Περιεχόμενα
Ευρωπαϊκά και Διεθνή Προγράμματα και Πρωτοβουλίες
Επιχειρησιακός και Αναπτυξιακός Σχεδιασμός
Το Βήμα των ΕΟΣ
Ευρωπαϊκά Προγράμματα-Πρωτοβουλίες Ελληνικών ΟΤΑ
Ευρώπη για τους Πολίτες, 2014–2020
Διεθνή και Ευρωπαϊκά Συνέδρια
Ευρωπαϊκά Θέματα
Διεθνή Θέματα
Διαβουλεύσεις
Σεμινάρια Κατάρτισης ΕΙΡΑ
Η Βιβλιοθήκη της Τοπικής Αυτοδιοίκησης

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Europe for Citizens aims to promote active European citizenship with the main scope of bridging the gap between citizens and the European Union through financial instruments that promote active European citizenship. It intends to encourage cooperation between citizens and organisations from different countries and facilitate the development of a sense of belonging to common European ideals and to promote the process of European integration.

Strand 2: Democratic engagement and civic participation. Twinning is a strong link that binds municipalities; therefore, the potential of the networks created by a series of town twinning links should be used for developing thematic and long–lasting cooperation between towns.

The European Commission supports the development of such networks, which are important for ensuring structured, intense and multifaceted cooperation, therefore contributing to maximizing the impact of the Programme. Priority is given to networks targeting annual priority themes.
Eligibility for Participation:
- Associations
- Local Authorities
- NGOs
- Researchers/Research Centers/Institutions

Priorities of the programme for 2016:
(a) Understanding and Debating Euroscepticism
(b) Solidarity in times of crisis
(c) Combatting stigmatisation of "immigrants" and building counter narratives to foster intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding
(d) Debate on the future of Europe

Budget (maximum amount per measure):
25,000€ (Town-twinning)
150,000€ (Networks of Towns)

Deadline: 1 September
Information:
2. LIFE

The new "LIFE Programme for the Environment and Climate" has a budget of EU €3.4 billion for environmental projects carried out by public or private bodies, 2014–2020. The call covers proposals for both LIFE sub-programmes (Environment and Climate Action).

For the sub-programme for Environment, this call will cover action grants for "Traditional" projects, Preparatory projects, Integrated projects, Technical Assistance projects. For the sub-programme for Climate Action, this call will cover action grants for "Traditional projects", Integrated projects, Technical Assistance projects.

Call Total Budget: €337,536,184

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Information:

Για το υποπρόγραμμα για το περιβάλλον, η παρούσα πρόσκληση θα καλύψει επιχορηγήσεις για "παραδοσιακά" έργα, προπαρασκευαστικά έργα, και ολοκληρωμένα (integrated) έργα και έργα τεχνικής βοήθειας. Για το υποπρόγραμμα για την Κλιματική Δράση, η παρούσα πρόσκληση θα καλύψει τις επιχορηγήσεις δράσεων μόνο για "παραδοσιακά" έργα, ολοκληρωμένα (integrated) έργα και έργα τεχνικής βοήθειας.

Συνολικός Προϋπολογισμός: €337,536,184
Πληροφορίες:

2. LIFE

To Πρόγραμμα «LIFE» έχει ενωσιακό προϋπολογισμό €3.4 δισ. για τη στήριξη περιβαλλοντικών έργων που υλοποιούνται από δημόσιους ή ιδιωτικούς φορείς, την περίοδο 2014–2020. Η τρέχουσα πρόσκληση καλύπτει προτάσεις και για τα δύο υπο-προγράμματα του LIFE (Περιβάλλον και Δράση για το Κλίμα).
3. Ευρωπαϊκό Πρόγραμμα για την Ανταγωνιστικότητα των Επιχειρήσεων και τις Μικρομεσαίες Επιχειρήσεις COSME, 2014–2020

Το πρόγραμμα COSME αποσκοπεί στην ενίσχυση της ανταγωνιστικότητας και της βιωσιμότητας των επιχειρήσεων της ΕΕ, στην ενθάρρυνση του επιχειρηματικού πνεύματος και στην προαγωγή της δημιουργίας και ανάπτυξης ΜΜΕ. Το εν λόγω πρόγραμμα απευθύνεται σε επιχειρηματίες που ενδιαφέρονται για χρηματοδότηση της εταιρείας τους, σε πολίτες που ενδιαφέρονται να ιδρύσουν ή να αναπτύξουν μια επιχείρηση, αλλά και σε κρατικές αρχές που διαμορφώνουν ή εφαρμόζουν σχετικές πολιτικές.

Η παρούσα πρόσκληση υποβολής προτάσεων έχει ως στόχο να συγχρηματοδοτήσει διακρατικά έργα με σκοπό την ενίσχυση των ενιαίων σημείων πρόσβασης για ζητήματα της ενιαίας αγοράς για τους οικονομικούς φορείς, συμβάλλοντας στην αύξηση της ευκαιρητοποίησης στην επιχειρηματική κοινότητα.

