



NEWSLETTER

of BS-ERA.NET Project

Networking on Science and Technology in the Black Sea Region



BS-ERA.NET

HIGHLIGHTS

- *BS-ERA.NET Pilot Joint Call 2010*
- *Existing national and regional RTDI programmes and best practice in BS region*
- *Mechanisms for programme setting up and proposal evaluation procedures*

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Pre-announcement of the BS-ERA.NET PILOT JOINT CALL 2010

The main goal of the BS-ERA.NET is to provide a key-turn ready Black Sea Research Programme (BSRP). BSRP will bring to the EU-BS partnership a useful cooperation tool to be implemented according to the needs of the targeted cooperation. BSRP will act as a frame of cooperation that can be adapted to specific needs: transnational cooperation based on the bilateral and/or regional national programmes or transnational cooperation including intergovernmental structures.

The 1st Black Sea Pilot Joint Call for transnational projects of the BS-ERA.NET initiative will open on **Autumn 2010**.

Objective of the call

The objective of the Black Sea Pilot Joint Call for proposals for research projects is to promote the European research targeting the Black Sea region taking a proactive and innovative approach to developing solutions for a sustainable development.

Topic of the 1st Pilot Joint Call

The topics of the BS ERANET Pilot Joint Call will be selected from two main thematic fields:

- **Environment focused on:**
 - ⇒ Climate: Determination of pollutant hot spots and sensitive areas in the Black Sea region (e.g. land based sources of pollution);
 - ⇒ Sustainable management of resources: Water pollution prevention options for coastal zones and tourist areas;
 - ⇒ Environmental technologies: Development of Environmental Technologies for Sensitive Areas of the Region;
 - ⇒ Socioeconomic sciences.
- **Energy focused on:**
 - ⇒ Renewable energy sources: Hydrogen production from H₂S- rich Black Sea Water;
 - ⇒ CO₂ capture and storage technologies for zero emission power generation and Clean Coal technologies: CO₂ capture and storage technologies for zero emission power generation in the Black Sea region;
 - ⇒ Socioeconomic sciences.

Expected projects and project consortia

One type of instrument is foreseen: Joint research projects.

The joint research projects may address mainly applied research but to a certain extend basic research could be addressed too. The project may include also dedicated measures to enhance mobility, exchanges and access to medium /large scale infrastructures).

The project duration is limited up to 3 years.

Project consortia should consist of at least three parties out of which at least one from an EU and one from a non-EU Black Sea country.

Application procedure

The application procedure will be in one stage.

The Coordinator of the project has to submit online the project proposal, in English, via a centralized web-based call management system which will be available soon.

Expected participating countries

Armenia	Italy
Bulgaria	Moldova
France	Romania
Georgia	Turkey
Germany	Ukraine
Greece	

Additional countries willing to join the PJC are welcome!

The deadline for submitting the project proposals is the beginning of 2011.

Where to find further information?

For Contact persons details and further information please visit the dedicated PJC page through the BS-ERA.NET website: <http://www.bs-era.net/>

Activities

3rd BS-ERA.NET Executive Board Meeting

3rd BS-ERA.NET Executive Board (EB) Meeting was held on 11-12 March, 2010 in Paris, France.

The main objectives of this meeting were:

to present and discuss on the state of the art of the project; to work on the draft document of the BS Call Concept Paper; to define the next steps needed to be done.

At this meeting only the WPLs and the task leaders involved in the Call preparation were invited to attend.



Existing national and regional RTDI programmes and the current situation of programmes setting up procedures and best practice in BS region

The main objective of the BS-ERA.NET project concerning "Networking on Science and Technology in the Black Sea Region" is to develop and strengthen the coordination of public research programmes conducted at national and regional level. The project aims at providing a framework for networking and mutual opening of national and regional research programmes which fosters concrete cooperation in the frame of a Black Sea Research Programme (BSRP). The BSRP will function as the basis for the development and implementation of joint R&D programmes and activities in the region.

Within the above context and as described in Work Package 1/ Task 1.2 (Analysis and interpretation of the identified RTDI national and regional Programmes including similar initiatives within EU), fact sheets for R&D programmes in and with the BS region have been collected. Those programme fact sheets contain basic information like aim and scope of the programme, funding conditions of the programmes and a link to the websites and contact persons of the programme owners.

