



The **CISTRANA** *Project*

Coordination of **IST**
Research And
National Activities

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The Consortium



**Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.
(Allemagne) - Coordinator**



**Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research
Councils-Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (UK)**



**Association Nationale de la Recherche Technique
(France)**



**National Technology Agency
(Finland)**



**National Office of Research and Technology
(Hungary)**

General description

Title: Coordination of national research activities in the Information and Communication Technologies (ITC)

- Acronym: CISTRANA
- Duration: 3 years (started on 1st September 2004)
- Type: Coordination action* resulting from the 2nd call of the IST priority in the 6th Framework Programme
- Funding: EC DG/INFSO

*** CISTRANA is not an ERA-NET but follows similar objectives**

CISTRANA Objectives

Strategic aim

- Achieve coordination of national ICT programmes with each other and with European programmes (Framework Programme, Eureka, ...)
- Improve the impact of all RTD efforts in Europe
- Reinforce European ICT competitiveness

Interconnected Objectives

- Develop a map of the national IST research landscape
- Pinpoint research topic areas and strategic themes where cooperation is essential
- Establish sustainable mechanisms to set up trans-national coordination initiatives

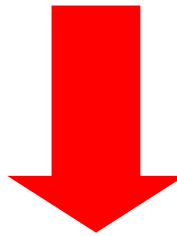
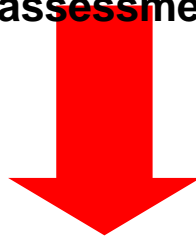
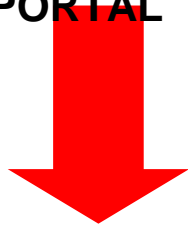
The path towards trans-national ICT initiatives: methodological approaches

National authorities level (top-down approach)

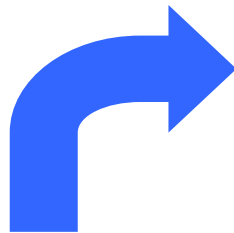
National data
collection and
analysis :
CISTRANA
PORTAL

ERA-NET
+IST ERA
Pilot
Impact
assessment

SC meetings
Policy-maker
interviews



Provide national authorities with
propositions
for trans-national cooperations



Other programmes
ETP, Eureka, COST

FP6 Database

Stakeholder level (bottom up approach)

A step-by-step approach towards trans-national research activities: Main achievements after 2 years

- 1. Systematic data collection and exchange of information on RTD programme: cistrana portal**
- 2. Analysis of collected information and exchange of best practice**
- 3. Search for strategic themes suitable for transnational cooperations and development of joint activities**

Top down approach : Steering committee meetings

policy makers interviews

ERA NET mapping and impact assessment

Bottom up approach :Eureka clusters

COST

European Technological platform

FP6 data analysis

A step-by-step approach towards trans-national research activities

1 - The CISTRANA IST Research portal

Systematic data collection and exchange of information on national RTD programmes:

-the IST portal is operational since 2005

www.portal.cistrana.org

Motivation for the portal:

- Important barriers to accessing relevant information, including:
 - Lack of consistent thematic search possibilities
 - Lack of relevant information
 - Lack of comparability between information sources
- The portal aims to be an important resource for mapping the landscape of IST research across Europe.
- Users = policy-makers, researchers, industry, ...

- Access to focussed information on national R&D programmes, policies, other-than-programme measures
- In future:
 - Links to some databases of projects
 - Taxonomy-based searching with multilingual capabilities

Question of sustainability ??????

CISTRANA home

Portal home

Search

Feedback

CISTRANA is supported by



Information Society Technologies

Geographical search

Show... Policies Programmes Other than programme measures All



Variety of information on national activities

Map-based browse (as well as other types of search)

2- Analysis of collected information and exchange of best practices (1)

- **First run of data acquisition performed in 2005.**
- **2006 up-dating done**
- **Analysis report on national priorities**
- **5 specialised Workshops organised for exchange of best practices in 2004-05**

Analysis of national priorities (1)

- Common ICT R&D policy priorities exist
- Prioritized ICT subthemes on the policy level:
 - telecommunications (priority area in 20 countries)
 - micro- and nanotechnology (12)
 - software technologies (12)
 - optoelectronics (9)
 - **eGovernment (14)**
 - eBusiness and eCommerce (14)
 - eHealth (13)
 - Security and Safety (9)
 - e-Education and eLearning (8)

