



4PILLARS

For **P**romoting an **I**nnovative mu**L**ti-**L**evel
gove**R**nance **S**ystem of EUSAIR

Online Magazine

November 2016



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Brussels, 8 November 2016

Conference: “Gender-related vulnerabilities in the EU asylum procedures: Spotlight on FGM”



On 8th of November, the End FGM European Network organised a conference on FGM in the EU asylum procedures.

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is a global human rights violation which also exists in Europe. The latest UNICEF statistics, published in February 2016, estimate that at least 200 million women and girls in over 30 countries are living with the lifelong consequences of FGM.

A significant number of women, girls and families presenting an asylum claim are affected by FGM. UNHCR estimates that between

20.000 and 30.000 women and girls from FGM-practising countries seek asylum in EU Member States every year.

The END FGM European Network has identified asylum in relation to FGM as one of its priorities in its Strategic Plan 2015-2017 under Objective 5: Better protection for asylum seekers affected by FGM.

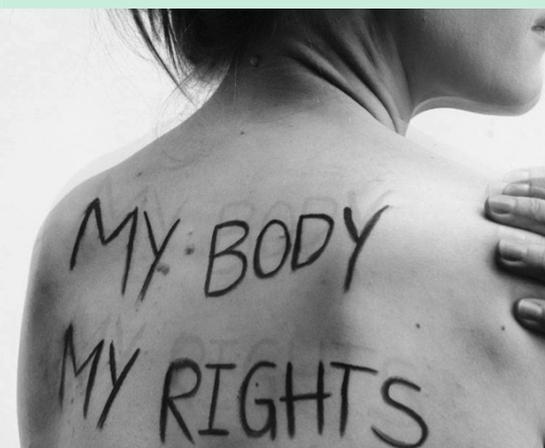
FGM survivors and women and girls at risk are particularly vulnerable in the asylum system. Either because they suffer from the physical, mental and emotional consequences of FGM, or because they fear for themselves or their daughters, these women must receive support and advice from specialised trained professionals and civil society to help them navigate the process.

The conference represents the closing event of this annual campaign, which consisted of targeted

communications, awareness-raising activities, capacity-building for the Network members and coordinated actions at national level.

The aim of the conference was to address on-going challenges in the reform of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS), share good practice and address how we can deal with the issue of credibility, the systematic lack of training of professionals and bring together the different perspectives of the actors involved. The focus was on female genital mutilation and other gender-related vulnerabilities in the context of the EU asylum procedures. The recommendations will be used to bring about concrete change at national level.

www.endfgm.eu



Rimini, 8-11 November 2016

4PILLARS Local Events Organized By Emilia Romagna Region (IT)



1. Ecomondo - The Green Technologies Expo

08-11/11/2016

The 20th Green Technologies International Expo has been promoted by Emilia Romagna Region. The most important themes of this event were the Green Economy and the Circular Economy in the Mediterranean Area. This event was promoted by European Commission, Italian Public Authorities, first of all Emilia Romagna Region, and different SMEs networks. The general objectives, determined by the Seventh General European Action Programme, promoted in this event, during each thematic conference, were:

a) Achieve 70% recycling of paper, plastic, metal and glass present in SUW by 2030;

b) Achieve 80% total recycling of packaging between 2025 and 2030;

c) Achieve 5% total landfill by 2030;

d) Prohibit heat treatment of recyclable material;

e) Separate landfill from the various methods of recycling inert materials;

The Ecomondo's conference program included meetings and workshops to present technological, legislative, procedural, economic, research and innovation aspects in the framework of European Policies in the field of Green Economy for different beneficiaries.

2. Technical meeting of public experts/engineers in the field of bike-sharing improvement for coastal Municipalities of the Emilia Romagna Region (IT) - Ecomondo Expo - Rimini (IT) 08/11/2016

The Eta-Beta Cooperative on behalf of the Emilia Romagna



Regional Government organised a meeting between technicians of the most important coastal municipalities of the Emilia-Romagna to analyse the level of development of public bike-sharing in these towns for citizens and tourists. This was the theme of the meeting staged on Tuesday, November 8th, at the pavilion of the Emilia Romagna at Ecomondo Expo in Rimini (IT), for the European project "4PILLARS: for promoting an innovative multi-level governance system of EUSAIR". Through a questionnaire and specific interviews almost two thousand tourists in the various coastal resorts of Emilia Romagna were involved in the project. The results of this activities have been discussed and drafted in a synthesis's document, in which they told that it's very important for the development of the tourism in this area to introduce more trains, faster connections (h24), available bicycles c/o train and bus stations of these coastal Municipalities.





