



### NanoEI-Asia project 573828

Virtual meeting on 04/04/2020

#### List of participants

Name	Institution
Danilo Demarchi	Politecnico di Torino
Ramesh Subramaniam Ramesh Kasi	University of Malaya
Rajkumar Durairaj Ezra Morris Abraham Gnanamuthu	University Tunku Abdul Rahman
Yanjie Wang Hailian Pan	University of Chinese Academy of Science
Zhaochu Yang	Chongqing University of Technology
Jack Barokas	Tel Aviv University
Efrat Bodner	Bar Ilan University
Vivek Srivastava	NIIT University
Slavka Tzanova	Technical University of Sofia



On 4<sup>th</sup> April another meeting was organised with the participation of partners from NIIT University and Chongqing University of Technology

Prof. Zhaochu Yang, Chongqing Technology and Business University, China:  
“Chongqing Technology and Business University has been locked down since January 2020, due to corona virus epidemic. Until now, the spring semester of 2020 was not started yet. And all the students have to stay at home and are not allowed to enter into



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the university. This lockdown may last until May 2020 very likely. So far, only the compulsory courses are allowed to be taught on line due to the limited time schedule. Such situation has hindered the project process. Therefore, an appropriate extension may help to guaranty the project implement as planned.”

Assoc. prof. Vivek Srivastava, NIIT University, India:

"With having completed as per plan the first pilot Nanoelectronics course implementations through the Semester August-December 2019, in the current semester (Jan-May 2020), we undertook the field trial of Nanoelectronics courses implementations; underlying objective being to make these course offerings to be integral part of degree program offerings at the University. Specifically, though Jan-May 2020 we registered 36 students for 4 different courses; namely a. Introduction to Nanoelectronics: Science & Technology Basics, 2. Nanoelectronics: Processes, Computation and Design, 3. Nanoelectronics Systems: Future Nanoelectronic Devices and Manufacturing processes, 4. Nanoelectronics Systems: Applications- Quality living with Smart Future, Present to Future Business Systems. Consistent with NU Nanoproject pedagogic effort to make Industry collaborative Nanoelectronics course development, we also continued with the practice of adding industry partner as an industry mentor in these course offerings. Further, on another welcome front, we have also strengthened the course content by introducing digital presentations by our Nanoproject partnering institute experts. Thus, this semester, we aimed to offer all courses in one time to get holistically uniform feedback collection, which helps us to conclude effectively with respect to the objectives of the project.

Unfortunately, since 3rd week of March 2020, due to COVID-19 Indian Government has announced complete lockdown and because of that, the University semester has been extended by 2-3 months (students have left for their homes). We are on-line trying to engage our registered students to make them academically active, but this semester extension, which is the operating reality across the University programs (even faculty is on leave), will (and is) negatively affecting the uniform course progress, student-faculty-industry engagement, and feedback collection process. Needless to say, this semester data is very important to validate and verify our work with respect to defined project objectives.

Considering the above, we are requesting you to give the No-Cost Project extension for 3 months to complete all the defined tasks of the project. "

Prof. Ramesh Subramaniam, University of Malaya, Malaysia:

“We have completed our first pilot test on NanoEI courses last semester (Sept – Dec 2019). We were planning to do the field trial as it is planned in the project during the current semester (Feb – June 2020).

Unfortunately, since the beginning of the semester (Mid Feb 2020) many classes were cancelled due to Covid-19 and eventually the Malaysian Government announced "Movement Control Order (MCO)" from 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Hence, implementation of these courses have been severely affected due to below reasons:



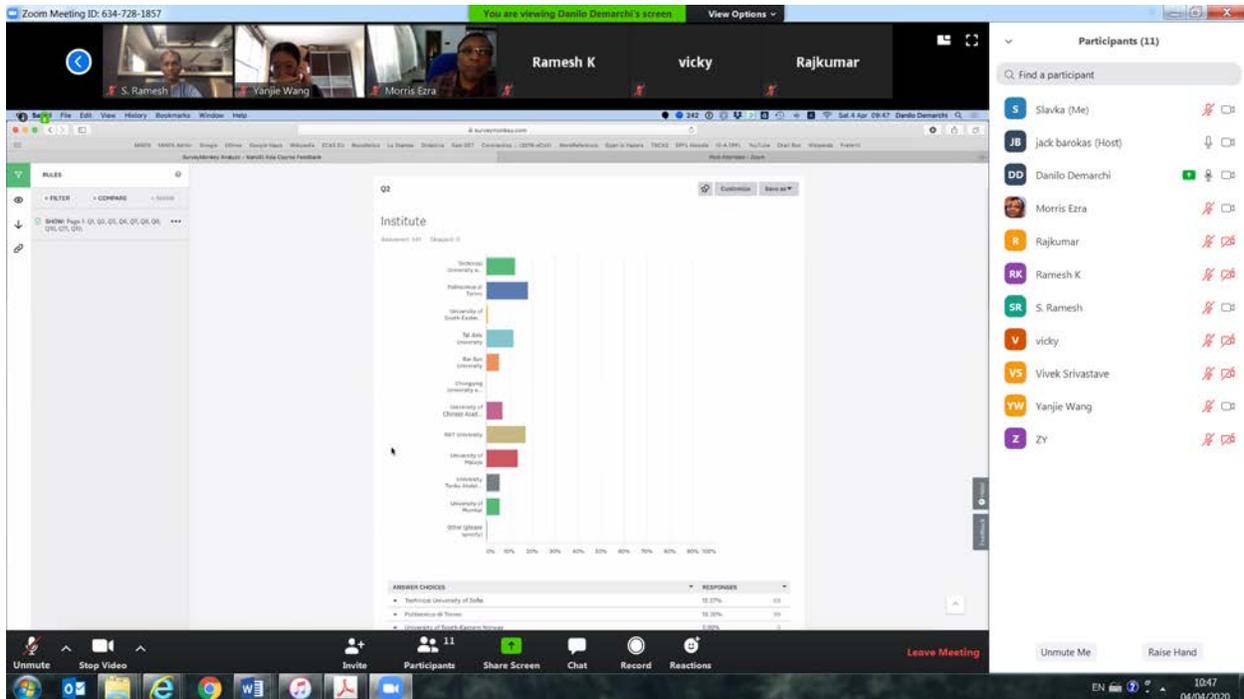
- a) For the time being, the current semester is postponed to 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020 for UM. This date can be even pushed back to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 if the MCO is extended.
- b) Since students from both UM and UTAR are back at their hometown (many in villages), majority students have limited internet availability, thus making it difficult to access online courses.

Since the start date of the semester is still uncertain, we are requesting an extension for 6 months so that we can complete all the milestones.”

The e-learning materials are very useful now and all partners which universities are in distant mode of education are using them actively. Only from Chongqing University of Technology there are no answers. Chongqing is very close to Uxan and there were more than 600 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the city. The university is locked and there is no educational activities there.

The good news is that Chongqing-based biotechnology company has independently developed a novel coronavirus nucleic acid detection kit (PCR-fluorescent probe method) and nucleic acid extraction kit (magnetic bead method), and both successfully have obtained the EU CE certification.

Danilo presented the statistics from the field trial.



The conclusion with consensus was that although we had a 9 months extension of the project period, we can not implement the planned tasks because of the force majeure caused by COVID-19 and Slavka should inform the project advisor and ask for another extension.