



Enhancing the bilateral S&T Partnership with Ukraine

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| Deliverable Title | D4.3 – Scientific workshop with concluding reports on thematic subtopics for EU-Ukraine cooperation |
| Deliverable Lead: | NIP-UA |
| Related Work-package: | WP4 – Supporting Working Groups and preparing measures to set-up Ukrainian mirroring Technology Platforms |
| Related Task: | Task 4.2– Providing a knowledge base for recommendation shaping of the Working Groups |
| Author(s): | NIP-NASU |
| Dissemination level: | Public |
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Abstract

The discussion within the scientific workshop should serve as a basis for the development of the activities of the Ukrainian Working Groups. Furthermore, means for strengthening EU-Ukrainian S&T cooperation shall be addressed. These means may comprise the establishment of joint expert groups or in the long run the establishment of joint EU-Ukrainian working groups.

Forthcoming result:

Providing decision makers from the European Commission and Ukrainian institutions the necessary knowledge base for future collaborative activities with Ukraine by providing analytical work, developing scenarios, establishing thematic expert networks, identifying relevant sub-topics of mutual interest, examination of each thematic priority based on experience of FP6 and beginning of FP7.

**Scientific Workshop: “Identification of concrete sub-topics of
the S&T EU-Ukraine cooperation: medium-term outlook.
Role of the Working Groups”**

23 September 2009 Kiev, Ukraine

Venue: President Hotel:12 Hospitalna St., Conference Hall - Aktoviy)

Aim of the workshop:

The discussion within the workshop aimed to serve as a basis for the development of the activities of the Ukrainian Working Groups. Furthermore, means for strengthening EU-Ukrainian S&T cooperation were addressed. These means may comprise the establishment of joint expert groups or in the long run the establishment of joint EU-Ukrainian working groups.

Forthcoming result:

Providing decision makers from the European Commission and Ukrainian institutions the necessary knowledge base for future collaborative activities with Ukraine by providing analytical work, developing scenarios, establishing thematic expert networks, identifying relevant sub-topics of mutual interest, examination of each thematic priority based on experience of FP6 and beginning of FP7.

Participants:

Representatives of the Joint Working Groups for promoting participation of the Ukrainian Scientists in the 7th Framework programme, representatives of the European Commission, representatives of Ukrainian state institutions BILAT-UKR consortium partners.

PROGRAMME

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| 09.00– 09.30 | Registration |
| 09.30-09.45 | Chair persons : Dr.Anatoliy Zagorodniy, Chief Scientific Secretary of the NASU; Dr Jean-Luc Teffo, BILAT-UKR Project Coordinator Welcome address Dr.Anatoliy Zagorodniy, Chief Scientific Secretary of the NASU Dr Jean-Luc Teffo, BILAT-UKR Project Coordinator, Deputy Director of International Relations, CNRS |
| 09.45-10.15 | European provisions for the EU-Ukraine S&T cooperation (<i>Tarik Meziani, EC representative, Project Officer</i>) |
| 10.15-10.45 | Ukrainian perspectives for the Ukraine-EU S&T Cooperation. Role and tasks of the Ukrainian Working Groups (<i>Natalia Zakrevskaya, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, Department of International S&T Cooperation and European Integration</i>) |
| 10.45– 11.15 | Towards to effective EU – Ukrainian S&T cooperation (<i>Vladimir Mayer, Head of CNRS Office for Russia and CIS,</i>) |
| 11.15– 11.30 | Coffee |

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| 11.30-12.00 | Russian approach and experience as regards a successful S&T cooperation and participation in FP7 (<i>Vladimir Eryomin, Representative of Russian WGs,</i>) |
| 12.00-12.30 | The vision for further development of the Ukrainian Working Groups concept (<i>Anatoliy Zagorodnij, Representative of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine</i>) |
| 12.30– 13.00 | Polish experience in defining of priorities and elaboration of bilateral R&T cooperation: technology platforms (<i>Krzysztof Trojanowski, PAN</i>) |
| 13.00– 14.00 | Lunch |
| 14.00– 14.30 | Ukrainian Technology Platform. Manufuture. Some aspects of the EU-Ukraine collaboration (<i>Prof. Vladimir Kovalenko, Director of the Laser Technologies Research Institute</i>) |
| 14.30-15.00 | Ukrainian-Poland personal scientific ties as a good example of West-East cooperation (<i>Dr. Alexander Gabovich, Leading Research Associate, Crystal Physics Department, Institute of Physics, NASU</i>) |
| 15.00-15.30 | Ukrainian Social Sciences and Art & Humanities on a World-Wide Scale, <i>Dr. (Volodymyr Kuznetsov, Institute of Philosophy & National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy & Kyiv University of Law)</i> Opportunities, prospects and approaches to Ukrainian participation in European Programmes (<i>Nechiporenko Alexandra, Ukrainian Ministry of Economy -, Representative of the Department of International Technical Assistance and Cooperation with International Financing Organizations</i>) |
| 16.00-17.00 | <i>final round table moderated by the chairpersons</i> |

