

EU News Bulletin

The latest monthly EU funding opportunities, news, publications and events of relevance to Ireland's local and regional level

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FUNDING

BMW Region Gateway & Hub Development Fund

The Border, Midland & Western (BMW) Regional Assembly is to directly manage the allocation of a new €17m EU funded capital grant assistance fund available to that region's 5 National Spatial Strategy Gateways (Dundalk; Galway; the Midland Gateway of Athlone-Mullingar-Tullamore; Letterkenny; and Sligo) and 5 Hub Towns (Ballina; Castlebar; Cavan; Monaghan; and Tuam).

This fund, which is allocated from an advance payment of the EU Structural Funds to Ireland, will provide maximum grant assistance of €2m per Gateway and €1.4m for each Hub Town. Local Authorities applying for support are required to provide 40% non-borrowed match funding from their own resources. Priority will be given in the appraisal process to projects which have a strong economic development rationale with good job creation prospects, and which best encompass and demonstrate appropriate urban design, innovation, appropriate scale and cost effectiveness.

Potential types of capital projects include: urban infrastructure, physical regeneration and renewal, including redevelopment of brown-field sites, sustainable energy and transport initiatives, arts and culture facilities, and the development of cultural and built heritage sites. Activities must be completed by the end of 2010.

Deadline: 20 August

[Link](#)

Regions of Knowledge – eHealth

The latest round of calls for project proposals under the 7th Framework Programme for Research & Development (FP7) launched on 30 July includes one on Regions of Knowledge. This initiative aims to strengthen the research potential of European regions and to intensify the role of research and technological development (RTD) in economic development by encouraging and supporting the development, of consortia of regional research-driven clusters. These should involve combinations of the following entities: research organisations (public research centres, higher education institutes, not-for-profit bodies), enterprises (large firms, SMEs), regional or local/regional authorities and, where appropriate, chambers of commerce and banks/savings banks operating in a particular scientific and

technological domain or economic sector. Proposals for this year's call should support economic development by boosting the competitiveness of health-related economy. €16.95 million is available.

Deadline: 14 January 2010

[Link](#)

Roma & Traveller integration

€4.5million in funding is being provided towards three projects on the integration of Roma minorities (the traveler community are included under this umbrella term), under three priority themes: i) early childhood education and care (ECEC); ii) self-employment and microcredit; iii) information and awareness raising. An exceptionally high co-financing rate of 90-95% of the eligible project costs will apply.

Deadline on 25 September

[Link](#)

Interreg Ireland-Wales

Round 3 of the Ireland-Wales Interreg IVA programme is underway. This is a targeted call for Skills for Competitiveness and Employment Integration (Priority 1 Theme 2) and Sustainable Regeneration of Communities (Priority 2 Theme 2). A half-day applicant workshops will be held in Waterford on 12 August to provide guidance on how to complete the application form and financial tables, along with general advice on project development. Register by 7 August via ireland_wales@seregassembly.ie. The application pack is now available online at www.irelandwales.ie

Transport

The Commission is awarding €4.75 million in grants to promote the objectives of the common transport policy, namely: i) road safety; ii) creation and promotion of the internal market,

particularly in the fields of inland waters and maritime transport; and iii) transport security. The ultimate goal of these grants is to complement national, regional or local initiatives and to consolidate successful EU initiatives on the basis of current economic, social and technological trends.

The type of activities likely to be funded are: i) research and dissemination of best practices, and ii) coordination and harmonisation of standards and procedures. Other operations having other characteristics and meeting the ultimate goals above could be considered for funding. The innovative character, visibility, multiplier effect, cost-effectiveness and European dimension of the project are key award criteria.

Deadline: 15 September.

[Link](#)

Research networking

An open call on European Cooperation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST) has been launched. COST supports networking activities among research teams made up of experts in different countries working on specific topics. Proposals for actions must contribute to the scientific, technological, economic, cultural or societal development of Europe. Financial support is usually €100,000 per year for up to four years.

Pre-proposal deadline: 25 September

Submission deadline: 13 November

[Link](#)

Eco-innovation (extension)

The call for proposals for Europe INNOVA: the European Innovation Platform for Eco-Innovation has extended its deadline to 25 September. The objectives are: to set up sectoral partnerships; and to strengthen the wider eco-innovation community. The Platform will support the Lead Market Initiative and the further implementation of the Environmental Technologies Action Plan. The indicative budget of the call is €7.065 million for three projects, which will run for three years.