Analysis of national priorities (2)

- Mega-clusters can be identified among 20 biggest programmes (2700 M€ in total) : micro-nano, communications, and software
- Programmes in line with EU level priorities
- Germany, Finland, France, Spain, and Netherlands channel major flows of R&D funding through programme-based instruments of a defined scope
- Landscape is very variable
 - no universal definition for what is perceived as a ‘programme’
 - national approaches vary according to whether programme-like instruments are directed at funding basic research or industry-driven research
 - ICT seems to have a multitude of definitions in national contexts
 - application orientation visible only to a limited extent

A3

Difficulties to define what is a programme

small countries don't have programme dedicated specifically to a topic . more Bottom up approach

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Analysis of national priorities (3)

- Only three examples of existing programme-level cooperation (PROACT, EXSITE/NORDITE, STEVIN) A4
- Most of the cooperation takes place at the project level through EUREKA-clusters – maybe there is still room for other co-operation in the ICT-field?
- Other than programme-based support schemes may also provide cooperation possibilities

A4

NORDITE programme's technology areas are SW radio, wireless sensors, short-range wireless networks and RFID or MEMS utilizing RF technology. ...

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5 specialised Workshops organised for exchange of best practices in 2004-05

- National policy priorities and RTD programmes in the field of ICT (Brussels, 8 Nov 2005)
- Programme impact assessment in national IST initiatives (Paris, 13-14 Dec 2005)
- Best practice in multi-national programme collaboration (Cologne, 18 Jan 2006)
- Portals for information dissemination and taxonomies for classification (Abingdon, 20-21 Feb 2006)
- Design of national IST programmes in the context of ERA coordination (Budapest, 9-10 Mar 2006)

3-Search for strategic themes suitable for trans-national cooperations and development of joint initiatives information and exchange of best practices (1)

- ***3.a Impact assessment of existing ERANETs and ERA-type ICT actions***
- ***3.b Visits to countries for interviews with ICT national Directors: list of topics proposed***
- ***3.c Data analysis from FP6 programme***

Visits to ICT Directors: search for ICT priorities eligible for trans-national initiatives

- Analysis of national priorities previously done by CISTRANA (Tekes partner) through answers to former questionnaire on existing national programmes (2005-06)
- CISTRANA team recently organised visits to ICT National Directors more focused on topical priorities each country would be incline **to investigate in common** with other countries in the frame of a trans-national cooperation.
- Summary of inputs received so far incorporated in a synoptic table giving most mentioned topics for cooperation for each visited country

Visits to IT Directors

- Requests for visits by CISTRANA have all been prepared by sending a **standard questionnaire** to all countries (no written answer asked before the visit)
- Visits were organized under the responsibility of **the CGR** concerned by the targeted country (normally assisted by another partner)
- To be as representative as possible of the ICT landscape, a significant number of visits to countries was programmed (4 per CGR)
- For non-visited countries, the possibility was offered to make a written answer to the questionnaire (case of UK)
- A standard template has been adopted and is being used for **visit reporting** (systematic check by the country before release)

Questions raised in the questionnaire and during interviews

- **General statements** from the country concerning trans-national cooperations
- **High priority topics** envisaged for cooperation
- Preferences about **countries** with which cooperate
- Preferences about **implementation procedures**
- Possible **timing** for new cooperations

Main trends concerning topics (2)

B) Other bottom-up priorities (cross-disciplinary issues /less structured important topics)

- Security issues
- eHealth

That could be extended to a more general concept of “eAssistance”

- Language technologies
 - Other application-oriented topics like:
 - **E-government**
 - E-learning
 - Games
 - Bio-informatics
 - Human Computer Interfaces
- etc. (a non-exhaustive list)

Preferences regarding countries

3 basic approaches were noted during the interviews:

- ❖ **Complete openness to other countries:** no marked preference. Frequent mention of extra-European cooperations as well.
- ❖ **Specific countries** mentioned for their recognised S&T potential/skills (in general, or associated to a specific topic)
- ❖ **Regional preference:** a mix of countries selected for their strength in the considered topic AND countries selected on geographic criteria (vicinity effect, e.g. Nordic countries, Balkans, Mediterranean countries, etc.)

