



Introduction

Welcome to the fourth issue of ECCREDI's Newsflash that will give you brief information on activities in the field of construction research and innovation and other related issues that could be of interest to your organisation. If you would have any news you would like to communicate to your colleagues through this channel, please do not hesitate to let us know.

First results of FP7 NMP calls:

About 1.217 proposals have been submitted under the NMP call for Large, Small and SME projects.

Following the first evaluations of NMP proposals which took place end May / early June, the information below was released in July at a meeting with the coordinators of projects which successfully passed the first stage evaluation.

NMP 4.0.5: "Resource efficient buildings": *19 proposals submitted and 7 accepted for the 2nd stage:*

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. MESSIB | Acciona |
| 2. BUILDSKIN | Keraben |
| 3. COST-EFFECTIVE | Fraunhofer ISE |
| 4. H2 SUSBUILD | Dappolonia) |
| 5. CLEAR UP | University of Tuebingen |
| 6. ENEF | S&B Industrial Minerals |
| 7. ECOAIR | PERA |

With respect to the dedicated calls for SMEs about 57 proposals had been retained for the second stage, distributed amongst the following 6 calls:

- 14 proposals in NMP-2007-1.2-2 Equipment and methods for nanotechnology
- 4 proposals in NMP-2007-2.4-1 Flexible efficient processing for polymers
- 9 in NMP-2007-3.1-2 New added-value user-centred products and product services
- 11 in NMP-2007-3.4-1 Rapid manufacturing concepts for small series industrial production
- 9 in NMP-2007-4.0-2 Application of new materials including bio-based fibres in high-added value textile products
- **10 in NMP-2007-4.0-6 Innovative added-value construction product-services**

For the last one dealing with the construction sector about 27 proposals would have been submitted and apparently 10 have been invited to submit the proposal for the 2nd stage:

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|-----------------|---|
| 1. SMALLER | FUTUREtec |
| 2. Façade plus | Dappolonia |
| 3. STONECORE | Ingenierbüro Dr. Ziegenbalg GbR |
| 4. iHomeostasis | FZI, U. Karlsruhe |
| 5. MICROLITION | PERA |
| 6. VACBLOCK | PERA |
| 7. H-KNOW | Patrimonio y Restauración |
| 8. Aurelie | University of Stuttgart |
| 9. EASIE | Instituts für Sandwichtechnik |
| 10. MEMSCON | Institute of communication and Computer Systems, Athens |

Standardisation as one of the future “focus points” for ECCREDI:

ECCREDI has identified at the last Council meeting the issue of “Standardization and its relation to Research Development and Innovation” as an important future action point.

In its contribution related to standards to the ECTP IAP, ECCREDI has formulated in this respect the following point of view: *“Although it is often claimed that standardization might hamper innovation, which has a tendency of being true if the standards are prescriptive instead of performance based, standards can also be a powerful instrument allowing driving forward the uptake of technology and technology improvements. The latter is especially true in the construction sector as the long service-life-time of structures imposes that materials deliver the required performance over a long period of time. Accurate proof of the durability of the materials should thereof be available early in the construction stage. Also for spreading new practice amongst SMEs “standards, guidelines, approvals and regulations” are very often important instruments which help to introduce “process & management” innovations in the companies.”*

EC DG Enterprise now drafted a discussion paper in preparation of the future Commission Communication “Towards an increased contribution from standardization to innovation in Europe” and invited stakeholders to express comments to this paper. ECCREDI members had been invited in the course of July to submit comments on this enquiry. Nonetheless the summer period and the short deadline the feedback on this internal consultation within ECCREDI was massive. The final ECCREDI contribution was delivered to the EC before the deadline of 17 July. At the secretariat also the individual contributions are available from FIEC (which was partly based on the ECCREDI position) and CEN-CENELEC,...

Concerning standards, it is also worthwhile mentioning the Europe INNOVA initiative <http://www.europe-innova.org>. A recent published first newsletter on “Standards and Innovation” can be found at <http://standards.eu-innova.org/Files/Newsletter/Issue1/> and focuses amongst others on:

- Standards as catalysts for innovative thinking and creativity
- Exchanging data better, faster and safer with standards
- The new guide – How can public procurement promote innovation.

News about CIP:

A new CIP website http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/cip/index_en.htm is now available with links to the three operational programmes:

- Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP) - http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/cip/eip_en.htm
- Information Communication Technologies Policy support Programme (ICT PSP) http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/ict_psp/index_en.htm
- Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE) http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/index_en.html

An interesting website for SMEs was also put on line by DG Enterprise at the address: <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sme/>

Latest news from European Technology Platforms (ECTP, ERTRAC,..)

ECTP – www.ectp.org

At the last HLG meeting on 20 June, the Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) Implementation Action Plan was endorsed and the final version is now available on the ECTP website.

The HLG also endorsed the preparation of the Joint Technology Initiative JTI “E2B” dealing with energy. The issue of submitting only one ERA-NET under NMP was as well agreed.

The approved version of the IAP can be downloaded at the ECTP website under the following heading [ECTP SRA Implementation Action Plan \(version 1, July 2007\)](http://www.ectp.org/groupees/params/ectp/download_files/Doc3174v1_grp75.pdf)
(http://www.ectp.org/groupees/params/ectp/download_files/Doc3174v1_grp75.pdf)

The **next Plenary ECTP Conference** will take place on 19-20 November in the RAI Exhibition and Convention Centre in Amsterdam. The first day will focus on recent developments within ECTP and brokerage sessions will be organised in order to facilitate the preparation of project proposals for future FP7 calls. The second day will be mainly dedicated to the Network of National Technology Platforms. Brokerage sessions will furthermore be organised in order to facilitate project proposals for Eureka.

For more information please visit the conference 2007 page on the ECTP web site (see: <http://www.ectp.org/conference2007.asp>)

ERTRAC – www.ertrac.org

Also ERTRAC is currently refining its research agenda into a more detailed Implementation plan. A public draft will be made available in advance of the ERTRAC Conference 2007 “European Road Transport Facing the Climate Change”, Brussels, Wednesday, 26 September 2007.
http://www.ertrac.org/conference_registration.htm/

The Second European Road Transport Research Arena TRA 2008 will be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, from 21 - 25 April 2008 (<http://www.tra2008.si>).

News from Members:

ENBRI has at its last Board meeting expanded its network to 23 members. The youngest members are the Civil Engineering Institute of Croatia (<http://www.igh.hr/>) and the IMS Institute for testing materials (<http://www.institutims.co.yu>) of Serbia.

It is also planned to organize next year a conference celebrating the network's 20th anniversary. The proposed dates for the conference which is due to be held in Belgium are 2-3 October 2008.

A full list of European and international events can be consulted at:
http://www.eccredi.org/navigation/events_set.html