

Fact Sheet AUS-ACCESS4EU

status: October 2010

Project title: Supporting EU access to Australian research programmes

Web page: www.aus-access4.eu

Start of the project: October 2009

Duration: 24 months

Scientific officer

at the EU Commission: Tarik Meziani

Project Coordinator: Dr. Hans-Jörg Stähle

Contact person IB (DLR): Dr. Thomas Reineke / Claudia Gruner

Project Partners

Name	Acronym	Country
1 Project Management Organisation of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research – German Aerospace Centre	DLR	Germany
2 Australian National University	ANU	Australia
3 British Council	BC	United Kingdom
4 Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation	CSIRO	Australia

General information about ACCESS4EU -Projects

The objective of the FP 7 Capacities Work Programme "Supporting the EU access to third countries programmes (FP-INCO-2009-5) is to help to develop the reciprocity aspects of the S&T agreement by identifying Australian programmes open to EU researchers and promote their participation". Therefore the overall goal of this project is to increase S&T cooperation between the EU and Australia by identifying access opportunities for European researchers in Australian research capabilities and programmes.

Project description

The AUS-ACCESS4EU-Project will enhance the information collection as regards programmes open for EU researchers as well as rules and obstacles for participation. The close and continuous dialogue with Australian programme owners and the wide outreach of the project results to European stakeholders and policy makers and European scientists are two of the major success factors of the project.

The specific objectives of the AUS-ACCESS4EU project are:

- Raising awareness of access opportunities for European researchers and research organisations in national research and/or innovation programmes managed by the Australian Federal Government and by state and territory governments and NGOs.
- Providing information on distinctive areas of competitiveness in Australian research in order to raise awareness among those European researchers who are not aware of Australian strengths.
- Mapping and matching areas of joint interest and identifying relevant national S&T programmes by auditing cases of EU participation in Australian scientific programmes, and performing a comparative analysis of the level of involvement of European scientists in Australian programmes and the participation rate of Australian teams in both European and national programmes.
- Identifying the major obstacles to the participation of European researchers in Australian RTD programmes.
- Setting up a basis for joint "project-generating" actions that will open new cooperative opportunities and develop improved tools for long-term collaboration.
- Contributing to the intensification of the ongoing EU-Australia policy dialogue by identifying research priorities of joint interest or identifying a common research agenda.
- Promoting new cooperative opportunities and supporting sustainability of achieved outcomes by forwarding information to national contact points in EU Member States, publishing information on the web, arranging presentations held by Australian funding programme owners and agencies in EU countries, and monitoring the participation of EU researchers and institutes in Australian programmes.
- Measuring and mapping reciprocity in terms of the "openness" of different national funding and support systems to internationalised research and innovation activities.

The activities are grouped into 4 work packages (WP). WP 1 "Inventory and Monitoring" aims to map the opportunities for European researchers and research institutes to access Australian programmes. The objectives of WP 2 "Awareness raising and profile building" are to raise the awareness of Australian institutions and programme owners and to promote the principle of reciprocity of research programmes. WP 3 "Information dissemination and outreach" aims to increase the European research community's awareness of opportunities to access Australian support and capability in order to stimulate, encourage and support the participation of European organisations in Australian programmes. WP 4 "Project coordination and management" will ensure that the project is managed effectively.

Active participation of the International Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (DLR)

The International Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research act as coordinator of this project and therefore is responsible for WP4. This work package includes the coordination processes necessary for the networking within the consortium and to follow up the development of the joint project. It will ensure the exchange of information between all consortium partners and implement regular meetings of the consortium.

Highlights

On 24th of November 2009 the official kick-off meeting was held in Bonn

The project website was launched February 18 2010

On 4th of March the initial meeting with representatives of Australian funding organisations was held to make them aware about the AUS-ACCESS4EU project and to ensure their cooperation

The discussion paper "Enhancing reciprocity in international cooperation in research: issues and metrics" was published in June 2010

On 5th July 2010 the second Consortium Meeting of AUS-Access4EU was held in Canberra.

The first AUS-Access4EU newsletter was published in August 2010:
http://www.access4.eu/_media/AUS_EUNewsletter25Aug10.pdf

Beginning of September the AUS-Access4EU-project flyer was printed:
http://www.access4.eu/_img/article/AUS_Access4Eu_flyer.pdf

End of September the common newsletter for all Access4EU-projects was prepared by AUS-Access4EU and published:
<http://newsletter.access4.eu/newsletterhandler.ashx?section=TOTA&newsletter=1>

Planned activities until June 2011

From 8th up to the 11th November the first infotour for promoting the Australian RTDI programmes will be held in Europe:

London – 8. November 2010

Paris – 9. November 2010

Bonn – 11. November 2010

Two more „Infotours“ covering each three different European countries are planned for 2011.

The „Guide for European researchers on how to participate in Australian programmes“ is in preparation.