

# Second RIBN Bulletin - 2006

Dear RIBN Members,

The RIBN Portal has been active for a few months now, and the response we have received has been very encouraging.

Since the launch of <a href="www.ribn.eu">www.ribn.eu</a>, we have added several new articles and pieces of information. Following is a brief overview of what you will currently find on the website. If you haven't seen it yet, make sure you visit <a href="www.ribn.eu">www.ribn.eu</a> soon!

The RIBN member-only area includes the following, continuously updated information:

- Directory of Network members and other regional, national and EU contacts
- Info about RIBN
- Summaries of relevant European, regional and multinational networks and EU programmes (RIBN Directory of European Networks and RIBN European Programme Directory)
- Calendar of RIBN members' events
- RIBN Quarterly Bulletin
- List of open calls for Community Programmes
- Description of bilateral programmes, an alternative to EU funding sources
- Innovation Support Schemes
- Interesting links and publications
- Project partnering requests
- List of RIBN events with detailed descriptions
- List of RIBN additional services that members can subscribe to for an additional fee

If you would like to add or edit any of the information that is currently on the site, or if you have problems with your password to access the RIBN member-only area, please contact <a href="mailto:bojan.tercon@ribn.eu">bojan.tercon@ribn.eu</a>.

Have a wonderful summer break!

Best regards,

Boris Cizeli

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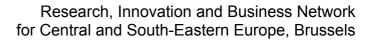
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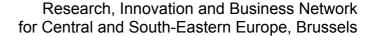
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# **RIBN Business Forum ...**

This year's **RIBN Business Forum**, co-organized with Innovating Regions of Europe (IRE), was held in Nova Gorica, Slovenia on June 13, 2006 and aimed to introduce the IRE network and discuss the investment climate and support for FDIs in the Balkan region with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). In addition, various bilateral development assistance programmes were presented, which assist both Western and Balkan companies in identifying funding available to them through various national and regional bilateral programmes.

The RIBN Business Forum also had a match-making event, where companies from EU25 had a chance to meet companies from the Western Balkans and Candidate Countries.

The RIBN Business Forum was attended by 75 participants.

For more information on the RIBN Business Forum and to download the presentations, please visit <a href="http://www.ribn.eu/public/ribnerefp2006.wlgt">http://www.ribn.eu/public/ribnerefp2006.wlgt</a>

This forum was organized in conjunction with the **European Regional Economic Forum (EREF-2006)** which was also held in Nova Gorica, on June 14 – 15, 2006. The theme of this year's event was 'Building Knowledge Society through Regional Innovation Support', with the aim to enable SMEs from the Balkans to meet their EU and regional counterparts, to exchange experiences and learn from best practice, as well as to get further information on what regional innovation support schemes and EU Community programmes are available to them.

The guest regions of EREF-2006 were Stockholm and Podgorica (Montenegro).

For information on EREF-2006, please visit http://www.sbra.be/public\_slo/default.wlgt?ld=576

# Steering Committee ...

The 5<sup>th</sup> RIBN Steering Committee meeting was held on June 30, 2006 in Brussels.

The following items were on the agenda:

- Overview of <u>www.ribn.eu</u>
- Finalize membership of the Steering Committee
- How to attract new members?

- What are the sponsorship options?
- What RIBN events would we like to organize in the next 6 months?
- Next steps: ideas and initiatives for next year

The minutes of this meeting can be found at <a href="http://www.ribn.eu/private/meeting">http://www.ribn.eu/private/meeting</a> records.wlgt

## News ...

# EU funding for stem cell research continues

The EU research ministers, gathering in an extraordinary meeting on 24 July 2006, reached a political agreement on the Seventh Framework programme for research and technological development 2007-2013 (FP7). The agreement was reached by a small majority, as the Austrian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish and Slovakian delegations voted against. A unanimous political agreement was reached on the Euratom for nuclear research activities 2007-2011.

The council debate focused on funding research activities involving human embryonic stem cells, which a German-lead coalition tried to exclude from the agreement. After assurances that no funding will be granted to research activities which destroy human embryos or are aimed at procurement of stem cells, Germany and some others changed their position, making an agreement possible.

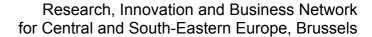
The funding for embryonic stem cell research, therefore, continues under the current case-by-case practice, forbidding research into human cloning and research that would result in hereditable changes. No activity will be funded that is forbidden in all member states and research projects will only be considered for funding from member states where the research is legal.

The extraordinary meeting of research ministers on 24 July 2006 was called for by the Finnish Presidency to reach a deal on the FP7 before the summer, in order to allow the Parliament to prepare for its second reading in time.

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# New Financing Instrument for Potential EU Member States

The Council of Ministers on 17 July agreed to get a new Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) underway. This IPA will be open to candidate, as well





as potential candidate countries: Croatia, Turkey and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia including Kosovo.

The financial tool will replace the five existing preaccession assistance instruments (PHARE, ISPA, SAPARD, Turkey pre-accession instrument and CARDS) as of 1 January 2007.

The funding will amount to 11.468 billion euros for 2007-2013, and is intended to help potential EU Members to prepare for accession and fulfil the Copenhagen criteria. The new IPA will provide more targeted and coherent assistance through a single financial instrument, while taking into account the special needs of each country.

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### ♣ 5 priorities for Finnish Presidency

In a speech to Finland's parliament on 21 June, Prime Minister Matti Vanhanen outlined the five central priorities for the forthcoming Finnish Presidency of the European Union over the second half of 2006.

Matti Vanhanen suggested that Finland will have "a genuine chance" during its Presidency to concentrate on improving the way the Union functions. "We are not under pressure" but can afford to focus on the future. "It is high time we considered what kind of a Union we want to have in ten or twenty years - and how we can achieve this. (...) The Union faces two key problems: weak legitimacy and ineffective decision-making, which lead to lack of visible, tangible results". Finland will address these two problems.

Finland's first priority is the future of Europe. The Prime Minister welcomed the conclusions adopted by the 15-16 June European Council and its twin-track approach: "improving the way the Union functions on the basis of the existing Treaties whilst at the same time launching discussions on how to move forward".

Regarding enlargement, Matti Vanhanen noted that "the (June) European Council did not change the membership criteria, agreed in Copenhagen in 1993. (...) Commitments must be honoured. (...) We need the same rules for all, with each candidate country treated by its own merits". The Prime Minister acknowledges that membership negotiations with Turkey and Croatia, and the situation in the Western Balkans, "will require a lot of our attention". Finland's objective will be to achieve "a new consensus on

enlargement" on the basis of the premise that "in the future, the Union should be developed as united as possible and that all member states should be equal, now as in the future".

The second priority is competitiveness. This theme, and in particular innovation policy, will be the main point on the agenda at the informal meeting of heads of state and government in Lahti in October, alongside external energy relations. Russia's President Vladimir Putin has been invited to join the dinner after the meeting.

Finland does not, however, mean to "achieve competitiveness at any cost. We must also bear in mind the rights of the most vulnerable members of society. We do not have a single social model in Europe, and there is no reason to try to create one". There are, however, common values. "The welfare-state-oriented European approach has aroused interest outside Europe as it differs for instance from the American or Asian approach. This combination - a competitive Europe that is strong in social terms - will be our strength also in the future", said Mr Vanhanen.

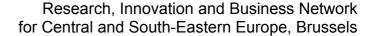
In the labour market this means "looking for functional models to combine flexibility and competitiveness with a sufficient degree of security. If we fail to do this, people might turn against the Union". Mr Vanhanen believes Nordic countries can make a contribution to the EU here.

Third priority: external relations. As a global actor, the EU "does not have time for reflection pause in its external action". The line throughout Finland's Presidency will be that "the Union's voice will be heard only if we speak with one voice".

Finland aims to "further develop the Union's crisis management" by developing the rapid response force.

Finland also aims to improve the EU's relations with its most important neighbour, Russia. "This partnership cannot be limited to trade and energy but must extend to a broad-ranging partnership, in which we can share our European values and global interests". Finland's goal will be to open negotiations by the end of the year.

Fourth priority: justice and security. Finland will put emphasis on dealing effectively with international crime, human trafficking and terrorism. The possibilities in the Nice Treaty to use qualified majority voting might prove to be a "significant step" towards improving decision-making on police and judicial cooperation issues.





Finally, the European Council's 16 June declaration on transparency policy has been welcomed in Helsinki, and the incoming Presidency aims to ensure that it is rapidly applied in practice. In principle, all Council deliberations on legislation to be adopted under the co-decision procedure will be public. However, this new effort to open up proceedings must not "prevent Ministers from holding confidential discussions where necessary".

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# Launch of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkans

On June 26, 2006, Janez Potočnik, European Science and Research, Commissioner for participated in the official launch of a steering platform on research for Western Balkan countries in Vienna, organised by the Austrian Presidency. Research is an invaluable tool for the region to enhance cooperation, boost sustainable economic development and facilitate integration into the European Union. All Member States, candidate countries and Western Balkan Countries, as a followup to the Thessaloniki S&T Action Plan, are encouraged to participate actively in this initiative, as its success relies on a concerted joint effort. Mr Potočnik will call upon other institutions present in the region, such as the Stability Pact for Eastern Europe and the European Investment Bank, to contribute to scientific capacity-building in the Balkans. The Steering Platform will be assisted by an Information Office, financed as a Specific Support Action by the International Cooperation Programme of the Sixth Research Framework Programme. This Steering Platform is another demonstration of the priority the Commission attaches to research links with potential and current candidate countries.

