


INNOSTORAGE IRSES-610692		Deliverable number:	D7.2
		Title:	Report on Staff Exchange

## INNOSTORAGE – USE OF INNOVATIVE THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE FOR MARKED ENERGY SAVINGS AND SIGNIFICANT LOWERING CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS

Beneficiaries:




Partners:




### D7.2 - Report on Staff Exchanges

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<div> <div>INNOSTORAGE</div> <div>IRSES-610692</div> </div>		Deliverable number:	D7.2
		Title:	Report on Staff Exchange

## Contents

1	Objectives .....	3
2	Introduction .....	3
3	Materials and Methodology.....	4
4	Results .....	4
5	Outcomes or future work.....	10
6	References.....	10
7	Assessment.....	17

INNOSTORAGE IRSES-610692		Deliverable number:	D7.2
		Title:	Report on Staff Exchange

## 1 Objectives

This report comprises the results of two secondments realized at the same time by Prof. Ingrid Martorell and Prof. Marc Medrano, both from the University of Lleida (UdL), in Spain. They both visited Professor Dr. Mohammed Farid, at the University of Auckland (New Zealand) in August 2015. The objectives of the two secondments were:

1. To enhance the collaborations between the two institutions with a long term perspective.
2. To develop a research work on a literature review of zero energy buildings, with a special focus on the contribution of thermal energy storage to this type of buildings.


## 2 Introduction

The concept of zero energy buildings (ZEB) is not new, as many examples of off-grid isolated buildings which are self-sustained in energy terms can be found in the literature, even in the 70s or 80s. However, only in the last 5 years this term has gained momentum, as many developed regions in the World (especially Europe and the US) are promoting and passing bills for developing grid connected, new and retrofit, residential and commercial, net (NZEB), plus (plusEB) or nearly zero energy buildings (nZEB). This initiative is regarded as a powerful, integrated solution to tackle the problems of excessive energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the building sector, normally the first consuming sector in many countries, in the range of 30 to 40% of the total energy. Many aspects of this new concept have been studied and developed in the recent literature, including the definition characteristics, methodologies to approach this distinct type of buildings, particular cases studies of early adopters, evaluation procedures, tools and indicators, contributions of specific technologies and combination of them, such as TES, policies and legislation developed by different countries, the importance of embodied energy and LCA, etc. Although there are some reviews available on a particular aspect of this multidisciplinary, broad topic, a good review paper with a broad approach, giving more insight in those issues not covered in previous reviews, is missing and can be interesting for the scientific and technical community involved in this area.

## 3 Description of work

The work done in the research stay has consisted in starting the different tasks associated with this project, having in mind a scientific paper as the final result of the work. Thus, the work to be done is summarized as follows as a list of tasks:

- Design paper structure, defining the scope, the originality and contributions, compared to previous review papers on similar topics, and what to include in every section.

INNOSTORAGE IRSES-610692		Deliverable number:	D7.2
		Title:	Report on Staff Exchange

- Extensive and systematic literature search and analysis of previous related papers and reviews on the topic, trying to identify original contributions to the scientific community.
- Elaborate summary tables collecting the most important characteristics of each reviewed paper, including classification keywords for easy and quick grouping capability of papers focusing on the same subtopic within the nZEB theme.
- Elaborate a database of useful references on the topic with Zotero, so that it is collect, manage and cite such a considerable number of papers, as required by a good review paper.
- Browse, collect and select the most interesting, representative and illustrative figures in other papers that can help the future readers understand the concepts and discussion in text. At the same time, elaborate own original plots, tables and diagrams, adapting or compiling the ones produced by other authors.
- Write the different review paper sections, perform several internal reviews by the co-authors and submit it.


## 4 Materials and Methodology

This is an analytical work, based on an extensive work of literature review and analysis. The tools used for addressing this work are literature citation software (Zotero), spreadsheets, plotting tools and text processing tools.

## 5 Results

During the short stay at the University of Auckland we have been able to move forward in several tasks of the project. The work done is summarised as follows:

- Preliminary structure of the paper (still open to be modified depending on the findings with similar review papers, to come up with an original approach).
- Done a thorough literature search for past papers targeting this topic (see references found and processed so far at the “Reference” section).
- Processed (read, classified and included in a library, using bibliographic software Zotero) about 100 recent papers (2014 and 2015) referring to this topic as a keyword, based on Scopus and Google scholar alerts collected during the last 12 months. Analyzed in detail the main review papers on this topic, identifying points not covered in previous reviews (see Figure 1, as an example).

