Coordination of National and European R&D Policies and Programmes in ICT

Overview Report

December 2005

Information Society Technologies

European Commission
Information Society and Media

EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Coordination of National and European R&D Policies and Programmes in ICT

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document outlines the approach and progress made to date in improving coordination of national and European R&D policies and programmes in the domain of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

It recalls the objectives and expected benefits of developing better coordination in ICT, takes stock of what has been achieved to date and looks ahead at future opportunities and challenges.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1. Why invest in ICT and R&D?

Investing in ICTs is Europe's best bet for delivering sustained growth, skilled jobs and cost-effective public services. ICTs are enabling technologies. They boost economy-wide innovation, creativity and competitiveness, and underpin all scientific and technological progress. ICTs account for 40% of recent productivity growth in Europe and 60% in the USA.

The ICT sector itself generates 6-8% of GDP, and devotes 10-20% of its output to new knowledge generation. ICTs account for a growing share of the value-added of all goods and services. Intensive ICTusers, such as the automotive, aerospace, pharmaceutical, medical equipment, agri-food, financial service, media and retail sectors, all have big EU markets with good growth prospects – provided that they invest in ICTs to stay competitive.

ICTs are also the best bet for tackling many social challenges. They help to meet growing demand for better health care, efficient education and lifelong learning, better quality of life in old age, security and social inclusion. They also help to cut red tape in government services. Over 90% of public service providers now have an on-line presence, and 40% of basic public services are fully interactive.

ICTs as the backbone for the knowledge economy and as key contributors to stronger growth, high-quality jobs and a sustainable future were also highlighted by recent reports from Brussels, in particular the Kok report[1], the Commission proposal for a renewed Lisbon strategy[2] and the i2010 initiative[3].

An indigenous research capacity is essential to be able to master and assimilate technology and to exploit it to economic and societal advantage. This is particularly true for ICT, where innovation moves at an ever faster pace, where the frontiers of research are increasingly broad, and where people and organisations depend more and more on ICT.

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1 "Facing the Challenge: The Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Employment" Report from the High Level Group Chaired by Wim Kok, November 2004

2 "Working together for growth and jobs – A new start for the Lisbon strategy", COM (2005) 24

3 "i2010 – A European Information Society for growth and employment" COM(2005) 229 1/6/2005

2.2. The current scene of investments in ICT research in Europe

Europe is investing less in ICT research than other regions

Within the EU, the countries that invest most in ICT research, Ireland, Finland and Sweden, also have the highest productivity growth rates[4]. But Europe as a whole is not investing enough. ICTs account for more than a third of the total R&D budget in all major OECD countries, but only 18% in Europe. In absolute terms, the EU ICT research investment is about one-third that of the US and is 30% lower than in Japan[5]. In fact, the gap in ICT research investment accounts for half the total gap in research spending between the EU and the US.

ICT R&D	EU15	US	Japan
Private sector investments	€23 B	€83 B	€40 B
Public sector investments	€8 B	€20 B	€11 B
Inhabitants	383 m	296 m	127 m
Investments / inhabitant	€80	€350	€400
ICT R&D / Total R&D	18%	34%	35%

Source: IDATE, OECD (Annual figures for 2000)

Apart from the deficit in the public investments, European investments in ICT R&D within the private sector also needs substantial increase to reach the levels of major competing regions of the world.

It is one of the major targets of the Barcelona objective of 3% of GDP for research to develop new policy mixes, which will effectively leverage a strong increase in ICT R&D investments by the private sector.

The European scene for ICT research is currently fragmented and varied

In addition to the problem of overall comparatively lower levels of R&D investments, Europe also has a very fragmented landscape for public funding of ICT R&D across a number of structures at European/national/regional level, each with differing policies, strategies and objectives.

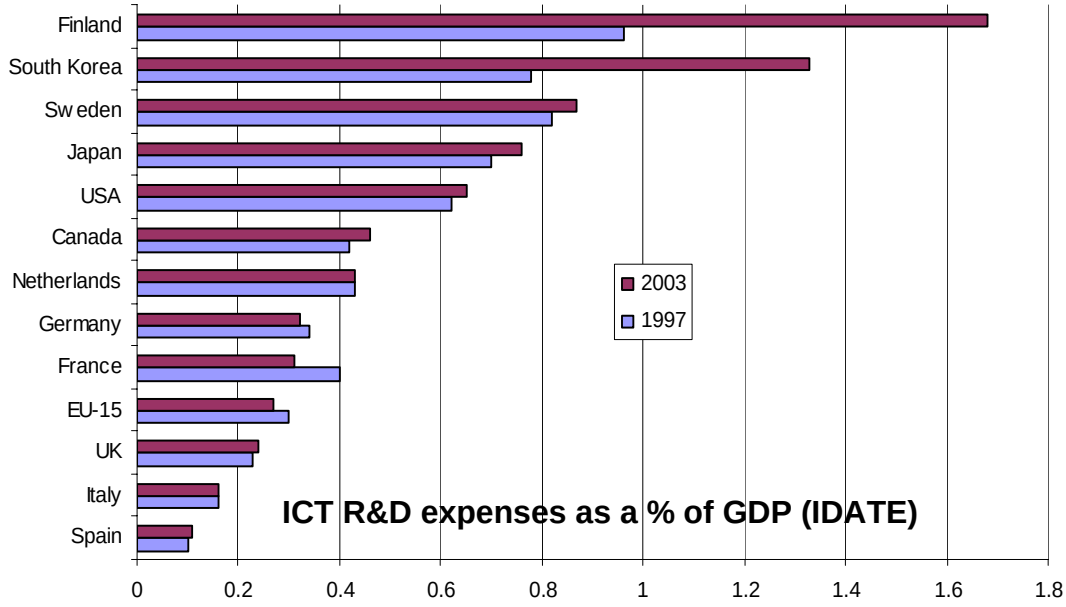
- The main instrument for European collaboration is the ICT part of the 6th Framework Programme for R&D, which accounts for approximately 12% of the overall public investment in ICT specific R&D.

4 "ICT and Economic Growth: Evidence from OECD Countries, Industries and Firms", OECD, 2003

5 "Investment in ICT Research, Comparative Study", IDATE, 2002

- The EUREKA programme brings together national support to a number of ICT relevant project clusters in the fields of micro-nano electronics (MEDEA+), software (ITEA+), packaging (PIDEA), microsystems (EURIMUS) and telecommunication (CELTIC).

- The remaining public effort is spread across national/regional programmes and funding schemes for ICT R&D in each Member State, in addition to other European structures with ICT R&D relevance, such as COST, European Space Agency, CERN etc.



Source: IDATE (2003)

2.3. The case for improved coordination of ICT research efforts in Europe

The context for ICT research has changed significantly in the last decade. Globalisation has brought new challenges for Europe. In addition to the development of new ICT production facilities in emerging economies, we see increasingly the development of research poles outside the traditional knowledge intensive economies in Europe, the US and Japan.

ICT R&D and manufacturing are de facto international. No single EU country or any one organisation can now afford the cost[6] of building the know-how and skills to master increasingly complex technology chains. EU research programmes foster the pan-European industry-academic partnerships needed to integrate ICT goods and services and to develop the EU and international standards that enable them to work together, but national efforts increasingly need to be considered in the global context.

With increasing global competition, the sustained fragmentation of the European research effort is a major European weakness particularly in the ICT sector where high levels of investment are needed to develop solutions for large scale markets.

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6 For instance, the costs of developing a new generation of semiconductor technology has increased ten-fold in 20 years to reach a level of several billion Euros.

Further coordination, as stated in the i2010 initiative, is needed between the Member States and with activities at European level for Europe to address the challenges ahead and to ensure its industry and academic communities are well placed to compete and seize the new opportunities ahead.

Better coordination of research activities and the convergence of research and innovation policies at national and EU levels allow Member States to avoid unnecessary overlaps of efforts, to exchange information, expertise and good practice. By providing a clearer picture of the research funding and investment landscape it can serve to achieve the Lisbon strategy by facilitating and leveraging industrial R&D investment.

3. APPROACH FOR ICT R&D POLICY AND PROGRAMME COORDINATION IN EUROPE

It is essential to promote better synergies and common visions through coordination between European and national R&D in strategic ICT areas where significant overlaps of activities in terms of scope and constituency currently exist. This approach is expected to lead to more strategic and direct linkages between ICT RTD policies and activities at European and national levels, consequently leading to higher overall critical mass and impact.

As an integral part of the relaunched Lisbon strategy, the Commission has therefore in its i2010 Communication highlighted the need for Europe to increase and coordinate further its ICT research effort, to improve its impact and make sure that it serves its economy and society. Most Member States are currently updating their research and innovation strategies for ICT. The same is happening at EU level within the proposals for the seventh RTD Framework Programme[7] and the CIP (Competitiveness and Innovation Programme)[8].

The strategy for coordination in ICT has been to stimulate coordination on ICT R&D both at policy level as well as at programme/funding level. It is clear that the inherent inertia of political decision making and budgetary cycles requires a longer term strategic perspective and commitment for achieving the full impact. However, first concrete initiatives at implementation level can also be built bottom-up on the basis of already existing or emerging activities at European and national level.

The main responsibility for the success of coordination lies with the Member States and the role of the European Commission is mainly to act as a catalyst and facilitate the coordination process. The key principle of voluntary involvement ensures that the coordination process can progress with Member States in variable geometry around strategic ICT R&D topics.

Two complementary strands of activity have been established to support the development of coordination activities addressing general policy level coordination and programme/funding level coordination of ICT R&D.

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[7] FP7 proposal and related documents can be found at http://cordis.europa.eu.int/fp7/

[8] CIP proposal and related documents can be found at http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/enterprise_policy/cip/index_en.htm

3.1. ICT R&D policy level coordination

An informal forum of national and European decision makers (National IST RTD Directors forum) has been established as the main mechanism to discuss and develop shared visions and strategies for ICT R&D in Europe, to share knowledge and best practice and to improve coordination in ICT RTD in Europe. It provides a framework for interaction between senior officials from national ministries with responsibility for ICT R&D policy and funding decisions (typically research and industry ministries) and European Commission representatives responsible for ICT R&D.

The aim is to develop future shared visions and strategies for ICT research, which can offer help in providing coherence and critical mass and support the development of common initiatives between Member States and with the EU in ICT R&D and innovation.

This activity is complemented by a number of supporting measures, which are intended to support the higher level policy making and support an open method of coordination in ICT R&D:

- CISTRANA (http://www.cistrana.org) is a supporting measure involving most of the Member States to underpin the process of the open method of coordination in ICT R&D. The objective is to develop a map of the national research landscape in the area of ICT and establish a portal with comparable information on national ICT R&D policies and programmes across Europe. In addition the project will identify ICT research topics and strategic themes where trans-national cooperation is essential and will aim to establish sustainable mechanisms including common methodologies and procedures to set up trans-national coordination initiatives between several Member and Associated States. Furthermore, CISTRANA also interacts with all the ICT ERA-NETs in specific areas.

