

Tuesday, 6 October 2009

Baltic Sea Strategy Day

OPEN DAYS Stage – Esplanade – Berlaymont Main Entrance

13.30-14.30

Orquestra Geração

Lisbon and Tagus Valley CCRD

The "Orquestra Geração", a group of enthusiastic young artists, has come all the way from Lisbon to perform in Brussels, in the framework of OPEN DAYS, the European Week of Regions and Cities.

The project Generation Orchestra, "Orquestra Geração" in Portuguese, is made up of a group of youngsters from deprived urban areas, which formed with the help of the City of Amadora, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, National Conservatory's School of Music and other partners, a young orchestra. The aim is to involve the kids and youngsters under risk of exclusion and enhance their social and intellectual capacities for the rest of their lives.

This initiative will be replicated throughout the Region of Lisboa, involving several partners (including Foundations) with the help of the EU Structural Funds, under the related Regional Operational Programme.

The Regional Coordination and Development Commission for Lisbon tries to support and promote innovative projects and policies that aid social integration. It therefore decided to develop this project in its region in schools associated with problematic neighbourhoods and with large immigrant populations.

OPEN DAYS Tent – Berlaymont Esplanade – Archimède

Photo Exhibition "Balticness"

Riga EU Office

The Baltic Sea region is at the "top end" of Europe, geographically, economically and symbolically. It is an environment of common values and objectives. Balticness reflects the Baltic Sea as the artery of life of the entire region and its society, and the countries of the region as competitive, creative, dynamic, multicultural states populated by professional, skilful and candid people.

The photographic exhibition: "Where the Baltic Sea and People Meet." features the work of 24 authors and 40 photographic works, which accent the significance of the Baltic Sea as a unifying element in the region. The authors of the photographs are young people aged between 18 and 30, and represent all the Baltic Sea States. The young people, looking at the Baltic Sea through the eye of the camera, have created its mirror image, and diversity, in which may be discerned a sense of humour, creativity, respect towards the surrounding environment, energy and the fulfilment of dreams.

Nordconnect Trial

Nordconnect

In May 2009 Nordconnect organised the Nordconnect Trial 2009: a car rally that visited seven countries - The Netherlands, Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Sweden and Denmark - in nine days. During the rally Nordconnect carried out its primary task, which is to facilitate the forging of new business ties, by organising various networking meetings and company visits.

The Nordconnect Trial made it clear that Nordconnect stands for the establishment of new business ties between the Northern Netherlands and Northeast Europe.

www.nordconnect.eu

Lisbon Strategy and local government – Citizen safety and services

Cisco

As a consequence of the economic crisis, local governments are faced with pressures to boost economic growth as well as to maintain the level of investments and citizen satisfaction in their region. Public safety and public services – as part of high-quality living environment – contribute to the priorities of the Lisbon Strategy to make Europe a more attractive place to work, live and invest.

ICT solutions play a crucial role in the delivery of both public safety and public services. Cisco's vision for safety and security is to transform the way our customers, including local governments, provide global safety and security solutions for employees, citizens, critical infrastructure and public safeguards. Together with government and our ecosystem partners, we believe we can increase the effectiveness of local and regional police, fire, medical and government professionals by providing tools to coordinate rapid, appropriate responses to all type of emergencies.

In the Berlaymont Esplanade, we would like to invite you to discuss strategies and project ideas for your cities and regions with regards to Urban Security, Secure Education, Mass Events and Public Transport. We will demonstrate some of our capabilities as well as introduce you to several real case studies and references where significant savings and improvements safety & security levels have been generated.

Wednesday, 7 October 2009

Climate Change Day

OPEN DAYS Stage – Esplanade – Berlaymont Main Entrance

12.45-13.15

Luton Carnival of Arts performance

East of England Office Brussels

The UK Centre for Carnival Arts (UKCCA) is the home for all things carnival including: carnival music, movement and costume construction. It also forms a hub for community learning, enterprise and performance through an exciting programme of activities including workshops, seminars, exhibitions and performances.