Προϋπολογισμός πρόσκλησης: €300.000
Προθεσμία: 8 Σεπτεμβρίου 2016
Information:

3. COSME, 2014–2020

The programme for the Competitiveness of enterprises and SMEs (COSME) aims at encouraging the competitiveness of European enterprises. With small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs), current and potential entrepreneurs and business support organisations as its main targets, the programme provides better access to finance, deliver business support services and promote entrepreneurship.

The present call for proposals aims at achieving the following general objectives:

- create better conditions for SMEs' expansion in the Internal Market;
- raise awareness of the Points of Single Contact (PSC) among the European businesses and entrepreneurs so that they know where to turn for information or assistance, or on how to interact with public administrations in order to get established or to provide services in the EU;
- raise awareness among business support organisations on the PSCs’ role and their offer, so that they can provide comprehensive advice to their members or partners

Call budget: €300.000
Deadline: 8 September 2016
Information:
4. European Broadband Award 2016

The aim of this European Broadband Award competition is to identify best practices on the planning, management and implementation of projects for high-speed broadband networks known as Next Generation Networks (NGN) in Europe. The competition is open to all types of projects irrespective of the size, location, or technologies used. The competition targets national, regional, and local public authorities (e.g. municipalities, regions and administrations) as well as large and small privately funded projects which adopt innovative models of investment, business or financing structure, such as financial instruments.

Successful approaches and solutions for broadband deployment will receive a wide-spread recognition via this competition. Participants and winners every year will serve as examples to other project promoters and investors. This competition supports building up a community as a strong and diverse network of broadband stakeholders all over Europe. The winners will be awarded by the Commissioner Günther H. Oettinger (Digital Economy and Society), in November at the event “B-DAY: Going Giga”. Winning projects will be featured by DG CONNECT in the media, website, newsletters and in the good practices database.

Deadline: 15 September 2016

Information:
5. Ευρωπαϊκό Ταμείο Θάλασσας και Αλιείας: Γαλάζια Τεχνολογία–Μεταφορά καινοτόμων λύσεων στις οικονομίες θαλασσίων λεκανών και Μακροπεριφερειών

Ο Εκτελεστικός Οργανισμός για τις Μικρομεσαίες Επιχειρήσεις (EASME) δημοσίευσε πρόσφατα πρόσκληση υποβολής προτάσεων για τη Γαλάζια Τεχνολογία: Μεταφορά καινοτόμων λύσεων στις οικονομίες θαλασσίων λεκανών, στο πλαίσιο του προγράμματος εργασιών του 2016 για την υλοποίηση έργων του Ευρωπαϊκού Ταμείου Θάλασσας και Αλιείας.

Στόχος της παρούσας πρόσκλησης είναι η υποστήριξη στρατηγικών διακρατικών εταιρικών σχέσεων για την ανάπτυξη καινοτόμων σχεδίων δράσης σε επίπεδο θαλάσσιας λεκάνης προκειμένου να υπάρξει συντονισμός των επενδύσεων για την καινοτομία, ιδιαίτερα, στα πεδία της κυκλικής οικονομίας, του ψηφιακού θεματολογίου και της ενεργειακής ένωσης και του κλίματος. Συνολικός προϋπολογισμός πρόσκλησης: €2,520,000.

Προθεσμία: 30 Σεπτεμβρίου 2016


5. European Maritime and Fisheries Fund: Blue Technology–Transfer of innovative solutions to sea basin economies

The Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, acting under the powers delegated by the European Commission (also referred to as "the Commission"), is launching a call for proposals with a view to concluding grant agreements to accelerate the transfer of innovative technological solutions to sea basin economies. This call is launched in accordance with the 2016 Work Programme for the Implementation of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.

This call for proposals aims to support strategic transnational partnerships to develop joint roadmaps at sea basin level in order to coordinate investments for innovation in a specific high potential blue growth technology, domain or value chain. The specific roadmaps shall include an investment plan that will deliver a set of bankable/ready-to-invest demonstration projects for new technologies, industry applications, processes or services within the targeted blue growth area.

Call Total Budget: €2,520,000.

Deadline: 30 September 2016

Task Force Promotes Better Use of EU Funding

A team set up to help a number of Member States use EU funds more efficiently has completed its intensive work schedule, which included more than 100 technical meetings and seminars. In cooperation with eight countries, the Task Force for Better Implementation (TFBI) has eased bottlenecks and backlogs in the allocation and spending of EU Structural Funds. The TFBI started work in November 2014 to assess why Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Italy, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Hungary were lagging behind in delivering funding through programmes and on to projects. In addition to identifying bottlenecks, the TFBI collaborated with national authorities to draw up action plans to get things moving.

The whole process benefited from strong political support in both the Commission and the Member States. The goal was to provide each of the countries involved with tailored and coordinated methods of improving implementation so that the 2007–2013 programming period could come to a successful close.
While many of the issues addressed by the TFBI were specific to individual Member States, there were some common causes for the delays, including:

- some programmes started slowly;
- insufficient preparation for complex infrastructure projects;
- long project cycles;
- overly lengthy national administrative procedures;
- a lack of administrative capacity at national and beneficiary level; and
- errors in public procurement procedures.

