



EURASIAPAC

WWW.EURASIAPAC-FP7.EU



EURASIAPAC

WWW.EURASIAPAC-FP7.EU

2nd Workshop. Brussels October 26th, 2010

ATOS/Sigma

The 2nd European workshop was organised in Brussels by the EURASIAPAC partnership with the support of the European Commission specifically DG Info and DG Research.

The overall objective of this thematic workshop was to identify relevant research topics to foster cooperation between Europe and Asian-Pacific target countries. It was a key occasion to thoroughly discussing opportunities of strategic cooperation held only some weeks after the formal launch of an important FP7 call for proposals related to the ICT theme (Call 7).

It was presented how ICT organisations from the given countries could be involved in joint EU-funded R&D projects and national programs with European organisations, introducing of FP7 in general and the ICT theme in particular, presentation of upcoming calls, international dimension, participation rules and success stories concerning cooperation between Europe and the target countries.

More than 50 attendees participated in this event, thus this forum brought together the policy and research level from Europe and Asia-Pacific to further the dialogue between the two on ways of improving support to current cooperation at the level of member states. The dialogues findings will help to develop a European-Asian-Pacific roadmap with concrete recommendations to the European Commission for actions on ICT research cooperation between Europe and the Asian-Pacific target countries.



The session started with a short welcome from the Coordinator of EURASIAPAC followed by a formal opening session by Maria Carbone, Acting Head of Unit, International Relations, Directorate-General Information Society and Media (DG Infso), European Commission and Pierrick Fillon-Ashida, Asia-Pacific Desk Officer, International Cooperation, Directorate-General for Research (DG Research), European Commission. They encouraged S&T community to establish research relations in order to contribute to the knowledge society.

Then the coordinator introduced EURASIAPAC project followed by a presentation from the European Commission on how ICT organisations from the given countries can be involved in joint EU-funded R&D projects and national programs with European organisation, with a specific focus on the ICT Call 7.



Bryan Baik, KIAT, Korea/European representative underlined the government budget for R&D has surged since the 2000s, amounting to over €9 billion in 2010. Therefore there is increasing support by the government to foster R&D international collaboration for technology development in areas of high innovativeness designated as strategically important for the economy.

Karla Falloon, S&T counsellor, New Zealand Mission to the European Union in Brussels presented current initiatives and programmes that keep connecting New Zealand, the Pacific and Europe mainly supported through FP7.

Nicola Watkinson, Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner, Australian Trade Commission explained the collaboration between Australia and Europe is increasing quite rapidly as researchers community receive support and advise to get involve in new research adventures.

Naoko Okamura, S&T counsellor, Mission of Japan to the European Union declared that Japan is aiming to be an advanced science- and technology-oriented nation developing the policy according to this goal and promoting industry-academia-government collaboration.

In the next part of the cooperation forum, EURASIAPAC was presented along with other European and target regions initiatives that currently are fostering international cooperation. The political priorities for international cooperation underlined the relevance of stimulating and facilitating the participation of European researchers in Australia, New Zealand, Korea, Japan and Singapore R&D programs.

In the afternoon session, other European initiatives focusing on Asia-Pacific (KORANET, J-BILAT, KORRIDOR, ACCESS4EU, FRENZ, PACE-NET) were given the opportunity during a panel discussion to introduce their activities and share their vision to foster cooperation opportunities between the two regions. The panel discussion was moderated by Lydia Montandon - Area Manager, Atos Origin, Spain - EURASIAPAC project partner.

Simon Craig Gray, Deputy director, EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation indicated that ICT is one of the main issue in the knowledge society, however S&T research community still limited Japanese participation. The main barriers could be the lack of awareness outside Tokio and obviously language and cultural difficulties. Nevertheless the participation through EU branches is getting easier.

Marion Steinberger, DLR, KORANET, stated that Korea participation in EU is quite low. It may due to negotiation schemes and procedures. Nonetheless **Ki Cheol Kim**, KIST Europe, KORRIDOR, declared the level of participation could depend on country regional situation and level of awareness. The dissemination strategy and knowledge spreading may be more rigorous in China and India than in Japan and Korea. Therefore they demand common and homogeneous dissemination strategy.

Karla Falloon, New Zealand Mission to the European Union in Brussels representing the following projects: ACCESS4EU-NZ, FRENZ , PACE-NET remarked they have learnt from other projects. They have previously established synergies as it strategy is focusing more on impact and less on the project structure. Consequently based on her experience, she encourages to do so.

The discussion panel was asked about the specific barriers for collaboration besides of language and awareness. They argued cultural issues, lack of incentives and long time lags are barriers that slow



EURASIAPAC

WWW.EURASIAPAC-FP7.EU

collaboration down. They frankly stated funding support is to most appreciate resource by R&D participants and they could benefit from the sand-pit methodology to open minds during meetings as it is an excellent way to bring together people from different background and with different perspectives (e.g. policy makers vs developers, artists, etc.). Finally it was clear statement about open source development community's inspired potential participants.

EURASIAPAC workshop concluded with an open discussion session devoted to generate recommendations and actions to promote the further cooperation between Europe and Asia-Pacific regions.

This workshop was evaluated as fruitful event as the speakers gave the opportunity of providing relevant information and shared collaboration opportunities with the rest of participants. The aim of the discussions was to explore new, alternative or novel ways to promote scientific cooperation in ICT between Europe and Asia-Pacific.

Finally a networking cocktail was organized to facilitate further interaction amongst participants, and has friendly closed the meeting.