Establishment of TASK FORCE „Impact of NCP projects – alignment meeting“ Experience report
Author: APRE, Agenzia per la Promozione della Ricerca Europea, Caterina Buonocore

Participants:
Caterina Buonocore, Marta Barrionuevo, Nina Braun, Antonio Carbone, Monique Bossi, Imelda Lambkin, Chiara Pocaterra, Shilpi Saxeina, Adrian Klein, Miriam de Angelis, Katarzyna Walczyk-Matuszyk, Tomasz Mroz, Marco Falzetti, Marco Ferraro, Birgit Steininger, Gabriella Quaranta, Talia Passar, Adrian Klein.

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Establishment of TASK FORCE
"Impact of NCP projects – alignment meeting"

Experience report
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In 2016 NCP project coordinators established a Task Force to discuss, compare and improve the services they provide and the impact they generate. The TF interacts with other stakeholders including the EC Officers, National Coordinators and experts that have been – and possibly will be – involved in the development of the TF’s activities.

The aim of this document is precisely to emphasize and summarize the coordination effort that the different NCP networks showed once again, in a phase where many projects are faced with a new planning for a second cycle of transnational activities (2018/2019). In this very moment the need of sharing the respective activities and interests to jointly plan some activities or sharing tools and methods, was expressed as a common need.

The NCP Academy consortium has been supporting the National Contact Point (NCP) community since 2014. It responds directly to the needs for NCPs to be fully cognisant with the rules and procedures of Horizon 2020 if they are to provide high quality services to potential applicants and successful project participants; and to be proficient in the processes involved in running an NCP service itself.

In the recent Expert Review of the Coordination and Support Actions (CSA) covering the NCP Academy and the eleven sector-specific NCP networks[1], the capacity building measures of the networks were acknowledged as having a direct effect on the consistency and coherence as well as the improved quality of NCP services and thus clear benefits for applicants. The expert review report highlighted the importance of improved information and advice in leading to lowering of the entry barriers and avoidance of inappropriate participation in Horizon 2020. The role of the NCP networks in supporting interdisciplinary and trans-sectoral cooperation and in reducing the gap in participation between the EU13 and EU15 Member States was recognised.

The experts recommended that the NCP Academy should provide NCP services until the end of Horizon 2020 to enable it to build on its current activities and to provide specific services devoted to some possible pilot initiatives in the transition phase to the next Framework Programme. In addition, this phase should be used to consider the consolidation of NCP Network training activities around the NCP Academy.

Such recommendations acknowledge the achievements of the existing NCP Academy consortium and are indicative of the level of support and vision of the future for the NCP Academy. Indeed, the NCP Academy has recently been acknowledged as a valuable provider of information/services in the European Parliament study “Overcoming innovation gaps in the EU-13 Member States”[2].

In this context the aim of this Meet and exchange Workshop was to:

- Get insights into the activities of the NCP networks planned for the next period to avoid overlaps or gaps. (session 1)

-Discuss the experiences from NCP network projects: lesson learnt & recommendations for future projects activities (session 2)

The explicit and shared need of all NCP project coordinators calls for coordination on activities and tools and for a need of optimisation of efforts.
Outcomes

Timeline and Methodology

The following timeline shows the different events where the Task Force gathered, starting from 7th of June 2016 till May 2017 with the Helsinki M&E workshop where the First Experience Report produced by the Task Force (TF) was presented to National Coordinators.

The establishment of the Task Force builds on the Meet & Exchange workshop on „Impact of NCP projects“ (June 7th 2016, Copenhagen, http://www.ncpacademy.eu/meet-exchange-workshop-impact-of-ncp-networks/- see Annex 1 “NCP Experience report “NCP-Systems – Impact of NCP-networks”) where the first steps towards a collective approach for NCP networks-projects were taken. Indeed, the TF focused on the preparation of a report on the impact of NCP projects from the NCP perspective including aspects such as examples of good practices, recommendations for remaining H2020 and FP9.

The TF follows a strong participatory approach involving as main actors the coordinators of the NCP network projects who work together providing inputs, data and comments.

The first phase of the TF activity highlighted the need of sharing the outputs of the respective individual project review meetings; it also stimulated the sharing of the good practices deriving from collaborations among the networks, and gave input for the creation of practical tools for better planning and monitoring the collaborations such as the NCP pills, the sharing of partner searches, or the organization of Joint events/trainings and Brokerage Events). The Experience Report is available on the NCP Academy webpage.

