S&T International Cooperation Network for Eastern European and Central Asian Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deliverable Title</th>
<th>D4.5a Visits to/interviews of EECA NCPs/NIPs - Russia</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deliverable Lead</td>
<td>FFG, HSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Related Work package</td>
<td>WP4 Supporting the NCPs/NIPs in EECA countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Author(s)</td>
<td>Dr. Anna Pikalova, Ms. Petra Reiter</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start date of Project</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Duration</td>
<td>48 months</td>
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Abstract

The goal of the deliverable is to review of the state of the art of NCPs/NIPs in the EECA countries through visits and interviews. The results of interviews together with other studies and analytical activities are the basis for the development of recommendations for NCPs/NIPs strengthening to be addressed to national decision makers. Interviews of Russian NCPs were organised jointly by FFG and HSE in Moscow within the period of 02-06 February 2009.

Project funded by the European Commission under the International cooperation activity of the Capacities Programme of the 7th European Framework Programme for RTD.
Versioning and Contribution History

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<td>v.02</td>
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The goal of the deliverable is to contribute to review of the state of the art of NCPs/NIPs in the EECA countries through visits and interviews. The results of interviews together with other studies and analytical activities are the basis for the development of recommendations for NCPs/NIPs strengthening to be addressed to national decision makers.

Interviews of Russian NCPs were organised jointly by FFG and HSE in Moscow within the period of 02-06 February 2009.

The deliverable has been achieved within the work package 4 “Supporting the NCPs/NIPs in EECA countries”, task 4.2 “Capacity Building of NCPs in Russia”. The presented deliverable as a part of the WP4 activities contributes to the main objective focused on increasing the capacities of the NCP’s and NIP’s in the EECA to implement FP7 in order to raise the number of successful participants from their respective countries.
1 INTRODUCTION

The 7th Framework Programme provides increased opportunities for collaboration with Third countries and in particular with the EECA countries. For assuring an optimum participation of the EECA researchers in the 7th FP, there is a need of well-trained and efficient National Contact and Regional Information Points (NIPs/RIPs) in EECA. A number of efforts already have been undertaken with this respect. In particular the existing INTAS ININ network has to be mentioned. But also other relevant support structures in the EECA have to be taken into account.

The IncoNet EECA project supports the further development of the existing structures and their efficiency building on the ownership of the respective EECA and the expertise of the well functioning trans-European NCP network. In addition, regional networking of the EECA NIPs and NCPs is stimulated.

Building on a standard methodology developed within WP4/ Task 4.1 of the IncoNet EECA project, and respective quality assurance activities, the following activities were foreseen on regional level in Tasks 4.2 – 4.5:

- review of EECA NCP/ NIP systems by the implementation of semi-structured interviews, provision of recommendations to national authorities to increase the efficiency of existing structures based on the national ownership;
- training of existing NIPs/RIPs through a training workshop on regional level and training visits to EU-NCPs;
- continuous consultancy for EECA NCPs/NIPs by experienced EU NCPs.

In addition in task 4.1 the integration of the NIPs/ NCPs in the existing EU-NCP network (by Themes) is fostered to ensure active cooperation. Related activities to be implemented in FP7 (i.e. Coordination and Support Actions – CSAs) addressing NCP networking and capacity building have been taken into account in order to avoid redundancies and make an optimum use of synergies.
2 AIM AND METHODOLOGY OF THE INTERVIEWS

The aim of the interviews was to provide FFG with more insight into the current situation and context of work of Russian NCPs, as experienced and seen by Russian NCPs themselves.

The purpose was to provide the interviewers from FFG with all required information enabling them to write an analytical report with recommendations to the Ministry for Education and Science of the Russian Federation.

Based on the interview guide developed by FFG in consultation with the partners (task leaders) in WP4, the interviews were carried out between 2nd and 6th February 2009. FFG took notes of each interview. After the interviews, each Russian NCPs received the minutes of the interview and was invited to provide comments and modifications which were taken into consideration by FFG. The final version of each interview is available at FFG.