INTERACT Events

INTERact



• **Monitoring systems network**

8 - 9 November 2016

Warsaw, Poland

Interact invited representatives of different Interreg programmes to join the sixth meeting of the Monitoring Systems Network. The main objective of these two days meeting was to get a good overview of different monitoring systems available in Europe. They discussed common issues and share interesting solutions. In order to make the meeting interesting and interactive INTERACT invited representatives of many Programme's Authorities.

• **Interreg finance management camp**

8 - 11 November, 2016

Seville, Spain

In response to the high level of interest in the Project Management Camps, INTERACT organised a Finance Management Camp (FMC). The training addressed all phases of the project management cycle, providing participants with an understanding of the financial requirements associated with each phase of the cycle in the context of the 2014-2020 Interreg Programmes. In addition, participants worked on developing their Plain Language and presentation skills. The focus was on practical tips on how to improve/strengthen their work with project applicants and beneficiaries. The FMC was targeted at new staff, or staff new to finance, from Joint Secretariats and Managing Authorities, who are interested in learning more about matters related to project financial management.

• **3rd Interact III Monitoring Committee and 18th**

Interact II Monitoring Committee Meeting

9 - 10 November 2016

Amsterdam, Netherlands

Interact Programme organized its 3rd Monitoring Committee as well as the Interact II 18th Monitoring Committee and 17th NCP Meeting on 9-10 November 2016. Interact III Monitoring Committee focused on the Programme developments since last MC meeting, events and tools delivered in January – September 2016 as well as the Joint Annual Work Plan for 2017. Interact MC representatives had the possibility to participate to an intensive KEEP training. The aim of the training was to showcase, through practical exercises, how KEEP can be used to meet practical information needs. Interact II Monitoring Committee and NCP focused on Interact II final implementation report, Programme closure and highlights of the programming period 2007-2013. Before the MC meeting, on 8-9 November 2016, Interact also organised a special workshop on "Transnational Programmes Post-2020" for transnational programmes and Member State representatives.

• **Blue skills - Knowledge of the seas network**

16 - 17 November, 2016

Rostock, Germany

Outlines - This event looked at the theme of Blue skills from four different perspectives. The two sessions offered the opportunity to learn more about the topic of Blue skills from both the European and macro-re-



gional (strategy) perspective as well as the thematic stakeholders' and experts' perspective. The event offered the opportunity for (Interreg) programmes to promote how they support Blue skills as programme and through their projects (programme and project perspectives). The target group of this event was on the one hand Interreg Programmes with a maritime character or component, and here especially Joint Secretariat staff members dealing with maritime/marine project generation, assessment, monitoring and support. At the same time, the meeting provided a broader approach by also inviting thematic experts and stakeholders as well as project representatives to ensure a holistic view to the topic of Blue skills. Objectives - Originally being a network of only maritime Interreg CBC programmes, the network has been opened up in 2015 for involvement from beyond maritime Interreg CBC programmes depending on the concrete theme on the agenda. The activities of this 'Knowledge of the Seas' network consisted of two main components: to jointly RECEIVE knowledge of the seas: sharing knowledge and exchange of experiences, organise seminars, workshops, thematic trainings, and to jointly produce and promote knowledge of the seas: organise seminars, workshop etc.

• **Interreg regional network meeting**

22 - 23 November 2016

Sofia, Bulgaria

Interact organised a network meeting to bring together Interreg programmes from the area of Central and Eastern Europe where they had the opportunity to meet the representatives of other programmes and discuss the topics related to programme management. Specific topics have been discussed and identified, based on the outcome of the survey by registrants.

• **The KEEP 2.0 Group**

29 November, 2016

London, United Kingdom

The KEEP 2.0 Group is a stakeholder group, made up

of Interreg, Interreg-IPA CBC and ENPI CBC programmes, Member States of the Union and DGs of the European Commission. Interact encouraged new members to join this group, as well as the participation in this meeting of members already invaluable contributions to the buildup of KEEP.

