



NEWSLETTER

of BS-ERA.NET Project

Networking on Science and Technology in the Black Sea Region



HIGHLIGHTS

- *BS-ERA.NET Pilot Joint Call implementation*
- *News from the Black Sea Region*

ISSUE 5

JANUARY – JUNE, 2011

BS-ERA.NET PILOT JOINT CALL

1st Call for Proposals - Submission Results and Evaluation

The BS- ERA.NET Pilot Joint Call for proposals (**PJC**) of interested programme owners/programme managers in the Member States of the European Union (MS), the Associated Countries to the 7th Framework Programme (AC) and the extended Black Sea region was opened on 4th of October 2010 with a closing date of the 14th of January 2011.

The objective of the BS PJC was to **promote collaborative research on Climate and Environment and Energy** taking a proactive and innovative approach to developing solutions for a sustainable development.

The communication of the call for proposals was supported by alerts through project web- site, Expression of Interests, members' states funding agencies web-sites and various info-days organized in member states.

It seems that the communication of the BS PJC was generally good, as well as the acceptance of the topic by universities, SMS, R&D companies and the research community, as we received **66 proposals**, which shows a significant interest for the subject.

As it can be seen also in the Figure, more than a half of the submitted proposals were for the topic no 1.2 -Water

pollution preventions for coastal zones and tourist areas (ENV) and topic no 2.2- CO2 capture and storage technologies for zero emission power generation in the BS Region (ENG).

The indicative budget for BS PJC was 3,1 million euro (national and INTAS contribution) and the requested budget amounted 17,5 million euro.

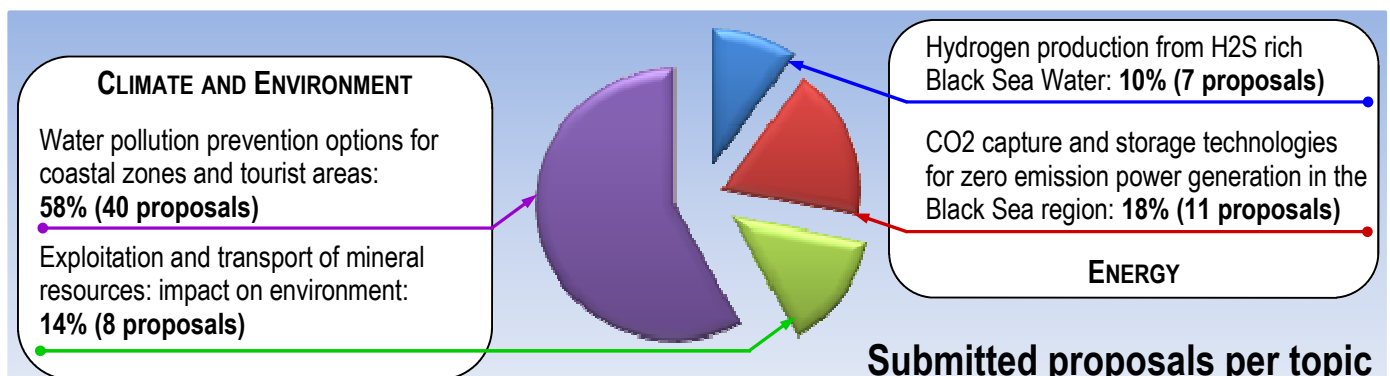
11 out of 13 **countries** involved in the BS-ERA.NET project have partners participating in proposals. As an average, 4,3 partners took part in each proposal. The maximum budget request was **300.000 euro per proposal**.

The selection of the proposals for funding was based on an international, independent peer-review procedure and implemented by using the on-line submission and evaluation system PT-Outline.

The final decision on the funding list was taken during the last Group of Funding Meeting in May 2011.

11 successful proposals with the highest scores were selected for funding from which 7 were submitted for ENV and 4 for ENERGY. The contracting period is foreseen to start in September 2011.

*Congratulations to all the participants,
Lucia Popescu, UEFISCDI (on behalf of the Joint Call Secretariat)*



Project Activities

The Group of Funding Parties Meeting of Pilot Joint Call under BS-ERA.NET project

The final decision on the funding PJC projects list was taken during the last Group of Funding Meeting which was held in Chisinau, Moldova on May 18, 2011.