- The FISTERA (http://fistera.jrc.es) project has the objective to compare results of national ICT R&D foresight exercises and to exchange visions for the future. This includes the setting up of a forum for consensus building on future visions for ICT and to contribute to constructing the European Research Area in ICT through benchmarking and community building by providing a dynamic pan-European platform on foresight.

- In addition, studies are being launched by the EC to provide improved and regularly updated information and trends about public and private investments in ICT RTD and the impact of globalisation on the competitiveness of Europe for attracting ICT RTD investments, and on innovation in the ICT sector, including the role of SMEs.

The IST Advisory Group (ISTAG)[9] is also contributing to this issue through vision papers and has provided first recommendations in a report from the dedicated working group on this issue.

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[9] See http://cordis.europa.eu.int/ist/istag.htm

3.2. Programme level coordination initiatives in specific ICT areas:

In agreement with the Member States, DG INFSO has promoted a thematic approach to ICT R&D policy and funding coordination as an integral part of the ICT activities in FP6, in order to ensure that both EU and national support to R&D within a particular ICT field can be addressed.

As already envisaged in the overall FP6 ERA-NET scheme, this has been done through usage of Coordination Actions or Specific Support Actions linked to the Strategic Objectives of the IST priority of FP6.

Programme level coordination is intended to bring together national programme managers and relevant organisations with sector knowledge in strategic ICT R&D areas. Depending on the maturity and nature of the ICT area addressed, the objectives vary from basic information exchange over mapping of national activities to more explicit commitments for strategic cooperation and possible joint initiatives.

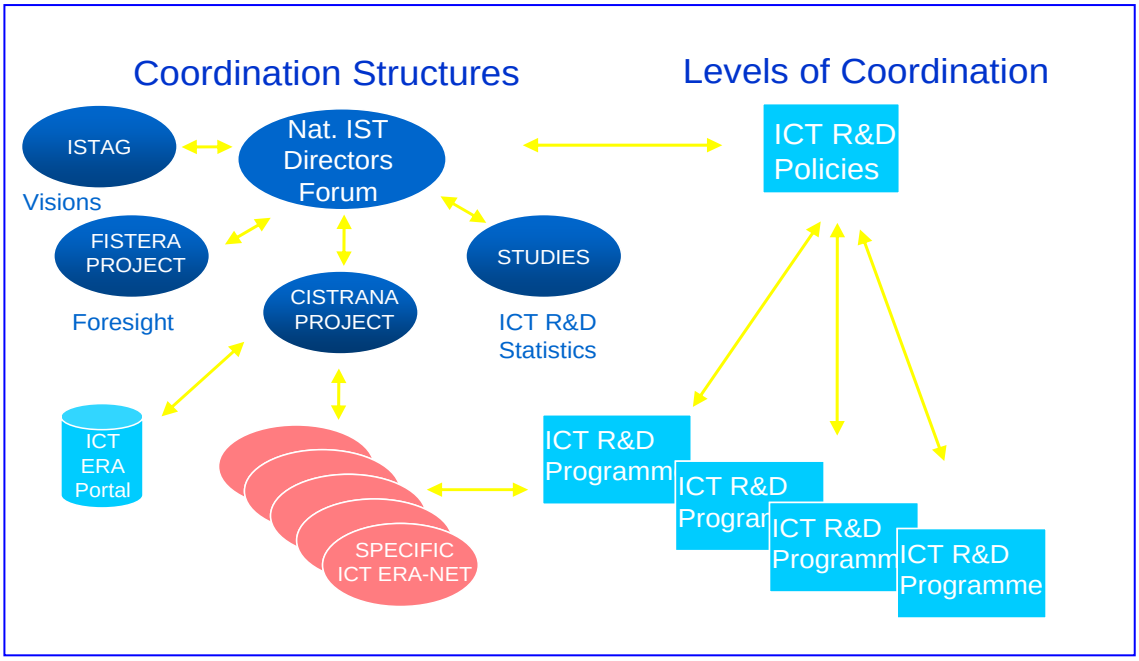
Actions typically target one or several of the following activities, with involvement of Member States in a variable geometry and on a voluntary basis:

- Information collection and mapping of national and European ICT R&D policies and funding schemes in the specific ICT area addressed (e.g. funding schemes, rules of participation, timing, content)

- Cross-national exchange of information, good practice and personnel (e.g. exchange of evaluators, programme managers, common project events)

- Development of future common R&D visions and roadmaps, in cooperation with industrial stakeholders (in some cases this is closely linked with European Technology Platforms and major EUREKA clusters)

- Development of coordinated or joint R&D initiatives (e.g. cross-national programmes or wider initiatives such as Joint Technology Initiatives or Art. 169 based initiatives as foreseen in the FP7 proposal.



4. OVERVIEW OF CURRENT STATUS

4.1. ERA Policy Level Coordination Initiatives in ICT

Informal Forum of National IST RTD Directors

The forum has already met successfully four times since 2003 and is expected to play an important role in the further development of the ICT research and innovation part of the i2010 initiative.

The group has also already exchanged several examples of good national practice in ICT research and has been consulted on the EC proposal for ICT in the 7th Framework Programme. A document outlining a common future vision for EU ICT R&D has been adopted[10] and possible joint R&D initiatives between the European Commission and Member States in the context of the FP7 proposal are under discussion and further development.

Supporting measures

The CISTRANA project has started work on the collection of national data and has developed a proposal for an outline ICT taxonomy, which will allow for comparative analysis of the national information on ICT policies and programmes. It is expected that a first version of the ICT ERA portal will go online during autumn 2005 with information on national ICT R&D policies and programmes. A number of strategic workshops for national programme managers and policy makers are envisaged during the second half of 2005 and the beginning of 2006, addressing strategic topics of common interest.

The FISTERA project has produced a map of the European major actors in ICT research, a series of strategically selected scenario exercises on wider aspects of ICT applications, two rounds of roadshow workshops, and a final conference and book are expected during 2005. FISTERA has developed framework scenarios that reflect alternative futures under different sets of context conditions and highlight key challenges and critical issues on the pathways towards these futures. Moreover, the analysis of the EU actor landscape will lead to insights on what skills are needed to address weaknesses and threats.

A study on public and private trends in ICT R&D investments in Europe was launched on 1st September 2005 and a first deliverable is expected by February 2006. In addition a study on ICT innovation and SMEs will be launched during autumn 2005.

IST Advisory Group (ISTAG)

ISTAG has undertaken to provide broader visions for future ICT research, which can be taken on board at EU and national level as input for the development of shared ICT research strategies, including recommendations for joint European actions.

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[10] ICT R&D strategy paper ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu.int/pub/ist/docs/strategy_paper_final_website.pdf

4.2. Thematic ERA Coordination in the field of ICT

Following the launch of the European Research Area (ERA) concept and FP6, a number of initiatives have been taken to develop ERA coordination in IST. 2003 and 2004 saw a successful engagement of both DG INFSO services and Member States representatives in the development of ERA coordination initiatives, facilitated through the IST advisory Committee (ISTC) and through interaction between IST topical units and relevant national programme managers and sector actors.

Currently 25 measures addressing ERA coordination in key ICT R&D areas have been launched as part of calls for proposals in FP6. In particular, a dedicated call (IST call 3) specifically targeted ERA coordination measures relevant for ICT RTD and additional ICT related measures have also been selected through a bottom-up process under the horizontal ERA-NET calls by DG RTD.

Out of the 25 measures, 16 directly involve coordination of ICT programmes with involvement of funding bodies, compatible with the ERA-NET scheme. The remaining 9 measures provide support to coordination by developing RTD roadmaps and mapping of RTD actors in ICT sectors, with the aim of supporting further coordination in these sectors.

In addition other policy and programme coordination activities have been undertaken in the areas of eMobility and Intelligent transport systems. Rurther measures are under preparation e.g. in the area of eGovernment.

In some cases the coordination measures are strongly linked with ICT related European Technology Platforms[11] where they offer the opportunity to discuss the possible inclusion of Strategic Research Agendas in the scope of relevant funding activities. In a few cases these coordination measures have also played a key role in developing proposals for Joint Technology Initiatives and Art. 169 initiatives included in the ICT part of the proposal for Framework Programme 7.

All these measures will also contribute to the further discussion about the possible scope and positioning of future European and national R&D support efforts within the ICT fields addressed.

Overview of current ICT ERA coordination projects (by December 2005)

The following table provides an overview of coordination initiatives (ERA-NETs) and activities in support of coordination in the field of RTD policies and programmes for ICT and an indication of the areas covered. Further details about the scope and participation in the projects can be found in Annex I.

Coordination initiatives (ERA-NETs)

Project Acronym	Title	Area
AAL	Ambient Assisted Living - Preparation	ICT for Inclusion

[11] European Technology Platforms http://cordis.europa.eu.int/ist/about/techn-platform.htm

	of an Art. 169- initiative.	
BrainBridges	Collaborative technologies and environments enhancing the seamless creativity process, leveraging the full European potential.	New working environments
CI2RCO	Critical Information Infrastructure Research Coordination	Trust and Security
CISTRANA	Coordination of IST research and national activities	ICT wide
COSINE	Co-ordinating Strategies for Embedded Systems	Embedded Systems
e-Health ERA	Towards the Establishment of a European e-Health Research Area	eHealth
ERA Pilot MiNa TSI	European Research Area Pilot Action on MicroNano Technology Systems Integration	Micro-nano systems
ERA-NET Transport	Achievement of an efficient trans-national research co-operation in the field of transport	eMobility
ERA-Pilot QIST	Structuring the European Research Area within Quantum Information Science and Technology	Quantum Information Science
ERA-SPOT	Coordination in the ERA of optical technologies	Optical technologies

eTRANET	ICT in traditional manufacturing industries ERA-NET	ICT in Manufacturing
GRIDCOORD	ERA Pilot on a Coordinated Europe_wide initiative in Grid Research	Grids
MNT ERA-NET	From Micro- and Nanoscale Science to New Technologies for Europe	Micro-nano systems
MOCCA	Mobile and Wireless Beyond 3G Technologies	Optics and photonics
OPERA	Optics and Photonics in the European Research Area	Optics and photonics
TOSSAD	Towards Open Source Software Adoption and Dissemination	Open source software

Projects providing support to Coordination

ALIPRO	Supporting the ALIgnment of IST research PROgrammes on mobile communications in the new member states	Mobile Communications
AMI@NETFOOD	Development of Long-term shared vision on AMI Technologies for a Networked agri-food sector	New working environments
ARTEMISOS	Advanced Research and Technology for Embedded Intelligence Systems Operational Support	Embedded Systems
BREAD	Broadband in Europe for ALL: a multi-Disciplinary approach	Broadband for all
ISHTAR	Industrial Stimuli for the HarmonisaTion of EuropeAn Research in the area of Location Based Services	Location based services
MONA	Merging Optics and Nanotechnologies	Optics and photonics
SUGERT	Strategic User Group for European Research on TCAD	Micro-nano electronics
SYMBIOmatics	Synergies in Medical Informatics and Bioinformatics	Bioinformatics

Widgap	Wide Bandgap Semiconductors	Micro-nano electronics

5. CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK

The goals of the i2010 initiative are challenging, but Europe needs to set an ambitious agenda for ICT R&D and innovation, if we want to stay competitive and reach the goals of the Lisbon agenda of being the most competitive knowledge based economy in the world by 2010.

