

## The Horizon 2020: Teaming up with the EU for Research Excellence South Asia Launch

**Date: 24th January 2014**

**Venue: Taj Samudra Hotel, Crystal Room (upper Floor), Colombo 3, Sri Lanka**

The European Union is a world leader in research and innovation, responsible for 24% of world expenditure on research, 32% of high impact publications and 32% of patent applications, while representing only 7% of the population.

Research and innovation are increasingly interlinked internationally, aided by rapidly developing information and communication technologies. The number of internationally coauthored scientific publications and the mobility of researchers are increasing. Research organisations are establishing offices abroad and companies are investing outside their home countries, in particular in the emerging economies.

Global challenges are important drivers for research and innovation. Our planet has finite resources which need to be cared for sustainably; climate change and infectious diseases do not stop at national borders, food security needs to be ensured across the globe. The Union needs to strengthen its dialogues with international partners to build critical mass for tackling these challenges. The new international cooperation strategy focuses on research in areas of common interested mutual benefit in order to achieve these objectives. To strengthen implementation, the strategy also differentiates between three country groupings:

- Industrialised and emerging economies (which will only receive funding under specific conditions);
- Enlargement and neighbourhood countries (eligible for automatic funding); and
- Developing countries (eligible for automatic funding).

International cooperation in research and innovation contributes to the broader policies of the Union, as reflected in the Europe 2020 strategy, in supporting **Tackling global societal challenges** – by developing and deploying effective solutions more rapidly and by optimising the use of research infrastructures

Horizon 2020, the new EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, is right around the corner. The Programme begins in January 2014 and offers vast opportunities for funding and networking for organisations from the South Asian Region. On the **24<sup>th</sup> January 2014**, the University of Salford, UK, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, CASCADE project and the European Commission, Directorate-General for Research are organising an event at **Taj Samudra Hotel (Crystal Room) Colombo 3, Sri Lanka** that will launch Horizon 2020 in South Asia, EU's flagship Research Programme.



### Goals of the event:

- What is Horizon 2020?
- What are the opportunities for you?
  - How can you be part of Horizon 2020 programme?
- What are the opportunities for international collaboration?
  - What are the priorities in research and innovation for fostering cooperation and towards building mutual understanding?
- How can you contribute to policy dialogue and implementation of joint strategic agendas for research, development and innovation between the EU and South Asia?
- What sort of support is available?

### Target Audience:

- Research and innovation community (universities, industry, government, private sector, SMEs etc.) seeking to expand their research networks as well as identifying Horizon 2020 funding and mobility opportunities
- Research administrators and government agencies looking to identify best practices in international research cooperation

### This event is organised by:

- University of Salford, UK
- Directorate-General for Research, European Commission
- University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka
- CASCADE Project (*European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement n° 609562*)

This is a free event for participants to attend. Accordingly, places will be allocated on “first come first served basis “. The speeches and presentations will be in English. There will also be opportunities to join the proceedings via webcast and you will also be able to watch the recordings after the event.

Please fill the enclosed registration form and either e-mail or post it before the **6<sup>th</sup> January 2014** to:

Ms Shayani Weerasinghe , Department of Civil Engineering, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka  
Email: Shayani Weeresinghe - [shayani\\_w@hotmail.com](mailto:shayani_w@hotmail.com)

You will receive the confirmation on your place as soon as it is practical. Places will be allocated on “first come first served” basis.

### Contacts:

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&

Professor Dilanthi Amaratunga & Professor Richard Haigh

University of Salford, UK

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## Agenda

**Date:** 24<sup>th</sup> January 2014

**Time:** 08:30 - 16:00

**Venue:** Taj Samudra Hotel, Crystal Room (Upper Floor), Colombo 3, Sri Lanka

Time	Activity
08:30 – 08:50	Registration, tea/coffee
08:50 – 09:00	Introduction to the day and presentation of its objectives
09:00– 09:10	Welcome address – <b>David Daly, EU Ambassador in Colombo, Sri Lanka</b>
09:10 – 09:20	Partnering with EU for research excellence – <b>Professor Ananda Jayawardena, Vice-Chancellor, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka</b>
09:20 – 10:30	Presentation of Horizon 2020 – <b>Laurent Bochereau, Head of Unit for International Cooperation (RTD-D1)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The Structure and goals of the Horizon 2020 programme</li><li>○ Teaming for excellence as the key to unlock the European Research Area potential</li></ul>
10:30 – 11:15	Pathways for Southern Asia via Horizon 2020, Opportunities for South Asian Institutions <b>Professor Dilanthi Amaratunga, University of Salford, UK</b>
11:15 – 12:00	Presentation of participation – how to find partners & how to participate in a proposal <b>Vera Barron, Research and Development Manager, University of Salford, UK &amp; Hemanthi Goonesekera, Federation of Local Governments, Sri Lanka</b>
12:00– 13:00	Lunch break
13:00 – 14:00	In the Forefront of European Innovation: Case study Presentation of the CASCADE project and its goals <b>Professor Samantha Hettiarachchi, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka &amp; Professor Richard Haigh, University of Salford, UK</b>
14:00 – 14:30	Introduction to societal challenges of Horizon 2020 <b>Professor Dilanthi Amaratunga, University of Salford, UK &amp; Dr Champika Liyanage, University of Central Lancashire, UK</b>
14:30 – 15:30	Discussion – identify societal challenges on which to focus the cooperation and justify them in terms of common interest and mutual benefit relevant to the targeted countries in Southern Asia
15:30 – 16:00	Q & A session

