



Coordination of the European Future Internet Forum of Member States



D4.7 - Meeting Report 4: FIF Support

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1. Introduction

ceFIMS is an FP7 project which is helping to coordinate Future Internet research & innovation across Europe. In particular, ceFIMS supports the European Commission's Future Internet Forum (FIF) of Member States, in an attempt to create synergies and reduce duplication and fragmentation in European Future Internet research.

This work involves identifying collaboration opportunities amongst Member State research councils and funding agencies. In this vein, one of ceFIMS specific objectives is to create a roadmap which outlines the steps required to advance an ERA-NET+ (or other forms of EU-level collaboration) in the field of Future Internet research & innovation.

An interim roadmap has already been delivered and the ceFIMS meeting in Warsaw (Sept 27th, 2012) sought to advance discussions towards the next iteration of the roadmap and looked at other topics such as

- How to improve support for the Member States (MSs) at the FIF.
- How to continue support beyond the lifetime of the ceFIMS project.
- How to identify potential new areas of collaboration among the MSs.
- How to support any areas of collaboration that were identified.
- How to support the MS representatives in the roles inside their MSs
 - Gathering information from the various entities such as Large Industry, SMEs, Research Organisations, Third-Level Colleges, Industry Groups, Government Departments and Funding Agencies.
 - Disseminating information from the European Commission to these individual groups

The Warsaw meeting also looked at the MS Ambassador Role that had been discussed in the Future Internet Forum and discussed how best to implement such a program.

A document was prepared before the meeting on this new "Ambassador Role" by the Working Group.

2. FIF Support

Since the FIF was implemented in 2009, the need for improved communication between the MSs has increased. As the European PPP projects come to fruition in the Communications area - for example, as the FI-Ware project starts to publish its “Generic Enablers” - it becomes increasingly important for FIF members to disseminate this information to the companies and organisations inside each MS.

Also with the large number of European initiatives including PPP, FP7, Celtic, ETPs, etc. there is an increased need for closer communication between the MSs.

2.1. Improve support for the FIF MSs

As stated in the Introduction, the ceFIMS project is intended to support the FIF and its goal of coordinating research of the future internet across the European MSs. As the ceFIMS project has been running for 24 months, the FIF meeting of the Sep 26th -27th was a good opportunity to hold a ceFIMS meeting to get input from the FIF members as to the current effectiveness of the ceFIMS operation and where improvements can be made.

In the Warsaw ceFIMS meeting these questions were discussed:

- How effective is the ceFIMS project in supporting the FIF?
- In what areas could ceFIMS improve?
- What should ceFIMS do between now and the end of the ceFIMS project to ensure that the FIF continues its effectiveness after the ceFIMS project? (The ceFIMS project is currently scheduled to end in February 2013.)
- Would it be useful to create a new support structure beyond the life of the ceFIMS project?

The meeting minutes for the ceFIMS meeting are sent out separately, however, the general consensus was that the ceFIMS project was useful - no immediate suggestions for improving the format of ceFIMS were forthcoming.

Two suggestions that did arise were:

1. To extend the current ceFIMS project to cover the Future Internet Assembly (FIA) in Dublin in 2013. This FIA was initially intended to take place in Feb 2013, however it is



not likely to take place in April/May 2013. This FIA will include the next scheduled meeting of the FIF. Since this is outside the ceFIMS project as it is currently scheduled, the ceFIMS project will attempt to obtain an extension to its work until after the FIA.

2. That a subsequent project, similar to ceFIMS, should be created to continue to support the FIF. This is being considered by the current ceFIMS partners and a proposal is likely to be submitted as a Coordination and Support Action in call 10 of the FP7.

The new project should not only coordinate the research in the Future Internet area but should also look to coordinate and integrate experimental-based research and large-scale deployment activities, at both European and National level, to promote the sharing of best practices, solutions, applications and services.

3. Discussions

At the ceFIMS meeting discussions on the following topics took place.

3.1. Liaison with the FuturICT

Sjoerd Meihuizen from the “Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek” spoke about the FuturICT and ideas for possible liaisons between the FuturICT and the FIF.

The FuturICT project plans “to use the power of information to explore social and economic life on Earth and discover options for a sustainable future”

From the FuturICT website (www.futurict.eu):

“The ultimate goal of the FuturICT flagship project is to understand and manage complex, global, socially interactive systems, with a focus on sustainability and resilience. Revealing the hidden laws and processes underlying societies probably constitutes the most pressing scientific grand challenge of our century and is equally important for the development of novel robust, trustworthy and adaptive information and communication technologies (ICT), based on socially inspired paradigms.”

FuturICT does not focus on ICT explicitly but ICT is a component of the areas it investigates (Chemistry, Energy, Agriculture, Health, Creative Industry, ...)

FuturICT is following the FET flagship, where the EU wants to launch 2 big projects next year.

FuturICT wants to be one of these.

Discussions on this topic centred around:

- FuturICT is a 10 year project looking at more basic research areas. The FIF is working exclusively on applied projects carrying out research and development of the Future Internet.
- Given the size of FuturICT, it might be difficult for the FIF to liaise with such a large project.
- FuturICT has a focused scope, this could narrow the scope of the FIF into specific areas. The FIF should consider all aspects of the Future Internet.
- A liaison between the Future Internet Assembly and FuturICT might make more sense given FIA's size.

At the end no follow-up actions were agreed.