The representatives of Funding Parties from 11 countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Moldova, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine) were selected 11 successful proposals with the highest scores for funding.

5th Black Sea – ERA.NET Executive Board Meeting

The 5th BS-ERA.NET Executive Board Meeting was held in Kyiv, Ukraine on 8-9 February 2011.

During the EB meeting, a detailed overview of the project was presented by the Work Package Leaders and critical partners.

A discussion was carried out concerning the Pilot Joint Call implementation in terms of projects eligibility and evaluation process. 11 of 66 projects were found not eligible according to the PJC ToR by the Joint Call Secretariat as well as at the National level of participated countries. Finally, the evaluation process and funding decision tentative period were clarified.



Upcoming Project Events

The Next **Executive Board Meeting of BS-ERA.NET Project** would be held in Yerevan, Armenia. The event would be organised back to back with the Steering Board meeting. The period would be 15-16 September 2011.

EU-Memo

New name for the future EU funding programme for research and innovation

Statement by Research, Innovation and Science Commissioner Maire Geoghegan-Quinn on the outcome of the competition to name the future EU funding programme for research and innovation

I am very pleased to announce that "Horizon 2020" is the winner of our "You Name it" online vote to name the future EU-funding programme for research and innovation.

The full name that I shall be putting forward towards the end of this year as part of the legislative proposal for the new programme will therefore be: "Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation".

I was already very clear publicly in my first few weeks in this job that I was interested in having a new name for the Framework Programme. I wanted the decision to be made in a democratic rather than a technocratic way. I am delighted at the response and the interest this exercise has generated. We received over 1 600 suggestions for names. I warmly thank the jury and all those who took part.

The new name marks another step in our endeavour to establish research and innovation where it belongs, at the centre of EU policy making.

To achieve that in a lasting way, we need to connect with a wider public and give our work a higher profile. So the new name is an important symbol of a new departure and a new adventure.

Horizon 2020 is not just a new name for the same Framework Programme. It is the name for the new, integrated funding system that will cover all research and innovation funding currently provided through the Framework Programme for Research and Technical Development, the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). These different types of funding will be brought together in a coherent and flexible manner.

This will be a smarter way to support researchers and innovators in Europe – so as to further boost excellence and to help ensure that good ideas reach the market and generate sustainable economic growth and new jobs. Research and innovation funding will focus more clearly on addressing global challenges. Needless red tape will be cut out and participation made simpler.

However, there is also, in the longer title, a certain continuity. We will not lose sight of the fact that the Framework Programmes have been a big success and that there has been much to be proud of. We are not going to throw the baby out with the bathwater.

Europe is currently facing very serious economic challenges. But there are reasons for optimism. High on that list is the enormous and still largely untapped research and innovation capacity that we have in Europe. So it is fitting that the new programme should have a name with an optimistic ring that evokes vision, new possibilities and an ambitious view of what EU-funded research and innovation can achieve.

Because it is only at an EU level that we can mobilise sufficient resources to tackle societal challenges.

Only through EU funding can we help our researchers and innovators to join forces and work together across national borders.

And only the EU can organise continent-wide competition to stimulate our researchers towards greater excellence.

News from the Region

ERA.NET-RUS Pilot Joint Calls was launched in February 2011

The ERA.NET-RUS project, which aims at intensifying and strengthening S&T cooperation between Russia and Europe, published two separate Pilot Joint Calls in February 2011. One of the Calls will be launched on 'Collaborative S&T Projects', which aims to produce research collaborations that are designed to produce new knowledge through fundamental, experimental and/or theoretical scientific research. The other Call was on 'Innovation Projects', which will address applied research and technology development implemented by small sized innovative enterprises in Russia in partnership with universities or non-university public or private institutions/companies from EU-MS/AC, with the final aim of having joint R&D projects designed to lead to innovative products, services or processes of significant economic and/or societal value.

Detailed information on the two calls can be found from January on at the project web site: <http://www.eranet-rus.eu>.

