

The I-SPEED Project: a digital agenda for Tourism

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I-SPEED overall objective

The main issues tackled by I-SPEED is the lack of awareness among policy makers about the Information Society and ICT potential to:

- Foster growth and competitiveness of European Tourism Economy
- Better plan Tourism policies and services
- Coordinate public and private actors
- I-SPEED aims at improving the effectiveness of regional and local policies to foster sustainable and competitive Tourism through the efficient use of the ICT





I-SPEED Partnership

City of Venice (Italy)

Hedmark County (Norway)

City of Warsaw (Poland)

NAMRB (Bulgaria)

Region of Crete (Greece)

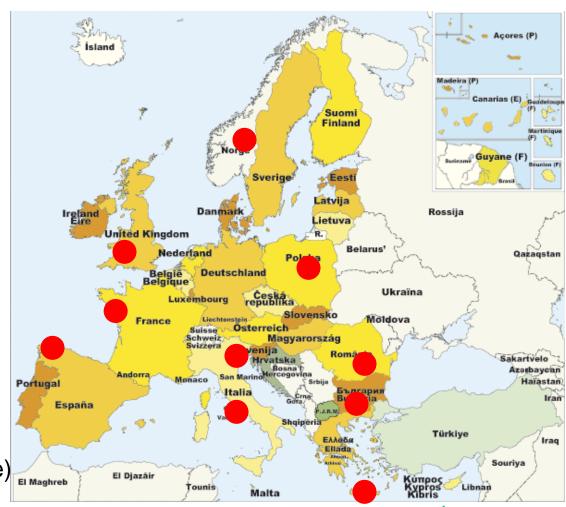
Powys County (UK)

Galicia Region (Spain)

City of Bucharest (Romania)

Province of Rome (Italy)

Nantes Urban Community (France)









I-SPEED Partnership

- > 10 public authorities
- > 9 European countries
- 3 levels of government: cities, county/province/community and regions
- The partnership aimed at matching less experienced local authorities with more advanced regions and cities
- Different needs in local tourism economies



The I-SPEEED project has been implemented through 7 main phases:

Exchange of Experiences

I-SPEED partners produced SWOT analyses of socio-economic situations in their territories on the basis of a common methodology. These analyses formed the starting point for exchanging and sharing experiences and improving mutual knowledge.

Identification of Good Practices

I-SPEED partners described the most relevant ICT policies implemented in their territories to promote the Tourism Economy and started a benchmarking activity in order to learn from good practices outside the partnership and prepare the ground for networking at EU level and transferring project results.

Political debate on identified **Good Practices**

> During the first PSG meeting held in Powys, the I-SPEED political

representatives analysed and validated the project results to improve the effectiveness, quality and compliance of project activities with policies and provided directions for the successive phases of the project.

Good Practices analyses

The identified good practices were thoroughly analysed, in particular when tangible data was available, in order to elaborate concrete transferability scenarios at a project level and start the transfer process. Each partner selected the good practises which could be concretely integrated into their regional and local policies.

Policy Recommendations and **Transferability**

> The PSG discussed good policy practices most suitable to be transferred into territories under

their jurisdiction during the second PSG meeting, held in Warsaw. On this occasion, EU politicians from outside the project were invited to offer the PSG the possibility of a wider exchange of experiences at EU level.

Development of Strategic Guidelines

> On the basis of the indications given by the PSG, partners prepared the contents of the key outputs to disseminate and transfer project results.

Dissemination of project results

The Good Practices Guide and the Policy Recommendations and Transferability Reports were produced, uploaded to the web site and disseminated during the Final Conference.







