



LAC-ACCESS
**Connecting high-quality research between the European Union and Latin
American and Caribbean Countries**

Jana Machačová
(ZSI)

THEMATIC REPORT **on Agricultural Research**

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**THEMATIC REPORT on Agricultural Research
Edited by Jana Macháčová (ZSI, Vienna)**

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Contact:
Jana Macháčová
c/o Centre for Social Innovation
Linke Wienzeile 246, A-1150 Vienna, Austria
ZVR: 757405110
Tel: 0043-1-49 50 442 48
Fax: 0043-1-49 50 442 40
machacova@zsi.at
<http://www.zsi.at/>

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1 Introduction

The Thematic Report on Agriculture Research is produced in the context of the project LAC-ACCESS, which is funded by the 6th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6). The project's central objective is to bridge high-quality research organisations in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) with those of the European Union (EU), focusing in particular on the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7). The project's duration is 28 months (January 2007 – April 2009).

The purpose of this report is to facilitate and provide useful information on existing initiatives, support programmes and current research activities on EU level with a special focus on agriculture research. The major programmes, supporting initiatives and instruments (e.g. ERA-NET, Joint Technology Initiatives) are listed and key research players and organizations presented in a structured way. The report concludes with an overview and description of selected projects implemented in the EU but also informs about projects linking EU and LAC's countries in this scientific field.

This report is based upon the desk research and provides information gathered from diverse European sources. The report was compiled in summer 2008.

Similar reports are produced also in the fields of energy/biofuels, technology-enhanced learning (TEL) and research focusing on public health.

1.1 Agricultural research

The European model of agriculture is based on sustainable and ecologically sound concepts of land use. The role of agriculture is increasingly determined by the crucial role it plays for other activities in the regional economy (industry, tourism, housing, etc).

Agricultural production is using a wide range of options to remain competitive including organic agriculture and/or other differentiated quality products, bio-energy and/or the provision of public services like social functions or landscape and ecosystem management. Moreover, the contribution of agriculture to sustainable development is highly territorially determined especially in rural areas but also in many semi-urban areas.

In general, agricultural research supports and strengthens the European knowledge-based bio-economy (KBBE) and improves not only Europe's economic and employment growth, but also provides innovation, new applications and products in areas such as novel foods, biodegradable plastics and new agricultural products and practices.

The bio-economy includes all industries and economic sectors that produce, manage or otherwise make use of biological resources including bio-waste.

1.2 Agricultural research portals

Apart from information provided on the Community Research and Development Information Service webpage (CORDIS – providing information about Framework Programmes' calls and their work programmes)¹, ERAWATCH² (offering information about national and regional research policies, actors, organisations and programmes) and in the RTD info³ (Magazin on European Research - a quarterly magazine published by the EC), there are several web portals providing useful information related to agricultural research.

1.2.1 EU-Agrinet⁴

This European portal is dedicated to EU-funded research in agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development, which is led under the several framework programmes (FP4, FP5, FP6, FP7). The EU-Agrinet provides information related to research themes, research projects, on-going and future calls, related policies, future research and all practical information (calendar, contacts, publications).

The project database informs about administrative details along with the scientific objectives and in the case of finished projects the actual results from the work performed.

This information website is managed by DG Research - E4 Unit which is in charge of Agriculture, Forests, Fishing and Aquaculture.

1.2.2 AgriFoodResearch.net⁵

AgriFoodResearch.net is an information platform on the European agricultural and food research landscape. The project is supported by the European Commission (DG Research) and its implementation is followed by the Standing Committee for Agricultural Research (SCAR).

This web site was developed in the frame of a project called 'EU AGRI MAPPING' supported by the EC under the 6th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6). To learn more about the project, please see the chapter 4.2 EU projects – recently completed projects (a selection).

AgriFoodResearch.net offers:

- Overview of running European initiatives that contribute to define the future of the European agri-food research landscape;
- Database of research groups and researchers in the New Member States and in the Candidate Countries;

¹ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/kbbe/about-kbbe_en.html

² <http://cordis.europa.eu/erawatch/>

³ http://ec.europa.eu/research/rtinfo/index_en.html

⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/research/agriculture/index_en.html

⁵ <http://www.agrifoodresearch.net>

- Links to the eight European Technology Platforms (ETPs) related to food, agriculture and biotechnology; and
- List of projects supported within Framework Programmes (FP) relevant to the sector.

1.2.3 Biosociety and the Knowledge-Based Bio-Economy⁶

This European Commission's website contains a number of useful information, news and documents related to the knowledge-based bio-economy (KBBE). It also offers an overview of the KBBE concept under the FP7 and provides information on the ETPs, as well as on ERA-NETs relevant in this area.

1.2.4 EARD-InfoSys+⁷

The web portal EARD-InfoSys+ was initiated by the European Initiative for Agricultural Research for Development (EIARD) which serves as a mechanism that enables better coherence between relevant policies in agricultural research for development (ARD) within the EU Member States (plus Norway and Switzerland).

EARD-InfoSys+ aims at improving the access to European web resources in the areas of agriculture, environment, forestry, fisheries, socio-economics, rural-transformation and many others, devoted towards development. It also aims at creating an information and communication platform, as service for a multitude of institutions and parties all over Europe involved in scientific development cooperation.

The database can be searched as follows: organizations; projects; funding; experts; events and news and covers also countries from LAC region and Africa.

1.2.5 AgriPolicy.net⁸

AgriPolicy.net aims at enhancing interactions between experts from the agricultural sectors and policy makers. The project has been initiated and is supported by the EC (DG Research and DG Agriculture).

The overall objective is to support the formulation of community agricultural policies by developing an open and interactive network of experts involved in agricultural policy analysis. It focuses on the new member states (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia), and on selected Candidate (CC) and Pre-Candidate Countries (PCC): Bosnia and Herzegovina (PCC), Croatia (CC), Serbia (PCC) and Turkey (CC).

Following information is available on the website:

- Database of organisations and of experts involved in agricultural policy analysis;

⁶ http://ec.europa.eu/research/biosociety/index_en.htm

⁷ <http://www.infosysplus.org/>

⁸ <http://www.europartnersearch.net/agri-policy/>

- Resources on agricultural policies and agricultural economics in the New Member States, in the Candidate Countries and in the Western Balkan (news, events, publications etc.); and
- Reports elaborated by the members of the network.

1.2.6 AGRIS⁹

AGRIS is the international information system for the agricultural sciences and technology. It was created by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in 1974, to facilitate information exchange and to bring together world literature dealing with all aspects of agriculture.

The new AGRIS search application provides access to a large collection of world literature covering all aspects of agricultural sciences and technology, including grey literature which is not available through normal publication and distribution channels. The AGRIS repository is continuously updated and currently contains over 2.3 million bibliographic references from 1975 to date. This data is collected from AGRIS resource centres in over 100 countries worldwide.

1.2.7 Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORA)¹⁰

Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORA) is a programme to provide free or low cost access to major scientific journals in agriculture and related biological, environmental and social sciences to public institutions in developing countries. The programme was set up by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), launched in October 2003 and provides access to 1278 journals from the world's leading academic publishers.

The goal of AGORA is to improve the quality and effectiveness of agricultural research, education and training in low-income countries, and in turn, to improve food security. Through AGORA, researchers, policy-makers, educators, students, technical workers and extension specialists have access to high-quality, relevant and timely agricultural information via the Internet.

2 Relevant EU support mechanisms/programmes and initiatives

2.1 FP7 Programme¹¹

The Framework Programme (FP) is the European Union's main instrument for funding research and development (R&D).

⁹ <http://www.fao.org/agris/>

¹⁰ <http://www.aginternetwork.org/en/>

¹¹ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html

The 7th Framework Programme (FP7) bundles all research-related EU initiatives together under a common roof playing a crucial role in reaching the goals of growth, competitiveness and employment; along with a new Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP), Education and Training programmes, and Structural and Cohesion Funds for regional convergence and competitiveness. It is also a key pillar for the European Research Area (ERA).

The FP7 is operating for seven years from January 1, 2007 with a budget of approximately EUR 50.5 billion.

The broad objectives of FP7 have been grouped into four categories – programmes:

- 'Cooperation';
- 'Ideas';
- 'People'; and
- 'Capacities'.

All specific programmes work together to promote and encourage the creation of European poles of (scientific) excellence. The non-nuclear research activities of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) are grouped under a specific programme with individual budget allocation.

The programme '**Cooperation**'¹² covers collaborative research, carried out in trans-national cooperation (consortia) and Joint Technology Initiatives (based on Technology Platforms) and covers following themes: Health; **Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology**; Information and Communication Technologies (ICT); Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies; Energy; Environment (including Climate Change); Transport (including Aeronautics); Socio-Economic Sciences and the Humanities; Space and Security.

