International ICT cooperation: Perspectives, Experiences and recommendations

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Presentation’s outline

- What has been done
- Where are the opportunities
- Available bilateral mechanisms
- Barriers and obstacles to improvement
- What is needed in the future
8 years of International cooperation
Projects in India, Latin America, Balkan region
Aim: set the ground for collaborative research by *mapping*, *training* and *supporting*

The Indian case study
Step 1: Extensive *mapping*

Step 2: *Training* & Mentoring on FP program, project setting, for cross border cooperation

Step 3: *Sustainability* - Indian ICT National Contact Point

Step 4: Supporting EU-India ICT *policy* dialogue (SYNCHRONISER project)

- Identifying joint research priorities & co-funding opportunities
- Providing recommendations for future co-operation initiatives
- Identify medium and long term research perspectives
Opportunities for collaboration

- FP 7 - Horizon 2020
- Bilateral Programmes (Indo-Spanish, Indo-Italian, Indo-French, etc)
- Institutional level
- Privately funded Research (VC, own funding, etc)
What is available

- Bilateral agreement DIT – EU:
  - 7th JWG/ High level meeting held in 29th March 2012

- Bilateral agreements DIT (ICT) - 3 European countries:
  - France, Italy & Bulgaria

- Bilateral agreements: DST (S&T) - 12 European Countries

- Industry partnerships facilitated by Government on both sides in 3 EU countries:
  - Belgium, Czech Republic & Hungary
What is the experience telling us?

- Collaborative mood exists both sides, so do the skills
- Collaborations are based on people/interactions and on common R&D Goals
- Well managed and run programme
### EU-India cooperation – strengths & weaknesses

#### STRENGTHS
- Existing cooperation mechanism: bilateral & multilateral programmes with India & EU member states
- Capacity of ICT R&D in India is almost on par with EU countries
- Existence of ICT NCP support for FP projects in both regions

#### WEAKNESS
- Different eco-system : India, public funding restricted to 'public' institutions// EU , big role of private industry
- Limited awareness in India FP opportunities
- Lack of EC project management skills in India
- Inadequate connections amongst researchers between EU & India

#### OPPORTUNITIES
- Maximizing partnerships for development of world market products
- Improved efficiency of public funded R&D and motivated private sector effort
- Job opportunities
- Emphasis on future opportunities

#### THREATS
- Public institutions in India funded liberally by Government. Private R&D institutes averse to bureaucratic delays and external reviews
- Lack of IPR awareness amongst ICT researchers in both regions
- Lack of networking between researchers from different disciplines
Challenges seen from the Indian Perspective

- Searching for the right Partners
- Proposal Writing is cumbersome!
- Too much of documentation in reporting
- Small participation of SMEs in R&D programmes
### What is needed: Short Term

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<tr>
<th>Recommendations</th>
<th>Proposed Action</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-proposal Networking</td>
<td>Create a Pre-proposal Networking Grant, funded by EU and DIT, to build mutual trust.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshops - trainings in India</td>
<td>Involving SMEs and researchers from EU &amp; India; co-funded; for wider publicity of EU work programs, funding etc Refer to the Brazilian case where ICT EC expert based in Brazil to enhance cooperation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Directory of EU Partners/interests vis-à-vis India</td>
<td>Elaborate specific directory with content oriented on the EU interests/partners to motivate Indian interests in Horizon 2020.</td>
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## What is needed: Mid Term

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<tr>
<td><strong>Joint Calls</strong></td>
<td>Addressed to SME; call on specific research items. Replicate Energy and Biotechnology co-funding (between EC &amp; DST)</td>
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<td><strong>Common road-mapping for EU-Indian research</strong></td>
<td>Elaborate specific joint road-map for research, priorities, funds, timing and implement it.</td>
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<td><strong>EU-India Implementation Unit</strong></td>
<td>Executive body for monitoring progress and implementation.</td>
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## What is needed: Long Term

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<td>Mirror Technology Platforms Initiatives</td>
<td>Form Mirror Technology Platforms in key Technology Areas with Industry taking the lead, for implementing common EU-India Strategic Research Agendas (SRA)</td>
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<td>ISTAG Group - involve Indian experts</td>
<td>Brief ISTAG on the potential for cooperation with India Involve Indian experts in the relevant bodies shaping priorities and strategic directions of the FP7/Horizon 2020</td>
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<td>Structured approach on EU level</td>
<td>Create a structured approach for supporting and disseminating all different initiatives/ projects (bilateral and multilateral level)</td>
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THANK YOU
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