

Executive summary

BILAT-USA: Bilateral Coordination for the Enhancement and Development of S&T Partnerships between the European Union and the United States of America

The BILAT-USA project has been set up to establish a bi-regional, sustainable and knowledge based dialogue platform between S&T key players and stakeholders on both sides of the Atlantic at the thematic level, at horizontal level and at the policy level.

Established in a complementary way to the Link2US project, aiming to enhance the awareness and participation of European researchers and research organisations in national research programmes in the United States, BILAT-USA aimed to boost the bilateral S&T relationship under the S&T Cooperation Agreement between the EU and the United States, promoting the participation of U.S. researchers in the European Framework Programme.

BILAT-USA focused on strengthening EU–U.S. S&T cooperation through various awareness raising activities, good practice sharing and effective dissemination actions. It established synergies with other projects and initiatives, in order to identify complementary opportunities and to contribute to the further development of the cooperation between the EU and the U.S.

In the initial phase BILAT-USA was dedicated to establish the whole infrastructure, broaden awareness about the project and its activities, and initiate the first contacts to EU and U.S. authorities. Main focus in the second phase was to deepen the transatlantic dialogue, to promote the last FP7 Calls and to maximise the impact of the portal as major info point for EU-U.S. cooperation activities in S&T.

Main activities were **analyses** on S&T priorities, U.S. participation and obstacles for U.S. participation in the FP, based on an online survey in which 130 FP7 project coordinators and 105 U.S. participants in FP7 projects participated.

Several **events** have been co/organised between 2010 and 2012 on thematic level, on cross-cutting, multidisciplinary level and on policy level, raising awareness on transatlantic S&T cooperation addressing S&T key players, stakeholders and multipliers.

The online portal became the **major info point** for EU-U.S. S&T cooperation activities, providing all relevant transatlantic news and events, reports and studies under <http://www.EuUsScienceTechnology.eu>.

The activities will be taken over by the follow-up project BILAT-USA 2.0 until 2015.

Consortium Members

FFG Austrian Research Promotion Agency (Coordinator for BILAT-USA) Austria www.ffg.at/hip	AAAS American Association for the Advancement of Science (Coordinator for Link2US) USA www.aaas.org	APRE Agenzia per la Promozione della Ricerca Europea Italy www.apre.it	INTRASOFT INTRASOFT International S.A. (only on BILAT-USA) Luxembourg www.intrasoft-intl.com	TETALAP Hungarian Science and Technology Foundation Hungary www.tetalap.hu
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www.EuUsScienceTechnology.eu

BILAT-USA and Link2US Projects are co-funded by the European Union's Capacities Programme on International Cooperation under the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Cooperation.

Summary description of project context and objectives

WP1: Transatlantic Dialogue

WP1 aimed at establishing a sustainable transatlantic dialogue platform to connect all relevant stakeholders to the project, including effective communication and information sharing with authorities of the EU and U.S. as well as with other stakeholders. Focus was given on interactions with other existing collaboration initiatives, networks and projects.

Between October 2009 and September 2012 numerous meetings with representatives of EU and U.S. authorities have been taking place, events have been attended by BILAT-USA partners and discussions have been made between BILAT-USA representatives and EU and U.S. Authorities.

- Inventory of existing thematic task forces/working groups and ERA-Nets
<http://www.eusscienceandtechnology.eu/bilat-usa/inventory.html>
- Inventory based on a project environmental analysis and identification of round 120 major key players and multipliers that may contribute further to the enhancement of EU-U.S. cooperation in S&T
<http://www.eusscienceandtechnology.eu/bilat-usa/key-players.html>
- Report on communication and coordination activities (RE)
- Report on the visits to the European Commission and U.S. Authorities (RE)
- Report on communication and coordination activities with key players, stakeholders and multipliers (RE)
- Organization of the First Policy Forum in Washington D.C. on 13 May 2010 as part of the AAAS Science Policy Forum.
http://www.eusscienceandtechnology.eu/uploads/docs/M2a_PolicyForum1_external.pdf
- Organisation of the Second Science Forum participating at the ESOF1212 conference, in Dublin, Ireland, 11-15 July 2012
<http://www.eusscienceandtechnology.eu/document/show/id/484>

WP2: Analysis of Participation and Monitoring

WP2 was providing in depth analyses to support strategic decisions of the Transatlantic Dialogue Platform in the area of S&T priorities. In the second reporting period the participation of U.S. researchers and research organisations in the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programme (incl. June 2012) was updated and finalised. Furthermore, an online survey was undertaken in September 2011 resulting in a report analysing existing instruments, regulations and obstacles for U.S. participation in the FP.