Grant opportunity to launch a new project with European and Ukrainian partners

Ukraine has a high potential for scientific and technological development and is a priority partner country of the EU within the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP). The BILAT-UKR project, funded by the European Union, is a consortium of 4 European countries (France, Germany, Poland and Romania) and two Ukrainian partners that strive to further enhance the bilateral partnership between Ukraine and the EU by means of concrete initiatives.

The 7th Framework Programme (FP7) for Research and Development of the European Union can help researchers to set up new multilateral scientific projects with both European and Ukrainian partners. In July 2011, a call in the field of NANOSCIENCES, NANOTECHNOLOGIES, MATERIALS and NEW PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGIES (Advanced materials for high-temperature power generation) will be launched with a deadline to send proposals in November 2011.

This is the opportunity to participate and to be funded by the EU to launch a multilateral project between European and Ukrainian researchers.

In the frame of BILAT-UKR, researchers who have FP7 projects ideas to answer this call, who need to meet new European and Ukrainian partners and get together to prepare a proposal will be granted.

Details at <http://fp7-ncp.kiev.ua>.

Bulgaria

Second Earth Observation-Global Monitoring for Environment and Security Operational Capacity Workshop, 17 - 18 March 2011, Sofia, Bulgaria

The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria together with Bulgarian organizations and institutions among which the Remote Sensing Application Centre (ReSAC), with the support of the European Commission and under the overall coordination of the Bulgarian Information Office for EO GMES, are organizing the Second Earth Observation-Global Monitoring for Environment and Security Operational Capacity Workshop which will take place on the 17 - 18 March, 2011 in Sheraton Hotel, Sofia, Bulgaria.

More information on: <http://www.earsc.eu>

Second Earth Observation-Global Monitoring for Environment and Security Operational Capacity Workshop, 17 - 18 March 2011, Sofia, Bulgaria.

The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria together with Bulgarian organizations and institutions among which the Remote Sensing Application Centre (ReSAC), with the support of the European Commission and under the overall coordination of the Bulgarian

Information Office for EO GMES, are organizing the Second Earth Observation-Global Monitoring for Environment and Security Operational Capacity Workshop which took place on the 17 - 18 March, 2011 in Sheraton Hotel, Sofia, Bulgaria.

More information: <http://www.earsc.eu/>

Georgia

On April 5th and 6th, 2011 the Association of European Regions (AER) will hold its **Second Black Sea Regional Policy Conference** in Batumi, Adjara, Georgia.

The Objectives of the conference are to: raise awareness about current political discussions on the Black Sea, inform about possibilities of interregional cooperation in the framework of EU programmes and develop first joint projects of interregional cooperation in the Black Sea area. As far as the Expected Outcomes are concerned, they are:

Intelligence gathering: Latest information on European policies in the Black Sea area

Networking and finding new partners;

Concrete project proposals which can be submitted to the EU - CBC Black Sea programme.

More information at: <http://www.aer.eu/events/standing-committee-on-institutional-affairs/2011/second-aer-black-sea-regional-policy-conference.html>

Greece

The International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) organised a **Workshop on 'Innovation in the wider Black Sea region: Policies and Structures'** in Athens, 15-17 June 2011. The Workshop was organised in the framework of the EU co-funded (FP7) project "S&T International Cooperation Network for Eastern European and Central Asian countries – IncoNet EECA".

The main aims of this Workshop were:

to present latest developments in innovation policies and in the European Commission's initiatives;

to provide insight on successful innovation policies and activities in the countries of the Black Sea including the establishment and operation of innovation related infrastructure such as technological parks, incubators, etc., and

to investigate concrete opportunities for regional cooperation in the field of innovation.

Approximately 50 policy makers responsible for innovation and high-level representatives of innovation structures (technological parks, incubators etc.) from the countries of the wider Black Sea region and the EU attended the workshop.

For further information on the Workshop please visit: <http://www.increast.eu/en/1177.php>



Italy

Conference on the Black Sea Region: geopolitical realities & opportunities for cooperation

The Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) and the Romanian Embassy in Rome coorganised a conference on the 'Black Sea Region: geopolitical realities and opportunities for cooperation' at the Palazzo Rondinini in Rome on 30th March 2011.

