

Jim Burt: I think we should begin. Denis will not be joining us as he is ill today.

Maya Levin-Sagi: I am a management consultant from Edna Pasher

Michal Goldberg: i'm michal goldberg, management consultant, Edna Pasher & associates

Ed Mitchell: My name is Ed - I am KB editor - I am here to keep an eye on the technology and answer any technical problems you have.

Mounib Mekhilef: I'm community steward on KB2

Maya Levin-Sagi: And am currently working on European r&d projects such as wearIT@work

Jim Burt: I am the Canadian Coordinator for the IST-EC2 project. I work for the Canadian Department of International Trade, one of five Canadian project partners.

Doug Colley: I'm Doug Colley, from the National Research Council of Canada, providing support for SMEs' across Canada in ICT R&D

Concettina Larosa: I work for CPR a non-profit organisation in Italy I am an IST-EC2 partner

Michal Goldberg: hi Ron! nice to see you, do you want to introduce yourself?

Corinna Floeck: I work for Ecole Centrale Paris. I'm partner in KB2 and IST-EC2 and in both our organisation is in charge of the community building process

Ron Dvir: hi, I am focusing on building future centers, and involved in several EC projects - including open Futures which takes open sources as one of its principals.

Maya Levin-Sagi: focusing on wearable computers and the social aspects of its development

Michal Goldberg: well, first question is mine, and i'd love to learn about the IST project - when did it start? how many people involved?

Jim Burt: It started in April, 2005 and has thirteen partners, 8 from Europe and the balance from Canada.

Benoit Couture: Are there set goals or is it an open invitation to innovation?

Concettina Larosa: it is a two-year project building on the first IST-EC project which was very successful

Jim Burt: Most are involved with some aspect of R&D in the ICT sector.

Benoit Couture: Is there a connection with e-governing?

Concettina Larosa: there are some ICT areas we found Canada and Europe have an added value and a special interest in working in

Ron Dvir: for example?

Concettina Larosa: e.g. e-learning, e-content, broadband technologies, grid

Ron Dvir: what makes the Canada-Europe connection special (e.g. compare to Canada-Europe)?

Maya Levin-Sagi: does this have to do with culture? political culture?

Concettina Larosa: the science and technology agreement signed between the EC and the Government of Canada shows how it is in our interest to co-operate together

Jim Burt: The project objectives are to identify complementary research activities in key areas and foster cooperation between European and Canadian scientists

Concettina Larosa: Canada is one of the strategically target countries of the European Union

Doug Colley: Ron, that's a wide open question that we probably could have a whole session on, but I guess the issue is one of business culture and research culture. Canadian culture is win-win oriented, where US business and research culture tends to be winner take all.

Michal Goldberg: and the European culture?

Doug Colley: I'm sorry, I should have completed that statement, European culture is perceived as being also oriented towards a win-win scenario.

Corinna Floeck: Concettina, could you maybe give an example of a success-story from the first project?

Concettina Larosa: there are a lot, the initial goal was to reach 15 joint R&D project, but we succeeded in initialising 19, 26% of success

Concettina Larosa: that is 16 R&D projects and 3 commercial agreement

Michal Goldberg: that's grate! can you tell us more about one of those?

Concettina Larosa: e.g. Integrated Projects that is big research projects, CRAFT projects aimed at SMEs, Network of Excellence

Jim Burt: Our target in IST-EC2 is 15 joint Canadian - European R&D projects. IST-EC2 also seeks to improve awareness in Europe and Canada of opportunities for collaboration, research programs and funding mechanisms

Concettina Larosa: 42% e-learning, 14% e-content, 12% software development

Concettina Larosa: 12% broadband technologies, 8% multimedia, 8% mobile technologies, 4% other

Michal Goldberg: so, do you turn to businesses for co-operation? how do you work towards those goals?

Michal Goldberg: do you use networking? do you publish?

Concettina Larosa: we have a lot of new success stories in IST-EC2, you can view at our web portal http://www.ist-ec.org/stories/ss_istec2.htm

Concettina Larosa: we experienced that face-to-face meetings during networking and brokerage events work more than virtual means

Concettina Larosa: in IST-EC1 we have organised 18 events

Michal Goldberg: I agree - nothing like face to face when possible!

Concettina Larosa: 11 brokerage events and 7 dissemination events

Michal Goldberg: who do you turn to as potential co-operators?

Jim Burt: The project methodology includes 3 processes. 1. Networking Events 2. Virtual Networking and 3. Broadband Networking.

Concettina Larosa: 85 Canadians participated in the events organised by IST-EC in Europe!

Michal Goldberg: are you supporting the project after the co-operation was achieved?

Jim Burt: The technology areas are quite specific: Wireless and Communication Networks; Knowledge and Information Systems; Nanotechnology and Embedded Systems

Concettina Larosa: we support the parties throughout the process, with information on funding opportunities, how to find the right partners, etc

Jim Burt: depends what you mean by supporting; financially - no.

Concettina Larosa: IST-EC2 is supported in Europe by the European Commission, as a European partner I look into funding opportunities in Europe

Doug Colley: Downstream (financial) Support for the Canadian participants in a project must be obtained from Canadian sources. For academia that's NSERC, for Industry that's IRAP, and both of these orgs are part of IST-EC2. IST-EC2 doesn't support financially, but it makes the intro to the orgs that do.

