

Network of National Construction Technology Platforms

**Newsletter No.6
October, 2015**



Edited by PTEC

PRESENTATION

This is Newsletter No.6 of the network of National Construction Technology Platforms or similar National organizations in different countries.

This network aims to promote synergies on R&I in the construction sector among European countries, in collaboration with ECTP (www.ectp.org) and the European Commission.

National initiatives and events are published in order to facilitate the interaction among R&I stakeholders from different countries. At present, there are contact persons in almost 20 European countries

In this newsletter, contributions from DG Research and Innovation on EeB cPPP within FP7 and H2020, from DG Grow on the Thematic Groups within Construction 2020 strategy and from Greece, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain are included.

The next newsletter (Newsletter No.7) will be published by mid-December 2015.

Jesús Rodríguez
director@plataformaptec.es

EUROPEAN COMMISSION



DG Research and Innovation

The contractual Public-Private Partnerships (cPPPs) launched in Horizon 2020 ⁽¹⁾ are of strategic importance for the competitiveness and leadership of European industry. These partnerships between the European Commission and the private side are funded by more than € 6 billion of investments allocated through calls for proposals under Horizon 2020. Each euro of public funding is expected to trigger additional investments of between € 3 and € 10 to develop new technologies, products and services which will give European industry a leading position on world markets.

⁽¹⁾ Horizon 2020 is the European Union's funding programme for Research and Innovation, from 2014 to 2020 (<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/>).

The cPPPs foresee a long-term commitment from the European Commission to support research and innovation in these key sectors and a long-term commitment from the private side to continue to invest and innovate, making use of the results generated in the EU projects supported in those partnerships. The contractual arrangements of the cPPPs commit the private side of each cPPP to a shared vision and clear, quantifiable objectives. Crucially, the involvement of industry ensures that the research and innovation planned meet industry's needs.

The cPPPs are based on roadmaps for research and innovation activities which were produced by the private partners through an open consultation process just before the beginning of Horizon 2020. The roadmaps are used by the Commission as the basis to develop successive Work Programmes and to prepare the content of the calls for proposals. The cPPPs are implemented through such calls for proposals under Horizon 2020 rules and procedures which simplify their implementation.

The buildings sector

The buildings industrial sector (residential and non-residential) is the largest economic sector in the construction market, as construction and refurbishment activities account for 85 % of the total construction sector output and provide 11.5 million direct jobs. The construction sector also has a crucial impact on the EU environment and energy policies as buildings use 40 % of total EU energy consumption and are responsible for 36 % of greenhouse gases in Europe while the replacement rate of the existing stock is very small (1-2 % per year).

The buildings sector is on the critical path to decarbonise the European economy by 2050. In order to achieve this objective it must enable the reduction of CO₂ emissions by as much as 90% and energy consumption by 50 %.

The objective of the EeB cPPP is to drive the creation of a high-tech building industry that turns energy efficiency into a sustainable business, fostering EU competitiveness in the construction sector at the

global level. It also aims at promoting innovative technologies, systems and materials to achieve higher levels of energy efficiency in Europe's built environment.

The EeB cPPP aims to create and integrate technologies and solutions to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gases emissions in line with the Europe 2020 goals:

- to turn the building industry into a knowledge-driven sustainable business, with higher productivity and more highly-skilled employees;
- and to develop innovative and smart systemic approaches for green buildings and districts, helping to improve the competitiveness of the EU building industry.

The specific objectives defined in the EeB roadmap target the development of at least 40 new technologies across four areas: innovative construction, retrofitting, interactive sustainable buildings, and performance monitoring tools.

Status of the EeB cPPP

The four cross-thematic EeB calls in FP7 attracted 498 project proposals, of which 114 were successful – representing a combined EU investment of € 547.5 million. The proportion of industrial partners, including SMEs, among the 1 480 participations was considerably higher (54 %) than the FP7 Cooperation average. The wide variety of projects reflected the range of innovations required to improve the energy efficiency of European buildings, with subjects such as nanotechnology-based HVAC systems, near-zero-energy buildings, and renovation and retrofitting of energy solutions for cities and districts.

