



GEOCEP

Global Excellence in Modelling
Climate and Energy Policies



A Coordinator's Point of View on Research and Innovation Staff Exchanges

Dr. Jean-François Auger

Charles University

National Information Day on Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Technological Center, Prague

7 March 2023

1. Introduction

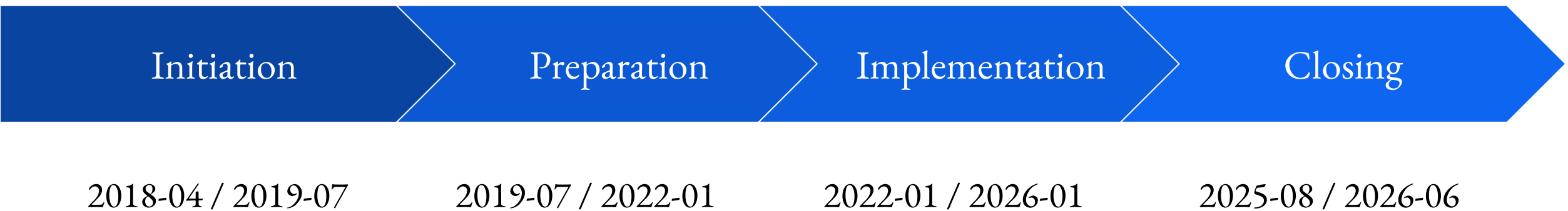
The Coordinator's Point of View

- Share the Coordinator's experience in a project financed by the Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)
- How to initiate, implement, and execute a research project with international secondments of staff-members?
- Providing insights into the coordination, communication, and management by following the project's life-cycle
- Illustrating with the example of an up and running project, Global Excellence in Modelling Climate and Energy Policies (GEOCEP)

An international staff exchange project

- Obtained a grant of EUR 2,254,000 from the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- Being operational between 1 February 2022 and 31 January 2026
- Creating an international network of high-profile research institutions
- Using secondments between the European Union and countries abroad
- Performing research on the economics of climate change and energy policy

Phases of the project life-cycle



3. Initiation

A call for proposal

- Responding to the April 2019 call for proposals in the section on economics
- Participation in the promotion of international collaboration through staff exchanges in research and innovation
- Making an impact through long-term collaboration and knowledge sharing among researchers
- Putting together an international consortium of European beneficiaries and high-level international partners

Cooperation between European beneficiaries and international partners

Beneficiaries



CHARLES
UNIVERSITY

ETH zürich



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE



Toulouse
School of
Economics

Partners



THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY



北京航空航天大学
BEIHANG UNIVERSITY



HARVARD
UNIVERSITY



Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology



McGill
UNIVERSITY



PONTIFICIA
UNIVERSIDAD
CATÓLICA
DE CHILE



PRINCETON
UNIVERSITY



RESOURCES
FOR THE FUTURE



Stanford
University



UNIVERSITY
OF
CALIFORNIA



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
ITYUNISITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD



THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND



Yale University

A research consortium

- Using a major conference as a regular point of coordination for stakeholders
- Tapping into the network built by previous and ongoing projects
- Obtaining letters of intent from contacts at the participating institutions
- Having a production calendar with milestones one year before the call deadline
- Writing a comprehensive proposal incorporating participants' research interests

Main topics of GEOCEP from the grant proposal



Six work packages to divide the work

Number	Title
WP1	The drivers of social and technology innovations
WP2	Integrated and hybrid modelling of climate change
WP3	Health and environmental impacts of climate change and ancillary benefits
WP4	Political economy, institutions, and development
WP5	Management and coordination
WP6	Communication and dissemination

