



## **Press Release**

Athens, 15/01/2007

### **Bosnia – Herzegovina gains high-speed connectivity to SEEREN2 and GEANT2 networks**

#### **One step further towards reducing the digital divide**

The Educational and Networking community of Bosnia and Herzegovina has made another leapfrog towards the overcoming of the digital divide that will provide equal opportunities for researchers being attained and enhance attempts to build the extended European Research Area (ERA) in the region.

In the context of the SEEREN2 (<http://www.seeren.org>) project a **new cross-border dark fibre link** has been established between a “neutral” aggregation point within the country and the closest SEEREN2 node in Belgrade providing in this way high-speed access to the pan-European R&E network. The link has been deployed as a result of monthly efforts of all the B&H partners and the National Research and Education Networks of Greece (GRNET) and Serbia (AMRES). The fibres are leased from Telekom Srbija and Telekom Srpska, whilst the communication equipments have been provided by Meriton Networks.

The University of Banja Luka is the first beneficiary of the new link. Having fulfilled all their contractual obligations, a Gigabit-lambda, with 5 intermediate points, enables the international connection to the pan-European network cloud.

The realization of the new link is of significant added-value as the inclusion of Bosnia & Herzegovina to the backbone network leverages the European dimension in the execution of the project and supports the development of human resources and transfer of networking know-how via co-operation with other academic communities in the peninsula of Balkans and worldwide.

**More information:**

<http://www.seeren.org>

**Contact:**

Dimitra Kotsokali

GRNET

Tel.: +30 210 7474253

e-mail: [dkotso@grnet.gr](mailto:dkotso@grnet.gr)