



Navigating beyond Lisbon – the regions on course to economic recovery and the knowledge economy!

**18 Nov. 2009, Liaison Agency Flanders Europe
Kortenberglaan 71, B-1000 Brussels**

Europe's economy is slowly coming out of troubled waters and what some have described as 'a perfect storm'. However, it will not be enough for its leaders to simply determine our present position and patch the sails. There is a clear need to readjust Europe's navigational instruments.

The current debate on the EU's post-Lisbon economic strategy is about steering towards sustainable growth, a clean and green economy, long-term competitiveness and prosperity and sustaining the European way of life for generations to come.

This is the perfect opportunity for ERRIN, the European Regions Research and Innovation Network, to initiate a debate on the right course towards full economic recovery and competitive regions fit for the knowledge economy.

Why is this debate important for the regions?

The post-Lisbon strategy will lay the foundations for future EU policy priorities, the EU budget and the shape of territorial cohesion post 2013. Regions must be fully engaged in this debate, as they are key players in driving research and innovation and delivering EU policies on the ground.

Therefore, in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of future EU policies, more synergies between different EU funding programmes, such as the Framework Programme for Research and Development, the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme, and the Structural Funds (ERDF, ESF, Cohesion Funds) will be necessary as the EU focuses on the key challenges facing European society.

Regions play a crucial role in this process both through the elaboration of regional innovation strategies and support actions and as a territorial delivery point for EU policy and funding programmes. Regions need to be aware of the key issues and debates in these areas so that they are able to influence the policies, programmes and delivery mechanisms as early and as far upstream as possible and to design effective and efficient strategies, policies and instruments to develop their own innovation capacities exploiting learning opportunities from available best practice and expertise.

ERRIN Mind Forum is a twice-yearly discussion event that brings together ERRIN members, representatives of the EU institutions and other movers, shakers and thinkers from government, academia and business.

Operating through the EU regions Brussels offices and the ERRIN Secretariat, ERRIN, the European Regions Research and Innovation Network, currently brings together regional decision makers, practitioners and R&D players from over 70 European regions in 16 different Member States.

ERRIN specifically deals with research and innovation-related issues and aims at improving collaboration and joint trans-national projects between the research and innovation organisations in member regions.

ERRIN also facilitates regular dialogue with the European institutions in order to promote the regional dimension of research and innovation and the participation of member regions in European debates and consultations. For more information and contact: www.errin.eu

Conference Programme

14.00 – **Intro: Main Moderator**

Mike Tremblay, Innovation, Research and Technology Advisor,
London/Toronto

14.05 – **Post-Lisbon and the future of regional policy**

Danuta Hübner, Member of European Parliament,
Chair of the Committee on Regional Development

14.20 – **What are the challenges on the horizon?**

Ziga Turk, Secretary General, Reflection Group
on the Future of Europe

14.40 – **Which course for post-Lisbon?**

Gerard De Graaf, Head of Unit, Strategic Objective Prosperity,
European Commission, Secretariat General

15.00 – Q+A followed by Coffee Break

15.30 – **R&D excellence vs. regional innovation**

Panel Moderator:

Mikel Landabaso, Head of Unit, Thematic coordination and
innovation, European Commission, DG Regio

Panellists:

Jean-David Malo, Head of Unit, Regions of knowledge and
research potential, European Commission, DG RTD

Karen Maguire, Policy Analyst, Regional Competitiveness and
Governance Division, OECD

16.30 – **Regional flagship strategies and actions**

Vincent Thoen, Advisor of the
Flemish Council for Science and
Innovation

Promoting technology foresight
for priority setting - the Pact
2020 of the Flemish Technology
and Innovation Clusters

Anna-Lisa Boni, Director,
PACA EU office

Addressing the governance
challenge of regional Innovation
– the strategy 2009 of Provence-
Alpes Cote d’Azur

Maria Lozano, Head of the
Delegation of the Government of
Navarra in Brussels

Fostering Intra- and Interregional
cooperation - The Euroinnova
Navarra Technology Plan

Richard Male, Science and
Industry Manager, South West
England RDA

Shaping regional innovation
agendas through regional
cooperation – the RAPIDE project

17.30 – Debate: **Have we got our priorities right?**

18.15 – Close and networking reception

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