

Overview of the <u>EU-EECA ICT Cluster</u> – SCUBE-ICT project results / achievements

Mr Kostas BOUGIOUKLIS Q-PLAN North Greece SCUBE-ICT project coordinator)









EU-Eastern Europe and Central Asia Gateway on ICT Research and Development EECA Cluster Overview

The Eastern Europe and Central Asia (*EECA*) ICT cluster is an initiative supported by the European Commission under the Information and Communication Technologies Thematic area of the 7th Framework Programme (FP7-ICT).

It aims at enabling the exploration of new opportunities for ICT R&D collaboration among researchers from the EU and the EECA countries.

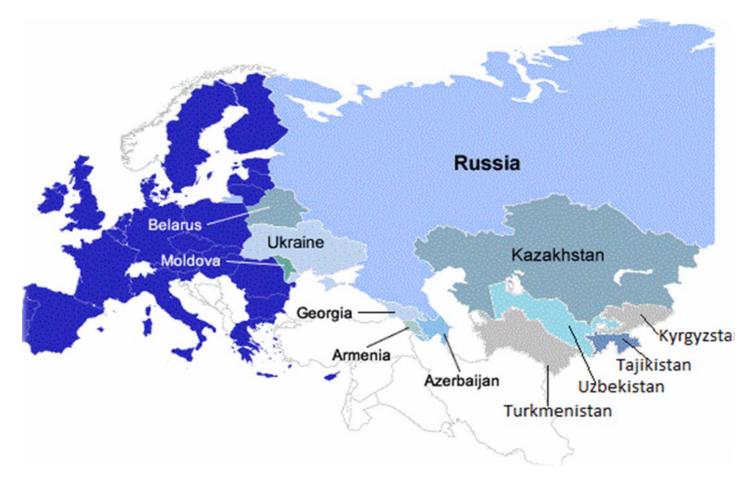
The **EECA cluster** is the joint effort 3 complementary FP7-ICT support actions: ISTOK-SOYUZ, SCUBE-ICT and EXTEND







EECA Cluster target countries







Objective 1

Increase awareness on EU-funded research activities under the FP7-ICT in the EECA region

What we offer?

- ✓ organisation of *info-days and training sessions* in all EECA countries to share insight on emerging opportunities under FP7-ICT
- ✓ setting up a publicly accessible Help Desk to offer guidance and support related to the procedures of participation in FP7-ICT
- ✓ provision of *hands-on support* to EECA researchers towards their involvement in EU-funded projects
- ✓ creation of a web portal acting as an on-line source of relevant information





Objective 2

Improve visibility of ICT R&D teams from EECA countries on the European arena and stimulate collaboration with their EU counterparts

What we offer?

SCUBE

- publicly on-line Creation of a accessible (Competence database **Platform**) for the research promotion of the interests and achievements R&D of prominent ICT organisations and experts
- Organisation of *networking activities* in EU and the EECA countries
- Exploitation of the Cluster partners' wide network of contacts in EU
- ✓ Integration of EECA organisations into relevant European networks
- ✓ Organisation of a promotion-publicity campaign in EU and EECA region





Objective 3

Support the policy dialogue between the EU and EECA countries, contributing to the setting up of joint initiatives, enhancing their ICT R&D collaboration

What we offer?

- The analysis of the ICT research priorities in the EECA countries
- The identification of key ICT areas of mutual interest that may result to substantial socio-economic benefits and impact for all regions
- ✓ The organisation of a series of policy/consultation meetings providing an open discussion forum for the exchange of ideas on future indicative action plan to strengthen collaboration between the EU and the EECA region.





