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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The present Deliverable describes and analyzes the objectives, and results, of the Regional Conference WINDS@Buenos Aires 2007, aimed at gathering a multi-sectoral group of researchers, entrepreneurs, government officials, and civil society organizations, in order to strengthen R&D cooperation on ICT between Europe and Argentina, encourage the presentation of joint projects to FP7, animate the expression of Argentinean researchers and entrepreneurs' expectations and needs regarding research cooperation with the EU. The Conference took place on 21 & 22 November 2007 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, at the premises of the *Oficina Nacional de Tecnologías de Información (ONTI)*, Buenos Aires.

The report describes the preparatory activities previous to the Conference, including the conference's presentation in six events, as well as a dissemination campaign aimed at Universities, enterprises, governmental organization and civil society organizations from March 2007 onwards. Moreover, a press lunch was organized in November 19, which facilitated the Conference's dissemination in various media.

The Conference's organization was planned for an intensive day and a half. The afternoon of the first day, was dedicated to build a panorama on Argentina's ICT research, and to debate the necessary steps towards a Europe – Latin American Agenda on cooperation in ICT research. The morning of the second day was devoted to the possibilities offered by FP7 to Argentine researchers, and to examples of ICT projects with the participation of Argentinean researchers in FP6, in order to learn from their experiences. After a networking lunch, the first half of the afternoon was dedicated to two panels: one on R&D on ICT in universities, and the other on Interactions between S&T and the private sector. The second half of the afternoon was dedicated to report the reflexions of the previous panels' moderators, to a round table on ICT research in Latin America, and to the Conference' conclusions.

This deliverable includes an assessment on the Conference's results and outcomes, based on the SWOT Analysis¹. The assessment also includes the attendants' evaluation, which was collected on the Conference's second day.

¹ **SWOT Analysis**, is understood as a strategic planning tool used to evaluate the **Strengths**, **Weaknesses**, **Opportunities**, and **Threats** involved in a project or in a business venture. It involves specifying the objective of the business venture or project and identifying the internal and external factors that are favorable and unfavorable to achieving that objective.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Regional Conference WINDS@Buenos Aires 2007 aimed at gathering a multisectoral group of researchers, entrepreneurs, government officials, and civil society organizations, in order to strengthen R&D cooperation on ICT between Europe and Argentina, encourage the presentation of joint projects to FP7, animate the expression of Argentinean researchers and entrepreneurs' expectations and needs regarding research cooperation with the EU.

The Regional Conference WINDS@Buenos Aires 2007 (Second ICT R&D Conference of the WINDS-LA project in Latin America) took place on 21 and 22 November 2007 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, at the premises of the Oficina Nacional de Tecnologías de Información (ONTI), Buenos Aires, Av. Roque Sáenz Peña 511.

The project Argentina's team has chosen as a policy to engage multi-actoral stakeholders in the event's organization, in order to increase various actors' effective participation in WINDS-LA. The involvement of leading government ICT-concerned institutions, such as the Argentine Bureau for Enhancing Cooperation with the European Community in Science, Technology and Innovation (ABEST) of the National Secretariat of Science and Technology, as well as the National Office for Information Technologies of the National Ministry of Management and Development, was extremely valuable. So was the cooperation of the enterprise Transistemas, the National Chamber of Informatics and telecommunication Enterprises (CICOMRA), the Chamber of Software and Informatic Services (CESSI), the Institute of Electricity and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), and the Argentine Chamber of Electronic Commerce (C@CE). The Conference also had the active support of outstanding non-governmental organizations, such as the Network of Argentine Digital organizations (RODAr) and the Argentine Association of Informatics and Communications' Users (USUARIA).

Considerable efforts have been made to bring together recognized speakers from the main ICT institutions in the country, coming from cities as Rosario, Córdoba, Tandil, La Plata, San Luis, and others². Speakers represented the governmental sector, major Universities, ICT enterprises, and ICT-concerned NGOs. The presentations were therefore of high quality. They can be accessed at www.winds-la.eu.

