

European e-Inclusion Awards 2008

Winners' Showcase

Recognising excellence and good practice in using information, communication and digital technology to address social and digital exclusion in Europe.

469 entries

31 countries

35 finalists

350 hours of judging



7 winners

European e-Inclusion Champions 2008

Award Winners

Ageing Well - London Borough of Newham

The Newham Advanced Telecare (NeAT) and Whole System Demonstrator (WSD) programmes implement the use of telecare and telehealth technologies in elderly peoples' homes. Telecare uses sensors which monitor a person's activities, connecting through to a control centre if an alarm is triggered. Telehealth is delivered through a TV set top box; guiding users through vital sign measurement, enquires about their health, and provides education and training in self-care.



Cultural Diversity - Milton Keynes Council

Milton Keynes Council is a UK local authority area with great cultural diversity and significant social and digital deprivation issues. The Connect MK / Digital MK projects were set up to help create a digitally and socially inclusive modern city. A wide range of initiatives include: introducing WiMAX wireless broadband to Milton Keynes, loaning PCs at low cost, providing telehealth devices, improving the accessibility of online public services and opening 15 Digital Service Centres in areas of high deprivation.



Digital Literacy - Langas | Ateiti

Window 2 Future was the outcome of public and private sectors joining forces to create a program that would promote the development of an information society for the future success of Lithuania. It started by providing public information access points and stimulating the growth of e-services nationwide, however it was the Computer Literacy Basics for a Lithuanian ECitizen initiative that delivered the greatest results. It has trained over 50,000 people in basic computer, Internet and e-services skills.



e-Accessibility - Synscenter Refsnæs

The Danish Centre for Visual Impairment has pioneered RoboBraille – an email-based translation service that provides visually impaired users with access to documents electronically. The aim of the project was to create a simple, easy to use, centralised solution that converts electronic documents into synthetic speech or Braille on demand. The only skill a user needs in order to access the service is to be able to send and receive e-mails. The service is free of charge to all non-commercial users, making electronic documents widely accessible to people with visual or reading impairments.



Geographic Inclusion - Kyyjärven Mediamyllarit ry

Nopola News is a local online news portal where news items are mainly provided at a grassroots level by citizens of Kyyjärvi town and surrounding areas. Approximately 10 per cent of the town's population contributes to the online media articles; associations, societies, businesses and individuals in the town also provide the news content thus creating information chains that promote and strengthen communalism. By providing a user friendly content management system and training citizens in computer and Internet skills, local people are able to create and publish online content themselves with basic computer skills.



Inclusive Public Services - Sotiria Hospital e-Health Unit

The e-Health Unit at Sotiria Hospital has incorporated the use of ICT into clinical practice to develop home and community-based, health and social integrated care and chronic care management. Communications used by patients or carers at the e-Health Unit include TV, real time video and stationary or mobile, wearable devices, all which significantly improve the quality of life for elderly and disadvantaged patients.



Marginalised Young People - A-Clinic Foundation

A-Clinic Foundation has used its Shadow World project to reach out to 11-15 year old Finnish youths suffering from parental substance misuse. The organisation has created an interactive website to support a Manga-style comic book that provides vulnerable and isolated children knowledge about their options for seeking help. The young people are also invited to join a 'closed' virtual network group moderated by counsellors with the chance to use SMS messaging.





Award Finalists

Log on to www.e-inclusionawards.eu to find out more about these innovative programmes

Ageing Well Award

Inforum HU
Kommunförbundet Västernorrland SE
Seniormedia Marketing AT
Seniornett Norge NO

Cultural Diversity Award

Erudis CZ
Focus-5 TV CH
ITpreneurs NL
The Hague Public Library NL

Digital Literacy Award

Sonovista & Telekom Austria AT
Swedish Disability Federation SE
Tampere City Library FI
TechSoup Global FR

Geographical Inclusion Award

Ministry of Communication & Information Technology RO
South Witham Broadband UK
Welsh Assembly Government UK
Youth Association for Habitat TR

e-Accessibility Award

APEX CZ
Enable Ireland IE
Informatica del Ayuntamiento de Madrid ES
Medicton Group Ltd CZ

Inclusive Public Services Award

Centre of Registers and Information Systems EE
eHungary Project HU
Mid-West Regional Authority IE
Significan't UK

Marginalised Young People Award

CSV Training and Enterprise North West UK
Cyberhus DK
Fundación Tomillo ES
Royal KPN NL



Representatives from the 7 Award Winning organisations with their trophies.

"In today's society, access to information by all citizens is a right as well as a condition for prosperity. It is neither morally acceptable nor economically sustainable to leave millions of people behind, unable to use Information and Communications Technologies to their advantage"

Viviane Reding - EU Commissioner for Information Society and Media



Why is e-Inclusion important?

As an information society, Europe is successful. ICT and digital technology plays an increasingly important role in all of our lives – both at work and play. However, for 200 million people outside of the information society, whether that is due to low levels of education or income, disability, cultural differences, being older, living in a rural area or any combination of these, they are increasingly missing out socially and economically on the benefits that technology is providing for society.

Estimates of the economic benefit of a more digitally inclusive society in Europe are between €35 - €85 billion over five years. Creating an e-included society is an economic opportunity and social necessity.

The European Commission established the e-Inclusion Awards to raise awareness, encourage participation and recognise excellence and good practice in using ICT and digital technology to tackle social and digital exclusion across Europe.

At the Riga Ministerial Declaration on e-Inclusion (2006), EU member states committed themselves to e-Inclusion and each country has undertaken actions to fulfill this commitment. The 7 winners and 28 finalists in the e-Inclusion Awards 2008 demonstrate some of their best activities to date. Our task now is to take this good practice and use it to inspire and support action, so that all sectors understand the relevance of the e-Inclusion agenda to their specialist fields.

“Through their e-Literacy Basics programme, Langas I Ateiti has provided knowledge and enhanced people’s skills. But there is something more - they have changed people’s thinking and attitude to technology. Through such a programme, I hope participants will become active e-government service users and encourage others to engage as well.”

President of the Republic of Lithuania, Valdas Adamkus. May 2008 in Vilnius

CONTACT

If you would like to find out more about e-Inclusion and how using e-technologies may enhance the products and services you deliver, please visit the website, or call us direct:

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