



2010 EURO-AFRICA WEEK ON ICT RESEARCH & E-INFRASTRUCTURES

Marina Congress Centre - Helsinki, Finland
December 6-10, 2010



A series of events held under the aegis of the **European Commission** (DG INFSO: International Relations Unit + GÉANT and e-Infrastructures Unit) and the **African Union Commission** with the support of the **Finnish Government** (Ministry for Foreign Affairs).



A week organised by the FP7 **EuroAfrica-ICT** (www.euroafrica-ict.org) and the **ei-Africa** (www.ei-africa.eu) EU-funded projects with the support of the **VTT Technical Research Center of Finland** (www.vtt.fi).



DELEGATE INFORMATION PACKAGE



**3rd Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research
Dec. 7-8, 2010**



**2010 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference
Dec. 9-10, 2010**

**The Scandic Marina Congress Centre
Helsinki, Finland,
7-10 December 2010**





INTRODUCTION

The '**2010 Euro-Africa Week on ICT Research and e-Infrastructures**' is organized by the FP7 EuroAfrica-ICT (www.euroafrica-ict.org) and the eI-Africa (www.ei-africa.eu) EU-funded projects with the support of the VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland: a series of events held under the auspices of the African Union Commission (AUC) and the European Commission (EC - DG INFSO - International Relations Unit + GÉANT and e-Infrastructures Unit) with the support of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) and the Ministry of Employment and the Economy (MEE) of Finland.

The two main events of the Week will take place at the Scandic Marina Congress Centre in Helsinki (Finland):

- The '3rd Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research' (December 7-8, 2010)
- The '2010 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference' (December 9-10, 2010)
- (Lab visits, December 10, 2010).

The '**3rd Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research**' - which aims at promoting and enhancing ICT research cooperation between Europe and Africa - is a follow-up event to the highly successful Forums held in Brussels, Belgium, in March 2009 and in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in February 2010 (www.euroafrica-ict.org/events/cooperation-forums/) and it is designated as an official side-event to the '3rd Africa-EU Summit' which is taking place in Tripoli, Libya, on November 29-30, 2010.

The '**2010 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference**' is an event designed for anyone with an interest in e-Infrastructures. With the aim of promoting European e-Infrastructure developments and utilization in Africa and to develop stronger cooperation links between Europe and Africa, the event represents a unique opportunity for all parties involved in e-Infrastructures to increase the visibility and impact of their activities, to network and to expand their knowledge.

Over 300 delegates are expected to attend the two events, among them: policymakers, senior representatives from Governments, representatives from national and international development cooperation agencies, representatives from national and international companies, ICT project managers, programme managers, heads of research labs, researchers, IT engineers, deans, directors, lecturers and researchers from universities and research institutes, managers of NGOs, professional associations, centres of excellence, trade unions, chambers of commerce, industry stakeholders.



