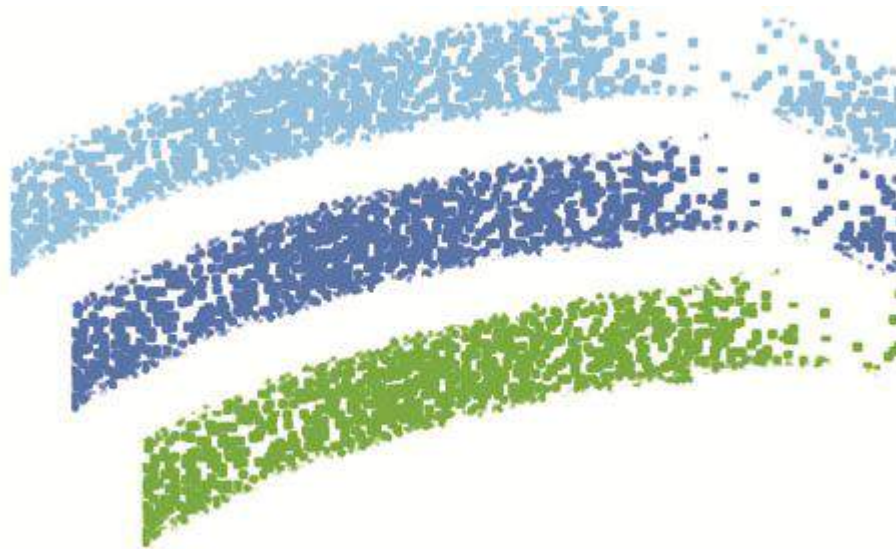




**EUROREGIONE ADRIATICO-IONICA
JADRANSKO-JONSKA EUROREGIJA
ADRIATIC-IONIAN EUROREGION
EURO RAJONI ADRIATIKO-JONIAN
ΕΥΡΩΠΕΡΙΦΕΡΕΙΑ ΑΔΡΙΑΤΙΚΗΣ – ΙΟΝΙΟΥ**

ADRIATIC-IONIAN EUROREGION ACTIVITIES REPORT

From JUNE 2011 to DECEMBER 2013



EN version

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Introduction

I would like to share with you this report to describe the last two years of life of Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion, underlining all our initiatives. It was a very intensive period that, since the beginning, it was marked by the formal launching of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Macro-region (EUSAIR) made by European Institutions. I am proud to remark that the idea of a tailor-made strategy for our territories was launched since February 2010 by our association.

Most of the time the meetings of our statutory bodies (General Assembly, Executive Committee and Thematic Committees) were focused to define our proposal on the discussion paper of the European Commission and its specific topics. In this regard, to make more functional our work, we have changed our statute and opened our network to Ionian Regions, entailing also the change of the name of our association in the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion.

We have consolidated our partnership welcoming the new members, such as the Ulcinj Municipality (Montenegro), and we experienced possible form of cooperation with the other relevant networks of the area, such as the Forum of the Adriatic and Ionian Chambers of Commerce, Cities and Universities.

Most of all, we have welcomed with great satisfaction the access of Croatia into the European Union, knowing that this positive result could be reached in the very near future by other states that they are now sharing with us this meaningful experiences of cooperation.

I leave the Euroregion alive, active and committed. Following the path traced by the President Jakovčić, I have tried to consolidate it, always being able to rely on the presence and help of Vice-President Mr. Dobroslavić and on the consensus of all members.

