



New INDIGO Foresight – process and outcomes

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Foresight

Foresight refers to a set of **systematic and purposeful processes of future-oriented deliberation** between (innovation system) actors with a view to identifying actions to be taken today for a better future tomorrow

Foresight exercises provide a **space for deliberation and strategic conversations** between (innovation system) actors. They also seek to create a pool of knowledge and analyses to inform debates and to provide a resource for others to use



Foresight

„Foresight is **neither prophecy nor prediction**. It does not aim to predict the future – to unveil it as if it were predetermined – but to help us build it. It invites us to consider the future as something that we can create or shape, rather than as something already decided“ (JRC-IPTS 2007, <http://forlearn.jrc.ec.europa.eu>).



The New INDIGO Foresight exercise is meant

- to **open up and structure the discussion** on the potential future cooperation between the EU and India in the field of S&T and cluster/networking
- by implementing a scenario-based Delphi process with policy and programme makers
- in order to assess potential “futures” of the way how S&T relations [...] can be organised. [...]
- The study will generate **a scenario from which consequently insights for the formulation of S&T cooperation policy options** for cooperation between the EU and India can be derived.



Flowchart

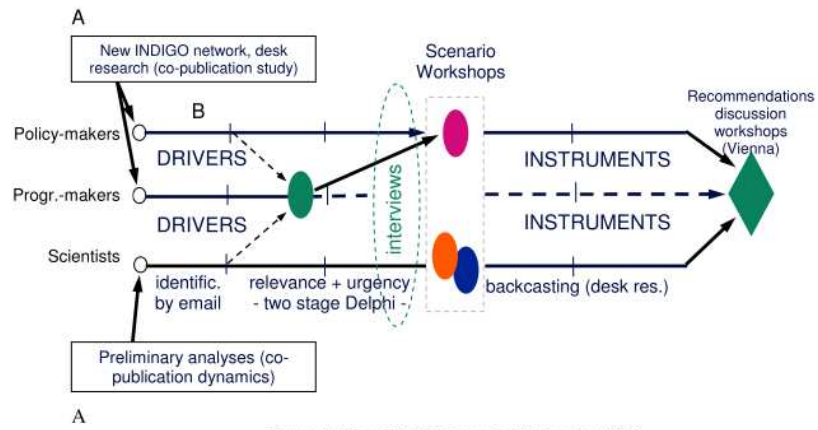


Figure 1: New INDIGO Foresight Exercise 2011

Activities so far

- Analysis of co-publications, desk research on foresight literature
- Scientist open email consultation (co-publishing scientists)
- Programme makers' workshop
- Online questionnaire for SFIC India Group Members
- Policy maker consultations (expert interviews, India)
- Scientist workshop India
- Delphi Survey with scientists
- Policy maker scenario workshop (Bilbao)
- Workshop with European scientists (Paris)
- Concluding workshop with programme makers and scientists

Co-publication analysis - output

New INDIGO Co-publication “map”

- Trends in amount of EU-India co-publications
- Thematic focus (Frascati categories; All Science Journal Classif.)
- Evidence on individual European countries' co-publications with India
- Preliminary results on impact (times cited counts)

Results will also be made available on the **website**
(www.newindigo.eu/foresight)

Additional interactive visualisations of the data are available



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European scientist workshop – consolidated scenario with long-term recommendations

The proposed consolidated scenario focuses on facilitating, funding and training, more concretely:

facilitating

- role **established multidisciplinary networks**
- **top-up funds for mobility**
- **brain circulation**, removing barriers for mobility and facilitating career development
- **Common standards** (methodology, data, samples, evaluations) and **formalised** institutional cooperation



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European scientist workshop – consolidated scenario with long-term recommendations

funding

- financial resources (**public and philanthropic**)
- access to joint and national **infrastructure**
- **Single-entry point** for information
- Present results to interested **business communities**
- Approach **SMEs** with potential for R&D
- Dedicated funds for ‘outside’ PhDs and two-way PostDoc mobility

training

- Training schemes including mobility for brain gain
- **Joint PhD** programmes

Yesterday’s concluding Foresight workshop

Participants:

- NPP scientists from (mostly) India
- Programme makers from the New INDIGO Consortium

Goal:

‘Backcast’ the results of the scenario building process to extract concrete programme recommendations for bi-regional EU-India S&T cooperation
→ Discussed what can be done in the short-term in view of the drivers that make up the success scenario

Method: individual assessment of drivers in six areas; discussions in three groups; plenary discussions

A short-term view on six programme dimensions

- Extended programme context
- Science/industry linkages
- Thematic priorities (search for)
- Call publishing, funding modes & reporting/monitoring
- Network setup
- Higher education issues



Extended programme context

- Ensure that **no multiple approvals are required for repeated visits** within a project (inform embassies/foreign ministries/VFS)
- Provide longer-term **multiple-entry visas** linked to project duration
- Jointly publish **common methods and standards**, validated among various labs to secure global acceptance and facilitate collaboration
- Develop a **common set of rules for shipment/exchange of recombinant human and animal samples**, avoiding long-term clearing processes



Science/industry linkages

- Support common standards in **patenting**, e.g. based on the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
- Support **mentors from industry** working on research problems in areas of joint interest public/private
- **Exchange** of professionals from industry to public research labs and students to industry
- Establish fellowships for including students in **applied private R&D**
- Encourage projects at the **interface between pure and applied science** (e.g. a concrete interface programme aiming at applying basic science to applied fields)



Thematic priorities (methodology for)

- **Mixed scientist-policy maker working groups** combining both top-down and bottom-up approaches in identifying topics in each region and then start dialogue with the other side (same procedure) in an India-Europe group; possible groups: SFIC, Europe Science, corresponding Indian fora
- Once this group is in place: **map clusters and centres of excellence** (in both science and industry) and categorise long- and short-term priorities
- **Open platforms** for sharing what is happening in the different countries; these platforms should also be problem solvers for the different disciplines (virtual platforms)



Call publishing, funding modes & reporting/monitoring

- Consider a **combination of real and virtual common pot funding** (with real common funding for launching, administrating and implementing the call)
- Keep up bi-regional **monitoring and reporting**; including mid-term and ex-post evaluations
- Ensure **regular multilateral calls** within Commission-supported projects (e.g. once/year) with a variable geometry and different thematic priorities
- Keep **short the time lag between proposal submission and start of projects** (7-9 months max)
- **Optimise evaluation procedures** (without compromising on quality)
- Offer a **joint single-entry point for bi-regional research funds**, starting with a comprehensive website (offering call information) moving towards a joint programme managing agency
- Take stock of the learning effects of the existing partnerships such as ERA-NETs



Network setup

- Address **brain circulation** directly in programme design, allowing for flexible mobility of both junior and senior scientists
- Ensure **mutuality in exchange** and analysis of biomaterials
- **Programmes** should be **of a longer duration** (>2 years) for building sustainable cooperation
- Give support to an **increased use of virtual conferences** and e-learning infrastructure
- Encourage institutions participating in joint programmes to **provide adequate guest houses** or agreements with nearby hotels
- Allow for room/time, both at project and programme level, to build on examples and implement changes in case cooperation does not work as expected



Higher education issues

- Increase **cross-regional interaction**, e.g. between clinicians and between clinicians and basic scientists
- Encourage **joint supervision of PhDs**, acknowledging the joint character of the research done by the PhD candidate
- Offer **short-term internship training** programmes
- Support **Master-level students** doing a few months of lab internships with the scientists in the other region



Exploitation of results

- Presentation and discussion of draft recommendations in Strategic Forum for International S&T Cooperation (SFIC) India Pilot Initiative policy-maker group, 30 November 2011
 - high interest in the group to take into account recommendations
 - invitation to contribute to the development of a Joint Strategic Agenda
- Presentation of results to the 2nd EU-India S&T Coop. Days, 1 Dec.
- Recommendations will be presented to the International Cooperation Directorate of the European Commission, DG Research & Innovation
- Recommendations will be offered to New INDIGO partner institutions in India



**Thank you for your cooperation!
We will keep you informed about the results.**



**2nd EU-India S&T Cooperation Days
Vienna, 1-2 December 2011**

www.newindigo.eu/foresight



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