

# BILAT-UKR\* AINA

# POLICY BRIEF



## Overview of the internationalisation of Ukraine in RTDI including recent trends and developments

### INTRODUCTION

One of the BILAT-UKR\* AINA objectives is to “*support the coordination of policies between the EU and Ukraine by providing tailor-made support to the JSTCC regular meetings*”. This Policy Brief aims at providing a reference material on the current status of the Ukraine-EU RTDI cooperation based on statistics from the official RTDI related sources which was collected and analysed.

The authors of this Policy Brief do not intend to interfere with the decision-making process in the Ukraine-EU RTDI relations, but to contribute to the corresponding knowledge base.

### Structure

This Policy Brief presents main findings on the present Ukraine-EU Science and Technology Cooperation. Suggestions are put forward for strengthening and enhancing mutually beneficial scientific and technological cooperation in the future, especially in Horizon 2020 which will be focused on tackling major societal challenges, maximising the competitiveness impact of research and innovation and raising and spreading levels of excellence in the research base.

The first Policy brief provides policy makers with some information helpful to make a more efficient use of the available instruments and to strategically plan their involvement in international RTDI cooperation.

The main parts of this Policy Brief are summarised as follows:

1. S&T Cooperation between Ukraine and selected EU Member States
2. Ukraine’s participation in FP7
3. Research and Educational Mobility Programmes
4. European Territorial Cooperation programmes
5. Selected Conclusions and Recommendations

## Bilateral Cooperation

### Main S&T Policy-Making bodies

The main S&T policy-making institution in Ukraine is the Ministry of Education and Science, Youth and Sport of Ukraine. The State Agency on Science, Innovation and Informatization of Ukraine is a part of the central executive authority system to implement the state policy in the field of scientific, scientific-technological and innovation activities, informatization, formation and use of the national electronic information resources and ensuring conditions to create information society. According to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the State Agency on Science, Innovation and Informatization of Ukraine is also the main administrator of the budget funds and responsible authority for implementation of the budget programme “Fulfilment of Ukraine’s Commitments in the Field of International Science and Technology Cooperation”.

### Bilateral S&T Agreements

Agreements on RTDI cooperation concluded on the governmental level with the corresponding ministries exist with 22 EU-members and associated states: Germany, France, Italy, Greece, Poland, Hungary, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Austria, Spain, Portugal, Finland, Croatia, Macedonia, the Czech Republic, Cyprus, Turkey. But, despite the signed agreements (mostly signed more than 15 years ago) current cooperation is realised only with Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, France, Lithuania and Slovenia.

#### Austria

The Agreement on S&T cooperation between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of Austria was concluded on 6 June 2003 and it came into force in 2004. In 2012, 16 joint projects in the field of nanotechnologies, ecology, physics and biomedicine were supported.

#### Bulgaria

S&T cooperation between Ukraine and Bulgaria is based on the Governmental Agreement on Cultural and S&T Cooperation (1992). In 2012, 10 joint projects in the field of biotechnology, environment and energy were supported.

#### Germany

S&T cooperation between Ukraine and Germany is based on the joint Declaration of the Federal Ministry of Research and Technology of Germany and the State Committee for Science and Technologies of Ukraine on S&T cooperation of 10 June 1993. The Ukraine –Germany Working Group on S&T cooperation was established at the 1st Joint Meeting in Bonn in 1997. The following priorities were defined by this working group: materials science, physics, chemistry, biotechnologies, IT, nanophysics, nanotechnologies, technologies of transport, creations of institutions, design to develop advance technologies, health research, SME scientific research and innovation. In 2012, 30 joint projects in the field of NMP, environment, energy efficiency, biotechnology and health were supported.

#### France

S&T cooperation between Ukraine and France is based on the Ukraine-France Agreement on cultural and S&T Cooperation (1995). In 2012, 21 joint projects, in the field of environment, chemistry, physics, nanotechnology, ICT, life sciences, health were supported.