The programme '**Ideas**' covers basic, frontier research, carried out across all fields by individual teams.¹³ For its implementation, a European Research Council (ERC), consisting of an independent Scientific Council and a dedicated implementation structure, has been established by EC and more detailed can be found in the chapter 3 Key EU research initiatives, players and agencies.

The programme '**People**' focuses on strengthening the human potential in research (activities supporting training and career development of researches) and detailed description of Marie Curie Actions is provided on the FP7 programme webpage.¹⁴

The programme '**Capacities**' supports research infrastructures, research for the benefit of SMEs and the research potential of European regions. Description of the areas is also available on the FP7 webpage.¹⁵

¹² http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/cooperation/home_en.html

¹³ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ideas/home_en.html

¹⁴ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/people/home_en.html

¹⁵ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/capacities/home_en.html

The European Commission (EC) has made international cooperation a major aspect of FP7. Open to participation from nearly every country in the world, FP7 is the largest international R&D programme worldwide. Participation of the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) countries is specifically encouraged and there are different categories of countries which may have varying eligibility for different specific and work programmes. The list of International Co-operation Partner Countries (ICPC) is always in the annex of each work programme for individual themes.

Comprehensive information resource containing strategic documents and action plans, publications and newsletters on Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Biotechnology Industrial Research is available in the CORDIS Library - FAFB.¹⁶

2.1.1 FP7 Cooperation, Theme 2: Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Biotechnology¹⁷

The primary objectives of funding the 'Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology' (FAFB) theme under the FP7 are to support trans-national cooperation in research, innovation delivery and policy support across the EU and beyond in the respective field and to build a European Knowledge Based Bio-Economy (KBBE) by bringing together science, industry and other stakeholders, to exploit new and emerging research opportunities that address social, environmental and economic challenges.

The overall budget earmarked for funding of the theme 2 for the period 2007 - 2013 is EUR 1.9 billion, which represents 6% allocated financial resources from 'Cooperation' programme (app. EUR 32 billion).

The 'Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology' theme is built around three major activities as follows:

- Activity 2.1: Sustainable production and management of biological resources from land, forest and aquatic environments, covering:
 - Enabling research, including "omics" technologies, converging technologies and systems biology approaches for micro-organisms, plants and animals, including exploitation of biodiversity;
 - Sustainable, competitive and multifunctional agriculture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture;
 - Plant health;
 - Improved crops for different production systems, including organic farming, quality production themes and genetically modified organism (GMOs) and their impact;
 - Animal welfare, breeding and production; Infectious diseases in animals, including zoonoses; Safe disposal of animal waste;
 - Developing the tools needed by policy makers and other actors in particular in Building the European KBBE.

¹⁶ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/kbbe/home_en.html

- Activity 2.2: Fork to farm: Food (including seafood), health and well-being, covering:
 - Consumer, behavioural, societal and cognitive sciences related to food and feed;
 - Nutrition and diet-related diseases, including obesity;
 - Innovative food and beverages production technologies [including packaging]; Traceability;
 - Improved quality and safety, both chemical and microbiological, of food, beverage and feed;
 - Environmental impacts on and of food/feed chains;
 - Total food chain concept;
- Activity 2.3: Life sciences, biotechnology and biochemistry for sustainable non-food products and processes; covering:
 - Strengthening the knowledge base and developing advanced technologies for terrestrial or biomass production for applications in energy and industry.

Overlaps of this theme can be seen with other themes of FP7, such as theme 1 – Health; theme 4 - Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies; theme 5 – Energy and theme 6 - Environment.

More detailed information related to theme 2, detailed description of mentioned areas, the Work Programme 2008 - Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology with listing all relevant, actual Calls for Proposals for FAFB under FP7 including Specific International Cooperation Actions (SICA) can be downloaded at the CORDIS webpage¹⁸. The Work Programme 2009 for FAFB was released by the EC on August 28, 2008 and provides in detail the areas that will be funded as well as a calendar for Call for Proposals and an indicative budget.

2.1.2 International cooperation in FP7 – possibilities for LAC in FP7 Cooperation, Theme 2¹⁹

International cooperation between EU and non-EU countries is an important aspect of FP7 and is also an integral part of theme 2 - Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology.

All topics within this theme are open to international cooperation; participants from third countries (neither Member nor Associated States, LACs also included) can be joining the projects as additional partners after minimum requirements are met (three entities in three member/associated states). Special attention has to be paid to specific topics - Specific International Cooperation Actions (SICA), where it is mandatory to have at least two partners from third countries.

¹⁸ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/kbbe/about-kbbe_en.html

¹⁹ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/kbbe/international-cooperation_en.html

International cooperation in FAFB theme is implemented in via five mechanisms:

- **Opening up all research activities to researchers and research organisations from third countries**
- **Targeted Opening**
For some topics in the Work Programme the participation of specific third countries is particularly welcome, as these are areas of mutual interest, and this is clearly stated in the topic description. The list of the International Cooperation Partner Countries (ICPC) is available on the webpage.²⁰
- **Specific International Cooperation Actions (SICA)**
SICA aim to generate, share and use knowledge through research partnerships with third countries in selected areas of mutual interest and benefit, jointly identified through dialogues with third countries and regions. In addition, some SICA are dedicated to least-developed countries by taking into account their needs, particularly towards the Millennium Development Goals of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger. Nearly all third countries are eligible for participating in this programme. In addition, participants from ICPC can receive financial support from the EC.
- **Coordinated Calls**
- **Twinning of projects**
This mechanism is represented by cooperation projects in FAFB theme and related programmes/parallel calls in third countries.

The first call for proposals within this theme (**FP7-KBBE-2007-1**) was announced on December 22, 2006 with the deadline on May 2, 2007. This call was covering in total 16 topics with important International Cooperation dimension and 6 SICAs. There are several projects, where LAC countries are actively participating and one of the selected projects within this call was, for example, BAFOOD – Controlling Biogenic Amines in Traditional Food Fermentations in regional Europe (Argentina).

The second call (**FP7-KBBE-2007-2A**), announced on June 15, 2007 (deadline September 11, 2007 and February 26, 2008) was covering 4 topics with important International Cooperation dimension and 2 SICAs. The third call (**FP7-KBBE-2008-2B**) covering 10 topics with important International Cooperation dimension and 10 SICAs was announced on November 30, 2007 with a deadline February 26, 2008 and the project selection from the previous calls is still ongoing.

The fourth call for proposals (**FP7-KBBE-2009-3**) from the FAFB theme was published on September 3, 2008 instead of July 24, 2008 as initially scheduled.²¹ The deadline for submission remained unchanged, January 15, 2009, and the budget allocated to this call is EUR 188 million from 2009 budget, plus EUR 10 million for the Biorefineries Joint Call. Detailed information related to the recently announced Biorefineries Joint Call is provided in the Thematic report Energy/Biofuels (July 2008, updated version September 2008) or on the internet.²²

²⁰ <ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/icpc-list.pdf>

²¹ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7ActivityCallsPage&ID_ACTIVITY=2

²² http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/rtd/susbioref/library?l=/biorefinery_info/biorefinery_bookletpdf/_EN_1.0_&a=d

From the indicative topics called, there are several which are directly requesting cooperation with LAC, e.g. in Activity 2.3: Life sciences, biotechnology and biochemistry for sustainable non-food products and processes in the Area **2.3.4 Biorefinery**. Special focus is given on the development of 2nd generation biofuels with improved energy and environmental balance and which avoid the potential food/fuel conflict. There are several topics indicated in this area and participation of countries from Latin America is explicitly requested, e.g.:

- **FP7-KBBE-2009-3-4-01: Biomass and bioproducts: sustainability certification and socioeconomic implications** – Mandatory ICPC (Latin America, Africa and/or Asia); and
- **FP7-KBBE-2009-3-4-02: Biomass pre-treatment for optimized biomass deconstruction and analytical characterization** – SICA (Brasil)

For more information about the International Cooperation in FP7 Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Biotechnology - Theme 2 consult the related webpage or contact Elisabetta Balzi (elisabetta.balzi@ec.europa.eu).

2.2 European Technology Platforms (ETPs)

The European Technology Platforms (ETPs) provide a means to foster effective public-private partnerships between the research community, industry and policy makers in order to deliver the impetus to mobilise the research and innovation effort towards achieving a common goal. The role of Technology Platforms in stimulating more effective RTD, particularly in the private sector, can contribute directly to achieving the Lisbon objectives, developing the European Research Area (ERA) and increasing investment in R&D towards the 3% of GDP target.

A Technology Platform (TP) is a mechanism to bring together all interested stakeholders to develop a long-term vision to address a specific challenge, create a coherent, dynamic strategy to achieve its vision and steer the implementation of an action plan to deliver agreed programmes of activities and optimise the benefits for all parties. The elaboration and follow-up of a Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) form a crucial part of the implementation strategy, to optimise the contribution of RTD to the process. In achieving its wider goals, a TP should, in a medium to long term perspective, generate sustainable competitiveness and world leadership for the EU in the field concerned, by stimulating increased and more effective investment in R&D, accelerating innovation and eliminating the barriers to the deployment and growth of new technologies.

