



Joint Support Office (JSO) for Enhancing Ukraine's Integration into the European Research Area (ERA)

MULTIPLIER EFFECT:

In a meeting on March 1st, 2010, National Academy of Science of Ukraine (NASU) and JSO-ERA Project agreed to join forces in order to identify FP7 project ideas amongst NASU affiliates

During this meeting, Dr Bakowski presented the JSO-ERA project and asked Academician Paton to involve NASU in the process of increasing Ukraine's FP7 participation, more particularly:

- By facilitating contacts between the JSO-ERA project and research groups keen to participate in FP7
- By supporting the JSO-ERA project in drafting recommendations for the MoES and other line authorities to increase Ukrainian participation in FP7 and to remove existing obstacles to FP7 participation
- By contributing to the JSO-ERA project's concept of a sustainable structure for providing information and support to Ukrainian participants in FP7.

In terms of FP7 opportunities, Academician Paton mentioned a few large NASU research projects that could be eligible to funding. These projects are related essentially to welding applications in surgery, high-speed transport and nano-materials. Academician Paton also pointed

out that NASU's chief priorities were to develop innovation projects and boost the careers of young scientists. Both priorities are eligible to FP7 funding.

Ukrainian researchers usually face several major problems that hinder FP7 participation. These include the cruel lack of a solid EU/ERA contact network, of efficient partner search techniques and of significant experience within a European consortium.

Since March 1st, NASU has started to identify several project ideas that could be submitted to FP7. In turn, the JSO-ERA project is currently setting up an effective internal structure to review, analyse and advise on project proposals against FP7 quality criteria and also to assist with EU/ERA partner search.

Draft FP7 proposals may be submitted in their more advanced stages to the JSO-ERA Project for comments, suggestions and advice.

<http://www.nas.gov.ua/en/Pages/default.aspx>

IN FOCUS:

- Multiplier effect
- Success story
- Study tour
- Introduction to the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) under FP7
- More JSO-ERA events in September-October 2010
- Past and recent events
- Other events with JSO-ERA involvement



Left to right: Academician Boris Paton, NASU President, with Ms Inna Bayda, MA, Business Development Director to ECORYS-Kyiv, Dr Aleksander Bakowski, JSO-ERA Project Team Leader, and Dr Ludmila D. Kisterska, in a first meeting at the NASU's E.O. Paton Welding Institute on March 1st, 2010.



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A project implemented by an ECORYS-led Consortium





Joint Support Office (JSO) for Enhancing Ukraine's Integration into the European Research Area (ERA)

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Ukraine (UCCI) offers JSO-ERA Project logistical support and close cooperation on FP7 training.

"The [JSO-ERA] project could provide our extensive [UCCI] network with adequate FP7 training. All regional chambers will in turn provide innovative SMEs keen to participate in the 7th Framework Programme with similar training on a demand-driven basis".



This interview was conducted at the UCCI on May 20th, 2010.

www.ucci.org.ua/home.html



Mrs Olena Podoleva, Vice-President of the UCCI

1) What training activities have so far been conducted at the UCCI in the fields of research and innovation?

Mrs Olena Podoleva, Vice-President of the Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (UCCI): "The UCCI collaborates proactively with other Ukrainian Ministries and authorities, focusing on innovation and investment, such as the State Agency of Ukraine for Investment and Innovation (SAUII). The UCCI's objective is also to make life easier for the innovation sector. In this respect, the UCCI has been conducting lobbying activities to promote innovation in legislation. Ukraine's technoparks and incubators really struggle to catch up with their Western counterparts, e.g. in Norway, Finland and Taiwan, which I had the opportunity to visit. As a non-state organisation, the UCCI organises training and information support seminars, e.g. on financial and management issues or on how to set up an incubator, including at cross-border level. Maximum 20% of our training events are conducted in Kyiv against 80% in the regions where our network is also well developed and staffed with very competent collaborators. Since 2008, the UCCI has been actively involved in organising Seed Forum in Ukraine. This May 2010, Seed Forum Ukraine will have taken place for the fifth time. The Forum has focused essentially on innovation-based projects that have the potential to help commercialise Ukraine's technologies. With support from the Norwegian embassy in Kyiv, Seed Forum Ukraine is hosted by the Chamber every six months. Before each Forum takes place, we work with our Norwegian colleagues to select the best innovation projects that will be briefly explained by the Ukrainian parties to potential investors during a 7-minute presentation entirely made in English. To prepare for such events and make Ukrainian proposals more competitive, we provide advice on project proposal drafting and fine-tuning, and also assistance with English-language training and translation

work. Our regional network also contributes to this activity. Moreover, the Chamber takes part in projects funded by third countries and international organisations. Generally, these are innovation projects, such as Clean Production with Norway and REACH Implementation with the EBRD-Ukraine, and also new financial instruments funded by the Austrian government for enhancing Ukrainian SME competitiveness. At the moment, negotiations are being conducted with UNIDO to find practical applications for new technologies aiming to encourage cleaner production.

