

The thematic guides

15 comprehensive thematic guides (on education and youth, culture and media, employment and social affairs, research and development, industry and enterprises, external relations and development, commerce, energy, environment, transport, public health and consumer protection, justice and home affairs, information technology, agriculture and fisheries) will be produced in English and in Greek.

Each guide will comprise:

- information on the structure and functioning of the EU,
- presentation of the Europe for Citizens programme and how a project idea could be formulated and financed from the programme
- a complete listing of all other European programmes that could finance a project within the thematic area in question (e.g. education and youth),
- a detailed methodology on how to prepare and submit a project.

With this methodology, when a project idea comes up concerning e.g. youth activities, the interested party will be able with the help of the thematic guide "Education and youth" to find out all possible solutions for submitting a proposal either through the Europe for Citizens programme if this is possible, or through other EU programmes.

All information guides will be in a form of a CD Rom, in order for them to be able to be used in any PC, even without an internet connection.

A total of 1500 CD Roms of the comprehensive guides in Greek (50 copies of each of the 15 guides) and in English (50 copies of each of the 15 guides) will be produced.



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Pro-I3T: First presentation to the public

On June 19, the Brussels Office of the Union of Cyprus Municipalities (UCM), in cooperation with the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Cyprus to the European Union and the Assembly of European Regions (AER), organized a "Breakfast Briefing" on the Cyprus Presidency priorities.

The event gathered in the UCM Brussels Office, more than 60 Representatives of Local and Regional Authorities.

The Breakfast Briefing focused on the policies and strategies of the Cyprus Presidency that aim to give the regions the means to act in the current and future context, taking in particular into consideration the reform of the cohesion policy.

Keynote speakers for the event were Mr. Nikos Christodoulides, presidency spokesperson for the COREPER II issues and Mr. Adonis Constantinides, Minister Counselor, Coordinator for MFF and Cohesion policy, who set out the priorities of the EU Presidency and addressed the key challenges.

Mr. Christodoulides and Mr. Constantinides also focused on the benefits and challenges that will arise for the Local and Regional Authorities of Europe, during the semester of the Cyprus Presidency.



The event has also been an excellent opportunity to present the Pro-I3T project to representatives of Local and Regional Authorities, as well as to journalists based in Brussels and abroad.

The Pro-I3T project was presented to the participants by Mr. Pascal Goergen, Secretary General of the Assembly of European Regions and Mr. Fanis Pantelogiannis, Head of the Brussels Office of the Union of Cyprus Municipalities.

Proi3t.eu

The proi3t.eu website is now up and running, giving you access to all our news and documents.

In a few months, the website will also comprise the content of the 15 thematic guides (on education and youth, culture and media, employment and social affairs, research and development, industry and enterprises, external relations and development, commerce, energy, environment, transport, public health and consumer protection, justice and home affairs, information technology, agriculture and fisheries) in Greek and in English, so as to make it available to the totality of the local authorities of the European Union.

For more information, please visit: www.proi3t.eu

Upcoming Activities and Events

• July - October 2012:

Drafting of the Thematic Guides.

• 11 September 2012:

First training session in Nicosia (Cyprus). Participants will be trained upon the use of the information tools of Pro-I3T as well as online partner search tools and the application procedures for the Europe for Citizens programme. Best practices from various European Regions will also be presented.

• 23 October 2012:

Second training session in Brussels (Belgium). Participants will be taught how to work with European programmes (especially the Europe for Citizens programme), will explore the possibilities for twinnings among their members and with Municipalities from the rest of the EU, as well as discuss challenges and potentials of the future programming period.

Project Partners:

Union of Cyprus Municipalities

The Union of Cyprus Municipalities is the main association of Local Authorities in Cyprus. Its core functions are to contribute to the development of local government autonomy, as well as to act as spokesman of local government interests vis-a-vis the central government and other national institutions. It also takes an active stand in the relations between Cyprus and the European Union.

www.ucm.org.cy

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Assembly of European Regions

With more than 250 regions from 35 countries as members, the AER is the largest interregional organisation in Europe. It promotes the role that regions play vis-à-vis the citizens, the nation state and the EU, and supports regions in their role in connecting citizens with the EU. AER's overall aims are to: Organise dialogue, consultation & cooperation between all regions of Europe and promote regionalisation in Europe, encourage subsidiarity and regions' involvement in constructing Europe.

www.aer.eu

The "Europe for Citizens" programme

The aim of the "Europe for Citizens" programme is to bring Europe closer to its citizens and to enable them to participate fully in the European construction. Through this programme, citizens have the opportunity to be involved in transnational exchanges and cooperation activities, contributing to developing a sense of belonging to common European ideals and encouraging the process of European integration.

The programme supports a wide range of activities and organisations promoting "active European citizenship", especially the involvement of citizens and civil society organisations in the process of European integration. It has a total budget of EUR 215 millions starts on 1 January 2007 and ends on 31 December 2013. More information can be found at:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/citizenship/index_en.php