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European ePractice Newsletter

N. 261 - 16 December 2008

>> TNO Research survey

A total of 72 users responded to the survey carried out by the TNO Research on the user experience and impact of ePractice.eu. The survey contributes to a study that helps policy makers and researchers to better understand the impact of such websites on the public domain (e.g. health, government and education). After a thorough analysis a report on the survey results will be published in ePractice in the first quarter of 2009. Thank you for your cooperation.

The European ePractice Editorial Team wishes you Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year! The next issue of this newsletter will be disseminated on Tuesday 13 January 2009.

Please feel free to forward epractice.eu/newsletter to whom it may be of use. You are welcome to send suggestions that may help us to improve the portal and enrich its content. We invite you to [become a member](#) of ePractice.eu in order to use all our services.

Latest Cases

- [One stop shop "De Guichet"](#) 15 December 2008 |
- [businesslink.gov.uk](#) 12 December 2008 |
- [Participatory budgeting in the City of Freiburg](#) 11 December 2008 |

Editor's Choice of the week: [Detecting and Eliminating Bacteria Using Information Technology](#)

One stop shop "De Guichet"

Our portal De Guichet conforms to international accessibility standards and offers a transparent access to a catalogue of administrative procedures and forms, structured in a very particular manner. It offers secure online services based on electronic signatures and allows the user to trace processes and get feedback on pending procedures through a virtual personal space. These principles apply to both the citizen as well as the business space. Our one stop shop distinguishes two levels: 1) an informational level, where the user finds information on procedures and the underlying processes based on a life event approach, and 2) a transactional level, where the user has either the possibility to submit forms electronically to government agencies or access electronic services that guide him through complex procedures.

businesslink.gov.uk

Businesslink.gov.uk is the online gateway for businesses to access advice, guidance and transactions from the Government and other bodies, allowing them to grow, prosper and comply, regardless of where they are in their life cycle. By 2011, supporting the Transformational Government agenda and Sir David Varney's vision, businesslink.gov.uk will become the single gateway into Government for business. The businesslink.gov.uk programme works collaboratively across 19 Government departments to deliver the identified websites onto

businesslink.gov.uk by 2011. Businesses benefit from quick access to information they need in a user friendly and accessible format, helping them to save time and money.

Participatory budgeting in the City of Freiburg

The city of Freiburg im Breisgau used the DEMOS approach (<http://www.epractice.eu/cases/demos>) combined with the DEMOS budget planner (www.demos-budget.eu) to conduct a participatory budgeting trial from 7 April to 9 May 2008. The goals were to engage members of the public in participating in planning the city's budget for 2009/10 and to generate ideas and knowledge for savings and efficient spending. In addition, the aspect of gender budgeting was introduced to address gender-specific issues connected to the city's budget.

Latest News

- [DE: Böblingen considering migration to Open Source desktop](#) 12 December 2008 | Germany
 - [RO: Extension of Call for Projects for the development of public services information systems](#) 12 December 2008 | Romania
 - [CZ: Signature of a Memorandum of Cooperation on the use of digital spatial data](#) 11 December 2008 | Czech Republic
 - [ES: Advertising campaign for the citizens' familiarization with \[www.060.es\]\(http://www.060.es\)](#) 10 December 2008 | Spain
 - [EU: Health-e-Child wins the ICT 2008 Exhibit Grand Prize](#) 10 December 2008 | EU Institutions
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DE: Böblingen considering migration to Open Source desktop - 12 December 2008

The city of Böblingen in the south of Germany next year will try out migrating to an Open Source desktop. It wants to have an alternative in place when its current proprietary licences run out around 2010.

Three of the city's about a dozen departments will be moving to a desktop based on the Ubuntu GNU/Linux distribution, according to David Gumbel, an Open Source IT consultant helping the city administration with the migration.

Gumbel talked about Böblingen's plans during a workshop for Open Source communities organised by the Open Source Software Observatory and Repository (OSOR.EU) on 14 November 2008. The city's move to an Open Source desktop is tied to the end of support for the currently used proprietary software installation.

The city is currently using a proprietary office system whose support by the software provider is due to end around 2010. According to Gumbel, the city wants to have the office system upgraded to a new version or have an alternative in place, based on OpenOffice.

Since in a few years time the support for the operating system will also run out, the city is preparing for the upgrade to the new version of the operating system or alternatively have the PCs running the Ubuntu GNU/Linux distribution.