Michele Iorio



President Iorio and the former President Jakovčić



Presidente Iorio and the Vice President Dobroslavić

1

**VI General Assembly
Campobasso, 30 June 2011**

Mr. Michele Iorio, President of Molise Region, was elected as President of the Adriatic Euroregion during the VI General Assembly held in Campobasso on 30th June 2011. Nikola Dubroslavić, President of the Region Dubrovnik-Neretvana, was elected as Vice-President. During the Assembly, the members of the Executive Committee, The Board of Auditors, as well as the Presidencies and the Vice-presidencies of the Committees were renewed too. At the end of the Assembly, a round-table has been held; its title was: “The Adriatic – Ionian Strategy along the European integration process”. The purpose of this round-table was to identify, by consensus between Local Authorities and the National Governments of the Adriatic Area, the next steps being taken to promote the adoption of the Adriatic - Ionian Strategy. The round table was attended by Croatian Ambassador in Italy, Ambassador of Serbia in Italy, the Albanian Ambassador in Italy, the Secretary of State of the Republic of San Marino, the Secretary General of the IAI - Adriatic - Ionian Initiative, an Adviser of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the President of the Italian Delegation to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, a Delegation of the European Commission and institutional representatives of Governments, Regional and Local Authorities of the States of the Adriatic area.



Campobasso, 30 Giugno 2011 – VI General Assembly

2

“The Adriatic - Ionian Macroregion for the development of Europe”
Ancona, 27 August – 1 September 2011

An extremely original event was held in Ancona, from 27th August to 1st September 2011, in conjunction with the “Adriatic Mediterranean Festival”: a promotional stand entitled “The Adriatic-Ionian Macroregion for the development of Europe”.

Initiatives and theme exhibitions were held along a path that, starting from the main square of the capital city, crossed the main street and then ended in front of the sea, which was defined as “the place of future vision”. The purpose was to create a significant moment of encounter

between the citizens and the experiences developed up to the present day, with a view to the construction of the Macroregion. The aim was to explain the concreteness of these initiatives for cooperation which turn into economic agreements, partnerships between enterprises, services sharing, infrastructure building and creation of cultural events.

Representatives of Institutions were the potential subjects interested in the development of the Macroregion, both on the Italian and on opposite shore of the Adriatic, with particular reference to Forum networks, development agencies, secretariats dealing with cooperation, as well as the representatives of States and regions facing the Adriatic Sea.

The Adriatic Euroregion awaits the whole event with its own promotional stands, giving to all interested parties information about networks and distributing its own gadgets, brochures and promotional material.



Ancona, August 2011 – Piazza Garibaldi

3

Executive Committee Dubrovnik, 23 January 2012

During the meeting of the Executive Committee, held in Dubrovnik on 23rd January 2012, regarding the Adriatic and Ionian Macro-Regional Strategy, it has been widely debated the Decision of the European Council of June 24th 2011. The European Council, after approving the Danube macro-region strategy (the second approved in Europe after the EU Strategy for Baltic Sea), invited EU Member States to continue their collaboration to identify possible new macro-regions, with particular reference to the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region. It will be the European Council, with one accord, to give a mandate to the European Commission to take up the actions, and approve a so-called “action plan” to actually carry out a macro-regional territory. During the meeting, the enlargement of the Adriatic Euroregion to the Ionian Sea Countries has also been discussed. The President, Mr. Michele Iorio, committed himself to formalize this territorial extension in the next and upcoming meetings.



Dubrovnik, 23 January 2012 – Executive Committee

**VII General Assembly
Trieste, 13 June 2012**

The 1st General Assembly called by the Iorio Presidency, held in Trieste on 13th June 2012, was opened with a thought of solidarity for the Emilia Romagna Region for the earthquake that occurred a few weeks before the meeting. During this Assembly, the participating members had the opportunity to discuss important issues, in particular: the updates on the Adriatic-Ionian Macro-Regional Strategy, the IPA Adriatic CBC Programme and the organizational and statutory issues. With regard to these two previous aspects, it has been deemed necessary from the President Iorio to provide Adriatic Euroregion of a Secretariat, committing Molise Region internal resources, in order to achieve, at best, the statutory objectives. It has been confirmed the demand of the membership which has to be paid by members, as established by the art. 28 of the Statute.

During the session the membership application of the Municipality of Ulcinj (Montenegro) was approved.

In addition to the broad debate on the issue of Macro-Region, due to the presence of Mr. Mario Ialenti - President of the National IPA Committee, the IPA Adriatic Cross-border Cooperation Programme CBC has been introduced. Many important points have been highlighted, both the critical points, caused by the delay in spending and in the projects approval process, and the strengths which consist into developing project ideas on the theme of great interest of macro-regions.



