

# International cooperation in ICT research How to go to the next level?

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# Involvement of Sigma Orionis in DG Info INCO SAs

## ▣ Regions

- ▣ EuroAfrica-P8 (Africa) [www.euroafrica-ict.org](http://www.euroafrica-ict.org)
- ▣ SEACOOOP/SEALING (Southeast Asia) [www.seacoop.eu](http://www.seacoop.eu)
- ▣ OPENCHINA-ICT (China) [www.openchina-ict.eu](http://www.openchina-ict.eu)
- ▣ EURASIAPAC (Japan, Korea, Australia, and New Zealand) [www.eurasiapac-fp7.eu](http://www.eurasiapac-fp7.eu)

## ▣ Activities

- ▣ Awareness on FP7 (and support for NCP development)
- ▣ Identification of cooperation priorities
- ▣ Organisation of cooperation events
- ▣ Guidance and support to emerging projects
- ▣ ...

# Promoting international cooperation in other regions: some lessons learned

- Do not explain in detail what is FP7 but show concrete success stories
- Do not oversell it
  - The number of organizations involved in a Call is not a right success criterion
  - Follow the pace of EC policy (S&T agreement, co-funding agreements)
- A combined top-down & bottom-up approach is important to identify priorities but the involvement of DG Info thematic Units is key
- Close synergies between EU / MS (local) initiatives has to be developed
- Neither overestimate reciprocal aspects nor underestimate funding necessity (even for developed countries)
- Have a global approach of EU instruments
  - beyond projects: mobility of researchers, ICT4D research, etc.

# How to bring the set of DG Info INCO SAs to the next level?

- An active concertation should develop (compulsory in future DOWs?) among all these SAs
  - Concertation meetings every 6 months to share information and knowledge and experience, fine tune agendas, agree on common methodologies and success criteria, etc.
  - Sigma Orionis is ready to contribute making it happen
  
- A (public) web platform common to all these SAs (hosted by the International relations Unit?) should exist
  - Offering a common database of contacts and events, and a repository of produced information, etc. (+ a collective and widely disseminated quarterly newsletter)
  - See the one developed for ACCESS4EU projects, and Sigma Orionis' "Asian portal" [www.euroasia-ict.org](http://www.euroasia-ict.org)

# How to bring International cooperation at DG Info to a next level

- A closer liaison with all thematic Units has to develop
  - All thematic Units could be usefully invited to an annual one-day conference involving all SAs of the International relations Unit to receive information, express their needs, envision concrete actions in targeted regions (SICAs, Joint or coordinated Calls, etc.)
  - Sigma Orionis is ready to contribute making it happen
- A closer liaison with existing INCO SAs of thematic Units should develop (ref. the BIC initiative!)
  - Specific agreements should be reached between SAs from the International relations Unit and from SAs from thematic Units (addressing a given country/region) to exchange information, and develop synergies

# Thank you



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