So far, there have been two calls in Horizon 2020 in 2014 and 2015. A total of 311 proposals were submitted, of which 31 have been selected for implementation, receiving a total EU contribution of € 137.6 million. They include 321 participations, with industrial involvement of 56 % and with 30.5 % of SME partners.

Success stories

Residential buildings constructed between 1945 and 1980 have a large energy demand as energy efficiency was not a main design criterion in this period. Because of their age, most of these buildings

now require retrofitting or refurbishing to meet today's energy efficiency standards and to offer an improved quality of life for present and future inhabitants. RETROKIT and E2REBUILD are two FP7 projects that are demonstrating promising results for the retrofitting of existing buildings.

RETROKIT (from 01-09-2012 to 31-08-2016) has received € 6.6 million of EU funding.

The RETROKIT project is developing multi-functional, modular, low-cost and easy-to-install pre-fabricated modules at three building pilots in three different climate zones: Spain, Germany and Sweden. The integrated solutions are targeting existing multi-family residential buildings and will address the aspects of heating, ventilation, cooling, electricity and ICT in a flexible way. So far, a 30 % energy reduction has been achieved and validated in the three demonstration sites. The solution will significantly increase the EU's retrofitting rate and contribute to energy reduction goals. RETROKIT may also reduce the discomfort of the inhabitants thanks to a shorter retrofitting time and reduced use of scaffolding.

E2REBUILD (from 01-01-2011 to 30-06-2014) has received € 4.7 million of EU funding.

The E2REBUILD project has developed holistic retrofitting strategies, and cost-effective and energy-efficient retrofit technologies. In seven successful residential building demonstrations from Finland in the north to the French Alps in the south, E2REBUILD created added value for existing apartment buildings and encouraged end-users to build a dynamic society. E2REBUILD is designed to cover innovation in planning, design, technology, construction, operation and use of buildings. The aim is to reduce the energy use in the demonstration buildings to 30-50 kWh/m²/year for heating, ventilation and hot water. These solutions focus on industrial manufacturing methods of, for example, facade elements and standardised retrofit measures to increase the replication potential. If the E2REBUILD approach were implemented in an additional 1% of the housing stock, some 2 to 3 million new jobs would be created for a period of 30 years, and result in corresponding economic growth.

Progress and new priorities in the Calls for 2016 and 2017

The Horizon 2020 EeB cPPP projects will provide continuity for the ongoing FP7 projects, some of which will run until 2017. The EeB cPPP will get its main support from the LEIT-NMBP part of Horizon 2020, with contributions as well from the Energy and Environment Challenges.

The priorities for the period 2014-15 included areas such as the building envelope, integrated design, sustainable materials, performance monitoring, and thermal storage.

The topics proposed for 2016-17 cover priority areas such as highly efficient insulation materials,

energy-efficiency and environmental quality, re-use and recycling of construction materials and structures to produce prefabricated elements, near-zero-energy building renovation, highly efficient hybrid storage solutions for power and heat supply, and adaptable refurbishment solutions.

The estimated EU funding for the EeB cPPP calls in the next Work Programme is € 57 million for 2016 and € 62 million for 2017.

Call topics planned for 2016 and 2017 under the EeB cPPP				
Topic code	Topic title	Type of Action	Expected deadline	Budget (M€)
EeB 1 -2016	Highly efficient insulation materials with improved properties	IA	21 January 2016	49
EeB 2 -2016	Performance indicators and monitoring techniques for energy-efficiency and environmental quality at building and district level	CSA (SA)		
EeB 3 -2016	Integration of advanced technologies for heating and cooling at building and district level	IA		
EeB 4 -2016	New technologies and strategies for the development of pre-fabricated elements through the reuse and recycling of construction materials and structures	RIA		
EE 10 - 2016	Supporting accelerated and cost-effective deep renovation of buildings	IA		8
EeB 5 -2017	Development of near zero energy building renovation	IA	19 January 2017	54
EeB 6 -2017	Highly efficient hybrid storage solutions for power and heat in residential buildings and district areas, balancing the supply and demand conditions	RIA		
EeB 7 -2017	Integration of energy harvesting at building and district level	IA		
EeB 8 -2017	New business models for energy-efficient buildings through adaptable refurbishment solutions	CSA (SA)		
EE 12 – 2017	Integration of Demand Response in Energy Management Systems while ensuring interoperability	IA		

EeB: Energy-efficient Buildings Call

Note: The above information is only indicative. Full details on topic content, budgets and call conditions are provided in the Horizon 2020 Work Programme for 2016-17, on the [Participant Portal \(http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/home.html\)](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/home.html).

