

Actualités

L'accord de partenariat économique (EPA). L'UE a finalisé les négociations en vue d'un accord de partenariat économique avec le Japon. Dans ce cadre, les trois agences régionales à l'exportation et aux investissements étrangers, Brussels Invest & Export (BIE), Flanders Investment & Trade (FIT) et Wallonia Export & Investment Agency (AWEX) organisent un séminaire afin d'aider les entreprises belges à saisir des nouvelles opportunités découlant de l'accord de partenariat économique (EPA) entre l'Europe et le Japon, dans son cadre réglementaire et technique. Le 3 octobre de 10h à 14h à Bruxelles à la RP belge. <http://awex-export.be/fr/agenda/seminaire-epa-eu-japon>

Une nouvelle «Alliance Afrique - Europe». La proposition présentée ce 12 septembre, en bref :
stimuler les investissements stratégiques et renforcer le rôle du secteur privé grâce, notamment, à la réduction accrue des risques liés aux projets d'investissement au moyen d'une combinaison de subventions et de prêts, et de garanties;
investir dans l'humain en investissant dans l'éducation et les compétences, au niveau du continent et au niveau national afin de renforcer l'employabilité et de faire correspondre compétences et emplois, avec notamment des bourses d'études et des programmes d'échange, en particulier dans le cadre d'Erasmus+;
renforcer l'environnement des entreprises et le climat d'investissement, notamment en consolidant le dialogue avec les partenaires africains et en soutenant leurs réformes dans ce domaine;
exploiter pleinement le potentiel de l'intégration économique et des échanges: en s'appuyant sur la mise en œuvre de la zone continentale africaine de libre-échange, l'idée à long terme est de parvenir à un accord de libre-échange intercontinental global entre l'UE et l'Afrique. Dans cette perspective, les accords de partenariat économique, les accords de libre-échange, notamment les zones de libre-échange approfondi et complet proposées aux pays d'Afrique du Nord, et les autres régimes commerciaux avec l'UE devraient être exploités dans toute la mesure du possible, pour former la base de la zone continentale africaine de libre-échange;
mobiliser une enveloppe importante de ressources financières, comme en témoigne en particulier l'ambitieuse proposition pour le prochain cadre financier pluriannuel de l'UE en matière de financements extérieurs, tout particulièrement en faveur de l'Afrique, considérée comme une région prioritaire.
[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release MEMO-18-5705 fr.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-5705_fr.htm)

Orientations sur la protection des investissements transfrontières dans l'UE. Clarifications de la Commission :
La libre circulation des capitaux, des services, des marchandises et des travailleurs dans le marché unique de l'UE est une liberté fondamentale offerte dans l'UE. Elle donne aux entreprises et aux citoyens le droit de créer une entreprise, d'investir dans une société et de fournir des services et des marchandises dans toute l'UE. Les investisseurs de l'UE sont également protégés par les principes généraux de non-discrimination, de proportionnalité, de sécurité juridique et de protection de la confiance légitime.
L'arbitrage investisseur-État entre un État membre et un investisseur d'un autre État membre n'est pas compatible avec le droit de l'UE, y compris dans le cadre des traités bilatéraux d'investissement intra-UE.
Le droit de l'UE permet de réglementer les marchés pour assurer le respect d'intérêts généraux légitimes tels que la sécurité publique, la santé publique, les droits sociaux, la protection des consommateurs ou la préservation de l'environnement, ce qui peut avoir des conséquences négatives pour les investisseurs. Les autorités publiques de l'UE et des États membres ont le devoir et la responsabilité à la fois de protéger l'investissement et de réglementer les marchés. Cela contribuera à empêcher les États membres d'adopter des mesures contraires aux règles de l'UE et

aidera les investisseurs à faire valoir leurs droits devant les administrations et les juridictions nationales.
[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release MEMO-18-4529 en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-4529_en.htm)

The Union Customs Code eLearning courses. It was created by the European Commission's department for Taxation and Customs Union in collaboration with a pool of customs experts from national authorities and the private sector. The programme consists of a series of modules at 3 learning levels covering the introduction, overview and more advanced knowledge on the Union Customs Code. The UCC EU eLearning programme can be followed as a complete programme. However, the modules are designed to allow the selection of single modules in function of professional competency needs. The modules are free to download and are easy to use.
[https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/eu-training/general-overview/download-portal-eu-customs-taxation-elearning-courses en](https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/eu-training/general-overview/download-portal-eu-customs-taxation-elearning-courses_en)

Survey on defence-related skills launched. The survey consists of 2 parts: Questions exploring current general defence industry skill gaps and anticipated future needs for specific defence skills for your organisation. Issues with filling vacancies for these skills and the effects of having skill gaps on your organisation are part of the questions as well. It also covers domain-specific skills based on your area of expertise as indicated by you in the introductory part of the survey. Questions on skills associated to new technologies and related current and potential future skill gaps. The information gathered will be anonymised, aggregated, and used only for the purposes of this study.
<https://rand.cnect.to/defenceRelatedSkills>.

