

2nd Danube eRegion Conference – DeRC 2012

Grand Hotel Union Ljubljana, Slovenia, Monday - Tuesday, September 24-25, 2012
<http://eLivingLab.org/CrossBordereRegion/DeRC2012>

Cross-border eSolution/eService Prototype Development

Prototype title: Cooperation of funding agencies – the Lead Agency Process

Short description of the prototype (problem to be solved, expected benefits, main stakeholders, expansion opportunities, related EU projects, references): The majority of European research funds is distributed nationally through national research funding organisations (RFOs), also in national calls for research projects. The latter, however, have little or no synergy with national calls in other European countries, and may lead to duplication of research and other ineffective use of research funds.

In the Lead Agency Process, a joint application is submitted by researchers from two or more countries to one of the national RFOs that, acting as the Lead Agency, notifies the partner RFOs of the application so there is no need for a double submission. The application is submitted as a whole, including a description of the overall project and the specific roles of the sub-projects conducted in the individual countries. A separate budget and work plan must also be submitted for the individual sub-project. The evaluation of the overall project is conducted by the customary evaluation committee of the relevant RFO. Lead Agency applications are generally evaluated through the same procedure as regular applications, making the chances of success equal. According to the Lead Agency Agreement, the project parts carried out in the individual countries must be interdependent and complementary. Lead Agency proposals must not have any thematic overlaps with other proposals submitted to the NFOs or with already funded projects, thus avoiding duplication or double financing of research.

In principle, the Lead Agency is located in the country in which the requested funding amount is highest. In other cases, only one of the national RFOs may act as the Lead Agency. Significant synergies in research may emerge among countries that are involved in the Lead Agency Process.

Among the countries in the Danube region, Austria (FWF) and Germany (DFG) are already involved in the DACH Lead Agency scheme; recently Slovenia (ARRS) signed a Lead Agency agreement with Austria (FWF). Other RFOs, e.g. the GAČR from the Czech Republic, expressed their interest. Countries from the Western Balkan could be involved. The Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS) could play a significant role in enabling cooperation in research in the Danube region.

ICT requirements for the prototype deployment:

Proposer (contact person)

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Existing partners (representative, position, organization, country):

Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung ([FWF](#)), Austria

What type of partners are we looking for?
national research funding organisations

To be emailed as soon as possible and not later than Thursday, August 23, 2012 to Alenka.Slabajna@JAPTI.si
Public Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Entrepreneurship and Foreign Investments