There were sessions on both the geopolitics and the economy of the Black Sea region and the opportunities and challenges for cooperation in

that area. Romanian, Turkish and Italian practitioners and academics took part in the discussions, with a presentation by Michele Comelli, member of the EU4Seas steering committee, on the role of the EU in the Black Sea.

Details at <http://www.eu4seas.eu>

Ukraine

The Spring Session of the **37th PABSEC General Assembly** was held in Kyiv, Ukraine on 7-9 June 2011.

More information: www.pabsec.org

The **8th International Conference “Black Sea Grain - 2011”** was held on 13-14th April 2011 in Kyiv, Ukraine.

The Conference objectives include: Discuss the growing influence of climate change onto the agricultural sector, determine driving factors of agricultural and regulatory policy in the Black Sea region, reveal the interdependence of the capital markets and the development of the world agriculture, analyse the growth of Asian economics and their role in the global market, forecast the prospects of the agrarian sector in the 2011/2012 season.

More information: www.blackseagrains.net

Upcoming Events

10th Harvard Black Sea Security Program Regional Workshop

The 10th Harvard Black Sea Security Program Regional Workshop will take place in Istanbul, Turkey from October 2-6, 2011. The event will be held in partnership with Kadir Has University, Ministry of Defense of Turkey and with generous grant support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and Black Sea Trust. The primary topic of discussion were security challenges in Black Sea and its greater region. The event will be a follow-on to the eleventh annual Black Sea Security Program, which took place in April 2011.

Detail at <http://www.harvard-bssp.org>

The 2011 CIES International Neighbourhood Symposium

CIES will host the 1st International Neighbourhood Symposium on “Understanding the Common Neighbourhood – The Black Sea Region in Focus” to be held on the island of Heybeliada near Istanbul, Turkey from Tuesday, 28 June – Sunday, 3 July 2011. The International Neighbourhood Symposium aims to promote further understanding and cooperation in the Black Sea region and beyond by providing a forum for study, dialogue and networking in a

On 20 June 2011 an **Information Day “Energy and Environment (including climate change)”** was held within IncoNet EECA project (FP7) in Kyiv. It was organized by Institute of Fundamental Technological Research (Poland) and National Information Centre for Ukraine-EU S&T Cooperation (Ukraine).

The Information Day was attended by 54 participants. Most of them are representatives of prominent Ukrainian research institutions in Energy and Environment. Among them one can find such institutions as Paton Electric Welding Institute, Institute of Geophysics, Ukrainian Hydrometeorological Institute, Institute of Hydromechanics, Gas Institute, Institute of Material Science Problems and many others. Not only scientific researches attended the Infoday, but also leading scientists, rectors, heads of departments, directors and academicians as well.

Participants had an opportunity to learn information concerning statistical data of Ukrainian participation in Energy and Environment Calls of FP7; NCP network; forthcoming Calls, etc. Also Ukrainian experience in Environment Calls was presented.

multicultural and interdisciplinary environment. Young professionals and graduate students primarily from the countries of the Black Sea area, EU member states, and the United States are welcome to apply.

Detail at <http://www.harvard-bssp.org>

4th International Black Sea Symposium on “The Black Sea Region in Transition: New Challenges and Concepts”

Building on three years of success, the International Black Sea Symposium (IBSS) project continues in 2011 with the 4th International Black Sea Symposium on “The Black Sea Region in Transition: New Challenges and Concepts”. From 19 September to 23 September 2011 the International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) will welcome young professionals and international experts on the coastal zone of Attica, Vouliagmeni, Greece, for an intensive course on Black Sea issues. The event’s working language will be English.

Contact Information

Dr. Serban Panaitescu BS-ERA.NET Coordinator, e-mail: panaitescu@cnmp.ro

Lucia Popescu Project Manager, e-mail: lucia.popescu@uefiscdi.ro

Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development & Innovation Funding

21-25 Mendeleev Str., 1st district, Bucharest, 010362, ROMANIA

Tel: +4021 311 59 92; +4021 311 95 92, Fax: +4021 311 59 92

<http://www.bs-era.net>