# Project Deliverable

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CONNECT2SEA

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Supporting European Union and Southeast Asia ICT strategic partnership and policy dialogue: Connecting ICT EU-SEA Research, Development and Innovation Knowledge Networks

**Instrument:**

COORDINATING AND SUPPORT ACTION

**Thematic Priority**

ICT

**Title**

D3.1 List of Advisory Board Members and activity report

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This project has received funding from the European Union’s Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement No 611014
Abstract:

The present document contains a list of the members of the Advisory Board, the Terms of Reference that have been set up to serve as modus operandi for the work the Advisory Board will do, as well as a report about activities having taken place so far.

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Svetlana Klessova (inno TSD)

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Advisory Board, Terms of Reference, Modus operandi

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# Acronyms and Definitions

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<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td>Advisory Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASEAN</td>
<td>Association of Southeast Asian Nations</td>
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<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<td>ICT</td>
<td>Information and Communication Technologies</td>
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<td>RDI</td>
<td>Research, Development and Innovation</td>
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<td>R&amp;D</td>
<td>Research &amp; Development</td>
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<td>SEA</td>
<td>South East Asian</td>
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<td>S&amp;T</td>
<td>Science and Technology</td>
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1. Introduction

CONNECT2SEA is a Support Action funded by the European Commission, aiming at the creation of strategic synergies in the Information and Communication Technologies research, development and innovation in order to increase and secure sustainable impacts. The action will pave the way for jointly addressing important societal challenges and core technologies at the research, innovation and policy levels under Horizon 2020 and relevant SEA regional and national programmes by building strategic partnerships.

Based on experience and lessons learnt from previous collaborative actions, CONNECT2SEA has a three-fold objective:

- to support internationalisation of EU and SEA-ICT-related research, development and innovation knowledge networks, technology platforms, clusters, organisations in the topics of common interest, in order to foster ICT RDI collaboration
- to promote Horizon 2020 and to reinforce synergies between the EU and ASEAN research development and innovation programmes
- to enrich and support EU-SEA ICT R&D policy dialogue by supporting policy initiatives, summarising feedback from collaborative experience and proposing recommendations to reinforce EU-SEA ICT RDI collaboration.

The pool of project activities related to the support to EU-SEA R&D ICT partnerships is focused on reinforcing EU-SEA ICT R&D cooperation and promoting visibility of EU-SEA ICT RDI clustering. CONNECT2SEA constitutes a valuable complementation of the already existing collaboration in the frame of the regional EU-ASEAN dialogue instrument READI.

CONNECT2SEA aims at enhancing EU-SEA ICT RDI policy dialogue by summarising and structuring feedback from collaborative experience and proposing new and innovative actions. Key EU and ASEAN knowledge networks and multipliers – Technology Platforms, ICT clusters, associations, organisations, and projects – are invited to enrich and initiate connections with their counterparts who are working on similar strategic topics and societal challenges. The project partners cooperate with the ASEAN Secretariat and its two major ASEAN Committees: ASEAN Committee on S&T (ASEAN SCMIT: Sub-Committee on Microelectronics and Information Technology), and ASEAN Telecommunication Committee.

CONNECT2SEA is expected to generate a sustainable and long-lasting positive impact that will go far beyond project completion. Notwithstanding the prominent sustainability of its assets (i.e. building of strategic cooperation, common agenda, roadmap and action plan, innovation services, etc), the project will trigger a cascaded effect on new business creation along the ICT area in Europe and SEA countries, by substantially supporting the industrial cooperation and partnership building among the two regions as well as by promoting the international cooperation, the innovation culture and thus, the economic exploitation of research outcomes by its actual generators and industrial collaborators, namely the ICT-related research and industrial communities of the two regions.

An Advisory Board, consisting of members from EU and SEA, being involved in EU-SEA cooperation, has been set up by CONNECT2SEA, with the aim to obtain strategic policy advice and guidance from the specialists involved in the research, innovation and policy activities.

Currently, the Advisory Board consists of four members. The project team is open to recommendations about additional AB members.

