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"Green ICT"

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CEPIS Projects

Selected CEPIS News

Fiona Fanning

CEPIS & Professional e-Competence in Europe – Country Reports Now Available for Members

The first phase of the CEPIS project to create a picture of the e-competences of ICT professionals in Europe is complete with responses from almost 2,000 IT professionals in 28 countries around greater Europe. All CEPIS Members who had sufficient levels of responses have now received their country reports.

These reports examine the levels of competences, education, and much more and compare the national results to European averages.

Results from ten CEPIS Member Societies' countries have now been published on the CEPIS website including Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Malta, Norway, Romania and Spain. CEPIS would like to thank these countries for their successful participation which has led to a country-level report for dissemination nationally.

A European report to include an overall comparison of all respondents will be published soon. The purpose of this research is to produce and assess an up-to-date picture of the actual digital competences of ICT professionals across Europe today, using the profiles recognised by the labour market and analysing them based on the European e-Competence Framework <http://www.ecompetences.eu/>.

Matching skills to future jobs is an important area of the Europe 2020 strategy, especially as part of the European Commission's Agenda for New Skills and Jobs initiative <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=958>. A key area of this initiative is the need to match skills to labour market needs since skills mismatches can severely damage a business' ability to compete, and as a result have an adverse effect on improving the European economy. To check out the Status of Professional e-Competences in Europe, please click here: <http://cepis.org/professionalecompetence>.

Digital Agenda Scoreboard Reveals Slow Progress in Achieving Targets

The aim of the Digital Agenda for Europe is to achieve set targets that include enhancing trust & security online, widespread introduction of very fast Internet, research & innovation and increasing ICT-enabled benefits for society. Recently a scoreboard was released that measured the performance of the EU and Member States in delivering these targets so far. While some targets appear on track, others are falling short.

Regarding e-commerce, 40% of the population now buy online, meaning the target of 50% by 2015 is achievable, however there has been a very slow increase in the numbers of buyers purchasing across borders online. Internet usage continues to rise in Europe however disadvantaged groups are still unable to take advantage. Only about half of these groups have taken up Internet usage, whereas the rate across Europe is 65%. You can read more about the Latest Digital Agenda for Europe Scoreboard at <http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/digital-agenda/scoreboard/index_en.htm>

New €787 Million Call Open under FP7 for ICT Research

As part of the latest €7 billion boost for research and innovation in Europe, ICT Research (FP7ICT) under the Seventh Framework Programme for Technological Research (FP7) has been allocated €787 million funding through a new call for proposals. ICT Call 8 looks at achieving various objectives including:

- Cloud Computing, Internet of Services and Advanced Software Engineering
- Trustworthy ICT
- Technology-Enhanced Learning

All of the latest calls for proposals under FP7 that will each receive a portion of this €7 billion increase are focused towards achieving policy actions of Innovation Union. Innovation Union is just one of the three Smart Growth flagship initiatives of the European Commission's Europe 2020 strategy.

The deadline for ICT Call 8 is 17 January 2012.

You can read more about the Latest Funding Opportunities for Innovation and Research at: <http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=FP7_NEWS&ACTION=D&DOC=8&CAT=NEWS&QUERY=013190370029:2c66:24077a18&RCN=33644>.

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