Building up on a shared experience of the past 3 years and on the excellent collaboration and exchange, the 14 NCP project networks coordinators have decided to gather for a cooperative exchange with the aim to confirm their interest on a strengthened collaboration in a phase where a planning effort of the last Workplan of H2020 is required.

The TF currently started a second phase which is mainly focusing on the good planning for the second phases of the NCP project networks. The new horizon of the Task force is showed in the following update of timeline where the 6th of March Meet and Exchange Workshop has been indeed the opportunity to Share and Plan in Synergy for the next 2 years activities (2018-2019).
The Next Step will be the organization of a Meet And Exchange Workshop (on the 30th and 31st of May) where all Project coordinators, a selection on National Coordinators and other Experts on the NCP matter will gather to discuss the next steps to be taken (The NCP system towards FP 9). The methodology used was based on 2 consultations towards the participants:

- A first request has been sent asking about what has been the selected option to continue with the second phase of the projects. Each network has shared its option in a table (see attachment 1)
- The second consultation was launched to enquire about the needs of the different thematic networks from the NCP Academy and among each other.

The one day M&E workshop held in Rome, „Impact of NCP projects – alignment meeting“ was structured in 2 main sessions, which are described as follows:

**Session 1: Get insights into the activities of the NCP networks planned for the next period to avoid overlaps or gaps.**

- Caterina Buonocore and Monique Bossi – APRE, presented the aim of the workshop and its modalities and next appointments of the Task Force;
- An introduction from the NCP Academy was given by the NCP Academy coordinator, Imelda Lambkin, Enterprise Ireland - on the overall scope and structure of the NCP Academy project.

This introduction was followed by a presentation by Birgit Steininger FFG - NCP Academy project partner and responsible for the WP dedicated to the training activities. She presented the updated NCP Academy training work plan for 2018 and 2019 and shared some reflections on some other tools which might be offered by NCP Academy Second phase project.

This introductory session was followed by a set of diverse activities:

- a round of presentations by all project coordinators on their project activities for 2018/2019 (slides included in Annex II); the request made was to outline if there were possibilities of implement joint activities and any needs towards other networks.

Then a brain walk session took place where the participants expressed different requests outlined in the following section of this experience report.

**Session 2: Identify Experiences from NCP projects to be continued and spread.**

In this session 8 preselected Experiences which emerged from the NCP network projects where shared to enhance the lesson learnt & recommendation aspects for future projects activities. The presentations from the first and second round of presentation are to be found on the Annexes to this document.

**Session 1: part 2 - Brain Walk session:** In this section we will show the main results as they were collected and discussed, around the 4 proposed items on the 5 posters:

1. Cooperation wall
2. Budget to participate to NCP Academy activities
3. Tools of joint interest
4. Partner search: change in the working modalities

5. Any other Business

The Outcome of the Brain walk exercise Is presented below in bullet points:

1. Cooperation Wall

The work on the Cooperation Wall was supported by a discussion and the use of Posters and Post it; the output was mainly fed by the content presented by Birgit - see Annex II: Presentation “NCP Academy 2: vision and status” and by the presentation of the respective single networks.

- NCPs CaRE to all NCPs: asking about what are your experiences on Twinnings (1 to 1).
- Net4Society to all NCPs: would like to cooperate and organize Joint Brokerages Events (SSH integration) with mixed research communities.
- SISnet to NCP Academy; we would need a training on Stakeholder engagement techniques and a training on Science communication or even plan and offer these trainings together.
- BioHorizon 2020 to NCP Academy: we would need a common statement on NCP networks in FP9. We would need trainings on L&F in FP9.
- NCP_Wide.net: we would like to support brokerages organized by other networks.
- NCP_Wide.net to NCP academy: training on cross-cutting issues; workshops on Synergies among funds.
- ACCESS4SMEs is offering 1 webinar on EIC; 1 training or workshop on EIC; they would need to coordinate the efforts on trainings dealing with Innovation, Business, EIC.
- RICH from NCP Academy we would need the tools (such as: Management platform for events or webinars).
- RICH from IDEAL IST; Join the webinar on High Performance Computing and plan joint presence at events.
- RICH to all Thematic networks; availability to host webinars on Free access to Research Infrastructure
- NCP Academy: necessity of an online survey among NCPs to Identify needs (Cross-cutting, not thematics).
- Net4 Society to NCP Academy: We would need a Common entry point and event calendar (public) on participant portal. A Common internal event calendar (intranet); a Common logo, Common NCP branding, to promote the NCPs as a system; a practical e-learning course or trainings for the participant portal Use (amendment, Project Management, Reporting).
- Net4 Society to IDEAL IST and all NCP networks. We would need feedback from your projects on what you think about the Conclusion of a written collaboration agreement regarding the coordination of complementary grants and the work of the action”. Article 2, 31.6, and 41.4 of the GA (included in our topic).
- ETNA 2020; we would organize joint trainings or webinars with other networks on cross sectorial topics (example: with C Energy 2020 on LCA).
- To NCP Academy: enhancement of coordination of NCP networks common activities; more frequent meetings of NCP project coordinators; Trainings on Legal And Financial issues on FP 9; trainings on Cross–cutting topics or soft skills; coordination and drafting of NCP papers to be shared with European Commission (example: Structure of NCP System in FP 9). Common repositories of support materials from all networks; templates, checklists, guidelines, handbooks, any publication (example: SSH flagged topics in SC 1).

