



European
Commission

SPRERS



The aim of SPRERS was to improve the participation to European collaborative research activities of research teams involved in software services from new member states. This aim was addressed by identifying the strengths of these teams and by facilitating their collaborations through thematic workshops, expert meetings, training events, awards, white and green papers.

AT A GLANCE

Project title

Strengthening the Participation of Romania at European R&D in Software Services (CSA)

Project coordinator

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Partners

none

Duration

January 2010 – December 2011

Total cost/EC contribution

464 000 € / 374 683 €

Programme

FP7-ICT-Call 4

Website

www.sprers.eu

Scope and objectives

New member states' research potential is not exploited to the expected scale in the European Research Area. Special measures should be and are undertaken to improve the contribution of the research teams from new member states to the European Commission's research programmes. One solution for the participation problem is to increase the visibility of the research groups from new member states involved in special fields, like the ones sustained by the Objective 'Service and software architectures, infrastructures and engineering'. This can be achieved by identifying the groups willing to cooperate and having the appropriate competences, increasing their visibility at European level, and facilitating their networking. Therefore the objective of the SPRERS project was to improve and reinforce European cooperation between research teams from new and old member states of in the field of software services.

Achievements

SPRERS supported a wide range of activities: from scientific workshops or trainings to research policy makers' meetings, from green papers for national initiatives to white paper or action plan for better integration of new member states (EU12), from research secondments to InfoDays or competence search engine, from expert group support to awards.

| Results | No |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Workshops | 6 |
| Trainings | 2 |
| Meetings for research policy support | 3 |
| InfoDays | 2 |
| Members of the EU12 Expert Group | 25 |
| EU12 teams in competence map | 134 |
| EU12 groups involved in the events | 80 |
| Awards for excellence | 12 |
| White/Green papers/Action plan | 4 |
| Books, proceedings, journal issues | 4 |
| Secondments | 30 |
| Promoted FP6/7 projects at events | 35 |
| New collaborations, project proposals | 30 |

Details can be found in the Final Report (www.sprers.eu/storage/D4.6.2-public.pdf)



Main results

The SPRERS project succeeded in:

- *Strengthening the collaboration relationships between multiple research teams.* This has been achieved by facilitating the face to face meetings between researchers in the framework of scientific workshops, improving the level of excellence through training events, projects proposals writing sessions, and also by a secondment programme.

- *Identifying and promoting the competences in software services existing among the research teams from new member states.* This has been achieved by providing a map of competences accessible in several formats (white paper, online database, search engine), by identifying the most significant research activities and awarding their achievements, by identifying the barriers to an intensive participation at ERA and proposing measures to avoid these barriers.

Impact

SPRERS targeted to reinforce cooperation in software services between research teams across the enlarged Europe. Its actions intended to stimulate networking and exploitation of research synergies in an enlarged Europe, to improve the level of excellence of software service research across Europe, and to widen the participation in research projects across the enlarged Europe.

Socio-economic impact

The project impacted the research community of the new member states by increasing: (a) the visibility of more than 100 teams working in the field of software services ; (b) their awareness on the FP7-ICT funding opportunities ; (c) the trust in these teams by face-to-face meetings with representatives of on-going projects.

Moreover, the project has also an impact on the young generation of researchers from the teams involved in the project by increasing: (a) their knowledge through two training events ; (b) the networking between the young researchers working in the same field ; (c) by awarding their excellence.

At the research policy level, the project has: (a) created awareness about the problems of the new member states in receiving FP7-ICT grants, as viewed from researchers' perspective; (b) identified their reasons of reaching a low level of participation to the FP7-ICT programme; (c) proposed a list of measures to overcome this status.