We had expected a maximum of 150 assistants, but we were surprised by the public's response: by 18 November, the number of registered assistants had reached 198, coming from all over the country, from Córdoba to Tierra del Fuego, as well as from Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, and Brazil.

² See Speakers' CVs in Annex 2

2. PREPARATORY AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

WINDS@BUENOS AIRES 2007 was promoted in the following events:

1st WINDS Public Presentation in Buenos Aires – March 16, 2007

On March 16th, Buenos Aires, Dr. Daniel Filmus, National Minister of Education and candidate for Mayor in the City of Buenos Aires for the October 2007 elections, received 37 community organizations -5 of them working directly or indirectly with ICTs- to discuss participation ideas for the City. We had the opportunity to present publicly the WINDS – Latin America Project and the WINDS conference to be held in Buenos Aires. The Minister and his team were quite interested in future developments. Some NGOs are willing to participate providing information about their research activities and participating in the November Conference in Buenos Aires.

Informative Meeting on Cooperation Opportunities in the Area of Socio-Economic Sciences and the Humanities, within FP7 – March 30, 2007

On March 30th 2007, from 10:00 to 13:00, I have participated on behalf of WINDS in the Informative Meeting on cooperation opportunities in the area of socio-economic sciences and the humanities, within FP7. The meeting was organized by the ABEST Program (Argentine Bureau for Enhancing Scientific and Technical Cooperation with the European Union) carried on by the Direction of International Cooperation of the Argentina Secretariat of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation, with co-financed by the European Union 6th Frame Program. The event took place in the very place that has been facilitated to WINDS for the November Regional Conference: SALÓN DR. RAMÓN CARRILLO, Argentina Secretariat of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation, Buenos Aires

The meeting had two main goals:

- a) To inform about the cooperation opportunities offered by FP7 in general, and particularly on the areas of socio-economic sciences and the humanities.
- b) To advance in the dialogue with Argentinean researchers and technologists of Argentina, with the intention of defining the issues of greater interest for the participation of local organizations in proposals or projects linked to the mentioned Program.

The participants were scientists, technologists, representatives of S&T institutions, and other agents related to S&T policies in Argentina. During the meeting the WINDS Project as well as the WINDS Regional Conference to take place in Buenos Aires were presented. The participants, including the Meeting's organizers, showed great interest.

II Digital Government Forum, organized by Prince & Cooke – May 17-18, 2007

This meeting brought together civil servants and officers in charge of municipal Public Administration from all over the country, technology providers and experts who shared information and experiences in order to build an active network of cities that are in the way of reaching the Knowledge Society. Dr. Finqueliévich presented the project WINDS-LA and invited the audience to the conference WINDS@Buenos Aires 2007.

AHCIET VII Iberoamerican Meeting of Digital Cities in Mendoza, Argentina – June 13 – 15, 2007

The WINDS–LA project was presented at the Forum on Iberoamerican Digital Cities in the city of Mendoza. The event, which gathered 420 participants, was organized by AHCIENT (Asociación Hispanoamericana de Centros de Investigación y Empresas de Telecomunicaciones) and the Mendoza Province Government.

The project's presentation awoke considerable interest in participants of several Latin American countries, including Brazil and Mexico. Besides presenting WINDS – LA, a series of meetings about the project with representatives of national and foreign institutions were held. The general reception of WINDS was particularly encouraging.

SADIO, 37th Conference on Informatics - August 27-31, 2007

SADIO, the Argentine Informatics Society, <http://www.sadio.org.ar>, organized in Mar del Plata the 37th Conference on Informatics, <http://www.36jaiiomardelplata.org.ar/>, on August 27-31, 2007. Dr. Finqueliévich presented the WINDS – LA project and the WINDS Bs .As. Conference, within the Symposium on Links between Universities and Enterprises. The general reception of WINDS was encouraging: many researchers asked for more information about the project.