2. **Budget dedicated to travel to NCP academy activities:**

The Majority of thematic NCP networks do not have budget to allow all their NCPs to attend NCP Academy trainings. Especially not for the second phase of their respective networks. This aspect should be taken into account by NCP academy itself in the planning of their onsite calendar of events. Probably Webinars and e-learning modules are a better solution, and economically sustainable.

3. **Tools developed by different networks to be shared:**

- IDEAL IST has developed the “Topic tree” to map our topics from previous and future calls.
- IDEAL IST has developed a WHO IS WHO GUIDE for new NCPs as an introduction to the project and other New NCPs.
- ACCESS4SMEs has developed a tool box for Close to Market access in H2020/EIC proposals. There are specific sessions to enable NCPs in the use of these tools.
- NCP Academy is developing an Event management tool.
- Alternative tools to organize brokerage events would be necessary according to many networks to evaluate other options compared to the usual B2MATCH tool.
- The COSMOS network proposed a list to be evaluated consisting of the following:
- Approved IT tools for use in Enterprise Europe Network BE (brokerage event) and CM (company mission).

- **b2fair®:** [www.b2fair.com](http://www.b2fair.com)
- **Converve:** [www.converve.com](http://www.converve.com) (minimum project price: € 5.000)
- **Talk-b2b:** [www.talkb2b.net/en](http://www.talkb2b.net/en)
- **Eentools:** [www.eentools.com](http://www.eentools.com)
- **b2bHARMO:** [www.b2bharmo.com](http://www.b2bharmo.com)
- **Futuralia 2.0:** [www.futurallia.com](http://www.futurallia.com)
- **ABSOLUM:** [www.advbe.com](http://www.advbe.com)
- **Pitch and Match:** [www.pitchandmatch.com](http://www.pitchandmatch.com)
- **Global Connect:** [www.gc-matching.com](http://www.gc-matching.com)
- **Brella:** [www.brella.io](http://www.brella.io)
- **Inova:** [www.inova-software.com](http://www.inova-software.com)
- **MarcomAce:** [www.marcom-connect.com](http://www.marcom-connect.com)
4. Partner search tools: what to do?

Discussion on partner search was felt as particularly important but without a clear output. Several networks have no thematic partner search anymore. Participant Portal facility is now an asset and needs to be used as efficiently as possible. NCPs could jointly evaluate it and give feedback on it through the NCP academy (Maybe with an experience paper?). The Networks express the need on a specific Meet and Exchange on this topic involving also European Commission Services.

5. Any other business

There is a Need of a Common entry point to all NCP projects webpages: how to design it? Should it be a public space or for NCP Only?
This aspect was presented by Monique Bossi - APRE; the coordinators expressed several doubts on the aim of this entry point and the requirements of such a webpage. The issue should be clarified in terms of shared needs in view of the second phase of NCP Academy project.

In session 2, the 8 experiences from NCP network projects: lesson learnt & recommendations for future projects activities were the following:

- International Service facility (ISF): Supporting 3rd country NCPs, Mattia Ceracchi, APRE
- IDEAL-IST: New Topic Tree designed for NCPs to help them navigate past present and future topics, Talia Passar, ISERD
- ACCESS4SMEs: outcome of the EIC workshop and “Toolbox set for SMEs” for close-to-market activities in H2020, Antonio Carbone, APRE
- NCP CARE: Modus operandi adopted to integrate SC5 NCP newcomers, Shilpi Saxena, JUELICH
- RICH: methodology for organization of an international Symposium
- WIDE-NET: Recommendations after an external evaluation, Katarzyna Walczyk-Matuszyk, IPPT-PAN
- COSMOS: B2match tool, Adrian Klein, Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt
- HNN2.0: experience papers, coaching from EC, Joint Brokerage events, etc, Marta Barrionuevo, ISCIII

Main findings and Highlights of the discussion

- All networks welcomed for the second phase of the NCP projects a continuation of the Task Force on NCP projects or a similar initiative enhancing the collaboration in the planning of actions and the sharing of knowledge.
- NCP branding: NCPs would benefit from a shared branding with a common logo and a common label
- NCP public portal: In such portal the NCP role would be described in terms of mission and services, and a common entry point which guides NCPs through the thematic networks would be created.