[Link](#)

Clean technology PPPs

The first round of 'smart investment' research calls for proposals, injecting an initial €268million into three key market areas in order to trigger sustainable and knowledge-based economic recovery, were officially launched on 30 July.

These public-private partnership (PPP) collaborations are part of an overall €3.2 billion package related to the Commission's December 2008 European Economy Recovery Plan's ambitions to promote the convergence of public interest and industry research. Specifically they are intended to develop new clean technologies to foster competitiveness for European businesses, bring down the excessive energy consumption of Europe's buildings, and develop new and sustainable forms of road transport.

The themes are:

- **Factories of the Future** (€ 1.2 billion) – to help manufacturers, especially small to medium businesses, to increase their knowledge and use of the technologies of the future and develop innovative manufacturing technologies, materials and processes to produce more, while consuming less material, less energy, and producing less waste;
- **Energy-efficient Buildings** (€ 1 billion) – to promote green technologies and develop energy-efficient systems, techniques and materials in buildings.
- **Green Cars** (€ 1 billion) – emphasising the development of renewable and non-polluting energy sources in the automotive field, plus safety and traffic fluidity. Smarter transport systems, including electrification of road and urban transport, and research into hybrid technologies are likely areas of concentration.

[Link](#)

[Other recent calls](#)

[Partner Searches received by the IRO from other regions](#)

NEWS & POLICY

MEPs committee positions

The newly-elected European Parliament assembled for the first time in Strasbourg on 14 July. This session saw the election of Poland's Jerzy Buzek as its new President until January 2012, receiving over 86% of the vote. The 20 EP committees to serve a mandate of two and a half years were also formed. These committees amend and adopt proposals and reports to be presented to

the Parliament's plenary session on proposed legislation for which they have joint responsibility alongside the national ministers in the European Council.

The Irish MEPs were allocated to the following (alphabetical) committees:

- Agriculture & Rural Development (Mairead McGuinness; Liam Aylward)
- Development (Gay Mitchell)
- Employment & Social Affairs (Proinsias De Rossa; Marian Harkin)
- Environment, Public Health & Food Safety (Nessa Childers; Bairbre de Brún representing Northern Ireland)
- Fisheries (Pat the Cope Gallagher);
- Industry, Research & Energy (Brian Crowley)
- Internal Market & Consumer Protection (Alan Kelly)
- International Trade (Joe Higgins)
- Petitions (Mairead McGuinness; Bairbre de Brún)
- Regional Development (Sean Kelly)
- Transport & Tourism (Jim Higgins).

No Irish MEPs will sit on the following committees: Budgets; Budgetary Control; Civil Liberties, Foreign Affairs; Constitutional Affairs; Culture and Education; Justice and Home Affairs; Legal Affairs; or Women's Rights and Gender Equality, although some have been granted substitute member status.

[Link](#)

New local energy action supports

ELENA (European Local Energy Assistance), the technical assistance facility launched by the Commission and the European Investment Bank under the EU Covenant of Mayors initiative and within the budget of the Intelligent Energy - Europe (IEE) Programme, will be operational during the second half of 2009. ELENA will assist cities and regions in developing their sustainable energy investments projects and mobilising investments. €15 million will be provided to local authorities for financing their technical assistance costs associated with the development of eligible municipal investment projects or programmes contributing to the overall EU energy targets. Sustainable energy projects eligible under ELENA can focus on a variety of sectors, such as retrofitting of public and private buildings, sustainable building, energy-efficient district heating and cooling networks, or environmentally-friendly transport.

Meanwhile, a second phase of ManagEnergy, the European

Commission initiative to support the work of actors working on energy efficiency and renewable energies at the local and regional level through information, training, workshops, online events and networking, has been approved. A new tender is due to be launched in August to enhance the ManagEnergy website and to further develop the services provided to public authorities, their energy agencies, and other local and regional actors in urban and in rural areas. Services will be adapted to address the implementation of the Climate Change & Energy Package 2020 targets – providing technical support; working with local decision makers and to mobilise investment for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects; and organizing capacity building workshops. The fully functioning network, which will welcome new membership applications, should be up-and-running by the end of this year – in the meantime a scaled-down website will continue to be available.