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Following the political agreement reached by the extraordinary meeting of the Competitiveness Council on the 7th Framework Research Programme on 24 July, Ministers and MEPs will have to make good use of the time remaining before the end of the year in order to have the new funding rules adopted and ready to come into force as planned on 1 January 2007.

The next key step in the legislative process will be for the European Parliament to adopt its second reading recommendation on FP7 (the EU's principal instrument for funding all scientific research and technological development between 2007-2013), currently scheduled for 30 November.

In this reading the EP will no longer be examining issues within FP7 related to nuclear research, as these are contained in the separate high-level document setting up the Euratom Framework Programme, on which MEPs are only consulted. One energy issue which does remain is Parliament's amendment that 2/3 of the non nuclear energy research budget under FP7 should be directed at renewable energy sources and efficiency. This idea was rejected by the European Commission in its revised proposal of 28 June, and has not yet been on the agenda for discussions by Ministers.

Another issue for MEPs will be to decide if they can accept the compromise achieved in Council on embryonic stem cell research which, while using the same wording in the legal text as Parliament, also includes a Commission statement clarifying the limits of the research which will be undertaken, and setting out future comitology procedure relating to it.

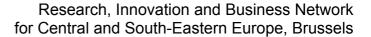
Given that at this stage any disagreement between Parliament and the Council could be disastrous for getting FP7 up and running on time, three-way talks between the two institutions and the Commission are to start after the summer break, in order to ensure that amendments made to the Council's common position are acceptable to Ministers.

In addition to the two high-level documents setting up FP7, however, there are also the different proposals for secondary legislation setting out the details for specific programmes under the framework as well as the rules of participation for companies, research centres and universities that need to be agreed in time for 1 January. Parliament's opinion on the specific programmes, on which it is only consulted, is expected in October, although the timing is not certain. For the rules of participation, where the EP has co-decision powers except for the Euratom programme, the hope is that they can be agreed in one reading by the end of November, with discussions between the three institutions to seek agreement on these, too.

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# 4 10 New Member States catching up fast with EU-15

The accession of the ten new members to the European Union in May 2004 was perceived as a great challenge for the EU, especially in economic terms. Analyses on the results of enlargement have focused mainly on the enormous needs of these





countries in all sectors of the economy and society. There were doubts that real convergence of the new EU members would be achieved quickly.

But the pace of the catching-up process in the new member states (NMS) has been quite astounding, says the latest report by Bank Austria Creditanstalt (BA-CA). "The reality of the situation has refuted all those who, during the accession negotiations, maintained that that real convergence would be insufficient", BA-CA said.

The report presents an in-depth analysis of the economic developments which have taken place over last two years in the NMS.

Over the last two years the level of prosperity in the NMS has risen twice as fast as in the EU-15. This was possible mainly due to a high level of GDP growth, reaching 4% per annum. The highest rate was achieved by Latvia (8.3% in 2004 and 10% in 2005). By contrast, the lowest GDP increase p.a. was registered in Slovenia in 2004 (4.2 % of GDP) and in Poland in 2005 (3.2% of GDP). The report predicts that the GDP growth p.a. in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia will account for 4.4% whereas in the Baltic states (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) it will amount to 7.1%.

The new member states succeeded also in boosting their market share of EU imports by three percentage points from 6.3% to 9.3%, which represents an almost 50% increase in market share. More than half (60%) of NMS exports now goes to the EU-15.

More importantly for the convergence process, the quality of exports has improved noticeably. The of exported goods structure has changed dramatically, says the report. Before accession it was dominated by relatively low-priced mass-produced articles. Today, the middle and high-tech segments prevail. The report explains that the export achievements of the NMS are mainly a result of lowcost production and significant improvements in quality. Moreover, the report says that the wellqualified workforce and the high demand of the EU's industry for lower-cost production sites also had a positive effect on the reorientation of the NMS export flows.

The ten states have also succeeded in attracting large volumes of foreign direct investment (FDI). In relative terms, the NMS region has registered the highest level of FDI. Its cumulated FDIs amounted to about 40% of GDP, more than those of China (25% of GDP). The highest amount of FDI was received in 2004 and 2005 by Estonia (8.2% of GDP and 23.7% of GDP, respectively).

According to BA-CA, 2006 will be another year of robust growth for the ten new member states. After averaging 4.5% in 2005, economic growth will accelerate to over 5% in 2006, driven increasingly by domestic demand.

(Copyright Euractiv, 2006, <u>www.euractiv.com</u>)

# ♣ Slovenia is set to adopt the euro in January 2007

Throughout 2005, Slovenia managed to keep its inflation at 2.3%, and overall the country "fulfils the necessary conditions to adopt the euro," the Commission said. Accordingly, Slovenia is on track to euro zone membership on 1 January 2007.

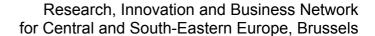
The verdict by the Commission and the ECB was also confirmed by the EU's finance ministers on 11 July.

Most of the rest of the EU-10 states are still far from meeting the stringent euro zone rules. To qualify for membership, a country must keep its inflation below 2.4%, the annual deficit must not exceed 3% of GDP, and total public debt must be below 60% of GDP.

(Copyright Euractiv, 2006, www.euractiv.com)

# **↓ EIB loan for SMEs, infrastructure and industry in Serbia**

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is lending €40 million to Banca Intesa AD Beograd in Serbia. This will be used to provide long-term financing for small medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and infrastructure projects by local authorities and for industrial investments in the fields of innovation and human capital, energy and environmental protection. The EIB loan aims to provide an opportunity for longterm funding, which is difficult at present. With the funds stemming from the EIB, up to 50% of the eligible project cost may be financed. The term for infrastructure projects is 15 years; loans for SMEs may go up to 12 years. SMEs represent an important source of jobs and are a key driver for economic and social progress. In addition, the funds will help to address the backlog of investment in infrastructure due to the lack of appropriate financial resources.





# Services ...

#### **↓** Finance Helpdesk

Finance-NMS-IST is an SSA that assists New Member State Organisations with the financial and budgetary aspects of participation in the IST Program.

Finance-NMS-IST trains via workshops the financial personnel within SMEs and other organisations in the 10 New Member States, and assists them in interpreting and implementing the financial rules and regulations of FP6 to their benefit. The organisations include local accounting trained companies. commercial organisations and academic institutions. This is so that they will be able to assist their own organisations or clients both in the computation of optimal correct budgets as well as to ensure correct understanding of the financial responsibilities in entering into an EU contract.

Working in coordination with each local NCP, Finance-NMS-IST will uses accountants with experience in FP6 rules and regulations. They will share their experiences and tools to assist and train the organisations through seminars, one to one consulting sessions and help-desk facilities. Support includes proposing, negotiation, cost recording and cost reporting. This is to ensure that not only is the correct amount budgeted, but that it can also be eventually correctly realised.

www.finance-helpdesk.org

### ♣ Gate 2 Growth

The Gate2Growth Initiative is part of the Innovation/SMEs Programme action line "access to private innovation financing and tools for better knowledge exploitation", managed by the Innovation Policy Unit of DG Enterprise. Gate2Growth.com thus provides tools, infrastructure and support services directed to innovative entrepreneurs as well as to their supporters.

The ultimate objective of the Gate2Growth Initiative is to support the innovative entrepreneurs in Europe.

Gate2Growth is the pan-European Business Platform for:

- Entrepreneurs seeking financing (Business Matching),
- Investors (InvestorNet),

- Technology Incubator Managers (Incubator Forum),
- Knowledge Transfer Offices (Proton Europe).
- Academia in entrepreneurship, innovation and finance (Academic Network),
- Innovative companies seeking expert service providers (Service Center)

What kind of services does it offer?

For technology entrepreneurs and participants in Community funded RTD

- Business plan preparation tool package
- Business plan diagnostic
- Discussion forums
- Industry news and events
- Investor identification and matching tool
- Service provider directory
- Seminars and workshops
- Peer group and entrepreneur clubs
- Access to a network of local intermediaries

For innovation professionals and intermediaries, in particular Incubator Managers, ILO and IPR Managers, Early Stage Technology Venture Capital Investors:

#### Good practice

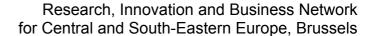
- Good practice repository on Gate2Growth.com with guides, standard texts, etc.
- semestrial workshops for incubator, ILO and investment managers

#### Professional development

- Industry training voucher
- Pan-European secondment programme
- High tech cluster visits (including USA)
- Access to experts, trainers and speakers (including USA)
- Industry conference access

#### Community and networking

- I-TecNet: pan-European network of 70 early stage technology venture capital investors
- G2G Incubator Forum : pan-European network of 150 technology incubators
- ProTon Europe : pan-European network of 250 ILO managers
- G2G Finance Academia : pan-European network of academics and entrepreneurship trainers
- Annual Gate2Growth partnering event
- Gate2Growth.com thematic homepage





#### Tools and Resources

- Investor and technology matching service
- Online membership and competence directory
- A support package for entrepreneurship training providers
- A support package for Business Plan Contest Organisers

www.gate2growth.com/g2g/g2g welcome.asp

# **Introducing Network members**

# Mihailo Pupin Institute



Institute Mihailo Pupin (IMP) is a leading Serbian R&D institution in ICT. Since its foundation in 1946 the Institute

has been engaged in application-orientated research on behalf of key utility and transportation companies, public safety and finance, and various vertical industry sectors. Mihajlo Pupin Institute presently has approximately 500 employees. Their skilled and innovative R&D pool assembles more than 250 researchers (including 7 Univ. Prof., 14 PhD and 30MSc).