The 6th Framework Programme can be seen as a pilot period for developing coordination measures with the Member States to improve the coherence and reduce fragmentation of the public research efforts in Europe. This will offer a learning experience as a useful basis for further measures to be developed. It is planned to perform a first level of impact evaluation from these measures in autumn 2006 with support from the CISTRANA project.

The progress and commitment shown to the coordination process by the Member States is very encouraging and a comprehensive framework for coordination has already been established to address both policy and programme level coordination. In the coming period all these initiatives will start to produce useful information and first results in terms of impact on existing or future research initiatives in ICT.

Looking further ahead, within the Commission's proposal for FP7[12] coordination has matured into an important integral element of the thematic activities as concrete evidence of the importance of the approach. The aim will be to consolidate the existing efforts, address the challenges and build on initiatives which demonstrate clear benefits, bearing in mind that the real impact will be longer term. In addition, new instruments are being proposed to provide further support to specific initiatives.

One new instrument (ERA-NET+) is proposed to allow for extending the coordination effort between Member States funding programmes with FP funding for common calls for proposals under certain conditions. The use of Art. 169 of the EU treaty is also proposed in a small number of justified cases, which involves the setting up of a common structure for implementation of joint national R&D programmes, supported by the Framework Programme.

In the case of ICT, this modality has been proposed in the area of "Ambient Assisted Living" dealing with ICT support for independent living of the ageing population. The final decision on this proposal will be taken as part of the further agreements on the Framework Programme with Council and Parliament.

Furthermore two Joint Technology Initiatives have been proposed under FP7 in the fields of nano-electronics and embedded systems and these will also involve a strong level of coordination of national ICT policies and funding schemes in participating countries.

[12] FP7 proposal and related documents can be found at http://cordis.europa.eu.int/fp7/

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

i2010 – A European Information Society for growth and employment
http://europa.eu.int/information_society/eeurope/i2010/index_en.htm

The Seventh Framework Programme
http://www.cordis.lu/fp7/home.html

The Sixth Framework Programme – IST (Priority 2)
http://www.cordis.lu/ist/

IST in the European Research Area
http://www.cordis.lu/ist/about/era.htm

The ERA-NET Scheme
http://www.cordis.lu/coordination/era-net.htm

IST Technology Platforms
http://www.cordis.lu/ist/about/techn-platform.htm

Report on European Technology Platforms and Joint Technology Initiatives
ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/technology-platforms/docs/tp_report_council.pdf

COST (European cooperation in the field of scientific and technical research)
TIST is the Telecommunication and Information Science and Technology domain within COST.
http://www.cost.esf.org

EUREKA – An intergovernmental initiative for market orientated Research and Development
http://www.eureka.be/home.do

Annex I:

Overview of IST ERA Coordination Projects

December 2005

IST ERA Coordination Projects

(last updated December 2005)

Project Acronym	Title	Area	Call
AAL	Ambient Assisted Living - Preparation of an Art. 169- initiative.	ICT for Inclusion	IST-2
ALIPRO	Supporting the ALIgnment of IST research PROgrammes on mobile communications in the new member states	Mobile Communications	IST-3
AMI@NETFOOD	Development of Long-term shared vision on AMI Technologies for a Networked agri-food sector	New working environments	IST-3
ARTEMISOS	Advanced Research and Technology for Embedded Intelligence Systems Operational Support	Embedded Systems	IST-3
BrainBridges	Collaborative technologies and environments enhancing the seamless creativity process, leveraging the full European potential.	New working environments	IST-3
BREAD	Broadband in Europe for ALL: a multi-Disciplinary approach	Broadband for all	IST-1
CI2RCO	Critical Information Infrastructure Research Coordination	Trust and Security	IST-3
CISTRANA	Coordination of IST research and national activities	ICT wide	IST-2
COSINE	Co-ordinating Strategies for Embedded Systems	Embedded Systems	IST-2
e-Health ERA	Towards the Establishment of a European e-Health Research Area	eHealth	IST-3
ERA-NET Transport	Achievement of an efficient trans-national research co-operation in the field of transport	eMobility	ERA-NET/1/CA/SSA
ERA Pilot MiNa TSI	European Research Area Pilot Action on MicroNano Technology Systems Integration	Micro-nano systems	IST-3

ERA-Pilot QIST	Structuring the European Research Area within Quantum Information Science and Technology	Quantum Information Science	IST-3
ERA-SPOT	Coordination in the ERA of optical tecnologies	Optical technologies	ERA-NET/1/CA/SSA
eTRANET	ICT in traditional manufacturing industries ERA-NET	ICT in Manufacturing	ERA-NET/1/CA/SSA
GRIDCOORD	ERA Pilot on a Coordinated Europe_wide initiative in Grid Research	Grids	ERA-NET/1/CA/SSA
ISHTAR	Industrial Stimuli for the HarmonisaTion of EuropeAn Research in the area of Location Based Services	Location based services	IST-3
MNT ERA-NET	From Micro- and Nanoscale Science to New Technologies for Europe	Micro-nano systems	ERA-NET/1/CA/SSA
MOCCA	Mobile and Wireless Beyond 3G Technologies	Optics and photonics	IST-2
MONA	Merging Optics and Nanotechnologies	Optics and photonics	IST-NMP2
OPERA	Optics and Photonics in the European Research Area	Optics and photonics	IST-3
SUGERT	Strategic User Group for European Research on TCAD	Micro-nano electronics	IST-3
SYMBIOmatics	Synergies in Medical Informatics and Bioinformatics	Bioinformatics	IST-3
TOSSAD	Towards Open Source Software Adoption and Dissemination	Open source software	IST-3
Widgap	Wide Bandgap Semiconductors	Micro-nano electronics	IST-3

AAL - Ambient Assisted Living
Preparation of an Art. 169-initiative

ICT Area: e-Inclusion

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Michael Huch
Email: huch@vdivde-it.de
Organisation: VDI/VDE INNOVATION + TECHNIK GMBH
Rheinstrasse 10 B
14513 Teltow
GERMANY

Abstract:

The objective of the specific support action "Ambient assisted living" is to prepare an Art. 169 initiative in the field of "Small and smart technologies for ambient assisted living" to be submitted by the end of the year 2005. Ambient Assisted Living as a concept aims at prolongating the time, people can live in a decent way in their own flat by increasing their autonomy and self-confidence, the discharge of monotonously everyday activities, to monitor and care for the elderly or ill person, to enhance the security and to save resources. The Article 169-initiative in the field of "Small and smart technologies for ambient assisted living" undertaken jointly by several Member states will tackle the major challenges Europe has to face:1. It will stimulate the development of products and services for societies being characterised by demographic changes 2. It will improve policy co-ordination in a field where the innovation process has to be accompanied and stimulated by public authorities because of its social dimension. According to the philosophy of Art. 169 it is necessary to combine an European and national perspective and not only to work on the European or the national level. On the one hand the issue of an "ageing population" concerns all EU member states in equal measure. The European dimension allows to create a critical mass and to create synergies. Costs can be saved by a better cross-linking of national initiatives and activities. On the other hand social security systems are highly fragmented in Europe and cultures (e.g. acceptance of new products by elderly people) in the European countries still differ very much. This requires the involvement of the national level as well. This project covers all preparatory work needed to set-up the intended Art. 169 initiative.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	AAL
Project Reference:	4217
Start Date:	2004-09-01
End Date:	2006-09-01
Project Cost:	925 085 euro
Project Funding:	800 000 euro
Contract Type:	Specific Support Action

Participants:

- Interuniversitair Micro-Electronica Centrum vzw, Belgium
- Technische Universitat Wien, Austria
- Temas AG Technology and Management Services, Switzerland
- Progetto Finalizzato Materiali Speciali per Tecnologie Avanzate II, Italy
- Ministere de l/Economie des finances et de l/Industrie, France
- Bundesministerium fuer Bildung und Forschung, Germany
- Bundesministerium fuer Verkehr, Innovation und Technologie, Austria
- Teknologian kehittamiskeskus, Finland

Web pages:

Project: http://www.aal169.org/

ALIPRO
Supporting the Alignment of IST Research Programmes on Mobile Communications in the New Member States

ICT Area: Mobile Communications

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Prof. Dr. Mieczysław Muraszkiewicz
Email: secretariat@most-program.org
Organisation: MOST Foundation
Foundation for Mobile and Open Society through wireless Technology
Poland

Abstract:

ALIPRO aims at supporting the alignment of the New Member States' national and regional research programmes with European IST research in the area of mobile technologies, applications, and services. ALIPRO focuses on the strategic objective "To progress towards the achievement of the objectives of a European Research Area in a given IST field", in particular addressing a number of fields in the strategic objectives "Mobile and wireless systems beyond 3G"(FP6 IST Call 1) and "Applications and services for the mobile user and worker" (FP6 IST Call 2).

The research programmes of the New Member States (NMS) and even more of the Associated Candidate Countries (ACC) in the economically important mobile communication sector are not sufficiently aligned with and integrated into European IST research. In some NMS and ACC such programmes do not even exist.

ALIPRO is an SSA that will accelerate the improvement and alignment of mobility-related national and regional activities and programmes in NMS and ACC, strengthening their integration on European level. ALIPRO will achieve this goal through benchmarking, vision-building and roadmapping as well as dissemination of the results to the relevant stakeholders in the NMS and ACC.

The project will be performed by a consortium of 14 organisations from all NMS and ACCs as well as 'old' member state Germany. This composition will ensure representative benchmarking results and a broad European vision.

In order to assure a significant impact, ALIPRO will disseminate its results to the relevant stakeholders through a web-based information platform, a workshop, a hardcopy publication, and presentations at relevant national events.

Contacts to a number of potential users of the project results have already been set up and will be maintained and extended during the project execution. This will facilitate international research cooperation in NMS and ACC and strengthen the European Research Area.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	ALIPRO
Project Reference:	015811
Start Date:	2005-03-01
End Date:	2006-03-31
Project Cost:	610 884 euro
Project Funding:	549 979 euro
Contract Type:	Specific Support Action

Participants:

- European Institute for Research and Strategic Studies in Telecommunications (Eurescom), Germany
- Omnitel, Lithuania
- Turkcell, Turkey
- University of Zilina (UNIZA), Slovakia
- Jožef Stefan Institute (JSI), Slovenia
- Cyprus Telecommunications Authority (CYTA), Cyprus
- Czech Technical University in Prague (CVUT FEL), Czech Republic
- Association for Electronics and Software (ARIES), Romania
- Business Innovation Center of Latvian Electronic Industry (LEBIC), Latvia
- Estonian Wireless Network (EWN), Estonia
- Actiwise Consulting Ltd. (Actiwise), Hungary
- University of Malta (UoM), Malta
- Technical University – Sofia (TU Sofia), Bulgaria

Web pages :

Project: http://alipro.eurescom.de/

AMI@Netfood
Devopment of long-term shared vision on AMI Technologies for a Networked agri food sector

ICT Area: New Working Environments

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Fernando Ubieta
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Organisation: INNOPOLE S.L.
Avenida de Paris 10, Urbanizacion el Valle
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SPAIN

Abstract:

The objective of AMI@Netfood project is to support the implementation of the IST Research Priority and Framework Programme, providing a long-term vision on future trends on Scientific and Technology Research oriented to the development and application of Ambient Intelligence technologies to the agri-food domain. The project will be carried out developing an ERA Pilot joint collaboration platform resulting from a roadmap the area of Applications and services for collaborative working.

