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V1	29/10/2010	Draft	Elli B. Tzatzanis-Stepanovic
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Executive summary

Link2US deliverable 3.4, Workshop Reports, highlights three organised workshops on U.S. research and innovation programmes. These reports aim to provide insight into the awareness raising activities for European researchers on funding possibilities provided by U.S. research, along with innovation programmes for European-based scientists and organisations.

The first networking session took place within the framework of the *ICT 2010: Digitally Driven* Conference in Brussels on 28 September 2010. The BILAT-USA and Link2US projects were introduced, along with their new platform for enhancing EU-U.S. science and technology (S&T) cooperation within the EU Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). The Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG), the Europe Office of the National Science Foundation (NSF) as well as DG Research from the European Commission agreed with representatives from two FP7 ICT research projects, that for significant progress in S&T international cooperation and agreement between Europe and the U.S. is crucial.



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1.1 Workshop 1

1.1.1 Background information

On the premises of the *ICT 2010: Digitally Driven* conference, hosted by the Belgian Presidency of the European Union (EU), at Brussels Expo from 27 to 29 September 2010, Link2US organised a workshop entitled “A new platform for enhancing EU-U.S. science and technology (S&T) cooperation within the EU Seventh Framework Programme (FP7), projects BILAT-USA and Link2US” on 28 September 2010. *ICT 2010* was organised by the European Commission's (EC) Directorate-General for Information Society and Media as major biannual conference in the field of ICT. During the event, the EC presented its research priorities for the €2.8 billion of ICT research funding to be provided in 2011-2012, offering dozens of networking opportunities where researchers, potential business partners, and investors could meet. The event showcased over 100 exhibits of the latest advances in digital technologies funded by the EU. Since ICT is one of the most important S&T fields between the EU and the U.S, the *ICT 2010* Conference was an important opportunity to raise awareness within the ICT community on the U.S. cooperative funding programmes and other project findings.

1.1.2 Activity details

Both projects, BILAT-USA and Link2US, and the online platform were presented, including introducing the reports and documents currently available online, such as the

- Report on U.S. Funding Programmes open to European Researchers,
- List of FP7 Calls targeting cooperation with the U.S., and
- Report on Analysis of S&T Agreements between the U.S. and the EU27, Member States and Associated Countries.

Tarik Meziani (DG Research, European Commission) outlined the motives and improvement measures for boosting EU-US S&T cooperation. Meziani stated that Implementing Arrangements (IA) between the EC and 4 U.S. S&T Agencies have been signed and that research cooperation under these IA will be funded by each party involved.

Manfred Halver (ICT department, FFG) gave an insight into statistics of FP6 and FP7 ICT research funding projects. Most relevant result included that the U.S. was and remains to be the most important research collaboration partner for European ICT researchers in FP6 and FP7, with more U.S. companies participating than number of ICT projects in FP6 and FP7.

David Stonner (Europe Office of NSF, the National Science Foundation) highlighted very expressively the U.S. collaborative funding schemes by NSF but also the hurdles European researchers face when seeking for US funding! When talking about funding sources for Europeans by U.S. agencies he referred to the Report on “U.S. Funding Programmes open to European Researchers”, elaborated by the Link2US project.



The session was brought to an end by introducing 2 ICT research projects, collaborating with U.S. research partners. Horst Karl Hahn introduced the EU-project HAMAM working with leading scientists, clinicians and IT experts in Europe and the U.S. in the field of image-based breast cancer diagnoses. Daniele Binosi presented the EU project AQUTE performing international research in the area of atomic quantum technologies.

About 40 researchers and/or potential business partners were present, of which only 2 were collaborating with U.S. partners already.

Conclusions

What all the presentations had in common is the finding that S&T collaboration between Europe and the U.S. is essential for making considerable improvements. Both partners of the introduced research projects outlined that the research in question would not have been possible without the U.S. partner.

After a question from the audience whether the funding of U.S. researchers under FP7 would become easier, Tarik Meziani added that the European Commission was working on further “Implementing Arrangements”(IA) between the EC and U.S. S&T Agencies in other research fields, assuring research funding from both sides involved.

The problem of delayed funding from the EC compared to U.S. funding was mentioned from the audience. Suggestions were not for enhancing this situation of long periods between project proposal acceptance and project start, and in particular project funding.

Event agendas

Workshop 1



ICT2010 Networking session

28 September 2010

Room T 012

**A new platform is enhancing EU-US S&T cooperation within the EU FP7 projects
BILAT-USA and Link2US**

14:00 – 14:05	Session Introduction Elli Tzatzanis-Stepanovic FFG-Austrian Research Promotion Agency
14:05 – 14:15	BILAT-USA and Link2US project presentation Ralf König FFG-Austrian Research Promotion Agency
14:15 – 14:30	Why boosting EU-US S&T cooperation? Tarik Meziani European Commission DG Research
14:30 – 14:45	EU-US FP7 cooperation in the field of ICT Manfred Halver FFG-Austrian Research Promotion Agency
14:45 – 15:00	US collaborative funding schemes open for Europeans David Stonner National Science Foundation Europe Office
15:00 – 15:15	EU-US S&T cooperation, best practice project example #1 Horst Karl Hahn HAMAM FP7-ICT-2007 project
15:15 – 15:30	EU-US S&T cooperation, best practice project example #2 Daniele Binosi AQUITE FP7-ICT-2009 project

Session Moderation: Ralf König | FFG-Austrian Research Promotion Agency



Brussels Expo
27-29 September 2010



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ICT 2010 :: Networking sessions

Welcome, Elli B. TZATZANIS-STEPANOVIC [[Log out](#)]

A new platform is enhancing EU-US S&T cooperation within the EU FP7 projects BILAT-USA and Link2US

T 012, 28/09/2010 (14:00-15:30)

As two global leaders in terms of R&D expenditures the EU and the US have great potential to strengthen bilateral relations and establish strong

partnerships in S&T. This Trans-Atlantic approach will enable the EU and the US to jointly address global challenges and advance knowledge and scientific

understanding by sharing know-how and exchanging experiences.

The BILAT-USA project aims at setting up a Trans- Atlantic dialogue platform between S&T stakeholders in order to facilitate research collaborations.

The Link2US project is mapping opportunities of collaborative funding schemes and participation rules between European and US researchers.

Bilateral S&T cooperation agreements are analysed and European research participation in the US collaborative programs is monitored.

This networking session shall raise awareness and disseminate project findings and information relevant for researchers interested in S&T collaboration with US partners!

[Back to Networking session details](#)

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