

European Business & Innovation Centre Network



EBN Technical Seminar

Building EC Projects

*Trends, opportunities, ideas
for business innovation centres*

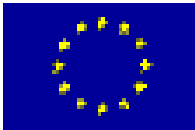
Brussels, 11 & 12 December 2007

**Bureau de Liaison Bruxelles Europe
Avenue d'Auderghem 63
1040 Bruxelles**



Organized with the support of Brussels Capital Region





EBN is the leading pan-European network bringing together 200+ Business and Innovation Centres (BICs) and similar organizations such as incubators and entrepreneurship centres across the enlarged Europe.

EBN was created almost 25 years ago by the European Commission and European industry leaders. EBN is a Brussels-based team coordinating members' activities and providing services to them ranging from EC-BIC Quality support to international projects and events.



This conference is organized with the support of Brussels Capital Region.

The Brussels Capital Region is taking part in numerous projects supported by the European Institutions, aiming at setting up a common infrastructure for the provision of services, capable of integrating multi-sectoral e-services for citizens, public administrations, SMEs and professionals

www.bruxelles.irisnet.be

Background information

Introduction

This Seminar re-launches a cycle of activities that EBN will propose to its members and partners for the next 15 months. The initiative focuses on **"EU Project Opportunities"** for BICs and will be composed of a series of technical seminars related to the scope and opportunities of the European Commission Financing Instruments and Programmes.

The December 2007 Seminar will focus on "BICs' Project Ideas"

EBN will facilitate consortium building with a "bottom-up approach", **matching BIC project ideas to future EC programmes**, the focus will be on Interreg IV, the CIP and the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Initiative.

This workshop will zoom on **Interreg IV C** which has a strong focus on innovation and knowledge economy, as well as on the environment and risk prevention.

The three EU Programmes (Interreg, CIP, and ENPI), are particularly relevant for BICs as they occupy a privileged position in facilitating the regional development, on the one hand, and in fostering inter-regional cooperation among different actors.

The Seminar incorporates 3 sessions over a two days' programme

DAY 1 – December 11th

- In the first session, the seminar will provide an opportunity for **BICs** to express their **project ideas** and interests, and to analyse together the subjects & themes of common interest
- In the second session EBN experts will give an insight into the most relevant programmes for 2008/09, with a particular focus on Interreg IV C. The objective is to examine the priority sectors and the eligible regions, as well as the implementation procedure. Together the group will examine the feasibility of **matching** the BIC project ideas with EU programmes

DAY 2 – December 12th

- In the third session the seminar will look at the critical success factors required to build a winning consortium & submit a proposal and will propose tips for successful project management. Finally the potential first steps for **building consortia** for the BIC project ideas will be explored

All sessions will welcome contributions from experts, evaluators and practitioners.

The Seminar Objectives

The principal goal is to give participants the unique opportunity to present their draft proposals, look for partners, brainstorm, & share project ideas & practices

Fostering regional development through a range of EC initiatives is still at the very heart of EBN priorities. Building on this extensive experience in regional, cross-border, trans-national and territorial cooperation, the December Seminar aims at sharing the EBN Network experience in:

- project proposal writing
- building international consortia
- managing EC funded projects

Draft Programme

Tuesday 11th December

13:00 Registration & Welcome

Session 14h00 - 16h00

EU Projects for BICs – a bottom up approach

The objective of this first session is to encourage a bottom up approach towards EC Programmes: BICs' core activities are positioned at the centre of the EU priorities to boost innovation, growth, entrepreneurship, and territorial cooperation. This session will offer the BICs the opportunity to present their ideas and stimulate the discussion on what programmes and initiatives are needed to help the business operators achieving their mission.

Moderator **Robert Sanders**, EBN Head of EU Projects Department

Welcome & Introduction

- **Pascal Goergen**, Diplomatic Representative of Brussels Capital Region
- **Philippe Vanrie**, EBN CEO

Panellists

- Presentation of **4 BICs'** project ideas
- Questions and feedback on the project ideas presented.