Dominique Planchon

DG Research and Innovation
European Commission

DG Grow

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), Unit C1, Clean Technologies and Products (former Sustainable Industrial Policy and Construction Unit).

In line with the recommendations made in March 2015 by the High Level Tripartite Strategic Forum of the Construction 2020 Strategy, the Thematic Groups (TGs) started the 5th round of meetings this September with a more project/challenge based approach. This will allow focusing experts and stakeholder discussions even more on detailed topics and provide as well a more interactive meeting setting.

TG1 will focus on investment, maintenance and innovation in construction, namely property valuation of assets, lean construction and Life Cycle Costing (LCC) methodologies for construction. Additionally, the first output of the recently launched EU Construction Sector Observatory (ECSO) will be presented in this framework. TG1 members will have the opportunity to discuss the preliminary results and its implementation. Also in relation to investment in infrastructure under the Energy Union initiative, DG GROW and DG REGIO have collaborated to organise a workshop in the framework of the 2015 EU Open days called "Cohesion policy and financing opportunities for urban development in 2nd tier cities". In this event, commission officials, policy makers, regional authorities, financial experts and construction companies will have the chance to discuss smart investment and good practice examples related to investments in the areas of administrative simplification, financial innovation and good

governance related to buildings, energy infrastructure and waste management, from an urban development perspective and that fall under flagship initiatives with a special link to the Energy Union.

TG2 will continue to discuss schemes and to share good practices supporting initial/continuous education and upskilling in construction. Future work will focus on health and safety in construction as well as recognition procedures for construction professionals between Member States. Communication campaigns targeted at attracting young talent to the construction sector and improving the image of the sector will be presented, such as the "Apprenticeships Pledge" or the "Build Europe with us" EU video competition.

TG3 will focus on the development of a *Common EU Construction and Demolition Waste Management Protocol* which can be used by industry professionals in the waste sector and as a reference document for (national and EU) policy makers. This project tackles the (mis-)perception on the quality of processed C&D waste, in order to increase transparency and confidence in the market. The protocol aims to develop a common set of technical, environmental and managerial principles, which could be applicable in the entire EU and based on the highest common standards in each stage of the waste management chain. Feedback on the work carried in the implementation of the Communication "Resource efficiency opportunities in the building sector" as well as other relevant activities will also be provided.

TG4 is focused on Internal Market issues, including the fitness check on the construction sector, the network of national contact points for construction products and services. TG4 was also informed on recent studies concerning the implementation of the Construction Products Regulation and the simplification and mutual recognition in the construction sector under the Services Directive and was given an update on the outcome of the Elios2 project concerning insurance.

TG5 will focus on the ongoing trade negotiations and continue to involve stakeholders in relevant EU initiatives. Discussions on mutual recognition agreements for professional and products, and

promotion of Eurocodes are followed-up. Further support to the involvement of Export Credit Agencies within the context of EU Development Funds would allow EU contractors to benefit more from these Funds. Finally, TG5 has a specific focus on the internationalisation of SMEs in the construction sector which should be supported further by EU-wide export facilitation measures.

Construction has a key role to play in achieving Europe's low carbon economy objectives. The whole value chain needs to contribute to make the sector competitive at a global scale. Particularly at EU level, recent initiatives such as: the Internal Market Strategy, the Energy Union, the Investment Plan for Europe, the Digital Single Market Package or the Circular Economy Package; will represent major opportunities and challenges.

For more information on the work of the Construction 2020 Thematic Groups, pls. request access to the CONSTRUCTION 2020 - Thematic Groups (TGs) Interest Group on CIRCABC.

