

Fact Sheet SEA-EU-NET

April 2009

- Project title:** Facilitating the Bi-Regional EU-ASEAN Science and Technology Dialogue
- Web page:** www.sea-eu.net
- EU Funding:** 2.9 Mio €
- Start of the project:** 01.01.2008
- Duration:** 48 months
- Project Coordinator:** Dr. Gerold Heinrichs, International Bureau of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (PT-DLR)
- Managing Coordinator:** Christoph Elineau (christoph.elineau@dlr.de)



Project Partners

Name	Acronym	Country
1 The International Bureau of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research	PT-DLR	Germany
2 Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences	KNAW	The Netherlands
3 The British High Commission Singapore	BHC	Singapore/United Kingdom
4 Collegium Budapest, Institute for Advanced Study	COLBUD	Hungary
5 The Scientific & Technological Research Council of Turkey	TUBITAK	Turkey
6 National Science and Technology Development Agency	NSTDA	Thailand
7 Zentrum für Soziale Innovation	ZSI	Austria
8 Ministry of State for Research and Technology	RISTEK	Indonesia
9 National Centre for Scientific and Technological Information	NACESTI	Vietnam
10 Institute of Asian Studies GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies	GIGA	Germany
11 Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement	CIRAD	France
12 DEMOS – Think tank for everyday democracy	DEMOS	United Kingdom
13 Centre National de Recherche Scientifique	CNRS	France
14 The Scientific & Technological Research Council of Turkey- UME	TUBITAK-UME	Turkey
15 Polska Akademia Nauk	PAN	Poland
16 National Metrology Laboratory – SIRIM	NML - SIRIM	Malaysia

General information about IncoNet-Projects

Background: Strengthen the bi-regional Dialogue between countries of the European Research Area (ERA) and the target region.

Objectives:

INCO-Net projects are aimed at establishing *bi-regional dialogues* that will:

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

Activities:

- Dialogue:
 - Establish a Fora for active and constant exchange of views between European and non- European stakeholders
 - Strengthen the synergies between international S&T dialogues and the objectives of the external relations actions
 - Exchange of views with third country policy makers to focus on interdisciplinary issues with a real need for coordination of S&T policies and new rules that arise from the globalisation of research and S&T cooperation.
 - Identify areas with potential for enhanced co-ordination with Member States and Associated States on the one hand, and the third countries covered by the INCO-Net on the other.
- Implementation and Dissemination activities:
 - Setting up or strengthening platforms for strategic analysis and anticipation with a focus on connecting global trends and issues to regional specificities
 - Setting regional networks / fora with all relevant stakeholders
 - Increase awareness and dissemination of FP7 activities, their goal and tools
 - Disseminating results
- Monitoring and review:

Continuous monitoring and review of ongoing cooperation activities

Project description

The "SEA-EU-NET" project has been set up to expand scientific collaboration between Europe and South East Asia in a more strategic and coherent manner. The project was launched in January 2008 and involves 16 key institutions from the two regions. It will adopt an evidence-based approach to increase the quality, quantity, profile and impact of Science and Technology (S&T) cooperation between the ten member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Member- and Associated States of the European Union (EU). This is in support of the international strategy of the EU, and in particular the specific objectives of the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7) - the EU's primary funding opportunity for collaborative scientific research. "SEA-EU-NET" funding runs through to the end of 2011 although the outcomes will be designed so they are sustained beyond this point.

Objectives:

- Dialogue: To strengthen bi-regional and bi-lateral dialogue in scientific cooperation and to jointly identify priority strategic topics for collaboration under FP7 thematic programmes.
- Decision-Making: To reach consensus on areas which will yield the greatest benefits from improved cooperation and to increase the flow and availability of resources available to these areas
- Networking: To network Universities, industry, Government, charities and S&T related institutions in order to strengthen research capacity.
- Partnership: To develop and implement a coherent European-level approach towards international S&T cooperation with South East Asia.
- Sustainability: All activities will be underpinned by a focus on sustainability, and designed to deliver impact beyond the lifespan of the four year funding stream in order to develop long-lasting partnership.