As a result AMI@Netfood will provide a path, in the form of a Strategic Research Agenda, common to a number of EU Member States and Regions, which will be designed to guide RTD in ICTs to provide an answer to identified needs of the sector. The project will provide a framework to discuss about the increasingly demanding need of having collaborative and mobile applications and services and innovative ways to tackle social issues and to bring benefits to consumers, industry and the environment. AMI@Netfood results will specifically focus on the solutions adaptable to the needs of local/regional SMEs in the Agri-food sector in themes like innovative extended products and services, rural development, efficient knowledge creation; sharing and exploitation through collaborative activities involving the individual - the mobile user and worker.

AMI@Netfood analysis will be developed involving key regional and national policy makers with responsibility in the design of RTD policies and programmes in the area of ICTs and Rural development at regional and/or national scale. By this, the project will generate a basis to identify mechanisms to mobilise public-private partnerships and investment needed on

Research. Project results will also be widely disseminated so that they can be used to help in preparations for future Community, National or Regional research and technological development policy activities. AMI@Netfood will help creating a sustainable network that will be used as the basis for the definition of a set of common objectives that would be applied to a potential Technology Platform for the EU research in the area of ICTs for agri-food and Rural Development.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	AMI@Netfood
Project Reference:	FP6-2004-IST-3/015776
Start Date:	2005-04-01
End Date:	2006-07-01
Project Cost:	937 336 euro
Project Funding:	749 926 euro
Contract Type:	Specific Support Action

Participants:

- E ATB Bremen, Germany
- Universidad de Galway, CIM Research Unit, Ireland
- NYHERJI Ltd, Iceland
- DEMOCenter S.c.a.r.l, Italy
- CATT Innovation Management GMBH, Austria
- WIRELESS INFO, Czech Repúblic
- ARA Ltd, Turkey
- University of Tampere, Finland
- CYBELIA, Groupe GLON, France
- EXODUS, SA, Greece
- Rzeszów University of Technology, Poland
- INESC Porto, Portugal
- Magyar Agrarinformatikai Ai Szovetseg (HAAI), Hungary

Web pages :

Project: http://www.ami-netfood.com

ARTEMISOS
Advanced Research and Technology for Embedded Intelligence Systems Operational Support

ICT Area: Embedded Systems

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Laila Gide
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Organisation: Thales
45, Rue de Villiers
92526 Neuilly-sur-seine
France

Abstract:

ARTEMISOS' objective is "To progress towards the achievement of the objectives of ERA in the field of the Advanced Research and Technology for Embedded Intelligence Systems (ARTEMIS)" to consolidate European leadership in this domain. By bringing organisational and operational support to further develop and subsequently implement the strategic vision of the ARTEMIS Technology Platform, the project will allow large and small industry, research organisations, public authorities, financial institutions and other stakeholders across the EU to join forces and coordinate their actions for the elaboration and implementation of the ARTEMIS Strategic Research Agenda (SRA). To ensure successful innovation, related structural, educational, and regulatory matters (standards, IPR, research infrastructure, training) will also be embraced. ARTEMISOS will provide a structure with dedicated resources for ARTEMIS to implement its mission, drive its roadmap and to achieve its goals, and will: · Actively assist the ARTEMIS platform in elaborating, maintaining and monitoring the SRA, by hosting Working Groups initiated by the ARTEMIS platform and providing them support, · Help the ARTEMIS platform to efficiently monitor the progress of its work, and create an environment for close interaction and elaboration of research proposals, · Interlink with existing and new research initiatives globally and help integrate the European research community as necessary, to implement the SRA, and to establish an international cooperation policy, · Involve SMEs and link with current ERA-Net initiatives such as COSINE and with the international scientific community, thereby gathering experts in the domain and promoting participation of new players, · Communicate and disseminate publicly and to privileged stakeholders, by sharing and making available information through conferences, events, publications, and other media, to ensure openness for the ARTEMIS platform.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	ARTEMISOS
Project Reference:	FP6-2004-IST-3 - 015754
Start Date:	2005-05-01
End Date:	2007-04-30
Project Cost:	1 185 050 euro
Project Funding:	750 000 euro
Contract Type:	Specific Support Action

Participants:

- Philips Electronics Nederland B.V., Netherlands
- STMicroelectronics NV, Netherlands
- Nokia Corporation, Finland
- DaimlerChrysler AG, Germany
- Robert BOSCH GmbH, Germany
- Ericsson AB, Sweden
- Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, VERIMAG, France
- Interuniversitair Micro-Elektronica Centrum vzw, Belgium
- ITEA Office Association, Netherlands
- MEDEA OFFICE Association, France

Web pages:

Project: http://www.artemis.eu (pre-registered, not working yet)
Cordis: http://www.cordis.lu/ist/artemis/index.html

BRAINBRIDGES
Collaborative technologies and environments enhancing the seamless creativity process, leveraging the full European potential

ICT Area: New Working Environments

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Michael Nilsson
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Organisation: Centre of Distance-spanning Technologies, CDT Luleå
University of Technology CDT
Luleå University of Technology
SE-971 87 Luleå,
SWEDEN

Abstract:

BrainBridges will result in a coordinated strategic European research programme in the area of Collaborative Working Environments (CWE) and enabling technologies. CWE unlocks the potential job creation, productivity, creativity and innovation potential of multi-cultural Europe, and will be a major factor in strengthening and maintaining the Union's future competitiveness in the global marketplace. It is therefore imperative to fully leverage its potential and establish an optimal European research fabric to accelerate CWE development. By uniting a critical mass of key regional and national funding organisations, research and industry players, including a significant amount from New Member States, BrainBridges assures its ability to develop a truly pan-European ERA pilot for CWE. In order to deliver a coordinated European research programme providing a solid common basis for policymaking and programme coordination, BrainBridges will build:

-
- A sustainable community dedicated to knowledge exchange and the establishment of a coordinated European CWE research programme
- Suitable networking infrastructure including an IST Collaboration Platform
- Leverage of the available scientific excellence and industry relevance

This will be achieved by systematically gathering and analysing knowledge on a regional, national and European level, regarding the current structure of CWE research funding as well as multi-disciplinary CWE research issues.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	BRAINBRIDGES
Project Reference:	015982
Start Date:	2005-02-15
End Date:	2006-08-14
Project Cost:	599 886 euro
Project Funding:	599 886 euro
Contract Type:	Coordination Action

Participants:

- E University of Bremen, Germany
- Bremen Innovation Agency, Germany
- European Space Agency
- ICT Turku, Finland
- Centre of Knowledge and Innovation Research, Finland
- Waterford Institute of Technology, Ireland
- Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Slovenia
- Researchers Association of Slovenia, Slovenia
- Technical University of Madrid, Spain
- Klaipeda Science and Technology Park, Lithuania
- Riga Technical University, Latvia
- Interdisciplinary institute for Broadband Technology, Belgium
- Madeira Tecnopolo SA, Portugal

Web pages :

Project: http://www.brainbridges.info/

BREAD
Broadband in Europe for All: a multi-Disciplinary approach

ICT Area: BroadBand for All

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Prof. Dr. Ir. Peter Van Daele
Email: peter.vandaele@intec.ugent.be
Organisation: IMEC – Ghent University
INTEC Deptartment
Gent, Belgium

Abstract:

The BREAD - co-ordination action aims at developing a multi-disciplinary approach for the realisation of the 'broadband for all' concept within Europe, bringing societal, economic, regulatory and technological disciplines together. It aims to bring together all players active in end-to-end broadband provisioning. A multi-technological analysis of the evolving broadband technologies is developed, together with techno-economic, societal and regulatory aspects of the "broadband for all" concept and regional "success stories" of actual deployment. The BREAD project builds on an IST co-ordination and information exchange platform to enhance the interaction between the key players in the field and to invoke discussions on this multi-disciplinary approach. The Broadband cluster/Forum set up by BREAD supports the creation of the European Research Area (ERA) through the stimulation of the interaction of EU national initiatives and projects. Besides the website, a yearly “BROADBAND Europe” conference plays here a crucial role.

Project details:

Project Acronym: BREAD
Project Reference: 507554
Start Date: 2004-01-01
End Date: 2006-06-30
Project Cost: 2 386 361 euro
Project Funding: 1 698 688 euro
Contract Type: Coordination Action

Participants:

- IMEC – Ghent University, INTEC Department (B);
- University of Essex - Electronic Systems Engineering Department (UK);
- COM / Center for Tele-Information at the Technical University of Denmark (DK);
- Communications & Electronics Department at the GET/TELECOM PARIS-Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Télécommunications (F);
- Heinrich Hertz Institute für Nachrichtentechnik of the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung (D);
- Telscom Comsulting (CH);
- Institute of Prospective Technological Studies, at the Directorate General Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (E);
- JCP-Consult Sarl (F).

Web page :

Project : http://www.ist-bread.org/

CI2RCO
Critical Information Infrastructure Research Co-ordination

ICT Area: Trust and Security

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Uwe Bendisch
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Organisation: Fraunhofer Institute for Secure Information Technology (FhG-SIT)
Department Secure Processes and Infrastructure (SPI)
Schloss Birlinghoven
D-53754 Sankt Augustin
GERMANY

Abstract:

Objective: Modern society depends nowadays heavily on Information and Communication Technology (ICT). ICT has pervaded in all traditional infrastructures, rendering them more intelligent but more vulnerable at the same time. Our new economy is highly dependent on such safe and reliable information infrastructure services – they are to be considered as critical information infrastructures. A disruption or destruction of those infrastructures would have serious impact on the health, safety, security or economic well-being of citizens or the effective functioning of governments. Survivability and dependability of critical information infrastructures have therefore to be considered on a level which goes beyond the level of the local and national stakeholders to guarantee an acceptable level for economy, society, and politics. Thus, the main objective of the Critical Information Infrastructure Research Coordination (CI2RCO) project is to create and co-ordinate a European Taskforce:

- to encourage a co-ordinated Europe-wide approach for research and development on Critical Information Infrastructure Protection (CIIP), and;
- to establish a European Research Area (ERA) on CIIP as part of the larger IST Strategic Objective to integrate and strengthen the ERA on Dependability and Security CI2RCO – built around representative European organisations representing large communities on the CIIP topic – will focus on Research and Development (R&D) activities across the EU-25 and Associated Candidate Countries (ACC) that are essential to be carried out at European level and that require collaborative efforts involving the relevant players of research, research funding actors, policy makers and critical infrastructure stakeholders. This will be accomplished by a set of co-ordination activities and actions supporting the

improvement of networking, partnership and co-ordination of national, regional and European research policies, programmes and funding schemes, namely:

- Establishment of a CIIP-network of the relevant players (as identified above);
- Preparation of studies and analysis:
- Preparation of a CIIP R&D programmes' inventory
- Evaluation of CIIP R&D programmes' inventory in the EU-25
- Development of a roadmap towards a co-ordinated European CIIP research agenda;
- Calibration of the CIIP activities within the CIIP-network in a continuous feedback loop;
- The organisation of workshops/conferences to initiate and foster networks and to evaluate, complete and disseminate results;
- Provision of a project Web-Site to support the CIIP-network and for the dissemination of information (studies, workshop reports, etc).

