



---

## ICT BASED REGIONAL INNOVATION

---

*Date: 7<sup>th</sup> of May 2008*

*Venue: Hotel Bedford, Rue du Midi 135-137, B-1000 Brussels*

### Rationale

There is growing evidence that investment in ICT is an important determinant of productivity growth and jobs. Indeed, as much as 40% of productivity growth has been attributed to ICT investment. However, not all ICT investments are as productive as others and Europe's regions need to learn to make 'wise' investments that will transform their economies, labour markets, public services as well as their innovation and education systems.

erisa@ is committed to supporting its member regions to better understand how to exploit ICTs for regional economic and social development. ICTs are more than just another technology. They pervade all aspects of our lives and are bringing about profound changes. Moreover, their potential for innovation and the competitiveness of regions is significant and few regions can afford to ignore it. Within erisa@, we have built a body of expertise and good practice and developed systems for sharing these. Why re-invent the wheel when, by collaborating with partner regions you can reduce the costs and the risks and, at the same time, accelerate your region's development.

But the impact of ICTs stretched beyond the economic domain. For almost 10 years, erisa@ has been stressing and developing know-how to enable regions to adopt ICTs to enhance inclusion. Sadly, the digital divide remains a threat (some would say a growing threat) but with the right strategies, programmes and projects, regions can take giant steps to overcome this.

In almost 10 years of existence, and with a track record that stretches back 15 years to the original IRISI and RISI initiatives that gave birth to erisa@, erisa@ has developed a position of trust with respected stakeholders. Its opinions on ICT-related matters are influential showing how regions can magnify their impact by working together. erisa@'s guides to good practice have been well received and used in many contexts.

Come along and find out more about erisa@ and the services and benefits erisa@ can offer to your region. Success for individuals, enterprises, public authorities and the economic and social development of the regions in they are located is ever more dependent on having an understanding of, access to, and the skills to use and exploit ICTs. Knowledge is the new factor of production in the knowledge-based society innovation the key to success. Networking and advanced uses of ICT play critical roles in developing knowledge-based regions and erisa@ stimulates, facilitates and promotes these.

## DRAFT AGENDA - "ICT BASED REGIONAL INNOVATION"

11h00 - 11h30	Registration & Coffee
11h30 - 11h40	Welcome & Introduction <a href="#">Luis Casas Luengo</a> , President, eris@
11h40 - 12h10	Presentation of eris@ <a href="#">Gareth Hughes</a> , CEO, eris@
12h10 - 12h40	Keynote speech: <i>Networking in the Learning Economy</i> <a href="#">Knut Koschatzky</a> , Head of the Department of Regions and Market Dynamics, Fraunhofer Institute
12h40 - 13h00	Questions & Answers
13h00 - 14h00	LUNCH
14h00- 14h40	Keynote speech: <i>Possibilities and meaning of ICTs for Regions</i> <a href="#">Marc Bogdanowicz*</a> , Institute for Prospective Technological Studies - IPTS, JRC, EC
14h40- 16h10	Roundtable: Linkages between the 7FP, CIP and Structural Funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Juan González-Mellizo</a>, Unit eGovernment &amp; CIP operations, DG INFSO &amp; Media, EC</li><li>• <a href="#">Jean-David Malo</a>, Acting Head of Unit "Regions of Knowledge &amp; Research Potential", DG Research, EC</li><li>• <a href="#">Representative</a> of DG Regional Policy, EC (tba)</li></ul>
16h10 - 16h30	Presentation of the eris@ Annual Conference 2008 <a href="#">Gareth Hughes</a> , CEO, eris@
16h30	Close of the meeting

\* Speakers to be confirmed