INNOSTORAGE IRSES-610692		Deliverable number:	D7.2
		Title:	Report on Staff Exchange

#### Comparative table of previous NZEB paper and our paper

Identifying how we could differentiate from previous paper

Aspects	Deng et al. paper, 2014	Our paper, 2016
Main focus	Centered in NZEB evaluation	Could have several goals, not only evaluation
Keywords	Very few, only "net zero energy" when talking about nzeb	Should include as many as possible keywords, a lot refereeing to nzeb
References	Most of them before 2012. Only a few internet access of 2013	Most of them will be of 2014 and 2015. The basic ones about nzeb, previous to 2014 will be the same
Case studies	They are not included	They could be included somehow (Summary table, map, list of numbers per country...)
Definition of NZEB	The work seems comprehensive, including plots and tables. The details on how the definitions in the MS of the UE are evolving are not included.	Maybe we can find something new in the recent literature and present it in a different way, referring to his article for the things that cannot be improved.
EEM (energy efficiency measures or technologies)	They only discuss in detail HVAC, DHW and power generation, but not passive design measures (the authors come from the HVAC field!). They include a risk benefit diagram for EEM in NZEB.	Maybe we could be more comprehensive and include all of them, just refereeing to some recent papers and trying to find or create good plots or summary tables for them.
Methodology for evaluation nzeb	It seems they say the evaluation methodology for nZEB includes normally embodied energy and operational energy, and generally simulation is preferred. Not clear how they come to this conclusion. 5 reviews the building simulation tools, they should be included in our paper, especially the one for nZEB (S. Attia et al, 2013)	They do not talk about the methodology for designing nZEB properly (integrated approach). This could be included.
Performance parameters for assessing a NZEB	They only include indoor comfort, energy balance and LCA. More parameters are discussed in literature. They spend a lot of lines on the LC-ZEB	We could include recent literature talking about other parameters for microgrids, etc. (load match, grid interaction indicators, life cycle cost, etc.). The paragraph on energy balance and references is scarce in the previous paper, and could be improved. Maybe some critical view on the need of LC-nZEB could be included.
Development trend	Not comprehensive. Only some initiatives in some countries referred. Second part is more some recommendations and insights of the authors on development trends for nZEB	It could be more thorough, including the most important initiatives in the world in terms of legislation and big international research projects.
Energy storage role	Good summary of both electrical and thermal energy storage, and future trends.	Similar wording should be included, maybe with other references and plots.
Load match and grid interaction	Good summary of these concepts. A lot of wording. They refer to a conference paper of Salom et al, 2011. We have more current references to include.	
Smart grid	Good summary of relation fo smart grid and nZEB. Maybe in our paper it could be skipped.	Maybe not necessary to include?

Figure 1: Detail of the comparison tables with previous review papers

- Identified several figures to be included in the review (see the following, as some examples).

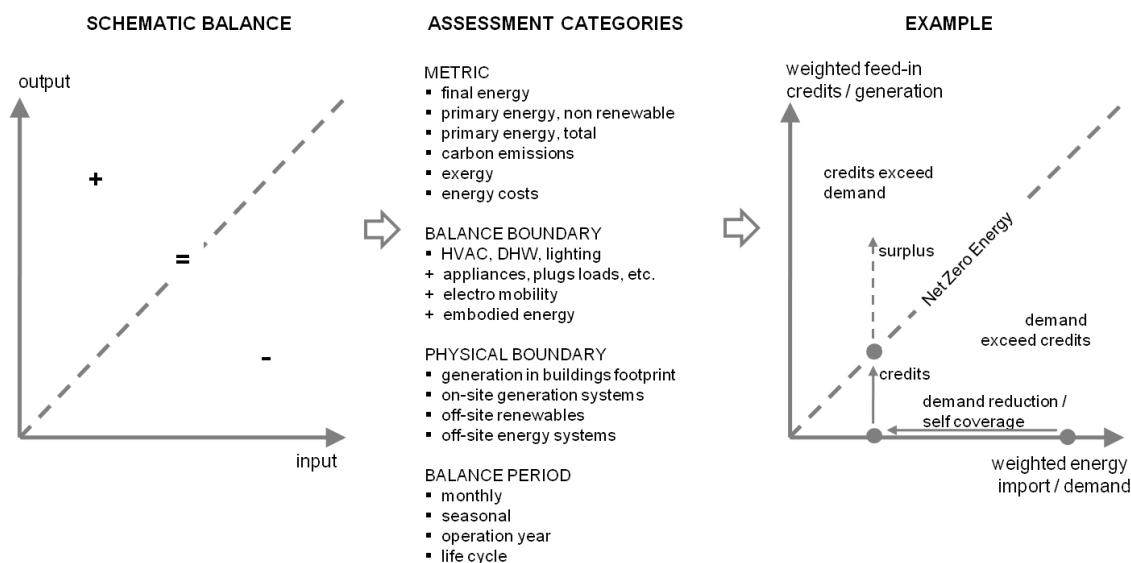
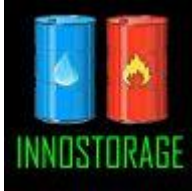