Trieste, 13 June 2012 – VII General Assembly

**Meeting with the Adriatic Fora
Termoli, 24 July 2012**

On 24th July 2012 in Termoli, at the Council Hall, an important meeting, focused on the processing of the Adriatic and Ionian Strategy has been held, with the participation of the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, General Secretaries and representatives of the Forum of Adriatic and Ionian Cities and Towns, of the UniAdriion Network of Universities, of the Forum of the Adriatic and Ionian Chambers of Commerce and of the Adriatic and Ionian Initiative.

During the meeting, a lot has been said about Adriatic and Ionian Macro-Region, about the fact that it is the 3rd European Macro-Region and about the necessity of an official recognition, in the next months by the European Commission. It was appropriate, and necessary, a comparison among the different *fora* of this big Macro-Region catchment area, on the decision making procedure from the Decision of the European Council to the elaboration of the action plan. It is necessary to provide the European Commission with a precise orientation about this issue. Objective evidence of this cooperation has to be provided, and for doing this, availability and suggestions must be collected quickly, working with a bottom up approach and giving a concrete example of mutual capacity and availability. The most important issues must be identified, and it is necessary to move towards a more well-structured debate, starting with a decision that will be taken in a shared way.

Vice-President of the Adriatic Euroregion, Dr. Nikola Dobroslavić established important and ambitious goals set out by President Iorio during the debate which have to be enriched by the contributions of the other participants. Therefore, the need to create a strong synergy among all the representatives of *fora* has been widely shared.



Termoli, 24 July 2012 – Meeting with the Adriatic Fora

Open Days – Round Table

"Adriatic-Ionian Macro-Region for an idea of development and competitiveness which affects about 25 million people"

Brussels, 10 October 2013

A further and important event, a key step on the undertaken experience, it was undoubtedly the participation at the Open Days in Brussels.

The President of the Adriatic Euroregion, Senator Michele Iorio, spoke highlighting the work already done over the years by the Euroregion, aimed at creating inspiration, debate and willingness between the different levels of government to come to a common understanding of the Adriatic - Ionian basin for a sustainable development, consistent with the socio-economic realities of all the involved territories.

The last 10th October was defined by the press as "The Day of the Adriatic-Ionian Macro-Region at the Open Days in Brussels." The President of the Abruzzo Region, Mr. Gianni Chiodi, has realized several thematic meetings in the area of the "Monte dei Paschi" in Brussels, with the presence of prominent representatives of the European institutions and diplomatic corps.

It has been long debated about the Macro - Region. It was a unique opportunity not only for the visibility in a European scenario, so qualified as the Open Days is, but also for the prestige that covers the Adriatic Euroregion in representing the needs along with the several requests of the public bodies in the Adriatic area who want to collaborate in the creation of the Macro- Region.



Brussels, 10 October 2012 – Open Days

7

Biennale Habitat 2012

The Adriatic Euroregion has sponsored the "*Biennale Habitat*", an international initiative that promotes the protection and enhancement of Adriatic and Ionian territories. This initiative supports the protection and enhancement of territories by exploring the various aspects and issues of those, considering the different specificities, problems and potentials.

The project of the "*Biennale*" is to set up an "interactive and dynamic laboratory of progressive thought and research" for the development of activities and dissemination of projects aimed at the protection, improvement and sustainable development of the areas of the Adriatic coasts – meaning an interacting set of "habitat" that works interacting with the social, cultural, scientific and economic dimensions that characterize the different cognitive levels - from local to global in a research of synthesis, that can be called "glocalization dynamic" system.

Until now, two events in the calendar has been held. The first, on 22nd September 2012, at the Chamber of Commerce of Taranto. The following event took place on 23rd October 2012 at the Auditorium of the Hotel Meridiano in Termoli (Molise Region).