Objective of the meeting - The aim of the meeting was to offer to the mentioned stakeholders a possibility to discuss proposed developments in KEEP and how to best benefit from them. Progress in this tool (some of it recent, such as preformatted links to filtered project results) produced tremendous impacts on the work of many professionals and benefit the sector as a whole.

Outline of the meeting

The meeting has been divided into two main parts:

Presentation of the new website;

Discussion of future developments, based on proposals from all the participants

www.interact-eu.net





Luxembourg, 15 November 2016 EU Financial Instruments - a high level conference



EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS

2016

EU Financial Instruments – a high-level conference



The EU Auditors’ high-level conference on financial instruments, held in Luxembourg on Tuesday 15 November, brought together a broad spectrum of representatives from the public and private sector to consider how financial instruments can best be used to provide financial support from the EU budget.



The conference drew on the conclusions of the recent ECA Special Report – “Implementing the EU budget through financial instruments – lessons to be learnt from the 2007-2013 Programme period”; it offered a platform for exchanges of views and ideas between high-level experts from the EU institutions, practitioners and other public and private stakeholders.

Financial instruments are increasingly used to provide support from the European Union budget through loans, guarantees and equity investments.

Under certain conditions, they may represent a better way to spend public money as they offer two specific benefits: mobilising additional private and public money to complement initial public funding and re-using the same funds over several cycles.

The objective of the event was to consider how financial instruments can best be used to provide financial support from the EU budget. Speakers and panellists discussed questions such as:

- “the way forward for financial instruments”;
- “how can financial instruments be more successful in attracting private sector capital”;
- “how to ensure the revolving effect of these instruments”;
- “how to implement financial instruments at a reasonable cost”;

Experts also exchanged ideas on ways forward for financial instruments through the EFSI and the SME initiative.

www.eca.europa.eu



European Parliament's Activities in November 2016 - Plenary Sessions



1) European Parliament's activities in COP22 climate change conference in Marrakesh Environment—11-11-2016

A delegation of EP participated in UN climate in Marrakesh. Following the European Parliament's ratification and the entry into force of the 2015 Paris agreement, these focused on how to finance and share the efforts needed to keep climate warming below 2 degrees compared to pre-industrial levels. During their visit, they discussed issues with key negotiators and meet member of other parliaments, as well as local and international NGO and industry representatives.

Key topics in Marrakesh

The Marrakesh negotiations focused on how to implement the Paris Agreement, i.e. on agreeing specific rules and delivering on the commitments made. This concerns in particular support for developing countries, i.e. finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building.

Important topics with respect to negotiations include:

- enhanced action prior to 2020,
- contents of Nationally Determined Contributions,
- type of information to be contained in the adaptation communications,
- modalities and rules for cooperative mechanisms,
- modalities of the global stocktake and preparations for the facilitative dialogue in 2018,
- the transparency framework.



2) Human rights in the world: 2015 annual report voted in Foreign Affairs Committee Human rights—14-11-2016

The EU should do more to protect independent journalists and bloggers and human rights defenders, say MEPs in their report on the state of human rights in the world in 2015, approved by the Foreign Affairs Committee. Members point out that the “universality of human rights is seriously being challenged in many parts of the world” and said the EU “should ensure coherence between its internal and external policies with regard to respect for human rights”. MEPs, gravely concerned at ever-increasing attempts to shrink the space of civil society and human rights defenders, impose tougher limits on freedom of assembly and of expression, condemn abuses and violations made possible by repressive laws adopted throughout the world and specifically in countries such as Russia, Turkey and China on the pretext of combating terrorism.

3) Syria, EU-Turkey relations and West Bank up for debate on Tuesday afternoon External relations—22-11-2016

Latest developments in Syria, including last attacks on rebel-held areas of eastern Aleppo, MEPs have been debated with EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini. In a second debate, MEPs discussed whether EU accession talks with Turkey could be frozen or made subject to further conditions. The situation in the West Bank, including settlements, have been debated with the High Representative later in the afternoon. Resolutions on Syria and Turkey voted on Thursday at noon. A resolution on the situation in the West Bank will have been voted in a future part-session.

www.europarl.europa.eu

Heraklion (Crete), 16 November 2016

Round Table on Blue Growth and Maritime Cooperation



The Adriatic Ionian Initiative (AII) Round Table on Blue Growth and Maritime Cooperation took place on 16th November in Heraklion (Crete).

