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Northern Periphery Programme

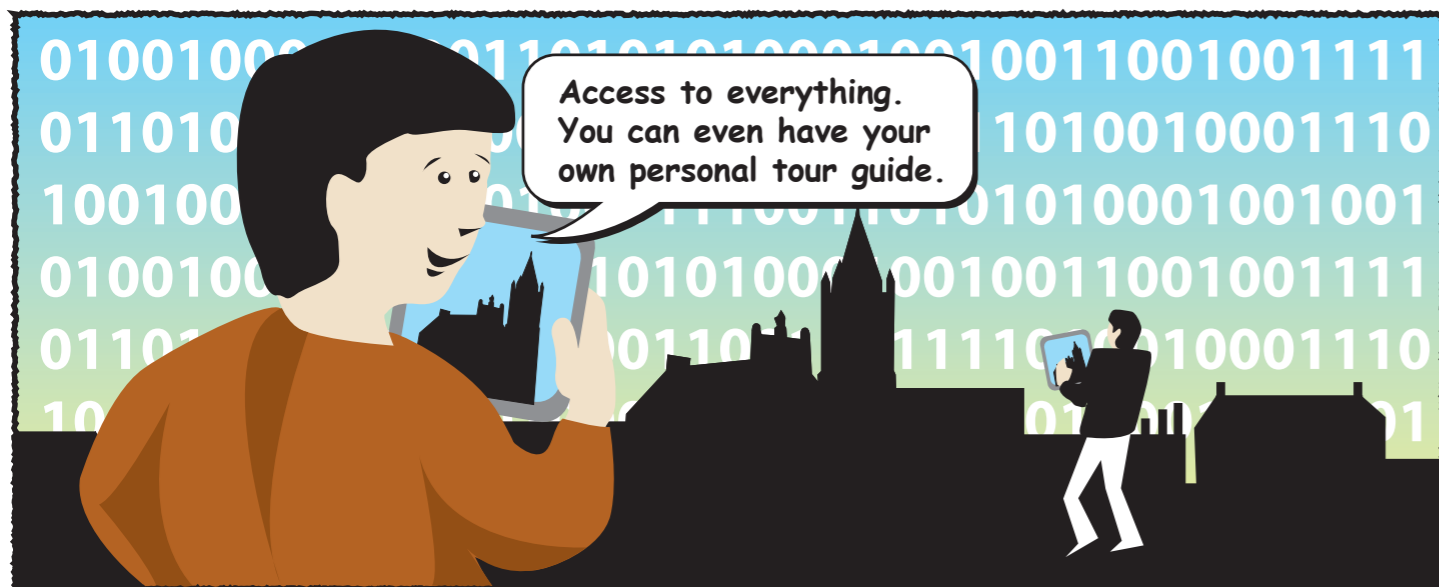
2007-2013

Innovatively investing in Europe's Northern Periphery for a sustainable and prosperous future



