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IncoNet

Eastern Partnership

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

**ENER2i EU Brokerage Event
Gorazd Weiss – Centre for Social Innovation - ZSI, Austria**

The *IncoNet EaP* project

- A 3 year long **Coordination and Support Action** running since Sept.2013, dedicated to the EU – EaP RDI cooperation
- Implemented by a consortium of 19 renowned institutions from EU MSs/ACs and **all the Eastern Partnership countries**
- In close coordination with the IncoNet targeting the Central Asian Countries

Acitivites - Outline

- I. Coordinating activities on major **Societal Challenges**
- II. Providing **analytical evidence**
- III. Supporting RDI **Policy Dialogue**
- IV. Promoting **H2020**
- V. Promoting **Innovation**

I. Coordinating activities on major **Societal Challenges**

- **Identifying** actions – **mapping** (i.e. projects and programmes) and stakeholders, especially in the fields of EN, CC and HE (FP7, national and bilateral, UN, WB and other international donors in the region)
→ first stage of mapping completed.
- Initiate **twinning** of research teams from EaP → the call has been launched
- **Mentoring activities** for key research institutes in EaP countries on selected topics

II. Providing analytical evidence

- **STI cooperation barometer** ('attitude', challenges, bottlenecks, etc.)
- **Bibliometric** analysis on the 3 Societal Challenges
- Implementation of a **Policy Mix Peer review** in two EaP countries

III. Supporting RDI Policy Dialogue

- **Organization of 3 Policy Stakeholders Conferences in the 3 Societal Challenges** (1st was in May 2014, Yerevan, CC, next one will be in Minsk in 2015 on Energy!)
- **Capacity Building in R&I Policy** (one week training of STI stakeholders, 2014, Vienna)
- **Providing ad-hoc support to bi-regional Policy Dialogue** (e.g. Workshop for the EaP Panel on R&I, April 2014, Brussels)

IV. Promoting H2020

- **Strengthening NCPs** (reviewing and promoting their activities; training them)
- **Organizing InfoDays in the countries**
- **Providing grants for the participation in Brokerage Events in EU** (a call in each EaP country is under implementation)
- **But also: 'Reciprocity'** (How could EU researchers participate in national Programmes in the EaP countries? – and how to promote that?)

V. Promoting Innovation

- Cooperation with **EU Innovation Platforms** (ETPs, KICs, etc.): a two-way awareness campaign
- Promote cooperation with **Enterprise Europe Network –EEN** (workshop with EaP stakeholders)
- Exploring the extension of the **European Innovation TrendChart** to the EaP countries (workshop with EaP stakeholders, AM, 2nd year of project)
- **Training** on Innovation management and entrepreneurship (seminar + e-learning, 2nd year of project)

Twinning Grants

- **Objective:** increase the participation of EaP countries in EU calls
- Eligible **participants** of the twinning teams are
 - Project coordination and consulting organisations with experience in bilateral and multilateral cooperation between EU MS/AC and EaP
 - Universities, research institutions
 - Companies with RTD activity
- Project consortium: at least **three partners**, of which one partner is necessarily from an EU member state and one from a country of the EaP.

Twinning Grants - Budget

- The total budget of the call is 144.000 €.
- IncoNet EaP is going to support applications with up to 10.000 € per project.
- The grant will cover the following expenses:
 - Travel expenses (air, train. etc.) (economy class / 2nd class)
 - Daily allowance/ accommodation
 - Technical and/or logistical support for events preparation
 - Temporary staff (e.g. students for event preparation, data analyses etc.)
- **The budget will not cover salaries for permanent staff.**
- *Co-financing from own or attracted sources is welcomed.*

Twinning Grants - Evaluation

- Relevance to the aims specified in the call, thematic priorities and conformance with the specified formal requirements
- Quality and originality of the research approach
- Clear contribution to promoting and intensifying EU-EaP cooperation in research, innovation and education and the preparation of a new project proposal in HORIZON 2020
- Time frame (duration of a maximum of 12 months)
- Expertise and experience of the applicants and the partners involved
- Follow-up activities, initiation of new partnerships

Twinning Grants - Information

- Information and **application forms** available under
 - IncoNET EaP Project web site www.inco-eap.net/en/401.php
 - incrEAST www.increast.eu/en/1711.php

We already have one application and the interest is high.

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Participation in Brokerage Events

- INCO-NET EaP organises one dedicated EaP session on the field of each Scientific Challenges
- Planned content:
 - presentations by the grant recipients
 - ideas for research proposals, potential of the region in the respective SC
 - presentation of key institutions in the region
- First event on Energy in Brussels
- Next events on Health and Climate Change in Paris, in March/April 2015 (tbc.)



Thank you for your attention!