The expected result will be a Network Adriatic - Ionian of the excellence and the best practices of the involved territories which will be an interactive information system, dynamic and always updated about the projects and other information.

8 AdriGov Project

The Project “*AdriGov*”, submitted on the 2nd Call of IPA Adriatic CBC Programme , has been granted. Outcome of an excellent technical collaboration among the members of the Euroregion, it is a well-structured project, essentially aimed at supporting the activities of the Adriatic Euroregion. It will provide the financial resources to finance the promotion of the association and the organization of events and meetings.

Within the project activities that will allow the functioning and maintenance of the financial committees are planned. It will be possible to combine the committees at least twice a year, in order to implement the exchange of the officers who can really promote the in-depth analysis of topics of interest for the macro area. Furthermore, some activities will be dedicated to a feasibility study of the EGTC. It requires an intense work in order to delineate the statutes and regulations. Therefore, the several meetings that there will be among Members of the Adriatic Euroregion, will be essential. This will help to identify further mechanisms of internal cooperation in order to identify projects which can detecte the needs of each member of the Euroregion, as part of the Adriatic and Ionian Strategy.

9 Round Table "*The new EU Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Macroregion*" Termoli, 14 January 2013

The Round Table has been organized in the framework of AdriGov Project. The project aims to strength the institutional cooperation in the Adriatic-Ionian basin, creating common development initiatives and cross-border cooperation in the area.

AdriGov partnership is composed by thirteen institutional partners, (Italian regions and local authorities from the cross-boarder countries). Project lengths is 2 years and it aims to enhance good governance practices in the area. The project encourage and support the initiatives of cross-border cooperation in the field of culture, commerce, industry, tourism and fisheries as well as, the protection and preservation of the environment.



Termoli, 14 January 2013 – Round table

10 VIII General Assembly Termoli, 15 January 2013

Convened by President Iorio, the Eighth General Assembly took place in Termoli on 15 January 2013, exactly one month and one day after the mandate given by the European Council to the European Commission for the development of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic

and Ionian Region. The action plan will be concluded by the end of 2014, during the Italian Presidency of the European Union. In recent years there was a significant acceleration to that process, thanks to the Governments that have acknowledged the instances of Adriatic Euroregion and its territories.

Most of the objectives have been achieved. During this Eighth General Assembly has achieved also a major milestone. The Adriatic Euroregion have tried to identify its self with the model of the Adriatic-Ionian Macro-region, allowing the access of Basilicata, Sicily and Calabria. Some changes has been approved in the statute of the association during the assembly, they affect various organizational aspects , but in particular, the main change regards precisely this point. The name of the Organization was changed from "Adriatic Euroregion" to "Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion".

The Assembly also approved the proposal made in the previous months by the Executive Committee to establish its General Secretariat with the aim to support the governing bodies of the Euroregion, as well as, the scope to create a link between the political level and the technical level.

During the eighth AIE General Assembly, members have also decided to schedule the Thematic Commissions with the support of AdriGov project. Members has decide to create specific working groups with the aim to define common proposal on tourism, transports, safety, culture and higher education, fishing, environmental protection, territorial development and trade. At the end, the Assembly approved the proposal financial budget of the Euroregion.



Termoli, 15 January 2013 – VIII General Assembly

11

AIE thematic sessions on maritime strategy - Commission Environment Bologna, 6 -7 March 2013

The two days event organized by Emilia -Romagna Region intended to illustrate the maritime strategy in the framework of the Action Plan of the new EU Adriatic-Ionian Macro-regional Strategy.

The first day was dedicate to a workshop that allowed the AIE members to express their favorable opinions on the strategy and to define the new perspectives for a multi-level cooperation between the European institutions and the regional and local authorities, with the aim to ensure greater effectiveness/efficiency to the wider Adriatic-Ionian macro-regional strategy through an adequate territorial dimension.

During the second day, there was a thematic session of the AIE Commission of Environment with the aim to propose, discuss and adopt a common position. A political statement representing the point of view of the Adriatic-Ionian regions and cities has been voted by the member. The results of this debate among the AIE members and the European Commission - DG MARE, will be take into account as a key contribution to the definition of the macro-

regional strategy.

