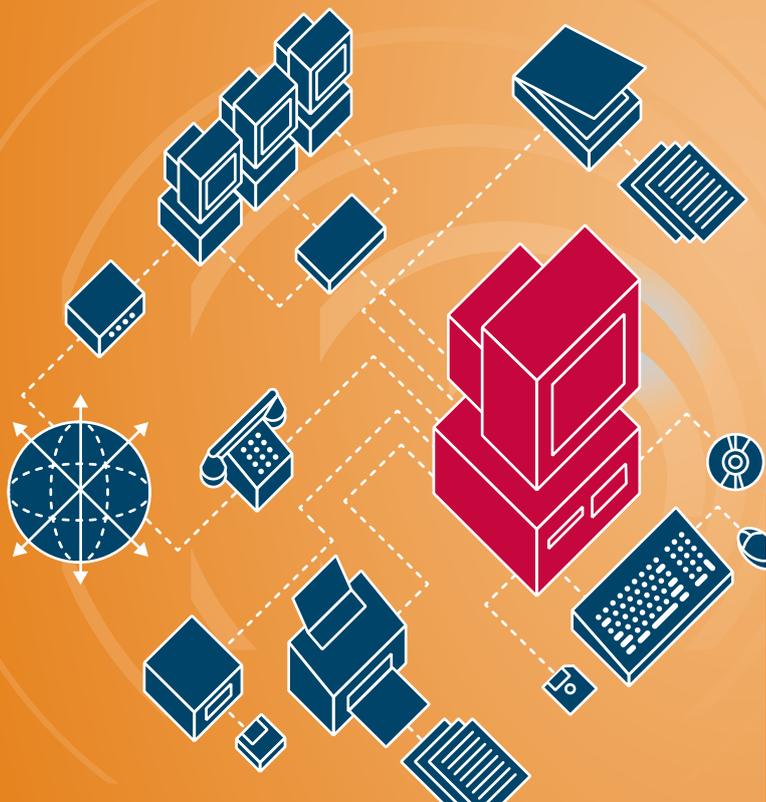


First to know

“FIRST is an ICT project supported under the EU’s 7th R&D Framework Programme (FP7)”

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First



European Commission
Information Society and Media

One year in UE-Latin America cooperation on ICT

The first year is reaching its end for FIRST project. It has been a year of intensive work, aiming to disseminate the concept of Technology Platform among relevant stakeholders and to getting them involved in Technology Platforms that in 2011 will work to agree on a Strategic Research Agenda on Future Internet and ICT components for the participating countries.

In this issue of First to know, we will review the main achievements of the Project in 2010 as well as its greatest challenges for 2011. Four Latin American Technology Platforms were set up this year: Argentina, with three working groups, Chile with five, Colombia with three and Mexico with another five. Not surprisingly, Software & Services is present in every country, and Mobile & Wireless Communications and Networked & Electronic Media working groups were set up in three out of four.

Brazil, facing a great geographic dispersion of the ICT actors, has made big steps in

dissemination of the concept of Technology Platforms among stakeholders and will launch its working groups early in 2011.

Great challenges will come ahead in 2011, a key year for FIRST, when the discussions towards a Strategic Research Agenda for each country will take place.

As you will read in the following pages, cooperation between EU and Latin America is gaining strength and consistency: projects such as Foresta and Sala3D are on track and achieving their goals, while the participation of Latin American researchers in ICT Framework Programme is steadily increasing.

On the side of LATPs European counterparts, there is also news by the end of the year: you will find out what is going on with Net!Work (formerly known as eMobility) and ISI.

Enjoy the reading!

