer/Manager, Quality Officer/Manager, Environmental Officer/Manager, Marketing Specialist, Specialist for purchasing and supply management, etc.
- a "Joint EU-SEA Beverage Academy" as training center with mainly independently working local hubs in Bangkok (Kasetsart University using the structures of KU-FIRST) and in Vienna (at BOKU using the structures of IFA – ISEKI-Food Association) to deliver courses, certify qualifications transfer knowledge and support co-operations. Members of the academy are European and Thai universities and companies (food processors, equipment supplier, training provider).
- maintaining a web platform with interactive (synchronous and asynchronous) tools:
 - E-learning system
 - Webinar & Teleconference system
 - Newsletter system
 - Discussion Forums
 - Digital library of educational products and teaching tools
 - Information collection system: Database on needs and available modules, courses and educational products, facilities and resources
 - Brokerage system for jobs, internships
- a sustainability concept (business plan) to finance the continuous update of needs and knowledge transfer via academic and non-academic training, e.g. by using national scholarships, industrial sponsoring by potential employers, etc.

Expected impact

- Increased cooperation and sharing of competences and facilities within Thai, within EU and between Thai and EU universities
- Exchanges of teachers and students



CONSORTIUM AND COMPETENCES:

EUROPE	THAILAND
Partner Universities	
University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU, AT) , quality and safety management ISEKI-Food Association (IFA, AT) , based at BOKU, https://www.iseki-food.net/ , accreditation, certification, teaching materials and methods	Kasetsart University (KU, TH) , beverages, beer KU-FIRST (Food Innovation & Research Services Thailand, http://kufirst.center.ku.ac.th/), CPD center based at KU
Hochschule Geisenheim (UGH, DE) , wine, juice beer	Chulalongkorn University (CU, TH) , diary, wine Center of Excellence in Food Processing , http://www.iscisaraburee.sc.chula.ac.th.training_center_for_juice_based_outside_of_BKK
University of Teramo (UNITE, IT) , juice technology	King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL, TH) , Food engineering
Partner Companies:	
Habla-Chemie GmbH (HABLA, DE) , cleaning and sanitizing	PATKOL public Company Limited (PATKOL, TH) equipment supplier

Associated Partners:	
EUCEN , Standards for Life Long Learning	
EHEDG , http://www.ehedg.org/ , hygienic design	Subsection EHEDG Thailand at KMITL

Confirmed Interest	
	Boon Rawd Brewery CO. Ltd (SINGHA)
	Thai Beverage Public Company Limited



To find out more about this project please contact the Coordinator **Dr. Gerhard Schleining**

BOKU - University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna

Department of Food Science and Technology

Muthgasse 18, A-1190 Vienna, Austria

E: Gerhard.Schleining@boku.ac.at, <http://www.dlwt.boku.ac.at/>

Secretary General of **ISEKI-Food Association**

c/o Department of Food Science and Technology

office@iseki-food.net, <https://www.iseki-food.net/>

registered under Austrian law ZVR: 541528038



EURAXESS Members in
Focus: AUSTRIA

2.4 Meet the Researcher: Thai Marie Curie Fellow Dr Patchanita Thamyongkit

Please tell us a little about yourself. Where are you from and what is your research background?

I am from Bangkok, Thailand. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree at Chulalongkorn University and received my Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen, Germany. After that, I conducted postdoctoral research at North Carolina State University for approximately 3 years. Since 2005, I have joined the Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Chulalongkorn University. Currently, I am an associate professor in Chemistry here and also serve the university as a Vice-director of Scientific and Technological Research Equipment Centre. My research concerns the development of organic photosensitizing materials for optoelectronic applications, especially organic solar cells and photoelectrochemical catalysts.

Please tell us briefly about the research project you have been doing as a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Fellow?

The project was about the development of porphyrin-based photosensitizers for optoelectronics devices under the collaboration with Linz Institute for Organic Solar Cells (LIOS) at Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria. At that time, my research groups in Thailand took care of the molecular design and synthesis of photoactive materials under my supervision, while I intensively performed the investigation of photophysical and electrochemical properties, and device studies at LIOS.

Why did you choose to apply for this particular project?

As a chemist, I believe that the organic compounds play important roles not only as promising light-harvesting candidates, but also as perfect materials in in-depth mechanistic studies to understand more about the key factors for successful devices. As a Thai and world citizen, I think it is a global urgent need to provide the proper technology and, at the same time, to explore the new promising one for exploiting alternative energy, especially solar energy. Therefore, I have strong intention to broaden and deepen my knowledge, and to get fruitful research collaboration in this field. Thanks to my Ph.D. advisor, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Michael Hanack, who introduced me to Univ. Prof. Mag. Dr. Dr. h.c. Niyazi Serdar Sariciftci who is a director of LIOS and suggested me to write a project together.

Why did you choose Austria as your research destination?

Mainly because LIOS is located there. Moreover, I know Austria as a very beautiful and livable country. I was so happy when I found out that I would have a chance to go there.

What are your impressions of the Austrian research landscape?

In the field of organic optoelectronics, I see Austria as a great research hub. There are many research groups, universities, institutes and organizations in this country, and they form strong networks and clusters together. Most



Dr Patchanita Thamyongkit conducted research at Linz Institute for Organic Solar Cells (LIOS) at Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria as a Marie Curie Fellow.



importantly, the government sees importance of this research field and gives continuous supports to enhance new scientific discoveries and knowledge transfer, nationally and internationally. Moreover, industrial sectors show their interest in collaborating with the research groups and really make a significant contribution to research and technology transfer in this field.

Where did you get information about the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions?

Prof. Sariciftci suggested that we should submit our project proposal to get International Incoming Fellowship (IIF). That was the first time I heard about this programme.

In retrospect, which elements do you think were decisive in you being successful in your application?