According to the overhaul of AII RTs, the meeting shall be attended by representatives of the civil society and the private sector who will be able to send

their proposals and recommendations directly to the EUSAIR Thematic Steering Group of Pillar I (Blue Growth).

The participants discussed about:

- Scientific cooperation in fisheries and fish stocks;
- Development of common standards and practices in the field of aquaculture;
- Cooperation mechanisms for promoting and supporting the marine equipment and shipbuilding industry serving maritime transport.

www.aii-ps.org

Shkodër (Albania), 17 November 2016

4PILLARS Meeting and Conference on “Eco-sustainable development and clean, the opportunity and the ability to create a transnational district in agro-industrial sector in northern Albania”

On 17th November, the Regional Council of Shkoder organised the international Conference entitled “Eco-sustainable development and clean, the opportunity and the ability to create a transnational district in agro-industrial sector in northern Albania”.

The conference was addressed to important representatives of international organizations such as the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), Municipalities of neighboring Countries and cross-border Institutions, Local and Central Government of the Country.

The aim of the Conference was to share the latest developments in the Adriatic Ionian Macroregion and discuss on forthcoming projects and activities among the Countries of Shkoder’s Region for the coordinated development of agro-tourism, as a tool for socio-economic development of regions of the Adriatic Ionian



Initiative (AII), in accordance with the objectives of the European Union Strategy for the Adriatic Ionian Region (EUSAIR), and to share positive experiences and challenges in terms of local governance.

In the second session of the Conference, the Regional Council of Shkoder promoted a focus group about social issues in the Adriatic Ionian Area.

The focus group, chaired by Greta Bardeli, President of the Regional Council of Shkoder, and Eleni Ma-



rianou, Secretary General of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), was attended by political representatives of the neighboring regions, Italian politicians, Secretary General of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion, representatives of Molise Region and Marche Region, and society “Ikran services”.

During this second session of the event the participants discussed on specific topics about:

- importance of Europe’s regions in shaping an EU Cohesion Policy that reduces disparities, increases competitiveness, partnership and innovation, and helps to deal with the refugee crisis. In particular, the CPMR representative stressed the importance and the need to strengthen the role of the regions in European governance;

- environmental hazards associated with environmental factors (climate change, water pollution and disasters); emergency issues response and a building a Centre for emergency risks in the Balkans; about the latter issue, the IKRAN services representative presented the document prepared within the frame of the HOLISTIC project (IPA Adriatic CBC Programme) on civil protection, and presented possibility of establishing a Centre for civil protection in the Adriatic Ionian area because the macroregion has a lack of effective coordination in this matter;

- search for practical solutions to migration challenges: effective national, regional and global migration management policies and strategies. Regarding migration, the participants said that a proper EU response to the refugee crisis can only work if regions are directly involved in planning and implementing the policy and specific measures. They also advised that a flexible approach might allow the Commission to address migratory flows in the future;

- sustainable tourism development strategy in the Area of the Balkans: it has been discussed that all Balkan countries have developed and adopted national strategies for the development of tourism, which will last for a long period , from 4 to 6 years.

www.qarkushkoder.gov.al/sq



Rimini, 17 November 2016

4PILLARS Local event organized by Emilia Romagna Region (IT) Lesson at University of Bologna (Economics of Tourism)

As dissemination event of the European Project 4 PILLARS, the Cooperative Eta Beta on behalf of Emilia Romagna Region, partner of the project, organised an event at University of Bologna (IT). In the morning of the 17th of November two experts appointed by the Emilia-Romagna Region (Mr. G.Pasi and Mr. A.Mazzotti) carried out an open lecture for 80 students at the Faculty Economics of Tourism in Rimini (IT). After the introduction of Prof. A.Mariotti,

the lectures, Mr.Pasi and Mr.Mazzotti spoke about how the European project was born and how it develops; after the first part of this lesson, they explained the objectives and the results achieved by the INTERMODAL project, closed in the month of March 2016 – and capitalized by 4PILLARS project – and how these results represented the starting point to participate in the “capitalization” project. Finally, they emphasized the objectives of 4PILLARS project. At the end of

this lesson the students addressed several questions about the themes and the stakeholders of the project, and about the outputs and results of their activities.