The present report provides an overview on the Advisory Board and the activities during the project launch period. It will be updated during the course of the project.
2. List of Advisory Board Members

The following Advisory Board Members have agreed to support the project:

- **Dr. Alexander A. Lim, Head of S&T division, ASEAN Secretariat**

Dr. Alexander Alamil Lim graduated with a PhD. degree in Solar Energy/PV Systems at Murdoch University in Western Australia. He has over 20 years experience as Instructor, Assistant professor and Associate professor at University of Philippines Los Banos. From 1996 to 1999 he worked as Programme Coordinator and obtained the diploma in Science Teaching from the UP Open University. During the years 1999 – 2004, Alexander Lim occupied the position of Deputy Executive Director in Philippine Council for Advanced Science and Technology Research and Development. Then, in 2004 he joined the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta as Senior Officer at Science and Technology Division and was appointed in 2007 Head of Coordination Unit at the Bureau for External Relations and Coordination (ASEAN Secretariat). Since 2009 Alexander Lim has occupied the position of Assistant Director and Head of Science and Technology Division in ASEAN Secretariat.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a political and economic organisation of ten countries located in Southeast Asia aiming beneath others at accelerating economic growth, social progress and at maintaining close and beneficial cooperation with existing international and regional organisations with similar aims and purposes. The objectives of CONNECT2SEA are consistent with the terms of reference of the existing ASEAN-EU Dialogue Meeting on Science and Technology. Therefore, there is a strong interest in cooperation with the conviction that the project will benefit the ASEAN Member States and strengthen the cooperation link between both EU and ASEAN.

- **Dr. Christoph Elineau – DLR, Germany, International Bureau of BMBF, coordinator of the EU-SEA-NET 2 project**

Christoph Elineau was born in Ulm/Germany on September 29, 1975. He studied Urban and Regional planning at the Technical University of Berlin, Edinburgh College of Art and received his Diploma in 2003. He has previously worked as a consultant for OECD. In 2004 he joined the International Bureau of BMBF as Senior Scientific Officer where he was in charge of the bilateral cooperation in Education between Germany and China and for the German participation in OECD projects in Science and Education. He’s been the managing coordinator of the SEA-EU-NET project from 2008-2012 and is now the coordinator of the SEA-EU-NET 2 project (2013-2016). He’s been a member of the advisory committee of the SEACOOP project and member of the external advisory committee of the PACE-NET project.

The International Bureau (IB) of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) at the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) implements, on behalf of BMBF, a wide range of international cooperation activities. IB-DLR is preparing joint research activities in strategic fields of common interest, basically linked to national and European research funding programmes. It supports bilateral cooperation programmes in S&T with about 30 countries around the world in order to facilitate the preparation and implementation of international cooperation of German institutions. DLR is strongly involved in collaboration with SEA countries initiating important number of R&D projects with Asian organisations.

DLR coordinates the EU Project SEA-EU-NET 2, aiming at deepening S&T cooperation between EU and SEA in a strategic manner by identifying opportunities for S&T cooperation and creating a policy dialogue between European and South East Asian countries. ICT is one of the cross-cutting priorities of the project. As coordinator of the SEA-EU-NET 2 project, DLR is therefore strongly interested in the activities of
CONNECT2SEA and convinced that collaboration between the two initiatives will create valuable synergies in the future.

- **Dr. Gerd Meier zu Köcker, Head of Section, VDI-VDE IT GmbH, Germany**

Dr. Gerd Meier zu Köcker is head of the Institute for Innovation and Technology (IIT Berlin) and holds a PhD in mechanical engineering. Currently he is serving on various advisory boards, appointed by different European Member States and the European Commission. Gerd has led many innovation and cluster projects in several parts of the world, has widely written about innovation, cluster and technology transfer issues and is a frequent speaker on innovation policy and cluster in Europe, North America, Africa and Asia.