- NCP Intranet: a calendar of NCP restricted events should be published; a repository of common interest material (training materials, guidelines, checklists, catalogues of research profiles etc) would be created.

- Common tools: tools of common interest such as an event management tool could be shared with all networks by the NCP Academy

- Cross – cutting themes such as Innovation, RRI, Data Management, OPEN ACCESS etc are indeed common areas to all Themes. Although there is a common interest from all networks for these topics, such cross cutting themes might benefit from a thematic interpretation and a customized offer of training modules (see RRI in Health, in Transport, or In Space sector has for sure different elements to consider).

- Need to create a common NCP project distribution list (mailing ncp-networks@apre.it)

- Coordinators agree on the need and opportunity to “meet, exchange and implement” 2 times per year. 1 time NCP should involve also European Commission representatives.

- The participants of the meeting recommended to a stronger cooperation with existing expert networks/initiatives in various fields, like a dedicated Gender project or FOSTER project etc.

- An intensified dialogue between the NCP-Academy and the NCP Networks is required to better understand the work to be done and the complementarity.

- The Networks express the need on a specific Meet and Exchange on Partner Search topic involving also Commission Services.

- The participants mentioned the sentence in the NCP second phase topics: Example extracted From ICT topic:
  “In line with Articles 2, 31.6 and 41.4 of the Model Grant agreement, the project arising from this grant will complement other NCP network projects. This means that the beneficiaries and those of the complementary grants must cooperate and provide access to their results. They must conclude a written collaboration agreement regarding the coordination of the complementary grants and the work of the action.”
  How to tackle this part of the topics for second phase of NCP projects?
  Project coordinators do not have a solution yet and this request should be clarified with EC services.
Conclusions

The NCP projects are cooperating since the beginning of H2020 and over the last 3 years the collaboration has grown in terms of jointly organised activities, but also in terms of quality of the cooperation. Indeed identifying Specificities, Complementarities and possible overlapping, is crucial to provide effective and attractive services and activities and at the same time it is more and more and more important to be synchronised with horizontal policies, to cover the trans/cross disciplinarily, to be field specific and to tackle the impact targets.

There is a common will to proactively cooperate among NCP projects, with other relevant initiatives (e.g. EEN, GENDERACTION, IPR HELDPEK, FOSTER, and others) and the EC and to fine-tune the future of the NCP projects in terms of effectiveness and efficacy, high quality standards, fair access for all appointed NCPs in EU and beyond.

As a matter of fact, the NCP projects welcome new challenges and changing context, in particular, there is a unanimous will to include in the plan for the forthcoming activities new or increased support measure.

In order to do so, the main recommendations are the following:

**Common Branding**: some NCP needs require a centralization process. One of this is the creation of a common branding, common entry web platform, common intranet etc.

**Sharing Tools**: some networks are developing tools who are supporting the NCP work These should be shared to enhance quality and efficacy of services and shared with the others. (example: Event Management tool by NCP Academy).

**Bridging the Programmes**: NCP Network Projects should be up and running during the launch of FP9 in order to ensure the bridge between the two programmes and prompt support to the capacity building activities for NCPs and applicants. A specific meeting will be held in Rome on May 30-31 on “The NCP System Towards FP9” in fact while some information on the future Framework Programme is known, there are many steps to be taken before its final adoption. It will include the drafting of a recommendation report on the NCP system in FP9 from the NCP perspective. The NCPs are major FP9 stakeholders and a deeper discussion on the future of their system is needed.