First in 2010-2011: from Latin American Technology Platforms to the Strategic Research Agenda

Four Technology Platforms were launched this year in Latin America (Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Mexico) and the fifth, Brazil, is steady moving towards doing so early next year. The concept of TP is gaining strength in every country, attracting the interest from governments, academia and industry. Still, the greatest challenge for 2011 will be to consolidate the working groups with a greater participation from the private sector towards initiating the discussions of the Strategic Research Agenda for each participating country.



courtesy of CINTEL

RECIIF: Colombia TP

On October 29th 2010, the European project FIRST launched at the International ICT Congress – ANDICOM 2010 in Cartagena de Indias, RECIIF - a community that gathers representatives from the Industry and Academia to encourage and promote a coherent approach to R&D&i activities on Future Internet in Colombia.

RECIIF is Colombia's counterpart of European Technology Platforms related to Future Internet, in particular to Net!Works (former e-mobility), NESSI, NEM and international initiatives such as FIRE, FIA and FIF. This community will initially focus on three topics that congregate in Colombia a significant mass for undertaking research activities and that would impact in short term Colombia's Industry:

- Mobile and wireless communications
- Networked & Electronic Media
- Software & Services

At the launch of RECIIF, Mr José Jaime Gómez, General Manager of Multimedia Service and President of RECIIF evinced the opportunities that participating in this community brings to Colombian entities and invited new stakeholders of the ICT sector to join the Community.

RECIIF and the project FIRST, through its local project member CINTEL, have been able to increase the interest of Colombian

industry to get involved on R&D&i projects, have presented Colombian R&D&i Initiatives at EULARINET and the ICT 2010: Digitally Driven, have highlighted the importance and benefits of networking and collaboration to strengthen R&D&i and have made a special effort in creating stronger bounds between the Academia and the Industry.

For the coming year, RECIIF will focus on the elaboration of a strategic vision on Future Internet in Colombia, a strategic research agenda (SRA) and a roadmap for international cooperation. It will also participate at international events and in the definition of a common LatAm Vision.

RECIIF will continue its operations towards becoming, for the year 2012, the national meeting place par excellence of the Colombian Industry and Academia and the international reference point for the promotion and creation of R&D&i projects on Future Internet that contribute to the development of ICT sector and society in the country, allowing Colombian R&D&i efforts to contribute to the goal that all Colombians access the virtual world anytime, anywhere and through any device.

For more information about RECIIF, do not hesitate to contact FIRST local partner in Colombia, CINTEL at (+57) 1 635 3538 ext. 168 or mmontenegro@cintel.org.co

PLATA: Argentina TP

After a year of work, FIRST project launched Argentine Technology Platform of Future Internet on December 6, with three working groups: Software and Services; ICT Components; and Intelligent Systems and Embedded Software.

It is gratifying to confirm that along 2010, more organizations approached to the project and were interested in participating in this R&D community. While innovation is mainly present in the industry, the Academia is the actor that carries out research and develops projects.

FIRST project was presented in some events where networking was the main channel of dissemination. More than 60 organizations expressed their interest in participating in the Technology Platform Argentina to cooperate with the European Union R & D activities. These confirmations were the product of several contacts and networking, made by phone, e-mails, skype calls and meetings.

The latest good news is the involvement of the Argentine Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation in FIRST project to work jointly with ALETI in launching this R&D community.

This is a very important step as it demonstrates the project's potential and the faith that they have in the Technology Platform set out as a model for increasing the competitiveness of Argentina and the region.

The challenge for 2011 is to reinforce the Argentine Technology Platform, task that will be supported by the Ministry. A key task will be performed next year: the agreement of a Strategic Research Agenda, which is a list of R&D ICT priorities. This will be the work of the Steering Committee. Another key issue is bringing this opportunity of cooperation not only to the Argentine ICT Industry, but also to the vertical industries that can use ICT as a tool to improve their processes.

Up to now, only one private company of Argentina has participated in an ICT Framework Program project. The participation of large enterprises and small and medium enterprises is very important since they are the drivers of the Industry. It is their time to start leading the R&D activities, which is the spirit of the European Technology Platforms.