A major instrument within the proposal is the CI2RCO Advisory Board representing the participating EU-25 and ACC by delegates mandated by the appropriate European, national, regional or local bodies responsible for funding or managing R&D programmes aiming at the developing CIIP-ERA.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	CI2RCO
Project Reference:	015818
Start Date:	2005-03-01
End Date:	2007-02-28
Project Cost:	1 215 942 euro
Project Funding:	975 000 euro
Contract Type:	Coordination Action

Participants:

- Ernst Basler + Partner AG, Switzerland
- ENTE per le Nuove tecnologie, l'Energia e l'Ambiente, Italy
- École Nationale Supérieure des Télécommunications, France
- Industrieanlagen-Betriebsgesellschaft mbH, Germany
- Nederlandse Organisatie voor toegepast natuurwetenschappelijk onderzoek, The Netherlands
- Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V., Projektträger des BMBF, Germany

Web pages:

Project: http://www.ci2rco.org/

CISTRANA
Coordination of IST Research and National Activities

ICT Area: General Accompanying Actions

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Ms Andrea Köndgen
Email: cistrana@dlr.de
Organisation: DLR Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.
Germany

Abstract:

The strategic aim of CISTRANA is to achieve coordination of national ICT programmes with each other and with European RTD programmes in order to improve the impact of all RTD efforts in Europe. The way for the implementation of transnational research activities is paved by the development of a map of the national research landscape in IST; the identification of key research topics where cooperation is essential; the establishment of methodologies and procedures to set up transnational coordination initiatives.

Project details:

Project Acronym: CISTRANA
Project Reference: 511324
Start Date: 2004-09-01
End Date: 2007-09-01
Project Cost: 2.602.615 euro
Project Funding: 2.157.947 euro
Contract Type: Coordination Action

Participants:

- DLR, Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V., Germany
- CCLRC, Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils, United Kingdom
- ANRT, Association Nationale de la Recherche Technique, France
- TEKES, National Technology Agency, Finland
- NKTH National Office for Research and Technology, Hungary

Web pages:

Project: http://www.cistrana.org/

COSINE
Co-ordinating Strategic Initiatives on Embedded Systems in the European Research Area

ICT Area: Embedded Systems

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Erich Prem
Email: office@eutema.com
Organisation: Eutema Technology Management GmbH
Dr. Prem KEG
Dr.-Karl-Lueger-Ring 10
1010 Wien
AUSTRIA

Abstract:

COSINE aims to enhance the impact of European RTD strategies in the area of Embedded Systems. Embedded Systems are a key driving innovation factor in industry sectors such as consumer electronics, automotive, or aerospace where Europe has a leading position. National European policy makers have recently created a collection of scattered national RTD initiatives for Embedded Systems. COSINE is designed to overcome their current fragmentation. It will create synergy amongst its participants in providing focus and strategic guidance to their programmes, improve co-operation among the relevant players and enhance the co-ordination of the initiatives. COSINE will achieve these goals by improving contacts of Embedded Systems programme managers and policy makers. It will analyse existing national activities with respect to target groups, participation, instruments and study barriers for trans-national co-operation. COSINE will also focus on future strategies for Embedded Systems RTD programme activities in Europe based on integrating existing background studies, fill in gaps in the existing material, and compare it to extra-EU activities. COSINE will link national policy makers, programme managers, and European Commission and industry groups to jointly exploit the potential for synergies of Embedded Systems RTD policies in Europe. COSINE aims at devising a medium-term plan for enhanced co-operation of national activities and supports the design of policies for Technology Platforms. It will design and implement joint pilot programmes for trans-national activities to support RTD in the Embedded Systems domain. COSINE is a highly focused strategic initiative to contribute to the development of next generation technologies and tools for modelling, implementation, and operation of next generation HW/SW systems embedded in intelligent devices. COSINE

thus contributes not only to the European Research Area, but also to the aims of the IST Strategic Objective Embedded Systems.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	COSINE
Project Reference:	4225
Start Date:	2005-01-15
End Date:	2007-01-14
Project Cost:	300 000 euro
Project Funding:	300 000 euro
Contract Type:	Specific Support Action

Participants:

- Deutsches Zentrum Fuer Luft- und Raumfahrt E.V., Germany
- Nemzeti Kutatasi es Technologiai Hivatal, Hungary
- Stichting Embedded Systems Institute, Netherlands
- National Technology Agency, Finland
- Instituut voor de Aanmoediging van Innovatie door Wetenschap en Technologie in Vlaanderen, Belgium
- Verket for Innovationssystem, Sweden
- Israel Industry Centre For R&D-Israel Directorate For EU FP, Israel
- Ministerio de Industria, Turismo y Comercio, Spain
- Institute of Information Theory and Automation Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic
- Bundesministerium fuer Verkehr, Innovation und Technologie, Austria

Web Pages:

Project: http://www.cosine-ist.org/

eHealth ERA
Towards the Establishment of a European e-Health Research Area

ICT Area: eHealth

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Dr. Veli N. Stroetmann
Email: veli.stroetmann@empirica.com
Organisation: empirica Gesellschaft für Kommunikations- und Technologieforschung mbH
Oxfordstr. 2
D-53111 Bonn
Germany

Abstract:

Policy background

Health care is a national responsibility. Nevertheless, it is more and more recognised that European cooperation may become a powerful tool in supporting Member States to achieve their respective health system objectives. Also, to realise the goals of the eHealth Action Plan, cooperation among Member States and with the European Commission is mandatory. Furthermore, given a clear and stable policy framework and perspective for the development of eHealth in and across Member States, both health care providers and industry are expected to pro-actively embrace and accelerate the further implementation of eHealth services.

Key project objectives

The *overall goal* of the project is to

- Support Member State innovation-oriented eHealth research and technological development (RTD), identify opportunities for multilateral joint activities, and take steps towards further integration of eHealth deployment and implementation across countries.
- Towards this end, it will contribute to:
- Greater transparency across Member States in respect of eHealth strategies, RTD policies, and measures undertaken to realise the respective national eHealth vision,
- Identification and analysis of priority deployment goals and RTD needs resulting there from,
- Exchange of experience in developing and managing eHealth strategies and programmes,

- Preparation for sustainable mechanisms for viable and effective trans-national cooperation between all or several of the participating Member States for mutual benefit.

Participating countries thus profit from an exchange of key information on ongoing activities and lessons learned in other countries, a better understanding of eHealth RTD and implementation in Member States, and an analysis of common priorities and opportunities for concerted actions.

Coordination Committee

To advice on its activities, and to allow the project to better take into account and support the interests and priorities of Member States, a Coordination Committee (CC) will be established on which all interested European health ministries will be represented.

Key outputs

Essential initial outputs of the coordination action will be located in the perceptions and actions of European decision makers, including improved knowledge of key actors and stakeholders in Member States and at the Union level, trust and confidence in colleagues in ministries, RTD organisations and stakeholder associations, etc. These somewhat intangible initial outputs are expected to translate into improved coordination and agreements amongst Member States and to increases in the coherence of European eHealth planning, and to the initiation of joint eHealth projects. Initial and intermediate outputs include:

- Launch of a public eHealth website on national eHealth activities
- A comprehensive European eHealth innovation-oriented report, presenting a structured overview of European eHealth programmes, initiatives and roadmaps, synthesising topics with priorities common to multiple Member States
- Reports on two topic clusters (to be determined by the CC and the EC) detailing strategic opportunities for joint activities of Member States
- Functional description of national institutional structures and connections essential to achieve a high degree of cross-Union eHealth innovation-oriented planning and cooperation
- Action plan for joint RTD and deployment activities in eHealth

Proposal for sustainable mechanisms to promote trans-national coordination activities.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	eHealth ERA
Project Reference:	015854
Start Date:	April 01, 2005-04-01
End Date:	March 31, 2007-03-31
Project Cost:	1 065 232 euro
Project Funding:	950 000 euro
Contract Type:	Coordination Action

Participants:

- empirica Gesellschaft für Kommunikations- und Technologieforschung mbH, Germany
- National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health, Finland
- Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy
- Jagiellonian University, Poland
- Instituto de Salud Carlos III, Spain
- Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, United Kingdom

Web pages:

Project: www.ehealth-era.org

ERA Pilot MiNa TSI
European Research Area Pilot Action on MicroNano Technology Systems Integration

ICT Area: Microsystems

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Wolfgang GESSNER
Email: gessner@vdivde-it.de
Organisation: VDI/VDE INNOVATION + TECHNIK GMBH
RHEINSTRASSE 10 B
14513 TELTOW
GERMANY

Abstract:

The Era Pilot MiNa TSI will network national and European entities supporting systems integration related to micro and nanotechnologies. The partners therefore are organisations and initiatives designing policies and/or running programmes in this sector including the EUREKA initiatives EURIMUS and PIDEA. The national ministries represent the member states' interests in the Board of the project. The European Commission as one of the main policy actors in this area will also be involved. The project will be based on and assist the attempts of industry to establish an initiative for defining research priorities and policy options for FP VII and beyond.

There is the necessity to transform an unsteady and irregular dialogue between the national and European programmes into a solid platform – including industry - on which those responsible for research management can establish mechanisms for co-ordination and explore formulas to be more efficient in the way research is carried out and specially to improve the transformation of technological excellence into economic and social achievements. Bridges have to be build to industry in order to insure their input. The project will therefore help industry to define their research priorities and based hereon establish a formal dialogue between those institutional entities involved in promoting micro and nano systems and integration aspects in Europe. The project will include the following aspects:

- Research priorities will be defined and a research agenda will be set up in close co-operation with industry

- A process of exchange and communication on funding and policy approaches of European initiatives and at member state level will be established.
- Common actions will be defined as interims and final results of the process (e.g. an output could consist of creating a basis for an Industry driven Policy Initiative)
- Along technology roadmaps future R&D and innovation policy requirements will be defined
- Policy/funding concepts will be developed
- A commitment will be reached on the "division of labour" among national programmes, EUREKA initiatives and FP activities.