Book presentation: “El (Involuntario) Rol Social de los Cibercafés”, November 6, 2007

Dissemination of the press release and materials about the WINDS Regional Conference during the presentation of Dr. Susana Finqueliévich and Dr. Alejandro Prince's book, “THE (INVOLUNTARY) SOCIAL ROLE OF CIBERCAFES”, on Tuesday November 6 at CICOMRA (Cámara de Informática y Comunicaciones de la Republica Argentina) took place. The session was joined by journalists and general audience, representatives from the civil, private and public sectors linked to the Research and the ICT areas.

The WINDS@BUENOS AIRES 2007 event was promoted in the following spaces:

Towards universities

Explanatory meetings took place, inviting to participate teachers, instructors, directors and students from different universities, not only from Buenos Aires but also from other provinces of Argentina.

Personal and institutional invitations were sent to the following organizations: Universidad de Buenos Aires (UBA), Universidad Nacional del Noroeste de Buenos Aires (UNNOBA), Universidad Nacional de la Plata (UNLP), Instituto Tecnológico de Buenos Aires (ITBA), Universidad Tecnológica Nacional (UTN), Universidad Nacional de la Punta, Universidad de Belgrano (UB), Universidad de San Andrés, Universidad Nacional de Rosario, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Universidad Nacional del Centro de la Provincia de Buenos Aires.

Towards chambers & associations

Non-monetary sponsor and dissemination support for the event was asked to and granted by the following entities:

- Instituto de Ingenieros en Electricidad y Electrónica (IEEE)
- Consejo Profesional de Ingeniería de Telecomunicaciones, Electrónica y Computación
- Cámara de Informática y Comunicaciones de la República Argentina (CICOMRA)
- Cámara de empresas de Software & Servicios Informáticos de la República Argentina (CESSI)
- Asociación Argentina de Usuarios de la Informática y las Comunicaciones (USUARIA)

Towards ICT-specific media

The Com.letter newsletter has been promoting the Conference WINDS @Buenos Aires 2007 weekly. This medium, pioneer in the research linked to Information and Communication Technology (ICT), has 10.500 subscriptions and estimated 16.000 readers. The reader profile is the following: 75% of managerial level in the great users ICT sector; 19% of directors of the supply side; 6% of journalists, NGOs, chambers and sector institutions. (Data from www.princecooke.com)

In addition, the invitation to participate in the Conference WINDS @Buenos Aires 2007 was published in the NGO ACTUAR, GOBIERNO DIGITAL newsletter, which is “the first and unique specialized multimedia in electronic government in Argentina. Through its different news channels, it monitors the global tendencies on e-gov and State reform, and it constitutes a permanent consultancy point for those who are interested in accessing to diverse thematic articles, successful cases, academic resources, legislative project follow-up, event calendar and all the main news linked to

technology, government and public policies” (Data from <http://www.gobiernodigital.org.ar>)

Dissemination actions of the Project previous to the Conference Winds @ Buenos Aires 2007

Press Lunch on November 19

Organization of the press lunch on November 19 with the support of Fabio Nascimbeni, Coordinator of the WINDS Project, Susana Finquelievich, Argentinian Coordinator of the Project, Alejandro Prince and Roberto Olivero of the *Fundación de Gestión y Desarrollo*, and Carlos González of Transistemas.

Invitations were sent to all media from Buenos Aires dealing with Research and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in their contents. The main ones being: Clarín, Bloggers Report, Canal AR, Infobae, La Nación, Tecnozona, Actuar, Information Technology, Com.Letter, and INFO Mail.

An electronic information folder was sent to journalists with material related to the Project and the conference WINDS@Buenos Aires 2007, activities program, press release, and information about the registration to the conference. The folder included information on the profile of the European, Argentine and Latin American speakers in order to promote individual interviews.