The city will not be replacing hardware for the migration, Gumbel added, as the city leases its PCs and the computers are renewed at a regular basis independent from other IT products. The hardware currently in use is not sufficiently powerful to run the new operating system of the private software provider, Gumbel explained.

The city has recently started using OpenOffice, a suite of Open Source office applications, installed on all 450 PCs. Those are not yet the default applications for proprietary file formats (e.g. .doc or .xls files), Gumbel explained. " We will change that department by department, once the support training and supporting workshops have been held."

According to Gumbel the return on investment for the migration to OpenOffice is more attractive than the migration to an alternative operating system. "The interesting part of Böblingen's project is the replacing of proprietary products (...) by their Open Source equivalents."

Böblingen, just south of Stuttgart, has about 45 000 inhabitants. In total, the city administration has 450 workstations.

Further information:

- [Source article – OSOR.EU](#)

- [Open Source in Böblingen](#)
 - [Municipalities Community in OSOR.EU](#)
-

RO: Extension of Call for Projects for the development of public services information systems - 12 December 2008

The Romanian Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) announced the extension of the submission deadline for projects regarding the development of public services information systems.

The projects regard Major Intervention 2, "Developing and increasing the efficiency of modern electronic public services", which belongs to the Priority Axis III of the Sectoral Operational Program "Increasing economic competitiveness".

In particular, the various operations of this intervention are extended as follows:

- **Operation 2:** "Implementation of ICT systems for increasing interoperability of information systems". The submission of all relevant projects is extended to 22 January 2009, at 16:30 (EET).
- **Operation 3:** "Support of the implementation of eLearning applications". The submission of projects is extended to 15 December 2008, at 16.30 (EET).
- **Operation 4:** "Support of the implementation of eHealth solutions and ensuring of broadband connection, whenever necessary" (local level projects). The submission of projects is extended to 22 January 2009, at 16.30 (EET).

A revised [Applicant's guide](#) is available on the [official website](#) of the Ministry under the "Applicant Guide" / "Final Guidelines" section.

The registration of projects will be done [on-line](#) up to the date specified for each operation. The project has to be submitted, within 5 days after the on-line registration, to the MCIT headquarters located in 14t, Liberty Blvd., District 5, Bucharest.

The representatives of the Agency for the Information Society Services (ASSI) are at the public's disposal by phone on +40 21 311 41 55 or by e-mail to: fonduri@mcti.ro in order to clarify any questions or concerns about the structural funds in the IT & C field.

Further information:

- [Official MCIT website – original press release](#) (in Romanian)
 - [Official MCIT website](#) (in Romanian)
 - [Official MCIT webpage for the registration of projects](#) (in Romanian)
 - [Official MCIT Applicants Guide for Project Submission](#)
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CZ: Signature of a Memorandum of Cooperation on the use of digital spatial data - 11 December 2008

A recently signed Memorandum of Cooperation between several Czech ministries and the Office for Land and Cadastre is intended to enable the public administration and citizens to use the digital maps of the Office for the Land and Cadastre.

The aim is to ensure, in the near future, the possibility of an effective and satisfactory use of the available digital spatial data while streamlining the administration's processes and improving public services delivery.

The signing took place in the context of a seminar on technical single digital maps. The focus of the event was on the creation, management and update of data presentation.

Zdeněk Zajíček, Deputy Minister for Public Administration, Informatics, Legislation and Archiving within the Ministry of Interior, signed the Memorandum of Cooperation agreed among the following parties: the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry for Regional Development, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Office for Land and Cadastre, the Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic, and the Association of Regions of the Czech Republic.

The main users of spatial digital data are government entities and citizens, through a service provider network and individual data batch transfers. The information to be made available will also make use of the files of the Integrated Rescue System of the Czech Republic, and those of the Czech Police.

The basis for the public administration's digital maps will be the digital evidence collected by the Office for the Land and Cadastre throughout the national territory. The digital maps of the public administration are composed of the digital orthophoto and the digitised/technical cadastral maps which have been or will be developed in the framework of, or generated by, the activities of the Czech Public Administration.