Concettina Larosa: and in Canada by key Federal Government Departments and Agencies, who do the same for the Canadian funding

Ron Dvir: concettina - which of the 18 projects do you think has the highest potential to make an impact (social, or financial, of technological breakthrough)?

Maya Levin-Sagi: There are several similar bodies in different countries, do you collaborate between yourselves? share your knowledge and experiences with one another?

Jim Burt: The fields of research are focussed on usability of new technologies, including supporting physically impaired people; e-learning and e-content; multimedia and software development; and broadband enabled networks.

Concettina Larosa: it depends on the project, e.g. a CRAFT project is very research & technology oriented, the EC funds the Universities who do the research for SMEs and SMEs exploit the final product/technology

Michal Goldberg: Jim, I am curious about supporting physically impaired people - what is this project all about?

Concettina Larosa: licensing agreements can arise out of a Canada-Europe co-operation, there you have an impact on the final product for example

Michal Goldberg: Jim, are you there?...

Jim Burt: IST-EC2 supports both the European and Canadian research communities. On the European side, IST-EC2 emphasizes activities that strongly relate to two objectives put forward by the EC in its communication on "Science and technology, the key to Europe's future- Guidelines for future EU policy to support research"

Doug Colley: Michal, if you have a special interest in technologies or services for the physically challenged or were thinking in terms of an R&D project for a Call under FP7, we'd be able to identify some Canadian orgs with similar interests, and hopefully build a plan around that interest.

Jim Burt: IST-EC2 also helps address ERA-NET objectives related to international cooperation.

Michal Goldberg: thanks Doug, by the way i saw someone turned to IST-EC2 on the side for collaboration

Michal Goldberg: I meant - on the site...

Michal Goldberg: concettina, we talked about lessons learned from the first IST-EC. can you share those with us?

Jim Burt: Research collaboration is what we are striving for between the Canadian and European R&D communities in the IST field.

Andrew Cameron: Yes I agree with Doug, it is well beyond our remit

Concettina Larosa: First of all, I would like to inform you that IST-EC2 has attended different EC information days to support Canadian and European partners to join together in projects for call 6, EC Framework Programme, which expires in April 25, 2005. Have a look at <http://www.ist-ec.org/events/pastevents/>

Michal Goldberg: thanks for the info, concettina (-:

Andrew Cameron: Concettina you might note that on the web site we have descriptions of the information days and presentations from them

Michal Goldberg: what is planned for the next one?

Concettina Larosa: as to lessons learnt we have carried out a user needs analysis considering such elements as Remote distance, Time lag, Non synchronised funding opportunities, Difficulties in finding appropriate partners, Lack of funding / motivation for travelling to improve our approach

Concettina Larosa: we have introduced virtual elements, such as videoconferencing, and we plan to hold some virtual events to increase the participation

Jim Burt: For the record: I just want to re-iterate why we are trying to improve research cooperation between Europe and Canada: i.e. to enhance Canadian and EU researchers' access to the world's best facilities, equipment, talent, knowledge and cost sharing mechanisms, increase the speed and quality of our respective research activities, and improve the potential for timely commercialisation of research results.

Michal Goldberg: well, i hope this on-line event will be helpful for your good purposes (-:

Jim Burt: Thank you Michal, every chance to promote the project and its objectives helps. And if we succeed, the model can be used in other fields.

Michal Goldberg: so what is your next grate challenge?

Concettina Larosa: IST-EC2 is in the process of planning next events such as the one in June, 2006: Annual meeting of the Canadian Institute for Photonic Innovations (CIPI), in Quebec City from June 7-9, 2006.

Maya Levin-Sagi: Are you planning on taking collaboration into other fields?

DougColley: Maya, do you mean within ICT or more broadly, say into manufacturing?

Maya Levin-Sagi: more broadly

Concettina Larosa: IST-EC2 fosters ICT projects only, it is supported by the IST Programme of the EC

DougColley: The ERACAN office was recently set up, and has a broader mandate, where IST-EC2 is ICT focussed and has several key priorities.

Concettina Larosa: from a European side we try to offer a call specific, strategic objective specific approach in the IST programme to provide concrete funding opportunities

Michal Goldberg: is there some thing you would like to leave us with before we finish - some final words about your project?

DougColley: If there are interests outside of the mandate of IST-EC2, we can facilitate access to the appropriate alternative group, after all our mission is to help, and if we can't help directly, we'll try to find the ones that can

Concettina Larosa: have a look at the funding opportunities we noted in Europe <http://www.ist-ec.org/ps/europe>

Concettina Larosa: and those in Canada <http://www.ist-ec.org/ps/canada>

Concettina Larosa: We published also a Canada Funding Guide

Michal Goldberg: thank you jim, concettina, doug and everybody else

Benoit Couture: You are the Canadian government representatives in the leading field. If this too big for us here then who?

Jim Burt: And think of events in Canada or Europe between now and March 2007 where IST-EC2 might help to bring researchers together.

Benoit Couture: Thanks for the opportunity to see the limits of my vote...at the moment...

DougColley: .

Concettina Larosa: thanks for this opportunity, join IST-EC2 and become a community member www.ist-ec.org, ciao from Italy!

Michal Goldberg: it was a pleasure to here about your work, i hope you will continue to succeed as you did up to today (-:

DougColley: Thanks all.

CorinnaFloeck: thanks

Michal Goldberg: good by and good evening to all of you

Jim Burt: Bye for now!

Maya Levin-Sagi: Bye

CorinnaFloeck: bye

Maya Levin-Sagi: thanks