



# European Foresight Platform

supporting forward looking decision making

November 18, 2011

Newsletter 04 2011

This is the third edition of the EFP newsletter distributed via the European Foresight Platform to registered users. In the fourth issue of the EFP newsletter we inform you on

1. [2nd PARADISO conference \(Brussels, 7 – 9 September 2011\)](#)
2. [COST strategic workshop on Foresight on Future Demand for Forest-based Products and Services \(Sekocin - Poland, 13 September 2011\)](#)
3. [Conference “Challenge Social Innovation: Innovating Innovation by Research” \(Vienna, 19 – 21 September 2011\)](#)
4. [Website update: Education and Community Sites online](#)
5. [A Foresight Guide for different types of users](#)
6. [The new EFP brochure out now!](#)
7. [Is your Foresight exercise not represented as a brief on the EFP website yet?](#)
8. [200<sup>th</sup> Foresight Brief uploaded](#)
9. [Save the date: EFP Final Event](#)

Please send an e-mail to [Joachim Klerx](#) or [Dana Wasserbacher](#), if you want to unsubscribe from the newsletter.

## 1. 2<sup>nd</sup> PARADISO conference (Brussels, 7-9 September 2011)

During the 7th and 9th of September, the second edition of the PARADISO international conference, part of the “Internet and Societies: New Innovation Paths” event organised with the support of PARADISO, was held at the European Commission in Brussels. The conference was officially opened by Ms Neelie Kroes, Vice-President of the European Commission and European Digital Agenda. During the conference, keynote speakers and panelists from Europe and the rest of the world shared their visions of the future of our societies and the internet. The last session of the event was used as an occasion for the PARADISO high-level expert panel, to introduce in detail a set of recommendations to the European Commission regarding research topics to be addressed in future EU-funded programmes. The conference also included on the second day the first “Dialogue on Platforms for Collective Awareness and Action”, a one-day workshop aimed at contributing to the identification of related multidisciplinary research priorities for the last Call of FP7 and for FP8.

To view the full report, please visit the [Event Reports](#) section on the EFP website.

## **2. COST strategic workshop on Foresight on Future Demand for Forest-based Products and Services (Sekocin - Poland, 13 September 2011)**

On the 13th of September, the COST Strategic Workshop on the theme “Foresight on Future Demand for Forest-based Products and Services” was held in Sekocin Stary near Warsaw with the objective to give floor for foresight activities and their results, and raise awareness on foresight in and for the forest-based sector. The two sessions, during which a series of results have been presented and examples of foresight exercises with relevance to the future of the forest sector introduced, were followed by a panel discussion on foresight, which brought together the comments and perspectives from invited foresight experts. In the framework of this panel discussion, the European Foresight Platform (EFP) was presented. The discussion of the past experiences of foresight, mainly in the forest sector, which preceded the panel discussion as well as the presentation of a new COST action proposal under the theme “Improved Foresight for the Forest Sector”, provided an ideal framework to discuss the lessons learnt from the community building, mapping and other activities of the EFP.

To view the full report, please visit the [Event Reports](#) section on the EFP website.

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## **3. Conference “Challenge Social Innovation: Innovating Innovation by Research” (Vienna, 19 – 21 September 2011)**

During the 19th and 21st of September, the “Challenge Social Innovation” Conference took place in Vienna, co-organized by NET4SOCIETY (the Network of Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities National Contact Points) through the support of the European Commission, the Centre for Social Innovation, Vienna and the Dortmund University of Technology. The three-day event was organized as a series of 20 plenary and break-out sessions with more than 100 speakers, based on themes ranging from policy discussion and debate to FP7 networking and engagement. Speakers and discussants from all over the world included renowned researchers and practitioners in the field of social innovation.

To view the full report, please visit the [Event Reports](#) section on the EFP website.

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## **4. Website Update: Education and Community Sites online**

The European Foresight Platform (EFP) highlights key actors of the community in the fields of foresight, forward-looking activities and future studies. This new community and education site feature enables EFP users to take part in the larger network of foresight practitioners, getting to

know the key players who are actively shaping the future. The two subpages present the EFP Hall of Fame, i.e. organizations and institutions with far-reaching experience and excellence in the field of FLAs, as well as educational training in the area.

In the section [community sites](#), we present programmes, networks and institutions in the field of foresight, forward-looking activities and future studies. The short description introduces the organization or network and highlights the link to the EFP community. In the section [education sites](#), we present education programmes, related to foresight, forward-looking activities and future studies. The short description introduces these programs and by clicking on the screenshot the education website will open. For further information please contact [Joachim Klerx](#).

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## 5. A Foresight guide for different types of users

The European Foresight Platform has devised an online interactive guide to help different foresight users understand, participate and practice foresight. The guide addresses the needs of:

**Policy makers** - by showing them the impacts of foresight and how to attain them, providing examples from real cases.

**Practitioners** - by taking stock of foresight approaches, offering opportunities to share experiences and give feedback.

**Beginners** - by providing a training tool organised in four modules, which explain what foresight is, why it is important and how to conduct a whole exercise and how to select appropriate methods. This part of the guide is built thanks to the support of UEFISCDI, The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding, Romania, as part of the project Quality and Leadership for Romanian Higher Education

This foresight guide is an updated and streamlined version of the FOR-LEARN a 6th Framework Programme project of the European Commission developed by JRC-IPTS with the support of the Directorate General for Research, from January 2005 to May 2008. The guide is available at the [EFP website](#).

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## 6. New EFP Flyer out now!

The new EFP Flyer for the year 2011 is out now! You can download it on the EFP website or order copies for distribution in your organization or at your event. Please contact [Beatrice Rath](#) if you would like to receive EFP Flyers.

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## 7. Is your Foresight exercise not represented as a brief on the EFP website yet?

Use the occasion and disseminate your interesting forward looking project to a widespread audience of practitioners, academics and other interested readers from the European Commission, the European Parliament, national ministries, universities and other research organisations, NGOs and international audiences such as the UNIDO. Readers of EFP briefs come from all over the world and like to learn more about your experience. Please share your knowledge with us and send a brief to [Susanne Giesecke](#). You can find the template for EFP briefs [here](#).

## 8. 200<sup>th</sup> Foresight Brief uploaded

During the summer period 17 new EFP briefs have been added to the database and the 200th brief has been uploaded. The briefs summarise foresight projects on methodology and impacts, as well as foresight activities dealing with security, food and agricultural systems, weak signals and emerging issues in health. New foresight activities from Russia, the US, and Poland give insight into national foresight experiences.

[Brief no. 196](#) summarizes the Agrimonde project, dealing with food security in 2050. The SESTI project dealing with the development of a process to identify weak signals and emerging issues in health and is described in [brief no. 197](#) and [brief no. 198](#). The SANDERA foresight process explores the future impact of security and defence policies on the European Research Area in [brief no. 199](#). The [200<sup>th</sup> foresight brief](#) gives a summary on the Polish foresight process implemented to prepare proposals for a new strategic programme directed at advanced industrial and ecological technologies. To download the latest briefs and to browse through the EFP brief database please visit the [EFP website](#).

## 9. Save the date: EFP Final Event

The EFP final event is scheduled for **27/28 September, 2012 in Vienna**. We will take a look back into three years of EFP activities and achievements - and a look ahead into the future of EFP. The leitmotiv for the event will be "EFP for Innovation Research and Innovation Systems". More details will be announced in the coming weeks on the EFP website.