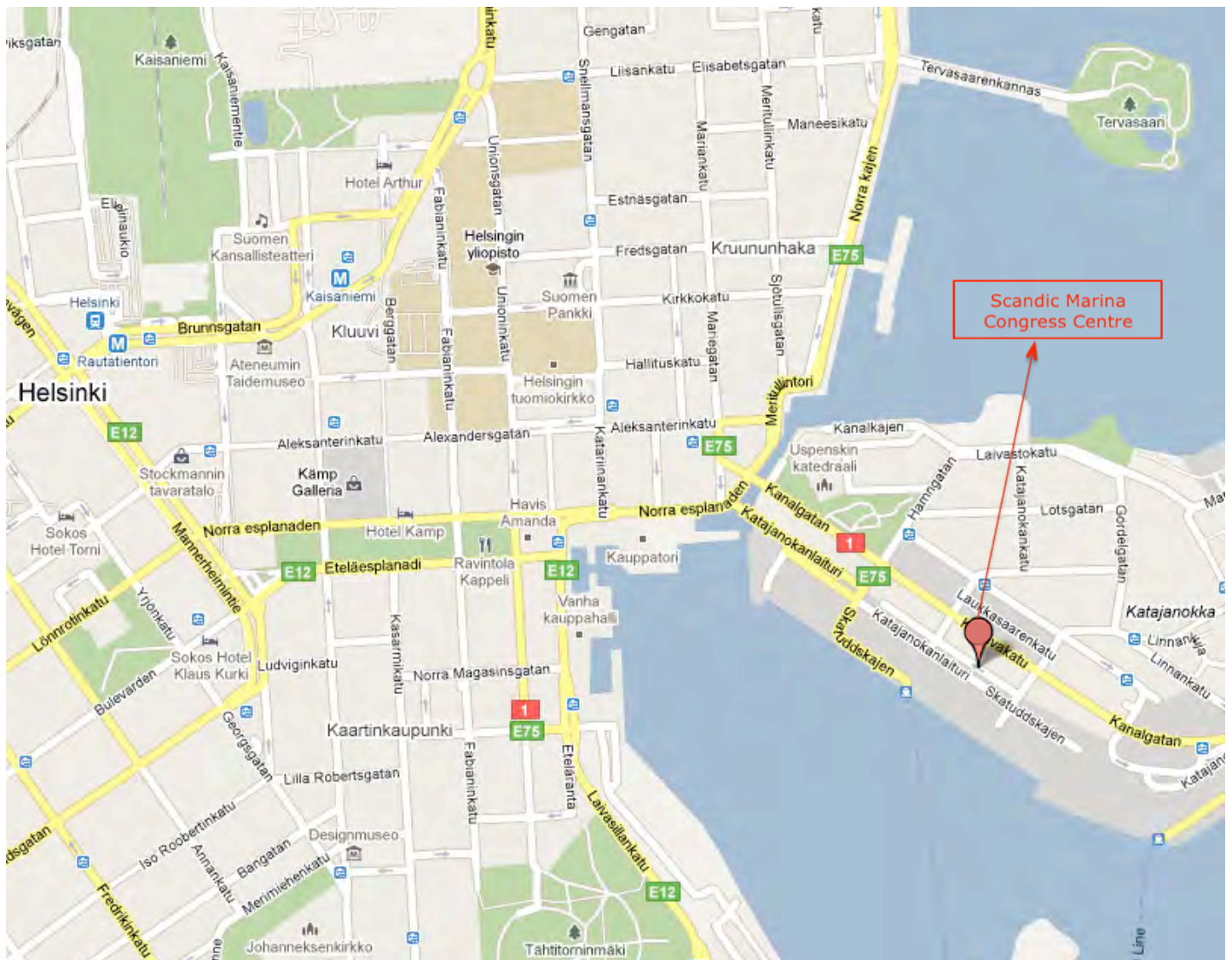


VENUE

The Scandic Marina Congress Centre – its waterfront location just a short walk from the heart of Helsinki – is a unique and incomparable venue for conferences and gala events.

Address

Scandic Marina Congress Centre
Katajanokanlaituri 6 - 00160 Helsinki - Finland
Tel. +358 / 9 16661 - URL: www.marinacongresscenter.com





How to get there?

From Helsinki Vantaa Airport

By bus...

From Helsinki Vantaa Airport take buses 415, 451 or 615 to downtown Helsinki. Alight at Helsinki railway station and take tram no. 4 from outside Stockman's department store. Alight at the fourth stop outside the Scandic Grand Marina hotel, which is opposite the Scandic Marina Congress Centre.

By car...

From Helsinki Vantaa Airport take highway 45 towards Helsinki city centre. Follow signs marked Centrum. From Pohjoisranta street, follow signs to Katajanokka. You will cross a small bridge and see the Scandic Marina Congress Center.

From Helsinki railway station

By tram...

From Helsinki train station, walk across to Stockmann's department store and take tram no. 4. Alight at the fourth stop outside the Scandic Grand Marina hotel, which is opposite the Scandic Marina Congress Center.

By taxi...

From Helsinki railway station follow signs toward Katajanokka. Head along Kaivokatu to Keskuskatu, turn left at Stockmanns department store then left along Etelä Esplanadi towards Market Place and Katajanokka. After passing Market Place (on your left) and the Presidential Palace (on your right) turn left onto Katajanokka and you will see the Scandic Marina Congress Centre.

VISA INFORMATION

Requests for invitation letters for visa purposes should be submitted via the online pre-registration portals of the events:

- **3rd Euro Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research**
<http://store.sigma-orionis.com/login?conferenceid=10>
- **2010 Euro-Africa e-Infrastructures Conference**
<http://store.sigma-orionis.com/login?conferenceid=8>

Please note that to be sure to receive a visa in time, you should submit us your full passport details well in advance. Requests will be dealt with within a few days of your confirmation of registration.