Technology Platforms follow three stages of development:

- Agreement on a common vision for technological development in the sector;
- Definition of a Strategic Research Agenda (medium and long-term);
- Mobilization of financial and human resources to implement the Strategic Research Agenda (SRA).

Nowadays, there are 30 European Technology Platforms (ETPs) created so far and detailed information on individual platforms is available at CORDIS webpage.²³

²³ http://cordis.europa.eu/technology-platforms/individual_en.html

Following sub-chapters are introducing nine most relevant technology platforms related to agriculture research/ KBBE sector. The Biofuels Technology Platform, which is also linked with agricultural research, is introduced in the Thematic report on Energy/Biofuels (July 2008, updated version September 2008).

2.2.1 Technology Platform on Farm Animal Breeding and Reproduction (FABRE-TP)²⁴

The Technology Platform on Farm Animal Breeding and Reproduction (FABRE-TP) aims to support stakeholder involvement in the set up of a partnership led by industry to tackle major issues concerning sustainable animal breeding and reproduction in Europe, and the developing world. It aims to mobilize research, technological development and innovation efforts in Europe, and to bring together key stakeholders around a common vision for the development of technologies and issues around farm animal breeding and reproduction. A vision paper on farm animal breeding and reproduction on the medium to long term (15 - 20 years) was published in March 2006.

2.2.2 Technology Platform 'Plants for the Future'²⁵

The Technology Platform 'Plants for the Future' is a stakeholder forum on plant genomics and biotechnology that was initiated by the EC on the request of the European Council in March 2003. It is supported by the European Commission via a Specific Support Action in FP6 and the major public and private stakeholders. The stakeholders cover academia, industry (crop improvement, seed, food, feed, new products, retailers etc.), agricultural, forestry, educational, financial, consumer and environmental organisations.

The final Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) was launched at the European Parliament in June 2007 and identifies five challenges for Europe's society and economy to which the plant sector can contribute:

- Healthy, safe and sufficient food and feed;
- Plant-based products - chemical and bioenergy;
- Sustainable agriculture, forestry and landscape;
- Vibrant and competitive basic research; and
- Consumer choice and governance.

During 2008-2010 the Technology Platform 'Plants for the Future' will work with a focus on promoting and advocating strategic and internationally competitive research. Education, communication and innovation embracement (including general policy statements) will be complementary tasks with second priority (Plant-based products – chemical and bioenergy).

²⁴ <http://www.fabretp.org/>

²⁵ <http://www.epsoweb.org/Catalog/TP/index.htm>

2.2.3 European Technology Platform for Global Animal Health (ETPGAH) - Vision 2015²⁶

The European Technology Platform for Global Animal Health (ETPGAH) is a joint initiative of industry and the research community and is actively encouraged by the European Commission services.

The platform was launched on December 16, 2004 in Brussels and is led by International Federation for Animal Health-Europe (IFAH-Europe). The platform integrates all relevant stakeholders at the EU and national levels, e.g. veterinary pharmaceutical industry, biotechnology companies, livestock producers, research institutions, universities, regulatory authorities and the financial world.

2.2.4 Forest Based Sector Technology Platform (FTP)²⁷

The Forest-Based Sector Technology Platform (FTP) aims to define and implement a research and development roadmap for the European forest-based sector (Vision Document 2030). The FTP is an industry-driven platform for collaboration in a sector which makes crucial contributions to the sustainable development and competitiveness of Europe.

The FTP act as facilitator of research and innovation networking, as well as of specific programmes and projects. FTP management, moreover, acts as an important source of information about funding programmes, policy, ongoing research, and so forth. Instruments such as the platform's website, its electronic newsletter FTP-Update, and other publications are used for disseminating information, also to relevant stakeholders outside the sector.

2.2.5 European Technology Platform Food for Life Vision for 2020 and beyond²⁸

The European Technology Platform Food for Life Vision for 2020 and beyond was launched in Brussels on June 5, 2005.

The Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) was published in September 2007 with following key challenges:

- Ensuring that the healthy choice is the easy choice for consumers;
- Delivering a healthier diet;
- Delivering quality food products;
- Assuring safe foods those consumers can trust;
- Achieving sustainable food production;
- Managing the food chain; and
- Optimising communication, training and technology transfer.

²⁶ <http://www.ifaheurope.org/EUPlatform/Platform.htm>

²⁷ <http://www.forestplatform.org/>

²⁸ <http://etp.ciaa.be/>

2.2.6 European BioTechnological Platform (BioETP)²⁹

The European BioTechnological Platform (BioETP) facilitates the preparation, editorship, discussion and consensus of the European Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) in Biotechnology and the creation of European leaderships in bio-technology fields, sectoral industries, applications and provision of services.

BioETP identifies bio-technology research needs and provides a good mix of supportive services to bio-technological firms and institutions in order to address the research and skills needs as well as networking, training or advice and financial needs all to the benefit of improving market and investment readiness.

Main activities of the BioETP are to:

- assess specific research and skills needs of bio-technology and biotechnological enterprises;
- establish links with relevant research, academia, business and financial partners to reinforce the ERA;
- design, test and validate improved support mechanisms for research bio-firms;
- facilitate to the bio-research projects access to finance and networking with clusters and financial /governmental partners; and
- offer info packages or tool boxes to other public and private research intermediaries and the technology transfer.

2.2.7 Technology Platform Manufuture - Working group Agricultural Engineering and Technology (AET)³⁰

The European agricultural engineering industry, along with the scientific society of agricultural engineering and technology, formed working group Agricultural Engineering and Technologies (AET) that operates under the umbrella of the Technology Platform 'Manufuture' and is in close contact with the EC concerning questions of research funding within FP7.

The AET working group analyzed the first call for the submission of research proposals (published by EC at the end of 2006), defined focal points, which are closely connected with agricultural engineering research, and compiled them in a document. According to the analysis done by AET, opportunities for projects in agricultural engineering research exist especially in the fields of 'Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Biotechnology, ICT, Material and Production, Energy, Environment, Transport.'

The AET working group published 'Vision 2020' and the Strategic Research Agenda as results of their work. Those documents describe the future fields of research, in which work is necessary, to assure the leading role of not only European agricultural engineering but also of European agriculture.

²⁹ <http://www.bioetp.org/>

³⁰ http://www.manufuture.org/collective_initiatives.html

Within AET there are four groups that, since early 2008, have been working on the second Implementation Plan.

At the meeting of all Technology Platforms engaged in agricultural topics (Knowledge Based Bio-Economy, KBBE, oriented TPs) with the appropriate EC-Directorate in January 2008, it was agreed that AET will be incorporated into a Coordination and Support Action (CSA) proposal of KBBE platforms.

2.2.8 European Technology Platform for Sustainable Chemistry (SusChem)³¹

The European Technology Platform for Sustainable Chemistry (SusChem) seeks to boost chemistry, biotechnology and chemical engineering research, development and innovation in Europe.

The Technology Platform creates conditions to:

- maintain and strengthen the competitiveness of the chemical industry in Europe based on technology leadership;
- meet society's needs in close cooperation with all stakeholders;
- boost and sustain chemistry research in Europe;
- improve EU framework economic and regulatory conditions to inspire chemical innovation; and
- contribute to sustainable development in Europe.

2.2.9 Water Supply and Sanitation Technology Platform (WSSTP)³²

The Water Supply and Sanitation Technology Platform (WSSTP) is a European initiative for European Research and Technology Development in the water industry, formed in October 2004. The WSSTP develops an overview of the current state of water supply and sanitation technologies in their respective branches and identifies the most promising areas of innovation.

The Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) describes the research and technological developments required to enable the European water sector to deliver a suite of cost effective and environmentally sustainable water management options.

Six pilot programmes in order to implement SRA were developed in order to solve European water problems. One of the pilots focuses on 'Agriculture' and more information including its vision are available on the webpage of the platform.³³

³¹ <http://www.suschem.org/>

³² <http://www.wsstp.eu/>

³³ <http://www.wsstp.eu/site/online/pilots/agriculture/pilot-project-agriculture>

2.3 Joint Technology Initiatives (JTIs)³⁴

Joint Technology Initiatives (JTIs) are one of the major elements of the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7). They provide a way of creating new partnerships between publicly and privately-funded organisations involved in research, focusing on areas where research and technological development can contribute to European competitiveness and quality of life. The approach proposed by the JTIs signals a real change in how Europe promotes industry-driven research, designed to establish European leadership in certain technologies that are strategic to Europe's future.

In its structure, JTIs are independent legal entities managing research projects in an integrated way, with industry joining forces with other stakeholders. JTIs organise calls for proposals, oversee selection procedures and put in place contractual arrangements for projects set up to implement the JTI research agenda. JTIs will thus allow funds from different sources to be jointly managed and will be responsible for communication and dissemination activities.

