



ECRN Inside News

2010

July / August Edition

Dear members and friends of the ECRN,

With this summer edition of the ECRN inside news we inform you as always about news in our sector. Using this occasion, our next major event after the summer break should be mentioned: the ECRN Congress on the 7th October. The registration is from now on open via our website and we invite our stakeholders to confirm their participation.

We look forward to welcome representatives from the European Commission, Industry, associations, trade Unions and regional

governments.

In this edition of our monthly newsletter you will also find articles about the latest development in the ETS process, as well as a special focus on the funds available under the FP7 for Research and Development.

Enjoy the reading!

We wish to you pleasant holidays and remain,

Sincerely yours,

Michael Hack

Director of the ECRN Network Secretariat

ECRN Inside
News

July/August 2010

Inside this issue:

ECRN Affairs 2

Press Clippings 3-6

Selection of Funding Calls 6-7

Contact 8



ECRN Team in summer 2010!



Registration open for 8th ECRN Congress

The ECRN Secretariat would like to inform you that the registration for the 8th ECRN Congress that will take place on 7th October 2010 in Brussels is open now. On the ECRN website (www.ecrn.net) you can sign in for the Congress as well as for the networking reception on 6th October at the Errerahuis. Under the heading "Chemical Regions Reflecting High Level Group Recommendations", the Congress will have its focus on the current state of the implementation of results of the High Level Group on Chemistry. It is organized in cooperation with ECRN

members Flanders and Wallonia and constitutes an event with the support of the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union. You will soon receive an official invitation card. As always, a meeting of the ECRN executive board will be held before the Congress. The details of this meeting will be communicated to you in due time.

The ECRN is looking forward to welcoming you on 6th and 7th October in Brussels! In case of any questions, please contact the ECRN Secretariat.

ECRN in the second half of 2010: upcoming events

Apart from the 8th Congress which will take place on 7th October 2010 in Brussels and which will be combined with an ECRN Executive Board meeting, (further information will follow), also other ECRN meetings are on the agenda after the summer break: The next PWG meeting will take place on the 9th of September in member region Tees Valley. It will, as last time, be linked to a ChemClust meeting

in order to save members traveling costs and time. In November, the ECRN will organize an MEP evening and this year's last PWG meeting in Brussels (exact dates and locations to be confirmed as soon as possible). Further details on these events will follow. In case of any questions, please contact the ECRN Secretariat.



This year's ECRN Congress is co-organized by ECRN members Flanders and Wallonia with the support of the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union



The next meeting of the ECRN Permanent Working Group will take place on 9 September in Tees Valley

Auctioning Rules for Emissions Trading Scheme Proposed

The member states' experts of the Climate Change Committee on 14 July approved a proposal made by the European Commission on a Regulation governing the auctioning of emission allowances under the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS). This has been reported in a press release by the Commission. The draft contains rules for the third ETS trading period that starts in 2013 as well as for the allowances to be used in the aviation sector from 2012 onwards.

From 2013 onwards the free allocation of emission allowances will be progressively replaced by auctioning. In 2013 already more than half of the allowances will be auctioned. Earlier this month, the Commission had adopted a decision in which it proposes for the first time a maximum number of allowances available for the year 2013, as Agence Europe stated on 12 July. This will help the EU achieving its goal of a 20% cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020.

In the new draft regulation it is stated that the EU member states and the European Commission will jointly create a common platform for the auctioning of allowances. This is believed to be most cost-efficient and shall guarantee non-discrimination, transparency and simplicity in the auctioning process. As a compromise to this much-discussed provision, Member states that want to run plat-

forms of their own – like the United Kingdom, Germany, Spain and Poland - can, however, do so if they keep to certain rules provided for in the regulation. All auctions will be held in the "single-round, sealed-bid, uniform-price" format and an auctioning calendar with the exact volumes and dates will be made available a year in advance. Also the need to provide adequate access for small and medium-sized enterprises will be taken into account when determining the details of the auctioning process.

The draft regulation is being approved under the comitology procedures. If the Council and European Parliament do not object to the provisions within a three-month scrutiny period, the regulation will be adopted by the European Commission.

The press release of the European Commission can be accessed at <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/948&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en> and the accompanying memo at <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/10/338&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>. More information can also be found at Agence Europe (www.agenceeurope.com).



