



INFORMATION PAPER CISTRANA Workshop Best Practice in Multinational Programme Collaboration

Organized by German Aerospace Center



Location:

DLR, Cologne

Date and Time:

18 January 2006

With the present workshop “Best Practice in Multinational Programme Collaboration” CISTRANA brings together national programme managers on a European level to analyze the benefits and deficits of existing trans-national collaborations and to develop suggestions for improved models of joint research activities.

Experienced managers of already existing trans-national cooperations will present the motives behind these joint initiatives, the procedure of planning, implementation, and assessment. Aspects of success and benefit will be worked out and shortcomings will be revealed. The audience will have the chance to learn from the past and present activities and to filter out beneficial and impedimental aspects of each form of collaboration. In small working groups the participants have the opportunity of expressing their reservations, to consider and discuss objections, and to find new ways of cooperation.

The results of the discussions, the drawn conclusions and the subsequent recommendations on an improved model of trans-national collaboration will be collated and published in a companion, describing the considerations and prerequisites when planning a successful multinational cooperation.

Points to discuss:

- a) The development of the transnational cooperations ITEA, MEDEA+, CELTIC, NORDITE, PROACT from the first ideas to the planning, implementation, and assessment of success.
- b) The political and strategic aims of the programmes
- c) Strengths and weaknesses of trans-national cooperations in the three programme phases planning, implementation, and assessment
 - Balance between national and European interests (e.g. intellectual property rights, financial control)
 - Cultural, language, mental problems
 - Administrative barriers
- d) Recommendations for future cooperations (how to plan, implement, or assess such cooperations).

Starting situation

Europe's future prosperity depends on its competing successfully in a number of key knowledge-based industries, of which those based on Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) probably form the largest economic block. To achieve this economic success in the longer term, it is necessary to skip over the barriers posed by national boundaries and differing research policies and bring together the European resources to research key technologies. To envisage trans-national cooperations it is vital to enlarge the knowledge about parallels and differences in the national aims and activities.

Research cooperations are hindered by a variety of uncertainties over the procedures, vague impressions of a loss of control over the national budget, and disturbing notions of giving up knowledge and responsibilities to an unknown consortium. Creating a national funding programme seems easier than planning multinational cooperations, as the planned programme must (only) fit into the national funding strategy.

In spite of these uncertainties and obstacles numerous multinational cooperations were brought into being. EUREKA clusters like ITEA, MEDEA+, and CELTIC, or the programmes NORDITE and PROACT are examples of already existing concerted funding initiatives. The joint programme JESSI was the reason that Europe took a leading position in the development of microelectronics, while the initiatives to Article 169 and the Technology Platforms refer to the future of a unified European Research Area.

The analysis of their strengths and weaknesses, and the emerging recommendations for future improved forms of cooperation can dispel reservations.

About CISTRANA

Europe has a remarkably high reputation in Information and Communication Technologies, but fragmentation of efforts, limited cooperation between key players and lack of information exchange about activities in other countries lead to loss of efficiency, duplication of effort and missed opportunities. CISTRANA will help to overcome these barriers and improve the impact of research and development efforts in Europe, thereby reinforcing European competitiveness at a global scale. Thus it will be a strategic milestone to set up the European Research Area (ERA).

An elementary aim and first step of approach in CISTRANA is a systematic data collection of national and European funding activities and of the prevailing implementing procedures. First results of the conducted survey are available in the CISTRANA RESEARCH PORTAL at <http://www.portal.cistrana.org/>. The next steps on the way to the implementation of trans-national research activities are the analysis of the collected information, the exchange of best practice, and the development of joint procedures. The two last-mentioned tasks are approached by the present workshop.

