Handbook on New Zealand programmes for EU researchers

www.epicproject.eu 2019

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (ICT) under grant agreement No 687794.

Project: European – Pacific Partnership for ICT collaboration in research, development & innovation

Acronym: EPIC

Grant Agreement Number: 687794

Title	**Handbook on New Zealand programmes for EU researchers**
Prepared by (Lead Partner)	Callaghan Innovation
Partners Involved	all
Authors	Jonathan Miller, Pawel Miedzinski, Erich Prem, Mark Sanderson, Marc Bailey, Tan Chee Seng, Christoph Bartneck

Disclaimer

This handbook serves information purposes only. It is based on public information, expert input, and desk research by the EPIC team. It does not express any official views of the European Commission or its services.

Note

Although we took great care that the information in this handbook is correct at the time of its publication, the information contained herein is subject to change. Please contact the team of editors at info@epicproject.eu for any change requests and updates. Readers of this handbook should also visit the EPIC project web site at www.epicproject.eu for updates and further information. Note that the report also includes closed calls of programmes that have in past often had annual calls.

**New Zealand icon courtesy of www.iconfinder.com*

Content

1 About EPIC

The EPIC initiative was created in response to an EU call for projects to support dialogues between the EU/EC and its strategic partner countries to foster cooperation in ICT R&D. The aim of the call was to organise events, support policy dialogue meetings, strengthening cooperative research links and reinforce industrial collaboration as well as coordination with other EU level initiatives.

EPIC, therefore, aims to **improve the research and innovation collaboration** between the EU and its strategic partner countries **Australia, New Zealand, and Singapore** in the area of **information and communication technologies**. It targets both the strategic, more policy-oriented level and the direct cooperation of researchers/innovators in academia and industry. The aim is to exploit mutually beneficial opportunities and to prepare new grounds for future collaborations.

EPIC aims to help overcome the current lack of dedicated co-operation support actions and improve the low visibility of Europe's ICT RDI capabilities in the target countries. The project follows a topical methodology: the focus is on specific areas of ICT research of high strategic importance. Initial topics include artificial intelligence, internet of things including wearables, cybersecurity, ICT in transport, digital economy, next generation internet and spatial intelligence.

The specific objectives of the project are to:

- Identify priority research topics for collaboration and identify synergies between the *Digital Single Market* and 3rd countries/regions' ICT strategies
- Organise and support events targeting research, industry, and policy makers and an event demonstrating impact and highlighting recommendations for future cooperation
- Identify common policy opportunities and the potential for joint activities
- Create a roadmap for stronger cooperation building on researcher exchanges and joint projects for lasting cooperation
- Deliver a handbook for EU researchers on opportunities in Australia, New Zealand and Singapore and information material to disseminate the objectives and results of the project among relevant stakeholders.

This edition of the handbook, focusing on ICT RTDI programmes in New Zealand, provides EU stakeholders with an overview of research programmes open to collaboration with Europeans, detailing the possibilities and the conditions to access, participate, or be funded.

2 Executive summary

This handbook for EU researchers offers an overview of local research programmes for European researchers who are interested in collaborating with their peers in New Zealand. Local EPIC project partners, researchers and research managers worked together to identify and describe RTDI programmes funded by national or regional authorities. In line with the objectives of the EPIC initiative, the focus is on information and communication technology programmes. However, where relevant, other initiatives that can provide funding are also included.

Researchers in Europe looking for opportunities to collaborate with New Zealand will no doubt realise that finding a suitable funding scheme or domestic funding source for participation in European programmes is not always easy and can, in fact, be downright challenging. For this reason, this report includes some closed calls, especially for programmes that typically open for proposals once per year - and which can thus be expected to be renewed in the future.

However, this should not mislead nor discourage EU researchers with an interest in collaborating with their colleagues in New Zealand. Europe is still seen as a reliable partner with outstanding research competencies. Long historical relations and cultural ties contribute to a generally very welcoming atmosphere and environment for European researchers. New Zealand has an excellent standard of university research, and many are keenly interested in collaborating with European colleagues.

New Zealand is reinforcing its activities to foster digital innovation and has created interesting ICT research in traditional technology fields such as agriculture. The country's ICT businesses are traditionally very dynamic and renowned in areas such as 3D graphics, health IT, and applied artificial intelligence. Apart from some government funds, there are also EU member state programmes which often call for proposals once a year.

