

First

Implementing cooperation on Future Internet and ICT Components between Europe and Latin America

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| Abstract | This document provides a summary of all activities performed in WP2 (Strategic Analysis) and fully developed in D2.1 and D2.2. WP2 has achieved its mission of providing all the necessary strategic indications on the actors to be involved and areas to be covered for the creation of the Latin American national Technology Platforms. The operational deployment of these will now be accompanied by activities foreseen in WP3 (Creation, Launch and Support to the Latin American Technology Platforms). |
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Executive Summary

Work performed under WP2 had the function of exploring areas of interest, within the scientific and research communities of five Latin American countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Mexico) towards the setting up of Technology Platforms in domains that are relevant to research underpinning the so called “Future Internet”. This activity had to deliver clear indications both on the interest and on the priorities of Latin American countries in working together with European counterparts. More than that, it had to provide also clear indications on which stakeholders from the five target countries would be ready to engage into the setting up of the Latin American TPs and make them operational. At the end of this preliminary phase of the FIRST project, it can be concluded that such expected results were successfully achieved, thus making it possible to fully deploy the other activities foreseen by the project (which, needless to say, are based on input from this preliminary analysis).

In a few words, the results of WP2 (Strategic analysis of potential areas for cooperation, and identification of key stakeholders) can be summarized as follows:

- a) A methodology has been established to run a comprehensive survey in the research and industrial communities of the five target countries, on their interest to contribute to the establishment of TPs in their own countries and region.
- b) A large investigation has been carried out by the local partners of the FIRST project (ALETI for Argentina and Chile, USP for Brazil, ITESM for Mexico, CINTEL for Colombia) with the main stakeholders of Future Internet relevant research in their countries.
- c) A large community of organizations (industrial, academic, small companies, governmental and associations) has been identified that has expressed not only interest, but also willingness to be involved and to become “parts of the TP engine” in Latin America.
- d) For each target country, the initial proposal has been done concerning the structure, membership and inclusion in the Steering Board of each national TP.

Such results make it possible for the project to proceed on to other activities that are more closely related to the Technology Platforms’ work on research themes and to the development of their cooperation with European partners.

As a follow up to the preliminary analysis performed in WP2, the scientific and research communities of the target countries are finalizing the establishment of Technology Platforms structured into working groups corresponding to the Future Internet relevant areas. A working group that corresponds to an important ICT theme for the EU, though not addressed by a specific ETP, is e-health, which is now in the process of being created within the Mexican TP.

1. Introduction and Composition of the Deliverable

This document summarises the work performed under WP2 in the first phase of the project (6 months) and expressed in two deliverables, D2.1 (Set of 5 country reports highlighting major findings and relevant aspects towards the establishment of a national LATP in each country) and D2.2 (LATP Country Matrix).

It provides a description on when and how work was performed in relation to the four points listed in the Executive Summary. Thus the following sections reflect those main phases of work, from methodology establishment to the investigation, to the identification of stakeholders and the proposal made in D2.2 about the initial structure and roles within each Technology Platform.

2. The Methodology

Coherently with the Description of Work, the idea was to devise a mechanism that would lead to the setting up of national Technology Platforms, each dealing at large with Future Internet themes. Unlike European TPs, the Latin American ones would not characterise themselves by an exclusive focus on given research areas, but would rather function as comprehensive communities or fora, able to foster cooperation with Europe in a large range of research areas.

However, identifying within each proposed Latin American TP, the main priorities would be a necessary step to clarify specific objectives of each LATP and identify the right counterparts on the European side (eg. European TPs with which cooperation should be established). To do so, the idea was to have, within each Latin American proposed TP, working groups corresponding to the 8 large research themes relevant to the Future Internet. Each Latin American TP would therefore in principle target between three and six working groups corresponding to the European ICT Technology Platforms.

The first need was therefore to clarify in which areas the research and industrial communities would find it more useful to focus their national TP.

The methodology was agreed by the consortium during and in the aftermaths of the Kick-off meeting held in Brussels in January 2010. On the one hand, the mission was to harmonise as much as possible data, so as to make the situation in different countries sufficiently comparable. On the other, it was important to deal with important differences in the research systems of the countries under examination, that determined:

- a) Lack of homogeneous data on their ICT stakeholders.
- b) Differences in terminology and classification of research areas (many typically European segmentations like Embedded Systems are not entirely reflected in the definition of research areas in Latin American countries).