The UKCCA is housed in a brand new, state of the art building in Luton (30 miles north of London). The Centre and its activities has been a recipient of ERDF, ESF and EU Culture programme funding

UKCCA is making 3 performances on the Berlaymont esplanade featuring 10 steel pan players from the Revellers Steel Band based in Luton, dancers from Rampage Carnival Club. The Luton group will be joined on stage by representatives from our two European partners based in Denmark and Germany; these will include two traditional African djembe drummers from Aalborg and two amazing stilt walkers from Hamburg.

The whole ensemble will bring together an exciting and colourful fusion of carnival arts demonstrating the powers of collaboration across European borders.

On the UKCCA's stand at the event Colin Spalding, a leading UK carnival artist who has produced the spectacular costumes being featured in the performances, will be demonstrating carnival costume making skills. He will be embellishing with beads, feathers and braid a stunning carnival queen costume that is in the decoration stage of construction.

13.15-13.30

Committee of the Regions

13.30-13.45

Luton Carnival of Arts performance

East of England Office Brussels

13.45-14.30

THE BOTET'S BAND - Secondary School "José Rodrigo Botet"

Manises, Valencia (Spain)

Teachers: Julio Martínez García and Eugenio Henriques López

Fundación Comunidad Valenciana - Región Europea

Botet's band is an educational musical project in which 27 Valencian young students take part. The concert in Brussels, in the OPEN DAYS framework, is a great opportunity to show internationally the educational and music work that the public secondary school José Rodrigo Botet in Manises, Valencia, is undertaking.

The musical training that the teachers Julio Martínez and Eugenio Enriques offer to their students has a great success since it is based on real expectations and significant musical experience in group.

This labor has allowed them to take part in multitude of concerts and national and international events, such as the 2nd International Seminar of Musical Research of the Universidad Complutense de Madrid (SICIEM, 2005), the Congress Institute of Sciences of the Education of Barcelona: “New models of learning” (2006) or the XXVIII World Congress of Bologna, Italy (ISME, 2008).

All this effort has made them deserve the Educational Innovation award of the Consellería d'Educació of the Comunitat Valenciana for the work of research: students' Concert in Secondary Schools.

15.00-15.45

Counteracting the impact of climate change on health: how regional authorities can respond to this challenge

Veneto region

Throughout Europe, the recent years have been characterised by an increase of extreme events such as heat waves and floods that lead to a higher number of people with respiratory problems and exposure to a number of infectious and food-borne diseases that were previously not prevalent in this continent. These occurrences will also cause an increase in morbidity of the population, and thereof, a larger impact on health services. In this context, action needs to be taken to contain the extra burden of care through the training of the hospital workforce and new vaccination schemes. Given the crucial role of regions in the planning, management and delivery of healthcare, it is necessary to involve regional policy-makers and experts to counteract the effects of climate change on health. The panel will be compounded by regional experts and policy-makers to present their experience and challenges.

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|-------|--|
| 15:00 | Peter van den Hazel
Public Health Services Gelderland Midden, Netherlands, Project
Manager Climate TRAP |
| 15:10 | Luigi Bertinato
Office for External Affairs, Department of Health and Social Services,
Veneto Region, Director |
| 15:20 | Gardini Elisabetta – TBC
Member of European Parliament |
| 15:30 | Genon K. Jensen – TBC
Health and Environment Alliance, Executive Director |

OPEN DAYS Tent – Berlaymont Esplanade – Archimède

Danish Climate Solutions – Danish Consortium

In the run-up to the UNFCCC conference in Copenhagen (COP15), it is only natural that this year's OPEN DAYS's Climate Change Day should have a special input from Denmark. A partnership of Danish firms, universities and public authorities have joined forces to create Danish Climate Solutions. Danish Climate Solutions builds on Public Private Partnerships and presents five innovative climate solutions where a broad cooperation between all partners is the key word to success. This type of partnership is an effective tool to develop new products, methods and policies to combat climate change. Moreover, Public Private Partnerships is in our eyes the perfect way to share experiences and best practice amongst all the partners.

The consortium behind Danish Climate Solutions is:

Local Government Denmark, Danish Regions, South Denmark European office, Zealand Denmark EU office, CreoDK, Central Denmark EU office, North Denmark EU office, Kalundborg EU office, City of Copenhagen, Confederation of Danish Industry and The Danish Embassy in Brussels.

