



INTERACT

Poznan, Poland, 12-14 September 2023

SUBJECT | Minutes of the 6th Management Committee Meeting of COST Action CA20120 “The Intelligence-Enabling Radio Communications for Seamless Inclusive Interactions (INTERACT)”

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TUESDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 2023, 9:00 AM

1. Welcome to participants

Prof. Laurent Clavier, Action Chair of the Action, opened the meeting on September 12th, 2023, at 9.00 am. As Local Organizer, Prof. Krzysztof Cichoń welcomed the participants and provided information about the local arrangements.

Prof. Laurent Clavier then acknowledged the fulfilment of the quorum, i.e., at least two-thirds of the COST countries participating in the Action were represented at the 6th MCM.

2. Adoption of agenda

The Action Chair presented the agenda of the 6th MCM, which had been previously circulated online. The Agenda was adopted. The Minutes of the 5th MC Meeting and 5th Technical Meeting were approved.

The Action Chair took the opportunity to remind all participants to sign the official COST Attendance List for every day of attendance. No reimbursement of travel expenses (for those entitled to) will be processed if the COST attendance list is not duly signed.

3. Status of the Action and of the current meeting

The Action Chair moved on to update the audience on the overall status of the Action.

Here below the main figures presented:



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Status of the Action and of the current meeting

Number of signatory countries 46

COST full members: 36 (ITC: 21)
COST Cooperating Member: 1
COST Partner: 1
International: 5
Near Neighbour Countries: 5

Number of WG members registered on the website



559

Young Researchers 56%
Gender balance 19.5% / 79.5%

Number of MC Members



- 64
- 34 (+9 substitutes) attending the meeting (36 on site)

People attending the meeting



- 70 on site
- 40 remote

Number of TDs



- 40

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4. Report from the Grant Holder

Since the Grant Holder Scientific Representative (GHSR) of the Action, Prof Chiara Buratti, was absent, Prof. Laurent Clavier showed the **Work and Budget Plan (WBP) for Year 2** updated with the top-up budget and the reallocation approved in the Barcelona Meeting.



Budget Y2

	Work and Budget Plan	Budget
Meetings		166.689,35
Training Schools		25.098,00
Short-Term Scientific Mission Grant (STSM)		16.090,00
Inclusiveness Target Countries Conference Grant (ITCG)		3.850,00
Dissemination Conference Grant (VBG)		5.000,00
Dissemination and Communication Products		2.520,00
Other Expenses Related to Scientific Activities (OERSA)		993,00
Total Science Expenditure		220.240,35
FSAC		33.036,05
Total Grant		253.276,40

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The Action Chair notified the MC Members about the **Status of the expenditures** up to date that involve:

- Two MC and Technical Meetings in Dubrovnik and Barcelona;
- One Training School in Campitello di Fassa;



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- Twelve STSMs;
- One ITCG;
- Three VBGs;
- Dissemination expenses including the website maintenance and the production of the promotional video;
- Bank charges accounted in the OERSA.

The Action Chair then showed the expected expenses to the MC Members already scheduled until the end of the Grant Period:

- The Poznan Meeting;
- The second Training School;
- One STSM;
- Bank charges to be accounted in the OERSA.

The Action Chair proposed a budget reallocation in order to cover the networking activities expenditure encountered in the Training Schools and the Dissemination categories.

The remaining budget allowed to propose an additional reallocation to whatever activity would be submitted and approved up until the end of the Grant Period among STSMs, ITCGs or VBGs.

The proposals were approved unanimously.



<u>Reallocation</u>	Work and Budget Plan	Expected	Remaining
	Meetings	57.160,00	9.700,55
	Training Schools	17.700,00	- 8.004,91
	STSM	1.000,00	690,00
	ITCG		3.000,00
	VBG		600,00
	Dissemination		- 190,00
	Other (OERSA)	120,00	773,00
	Total Science Expenditure	75.980,00	6.568,64

8.200 €
Reallocated to cover **Training Schools and Dissemination**

6.568,64 €
To be distributed among **STSM, ITCG, VBG**

Formal approval from the MC Members

He then presented the Work and Budget Plan proposed for Year 3.



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Budget Y3	Work and Budget Plan	Budget
	Meetings	153.000,00
	Training Schoolss	19.500,00
	Short-Term Scientific Mission Grant	12.865,00
	Inclusiveness Target Countries Conference Grant	1.000,00
	Dissemination Conference Grant (VBG)	2.000,00
	Dissemination	700,00
	Other Expenses Related to Scientific Activities (OERSA)	500,00
	Total Science Expenditure	189.565,00
	FSAC	28.434,75
	Total Grant	217 999,75

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Finally, the Action Chair announced a change in the CNIT Team, presenting Ms. Natascia De Fenzo, who will substitute Ms. Flaminia Saratti as Grant Holder Manager.

5. Training School Activities summary

Prof. Luis M. Correia, the Training Coordinator (TC), reminded to the audience the selection process for a training school proposal.

The TC informed the audience of the activities of the training day in the last three Meetings in Dubrovnik, Barcelona and Poznan.

The TC notified the MC Members about the activities that took place in 2023 for the Training Schools: DoCom and ESoA. The TC also addressed the issue of people registering for the Training School but not showing up, which happened in both the training Schools.

The TC invited the audience to apply to the call for proposals for future Training activities.

In addition, Prof Correia announced that he will resign from the position of Training Coordinator and HA3 Co-Action Chair.

6. STSM & more

Since the Grant Award Coordinator Prof Carles Anton-Haro was absent, the Action Chair presented the status of the twelve STSMs, one ITCG and three VBG ongoing or completed up until the day.

