

*Horizon 2020 Association Workshop*  
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# Towards a successful Association: IncoNet EaP`s contribution

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## Association Agreement with Georgia

Research institutes, universities and private sector/SMEs from Georgia will have full access to Horizon 2020 **under the same conditions** as the EU MS.

- ❑ Integrate Georgia into the European Research Area
- ❑ European Research Council
- ❑ SME instrument
- ❑ Policy Support Facility
- ❑ Common Knowledge and Innovation Space (CKIS)
- ❑ Design of the new Work Programme (Prog. Comm)

## IncoNet EaP Project

- ✓ A 3-years long Coordination and Support Action dedicated to the EU – EaP STI cooperation (FP7, 2013-2016)
- ✓ Builds on previous FP7 IncoNets and other projects addressing the region (Bilat, BS-Eranet, IncoNet EECA, etc.)
- ✓ Promotes the EU-EaP Policy dialogue and identification of research priorities, with focus on 3 SCs: **Climate Change, Energy & Health**
- ✓ Implemented by a consortium of 19 Partners from **all EaP** countries and 12 EU MS/AC
- ✓ Promotes H2020 in the EaP region in order to **enhance cooperation** between relevant stakeholders from EU MS/AC and the EaP countries.

# Policy Dialogue Activities (1/3)

## ***1. Support to EaP Panel on Research and Innovation (from 2013)***

Addressing the bi-regional cooperation in R&I, gathering senior officials and experts from EU MS/AC and EaP countries, as well as the Committee of the Regions and the EaP Civil Society Forum.

### ***→ Workshop on the State of Affairs and Future of the EU-EaP STI Cooperation (Brussels- Sep 15)***

Stimulating in-depth discussions related to **achievements / obstacles** of STI cooperation until then and the **challenges** for the near future, involving key stakeholders from the EU-EaP

### ***→ Contribution to the drafting of the Roadmap for Cooperation between EU-EaP (2014)***

### ***→ Thematic Workshop on Climate Change for the Identification of relevant topics for the EU-EaP STI cooperation (Athens-Nov 14)***

Researchers (from all EaP countries) identified five topics of mutual EU-EaP interest that could be considered in future H2020 calls for proposals.

## Policy Dialogue Activities (2/3)

### ***2. EaP Panel on Research and Innovation: 2016 annual event “Horizon 2020 NCPs training” (Kyiv-March 16)***

Active participation of the EaP NCPs. It was an opportunity to update any available information regarding the new WP 2016-2017 of H2020/ present an overview with statistics of the H2020 participation/ good practices of NCPs/ proposal writing.

### ***3. Policy Stakeholders Conferences (for each SC)***

Focus on horizontal issues such as mobility, innovation, cross cutting topics. It brings together policy makers, representatives of the research community and private sector to address specific issues of EaP countries which are of mutual interest and benefit. It presents best practices regarding the EU-EaP scientific cooperation, and promotes international networking and matchmaking.

### ***4. Association Workshops for Armenia and Georgia (May-June 16)***

→ Today!

## Policy Dialogue Activities (3/3)

### *5. Policy Mix Peer Review in Georgia (spring 2015)*

The aim was to critically examine the S&T policy mix and provide policy advice to a wide variety of stakeholders, thereby increasing mutual understanding and learning.

The review focused on:

1. The STI system of Georgia;
2. Funding of STI;
3. Universities and Research centres;
4. Innovation and business sector;
5. Human resources in STI;
6. International cooperation and H2020 Association.

The proposed **recommendations** aim to assist the Georgian policy makers to **enhance the performance** of the STI system through a more **coherent and integrated use** of the available human and infrastructural resources and capabilities.

## Actions related to H2020

### **1. *Twinning among projects***

Funding instrument to research teams from EU MS/EaP in order to establish collaboration and increase the participation of EaP countries in EU Calls

### **2. *Support to NCPs***

Local awareness campaign for NCPs, review of support activities, dedicated trainings, twinning scheme to support EaP NCPs

### **3. *Grants for Brokerage Events and InfoDays***

Promote participation of EaP researchers in BEs in EU MS for further cooperation and inform the relevant stakeholders about the H2020 opportunities in the 3SC.



## Coordination and Support Activities (1/2)

### **1. Feasibility Study for ERANETs (spring 2016)**

Facilitate the inclusion of research agencies from EaP Countries in thematic COFUND ERANETs and JPIs (ongoing + forthcoming) leading to joint funding activities with EU MS/AC in specific themes (in collaboration with *Black Sea Horizon Project*)

### **2. Summer school (13-17.06.2016, Vienna)**

The aim of the training is to learn about project management process in international scientific projects related to Horizon 2020 as well as MSCA for mobility. For young researchers and project managers from the EaP Countries active in the field of energy efficiency.

### **3. STI Evaluation Network (2015)**

Building process for the establishment of a regional STI Evaluation Network (with the participation of all EaP countries) which leads to the forthcoming MoU signature (27-28 June 2016, Tbilisi)

## Coordination and Support Activities (2/2)

### 4. ***Capacity building in R&I policy (Feb 2015)***

Fundamental theory of STI policy-making and policy-delivery, discuss on new approaches and instruments of modern STI policies with emphasis on policy learning, assessment and evaluation of public interventions

### 5. ***Training in the field of Innovation (May 2015)***

Promoting innovation in the Eastern Partnership countries and sharing the best EU practices with them in fostering commercialisation and technology transfer

### 6. ***Innovation Union Scoreboard (May 2016)***

Presenting previous initiatives and results/benefits of European Innovation studies (Innovation Union Scoreboard) to stakeholders and decision makers from EaP countries, as well as identification of the needs/ gaps for including EaP countries in the IUS studies.

# Future planning

## EaP PLUS Project (September 2016-2019)

Building on the results of the current FP7 project 'IncoNet EaP', providing support and developing **concrete actions** both in the fields of **research and innovation**, while working closely with the policy stakeholders and the respective policy dialogue fora. Since the Project aims to **stimulate cooperation** between researchers and **eliminate** remaining obstacles, the following activities are foreseen;

- ✓ STI Policy Recommendations “EU-EaP beyond 2020”
- ✓ Conference on ‘Sharing experiences from the Association to H2020’
- ✓ Training for Programme Committee members of the new Associated EaP countries
- ✓ Six ‘Scientific Diaspora Workshops’ in all the EaP countries
- ✓ Initiation of 6 EU-EaP Clusters
- ✓ Improvement of the framework conditions and efficiency of the EU-EaP cooperation

For more information on IncoNet EaP Project  
[www.inco-eap.net](http://www.inco-eap.net)  
[www.increast.eu](http://www.increast.eu)

**Thank you for your attention!**

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