

# ernact news letter

Issue 1 :: May 07



the region  
is the network

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## A Welcome note from the IMC chairman

AS CHAIRPERSON of ERNACT's Interregional Management Committee I take great delight in welcoming one and all to this Issue 1 of the ERNACT newsletter!. We hope to utilise this medium to update you on progress of current projects, regional news and coming funding opportunities. We also look forward to receive your contributions as regards local initiatives or events that you would wish to see published in this newsletter, as well as any feedback as to ways to improve the publication since it is owned by all of us.

Enjoy it!

## What's new?

### ERNACT Web-site and rebranding

Over the past year, ERNACT has been working on new marketing and promotional materials for the organisation. This has included brochures with an all new look and feel and a new Web-site. Please visit [www.ernact.net](http://www.ernact.net) where the new promotional materials can be downloaded, plus information on our projects and on current news & events can be obtained.

### 1<sup>st</sup> ERNACT newsletter

At a meeting of the Interregional Management Committee (IMC) in Brussels last year, it was agreed that ERNACT would start producing a bi-annual newsletter. After much preparation, we have now arrived at the finished product. We hope you enjoy the first edition.

### i2010 Lab Conference in Treviso, Italy

The second BRISE international conference will take place in Treviso, Italy on **22<sup>nd</sup> May 2007**. For further information and to register, please visit [www.brise.provincia.treviso.it](http://www.brise.provincia.treviso.it)

### ERNACT IMC meeting in Treviso, Italy

This year's first ERNACT IMC meeting will take place also in Treviso, Italy on **23<sup>rd</sup> May 2007**, following the i2010 Lab Conference

**Information Day** on the first Call for Proposals of the **ICT Policy Support Programme** (part of the CIP Programme) Thursday **24 May 2007** in Brussels

## Did you know?

A mickey is a unit of measurement for the speed and movement direction of a computer mouse. The speed of the mouse is the ratio between how many pixels the cursor moves on the screen and how many centimetres you move the mouse on the mouse pad. The directional movement is called the horizontal mickey count and the vertical mickey count. One mickey is approximately 1/200th of an inch.

Dates for  
your diary





## Boosting Regional Information Society Expertise (BRISE)



Supported by the European Union. Project co-financed by the ERDF in the INTERREG III C Programme

### BRISE – Key Facts

Aim	The BRISE project promotes the development of ICT clusters and increased investment within a partnership of European regions, based on a programme of structured interregional networking
Programme	INTERREG III C, Network Operation
Budget	€1,453,000
Timescale	July 2004 – July 2007
Project Leader	ERNACT
Workpackages	Management and coordination Knowledge exchange Workshops and conferences Exchanges of staff and Study visits Working group meetings

To date BRISE has made good progress in each of its five workpackages as follows:

#### 1) Management and coordination

7 Steering Committee meetings have taken place. Activity and Financial reports have been submitted on time and 2 external evaluation reports have been produced

#### 2) Knowledge exchange

Collaboration web based system developed by the external contractor and integrated into ERNACT website

#### 3) Conferences and workshops

- workshop in Galway to discuss the positioning of ERNACT and BRISE in view of the new Cohesion Report
- workshop on eGovernment in Bologna
- workshop on eLearning in San Sebastián
- Funding opportunities workshop in Brussels
- eBusiness workshop in Treviso
- Broadband workshop in San Sebastián
- International i2010 for Cities and Regions conference in Olomouc

#### 4) Exchanges of staff and study visits

- There have been 8 staff exchanges: relating to ebusiness to Kainuu in Finland; ICT innovation to Bologna, Italy; eLearning to ERNACT; managing EU projects to ERNACT and inward investment to Derry - 3 long Study Visits and 6 shorter study visits to innovative regional knowledge economy locations and inward investors took place including: to the University of Venice (eLearning); to Finland (Broadband infrastructure and WIMAX)

#### 5) Working group meetings

Partners met in 22 Working Group meetings in themed areas of eGovernment, Broadband, Inward Investment, eLearning and eBusiness; some being trained in facilitation skills to enable the groups to work efficiently. Participants from all the partner regions took part in the WGs. Participants are engaging in interaction and exchange, working on interregional project proposals, some of which have been submitted for funding and so far, two have been approved.