Finland is a signatory to the EU's Schengen agreement.





SUGGESTED ACCOMMODATION IN HELSINKI

All participants will have to take care of their own accommodation and will be responsible for hotel accommodation costs and all incidental costs, i.e. breakfast (when not included), telephone, internet/fax, room service, mini-bar, laundry, additional meals such as lunch and dinner - these must be paid by participants directly at the hotel at checkout.

Since Helsinki is a popular venue for conferences all year round, early booking is advised.

The conference organisers have blocked some rooms at preferential rates at the Scandic Grand Marina (just across the street from the meeting venue). Bookings at preferential rates are subject to availability: please proceed with booking your room as soon as your application to attend the event is confirmed and by Nov. 16, 2010 at the latest (very last deadline for preferential rates to be applied):

Scandic Grand Marina

Katajanokanlaituri 7, 00160 Helsinki

Tel: +358 / 9 16661

E-mail: grandmarina@scandichotels.com

URL: www.scandichotels.fi/grandmarina

Room Type	Price room / night
Single	110 EUR
Double / Twin	130 EUR
Supplement for a Superior room	45 EUR

Rates include buffet breakfast, free use of sauna and gym, all local taxes. The rooms can be booked on the Internet or directly at the hotel by using the reservation code: BTWA071210.

Please find below a list of other suggested hotels located in Helsinki.

Scandic Continental

Mannerheimintie 46, 00260 Helsinki

Tel: +358 / 9 47371

E-mail: continentalhelsinki@scandichotels.com

URL: www.scandichotels.com/en/Hotels/Countries/Finland/Helsinki/Hotels/Scandic-Continental-Helsinki/

Scandic Marski

Mannerheimintie 10, 00100 Helsinki

Tel: +358 / 9 68 061

E-mail: marski@scandichotels.com

URL: www.scandichotels.com/en/Hotels/Countries/Finland/Helsinki/Hotels/Scandic-Marski/

Crowne Plaza Helsinki

Mannerheimintie 50, 00260 Helsinki, Suomi

Tel: +358 / 9 25210000





E-mail: helsinki.cph@restel.fi
URL: www.crowneplaza-helsinki.fi/en_GB/etusivu_eng/

Sokos Hotel Klaus Kurki

Bulevardi 2-4
00100 Helsinki, Suomi
Tel: +358 / 2 07704700
E-mail: rooms@klauskhotel.com
URL: www.sokoshotels.fi/en/

Hotel Anna Helsinki

Annankatu 1, 00120 Helsinki
Tel: +358 / 9 616 621
E-mail: info@hotelanna.fi
URL: www.hotelanna.fi/en/

For additional hotels check

www.helsinki-hotels.net/
www.hotels-helsinki.com/
www.hotelclub.com/Finland/Helsinki-hotels/

REGISTRATIONS & IDENTIFICATION BADGES

Participants are required to register and obtain identification badges prior to the opening of the meeting. Kindly also carry your invitation letter and personal identification for onsite accreditation. For security reasons, all participants should wear identification badges at all times.

FORUM AND CONFERENCE PROGRAMMES

The programmes of the two events will be updated periodically and made available on the EuroAfrica-ICT (www.euroafrica-ict.org/events/forum) and eI-Africa (www.ei-africa.eu) websites. Printed copies will also be available in the conference packs.

LANGUAGE

The Forum and Conference will be held exclusively in English. No translation will be provided.





EVENTS PROCEEDINGS

Events proceedings (PowerPoint presentations as Acrobat files and event reports) will be made available on the EuroAfrica-ICT and eI-Africa websites a few days after the events.

LUNCHES & COFFEE BREAKS

Refreshments during scheduled lunch and coffee breaks will be provided free of charge at the venue for all participants.

PERSONAL SECURITY AND SAFETY OF PARTICIPANTS

Personal security is an individual responsibility. Using common sense and being alert can reduce risks.

The aim of this security bulletin is to provide conference participants with the necessary advice to avoid risks and to ensure the safety of valuables and personal security.

During your stay at the conference venue, the following advice should be observed:

- Wear your meeting badge visibly and display it on demand to an authorized person;
- Do not bring unauthorized persons and children into the conference centre;
- Safeguard your valuable property; and
- Check you have all your documents and personal items before you leave conference halls and meeting rooms.

