



IncoNet
Eastern Partnership

**STI International
Cooperation Network
for Eastern Partnership
Countries**

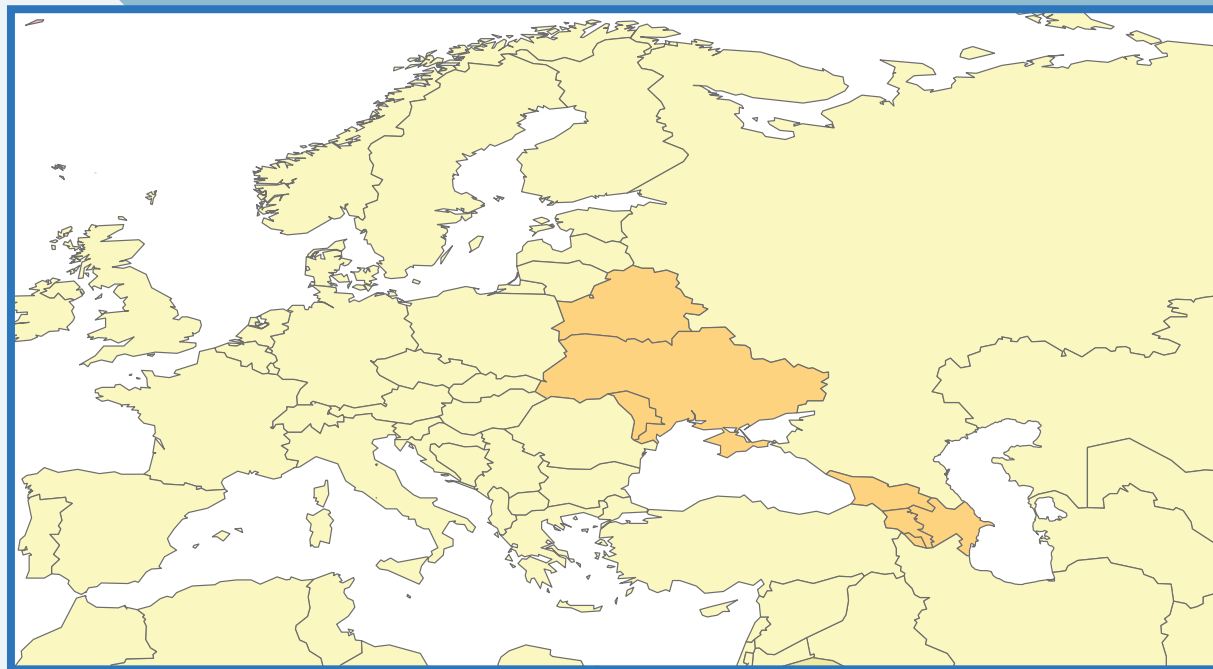


www.inco-eap.net
www.increast.eu

IncoNet EaP: STI International Cooperation Network for Eastern Partnership Countries

The European Union devotes a particular attention to the cooperation with the countries in its Eastern borders and in South Caucasus and develops specific policies (Eastern Partnership; European Neighbourhood Policy) and instruments (European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument - ENPI) to support them. In the field of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), scientific ties and long-lasting cooperation already exists, as well as issues of mutual concern to address such as Societal Challenges and the promotion of Innovation.

In that context, the “STI International Cooperation Network for Eastern Partnership countries - IncoNet EaP” project is dedicated to the promotion of the bi-regional policy dialogue in STI between the EU Member States (and countries Associated to FP7) and the Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries, aiming at the identification of priorities for action especially in the three Societal Challenges of particular importance for the two regions (Climate Change, Energy and Health), as well as on the promotion of Innovation. In doing that the project will benefit from the interaction with the recently established “EU – EaP Panel on Research and Innovation” that provided a new impetus to the EU – EaP STI cooperation.



Word from the Scientific Coordinator,
Dr. George Bonas (CeRISS):

“The existing long-lasting scientific ties and STI cooperation between the EU MS and the EaP countries provides a solid basis for a mutually beneficial joint work in addressing Societal Challenges of mutual concern and in promoting Innovation. The IncoNet EaP project will work in that direction by mobilizing a broad range of stakeholders and by expanding the range and ways of the cooperation”.

WHO WE ARE

The IncoNet EaP is implemented by a large consortium of 19 renowned institutions from EU Member States, Associated Countries and all the Eastern Partnership Countries namely Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

The consortium includes partners from institutions engaged in a long standing cooperation, pursuing the work and the valuable experience gained in previous projects of similar type (IncoNet EECA and IncoNet CA/SC), thus ensuring continuity and a smooth implementation of the project. The Scientific Coordination of the project is ensured by Dr. George Bonas (CeRISS) while the Administrative Coordination is provided by ZSI.

The project will develop close synergies with the IncoNet targeting the Central Asian Countries – IncoNet CA.