Surf Reef

South West UK Brussels Office

Bournemouth Borough Council is proud to have built Europe's first artificial surf reef. 220m offshore and just east of the Bournemouth Pier, the reef is made up of 55 giant sandbags and is the size of a football pitch. The reef is not a wave machine. It does not create waves from nothing, but acts as a ramp, pushing existing waves upwards and shaping them into better quality surfing waves. This means more surfable days, more surfable waves and a better quality, consistent break. This also means a way of further boosting Bournemouth's vibrant sustainable tourism and contributing from protecting the coast from constant erosion and other threats associated to climate change. The reef is an environmentally friendly, free-to-use sports facility that uses natural energy to work. It will enhance the water sports on offer in the area and will drive more visitors. The reef provides a good surfing break, in a cosmopolitan, thriving resort alongside great facilities, accommodation and award-winning beaches. Bournemouth Borough Council will regularly inspect and maintain the reef and provide year-round lifeguard cover in partnership with the Royal Navy Lifeboat Institution.

Wave Hub

South West UK Brussels Office

The Wave Hub is a proposal by the South West of England RDA to develop a 20 MW demonstrate wave farm 10 NM off the north coast of Cornwall. It will provide a "socket" on the sea bed connected by a sub-sea cable to the electricity distribution network at Hayle.

The site will give up to four companies developing wave energy technology the opportunity to deploy arrays of devices in a vigorous wave climate for periods of between 5 and 10 years and thereby demonstrate the reliability, economics and

output of the technology. This will very significantly reduce the time and cost to them of identifying a site, obtaining consent and laying a cable. The companies will also be able to collaborate with one another, where appropriate, in areas of technological improvement and to develop relationships with local suppliers and research institutions.

This initiative aims to take advantage of the region's natural resources of substantial marine energy, strong electricity transmission network, skilled workforce, research capability and available marine facilities to develop a new industry sector in one of the most remote areas of the UK. The Project was developed from advice from an expert industry panel and subsequent detailed analyses of the feasibility, business and economic cases.

The Project has already built a large body of expertise in how to create such projects and this is being passed on to several other countries. Success will be measured by the job creation it achieves and long term benefits to the regional economy. It will also play an important part in gaining public confidence in this relatively new form of generating electrical power.

Primare

South West UK Brussels Office

PRIMaRE (Peninsula Research Institute for Marine Energy) is a £15 million research Institute to support the development of marine energy in the South West, particularly the Wave Hub project.

In late 2007 the University of Exeter in partnership with the University of Plymouth formed the Peninsula Research Institute for Marine Energy, to carry out marine renewable energy research and development. With an initial pump-priming fund of over £7.3 million from the South West RDA, PRIMaRE has enhanced its intellectual research capacity through the appointment of academic staff and a major investment in capital equipment and infrastructure.

"60 second film competition Think.Act.Change" - "Change begins at home: creating a better environment"

Committee of the Regions - EPP Group

The EPP Group in the Committee of the Regions, together with the European People's Party, held a 60 second film competition to mark the European Year of Creativity and Innovation earlier this year. The films, which were made by young European film-makers, focus on how to create a better local environment in the face of climate change. As we approach the United Nations Conference of Parties in Copenhagen, these short videos give us an opportunity to hear the voices of the future and consider how their suggestions can be put into practice.

European Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) - Local government climate Roadmap

ICLEI

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability is an international association of local governments as well as national and regional local government organizations that

have made a commitment to sustainable development. Over 1106 cities, towns, counties, and their associations worldwide comprise ICLEI's growing membership. ICLEI works with these and hundreds of other local governments through international performance-based, results-oriented campaigns and programs. ICLEI provides technical consulting, training, and information services to build capacity, share knowledge, and support local government in the implementation of sustainable development at the local level. Our basic premise is that locally designed initiatives can provide an effective and cost-efficient way to achieve local, national, and global sustainability objectives.

