This action is funded by the European Union

ANNEX II

of the Commission Implementing Decision on ENI East Regional Action Programme 2015 Part 1

Action Document for E@P Connect

INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL GRANT APPLICANTS

WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS

This document constitutes the work programme for grants in the sense of Article 128(1) of the Financial Regulation (Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012) in section 5.3.1 concerning grants awarded directly without a call for proposals.

1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number	E@P Connect CRIS number: ENI/2015/356-353 financed under the European Neighbourhood Instrument
2. Zone benefiting from the action/location	Neighbourhood East, Eastern Partnership countries (Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan) The action shall be carried out at the following location: Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus, Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan. The project team will be based in Cambridge - GB
3. Programming document	Programming of the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) - 2014-2020- Regional East Strategy Paper (2014-2020) and Multiannual Indicative Programme (2014-2017)
4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area	7.1.3. Enhancing support to civil society, local authorities and people to people contacts Information and communication technology (ICT)
5. Amounts concerned	Total estimated cost: EUR 13 684 210 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 13 000 000 This action is co-financed by the grant beneficiary (GEANT Limited) for an indicative amount of EUR 684 210
6. Aid modality(ies) and implementation	Project Modality Direct management – grant – direct award

modality(ies)				
7. DAC code(s)	22040			
8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)	**General policy objective**	**Not targeted**	**Significant objective**	**Main objective**
	Participation development/good governance	☒	☐	☐
	Aid to environment	☒	☐	☐
	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	☒	☐	☐
	Trade Development	☒	☐	☐
	Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	☒	☐	☐
	RIO Convention markers	**Not targeted**	**Significant objective**	**Main objective**
	Biological diversity	☒	☐	☐
	Combat desertification	☒	☐	☐
	Climate change mitigation	☒	☐	☐
	Climate change adaptation	☒	☐	☐
9. Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) thematic flagships	Not relevant			

SUMMARY

The objective is to create an Eastern Partnership Research and Education Network supporting science and education. The action will procure, install and operate equipment and links forming a high speed and highly reliable interconnection network among the six countries as well as towards the pan-European network for research and education GÉANT. It will procure and federate the access to high quality scientific content (publications, web services, software, educational material etc.) for the region and stimulate integration towards GÉANT services. Finally it will provide harmonised access to local wifi infrastructures.

1 CONTEXT

1.1 Regional context

The demand for informatics services to support collaboration in research and education in the region is no less than that of EU countries. All countries in the Eastern Partnership region have a large number of young and talented citizens whose future depends heavily on the speedy development of the information society, and without which their societies are likely to continue experiencing a significant brain drain. The education, cultural and scientific sectors are

promising, with several centres of excellence, but these face severe limitations in the level of international collaboration with respect to their counterparts in the European Union and other world regions.

Indeed, National Research and Education Networks (NRENs), the communication layer of e-Infrastructures, are still far from being fully developed in the Eastern Partnership region, although NRENs in the Eastern European region are better connected then those in the South Caucasus region, due to a different level of development, a more advanced telecommunication market in particular for cross-border fibres and a close cooperation with the Romanian and Polish NRENs.

1.1.1 Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework

The policy context for regional development of e-infrastructures was set in the policy event held under the Platform 4 "Contacts between people" of the EaP in Chisinau in 11-12 December 2012 and where a Joint Declaration for supporting ICT-based e-infrastructures for research and education in the Eastern Partnership region was agreed and signed by all governments of the region, by stakeholders of e-infrastructures in the countries concerned and by 13 European e-infrastructure and research and education networking organisations.

On 11 February 2013, the Joint Declaration was sent to the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission, Catherine Ashton, as well as to the Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy, Štefan Füle, and to Vice-President, Neelie Kroes.

The support for e-infrastructure development was further stressed at the conference "Enhancement of European International Cooperation and Eastern Partnership in Research, Development and Innovation" held in Vilnius 30 September – 1 October 2013 under the newly created Panel for Research and Innovation of Platform 4 "Contacts between People" where participants jointly declared "Support should be given in particular to regional cooperation in the fields of e-infrastructures including research and education networks".
Finally at the Vilnius EaP Summit of 28-29 November 2013, Head of States and Head of Governments declared that one of the key goals for 2015 is to "gradually developing a Common Knowledge and Innovation Space to pull together several existing strands of cooperation in research and innovation". They welcomed "work done in view to promote further electronic infrastructures for education and research in partner countries" and looked forward to "enhanced involvement in electronic infrastructures for education and research".

