



Week of Innovative Regions in Europe (WiRE V)

WiRE 2014 | Athens, 12-13 June 2014

Location: Aegli Zappiou

Organiser: National Documentation Centre (EKT) & Greek Presidency, European Commission

The “Week of Innovative Regions in Europe (WiRE)” provides a forum for policy dialogue on Regional Strategies, Innovation & Growth. It is organised by the European Commission, in collaboration with Member States, through the Presidency in turn, and has been established as a debate leading to recommendations for optimal use of policies and instruments for regional development.

The WiRE 2014 is organised after the launch of Horizon 2020 and the new legislation for the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), which provides an excellent timing for feedback on new instruments and synergies between Cohesion and Research & Innovation policy. The Conference focuses on how regions can build upon the knowledge re-use and the scientific excellence to unlock their innovation potential, as well as on systematic models and indicators of governance performance.

Scope: WiRE 2014 covers the following thematic topics:

- **European funding for Innovation & Regional Development in 2014-2020;** Efficient use of policies and budget under Horizon 2020 and ESIF: how to move from synergies of strategies to optimal use of instruments; the EU map of RIS3 and the alignment of new instruments; policy mix for efficient implementation of Smart Specialization Strategies; opportunities and bottlenecks for regional stakeholders; adaptation of policies to territorial specificities;
- **Business driving Regional Innovation;** Innovative enterprises, growth and job creation; Engagement of enterprises in Smart Specialisation Strategies; Access to finance; Feedback of enterprises on EU funding instruments; Development of a supporting regional environment for enterprises; Regional support services for diverse types of business/lifecycles; clusters for regional growth;
- **Open Data & knowledge re-use for regional growth;** S&T metrics for designing efficient regional policies; Regional innovation & socio-economic performance; Economic models for moving from research innovation to open innovation; Successful examples of open co-doing/co-working spaces; Open public data for entrepreneurial decision-making and development of commercial products/services.

Participants: WiRE 2014 brings together policy makers from European and international organisations, Managing Authorities of Structural Funds and Operational Programmes, regional partnerships/consortia of regions, regional stakeholders, development agencies,



technology transfer offices, institutions involved in metrics on science, researchers, enterprises, business associations, clusters, etc.

Expected results: WIRE 2014 will provide recommendations for the optimal use of policies and instruments to address the widening innovation divide among European regions, the alignment of national & European strategies and the interaction of policies for scientific excellence and cohesion. It will highlight the role of open data and knowledge re-use in regional innovation strategies and competitive enterprises.

EKT / National Documentation Centre: EKT is the National Greek institution for the collection, documentation, aggregation, perpetual preservation, dissemination and re-use of e-content. EKT has long tradition of excellence in providing top quality services to the academic, cultural and public sectors. It provides the necessary tools, services and e-infrastructures for the support and encouragement of all the aforementioned activities. It consistently supports open knowledge policies and tools as means of enhancing scientific research, educational activities and high quality cultural content and, thus, it is the pivotal organisation for fostering innovation and creative industries in Greece. It makes extensive use of cloud and green computing in an effort to support the virtuous cycle not only of knowledge but also of energy preservation and re-use.

EKT is an integral part of the National Hellenic Research Foundation. It cultivates the ecosystem of knowledge production by linking research to innovation and development, and by forming synergies with eminent institutions in the areas of science, culture and innovation. Its activities cover:

- **Digital Documentation for Fostering Growth in the 21st Century** to actively support, cultivate and improve the Greek knowledge ecosystem;
- **Knowledge Transfer & Exploitation**, through: a) supporting SMEs via the Enterprise Europe Network, the “one-stop shop for all business needs of European industry”, b) providing advisory and individual assistance services as the National Contact Point for FP7 & Horizon 2020;
- **Metrics & Evidence-based Policies:** Collecting data regarding Research & Development; Measuring the innovation output; Producing official indicators for Research, Innovation and Development in Greece; Publishing data regarding research activities in EU projects; Contributing to the formation of evidence-based innovation policies;
- **eContent:** Aggregating, collecting and documenting content; Collaborating with publishers in the entirety of the publishing life-cycle, enabling open access to their content and facilitating scholarly communication; Having the most comprehensive Greek scientific catalogue regarding books, publications and other Copyrighted works; Offering the biggest Greek platform for reusable and open Galleries Libraries Archives and Museums (GLAM) and Research Education and Science (RES) content; Co-operating with over 100 GLAM and RES organisations regarding the aggregation, enrichment and further dissemination of their content, Disseminating research output, promoting open access to scientific information;
- **E-Infrastructure:** EKT is the national e-Infrastructure aiming at supporting Greek Researches, Institutions and Public Bodies in their effort to decisively move into a data-centric, interdisciplinary and collaborative mode of operation and to actively link research outcomes with innovation and sustainable development.

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