The two days were organised in the framework of the activities of AdriGov project led by Molise Region and financed under the IPA Adriatic CBC Programme.



Bologna, 6 e 7 March 2013 - Commission Environment

12

Conference

“The role of regional authorities in the promotion of European citizenship”

Pula, 18 Aprile 2013

A conference about "The role of regional Authorities in the promotion of European citizenship" was held in Pula on 18th April 2013. The event is part of the European project AdriGov (Adriatic Operational Governance Plan). The event organised by Istria Region with the collaboration of Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion to talk about the experience in international cooperation and to discuss about AdriGov project which aims to strengthen cooperation between the Adriatic territories.

The event was also organized in the framework of the European Year of Citizenship 2013 and in view of the entry of Croatia into the European Union (July 2013).

13

Executive Commette

Rijeka, 8 May 2013

The AIE Executive Committee convened by President Iorio on 8 May 2013 in Rijeka (Croatia) outlined the steps done and to be done for the recognition of the Adriatic-Ionian Macro-regional Strategy by the European Commission. This process will be completed by the end of 2014 with the Italian Presidency of the European Union.

The Committee proposed to arrange a meeting between the Presidents of the Regions trying to work in close collaboration with the European Union, as well as, an event to put the emphasis on the access of Croatia into the European Union.



Rijeka, 8 May 2013 – Executive Committee

**Commission on Transport and Infrastructure
Rijeka, 8 May 2013**

Convened by the President Krpan, the AIE commission was held on 8 May 2013 in Rijeka (Croatia). It was attended by the members of the Executive Committee and several representatives of political and administrative institutions of Balkan area.

The four-year working program of the Transport and Infrastructure Commission has been introduced to the AIE members. During the meaningful debate which involved most of the participants, the development phase of EU Adriatic-Ionian strategy has been one of the main topic and it was highlighted how the four-year working program presented by the AIE commission is very coherent with the EU strategy and it is an integral part of it.



Rijeka, 8 May 2013 – Commission on Transport and Infrastructure

**Opening of the Centre for EU and international cooperation in Istria
Valle/Bale, 9 May 2013**

The Centre for EU and international cooperation opening ceremony took place in Bale (Istria – Croatia) on 9 May 2013 at the Bembo medieval Castel. It was established by Istria Region in collaboration with the University of Juraj Dobrila in Pula and the Association of Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA). The inauguration of the centre was part of the European Week Celebration 2013 in Istria and representing a very important step before the Croatian accession to the EU. The Centre has been financed within the AdriGov project.

Core activities of the Center are the area of education and information about EU programmes and projects, regional development and EU integration process for public, private and civil

sector in the Adriatic-Ionian territory. The center will also deal with the preparation of EU projects, research and development in cooperation with the University of Juraj Dobrila in Pula the ALDE and the AdriGov partners.

After the official opening of the Centre, the event continued with a discussion about the cross-border cooperation, the strategic projects of IPA Adriatic CBC programme and the new CBC programmes in the next EU programming period, as well as, the future perspectives of the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion. In this regard, the main topic was the European Group of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) and the new AIE memberships that are enlarging in a positive way the composition of the association.



Bale, 9 May 2013 – Opening of the Centre for EU and international cooperation in Istria

16

XIII Edition of the Forum of Adriatic and Ionian Chambers of Commerce Medjugorje, 14 – 16 May 2013

The 13th edition of the Forum of the Adriatic and Ionian Chambers of Commerce took place from the 14th to the 16th of May in Međugorje in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The meetings and sessions took place over the course of three days during which the plenary session of the Forum, the Workgroups meetings (environment, agriculture, women entrepreneurship, fisheries and aquaculture, transports and tourism). It took place also the meetings of the Association's governing bodies and the Workgroup on EU Project Management that recently intensified its activities due to the assignment of new projects

This thirteenth edition focused on the current topic of the Adriatic - Ionian Macro region, specifically on *“The Action Plan for the Adriatic and Ionian Macroregion: a joint contribution for a common project. An exchange of views between Institutional Networks and Enterprises”* saw the participation of about 260 delegates, including representatives of European institutions, national bodies (Italian Ministries for Tourism and Economic Development), the Permanent Secretariat of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative (AII), the university network Uniadriion, professional associations, as well as representatives from the business world and international partnership networks, like Ascame, Insuleur, NecsTouR and the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion.