16.00 Coffee break

Session 16h30 – 18h00

Matching EU Programmes to BIC projects

The Objective of this session is to provide an overview of some EU Programmes that can be of interest to the BICs and to all business support operators. Thanks to the experts' contribution, the feasibility will be assessed of matching BIC projects to EC programmes such as CIP, New Neighbourhood Initiative, and Interreg IV B & C

Moderator **Robert Sanders**, EBN Head of EU Projects Department

Programme Overview CIP, Competitive and Innovation Framework Programme.
Marija Popovic, Policy Officer, European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry

Programme Overview European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument
Egidio Canciani, Deputy Head of Unit, ENPI, DG Relex – tbc

Programme Overview INTERREG IV
Manoelle Wesseige, Direction des Relations extérieures de la Région Bruxelles Capital

Zoom on INTERREG IV C
Representative of the Interreg IV C joint technical Secretariat - tbc

Networking Dinner – starting at 19.30

European Commission Representatives will join the dinner, share ideas and network with the other invitees:

- **Marija Popovic**, Policy Officer, DG Enterprise & Industry – "CIP: Competitiveness & Innovation Framework Programme"
- **Egidio Canciani**, Deputy Head of Unit, ENPI, DG Relex – tbc
- Representative of Interreg IV C Managing Authority – tbc

Wednesday 12th December 2007

Session 09h30 – 11h00

Practitioner's tips

Moderator **Robert Sanders**

- Practitioner When a funding opportunity comes, a coordination effort is required with regard to bid writing and to setting up a project consortium.
How to approach bid writing and consortium building? How to determine the ideal size for a consortium? How to overcome the difficulties in managing a large consortium?
• **Gerard Bonnes, Vice President CICOM and EOS Project Manager**
- Practitioner Best Practices in setting up interactive online working groups to coordinate projects activities, from conception to management.
• **Jean-Pierre Filiatre, ADITEC Director**
- Practitioner Funding opportunities are provided by the European Commission and Member States in several sectors and for several beneficiaries.
How to identify funding opportunities? How to find a way through EC Programmes and ensure financial support for your ideas?
• **Andrea Belloni, BIC Lazio Senior Project Manager**
- Practitioner How to estimate the project budget, and plan the project activities? How to keep up with the EC standards for project reporting? How to make sure that what the activities planned are carried out timely and efficiently?
• **Senior Project Manager, BIC Coventry.**

11h00 Coffee break

Session 11h30 – 13h00

BIC Project ideas/partners search & consortium building

"The next step" - Open discussion, led by practitioners, to launch proposals & partnerships: participants will be divided in 4 small groups to discuss the 4 project ideas previously introduced (during day 1 of the conference), discussion will aim at launching the basis for projects consortia.

13h00 Lunch & Conclusive Remarks

Registration form

EC PROJECTS SEMINAR – Brussels – 11 & 12 December 2007

To be returned by email to Eleonora Sambasile at esa@ebn.be
or by fax (+ 32 2 772 95 74) not later than **31st November 2007**

ORGANISATION :		
V.A.T number:		
Participant 1 : Surname and Name		
Participant 2 : Surname and Name		
Participant 3 : Surname and Name		
ADDRESS:		
CITY :	POSTAL CODE :	COUNTRY :
Direct Email address of each participant:		
Office Phone (direct line) :	Fax	

REGISTRATION FEE:

EBN MEMBER 1ST Participant : 250 € Further participant 150 €
Non EBN Member 1ST Participant: 300 € Further participant 200 €

Dinner: yes I will attend the dinner (11th evening) I will NOT attend the dinner (11th evening)

*The cost of the dinner is included in the registration fee

Payment Options:

By CREDIT CARD **CREDIT CARD HOLDER:** _____

Please insert your credit card number: ____ / ____ / ____ / ____ Expiry Date ____ / ____

By Transfer to EBN Bank Account:

EBN Bank Account N° 210-0376689-90
At Fortis Banque, 14 Pl. du Luxembourg, B-1050 Bruxelles
SWIFT code : GEBABEBB 36 A
IBAN code : BE 34 210 0376689 90
Reference: EBN Seminar – EU Projects, December 2007

By Cheque

DATE

SIGNATURE

*the payment of a 21% V.A.T is compulsory for Belgian Companies, as well as for EU Companies which are not liable to V.A.T. system