3 Introduction

3.1 Collaborate internationally

Recent studies have emphasised the trend towards internationalisation of RTD collaboration.[1] This is true for multinational enterprises, as well as for research organisations and government institutions. The reasons for this development are manifold and include economic aspects and technological advances, but also social developments. Economic drivers of international research in ICT are primarily relevant for companies and very broad by themselves. Cooperation is seen as a means of tapping into expertise not available elsewhere, and includes attracting scientists and engineers, adapting products for new markets and gaining access to local knowledge and competences. These are very different reasons for research collaboration with different characteristics.

At the academic research level, an important driver for researchers to collaborate across country borders is to exchange knowledge with peers in the field. However, there are also many other reasons such as gaining access to students and young researchers and engineers or increasing the reputation and recognition as a researcher or as an institution. International benchmarking, stimulation of new ideas, or simply fun are even more reasons for academics to cooperate internationally.

3.2 Purpose and use of this handbook

The purpose of this handbook for EU researchers is to offer a clear overview of local research programmes open for European researchers who are interested in collaborating with their peers in New Zealand. Local EPIC project partners, researchers and research managers have collaborated to collect a broad range of programmes funded by national or regional authorities. For completeness, we have added current and forthcoming EU calls in the H2020 programme of relevance to New Zealand and the EPIC focus topics.

The intended use of this handbook is as a reference to sources of funding for research collaboration. As a handbook, this manual provides a panorama of resources available at the time of its preparation. Most programmes listed are, however, fixed deadline calls that are only open for submission during certain periods. Thus, users should check availability on the various programmes' homepages or on the EPIC website[2], keeping in mind that the project will conclude in July 2019. Researchers looking for a support programme should note that most programmes described in this manual regularly open for submission, many of them at least once per year.

[1] Cf. L. Georghiou, Global cooperation in research. In: Research Policy 27 (1998), 611-626. J. Hoekman, K. Frenken, R.J.W. Tijssen, Research collaboration at a distance: changing spatial patterns of scientific collaboration within Europe. In: Research Policy 39 (2010), 662-673.

[2] https://epicproject.eu/ or https://epicproject.eu/index.php?id=65

3.3 The funding situation in general

Researchers in Europe looking for opportunities to collaborate with New Zealand will no doubt realise that finding a suitable funding scheme is not always easy because many of the programmes on offer are rather small. It is harder still to identify programmes targeting collaboration with European researchers specifically, there being few programmes of this kind in New Zealand.

This situation at least partially also reflects the growth of research collaboration with other areas in the world, particularly in Asia and most notably perhaps with China or South Korea. In addition, global ICT leaders such as the U.S.A. remain high on the business and policy agenda for countries such as New Zealand, not least for their huge financial investments in the technology sector, tech ventures and start-ups.

However, this should not mislead nor discourage EU researchers with an interest in collaborating with their colleagues in New Zealand. Europe is still seen as a reliable partner with outstanding research competencies. Long historical relations and cultural ties contribute to a generally very welcoming atmosphere and environment for European researchers. This also leads a large number of EU nationals who have become long-term or even permanent residents. They have created an often-dense network of EU nationals who still maintain close connections with their home countries and in many cases also with national and European research and innovation initiatives including, in particular, the EU's Framework Programme for Research.

Consequently, (former) EU nationals now residing in New Zealand are not only an important source of information and key entry point to networks for EU researchers; in many cases they are also drivers of EU projects and in general highly appreciative of maintaining, expanding or re-establishing collaborations with their colleagues from back home. Beyond the formal programmes described in this handbook, these (former) EU nationals therefore often provide informal and personal pathways to longer-term and potentially mutually beneficial research collaborations for Europeans with an interest in the work of their New Zealand peers.

4 New Zealand

4.1 Country overview

New Zealand's geographical location emphasises the need for international collaboration. According to the European Commission, the EU already is the most significant regional science and innovation partner of New Zealand.