This approach will complement the Covenant of Mayors and the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign. The number of structures supporting the Covenant continues to grow with the Energie-Cités and METREX (Network of Metropolitan Regions and Areas) networks recently joining the fold. Their support is expected to add the commitment of many new local authorities to the commitment to step up the effort in reducing CO₂ emissions and enhancing cleaner and more efficient energy.

[ELENA](#)

[New ManagEnergy management tools and resources for energy actions](#)

[Covenant of Mayors](#)

Culture fostering innovation

The European Commission has published a study on the role of culture as a catalyst to economic and social innovation in EU regions and cities. The 'Impact of Culture on Creativity' research explores the links between culture, cultural diversity, creativity and social, scientific and economic innovation and highlights the importance of culture as a resource for creativity, and the necessity to devote more financial resources to programmes that stimulate creativity. The research also outlines the importance of culture in promoting a city or a region's uniqueness and local identity as well as reinforcing social cohesion in the community.

[Link](#)

Eco-efficiency roadmap

The Swedish Presidency has published a report entitled 'A European Eco-efficient Economy' ahead of the informal meeting of energy and environment ministers on 23–25 July. The report argues that, in order to build upon Europe's leadership as regards climate change commitments, the EU needs to continue promoting innovation and energy efficiency.

Three areas where EU policy can promote a shift to a competitive green economy are highlighted: 1) pursuing greater resource system efficiency, particularly through energy efficiency and sustainable urban planning; 2) further exploring climate change solutions offered by new technology markets such as renewable energies and sustainable transportation; and 3) instituting global carbon pricing as a standard practice.

The report also provides an action plan for a more sustainable future which urges EU policy-makers to: adopt "package solutions" combining taxes, standards-setting and novel forms of governance in the manner of the green package for renewables; to further promote clean technologies and better platforms to assess the impact of climate policies; and to push for a gradual expansion of global carbon pricing as well as international standards.

[Link](#)

EU business support network for Midlands

WIN Atlantic has been established as a new business support network with the aim of helping SME's and innovative start-up companies build a presence across European markets and expand their business network throughout France, Spain, Portugal, Ireland and the United Kingdom. The network's Irish activities will be centred on the Midlands whose Regional Authority will coordinate a strategic approach also involving support agencies including WESTBIC and the local County Enterprise Boards.

The network is funded through the INTERREG IVC (Atlantic area) initiative and membership is free to companies who meet the qualifying criteria. It will provide enhanced networking opportunities to companies located in the participating regions and support them in the development of their business throughout Europe. WIN Atlantic is particularly interested in working with businesses in the Information Communications Technology (ICT),

Biotechnologies and Energy/Environment sectors.

SME applications to get involved in the proposed activities are welcomed. The advantages to network members include the opportunity to receive part finance to attend and participate in local, national and European events or propose their own events, networking opportunities, information on business funding opportunities, and access to information essential for operating in one of the partner countries.

www.winatlantic.com or contact Sarah Morgan at the Midland Regional Authority, smorgan@midlands.ie

Relaxing ESF match funding; rural housing renewal eligible?

As flagged up in May's *Bulletin*, and as announced in the Communication "A shared Commitment for Employment", adopted in early June, the European Commission has now published a proposal for a Council regulation for simplifying management rules for cohesion policy in light of the current economic crisis. The measures proposed include the possibility for Member States to abolish the obligation of co-financing requirements for European Social Fund (ESF) projects for the period 2009-10 on the basis that these will be repaid in the following years when normal co-financing arrangements will be restored. This measure would thus not modify the overall ESF budget and its allocation among the Member States.

Among the other suggestions is the possibility of using European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) for financing projects renovating or developing housing for communities faced by social exclusion, both in rural and urban areas. Previously it was possible to use resources from the ERDF only for renovating housing in urban areas. The proposal will now need to be approved by the European Parliament and Council.

[Proposal](#)

['A Shared Commitment for Employment'](#)

Financing plan for energy technology

The Commission has finally announced that the financing structure to underpin the EU Strategic Energy Technology Plan will be made known this autumn. The SET Plan was published in November 2007 as a means of directing the development and deployment of cost-

effective low carbon technologies through research in renewables, clean coal, smart grids and nuclear energy. It also includes measures relating to planning, implementation, resources and international cooperation.

