



# Cohesion Policy with the regions for ICT and growth



Baden-Württemberg

VERTRETUNG DES LANDES BEI DER EUROPÄISCHEN UNION

**1st NEREUS Workshop on Satellite Telecommunication  
- Bringing Broadband to the Regions – 4 February, 2010**

***Luisa Sanches***

Policy Analyst: Innovation  
Thematic coordination, innovation  
DG Regional Policy



# The ICT challenges

- The dissemination of ICT across the Union's economy: a major lever for improving productivity levels and the competitiveness of regions
- The dissemination of ICT encourages the re-organisation of production methods and the emergence of new business

# Community Strategic Guidelines for Cohesion

- Ensure uptake of ICTs by firms and households: supply and demand of ICT products in public and private services
- Increase investment in human capital
- Promote an open and competitive digital economy and an inclusive society
- **Ensure availability of ICT infrastructure where the market fails to provide it at an affordable cost**
  - **Digital Agenda and EU2020**

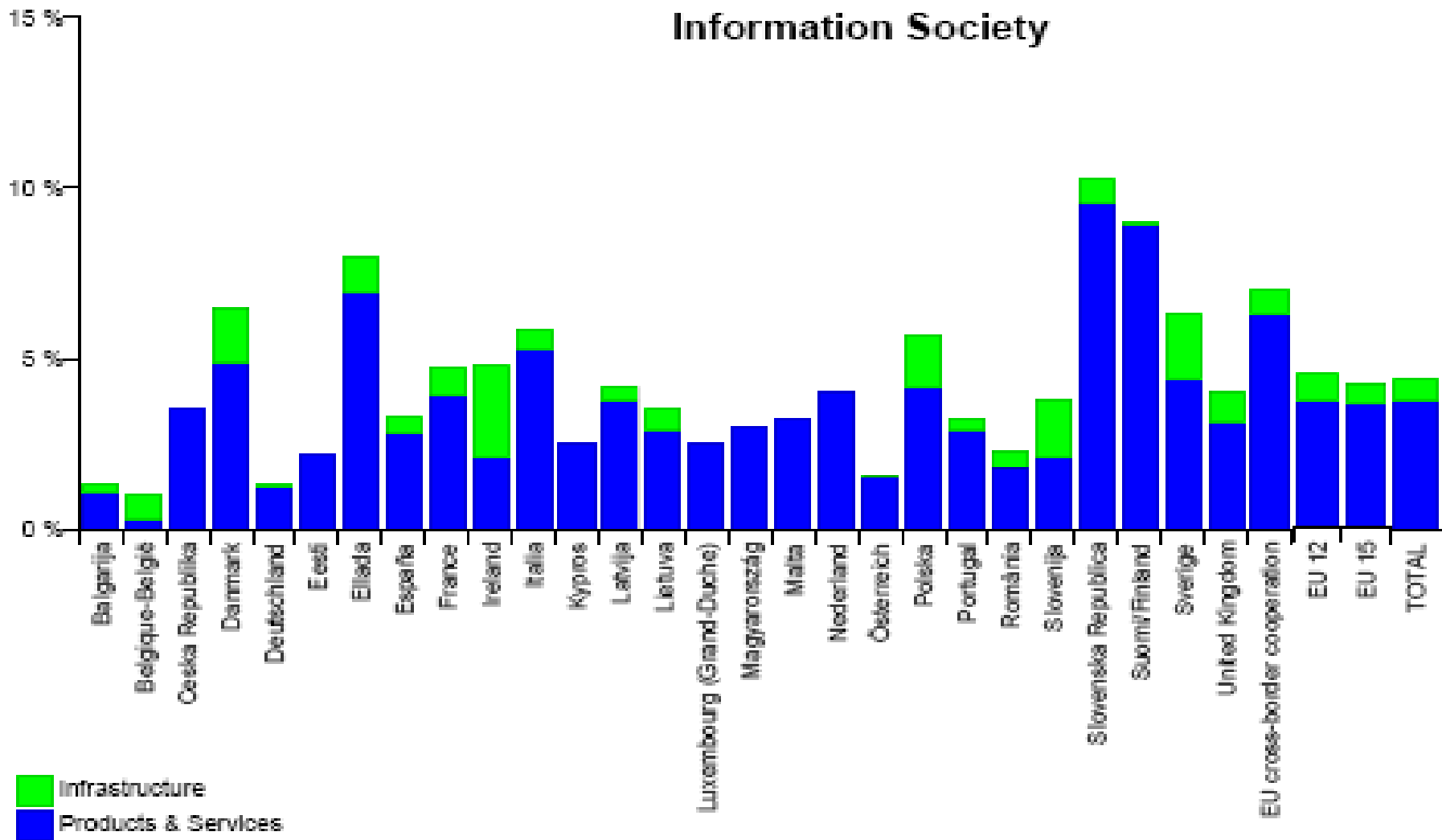


# CP Planned ICT Investments

- **€ 15.2 billion** (=4.4% of total SF) including:
  - €12.3 bn in Convergence regions
  - €2.3 bn in Competitiveness & Empl. Regions
  - €0.5 bn territorial cooperation
- Largest spenders in absolute numbers:
  - Poland (€3.7bn), Greece (€1.6bn), Italy (€1.6bn), Slovak Republic (€1.2bn), Spain (€1.1 bn)
- Largest spenders in percentage of SF allocations:  
Slovak Republic and Finland (both close to 10%)

# Planned ICT Investments

Overview of spending structure by country (as percentage of total SF)



# Planned ICT Investments

## Breakdown by category:

### **Services & ICT take-up: 58%**

- Services and applications for citizens (e-health, e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion, etc.): € 5,2 bn