Christian Hauke

Christian.hauke@ec.europa.eu

DG Grow

European Commission

GREECE



Hellenic Construction Technology Platform (HCTP)

Summer school: initial training network for digital cultural heritage

The Initial Training Network for Digital Cultural Heritage (ITN-DCH) 2nd Summer School took place, during the first week of June (1-7/06/2015) in Rhodes, Greece. ITN-DCH, is the first and one of the largest Marie Skłodowska -Curie fellowship projects in the area of the e-documentation / e-preservation and CH protection funded by the European Union under the FP7 PEOPLE research framework.

The main participants in the event were the: ITN-DCH actors (Partners, Fellows etc), Project Officer, External Reviewer, Scientists and Professors coming from around the globe to give lectures and local authorities representatives.

ITN-DCH aims -for the first time worldwide- to analyse, design, research, develop and validate an innovative multi-disciplinary and inter-sectorial research training framework that covers the entire lifecycle of digital CH research for a cost-effective preservation, documentation, protection and presentation of cultural heritage. ITN-DCH targets all aspects of CH ranging from tangible to intangible content and their inter-relationships.

The project aims to boost the added value of CH assets by re-using them in real application environments (protection of CH, education, tourism industry et als) through research on (i) new personalized, interactive, mixed and augmented reality enabled e-services, (ii) new recommendations in data acquisition, (iii) new forms of representations (3D/4D) of both tangible /intangible assets and (iv) interoperable metadata forms that allow easy data exchange and archiving.

All of the Summer School activities went public through daily press releases, in the local Dodecanese Media (Television, Radio etc). The successful organization of the above mentioned activities would not be feasible to this extend without the contribution of the co-organizers: The Region of South Aegean, The Municipality of Rhodes, The Ephorate of Antiquities of the Dodecanese, the Hellenic Construction Technology Platform (HCTP), the Technical Chamber of Greece and its Regional Section of Dodecanese.

CONFERENCE: THALES – COMASUCH: Scientific Support to Decision Making for the Compatible and Sustainable Protection of Cultural Heritage

Under the coordination of Antonia Moropoulou, Professor of the National Technical University of Athens and Vice President of Technical Chamber of Greece, partners from eight Greek Universities concluded the 42-months national project THALES-COMASUCH with the national scientific conference entitled “Scientific support to decision making for the compatible and sustainable conservation materials and interventions for the protection of Cultural Heritage”.

Conference took place at NTUA in Athens on September 28 and 29 2015. Project Board co-organized the Conference with NTUA

Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Program "Protection of Monuments", Technical Chamber of Greece, Hellenic Construction Technology Platform, EU Marie Skłodowska -Curie ITN DCH Project and National Archeological Museum. Conference was under the auspices of Greek Ministry of Culture. About 300 attendees of Conference came from partnering institutions with the remarkable number of students, from Ministry of Culture of Greece and private sector/industry interested in preservation of Cultural Heritage assets.

The THALES-COMASUCH project has been co-financed by the European Union (European Social Fund-ESF) and Greek National Funds through the Operational Program "Education and Lifelong Learning" of the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) - Research Funding Program: THALIS Investing in knowledge society through the European Social Fund.

Within the framework of the project, an innovative semantic-based knowledge database was developed for handling material properties as far as protection of cultural heritage objects is concerned. The developed knowledge database permits insertion of several data covering all different properties of a material, supporting analysis of defects, mortars, material decay phenomena, consolidation materials et al.

The main issue highlighted and successfully addressed by the project is the need for and the clear advantages of a scientific support in decision making based approach for the protection of Cultural Heritage that conforms to the requirement of compatibility and sustainability. Finally, the project underlined the benefits of cooperation between the Scientific Community, the Cultural Heritage stakeholders and the Society, which ensures that research accomplishments are based on actual Use Cases, are readily applicable and have the optimum effectiveness.

qEVENT: 2015 RESEARCHERS' NIGHT

"2015 Researchers' Night" took place in the National Technical University of Athens on Friday September 25th, 2015 from 6 o'clock in the afternoon till midnight at the historic Averof Building in Patission Campus in the centre of

Athens. The event was organized under the respective Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action "The European Researchers' Night" and more specifically under the project "ReN2014-15 - 2014-2015 Researchers' Night: The Greek events". The local Organizers are the National Technical University of Athens - and in particular its Employment and Career Structure (DASTA) - the Technical Chamber of Greece and the Hellenic Construction Technology Platform (HCTP), under the auspices of Municipality of Athens - Athens Development and Destination Management Agency, with the support of the Representation of the European Commission in Greece.

