

# **WINDS-Caribe Newsletter**

## ***Fostering EU-Caribbean ICT research cooperation***

Issue 6, November 2009  
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Welcome to the sixth and last issue of the **WINDS-Caribe Newsletter "Fostering EU-Caribbean ICT research cooperation"**, produced by the WINDS-Caribe project with the support of the European Commission (Seventh Framework Programme for RTD), presenting reflections, news and events related to Europe-Caribbean cooperation in ICT research.

With the end of December 2009, the WINDS-Caribe project comes to an end. Taking the opportunity of this newsletter, we would like to thank all of you for your participation and for your feedbacks, comments and ideas; we hope that our activities have contributed to increase the potential for cooperation in ICT research between the Caribbean region and Europe.

Enjoy your reading,

[The WINDS-Caribe team](#)

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After two years of intense and challenging work, including three national conferences in the Caribbean, several workshops, presentations and information sessions, online discussions, six released newsletters, a broad consultation on strategic ICT research cooperation, and a final seminar in Brussels, WINDS-Caribe has reached the end of its expected lifecycle.

The WINDS-Caribe project has represented the first efforts aimed to put in place a context-driven network focusing on EU-Caribbean cooperation on a regional scale, taking into account the needs and requirements of stakeholders (universities, companies, research centres, researchers, regulatory/governance entities, NGOs, and international agencies, among others) from both sides of the Atlantic. Since this project is novel on its structure, scope and objectives, the process implementation was very challenging and presented interesting results that can be useful for further actions in the region.

WINDS-Caribe, a support action funded by the European Commission (FP7 for RTD – DG INFSO), aimed to deepen strategic research and development cooperation between Europe and the Caribbean region in the field of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and to facilitate involvement of researchers from the Caribbean in the FP7. The project, lasting from January 2008 to December 2009, covered the English, French, and Spanish speaking Caribbean.

The main results of the project up-to-date are the following:

- A **Report** on ICT research actors, themes and dynamics in the Caribbean
- A **Database** on Caribbean ICT R&D actors & projects
- A **website** dedicated to EU-Caribbean ICT research cooperation and including a **Virtual Community** environment for discussion and collaboration: [www.winds-lac.eu](http://www.winds-lac.eu)
- Six **eNewsletters** on EU-Caribbean cooperation in ICT research
- One EU-Caribbean Cooperation **Conference** in Martinique (11-12 Dec 08)
- One EU-Caribbean Cooperation **Conference** in Dominican Republic (5-6 Feb 09)
- One EU-Cuba Cooperation **Seminar** in Cuba (10 Feb 09)
- One EU-Caribbean Cooperation **Conference** in Jamaica (18-19 March 09)
- An **open consultation** process that will lead to a consensus-based roadmap for future R&D in an Caribbean-EU collaboration perspective
- One EU-Caribbean Cooperation **Seminar** in Brussels (20 Oct 09)

The success of the project was gauged by the high level of interest and participation, especially by Caribbean research actors, in the different ICT-FP7 opportunities of collaboration proposed by WINDS-Caribe. This has contributed to the reinforcement of the EU-Caribbean cooperation in the area of ICT RTD, and the detection and recording of thriving regional projects and practices of mutual benefit and interest.

The WINDS-Caribe implementation was reinforced by the previous experience of [WINDS-Latin America](#) project and, in particular, by the strong expertise and diversity of the members of the consortium, including leading partners and well-known academic institutions in the Caribbean and Europe. The effectiveness of WINDS-Caribe can be tested against the increased awareness on the importance and the possibilities of EU-Caribbean cooperation in ICT research, the number of research organisations involved in the project activities, and the appealing EU-Caribbean dialogue that took place in the final seminar in Brussels.

**After December 2009, complete documentation on the WINDS-Caribe activities and online services, such as the database or the Virtual Community, will continue being available through the website [www.winds-lac.eu](http://www.winds-lac.eu).**

## EUCARINET: new opportunities of scientific cooperation for Caribbean Countries and Europe

Direct support for EU-Caribbean cooperation in research from the side of the European Commission, will not end with the end of WINDS-Caribe, since a brand new project will be starting soon.