1.1.2 Stakeholder analysis

The principal stakeholders in each of the participating EaP countries are i) National Research and Education Network (NRENs), ii) research and education institutions and iii) the end-beneficiaries who are staff and students of these institutions. More generally, the global R&E community stands to benefit from links with talented individuals in the EaP countries.

In order to secure complementarity with national research policies and agendas and to ensure co-funding and sustainability of the project, involvement of Ministries of Education and Science and Academy of Sciences will also be ensured from the start of the project.
Finally, the Research and Innovations counsellors in the Delegations should be involved at the launch of the E@P Connect programme and instructed on how they can support visibility and awareness raising activities and eventually monitor its implementation.

1.1.3 Priority areas for support/problem analysis

1) **Connectivity of the six EaP countries to Europe's GÉANT flagship is insufficient**
Today the South Caucasian countries are not directly connected to GÉANT hampering the smooth collaboration with Europe. There are local collaborations with Poland and Romania to connect Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova, however, these connections do not reach GÉANT's standards in terms of capacity and throughput, which is key in view of a long term association of the six EaP countries with the H2020 flagship GÉANT. In addition the regional dimension is totally absent.

2) **Currently none of the six EaP countries have deployed an identity federation**, which are very important for fulfilling one of the most appealing requirements of researchers of Eastern European countries: the access to research data, results and publications. Today in Europe, NRENs provide access to scientific content (such as publications, web services, software, educational material etc.) via this "identity federation" which makes the trusted link between a person (authentication of the researcher or the student) and the authorisation to access a given content. Access across border is ensured by an inter-federation technology 'eduGAIN'.

3) Most (if not all) campuses offer a wifi infrastructure to their students and staff. This requires special credential (login & password) to access to it. Thanks to the European technology called 'eduroam', wifi infrastructure are federated in Europe and hence allows seamless wifi access for people in situation of mobility with home credential. Today 25 million accesses per week are recorded in Europe through eduroam making it the largest federated wifi infrastructures in the world. eduroam is currently available in four EaP countries; in Georgia and Ukraine, an operational eduroam roaming operator has not yet been established. **In the six countries, eduroam services, the percentage of institutional participation still remains very low if not zero**.

2 RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Risks	**Risk level (H/M/L)**	**Mitigating measures**
Risks regarding co-funding: The proposed action will be carry out by GEANT Limited based in	M	It is up to GEANT Limited to manage this risk through a variety of means (i.e.: establishment of a reserve to ensure the

Cambridge. Co-funding (5%) will be collected by GEANT Limited through a cost sharing model where national NRENs will contribute.		5% co-funding but also to ensure the sustainability of the project beyond 2020, co-funding by EU's NRENs in case of default, seeking for other donors, etc).
Risks regarding **sustainability**	L	The procurement of 10 to 15 years rights of use will ensure long-term sustainability for a large part of the network.
Risks regarding commitment and interest of partner countries	L	Political commitment to support ICT-based e-infrastructures for research and education in the Eastern Partnership region was already made at several occasions (see above). Moreover, the EaP Panel on research and Innovation is currently working on a joint strategy for cooperation in research and innovation, which includes use of e-infrastructures for research. The adoption of this Strategy by EaP partner countries will represent another proof of their genuine interest and commitment towards the development of their own e-infrastructures beyond the EC co-funded project.
Assumptions		
Co-funding (5%) will successfully be collected by GEANT Limited. National NRENs will be willing to contribute.		

3 LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

3.1 Lessons learnt

Experience gained in the field of regional research and education networks through EU funded projects (Latin America – ALICE/RedClara; South East Asia – TEIN; Subsaharan Africa – AfricaConnect; Central Asia – CAREN; Mediterranean - EUMEDCONNECT) demonstrated the high value of the investment in stimulating regional cooperation, enabling cooperation with Europe as well as aligning to European technical standards. Those projects also demonstrated the capacity of the Contractor – GEANT Limited, operator of GÉANTto procure and operate capacity outside Europe while keeping high level of transparency and accountability (see point 4.3.2 (b) below).