Stratégie pour une réduction à long terme des émissions de gaz à effet de serre dans l'Union européenne. La consultation vise à: Recueillir des points de vue et des avis sur les voies technologiques et socio-économiques à explorer, dans la perspective d'une stratégie à long terme de réduction des émissions de gaz à effet de serre; Recueillir des informations factuelles, des données et des connaissances sur les aspects non couverts par les exercices de communication de données, notamment les moteurs et les obstacles, les possibilités et les enjeux liés à la stratégie à long terme. La consultation des parties prenantes couvre le type de transformations nécessaires, leur niveau d'ambition, les actions clés pour les concrétiser, les interactions avec d'autres transformations en cours, les possibilités et les enjeux sociétaux et économiques, le rôle du consommateur, le besoin d'investissement et l'innovation.
[https://ec.europa.eu/clima/consultations/strategy-long-term-eu-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reductions fr](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/consultations/strategy-long-term-eu-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reductions_fr)

New EU environmental standards for waste treatment. The new specifications are the result of a review of the Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document (BREF) for Waste Treatment. The review's BAT conclusions were published in the Official Journal of the EU. Waste management is an essential part of the EU's transition to a circular economy and is based on the 'waste hierarchy' which sets the order of priority when shaping waste policy and managing waste at the operational level.
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32018D1147&from=EN>

Commission guidance to help Member States organise sound tender procedures for EU-funded projects. The European Commission published a new guidance to help national, regional and local public officials dealing with EU funds and ensuring efficient and transparent public procurement procedures for EU-funded projects. It covers the whole process from the preparation and publication of the calls to the selection and evaluation.
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docqener/guides/public_procurement/2018/guidelines_tender_procedure.pdf

Taiwan Discussion Paper. The Discussion Paper aims to provide an overview of the current cooperation activities between European and Taiwanese clusters, as well as the nature of collaboration between clusters and other types of Research & Innovation actors. This paper provides examples of good practices to showcase different types of collaboration. Furthermore, it provides an analysis of the potential for cluster cooperation in the future.
https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/sites/default/files/d3.5_discussion_paper_taiwan.pdf

Opportunités

European Light Industries Innovation and Technology (ELIIT) Project. The Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises is launching this invitation to tender for European Light Industries Innovation and Technology (ELIIT) Project aiming at enabling pan-European collaboration between Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) active in light-industries, namely textile, clothing, leather and footwear (TCLF) industries, and providers or owners of novel and innovative technologies to drive innovation and technology transfer. <https://etendering.ted.europa.eu/cft/cft-display.html?cftId=3912>

The EU nanotech mission to Japan 2019. The EU Japan Centre is currently inviting EU Clusters and SMEs to apply for the next nanotech mission to Japan starting in January 2019. The mission, targeting the nanotech sector will be organised on the fringes of "nano tech 2019" International Nanotechnology Exhibition & Conference in Tokyo, Japan Mission dates: From 29 January to 1 February 2019 Application deadline: 4 October 2019. <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/nanotech-cluster-sme-mission> d.lula@eu-japan.eu

Co-financing of consortia for public procurement of innovation. As facilitators of the dialogue between the industry, research and public bodies, cluster organisations can play an important role in involving their SMEs in the processes of public procurement for innovation. The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of projects is EUR 4 000 000. EASME expects to grant projects co-financing between EUR 800 000 and EUR 1.5 million. Dead line 11 December 2018. <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/cosme/topics/cos-ppi-2018-2-01.html>

ESMERA: First call for experiment proposals. The Project (European SMEs for Robotic Applications), offers financial support and mentorship for SMEs to develop robotic solutions in a competitive setting to address one of the challenges defined by key EU companies in energy, manufacturing, agri-food and construction. The types of activities to perform that qualify for receiving financial support are Research and Technology Development (RTD) activities, aimed at a significant advance beyond the established state of the art. The respective challenge winners will receive direct financial support through a cascade funding mechanism of up to 200.000 EUR each. Dead line October 31st. www.esmera-project.eu/open-calls.