In the hotel:

- Upon entering or leaving your room, make it a habit to lock the door;
- Before leaving, inspect your room to make sure no money, jewellery, cameras, etc. have been left exposed;
- Deposit valuables or portable items at the reception desk and obtain a receipt.





HEALTHCARE

In Finland, medical facilities and their staff are generally excellent and are widely available for emergency services. English is commonly spoken by Finnish medical personnel.

The public hospital system and many private hospitals honour foreign credit cards. Most pharmacies ("apteekki" in Finnish) are open during normal shopping hours and major cities have at least one 24-hour service pharmacy.

A tourist or temporary visitor to Finland requiring immediate emergency medical assistance may visit a local medical centre or clinic, called "ensiapuusama" (first-aid station) in Finnish. Usually these stations are located at hospitals and provide a full range of services. An appointment is usually expected, although it is possible to see a nurse immediately. In an emergency, all foreigners may turn to the nearest health centre or hospital emergency unit.

The general emergency number is 112 and is free of charge.

MOBILE PHONE SERVICES

Participants are encouraged to come to Helsinki with their dual band mobile handsets (900/1800 MHZ).

It is possible to buy prepaid SIM cards from mobile phone shops and R-kiosks.

The country code for Finland is +358. International calls can be made by adding a + or 00 (common European code) in front of the country code.

CURRENCY AND BANKS

The currency in Finland is the Euro (€).

Foreign currency and traveller's cheques can be exchanged in banks and at 'bureaux de change' at ports, stations and airports. The banks are open Monday-Friday, from 9.15 a.m. to 16.15 p.m.

There are no currency restrictions in Finland for the export and import of local and foreign currency.

American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa credit cards are widely accepted.





ABOUT HELSINKI

Helsinki, the capital and largest city in Finland, is located in the southern part of the country, on the shore of the Gulf of Finland by the Baltic Sea. This city, together with the neighbouring cities of Espoo, Kauniainen and Vantaa, forms the Helsinki metropolitan area with more than a million inhabitants.

The official languages of Finland are Finnish and Swedish, while Saami is recognized as a regional language. English is widely understood.

The city has a cold continental climate. Owing to the mitigating influence of the Baltic Sea and Gulf stream, temperatures in winter are much higher than the northern location might suggest. Temperatures below -20°C occur normally a week or two in a year. In December, days are short, frosty weather is commonplace and deep, heavy snowfalls are predictable...

Main Sights

Cathedral

The Cathedral designed by Carl Ludwig Engel in splendid Neoclassical style.

Address: Unioninkatu 29, 00170 Helsinki

Esplanade Park

Situated in the heart of Helsinki, the Esplanade serves as a promenade for tourists and a place to relax for city residents.

Address: Esplanade Park, 00170 Helsinki

Helsinki Zoo

One of the oldest zoos in the world, founded in 1889. In Helsinki Zoo tourists can meet animals from the arctic tundra to the tropical rainforest. Approximately 200 different animal species reside in the Zoo, and there are almost a 1,000 different plant species.

Address: Mustikkamaanpolku 12, 00570 Helsinki

Linnanmäki Amusement Park

The amusement park has an enormous selection of fun rides, from ultra scary to more easy-going. The special wooden rollercoaster is over 50-years-old and remains the most popular ride.

Address: Tivolikuja 1, 00510 Helsinki

Senate Square

With its surroundings, the Senate Square forms a unique example of Neoclassical architecture. The square is dominated by four buildings designed by Engel. The Palace of the Council of State houses the offices of the Prime minister of Finland and the cabinet.

Address: Senate Square, 00170 Helsinki





Museums

Helsinki's museums range from the Ateneum Art Museum, to the Arabian Museum, which houses an acclaimed collection of Finnish Arabia porcelain, to the nearby Espoo Transport Museum (Espoon Automuseo), displaying around 100 different vehicles.

Additional information on Helsinki can be found on the following websites:

www.helsinki.world-guides.com/

www.helsinki.com/

www.visithelsinki.fi/In_English/Visitor.iw3

We hope that you will enjoy your stay in Helsinki and wish you an excellent "Euro-Africa Week"
The EuroAfrica-ICT and eI-Africa partnerships

