



DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE ECSEL JOINT UNDERTAKING

On ECSEL lighthouse Initiatives

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE ECSEL JOINT UNDERTAKING,

Having regard to the Statutes annexed to Council Regulation (EU) 561/2014 of 6 May 2014 establishing the ECSEL Joint Undertaking¹ and in particular Articles 5, 6 and 7 of the Statutes,

Having regard to decision ECSEL GB 2015.47 adopting the work plan 2016;

Having regard to the ECSEL Guide for Applicants with regards to ECSEL Calls for Proposals;

WHEREAS:

- 1) The work plan 2016 introduced for the first time the concept of Lighthouse Initiatives aimed at “improving and accelerating the impact of ECSEL JU by engaging all needed actors in the supply/value chain”, “giving industry in Europe differentiating factors to compete in next generation integrated solutions for electronic components and systems”.
- 2) Projects for the first Lighthouse Initiatives are to be selected among the projects selected for funding by the Public Authorities Board in the respective Calls for Proposals.
- 3) Consortia have expressed their aspiration to become part of a Lighthouse Initiative. ECSEL should build on this willingness, nurture the dynamism and provide a means to capture the enthusiasm. This may involve providing an opportunity for these Lighthouse Initiatives to be instrumental in building a strategic project portfolio and to assist them in implementing a comprehensive outreach strategy. In this, individual company interests

¹ OJ L 169/152 of 7.06.2014

and public interest should go together without giving undue advances and in full respect of the rules, including transparency, openness and competition.

- 4) The Governing Board shall adopt a decision on Lighthouse Initiatives.

HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING:

Article 1 – Lighthouse initiatives

1.1 Definition and Purpose of a “Lighthouse Initiative”

A “Lighthouse Initiative” is a concept introduced by the Governing Board of the ECSEL Joint Undertaking in the Annual Work Plan 2016 to signpost a specific subject of common European interest that calls for a set of coordinated activities² including, but not limited to, facilitating the cooperation of several ECSEL Research and Innovation Actions (RIAs) and Innovation Actions (IAs) with H2020 (e.g. FET Flagships), Eureka, national or regional projects, the contribution to standardisation or assisting the uptake of technology to address societal challenges. Lighthouse Initiatives provide a "container/umbrella" for a set of well-coordinated activities.

The goal of Lighthouse Initiatives is to focus part of the ECSEL JU activities on achieving concrete socio-economic objectives along an agreed approach, including for establishing de facto standards when appropriate. Lighthouse Initiatives should improve and accelerate the impact of relevant projects by engaging all needed actors in the supply/value chain to achieve these goals and by connecting investment in R&I in ECSEL JU to investments done, for example, in application areas in the Societal Challenges in HORIZON 2020 or EUREKA as well as giving recommendations to R&I investments in ECSEL that are in accordance with other policy measures such as standardisation or deployment and regulatory measures.

1.2 Application of the “Lighthouse Initiative” concept in ECSEL

Lighthouse Initiatives combine bottom-up and top-down processes:

- *Bottom-up* refers to the application for Lighthouse Initiatives and actual project submissions by consortia, as well as to the implementation of the Lighthouse Initiative as an activity.
- *Top-down* refers to the selection/endorsement of Lighthouse Initiatives and later strategic guidance provided by the ECSEL Governing Board and corner stoned by an approved ECSEL project.

² Examples of coordinated activities are: field tests, active involvement of third private parties etc.

A Lighthouse Initiative project proposal within ECSEL shall follow the rules and conditions that apply to any other project in ECSEL without any preferential treatment. There will be a strict separation between:

- the procedure regarding the application, selection and funding of projects in ECSEL: taken by the Public Authorities Board; and
- the processes that govern the endorsement of a Lighthouse Initiative: competence of the Governing Board.

1.3 The Governing Board as the strategic driver and ‘go-between’

The Governing Board is uniquely positioned to raise the agenda of the Lighthouse Initiatives with the ECSEL Participating States, the European Commission, the industry and other relevant stakeholders/ communities.

