Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP)
ICT Policy Support Programme (ICT-PSP)

CIP ICT-PSP
Implementation report 2007

JULY 2008

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1.   INTRODUCTION :

THE ICT PSP IN ITS FIRST YEAR

The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy Support Programme (ICT PSP) is one of the three specific programmes of the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP). The ICT PSP started its first year in 2007 as the other programmes of the CIP.

The ICT PSP aims to accelerate the development of a sustainable, competitive, innovative and inclusive information society. It aims at stimulating innovation and competitiveness through the wider uptake and best use of ICT by citizens, governments and businesses.

It is one of the main financial instruments in support of the EU strategic framework, i2010 – A European Information Society for growth and employment – which promotes an open, innovative and competitive digital economy and emphasises ICT as a driver of inclusion and quality of life.

The uptake of ICT in businesses is in general addressed by the private sector and public policies need to focus on creating the best conditions for business developments and on raising awareness of the benefits of the technology innovations notably to SMEs. The uptake of ICT in areas of public interest requires more proactive policies.

Innovative and more efficient services in areas like health, inclusion, public administrations or energy efficiency require the wider and better use of ICT based services. The major hurdles preventing this include the unavailability or too low emergence of those ICT-based services despite technology maturity, the lack of interoperability of solutions across the Member States as well as the market fragmentation of ICT-based solutions.

The ICT PSP helps overcome those hurdles by hindering the development of an information society for all in support of the i2010 goals. It helps develop markets for innovative ICT-based solutions notably in areas of public interest. This helps open a wide range of new business opportunities in particular for innovative SMEs that provide ICT-based solutions.

The ICT PSP builds on the experiences gained through former programmes (such as Modinis and eTen or eContentplus). It helps in piloting actions for solving interoperability issues and validating innovative services in real setting, in networking for facilitating experience sharing and consensus building. Those actions are complemented by benchmarking the development of the information society in Europe, supporting policy coordination by analysis and awareness raising actions.

2.   OVERVIEW OF ICT PSP ACTIVITIES IN 2007

2.1.   WORK PROGRAMME 2007

The annual work programme for 2007 was established by Commission Decision C(2007) 2173 of 24 May 2007 following the positive opinion of the ICT PSP Management Committee (CIP- ICTC) on 28 March 2007.

The budget of the ICT PSP Work programme 2007 was in total of 65,5 M€. It drew on the ICT PSP operational budget of 2007 for a total amount of 57,772 M€[1] on the ICT PSP 2008 budget for up to 7,728 M€.

The ICT PSP work programme 2007 was primarily based on the following three main themes:

    – Efficient and interoperable eGovernment services;

    – ICT for accessibility, ageing and social integration;

    – ICT for sustainable and interoperable health services.

Those three main themes, mobilising the main part of the budget, have been addressed through specific objectives to be supported by a limited number of high impact pilots or thematic networks.

The above main themes have been complemented by thematic networks addressing the following themes:

    – Sharing experience on ICT initiatives for SMEs;

    – Supporting sustainable growth;

    – Intelligent cars awareness action;

    – Privacy protection infrastructures.

Implementation measures

The support was mainly brought through call for proposals for co-financing pilot and networking actions.

Two types of pilot actions are supported:

    – Pilot A: pilot building on existing National initiatives and aiming at developing interoperability and preparing for EU wide implementation of ICT based services.

    – Pilot B: pilot show casing and testing innovative ICT based solutions at real scale to demonstrate technical, organisational and legal feasibility

In both case, a particular attention is paid for facilitating scalability, further integration, replication and wider adoption of the piloted solutions.

Thematic networks gather relevant stakeholders for sharing experience, building consensus and preparing for further deployment of ICT based services in relevant areas.

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[1] This amount includes the contributions to be received from EFTA / EEA countries

Other implementation measures, concerned benchmarking, studies, conferences and events have been also supported through calls for tenders or grants without call for proposals.

2.2. IMPLEMENTATION OF WP2007

This Implementation Report has been set out according to the main themes and objectives of the WP2007.

Where possible, the report already refers to impacts. In most cases, however, the impact will only be measurable after some time and is therefore not yet addressed in this report.

The report shows in Annex 1 the individual budget allocations per objective in line with the 2007 work programme as approved by the CIP ICTC.

Project resulting form the Call for proposals in 2007

The pilots and the thematic networks have been selected through a call for proposals open from 25 May to 23 October 2007. A portfolio of 22 retained proposals (from 86 received) for an overall budget of 54 M€, provides a full coverage of the themes and objectives addressed, with high quality projects involving a mix of public authorities, private companies and standardisation bodies among the participants.

Overall, public bodies represent 51% of participants in selected proposals following Call 1. SMEs represent almost 30% of the participants, and the rest concerns other private commercial entities.

Negotiations had been initiated in view to launch projects during the first half of 2008.

Among the selected proposals, three large scale pilot actions (Pilot A) involves National authorities public ministries in MS, in view to develop interoperable systems for cross boarder operations:

– PEPPOL will pilot interoperable solutions for an EU-wide eProcurement in view of facilitating the response from enterprises, in particular SME's, from one country to public procurement opportunities in any other country. The project will address four key relevant issues (i.e. e-Signature, e-Invoicing, e-Catalogue and Virtual Company Dossier).

