

eSEE Initiative

Prof. Diana Šimić, Ph.D.

Chair eSEE Initiative Workinggroup

University of Zagreb

Faculty of Organization and Informatics

Diana.Simic@foi.hr

- **Vision:**
Information Society development in the Southeast Europe
- **Mission:**
 - Align with EU policies
 - Create an enabling environment
 - Regionally coordinated innovative policies and regulations
 - Strengthening of public institutions
 - Development of infrastructure
 - Build human resources
 - ICT in education, LLL, e-Skills
 - Networking of researchers and practitioners
 - Networking of institutions
 - Participate in global information society
 - Benchmarking, training, advice for eGovernance and eReadiness
 - ICT applications and digital content



- Structure

- eSEE Initiative Workinggroup
- bSEE Task Force
- eSEE Initiative Secretariat (UNDP Sarajevo)
- Centre for eGovernance Development (CeGD)
- Other supporting organizations (EC, INA Academy, US CLDP, UNECE, ...)

- Membership

- Albania
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Croatia
- FYR Macedonia
- Greece (*bSEE TF*)
- Moldova
- Montenegro
- Romania
- Serbia
- Kosovo (UNSCR 1244, *eSEE WG*)



- **2001** – eSEE Initiative constituted
- **2002**
 - regional Secretariat based in Sarajevo office of UNDP
 - **eSEE Agenda**, Conference on Policy and Cooperation on Telecommunications, Belgrade
- **2003**, eSEE Working Group Meeting, Bled
 - **Common Guidelines for National Information Society Policies**
 - **Terms of Reference Information Society State Bodies**
- **2004**
 - **Joint Ministerial Statement**, European Ministerial Conference on the Information Society, Budapest
 - Zaimović T, Nazečić N (Eds.): **eSEEurope Regional Information and Communications Technologies Sector – Status and Usage Report** (Sarajevo: UNDP, Stability Pact, 2004)
- **2005**, Southeastern Europe Ministerial Conference on Information Society, Thessaloniki
 - **MoU - Initiative for bSEE - Broadband South Eastern Europe**
 - **Regional Guidelines for National Strategy for Building a Framework for e-Business**
- **2007**, Southeastern Europe Ministerial Conference on Information Society, Sarajevo
 - **eSEE Agenda Plus**
 - Nazečić N and Zaimović T (Eds): **Best Practice Showcase in Implementation of the eSEE Agenda 2002-2007** (Sarajevo: UNDP, BiH Ministry of Communications and Transport, European Commission, Stability Pact, 2007),
- **2008** – **MoU for the establishing of the Centre for e-Governance Development**, Ljubljana



- Regular meetings of eSEE Workinggroup and bSEE Task Force
 - Progress reports
 - Benchmarking matrices:
eSEE Agenda, eSEE Agenda Plus, bSEE Action Plan
 - Exchange of best practices
 - eSEE Initiative web site (www.eseeinitiative.org)
 - eSEE Initiative Newsletter
- Projects (UNDP, CeGD, OECD, INA ...)
 - Drafting guidelines and policies
 - Reporting
 - Training, workshops, conferences



Value added of regional programme to national efforts

- Information society IS NETWORKING - connecting the region both within and with the rest of the world
- Speed up drafting of regionally and EU aligned policies, strategies and laws relevant for information society development
- Higher success rate for regional best practices transfer due to similarity in culture, legal and institutional frameworks
- Regional benchmarking as political incentive (regional benchmarking is more meaningful - EU too developed for meaningful comparison)
- Eliminate duplicate development of training programmes and materials for eGovernment, eDemocracy, eParticipation etc.
- Connecting markets through eCustoms, eTax, eBusiness



Mapping eSEE Agenda Plus objectives to Digital Agenda 1/2

- **A vibrant digital single market**
 - Fostering the development of e-Business
 - National / regional electronic identity management
 - Development and accessibility of rich online content and transfer from conventional format
 - Harmonization of rules for Information Society and media
- **Interoperability and standards**
 - Interoperability in accordance with the European Interoperability Framework (for administrations)
- **Trust and security**
 - Establish national computer emergency response centers
 - Follow European Safer Internet Plus practice
- **Fast and ultra fast internet access**
 - Availability of high speed broadband networks and secure services



Mapping eSEE Agenda Plus objectives to Digital Agenda 2/2

- **Research and innovation**
 - National Academic and Research Networks
 - Create an open, national database of research professionals and institutions
 - Measure and track intellectual capacity in IT industry
- **Enhancing digital literacy, skills and inclusion**
 - Computers and access to Internet in all schools
 - Curriculum for ICT skills / vocational training in ICT
 - Access to technology and equal opportunities
 - e-Participation and e-Democracy
- **ICT-enabled benefits for EU society**
 - Digital libraries and heritage
 - ICT enabled public services and e-Government



- Reduced government investment in ICTs
- Human and institutional capacity - training in eGovernment, eDemocracy, eParticipation, eInclusion
- Inter-sectoral coordination and interoperability at national and regional levels
- eBusiness infrastructure (e-Signature, e-Archives, e-Documents, e-Invoice)
- Trust and security on the internet



- Regional Ministerial Conference on Information Society
- Workshops and trainings
 - e-Governance / Interoperability
 - e-Democracy / e-Participation /e-Inclusion
 - e-Business
 - Benchmarking
 - Information Security (CERTs)
 - e-Health / e-Justice /e-Culture
 - e-Skills
- Benchmarking, monitoring implementation of eSEE Agenda Plus
- *Developing e-Governance curriculum*
- *Regional Interoperability Framework*
- *Fostering regional e-Business - legal, institutional and semantic interoperability of e-Invoicing*



Activity /Project	Funding
ongoing	
eSEE Secretariat (UNDP, 2011)	125,240 €
CeGD programme (training, knowledge base, projects - 2011 annual budget)	247,000 €
eLEAD project (total budget)	450,000 €
gap	
Curriculum and training	500,000 €
Regional Interoperability Framework	500,000 €
Regional e-Business Cooperation Network	150,000 €

