



MEDIA RELEASE

8th October 2018

An innovative Australian enterprise has signed an agreement with its European counterpart to work towards a shared ambition to ‘improve quality of life for all’.

The Australian Living Lab Innovation Network (ALLIN) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the European Network of Living Labs (ENoLL) to share knowledge and innovation to improve people’s quality of life across the two continents and look after the planet.

Living Labs brings together a broad range of experts, researcher’s and citizen’s, government and business to create effective responses and solutions to complex social, cultural economic and environmental challenges.

Phil Donaldson, chair of ALLIN, said the partnership would help to create a better link between Australian Living Labs and the global network.

Speaking on behalf of fellow co-directors, Gareth Priday and Amanda Third, he said: “This is a very exciting development in Australian innovation.

“Our partnership will help pave the way for greater innovation knowledge exchange across the globe, and for solutions, ideas, products and services to be rapidly scaled up to improve the health and wellbeing of people, enhance prosperity and protect the planet.”

Passionate about transparency and sharing innovative ideas, Phil is keen for this MoU to be the beginning of a new chapter in Australian Living Labs’ international connections.

“Open innovation, open collaborative platforms and end user, citizen engaged innovation are a critical part of the global innovation ecosystem,” he said.

The MoU was signed at the ENoLL Open Living Lab Day on 24 August 2018 in Geneva.

Tuija Hirvikoski, in signing the MoU on behalf of ENOLL said “over the past five years, as an ENoLL council member and as its President, 2015-2018, it has been my great pleasure and privilege to be able to follow and to contribute to the exemplary development of the Australian Living Lab movement”

The MoU represents ALLIN and ENoLL's joint commitment to building relationships between Australian Living Labs and ENoLL members; to nurturing international collaboration and mutual learning opportunities; and to raising the profile and impact of the international open innovation movement.

Fernando Vilariño, incoming president of ENoLL 2018, said: "My personal commitment is to work hand in hand with the Australian Living Labs in this vision for the democratisation of the access to knowledge and innovation to everyone, empowering our living labs and their communities as effective instruments for socioeconomic impact and change: together we will definitely be stronger".

"ENoLL is supporting a vision of Europe as a Lab open to the world, a place for exploring how the living lab multi-stakeholder citizen-centric approach -a human centric approach- can contribute to innovation-led growth and positive societal transformation."



Geneva Open Living Lab Days 2018 after signing of MOU - Left to right

Tuija Hirvikoski: Emeritus President ENoLL - Director at Laurea University of Applied Sciences, Finland
Phil Donaldson: Chair and Co Director ALLIN - Director Sustain SA

Notes to editors:

Australian Living Labs Innovation Network (ALLIN)

ALLIN is a network that aims to build capacity and collaboration opportunities for living labs in Australia, supporting them to work with end-users and citizens to innovate for people, prosperity and the planet.

ALLIN recently announced ten inaugural member Living Labs, which hail from around Australia. These Living Labs are tackling complex challenges across a wide range of themes; from smart cities and communities to health disability and aging; from economic resilience to digital health and assistive technologies.

A not-for-profit entity, ALLIN has a goal to become an important respected part of the innovation and solution research ecosystem delivering a quadruple helix approach to solving global issues at a local level. Its target is to establish a membership base that within 3 years comprising over 100 living labs in Australia and to establish the first regular bi-annual International Living Lab Conference in Australia in 2020.

European Network of Living Labs (ENoLL)

Founded in November 2006 under the auspices of the Finnish European Presidency, the European Network of Living Labs is the international federation of benchmarked Living Labs in Europe and worldwide. ENoLL has over 150 active Living Labs members worldwide.

Directly, as well as through its active members, ENoLL provides co-creation, user engagement, test and experimentation facilities targeting innovation in many different domains such as energy, media, mobility, healthcare, agrifood etc. As such, ENoLL is an outstanding platform for best practice exchange, learning and support, and Living Lab international project development. (See <https://enoll.org/about-us/>).

Please contact the following people in relation to this media release:

ALLIN https://openlivinglabs.net.au/	ENOLL http://www.openlivinglabs.eu/
Phil Donaldson Chair ALLIN Founding Co-Director ALLIN M. 0423824152 E. phil.donaldson@sustainsa.com.au	Zsuzsanna Bódi Association Director <i>European Network of LivingLabs - ENoLL ivzw</i> <i>Pleinlaan 9 1050 Brussels Belgium</i> <i>T: +32 02 6148549 M:+32470222239</i> www.openlivinglabs.eu @openlivinglabs Facebook

*** END ***

