

DE-LAN NEWSLETTER

PARTNERS SHARE STATE OF THE ART



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DE-LAN Partners at Toledo (Left to right) – Alyn Bowen (Wales), Marta Quintanilla (Spain), Chiara Gallino (Italy), Sara Peciarolo (Italy), Radek Bejdak (Czech Republic), Miguel Angel Ayllon (Spain), Wayne James (Wales), Emma Buttrick (Wales), Ralph Lloyd-Davis (Belgium), David Cromar (Belgium).

DE-LAN shares State of the Art Regional Projects at Toledo in the 3rd Interregional Workshop (30 Nov – 1 Dec 2010).

Partners in the DE-LAN project battled against the odds to be able to work together in Castilla-la Mancha in December. Despite one metre snow falls, closed airports and diverted flights, partners from across the EU made it to Toledo for the 3rd Interregional Workshop.

Miguel Angel Ayllon and Fundacion Insula Barataria (FIB), Castilla-La Mancha, hosted this two day event where a common understanding of the DE-LAN partners Regional State of the Art reports was reached.

All of the partners created profiles of their regional digital ecosystems (DEs) for the synthesised State of the Art Report. Partners will use this report to help identify potential good practices. The good practices will be used to inform activities during the remainder of the project and should be disseminated to interested stakeholders outside the partnership.



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<http://www.youtube.com/user/DigitalEcosystems>

INTERACTIVE SESSION IN ROME



DE-LAN partners Interactive Session (Left to right) – Chiara Gallino (Italy), Michela Pollone (Italy), Davorin Rogina (Slovenia), Antonella Passani (Italy), Miguel Angel Ayllon (Spain), Rimantas Gatautis (Lithuania), Emma Buttrick (Wales), & Marta Quintanilla (Spain).

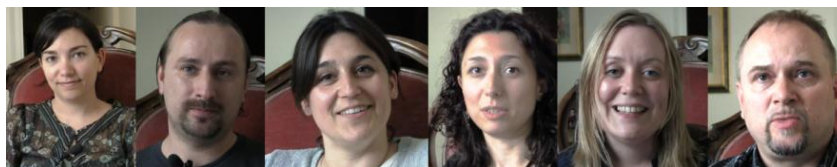
DE-LAN Partners Interactive Session in the 4th Interregional Workshop in Rome, 8th – 9th March 2011.

The 4th Interregional Workshop was hosted by ANCI Lazio in Rome.

Partners partook in a highly interactive session to determine which good practices Partners were most interested in learning about in detail. Following this information exchange, each partner had two minutes with each other to discuss the projects in more detail and identify areas of mutual interest.

During the second day agreement was reached on the DE-LAN Peer Review and Staff Exchange process. The interactive session helped regions decide which Partners they would review and visit.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION FOR PARTNERS IN TORINO



Regional Partners attending the 5th DE-LAN Interregional Workshop in Torino, Piemonte took to the silver screen by starring in a promotional video. The final cut will be premiered online, through the DE-LAN website and YouTube, to disseminate information on DE-LAN.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

27 JUN 2011

TRC Koroška DE-LAN
dissemination event

12 - 13 JUL 2011

Partners Interregional Workshop
Prague

10 – 13 OCT 2011

CoR OPEN DAYS, Brussels

19 – 20 OCT 2011

Regional Partners Workshop
Extremadura

The workshop was another highly interactive session where Partners were able to learn from each others knowledge and share experiences. Partners gave updates on progress to date on Staff Exchange visits and Peer Reviews as well as their plans for their Pilot Actions.

Pilot Actions are a very important output of the DE-LAN project. Through the Pilot Actions Partner regions can test new approaches by transferring existing good practices from one region to another. Pilot Actions are a key element in giving a detailed analysis of existing good practices and procedures which can be successfully transferred both to a much wider range of sectors and, importantly, between regions. This should help to draw out any barriers to the wider implementation of DEs and to develop appropriate solutions and, hopefully, additional good practices. Also, the Pilot Actions will help identify additional benefits offered by the emerging, innovative digital technologies.

In Wales, a Pilot Action to trial a secure online platform for a European Regional e-Crime Partnership is being developed and tested. e-Crime is the fastest-rising form of criminality worldwide, with latest figures showing the problem costs Welsh business close to £1billion each year. The potential for organisations and agencies across Europe to share intelligence and experience on e-Security activities through a DE in an online environment could be a key weapon in the evolving battle against cyber criminals.

In Koroška, Slovenia a Pilot Action to create a research and development (R & D) orientated Digital Business Ecosystem (DBE) is underway. R&D is vital to develop new products and services for any economy. Over the past 20 years, much of Koroška's R&D infrastructure has been lost due to restructuring. The Pilot Action aims to create a virtual space to connect stakeholders within the region, creating a triple-helix structure - companies, intermediary bodies (such as business incubators or Technology Parks) and research institutions. It is hoped the Pilot Action will create an innovative environment, help revitalise the region's R&D and reconnect to the national and EU research activity.

LOCAL DISSEMINATION EVENTS

Engagement with regional stakeholders on DE-LAN's aims and objectives is essential to the project's success. Over the remainder of 2011, Partners will be holding regional events with the aim of updating local stakeholders on the progress of DE-



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DE-LAN'S KEY-MESSAGES

What's the problem/need?

