

OPEN DAYS WORKSHOPS

6 October

Empowering cities: Local responsibilities in Cohesion Policy programmes? -> Cohesion Policy

Code: 06D03

Organisers: European Commission, Regional Policy, Directorate-General (DG REGIO) - Unit C2

Themes: Theme D - Achieving results, looking ahead: EU Cohesion Policy's evaluation and future prospects

Speakers:

Lamia Kamal-Chaoui, OECD;

Alexander Ferstl, European Commission;

Michele Calandrino, European Commission;

Marie Ranty, EUROCITIES

Location: European Commission, Centre Borschette, CCAB 0D

Date: 06/10/2009 [09:30-11:45]

The workshop will present and discuss ways the partnership principle can be applied when implementing cohesion policy programmes. More specifically, it will focus on the specific role of cities and local authorities. Issues addressed in this workshop will include urban-regional co-operation, sub-delegation of responsibilities, and other innovative ways of making the best use of cities' potentials and capacities.

Build Power Sustain: GE as a local partner -> Energy/Covenant

Code: 06B08

Organisers: GE

Themes: Theme B - Regions and climate change: Europe's way

Speakers:

Speaker 1 06B08, Speaker 1 06B08

Speaker 2 06B08, Speaker 2 06B08

Speaker 3 06B08, Speaker 3 06B08

Speaker 4 06B08, Speaker 4 06B08

Capacity: 178

Location: Committee of the Regions, Jacques Delors JDE 52

Date: 06/10/2009 [14:30-16:15]

Brief: Meeting the EU's 2020 targets in the current economic climate is a big challenge for Europe's cities and regions. It has been estimated that we need to invest more than €1 trillion between 2005-2020 in energy efficiency and renewable energy infrastructure to meet these targets. This workshop will argue that authorities must establish comprehensive management of all the services provided to citizens from the perspective of energy efficiency and savings, whether this is through the creation of employment in renewable energies, effective water management schemes, the control of road traffic or more efficient public lighting. Energy-efficient cities will be a key success factor in reaching the 2020 targets, and green and qualitative procurement is one of the few ways to achieve this. Speakers will discuss the green solutions already implemented in their towns and cities that have provided tangible benefits, e.g. a reduction in the utility bill. GE is committed to working with the cities and regions of Europe, as well as with the European institutions that promote this policy and provide substantial funds for modernising the infrastructure of European regions.

Simplification of Cohesion Policy Regulations: The 2007-2013 programming period -> Cohesion Policy

Code: 06D06

Organisers: European Commission, Regional Policy Directorate-General (DG REGIO) - Unit A1

Themes: Theme D - Achieving results, looking ahead: EU Cohesion Policy's evaluation and future prospects

Speakers: tbc

Location: European Commission, Centre Borschette, CCAB 0A

In the course of 2009 a Task Force on Simplification was set up to take the initiative in the debate on this issue. The European Commission, together with representatives of the Member States and Managing Authorities and

expert advisors, examined a variety of options to simplify the current regulatory framework governing the 2007-2013 cohesion policy programmes. These discussions generated specific amendments to the cohesion policy regulations (2007-2013) and will serve as the basis for preparation of the regulatory framework for the post-2013 period. This workshop will examine the specific changes to the current regulatory framework that have emerged from these discussions, providing a simplified and more flexible delivery of cohesion policy programmes 2007-2013.

Date: 06/10/2009 [14:30-16:15]

7 October

The future of EU Cohesion Policy post-2013 -> Cohesion Policy

Code: 07D02

Organisers: European Commission, Employment, Social Affairs & Equal Opportunities Directorate-General (DG EMPL), European Commission, Regional Policy Directorate-General (DG REGIO)

Themes: Theme D - Achieving results, looking ahead: EU Cohesion Policy's evaluation and future prospects

Speakers: tbc

Location: : European Commission, Centre Borschette, CCAB 0D

Date: 07/10/2009 [09:30-11:45]

In the framework of this seminar, representatives of the European Commission, Member States and regions and academics will present the challenges and issues in connection with the reform of EU Cohesion Policy post-2013.