#### Lithuania

S&T cooperation between Ukraine and Lithuania is based on the Agreement on Cooperation in the fields of Education, Science and Culture, between the Government of Ukraine and the Government of Lithuanian Republic of

August 1993 and Agreement on Cooperation in the fields of Education and Science between the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and Ministry of Education and Science of Lithuania (2003). In 2012, 12 joint projects in the field of new materials, ecology and efficient nature management, energy, new materials were supported.

## Slovenia

S&T Cooperation between the Government of Ukraine and the Government of Slovenia is based on Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Culture, Education and Science of 1997. In 2012, 9 joint projects in the field of biology, physics and chemistry were supported.

Within the same period agreements between the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU) and the academies of the following EU MS/AC were concluded: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Croatia, France, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Republic Moldova, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Turkey and the UK.

## The State Fund for Fundamental Researches

The State Fund for Fundamental Researches (SFFR)<sup>1</sup> is subordinated to the State Agency on Science, Innovations and Informatization of Ukraine. The international cooperation of SFFR (more than 60% of supported projects) provides the possibility to support high quality ideas and proposals using co-financing mechanisms of different countries (see below), to integrate intellectual and financial resources and to evaluate proposals involving

Ukrainian and foreign experts. International cooperation contributes to raise the quality of the procedure and to select priority projects. It also promotes scientific development to the interests of Ukraine and other countries.

SFFR was the first in Ukraine to start the system of grant support for scientific and scientific and technical projects in fundamental sciences on competitive basis.

SFFR announced about 50 calls: general thematic calls, targeted calls, regional calls, innovation-oriented calls, cross-border calls, grants of the President of Ukraine to support scientific research of young scientists etc. Joint calls were announced together with the corresponding funds of Belarus, France, Germany, Russia, the United States, France and Japan. The proposals submitted within joint calls are evaluated by Ukrainian and foreign experts. The supported joint projects are implemented according to the bilateral governmental agreements.

More than 24 thousand proposals were submitted to SFFR and almost 5500 grants were awarded in the last 20 years.

The SFFR funds include state budget funds and non-budget funds (voluntary contributions of legal entities and physical persons, including foreign ones). The funds are distributed in the following proportions: 38% for physics and mathematics; 22% for biology; 21% for technical sciences; 10% for chemistry and Earth sciences and 9% for social sciences and the humanities. 63% of projects are implemented by the research institutes of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, 28% by the universities, and 8% by other research institutions.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.dffd.gov.ua>

## Development of the Ukraine's participation in FP7

### Statistics and success rates

Ukraine is classified in FP7 as an International Cooperation Partner Country (ICPC). Researchers and research entities from Ukraine, like other ICPCs, can participate in FP7 following the regulation of this Programme. Successful Ukrainian research entities may receive EU funding on the same basis as research entities from the EU Member States/FP7 Associated Countries.

Ukraine is in the top ten of the most active (non-associated) third countries participating in the programme. The highest levels of successful participation are in the Marie Curie researcher fellowship actions, environment research and research infrastructures projects (see Table 1).

FP7 priority area	Nr. of Applicants	Nr. of Mainlisted Applicants	Success rate (applicants)	Requested EC contribution by mainlisted applicants (million EUR)	Success rate (requested EC contribution)
Marie-Curie Actions	272	76	27,94%	n/a	n/a
Environment (including Climate Change)	117	22	18,80%	2,26	14,48
Activities of International Cooperation	96	16	16,67%	2,02	13,79
Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology	86	13	15,12%	0,96	8,5
Socio-economic sciences and the Humanities	82	7	8,54%	0,74	8,55
Transport (including Aeronautics)	78	15	19,23%	1,34	12,5

**Table 1: Ukraine - most active FP7 research priority areas by number of applicants applying for the research projects (Source: Country Profile Ukraine, EC 2012)**