VDI-VDE IT GmbH is a leading service provider in questions concerning the entire field of innovation and technology and is actively involved in EU-wide projects such as Nordic Cluster Excellence Initiative, European Cluster Excellence Initiative or MOBILIZE. In all these projects, ICT networks and clusters play an important role as driver for innovation and competitiveness. These projects also focus on cluster as well as on ICE companies. VDI/VDE-IT is also very active in the ASEAN-area, like Indonesia, Vietnam or South Korea. The KORANET-project they VDI/VDE-IT is involved in is a good example how networks/clusters and corresponding companies (incl. ICT) can cooperate trans-nationally.

At a national level, VDI/VDE-IT is in charge of the German cluster of Excellence Initiative (go-cluster), in which the best 75 clusters are actively supported. Among them, about 10 leading ICT networks are supported. Internationalisation, among others, plays an important role in this project.

- **Dr. Tan Tin Wee, Chairman, A*STAR Computational Resource Centre ACRC, Singapore**

Dr. Tan Tin Wee’s previous appointments include: Head of Technet Unit, Singapore’s First Internet Service Provider, Head of Internet Research and Development Unit NUS; Director, Bioinformatics Centre, Singapore; Head of the Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine, NUS; Board Director, International Society for Computational Biology; Founding Secretariat, Asia Pacific Bioinformatics Network; Focal Point, ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology; Inventor of Internationalized Domain Names and the Multilingual Internet Names Consortium; Board Director, Keppel Telecommunications and Transportation, SGX-listed company; Chairman, A*STAR Supercomputing Centre and others. His research interests are Bioinformatics, Advanced Internet Network Protocols and Applications in Biological Sciences, Internationalized Domain Names (IDN) (original founder and inventor). Tan Tin Wee was the principal investigator and founder of SingAREN. He is the co-founder of Asia Pacific Advanced Network (APAN), representing SingAREN. He is a member of the EUAsiaGrid FP7 Grant from 2009. In 2012 at Geneva, he was conferred and inducted into the Inaugural Internet Hall of Fame by the Internet Society together with 32 other pioneers.
3. Modus operandi of the Advisory Board: Terms of Reference

The modus operandi of the CONNECT2SEA Advisory Board is indicated in the Terms of Reference that were provided to the AB members. This is a living document and can be updated upon request or suggestions from the AB members and consortium partners.

3.1. Background

CONNECT2SEA “Supporting EU-ASEAN ICT strategic partnership and policy dialogue: ICT EU-ASEAN Research, Development and Innovation Knowledge Networks” is a Support Action project funded by the European Commission under the European Union’s Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration. The project aims at the creation of strategic synergies in the Information and Communication Technologies research, development and innovation between the European Union and South East Asia in order to increase and secure sustainable impacts. The project will pave the way for jointly addressing important societal challenges and core technologies at the research, innovation and policy levels under Horizon 2020 and relevant SEA regional and national programmes by building strategic partnerships.

The objectives of the 30-month project are: (1) to enrich and support the EU-ASEAN ICT R&D policy dialogue, (2) to foster EU-ASEAN ICT R&D cooperative research, and (3) to create synergies between the EU and ASEAN research programmes and projects. This will be done through the linkage between EU and ASEAN R&D projects, platforms and networks, thus helping their internationalisation. Using the bottom-up approach, the project will support to link initiatives, clusters and projects in the common EU-ASEAN priority topics, (separately) funded by EU and by ASEAN countries, or at the national level. Feedback from the project activities will contribute to the EU-ASEAN ICT policy dialogue. Networks’ events, synchronized with the policy dialogue meetings, will further increase their visibility. The project activities will also help fostering collaboration opportunities between EU and ASEAN under HORIZON 2020 and under national/regional innovation & research programs.