There was also some suggestion that programme implementation has been a steep learning curve for all Member States, especially those undertaking their first full programming period. For 2014-2020, the recommendation is that all national authorities should start their programme implementation measures as soon as possible. To ensure success, the TFBI believes national authorities must find efficient ways to support project beneficiaries as they begin to spend funds. Regular capacity-building activities are proposed as one way forward, both for those bodies allocating the funding and the organisations spending it down the line.
Για σίγουρη επιτυχία, η ΕΟκε πιστεύει ότι οι εθνικές αρχές πρέπει να βρουν αποτελεσματικούς τρόπους να στηρίξουν τους δικαιούχους των έργων καθώς αρχίζουν να δαπανούν κονδύλια. Προτείνονται τακτικές δραστηριότητες δημιουργίας ικανοτήτων ως ένας τρόπος περαιτέρω προώθηση τόσο για τους φορείς εκείνους που εκχωρούν τη χρηματοδότηση όσο και για τους οργανισμούς που τη δαπανούν αργότερα.

Επιπλέον, η Επιχειρησιακή Ομάδα θα ήθελε να δει να χρησιμοποιούνται συνήθερα ορισμένες από τις δράσεις δημιουργίας ικανοτήτων της ίδιας της Επιτροπής. Αυτές περιλαμβάνουν τη διαδικασία TAIEX–REGIO PEER 2 PEER, που προορίζεται για την ανταλλαγή εμπειρογνωμοσύνης μεταξύ φορέων που διαχειρίζονται χρηματοδότηση από το Ευρωπαϊκό Ταμείο Περιφερειακής Ανάπτυξης (ΕΤΠΑ) και το Ταμείο Σύγκλισης. Θα πρέπει επίσης να αναπτυχθούν οι σύμφωνες ακραίοτήτες, τα οποία προβλέπουν τρόπους να επιτευχθούν αδιάφορες και διαφορετικές διαδικασίες δημοσίων συμβάσεων.

Πληροφορίες:

In addition, the Task Force would like to see some of the Commission’s own capacity-building actions used more frequently. These include the TAIEX–REGIO PEER 2 PEER process, which is designed to share expertise between bodies that manage funding under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Cohesion Fund. Integrity Pacts, which provide ways to achieve corruption–free, transparent procurement processes could also be deployed.

Thanks to the Task Force’s intervention, Slovakia, Romania and Croatia are no longer at risk of losing EU funding worth EUR 1.3 billion. More than 40 EU–funded programmes across the eight Member States receiving help have been modified, along with 120 major projects. The TFBI held more than hundred technical meetings as part of its 12–month work schedule.

Information:
The study on the state of play of the EGTCs and their evolution in 2015 was presented during the recent annual meeting of the EGTC Platform and is now available online. The EGTC Monitoring Report 2015, prepared by the company Metis GmbH, provides the most exhaustive overview of the EGTCs.

According to this annual study, 10 new EGTCs were established last year including the EGTC Tisza, between Hungary and Ukraine. The EGTCs implemented around 140 projects and hired 180 direct employees, 50 more than in 2014. The study contains a very practical table setting out the EGTCs by field of activity and includes contact details and detailed description of activities.

Πληροφορίες/Information:
ΕΟΕ Αμφικτυονία και Αναπτυξιακή Συνεργασία

Με στόχο την εκπαίδευση στελεχών της τοπικής αυτοδιοίκησης και των τοπικών φορέων της κοινωνίας των πολιτών, ο Ευρωπαϊκός Όμιλος Εδαφικής Συνεργασίας «ΕΟΕ ΑΜΦΙΚΤΥΟΝΙΑ» διαργάνωσε ως εταιρό του έργου LADDER, με επιτυχία δυο αποκεντρωμένες εκπαιδευτικές δράσεις σε Ορεστιάδα και Πρέβεζα, στις 17 & 18 Μαίου και στις 22 & 23 Ιουνίου 2016, αντίστοιχα.

To περιεχόμενο των δράσεων αφορά στην ανάδειξη και αξιοποίηση των τοπικών πλεονεκτημάτων για την διοικώφωση όραματος και αναπτυξιακού σχεδιασμού. Απότελεσμα τόσο των αποκεντρωμένων δράσεων στην προκηρύξη του έργου LADDER είναι η ευαισθητοποίηση αναπτυξιακών φορέων διαφόρων τύπων των τοπικών κοινωνιών για την επιρροή που μπορεί να έχει η τοπική ανάπτυξη σε ένα ευρύτερο περιβάλλον, αυτό της ευρωπαϊκής και ακολούθως της παγκόσμιας αναπτυξιακής συνεργασίας σε θέματα μείζονος σημασίας όπως είναι η απασχόληση, το περιβάλλον, η ξοδευτική ενέργεια, η βιώσιμη ανάπτυξη, οι ανθρώπινες δικαιώματα, οι διακολοπτικές επιπτώσεις η μετανάστευση, κλπ.