Based on the latest data of 18 October 2012, a total of 857 eligible proposals were submitted in response to 355 FP7 calls for proposals involving 1.102 applicants from Ukraine (4,04% of Third Countries) and requesting EUR 118,18m of EC contribution (3,82% of Third Countries). Among the Third Countries Ukraine ranks 6th in terms of number of applicants and 7th in terms of requested EC contribution. Ukraine's applicant success rate of 20.2% is slightly lower than the average Third Countries applicant success rate of 23.4%. The Ukraine EC financial contribution success rate of 12.9% is lower than the average Third Countries rate of 18.2%, This is basically caused by the comparatively low factor costs for labour in Ukraine. Specifically, following evaluation and selection, a total of 166 proposals were retained for funding (19.4%) involving 223 (20.2%) successful applicants from Ukraine requesting EUR 15.24m (12.9% of the total financial contribution to projects with Ukrainian participation) of EC financial contribution. As for 18 October 2012, Ukraine participates in 112 signed grant agreements involving 1.729 participants overall - of which 152 (8.79%) are from Ukraine. Ukrainian partner organisations benefit from a total of EUR 16.67m (4.52 % of the total financial contribution to projects with Ukrainian participation) are dedicated to participants from Ukraine. Among the Third Countries in all FP7 signed

grant agreements, Ukraine ranks 6th in number of participations and 7th in budget share.

The Ukrainian SME applicant success rate of 15.87% is lower than the average third countries SME applicant success rate of 18.38%. The Ukraine SME EC financial contribution success rate of 9.94% is lower than the corresponding average third countries' rate of 14.70%.

271 Ukraine SME applicants requested EUR 29.23m, out of which 43 were retained for funding negotiations under FP7. In terms of signed grant agreements, as for 18 October 2012, 15 Ukraine's SME grant holders, i.e. 9.87% of total Ukraine's participation, receive financial support from FP7 at the amount of EUR 2.13m, i.e., 12.77% of total Ukrainian budget share.

The top 5 collaborative links between Ukraine and EU MS/AC countries are (1) the United Kingdom (182); (2) Italy (180); (3) Germany (167); (4) Turkey (154) and (5) France (152).

## Participating organisations

Data on the type of activity of participating organisations in FP7 is collected according to a classification scheme which groups organisations in the following categories:

Higher or secondary education (HES)

Private for profit (excluding education) (PRC)

Public body (excluding research and education) (PUB)

Research organisations (REC)

Other (OTH)

In terms of numbers of applicants from Ukraine, research organisations and universities are the main beneficiaries of FP7 (see Table 2).

Organisation type	Nr. of applicants	Nr. of mainlisted applicants	Success rate (applicants)
HES	424	79	18,63
REC	361	83	22,99
PRC	147	30	20,41
OTH	106	18	16,98
PUB	56	23	21
Total	1094	223	20,2
SME	271	43	15,87

Table 2: Ukraine - participation in the FP7 research projects by organisation activity type  
(Source: Country Profile Ukraine, EC 2012)

## Recommendations

This Policy Brief provides a snapshot of the FP7 participation rates of the Ukrainian organisations. It is obvious that the priorities for cooperation, as declared by JSTCC, do not play a leading role as regards the current FP7 participations in Ukraine. In order to improve this situation, the main tool is in the hands of the Ukrainian government which can enhance the participation rate of the Ukrainian partners in the FP proposals by optimizing the work of the NCP system and providing participation incentives (e.g. proposal preparation funding scheme). It is important to configure the NCP system so that NCP advisors have up-to-date information and all the conditions to fulfil their supporting and advisory role on a permanent basis (salary, training, networking opportunities with other NCPs, clear organizational NCP structure etc.).

