

**248583 UNITE**

UNITE develops a set of activities to reinforce the cooperation between research teams and improve the level of excellence of ICT research across an Enlarged Europe, in the federated theme of "Future of the Internet". The project takes benefit from the large experience of the consortium in research oriented collaborative activities, and uses the collaborative platform of I-VLab to support its activities. Secondment is the priority for UNITE, taking most of the project budget. Moreover, UNITE will not develop its secondment activities from scratch, as relevant preparatory work with effective results was already done during the project proposal preparation. UNITE consortium sent out in advance a call to organizations around the Enlarged Europe, and got 121 written interests to participate in the UNITE secondment activities, i.e., UNITE has at project starting time a committed offer/demand matrix that identifies organizations interests and contact responsables within the UNITE secondment. Thus, UNITE proposes to start the secondment activities as soon as the project begins, based on the pre-elaborated secondment matrix involving now already more than 120 institutions across the enlarged Europe, and containing 863 send and 1000 receive requests. To save project budget, and increase the number secondment activities, whenever possible the ERASMUS programme will be considered. UNITE organizes open 2 doctoral symposiums that provide the opportunity to enlarge the community in collaboration with both the sending and receiving institutions. A restrict management will be put in place, to control the costs in a correct timing and progress control of each work package; and regulate and manage the Secondment activities. For ensuring a long-term cooperation and the pursuit of the secondment actions, UNITE creates an "Eastern Europe" INTEROP-VLab Pole, enabling to build up consortiums to widen the participation of enlarged Europe in EC ICT research projects.