

**1 The NIS-NEST Project News****NIS-NEST Final Meeting in Athens (10-11 April 2008)**

On 10 and 11 June 2008, the Final Meeting of the NIS-NEST project was held in the premises of the National Documentation Centre, in Athens. The Scientific Project Officer from the DG Research of the European Commission as well as representatives from the consortium participated in the Meeting and delivered relevant speeches.

The second day was dedicated to an overview and discussion of the IDEAS specific programme within the framework of an information day, where Dr Pilar Lopez presented the future calls of the Starting and the Advanced Grant. At the end of the information day, one representative per partner organisation had the opportunity to present their organisation and activities as well as achievements and opportunities for international cooperation in the future FP7 calls for proposals.

**NIS-NEST web site and database remains available on-line**

The online database developed within the framework of the NIS-NEST project and aiming to foster cooperation between the EU, Russia and Eastern European countries, will be accessible through the website (www.nisnest.gr) beyond the project's lifecycle. The online database includes information on research bodies, universities, institutes, businesses and individual researchers involved in science and cutting edge technologies. Visitors to the database can search for partners based on the field of science, the country or the language they are interested in. The search results include information profiling the bodies, their fields of activity and prior experience in European and international research programmes and contact details.

The database is constantly being updated with new data directly fed into it digitally by researchers and organisations from Russia, Moldova, the Ukraine, Belarus and the New Independent States. A search guide and FAQ are available online on the database website. For more information on the NIS-NEST database please visit: <http://researchers.nisnest.gr/>



FP7 Promotion in Ukraine – Impact of NIS-NEST

The NIS-NEST project that aimed to facilitate the collaboration of scientists from the EU and NIS countries has come to its fruitful completion. It had an important impact on the Ukrainian scientific community that unites more than 100 000 researchers. Traditionally the funding of Ukrainian science is predominantly governmental. It comprises about 1% of the gross national product. On the other hand the system of grant funding is comparatively new to Ukraine and the grant funding itself is rather limited. Therefore the possibility of participation in Frame Programs is of utmost importance for Ukrainian scientists and the information provided by the events and the activities in the framework of the NIS-NEST project attracted a rapt attention.

NIS-NEST activities in Ukraine included organization of the FP7 information day and the FP7 workshop (both were held in Kiev), mapping of the profiles of active researchers and scientific organizations for the creation of the NIS-NEST database and the dissemination activities.

The FP7 information day was held on February, 23, 2007 in the V. Lashkaryov Institute of semiconductors physics NAS Ukraine. It was attended by more than 150 researchers from 38 organizations. The information day had a wide resonance, and as a result the next event - the FP7 workshop held in October, 2007 - gathered much more people than was expected. The workshop was attended by more than 90 researchers from 46 organizations. In accordance with the requests of the participants who were not able to attend the Information day in February they were additionally informed on the NIS-NEST project and updated on the possibilities within FP7 for involvement of Ukrainian scientists in collaborations with European researchers.

The dissemination activities in Ukraine included the announcements at five Ukrainian and International conferences held in Ukraine in 2007, publication in the country-wide Ukrainian newspaper "*Zerkalo nedeli*" ("The weekly mirror") and discussing the perspectives of the collaboration of Russian and Ukrainian scientists in FP-7 at the annual Meeting of Russian-Ukrainian Council on Nanotechnology held in Kiev in December, 2007. Thus as a result of our work within NIS-NEST vast number of Ukrainian scientists are now acquainted with the opportunities for collaboration with EU scientists provided to them by FP7.



Impacts of the NIS-NEST project for MSU researchers

What about the impact of the NIS-NEST project through the information days and workshops on preparing proposals held at the Moscow State University? Researchers have identified a range of key points for which more training is expected in the future. They include:

1. Detailed familiarity with FP7:

- thematic priorities;
- project types;
- submission rules;
- timeframe;
- partner search and consortium building, etc.



National International Events in Belarus, 2008

Several scientific conferences will take place in Belarus in 2008:

1. The 2nd International Conference on «**Advanced Information and Telemedicine Technologies for Health**», **October 1-3, 2008 Minsk, Belarus:**

- - The conference aim is to discuss fundamental problems of computerization of health care and medical research based on advanced information technologies and intelligent systems for computer-assisted diagnosis in public health services; to disseminate research results, to share relevant experience and to co-ordinate activities on development and implementation of telemedicine systems.
 - Organizers:
 - National Academy of Sciences of Belarus
 - United Institute of Informatics Problems of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus
 - International Science and Technology Center (ISTC)
 - More information:
 - <http://itk-97.bas-net.by/conference/aitth2008/?jump=100&lang=eng>

2. The 2nd International Conference «**Supercomputer systems and applications**» (SSA'2008), **October 15-17, 2008, Minsk, Belarus**

3. Fifth International Conference «**Information technologies in industry**» (ITI'2008), **October 21-24, 2008, Minsk, Belarus**

4. VII International Conference «**Informatization development and systems of engineering information**», **November, 2008, Minsk, Belarus**

5. Banking Information Technologies Forum «**Bank IT**», **November, 2008, Minsk, Belarus.**
More information: <http://www.bankit.by/>

6. International Conference «**Software Applications as Intellectual Property Objects**», **11 June 2008, Minsk, Belarus** <http://www.compis.by/>

More information on the international events, taking place in Belarus could be found on the www.fp7-nip.by



Science & Education Policies

International Conference for the central and Eastern Europe, Balkans, Caucasus and Baltic States
September 18-21, 2008, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

The conference will bring together key decision makers in national science and education policies from thirty Central and Eastern European countries: Presidents of the Academies of Sciences, Ministers of Science and Education, and representatives of international funding agencies and professional organizations.

