



Twining Experience

Promoting EU 7th Framework Programme (FP7) collaboration between South Africa and Czech Republic (CR) researchers

The working visit of CR researchers to South African research institutes and universities took place during 15 – 19 January 2007. The aim of the visit was to initiate collaboration with the objective of developing joint proposals for the EU FP7, particularly in Thematic Priority 2; Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology. The visit was organised within the EU Specific Support Action ESASTAP – European-South African Science and Technology Advancement Programme

(<http://www.esastap.org.za/esastap/home/index.php>) and Food-N-Co, which aims to facilitate participation of researchers from third countries in EU research programmes. During this visit, two workshops and several bi-lateral meetings were organised by Dr. Geoff Meese, South African National Contact Point (NCP) for FP7 Thematic Priority 2, with the help of his colleagues from CSIR and other research institutions.

The CR visitors were Professor Jana Hajslova from the Institute of Chemical Technology in Prague, a specialist in food chemistry and food analysis. Professor Hajslova is one of the CR's most experienced participants in EU Framework Programmes and is actively involved in four current EU projects. The other CR expert, Professor Katerina Demnerova, working in the same institute, is the head of the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology and also has considerable experience resulting from participation in several EU projects. She is coordinating the preparation of an EU project for the 1st call.

The third member of the CR delegation was Ms Nada Konickova, CR NCP for

Theme 2, who gave an overview of the „CR research area“, national research priorities and results achieved in FP6 Thematic Priority 5 (Food Quality and Safety)“ at the initial workshop held at the The Innovation Hub (<http://www.theinnovationhub.com/>) in Pretoria. At the same venue, both CR Professors presented the activities and achievements of their institute and proposed concrete areas for possible future collaboration. The presentations of research activities of the SA counterparts were an integral part of this workshop, and subsequent bilateral meetings gave the opportunity to discuss the collaboration ideas in detail.

Institutions visited by the CR delegation included CSIR-Biosciences, University of Pretoria and University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. A most interesting visit was to the industrial company African Products Ltd. who specialise in starch production and processing. The visit of the CR researchers to South Africa fulfilled the expectations, useful contacts were established and follow-up actions are being planned.

The presentations from the South Africa –CR workshops are available on:

http://www.esastap.org.za/esastap/events/events_past.php

Nada Konickova, BIO NCP, Czech Republic.

Geoff Meese, BIO NCP, South Africa



Thanks to the MEDA go to Europe project, 10 countries discover the Meurice Institute!

On March 6 & 7th, representatives from technical centres, university laboratories and consultants from the Food technology area from 10 countries visited the Meurice Institute. This visit was organized by the Brussels Enterprise Agency as part of a training session on the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Development of the EU (FP7) organized within the MEDA go to Europe project.

During this visit, the Food Technology department, led by Mrs Annick Masson, made very promising contacts, paving the way for possible future European projects or collaborations with research institutions in countries such as Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, or Egypt

Co-financed by the European Commission, MEDA go to Europe has two main goals:

- Train and help SMEs and researchers from Mediterranean Countries to take part in European Research and development projects in the “Food, Agriculture & Fisheries, Biotechnology” Theme of FP7.
- Train intermediaries in those countries to help their SMEs and researchers participate in European research projects “Food, Agriculture & Fisheries, Biotechnology” Theme of FP7.

If you are looking for partners for your European projects in the “Food, Agriculture & Fisheries, Biotechnology” theme in Morocco, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon or Algeria, MEDA go to Europe can help you thanks to its contacts in those countries.

Contact us to gain time and include valuable partners from those countries in your projects!

For any information on how we can help you free of charge, contact Erwan LE GUEN – elg@bea.irisnet.be



Find partners for your European “Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Biotechnology” projects in South Africa thanks to Food N Co!

You want to build a European research project in the 7th Framework programme for Research and development of the EU In FP7 even more than in FP6, South African researchers can also take part in European research projects.

Thanks to its participation in the Food N Co network, set up to help European coordinators find partners in non-EU countries, the Brussels Enterprise Agency can help you find reliable partners in South Africa.

As a matter of fact, **Geoff Meese, from CSIR in South Africa**, member of Food N Co, **is our local contact to find the partners in South Africa** for your projects in the “Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Biotechnology” research theme of FP7.

If you want to get a first look by yourself, a good “door” to the research and development carried out in South Africa is the interactive Scientific and Technological landscape map which you can find under

<http://www.dst.gov.za/landscape/lanscape.html>. Contact details and websites of these institutions will help you find the partners you need!

The Food N Co network also covers Argentina, Tunisia, Morocco, Serbia, Brazil, Egypt, Jordan, Croatia, Mexico and China – where a local partner is there and helps you find companies or researchers interested in taking part in European projects.

If you are building a European project...the best way to find a partner in “Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Biotechnology” is to contact the local Food-N-Co partner – their contact details are under: <http://www.food-n-co.net/ncp.html>!

Our services are free, don’t hesitate to contact us and integrate reliable high-quality partners from the countries of the Food-N-Co network!

Courses- Seminars

EUROBIOTECH 2007

First International "Biotechnology in Agriculture" Conference organized by the Agricultural University of Cracow, the Jagiellonian University and Targi w Krakowie Sp. z o.o, under a common initiative called EUROBIOTECH.

25-27 April 2007, Krakow, Poland

More info:

http://www.targi.krakow.pl/targi,EUROBIOTECH_I_Miedzynarodowa_Konferencja_i_Targi_Biotechnologia_w_Rolnictwie.html



4th Symposium on Biosorption and Bioremediation

The symposium will take place in Prague, the capital city of the Czech republic, August 26- 30, 2007, in Hotel Moevenpick. There is the on-line registration form on the website <http://bab07.vscht.cz> .You can find all the details for on-line abstract submission and the preliminary scientific programme there. Further speakers will be selected on a basis of the submitted abstracts. Please note, that the applications for FEMS Young Scientist Travel Grant are to be submitted to the organizing committee before March 28th, 2007.

3rd International Symposium on RECENT ADVANCES IN FOOD ANALYSIS - 7–9 November, 2007 Prague, Czech Republic

The 2007 symposium will be organised in Prague again with emphasis on advanced analytical technologies and food-related applications, being presented by leading scientists through invited lectures and contributed oral and poster presentations. Moreover, this time a special session will be organised in which the floor will be given to young scientists.

The scientific program will cover both analytical technologies and food analysis applications.

For further information, http://www.iaec.ch/food_symposium/food_home.html