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

Dr Hanna El's'ka

WGs should be revitalized with the assistance of the EU, on one side, and the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (as a policy-making and line agency), on the other side. Its members should include high administrative and famous scientists. A coordinating meeting should be called. It could be a good starting point.

Dr Iryna Terenets'ka

This scientific workshop contributed to raise awareness of WGs mission. Revitalization of WGs is hardly possible without the EU assistance. Input could also be taken from other examples in WGs in other countries. The WG members need professional consultation as FP has some specifics, starting from the specific notions used. This could be implemented through communications, seminars and visits.

Dr Borys Iliencko

When discussing the necessity of WGs it is necessary to take into account the national priorities and not the interests of specific institutions. But, like in any venture, there should be a leader. At the initial phase it is necessary to organize and conduct the meeting, and WGs should be set up with participation of the EU.

With regard to activities of WGs in Russia, they have different problems, like Russia itself, but their experience is important.

Dr Yaroslav Blume

WGs are quite important for Ukraine, and this process should be developed on the level of a policy-making agency. Each country has its S&T priorities, and they have different status with regard to relations with the EU (e.g. Poland is a MS). For Ukraine, it is important to revitalize WGs in the main S&T priorities, and the selection of the WG members should be based on scientific results. At the same time, they do not know about S&T priorities in Ukraine or cannot explain why this or that field is a priority field. This needs to be done before presenting WGs to the EC.

Dr Volodymyr Kovalenko

However financial problem is very important for Ukraine, it is better to focus on the community, which is pessimistic now. At the same time, it is quite positive that the Ukrainian scientific community has every possibility to share its ideas with the policy-makers.

Also it would be important for Ukraine if the Commission simplifies the participation procedure for the Ukrainian researchers.

Dr Tarik Meziani

The participation procedure is not very difficult for Ukraine and other ICPC countries, and they should make use of their status. Unlike the MS which invest in FP they do not have to get their funds back. FP7 is a competitive programme, it can be used to build partnerships and build long-term relations. The proposal writing process is better to implement like this: scientists write science and administration and/or people can be hired to do management. This distribution of labour may have some positive results.

This discussion on the WGs issue will be passed to the Commission. At the same time, it is important for Ukraine to define why it needs WGs and establish them. It is even more important in terms of creation of joint WGs with the EU. Probably WGs should focus on coordinated calls and policy dialogue. To engage in these actions, Ukrainian WGs need time and organisation. And to sit with the EC to discuss these issues, they need to be prepared.

Creation of joint WGs will be discussed at the S&T cooperation agreement steering group on association next spring. The priorities in terms of scientific fields need to be defined. Ukraine should be ready to work

in joint WGs. Unfortunately the country is not ready now. It is also important to realize that creation of joint WGs will not result in increased number of FP projects funded by the Commission.

Ukraine might make better use of the possibilities of the policy support tools like ENP and experience of its neighbours like Russia with which Ukraine was integrated in one state several years ago.

The BILAT-UKR project can help on the practical side, to improve Ukrainian participation to FP7 for instance.

Dr Volodymyr Kovalenko

Ukraine's political and economical situation is very complex. But the country has other problems like lack of diversified international S&T experience. This is why involvement of the Commission in establishment of WGs in Ukraine is essential.

Dr Tarik Meziani

It is possible to have support of the EU experts and meet with them twice a year. But before that it is necessary to revitalize WGs and identify topics of interest.

S&T cooperation includes not only WGs and FP7 but education and infrastructure as well. In that aspect it is worth making use of Polish experience however, as a MS, it has its own problems with regard to FP7. To increase participation to FP7, Ukrainian scientists must build partnerships.