These final versions were used as a basis for the analytical report with recommendations (D4.6).

3 TARGET GROUPS

The list of Russian NCPs taking part in the interview is attached as Annex 6.1.

Due a business travel, the NCP for Environment was not able to take part in the interview.

4 ACTIVITIES

Preparation

As an introduction for the interviews, FFG organised in cooperation with HSE a workshop of half a day for all Russian NCPs on 2nd February 2009. The purpose of the workshop carried out with the participation of the Austrian NCP coordinator and director of FFG/EIP, Sabine Herlitschka, was to underline the aims and purpose of the review and to encourage Russian NCPs to take part actively in the activity.

The invitation letter and programme of the workshop are attached as Annex 6.2.

HSE was responsible for the preparation of the organisational framework. This included:

- the dissemination of the invitation to take part in the interview among 12 Russian NCPs.
- telephone contacts for obtaining the personal confirmation of participation of NCPs, agreement of the exact time schedule and location for each interview (premises of HSE or premises of NCP to be interviewed)
- drafting of the final list of the interview participants and time schedule made available to FFG;

Implementation

HSE was responsible for the

- organisation of the welcome and introductory workshop at HSE on the first day of “interview week”, 2nd February 2009, including flipcharts and technical facilities like laptop, internet access and a multimedia projector;
- scheduling and organisation of the meetings among FFG and the respective Russian NCPs for 10 interviews from 2 to 6 February 2009;
• provision of rooms and refreshments for the interviews with the NCPs for “Aeronautics”, “Energy”, “Infrastructures”, “Mobility” and “Inco” taking place at the premises of HSE.

For FFG, Ralf König and Petra Reiter together carried out the interviews. Normally, 2 interviews per day were carried out, always by these two representatives from FFG. Due to the limited time available, two interviews were once carried out in parallel: On 5th February 2009, Ralf König carried out the interview with the SSH NCP, and Petra Reiter carried out the interview with the NCP for “Food and Biotechnology”.

Each NCP confirmed by her/ his signature that the interview took place. These confirmations are stored at FFG and will be made available upon request.

Follow up
FFG made minutes of each interview. These minutes were sent to each NCP for comments and modifications. Based on the feedback of each Russian NCP, a final version for each interview was developed.

5 OUTCOMES AND CONCLUSION

The summary of the main analytical findings resulting from the interviews is attached as Annex 3.

As foreseen by WP4 /”Support to NCPs/ NIPs in the EECA” of the IncoNet EECA project, the task interviews were carried out among Russian NCPs. The outcomes will serve as a basis for the report with recommendations for Russian authorities (D4.6).

The deliverable “Visits to / interviews of EECA NCPs/NIPs” has been achieved.
## 6 ANNEXES