However, not only Ukrainian NCPs but all Ukrainian organisations interested in FP7 need to do their part by using available opportunities and instruments to mobilise their research capacities, networks and to connect with other international partners. Ukrainian administration could also initiate different tools for Ukrainian organisations to network and kick-start proposal work within the bilateral cooperation instruments. In addition, trainings on project management, financial regulations and matters close to implementation of international projects are of utmost importance. More detailed information on the Ukrainian participation in FP7 is presented in the separate Policy Brief 2

## Researcher Mobility: Marie Curie Actions

### Statistics, types and topics

The Marie Curie Actions (MCA) is a more popular and successful scheme regarding the Ukrainian involvement in the 7th Framework Programme. A new scheme introduced by the Commission in FP7 provides specific short-term stays and exchanges (International Research Staff Exchange Staff Scheme - IRSESS), mostly elaborated for countries which concluded S&T cooperation agreements with the EU including Ukraine. Ukraine is one of the leading countries in terms of participation in the MCA. Without statistical data on the return phase of the IRSES, the number of Ukrainian researchers funded within the Marie Curie Actions for 2007-2012 is 107 with an EU budget allocated for the Ukrainian institutions of about EUR 4m within the same period of time.

The number of Ukrainian institutions (universities, research organisations and businesses, including SMEs) participating in the Marie Curie Actions is 63. This number is distributed as follows: Initial Training Networks: 1 institution (0.215 million Euros allocated to the Ukrainian institutions), Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways: 3 institutions (0.415 million Euro allocated to the Ukrainian institutions), International Research Staff Exchange Staff Scheme: 50 institutions (3.3 million Euro allocated to the Ukrainian institutions), International Incoming Fellowships: 8 institutions, 0.12 million Euro allocated to the Ukrainian institutions, International Outgoing Fellowships: 1 (budget allocated to the receiving EU institution).

Based on the available funded project data, we may conclude that the largest part of the funding goes to the fields of nano-sciences and high-tech, followed by considerably weaker represented physics, mathematics and chemistry.

The Marie Curie Programme continues to support diverse possibilities for cooperation between the EU and Ukraine. In addition, one new and one revised scheme were introduced under the ITN umbrella in 2012: the Innovative Doctoral Programmes (IDP-pilot) and the European Industrial Doctorates (EID), which will offer possibilities for Ukrainian doctoral students. Ukrainian research organisations may also become associated partners in the consortia implementing the activities.

### Developments in 2012

The European Commission supports a wide range of external policy activities aimed at enhancing cooperation in higher education between EU and third countries (Erasmus Mundus) and at modernising the higher education sector in third countries by focusing on their alignment to the Bologna goals (Tempus)<sup>2</sup>. As of 2012 calls, there was a significant increase in budget available for Eastern Partnership Countries. Ukraine seems to have used this opportunity to the full.

To illustrate, in 2012 Erasmus Mundus Action 1 calls (individual mobility scholarships for students, doctoral candidates and scholars), the top-up has resulted into the additional funding of 34 individual student scholarships (totalling to 52 scholarships which is the historically highest number of scholarships, moving Ukraine close to Russia with 55 awarded scholarships). Thus, we can conclude that the additional budget in mobility measures is well used<sup>3</sup>.

In Erasmus Mundus Action 2 calls (Partnerships), which run under geographical “lots”, additional funding has enabled funding of 9 instead of 3 proposals for the whole group of the Eastern Partnership countries. Ukraine is represented in all of the proposals retained for funding.

To provide the overall picture, Erasmus Mundus Action 1 calls (Master courses and Joint Doctorates) are based on competitive calls and to date, none of the Ukrainian universities succeeded in this highly competitive action.

Budgetary situation in Tempus is also favourable for 2012 calls: the European Commission has allocated EUR 22.8m<sup>4</sup> to the Eastern Partnership countries – almost the double compared to the previous year. Since final statistics are not available at the moment, we can only state that the additional funding directly addresses the concerns of the Ukrainian National Tempus Office (NTO) from the past which complained about a large gap between the available funding and budget requested by the very best proposals.

### Selected recommendations

In Ukraine, the Tempus programme doubtlessly facilitated internationalisation of Ukrainian universities and contributed to initiation of the new research projects or exchange programmes.

The following points could be highlighted as key aspects for improvements in the future:

**At the European level**, the financial top-up seems to very effectively resolve the concerns of insufficient funding for objectively excellent proposals. The Commission is therefore encouraged to continue this initiative, if possible.