WHAT WE DO

More specifically, with the aim to support **the bi-regional STI policy dialogue for joint agenda setting and definition of research priorities** in three Societal Challenges (Climate Change, Energy, Health), the project will:

- implement **pilot actions** such as twinning of projects to promote comprehensive approaches and to reduce fragmentation;
- organize **Policy Stakeholders Conferences** in the target countries to address the three SC as well as horizontal STI policy issues;
- implement **STI Policy Mix Peer Reviews** in two EaP countries, as well as **mentoring** activities for key research institutes in all the EaP countries;
- prepare **studies** e.g. STI cooperation barometer, a bibliometric analysis, feasibility for ERANETS etc.
- prepare **recommendations** for future cooperation strategy involving policy makers and representatives of the research communities in both regions.

In order to **promote Innovation** in the target countries and to create synergies with the relevant stakeholders in the EU, the project will:

- stimulate the establishment of specific links between **entities in EaP and the European Technology Platforms**;
- enhance the cooperation of the EaP countries with the **Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)** and explore the extension of the **European Innovation TrendChart** to EaP Countries;
- implement **capacity building actions** in research and innovation, such as trainings and seminars.

With the aim **to promote H2020** in the EaP countries and to increase the participation of researchers from EaP in the Framework Programme, the project will:

- organize **awareness campaigns and trainings** of the National Contact Point (NCP) structures, as well as **Info Days** on H2020 in all the targeted countries;
- implement a **grant scheme** for the participation of EaP researchers to Brokerage events in the EU.

The project envisages a considerable number of dissemination activities (including promotion of key deliverables of joint EU-EaP projects) and in particular will focus on making the results widely visible to all relevant stakeholders for a better exploitation and implementation.

EXPECTED IMPACT

The IncoNet EaP project is expected to:

- **identify needs in STI to be jointly addressed** by providing a flexible format for the STI policy dialogue between the EU and EaP, paving the way for an enhanced STI cooperation;
- **mobilize a considerable number of STI stakeholders** in the target countries from the broader STI sphere, such as policy makers, representatives of sectorial Ministries/Agencies dealing with the three Societal Challenges, representatives of Innovation related structures such as platforms, clusters, agencies etc.;
- address through various structural activities, both at policy-support and research-support level, **the Societal Challenges of mutual concern**, namely Climate Change, Energy and Health;
- increase the level of cooperation of the entire “research to innovation chain” by developing and/or strengthening the **partnerships for Innovation**;
- increase the participation of researchers from the **EaP countries in H2020**.

The project constitutes the bridge between the 7th Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration and the new Research and Innovation Programme for 2014-2020, Horizon 2020. It also embraces other Community policies and instruments (such as ENPI and its follow-up ENI) as well as additional international initiatives such as those promoted by UNDP, UNECE, UNEP, World Bank, etc. in order to identify complementarities and synergies among the relevant instruments.

LIST OF PARTNERS

EU Member States/Associated Countries and International Organizations

Organization Name	Acronym	Country
Centre for Social Innovation (Administrative Coordinator)	ZSI	Austria
Centre for Regional and International STI Studies and Support (Scientific Coordinator)	CeRISS	Greece
Deutsches Zentrum fuer Luft- und Raumfahrt	DLR	Germany
Regional Centre for Information and Scientific Development Ltd	RCISD	Hungary
Agenzia per la Promozione della Ricerca Europea	APRE	Italy
Sihtasutus Eesti Teadusagentuur	ETAg	Estonia
Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique	CNRS	France
Centrul Proiecte Internationale	CIP	Moldova
Instytut Podstawowych Problemow Techniki Polskiej Akademii Nauk	IPPT-PAN	Poland
Sociedade Portuguesa de Inovação, Consultadoria Empresarial e Fomento da Inovação, S.A.	SPI	Portugal
The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey	TUBITAK	Turkey
International Center for Black Sea Studies	ICBSS	International Organisation
United Nations University, Vice Rectorate in Europe	UNU	International Organisation

Eastern Partnership Countries

Organization Name	Acronym	Country
National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia	NAS RA	Armenia
Presidium of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences	ANAS	Azerbaijan
Belarusian Institute of System Analysis and Information Support of Scientific and Technical Sphere	BelISA	Belarus
Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation	SRNSF	Georgia
The Centre for Scientific and Technical Information and Innovation Promotion of Ukraine	UKRTECHINFORM	Ukraine
Kharkov Technologies, Business Incubator	KT	Ukraine



PROJECT INFORMATION

IncoNet EaP “STI International Cooperation Network for Eastern Partnership Countries”

Website: www.inco-eap.net

Project duration: September 2013 - August 2016

COORDINATION

Scientific Coordinator: Dr. George Bonas (CeRISS - Centre for Regional and International STI Studies and Support, Greece, www.ceriss.eu)

Administrative Coordination: ZSI - Centre for Social Innovation (Austria, www.zsi.at)

CeRISS



CENTRAL INFORMATION OFFICE (CIO)

DLR – German Aerospace Center, Project Management Agency
European and International Cooperation, Bonn, Germany

Focal point for information exchange in English and Russian:

incrEAST portal: www.increast.eu



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