

MINUTES of the
2nd SEE ICT Forum Board Meeting - www.seeictforum.org
 Ohrid, 19 November 2009

1) Participants list

No.	Name & Surname	Organization	Country
SEE ICT Forum Board Members:			
1	Toni Petreski	Inet/MASIT	Macedonia
2	Anita Nikova	MASIT	Macedonia
3	Tina Vuga	CeGD	Slovenia
4	Dritan Mezini	AITA	Albania
5	Ornela Koleka	ISSETI	Albania
6	George Brashnarov	BASSCOM	Bulgaria
7	Driton Hapciu	STIKK	Kosova
8	Vasko Kronevski	Nextsense/ MASIT	Macedonia
9	Goran Mitrevski	Kabtel	Macedonia
10	Vahan Hovsepyan	UITE	Armenia
11	Shota Chachkhunashvili	ICIBC of Georgia	Georgia
SEE ICT Forum Board Stakeholders:			
12	Antoni Peshev	BAC	Macedonia
13	Dimitar Belcev	Ministry of foreign affairs	Macedonia
14	Dejan Cvetkovic	Microsoft CEE	Serbia
15	Jana Babnik Gomiscek	SRC doo	Slovenia
16	Nand Shani	RCC	Bosnia and Hercegovina
Guests:			
17	Enkeleida Goxhaj	GTZ	Albania
18	Arsen Kurti	Microsoft	Albania
19	Filip Stojanovic	USAID RCI Project	Bulgaria
20	Ivona Taneva	BASSCOM	Bulgaria
21	Boris Zitnik	IDC Adriatic	Croatia
22	Igor Ordev	USAID – World Learning	Macedonia
23	Metodija Pejoski	Seavus	Macedonia
24	Petar Indovski	Gord Sistemi	Macedonia
25	Predrag Radojicic	SIMT	Macedonia
26	Sonja Andonova	GTZ Macedonia	Macedonia
27	Agim Bekaj	Microsoft	Macedonia
28	Boro Antovski	S&T Macedonia	Macedonia
29	Ilija Sekulovski	Semos	Macedonia
30	Ilijanco Gagovski	Microsoft	Macedonia
31	Jasmina Trajkovski	T&P Consulting	Macedonia
32	Marijana Andric	Marand consulting	Macedonia
33	Mihail Petrevski	Pexim Macedonia	Macedonia
34	Sonja Jovanovska	USAID – World Learning	Macedonia
35	Zoran Mirkulovski	Fujitsu USAID Competitiveness Project	Macedonia
36	Tatjana Lukic		Serbia

2) Agenda of the 2nd SEE ICT Forum Board Meeting – 19.11.2009

17:30 – 17:35	1 st SEE ICT Forum Board Minutes of the Meeting adoption	Toni Petreski, SEE ICT Forum Board Chairman
17:35 – 17:50	SEE ICT Forum Board activities between the 2 Board meetings	Toni Petreski, SEE ICT Forum Board Chairman
17:50 – 18:05	SEE ICT Forum Board – Private Sector Advisory Committee of the CeGD. Development of Information Society in South East Europe. Plan of activities of CeGD for 2010 activities	Tina Vuga, CeGD eGovernance Academy Coordinator
18:05 – 18:20	SEE ICT Cluster project proposal	Anita Nikova, MASIT
18:20 – 19:10	SEE ICT Cluster project discussion & conclusions	Toni Petreski, SEE ICT Forum Board Chairman
19:10 – 19:25	Plan of Activities 2009-2010	Toni Petreski, SEE ICT Forum Board Chairman
19:25 – 19:30	Other	