- Report on S&T Priorities in Public Research in Europe and the U.S.
http://www.eusscienceandtechnology.eu/uploads/docs/M3_PrioritySetting_EUUS_final2_0122010.pdf
- Report on U.S. participation in the Framework Programmes (FP6 and FP7)
<http://www.eusscienceandtechnology.eu/document/show/id/475>
- Report on Existing Instruments, Regulations and Obstacles for U.S. participation in the FP
<http://www.eusscienceandtechnology.eu/news/show?id=269>

WP3: Increase Collaboration and Support for Participation in the FP

WP3 was dedicated to awareness raising and networking activities in order to increase research and technological collaborations between EU and U.S. organizations and technology firms in selected thematic areas. It aimed at sharing experiences and identifying good practices in cross-cutting multidisciplinary issues and building capacities by providing specific support to increase U.S. participation in FP7. The last FP7 Call was very intensively promoted in the U.S. as well as in Europe, by disseminating Info-leaflets about '7 reasons for U.S. researchers to participate in the last FP7 Calls'.

- Organisation of the 'Large Scale Research Infrastructures Symposium' in Rome, Italy, on 1 October 2010, back to back with the EuroRisNet Project Conference
<http://www.euussciencetechnology.eu/home/risymposium>
- Organisation of the 'Innovation and Technology Transfer Symposium' in Vienna, Austria, on 22 March 2011, in cooperation with the Austrian Chamber of Economics, back to back with the MIT Europe Conference 2011 on 'Innovation in a Networked World - Technology, People and Places'
<http://www.euussciencetechnology.eu/home/ittsymposium>
- Organisation of the SFIC Symposium on 'Ways of successful science, technology and innovation cooperation between Europe and the USA', 23-24 April 2012, Vienna, Austria
<http://www.euussciencetechnology.eu/home/sficsymposium>
- Participation at the NORDP Fourth Annual Research Development Conference, contributing with an international session on 'Transatlantic Mobility Without Borders', 21-23 May 2012, Alexandria, Virginia
<http://www.euussciencetechnology.eu/news/show/310>
- Organisation of the Workshop on 'Safe implementation of nanotechnologies', 29-31 May 2012, Grenoble, France
<http://www.euussciencetechnology.eu/news/show?id=319>
- Organisation of the 'Contractual issues and IPR Training Workshop' at the 2011 BIO International Convention, 29 June 2011, Washington DC, USA
<http://www.euussciencetechnology.eu/document/show/id/482>
- Organisation of the 'Technology Transfer Management Workshop', 4 October 2011, Luxembourg
<http://www.euussciencetechnology.eu/news/show/230>
- Report on awareness raising activities (RE)

WP4: Communication and Dissemination

WP4 aimed at establishing the web portal <http://www.EuUsScienceTechnology.eu> as major info point for EU-U.S. cooperation activities in S&T by maximising public awareness and visibility on BILAT-USA and its activities. 165 relevant News and 80 Events, e.g. related to transatlantic S&T cooperation, Horizon 2020 or EC and U.S. funding opportunities have been published on the portal. 11 E-Newsletters and 25 E-Alerts have been sent out to round 1,180 subscribers in the U.S. and in Europe.

➔ E-Newsletters

<http://www.euussciencetechnology.eu/home/newsletter.html>

In addition, several articles, news and press releases have been published in the U.S. as well as in Europe, reaching several thousand of members of the NCURA (National Council of University Research Administrators, USA) Magazine, NORDP (National Organization of Research Development Professionals, USA) News, Euraxess Links USA Newsletter, EARMA Link and the PROJECTS Magazine.

➔ Delivery list of related media (RE)

➔ Press Bulletin

<http://www.euussciencetechnology.eu/document/show/id/483>

WP5: Management

WP5 was assuring efficient, effective and flexible management, communication and documentation through

- Regular communication and information exchange among project partners including the Project Officer (PO)
- Organisation of five project management board meetings (incl. the kick-off meeting on 20 October 2009 in Brussels, Belgium and the final meeting on 20 September 2012 in Washington D.C., U.S.) and a virtual PMB conference to discuss the previous work



consortium

- Submission of deliverables, finalisation of the project activities, and provision of the two Activity and Cost Reports and the Final Report
- ➔ Activity and Cost Report (RE)
- ➔ Final Report (RE)
- ➔ Project Handbook (RE)

progress and work plans for the upcoming 6 month period at task level

- Implementation of a sound administrative and financial management through internal work plans and progress reports
- Coordination of work packages and tasks
- Update of the Project Handbook for the project