Further information on the BRISE project is available at <http://brise.ernact.net>

## Border Corridor Digital Economy Network (BCDEN)



This project is part financed by the EU INTERREG III A program for Ireland/Northern Ireland

Aim	Improve the capacity of the Irish Crossborder Corridor area to adapt to and compete in the Information Society by developing and implementing innovative "e-services", and fostering collaborative learning and knowledge sharing.
Programme	INTERREG III A Ireland and Northern Ireland, Measure 1.2 (Knowledge Economy)
Budget	€1.784 million

Timescale	August 2004 – February 2008
Project Leader	ERNACT
Keywords	New Technologies (ICT)/ Irish Crossborder Corridor Area / Innovative eServices / Tourism & Retail / Community & Learning / Public Services / Collaboration

In order to achieve the project's aim an extensive consultation exercise was carried out along the Irish border corridor. Various thematic working groups were set up to discuss regional needs and challenges in the light of emerging ICT systems and infrastructures. Resulting from this consultation, 11 pilot projects were identified and are currently being implemented as follows:

**1. Crossborder Angling pilot**

Promotes fishing via the web by providing real-time angling information and an online facility for booking accommodation and permits

**2. Crossborder eProcurement**

Pilot electronic procurement in a number of councils and their suppliers across the Crossborder corridor.

**3. Crossborder Visitor Podcasting**

Captures the history, stories and the hidden treasures of the Eastborder Region and develops content for the mobile generation.

**4. Crossborder Information Bus (NWCBR-ICBAN) - 90% complete**

Trials a model for exchanging information between different public sector agencies, e.g., between planning authorities on different sides of the border.

**5. Crossborder Shared Experience Network (ICBAN) - 90% complete**

Trials a system to enable public authorities to exchange and discuss Information and Communication based developments in the Crossborder Corridor.

**6. Crossborder eWorking pilot (NWCBR) - 40% complete**

Trials a number of "mobile working" solutions for council field workers.

**7. Crossborder Educational portal (NWCBR) - 35% complete**

Develops an Internet portal to deliver comprehensive education and training information to communities.

**8. Retail Nightlife Pilot (EBR) - in initial stages**

Uses RSS (Really Simple Syndication) feeds, SMS (Short Messaging Service) and Location Aware technologies to promote the nightlife business.

**9. Crossborder Tourism Pilot (ICBAN) - in initial stages**

Delivery of Information and Communications (ICT) 'jargon busting' seminars to tourism providers within the ICBAN region.

**10. Crossborder Retail pilot (ICBAN) – in initial stages**

Deliver a series of Information and Communications (ICT) mentoring sessions to retailers.

**11. CommLearning Pilot (EBR) - to be confirmed in next few weeks if going to run**

Develops a website/portal for maintaining and exchanging Community Policy guidelines.

Further information on the BCDEN project is available at <http://bcden.ernact.net>

## Wireless Cities Project



Supported by the European Union. Project co-financed by the ERDF in the INTERREG III C Programme

Aim	Improve citizens' quality of life and regional economic development through the promotion of the use of wireless networks as a tool for information, training, communication and work.
Programme	INTERREG III C
Budget	€1.5 million
Timescale	October 2005 – September 2007
Project Leader	Fomento de San Sebastián, S.A.
Keywords	Wireless Technology / ICT / Communications

The Wireless Cities project main planned outputs are the following:

- A series of Conferences, Workshops and Open Days to promote and disseminate Wireless technology and applications
- The setting up of Wireless Innovation Centres with demonstrations, seminars and public events to promote wireless technologies and their applications
- 5 pilot projects which demonstrate the use of wireless technology for the public across a wide range of sectors – retail, transport, health, tourism, education, public services etc.

Further information on the Wireless Cities project is available at [www.wirelesscities.org](http://www.wirelesscities.org)

# Atlantic Territorial Information Mobile Systems (SMITA)

Supported by the European Union. Project co-financed by the ERDF in the INTERREG III B Atlantic Area Programme



Aim	Enable users of mobile computing to access tourism information relating to each of the territorial partners geographic regions.
Programme	INTERREG III B Atlantic Area
Budget	€1.572 million
Timescale	May 2005 – April 2007
Project Leader	Grande Area Metropolitana do Algarve
Keywords	Mobile Technology / ICT / Communications

The SMITA Information System (SIS) will be available for mobile computing devices. Use of the application will be targeted at users who are located within the partner regions, but will also be open to non-partner regions at the end of the funding period.

