



ALCUE NET – Latin America, Caribbean and European Union Policy Dialogue Meeting on Renewable Energies

March 11-12, 2014
Foreign Ministry Affairs
Av. Juárez No.20, Col. Centro, Mexico City, Mexico

ALCUE NET - is a four and a half year project funded by the 7th Framework Programme of the European Union, which started in December 2012. The consortium is composed of eight countries from the European Union and eleven from Latin American and Caribbean countries, representing stakeholders from government and research. Its main goal is to strengthen bi-regional sustainable dialogue on Science and Technology between European (EU), Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries.

Scope and objectives

ALCUE NET main objective is to establish an EU-LAC platform bringing together actors involved in research and innovation orientation, funding and implementation, as well as other relevant stakeholders from the public and private sectors and the civil society, in an effort to support the development of more strategic and result-oriented partnerships in the context of bi-regional research policy cooperation frameworks.

In pursuing this general objective ALCUE NET seeks common visions on specific issues, coordinate activities and identify priorities of shared interest. Following the conclusions and recommendations from the Senior Officials Meetings (SOM) on Science and Technology, since Brussels in 2011 to Santiago in 2013 and in agreement with the activities mentioned in the Roadmap for the implementation of the EU-LAC Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation (JIRI), the project focus on achieving progress towards joint improvement of key aspects of societal challenges related to assuring high quality affordable food, energy, and climate change.

Background information on EU-CELAC Policy Dialogue¹

As a result of the European Union, Latin America and Caribbean (EU-CELAC) Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) hold on March 28-29, 2011 in Brussels, the working mechanism and roadmap to go forward the implementation of the EU-LAC Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation (JIRI) were approved.

¹ Background documents can be downloaded from: IV EU-LAC SUMMIT, Madrid, 18 May 2010 "Towards a new stage in the bi-regional partnership: innovation and technology for sustainable development and social inclusion"

JOINT INITIATIVE FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION:

http://eeas.europa.eu/lac/madrid2010/events/science/docs/20100226_st_som_final_doc_en.pdf

MADRID ACTION PLAN 2010-2012: http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/er/114540.pdf

MADRID DECLARATION: http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/er/114535.pdf

The Joint Initiative aims at contributing to sustainable development and social inclusion in six priority areas of cooperation² related to key global societal challenges as mentioned in the Innovation Union Communication³.

During the Senior Officials Meeting the renewable energies area was one of the specific areas⁴ selected for defining and develop bi-regional activities on which the enhanced bi-regional cooperation will be developed within the framework of the Joint Initiative.

The overall definition of the bi-regional pilot activities includes the definition of precise and result oriented issues and objectives in order to deliver measurable results in the medium term; the identification of relevant on-going or planned national, regional and bi-regional activities; and an implementation plan covering research as well as innovation.

In order to develop said pilot activities the thematic working groups established at the SOM 2011 to go forward the implementation of the JIRI have been supported by several initiatives and projects, like EULARINET Project, which concrete results in the Renewable Energies area include:

- Basic lines of EU-LAC cooperation in bioenergy, solar energy and wind energy
- Working documents on EU-LAC joint priorities in the three areas
- Subareas for potential collaboration and topics were identified in line with the priorities of the SET Plan and LAC
- Proposals for activities in renewable energies for the consideration of the Renewable Energies SOM Working Group

The Renewable Energies SOM Working Group co-lead by CONACYT Mexico and MINECO Spain, has worked in a series of recommendations for pilot activities that have been presented to EU-LAC Senior Officials. In the EU-LAC Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) that took place on April 2013 in Brussels, the lines for action for pilot activities for potential EU-LAC collaboration in renewable energies presented include:

- Coordinated activities funded through specific projects, joint/coordinated calls and 'twinning'.
- Actions to promote and support networking and exchanges between research organisations in on-going or planned projects, and for the establishment of thematic networks and strengthening capacity building and regulatory framework.
- The development of long term strategic proposals in order to better linking research and technological cooperation structures and nets as a first step towards what, in the medium or long term, could become LAC Technological Platforms on renewable energies.

In order to achieve the above objectives the ALCUENET Project is acting as a concrete support mechanism for bi-regional S&T policy dialogue according to the recommendations of the Summit Process and SOM meetings.