This long-awaited Communication will define the financing needs on an industry basis and compare these with what is already available or in the pipeline. Once the remaining gap is identified, it will propose new sources of funding to bridge it as well as recommending more strategic linkages between the relevant energy financing elements of existing Community instruments, including the 7th Framework Programme, Trans-European Energy Networks and various European Investment Bank (EIB) vehicles.

The Commission's Directorate General for Energy is expected to consult stakeholders over the autumn on the 'Technology Roadmaps' developed by the Joint Research Centre to form the backbone of financing needs assessments. The roadmaps describe the current status of key low-carbon energy technologies and their future prospects, including emissions reduction potential and barriers to market penetration.

[Link](#)

No more sub-standard landfills

16 July was the deadline for sub-standard landfills to comply with EU rules. Member States had eight years to ensure sites that existed before European legislation on landfills became applicable were brought into line or closed down altogether. The Commission has written to all Member States to remind them of their obligation and to gather data on compliance. Those found to be in breach of the legislation may face legal action. Member States are also now required to reduce the amounts of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfills by half of 1995 levels.

[Link](#)

Renewables, growth & jobs

A new Study conducted on behalf of the European Commission's DG for Energy and Transport, has assessed for the first time in detail, the economic effects of supporting renewable energy sources (RES). 'The Impact of Renewable Energy Policy on Economic Growth and Employment in the European Union' examines not only job creation effects within the RES sector itself, but takes into account impacts on all sectors of the

economy. The study has determined that policies that support RES provide a significant boost to the economy and the number of jobs created. It concludes that improving current policies so that the target of 20% RES in final energy consumption in 2020 can be achieved will provide a net effect of about 410,000 additional jobs across the EU and an average 0.24% jump in GDP.

[Link](#)

CoR publishes sustainable growth consultation results

The Committee of the Regions has published all the contributions submitted to the consultation of European regions and cities on a new strategy for sustainable growth, the Lisbon strategy post-2010, carried out earlier this year. The findings will be presented at the 2009 OPEN DAYS, which will take place in Brussels from 5 to 8 October.

[Link](#)

Reinventing Europe through innovation

The European Commission is preparing a new Innovation Plan for Europe. A Business Panel, which brings together individuals with a wide range of different perspectives on innovation, has been set up and has placed their initial ideas online at the Innovation unlimited website for comments as inputs towards an upcoming report. Topics such as broadening the concept of innovation, investing in infrastructure, collaborative approaches and finding innovative financing models are open to discussion.

[Link](#)

Green Paper on Youth Mobility includes local focus

On 8 July, the Commission published a Green Paper aimed at mapping existing instruments and good practices for mobilising and promoting the mobility of young people across the EU. In particular part of the document focuses on how public authorities at all levels (EU, national, regional and local), together with private sector and civil society, can be mobilised for ensuring that cross-border mobility among youth becomes the norm in the EU. The Green Paper comprises three sections: i) activities necessary to ensure a wide information dissemination on mobility opportunities and motivating youth people to participate in mobility; ii) the obstacles to

mobility; and iii) the development of a new youth mobility partnership involving a wide range of public, private and third sector organisations.

Submissions are welcome before the 15 December deadline by responding to the Green Paper's open questions, providing information on existing good practices or completing the online questionnaire.

['Promoting the Learning Mobility of Young People'](#)

[Public Consultation](#)

Youth Health initiative launch

The European Commission, in collaboration with the European Youth Forum, has launched the Youth Health initiative. The aim of this campaign is to raise awareness among young people on healthy behaviours, to involve youths in EU health policies and to support Member State's activities on these themes. As part of this initiative, the Commission has launched the website "Be Healthy - Be Yourself", an online portal with useful information and a blog for raising awareness on healthy lifestyles among youths.

[Link](#)

Agri-food industry crisis report

On 6 July, the High Level Group (HLG) on the Competitiveness of the Agro-Food Industry Group published a report with thirty recommendations to help the European food industry emerge from of the crisis. The HLG was set up last year to formulate a way forward to help boost the competitiveness of sector and is composed of senior policy makers from across EU Member States. The HLG recently met with the European Commissioners responsible for Industry, Agriculture, and Consumer Affairs to formulate a series of measures designed to give fresh impetus to the sector.