The project is implemented by a consortium consisting of the following 10 organisations:

- **inno TSD (inno)**, France (Project Coordinator)
- **Technische Universität Dortmund (TUDO)**, Germany
- **National Electronics and Computer Technology Center (NECTEC)**, Thailand – a member of the National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)
- **Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)**, France
- **Advanced Science and Technology Institute (ASTI)**, Philippines
- **Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas (FORTH)**, Greece
- **Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology (BPPT)**, Indonesia
- **Athens Technology Center (ATC)**, Greece
- **Information Technology Institute, Vietnam National University (ITI-VNU)**, Vietnam
- **Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)**, Malaysia

For more details see [www.connect2sea.eu](http://www.connect2sea.eu)
3.2. Membership
The AB consists of members coming from policy, research and industry, and who are key stakeholders, policy makers or research performers on the EU-ASEAN ICT R&D cooperation arena.

Recommendations about new, additional AB members should be sent to the project coordinator, Svetlana Klessova s.klessova@inno-group.com

3.3. Role of the Advisory Board (AB)
To maximize the impact of the project, the members of the Advisory Board (AB) will provide strategic advice and guidance in order to achieve the project goals and to support EU-ASEAN ICT Policy Dialogue.

Their main tasks are:
- To give strategic advice for the project, enhancing project’s findings and recommendations for EU-ASEAN ICT R&D cooperation.
- To provide advice on ICT R&D cooperation opportunities between the EU and the ASEAN countries.
- To give feedback/ participate in the selection of ICT networks/project/initiatives to be implemented under the project.
- To serve as a link between project and the national/regional activities in EU, ASEAN or in individual country level, helping to ensure adequate orientation.
- To increase the visibility of project activities and support the dissemination of project results.
- To stimulate the discussion between the relevant key players in EU and in ASEAN.

3.4. Expectations from the AB members
The AB members will be involved as:
- “Project inner reviewers” by providing comments and recommendations on the project findings, forming an ‘external monitoring mechanism’.
- “Multipliers of EU-ASEAN ICT R&D cooperation” - “project ambassadors and promoters”, by suggesting synergies with their own activities and activities of their networks and bodies, and by keeping their networks informed of the project activities and outcomes, thus supporting wider visibility and promoting the EU-ASEAN cooperation in the ICT policy area.
- “Project active contributors” by notifying the project team on the latest scientific and technological evolutions in the ICT policy area, new initiatives, etc.

The AB will be invited to attend the project plenary meetings 3 times during the project lifetime; this includes the project kick off meeting. A tentative planning of the meetings is expected to be established at least 3 months in advance. In case of travel unavailability of an AB member, his/her on-line participation in the meeting could be organised, or a separate discussion could be organised, by phone or as face-to-face meeting.

Furthermore, the AB members will be invited to participate and contribute (where appropriate and according to their availability) to the project activities and events, such as Workshops relevant to their thematic and interests.
3.5. **Secretariat**
The Project Coordinator (inno TSD) will be responsible for inviting the AB as a whole or in special cases individual members only to relevant meetings and events, for preparing the agenda of the meetings and for writing and circulating the minutes.

3.6. **Communication**
Communication amongst and with AB members will primarily be organised via e-mail and (on line conference) telephone calls.

3.7. **Duration**
Unless otherwise requested by an AB member during the project implementation, all AB members are expected to support the project until its end.

Should an AB-member be no longer able to participate in the AB during the project lifetime, he should notify the project coordinator as soon as possible.

3.8. **Financial Provisions**
AB members will not be remunerated for the work they will do for the project, but travel expenses related to their participation in AB meetings will be covered by the project budget, according to the FP7 rules and national accounting rules of the project coordinator.

3.9. **Confidentiality**
AB members are generally expected to take on the role as “ambassadors” of CONNECT2SEA with regards to other relevant projects, initiatives or networks. Thus, final project documents will be public, unless specified otherwise, for example with regard to the preliminary drafts of the documents.

3.10. **Conflicts of Interest**
AB members should perform their functions in good faith, honestly and impartially and avoid situations that might compromise their integrity or otherwise lead to conflicts of interest. AB members, who believe to be in a conflict of interest on a subject that will prevent them from providing impartial advice or undertaking an activity consistent with their role, must declare their conflict of interest to the Project Coordinator.