MACCHI: Chilean TP

December 1st was the day for the first working meeting of the Chilean Technology Platform (TP). During 2010 five working groups were conformed: Software and Services, Network Electronic Media, Wireless and Mobile Communications, Intelligent Systems and Embedded Software.

Twenty organizations have registered through FIRST project website in order to be part of this community of R&D in Future Internet. On the other hand, 22 organizations have expressed their interest in taking part of this network in order to work more synergistically among themselves and with European Union organizations.

Chile has many projects to work in cooperation with Europe. For instance, regarding Mobile and Wireless Communications, the service demand is strongly growing, as well as Mobile Internet in the national market in Chile, which has also seen a big increase in connections. Nine organizations working on this field have demonstrated their interest in participating in the TP. Projects like Mobile Communication for Elderly User are being developed in Chile and can be connected with Assisted Ambient Living projects in Europe.

One big achievement was the continuous work of contacting Chilean organizations and the possibility of inviting them to the Platform. There are some industry associations that also gather Academia (Electronic Industry Association-AIE), but they do not have the focus on carrying out R&D projects. Therefore, the possibility of joining a specific community to foster R&D has become really attractive to them.

One question that appeared frequently during the meetings is why Europe wants to cooperate with Chile. The answer regards on the creation of a Liaison Office in 2005, with the aim of promoting the opportunities of cooperation in Science and Technology between Chile and the European Union. And the reasons for this establishment concerns to the need of working more with other regions in a synergistic way.



The Chilean Scientific Community participated in the last four Framework Programs from FP3 onwards. The balance totals 200 Chilean institutions linked to research in 156 research projects in association to its European peers. Even though there is no data available regarding the total European contribution to the Chilean Scientific Community for 1991-2002 period (FP3, FP4, y FP5), the European contribution within the framework of FP6 (2003-2006 period) to the Chilean Scientific Community amounts 6.9 million Euros in 58 projects approved.

The challenge for 2011 is bringing this opportunity of cooperation to the Chilean ICT industry, which is one of the goals of the FIRST project. The participation of large enterprises and small and medium enterprises is key to having industry driven projects.

Another goal for next year is increasing the number of organizations registered in the Chilean Technology Platform, so more stakeholders have the chance of participating in the production of the Strategic Research Agenda.



Technology Platform in Mexico

In Mexico, FIRST project reaches the end of 2010 with the Technology Platform already set up and five working groups: eMobility, NESSI, NEM, ARTEMIS and eHealth, having more than 100 members coming from the whole Mexican territory, distributed as follows: 13 research centers, 13 universities, 11 large companies, 109 SMEs and 17 other institutions.

Last November, the Steering Council of the Mexican Technology

Platform (MTP) was elected at the ICT day & Interactive Workshop, Mexico 2010. This event was organized by FIRST and Pro-IDEAL projects, at Universidad Autónoma de Hidalgo in Pachuca, Mexico. Around 60 representatives of the industry, government, and research institutions of different states of the country attended this event where Guillermo Safa was elected as the first president of the MTP.

THE SELECTED LEADERS OF THE THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS WERE:

eMobility-Mex

DEXTRA Technologies: Daniel Chavez

Tecnologías de Información Móvil (T&C): Carlos Mata

Moviquity: María Vallin

NESSI-Mex

Softtek: Luis Cuellar

Empresa BIQ: Karl McDermott

NEM-Mex

DIMTEC: Mauricio Lozano

EISEC Media: Alejandra Sánchez

ARTEMIS-Mex

Soluciones Tecnológicas (S&T): Eduardo Ramírez

eHealth-Mex

MEDISIST: Amado Espinosa

Sio-Videoconferencia: Jorge Perafan

NeuroMarketing: Jaime Romano

One of the main achievements of the year was the inclusion of national associations as members of MTP, such as the National Chamber of Electronics and Information Technology Industry (CANIETI) and several ICT clusters.

