

Regions as catalysts of Open Innovation

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rue de la Loi 155, Brussels

Innovation is a vital component of regional competitiveness and a key driver to help regions escape the current economic crisis. Innovative regions are also a key factor in attracting companies to locate in the EU.

All the more reason for ERRIN, to explore new thinking on improving innovation processes and discuss how Open Innovation can strengthen regional research and innovation capacities.

Apart from presenting the state of the art of Open Innovation initiatives in ERRIN regions, the conference will highlight current and future steps towards a European Innovation Plan and possible regional input.

Open Innovation is clearly more than hype or re-branding of longstanding innovation policies. It is a game-changer not only in the way companies manage their R&D but also in the way government and public policy approaches innovation support. However to date, it remains a mystery to many EU companies, particularly SMEs, and to policy-makers, who are keen to learn more about how it can be harnessed to improve regional competitiveness:

- Which opportunities/challenges does OI present for regions?
- How can regions provide added value to OI?
- Are there good practices in regional policy making and support?
- How does OI figure in the work towards an EU Innovation Plan?
- What could be policy recommendations from the regions?

This ERRIN conference will bring together EC officials, regional policy officers and policy-makers and open innovation experts. It will enable you to learn from leading regions driving forward the OI agenda and will present an excellent opportunity for networking with ERRIN members and leading representatives of the Brussels-based research and innovation policy community.

Morning Session	ERRIN Members only
10.00 - 10.30	Registration
10.30 - 12.30	ERRIN AGM
12.30 - 14.00	Member Networking lunch

Afternoon Session	Public session: Regions as catalysts of Open Innovation
13.30 - 14.00	Registration
14.00 - 14.10	Welcome by the ERRIN Chair Anthony van de Ven, Head of Office, Eindhoven-Brainport European Office
14.10 - 14.20	Welcome by the Moderator Michael West, Executive Dean of Aston Business School
14.20 - 14.40	Koenraad Debackere, Managing Director, K.U. Leuven R&D, <i>Regions and Open Innovation</i>
14.40 - 15.00	Leopold Demiddeleer, Solvay's Director of Future Businesses, President European Industrial Research Managers Association <i>Future Business and Open Innovation</i>
15.00 - 15.20	Panel Debate
15.20 - 16.00	Coffee Break
16.00 - 16.20	Peter Dröll, European Commission, DG Enterprise, Head of Unit, Innovation Policy Development <i>Towards a European Innovation Plan</i>
16.20 - 17.00	<i>Examples from ERRIN regions: Open Innovation in action</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Midlands – Innocation Xchange Network James Elliott, Senior Intermediary • Tampere – Demola open innovation service Mrs Hannele Räikkönen, Director Tampere Central Region EU Office • Stuttgart Region – Festo/Bionic Learning Network Rolf Reiner, Stuttgart Region Economic Development Corporation • Ile-de-France Region – Plan SME MOV'EO Gérard Yahiaoui, Vice President MOV'EO
17.00 - 17.30	Q&A, panel debate and conclusions by the moderator
17.30 - 20.00	Networking reception