2) How can the JSO-ERA Project work with UCCI?

"Here we can go in two directions: first, we can inform the Regions of your project through our network. Second, the CCI of Ukraine and its 27 regional chambers all have departments that pay special attention to innovative member SMEs. The project could then provide our extensive network with adequate FP7 training. All regional chambers will in turn provide innovative SMEs keen to participate in the 7th Framework Programme with similar training on a demand-driven basis. Actually, this goes along the lines of a perfect "Train the Trainers" strategy, which includes a perfect multiplier effect for both the project and the Chamber. If that's what you have in mind, we are more than happy to offer our services. In addition, the Chamber can publish timely information on FP7 Calls for Proposals in its monthly "Dilovy Visnyk" ("Business Herald") magazine. We can also search for interesting proposals to submit to the European Commission for FP7 co-financing".

For more on the UCCI,
<http://www.ucci.org.ua/home.html>

PROJECT INFORMATION:

Budget: 3.5 million

Duration: September 2009 - December 2011

Ukrainian Beneficiaries:

- Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (MoES)
- National Information Centre for Ukraine - FP7 National Information Point for Ukraine (NIP/Ukraine)

Target Groups:

- Research and development (R&D) organisations
- Small and medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)
- NGOs, innovation incubators, technology transfer centres, technoparks
- National stakeholders dealing with science and technology, R&D and innovation issues

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FP7 SUCCESS STORY: MOSTOSTAL Warszawa

"EU financial support has been significant and critical to our active research effort. Besides, we could also gain precious knowledge as to what is going on in our highly competitive, albeit very traditional, sector"

This interview was conducted with Mr Pawel Poneta, R&D Engineer, Poland-based Mostostal Warszawa¹, on the eve of the JSO-ERA Project's workshop and consultations on SME participation in FP7 at UCCI on May 20th-21st, 2010.



www.mostostal.waw.pl

Mostostal Warszawa is a large Polish construction company engaged in infrastructure, energy efficiency, environmental protection, buildings for the private and public sector. Major accounts include Arab countries, Germany and Sweden. Now, Mostostal Warszawa focuses on the Polish and East-European markets, including Ukraine, where it is implementing one road-building project, and other CIS member states



Pawel Poneta at the SME workshop, UCCI, Kyiv

1) How did you get involved in the EU 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development?

Pawel Paneta, R&D Engineer to Mostostal Warszawa: "For us, FP7 is the natural continuation of our participation in FP6. The whole story started with the "ManuBuild" project. At proposal stage, a Spanish construction company was approached, but declined the offer. Then the project was transferred to Mostostal Warszawa, whose senior management was really keen to get involved. The proposal was submitted and the evaluation was positive.

In 2005, Mostostal Warszawa decided to work out a new R&D strategy in order to capture new business opportunities. The challenge was to extend usual FRP space and sportswear applications to the very conservative, traditional construction sector.

FP6 co-financed our research activities. Today, there are lots of FRP applications in the infrastructure sector, e.g. strengthening of existing buildings, bridges and building elements. Some of these new applications are currently being certified in Poland.

As a result, Mostostal Warszawa now employs 11 engineers in 5 R&D departments, including:

- Construction sustainability and energy efficiency
- ICT and ICT applications to the construction sector
- New building materials for pavements and roads
- Partition walls
- New concretes

Like I have indicated, our R&D activities have continued and even increased under FP7"

2) What are the advantages to taking part in a European FP7 project?

"EU financial support has been significant and critical to our active research effort. Besides, we could get precious knowledge as to what is going on in our highly competitive, albeit very traditional, sector. The marketing aspects may not be overlooked either. For example, we have been invited to take part in the "Expo Shanghai 2010" entirely at the expense of the European Commission.

Visibility could not be any better for us on the world stage".

As a professional researcher, I had the opportunity to acquire new skills and to cooperate with other high-level skills. I could get excellent contacts and have acquired very good networking skills. That's FP7's great value added".

3) How has the collaboration with your partners worked?

