

The European Union (EU) considers international scientific cooperation as essential to tackle issues of mutual concern. This is especially pertinent within the ambit of environment research (e.g. the fight against climate change; nature and biodiversity; environment and health; and management of natural resources and waste) where issues are more often than not global in nature. For this reason the European Commission has funded a project under FP6 (Framework Programme 6) on Promoting International Cooperation for Environmental Research in the Framework Programme through Dissemination and Networking Activities (INTERLINK).

As part of the INT-ER-LINK project, **the European Commission (EC), along with the INT-ER-LINK partners, are organizing an "Africa - EC Dialog" workshop in Brussels, November 7th 2008.**

This workshop has the objective to help **include African research priorities into the next Framework Programme 7 (FP7) Environment work program** (call opening in 2009). Considering your work, field of expertise and networking involvement in Africa, we thought that you would be interested in participating in the workshop to relay your African colleagues' environmental research priorities.

There will be about 25 African experts invited to this workshop, representing all Sub-Saharan Africa and the following environmental research areas:

- **Climate change, pollution and risks**
- **Sustainable Management of Resources**
- **Environmental Technologies**
- **Earth observation and assessment tools**

Please let us know **before the 6th of September** if you will be participating in this workshop. If so, please provide us with the following mandatory information for the registration:

- Title
- First name
- Last name
- Full address
- Phone number
- Organization name
- Organization address
- Field of expertise
- Gender

Expenses can be covered (flight, accommodation, transportation) **upon request to the INT-ER-LINK coordinator, Nadège Austin** (nadege.austin@ademe.fr). If you need it, please let us know and please add to the above information **your complete bank account information** (Account Owner's name, Account number, Bank full name, Bank address, SWIFT code).

After confirmation from your part, an official invitation will be sent during September, with additional information and details on attendance.

You will find enclosed the FP7 Environment Work Program for 2008. You can also find more information on the INT-ER-LINK website at <http://www.interlink-fp6.org> and on the European Community Research and Development Information Service website, CORDIS, at <http://cordis.europa.eu/en/home.html>.

We are looking forward to working with you on this event.

Kind regards,

Nadège Austin, Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maîtrise de l'Energie (ADEME, France),

Renee Le Roux, National Research Foundation of South Africa (NRF, South Africa),

Paul Vermande, Association Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF, France),

for the INTERLINK Consortium

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**Nadège Austin**

ADEME - IEE National Contact Point

[nadege.austin@ademe.fr](mailto:nadege.austin@ademe.fr)

+33 (0)1 47 65 22 55

\* *Intelligent Energy Europe II* : [ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/)

\* *Conseils sur EIE en français* : [www.ademe.fr](http://www.ademe.fr)

\* *ADEME coordinates the FP7 INTERLINK project*

\* *ADEME is a partner of the IEE PROMOSCENE project*



**AGENDA**  
**PREPARATION MEETING FOR EC/AFRICA DIALOGUE MEETING**  
**6 NOVEMBER 2008**  
**BRUSSELS**  
**TIME: 09H00-17H00**

1. Welcome
2. Introductions of participants
3. Purpose of EC/Africa Dialogue
4. Anticipated outcomes of this preparation meeting
5. Introduction to FP7 Environment Theme
6. African GCR Science Plans
  - AfricanNESS
  - ICSU RoA GCR Science Plan
  - NEPAD S&T Priorities
  - Any Other
6. Breakaway groups: Africa's research priorities in terms of
  - Climate change, pollution and risks
  - Sustainable management of resources
  - Environmental technologies
  - Earth Observation
  - Assessment Tools
7. Feedback from Breakaway group sessions
8. Discussion on input strategy for next day
9. Any other issues
10. Closing

## **Africa-EC Dialogue on Environmental Research**

**Brussels, 7 November 2008**

**Venue : to be confirmed**

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|----------------------|--|
| <b>9:00 – 9:30</b>   | Registration   |
| <b>9:30</b>          | Welcome by the organisers and the Commission   |
| <b>9:35</b>          | Opening speech by Mr. J. M. Silva Rodriguez,<br>Director General, DG Research                          |
| <b>9:45</b>          | Presentation of the international dimension of the FP7 Environment<br>Theme (including climate change) |
| <b>10:00-11:30</b>   | Round table discussion<br>- Climate change, pollution and risks  |
| <b>11:30 – 13:00</b> | Round table discussion<br>- Sustainable management of resources  |
| <b>13:00 – 14:00</b> | Buffet lunch   |
| <b>14:00 – 15:00</b> | Round table discussion<br>- Environmental technologies   |
| <b>15:00 – 16:00</b> | Round table discussion<br>- Earth Observation<br>- Assessment Tools                                    |
| <b>16:00 – 16:30</b> | Round table discussion<br>-Horizontal issues   |
| <b>16:30 – 17:30</b> | Summary and conclusion   |
| <b>17:30</b>         | Closure  |