



SEEDIG 7 | Online planning meeting I

Summary report

On 8 December 2020, one online public meeting was held to kick-start the planning process for the [SEEDIG 7 annual meeting](#).

1. Overview of SEEDIG 7 plans

- This year, for the first time, SEEDIG will run its call for issues separately from EuroDIG, with its launch scheduled for early January.
- SEEDIG 7 will be held in September 2021, if circumstances allow - in Moldova, otherwise - online, or hybrid.
- Planning process will consider all three options. By mid-May the decision will be made regarding the format.

2. From SEEDIG 6 to SEEDIG 7

The overall feedback received after SEEDIG 6 via the post-meeting survey was positive, especially in terms of program interactivity and bringing in new actors. There is a request for strong regional focus within the sessions, as well as using the meeting for building new partnerships and planning intersessional activities. An online event has its obvious benefits in terms of engaging more people - both speakers and participants. In addition, several other suggestions were made during the planning meeting:

- Keep the continuity of thematic sessions (simultaneously allowing for new things to be brought in) and their distribution throughout the week, if held online.
- Keep creative tracks.
- Check other NRIs experience with hybrid meetings and take into consideration good practices.
- Consider having a dedicated track for regional organisations (in particular IGOs active in the region) to build stronger connections with SEEDIG.
- Build on the SEEinovate track to forge strengthened partnerships with and engagement of the private sector (in particular national ICT clusters) in the planning process and the meeting itself.
- Plan for intersessional activities to keep continuity of the annual meetings.

3. SEEDIG 7 timeline

The overall SEEDIG 7 timeline can be found here: <https://seedig.net/seedig7/>



4. Call for issues (Cfl): suggestions from community

- Potential questions for the Cfl:
 - Which thematic tracks to include into SEEDIG 7 agenda?
 - Do you want to suggest a specific issue relevant for your country?
 - Suggest a format for how to discuss the proposed topic (maybe an optional question).

5. Programme Committee: any changes needed?

- Divide tasks earlier in the process.
- Emphasise the importance of community involvement throughout the preparatory process.
- Consider inviting representatives of the regional organisations to be members of or observers in the PC.
- Have new people as members of the PC; include a note encouraging this in the call for volunteers.
- Revise the PC guidelines before the call for volunteers is issued; make it clear that each PC member is expected to take the lead on at least one element in the planning process and drive it through the entire planning process.
 - ExCom to suggest enhancements to the guidelines and seek for additional input from SEEDIG 6 PC.

6. Meeting structure (e.g. types of sessions, creative tracks)

- Keep creative tracks; build on the 2020 ones.
- Maybe best to start planning for a hybrid meeting.

7. AOB

- Launch some sort of a campaign to better promote the overall planning process and get new people/organisations to get involved. Go beyond the usual circles.
- Find ways to reinforce/remind everyone that SEEDIG is based on voluntary contributions and there is a need for more engagement from the community in various tracks of work.