I think the committee could clearly see from my project proposal “why” I want to do this, “what” I would like to do and “how” I can drive the project to the goal. My solid research expertise and continuous publication should convince them that the project will be fruitful, while my academic position at the university should make them see my ability and the great possibility of knowledge transfer. Most importantly, the worldwide reputation of the host institute, LIOS, must play a big role for this success as well.

„In the field of organic optoelectronics, I see Austria as a great research hub. There are many research groups, universities, institutes and organizations in this country, and they form strong networks and clusters together.“

Do you have any advice for other young researchers who are considering applying for a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship?

There are lots of things you can contribute to your research society. Find the corner fitting you and use your strength to do your best with it. Then, you will be a perfect candidate!

What were the most significant benefits you derived as a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow?

Prof. Sariciftci is a great collaborator and a very generous boss. I have received a life-long membership from his institution, LIOS. This privilege provides me opportunities to participate in their research activities and visit the institute for performing experiments whenever I would like to. This is such a kind offer from him that motivates me to do the better research. Furthermore, he always gives me the best support beneficial for my career path.

What do you think were your most valuable contributions to your European host?

Besides awards and publications I have got, I think I created another research point of view in LIOS in terms of “using more chemists/chemistry” in their work. Working with them for two years made our collaboration highly synergistic because we know how to enhance our research outcome by combining the strength from each side. Now they know how to make more use of chemists! Furthermore, now I have become one of their branches. Right now, we have a highly dynamic staff and knowledge exchange which is very beneficial for both



sides.

As a researcher, which goals and ambitions do you have for your future career?

I want to see research and development in the field of organic optoelectronics in Thailand be upgraded to world standard and make a positive contribution to the world. I would like to establish my research unit as a research and education center to produce high impact outcome, to create knowledge and to educate the young generation to be qualified researchers in this field. I am confident that this is not just a dream.

Thank you very much!

About the Researcher

Patchanita Thamyongkit was born and raised in Bangkok, Thailand. In 1994, she earned B. Sc. from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, and in 2002, she received her Ph. D. in chemistry from Eberhard-Karls-University Tübingen, Germany. After conducting postdoctoral research at North Carolina State University in USA for 3 years, she has become a faculty member in the Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Chulalongkorn University since 2005. She received privileged fellowships and honors from European Commission (Marie Curie International Incoming Research Fellowship, 2009-2010), from The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (the ICTP prize, 2013) and L'Oreal Thailand (L'Oreal-UNESCO "For Women in Science" fellowship, 2014). Currently, Patchanita Thamyongkit is an associate professor, and also serves Chulalongkorn University as a vice-director of Scientific and Technological Research Equipment Centre and a consultant of the Graduate School. Her research focuses mainly on the development of photosensitizing porphyrin and phthalocyanine materials for optoelectronic devices and photo-/electrocatalysis.



EURAXESS Members in
Focus: AUSTRIA

2.5 Meet the Researcher: Austrian ZSI researcher Alexander Degelsegger

Please tell us about your research background and interests.

My academic background is in social sciences, more specifically in the sociology of science and the so-called 'Science and Technology Studies' (STS). During my time at the Austrian Academy of Sciences, I studied how public debates around biotechnology or synthetic biology become controversial. At ZSI, my research work focuses on research cooperation and related policy. Using a variety of methods from STS-inspired expert interviews to scientometrics and patent analyses, I try to better understand how cooperation in research works nowadays. It is a fascinating area where several global trends converge and profoundly change the way science and innovation are conducted: the increasing interdisciplinarity, the role and relevance of global challenges, the emergence of citizen science and more open ways of innovation, to name just a few. Several highly relevant questions for today's research policy are connected to this: What kind of research cooperation do we need to solve pressing problems? How can we support it properly? How can it be beneficial to all sides involved?

You have been involved in a number of EU funded projects supporting increased research cooperation between Europe and Southeast Asia. Please tell us about these.

At the Centre for Social Innovation in Austria, we are involved in a number of EU projects strengthening Europe's linkages with the world in the area of science and innovation. One of these projects is SEA-EU-NET (www.sea-eu.net). It is currently in its second phase and I have had the pleasure of working on it since I joined ZSI in 2008. SEA-EU-NET supports research and innovation cooperation between Southeast Asia and Europe. It does so both at a policy level, typically involving ministries and funding agencies, and at the concrete level of researchers, involving individuals, universities and SMEs. Our responsibility within SEA-EU-NET is to provide analyses that support policy dialogue and researcher networking. We show where cooperation between the two regions is already strong and where there is potential to be unearthed. We also conduct studies that make the considerable research activity and innovation potential of Southeast Asia more visible. Beyond these technical aspects, SEA-EU-NET is unique in that it brings together Southeast Asian and European partners. Conducting our analyses in a bi-regional team adds both validity and depth to our studies. Moreover, it is always nice to work with colleagues from both regions.

ZSI is also involved in other Southeast Asia-oriented projects like the Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI), which supports ASEAN integration in a number of areas including science and technology, or SUSTAIN EU-ASEAN, which is dedicated to facilitating environmental research cooperation.

What would you point to as being some of these project's most notable achievements or greatest successes?



Alexander DEGELSEGGER is a researcher and deputy head of department at the Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI) in Vienna/Austria.



The projects help to keep Europe and its research and innovation potential high on the agenda of our thriving partner region. Southeast Asia is well positioned in the Asian context and Europe is far away. However, both sides can gain a lot from cooperation. The question of where and how this can work has become increasingly clear through the projects. I am proud to say that our analytical work has played a role in this. We have increased the knowledge and understanding of Southeast Asia and its innovation systems and potential. We have shown how much research cooperation is already going on between Southeast Asia and Europe – and that this is something to build upon. Our analyses have regularly informed policy discussions and also set new standards in the governance of international research cooperation.

