

ELI Delivery Consortium Search Committee

Director General of the ELI Delivery Consortium (“DG”) – competency profile

Context

The implementation of the first three pillars of ELI will be conducted between 2011 and 2015 by the three hosting countries (the Czech Republic, Hungary and Romania) by the proxy of local legal entities that will be individually responsible for carrying out all activities linked to the construction, research and development, setting-up, assembling, testing and commissioning of the facilities. These entities will be placed under the coordination of the ELI Delivery Consortium (ELI-DC).

The ELI-DC will promote consistency between the ELI implementation units in their scientific and technical management and will define joint strategies aiming at an optimal use and development of the resources necessary for the implementation and future operation of ELI. Apart from its coordinating mission, the ELI-DC will prepare and organise the negotiations leading to the establishment of the ELI-ERIC. ERIC is a new legal form created by the EU¹ to facilitate the creation of pan-European consortia in the field of Research Infrastructures; this legal form is recognised in all Member States and benefits from exemptions similar to those of international organisations. The main task of the ELI-ERIC will be to coordinate and manage the operation of ELI as a single and integrated research infrastructure providing access to the three initial facilities, complemented at a later stage by the fourth pillar of ELI (the ultra-high intensity facility).

The establishment of the ELI-ERIC will be the result of negotiations with funding agencies that will include discussions, among others, on the future governance of ELI, on the organisation of its operation, on the access policy, and on the types and volume of the contributions of the founding countries. To be successful in this process, ELI needs the establishment and development of excellent contacts with the funding agencies and national scientific communities having interest in the future infrastructure. This needs to be supported by a robust development strategy describing the services ELI will deliver to the scientific community all along its lifespan.

Objectives of the ELI-DC

Article 3 of the Articles of Association of the ELI-DC international association define the objectives of the Consortium as follows:

1. Ensuring the effective development and visibility of ELI as a single pan-European infrastructure initiative and promoting the materialisation of its four scientific “pillars” including the ultra-high intensity facility of ELI (hereinafter referred to as “fourth pillar of ELI”), as approved by the European Strategic Forum on Research Infrastructures and defined in the “White Book” produced by the ELI Preparatory Phase Consortium
2. Preserving consistency and preventing overlaps in the definition of the respective scientific missions of the ELI research centres by the local implementation teams and the local international scientific advisory committees

¹ Council Regulation (EC) No 723/2009 of 25 June 2009 on the Community legal framework for a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC). For more information see http://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/index_en.cfm?pg=eric

3. Promoting the future multidisciplinary research opportunities of ELI to users and contributing to the development and adequate training of the user communities in coordination with the local implementation teams
4. Supporting the timely and cost-contained delivery of ELI through the coordinated and optimal use of the human, technological and financial means available at the European level for the implementation of the ELI project
5. Contributing to the sustainable development and competitiveness of ELI by favouring its access to cutting-edge technology, skilled human resources, and to the financial means necessary for the long-term preservation of its leadership in the field of scientific research using ultra-intense ultra-short pulse lasers
6. Defining and implementing the conditions necessary for the operation of ELI as a research infrastructure providing the world's best conditions of access and securing an agreement between funding agencies on the establishment of an inclusive pan-European Consortium, preferably a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC), tasked with the joint operation of the ELI research centres.

Main responsibilities of the Director General

The Director General ("DG") of the ELI Delivery Consortium will hold the top executive position within the Management Board of the ELI Delivery Consortium ("ELI-DC") and will be the legal representative of the ELI-DC international association. He/she will chair the meetings of the Management Board, of the General Assembly and of the International Committee of the ELI Delivery Consortium. He/she will be accountable for his/her action to the General Assembly.

The Director General will be the main representative of ELI at the European level to the scientific, academic, political, industrial and public community of stakeholders interested in the development of ELI.

His/her overall responsibilities consist in taking all strategic actions and decisions necessary to the satisfaction of the objectives of the ELI-DC. The DG will coordinate, instruct, lead and motivate the project team dedicated to the ELI-DC. This will include the supervision and monitoring of the activities of the Scientific and Technical Director and of the Executive Director. He/she will ensure the overall progress of the project according to the applicable legislation, the Articles of Association, the internal regulations of the ELI-DC and the decisions taken by the General Assembly of the ELI-DC.

The main part of the DG's activities shall be dedicated to the institutional and political promotion of the project, i.e. to the promotion of sustainable conditions of development for ELI through the establishment of solid connections with European, national and international authorities funding research, with the national scientific communities already or potentially interested in ELI, and with all other organisations able to provide support to the project.

The DG will have a key role in the organisation and management of the negotiations on the establishment of the ELI-ERIC by defining appropriate negotiation strategies. With the strong support of experts and the permanent assistance of the Executive Director, he/she will participate in the conceptual definition of ELI's operational model, access policy and governance and in all other preparatory work necessary for the establishment of the ERIC (evaluation of running costs, definition of contribution model, etc.). The DG will be the main person responsible for organising the negotiations on these concepts within the ELI-DC international committee or on a bilateral basis when necessary.

The DG will supervise the preparation of annual activity and financial plans and reports that will be submitted to the General Assembly of the ELI-DC. He/she will ensure and be responsible for the proper administrative management of the ELI-DC.

Technical skills

1. Excellent scientific recognition and reputation (preferably in laser science)
2. Very good understanding of the European research system and experience in the development and management of European large-scale R&D structures (references)
3. Excellent networking in the research policy system of the EU and EU Member States
4. Experience and knowledge in the management of user access
5. Very good knowledge of the financial, legal and political instruments of European research
6. Excellent proficiency in English and fluency in at least one other European language
7. Experience in communication and branding experience (media references)
8. Other relevant references (Government, International organizations)

Management skills

1. At least ten years of managerial experience in research organisations
2. At least five years at a top management position, including international, in particular in EU-funded projects
3. Skills and experience in negotiations with funding agencies
4. Experience in organisation building
5. Excellent strategic thinking
6. Managerial experience in the following fields: R&D, training, relations with industry, research policy

Leadership skills

1. Charisma
2. Excellent networking capacities
3. Excellent negotiation capacities
4. Conflict management
5. Experience in HR leadership
6. Experience in leading teams of researchers and administrative personnel

Candidates should send a letter of interest, including a brief description of research and leadership experience, CV and bibliography to: application@eli-laser.eu **no later than November 28th 2011.**

For informal enquiries about any aspect of the post, please contact Mr Florian Gliksohn (florian.gliksohn@eli-laser.eu, +420 266 052 369 or +420 775 620 803). All enquiries/information from the candidates will be handled in the strictest confidentiality.

All applications will be assessed by a special selection board (so called Search Committee), consisting of international experts as well as representatives of the three founding members of the future ELI Delivery Consortium International Association. The Search Committee shall meet on the turn of November and December 2011.

Selected candidates will be invited for interviews that will take place in the Czech Republic in January 2012 (precise date and location to be communicated at a later stage).