Among the actions detailed in the roadmap were more transparency in the setting of prices, the simplification of administrative procedures for research funding programmes, and the improvement of relations between operators in the food supply chain.

[Link](#)

Maritime sector relief?

Representatives from the European Commission DG MARE recently met with stakeholders from the maritime sector, Member States and the European

Investment Bank to discuss a way forward in terms of helping the sector to get out of the current crisis. By October the Commission is expected to present a series of new short term measures related to supporting environmentally performing vessels, encouraging investment in the development of port and inter-modality and further loan guarantees for new services related to the maritime sector. The Commission will also publish a progress report in October on the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy, which is expected to announce a way forward in terms of the follow-up of the current policy.

Meanwhile, the Swedish EU Presidency has adopted an agenda for fisheries aimed at quickly reaching agreements on key dossiers to avoid potential confusion arising from the possible application of an approved Treaty of Lisbon. Total Allowable Catch and quotas for the Atlantic are due to be adopted in December. Efforts to broker an agreement on the Common Fisheries Policy Control Regulation before the end of the year will also continue.

[Link](#)

State Aid guidelines extension for troubled firms

The European Commission has decided to extend the validity of the Community Guidelines on State Aid for rescuing and restructuring companies in difficulty until 9 October 2012. The Guidelines, adopted in 2004, were originally planned to lapse this coming October. The decision was motivated by the current unstable economic situation, and the need to provide support and ensure legal certainty to firms currently experiencing problems.

[Link](#)

Lifelong Learning... 'best of' and 2008 approvals

18 innovative and creative projects and student mobility activities funded by the EU's education and training programmes have recently received the 2009 European Awards for Lifelong Learning for their contribution to modernising education and training systems in Europe. The six categories are: school education; higher education; vocational education and training; adult learning; language learning; and ICT.

[Link](#)

Meanwhile, EACEA, the European Commission agency in charge of managing all centralised funding streams of the Lifelong Learning programme, has now published the list of successful projects across the Comenius, Erasmus, Leonardo da Vinci and Grundvig sub-programmes, following the 2008 Lifelong Learning call for proposals, published last October.

[Link](#)

Guidelines on regional investment aid

The European Commission has published a guidance document on the in-depth assessment of regional aid to large investment projects. The document lists and clarifies the type of information that the Commission requires for its compatibility assessment process as well as its assessment methodology and offers a useful tool for presenting large regional aid projects and ensuring faster decisions by the Commission.

[Link](#)

ICT for the disabled & elderly awards

The ACCESS-IT initiative has opened its 2009 awards seeking the nomination of activities that promote a better quality of life for people with disabilities and the elderly through the use of ICTs. There are four award categories which recognise ICT's contribution to independent living; working independently; education; and advancing accessibility on web 2.0.

Deadline: 25 August.

[Link](#)

Training and disadvantaged workers - aid guidance

Two guidance documents clarifying the payment of large amounts of state aid for training and for projects on disadvantaged and disabled workers have been published by the European Commission. Under the General Block Exemption Regulation, Member States have the possibility to provide aid for these activities, without prior notification to the Commission, under specific thresholds. These guidelines refer to projects exceeding annual thresholds of €2 million for training activities; €5 million per undertaking for the employment of disadvantaged workers; and €10 million per undertaking for projects promoting the employment of disabled workers.

[Link](#)

Parental leave proposal

The European Commission formally proposed on 30 July to increase paid or unpaid minimum parental leave (over and above maternity leave) by 2011, with ramifications for Irish legislation if approved by Member State governments. The proposal would increase the current entitlement whereby all parents qualify to take a period of up to 14 weeks' unpaid leave each from employment in respect of children up to eight years of age to four months per parent. Up to three of each parent's four months allocation could be transferred to the other.

The move driven by Commission action on improving work-life balance and improving labour standards would prevent a new parent being unfavourably treated upon their return to work. In June, EU social partners reached an agreement on applying this change to all employees, regardless of contract, and this breakthrough is thought to significantly strengthen the proposal's prospects of being approved.

