



Secretariat News

ERRIN and ECSITE selected for a joint stand at the Research Connection event, 7-8 May 2009, Prague, Czech Republic

An ERRIN proposal for a stand grouping five ERRIN member regions and including the ECSITE network (www.ecsite.net) has been selected by DG RTD following a call for proposal at the Research Connection 2009, the Czech Presidencies major event on research and innovation.

The following ERRIN members will present their successful EU research projects at the stand:

- AD Europa (Castilla y Leon)
- West Midlands in Europe
- Friuli Venezia Giulia
- Eszak Alfold
- CCI Piemonte

The same group, including also Lodz region, also applied to organize a café style seminar entitled 'ERRIN regions bridging the gap: involving regional stakeholders in European research and innovation programmes.

The secretariat is following up on both applications and will keep members updated on developments. If you wish to know more about this initiative, please contact us at communication@errin.eu

ERRIN Partnership with SERI, the European Research and Innovation Exhibition, 3-5 June 2009

ERRIN and SERI have signed a partnership agreement, which offers the following opportunities for ERRIN members at a preferential rate:

- An individual exhibition stand
- A joint exhibition stand with other ERRIN regions
- A 1.40 hour slot for a conference/workshop

The ERRIN logo and a short description of the network will be included on all communications issued by the SERI.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities and the associated preferential stand fees for the exhibition, do not hesitate to contact the ERRIN secretariat at farha.brahmi@errin.eu.

SAVE THE DATE: ERRIN Policy Briefing: R&D Priorities of the Swedish Presidency, 22 April 2009, 10.00-13.00, The House of Cities, Municipalities and Regions, 1 Square de Meeûs, 1000 Brussels

The ERRIN Secretariat in partnership with the EU South Sweden Office is organizing a policy briefing session on the forthcoming Swedish EU Presidency. Several representatives from Sweden, including Bjarne Kirsebom (Minister for Research and Development at the Swedish Permanent Representation to the EU) will visit the ERRIN network to present and discuss with ERRIN members the research and innovation related priorities of the Swedish presidency agenda.

More information and a draft agenda will soon be posted on [the ERRIN website](http://theERRINwebsite).

More information: communication@errin.eu

Submit your regional initiatives/good practices on Open innovation

The forthcoming ERRIN AGM on June 11 will be focusing on Open Innovation. The Secretariat is collecting examples from ERRIN members of strategies/initiatives/practices designed to stimulate and facilitate OI in the regions such as:

- Regions providing enabling environments/ "eco-systems" for open innovation, in which firms operate, triple helix actors interact, and citizens/users get involved (e.g. living labs),
- setting new parameters for education (e.g. breadth vs. depth)
- promoting culture change to support open innovation, promoting collaboration and networks
- leading by example with regard to stimulating innovative public services and public procurement,
- linking SMEs up to larger corporate players such as Multi-National Enterprises (MNEs), through science and innovation parks
- creating IPR pools, creating the trust base for SME - MNE interactions
- scouting and identifying promising technology and unused patents, promoting a global orientation, nurturing spin-outs and spin-offs.

A limited number of these regional good practices will be presented at the event, subject to selection by the ERRIN Secretariat and Management Board. For the rest and depending on feed-back, we are planning to publish these regional examples in a brochure to be made available as background material to the event.

For background information and downloading a template for submission [please click here](#)



Open Call for Speakers: Present your EU regional/local policy at a Seminar on Innovation on 15 May 2009 in Chalon-sur-Saone, Burgundy (France)

The Regional Council of Burgundy and the Europe Direct Centre of Dijon, jointly with their partners (Bourgogne Innovation, Bourgogne Franche-Comte Europe, Chalon-sur-Saone city, University of Bourgogne) are organizing a major seminar on innovation to be held in Chalon-sur-Saone on 15 May 2009 within the framework of the European Week (9th-15th May 2009) and in relation to the "European Year of Innovation and Creativity".

The objective of this event is to:

- discuss EU innovation policy;
- give an overview of the European funding opportunities in the field of innovation

On this occasion, the Bourgogne and Franche-Comte EU liaison office is looking for ERRIN members willing to participate actively and present their EU innovation policy. Expenses will be covered by the organizers.

The seminar will start with a brief overview of EU innovation policy provided by DG ENTR. It will be followed by a round table during which regional representatives (from the Brussels offices or experts from back home) will present their regional/local innovation policy.

The afternoon session will consist of 4 parallel workshops:

- Workshop 1: Innovation and entrepreneurship
- Workshop 2: Innovation and social affairs
- Workshop 3: Innovation and environment
- Workshop 4: Innovation, education and vocational training

The workshops will allow regional or local practitioners to present their own experiences on innovation from a project perspective. The Bourgogne and Franche-Comte EU liaison office would like to invite all ERRIN members, as regional representatives, to express interest in participating actively in the round table or parallel workshops, according to their preferences and fields of expertise. If you are interested in participation, please contact Amélie Birot from the Bourgogne and Franche-Comte EU liaison office at amelie.birot@skynet.be (+32.2.231.12.81).

Reminder

Declare your interest in new Working Group themes!

ERRIN has currently 8 Working Groups (Innovation Funding, Transport, Space, Health, Energy, Biotech, ICT, Science in Society). These working groups are key to providing thematic leadership, structuring the information, knowledge exchange and boosting project development within ERRIN.

Since ERRIN is keen to absorb and capitalize on additional interest and ambitions of its members, the Secretariat has launched a call for expression of interest on new issues and themes, which could be either addressed by the existing Working Groups or lead to the establishment of new ones.