The aim of Report is to present an overview of the existing R&D programmes targeting the Black Sea region, to list programme owners who are active in BSR and provide a first statistical analysis. The collected information will be analysed in later tasks of the BS-ERA.NET project and have a substantial impact of the concept for the BS-ERA.NET project pilot joint call. However, the analysed data mainly picture the existing R&D programmes in the Black Sea Region, but do not reflect the available budgets of the programme, volume of funding and the number of funded projects under a programme. These questions which are fundamental to develop a funding concept were not in focus of the present report, but need to be addressed in later activities of the BS ERA.NET project.

The analysed data clearly show the dominance of bilateral R&D programmes in the Black Sea Region and a lack of R&D programmes funding multilateral projects. Surprisingly, bilateral links in R&D within the Black Sea Countries are not strong and the Black Sea Countries also tend to establish bilateral programmes with EC MS/AC countries. An implementation of a multilateral R&D programme with

participation of Black Sea Countries and EC MS/AC enabling scientific exchange and joint scientific projects could therefore foster development and success in the regional scientific development for all participating parties.

The analysed data may also be helpful for designing a concept of this type of multilateral R&D programme. The eligible costs for the existing R&D programmes cover a broad range of funding opportunities. Almost all programmes fund mobility. Funding of conferences and match making events has a low share in the existing funding opportunities. Improvement of this instrument could support the establishment and initiation of cooperation in and with the Black Sea Region.

Looking at the thematic priorities of the existing R&D programmes, it is obvious that 1/3 of the programmes has no thematic priority; the remaining programmes have a more or less even distribution in their thematic priorities. This could be a good fundament for linking the existing programmes with similar thematic priorities.

The collected information within the scope of Report has been made publicly accessible in a web based database and addresses researchers from EU MS/AC and Black Sea countries which are interested in cooperation with each other.

New Resource!
New Resource!

**Research and Development Programmes DATABASE
in the Extended Black Sea Region**

The database designed on the programmes of Partner Countries in cooperation with ERA-RUS is ready and available for public use through

BS-ERA.NET, ERA.RUS, and incrEAST portals
<http://www.bs-era.net>

Synthesis Report Summary on Mechanisms for programme setting up and proposal evaluation procedures

This report is an inventory of potential funding instruments for the BSRP pilot call, identified through the collection of Country Reports. Below the main outcomes of the analysis of those instruments are synthesized.

Scope and Target

The scope of the report is to make an inventory of funding instruments within the countries of the BS.ERA-NET project partners, which can be potentially opened within the BSRP pilot joint call.

The target of the present deliverable are public programme owners (funding organizations) in BS.ERA-NET project countries which can be potential funders of the pilot BSRP call and their corresponding funding instruments.

24 programme owners (POs) and 29 funding instruments have been identified. All funding instruments have been analysed for their setting-up procedures. Twenty three of them have been analysed for their proposal evaluation procedures.

Synthesis outcomes

Setting-up procedures

The funding instruments can be classified into four main classes according to the setting-up mechanism on which they are based:

- Bi-lateral programmes based on inter-governmental agreements.
- Bi- and multi-lateral programmes based on ad-hoc agreements between single Pos.
- National programmes with mechanisms for opening in international cooperation schemes (such as ERA-NETs).

Unilateral programmes, which fund mobility of researchers to or from a certain country.

The second class can be further sub-divided into bi- and multi-lateral programmes in the framework of more general programmes for international cooperation and into instruments allowing for the establishment of completely new programmes.

Bi-lateral programmes

The active bi-lateral programmes based on governmental agreements are insufficient in order to base a truly multi-lateral call on them. Many countries do not have stipulated such agreements with other countries, especially within the BS region. The political background seems still problematic. The stipulating and activation of such agreements require too much time and is done through diplomatic channels. Instead, bi-lateral programmes based on ad-hoc agreements between single programme owners are more flexible and easy to establish. In many cases

this POs are big research organisations, e.g. academy of sciences in the BS countries.