- Services and applications for SMEs (e-commerce, education and training, networking, etc.): € 2,1 bn
- Other measures for improving access to and efficient use of ICT by SMEs: € 1,5 bn

### **Technology & Products: 26.5%**

- Information and communication technologies (TEN-ICT): €0.44 bn
- Information and communication technologies (access, security, interoperability, risk-prevention, research, innovation, e-content ...): € 3.6 bn

### **Infrastructure: 14.5%**

- Telephone infrastructures (including broadband networks): €2.2 bn

# Crisis and economic recovery plan

- “Broadband for all”
- 2008 EU Recovery Plan – 100% coverage
- 2009 MS agreement – 100% coverage by 2010-2013

**European Agriculture Fund for Rural  
Development (EAFRD): EUR 1.02 billion**



# Follow-up

- *Delays in implementation*
  - ERDF: Strategic Reporting – a policy document to the Council and the EP on the implementation by the end of March
  - and in EAFRD





# What can we do?

- Learning from what is happening
- Using initiatives to make things faster and better: the Regions for Economic Change initiative: as an example of process and working together
- Reflecting in the challenges that MA, other stakeholders and the EC face to prepare the future



## What is 'Regions for Economic Change' (RfEC)?

- A new initiative, no new funding
- Implementation through two major networking programmes: interregional (INTERREG IVC), urban development (URBACT II)

### Core objectives:

- Working and learning together (regions from several countries and Commission services)
- Creating a stronger link between exchange of good practices and mainstream funding programmes