"Well, it all depends on the partners. Overall, collaboration went smoothly. However, we also experienced serious difficulties. To some extent, these may have been linked to a lack of reciprocal trust as regards IPRs. Sometimes, you may have to join forces with direct competitors and conflicts of interest may arise for obvious reasons as a result. I could give you other examples. A partner's bankruptcy or any modification to their business strategy may have very serious repercussions on the project's activities and results. Some of the partners may only be after easy money. However, a smart project coordinator with good business stamina will be able to rid himself of these issues".

4) What major difficulties have you faced?

"At proposal planning stage, most partners are usually very positive about the outcome of the proposal. However, at implementation stage, negative feelings may emerge in the team and eventually kill team spirit. So avoid being too optimistic or overambitious.

At proposal drafting stage, you need to be consistent and realistic as to your achievements. Don't try to impress your evaluators with overstatements. You lose all credibility. Moreover, if you sign a contract, you will then have to achieve the expected results as stated in the proposal.

FP7 rules and bureaucracy are always harshly criticised by some. In my opinion, it's all exaggerated. Financial management and administration are not that much of a real problem for a large company, such as Mostostal Warszawa. However, SMEs may find it difficult, especially the first time. Nevertheless, they may benefit from the special transitional flat rate for justified overheads. In this case, SMEs may get 60% of overhead costs without submitting all necessary justifications".





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5) How would you rate your European experience?

You know, Mostostal Warszawa now has five years' experience with the Framework Programmes. Our knowledge and insight into FP7 is tremendous. We know how to deal with EU procedures, project management requirements, budgeting and planning. We are involved in the European Construction Technology Platform (<http://www.ectp.org/>) and also in the Energy Efficient Buildings European Association as one of its founding members (<http://www.e2b-ei.eu/>). We have become a very good partner as a lead company under FP7, at least in the construction sector.

6) What advice would you give to a company interested to join FP7?

"First of all, get involved in one of the projects. Second, don't start writing proposals immediately. Try to be a project partner. Try to attend as many FP7 workshops, information days and conferences as possible. Do your own networking. It's important to introduce yourself as a company. Don't hesitate a single second to post your profile on the EU Cordis portal and show your interests and strengths for specific Calls for Proposals. Try to create a consortium at national level, even between the private and public sectors and Academia. It's always good to diversify your partnership. For example, the public sector may help you put your product on the market as a client and may also be useful for certification purposes and/or demonstration opportunities".

7) How do you consider Ukraine's potential in FP7?

"I am here in Ukraine for two days not only to deliver speeches and presentations, but also to find partners. Ukraine has great potential in Europe and should make the most of it. For example, I purchase products that can only be found in Ukraine. The country can actually supply very cheap high-quality building materials. Ukraine is a big country and also a big market for a consortium. This means that investment may be amortised on this new market very early. Involving Ukrainian companies is critical to attracting and stimulating the national economy".

Mostostal Warszawa's latest FP7 success story is the Trans-IND project. Its overall objective is to develop a cost-effective integrated construction process that will enable maximum industrialisation capacity of transport infrastructure components (road and pedestrian bridges, underpass, containing walls, acoustic and safety barriers), using polymer-based materials (carbon fibre, glass fibre). It will be demonstrated, as a pilot case, for components of a bridge (beams and pre-slabs). For more, see:

More on the Trans-IND project can be found here: <http://www.trans-ind.eu>

MORE JSO-ERA EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2010

- **INFODAY IN YEVPATORIYA ORGANISED JOINTLY WITH THE NATIONAL SPACE AGENCY OF UKRAINE, SEPT. 1ST-3RD – THEMATIC PRIORITY: SPACE**
- **INFODAY & CONSULTATIONS IN SIMFEROPOL, SEPTEMBER 16TH-17TH, 2010 – THEMATIC PRIORITY: ENVIRONMENT**
- **INFODAY, WORKSHOP & CONSULTATIONS IN IVANO-FRANKIVSK, OCTOBER 18TH-19TH, 2010 – THEMATIC PRIORITIES: ENERGY (INFODAY) AND SMES (WORKSHOP)**

Definitions of JSO-ERA events:

The JSO-ERA Project normally conducts Information Days, Workshops, Consultations and conferences both in Kiev and across Ukraine.

1) Information Days

An Information Day, or InfoDay, is always closely related to a Call for Proposals for a specific component of FP7. It is usually organised as a one-day event for researchers engaged in the areas directly related to a given thematic call.