Every member is kindly invited to [submit](#) to the Secretariat:

- Themes or issues of interest not sufficiently covered by the existing ERRIN Working Groups (e.g. Nanotechnology, International Cooperation, Environment)
- Other potential areas where cooperation through ERRIN could add value

As a follow-up to this consultation, the Secretariat will facilitate a meeting between members interested in a specific theme/issue and/or organize specific seminars.

Suggestions so far received: Nanotechnology, food/food clusters, environment/climate change, sustainable construction, industrial design.

Send us your project examples to be promoted at the "Research Connection 2009" (Prague, 7-8 May)

The Commission has contacted the ERRIN Secretariat in their search for examples of projects, where different EU funding instruments have been successfully used/combined to deliver different parts of one project or different phases of a longer-term project. They would like ERRIN to present such projects (if existing) at the Workshop on "Synergies between Research and Regional Policy" within the framework of the "Research Connection 2009" event.

Background: The Commission's DGs have recently published a funding guide, which includes (fictional) scenarios for complementary financing, such as projects funded by SF first, followed by FP7 or CIP or the other way round. This guide is available at (see p. 13ff for the scenarios):

http://cordis.europa.eu/eu-funding-guide/home_en.html

ERRIN has long demanded that synergies between the different programmes should be improved. We have, for instance, highlighted this in the [ERRIN Discussion Paper on Synergies between the Structural Funds and the Framework Programmes](#) in September 2007. However, the best starting point to work for more synergies is to find practical examples of projects that have successfully combined different funding streams. Likewise negative experiences with trying to do this are also instructive to better identify the existing barriers and possible solutions to overcome these.

So, if you want to contribute to better synergies between future programmes and you are aware of any such positive or negative examples in your region please contact the Secretariat by Friday 13 March 2009, so we can follow



ERRIN EVENTS

ERRIN Innovation Funding Working Group Meeting

Date: 18 March 2009

Time: 10.00-12.00

Venue: South West UK Brussels Office, 11 Rond-Point Schuman, 1040 Brussels

[More information, agenda and registration](#)

ERRIN ICT Working Group Meeting

Date: 26 March 2009

Time: 14.00-17.00

Venue: South-West UK Brussels Office, Rond-Point Schuman 11, 1040 Brussels

[More information, agenda and registration](#)

OTHER EVENTS

Final Conference Procure Project

Date: 16-17 March 2009

Venue: Bureau Bourgogne Franche-Comté Europe, Rue d'Arlon 55, 1040 Brussels

[Information, agenda and registration](#)

Industrial Competitiveness

Date: 17 March 2009

Time: 8.30-18.30

Venue: Charlemagne Building, room Gaspari, 170 Rue de la Loi, 1049 Brussels

[Information, agenda and registration](#)

Workshop "Intelligent Transport Systems"

Date: 17 March 2009

Time: 9.00-11.00

Venue: Flanders-Europe Liaison Office (vleva), Kortenberglaan 71, 1000 Brussels

[Information, agenda and registration](#)

Final Conference of the EC RiskBridge Project

Date: 26 March 2009

Venue: Scotland House, Rond-Point Schuman 6, 1040 Brussels

[Information, agenda and registration](#)

ICT Call 5 Information Day

Date: 24 March 2009

Time: 8.45-17.00

Venue: Jean Monnet building, Conference centre, rue Alcide de Gasperi, Luxembourg (Kirchberg)

[Information, agenda and registration](#)

PARTNER SEARCHES

The Daphne III programme (2007-2013) – Valencia Regional Ministry for Governance

"Iceberg" Project - Community Embrace

Reduce the Black Crime Rate; and the Unknown Pain. Develop preventive and individualized conventions depending on the interests and personal needs of women in risk situations; reducing their vulnerability (empowerment)

[Downloadable Partner Search](#)

Security Research Call 2 - SEC – 2009 4.1.1 – University of Wolverhampton

e-Nabled Resilience

Two key challenges face all emergency services when dealing with the immediate aftermath of any major incident: ignorance as to the nature and scale of the task they face; and an absence of resources able to assist in responding to such.

This proposal suggests that the utilisation of federated 'smart' web-sites provides a management solution to these two key problems.

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FUNDING NEWS

The ERRIN Call Calendar Overview 2009 has been updated and is [available online](#)

MORE NEWS

The last Competitiveness Council provided an occasion for the research ministers to discuss the future of the European Research Area (ERA) and research infrastructures.

The Council held a public exchange of views on the long-term vision for the completion of ERA specifically focusing on the effectiveness and efficiency of investments in research and development (including how to evaluate the results) and the identification of objectives and immediate priorities in the context of the global economic crisis.

The Council meeting was also an opportunity to exchange views on European research infrastructures to prepare the adoption of related conclusions at the next Council session in May. Some key points were identified: 1) the strengthening of links between universities, businesses and public administrations (the 'knowledge triangle') 2) the role of research infrastructures in the European recovery plan, and 3) the best ways to distribute research infrastructures throughout the ERA.

Related Links:

[Czech Presidency Press release](#)

[Competitiveness Council conclusions](#)

[Green Paper: The European Research Area: New Perspectives \(COM/2007/0161 final\)](#)

EIT recently released the criteria for the selection of Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs)

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) governing board recently established the criteria for the selection of the first Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs). A call for proposals for Knowledge and Innovation Communities is expected to be published in April 2009. The selection criteria were recently published to give interested parties timely information on the main requirements for KIC proposals.

Two to three KICs will be selected in the first call, and proposals are expected to address one of the following three priority areas: climate change mitigation and adaptation; sustainable energy; future information and communication society. The detailed call for proposals will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union and on the EIT Web site in early April.

Related Links:

[EIT Selection Criteria](#)

[Related EIT News Item](#)

For more news on Research and Innovation, please visit our Director's [i-blog](#)

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