Sarajevo, 21 November 2016

Workshop: Western Balkan Transport Network in the context of Eusair Strategy



The Faculty of Traffic and Communications of the University of Sarajevo (BH) has organised this workshop, as 4PILLARS Project’s partner, to disseminate relevant informations about the EUSAIR Strategy and the project’s activities and results. The agenda was aimed

to achieve the following main goals through these different sections:
1) 4PILLARS Project’s Activities;
2) Bosnia and Herzegovina’s possibilities in European funds (2014-2020) Sector of Transport;
3) Strategic developments of rail - road transport infrastructure;

4) Bosnia and Herzegovina on the EUSAIR track.



Piran (Slovenia), 21 November 2016

4PILLARS Local Workshop at National Institute of Biology

The presentations of good practices of the named projects while thinking about the next steps that are needed for the future were the main topics of today's meeting of relevant experts at the National Institute of Biology, Marine Biology Station. Projects 4 Pillars and Adriatic+ are co-funded within the Adriatic CBC IPA 2007-2013 and are made for transferring the good established practices from other projects: NETCET, SHAPE, DeFishGear, HAZADR, BALMAS in SPE-EDY. Those projects are connected with the sea environment with the aim to improve the quality of sea and coastal life environment. The gathered experts were first greeted by dr. Andreja Ramšak, head of the Marine Biology Station (National Marine Institute - NIB) followed by dr. Mitja Bricelj, coordinator of Thematic Steering Group 3 of the EUSAIR area. "Managing the sea environment needs the cooperation of science and politics, for creating a common development in estimating and understanding the marine ecosystems. On the other hand, the decision makers acknowledge the complexity and vulnerability of sea systems and can with scientific facts and data help to create an outline for sustainable development" said Andreja Ramšak. Dr. Bricelj however pointed out to take the advantage of the opportunity for co-creating projects for the common interest: » Three macro regions are met in Slovenia – Danube, Alpine and Adriatic, on the area within 20 km, and this is why Slovenia represents an epicentre of three ecoregions and the highest level of biodiversity in EU. This represents an opportunity for our country, so that we use our smallness for a polygon for preserving the biodiversity and testing sustainable pilot projects. Afterwards, the agenda of the meeting was presented by Iztok Škerlič from IPA facility point in Izola (Slovenia).

Slavko Mezek from RRC Koper, Gašper Zupančič from IZVRS, dr. Vesna Flander Putrle and dr. Branko Čermelj from NIB, presented the outcomes of the



following projects NETCET, SHAPE, DeFishGear, HAZADR, BALMAS in SPEEDY. The project Adriatic+ "Sharing Marine and Coastal cross management experiences in the Adriatic basin" has integrated all the listed projects and their results upgraded with a user tool that serves for making better decisions when comes to Marine spatial planning. The project was financed from the IPA Adriatic CBC Programme 2007-2013 – final reference EUSAIR, which are referred to the priority tasks of the second priority »natural and cultural resources and prevention of risks«, Measure 2.1 "Conservancy and improving marine and coastal environment". This is the first project between implementing the goals of the EU action plan for Adriatic Ionian region (EUSAIR) and brings together the results, knowledge and positive experiences of finalized IPA projects for marine environment, with the purpose of long-term improvement of the quality of marine and living coastal areas.

The participants of the workshop concluded that the project and its results must be taken into consideration. This will put Slovenia in the Adriatic average in



terms of achieving the national, marine Environment management plan and the ratification of the Ballast Water Management Convention in 2017. The participants also concluded that as a marine country it is unacceptable that we do not have a proper marine ministry and suitable personnel (Such as Harbour Master) in maritime affairs.

The participants agreed that the nowadays Environmental Impact Assessment (CPVO) in the present form needs to be replaced with Strategic Environmental Assessment.

