CIP ICT-PSP
Implementation report 2008

European Commission
Information Society and Media

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1. INTRODUCTION : THE ICT PSP

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 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.

Innovative and more efficient services in areas of public interest like health, inclusion, public administrations or energy efficiency require wider and better use of ICT based services. More proactive policies are needed to promote this uptake.

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 focuses in piloting actions for solving interoperability issues and validating innovative services in real setting, and in networking actions that support 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 2008

2.1. WORK PROGRAMME 2008

The annual work programme for 2008 was established by Commission Decision C(2008)1584 of 16 April 2008 following the positive opinion of the ICT PSP Management Committee (CIP- ICTC) on 13 February 2008.

The budget available for the ICT PSP Work programme 2008 was € 44,584 million[1].

The ICT PSP work programme 2008 was primarily based on the following two main themes:

- Theme 1: ICT for user friendly administration, public services and inclusion;
- Theme 2: ICT for energy efficiency and sustainability in urban area.

Those two themes mobilised the main part of the budget, have been addressed through specific objectives to be supported by a limited number of high impact pilot projects or thematic networks.

A third theme "Internet evolution and security" has been also addressed through thematic networks only.

The pilots and the thematic networks have been selected through a call for proposals open from 29 April to 9 September 2008 for an indicative budget of € 39 million.

Implementation measures

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.

Other measures

Other implementation measures, concerned benchmarking, studies, conferences and events have been also supported through calls for tenders or grants without call for proposals were planned for a total amount of € 5.5 million.

2.2. IMPLEMENTATION OF WP2008

This Implementation Report has been set out according to the main themes and objectives of the WP2008. 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.

Annex 1 shows individual budget allocations per objective in line with the WP2008 approved by the CIP ICT management Committee.

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[1]The total amount of ICT PSP budget for 2008 was € 52.312 million. € 44.584 million of these were attributed to activities of the 2008 work programme, which are addressed in this report. The rest of € 7.728 million had been frontloaded for supporting actions of the 2007 work programme.

Project resulting form the Call for proposals in 2008

The pilots and the thematic networks have been selected through a call for proposals open from 29 April to 9 September 2008. They represent a portfolio of 20 retained proposals (from 66 received) for an overall budget of € 39.993 million. The portfolio provides a very good coverage of the themes and objectives addressed, with high quality projects supported by consortia mixing public authorities, private companies and other organisations among the participants.

Overall, public bodies represent 40% of participants in the selected proposals of the Call. SMEs represent almost 25%[2] of the participants, 15% were large enterprises and the rest concerns other entities such as intermediaries or user associations.

Projects are launched during the first half of 2009 after negotiations.

Among the selected proposals, "SPOCS" is one large scale pilot action (Pilot A) which involves directly national authorities in view to prepare the implementation of the Services Directive[3] and to develop interoperable exchanges of authentic electronic dossiers. "SPOCS" regroups 9 Member States and foresees further participation. The EU funding is €7 million.

As for the previous Pilots A launched after the first call for proposals (based on work programme 2007), the direct involvement of Member States co-investing in "SPOCS" is a significant result and confirm the attractiveness of the pilot A approach. This would have an important impact on improving working conditions for EU enterprises, in particular for SMEs.

13 other pilots (pilot B) will show-case and validate innovative ICT based services. Typically, the EU funding ranges from € 2 to 2.5 million per project and represents up to 50 % of the budget of the pilot.

– Within theme 1, 6 pilots complement a set of pilots already launched after the first call for proposals in the domains of eGovernment and eInclusion:

  o 2 pilots ("Ruralinclusion" and "iSAC6+") concern a wider adoption of innovative eGovernment services;

  o "Reach112" aim to test in five countries (ES, FR, NL, SW, UK) accessibility in voice telephony, with in particular the improved accessibility to emergency services;

  o "Sociable", "Longlasting memories" and "Isimem" address the ageing population and pilot innovative services for persons suffering from mild dementia troubles.

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[2] The participation of SME based on self declaration in retained proposals, amounts to 35%. First checking indicates 25% as a more reliable estimation for such participation. More accurate figures should be given when all contracts are signed.