Figure 2: The graph represents the Net ZEB balance concept: balance of weighted energy import respectively energy demand (x-axis) and energy export (feed-in credits) respectively (on-site) generation (y-axis), extracted from ('Net Zero Energy Solar Buildings SHC Position Paper, IEA SHC || Task 40 || Publications, 2015, <http://task40.iea-shc.org/>, n.d.)

<div>INNOSTORAGE</div> <div>IRSES-610692</div>		Deliverable number:	D7.2
		Title:	Report on Staff Exchange

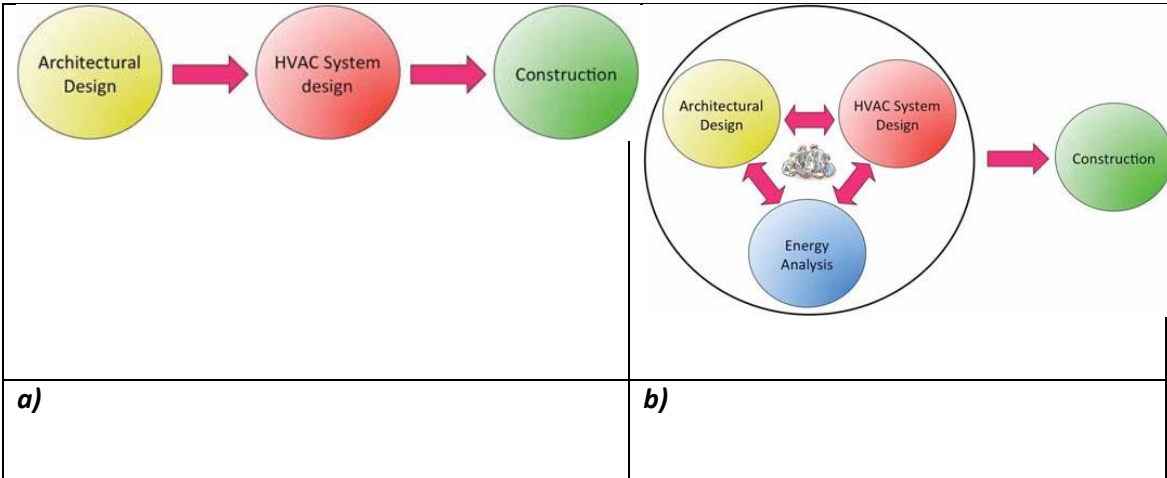


Figure 3: Usual Building design process (a) versus integrated design process required for nZEB, extracted from (Butera 2013)

