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CONNECT2SEA Project

Welcome!



Svetlana Klessova | Project Coordinator
inno TSD France

South East Asia (SEA) and the European Union face common challenges in many fields of people's life - in particular in the development of ICT. In SEA, economic and societal problems exist in areas such as water management, energy saving and healthcare. These represent typical applications for ICT and give ground for teamwork between Europe and SEA. SEA also represents a huge economic opportunity for the EU: the market sizes and opportunities for ICT applications are very valuable for European companies. Furthermore, SEA holds an incredible pool of talented and motivated people.

In this context, the European Commission decided to support the CONNECT2SEA project in its 7th Research Framework Programme. CONNECT2SEA aims to explore new opportunities and strengthen the EU-SEA ICT collaboration while ensuring mutual benefits for both regions. The consortium partners come from five EU and five SEA countries, but the project activities cover all countries in EU and SEA. We, the CONNECT2SEA team, welcome you to the pages of our first newsletter and look forward to your contributions and feedback!

CONNECT2SEA Project

The CONNECT2SEA project will contribute to the creation of strategic synergies in the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) research, development and innovation between the EU and SEA and between SEA countries.

CONNECT2SEA is a 30-month Support Action which started in December 2013 with funding by the European Commission under the 7th Framework Programme for Research & Technological Development – ICT theme. Project activities include the transfer of experiences and cross-fertilization in order to leverage synergies between the countries involved and lay the foundation for strategic partnerships with sustainable impacts.

The project supports policy dialogue on ICT by connecting and internationalizing EU and SEA ICT research, development and innovation knowledge networks, clusters and their corresponding organizations. It will draw on the experience and lessons learnt by previous research and will implement targeted actions on specif-

ic topics, such as cybersecurity. CONNECT2SEA's role is to mobilize and encourage networks and their organisations to develop common responses to major societal challenges and address industrial leadership technologies and to reinforce the synergies between EU and SEA ICT RDI programmes. CONNECT2SEA aims to enhance EU-SEA ICT RDI policy dialogue by summarising and structuring feedback from collaborative experience and proposing new innovative actions. Key EU and ASEAN knowledge networks and multipliers – European Technology Platforms, ICT clusters and projects – are invited to enrich and initiate connections with their counterparts working on similar strategic topics and societal challenges.

Read more: www.connect2sea.eu

Focus on Cybersecurity

The CONNECT2SEA consortium will present a brief analysis of the national cybersecurity-related roadmaps in various European and ASEAN countries. The partners will identify their national priorities and highlight both commonalities and differences, which will reveal potential fields for collaboration for the two regions. A cybersecurity-related event will bring together relevant experts from EU and South East Asia to discuss the challenges and opportunities.



Results of the Call for Proposals

The CONNECT2SEA project launched a call for ICT cooperation initiatives from the EU and South East Asia. The goal of the seed funding provided is to support the advancement of international cooperation between ICT specialists from the two regions, in particular the cooperation in the EU's Horizon 2020

Funding provided through the project can be used either as an individual travel grant or as an event or cooperation grant for joint workshops or symposia. The call was launched in March 2014, and the evaluation done by a selection committee of CONNECT2SEA participants took place in July 2014.

55 submissions were received, involving more than 130 organisations. A total amount of more than 350 000 EUR was requested for travel and event / cooperation

grants, for a maximum available sum of 100 000 EUR, which shows a high interest for such light funding schemes. Eventually, 15 events and 6 travels can be funded thanks to this initiative, the list of the winning applications is published on the CONNECT2SEA website. In the following, three examples of funded activities are portrayed. Read more:

www.connect2sea.eu/news-and-events/news/details/results_available.html



Event EU-SEA Wearable take-off

This grant will support a three-day workshop dealing with wearable devices and its associated market, such as mobile health apps. It has the overall goal to provide a best practice exchange on the development of applications and services for wearables in particular in the domains of sports/tourism, mHealth and smart production innovations. The workshop will further stipulate student projects on all career levels on the topic and will be the basis for a joint publication on the topic.. It will receive a funding of 6 000 EUR from the CONNECT2SEA project.