3.11. **Legal Status**
This document is not intended to create any legally binding obligations and does not constitute an agreement under International Law.
4. Activity Report

The Advisory Board has been set up and currently consists of four members. The consortium is open to include additional members, however ensuring the balanced representation of the members. Consultations are in progress.

The AB members have already been involved in several project activities and first opportunities to promote the Project via their network.

4.1. Kick off meeting

The AB members were invited to attend the kick off meeting on January 20th, 2014 at the Chatrium Hotel Riverside in Bangkok, Thailand. Due to non-availability, Dr. Gerd Meier zu Köcker and Dr. Tan Tin Wee did not attend. Christoph Elineau attended and presented the SEA-EU-NET 2 project. He made a number of suggestions – for example, one of them about the E-health as a possible strong topic for CONNECT2SEA to investigate, as well as monitoring systems and water management. He further considered that pilot actions on standardisation, such as how to exchange data and interoperability, could be a useful task.

4.2. Invitation to strategic meetings of other projects or bodies

Upon invitation from the AB member Christoph Elineau, the CONNECT2SEA Project Coordinator attended the Policy session on Europe-South East Asia cooperation in Science and Technology, organized during the ASEAN-EU STI Days 2014 in Bangkok. The objective of this session was to discuss the feasibility of a multilateral joint funding scheme between European and Southeast Asian states for collaborative projects. The session was held in the form of an informal brainstorming meeting and was jointly organised by CNRS (France) and DOST (Philippines). The discussions were mainly based on the participants’ experience in bi- or multi-lateral S&T cooperation. Representatives from ministries, funding agencies and research institutions of both regions, either at the policy or operational level participated in the session. The CONNECT2SEA project coordinator, Svetlana Klessova, provided insights about the planned call for applications to be organised by CONNECT2SEA in 2014 (light support scheme), and ensured that the feedback and lessons learnt will be shared.

The AB member Dr Alex Lim supported the invitation of the CONNECT2SEA Project Coordinator to attend the COST / SCMIT meeting in Singapore in April 2014, to present the project and to discuss the strategic elements of it with SCMIT and COST members. The CONNECT2SEA project coordinator Svetlana Klessova attended the meeting of SCMIT (Sub-Committee of Microelectronics and IT) on April 21, 2014, with 30-min presentation and discussion. SCMIT recommended to present the project at the COST meeting and to endorse it. Following this invitation, the project was presented by Svetlana Klessova at the COST meeting on April 23rd, and answered questions raised by the COST members. Dr Alex Lim supported the project endorsement. The CONNECT2SEA was endorsed by the COST meeting.
4.3. Face-to-face meetings

First face-to-face meetings were organised with the AB members:

- Dr Alex Lim and Christoph Elineau in Bangkok at the occasion of the ASEAN STI-Days and the CONNECT2SEA Kick-off Meeting. Both members provided suggestions and orientations on the project activities, which were taken into account.

- Dr Tan Tin Wee, in Singapore at the occasion of the ASEAN COST meeting. He provided suggestions for the targeted actions of the project, and organised a meeting with the leader of Futurescape 2025 Panel on Data Driven Research and Future Computing Paradigms, Dr Lin Shaowei from I2R. The meeting finally involved 8 participants from both SEA and EU (including the AB Member Dr Tan Tin Wee), and allowed a very good interactions on big data, cyber-physical systems and other topics, as well as on the roadmapping activities. Some documents were exchanged, such as big data consultation document circulated in April 2014. It was also agreed to investigate opportunities to invite the Singapore leader on the big data panel to the Steering Committee meeting of the NESSI European Technology platform.

4.4. Review of the CONNECT2SEA call for proposal

The draft call for proposal materials had been submitted for review to the four Advisory Board members. Suggestions were collected and integrated in the final version of the call document.

4.5. Other contributions

The AB members also acted on ad-hoc basis, to make additional suggestions, such as recommendations about stakeholders to be met, or additional AB member, etc. Each of these suggestions was followed up. For example, Christoph Elineau recommended to meet Singapore-based specialist working in the field of e-Health: the meeting was organised and the ideas to involve the specialist into CONNECT2SEA targeted action on e-health was discussed.