Energy and Environmental Technology

Hytruck

Arnhem Nijmegen City Region

The Arnhem Nijmegen City Region is a regional authority, located in the eastern part of the Netherlands. For the development of its economy, Arnhem Nijmegen Cool Region pays particular attention to five promising areas. One of them is the Energy and Environmental Technology cluster.

The region around Arnhem has a long-standing tradition in energy. The region and Arnhem in particular, accommodates several leading companies and knowledge centres in the field of on-site hydrogen-production and the development and manufacturing of PEM fuel-cells and fuel-cell-applications, such as HyGear, NedStack, HyEt, the University of Applied Science Arnhem Nijmegen and KEMA. One of the main projects this year is the opening of the first public hydrogen filling station in Arnhem and driving with a small fleet of hydrogen cars. Upscaling of these activities and the development and inclusion of other types of vehicles like buses and light trucks are foreseen in the nearby future. One concrete example of this is the Hytruck. You can visit the Hytruck during the OPEN DAYS on October 7 at the Berlaymont Esplanade.

Sustainable greenhouse

Municipality of Lingewaard

Environmentally friendly town hall

Municipality of Bronckhorst

First European 'climate neutral' region

Apeldoorn, Deventer, Zutphen

Towards Low-Carbon Economic Growth

East of England Office Brussels

POWER Cluster Project - The POWER cluster partnership wants to tackle crucial challenges for the further roll out of offshore wind technology in Northern Europe by cooperating beyond borderlines and sector barriers. Furthermore the POWER cluster

project seeks to develop cooperation between individual countries in order to take advantage of future growth in offshore wind and identifying future markets. The overall project aims at implementing a transnational offshore wind energy cluster in the North Sea region. In that respect the POWER cluster project will contribute to insure that the North Sea Region remains world leading in offshore wind energy. The POWER cluster partnership builds on the previous POWER (Pushing Offshore Wind Energy Regions) project. The partnership is therefore able to draw on a huge range of expertise – not only in offshore wind energy, but also in oil and gas and other related marine sectors.

This will allow POWER cluster to develop comprehensive approaches to meet the strategic challenges of the offshore wind energy industry in the North Sea Region and make the region a better place to live, work and invest in.

POWER Cluster will show a DVD called 'Fascination Offshore', a public acceptance initiative for offshore wind energy

The first / interim results and outcomes of the project will be continuously edited on the website – link – and publicly presented during its Mid Term Conference which will be held in Aberdeen, May 19th -20th 2010 at the occasion of AllEnergy 2010 – <http://www.all-energy.co.uk/>

Thomas Jensen of the POWER Cluster project from South Denmark will be present on October 7th in the Berlaymont Tent to answer questions etc.

ANSWER Project – Suffolk County Council, Working with Businesses & Communities for a Greener Future

This project aims to fill a gap on the energy-efficiency scene, by demonstrating the highest impact ways of cooperating to reduce our energy needs. The 3 year project, which started in September 2008, has a budget of €3.6million that is co-funded by project partners and the European Regional Development Fund through the Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme.

Ian Dunnett and Ned Harison from Suffolk County Council, the lead partner will be at the stand during the 7th to answer questions and discuss the project.

Essex County Council will be present and discussing local activity to stimulate innovation using the regional competitiveness programme (ERDF)

MOTOROLA – An OPEN DAYS partner of Anglia Ruskin University DEMO: Wireless Broadband demo: Smart Metering application.

A demo will be shown for a Smart metering application, which, along with Motorola wireless connectivity, provides cities/regions with a number of business and environmental efficiencies.

Our team will be involved in demonstrating this application in the afternoon of Wednesday, Oct. 7th.

European Local Transport Information service ELTIS

What is the European Commission doing to help the Environment? European Commission, Directorate General Environment

Fighting climate change and helping people adapt to its consequences are top priorities for the European Commission.

The Commission proposes legislation to help ensure we all live in a world that is cleaner, more secure and more sustainable... but it also provides tools and information to develop the projects that will deliver on these objectives.

By producing tools and messages that are clear and easy to understand, tailor-made for citizens, newspapers, websites and television programmes, DG Environment helps journalists, opinion-formers and policymakers reach their intended audience with effective material.