From New Zealand's perspective, there is a strong interest in technological innovation. Technology has the potential to pass dairy exports to become New Zealand's largest source of export revenue. The growth of the Internet has helped the IT sector to participate in the global marketplace. Still, New Zealand is in a competition for leading experts and many IT projects can no longer be adequately undertaken by individual companies. Instead, international consortiums play an increasingly important role.

New Zealand is a thriving technology and ICT country, where IT companies invest in research and development more than in any other industry sector. Investing in ICT has a big impact on the process of diversification and digitalisation of New Zealand's economy. The ICT companies contribute to the country's success and strong growth. New Zealand's ICT sector is diverse, covering wireless infrastructure, digital content, payments, geospatial, telecommunications and agricultural technology.

New Zealand's ICT companies have a growing reputation in 3D graphics, health IT, services, bio informatics, and security. Recent innovations have also been reported in more mundane areas such as accounting and tax services, for example. New Zealand is home to an impressive pool of 11,000 IT companies, out of which just 54 companies hire more than 100 employees. 76% of these companies have no employees, opting instead to use contactors.

On the academic side, ICT researchers in New Zealand are particularly strong in artificial intelligence (including human-robot interaction) and the timely topic of Machine Learning. These areas are also closely related to Cognitive Science and bioinformatics. One standout field is Human/Computer Interaction and there are excellent groups in software engineering. Further academic strengths exist in distributed systems (GRID, parallel computing) and wireless systems.

New Zealand and the European Commission have already collaborated in ICT research and engaged, for example, in joint calls in the area of the Virtual Physiological Human in the Framework Programme.

4.2 Success story

One of New Zealand's European Union collaboration success stories dates back to 2005 when a group of researchers from EU countries and New Zealand, as well as a few officers from the European Commission, met in Barcelona for a workshop on the topic of computational physiology and biophysics. The results of the meeting were published in the form of a While Paper, in which the term *Virtual Physiological Human* (VPH) was utilised for the first time. This meeting gave rise to a long-term cooperation between the several participating universities, including one non-European project partner from New Zealand.

The goal of the White Paper was to deliver an overview of relevant current activities and how they could be implemented as well as to identify potential mid-term and long-term research opportunities for European researchers. The workshop group had identified topics within several disciplines which includes a cross-road of ICT and the biosciences.

A funding application was submitted in 2009 under FP7-ICT and the project, with a four-year duration, started in March 2011. The budget was 14.3 Mio €. It was funded by the European Commission and led by the University of Sheffield. More than 20 international partners from academia and industry took part, including the Institute of Bioengineering at the University of Auckland.

The aim was to develop a new medical simulation software which would be used as a tool for sharing information between researchers and clinicians. VPH would develop the infrastructure and combine the services to share the data, to grow multiscale models for creating personalised patient models and to foster collaborations within the community.

The VPH group came to the conclusion that the use of information and communication technologies can be helpful for understanding and managing chronic diseases. The idea was to capture the whole knowledge of diseases and turn it into predictive models, which would help to soften the complexity of systemic behaviour.

4.3 Strategic topics for cooperation

EPIC focuses on the following priority areas for cooperation:

- Artificial intelligence including robotics and human/machine interaction
- Internet of Things, including wearable computing
- Privacy, data protection, and cybersecurity
- Advanced manufacturing

4.4 Priority constituencies (research groups, institutes, organisations)

Artificial intelligence including robotics and human/machine interaction

- Auckland University of Technology – Centre for AI Research (CAIR): CAIR focuses on human language technology, speech technology, robotics and mind theory

  https://www.aut.ac.nz/study/study-options/engineering-computer-and-mathematical-sciences/research/centre-for-artificial-intelligence-research-cair

- EPIC partner University of Canterbury has an AI research group that focuses on machine learning, biologically-inspired computation, Artificial Life and combinatorial search and the widely renowned human interface technologies lab (HIT Lab)

  http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/engineering/schools/csse/research/ai/

  http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/spark/Department.aspx?departmentid=47

- The University of Auckland's Intelligent Systems and Informatics group is widely known for its research in AI, case-based reasoning, pattern recognition, image understanding and intelligent software agents

  https://www.cs.auckland.ac.nz/en/about/ourresearch/researchgroups.html#3c6b7220fabd18a0415571b8d0691609

- New Zealand AI provides a useful link to education sites in the country that target AI

