

OPEN DAYS 2008

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Innovating regions: Promoting research, technological development and innovation

09A32

09 October, 9:00-10:45 (CCAB, 1A)

Regions of Knowledge: Synergies in EU funding opportunities for research, development & innovation

(DG RTD B4, Jozsef Mikita, Irmela Brach)

Regions of Knowledge is an initiative within the seventh framework programme for research and development (FP 7) meant to help turning Europe into a dynamic and competitive knowledge-based economy. FP 7 and the Structural Funds represent a huge financial opportunity to direct efforts towards productive investments in research and innovation; transnational cooperation will help building up networks of dynamic research-driven clusters to support European competitiveness worldwide through joint action plans. Concrete project examples will be presented to discuss how research-driven clusters following the "triple helix model" can help design research-based strategy for economic development and deliver growth and competitiveness in the regions, in accordance with the Lisbon strategy. Special attention will be given to ways to implement synergies between the EU research, innovation and cohesion policies for 2007-2013 through this programme and beyond, following a project scenario approach as presented in the just released Commission's Practical Guide on Synergies.