PROPOZYCJE WSPÓŁPRACY W RAMACH INTERREG IVC

BUŁGARIA

On behalf of Nature Park Bulgarka Directorate we would like to declare our interest in participating in the project under INTERREG IVC Program. The Directorate Nature Park Bulgarka, established in 2002 and managed by the Bulgaria Executive Forestry Agency, is a public body and is eligible for participation in the INTERREG IVC Program.

The Nature Park Bulgarka staff combines responsibilities for integration of nature conservation and sustainable development. Park management has responsibilities in biodiversity conservation, recreation, cultural heritage and tourism development.

Nature Park Bulgarka Directorate has considerable experience in project development and management. Projects implemented in the past and currently under implementation include; establishment of the Uzana Eco-trail, biological re-cultivation of disturbed areas, establishment of educational trails within the nature park, establishment of a demonstration centre for restoration of local fruits, setting up an information centre, development and fixing of educational boards for youths related Protected areas in Bulgaria and conducted a Forum for spatial risks.

The park has good partnerships with policy making institutions both at the district and municipal level in order to provided strategy implementation and with the local NGOs. The park participates in regional and municipal decision making. The park is best suited for a local level unit which has the opportunity to integrate the interests of various stakeholders in the fields of tourism, forestry, agriculture, environmentalism and thus contributes to development of sustainable regional policies.

the Directorate Nature Park Bulgarka Bulgaria www.ppbulgarka.net mob. 00359887396519 email: dppbulgarka@abv.bg

HISZPANIA

An international consultancy in Spain, **LocalEurope**, with a wide experience in European Project Management is searching INTERREG IVC projects for our Spanish clients.

On the occasion of the <u>fourth call for INTERREG IVC proposals</u> and, taking into account our wide experience in the presentation and management of European Projects (6 MED Projects in the 2009 Call – 3 as Lead Partners, 3 as Partners- and creation of the Energy Agency of the Province of Alicante, the only Spanish Agency out of the 7 Agencies approved in Europe in the last Intelligent Energy for Europe Call), we contact you in order to know if some institutions in your country are looking for Spanish partners. We are representing Regional Governments and more than 140 cities and 50 Chambers of Commerce from Spain.

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FRANCJA

Organisation	Niverlan	Region	Burgundy (FR)
	http://www.niverlan.fr		

Short description of organisation:

Niverlan: joint association created by both the Nièvre department and the Nevers community area in order to carry out the local public service of electronic communications within their territories. Legal structure: delegation of public service for the setting up and exploitation of the high speed electronic communications network. Strong experience in PPPs.

This network combines a 570 km optic fibre backbone with Wimax technology and satellite solutions so as to guarantee:

- * A high performance public service (2Mbtsto for more than 98% of the population)
- * neutrality (it welcomes all providers)
- * and balance between rural and urban areas

So as to better control the cost of the deployment of our Network, Niverlan:

- * tries out the installation of optic fibre cables on electric poles (HT-A). With this experiment 90% of the civil engineering costs can be saved. Niverlan was the first public body in France to implement this solution.
- * has established one of the first WiMax networks in France, according to the number of Base Stations points as well as the surface area coverage.

Provisional project title:

ENGAGE:

Enhancing 'Next Generation Access' Growth in Europe

Short description of project idea:

To help rural regions across Europe to better understand and address the issue of "How to build a high speed broadband (HSB) network at efficient cost in rural areas" in order to make sure that the requisite are fulfilled for the maintenance or even strengthening of local populations and economic activities. ENGAGE will help the participating regions to fasten the setting up and the implementation of HSB policies, considering the significance & strategic importance of the next generation access networks.

This issue is certainly one of the most strategic for the development of Europe and its rural areas. But the situation is more than complex :

- Technologies are evolving fastly and Regions across Europe often lacks of technical expertise to understand these evolutions and make the good choices
- The investments to be made are really important as most of the MS and Regions now face the issue of building the high speed digital infrastructure for the next 50 years. Some solutions to finance these investments can be found in urban areas through market operators. It is more difficult in rural areas where low population density lower the rentability rates of these investments.

The situation is even more complex in the current context of economic crisis with reduced public investments budgets. Now more than ever, there should be greater cooperation between regions to share knowledge, ideas, innovation and creativity.

Objective or expected outcomes:

Sub obj 1: Definition of regional plans for the establishment of HSB connection.

The deployment of very high speed networks induces an increased risk of "geographical digital"

divide" and the goal of encouraging an inclusive digital economy must remain a priority in the regional strategy. Application of a neutral technology approach would be necessary to ensure achieving open access network so as everyone can promote new services and innovation projects in order to provide the ground for economic growth.

Also a planned deployment strategy of coordination of civil engineering works can be an interesting model to maximise potential synergies. Utilising innovative digging technologies or infrastructural solutions using the electric poles are also best pratices that can be shared.

Sub obj. 2: Which technology mix to optimize the cost of the network?

While optical fibres are the only currently valid solution that can support very HSB and be upgrated to meet the future needs, a multitechnology scenario is necessary to ensure achieving the develoment of high speed connection in remote areas. So we have to identify the interest of the different technologies that have been implemented across European rural areas (Wireless solution, optic fiber network, separation from the local network, VDSL.)

Sub obj. 3: Definition of economics models to calculate the return of investment.

Identify the services that can be enabled through HSB access and demonstrate that e-services can result in public savings on different actions (utilities...). Consider this issue when calcultating the return rates of public investments in broadband infrastructures.

Sub obj. 4: High speed observatories in rural areas (mapping of the uses and speed)
Better understand needs & uses of broadband access to better calculate the Return Rates of
Broadband investments. Definition of areas features => to identify where regulatory measures
can be applied /to what extent.

Sub obj. 5: Project management of PPPs and access to public and private funding solutions.Generally it is assumed that private companies will cary out most of the tasks required for the Next generation internet access. But in the market failure zone direct, public funding is a necessity. Goal => to identify the best way of setting up PPP & to achieve successful ones

What sort of expertise are we looking for?

Expertise in one of the five sub-objetives of the Engage project Organisation's EU programmes experience, projects participated, role (i.e. leading partner or not) etc:

What kind of organisation are we looking to co-operate with?

Type of partners (legal status): both from public (local and regional publics bodies: authorities, joint associations...) and private sector (enterprises, associations, suppliers, operators...).

Geographical coverage:

IP North: DE, DK, EE, FI, LT, LV, SE

IP East: BG, HU, PL, SK

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