Throughout the event, the public had the opportunity to get acquainted with researchers and their research work from all nine Schools of the National Technical University of Athens, as well as from selected Research Teams from the other Universities in Athens. Researchers' Night highlighted the work of researchers and the importance of their role in science and society in general public, with particular emphasis on students of all educational levels. In view of research achievements to the general public, the aim was to improve the social recognition of researchers, awareness and inform the public about research results, as well as increased interest and vocational guidance of young people to research professions.

The public had the opportunity to interact with researchers, participate in experimental demonstrations, computer simulations, educational activities and competitions. In the framework of this event, special "Thematic Corners" and more specifically the "European corner", the "Education and Quality Corner", the "Employment and Innovation Corner" and the "Development and Sustainability Corner", were hosted at the Atrium of the Averof Building, where project respective researchers presented their activities and provided informative dissemination material to the general public.

Given the celebration of 10 years of "Researchers' Night", an inauguration session titled "Science and Education for a better future" was held with the participation of representatives from all the Universities of Athens, as well as a special discussion panel, titled "Challenges, Innovation- Development - Employability", moderated by the Deputy Minister

of Education, Research and Religious Affairs, Prof. Theodossis Pelegrinis and the participation of School Directors.

Antonia Moropoulou
amoropul@central.ntua.gr

PORTUGAL



Plataforma Tecnológica Portuguesa da Construção (PTPC)

Cluster AEC - Arquitetura, Engenharia e Construção

PTPC submitted an application proposing to establish a *competitiveness cluster*² in the construction sector, the Cluster AEC - Arquitetura, Engenharia e Construção (Architecture, Engineering and Construction).

This application was carried out under the new Community Support Framework 2014-2020, and PTPC may benefit from funding provided by the European Structural Funds and Investment.

The idea of creating a Cluster emerged from the need of a collective efficiency strategy towards growth and affirmation of the sector, particularly at international level, with the strengthening of its competitiveness, promotion and innovation.

In the application stage, this Cluster counted with the support and interest of more than 80 entities of the sector (a number that is increasing), with large companies, SME, sector associations and non-corporate entities from research organizations.

Its strategy relates to the investment in RDI and internationalization as key drivers of competitiveness of the Portuguese construction sector, seeking above all to foster relationships and synergies between the different actors across the value chain.

The Cluster AEC has as main goals:

- To encourage RDI activities in partnership;
- To increase exports and qualified employment;
- To promote the international visibility of the sector;
- To strengthen the sector skills;
- To promote cooperation and partnerships.

Its mission is to position itself as an aggregator platform of knowledge and skills of construction in Portugal, promoting the competitiveness of the companies by fostering development and innovation research activities (RDI), and strengthening export capacity and internationalization.

For this purpose a Plan of Action was developed, which includes a diverse set of activities lined up in 5 strategic areas:

I. Research, Development and Innovation

In this context, the Cluster AEC aims to create the conditions necessary to enhance the development of RDI activities in the construction sector in order to create services and high value-added products and services, in line with the latest trends and thematic priorities, to national and European level. This priority contributes directly to the achievement of the following goals:

- To foster RDI activities in partnership;
- To promote international visibility of the sector;
- To promote cooperation and partnerships;

II. Internationalization

The Cluster AEC intends to take an active role in the international promotion of the construction sector, contributing to leverage the presence of the business sector in external markets, focusing on strategic geographies in which efficiency and innovation are recognized and contributing to the achievement of startup entrepreneurial initiatives and SME's. This priority contributes directly to the achievement of the following goals:

- To increase exports and qualified employment;
- To promote international visibility of the sector.

² "**Competitiveness cluster**", the aggregator platform of knowledge and skills, consisting of partnerships and networks that integrate companies, business associations, public authorities and relevant support institutions, including non-corporate entities of the research and innovation system,

sharing a common strategic vision to achieve higher levels of competitiveness through cooperation and agglomeration economies.