Visits to IT Enterprises

Before the event, a visit to IT enterprises was organized together with Fabio Nascimbeni. It included visits to different company chambers linked to Research and Information and Communication Technology (ICT). Meetings with the following entities took place:

- Instituto de Ingenieros en Electricidad y Electrónica (IEEE)
- Consejo Profesional de Ingeniería de Telecomunicaciones, Electrónica y Computación
- Cámara de Informática y Comunicaciones de la República Argentina (CICOMRA)
- Cámara de empresas de Software & Servicios Informáticos de la República Argentina (CESSI)
- Asociación Argentina de Usuarios de la Informática y las Comunicaciones (USUARIA)

3. ORGANIZATION

The Conference organization was planned for an intensive day and a half. The first afternoon, on Wednesday 21st, was entirely dedicated, after the institutional presentations, to a panorama on Argentina's ICT research, and to debating the necessary steps towards a Europe – Latin American Agenda on cooperation in ICT research.

The second day's morning was devoted to the possibilities offered by FP7 to Argentine researchers, and to examples of ICT projects with the participation of Argentinean researchers in FP6, in order to learn from their experiences. All FP6 projects with Argentinean partners were presented.

After a networking light lunch, the first half of the afternoon was dedicated to two panels: one on R&D on ICT in universities, and the other on Interactions between S&T and the private sector. We deliberately mixed private entrepreneurs in the universities panel, and scientific researchers among the private entrepreneurs, in order to enhance the debates.

The second half of the afternoon was dedicated to report the reflexions of the previous panels' moderators, to a round table on ICT research in Latin America, and to the conclusions of the Conference.

4. REPRESENTATIVENESS OF SPEAKERS

Speakers ranged from main areas in the Government (such as Juan Manuel Abal Medina, National Undersecretary of Public Affairs; Aldo Fabris, ABEST – SECYT; Agueda Menvielle, SECYT; Elida Rodriguez, Province of Mendoza's government, and Carlos Achiary, ONTI), to outstanding scientists (such as Alicia Bañuelos, Rector of *Universidad de la Punta*, San Luis; Juan Negrini, Cordoba Technologies; Alejandro Zunino, *Instituto de Sistemas, Diversidad Nacional de Centro de la Provincia de Buenos Aires*, Tandil; Alejandro Fernández, *LIFIA - Laboratorio de Investigación y Formación en Informática Avanzada, Facultad de Informática; Universidad Nacional de La Plata*; and Ricardo Rivas & Francisco Morteo, *Centro de Estudios en Sistemas y Tecnologías de la Información-CESTI, FCE – Universidad de Buenos Aires*).

Speakers represented also the IT private sector (Carlos Pallotti, CESSI; Norberto Capellán, CICOMRA; Carlos González, Transistemas; Alejandro Prince, Prince & Cooke). Civil Society was represented by Manuel Acevedo, LINKS; Silvia Bidart, RODAr; Norberto Torrera, USUARIA, and Federico Heinz, *Fundación Via Libre*, both of them participants of FP6. There were also members of international organizations (Ernesto Majó, LACNIC; Danilo Piaggese, Interamerican Development Bank).

5. REPRESENTATIVENESS OF PARTICIPANTS

The participants list shows a high number of researchers from the National Council of Scientific and Technological Research (CONICET), and from a number of Universities in the country: UBA, UNLP, ITBA, Universidad San Andrés, UNC, *Universidad Tecnológica Nacional*, *Universidad Abierta Interamericana*, *Comisión Nacional de Energía Atómica*, *Universidad Nacional de Quilmes*, *Instituto de Desarrollo Territorial y Nuevas Tecnologías*, *Programa de Extensión Universitaria “La Comunicación y los Adultos Mayores”*, *de la Facultad de Periodismo y Comunicación Social de la UNLP*, the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO), and INNOVA RED among many others, as well as from abroad: *Universidad Autónoma Juan Misael Saracho UAJMS*, Bolivia; and the *Universidad Nacional de Asunción-Facultad Politécnica*, Paraguay. Scientists covered not only the informatics and telecommunication sector, but also Education, Social Sciences, Economy, and even ICT-related arts. (See attached Assistants' list).