The action plan for MTP's consolidation in the coming year includes: meetings of each Thematic Working Group for generating research and action lines, approach of Mexican Thematic Working Groups with their European counterparts,

recruitment of more companies which are members of the different ICT clusters in the country, generation of first proposals for obtaining funds of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) on the part of the different Thematic Working Groups members, and consolidate the MTP as an organism with high potential to encourage the innovation activities of industry, academy and public policy of Mexico.

Technology Platforms in Brazil

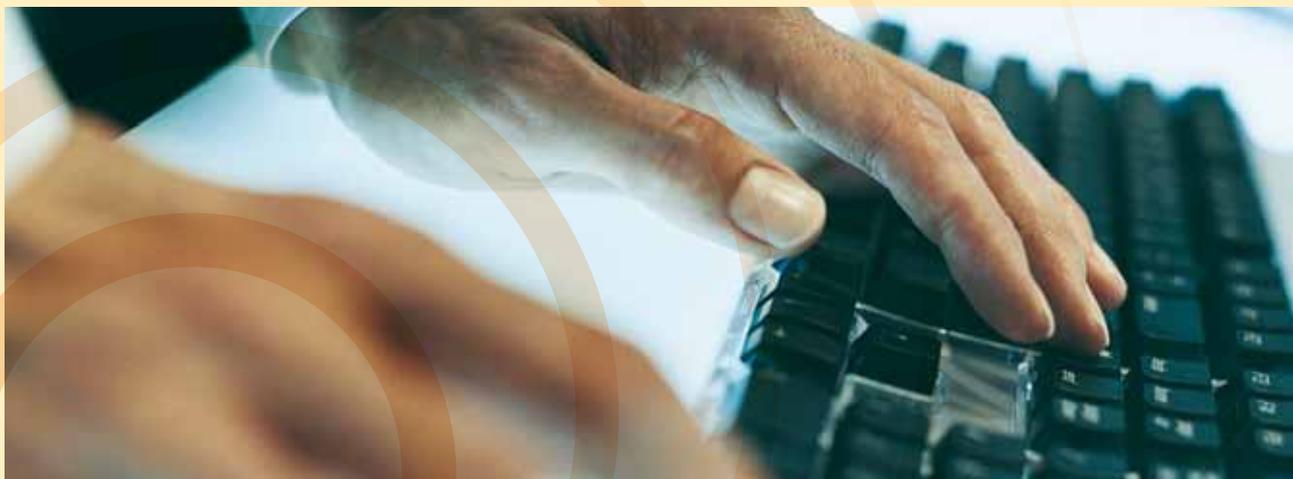
The great dimension of the Brazilian territory brings along with it one of the biggest challenges to project FIRST. The concept of TPs is not well known all over the country. The major challenge is, initially, to introduce the concept and, in a constant dissemination work, to create the TPs. The great geographic dispersion of the ICT actors contributes to the dissemination difficulty. On the other hand, the Brazilian ICT market is huge and all the efforts to create structured TPs are valuable.

On September 16, the first workshop about project FIRST was carried out at the Escola Politécnica da Universidade de São Paulo – USP (Polytechnic School of University of São Paulo). The event, organized by USP in cooperation with CIETEC – Centro Incubador de Empresas Tecnológicas (Technology Business Incubator Center)- had the presence of representatives from academia, large industries, SMEs and associations related to the ICT segment. The workshop was broadcasted through IPTV, and more than 150 people followed it by through the website.

The second project FIRST workshop was carried out on November 18 and was essential to mark the beginning of the Brazilian TPs agenda.

One big step for the first year of the project was the involvement of SUCESU/SP (Users Society for Information Technology and Telecommunications, at São Paulo state), an association that has a long tradition bringing together professionals interested in technology subjects. USP and SUCESU/SP together may increase the dissemination about FIRST in Brazil and encourage professionals to gather to discuss the future Brazilian TPs. It is hoped that a formal cooperation document (Memorandum of Understanding) will be signed between USP and SUCESU/SP.

