

Suggestions on reactivating and upgrading the role of the EASN IGs

The EASN Interest Groups are the scientific and technological cells of EASN. Their main role is to promote upstream and innovative research aiming at incubating new knowledge and breakthrough technologies. In order to respond to this role in the frame of the EASN Association, the following actions have been recommended at the Technical Committee meeting:

1. Reactivate low performance IGs

- i. Contact the IG leaders to reconfirm the interest of current IG leaders to continue coordinating their groups. In the cases of negative replies, perform the necessary actions to appoint another IG leader. This action should be undertaken by the respective RCP of the EASN Association

2. Maintain and improve communication

- i. Electronic communication for spreading information, collecting input requested by the IG leaders (e.g. in the frame of EASN's expression of Interest Campaigns for preparing proposals) and discussing on issues which are of interest for the IG, is the minimum level of communication between IG leaders and the members of the IGs. Ordinary e-mails as well as an online forum within the EASN webpage can be used as means of communication. The IG forum may be open to the public, open only to EASN members or open only to the IG members, upon the request of the IG leader.
- ii. Personal communication in the frame of joint activities.

3. Ensuring common research activities (which often solves also the funding problems)

- Exploit the 3rd FP7 call and motivate the EASN members to make use of the EASN platform and provide input in the frame of the campaign of EASN's Expression of Interest for proposals

4. Human Mobility

- Promote human mobility actions in the frame of the program "People" of the Commission within the IG members by taking advantage of the respective EU funding schemes (e.g. Marie Curie actions)
- ERASMUS program for the exchange of Academic staff and students

5. Promote scientific and technological activities

Motivate the IG leaders to organize common scientific and technological activities in the fields of their expertise (e.g. Workshops, Conferences, Summer Schools etc.). This action should be undertaken by the EASN Chairman.