4. Preparation

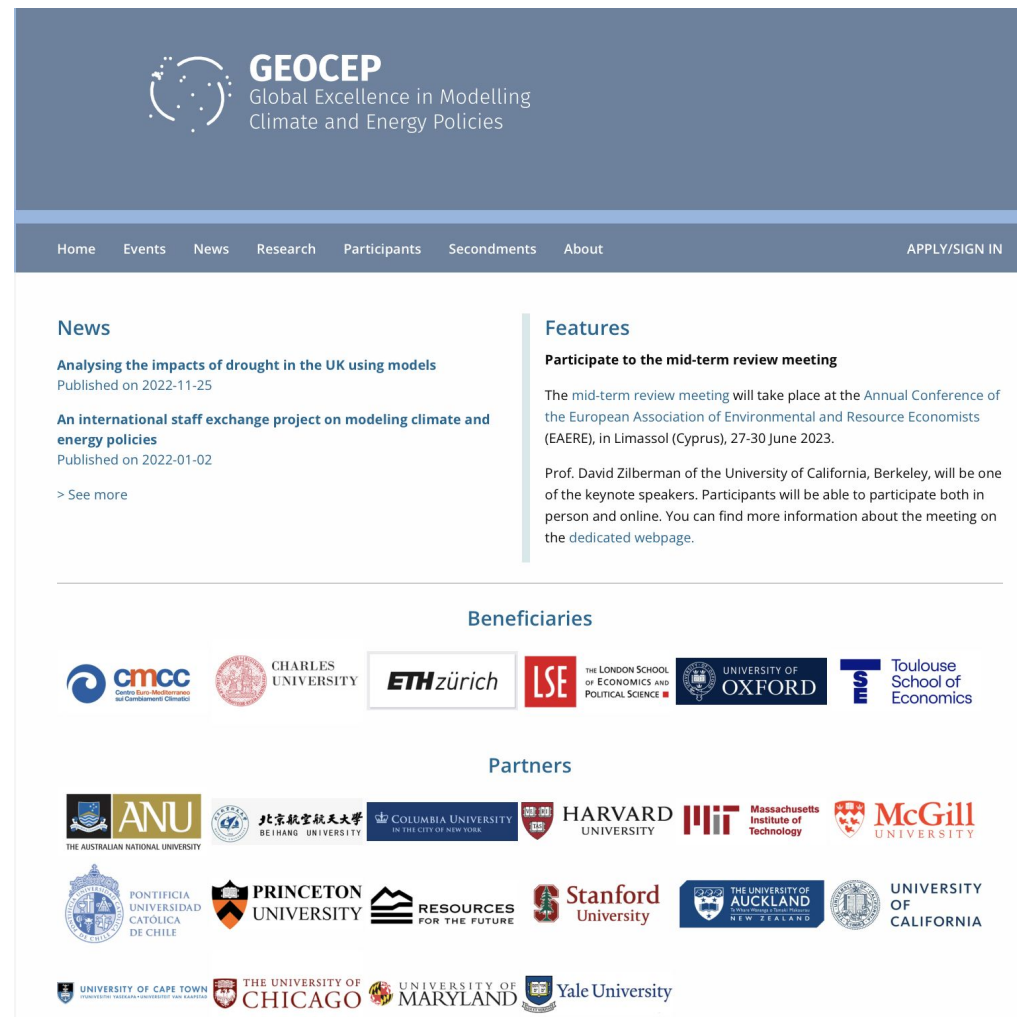
The formalisation of the project

- Receiving an acceptance letter from the European Commission in June 2019
- Preparation of the proposal formal implementation with the Project Officer
- Signing the Grant Agreement with the beneficiary and partner institutions
- Signing a Consortium Agreement with the beneficiary institutions
- Preparation of three amendments to postpone the start date due to the coronavirus pandemic

Laying down the foundations

- Preparation of the secondment calendar through contact with the local scientific contact and staff members
- Execution of pre-financing agreements between the European Commission, the Coordinator, and beneficiaries
- Running an in-person kick-off meeting in June 2022 to coordinate the project
- Launching a website for consortium coordination and public communications

The home page of the GEOCEP website



5. Implementation

The Coordinator's role

- Enforcing continuously the Grant Agreement with the European Commission in all operational aspects of the project
- Providing guidance for the resolution of scientific, legal, and technical issues to ensure the smooth execution
- Maintaining the consortium's integrity in the face of unforeseen change such as Brexit and the coronavirus pandemic
- Enhancing the dynamic of the network by acting a contact intermediary between parties scattered across the globe
- Getting ready for the mandatory mid-term review meeting with the Project Officer

A pull system for secondments

- Coordination of secondments with scientific contacts and staff members to ensure that the quality remains up to par
- Using a kanban system with a pull mechanism to oversight the secondments
- Automating and standardising procedures for each step preceding, during, and following secondments
- Processing results for yearly reporting and the grant management system such scientific reports and publications

6. Conclusion

Delivering scientific value

- Receiving advanced training, courses, and seminars for early stage researchers
- Including experienced European researchers in a global network
- Developing new economic models on the effects of climate change
- Providing policy recommendations based on scientific evidences
- Moving on with the dissemination of the project's first harvest of results



GEOCEP has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 870245.