The year ended with an opening meeting about the Brazilian TPs on December 09 at USP, the kick-off to enlarge the dissemination of TPs all over the country.



Latin American researchers' presence increases in the Framework Programme

A little more than one hundred people took part in the two days workshop jointly organised by four International Cooperation projects under the title “EU LA ICT Gateways” after the ICT Conference, the “Must” rendez-vous of the European ICT research community, held in Brussels earlier this year.

The session confirmed the growing presence of Latin American research organisations and their increasing understanding of the FP7 priorities and dynamics. “Something that makes them very interesting partners – says Gian Michele Mosca from TESEO, coordinator of the FORESTA project - one of the main bottlenecks until now has been the lack of readiness from the Latin American side, due essentially to inadequate knowledge of the programme rules and practice. But after years of trainings and regular involvement of key research organisations, that is a less recurrent problem. Latin American researchers are now much more aware on how to cooperate with Europeans, they know how to frame project ideas and present them in the right manner”.

That Latin American organisations are now more proactive in guiding potential proposals was also confirmed by the fact that at least 12 researchers from different countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica and Mexico) went “on stage” in Brussels to present new approaches to ICT research that could soon be turned into real projects.

Without surprise one of the most popular areas for potential cooperation proved to be the one that the ICT work-programme describes under Challenge 5 as ICT for Health, Ageing Well, Inclusion and Governance, for which two potentially complementary concepts were presented by Mexican and Colombian researchers.

Quite interestingly, Mexico is also promoting within its Technology Platform, established with the support of the FIRST project, a working group on e-health, something that in Europe has not yet taken the form of a fully fledged TP. However future cooperation might also touch upon the so called technology pillars of the ICT programme, like the areas covered by FIRE (Future Internet Research and Experimentation). As well as the ICT programme, which is generally open for Latin American participation and promotes it specifically in areas like ICT for Smart and Personalised Inclusion, EU-LA cooperation is encouraged also in other components of the FP7 with funding opportunities recently published in the Health, KBBE (Knowledge Based Bio-Economy), Environment, Transport, Social Sciences and Nanotechnologies programmes.



SALA3D boosts Europe – Latin America cooperation on networked media technologies

In the framework of S&T cooperation between Europe and Latin America, the Networked Media and 3D Internet field is a promising asset to be exploited. It is a European priority to investigate this potential, and the upcoming Call 7 of the ICT FP7 Work Programme, notably **Objective 1.5 Networked Media and Search System**, is indeed offering significant opportunities for cooperative research in this area.

The SALA3D project, a Support Action funded under Call ICT-2009.1.5 – Networked Media and 3D Internet, intends to unveil this potential by designing focused cooperation roadmaps targeting the two Latin-American countries that have demonstrated a strategic interest in aligning with European technology standards in these technology fields: **Colombia and Uruguay**.

SALA3D is in the process of performing a comprehensive assessment of the targeted countries' research potential, which takes into account technological indicators as well as socio-economic aspects affecting industry and market's direction, in order to evaluate the future impact of the investigated technologies.

After 9 months of work, the SALA3D project has identified a set of priorities and topics which are most relevant and can have more impact for the targeted countries, and the consortium is implementing an intense agenda of activities, meetings and interviews

with stakeholders, key actors and other capacities from the European and Latin America side in order to validate the strategic importance of the identified technological topics. Information will be collected and organised into an action plan which paves the way to a sustainable network of cooperation.

As a tangible result of this commitment, excellent organisations from Uruguay and Colombia (including industries and SME's, Universities and Research centres) are connecting with peer entities from Europe in order to submit joint project proposals under the relevant European programmes. Researchers and stakeholders of both countries are eager to build fruitful relationships with European counterparts, in order to encourage internationalisation, technological cooperation and joint R+D+i projects. In the past months, Colombian and Uruguayan delegations have travelled to Europe to take advantage of major networking opportunities represented by the recent ICT2010 event in September in Brussels and NEM summit in Barcelona in October, to present the countries' project ideas and capacities in the NEM sector and set up relations with European organisations.