The free allocation of allowances for emission trading will be progressively replaced by auctioning from 2013 onwards



Auctioning and capping the maximum number of allowances will help the EU to achieve its climate goals

EU to make biggest ever Investment in Research and Innovation

The European Commissioner for Research and Innovation, Máire Geoghegan-Quinn announced the EU's biggest ever investment into research and innovation, according to a Commission press release and a memo of 19 July. By the end of 2011 € 6.4 billion will be made available for funding covering many scientific disciplines, public policy areas and commercial sectors. The package aims at increasing European competitiveness and helping to solve societal challenges like climate change, energy and food security, health and an ageing society. According to the Commissioner, it is meant to be a huge economic stimulus, creating more than 165,000 jobs and presenting a long-term investment in a smarter, sustainable and more inclusive Europe. The investment package therefore constitutes a key element of the Europe 2020 Strategy and its Innovation Union Flagship that will be formally launched in autumn.

The funding will be made available through calls for proposals and evaluations under the EU's Seventh Framework Programme during the next 14 months. Key research areas are health which will receive € 600 million, and Information and Communication Technology with € 1.2 billion. € 1.3 billion will be made available for the best creative scientists, and another € 772 million will be used to provide mobility grants for 7,000 qualified researchers. About € 800 million of the total funding will be allocated to SMEs.

The investment package especially aims at translating research into new technologies, products and services. € 436 million will be devoted to generating innovative industrial products, processes and

services. Priorities in this area are public-private partnerships, material for environmentally friendly production, and the generation of new materials for energy generation storage and efficiency. Energy research also makes up € 210 billion of the total package. Nanotechnologies will be funded with € 270 million, the focus being on research leading to patenting and commercialization opportunities. Environmental research and the building up of a knowledge-based European bio-economy will be funded with € 240.

According to the European Commission, about 16,000 participants from research organizations, university and industry will receive funding out of the 2011 package. The first calls for proposals have been published on 20 July, others will follow later.

Further information on this topic can be found in the Commission's press release (<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/966&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>) and the accompanying memo (<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/10/339&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>). All calls for funding can be accessed via the Cordis website (<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?function=UserSite.FP7CallsPage&rs>). A selection of the new calls important for ECRN members is also presented in this issue of the Inside News.



Máire Geoghegan-Quinn announced that € 6.4 billion will be invested in research and development by the end of 2011



The funding will be made available through the Seventh Framework Programme

Press Clippings

Access to EU Regional Funds Eased

As stated in a press release of the European Commission on 25 June, new measures to facilitate access to the EU regional development funds have been adopted. The changes present a reaction to the economic crisis. They are designed to ensure liquidity and investments in the face of often troubled public finances. With the help of the new measures, member states can provide the additional funding required to 'match' European investments. They are given the possibility to speed up the implementation of projects which will help their economies in times of crisis.

Among the measures that entered into force on 25 June are a total of € 775 million of additional advance payments that will be made to several EU member states most threatened by liquidity problems. Furthermore, the deadline for using all the money available under the different regional funds has been extended in order to guarantee full absorption. Additionally,

from now onwards only large projects costing € 50 million or more will require approval by the Commission, and the possibility to finance major projects by more than one programme has been introduced. Next to that, the procedure for the revision of the programmes and the rules on 'revenue-generating' projects have been simplified, and the obligation to maintain investments has been eased. The possibility of using financial engineering has also been enhanced.

The press release of the European Commission can be accessed at <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/838&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>. Further information can also be found at EurActiv (<http://www.euractiv.com/en/regional-policy/commission-eases-access-regional-funds-news-495671>).



Several measures to facilitate access and full absorption of the EU's regional funds have entered into force



Public Consultation on the Scope of REACH

The European Commission intends to carry out a review in order to assess whether the REACH regulation needs to be amended in its scope. Any stakeholder or interested party can report specific instances in which other provisions of EU law overlap with REACH or if gaps exist between REACH and other EU law. The identified overlaps and gaps can for example be in terms of exemptions, definitions,

risk assessment or risk management methodology, specific Authorization or Restrictions regimes, or specific substance issues.

More information and the form for sending in contributions can be found on <http://www.reachscope.eu/>, the website of the Commission's contractor. Deadline for this public consultation is 1 December 2010.



Interested parties are called upon to participate in a public consultation on the scope of REACH

Press Clippings

Public Consultation on the EU Raw Materials Initiative

The European Commission is preparing a new communication on the progress made with the implementation of its 2008 Raw Materials Initiative, and on the way forward. All stakeholders are called upon to send in their views, opinions and suggestions.

