SABER - Satellite Broadband for European Regions - Thematic Network

The <u>SABER</u> (Full title: Satellite Broadband for European Regions) Thematic Network is a project that aims at exploring how broadband satellite technology can help to reduce the Digital Divide in Europe and at defining a set of guidelines to use these technologies at best. High speed internet access (broadband) is a pre-requisite for Europe's economic growth and for the development of innovative e-services for citizens and businesses saving time and raising productivity.

Coordinator of the project is CSI-Piemonte. 7 NEREUS members (Piedmont region via Consorzio per il Sistema Informativo (CSI) Piemonte; Abruzzo region; ASTRIUM; CNR-IREA Uos Milano; EUTELSAT; SES; Toscana Spazio) are among the project partnership (CONSORTIUM) of 26 regional and industry organizations. NEREUS is among the 3 external stakeholders supporting the promotion of the project activities.

The scope of the SABER Thematic Network is to create the conditions for the most efficient and effective contribution of satellite systems to support the achievement of the objectives set in <u>Europe 2020</u> and subsequently in the <u>Digital Agenda for Europe (DAE)</u>. The experience of different European regional authorities which use satellite solutions for broadband access will be analyzed to develop guidelines for deployment, share best practices and disseminate information to regions across Europe.

<u>Presentation</u> of the SABER project by Stefano Agnelli, EUTELSAT, on the occasion of the NEREUS telecommunications WG, 2 July 2013 in Brussels.

Meetings:

3rd workshop on 27 June 2013 in Turin.

2nd workshop on 23 April 2013 in Brussels, Representation of Piedmont region. The workshop was the occasion to finalize the "Analysis and Early Guidelines on Satellite Broadband" based mostly on satellite broadband implementation in member states and regions.

<u>1st workshop</u> on 19th February 2013 at Cork County Hall, Ireland. On this occasion NEREUS participated in a panel debate on a non-technological roadblocks for broadband deployment.

kick-off on 9 November 2012 in Brussels;

Facts and Figures about the project

The SABER Thematic Network was submitted in response of the (2012) ICT Policy Support Programme (PSP) as part of the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP). It has duration of 24 months, started on 1st November 2012. The project is partially funded by the ICT PSP-CIP Programme for 510.000 EUR.

For more info: www.project-saber.eu; project abstract

NEREUS/SABER poster: Satellite systems to slash digital divide in Europe

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