The other group, moderated by Slavko Mezek from RRC focused on the contribution of projects for Marine spatial planning. The participants found out the following:

- Slovenia within the EUSAIR must offer itself as a polygon for pilot projects targeting MSP and ICZM, that must also include the outskirts of the area, such as water supply, protection against floods etc., including the topic of preserving the biodiversity.
- Slovenia with its inclusion of territorial sea and coastal areas represents a model for the EU, since other countries do not include the coastal area in their planning.
- Slovenia must create, in accordance with the directive, a monitoring structure of public nature that inclu-

des local and regional partners as well as focus groups. They will represent a group of consolidated partners needed for constant and efficient operations. For the needs of a sensible integration of participants in the process MSP we need to create a protocol of their integration in the process.

- The need for integration of known water data to provide real time access and handling only the key indicators that accompanies Maritime planning.
- Slovenia must as soon as possible define the short and long-term plans, because otherwise it will not be possible to create a framework management.



Campobasso, 24 November 2016 4 PILLARS: “Communicate Eusair” International Final Conference of the project

The international conference “COMMUNICATE EUSAIR” was held in Campobasso (Italy) on 24 November 2016 at the “Sala Parlamentino” in Molise Region premises. It has been organized by Molise Region, Lead Beneficiaries of the project 4PILLARS: For Promoting an Innovative multi-Level governance System of EUSAIR granted by IPA Adriatic CBC Programme 2007-2013. The main goal of this event was to promote different types of communication methods for informing about the European Union Strategy for the Adriatic Ionian Region (EUSAIR). Over 120 participants attended this international conference, as final event of the project 4 PILLARS. The event was divided in two different sessions:

- 1) Morning session: “The young generations and EUSAIR”;
- 2) Afternoon session: “The new

funding opportunities in the cooperation programmes”.

The first session was implemented by international journalists and communication experts (Mr. Nicola Bonaccini, Mr. Daniele Imperiale and Mr. Andrea Marrucci). The speakers talked about their experiences and studies in terms of new approaches of communication tools and methods. They discussed about the role and importance of social networks in our life and in the project’s development with specific regards to the Cross-Border Communication Plans and Cooperation Programmes in the Adriatic and Ionian Area. Many students and their teachers from a secondary school of Campobasso (Secondary School of Arts “G.Manzù”), ages between 17-19 ages, attended this international event.

The second session, after a lun-



ch break and a guided visit to the Museo Sannitico in Campobasso, saw the participation of high level speakers: Mr. Giovanni. Di Sta-

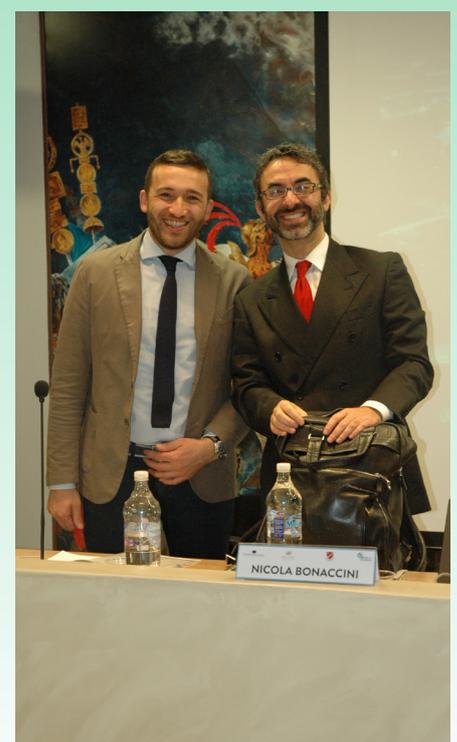


si, Former President of Regional Authority Council of Europe and all the stakeholders of the project (managers, officers and technical assistant), who addressed this event to the specific themes and the 4PILLARS project's objectives. The capitalization of 13 projects (AdriGov, Shape, Intermodal, Balmas, Apc, DeFishGear, Tisar, Hera, Speedy, Simple, Star, EasyConnecting e EcoSea) was the main goal of this project. The communication plan of 4PILLARS was promoted in this and in other events organized by different stakeholders for spreading information about EUSAIR and project results.