European Union European Regional Development Fund

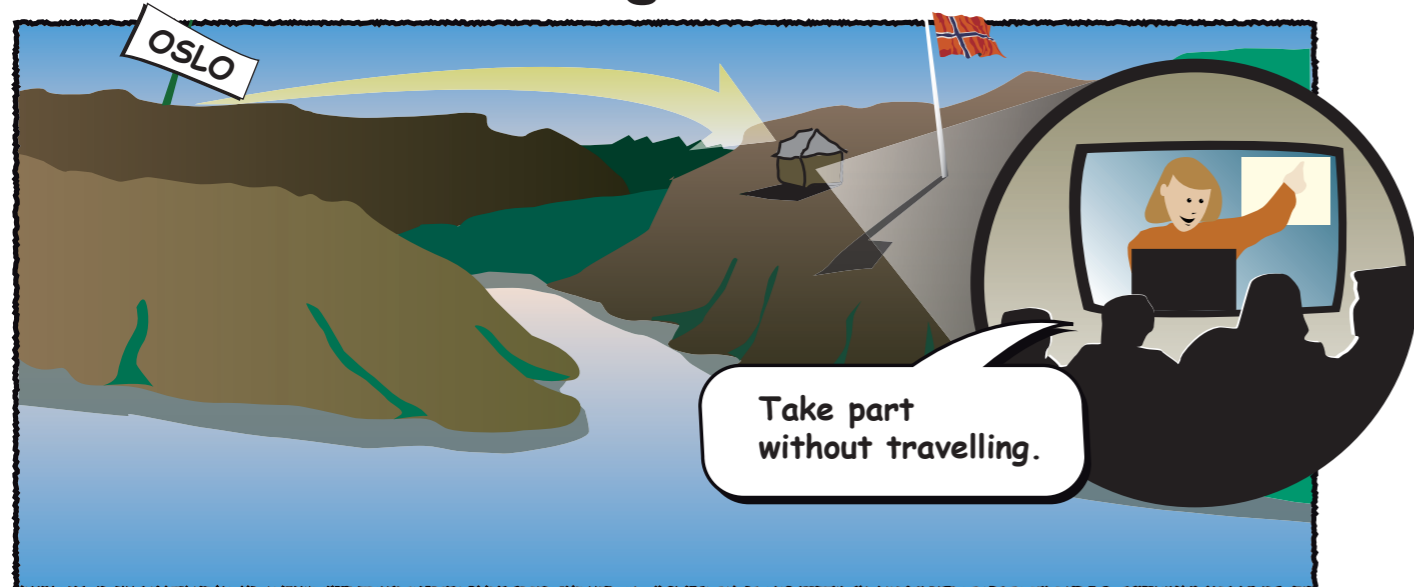
Wireless city of Derry



Using mobile solutions and wireless broadband technology, Derry in Northern Ireland has created a limitless city without destroying the historical environment. 100% wireless coverage has created new opportunities, such as new teaching and learning methods at the two campuses, digitalised cultural heritage and

wireless round tours for tourists. All meetings and a great many municipal council activities take place digitally. A demo centre shows the wireless and position-based services for companies. Read more at www.wirelessderry.com

Access to knowledge



The Sogn og Fjordane region of Norway have established a project to encourage and facilitate webcasting of meetings, seminars and conferences. People from rural businesses and public sector organisations can seldom travel to short seminars held in urban areas. They can simply not spend an entire day travelling. The necessary technologies are now made broadly available at offices and local

hotels for streaming and/or video-conferencing. This new access to and sharing of knowledge enabled by ICT technology, is crucial to business development, improving public sector services and providing a more sustainable and climate friendly rural society. Read more at www.it-forum.no and www.kxg.no

WWW.PLAN2.NU DECEMBER 2010

Limitless rural opportunities

An ICT vision for a better life and economic welfare

For the sparsely populated areas of Europe ICT is an opportunity just waiting to be utilised. Infrastructures are constantly expanding offering an abundance of technology for new smart services. All that is required is pluck, motivation and a willingness to think outside the box. A lot can be done but very little is – despite excellent development opportunities for public and private sector alike. ICT can for example, streamline municipal administration, economy and democracy.

We would like to paint a vision of the modern sparsely populated area. With the help of ICT we can accelerate welfare. We can create something completely new and take the lead in positive thinking and the will to change. In this folder you will find some good examples from a few regions and organisations in Sweden, Finland, the Irish Republic and Northern Ireland.

Turn the geographical disadvantages into everlasting advantages. Make ICT the driving force that sparsely populated areas are calling out for.



Let yourself be inspired.
Transfer the experiences to your own business.
Dare to think outside the box.

DARRA-PARTNERS: Kemi-Tornio University of Applied Sciences Lead Partner, Kemi, Finland • Joint Authority of Kainuu Region, Kajaani, Finland • Kainuun Etu Oy, Kajaani, Finland • The Association of Local Authorities in Västernorrland, Härnösand, Sweden • Mid Sweden University, Sundsvall, Sweden • The Federation of Business owners in Västernorrland, Sundsvall, Sweden • European Regions Network for the Application of Communications Technology ERNACT, Donegall, Ireland • Shannon Development, Shannon, Ireland • Sogn og Fjordane County Governor, Leikanger, Norway • Western Norway Research Institute, Sogndal, Norway • Rovaniemi Regional Development Agency, Rovaniemi, Finland • University of Limerick, Limerick, Ireland.

Be inspired by our good examples. Innovation and enterprise puts life into sparsely populated areas.