# Regions for Economic Change Initiative

## *Communication*

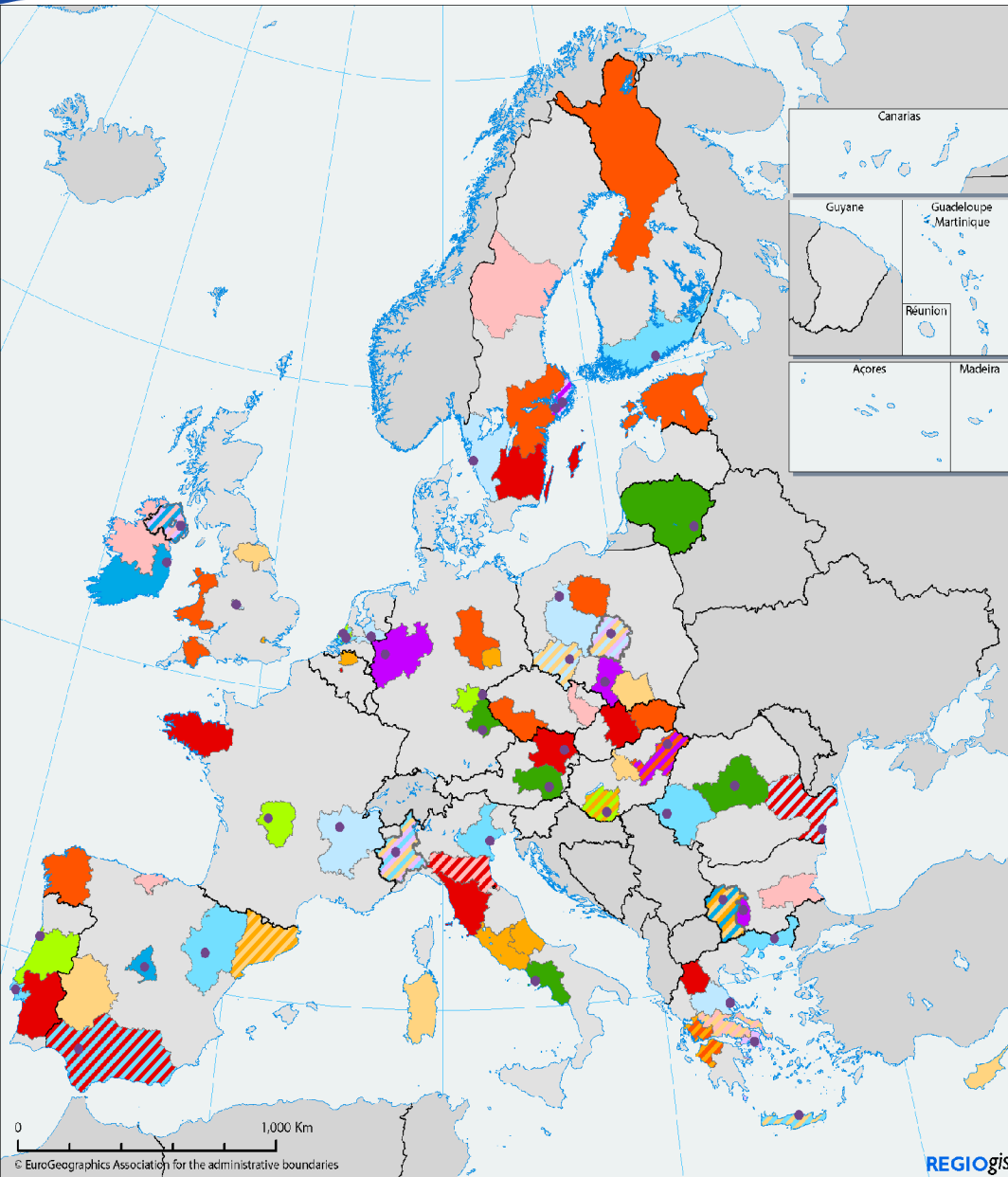
- *Annual Conferences:*
  - 20/21 May 2010 : *Building Sustainable Growth*
- *Case studies & searchable database ; template for case studies*
- *RegioStars Awards*
- *Website:*



[ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/cooperation/interregional/ecochange/index\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperation/interregional/ecochange/index_en)

## Fast Track Networks

- **As any other network, based on exchange: experience and 'good practice'**
- **Capitalisation of knowledge: tools, methods, approaches, management skills, thematic knowledge**
- **Focus on action: translation of 'good practices' into mainstream policies and programmes (esp. EU-funded ones)**
  
- **Active involvement of the Managing Authorities (MAs) of the relevant Operational Programme(s)**
- **Concrete deliverables (Action Plans), practical implementation with an eye to sustainability beyond the life of the network**
- **Support of the Commission services (in partnership): DG Regional Policy and other DGs.**



# 12 Networks: many regions

## INTERREG IV C

- PIKE - Promoting Innovation and the Knowledge Economy
- B3 Regions - Regions for Better Broadband connection
- ESF6 CIA - Capitalising Innovative Approaches towards Demographic Change
- RAPIDE - Regional Action Plans for Innovation Development and Enterprise
- ERIK ACTION - Upgrading the innovation capacity of existing firms

## URBACT II

- URBAMECO - The urban, social, economic and cultural regeneration of public housing estates in urban areas
- MILE - Managing Migration and Integration at local level
- OpenCities – Openness and the Competitive Advantage of Diversity
- UNIC - Urban Network for Innovation in Ceramics
- HerO - Heritage as Opportunity: Sustainable Management Strategies for Vital Historic Urban Landscapes
- Building Healthy Communities - Urban Health network for "Building Healthy Communities"
- RegGov - Regional Governance of Sustainable Integrated Development of Deprived Urban Areas



# REGIONS FOR BETTER BROADBAND CONNECTION



- ▶ About the Project
- ▶ News
- ▶ Events
- ▶ Partners
- ▶ Deliverables
- ▶ Dissemination
- ▶ Partners only
- ▶ Contact us

Path: Home page

## About the Project

Funded under the European Territorial Cooperation INTERREG IVC Programme, **Regions for Better Broadband Connection** innovative project aims to tackle the difficulties of **implementing broadband connections in remote or disadvantaged areas.**  
[read more about the Project](#)

**The Interregional Cooperation Programme INTERREG IVC, financed by the European Union's Regional Development Fund, helps Regions of Europe work together to share experience and**

## News

2010-01-26 16:26:54

### **B3 Regions DG REGIO Seminar**

Partners representing B3 Regions Consortium will meet DG REGIO Officers during the seminar to be held on 2 February, 201 [...]

