

ERRIN e-alert 39/2009, 21 – 25 September

News update

Commission staff working documents published: Assessing Community innovation policies in the period 2005-2009

Following up on the Communication “Reviewing Community innovation policy in a changing world” DG Enterprise has just published a range of staff working documents assessing the impact and success of the EU’s innovation policy initiatives between 2005 and 2009. The documents provide a good overview on the broad range of activities undertaken by DG ENT and other DGs to foster innovation:

- [Assessing Community innovation policies in the period 2005-2009](#)
- [Challenges for EU support to innovation in services – Fostering new markets and jobs through innovation](#)
- [Financing Innovation and SMEs](#)
- [Making public support for innovation in the EU more effective: Lessons learned from a public consultation for action at Community level](#)
- [Lead Market Initiative for Europe - Mid-term progress report](#)

For downloads click on the document title or point your browser to:
http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/documents/index_en.htm

See the Director’s blog for a new post on “Sun and bytes kill coal and steel: A transformation agenda for Europe” at <http://iblog.blogactiv.eu/>

Secretariat Announcements

ERRIN Management Board Elections – Post your candidatures now!

A call for candidatures to the ERRIN Management Board elections has been opened on 8 September (by email to ERRIN member mailing list). All regions interested, including those MB members, whose seats are up are encouraged to post their candidatures in written (email to communication@errin.eu) to the ERRIN Secretariat by 18 September 2009. Elections will take place on 1st October 2009 by common suffrage of all ERRIN members. More detailed information on this procedure will be circulated on 21st September.

The ERRIN Management Board consists of 15 ERRIN members and is responsible for managing and steering the association. Five seats will become available at this year’s election. Management Members pay higher membership fee (€ 5283 instead of € 2113 in 2009), but enjoy a number of benefits, inter alia:

- They can be elected Chair or Vice-Chair (both positions will become vacant in October 2009)
- They can shape and exert oversight over the association’s daily affairs, planned activities, strategic outlook and workprogramme
- They can profile their organisation/region vis-à-vis the European Institutions and other stakeholders
- They receive premium information on all the most recent developments, strategic project and policy opportunities within ERRIN

REMINDER: Upgrade your staff communication skills by signing up for the ERRIN/Pinnacle Public Relations Training

Improve your skills to maintain and develop websites as an effective tool for communicating activities and opportunities. Due to the excellent feedback of our members on the last training organised in cooperation with Pinnacle PR Training, the ERRIN Secretariat promotes a follow-up training course.

The training will take place on **29 September 2009, 9.30 – 16.30, at Rue Ducale 83, 1000 Brussels**. Benefits of this training course are 1) to increase awareness of participants to techniques of news writing, 2) to provide your staff with practice and feedback on their writing skills and 3) to train your staff on how to effectively edit and format information into a format appealing to your audience.

The one-day training will achieve these objectives by two modules:

1) Fundamental news writing and 2) News editing. Pinnacle offers a promotional offer of € 475 (+21% VAT unless exempt) per person.

For a detailed programme and registration, please contact Andrew Manasseh at Pinnacle Public Relations at andrew.manasseh@pinnaclepr.net (subject space: ERRIN PR Training). The training course is limited to a maximum of 10 participants.

REMINDER: ERRIN Network Evaluation – submit until 23 Sept 2009

On 18 August ERRIN has sent an evaluation questionnaire to learn more about the satisfaction of our members with the work of ERRIN and receive their suggestions for further improvements. Both are conducive to compile the ERRIN 2010 work programme. We would like to thank those 18 members that have already taken the time and sent back their answers and suggestions. However, we are still expecting feed-back from many more members. We have, thus, once again prolonged the deadline until 23 September.

Albeit extending the deadline, your comments and suggestions will still be included into the draft of our work programme 2010, which will be presented and discussed at the next Management Board meeting on 28 Sept. This is your network! You want to make sure it delivers according to your interests and priorities. Let us know about it! Please click here to download the [ERRIN Evaluation questionnaire](#).

ICT Working Group seeking for a new co-leader! Envisage applying for it now!