² Priority areas of cooperation: Energy, Environment and Climate Change, Agro Food, Health, Information and Communication Technologies, and horizontal activities regarding S&T policies focused in both institutional and human capital formation.

³ Innovation Union key documents, including the Innovation Union Communication can be downloaded from: http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm?pg=keydocs

⁴ Bio-economy, including food security, Biodiversity and Climate Change, ICT and Renewable Energies.

ALCUENET activities in Renewable Energies

To advance in the objectives of the project the implementation process has been organized around different thematic areas, one of them addressing Societal Challenges through action in the Energy thematic priority of the Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation components.

The activities within ALCUE NET in the Energy thematic area, and more specifically in Renewable Energies, are aimed to lead up to the implementation of specific activities expecting to eventually evolve into a full bi-regional cooperation platform or net involving all relevant stakeholders and undertaking support activities ranging from foresight to agenda setting and actual joint instrument implementation in the energy theme.

At the operational specific level ALCUE NET is contributing to support the S&T bi-regional dialogue throughout the organization of the *ALCUE NET - Latin America, Caribbean - European Union Policy Dialogue Meeting on Renewable Energies* that will take place in Mexico City on March 11th – 12th, 2014 which will be focused in renewable energies.

Objectives of the Meeting

The meeting we are inviting you to participate in Mexico City will be focused on the Bi-regional dialogue on EU-LAC R&I cooperation related to energy research agendas. This policy dialogue involves key actors from governmental institutions as well as representatives from international organizations, universities and NGOs and experts from EU-LAC countries who will provide inputs regarding energy policies, programmes and instruments in order to

- a) foster coordination of national programme priorities, joint initiatives development and good practices activities,
- b) advance in designing mechanisms and measures to stimulate synergy among the proposed activities.
- c) review inputs for the Senior Official Meeting in 2014.

During the plenary sessions, relevant EU-LAC initiatives related to renewable energies will be presented with the aim to improve quality and effectiveness of scientific and technological cooperation through increased exchange information.

Based on the information previously distributed and presented in the plenary sessions, the participants will be encouraged to explore the possibilities to working jointly with other institutions in matters related to applied research and technological innovation in renewable energies looking for synergies.

Your participation and contribution to the works of this works will certainly be valuable in providing proposals for action and implementation.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate in contacting us: Moira Karosuo at mkarosuo@conacyt.mx



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Preliminary Agenda

Tuesday, March 11 th , 2014	
8:30 h	Registration
9:00 h	Welcome and opening - Ministry of Foreign Affairs – S.R.E. <i>Ambassador Bruno Figueroa, Director General for Technical and Scientific Cooperation</i> - National Council for Science and Technology – CONACYT Mexico <i>Dr. Arturo Borja Tamayo, Director of International Cooperation, CONACYT</i> - Ministry of Economic Affairs and Competitiveness –MINECO Spain <i>Dr. Luis Guasch, Directorate of International and European Relations, MINECO, Spain</i> - Ministry of Energy – SENER <i>Eng. Carlos Ortiz Gómez, General Director for Information and Energy Studies, SENER, Mexico</i> - Delegation of the European Commission to Mexico <i>Dr. Juan Garay Amores, Head of Cooperation EU Delegation to Mexico</i>
9:20 h	Introduction of participants
9:40 h	The EU Strategy for international cooperation in research and innovation – H2020 EU-LAC regional cooperation for research and innovation <i>Dr. Juan Garay Amores, Head of Cooperation EU Delegation to Mexico (TBC)</i>
10:00 h	The current scenario of the EU-CELAC collaboration on research and Innovation- Political Framework - The JIRI: general ideas, objectives and structure - The SOM working groups and the pilot Initiatives - EU-CELAC Action-Plan 2013-2015 and Road map <i>Ministry of Economic Affairs and Competitiveness –MINECO Spain</i>
10:15 h	Bi-regional dialogue on EU-LAC R&I cooperation related to energy research agendas ALCUE NET: Summary of objectives, activities and expected results
10:35 h	Bi-regional S&T Cooperation activities on Renewable Energies - EU-LAC activities: - ERANet-LAC: Summary of objectives, activities and expected results - Overview of the main outputs from ENLACE and EUCARINET (Video) <i>Jimena Arango, MENON, Belgium (TBC)</i>
10:50 h	Coffee Break