A number of initiatives (ie: Porta Optica, CEENGINE, HP-SEE projects) demonstrated the level of technical maturity of the NRENs (National Research and Education Network) from the region to scale-up into world-class infrastructure while financial capabilities proved insufficient.

Difficulties in co-funding (10% co-financed by partner and/or the National Research and Network associations) experienced in CAREN project demonstrate the necessity to raise the level of funding to 95%.

3.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination

This infrastructure will be a key enabler of the collaboration of EaP countries to Horizon 2020 projects. It will allow synergy and coordination with the GÉANT framework partnership. It will also offer complementarity with DEVCO's CAREN project in Central Asia and EUMEDCONNECT in Mediterranean for regional collaboration, as well as Africa Connect in Africa

3.3 Cross-cutting issues

Broadband ICT infrastructures and e-Infrastructures are the foundation for modern services supporting education, culture, research and scientific development. These infrastructures are essential vehicles for sharing information, knowledge and scientific data across remote locations. By connecting people, supporting education and collaboration across national borders they also provide the pillars of the Information Society and constitute an essential enabler of modern democracies. Finally ICT infrastructure is a key enabler of access to digitalised education material which can achieve massive productivity increase as well as cost reduction at all education levels.

4 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

4.1 Objectives/results

The overall goal is the integration of education and research communities of the Eastern Partnership countries within the region and with their EU counterparts. This encompasses developing and operating a high-speed, highly reliable regional network of optical fibres connected to GÉANT, as well as harmonised access to wireless and content services.

Result 1: Establishment of a high-speed, highly reliable regional network connected to GÉANT with associated services and Network Operating Centre

Result 2: Harmonisation of access to scientific content

Result 3: Harmonisation of wifi access for students and researchers

4.2 Main activities

Activity 1.1: Procurement and commissioning of links and equipment

- The network will provide high capacity network connectivity to GÉANT. It also aims to provide dedicated and persistent infrastructure for connection between the EaP NRENs. The regional network plans to offer increased capacity to all countries in the region to meet the projected capacity requirements: each NREN in the South Caucasus region should benefit from a 1Gbit/s primary link and sufficient backup capacity, whilst the NRENs in Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova obtain dedicated 10Gbit/s primary and backup links.

Activity 1.2: Network Operation Centre (NOC)

- The Network Operation Centre is a place where engineers continuously monitor the network and react to incidents as well as users phone calls and emails. It requires 24/7 service capabilities.

Activity 1.3: Network Services built up over the infrastructure:

- GEANT World Service: commodity IP service, procured by GEANT Limited on behalf of NRENs to benefit from economies of scale and delivered via the GÉANT network backbone;
- Layer 2[1] Virtual Private Network[2]: point to point, private and dedicated connections to other GÉANT PoPs. This service is ideal for projects with participants in multiple locations who wish to co-operate as if they were operating over the same local network;

[1] Layer 2 identifies the communication protocols operating over the physical media

[2] A Virtual Private Network is a mechanism isolating its users (from security and quality of service point of view) from the others

- Layer 3[3] Virtual Private Network provides a private, routed, IP networking environment, virtually segregated from the GÉANT IP network. Currently utilised successfully in GÉANT to connect Tier 2 LHC sites together;
- perfSONAR: the multi-domain monitoring service for the GÉANT Service Area (GSA), enables NREN Network Operation Centres and Performance Emergency Response Teams to collaborate in providing seamless network performance, working together to identify, prevent and solve performance issues for network users.
- GÉANT access cloud services: GÉANT is currently developing cloud service offerings, access to which should be available via the network.

Activity 2: Set up of national identity federation and regional inter-federation populated with high quality content.

- By aggregating demand across the whole region, the central procurement of a larger number of licenses will bring down the cost of individual subscriptions and create a significant economy of scale. In particular the activity will provide access to selected scientific databases through NRENs infrastructure and support and promote Open Access repositories, providing national level directories integrated within worldwide Open Access directories.