A significant contribution was offered by the Focus Group which actively involved the various forums, the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative, international networks and the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion. A key contribution was offered also by representatives of European Commission (DG REGIO and DG Enterprise and Industry).



Medjugorje, 14 – 16 May 2013

17

Seminar

“Intercultural dialogue in the year of European Citizenship: the value of skills and new careers in the Adriatic – Ionian Area”

and

“Thematic Session on Youth, Training and Employments”

Sarajevo, 27-28 May 2013

Promoting intercultural dialogue, development of new job opportunities and new types of youth entrepreneurship in the Adriatic-Ionian area. This was the purpose of the international seminar entitled "Intercultural dialogue in the year of European Citizenship: the value of skills and new careers in the Adriatic-Ionian area," organized in Sarajevo on 27 and 28 May 2013, and which is one of the initiatives envisaged by the project AdriGov (Adriatic Governance Operational Plan). The two-day debate was organized by the Molise Region, in collaboration with the Faculty of Political Science of the University of Sarajevo and World Habitat. The seminar takes place right in the year dedicated to the theme of "European citizenship". This is one way to emphasize how to become European citizens, including an appropriate development of skills and knowledge, which should be integrated through a fruitful cultural exchange between all the countries that have already expanded - or intend to do so - the wider dimension of the EU. The seminar, hosted by the Faculty of Political Science of the University of Sarajevo, opened in May 27th, 2013. Moderator on the first day, Francesco Cocco, project coordinator of AdriGov. This is the program: after a general introduction, a discussion about education in a multicultural vision of relations between countries and about the actions to be promoted in order to increase employment opportunities in the Adriatic-Ionian Area. Later, the presentations about employment opportunities - which become more and more attractive - in the fields of sustainable economies and local development. The enlargement of the EU to the Balkans and the implications that this might have on youth employment, along with the role of Universities in the Adriatic-Ionian Area, are the topics that close the first day of the conference. On May 28, the thematic session will focus on the virtuous circle young-training-employment and on the study of interactions, to be exploited by the Human Resources Committee, in the Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionic territories.



Sarajevo, 27- 28 May 2013 - Seminar

18

Celebration of Croatia's Accession to the European Union Pula, 1 July 2013

The AIE President, Michele Iorio attended the two days of meetings organized by the Region of Istria in Pula to celebrate the accession of Croatia into the EU. The ceremony, entitled "Istria without borders" took place on July the 1st , an historical date for the entire country that will enter in Europe, after about ten years of pre-accession negotiations, efforts to harmonize national legislation to the EU rules, to reform institutions and procedures.

The event called together presidents, politicians and representatives of "friendly" regions such as those belonging to the Euroregion, which have strongly supported Croatia's accession to the EU. The AIE President remarked that in the same place, exactly seven years ago, the Euroregion was officially formed with the contribution of all members. So the President took this opportunity to celebrate the seventh birthday of the Adriatic Euroregion, founded in 2006, on June the 30th , just in the House of Croatian Defenders in Pula.



1 July 2013 –Celebration of Croatia's Accession to the European Union

**Technical Meeting and Proposal for a Laboratory of Strategic Programming
Gorizia, 18 July 2013**

The technical meeting took place on July the 18th in Gorizia at the Coronini Cronberg palace. The meeting was between the Adrigov partners and their purpose is to support the implementation of macro-regional strategy in the Adriatic-Ionic area. This will be achieved through the establishment of a laboratory for strategic planning that offers the opportunity to support the implementation of Adriatic-Ionian Macroregional strategy. The aim of this activity is to contribute future Operational Programme drafting as for example “Gateway to South East Europe” (that is expected to substitute the present IPA Cross Border) and the forthcoming Italy-Croatia CBC programme.