The ICT WG is therefore seeking a new co-leader. So if your region is interested in ICT R&D and/or Information Society please can you get in touch with Richard Tuffs, Richard.tuffs@westmidlandsineurope.org and/or Claus Schultze, claus.schultze@errin.eu, the Director of ERRIN. In order to discuss the commitment required to co-lead the group and to develop an agenda for 2009/2010 the ICT WG will meet to discuss co-leadership and the proposed agenda items for 2009/2010. This meeting will take place 30th September 2009, 14.30, West Midlands in Europe – 22-28 Avenue d'Auderghem, 1040 Brussels

Funding Area

INTERREG IVB South East Europe Brokerage Event

This brokerage event, jointly hosted by Eszak Alföld and North Hungary Region, aims at providing a project development platform to ERRIN members of the INTERREG South East Europe Programme. Beyond that, it shall contribute to a more coherent coordination of the proposals and hence ensure a higher success rate of public funding within ERRIN region.

Focusing on the Interreg IVB SEE programme an information session is organized with the involvement of the European Commission and the Joint Technical Secretariat. Based on project ideas of the participants returned to the organizers, the second part of the event will focus on thematic project development for the Autumn 2009 Call of the Programme. As a result, number of project partnerships is expected to be created.

The event gives also an opportunity to increase the visibility of ERRIN network in the South East Europe area, and hopefully to involve new regions in the network activities.

Thursday, 24 September, 10.00-12.00, House of the Hungarian Regions, Square Vergote 5, 1200 Brussels

ERRIN Event Preview

REMINDER: Sign up for ERRIN/DG REGIO Open Days seminar on “Capitalization and Knowledge Management for effective European Territorial Cooperation”

A frequently voiced concern in discussions on regional development is the lack of systematic knowledge management including better capitalization and dissemination of results to avoid overlap and duplication, in particular with regards to EU projects.

The ETC programmes (INTERREG) can and should play an important role in addressing this lack of knowledge management and increasing synergies and learning between the myriad of regional, national and EU initiatives. The workshop will present and discuss challenges and current initiatives in this field and related opportunities.

In case you have any good practice examples of regional knowledge management in the field of Research and Innovation and EU projects (synergies, coordination, etc.), please contact the ERRIN Secretariat as we would like to include some examples in our presentation and forward them to the EU Commission.

A more detailed programme description is currently being elaborated and will be circulated soon. Interested ERRIN members should sign up through the Open Days website (see link below) and inform the ERRIN Secretariat so we can provide DG REGIO with a list of ERRIN members for approval of participation in this workshop. Please contact the ERRIN Secretariat at communication@errin.eu until 10 September, if you are interested in joining this workshop.

Tuesday, 6 October, 14.30 – 16.00, Albert Borschette Conference Centre, Rue Froissart 36, 1040 Brussels

Registration: Through [Open Days website](#) (WS 06C13)

ERRIN Member Events Feature

Presentation of ERRIN Copenhagen Climate Change policy statement

The first part of the meeting is focus on the PPP call, with the presence of Mr. Jose-Lorenzo Valles from European Commission. Participants will have the time for Q&A and are thus recommended to be informed on your regional initiatives. In the second part of the meeting, Suzy Sumner, Director of North West UK will present the final policy statement of the ERRIN Copenhagen Climate Change Initiative. This policy statement will be distributed to various EC speakers to be fed into their negotiations on the Copenhagen Climate Conference to be held 7-18 December 2009.

Monday 21st September 2009, 10.00 am, Tuscany Region Office, Rond Point Schuman 14, 1000 Brussels

2009 Education at a Glance

With employment markets still weak, now is a good time to invest in education will be the title of a speech given by Mr. Andreas Schleicher, Head of the Indicators and Analysis Division of the OECD (Directorate for Education).

The 2009 edition of the OECD's Education at a Glance, published on 8 September, focuses, among other things, on the economic returns and social outcomes of education. This is particularly relevant as economies emerge from the crisis. An annual compendium of comparable statistics on topics ranging from how long students spend in the classroom to how many drop out of secondary education, Education at a Glance provides valuable underpinning for policy debate and decisions by national education authorities.

A sandwich lunch will be available for the participants.

