

FUTURREG 6th Steering Committee Meeting

Clarion Hotel Sligo, Sligo, Ireland
10th October 2007

Minutes & Action Points

Present:

LP: Observatory of Innovation, Cardiff Business School	Meirion Thomas (MT) Martin Rhisiart (MR) Gethin While (GW)
P2: URENIO Research Unit	Nikolas Gountaras (NG) Panagiotis Tsarchopoulos (PT)
P3: Institut Jules Destrée	Michäel Van Cütsem (PD) Céline Hermand (CH)
P4: Agencia de Desarrollo Económico de la Rioja (ADER)	José Ramón Ibáñez Prado (JRIB)
INFYDE	Eva Fernández Fraile (EFF)
P6: Finland Futures Research Centre (FFRC)	Juha Kaskinen (JK)
P7: Border, Midland and Western Regional Assembly	Kieran Moylan (KM)

Apologies: Jennifer Cassingena Harper (P5)

1. Project Management Update

a. Review of activities since 5th SC meeting (Cardiff) [Observatory]

MR, MT and GW related all project management developments, including activity reporting chronologically since the last SC meeting in Cardiff (28 April 2007).

b. Management and Finance issues

MR and MT reminded all partners of the variance guidelines for expenditure.

ACTION: LP to circulate letter to partners highlighting flexibility rule in relation to possible amendments by component and budget heading.

2. Regional updates on activities (applications, dissemination, and engagement) [All partners]

All partners described the last 6 month of activities seriatim, with no great problems related. P7 was unanimously praised for the efficiency and success

of the Final Conference, delivered the previous 2 days at the same venue. PT notes that the Toolkit Reports were not fully loaded on the website and would be very useful.

ACTION: All partners to review Toolkit reports for website publication.

3. Evaluation [ADER & INFYDE]

EFF presented the draft results for the ex –post evaluation, revealing a very positive appreciation of the projects' impact and stakeholder benefit.

ACTIONS:

- (i) P4 to circulate ex-post draft evaluation report to all partners.
- (ii) Partners to submit comments to finalise final version.

4. Final Report Preparations [Observatory]

All partners were directed to read closely the instruction provided by the JTS, which had been circulated immediately prior to the meeting.

ACTIONS:

- (i) LP to circulate a template for regional application reporting as case study bases of the Final Report, the Toolkit case study material and also for possible inclusion on complementary websites such as that run by the EFMN.
- (ii) LP to collect and edit Toolkit material
- (iii) Partners to supply actual expenditure statements – unaudited – by **Friday 16 November** to LP.
- (iv) Partners to aim to finish all main activities by **1 December 2007**.

5. Beyond FUTURREG. Discussion on individual and collective aims after FUTURREG; preparation for the Malta meeting, 30.10.2007

All partners expressed appreciation of the benefits they as organisations had obtained in terms of professional practice and as key actors in the development of their own regional economies, irrespective of their institutional type. All were keen to see how the FUTURREG project could extend or evolve to maintain the developing role of futures in the regions after its formal termination. There was particular concern that the website should be kept going as a core resource.

ACTION:

- (i) LP and P2 to decide on hosting of FUTURREG website post December 2007.
- (ii) LP to circulate draft agenda for next and final SC meeting in Malta 30 October.

6. Any Other Business

Nothing of note.

GW