

1st MACHI General Assembly took place with great impact

[Santiago de Chile, 19.10.2011]

- *The 1st MACHI General Assembly was held in CORFO*
 - *Luis Stein was elected president of the platform*
- *Chilean actors presented very interesting and important project initiatives that will be presented next week at FIA Poznan.*
- *The three ICT associations were present: ACTI, AIE and GECHS together with universities and government*
 - *A satellite group was constituted*

The Secretariat of MACHI, the Future Internet Technology Platform, convened the 1st General Assembly, which took place on October 18 in the auditorium of CORFO at Santiago de Chile.

The opening session featured key personalities of Chile. **Mr. Cristóbal Undurraga**, Director of InnovaChile CORFO, welcomed participants and expressed the desire that CORFO "go becoming a home for those who want to innovate." The First Secretary of the European Union Delegation in Chile, **Mr. Gerald Hatler**, said that "the Seventh Framework Programme has a very strong incentive for R&D in ICT because ICT is vital to ensure social inclusion, improving access, innovation and sustainable development in the future. FIRST and MACHI implementation is a good model to encourage this ecosystem." **Astrid Waltermann**, CONICYT Programme European Union Coordinator, stressed the importance of the fact that MACHI is already installed in Chile and that "we would like to talk with you regarding its continuity."

The three representatives of the ICT associations became the welcome session. **Mr. Luis Stein**, GECHS president, highlighted the fact that having met the innovation ecosystem of Chile in the Assembly is very positive and necessary. "Necessary because ICT is vital to country development; European numbers indicate that 40% of industrial growth was thanks to ICT". **Mr. Raúl Ciudad**, ACTI President, said: "We are here because as representatives of the ICT industry we are responsible for progress. MACHI is excellent because it encourages the R&D activities that our country needs to take a leap." **Mr. Manuel Valenzuela**, AIE director, said that he is convinced that MACHI works to make that leap to a new innovation ecosystem.

Afterwards, **Mrs. Silvia Bidart**, ALETI general manager, stressed the importance of the innovative concept of the EU Technology Platform, whose working methods are being adapted to the Chilean ways and needs. **Mrs. Luz Ledesma Clavell**, from ALETI Secretariat, presented the milestones of MACHI and about the technology platform concept. Something she noted is that Chile and the European Union share many problems, which become common challenge that can be solved based on ICT solution and thanks to international cooperation activities. Then, **Mr. Julian Seseña**, FIRST Coordinator, congratulated via video the participants for the achievement of creating the platform.

All participants presented themselves and it was a good start to do "networking" in the coffee break. But before the pause, another milestone occurred: the Assembly designated Mr. Luis Stein as **MACHI chairman**. The designated **vice-presidents** were: **Raul Ciudad** (ACTI),

Mr. Mario Bruno (UPLA), **Mr. Hector Torres** (ProteinLab UTEM), **Mr. Paulina Lopez** (REUNA), **Mr. Gerardo Rivas** (AIE, Manuel Valenzuela proposed this nomination), **Mr. Miguel Arias** (Divergente), **Mr. Mario Ibañez** (Profo-Digevo).

One of the most expected sessions of the Assembly came after the coffee break: the elevator pitch. There, organizations presented R&D initiatives. It was very exciting to see such important initiatives for Chile development. The persons that presented were: **Mr. Paulina Lopez** (REUNA), **Mr. Claudio Maggi** (INAP), **Mr. Mario Bruno** (UPLA), **Mr. Hector Torres** (UTEM ProteinLab), **Mr. Hugo Durney** (UTEM), **Mr. Manuel Pino** (MetrikCO), **Mr. Pedro Vidal** (MTT), **Mr. Adrian Silva** (USACH), **Mr. Christian Lazo** (UACH), **Mr. Mauricio Solar** (UTFSM), **Mr. Marcos Rivas** (ACTI), **Mr. Rodrigo Martinez** (GPS).

In the elevator pitch satellite initiatives were presented, so a new group was put together in this field.

Mr. Mario Bruno (NEM working group leader and MACHI vicepresident) reported his participation in FIA Poznan (Future Internet Assembly in Poland), where he will act on behalf of MACHI by presenting the platform and its initiatives.

From another point of view, **Mr. Nestor Bercovich** from ECLAC informed to the Assembly about eLAC2015 activities, the role of innovation and also reported on regional Software Working Group.

Mr. Wolfgang Schuch, Fraunhofer Chile General Manager, presented the case of the centre as a model for collaborative research between Chile and Germany.

Finally, **Mr. Humberto Carrasco**, from Pro Ideal Plus project, trained the attendees in various ways of presenting proposals and FP7 consortiums models.

Thus, the General Assembly MACHI concluded successfully: with government support, high share of industry and academia and a range of concrete ideas.

Finally, **Mrs. Silvia Bidart** was very pleased with the achievements of the meeting and teamwork Industry, University and Government, who showed their interest in continuing the MACHI platform, once the FIRST project ends.