Monday, 21st September 2009, 12.00, Liaison Agency Flanders Europe, Avenue de Cortenbergh 71, 1000 Brussels, please register by email at winneburg.verhaeghe@vleva.be

Towards a Creative Regional Economy

The Brussels Representation of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen invites you to an event about the cities' creative industry strategies. Presentations and a discussion will be followed by a reception.

Wednesday 23 September, 18.30, Bremen EU Office, Avenue Palmerston 22, 1000 Brussels
Registration: By fax or email to +32 2 230 36 58 or vertretung@bremen.be by **16 September**

EU Policies to improve working conditions. Holon: a lifelong learning tool to improve the interplay of work, health and organisation

The Valencia Regional Office in Brussels will be hosting the final conference "EU policies to improve working conditions. Holon: a lifelong learning tool to improve interplay of work, health and organisation" funded by the Lifelong learning programme at the Committee of the Regions. This conference will be a good opportunity for practitioners who may want to attend a final conference of a project in order to learn from best practices experiences.

The conference, organized in the framework of the European Year of Creativity and Innovation and the European SME Week, will count with the participation of representatives from the European Institutions. Its main objective will be to deepen in the importance of the education and training in order to get good quality jobs, enhance the capacity to adapt to labor market changes, to create equal opportunities and improve working conditions. Furthermore, a representative from the European Commission will explain the funding opportunities through the Lifelong Learning Programme. This conference will end with a forum corner to exchange good practices and project ideas and to make new contacts for the 2010 call of proposals.

If you want to participate at the forum corner presenting your project ideas, please send a brief summary of them at sola_sus@gva.es as soon as possible or bring them with you at the conference. Participants are also invited to attend the business lunch.

Thursday, 24 September 2009, 9.30-14.00, Committee of the Regions, Van Marlaent Street 2, Room VM1, Building van Marlaent, 1040 Brussels

European Design as an expression of Creativity & Innovation

The Liaison Agency Flanders Europe invites to an Open Days fringe event on "European Design as an expression of Creativity & Innovation".

The event consists of two workshops:

Workshop 1– Design Policy and Management

Design as a tool for innovation has developed rapidly in recent years, resulting notably in concepts such as strategic design, design management and design thinking. Design as a driver and enabler of innovation complements more traditional innovation activities such as research. Companies that invest in design tend to be more innovative, more profitable and grow faster than those who do not. The Design sector is an emerging business sector with large potential and added value for the local-regional economies.

The Design Policy and the recent commission staff working document on *Design as a driver of user-centred innovation* provides an analysis of the rationale for making design an integral part of European innovation policy. At a macro-economic level, there is a strong positive correlation between the use of design and national as well as regional competitiveness. Members of the European Institutions will give background into the strategic research agenda's of different DG's that focus on the topic of the Design Policy and Management.

Workshop 2 – Design in SMEs and industries

This workshop explores design as a strategic tool for innovation in SMEs and industries. Design promotion centres have often been driven in the past by a traditional craftsmanship culture that entails a strategy focused mainly on product design and on the performance of products in the market place. While

at the same time the design profession was fundamentally changing with styling & packaging design, branding & corporate design and web, interface & communication design as driving forces.

The economic and managerial context of "design added value" is bestowed by regional or national design promotion centres, acting as centres of resources for integrating design into SMEs. Designers themselves are often SMEs. SMEs are a very interesting target for design promotion centres, who can help in improving an SMEs competitive edge and performance.

The consortium organising this Open Days fringe event consists of the following cities and regional partners: Flanders (BE), Eindhoven region (NL), Lodz region (PL), city of Helsinki (FI), Région de l'Île-de-France (FR), Unioncamere Lombardia (IT), Oficina del Gobierno de Cantabria (ES), South West UK (UK) and West Midlands (UK).

6 October 2009, 13.30 – 18.30, Liaison Agency Flanders Europe, Kortenberglaan 71, 1000 Brussels (event followed by reception) More info: <http://www.vleva.eu/content/4302> , registration: Email to design@vleva.eu with message Participation Design Workshop 1 and/or 2

Other Events

Time to step on gas: EU innovation policy

The importance of innovation to Europe's future prosperity has often been acknowledged, such as in the recent EC Communication on "Reviewing Community innovation in a changing world", published on 2 Sept. 2009. With the Lisbon 2010 agenda deadline in sight, the debate will examine the central question of 1) how to put innovation at the heart of EU's future reform strategy and 2) what policies and tools are needed to realise the EU's ambitious agenda for innovation. On that occasion, Guenter Verheugen, Vice-President of the European Commission will give a keynote address to the audience.

