

PROGRAMME

Networking Session

N 51 IST promotion in Baltic countries as EU New Member States

Date/Time: 15/11/2004 (14:00 - 15:30)

Venue: Vermeer Hall 1 (Networking)

Coordinator: Alexander Beriozko (EDNES)

This session aims to strengthen the links between EU Member States and the three new Baltic member states. It will explore how Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia are being integrated into IST activities through focused conferences and workshops, demonstrations of teleworking tools, development of web resources etc. These actions aim to promote collaboration between research, educational, environmental protection and business organisations in the Baltic States and the older EU Member States. This will promote wider goals of European integration by facilitating scientific, educational, environmental, medical and business cooperation, encouraging the free flow of information, and enhancing mutual knowledge and understanding.

Topics:

- Collaborative working environments
- ICT for networked business
- Strengthening the integration of the ICT research effort in an enlarged Europe

Opening

H.E. Mrs Baiba Laizane, Ambassador of Latvia to the Netherlands

Presentations

- **Introduction to IST4Balt project** (5 min)

Alexander BERIOZKO (EDNES)

IST4Balt will promote and coordinate IST activities in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania entering the EU. This coordination action, focused at Strategic Objective 2.3.2.6 “Applications and services for the mobile user and worker”, also targets IST activity areas: 2.3.2.10, 2.3.2.3, 2.3.2.7, 2.3.2.9. It promotes IST in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia by dissemination actions, including conferences, workshops, technology studies, demonstrations, training, market studies.

IST4Balt in Baltic States will develop IST Information Dissemination Centres, organize 6 all-Baltic conferences and 7 technical/training workshops and disseminate information on IST.

IST4Balt will provide training to promote FP6 and IST, and encourage submission of new proposals to the EC.

- **Baltic IS cluster - example of regional ICT industry cooperation** (10 min)

Mara JAKOBSONE (LITTA)

Leading ICT associations from Latvia, Lithuania and Belarus – LITTA, Infobalt and National Infopark – have recently signed Agreement of co-operation within Baltic Information System (IS) Cluster. The Baltic IS Cluster, by joining LITTA, Infobalt and National Infopark, in total represents 296 companies with 29,500 employees and 2.24 billion EUR turnover in 2003. It is anticipated that by joining forces in the Baltic IS Cluster, Baltic's will become one of the leading software development, integration and outsourcing centres in Europe.

- **Lithuanian ICT market today and tomorrow** (10 min)

Vytautas VITKAUSKAS (INFOBALT)

Lithuania's ICT businesses and the Government have initiated a program of investment into R&D in order to achieve by 2008 up to 2.5-3 percent of State budget funds allocated for R&D projects and enlargement of the related scope of work.

- **Opportunities for collaboration in IST activities between Latvia and other countries** (10 min)

Inga BAKANE (Riga Technical University)

The main aim of the presentation is to show how IST activities can facilitate collaboration between EU member states and Latvia. We will introduce you with the main Latvian companies, organisations and universities, extrapolate on their fields of expertise and highlight the opportunities of partnership with other countries.

- **Application and Integration of Intelligent Systems in e-Cities** (10 min)

Arturas KAKLAUSKAS (Vilnius Gediminas Technical University)

Technological innovation mainly through changes in the availability of information and communication technology inclusive databases of best practices, software, neural networks, decision support and expert systems, etc. that have been provided by a variety of new services developed by the e-cities. Presentation emphasizes the analysis of intelligent systems used in different fields of cities: intelligent transport systems, knowledge management, e-learning, banking, financial and management services, auctioning, medical advice, health care, legal advice, financial consultancy, insurance, trade, travel/tourism, employment market, real estate market, etc. One of the main objectives is setting up a collaborative partner pool, which unites organisations from different countries operating within the e-cities by means of integrating their intelligent systems in collaborative work environment.

- **Information networking and SMEs** (10 min)

Hans Pruim (UNIDO)

This presentation will be devoted to the possible assistance that UNIDO can provide to set up national SME information networks in the Baltic States.

- **Introduction to the FP6 project eLOGMAR-M (10 min)**

Eberhard BLUEMEL (Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation (IFF))

The aim of the eLOGMAR-M project is to gather and co-ordinate activities in the field of IT- and Communication solutions with maritime and logistics applications. The maritime freight route “Baltic Sea feeder ports – Western Europe hub ports (Hamburg) – Mediterranean ports – Chinese ports” is selected as the subject of investigation and demonstration.

One of the main objectives is devoted to the problems of setting up a collaborative partner pool, which unites organisations from different countries (Germany, U.K., Finland, Greece, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and China) operating within the selected transport route by means of integrating their electronic information resources (databases, information systems, Web-sites and portals) in collaborative work environment.

- **Latvia@World project- Information society for all (10 min)**

Mara JAKOBSONE (LITTA)

Objectives of the Lavia@World project is to assist Latvia’s population in overcoming the digital divide and to promote access to public and private business services, available via the Internet.

The project will advance the development of the Information society in Latvia, the success of which depends upon reaching a critical mass of Internet users. It is planned to initiate 180 000 new users in small towns and rural areas to Internet services.

- **Boost in Estonian IT market. Its tendencies – current and future (5 min)**

Sergei IPATOV (Bi-Info AS)

The aim of the presentation is to get the audience acquainted with the current situation in the information technologies market in Estonia. It will be short overview of the major IT projects and companies, operating in cities and rural areas. IT projects in Estonia are aimed at the development and optimization of governmental administrative and commercial structures. Information technologies are widely used in finance, in transport industry and logistics, education, medicine and social welfare etc. I'll also dwell on the forthcoming Conference "Logistics and IT in International Trade" that is to be held in Tallinn in December 2005.

- **TEAMTELEPARK -Information Technology and Teleworking centre in Kohtla-Jarve city, Estonia (5 min)**

Anna UIBO (Inforing AS)

Project main goal is organizing Information Technology and Telework Center (ITTC) in Ida-Virumaa Estonian region, with the following tasks: Public promotion of Information Technologies and Telework, public teaching of information technologies basics, professional education of qualified programmers, system analysts, IT-managers, administrators, computer graphics and web designers, including teaching of methods of telework and finding job for ITTC professionals, including telework from the European Union and other countries.

- **SIMS project - Supporting SMEs Innovation in Mobile Services (5 min)**

Adam TUROWIEC (ITTI)

SIMS is an SSA FP6 project aiming at supporting innovations of SMEs in the mobile services/applications (MSA) business. It will investigate developments and issues that will impact MSA-SME innovation activities and will propose means to improve for greater growth and prosperity. It will focus also on New Member States. SIMS has developed an analytic framework which can be used to position the participation of SMEs in FP6 activities and the benefits that they can obtain. This presentation will present the SIMS project, its framework and arguments for SME participation in collaborative RTD projects. It will also aim at establishing new contacts to persons with interests similar to those of the SIMS project.

Discussion