



SIVA Project Newsletter

April 26th 2014

PROJECT PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2014 TO APRIL 2014

IN THIS ISSUE

SIVA Project 6th electronic newsletter

by SIVA Project Team

Participation and presentation at ISCC 2014 conference

The paper with title "Comparative analysis of broadband penetration and digital public services in South East Europe", that was submitted by University of Patras and Molise Region in the context of the SIVA project, has been accepted for presentation at IEEE Symposium on Computers and Communications (ISCC 2014). The paper constitutes a short version of the combination of deliverables O311, O312 and O321 of the SIVA project and provides a comprehensive overview of the current state of affairs regarding broadband and e-Government services in the seven South East Europe countries that participate in the SIVA project. In addition, the paper includes useful and usable information that could lead to suggestions for improvements and joint actions for policy makers that will, in turn, help improve the related policies in the SEE region.

The ISCC conference (<http://www.ieee-iscc.org/>) started in 1995 in response to the growing interaction between the fields of computers and communications. It takes place annually at locations including Egypt,

Greece, France, Tunisia, Portugal, Spain, Morocco, and Italy with plans for other sites in the Mediterranean region. ISCC 2014 will take place on June 23-26 2014 at Madeira, Portugal. It will provide an international technical forum for experts from industry and academia to exchange ideas and present results of ongoing research in most state-of-the-art areas of computer and communications, including among others Access Networks, Network Design/Optimization/Management, Next Generation Networks Infrastructures, and Economic and Regulatory Issues. ISCC is therefore an established and well known conference that is closely related to the purpose of the SIVA project.



SIVA Transnational Accessibility Workshop

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SIVA Steering Committee Meeting in Campobasso

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1st Virtual Accessibility Strategy Workshop in Campobasso, Italy

The first Transnational Virtual Accessibility Experience Exchange Workshop took place in Campobasso in Italy on 28th February 2014 organized by the MOLISE region. The workshop had a great success with more than 150 participants from local stakeholders and individuals and attracted key note speakers from the MOLISE region and representatives from the central government, who talked about the broadband strategy in the broader area and their goal to succeed a full broadband coverage by 2015 to the whole of the Region of Molise and the country in general. In addition, there were presented the methods and strategies to lower down the cost of broadband networks development through the sharing of infrastructures and the deployment of more efficient systems for infrastructural works. The objectives of the First Virtual Accessibility Workshop were:

- To inform regional authorities on the severity of the digital divide in SEE.
- To engage regional actors in a discussion for policy recommendations targeting a converging agenda for bridging the digital divide.
- To facilitate the exploitation of good practices and of lessons learnt by past cases of broadband deployment.



- To bring together elected representatives of territorial public administrations and IT managers and other managers revolving around a specific thematic area.
- To promote the development of synergies for reciprocal benefits among public administrations and ICT managers.

In the workshop participated all the partners of the SIVA project presenting the good practices and the current situations in their regions and their countries in general.

MOLISE REGION REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Francesco Saverio Leone, General Manager of Ministry of Economic Development of Italy, Mr. Salvatore Lombardo, Management Director of Infratel Italia (INVITALIA), Mr. Salvatore Panzanaro, office of the Information Society and Information Systems of Basilicata Region.

5th project meeting and PPP event, April 13th - 14th in Ljubljana, Slovenia



University of Ljubljana will be the organizer of the 5th project meeting in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The meeting will be connected with a workshop that is taking place in Slovenia on 12-13 May, namely VITEL ([VITEL: workshop](#), [Event location](#)) where the SIVA project will be presented during the second day of the workshop (13th May 2014).

After the presentation a PPP workshop at the same location will be organised by UL ([meeting room](#)). The project meeting will take place on the 14th May in the morning. At the meeting the progress of specific activities will be examined as well as the financial evolution of the project and the forthcoming actions.



SIVA PROJECT PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS



SIVA Pen from designed from eco- friendly materials



4th Project Meeting in Campobasso, Italy

Organized on 27th of February 2014



SIVA Branded products originating from Molise Region

On 27th February took place the 4th project meeting of SIVA project in Campobasso, Italy. Organizer of the meeting was the Region of Molise in the capital the Region in Campobasso town where the meeting was held.

The project meeting examined the progress achieved within the 3 months after the previous meeting in Burgas, Bulgaria and set new goals and targets for the forthcoming period.

The meeting focused especially on the WP 4 titled: "Services, standards and information system to improve the virtual accessibility of SEE areas". This work package is one of the most important parts of the project due to the pilot studies and the operational tools that will be developed through this work.

The first tool has to do with the Geo-spatial Analysis Tool for the Cost-Effectiveness of Broadband Technologies and the data is being collected by 6 different partner areas from Italy, Greece, F.Y.R.O.M., Bulgaria based on-site surveys for the citizen's satisfaction on broadband networks. The tool will be available online and it provides statistical information about the citizens' satisfaction, the characteristics of the users and the actual penetration of broadband in these areas. The importance of this tool is based on the actual data coming from the Regions and it will provide a very good insight of the broadband penetration and the people satisfaction from the services provided.

The second tool has to do with the "Mapping of Physical Infrastructure & Assessing Cost Savings" which will examine real cases coming from the participated regions where sharing of infrastructures for the expansion of broadband networks could emerge. The UoP will develop this tool and examine how existed infrastructures networks could be used for the expansion of broadband networks in a town or district area and what would be the financial benefits out of that. This tool will be transferrable to other territorial areas Europe wide.

On WP5 the Good Practices of broadband networks and services will be collected from every territorial district and after that, online focus groups will be created, engaging local stakeholders to participate on consultation events on LinkedIn regarding, "common policy approaches for mutual compatible spectrum management and valorization of the digital dividend".

On WP6 discussion, consultation events, accessibility strategy workshop and capitalizations actions will be held during the last period of the project. Not exclusively, a discussion on common policies for integrate infrastructure mapping will take place which will lead to the development of a common guidelines for the maximization of use and sharing of physical infrastructures, exchange the experiences on Good Practices selected in dedicated events and bring into discussion with local stakeholders and 'key' persons in every project region.

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