The governmental sector was represented by members of the Honourable Chamber of Senators, the government of Tierra del Fuego, the Municipality of Bragado, the National Commission of Atomic Energy, the National Ministry of Social Development, the National Secretariat of Agriculture, among others (See attached list).

The private enterprises IT sector was represented by CISCO, Telefónica, SistemasNet, Transistemas, IT Secure Business, CESSI, *Consejo Profesional de Ingeniería en Telecomunicaciones*, Telecom (See attached list).

The civil society was represented, among others, by *CAMAC Asociación Civil Sin fines de Lucro*; *Comisión TIC de USUARIA*, E-Salud Américas, etc. (See attached list).

List of institutions represented at the event

Actuar
 AFIP
 AMARC ALC
 Asociación Argentina de Teletrabajo.
 Asociación Médica argentina
 Auditoría General de la Nación
 Automóvil Club Argentino
 Autoridad Regulatoria Nuclear
 BizDragon
 CAMAC Asociación Civil Sin fines de Lucro
 Cámara Argentina de Comercio Electronico CACE, Centro de Teletrajo y Teleformación de la Universidad Tecnológica Nacional UTN
 Cámara de Empresas Informáticas del Litoral
 Cámara de Telecomunicaciones del Uruguay
 Centro de Ciencia y Tecnología Dr. César Milstein
 Proyecto Elan2life
 Centro de Doc. e Info. Ministerio de Economía
 Centro de estudios de estado y sociedad, CEDES
 Centro de Estudios e Investigaciones de la Universidad Nacional de Quilmes
 Centro de Estudios e Investigaciones Laborales del CONICET/UBA

Centro de Estudios sobre Ciencia, Desarrollo y Educación Superior "Centro Redes"
Centro de Estudios sobre Ciencia, Desarrollo y Educación Superior
Centro Redes
CertiSur
CESSI Argentina
CISCO Systems Inc.
CNCINPRO AC. Confederación Nacional Campesina de Indígenas y Productores Rurales A. C.
CNRT
COFEFUP
Comisión de Comunicaciones H. Cámara de Diputados
Comisión Nacional de Comercio Exterior
Comisión Nacional de Energía Atómica
Comisión TIC de USUARIA
Consejo Profesional de Ingeniería de Telecomunicaciones Electrónica y Computación
Consejo Federal de Inversiones
Consejo Profesional en Ciencias Informáticas
Consultora Legislar Bien
Cordoba Technology
Dirección de Relaciones Internacionales - SECYT-Argentina
Distance Educational Network
Ente Nacional Regulador de la Electricidad
eSalud Americas
Escuela de Ciencias de la Información- Facultad de Derecho y Ciencias Sociales – Universidad Nacional de Córdoba – Argentina -
Espacio Palleros
Facultad de Arquitectura UBA
Facultad de Arquitectura, Diseño y Urbanismo, UBA
Facultad de Ciencias Sociales - Instituto de Investigaciones Gino germani
Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, UBA
Facultad de Economía y Administración - Universidad Nacional del Comahue
Facultad Ingeniería Industrial y Mecánica(UNLZ) y Carrera Relaciones Trabajo. Facultad Ciencias Sociales. (UBA)
Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales Argentina
Foro Estratégico Para el Desarrollo Nacional
Fundación Equidad
Fundación Gestión y Desarrollo
Fundación Imagen
Fundación Via Libre
Gobierno de Mendoza
gobierno de la provincia de Tierra del Fuego
H.C. Senadores Bs As, Bloque UCR
HogarActivo.com.ar
IBM
ICEPH- Instituto Cordillerano de Estudios y Promoción Humana
IEEC – Instituto de Estudios para la Excelencia Competitiva
IIGG- Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, UBA
IIPEUNESCO Buenos Aires
Image Campus, Advanced Training in Digital Media
INAP
INNED (Innovaciones Educativas)
INNOVA-RED (Red Académica Nacional)
Instituto de Desarrollo Territorial y Nuevas Tecnologías
Instituto Independiente Prodei.Net ONG
Instituto Nacional de Antropología, Sec. de Cultura de la Nación
Instituto Nacional de Educación Tecnológica

