

KATARSIS Partner Meeting, Lisbon 1 February 2008

Present:

Serena Vicari, Frank Moulaert, Diana MacCallum, Jean Hillier, Dina Vaiou, Dimitra Siatitsa, Laurent Fraisse, Maria Mantouvalou, Juan-Luis Klein, Denis Harrison, John Andersen, Andy Pike, Isabel André, Abdelillah Hamdouch, John Pløger, Haris Konstantatos, Andreas Novy, Bas Tierolf, Jiří Winkler, Chiara Tornaghi, Marianna D'Ovidio, Marisol Garcia, Marc Pradel, Alexandre Abreu, Santiago Eizaguirre, Andreia Lemaître

Apologies: Tomas Sirovátka, Molly Scott Cato, Len Arthur, Marthe Nyssens

Chair: Jean Hillier

Meeting started at 1530.

1. Dissemination Strategies

Conferences

Marianna presented information about a number of conferences and encouraged Katarsis partners to submit abstracts.

Marianna will circulate this information to all partners.

Diana will further circulate information on the forthcoming RGS/IBG conference in London, August 2008.

Frank raised the matter of the final valorisation conference for Katarsis, explaining that the lead partner meeting on 30/1/2008 had suggested that it be delayed until mid-late 2009. Frank suggested also that the Katarsis contract will need to be extended for six months to cover this and other valorisation measures.

There was some discussion about whether the final conference should be scheduled to make synergies with AESOP 2009 and/or the final seminar in the ESRC 'Changing Cultures of Competitiveness' series, which is to be hosted by the Newcastle Katarsis team. Both these event are scheduled for July 2009.

It was decided that three events in one month would be too much, and that the final valorisation conference should be delayed until November 2009. Berlin was suggested as the location.

Frank will ask Hartmut Häussermann to host the conference in Berlin in November 2009.

Frank will negotiate with the Commission regarding extension of the Katarsis contract.

Publication of DI.i

Diana outlined a proposal (still to be properly developed) to publish the D1.i in the form of an introductory manual on socially creative strategies.

This proposal had been discussed at the lead partner meeting on 30 January. While lead partners had agreed in principle to the proposal at that meeting, it was felt that it still needed further discussion. Diana invited comments from the floor.

Andreas: The papers are not really written simply for an introductory manual. Before committing to this, we need some help regarding how to communicate with non-scientists. We should have a broad discussion on communication and dissemination at the Athens workshop, and defer the decision on publishing the D1.i until then.

Jean: Agreed.

Frank: The proposal was put forward because the papers are of uneven quality, some are not good enough for a scientific journal. A compromise position would be to follow Andreas's suggestion, but in the mean time to think about and work on improving the quality of those papers. Agreed that we should think more about communication in general.

Diana: An introductory text is not necessarily an easy option, it requires different skills.

Serena: Could the papers be posted in a simple/accessible way as a Weblog product?

Abdel: An introductory text is a very difficult thing – it's hard to write simply. Don't discard the proposal but the D1.i should first be published in scientific media.

Frank: This is not possible in all cases.

Diana: And in all cases, the form they take means that much revision would be needed to turn them into journal articles.

Bas: Lead Partners have already committed to the proposal and it's still okay.

Jean: We are not obliged to publish D1 in written form. Could publication be a matter for individual authors?

Frank: The practice for EU projects is to publish under the umbrella of the project first. This is likely to take about two years after the end of the contract.

Jean: Summarised discussion:

- *Diana to work with some of the LPs on improving their D1.i.*
- *We will have a session on communication at the Athens workshop.*
- *All partners will act as reviewers for the D1.i (no objections!).*

Post-graduate Certificate in European Spatial Planning

Jean handed out leaflets for this course being run at Newcastle University.

2. Workpackage 5

Frank presented his proposal for WP5 on Methodology. He suggested that the list of research methods should be considered the key words for the Athens Workshop.

Jean invited input from the floor.

Dina: Who will prepare the discussion papers for the workshop?

Juan-Luis: Action Research is an important part of CRISES' work – Socially Creative Strategies as collaborating with actors to contribute to social change.

Frank: Holism and holistic case studies.

Jean: ABCD methods as outline by JK Gibson-Graham – can we invite someone to present on this?

Laurent: CRIDA on the role of social science (social innovation research) in making solidarity-based policy.

Isabel: And the relationship between research and policy more generally.

Frank: Laurent's suggestion could be part of a session on this.

Jean: Suggested soliciting offers of papers for the workshop. Invited suggestions for papers/sessions.

Dina: We need the discussion papers ahead of the workshop.

Andreas: We are weak on communication, especially with user groups. For example how to write clearly, using the web, and so on. We may need external input on such practical skills.

Marisol: We should have a web page more directed to practitioners. Could Lawaetz teach us something?

Diana: We don't have the personnel/time to completely reorganise the website.

Haris: Yes, this would take too many resources. But we should at least promote the website. Instead of producing alternatives, we could link our website to those of users, for instance.

Isabel: This might be a problem if the material is password-protected.

Diana: The Di-dissem material will not be password protected.

Communication strategies will be the subject of a session at the Athens workshop.

Partners to think about what they can contribute. Coordinating team will send out an invitation to contribute.

3. Outstanding Business

The next Katarsis workshop will be held on 5-6 June in Athens. 4 June should be considered a travelling day. An optional fieldtrip will be offered on Saturday 7 June. *NTUA team will circulate a more detailed proposal following detailed input from Frank and the coordinating team.*

Workpackages 2-4. Jean will coordinate delivery and quality control of D2-4. The timeline for this was revised in consideration of partner commitments (see attached). *Frank to negotiate the altered timeline with the Commission scientific officer.*

Reporting. *Lead partners will prepare reports on their sessions at the Lisbon workshops, including collecting copies and/or notes from presentations, by 29 February 2008.*

Diana will distribute the relevant forms for the periodic Activity and Management Reports within the next couple of weeks. They are to cover the period 1 May 2007 – 30 April 2008, and should be completed by all partners by 14 May 2008.

Finances. Juan-Luis asked why the second payment from the Commission was taking so long. Frank replied that the delays were at the Commission's end. He also explained that two partners were changing their cost models, which may be furthering the delay.

Jean invited any further questions or comments. There were none.

Frank thanked all partners and participants and wished them a safe journey home.

The meeting closed at 1715.