The methodology for the identification of stakeholders in different areas of ICT research was then built on quantitative but also on qualitative indicators (the latter ones emerging essentially from interviews with key representatives of the research communities in the target countries).

The main elements of the methodology are:

Stakeholders identification:

Three categories have been considered as the right combination of interests and roles to ensure a favourable environment to the LATPs.

- **Industrial stakeholders:** Industrial actors currently involved (or likely to be) in research and development work related to the Future Internet.
- **Research stakeholders:** Academic actors (Universities, technology centres and others) currently involved (or likely to be) in research and development work related to the Future Internet.
- **Governmental stakeholders and policy priorities:** Main actors in shaping ICT R&D policies identifying also political priorities in the support of ICT R&D activities.

The Indicators:

The Indicators were meant to allow an assessment of the conditions that every country offers to new research areas and to new forms of collaboration and consultation.

In order to provide a balanced overview related to the three above mentioned components (institutional setting, industry and academia), the indicators were defined and organised in three groups:

Political support:

- ✓ Existence of national or state policies either on ICT globally or on specific R&D areas of ICT.
- ✓ Existence funding mechanisms to support research in those fields.
- ✓ Future plans (through interviews and questionnaires).

Industrial potential:

- ✓ Existence and independence of local Existence of large industries.
- ✓ Existence of research intensive SMEs.
- ✓ Foreign Direct Investment and existence of development centres of multinational corporations.
- ✓ Fields of applications and state of market (potential).
- ✓ Previous participations in FP6-FP7.
- ✓ Number of patents.
- ✓ Commercial cooperation with European industries.

Academic potential:

- ✓ Existence of universities, or research centres or other academic institutions (private or public)

carrying out research activities in the framework of the relevant themes.

- ✓ Number of researchers operating in Future Internet relevant fields.
- ✓ Foreign Direct Investment and existence of development centres of multinational corporations.
- ✓ Previous participations in FP6-FP7.
- ✓ Number of scientific publications.
- ✓ Already existing inter-changes and other cooperation with European academia.

From the definition of such indicators, two different tools were then produced¹, in order to allow the local partners to carry out the investigation in their own countries:

- An excel file with fields broken down by indicator and by research area (corresponding to the 8 covered by the Future Internet related TPs operating in Europe), so that for each research area, values could be assigned to each area from the perspective of different indicators (eg. is the number of researchers in Embedded Systems high, medium or low for a given country?).
- Guidelines for the interviews to be carried out with representative people from the ICT research communities in different countries.

3. The preliminary analysis

The analysis was launched in the second half of February 2010 and run on a local basis by the Latin American partners: ALETI for Argentina and Chile, USP for Brazil, CINTEL for Colombia and ITESM for Mexico. A slow-down in the activities in Chile occurred as an indirect consequence of the earthquake of 27/02/2010 which determined an alteration of the usual cooperation pattern in the academic environment in the weeks following the disaster. However this did not entail any major consequence neither on the work performed nor on the Chilean organisations involved in it.

The data used to compile the excel tools with values related to the quantitative indicators were obtained essentially by desk research and through consultation of reports and other sources of information related to the ICT sector in each country. Other data, of qualitative nature on the overall status of ICT research in the different domains addressed by the Future Internet related Technology Platforms in Europe, were collected essentially through the study of policy documents provided by governmental institutions (Ministries for Research or Telecommunications and National Agencies in charge of funding research). The study of policy documents confirmed that the segmentation of research areas in most Latin American countries is not entirely corresponding to the domains in which ICT research is usually structured in Europe and within the Framework Programme.

The preliminary analysis therefore came across three main sources of difficulties:

- a) In some of the countries under analysis research on Future Internet related matters is still at an embryonic stage and not as structured as in Europe.

¹ Guidelines for the use of those tools were annexed in D2.1 (page 107)

- b) The categorisation of research areas that can collectively be referred to as the Future Internet (at least from the perspective of the EU Framework Programme) is often different from country to country. For instance in many Latin American countries the area of Embedded Systems is usually included within the Microelectronics sector. Such differences often reflect differences in national priorities.
- c) Each country has a different system for collecting and presenting data. While it has been possible to collect most data by categories corresponding to the TPs areas, in some cases, these were not available in a sufficiently dis-aggregated form as it would have been desirable.