Only recently, another less palpable, but maybe even more important success of SEA-EU-NET has become clear to me: After a focus group discussion on innovation and economic integration in ASEAN, I was discussing with a colleague from a major French research institution. She told me that SEA-EU-NET has been crucial in allowing them access to the regional ASEAN-level. Without SEA-EU-NET, even major European research institutions would have difficulties reaching out to all ten Southeast Asian countries. The situation would be more severe for smaller EU and ASEAN Member States trying to connect to the other region. These connections at institutional level, in turn, are relevant to help researchers find counterparts for collaboration. A remarkable SEA-EU-NET success in this regard is also the recent establishment of the first multilateral funding scheme supporting collaborative research and mobility between Southeast Asia and Europe.

“Austrian research is extremely well connected within Europe and globally. You can expect to find internationalised teams with a global outlook.”

What have been the biggest challenges in attempting to foster bi-regional cooperation?

The political framework conditions we move in can be challenging. Decision-makers and priorities change, but research and innovation policy has to be long-term in order to sustainably build something. Resources are very limited both on the Southeast Asian and the European side. As to ASEAN, it does not have the same tradition of a supranational support to research and innovation that we have in the EU. The budget and the mandate of the ASEAN Secretariat are also not the same as in the case of the European Commission. At the same time, the European Union relies heavily on the corset of its Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation. Coordinating additional funds is possible and worthwhile, but time consuming and not always easy for the counterparts, as many parties need to be involved. In view of these challenges, rather than promoting specific programmes, it is important to focus on efficiently sharing the right kind of information that helps to realise cooperation potential – and there is a lot, even if politics and excessive expectations can get in the way.

Looking ahead, where do you see the biggest opportunities for increased cooperation between Europe and Southeast Asia?

I see the big opportunities in all areas where the two regions face similar problems (like climate change or energy) or share potential (in the life sciences;



environmental sciences; agriculture, food and fisheries; health; engineering). While Europe certainly has a lot to offer in view of some more Southeast Asia-specific challenges, like city infrastructures and water management, the same is true in the opposite direction with regard to biodiversity. In order to move beyond these broad fields, it is necessary to know in more detail where to start and what to build upon. From a more innovation-oriented perspective, I believe both regions have potential to harness and further develop models of open, social or frugal innovation. They might even take the lead in figuring out how private sector innovation can best be carried out in a mutually beneficial and cooperative way.

How important is cooperation with researchers in Southeast Asia to your work and your career development?

During my work in SEA-EU-NET, I have enjoyed cooperating and co-authoring studies with Southeast Asian colleagues. I have learned a lot and was granted insights that would not have been possible otherwise. Several of our studies were based on qualitative data collected through interviews. It was important to have Southeast Asian partners on board to get access to the right people and to make sense of the information. The links to our partners also helped when we brought together senior experts from Southeast Asia to discuss and contextualise our findings. We are also increasingly working with Southeast Asian partners in our more quantitative scientometric analyses.

What advice would you give to Southeast Asian researchers seeking closer collaboration with Europe, and vice versa?

As to cooperation with Europe, the most important aspect is to establish well functioning communication channels. Find yourself a partner strongly integrated in European networks. Tap into your European partner's knowledge of European research funding. In case you spot a collaboration opportunity (like a Call for Proposal in a European programme), act fast and take the opportunity of your European partner's networks and administrative capacities. Expect and keep up with an initially steep learning curve (administrative details, etc) – it will pay off!

I would recommend Europeans eager to cooperate with Southeast Asia to learn about your partner and his/her context, to go there and to regularly communicate about potentials of cooperation, mutual interest and opportunities. Do not underestimate Southeast Asian research funding in this regard; many instruments are in place and more can be expected. Make sure to keep potential Southeast Asian partners in the loop when you prepare for European funding.

What are your plans for the future?

I would be fascinated to continue to work on Southeast Asia and with our colleagues there. It is such a diverse and pulsating region. A first-hand experience of the major changes taking place during these years is a privilege. At ZSI, we will continue to look at and learn about forms of cooperation and innovation that can be mutually beneficial to partners as far apart as Southeast



Asia and Europe. Developing and sharing this expertise is a very worthwhile task for the years to come.

And finally, why should Southeast Asian researchers look to Austria as a research destination?

Austria is, among many things, an easy and well-suited entry point to European research. Austrian research excellence is globally recognised in a number of areas including life sciences, physics, mathematics as well as several areas of engineering or the humanities. Even beyond these areas, Austrian research is extremely well connected within Europe and globally. You can expect to find internationalised teams with a global outlook. When it comes to applied research, Austrian universities have a long tradition of cooperating with local industry in clusters (e.g. the life sciences in Vienna) and in global value chains (e.g. in the automotive sector, alternative energies, etc.). Austria's geographical location is another asset: Around a dozen neighbouring countries in Western, Central and South Eastern Europe can be reached by train in a few hours. Countries as far apart as Spain and Finland are a short flight away. Finally, when it comes to leisure and family life, Austria is unrivalled in many respects: Vienna regularly leads global quality-of-living rankings. In addition to the cultural offers, public transport, social services as well as the education system are all excellent. Both the Alps and the Mediterranean are within reach from wherever you are in the country.

Thank you!

About the Researcher

Alexander DEGELSEGGER is a researcher and deputy head of department at the Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI) in Vienna/Austria. Alexander is an expert on international science and technology (S&T) policy, programme design and evaluation. A social scientist by training, he started his career at the Austrian Academy of Sciences' Institute of Technology Assessment. Currently, at ZSI, he is leading projects on the analysis, evaluation and implementation of international research and innovation cooperation. This work is also informed by his conceptual contributions to the field of sociology of innovation. Regionally, Alexander has focused his work on the Southeast Asian research and innovation landscape since 2008. In the current second phase of the SEA-EU-NET project, he is leading the project's analysis work package. He is also the Science & Technology key expert in the EuropeAid-funded Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (READI) and consulted OECD and GIZ on their activities in the region.