They provide a wide range of products and services. Their service scope covers customized IT solutions, hardware & software outsourcing, technology consulting, engineering, prototyping, and system design & integration. IMP is also offering a spectrum of ICT solutions in the following product programs:

- Process Control Program SCADA systems (hardware & software) optimized for large and geographically distributed utility systems, control and monitoring solutions for process industries
- Management Information Program investment advisory tools and decision support
   systems, information retrieval systems, versatile
   ERP solutions
- Traffic Management Program Pay-toll
   Systems for Highways, City Traffic Management,
   GPS-based Automatic Vehicle Location
- Security Program crypto devices, solutions for securing telecommunication links over telephony and radio networks
- Telecommunications Program Power Line Carrier equipment, communication solution for safe and efficient operation of high-voltage power networks

Most of its revenues (between 90-95%) the Institute earns in competitive domestic and international

markets. Only 5-10% percent of total revenues are earned through public projects financed by the Serbian Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection. Approximately 8% of total revenue is earned from export of products and services.

Leading world companies such as BASF, Raytheon, NCR, and Philips had benefited from IMP's solutions and services. Through a Joint Project Office we are uniting ICT expertize and resources with prominent German R&D organization, Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft.

www.institutepupin.com

# ♣ Stockholm Region



Not only is the Swedish market unquestionably

the largest in Scandinavia, but Stockholm is also its largest city with quicker and easier access to more consumers than any other city in the region. The gap between Stockholm and other main cities in Scandinavia widens each year. Since 1995, the population of Stockholm Län (the county of Stockholm) has grown by 9%, giving it one of the highest population growths in Europe. Stockholm's key business areas are: ICT, Life Sciences, Banking and Finance, Creative Media and Entertainment Tourism industry, Business industries. professional services. Since 1993, the IT sector has been the fastest growing sector in Sweden. Stockholm, one of the world's most important technology hubs, is the focus of attention. Globally recognized as the Wireless or Mobile Valley, because of its leading position in wireless technology and mobile applications & services, Stockholm is one of the world's dominant information economies, and offers international enterprises and professionals exciting opportunities and world-leading R&D opportunities.

In 1995 Sweden joined the European Union. This step had a profound effect on all levels of the government and local administration. It opened completely new prospects for international cooperation for local authorities and other actors in the Stockholm-Mälar Region. In 1996 the City of Stockholm, the Stockholm County Council and the Association of Local Authorities in Stockholm County signed an agreement on cooperation in EU matters. The agreement addressed the need for greater coordination of activities on the EU level. As part of the agreement, the Stockholm Region was established.

The role of the organisation was defined in terms of facilitating the international work of the stakeholders



and promoting the Stockholm Region in Europe. Agreement called for the organisation to be an information exchange forum on EU related matters with a significance for the Stockholm Region. By being a competence centre, the Stockholm Region shall stimulate international activities of municipalities and counties in the Stockholm-Mälar Region. In concrete terms. The Stockholm Region is fulfilling those tasks by monitoring prioritised thematic areas and EU programmes related to those areas. Over the years, the Stockholm Region assumed the role of a help-desk, helping municipalities and other actors in the Region to explore funding possibilities for their EU projects. Moreover, in order to spread the information on various EU topics and increase the competence of civil servants in the Region, the Stockholm Region is organising numerous conferences and seminars. Following is a closer description of each activity the Stockholm Region is involved in.

#### **Monitoring of Thematic Areas**

People in the Stockholm Region offices in Stockholm and in Brussels monitor various thematic areas, which the stakeholders identify as important. Prioritised thematic areas are the social and welfare matters, gender equality, environment, health and IT. Reports on these areas are sent to their stakeholders upon request.

#### **Searching for Funding Possibilities:**

The European Commission provides great number of different funding possibilities for projects that comply with the objectives of the EU and its policies. We are scanning those programs on a regular basis, analysing the EU policies and advising our stakeholders how to proceed in project funding.

#### Conferences and seminars

The Stockholm Region arranges a number of seminars and conferences. In year 2003, there were two events of particular importance; the EU Enlargement conference in Stockholm and the coorganisation of the Swedish Week, an event within the celebration of St. Petersburg 300 anniversary.

#### Spreading and gathering of strategic information

Communication is strategic for The Stockholm Region. The office needs to communicate information gathered in the fields of responsibility to the stakeholders in the Stockholm Region. Simultaneously, the Stockholm Region carries out marketing activities to increase the attractiveness of the Stockholm Region around Europe.

www.stockholmregion.org

# **Upcoming events (by area)**

 Economic Policies, Performance, Benchmarking, Competitiveness

# Caspian Outlook 2008 – Energy and Geopolitical Dimensions

Bled (Slovenia), 27 – 28 August 2006 <a href="http://www.bledstrategicforum.org/">http://www.bledstrategicforum.org/</a>

# European Productivity Conference 2006 Espace (Finland), 30 August – 1 September 20

Espoo (Finland), 30 August – 1 September 2006 http://www.epc2006.fi/

# International Entrepreneurship Forum: 6<sup>th</sup> OECD International Conference

Riga (Latvia), 30 August – 2 September 2006 http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/29/35/36962111.pdf

#### **China-EU Business Summit 2006**

Helsinki, 12 September 2006 <a href="http://www.ek.fi/businessforums/eu\_china/en/index.p">http://www.ek.fi/businessforums/eu\_china/en/index.p</a>

### **Entrepreneurship in Science Based Regions**

Cambridge, 20 – 22 September 2006 <a href="http://www.technopolicy.net/conferences.php?conference=cambridge">http://www.technopolicy.net/conferences.php?conference=cambridge</a>

# The Challenges for Knowledge-Based Economies Helsinki. 21 – 22 September 2006

http://goingglobal2006.vtt.fi/

# At the Sources of Knowledge – Competitiveness through Basic Education

Helsinki, 28 – 29 September 2006 http://www.kunnat.net/k\_perussivu.asp?path=1;161;2 79:55443;101855;103943;101857

# 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Eurochambers' Congress: Communicating Europe

Thessaloniki, 5 – 6 October 2006 http://eurochambres.be/congress2006/

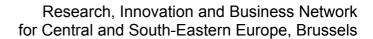
# Public Private Partnerships: Practitioners's Seminar: Making best use of public funds?

Maastricht, 9 – 11 October 2006 http://www.eipa.nl/?option=products&section=M&id=1 488&fct=Open

29<sup>th</sup> ISBE Conference: International entrepreneurship – From Local to Global Enterprise Creation and Development

Cardiff, 31 October – 2 November 2006 http://www.isbe2006.org/

The Future of Corporate Financing in an Integrating EU Financial Market





Brussels, 27 November 2006

http://ec.europa.eu/economy finance/events/2006/ev ents workshop 271106 en.htm

#### **Today is the Future**

Brussels, 7 March 2007

http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/events/

# Regional Development, Urban **Development, Cooperation Among Cities**

#### Fit for Asia? Patent Information from Japan, China and Korea

Vienna, 21 – 22 September 2006 http://www.european-patentoffice.org/epidos/training/programme/2006/asian pi.p hp

# 4<sup>th</sup> International Euro-Asian Conference on **Transport and Transtec-2006 Exhibition**

St.Petersburg, 25 – 28 September 2006 http://www.setcorp.ru/exb/index.phtml?pagenum=5&I anguage=english&Ex=t06

#### European Week of Regions and Cities 2006: Open **Davs**

Brussels, 9 - 12 October 2006

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/regional policy/confe rences/od2006/index.cfm

# **Developing the Project Pipeline for EU Structural**

Maastricht, 30 - 31 October 2006 http://www.eipa.nl/index.asp?option=products&sectio n=M&id=1490

#### Seminar: EU Communications in a Regional and Local Context: Planning, Structuring and implementing European Information and **Campaigns**

Maastricht, 9 - 10 November 2006 www.eipa.nl

#### **Financial Management of EU Structural Funds**

Maastricht, 21 – 22 November 2006

http://www.eipa.nl/?option=products&section=M&id=1 508&fct=Open

#### Implementing the New Structural Funds Regulations

Maastricht, 27 – 28 November 2006

http://www.eipa.nl/index.asp?option=products&sectio n=M&id=1490

# ♣ R&D, ERA

#### The 2006 ECFIN Annual Research Conference: Adjustments in the Euro Area – The Financial **Market Dimension**

Brussels, 7 – 8 September 2006

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/economy\_finance/ev ents/2006/events research conference 0906 en.ht m