3.2. Future FIF support

As mentioned in section 2.1 above, future support was extensively discussed. This discussion was led by Jorge Pereira.

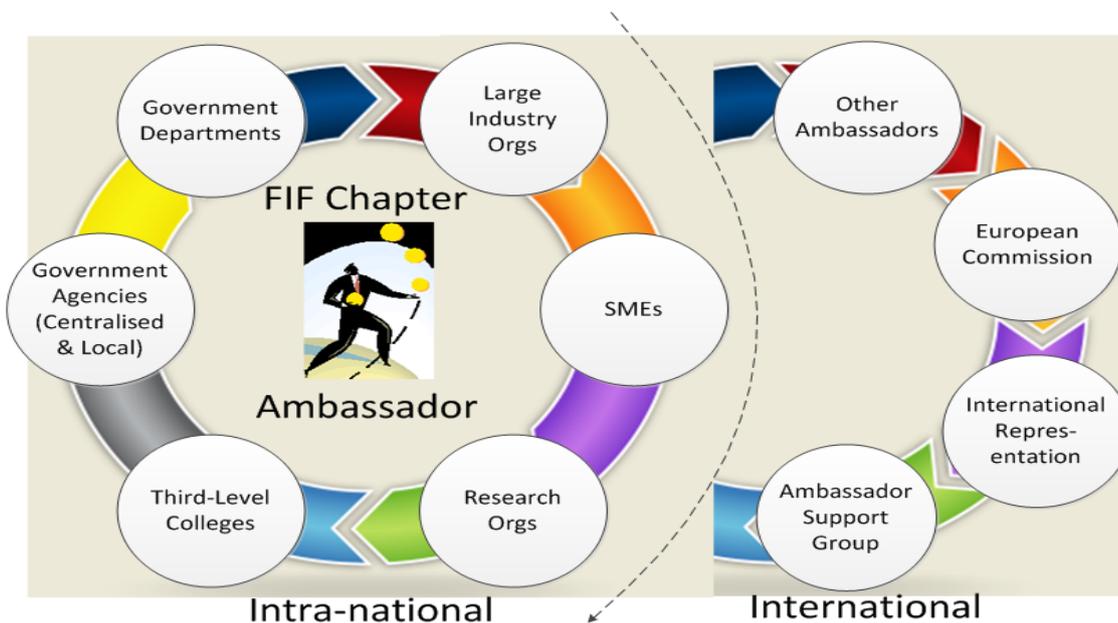
For a follow-up project for ceFIMS, the group should consider Objective 1.7 c) in the FP7 Call 10, scheduled for submission on Jan 15th.

As a follow-up action, this area is being investigated by the current ceFIMS team.

3.3. Ambassador Role

Some time was spent in the FIF meeting discussing the Ambassador, which was generally accepted to be advantageous.

The full details of the role of the Ambassador will be included in the next version of the ceFIMS Roadmap. The figure below indicates the roles to be played by the Ambassador.



During the ceFIMS meeting, the discussion on how to set up Ambassadors and the supporting chapter in each country was discussed.



It was considered too expensive to look to a coordinating effort (such as ceFIMS) to try to support this financially. The goal of ceFIMS would be to coordinate the Ambassadors and national chapters.

The Spanish attendees José Tomás Romero (Ametic, an industry group) and Jesus Cañadas Fernández (Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism, Spain) discussed their plan to create a starting point for this role by encouraging many Spanish SMEs to attend the FI-Ware in Seville in October. On the day after the FI-Ware meeting, the Spanish contacts will communicate to the Spanish SMEs, current activities at the European Commission, including funding schemes. Bringing information from the Commission to national organisations is one of the tasks of the Ambassador.

Appendix A. Agenda

ceFIMS Meeting: FIF and MS Support

Date: 27 September 2012
Location: 1st floor, room D, International Expocentre Expo XXI, Ignacego Prądzyńskiego 12/14, Warsaw, Poland
Chair: Dr. William Donnelly, WIT, ceFIMS

- 14:00** Welcome by Willie Donnelly (ceFIMS)
- 14:10** Introduction by Jorge Pereira (European Commission) on the future needs to continue to improve the FIF
- 14:30** Discussion on the desired future direction of the FIF meetings by the FIF members.
- Plan for initiatives of common interest.
 - Topics such as IoT for Harbours and ICT for Agriculture were discussed in the FIF and Open Data in the ceFIMS meeting.
 - What other common areas are of interest - identify a champion for each area.
- 15:10** Proposal for an “Open Data Initiative” by Sjoerd Meihuizen
- 15:30** Coffee
- 15:45** How can the ceFIMS project best facilitate the required direction?
- Planning for FIF support post-ceFIMS (March 2013).
 - Planning for the implementation of decisions made in the FIF meeting (for example if agreement is reached on the nature of the Ambassador role, its implementation can be discussed here).
- 16:30** Close

Appendix B. Attendance

Name	Country / Organisation
Jorge Pereira	European Commission
Willie Donnelly	ceFIMS, Ireland
Kevin Quinn	ceFIMS
Pauli Kuosmanen	Finland
Vilmos Nemeth	Hungary
Andrius Pleckaitis	Lithuania
Sjoerd Meihuizen	The Netherlands
Piotr Kępski	Poland
Artur Binczewski	Poland
Tomasz Puculek	Poland
Pedro Matos	Portugal
Pedro Carneiro	Portugal
José Tomás Romero	Spain