

Week of Innovative Regions in Europe (WIRE2010)

15-17 March 2010, Granada (Spain)

The Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation and the European Commission jointly organise the Week of Innovative Regions in Europe (WIRE2010) that will be held in Granada on 15-17 March 2010, under the auspices of the Spanish EU Council Presidency.

The event will focus on **how to move from “synergies of policies” to “synergies of actions” for the optimal use of EU instruments, with the objective of making regions full protagonists in building the knowledge-based society.**

WIRE2010 is the result of merging three different conferences:

- A. Conference on the efficient and effective use of budget earmarked in the Structural Funds for RTD and Innovation, including their synergies with the FP and the CIP.
- B. “Research Potential” conference, which focuses on the assessment of the results and the identification of best practices of the Research REGPOT programme (Capacities – FP7).
- C. “Regions of Knowledge” conference, which deals with the assessment of the results and the identification of best practices of the REGIONS programme (Capacities – FP7).

WIRE2010 will be a high-level forum for discussion of stakeholder's good practices and ideas on how to make the best of European, national and regional funding for R&D and innovation and more efficient ways to conduct future actions. In this line, REGPOT and REGIONS programmes (Capacities – FP7) can play a crucial role and therefore will have a whole dedicated conference on the second day.

Tentative Programme

DAY 1: MONDAY 15TH

9.00-9.30 Welcome

Montserrat Torné - Director General of International Cooperation and Institutional Relationships, Ministry of Science and Innovation, Spain

Robert-Jan Smits - Director of “European Research Area: research programmes and capacity”, Directorate General of Research, Innovation and Science

9.30-11.30 Opening session by Spanish and EU authorities (no order established)

Cristina Garmendia - Spanish Minister of Science and Innovation

Danuta Hübner - European Parliament, President of the Committee for Regional Development

Maire Geoghegan-Quinn - Commissioner-designate for Research, Innovation and Science, European Commission

Johannes Hahn - Commissioner-designate for Regional Policy, European Commission President of the Committee of the Regions (*tbc*)

Jöran Håggglund - Swedish Secretary of State of the Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications

Martín Soler - Counsellor for Innovation, Science and Enterprise in Andalucía region

Topic: synergies of policies

This session will present the different viewpoints of political players on how the synergies among policies can be done.

11:30-12:00 **Coffee**

12.00-12.30 The evolution of the EU regional policy towards more support to R&D and Innovation

Mikel Landabaso – Head of Unit “Thematic coordination, Innovation”, Directorate General for Regional Policy, European Commission

12.30-13.00 The role of Community Research Policy in the Knowledge-based Economy

Luc Soete - Director of UNU-MERIT (the United Nations University - Maastricht Economic and social Research and training centre on Innovation and Technology) (tbc)

13.00-15.00 **Lunch and poster exhibition**

15.00-15.30 Research and Innovation in the light of the Cohesion Policy and EU 2020 strategy

Katarina Mathernova - Deputy Director General, Directorate General for Regional Policy, European Commission

15:30-16:00 The future of Cohesion Policy, the key role of Research and Innovation

Fabrizio Barca - Head of Department for Development Policies, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Italy

16.00-18.00 Round Table 1: Synergies of action: are they possible? - View of main actors

Are regions able to profit from the opportunities offered by the EU instruments? If not, why? Examples of effective synergies, including different types of synergies (by policy makers, research centres, universities, companies, public administrations). What are the limits? Difficulties faced by the different type of actors of the triple helix/triple corner (at policy level, at operational level).

Chair: Jose Manuel Silva - Director General of Research, Innovation and Science, European Commission, European Commission

Rapporteur: Germán Granda - Head of Unit “France”, Directorate General Regional Policy, European Commission

Mario Pezzini - Head of Territorial Reviews and Governance Division, OECD

Lars Montelius - Director for Öresunds University, inter-country Sweden Denmark and Germany (tbc)

Jose Dominguez-Abascal – Secretary General ABENGOA

Tana Perglova - Division of EU Structural Funds Management, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Czech Republic (tbc)

Social event **Visit to the Alhambra**

DAY 2: TUESDAY 16TH

9.00-9.25 PLENARY SESSION

9.00-9.25 General overview: Introduction to the REGIONS and REGPOT conferences.