#### NanoEurope 2006 Fair & Conference

St.Gallen (Switzerland), 12 - 14 September 2006 http://www.olma-

messen.ch/wEnglisch/messen/nanoeurope/01 besuc her/konferenzen/overviewW3DnavanchorW2611100 18.php

#### Getting Ready for Framework 7 - One Day Course Brussels, 13 September 2006

http://www.hyperion.ie

### Conference on EU Pharma Law and Regulation

London, 18 - 19 September 2006

http://www.c5-online.com/pharmalaw/PR02.htm

#### The Slovene Chemistry days 2006

Maribor (Slovenia), 21 – 22 September 2006 www.chem-soc.si

#### **Biotech Patenting**

London, 25 – 26 September 2006

http://www.c5-

online.com/Pharmaceutical Biotech/biotech.htm?Pag eMode=HTML

#### **Gas Infrastructure Europe**

Bratislava, 28 - 29 September 2006 http://gie.waxinteractive3.com/

#### **Russian Forestry Complex in XXI Century**

St.Petersburg, 10 – 13 Ocober 2006 www.restec.ru/forum

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual European Energy Policy Conference

Brussels, 16 – 17 October 2006

http://www.epsilonevents.com/eps current event.asp ?id=24&type=current

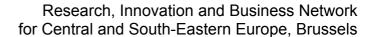
#### Investing in Research and Innovation -**Exchanging European Experiences in a Nordic** Context

Copenhagen, 16 - 18 October 2006

https://www.welcomehome.dk/Default.aspx?ID=731

### **European Platform of Women Scientists**

Brussels, 20 October 2006 http://www.epws.org/





# **European Conference on Biorefinery Research**

Helsinki, 19 – 20 October 2006

http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/energy/gp/gp\_events/biorefinary/article 3764 en.htm

#### **E-Health Congress**

Brussels, 19 October 2006

http://www.ianis.net/index.php?page=events&sub=de tail&idevent=1443

#### Agriculture in Europe: What is the Future

Wilton Park (Steyning,UK), 23 – 25 October 2006 <a href="http://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/themes/eu/conference.a">http://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/themes/eu/conference.a</a> spx?confref=WP828

#### ITMMAPS 2006 - Fostering Seaports and Beyond

Antwerpen, 25 – 27 October 2006

http://www.itmma.ua.ac.be/main.aspx?c=.ITMMAPS2

#### EuroBio 2006

Paris, 25 – 27 October 2006 http://www.eurobio2006.com/conferences.php

# The 3<sup>rd</sup> International Congress of Nanothechnology (ICNT 2006)

San Francisco, 30 October – 2 November 2006 http://www.ianano.org/

#### 2006 Health Foods European Summit

London, 31 October – 1 November 2006 http://www.healthyfoodssummit.com/

#### RIO6 - World Climate and Energy Event

Rio de Janeiro, 17 – 18 November 2006 http://www.rio6.com/

#### Bioenergy 2007 - Conference & Exhibition

Jyvaskyla (fFinland), 3 – 6 September 2007 http://seminaarit.ohoi.fi/default.asp?seminarID=6

### Innovation, IPR, Technological Transfer

#### WAITRO 2006: The Business of Innovation

Saskatoon (Canada), 8 – 10 August 2006 <a href="http://www.waitro2006.com/">http://www.waitro2006.com/</a>

# The Future of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy: Linking Research & Practice

Brighton, 11 – 13 September 2006

http://www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/spru/events/ocs/index.php

# Science Parks: Serving Knowledge-Based Business to Enhance Economic Development

Isfahan (Iran), 16 - 19 September 2006

http://www.iaspisfahan2006.net/

# Innovact – the European Forum for Innovative Growth Companies

Reims (France), 18 – 19 October 2006 www.innovact.com

# 2nd European Conference on Financing Innovation and Creation of New Technology Based Firms

Sevilla, 23 – 24 November 2006 http://www.iat.es/cfi/

# 9th CEI Summit Economic Forum: Fostering Reforms and Innovation for Sustainable Growth

Tirana, 22 – 23 November 2006

http://www.ceinet.org/main.php?pageID=30

# Innova Conference 2006: Challenges for Clusters and Innovative Businesses

Valencia, 26 – 28 November 2006

http://www.europe-

innova.org/index.jsp?type=page&cid=5920&lg=en

# Best Practices for Innovation Hubs and Technology Park Concepts

Oulu (Finland), 8 – 9 December 2006 http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=MSS\_EVENT S\_FI\_EN&ACTION=D&RCN=24669&DOC=4&CAT= NEWS&QUERY=1152709408573

### Education, Training

# Understanding and Managing the Complexity of EU Lobbying

Brussels, 27 – 28 November 2006

http://www.eutraining.be/download/pe\_lobbying\_skills
.pdf

#### Masterclass EU Lobbying

Brussels, 28 – 29 September 2006 www.eutraining.be

# Human Capital, Adaptability, Employability: Are We Developing the Right Skills for the European Workforce?

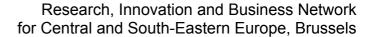
Milano, 5 - 6 October 2006

http://www.eipa.nl/?option=products&section=M&id=1 750&fct=Open

# New Members, Accession Countries, EU Enlargement

### **Montenegro Business & Investment Summit**

Sveti Stefan (Montenegro), 28 – 29 September 2006





http://www.euroconvention.com/3501montenegrointro1.htm

#### **Moldova Business & Investment Summit**

Chisinau (Moldova), 5 – 6 October 2006 http://www.euroconvention.com/2501moldovaintro1.htm

## Information Society

# Software Engineering and Advanced Applications (SEAA)

Dubrovnik (Croatia), 28 August – 1 September 2006 http://www.sea.uni-

 $\underline{\text{linz.ac.at/euromicro2006/conference}} \underline{\text{organisation.ht}} \underline{\text{ml}}$ 

# New Perspective for the Development of ICT in South-Eastern European Countries

Budapest, 22 September 2006

# The World of Health IT: Connecting Leaders in Technology and Health

Geneva, 10 October 2006

http://www.ianis.net/index.php?page=events&sub=detail&idevent=1437

# 4<sup>th</sup> IEEE International Conference on Information Technology: Research and Education

Tel Aviv, 16 – 19 October 2006 http://www.afeka.ac.il/itre2006/

#### eChallenges e-2006 Conference

Barcelona, 25 October 2006

http://www.ianis.net/index.php?page=events&sub=de tail&idevent=1366

# Towards a Common European Space of Information: EU's i2010 Strategy and the Role of Regional Actors

Turku (Finland), 10 November 2006 http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=MSS\_EVENT S\_FI\_EN&ACTION=D&RCN=24700&DOC=3&CAT= NEWS&QUERY=1152709000221

# IST 2006 - Strategies for Leadership

Helsinki, 21 November 2006 http://www.ianis.net/index.php?page=events&sub=de tail&idevent=1290

#### IST Event 2006

Helsinki, 22 – 24 November 2006 http://www.ist2006.fi/

# Recent publications (by area)

# **↓** Economic Policies, Performance, Benchmarking, Competitiveness

The Brussels Economic Forum 2006: Renewal in Europe, Conference papers, May 2006 <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/economy\_finance/events/2006/events">http://ec.europa.eu/economy\_finance/events/2006/events</a> brussels 0506 en.htm

Commission Spring Economic Forecasts 2006-2007: Growth Rebounds, European Economy 2/2006, May 2006

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/economy\_finance/publications/european\_economy/forecasts\_en.htm

Regional GDP per inhabitant in the EU25, Eurostat, May 2006

http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=STAT/06/63&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

The Political Economy of Environmental Taxation in the European Countries, N.Fujiwara, J.Nunez Ferrer, C.Hegenhofer, CEPS Working Document n°245, June 2006

http://shop.ceps.be/BookDetail.php?item\_id=1339

Prospects for the Lisbon Strategy: How to Increase the Competitiveness of the European Economy? Daniel Gros, CEPS Working documents, July 2006 <a href="http://shop.ceps.be/BookDetail.php?item\_id=1244">http://shop.ceps.be/BookDetail.php?item\_id=1244</a>

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INTERREG IIIc Operations – The Complete Collection, Interregional Cooperation at work: 2000-2006, April 2006

http://www.interreg3c.net/sixcms/detail.php?id=8676

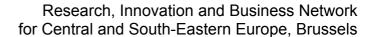
European Regional and Urban Statistics – Reference Guide 2006, Eurostat, May 2006

http://epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int/portal/page?\_pageid=10 73,46587259&\_dad=portal&\_schema=PORTAL&p\_p roduct\_code=KS-BD-06-001

Three New Initiatives for Cohesion Policy: JASPERS (EBRD), JEREMIE (EIB) & JESSICA (CEB), DG Regional Policy, May 2006

http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/693&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=fr