An Info day normally consists of the following elements:

- presentation of the Work Programme related to the specific call and information contained in the call fiche
- presentation of the projects funded within the scope of the Work Programme
- presentation including practical advice on proposal drafting for a specific call
- one-on-one consultations for proposal writers

2) Workshops

A workshop is usually organised as a one-day event for potential and/or effective FP7 participants who are keen to enhance their knowledge about the programme's procedures and processes.

Workshops are normally intended for specific target groups of researchers, innovative organisations and also multipliers, including NGOs, Chambers of Commerce, business associations and consultants

engaged in the dissemination of FP7 information and know-how transfer.

Generally, workshops are organised on a demand-driven and regional specificity basis.

Workshops may consist of the following elements:

- training modules developed by JSO-ERA
- presentation and round table discussion with project coordinator
- presentations and discussion with potential project partners from the EU countries
- presentation of potential FP7 project ideas and partners in Ukraine
- presentation and discussion on the most efficient EU partner search techniques and tools

3) Consultations

A consultation refers to any one-on-one advisory service provided to a specific organisation during a follow-up meeting, telephone conversation or e-mail correspondence on specific FP7-related issues, which may range from partner search assistance to proposal drafting techniques.

Intended for all FP7 and JSO-ERA event participants, consultations are normally conducted as a one-stop shop on an entirely free-of-charge basis.

4) Conferences

Conferences are usually organised in Kyiv. Target audiences and contents are more general. JSO-ERA conferences are conducted as forums for dissemination of project results and lessons learned and also for further discussion with line authorities and beneficiaries.





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STUDY TOUR

In May 2010, a delegation of eight Ukrainian experts took part in a three-day study tour to the European Commission and IDEA Consult in Brussels, and also to ECORYS-Rotterdam and the Dutch Ministries of Economic Affairs and of Education & Science in The Hague.

The experts attended workshops on FP7's legal and financial issues at DG Research and on the Competitiveness & Innovation Programme association modalities at DG Enterprise.

IDEA Consult conducted a workshop on ex ante and ex post impact

assessments of FP6 and FP7. Particular attention was paid to value-for-money aspects of FP7 participation.

At ECORYS, the experts attended a workshop on project cycle management and policy evaluation techniques used in education and science.

The workshop at the Ministries focused on the FP7 institutional support structure in the Netherlands and the organisational set-up within the various National Contact Points, including Dutch lessons learned and best practice.



Dr Marina Gorokhovatska (NASU Presidium's representative), Mrs Dariya Polyuk (ECORYS), Mrs Dariya Chaika (MoES) and Mrs Olena Maksymova (MoES) in a working meeting on INCO at the European Commission's DG Research in Brussels



From left to right: Dr Olga Kot (JSO-ERA Thematic Expert), Mrs Karbysheva (MoES), Mrs Zakrevska (MoES), Mrs Chaika (MoES), Mrs Maksymova (MoES), Mrs Koval (NIP-Ukraine Director), Dr Gorokhovatska (NASU Presidium) and Ms Svitlana Kaltygina (JSO-ERA Thematic Expert) at DG Research in Brussels

JSO-ERA STUDY TOUR No 1:

- **Date:** May 2010
- **Duration:** 3 days
- **8 participants:** the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (5), FP7 National Information Point for Ukraine (1) and JSO-ERA Project (2)
- **Organisations visited:**
 - DG research, European Commission, Brussels
 - IDEA Consult, Brussels
 - ECORYS, Rotterdam
 - Dutch Ministries of Economic Affairs and of Education & Science, The Hague

INTRODUCTION TO THE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS UNDER FP7: CHARACTERISTICS

A special contribution by Lyubomyr Nykyruy, Head of the Department for Intellectual Property and Innovation to the Vasyl Stefanyk's Ciscarpathian National University and FP7 NIP-Ukraine Regional Contact Point – Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine



Head of the Department for Intellectual Property and Innovation to the Vasyl Stefanyk's Ciscarpathian National University and FP7 NIP-Ukraine Regional Contact Point – Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine

This brief article aims to very succinctly introduce some of the aspects and terminology related to intellectual property rights (IPRs). It is supposed to instil amongst potential and effective FP7 participants the need to find out more about this highly sensitive issue.