Further information:

- [Press release – Ministry of the Interior \(in Czech\)](#)
 - [Press release available on the official portal of the Czech Public Administration \(in Czech\)](#)
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ES: Advertising campaign for the citizens' familiarization with www.060.es - 10 December 2008

The Spanish Minister of Public Administration Elena Salgado, presented an advertising campaign with the motto "060.Seek and find", launched by her Ministry from 26 November to 22 December 2008 in order to make the approximately 1 000 services of the eGovernment portal www.060.es known to the public.

This year the campaign focuses on the consolidation of www.060.es, Spain's eGovernment portal which gathers the totality of the services provided by the various levels of Government, namely: central, regional and local. Some of the services can be totally carried out electronically, in other cases one can arrive up to the printing of forms and other printed material and in some remaining cases, only information is currently available online.

The campaign aims to raise the citizens' awareness of the advantages of the portal, which are to access, from any available computer, the public services offered electronically. This move is part of the generalized effort of modernization of the administrations recently undertaken by the Government, the scope of which, as the Minister said, is to acknowledge the citizens as the real protagonists of the public administration.

From the 966 services already available to all citizens on www.060.es, 470 belong to the General Administration of the State (AGE - Administración General del Estado), 340 to the various Autonomous Communities and 156 to local entities.

The 060.es website is part of the general 'network 060' (Red 060) which also comprises the telephone hotline 060 for citizens' queries on administrative matters, as well as a network of offices located in the city councils – soon to be present in the offices of the Government's delegations.

The campaign will mainly be developed via Internet, with radio and press support. On the Internet, various visual effects will direct to the public services available via the portal. The press will support the campaign with 29 daily insertions and presentations in 10 different media.

Further information:

- [Intervention of the Minister Elena Salgado during the presentation of the web 060.es campaign](#) (in Spanish)
 - [Official press release – Ministry of Public Administration](#) (in Spanish)
 - [Official 060.es portal](#) (in Spanish)
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EU: Health-e-Child wins the ICT 2008 Exhibit Grand Prize - 10 December 2008

On 27 November 2008, [Health-e-Child](#), a European project for clinical decision support and knowledge discovery in paediatrics diseases, won the Exhibit Grand Prize of the [ICT 2008](#) Exhibition.

The project aims at building a Grid-enabled European network of leading clinical centres that will share and annotate biomedical data, validate systems clinically, and diffuse clinical excellence across Europe by setting up new technologies, clinical workflows, and standards. To this end, the project uses grid 'supercomputing' technology with the aim:

- To gain a comprehensive view of the child's health by vertically integrating biomedical data, information and knowledge that spans the entire spectrum from genetic to clinical to epidemiological;
- To develop a biomedical information platform, supported by sophisticated and robust search, optimization and matching techniques for heterogeneous information, empowered by the Grid;
- To build enabling tools and services on top of the Health-e-Child platform, that will lead to innovative and better healthcare solutions in Europe;
- To integrate disease models exploiting all available information levels;

- To create database-guided biomedical support systems enabling novel clinical practices and personalized healthcare for children;
- To achieve large-scale, cross-modality and longitudinal information fusion and data mining for biomedical knowledge discovery.

The Health-e-Child system envisages to become the universal biomedical knowledge repository and communication conduit for the future, a common vehicle by which all clinicians will access, analyze, evaluate, enhance, and exchange biomedical information of all forms, to be accessible at any time and from anywhere, and to offer a friendly, multi-modal, efficient, and effective interaction and exploration environment.

The biennial ICT event is the most important forum for discussing research and public policy in information and communication technologies at European level. It brings together researchers and innovators, policy and business decision-makers working in the field of digital technologies. The ICT Event is organized by the European Commission's Directorate General for the Information Society and Media and is usually hosted by the current Presidency of the European Union. The "[ICT 2008 Exhibit Grand Prize](#)" is doted with 10 000 Euros.

Further information:

- [Original Europe's Information Society press release](#)
- [Health-e-Child official website](#)
- [ICT 2008 official website](#)
- [ICT 2008 Exhibit Grand Prize and detailed competition's results](#)
- [Detailed presentation of the ICT Exhibition clusters](#)

New Factsheets

The 10th Edition of the eGovernment factsheets for the Czech Republic, Hungary and Latvia are now available online. We invite you to visit the relevant [section](#) for regular and/or ad hoc updates related to the factsheets.