The participation in the workshop is free; registration can be carried out at <http://www.cistrana.org/>

Draft Agenda:

Wednesday 18 January 2006:

	<p>Moderation: <i>Prof. Michael Wilson</i>, CCLRC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, UK</p> <p>Rapporteurs: <i>Bob Malcolm</i>, Managing Director of the consultancy, ideo ltd, UK, Rapporteur for the European Commission <i>Angus Hunter</i>, Managing Director of optimat, UK <i>Andrea Köndgen</i>, German NCP at DLR, Coordinator of CISTRANA</p>
08:30 – 09:00	Arrival and Registration of attendees
09:00 – 09:05	Welcome
09:05 – 09:20	Presentation of the Study: “Increasing the Impact of National Research Programmes through Transnational Cooperation and Opening”, <i>Angus Hunter</i> , Managing Director of optimat
09:20 – 10:30	Plenary Session: Presentations of the aims, procedures, benefits, and deficits of trans-national cooperations ITEA: <i>Prof. Dr. Rudolph Haggemüller</i> , Chairman of ITEA, Germany MEDEA+: <i>Dr. Peter Tischer</i> , former Vice Chairman of MEDEA+, Germany CELTIC: <i>Heinz Brüggemann</i> , Director CELTIC Office, Germany NORDITE: <i>Morten Ween</i> , Research Council of Norway (RCN), Norway PROACT: <i>Dr. Alain Brenac</i> , Project Leader Association, Nationale de la Recherche Technique (ANRT), France
10:30 – 10:45	Questions, contributions of participants, instructions for working groups, division in 3 working groups (Planning, Implementation, Assessment of success)
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee break and division into working groups
11:15 – 13:00	Parallel Sessions: 1. Analysis of strengths and weaknesses of trans-national cooperations in the three programme phases <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Planning- Implementation (legal, administrative, cultural barriers, differences in mentality)- Assessment of success 2. Recommendations for future trans-national cooperations, development of flip-chart presentation of results and recommendations
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	Plenary Session: 1. Presentation of results and recommendations of the working groups by speakers, discussion. 2. Conclusion of the workshop: Recommendations for future trans-national cooperations
15:30	End of workshop

MEDEA+

is an industry-initiated pan-European Programme for advanced co-operative Research and Development in Microelectronics. It has been set up and labelled within the framework of EUREKA (E! 2365) to ensure Europe's continued technological and industrial competitiveness in this sector.

MEDEA+ started in January 2001 and focuses on "system innovation on silicon for the e-economy".

The central objective of the industry-driven multi-project MEDEA+ programme is to stimulate innovation and provide the technology platform which will allow the European microelectronics industry to stay in the group of worldwide leaders.

ITEA

is a strategic, pan-European EUREKA Programme that was launched in 1999 and will end 31 December 2008. It is now building on its success with a follow-up programme, ITEA 2. It aims to further strengthen Europe's position in the area of embedded Software-intensive Systems and Services by stimulating and coordinating industry-driven, pre-competitive R&D. The programme helps bringing together partners from industry, universities and research institutes in strategic projects, and provides the link between funding, technology and software engineering skills.

CELTIC

is a five years EUREKA cluster programme, which initiates and runs privately and publicly funded R&D projects in the field of telecommunications. The initiative is supported by most of the major European players in communication technologies. CELTIC projects are focusing at telecoms networks, applications, and services looking at a complete system approach. The size of the CELTIC budget is in the range of 1 billion Euro. CELTIC is open to any kind of project participants from all EUREKA countries.

NORDITE / EXSITE / INWITE

In 2005 The National Technology Agency of Finland (TEKES) and VINNOVA, The Research Council of Norway (RCN) have launched a new technology programme, NORDITE. The new programme is open to research organisations in the above-mentioned countries, and focuses on research projects that will bring about positive results for the Scandinavian ICT industry. TEKES and VINNOVA have co-operated earlier in two technology programmes: INWITE in 1996-1999 and EXSITE in 2000-2003.

NORDITE funds projects in the fields of technology development for SW radio, wireless sensors, short-range wireless networks and RFID or MEMS utilizing RF technology. The purpose is to assist Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish research institutes and companies to further develop and demonstrate their technical expertise in that area. In the projects research groups in Finland, Sweden and Norway collaborate. The call was closed on June 15th, 2005.

PROACT 2002 – 2005

The Research Programme on Proactive Computing (PROACT) is jointly organised by the Academy of Finland, Tekes, the National Agency of Technology of Finland, and the French Ministry of Research and New Technologies (through the National Research Network for Software Technology, RNTL).

The programme funds 14 projects: 3 French-Finnish consortia, 8 Finnish consortia and 3 individual Finnish projects. Altogether 41 French and Finnish research teams collaborate in the programme, which is implemented during a three year period (2002-2005). The total funding is close to 8 million euros.