

LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR FACILITY – THE ABRUZZO REGION WORKS WITH THE DG ENLARGEMENT TO STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONS IN THE BALKAN COUNTRIES



The DG Enlargement chose the Abruzzo Region as a partner for its “Local Administration Facility” Programme that aims at strengthening the territorial administrations in the Balkan countries.

As a partner, the Abruzzo Region hosted a training seminar at its office in Brussels on the 19th April 2012. Twenty-four administrators and officials were invited. They came from seven different Balkan countries: Croatia, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Albania, Montenegro, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Invited by the European Commission, the Director of the Abruzzo Region who is in charge of the presidency affairs, the legislative and European policies, programming, parks and territories, environmental assessments and energy, the architect Antonio SORGI took part in the seminar as a rapporteur.

Mr Sorgi took part in the seminar as the director of the Brussels office that will organise the consortium on the Adriatic-Ionian Macro-region at the Open Days later this year.



In his speech entitled « Adriatic-Ionian macro-region: Cross-border cooperation actions paving the way ahead », Mr Sorgi talked about some of the main steps for the cross-border cooperation programme in the Balkan countries. In particular, he talked about the **Adriatic IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme** that is managed by the Abruzzo Region.



A representative of the Assembly of European Regions (AER) also attended the seminar. The AER is one of the main European networks. It brings together over 200 regions and is considered the most active alliance of regions in the wider Europe. In last December, the AER started to share its office with the Abruzzo Region in Brussels.



The next meeting will be held on the 16th May and will gather thirty or so officials coming from seven different Balkan countries.



The themes of the meeting will be the agricultural policies and the rural development. Again, the delegation will meet at the office of the Abruzzo Region in Brussels and will have the opportunities to take an interest in the main activities of the Abruzzo Region at European scale.

Mr Pascal De Georgen, Secretary General of the Assembly of European Regions (AER), will take part in the meeting.

The programme of both seminars was designed by the DG Enlargement, which also paid for the expenses of the speaker, the interpreters and the coffee break.



The purpose of this visit to the office of the Abruzzo Region in Brussels is to enable the attending administrators to learn more about the European dimension of the local and regional authorities, and in particular to learn more about the regional offices and main networks working in Brussels.



Link to the previous article about the participation of the Abruzzo Region in the Open Days as the organising region of the consortium on the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region:

<http://www.regione.abruzzo.it/xEuropa/index.asp?modello=notizieSing&servizio=LE&stileDiv=sequence&b=notizia310&tom=310>

Link to the presentation of the Abruzzo Region published on the DG Enlargement website :

http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix/dyn/taix-events/library/detail_en.jsp?EventID=48131

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