

# EIRICT Newsletter

2013-11

## In this newsletter (mainly on H2020 this time):

- EIT ICT Labs: preparing for 2015 (!)
- H2020, planning and consultancy
- Horizon2020 and education (impression of workshop)
- ICT2013 – H2020 kickoff in Vilnius
- New calls: NWO (Big Bata, Cyber Security)
- Upcoming events

For more information, see also the EIRICT website, <http://eirict.win.tue.nl>.

## EIT ICT Labs – business plan 2015

Although 2014 has not yet started, the organizational cycle for developing the business plan for 2015 already starts. In the coming two months we will discuss with Philips and TNO which activities to start jointly. If you have ideas or otherwise want to be involved in EIT ICT Labs proposals, please contact us. You can also help us to indicate in which *Innovation Areas* (formerly “Action Lines”, see <http://www.eitictlabs.eu/>) you are interested in to do projects. Project in ICT Labs typically have the following characteristics:

- Valorisation type projects, producing results or testbeds, based on outcomes of existing or recently finalized projects.
- Possibility or wish to work with industry on this in an “activity”.
- Embedding the activity in an existing project that serves as a carrier (perhaps some of the parties in this carrier project can also be in the activity).
- ~ 1 fte per party to be spent in one year.
- Alternatively: new forms of education.

Currently, our focus is on Health & Wellbeing, Smart Spaces, Cyber-Physical Systems, Smart Cities and Trust & Security.

## H2020 – Planning and Consultancy

### H2020 Planning

The European Parliament, the Council of Europe and the European Committee negotiate about the exact implementation of Horizon 2020. In this context, the definitive budget, the subsidy levels and other rules of participation will be consolidated before the end of 2013. On **11 december 2013** the first

calls for proposals will be published. It is desirable to already take action before that date to develop ideas for projects and to work on the creation of consortia and/or the seeking of contact with interesting initiatives of other parties. ICT-related topics can be found in each of the three pillars of H2020: Excellent Science, Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies (LEIT), and in various Societal Challenges.

Apart from ICT2013, the H2020 kick-off event in Vilnius organized by the European Commission (see report below), Agentschap NL organized on 12 November 2013 a national kick-off event for H2020 in Amsterdam. The presentations given at this event can be found at:

<http://www.agentschapnl.nl/actueel/evenementen/startevenement-horizon2020>

### **Consultation meetings with Agentschap NL at TU/e**

With the launch of each call for proposals in the framework programs of the EC, the National Contacts at AgentschapNL for the ICT domain, Bert van Werkhoven and Ramon Rentmeester, organize “consultation hours” (spreekuren) at TU/e, where TU/e employees can bring forward questions about ideas for projects, consortia, interpretation of challenges in work programs, etc. etc. and obtain advice on various aspects towards the development and submission of a successful proposal. Traditionally, these consultation meetings were organized and hosted by Gerard Verschuren. From H2020, these meetings will be organized and hosted by EIRICT, i.c., by Johan Lukkien and Peter van Otterloo. In the course of December we will to organize a round of consultation meetings in connection with the launch of the first calls of H2020 and inform you later about the precise dates.

In order to plan these consultation meetings with Bert van Werkhoven and Ramon Rentmeester, we herewith assess the interest among TU/e researchers. So if you are planning to prepare a proposal, participate in a consortium or have questions about the ICT related topics in H2020 and wish to have a discussion with the National Contacts at Agentschap NL, please send a mail to [winsan@tue.nl](mailto:winsan@tue.nl), specifying the topic you wish to talk about with Agentschap NL and the part of the H2020 program that you are targeting.

### **Eurotech**

In reference to the previous newsletter, there are workshops around the topics of smart mobility, health and energy, as well as smart cities, with the aim to set up EU projects around these topics. The obvious advantage is to have a powerful consortium right from the start. If you want to become involved in this approach contact one of us to become connected.

### **Support from TU/e Board for H2020 proposals**

Proposals have to be of very high quality, also in their write-up. Because of the fierce competition, it has become increasingly common to hire third parties for the purpose of proposal preparation. In some circumstances, financial support for hiring third parties to help with proposal writing is available through Innovation Lab. Please contact Gerard Verschuren or undersigned to see what is possible here.

Preparing your proposal(s), you can never start too early!

## The CAF (connect advisory forum)

The CAF is an advisory forum with the task to deliver advice towards the following aim: to connect research and innovation (in H2020) with the users thereof. The CAF and other advisors give feedback on the plans and suggest where to put certain emphasis. Erik Fledderus (TNO, TU/e) is a member of the CAF; [here is a presentation](#) from the [Innovation Estafette](#) (the Dutch H2020 startup event) on the advice of the CAF.