The Action Chair explained and repeated the criteria for the evaluation of an STSM proposal.

The Action Chair explained the aim of ITC Conference Grants and the budget dedicated to



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them and the new conference dissemination conference grant: Visibility Booster Grants (VBG), with a specific focus on the WIRS activities. He also listed the criteria, requirements, priorities, and the selection and awarding process.

The Action Chair invited the attendees to apply as soon as possible for new networking activities that can be concluded before the closure of the Grant Period.

Prof Sana Salous intervened reporting the status of the International Chapter of WIRS inviting the attendees to participate as much as possible and take the lead within COST Activities.

7. Dissemination

The Science Communication Coordinator (SCC) Prof Margot Deruyck updated the Members on the status of the Dissemination and Communication activities. Specifically, the SCC presented the outcomes of the Newsletter, the status of the social media, and the production of the podcast of the Action.

The SCC announced the Newsletter meeting would be held Wednesday afternoon, September 13th, at 5.30 pm.

The SCC informed the MC Members and all the attendees of the publication and distribution of the promo video on both INTERACT and COST channels.

Ultimately, the SCC reminded to send inputs for further dissemination activities undertaken since the start of the Action, joint publication, and any useful contribution for the foreseen 40th Anniversary of COST Actions in Telecommunications.

8. Lisbon Meeting

Prof Luis M. Correia presented the draft program and schedule of the forthcoming Meeting in Lisbon as the Local Organiser. He invited the audience to send contributions and testimonies of past Actions to be included in the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Actions on Mobile and Wireless Communications.

9. Data sets

Since the HA1 Co-Action Chair Mr Marco Skocaj was absent, the Action Chair presented the content, the aim and the outcome of the two Machine Learning Competitions held online from August 28th to August 30th, 2023.

The two competitions were:

1. PHY: ML-based direct indoor localization using Massive MIMO CSI Measurements
2. NET: Calibrated regression of 5G KPI Measurements



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For the first competition, four teams were the winners out of twelve total participants:

- 1° Jiteng Ma, Liang Qiao (Bristol);
- 2° Mounssif Krouka, Sabbir Ahmed, Yazid Bounab (Oulu);
- 3° Artan Salihu, Stefan Schwarz (Wien);
- 4° Praneeth Susarla, Krishna Bulusu, Pravallika Katragunta, Anirban Mukherjee (Oulu).

For the second competition, one team was the winner out of two total participants:

- 1° Jiteng Ma, Liang Qiao (Bristol).

10. Next Meetings

The Action Chair announced the next Core Group Meeting that will take place on Thursday, September 26th, at 2 pm.

The Action Chair announced the upcoming 7th Meeting has already been accepted and approved to be in Lisbon, Portugal, on 22nd – 25th January 2024. As mentioned in the previous Meetings, the Meeting in Lisbon would follow up the 40th Anniversary COST Action in Mobile Wireless Communication in February 1984. The day prior to the MC and Technical meeting would be dedicated to the celebration. Since a discussion on the general history is planned along with more tech-scientific-centred panels, the attendees are reminded to send their contributions. The Action Chair reminded the audience that in Lisbon it will be necessary to replace Prof Luis M. Correia as HA3 co-chair and as Training Coordinator and Dr Agnieszka Czapiewska as Young Researcher Representative.

The Action Chair notified the attendees of the proposals for future meetings, which will need further discussion. The proposals are:

- Helsinki (FI)
- Linz (AT)
- Istanbul (TR)

11. This Meeting

The Action Chair presented the program for the Poznan Meeting highlighting the keynote speeches scheduled for September 12th and 14th.

In addition, the Action Chair showed the COST Progress Report due after the first two years of the Action. He highlighted the sections in which the Action Members' contributions will be necessary.



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12. Plenary Talks

Plenary talks programmed:

- Marcin Dryjanski, *Recent Advances in O-RAN*;
- Mate Boban, Vittorio Degli-Esposti, *White paper on Channel modeling*;
- Dr Jim Lansford, *IEEE 802.11 standards*, which was held on the 14th of September 2023;
- Tommy Svensson, *HEXA-X-II: challenges and future perspective*, which was held on the 14th of September 2023;



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THURSDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2023, 11:00 AM

13. Feedback from Working Group Action Chairs

The WGs Co-Action Chairs presented their feedback on the Technical Meeting. You can find their contributions in Annex 5.

14. Feedback from Liaisons

The WGs Co-Action Chairs presented the progress of the INTERACT Liaisons with other projects. You can find their contributions in Annex 5.

15. Action Points

The Action Chair updated the participants on the upcoming action points and their respective deadlines.



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TBD. Action Points

AP	WHAT	WHO	WHOM	WHEN
1	Submit reimbursement forms	Those entitled to	e-cost	Before 29/09
2	Send Minutes of Group Meetings	Group Chairs	Chair + Secretary	Before 29/09
3	<u>Send Liaisons summaries</u>	<u>Liaison rapporteurs</u>	<u>Dissemination chair (M. Deruyck)</u>	Before 29/09
4	Publications (Joint)	<u>Authors</u>	Secretary / on-line sheet	<u>When accepted</u>
5	<u>Any ideas to fill mid-term</u> report	All	Chair + Secretary	<u>Before 15/10</u>
5	Liaisons, special sessions/workshops	<u>Organizers</u>	<u>Dissemination chair (M. Deruyck)</u>	<u>When done with short summary</u>
9	Send STSM / ITCG / VBG applications	Those interested	e-cost +Grant Chair (C. Anton)	Open call
10	CORE Group meeting	SC members + WG chairs	Remote meeting	26/09, 2pm CET