In practice all of the bi-lateral programmes analysed (both political and ad-hoc) fund mobility of researchers in the framework of research projects or scientific events. The corresponding budgets of such programmes are limited. The sum of identified funding instruments based on inter-governmental agreements and ad-hoc bilateral programmes could create the base of truly multi-lateral programmes. Most of the intergovernmental programmes identified have been opened in other ERA-NETs schemes, while many of the programmes based on ad-hoc agreements have already best practice and precedence in S&T collaboration within and with the BS region.

National and unilateral programmes

Several national programmes have been identified, which allow for opening for international cooperation. Some of them are also within BS countries (e.g. Ukraine, Azerbaijan). Some of them have been already opened in ERA-NET schemes (Italy). Such programmes have more substantial budgets, and could be used within the BSRP as additional funding to those provided by bi-lateral programmes. Precedence exists in Italy, where inter-governmental agreements are strengthened through opening of national programmes of a different programme owner in order to fund strategically important projects within bi-lateral inter-governmental agreements. Considering also such programmes within BSRP could provide means to the solution of one of the problems reported by SEE.ERA-NET project, namely the low participation rate of EU researchers.

Identified unilateral programmes fund mainly mobility of researchers with longer duration. They can be also a means for increasing the budget base of the future BSRP call, stimulating in this way the participation of both EU and BS researchers.

Evaluation procedures

Most of the identified funding instruments apply some kind of evaluation procedure. Such procedures are more flexible in ad-hoc bilateral agreements, where their definition is based on previous experience and best-practices. In most of the cases the evaluation procedure a peer-review carried by independent researchers. There are pre-defined evaluation criteria, most used of which are:

- Scientific and technical merits of the proposals;
- Quality and scientific excellence of the proponents;
- Added-value of bi-lateral cooperation.

News from the Region

International scholars and political figures propose new vision for the Black Sea region

The Commission on the Black Sea, an initiative involving renowned international scholars and political figures published its final report entitled "A 2020 Vision for the Black Sea Region".

In the report the authors argue that the area constituted by Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Turkey, and Ukraine is of increasing global importance as an emerging region between Europe, Asia and the Middle East. However, they state that "...the region's real priorities and needs are still being largely ignored". Local and global actors promote conflicting interests and increased geopolitical volatility could erupt into wars with international repercussions. (17 May 2010).

Source: <http://www.blackseacom.eu/>

EU issues call for proposals for EAST-INVEST project for Eastern Partnership countries

The European Commission has issued a call for proposals for new regional investment and trade facilitation project EAST-INVEST for Eastern Partnership countries, Interfax-Ukraine reported according to the press service of the Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine.

EAST-INVEST with a budget of EUR 7 million is intended to contribute to the economic development of the Eastern Neighborhood region and to the improvement of its business environment by facilitating networks between EU and Eastern Neighborhood region public and private organizations.

Information from: <http://en.trend.az>

Call for Proposals in renewable energy sources and energy efficiency made by BSEC-HDF

Following the meeting of the BSEC-Hellenic Development Fund (HDF) Committee, a Call for Proposals was announced on 15 February 2010 inviting projects in renewable energy sources, including eligible applications in energy efficiency. The total amount granted to renewable energy sources projects will be 400.000 Euros. BSEC-HDF projects are required to be innovative, using environment-friendly energy solutions and good practices that are able to enhance the scientific, technical and administrative competencies and capacities of institutions in the BSEC Member States.

More information on the BSEC-HDF is available at www.bsecprojects.com.

Joint call CNRS/TUBITAK

The joint call for "Exchange programmes with researchers" between CNRS and TUBITAK is open, in all scientific domains, from 1st June to 13th September.

The call is designed to foster new scientific collaborations and favour the participation of young scientists. The project should be submitted jointly by the French and Turkish partners.

The maximum duration is 2 years and can be renewed once. The maximum funding by CNRS is approximately 2000€/year (2 trips in Turkey and 2 weeks to host the Turkish partners). Each organisation funds the travel costs of its scientists and the accommodation costs of the partner scientists. CNRS scientists, or working in a joint research unit, can submit their project to the Direction of European Affairs of CNRS, by using the online form (<https://www.cooperation.cnrs.fr/coopinteer/interne/login.do>). The Turkish partners should submit their project at TUBITAK. The projects will be evaluated by CNRS and TUBITAK on the basis of scientific quality. The results will be sent in December and projects will start in January 2011.

