



WiFi4EU

BCO webinar

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Web sites:

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/policies/wifi4eu-free-wi-fi-europeans>
<https://ec.europa.eu/inea/en/connecting-europe-facility/cef-telecom/wifi4eu>

The European Union is bringing free Wi-Fi to the public parks, squares, libraries, town halls...

€120 million of EU investments in vouchers

At least 6,000 to 8,000 local communities

WHO WILL BENEFIT?



Everyone: WiFi4EU will give free internet access to local residents and visitors throughout the entire EU in the main centres of community life (parks, squares, libraries, public buildings, etc.).



WHO CAN APPLY?

Municipalities or groups of municipalities:

Who would like to offer digital public services such as eGovernment, eHealth, eTourism, etc.

Who seek funding for equipment and installation and can provide free connection to their community for at least 3 years.



one voucher per municipality
= **€15,000**

Reminder on the rules set in the regulation

- **First come first served.** In principle this means the first 2800 municipalities clicking on the button Apply.
- In addition, to balance the geographical distribution, some automatic adjustments are made to the list of the first 2800 ones:
 - if a country does not reach the minimum 15 vouchers, we go beyond the first 2800 ones to first guarantee the minimum 15
 - if a country reaches more than the maximum 8% (224 vouchers), then we stop allocating vouchers for that country
- As requested by some Member States, the cap has been increased to 15% in the project of a decision for WP2019 submitted for consultation to the CEF Committee

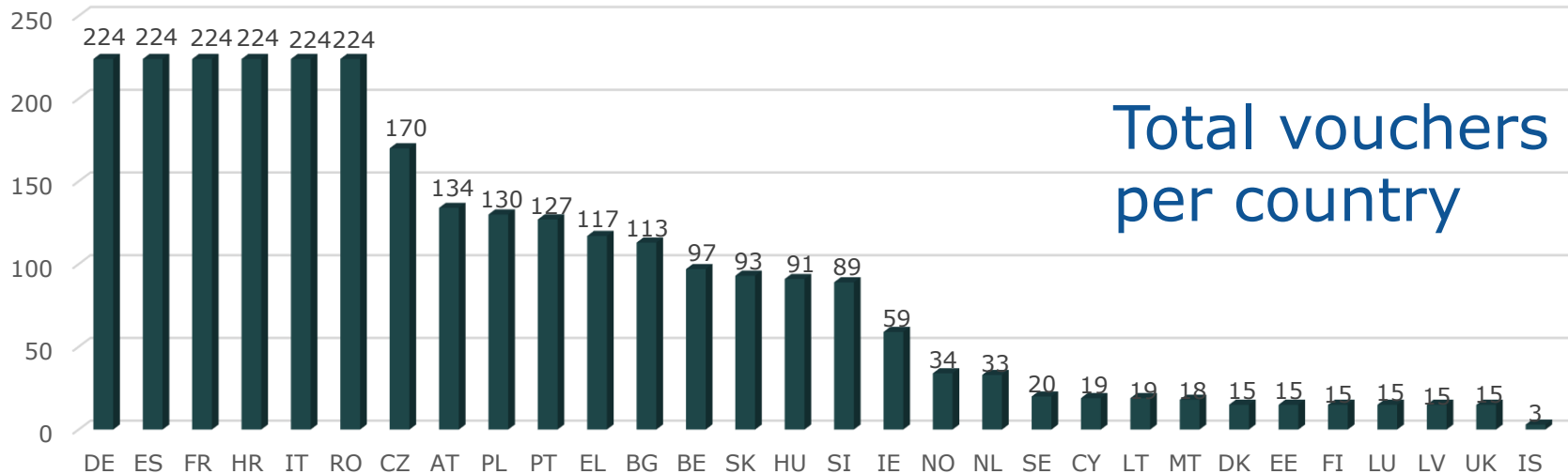
- **Call 1 - 2800 vouchers – EUR 42 million**
- Call launched on 7th November 2018, at 13:00 CET
to 9th November 2018, at 17:00 CET
- Consultation of the CEF Committee on the results of the WiFi4EU call for proposals through written procedure. (28/11/2018 to 03/12/2018)
- Award decision (4 December) Winners announced (7 December)
- Already **2500+** grant agreements signed to date



