



EU-CELAC JOINT INITIATIVE ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
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CONCEPT NOTE

Document prepared with support of the ALCUE NET project as SOM Technical Secretariat in collaboration with related bi-regional projects and initiatives

Rationale of this document

This document summarizes the efforts undertaken in recent years in order to strengthen the partnership between the European Union (EU) and Latin America and the Caribbean (CELAC) in science, technology and innovation (STI), leading to the announcement of the EU-CELAC Common Research Area. It presents leverage points and concrete suggestions to the delegates of the EU-CELAC Senior Official Meeting, resulting from prior activities or emerging initiatives, to enhance the process of the further development of the Common Research Area.

The EU-CELAC Common Research Area

The cooperation in STI between EU and CELAC is strong at numerous levels. During the 2010 EU-CELAC Summit in Madrid, the EU and CELAC agreed to establish an EU-CELAC Action Plan, whereby “science, research, innovation and technology” constitutes an independent chapter. In addition, the Joint Initiative on Research and Innovation (JIRI) was adopted. Since 2011 six Senior Officials’ Meetings (SOM) have been organized in order to support the implementation of the JIRI. In the beginning of this process working groups were established in order to develop concrete joint activities for future collaboration in thematic and cross-cutting areas (ICT, bioeconomy, biodiversity/climate change, energy and health as well as mobility and framework conditions). The JIRI policy dialogue was supported by several EU-funded projects, among those the INCO-NET ALCUE NET, the ERA-NET ERANet-LAC, the EU-LAC HEALTH project and others.

As the bi-regional partnership evolved over the years, the Common Research Area was announced at the EU-CELAC Summit in June 2015 and adopted at the V EU-CELAC Senior Officials Meeting of the Joint Initiative on Research and Innovation (SOM) from March 2016 with the aim to further strengthen the bi-regional partnership in R&I by synchronizing the manifold and various activities conducted by many different parties in both regions under three pillars: “mobility of researchers”, “international outreach of research infrastructures” and “jointly addressing global challenges”.

The VI SOM of March 2017 has set in place concrete initiatives and mechanisms allowing for the efficient implementation of the Common Research Area , as follows:

- Launch of a Research Infrastructures (RI) working group to support policy coordination and exchange of information on RI;
- Launch of discussions about the development of EU and CELAC mobility portals, building on the existing Euraxess network and portal;
- Agreement on targeted research and innovation actions for bi-regional cooperation as a follow-up of the commitments taken at the 2016 SOM, in the area of health (non-communicable chronic diseases), climate action and sustainable urbanisation.
- Launch of an EU-CELAC Policy Advice mechanism to support CELAC countries in addressing the Sustainable Development Goals through research and innovation (R&I).

The objectives of the VII SOM are to further deepen bi-regional cooperation under the three pillars of the Common Research Area and to acknowledge the key contribution of research and innovation to sustainable development and productivity.

Session “Research and Innovation support for sustainable development”

At the last SOM in March 2017, the EC announced the launch of a new initiative in support of the CELAC countries in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the deployment of an external independent advice.

The Policy Advice is open to the participation of all the CELAC countries, in collaboration with EU Member States, and will be triggered on a voluntary basis, being fully demand-driven. It is targeting especially national administrations competent in the field of R&I. The Policy Advice will be implemented through various exercises of mutual learning and exchange of best practices, engaging a small group of countries interested in addressing specific topics of common interest.

Since its launch, CELAC countries have been consulted on their interest to participate in the Policy advice, which resulted in the selection of one pilot exercise targeting Central America and the Dominican Republic, under the coordination of SENACYT Panama.

The objectives of the session on the "Policy Advice Initiative to support CELAC countries in addressing the Sustainable Development Goals through research and innovation" will be threefold:

- To present the Policy Advice Initiative in detail, along with the main intended outcomes for participating countries and the specific methodology to be used to pursue the achievement of these outcomes
- To illustrate the value of engaging in the Policy Advice Initiative, by presenting the initial results of the pilot policy advisory service currently being implemented in the Central America sub-region on the topic of mission oriented research for sustainable development (to be presented by the chair of the expert panel conducting the assignment Prof. Lena Tsipouri)
- To engage with EU and CELAC country participants on how to identify and formulate potential policy advisory service requests of their own, and explain the expression of interest submission and selection process

In order to prepare for the session, participants are invited to go through the Policy Advice Initiative **infographic** which is included in the attachment of this concept note. In addition, participants are also encouraged to use the Policy Advice Initiative **checklist** in order to identify priorities for potential advisory service exercises.