DEADLINE: 1 September 2010.

Contact CNRS: Mariama BOUMGHAR, Direction of European Affairs mariama.boumghar@cnrs-dir.fr

UNESCO Science Policy Series Volume n°7: Science and Education Policies in Central and Eastern Europe, Balkans, Caucasus and Baltic Countries

The UNESCO Office in Venice and Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe (BRESCE) just published the seventh volume of the Science Policy Series focused on Science and Education Policies in Central and Eastern Europe, Balkans, Caucasus and Baltic Countries based on the reports presented during the two-day conference held in Chisinau, on 19-20

September 2008. The Conference was organized by joint efforts of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova and the UNESCO Office in Moscow, Central European Initiative, the U.S. Civilian Research and Development Foundation (CRDF), Office of Naval Research Global (ONRG) and Moldovan Research and Development Association (MRDA), among others.

The volume was launched by Mr Engelbert Ruoss, Director of the UNESCO Venice Office, and Academician Gheorghe Duca, President of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova, on the occasion of the South Eastern European Ministerial Round Table on "Strengthening Scientific Research and Higher Education. From Bilateral to pan-European Cooperation", organized by the Ministry of Education and Science of Albania and UNESCO on 21-22 May 2010, in Tirana, Albania.

This 161-page publication provides insights on subjects related to the linkages between higher education and research and their importance for the development of a knowledge based society in countries of Central and Eastern Europe, Balkans, Caucasus and Baltic Countries. Experiences from other regions are also included. The following topics are addressed throughout the volume: Strengthening the International Impact of National Research and Education Programmes, Enhancing Research in Higher Education, Developing a Knowledge-Based Economy, Best Practices on Stemming and Reversing 'Brain Drain'.

The publication can be downloaded on the UNESCO website:

<http://portal.unesco.org/>

Policy Reports 2010 of the Commission on the Black Sea

- Policy Report I: The Current State of Economic Development in the Black Sea Region by Panayotis Gavras;

- Policy Report II: Security in the Black Sea Region by Mitat Çelikpala;

- Policy Report III: Regional Cooperation in the Black Sea Region by Panagiota Manoli;

- Policy Report IV: Democracy and Good Governance in the Black Sea Region by Franz-Lothar Altmann, Johanna Deimel and Armando Garcia Schmidt.

Information from: <http://www.blackseacom.eu/policy-reports/>

Black Sea Universities Network 2010 CONGRESS "Education, Research & Innovation", Moscow, Russia, April 23 - 24, 2010

The BSUN Congress was organized jointly with the 9th Conference of Rectors from the Black Sea Region is the major event that gathers rectors, senior university managers and decision-makers from the fields of higher education, scientific research and technology transfer, academics, etc., interested in active involvement of universities in the sustainable development of the Black Sea Region.

Armenia

Innovation Center of Russian – Armenian Cooperation will be established in Yerevan

Within the framework of the founding forum of Russian-Armenian Center on Innovation Cooperation in Armenia, launched on April 15, an agreement on the opening of Russian-Armenian Innovation Center was signed in Yerevan. The Center has it as its aim fostering the integration processes of the two states' economic cooperation through the enforcement and extension of innovation component. The following are the main directions of the intended collaboration:

- ⇒ Formation of interstate innovation system and CIS interstate innovation area;
- ⇒ Provision of mutual informative and organizational assistance;
- ⇒ Organization of advisory services, educational courses, seminars, conferences;
- ⇒ Elaboration of mechanisms for accepting and selecting innovative projects;
- ⇒ Assistance in finding partners in Armenia and Russia and founding joint companies.

Russian-Armenian Innovation Cooperation Conference was organized on the part of the Russian Federation and CIS States, as well as by the joint efforts of the Representation of Rossotrudnichestvo in the RA, the RA Ministry of Economy, the RA Ministry of Education and Science, RA State Committee on Science and the RA National Academy of Sciences.

