

REPORT ON THE ELABORATION OF EIFN DISSEMINATION EVENT

DISSEMINATION EVENT

Event type: EIFN Workshop

Event title: How to improve chances for project financing in the context of European Union funds

Date: 9th of November 2007

Time: 10am-3 pm

Event organizers: Innovation NCP, Poland

Address: 81 Zwirki i Wigury Street, Warsaw, Poland

City: Warsaw

Country: Poland

PARTICIPANTS

Number of attendees: 31

Among which entrepreneurs: 4

Among which R&D actors: 22

Among which financial actors: 2

Which were the other types of organizations? 2 (private companies)

How many attendees already knew about EIFN activities (roughly)? 15

FEEDBACK

General appreciation or feedback of the event:

The Workshop was organized within the framework of the Work Package 3 “Energy Sector Innovation-Financial Model in operation”, task 3.2. “Energy Sector Innovation-Financial Model in operation” of the EIFN Project. The objective of the WP3, task 3.2 was to present the initiative to the EU business community and obtain feedback from them.

The EIFN Workshop was organised in order to inform and train the participants in subjects connected financing new energy technologies in the Energy thematic area within FP7. The aim of the workshop was to present the most important aspects of preparing good Energy proposals. The content of the Workshop concentrated on providing practical and efficient information to facilitate the access to energy sector financial services. Moreover, the Workshop contributed to increasing the success rate in the participation of Polish R&D representatives, entrepreneurs and other actors within the next Energy Calls in FP7.

The Workshop covered the following issues:

- EIFN project presentation;
- Detailed instructions on how to prepare a good proposal for Energy Theme in FP7; practical information including the choice of a partner, coordinator, necessary documents and forms as well as submission system (EPSS);
- Financial and legal aspects;
- Criteria of project evaluation;
- New Calls in FP7 Energy Theme;
- Results analysis concerning the First Call within Energy Theme;
- Evaluation of sample proposals by professional evaluator.

Did the audience interact with speakers?

According to the form of the meeting, the workshop served as a forum for fruitful discussion and exchange of views among participants. Most of presentations were followed by series of important questions and comments from the audience.

What were the most frequently asked questions?

What are the benefits of becoming a stakeholder?

Would national banks accept the procedures established within EIFN project?

How is the Monte Carlo method applied and realised within the scope of FPs?

In what scope are the results of previous projects available for public information and what are the tools to acquire those results?

According to which databases of patents should project ideas be consulted before writing a proposal?

What are the determiners of EC's choice of addressees in Calls for Proposals?

What are the exact procedures for proposals evaluation?

How should the rules of Consortium Agreement be applied and formulated?

What are the rules of subcontracting procedures and how important they appear in the finalisation of the project?

During your event, did you promote the EIFN Newsletters?

Yes, the Newsletters were promoted during the EIFN presentation.

Did you identify any attendees who already visited the web site?

Yes, some participants were already familiar with scope and content of EIFN website as they attended previous EIFN Workshops where the website had been recommended.

If "yes", how many of them? Around 40% of participants

How many Stakeholders were newly registered thanks to the dissemination event?

Two new Stakeholders have been registered.

What were the remarks or suggestions from the attendees concerning the IT tool?

There has been a suggestion to create the Database of project's results and other finalised projects relating to the Energy Theme.

What were the remarks or suggestions from the attendees concerning methodologies and tools for financial service procedures?

There has been a relative interest in Monte Carlo Method as well as in Business Angels.

What were other remarks or suggestions from the attendees?

The participants stressed the importance and usability of Technology Offers (TO) and Technology Requests (TR).

It has been suggested to update the Success Stories included on the website.

In order to improve the chances for project's financing there should be a strong focus on the choice of tools providing the project's impact. Apart from common tools such as creating IT tools, Manuals, Guides and organization of Conferences, Workshops and Seminars the new and efficient tools should be applied.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE EVENT

The turn-out of the participants was very satisfactory what proved the importance of events like this. The active, informal discussion between the participants improved the knowledge about FPs and promoted new contacts as well as further research and financial co-operations.

During the EIFN Workshop various information and promotion materials were available i.e. brochures on the Renewable energy technologies and Strategic Research Agenda for Europe's Electricity Networks of the Future, Smart Power Networks, European Electricity Projects.

The feed-back of the participants was positive. During the meeting the participants had a possibility to evaluate through filling in the EIFN Questionnaire. Out of 31 participants 25 have responded to the Questionnaire. According to 88% of responders the general quality of the event was very high or high.

The EIFN Workshop provided the possibility to create new contacts with prospective industry and research partners. Moreover, the participants had the possibility of consulting their project ideas with financial and legal experts as well as with the evaluator of FP projects. There was also an opportunity to provide the participants with practical and efficient information to facilitate the access to energy sector financial services.

Taking into consideration the above mentioned arguments the seminar fulfilled the objectives of Technical Annex of the EIFN Project.