Each JTI includes a Governing Board, an Executive Director as well as other bodies, covering advisory bodies, depending on its specific operational and governance needs.

There have been six initiatives identified in the 'Cooperation' Specific Programme, but none of them is directly dedicated to agricultural research. Nevertheless, according to the internet source³⁵, Technology Platform Manufuture at its High Level Group meeting (March 2008, Athens, Greece) discussed the possibility to apply for Joint Technology Initiative status. A first discussion with the EC has been already held and it would be possible to form a JTI in early 2010.

2.4 ERA-NETs generally focusing on agricultural research

European Research Area Networks (ERA-NETs) is a scheme encouraged by the EC under FP6 and FP7 with the objective to support the co-operation and co-ordination of research activities carried out at national or regional level. ERA-NETs are financial supported by the FPs through SSA (Specific Support Action) during the preparatory phase and CA (Coordination Action) during the implementation.

Only 'Programme owners' (typically national ministries/regional authorities) and 'Programme managers' (such as research councils or funding agencies) are considered as eligible partners in an ERA-NET action. It should be stressed that research organisations or universities which are not programme owners or managers are not eligible partners for ERA-NET actions.

³⁴ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/jtis/about-jti_en.html

³⁵ <http://www.eurageng.net/manufuture.shtml>

The mission of all existing ERA-NETs is to propose actions to better co-ordinate research activities and to launch call for proposals to support research activities in some EU Countries and regions and for a specific sector.

In FP7, new ERA-NET actions will be supported and existing ERA-NET actions may re-apply to receive EC support to extend and/or reinforce their integration e.g. by broadening their partnership or increasing the type of collaborations. EC plans to support the organisation of joint calls between national research programmes by 'topping-up' joint trans-national funding with EC funding in a new module, so called 'ERA-NET Plus'. More information about recent development in FP7 related to ERA-NETs is available on the internet.³⁶

There are numerous ERA-NETs relevant to agricultural research, supported in FP6 (a selection):

- **Biodiversity Research ERA-NET**;
- **CORE Organic** - Coordination of European Transnational Research in Organic food and farming;
- **ERA-ARD** - Agricultural Research for Development (ARD) dimension of the European Research Area (ERA);
- **ERA-PG** - European Research Area Plant Genomics;
- **ERASysBio** - Towards a European Research Area for systems biology – a transnational funding initiative to support the convergence of life sciences with information technology and systems sciences;
- **EUPHRESKO** - EU Phytosanitary Research Coordination;
- **EUROTRANS-BIO** - European network of transnational collaborative RTD for SME projects in the field of biotechnology;
- **MariFish** - Coordination of European Marine Fisheries Research Programmes;
- **SAFEFOODERA** - Europe excellence in food safety research programming;
- **SKEP** - Scientific Knowledge for Environmental Protection - Network of Funding Agencies;
- **WRM-Net** - Towards a European-wide exchange Network for integrating research efforts on Integrated Water Resources Management; etc.

Detailed information about individual European Research Area Networks (ERA-NETs) supported within FP6 and their pilot calls are available on the internet.³⁷

2.5 European Cooperation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST)³⁸

Founded in 1971, COST is an intergovernmental framework for European Cooperation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research, allowing the co-

³⁶ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/coordination/eranet_en.html

³⁷ <http://www.europartnersearch.net/eu-agri-mapping/index.php?page=eranet>

³⁸ <http://www.cost.esf.org/>

ordination of nationally funded research on a European level. COST Actions cover basic and pre-competitive research as well as activities of public utility. COST is managed by the European Science Foundation (ESF) and receives funding from the EC under the framework programmes (FP).

COST has a geographical scope beyond the EU and welcomes the participation of interested institutions from non-COST member states without any geographical restriction.

As a precursor of advanced multidisciplinary research, COST plays an important role in the realisation of the European Research Area (ERA). It anticipates and complements the activities of the EU Framework Programmes, constituting a “bridge” towards the scientific communities of emerging countries. It also increases the mobility of researchers across Europe and fosters the establishment of scientific excellence in nine key domains:

- Biomedicine and Molecular Biosciences;
- **Food and Agriculture;**
- Forests, their Products and Services;
- Materials, Physical and Nanosciences;
- Chemistry and Molecular Sciences and Technologies;
- Earth System Science and Environmental Management;
- Information and Communication Technologies;
- Transport and Urban Development; and
- Individuals, Societies, Cultures and Health.

The domain ‘Food and Agriculture’³⁹ covers all aspects of research in the field of agricultural and food sciences in its widest sense. This naturally encompasses a very wide number of subjects, and relates to a large number of areas of human activity. The primary aim of the domain is to encourage networking of research in any field linked to these activities as well as the related demands and needs. The following examples illustrate aspects of actual research in this domain. It is emphasized that they are examples, not a complete catalogue. The domain actively seeks innovative and interesting proposals even if they may not at first sight fit neatly into a traditional category of research in food and agriculture.

COST finances networking of nationally funded activities in supporting meetings, conferences, short term scientific exchanges and outreach activities. COST supports the networking of specific research themes but does not fund research projects themselves. Currently more than 200 actions are supported and it is expected that every year approximately 50 new actions will be approved. On average financial support of some EUR 100.000 p.a. as grant for 4 years can be expected.

More information related to open COST Calls for proposals to support Scientific and Technical Collaboration in Europe is available on the webpage.⁴⁰

³⁹ <http://www.cost.esf.org/index.php?id=257>

⁴⁰ <http://www.cost.esf.org/index.php?id=opencall>

2.6 EUREKA⁴¹

EUREKA is a pan-European network for market-oriented, industrial R&D. Created as an intergovernmental initiative in 1985, EUREKA aims to enhance European competitiveness through its support to businesses, research centres and universities who carry out pan-European projects to develop innovative products, processes and services.

EUREKA promotes cross-border, market-oriented, collaborative R&D and simplifies access to national funding for industry and research institutes from 39 member countries (none of them is from LAC) in a bottom-up approach to developing and exploiting innovative technology.

Projects supported within EUREKA are covering following areas: Electronics & ICT; Industrial Manufacturing, Material & Transport; Other Industrial Technologies; Energy Technology; Chemistry, Physical & Exact Sciences; Biological Sciences; **Agriculture & Marine Resources**⁴²; **Agrofood Technology**⁴³; Measurements & Standards; and Technology for protecting humankind & the environment.

Detailed information about individual projects is available on the EUREKA webpage.

2.7 Financial Instrument for the Environment - LIFE+ (2007 – 2013)⁴⁴

LIFE+, the new Financial Instrument for the Environment, has entered into force with the publication of the Regulation in the Official Journal L149 of June 9, 2007.

LIFE+ is a follow up of the LIFE programme, which was in operation since 1992 and co-financed approximately 2.750 projects, contributing approximately EURO 1.35 billion to the protection of the environment. LIFE projects focusing on agriculture are covering different areas, e.g. Quality and balanced use of water; Farming and biodiversity; Processing agricultural products; Soil protection and Sustainable management of farm waste. Project supported via this programme can be searched on the webpage.⁴⁵

With a budget of EUR 2.143 billion (for the period 2007-2013), LIFE+ is a limited but focused funding instrument providing specific support for the development and implementation of Community environmental policy and legislation, in particular the objectives of the 6th Environment Action Programme - EAP (Decision 1600/2002/EC) and resulting thematic strategies.

⁴¹ <http://www.eureka.be/>

⁴² <http://www.eureka.be/thematic/showThematic.do?area=t07>

⁴³ <http://www.eureka.be/thematic/showThematic.do?area=t08>

⁴⁴ <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/lifeplus.htm>

⁴⁵ <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/themes/soil/thematic.htm>

It comprises three components:

- LIFE+ Nature & Biodiversity;
- LIFE+ Environment Policy & Governance;
- LIFE+ Information & Communication.

According to the EC's webpage, at least 78% of LIFE+ will be for the co-financing of project action grants, of which at least 50% will be for nature and biodiversity projects. Only expenditure in EU27⁴⁶ countries is eligible at the moment, although the future participation of certain countries is possible if supplementary appropriations are received (see Article 8 of the LIFE+ Regulation).

Themes of the LIFE+ programme covers following:

- Nature, Biodiversity;
- Air;
- Energy, climate;
- Environmental management;
- Industry, production;
- Urban environment, quality of life;
- Soil, land-use, **agriculture**;
- Waste; and
- Water.

The 2008 call for proposals was published in the Official Journal on July 15, 2008 and more detailed information including the calendar is available on the LIFE+ webpage.

3 Key EU research institutes and organisations

Name:	Joint Research Centre (JRC)
Contact:	SDME 10/78, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium
Email:	jrc-info@ec.europa.eu
Website:	http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/jrc/index.cfm

The mission of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) is to provide customer-driven scientific and technical support for the conception, development, implementation and monitoring of EU policies. As a service of the EC, the JRC functions as a reference centre of science and technology for the European Union. Close to the policy-making process, it serves the common interest of the Member States, while being independent of special interests, whether private or national.