Session “Mobility of researchers”

The Common Research Area pillar “mobility” aims at establishing a more structured dialogue between academic and research institutions from both regions. Available funding programmes (such as Erasmus + and H2020) and tools (such as the Euraxess portal) have shown their value at EU level and similar initiatives should be further developed in the CELAC region, reflecting national commitment towards enhanced international cooperation and mobility.

The last SOM in March 2017 launched the European Commission EURAXESS portal for CELAC, building on Euraxess Links Brazil and promoting EU funding opportunities and partnerships with CELAC. Since then:

- Five CELAC flash notes were sent to multipliers all over the region.
- A first list of funding opportunities in CELAC has been developed, compiling open calls from the European Commission and EU Member States and Associated Countries open to nationals of either some or all CELAC countries.

Senior Officials also committed towards the development of a regional portal for researchers in CELAC.

The objectives of this session are two-fold:

- the European Commission’s support to the internationalisation of mobility programmes and innovation
- steps taken to support the development of a regional portal for CELAC and the bi-regional academic and scientific dialogue

Session “International Outreach of Research Infrastructures”

The fifth SOM of the EU-CELAC JIRI in March 2016 highlighted the research infrastructures dimension as one of the three strategic pillars of the CRA. The last SOM agreed to establish a bi-regional Working Group on Research Infrastructures (WG RI), as a first step to support policy making in the research infrastructures dimension, which would facilitate multilateral initiatives leading to a better use and development of research infrastructures amongst the two regions.

An intra-CELAC Workshop on Research Infrastructures is organized on 28-29 September 2017 in Uruguay as a critical step for CELAC counterparts to build regional awareness on the advantages of building a regional approach.

The objectives of this session are two-fold:

- report on the key outcomes of the CELAC Workshop on Research Infrastructures and priorities identified of regional potential
- focus on the Working Group Mandate, nomination of European representatives and next steps

Session “Joint addressing Grand challenges - Horizon 2020 Flagship initiatives and next steps”

The overall objective is to showcase the increase of cooperation opportunities under Horizon 2020 since the launch of the Common Research Area, building on the priorities identified jointly at the last SOM.

The session will focus on:

- information on the inclusive consultation process in the field of Health, and the new actions and next steps
- highlight the EU's support towards development of a structured consultation on sustainable urbanisation
- building on the new cooperation areas presented at the last SOM, discuss more streamlined thematic cooperation implemented through joint activities in the field of transport and sustainable agriculture

- the role of the new regional NCP Network for CELAC, which will be crucial in disseminating the opportunities provided under Horizon 2020 and mobilizing the scientific community

Health

The health research agenda developed under the EU-LAC Health CSA (which ended on 30 June 2017) allowed the European Commission and the CELAC countries to recently agree on the development of an international flagship initiative for the Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2018-2020. The topic was built in close cooperation between the European Commission and CELAC representatives. After a preliminary meeting, held in Brussels on 15th March 2017, several exchanges (video-conferences, phone conferences and e-mail) were made. This flagship will be implemented with a topic on “Translational collaborative cancer research between Europe and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC)”.

Besides this topic, there are several other topics of interest for CELAC countries in the new Horizon 2020 Societal Challenge 1 Work Programme 2018-2020.

Joining the Joint Programming Initiative on Anti-Microbial Resistance (JPIAMR) is particularly relevant in view of the recently published Commission Action Plan on AMR, which includes a specific section on “Shaping the global agenda”.

Sustainable urbanization

The topic of sustainable urbanization has been included in the EU-CELAC Common Research Area as a common priority and in the March 2017 SOM Joint Communiqué. Since then the European Commission has ensured that EU-CELAC cooperation in the field of sustainable urbanisation is included in the Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2018-2020, and has developed a dedicated research and innovation action on "Nature-based solutions for restoration and rehabilitation of urban ecosystems" specifically targeting the CELAC region.

A first step towards bi-regional cooperation on the issue was made with the organization of an ALCUE-NET workshop in June 2017, hosted by Portugal, where experts and policy makers from both CELAC and EU have convened and discussed opportunities for Research and Innovation (R&I) cooperation in the field of sustainable urbanization, in particular on Nature-based solutions, within the frame of Horizon 2020.