Strategic Objectives Addressed:

The Era Pilot will contribute to the creation of the ERA in realising a co-ordinated and concerted, better structured and more coherent policy related to MNT Systems Integration in Europe. It is the project's objective to optimise the allocation of resources, creating synergies and complementarities among the various entities funding/financing RTD and avoiding incongruities of policy efforts in Europe. The envisaged results will contribute to consolidate the leading position and competitiveness of European industry in that area.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	ERA Pilot MiNa TSI
Project Reference:	015833
Start Date:	2005-07-01
End Date:	2007-09-01
Project Cost:	
Project Funding:	850 000 euro
Contract Type:	Coordination Action

Participants:

- VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GMBH, Germany
- Oesterreichische Forschungsfoerderungsgesellschatf, Austria
- University of Tartu, Estonia
- Ministerio de Educación y Ciencia, Spain
- Association Eurimus Office, France
- Association for Pidea, FRance
- Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique, France
- National Centre For Scientific Reserach "DEMOKRITOS", Greece
- Ente per le Nuaove Technolgie, L'energia e L'ambiente, Italy
- Israeli Industry Center For Research and Deeloopment – MATIMOP, Israel
- Fondazzjoni Temi Zammit, Malta
- Slovenska Technicka Univerzita V Bratislave, Slovakia

Web pages:

Project: (under construction)

ERA-NET Transport

ICT Area: A new ERA for the European Transport Research

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Oliver Althoff
Email: oliver.althoff@de.tuv.com
Organisation: TÜV Management Systems GmbH
Am Grauen Stein
51101 Köln
Germany

Abstract:

The ERA-NET TRANSPORT programme for the period 2004-2007 brings together the transport research programmes from eleven countries. The programme is financed from the EU's 6th Framework Programme to strengthen the European scientific base and support the structuring of the European Research Area (ERA). The ERA-NET TRANSPORT aims at providing an instrument to the policy makers and at achieving an efficient trans-national research cooperation in the field of transport. This means the opening up of national research programmes to participate in the development of a joint vision, joint procedures, joint programming and joint project management in Member and Accession Countries. The ERA-NET TRANSPORT cooperation is organised around specific research topics or programmes that can be pursued on a multilateral basis depending on the interests of the participating countries. It is also based on principles of voluntary participation and openness to new partners. Cooperation is increased step by step when a common approach to the research activities is valuable for each participating country. The goal of the programme is to expand the group with new partners and countries in order to ensure a stronger European cooperation in transport research.

Project details:

Project Acronym:
Project Reference: CA 517834
Start Date: 2004-01-01
End Date: 2007 -12-31
Project Cost: 3 890 000 euro
Project Funding: 3 890 000 euro
Contract Type: Coordination Action

Participants:

- Austrian Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology (BMVIT), Austria
- Federal Public Planning Service Science Policy, Belgium
- Ministry of Transport and Communications, Finland
- Ministry of public works, transport, spatial planning, tourism and the sea, France
- Institut des sciences et des techniques de l'équipement et de l'environnement pour le développement – ISTED, France
- Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany
- Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management, Netherlands
- Ministry of Transport and Communications, Norway
- Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems – VINNOVA, Sweden
- Department for Transport, United Kingdom
- Ministry of Science and Information Society Technologies, Poland
- The Danish Ministry of Transport, Denmark

Web pages:

Project: www.transport-era.net

ERA-Pilot QIST
Structuring the European Research Area within Quantum Information Science and Technology.

ICT Area: Future and Emerging Technologies, Proactive Initiative
"Quantum Information Processing and Communication"

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Christian Monyk
Email: christian.monyk@arcs.ac.at
Organisation: ARC Seibersdorf research GesmbH
Tech Gate Vienna
Donau-City-Str. 1/4th floor
A-1220 Vienna
Austria

Abstract:

OBJECTIVES: The proposed ERA-Pilot aims at structuring the rather young scientific area of Quantum Information Science and Technology" (QIST) within Europe. Within the duration of the ERA-Pilot-Project we aim at developing a common European QIST-vision, we will draw a map of European activities and excellence, we will continue to structure the QIST-community, and we will establish an early dialogue between European scientists, policy, and industry. We will suggest measures for "structuring the structures" taking into account already existing clusters and networks and for creating local and thematic Centers of Excellence. Moreover we will develop proposals how the outcomes of the ERA-Pilot can be maintained in a sustainable way and how the success of the suggested measures can be evaluated. Thus the ERA-Pilot QIST addresses European national policy and funding organisations as well as the European Commission. The ERA-Pilot QIST will support them by developing suggestions for measures that could be incorporated into their own plans for future funding policies and by fostering the QIST-community in Europe by supporting its structuring. There has been a long-term commitment to QIST by the European Commission demonstrated by the expenditure of about 45 Million EURO in QIST-related basic research. Within future Framework Programmes basic research will gain a more important role. The ERA-Pilot QIST will prepare suggestions how QIST might look like within FP7 and subsequently FP8. These scenarios drawn on EC-level will influence national funding policy with an aim of fostering a sustainable QIST base in Europe – to achieve this the co-ordination of national activities is necessary.

The individual goals of the proposed ERA-Pilot are:

- Development of a generally accepted QIST classification
- Investigation and analysis of the existing situation of QIST in Europe
- Contribution to the structuring of the European QIST-community
- Survey on the European potential for co-operation and proposals for local and thematic Centers of Excellence
- Establishing a dialogue between science, policy, and industry
- Development of a common European QIST-vision
- Support platform for funding organisations, policy, and European Commission (e.g. elaboration of a list of evaluators)
- Suggestions for future measures in order to design a QIST-strategy in a sustainable way
- The ERA-Pilot QIST will play a major role within the process necessary to keep European QIST at the forefront, to utilise synergies, and to use European funding more efficiently.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	ERA-Pilot QIST
Project Reference:	IST-015789
Start Date:	2005-02-01
End Date:	2007-01-31
Project Cost:	1 100 565 euro
Project Funding:	850 000 euro
Contract Type:	Coordination Action

Participants:

- ARC Seibersdorf research GmbH, Austria
- Bundesministerium für Verkehr, Innovation und Technology, Austria
- Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Austria
- Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique, Belgium
- University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France
- Max Planck Gesellschaft zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung E.V. , Germany
- Instituto Nazionale per la Fisica della Materia, Italy
- National University of Ireland, Maynooth, Ireland
- Science Foundation Ireland, Ireland
- Stichting voor fundamenteel Onderzoek der Materie, The Netherlands
- Agentúra na podporu vedy a techniky, Slovakia
- Slovak Academy of Sciences - Institute of Physics, Slovakia
- Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of the University of Oxford, United Kingdom
- The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, United Kingdom

Web pages :

Project: http://www.qist-europe.net/

ERA-SPOT

ICT Area: Optical Technologies

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Sebastian Krug
Email: krug@vdi.de
Organisation: VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH

Abstract:

Mission

ERA-SPOT aims to consolidate the research funding activities in Optical Technology (OT)1 throughout Europe. This shall be realised by the pan-European co-ordination of national programmes by means of developing and implementing joint strategies and actions. While research and innovation in OT play increasingly important roles in several Member States, funding activities at national level are still fragmented. A joint effort of all Member States engaged in the promotion of OT is an indispensable precondition for the exploitation of Europe's high potential in this field. The critical mass required to compete on the world stage can only be achieved by combining the specific competencies, strengths and resources throughout Europe.

Objectives

The main objectives of ERA-SPOT are:

Set the stage for the open co-ordination of national research and innovation policies.

Develop common instruments, mechanisms and strategies for joint activities.

Institutionalise ERA-SPOT and implement long-term collaboration.

At large, ERA-SPOT is expected to lead to a higher degree of synergy, to a more efficient use of resources and to durable co-operation throughout Europe.

Consortium

The consortium comprises representatives of all significant OT-related funding programmes throughout Europe. Representing six Member States, all participants are key actors and/or the

[1] Optical Technology is a general term which includes the fields of optics, photonics and optoelectronics for the purpose of this document.

primary governmental bodies in the research systems of their respective countries. Altogether they are responsible for relevant programmes with a total annual budget of more than € 85 million.

The national systems and programmes involved in ERA-SPOT represent a broad range of different approaches and thus allow for mutual learning and for adding value at national and European level. Moreover, information exchange beyond the consortium and the preparedness to integrate newly emerging programmes and further Member States will be provided in order to ensure an exhaustive pan-European co-ordination.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	ERA-SPOT
Project Reference:	016224
Start Date:	2005-05-01
End Date:	2008-04-30
Project Cost:	896 176 euro
Project Funding:	878 896 euro
Contract Type:	Coordination Action

Participants:

- VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH, Germany
- Ministry of Education and Research, Germany
- Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Slovenia
- Ministère délégué à la Recherche, France
- Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France
- Enterprise Ireland, Ireland
- Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems, Sweden
- Austrian Research Promotion Agency, Austria

Web pages:

Project: (under construction)

ETRANET
ICT IN TRADITIONAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES ERA-NET

ICT Area: ICT in Manufacturing

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Ian Morgan
Email: ian.morgan@optimat.co.uk
Organisation: ICT Carrier Programme Manager
James Watt Centre, Technology Park
East Kilbride
G75 0QD Glasgow
UNITED KINGDOM

Abstract:

eTRANET will enable national governments and agencies from 13 countries to increase the national and European impact of their investment in RTD within the domain of ICT for Traditional Manufacturing Industries. More importantly, it will provide the opportunity and evidence for eTRANET partners to collaborate on the next generation of futuristic R&D themes. We will achieve this by exchanging best practice knowledge, carrying out joint studies/activities, exploiting synergies between national programmes and pioneering new approaches to pan-European collaboration.

A high-level Network Policy Group, consisting of senior representatives of national government ministries/agencies, will meet annually to steer the coordination actions and develop a common agenda for trans-national research. This common agenda will be articulated as a Joint Action Plan by the end of the third year. It will be underpinned by the development of national road maps and implementation of pilot projects during the first three years. At least two pilot projects in different sectors will be launched within the first three years. In addition, members of the Network Policy Group will be able to prepare for trans-national activities by organising pan-European events (such as bi-lateral workshops) to explore how they might collaborate on specific thematic areas for futuristic RTD.

In addition to the pilot projects, we hope to launch at least one Joint Call for a trans-national research programme at a European Conference for domain researchers that will be organised during the third year. This could be a hybrid of several existing national programmes or a totally new programme in a specific area of futuristic ICT research for traditional

manufacturing industry. Our expectation is that some 50% of the eTRANET partners will be in a position to participate in at least one Joint Call by the end of the 3rd year.

The consortium has a strong commitment to the spirit of trans-national collaboration having originated from the Synergy Group of the EUREKA FACTORY Umbrella Programme and the TAFTIE Network (The Association For Technology Implementation in Europe).