⁴⁶ EU27 covers following countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Netherlands and United Kingdom.

The JRC provides scientific-technical support mainly to the following policy areas of the European Commission: Chemicals legislation; European Research Area (ERA); Internal market (financial services, system of common standards); Energy policies (Clean and sustainable energy production and conversion; safe and secure energy supply: energy efficiency, renewable energies, nuclear energy); Sustainable transport; Information Society (competitiveness, innovation and inclusion); **Common Agricultural Policy (rural development, sustainable agriculture); Maritime Strategy (fisheries, marine policy, security); Environmental policies (support to various legislative acts such as on fuels, soils, water, forests, air quality);** Infrastructure for spatial information in Europe; Climate change (Kyoto protocol and post-Kyoto policy options); Health and consumer protection (food and feed safety and quality, cosmetics directives); Internal and global security; and Nuclear policies.

More information dedicated to Joint Research Centre (JRC) and its institutes all across Europe dealing with agriculture (e.g. Institute for Environment and Sustainability⁴⁷) can be downloaded on the webpage.

Name:	European Research Council (ERC)
Contact:	Secretariat to the ERC Scientific Council and the ERC Board, Place Madou 1, MADO 06/64, 1049 Brussels, Belgium
Email:	rtd-erc@ec.europa.eu
Website:	http://erc.europa.eu/index.cfm

The European Research Council (ERC) is the first European funding body set up to support investigator-driven frontier research. The ERC complements other funding activities in Europe such as those of the national research funding agencies, and is a flagship component of the 'Ideas Programme' of the European Union's 7th Research Framework Programme (FP7). More information about 'Ideas' is provided in the chapter 2.1 FP7 Programme.

Its main aim is to stimulate scientific excellence by supporting and encouraging the very best, truly creative scientists, scholars and engineers to be adventurous and take risks in their research. The scientists are encouraged to go beyond established frontiers of knowledge and the boundaries of disciplines.

Being 'investigator-driven', or 'bottom-up', in nature, the ERC approach allows researchers to identify new opportunities and directions in any field of research (i.e. all fields related to agricultural research), rather than being led by priorities set by politicians. This approach ensures that funds are channelled into new and promising areas of research with a greater degree of flexibility.

⁴⁷ <http://ies.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

Participation from third countries (International Cooperation Partner Country – ICPC) in the ERC funding schemes is encouraged as a Principal Investigator (PI). The researcher may be of any age and nationality (with PhD or equivalent degree) and may reside in any country in the world at the time of the application. PI, who is coming from a third country, must establish a research team and activity at a host institution in a member state or associated country.

Depending on the specific project and field, the level of ERC grants may be up to around EUR 3.5 million for a period of 5 years. Normally, however, grants will be limited to a maximum of around EUR 2.5 million unless the application involves specific features requiring a higher level of support.

All practical information on ERC Grant Schemes is available in structured way on the webpage.⁴⁸

Name:	Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR)
Contact:	SDME 10/78, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium
Email:	via webpage
Website:	http://ec.europa.eu/research/agriculture/scar/index_en.cfm

The Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR) was established by Regulation No. 1728/74 of the Council of June 27, 1974 on the coordination of agricultural research. SCAR, as one of the oldest committee of the EU, advises the European Commission in the field of the coordination of research in agriculture.

The structure of SCAR was newly configured in 2005 as a high-level platform with a renewed mandate from the EU's Agriculture Council of Ministers to play a major role in the coordination of agricultural research efforts in Europe, and also to address foresight. A range of strategic initiatives towards building a European Research Area for agriculture was carried out, e.g. a comprehensive mapping of agricultural research capacities (institutions, activities, infrastructures), the establishment of collaborative working groups across several areas of research which brought together funding organisations from across the EU, and the foresight process.

There are several EU initiatives announced just recently which represent major milestones in the way the EU conducts target-oriented research by partnering with the industry. One of them is the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), which will increase the overall resources available for R&D and will allow for better coordination with national and regional programmes available for R&D.

⁴⁸ <http://erc.europa.eu/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.display&topicID=23>

Name:	European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)
Contact:	Budapest, Hungary
Email:	via internet (using EIT Contact form)
Website:	http://ec.europa.eu/eit/

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) is a major EU initiative which aims to foster excellence in European innovation and to provide new solutions for major challenges, such as climate change, renewable energies or the next generation of information and communication technologies. The EIT is the first European initiative to integrate fully the three sides of the 'Knowledge Triangle' (Higher Education, Research, Business-Innovation) and seeks to stand out as a world-class innovation-orientated reference model, inspiring and driving change in existing education and research institutions.

By boosting the EU's capacity to transform education and research results into tangible commercial innovation opportunities, the EIT will further bridge the innovation gap between the EU and its major international competitors. The EIT will favour sustainable economic growth and job creation throughout the Union by generating new products, services and markets responding both to public demand and to the needs of the knowledge economy.

Based on partnerships known as 'Knowledge and Innovation Communities' (KICs) – highly integrated public-private networks of universities, research organisations and businesses – the EIT's activities will be coordinated by a Governing Board ensuring its strategic management. Direct involvement of business stakeholders, including SMEs, in all strategic, operational and financial aspects of the Institute is the corner stone of the initiative.

The EU Member States decided unanimously on June 18, 2008, that the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) will have its headquarters in Budapest, Hungary.

The inaugural meeting of the newly appointed Governing Board of EIT was held in the Institute's host city of Budapest on September 15, 2008 and was preceded by a ceremonial opening in the presence of Hungarian Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsány, Commission President José Manuel Barroso, and Commissioner for Education, Training, Culture and Youth, Ján Figel', among others.

According to the EIT's webpage⁴⁹, the Governing Board will be responsible for steering the EIT's strategic orientation and for the selection, monitoring and evaluation of KICs. At the inaugural meeting in September 2008, the Governing Board members, consisting of 18 experts worldwide, unanimously elected Prof. Dr. Martin Schuurmans, a Professor of Physics and former Executive Vice President of Philips Research, as Chairman of the EIT's.

⁴⁹ http://ec.europa.eu/eit/news_en.htm#eit006news

3.1 International organisations/networks focusing on agricultural research

(in alphabetical order)

Name:	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)
Contact:	CGIAR Secretariat, World Bank, MSN G6-601, 1818 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20433, United States of America (USA)
Email:	cgiar@cgiar.org
Website:	http://www.cgiar.org/

The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), established in 1971, is a strategic partnership, whose 64 Members support 15 international Centers, working in collaboration with many hundreds of government and civil society organizations as well as private businesses around the world. CGIAR Members include 21 developing and 26 industrialized countries, four co-sponsors as well as 13 other international organizations. Today, more than 8,000 CGIAR scientists and staff are active in over 100 countries throughout the world.

The CGIAR generates cutting-edge science to foster sustainable agricultural growth that benefits the poor through stronger food security, better human nutrition and health, higher incomes and improved management of natural resources. The new crop varieties, knowledge and other products resulting from the CGIAR's collaborative research are made widely available to individuals and organizations working for sustainable agricultural development throughout the world.

The secretariat is located at the World Bank in Washington, USA.

Name:	EkoConnect - International Centre for Organic Agriculture of Central and Eastern Europe
Contact:	Arndtstr. 11, D - 01099 Dresden, Germany
Email:	info@ekoconnect.org
Website:	http://www.ekoconnect.org/

The International Centre for Organic Agriculture of Central and Eastern Europe, EkoConnect, was founded in 2003 as a non-profit organization aiming to enforce and support the exchange of information, knowledge and experiences in the field of organic agriculture. The centre also offers its network to experts and their organisations engaged in the organic sector from Western and Eastern Europe as a meeting platform.

EkoConnect is a member of the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM).

Name:	European Initiative on Agricultural Research for Development (EIARD)
Contact:	via website (includes also listing of EIARD National Contact Points)
Email:	via website
Website:	http://www.eiard.org/

The European Initiative on Agricultural Research for Development (EIARD) is an informal agricultural research for development (ARD) co-ordination platform of policy departments, in all EU Member States, Switzerland and Norway. Its effectiveness is ensured through country representatives and by the endorsement of its role by the European Council and Parliament. EIARD is implemented by a European Coordination Group (ECG).

EIARD was launched in 1995 by the Research Council and the Development Council and recognized by the European Parliament and Council in 1997. The EIARD's purpose is not to undertake research itself, but to enhance the appropriateness and effectiveness of European policies and investments in ARD.

Four broad objectives of the initiative are the following:

- Co-ordinated European positions on ARD;
- Effective partnerships within Europe, and between European and other partners (fostering research partnerships and supporting research programmes);
- Effective collaboration between Southern organisations; and
- Sustainable institutional development of National Agricultural Research Systems.