The regional dimension of the FP. Two different but complementary programmes (competitiveness oriented / convergence oriented). Time (after 3 years of implementation) to take stock of achievements, strengths, weaknesses and difficulties. A common issue: too small budget to achieve real impact. The possibility of synergies with other EU programmes.

Jean-David Malo - Head of Unit for Regions of Knowledge and research potential, Directorate General of Research, Innovation and Science, European Commission

Estelle Mougeot-Leroy - Senior consultant Efficient Technology, acting as the general rapporteur for the "Regions of Knowledge" conference (9:30-18:30)

Manfred Horvat - Professor at Vienna University of Technology and Independent Expert for European and International Research and Technology Cooperation, acting as the general rapporteur for the "Research Potential" conference (9:30-18:30)

9:30-18:30 CONFERENCE "REGIONS" (PARALLEL)

This session is devoted to the Programme "Regions of Knowledge" (REGIONS), which is part of the FP7 Capacities Programme. The objective of this programme is *"strengthening the research potential of European regions, in particular by encouraging and supporting the development, across Europe, of regional "research-driven clusters" associating regional authorities, universities, research centres, enterprises and other stakeholders"* (European Commission C(2009)5905 of 29 July 2009).

9:30-10:15 State of play Facts and Figures (budget, results, calls, etc.)

Olivier Brunet - "Regions of Knowledge and research potential" Unit, Directorate General of Research, Innovation and Science, European Commission

10:15-11:15 Case studies (3 projects)

Gunter Clar - Director Regional Strategies and Innovation, Steinbeis-Europa-Zentrum, Baden-Württemberg, Germany

Walter Hoogland - Coordinator REDICT Project

Lucía Dobarro - Project INRES: Insular Regions Cooperation for Maximising the Environmental and Economic Benefits from the Research in Renewable Energy Sources (REGIONS project)

11:15-11:45 Coffee

11:45-13:00 Round Table 2: Lessons learnt and next steps. Cases of success. Potential solutions and actions. Improvement of the Programme.

Difficulties faced by applicants or potential applicants. Possible solutions and actions to be taken. Is there sufficient awareness about what is a Research Driven Cluster? Are the REGIONS demands linked to regional strategy for Innovation?



Chair: Olivier Brunet - "Regions of Knowledge and research potential" Unit, Directorate General of Research, Innovation and Science, European Commission

Session rapporteur: Pierre Godin - Thematic coordination, Innovation, Directorate General for Regional Policy, European Commission

Marta Nadaban - Deputy Director, INNOVA Regional Development and Innovation Agency, Hungary

Sverre Sogge - Senior Adviser, Research Council of Norway and National Contact Point for REGIONS and REGPOT programmes

Sylvia Schreiber - Director, Stuttgart Region EU Office, Germany

Christian Altmann - Cluster manager Clusterland

13:00-15:00 [Lunch and poster exhibition](#)

15:00-15:30 [The Europe INNOVA Programme and the World Class Clusters](#)

Reinard Buescher - Head of Unit "Support for Innovation", Directorate General Enterprise and Industry, European Commission (tbc)

15:30-17:00 [RT 3 Clusters: a policy or a tool for a policy?](#)

Competitivity. EU Cluster policy. ECPG Future recommendations. Cases of running clusters and clustering of clusters. Lessons learnt: success/weaknesses/constraints. Other tools to support Regional Economic development.

Clusters: a policy or a tool for a policy?. Which are the driving forces for clustering? (Administration, Industry, Academia, other). Which are the expected benefits? Are there constraints for international cooperation within the EU? What are the best practices for collaboration models across projects?