The qualitative investigation was also completed by a set of interviews with high profile representatives of ICT research in the five target countries. A total of 148 stakeholders were interviewed on the basis of the guidelines provided in the initial phase of the project with the following distribution per country:

| | |
|-----------|----|
| Argentina | 31 |
| Brazil | 34 |
| Chile | 24 |
| Colombia | 25 |
| Mexico | 34 |

Information gathered both from analysis of policy and other relevant documents at national level and from the interviews, were summarised in the short reports on the national status of ICT research provided at the beginning of each country-related section in D2.1. More specific information related to the status of policy and main actors in each of the eight research domains were then provided in the research-areas specific sections organised around the themes treated by the eight European TPs taken as reference.

The national countries reports were included in D2.1 and structured in three parts:

- 1) Overall description of the ICT research environment of the target country.
- 2) Assessment table per thematic area and per indicator, filled in according to the methodology agreed upon in the first phase of work.
- 3) Summary of information and main conclusion per thematic area.

They were the basis on which D2.2, LAMP Country Matrix, could be elaborated, with the exact identification of the research actors that the FIRST project partners would advice be involved in the launch of the LAMPs.

4. The LATP Matrix and identification of research actors to be involved

Detailed information and listings of organisations proposed for membership and roles within the Steering Councils of the Latin American Technology Platforms are contained in D2.2, which was finalised in the month of August 2010. All the indications given in that period have been confirmed for Argentina, Brazil and Chile. Slight changes have occurred within the Steering Council composition in Colombia, whereas a new Working Group focusing on e-Health has been added in Mexico.

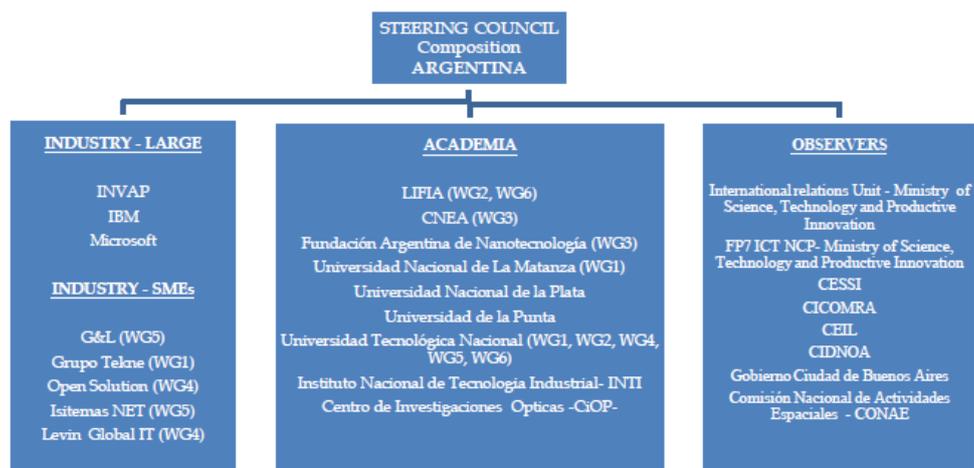
The charts and tables summarise the breakdown of TPs by Working Groups and identify which organisations are in charge of WG management within each TP. Needless to say, Technology Platforms will be dynamic entities in Latin America as they are in the EU and therefore, further changes in their composition structure (either at membership or working group levels) will be accounted for in further FIRST project reports and deliverables.

4.1 ARGENTINA

Working Groups and their coordinators

| WG | ICT Research Area | Proposed Coordinator | Org. Type | Members Number |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------|
| 1 | Embedded Systems | Grupo Tekne | SME | 20 |
| 2 | Networked Electronic Media | LIFIA ² | RC | 14 |
| 3 | Nanoelectronics | FAN ³ | RC | 10 |
| 4 | Smart Systems | Open Solution | SME | 16 |
| 5 | Software and Services | G&L | SME | 32 |
| 6 | Mobile and Wireless Communication | LIFIA | RC | 9 |
| AR - TOTAL MEMBERSHIP FUTURE INTERNET TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM | | | | 61 |

