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

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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
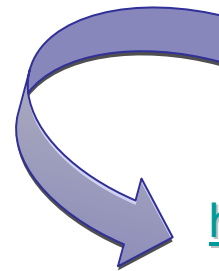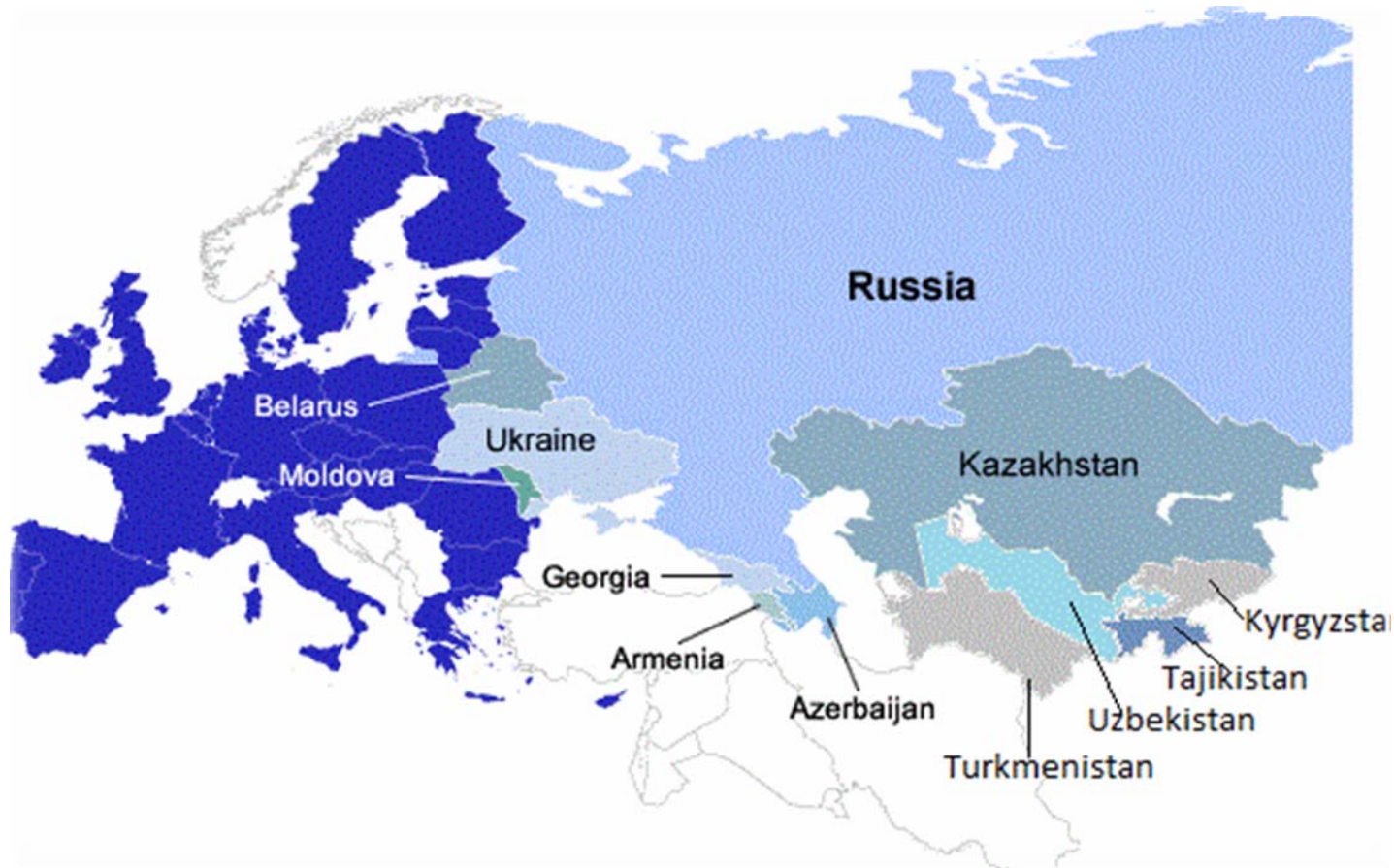
Web site:
http://www.eeca-ict.eu/

EU-EECA ICT Cluster is the joint effort of three FP7-ICT support actions (ISTOK-SOYUZ, SCUBE-ICT, EXTEND) to strengthen the collaboration in ICT research between European Union and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) countries

2007-2013

2

EECA Cluster target countries

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3

What we offer?

Objective 1

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

✓ 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

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4

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?

- ✓ Creation of a publicly accessible on-line database (*Competence Platform*) for the promotion of the research interests and achievements of prominent ICT R&D 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

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5

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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6

Which tools?

Web site:
http://www.eeca-ict.eu/

Help Desk

Competence Platform

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EECA Web portal

Web site:
http://www.eeca-ict.eu/

Competences Platform

Help Desk

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12

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13

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14

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15

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17

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18

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19

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20

SCUBE-ICT project results

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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*