## H2020 and education

On invitation, I (JL) visited an [event organized by the 'Alianza 4 Universidades'](#) (Alliance of four Spanish universities) which was organized in the context of the 'New EU Financial Framework'. This Alliance is similar to the Eurotech consortium of which TU/e is a member.

The focus of the event was University-Industry partnership and collaboration (shorthand: Academia-Industry Collaboration, AIC), and how this has a place in the new framework program; effectively this gave a focus on education. In a number of bullets I give my impression of the presentations and discussions.

- For companies, university research is very important as a quality indicator. The most important 'product' from the university is a student with the right skills.
- Education is thought to be a major differentiator to address societal challenges. In order to have effective education we must
  - o understand how young people learn in 2013 [they 'live' online, share information, short time spans]
  - o understand which skills must be developed [creativity, collaboration in diverse groups, entrepreneurship]
  - o 'prepare them for technologies that don't exist yet and for solving problems we don't know of yet'.
- Universities are thought to be at the beginning of innovation. However, knowledge exchange with industry is not efficient in Europe and AIC should be geared towards improving this. One experiment was performed within the ['Know-Fact'](#) project and consists of two aspects, fully integrated into courses:
  - o *Factory to classroom*: students as receiver of knowledge presented by an industrial engineer in his context.
  - o *Lab to Factory*: industrial engineers are receivers of knowledge receiving output of students work.

Integrated into the project was the use of modern technology to avoid a lot of travelling and meetings. Students were reported to have higher motivation, more self-confidence and improved presentation skills.

- University education is also expected to evolve in view of online courses. These courses will make it possible for many to enjoy Higher Education, but also mean a change in the way courses are run at Universities, as University borders are fading in this respect. Important reasons for

universities to participate are the external recognition, the ability to experiment and to obtain learning analytics.

- Important European programs in this context are MSCA (Marie Curie) and ERASMUS+.

Regarding AIC, we have further two instruments in Europe: Knowledge Alliances (KA) and Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KIC). The KICs as part of EIT will receive a substantial amount of funding in H2020 for the purpose of advancing innovation: in bringing AIC into the education and in bringing research results to the market.

I was invited to give [a presentation on the collaboration of the TU/e within the KIC EIT ICT Labs](#). You can find in this presentation a concise overview of the status as well as a brief evaluation. I think the KICs are important for universities to collaborate with in adjusting their education to new requirements rather than going through the entire process individually. It is important too to remain critical, and aim at the primary tasks of universities. I think personally that entrepreneurship and industry practice should remain an elective. In addition, not all courses lend themselves well to AIC.

## ICT2013 – H2020 kick-off in Vilnius

### Introduction

The ICT2013 event has been organized by the DG CONNECT of the EU and the Lithuanian government, marking the launch of the new framework program for collaborative scientific and technological research and innovation in Europe, Horizon 2020 (H2020), that will run from 2014 – 2020. H2020 consists of three priorities or “pillars”: Excellent Science, Industrial Leadership and Societal Challenges. For the entire program there will be €70 billion funding from the EU. For 2014, a budget of € 9 billion is available. The ICT2013 event of course focused on the ICT parts of H2020. ICT2013, which was attended by nearly 5000 people, comprised several activities running in parallel: Conference, Exhibition, Work Program sessions, Networking sessions, Investment forum, Activities for students & young researchers, Connecting ICT & Art communities.

Everything that was presented and discussed at ICT2013 is very well documented and publicly available. If you have an interest in participating in H2020 and/or developing an initiative, it is highly recommended to browse the web pages of this event. The general entry point for this is: <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/ict-2013>. From this home page, the various parts of the ICT2013 program, including all presentations in the Conference, the Work Program sessions and the Conference, can be found. The presentations often contain essential background information.

### **ICT2013 Conference (<http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/ict-2013-conference>)**

The ICT 2013 Conference intended to give an overview of H2020 and the role and position of ICT therein. It also intended to show the necessity of H2020 for Europe and the philosophy behind it. The overarching objectives of H2020 are to reinforce the competitive position of Europe and to solve a number of societal challenges. Scientific and technological research and innovation, aimed at topics defined in the various programs of H2020, are a means to realize these objectives, which should also generate economic growth and an increase in employment in Europe.

