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Abstract	<p>This document provides the information on the way of selecting thematic priorities for the second group of two IncoNet EECA Brokerage Events (BE), which took place in 2010: in Yerevan, Armenia on 7-8 of October 2010 (Information & Brokerage Event on FP7 Environment (Including climate change), and in Kiev, Ukraine on 19-20 of October 2010 (Brokerage Event on Energy (FP7)).</p> <p>The information on the way of selecting thematic priorities for the first group of two IncoNet EECA BE, which took place in 2008 (Astana, Kazakhstan) and in 2009 (Warsaw, Poland) is presented in Deliverable 3.5.</p> <p>The selection was possible to be done from six targeted thematic priorities as Health, Environment, Energy, Nano, Food-Agriculture – Biotechnology and ICT. For the BE in Armenia, Environment (Including Climate Change) (ENV) priority was selected. In the case of BE in Kiev, the selected priority is Energy (ENE).</p>
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INTRODUCTION

The IncoNet EECA project aims at strengthening the scientific and technological cooperation between the EU Member States, Associated Countries and Eastern Europe and Central Asia countries. Activities within the project are implemented both at political and operational level. The organisation of 4 international brokerage events is foreseen within Workpackage 3, Task 3.2. This activity is implemented as operational one, aiming at increasing participation of EECA partnering countries in the “Core activities” of FP7.

Organization of IncoNet EECA brokerage events is coordinated by the WP3 Leader IPPT PAN (Polish partner) in cooperation with particular local organizer of the BE.

The information on the way of selecting thematic priorities for the first group of two IncoNet EECA BE, which took place in 2008 (Astana, Kazakhstan) and in 2009 (Warsaw, Poland) is presented in Deliverable 3.5.

PROPOSAL OF TOPIC FOR THE BROKERAGE EVENTS IN 2010

Primary, the Brokerage Event in Yerevan, Armenia was planned to be organized in October 2009, after CIT took over the responsibility to organize it instead of Georgian partner (GNSF). However, due to budgetary problems of Armenian partner, Brokerage Event in Armenia was postponed from 2009 to 2010.

Finally, in 2010 it was planned to organize two large scale brokerage events: in Armenia (Yerevan) and in Ukraine (Kiev). In general the thematic priority for each brokerage event foreseen within the project is to be decided among six decided priorities of FP7 Cooperation Programme, namely: Health, Environment, Energy, Nano, Food-Agriculture – Biotechnology and ICT.

The “Environment (Including Climate Change)” was selected as a priority for the Brokerage Event in Yerevan, because:

- The FP7 Work Programme 2011 on Environment (including climate change) included “The ocean of tomorrow” call with partly regional focus on the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, and Armenia is part of extended Black Sea Region. It is in line the European Council conclusions on the “European Strategy for Marine and Maritime Research”, which invite to put a particular emphasis on the Mediterranean and the Black Sea basin. It also supports the objectives of the communications “Towards an Integrated Maritime Policy for better governance in the Mediterranean”¹ and “Black Sea Synergy”². The overall objectives of the calls are to promote sustainable well-coordinated research efforts in order to characterize patterns of pressure in environmental and socio-economic terms on the Black Sea and to develop a framework for future implementation of adaptive policies

¹ COM (2009) 466 of 11.9.2009 – Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament: “Toward an Integrated maritime Policy for better governance in the Mediterranean”.

² COM (2007) 160 of 11.4.2007 – Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament: “Black Sea Synergy – a new regional cooperation initiative”.

and management schemes, while fostering international cooperation with neighboring countries, which is also one of core objectives of the IncoNet EECA project, in general, and regional approach in organization of Brokerage Events, in particular.

- Environmental protection is one of the areas of cooperation within the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, and BSEC Action Plan for Cooperation in the field of environmental protection is under operation which is a general framework to promote cooperation in the field of environment among BSEC Member States. Researchers from BSEC Member States, both EU and EECA, will be the main focus for participation at the Brokerage Event in Yerevan.