Businesses already know that they need to innovate, exploit the potential of new and emerging digital technologies and work together with others if they are to strengthen their position in the global economy but need support to achieve this. Government has a role to play in encouraging this change but exactly what this role should be still needs to be defined.

What is DE-LAN going to do about it?

Over three years DE-LAN will establish the practical implications of creating these new types of digital networks amongst businesses. It will do this by sharing experiences and examples of this area of work across nine European regions, exploring both successes and failures to enable specific benefits to be identified. These benefits will then be widely communicated to help change the way governments and businesses think and act.

The outcome

Businesses across Europe will be given practical steps and tools to enable them to work together more effectively using new digital technologies. Governments will know how to create an environment through policy to enable sustainable digital networks, stimulating the ICT supply sector and helping all businesses compete in today's dynamic, global markets, allowing them to create wealth and increase the number of skilled jobs in their regions.

LAN. Particular emphasis will be given to sharing experiences of the Pilot Actions.



The first event was held in the city of Caceres, Extremadura on April 26th by FUNDECYT. The aim of the event was to show businesses how collaboration through emerging digital technologies can improve competitiveness. Presenters at the event included DE-LAN Partners Marta Quintanilla and Antonio Recio from FUNDECYT and Javier Malagon from The Complutense University of Madrid.

Information about Partners' forthcoming events will be available on the DE-LAN website.

GOOD PRACTICE

An aim of the DE-LAN project is to build on the success of existing DE initiatives and projects across Europe by extending interregional cooperation to identify a greater range of good practices.

During the last six months Partners have worked to identify existing DE good practices. These have been combined into a good practice report. Some examples of projects included in the report are:

Local authorities in Piemonte, Italy, worked together to combat the digital divide by bringing broadband to two isolated valleys. This was achieved through the innovative exploitation of existing assets – both dark fibre and television trellises – owned by different organisations in the area. The initiative has already helped counter depopulation by persuading people to return to mountain residences and by aiding the online promotion of local tourism to widespread markets.

A public/private partnership involving the creation and test of a pilot DBE that included 20 enterprises and 10 public and private bodies in the Northern Lazio region of Italy, an area characterised by low ICT usage and a digital divide. The exercise has yielded valuable information about the needs of local businesses and stimulated real interest from companies across the area in being involved in a wider sustainable DBE.

STORIES FROM THE REGIONS

DE-LAN Partner regions are involved in many projects exploiting new and emerging innovative technologies. You can read new



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THE DE-LAN PARTNERS

The nine Partners participating in the project are:

1. The Welsh Government, Wales UK
2. European Regional Information Society Association (eris@), Brussels, Belgium
3. Foundation Insula Barataria (FIB), Castilla la Mancha, Spain
4. The National Association of Italian Municipalities (Anci) Lazio, Italy
5. CSP-Innovation in ICT, Piemonte, Italy
6. Foundation for the Development of Science and Technology in Extremadura (FUNDECYT), Spain
7. The Technological Research Centre of Koroška, Slovenia
8. Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania
9. Vysocina region, Czech Republic

stories as they emerge on the news section of the DE-LAN website. Below are some of the stories from our Partners covering the last 6 months.

Vysocina Finds Innovation in IT Service Management Could Save SMEs 30% of Costs

DE-LAN Partner Vysocina, Czech Republic has taken part in a new study which found that IT Service Management (ITSM) can save SMEs up to 30% on IT costs, enabling them to invest in process and product innovation. This is one of the key findings of a new project study on the status quo of ITSM in SMEs in Central Europe published by the European initiative INNOTRAIN IT. The survey also revealed that the introduction of ITSM methods combined with the implementation of IT infrastructure level innovations, e.g. outsourcing printer services, lead to a productivity enhancement of up to 20-40% in SMEs' IT-departments. As SMEs make up 99% of all enterprises in the EU and account for 65m jobs, the consequences of the findings could have a huge impact. The study was conducted between May and July 2010 and shows the differences in ITSM usage and adoption between six Central European countries: Vysocina/Czech Republic, plus Austria, Germany, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia.

Phone App Is Smart Way For Roman SMEs To Do Business

A new Smartphone application has been launched to connect the artisans and small merchants of Roma with the customer. The Cna Roma-Confederazione Nazionale dell'Artigianato e della Piccola e Media Impresa (National Confederation of Small and Medium Enterprises) created the free app, which already lists 4,000 companies in real time. The aim of the innovative service is for residents and tourists to Rome to search up to 20,000 traditional shops. The hope is that the collaborative network will reduce marketing work for artisans, enabling them to spend more time on creative projects.



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If you have any questions on any aspect of the DE-LAN project please contact the above at this email address:

info@de-lan.eu

For more information on the project including the project brochure, case studies, latest news, reports and Partners' work to date please visit:

WWW.DE-LAN.EU

STAFF EXCHANGES

Throughout 2011, Staff Exchanges are being held between regions to enable a greater depth of learning about other Partners' good practices. Partners have identified the regions they are most interested in based on the needs of their own region.

The aim is for information learnt from the exchanges to help inform the Pilot Actions. Over the next six months the following visits will take place.

More detailed information on some of the findings of the visits will be published in the next newsletter.

Visiting Partner	Host region
Wales	Piemonte
Castilla La Mancha	Wales & Piemonte
Lazio	Piemonte
Piemonte	Lazio
Extremadura	Wales
Slovenia	Wales
Lithuania	Slovenia
Vysocina	Wales