Source: <http://www.scs.am/eng.php>

Azerbaijan

First Azerbaijan-Russia Forum on Humanitarian Cooperation

The First Azerbaijan-Russia Forum on Humanitarian Cooperation took place in Baku on January 22-23, 2010.

The event was attended by Sergei Naryshkin, Head of Russia's Presidential Administration, and Mikhail Shvidkoy, Representative of Russian President for International Cooperation and by Azerbaijan's presidential administration officials, Milli Majlis vice-speaker of, ministers and ministry officials, heads of religious denominations, intellectuals and public figures.

Information from: <http://en.apa.az/>

Bulgaria

22nd Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs

The 22nd Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) was held on 28 May 2010 in Sofia with the theme "BSEC-EU Relations". The meeting was hosted by the Republic of Bulgaria. His Excellency Mr. Nickolay MLADENOV, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria, chaired the meeting in his capacity as the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization.

Information from: <http://www.bsec-organization.org/>

Ministers of Science and Technology convene in Sofia

The Ministers responsible for Science and Technology of the BSEC Member States met in Sofia on 9 April 2010.

During the meeting the Ministers assessed the cooperation in the fields of scientific research and technological development conducted in line with the First BSEC Action Plan on Cooperation in Science and Technology, covering 2005-2009 period.

To chart the way forward, the Ministers adopted the Second BSEC Action Plan for the 2010-2014 period. The new Action Plan, in addition to reconfirming broader policy orientations, covers a number of more specific initiatives and tools such as exploring the possibility of preparing Memoranda of Understanding to promote cooperation in specific fields of S&T, developing sectoral partnerships, making optimal use of the BSEC Project Development Fund, maximizing synergies among multilateral horizontal projects, promoting bilateral cooperation programmes, organizing thematic workshops and brokerage events and improving science communication.

At the conclusion of the meeting, a joint Declaration on cooperation in science and technology was adopted. In the adopted policy document, the Ministers declared their commitment to initiate joint actions directed toward better utilization of existing resources through improved access to knowledge, training activities and research programmes, enhanced transnational mobility and joint scientific events.

The Ministers also agreed to seek innovative ways for combining allocated public expenditure on research and development with private investment for funding projects involving transnational cooperation, as well as to promote dialogue among stakeholders in the science and technology community for converting scientific discoveries into innovative, commercially viable products and processes. The Ministers also expressed their commitment to develop joint research and training programmes among the scientific institutions and universities of the BSEC Member States.

Information from: http://www.bsec-organization.org

BSEC Working Group on Tourism meets in Sofia

The meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Tourism was held in Sofia, Bulgaria, on 15-16 December 2009. The meeting focused, among other topics, on the organization of the planned Second Forum on Cooperation of the Association of Travel and Tourism Agencies of the BSEC Member State, as well as various joint project proposals related to the field of tourism. Also, views were exchanged on maritime and nautical tourism.

Information from: http://www.bsec-organization.org

France

The Black Sea Conference of Regions took place at Paris, France , 16 February 2010.

For the first time, the Assembly of European Regions (AER) has gathered over 60 politicians and regional representatives of the Black Sea outline at Ile-de-France (F), among with some experts, to discuss two major areas of concern for the Black Sea: water management and sustainable tourism. Being strategically located at the junction of Europe, Central Asia and the Middle East, and having a large population (the Danube-Black Sea Basin represents more than 160 millions people), the Black Sea area indeed faces

a number of opportunities and challenges. "Being the largest network of regions in wider Europe, it is the AER's duty to facilitate relations between all existing stakeholders. This is the reason why I have decided to launch this initiative of inviting the thirty-three regions of the Black Sea outline, experts from the European Union, the Council of Europe, the Black Sea area, as well as scholars working on the topic, to meet and prepare the future of the region and protect its environment" stated Michèle Sabban, AER President. Regions are indeed becoming more and more crucial when it comes to the implementation of projects, whether these are related to water or energy. In order to fulfill such projects and answer the energy challenges with which Europe is faced today (water, energy, emissions...), regions need a clear understanding of the potential technical solutions and existing investment possibilities. Through this meeting, AER's aim is to provide them with such information.