Ex-post evaluation 2000-06: How can URBAN make a difference? -> Cohesion Policy

Code: 07D06

Organiser: European Commission, Regional Policy Directorate-General (DG REGIO) - Unit C4

Theme: Theme D - Achieving results, looking ahead: EU Cohesion Policy's evaluation and future prospects

Speakers:

Jan Maarten De Vet, ECORYS Brussels;

Michael Parkinson, University of Liverpool;

Karl Jasper, Ministry of Building and Transport;

Tim Fox, ECOTEC Research and Consulting;

Jean-Loup Drubigny, URBACT

Venue: European Commission, Centre Borschette

CCAB 0B

Date: 07/10/2009 [09:30-11:45]

This workshop looks at the results of the URBAN initiatives of the 2000-2006 programming period.

Financing energy efficiency amidst a global financial crisis: Can cities do it? -> Energy/Covenant

Code: 07B02

Organisers: Veolia Environnement

Themes: Theme B - Regions and climate change: Europe's way

Speakers:

Barbaroux, Olivier

Delebarre, Michel

Hackett, Thomas

Ministre Bruxellois de l'Environnement et de l'Energie 07B02, Ministre Bruxellois de l'Environnement et de l'Energie

Capacity: 178

Location: Committee of the Regions, Jacques Delors JDE 52

Date: 07/10/2009 [14:30-16:15]

Brief: Over the last 12 months, Europe has on several occasions reaffirmed that energy efficiency is a priority, from both a climate change perspective and an economic one. As very significant potential lies in the transport and housing/heating sectors, cities will de facto be primary actors of energy efficiency. However, as Europe's

policy on energy efficiency is currently based on indicative targets and is seldom translated into legally binding obligations, little attention is being paid to the actual measures that are needed to give a significant boost to the uptake of energy efficiency measures in EU cities (e.g. the development of incentivising economic models). The current economic crisis also increases the difficulty for cities to finance large-scale initiatives that will make a significant contribution to achieving the objectives set at EU and national level. It is fair to say that cities are part of the solution, but practical implementation may be a problem.

Urban-EU partnership: how to create sustainable cities -> Energy/Covenant

Code: 07B03

Chair: Georgi, Birgit

Hermant-de Callatay, Corinne

Organisers: European Commission, Regional Policy Directorate-General (DG REGIO) - Unit C2

European Environmental Agency

Themes: Theme B - Regions and climate change: Europe's way

Speakers:

Ballesteros Torres, Pedro

Fini, Giovanni

Uhel, Ronan

Urbainczyk, Gerhard

Interpretation Languages: Deutsch (de)

English (en)

français (fr)

Capacity: 106

Location: European Commission, Centre Borschette CCAB 1A

Date: 07/10/2009 [14:30-16:15]

Brief: Quality of life in Europe has definitely risen over the last decades, and cities are the main places in Europe where quality of life is generated and experienced. However, the first symptoms of climate change – with people dying in heat waves and major economic losses through flooding – and falls in life expectancy caused by air pollution, noise and physical inactivity, show that the way we have achieved this quality puts both it and our future at risk. Cities are often perceived as drivers for negative environmental change, due to their high concentration of people and activities but, on the other hand, their density provides an important potential in acting as role models for a more sustainable Europe. This workshop examines how multi-level partnership approaches can help to create successful sustainable urban developments. It will also draw on the experience of a city–EU partnership: the **Covenant of Mayors**.

Learning from best practices to renew the Lisbon Strategy after 2010: A platform of EU cities and regions for sustainable energy -> Energy/Covenant

Code: 07B04

Organisers: Committee of the Regions / DTC - Lisbon Monitoring Platform

Themes: Theme B - Regions and climate change: Europe's way

Speakers: Barbanente, Angela

Hüttenhölscher, Norbert

Szalay, Andras

Twitchen, Key

Zinkernagel, Roland

Interpretation Languages:

Capacity: 75

Location: Committee of the Regions, Jacques Delors JDE 53

Date: 07/10/2009 [14:30-16:15]

In the broader framework of the Lisbon Strategy, the Committee of the Regions supports the EU regions' and cities' joint involvement in the drawing up and implementation of Sustainable Energy Actions Plans by those cities willing to contribute, beyond the targets set by the European Union, to the reduction in CO2 emissions through enhanced energy efficiency, and cleaner energy production and use. This initiative supports the European Commission's initiative of **the Covenant of Mayors**, bringing to it the added value stemming from the

involvement of the regional level as well. To encourage this development, the CoR is launching a specific platform of cities and regions in the context of the LMP. The regional level can play a potentially relevant role by: feeding restructuring needs into national energy plans; helping translation of EU/national strategies into locally feasible measures; initiating and managing public/private partnerships (ensuring minimum viable scale of projects, aggregate projects, and support for cities).

