



Access2EIC

National Contact Points for Innovation

3rd Access2EIC General Assembly

On line – 30th October 2020

Minutes

The coordinator welcome everybody and introduced the session.

Project officer

- Ok NCPs and NCP Network job. There will be a follow up in H Europe.
- MFF agreement still far to be reached
- The structure of the EIC WP is now stable, many more details on Prizes, BAS and other actions
- Other changes for Pathfinder: a lot of discussion about evaluation processes and provisions
- More clarity about the Transition Open, Eligibility Criteria and pathways also provisions
- Accelerator: new evaluation process, funding, bankability term changed! Also discussions about prioritisation of companies for interview only
- Main revisions and changes of BAS: provisions, coaching activity, marketplace clarification on implementation.
- Budget orientations: to be finalized (MFF, NGEU and HE)
- Role of Program Managers: 3 role identified for Pathfinder/Transition/Accelerator
- AI platform will be contracted very soon. We need to discuss the AI platform because it affects the NCP jobs everyday. Also testing the platform is important. We have to

improve training for all the instruments for Horizon Europe. Need also more information about due diligence. Novelty regarding EIC Funds and we need to prepare the companies that are now in the pipeline. We need more support about knowledge of the Equity process. Publication of documents: timeline?

- Pre publication WP? No December...most likely in January
- Stronger and structured support to attract investors to companies that are now in the pipeline (this is crucial for SMEs now)
- Final Budget for transition activities? Go into the Pathfinder Budget.
- BAS have to be more streamline
- HE NCPs procedure for appointments should start in November and be concluded by early 2021

WP1

- Amendment for extension on going. No problem from EC side, it is just a matter of formal confirmation
- New project end date = 31/08/2021 (M24)
- The idea is to start with a new Access2EIC project afterwards in September 2021. There is already the specific topic under the EIC WP. Any discussion on the new project and partnership to be postponed after official H Eu NCPs appointment.
- Presentation of internal interim report timeline and procedures
 - A strong coordination with WP Leaders and the Coordinator is recommended
 - The deadline for sending us your interim report is Friday 13/11
 - Follow excel template
 - Unlock 2nd pre-financing

WP2

- Presentation of WP 2 activities done vs planned. Capacity Building Strategy continuously updated for contingency (Covid-19) and through a new survey on training needs among FET NCPs.
- Online trainings and events work very well. It is the only way to make event for the next months.

- 2 training events to be organized before the end of 2020. One on the new toolbox; one on Pathfinder. WP Leader will follow up with relevant partners.
- New Deliverable on Self-training path for NCPs is now available on Access2EIC website
- At least further 4-5 trainings will be organized in 2021

WP3

- T3.1 Innovation Ecosystem is on going. 8 Countries and many regions involved. We need to talk with the relevant EIC TF to better align the final product.
- An online workshop will be organized in Q1 2021 to represent the final output to EC, NCPs and all the stakeholders interviewed and interested in the process.
- T3.2 concluded in April with the publication of the EIC Accelerator annotated template. An updated annotated template will be released in the next project after the first 1-2 calls of Accelerator of H Europe
- In the meantime we have to double check the development of the AI Tool who might strongly affect our daily NCP job. We asked the Commission to participate to test the tool and co-create (again) the templates
- T3.3 started with the release of the EIC Pathfinder FET Open and Proactive in May 2020. An info day (under WP6) was organized in September 2020 for presenting exploitation opportunities and last Launchpad call.
- Another publication/factsheet will be released in 2021 (extension timeframe) with focus on T2I. We start from the feedbacks collected on the Pilot evaluation + Tools developed under T4.1.

WP4

- Toolbox developed under T4.1 have been released in September and presented in the Exploitation Info Day and R&I Days. This is a quite comprehensive result that needs to be further disseminated.
- A specific training to NCPs will be organized under WP2. Tools will be also integrated in the new T2I publication under T3.3.

- T4.2 have not yet been started for the simple reason that the EIC fund and the related Due Diligence process are on delays. No agreement signed so far = no info for our activities. EI as Task Leader and CDTI as WP Leader will get in touch with EC for updatings.
- T4.3 done. The pilot was a quite success and all the feedback will be collected in a specific Deliverable to be presented to the EIC/EC.

WP5

- Some activities have been cancelled due to the Pandemic, some other have been postponed in order to focus the job on the new Invest Eu Programme. APRE as Task Leader and Bpifrance as WP Leader will get in touch with the Commission to agree the next steps on T5.1 (Promotional Guidelines) and T5.4 (On-site mentoring visits).
- T5.2. Innovative Enterprise Conference 2020 was cancelled. A2EIC had three sessions in that event. APRE is monitoring new large EC events to be involved as Access2EIC.
- T5.3: all the pitching events have been turn into online events in 2020 (3 successful events). Furthermore:
 - More than 450 Access2EIC SMEs participating in other Eu-funded communities (BlueInvest, InvestHorizon, ESIL and BuildInterest)
 - 80 Access2EIC SMEs labelled by InvestHorizon Accelerator
 - Most active and dynamic community with more than 1900 members including more than 1800 companies (more than + 350 since January)
 - From 41 countries. TOP 5: Spain, Italy, UK, France, Israel
 - In 2020: 19 members pitched their activities online and attracted more than 260 investors in their profile
 - Overall, more than 520 companies were contacted by investors and potential partners
 - Animation of the community + further actions to engage new NCPs – ongoing
 - Up to 3 e-pitching sessions till the end of the project Including one for Innovation Launchpad beneficiaries? (cooperation with Business Acceleration Services). Next one : November 24th (+ March 18th & May 11th – tbc)

- New label in strict coordination with EIC Task Force for earlier stages businesses emerging from Pathfinder projects : on hold

WP6

- Communication Strategy on going, included necessary finetuning due to the Pandemic.
- Website and Social medias are working quite well. But improvements and increased used (from NCPs in first place) are still welcome.
- A project graphic designer is available for the publishable deliverable.
- We have to concentrate on on-line format (online-roadshow etc.) and we have to adjust the Agenda in the next to month about the future events. In particular:
 - Large info day to be co-organized with EC for the launch of the fully-fledged EIC of H Europe. Start from the successful experience of 22/4 Info Day
 - Access2EIC participation on relevant events with other relevant networks are on going, such as e-EEN Days (Oct 2020); R&I Days (Sept 2020); etc.
 - New round of specific workshop in Eu-13 to be organized in Q1 2021.

Luis Guerra presentation on the new NCPs Academy - Bridge2HE Project. Luis is in the coordination Team

And... Congratulations to Nirit, Lee, Michaela and Agnes...the most experienced colleagues on our Communication activities 😊

Participants (29)

Antonio Carbone, Marta Calderaro, Esther Casado Moya, Lucia Davidova, Leonard Jill, Luis Jesus Guerra Casanova, Christian Dubarry, Angelo Nuzzo, Petr Pracna, Luis Sanchez Alvarez, Nirit Ossi, Marta Kreutel, Michaela Vikova, Pierre Jouanno, Aleksandra Ihnatowicz, Burke Sean, Greta Karine Juul, Daniel Gast, Tsvetelina Yorgova, Giorgio Tzamtzis, Lee Cohen,

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