3 News & Developments

3.1 EU, Member States and Associated Countries

3.1.1 ERC announces its 2016 budget and grant competitions

The European Commission has adopted the ERC Work Programme 2016. The programme, established by the ERC Scientific Council, foresees €1.67 billion for grants to top researchers from anywhere in the world who are ready to come or to stay in Europe to pursue their breakthrough ideas. Within the new series of competitions, the ERC has opened the first one, the call for Starting Grants 2016, with a budget of €485 million and deadline of 17 November 2015. This scheme is open to researchers with 2 to 7 years of experience since completion of PhD and a promising scientific track record.

Full article: [European Research Council](#)

3.1.2 10 European companies named 'tech pioneers'

The World Economic Forum (WEF) has recognised 10 European companies among a class of 49 companies deemed pioneers in technology.

As in previous years, US start-ups dominate, producing 35 pioneers in the fields of IT, life sciences, and energy. There are four winners from the UK, two from the Netherlands and Israel, and single recipients from Canada, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Sweden, Taiwan and China.

To be selected as a Technology Pioneer, a company must develop a major technology or innovation with the potential for long-term impact on business and society. In addition, it must demonstrate vision and leadership, and show all the signs of being a long-standing market leader – and its technology must be proven, according to the Forum.

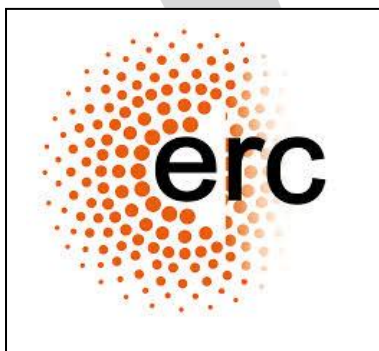
Full article: [Science | Business](#)

3.1.3 50 groundbreaking scientists who are changing the way we see the world

Business Insider UK compiled a list of 50 scientists from across the globe who are changing the world for the better. Katrin Amunts, working at Jülich Research Centre (DE) has been nominated for her work on the "BigBrain", which aims to create a 3D atlas of the human brain and should lead to unprecedented insights into the construction and organization of the brain and how it drives our behavior. She is co-leader of the Strategic Human Brain Data subproject

Full article: [European Commission](#)

See also: [Human Brain Project](#)





3.1.4 JRC annual conference to focus on building a resilient Europe

The JRC's annual conference will take place in Brussels, Belgium on 30 September 2015. Resilience determines the capacity to successfully deal with difficult events and to adapt and overcome adversity, and in a changing world creates stability, which in turn promotes job creation, economic growth and environmental sustainability. Science plays a key role in this continuous process of building a resilient, stable, competitive and prosperous Europe. The JRC, together with European Political Strategy Centre (EPSC), organises its annual conference bringing together experts, representatives from European institutions and Member States authorities, stakeholders from industry as well as academia addressing a broad audience.

Further details: [JRC](#)



3.1.5 Tracking Innovation in intelligent transport systems

Intelligent transportation systems (ITS) are all around us: they let us know when the next bus will reach our bus stop, help monitor and manage road traffic and make air travel safer. But how does innovation work at this complex intersection between the transport and the ICT industries? The T-TRANS project found answers and laid the foundations for a European ITS innovation network.

Full article: [European Commission](#)

See also: [TTrans](#)

3.1.6 X-Ray experts export excellence

An innovative high end portable x-ray imaging device is not only revolutionising patient treatment but also giving Europe the opportunity to compete on the world stage in a growing global market for medical technology.

Full article: [EUREKA](#)

3.1.7 What space exploration says about Europe

Far away – more than 102m miles away but moving very fast – the European space probe Rosetta is escorting comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko on its journey to perihelion, its closest approach to the sun. To make this happen, small cabals of scientists from all over Europe, Asia and America had to dream the impossible, formally propose it, argue the case for it, and devise the technology first to make it happen and then to make it worthwhile. Rosetta is a gleaming instance of what Europe collectively can do so well, writes the Guardian in this editorial piece.

Full article: [The Guardian](#)



© ESA



3.2 ASEAN

3.2.1 Indonesia announces plans to build nuclear park

Indonesia's Research and Technology and Higher Education Minister M. Nasir as revealed plans to build a nuclear reactor park to support science education. The park will be an energy experiment lab managed by the country's National Atomic Energy Agency (Batan). According to the report in the Jakarta Post, the lab would be built to provide 10-20 million megawatts and the development would begin in 2016 and take one year to complete.

Source: [Jakarta Post](#)

3.2.2 Move to boost the number of science, engineering and IT professionals in Singapore

The Singapore government will invest S\$1 million to certify and groom up to 500 science, engineering and technology professionals in the next three years to meet the needs of the Intellectual Property (IP) technology sector.

From September 1 the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) will also serve as a Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) International Authority, thus speeding up and strengthening IP protection for Singaporean firms overseas.

Full article: [Straits Times](#)

3.2.3 UK confirms close ties in science and innovation with SEA

In an article published in Thai newspaper The Nation, UK secretary of state for business, innovation and skills Sajid Javid confirms the UK's commitment to closer collaboration in science, technology and innovation with the countries of Southeast Asia.

Full article: [The Nation](#)

3.2.4 Higher salaries needed to attract scientists in Vietnam

A commentary in the Vietnamnews argues that the government needs to tackle the issues of low salaries and limited scientific research budget in order to attract more young researchers to work in public scientific institutions in Vietnam.

Full article: [VietnamNews](#)

3.2.5 Indonesian Institute of Sciences preparing for AEC

On its 48th anniversary, the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) is set to hold its annual science congress and expo to tackle the country's strategic problems ahead of the advent of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). "Indonesian



scientists should be able to compete with other countries ahead of the AEC,” said LIPI secretary Siti Nuramaliati Prijono in an official statement.