Main trends concerning S&T topics (1)

A) **Traditional technological priorities** (i.e. already well identified in FP by ETP's or in Eureka by relevant clusters)

- Nanoelectronics
- Optics and Photonics
- Embedded Systems
- Smart System Integration
- Telecommunications and Multimedia
- Softwares
 - Grids
 - Opensource platforms
- Ambient assisted living

General statements on trans-national cooperations

- General openness from Directors accepting interviews and providing national inputs and rationales for IT policies to the delegation. The SC representative was generally present at the meeting
- Degree of openness to trans-national co-operations may drastically vary from a country to the other.
- The more basic is the scope of the programme considered, the more open the managers are towards possible TNI
- **Eureka clusters** are frequently cited as already existing TN initiatives

Topics mentioned for cooperations (1)

Topic	Not specific	e-Health	AAL	Tele com	Sat com	Comp. Nanotechnologies	Embedded systems	Softwares	Smart System Integration	Other topics
AT	*		**				****			Assist. Manuf.
CZ	VISIT PERFORMED - DATA NOT YET EXPLOITED									
DE				****		*****	**	**		
DK				***			*****			KM **
ES				***	**		**	***		
FI			***	***				**	***	Real time
FR				***		***				IT/ Bio
GR	*		**							
IT						**		***		HCI
NL		****				*****	*****			
PL	*			***		***		****		Cultural Heritage
SE	VISIT PERFORMED - DATA NOT YET EXPLOITED									
SI				*				**		Grids
UK			***	****		**			*	Simulation ****

Topic	Not specific	Audiovisual technologies Multimedia	Security	Language Technologies	OPTO Photonics	eLearning /eGov	Other topics
AT	*						Assist. Manuf.
CZ	VISIT PERFORMED - DATA NOT YET EXPLOITED						
DE			***				
DK					****		KM **
ES		**	***				
FI						***	
FR		*	****	***			IT/ Bio
GR	*			***		***	
IT							HCI
NL		***	***	**			
PL	*				**		Grids
SE	VISIT PERFORMED - DATA NOT YET EXPLOITED						
SI		*	*	***		**	Cult. Herit. Network
UK			****			***	Simulation

Preferences regarding procedures

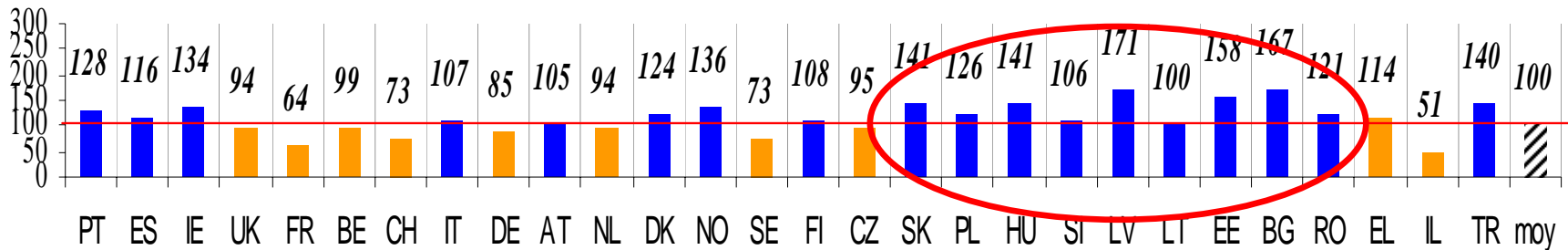
- Most of our interlocutors agreed that cooperations should involve **a limited number of countries** (procedure complexity is exponential with the number of partners). Optimum size: 3 to 6 ?
- A majority of countries is favourable to **joint call implementation without** putting available funds in **a common basket**, i.e. each country finances its own researchers in retained projects
- All agreed on major points to investigate prior launching a common call:
 - Eligibility of applicants
 - Timing issues (make national calendars match!)
 - Simultaneous availability of R&D funds
 - impact assessment and evaluation issues
 - Common language
 - IPR issues (for more industry-oriented cooperations)
- General request for **common recommendations** based on **best practices** developed in pre-existing trans-national initiatives

Few examples on what can be done with IST Database

Number of participation in e gov/e business strategic objective per country



NORMALISATION BASED ON THE PARTICIPATION SHARE OF EACH COUNTRY IN THE WHOLE IST PRIORITY TO AVOID MASS EFFECT OF EUROPE BIGGEST COUNTRIES