Activity 3: support the adoption of eduroam in the region

This activity aims to increase the coverage of eduroam service in the region through:

- Establishment of eduroam national services operated by the NREN in Ukraine and Georgia
- Support advocacy and awareness raising campaigns and create incentives for campuses and institutes to offer the service to their (mobile) user populations in all six EaP countries.
- Skills and expertise capacity building to set up and operate eduroam at the campus and institution level in coordination with GÉANT project.

4.3 Intervention logic

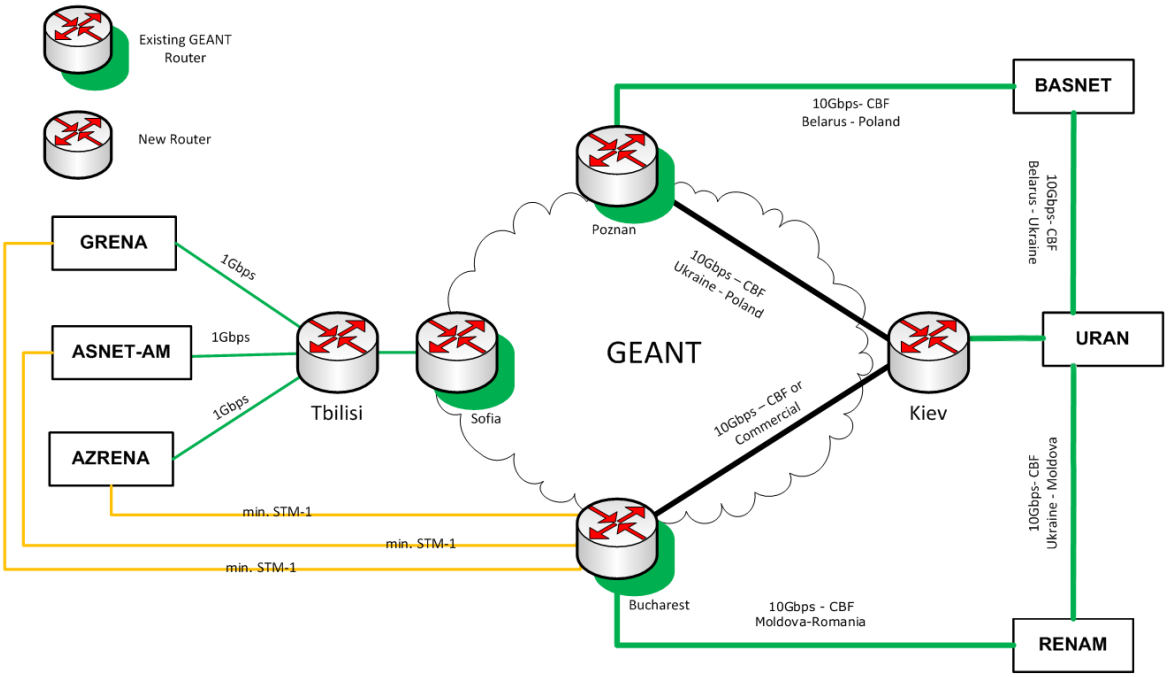
Procurement and commissioning of the links and equipment

During the first year of the project, the contractor will procure and build the network and associated services. For that purpose it will engage a competitive procurement for optical right of use, services and equipment for establishing the network. After awarding, contracts will be put in place and the network built through standard procedure of reception, staging, configuration, testing and commissioning. Re-tendering of some part of the network along the same procedure will take place during the life of the project for the links that are rented.

[3] Layer 3 identifies the communication protocols constituting the network (mainly Internet Protocols - IP)

All procurements will be made in compliance with European procurement rules with possible use of "negotiated procedure" and "competitive dialog" practices. Due to the global nature of the telecom market the so called "rule of origin" does not apply.

Based on the NRENs' capacity requirement and the existing cross-border fibre routes available, the following diagram shows the proposed topology for the network.



The proposed topology is based on the existing and planned (an essential planned link between Ukraine and Moldova is currently missing) cross-border fibre availability in Eastern European countries, whilst connectivity to Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia will be procured from commercial providers. The existing GÉANT router infrastructure in Poznan and Bucharest will be used by the regional network, which will require only three additional backbone links (rather than the six required if dedicated routers in Poznan and Bucharest were deployed) and two routers: one in Tbilisi and another in Kiev.
While providing high capacity access to the GÉANT network and redundant connectivity to all the EaP NRENs, this scenario makes cost savings by sharing the use of existing GÉANT infrastructure. This solution not only fulfils the connectivity requirements provided by the NRENs, it also allows further expansion and increase in capacity, while giving network policy control to EaP NRENs.