By using data supplied by each partner region, the SIS will be interoperable and data will be compliant with OpenGIS standards.

Planned outputs from the SMITA project include:

- o Improvement of tourism services offered in the Atlantic area, by enhancing the range of services available to tourists familiar with new technologies, especially mobile computing devices.
- o Create an awareness of traditional tourism by providing new access to dynamic and relevant tourist information.
- o Developing an innovative model for the presentation of the historical and cultural goods of a specific area.
- o Encourage the exchange of experiences and provide technological tools via the networks implemented by the partners.

The tender for development of the SMITA Information System (SIS) was awarded to a Portuguese-based company, called EDISOFT, and development is nearing completion. Trials of the system have already taken place in the partner regions of Tenerife and Huelva.

For more information, please visit:  
<http://www.smita.eu.com/>

# CNS



This project is part financed by the EU INTERREG III A program for Ireland/Northern Ireland



Aim	Implement a sustainable solution for the provision of affordable broadband access to community-based initiatives within the North West Crossborder Region (NWCBR)
Programme	INTERREG III A Ireland/Northern Ireland, IFI
Budget	€1.9 million
Timescale	July 2005 – June 2007
Keywords	Mobile Technology / ICT / Communications

Community Network Services (Ireland) Limited is a not-for-profit community-based company with both cross-border and cross-community representation from the NWCBR.

CNS mission statement is: "To develop and promote a high speed technology communication network to support and enhance urban/rural communities in economically and socially disadvantaged areas and to support and enhance the existing community projects in the border areas".

Community Network Services (Ireland) Limited is based within the North West Cross Border Region and rural Donegal. CNS is providing broadband coverage in the following zones, illustrated in the map:



For further information, please visit the project Website at [www.cnsbroadband.com](http://www.cnsbroadband.com)

# news from the regions

## Treviso – “i2010- Lab: A Practical Guide to EU Information Society” in the European Union

Next 22 May 2007, the Province of Treviso (Italy) will host the Second International “i2010 Lab - A Practical Guide to EU Information Society”, organised within the framework of the BRISE project.

The Conference aims to:

- inform and update the participants about the present situation of the European Programmes “i2010”, including the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme, the Framework Programme on Competitiveness and Innovation, and the Objective 3 European Territorial cooperation programmes;
- Develop common project ideas, through participative sessions organized in various working groups.

The Conference will have a plenary session in the morning followed by three parallel workshops in the afternoon as follows:

1. **Regional Knowledge Economy:** regional development projects with companies, researchers and local institutions;
2. **Mobile Public Services – Always on public services:** Wireless solutions for access to e-government services;
3. **Digital Libraries and Contents:** technologies to enhance learning and access to the cultural heritage contents.

These parallel workshops will be eminently practical focusing on developing concrete project proposal outlines following the GOPP (*Goal Oriented Project Planning*) methodology.

The Conference “i2010 Lab – A Practical Guide to EU Information Society” will see the participation of experts in the Information Society and in the 2007-2013 EU funding programmes, as well as the participation of representatives from the Directorate-General Information Society, Directorate-General Regional Policy and from the European Commission Representation in Italy.

This Conference is expected to be attended by staff from public administrations, private companies, universities and all those people interested in finding more about the European ICT funding programmes and the Lisbon agenda.

For further information please visit

<http://www.focuslab.eu/europe/index.html>

Conference organization:

Settore Relazioni Internazionali - Provincia di Treviso  
Tel. +39 0422 656906 - Fax +39 0422 656909  
E-mail: europa@provincia.treviso.it

## Derry – Broadband Flagship Project

Derry has been designated by the Department for Enterprise, Trade and Investment as the Northern Ireland Flagship Project for the demonstration of wireless broadband technology.

