Institutional reform

Cooperation programme in the Baltic Sea region 2003 - support for the private sector

Development of Internet based interactive government to business services in Northwest Russia

Any kind of G2B service requires three elements:
- two actors, the administrations and the companies
- one technology, the internet

Context

G2B or “government-to-business” services cover a large spectrum of relationships initiated by administration towards the business world. G2B is a part of what is usually called e-government. This is mainly about establishing common standards across government, delivering services to citizens more effectively and providing ways for government agencies to work together with the business world.

Objectives

- To foster economic growth and competitiveness of the Russian economy through expanding ICT-based business, in particular by improving the services to SMEs provided by public authorities;
- To support cross-border trade and business relations and contribute to the bridging of the digital gap between Northwest Russia and EU countries by implementing G2B services in line with the understanding of e-Europe.

Impact: What has been achieved?

- A regional comparative analysis of policy and regulatory frameworks and G2B services existing in the Russian Federation and EU member states;
- A benchmarking report to identify and estimate the current gaps in NW Russia’s provision of G2B services vis-à-vis EU economies;
- A policy paper, first recommendations to the Russian authorities as well as a first approach for monitoring future G2B programs;
- Four regions selected to host pilot G2B services;
- Training of the regional administrations and SME support structures.

For more information: [http://www.rusG2B.ru](http://www.rusG2B.ru)
The administration of the Arkhangelsk oblast’ has implemented an online public procurement system in accordance with the requirements of the Russian Federal Law n°84, 01/07/2005.

The first public trade session ended with a saving of 27% on the estimated price of the deal. During its first year in operation, the new system helped the regional administration to save around 15 million roubles.

However, detailed monitoring of operations during this first year has shown a rate of 15% of badly formulated offers and answers. SMEs were complaining about the difficulty of complying with the system.

The Arkhangelsk oblast’ administration took the decision to design a tailor-made online training course for SMEs to simulate a real live auction. The EU-financed TACIS G2B-NWR project has contributed to this training course by providing technical assistance in advising and training local experts.

A series of training sessions and public events brought together local authorities with entrepreneurs and their representative institutions like the Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The same people also took part in study tours abroad and in video-conferences across the Russian Federation about e-government issues.

The online training course is currently accessible through the official oblast’ administration web-site. The TACIS project contributes to the promotion of this G2B service as well as to the dissemination of the activities undertaken in the Archangelsk oblast’ in the e-government and G2B fields.

The result: more small businesses have transparent access to public procurements using modern ICT technologies; and the regional administration enjoys better services at a lower price.

Present URL (beta test stage): http://gz.dvinaland.ru:5555
http://gz.dvinaland.ru:7777