Latest Publications

- [EU: Commission Communication "Towards an accessible information society"](#) 1 December 2008 | EU Institutions
- [EU: Action Plan on e-signatures and e-identification](#) 28 November 2008 | EU Institutions
- [EU: DLR White Paper 1.0](#) 30 April 2008 | Pan European
- [EU: New Common Procurement Vocabulary \(CPV\)](#) 15 March 2008 | EU Institutions

EU: Commission Communication "Towards an accessible information society" - 1 December 2008

Complete title: Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions "Towards an accessible information society"

Communication de la Commission au Parlement Européen, au Conseil, au Comité Economique et Social Européen et au Comité des Régions « Vers une société de l'information accessible »

Mitteilung der Kommission an das Europäische Parlament, den Rat, den Europäischen Wirtschafts- und Sozialausschuss und den Ausschuss der Regionen „Für eine barrierefreie Informationsgesellschaft“

Description (short summary): eAccessibility and Web accessibility in particular have emerged as a high societal priority due to the growing importance of the Internet and the explosive growth in online information and interactive services, namely online banking, shopping, government and public services, and electronic communication with distant relatives and friends.

This document focuses on how to improve eAccessibility in general and web accessibility in particular, proposing the implementation of the following actions:

- Delivering the change by strengthening policy priorities, coordination and stakeholder cooperation;

- Pursuing and making full use of instruments at European level, notably by facilitating standardisation efforts and activities, providing financial support for research leading to innovation, deploying technology solutions in favour of people with disabilities and for elderly persons, and exploiting current and considering proposed new legislation;
- Encouraging the building up of experience and collection of good practices by reinforcing cooperation with the Member States and other stakeholders towards a common European approach for eAccessibility, including a new EU high-level eAccessibility expert group in order to provide strategic guidance.

This Communication is supported by two other Commission documents: a staff working paper on eAccessibility, and a report from the online public consultation on the same topic. The Communication also builds on two independent studies on the situation of eAccessibility in Europe, conducted for the Commission.

Original URL:

http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/einclusion/policy/accessibility/com_2008/index_en.htm

Number of pages:

EN version: 13

FR version: 15

DE version: 15

EU: Action Plan on e-signatures and e-identification - 28 November 2008

Complete title: Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions – Action plan on e-signatures and e-identification to facilitate the provision of cross-border public services in the Single Market

Description (short summary): The objective of this Action Plan is therefore to offer a comprehensive and pragmatic framework to achieve interoperable e-signatures and e-identification, which will simplify access of enterprises and citizens to cross-border electronic public services. To achieve this objective, the Action Plan focuses on a number of practical, organisational and technical issues, complementing the existing legal framework.

Original URL: http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/detail_dossier_real.cfm?CL=en&DosId=197692

Number of pages: 13

EU: DLR White Paper 1.0 - 30 April 2008

Complete title: Design Options, Requirements, Architectural Considerations and Approaches to Points of Single Contact in Accordance with the EU Services Directive * DLR White Paper Version 1.0 (April 2008)

Gestaltungsoptionen, Anforderungen und Architekturüberlegungen zum Ansatz eines Einheitlichen Ansprechpartners gemäß der EU-Dienstleistungsrichtlinie * DLR White Paper Version 1.0 (Februar 2008)

Description (short summary): The concept of the Point of Single Contact is explored in detail in FOKUS' white paper. Essential organizational and technical design options are being drawn up and the requirements necessary for the architectural framework for the service directive's range of applications are being decided upon. Embedding these approaches in existing models for administrative portals, one-stop services, one-stop government and front and back offices is fundamentally important to the fostering of further developments.

The FOKUS white paper is the starting point for a more concrete Services Directive architecture and for implementing Points of Single Contact. In the upcoming months it will be updated: particularly in view of political guidelines for the implementation of the DLR and with regard to knowledge still to be gained via prototypic realizations with FOKUS partners. This architecture has already been arranged and partially realized by agreement for 2008 in the FOKUS eGovernment laboratory using technologies from lab partners.

The document is part of the Fraunhofer FOKUS eGovernment white paper series, which explores topics such as interoperability, process integration, eGovernment architecture etc. It is a "living document", designed to be updated by committed eGovernment players. Those who have any comments for the white paper are invited to email their contribution to the editor Jörn von Lucke.

Original URL:

http://www.fokus.fraunhofer.de/en/elan/publikationen/Infomaterial/white_paper/DLR_1_0/index.html

Number of pages:

106 (EN version)

106 (DE version)

EU: New Common Procurement Vocabulary (CPV) - 15 March 2008**Complete title: New Common Procurement Vocabulary (CPV)**

Description (short summary): The Common Procurement Vocabulary (CPV) establishes a single classification system for public procurement aimed at standardising the references used by contracting authorities and entities to describe the subject of procurement contracts.

