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**CONFERENCE "LEARNING FROM BENCHMARKING TO MAKE I2010 A REALITY IN THE  
REGIONS:  
DATA ANALYSIS, IMPACTS ON ICT POLICIES, EMERGING NEEDS"**

**30th March 2006**

**Committee of the Regions of  
the European Union  
101 rue Belliard, Brussels  
Room BEL 52**

*The conference is aimed at the presentation of the UNDERSTAND results based on the regional benchmarking of the Information Society through common methodology and comparable indicators and of their impacts on policy making.*

*The event intends to offer a broad picture on the development of the Information Society in the regions through the presentations of European best practices, such as BENTLI, SOURIR and BIRRA, and to explore more in general how regions can contribute to the delivery of the I2010 objectives.*

***Working languages: English, Italian, Polish, Spanish.***

***The event is hosted and sponsored by the Committee of the Regions.***



EUROPEAN UNION



Committee of the Regions





- 9.00 Registration
- 9.30 **Welcome and opening remarks. The role of the Regions in Information Society,**  
*Representative from the Committee of the Region*
- 9.45 **Benchmarking i2010,**  
*Frank Mather - European Commission - DG Information Society*
- 10.00 **The UNDERSTAND operation: a joint effort to benchmark the Information Society in the Regions**  
*Chiara Mancini – Regional Government of Emilia-Romagna*
- 10.15 **Presentation of the benchmarking results in partner regions**  
- **Broadband infrastructure** - Chiara Mancini – Regional Government of Emilia-Romagna  
- **E-government** – Victor Prieto – Valencian Office for the Information Society
- 10.45 - 11.00 Coffee break ---
- 11.00 **Presentation of the benchmarking results in partner regions**  
- **E-business** - Olaf Juptner – HA Hessen Agentur  
- **ICT usage by citizens** – Mike Williams - University of Wales
- 11.30 **Best practice from other European experiences:**  
- **Bentli** - Teresa Muñoz - Fundecyt  
- **Sourir** - Helene Raimond - Walloon Telecommunications Agency  
- **Birra** - Donnie Morrison - Western Isles Enterprise
- 12.15 **Questions & Answers**
- 12.40 **Initial analysis from the data**  
*Mike Williams - University of Wales*
- 13.00-14.30 Lunch --
- 14.30 **The Regions and i2010 - Using Benchmarking to accelerate Information Society progress**  
*Co-ordinated by: Jeremy Millard (Danish Technology Institute) - Roundtables and discussion with experts and regional policy makers*
- Roundtable 1: Digital convergence**  
- Guido Acchioni, DG Information Society - European Commission  
- Gaudenzio Garavini, General Director to Organisation, Information Society and Telematics - Emilia Romagna Region  
- Elena Llorca Asensi, General Director - OVSI (Valencian Office for the Information Society)  
- Jonny Lundin, vice chairman- Association of local Authorities in the Region of Västernorrland
- Roundtable 2: Research and Innovation**  
- Luca Protti, DG Information Society - European Commission  
- Marta Jacob Escauriza, General Director for Research, Development and Innovation from the Balearic Government - IBIT  
- John Shaddock, eRegion Adviser - Yorkshire and the Humber Assembly  
- Artur Kośmider, Information Society Department Director - Wielkopolska Region
- Roundtable 3: e-Inclusion**  
- Inmaculata Plasencia, DG Information Society - European Commission  
- Carsten Elend, Office of the CIO of the State of Hessen, Secretary of State Harald Lemke, Hessian Ministry of Finance- Agentur Hessen  
- Claudio Inguaggiato, Managing Director CSP - Piedmont Region  
- Miranda Morton. Research Manager, E-Wales - Welsh Assembly Government  
- Riccardo Sanna, Information Services General Manager - Apulia Region
- 16.15 **The information society in the Regions and the cohesion policy**  
*Olivier Baudelet, European Commission - DG REGIO*
- 16,30 **Concluding remarks**  
*Gareth Hughes - CEO of Eris@ (European Regional Information Society Association)*
- 17.00 End of the seminar