The project will create a wireless-enabled working environment in the City for students, tourists and citizens; enhance the School of Computing and Intelligent Systems at Magee as a centre of excellence in wireless technology; encourage the North West businesses to develop and use wireless applications; brand Derry as a city which is embracing the opportunities created by the Digital Age; and will promote Derry and the North West as an ideal location for ICT investment. The project will have three strands:-

Wireless Council – provision of a wireless network in the Council offices and the Council Chamber in Guildhall Street to help develop existing eGovernment services

Wireless Walls – implement a wireless network in the historic walled area of Derry city

Wireless Campus – creation of a wireless network covering large areas of the University of Ulster Magee and North West Institute of Further and Higher Education (NWIFHE) campuses.

Further details available at [www.wirelesscity.org](http://www.wirelesscity.org)

# San Sebastián - International "Wireless Cities" Conference on 23-24 April

## **Mobile Information Services – Current Trends and Developments in Cities and Communities**

More and more cities and communities are becoming aware of the possibilities that mobile information services have to offer to employees, citizens, and businesses. Municipal decision-makers, IT departments and city planners have to pay increasing attention to the topic of wireless data transmission. This is not only a matter of Hot Spots for private communication, but also involves many internal areas that in the meantime are also dependent on digital wireless networks that function well.

Organised by San Sebastián, the International "Wireless Cities" Conference took place on 23-24 April 2007 in Stuttgart (Germany), to offer concrete examples and practical solutions and also to feature issues like affordable solutions, feasible solutions, mobile information services and upcoming trends. The target group of this conference were municipal decision-makers and interested businesses who wanted to include this important topic in their plans for the future.

High-ranking international speakers shared their experiences and relating current developments. The event was hosted by the Wirtschaftsförderung Region Stuttgart GmbH (WRS) and the Steinbeis-Europa-Centre as part of the EU project "Wireless Cities".

You will find more information here:  
<http://conference.wireless-cities.org>

## Cantabria (SODERCAN)

The *Oficina del Gobierno de Cantabria* have recently revamped their offices in Brussels. The new premises boasts modern and up-to-date facilities, with numerous offices, a meeting room and a large seminar room which holds up to 100 people. Last October 13<sup>th</sup> 2006, SODERCAN hosted a workshop on forthcoming funding opportunities and programmes for the 2007-2013 period at their new Brussels office.

Key desk officers of the European Commission offered the latest information on the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework programme for Research, on the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme and on the new ERDF Territorial Co-operation objective (former INTERREG).



*Staff of the SODERCAN office in Brussels in their meeting room*

Further information is available on SODERCAN at the following link:- <http://www.sodercan.com/>

## Zeeland – Dr. Siert Knigge retires

Dr. Siert Knigge, Provincie Zeeland Chief Executive, retired after 24 years of service to the Province. He leaves an important legacy in the areas of Regional Economics, Welfare and Culture. Siert joined ERNACT's IMC in 1996 and has been an active participant in the network events and initiatives ever since. Siert's retirement party took place in Middleburg last February and was attended by a large number of colleagues, family and friends, including ERNACT's General Manager, Mr. Colm McColgan, and the IMC Chairperson, Cllr. Rena Donaghey, who presented Siert with a commemorative plate to mark his years of service to the ERNACT network. (See photograph attached below)





## i2010 – Framework for Information Society Developments

The "i2010 – A European Information Society for growth and employment" initiative was launched by the Commission on 1 June 2005 as a framework for addressing the main challenges and developments in the information society and media sectors up to 2010. It promotes an open and competitive digital economy and emphasises ICT as a driver of inclusion and quality of life. The initiative contains a range of EU policy instruments to encourage the development of the digital economy such as regulatory instruments, research and partnerships with stakeholders.

The i2010 rests on three pillars:

- 1) Creating the single European Information Space, which promotes an open and competitive internal market for information society and media services.
- 2) Increasing investment in innovation and research in ICT.
- 3) Fostering inclusion, better public services and quality of life through the use of ICT.

Please see the useful links at the end of this section, where further information on i2010 can be obtained.

## Objective 3 European Territorial Cooperation

A new Structural Funds programme period has begun in 2007, which will run until 2013. During the 2007-2013 period, the ERDF, the ESF and the Cohesion Fund will contribute to three objectives:

- 1) Convergence (ERDF, ESF and Cohesion Fund),
- 2) Regional Competitiveness and Employment (ERDF, ESF) and
- 3) European Territorial Cooperation (also known as Objective 3) (ERDF)

The new European Territorial Cooperation objective 3 has three strands: cross border (ex-Interreg IIIA),

transnational (ex Interreg IIIB) and interregional (ex Interreg IIIC).