  Newzealand.ai

Internet of Things, including wearable computing

- The University of Auckland's Department of Mechanical Engineering performs research in Cyber Physical Systems and IoT-enabled smart system, cloud manufacturing and big data for IoT

  http://www.mech.auckland.ac.nz/en/about/ourresearch/research-facilities/LISMS/research.html

- Massey University has a smart environment for home and industry group

  www.massey.ac.nz

Privacy, data protection, and cybersecurity

- The University of Waikato runs one of the first Cybersecurity Labs in New Zealand

  https://crow.org.nz/

- The University of Canterbury's Cyber Security Lab works on critical infrastructure, cloud computing, IoT and software-defined networks

  http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/spark/Group.aspx?groupid=193

Advanced manufacturing

- Auckland University has a large research group in its Innovative Manufacturing and Materials Programme

  http://www.immprogramme.auckland.ac.nz/en/about/immprog-research.html

- Auckland University of Technology's Engineering Research Institute hosts the Centre for Advanced Manufacturing Technology

  https://eri.aut.ac.nz/research/centre-for-advanced-manufacturing-technology

- EPIC partner Callaghan runs AddLab – a research and support environment for additive manufacturing

  https://www.callaghaninnovation.govt.nz/addlab

4.5 Funding opportunities: programmes and calls

4.5.1 Overview of funding opportunities

Table 1- Overview of funding opportunities in New Zealand.

funding scheme	international applicants	named partner with Australian applicant	funding for international partner	funding for international visitor	max funding (AUD)	max years	Year of the last call
International Leader Fellowship (RSNZ)	✗	✓	✓	✓	NZ$ 20 000	3	2019
Julias von Haast Fellowship (RSNZ)	just Germany		✓	✓	NZ$ 20 000	3	2019
New Zealand International Doctoral Research Scholarship (Education New Zealand)	✓	✗	✗	✓	NZ$ 25 000	3	2018

New Zealand's research scene offers a few funding opportunities for both national and international scientists and PhD students searching for grants and fellowships.

The Royal Society is an independent, non-profit organisation with one of the premier sources of research funding in New Zealand for sciences and the humanities. The aim of the Royal Society is to foster science, technology and the humanities and to promote research activities by raising public awareness and advancing education. The Royal Society offers different funding opportunities for both national and international cooperation in all areas of research (https://royalsociety.org.nz/).

There are currently two programmes including either funding for direct international applicants or funding for international partners: The International Leader Fellowship and the Julius von Haast Fellowship.

Another important funding agency is the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment which offers plenty of support opportunities for programmes of enduring importance to New Zealand in the area of science and innovation. Every year the Ministry announces calls for funding proposals for excellent research projects with high

potential for a transformation of New Zealand's future economic performance. The current calls can be found on the official website (http://www.mbie.govt.nz/info-services/science-innovation).

Education New Zealand offers a prestigious and significant scholarship (New Zealand International Doctoral Research Scholarships- NZIDRS) for international students who would like to undertake their PhD research in New Zealand. The scholarships are awarded based on academic assets and profits of the research project to New Zealand.

4.5.1.1 International Leader Fellowship

Call opens on 24 January 2019.

Deadline: 18 April 2019

Specific Programme Requirements:

Background

International Leader Fellowships support incoming targeted international fellowships for exceptional individuals who cannot be supported through other means. The International Leader Fellowships are a new initiative under Catalyst: Leaders. The programme enables a fellow to catalyse science and innovation capability and capacity development in New Zealand for a minimum of four weeks per year for up to three years.

Objective

The International Leader Fellowships are intended to support the attraction by New Zealand research organisations (the hosts) of international fellows who can have a catalytic impact on New Zealand's science capabilities and promote the importance of international cooperation in science.

International Partner

Proposals can be submitted by New Zealand research organisations for fellows from any country.

Activity Description

The successful Leader will:

- be recognised for excellence in their area or areas of expertise;
- have the ability to support an increase in New Zealand's capability in their area of expertise; and
- be internationally recognised.

The applicant must be a New Zealand-based research organisation, which will act as the New Zealand host. The host will have the ability to leverage the strategic benefit of

the Leader to catalyse capability and capacity development in New Zealand. The host is expected to connect the fellow beyond its own institution.