In particular, the ECSEL Participating States and the Commission should try to take an active stance to promote the results and, where appropriate, to facilitate take-up at policy level.

Article 2 – Supporting Lighthouses and setting up of LIASE

2.1. Procedural Steps

Step 1: Endorsement of Lighthouse Initiatives by the Governing Board

On the basis of Lighthouse proposals submitted by approved projects of the ECSEL calls, the ECSEL Governing Board can select/endorse as Lighthouse Initiatives those proposals that:

- will benefit from this endorsement;
- will have a large impact on the market as a result of the proposed actions, and
- have a potential mobilising effect on the stakeholders.

Step 2: Supporting the selected Lighthouse Initiatives in the MASP

The Executive Director will make a proposal to the Governing Board as to how the Lighthouse Initiative may be supported in the next MASP. The Governing Board will then take a decision. Nevertheless this may take place at the same time as the implementation of the Lighthouse Initiative, which can cause an impact on the MASP at a later stage.

Step 3: Setting up a LIASE and developing a “Lighthouse Initiative Roadmap”

For each Lighthouse Initiative that is selected by the Governing Board a “Lighthouse Initiative Advisory Service” (LIASE) will be initiated by the ECSEL JU Office. The provisions regarding the composition and detailed tasks of LIASE are laid out in Article 2.2.

The initial task of the LIASE is to develop a Roadmap, as follows:

- drafting (technical and non-technical) objectives to be achieved in order to define and realise the mission of the Lighthouse Initiative – the "Lighthouse Initiative Roadmap";
- the Roadmap shall be drafted in a comprehensive way and set out concrete actions beyond project implementation, and control points, which allow a meaningful measuring of progress and impact;
- the Roadmap shall have noticeable support of top-level executives of relevant entities covering significant R&D&I efforts in Europe in the field of each Lighthouse Initiative. The LIASE group is responsible for keeping the roadmap up to date and for its implementation.

To ensure impact of the proposed actions as described in the Roadmap, it is important that the Roadmap is supported/promoted by top-level executives and is well communicated to relevant stakeholders. Endorsement of the Roadmap by those stakeholders that wish to do so is possible.

Step 4: Supporting Role of the ECSEL JU office and of the Governing Board

The ECSEL JU office may assist in providing administrative and communication support to the LIASE throughout its lifetime.

The Governing Board will decide case by case on how to organise itself to support the Lighthouse Initiative. This may include the setting up by the Governing Board of one or several Working Groups to act as the point of contact for the LIASE.

Step 5: Reporting on the Roadmap and its Implementation

It is of the responsibility of the LIASE to present, at least once a year, a report on the Roadmap and its implementation to the ECSEL Governing Board.

2.2 “Lighthouse Initiative Advisory Service” (LIASE)

Composition of LIASE

The membership of LIASE will be decided on the initiative of the ECSEL JU Office and/or other action holders by the parties promoting, respectively endorsing the Roadmap (as defined in step 3 of art. 2.1) and will generally include project leaders and action holders to execute its tasks.

It should in principle be open to stakeholders that can and are willing to contribute to the implementation of the Lighthouse Initiative, including members of the ECSEL Governing Board and/or their constituencies. LIASE can invite third parties at the appropriate private level or public level independent from decision making authorities in ECSEL JU to join LIASE if this participation is beneficial to or essential for the achievement of the Lighthouse Initiative ambitions.

Tasks of LIASE

The main task of LIASE is to develop, maintain and implement the Lighthouse Initiative Roadmap, including the conditions for achieving the ambitions of the Lighthouse Initiative.