4<sup>th</sup> Progress Report on Economic and Social Cohesion, DG Regional Policy, June 2006





http://ec.europa.eu/regional\_policy/sources/docoffic/official/reports/doc/4inter\_en.pdf

Review of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy – Renewed Strategy, Council of the EU, June 2006 <a href="http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/06/st10/st10117.en06.pdf">http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/06/st10/st10117.en06.pdf</a>

Cohesion Policy in Support of Growth and Jobs: Community Strategic Guidelines 2007-2013 – Draft, DG Regio, July 2006

http://ec.europa.eu/regional\_policy/sources/docoffic/2 007/osc/index\_en.htm

InfoRegion Newsletter nr.147, Innovating through EU Regional Policy, July 2006

http://ec.europa.eu/regional\_policy/newsroom/newsle t147/147\_06\_en.pdf

### ♣ R&D, ERA

European Technology Platforms – Moving to Implementation: Second Status Report, European Commission, May 2006

ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/technology-platforms/docs/ki7305429ecd.pdf

SMRPs – Societally Motivated Research Platforms, Part of FP7, SydSam Position paper, June 2006 http://www.sydsam.se/english/SMRP.asp

#### Innovation, IPR, Technological Transfer

Innovation and Knowledge-Intensive Service Activities, OECD, March 2006

http://www.gecd.org/document/56/0.2340.en

http://www.oecd.org/document/56/0,2340,en\_2649\_3 4273 36274360 1 1 1 1,00.html

PAXIS Manual for Innovation Policy Makers and Practitioners, DG Enterprise and Industry, March 2006

http://www.insme.org/documents/paxis manual.pdf

Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme 2007-2013, Proposal by the EU Commission, April 2006 <a href="http://europa.eu.int/eur-">http://europa.eu.int/eur-</a>

lex/lex/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2005/com2005\_0121e n01.pdf

Global Overview of Innovative Activities From the Patent Indicators Perspective, STI Paper 2006/3, OECD, May 2006

http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/29/46/36599850.pdf

Provision and Export of Computer Services in Europe, Issue nr 15/2006, Eurostat, April 2006 <a href="http://epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int/portal/page?">http://epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int/portal/page?</a> pageid=10 <a href="page-73,465872598">73,465872598</a> dad=portal& schema=PORTAL&p p roduct code=KS-NP-06-015

Biofuels in the European Union, A Vision for 2030 and Beyond, BIOFRAC, 2006 <a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/energy/nn/nnrt/n">http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/energy/nn/nnrt/nrt/nrt/nrt/bm/article 4012 en.htm</a>

Biofuels in the European Union: A Vision for 2030 and Beyond, Final Report 2006, DG Research, June 2006

http://ec.europa.eu/research/energy/pdf/biofuels\_vision 2030 en.pdf

The European Institute of Technology: Further Steps towards its Creation, DG Education, COM (2006) 276 final, June 2006

http://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/educ/eit/comm\_8 6 06 en.pdf

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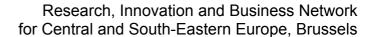
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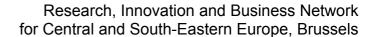
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Handbook on the European Union, Z.Horvath, HVG-ORAC publishing house Ltd, 2006 http://eubookshop.com/1/91

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http://www.eulobbytours.org/index.html

# **Eurofunding opportunities ...**

### Main sources of Eurofunding

Following are the main information sources on EU funding relevant to the region of Central and South-Eastern Europe and being used for this overview:

For further details please refer to the organizations listed below:

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

www.ebrd.org

#### **EuropeAid**

http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/index en.htm

#### Welcome Europe

www.welcomeurope.com

European Investment Bank (EIB) www.eib.org

Phare, Sapard, ISPA, Cards, EAR TACIS, MEDA http://ted.publications.eu.int

# Official Journal

http://europa.eu.int/eurlex/lex/JOIndex.do?ihmlang=en

**European Multimedia Forum** 

www.e-multimedia.org

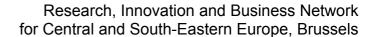
UK Research Office (UKRO)

www.ukro.ac.uk

### Open calls ...

<u>Projects promoting the use of the Common</u> <u>Quality Assurance Framework (CQAF) in VET</u>

Closing Date: August 16th, 2006





Programme: SOCRATES II - OBSERVATION &

INNOVATION, LEONARDO DA VINCI Programme budget: 500 000 euro Project budget: Maximum 100 000 euros Summary: Call to support projects covering the development and coordination of practical projects Promoting the use of the Common Quality Assurance

Framework (CQAF) in VET Sectors: Education - Training

Eligible Applicants: Administrations, States -Agencies, Chambers - Associations - Corporations -Federations, Unions - Local and Regional authorities - Research centres - Training centres - Universities Geographic Coverage: EU Member States, EEA countries, Candidate contries (Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey)

#### **Objectives:**

Promote the use of the CQAF along with the establishment of robust trans-national and sustainable partnerships within and across countries. These must associate relevant bodies with institutional competencies and capacity for policy development and practical implementation of initiatives in the field of quality assurance in VET.

Eligible applicants: The partnerships could include, for example:

- National, regional, local public authorities/bodies responsible for quality assurance systems in VET
- Private/semi-private bodies with recognized capacity in QA (e.g. sectoral bodies)
- Inspection, approval, evaluation and accreditation bodies
- Social partner organisations
- Organisations of training providers
- Research institute/body/centre

#### **Documents:**

#### Call text

ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/calls/3206/call en.pdf

#### Application form

ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/calls/3206/form en.pdf

#### Work plan

ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/calls/3206/work en.pdf

More application documents Information+

ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/calls/3206/inde x en.html

### **EURIMAGES - 2006 Calls**

Closing Date: August 21st, 2006 **Programme: EURIMAGES - ACTION** 3, EURIMAGES - ACTION 2, EURIMAGES -

**ACTION 1, EURIMAGES** 

Summary: The Council of Europe finances

production, distribution and programming projects of

cinematographic works Sectors: Culture - Media

Eligible applicants: Agencies. Chambers -Associations - Corporations - Federations, Unions -

Geographic Coverage: EU Member States, EFTA

countries, Candidate countries, Balkans

#### **Contact Person:**

**European Commission** Renate ROGINAS Eurimages secretariat Avenue de l'Europe F-67075 Strasbourg cedex

Tel: 33 3 88 41 26 40 Fax: 33 1 88 41 27 60 eurimages@coe.int

Eurimages is the Council of Europe fund for the coproduction, distribution and exhibition of European cinematographic works. Set up in 1988 as a Partial Agreement it currently has 32 Member States.

#### **Objectives:**

Eurimages aims to promote the European film industry by encouraging the production and distribution of films and fostering co-operation between professionals.

Financed actions:

- Action 1 Coproduction support
- Action 2 Distribution support
- Action 3 Cinema support

Deadline for application:

Action 1 & 2 21.08.2006 12.10.2006

Action 3

30 September, for financial support the following year



#### **Documents:**

Application form Action 1 <u>www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural\_Co-operation/Eurimages/A2005coprod\_formulaire.doc</u>

Application form Action 2 <a href="https://www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural\_Co-operation/Eurimages/A">www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural\_Co-operation/Eurimages/A</a> 2006Distributionform .doc

Application form Action 3 <u>www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural\_Co-</u> <u>operation/Eurimages/cinemasupport\_form.doc</u>

Guidelines Action 1
www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural Cooperation/Eurimages/About Eurimages/News/E
N Reform article7.pdf

Guidelines Action 2 <u>www.coe.int/T/F/Coop%E9ration\_culturelle/Eurimage</u> s/Bilingual Distribut ionGuide2006.pdf

Guidelines Action 3 www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural Cooperation/Eurimages/Funding programmes/Exh ibition/A-2005%20salles%20quide.pdf

# **Getting to Know Europe: Local Communities** and the European Union

Closing Date: August 23rd, 2006 Programme: USA OUTREACH, PUBLIC

DIPLOMACY PROGRAMME **Programme budget:** 450 000 euro

**Project budget:** Max. 80 000 euro, max. 75% **Summary:** The Delegation of the EC to the USA invites proposals for local programs that promote greater knowledge of the European Union (EU) and its international role, including as a partner to the United States.

Sectors: Information, Education - Training Eligible Applicants: Agencies, Chambers -Associations - Corporations - Federations, Unions -Schools - SMEs - Training centres

**Geographic Coverage:** EU Member States, Candidate Countries, United States

## **Contact Person:**

European Commission
Helen Henderson
Political and Development Section
Delegation of the European Commission
Third Floor
2300 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
helen.henderson@cec.eu.int

### **Objectives:**

Help local communities to learn and understand what the EU is and what it does, to raise awareness about EU policies and institutions, and the EU's role as an international actor in the economic and political field. Wherever possible, activities should also highlight local economic, social, and cultural connections to Europe.

