Future EU funding for Gigabit Society

CEF2 Study Workshop - Smart Investments for Smart Communities
Implementing the new Connecting Europe Facility (#CEF2digital) programme (SMART 2017/0018)

The European Gigabit society goals[1] set ambitious targets for 5G deployment in cities and highways as well as well as Gigabit connectivity to "socio-economic drivers" such as schools and hospitals and Gigabit capable connections to households.

Although private investments are expected to cover a significant portion of the deployment needed, it has been widely acknowledged that public funding will be necessary to support local initiatives and improve the business case for private promoters in the most difficult areas.

The new Connecting Europe Facility (CEF2) aims to underpin these investments by earmarking €3 bln in EU funds for digital infrastructure.

Projects that can be supported by #CEF2digital include:

i. actions supporting **Gigabit connectivity of socio-economic drivers in conjunction with household broadband connectivity**
ii. actions supporting the provision of **very high-quality local wireless connectivity** in local communities that is free of charge and without discriminatory conditions;
iii. actions implementing **uninterrupted coverage with 5G** systems of all major terrestrial transport paths, including the trans-European transport networks;
iv. actions supporting **deployment of backbone networks** including with submarine

In order to support the development of its CEF2 programme, the Commission has tasked a consortium led by Ecorys to prepare a study to analyse the size of the market failure in each of these areas and identify priority areas for intervention. The study also seeks to assess which players could benefit from EU investments, and how funding schemes could be structured and combined with funding and financing from other public and private sources in order to maximise the benefits for the European economy and society.

In this workshop, the project team will present the preliminary results of the study and seek feedback on the options identified. The European Commission will also provide an overview of the results of the ongoing public consultation on the Connecting Europe Facility 2021-2027 - #CEF2digital.

Feedback from the workshop will feed into the European Commission's review of the structuring of the CEF2 programme and the design of calls for proposals.

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[1] COM(2016) 587 final

Workshop programme: 1ˢᵗ October, Brussels

Venue: Commission building Van Maerlant, Room 2 – Floor 2, Rue Van Maerlant, 2

Chair: Franco Accordino, European Commission

	Introduction to the workshop		
09.30-09.40	Anthony Whelan	European Commission	
	Introduction to the study and questions for the audience		
09.40-10.00	Ilsa Godlovitch	Ecorys	
10.00-11.00	**Broadband for socio-economic drivers and households**		
	Chair: Olga Batura	Ecorys	
	Ilsa Godlovitch	Ecorys	
11.00-11.30	**BREAK**		
11.30-12.00	**Supporting big data with terabit connectivity for Europe's High Performance Computing facilities**		
	Chair: Ilsa Godlovitch	Ecorys	
	Thomas Plueckebaum	WIK	Overview of market developments and future requirements
12.00-12.30	**Supporting Wifi and community 5G deployments**		
	Chair: Ilsa Godlovitch	Ecorys	
	Jean-Luc Lemmens	IDATE	Overview of market developments and future requirements
12.30-13.15	**LUNCH**		
13.15-14.00	**Delivering 5G along major transport paths**		
	Chair: Ilsa Godlovitch	Ecorys	
	Jean-Luc Lemmens	IDATE	Analysis of the business case for 5G deployment for CAM
14.00-15.00	**Options for funding**		
	Chair: Jorge Nunez tbc	CEPS	
	Christophe Bodin	CBO	
15.00-15.30	**BREAK**		
15.30-16.30	**Feedback from the CEF2 public consultation and next steps for implementation**		
	Alexandra Rotileanu	European Commission	
16.30	**WORKSHOP CLOSE**		