Full article: [Jakarta Post](#)

3.2.6 Singapore has major role in advancing medical sciences

Singapore is well placed to take a leading role in the development of new medical advances for the 21st century, argues Dr James Garner of Sanofi in this article. The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF), a think-tank, ranks countries in its Global Innovation Policy Index, and considers the Republic to be the only Asian country in the top tier across all seven domains that it evaluates. Singapore's small geographic size, coupled with its diverse, highly globalised business and academic communities, allows for a level of integration and cooperation that would be challenging in larger territories, and which is well suited to high-technology industries such as the life sciences.

Full article: [Straits Times](#)

3.2.7 IPR key to science, technology and innovation says Vietnam's Deputy Minister of Science and Technology

In an interview with The Vietnam Times, Vietnam's deputy Minister of Science and Technology argues that the development of the country's science and technology market should go hand in hand with strict enforcement of the intellectual property rights law.

Full article: [The Vietnam Times](#)



EURAXESS Members in
Focus: AUSTRIA

FWF

Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

4 Grants & Fellowships

4.1 Austria: Lise Meitner Programme for Scientists from Abroad

This programme targets highly qualified scientists of any discipline who could contribute to the scientific development of an Austrian research institution by working at it. It funds 12 or 24 month postdocs with an annual personal allowance between EUR 62,500 and EUR 68,700.

Requirements: completed doctoral studies, record of international scientific publications, invitation from an Austrian research institution and co-application with an Austrian researcher. No age limit.

Applications continuously reviewed.

Further information can be found [here](#).

4.2 Austria: ISTFELLOW Postdoctoral Fellowships

ISTFELLOW is a programme open to applicants from all over the world who are interested in spending the postdoctoral stage of their scientific research career at the Institute of Science and Technology Austria (IST Austria). Core research preference to scientists who have a strong interest in cross-disciplinary approaches. The ISTFELLOW programme funds approximately 40 fellows per year for a two year stay, which may be extended under favourable conditions.

Next deadline: 15 September

Further information here: [here](#)



For more information on research opportunities in Austria of with Austrian research partners please visit the website of [EURAXESS Austria](#).



4.3 H2020 – 2016 Calls soon to be announced

The European Commission will soon launch the 2016 calls under Horizon 2020.

The three key pillars of Horizon 2020:

- **Excellent Science:** Around EUR 3 billion, including EUR 1.7 billion for grants from the European Research Council for top scientists, and EUR 800 million for Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowships for younger researchers.
- **Industrial Leadership:** EUR1.8 billion to support Europe's industrial leadership in areas like ICT, nanotechnologies, advanced manufacturing, robotics, biotechnologies and space.
- **Societal Challenges:** EUR 2.8 billion for innovative projects addressing Horizon 2020's seven societal challenges, broadly: health; agriculture, maritime and bioeconomy; energy; transport; climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials; reflective societies; and security.



To find out more about EU funding opportunities for your research or innovation project, and about the 2016 Calls, please visit the [European Commission's Participant Portal](#) where all calls will be published.

International researchers are also invited to join the [database of independent experts for European research and innovation](#). Distinguished specialists are strongly encouraged to join the database of independent experts, through which they can participate in the evaluation of project proposals and monitoring of actions, submitted under Horizon 2020.

4.4 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships

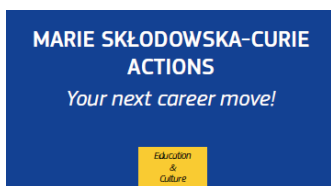
Are you an experienced researcher thinking about your next career move? Individual Fellowships fund researchers looking to enhance their career development and prospects by working abroad. These Fellowships offer ASEAN researchers an opportunity to spend up to two years working at a university, research institute or company in Europe.

Deadline is 10 September 2015.

More information [here](#).

[Need Guidance with your application? Consult your National Contact Point!](#)

The network of National Contact Points (NCPs) is the main structure to provide guidance, practical information and assistance on all aspects of participating in H2020 including Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions. Click [here](#) for details.





4.5 The European Research Council (ERC) Work Programme – Indicative Call Dates 2016



Indicative summary of main calls from the 2016 budget¹

	Starting Grant	Consolidator Grant	Advanced Grant
Call identifier	ERC-2016-StG	ERC-2016-CoG	ERC-2016-AdG
Call Opens	29 July 2015	15 October 2015	24 May 2016
Deadline	17 November 2015	2 February 2016	1 September 2016
Budget million EUR (estimated grants)	485 (335)	605 (335)	540 (235)
Planned dates to inform applicants	29 April 2016 1 September 2016	1 July 2016 1 December 2016	16 January 2017 16 March 2017
Indicative date for signature of grant agreements	1 January 2017	1 April 2017	16 July 2017

More information [here](#).

4.6 European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grants

ERC Starting Grants aim to support up-and-coming research leaders who are about to establish a proper research team and to start conducting independent proven potential of becoming independent research leaders. It will support the creation of excellent new research teams.

ERC Starting Grants in brief

- For researchers of any nationality with 2-7 years of experience since completion of PhD (or equivalent degree) and scientific track record showing great promise
- An excellent research proposal
- Research must be conducted in a public or private research organisation (known as a Host Institution/HI) located in one of the EU Member State or Associated Countries.
- Funding per grant: up to EUR 1.5 million (in some circumstances up to EUR 2 million)
- Duration: up to 5 years



Sole evaluation criterion: scientific excellence of researcher and research proposal

Application deadline is 17 November 2015

More information [here](#)

4.7 European Research Council (ERC) Proof of Concept Grants

"Proof of Concept" is a funding scheme **open to researchers who have already been awarded an ERC grant**. Its purpose is to help ERC grantees explore the innovation potential of their research or support commercialisation of the results of their ERC-funded research.

Application deadline is 1 October 2015.

Further information [here](#).



[Video' Step by Step to ERC Grant Application](#)

Watch here the European Research Council animation video giving tips & tricks to researchers interested in applying to an ERC grant.

4.8 National EURAXESS portals

The latest information on open calls for national grants and fellowships in the **40 member countries of the EURAXESS network** can be accessed on the respective national EURAXESS portal.