To this end:

- A Lighthouse Initiative must go beyond the mere collection of a set of projects. LIASE may therefore inter alia:
 - Bring projects closer together;
 - Facilitate interaction/communication between projects;
 - Facilitate cooperation/coordination with other European initiatives or projects;
 - Formulate, as part of the Roadmap, concrete objectives and timeframes for the Lighthouse Initiative level activities;
 - Address roadblocks for the implementation of project results;
 - Propose topics to be included in the MASP and/or the Work Plan. This may include suggestions for activities such as procurement, inclusion of non-technical issues to be addressed, specific communication events that it deems necessary to achieve the ambition of the Lighthouse Initiative.

- It is assumed that, in most cases, non-technical support activities will increase the impact of the technical projects included in the Lighthouse Initiative. Non-technical support activities include contacts with non-technical organisations like insurance companies, interest groups, regulators, etc. Also advice the Lighthouse Initiative on legislation, standardisation, communication, conditioning for large scale experiments, etc.

Thus, LIASE could:

- Define, when needed, an agenda with third parties (private parties or public parties independent from decision making authorities in ECSEL JU on topics relevant for achieving the Lighthouse Initiative objectives. Examples include impact of legal issues, regulation, standardisation to the objectives of the LI roadmap etc.;
 - Assist coordination between the public and private sector within the domain of the Lighthouse Initiative ;
 - **Invite and/or admit selected projects to the Lighthouse Initiative project “container”**, in accordance with the Strategy described below;
 - Invite third party, private organizations or public organizations independent from decision making authorities in ECSEL JU, for membership where appropriate and necessary for reaching the Lighthouse Initiative ambitions;
 - Interact with and report to the Governing Board on development and progress of the Lighthouse Initiative objectives;
 - Propose support activities.
- Reporting and Outreach:
 - At least once a year, LIASE presents a Lighthouse Initiative update to the ECSEL Governing Board;
 - It is of the responsibility of LIASE to present, at least once a year, a report on the Roadmap and its implementation to the ECSEL Governing Board;
 - LIASE shall Support effective outreach;
 - LIASE shall ensure communication between the participating projects with the aim of avoiding unnecessary overlap, identifying gaps in its total project portfolio precluding realization of activities needed to achieve the objectives (and to report these gaps to the relevant collaborative programs) and maximizing the impact of the included projects.

Further considerations on the Role of LIASE

- LIASE should balance an entrepreneurial spirit and public interests.
- LIASE will endorse a Strategy that is shared by the relevant private actors and/or public parties independent from decision making authorities in ECSEL JU. This Strategy must contain a vision and a mission for the Lighthouse. The Strategy is described in a public Strategy white paper. LIASE will communicate this document to the relevant parties. Endorsement of the Strategy by those relevant parties that wish to do so is possible.
- Based upon the Strategy, LIASE will identify (existing or non-existing) projects (within or outside ECSEL) that contribute to one or more of its objectives. These projects will be

invited to become part of the Lighthouse Initiative. Other projects, not identified by LIASE, that wish to join will be analysed and admitted, when – according to LIASE – they contribute to one or more of the objectives. Each year, the GB will ask in the report of the LIASE what projects were refused for admission and why.

- Based upon the endorsed Strategy, LIASE will also identify ongoing non-technical activities that contribute to one or more of its goals. LIASE will not supervise these activities, but will invite relevant private parties or public parties independent from decision making authorities in ECSEL JU to become part of LIASE and/or provide essential guidance and support. Other private actors or public actors independent from decision making authorities in ECSEL JU, dealing with non-technical activities, not identified by LIASE, that wish to join LIASE, will be admitted when – according to LIASE – they contribute to one or more of the (non-technical) objectives. LIASE will ensure communication between the actors with the aim to avoid unnecessary overlap; it will also identify gaps, which preclude realization of the goals (and to report these gaps to the relevant endorsers of the Strategy) and it will assist to maximize the impact of the non-technical activities. Each year, the GB will ask in the report of the LIASE which actors, dealing with non-technical activities, were refused for admission and why.

Article 3 – Entry into force

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, on 31.01.2017

For the Governing Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrea Cuomo', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Andrea Cuomo
Chairperson of the Governing Board