

Micro and NAnotechnologies going to EASTern Europe through NETworking

Specific Support Action
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The aim of the project MINAEAST-NET is to support a concerted effort for preparing the participation of organizations from associated candidate countries (ACCs) for projects in FP6 in the area of **Micro and Nano Technologies (MNT)**: the human and material resources in micro and nanotechnologies will be identified and mobilised, the results of the research will be disseminated and the communication between high quality centres of research in the field will be greatly improved.

MINAEAST-NET will be a network of networks formed by research bodies from several ACCs (core members of the network), which are coordinators of local networks formed by national high quality centres of research active in MNT.

The network MINAEAST-NET is focused on Micro and Nanotechnologies, considering everything is related to micro and nanosystems (priority 2 of FP 6) and nanotechnologies (priority 3 of FP 6). The approach called Concurrent Engineering (CE) is used, this meaning to take into account, even at the design stage, all the elements concurring to the quality & reliability of the product: manufacturing, modelling & simulation, characterization, testing and reliability.

MINAEST-objectives:

- MINAEAST-NET will be established as the **premier source of information about resources and results in MNT from ACCs** and about the strong points of the ACC organisations.
- Organisations and companies from MS (and world-wide) that are looking for partners in MNT for any kind of projects, should address their needs to MINAEAST-NET and **MINAEAST-NET** will definitely find the best partner suited for them. This activity is mainly addressed to FP 6 projects, but also to any other kind of cooperation in research or commercial activities.
- For all MNT interested organisations from ACC, MINAEAST-NET will be the **main source of MNT specific project and partnership information**: MNT related information about EC calls, international networking activities, partnership search from abroad.
- MINAEAST-NET will support interaction between ACC and MS organisations to **initiate FP6 proposals** through organising meetings, workshops and support travel cost.
- MINAEAST-NET will also be the "little helper" with any questions concerning **proposal set-up and regulations for ACC** organisations all that especially for MNT. For any general questions from ACC, MINAEAST-NET will have the contacts to get them answered within other NCPs or support organisations that already exist.

By putting together the national and international networks of partners (Eastern and Werstern), knowledge and specialists, the network **MINAEAST-NET** will create a structure able to offer dissemination, training, links and partnerships for common project proposals. The feedback will be in closer interactions with research groups and industry (in ACC's and MS's), that will use the created structure MINAEAST-NET as a contact point for joining the micro and nanotechnologies.

MINAEAST-NET participants:

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