Proposed TP Structure



² Laboratorio de Investigación y Formación de Informática Avanzada

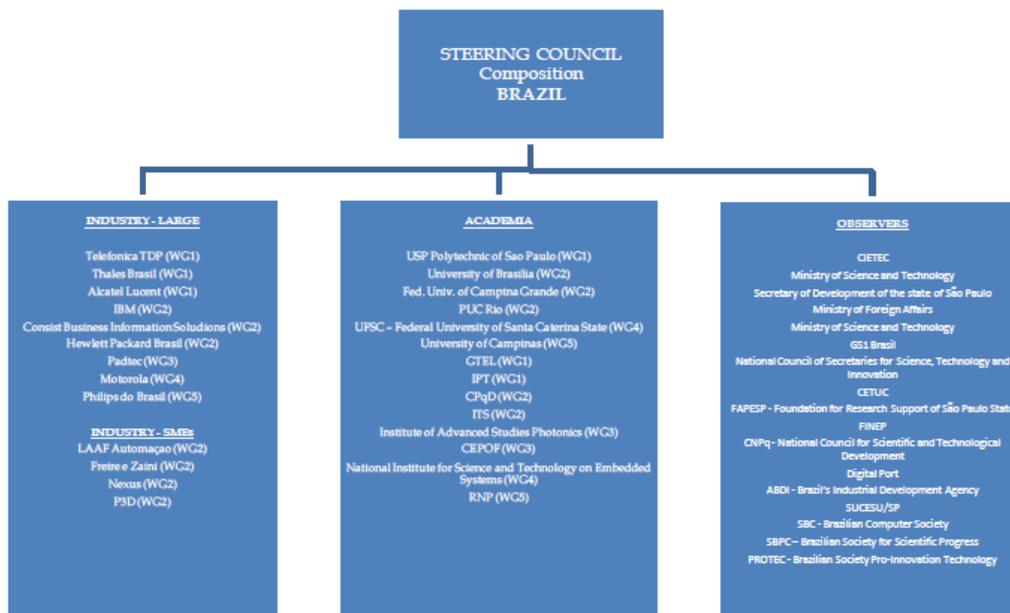
³ Fundación Argentina de Nanotecnología

4.2 BRAZIL

Working Groups and their coordinators

| WG | ICT Research Area | Proposed Coordinator | Org. Type | Members Number |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|-----------|----------------|
| 1 | Mobile and Wireless Communication | Polytechnic School Un. Sao Paulo | Univ. | 17 |
| 2 | Software and Services | University of Brasilia | Univ. | 24 |
| 3 | Photonics | Institute of Advanced Studies- Photonics | RC | 10 |
| 4 | Embedded Systems | National Institute for Science and Technology on Embedded Systems | RC | 7 |
| 5 | Networked Electronic Media | University of Campinas | Univ. | 7 |
| BR - TOTAL MEMBERSHIP FUTURE INTERNET TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM | | | | 54 |