EIARD initiated an establishment of EARD-InfoSys+⁵⁰ which serves as a mechanism enabling better coherence between relevant policies in ARD within the European Member States (incl. Norway, Switzerland).

Name:	European Network for Advanced Engineering in Agriculture and Environment (ENGAGE)
Contact:	via website
Email:	via website
Website:	http://www.agronet.fi/engage/

The European Network for Advanced Engineering in Agriculture and Environment (ENGAGE) is a network of co-operating research institutes in the fields of agricultural,

⁵⁰ <http://www.infosysplus.org/>

biosystems and environmental engineering. It acts as a strategic division of the European Society of Agricultural Engineers (EurAgEng⁵¹).

Its aims of ENGAGE are to:

- identify and analyse opportunities for research and development in agricultural, biosystems and environmental engineering to advance agriculture and associated industries;
- explain, discuss and promote these opportunities both within EurAgEng in particular and the European Union in general;
- encourage and facilitate co-operation between appropriate engineers and scientists within the EU and in countries with scientific agreements; and
- make readily available expert advice in the areas of agricultural, biosystems and environmental engineering.

Participation in the activities of the Network is open to all institutions and organizations carrying research and development in agricultural, biosystems and environmental engineering in the EU and countries with scientific agreements with the EU.

Network meetings are held once a year and they are attended by representatives of one or two 'linking organizations' from each country, who provide a channel of communication with other interested parties. Broad decisions on the nature of Network activities and events are made at these meetings, where a consensus of those attending is sought.

Name:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Contact:	Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy
Email:	FAO-HQ@fao.org
Website:	http://www.fao.org/

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is a specialised agency of the United Nations (UN) that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. FAO was founded in October 1945 in Quebec City (Canada) and its headquarters were moved from Washington (USA) to Rome (Italy) in 1951.

Serving both developed and developing countries, FAO acts as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals in order to negotiate agreements and debate policy. FAO is also a source of knowledge and information, and helps developing countries and countries in transition modernise and improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices, ensuring good nutrition and food security for all.

According to the internet source⁵², FAO has currently 193 members (191 states, the European Community, and the Faroe Islands, which are associate members).

⁵¹ <http://www.eurageng.net/>

⁵² <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FAO>

Name:	Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR)
Contact:	FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy
Email:	gfar-secretariat@fao.org
Website:	http://www.egfar.org/

The Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) is a multistakeholder-led initiative that serves as a neutral forum for dialogue and action on strategic issues in agricultural research for development (ARD). The mission of GFAR is to mobilise and support the scientific community and all other stakeholders involved in agricultural research and innovation systems for development in their efforts to alleviate poverty, increase food security and promote sustainable utilization of natural resources.

GFAR facilitates and promotes cost-effective partnerships and strategic alliances among ARD stakeholders. GFAR is composed by seven stakeholder groups as follows: National Agricultural Research Systems from the south (Southern NARS); National Agricultural Research Systems from the north (Northern NARS); Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research Centres (CGIAR) and Non-CGIAR International Agricultural Research Centres (IARCs); Farmers' Organizations (FOs); Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs); Private Sector (PS); Donors and Development Agencies.

The GFAR Secretariat is hosted by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome, Italy.

Name:	International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM)
Contact:	Charles-de-Gaulle-Str. 5, 53113 Bonn, Germany
Email:	headoffice@ifoam.org
Website:	http://www.ifoam.org/

IFOAM is the worldwide umbrella organization for the organic movement, uniting more than 750 member organizations in 108 countries. IFOAM's mission is leading, uniting and assisting the organic movement in its full diversity. In order to fulfil its mission, five goals were set by the World Board for the medium term:

- Building the global platform for the organic movement;
- Developing, communicating and defending the principles of organic agriculture;
- Advocating and facilitating the adoption of organic agriculture;
- Promoting the development of organic markets; and
- Ensuring an effectively managed organization with sufficient and sustainable resources.

Name:	Network of European Agricultural Universities and Scientific Complexes Related with Agricultural Development (NATURA)
Contact:	NATURA Secretary General, Czech University of Agriculture Prague, Institute of Tropics and Subtropics, Kamýcká 129, 165 21 Prague 6 - Suchbátka, Czech Republic
Email:	secretary@natura.czu.cz
Website:	http://www.natura-net.eu/

The Network of European Agricultural (Tropically and Sub-tropically oriented) Universities and Scientific Complexes Related with Agricultural Development (NATURA) was established in 1988 as a non-profit organization. NATURA aims to develop concerted actions towards poverty reduction and sustainable rural development and includes 26 members from 16 European countries.

Priority fields on the network include:

- Sustainable Agriculture;
- Forestry and Forest Management;
- Food and Human Nutrition; and
- Livestock Management and Fisheries.

NATURA functions through a networking mechanism promoting:

- Institutional reinforcement of universities, national research centres and partners in developing countries;
- Partnerships between the European member organizations and partners in developing countries;
- Alignment of the scientific and technical potential among the NATURA members; and
- Policy dialogue and research for development advocacy.

The network supports the development and implementation of joint projects for research and training in tropical and subtropical land-use and related areas. These projects are undertaken by NATURA members and developing country partners, usually with the support from bi- and multi-lateral donors.

4 Projects focusing on agricultural research

Projects supported within all FP7 themes are published on CORDIS webpage after the closed negotiation process and signed grant agreement between the EC and the beneficiaries.⁵³

Numerous agricultural projects supported in the framework of the FP6, FP5 and FP4 can be viewed on the web portals indicated in the chapter 1.2. of this thematic report.

⁵³ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/projects_en.html

Special attention should be given to EU - Agrinet portal⁵⁴, containing a database of research projects funded by the EU in the agriculture, food, fisheries, forestry and rural development sectors. For each project information on the administrative details is provided along with the scientific objectives and in the case of finished projects the actual results from the work performed.

4.1 EU projects – running projects (a selection)

(in alphabetical order)

Name:	ArtWET - Mitigation of agricultural nonpoint-source pesticide pollution and phytoremediation in artificial wetland ecosystems
Website:	http://www.artwet.fr/
Time frame:	October 2006 - September 2009 (36 months)
Supported by:	LIFE Programme, LIFE - Environment
Partners:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National School for Water and Environmental Engineering of Strasbourg (ENGEES), France (coordinator) - Cemagref, France - University of Haute Alsace, France - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy - Albert Ludwigs Universität Freiburg, Germany - University of Koblenz Landau, Germany - Chamber of Agriculture Indre et Loire, France - BURGEAP, France - Ingenieurbuero Dilger GmbH, Germany - Verbandsgemeinde Landau Land, Germany

The ArtWET project, supported by the LIFE Programme, focuses on establishing low-cost vegetated treatment systems (biological systems) to reduce the risk of agricultural non point-source (NPS) pesticide pollution in surface water.

The objective of the project is to implement the water framework 2000/60/EC and reach required improvements to water quality by 2015. Vegetated ditches, natural and constructed wetlands and forest plots are used as demonstration sites. The project proposes a set of pilot scale solutions applicable in the EU and provides technical guidance on minimizing the risk of NPS pesticide pollution.

Benefiting countries and regions include:

- Deutschland (Rheinland–Pfalz, Baden–Württemberg);
- France (Île,de,France, Centre Alsace, Rhône–Alpes); and
- Italia (Emilia–Romagna).

⁵⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/research/agriculture/index_en.html

The technological knowledge acquired through the project is disseminated through conferences, training course, databases and websites with the aid of the ArtWET coordinator ENGEES (National School for Water and Environmental Engineering of Strasbourg) and the project's partners.

Name:	BIOSAFENET - Biosafety Research Communication Network
Website:	http://www.gmo-safety.eu/en/biosafenet_navigator/project/
Time frame:	September 2006 - February 2009 (30 months)
Supported by:	6 th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6), FOOD-2005-T0
Partners:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Federal Biological Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry, Institute of Plant Virology, Microbiology and Biosafety, Germany (coordinator) - Genius GmbH, Germany - Agricultural Research Center of Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary - International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Italy - National Hellenic Research Foundation, Greece

The Biosafety Research Communication Network (Biosafenet) is an EU-funded network of European scientists working in the field of GMO biosafety research. The project aim is the combination of biosafety information from various EU research programmes and from existing European GMO biosafety networks.

Additionally, research results are summarised for scientific discussion as well as for policy making. The project also supports the activities of the International Society for Biosafety Research (ISBR) and secures active participation of European experts in the biennial International Symposia on Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organism (ISBGMO), which are the only internationally-recognised symposia in this field of research.

The main activities of Biosafenet are:

- Contribution to the advancement of the GMO-Safety internet platform;
- Creation a navigator tool to facilitate access to other biosafety-related internet resources and research documents;
- Active participation of European experts in the International Symposia on Biosafety of GMO (2006 and 2008);
- Execution of expert seminars and production of recommendation reports from different fields of biosafety research;
- Establishment of a network of local biosafety research representatives;
- Support of the activities of the international biosafety research community and the International Society for Biosafety Research (ISBR).