Πληροφορίες:
ΕΟΕ Αμφικτυονία
Υπόψη κας Δ. Αγουλίδου
E-mail: amfiktio@otenet.gr

EGTC Amphictyony and the Development Cooperation

The European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation “EGTC AMPHICTYONY” in the framework of its role as a LADDER project partner and with the aim of training officers of local authorities and local actors of civil society, successfully organized and implemented two decentralized educational activities in Orestiada and in Preveza on the 17 & 18 May and on the 22 & 23 June, 2016, respectively. The objectives and the content of these activities reflect the promotion and incorporation of local advantages in the shaping of a vision and in the local development planning. The ultimate goal of the LADDER project local educational activities is to raise awareness organisations of the influence of local development to a wider space, that is, European, as well as, interna-

More Information:
EGTC Amphictyony
Attn: Ms D. Avgoulidou
E-mail: amfiktio@otenet.gr
Ευρωπαϊκά Προγράμματα
European Programmes
Πρωτοβουλίες Ελληνικών ΟΤΑ
EU funded Projects of Greek Local Authorities

Δήμος Βάρης-Βούλας-Βουλιαγμένης:
InnoWEE
(HORIZON 2020)

Ο Δήμος Βάρης-Βούλας-Βουλιαγμένης συμμετέχει στο έργο «INNOVATIVE PRE-FABRICATED COMPONENTS INCLUDING DIFFERENT WASTE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS REDUCING BUILDING ENERGY AND MINIMISING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS», στο πλαίσιο του Άξονα «Βιομηχανική Υπεροχή» του Ευρωπαϊκού Προγράμματος HORIZON 2020, μετά με 9 εταίρους από 6 χώρες (Ισπανία, Ιταλία, Ελλάδα, Ρουμανία, Πολωνία και Σλοβενία). Το έργο έχει ως βασικό στόχο την επαναχρησιμοποίηση των υλικών που προέρχονται από την κατεδάφιση των κτιρίων (τούβλα, τζάμια, ξύλα κ.ά.) για την παραγωγή υψηλής προστιθέμενης αξίας προκατασκευασμένων πάνω και την τελική χρήση τους στη δημιουργία κτιρίων υψηλής ενεργειακής απόδοσης. Ο Δήμος Βάρης-Βούλας-Βουλιαγμένης θα αποτελέσει πρότυπο επιδεικτικό-πιλοτικό Δήμος, καθώς το πρώτο Δημαρχείο Βουλιαγμένης θα ανακαινιστεί, εσωτερικά και εξωτερικά, με την εφαρμογή των εν λόγω προκατασκευασμένων πάνω, προκειμένου να αξιολογηθεί ο βαθμός ενεργειακής αποδοτικότητάς του.

Πληροφορίες: info@vvv.gov.gr

Municipality of Varis–Voulas–Vouliagmenis: InnoWEE
(HORIZON 2020)

The Hellenic Municipality of Varis–Voulas–Vouliagmenis participate in the project titled «INNOVATIVE PRE–FABRICATED COMPONENTS INCLUDING DIFFERENT WASTE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS REDUCING BUILDING ENERGY AND MINIMISING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS», under the Axis 'Industrial Leadership' of the European Programme HORIZON 2020, in cooperation with 9 partners from 6 countries (Spain, Italy, Greece, Romania, Poland and Slovenia). The main objective of the project is the reuse of materials from the demolition of buildings (bricks, windows, wood, etc.) in order to produce high value–added annealed prefabricated panels and end use in creating energy–efficient buildings.

The Municipality of Varis–Voulas–Vouliagmenis will be a demonstration pilot–municipality model, as the former Town Hall of Vouliagmeni will be renovated, internally and externally, with the implementation of these prefabricated panels in order to assess the degree of energy efficiency.

Information: info@vvv.gov.gr
Selected projects within the Town-Twinning Measure

The Strand 2 Measure 2.1 "Town Twinning" supports projects that aim to bring together a wide range of citizens from twinned towns around topics in line with the objectives of the programme. In this context, the EACEA – Unit C1 Europe for Citizens received 574 grant requests for the 1st of March 2016 deadline. All applications were considered as eligible. The total grant request from all submitted applications was of € 9,339,500 with the average grant requested of about €16,271. The geographical spread of applicants shows that 29 countries participated in this selection. The greatest number of applications came from Hungary (25,8%), Slovakia (20,6%), Italy (9,8%) and Germany (8,9%). In terms of geographical spread including the partners, it is important to underline that 33 countries participated in this selection.

More Information:
Επιλογή Έργων στο πλαίσιο των Δικτύων Πόλεων

Το Σκέλος 2 Μέτρο 2.2 ‘Δίκτυα Πόλεων’ υποστηρίζει δήμους και ενώσεις τους που εργάζονται σε ένα κοινό θέμα μακροπρόθεσμα με την προοπτική να συστήσουν δίκτυα πόλεων προκειμένου η συνεργασία τους να γίνει περισσότερο βιώσιμη.