**At the national level**, the policy formation should be effectively based on

<sup>2</sup> Please note: This work is based on the INCONET-EECA deliverable Analytical paper and Recommendations on the Use of LLP, Erasmus Mundus and Tempus to S&T cooperation in the EECA region. For more information please refer to this document. [http://icbss.org/media/889\\_original.pdf](http://icbss.org/media/889_original.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Compared to other countries, also the success rate has significantly improved – 13% success rate (n=395 applications) compared to Russia (7 % success rate, n= 763 applications), Moldova (9% success rate, n= 54 applications) and Belarus (12% success rate, n= 92 applications).

<sup>4</sup> Or 29 million supposed that the relevant financing decision is adopted by the European Commission

the dialogue with HEIs. Moreover, the authorities could introduce a framework for the transfer of results and best practices achieved by the funded projects in order to scale them up across the entire higher education sector. Once results proved to be transferrable to other HEIs, the Ministry is advised to facilitate a supportive framework at national level exploiting the valuable learning outcomes from the projects. Europeanisation should be also supported at the legislative level by enabling Ukrainian universities to be grant holders which seems currently very complicated to achieve.

**At HEI level**, universities should have a clear internationalisation strategy and develop also internal supporting structures for the project application and implementation phase. Project management and intercultural communication skills in general (e.g. providing arguments, leadership), taking responsibility for project implementation as well as openness to international cooperation and networking are crucial assets that characterise successful project teams.

## Ukraine's involvement in the European Territorial Cooperation programmes

The European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) programmes represent the third pillar of EU cohesion policy. ETC programmes are divided into 3 groups, namely: (1) Cross Border Cooperation, (2) Transnational Cooperation, and (3) Interregional Cooperation Programmes. In the recent programming period (between 2007 and 2013) Ukraine could take part in the first two programmes.

RTDI activities, cooperation and capacity building is supported under ETC. Eligible partners of these programmes are public bodies and non-profit organisations, however, profit bodies, SMEs, and other institutes can be subcontracted for specific thematic activities and research.

### Cross Border Cooperation CBC) Programmes (2007-13: EUR 5.6billion) (

The aim of the CBC Programmes is

- to develop human resources, education, culture, and research in bordering regions
- to prepare the conditions of incoming high tech investments in border regions
- to increase the attractiveness of border regions to develop business activities, innovation and technological conditions and infrastructure

Ukraine is eligible for the following joint operational programmes (JOPs):

- a) Hungary – Slovakia – Romania - Ukraine
- b) Romania – Ukraine – Republic of Moldova
- c) Poland – Belarus – Ukraine
- d) Black Sea Cooperation Programme

It is worth mentioning that the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine approved the draft of the Additional Agreement between the Government of Ukraine and the European Union represented by the European Commission to the Agreement of Financing the JOPs “Hungary – Slovakia – Romania –Ukraine 2007-2013”, “Poland – Belarus – Ukraine 2007-2013” and “Romania – Ukraine – Republic of Moldova 2007-2013” and the draft of the Additional Agreement between the Government of Ukraine and the European Union

represented by the European Commission to the Agreement of Financing the JOP “Black Sea Programme 2007-2013”.

As outlined in Commission Communications and the ENPI CBC Strategy 2007-2013, four overarching objectives will be addressed through these programmes:

1. promoting economic and social development in the border areas,
2. working together to address common challenges in fields such as the environment, public health and the prevention of and fight against organised crime,
3. ensuring efficient and secure borders and
4. promoting local “people-to-people” type action

Reinforcement of RTDI cooperation is also addressed by the programme, however, most projects deal with infrastructural development, water and waste management, and health related issues. Nevertheless, research and innovation is part of several project though often not explicitly. This is one area where further actions would be needed since there are unused funds for RTDI activities. Moreover, implementation of the CBC programmes is very much effected by the discrepancies in legislation between Ukraine and the EU.