#### Among the Financed Actions:

Activities should be targeted at local communities and local government, with applicants encouraged to involve a range of local groups in their programs

- Competitions (essay, poetry, painting, quizzes, games, EU simulations)
- Publications, information booklets and brochures about Europe and the EU
- Other information products such as posters, leaflets, newspaper features, radio/TV programs including quizzes and talk shows, videos, websites and advertising of project events
- Training programs and briefing sessions for local officials
- Study and exchange visits
- Town twinning arrangements with European counterparts

#### **Documents:**

#### Call text

www.eurunion.org/infores/CallforProposGetttoKnowEU.htm

#### **Application Form**

www.eurunion.org/infores/GrantApplicationForm2006 -2007LocalOutreach.do c

#### Proposal Narrative Form

www.eurunion.org/infores/ProposalNarrativeForm200 6-2007LocalOutreach.d oc

### <u>European Prize for Cultural Heritage / Europa</u> Nostra Awards 2006

Closing Dates: September 1st, 2006;

September 15th, 2006

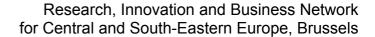
**Programme:** EU PRIZE FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE/ EUROPA NOSTRA AWARDS

Programme budget: 60 000 Euro Project budget: max. 10 000 Euro

**Summary:** The call for applications 2006 of

European Prize for Cultural Heritage / Europa Nostra

Awards is open





Sectors: Culture – Media, Town planning Eligible Applicants: Administrations, States -Agencies, Chambers - Associations - Federations, Unions - Local and Regional authorities - SMEs Geographic Coverage: EU Member States,

Candidate Countries, European Economic Area, New

**Independent Countries** 

#### **Contact Person:**

European Commission Eléonore de Merode Heritage Awards Co-ordinator EUROPA NOSTRA Lange Voorhout 35 NL - 2514 EC The Hague, Netherlands

Tel: 31 70 302 40 52 ao@europanostra.org

#### Objectives:

- Promote high standards of conservation practice
- Stimulate the exchange of knowledge and experience throughout Europe
- Encourage further efforts through the power of example

This prize is divided in several categories:

- 1. Outstanding project in the field of:
  - Architectural heritage
  - Cultural landscapes
  - o Collections of works of art
  - o Archaeological sites
- 2. Outstanding study in the field of cultural heritage (exceptional study whose ultimate aim is to lead to tangible effects)
- 3. Dedicated service to heritage conservation by individuals or groups (unique contribution to the protection, conservation or enhancement of cultural heritage in Europe) Six 10 000 Euros prizes may be awarded
  - o 4 for category 1 (one per theme)
  - 1 for category 2
  - 1 for category 3

#### **Documents:**

**Call Text** 

www.europanostra.org/downloads/awards\_2006/call for entries%20 %202006 conditions.pdf

Application Form - Catégory 1 www.europanostra.org/downloads/awards 2006/cate

gory1 entry pack 2006.p df

Application Form - Catégory 2 <u>www.europanostra.org/downloads/awards\_2006/cate\_gory2\_entry\_pack\_2006.p\_df</u>

Application Form - Catégory 3

www.europanostra.org/downloads/awards\_2006/cate gory3\_entry\_pack\_2006.p.df

Information+

www.europanostra.org

# Grants in the field of nuclear safety and radiation protection

Closing Date: September 15th, 2006 Programme budget: 180 000 euro

Project budget: Between 10 and 50% of the eligible

costs

**Summary:** Call with a view to obtaining grants for operations reinforcing and developing European Commission policies in the field of radiation

protection
Sectors: Energy

Eligible Applicants: Administrations, States - Corporations - Research centres - SMEs -

**Universities** 

Geographic Coverage: EU Member States

#### **Contact Person:**

European Commission
Augustin JANSSENS
Directorate-General Energy and Transport
Unit H4 Radiation Protection
EUROFORUM Building – Room 4150A
L-2920 Luxembourg

Tel: +352 43 01 36 395

augustin.janssens@ec.europa.eu

#### Objectives:

 Support operations fostering international consensus on the scientific basis of the safety standards for the health protection of workers and members of the public against ionising radiation

#### Among the Financed Actions:

 Communication and dissemination of best practices: setting up and carrying out operations aimed at providing access to information on state-of-the-art methodologies for exposure assessment and for reducing exposure to levels as low as reasonably achievable



- Research and collection of scientific data: fostering consensus-building among scientists about the impact of new findings on the current regulatory control scheme, collecting all relevant information and consolidating knowledge in a form that is accessible to the non-expert
- Coordination and harmonisation of standards and procedures: increasing the opportunities of convergence between different existing standards and procedures in order to reinforce the harmonisation process at international and European level

#### **Documents:**

Call for proposals

ec.europa.eu/dgs/energy transport/grants/doc/2006/ nuclear safety/call notice en.pdf

# **EDF - ICT E-business Incubator**

Closing Date: September 15th, 2006

Programme: EDF - EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT

**FUND** 

Programme budget: 1 625 000 euro

Project budget: Max. 1 625 000 euro, max. 95% Summary: Call to support a project intended to introduce and facilitate the sustainable use of Information and Communication Technologies in Dominica

Sectors: Co-op & Development | New technologies

| Trade

Eligible Applicants: Administrations, States -Associations - Development NGOs - Local and

Regional authorities

Geographic Coverage: EU Member States, ACP

Countries

#### **Contact Person:**

The National Authorising Officer/EDF The National Authorising Officer/EDF Ministry of Finance & Planning 26 King George V Street Roseau Commonwealth of Dominica edf@cwdom.dm

#### **Objectives:**

Establish a National E-Business Incubator Centre to provide high-quality ICT and business services to both the expanding ICT services sector and to the wider business community (including the agricultural sector), so that it makes increasing and increasingly

- effective use of ICTs to enhance business performance and competitiveness
- Ensure widespread access, support and opportunity based on gender and socioeconomic status
- Increase capacity of business and farmer associations in Dominica to provide ICTrelated business development services to their members and to develop appropriate ecommerce joint marketing services.

#### Financed Actions:

- Diagnostic Studies
- Training programmes in ICT applications
- **Data Collection Systems**
- Internet access/ E-commerce
- **Productivity Enhancement**
- Networking
- Market Research
- **Public Awareness**

#### **Documents:**

Guidelines

ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/tender/data/d95/AOF 67395.pdf

Website of the National Authorising Officer www.naodominica.org

Information+

ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/edf en.htm

## **EUROWARDS**

Closing Date: September 15th, 2006

Programme: EUROWARDS

Summary: EUROWARDS is the only European awards organisation that enables business entrepreneurs from 30 countries to measure themselves up against one another.

Sectors: Services, Innovation, New technologies

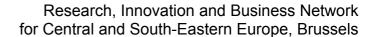
Eligible Applicants: SMEs

Geographic Coverage: EU Member States

#### **Contact Person:**

Spirit of Enterprise Group Avenue de la Chênaie, 167 B-1180 Brussels Belgium

helpdesk@eurowards.com





Spirit of Enterprise Group is a non-profit association which coordinates a set of initiatives to foster communication and create and maintain business links among the largest possible number of innovative European entrepreneurs involved in revitalising business, and among the partners supporting their growth.

The group organises EUROWARDS since 1991.

#### Objectives:

Provides business entrepreneurs with an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas and experiences that will enable them to develop their activities in Europe

### 4 categories covered

- Encouragement
   For all who have a relatively developed idea (the product/ Service, its competitive positioning, its potential profitability)
- Seed
   For any company created with a product/ service already tested in the field
- Start-up
   For any company offering a product/ service already sold to at least 5 customers OR having at least 5 employees OR having a turn over greater than 250,000 Euro
- Expansion
   For any company offering a product/ service already sold to at least 5 customers AND having at least 5 employees AND having a turn over greater than 500,000 Euro. The development of the product/service is demonstrated on a complete business plan on 3 years minimum

#### **Documents:**

Candidate File 2006

www.eurowards.com/download/CandidatefileEurowards2006.doc

Information+

2006@eurowards.com/index.html

# Raise awareness of trade issues and enhance expertise

Closing Date: September 18th, 2006

**Programme:** AWARENESS RAISING ACTIONS AND EXPERTISE ENHANCING OF TRADE ISSUES

Programme budget: 210 000 euro

**Project budget:** Max. 50 000 euro, max. 75% **Summary:** Call to award grants for projects to raise awareness of trade issues and expertise in Civil

Society organisations

Sectors: Trade | Economy - Finances Eligible Applicants: Agencies, Chambers -

Associations - Federations, Unions

Geographic Coverage: EU Member States,

European Economic Area

#### **Contact Person:**

European Commission Rupert SCHLEGELMILCH DG Trade Directorate G, Unit G3 Office: CHAR 8/03

B-1049 Bruxelles / Brussels

Belgium

trade-civilsociety@ec.europa.eu

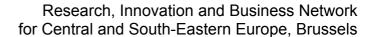
### **Objectives:**

- Provide relevant organisations and those working with them with a greater understanding of specific trade issues and their implications for civil society both in developing and developed countries
- Increase the ability of civil society to identify the potential benefits/negative impacts of specific trade agreements and increase willingness and ability to work towards policies enhancing/mitigating these
- Raise awareness in developed and developing countries on how better to influence the course of negotiations
- Increase legitimacy and scope for the successful implementation of trade agreements in developed and developing countries
- Take into account positive and negative experiences and ways of approaching and/or disseminating discussion on difficult and often technical questions
- Increase general knowledge in civil society on existing and emerging developing country needs in relation to participation in policymaking debate around multilateral and bilateral trade negotiations