2 News from partners cont.

The conference will focus on:

- Strengthening international impact of national research and education programs;
 - Strengthening research in higher education;
 - Developing a knowledge-based economy;
- Stemming and reversing brain drain.

More information and registration:

<http://www.mrda.md/sciedupol/>

3 Documents and links



Results of the Public Consultation on the Green Paper “The European Research Area: New Perspectives”

This report synthesises the response to the consultation based on the 685 replies received by the 31 August 2007 deadline for the on-line questionnaire and the 145 free-format contributions received by the final closing date of 31 December 2007. One of the chapters summarises the contributions to the consultation received from EU Member States and Associated Countries and European bodies (European Parliament, European Economic and Social Committee, Committee of the Regions). Altogether, the response to the ERA Green Paper constitutes an essential part of **the basis on which to take the next steps towards realising the European Research Area.**

To download the report:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/publication_en.cfm

Challenging Europe’s Research: Rationales for the European Research Area (ERA)

The actors in ERA form the main locus of action and this report identifies key needs for each sector including:

Promotion of **transnational peer review** for research funding;
Support for the move towards greater **strategic space and autonomy for universities;**

- **Active steps to develop a true European market for applied research services in the RTO sector;**
- **Continuation of moves towards a more innovation friendly market for business and the conditions whereby innovation creates value in ways that benefit Europe;**
- **A focus on elimination of barriers to cross-sectoral mobility for researchers.**



To download the report:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/publication_en.cfm

3 Documents and links cont.



Other Expert Groups Analyses :

http://ec.europa.eu/research/era/progress-on-debate/expert-groups-analyses_en.html

The ERA Green Paper – See **NIS-NEST NewsLetter Issue 4**



Tackling Complexity in Science - General Integration of the Application of Complexity in Science

The goal of GIACS (General Integration of the Application of Complexity in Science) is to serve as a forum to bring research results together and to facilitate the establishment of a constructive dialogue among scientists and scholars in Europe and the rest of the world in the field of Complexity.

The current report provides an assessment of future directions and opportunities of complexity research in the long term.

Other Pathfinder Initiatives Reports:

<http://cordis.europa.eu/nest/home.html>

FORSESIGHT – Analytical Journal

The Foresight journal aims to support the creation of Foresight culture in Russia through the dissemination of the best Russian and international practices in the field of future-oriented innovation development. It is managed by the HSE Institute for Statistical Studies and Economics of Knowledge (ISSEK), located in Moscow, Russia.



Contents issue № 1 - 2008 – (Part of) :

- The Seventh Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration
- The European Research Area
- The EU S&T Co-operation with the Largest Regions of the World

By Michele Genovese

International Conference «Scenarios for a Co-ordinated Approach to Sustainable S&T Cooperation of the EU with the Eastern Neighbours – SCOPE-EAST»

NB: This issue of the journal has been produced with the assistance of the European Union.



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Documents and links cont.

EU and Russia strengthen scientific ties



“Scientific ties between Russia and the European Union look set to become much tighter in the years to come, according to a joint statement of the EU-Russia Permanent Partnership Council and Research, which met for the first time on 26 May. On the cards are a set of coordinated calls for co-funded projects in the area of health, and nanotechnologies and new materials”.

Read CORDIS News N° **29479** (2008-05-27)

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS&ACTION=D&SESSION=&RCN=29479

http://www.esf.org/fileadmin/be_user/activities/research_conferences/Docs_NEW/2007/2007-242_Official_%20Final_Conference_Report.pdf

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Stay informed beyond NIS-NEST

Every working day, CORDIS News publishes several news. As a follow up of NIS-NEST and to stay informed about relationships and scientific cooperation with Belarus, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine use the following link to extract easily the latest news from CORDIS:



Belarus

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS&QZ_WEBSRCH=belarus



Moldova

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS&QZ_WEBSRCH=moldova



RUSSIA

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS&QZ_WEBSRCH=russia



Ukraine

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS&QZ_WEBSRCH=ukraine

For news concerning RDT activities in Greece and France:



Greece

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS&QZ_WEBSRCH=greece



Ukraine

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=EN_NEWS&QZ_WEBSRCH=france



5 NIS-NEST Photos Gallery cont.



Kick off meeting (Athens, June 15-16th, 2006)



Annual meeting (Brussels, June 14-15th, 2008)



Final meeting
(Athens, April 10-11th, 2008 - This issue)



Belarus





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NIS-NEST Photos Gallery cont.



Moldova



RUSSIA



UKRAINE





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