Activities:

Dialogue activities: Each year stakeholders will be brought together through a 'week of cooperation' to foster knowledge transfer, policy coordination and develop joint action plans for delivering closer bi-regional partnership. Strengthen the synergies between international S&T dialogues and the objectives of the external relations actions. This should enable an exchange of views with third country policy makers to focus on interdisciplinary issues with a real need for coordination of S&T policies and new rules that arise from the globalisation of research and S&T cooperation.

Apart from the stakeholders conference the SEA-EU-NET will organise a series of scientific conferences to bring together expert researchers from the EU and SE Asia, to provide a platform for sharing research, overcoming technical barriers, and stimulating long term collaborative projects for funding by national research bodies, the EU Framework Programme 7 and other sources.

Increasing the participation of SEA researchers in FP7: Funding streams – in particular the EU's 7th Framework Programme for Research (FP7) – will be analysed to identify further opportunities for stimulating collaboration. Participation in such schemes will be increased through the dissemination of information in a targeted manner to researchers in South East Asia, and support will be provided in accessing the funds. Action will be driven forward to deliver increased partnership.

A key element to increase the participation of researchers from Southeast Asia will be to set up and strengthen the network of National Contact Points in Southeast Asia. The project will be instrumental in that respect

Scientific analysis: The SEA-EU-NET project will identify examples of best practice and barriers to the formation and success of collaborations. Existing support mechanisms will be analysed, networked and expanded where necessary to ensure a more coherent strategic approach.

This includes the identification of scientific areas with potential for enhanced cooperation with Member States and Associated States on the one hand, and the third countries covered by the INCO-NET on the other

Role of the International Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (DLR)

The International Bureau of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (PT-DLR) is coordinating the project.

Highlights

The annual meeting "EU-ASEAN Bi-Regional S&T Policy Dialogue Platform" is providing a platform for exchange and making policy recommendation. The next meetings are foreseen to take place Bogor (2009), Budapest (2010) and Hanoi (2011), alternating between South-East Asian and European venues.

State of affairs and intermediate results

The SEA-EU-NET project has had a busy first year and has already engaged in a number of activities that should help to enhance S&T collaboration between Europe and Southeast Asia.

The activities focussed mainly on:

- **Policy dialogue:** The SEA-EU-NET stakeholders' conference in November 2008 in Paris has been the main event of the project to engage with a larger audience of policy makers, scientists and representatives from NGOs in a discussion on S&T collaboration between the two regions. The event received considerable attention by the relevant stakeholders and about 130 policy makers, scientists and representatives from international organizations from both Southeast Asia and Europe attended the event. It was immanent that there is demand for a continuous exchange among relevant stakeholder on how to increase S&T collaboration between the two regions.
- **Analysis and information gathering:** The activities focussed on the analysis of S&T cooperation patterns between the two regions and on the internationalisation strategies of Southeast Asian countries. This information is necessary to identify gaps in the cooperation patterns and to be able to develop ideas for new cooperation instruments and the identification of topics for cooperation.

- **Creating scientific contacts:** The project supported and organised a series of scientific workshops to foster and create scientific contacts between researchers from the two regions. These have been in the area of infectious diseases, renewable energy and food safety. The project will continue to organise scientific workshop for researchers from Europe and Southeast Asia in scientific areas of mutual interest.
- **Establishment of FP7 contact points:** As a centrepiece to raise the awareness for FP7 in Southeast Asia the project has been actively assisting countries in setting up FP7 contact points. Most of the ASEAN member countries are currently establishing those information points and they should be operational by end-of 2009.

Planned activities in 2009

The following events are foreseen:

- 2nd SEA-EU-NET stakeholders conference, 5/6 November in Bogor/Indonesia
- 4 Scientific workshops in the areas of renewable energy, infectious diseases, biodiversity and climate change
- National and regional Information Days in the SEA on the 7th FP in close cooperation with the respective national stakeholders (governments, Science organisations and Info-points);
- Participation in the ASEAN Committees on Science and Technology (ASEAN COST) to promote S&T cooperation between Southeast Asia and Europe