



# **Policy initiatives for facilitating entry of foreign entrepreneurs in the EU**

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# EU and India: Innovation overview (1/2)

- Europe at a glance: 32% of patent applications; some of the most innovative companies (1/4 of world's top 2000 R&D investors); 24% of global expenditure on research.
- 2019 EU Innovation Scoreboard: EU's innovation performance continues to improve for four years in a row, and for first time outperforms US.
- Indian innovation system: maturing with many initiatives (Start-up India; AGNii; AIM) and policies at Centre and State level, with India ranking higher every year in the Global Innovation Index.

# EU and India: Innovation overview (2/2)

- Modi 2 government: innovation remains high on the agenda (100 innovation zones in urban local bodies; establishment of 50,000 startups; 100 incubators and 50 centres of excellence by 2024).
- EU: European Innovation Council (EIC) setup under the next EU research and innovation programme 'Horizon Europe' (2021-2027) to turn Europe's scientific discoveries into businesses that can scale up faster.

# EU-India Innovation Partnership

- October 2017: EU – India Summit, the leaders committed "*to enhance cooperation on innovation aiming at strengthening cooperation between European and Indian industries and startup ecosystems.*"
- October 2018: EU launched a two-year pilot initiative to facilitate collaboration and co-creation among both innovation ecosystems. Two-pronged approach:
  - » EU-India Network of Incubators/Accelerators;
  - » EU Platform on Innovation.



## Network of Incubators/Accelerators

- The 'EU-India Incubators and Accelerators Network', facilitates matchmaking of incubators and accelerators from Europe and India in view of co-creation.
- First networking event in October 2018 in Bengaluru; the second meeting in Tallinn (Estonia) in May 2019.
- In total, about 60+ incubators from both regions are now connected.
- Overall aim: kick start a self-sustaining ecosystem that fosters high level technology and innovation partnerships that benefit both regions.
- Outcomes: Plan of Action agreed, MoU signed, and additional partnerships under discussion.
- Type of actions (mostly 'soft landing'): networking, mentoring/coaching, learning/knowledge exchange, market access, adaptation of business models, branding/visibility; co-working space; joint startup events.



# EU Innovation platform

- A forum bringing together European innovation actors, active in India, both from private and public sectors.
- Main objective: better understand each other's innovation ecosystems and create synergies among the innovation initiatives undertaken by European and Indian stakeholders.
- Launch event in New Delhi in October 2018: 60 participants from EU MS/AC Countries, representatives from European public authorities and the corporate sector. By now 85 members; open to more members.
- Interact with Indian institutional stakeholders: National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB) within DST; Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) within DBT, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) within NITI Aayog and Startup India within Invest India.
- Possible Joint Actions: virtual and physical space for co-creation, start-ups pitching, hackathons, thematic clusters to address specific challenges

# Suggested Actions to enhance Cooperation

- Need for **coaching** of entrepreneurs;
- Support/expertise to do **technical and quality assessment** of technology;
- **Mentors**: create a pool;
- Support for business plan;
- Access to finance; investment for their expansion;
- Long term international partnerships between incubators;
- Exchange of information online and offline about events, general know-how, opportunities for start-ups;
- Easy visa facility regime for entrepreneurs/start-ups;
- Synergize policies and initiatives of the government (centre and state) focusing on domestic market promotion, skills



**A new type of international mobility for innovation**

# EU Support Actions

- Horizon 2020 -Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA): **Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)**
- **Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)**
- **Horizon 2020 – INNOWWIDE**
- **EUREKA**
- **EURAXESS**





## MSCA – RISE (1/2)

- MSCA – RISE: short-term exchanges of personnel between academic, industrial and commercial organisations throughout the world.
- Objective: To help people develop their knowledge, **skills** and careers, while building links between organisations working in different sectors of the economy, including universities, research institutes and SMEs/Startups.
- Funding: Open to participation of all countries from the world, but not funding all countries. Participants from countries above a certain GDP threshold, as is the case of India, have to arrange for their own funds (or possible co-funding by the Government of India).