Proposed TP Structure

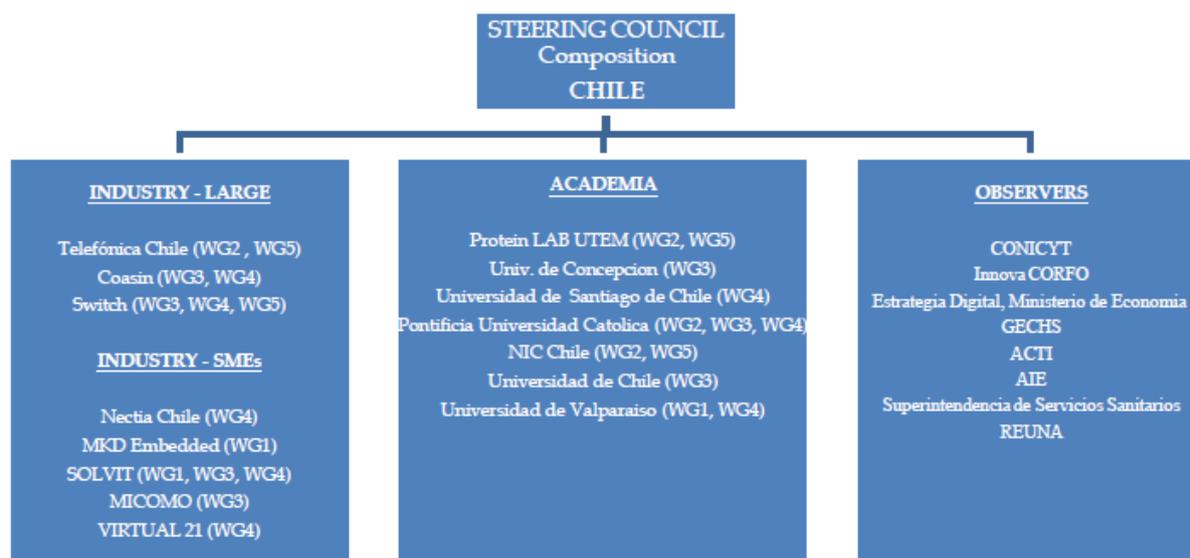


4.3 CHILE

Working Groups and their coordinators

| WG | ICT Research Area | Proposed Coordinator | Org. Type | Members Number |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| 1 | Embedded Systems | MKD Embedded, | SME - | 12 |
| 2 | Networked Electronic Media | ProteinLab UTEM ⁴ | RC | 13 |
| 3 | Smart Systems | University of Concepcion | Univ. | 12 |
| 4 | Software and Services | Universidad de Santiago | Univ. | 29 |
| 5 | Mobile and Wireless Communication | ProteinLab – UTEM | RC | 10 |
| CL - TOTAL MEMBERSHIP FUTURE INTERNET TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM | | | | 42 |