Ms Natalia Zakrevs'ka

WGs are of particular interest for the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. The participants discuss mechanism, priorities and membership in WGs, and it is evident that this is a very important issue. At the same time, I would like to identify who is interested in it. If there is any interest, it is possible to consider and fix problem.

Dr Volodymyr Avramenko

The Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine is not always following our needs. For instance, scientists do not always have access to information and scientific newspapers. It is information that is important for science. Ukraine lacks it, maybe the European Commission can pressurize the Ukrainian ministry to let scientists have access to information.

Ms Olena Koval

The full name of the established WGs is as follows: joint WGs for promotion of S&T cooperation. This is why it is important to be aware that the WGs idea is "promotion".

There is a need for ideas to promote cooperation in Ukraine and outside.

Dr Petro Smertenko

EUREKA has the same problems. WGs in Ukraine should define their mission clearly. At the same time, financial support is essential for their development too. At least it will provide the possibility to attend important S&T meetings.

Dr Tarik Meziani

Having funds for traveling is essential. But everything is interrelated. To have funds it is necessary to have projects, and to have more projects it is necessary to start with one project.

There is a need to build partnerships. In STCU projects for instance, Western collaborators are needed (most of the time, Western collaborators only send support letters to the project and do not actively participate).

Dr Michael Guth

Scepticism of the Ukrainian researchers in relation to WGs is clear. To be actively involved, they need “quick-win” options. It is also clear that the Commission would like WGs meet on the case-to-case basis. It involves politics. But it is important to take into account the political situation in Ukraine. WGs should have the mission relevant to their status in view that they do not influence policy. This is why the WGs’ mission should be revised like it was done in Russia.

Dr Hanna El’s’ka

BILAT-UKR claims support for WGs. But it is important to know what kind of support WGs need. To this end the WGs action plan should be presented.

Dr Jean-Luc Teffo

The Project was written two years ago. And now the reality is different.

Ms Franziska Müller

BILAT-UKR can provide support for WGs by writing the draft WGs strategic action plan. This action plan will be circulated among WG members for their input.

Ms Olena Koval

The researchers know better what they need. The Project may propose the draft of the strategic action plan to be further developed by the researchers.

Dr Krzysztof Trojanowski

The WGs development needs “power horses” as there is hardly a possibility to obtain a “quick result” from the Commission or the state. The “power horses” could present the vision of the problem in view of the background experience and possibilities like it was done in Poland.

Dr Volodymyr Eremin

Ukraine has been moving to secure its object too quickly. There are several phases which are necessary to cope with before establishing WGs. One of them is creation of the thematic contact points staffed by energetic contact persons who know what to do. And these persons should be trained accordingly. It is very important that the thematic contact points have public support and some financial support from the Government.

Background experience proves that quick advancement is fraught with mistakes and further frustration.

Ms Natalia Shulga

It is clear that the WGs’ mission is science. And the reality is that science should be saved in Ukraine. There are NGOs which accomplish this task in Ukraine that the talented researchers stay in Ukraine. As scientists are not decision-makers, NGOs should be approached.

Dr Tarik Meziani

There is different understanding of WGs. The Commission considers WG as an instrument for policy dialogue and support. There are two phases of the WGs creation: 1) identifying the WGs’ format and activities; 2) financing of WGs. It is important to understand that WG is not a tool to meet colleagues abroad or implement support measures, but an instrument for networking. This is a different understanding, and it should be ruled.

The meeting is important to realize the mission of WGs and their step by step development.

WG is a good aspect of policy side, but it is no good to neglect the rest.

Ukraine possesses a high scientific potential which should be properly used despite of the political instability in the country.

Results of the workshop

Among participants of the workshop were representatives of the Ukrainian Working Groups, a representative of the European Commission, representatives of Ukrainian state institutions and BILAT-UKR consortium partners.

Previously to the workshop the BILAT-UKR consortium received the information that the Ukrainian Working Groups are not active. The outcome of the workshop confirmed this information. Nevertheless it became clear that in principle there is an interest of the members of the Ukrainian Working Groups for reactivation but also that support would be needed for that. The discussion within the workshop also addressed the question what kind of support the Working Groups would need (from national-/ EU- and BILAT-UKR-level).

For other information on the workshop, please refer to D4.2 Notes on Ukrainian Working Groups.