

Information Day

European Public Sector Award 2009 & European Social Fund

“Assess Yourself and Learn from the Best”

Brussels (BE), 4 February 2009

INTRODUCTION

The European Public Sector Award (EPSA 2009), organised by the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA), brings together the most innovative, efficient and best performers from the European public sector. Fifteen European countries and the European Commission are officially supporting the EPSA. Outstanding administrative performances are, after all, produced under different conditions within Europe. Against this backdrop, EPSA's aim is to make the many valuable experiences in addressing Europe's most pressing public concerns transparent, available and usable. Its vision is to create an arena in which Europe's public sector institutions can excel and become an exemplar for the rest of the world. The award contest is open to all levels of Europe's public administration. Applicants can submit, and thus showcase their innovative achievements, in four thematic fields:

- ❖ Performance Improvement in Public Service Delivery
- ❖ Citizen Involvement
- ❖ New Forms of Partnership Working
- ❖ Leadership and Management for Change

The EPSA 2009 will be awarded on the occasion of a high-level symposium on leading-edge public administration solutions, which will be held on 5 and 6 November 2009 in Maastricht (NL), under the auspices of the Swedish Presidency.

During the information day one will receive more detailed information about the award scheme and the conditions for participation as well as the importance of continued capacity building initiatives.

Capacity building is a new European Social Fund priority implemented for the financial perspective 2007-2013. The main objective of the institutional capacity priority is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of public administrations and public services through supporting the reform or comprehensive modernisation of public administration and public services.

Effective public policies require a competent and efficient administration, impartial and client oriented. Especially during an economic downturn, strengthening institutional and administrative capacity that aims at creating a stable business environment will underpin structural adjustments and foster growth and jobs. Reducing regulatory and administrative burdens on businesses contributes to increasing productivity and strengthening competitiveness. EUR 2 billion from the ESF support institutional capacity building and administrative reform.

The information day will be conducted in English.

EUROPEAN UNION



Committee of the Regions



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PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 4 February 2009

Venue: Committee of the Regions (CoR), JDE 52

- 09.00 **Registration of participants and delivery of information kit**
- 09.30 **Opening and welcome of participants**
Luc van den Brande, President, Committee of the Regions, Brussels (BE)
- 09.40 **Presentation of EPSA 2009: Vision, objective, structure & themes**
Marga Pröhl, Director-General, EIPA, Maastricht (NL)
- 10.10 *Coffee Break*
- 10.40 **The European Social Fund support for administrative capacity building**
Peter Stub Jorgense, Director, Directorate B: European Social Fund, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, European Commission, Brussels (BE)
- 11.20 **The EIPA - European Centre for the Regions' contribution to capacity building at European local and regional level**
Javier Sanchez Cano, Director, EIPA- European Centre for the Regions (EIPA-ECR), Barcelona (ES)
- 11.40 **How to apply for EPSA 2009: Practical information on application period, eligibility criteria, evaluation procedure & methodology, online application submission**
Alexander Heichlinger, EPSA Project Manager & Senior Lecturer, EIPA Barcelona
- 12.10 **Q&A**
- 12.30 **Closure**

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