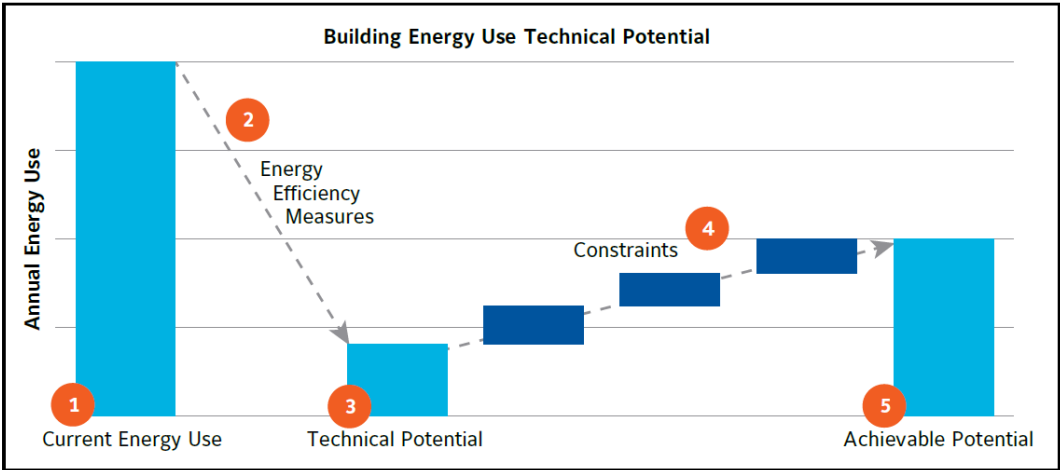



Figure 4: Tehcnical potentia process for retrofit Building energy efficiency, extracted from (C. et al. 2013):

INNOSTORAGE IRSES-610692		Deliverable number:	D7.2
		Title:	Report on Staff Exchange

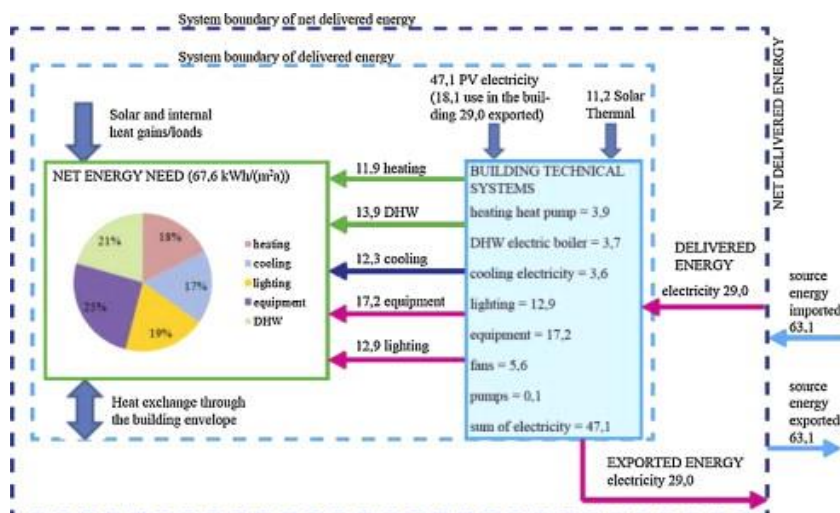
BUILDING SYSTEM DESIGN & OPERATION	CURRENT BUILDINGS	SMART NetZEBs
Building fabric/envelope	Passive, not designed as an energy system	Optimized for passive design and integration of active solar systems
Heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC)	Large oversized systems	Small HVAC systems optimally controlled, integrated with solar systems, combined heat and power, seasonal storage and district energy
Solar systems/renewable generation	No systematic integration – an afterthought	Fully integrated: daylighting, solar thermal, photovoltaics, hybrid solar, geothermal systems, biofuels linked with smart micro grids
Building automation systems	Building automation systems not used effectively	Predictive building controls to optimize comfort and energy performance; online demand prediction / peak demand reductions
Design and operation	Design and operation of buildings typically considered apart	Design and operation of buildings fully integrated and optimized together subject to satisfying comfort

Figure 5: Current design Building situation and expected characteristics of nZEB design

for major five Building subsystems, extracted from ('Net Zero Energy Solar Buildings

SHC Position Paper, IEA SHC || Task 40 || Publications, 2015, [http://task40.iea-](http://task40.iea-shc.org/)

Shc.org/, n.d.):






<div>INNOSTORAGE</div> <div>IRSES-610692</div>		Deliverable number:	D7.2
		Title:	Report on Staff Exchange

Figure 6: Energy flows and System boundaries for nZEB in Italy, extracted from (Becchio et al. 2015)