On the Latin-American shore, the high-profile ICT event ANDICOM2010, which took place in Cartagena de Indias (Colombia) at the end of October, represented a precious opportunity to attract European stakeholders to the region: the event featured a SALA3D session in which EU-Colombian collaborative

scenarios in the NEM field were assessed and a large portfolio of profiles and challenging project initiatives originating from the country were presented, also through webcast facilities to remote participants. On this occasion, Mr. Pierre-Yves Danet, vice-President of the European Networked Electronic Media Platform, acknowledged Colombia as an important international player in the NEM sector, and reiterated the European strategic interest to conduct joint research and have mature and capable LA organisations in European consortia.

The ICT sector, and specifically the networked electronic media field, is indeed rapidly growing in Colombia and Uruguay, boasting a vast potential in software, IT and content. You are kindly invited to visit SALA3D project website www.sala3d.eu, where you can find a repository collecting ideas, actors and capacities in the NEM technologies with the prospect to compete within the upcoming ICT Call 7.

You also can find a complete and updated calendar of SALA3D workshops and events, as well as deliverables, documents and resources produced by the project.

SALA3D is lead by AETIC, the Spanish association of ICT industries and participated by CINTEL, the centre for telecommunication research of Colombia; CIU, the industry chamber of Uruguay; and TESEO, Brussels-based consultancy on EU RTD programmes.

New challenges for Foresta and Pro Ideal Plus

The year 2010 is about to close on a high note concerning EU-Latin American relations in ICT research. While representatives from Brazil and the EU prepare to specify the contents of further scientific cooperation planned in the years to come, it is time to draw some (partial conclusions) on what has been done right at halfway throughout the deployment of FP7. With the support to two parallel projects (FORESTA and PRO IDEAL PLUS) the European Commission has put additional fuel into the support to policy dialogue on two sides of the Atlantic.

“What is going on –says Mauro Bianchi – director of TESEO, a Brussels based consulting specialised in support to international research cooperation and the coordinator of the FORESTA project – “is that with two different projects, FORESTA and PRO IDEAL PLUS, we are targeting two highly complementary dimensions of EU-Latin American policy dialogue”.

“The colleagues of PRO IDEAL PLUS are concentrating more on the political component of the work to be done, involving for instance the ministries of the target countries and contributing to shape their research priorities. On our side, we are working at transmitting input from and to the scientific communities so that the future

programmes or joint initiatives can be more respondent to the needs of research on both sides”, he added.

“With the new year we will start going into the detail of which themes should be addressed, according to researchers from both regions, in future calls. And more than that, we will also start to work at ways of harmonising efforts from the Latin American side to support joint calls. So far Mexico and Brazil have intensified their activities in the last five year with relatively frequent joint calls.

But in order to make such a system efficient, easy to use for the research communities and potentially extendable to other countries, the national agencies or ministries in charge of funding research have to find the right ways to do this in a coordinated or somehow synchronised manner. This is one of the key challenges ahead and will be the object of a concertation meeting to be held in Brazil in the first semester of 2011”. The event will specifically target support to ICT and will gather the key stakeholders of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Mexico.



Net!Work: new name and brand of the eMobility European Technology Platform

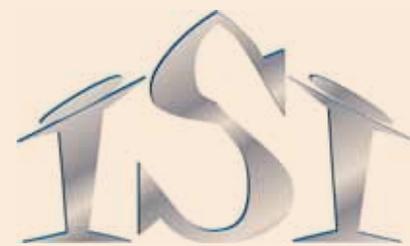
In the ICT sector we have seen many changes in the last years. When eMobility was publicly launched in 2005 this European Technology Platform was mainly looking at mobile and wireless communications with a focus on the lower layers. With upcoming broadband communications fixed and mobile systems are more and more cooperating and converging. Therefore, eMobility is currently establishing a closer cooperation with the Photonics21 ETP, because optical communication will provide the backbone for broadband mobile systems.