INTEC (CONICET – Universidad Nacional del Litoral)
INTI Electrónica e Informática
IT Secures Business
IT Strategy
ITBA (Instituto Tecnológico de Buenos Aires)
ITBA Y CEILAP (CITEFA-CONICET)
K-TIC
Lab. de Neuroplasticidad y Neurotoxinas, Inst. de Biol. Cel. y Neurociencias "Prof. E. De Robertis",
Fac de Medicina, UBA
LACNIC
LINKS Asociación Civil para el Estudio y la Promoción de la Sociedad de la Información.
MECYT
Ministerio de Desarrollo Social de la Nación
Ministerio de Economía de la Provincia de Buenos Aires - Dirección de servicios Informáticos
Ministerio de Educación, Ciencia y Tecnología
Ministerio de Planificación Federal Inversión Pública y Servicios
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto.
Municipalidad de Bragado
Municipalidad de Rosario
NETACTICA SA.
Oficina Nacional de Tecnologías de Información
Oficina Nacional de Tecnologías de Información – Subsecretaría de la Gestión Pública
Plan de Desarrollo Económico Para la Micro Región E.C.O.S.
Prince & Cooke
Programa de Apoyo a las Redes de Mujeres de la Asociación para el Progreso de las
Comunicaciones (PARM APC)
Programa de Extensión Universitaria “La Comunicación y los Adultos Mayores”, de la Facultad de
Periodismo y Comunicación Social de la UNLP.
Protweb
RED Ingeniería del Conocimiento
Registro nacional de antecedentes de tránsito
Secretaría de Agricultura- PROSAP
Secretaría de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva
Secretaría de Industria, Comercio y PyMEs
Secretaría de Medios de Comunicación
Secyt
SERVICIO NACIONAL DE REHABILITACIÓN (SNR)
Siemens
SISTEMASNET
Sociedad de la Información para las Américas
Subsecretaría de la Gestión Pública
Superintendencia de Seguros de la Nación
SUPERINTENDENCIA DE SERVICIOS DE SALUD
Team Soft SRL
Tecnológico de Monterrey, Campus Estado de México
TELECOM Argentina
Transistemas
UAI – MINISTERIO DEL INTERIOR
UBA, Facultad de Informática
UBA/ Fac. Ciencias Económicas
UNED
Unidad de Investigación 6B, Instituto de Estudios del Hábitat, Facultad de Arquitectura y Urbanismo,
Universidad Nacional de La Plata
Unidad de Tecnologías de la Información y la Comunicación – UTIC
Universidad Abierta Interamericana

Universidad Autónoma Juan Misael Saracho UAJMS

Universidad de Buenos Aires - Facultad de Ciencias Económicas – Centro de Estudios de Sistemas y Tecnologías de la Información (CESTI)

Universidad de la Punta

Universidad de San Andrés

Universidad Nacional de Asunción-Facultad Politécnica

Universidad Nacional de General Sarmiento

Universidad Nacional de Quilmes

Universidad Tecnológica Nacional

Universidad Tecnológica Nacional- Facultad Regional Avellaneda

UNLP, CONICET

USUARIA

UTN - FRA

VOXIVA

WINDS Argentina

Zooma-ISM

6. VISIBILITY IN THE COUNTRY AND IN THE REGION

We have achieved an excellent visibility, not only in Argentina, but also in neighbour countries such as Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay. Representatives from the main Argentine Provinces where there is ICT development were present.