Eastern region connectivity

The existing Cross Border Fibre between Kiev and Poznan will be used as a backbone link between the GÉANT Poznan Router and a Kiev router, whilst a second link from Kiev can connect to any GÉANT PoP. In the depicted scenario, the link terminates in Bucharest, however, at the time of procurement it should be reviewed whether a link from Kiev to any other GÉANT PoP, e.g. Frankfurt or Vienna is more cost efficient.
The BASNET backup (also the primary link to Poznan) will be provided by URAN via a connection to Poznan. URAN primary link will go to Poznan and will be backed up by connections via RENAM to Bucharest and/or and via BASNET to Poznan. RENAM primary connection to Bucharest will be backed up by URAN (to Poznan).
The NRENs are keen on procuring a cross-border fibre link between Ukraine and Moldova. By procuring this link there will be an end-to-end path between Kiev and Bucharest that will be used for the Kiev-Bucharest backbone link and also to provide RENAM access to Kiev. This link requires both Capex and Opex, but the upfront costs of building the infrastructure will make it sustainable beyond the end of the E@P Connect project.

South Caucasus connectivity

South Caucasus NRENs do not benefit from Eastern Europe equivalent infrastructure and the investment required would be unaffordable. Therefore the most feasible option is to provide leased connectivity from the region to GÉANT, which is periodically re-tendered. The experience gathered in other regions (Central Asia, Africa) proved the effectiveness of this model in contributing to substantial commercial price drops over the period of a few years, thanks to the ability of Research & Education network procurements to pioneer new markets (e.g. international high speed connections, lambdas or dark fiber).
To provide primary connectivity to NRENs in the South Caucuses region, a GÉANT router will be installed in Tbilisi, upon which the NRENs' primary connection will terminate. The three backup connections can be carried to any GÉANT router PoP – in this example the Bucharest PoP is used. The cost for backup connectivity from South Caucasus region is a high level estimate and could potentially be lower if procurement were carried out. It is assumed that the backup capacity shall not be lower than 155Mbit/s (via dedicated links) or shall be provided by the uplink to commercial Internet, as cost-saving option.

Network Operation Centre (NOC)

Three options are considered:

- The GÉANT NOC monitors, manages and maintains the equipment and all the links,
- A new NOC setup by the NRENs monitors, manages and maintains the equipment and all the links,
- The NOC is outsourced to an existing NREN NOC.

A choice based on thorough investigation of pros and cons will be made during the first year of the project. For budgeting purposes €40,000/year, irrespective of the chosen option, is integrated in the costs.

Network Services built up over the infrastructure

Network services will be built up on the basis of existing standards, tools, practices and experience from the contractor as well as European and local NREN experts.

Set up of national identity federation and regional inter-federation populated with high quality content.
National federations and regional inter-federation will be built up on the basis of existing standards, tools, practices and experience from the contractor as well as European and local NRENs experts.
Outreach and skills built-up activities will be carried out by the contractor and the local NREN as well as European experts.

Licenced content will be made available through public procurement by the contractor.

Support the adoption of eduroam in the region
eduroam will be implemented in Ukraine and Georgia using standards, tools, practices and expertise of the contractor as well as European experts and local NRENs experts.
Outreach and skills built-up activities in the six countries will be carry out by the contractor as well as European and local NRENs experts.

5 IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country, referred to in Article 184(2)(b) of Regulation (EU, Euratom)No 966/2012.

5.2 Indicative implementation period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 4.2 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 66 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Action Document.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's authorising officer responsible by amending this decision and the relevant contracts and agreements; such amendments to this decision constitute technical amendments in the sense of point (i) of Article 2(3)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014.

5.3 Implementation modalities

5.3.1 Grant: direct award (direct management)

(a) Objectives of the grant, fields of intervention, priorities of the year and expected results

The action will procure, install and operate equipment and links forming a high speed and highly reliable interconnection network among the six Eastern Partnership countries as well as towards the pan-European network for research and education GÉANT. It will also procure and federate the access to high quality scientific content (publications, web services, software, educational material etc.) for the region and stimulate integration towards GÉANT services.