Chair: Charlotte Brogen - Director General at VINNOVA, Sweden (tbc)

Session Rapporteur: Nikos Pantalos - Unit "Support for Innovation, Directorate General Enterprise and Industry, European Commission (tbc)

Patrick Vuillermoz - Research and Innovation Manager, pole of competitiveness Plastipolis

Tea Petrin - University of Ljubljana, Chair of ECPG (tbc)

Sven-Gunnar Edlund - Baltic Sea Region Transnational Cluster (tbc)

Keith Harrap - FOOD cluster coordinator

Michel Gaanote - European Cluster Alliance

17:00-17:30 [Coffee](#)

17:30-18:30 [Evolution of REGIONS Programme.](#)

The coming FP8 (Synergies with INNOVA, PRO INNO, Regions for Economic Change). Larger budget to achieve bigger impact? A single programme composed of complementary activities to support regional economic development?

Chair: Jean-David Malo - Head of Unit for "Regions of Knowledge and research potential", Directorate General of Research, Innovation and Science, European Commission

Christian Saublens - Secretary General of EURADA

Eleni Marianou - Director of CMPR (Conference of Peripheral and Maritime Regions)

9:30-18:30 **CONFERENCE "REGPOT" (PARALLEL)**

This session is devoted to the Programme “Research Potential” (REGPOT), which is part of the FP7 Capacities Programme. The objective of this programme is “*Stimulating the realisation of the full research potential of the enlarged Union by unlocking and developing existing or emerging excellence in the EU's convergence regions and outermost regions, and helping to strengthen the capacities of their researchers to successfully participate in research activities at Community level*” (European Commission C(2009)5905 of 29 July 2009).

9:30-10:15 State of play Facts and Figures (budget, results, calls, etc.)

Chair: Marita Kayamanidou - Unit “Regions of Knowledge and research potential”, Directorate General of Research, Innovation and Science, European Commission

10:15-11:15 Case studies (3 projects)

Michael Fardis - coordinator ACES project
Doina Nicolae - coordinator DELICE project
Urzula Bialek-Wyrzykowska - coordinator HEALTH-PROT project

11:15-11:45 Coffee

11:45-13:00 RT 4 Lessons learnt and next steps. Potential actions. Improvement of the Programme.

Difficulties faced by applicants or potential applicants. Possible solutions and actions to be taken.

Are the REGPOT demands part of a regional strategy? If yes, is the evaluation of a proposal taken into account in the follow up of such strategy? Should the REGPOT Program target thematic sectors, or should remain open to research excellence only?

Chair: Jerzy Szwed - Deputy State Secretary for Science and Higher Education, Poland (tbc)

Session Rapporteur: Georgia Tzenou - National Documentation Centre/NHRF, Coordinator of European Network of REGPOT NCPs.

Alain Borgel - Coordinator RUNSEASCIENCE project

Ernesto Fatorusso - Coordinator NatPharma project

Tajfun Akin - Coordinator METU-MEMS project (tbc)

Stefan Weiers - Unit “Regions of Knowledge and Research potential”, Directorate General of Research, Innovation and Science (tbc)

13:00-15:00 Lunch and poster exhibition

15:00-15:30 The international dimension: Western Balkan Countries contribution

Viktor Nedovic - Assistant Minister for International Cooperation, Serbia

15:30-17:00 RT 5: A regional policy for the Outermost regions and the international dimension of REGPOT: a possible alignment? Mediterranean (MED) and Western Balkan Countries (WBC).

Results. Expected impact. Constraints/weaknesses/opportunities. Potentials improvements

Which specific actions are needed for the outermost regions and why? How can REGPOT interact with the European Neighbouring Policy Instrument (ENPI), -Mediterranean and Western Balkan Countries-, and the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA)? How can the international regional policy align with the FP INCO schemes? Would it be convenient to promote the association of the outermost regions with their neighbouring third countries? Is there a collective research Agenda for the outermost regions?

Chair: Juan Ruiz Alzola - Director of Agency for Research and Innovation, Canary Islands Government, Spain

Session Rapporteur: Stefan Weiers - Unit "Regions of Knowledge and research potential", Directorate General of Research, Innovation and Science, European Commission

Violeta Atanasovska - Ministry of Science, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)

Carlos Portugués Carrillo - Director General for relations with Europe, Canary Islands region, Spain

Jose Manuel Nunes Castanheira da Costa - Rector da Universidade da Madeira, Portugal (tbc)

Stephane Raud - Director of technology transfer and industrial relations, Institut of Research for Development (IRD) France.