Σε αυτό το πλαίσιο, ο Εκτελεστικός Οργανισμός για τα Οπτικοακουστικά Μέσα και την Εκπαίδευση δέχθηκε 151 αιτήσεις επιδότησης για την προδήμια της 1ης Μαρτίου 2016. Το αιτούμενο συνολικό ποσό ανήλθε στα 18.517.500 € (122.632€ μ.ο.).

Η γεωγραφική κάλυψη των αιτούντων έδειξε ότι 28 χώρες συμμετείχαν στην επιλογή. Ο μεγαλύτερος αριθμός των αιτήσεων προήλθε από την Ιταλία (22%), την Ουγγαρία (17%), την Κροατία (7%) και την Πολωνία (7%).

Το Επιτροπή υπογράμμισε τη συνεχή αύξηση των έργων διευρυνόμενων και υστερικών συμπράξεων. Έτσι, από την άποψη της συμμετοχής των εταίρων χωρών αξιώζει να σημειωθεί ότι όλες οι συμμετέχουσες στο πρόγραμμα χώρες εκπροσωπούνται στα υποβαλλόμενα έργα.

Πληροφορίες:

Selected projects within the Networks of Towns Measure

Funded projects within the Strand 2 Measure 2.2 – "Networks of Towns" provide support to municipalities and associations working together on a common theme in a long term perspective, and wishing to develop networks of towns to make their cooperation more sustainable. Within the framework of Strand 2 Measure 2.2 – Networks of Towns Round 1 (2016), the EACEA – Unit C1 Europe for Citizens received 151 grant requests. All 151 are eligible. The total grant request for all submitted applications was € 18.517.500 with the average grant requested being € 122.632. The geographical spread of applicants shows that 28 countries participated in this selection. The greatest number of applications comes from Italy (22%), Hungary (17%), Croatia (7%) and Poland (7%). The Committee pointed out the constant increase of projects representing large and strong partnerships. Thus, in terms of the partner countries involved in the projects submitted it is worth underlying that all participating to programme countries are represented.

More Information:
Exploring Chania as an urban laboratory on the sea edge the workshop brings into focus a number of issues common to medium-scale coastal cities in Greece, the Mediterranean, and beyond: abandoned places and urban voids, disputed edges where the ground dips into the sea, sites of remembered histories and forgotten stories, contested interfaces where the public meets the private, hybrid spaces where the physical merges with the digital, urban disorders regulated into grids and zones, local communities transforming within an international tourist market.

At times clearly delineated, at others blurry, and always in flux, it is the edge that is this workshop’s primary matter: the edge between abandonment and occupation, memory and oblivion, public and private, physical and digital, land and sea, spontaneity and regulation, community and market. Making use of design and policy tools for shaping and managing space the workshop aims at a series of urban design proposals for specific sites in the city where these phenomena are most strongly manifested.

Information:
http://ontheseaedge.urbantranscripts.org/
Διεθνές Συνέδριο για τις Παγκόσμιες Βιώσιμες Πόλεις
(Kουάλα Λαμπούρ, 8 Σεπτεμβρίου)

To διεθνές συνέδριο για τις παγκόσμιες βιώσιμες πόλεις διανύει το 8ό έτος της λειτουργίας του και παρέχει μια δημιουργική πλατφόρμα για την εκπαίδευση όλων των ενδιαφερόμενων τοπικών φορέων, των εκπροσώπων της βιομηχανίας και των κυβερνητικών φορέων καθώς και του κοινού, αναφορικά με το τι κάνει τις πόλεις βιώσιμες και αειφόρες.

Πληροφορίες:
http://wcscl.com/v1/

Διεθνές Συμπόσιο για τα Ποτάμια
(Νέο Δελχί, 12–14 Σεπτεμβρίου)

To διεθνές συμπόσιο για τα ποτάμια συγκεντρώνει την προσοχή επιστημόνων, συμβούλων, φοιτητών, ΜΚΟ, επιχειρηματιών από ολόκληρο τον πλανήτη για να μοιραστούν και να ανταλλάξουν γνώσεις και να συνεργαστούν σε καινοτόμες ιδέες για τη βελτίωση της αειφόρου διαχείρισης των υδάτινων λεκανών των ποταμών.

Πληροφορίες:
http://riversymposium.com/

International Conference on World Class Sustainable Cities
(Kuala Lumpur, 8 September)

The ‘International Conference on World Class Sustainable Cities’ (WCSC) is in its 8th year since conception that has so far provided a constructive platform to enlighten, educate and charge the mindsets of city stakeholders, industry players, government agencies and the general public on what makes great livable and sustainable cities.

Information:
http://wcscl.com/v1/

International River Symposium
(New Delhi, 12–14 September)

The International Riversymposium brings together river managers, policy developers, scientists, consultants, students, NGOs, indigenous and community organisations and business and industry representatives from around the world to share their knowledge, learn from others and collaborate on innovative ideas to improve the sustainable management of river basins.

