



A NETWORK OF NETWORKS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this initiative is to foster the generation, transfer and utilization of knowledge, especially the utilization of new materials and new technologies towards life - oriented applications (biology, health, food etc.). The activities will be multidisciplinary. Not only research, but also education and industry will be involved.

OBJECTIVES

The usual electronic dissemination of information through web pages and e-newsletter will be accompanied by the set-up of databases and electronic brokerage.

New tools for the management of information (e-room type) will be used for special projects.

Education and training will deserve a special attention. Both conventional learning activities (including "hands-on training" and training by research) and e-learning will be pursued.

Encyclopedias and courses will be developed by involving active researchers.

The exchange of information between research and industry will facilitate innovation.

DISTINCT FEATURES

NanoLINK is conceived as a two-way LINK between life and innovation in technology (based on scientific knowledge): technology improves life quality through health care, food control etc.; meantime living matter is a source of inspiration for engineering.

NanoLINK is intended to provide a real-time LINK between research, education and industry, which is vital for the knowledge era, by using efficient tools for knowledge management.

NanoLINK will also provide an efficient LINK between countries and continents, especially revealing the human potential of certain regions less developed from the technological point of view. The initial target is to accelerate the integration of Eastern Europe into the European Research Area (ERA), but apart from connections within Europe, interaction with the major actors from other continents will be also pursued.

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NanoLINK will be promoted by a knowledge network pursuing life quality through technological innovation (LINK=Life quality through Innovation by a Network of Knowledge.).

NanoLINKnet will be a network of networks, each constitutive network being based, usually, on an existing project (e. g. a Network of Excellence financed from FP6).

· "IMT-Bucharest (Romania) and iMediaSoft (Grenoble, France) are launching the nanoLINK initiative"(January, 2004)

A promising example of public-private partnership is provided by the Institute of Microtechnologies, IMT-Bucharest (www.imt.ro) and iMediaSoft, IMS (www.imediasoft.net).

IMT and IMS launched the nanoLINK initiative. NanoLink is a web portal (www.nano-link.net) and an e-newsletter (n@noLINK), but it is also a network (nanoLINKnet).

It is a knowledge network pursuing life quality through technological innovation (LINK=Life quality through Innovation by a Network of Knowledge). The mere association of life, innovation, network and knowledge represents a network of knowledge.

The purpose of this initiative is to foster the generation, transfer and utilization of knowledge, especially the utilization of new materials and new technologies towards life - oriented applications (biology, health, food etc.). The activities will be multidisciplinary. Not only research, but also education and industry will be involved.

Finally, nanoLINK will provide a platform of interaction for networks from different priorities of the EU FP 6, but also with networks and programmes from other continents. A week after the launching a new call in FP 6 (published on Cordis, 15 December 2003), the nanoLINK site inaugurated a database for partner matching in new proposals for priority NMP (nano, materials, production). The pilot issue of the e-newsletter n@noLINK was also distributed on 22 December 2003.

The nanoLINK initiative will be actively pursued by a number of core members of the nanoLINKnet. It is expected that these core members will be, usually, the coordinators of the constitutive networks or certain members of the consortia (network) which have a special role in the dissemination of information, networking etc. The initial core members (partners) are IMT and IMS.

The initiative was taken by IMT and IMS. They are partners in the ROMNET-ERA project (FP 6) which will experiment new tools for knowledge management, also promoting networking in new technologies and their application to "life" (health, food quality, etc.), as already shown. IMT is also the coordinator of MINAEAST- NET proposal (project still under negotiation at the European Commission) which is devoted to networking in micro- and nanotechnologies in candidate countries and Eastern Europe. Once associated to the nanoLINK initiative, MINAEAST-NET will bring to nanoLINK a network of national networks.

To be sent to Parliament Magazine.

Web page: <http://www.imt.ro/FP6.htm>