Philippe Gomes - President of New Caledonia, France (tbc)

17:00-17:30 Coffee

17:30-18:30 Evolution of REGPOT Programme.

The coming FP8 (A larger budget to achieve a bigger impact. Synergies with Structural Funds. Improvement of participation of REGPOT Centres in FP)

Chair: Marita Kayamanidou - Unit "Regions of Knowledge and research potential", Directorate General of Research, Innovation and Science

Costas Iacovou - Director of Planning at the Planning Bureau, Cyprus (tbc)

Axel Lehman - Professor at Universitaet der Bundeswehr, Munich, Germany

18:35-19:00 **PLENARY SESSION**

18.35-19.0 Reports of *rapporteurs* and Conclusions

Estelle Mougeot-Leroy - Senior consultant Efficient Technology, acting as the general rapporteur for the "Regions of Knowledge" conference (9:30-18:30)

Manfred Horvat - Professor at Vienna University of Technology and Independent Expert for European and International Research and Technology Cooperation, acting as the general rapporteur for the "Research Potential" conference (9:30-18:30)

Robert-Jan Smits - Director of "European Research Area: research programmes and capacity", Directorate General of Research, Innovation and Science, European Commission

20:30 Gala dinner

DAY 3: MARCH 17TH

9:00-10:30 PLENARY SESSION

9:00-9:30 OECD Study on Regional Dimension of Innovation

Andrew Davis - Directorate General for Public Governance and Territorial Development, OECD

9:30-10:30 Round Table 6: Common issues between the RTD Governance, Instruments and expected Impact: Business development, IPR and Technology transfer university-industry.

How can systems with different but complementary targets, and different systems of evaluation, be coordinated? How can public Higher Education and research Institutions promote knowledge-based starts-up? Can "open innovation platforms" be a tool to integrate the "Regional Innovation Ecology"?

Chair: Manuel Heitor - Secretary of State for Science, Technology and Higher Education, Government of Portugal

Rapporteur: Antonio Valverde - Director of IDEA Agency, Junta de Andalucía

Bernabé Unda - Counsellor for Enterprise, Basque Country (tbc)

Belén Bernaldo de Quirós - Head of Unit "Jean Monnet; university/business partnerships; relations with the agencies", Directorate General Education and Culture, European Commission

Georg Artelsmair - Unit Co-ordinator for Member States, European Patent Office (tbc)

Christian Saublens - Secretary General of EURADA

Roberto Escarre - Director of IPR Helpdesk (tbc)

10:30-11:00 Coffee

11:00-12:30 PARALLEL SESSION A: GOVERNANCE

11:00-12:30 RT 7 Governance. Coherence between regional, national and European instruments: the Governance of the ERA, the Lisbon Agenda and Knowledge Society issue.

How are national and regional priorities defined? How are the regional priorities been taken into account at national/European level? How can the regional governance integrate the triple helix and the public-private partnership? How can systems with different but complementary targets, and different systems of evaluation, be coordinated? How can be achieved a reliable connectivity between decision-makers and the scientific and business communities? How to ensure concrete synergies between Framework Programme (FP), Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP), Structural Funds (SF), Regional and national programming? Which are the main obstacles in the ERA Governance?

Chair: John Wood - Chairman of ERAB

Rapporteur: Katja Reppel - Deputy Head of Unit "Innovation policy development", Directorate General Enterprise and Industry, European Commission

Nichi Vendola - President of Puglia Region, Italy (tbc)

Kent Johansson - President of Västra Götaland region, Sweden (tbc)

Anneli Pauli - Deputy Director General of Research, Innovation and Science, European Commission, European Commission (tbc)

Xabier Goenaga - "Knowledge for Growth" Unit, Institute for Prospective Technological Studies -IPTS-

Gilbert J. Declerck - Chief Executive Officer of IMEC (tbc)

Carlos Martinez-Riera - Director of the European Office, Ministry of Science and Innovation, Spain

11:00-12:30 PARALLEL SESSION B: INSTRUMENTS

11:00-12:30 RT 8 Instruments. What are they and how can they work together?. How regions promote the different instruments and their interactions. The information and awareness issue.

