



**Interlink**

Feedback from EU community

## **INCO projects give the opportunity to bring together scattered expertise and create new opportunities for collaboration and innovation**

*You have been part of an INCO project in the scope of the last European Framework Program, FP6. What was the project about? Which countries or regions were part of the project?*

We included so-called TTC country partners for the last 2 years of the 5-year project : Germany, Sweden, Belgium, Denmark, Italy, UK, Czech Republic. We worked on the integrative assessment of the impacts of climate change, environmental chemicals, biological invasions and pollinator loss in terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity and ecosystems.

*How did you choose your INCO partners? Was the integration process easy?*

We have collected suggestions from within the consortium; this guaranteed:

1. links to existing partners (who then acted as tutors);
2. scientific complementarity to the work going on;
3. and a broader geographic scope which is important in large-scale risk assessment.

Thus, some of the partners knew them before. Integration was achieved through a tutorial system.

*What were the main benefits/drawbacks of such cooperation for your project?*

We achieved a much broader geographic scope of our work and also gained from new insights in other ecosystems than the ones covered so far. Drawbacks are only of an administrative type – it took some efforts to get the TTC element of the proposal put into place.

*Would you consider working on a European INCO project again? On which topic?*

Clearly yes!! FP projects (especially if large enough) give the opportunity to bring together scattered expertise and create new opportunities for collaboration and creation of new



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ideas. From FP7 I expect strong involvements of INCO countries in order to tackle problems on a global scale.