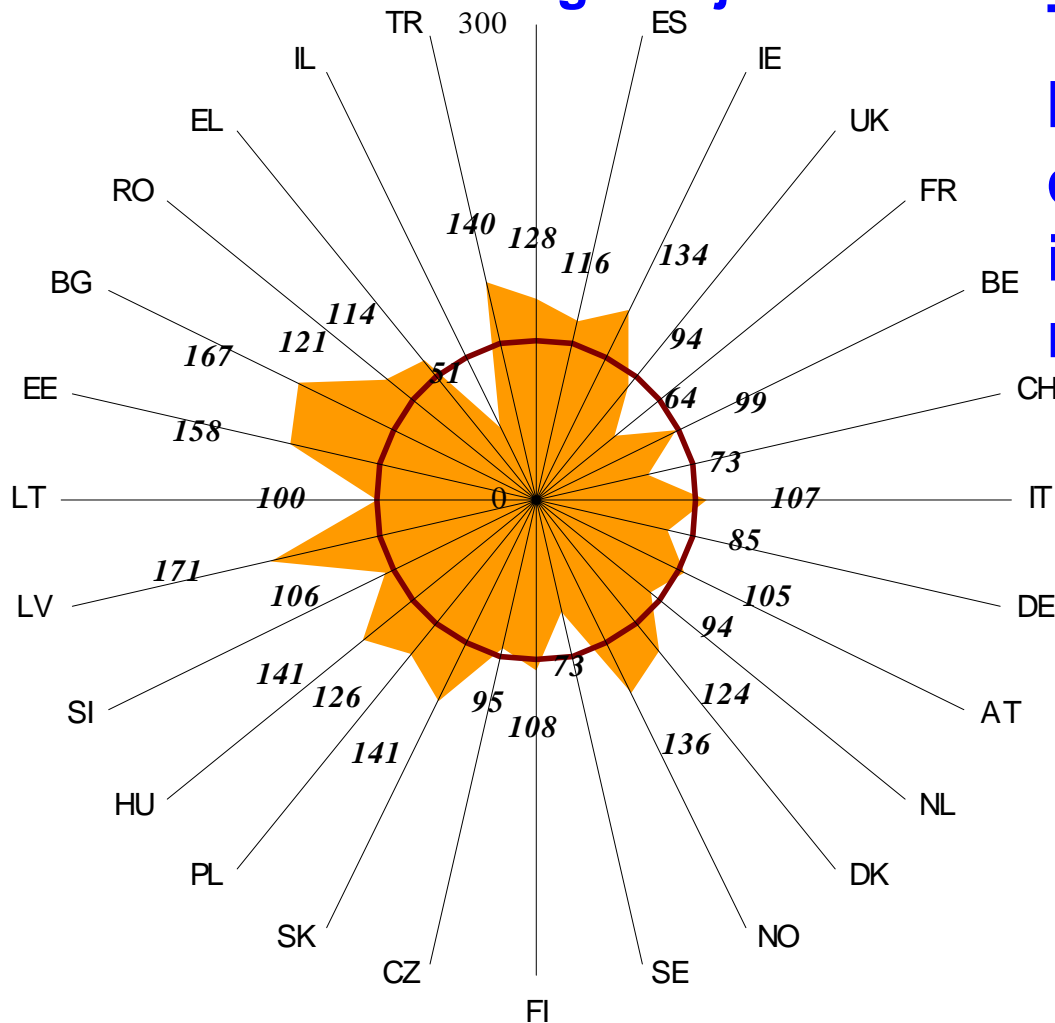


New member states

CISTRANA is supported by



Specialisation indicators on e-gov/e-business FP6 strategic objective



These indicators are build according each country participations in retained and rejected proposals

NORMALISATION in base 100
CALCULATED ON THE PARTICIPATION SHARE OF EACH COUNTRY IN THE WHOLE
IST PRIORITY TO AVOID MASS EFFECT OF EUROPE BIGGEST COUNTRIES

What is planned for 2007?

- **Visits to Chief technical officers**

Thales

CEA

Bosh

Fraunhofer

Nokia

- **3 workshops**

Secure ICT in Helsinki

ICT for security in Budapest

Implementation procedures in Cologne