The conference contained sessions devoted to several “hot themes and topics” in the three pillars of H2020. All presentations, as well as a number of session reports are available on the ICT2013 website.

### **Work Program Sessions (<http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/work-programme>)**

In the Work Program Sessions the responsible employees for each domain of DG introduced the individual ICT-related challenges in the prospective calls in the three pillars of H2020: Excellent Science, Industrial Leadership and Societal Challenges. Distributed over 2,5 days, the various challenges and objectives in the ICT domain for the upcoming H2020 calls were presented in 48 sessions. Details were given on the motivations for these challenges and objectives, as well as on the types of projects envisaged (Research Actions, Innovation Actions or a combination thereof, Consultation and Support Actions; Large or small projects), the available budget, etc.. In a number of cases the presentation of the EU was supplemented by a presentation by delegates considering to develop a consortium and a proposal for that particular challenge and associated objectives. Also these presentations are available on the ICT 2013 website. Furthermore, in the sessions links were provided to related activities (cf. the presentations).

The formal publication of the consolidated call texts of WP2014-2015 and the opening of the calls has been scheduled on 11 December 2013. The closing dates of the calls vary. Hence it is essential to consult de “Wegwijzer Horizon 2020” of Agentschap NL as early as possible. This is available as a downloadable document at: <http://www.agentschapnl.nl/subsidies-regelingen/horizon-2020/past-uw-innovatie-horizon-2020> and is also available from the EIRICT website. The first deadlines for quite a number of topics in the ICT2014 call of the LEIT program are on 23 April 2014.

### **ICT2013 Exhibition (<http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/exhibition>)**

The ICT2013 Exhibition showed a.o. results from activities that were started in FP7. The exhibition linked today's research and innovation with visions for the future. More than 200

exhibits covered a diverse set of research results and products, ranging from cars and advanced robots to very small components, software, new business or new services.

It also presented an opportunity to get a flavor for the kinds of topics (and consortia) that successfully applied for funding in various calls of FP7. Some of these consortia may intend to continue their activities in H2020.

The exhibition was grouped according to 5 themes:

- digitally empowered citizens
- smart and sustainable cities for 2020+
- industry and business for tomorrow
- intelligent connecting intelligence
- culture, science and creativity

Details on the individual exhibits, as well as contact information, can be found by clicking on the individual themes on the Exhibition web page, mentioned above.

### **Networking Sessions (<http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/networking>)**

The **Networking Sessions** provided participants with the opportunity to exchange ideas on a particular policy, technology or research and innovation theme in the context of Horizon 2020 and to meet delegates with common or similar topical interests with whom they could collaborate in the future. More than 150 networking sessions have been organized at ICT2013, grouped into 13 topics (clickable).

1. [Big Data](#)
2. [Computing, Systems and Infrastructure](#)
3. [Components & Systems](#)
4. [Creativity & Media](#)
5. [Culture & Education](#)
6. [Future Internet](#)
7. [ICT for Manufacturing](#)
8. [Innovation](#)
9. [International Cooperation](#)
10. [Security & Trust](#)
11. [Smart Cities & Sustainability](#)
12. [EU Policy](#)
13. [eHealth](#)

## New Calls

### NWO & STW

1. [NWO call on big data, in the context of astronomy](#) (Closing date: 24 January 2014)
2. [NWO call on Data Science: Kennis – Innovatie Mapping MKB projects \(KIEM\)](#) (Closing date: 28 January 2014)
3. [NWO call on Cyber Security](#) (2<sup>nd</sup> round) (Closing date: 4 March 2014)
4. [NWO call on Creative Industry \(Knowledge Innovation Mapping – KIEM\)](#) (Opening date: 1 January 2014; Closing date: 1 November 2014)
5. [STW call on Embedded Systems](#) (Opening date: 25 June 2013; ongoing call)
6. [STW Open Technology Programme](#) (continuously open call)

### Horizon 2020 (H2020)

At the following website the draft Horizon 2020 work programmes 2014-2015 are published:

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020/index\\_en.cfm?pg=h2020-documents](http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020/index_en.cfm?pg=h2020-documents)

Not all draft documents of the H2020 topics are published at this website yet but are expected to be added on short term.

## Events (taken from EIRICT site)

### November 27-28, 2013

ICT OPEN 2013

Van der Valk Hotel Eindhoven

[www.ictopen2013.nl](http://www.ictopen2013.nl)

### December 2, 2013

Data Science Symposium (over 500 visitors)

Tu/e, Blauwe Zaal Auditorium

[Data Science Symposium](#)

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Peter van Otterloo