### Priority Issues:

- The three pillars of sustainable development

   economic, social and environmental
   aspects
- The study or development of indicators relevant to Sustainability Impact Assessment
- The relationship between trade policy and other policy areas with impacts on sustainable development
- Development of good practice in Corporate Social Responsibility





- Focus on specific topics within the Doha Development Agenda
- Exploration of ways and means of developing sustainable trade

#### **Documents:**

**Full Application Form** trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/html/128803.htm

Invitation and specifications trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/html/128805.htm

Preliminary Application Form trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/html/128807.htm

#### Information+

ec.europa.eu/comm/trade/icentre/opportunities/grant s/grantmanag.htm

# Co-financing Energy Actions with the ACP-**EU Energy Facility**

Closing Date: September 19th, 2006 Programme: ACP-EU Energy Facility Programme budget: 198 million euro

Project budget: Maximum 50% (infrastructures) or

75% of the total eligible cost

Summary: EDF funded programme to reach the Millenium Development goals concerning access to

basic energy services in ACP countries Sectors: Co-op & Development | Energy |

Environment

Eligible Applicants Administrations, States -Agencies, Chambers - Associations - Development NGOs - Federations, Unions - Local and Regional authorities

Geographic Coverage: ACP countries, EU Member States

#### **Contact Person:**

**European Commission** Cooperation Office EuropeAid, unit C/7 Rue de Genève, 1-3-5 B-1140 Bruxelles (Belgique) europeaid-energy-facility@ec.europa.eu

Fax: +32 2 299 86 22

#### **Objectives:**

Improved access to modern energy services by poor rural people, with priority for the unserved population living in scattered settlements, villages, rural towns, periurban areas and remote islands, using the grant

- funds to leverage additional investment or scale up successful programmes.
- Improved governance and management in the energy sector by strengthening poverty related policy making in the energy sector and across sectors, the institutional and legal framework and the capacity of key stakeholders.
- Facilitation of future large-scale investment programmes in cross-border interconnections, grid extensions and rural distribution.

Financed actions via 3 main components of the programme:

- Increased Access to Energy Services in Rural Areas
  - Infrastructure projects
  - Small-scale initiatives
- Improving Energy Management and Governance
- Improve Cross-border cooperation in the **Energy Sector**

#### **Documents:**

#### Guidelines

ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/tender/data/d24/AOF 67524.pdf

#### Annexes

ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/tender/data/d25/AOF 67525.zip

### Safer Internet Plus

Closing Date: September 29th, 2006

**Programme:** SAFER INTERNET PLUS (E-SAFE)

Programme budget: 6.9 million euro

Project budget: 50% of eligible costs (100% for the

thematic networks)

Summary: The draft version the e-content call is available. The workprogramme and call text become final when the internal adoption procedures of the EC are finished.

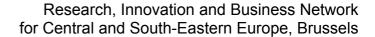
Sectors: <u>Justice - Security</u> | <u>New technologies</u> | Information

Eligible Applicants: Administrations, States -Associations - Corporations - Federations, Unions -Local and Regional authorities - Schools - SMEs -Universities

Geographic Coverage: EU Member States, European Economic Area, Candidate Countries

#### **Contact Person:**

**European Commission** 





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Rue Alcide de Gasperi
L-2920 Luxembourg
saferinternet@cec.eu.int

#### **Objectives:**

- Part 1: Fighting against illegal content
- Part 2:Tackling unwanted and harmful content
- Part 3: Promoting a safer environment
- Part 4: Awareness-raising about safer use

#### Financed Actions:

- Set up civilian hotlines to allow members of the public to report illegal content on the Internet
- Increase take-up of content rating and quality site labels by content providers, adapt content rating and labels to take account of the availability of the same content through different delivery mechanisms (convergence)
- Contribute to the accessibility of filter technology, addressing localisation of filtering systems in languages not adequately covered by the market, enabling sharing or interoperability of resources used by filtering systems and increasing user- friendliness of such technology by making its installation, configuration and operation by the end-user easier
- Pilot projects demonstrating best practices or involving innovative use of existing technologies, aiming at developing databases of references to illegal content and /or content matching mechanisms
- Thematic network to implement cross-border actions in the field of co-regulation and selfregulation to combat unsolicited content (spam) harmful for children
- Awareness actions and programmes addressing a range of categories of illegal, unwanted and harmful content (including e.g. content considered unsuitable for children, racism and xenophobia)

#### **Documents:**

Draft Call Text 2006

ec.europa.eu/information society/activities/sip/docs/c all 2006/draft c all text 2006 sip.pdf

Draft Programme 2006

<u>ec.europa.eu/information\_society/activities/sip/docs/c</u> all 2006/draft w ork programme 2006 sip.pdf

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ec.europa.eu/information\_society/activities/sip/index\_en.htm

#### **Health and safety inspection at work 2006**

Closing Date: September 30th, 2006

Programme: HEALTH AND SAFETY INSPECTION

AT WORK

Programme budget: 60 000 euro

**Project budget:** Travel and subsistance expenses **Summary:** Restricted call for proposals in the area of

health and safety inspection at work.

Sectors: Health, Justice – Security, Employment Eligible Applicants: Administrations, States Geographic Coverage: Member States EU

#### **Contact Person:**

European Commission
Jocelyne HUSSON
DG Health, Safety and Hygiene at Work - D/4
EUFO 2/195A
L-2920 Luxembourg
35 2 43 013 41 74
jocelyne.husson@cec.eu.int

#### Objectives:

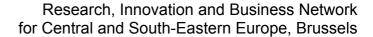
Budget heading 04.030501 allows the Commission to support projects in the area of health and safety where the objectives pursued can contribute significantly to its priorities. The Commission is particularly keen to promote greater involvement of labour inspectors in encouraging the effective enforcement of Community law.

The Commission's general aims relating to safety and health at work are based on the expert report produced by the Senior Labour Inspectors Committee (SLIC). This Committee is also kept informed about proposals that have been approved.

#### Financed actions:

In order to achieve these aims, the Commission intends to co-fund the exchange of inspectors(travel and subsistence expenses) for the exclusive benefit of the Member States' labour inspection authorities:

a) exchange of inspectors between Member states authorities (15 000 euro)





b) assessment of national inspection systems (Belgium, Greece and italy) (45 000 euro)

#### **Documents**

Text of the call

europa.eu.int/comm/employment social/calls/2006/v p 2006 008/call en.pd f

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europa.eu.int/comm/employment social/health safet y/index en.htm

# **ASIA INVEST II**

Closing Dates: October 6th, 2006, March 9th, 2007

Programme: ASIA-INVEST II

Programme budget: 16,75 million euro

Project budget: Between 100 000 and 600 000 euro Summary: Preview on call 2006-2007 to promote the internationalisation of European and Asian small and

medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Sectors: Co-op & Development | Trade | Economy

- Finances | Industry

Eligible Applicants Agencies, Chambers -Associations - Federations, Unions - Investment

Funds - Research centres - Universities

Geographic Coverage: EU Member States, EEA,

Asia

### **Contact Person:**

**European Commission** EuropeAid Co-operation Office Brussels 1049- Belgium

Tel: 32 2 298 6737

europeaid-asia-invest@ec.europa.eu

#### **Objectives:**

- Business to business match-making for companies
  - o Providing opportunities for partnership between SMEs through business events and face-to-face meetings aiming to facilitate longterm partnerships
- Capacity building
  - Strengthening the skills and knowhow of SMEs to internationalise AND improving the business environment by building the capacity of business intermediary organisations and creating opportunities for networking

Priority Issues 2006-2007:

- Enhancing the export capabilities and foreign direct investment prospects of the least developed countries (LDCs)
- Ensuring involvement of less developed regions (LDRs) within China and India
- Promoting integration of Asian countries into the Information Society through business orientated information & communication technologies

#### Among the Priority Sectors:

Alignment with European Standards (e.g. industrial, environmental, agricultural, fisheries, finance, sanitary and phyto sanitary, customs), Intellectual Property Rights, Dismantling Technical Barriers to Trade, Corporate Social Responsibility

#### Financed Actions:

- Quality preparatory activities, meetings and matchmaking activities, concrete follow up activities
  - Preparatory promotional activities
  - Agenda setting according to SMEs' profile, interests and objectives
  - Practical briefings, market and sector information
  - Seminars and workshops, training in local business culture
  - Event website
  - Electronic support tools
  - Results-oriented face-to-face business encounters
  - Briefings with market experts, site visits, technical seminars, meetings with sector associations
  - Concrete follow-up (conclusion of trade, technical, technological and/or industrial partnership agreements, access to finance, business development plan, establishment of a facility to assist SMEs)
- Quality transfer of best practices and enhanced networking
  - Practical demonstration actions to adapt and implementing European innovative technologies
  - o Capacity building seminars, workshops and training for staff of Asian SMEs and intermediary organisations on EU market access
  - Collaborative workshops with Asian standards & quality management organisations; exchange of best practices, production techniques, technological know-how, corporate social responsibility, environmental



- Europe-Asia trade relations and cooperation
- Mutual visits and staff exchanges intermediaries
- Information links and matchmaking between intermediaries (organisations and companies' partner search database)

#### **Documents:**

Preview on call for proposals 2006-2007 ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/asia-invest/download2002/preview2 006-2007.ppt

#### Guidelines

<u>ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/tender/data/d32/AOF</u> 67532.doc

Annexes Application Documents ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/tender/data/d33/AOF 67533.zip

#### Information+

ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/asia-invest/html2002/main.htm

### **E-CONTENT PLUS**

Closing Date: October 19th, 2006
Programme: E-CONTENT PLUS
Programme budget: 27.3 million euro

Project budget: 50%

**Summary:** The draft version the e-content call is available. The workprogramme and call text become final when the internal adoption procedures of the EC are finished.

