

# European Business & Innovation Centre Network



## EBN EU Projects Seminar

In the framework of EBN 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



*Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>  
January 2010*

*Palais des Académies  
Brussels*



*EBN operates in partnership with  
the European Commission (EC), the European Space Agency (ESA),  
the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),  
and The European Voice as exclusive media partner*



### *What is EBN?*

The **European Business & Innovation Centre Network (EBN)** was set up in 1984 as a joint initiative of the European Commission, European industry leaders and the first pioneering Business and Innovation Centres. EBN is now the leading non-governmental pan-European network bringing together **200+ Business and Innovation Centres (BICs)** and similar organisations such as incubators and entrepreneurship centres across the enlarged Europe.



**BICs** are organisations which promote innovation and entrepreneurship. They help enterprises to innovate and accelerate; they drive the creation of start-ups, provide integrated incubation services, support innovation-based projects and mentor growing SMEs. They promote economic development through job and enterprise creation and development.

The network is **an umbrella organisation** bringing together over 200 BICs from all around Europe and beyond. It provides help and support to these BICs by acting as an interface with other organisations including the European Commission and the European Space Agency, by providing expertise in numerous areas including funding and by stimulating the sharing of best practices.

EBN follows closely the European Union Enlargement and Neighbourhood policies and is developing 'hub and spoke' networking connections with innovation platform in Russia, China, Middle-East, North-Africa, North & South America. EBN is also deploying projects for the UNDP and the World Bank.



EBN implements a certification and quality system enabling the development of a network of excellence through the integration of a quality approach. The BICs that have been granted **the BIC trademark** commit themselves to respect their obligations within the quality process of the network. The EBN quality process adds value to the BIC trademark and to the organisations that have received the licence – professionalism, performance, consistency and positioning. This label is the unique professional European standard for Incubators.



EBN is a Brussels-based team coordinating members' activities and providing services to them ranging from **EC-BIC quality support** to **international projects, events and networking opportunities**. EBN is a community of qualified and committed intermediaries and a dynamic cluster of talents and champions entrepreneurs.



## Projects Seminar Content

This seminar is part of a cycle of activities that EBN is proposing to its members and partners with the aim to increase and improve the understanding and the operational translation of EU policies and programmes into practical initiatives with successful and useful outputs for the BIC community.

The Seminar highlights areas and initiatives which are relevant for BICs and their incubated enterprises, in close relationship with R&D and Innovation policies; a particular focus will be given on the following domains:

- a. **FP7 (Seventh Research Framework Programme)** opportunities and forthcoming calls of interest for the EBN community in different sector areas such as ICT, Biotechnologies, Food & Agriculture, Space etc
- b. **The Research and Technology Development** in strategic sectors such as Cleantech, Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energies, Sustainable development. These thematic priorities will be examined in the framework of the needs and initiatives of the EBN relevant thematic working groups, active in the respective above-mentioned sectors; particular attention will be given to initiatives in the Cleantech sector, as the event will be the host of the first UNDP Eco-Innovation Award ceremony.
- c. **Opportunities for SMEs and Innovation support**, with projects and initiatives in the field of innovation, and SME capacity building in areas such as entrepreneurship, internationalization, clustering, investment readiness etc.
- d. The seminar will include **a training component**, targeted mainly at new EBN members maybe taking first steps in international projects, in order to demonstrate the benefits of getting involved in such initiatives and outlining the opportunities available.

This seminar will be part of the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the EBN network, which will take place between 19.00 and 21.00 on the first day of the seminar (**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2010**). This major event will enable our members, partners, and stakeholders to meet together, celebrate with EBN friends both old and new, and to understand how and why EBN is a major innovation & entrepreneurship player across Europe!

## Programme

### Wednesday 27 January 2010 - Day 1

09:30 – 10:00 **Registration and refreshments**

10:00 – 12:30 **Session 1: FP7 focus**

This session will have a focus on FP7 opportunities, providing details of forthcoming calls of interest for the EBN community in different sectors such as ICT, Biotechnologies, Food & Agriculture, etc...

Moderator : **Siobhan McQuaid**, EBN Senior Advisor

- **Khalil Rouhana**, Head of Unit, Strategy for ICT Research and Innovation, DG INFSO, EC
- **Valérie Rolland**, Food – Health – Well-being, DG RTD, EC
- **Nadège Mote**, European programmes advisor FP7 BIO NC, Brussels Enterprise Agency - BEA
- **Amaury Nève De Mévergnies**, Political Aspects, SMEs, DG RTD, EC

12:30 – 13:45 **Networking Lunch break**

13:45 – 15:30 **Session 2: Focus on Cleantech, Energy and Sustainable Development**

This session will focus on strategic sectors such as Cleantech, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies, including details of calls such as the 2010 Intelligent Energy Europe Call and Eco- Innovation.