The meeting was concluded by the institutional greetings of Mr. Paolo di Laura Frattura, President of Molise Regional Government who underlined the importance of future and concrete collaboration in the European Territorial Cooperation. In this event, it was presented the e-learning platform realized by Marche Region (

ning4pillars.eu/), an important instrument to improve the knowledge regarding the themes of 4 pillars of Eusair Strategy – Blue Growth, Connecting the Regions, Environmental Quality and Sustainable Tourism. As best practice's experiences, Mr. Nicola Montagano, Mayors of Bonefro and Mr. Lino Gentile, Mayor of Castel del Giudice talked about their activities in

a Europe for Citizens Programme's exchange and in a European Municipalities Network as partner. These experiences were very important in terms of territorial cooperation for Public Bodies in peripheral area of Europe.





Brussels, 23 November 2016 Conference on “Smart, Innovative & Sustainable urban mobility”



The Urban Development Network

Smart, Innovative & Sustainable urban mobility

Brussels, 23 November 2016



The European Commission (DG REGIO and DG MOVE) organised an urban development network event bringing together cities to exchange knowledge and experiences in “Smart, Innovative & Sustainable urban mobility” on 23th November 2016 at Les Ateliers des Tanneurs in Brussels. The event brought together the European Innovation Partnership for Smart Cities, transport innovators and Communities and cities investing European Structural and Investment Funds on urban mobility challenges.



The 3 key questions addressed by the conference are:

- What are the main investment opportunities in smart, innovative and sustainable city mobility?
- What are barriers to invest in (new) urban mobility solutions (services, cleaner vehicles) that cities and suppliers experience?
- How could connecting cities from different groups – like the European Innovation Partnership for Smart Cities (the Urban Mobility Cluster), transport innovators and cities investing Structural Funds on urban mobility challenges - overcome these barriers?

Participants had the opportunity to interact with re-

presentatives of cities, innovative demonstration projects, practitioner networks, financing organizations, the European Innovation Partnership for Smart Cities and cities investing Structural Funds on urban mobility challenges.

In addition, the workshop was an opportunity to know the state of the art in innovative, and tested urban transport solutions like electric buses, cleaner logistics, shared mobility, walking and cycling, and new mobility services. Urban mobility experts and experienced practitioners shared their knowledge on the development and implementation of innovative mobility solutions in this highly interactive workshop.

www.ec.europa.eu/transport

www.uia-initiative.eu





Bratislava (Slovakia), 23-25 November 2016

“Helping Europe’s entrepreneurs reach new heights”

The 2016 SME Assembly

The SME Assembly is the most significant event for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Europe. The conference takes place once a year during the European SME Week. The 2016 SME Assembly, organised together with the Slovakian Presidency of the Council, took place in Bratislava on 23th – 25th November 2016.

Following the tremendous success over four years, the 2016 SME Assembly was set to once again be the event of the year for Europe’s SMEs and entrepreneurs, and those that support them: around 600 participants representing business, government, academia as well as national winners of the European Enterprise Promotion Awards and media will shape SME policy.

The Assembly focused on how to make SME policy work on the ground, in order for Europe’s SMEs to really thrive. In its fifth year this year’s programme included the inaugural Schumpeter ‘Innovation in Enterprise’ lecture, the 10th European Enterprise Promotion Awards ceremony, keynote speeches from high-level politicians and dignitaries, interactive sessions where participants got an opportunity to drive the policy agenda, practical masterclasses and bootcamps, and an interactive expo to promote start-ups and scale-ups and those that support them. We was also run a Scale-up Lab as part of the Ideas from Europe programme.

The theme of this year’s Assembly was ‘Helping Europe’s entrepreneurs reach new heights’ and its ambition was to identify the most effective means of supporting SMEs as drivers of growth. The event took place within the context of 2 major EU policy initiatives. Namely, the Single Market Strategy and the Start-up and Scale-up Initiative.

The SME Assembly was a central event of the European SME Week. Its programme included a presentation of the Annual Report on European SMEs, as well as an announcement of the winners of the European Enterprise Promotion Awards.

Together with the network of SME Envoys, the Assembly created the governance structure of the Small Business Act.

The Small Business Act (SBA) is the cornerstone of the EU SME policy. Since the adoption of the SBA in 2008, a lot of progress has been made, but there is still a long way to go before the European Single Market becomes a reality for many of Europe’s 22 million SMEs.

25 November 2016

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women



The United Nations observe International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on 25 November.

This is an occasion for governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to raise public awareness of violence against women.