The transnational strand comprises 13 cooperation areas including the Atlantic Area, North West Europe and the Northern Periphery.

The main features concerning the 2007-2013 Objective 3 transnational cooperation programmes are as follows:

- The focus will be on:
  - Innovation, RDT, enterprises
  - Environment, water management, risk prevention, including maritime safety
  - Improved accessibility, transport, information & communication technology
  - Urban development
- **20%** of a project total budget can be spent **for partners outside the eligible area**
- **10%** of a project total budget can be spent **outside the EU**

## Atlantic Area Programme - European Territorial Cooperation (Objective 3)

### Atlantic Area Programme – Geographic Scope



There is no draft operational programme available for the Atlantic Area yet. The eligible programme area has been slightly modified from the 2000-2006 period and this is reflected in the map above. The programme

Secretariat has been moved from Poitou-Charentes to Oporto.

It is expected that the first calls to this programme will be made in the autumn of 2007

ERNACT had a successful project called ECONET funded from the Atlantic Area Programme in the 2000-2006 period and we look forward to further project and partnership development over the 2007-2013 period.

### Northern Periphery Programme - European Territorial Cooperation (Objective 3)

This cooperation area has been modified to include for the first time Northern Ireland and Ireland. The draft Operational Programme was submitted for approval to the EC in early 2007, and it is expected that the first call for applications will be made in early September of 2007.

ERNACT is already participating in a preparatory project, which will be submitted to the first call for full project approval. Additionally, ERNACT has been making good inroads in project development and partnership building within this programme, and has recently participated at a Partenariat event organised by the Northern Periphery Secretariat in Derry.

#### Northern Periphery Programme – Geographic Scope



### North West Europe (NWE) Programme - European Territorial Cooperation (Objective 3)

The new NWE programme has four key priorities:-

- Priority 1: Developing the NWE knowledge-based economy by capitalizing on our capacity for innovation in all sectors
- Priority 2: Managing our natural resources efficiently
- Priority 3: Improving connectivity in NWE by promoting intelligent and sustainable transport solutions
- Priority 4: Promoting sustainable and dynamic communities

ERNACT will be particularly interested in the calls addressing Priority 1 and we look forward to developing partnerships and projects within the North West Europe Programme.

The draft Operational Programme was submitted for approval to the EC in December 2006, and it is expected that the first call for applications will be made in June of 2007.

#### NWE Programme – Geographic Scope



### Interregional Cooperation - INTERREG IVC

The Operational Programme supports two main thematic priorities:

- Innovation and the knowledge economy
- Environment and risk prevention

The programme encompasses two types of interventions:

#### Regional and Local initiatives

Bottom-up collaboration initiatives, continuation of the interregional cooperation experience from INTERREG IIIC

#### Strategic Interregional Actions

Top-down approach that allows the Monitoring Committee to actively initiate the wider dissemination and capitalization of the results of interregional cooperation through the establishment of a series of thematic networks.

ERNACT is actively lobbying to be selected or included within one of these networks.

## Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP)

An exciting new framework programme coming on stream is the **Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP)**. The three specific programmes within in the CIP framework are:-

- Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme
- ICT Policy Support Programme

- Intelligent Energy - Europe Programme

## ICT Policy Support Programme

The ICT Policy Support Programme will run from 2007 to 2013 with a budget of € M 728. It builds on the experience of *eContent(+)*; *eTen* and *Modinis*

and will support the following actions:

- Development of the Single European information space and strengthening of the internal market for information products and services;
- Stimulation of innovation through a wider adoption of and investment in ICTs;
- Development of an inclusive information society and more efficient and effective services in areas of public interest, and improvement of the quality of life.

A launch event for the ICT Policy Support Programme (ICT PSP) will be organized on **24 May 2007** in Brussels. This event corresponds to the opening of the first call for proposals of the ICT PSP. There is a draft workprogramme available which has not been approved by the EC yet.