11:15	Basis for the strategic analysis on the potential of ST&I in renewable energies-EU-LAC activities • Overview of the main outputs from ALCUENET <i>Eng. Verónica Perna, Advisor for Renewable Energies at the Energy National Directorate, Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mines, Uruguay – MIEM-DNE</i>	
11:30	EU-LAC initiatives in Renewable Energies and the JIRI Implementation (Road map) Opportunities for collaboration – The Renewable Energies Working Group • CONACYT – MINECO	
11:45	Potential instruments and mechanisms for cooperation actions • Discussion on synergies between EU-LAC initiatives (ETPs, OLADE, IRENA, CYTED....)	
12:45	Presentation of possible topics to be considered in the activities of the ERA-Net LAC calls (Discussion on concrete suggestions concerning topics for the calls)	
14:00 h		
Lunch		
Parallel Working Sessions		
16:00	Potential instruments and mechanisms for cooperation actions <i>Discussion on synergies between EU-LAC initiatives (ETPs, OLADE, IRENA, CYTED....)</i>	ERA-Net LAC: topics to be considered in the activities of the ERA-Net LAC calls <i>Discussion on concrete suggestions concerning topics for the calls</i>
17:00	Opportunities and Policy Needs: Principal constraints and opportunities – discussion and recommendations on how to go forward	
17:30 h	Elaboration of draft document with recommendations/actions/topics for joint initiatives 2014-2015 – ALCUENET Thematic Report on Renewable Energies	
18:15		
End of sessions		

Wednesday, March 12 th , 2014		
9:00	Review of draft document with recommendations/actions/topics for joint initiatives 2014-2015 - ALCUENET Thematic Report on Renewable Energies	
10:15	Elaboration of general recommendations for action plan	
11:15 h	Coffee Break	
11:40	RE EU-LAC-TPlatform-Nets - Actions to promote and support networking - establishment of thematic networks and strengthening capacity building and regulatory framework. - Development of long term strategic proposals (linking research and technological cooperation structures and nets – EU-LAC Technological Platforms on renewable energies).	
12:30	Wrap up and closure	
13:00 h	End of sessions	

EU-CELAC SOM

Renewable Energies Working Group Meeting

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The Renewable Energies SOM Working Group co-lead by CONACYT Mexico and MINECO Spain, has worked in a series of recommendations for pilot activities that have been presented to EU-LAC Senior Officials. In the EU-LAC Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) that took place on April 2013 in Brussels, the lines for action for pilot activities for potential EU-LAC collaboration in renewable energies presented include:

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In order to advance in the JIRI implementation, the Renewable Energies SOM Working Group will meet in Mexico City on March 12th, 2014 to review their progress, the results from the workshops and meetings and agree on aspects oriented to the implementation of the pilot activities and the way to go forward towards the SOM 2014.

Draft Agenda

Wednesday, March 12 th , 2014	
15:00 h	Welcome and opening • Ministry of Foreign Affairs – S.R.E <i>Ambassador Bruno Figueroa, Director General for Technical and Scientific Cooperation</i> • National Council for Science and Technology – CONACYT Mexico <i>Dr. Arturo Borja Tamayo, Director of International Cooperation, CONACYT</i> • Ministry of Economic Affairs and Competitiveness –MINECO Spain <i>Dr. Luis Guasch, Directorate of International and European Relations, MINECO, Spain</i> • Ministry of Energy – SENER <i>Eng. Carlos Ortiz Gómez, General Director for Information and Energy Studies, SENER, Mexico</i>
15:10 h	Introduction of participants
15:20 h	Brief on the progress of the working group and results
15:40 h	Aspects oriented to the implementation of the pilot activities: • Approach to EU-LAC cooperation in ST&I in RE • EU-LAC activities: expectations, objectives, action lines (JIRI-ALCUENET, ERANetLAC, CYTED, etc.)
16:40 h	Coffee Break
17:00 h	Elaboration – presentation of the Draft Thematic Report on RE for Concept Note to be presented in the next SOM in Costa Rica • Recommendations and inputs for the SOM 2014 (Draft concept note on RE)
18:00 h	The SOM working group and the pilot Initiatives: Round table –discussion and recommendations on how to go forward (next steps)
18:30 h	Closure and remarks

18:40 h

End of Meeting