Dr Lyubomyr Nykyruy
www.pu.if.ua/inst/ndc/fp7/nipnetwork.html

Terminology and Definitions

Intellectual Property (IP) results from innovation activity based upon concrete knowledge, from unique improvements to techniques that were successfully used in the past, or from the application of new techniques used for expressing concrete ideas and concepts. *Paul Romer, the famous US economist, proposed a model according to which, to achieve economic growth, state policy ought to stimulate investment in new research and to financially support overall human capital development. By and large, this model takes form with the implementation of large-scale international projects, including FP7.*

Background refers to information, which was owned by a consortium partner before it joined the Grant Agreement and which is essential to project implementation or to the use of project results.

Foreground refers to results of intellectual activity obtained from project implementation (including property-related and non-property-related project results and also all related rights over results obtained from intellectual activity).

Joint Ownership (joint ownership to IPRs) – if the consortium partners have set up a joint foreground, and if this foreground is by essence indivisible, then the partners will enjoy joint intellectual property rights over this foreground.





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IP at the various stages of FP7 participation

Fierce competition between proposals submitted under FP7 generates scientific research results that are likely to profoundly modify the present "level of knowledge". Hence the high requirements imposed upon consortium partners: they must provide evidence of their ability to achieve high-level results, must sufficiently substantiate these results and must have the appropriate experience, which may be confirmed through the results obtained from intellectual activity.

Accordingly, FP7 consortium partners must clearly declare their intellectual property assets when the consortium is being set up and also during project implementation. For this, there is a range of documents available, the most important of which are the Consortium Agreement and the Grant Agreement, which regulate all relations between partners, including IP-wise. The agreements signed by the consortium partners shall indicate what particular knowledge may be accessible to consortium partners and under which conditions.

In this case, it must be made clear that the term *background* encompasses not only the (thematic) experience of a department or unit that takes part in project implementation, but also any other thematic experience that has been gained by a university or institute, to which this department or unit belongs, and that, possibly, it is essential to transfer to the other consortium partners under particular conditions. The owner of the *foreground* shall be that consortium partner, whose project result the indicated foreground has become.

When the Consortium and Grant Agreements are concluded, it is essential to observe the rules, according to which all knowledge and technology generated by a consortium partner is the property of that partner and if the research has been conducted jointly with another partner, the rights to this newly acquired knowledge are shared between the partners on the basis of mutual agreements. In the case of academic organisations, other researchers may also enjoy property rights over results of research activity conducted on site.

Another important point consists in the transfer of intellectual property rights to the *foreground*. Therefore, if no agreement on joint property rights has been concluded, each co-owner may transfer a non-exclusive license over the common foreground to any third party, after informing other co-owners and paying them material (financial) compensations.

At some stage of project implementation, partners will often start understanding the commercial value of a name/acronym/logo, which may lead to the likelihood of registration. It is considered unethical for any of the consortium partners to register IPRs on its own without obtaining prior approval or considering the opinion of other project implementers.

(Translated from the Russian by the JSO-ERA Project Office)

PAST AND RECENT EVENTS

First JSO-ERA Conference and Information Day, Kyiv – February 24th-25th, 2010

Number of effective participants: 123 in the Conference on Day 1 and 84 in the InfoDay & ensuing Consultations on Day 2



From left to right: Mrs Vira Rybak (EU Delegation), Dr Martin Penny (DG Research), Dr Nick vander Lijn (JSO-ERA Project Director, ECORYS), Mrs Tetiana Patrakh (Ministry of Education & Science) and Mrs Olena Koval (NIP-Ukraine Director) during the press conference at the National Academy of Science of Ukraine



The audience at the InfoDay



Prof. Viacheslav Solovyov, Deputy Director to the Dobrov Centre for Studying R&D Potential and Science History, closing the First JSO-ERA Conference on the NASU's behalf.





Joint Support Office (JSO) for Enhancing Ukraine's Integration into the European Research Area (ERA)

Workshop and Consultations, Lviv – March 25th-26th, 2010

Number of effective participants: 56 on Day 1, 41 in morning session on Day 2 and 35 in afternoon session on Day 2



Dr Aleksander Bakowski in the middle of intensive consultations, here with Dr Taras Zhuk, Director of the BUDINFORMATSIYA company



Dr Albena Vutsova, JSO-ERA Key Expert, on "FP7- Step by Step"



Mr Ivan Kulchytskyy, FP7 Regional Contact Point in Lviv, answers questions on the "SCUBE-ICT" project, which aims to boost strategic partnerships between Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) researchers and the industrial sector from Ukraine, Belarus and the EU.