Information:
http://riversymposium.com/
The significant increase of asylum applications in Europe over the last few years, the massive arrivals of refugees in a few months and the humanitarian emergencies that have arisen in some countries have created a situation of crisis for the European Union and have raised tensions in European societies.

To increase understanding of what social innovation means for refugee integration, the European Council of Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), in partnership with the American embassy in Brussels (section EU), and the Council of Europe and its network of Intercultural cities, are organising a seminar on social innovation for the integration and inclusion of refugees.

Information:
Climate Change
(Nantes, 26–28 September)

A global summit, Climate Chance aims to become a regular event for all non-state actors involved in the fight against climate change.

Resilient Cities
(Haifa, 26–29 September)

The International conference on resilient cities aims to discuss the Vulnerability of modern cities and ways to deal with them, considering
Συνέδριο CIVITAS FORUM
(Gdynia–Πολωνία, 28–30 Σεπτεμβρίου)

To συγκεκριμένο συνέδριο πραγματοποιείται κάθε χρόνο στο πλαίσιο της ευρωπαϊκής πρωτοβουλίας Civitas Initiative, με τη συμμετοχή μεγάλου αριθμού εκπροσώπων από πόλεις παγκοσμίως, με στόχο να σχεδιάσουν και να υλοποιήσουν μέτρα για την κινητικότητα στα αστικά κέντρα, μέσα από επιτυχημένα παραδείγματα, αλλά και από τις προτάσεις που κατατίθενται από εξειδικευμένους επιστήμονες, επικεφαλής διεθνών, εθνικών και τοπικών οργανισμών που εμπλέκονται στη διαχείριση και κυρίως το σχεδιασμό των μεταφορών και μετακινήσεων, δημάρχων κτλ.

CIVITAS FORUM Conference 2016
(Gdynia–Poland, 28–30 September)

The 14th edition of the CIVITAS Forum Conference theme will be “Shaping the mobility of tomorrow”. The three–days programme of the conference will offer a selection of collaborative workshops, state–of–the–art presentations and interesting site visits.

CIVITAS has helped introduce numerous innovations and measures that have already made transport more eco–friendly in over 60 European metropolitan areas dubbed ‘demonstration cities’. Thanks to an EU–funded investment of well over EUR 200 million, the project has guided cities to introduce improvements in four phases of the project, each building on previous successes. Examples include a public transport ticketing system in Tallinn, Estonia, a 100% clean bus fleet in Toulouse, France, waterborne goods transport in Bremen, Germany and a new traffic control system in Bologna, Italy. Indeed, over the last ten years CIVITAS has managed to test over 800 measures and urban transport solutions, supported by the intensive exchange of good practices in the field. The project empowered citizens to convince politicians on adopting these innovations, upgrading the quality and sustainability of urban transport for numerous European cities.

Information:
Pact of Amsterdam for Urban Development

At the informal meeting of EU ministers for urban affairs on 30 May, they agreed that the time had come for a new era with the involvement of towns and cities of all sizes in the design and revision of EU policies under the Pact of Amsterdam' which establishes the Urban Agenda for the EU and lays out its key principles. At the heart of the Urban Agenda for the EU will be the development of 12 partnerships on 12 identified urban challenges, with the objective of promoting the involvement of cities in EU policy making and the development, implementation and evaluation of more “urban friendly” European legislation (“Better Regulation”); ensuring better access to and utilisation of European funds (“Better Funding”); improving the European urban knowledge base and stimulating the sharing of best practices and cooperation between cities (“Better Knowledge”).

Four pilot partnerships have already started: on the inclusion of migrants, in which the Municipality of Athens (GR) takes part; on air quality, coordinated by the Netherlands; on housing, coordinated by Slovakia; and on urban poverty, in which the Municipality of Keratsini (GR) takes part. The remaining partnerships will be launched between the end of 2016 and the summer of 2017.

Greece holds the Chairmanship of the EUSAIR Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region

On 1 June 2016, the Government of Croatia handed over the pro tempore chairmanship of the Adriatic and Ionian Initiative and the EUSAIR to the Government of Greece. The Greek chairmanship would be guided by the leitmotiv “think macro-regionally, act locally.

Previously, on 12 and 13 May 2016, on the occasion of the 1st EUSAIR Forum in Dubrovnik (Croatia), the competent ministers confirmed their commitment to devote financial, administrative and technical resources and called for a better alignment of the strategy and national funding priorities.

Forum participants discussed how the macro-regional approach can help the area to become more resilient by jointly tacking the complex and diverse challenges at stake, which individual countries can no longer hope to address in isolation. Another key topic was the need for an effective multi-level governance system as a key prerequisite for the sound implementation of the strategy and achieving its goals.

