



EUROPEAN UNION

Delegation of the European Union to
Egypt

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Press Release

The EU partners with Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Bio Vision Alexandria **“New Life Sciences: The Next Decade”**

The European Union is the official partner of this year's Bio Vision Alexandria (BVA), Bibliotheca Alexandrina's (BA) Seventh International Biennial Conference. This international event is taking place on April 7-9, 2014 and is organized by BA in partnership with the World Life Sciences Forum. It is a continuation of the tradition that started in 1999 in Lyon, France in which Bio Vision Alexandria Conference was held every even year, alternating with the World Life Sciences Forum held in Lyon every odd year since 2004.

Within the framework of the EU-Egypt cooperation in higher education, research and innovation, the EU is organizing a session on the first day of the conference to present its new programmes; Erasmus Plus and Horizon 2020. The EU is also organizing a booth that will showcase the EU programmes and disseminate information about participation in these programmes throughout the three-day conference.

BVA is an important gathering that brings together distinguished speakers and Nobel Laureates from the four corners of the globe. This year's theme of BVA is “New Life Sciences: The Next Decade”. BVA aims at taking a journey into the next decade exploring new scientific frontiers and conversing fundamental changes in life sciences, as well as next generation technologies, all needed to face our global hurdles and threats.

Ambassador James Moran, Head of EU Delegation to Egypt said: "We believe that international collaboration in science and innovation will lead to better science, improved application of knowledge for real development, and in general better socio-economic conditions everywhere, and not just in the EU itself. Proof positive of our commitment to invest in science and innovation is the recently launched Horizon 2020 with close to 80 billion euro of funding over seven years worldwide". This includes significant new opportunities for cooperation with Egypt and this region.

The EU developed a long-lasting cooperation with the BA in the field of culture. Through the past years, the BA implemented many different EU-funded projects in this field connecting creativity, arts and culture with the general public and fostering culture as a tool for development. Last November 2013, the EU and the BA signed an additional agreement for the implementation of a project for the protection and promotion of cultural diversity and creativity in Egypt (with 1 M EURO co-funded by the EU) which is currently being implemented.

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