Websites: www.cstei.lviv.ua & www.scube-ict.eu/index.php

Information Day in Dnipropetrovsk and Zaporizhzhya – April 15th-16th, 2010

Number of effective participants: 87 in Dnipropetrovsk and 74 in Zaporizhzhya



The audience in Dnipropetrovsk



Prof. Nadiya Boyko, RFP-Uzhgorod and Head of the Trans-Carpathian Cross-Border Cooperation Centre for Scientific Cooperation, presents the BaseFood project, her own FP7 success story, to the Zaporizhzhya audience

www.basefood-fp7.eu/
& www.univ.uzhgorod.ua/static/projects/basefood/about_basefood.html



Dr Arnolds Ubelis, NCP Latvia, during the Q&A on FP7 success rates and other statistics





Joint Support Office (JSO) for Enhancing Ukraine's Integration into the European Research Area (ERA)

InfoDay and Consultations in Uzhgorod – May 13th-14th, 2010

Number of effective participants: 129 on Day 1; 76 in ensuing consultations on Day 2 and 55 in the separate consultations on nanotechnologies on Day 2.



The two-day event in Uzhgorod gathered up to 129 participants, mostly SMEs



Mrs Olena Koval, NIP-Ukraine Director: "FP7 – From Idea to Project"



Mrs Olena Koval and Mrs Tetiana Patrakh (right), Deputy Head, Department for International S&T Cooperation and European Integration, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, answering questions at the press conference in Uzhgorod



The Ukrainian version of the FP7 Electronic Proposal Submission Service (EPSS) manual was presented by Prof. Nadiya Boyko for the first time at the press conference in Uzhgorod.

Workshop and Consultations at the UCCL in Kyiv – May 20th-21st, 2010

Number of effective participants: 45 in the workshop on Day 1 and 25 in consultations on Day 2



The audience at UCCL



Dr Aleksander Bakowski holding individual consultations for innovative SMEs



Sergey Gerasymchuk provides individual consultations to SMEs

Judging by the effective participation numbers, there is real demand for funding and consultations amongst Ukraine's research communities. Hence the priority given to the multipliers.





Joint Support Office (JSO) for Enhancing Ukraine's Integration into the European Research Area (ERA)

OTHER EVENTS WITH JSO-ERA INVOLVEMENT:

Roundtable discussion on Ukraine's "International Space Integration"



Sergey Gerasymchuk, Thematic Expert, JSO-ERA Project

A roundtable dedicated to Ukraine's "International Space Integration" was conducted at the National Aviation University on April 12, 2010.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the National Aviation University (NAU), the Space Studies Board of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine (NASU), the National Space Agency of Ukraine (NSAU), the NASU-NSAU Institute for Space Research, the International Space Law Centre and the G.M. Dobrov NASU Centre for Studying R&D Potential and Science History.

The latest trends in international space cooperation were intensively discussed, especially in the context of Ukraine's National Space Programme for 2013-2017 and Space Activity Strategy.

Mr Sergey Gerasymchuk, JSO-ERA Thematic Expert for Transport, Avionics, Space and SMEs, presented FP7 ERA-WIDE opportunities for space-related activities.

After the event, draft recommendations were formulated to further promote Ukraine's international space integration. These included the need to develop the concept of international space cooperation as part of the Space Activity Strategy for Ukraine.



JSO-ERA took part in the Lviv Innovation Forum on April 22nd, 2010

At the forum, EU and US participants had an opportunity to share valuable knowledge and experience with their Ukrainian counterparts in the fields of innovation development and entrepreneurship, more particularly university cooperation with the private sector and government agencies.



Dr Aleksander Bakowski on FP7 funding for Ukrainian SMEs

The event was attended by over 80 representatives of Ukrainian SMEs, scientific and education institutions, governmental and public business support organisations.

"Given the current economic downturn, we should use our potential more efficiently in supporting science. A survey conducted by the US-based Monitor Group has established that business services, more particularly information technologies, are the key area for our city's economic development. Today we've gathered scientists who will champion their ideas and projects here. The intelligent combination of power, business and science will bring success to Lviv", stressed Mr Andriy Sadovyy, Mayor of Lviv.

As one of the main guest speakers, Dr Aleksander Bakowski, JSO-ERA Project Team Leader, presented co-financing opportunities for Ukrainian innovative SMEs within the EU-funded 7th Framework Programme (FP7) for Research and Technology Development.

Dr Bakowski and Sergey Gerasymchuk, one of the JSO-ERA Project's Thematic Experts, also conducted individual consultations for nine SMEs keen to learn more about FP7 participation.



Dr Aleksander Bakowski and Sergey Gerasymchuk during SME consultations at Lviv Innovation Forum



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