Proposed TP Structure



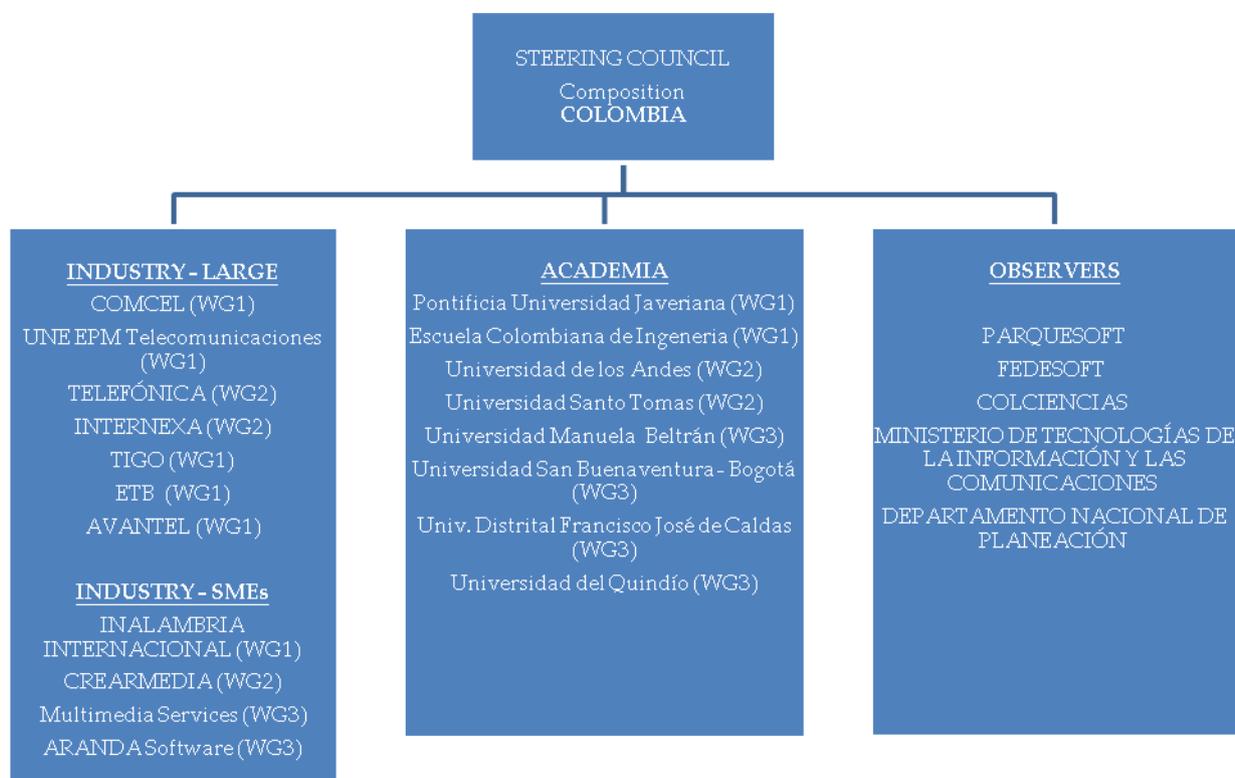
⁴ Universidad Tecnológica Metropolitana

4.4 COLOMBIA

Working Groups and their coordinators

| WG | ICT Research Area | Proposed Coordinator | Org. Type | Members Number |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------|
| 1 | Mobile and Wireless Communication | Comcel | LC | 23 |
| 2 | Networked Electronic Media | Telmex | LC | 19 |
| 3 | Software and Services | Aranda Software | SME | 21 |
| CO - TOTAL MEMBERSHIP FUTURE INTERNET TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM | | | | 59 |

Proposed TP Structure

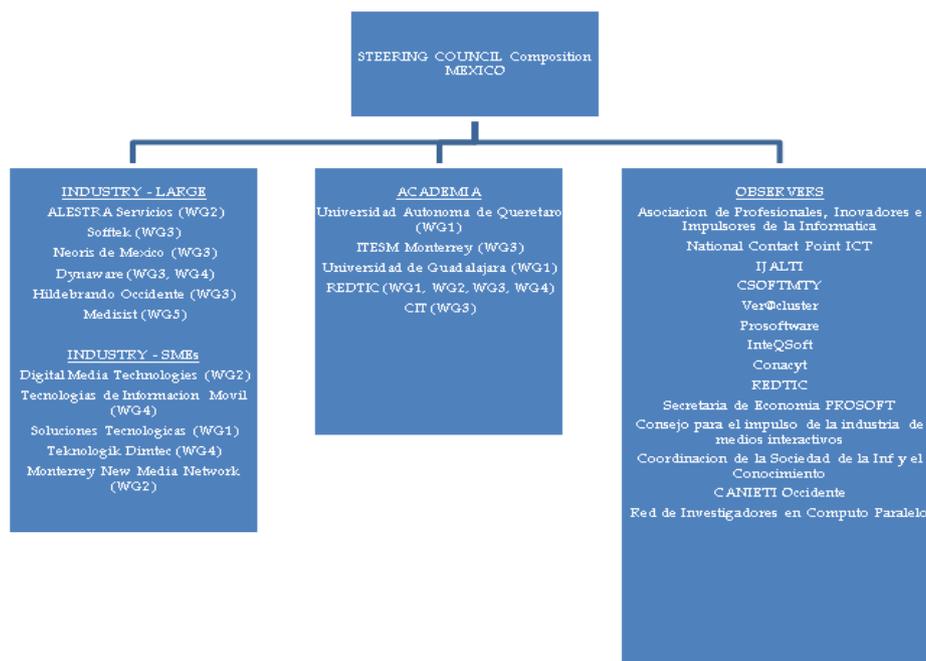


4.5 MEXICO

Working Groups and their coordinators

| WG | ICT Research Area | Proposed Coordinator | Org. Type | Members Number |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| 1 | Embedded Systems | Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro | Univ. | 31 |
| 2 | Networked Electronic Media | Alestra Servicios | LC | 55 |
| 3 | Software and Services | Softtek | LC | 69 |
| 4 | Mobile and Wireless Communication | Dynaware | LC | 59 |
| 5 | e-Health | Medisist | LC | Under definition |
| MX - TOTAL MEMBERSHIP FUTURE INTERNET TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM | | | | 157 |

Proposed TP Structure



5. Updates

This section provides concise information about the follow up given in every targeted country to the work performed under WP2 after the delivery of the LATP matrix, that gives detailed input for the establishment of the national Technology Platforms. It refers essentially to the period August-October 2010.

Indications about the technological orientations (themes on which working groups are established and their composition both at the level of membership and steering councils) obtained in the first phase have basically been confirmed with small adjustments in the membership of the different TPs and some slight changes in the Steering Councils for Colombia and Mexico.

It is interesting to note that in Mexico, the need to focus on the theme of e-health has emerged in a structured manner, and a working group has been proposed to work in this direction. This is the first case, within the five countries covered by FIRST, of a working group that does not necessarily correspond to one of the eight research areas that have constituted the “theoretical” core of the project. It is therefore an example of how it can be expected that national TPs will evolve focussing part of their activities on ICT relevant themes (covered by the ICT programme and Future Internet PPP calls) on which no European Technology Platform is currently operating.