8 Member States have already joined the project. Further participation is expected and PEPPOL will also set up of a "reference group" involving all Member States in view a adopting common specifications that will facilitate further deployment of EU wide interoperable eProcurement.

– STORK will pilot an interoperable solution for an EU wide Identity Management system. The solution is based on a distributed architecture that will pave the way towards full integration of EU e-services while taking into account specifications and infrastructures currently existing in EU Member States. 19 Member states' National administrations are involved in the project.

– SOS will pilot interoperable electronic patient record systems, with an initial focus on patient emergency data sets and medication record solutions. 12 national regulatory

authorities and competence centres for eHealth are cooperating in this large scale pilot.

In terms of impact, the commitment of MS co-investing in such projects (the EU funding is around 10 M€ per project, representing 50 % of the budget) is already a significant result, demonstrating the attractiveness of the approach. The intensive dialogue triggered by the preparation of those projects is already an important step towards greater harmonisation in defining and implementing those services. Developing such interoperable services will have an impact on improving working conditions for EU enterprises, in particular for SMEs.

Complementing this important set of pilots, seven smaller pilots (EU funding is 2 to 3 M€ per pilot, representing 50 % of the budget) aiming at show-casing and validating innovative ICT based services, will be supported together with eleven Thematic networks.

In particular, a group of five pilots addresses the need to best use ICT for improving quality of life and healthcare of elderly people. This contributes to create some critical mass for the uptake of ICT based services. This helps for facing the EU social challenge of the ageing population and to stimulate the emergence of important potential markets, in particular for SMEs.

More details on projects and budget are provided in the table in annex I.

Other measures in 2007

Other measures, including benchmarking, studies, conferences and events have been also supported for up to 11.5 M€ in support of the monitoring and policy coordination for the development of the information society. Those measures have been implemented through calls for tenders or grants without call for proposals.

More details on actions and budget are provided in the table in annex I bis.

3.   FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information relating to the ICT Policy Support Programme and its implementation can be found on the programme web site at http://ec.europa.eu/ict_psp.

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Annex I: Details on the objectives and budget allocation

Call for proposals (ICT PSP Call1)

Themes	Objectives	Projects for negotiation	Budget for implementation per objective	Budget for implementation per theme
Theme 1 : eGovernment	1.1: Enabling EU-wide public eProcurement	1 large scale Pilot : **PEPPOL**	9,8 M€	**24,3 M€**
	1.2:Towards pan-European recognition of electronic IDs (eIDs)	1 large scale Pilot: **STORK**	10 M€	
	1.3: Innovative solutions for inclusive and efficient eGovernment	2 Pilot **ECRN, eGOS**	3,5 M€	
	1.4: Experience sharing and consensus building in the uptake of innovative eGovernment services	2 Thematic network: **PEP-NET, EGOVMONET**	1 M€	
Theme 2 : eInclusion	2.1: Accessible digital Audiovisual (AV) systems	1 Pilot **DTV4All**	1,46 M€	**15,2 M€**
	2.2: ICT for ageing	5 Pilot: **T-SENIORITY, COMMONWELL, CLEAR, NEXES, DREAMING**	13,24 M€	
	2.3: Experience sharing and consensus building in ICT for inclusion	1 Thematic network **BRIDGE IT**	0,5 M€	
Theme 3: eHealth	3.1: EU wide implementation of eHealth services to support continuity of care: patient's summary and ePrescription	1 large scale Pilot: **SOS**	11 M€	**11,5 M€**
	3.2: Experience sharing and consensus building in eHealth	1 Thematic network: **CALLIOPE**	0,5 M€	
Other themes	4.1: Experience sharing on ICT initiatives for SMEs	3 Thematic network: **DEN4DEK, NET SHARE, CO-LLAB**	1,42 M€	**3 M€**
	4.2: Supporting sustainable growth	2 Thematic network: **ICT21EE, NESIS**	0,91 M€	
	4.3: Intelligent cars	1 Thematic network: **ICARS-NETWORK**	0,34 M€	
	4.4: Privacy protection infrastructure	1 Thematic network: **PRIVACY-OS**	0.33 M€	

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Annex I bis : Details on the objectives and budget allocation

Other measures implemented through call for tender or grants without call for proposals

Other measures, objectives	including	Budget for implementation
4.5: Benchmarking the progress of the Information Society	- Households and Entreprises surveys - surveys on broadband networks and access, eGovernment, eHealth, eInclusion and on line services	**3.5 M€**
4.6:Studies, conferences, events and support to evaluations, reviews and communication	Studies : - Mid term review of the i2010 initiative - impact of ICT convergence on internal market - ICT, rural development and regional policies - analysis of advanced e-Signatures criteria - user-created content - eGovernment accessibility guidelines - eGovernment, user satisfaction - economic impact of interoperable EHR - Legal framework of interoperable eHealth - eInclusion initiative support - Accessibility to ICT products and services - Evidence base for INFSO impact assessment - Support to interim evaluation Support to events : - i2010 Annual conference (grant to the EU Presidency) - eLearning conference (grant to the EU Presidency) 75 k€ - eGovernment Ministerial Conference (grant to the EU Presidency) - eHealth Ministerial conference (grant to the EU Presidency) - eInclusion Ministerial conference (grant to the EU Presidency) - eInclusion Summit	**8 M€**