### 6.1 List of Russian NCPs which were interviewed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>NCP</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date / Time of Interview</th>
<th>Address of Interview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aeronautics</td>
<td>Mr. Evgeniy Andreiev</td>
<td>02.02.09 14:00</td>
<td>HSE, Myasnitskaya, 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aeronautics</td>
<td>Ms. Alexandra Savelieva</td>
<td>02.02.09 14:00</td>
<td>HSE, Myasnitskaya, 20</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aeronautics</td>
<td>Ms. Natalia Miroshnichenko</td>
<td>02.02.09 14:00</td>
<td>HSE, Myasnitskaya, 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>Ms. Elena Chistyakova</td>
<td>02.02.09 14:00 (postponed to 6.2.09, 10:00)</td>
<td>HSE, Myasnitskaya, 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nano</td>
<td>Mrs. Marine Melkonyan</td>
<td>03.02.09 10:00</td>
<td>Shubnikov Institute of Crystallography RAS, Leninskiy prospect, 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nano</td>
<td>Mr. Evgeniy Ugrinovich</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>Mr. Dmitiy Vatulya</td>
<td>03.02.09 14:00</td>
<td>Institute of Operational Systems, Kosmodamianskaya naberezhnaya, 46-50, str.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>Mr. Alexander Beriev</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>Mr. Mark Murashov</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>Mr. Denis Krukov</td>
<td>04.02.09 10:00</td>
<td>HSE, Myasnitskaya, 20</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SSH</td>
<td>Ms. Anastasia Gurova</td>
<td>04.02.09 13:30</td>
<td>Centre for Science Research and Statistics, Tverskaya, 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SSH</td>
<td>Ms. Irina Krutij</td>
<td>04.02.09 13:30</td>
<td>Centre for Science Research and Statistics, Tverskaya, 11</td>
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<td>Ms. Natalia Chusova</td>
<td>04.02.09 13:30</td>
<td>Centre for Science Research and Statistics, Tverskaya, 11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Mrs. Irina Sharova</td>
<td>04.02.09 16:30</td>
<td>A.N.Bach Institute of Biochemistry RAS, Leninskiy prospekt, 33, build 2</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Mr. Vladimir Eryomin</td>
<td>04.02.09 16:30</td>
<td>A.N.Bach Institute of Biochemistry RAS, Leninskiy prospekt, 33, build 2</td>
</tr>
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<td>SME</td>
<td>Ms. Olga Reusche</td>
<td>05.02.09 10:00</td>
<td>Foundation for Assistance Small Innovative Enterprises, Mosfilmovskaya, 17B</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Mr. Pavel Makarevich</td>
<td>05.02.09 13:00</td>
<td>M.V.Lomonosov Moscow State University, Lomonosovskiy prospect, 31, korpus 5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Mr. Alexander Vorotnikov</td>
<td>05.02.09 13:00</td>
<td>M.V.Lomonosov Moscow State University, Lomonosovskiy prospect, 31, korpus 5</td>
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<td>Mobility</td>
<td>Mrs. Anna Pikalova</td>
<td>05.02.09 10:00</td>
<td>HSE, Myasnitskaya, 20</td>
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<td></td>
<td>INCO</td>
<td>Mrs. Anna Pikalova</td>
<td>05.02.09 10:00</td>
<td>HSE, Myasnitskaya, 20</td>
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6.2 Invitation letter and agenda: “The upcoming review of the Russian NCP system”

Centre for Science Research and Statistics (CSRS)
Department of International Science and Innovation Policy
Ms. Natalia Sapozhnikova
Brusov per., 21/1
125009 Moscow
Russia

Vienna, 22nd December 2009

Subject: Invitation to interview and information about upcoming activities of the IncoNet EECA project
http://www.inco-eeca.net

Dear Ms. Sapozhnikova,

I’m contacting you to inform you that FFG/Austrian Research Promotion Agency and the Higher school of Economics currently carry out a joint project called “IncoNet EECA – S&T International Cooperation Network for Eastern European and Central Asian Countries”. The project, funded by the European Commission within FP7/INCO, aims to improve the policy framework for the cooperation between the EU and Eastern European and Central Asian countries incl. Russia.

WP6 of the IncoNet EECA project foresees a review of NCP-systems in Eastern European and Central Asian countries. The purpose of the review, carried out on behalf of the European Commission, is to further develop existing NCP structures and to support their efficiency building. FFG is in charge of carrying out the review in Russia.

I would like to underline that the aim of the review is
- to identify potential for development
- to describe and present the potential for development
- to contribute in a positive way to the development itself

The review of the NCP structures comprises the following steps:
⇒ Interviews with each Russian NCP (2nd – 6th February 2009)
⇒ Drafting of an analytical report by FFG, with recommendations to Russian authorities on how to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Russian FP7-NCP system

As you know, we organised in cooperation with the Higher School of Economics, a first workshop for Russian NCPs on 16th October 2008 in Moscow. The aim of the workshop was to explain and discuss the upcoming activities of the IncoNet EECA project.
• **Interviews with Russian NCPs from 2nd to 6th February 2009**

As agreed on 16th October with those who attended the workshop, we plan to carry out the Individual interviews with the Russian NCPs during the first week of February (2nd – 6th February 2009).