[Link](#)

PUBLICATIONS

How the economic crisis is being addressed

The Dublin-based European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (EUROFOUND) has published a study on the measures put forward by EU governments and trade unions to tackle the rise of unemployment rates during the current economic crisis. The report outlines that comprehensive crisis packages, rather than isolated initiatives for fostering growth in the labour market, are at the moment the most efficient ways for supporting European economies.

[Link](#)

Enterprise Experience

A new leaflet from DG Enterprise & Industry details how the Enterprise Experience Programme, a unique action to give EU officials practical one week experience of life in micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), works. The programme has been developed in conjunction with leading European-level business bodies and

offers hosting companies first-hand insight into the EU's enterprise policies and improved opportunities to convey SME interests into European policy making.

[Link](#)

Sustainable Energy

The latest Intelligent Energy Newsreview 'Sustainable energy in your city' has been published.

[Link](#)

EVENTS

On request and whenever possible, IRO staff can attend meetings and seminars in Brussels on behalf of local & regional authorities.

8 September, Brussels Climate & jobs – the local angle

The Swedish Presidency of the EU are hosting an experience sharing conference entitled 'Climate and Jobs – local solutions'. Workshops on climate, jobs, infrastructure and energy will involve contributors from the European institutions, local actors and the business community.

[Link](#)

14-15 September, Stockholm Cities and climate

Stockholm, winner of the European Green Capital Award for 2010, will host a European Cities and the Global Climate Challenge conference where a host of expert speakers will give talks based on the influence of cities on the environment, economy, quality of life of the growing urban populations and the action needed to tackle the challenge of climate change. Organisers intend the findings to improve the energy efficiency of the existing urban fabric, make new city districts low-carbon from the outset and simultaneously address other aspects of sustainability.

It is hoped that the conference will provide valuable input in the run up to the Copenhagen Climate Summit in December. This will include a debate on what role the EU can play for climate and sustainable urban development globally,

[Link](#)

16-22 September European Mobility Week

Cities and towns across Europe have the chance to participate in one of the biggest events on sustainable mobility, European Mobility Week. This year's theme is 'Improving City Climates'.

The week is an opportunity for local authorities and transport providers to initiate a range of long-term activities as well as to promote their existing policies, initiatives and best practices. It is also intended to inform citizens about the damage that current urban mobility trends inflict on the environment and will be encouraged to walk, cycle or use public transport.

A busy programme of activities dedicated to sustainable mobility, with Car Free Day on 22 September at its centre, has been confirmed in urban centres across Europe,

[Link](#)

23-24 September, Birmingham Creative industries & regional policies

The Regional Studies Association are organising a seminar on 'Creative industries and regional policies: making space and giving space'. The event is part of the programme of activities of an RSA network exploring the relationship between places, local and regional policies and creative production by fostering a multi-disciplinary debate among researchers, practitioners and policy makers.

Among the topics for discussion are an assessment of supportive policy tools; whether local and regional policies make a difference to the development of creative industries; at what geographical level policy and support initiatives should be implemented; how to integrate regional policy with national policy; and the adequacy of relying on economic development policies.

[Link](#)

28-30 September, Brussels Culture

Registrations are now open for the Commission's 'Culture in motion' conference and European Culture forum. The conference will present projects funded by the Culture Programme while the forum is structured around reviewing progress towards the three strategic objectives of the 2007 Agenda for

Culture: cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue; culture as a catalyst for creativity; and culture as a vital element in the Union's international relations.

The European Commission will cover the travel costs of representatives of a number of culture sector bodies active in European cooperation which, without financial support, would be unable to participate in these events (deadline: 28 August). Over 600 stakeholders from regional and local authorities, civil society are expected to attend the events.

[Link](#)

9 October, Brussels Deployment of Innovative Broadband Networks

This event offers a strategic view on existing opportunities for fast deployment of advanced access infrastructures, particularly broadband and next generation ICT networks to under-served rural and remote areas. It is addressed to European regional stakeholders from Industry, Academia, and European Institutions, interested in knowing how to formulate appropriate policies, create strategic plans and research, implement innovative agendas, and identify key objectives for regional development, economic growth and reducing the digital divide.

The event will be co-organized by SFERA project (Structural Funds for European Structural Advancements), eris@ (European Regional Information Society Association) and the European Broadband Portal.

[Link](#)

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