## Recommendations

The Ukrainian regions participating in the CBC Programmes point out that participation in the projects and the Programmes activities provides the possibility to establish contacts with interested institutions outside Ukraine as well as improve investment attractiveness of the regions and raise investments themselves.<sup>5</sup> This process is recommended to be further supported using all possible instruments which the interested institutions possess.

## Transnational Cooperation Programmes (2007-13: EUR 1.8 billion)

Transnational programmes cover mostly EU countries, but include also some regions from neighbouring countries. R&D is not specifically supported but innovation is one of the priorities.

The relevant programmes for Ukraine: are the (a) Central Europe and the (b) Southeast Europe Programme.

Ukraine took part in several projects since 2007; however its participation is quite limited due to the difficulties to secure national co-financing. Important step would be to guarantee and facilitate national co-financing and to support the networking of Ukrainian organizations to be linked with potential project partners.

All in all, it would be important to investigate the benefits of Ukraine’s participation in such programmes in more detail. Additionally, necessary steps shall be taken to exploit the potential of structural funds for financing the necessary R&D activities linked to the priorities of the ETC programmes.

## Selected conclusions

In this Policy Brief the BILAT-UKR\*AINA Project made a tentative screening of the current status of some sections of Ukraine-EU cooperation in science and technology. Relying on the Europe 2020 Strategy and Strategy of innovative development of Ukraine for 2010–2020 in terms of global challenges, both the EU and Ukraine emphasise that innovation is a key instrument in supporting competitiveness and in promoting efficiency in the use of resources to meet societal needs; and both focus on the Ukraine-EU S&T partnership with the aim of enhancing the excellence in research.

This current status of the Ukraine-EU RTDI cooperation shows that, while an institutional framework for the enhancement of the partnership exists, there is room for significant improvements in the implementation of the Ukraine-EU Agreement in S&T Cooperation as well as of Bilateral Agreements between Ukraine and EU Member States (MS) and FP7 Associated Countries (AC). These improvements appear to be particularly cogent owing to the strategic role that RTDI plays today.

The Ukraine-EU S&T Cooperation Agreement is an important vehicle for defining and implementing the multiannual roadmaps. Where appropriate, it will be developed into strategic long-term partnerships, including agreement on the priorities to be addressed.

In view of the obtained data it is possible to conclude the following:

Mutual knowledge sharing on Ukraine and the EU R&I

1. Economy and society of the EU and Ukraine show a different structure and organisation and face different development challenges. Thus **mutual knowledge and information on Ukraine and the EU RTDI** should be improved in several ways. Knowledge sharing materials on Ukraine and the EU S&T cooperation should be developed and distributed, with a focus on industries, science, innovation, research and education. These materials should be directed to Ukraine and to the EU officials involved in the implementation of the Agreements and to actors of S&T, educational, private sector institutions and networks in order to foster EU-Ukraine R&I dialogue.

Enhanced use of bilateral cooperation

2. In some cases bilateral Ukraine- EU MS/AC cooperation based on the long-term partnership is strong and dynamic. **Bilateral cooperation** might be **used for the implementation of selected pan-European initiatives and mobility schemes**.

Coordinated Calls and promotion of Horizon 2020

3. **Ukraine-EU coordinated calls** should be discussed (in particular the issue of the joint funding schemes with the participation of the EU and Ukraine) as an instrument of the equal Ukraine-EU S&T partnership. Moreover, taking into account Horizon 2020, further actions could include establishing an exchange and coordination forum for programme owners and managers from the EU MS and AC, pilot activities for joint actions through increased participation of Ukrainian funding agencies in thematic ERA-NETs, further establishing mirror technology platforms in Ukraine; and exchanging best practices on innovation support measures. These issues should be presented and discussed. All the mentioned actions are foreseen to be piloted by the project BILAT-UKR\*AINA.