ICT will increasingly be used as a key enabler for other industry sectors and areas of our society. eMobility will contribute to societal challenges like energy, climate change, transport, health and the demographic challenge. In particular in the area of electro mobility (electrical cars) the term “eMobility” is increasingly being used in a different context. Therefore, the eMobility ETP will not only change its name to Net!Works, it will also change its corporate identity and appearance in order to reflect the convergence of fixed and mobile systems

as well as to distinguish the area from electro mobility. The EU Commission has announced the new name in its Future Networks newsletter. The platform will introduce new messages and the new brand of Net!Works in the Future Internet week in Ghent from December 13 to 17, 2010.

Uwe Herzog
eMobility Secretariat





AN INSIGHT OF THE ISI ETP

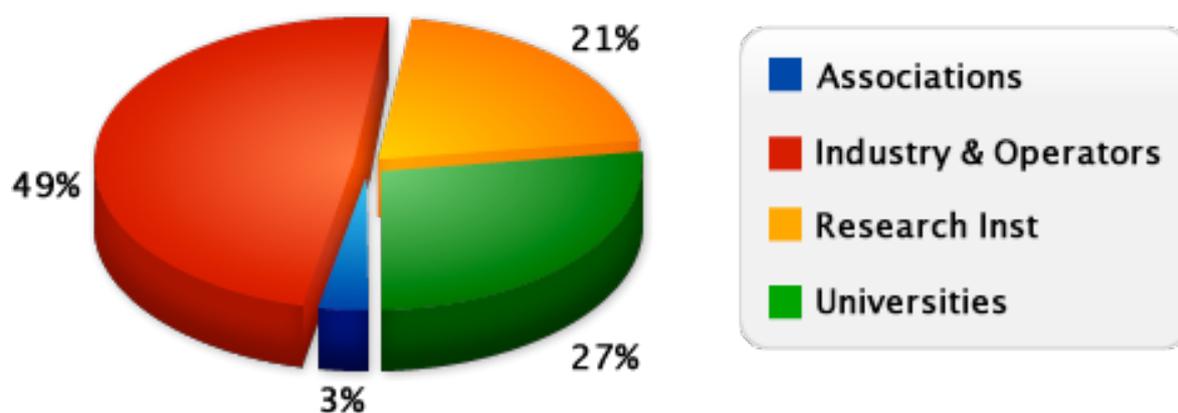
The European Technology Platform specialized on research and innovation in the Satellite Communication technologies

The Integral Satcom Initiative (ISI) is an industry-led action forum designed to bring together all aspects related to satellite communications. ISI addresses broadcasting, broadband, and mobile satellite communications, as well as

their convergence, in integration within the global telecommunication network infrastructure.

ISI is an open platform, whose membership embraces all relevant and interested private and public stakeholders

from Satellite Communications (SatCom) and Space sector in Europe. Currently ISI involves more than 180 member organizations from 29 Countries. The ISI Participation by Organization Type is shown in the figure below:



Activities of ISI

The ISI European Technology Platform activities deal with and address together all research, technology and innovation aspects related to satellite communications, including mobile, broadband, and broadcasting applications. ISI intends to collaborate and cooperate with the European Commission, the European Space Agency (ESA), the EU and ESA Member States and Associated States, the National Space

Agencies, International Organizations, User fora, and other European Technology Platforms.

ISI works towards the convergence and integration of satellite and terrestrial networks, both fixed and mobile, considering all interworking and interoperability aspects. ISI supports the development of applications and services according to a user-centric approach, to enable all citizens to become full members of the knowledge-based society.