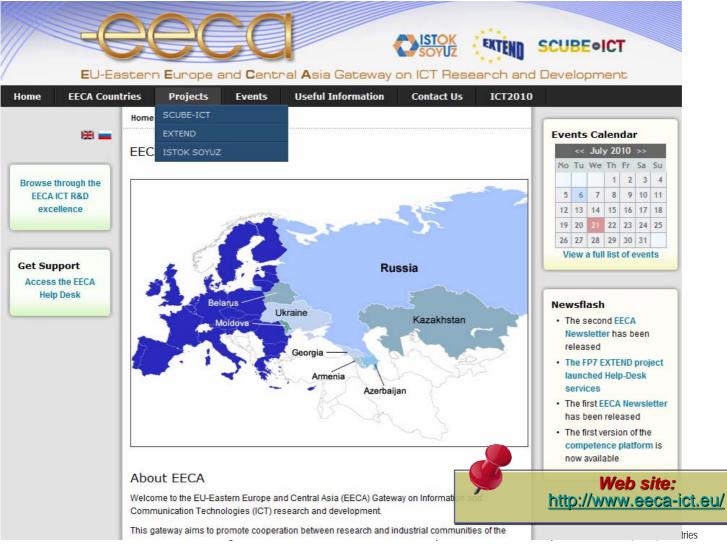






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EU-Eastern Europe and Central Asia Gateway on ICT Research and Development EECA Web portal







EU-Eastern Europe and Central Asia Gateway on ICT Research and Development Competences Platform

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EU-Eastern Europe and Central Asia Gateway on ICT Research and Development Project coordinators

| Project | ISTOK-SOYUZ | SCUBE-ICT | EXTEND |
|---------|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Name | Svetlana KLESSOVA | Kostas BOUGIOUKLIS | Raphael KOUMERI |
| E-mail | s.klessova@inno-group.com | bougiouklis@qplan.gr | rkoum@planet.gr |
| Tel: | +33 4 92 38 84 26 | + 30 2310 411 191 | +30 210 690 5000 |







Svetlana Klessova SOYUZ-ISTOK project coordinator Kostas BOUGIOUKLIS SCUBE-ICT project coordinator Raphael Koumeri EXTEND project coordinator





Contacts per country: Armenia

| Name | Organisation /City |
|--|--|
| Levon Aslanyan Phone / Fax: +374 10 28-44-35 e-mail: lasl@sci.am | Information Society Technologies Center (IST-C), Yerevan |
| Anna Ovakimyan Phone: +374 91 40-51-26 e-mail: <u>ahovakimyan@ysu.am</u> | Yerevan State University (YSU), Yerevan |





Contacts per country: Azerbaijan

| Name | Organisation / City |
|--|---|
| Tofig Babayev Phone: +994 12 430 93 22 Fax: +99412 430 93 19 | Regional Information Technologies Academy (R.I.T.A.), Baku |
| Mob.: +99450 212 59 13 e-mail: <u>tbabayev@bk.ru</u> | |





Contacts per country: Belarus (1)

| Name | Organisation / City |
|--|--|
| Tatyana Lyadnova Phone: + 375 17 203-10-16 Fax: + 375 17 203-31-39 Mob.: + 375 29 335-98-68 e-mail: tlyadnova@fp7-nip.org.by | Belarusian Institute of Systems Analysis and Information Support of Scientific and Technical Sphere (BELISA), Minsk |
| Alexander Uspensky Phone: +375 17 284-14-99, +375 29 611-44-89 e-mail: <u>uspenskiy@mail.ru</u> | Republican Center for Technology Transfer (RCTT), Minsk |





Contacts per country: Belarus (2)

| Name | Organisation / City |
|--|--|
| Vladimir Labunov Phone: +375 17 202-10-05 Mob.: +375 296 555201 e-mail: labunov@bsuir.by scube.uiip@gmail.com | Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics (BSUIR), Minsk |
| Alexei Belotserkovsky Phone: + 375 17 284-21-71 Fax: + 375 17 331-84-03 E-mail: <u>abelotser@newman.bas-net.by</u> <u>scube.uiip@gmail.com</u> | United Institute of Informatics Problems of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus (UIIP- NASB), Minsk |





Contacts per country: Georgia

| Name | Organisation / City |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Givy Kochoradze | Georgian Research and Educational |
| Phone: +995 32 362003 | Networking Association (GRENA), |
| Mob.: + 995 99 292516 | Tbilissi |
| e-mail: <u>gcp@ip.osgf.ge</u> | |

Contacts per country: Kazakhstan

| Name | Organisation / City |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Aiman Kyrbassova | National Innovation Fund (NIF), Astana |
| Phone: +7 (7172) 516 982 (# 242) | |
| e-mail: aiman.kyrbassova@nif.kz | |