Name:	COLORSPORE - New sources of natural, gastric stable, food additives, colourants and novel functional foods
Website:	Not available yet (via http://www.rhul.ac.uk/)
Time frame:	June 2008 - May 2011 (36 months)
Supported by:	7 th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7), KBBE-2007-2.3-03 (Bio-)technologies for the production of food additives, colorants and flavours
Partners:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, Egham Hill, United Kingdom (coordinator) - Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, Germany - Aquapharm Biodiscovery Ltd, UK - University of Medicine&Pharmacy at Ho Ci Minh City, Vietnam - NESTEC S.A., Switzerland - Technical University of Istanbul, Turkey - Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA), France - Federico II University, Italy

Recently, gastric-stable bacterial-derived carotenoid preparations have been discovered by members of this consortium and these 2nd generation carotenoid preparations, and the bacteria should be studied within the COLORSPORE research project supported under FP7. Existing prototypes will be developed as potential food additives but an extensive screen for new 2nd generation prototypes will also be made from marine environments.

The project's consortium includes microbiologists, biochemists and food biotechnologists and will determine the identity of new carotenoid preparations and the bacteria that produce them. The nutritional value of these bacteria will be assessed and a risk-benefit assessment made using modern metabolomic technologies as well as traditional toxicology in order to designate the prototypes as qualified presumption of safety. Bio-processing of these bacterial carotenoid preparations will eliminate traditional chemical synthesis and the use of organic solvents. Also the delivery system will utilise a synergistic biological matrix making it a sustainable source.

Name:	EADGENE - European Animal Disease Genomics Network of Excellence for animal health and food safety
Website:	http://www.eadgene.info/
Time frame:	September 2004 - August 2009 (60 months)
Supported by:	6 th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6), FOOD-2002-T26 Genomics of host-pathogen interactions in animals
Partners:	EADGENE co-ordinates the host-pathogen genomics research activities of 13 organisations, from 10 European countries.

EADGENE is a Network of Excellence and aims to coordinate a genomics approach to the unravelling of the host-pathogen interactions in domestic livestock. Thus, EADGENE intends to provide the basic knowledge necessary for the development of new or improved therapeutics and vaccines, improved diagnostics and the breeding of farm animals for disease resistance. By concentrating on pathogens of importance in the food chain, this research will impact upon human health and lifestyle choices.

EADGENE's Research, Integration, Spreading of Excellence and Management activities bring together sufficient expertise and resources from research institutes throughout Europe to make a real difference to animal and human health. Achievements of EADGENE's in research, integration and technology transfer activities are already presented on the project's webpage.

Name:	ResistVir - Co-ordination of research on genetic resistance to control plant pathogenic viruses and their vectors in European crops
Website:	http://www.resistvir-db.org/
Time frame:	February 2005 - January 2009 (48 months)
Supported by:	6 th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6), FOOD-CT-2005-06961
Partners:	The project's consortium involves 48 research organisations and is represented by following countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and United Kingdom.

ResistVir is an EU-funded Coordination Action (CA) with major aim to improve co-ordination of research on genetic resistance as one of the best ways to control plant pathogenic viruses and vectors in European crops.

One of the main aims of ResistVir project is to create an on-line database about the research activities on plant genetic resistances to pathogenic viruses and their vectors in European crops. Methods, technologies and resources used to control plant viruses and their vectors are also recorded in the project database. This database informs of the latest developments related to the control of plant pathogenic viruses and their vectors.

The specific objectives are to assemble information on the latest European and worldwide progress towards using resistance to control plant viruses/vectors and to co-ordinate cutting-edge European research. The barriers to the development should be identified and new resistant varieties used. The harmonisation of national and European standards, legislation, ethical issues, codes of practice and regulations related to GM and traditionally-bred crops for control of plant pathogenic viruses/vectors should be encouraged.

4.2 EU projects – recently completed projects (a selection)

(in alphabetical order)

Name:	AGTEC-Org - Agronomical and technological methods to improve organic wheat quality
Website:	http://agtec.coreportal.org/
Time frame:	May 2006 - April 2008 (24 months)
Supported by:	6 th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6); transnational funding by means of a virtual common pot approach (CORE Organic ERA-NET)
Partners:	The project is co-ordinated by ISARA Lyon, Department of Agrosystems, Environment and Production, Agroecology and Organic Farming Unit based, France.

The overall objective of the project AGTEC-Org was to identify agronomical and food processing technologies that enhance the baking quality and the nutritional value of organic wheat and reduce mycotoxin contamination.

Specific objectives were to:

- evaluate the current practices for organic grain wheat production and flour-processing in Europe;
- improve crop management strategies to enable bread-quality wheat to be produced on organic farms with and without livestock;
- develop optimal post-harvest treatment to prevent mycotoxin contamination and enhance bread making quality and nutritional value; and
- generalise results from experiments in order to enhance farm management strategies in diverse climates and soil types.

This multidisciplinary consortium facilitated the dissemination of the findings and technical advances on both agronomical and technological methods to improve organic wheat and flour quality and safety across Europe. The research results benefited the competitiveness of European organic agriculture and related food industries.

The AGTEC-Org project was one of the trans-national research projects initiated as a result of the cooperation in the CORE Organic ERA-NET. To learn more about other CORE Organic's trans-national research projects, please consult the webpage of the ERA.NET.⁵⁵

⁵⁵ <http://www.coreorganic.org/research/index.html>

Name:	BAFN - Balkan Agro Food Network
Website:	http://www.europartnersearch.net/bafn/ http://www.bafn.eu (not in operation at the moment)
Time frame:	May 2006 - April 2008 (24 months)
Supported by:	6 th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6), INCO-2002-E Multilateral coordination of national RTD policies and activities
Partners:	The consortium was created by 13 organisations from 8 countries and coordinated by EUROQUALITY, France. Full list of partners available on the webpage.

BAFN (Balkan Agro Food Network) project's aim was to stimulate the agrifood research in the Western Balkan Countries (countries covered: Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia - FYROM).

The main objectives were to:

- identify research topics suitable for cooperation between scientists from EU and Western Balkan Countries (WBC); and
- propose support mechanisms which could benefit to the agri-food research community from the WBC.

The final results were discussed with representatives from the EC in Paris in March 2008 and final reports on the Western Balkan agrifood research mapping of competencies were edited afterwards.

A directory with more than 330 research groups and 480 companies from the agricultural and food sector was developed during the project realization and the BAFN research database should be further maintained.

Name:	EPOBIO - Realising the economic potential of sustainable resources - bioproducts from non-food crops (incorporating BioMatNet)
Website:	http://www.epobio.net ; http://www.biomatnet.org
Time frame:	November 2005 - December 2007 (25 months)
Supported by:	6 th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6), POLICIES-1.2 Tools and assessment methods for sustainable agriculture and forestry management, and United States Department of Agriculture
Partners:	All EU partners and American partners of the project can be listed on the webpage.

EPOBIO brought together world-class scientific and industrial expertise to identify areas for further investment in plant science research in order to realise the economic potential of plant-derived raw materials with long-term benefits to society. In this international initiative, academic and industrial scientists were working together to develop products within the wider framework of environmental impact and benefit, economics, regulations, attitudes and expectations of policy makers and the public. The aim was to ensure products of high utility that benefit society will reach the market place in 10-15 years.

Name:	EU AGRI MAPPING - Mapping & Foresight of the European Agricultural & Food Research Capacity
Website:	http://www.agrifoodresearch.net
Time frame:	January 2006 - December 2007 (24 months)
Supported by:	6 th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6), FOOD-2003-T0 Realising ERA objectives and United States Department of Agriculture.
Partners:	The project is co-ordinated by Euroquality based in France. For full list of all partners, national and subcontracted expert, please consult the webpage.

The overall objective of the project was to provide recommendations on the developments that should be desirable in agricultural and food research in Europe. The project covered 25 Member States and 4 Accessing and Candidate Countries (Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and Turkey) and 4 countries associated to FP being members of the Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Israel).

Results of the project are:

- Database with statistical data on the research establishments from the New Member States (NMS) and the Acceding and Candidate Countries (ACC) involved in agricultural and food research;
- Mapping report identifying the main players in agricultural research using the results of the survey realized in the EU-14, a synthesis of the existing literature, studies and databases in the EU-15+4 and bibliometric indicators in the EU-29+4;
- Consolidated report on the trends and the needs in terms of agricultural & food research topics;
- Consolidated report identifying gaps between the needs and the current activities & resources of the European research establishments as well as a position paper formulating recommendations on the developments that would be desirable to support the development of the research potential by 2020.