Tuesday, 22 September 2009, 16.30-19.00, Residence Palace, Polak Room, Rue de la Loi 155, 1040 Brussels. This event will be jointly organised by the European Policy Centre and the European Commission, DG Education & Culture. Please register by email at N.News@epc.eu with subject line: Invitation: 5th Brussels Debate: EU

Biotech Stakeholder Meeting

This stakeholder meeting entitled 'Opportunities and challenges for biotech in new EU Member States' is organised to provide a picture of biotech development in new EU Member States and candidate countries. Apart from that, it aims at improving the visibility of biotech companies for networking and investment opportunities. A final report, highlighting the status of growth potential for healthcare biotech-related small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), will be presented during the event.

In addition, key players in biotech development will share their experiences and provide feedback on biotech development opportunities and support in the new Member States and candidate countries.

Thursday, 24 Sept 2009, 9.00-17.30, Residence Palace, Rue de la Loi 155, Bloc C, 1040 Brussels

More information, agenda and registration

The World in 2025

This Seminar organised by DG Research, Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities, will first highlight the main trends up to 2025. Secondly, it will underline the tensions on natural resources and the new production-consumption patterns while attempting to identify the so-called "wild cards". Thirdly, the potential transitions will be evoked. Finally, the next steps in European foresight and forward-looking activities will be presented. The event is chaired by high-level European Commission speakers that will also present their main conclusions.

Partner Searches

FP7-SCIENCE-IN-SOCIETY-2010-1 – Grupo Chevere, Santiago de Compostela

Science and Arts: an experimental approach

[Download Partner Search](#)

LLP-Leonardo da Vinci – XABEC Professional Training School

Association for Innovation in Industrial Maintenance

[Download Partner Search](#)

FP7-ICT-2009-5 – Ingenia, Andalucia

Euro Intelligent Management System ISO 27001 Support Operation

[Download Partner Search](#)

Europe for Citizens Programme – Fundacion Comunidad Valenciana Europea

Staff exchange for Europe

[Download Partner Search](#)

The ERRIN e-alert is published weekly and disseminated to all member contacts on the ERRIN mailing list. It is also available [online](#).

To be add as a contact to our ERRIN mailing list, please check with the official ERRIN representative for your region/organisation (see the ERRIN website/About us/ERRIN members) or contact the ERRIN Secretariat.

To be added as a contact to the Working Group Mailing lists, please contact the leaders of the relevant ERRIN Working Groups and Task Forces.

If you wish to share any information or announce your events to other ERRIN members through our weekly e-alert, do not hesitate to contact the ERRIN Secretariat.

ERRIN - European Regions Research and Innovation Network
Avenue Palmerston 23, B-1000 Brussels, Tel +32 2 230 44 41
Email: communication@errin.eu, website: www.errin.eu

ERRIN Working Group Contact List

WG Title	First Name	Surname	Regional office	Phone	email
Science in Society	Anna	Sibilla	Piemonte	+32 (0)2 550 02 50	Anna.sibilla@unioncamerepiemonte.be
Innovation Funding	Paul	Harris	Welsh Higher Education	+32 (0)2 226 66 97	Paul.harris@wheb.ac.uk
ICT	Richard	Tuffs	West Midlands in Europe	+32 (0)2 740 27 15	Richard.tuffs@westmidlandsineurope.org
Transport	Gustavo	Martinie	Valencia	+32 (0)4 98 121 689	Gmartinie@delcomval.be
Transport	Julian	Torralba	Valencia	+32 (0)2 282 41 62	JTorralba@delcomval.be
Energy	Xenia	Tsitiridou	West Midlands in Europe	+32 (0)2 740 27 21	Xtsitiridou@westmidlandsineurope.org
Energy	Daniela	Mazzarino	Tuscany	+32 (0)2 286 85 68	Daniela.mazzarino@regionecentroitalia.org
Health	Henriette	Hansen	South Denmark	+32 (0)2 285 40 90	hha@soutdenmark.be