The project EUCARINET, actually in the negotiation phase, is a four-year INCONET Coordination Action whose main goal is to strengthen bi-regional sustainable policy dialogue on Science and Technology (including in the ICT field) between EU Member and Associated States and the Caribbean Region, the Caribbean ACP countries, the overseas departments, and the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs). The consortium will run under the coordination of APRE with the following partners: CERCAL, MENON, CIRAD, EGL, UAB, COMSEC, CARICOM, UWI, UAG, UNIBE, CITMA, UNA. It will cover the whole Caribbean, with partners in Italy, Belgium, France, Netherlands, Spain, United Kingdom, Guyana, Jamaica, Guadeloupe, Dominican Republic, Cuba, and Netherlands Antilles.

The main goal of the project is to establish a long lasting sustainable bi-regional multi-stakeholders policy dialogue on S&T at policy, programme and institutional (research entities) level, thus contributing to a threefold objective:

- Create the conditions of the sustainable multi-stakeholders policy dialogue on S&T between the European Union, its member states, its associated states and the Caribbean Region, leading to a joint definition of S&T co-operation policies;
- Foster interregional (UE-Caribbean) and intraregional cooperation in leading to the identification and prioritization of common research areas of mutual interest and benefit;
- Stimulate and support the participation of the Caribbean research stakeholders in FP7, with a first emphasis on the "People Programme".

For reaching this purpose, EUCARINET will take advantage, among others, of the services and the experience made in WINDS-Caribe.

More information will soon be available at: [www.eucarinet.eu](http://www.eucarinet.eu)

## WINDS-Caribe Seminar in Brussels

The WINDS-Caribe Seminar “**Fostering EU-Caribbean cooperation in ICT research**” took place at the ACP Secretariat in Brussels on October 20, 2009. The event was the last public gathering organised by the WINDS-Caribe project and represented a consolidation of the dissemination, knowledge sharing and consultation actions that WINDS-Caribe has coordinated and fostered since its launch in 2008.



Besides of being a key activity of the WINDS-Caribe project, the Seminar must be seen in the broader context of EU-Caribbean cooperation in the field of research and of ICT. In this sense, the event represented the first gathering of European and Caribbean actors in the field of ICT research and for this reason was perceived by many participants as a moment of opening towards a stronger cooperation among decision makers and stakeholders dealing with ICT from Europe and the Caribbean.

In addition, the Seminar was a rather unusual opportunity for networking and brokerage among research stakeholders from Europe and from the Caribbean, since it represented a unique meeting occasion for EU researchers with a delegation of more than 15 Caribbean representatives, including researchers from some of the most prestigious research institutions in the region and the most active networks in ICT research. This excellence was mirrored in the showcase about ICT research success stories from Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Martinique, and Jamaica, which took place during the Seminar.

The event gathered 63 participants, including representatives from the most prestigious research institutions in the Caribbean, some of the main European ICT research networks, ICT industry, university networks, the Caribbean Embassies in Brussels, and the European Commission.



We would like to thank all the participants, especially all of those who came from the Caribbean region, to be part of this important meeting.

To read more about the event, please visit the [Seminar page](#) on the WINDS-Caribe website. There you will be able to download the presentations that were given at the event. The Seminar was video-recorded: a video of the most important moments as well as the Proceedings of the event will be made available soon.

## European Technology Platforms: good resources for cooperation

European Technology Platforms focus on strategic issues where achieving Europe's future growth, competitiveness and sustainability depends upon major technological advances. They bring together stakeholders, led by industry, to define medium to long-term research and technological development objectives and lay down markers for achieving them.



The achievement of these objectives will significantly improve the daily lives of the European citizen in many areas. Technology platforms play a key role in better aligning EU research priorities to industry's needs. They cover the whole economic value chain, ensuring that knowledge generated through research is transformed into technologies and processes, and ultimately into marketable products and services. New technologies leading to radical change in a sector, if developed and deployed appropriately and in time.