All information and documents necessary to participate in this consultation are available at http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/raw-materials/public-consultation/index_en.htm. The deadline for contributions is 19 September 2010.



Selection of Funding Calls

Below you will find for your information some recent calls for European Funding programs of potential relevance for the ECRN members. It is a selection and makes no claim to be complete. These are some calls and programs which could be worth to be looked at in

more detail, depending on regional priorities. For more details on the different programs, please refer to the web-addresses given.

In case of any suggestions or questions, please feel free to contact the ECRN Secretariat.

Call Identifier	Call Title	Funding Scheme	Eligibility Conditions	Deadline	Website
	Eco-innovation Projects	Sub-programme of CIP (Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme)	All legal persons that are based in eligible countries but priority to Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs). Clusters of applicants and projects which demonstrate a European added value and have a high potential for market replication are strongly encouraged.	9 September 2010	http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecoinnovation/application_en.htm
FP7-NMP-2011-LARGE-5	Theme 4 – NMP - Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies – LARGE 2011	FP7	At least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a Member State or Associated Country, and no 2 of which are established in the same Member State or Associated Country	First stage: 4 November 2010	http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=370#infopack
FP7-NMP-2011-SMALL-5	Theme 4 – NMP - Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies – SMALL 2011	FP7	Collaborative Project: At least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a MS or AC, and no 2 of which are established in the same MS or AC; Specific cooperation Action (SICA) dedicated to international cooperation partner countries: At least 4 independent legal entities. Of these, 2 must be established in different MS or AC. The other 2 must be established in different international cooperation partner countries (ICPC)	4 November 2010	http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=369#infopack

Selection of Funding Calls

Call Identifier	Call Title	Funding Scheme	Eligibility Conditions	Deadline	Website
FP7-ENERGY-2011-1	Energy Call Part 1	FP7	Collaborative Project, Coordination Action: at least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a Member State or Associated Country, and no 2 of which are established in the same Member State or Associated Country; supporting actions: at least 1 independent legal entity	16 November 2010	http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=315#infopack
FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2011-1	Research Infrastructures	FP7	Research infrastructures and their stakeholders, public authorities, technological partners, Research institutes, Universities, Industry, including SMEs, Potential endusers; for most parts: at least three legal entities established in different member states and associated countries	25 November 2010	http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CapacitiesDetailsCallPage&call_id=364#infopack
FP7-2011-GC-ELECTRO-CHEMICAL-STORAGE	Sustainable Automotive Electrochemical Storage	FP7	coordinating actions: at least 3 independent legal entities, each of which is established in a Member State or Associated Country, and no 2 of which are established in the same Member State or Associated Country; supporting actions: at least 1 independent legal entity	2 December 2010	http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=349#infopack
FP7-REGIONS-2011-1	Regions of Knowledge	FP7	Consortia of partners representing a minimum of three regional research-driven clusters from at least three different EU Member States and/or Associated Countries. Research-driven clusters must be composed of at least three types of legal entities (so called 'triple helix'), namely legal entities conducting research, business entities and regional/local authorities	9 December 2010	http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CapacitiesDetailsCallPage&call_id=338
FP7-ERANET-2011-RTD	ERA-NET Call 2011	FP7	The minimum number of participants in an ERA-NET consortium is 3 independent legal entities which finance or manage publicly funded national or regional programmes. Each of these must be established in a different Member State or Associated Country	22 February 2011	http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CooperationDetailsCallPage&call_id=312
	Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP)	Erasmus Grundtvig Comenius Leonardo da Vinci	The Lifelong Learning Programme applies to all types and levels of education and vocational education and training, for details please check the different sub-programmes of interest	Deadlines differ for every sub-programme.	http://ec.europa.eu/education/llp/doc848_en.htm
	Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP)	Sub-programme of CIP (Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme)	Differs for the different parts of the programme; in general: companies, research organisations, NGOs and other organizations, public authorities	Deadlines differ for the different parts of the programme	http://ec.europa.eu/cip/documents/work-programmes/index_en.htm

**European
Chemical Regions
Network**



ECRN Inside News

July/August 2010

ECRN Secretariat
Boulevard St.Michel 80
B-1040 Bruxelles

Register:
Amtsgericht Magdeburg 1995

Phone: +32 (0) 2 7410 947
Fax: +32 (0) 2 7410 927
E-mail: office@ecrn.net
Web: www.ecrn.net



ECRN Office in Brussels