- Each year up to three International Leader Fellowships may be awarded.
- The fellow must spend a minimum of four weeks per year in New Zealand with the host institution for a period of up to three years.

Funding

The International Leader Fellowships will provide the following funding (GST exclusive) per annum for the award:

- NZ$20,000 maximum stipend paid to the Leader via the New Zealand host;
- NZ$20,000 maximum research and travel allowance paid to the host; and;
- NZ$10,000 maximum host institution administration allowance paid to the host.

Fields of Research

The International Leader Fellowships are open to all fields of research, science and technology (including social sciences and the humanities) and related areas of expertise.

Specific Requirements

The New Zealand host is expected to connect the Leader beyond its own institution.

Notification

The Society will notify applicants of the outcome by email through their host institutional research coordinator no later than seven weeks after the close of applications.

Contract Timeframes

Contracts initiated	Required starting date	Contracted activity must be complete	Activity report(s) required
No later than 8 weeks after close of call	Between 01 July 2019 and 30 June 2019	12, 24 and 36 months after contract commence, for 1, 2 and 3-year projects respectively	Annually

Payments

The fellowship will be paid over four payments. The first will be made upon the signing of the contract, with additional annual payments being made following the acceptance of a satisfactory annual report detailing progress on milestone activities achieved within each year. Any deviation from this principle must be justified and accepted by the Society's Director – Research Funding, in advance. Payment will be by direct credit, upon receipt and assessment of the annual activity report.

4.5.1.2 Julius von Haast Fellowship Award

Call opens on 29 April 2019

Deadline: 18 July 2019

Specific Programme Requirements:

Background

The Julius von Haast Fellowship is offered to internationally recognised German researchers in conjunction with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. The application process is administered by the Society.

Objective

The fellowship allows internationally recognised German researchers to spend time working collaboratively with their New Zealand colleagues, and to establish, or enhance, collaborative research of benefit to both countries.

International Partner

Germany – in partnership with the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH).

Activity Description

The successful Julius von Haast Fellow will be recognised for excellence in their area(s) of expertise; have the ability to support an increase in New Zealand's capability in their area of expertise; and, be internationally recognised. The applicant must be a New Zealand-based research organisation, which will act as the New Zealand host. The host will have the ability to leverage the strategic benefit of the fellow to catalyse capability and capacity development in New Zealand. The host is expected to connect the fellow beyond its own institution. The successful fellow will undertake research in New Zealand for a minimum of four weeks per year over the three-year award period.

Funding

A Julius von Haast Fellowship is awarded for three years. For each year of tenure, the Fellowship Award will comprise an annual payment of:

- NZ$20,000 maximum stipend paid to the Leader via the New Zealand host;
- NZ$20,000 maximum research and travel allowance paid to the host; and
- NZ$10,000 maximum host institution administration allowance paid to the host.

Fields of Research

The Julius von Haast Fellowship is open to all fields of research, science and technology (including social sciences and the humanities) and related areas of expertise.

Specific Requirements

In addition to the general eligibility requirements of the Catalyst: Leaders programme:

- The fellow must be a German national or permanent resident with an international reputation as an innovative researcher. They must currently work within the German research/science sector and have been employed for no less than five years (in total) in public or private German research or academic institutions.
- The New Zealand host is expected to connect the Leader beyond its own institution.
- Previously unsuccessful applicants are not excluded from re-applying.
- Previous recipients of the Julius von Haast Fellowship are not eligible to apply.

The application must include a copy of each of the following documents for the German researcher:

- Passport / Birth Certificate / Permanent Residency
- Full Academic Transcript OR Confirmation of Doctorate

Notification

The Society will notify applicants of the outcome by email through their host institutional research coordinator no later than seven weeks after the close of applications.

Successful Grants

Contract Timeframes

Contracts initiated	Required starting date	Contracted activity must be complete	Activity report(s) required
No later than 8 weeks after close of call	No later than 12 months after application closing date	36 months after contract starting date	Annually

Payments

The Fellowship will be paid over four payments. The first will be made upon signing of the contract, with additional annual payments being made following the acceptance of a satisfactory annual report detailing progress on milestone activities achieved within each year. Any deviation from this principle must be justified and accepted by the Society's Director – Research Funding, in advance. Payment will be by direct credit, upon receipt and assessment of the annual activity report.