Increasing importance of the private sector for innovation

4. With the shift from research to innovation, a special emphasis is on **the private sector**. Yet, the participation of Ukraine's private sector in FP7 is low. Owing to the heavy procedures (e.g. time to contract) for the submission and negotiation of projects, FP7 open calls are little attractive for the private sector. Therefore, research institutions and companies tend to turn to bilateral cooperation with more accessible application procedures. The gap between science and industry – and between research and innovation – can be reduced by enhancing the involvement of the private sector in Ukraine-EU S&T cooperation. Video-conferences, information sessions and workshops might be proposed in order to raise awareness on the collaboration opportunities among Ukrainian public funding agencies and private sector companies.

Research infrastructures

5. The Ukrainian scientific community should be encouraged to continue their efforts towards expanding the available **research infrastructures** and to explore existing access opportunities as well as contributing to gaining information from current EU initiatives for both existing and new research infrastructures. Collaboration in the area of **e-Infrastructures** could be further enhanced, for instance in the area of distributed computing where resources and services could be shared between Ukraine and Europe through a Memorandum of Understanding and/or association to EGI.eu (i.e. the legal entity coordinating Grid activities in Europe). It is considered important for Ukraine to **join the European e-infrastructures activities** to gain full access to the state of the art scientific resources.

SFFR joint calls and best practice projects

6. The **SFFR joint calls** make a very important example. Their **best practices** may be examined and, where it is possible, used for the benefit of Ukraine-EU RTDI cooperation. Particularly the collaboration with the JRC. At present the JRC has a limited level of collaboration with Ukraine on topics such as photovoltaic concentrating systems, marine core services, greenhouse-gas exchange, nuclear safety; further collaborations would be welcomed to extend the cooperation to cover a larger variety of scientific disciplines, which are within the competence of JRC and which may be of interest for Ukraine. On the basis of its mission of supporting EU policies, JRC is also actively supporting the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) Partner countries on an *ad hoc* basis. In this respect, it could be of mutual interest to develop a closer cooperation.

National university and research organisations ranking

7. Ukraine launched the **rating of the national universities** which is updated on an annual basis. As a possible issue for consideration, the **rating of the research institutes** could be launched. The evaluation criteria may include an international cooperation element consisting of e.g. cooperation agreements, impact of those cooperation agreements, participation in international projects and international conferences, publication in foreign scientific journals, etc.

Structured information on university RTDI cooperation

8. This screening identified that both Ukraine and the EU countries lack extended structured information on university RTDI cooperation. The **joint report on university RTDI cooperation** composed of statistical data and impact analysis would make a meaningful contribution to Ukraine-EU RTDI political dialogue.

## PROJECT IDENTITY

<b>Project Name</b>	Enhancing the BILATeral S&T Partnership with UKRaine * Advanced INnovative Approach (BILAT-UKR*AINA)
<b>Consortium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI), Vienna, Austria (Co-ordinator)</li> <li>• Kyiv State Center for Scientific and Economic Information (NIP)</li> <li>• Centre for S&amp;T Potential and Science History Studies (named after G.M. Dobrov) of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (STEPS)</li> <li>• National Centre for Scientific Research, France (CNRS)</li> <li>• German Aerospace Center – International Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany (DLR)</li> <li>• Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland (PAN)</li> <li>• Research &amp; Development Engineering and Manufacturing for Automation Equipment and Systems, Romania (IPA SA)</li> <li>• Center of Practical Informatics of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (CPI NASU)</li> <li>• Regional Centre for Information and Scientific Development (RCISD)</li> </ul>
<b>Funding Scheme</b>	7th European Framework Programme for RTD of the European Union, Capacities Programme, Coordination and Support Action. Project ID:FP7-311839
<b>Duration</b>	1 September 2012 – 30 June 2015
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.bilat-ukraina.eu">www.bilat-ukraina.eu</a>
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<b>Further reading</b>	<p>Policy briefs on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take-up of the EU-Ukrainian JSTCC Thematic Priorities in FP7 (2007-2013) (Policy Brief 2)</li> <li>• Coordinated and Joint Calls (Policy Brief 3)</li> <li>• Statistics on the number of EU researchers in national Ukrainian R&amp;D programmes (Policy Brief 4)</li> </ul>
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