Πληροφορίες/Information:
Commission launches two new financial instruments to boost investments in start-ups and sustainable urban development

The European Commission adopted two new “ready-to-use” financial instruments for ESI Funds investments, to ease access to funding for young businesses and urban development project promoters:

(a) A co-investment facility to provide funding, up to €15 million per SME, to start-ups and SMEs to develop their business models and attract additional funding through a collective investment scheme managed by one main financial intermediary. SAS JEREMIE in the French region of Languedoc-Roussillon was an example of such a co-investment facility, using ERDF resources to attract private capital and invest in high-tech SMEs in the region.

(b) Urban development funds will support sustainable urban projects, up to €20 million per project, in transport, energy or the urban regeneration, for example. The support will take the form of a loan fund managed by a financial intermediary, with ESI Funds resources and a contribution of at least 30% from private capital. Such an Urban Development Fund has been developed in Pomorskie, Poland, in the 2007–2013 period.

Πληροφορίες/Information:
Ορίζοντας 2020: 11 εκατ. ευρώ για το Μεταναστευτικό

Η Ευρωπαϊκή Επιτροπή επικαιροποίησε πρόσφατα το πρόγραμμα εργασίας για το 2017 του προγράμματος «Ορίζοντας 2020», το πρόγραμμα της ΕΕ για την έρευνα και την καινοτομία, με επενδύσεις ύψους 8.5 δισ. ευρώ στην έρευνα και την καινοτομία την επόμενη χρονιά. Το πρόγραμμα ανταποκρίνεται επίσης σε θεματικές εξελίξεις με την ενίσχυση της έρευνας σε θέματα μετανάστευσης ύψους 11 εκατ. ευρώ.

Για την αντιμετώπιση της προσφυγικής κρίσης, θα διατεθούν επιδοτήσεις για ερευνητικές δράσεις στα εξής πεδία:
(a) Ευρωπαϊκή και διακρατική συγκριτική έρευνα για τη μετανάστευση (2 εκατ. ευρώ).
(b) Συστήματα μετανάστευσης & ασύλου (2 εκατ. ευρώ).
(c) Ερευνητική κοινωνική πλατφόρμα για τη μετανάστευση και το άσυλο (2 εκατ. ευρώ).
(d) Έρευνα για την απασχολησιμότητα, τις δεξιότητες και την αγορά εργασίας των μεταναστών (2.5 εκατ. ευρώ)
(e) Η σημασία των πολιτιστικών αξιών για τη μεταναστευτική πρόκληση (2.5 εκατ. ευρώ).

Πληροφορίες:

HORIZON 2020: €11 million tackling the migration challenge in 2017

The revised 2017 Horizon 2020 Work Programme sees the inclusion of five new topics on migration. Applications to the new calls will be reviewed by independent experts and funding will be awarded to the best projects on the basis of excellence and expected impact. The research actions will focus on:

(a) Current European and cross-national comparative research and research actions on migration (Budget: €2 million).
(b) Migration and asylum systems (Budget: €2 million).
(c) Research social platform on migration and asylum (Budget: €2 million).
(d) Research on employability, skills and labour market integration of migrants (Budget: €2.5 million).
(e) The significance of cultural and core values for the migration challenge (Budget: €2.5 million).

Information:
Ο Έξυπνος Οδηγός για την πολιτική των cluster

The Smart Guide to Cluster Policy

The new Smart Guide to Cluster Policy is a practical guide targeting regional authorities and stakeholders interested in “how to make better use of clusters for promoting regional industrial modernisation, supporting the growth of SMEs and encouraging smart specialisation”.

The Smart Guide explains what cluster and cluster policies are and what they are not, what makes them successful and why they matter. It presents eight Do's and Don'ts and showcases four Smart Cluster Stories, several cluster programme examples and practical instruments implemented by regions as part of modern cluster policies. The Smart Guide to Cluster Policy is currently available only in English, but will also be made available in most EU languages.

Πληροφορίες/Information:
Nijmegen wins Green Capital Award 2018

Nijmegen has won the right to call itself Green Capital of Europe in 2018. The award was presented by Joanna Drake, Deputy Director-General of DG Environment, on 22 June at an award ceremony in Ljubljana, the current European Green Capital.

Nijmegen presented a passionate, clear and persuasive vision of their city as a Green Capital winner, and of how they would act as an ambassador for the green city movement across Europe if they were to win the Award. The jury was impressed by Nijmegen’s engagement of a wide range of stakeholders from the city. The city’s ambitious, well structured, presentation showed not only their concrete ideas for their future as European Green Capital, but also their ability to deliver them and their willingness to invest time and effort into the initiative, should they win. The Jury also appreciated the engagement from the city’s residents, who clearly have the concept of a greener city rooted in their values and vision. The Jury was also impressed with how the city showcased and presented their strengths, including on cycling infrastructure, traffic organisation, and clean public transport, as well as their excellent approach to waste management.