4.5.1.3 New Zealand International Doctoral Research Scholarship (NZIDRS)

The last call was closed on 15 July 2018 and has not yet been renewed.

Specific Programme Requirements:

Background

The New Zealand International Doctoral Research Scholarship (NZIDRS) is a government funded scholarship, administered by Education New Zealand.

The scholarship aims to attract and retain the best international researchers to New Zealand. The scholarship provides full tuition fees and a living stipend for up to three years.

Eligibility Criteria

The NZIDRS is a prestigious, highly competitive scholarship. It is awarded based on academic excellence and the benefit of the candidate's proposed research to New Zealand. Recipients of this award will have an academic record placing them within the top 5% of PhD candidates worldwide.

In order to apply for the NZIDRS you must meet all five eligibility criteria.

These criteria are non-negotiable.

- Holding a minimum grade equivalent to a GPA of 3.7 on a 4.0 scale or an A to A+ average in your most recent or highest post graduate tertiary qualification.
- Having a confirmed, non-conditional offer of place for a (direct-start) PhD programme at a New Zealand university.
- In case of commenced PhD studies in New Zealand, a start date must be after 01 July 2016.
- PhD study must be conducted in New Zealand (not from a distance).
- Citizenship or permanent resident status in New Zealand or Australia is not allowed.

Selection Criteria

The NZIDRS are awarded based on academic excellence and the impact of the PhD research for New Zealand. Applications must propose research that has a clear, direct and tangible positive effect on:

- New Zealand's economy, in terms of international trade and business development in key sectors, OR
- New Zealand's population in terms of health and safety, OR
- Research and scholarship in either of the above two areas.

Fields of Research

The NZIDRS is open to all fields of research, science and technology, and related areas of expertise.

Applications are welcomed from eligible candidates undertaking relevant research in any discipline.

International Partner

An application can be submitted by any international researchers.

Specific Requirements

To apply, the following documents are required:

- Evidence of citizenship for every country for which you hold citizenship
- Evidence of an unconditional offer of place for a PhD programme from a New Zealand university
- Academic transcripts, grading scale and certificates of completion
- Curriculum Vitae
- Two references provided by academic referees (including names and emails)

Payments

- New Zealand university annual tuition fees and associated student levies;
- Annual living stipend of NZ $25,000 per year (tax free); and
- Medical insurance coverage of up to NZ $600 annually.

4.6 Network

IT4SE was another project which can be cited as an example of a successful EU-New Zealand collaboration. IT4SE was part of the Asia Pacific Research Area (APRA) initiative on the establishment of joint research structures between German universities and partners in the APRA. As has been the case for all APRA projects, IT4SE was funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

The project aimed to lay the foundation for a scientific and technical exchange, as well as future cooperative projects, between Germany and New Zealand in the area of new information technologies that encourage the efficient generation and smart consumption of renewable energy by private users. The two countries worked together on the topic of the smart renewable energy to find out how, for instance, machine learning can be combined with interactive data visualisation tools to make people aware of their energy consumption patterns.

While the IT4SE project concluded in 2016, network activities are now continued under the umbrella of the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP) working group WG13-10.

Table 2: Overview of networks linking Europe and New Zealand including selected organisations in trade and research.

Network	Country	Link
IT4SE	Germany	http://it4se.hs-augsburg.de/

4.7 Ideal-ist contact point

Ideal-ist aims to help ICT companies and research organisations worldwide hoping to find project partners for participation in Horizon 2020. Ideal-ist offers a unique and quality-labelled Partner Search, as well as other services that help proposers with participation in H2020.

The New Zealand representative in the Ideal-ist network supporting EU project consortia in finding partners is:

FRENZ

Name: Bruce McCallum

Email: Bruce.McCallum@mbie.govt.nz

Phone: 0064 7343 7123

5 Further resources

5.1 Partners from New Zealand in H2020

The EC H2020 project database – CORDIS – provides an overview of previously successful partners in H2020. The following projects are listed on CORDIS as participating in H2020 with a New Zealand partner. From experience, previously successful participants tend to return to the Framework Programme and therefore are recommendable networking contacts.

