

# Towards an EC policy on International S&T Cooperation

András Siegler  
Director  
European Commission, DG Research

## Outline

- Why **I**nternational **S**cientific **C**ooperation at Community level?
- Why should EU invest in ISC?
- Where - How in FP7 ?

## Why International Scientific Cooperation?

**21st century: a new reality is emerging**

- **Global competitiveness**  
Ability to generate, absorb and apply new knowledge  
Achieve sustainability, prosperity and growth
- **The scientific challenges are more global**  
MDGs, Big science projects
- **Underpin other policies on international relations**  
trade, dev't, environment, energy, infocom, etc.

## Why should EU invest in International Scientific Cooperation?

**Dual role of ISC:**

- 1. To carry out better science**
- 2. To pursue broader policy goals via scientific achievements**

## Strategic objectives of an ISC strategy for Europe

- **Making world-wide scientific excellence available for Europe** - promote knowledge circulation, structured access to globally scattered knowledge, training, visa measures etc.
- **Support sustainable European competitiveness** through strategic partnerships with third countries in selected fields of science - e.g. explore new markets e.g. via ETPs
- **Address specific problems** third countries face based on shared interest and benefit - e.g. MDGs, GEO
- **Address global challenges** within the Communities international commitments (e.g. ITER, GEANT)
- S&T cooperation to reinforce the Community's **external relations and international commitments**

## The proposed approach: **Strategic frameworks**

- Build on existing structures and dialogues with non-EU countries/regions
- Prioritise and concentrate in line with EC policies
- Align EU programmes and funding schemes to implement agreed priorities

### Steps in setting up a strategic Framework:

- Selection of **EC priorities** on ISC per country/region
- Identification of **shared priorities** per country/region
- Implement (a limited number) of priorities as (thematic) platforms

E.g.: Euro-Med Partnership with MPCs  
ASEM aquaculture platform

## International Scientific Cooperation

Where - How in the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme ?

## International Scientific Cooperation

### ➤ Where ? (1)

The **Cooperation SP** will support the bulk of international S&T cooperation activity (thematic research) within the context of the individual themes (2 mechanisms: **opening** of mainstream activities and **specific cooperation actions** with shared interest and benefit)

The **Capacities SP** is open to the participation of third countries through Research Infrastructures, SMEs and Science in Society.

The **Capacities SP** also has **dedicated International Cooperation Activities** which will support the policy making and priority setting, that should then be used to shape the Themes' approach

## International Scientific Cooperation

### ➤ Where ? (2)

The **People SP** will keep the good tradition with the Marie Curie international fellowships' incoming and outgoing fellowships and countries with S&T agreements.

**Outgoing fellowships** with mandatory return (reintegration of European researchers abroad).

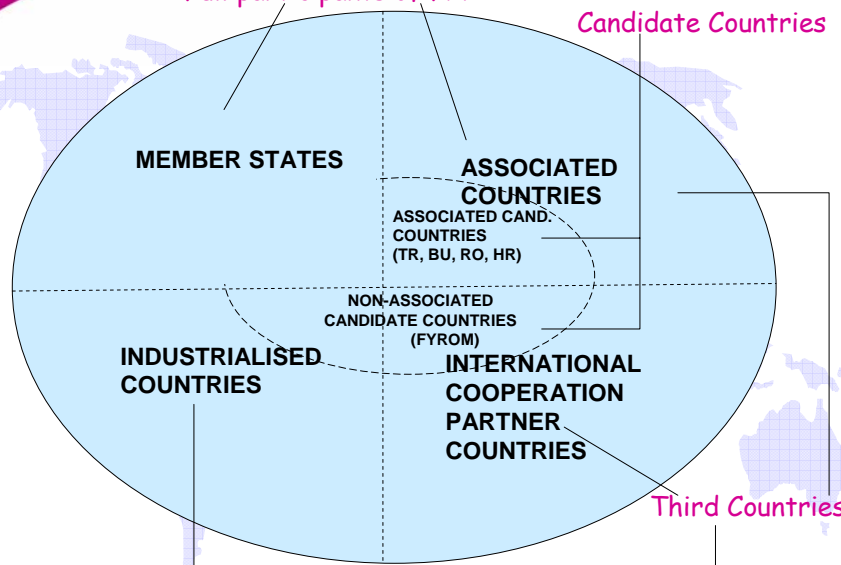
**For 3rd Country Researchers:** Host-Driven actions, Incoming individual fellowships, Schemes for Neighbouring countries and those with S&T Agreement; Scientific "Diaspora" of Europeans abroad and foreigners in Europe.

