



"Empowering Innovation - Entrepreneurship in Research Organizations " Event and many more Exciting Prospects

Welcome to our latest newsletter! As the first month of the year, in this edition, the Secretariat will share the outlook and the highlights of WAITRO in 2024. Also, you will discover the inspirational events in Q4 2023, from entrepreneurship in research and technology organizations to exploring the bio-product R&D and regulatory systems in Africa and building a global research alliance to end hunger. And don't miss the opportunity to showcase your project's impact on our website. Dive in and embrace the spirit of innovation with WAITRO!

From the Secretariat



Dr Paul E. Burrows, WAITRO Secretary General

In 2023, WAITRO experienced a year marked by growth, impact, and transformative developments. Our global presence expanded with the addition of new members, fostering a more extensive and diverse community. Notably, the year witnessed significant connections and influence through SAIRA and our online events.

Moreover, 2023 brought about a pivotal shift as the Secretariat entered a transition phase. From 2019 to 2022, Fraunhofer hosted the WAITRO Secretariat together with JITRI. In 2023, the Secretariat was successfully handed over to JITRI, which will serve as the host until 2026. The website has already been transferred and (hopefully) you didn't even notice thanks to the expertise of Hang Yucheng and her team working out of our Shanghai office.

As we move into 2024, special thanks are due to the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) for generously funding Fraunhofer's role as the WAITRO Secretariat, and to Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft for their invaluable in-kind contributions to WAITRO. Also thanks to JITRI for hosting the China Office of the Secretariat and to Jiangsu Science and Technology Department for their support, which will continue for the next four years.

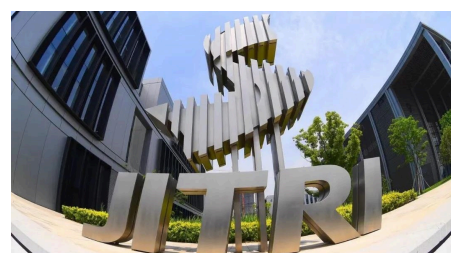
We also extend our appreciation to the speakers and contributors who enriched our events throughout 2023. Recognition is particularly due to our dedicated Executive Board members and Regional Focal Points. A sincere thank you goes out to the entire WAITRO Secretariat team, both in Germany and China.

As we embark on a new year with fresh challenges for the growth of WAITRO, we wish you, your family, friends, and loved ones a prosperous journey into 2024!

Outlook 2024

JITRI's 10th Anniversary

JITRI, the host of the WAITRO Secretariat, turned 10 years old last December and will host a small celebration Forum on January 18th – 19th at JITRI HQ in Nanjing, China. The



Forum will include a panel discussion co-organized by WAITRO on Bridging Academia and Industry with Accelerators: Shaping Effective Support Systems for Entrepreneurship. WAITRO Members are welcome to attend, contact the Secretariat for details.



WAITRO Info Days 2024

We are planning two online information sessions for all members to interact with the WAITRO Secretariat (optimized for two different time zone ranges). Watch the WAITRO News and social media channels for more information.

WAITRO Communications

Speaking of social media, you may have noticed an uptick in WAITRO's activity on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and whatever Twitter is called these days. Much due to Ms. Hou Lei, who is on contract as WAITRO's Communications Consultant based at the Secretariat China Office. If you have news to publish, you can contact her here at info@waitro.org



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WAITRO Fellowships

As the days of Covid fade into a bad dream, the idea re-emerges of staff exchange across borders, to advance the SDGs by combining our diverse expertise in new and imaginative ways. Both TÜBİTAK (Türkiye) and BRIN (Indonesia) have already announced Fellowship programs at various levels. A JITRI program for fellowships into China is expected soon and the Secretariat is expecting to announce supplementary travel support for

additional members wishing to join the WAITRO Fellowship Pool.

BRIN SDG2 Zero Hunger Fellowship

TÜBİTAK PhD and Postdoc Fellowship

WAITRO Summit 2024

WAITRO Summit is scheduled for November (13th – 14th) in Nanjing, China, to be followed on November 15th by the 27th WAITRO General Assembly, including the election of a new Executive Board by all members in good standing. The focus for the Summit will be “Local Solutions, Global Impact” with a special emphasis on the impact and challenges of indigenous technology and “Navigating the Future with Convergence of Digital and Green Transformation.” Save the date, and please contact the Secretariat if you want to propose a technical track within those focus areas!



