

International Seminar

“EU, Caribbean & Central America cooperation in Research and Innovation”

5th of October 2011

Hotel Silken Berlaymont, Boulevard Charlemagne, 11 -19, Brussels

Outline of the Seminar

The Seminar, jointly organised by the ENLACE and EUCARINET projects with the support of the European Commission (DG Research and Innovation), aims at fostering cooperation in Research and Innovation among Europe, Central America and the Caribbean through discussions and consensus building among research officers from these regions, European Commission officers and other Research and Innovation stakeholders.

The morning session will be devoted to building capacity of Caribbean and Central American research officers on the upcoming challenges in four areas of high importance of the two regions: Knowledge Based Bio Economy, Energy, Environment and ICT. Officers from the European Commission will be engaged in a discussion with the EUCARINET and ENLACE partners and with other European, Caribbean and Central American experts.

The afternoon session will be devoted to a discussion on possible models and strategies to foster the involvement of private sector actors from the Caribbean and Central America in European research activities, and will involve key stakeholders such as the European Enterprise Network, the Centre for the Development of Enterprise, the Caribbean and Central American Embassies in Brussels.

Agenda

Morning Session: The European Commission priorities for Caribbean and Central American cooperation in R&I

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| 09.30 | Welcome Diassina Di Maggio , Director of APRE, Coordinator of EUCARINET & ENLACE |
| 10.00 | The International Dimension of the European Research Framework Programme: Relevance of Networking Activities Cornelia Nauen/Paul Vossen , European Commission, DG Research & Innovation, International Cooperation |
| 10.15 | EU –LAC joint Initiative for Research and Innovation Cornelia Nauen , European Commission, Unit 1 International cooperation policy, S/T relations with South America (except Brazil) |
| 10.45 | International Cooperation within FP7 thematic areas in FP7 of specific relevance for Central America and the Caribbean: state of art and future developments <i>Knowledge-Based Bio-Economy (KBBE),</i> Paul Vossen , European Commission, DG Research & Innovation, International Cooperation <i>Energy</i> Pierre- Antoine Vernon,, European Commission, DG-Research & Innovation, Energy (<i>tbc</i>) Coffee BREAK: Video projection on BIOCIRCLE project experience <i>Environment</i> Nikolaos Christoforides , European Commission, DG-Research & Innovation, Climate change and natural hazards <i>Information and Communication Technologies</i> Ardiel Cabrera , European Commission, DG-INFSO |
| 12.15 | Synergies among LAC INCO-NET and Summary Report on EU-EIROCARINET activities and support to EU-LAC initiatives for Research & Innovations María Angeles Macías García , Ministry of Science and Innovation (Spain), Coordinator of EULARINET EU Project Henning Jensen , Université of Costa rica, representative of ENLACE project Joseph Williams , CARICOM, representative of EUROCARINET project |
| 12.45 | Comments and Questions |

13.30 Lunch Break

Afternoon session: Involving private sector actors in international cooperation with Central America and the Caribbean

14.30 **Welcome and introduction**
Fabio Nascimbeni, MENON

15.00 **Involvement of private sector actors from the Caribbean and from Central America: examples of working practices**

The ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK (EEN)

Pilippo Pasquet, European Commission, DG Enterprise & Industrie

Latin America: four scenarios by 2030 and a tool for European outlook

Vassiliki Kalodimou, PRAXI/HELP –FORWARD Network

The EEN in Mexico: an example on how to include private sector actors

Erika Guzman, EU-Mexico Cooperation Office, CONACYT

Which tools works against which barriers? The FECAICA experience

Carlos Rivera, FECAICA

Creating knowledge-based innovation networks: the case of the Martinique Living Lab

Laura Garcia Vitoria, Fondation des Territoires de Demain

EU-Caribbean cooperation as a tool for business partnerships: the experience of BRIDGE

Lorenzo Locascio, Meta Group

Title to be defined

Fvicenso Zappino, Target Euro

17.00 **Comments and questions**

17.30 **Conclusions: how to bring the dialogue with the Private Sector forward**
Fabio Nascimbeni, MENON

18.00 **End of Meeting**

Background information

ENLACE project

ENLACE (Enhancing Scientific Cooperation between the European Union and Central America) is a project funded by the European Commission, under the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development - International Cooperation. ENLACE aims at supporting the bi-regional dialogue between the EU and Central America (CA) on science and technology issues, identifying common interests in research areas, setting up S&T priorities, supporting capacity building activities and enhancing the dialogue within the region. The ENLACE objectives include the identification and prioritisation of common research areas of mutual interest and benefit, setting-up a network of FP7 Contact Points in CA, promoting public-private partnerships and strengthening the participation of the private sector in innovation and knowledge transfer activities, increasing the awareness on the benefits of EU-CA research cooperation for stakeholders (researchers, policy makers and entrepreneurs) in the region and fostering the participation of CA researchers in FP7 funded projects.

More info: www.enlace-project.eu

EUCARINET project

EUCARINET is a four-year INCONET Coordination Action whose main goal is to strengthen bi-regional sustainable policy dialogue on Science and Technology between EU Member and Associated States and the Caribbean Region, the Caribbean ACP countries, the overseas departments, and the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs). The consortium runs under the coordination of APRE with the following partners: MENON, CIRAD, EGL, UAB, CARICOM, UWI, UAG, UNIBE, CITMA, UNA. It will cover the whole Caribbean, with partners in Italy, Belgium, France, Netherlands, Spain, United Kingdom, Guyana, Jamaica, Guadeloupe, Dominican Republic, Cuba, and Netherlands Antilles. The main goal of the project is to establish a long lasting sustainable bi-regional multi-stakeholders policy dialogue on S&T at policy, programme and institutional (research entities) level.

More info: www.eucarinet.eu