ISI addresses the integration of satellite communications with navigation, Earth observation, and Air Traffic Management systems. Specific attention is devoted to Galileo and GMES. Data relay systems and the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles are in the scope of ISI, as well. ISI shall be instrumental in achieving and maintaining European leadership and competitiveness in all of the above fields, fostering the entire industrial sector, and maximising the value of related research and technology development. ISI

embodies the critical mass required to pursue the above objectives considering short term priorities, medium-term evolutions, and long-term strategic directions.

ISI contributes to the harmonization of the European and International regulatory framework for satellite communications, helping in the removal of barriers. ISI works for the allocation of sufficient spectrum for all satellite communication applications and services. In this regard, ISI promotes open standards and international standardization approaches.

A SatCom perspective of the Future Internet

ISI foresees a future Internet where access to network capacity and services is available “anywhere-anytime”, and where it becomes a fundamental service that communities use and rely upon. Satellite systems can improve the provision of ubiquitous connectivity allowing the connection of dispersed networks. In addition, Future Internet must be capable of assisting society in emergency situations. In this context, Future

Internet needs to support emergency services: VoIP replacing telephone services, emergency communications among rescue units, tracking and location information, data dissemination, etc. Therefore, Future Internet demands an alternative to the existing terrestrial communication infrastructures. In addition, interoperability and Internetworking are key issues and this means that the Future Internet will have to support multiple services on IP networks employing different technologies. ISI community supports the seamless service provision across different networks.

ISI Projects Endorsement Procedure: a first step for cooperation between FIRST and ISI

ISI Technology Platform has established since 2007 a procedure to grant an endorsement to those projects and activities which are relevant to ISI Vision

and Strategic Research Agenda (SRA).

The ISI Endorsement to a group of projects serves to monitor the ISI SRA implementation progress, to provide useful feedbacks to funding Organizations for the preparation of new Work Programmes and calls, and to maximize the efficiency of funded RTD activities through coordination. ISI projects endorsement also allow exploiting synergies between different projects and at the same time minimizing potential overlaps.

Cooperation between FIRST and ISI ETP could be positive and beneficial for both. ISI experts could share their experiences within the ETP, so that LATPs can learn the good practices for a successful constituency. On the other hand, FIRST project can offer ISI ETP an opportunity to broaden its activities expanding its audience to the Latin America region.

Author:
Sara Muñoz
ROSE Vision
ISI ETP Secretariat

EU-Latin America ICT Research Cooperation Projects' Common Entry Page



First

FIRST aims to further improve cooperation between Europe and Latin America focusing on the field of Future Internet, ICT components and systems. The central goal of the project is to adapt the successful concept of European Technology Platforms (ETPs) to the Latin American Region, and launch 5 Technology Platforms focused on Future Internet, in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Mexico, bringing cooperation between Europe and Latin America in the ICT R&D field to a new level.



PRO-IDEAL

PRO-IDEAL and PRO-IDEAL PLUS promote the ICT dialogue and support the ICT R&D cooperation between Europe and Latin America through on-line tools (ICT Wiki, training modules, partner search) and face-to-face events (ICT Days and ICT Fora). Furthermore, local "Project Angels" are trained to create a sustainable support network in Latin American countries..



FORESTA

FORESTA The project aims to promote research cooperation between the European Community and Latin America (EU-LA) in terms of Information Technology to identify research opportunities between communities and examine the IT policies in each country to identify the main future complications for researchers (and how to make best use of instruments of support among the communities to avoid such complications).

<http://www.lac-ictgateway.eu/>



Rose

Rose Vision, S.L
<http://www.rose.es/>
Spain



TECNOLÓGICO
DE MONTERREY.

Instituto Tecnológico
y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey
<http://www.itesm.mx>
Mexico



EURESCOM

Eurescom – European Institute for Research and
Strategic Studies in Telecommunications GMBH
<http://www.eurescom.eu>
Germany



CINTEL
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ALETI

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For more information, please visit www.latin-american-technology-platforms.eu