WAITRO Operations e.V.

WAITRO has for 50 years been registered as a non-profit organization in Canada but both the Secretariat and most of the membership are no longer in that region. To update WAITRO’s legal status, the Executive Board on December 12th 2023 approved the creation of an “eingetragener Verein” or non-profit association in Germany that will be called WAITRO Operations e.V. The Secretariat is currently finalizing the application and funding proposal for this new association that will hopefully include key parts of the retiring Secretariat Germany Office.

CONTACT TO IMPACT INVESTORS

As part of our efforts to continuously improve SAIRA and improve WAITRO's services, we are looking to partner with impact investors to test a matchmaking process between impact investors and researchers. Please feel free to reach out in case you could make introductions to an impact investor.

[Contact us](#)

EVENTS

PAST EVENTS



WAITRO Event Series: Empowering Innovation – Entrepreneurship in Research Organizations

In November 2023, WAITRO organized a three-session event series that explored the dynamic world of entrepreneurship within research organizations and its pivotal role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Conducted online, this event series successfully overcame the difficulties associated with spanning various time zones. WAITRO drew over 200 registrations for this exclusive entrepreneurship-focused event series, with participants including researchers, entrepreneurs, and management representatives from over 60 member organizations spanning 43 countries.

[Find Out More](#)

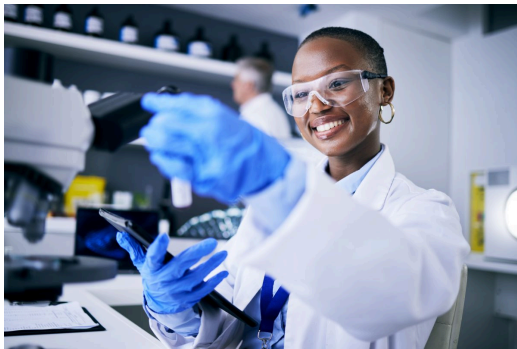


WAITRO SDG 2 Workgroup Webinar- Harvesting Global Solutions: Uniting for Zero Hunger Research Collaborations and Funding Opportunities

BRIN leads the WAITRO SDG2 Working Group formed at the WAITRO Summit 2022 in Cape Town, South Africa. SDG2

aims to end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030. This working group will bring together researchers belonging to WAITRO member organizations to develop strategies, coordinate efforts, and implement initiatives, events, or activities that contribute to achieving SDG 2.

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Cross-border Markets for Innovation: Bio-pharmaceutical Regulations in Africa

Entrepreneurship is the driving force behind transforming research into practical solutions that fuel economic growth and make a lasting impact. That's why WAITRO is thrilled to announce the launch of an exclusive event series dedicated to entrepreneurship within our WAITRO community. Get inspired, exchange ideas, and ignite innovation. The objective is simple: to foster an interactive exchange among members, enabling you to gain valuable insights into the remarkable entrepreneurial activities of fellow WAITRO members. From past successes to current breakthroughs and future endeavors, this event series will provide a platform for sharing experiences and igniting new ideas. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting event series.

[Find Out More](#)



The Impact of Indigenous and local products on the SDGs

Indigenous products have always been a valuable local resource, with wisdom passed down through generations carrying value that science is only now beginning to acknowledge. Such products can

increase the resiliency of local supply chains to the coming climatic changes and thereby address SDG2, SDG3, and other goals.

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NEW MEMBERS



Avon Food Lab Pvt. Ltd.

Avon Food Lab Pvt. Ltd. is a dedicated comprehensive testing laboratory catering to the analytical testing requirements & consultancy needs of various industries throughout India for more than 10 years. This independent laboratory holds ISO / IEC 17025:2017 accreditation, signifying its exceptional proficiency in both Chemical and Biological disciplines for Food & Environment testing, certified by the National Accreditation Board for Testing & Calibration Laboratories under the Quality Council of India.

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Shenyang Institute of Industrial Technology (SYIIT)

The Shenyang Institute of Industrial Technology (SYIIT), established by the Shenyang Municipal People's Government, China has been welcomed into the World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations (WAITRO) as a Full Member.

