



Horizon 2020 MSCA-ITN-2017

(Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks)

Project Number: 764461

Acronym: VisIoN

Project title: Visible light based Interoperability and Networking

Work Package 1 : Project Administration

Deliverable D1.1: Research Vacancies

Ecole Centrale Marseille (ECM), Marseille, France

Septembre 2017

1. General progress of the action

1.1. The Grant Agreement

The EU proposed the Grant Agreement (GA) on 27 June 2017, which was signed by ECM on 11 July 2017. The EU signed then the GA on 2 Aug. 2017 and invited the partners to sign it. All partners signed it by 23 Aug. 2017. Afterwards, the EU performed the pre-financing payment on 24 Aug. and closed the process.

The project could start on 1 Sept. 2017, as we had wished.

1.2. Announcement of the project by EU

The official announcement of the EU of our ITN project appeared on 1 September 2017, the start date of the project. The official link on CORDIS portal of the EC is given below.

http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/211543_en.html

1.3. Budget Transfer to Partners

According to the procedure of the Financial Service of ECM (the grant holder), the pre-financing funding, after deduction of the contribution to the Guarantee Fund, will be distributed among the partners according to the following procedure:

- 70% at the beginning; as soon as ECM receives the partners' Bank Account Identity (BAI)
- 30% within a maximum period of 30 calendar days from the signature of the Consortium Agreement by all parties.

1.4. The Consortium Agreement

In a first round, the default Consortium Agreement (CA) text (available online) was slightly modified to make it adapted to the ITN project specifications. The text was sent to all partners on 13 June 2017 and they were asked to consider it carefully and make all necessary modifications that they wish. The second version of the CA text then proposed on 29 Aug. 2017 to the partners; they were requested to add any further comments/modifications that they wish to the new version. We have also asked the opinion of the partners on the conflicting changes asked by different parties in order to arrive at a consensus. To date, we are still waiting for response from a few partners.

2. Recruitment strategy

2.1 ESR positions advertisement

A draft of the advertisement text was sent to the partners by the project coordinator on 27 August 2017. After having received all comments and modifications, the agreed announcement email was sent out on 4 September and was posted on ResearchGate soon after.

2.2. Application procedure and conditions

For the first round, the application will be open from 1 to 15 November 2017. The objective being to hire high-profile excellent candidates, the application procedure will be extended if all positions are not filled.

Also, we agreed on centralizing the procedure to avoid duplicate applications. After explicitly recalling the eligibility conditions, candidates are asked to send the following documents to the email address ITN.Vision2017@gmail.com with copy to ESR supervisors.

- CV
- Master and Bachelor diplomas
- Master and Bachelor transcripts
- Motivation letter
- Contact information of two references

In addition, in their motivation letter, candidates can specify a second ESR position (to which they wish to apply if their primary application is not accepted).

2.3. Publication of vacancies on EURAXESS

Publication of the available ESR positions on the EURAXESS website being compulsory, all partners were requested to post their position.

The coordinator provided by email the details on how to post the offer on 15 September 2017. The link for ECM positions was provided to help partners to save time.

3. Career development plan for each recruited researcher

Nothing to report at this time.

4. For EID and EJD

Nothing to report at this time.

5. Management of the action

5.1. Kick-off Meeting

The project kick-off meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 20th, and will be held at Fresnel Institute, Marseille. Most partners have confirmed their attendance to Kick-off.

5.2. Project Manager

By the way, partners have agreed on the recruitment of a Network Administrative Coordinator (NAC), as initially indicated in the project proposal. Details on the role of NAC and its financing conditions are provided in the following.

Role: The NAC will assist the scientific coordinator of the project. His/her mission will consist in ensuring the organisation of the consortium and its general operation in accordance with the terms of the Grant Agreement and the Consortium Agreement. His/her function will thus cover a whole

range of tasks related to the organisational, administrative, financial and legal management of the project as well as communication within the network.

Financing the NAC: Given that no budget is allocated by the EC for this purpose, ECM proposed to the partners that a part of the "Management and indirect costs" of each ESR be returned to ECM for hiring the NAC. After discussions with the project partners, it has been an agreement to fix it to 25% of the indirect costs. This has been stated in the CA text, to be signed by the partners.

Advertising the NAC Position: A proposition of the NAC vacancy profile was sent to the partners on 21 September 2017 to seek their agreement. It was then published on EURAXESS website on 25 September, with the following URL:

<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/247957>

The French version of the vacancy was posted in France on the appropriate websites as well. The deadline for the job application is set to 16 October 2017.

5.3. Risk Management and Ethics Issues

There is no specific risk on the project implementation to be raised for the moment. There are no ethics issues concerned by the project either.

6. Communication Activities

The ITN project proposal acceptance has been advertised by a number of partners in their local research or industrial communities. Special pages were also dedicated to the project on popular research sites such as ResearchGate. The same is being done on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter.

An email was created to answer to the inquiries of the candidates for ESR positions and for general information on the ITN project (ITN.Vision2017@gmail.com). Also, the coordinator is working on the creation of a website for the project.

7. Impact of the Action

Nothing to report at this time.