

# LAC-ACCESS

Connecting High-Quality Research between the European Union and Latin American  
and Caribbean Countries  
01/01/2007 to 30/04/2009

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## *LAC ACCESS*

### *Connecting High-Quality Research between the European Union and Latin American and Caribbean Countries*

LAC-ACCESS' central objective was to bridge high-quality research organisations in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) with those of the European Union, focusing in particular on the 7<sup>th</sup> European Framework Programme for RTD on the following thematic priorities:

- ✦ Health
- ✦ Agriculture
- ✦ Food and Biotechnology
- ✦ Information Society Technologies
- ✦ Energy
- ✦ Environment and Social Sciences and the Humanities





## *LAC ACCESS Vision*

The vision of LAC-ACCESS was to deepen and strengthen bi-regional co-operation efforts.

This was done by four main activities:

- ✦ by assessing high-quality research organizations in LAC, providing information about LAC research
- ✦ supporting the participation of qualified researchers from LAC at European conferences on the thematic priorities of EU-LAC S&T co-operation
- ✦ supporting sustainability of EU-LAC S&T co-operation by preparing the establishment of a Liaison Office of LAC countries in Brussels
- ✦ and by editing four thematic reports on the European S&T landscape, which present compiled information about relevant initiatives and support mechanisms at EU level





## **LAC ACCESS -**

### ***Assessing High Quality organisations in LAC***

#### **Database / Directory**

The directory contains information about the research capacities of **98** high-quality R&D institutions. It has been published in print form in June 2008.

A digital version of the directory and an online database have been elaborated and went online in June 2008. By the end of the project **154** institutions have inserted their profile. A link to the database can be found at: <http://www.lac-access.net>

#### **Follow up activities**

ENLACE - [www.enlace-project.eu](http://www.enlace-project.eu)

Access2MexCyT ([www.access2mexcyt.eu](http://www.access2mexcyt.eu))

Oficina de Enlace ([www.lac-access.net](http://www.lac-access.net))





## *LAC ACCESS -*

### *Supporting the participation of qualified researchers*

A **Travel Grant Scheme** was established in order to promote exchange and contacts between Latin American and European researchers and their institutions.

To this end, 31 Latin American researchers were supported to participate in specialized international conferences taking place in Europe.

#### **Results**

More than the half of all grantees was able to find European partners for their research projects during their stay in Europe.

By the end of the project 11 of the grantees were invited to join an European research consortium.

#### **Follow up activities**

At present a similar Travel Grant Scheme is being implemented within the Enlace project.





## *LAC ACCESS - Liaison office*

***"European Liaison Office for cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean in Science & Technology ", abbreviated to "LAC-ACCESS".***

The objective of the office is to strengthen cooperation between Europe and Latin America/Caribbean in the fields of Science and Technology by developing links, networking activities and providing support services to all interested stakeholders.

It should also be a Help Desk for LAC researchers, as well as European ones who want to set up a project with Latin-American researchers.

The Liaison Office should be set up shortly under the lead of the project coordinator LAI and CERCAL in Brussels.





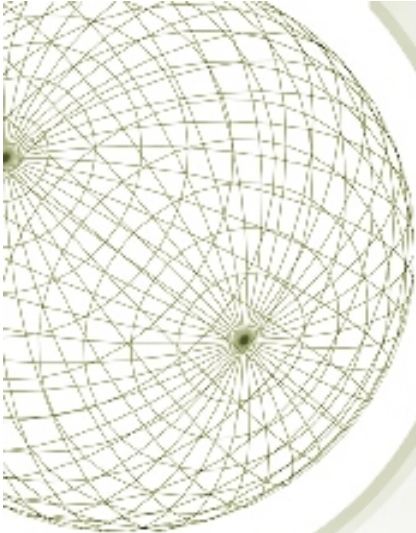
## *LAC ACCESS - Results Thematic Reports*

Four thematic reports □ have been elaborated.

The reports contain information about relevant initiatives and support mechanisms at EU level in four thematic fields in which the Latin American institutions selected have revealed scientific strengths. The thematic fields are:

- ◆ Thematic Report on Agricultural Research
- ◆ Thematic Report on Energy / Biofuels
- ◆ Thematic Report on Public Health Research
- ◆ Thematic Report on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) / Technology - Enhanced Learning (TEL)

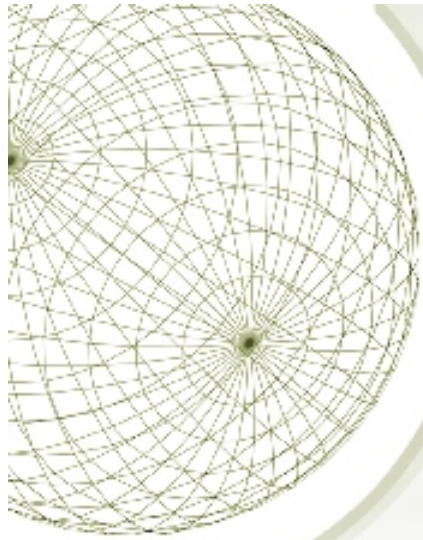




## *LAC ACCESS - Highlights*

- ★ Follow up activities
- ★ Successful network of contacts with different stakeholders and decision makers from both Europe and LAC in the area of Science and Technology.
- ★ LAC ACCESS was distinguished as one of the most successful projects within the sixth Framework Programm.
- ★ The project ran from 01/01/2007 to 30/04/2009 and had an EU contribution of € 410.000. The consortium was coordinated by Stefanie Reinberg of the Latin America Institute (LAI).





*Thank you*



LAC-ACCESS