Grants for joint actions with Member states to support access to alternative dispute resolution mechanisms for consumers. The aim of the call is to facilitate the access of consumers to alternative dispute resolution schemes compliant with Directive 2013/11/EU9 including through measures for vulnerable consumers, developing the networking of national alternative dispute resolution entities, promoting monitoring activities on the functioning and the effectiveness of dispute resolution mechanisms. The Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (Chafea) is entrusted by the European Commission with the implementation of parts of the Consumer programme and will be in charge of this Call for proposals. Deadline: 4 December 2018. <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/cp/topics/cons-adr-2018.html>

Keeping non-compliant products from the EU market: Joint enforcement actions for market surveillance of products in the EU. The objective of the call is to provide financial support, allowing market surveillance authorities and customs to pool resources and expertise and to apply SME-friendly methods. The main objective of this initiative is to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the surveillance system in Europe, as well as to improve the coordination of the practical enforcement work carried out in relation to product categories or other priorities. Deadline: 2 October 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/growth/content/joint-enforcement-actions-market-surveillance-products-eu-keeping-non-compliant-products-eu_en

Chemical Lists Information System (CheLIST). In order to develop and assess computational and in vitro methods for predictive toxicology, there is a need to identify chemicals for which property data are available. The Chemical Lists Information System (CheLIST) provides a means of identifying whether a chemical (or chemical group) has been used in a research or validation project (including EU-funded, international and JRC projects), and also whether the chemical of interest is regulated and listed under a specific regulatory inventory. <http://chelist.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

Information on Japan for EU Companies : EPA Helpdesk Webinar 1: Rules of Origin. The EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement will come into force in 2019 giving opportunities to European SMEs to start exporting or strengthen their exports to Japan. The webinar is targeted to European SMEs seeking to understand the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement, and wishing to benefit from the new regulations and procedures for rules of origin included in the EPA. 25 September 2018. <https://www.eubusinessinjapan.eu/connect>

A lire

Portrait statistique de l'UE en comparaison avec les pays du G20. La cinquième édition de la publication d'Eurostat «The EU in the world» compare l'Union européenne aux 15 pays non membres de l'UE qui font partie du G20, dans le domaine social, économique et environnemental. <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3217494/9066251/KS-EX-18-001-EN-N.pdf/64b85130-5de2-4c9b-aa5a-8881bf6ca59b>

Towards a European approach on industrial research infrastructures. Across the EU, there is increasing industry demand for access to new technology, products testing and validation support. There is growing recognition that efforts and investments across the EU (and within EU Member States) require greater coordination and targeting in order to address industry needs by providing industrial research infrastructures which are open, shared, and accessible. <https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/db003df9-5269-11e8-be1d-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

Evénements

35th European PV Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition 24 to 28 September 2018 - Brussels. The EU PVSEC is the largest international Conference for Photovoltaic research, technologies and applications, and at the same time a top international PV Industry Exhibitions. It gathers the global PV community to conduct business, to network and to present and discuss the latest developments and innovations in Photovoltaics. It is the world renowned science-to-science, business-to-business and science-to-industry platform with a full and only focus on the global PV Solar sector. <https://www.photovoltic-conference.com/>

EU-Africa relations: Time for a reset? 26 September 2018 – Brussels. Questions will include: What can be expected from the new EU-ACP talks? How are the post-Cotonou relations between the EU and African countries most likely going to be? What role can the EU and its institutions play in fostering economical development in Africa? What balance is needed between public and private investment? Should a new trade partnership be established, with new rules for both the European and African partners? <https://events.euractiv.com/event/info/eu-africa-relations-time-for-a-reset>.

Challenges and opportunities for interregional cooperation in agri-food systems - 10 October 2018 – Brussels. The objective of the workshop is to showcase and discuss five interregional partnerships participating in the Thematic Smart Specialisation Platform on Agri-Food (1) Consumer Involvement in Agri-food Innovation, (2) High Tech Farming, (3) Nutritional Ingredients, (4) Smart sensor systems 4 agri-food and (5) Traceability & Big Data. <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/-/challenges-and-opportunities-for-interregional-cooperation-in-agri-food-systems?inheritRedirect=true>

EU budget for the future – the road ahead - 12 October 2018 - Brussels. A discussion on how EU finances can help to address current and future priorities of the European Union. The conference will be the occasion to discuss the challenges in addressing new priorities and continuity of the EU policies in the framework of the Commission proposal for the MFF 2021/2027. https://ec.europa.eu/info/events/eu-budget-future-road-ahead-2018-oct-12_en

« La médisance parle du mal dont elle n'est pas sûre, elle se tait prudemment sur le bien qu'elle sait »
Antoine de Rivarol