



Fact sheet ERA.Net RUS

Sept 2009

Project title: "Linking Russia to the ERA: Coordination of MS/AC S&T programmes towards and with Russia" (ERA.Net RUS)

Web page: www.era.net-rus.eu

Project start: 01.02.2009

Duration: 48 months

Project coordinator: International Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research at the German Aerospace Centre (DLR, Germany)

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Project partners

	Name	Acronym	Country
1	International Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research at the German Aerospace Centre (DLR, Germany)	DLR	Germany
2	National Centre for Scientific Research	CNRS	France
3	Federal Ministry of Science and Research	BMWF	Austria
4	Centre for Social Innovation	ZSI	Austria
5	Government Office for Research and Technology	NKTH	Hungary
6	Academy of Finland	AKA	Finland
7	General Secretariat for Research and Technology	GSRT	Greece
8	Archimedes Foundation	Archimedes	Estonia
9	Research Council of Norway	RCN	Norway
10	The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey	TUBITAK	Turkey
11	Russian Research Center, Kurchatov Institute	KIAE	Russia
12	State University Higher School of Economics	HSE	Russia
13	International Centre for Innovations in Science, Technology and Education	ICISTE	Russia

Name	Acronym	Country
14 Russian Academy of Science, A.N.Bakh Institute of Biochemistry (NCP for Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology)	INBI	Russia
15 Ministry of Higher Education and Science	MESR	France
16 Federal Ministry of Education and Research	BMBF	Germany
17 Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs	MAEE	France
18 Joint Research Centre, Institute of Prospective Technological Studies	IPTS	EU/ Spain

General Information about ERA.Net Projects

ERA-NETs are one of the instruments of the European Commission to stimulate the co-operation of research funding institutions or programme managers. The objective of the instrument is to strengthen the coordination of research activities of the EU Member States and the countries associated to the European Framework Programme for Research to overcome the fragmentation of the European Research Area. The participants of ERA-NETs are ministries, research funding agencies or programme managers that coordinate national or regional programmes (e.g. project management agencies).

The ERA-NET instrument exists since the 6th Framework Programme (2002-2006), under which 71 (thematic) ERA-NETs were supported. Only a few ERA-NETs are horizontal, i.e. international ERA-NETS that target the cooperation with a selected third country.

An ERA-NET can include the following activities:

- Systematic exchange of information and best practices with the aim of enhancing the communication between the project partners.
- Strategically targeted activities that develop an evaluation of the options and barriers for cooperation and lead to the development of complementarities and joint objectives of national and regional research projects.
- Implementation of joint activities (e.g. clustering of nationally and regionally financed research programmes), utilization of multinational evaluation processes, joint training measures or the mutual opening of national infrastructures.
- Transnational research activities, e.g. the formulation of joint strategies and work programmes or the implementation of joint calls for research funding. National funding sources of different Member States can be pooled for this.

In the 7th Framework Programme (2007-2013) ERA-NETs were developed further to ERA-NETs PLUS, for which a common funding pot should be established and additional funding can be obtained from the European Commission ('top-up funding' for joint calls).

Project description

The project ERA.Net RUS is split up into 6 work packages (WP), which are led by different project partners:

- WP1: Preparing the analytical ground for coordinating EU MS/AC S&T and innovation programmes towards Russia or with Russian programme owners
- WP2: Developing and disseminating a concept for a coordination of activities of S&T and innovation programme owners in EU MS/AC and Russia
- WP3: Preparing, Implementing and Assessing a Pilot Joint Call (PJC)
- WP4: Developing, Disseminating and Promoting a Sustainable Programme
- WP5: Information Dissemination, Communication and Links
- WP6: Project Coordination and Management

Highlights

The first workshop within the project on "Lessons learned and perspectives of bilateral S&T cooperation programmes between EU Member States and Associated Countries and Russia", with programme owners from inside and outside the consortium was successfully implemented in Tallinn, Estonia on 25 June 2009.

State of affairs and intermediate results

- Preparation of several analytical reports on the Russian S&T funding system.
- Implementation of interviews with Programme Owners in Russia and EU MS/AC: analysing activities within bilateral S&T cooperation schemes respectively on activities of MS/AC programme owners towards Russia and vice versa, analysis of strengths and weaknesses of present programmes and identification of interest for a closer coordination of bilateral programmes.
- Development of a database of S&T programmes, which are relevant for S&T cooperation between EU MS/AC and Russia.
- Development of a database of international S&T projects implemented in the last three years by public and private institutions in EU MS/ AC and Russia.

Planned activities from Sept 2009 to February 2010

The following activities are planned between May and October:

- Analyzing experiences from Russian participation in ERA.Nets and from ongoing international ERA-Nets.
- Project workshop "Identifying the specific needs for advanced cooperation of S&T programme owners in EU MS/AC and with Russian programme owners", Moscow/ Russia (26-27 January 2010).
- Complementation and Finalization of the analytical reports.
- Further implementation of interviews with programme owners in EU MS/ AC.
- Continuous updating of the databases for programmes and projects.