

IPv6 **6DISS** emination and Exploitation



6DISS was a two-and-a-half-year European project to provide IPv6 training and knowledge transfer to research networks in developing regions. It also established contacts with networking personnel and organisations in these regions, in order to encourage cooperation and possible future participation in European R&D activities.

The project targeted eight developing regions: Asia-Pacific, the Caribbean, Central Asia, the Mediterranean, South & Central America, South-East Europe, Southern Africa, and Sub-Saharan Africa. IPv6 training workshops were organised in each of these regions, with follow-up support made available. This provided an opportunity to evaluate the current state of research networking in each region. In addition, the project provided specialist training for instructors and engineers at locations in Europe, developed e-learning material for online distribution, and exchanged deployment experiences with research networks in China and India.

6DISS built on the IPv6 deployment experiences of the 6NET, Euro6IX and GÉANT projects, as well as the liaisons established with the IPv6 Forum, European IPv6 Task Force and IETF. The aim was to help organisations in developing countries benefit from this experience since they have fewer legacy installations and are therefore able to utilise the new technology in an efficient manner. The documentation produced by the aforementioned projects was used as the basis of the 6DISS training material, and was further expanded and improved upon during the lifetime of the project.

6DISS involved ten partners from the commercial, research and academic sectors and represented a total investment of EUR 1,053,265; 85% of which is funded from the Information Society Technologies Programme of the European Union. The project started on 1 April 2005 and concluded on 30 September 2007.

Objectives

- » Establish information exchange on Internet deployment issues with emerging network operators, universities, commercial organisations governments and regulators in developing regions.
- » Enhance overall knowledge by exchanging IPv6 deployment experiences with China and India.
- » Exploit skills and knowledge gained by IST projects dealing with deployment and evolution of the Internet.
- » Disseminate the documentation on IPv6 deployment and migration produced by IST projects, and improve this in response to feedback from users.
- » Improve the opportunities for developing countries to participate in European R&D activities by establishing contacts and knowledge of the available skills and facilities.
- » Help develop state-of-the-art infrastructures in the targeted regions.
- » Promote European technologies, particularly with respect to IPv6 where Europe has a strong competence.
- » Inform workshop participants about latest standards and interoperability issues.



- » Twelve IPv6 training workshops were held during the lifetime of the project in Taipei (Asia-Pacific), Port Elizabeth (South Africa), Kapaonik (South-East Europe), Malta (Mediterranean), Quito (South America), Dakar (Sub-Saharan Africa), Guatemala City (Central America), Guadeloupe (Caribbean), Rabat x 2 (Northern Africa), Ashgabat (Central Asia) and Plovdiv (South-East Europe). A 'Training the Trainers' workshop was also held in Brussels for IPv6 instructors.
- » 6DISS supported a number of other IPv6 training events in Cairo (Egypt), Nairobi (Kenya), Bucharest (Romania), Lancaster (UK), St Louis (USA), Cannes (France), Athens (Greece) and Luxembourg City (Luxembourg).
- » Two liaison workshops were organised in New Delhi (in conjunction with the BELIEF eInfrastructures Conference) and Xi'an (in conjunction with APAN 24). The aim was to exchange deployment experiences with countries where IPv6 was already well-established, and where significant take-up was expected in future.
- » 6DISS developed a significant amount of tutorial material for its training workshops that may be freely used for non-commercial purposes. This material is available from <http://www.6diss.org/tutorials/>
- » 6DISS in partnership with Instruxion developed an online IPv6 e-learning course. This uses an interactive multimedia format that can easily be customised to suit particular requirements, and is also freely available at <http://www.6diss.org/e-learning/>

The course is available with Portuguese and Russian sub-titles, but sub-titles in other languages can easily be added.
- » The IPv6 Deployment Guide produced by the 6NET project on the basis of its operational experiences, is still available at <http://www.6diss.org/publications/manuals/deployment-guide.pdf>
- » 6DISS established two IPv6 testbeds in Sofia and Paris that can be used for training and experimentation. Further information (including how to book) can be found at <http://www.renater.fr/spip.php?article439&lang=en>
- » The IPv6 Tiger Team website collects IPv6 presentations and materials of interest to general IPv6 administrators and users. It is also the focal point of a virtual helpdesk which can offer users advice on IPv6 configuration deployment issues. <http://www.6pack.org/>

In addition, a collection of useful IPv6 network management tools and applications can be found on the website.
- » 6DISS published several strategy papers targeted at managers, funding bodies and governments. These outline the advantages of IPv6, make the case for using it, and recommend specific actions for deploying the technology. These papers are available at <http://www.6diss.org/publications/#papers>

<http://www.6diss.org/>