Building on the commitment towards a more structured dialogue on the topic resulting from this meeting, the European Commission invited interested countries from CELAC to appoint a national representative with expertise in the field of sustainable urbanization and convened a workshop on 3rd October 2017 in San Salvador to discuss and possibly fine-tune Horizon 2020 R&I action for CELAC and to start defining common research priorities on sustainable urbanisation and possible ways of implementing them, building on existing research agendas in the EU and in CELAC.

Nomination of experts is crucial for the success of this consultation and future steps. The SOM is expected to make a concrete step forward in the EU CELAC R&I collaboration in the field, and to mandate a structured dialogue to set out long term objectives aligned to SDGs and in particular to SDG 11 on cities; establish EU-CELAC common R&I priorities and explore existing funding instruments and schemes for their implementation such as H2020 calls, city to city cooperation, Sector Dialogues, etc.

Other priority areas: smart, green and integrated transport

At the last EU-CELAC SOM in March 2017, the participants agreed on the relevance of clean urban transport R&I as a new possible area for cooperation. An appropriate follow-up was ensured in defining the principle of cooperation, on the base of common interests and capacity of the CELAC countries, which has resulted in concrete flagship initiatives in the field of transport research, namely:

- Reduction of transport impact on air quality
- Urban mobility and sustainable electrification in large urban areas in developing and emerging economies
- Integrated multimodal, low-emission freight transport systems and logistics

SOM delegates are invited to the Transport Research Arena 2018 Conference (TRA2018: Vienna, 16-19 April, 2018). The TRA2018 Conference entitled *A Digital Era for Transport* is the largest European transport research event in Europe. It has the aim to bring together in Vienna over 3500 transport specialists including academia, industry, policy makers and users to discuss the latest research and innovations in all modes of transport, together with technological, industrial developments and implementations, and related policies from Europe and beyond.

Other priority areas: bioeconomy and sustainable agriculture

The last SOM in March 2017 identified new possible areas of cooperation such as sustainable agriculture. This corresponds to established priorities for EU agricultural research under Horizon 2020 and beyond.¹

Following the last SOM, the European Commission has consulted the EU-CELAC JIRI Bioeconomy working group on possible areas of interest within the last Work Programmes of Horizon 2020 which resulted in the identification of the following areas:

- Area “Resource efficiency in crop production”
 - Plant/soil interactions and soil functions
 - Nutrient recovery and reuse as fertilizers (circular economy)
- Area “Animal health and food safety”
 - Use of antimicrobials in animal production

Building on the CELAC participation in FP7 and Horizon 2020, the European Commission is firmly supporting cooperation with CELAC in the field of “sustainable agriculture including all uses of biomass (food, feed, bioproducts) and the innovation potential of biowaste”.

Session “Enhancing the Innovation dimension of the Common Research Area”

Addressing the innovation dimension of our cooperation under the Common Research Area is a direct outcome of the last SOM in March 2017. The Common Research Area has made important progress in the field of research and technological development, but the actions towards a transverse axe of innovation are not yet structured in order to achieve its consolidation.

The session will provide the opportunity for a first exchange between the delegates on the importance of strengthening bi-regional cooperation in this field and the modalities to achieve this. The SOM provides an appropriate scenario to continue working in the definition of the best options to generate a bi-regional cooperation framework oriented to innovation and implement it.

The panel will present the EU-CELAC cooperation experience in the field of:

- Smart Specialisation, supported by the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre. The approach, implemented in the EU, is being widely considered by several countries and regions of Latin-America and is highly based on the enhancement of regional innovation capacities. It encompasses place-based innovation policies and strategies, built on existing local capacities and opportunities and conceived in a participatory fashion. Cooperation between territories (at international, national and sub-national level) is important in this context. The ultimate objective is to support the competitiveness and innovation potential of territories, as a basis of a sustainable growth model.
- The creation of technology-based business opportunities between the EU and CELAC, through the ELAN Network project. The project brings together key EU and CELAC R&I actors promoting technology based transformation processes and economic growth. Furthermore, the project also conducted research work on topics such as drivers and barriers to international collaboration in technology and innovation between the EU and CELAC, technology-based business opportunities

¹ See DG AGRI conference paper: “A Strategic approach to EU agricultural research and innovation

and innovation type of interest for EU-CELAC collaboration, best performing actors, motivation for internationalisation of SMEs, RTOs, BSOs etc.

Without having a prescriptive character, these initiatives offer examples of cooperation and can stimulate a discussion on what ideas can be systematised at the broader level of CELAC.