I’m pleased to invite you to take part in the interview. The interviews will be carried out on the basis of the attached interview guide. Higher School of Economics, our partner in the IncoNet EECA Project, will contact you to agree a suitable date with you.

We currently explore opportunities to organise in the morning of 2nd February 09 a workshop of two hours for all NCPs before the start of the interviews. We will update you next year on this issue.

Further to the interviews, training and networking activities are foreseen next year. We will inform you in more detail at the beginning of February 2009.

I kindly ask you to inform us who of your NCP organisation will take part in the interviews.

Please send until 15th January 2009 an email to

**Ms. Anna Pikalova**
spikalova@hse.ru

and

**Ms. Petra Reiter**
Petra.Reiter@ffg.at

specifying who of your NCP-related staff will be available for an interview of appr. two hours.

I remain at your disposal for any question from your side and look forward to a closer cooperation between FFG and the Russian NCPs in FP7.

Please confirm the receipt of this message to Ms. Petra Reiter (petra.reiter@ffg.at).

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

[Signature]

Sabine Hentschke
Director - Division of European and International Programmes (EIP)
Coordinating National Contact Point - 7th EU Framework Programme
FFG- Austrian Research Promotion Agency
INCO Net EECA Supporting the NCP's/NIP's in the EECA-Countries

The Upcoming Review of the Russian NCP System

2 February 2009
09:30-13:00
State University – Higher School of Economics
Moscow, Myasnitskaya str., 20
Room 309

Programme

9:30-10:00 Registration and Welcome Coffee

10:00 Self-presentation of all participants
The review of Russian NCP-structure, Work Package 4 “Supporting the NCPs/NIPs in EECA countries” of the IncoNet EECA project
The interviews of NCPs – purpose, content and methodology
Next steps after the interviews
The outcomes of the RUSERA EXE survey

13:00 Closing and joint lunch at HSE

Working language – English (without translation).
6.3 Summary of the analytical findings based on the interviews

Annex 3: Summary of the analytical findings based on the interviews

Nomination:
- The nomination was done by decree of the Russian Federal Ministry of Education and Science/MES by 21st February 2007. Guidelines for Russian NCPs and a list of nominated Russian NCP host organisations as well as NCPs are attached as annexes to this decree. Although not legally binding, the “Guiding Principles for setting up systems of National Contact Points (NCP systems) for the Seventh Framework Programmes for Research and Technological Development (FP7)”, published by the European Commission, serve also as Terms of Reference for Russian NCP hosting organisations.
- NCP host organisations and NCPs were nominated on personal invitation and/or after an expression of interest. There was no official public call for tender enabling Russian institutions to submit a proposal to act as NCP host organisation for FP7.
- NCP host organisations were carefully selected, based on their thematic insight and networking, although without a transparent application and selection process along a given set of criteria fixed in writing.

Contractual relationships between the MES, FASI and the NCP host organisations:
- Apart from the ministerial decree from 21st February 2007, there is no written binding contract for all parties, the MES, FASI and NCP host organisations.
- Current Russian law foresees the provision of funding for NCP activities within the Federal Targeted Programme.
- In 2006/2007, in the framework of the Federal Targeted Programme, FASI granted Russian NCP host organisations subsidies based on contracts.
- Procedures changed in 2008. Since 2008, FASI publishes competitive calls for tender in which NCP host organisations can participate as any other research organisation. These calls cover the analysis and monitoring of Russia’s participation in the Framework Programme, the provision of information and advice services, the development of reference and methodological materials for potential participants, the development of recommendations how the participation of Russian researchers in FP7 can be increased and the organisation of events like brokerage events, FP7 conferences and workshops.
- Federal funding which is provided via the above-mentioned calls for tender is insufficient to cover all costs which NCPs have to cover. The percentage of costs of NCP work covered by FASI varies between 30-70%.
- NCP host organisations contribute from their own budget, participate in international projects funded by the EC and/or staff carries out RTD while also working as NCP. A high proportion of NCP related staff works only part-time as NCP.
- Monitoring takes place on a formal level via reports and on an informal level via personal contacts and the attendance of events by representatives of FASI and the MES.
- Reporting for funding received from FASI is time consuming.
- Upon request, some NCPs also send annual reports to the MES.