Information from: <http://www.aer.eu>

Georgia

EU is "deeply committed" to further assist Georgia in tackling its multiple challenges, but to succeed with this assistance, Georgia also "must deliver more" with its commitments, an outgoing EU Neighbourhood Commissioner, Benita Ferrero-Waldner, said on December 15.

Speaking at the European Parliament on December 15, Ferrero-Waldner laid out those three priority areas in which, she said, Georgia had "to deliver more" – democratic reforms; demonstrating "strategic patience" towards its breakaway regions and preparation for new EU-Georgia Association Agreement.

Information from: <http://www.civil.ge/eng/article.php?id=21789>

Germany

International Conference on the Future of the Black Sea Region at the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs

On 25 January 2010, 80 experts and political decision-makers meet in the Federal Foreign Office in Berlin at the invitation of the "Commission on the Black Sea" in order to talk about the current state of relations in the Black Sea area and the future prospects of this European region.

Information from: <http://www.blackseacom.eu/>

Romania

EU backs Black Sea environmental group

"EU members need to take action to contribute to the environmental well-being of the Black Sea", a Romanian delegation said in Brussels. A Romanian delegation told the European Commission in Brussels that Bucharest saw room for improvement in environmental efforts under way in the Black Sea region.

Black Sea countries, the Romanian delegation said, "lack the necessary resources and institutional capacity" to tackle environmental challenges on their own.

Information from: <http://www.upi.com/>

Moldova

Negotiations for a new Association Agreement between the European Union and Moldova were scheduled to begin on 12 January 2010, but, according to CEPS researcher George Dura, moves towards further visa liberalisation and a deep and comprehensive free trade area with the EU will largely depend on the sustainability and operability of the new government.

Information from: <http://www.ceps.eu/>

A seminar on BSEC sources of project financing was organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova on 22 February 2010, in Chisinau. The objective of the seminar was to provide information to Moldovan institutions on the current activities of and project financing opportunities from the Project Development Fund and the BSEC-Hellenic Development Fund.

Information from: http://www.bsec-organization.org

Turkey

South East Europe Regional Workshop on the "Role of Public Research Institutes in Development of Countries"

was co-organised by the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) and the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) in Istanbul on 8 March 2010 under the auspices of the Turkish Chairmanship-in-Office of the South-East European Cooperation Process (SEEC). The workshop was followed by the site visits to the TÜBİTAK research institutes in the Marmara Research Center on 9 March 2010. 55 representatives from the Western Balkan Countries in the field of science and technology management and TÜBİTAK

as well as representatives of relevant international organisations and respective stakeholders participated to the event, which was supported by TÜBİTAK, RCC and TURBO.

Ukraine

XI International Conference “The Up-To-Date Education Quality – the Base of Higher School Competitiveness”, 27-29 May, Sevastopol, Ukraine

The aim of the conference was further development of mutually beneficial cooperation with BSUN under the European integration conditions.

During the conference it was presented the BS-ERA.NET project by NIP-Ukraine and published an article at Conference Proceedings.

The article is available at information Contact Point of the project in Ukraine <http://icd.kpi.ua/>.

Upcoming Events

Grand challenges for marine research in the next decade

The EurOCEAN 2010 Conference (Ostend, 12-13 October 2010) will provide a unique opportunity for the European marine science community to consider, discuss and respond to new policy developments and achievements since the last EurOCEAN conference (2007, Aberdeen), and to highlight new challenges and opportunities for marine research in the next decade. The EurOCEAN 2010 Conference and Ostend Declaration (October 2010) will come at a crucial time, as the research funding landscape in Europe is expected to undergo considerable changes.

It will provide a timely opportunity to reinforce the importance of marine science in effective maritime policy making and the key role it will play in the path towards economic growth and recovery in Europe.

EurOCEAN 2010 Conference is a Belgian EU Presidency event, organised in close collaboration with the European Commission and the Marine Board-ESF.