Political involvement



The I-SPEED Political Steering Group (**PSG**), composed of one political representative per partner, guaranteed the active involvement of **decision-makers** and ensured that the exchange of experiences would have a real **impact**



Key findings

- "digital revolution" and impact within the Tourism
 economy: importance to set a digital agenda for
 Tourism, set up platforms and address tourists needs
- decision makers should focus on the promotion of a positive ICT environment that fosters access, infrastructure, education, capacity building, and cooperation among stakeholders
- develop a competitive and sustainable (social, economic and environment) tourism economy
- ICT opportunities: mobile internet; social media; destination management





The main outputs of the ISPEED project









A digital Agenda for Tourism



Lessons learned from the exchange of experices and policy reccomandations of the I-SPEED political representatives addressed to other EU politicians seeking to improve the effectiveness of their tourism policies through the use ICT



Lessons learned (1)

- Think growth: ICT tools should be developed taking into consideration three key points: interconnectability; transferability and scalability;
- Create a strong base for ICT service development both in terms of infrastructural aspects and development of ICT skills for relevant groups;
- Content management: quality, usability, updatability: Information should be up-to-date and accessible (e.g., content should be available in key languages, the needs of persons with disabilities should be considered);



Lessons learned (2)

- Division of labour: maximize the capabilities of public and private: public administrations should provide qualitative contents and open data that functions on the basis of open source technology, while technology and device development should be left to the private sector. Public administrations can however play an important role in leading innovative projects, bringing together stakeholders and speeding up bureaucratic procedures, in the case of a weak or underdeveloped tourism market;
- Establish clear public-private partnership agreements;
- Get buy-in from the outset: public and private partnerships should be established before the project/service development takes place, in order to ensure interest on the part of all stakeholders while providing each with the possibility to contribute their ideas and suggestions;





Lessons learned (3)

- > **Be open to technology**: build ICT projects using technologies that can be easily improved upon and further developed in the future;
- Go open source;
- Promote free Wi-Fi access;
- Facilitate access for mobile applications;
- Address specific groups;
- Strengthen skills to strengthen the economy: invest in ICT skills and literacy to strengthen SMEs and local tourism economy;
- Invest in staff to ensure continuity. This means not only investing in training, but also working to change staff mentality and working methods, while making the most of competencies and knowledge.







Policy Recommendations

Cultural heritage and ICT for tourism

 Culture and tourism actors should cooperate to define a common ICTbased strategy for the development of sustainable and competitive cultural tourism. (City of Venice)

ICT for coordination and management of services

- Support ICT development for creating databases and web portals for regional tourism products with the leading role of local authorities.
 (NAMRB)
- Improve internal organization through the implementation of a Digital Technology Officer and the development of Open Data programmes (**Province of Rome**).
- > Public services for tourists (and citizens) should be better coordinated, integrated, and user-centred through the use of ICT. (City of Venice)



Researching new technologies for Tourism

- Develop Visitor Based Products: product development needs to continue in tandem with researching and identifying new technologies, in response to market demand. (Powys County Council)
- Act upstream to the chain, that is to say invest in the ICT economic sector and the ICT research, in order to guarantee the performance of ICT policy in the tourism sector. (**Urban Community of Nantes**)

Broadband for tourism

- Develop broadband connectivity: this is fast becoming the key enabler to economic, social and educational improvement in rural communities (Powys County Council)
- Invest, on a continuous basis, in broadband connectivity and infostructures. (**Prov. of Rome**)





Integrated approaches for the development of the Tourism Economy

- Use an integrated stakeholder approach in tourism industry. Cooperation between the public and private sector is vital, needs to be clearly defined regarding stakeholders' roles and responsibilities. (Hedmark)
- Cooperate with different stakeholders from the tourism sector to build a joint, integrated system of multi-source information, avoiding the multiplication of information sources. (Warsaw)
- Introduce tools to improve marketing and distribution of tourism enterprises. (Marketing on-line, e-training and quality tools). (Regional Government of Galicia)
- Increase cooperation between state and local institutions, NGOs and businesses. (NAMRB)





Training on the ICT use for a better tourism economy

- Training, education and the use of ICT are important in order to integrate the tourism industry with the knowledge economy and accelerate innovation (**Hedmark**).
- Ensure the necessary conditions for the involvement of the population in the development of an information society (City of Bucharest).
- Dedicate specific programmes to educational activities concerning the use of the Internet by citizens and tourism operators (Province of Rome)
- Support training for people working in tourism. Education and awareness raising about the use of ICT are the best ways to convince targeted tourism professionals about the initiative (Urban Community of Nantes).





Policies development: some examples

- The Hedmark Region is developing an action plan for implementing a Digital Agenda;
- The City of Venice and the Province of Rome launched the Free-italia wi-fi network;
- The City of Venice added to its statute the digital citizenship rights and launched the open data portal;
- Powys County is investing a lot of resources in broadband development, wi-fi security and in the social media development to improve its ICT projects.