Event Data management in the Cloud era

With this grant, a workshop dealing with data management on the cloud will be organized. The workshop will focus on the management of large volumes of data ('big data') that might come in a streaming mode. Innovative research will be presented, e.g. in the use of NoSQL databases to store semantic web data, in exploring SPARQL implementations in the cloud and in architectures for personal information management on the cloud. The proposed workshop will receive an amount of 6 500 EUR from the CONNECT2SEA project.

Travel grants

An example of a funded individual travel grant is a stay of a researcher from the Institute of Microengineering and Nanoelectronics, Universiti Kebangsaan of Bangi, Malaysia at the Department of Optoelectronics of the Czestochowa University in Poland. The two institutes already have a history of cooperation. The grant will cover a seminar on "Plasmonic nanoparticles on metal oxide layers", an optical experiment and the discussion of further cooperation possibilities, e.g. a joint grant application for Horizon 2020. The CONNECT2SEA grant amounts to 1900 EUR.



An EU initiative endorsed by ASEAN

The CONNECT2SEA project has been officially endorsed by the ASEAN Committee of Science and Technology (COST) as one of the initiatives of the Sub-Committee on Microelectronics and Information Technology (SCMIT). Additionally, the ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Senior Officials Meeting (TELSOM) have acknowledged the project.

The ASEAN COST was established in 1978 to provide platforms for member states to identify common challenges in the field of Science and Technology and forge collaborations in Research and Development (R&D). Through the CONNECT2SEA project, member states of ASEAN will have an additional avenue to enhance collaborations by reinforcing synergies between ICT-related research, development and innovation ac-

tors, activities and programmes in the EU and the ASEAN to jointly address societal challenges and shared technology challenges.

Dr. Pensri Guntasopatr, Assistant Executive Director at NECTEC and CONNECT2SEA Workpackage leader on enhancing EU-SEA policy dialogue holds that "the CONNECT2SEA project offers policy dialogue forum aiming to influence and create synergies on the ICT research and development and innovation knowledge network between the EU and SEA countries. This policy dialogue forum can potentially bring about opportunities for strategic collaboration, exchange of in-depth knowledge, best practices and joint R&D in the field of ICT that enable the EU and SEA countries to strengthen STI and come up with practical solutions to their facing challenges".



Comment

Dr. Alexander Alamil Lim, Head of the S&T Division in the ASEAN Secretariat



The ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology (COST) has consistently endeavoured to forge closer cooperation and develop strategies for partnership with dialogue partners. Most recently, the 67th Meeting of COST in Singapore which took place on 23 April 2014 approved the FP7-supported CONNECT2SEA initiative to sustain the strategic partnership and continue the policy dialogue between the EU and ASEAN in ICT. COST recognizes the potential contribution of the CONNECT2SEA project and encouraged ASEAN Member States to raise the level of exposure and participation of their institutions and experts with their counterpart in the EU. It is also hoped that this initiative will be instrumental in designing future bi-regional initiatives that will be consistent with the objectives of the Horizon 2020 as the successor of FP7. The 5th ASEAN-EU Dialogue on Science and Technology held on 24 August 2014 in Bogor, Indonesia, it was noted with appreciation that the consortium meeting on the CONNECT2SEA project was convened in Heraklion, Greece on 15-16 September 2014.

ICT Proposers Day 2014



October 9-10, 2014, Florence, Italy

The event is focusing on the Horizon 2020 Work Programme for 2015. It is a networking opportunity to build quality partnerships for participating in the forthcoming calls as well as an exceptional occasion to meet potential partners from academia, research institutes, business and industry, SMEs and government actors from all over Europe. The ICT Proposer's Day will also provide information sessions on how to submit a proposal, topic information stands with European Commission officials as well as networking sessions. Read more: <http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/ict-proposers-day-9-10-october-2014>



Collaboration with Ideal-ist



In spring 2014, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the CONNECT2SEA project coordinator and the Ideal-ist legal representative to further enhance

the collaboration among EU and SEA ICT R&D researchers. Through the formal agreement, both parties consent to support each other's project initiatives.