The CPV consists of a main vocabulary for defining the subject of a contract, and a supplementary vocabulary for adding further qualitative information. The main vocabulary is based on a tree structure comprising codes of up to 9 digits (an 8 digit code plus a check digit) associated with a wording that describes the type of supplies, works or services forming the subject of the contract.

The use of the CPV has been mandatory in the European Union since 1 February 2006.

On 28 November 2007, the European Commission has adopted a Regulation that updates the Common Procurement Vocabulary.

The CPV has been transformed into a more user-friendly classification, adapted to the needs of the electronic age as envisaged by the eProcurement Action Plan, and updated in line with the most recent developments in technology and services. The update of the CPV is the result of an unprecedented consultation exercise with the private and the public sectors throughout the EU and an extensive comparative study on other existing business classifications.

The emphasis has been put on a streamlined structure that serves purchasers, making the CPV more "product driven" and less "material driven". The previous version of the CPV contained, for instance, different codes for chairs depending if they were made of plastic, wood or metal. Now the accent has been put on the product itself (i.e. the chairs), and the additional specifications, if any, are to be added using appropriate codes of the supplementary vocabulary.

Original URL: http://simap.europa.eu/codes-and-nomenclatures/codes-cpv_en.html

Number of pages:

Regulation: 74 pages

Guide: 16 pages

Explanatory Notes: 43 pages

Supplementary Codes Explanatory Notes: 5 pages

Upcoming Events

- [PT: HealthInf 2009 - International Conference on Health Informatics](#) 14 - 17 January 2009 | Portugal
- [HU: Consultation on ICT for Governance & Policy Modelling](#) 21 January 2009 |
- [HU: FP7 - ICT Proposers' Day 2009](#) 22 January 2009 | Hungary
- [BE: Information Day on Call 3 of ICT PSP \(Policy Support Programme\)](#) 26 January 2009 | Belgium
- [UK: Workshop "Towards Shared Environmental Information in Europe: Opportunities and Challenges for Integrated Research"](#) 28 - 29 January 2009 | United Kingdom
- [TR: "First International Conference on eGovernment and eGovernance" of TURKSAT](#) 12 - 13 March 2009 | Turkey
- [UK: Patient 2.0 Empowerment - EHR for Personalizing and Improving Care](#) 1 - 3 June 2009 | United Kingdom

PT: HealthInf 2009 - International Conference on Health Informatics**14 - 17 January 2009***HealthInf 2009 – International Conference on Health Informatics*

The International Conference on Health Informatics constitutes an event that aims to bring together researchers and practitioners interested in the application of information and communication technologies (ICT) to healthcare and medicine, in general, and to specialised support to persons with special needs in particular.

Databases, networking, graphical interfaces, intelligent decision support systems and specialised programming languages are just a few of the technologies currently used in medical informatics. Mobility and ubiquity in healthcare systems, standardisation of technologies and procedures, certification, privacy are some of the issues that medical informatics professionals and the ICT industry in general need to address in order to further promote ICT in healthcare.

Registration can be performed [online](#). Participation fees range from €330 to €840. Early bird registration rates are also available.

The preliminary agenda of the event can be viewed [here](#). The detailed version of the agenda will also soon be available.

Country: Portugal

City/Location: Porto

Organiser: Institute for Systems and Technologies of Information, Control and Communication (INSTICC)

Event website: <http://www.healthinf.org>

Event email: secretariat@healthinf.org

HU: Consultation on ICT for Governance & Policy Modelling

21 January 2009

Consultation on ICT for Governance & Policy Modelling

This event is a unique opportunity for experts to discuss their ideas with representatives from the European Commission and deepen their insight and understanding on the new research area set out in the Objective 7.3 of the new ICT Work Programme for 2009-2010 in the 7th Framework Programme for R&D.

The consultation is taking place on the margins of the [ICT Proposers' Day 2009](#) which is to be held on the following day (22 January 2009).

The participation will be limited to 40 persons due to logistic constraints, and early registration is recommended. Participation is free of charge, but pre-registration is required by sending an email to: AGabor@corvinno.com.