7. IDEAS RESULTING FROM THE CONFERENCE AND POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP

- Organization of similar but smaller events and meetings in the provinces, to spread FP7 opportunities. Dr. Alicia Bañuelos, Rector of the Universidad de la Punta, San Luis, is keen on hosting a WINDS-LA meeting. Dr. Finquelievich will meet her in San Luis on late January.
- A Training Seminar on FP7 Project Preparation
- A study/research on best practices implemented by research teams which have participated in FP projects

8. CONFERENCE ASSESSMENT

8.1 STRENGTHS:

Attendance:

265	Pre- registered people until 21 November, 9 AM
35	People registered directly at the Conference
184	Total people attended the Conference.
115	People present at the opening, on 21th afternoon
56	People present at closing, 21 the afternoon
37	People present at the opening, on 22nd morning
46	People present at 10:AM, on 22nd morning
53	People present at 11:53 AM on 22nd morning
57	People present at the closing, on 22nd morning
58	People present at opening, 22nd afternoon
	Pannel A: 35 attendants
	Pannel B: 31 attendants
57	People present at the Conference's closing, on 22nd afternoon

This assistance is remarkable at this time of the year, particularly considering that WINDS@BUENOS AIRES 2007 was competing with another event on digital signature, organized on the 21th and 22nd November by the same Under Secretariat of Public Management that hosted the Conference, in a nearby location.

Governmental engagement

WINDS@BUENOS AIRES 2007 achieved the deep engagement of two key governmental institutions: the Under Secretary of Public Management, which hosted the event, and the current Secretariat of Science, Technology and Innovation, and particularly of ABEST.

On Monday 19th, Fabio Nascimbeni and Susana Finquelievich had a meeting with Dr. Gonzalo Heredia, Director of the National Information Society program (PSI), of the National Communications Secretariat. Dr. Heredia showed a deep interest on WINDS-LA and offered his collaboration in future efforts.

Enterprises' engagement

WINDS@BUENOS AIRES 2007 achieved the deep engagement of key local enterprises, and enterprises' chambers:

1. Empresa Transistemas
2. CÍCOMRA (Cámara de Informática y Comunicaciones de la República Argentina)
3. CESSI, [Cámara de Empresas de Tecnologías de Información de Argentina](#)
4. Instituto de Ingenieros Eléctricos y Electrónicos, IEEE
5. Cámara Argentina de Comercio Electrónico (CACE)
6. COPITEC (Centro de Ingenieros de Electrónica, Informática y Comunicaciones)

NGOs engagement

WINDS@BUENOS AIRES 2007 achieved the deep engagement of two key NGOs: The Argentine Network of Digital Organizations, RODAr, and USUARIA.

National and Regional Impacts

The conference gathered the participation of researchers, civil servants, and enterprises' members, not only from Buenos Aires, and invited speakers, but also of self-financed participantes from Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Chile, besides assistants from Rosario, Santa Fe, Tandil, San Luis, Mendoza, Córdoba and Tierra del Fuego.

Large impact with a low-budget conference

The current costs of an international Conference of this quality and size such as WINDS@BUENOS AIRES 2007 was, amounts to approximately 10.000 Euros.

Our total budget (allocated by WINDS-LA) was: 4900 Euros, including invited speakers' airtickets and hotels.

We have spent 2.389,83 Euros.

We have achieved to implement the Conference on a significantly low budget, with the help of the following institutions/organizations:

1. SECYT / ABEST hosted the Preparatory Meeting on November 20th, including coffee break service, sound, technical equipment, etc.
2. The Under Secretariat of Public Management hosted the 21th – 22nd November event, including stationery, folders, badges, programs, sound, technicians, half of the banners' cost, dissemination, etc.
3. Transistemas, a private ICT enterprise, hosted and funded the 22nd dinner.
4. Fundación Gestión y Desarrollo, and the enterprise Datastar, hosted the 23rd Review Meeting, including coffee breaks services, sound, technical equipment, refreshments, etc.