NCP Staff:
- NCP staff – heads as well as other NCP-related staff – has been carefully selected and is highly qualified.
• The frequency of staff changes, notably of experienced junior staff, is high, varying between several months to 1.5 years.

• While NCP hosts often manage to maintain at least one very experienced senior NCP, experienced junior NCP staff is likely to return to research or to move on to other, more profitable jobs after rather short periods of time. Although the situation seems to become more stable for some NCPs, important experience is rather unlikely to get lost for the NCP and Russian researchers looking for advise.

• NCPs are highly aware of the strengths and weaknesses of the Russian NCP system, as well as of possible improvements and solutions. In general, NCPs are keen on delivering good results, but feel prevented from this by a NCP system failing to offer appropriate working conditions.

• NCP host organisations and NCP related staff have to cope on a daily basis with structural weaknesses of the Russian NCP system – insufficient and unstable federal funding, little official public backing, coordination and strategic guidance, limited resources and support, little long-term stability and official recognition. Rather naturally, NCP host organisations seek a benefit to their institutional investment and their daily struggles by getting first hand information about FP7 and by developing good international contacts. Notably RTD and higher education organisations usually develop themselves FP-projects while the NCP unit also consults potential Russian competitors.

NCP work
• Russian NCPs currently focus on information dissemination, the organisation of events like info-days and on advise via email and by phone. All NCPs maintain individual websites. There is no common webportal providing access to all Russian NCPs.

• Taken the size of Russia’s RTD community, the databases of clients maintained by Russian NCPs seem rather small (50 – 1500 entries).

• Services like proposal checks, support with completing A-forms or with the negotiation phase, assistance and advise on legal and financial issues (IPR, consortium agreement) are not fully developed. Due to the position of Russia as a Third country Russian researchers so far seldom coordinate FP-projects. Assistance and advise on the before-mentioned issues is sometimes considered by NCPs as a task for the coordinator.

• Russian NCPs receive many requests from Russian researchers to support EU-Russia partnering and consortium building. To find a competent EU coordinator is a major task sometimes hard to fulfill as Russian NCPs lack information about promising EU-consortia under construction.

• Russian NCPs underlined the growing demand for individual consultancy. All Russian NCPs believe that individual consultancy is a major factor to ensure the success of Russian researchers in FP7.

National coordination and networking
• As there is little strategic guidance from the MES, NCPs are guided by the different institutes hosting them.

• Some Russian NCPs started to cooperate with other Russian NCPs. Based on their needs, they became active by themselves.

• There are no national coordination and networking meetings among Russian NCPs.

• Nearly all Russian NCPs expressed a need for networking, coordination and strategic guidance of all Russian thematic and horizontal NCPs. As a number of NCP hosting organisations and NCPs were nominated for the first time as NCPs for FP7, this was considered as particularly important.
The national system of FP7 support structures

- Many NCPs maintain a more or less informal network of regional and institutional FP7 multipliers.
- Due to a lack of financial means, cooperation with regional and institutional multipliers is usually limited to the dissemination of information. There are no regular face-to-face meetings, no trainings of multipliers and there is no exchange of data. Sharing of experiences is limited to rather informal contacts.

Networking with EU NCPs

- The intensity of networking with EU NCPs is very diverse, ranging from good contacts of some Russian NCPs to some EU NCPs to little to no contacts of others.
- FP7 NCPs projects offer good opportunities to the networking among Russian and EU NCPs.
- Cooperation with EU colleagues is focused on partnering.