Are the instruments appropriate? How to avoid duplication of efforts? How to ensure favourable environment for SMEs in the Innovation space?. The role of public authorities, notably regional, and the connectivity between EU and regional instruments. The role of financial institutions and private investors.

Chair: Tom C. Barrett - Director European investment Bank (tbc)

Rapporteur: Jean-David Malo - Head of Unit for Regions of Knowledge and research potential, Directorate General of Research, Innovation and Science

Peter Wostner - Government Office of Republic of Slovenia for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy

Maurici Lucena - Director of CDTI, Chairman of TAFTIE (tbc)

Erkki Leppävuori - President of EARTO (tbc)

Geoffrey Briton - Chairman European Fed. Accountants and Auditors

Bernrd Reichert - Head of Unit "Research and SMEs", Directorate General of Research, Innovation and Science

Martin Schuurmans - President of EIT (tbc)

Jean-François Aguinaga - Head of Unit "Business co-operation and business support network development", Directorate General of Enterprise and Industry

11:00-12:30 PARALLEL SESSION C: EVALUATION AND IMPACT

11:00-12:30 RT 9 Evaluation and Impact. Conditions to improve/increase the RTD support to regional economic development. Future of the Cohesion Policy

How the impact is measured? Would a standardised/homogenised evaluation be possible? Should an institution aiming at participating in REGPOT or REGIONS insert its planning in the Regional Strategy (Operational Programmes) of the Structural Funds? Should the different projects be more standardised on the grounds of sharing evaluation concepts? Could a possible European Quality Seal of Evaluation be used as a reference for National and Regional Policies?

Chair: Lambert Van Nistelrooij - European Parliamentary, European Parliament

Rapporteur: Eric Dufeil - Head of Unit "Spain", Directorate General for Regional Policy, European Commission

Peter Kind - Director IPTS (tbc)

José Luis Kaiser - Subdirector General de Programación Territorial y Evaluación de Programas Comunitarios, Ministerio Economía y Hacienda

Andrzej Siemaszko - Director National Contact Points Office, Poland

Mercedes Bresso - President Piemonte region, Italy (tbc)

Claus Schuch - Senior Researcher, ZSI (Social Innovation Centre)

Philippe Vanrie - Chief executive Officer EBN (European Business network)

Ian McCull - Director of Innovation, Scotland Development Agency (tbc)

12:30-14:00 [Lunch and poster exhibition](#)

14:00-18:00 PLENARY SESSION

14:00-15:30 RT 10 Report by rapporteurs and discussion

Recommendations for new Guidelines. Concrete proposals for actions regarding synergies. Improvements for REGPOT and REGIONS. Drafting of a political messages to the Council.

Chairs: Montserrat Torné -Director General of International Cooperation and Institutional Relationships, Ministry of Science and Innovation, Spain- and **Robert-Jan Smits** -Director

of “European Research Area: research programmes and capacity”, Directorate General of Research, Innovation and Science-

All rapporteurs of the different sessions

Rapporteur: Carlos Martínez-Riera - Director of the European Office, Ministry of Science and Innovation, Spain

15:30-16:00 **Coffee**

16:00-17:30 **Conclusions of WIRE and Discussion on the Proposal for Actions.**

How to incorporate the synergies into the financial perspectives. Draft conclusions and recommendations on Synergies.

Danuta Hübner - European Parliament, President of the Committee for Regional Development

Franz van Vught - Expert in higher education policy and management and Commission's Expert Group Chairman (tbc)

Juan Tomás Hernani - Secretary General of Innovation, Ministry of Science and Innovation, Spain

17:30-18:00 **Concluding remarks, presentation of Belgium Research priorities and Closing**

Jose Manuel Silva - Director General of Research, Innovation and Science, European Commission, European Commission

Benoît Cerexhe - Belgian Minister for R&D during next Presidency

Felipe Pétriz - Secretary of State for Research, Ministry of Science and Innovation, Spain

Visit to the Health Technological Park in Granada