III. Cooperation and Partnerships

The Cluster AEC intends to take an active role in promoting national and international partnerships among various actors in the construction sector that can bring competitive advantages and also enhance its relations of cooperation with national and international counterparts and other relevant entities linked to the sector and strategic complementary areas. This priority contributes directly to the achievement of the goals:

- To promote international visibility of the sector;
- To promote cooperation and partnerships;

IV. Qualification and skills

In order to create and consolidate the scientific, technological and strategic skills of the business sector, the Cluster AEC intends to promote approaching initiatives of companies and educational and scientific community, aligning the educational and technological needs of the companies with the offers of the research organizations, while promoting advanced training for current workers and vocational training for specialized workers. This priority contributes directly to the goal:

- To strengthen the skills and know-how.

V. Public Policy

The Cluster AEC intends to position itself as the privileged clarified interlocutor between the actors of the construction sector and the agents responsible for the preparation and implementation of public policies, in order to protect the interests of the economic sector of and society in general. In this context, it highlights the intention to introduce guidelines related to the implementation of practices leading to green construction in public policies.

This axis helps transversely to the goals proclaimed in the Cluster AEC strategy.

Rita Moura

rd@teixeiraduarte.pt



SLOVENIA

Construction Cluster of Slovenia

The Novel Business model generator for Energy Efficiency in construction and retrofitting project

The increasing cost of traditional energy sources and the availability of new emerging building technologies in lighting, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, isolation, energy monitoring as well as integrated renewable energy technologies and management of the



buildings are expected to increase the global market for low carbon solutions. However, together with technological development new financial, organizational and social innovation enablers are required to leverage the transformation towards more sustainable building and cities. In particular, the introduction of new performance based business models can significantly stepping up the adoption of new energy efficient solutions through the creation of cooperative and collaborative business networks.

NewBEE project was aimed to develop the NewBEE system enabling SMEs to generate New performance based Business models for cost and Energy Efficient construction works with special incidence in retrofitting. NewBEE system is composed of NewBEE methodology and ICT platform, including set of ICT tools.

This novel service oriented framework allows retrofitting SME's, ESCOs, building owners, local administrations or financial institution to evaluate the performance of buildings considering their whole lifecycle rather than only early stages such as design and construction.

More information is available at
<http://www.newbee.eu/>

Vladimir Gumilar

vladimir.gumilar@sgg.si

SPAIN



Spanish Construction Technology Platform

PTEC conferences

In June 25th, 2015, PTEC hold the 9th Conference on innovation in planning and monitoring of the construction processes in civil works and buildings. It was promoted by PTEC WG on Construction Processes that is coordinated by the research centre ITAINNOVA (host of the event in Zaragoza), the University Polytechnic of Madrid UPM and the company CYPE Ingenieros.



The main objectives of this event were:

- Disseminating PTEC activities in public and private entities of Aragon region and neighbouring areas
- Encouraging the participation of PTEC members in the region and also of those that are not members of PTEC but are interested in innovation in construction
- Exchanging views on the implementation of different technologies for the improvement of construction processes and safety of workers.

The conference was attended by around 140 participants from more the 80 entities. It was chaired by a board representing the Regional Government of Aragón, the President of Fundación PTEC and the Director of ITAINNOVA.

Two sessions were included on civil works and buildings, respectively.

In the first session, three speakers presented different cases of BIM applications. Ferrovial summarized the experience of the company in the

use of those technologies and presented the application in Heathrow Airport, Farringdon Station Crossrail (London) and Edinburg-Glasgow road. Bentley shown the BIM application in infrastructure construction, especially in phases of design and construction modelling. It was presented the case of upgrading woks in N1 road in Alcobendas (Madrid) where BIM allowed the identification of further problems affecting the existing services before to start the works, and the construction of Teror viaduct (Gran Canaria Island). The third BIM application speaker was Modelical Ingenieria who explained the application of BIM technologies in construction projects.



The session finished with the presentation of the results of two R&D projects. The first one, presented by UPM, was focused on the monitoring of trucks and heavy machinery to control the movement of workers around them in order to reduce the risk of accidents. The second project was presented by Dragados on the application of ICT in topography.