In order to facilitate the discussions, attendees are invited to prepare an abstract (max 1 page) summarising their ideas on the topic. They are also encouraged to include scenarios on the possible application of the technologies described in Objective 7.3 in the domain of Governance and Public Services.

More information on ICT for Governance & Policy Modeling is available at: <http://ec.europa.eu/egovernance> and on the ePractice community: <http://www.epractice.eu/community/egovernance>.

City/Location: Budapest

Organiser: Corvinus University of Budapest

Event website: <http://www.corvinno.hu/web.nsf/do?open&lang=en&tpage=hirekconsultation>

Contact Email: AGabor@corvinno.com

HU: FP7 - ICT Proposers' Day 2009

22 January 2009

FP7 – ICT Proposers' Day 2009 – European ICT Research & Development

ICT Proposers' Day is a unique networking forum for stakeholders interested in building long-term, international cooperations within the framework of ICT WP 2009-2010 of the 7th Framework Programme for R&D. However, the one day event offers more than just networking. It is a unique opportunity for already existing and future project participants to familiarize themselves with the research challenges and objectives of ICT WP 2009-2010 and to form project consortia for participating in calls for proposals.

The event aims to connect key industrials and R&B actors, research institutes and universities, large science and technology based multinationals, high-tech SMEs. About 2500 participants are expected.

It will be organized as information fair and therefore no formal agenda is set. There are no structured sessions or panels, however, there will be:

- seven scenes dedicated to the seven challenges of the 2009-2010 work programme (to learn more about the challenges and objectives go to [2009-2010 priorities](#)),
- additional scenes dedicated to horizontal and other activities,
- series of 'networking booths', each corresponding to the objectives of one of the challenges,
- other large areas, snack bars and cafeterias to facilitate a more informal way of establishing partnerships,
- a 'library' provided by the Commission to supply information on relevant topics.

Registration is open and free of charge. Further information on how to [register](#) as well as for [submitting comments and proposals ideas](#) is available online.

Country: Hungary

City/Location: Budapest

Organiser: The European Commission's Information Society and Media and Directorate-General, in cooperation with the Hungarian National Office for Research and Technology

Event website: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/events/budapest_2009/index_en.htm

Event email: INFSO-ICTPROPOSERSDAY@ec.europa.eu

BE: Information Day on Call 3 of ICT PSP (Policy Support Programme)

26 January 2009

Information Day on the third Call for Proposals of the ICT Policy Support Programme (part of the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme)

The ICT Policy Support Programme (or ICT PSP) aims at stimulating innovation and competitiveness through the wider uptake and best use of ICT by citizens, governments and businesses particularly. The approach is based on leveraging innovation in response to growing societal demands. The programme will facilitate the development of lead markets for innovative ICT-based solutions notably in areas of public interest and will open a wide range of new business opportunities in particular for innovative SMEs.

The ICT PSP is part of the [Competitiveness and Innovation framework Programme](#) (CIP). The CIP is a coherent and integrated response to the objectives of the renewed Lisbon strategy and runs for the years 2007-2013 and is organised around three multi-annual specific programmes:

- The Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP)
- The Information and Communication Technologies Policy Support Programme (ICT PSP)
- The Intelligent Energy Europe Programme (IEE)

The Programme builds on the aims of the previous [e-TEN](#), [Modinis](#) and [e-Content](#) programmes and will support the aims of the new integrated strategy [i2010 - European Information Society 2010](#).

The [draft ICT PSP Work Programme 2009](#) has been agreed by the Programme Committee on 21 November 2008. It remains subject to formal approval by the Commission in January 2009. Budget amounts foreseen are under the conditions that the appropriations foreseen in the preliminary draft budget for 2009 are adopted without modifications by the budgetary authority. The third call for proposals should open from 29 January till 2 June 2009.

The agenda of the event can be [downloaded](#) and registration can be performed [online](#). Additional details about call for proposals and guidelines will shortly be available in the [call pages](#).

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: European Commission

Event website: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/ict_psp/index_en.htm

Event email: info-ict-ppsp@ec.europa.eu

UK: Workshop “Towards Shared Environmental Information in Europe: Opportunities and Challenges for Integrated Research”

28 - 29 January 2009

Workshop “Towards Shared Environmental Information in Europe: Opportunities and Challenges for Integrated Research”

The recent Communication from the European Commission ‘[Towards a Shared Environmental Information System \(SEIS\)](#)’ as well as the INSPIRE Directive (2007/2/EC) do not only provide for the first time ever a genuine European policy driver for environmental informatics, but also a considerable challenge for research organisations involved in environmental monitoring, data provision and modelling.