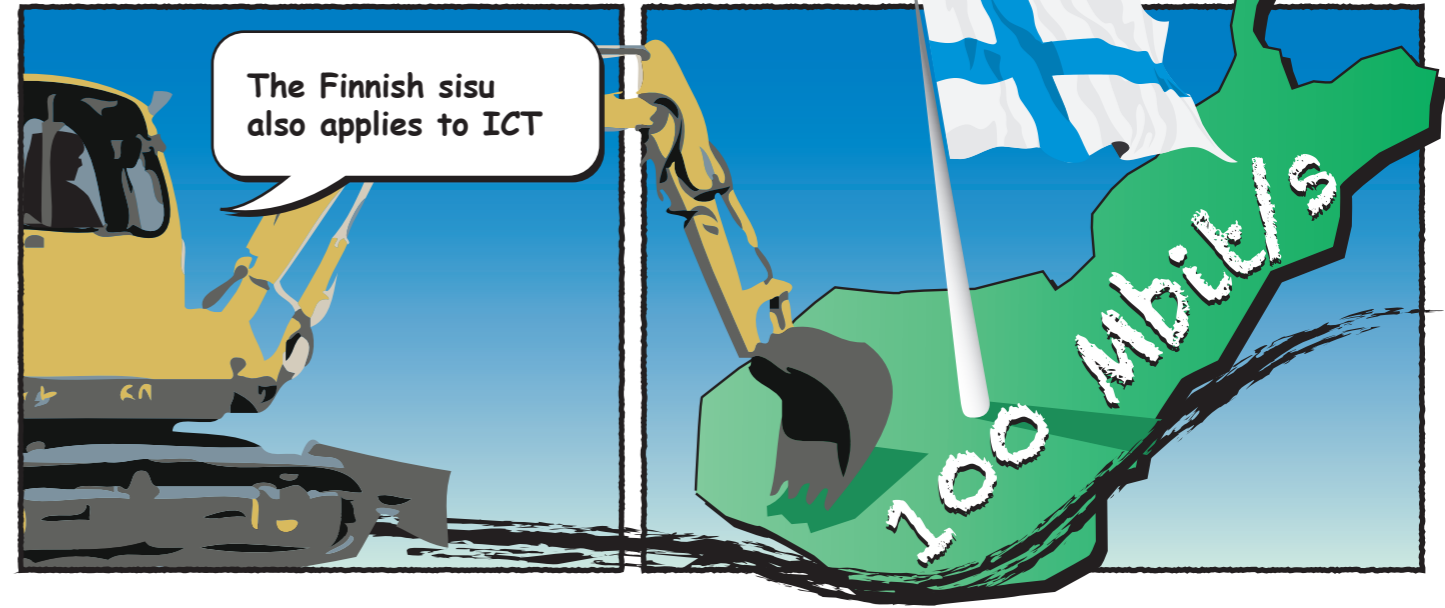
E-Town Community Emerging



On the west coast of Ireland in a small village called Miltown Malbay, Co. Clare a new community of small businesses is emerging. This new community is centred on a recently completed development of homes with their own custom built business accommodation. 6 families and businesses have now relocated to the "E-Town" and are using broadband and ICT to

deliver a range of services, locally and internationally. E-Towns is a Shannon Development initiative to bring new business, employment and economic activity to rural communities in the Shannon Region of Ireland and the 2nd development has recently been completed in Tarbert, Co. Kerry. Read more at www.etowns.ie

Welcome to Broadband country



The Finnish Government has set a goal of a broadband connection for all Finnish citizens at a maximum of two kilometres away from their home by the end of 2015. This initiative is to ensure that sparsely populated areas do not lag behind in the public service provision, democracy and development opportunities afforded by ICT. When private sector investment is insufficient then

public funding is a necessity. Government, municipal and EU contributions allow for a distribution of costs, depending on the part of the country concerned. Finland has shed light on a whole new way of financing infrastructural expansion. With a new calculation model, the vision of 100 megabits per second for everybody becomes reality. Read more at www.lvm.fi/web/en/broadband

New-age village school



Keeping a village school going as pupil numbers drop could be difficult. But with the help of ICT, progressive thinking and innovative solutions, people working on the ISSI project (Citizen Centric Public Service in Sparsely Populated Areas) have put together a number of scenarios. Their innovative ideas include virtual parallel classes, laptops for all the pupils, education in

the form of projects surrounding real-time events (e.g. a study trip), online teachers, school premises together with other activities, and language practice via chat. For more information, please contact Torbjörn Johansson at torbjorn.johansson@innovation-impact.se

Open portal



In County Donegal, Republic of Ireland, there are maps, drawings, political decisions and everything else required for digital planning permission applications. The information has been compiled on a self-service portal available to the general public. The portal combines ICT infrastructure, databases, GIS and document management

applications with a user-friendly interface. Less administration, more efficient handling and quicker decision-making processes are some of the advantages. The work of architects is made easier. It is also simpler to refer anyone with queries. The portal provides all the information required relating to planning permission and planning. Read more at www.donegalcoco.ie