DG Environment events such as European Mobility Week and the European Green Capital Award encourage dialogue in society. As such they help policymakers come up with realistic, day-to-day solutions for our environmental problems, on a truly European scale.

Directorate General Energy and Transport
European Commission

Thursday, 8 October 2009

Creativity and Innovation Day

OPEN DAYS Stage – Esplanade – Berlaymont Main Entrance

12.30-13.00

Luton Carnival of Arts performance

East of England Office Brussels

13.00-13.40

Performance Mr Jorge Luengo, Magician

Regional Ministry for Youth and Sports of Extremadura

Jorge Luengo is a young magician from the Spanish southeastern region of Extremadura applies magic to communication. Winner of several prizes, he recently won a major prize at the World Magic Championships in China.

13.40-14.10

Ashridge Sustainable Innovation Award

Hewlett Packard

Ashridge Business School, in association with the European Academy of Business in Society (EABIS) and with the support of HP and WWF, are running an essay competition to find the best ideas from management and other post-graduate students about how organisations can innovate to create value from the shift to a low carbon economy. The three students who provide the best submissions as judged by a distinguished panel will be awarded with a cash prize and career advice from representatives of Spencer Stuart, the global executive search consultants. The winner will also receive a mentorship with HP. The partnering organizations are pleased to announce the shortlisted essays at the EU OPEN DAYS on 8 October. More information about the Ashridge Sustainable Innovation Award and all partners is available at our stand in the tent or at www.ashridge.org.uk/SustainableInnovation

OPEN DAYS Tent – Berlaymont Esplanade – Archimède

European Year of Creativity and Innovation 2009

European Commission, Directorate General Education, Audiovisual and Culture

2009 has been designated "European Year of Creativity and Innovation". The aim of the Year is to promote creative and innovative approaches in different sectors of human activity and contribute to better equip the European Union for the challenges ahead in a globalised world.

The European Year of Innovation and Creativity aims to raise awareness of the importance of creativity and innovation as key competences for personal, social and economic development. By emphasizing creativity and innovation, the EU aims at shaping Europe's future in a global competition by fostering the creative and innovative potential in all of us. Come to our Stand and discover more about the Year!

UK Centre for Carnival Arts

East of England Office Brussels

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RAPIDE - Regional Action Plans on Innovation Development and Enterprise

South West UK Office Brussels

The RAPIDE network, funded under the Interreg IVC programme, is exploring how the public sector can influence innovation and economic development. In five Working Groups on Innovation Vouchers, Effective Funding, Business-Academia, Innovation Incubators and Innovative Procurement, the 12 RAPIDE members,

together with international experts, explore how to bring innovation faster to the market. RAPIDE seeks to capitalise on the transferable good practice from within the network, as well drawing on expertise from outside of the network. RAPIDE also closely cooperates with key Commission DGs. Each partner is responsible developing a regional action plan, setting out how the good ideas explored through the network will be implemented within their region. RAPIDE's fast track status provides a clear channel for policy recommendations to be heard by the Commission, which acts as a critical partner to RAPIDE and a support in the dissemination of the network's work across the wider European Union.

"El Anillo"

Regional Ministry for Youth and Sports – Extremadura

The Ministry for Youth and Sports from the Spanish regional government of Extremadura is one of the regional ministries responsible for the promotion of the Imagination Society, an environment thought to foster young people's imagination, creativity and innovation for regional development. In order to achieve it, it launched three regional programmes. In 2003, it created the Spaces for Youth Creation (www.espaciosparalacreacionjoven.net), which provides young people with a place where they can develop their artistic ideas. In 2004 the Gabinete de Iniciativa Joven was created (www.iniciativajoven.org), an agency to support young creative entrepreneurship and give advice in this field. And finally, 2009 is experiencing the setting up of El Anillo (www.elanillo.org), an international innovation centre for outdoor sports, a place for training, creating, researching and developing new products and companies in the related fields of nature tourism, leisure and sports, which will be presented in the framework of the OPEN DAYS 2009.