The overall aim of the workshop is to discuss the opportunities and challenges for research that are posed by the development of European-wide environmental information systems such as SEIS. The workshop will brainstorm on how research institutes and higher education institutions - either in their role as data holders or as science providers - can help making environmental information sharing in Europe a reality.

The workshop further aims at connecting the research community, sharing experiences and best practices and discussing the development of new tools and methodologies. Thus, the event will help researchers and practitioners get up to speed with the state-of-the-art in this fast-changing business, looking in a holistic way at the whole process from collecting and managing data to delivering and using environmental information. While it is not the intention to focus on the technical development or implementation of SEIS as such, the workshop will generate ideas which may add value to the SEIS concept.

There will be four thematic sessions, namely:

- **SHARED** : Making environmental datasets talk to each other: Novel approaches to data sharing, data harmonisation and interoperability;
- **ENVIRONMENTAL**: Being smart in getting environmental data: Strategies for integrated environmental monitoring and observation;
- **INFORMATION**: Transforming environmental data into environmental information: Delivering data to meet user needs;
- **SYSTEM**: Letting environmental data work: Platforms for integrated environmental modelling and scenario-building.

Paper submissions within these thematic sessions can be submitted online by 31 October 2008 via the following link: <http://www.ceh.ac.uk/SEIS/presentation.aspx>

The target attendees are primarily (but not exclusively) scientists from the PEER and AGILE member organisations and EEA staff members dealing with environmental monitoring, informatics, and modelling. Furthermore, the event is aimed at practitioners within national and European organisations dealing with shared environmental information.

Participation is free of charge. Registration is to be performed [online](#) by 15 December 2008. The workshop being limited to 100 participants, early registration is recommended.

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: Wallingford

Organiser: Partnership for European Environmental Research (PEER), Association of Geographic Information Laboratories for Europe (AGILE) and the European Environment Agency (EEA)

Event website: <http://www.ceh.ac.uk/SEIS/PEER-EEA-AGILEworkshop.html>

Event email: jmuller@ceh.ac.uk

TR: “First International Conference on eGovernment and eGovernance” of TURKSAT

12 - 13 March 2009

“First International Conference on eGovernment and eGovernance”

The first International Conference on eGovernment and eGovernance of TURKSAT (Turksat Satellite Communication Cable TV and Operation Inc.) will provide the opportunity for all stakeholders to gain an understanding of real-world eGovernment and eGovernance issues.

The conference will consist of keynote addresses, a plenary session, technical sessions and a panel discussion covering a wide range of topics in the eGovernment and eGovernance areas. It has been organised by and for an audience of leaders, bureaucrats, technocrats, researchers, practitioners and academic across the globe to present and discuss on their research findings and experiences in the field of the specific domain areas.

Registration is to be performed by filling out the [dedicated form](#) available at the event's website. The conference fee is €70, which is payable in advance and should be received by December 19, 2008.

Country: Turkey

City/Location: Ankara

Organiser: SoSReS (Social Sciences Research Society)

Event website: <http://icegov.info/>

Event email: icegov@sobiad.org

UK: Patient 2.0 Empowerment - EHR for Personalizing and Improving Care

1 - 3 June 2009

6th ICMCC Event – "Patient 2.0 Empowerment - EHR for Personalizing and Improving Care"

In a recently published paper, the ICMCC defined Patient 2.0 Empowerment as: the active participation of the citizen in his or her health and care pathway with the interactive use of Information and Communication Technologies.

Dealing with medical and care compunetics, the field of social, societal and ethical implications of computing and networking, ICMCC decided to focus the 2009 event on Electronic Health Records (EHR) and secondarily, the connection between EHR and Digital Homecare.

The main themes of the conference are as follows:

- EHR and Knowledge Mangement;
- Social aspects of EHR;
- Ethical aspects of EHR;
- EHR and Digital Homecare;
- Future of EHR (visionary).

The [call for papers](#) is open until 1 February 2009. Authors are encouraged to focus their contributions from a patient's perspective.

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: International Council on Medical and Care Compunetics (ICMCC)

Event website: <http://2009.icmcc.org/>

Event email: event@icmcc.org

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