Moderator : **Robert Sanders**, Head of International Projects, EBN

- **Bruno Schmitz**, Head of Unit, New and Renewable Energy Sources DG RTD, EC
- **Astrid Geiger**, Eco-Innovation and Intelligent Energy, Executive Agency for Competitiveness & Innovation – EACI
- **Dana Dutianu**, IEE Programme, Executive Agency for Competitiveness & Innovation - EACI
- **Juan Carlos Martinez Barrio**, BIC Burgos
- **John Latham**, BIC Coventry

15:30 – 16:00 **Separate session: Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs** - *upcoming call in April/May*

- **Gloria Lorenzo Leronés**, Project Manager, "Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs ", DG ENTR, EC

16:00 – 17:00 **Networking Coffee break - End of EU Projects Seminar (Day 1)**



17.00 – 19.00	<b><u>Welcoming “Innovation &amp; Incubation Policy Session” - EBN 25th Anniversary</u></b> (open meeting for all EBN community including the participants to the EU Projects Seminar)
19:00 – 21:00	<b><u>EBN 25th Anniversary Cocktail Reception</u></b> Including UNDP Eco-Innovation Award Ceremony + ESA/ESINET Award Ceremony

**Thursday 28 January 2010 - Day 2**

08:30 – 09:00 **Welcome Coffee**

09:00 – 10:30 **Session 3: EU Projects Training**

This session will mainly serve as an introduction to the EBN members who are new to the world of international projects. The EBN team and other project champions will explain the benefits of EU projects, how to get started, the type of initiatives and opportunities which are available, also identifying the challenges and pitfalls.

Moderator : **Robert Sanders**, Head of International Projects, EBN

- o **Lennard Drogendijk**, BIC Friesland
- o **Robert Sanders**, Head of International Projects, EBN
- o **João Carvalho**, CIEBI/BIC Beira Interior
- o **Julia Brethenoux**, Project Manager, EBN
- o **Vera Barracho**, Project Manager, EBN

10:30 – 13:00 **Session 4: Opportunities on SMEs and Innovation support**

The final session will highlight opportunities to be found which reflect the BICs core business, such as support to startups and SMEs (internationalization, access to finance, training, IPR, innovation tools, etc).

Moderator : **Robert Sanders**, Head of International Projects, EBN

10:30 – 11:15

**Thomas Koulopoulos**, Founder and President of Boston-based Delphi Group –  
Presentation of his book: *The Innovation zone*

11.15 - 11.45 **Coffee Break**

- 11.45 – 13.00
- 1) **Financial instruments of CIP**
    - o **Angelo Wille**, Financing Innovation and SMEs, DG ENTR, EC
  - 2) **GSA funded opportunities/Galileo calls with FP7**
    - o **Boris Kennes**, European GNSS Supervisory Authority (GSA)
  - 3) **Leonardo da Vinci Programme**
    - o **Felix Rohn**, Leonardo da Vinci, DG EAC, EC
    - o **Stefano Di Giusto**, Leonardo da Vinci, Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency- EACEA

13:00 – 14:00 **Networking lunch**

14.00 – on **Open “Project Clinic”**

Participants are invited to join the EBN project team to discuss ongoing opportunities. This will include for example, consortium building for Leonardo initiatives that are likely to be ongoing.

- o **Robert Sanders**, Head of International Projects, EBN
- o **Vera Barracho**, Project Manager, EBN
- o **Julia Brethenoux**, Project Manager, EBN
- o **Thomas Koulopoulos**, Founder and President of Boston-based Delphi Group

**Thomas Koulopoulos** - Founder and President of Boston-based Delphi Group  
Presentation of his book:

***The Innovation Zone***  
***How Great Companies re-Innovate for Amazing Success***

Thomas Koulopoulos is president and founder of Delphi Group, an Inc. 500 innovation management and advisory firm whose client list of twenty years reads like a “Who’s Who” in business and government, including the Mayo Clinic, the FBI, Toyota, Pfizer, DuPont, Fidelity, IBM, Microsoft, HP and Yahoo. A noted expert and author on business and technology innovation, he was executive director of the Center for Business Innovation at Babson College and is a frequent contributor to *Forbes*, *BusinessWeek*, NPR, and CNN. He is the author of seven books on business and technology innovation, including *Smartsourcing*, *The X-Economy*, and *Corporate Instinct*.



## Useful Information

### **Venue:**

#### **Palais des Académies**

Rue Ducale / Hertogsstraat 1  
1000 Brussels – Belgium

### **Costs of Seminar:**

The event is accessible for members: **250 €**

The event is accessible for non-members: **500 €**



**Target audience:** The event is open to EBN members and to organisations which express interest in the BIC incubation model for EBN membership services.

### **For additional information you can contact:**

#### Content, Speakers and Promotion

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To register please send by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January the registration form to:  
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