More info on: www.eurocean2010.eu

Armenia

**S&T International Cooperation Network for East European and Central Asian Countries Brokerage Event
7-8 October 2010 Yerevan, Armenia**

The Brokerage Event is organized in the framework of the FP7 IncoNet EECA project. The objective of the event is to bring together EU and EECA researchers and other stakeholders, and provide ground for discussion and networking within the scope of the Environment (including climate change) Theme. The event will include a presentation of the areas addressed by the 2011 call, presentations of proposal ideas and a session of pre-arranged bilateral meetings to discuss potential partnerships in FP7 proposals in the following areas:

Climate change, pollution and risks

Sustainable management of resources

Earth observations and assessment tools for sustainable development

The deadline for registration is 2 August, 2010.

More information on: <http://be.sci.am/>

International Workshop on “Supersymmetry in Integrable Systems” - SIS'10 to be held in Yerevan

The International Workshop “Supersymmetry in Integrable Systems” will be held at the Yerevan State University from 24 to 28 of August, 2010.

The workshop is organized within the research project “Algebraic and geometric properties of (conformal) mechanics with extended supersymmetry”, sponsored by Volkswagen Foundation (grant I/84 496).

Topics:

Supersymmetric Mechanics; Classical and Quantum Integrable Systems; Superfield Technique; Applications in Field Theory and Condensed Matter Physics.

The programme of the Workshop includes 8 plenary talks (1 hour each one) and about 16 invited talks of 40 minutes each one + 5 minutes for discussion. The total number of participants is expected to be about 30 persons. On the last day of activity (28 August) the excursion for participants to Aragats mountain will be organized, which includes the visiting of Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory,

According to the Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine N 1073-p of 19 May 2010 On Approval of the Plan On High Priority Measures On Integration of Ukraine to the European Union for 2010, in particular the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine are to ensure revalidation of the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation Between Ukraine and the European Communities.

The Plan also provides for concluding a Protocol to the Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between Ukraine and the European Community on the Framework Agreement as regards general regulations of Ukraine's participation in the Community programmes.

Castle and Church of Hamberd, Cosmic Ray Station Of Yerevan Physics Institute at the lake and barbecue.

More information: <http://www.y-su.am/sis/>

Germany

Marine Research Capacities in a Global Context: Brokerage Event 23-24 September, Istanbul, Turkey

The main aim of the two-day event is to initiate competitive research project proposals in the field of marine, climate and earth observation for the upcoming calls of the FP7 in the field of Environment. Almost 100 high potential researchers from Europe, Mediterranean and Black Sea countries as well as Russia are expected to participate, who will:

- get background information about the upcoming call on Environment,

- meet potential collaboration partners on specified issues especially on marine, climate and earth observation research areas, and

- learn about relevant networks and best practices of EU funded projects.

Register here: <http://www.b2match.com/marineistanbul2010/>

Greece

**The Black Sea Region in Flux, Aegina, Greece,
29 June- 4 July 2010**

Building on two years of success, the International Black Sea Symposium (IBSS) project continues in 2010 with the 3rd International Black Sea Symposium on “The Black Sea Region in Flux”.

From 29 June to 4 July 2010 the International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) will welcome young professionals and international experts on the island of Aegina, Greece, for an intensive course on Black Sea issues.

Details at: www.icbss.org

The 3rd International Scientific Conference titled “Energy and Climate

Change” of the PROMITHEAS Net will take place at the premises of NKUA on October 7- 8, 2010 in Athens, Greece. The event is asked to be set under the auspices of BSEC. The Scientific Committee invites scientists, researchers, PhD candidates and policy makers from all over the world to participate.

Details at: www.kepa.uoa.gr

Turkey

The Second International Conference on Nuclear and Renewable Energy

Resources will be held on the 4-7th July 2010 in Ankara, Turkey.

Conference objectives include many field and topics.

Please see in “topics” page at the conference web-page <http://www.nurer.org/>.

A networking event, entitled “Marine Research Capabilities in a Global Context”, in the field of marine research, maritime activities, climate change and earth observation systems will be held on the 23rd–24th September in Istanbul, Turkey. The main aim of the two-day event is to initiate competitive research project proposal in the field of marine, climate and earth observation for the upcoming calls of the FP7 in the field of Environment. Almost 100 high potential researchers from Europe, Mediterranean and Black Sea countries as well as Russia are expected to participate.

Website of the event: <http://www.b2match.com/marineistanbul2010/>

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