Press coverage

1. The event was preceeded by a press campaign conducted by M.A. Alejandra Davidziuk. 27 articles were published in 27 media in 9 Latin American countries (Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Bolivia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, and Colombia), referring to WINDS-LA Project, FP7, and the Conferences in Buenos Aires and Mexico.
2. The press dissemination also used electronic forums, electronic newsletters to reach ICT - specialized public.
3. On November 19th, we held a Press Lunch, attended by 10 journalists fom the specialized media and the main newspapers. Until Thursday 22nd, eight articles on the Conference were published in Bloggers, CanalAR, Agencia de Prensa Pro Salud, INFOBAE, FLACSO Newspaper, Educ.ar, Tecnozona, and Info Mail.

8.2 OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Triple-fold learning:
 - a. Argentine and Latin American attendants learnt about FP7
 - b. EU and FP7 representatives, learnt about Argentina and Latin American needs, experiences, and potentials on ICT research
 - c. Latin American attendants learnt about each country's needs, practices, and potentials on ICT research
2. The Conference achieved to involve not only universities and S&T institutions, but also ICT enterprises and industries.
 - a. One of their key representatives, Dr. Carlos Gonzalez, proposed that FP7 should also involve ICT industry.
 - b. Dr. Alejandro Prince proposed that FP7 should implement a Seminar on Project Preparation and a research on best practices implemented by research teams that have participated in FP projects.

8.3 WEAKNESSES:

1. Installations:
 - a. The meeting room facilitated by the Under Secretariat of Public Management was roomy, comfortable, and architecturally valuable, but part of it also served as a circulation space for the Under Secretariat's employees, which caused slight disturbances at peak hours (midday and late afternoon).
 - b. Sanitary facilities were badly rated by attendants.
2. Miscalculation of printed materials: We had expected approximately 150 attendants. The affluence of participants we received caused that we did not had enough folders and printed materials, although we made a hasty printing of programs, evaluation sheets, question sheets, etc.
3. Coincidence with simultaneous events, such as the Seminar on Digital Signature, organized on the 21th and 22nd November by the same Under Secretariat of Public Management that hosted the Conference in a nearby location.

8.4 THREATS:

1. Lack or insufficiency of abilities to perceive the counterparts' needs, contexts, experiences, and potentials.
2. Excessive Latin American or European-centered visions could become potential threats to the project.

This kind of dissemination and training events could revert these threats.

8.5 ATTENDANTS' EVALUATION

Received evaluation sheets: 48

Rating from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest):

Overall Conference's qualification:	4.6 (N=32)
Speakers:	4,3 (N=42)
Information on FP7:	4, 09 (N= 42)
Punctuality:	3,66 (N=44) (Surprising, probably due to people mistaking the opening hour in the program)
Lunch:	4,34 (N= 44)
Instalaltions and local:	4, 02 (N=44)
Sound:	3,66 (N=44)

November 21th:

Quality of the First Conference: ICT Research and International Cooperation in Argentina: 4,2 (N=36)

Round Table: Towards an Argentine Agenda on ICT Research: 4,16 (N=36)

November 22nd:

FP7's opportunities for Argentine research: 4,23 (N=34)

Example of ICT Projects, FP6: 4,36 (N=33)

Parallel Sessions³:

Session A: 4,43 (N=23)

Session B: 4,4 (N=25)

Plenary Session (Moderators + Uros Janko): 4,02 (N=37)

Round Table: ICT Experiences in LA. Experiences and Ideas for Cooperation with

EU: 4,46 (N=39)

Conclusiones: 4,3 (N=30)

Positive comments:

Attendants valued the multistakeholder and inclusive approach, information about FP7/EU, information exchanges, the abundance of ideas and motivations, the debates level, the high quality of the speakers, networking time at lunch, and the provided information on FP7 and on experiences on FP6.

Negative comments:

Attendants commented negatively on having speakers' conferences in English, while many invited sectors do not necessarily speak English. However, we consider that research teams which do not have at least one member capable to manage English are not able to participate in FP7.

³ Many people attended both sessions in different moments.