AENEAS

Advanced European Network of e-Infrastructures for Astronomy with the SKA

Coordinator in Netherlands: Stichting Astron Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy

Partner in New Zealand: The Research Trust of Victoria – University of Wellington

5.2 Points of contact and further information

5.2.1 EPIC website

EPIC's website is the main online dissemination channel presenting the project and its goals in general and providing detailed information on EPIC's findings and activities.

The website delivers systematically updated information on funding opportunities, upcoming events, open calls, international partners and networks. A special 'Library' section also enables the sharing of EPICs deliverables, briefs, brochures and more with the public.

The website connects all of EPIC's dissemination activities and addresses the project's target audiences. While the general description of the project and its goals is meant for an audience unfamiliar with the subject, other subpages such as events, funding and the library address users who are part of the research community.

The contact person for EPIC is the project coordinator Erich Prem.

www.epicproject.eu

5.2.2 Ideal-ist

Ideal-ist is an international network encompassing ICT National Contact Points and supporting scientists, specialists, research and innovation institutes from the ICT sector within the EU Framework Programmes. The network consists of over 60 partners from inside and outside the European Union.

The services offered by Ideal-ist include support and expertise in the process of proposal writing. A team of international experts accompanies the proposers from the

very beginning until the submission of a proposal. The Ideal-ist target groups are SMEs, large enterprises, research and academic organisations and public administrations. Ideal-ist helps with the interpretation of the ICT Work Programme of Horizon 2020 and coaches the proposers in the writing process.

In a nutshell, Ideal-ist plays an advisory role helping the proposal writers to undergo the application process. The applicants can receive relevant information about participation in the Horizon2020 and other ICT funding programmes.

https://www.ideal-ist.eu/

5.2.3 CORDIS

CORDIS stands for Community Research and Development Information Service and is a data bank of the European Commission which includes information on all running and closed research project funded by the EU.

The website delivers public information such as factsheets, reports and deliverables; editorial content fostering communication and exploitation (news, events, success stories, magazines etc.); and links to external sources such as open data platforms and websites.

Another important task of CORDIS is delivery of project results based on a report summary. CORDIS provides short synopses of the results in different languages and fulfils an informative role.

https://cordis.europa.eu/home_en.html

5.3 Trade associations and missions

New Zealand Europe Business Council

http://www.nzebc.org.nz/

The New Zealand Europe Business Council Incorporated was founded in 2005 with the primary objective to promote the establishment of closer economic cooperation between New Zealand and Europe. Twenty-two European countries were initially represented. NZEBC provides a forum and structure for the coordination of activities of various trade organisations, chambers of commerce, delegations, and assorted representatives. It acts as an umbrella organisation to bring together the many and varied interests of those involved in New Zealand - Europe bi-lateral trade.

5.4 Fairs and major annual events

The following provides a selection of particularly noteworthy large-scale fairs and conferences that take place every year. This does not include tech events or scientific conferences with changing locations or events that are more academic.

Techweek

https://techweek.co.nz/

Techweek originated as a technology industry (NZTech) association event. Its success led to the joining of forces with several agencies from the Auckland region and has now resulted in a week-long festival of innovation ecosystem events. The aim is to foster growth of New Zealand's tech sector and to tell inspiring innovation stories. Techweek usually takes place in May and has a strong focus on the Auckland region.

Canterbury Tech Summit

http://canterburytech.nz/tech-summit/

The Canterbury Tech Summit emerged from the Canterbury Software Cluster as a regionally focused tech sector event. In recent years it has become one of New Zealand's prime events exploring trends, opportunities, and major shifts in ICT. In 2017 over 700 members of the tech ecosystem gathered to be inspired by world-class speakers, build lasting connections and grow New Zealand's technology sector. It typically takes place in September in Christchurch on New Zealand's South Island.

MobileTECH

https://mobiletech.events/

MobileTECH is an annual event which brings together 300 technology leaders, innovative developers, early adopters and the next generation of primary industry operators from throughout New Zealand and Australia. For eight years, MobileTECH has been one of New Zealand's primary events for showcasing the digital technologies transforming the agricultural, horticultural and forestry sectors. The next MobileTECH is scheduled to take place 7-8 April 2020 in Rotorua.