As an informative input to the session, the Concept Note "The Innovation dimension under the EU-CELAC Common Research Area" was prepared in the framework of the ALCUE-NET project. It is included in the annex of this concept note. It presents a general vision on the innovation landscape in the CELAC region and the different innovation policies in place, the state of play in EU-CELAC cooperation and provides orientations for increased collaboration.

During the open discussion, the delegates will be invited to share their views on the types of innovation cooperation to address in the EU-CELAC framework, possible (thematic) areas of cooperation and topics of interest, relevant actors and networks, use of existing instruments and programmes etc.

This exchange is meant to offer the necessary conceptual basis in view of constructing a future bi-regional innovation agenda for cooperation and defining concrete actions of cooperation such as dedicated events, develop prospective methodologies, consolidation of networks, partnerships between the EU and CELAC actors of innovation, knowledge sharing and policy support etc.

Appendix – Background information

Institutions and initiatives supporting the implementation of the Common Research Area

The EU-LAC Foundation

On 25 October 2016 in Santo Domingo, the EU and CELAC signed the agreement to establish the EU-LAC Foundation as international organization.

The EU-LAC Foundation brings together the EU and the CELAC member states with the following objectives:

- encouraging further mutual knowledge and understanding between both regions,
- strengthening the EU-CELAC bi-regional partnership process, with increased participation of the civil society,
- enhancing the mutual visibility between both regions, as well as of the bi-regional partnership itself.

The EU-LAC Foundation fulfills its objectives through activities such as encouraging debates through seminars, conferences and publications, thus creating new contact opportunities and promoting the exchange between stakeholders in both regions. It promotes events related to the topics addressed in EU-CELAC Summits, launches bi-regional programmes and encourages studies on topics of bi-regional relevance.

INCO NET ALCUE NET

Until end of 2017 ALCUE NET, funded within FP7, serves as the technical secretariat to the EU-CELAC SOM and the JIRI WGs. It has established and maintained a dynamic networking platform promoting EU-CELAC collaboration in STI, enhances and facilitates information and knowledge exchange between stakeholders from both regions and connects relevant initiatives such as relevant EC-funded project and the Liaison Offices in CELAC.

Main outcomes of the project include

- Bi-regional thematic research and policies agendas.
- Mixed stakeholder networks
- Data bases and mappings on bi-regional S&T cooperation
- Thematic activities by recommendation of JIRI WG
- Definition of common priorities and elaboration of topic profiles
- 40 thematic workshops mobilizing 1700 experts, policy makers and Stakeholders.
- Synergies with related initiatives.
- Technical Secretariat for SOM since 2013: preparation of Concept Note, Action Plan and background relevant documents
- Foresight study on Strategic Vision to strengthen future bi regional cooperation
- Survey on Innovation to enhance the bi-regional cooperation on R&I in the Common Research Area.
- Expansion of the LAC NCP Network
- Increase the involvement of Caribbean countries into the bi regional cooperation process as well as less experienced CELAC countries.

Service Facility in Support of the Strategic Development of International Cooperation in Research and Innovation

The activities of ALCUE NET will be continued in the main within the Framework Contract “Service Facility

in Support of the Strategic Development of International Cooperation in Research and Innovation” of DG Research and Innovation. A specific contract supports the operation of the EU-CELAC Joint Initiative on Research and Innovation and the implementation of the EU-CELAC Common Research Area. Activities within this contract are done in closest cooperation with the EC and the Pro Tempore CELAC Presidency.

The structural support to the JIRI will ensure the coordination of cooperation policies and activities at bi-regional level, the streamlining of communication, instruments and background documents, including under each of the three Common Research Area pillars, the preparation of annual Senior Officials Meetings, and the organisation of regional thematic R&I policy workshops to implement the Common Research Area priorities.

ERANet-LAC

ERANet-LAC is a Network of the EU and CELAC on Joint Innovation and Research Activities funded by the European Commission for a period of four years (2013-2017).

ERANet-LAC implemented two joint calls seeking to coordinate and cluster research programmes. Furthermore, the project mutually opened research infrastructures and coordinated and opened innovation programmes. The project placed a special focus on the innovation dimension. It involved European and Latin American innovation agencies in joint activities as well as in trust-building actions.

The joint activities carried out were evaluated and used as a basis for building up the EU-CELAC Platform for Funding Agencies. This funding platform serves as an information and communication platform that offers substantial guidelines as well as an online working space to facilitate the development of future concrete bi-regional joint initiatives. Up-to date, almost 30 funding agencies from both regions joined the funding platform wishing to collaborate in bi-regional STI activities.