This workshop was built on earlier Meet and Exchange Workshops organised by the NCP Academy:

- Best practice for National Contact Points – European Innovation Council;
- Performance Monitoring;
- Project Officer and NCP interactions;
- NCP Systems – Benchmarking on Macro and Micro Level and Gathering Future Needs;
• Quality standards and good practices;
• Impact of NCP Networks.
## Annex I: Coordinators involved in the Task Force and status of the NCP network projects

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<th>Contact person</th>
<th>Form of funding</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Total EC contribution</th>
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<td>RICH (Research Infrastructures)</td>
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<td>Health NCP Net 2.0</td>
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Annex II: Presentation “NCP Academy 2: vision and status”

NCP Academy 2: vision and status
2nd Meeting of Horizon 2020 NCP Project Coordinators
Rome, 6 March 2018

Expert review
Horne & Baird

- ****Good job****
- Overlap between networks in training - 'Consolidation of training around NCP Academy'
- Advanced methods to be considered e.g. MOOCs
- Actively involve EU11 NCPs
- Overlap in developing tools - partner search, matchmaking, methods/tools for call analysis [no central repository]
- Cooperation/coordination with European Commission
- Benchmarking and performance assessment [synthesis report as baseline]
- Support interdisciplinary, trans-sector cooperation
- Contribute to ERA

Expert review – list of tools
Horne & Baird
- Intranet and website tools and technologies,
- Benchmarking tools,
- Promotional tools production (folders, brochures, roll-ups, videos, etc.),
- Event management and logistics,
- Data analysis tools,
- Document template structure,
- QA management tools (descriptions, templates, checklists),
- Virtual help desk and FAQ tools,
- Guidelines for training activities,
- Network budget administration and rules,
- Brokerage and partner search tool (almost all networks buy a B2Match licence separately),
- Electronic guidebooks on “How to participate in H2020”, and
- Cooperation with EEN and similar cross-cutting organisations

The NCP system post-2020
NCP Academy
Training activities for all NCPs
Quality assurance across the whole NCP system
Central provision and coordination of tools and instruments

NCPs with partially reuse: cutting activities and tools
Guideline to NCPs, WIRED-Net, 6th Net in Horizon 2020
Activities involving all NCPs related to arrangements of SME international cooperation, enhancing the participation of partners from widening countries, uptake of EEN across the framework Programme

Sector specific NCPs
Transnational brokerage events, including matchmaking, support for joint calls between NCPs for different sectors, partner search, improvement of capacities and capabilities for sector specific advice for applicants e.g. content/no proposal check.

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Expert review – the future?
NCP Academy 2 status

- TCPC: Fostering transnational cooperation between National Contact Points (NCP) in the area of quality standards and horizontal issues: follow-up project
- Activities should capitalise on the work of the previous NCP Academy project, and relevant work of the other previous NCP network projects. In particular the follow-up project should further extend its service to all NCP sectors, including streamlining tools and instruments developed across the NCP networks. This network should also continue to reach out to all networks on training related to cross-cutting issues.
- In line with Articles 2, 11.6 and 41.4 of the Model Grant agreement, the project arising from this grant will complement other NCP network projects. This means that the beneficiaries and those of the complementary grants must cooperate and provide access to their results. They must conclude a written collaboration agreement regarding the coordination of the complementary grants and the work of the action.
- Type of action: Grant to identified beneficiary - coordination and support actions
- Indicative timetable: 2018
- Indicative budget: EUR 0.30 million from the 2018 budget

NCP Academy 2 in draft

- 16 beneficiaries
- First draft in preparation
- Two workshops: 1st looking to future; 2nd focussing objectives, tasks, impacts and to do list)
  - WP1 tools and methodologies
  - WP2 Training and exchange
  - WP3 Added value - Impact monitoring
  - WP4 Cooperation with NCP networks
  - WP5 coordination and management

Today we will share the detail with you...

Events so far
NCP Academy “1” (WP2)

- 90 events (cradle trainings, training sessions at network meetings, webinars)
- Various topics such as:
  - Relevant for proposal stage, project implementation, exploitation

Examples of training content in NCP-Ac: core training areas

Events so far
NCP Academy “1” (WP4)

- 14 Meet & Exchange Workshops on “hot topics” so far, around 340 participants

for the experience reports with lessons learned and recommendations available on www.ncpa2.eu
Upcoming events
NCP-Academy "I" (WP2-4), first half of 2018

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<tr>
<td>4th March</td>
<td>Transnational &amp; bilateral</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>NCP Academy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th March</td>
<td>Organisational &amp; legal</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>NCP Academy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th March</td>
<td>Launch plan &amp; partners</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>NCP Academy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st March</td>
<td>Launch Meeting</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>NCP Academy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th March</td>
<td>Expanding the potential</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>NCP Academy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th April</td>
<td>Expanding the potential</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>NCP Academy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th May</td>
<td>Expanding the potential</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>NCP Academy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WP2 Training & Exchange of Experiences
NCP-Academy “II” (WP2), proposal

- Contribution to enhance the level of knowledge and the competencies among NCPs
- Identify training and exchange needs of NCPs & plan training and exchange of experience programme well in advance
- Implementation of training & e-learning starting by late 2018 based on status of new projects
- E-learning pilots
  - Event management system
    - Easy and smart system for managing events and organizing events
    - Attractive presentation of opportunities
    - Joint registration process
    - Online feedback opportunity
    - Standardized promotion
    - Facilitated monitoring of participation

Your valuable input is appreciated!