IT DE ES FR reached their maximum vouchers (224) within the first **3 seconds**

Cities' participation has been **MASSIVE**
21,000 registrations
13,200 total applications
3,500 applications in first **5 seconds**

Distribution of the 2800 vouchers



Time at which countries reached the maximum vouchers

COUNTRY	TIME OF THE LAST « WINNING » APPLICATION
PT	2018-11-07 13:01:12.544
IT	2018-11-07 13:00:01.179
DE	2018-11-07 13:00:02.144
ES	2018-11-07 13:00:02.536
FR	2018-11-07 13:00:03.626
RO	2018-11-07 13:00:09.613
CY	2018-11-07 13:00:13.312
LT	2018-11-07 13:00:28.221
HR	2018-11-07 13:00:29.350
DK	2018-11-07 13:00:37.502
SI	2018-11-07 13:01:02.156
MT	2018-11-07 13:01:09.627
NO	2018-11-07 13:01:10.473
EL	2018-11-07 13:01:11.269
NL	2018-11-07 13:01:11.936
CZ	2018-11-07 13:01:12.659
BG	2018-11-07 13:01:12.701
IE	2018-11-07 13:01:13.430
HU	2018-11-07 13:01:13.766
PL	2018-11-07 13:01:13.996
SE	2018-11-07 13:01:14.179
SK	2018-11-07 13:01:14.321
AT	2018-11-07 13:01:14.393
BE	2018-11-07 13:01:15.657
EE	2018-11-07 13:02:28.447
FI	2018-11-07 13:07:58.177
UK	2018-11-07 13:40:16.604
IS	2018-11-07 17:02:04.002
LU	2018-11-08 08:47:37.529
LV	2018-11-08 09:06:36.607

- The massive participation demonstrates a **genuine need and interest** for public Wi-Fi.
 - Some Member States have **national initiatives on Wi-Fi**
 - We encourage Member States to **complement the funding**.
- **Level of National publicity vs. Number of vouchers.**
 - First come first served is an important factor and some countries performed better in applying within seconds
 - We know some Member States have made a specific campaign and it seems there is a correlation
- In February, launch of a **survey** to collect feedback of municipalities and companies who used the portal. Results will be presented to the CEF Committee.

Single Authentication

- **Goal** is to provide a secure solution for WiFi authentication with an easy to access experience across the EU.
- **Pre-market analysis** has been launched last year to analyse the solutions on the market. Finding: solutions with no personal data available on market
- **Call of tender** expected to be published in Q1 2019.
- **Helpdesk** to support municipalities in reconfiguration

The WiFi4EU Community

An **interactive forum** that serves as a direct, focal point with stakeholders (i.e. municipalities and Wi-Fi installation companies) for information exchange

- Connecting municipalities across Europe to share their experience in the implementation of WiFi4EU.
- In a 2nd phase, it may extend on other knowledge sharing activities around connectivity beyond WiFi4EU.



We request the support of national authorities in encouraging municipalities to share practices.

<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/wifi4eu>

Conclusions

Municipalities **need** WiFi4EU funding. It will benefit citizens and economic activity.

Publicity has a direct impact on the number of won vouchers for a given country

Need for national authorities to encourage municipalities in **sharing their best practices** via futurium and **to support them in the installation phase.**

ANNEXES

- **99,6%** of the 2800 vouchers were exhausted within the first hour,
 - **IT DE ES FR:** all vouchers exhausted within **first 3 seconds**
 - Other countries within **first 8 minutes** (but UK IS LU LV)
 - last voucher on the second day at 9:06.
- **Six countries reached the maximum** number of vouchers (**DE ES FR IT RO HR**)
- **All countries reached the minimum** of 15 vouchers, but Iceland