



European Union- Latin America and Caribbean Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation

EU-LAC SOM WORKING GROUP IN RENEWABLE ENERGIES

CONACYT Mexico
MINECO Spain



BACKGROUND



As a result of the European Union, Latin America and Caribbean (**EULAC**) Senior Officials Meeting (**SOM**) held on March 28-29, 2011 in Brussels, (a) the working mechanism and roadmap to go forward the implementation of the EU-LAC Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation (**JIRI**) was approved, (b) specific areas for bi-regional pilot activities were selected and (c) four working groups were established to develop the pilots

The JIRI ¹

aims at contributing to sustainable development and social inclusion in **six priority areas** of cooperation related to key global societal challenges as mentioned in the Innovation Union Communication²

Priority areas:

1. **Energy**
2. Environment and Climate Change
3. Agro Food
4. Health
5. ICT
6. Horizontal activities regarding S&T policies focused in both institutional and human capital formation

Working Groups:

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

¹JIRI: http://eeas.europa.eu/lac/madrid2010/events/science/docs/20100226_st_som_final_doc_en.pdf

²Innovation Union key documents, including the Innovation Union Communication: http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm?pg=keydocs



THE EU-LAC SOM WORKING GROUP IN RENEWABLE ENERGIES



General Objectives: To define and develop bi-regional pilot activities on which the enhanced bi-regional cooperation will be developed within the framework of the Joint Initiative (Bio-economy, including food security, Biodiversity and Climate Change, ICT and **Renewable Energies**).

Co-Leaders:

- Mexico (Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología - CONACYT)
- Spain (Ministerio de Economía y Competitividad – MEC)

Partners:

- Argentina (Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva –MINCYT)
- Brazil (Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico -CNPq)
- Costa Rica (Institute of Technology of Costa Rica)
- Nicaragua (Consejo Nicaragüense de Ciencia y Tecnología-CONICYT)
- France (Ministry of National Education/French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission)
- European Commission
- Germany

After Concepción 2012:

- Bolivia
- Chile (CONICYT)
- Peru(CONCYTEC –UNI)
- Uruguay (Ministerio de Industria, Energía y Minería)



WORK PROCESS



- Working group strongly coordinated with the INCONet EULARINET with regard to the activities that have been programmed in support to the implementation of the JIRI.
- Active role of ETPs, strong commitment from the members from Spain
- Extremely good participation of Latin American and European experts in supporting the WG

PHASE1:

- a) Meetings for discussing the Background documents on EU-LAC joint priorities (Madrid, May 2011 and GENERA 2011)
- b) Series of videoconferences with EU-LAC experts on solar, photovoltaic, wind energies as well as bioenergy (documents in <http://www.eularinet.eu/site/events/language:eng>)

PHASE 2: Two workshops supported by the INCONet EULARINET focused in the definition of bi-regional pilot activities

- a) Rio de Janeiro, 31stAugust –1stSeptember 2011 (Wind Energy)
- b) Mexico, 21st-22ndSeptember 2011(Bio-energy and Solar Energy)
- c) Mexico, 21st-22nd October 2013 ALCUENET- CYTED meeting (Redefining topics including energy efficiency)

P1+P2 : EU-LAC stakeholders and experts from industry, academy and policy makers, European Commission and the EU-Technology Platforms were invited to collaborate to identify opportunities, possibilities for policy coordination, instruments for financing joint research, technology development and innovation activities in solar energy -both



WORK PROCESS



PHASE3:

- Funding agencies were approached (BID, LAIF, AECID, FAI)
- As starting point funding schemes in Mexico and Spain explored

Primary results:

- Basic lines of EU-LAC cooperation in bioenergy, solar energy and wind energy identified
- Working documents on EU-LAC joint priorities in the three areas were produced
- Subareas for potential collaboration and topics identified in line with the priorities of the SET Plan and LAC

Pilot activities for proposals were grouped into three modalities:

1. Coordinated activities
2. Actions to promote and support networking and exchanges between research organisations in on-going or planned projects
3. Opening of programmes in the targeted areas to participation (without funding) of organisations from other EU-LAC countries involved in the group -To be explored



SPECIFIC AREAS OF COMMON INTEREST



Research and innovation areas of common interest for potential collaboration:

BIOENERGY

- Biomass availability and supply
- Markets and regulatory framework

WIND ENERGY

- Wind Resource Assessment and short term forecasting
- Large Wind Turbines
- Social Acceptance & Removing barriers

- ☐ Improve conversion processes
- ☐ Sustainability

EFFICIENCY

- ☐ Integration of PV in buildings areas
- ☐ Advance grid integration

- ☐ Small Wind Turbines regional tecnolo

- ☐ Low thermal in buildings
- ☐ Medium thermal industrial applications

SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC

- Quality Assurance Procedures
- Stand alone systems

Studies of solar resources

SOLAR THERMAL

- Thermal energy storage & Thermochemical
- Quality Infrastructure (Standardization, Metrology, Accreditation)



OPERATIONAL PLANS TO DELIVER ON THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES



Ways to go forward in the proposed activities which include the research areas identified as most potential:

1. Coordinated activities

a. Joint calls

- Joint call for bi- tri- or multilateral cooperation on Biomass availability and Conversion processes in three selected topics complementarily with the topics selected by the Bio economy working group on these areas.
- A set of joint calls for proposals for bi- tri- or multilateral cooperation on photovoltaic, thermal and wind energy on the selected topics (6)

b. Project based proposals in bio-energy and solar energy (Possibilities to be proposed as such before funding agencies, i.e. IADB-Mexico)

c. Expansion of potential on-going national projects with focus on the research subareas identified (possibilities for twining)

2. Actions to promote and support networking and exchanges between research organisations in on-going or planned projects

a. Establishment of thematic networks (activities supported by INCONets)

b. Capacity building (mobility)

c. Policy dialogue meetings and regulatory frameworks

d. Long term strategical proposal

3. Opening of programmes in the targeted areas to participation of organisations from other EU-LAC countries involved in the group – Ex. IDEAS/IADB-Mexico



OPERATIONAL PLANS



- Short term– support by INCONETs
 - Establishment of thematic networks
 - Capacity building (mobility, others)
 - Policy dialogue meetings and regulatory frameworks
- Short - Medium term 2014– countries' compromise & funding agencies
 - Joint calls
 - **Joint call in cooperation on Biomass availability and Conversion processes in selected topics complementarily with the ones selected by the Bio-economy WG**
 - A set of joint calls for proposals for multilateral cooperation on photovoltaic, thermal and wind energy on the selected topics (6)
 - **Project based proposals** in bio-energy and solar energy (Possibilities to be proposed to funding agencies, i.e. IADB, others) / **new projects**



OPERATIONAL PLANS



- Medium term / 2014-15 – countries' compromise & funding agencies
 - **Expansion of potential on-going national projects** with focus on the research subareas identified (possibilities for twinning) – international linkages
 - **Opening of programs** in the targeted areas to participation of organizations from other EU-LAC countries involved in the group – Ex. IDEAS/IADB-Mexico
- Long term 2020...
 - Long term strategic proposal: framing pilot activity which may include a range of actions covering common cross-cutting topics identified in all areas -solar thermal energy, solar photovoltaic energy, bioenergy and wind energy. (Potential for IADB)



THANK YOU

CONACYT Mexico
MINECO Spain