



Business Support on Your Doorstep

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SPECIAL NEWS

Contribute to the final evaluation of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme!

As announced at the last SAG meeting, the European Commission's Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry has now launched the final evaluation of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP). This includes a review of the performance of the Enterprise Europe Network. It is particularly important in this context to assess how the services delivered by the Enterprise Europe Network are regarded by clients.

As Network Partners, we would be grateful if you could ask all those who have used your services since the establishment of the Network to complete a short on-line survey. The survey should only take a couple of minutes to complete and is available in most EU official languages plus Norwegian. The results of this exercise will be very useful for a possible next EIP.

Thank for your support to help us strengthen the next EIP generation(s)!

Link to the online survey

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2KRCCG7>


EU NEWS

€1.2 billion for groundbreaking ICT research in 2011

The European Commission published calls for proposals that will result in projects worth €1.2 billion to be launched in 2011. These projects will help mobilise the necessary resources around key ICT research challenges and objectives. They notably feature a set of Public Private Partnerships: the 'Future Internet' Partnership focuses on the development of open network and service platforms; the three Partnerships 'ICT for Energy Efficient Buildings', 'ICT for the Fully Electric Vehicle' and 'ICT for Factories of the Future' will make sure that ICT play their full part in delivering smart and sustainable growth as set out in the Europe 2020 strategy.

With a budget that supports more than 15.000 researchers every year, ICT research projects funded from the EU's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) play an essential role in reinforcing Europe's underlying innovation capacity, helping industry to conduct ambitious and groundbreaking research which stimulates economic growth.

Under the Digital Agenda for Europe the Commission has committed to maintain the pace of yearly increases of the ICT research budget. It has also invited EU Member States to double total annual public spending on ICT research by 2020, to €11 billion per year. This funding increase for ICT research calls for doubling investments through strategic public-private partnerships, more extensive use of pre-commercial procurement, and by using structural funds for research and innovation. The increase to €1.2 billion for 2011 is the first significant increase for EU ICT research in more than 10 years.



The Commission is doubling its financing for the Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) of the European Economic Recovery Plan and it is also launching a 'Future Internet' Partnership with a budget for 2011-2013 of €300 million to advance Europe's industrial know-how in Internet technologies and systems and to support the emergence of Future Internet-enhanced applications of public relevance. This work programme provides major opportunities for innovative SMEs.

For more detailed information about grant opportunities in the field of ICT please go to http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/newsroom/cf/itemlongdetail.cfm?item_id=6018

'Regions of Knowledge': new grant opportunities

On 20 July 2010 the European Commission has published a new call for proposals under the programme 'Regions of Knowledge' inviting trans-national consortia of regional research driven clusters in the domain of sustainable transport to submit proposals for co-ordination actions.

The call is open until 9 December 2010 and has a total budget of 18.66 M€.

For further information and downloading the call documents please go to http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CapacitiesDetailsCallPage&call_id=338

IMP³rove on video

The key services of IMP³rove are now featured in a short video presented on the IMP³rove platform. The video highlights the Innovation Management Assessment for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), the IMP³rove – European Innovation Management Academy with its services for intermediaries and consultants, the IMP³rove – Partner Services offering a wide variety of networking and learning opportunities, and the IMP³rove Research with up-to-date research results on Innovation Management performance in Europe.

With almost 3000 registered SMEs on the IMP³rove platform, more than trained 400 IMP³rove consultants across Europe, IMP³rove has the largest and most up-to-date database on Innovation Management in SMEs and an active network of support service providers.

Part of EACI's Upgrading Innovation Support Services action, IMP³rove is well known by the Enterprise Europe Network.

The IMP³rove video is accessible at <https://www.improve-innovation.eu/home/imp%C2%B3rove-quick-introduction/>
Studies on IMP³rove are available for download at <https://www.improve-innovation.eu/sme/valuable-links/publications/>
IMP³rove on the Enterprise Europe Network's intranet page <http://www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu/src/intranet/documents/services/innovation/general.cfm>



MEETINGS, FAIRS & EVENTS

REMake expert workshop, Berlin – 16 September 2010

The European innovation project REMake (Recycling and resource efficiency driving innovation in European Manufacturing SMEs) aims to design, implement and test a novel scheme to support eco-innovation in the manufacturing industry including fabricated metal products, plastic products, surfaces finishing, mechanical engineering, electrical and electronic equipments.

For improving resource efficiency, high expertise in the specific branch is absolutely necessary and being familiar with a set of tools supporting the consulting process within this highly complex area is an advantage. During this workshop already established consulting tools will be presented and new tools will be introduced and discussed with the participating experts.

Participation is free but registration is required. Please find the workshop program and registration information

http://www.europe-innova.eu/c/document_library/get_file?folderId=132989&name=DLFE-9317.pdf

IMP³rove International Innovation Management Round Table, Rome – 5 October 2010

The first IMP³rove International Innovation Management Round Table organised by Network Partner APRE. Topics and trends concerning the Europe 2020 Strategy, the open innovation approach and the new key indicators will be discussed.

A detailed agenda will follow soon. For further information and registration please contact Ms Christin Pfeiffer (e-mail: pfeiffer@apre.it) at APRE.

EuropaBio's 2010, Edinburgh – 19 until 21 October 2010

Following the well-established model from previous years, the European Forum for Industrial Biotechnology 2010 will commence with two pre-conference workshops, followed by a two day conference comprising two plenary sessions and three parallel tracks focusing on:

- Feedstock
- Policy, Business and Finance
- Innovation

Over 50 comprehensive presentations will be complemented by several panel debates, many networking events and an exhibition featuring over 30 companies.

Participation is subject to a fee. For more information

<http://www.efibforum.com/>



The list of the events advertised in the EU and Services Bulletin is not exhaustive. Therefore, you are kindly invited to visit the events page in the intranet (<http://www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu/src/events/viewevents.cfm>) or the Enterprise Europe Network public website.

PUBLICATIONS

Environmental Policy Review shows need to address resource efficiency

The 2009 Environment Policy Review is now available. It reports on EU policy developments and looks in detail at EU and Member States' environmental trends and policy performance. The Environment Policy Review details EU policy developments under the four priorities of the 6th Environment Action Programme, namely Climate change, Nature and biodiversity, Environment and Health and Natural resources and Waste. It also indicates key issues for 2010 and the coming years. As a cross-cutting issue, it shows that Member States included many green initiatives in their economic recovery plans, seeking to move towards a low-carbon and resource-efficient economy. The Europe 2020 strategy supports this shift to a resource efficient Europe.

The Review also provides an overview of environmental data and trends under the priority areas of the 6th Environmental Action Programme. Although progress is evident in some environmental areas, further efforts are needed in many others. The country profiles in the third part show the diversity of policy initiatives being taken in the Member States to tackle the different environmental challenges.

The 2009 version of the European Policy Review can be found at <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/policyreview.htm>

For any comment about this document, please post your message in the "Business Services" Conference on FirstClass.

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