## MSCA – RISE (2/2)

- A partnership in RISE should be composed of at least three independent participants established in three different countries as follows:
  - minimum two organisations located in two different Member States/Associated Countries (MS/AC); and one organisation located in a Third Country (TC) like India;
  - if all three independent organisations are from MS/AC, at least one organisation should be from the academic sector and one from the non-academic sector.
- Type of Staff: research students, Post-Doc, PIs, technical, research admin & managerial staff supporting R&I
- Secondments complemented **by networking/training**
- Maximal duration of programme **48 months.**
  
- The next call for MSCA – RISE: 5 December 2019.



# Enterprise Europe Network (1/2) (EEN)

- The Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) is the world's largest support network for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) with international ambitions.
- EEN helps SMEs innovate and grow internationally. It is active in 60 countries worldwide.
- It's members are: chambers of commerce and industry, technology poles, innovation support organisations, universities and research institutes, regional development organisations



## Enterprise Europe Network (2/2)

- A broad range of services for growth-oriented SMEs: international partnership; advisory support; innovation support.
- The European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC) is coordinating the EEN India (consortium with the Federation of Indian Export Organisations as co-partner, which has offices in New Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad and Kolkata).
- Example: Swedish SME Wattguard's easy-to install "green box" monitoring device reduces the energy needed to power lights and helps to save money. Participates in a Network company mission. Results in a joint venture in Lithuania to license Wattguard's technology in the Baltic markets.



# Horizon 2020 – INNOWWIDE

- Funding for a European SME who wants to explore business in international markets/emerging economies India;
- Funding (about 60,000 euro) for Validation of feasibility study or some starting support.
- Type of action/support: European SME working together with a subcontractor (can be a "supplier, customer, consultant, legal advisor, research and development provider, collaborator or absorber") in non-European country/India.
- Form of cooperation: cooperation arrangement with a European SME and international entity (SME/Start-up/consultant etc.) who can help make it happen.
- First call closed on 31 May 2019. Outcome: 400 applications from innovative SMEs in 35 EU and Associated Countries, targeting more than 50 third countries worldwide. After US, largest number of expression of interest is towards India.
- Second call December 2019.



# EUREKA

- EUREKA is an intergovernmental organisation for pan-European research and development funding and coordination.
- As of March 2018, EUREKA has 41 full members, including the European Union (represented by European Commission) and 28 EU Member States and international partners (Korea).
- Focus: R&D&I cooperation among business suppliers and SMEs/Startups.
- Bottom-up: any R&D project with a good business plan eligible for support to scale /expand (support for skilling).
- GlobalStars (action to stimulate high tech/Innovation driven business). Call for projects with India was launched in partnership with Belgium, UK, Netherlands and Spain in the field of 'One Health'. Results awaited.



# EURAXESS

- EURAXESS: a European Commission initiative to promote research careers and facilitate the mobility of researchers across and outside Europe (i.e. "Access to Europe").
- EURAXESS is a one-stop shop for information. It serves researchers of all nationalities, all disciplines and at all career stages, interested in opportunities offered by Europe.
- More information through Newsletter; free of charge. Register at: <http://india.euraxess.org>
- Email: [india@euraxess.net](mailto:india@euraxess.net); Country Representative: Dr Samrat S. Kumar

# Conclusions

- Innovation necessary to make the shift to Industrial 4.0 revolution;
- New technologies (AI; Machine Learning; blockchain): require new skills and (data) scientists;
- BUT, also shift Education BUT
- AND: training; acquiring (new) skills and life-long learning.
- Between EU and India: innovation can speed-up modernisation process through transfer of technology and international mobility;
- EU and India natural partners & sharing same values: important for skills and new technologies (ethics).



# Contacts/More Information

- <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en>
- Ongoing activities and actions on EU-India: write to [delegation-india-ri@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:delegation-india-ri@eeas.europa.eu)