

Panel 3: Non-technological roadblocks on satellite broadband and satellite services procurement

Context of the Astrium activities

Since 2004, Astrium Satellites leads or participates in projects aiming to promote the use of satellite broadband.

- **Twister** (FP6- 2004/06): 105 satellites access points throughout Europe combining satellite broadband services with wireless local networks for agriculture, education, community services, health care and e-business.
- **Rural Wings** (FP6– 2006/09): tele-education in 13 European countries (Wifi technology)
- **OURSES** (FIU- 2006/09): e-health applications in a Midi-Pyrénées retirement house.
- **NetAdded** (FP6 – 2007/08): e-health/e-learning in developing countries
- **SFERA** (FP6 – 2007/08): assist Member States in the efficient use of Structural Funds for bridging the digital divide in underserved areas.
- **SAHEL** (EC delegation to ESA/ Infrastructure Trust Fund – 2010/12): demonstrating the suitability of satellite based technology to implement an e-health platform in both East and West with pilots in Kenya & Senegal.
- **BATS** (FP7 – 2012-2014): integrated satellite/terrestrial solutions to meet the DAE 2020 objectives

To support SABER, Astrium reviewed the findings of those projects and interviewed the projects actors to draw a set of lessons-learnt.

Preliminary findings: roadblocks and lessons learnt

ROADBLOCKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very difficult to address EU regions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Difficult to find a committed Expert within a Region ◦ Very difficult to federate Regions: even already constituted networks have difficulties to motivate their regions • Lack of local expertise and local will to get involved <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Public bodies often reluctant to move to new type of services (agriculture and rescue did not work out). • No direct involvement/support of DG REGIO • Technologies envisaged before 2011 not attractive enough (Wimax, KU) • No sustainability of actions ensured beyond FP7 projects
LESSONS LEARNT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to change approach towards Region: must find a more operational local body and/or to interact with them in a sustainable manner. • E.g, create an ICT Council or Broadband Council within DG REGIO, managed by DG REGIO, with antennas in Regions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ To ensure availability of regional expert resources ◦ To ensure implementation and sustainability of actions ◦ Committed to Communication (raise awareness) • Need to think operational to ensure sustainability: FP6/7 demonstration projects not representative enough of real life organisation