D3.3/University of Canterbury – 2nd Asia-Pacific Workshop in New Zealand Report

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Document Number	D3.3/University of Canterbury
Document Title	EURASIAPAC 2nd Asia-Pacific Workshop in New Zealand Report
Version	2.0
Status	Working
Deliverable Type	Report
Contractual Date of Delivery	DD.MM.YYYY
Actual Date of Delivery	01.06.2011
Contributors	University of Canterbury
Keyword List	UC, New Zealand, Workshop
Dissemination level	PU

Change History

Version	Date	Status	Author (Partner)	Description
1.0	28.02.11		Christoph Bartneck	Created
2.0	01.06.11		Christoph Bartneck	Update

1. Section 1: Introduction

The University of Canterbury organized the EURASIAPAC workshop on February 18th at the Royal Society of New Zealand in Wellington. We strongly collaborated with the New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE), the New Zealand Information and Communication Technologies Group (NZICT), and the New Zealand Square Kilometer Array Industry Consortium (NZSKAIC). Together we decided to host a shared event since there was clear synergies between the framework of the EURASIAPAC project and the SKA objectives. The EURASIAPAC workshop could provide information about collaboration between NZ and EU and the SKA is an advanced project that builds upon such collaboration.

2. Workshop Objectives

The goal of the workshop was to bring together academics and professional in the ICT area to discuss the ICT strategy in New Zealand and the EU with government representative and relevant organizations.

Figure 1: Speaker at the event.

3. Programme

We put together an exciting program that focuses on the collaboration opportunities for ICT researchers in New Zealand and in the EU. The full program is available below:

EURASIAPAC

WWW.EURASIAPAC-FP7.EU

Agenda – 2nd Asia-Pacific Workshop in New Zealand

February 18, 2011

Organized by the EURASIAPAC project and hosted by University of Canterbury

Venue: The Royal Society of New Zealand in Wellington – New Zealand

Registration: fill in the registration form

Event objectives: see the webpage

Useful information: General tourist information about Wellington, Information on transport in Wellington

Friday, February 18

8:30	*Registration*
9:00	**High level welcome**

Kay Matzner, Project Coordinator, Fraunhofer Gesellschaft

Dr. Christoph Bartneck, University of Canterbury

Prue Williams, Chief Science Advisor International, MSI

George Cunningham , Charge d'Affaires for the EU

9:45 **Research opportunities for collaborative research in Germany**

His Excellency Mr Thomas Meister, German Ambassador

10:00 **Research opportunities for collaborative research in Spain**

His Excellency Mr Marcos Gómez, Spain Ambassador

10:15 **New Zealand's policy and the opportunities from Europe**

Rick Petersen

10:30	*Morning Tea*
11:00	**Specific Topic Presentations**

11:00 **NZ ICT Opportunities**

Brett O'Riley, CEO of NZICT Group

11:15 **Results of NZ ICT research survey**

Dr. Christoph Bartneck, University of Canterbury
Christoph_Bartneck.pdf

11:30 **Results of the NZ ICT academia survey**

Erich Prem , Project coordinator, SECAS project
Erich_Prem.pdf

11:45 **FP7 Opportunities in Digital Content**

Mark Billinghurst, Professor, University of Canterbury
Mark_Billinghurst.pdf

12:10 **International Robotics Research at Auckland University**

Dr. Burkhard Wuensche, University of Auckland
Burkhard_Wuensche.pdf

12:30	*Lunch*
13:30	**Collaboration Frameworks**

13:30 **International Partnership for Innovative ICT in Research and Education**

Julie Watson, eResearch Advisor, Ministry of Research Science and Technology (MoRST), New Zealand
Julie_Watson.pdf

13:45	**Introduction to general Framework 7 research opportunities**
	Kay Matzner, Project Coordinator, Fraunhofer Gesellschaft
	Kay___Matzner.pdf
14:00	**Presentation of FRENZ project**
	Carole Glynn, Director, FRENZ project
	Carole_Glynn.pdf
14:15	**Presentation of Access4EU initiative**
	Jason Gush
	Jason_Gush.pdf
14:30	*Afternoon Tea*
15:00	**Square Kilometer Array (SKA) and FP7**
	John Houlker, Strategic Initiatives Manager, New Zealand Trade & Enterprise
	John_Houlker.pdf
16:00	SKA Industry Briefing
18:00	*New Zealand Wine Tasting (co-hosted by NZICT)*

New Zealand

4. Promotion

The key to the promotion success lays in the usage of online media and established communication channels in New Zealand. We actively promoted the event through our professional network in and outside of New Zealand. Over 250 NZ ICT companies were specifically invited. In addition, we strongly collaborated with the New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE), the New Zealand Information and Communication Technologies Group (NZICT), and the New Zealand Square Kilometer Array Industry Consortium (NZSKAIC).. These organizations included the invitation to he workshop in their regular media channels. We also collaborated with the SKA event, which was held just the day before in Wellington. Many of the participants stayed on to our workshop and a dedicated SKA session later in the day.

5. Audience

We implemented a shared registration system and the registrations show that many visitors to the event decided to attend all sessions. In total, 75 people registered for the event and the predominately came from NZ (70). The workshop brought together academics and practitioners in the field of ICT. In addition, a considerable number of members of associations and government organizations joined the event.
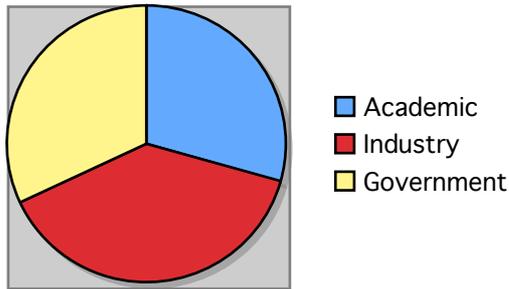
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■ Academic
■ Industry
■ Government

Figure 2: Distribution of participant across organization types

6.   Event Outputs

Prue Williams, Chief Science Advisor International (MSI) gave an excellent overview of the NZ government strategies and programs that promote collaboration and the ambassador of Germany and Spain highlighted their national efforts for collaboration with NZ. The presentations from ACESS4EU and FRENDZ highlighted existing support structures that allow researchers to find partners and start the collaboration process.

Erich Prem and Christoph Bartneck presented empirical data about the ICT landscape to supplement the presented policies. Professor Mark Billinghurst and Dr. Burkhard Wuensche demonstrated successful case studies of international projects and shared hands on experiences with their processes.

July Watson (eResearch Advisor, Ministry of Research Science and Technology - MoRST) and Brett O'Riley (CEO NZICT) gave an introduction to the visions and policies of their organizations concerning ICT in New Zealand and their impact on the NZ economy. John Houlker provided an introduction to the SKA project and he highlighted the importance of this large-scale endeavor for the NZ ICT companies and universities.

After completing the dedicated SKA session, a shared social event was organized that allowed all participants to build personal connections and to discuss concrete issues in more detail.

Figure 3: Participants in the workshop

7.   Conclusions and lessons learnt

Informal feedback from the participants revealed a high satisfaction with the event and many attendants were grateful to gain concentrated information about collaboration opportunities, potential partners and funding streams. The lively discussions at the event showed a strong engagement and the highly qualified speakers and participants were able to open a direct channel of communication.

All presentations of the day were collected and all presentations were recorded on video and published on the EURASIAPAC's dedicated YouTube channel. This dissemination helps to inform interested parties that were not able to travel to NZ.