3) Presentations and discussions

Speaker	Main remarks and decisions for future actions
Toni Petreski	Opening – Welcoming participants
	1st SEE ICT Forum Board Minutes of the Meeting adoption
SEE ICT Forum Board activities between the 2 Board meetings	
Toni Petreski	Presents the activities of the SEE ICT Forum Board between the two Board meetings, mainly performed on behalf of him. More information in the presentation attached.
SEE ICT Forum Board – Private Sector Advisory Committee of the CeGD. Development of Information Society in South East Europe. Plan of activities of CeGD for 2010 activities	
Tina Vuga	Presents the development of Information Society in South East Europe and the plan of activities of CeGD for 2010 activities.
Vahan Hovsepyan	Expresses interests that the events of the of the Armenian assosciacion can become part of the list of events of the SEE ICT Forum Board and CeGD.
Tina Vuga	Explains that the Board should be opened to take these events as a part of its list.
Toni Petreski	Suggests that, the ICIBC of Georgia, with its representative Shota Chachkhunashvili, and the Armenian ICT Industry Association, with its representative Vahan Hovsepyan, should become members of the SEE ICT Forum Board. The present memberes voted and agreed, from this moment on these two association to be members of the SEE ICT Forum Board. Petreski also proposes to the ICT Forum Board members to make a proposal to the CeGD Supervisory Board to consider to extend the geographical area, currently covered by the CeGD, to Caucasus region.
Tina Vuga:	Welcomed the proposal and confirmed, that proposal will be submitted to the CeGD SB to adoption at their regular session in December.
Vahan Hovsepyan	Express his gratitude for this decision. Have suggested that on the ICT Forum Board web site, all kinds of announcements should be included. More precisely, there should not be listed only the events that concern only the SEE ICT Forum Board, but also the events and activities organized and provided by all ICT Associations. Additionaly, the SEE ICT Forum Board website should be used for creating synergyies between its memebtrs and stakeholders. The web site should be seen as tool for communication and exchange of relevant information.
Shota Chachkhunashvili	Also express his gratitude for this decision.
George Brashnarov	Requested explanation of the scheme of sustainability of the CeGD's Public Private Partnership model.
Tina Vuga	Explains that CeGD is not primarily funded by the Slovenian Government, and that is why they need to think and plan on monthly basis, their activities. It was stated that some of the stakeholders (MNCs) are giving financial resources annually. Finally, CeGD has developed certain services that helped them to increase their budget

	and become sustainable.
George Brashnarov	Asked if the organized trainings are free of charge.
Tina Vuga	Explained that the planned events are not free of charge for everyone, CeGD had made a scheme where some target groups are coming on trainings, free of charge.
Filip Stojanovic	Suggested that they should not just focus on eGovernance, there are far more other opportunities concerning this PPP model. Additionally proposes that every project of a Government solutions should have an educational part towards public administration, in order to bridge the Governmental lack and gap of information.
Toni Petreski	Explains that the model is presented on the Forum's web site and anyone is welcome to put their comment.
Nand Shani	States that concerning intergovernmental structure, RCC has also very high contribution on the Business Advisory Council (BAC).
Toni Petreski	Thinks that RCC is important to provide political support all over the region.
Dimitar Belcev	In the name of Macedonian coordinator of RCC fully supported the idea.
SEE ICT Cluster project proposal	
Anita Nikova	Presents the SEE ICT Cluster project proposal. Explains that project proposal is already communicated a month ago to every board member, and certain donor representatives in Macedonia. Nikova expressed readiness on behalf of MASIT, for creation of spin off, in order for the project to be applied toward donors.
SEE ICT Cluster project discussion & conclusions	
Toni Petreski	Explains that this is an initiative that can be furtherly developed. Some comments on behalf of other Board members were already received and they will be implemented in the project proposal.
Dejan Cvetkovic	Strongly encourages the idea. He thinks that the expansion of knowledge is very important especially when it is coming outside the SEE region. Also suggests that the current members of the board should give the opportunity of the new members to learn from them.
Nand Shani	Fully supports the idea, he is expecting the final version of the project in order to lobby the project in front of the donors, through RCC.
Filip Stojanovic	Has comments regarding the macro level of the project. He thinks that the project is too general and too many entities are involved in the project. He suggests that the activities should be done on a micro level. In order to accomplish this, every country should work on a specific component or a specific idea. When the components are chosen on behalf of each ICT association from the reason, they should also state a person to be a leader. There was also a comment regarding the acronyms, he thinks that the acronyms should be avoided because they will confuse the donor parties.
George Brashnarov	Has comments regarding the name of the project. He suggests that the projects should be called Strategic Regional Development Agenda or Strategic Approaches; he also suggests that the form of the project should be done so it could be suitable for the donor funding schemes. Additionally he suggests that within the final project proposal an Action plan should be developed.