4.3 International agriculture projects linking European Union and Latin American countries

(in alphabetical order)

Name:	ALCUE-FOOD - From European fork to Latin American farm: an innovative networking platform for EU-LAC partnerships in food quality and safety R&D
Website:	http://www.alcuefood.org/
Time frame:	January 2005 - June 2008 (42 months)
Supported by:	6 th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6), FOOD-2003-T0 Realising ERA objectives
Partners:	Following countries are represented in the project's consortium: France, Spain, Portugal, Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Uruguay.

The overall objective of ALCUE-FOOD project (Specific Support Action – SSA) was to establish, within the framework of the ALCUE S&T dialogue process, a permanent food quality and safety platform. The platform facilitated information development and sharing, promoted a greater convergence in RTD and elaboration of food quality and safety policies, synergized technology transfer and trade and finally optimized the utilization of cooperation resources.

Specific objectives of the projects were to:

- develop and implement a comprehensive information system on food quality and safety issues (regulations, standards, methodologies) in support of R&D activities as well as other identified end user groups;
- provide all parties involved in the agrifood system effective networking resources for a continuing dialogue and joint activities on RTD policies, human resources development, and technological and organizational innovation in food quality and safety systems;
- strengthen 'Networks of Excellence' in Southern Cone countries for carrying out joint bi-regional research programs on topics of common interest, defined within a 'from European fork to Latin American farm' approach;
- create synergy and enhance the effectiveness of the different existing co-operation instruments for strengthening LAC and EU; and
- contribute to the opening of the European Research Area, by offering Latin American and Southern Cone research teams the opportunity to join European networks and /or consortia.

Name:	EUMercoPol - Analysis of the competitiveness of Mercosur's key agri-food sectors, comparison of policies and the ex-ante impacts of EU-Mercosur trade liberalisation
Website:	http://www.eumercopol.org/
Time frame:	April 2005 - June 2008 (39 months)
Supported by:	6 th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6); POLICIES-1.2 Tools and assessment methods for sustainable agriculture and forestry management.
Partners:	Following countries are represented in the project's consortium: France, Spain, Portugal, Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Uruguay. For full list of 11 partners from 9 countries, please consult the webpage.

The EUMercoPol project's (STREP) aim was to generate solid scientific contributions supporting the formulation and implementation of Community policies. The EUMercoPol three principal objectives were analyzing the following:

- Competitiveness of key agri-food sectors in the Mercosur region (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, Chile, Bolivia), vis-à-vis the EU commodity systems;
- Agri-food policies in the context of production, consumption and trade environments, between the Mercosur and EU; and
- Ex-ante impact of liberalized trade between the EU and Mercosur on markets, budgets, and key indicators of their agricultural sectors.

All reports and publications related to this topic are presented on the project's webpage.

Name:	GUYAGROFOR – Development of sustainable agroforestry systems based on indigenous and Maroon knowledge in the Guyana shield region
Website:	http://www.guyagrofor.eu/
Time frame:	November 2004 - October 2008 (48 months)
Supported by:	6 th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6), INCO-A.2 Rational use of natural resources and Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Fisheries
Partners:	The project is coordinated by Alterra, Netherlands and includes working teams coming from Belgium, Brazil, Netherlands, Portugal, Suriname and Venezuela.

The GUYAGROFOR project aims to develop productive and diverse farming systems of economically viable products that are adapted to the forest ecosystem through combined efforts of researchers and Indigenous and Maroon farmers.

The project intends to strengthen the capacity of Indigenous and Maroon farmers to perform successfully on national, regional and international markets and increase their incomes through the development of product chains of economically viable cash crops and non timber forest products. Through the exchange of knowledge which is arranged between farmers and researchers during the execution of the field trials, GUYAGROFOR wants to increase farmers ability to experiment and innovate their production systems.

The project plan identifies a number of specific final project deliverables. Some of the most important are:

- A selection of most promising strategies and identification of scenarios that are environmentally, economically and socially applicable to each type of exploitation/enterprise;
- Tailor made guidelines for sustainable production and commercialisation of cash crops and (non-) timber forest products including capacity building;
- Brochures / leaflets on environmental management strategies, product chain improvement strategies and strategies for organisational strengthening for Indigenous and Maroon agro-forestry systems; and
- Conclusive participatory training/exchange sessions.

Name:	PLEIADeS - Participatory multi-Level EO-assisted tools for Irrigation water management and Agricultural Decision-Support
Website:	http://www.pleiades.es/
Time frame:	September 2006 - September 2009 (36 months)
Supported by:	6 th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6), SUSTDEV-3 Global change and ecosystems
Partners:	The consortium consists of 24 partners from the following countries: Brasil, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and USA.

PLEIADeS (Participatory multi-Level EO-assisted tools for Irrigation water management and Agricultural Decision-Support) is a research and technological development project responding to the identified need for targeted research in the area of 'integrated management strategies and mitigation technologies'; topic 'Water in agriculture: new systems and technologies for irrigation and drainage'.

The overall goal of PLEIADeS is to improve and optimise irrigation and drainage systems by means of new technologies (in this context, new technologies include Earth observation, Geographical Information Systems, Information and Communication Technologies, and Decision-Support systems).

In order to achieve this overall goal four specific objectives have been set:

- Benchmarking case studies;
- Tools based on new technologies;
- Trial campaigns in pilot areas with the active participation of users at farm and irrigation scheme level; and
- Evaluation of the performances of the new technologies-assisted tools using an extended evaluation system covering technical, economic, environmental, social and political dimensions and involving stakeholders at all levels over the whole lifetime of the project.

Name:	WAFLA – Integrated Water resource management by the implementation of improved Agro-Forestry concepts in arid and semiarid areas in Latin America
Website:	http://www.wafla.com
Time frame:	October 2006 - March 2009 (30 months)
Supported by:	6 th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6), INCO Specific measures in support of international co-operation
Partners:	The project is coordinated by the Technology Transfer Centre Bremerhaven, Germany and the consortium consists of 22 partners from the following European and Latin American countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, United Kingdom, Venezuela. All partners can be listed on the project's webpage.

The overall objective of WAFLA project is to coordinate and integrate the current scientific research, technological innovation and social and policy development activities, creating synergies to promote the adoption of integrated water resource management and improved agroforestry systems in order to propose feasible solutions to combat the advancing desertification and degradation of the arid and semi-arid ecosystems and to enhance rural development in Latin America.

The project's strategic objectives include:

- Encouragement of the establishment of permanent communication links between research centres, rural developing associations, regional networks and other stakeholder in Latin America;
- Co-ordination of current research and development activities in Latin America;
- Definition, initiation and guidance of future R&D activities;
- Identification of management strategies and participatory policy options; and
- Dissemination of the results through an Integrated Agroforestry/Water Management Extension Programme Guidelines.

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6 List of Acronyms / Definitions

ACC - Acceding and Candidate Countries
 AET - Agricultural Engineering and Technology
 AGORA - Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture
 ARD - Agricultural Research for Development
 BioETP - European BioTechnological Platform
 CA - Coordination Action
 CC - Candidate Country
 CIP - Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme
 CORDIS - Community Research and Development Information Service
 COST - European Cooperation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research
 CSA - Coordination and support actions
 DG - Directorate General
 EAP - Environment Action Programme
 EC - European Commission
 EIARD - European Initiative for Agricultural Research for Development
 EIB - European Investment Bank
 EIT - European Institute of Innovation and Technology
 ERA - European Research Area
 ERA-NET - European Research Area Network
 ESF - European Science Foundation
 ETPGAH - European Technology Platform for Global Animal Health
 ETPs - European Technology Platforms
 EU - European Union
 EUR - Euro (currency)
 EurAgEng - European Society of Agricultural Engineers
 FABRE-TP - Technology Platform on Farm Animal Breeding and Reproduction
 FAFB - Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Biotechnology
 FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
 FP - Framework Programmes
 FP4 - 4th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development
 FP5 - 5th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development
 FP6 - 6th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development
 FP7 - 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development
 FTP - Forest Based Sector Technology Platform
 FYROM - Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
 GMOs - Genetically Modified Organisms
 ICPC - International Cooperation Partner Countries
 ICT - Information and Communication Technologies
 IFOAM - International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements
 ISBGMO - International Symposia on Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organism
 ISBR - International Society for Biosafety Research
 IWRM - Integrated Water Resource Management
 JRC - Joint Research Centre
 JTIs - Joint Technology Initiatives
 KBBE - Knowledge Based Bio-Economy
 KICs - Knowledge and Innovation Communities



LAC - Latin America and the Caribbean
NMS - New Member States
NPS - non point-source
PCC - Pre-Candidate Countries
PI - Principal Investigator
R&D - Research and Development
SICA - Specific International Cooperation Actions
SKEP - Scientific Knowledge for Environmental Protection
STREP - Specific Targeted Research Project
SRA - Strategic Research Agenda
SRA/SDD - Strategic Research Agenda and Strategy Deployment Document
SSA - Specific Support Action
TEL - technology-enhanced learning
TP - Technology platform
UN - United Nations
USA - United States of America
WBC - Western Balkan Countries