Future challenges

- face the lack of financial resources
- support the European tourism as a whole
- continue the exchange of experiences at European level
- continue the benchmarking/benchlearning activities at EU and international level
- improve the management of innovation within the public administration
- foster public administration coordination role





Dissemination – leaflets/brochure



I.SPEED Innovative ICT solutions for a competitive European tourism sector.

two leaflets, one brochure, 8 project newsletters









Web site and Social networks

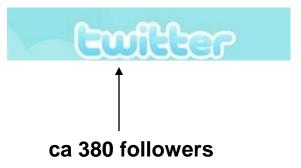
Website: www.ispeed.eu

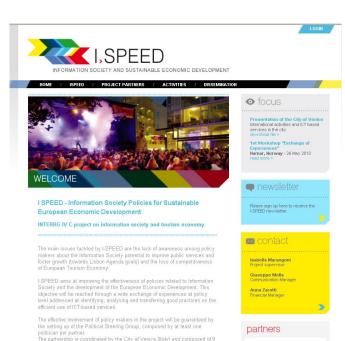
Facebook and social networks:





















Dissemination – articles on targeted media

Claudio Forghieri



ΣΤΗΝ ΠΕΡΙΦΕΡΕΙΑ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ

Παρουσίαση προγράμματος

Πραγματοποιήθηκε χθες, στην αίθουσα Διαχείρισης Κρίσεων της Περιφέρειας Κρήτης, η Ημερίδα παρουσίασης του προγράμματος «Πολιτικές της Κοινωνίας της Πληροφορίας για Αειφόρο Ευρωπαϊκή Οικονομική Ανάπτυξη - I SPEED».

SPEED αποτελεί ένα διαπεριφερειακό πρόγραμμα στο πλαίσιο του ΙΝ-TERREG IVC, όπου κύριοι εταίροι είναι 10 ευρωπαϊκές Περιφέρειες, εκ των οποίων Ι Ελληνική (Περιφέρεια Κρήτης) και 1 Νορόηγική.

Αντικείμενο του προγράμματος είναι η δελτίωση της αποτελεσματικότητας των τοπικών / περιφερειακών πολιτικών που σχετίζονται με την Κοινωνία της Πληφοφοφίας και την Οικονομική Τουριστική Ανάπτυξη. Ο στόχος αυτός θα επιτευχθεί μέσω της ευρείας ανταλλαγής εμπει-ριών σε επίπεδο πολιτικής και θα υλοποιηθεί με τον εντοπισμό, την ανάλυση και τη μεταφορά ορθών πρακτικών αποτελεσματικής χρήσης της νέας τεχνολογίας για την ενί-



Στην ημερίδα, ομιλητές ήταν ο κ. Νικηφόρος Λαμπρινός, π. Πρόεδρος της Ένωσης Ξενοδόχων Ν. Ηρακλείου, ο 2ενούουχων γι. τημαλειών, ο ο ο χ. Κουτας Βασιλα-οποίος παρουσίασε τις «Κω-», κης. Αναλληφοτής καθηγη-νοτόμες τεχνολογίες στον Τουρισμόκ, ο ν. Άρης Στρα-τάκης, Αναπληφοτής Προϊ- σης του τις «Νέτς Τεχνολοσχυση της ανταγωνιστικότη-

στάμενος της Δ/νσης ΠΥΤ (ΕΟΤ) Κοήτης, ο οποίος αναφέρθηκε στις «Ευκαιρίες και Απειλές από τη Διείοδυση της Τεχνολογίας στον Τουοι-σμό», ο κ. Κώστας Βασιλά-

γίες και Εφαρμογές» και η κ. Συντονίστοια του Προγράμ ματος I SPEED, η οποία εξέ τασε τις «Πολιτικές της Κοινωνίας της Πληφοφοφίας για Αειφόφο Ευρωπαϊκή Οικονομική Ανάπτυξη» παρουσιάζοντας το πρόγραμμα.