[read more about: B3 Regions DG REGIO Seminar](#)

2010-01-12 08:50:58

### **B3 Regions thematic workshop on " Public Private Partnerships and funding models" - 21-22 January, 2010 in Sofia/Bulgaria**

Sofia, the capital city of Bulgaria, will be the place of the last thematic workshop planned within the B3



## B3 Regions

A fast track project funded under **INTERREG IVC Programme**, supported by **Regions for Economic Change Initiative**

- **GOAL**

exchanging and sharing good practices around the common theme of broadband regional development

In order to:

- capitalise expertise under OPs 2007-2013
- (main result indicators: 12 action plans)
  
- Duration: **26 months** (September 2008 – October 2010)

## What is different in the and in B3 Regions?

- **Stronger link between exchange of good practices and mainstream funding programmes**
- **Focus on action: translation of good practices into mainstream policies and programmes (action plans)**
- **Active involvement of the Managing Authorities of the relevant OPs**
- **Support of the EU Commission services: especially DG INFOSOC and DG REGIO. The project's partners are supported by Commission in different stages in their efforts to implement action plans within the Ops (Economic Recovery Plan that includes up to €1 billion for broadband infrastructure projects, State Aid regulation support – DG COMP)**
- **Better use of EU Structural Funds**





## B3 Regions

- 15 partners coming from 8 Member States
  - - 4 “*old MS*” Greece, Italy, Spain, UK
  - - 3 “*new MS*” Bulgaria, Cyprus, Poland
- ☐ *To want to work together you have to know each other*

### 7 Regional Managing Authorities

Piedmont, Sterea Ellada, Catalunya,  
Malopolska, Lodz, Crete, Lower Silesia

### 4 ICT implementing Agencies

CSI-Piemonte, Nynet, iCentres Association, Fundecyt

### 1 Local authority (City of Lodz)

### 2 ICT University Departments

Crete, Cyprus

# What are they doing?

- **Demand Aggregation (Nynet/UK):** Lower Silesia, Malopolska
- **eGovernment Services (Polish Regions):** Cyprus
- **ICT Observatory (Piedmont):** Lower Silesia, Malopolska, Nynet, Sardinia (pending), Cyprus
- **State Aid Regulation (Catalunya):** Lower Silesia, Malopolska, Nynet, Sardinia (+ Geographic system + education services), Icentres (+ mapping Catalunya)
- **Education Services:** Lower Silesia, Cyprus
- **Broadband Search Engine: (NCAH):** Lower Silesia, iCentres
- **PPP (iCentres):** Malopolska, Nynet



- **12 Action Plans**
  - Piedmont/CSI-Piemonte
  - Sterea Ellada
  - Catalunya
  - Crete/University of Crete
  - Malopolska
  - Lodz/City of Lodz
  - Lower Silesia
  - Sardinia
  - Yorkshire Forward/Nynet
  - Ministry of Transport and Information Technology—  
Bulgaria/iCentres
  - Extremadura/Fundecyt
  - Ministry of Telecommunications-Cyprus/University of  
Cyprus



- **Different Sources of financing:** ERDF, ESF, EAFRD

### Some examples:

- **Piedmont:** 50 ml. : 8 M€ **EAFRD**, ROP **ERDF** 25M€.+ 1 M€ regional fund+ 20 ml regional on ehealth, eservices, + 1, 5ml. Open source regional, 1 ml, ICT observatory regional
- **Malopolska:** 40 M€ **ERDF**, 7 M€ **ERDF**, 30 M€ National fund
- **-Sardinia:** (School 2.0) 125 M€ **ERDF**+ **ESF** and **EAFRD**+ National funds 44,5 M€ (Sardinia 20 Mbit (SICS III))



# Bilateral contacts established

- For each region/country
  - Project partners/MA/other DGs/desk officers at REGIO
  - Who's who? Who needs projects and ideas? Who has the money? Who decides?



# Thank You !!!

## To know more ....

**In the Member States ...**

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/atlas2007/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/atlas2007/index_en.htm)

**In general ...**

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/themes/information/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/themes/information/index_en.htm)