Violence against women and girls is one of the world's most pervasive human rights abuses. It happens every day, in every region, country and community on the planet, sometimes in plain sight. One in three women around the world experience violence in their lifetime, often in the hands of someone they know, love and trust.

Violence against women and girls, a gross human rights violation, devastates lives, causes untold pain, suffering and illness. It also incurs high economic costs.

Deep-rooted inequality in the roles, rights and opportunities of men and women, and attitudes and social norms that condone or normalize such violence, have made the problem tenacious, but not inevitable. With laws to protect women and punish perpetrators, services to rebuild women's lives and comprehensive prevention that starts early, ending violence against women and girls can become a reality.

From 25 November, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, through 10 December, Human Rights Day, the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence aim to raise public awareness and mobilizing people everywhere to bring about change. This year, the UN Secretary-General's

campaign UNiTE to End Violence against Women is themed "Orange the world," using the colour designated by the UNiTE campaign to raise money to End Violence against Women and Girls', to amplify and address the funding shortfall and to symbolize a brighter future without violence.

Various activities are arranged around the world to draw attention to the need for continuing action to eliminate violence against women, projects to enable women and their children to escape violence and campaigns to educate people about the consequences of violence against women. Locally, women's groups may organize rallies, communal meals, fundraising activities and present research on violence against women in their own communities.

In her statement for International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on 25 November, UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka highlights effective interventions, and reiterates that the pandemic of violence against women and girls can end, but it will need commitment and investment, nationally and internationally.

www.eu-events.eu

www.un.org

www.unfpa.org





Brussels, 30 November 2016 Save The Date: European Tourism Day



EUROPEAN TOURISM DAY

BRUSSELS, 29 NOVEMBER 2016



The European Commission is organising the 2016 edition of the European Tourism Day in Brussels on 29 November 2016.

This year's theme is "Enhancing synergies between tourism and cultural and creative industries. Innovative solutions as the driver for jobs and growth".

The conference includes a political debate and an exchange of good

practices on how to better exploit the synergies between tourism, cultural heritage and creativity for the competitiveness and sustainable growth of the European tourism sector.

The event will gather up to 400 participants, including Commissioners, other representatives of the European Commission and high-level representatives of pu-

blic authorities at EU, national and regional level. We'll also line up representatives of prominent European sector associations, the tourism and travel industry as well as other relevant stakeholders.

www.ec.europa.eu

Ravenna, 30 November 2016 Save The Date: Workshop 4PILLARS Project

The future of tourism on the Adriatic coast needs to adapt to modern methods and sustainable mobility: some have already begun, but which must now be made available to the system. This will address the seminar scheduled on 30th November in Ravenna, entitled "Per una riviera mobile e accessibile".

The appointment, scheduled at 11:00 at the headquarters of the

Ravenna's Province, will be an important step to help exploit the Adriatic tourism through sustainable modes and intermodality "sweet", opening up new opportunities to the tourist transport to move comfortably (and virtually) on the coast.

The participation of institutions, operators and citizens will be important to share the planning and actions to be implemented.

MERCOLEDÌ 30 NOVEMBRE 2016
ore 11

Palazzo della Provincia
salone consiliare
Piazza dei Caduti - Ravenna

Convegno
PER UNA RIVIERA MOBILE E ACCESSIBILE
Un'occasione per parlare di mobilità e turismo. I turisti devono poter arrivare comodamente, e poi muoversi liberamente.

Interverranno
Michele De Pascale - Sindaco di Ravenna
Saluti introduttivi
Laura SCHIAVINI - Dirigente Comunicazione, Promozione, Coordinamento progetti europei - Regione Emilia Romagna
Il progetto europeo - Offerta per lo sviluppo della mobilità sostenibile
Mauro CARLIANI - Cisp - Cisa della
Per una riviera mobile e accessibile
Tecnimontagna del Sudovest e degli Assocenti del Camosci costieri
Paolo FERECCHI - Direttore generale ARI Infrastrutture, Logistica e Sistemi di mobilità Regione Emilia Romagna
Prospettive dell'intermodalità costiera
Andrea CARLI - Assessore al Turismo e Commercio della Regione Emilia Romagna
Conclusioni

La S.V. è invitata

Si prega di confermare presenza all'indirizzo:
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