[Austria](#), [Belgium](#), [Bosnia-Herzegovina](#), [Bulgaria](#), [Croatia](#), [Cyprus](#), [Czech Republic](#), [Denmark](#), [Estonia](#), [Finland](#), [France](#), [FYRoMacedonia](#), [Germany](#), [Greece](#), [Hungary](#), [Iceland](#), [Ireland](#), [Israel](#), [Italy](#), [Latvia](#), [Lithuania](#), [Luxembourg](#), [Malta](#), [Montenegro](#), [Netherlands](#), [Norway](#), [Poland](#), [Portugal](#), [Romania](#), [Serbia](#), [Slovakia](#), [Slovenia](#), [Spain](#), [Sweden](#), [Switzerland](#), [Turkey](#), [UK](#).

Besides providing information on funding opportunities for incoming international and European researchers, staff at the EURAXESS Service Centres offer individual assistance on all aspects of researcher mobility.

4.9 Southeast Asia - Europe Pilot Joint Call

Europe-Southeast Asian mobility projects with at least 2 partners from both regions in the fields of Environmental (climate change, water resource management, smarter cities, biodiversity & drug resistance) or Food





(agricultural productivity, sustainability and standards, value chain) research to establish new and strengthen existing networks with multidisciplinary approaches between both regions.

Applications may be submitted by academics, higher education institutions or non-university research establishments and SMEs. Countries contributing to the Call are: Austria, Belgium, Cambodia, France, Germany, Lao PDR, Myanmar, The Netherlands, The Philippines, Poland & Thailand.

Application deadline is 14 September 2015.

Further details here.

4.10 UK Newton Fund Institutional Links Grants Open to Researchers in Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines

Newton Institutional Links aims to build UK-partner country research and innovation collaborations centred on shared research and innovation challenges which have direct relevance to social welfare and economic development. This programme is designed to establish links beyond the level of the individual researcher and innovation practitioner, opening up opportunities for more sustainable, solution-oriented collaborations between academic groups as well as with the private and third sector (e.g. SMEs, NGOs, technology transfer offices and other not-for-profit organisations).

Size of grant: £50,000 - £300,000

Priority areas: Partner countries may specify priority areas and will only accept applications within these. Priority areas are listed in the Guidelines document (Downloads section).

ODA requirement: All applications must meet the required relevance to economic development or social welfare (see Guidelines for further information) of the partner country.

In 2014, 89 of 242 eligible applications (37%) to Newton Institutional Links were funded.

More information [here](#).

4.11 Newton Advanced Fellowships Open to Thai and Malaysian Scientists

Newton Advanced Fellowships provide established international researchers with an opportunity to develop the research strengths and capabilities of their research group through training, collaboration and reciprocal visits with a partner in the UK.

Applicants must have a PhD or equivalent research experience and hold a permanent or fixed-term contract in an eligible university or research institute,





which must span the duration of the project. Applicants should have no more than 15 years of postdoctoral experience. Collaborations should focus on a single project involving an overseas-based scientist (“the Applicant”) and a UK-based scientist (“the Co-applicant”).

Deadline 15 September, 2015.

More information [here](#).

4.12 EMBO Short-Term Fellowships Open to Researchers in ASEAN. Three-month research visits to labs in Europe.

EMBO Short-Term Fellowships fund research visits of up to three months to laboratories in Europe and elsewhere in the world. The aim is to facilitate valuable collaborations with research groups applying techniques that are unavailable in the applicant's laboratory.

Applications are accepted throughout the year.

More information [here](#).

4.13 EMBO Courses and Workshops

EMBO offers the largest number of life science events in Europe. EMBO Courses & Workshops funds approximately 80 events attracting more than 8,000 participants every year. Funding is available for [Global Exchange Lecture Courses](#) and [practical courses](#), as well as for [keynote lectures](#). [Travel grants](#) support the attendance of participants from countries with less-developed scientific infrastructures. EMBO assists the organiser with the design of a poster, set-up of a website and registration system, and with promotion of the event.

Further [details](#).

4.14 Germany - Georg Forster Research Fellowship - Excellent Opportunity for Researchers from ASEAN

If you are a researcher with above average qualifications, and would like to carry out long-term research of your choice (6 to 24 months) at a research institution in Germany together with an academic host you have chosen yourself, consider the Georg Forster Fellowship. As many as 80 Georg Forster Research Fellowships can be granted annually. In the last few years, about one third of applications were successful.

Applications are accepted year-round.

More information [here](#).



Alexander von Humboldt
Stiftung/Foundation



Alexander von Humboldt
Stiftung/Foundation

4.15 Germany - George Forster Research Award - Open to ASEAN scientists

The Georg Forster Research Award is granted in recognition of a researcher's entire achievements to date to academics of all disciplines whose fundamental discoveries, new theories, or insights have had a significant impact on their own discipline and beyond and who are expected to continue developing research-based solutions to the specific challenges facing transition and developing countries.

Nominees must be nationals of a developing or transition country (excluding People's Republic of China and India; cf. detailed [list of countries](#)). Furthermore, at the time of nomination, they must have had their main residence and place of work in one of these countries for at least five years.

The deadline for nominations is **15 January** of each year; the selection meeting is scheduled for summer. The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation particularly encourages the nomination of qualified female researchers.

More information [here](#).

4.16 European University - Jean Monnet Postdoctoral Fellowships

The Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (RSCAS) offers one-year Jean Monnet Fellowships (renewable for one more year) to scholars who have obtained their doctorate more than 5 years prior to the start of the fellowship, i.e. 1 September 2015 for the academic year 2015/16. The Fellowship programme is open to post-docs, tenure track academics and those wishing to spend their sabbatical at the Robert Schuman Centre. The Centre offers up to 20 Fellowships a year.

Deadline is 25 October 2015.

More information [here](#).