ERA-NET objectives of networking of research activities at a national level and mutual opening of national research programmes are clearly encompassed by eTRANET's five Work Packages:

- Information exchange, sharing best practice
- Strategic activities between programmes, preparing for eTRANET expansion
- Joint activities between partners
- Trans-national research activities
- Management of ERA-NET activities, technical packages and information dissemination

Project Details:

Project Acronym:	ETRANET
Project Reference:	510185
Start Date:	2003-12-01
End Date:	2007-12-01
Project Cost:	2 750 000 euro
Project Funding:	2 750 000 euro
Contract Type:	Coordination Action

Participants:

- Agence Nationale de Valorisation de la Recherche (ANVAR), France
- Centro para el desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial, Spain
- Enterprise Ireland, Ireland
- Forschungsförderungsfonds für die Gewerbliche Wirtschaft, Austria
- Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe GMBH, Germany
- Instituut voor de Aanmoediging van Innovatie door Wetenschap en Technologie in Vlaanderen, Belgium
- National Technology Agency of Finland, Finland
- Research Promotion Foundation, Cyprus
- Scientific and Technical Reserarch Council – TUBITAK, Turkey
- Programmebureau CIC Senter, Netherlands
- Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems, Sweden
- The Research Council of Norway, Norway
- VDI/VDE- Technologiezentrum Informationstechnik GMBH, Germany

Web pages:

Project: http://www.etranet.net/

GRIDCOORD
ERA Pilot on a co-ordinated Europe-wide initiative in Grid Research

ICT Area: Grid based systems for complex problem solving

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Marco Vanneschi
Email: vannesch@di.unipi.it
Organisation: UNIVERSITA DI PISA
Via Lungarno Pacinotti 43
56126 PISA
ITALY

Abstract:

Currently several Grid Research initiatives are on-going or planned at national and European Community level. These initiatives propose the development of a rich set of advanced technologies, methodologies and applications, however enhanced co-ordination amongst the funding bodies is required to achieve critical mass, avoid duplication and reduce fragmentation in order to solve the challenges ahead. In the 2002 - 2006 timeframe, the funding for Grid research and deployment at EU level more than doubled passing from FP5 to FP6 reaching the amount of 275 Meuro. During the same period, an estimate of the funding for Grid research and deployment by Member and Accession States (UK, France, Italy, The Netherlands, Germany, Hungary, Spain, Poland, Czech Republic, Sweden) is about 300-500 Meuro. The totality of these initiatives could provide the EU with the potential to play a world leadership role in Grid technologies and applications. National and EU collaborations have been established with other international players and with international standards organisations. However, if Europe wishes to compete with leading global players, it would be sensible to attempt to better coordinate its various, fragmented efforts towards achieving critical mass and the potential for a more visible impact at an international level. Achieving such a coordinated approach will require: Co-ordination among the funding authorities; Collaboration amongst the individual researchers; A visionary research agenda. The first objective of the project is to strengthen co-operation amongst the funding authorities in order to better co-ordinate the planning of future activities in the field of Grid research. A second objective is to enhance the already ongoing collaboration among the research actors and users. A third objective is to develop, based on the above, national and EU Programme visions and roadmaps enabling Europe to play a leadership role in Grid technologies and applications.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	GRIDCOORD
Project Reference:	511618
Start Date:	2004-07-01
End Date:	2006-06-30
Project Cost:	1 010 000 euro
Project Funding:	960 000 euro
Contract Type:	Specific Support Action

Participants:

- Universitaet Stuttgart, Germany
- Universiteit van Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique, France
- Universidadd Politecnica de Madrid, Spain
- Universite de Nice Sophia Antipolis, France
- Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, United Kingdom
- Konrad-Zuse-Zentrum Fuer Informationstechnik Berlin, Germany
- Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems, Sweden
- Instytut Chemii Bioorganicznej Pan w Poznaniu, Poland
- Magyar Tudomanyos Akademia Szamitastechnikai es Automatizalasi Kutato Intezet, Hungary
- Universita Degli Studi Di Genova, Italy
- The Queen's University of Belfast, United Kingdom
- The University of Southampton, United Kingdom (new partner since amendment of 1/1/2005)

Web pages:

Project: http://www.gridcoord.org/grid/portal

ISHTAR
Industrial Stimuli for the Harmonisation of European Research in the area of Location Based Services

ICT Area: Satellite Technology / Systems / Positioning / Communication

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Boris Grabner
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Organisation: TELEKOM AUSTRIA
Austria

Abstract:

The main objective of the ISHTAR SSA project is to contribute towards the harmonisation of technologies, services/applications, and standardisation efforts in the field of Location Based Services (LBS). Moreover, the project will aim to facilitate and promote the exploitation of existing and emerging relevant expertise and practices.

One of the main reasons of the slowness of the geo-location market is the lack of harmonisation between users expectation, available technologies, and maturity of the LBS industry. The market is today characterized by a strong US technical dominance and the EU industries, though obviously IT competent, is too spread in various heterogeneous technical solutions, preventing an EU LBS success story. ISHTAR's objectives will enable to foster and harmonize LBS initiatives of key players, thus promoting the European excellence in the mobility domain, and helping to build a convergent solution.

The main objectives/results of the ISHTAR project are:

- To identify and report on knowledge and expertise gaps particularly in terms of technological interoperability in the field of LBS at European level.
- Contribution to the harmonisation of LBS standardisation efforts.
- To derive a pan-European map of expertise in the field of Location Based Services and relevant technologies.
- To propose a five-year R&D roadmap for future R&D activities in the field.

The ISHTAR consortium brings together significant expertise in the LBS and mobile applications sector. The consortium partners are key members in 4 ongoing IST R&D projects targeting the "Applications and Services for the Mobile User and Worker" IST Strategic Objective, namely LIAISON, MobileIN, SHARE, POMPEI.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	ISHTAR
Project Reference:	015929
Start Date:	2005-05-01
End Date:	2006-11-01
Project Cost:	771 961 euro
Project Funding:	600 000 euro
Contract Type:	Specific Support Action

Participants:

- Alcatel Space, France
- TELETEL, Greece
- Tele Atlas, Belgium
- Athens Technology Centre, Greece
- NAVTEQ, The Netherlands

Web pages:

Project: http://www.eu-ishtar.net/

MNT ERA-NET
From Micro- and Nanoscale Science To New Technologies for Europe

ICT Area: Micro-nano systems

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Reinhard Zeilinger
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Kartnerstrasse 21-23
1015 WIEN
OSTERREICH

Abstract:

Objective: Micro-Nano-Technology (MNT) is a key enabling technology covering the fields of micro technologies, nanotechnology and microsystems. MNT is expected to impact significantly on future economic and social development. It will stimulate new products and services, create and secure employment in Europe and improve living conditions, including of people who presently lack autonomy as a result of age, illness or accidents. MNT will also contribute greatly to meeting ecological challenges and achieving sustainable development, innovatively and economically.

The main objectives of MNT ERA-NET during the coming four years are:

- to exchange among the participating programmes strategic information about programme design and management;
- to learn from each other through the exchange of good practice;
- to implement joint and coordinated activities among participating programmes so as to add value for programme users, programme managers and programme owners;
- to secure mid-term cooperation between the participating programmes through a detailed action plan;
- to expand the project to further countries and regions in Europe so as to broaden its impact, and
- to establish long-term cooperation by exploring options and selecting and implementing a preferred institutional framework for sustained co-operation between the participating programmes, other European initiatives and other relevant stake-holders. Europe currently holds a good scientific and technological position in MNT, but in comparison with North America, Asia and Australia our research and application efforts are dispersed and fragmented. In order to exploit Europe's good position, this dispersion and fragmentation

have to be addressed through, inter alia, better co-operation between national MNT programmes on a trans national level in Europe. The participating partners at the launch of MNT ERA-NET are key MNT programmes, and leading programme management agencies.'

Project Details:

Project Acronym:	MNT ERA-NET
Project Reference:	510226
Start Date:	2004-01-01
End Date:	2008-01-01
Project Cost:	2 787 454 euro
Project Funding:	2 447 454 euro
Contract Type:	Coordination Action

Participants:

- Basque Government, Spain
- Enterprise Ireland, Ireland
- Senter, Netherland
- Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems, Sweden
- Ttemas AG Technology and Management Services, Switzerland
- The Reserach Council of Norway, Norway
- VDI/VDE- Technologiezentrum Informationstechnik GMBH, Germany

Web pages:

Project: http://www.mnt-era.net/

MOCCA
The Mobile Cooperation and Coordination Action

ICT Area: Mobile and Wireless Systems Beyond 3G

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Fiona Williams
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Organisation: Ericsson Eurolab Deutschland GmbH
Ericsson Allee 1, Herzogenrath
52134, GERMANY

Abstract:
MOCCA will facilitate European and intercontinental collaboration regarding research on future mobile and wireless systems and their applications. It will prepare for the development of harmonised international standards for future mobile and wireless systems so that the systems meet the needs of users worldwide. The MOCCA consortium brings together organisations that can have an impact on pre-standardisation consensus building on a worldwide scale by their active participation in many ERA projects and existing global liaisons and standards organisations. It is a cooperation of world-leading mobile operators, mobile manufacturers, application owners in different sectors and research organisations. MOCCA is a timely initiative to provide a good basis for Europe's continued role as driver of the development of future mobile and wireless systems in the world. However, the world has grown closer together and technology has become more complex since the definition of 3G systems. Therefore there is now a need for:

- European research activities to be bundled together to maximise their impact,
- Application requirements and time plans to be clearly understood and taken into account in system definition work,
- Demands from developing countries on system features to be included in requirements capture activities,
- European research to be embedded in the global arena of research and standardisation.

MOCCA will facilitate these actions based on the firm believe of its' participants that they are crucial for the success of future mobile and wireless systems in the market.

Project Details:

Project Acronym:	MOCCA
Project Reference:	511743
Start Date:	1 June 2004
End Date:	31 January 2006
Project Cost:	1 052 768 euro
Project Funding:	823 710 euro
Contract Type:	Coordination Action

Participants:

- Ericsson Eurolab Deutschland GmbH
- Alcatel-CIT
- DaimlerChrysler AG
- DoCoMo Communications Laboratories Europe GmbH
- European Institute for Research and Strategic Studies in Telecommunications GmbH
- France Telecom SA
- Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique (INRIA)
- Motorola SAS
- Nokia Corporation
- Ovum Ltd
- Siemens Aktiengesellschaft
- Telefónica Investigación y Desarrollo Sociedad Anónima Unipersonal (TID)
- DEUTSCHE TELEKOM AG

Web page :

Project: http://mocca.objectweb.org

MONA
Merging Optics and Nanotechnologies

ICT Area: Optics - nanotechnology

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Laurent Fulbert
Email: laurent.fulbert@cea.fr
pearsall@EPIC-assoc.com
Organisation: CEA-LETI, France

Abstract:

MONA will contribute to the coordination of photonics and nanotechnology research. The principal objectives are:

- Create a common site for the exchange of information concerning research projects and networks in photonics and nanotechnologies
- Promote the timely exchange of scientific results, market development, and technology needs through workshops
- Develop a European roadmap for photonics and nanotechnologies

This will ensure the building of a strategic comprehensive approach for the key technologies in order to shape the future of this highly important area.

Project Details:

Project Acronym: MONA
Project Reference: 017255
Start Date: 2005-06-01
End Date: 2007-06-01
Project Cost: 953 988 euro
Project Funding: 953 988 euro
Contract Type: Specific Support Action

Participants:

- Acreo, Sweden
- AIXTRON, Germany
- Alcatel Thalès, France
- ASM International
- EPIC, European Photonics Industry Consortium
- IMEC, Interuniversity MicroElectronics Center, Belgium
- Opticsvalley, France
- SCHOTT, Germany
- VDI-TZ, Germany
- Yole Developpement, France

Web pages:
Project: (under construction)

OPERA 2015
Optics and Photonics in the European Research Area

ICT Area: Optics and photonics

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Markus Wilkens
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Organisation: VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH
Graf-Recke-Str. 84
40239 Düsseldorf
GERMANY

Abstract:

With a turnover of 80 billion € the Optics and Photonics (OP) industry is one of the most important key enabling technologies for the markets of the 21st century. They influence our entire life and are technological drivers for multi-billion industries in IST and beyond.

