

**ABRUZZO REGION TO TAKE PART TO THE “OPENDAYS 2010” TOGETHER WITH
THE “CREATIVE AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH” NETWORK**

In the framework of the **2010 Open Days**, the debate “**Grow smart! Focusing European Regional Policy on future well-being**” will focus on how territories can take advantage of their potential in order to develop public policies that enhance economical and social well-being. The emergence of renewed concepts of metropolitan areas can also give an important input to the Cohesion Policy debate.

The debate is organized by the “**Creative and Inclusive Economic Growth**” (CIEG) network which, along with Abruzzo includes also: **Lisbon and Tagus Valley** (Portugal), **Veneto** (Italia), **Western Sweden** (Sweden), **Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments** (Latvia), **Lithuanian Association of Local and Regional Governments** (Lithuania), **Estonian Association of Local and Regional Governments** (Estonia), **Romanian Municipalities Association** (Romania), **Azores** (Portugal), **Opolskie** (Poland).

It will take place at the **Permanent Representation of Portugal to the E.U.**, Avenue de Cortenbergh, 12, on the **5th October** [14:30-17:00].

The **General Director of Abruzzo Region** Presidency and European affairs, Planning, Parks, Energy and Environmental assessment, Mr. **Antonio Sorgi**, will have a speech on “**Integrated programmes for Urban Development**”, cofinanced by the **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)**, and will showcase practices from cities of **Pescara, Chieti and Teramo, in Abruzzo**.

This activity refers to Decision of the Regional Government 1230/2006 "Territorial perspectives for cities and is carried on in closed cooperation with provincial capitals (except the City of L'Aquila). Such integrated approach will provide *"[...] participative, integrated and sustainable strategies to tackle the high concentration of economic, environmental and social problems affecting urban areas [...]"* (Article 8 Reg EC 1080/2006).

Actions will aim at the recovery of urban infrastructure, restoration and modernization of historic centres and the rehabilitation of the physical environment through the conversion of industrial sites and facilities which are abandoned to allocate them to public use, to be allocated to social purposes or public uses to determine highest levels of quality.

The promotion of cultural initiatives is also supported through adoption of information technology and advanced communication and promotion of knowledge of cultural resources

OPENDAYS 2010 Official Website:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/od2010/index.cfm

OPENDAYS 2010 Preliminary Program:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/od2010/doc/pdf/pgr_preli_june.pdf

To register to the Debate , please find out “Grow smart! Focusing European Regional Policy on future well-being” - (05C06) at the link below:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/od2010/reg_frame.cfm?nmenu=500

(Directorate of Presidency Affairs - Liaison Activities to the E.U. - 27th July 2010)