



Two projects developed in Germany are amongst the finalists competing for the **4th European eGovernment Awards 2009** - an initiative of the European Commission to stimulate innovation by identifying best practice examples using information and communication technologies in public sector organisations. This year 52 awards finalists from 17 countries are competing for the prizes. The winners will be announced on 19 November at the Ministerial eGovernment Conference 2009 in Malmö (Sweden). For the first time the finalists' projects are accessible online through a virtual exhibition.

Selected finalists 2009: Germany

Out of the eight German cases submitted to the awards this year, two are among the final candidates:

- **Cologne-PB** presents its novel tools for participation;
- **RePOS** is an example of an efficient information-sharing service.

German partners are involved also in the following finalist cases: a cross-border project **OPA-EU** (see Austrian country factsheet) and the pan-European project **EUCARIS** (see Dutch country factsheet <http://www.epractice.eu/awardsmediakit>).

In addition, four other German submissions were recognised as good practices.

Cologne - Participatory Budgeting (Cologne-PB)

Budgetary concerns and the realm of citizens

Category 2a: eGovernment empowering citizens



With its innovative participatory budget initiative, Cologne-PB, Cologne has put its money where its mouth is: in the interest of its citizens. The initiative enables citizens to participate in the preparation of the municipal budget. Thanks to an eParticipation internet platform, citizens can participate in planning the budget by submitting proposals, comments and assessments, and submitting votes for or against specific proposals. Not only has the City of Cologne decided to implement the best 300 ideas received in 2008/2009 (with the project to be extended in the coming years), but it has also allocated additional resources to the initiative. → <https://buergerhaushalt.stadt-koeln.de>

Research Portal with Online Support (RePOS)

Strengthening scientific research by connecting experts

Category 2b: eGovernment empowering businesses



RePOS is a comprehensive information platform focusing on research, scientific innovation and technology transfer. It involves 47 research institutions and covers 8,467 projects, research topics, 44,893 publications and a network of 1,992 scientists. RePOS enables users to find solutions, descriptions of topics, partners for co-operation, service supplies and available research techniques, as well as to establish new contacts.

→ www.forschung-sachsen-anhalt.de





4th EUROPEAN eGOVERNMENT AWARDS 2009 – FACTS

- Submissions from 31 out of 34 eligible countries
- Total number of submissions: 259
- Number of finalists: 52 from 17 countries
- Number of finalists by categories:
 - Category 1: eGovernment supporting the Single Market - 5 finalists
 - Category 2a: eGovernment empowering citizens - 18 finalists
 - Category 2b: eGovernment empowering businesses - 6 finalists
 - Category 3: eGovernment enabling administrative efficiency and effectiveness - 23 finalists

4th EUROPEAN eGOVERNMENT AWARDS 2009 - CATEGORIES

- **Category 1. eGovernment supporting the Single Market:** strengthening the Single Market by increasing mobility for businesses and citizens in the EU;
- **Category 2. eGovernment empowering citizens:** improving access to public services for citizens;
- **Category 2b. eGovernment empowering businesses:** improving access to public services for companies, by creating business opportunities and generating savings for businesses (particularly SMEs);
- **Category 3. eGovernment enabling administrative efficiency and effectiveness:** making public services and administrative processes simpler and more efficient, thus reducing the administrative burden.

A separate **public prize** will be awarded based on the online votes cast by members of ePractice.eu (membership open to all).

EUROPEAN eGOVERNMENT AWARDS BACKGROUND

The purpose of the European eGovernment Awards is to support the implementation of European eGovernment policy and strategies and facilitate good practice exchange. In this context, since their launch in 2003 the Awards have been promoting the best ICT-based solutions for public services in Europe.

The European eGovernment Awards are organised every two years, coinciding with high-level EU Ministerial eGovernment conferences. Their aim is to monitor progress and identify policy and research priorities for the future. This year the 5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference, "Teaming up for the eUnion", is a European Commission-Swedish Presidency joint event. It will take place on 19-20 November 2009 in Malmö (Sweden). The European eGovernment Awards ceremony and Finalists Exhibition are integral parts of the conference.

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION

Virtual Exhibition of European eGovernment Awards is accessible at <http://www.expopolis.com/>

FURTHER INFORMATION

Awards website: www.epractice.eu/en/awards

Full list of finalists: www.epractice.eu/en/awards/finalists

5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference, 19-20 Nov 2009, Malmö (SE): www.egov2009.se

Press queries: info-eGov-conference-press@ec.europa.eu Tel: +32 2 299 45 31

EUROPEAN eGOVERNMENT AWARDS CONSORTIUM

- Center for European Public Administration, AT www.donau-uni.ac.at/verwaltung
- Danish Technological Institute, DK www.teknologisk.dk
- RSO S.p.A., Rome, IT www.rso.it
- P.A.U. Education, ES www.paueducation.com

