



## The Research Potential Network in FP7

Working together to strengthen research capacities in convergence and outermost regions of the EU

## eNewsletter

### Events

25/11/09 [Workshop The FP7 "Research Potential for the convergence and outermost regions"](#) Palermo, Italy

11-13/05/09 [Future of the Internet Conference](#) Prague, Czech Republic

7-8/05/09 [Research Connection 2009](#) Prague, Czech Republic

03/02/09 [International conference on Competence Research Centre Programmes and Policies](#) Dusseldorf, Germany

### News

**The Czech Presidency** of the EU and the European Commission have officially launched the European Year of Creativity and Innovation 2009 in Prague with the slogan "Imagine. Create. Innovate". [More](#)

**FAQs for Research Potential 2009 published.** The document, prepared under the ResPotNet project, is intended to help promote the exchange of good practice and knowledge among NCPs, to facilitate the daily problem-solving, and to upgrade the services provided to potential proposers by offering accurate and prompt replies to queries.

It includes questions received by the National Contact Points and is complementary to the FAQs provided by the EC. [More](#)

**RespotNet in the Mediterranean and the Balkans.** By liaising with other Networks, ResPotNet has been presented in several events in the Med and West Balkan countries. More specifically, in November ResPotNet was presented in Damascus, Syria and Beirut, Lebanon on the occasion of the REGPOT-2009-2 call. The events were organised by the PROMED access project. It was also presented in Sarajevo during an event of ERA WestBalkan+ project coordinated by our partners FFG/Austria. ResPotNet was represented at the EuroRis Network project workshop held in Paris last December, .

**Partners of the ResPotNet project begin workshops & twinning sessions.** The Maltese and Croatian NCPs were hosted by Archimedes in Estonia last year on two separate occasions. Both visits were successful and very interesting. Training material will soon be available online. At the 1st workshop of ResPotNet held in October in Bruxelles. Prof. Rafael Rodriguez, Coordinator of the MIRA ERA-NET project for cooperation with Mediterranean countries, shared his experience on collaboration with these countries.

**Trainings & Events 2009.** Training visits, workshops and research events foreseen for 2009. Please send your suggestions/proposals to the respective task leaders. Questionnaires will be sent shortly!



[www.respotnet.eu](http://www.respotnet.eu)



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### **Success Story: Advancing scientific performance & regional potential of Estonian biomedical research (ESTBIOREG) € 1.1M**

Growing pressure of environmental and socio-psychological factors in modern society burdens our main host defence organ systems, neural and immune system, with a number of serious consequences. The understanding of the function of these two systems as well as the mechanisms of neurological and immunological disorders is a major challenge in the biomedical field. With that in mind, the Centre of Molecular and Clinical Medicine of the University of Tartu is set to raise the level of Estonian medical research and to concentrate the skills and funds to selected cutting-edge areas of medical research, neuro- and immunological sciences.

The overall aim of this project is to advance the RTD performance and the quality of research in neuroscience and immunology carried out by the Centre. Achieving this requires several key measures to enhance the existing dynamic environment and collaborative links within the Centre and with other institutions in neurological and immunological research: short term visits of our staff (WP1), recruitment of incoming researchers (WP2), improving the Centre's infrastructure (WP3).

### **Success Story: Balkan vegetables research centre for transfer of European knowledge, research & practice (EU-BALKANVEGETABLES) € 1.1M**

The initiatives of the project aim to support the progress of Maritsa Vegetable Crops Research Institute in Bulgaria to be reinforced as a modern, competitive one in European horticultural science and to become a leading research centre for the Balkan region.

Coordination and Support Actions proposed here comprise:

- Recruitment scientists from leading European Institutes to transfer the recent achievements of European knowledge of plant genetics diversity, pest risk analysis, plant nutrition and organic production;
- Enhancement the professional level of young researchers and exchange of know-how and experience for senior scientists in relevant advanced European Institutes;
- Improvement and up grading the technical status of Institute with new trends equipment;
- Establishment of Maritsa VCRI as a dissemination centre and promoter of European knowledge and practice in the field of vegetable science in Bulgaria as well as in Balkan region;
- Support of Maritsa Technology Transfer Office as an innovative centre and as an interface between the Institute and farmers and processors to transfer the advanced European technologies.