## Seventh Framework Programme (7FP)

The Seventh Framework Programme (7<sup>th</sup> FP) is the successor of the Sixth Framework. FPs have been implemented since 1984 and cover a period of five years with the last year of one FP and the first year of the following FP overlapping. **It has been proposed for FP7, however, to run for seven years.** It has been fully operational from 1 January 2007 and will expire in 2013. It is designed to build on the achievements of its predecessor towards the creation of the European Research Area, and carry it further towards the development of the knowledge economy and society in Europe.

The 7FP is a research programme focused on developing and testing tools and prototypes. For this reason, it was decided at the last PDC meeting, that no projects will be pursued within this programme with ERNACT as the Lead partner and that the potential role for the local and regional authorities members of ERNACT would be as demonstrators/users of newly developed applications.

The first call for proposals is currently open and it closes on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Culture 2007 Programme

Culture 2007 replaces Culture 2000. The new programme begun in early 2007. To be eligible for

support from Culture 2007, projects will need to meet the following criteria:

They can be focused on any cultural area - there are now no separate strands for different cultural areas - proposals can cover any cultural area, or can link together different cultural areas to generate unique and innovative projects

They must have something uniquely **European** about them

They must be developed and implemented by at least 3 partner organisations from 3 different eligible countries

They can last either for **1-2 years** or, in exceptional cases, for **3-5 years**

They are likely to have a total budget of between €100-400,000 (1 year projects) or up to €1m per year (3-5 year projects)

They can receive, from Culture 2007, a maximum of **50%** of the total budget for the project

The CultureTrails project was resubmitted to the first call which closed on February 28<sup>th</sup>. No outcomes of the evaluation are available yet.

## Current and forthcoming Calls

### Objective 3 Atlantic Area

It is expected that the first calls to this programme will be made in the autumn of 2007

### Northern Periphery

First call for applications expected in early September of 2007.

### NorthWest Europe

First call for applications will be made in June of 2007.

### CIP ICT PSP

First call for proposals opening on May 24<sup>th</sup>

### 7FP

The first call for proposals is currently open and it closes on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Useful links

i2010

[http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/eeurope/i2010/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/eeurope/i2010/index_en.htm)

Regional Policy Information 2007-2013

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/funds/2007/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/funds/2007/index_en.htm)

North West Europe Programme 2007-2013

<http://www.nweurope.org/>

Competitiveness and Innovation Programme

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/enterprise\\_policy/cip/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/enterprise_policy/cip/index_en.htm)

ICT PSP

[http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/activities/ict\\_psp/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/ict_psp/index_en.htm)

Seventh Framework Programme

[http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html)

Culture 2007 Programme

<http://eacea.cec.eu.int/static/en/culture/call092006/index.htm>

[http://ec.europa.eu/culture/eac/index\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/culture/eac/index_en.html)

Northern Periphery Programme

<http://www.northernperiphery.net/2007/>

Atlantic Area Programme

<http://www.coop-atlantico.com/>

European Union

<http://europa.eu/>



This issue's focus is on mobile technologies, with expert input from our resident technology enthusiast Caitriona Strain. Enjoy Caitriona's interesting overview on the developments taking place within the mobile technology sphere.

## Focus On Mobile Technologies

Mobile technology is all about connecting people to people. The mobile phone has fast become a trusted and indispensable device, capable of enriching and managing your life. Users expect seamless access, anytime and anywhere, to a growing range of applications and services. Everything nowadays is going mobile – money, music, games, location based services and GPS, commerce, auctions, email and news.

Conducting business and services over mobile devices, known as mobile commerce (m-commerce), is becoming increasingly attractive and is driving the development of electronic commerce. Japan is leading the market in mobile commerce. An example includes the facility in Japan to purchase mobile train tickets. US\$ 0.5 billion per annum is received using this service on one single train line alone.

The movement towards 'mobile convergence' is placing an emphasis on more 'user optimised mobile applications', and this in turn is leading to innovative advances in technology.

