

PRESS RELEASE

Poznań, 27 October 2011

First at the Future Internet Assembly (FIA), Poznań 26th October 2011

On the 26th October 2011, from 0930hrs to 1300hrs, the FIRST Encounter Seminar was held in Poznań, Poland, in conjunction with the Future Internet Assembly 2011 that took place during the Future Internet Week (24-28 October). The seminar was intended to present the Latin American Technology Platforms on Future Internet and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Components (LATPs), to share the information with stakeholders of the European ICT Technology Platforms (ETPs) and to seek possible ways for international cooperation among ETPs and LATPs.

The FIRST project aims, indeed, to extend the concept of European Technology Platforms (ETPs) to Latin American, by gathering strategic stakeholders from the different sectors included in the Future Internet, ICT Components and systems fields into one national ICT Technology Platform per country in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Mexico.

The Encounter was organized under the responsibility of Maria Barros from EURESCOM, Mauro Bianchi from TESEO, both FIRST Project Partners and Tonny Velin, together with Julián Seseña from ROSE, FIRST Project Coordinator. It counted with distinguished participants such as Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Steering Council Members of the European Technology Platforms NEM, ISI, Net!Works, EpoSS, Fotonics, NESSI, including the Public-Private Partnership on Future Internet (PPP FI) and Living Labs that arouse big interest of the audience, as well as representatives of the 5 Latin American Technology Platforms of Argentina (PLATA represented by **Gustavo Guaragna**), Brazil (BraFip, **Roberto Mayer**), Chile (MACHI, **Mario Bruno**), Colombia (RECIIF, **Harold Castro**) and México (Mexican Technology Platform, **Jorge Buitrón** and **Luis Cuellar**). Each expert offered an overall image of the LATPs underlining visions and challenges linked to their own countries' strategy, with particular regard to their Strategic Research Agenda for Future Internet and ICT components and common areas for cooperation. The successful Seminar constituted the official ceremony of the constitution of the Latin American Technology Platforms (LATPs) and consequently, the major result of FIRST project. These Platforms will be essential counterparts for ETPs in Latin America, facilitating an efficient networking and collaboration with the ultimate objective of promoting joint research initiatives between European and Latin American entities from the ICT field.

Dr. Julián Seseña (ROSE Vision, Spain) commented "this Encounter has set up several new powerful avenues for research cooperation between Europeans and the five Latin American countries, which will serve undoubtedly for enhancing the participation of researchers from these countries in the future European projects". He also highlighted to the European Technology Platforms the need "to bear in mind the enormous potential of the Region in the field of Future Internet, thus justifying the opening and focus of ETPs to the Latin American researchers".

Mr. Klaus Pendl (European Commission) expressed his satisfaction for having attended this important meeting where the links between European Technology Platforms and the new Latin American Technology Platforms have been formalized. He said "I see today the achievement of very ambitious goals, when only two years ago these were only proposals of setting up Latin American Technology Platforms".

For further information visit: www.latin-american-technology-platforms.eu

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