4.6. Upcoming activities

All along the project lifetime, regular exchange with the AB members is planned in order to keep them updated about directions taken and results obtained within the project and to obtain their related feedback and suggestions as promptly as possible, so that actions can be adapted where helpful.

This exchange will be organised in the manner which is the most convenient for the AB members, taking into account the constraints of their high level positions and subsequent workload.

The next plenary meeting of CONNECT2SEA has been scheduled on September 15-16 in Crete, Greece (host partner: FORTH, Institute of Computer Science). The three AB members confirmed participation, at the time of the preparation of the current document.

A brief overview of the AB members’ involvement in the project activities will be provided in the project management report.
5. Annexes

5.1. Annex 1 - Letter of support from the ASEAN Secretariat

Ref.: ASCC/CSC/001/ST/SCMIT/CONNECT2SEA Project/(005)

11 January 2013

Ms. Svetlana Klossova
Director
Inno TSD
Ophiira 1, place Bermond, BP 63
06902 Sophia Antipolis cedex, France
Tel: +33 4 92 88 84 26
Fax: +33 4 93 65 41 36

Subject: Support to CONNECT2SEA initiative “Supporting EU-SEA ICT strategic partnership and policy dialogue: Connecting ICT EU-SEA Research, Development and Innovation Knowledge Networks”

Dear Ms. Svetlana,

Thank you for informing us of the plan of your group to submit the “CONNECT2SEA initiative” for consideration under FP7 ICT Call 10. We also note with appreciation the main objectives of said initiative which are to support dialogues between the European Commission/the EU and strategic partner countries and regions, and to foster cooperation with strategic organisations in collaborative ICT R&D both within the EU’s Framework Programmes (FP7, Horizon 2020) and under relevant programmes of other countries.

Noting that the objectives of the CONNECT2SEA initiative are consistent with the terms of reference of the existing ASEAN-EU Dialogue Meeting on Science and Technology, we would like to express strong support to the initiative. We are hopeful that the planned CONNECT2SEA activities would benefit the ASEAN Member States and would strengthen the cooperation link between both regions.

Should the project be considered favorably and granted funding under FP7 ICT Call 10, we would be pleased to be part of the project advisory committee and to participate in meetings and other CONNECT2SEA activities.

Yours sincerely,

Alexander A. Lim
Head, Science and Technology Division
Cross-Sectional Cooperation Directorate
ASEAN socio-cultural Community (ASCOC) Department
ASEAN Secretariat

One Vision, One Identity, One Community

The ASEAN Secretariat 70 A Jalan Sinangawan, Jakarta 12110 Indonesia Tel: (62-21) 7265994, 7243572 Fax: (62-21) 7265374, 7243304
5.2. Annex 2 – Letter of support from DLR

I, Christoph Elineau, hereby declare my intention to become a member of the Advisory Board, to be created under the FP7 ICT project “Supporting EU-ASEAN ICT strategic partnership and policy dialogue: ICT EU-ASEAN Research, Development and Innovation Knowledge Networks”, should the proposed project be awarded the grant.

I acknowledge that the topic of the project is very relevant and interesting to my organisation. I further believe that my experience and professional expertise can significantly contribute to the project objectives. DLR coordinates EU project SEA-EU-NET 2 aimed at deepening S&T cooperation between Europe and Southeast Asia in a strategic manner by identifying opportunities for S&T cooperation and creating a policy dialogue between the countries of Europe and Southeast Asia on S&T cooperation. ICT is one of the cross-cutting priorities of the project. Being in the role of coordinating the SEA-EU-NET 2 project, we would highly appreciate to be part of the Advisory Board to this project. We are convinced that a collaboration between these two initiatives would create valuable synergies in the future.

My understanding of the commitment is the participation in three Advisory Board meetings with travel-related costs covered by the project; project advice, including the selection of the ICT networks to be supported, and review of major project documents/recommendations.

I look forward to providing input to this important project and to contribute to the reinforcement of EU-ASEAN ICT R&D partnership.