Sectors: Culture - Media | New technologies |

**Services** 

Eligible Applicants: Agencies, Chambers -Associations - Corporations - Local and Regional authorities - Research centres - SMEs - Universities Geographic Coverage: EU Member States, Candidate countries, European Economic Area

#### **Contact Person:**

European Commission
Help desk
DG Information Society and Media
eContentplus
Office EUFO 1181
Rue Alcide de Gasperi
L-2920 Luxembourg
econtentplus@ec.europa.eu

#### **Objectives:**

- 4 Areas of action:
  - Geographic information
    - 3.1. Targeted projects for geographic information
    - 3.2 A thematic network on geographic information
  - Educational content
    - 3.1. Targeted projects for educational content
    - 3.2 A thematic network on educational content
  - Digital libraries (cultural and scientific/scholarly content)
     3.1. Targeted projects for digital
    - 3.1. Targeted projects for digital libraries3.2 A thematic network on cultural content
  - Reinforcing cooperation between digital content stakeholders (across targetareas)
     6.1. A thematic network on public-
    - 6.1. A thematic network on public domain and related issues

Candidate countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania, Turkey and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, if a bilateral agreement with the relevant country has been concluded to this effect.

The pre-proposal service for the call for proposals is open as from now.

#### **Documents:**

### Draft call text

europa.eu.int/information\_society/activities/econtentp lus/docs/call\_20\_06/draft\_call\_text\_2006\_ecp.pdf

Draft Work Programme 2006

europa.eu.int/information society/activities/econtentp lus/docs/call 20 06/draft call text 2006 ecp.pdf

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europa.eu.int/econtentplus

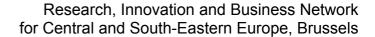
# Intelligent Energy Europe - Call 2006

Closing Date: October 30th, 2006

Programmes: IEE - INTELLIGENT ENERGY EUROPE - SAVE III, IEE - INTELLIGENT ENERGY EUROPE - ALTENER III, IEE - INTELLIGENT ENERGY EUROPE - STEER, IEE - INTELLIGENT

**ENERGY EUROPE** 

Programme budget: 48,1 million euro Project budget: Max. 50% of eligible costs Summary: Call launched for the fields SAVE (improvement of energy efficiency), ALTENER





(promotion of new and renewable energy sources) and STEER (energy aspects of transport)

Sectors: Energy | Industry | Environment |

Transport

**Eligible Applicants:** Administrations, States - Agencies, Chambers - Associations - Corporations - Federations, Unions - Local and Regional authorities - Research centres - SMEs - Universities

Geographic Coverage: EU Member States, European Economic Area, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia

### **Contact Person:**

European Commission Intelligent Energy Executive Agency (IEEA) 7 Rue Belliard 1040 Brussels Belgium tren-intelligentenergy@cec.eu.int

#### **Objectives:**

 Support sustainable development in the energy context, making a balanced contribution to achieving the general objectives of security of energy supply, competitiveness, and environmental protection

#### Vertical Key Actions:

- SAVE
  - Multiplying success in buildings
  - Retrofitting of social housing
  - Innovative approaches in industry
  - Energy efficient equipment and products
- ALTENER
  - Electricity from renewable energy sources
  - Heat from renewable energy sources (RES)
  - Small scale renewable energy sources applications

# ALTENER/STEER Alternative vehicle propulsion

#### STEER:

- Policy measures for an efficient use of energy in transport
- Strengthening the knowledge of local management agencies in the transport field
- Horizontal Key Actions:
  - Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC)

- Think globally, act locally
- o Financing mechanisms & incentives
- Monitoring & Evaluation
- Dissemination and Promotion

#### Types of Actions:

- Projects (type 1)
- Establishment of new local and regional energy management agencies (type 2)
- Events (type 3)

#### **Documents:**

#### OJEU Call notice

eur-

<u>lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2006/c\_130/c\_13</u> 020060603en0011 0011.pdf

#### Call Text

ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/call\_for\_proposals/do c/call 2006/call2 006\_en.pdf

#### All Useful Documents

ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/call\_for\_proposals/call\_library\_en.htm

#### Information+

ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/index en.html

# European Good Practice Awards in occupational health and safety

**Programme:** HEALTH AND SAFETY INSPECTION AT WORK

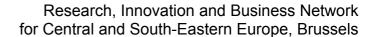
**Summary:** The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work invites nominations for the seventh European Good Practice Awards in occupational health and safety.

Sectors: Health, Justice – Security, Youth, Social Affairs, Information, Education - Training Eligible Applicants: Agencies, Chambers - Associations - Corporations - Federations, Unions - Local and Regional authorities - Research centres - Schools - SMEs - Training centres - Universities Geographic Coverage: Member States EU, Candidate Countries. EFTA Countries

### **Contact Person:**

OSHA
Gran Via 33
E-48009 Bilbao
Spain
information@osh

information@osha.eu.int Fax: 34 94 479 43 83





#### **Objectives:**

The awards are part of the European Week for Safety and Health at Work 2006, which is dedicated to young people to ensure a safe and healthy start to their working lives. The dual objectives of the Week are to increase awareness of risks and to promote good practice solutions.

#### Actions:

Good practice examples are implemented solutions to promote the effective management of the occupational safety and health of young people in the workplace, and prevention measures to reduce the incidence of accidents and ill health amongst young workers. All entries should therefore show good management practice, particularly the effective use of risk assessment and implementation of its findings, and should be focused on the successful prevention of risks to young people.

The awards will provide the winners with European recognition for their role in improving working conditions in Europe, and the awarded examples will be presented in an Agency booklet to be distributed across Europe.

### Agenda:

The 'Safe Start!' campaign will be officially launched on 19 June 2006 in the European Parliament, Brussels. The European Week itself will take place from 23 - 27 October 2006. The campaign's closing event will take place in March 2007 in Bilbao.

#### **Documents:**

#### Press Release

www.osha.eu.int/press\_room/news\_article\_2006022 7 gpawards/

Campaign Website www.ew2006.osha.eu.int/about

National contacts

www.ew2006.osha.eu.int/nationalcontactsandactivities

# <u>DG Enterprise and Industry grant programme</u> <u>2006 – List of Planned actions</u>

**Programme:** ENTERPRISE DG GRANTS PROGRAMME

**Summary:** DG Enterprise and Industry publishes a list of planned actions and calls for proposals intented to the entire business environment that will be launched during 2006.

**Geographic Coverage:** EU Member States, Candidate countries

#### Contacts:

European Commission – DG Entrepreneurship and Industry

List of calls planned for this year:

#### ACTION ENT/MAP/06/1.3:

Reinforcing synergies between public policies in support of e-business for SMEs Scheduled date for the call(s) for proposals: April-May 2006.

ACTION ENT/COM N.R./2.1.3.5.1: IBERO AMERICAN MEDICINAL PRODUCTS AUTHORITIES MEETINGS Scheduled date for the call for proposals: June 2006.

ACTION ENT/COM N.R./2.1.3.3.4.: ENTERPRISES SURVEY ON THE USE OF THE ICT AND THE ELECTRONIC COMMERCE
Scheduled date for the call for proposals: 2d-3d

Scheduled date for the call for proposals: 2d-3d quarter 2006.

ACTION ENT/SP2/1.2.2.3: INNOVATION POLICY ANALYSIS AND BENCHMARKING IN SUPPORT OF PRO INNO EUROPE: PRO INNO EUROPE Financed under FP6 http://www.cordis.lu/en/home.html Scheduled date for the call for proposals:

28/03/2006. This call has been publised

ACTION ENT/IMA R./1.1.3.1: VEDDRA Scheduled date for the call for proposals: June 2006.

ACTION ENT/IMA R./1.1.3.2: MEDDRA Scheduled date for the call for proposals: June 2006.

ACTION ENT/IMA N.R./4.1: COOPERATION AND REGROUPING AMONG SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES

Scheduled date for the call for proposals: November 2006.

#### **Documents:**

Announcement of calls

<u>europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/funding/grants/theme</u> s 2006/index.htm#l

#### Information+

<u>europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/funding/grants/theme</u> s 2006/index.htm