Nine European Technology Platforms exist in the ICT field:

- [eMobility](#): the Mobile and Wireless Communications Technology Platform
- [ENIAC](#): Nanoelectronics
- [EUROP](#): the European Robotics Platform
- [ISI](#): Satellite Communications
- [NESSI](#): Networked Software & Services
- [NEM](#): the Networked and Electronic Media Initiative
- [Photonics21](#): Photonics
- [EPoSS](#): Smart Systems Technologies

ETPs are open to international cooperation and do encourage Third Countries research organisations to get in contact with them to explore possible cooperation.

ETPs are also a good way to be updated on the latest developments in a specific ICT sector in Europe.

To know more please visit: [http://cordis.europa.eu/technology-platforms/home\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/technology-platforms/home_en.html)

## Working bonds at the WINDS-Caribe Virtual Community

The WINDS-Caribe Virtual Community has been up and running for a while. It will keep playing its role beyond the time-frame of the project and it is therefore the place for you to join and get benefit. The main goal of this tool is to keep awareness and foster debates around ICT R&D in the Caribbean and the indirect impact is to trigger project collaboration between Caribbean and European researchers, in the context of the ICT component of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7-ICT).



The Virtual Community allows distance participation in an effective collaboration environment which is based in an enhanced version of the spreadily used MOODLE which offers the practicality to receive the contributions by mail while conserving in an organized and comprehensive fashion the exchanges. Its goal of increasing the amount of ICT researchers participating in the upcoming FP7 calls and to improve the communication and dialogue among them is given attention to the particularity of the Caribbean. In effect, each participant can use his or her own language since the platform counts with an automatized aid feature to linguistic inter-comprehension between English, French and Spanish which has been enhanced after the months of use. In the community it is possible to keep informed in a daily basis of the events around ICT research in the Caribbean as well as to post project ideas, ask questions on participation mechanism, find partners in Europe and in the Caribbean.

Today, some 100 researchers from the three language Caribbean regions (Spanish, French and English-speaking) and Europe are members of the community and share information and opinions.

Along with information exchange, a discussion currently taking place to foster EU-Caribbean and intra-Caribbean cooperation in a long-term perspective, focusing on commenting and improving the EU-Caribbean Roadmap on ICT research that was discussed by key stakeholders in the Final project Seminar.

Join and check the latest online information exchanges at <http://www.winds-lac.eu/community!>

## ICT-FP7: Call 6 is open!



The [Sixth ICT Call](#) for proposals of FP7 Call 6 was published on November 24, 2009 with a **deadline on April 13, 2010** and with a total available Budget of € 286.000.000. The following are the open areas for proposals according to the Work Programme 2009/2010:

Challenges	Objectives	Funding schemes
Challenge 2: Cognitive systems, interaction, robotics	ICT 2009.2.1 Cognitive Systems and Robotics	CP, CSA (CA only)
Challenge 4: Digital Libraries and Content	ICT 2009.4.1 Digital Libraries and Digital Preservation	CP, NoE, CSA
Challenge 5: Towards sustainable and personalised healthcare	ICT 2009.5.3 Virtual Physiological Human	CP, CSA
Challenge 6: ICT for mobility, environmental sustainability and energy efficiency	ICT 2009.6.2 ICT for Mobility of the Future	CP, CSA
Future and emerging technologies	ICT 2009.8.7 Molecular Scale Devices and Systems	CP
	ICT 2009.8.8 Brain-inspired ICT	CP
	ICT 2009.8.9 Coordinating Communities, Plans and Actions in FET Proactive Initiatives	CSA
	ICT 2009.8.10 Identifying new research topics, Assessing emerging global S&T trends in ICT for future FET Proactive initiatives	CSA
Horizontal support actions	ICT 2009.9.1 International Cooperation	CP (STREP/SICA only)
	ICT 2009.9.2 Supplements to support International Cooperation between ongoing projects	CP

### IMPORTANT NOTE FOR THE CARIBBEAN:

In addition to international cooperation activities addressed in the relevant objectives within the Challenges and FET, Horizontal International Cooperation Actions (SICA) are supported under the Objective ICT-2009.9.1. Precisely, the support to the uptake of European ICT research results in developing economies has Africa and the Caribbean (ACP countries) as a targeted region. You will find more information in the Workprogramme [ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/ict/docs/ict-wp-2009-10\\_en.pdf](ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/ict/docs/ict-wp-2009-10_en.pdf)

### IDEAL-IST Search Partners are open for the ICT Call 6

Proposers to this call will be helped to find appropriate partners and coordinators for their project by the Ideal-ist network. Idea-ist recommends to initiate Partner searches as soon as possible, once the contents of the Call are known. Last minute Partner Searches should highlight that they are mature proposals looking for a very specific profile only.