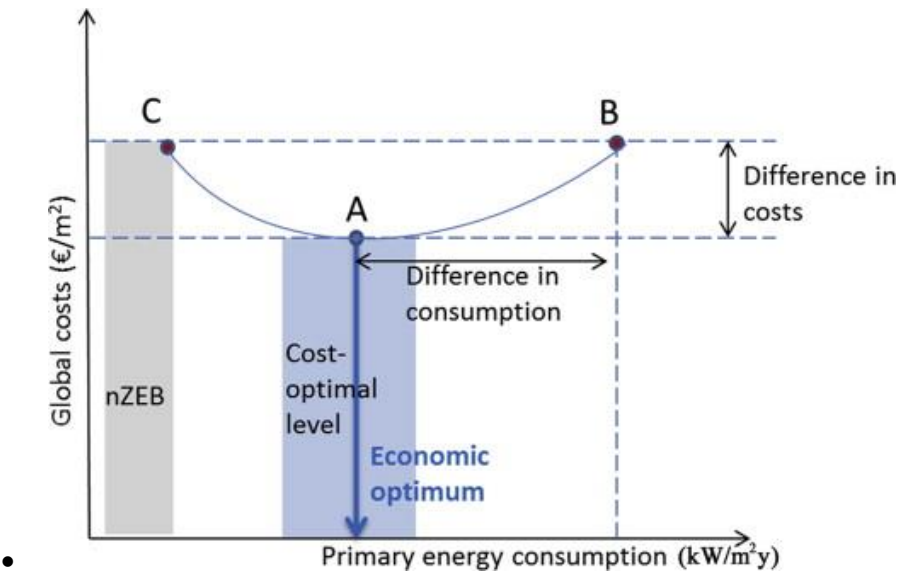
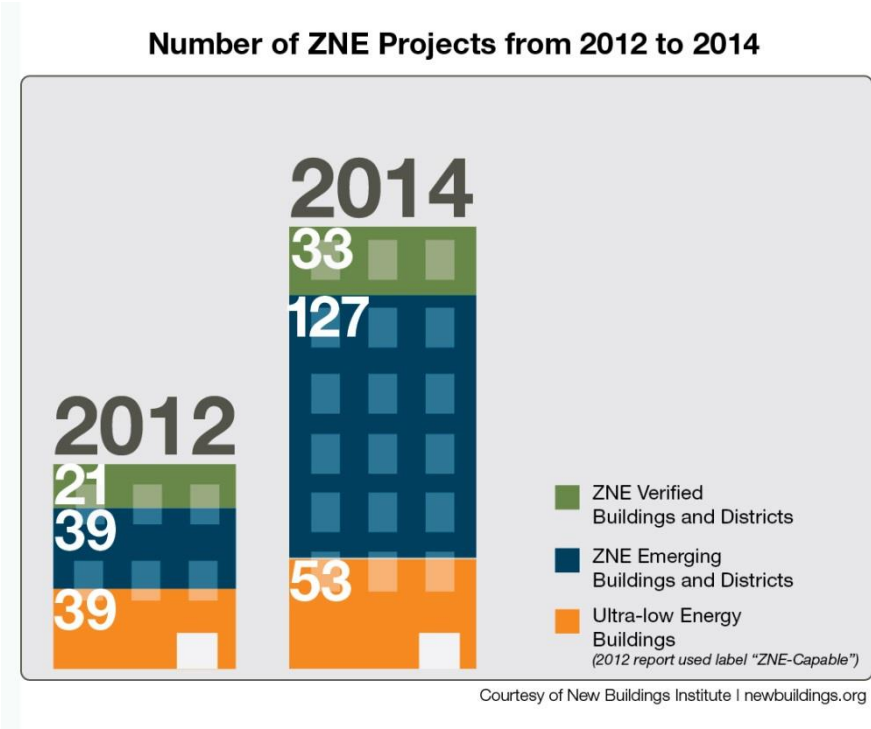


Figure 7: Global cost curve (A = economic optimum, B = requirement in force, C = cost neutral compared to requirement in force), source (Baglivo et al. 2015)






INNOSTORAGE IRSES-610692		Deliverable number:	D7.2
		Title:	Report on Staff Exchange

Figure 8: Increase in number of ZNE projects in the US from 2012 to 2014, source (New Building Institute report 2014)(‘Net Zero Energy Solar Buildings SHC Position Paper, IEA SHC || Task 40 || Publications, 2015, <http://task40.iea-shc.org/>’, n.d.):

- Created a summary table classifying processed papers in several categories, related with the proposed structure and chapters of the paper, so that it will be easier to select the right papers for each part of the review.