5.1 ARGENTINA

In Argentina the event to present the initial LATP structure, governance and Vision is being coordinated with the Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva (MINCYT) and expected to take place in Buenos Aires at the beginning of December (between the 6th and the 10th). The involvement of MINCYT is a key factor in accelerating the establishment of the Technology Platform in Argentina since it clearly shows endorsement from the government, in addition to interest already shown by the scientific and industrial communities.

As a follow up to the initial stage of collaboration, the proposed members of the Steering Board have established contact with two key players of the Industry: Unión Argentina Industrial (UIA - www.uia.org.ar) and Asociación de Industriales Metalúrgicos de la República Argentina (ADIMRA - www.adimra.org.ar). UIA gathers all the Industries of Argentina and considers ICT a driver to progress and competitiveness. In parallel, ADIMRA gathers metallurgical industries; this association has a section of Innovation that helps Argentine companies to invest in enhancing its processes. ADMIRA considers ICT R&D central to enhance innovation capabilities in its domains, which explains its interest in being associated to the TP.

Though not focusing exclusively on the Argentina TP, dissemination activities have been carried out on the FIRST project. The main ones were the Pro Ideal Event session (http://www.presenciavisual.com/INMARK/JAIIO_PRO-IDEAL_agenda_final.pdf), the University/Industry Partnership Seminar under the title Techsession (<http://www.39jaiio.org.ar/sites/default/files/Programa-JUI-v12.pdf>) and the Cocktail of the Congreso Informática y Telecomunicaciones (www.bicexpo.com.ar). FIRST was also presented at the FP7 ICT Info Day organized by MINCYT (July 22, 2010).

5.2 BRAZIL

The Brazilian TP should be confirmed in its originally proposed structure and distribution of roles (see D2.2 and summary of TP steering board council under section 4.2 of the present document). Progress is expected in terms of enhanced visibility to the national research and industrial communities.

A first workshop was held on Sep 16, 2010 at USP, where the project FIRST and the initial concepts of Technology Platforms and Steering Council were presented to an audience of roughly 30 representatives of ICT research entities and companies mostly located in the state of Sao Paulo.

A dissemination session of the project FIRST was also held on Oct 14, 2010 during the Session 24 (EU-Brazil Joint Call ICT 2011 presentation) at the WPMC 2010 - International Symposium on Wireless Personal Multimedia Communications in Recife city.

The next step will be the 2nd Workshop on Nov 18, 2010 at USP, where the Technology Platforms concept will continue to be explained to the ICT community in Brazil with expected participation also from other regions within the country.

5.3 CHILE

Chile will celebrate the TP launch event on December 1st. The coordination of this event is being managed in cooperation between CONICYT (the National Council of Science and Technology) and the TP proposed leaders: Mr. Luis Stein (Virtual21) and Mr. Hector Torres (ProteinLab Utem).

The event will present the initial Chilean TP structure, governance and Vision, to clarify all the issues regarding its scope and will aim at creating consensus around the future actions such as SRA discussion meetings, or the formal name of the TP and its cooperation procedures with other European or Latin American TPs.

A contact to all members has been established in order to obtain and consolidate their positions and to clear doubts. Among the first feedback from contacts with the members, it appears that many of them are interested in learning about ETPs and their members' experience. Therefore, a possible activity (in a form to be chosen, probably a workshop) is having the testimony from ETPs organizations.

Another important progress is the contact established with Colegio de Ingenieros de Chile, in particular with its Informatics and Computation Commission, which has currently 10.000 members.

5.4 COLOMBIA

After the first elaboration of the Colombian TP matrix, the interest by the industry in participating actively in the Colombian platform has been increasing, in particular, significant interest has emerged from large enterprises. Three additional companies to the ones previously identified (COMCEL, UNE, INTERNEXA, TELEFONICA TELECOM), that were not identified at the stage of the matrix elaboration, are being proposed by CINTEL to join the Steering Council: TIGO, ETB and AVANTEL.