In the second session, three speeches participated on the use of BIM in building construction. Acciona explained the use of BIM technologies in two works: the Nogales Hospital in Mexico and the Princesa de Asturias School in Elche (Spain). Construcciones Lobe shown the vision of an SME and explained how the company applies BIM technologies in the construction processes. Finally, Placo Saint Gobain dealt with the integration of components by mean of BIM technologies.

This session finalized with a speech about challenges and future of ICT technologies in construction (augmented reality) presented by ITAINNOVA, and a discussion about innovation in building industrialization carried out by University of Zaragoza.



PTEC continues with the organization of conferences. The next one will be organised in Bilbao (Nov. 25th, 2015) promoted by The City of the Future PTEC WG under the coordination of Cartif and Tecnia. It will be focussed on innovation in the city for citizens where subjects related to the accessible/inclusive city and the historical city will be presented. The program will include a session with presentations, a round table and an exhibition of posters with R&D and innovation projects.

PTEC at REFINET CSA

REFINET
INFRASTRUCTURE MOBILITY

RETHINKING FUTURE
INFRASTRUCTURE
NETWORKS (REFINET) is a 24-month project under the H2020 topic of MG-8.1b-2014 which intends to create a sustainable network of European and international stakeholders' representatives of all transport modes and transport infrastructure sectors. REFINET will consider two complementary scenarios, namely maintenance and the upgrading of existing transport infrastructures, and development of new transport infrastructures. REFINET will contribute to create a European-wide consensus on where to focus in terms of research and innovation to improve the productivity of the assets and reduce drastically traffic disruptions of transport flows from inspection, construction and maintenance activities, and to accommodate increasing/changing traffic demand.

REFINET try to be a continuation of reFINE/ECTP initiative and it will work in close interaction with ECTP. Some documents will be prepared and a network of more than 1.000 participants will be organized during the life of REFINET in order to reach to a future scenario with better public support

to the research and innovation in the field of multimodal transport infrastructures.

PTEC, as member of REFINET, has participated in the second project meeting in Brussels (Sept. 29-30) together with Arup, CSTB as coordinator of REFINET and representing ECTP, D'Appolonia, Dragados representing Encord, FEHRL, Tecnia and UIC.

PTEC acts in this CSA as coordinator of the NTPs network with representatives of the National Technology Platforms or similar National Organizations in about 20 European countries. PTEC is also the leader of REFINET WP5 on Dissemination and Communication.

The main actions to be carried out in REFINET after this meeting are:

- REFINET network that, at present, has more than 500 identified participants. FEHRL, as leader of REFINET WP2, will continue with the coordination of this network.
- WebEx workshop with members of REFINET network from National Technology Platforms, organized by PTEC (October 21st, 2015)
- REFINET flyer by PTEC with FEHRL (October 2015)
- Selection of invited experts for Madrid workshop (October 2015)
- REFINET newsletter by PTEC with all partners (November 2015)
- Madrid workshop with REFINET partners and some invited experts to work on multimodal transport infrastructures model for new and existing infrastructures, to be organized by TECNALIA and PTEC (December 2nd)
- Project meeting to be organized by Tecnia (Madrid, December 3rd)

Some collaborations have been agreed to explore synergies with other CSAs on Transport infrastructures, as FOX and USE-it, and possibly a common session will be organized at the TRA in Warsaw (April 2016).

Elena Gayo

ptec@plataformaptec.es

NTPs NETWORK ACTIVITIES

In June 2015, Newsletter No.5 was published with contributions from Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Norway, Slovenia and Spain.

The planned activities at NTPs network for the remaining months of 2015 are:

- WebEx workshop with NTPs experts on transport infrastructures and REFINET CSA (October 21st, 2015).
- WebEx NTPs network meeting where presentations from Portugal, Slovenia, Spain and UK are expected (October 22nd, 2015).
- 7th newsletter (December, 2015)

Finally, this NTPs network has to explore the way of improving its coordination with the new ECTP association after the election of the Steering Committee chairman.

Jesús Rodríguez
director@plataformaptec.es