[Signature]
Christoph Elineau
Senior Scientific Officer
International Bureau of the German Ministry of Education and Research
International Bureau of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (DLR), Germany

The International Bureau (IB) of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) at the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) implements, on behalf of BMBF, a wide range of international cooperation activities. The IB is part of the Project Management Agency at the German Aerospace Centre (DLR), which is the largest funding agency working for the BMBF and other governmental bodies. It provides direct services to the Ministry and administers also BMBF-support for German Universities, public research institutions and industries to identify and develop international links in strategic fields of mutual interest. IB-DLR is preparing joint research activities in strategic fields of common interest, basically linked to national and European research funding programmes. It supports bilateral cooperation programmes in S&T with about 30 countries around the world in order to facilitate the preparation and implementation of international cooperation of German institutions. For these programmes BMBF provides an annual budget of app. 5 Mio €. In addition, IB coordinates a number of accompanying measures to set up a framework for the stimulation of future cooperation in close cooperation with BMBF. The most important partner countries range from the SEA countries are Vietnam and Indonesia. Bilateral cooperation agreements between BMBF and MOST (Vietnam) and RISTEK (Indonesia) exist since 9 years (Vietnam) and almost 30 years (Indonesia). Numerous workshops, fact-finding missions and preparatory activities for research projects have been organised by IB under the umbrella of these agreements. In addition a lot of bilateral cooperation projects and preparatory visits have been funded by the IB.

DLR has a wide experience in coordinating and participating in EU FP7 INCO projects, aiming at the internationalisation of the European Research Area through enhanced S&T cooperation with international partner countries. The IB is partner a number of coordination and support actions funded in the specific programme capacities:

- Eight currently running FP7 IncoNets (Eastern Europe and Central Asia, South Caucasus, Sub-Saharan Africa, Mediterranean Partner Countries, South-East Asia, Latin America and the Western Balkan Countries, Pacific).
- Bilateral projects with Russia, the Ukraine and Mexico,
- IHRONET with China, Latin-America, South-East Europe, Russia, Korea, the Black Sea Region and with India

DLR is the implementing agency for a number of bilateral German S&T cooperation schemes and as programme owner is in the position to contribute to horizontal ERA-NETS.
5.3. Annex 3 - Letter of support from VDI-VDE-IT

VDI|VDE|IT

CONFIRMATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ADVISORY BOARD

22nd NOVEMBER

I, Dr. Gerd Meier zu Köcker, hereby declare my intention to become a member of the Advisory Board, to be created under the FP7-ICT project "Supporting EU-ASEAN ICT strategic partnership and policy dialogue: ICT EU-ASEAN Research, Development and Innovation Knowledge Networks", should the proposed project be awarded the grant.

I acknowledge that the topic of the project is very relevant and interesting to my organisation. I further believe that my experience and professional expertise can significantly contribute to the project objectives.

VDI-VDE IT is actively involved in EU-wide projects such as Nordic Cluster Excellence Initiative, European Cluster Excellence Initiative or MOBILIZE. In all these projects ICT networks and clusters play an important role as drivers for innovation and competitiveness. These projects also focus on clusters as well as on ICT companies. VDI-VDE IT is also very active in the ASEAN-area, like Indonesia, Vietnam or South Korea. The KORANET-project, VDI-VDE IT is involved in, is a good example how networks / clusters and corresponding companies (incl. ICT) can cooperate transnationally.

At national level, VDI-VDE IT is in charge of the German Cluster Excellence Initiative (co-cluster), in which the best 75 clusters are actively supported. Among them, about 10 leading ICT networks are supported, too. Internationalisation, among others, plays an important role in this project.

My understanding of the commitment is the participation in three Advisory Board meetings with travel-related costs covered by the project; project advice, including the selection of the ICT networks to be supported, and review of major project documents/recommendations.

I look forward to providing input to this important project and to contribute to the reinforcement of EU-ASEAN ICT R&D partnership.

Dr. Gerd Meier zu Köcker
Head of Section
VDI-VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH

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