Thanks to the wide partnership, covering almost all the area concerned by the Macro-regional strategy, this Laboratory may play a strategic role for the development of the Strategy itself, as far as all the project partners are at the same time members of the macro-regional internal commissions dealing with the different topics of strategy.



Gorizia, 18 July 2013

**Workshop “Towards the Adriatic Ionian Macroregion: policies and tools for boosting territorial tourism attractiveness”
Bari, 25 September 2013**

The workshop took place in Bari, during the two-day event, organized by Puglia Region at Boscolo Hotel on 25 and 26 September 2013. The main focus was the EU strategies for the Adriatic-Ionian Macro-region area and the collaboration with the local institutions, especially considering the forthcoming enlargement of the European Union to the Adriatic area. During the first part of the event, there were the contributions of representatives of European Commission and the working groups from Croatia and Albania and Ministry of Foreign Affairs involved in the definition of the "pillars" of the macro-regional strategies.

The second part, introduced by Mr. Bernardo Notarangelo, Director of the Mediterranean Service of Puglia region, has been focused on the theme of European Territorial Co-operation and the contributions that the local network can provide to the implementation of the operational plan for the macro-regional strategy.



Bari, 25 September 2013

21

Thematic Committee on Tourism and Culture Bari, 26 September 2013

The Tourism and Culture Commission was opened by Ms. Silvia Godelli – Councillor of Puglia Region for the Mediterranean, Culture and Tourism and President of AIE Commission. She introduced to AIE members the best practices and excellences of Puglia region in the field of tourism and culture. In particular she talked about the experiences of some projects that aim to promote the culture and tourism in Puglia, such as "Teatro Pubblico Pugliese", "Puglia Sound" and "Apulia Film Commission". The aim of commission is to spread these successful experiences across the Adriatic-Ionian area.

Furthermore Mr. Francesco Palumbo, Director of the Area "Policies for the promotion of the territory, knowledge and talents of the Puglia Region" outlined the success factors for the achievement of these results, as well as, he spoke about some specific considerations about tourism and culture in the EU 2014-2020 programming period.



Bari, 26 September 2013

22

**Open Days
Brussels, 9 October 2013**

The main focus of the edition 2013 of Open Days was the next 2014-2020 programming period and the future of cohesion policy, rural development and fisheries. Open Days represented also the opportunity to present the results achieved in the period 2007-2013.

The Open Days took place in Brussels under the slogan “Europe's regions and cities taking off for 2020”. The Workshops were addressed to Europe 2020 on the following themes:

1. Managing change 2014-2020: Workshops present and discuss innovative approaches to the implementation of the 2014-2020 thematic priorities.
2. Synergies and cooperation: Identifying how to cooperate, coordinate and ensure synergies between different EU and national and regional policies and sources of funding
3. Challenges and solutions: Workshops aim at presenting practical solutions to common regional and urban challenges.

In the framework of Open Days 2013, a conference entitled “Adriatic-Ionian Macroregion: from strategy to action” took place in Brussels at Espace Monte Paschi on 9 October.



Brussels, 7-11 October 2013 - Open Days

**Commission on transport and infrastructure
Shkodra, 6 - 7 November 2013**

As one of the AdriGov partner, the Regional Council of Shkodra, organized the Workshop “The Adriatic–Ionian macroregion. transport and infrastructure” and the “AIE Thematic commission on transport and infrastructure” from 06/11/2013 to 07/11/2013 at Hotel Colosseo, Shkoder, Albania. The working group discussed about the Maritime Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Macroregion and common projects on transport and infrastructure that can be developed in the area.

The two days event was attended by AIE members, Albanian politicians and local administrators. Participants agreed that it is necessary to increase the investments in the field of transport, ports and regional airports. Common projects in this field could represent a driving force for our cooperation area.



Shkodra, 6 - 7 November 2013