No	Scopus and Google Scholar alert date	Paper title	Journal	nZEB main topic or just introduction for specific technology?	Main Classification contents 1	Second classification contents	In Zoter o nZEB ?
1	23/10/2014	<a href="#">Analysis of load match and grid interaction indicators in net zero energy buildings with simulated and monitored data</a>	<i>Applied Energy</i>	YES	1. nZEB indicators (load match LM and grid interaction GI)		YES [12]
2	23/10/2014	<a href="#">Multi-objective optimization analysis for high efficiency external walls of zero energy buildings (ZEB) in the Mediterranean climate</a>	Energy and Buildings	NO (external walls thermal mass)	3. Study of particular technology		YES [13]
3	23/10/2014	<a href="#">A simulation-based optimization method for cost-optimal analysis of nearly Zero Energy Buildings</a>	Energy and Buildings	YES	2. General study for optimizing several parameters in French home		YES [14]
4	23/10/2014	<a href="#">Zero energy buildings and the rebound effect: A solution to the paradox of energy efficiency?</a>	Energy and Buildings	YES	7. Other aspects related to nZEB		YES [15]
5	23/10/2014	<a href="#">Energy performance assessment of a complex district heating system which uses gas-driven combined heat and power, heat pumps and high temperature aquifer thermal energy storage</a>	Energy and Buildings	NO (energy performance of district heating with CHP)	3. Study of a particular technology		YES [16]


...

101	29/6/2015	<a href="#">Consensus-based low carbon domestic design framework for sustainable homes</a>		NO			
102	29/6/2015	<a href="#">Innovative technologies for transparent building envelopes: experimental assessment of energy and thermal comfort data to facilitate the decision-making process</a>		NO (PCM in windows)			
103	29/6/2015	<a href="#">A survey of the effects of renewable energies and components of Zero-Carbon Building &amp; Zero-Energy Building On environment and improving life level of society</a>		YES (review)			
104	15/7/2015						

Figure 9: Detail of the processing summary table for the more than 100 papers read and processed during the stay at the University of Auckland.

As the stay was relatively short, several tasks could not be finished there and we will be working on them in the following months. The pending tasks are:

- Finalize the paper processing. The last two months of alerts are still to be processed.
- Decide the final structure of the paper, based on the thorough assessment of previous reviews and info presented in the rest of last two years' papers on this topic.

INNOSTORAGE IRSES-610692		Deliverable number:	D7.2
		Title:	Report on Staff Exchange


3. Start writing the different chapters, using the created summary table for picking the right papers of each chapter and using Zotero for easy references management.
4. Generate original tables and/or diagrams condensing previous work or proposing a new idea/concept/interpretation in the topic.
5. Include an acknowledgment section for the Innostorage funding.

## 6 Outcomes or future work


As stated above, the initial work realized by the two secondments will be continued and finished in the following months, with the collaboration of Pr. Farid, at the University of Auckland. We expect to elaborate a good quality review paper to be published in a prestigious scientific journal. The links and personal interactions we developed in the stage will certainly be beneficial for future collaborations and joint projects.

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		Title:	Report on Staff Exchange

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## 8 Assessment

### 8.1 Assessment by Marc Medrano

This secondment gave me the great opportunity to experience other ways of conducting research and organizing a research team, share and exchange ideas and knowledge with researchers with different cultural and geographical references, and develop personal relationships that will be useful for future collaborations. This has been indeed an enriching experience and I would like to express here my gratitude to the Innostorage Programme for granting me this interesting research stay at University of Auckland, with Professor Dr. Mohammed Farid.

### 8.2 Assessment by Ingrid Martorell

This secondment has been an unique experience to interact with researchers from another university and start a collaboration with Pr. Farid that hopefully will not finished with this project. I had the privilege of exchanging research ideas with Pr. Farid and some of his PhD students. It was also very interesting to participate of the daily experience of working in one of the most populated and prestigious universities of New Zealand. We took advantage of the powerful library of University of Auckland to collect any kind of published information regarding the topic of this project. I want to thank the Innostorage Programme for the opportunity of conducting this research stay at the University of Auckland in New Zealand.