Formally, this decision on selecting thematic priority for the IncoNet EECA Brokerage Event in Yerevan was taken during the General Assembly Meeting of the IncoNet EECA project in Vienna, 12-13 February 2009.

The selection of the “Energy” as a priority for the Brokerage Event in Kiev:

Energy is essential for Europe to function. But the days of cheap energy for Europe seem to be over. The challenges of climate change, increasing import dependence and higher energy prices are faced by all countries.

Energy is most important issues of the external EU relations; it is crucial to geopolitical security, economic stability, social development and international efforts to combat climate change. The EU develops effective energy relations with the EECA partners, in particular in increasing energy security through the provision of additional energy sources. This policy has a *legal basis* through the Baku Initiative and in the framework of the ENP, the EU-Russia Energy Dialogue, the Memorandum of Understanding with the Ukraine, Azerbaijan and, where appropriate, via bilateral energy agreements.

Moreover **EU International Energy Policy Priorities highlight importance of building up energy relations with the EU's neighbours**, following up the Commission's recent proposal to strengthen the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) also in the field of energy, with a possible EU-ENP energy Treaty. The Energy Community Treaty already acts as the basis for an emerging regional energy market, and should seek to gradually extend beyond the EU and the Western Balkans to incorporate neighbours like Moldova, Norway, Turkey and Ukraine. Enhanced energy relationships with Egypt and other Mashrek/Maghreb energy supplier and transit countries need to be developed, as well as with Libya. Both Norway and Algeria deserve special attention and tailor-made relations. Enhancing relations with Russia through the negotiation of a new robust, comprehensive framework agreement, including a fully-fledged energy partnership benefiting both sides and that creates the conditions necessary for new investments. This should emphasize the mutual long-term benefits to both Russia and the EU and be based on market principles and those of the Energy Charter Treaty and draft Transit Protocol.

The European Union has already developed close relations with all the countries of EECA region. The EU needs to act now, together with neighbouring countries to deliver sustainable, secure and competitive energy:

- Using renewable energy today is generally more expensive than using hydrocarbons, but the gap is narrowing – particularly, when the costs of climate change are factored in;
- Economies of scale can reduce the costs for renewables,
- Renewable energy helps to improve the EU's security of energy supply by increasing the share of domestically produced energy, diversifying the fuel mix and the sources of energy

imports and increasing the proportion of energy from politically stable regions as well as creating new jobs in Europe;

- Renewable energies emit few or no greenhouse gases, and most of them bring significant air quality benefits.

This is a vision of Europe with a thriving and sustainable energy economy, that has grasped the opportunities behind the threats of climate change and globalisation, gained world leadership in a diverse portfolio of clean, efficient and low-emission energy technologies and become a motor for prosperity and a key contributor to growth and jobs. Under the 7th Framework Programme, annual spending on energy research over the next 7 years at EU level will increase by 50%.

Effort in the FP7 Energy workprogrammes will therefore be focussed on technologies identified in the SET-Plan as key challenges for the next 10 years. This means that second generation bio fuels (in particular biorefineries), CO2 capture and storage, solar energy, off shore wind and smart electricity grids will take an important part in planned researches.

Improving cooperation with the EECA countries, building energy partnerships with concrete actions, the project-led research cooperation between the EU and its EECA Partners will lead to the mutual long-term benefits. This is precisely why the brokerage event on energy, *which offered a perfect opportunity for scientists to meet their colleagues active in various fields of the energy sector, to engage in talks and negotiations for the identification of co-operation, exchange of the project ideas and development of project partnerships and consortiums*, is so important and could have far reaching effects.

Formally, this decision on selecting thematic priority for the IncoNet EECA Brokerage Event in Kiev was taken during the General Assembly Meeting of the IncoNet EECA project in Moscow, 26-27 November 2009.

Versioning and Contribution History

Version	Date	Modification reason	Modified by
1	23.11.2010	-	IPPT PAN
2	25.11.2010	Adding the second part	IPPT PAN