The EU-CELAC Interest Group and the Platform for Funding Agencies

The EU-CELAC IG is a group of funding agencies from CELAC, EU Member States and Associated Countries wishing to cooperate in bi-regional STI collaboration. The EU-Commission is invited to participate with a specific view of promoting the overall coherence with the Governance of the EU-CELAC relations.

The EU-CELAC IG builds on the collaboration experience and mutual trust established in past and ongoing FP7 projects e.g. in the framework of ERANet-LAC. It organizes joint actions, e.g. joint calls, and thus supports the implementation of the EU-CELAC Common Research Area and creates further added value to its three pillars: Mobility of Researchers; International outreach of Research Infrastructures; Increased thematic cooperation to address global challenges.

The EU-CELAC IG defines priority topics and instruments of common interest, taking the SOM activities and suggestions by participating funding agencies into consideration. To do so, it meets yearly, alternately in EU or CELAC. The participating funding agencies decide in which joint activities and themes they want to get involved (variable geometry).

The German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, BMBF, and the Argentinean Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation, MINCyT, jointly coordinate the kick-off-phase of the IG (approx. 2-3 years).

The launch-event of the IG took place in March 2017 in Brussels. Based on the experiences of bi-regional Joint Calls realized by ERANet-LAC (2014 and 2015) and EU-LAC HEALTH (2916) the first Joint Call of the IG will be published end of 2017. The preparatory meeting for this Joint Call will be organized in San Salvador in the morning of 3 October 2017, back to back with the SOM.

ANNEXES

Session “Research and Innovation Support for sustainable development”

see separate documents:

- Policy Advice Initiative_Infographic.pdf
- Policy Advice Initiative_Checklist.pdf

Session “Joint addressing Grand challenges - Horizon 2020 Flagship initiatives and next steps”

The LAC National Contact Point (NCP) Network

On the framework of ALCUE NET, a LAC NCP Network was established. The Network is a platform of contact points in Latin America and the Caribbean which is intended to provide information regarding cooperation opportunities, calls for the creation of consortia and projects, as well as seminars, conferences and Info Days on Horizon 2020. It promotes the participation of LAC NCPs in training activities organized by the European Commission and other relevant actors, and pursues to establish long-term twinning and partnering schemes between EU NCPs and LAC NCPs. The Network also aims to establish a specific platform for LAC NCPs to allow an efficient exchange of best practices and to engage with their European counterparts in priority areas of common interest.

The objective is to create a sustainable LAC NCP Network for the strengthening of the National and Thematic Contact Points Network for Latin America and the Caribbean for the Horizon 2020 Programme.

The work under ALCUE NET is also to strengthen the designation and motivation of the NCP in this region. For this reason, Senior Officials from 18 LAC countries have already signed a Letter of Interest which aims at achieving sustainability and continuous strengthening for this LAC NCP Network. Governments nominated NCPs for Horizon 2020 and collaborate in order to define their competences and profiles.

Up to date, nine video conferences were organized with the participation of 808 stakeholders from LAC countries and 20 Training Workshops took place in 15 LAC countries with the participation of 1744 stakeholders from the region.

The future working plan includes: the promotion of H2020 and the importance of designating NCPs, the regular update of the database of LAC NCPs officially named to the European Commission, the developments of a web platform for information and dissemination, a schedule of public virtual meetings (general trainings, sharing of Best Practices for NCPs and virtual participation to European Information Days), organize the structure of the LAC NCP Network, a regular monitoring and evaluation of the CELAC participation in H2020 activities and projects, among others.

Contributions of the JIRI Working Groups

Biodiversity and Climate Change

Background and leverage points:

- Organization of bi-regional workshops focused among other on the identification of common priority topics, improvement of interactions and share of knowledge between Biodiversity and Climate Change (B&CC) communities and networking and training activities.
- Elaboration of a bi-regional bibliometric analysis.

Suggestions:

- Promote interdisciplinary research projects on ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience including B&CCs. Providing interdisciplinary course works, programs and collaborations is essential to enhancing a socio-ecological approach in research projects to address societal challenges.

- Coordinate data acquisition and data management based on reliable, comparable and accessible data, and the use of existing platforms by promoting small research projects.
- Involve stakeholders into research projects from the local communities to private sector in view of developing “Nature Based Solutions”.
- There is a need to liaise with relevant stakeholders at national level to ensure the efficient implementation of the new EU Regional Environment and Climate Change programme for Latin America – EUROCLIMA+.