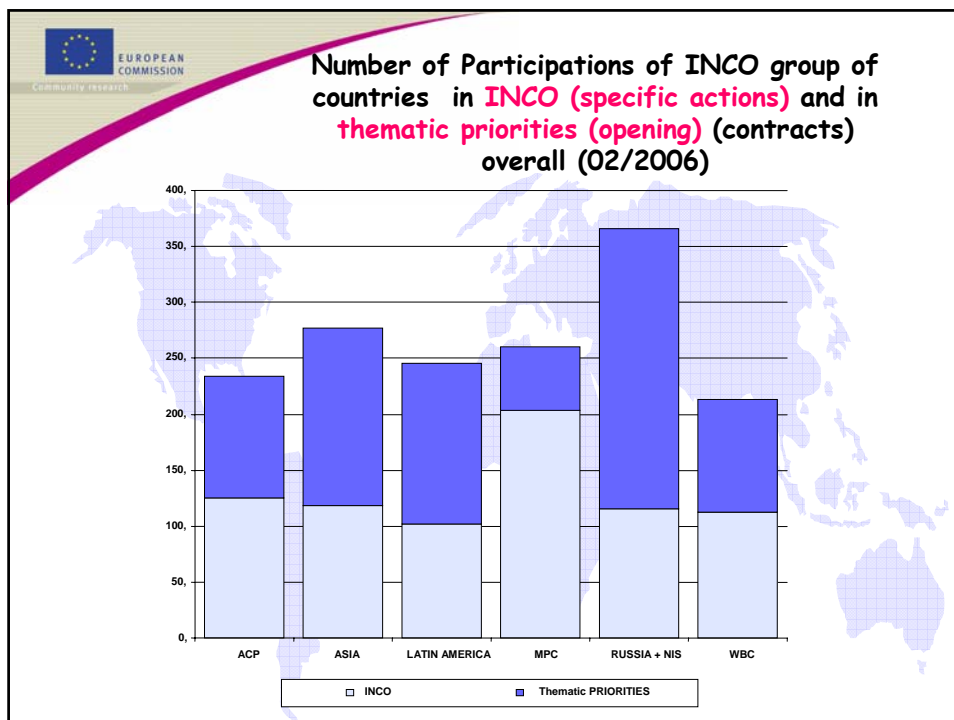
The **Ideas SP** will offer the possibility for individual research teams to invite third country researchers on the merit of their scientific excellence


## FP7 - Participating countries

Full participants of FP7

Candidate Countries






**Capacities - International Cooperation**

Coordination of the international cooperation actions under the different programmes and across Themes

**CAP - the vehicle for this coordination activity**

**Aim :**  
 To strengthen overall coordination to ensure a coherent approach and develop synergies with other Community policies (RELEX, DEV, Trade, ENV...)

## Capacities - International Cooperation

Coordination of the international cooperation actions  
under the different programmes and across Themes

### CAP - the vehicle for this coordination activity

**Aim** : to strengthen overall coordination to ensure a  
coherent approach and develop synergies with other  
Community policies

**Means:**

- Policy Dialogue
- S&T Cooperation Partnerships
- Coordination of National Policies & Activities

**Indicative budget: 182 M€/7 years**

## Challenges and opportunities

- ❖ **How** can the international cooperation activities  
be **coordinated effectively** (with all actors)
- ❖ **How** can the **budgetary** commitment for **specific**  
international cooperation **actions in Cooperation SP**  
**be ensured** (specific calls, dedicated quota ?)
- ❖ **How** can the **geographic** and **thematic diversity** of  
third country collaborations **be maintained** ?  
(collaboration only with selected countries?)