The OP industry is benefiting through many RTD projects at national and international level. To withstand growing competition from low labour cost countries there is a need to join forces in industry, research and politics to meet the needs of OP industries and to solve their common problems.

The main objective of OPERA is to provide a Platform for adequate interaction of European IST-research in OP and to develop and implement a joint strategy for research and industry with the title "OPERA 2015" to shape the future of this highly important industrial area.

OPERA will support the creation of the European Research Area through the stimulation of interaction of EU and national initiatives and projects. This will lead to improved transparency and cooperation of research activities and will deliver a clear view of the state and future directions of European research in OP. OPERA will furthermore foster the link between industry and research in order to strengthen Europe's competitiveness by identifying strategic opportunities for European industries and by compiling scenarios for the future development of photonics industries.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	OPERA 2015
Project Reference:	015734 - FP6-2004-IST-3
Start Date:	2005-04-01
End Date:	2008-03-31
Project Cost:	950 000 euro
Project Funding:	950 000 euro
Contract Type:	Coordination Action

Participants:

- Enterprise Ireland, Ireland
- Interuniversity Microelectronics Center, Belgium
- The Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research, The Netherlands
- Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Slovenia
- Innovacion, Desarrollo y Transferencia de Tecnologia, SA, Spain
- Opticsvalley – Association promouvoir la Vallée de l´optique, France
- UK Consortium for Photonics and Optics - University of Salford, United Kingdom
- European Photonics Industry Consortium, Cross national
- European Optical Society, Cross national

Web pages:

Project: www.opera2015.org

SUGERT
Strategic User Group for European Research on TCAD

ICT Area:

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Dr. Jürgen Lorenz
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Organisation: Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e.V.
Schottkystraβe 10
91058 Erlangen
Germany

Abstract:

This Specific Support Action refers to the current IST Strategic Objective "Pushing the Limits of CMOS, Preparing for Post-CMOS". In order to achieve this goal and a good competitive situation of Europe in this area, well-directed and highly cooperative research activities are mandatory. The objective of SUGERT is to promote the optimization of European research activities in the field of Technology Computer Aided Design (TCAD), which is extremely important e.g. to reduce costs and time spent during the development of new semiconductor processes and devices. To this end, SUGERT will start from the consolidated industrial specifications for process and device simulation defined by the preceding IST User Group UPPER+, which will within SUGERT be updated according to the development of the industrial requirements and of the scientific state-of-the-art. In order to support and promote the implementation of research actions required to fulfil these specifications, SUGERT will transmit these specifications to relevant research groups in industry, at institutes and at universities. It will interact with these research groups to promote the efficient use of resources available from European, national or regional sources to carry out the research needed to match the industrial requirements. Furthermore, consolidated information on these industrial requirements and on the related expertise available in Europe will, together with suggestions for research activities, be given to relevant public authorities to support them in establishing their research programmes. SUGERT will organize the European contributions to the "International Technology Working Group" on "Modelling and Simulation" within the "International Technology Roadmap for Semiconductors", which has the objective of defining world-wide specifications in their technical area. Overall, SUGERT aims at the optimum use of expertise and resources available in Europe in the field of TCAD.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	SUGERT
Project Reference:	015995
Start Date:	2005-02-01
End Date:	2008-01-31
Project Cost:	400 000 euro
Project Funding:	400 000 euro
Contract Type:	Specific Support Action

Participants:

- austramicrosystems AG, Austria
- Infineon Technologies AG, Germany
- Philips Innovative Technology Solutions N.V., Belgium
- STMicroelectronics SA , France
- STMicroelectronics S.r.I., Italy
- Synopsys Switzerland LLC, Switzerland
- SIGMA-C GmbH Software, Germany
- Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique, France
- Interuniversitair Micro-Elektronica Centrum vzw, Belgium
- Eidgenoessische Technische Hochschule Zuerich, Switzerland
- Technische Universität Wien – Institut für Mikroelektronik, Austria

Web pages:

Project: http://www.iisb.fraunhofer.de/en/arb_geb/sugert.htm

SYMBIOmatics
Synergies in Medical Informatics and Bioinformatics

ICT Area: Bioinformatics

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Dominic Clark, Graham Cameron
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Organisation: The European Molecular Biology Laboratory, UK

Abstract:

Bioinformatics and medical informatics are both rapidly advancing research fields. Advances in molecular biology, which is at the origin of bioinformatics, mean that to the field is now extending to include the biology of cells, tissues, organs, organisms, and populations. The increasing understanding of the molecular basis of diseases, and the effect of genotype on disease propensity and treatment efficacy, are creating a convergence between the two disciplines.

This project, which is a specific support action, is an information-gathering and dissemination activity which will stimulate these developments further and exploit the synergy between bio- and medical informatics. A collaborative initiative between national European and international policy-making organisations will document the state-of-the-art in biomedical informatics and identify areas of optimal opportunity for future research. This will be done by identifying systematically a community of representative European experts and collecting their inputs. Initially this will be done through an open-ended consultation, the output of which will be used to create an Internet survey; its results will be summarised and presented. Bibliometric and data-mining methods will also be used to identify and analyse the content of the relevant scientific literature. Areas of research opportunity will be extracted from the resulting information, and meetings of the partners and experts will carefully prioritise these prospective domains.

A report that summarises the findings – a White Paper – will provide well-judged input to possible future European scientific and funding policy. A concluding meeting will present these findings for discussion by a wider community of bio- and medical informatics experts.

Project details:

Project Acronym:	SYMBIOMATICS
Project Reference:	015862
Start Date:	2005-01-05
End Date:	2006-10-31
Project Cost:	550 000 euro
Project Funding:	550 000 euro
Contract Type:	Specific Support Action

Participants:

EUROPEAN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY LABORATORY

Web pages:

Project: www.symbiomatics.org

TOSSAD
Towards Open Source Software Adoption and Dissemination

ICT Area: Open Source Software

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr. Erkan Kaan
Email: kaan.erkan at uekae.tubitak.gov.tr
Organisation: Turkiye Bilimsel Ve Teknik Arastirma Kurumu - TUBITAK
Ataturk Bulvari N° 221 Kavaklidere
06100 ANKARA
TURKEY

Abstract:

Europe, as a whole, has a stake in improving the usage of F/OSS in all branches of IT and public life, in general. Although there is a strong Open Source Community in IT-strong countries of Europe, there is lot more to be done. F/OSS communities throughout Europe can achieve better results through co-ordination of their research activities/programmes that reflect the current state-of-the-art.

The main objective of the TOSSAD project is to start integrating and exploiting already formed methodologies, strategies, skills and technologies in F/OSS domain in order to help governmental bodies, educational institutions and SMEs to share research results, establish synergies, build partnerships and innovate in an enlarged Europe.

More precisely, the TOSSAD project aims at improving the results of the F/OSS communities throughout Europe through supporting the coordination and networking of these communities by means of state-of-the-art studies, usability cases, curriculum development and the development of collaborative information e-bays and web-based groupware. By conducting these actions on an international European level, with inclusion of the ACC and NMS countries, the TOSSAD project will create sufficient momentum for a general acceptance and coordinated boost of F/OSS development.

Our project is in line with the EU policies that encourage wider usage of F/OSS in Europe on every platform. It also supports the objectives of the IST Work Programme 2003-2004, in particular, as stated clearly in Part 2.2.2: "The development of open standards and open source software will be encouraged when appropriate to ensure interoperability of solutions and to further innovation."

Project details:

Project Acronym:	TOSSAD
Project Reference:	15981
Start Date:	2005-02-01
End Date:	2007-01-31
Project Cost:	789 771 euro
Project Funding:	775 000 euro
Contract Type:	Coordination Action

Participants:

- Universitaet Stuttgart, Germany
- Viewrope AB, Sweden
- Fraunhofer Gesellschaft zur Foerderung der Angewandten Forschung E.V., Germany
- Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia
- Xlab Razvoj Programske Opreme in Svetovanje D.O.O., Slovenia
- Consen EEIG euro-group Associació Europea d'Interés Econòmic, Spain
- Fundacion para el Desarrollo de la Ciencia y la Tecnologia en Extremadura, Spain
- Ukrainian Lviv Institute for Business Informatics, Ukraine
- Internet Society – Bulgaria, Bulgaria
- The Provost Fellows and Scholars of the College of the Holy and Undivided Trinity of Queen Elizabeth, Ireland
- Universita Degli Studi di Cagliari, ITALY
- Iota Informatik Limited Sirketi, Turkey
- Ez Systems AS, Norway
- Fondazzjoni Temi Zammit, Malta
- P.D.A. Communication S.R.L., Italy
- Knownet Limited, United Kingdom
- Intesi Group Belgium NV, Belgium
- Internationaler Medienverbund Registrierte Genossenschaft mit Beschraenkter Haftung, Austria

Web pages :

Project: http://www.tossad.org/

WIDGAP
Wide Bandgap Semiconductors

ICT Area: Microelectronics

Coordinator:

Contact Person: Mr Olivier Nowak
Email: Olivier.nowak@wtc-consult.de
Organisation: Wicht Technologie Consulting Germany

Abstract:

Widgap will give industry and policymakers in Europe the tools (database, roadmap, benchmark) needed for planning a common European strategy in wide bandgap (WBG) semiconductors. WBG semiconductors can dramatically improve the energy consumption and hardware reliability of most electronic and electric devices. Their applications include high temperature electronics, solid state lighting, high power components. Widgap is a short project (12 months) that will provide a: - database of European R&D projects - roadmap for GaN and SiC wafers, High brightness LEDs suitable for general lighting, UV sensors, GaN and SiC transistors - benchmarking of Europe compared to the US and Japan - series of workshops to present the results of the project The research in wide bandgap (WBG) semiconductors in Europe is currently going strong but remains extremely fragmented. Separate industrial and R&D chains exist in Germany, France, Sweden and Poland, not to mention the efforts of other countries. Although the entities know each other, no European initiative is giving coherence to the R&D. This stands in stark contrast to the US, whose concentrated efforts have led to the emergence of major commercial and academic players. The roadmaps and benchmark will: - accelerate the development of components based on SiC and GaN by providing a common reference point to companies throughout the supply chain - support policymakers in making decisions about possible research projects - provide the European industry with a competitive edge over the American and Japanese streamline - clarify potential synergies between European R&D institutions.

Project details:

Project Acronym: Widgap
Project Reference: 015821
Start Date: 2005-03-01
End Date: 2006-05-01
Project Cost: 230 000 euro

Project Funding: 230 000 euro
Contract Type: Specific Support Action

Participants:

- WTC Wicht Technologie Consulting, Germany
- CNRS CHREA Centre de Recherche sur l'Hétéroépitaxie et ses Applications, France
- LIU IFM University of Linköping, Sweden

Web pages:

Project: www.widgap.org/