4.17 Merlion Programme supports researcher mobility between Singapore and France

The PHC Merlion Programme is a joint French-Singaporean collaboration, managed by the Institut Français de Singapour, in partnership with Singaporean institutions to encourage and support new scientific research development between French and Singaporean laboratories, through funding the scientists' trip exchanges. There are three different funding opportunities:

Merlion Project:



- Funding of missions between France and Singapore for researchers, post-doctoral and doctoral students involved in a joint research project. Up to EUR 30,000 over two years

Merlion Workshop:

- Co-organising a workshop based on a common theme, to be held in either France or Singapore, with the aim of eventually leading to a bilateral research agreement. Up to EUR 30,000



Merlion Ph.D:

- Funding of stays in France of up to 6 months per year (maximum 3 years) for Ph.D students from a Singaporean partner laboratory and up to 3 years. Up to EUR 23,000 over three years

Eligibility and composition of the team:

1. A research team affiliated with a research organisation in France;
2. A research team affiliated with one of the following Singaporean partners:
Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), National University of Singapore (NUS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore Eye Research Institute (SERI), Singapore Management University (SMU), Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD)
3. Optional : An industrial partner to form a tripartite collaboration.

Deadline for application is 30 September 2015.

Further information [here](#).

4.18 Singapore-Israel Joint Research Programme Call

The Israel Science Foundation (ISF) and the National Research Foundation of Singapore (NRF) are launching a new programme of joint funding for research proposals based on cooperation between Israeli and Singaporean researchers and Singaporean scientists. Each foundation will finance the principal investigator of its country according to its rules. Grant budget will be equivalent or up to US\$100,000 per year for three years for each of the principal investigators (Singaporean and Israeli).

More information [here](#).

4.19 Poland: Foundation for Polish Science: IDEAS FOR POLAND

The objective of the programme is to encourage young, brilliant researchers from all over the world to choose Poland as the place to carry out their research projects submitted for the ERC competition. The programme is designed for people whose previous scientific record demonstrates that they are highly



Foundation for Polish Science



independent as researchers, and warrants that they will conduct world - class quality research.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis

Details [here](#).

4.20 CERN Postdoctoral Fellowships

CERN offers the CERN's Non-Member State Fellowship Programme in Theoretical Physics (except nationals of CERN member countries). Eligible applicants must hold a PhD in theoretical physics and a maximum of 10 years of postdoctoral experience. The fellowships cover monthly stipend and travel expenses, are granted for a two-year period and can in exceptional cases be extended to a third year.

Deadline: 15 October

Further information [here](#).

4.21 Turkey: TÜBİTAK Fellowships for Visiting Scientists

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) grants fellowships for international scientists/researchers who would like to give workshops/conferences/lectures, or conduct R&D activities in Turkey. Three types of visits are granted within this programme: Short-term (up to 1 month), Long-term (up to 12 months) and Sabbatical Leave (from 3 months to 12 months). All types of grants cover monthly stipend and travel costs.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis

Further information: [here](#).





5 Jobs

There are currently **6911** research jobs and fellowship programmes (all over Europe and partner countries and in all disciplines) accessible via the [EURAXESS Jobs database](#)

AUSTRIA (Vienna): University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna has a vacant position for a senior lecturer in the fields of mechanical engineering fundamentals, applied fluid mechanics and chemical engineering.

Details

FAROE ISLANDS (Tórshavn): The University of the Faroe Islands seeks a full time lecturer in nursing science. The University aims to fill the position as soon as possible.

Details

FINLAND (Lappeenranta): Lappeenranta University of Technology has a vacancy for a professorship in sustainability sciences (tenure track). The position will be filled in accordance with the university's tenure track principles for four years (Associate Professor) or permanently (Full Professor), depending on qualifications of the successful candidate.

Details

GERMANY (Mainz): Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research is seeking to hire a postdoctoral researcher to work on lipid storage and biophysics in skeletal muscle as related to type 2 diabetes and obesity.

Details

Examples of [Jobs supported by Marie Curie Actions Research Fellowships](#)

5 Senior Fellowships at the Institute for Advanced Study of Technische Universität München in **Germany**.

Details

PhD position in development of high reliability wireless links for use in smart grid communications systems at Aalborg University in **Denmark**.

Details

PhD position in **Belgium** for a highly motivated scientist who is willing to face the challenge of improving the safety of bicycle helmets without harming the cosmetic appeal.

Details





6 Events

6.1 3rd EURAXESS Science Slam launched – six events lined up across ASEAN

The popular EURAXESS Science Slam 2015 has officially kicked off in six regions across the globe. Already in its 3rd installment, the annual science communication competition of the EU-funded EURAXESS Links network takes place this autumn in ASEAN, Brazil, China, India, Japan, and North America. The lucky winners will travel to Europe for the unique chance to network with research peers at one of Europe's top research institutes.

The EURAXESS Science Slam offers a platform for young research talent to showcase their work outside of the formal constraints of a research lab or classroom. The finalists will be judged on the basis of their ability to capture the audiences' attention with a precise, accessible and original introduction to their research topic.

The competition is open to researchers of any nationality and academic discipline. Contenders do have to be actively involved in formal research activities in any of the six EURAXESS Links hubs.

Each EURAXESS Links hub will host a live final to crown their respective champion. The six winners will win a trip to Europe for the chance to network with researchers at any research institute in the European Union.

Previous champions of the competition include Ms Bhamini Bhujun, a doctoral candidate at Nottingham University Malaysia Campus working on the subject of supercapacitors. She won the title EURAXESS Science Slam Winner ASEAN 2014.

Says the electrical engineer Ms Bhujun, "EURAXESS gave me the unique opportunity to share my research in an entertaining way. Winning the Science Slam competition provided me with research prospects in leading European institutions. The EURAXESS Science Slam is definitely an enriching experience!"

