

## Terms of Reference for the evolution of Strategic Research Agenda documents in the period 2012 - 2013, Version 1.0 - July 2012

### **Forewords**

The Strategic objective of the EC FP7 Networked Society (NetSoc)<sup>1</sup> project is to define the requirements for future networks that can seamlessly support the Networked Society of 2020 by enabling an informed dialogue and policy debate between the terrestrial, satellite, and content delivery communities with the industrial and social application sectors through the active dissemination of the Strategic Research Agendas and ensuring the correct positioning of the networks and ICT issues in Horizon2020. The NetSoc project is aware of the importance of starting now to establish the new cross sector understandings and working relationships that will be essential if Europe is to seriously challenge for Industrial leadership in the ICT domain in the Horizon2020 timeframe. The proposed actions will identify the challenges that need to be considered to ensure that European industry and political leaders recognize how vital it is that we take now appropriate actions to secure the economic and social benefits of the Networked Society for Europe.

The NetSoc target is to leverage the momentum developed in the Net!Works, ISI and NEM European Technology platform communities<sup>2</sup> on networking issues, where joint initiatives taken by these ETPs will consolidate and reinforce the priorities for future network research. This will be ensured through an evolution of coherent platform Strategic Research Agendas and their active promotion on a cross-platform and cross sector basis. The Strategic Research Agendas for the communications networks domain are expected to clearly identify requirements for advances in networks, based on a well-developed dialogue with a wide range of usage areas and a lively discussion on policy issues in the networking domain.

In this framework, this document represents a proposed Terms of Reference for evolution of the ETPs' Strategic Research Agenda documents in the period 2012-2013.

### **Proposed SRA Objectives**

In order to ensure necessary level of coherency among the Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) documents issued by different ETPs, the SRA objectives should be organized in two main categories: domain-specific and cross-domain<sup>3</sup> objectives.

- Domain-specific objectives refer to those objectives that are pursued in each ETP area independently from other ETPs activities. These objectives constitute the focus of each single ETP SRA.
- Cross-domain objectives refer to those objectives that can be more efficiently achieved or exclusively achieved through ETPs areas synergies and collaborations. These objectives constitute the focus of the common vision documents that will build on the single ETP SRAs.

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<sup>1</sup> NetSoc is a CSA Project of the ICT Work Programme under the European Community's 7thFramework Programme (FP7), <http://netsoc.future-internet.eu/>

<sup>2</sup> More information on the ETPs can be found at [www.networks-etp.eu](http://www.networks-etp.eu), [www.isi-initiative.org](http://www.isi-initiative.org), and [www.nem-initiative.org](http://www.nem-initiative.org).

<sup>3</sup> In this context, the term domain refers to the areas addressed specifically by each technology platform, e.g. terrestrial communication networks for Net!Works, satellite communications networks for ISI, and content production and networking technologies for NEM.

### **Domain-specific objectives**

- a) Definition of technological requirements in support of Market trends, European innovation and economic growth, and industrial leadership in the ICT sector;
- b) Identification of strategic enabling technologies;
- c) Definition of research and innovation actions required for the development of the identified enabling technologies;
- d) Identification for future ICT integration of components, communications, and computing resources
- e) Prioritization of research and innovation actions;
- f) Definition of the research and innovation roadmap including actions required to public and private sectors in support of its implementation;
- g) Identification of opportunities for SME within the defined roadmap.

### **Cross-Domain specific objectives**

- a) Definition of strategic research and innovation directions common to all domains;
- b) Prioritization of common research and innovation activities;
- c) Definition of a common cross-domain research and innovation roadmap including actions required to public and private sectors in support of its implementation;
- d) Identification of opportunities for SME within the defined roadmap.

In the framework of the NetSoc project, groups of experts, involving representatives from Net!Works, ISI, and NEM, will be created in order to address domain-specific objectives and to provide inputs to the SRAs.

### **Proposed SRA evolution schedule**

- 1) Net!Works, ISI, and NEM ETPs are asked to provide a prioritization of R&D items, which are already included in the corresponding SRA documents. The R&D priorities should also be discussed at upcoming EPT General Assemblies in the period October/November 2012, aiming at drawing related conclusions. Finally, the NetSoc project will provide an intermediate summary of the SRA documents in December 2012.
- 2) In the second phase, the intermediate document version will be presented and discussed with a number of so-called vertical communities, in order to gather specific requirements on future network and service evolution from different usage areas addressing various societal challenges. The NetSoc project will summarize gathered requirements in early spring 2013.
- 3) This phase will be launched by and open discussion among ICT and vertical sectors, based on both documents, in spring 2013. Target of the open discussion will be to understand requirements from the vertical sectors on ICT and to launch creation of updated SRA documents, which are expected to be finalized during 2013.