Specific Programme "Capacities": International co-operation

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

More than 100 countries from all over the world are involved in EU Research Programmes. These activities will continue within the "Cooperation" programme of FP7, which covers the international cooperation actions in the 10 thematic areas and across themes. They will be implemented in coordination with the "Cooperation", "People" and "Capacities" programmes of FP7.

What's the benefit for citizens:

International research and development will contribute to the production of global public goods and help to close the gap between different countries in the world. There is already a significant body of scientific knowledge in the world improving the lives of those who live in developing countries as well as those of European citizens. Where possible, the Framework Programme will also contribute to meeting the Millennium Development Goals by 2010.

What's the benefit for researchers:
The enhanced participation of researchers and research institutions from third world countries applying the appropriate restrictions for security issues in order to respect the confidentiality aspects within the thematic areas. They will be strongly encouraged to seize this opportunity - be it through collaborative research or through fellowships. Specific cooperation actions in each thematic area dedicated to third world countries in cases of mutual interest; to cooperate on the particular topics selected based on their scientific and technological levels and needs. These actions are closely associated with either the bilateral cooperation agreements, or multilateral dialogues between the EU and these countries or groups of countries and will serve as privileged tools for implementing the cooperation between the EU and these countries. In particular, such actions are:

- Actions aiming to reinforce the research capacities of candidate countries and neighbourhood countries;
- Cooperative activities targeting developing and emerging countries focusing on their particular needs in various fields such as health, agriculture, fisheries and environment, and implemented in financial conditions adapted to their capacities.

**What's the benefit for industry and SMEs:**

International cooperation under FP7 will further integrate the EU into the worldwide community and thus help advance research and technology in those countries that are building their own knowledge capacity. These will, on one hand lead to enriching European research with the pool of knowledge generated around the world, while enhancing, on the other hand, the science and technology awareness and competence of societies and companies in developing countries.

**Context**
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to: 31 December 2013

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