



**Mutual Learning Exercise on
National Practices in Widening Participation and Strengthening Synergies**

under the Horizon 2020 Policy Support Facility

Country Visit to Ireland, 22nd-23rd March 2018

Draft Agenda

EU Representation, Europe House
12-14 Mount Street Lower, Grand Canal Dock, Dublin 2, Ireland¹

22nd March 2018

- 14:00 – 14:05** **Welcome from Gonzalo León (Chair), objectives of the meeting and *tour de table***
- 14:05 – 14:10** **Updates from the European Commission**
- Magda De Carli, Head of Unit B5, ‘Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation’
 - Marta Truco (Unit A4, ‘Analysis and Monitoring of National Research Programmes’)
- 14:10 – 15:20** **Historical development of the Irish STI system: building on ERDF and strategically targeting FPs**
- Dermot Mulligan, Assistant Secretary General, Department of Business, Enterprise & Innovation, with inputs from Julie Byrne, Lucent-Bell Labs
- Discussion*
- 15:20 – 15:45** **Future-proofing Irish skills for enterprise**
- Kathleen Gavin, Head of Secretariat, National Skills Council
- Discussion*
- 15:45 – 16:00** **Coffee break**
- 16:00 – 17:00** **Challenge Paper on Widening Topic 3: ‘Improving Networking’**
- Claire Nauwelaers (Expert on Widening)
- Discussion*

¹ This is the main venue for the MLE meeting. Please note, however, that the first discussions on Friday, 23rd March, will take place in Trinity College, Dublin

- 17.00 – 17.20** **A strategic approach to ERA-Nets, infrastructures and other large-scale initiatives**
- Imelda Lambkin, Horizon 2020 Director, Enterprise Ireland
- Discussion*
- 17:20 – 17:40** **Integrating Danube Region countries into the ERA using different EU programmes and tools**
- Elke Dall, Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI), Austria
- Discussion*
- 17:40– 18:00** **National Positioning in European Public Private Partnerships: Spain in cPPPs and JTIs**
- Guillermo Álvarez, Head of Department of Societal Challenges, CDTI
- Discussion*
- 18:00 – 20:00** **Dialogue and accompanying reception and networking opportunity hosted by the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation**
- Joined-up thinking and joined-up doing: the Irish experience**
- Dr Jim Ryan, Dr Martin Lyes, Dermot O’Doherty, Feargal O’Morain and Mattie McCabe, ex-Ministry, Enterprise Ireland and Forfás officials
- 20:00** **Life on the Liffey**
- An opportunity to explore the restaurants and nightlife of Dublin

23rd March 2018

Site visit to Trinity College, Dublin

- 09:00 – 10:00** **Science Foundation Ireland – ERDF funded (industry-oriented) research centres**
- AMBER (<http://ambercentre.ie/>)
 - CONNECT (<https://connectcentre.ie/>)
 - ADAPT (<https://www.adaptcentre.ie/>)
- Professor Linda Doyle, VP for Research, Trinity College Dublin and former Director, CONNNECT
- Discussion*
- 10:00 – 11:00** **Public-Public and Public-Private Partnerships and Synergies**
- SMART Docklands** (<http://smartdocklands.ie/>) – an initiative in collaboration with CONNECT and primed by URBACT from DG Regio (<http://urbact.eu/>)
- Jamie Cudden, Dublin City Council
- Discussion*
- 11:00 – 11:20** **Coffee**

11:20 – 11:50 Return to EU Representation, Europe House

11:50 – 12:15 Vanguard and S3P networks: moving from interaction and road-mapping to the funding of joint projects and the role of FP

- Tina Usaj, Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, Slovenia

Discussion

12:15 – 12:40 Turkish Involvement in Joint Undertakings

- Cagri Yildirim, TÜBİTAK, Turkey

Discussion

12:40 – 13:05 Irish Participation in the AgriChem Whey Joint Undertaking

- Speaker tbc, Enterprise Ireland, Ireland

Discussion

13:05 – 13:30 The Strategic Framework for Estonia's participation in the R&I Partnerships of the European Union

- Katrin Kello, Estonian Research Council, Estonia

Discussion

13:30 – 14:45 Buffet Lunch

14:45 – 15:30 Review of MLE Progress to date

Structure of the final report, knowledge gaps, emerging messages, recommendations and dissemination strategies

- Ken Guy, Rapporteur

Discussion

15:30 – 15:55 Preparation of next meeting in Belgium: scope and contributions from MS

- Gonzalo León, Chair MLE

Discussion

15:55 – 16:00 AOB and closure of the workshop

- Gonzalo León, Chair MLE