Πληροφορίες/Information:

Oι κριτές εντυπωσιάστηκαν από τη δέσμευση των κοινωνικών και οικονομικών εταίρων της πόλης σε αυτό το όραμα αλλά και από τις υποδομές της τοπικής αρχής στους τομείς των μεταφορών και της διαχείρισης των απορριμμάτων, οι οποίες επάξια δικαιολογούν τον τίτλο που κατέκτησε ο ολλανδικός δήμος.
Pomorskie takes the smart route

The Summer 2016 edition of Panorama is now available online. The main feature offers an in-depth look at one region, and this time it is the turn of Pomorskie in Poland. An interview with the region’s marshal, project examples and factual background give an overview of how cohesion policy is helping this region meet its challenges. There is also a preview of the themes and events for this year’s edition of the European Week of Regions and Cities (the new name for OPEN DAYS), as well as the research which will be showcased during the week’s “EWRC University” sessions.

The projects section features contributions from Austria, Hungary, France and the United Kingdom, and a new, expanded projects feature goes more in depth on a project involving young people in the development of transport policy in Poland.

Πληροφορίες/Information:
Urbanisation and Development: The International Trends

The new global flagship report on sustainable urban development recently launched by UN-Habitat, states that a New Urban Agenda is needed to unlock the transformative power of cities. The World Cities Report 2016, Urbanization and Development: Emerging Futures, says that the top 600 cities, with 1/5th of the world’s population, produce 60 per cent of global GDP.

In 1995, there were 22 large cities, and 14 megacities globally; by 2015, both categories of cities had doubled, with 22, or 79 per cent of the megacities located in Latin America, Asia and Africa. The fastest growing urban centres are the medium and small cities with less than one million inhabitants, which account for 59 per cent of the world’s urban population. The emerging urban issues include climate change; exclusion and rising inequality; rising insecurity; and upsurge in international migration. The current model of urbanization is unsustainable in many respects. The new urban agenda should promote cities and human settlements that are environmentally sustainable, resilient, socially inclusive, safe and violence-free, economically productive.

Information:
http://wcr.unhabitat.org/main-report/
UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The year 2015 was a strategic milestone for global governance, poverty eradication and sustainable development. It marked the target date of the UN Millennium Development Goals and a point to reflect on the progress made to date and the challenges ahead in addressing their unfinished business. 2015 also saw a series of landmark international summits and conferences over the course of the year (the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the COP 21 Paris Agreement under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change) which have collectively re–cast the way the international community, including the EU, will work to achieve sustainable development and poverty eradication for many years. Importantly, and in contrast to the Millennium Development Goals, the 2030 Agenda, including its seventeen Sustainable Development Goals, is a universal Agenda which applies to all countries. Views from this consultation will be used to inform the way forward on the initiatives above and in particular the revision of the European Consensus on Development and other external aspects of 2030 Agenda implementation. The consultation seeks your views on how development policy, in the context of EU external action as foreseen by the Lisbon Treaty, should respond to the range of landmark 2015 summits and conferences, and also to the rapid changes happening in the world.

Προθεσμία/Deadline: 21 Αυγούστου/August Information:
The Common Assessment Framework: The Reference Model for Total Quality Management in the Public Sector
Date: 28–30 September
Location: Barcelona
Additional Information:
http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/?id=5842

Building National EU Strategies
Date: 28–30 September
Location: Luxembourg
Additional Information:
http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/?id=5989

How Smart are Cities?
Date: 29–30 September
Location: Eindhoven
Additional Information:
http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/?id=5975

Performance Assessment: Skills for Leadership
Date: 19–20 September
Location: Maastricht
Additional Information:
http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/?id=5856

Practical Tools for Implementation of EU Policies and Law at the National Level
Date: 19–22 September
Location: Luxembourg
Additional Information:
http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/?id=5929

Successful Preparation and Implementation of Twinning Projects
Date: 22–23 September
Location: Maastricht
Additional Information:
http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/?id=5946

Financial Management of EU Structural and Investment Funds
Date: 27–28 September
Location: Maastricht
Additional Information:
http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/?id=5877
Cities in the 21st Century

Pages: 340
O. Nel-lo & R. Mele (eds.)
Publisher: Routledge, 2016

Cities in the 21st Century provides an overview of contemporary urban development. Written by more than thirty major academic specialists from different countries, it provides information on and analysis of the global network of cities, changes in urban form, environmental problems, the role of technologies and knowledge, socioeconomic developments, and finally, the challenge of urban governance. Urbanization is a process that involves acute social inequalities and serious environmental problems, but also offers opportunities to move towards a future of greater prosperity, environmental sustainability, and social justice. With case studies on thirty cities in five continents and a selection of infographics illustrating these dynamic cities, this edited volume is an essential resource for planners and students of urbanization and urban change.
Το Δελτίο Διεθνών και Ευρωπαϊκών Θεμάτων της Τοπικής Αυτοδιοίκησης εκδίδεται μόνο σε ηλεκτρονική μορφή. Εάν μέχρι τώρα δεν έχετε προσθέσει την ηλεκτρονική σας διεύθυνσή στη λίστα παραληπτών του Δελτίου, μπορείτε να το κάνετε μέσω της κάτωθι ηλεκτρονικής διεύθυνσής:

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