

Terra Humana Clean Technology Engineering Ltd.

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We are pleased to announce, that links have been established between FP6 PROTECTOR project (www.terrenum.net/protector) and the European Technology Platform [ETP] Food for Life

Objective:

support ETP in its ongoing 2010-2020 strategic planning with FP6 PROTECTOR knowledge and experience

The **European Technology Platform**, ETP, is one introduced by the European Commission to stimulate innovation, boost the global competitiveness of European companies and deliver benefits to European citizens. ETPs are “industry-led public, private partnerships” that engage European stakeholders [including researchers, industry, SMEs, consumer organisations, regulators, opinion formers, policymakers and national and regional funding bodies] to *support and commit to a managed, long-term programme of research, communication, training and knowledge transfer that is necessary to stimulate and underpin innovation.*

At present there are over 30 ETPs at various stages of development and one of these, **ETP Food for Life**, addresses the agri-food sector which invests considerably less than its traditional global competitors [such as Japan and the US] and also less than emerging economies such as China, India and Brazil. The challenge of targeted investment, effective and efficient knowledge transfer is thus a pressing one for Europe. Given the structure of the European agro-food industry sector, this ETP must address the challenges and opportunities of SMEs across Europe and must also respond to the European consumers’ desire for healthy, safe and affordable food produced in an eco-friendly fashion.

In July 2005, the **ETP’s Vision Document: 2020 and Beyond** was published following extensive consultation amongst stakeholder communities; this identified and described the areas where targeted research and other activities will be necessary. Unsurprisingly, these included *Food and Health; Food Quality and Manufacturing; Food and Consumer; Food Safety; Sustainable Food Production; Food Chain Management; and Communication, Training and Technology Transfer.*

Thereafter, Working Groups were established to determine and prioritise the specific requirements needed to stimulate and underpin innovation within each area, and identify the nature and dates of anticipated deliverables. These strategies were considered subsequently at a stakeholder meeting [February 2006] and responses and inputs were incorporated into the **Stakeholders’ Strategic Research Agenda.**

This document was presented to the European Commission in April so as to inform the process of revising the work programmes of the four pillars of FP7. It appears that a number of its priorities and recommendations are included in the revised drafts of the 1st/2nd calls of

3R Environmental Technologies

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European Technology Platform [ETP] Food for Life

FP7 and, in particular, of the *Food, Biotechnology, Agriculture* theme of the **Cooperation** pillar. This process of informing the Commission will be continued throughout the period of FP7 and will be especially important during its mid-term review.

Although there have already been considerable inputs into the content of the SSRA through the above activities, it does not yet reflect the opportunities and challenges of *all stakeholder communities across the whole of Europe*. To improve further this overall relevance, we are now engaged in a series of national consultations [including at least 26 European countries] and a regional consultation for C/E Europe that covers EU MS, Candidate Countries, West Balkan States and Neighbourhood Countries, many of which will develop closer economic and political links with the EU during the timescale of the ETP [2020 and beyond].

Consultation inputs will be made to www.ciaa.be, at which site we have also provided a form to facilitate responses and enable us to consider most efficiently the all of the comments submitted. In this way we will go some way to engage with stakeholder communities across the whole of Europe, and to demonstrate the openness and transparency of our activities.

LINKS:

ETP " Food for Life" secretariat
CIAA - Confederation of the Food & Drink Industries of the EU
HOMEPAGE: <http://etp.ciaa.be>

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STAKEHOLDER'S STRATEGIC RESEARCH AGENDA
HOMEPAGE: <http://etp.ciaa.be/webconsultation/welcome.asp>

ETP's Vision Document: 2020 and Beyond
HOMEPAGE: http://etp.ciaa.be/asp/news_events_press/documents.asp

FPME Consultation 2006
HOMEPAGE: http://www.fpme.com/downloads/FPME_newsletter_jan06_public.pdf

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