Toni Petreski	Presented Despinas' presentation – comments (attached), stating that there is a need for the Forum Board to decide on its legal status. There is a need to find a way to bridge the fast improvement of the IT society and slow development of the ICT industry. Additionally, requests INA Academy to be added in the shareholders list.
Filip Stojanovic	Does not see the legal status as major problem. He thinks that the lawyers are the ones that can find the most appropriate solution. He strongly suggest that the existing institution should be involved, there is no need to create new ones. Also he considers that the project should be broken down on smaller projects and the Board should start working on these individual projects, but not as it is stated now, at a macro level.
George Brashnarov	Agrees with Mr. Stojanovic, the legal status of the Board is not a problem and the project should be broken down on smaller projects.
Dritan Mezini	Had a comment that he is not getting a clear idea of what is he supposed to do as a shareholder. He explains that not all the members of the Forum are on the same level of development, that is why he thinks whether the project is overlapping some issues regarding Albania and the responsibilities of the Albanian Association. Also he suggests that a time frame should be developed for the project.
Vasko Kronevski	Strongly suggests that as a certain component, businesses not just associations should be targeted in the project. Also regional clusters should be involved.
Antoni Peshev	Stongly supports the project idea, and claims that SEE regioanal partners should proceed with detalizing the idea. Additionally thinks that all countries from the region should lead certain part of the project. He also suggests to polish out micro vs. macro approach to the problem, and to learn from the mistakes from the other clusters and countries.
Dritan Mezini	Also agrees that firstly a focus must be put on micro level.
Dimitar Belcev	Suggests that regarding the potential donors, maybe FP programs and IPA preaccession funds should be taken in consideration.
Sonja Andonova	Expressed good signals about readiness for support of regional cooperation, once the project is clear, especially to the part on macro level. GTZ would like to see educational institutions, within the project and indicators in measuring the results of cooperation. GTZ is ready to help with the project proposal only if it meets the criteria for financing prescribed in their template for project proposals. The board members should be caution; since GTZ and USAID have different criteria.GTZ will wait for the Board to make the first move.
Enkeleida Goxhaj	Suggests that the already established association through the region should be used to their maximum, and they should be the first to propose projects. Is welcoming the initiative and stated that it will create important benefits for the ICT industries.
Filip Stojanovic	Suggests that the focus should be put on smaller project since there is a better chance to find donors that way.
Toni Petreski	Suggests that MASIT will prepare expression of interest template, that should be filled by each member of the Board describing which component they have capacity in, and which institution (association) would like to manage that component. Additionally, each Board member will have to suggest possible donor who they think would recognize the idea.

4) Conclusions (Plan of Activities 2009-2010):

- The Armenian ICT Industry Association and the ICIBC of Georgia became members of the SEE ICT Forum Board.
- The present members agreed that the project proposal should be further developed and submitted to relevant donors.
- Each country should define its capacities and state which institution (association) would like to manage that component.
- Until the end of the next week, 27.11.2009 a template for expression of interest should be developed by MASIT and will be sent to all of the Board members.
- Until 17th of January the Board members will have to fill this document stating their ICT industry capacity and identify possible donors on behalf of each country.
- On the basis of the feedback that is expected to be delivered from the expression of interests, the project proposal will be developed.
- Mr.Filip Stojanovic will personally support for the first steps in developing the proposal, if needed.
- It was suggested that the next SEE ICT Forum Board meeting, should not take place in an year, but in a shorter period of time (4-6 monts). In this sense it was suggested that maybe the next Board meeting can take place on the RCI events in spring 2010 or on some other event connected to other stakeholders' activities.

Timeline of Activities:

Activity:	Starts:	Deadline (ends):	Partner in charge:
Draft Template for expression of interest should be developed by MASIT	19.11.2209	27.11.2009	MASIT
Distribution of Template for expression of interest together with Minutes of the Meeting held on 19.11.2009	27.11.2009	07.12.2009	MASIT
Collecting the Templates for Expression of Interest	07.12.2009	17.01.2010	ALL interested partners
Preparation of Project proposal where each Template for expression of Interest will be taken as separate Working Package (WP) and communicating with potential donors	17.01.2010	01.03.2010	MASIT with help of interested partners
Next SEE ICT Forum Board meeting	Middle April, 2010		MASIT

Minutes of meeting prepared by:
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Date: 07.12.2009

Note: The MoM was distributed to all individuals present at the meeting and each of them was consulted and has approved his/her statements presented in this document.