European Regions Research and Innovation Network

ERRIN

In line with "Creativity, design and play as drivers for innovation in ERRIN regions", several ERRIN member regions will highlight their good practice examples. Operating through the EU regions Brussels offices and the ERRIN Secretariat, ERRIN, the European Regions Research and Innovation Network, currently brings together regional decision makers, practitioners and R&D players from over 70 European regions in 16 different Member States. ERRIN facilitates knowledge exchange, joint action and project partnerships between its members with the aim to strengthen their region's research and innovation capacities. ERRIN also aspires to influence EU policies in order to make them respond better to the needs of European regions and it engages in debate with EU institutions. ERRIN organises regular thematic conferences and workshops, training seminars, call and policy briefings and project seminars for regional practitioners. For more information and contact: www.errin.eu

Regions for a better Broadband Connection

B3 Regions

'Regions for Better Broadband Connection - B3 Regions' is a 3.5 million Euro initiative aiming at improving Europe's broadband connections in remote or disadvantaged areas. This unique scheme is created by 16 partners from 8 EU Member States (Greece, Italy, Spain, UK, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary, Cyprus), who are sharing best practice learned from a variety of broadband projects. Each of the partners selected for the B3 Regions project provide a distinctive resource seen as having the potential to benefit disadvantaged rural communities across Europe. Matching less experienced partners with advanced organizations to pool expertise and good practice, the project will boost modernization efforts and increase the competitiveness of affected regions. The B3 Regions project was formally approved on 24th April 2008 and will run for 26 months. It is developed within the European Territorial Cooperation INTERREG IV C Programme and co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund.

European Broadband Portal

ERIS@

The regional network of eris@ (founded in 1998) - The European Regional Information Society Association – is supporting processes of the digital inclusion within its 28 European member regions using the tools of the Information Society. Eris@ believes that inter-regional cooperation and the continuous exchange of experiences are inevitable to successfully reach a fully inclusive digital society. Through eris@'s fruitful environment build upon its member regions from all over Europe, one corporate member, and an efficient executive Board of Directors, YOU can profit from our network too!

Strongly aware of the specific challenges and resources of the European regions, eris@ has developed an appropriate framework for strategic coordination and planning to address the issue of enhancing Information Society at local level. Through its information, dissemination and research activities, eris@ achieved to gather expertise and experience, from both the academic and policy making world, including cooperation with the private sector.

Feel free to contact us: info@erisa.be or <http://www.erisa.be>

European association of cities and regions networking for innovative transport solutions

Polis – Cities and regions for better transport

Polis is a network of leading European cities and regions working together to develop innovative technologies and policies for local transport.

Since 1989, European local and regional authorities and transport-related organisations aim to improve local transport through integrated strategies that address the economic, social and environmental dimensions of transport. To this end, Polis supports the exchange of experiences and the transfer of knowledge between European local and regional authorities and transport-related organisations. Polis fosters cooperation and partnerships across Europe with the aim of making research and innovation in transport accessible to cities and regions. The network

and its secretariat actively support the participation of Polis members in European projects and is itself a partner in several of those projects.

Decision makers are provided with the necessary information and tools for making sustainable mobility a reality. Within the Political Group of Polis they formulate recommendations to the European institutions.

The network is currently chaired by Barcelona and has a permanent secretariat located in Brussels.

More information at www.polis-online.org

Responet and Transnet

APRE

The ResPotNet project, co-funded by the EC under the Research Potential programme of the 7th Framework Programme, and coordinated by the Greek National Documentation Centre (EKT-NRHF) in partnership with the European Network of National Contact Points, aims at supporting research actors in the convergence and outermost regions of the EU to unlock their research potential and to strengthen their research capacities. The main objective of the Research Potential programme is that of upgrading the research capacity of emerging and existing centres of excellence by providing financial support to research equipment, structures, staff and networking activities. In this framework, RespotNet offers to the European research community tailored assistance services for the preparation and submission of proposals, but also integrated information services and links to complementary EU policies through the project website, available at www.respotnet.eu, an electronic newsletter, press releases and the organisation of brokerage events. Further support to trans-national cooperation is provided through a Partner Search Facility, available at http://www.respotnet.eu/ps_facilitator.html.