Bioeconomy

Background and leverage points:

- Organization of bi-regional workshops focused among others on the identification of future needs and opportunities for CELAC.
- A proposal for a strategic plan for the establishment of a pilot bioeconomy regional policy program was developed.
- A Latin-American Bioeconomy Network on LinkedIn was established.
- “Business case studies” of bioeconomy in Peru, México and Brazil were conducted. It is planned to publish those case studies.

Suggestions:

- In several CELAC countries bioeconomy has already reached national attention through the development of implementation strategies for bioeconomy. There is a need for developing a regional coordination platform that will enhance the coordination of the existing national initiatives that will serve as a regional bioeconomy one-stop information and exchange platform.

Information and Communications Technology

Background and leverage points:

- Mapping of EU-CELAC ICT Cooperation Projects
- Study of Deployment of eHealth in LAC. Contribution for closing the gap in primary health care.
- Workshops organized to identify and update common priorities for future cooperation and calls, establish synergy with relevant initiatives, linkage between Nature-based Solutions (NBS) case studies and upcoming calls.
- Topics identified as essential for both regions are e-Inclusion, e-Health, Smart Cities, and Living Labs, addressing challenges in the areas of social cohesion, inclusiveness, sustainability and innovation for the benefit of the populations both in Latin America and the Caribbean and Europe.
- Topic “sustainable urbanization” has been included in the ICT WG focus, as it has been implemented in EU H2020 strategy and manifestation of interest for EU-CELAC cooperation in the field.
- Definition of mechanisms to include the Caribbean ICT sector into ICT LATPs.
- Mapping of smart cities’ initiatives in EU and LAC to promote opportunities among them (ongoing).

Suggestions:

- Support the participation of Startups in H2020 by overcoming barriers on rules for participation.
- Encourage the future establishment of a WG or Task Force on Sustainable Urbanization in the framework of EU-CELAC R&I cooperation, as well as the second Sector Dialogue with Brazil on NBS.
- Seize the benefits of the already existing tools for NBS co-creation.
- Common Research Area pillar “infrastructures”: Access to ICT-dedicated infrastructures, such as data processing and supercomputing centers, shall be included in the agenda for EU-CELAC bilateral collaboration. The current infrastructures need to be mapped and the viability for sharing shall be assessed.
- CRA pillar “global challenges”: Enhance cooperation and integration between the EU and CELAC in ICT and thereby contribute to the mutual development of policies and inclusiveness in this field. Thematic areas for cooperation shall be reviewed periodically by means of consultations among the members of the JIRI/ICT WG and the wider EU-CELAC SOM members.

Health

Background and leverage points:

- Established network of funding agencies, policy-makers and researchers that support the implementation of the Joint Initiative on Health Research and Innovation (JIRI-Health).
- Realization of a bi-regional Joint Call on two topics (neurodegenerative diseases and infectious diseases) end of 2016. 13 projects funded.
- Collaboration with other EU initiatives, such as RIs and Joint Programming Initiatives

Suggestions:

- Continue the support to the already established network JIRI-Health
- Promote the update of the scientific research agenda and bi-regional mapping
- Incorporate high issues in EU and CELAC agendas, such as personalized medicine
- Support EU-CELAC mobility and capacity building activities in health
- Implement joint activities, including non-communicable diseases and sustainable urbanization as potential Horizon 2020 large scale topics, devoted to international cooperation with the CELAC.

Energy

Background and leverage points:

- Workshops focused on Renewable Energies
- Joint bi-Regional Pilot Call on Ocean Energy and RIs will be launched end of 2017.
- Itinerant technical courses coordinated by leading Research Centers on geothermal energy.
- Elaboration of analysis, studies and preparation of specific reports in the EU-CELAC renewable energies area.
- Report on existing initiatives for supporting R&I and capacity building actions on renewable energy
- Inventory of Energy National RIs

Suggestions:

- Support the sustainability in bi-regional cooperation on energy ST&I taking into account the ongoing activities and projects.
- Increase the interaction with regional initiatives
- Promote the development of a tool to share any information aimed at harnessing the potential of renewable energy technologies to meet the energy needs.
- Keep promoting capacity building activities.

Session “Enhancing the Innovation dimension of the Common Research Area”

See separate documents:

- Concept Note Innovation AlcueNet Sept 2017 en.pdf
- Nota Conceptual Innovacion AlcueNet Sept 2017 sp.pdf