



Innovative Actions Network
for the Information Society

IANIS⁺ is coordinated by



The European Regional
Information Society Association

IANIS⁺

INTENSIVE COURSE in REGIONAL IS DEVELOPMENT

Terms of Reference

The IANIS⁺ work programme has duration of 22 months and comprises six main work packages or activities. One of these is Activity 4.3 – an Intensive Course in IS Regional Development. The inclusion of this activity in the IANIS⁺ work programme is a response to suggestions made by regional representatives who pointed out the substantial experience and expertise that lies within the “network” in contrast to the often acute shortage of qualified personnel on the ground at the regional level to support regional Information Knowledge-Based Society development initiatives.

IANIS⁺ will therefore organise one ‘Intensive Course in IS Regional Development’ to tap in to the wealth of network expertise and to provide intensive training for suitable individuals nominated by the member regions. The term “intensive course” indicates a short, intensive, residential programme of study that might take place at any time during the work programme.

The aim of the intensive course is to bring together 45 “students”, one from each participating region, for an intensive learning experience that will comprise a programme of lectures/presentations, seminars, workshops and tutorials – and other activities such as networking and team-building - given by experts drawn both from within the IANIS⁺ network and beyond. It is hoped that the Commission will support the summer school through the participation of some of its officers.

The Study Programme

- The study programme will be determined by the IANIS⁺ Steering Committee based on consultation with a sample of member regions and the Commission. Members will be invited to submit their ideas for the ‘syllabus’ (curriculum content).
- The study programme is intended to span:
 - technological issues,
 - ICT application domains,
 - programme management & finance, and
 - policy development & implementation.
- Whenever appropriate, experts already involved in other activities of the work programme (working groups, Regional Good Practice Research & Peer Review, etc) will be asked to take an active role in shaping the structure and topics for the Programme. The Secretariat will launch a Call for Expressions of Interest among member regions interested to host the course.
- Each participating region will be invited to nominate one “student” to attend the summer school.

The Students

- A grant will be available to cover most of the costs of travel for the “students” attending the course, but up to a maximum of 700 € per person. Accommodation and related subsistence costs for students will also be covered.
- In order to qualify for the travel grant and to be accepted on the course, each student must submit one regional ICT Project Case Study (relating to a project for which a Case Study Report has not already been submitted) in advance of the course and, if requested, be willing to present this case during the course.
- Travel costs, up to a maximum of €700, will be reimbursed after attendance at the course but only upon submission of a claim form with original travel ticket counterfoils and/or receipts. The then-current Commission rules regarding eligible travel costs will apply.
- The profile of the “student” should be the following:
 - Someone working in, for or on behalf of the regional administration in the field of information society and/or in the implementation of regional and European projects in this area.
 - A young person or a more mature one who has taken a change of career direction.
 - Good command of English (the programme will be conducted only in English).
- Regions *may* wish to *consider* including the candidate student in their Peer Review Visit delegation (Action Line 4.2) in order to give them some prior inter-regional evaluation experience.

At an early stage of the work programme, further detailed information will be given to the member regions in order to let them select the most appropriate “student” to attend the course.

The Faculty

- The faculty will be selected according to the curriculum determined by the Steering Committee in the early phase of implementation of the IANIS⁺ working programme. The Secretariat will launch a Call for Expressions of Interest from experts willing to contribute to the programme.
- Typically, the faculty will be:
 - Experienced managers of RIAPs or other IS initiatives
 - European Experts
 - European Commission officers
 - MEPs or other representatives of regional interests and/or information society development (such as industry).
- All teaching and learning materials will be captured and made available at the eRegion Hub so that others can have the benefit of access to them. To achieve this, selected faculty will be required to submit suitable teaching and learning materials well in advance of the course and to agree, wherever possible, that these be made freely available via the web site.
- IANIS⁺ will cover the travel, accommodation and related subsistence costs of invited faculty but no professional fees will be paid. Travel costs will be reimbursed subject to submission of a claim form with original travel ticket counterfoils and/or receipts. The then-current Commission rules regarding eligible travel costs will apply.