Contacts per country: Moldova

| Name | Organisation / City |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Rodica Cujba | Academy of Sciences of Moldova, |
| Phone: (+373 22) 27 41 66 | Chisinau |
| e-mail: <u>rcujba@asm.md</u> | |

Contacts per country: Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

| Name | Organisation / City |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Anton Yanovsky | Russian Technology Transfer |
| Phone: +7 (48439) 9-44-89 | Network, Obninsk, Russia |
| e-mail: <u>a.yanovsky@rttn.ru</u> | |





Contacts per country: Russia

| Name | Organisation / City |
|---|--|
| Gennady Pilnov Phone: +7 (48439) 9-58-56 e-mail: g.pilnov@rttn.ru | Russian Technology Transfer Network, Obninsk |
| Nikolay Pakulin Phone: +7 (495) 912-5659 (# 4443) e-mail: <u>npak@ispras.ru</u> | Institute for System Programming of RAS (ISPRAS), Moscow |





Contacts per country: Ukraine (1)

| Name | Organisation / City |
|---|--|
| Vadim Yashenkov Phone: +380 44 529-03-32 e-mail: fp@fp6-nip.kiev.ua | Kyiv State Centre for Scientific, Technical and Economic Information (NIP UKRAINE), Kiev |
| Nadia Efimova Phone: +38 (057) 340-46-01 e-mail: nadia@isc.kharkov.com | Technology Business Incubator « Kharkov Technologies », Kharkov |
| Ivan Kulchitsky Phone: +38 (032) 252 32 00, +38 050 92 92 396 e-mail: <u>ivanppp@cstei.lviv.ua</u> | Lviv Centre of Scientific, Technical and Economic Information (LvCSTEI), Lviv |





Contacts per country: Ukraine (2)

| Name | Organisation / City |
|--|---|
| Alexander Kolomiets, Vadim Tul'chinsky Phone: + 380 44 5263603 Skype: end_of_the_skype_highlighting e-mail: dep145@gmail.com | V.M. Glushkov Institute of Cybernetics of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (GIC), Kiev |
| Evgeny Malashuk Phone: +38 (066) 193-03-03 e-mail: <u>evm-it@yandex.ua</u> , <u>evm@suiai.edu.ua</u> , <u>evm@iai.gov.ua</u> | Institute of Artificial Intelligence Problems (IAIP), Donetsk |





SCUBE-ICT project results

Mr Kostas BOUGIOUKLIS Q-PLAN North Greece SCUBE-ICT project coordinator





SCUBE-ICT results (1/3)

- Launched a promotion campaign to increase the visibility of Bel/Ukr ICT research actors
- ⇒ Developed (within the Cluster) the on-line "EECA Competence Platform" to increase the visibility of ICT R&D actors
- Organised (within the Cluster) 4 large scale events at national level aiming to
 - ✓ Increase awareness on FP7-ICT opportunities
 - ✓ Enhance the skills of Bel/Ukr ICT actors towards FP7-ICT participation
 - ✓ Bring them into direct contact with EU ICT leaders





SCUBE-ICT results (2/3)

- Developed a "Getting Started with EU ICT research" training guide (The Guide is also available in Russian by ISTOK-SOYUZ)
- Organised networking and promotion activities during the ICT2010 event (within the Cluster)
 - ✓ A networking session was organised (more than 120 researchers and more than 40 f2f meetings)
 - ✓ An exhibition stand was setup
 - ✓ The EECA Promotion Guide was distributed (including the profiles of more than 200 EECA ICT RTD actors)
 - ✓ 50 EECA researchers were financially supported to attend





SCUBE-ICT results (3/3)

- Analyzed the Bel/Ukr ICT sectors as well as the EU-Bel/Ukr ICT RTD collaboration potential
- Elaborated a set of preliminary actions to enhance EU-Bel/Ukr collaboration
- Organised 4 policy/consultation meetings in Bel/Ukr (2 in each country) aiming to discuss/agree (within the Cluster)
 - ✓ On the national ICT R&D priorities that exhibit the highest collaboration potential with EU.
 - ✓ On specific actions that could be undertaken to enhance EU-Bel/Ukr ICT RTD collaboration