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Centro de Innovación y Desarrollo Tecnológico (CIDT) – Universidad Tecnológica de Pereira, Colombia

The Centro de Innovación y Desarrollo Tecnológico (CIDT) – Universidad Tecnológica de Pereira is dedicated to adding value to the service sector through Knowledge Process Outsourcing (KPO), creating an ecosystem conducive to knowledge and innovation management. This initiative aims to enhance innovation and research capacities in KPO, playing a pivotal role in the productive transformation of the region and development of strategic sectors.

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Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC)

HKPC, established in 1967, promotes productivity excellence through advanced technologies and innovative services for Hong Kong enterprises. It plays a key role in enabling Industry 4.0 and Enterprise 4.0, fostering industrialization and positioning Hong Kong as an international innovation hub and smart city. HKPC provides comprehensive innovative solutions, collaborating with local industries, R&D institutes, and enterprises to develop technology-driven value creation. Its renowned R&D achievements have garnered recognition and accolades. Additionally, HKPC supports SMEs and start-ups by offering timely assistance, enhancing digital capabilities and TechEd competencies through Future Skills training to boost Hong Kong's competitiveness.

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Empresa Brasileira De Pesquisa E Inovação Industrial (EMBRAPII)

Empresa Brasileira De Pesquisa E Inovação Industrial (EMBRAPII), a Brazilian Company of Research and Industrial Innovation, is a governmental organization established in 2013 to support technological research institutions and drive innovation in the Brazilian industry. Collaborating with the Ministry of Science,

Technology, Innovation and Communications and the Ministry of Education, it shares funding responsibilities. The vision of EMBRAPPII is to be recognized as an innovative institution that efficiently promotes research and development for the industry in Brazil.

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CRÉAME (Center for Entrepreneurial Development and Business Support)

In 1996, CRÉAME (Center for Entrepreneurial Development and Business Support) was founded by a consortium of 29 academic, governmental, and corporate institutions in Colombia. Today, it stands as a symbol of national recognition, reaching 80 municipalities across 19 Colombian departments and extending its influence to nine countries in the region. Supported by renowned multilateral organizations, including the Corporación Andina de Fomento, the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank, and others, CRÉAME’s journey is a testament to its technical prowess.

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Abgi Brasil

Abgi Brasil, is a pioneering consultancy that has been operating since 2007, coinciding with the enactment of the “Lei do Bem” (Law of Good).

The company has been steadfast in its commitment to assisting businesses in understanding and capitalizing on the advantages offered by this legislation.

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CECOS University of IT and Emerging Sciences Peshawar

CECOS University of IT and Emerging Sciences situated in Peshawar, Pakistan, stands as a prominent private institution dedicated to delivering high-quality education in IT, engineering, business, and social sciences. With a commitment to preparing students for success in dynamic professional landscapes, the university integrates emerging technologies into its academic programs. Boasting a faculty of experienced educators and professionals, CECOS offers a diverse array of undergraduate and graduate programs, fostering an environment that encourages research initiatives and collaboration with industry partners.

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Fondazione Bruno Kessler (FBK)

Fondazione Bruno Kessler (FBK) stands as Italy's premier research institute, securing the top position for scientific excellence in three distinct subject areas and for its noteworthy economic and social impact, as per the ANVUR evaluation of research quality. Occupying a leadership role in the realm of scientific inquiry, FBK's reputation is solidified by its expansive 3,500-square-meter facility housing laboratories and cutting-edge scientific infrastructures. The institute boasts a vibrant community comprising over 450 researchers, 140 doctoral students, 200 visiting fellows and thesis students, and 700 affiliates and accredited students. This collective expertise converges to establish FBK as a pivotal scientific and technological hub.

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University of Jos (UNIJOS)

The University of Jos, stands as a distinguished institution of higher learning situated in Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria. Since its establishment in 1975, UNIJOS has evolved into a reputable center for academic excellence and research. Offering a comprehensive range of undergraduate and

postgraduate programs spanning disciplines such as humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, engineering, and health sciences, the university is committed to delivering quality education that prepares students for success in their chosen fields. UNIJOS actively promotes research and innovation, creating an environment that encourages both faculty and students to engage in intellectual inquiry and contribute to the advancement of knowledge.

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Sistem Global Danışmanlık Anonim Şirketi

Sistem Global is a leading consulting firm in Turkey that provides a wide range of services to businesses of all sizes, from start-ups to multinational corporations. The firm is particularly focused on technology, engineering, and manufacturing companies, and its expertise spans various areas, including market research and investment feasibility, company establishment, legal, tax, and accounting compliance, and consulting services.

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