

**Side Event “SPACE4REGIONS: Satellite solutions as a driver for innovation and growth” –  
Networking Session on Tuesday, 13/5/2014, 14.30 – 18.00h**  
on the occasion of the Conference “Copernicus – Sentinels Serving Society and the Environment” organized  
by the Greek Presidency, ESA, EC on 12/13 May 2014 in Athens/Greece

**Thematic Focus of the side-event “SPACE4REGIONS: Satellite solutions as a driver for innovation and growth”:** NEREUS together with the DTA (Apulian Aerospace District) and HASI (Hellenic Association of Space Industries) have been invited to organize a side event with a focus on regions and regional clusters. The side session continues the dialogue started earlier this year in the frame of the **SPACE4YOU**-conference<sup>1</sup>, it is meant to give regions, regional stakeholder, policy maker and cluster representatives a forum to discuss their views and exchange best practices. The session will be focused on highlighting the dimension of the Copernicus System in the context of regional development and regional policies touching upon innovation, SME-support, economic growth, qualified employment. The socio-economic and commercial use of satellite applications offer manifold business opportunities for regional SMEs and young entrepreneurs. In this respect, regions not only benefit from space uses for territorial or public policy purposes but are also strategic laboratories for the utilisation and development of new space services.

Bearing this in mind the significance of EO/Copernicus-uses for territories and their citizens, regions and their clusters are invited to present best practices and model initiatives how regional programs and instruments, in particular structural funds can be exploited to finance space activities.

**Objectives of the side event:**

- Give regional representatives the opportunity to present the dimension of the Copernicus System in the context of regional development and regional policies (SSS-strategies, Innovation, SME-support, economic growth, employment etc.) – examples and views from their regions;
- Highlight the impact and benefits of Copernicus for regional economies and territorial management as well as public policies;
- Exchange on best practices and approaches to exploit regional programs/instruments, in particular Structural Funds to support regional space activities;
- Emphasise the business opportunities linked to the Copernicus system, in particular for regional companies and entrepreneurs (foremost young entrepreneurs) and to underline the significance of cluster structures for the optimal commercial exploitation of the system – In this respect the session is meant to incentivize the development of closer co-operations between (NEREUS) Regions and Cluster;
- Outreach to regional stakeholders in Greece
- Give continuity to the dialogue of regional stakeholder, policy maker, space community and cluster representatives launched by the conference “Space4You - Space, a key for Competitiveness and Growth” co-organized by NEREUS, Apulia region and the DTA on 27/28 February 2014 in Bari (more info: <http://www.nereus-regions.eu/SPACE4YOU> and [http://www.esa.int/About\\_Us/Welcome\\_to\\_ESA/ESA\\_at\\_Space4You\\_Nereus\\_conference](http://www.esa.int/About_Us/Welcome_to_ESA/ESA_at_Space4You_Nereus_conference))

**Organisators:**

- NEREUS, Athens Space Cluster, Apulia Space Cluster (DTA) and Hellenic Association of Space Industries (HASI)

<sup>1</sup> “Space4You - Space, a key for Competitiveness and Growth” organized on 27/28 February 2014 in Bari/Apulia region

### Program:

(Venue: EVGENIDIS Foundation, 387 Syngrou Avenue, 175 64 P. Faliro, Athens, Greece)

14.30 h Welcome and introductory speech by Christos-Iraklis Skourtis, Vice Governor of the Region of the Ionian Islands

Key note: Greek Member of Parliament Dionysia-Theodora Avgerinopoulou- tbc

Video Message by Minister Capone (Regional Minister Apulia Region)

#### Introduction into the session

NEREUS (Short introduction to NEREUS by Roya Ayazi, Secretary General NEREUS)

SPACE4YOU (Short introduction to SPACE4YOU by Giovanni Sylos Labini, BoD, Apulian Aerospace Cluster)

Introductory remarks by Simon Jutz, Head of the ESA-Copernicus Space Office

15.30h	Presentation of Regional Best Practices (max. 1h /each participant 10 min)
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*(Examples of projects with high impact for regions, territories, public policies; examples of EO/Copernicus-projects that have been financed by regional programs/instruments, in particular structural funds, exchange/discussion of approaches how regional programs/instruments, in particular Structural Funds could be better exploited to support regional space activities)*

- Best Practice from Bavaria: “**Examples of regional funded projects to strengthen the Copernicus competence in Bavaria**” – by Prof. Manfred Schröder, bavAIRia e.V.
- Best Practice from the Azores: “**Azorean Strategy for Space Projects**” by Marlene Antunes, Regional Government Azores
- Best Practice from Lombardy Region: “**SINOPIAE: Multi-scale Monitoring of anthropogenic effects on Air Quality and Climate Change in Lombardy region**” - by Branka Cuca, Lombardy Region
- Best Practice from Veneto: “**From the Land Use Map to the evaluation and management of the flood risk, Veneto Region experience**” – by Silvano De Zorzi, Regione del Veneto, Dipartimento Territorio, Sezione Pianificazione Territoriale Strategica e Cartografia)
- Best Practices from Basilicata: “**Copernicus based projects funded by ERDF-Basilicata: the example of IOSMOS and PROLAND**” – by Teodosio Lacava (CNR-IMAA)
- Best Practice from Apulia: “**Shira microsatellite**” by Marco Sanitate (System engineer at Sitael)

17.00

Coffee-Break

17.30h

Presentation of Cluster-projects/activities

*(Examples of projects/activities mobilized by collaborative efforts of regional clusters, discussion of approaches how regions and regional clusters can cooperate closer and more effectively)*

- Presentation of the FP7-funded initiative ***THE ISSUE*** (Traffic- Health- Environment-Intelligent Solutions Sustaining Urban Economies) – ***a project in the frame of the Regions of Knowledge Scheme that brings together five research cluster from NEREUS-regions*** by Marek Baranowski, Institute of Geodesy and Cartography, Mazovia
- Example from Madrid by Eugenio Fontan, Madrid Aerospace-Cluster
- ***Space Technologies and Applications Cluster (bi-regional cluster for Attica and Western Greece regions)*** – “si-Cluster” by Mr. Jorge-A. Sanchez-P., si-Cluster Steering Board Member & Corallia CFSO
- Apulian SPACE Cluster : ***Collaboration with Midi/P*** by Giovanni Sylos Labini, BoD, Apulian Aerospace Cluster
- ***“The Basilicata Earth Observation cluster (TERN) and its internationalization activities: the NIBS project*** – by Valerio Tramutoli, University of Basilicata

18.30 h

Conclusions and next steps