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UPGRADE is the anchor point for UPENET (UPGRADE European NETWORK), the network of CEPIS member societies' publications, that currently includes the following ones:

- **Informatik-Spektrum**, journal published by Springer Verlag on behalf of the CEPIS societies GI, Germany, and SI, Switzerland
- **ITNOW**, magazine published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the British CEPIS society BCS
- **Mondo Digitale**, digital journal from the Italian CEPIS society AICA
- **Novática**, journal from the Spanish CEPIS society ATI
- **OCG Journal**, journal from the Austrian CEPIS society OCG
- **Pliroforiki**, journal from the Cyprus CEPIS society CCS
- **Pro Dialog**, journal from the Polish CEPIS society PTI-PIPS

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## Harmonise Project

## Assigning Responsibilities among the Partners and Planning Next Steps

*Francois-Philippe Draguet, Project Manager of Harmonise*

*Harmonise* is now reaching one of its most important phases: the gathering of the different study areas and the creation of the draft report that will be the base for our final reporting to the European Commission. In order to ensure the highest level of expertise, each of the four areas studied in the project is led by a project partner:

■ AIFB is managing the *e-Skills Certification* area and works in close collaboration with CEPIS to collect data from national entities about the actual national certification system and availabilities.

■ BCS leads the *Demand and Supply* area on skills.

■ AICA is taking care of the *Market* area about certification.

■ IFS is dealing with the *Quality Assurance* study field.

In order to guarantee the highest level of quality assurance in the production of the *Harmonise* final outcome, the project consortium has decided to organise a review process. This process is designed to ensure a

high level of scientific expertise in each of the areas and to create a smooth and coherent homogeneity in the overall architecture of the final report. The review process will be set up on a monthly basis and will be coordinated by CEPIS. EUCIP has been nominated as General Editor of the *Harmonise* project and will take care of reviewing the draft report.

CEPIS has been actively involved in collecting questionnaires from its Member Societies and has received up to 50 responses. The project consortium is still expecting some more feedback in order to have a representative sample. Should you have the desire to help the project by giving us national data please visit <[www.cepis-harmonise.org](http://www.cepis-harmonise.org)> or contact François-Philippe Draguet <[draguet@cepis.org](mailto:draguet@cepis.org)>.

The *Harmonise* project will be presented in Roma on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> March by AICA during the *EUCIP Conference 2007*. AICA will explain the overall *Harmonise* project and will

provide the audience with a detailed explanation of the AICA area of study. This opportunity is important for *Harmonise* as the audience will be composed of European and International experts as well as CEPIS Member Societies. CEPIS would like to thank EUCIP for its kind invitation. Should you need more information on the workshop or should you like to register, please visit <[www.cepis.org](http://www.cepis.org)>.

*Harmonise* will also take advantage of the launch of the new European Commission Lifelong Learning Programme 2007-2013 in Berlin as it will be advertised in the *Parliament Magazine*. The *Parliament Magazine* has an average of 20 000 readers but will also be distributed to all participants of the Lifelong Learning Programme launch conference. This opportunity appears important to CEPIS as the target audience is much broader than the consortium usual network and will be composed of European delegates who might be potentially interested by the project.

## News &amp; Events

## European Funded Projects and News Updates

In order to give its Member Societies the opportunity to actively take part to the European construction and to give voice to all the European Countries, CEPIS is highly involved in three different European funded projects: *Harmonise*, *e-skills Foresight Scenarios* and *Euro-inf*. These projects are opportunities for CEPIS to use its network, to provide up-to-date information on research and studies to its Member Societies and to provide expertise to Informatics Professionals through Europe.

*e-skills Foresight Scenarios* aims at helping the European Commission anticipating the future of supply and demand for e-skills in Europe by creating different scenarios that could occur in the next ten years within Europe based on possible variations of different "drivers". The project outputs will directly influence the European Commission strategy for the future of Informatics. CEPIS is involved as project leader with the University of

Manchester and Eurochambres as project partners.

*Euro-inf* is related to the creation of a European Framework for accreditation of Informatics/Computing in Higher Education. Following on from European initiatives from Lisbon, Bologna and Barcelona, the European Commission is interested in creating a European system of accreditation for Informatics/Computing courses in Higher Education. ASIIN, the German accreditation agency specialized in accrediting degree programs from the fields of engineering, informatics/computer science, the natural sciences and mathematics, is leading the project. CEPIS, the University of Hamburg and the University of Paderborn are partners of the project. CEPIS committed to collect information on national accreditation systems through its Member Societies. The project consortium has created a draft European Framework for Accreditation that is currently being reviewed. CEPIS will also organ-

ize a workshop in Brussels on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April. The aim is to discuss the draft framework and to collect feedback from all representatives of European countries. Should you have any interest in participating in this workshop or giving us feedback on national accreditation systems, please visit <[www.euro-inf.eu](http://www.euro-inf.eu)> or contact François-Philippe Draguet at <[draguet@cepis.org](mailto:draguet@cepis.org)>.

CEPIS has just completed redesigning its website in order to bring more services to its Members and visitors. Information on publications, project, news and European Affairs will be available. A discussion forum will also be set up for our members in order to discuss the latest issues on informatics and European matters.

CEPIS will hold its next General Assembly in Prague, Czech Republic, on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2007.

*(Information provided by  
François-Philippe Draguet)*