

European NIS Good Practice Brokerage

The exchange of good practices between EU Member States (MS) is essential to enhance the level of Network and Information Security (NIS) on a pan-European scale. Several MS already share experiences in NIS but, to develop the EU's NIS capabilities, it is crucial that a more structured approach is given to the exchange of NIS good practices as laid down in the Agency's *Work Programme*.

To this end, ENISA acts as a good practice broker in the European NIS 'marketplace'.



What can ENISA do?

ENISA can:

- a. 'match-make', ie, help identify opportunities for co-operation between MS and possible additional partners;

- b. act as a broker as regards matters concerning co-operation in NIS;
- c. inject ENISA expertise into co-operative projects;
- d. assist in the exchange of experts between MS;
- e. support the exchange of good practice material;
- f. support co-operative meetings with MS and other partners;
- g. facilitate specific thematic NIS workshops on co-operation;
- h. support training by providing ENISA expertise; and
- i. facilitate MS by reimbursing the travel expenses of participants to meetings, though only a limited annual budget is available for this purpose.

Three concrete examples of successful co-operation

Example 1:

Hungary had expertise in setting up governmental Computer Emergency Response Teams (Gov-CERTs) – expertise gathered during its previous co-operation with Germany – and was willing to offer its expertise to Bulgaria. ENISA had knowledge and good practice material on how to establish a CERT. Bulgaria requested ENISA's support to transfer Agency expertise and Hungarian hands-on experience in setting up a Gov-CERT. In April and June 2008, training was organised jointly by CERT-Hungary and ENISA, according to Bulgaria's needs. The training was delivered by CERT-Hungary and Agency experts. ENISA material on setting up a CERT was used. In this way, ENISA successfully facilitated the exchange between Hungary and Bulgaria of good practices on how to establish a Gov-CERT.

Example 2:

In 2008, ENISA acted as a match-maker between the CERT-FI, Finland, and the CSIR/MERAKA, South Africa, to facilitate the exchange of good practices aimed at the establishment of the South African CSIRT. ENISA provided the parties involved in this co-operative effort with an excellent opportunity to meet and discuss ideas for their co-operation, and helped CERT-FI to seek a suitable funding instrument to offer assistance to South Africa as well as insights into similar initiatives carried out in the past. The ENISA 'CSIRT step-by-step' guide was used as a common reference during the project.

Example 3:

In the context of the European NIS Good Practice Brokerage, a closed workshop on



the structured exchange of cyber-crime related information between the financial sector and the government was organised in November 2008 by the Dutch Financial Information Sharing and Analysis Center (FI-ISAC)/NICC, the Theodore Puskas Foundation/CERT-Hungary and the Security Working Group of the Hungarian Banking Association, with the support of the Netherlands Bankers' Association (NVB). ENISA facilitated this co-operation, for instance, by helping to identify participants from other MS, by supporting their participation, and by providing suggestions on the drafting of the agenda, during the preparation and discussion of the workshop.

What can ENISA not do?

ENISA cannot:

- engage in activities driven by private sector organisations (unless a MS has endorsed or adopted the activity as good practice at governmental level);
- pay fees, eg, for training or consultancy, as ENISA can only reimburse travel expenses and daily allowances;
- participate in a *consortium* bid for a common EU activity that benefits from EU funding or pools resources for a common goal, eg, the implementation of EU research projects.

I want to know more...

To suggest a co-operative initiative or to obtain further information about the European NIS Good Practice Brokerage, please contact:

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