As a contribution to the diffusion of best practices, the CoR will also present the guide it is developing for local and regional authorities on the use of ICT for energy efficiency. **More information:** Details can be found on the Covenant's Website www.eurmayors.eu and on the European Commission's Webpage <http://www.managenergy.net/com.html>. The CoR's recent Opinions on "How regions contribute to the achievement of EU climate change and energy policy goals, with a special focus on the Covenant of Mayors" and on "Addressing energy efficiency through ICTs" can be found on the CoR's Website.

The European Social Fund support for administrative capacity-building -> Cohesion Policy

Code: 07D09

Organiser: European Commission, Employment, Social Affairs & Equal Opportunities Directorate-General (DG EMPL) - Unit A1

Speakers:

Viktor Horvath, Managing Authority for Public Administration Reform Programme, Hungary;

Paweł Chorazy, Ministry for Regional Development, Poland;

Tony Venables, ECAS,

Alexander Heichlinger, European Institute of Public Administration; Thomas Bender, European Commission

Venue: European Commission, Centre Borschette, CCAB 1C

Date: 07/10/2009 [14:30-16:15]

Effective public policies require a competent and efficient administration, impartial and client-oriented. Especially at the time of an economic downturn, strengthening institutional and administrative capacity in order to create a stable business environment will underpin structural adjustments and foster growth and jobs. Reducing regulatory and administrative burdens on businesses helps increase productivity and strengthen competitiveness. For the period 2007-2013 Member States can take advantage of a new ESF priority on institutional capacity which enhances the capacities of public administrations and public services at national, regional and local level. This workshop provides an overview of the state of implementation of this priority, which aims to strengthen institutional and administrative capacity in the convergence countries.

8 October

The added value of EGTC and possible solutions to critical points -> Cohesion Policy

Code: 08C01

Organisers: Committee of the Regions, DTC, EGTC Unit 3

Themes: Theme D - Achieving results, looking ahead: EU Cohesion Policy's evaluation and future prospects

Speakers:

Michael Schneider, Vertretung des Landes Sachsen-Anhalt beim Bund, Member of the CoR;

Anna Terrón i Cusí, Member of the CoR; Bernard Soulage, Rhône-Alpes Regional Council, Member of the CoR;

José Luis Pascual,

Municipality of Trabanca; Michel Delebarre, 1st Vice-President of the CoR;

Olivier Baudelet, European Commission

Location: Committee of the Regions, Jacques Delors - JDE 62

Date: 08/10/2009 [09:00-10:45]

The added value of EGTC and possible solutions to critical points More and more regional and local entities are aware of the opportunities provided by the European Grouping for Territorial Co-operation (EGTC) legal instrument. Currently there are five EGTC setups, while several are under preparation. However, not all EU Member States adopted the relevant national provisions that are the prerequisite for establishing an EGTC. One of the reasons for this delay could be lack of knowledge about this instrument and the unexpected obstacles faced by stakeholders. The evaluation of results and the identification of key issues raised by stakeholders are crucial to promoting the EGTC in support of economic, social and territorial cohesion. It is

essential to highlight the added value of EGTCs, such as the possibility of obtaining a meaningful budget for development, as well as the practical experience gained in setting up an EGTC and tackling the different obstacles confronted in the EU Member States. The objectives of the workshop are: to present the state-of-play and developments in setting up an EGTC, with the focus on the most critical issues, possible solutions, and main aspects of internal and external governance of an EGTC; to draw attention to the added-value brought by EGTCs to territorial co-operation; to present CoR activities supporting EGTCs and to collect ideas for the improvement of the EGTC legislative framework.