



## PRESS RELEASE

### And the EPSA 2009 Award Nominees are...

The European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) proudly presents the European Public Sector Award nominees 2009!

The award for the best and most innovative performers in European public administration will be presented during an international symposium and ceremony which will take place from 4-6 November 2009 in Maastricht, the Netherlands. Five nominees in each EPSA theme – *Performance Improvement in Public Service Delivery; Citizen Involvement; New Forms of Partnership Working; Leadership & Management for Change* – are still in the running to win the EPSA 2009 trophy.

Over 300 applications were received from local, regional and national public administration bodies all over Europe, showing new, innovative and concrete projects for improving public administration and thereby improving the wellbeing of European citizens. A renowned, international pool of experts assessed and ranked all applications. As a subsequent step, short-listed projects across all themes received onsite visits by EPSA representatives, after which the jury decided on 20 nominees who are all in the running to win the EPSA 2009 trophy. In addition, 40 contestants will be awarded with a certificate for Best Practice in recognition of their innovative projects.

**From Italy, one organisation has been nominated for the EPSA 2009 trophy (*Consiglio Regionale del Piemonte*) and three Italian organisations will receive a Best Practice Certificate (*INPS, CONSIP, Comune di Livorno*).**

The EPSA 2009 Award event will bring together a range of experts, European politicians and representatives from the European Commission to honour the nominees and to debate on the future of public administration in Europe. Some highlights of this international and innovative event include a reception at the town hall of Maastricht, where Mayor Gerd Leers will hand out the EPSA Best Practice Certificates; the high-level symposium at the Provincial Government House, which is where the prominent Treaty of Maastricht was signed; and the festive award ceremony on 5 November 2009, where the winners will be announced.

The European Institute of Public Administration is the place where people who deal with European affairs can learn in a multicultural environment benefiting from a unique combination of practical know-how and scientific excellence. As Europe's leading centre of excellence on European integration and the new challenges for public management, EIPA is proud to host this year the European Public Sector Award 2009 in Maastricht.

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