- What are needs for training and exchange of your network members to be covered by the NCP-Academy?
- Main project tasks/applications/submissions/management/implementation specific tasks

Suitable topics for e-learning pilots?
- Joint training & webinar calendar
  - Overview of all NCP Trainings and training webinars
  - New entry point - practice for all, who want to have an overview on training measures
  - Contributes to break down "silos" - network topics might be interesting for other NCPs as well (remaining places)
- ...
Annex III: Rolling plan of NCP Projects for 2018-2019

European Research Infrastructures (including e-Infrastructures)

Rome, 6 March 2018

http://www.rich2020.eu/
Follow us on Twitter: @rich_ncp

2018 Event Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Webinar on SUHC-00-2018 (Cybersecurity Competence Network)</td>
<td>9th March 2018, 14:00-15:00 CET</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webinar on how to address gender in ICT proposals in collaboration with the GENERATION-Action Project</td>
<td>End of March</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webinar on Artificial Intelligence</td>
<td>April 2018</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Seminar (T5): Full Proposal Check Workshop</td>
<td>16th May 2018</td>
<td>Brussels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webinar on High Performance Computing</td>
<td>June 2018</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T5: Digital Innovation Hubs</td>
<td>End June</td>
<td>tbc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T5: How to involve new groups and ICT stakeholders in future IPs</td>
<td>September 2018</td>
<td>tbc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webinar on Initial Shaping of FP9 – the ICT part</td>
<td>October 2018</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T5: The Institute of Prospective Technological Studies: What the future of ICT brings</td>
<td>13th or 14th November 2018</td>
<td>Seville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT Event</td>
<td>4-6 December 2018</td>
<td>Vienna</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COSMOS2020 Activities 2018

- NCP Academy: webinars on cross-cutting issues
- Idealist: HPC, booth at events (e.g. ICT proposers day)
- All network presentations on TAS

- 20-23 March Proposal Writing Training (incl. Drafting follow-up proposal)
- 3-6 April FIDAE in Chile (with ETNA and SEREN)
- 27 April Horizon 2020 Brokerage Event - Paris 2018 (Space for Climate and Smart Mobility Matching Space, Environment and Transport communities)
- 13 June (?) JTI Training in Brussels (NCP Academy?)
- June Infoday Switzerland (Industry days)
- November (TBD) Berlin infoday
List of activities 2018-2019

Planned activities for 2018-2019

• 3 Brokorage events
  • EU Brokerage Event on KETs (Mainz, 07.06.2018)
  • NanoIsrael 2018 (Jerusalem, 09-11.10.2018)
  • Industrial Technologies 2018 (Vienna, 29.10.2018)

• 3 Training Seminars
  • Proposal Evaluation Hands on Training (Brussels, date TBD)
  • RIS3: NCPs cooperation with regional authorities—best practices (TBD)
  • Focused training for EU15/AC NCPs (TBD)

• 2 webinars (TBD)

• 5 Virtual Events for NCPs, clients and other stakeholders
First achievements and next steps

- 6 workshops: 114 participants
  - Bank: Training - UMI (2009) - 121 (13 participants)
  - Sector: Innovation Network (2012) and Europe/Innovation
  - Sector: Innovation - Denmark ETP 2013 - 121 (13 participants)
  - Sector: Innovation - France ETP 2013 - 121 (13 participants)
  - Sector: Innovation - Denmark ETP 2013 - 121 (13 participants)
  - Sector: Innovation - France ETP 2013 - 121 (13 participants)

- Next steps:
  - Start of the program: 2014
  - Duration: 2 years
  - Activities:
    - Workshops and training sessions
    - Development of cooperation projects
    - Networking events

Needs from NCP Academy

- Annual meeting(s) among NCP Networks for better coordination
- Training events on legal and financial issues (FP7 is coming)
- Need for Statement of Position paper to stress and promote the role of NCPs and their Networks in FP7
- "To be included in recommendations to other NCP Networks"
**Access4SMEs** is a guide intended to help innovative SMES in applying to the EIC SMES Instrument. The guide includes annotations, explanations, examples, and more, on the basis of the original templates for submission, which assist companies to better understand the requirements for filling in phase 1 and 2, and to contribute to writing better applications.