The CONNECT2SEA project aims at reinforcing synergies between ICT research, development and innovation actors, activities and programmes in the EU and the ASEAN. Similarly, the Ideal-ist network, through the Ideal-ist2014 project, addresses these objectives in a broader sense of trans-national cooperation among EU countries including some countries of the SEA region. Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia are among those NCPs to be given special assistance on enhancing their knowledge for collaborative research activities with EU through the project. Nikos Saris, from ATC Athens, calls the cooperation between the two initiatives a "very positive step for both sides, for sharing experiences, expertise and access to even wider research communities. In the same spirit we welcome ideas for collaboration from more initiatives around the world." Read more: <http://www.ideal-ist.eu>

Horizon 2020 ICT

Horizon 2020 call for proposals: Be prepared to the next call, to be open on 15.10.2014 and closed on 14.04.2015. The topics can be found on: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/calls/h2020-ict-2014-2.html>

CONNECT2SEA at IEEE-RIVF

EU-SEA events, co-funded by the CONNECT2SEA project to foster research and cooperation on Internet of Things and Open Platforms topics, will be organized as part of the IEEE RIVF 2015 international conference, taking place in Can Tho, Vietnam, January 25-28, 2015. Presentations of EU and SEA projects are expected for the EU-SEA scientific day, as well as contributions and demonstrations for the hackathon. Papers for the IoT session of RIVF should be submitted through the regular RIVF CFP procedure. Accepted papers will be presented according to RIVF schedule within a dedicated IoT session and will have to register to RIVF. More information: <http://rivf2015.ctu.edu.vn/cfp.php>

EU-SEA Workshop Advanced Computing for Control and Performance Optimization: Algorithms and Applications, Pattaya, Thailand (9-10 March 2015)

In the workshop, the state of the art in algorithms, problem formulations and applications of advanced control and real-time performance optimization will be presented and discussed. A panel session on academia-industry and ICT research and development collaboration between SEA and Europe will be organised to create a basis for further collaborations in cyber-physical systems, industrial automation and advanced computing.

Read more: <http://www.connect2sea.eu/news-and-events/events/details/workshop-advanced-computing-control.html>

Forthcoming Events

- ICT proposers day in Florence, 9-10 October 2014, see page 3 of this newsletter <http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/ict-proposers-day-9-10-october-2014>
- Networked European Software and Service Initiative (NESSI) proposal development and consortium formation workshop for the Horizon 2020 calls closing in April 2015, November 20-21, 2014, Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona. More information www.nessi-europe.eu
- IEEE RIVF 2015 international conference in Can Tho, Vietnam, January 25-28, 2015. RIVF is the 11th conference in this series on Computing and Communication Technologies. More information: <http://rivf2015.ctu.edu.vn>
- Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD) international conference, Singapore May 15-18 2015 at Nanyang Technological University. This international conference deals with the role of computers and the internet in development, spanning technological and social science domains. More information: <http://ictd2015.org/>
- 10th Asian Control Conference (ASCC 2015), Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, May 31- June 3, 2015. The conference will bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and scholars to exchange their experiences and research results and discuss the practical challenges encountered and the solutions adopted. Read more: <http://ascc2015.com/>

If you like to announce an event for our next newsletter, please contact Dorota Pawlucka: dorota.pawlucka@tu-dortmund.de.

Cooperation

Are you looking for partners for a research proposal? Do you have experience you would like to share? Do you have a related seminar, conference or publication you would like to promote? Please let us know.

Imprint

Dorota Pawlucka MBA
TU Dortmund University
Research Funding & Knowledge Transfer Office
Baroper Str. 283
44227 Dortmund, Germany
Phone: +49 231 755 2599
mailto:dorota.pawlucka@tu-dortmund.de