### Good Technology Websites

Technology Reviews

<http://www.techreview.com/>

<http://www.battelle.org/forecasts/technology2020.stm>

<http://www.siliconrepublic.com/>

<http://www.makezine.com/>

<http://www.tuaw.com/>

Gadget Guides

<http://www.engadget.com/>

<http://gizmodo.com/>

Semantic Search Engines

<http://www.grokker.com/>

<http://www.kartoo.com/>

Free *Open Source* Encyclopaedia

<http://www.wikipedia.org>

# about ernact



## ernact facts

### ERNACT

European Regions Network for the Application of Communications Technology

Founded in 1990

### Location

Letterkenny, County Donegal  
(North West of Ireland)

### Type of Business

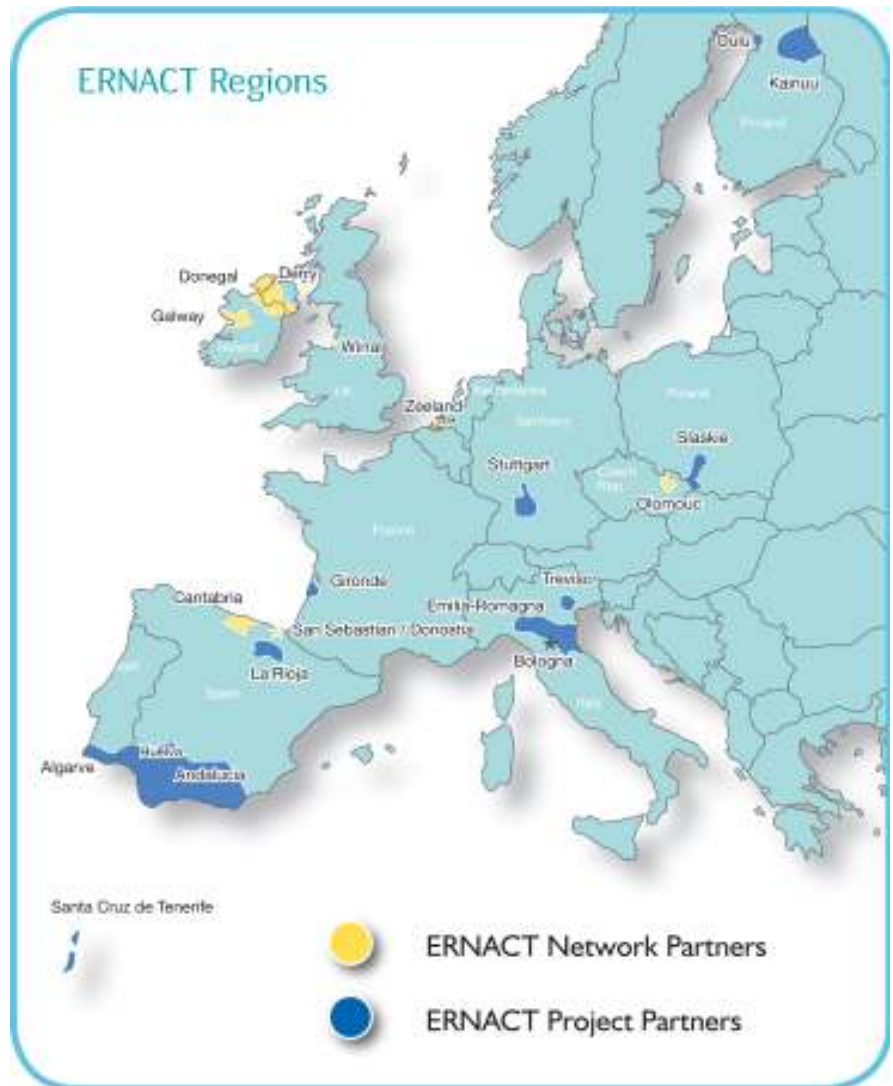
ICT Project Development & Management (non-profit organisation)

### Our Mission

Develop ERNACT into a centre of excellence, recognised at EU level, for developing and implementing regional ICT models of development

### Research and Innovation Areas

Networking, Collaboration, Clustering, Project Management, eGovernment, Mobile Technologies, Regional Information Society



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## What is ERNACT?

ERNACT is a network of European Regions, working together since 1990, to help decentralise the benefits of the Information Society to regions within the European Union.

The network is practical and project driven, and has a successful track record in assisting participating regions to participate in EU cross-border, interregional and transnational information society related programmes and community initiatives including INTERREG IIIB, IIIC and the framework programmes.

We have long established region friendly management structures, project development and management systems and a professional and multi-national staff team located at our European network administration unit in Ireland.

[www.ernact.net](http://www.ernact.net)