About the EURAXESS Science Slam ASEAN

EURAXESS Links ASEAN is partnering with the Indonesian Ministry of Science and Technology (RISTEK), the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation Malaysia (MOSTI), the National Science and Technology Development Agency Thailand (NSTDA), and the National Centre for Scientific and Technological Information Vietnam (NASATI). The official partner of EURAXESS Science Slam ASEAN 2015 in Singapore is the Graduate Students' Society at the National University of Singapore (NUSGSS). Researchers of any academic discipline who are affiliated to NUS are invited to compete in this year's slam.



"Being a Science Slam winner was an incredible experience. It opened doors to so many opportunities and most importantly, winning the Science Slam provided me with the opportunity of visiting my dream institution."

Bhamini Bhujun, EURAXESS



The winner of each national event will compete for the title of EURAXESS Science Slam ASEAN winner 2015 at the live finals in Bangkok, Thailand on 3 November 2015.

All information on the EURAXESS Science Slam ASEAN 2015 is published on the event [website](#).

6.2 EURAXESS Links ASEAN Events September to November 2015

Country/ Hub	Title of Event/Activity	Date/Venue	Audience	Objectives	Link to the Event
ASEAN	EURAXESS Science Slam ASEAN 2015	5 national qualifying events in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam (5 September – 5 October 2015) Live finals on 3 November 2015, Bangkok (Thailand)	Researchers of all disciplines	The EURAXESS Science Slam ASEAN 2015 is a unique platform for researchers of all disciplines to compete for the title of ASEAN’s best science communicator. 5 national finalists will compete for the first prize of a trip to Europe in the live finals.	Click here
ASEAN	EURAXESS Links ASEAN @ Study in Europe	10 October 2015, Singapore	Researchers interested in learning about research opportunities in Europe	EURAXESS Links ASEAN will have a booth at the popular annual higher education fair of the EU member states in Singapore.	Click here
ASEAN	EURAXESS Links ASEAN alumni workshop	19 & 20 October 2015, Bangkok (Thailand)	By invitation only	This event will bring together alumni of European funding programmes to set up a regional alumni network. This event	n/a



				is co-organised with SEA EU NET.	
ASEAN	EURAXESS Share “Science Communication Workshop”	30 October 2015, Jakarta (Indonesia) 2 November 2015, Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) 3 November 2015, Bangkok (Thailand)	By invitation only	A series of workshops on successful science communication for potential applicants to European funding programmes. This event series is co-organised with the EU Delegation to Indonesia (Jakarta), Young Scientists Malaysia Network (Kuala Lumpur), and NSTDA (Bangkok).	n/a

Not listed are presentations on EURAXESS Links and European mobility schemes at research institutions held by the Regional Representatives upon invitation across ASEAN. If you would like for our team to visit your research organisation please email us at: asean@euraxess.net

6.3 Techventure 2015, 21-22 September 2015, Singapore



Techventure 2015 will take place in Singapore on 21st & 22nd September 2015 at the Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre. Singapore has built a reputation as Asia’s strongest start-up nation, and Techventure, in its 18th year running, is the leading Tech Startup event in Asia. Featuring more than 100 innovative start-ups, Techventure will cover diverse technologies, ranging from Biotech, Cleantech, Energy and Engineering to Interactive Digital Media, Materials, Medtech and Manufacturing. Techventure prides itself as a truly global event, with partner countries from Australia, China, Hungary, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Norway, Russia, Taiwan, Turkey, UK and US.

More details [here](#).



6.4 EMBO conference 'Emerging technologies - Hype, hope and hard reality', 5-6 November, Heidelberg, Germany



The conference will focus on the impacts of the life sciences on society through the development of biotechnology-based products for health and for sustaining the environment.

The 21st century is sometimes referred to as “the century of biology” because of the potential contributions of the life sciences to virtually all research and consumer sectors. But assessing the outcomes a particular biotechnology may have on society or in research is difficult, due both to the complexities of these technologies, and to the multiple uses they may have. Further, biotechnology developments may be controversial because of ethical, economic and potential safety issues that might arise both in the research leading to these technologies, and in the wide use of the technologies themselves.

The multidisciplinary group of speakers will present some of the most promising developments of biotechnology and discuss their ethical, economic and societal implications.

Further details [here](#).



7 Resources

H2020 Latest Calls

Here you can find the latest calls on the newly set up [Research Participant Portal](#).

International Cooperation Activities

Access the [portal of the European Commission's International Cooperation Activities](#) here.

Other Research Career Sites

The Chronicle of Higher Education Careers Service: <http://chronicle.com/jobs/>

Find A Postdoc: <http://www.findapostdoc.com/>

Find Scholarships in Europe: <http://www.scholarshipportal.eu/>

Find PhDs in Europe: <http://www.phdportal.eu/>

Academic Jobs EU: <http://www.academicjobseu.com>

Euro Science Jobs: <http://www.eurosciencejobs.com/>

The European Job Mobility Portal: <http://ec.europa.eu/eures/home.jsp?lang=en>

EMBO excellence in life sciences: <http://www.embo.org>

EuroBrussels: <http://www.eurobrussels.com/>

Jobs at ITER: <http://www.iter.org/jobs>

Nature.jobs: <http://www.nature.com/naturejobs/index.html>

Research Jobs in Germany: [Research-in-Germany.de](http://www.research-in-germany.de)

[Scholarship Database of the German Academic Exchange Service \(DAAD\)](#)

Research Jobs in the Netherlands: <http://www.academictransfer.org/>

Brainpower Austria: <http://www.brainpower-austria.at/>

About EURAXESS Links ASEAN

EURAXESS Links ASEAN is a network of European and non-European researchers, scientists, and scholars working in or commuting to ASEAN. This multidisciplinary network includes members at all stages of their careers. It allows them to connect with each other and with Europe, ensuring that they are recognized as an important resource for European research, whether they remain in ASEAN or return to Europe. For further information and to sign up for membership in our network, as well as in the virtual SINAPSE community of European and non-European researchers abroad, please go to our [website](#) and click on the Join the EURAXESS Links ASEAN community hyperlink on the right-hand side of the page.