The information was gathered and processed by EIC, EIC, and includes insights from EIC Instrument evaluations and best practices from winning proposals.

---

**Toolbox set for SMEs for close-to-market activities in H2020**

- Value proposition tool
- Market analysis & competitors
- Revenue & growth models
- Financial models

1. Excellence
2. Impact

---

**Promotional Guide to access financial instruments**

- Focus on InnovFin products
- List of instruments
- How and when to apply
- Success stories
- Tips and tricks for the success

---

**Access4SMEs - Seal of Excellence**

Community description

- 120 investors registered (60/70 expected)
- 10 future exits
- 10% in average for each company on Euroequity.
- 2 companies in discussion with VCs.

---

**1st e-pitch (October 20th 2017) - Over expectations**

- NCPs welcome: enabling services to their SoE SMEs clients
- 520 members registered

---

6 On-site mentoring for a more systematic use of EU financial instruments

- 2 days on site meetings with NCP and financial instruments
- Develop a more systematic use of EU backed financial instruments
- Mission report
  - Needs expressed
  - Support to identify new R&I for further deployment of instruments
  - Field operational steps at the NCP level and perspectives
Next steps

- Value proposition from SME instrument proposals (Mar 18)
- SME beneficiaries growth patterns (May 18)
- Networking and pitching events during Innovative Enterprise Conferences (Jun-Nov 18)
- How to approach EIC Ph2 interviews (Sep 18)
- Valuation analysis of the SME instrument beneficiaries (Dec 18)
- On-site mentoring visits

Antonio Carbone
carbone@apre.it
sms@apre.it

Access4SMEs project coordinator

Meet & Exchange “Task force of NCP projects coordinators”

Marta Rovisos | Coordinator SCN

6 March 2018
Prague

HNN 2.0 Main activities 2018-2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main activities 2018</th>
<th>Main activities 2018 (T&amp;D)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Power access and data management in 100205+ DKI (Greece) - September 2018</td>
<td>- 5 additional Trainings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- FISP Initiatives in Health - PFP/P2P - Article 185 (7)</td>
<td>- 54 additional webinars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Other projects (e.g., H2020 ERC, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Meet & Exchange 2018-2019 (T&D)

- S2I NCP (exchange of good practice)
- With other support network or specific H2020 actions

Training Events 2018

- Design for Impact 2018 (T&D)
- Other training events

Needs from NCP Academy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coordinating NCP networking activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convene regular meetings to coordinate the activities of the networks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination of relevant meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support training courses to NCPs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.healthncp.net
### Calendar 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>WP</th>
<th>Responsibility Partner</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 March 2018</td>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Training for intermediaries</td>
<td>N78</td>
<td>Marie Mestas</td>
<td>Training on eAlimenta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3 March 2018</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>CHP/CCU Conference</td>
<td>N76</td>
<td>Peter Jedrzejewski</td>
<td>Workshop ECHICON 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 March 2018</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>CHP/CCU Conference</td>
<td>N76</td>
<td>Peter Jedrzejewski</td>
<td>Workshop on eAlimenta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 March 2018</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>CHP/CCU Conference</td>
<td>N76</td>
<td>Peter Jedrzejewski</td>
<td>Workshop on eAlimenta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 March 2018</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>CHP/CCU Conference</td>
<td>N76</td>
<td>Peter Jedrzejewski</td>
<td>Workshop on eAlimenta</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Calendar 2019

- The calendar of events has not yet been determined.
- We plan to organise:
  - Interactive workshops for BioNCPs,
  - 2x biotechnology workshops.
  - 1x organisation of our weekly SCs call.

### Events Calendar for 2018: Overview

- Both interactive training and biotechnology workshop are planned in Brussels.
- We are going to organise brokerage event during INFO WEEK SCs call 2019.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>WP3</th>
<th>WP4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22-24 June 2010</td>
<td>Rome, Italy</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>8464.58 Maria Galas, Cieza Restrepo</td>
<td>8464.58 Maria Galas, Cieza Restrepo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 June - 3 July 2010</td>
<td>Trani, Italy</td>
<td>Training for stakeholders</td>
<td>8464.58 Maria Galas</td>
<td>8464.58 Maria Galas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2010</td>
<td>To be identified</td>
<td>Training for stakeholders</td>
<td>8464.58 Maria Galas</td>
<td>8464.58 Maria Galas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-22 September 2010</td>
<td>Brussels, Belgium</td>
<td>Training NUDS</td>
<td>8464.58 Sven-Rolfe Sven-Rolfe</td>
<td>8464.58 Sven-Rolfe Sven-Rolfe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2010</td>
<td>Brussels</td>
<td>Brokerage Event</td>
<td>8464.58 Sven-Rolfe</td>
<td>8464.58 Sven-Rolfe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2010</td>
<td>Spain (TBC)</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>8464.58 Maria Galas, Cieza Restrepo</td>
<td>8464.58 Maria Galas, Cieza Restrepo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2010</td>
<td>EEN</td>
<td>WP4</td>
<td>Frost Christiansen</td>
<td>Frost Christiansen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Main activities for 2018