Changes have also occurred among the SMEs and research organisations (universities and research centres) proposed to become members of the Steering Council, due to their interest and active participation in internal meetings and private interviews held during the last months. For instance, INALAMBRIA INTERNACIONAL, an SME, the Universidad del Quindío, a public university and the Universidad Manuela Beltrán are proposed to join the Steering Council. The participation of other SMEs

in the Steering Council is still to be confirmed and, although they have been proposed, they are not included in the revised chart below.

A wide consensus seems to have been reached on the name of Colombian Technology Platform, reflecting its mission to act as a community that gathers Colombian representatives from the Industry and the Academia in order to foster and promote a coherent approach of R&D&I activities towards the development of Future Internet in Colombia. This community is proposed to be named RECIIF, a collaborative network for R&D&I in Future Internet in Colombia (*Red de colaboración para la I+D+i en Internet del Futuro*).

In the months to come, RECIIF and the project FIRST will organize the second national event, in order to present the TP structure, governance and vision of the platform to the initial Steering Council members and other relevant stakeholders such as R&D supporters and make an Open call to the registration of new members. In addition, virtual meetings will be held by the Steering Council in order to define R&D&I priorities and start establishing a Colombian Strategic Research Agenda.

5.5 MEXICO

Mexico has done relevant progress in following up to the matrix elaboration to set up the basis of its Technology Platform, with secretariat to be managed by ITESM Monterrey and participation as observers of the Technology and Science National Council (CONACYT), the National Chamber for Information Technology and Telecommunications and Electronic Industry (CANIETI), the Economy Ministry (SE), the Transport and Communication Ministry and the ICT NCP. The scientific committee will be managed by the Information and Technology Research National Network (REDTIC) with connections to all Working Groups, which will in covers areas related to Networked Electronic Media (led by DIMTEC), Software and Services (SOFTTEK and BIQ will share leadership of the WG), Embedded Systems (Soluciones Tecnológicas), eMobility (DEXTRA Technologies, Moviquity Mexico, Tecnologías de Información Móvil).

As a further development of preliminary work, the Mexican scientific community has opted for the creation of a Working Group devoted to eHealth, perceived as a key research challenge that cuts across domains covered by the other working groups. The working group will be coordinated by MEDISIST. Membership and internal roles will be defined in the coming weeks. Interestingly, as of now in Europe there is no eHealth TP.

An online tool is being used to keep track of contacts taken and interest to or subscription to the Mexican TP at: <http://www.mediaweb-site.in/registro2010/>

Several workshops, meetings and presentation sessions have accompanied the setting up of the Technology Platform (Conference at B3 Forum BroadBand for Business-ExpoComm on the 23-25 February, Mexico City, Conference at Internet User day organized by Latino-American Institute of Digital Culture (LCUD) on May 24th, 2010 in Mexico City, the first FIRST project National Event on the 10th of June 2010.

Different meetings have been held during the consolidation phase of membership of the Mexican TP, mainly in July 2010 in the States of Jalisco, Queretaro, Veracruz and Mexico City. The second FIRST Event to establish the TP Steering Council will take place in Pachuca on the 9th November.

6. Conclusions

Work-Package 2 has laid the basis for the establishment of solid Technology Platforms in the five target countries. Although the process of obtaining expressions of interest towards membership in the proposed TPs or even in coordination roles within their Steering Council has been sometimes difficult, due to the lack of knowledge, in the local communities of the ETP mechanism, the response has finally been very positive.

As well as the figures, which confirm that in each country there is a core of industrial and academic organisations willing to get organised and to intensify cooperation with Europe, an important element of consolidation of the FIRST initiative, is the endorsement that at different degrees is granted by the governments. It is encouraging to see that in the “Observers” box of the Steering Council charts shown in the previous pages, every country features national public agencies in charge of support to research and to the development of an ICT based knowledge society. In countries where the importance of public policies and governmental orientation is particularly relevant, this should be interpreted as a good sign.

The activities in the target countries are now progressing from the form (how to structure TPs and which areas of activities to focus on) to the content with the first plenary sessions and working groups meetings. Participation from the local constituencies is at the moment either in line or even slightly above expectations. Thanks also to the massive participation of Latin American representatives to the ICT Event 2010, the momentum is there, to consolidate and launch the LATPs in their truly operational phase on research projects.

Updates about the memberships dynamics and compositions of the working groups, as well as on their activities will be provided in further reports and deliverables of the FIRST project.