Cooperation with the European Commission

- Contacts with the EC are highly diverse, ranging from very close and smooth cooperation and regular contacts to, in some few cases, practically no contacts.
- Some NCPs always receive official invitations to NCPs meetings and attend, others never receive invitations and by consequence don’t attend. NCPs who already carried out a joint Coordinated Call, have usually good relationships and close contacts with the EC.
- EC representatives attend events organised in Russia after request.
6.4 Confirmation of interviews

IncoNet EECA, Interviews with Russian NCPs
Carried out by Ralf König and Petra Reiter

Name of the NCP organisation:

Date of interview:

1. Name of the interviewee: Pavel Makarevich
   Position: Ph.D. Student (1 year)
   Signature: [Signature]

2. Name of the interviewee: Alexander Voronikov
   Position: Senior Scientist
   Signature: [Signature]

3. Name of the interviewee:
   Position:
   Signature: [Signature]
IncoNet EECA, Interviews with Russian NCPs
Carried out by Ralf König and Petra Reiter

Name of the NCP organisation: Foundation for Assistance to Small and Medium Enterprises

Date of interview: 5 February 2009

1. Name of the interviewee: Oleg Reusche
Position: Director of international department
Signature: 

2. Name of the interviewee:
Position:
Signature:

3. Name of the interviewee:
Position:
Signature:

FFG
IncoNet EECA, Interviews with Russian NCPs
Carried out by Ralf König and Petra Reiter

Name of the NCP organisation:

Date of interview:

1. Name of the interviewee:
   Position: Scientific Counsellor of Bio-NCP of Russia
   Signature: Yury Zaryomin

2. Name of the interviewee:
   Position:
   Signature:

3. Name of the interviewee:
   Position:
   Signature:
IncoNet EECA, Interviews with Russian NCPs
Carried out by Ralf König and Petra Reiter

Name of the NCP organisation: TGA

Date of interview: 02.02.09

1. Name of the interviewee: Eugeny Andreew
Position: Chief Contracts Administrator
Signature:  

2. Name of the interviewee: 
Position: 
Signature:  

3. Name of the interviewee: 
Position: 
Signature:  

FFG
IncoNet EECA, Interviews with Russian NCPs
Carried out by Ralf König and Petra Reiter

Name of the NCP organisation:

Date of Interview:

1. Name of the interviewee:
   Position: 
   Signature: 

2. Name of the interviewee:
   Position: 
   Signature: 

3. Name of the interviewee:
   Position: 
   Signature: 

[Signature]

FFG

WP4, Task 4.3: Interview Guide
FINAL VERSION, 15.09.2009
IncoNet EECA, Interviews with Russian NCPs
Carried out by Ralf König and Petra Reiter

Name of the NCP organisation: Russdem - EE

Date of interview: 6.02.09

1. Name of the interviewee: Elena Chistyakova
   Position: International Project Administrator
   Signature: [Signature]

2. Name of the interviewee:
   Position:
   Signature:

3. Name of the interviewee:
   Position:
   Signature:
IncoNet EECA, Interviews with Russian NCPs
Carried out by Ralf König and Petra Reiter

Name of the NCP organisation:
MISIS NCP - Infrastructure

Date of interview:
04. 02. 2009

1. Name of the interviewee:
Denis Kryukov

Position:
NCP coordinator

Signature:

2. Name of the interviewee:

Position:

Signature:

3. Name of the interviewee:

Position:

Signature:
IncoNet EECA, Interviews with Russian NCPs
Carried out by Ralf König and Petra Reiter

Name of the NCP organisation: Institute of Operating Systems

Date of interview: 03 February 2009

1. Name of the interviewee: Dmitry Vatulya
   Position: Consultant
   Signature:

2. Name of the interviewee: Melchionyan Marine
   Position: ICT NCP
   Signature:

3. Name of the interviewee:
   Position:
   Signature:
IncoNet EECA, Interviews with Russian NCPs
Carried out by Ralf König and Petra Reiter

Name of the NCP organisation:

Date of interview: 9.02.2009

1. Name of the interviewee: Martine Melkonyan
   Position: the scientific secretary of INMP NCP
   Signature: [Signature]

2. Name of the interviewee:
   Position:
   Signature:

3. Name of the interviewee:
   Position:
   Signature: [Signature]