



Deliverable

D6.2

Report on four networking sessions organised

Grant Agreement number: 830847
Project acronym: COSMOS
Project title: COherent Support for MObility.E Strategy

Responsible: VDI/VDE-IT
Contributor(s): BUT, VIF, AVL, VDIVDE, IFAG, VEDECOM
Document version: v1.0
Submission Date: M34
Due: 30.06.2021
Nature: Report
Dissemination level: PU

Executive summary

As the Coordination and Support Action (CSA) that drives the Mobility.E Lighthouse, an inter-project network and collaboration platform established to accelerate the deployment of electric, connected and automated (ECA) driving, the dissemination and communication activities of the COSMOS project are focused on strengthening the Lighthouse. As the second core component of the project, which complements the strategy process, the network support actions are designed to contribute to the Lighthouse objectives of

- fostering dialogue between technical and non-technical stakeholders along and beyond the automotive value chain, e.g. to ensure that societal factors are taken into account when defining research priorities, and of
- finding collaborative approaches to the main challenges for the introduction of ECA.

Networking sessions and events are organised to connect stakeholders throughout the ECA mobility ecosystem and to strengthen and engage the stakeholder network. The networking sessions and events organised in the course of the project have contributed to further extending and strengthening the ECA mobility ecosystem. Networking is a fundamental part of the Mobility.E Lighthouse and the organisation of regular events engaging the attendees of past events while also drawing new participants and contributions from emerging topics, of both technical and non-technical nature, must be upheld to achieve the objectives of the Lighthouse by advancing ECA mobility.

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1 Introduction

The Coordination and Support Action (CSA) “COherent Support for MObility.E Strategy” (COSMOS) aims to support and accelerate the deployment of clean and automated road mobility solutions and the realisation of the associated socio-economic benefits. This is primarily achieved by supporting the ECSEL Lighthouse Initiative Mobility.E, strengthening collaboration between stakeholders and assisting the Lighthouse Initiative Advisory Service (LIASE) for Mobility.E in the continuous identification and prioritisation of research topics.

The network development component of the project includes WP6: “Stakeholder Engagement & Collaboration” which should:

- Provide a platform for networking amongst stakeholders on regular basis
- Offer regular networking opportunities for the stakeholders of the Lighthouse ecosystem

This report provides an overview and summary of four networking sessions organised as part of the COSMOS project.

2 Networking Sessions

Networking sessions are organised regularly as part of the activities of the Mobility.E Lighthouse to provide a platform for exchange and the initiation of new collaborations between stakeholders of the ECA mobility ecosystem. When combined with interactive sessions or workshops they provide opportunities to collect detailed and broad expert input for strategic planning. To strengthen and engage the network of ECA mobility stakeholders, the networking sessions and events shown in Table 1 were organised.

Table 1: Networking sessions and events.

Year	Month	Event	Location	Format
2018	11	EF ECS 2018	Lisbon	Lighthouse stand and networking session
	05	ENABLE-S3 Final Event	Graz	Lighthouse stand
2019	06	ECSEL JU Symposium 2019	Bucharest	Lighthouse stand
	09	ECA2030 - “Networking and Collaboration to Strengthen the ECA Ecosystem”	Brussels	Networking event
	11	IEEE ICCVE	Graz	Lighthouse stand
2020	01	ECS Brokerage Event	Brussels	Networking Session
	10	ECA2030 - “Networking and Collaboration to Strengthen the ECA Ecosystem”	Online	Networking event
	11	EF ECS Conference – Workshop on Research Priorities for ECA Mobility	Online	Networking Session
2021	04	European Conference on Connected and Automated Driving (EUCAD)	Online	Lighthouse stand

Four dedicated sessions for networking are highlighted in the table and presented in more detail below:

ECA2030 – Networking and Collaboration Event 2019

The workshop served to expand the seven urgent research topics with technical R&D needs, categorised and rated with respect to their urgency. Besides the discussions of technical challenges, it was pointed out that different stakeholders of the electronics and the automotive sector need to be brought together and non-technical factors such as legal and societal aspects need to be included in the discussion. Therefore, a co-design of hardware and software with additional considerations of new services as well as the user perspective is needed. This mindset was reflected during the entire ECA2030 conference.

ECS Brokerage Event 2020

The session included a presentation of the result of the first work package of the strategy development process, ECAD Ecosystem Map, which also presented the opportunity to make all participants familiar with the Mobility.E Lighthouse. The recently compiled list of burning research topics, building on the results of the research topic prioritisation workshop that took place a couple of months earlier at the annual ECA2030 Networking and Collaboration event, was presented and feedback was collected concerning both the completeness of the list and the prioritisation of topics.

ECA2030 – Networking and Collaboration Event 2020

Main focus of the second day of the virtual event was the content-related discussion of urgent research topics and the corresponding prioritisation. The following seven sub-topics were voted as most urgent with respect to each of the seven UPs:

- **Data availability and sharing:** *Real-time sharing*
- **De-carbonisation:** *CO₂ footprint of mobility, infrastructure and V2X*
- **Intelligence on board (car brain):** *Brain structure – architecture (integrated software/hardware platform)*
- **Connectivity:** *Connectivity continuum and redundancy*
- **Sensors and sensor fusion:** *Sensor fusion systems*
- **Infrastructure and services for smart personal mobility and logistics:** *Physical and digital infrastructure – edge computing*
- **Safety, security and validation:** *Validation of artificial intelligence – test cases, completeness, virtual vs. physical.*

EF ECS 2020 – Interactive expert consultation (research priorities and actions)

After several workshops on research topic prioritisation, the project results including the map of research activities and strategies of the ECA mobility ecosystem and the corresponding R&D&I gaps were used as a basis for further validation and analysis of research priorities. The co-located workshop at EF ECS provided an opportunity to interactively validate and revise the results with a large group of experts and to deduce the first actions of the implementation plan to accelerate the implementation of ECA mobility solutions. The open workshop joined technical and non-technical ECA stakeholders to actively participate in the strategy development by deriving and validating necessary actions in the ECA field to shape the successful implementation of ECA in Europe. The results of the session provided central input to the draft implementation plan and are provided in detail in D4.1.

The networking sessions and events have contributed to further extending and strengthening the ECA mobility ecosystem. Since they were usually combined with interactive expert consultations, they further provided important input to the strategy development process of the COSMOS project. Networking is a fundamental part of the Mobility.E Lighthouse and the organisation of regular events engaging the attendees of past events while also drawing new participants and contributions from emerging topics, of both technical and non-technical nature, must be upheld to achieve the objectives of the Lighthouse by advancing ECA mobility.