- Joint Brokerage Event & workshop on international cooperation ETNA2020 – SEREN 3 – COSMOS @FIDAE 2018 (03-06/04/2018)
- ETNA2020 Brokerage Event & workshop on international cooperation (Focus on the twinning mechanisms and "INCO Flagship" initiatives) @TRA2018 (17/19/04/2018)
- ETNA2020 Forum for SC4 NCPs (06/06/2018 – tbc)
- ETNA2020 Brokerage Event @EC Transport Infoday 2019 (tbc)
- 1 training event for NCPs
- 2 webinars

Main activities for 2019

- 1 ETNA2020 Forum for SC4 NCPs
- 2 Brokerage events:
  - 1 ETNA2020 Brokerage Event @EC Transport Infoday 2020 (tbc)
  - 1...)
- 2 training events for NCPs
- 2 webinars

Needs from the NCP academy

- Common discussion about the future of partner search platforms taking into account the new features of the participants portal.
- Training on FP9 L&F issues as soon as they are clarified.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Trainer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JANUARY</td>
<td>Webinar: Urban agenda &amp; Nature Based Solutions</td>
<td>Sofie Vandewoestijne (DG RTD), Magdalena Glogowska (Institute of Fundamental Technological Research/Polish Academy of Sciences), Camille Lepinay (Impulse.be)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY</td>
<td>Webinar: Copernicus Programme and Copernicus Support office with COSMOS2020</td>
<td>Annekatrien Debienc, Copernicus Support Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARCH</td>
<td>Webinar: EIT KIC Raw Materials</td>
<td>Pier Luigi Franceschini, General Manager, EIT RawMaterials South CLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td>Webinar: Open Science I*</td>
<td>Ivo Grigorov, FOSTER project (or trainer appointed by the project)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Webinar: Open Science II*</td>
<td>Ivo Grigorov, FOSTER project (or trainer appointed by the project)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY</td>
<td>Webinar: Open Science III*</td>
<td>Ivo Grigorov, FOSTER project (or trainer appointed by the project)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Masterclass back-to-back with AM in Berlin: Understanding Policy Behind SCS WP 2018-2020**</td>
<td>NCPs CaRE Task team 3.4 / TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>Belmont Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JULY</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joint Masterclass NCPs CaRE &amp; EEN Sector Group</td>
<td>SCS NCPs / EEN / Access4SMEs etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>Summer break - no trainings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>Webinar: Opportunity for free Transnational Access and Services (TAS) to European Research Infrastructures for the SCS stakeholders</td>
<td>Daniela Mercurio, RICH project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCTOBER</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Masterclass in Brussels: Proposal writing with SCS specifics</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Webinar: Cultural Heritage</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Webinar: Public Procurement</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* More specific topic will be chosen via questionnaire, sent to the network 27/2/2018
** PO & ENP: Possibility for reimbursement, selection of participants by the organisers
***B, PO, ENP, EEN-SGE: Selection of participants by the organisers
Main Activities for 2018

SERENA activities will end the 30th April 2018 and these are the last activities:
- Last Training for NCPs on Security Controls (TBD)
- Last NCP Forum (TBD)
- PROSERA Brokerage Event within the EU Secure Societies InfoDay, Brussels 13th March 2018
- H2020 Secure Societies International Info Day and Brokerage Event in Warsaw on 11th April 2018, organized within PROSERA by SERENA colleagues, with the aim of increasing participation from EU 13 Countries.

Main Activities for 2019

All the activities for 2019 will be organized in the frame of SERENA but will start the 1st May 2018.
But in principle, there will be more or less:
- 2 NCP trainings
- 2 Webinars
- 2 Forums
- 2 Brokerage events
- 1 Training for stakeholders

Needs from the NCP academy

- Discussion among all networks concerning the future of partner searches: taking into account the new EC tool available on the participants portal, should we have a common platform?
- Needing to allocate (not only the last ones) budget rules for participation, LSIF issues, or FP9 as soon as will be clear and defined.
This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 633563