<http://www.ideal-ist.net/news/ideal-ist-is-open-for-call-6th>

**Other call opportunities:**

**FP7-ERANET-2010-RTD**

Specific programme: Cooperation

Themes: Environment (including Climate Change); Health; Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology; Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies; Transport (including Aeronautics); General Activities

Closing date: Jan. 19, 2010

**Interested in participating in these calls? In the [www.winds-lac.eu](http://www.winds-lac.eu) website (HelpDesk) you can find specific support to increase your possibility of success**

## Upcoming Events

### **GEANT Launch Event**

December 1-2, 2009 (Stockholm, Sweden)

Commemorating a third term of the GÉANT network and project that lie at the heart of the EU's e-Infrastructure strategy, this event offers the chance to hear from expert speakers and benefit from exceptional networking opportunities. The conference will gather members of the global research community, European ministers and officials with the aim of demonstrating how GÉANT enables researchers to collaborate to pursue ground-breaking research and bring benefit to society and achieves global leadership through links to other networks in developing world regions.

For more information, send an email to [prm@dante.net](mailto:prm@dante.net) and visit <http://www.geant.net/server/show/nav.2388>

### **2010 Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research**

"Learning and Reflecting on ICT Collaborative Research and Development - Projecting the Future of ICT Research in Africa" - Feb. 2, 2010 (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia - United Nations Conference Centre).

This event - co-located with the "African Union 2010 Summit and Exhibition" - is organised by the FP7 EuroAfrica-ICT European project and is supported by the AUC and the EC under the ICT theme of its FP7. This event - a follow-up of the highly successful Forum held in Brussels, Belgium in March 2009 - aims at promoting and supporting the development of Euro-Africa cooperation on ICT research between sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and Europe. Over 200 delegates are expected to attend this 1-day Forum, among them, ICT experts, policy and decision makers, heads of stakeholder institutions and international organisations, academia from sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and Europe, together with high-level representatives from the AUC and the EC. More information about addressed thematic areas and registration at <http://www.euroafrica-ict.org/forum2.php>

### **EU-LAC Madrid Summit**

May 18, 2010 (Madrid, Spain)

The theme of the Summit will be: "Towards a new stage in the bi-regional partnership: Innovation and Technology for sustainable development and social inclusion". The Madrid Summit aims to bring together not only Heads of State and Governments from Latin America and the Caribbean and Europe, but also important non-state actors. This EU-LAC Summit will be preceded by a Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs on 17 May.

More information will be available soon at [http://ec.europa.eu/external\\_relations/lac/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/lac/index_en.htm)

### **TERENA Networking Conference 2010**

May 31 - June 3, 2010 (Vilnius, Lithuania)

TERENA conferences have been at the heart of developments in European research and education networking for more than two decades. Network and application experts, end-users and corporate partners gather there to share views and lend a hand in shaping the future of networking. More information at <http://tnc2010.terena.org/participate/>

### **Future Network & Mobile Summit 2010**

June 16-18, 2010 (Florence, Italy)

This is the nineteenth in a series of Annual Conferences supported by the European Commission, which regularly attracts over 600 delegates from industry and research to share experiences and research results, identify future trends, discuss business opportunities and identify opportunities for international research collaboration under the ICT Theme of the FP7. It will thus contribute to showcasing European research in the field, and position it within the multiplicity of related initiatives supported in other regions of the world. In the context of convergence, the 19th Future Network and MobileSummit will address the challenges of building the Future Internet, based on mobile, wireless and fixed broadband communications infrastructures. The Scientific Programme will incorporate all the key constituents of Future

Networks including: Radio Access and Spectrum; Converged and Optical Networks; and Future Internet Technologies.

More information at <http://www.futurenetworksummit.eu/2010/default.asp?page=home>

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