(b) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the grant may be awarded without a call for proposals to GEANT Limited, a non-profit organisation that was established in 1993 in Cambridge (GB) by 11 of Europe's NRENs National Research and Education Network associations (NRENs) as a cost-effective vehicle to co-ordinate pan-European research networking on their behalf.

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposals is justified because GEANT Limited has exclusive competence in planning, building and operating dedicated pan-European Internet research network GÉANT for the R&E community.

GEANT Limited has much experience and expertise in planning, building and managing networks in many similarly challenging territories. Over the past years, GEANT Limited has taken on the responsibility of the regional projects in Latin America, Asia Pacific, South Asia, Central Asia, the Mediterranean, and for South-East Africa in AfricaConnect. This involves bearing the financial risk for the collection of the beneficiary contribution for all these projects.

(d) Essential selection and award criteria

The essential selection criteria are the financial and operational capacity of the applicant.

The essential award criteria are relevance of the proposed action to the objectives of the call; design, effectiveness, feasibility, sustainability and cost-effectiveness of the action.

(e) Maximum rate of co-financing

The maximum possible rate of co-financing for this grant is 95% of the eligible costs of the action.

This co-financing is justified by the importance of the financial effort required to bring the region at the GÉANT standards in terms of services, capacity and reliability in the view of integration into GÉANT on the 5 years term. This one-off effort is not supportable considering existing budget within the countries.

In accordance with Articles 192 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, if full funding is essential for the action to be carried out, the maximum possible rate of co-financing may be increased up to 100 %. The essentiality of full funding will be justified by the Commission’s authorising officer responsible in the award decision, in respect of the principles of equal treatment and sound financial management.

(f) Use of lump sums/flat rates/unit costs

The implementation of this action may imply the recourse to simplified unit costs (lump sums and/or flat rates and/or unit costs) for an amount exceeding EUR 60 000 per beneficiary.

(g) Indicative trimester to conclude the grant agreement

Second quarter of 2015

5.4 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement and grant award procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply.

The Commission's authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility in accordance with Article 9(2)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of products and services in the markets of the countries concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult.

5.5 Indicative budget (in EUR)

Module	EU contribution	Third party contribution (indicative)	Total
5.3.1 – Grant – direct award (direct management)	13 000 000	684 210	13 684 210

5.6 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

The project will be implemented under the responsibility of GÉANT limited that will allocate a project manager to coordinate the actions, ensure progresses is made and report to the European Commission both through regular contacts and when milestones are reached or exceptions identified. The project manager will mobilise human resources as appropriate from both GÉANT limited (notably for the procurement) and experts from European NRENs and local NRENs.

The Commission will review and approves reports.

5.7 Performance monitoring and reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (outputs and direct outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the

logframe matrix (for project modality). The report shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

5.8 Evaluation

Having regard to the importance and nature of the action, a mid-term or a final evaluation may be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 3 months in advance of the dates foreseen for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner countries and other key stakeholders. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner country, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

The financing of the evaluation shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing decision.

5.9 Audit

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audits or expenditure verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

The financing of the audit shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing decision.

5.10 Communication and visibility

Communication and visibility of the EU is a legal obligation for all external actions funded by the EU.

This action shall contain communication and visibility measures which shall be based on a specific Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action, to be elaborated at the start of implementation and supported with the budget indicated in section 5.5 above.

In terms of legal obligations on communication and visibility, the measures shall be implemented by the Commission, the partner country, contractors, grant beneficiaries and/or entrusted entities. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included in, respectively, the financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and delegation agreements.

The Communication and Visibility Manual for European Union External Action[4] shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

An E@P Connect project public website and intranet will be created. Case study material will be available online and on printed version. A video on the project will also be created. Awareness raising activities on the promotion of the online new availability of scientific content targeting the research community will be organised. A launch event of the project will also be organised most probably under the Latvian Presidency. The implemented activities of this project will also be promoted through the ENPI Info.

[4] https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/funding/communication-and-visibility-manual-eu-external-actions_en