I-SPEED, un nuevo modelo de cooperación interregional europea

En la era en la que vivimos, que se ha dado en denominar la "sociedad de la información", cada vez nos resulta más necesario el conocimiento y buen manejo de las llamadas TIC (Tecnologías de la Información y Comunicación), antes reservadas a unos pocos, ahora imprescindibles para la gran mayoría en el desarrollo de nuestra vida cotidiana. A nadie sorprende va estar comunicado minuto a minuto con una persona que se encuentra al otro lado del planeta, o reunirse varios amigos sin estar físicamente en el mismo lugar a través de las web-cams. Sin embargo, no es únicamente a nivel personal donde se puede sacar provecho de estos recursos, pues prácticamente tienen aplicación en todos los sectores de la economía. El turismo es uno de ellos y, así, la innovación y las nuevas tecnologías de la información se convirtieron desde hace ya algún tiempo en factores determinantes para la

competitividad de la industria turístiea y el fortalecimiento de los intercambios con otros sectores relacionados con ella. No obstante, todavía sigue haciéndose necesario integrar satisfactoriamente las herramientas y servicios de la sociedad de la información en el turismo, sobre todo en aquellas actividades llevadas a cabo por las pequeñas empresas, menos evolucionadas en este aspecto. Así surge I-Speed (Information

I-Speed, con un filo di gas

La pubblica amministrazione europea si confronta per sfruttare al meglio le opportunità della società dell'informazione.

Ne parliamo con Paola Ravenna, dirigente dell'unità politiche europee del Comune di Venezia



il progetto I-Speed vi protà dell'informazione. Da

quali considerazioni nasce il progetto? Ci può

I-Speed (information society policies for european economic development) è stato presentato nell'ambito del programma comunitario Interreg IV C che ha tra gli obiettivi tematici principali il miglioramento delle politiche locali e regionali nell'ambito dell'innovazione. tramite lo scambio di buone pratiche a livello europeo. Interreg IV C opera nell'ambito della Strategia di Lisbona, che ha lo scopo di sostenere l'occupazione, le riforme economiche e la coesione sociale nel contesto di un sistema basato sulla conoscenza. Il nostro obiettivo specifico è di accrescere la consapevolezza degli amministratori e dei politici europei sulle potenzialità offerte dalle nuove tecnologie per aumentare la competitività e migliorare la sostenibilità di un settore economico che genera indirettamente il 10% del PIL dell'Unione Europea: il turismo. Base portante della proposta è stata l'esperienza veneziana di Venice Connected (www.veniceconnected.com), piattaforma web che mira alla regolazione dei flussi turistici tramite l'acquisto on-line dei servizi pubblici della città (trasporti, parcheggi, bagni pubblici, musei) con un sistema tariffario basato sull'indice di sostenibilità, cioè secondo la stagionalità dei flussi turistici.

Il gruppo di partner è molto eterogeneo e copre il nord e il sud dell'Europa. Quali sono gli assi principali su cui lavorerete? L'attenzione ai servizi di tipo turistico? Il rapporto con i

Il partneriato è volutamente eterogeneo: il bando richiedeva espressamente di far lavorare insieme regioni con maggiore esperienza con regioni con un know how inferiore. Abbiamo cercato di mettere insieme diversi livelli di governo (comuni, province e regioni) e diverse realtà europee. Da una parte troviamo ad esempio Venezia, Creta, la Galizia, Roma, Hedmark che dal punto di vista dell'economia del turismo sono realtà mature e hanno problemi simili legati alla stagionalità e al governo dei flussi,







sulle potenzialità offerte dalle tecnologie digitali per di esperienze nell'ambito dell'utilizzo delle nuove

Dissemination – articles on targeted media





work and the sharing of bachrical engineering

expertise with West Wales councils

Council participates in

INTERREG IVC



people, grovio

stabilire le strategie politiche dei diversi partner.



Dissemination - events

- > 40 interregional events, meetings and fairs, with more than 3,000 total attendees from ca 35 European Regions.
- About **20 events have been organized at partners' level** in order to present I-SPEED to local stakeholders, media and to the general public.
- On April 21 2012 the Region of Crete organized an interregional event, "New Technologies and Tourism in Crete – opportunities and challenges for the local government bodies and the local authorities". 100 attendees.



Dissemination - events









Thank you for your attention!

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