[3] Art. 8 and other appropriate articles of the Services Directive 2006/123/EC (http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/services/services-dir/index_en.htm): to "ensure that all procedures and formalities relating to access to a service activity and the exercise thereof may be easily completed, at a distance and by electronic means through the relevant point of single contact and with other relevant competent authorities.

- Within theme 2, 7 pilots (Pilot B) are related to a new domain open for pilots in the second call of the ICT PSP.

  o 5 pilots ("Hospilot", "Lites", "Best energy", "Save energy" and "Bepms") concern ICT solutions for improving energy efficiency in public buildings.

  o 2 pilots ("In time" and "Freilot") address the reduction of energy consumption in urban transports.

The consortia involved in those Pilot B, gather a good mix of stakeholders (including local authorities, user associations, service providers and ICT solution providers, including SME). They represent a significant part of the value chain, needed for validating in real settings and learning experience on those innovative ICT based services.

Activities such as dissemination and experience sharing are an important aspect for those projects in view of stimulating a wider adoption or replication of those services across Europe.

In addition, 6 Thematic Networks are launched for experience sharing and consensus building in the following domains:

  o eHealth with "EHR-Q-TN" to improve the certification of eHealth products;

  o eGovernment with "Add-me" to promote inclusive eGovernment solutions;

  o Energy efficiency, with "ICT4smartDG" to promote large-scale integration of distributed micro generation through ICT solutions; and "Seesgeen-ICT" on ICT solutions for smart grid;

  o RFID technology, with "RACEnetworkingRFID" to create a federating platform of stakeholders involved in development and use of RFID;

  o Trusted biometrics technologies, with "Bestnetwork".

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

Other measures in 2008

The other measures, including annual benchmarking of the European information society, studies and conferences have been also supported for nearly € 4.5 million.

Those measures have been implemented through calls for tenders or grants without call for proposals.

The list of actions and budget are provided in the table in annex I bis.

3. OVERVIEW OF ICT PSP BUDGET EXECUTION IN 2008

The total budget allocated to implementation of ICT PSP for the period 2007-2013 is €728 million[4].

The total amount of ICT PSP budget for 2008 was € 52.312 million (for total commitment appropriations). € 44.584 million were attributed to the ICT PSP Work Programme 2008.

The rest of € 7.728 million had been frontloaded for supporting actions in Work programme 2007.

In total, the execution rate was 99.79% in 2008.

4. FURTHER INFORMATION

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

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[4] Not including additional budget from countries associated to the programme

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Annex I: Details on the objectives and budget[5] allocation

Call for proposals (call2 of ICT PSP)

Themes	Objectives	Projects for negotiation	Budget for implementation per objective	Budget for implementation per theme
Theme 1 : ICT for user friendly administrations; public services and inclusion	1.1: Preparing the implementation of the Services Directive	1 large scale Pilot : **SPOCS**	7 M€	**23.289 M€**
	1.2: Reduction of Administrative Burdens across the EU	2 Pilots: **RURALINCLUSION** **ISAC6+**	2.4 M€ 1.35 M€	
	1.3: Emergency Services Accessible to All – Total Conversation	1 Pilot **REACH112**	4.4 M€	
	1.4: ICT for ageing well with cognitive problems, combining assistive and independent living technologies	3 Pilots: **SOCIABLE** **LONGLASTING** **ISIMEMD**	2.3 M€ 2.36 M€ 2.26 M€	
	1.5: Capacity building for eInclusion	1 Thematic network: **ADD-ME**	0.43 M€	
	1.6: Improving certification of eHealth products	1 Thematic network: **EHR-Q-TN**	0.789 M€	
Theme 2 : ICT for energy efficiency and sustainability in urban areas	2.1: ICT for energy efficiency in public building and spaces, including lighting	5 Pilots: **HOSPILOT** **LITES** **BEST ENERGY** **SAVE ENERGY** **BEPMS**	2.17 M€ 1.28 M€ 2.26 M€ 2.23 M€ 2.23 M€	**15.485 M€**
	2.2: ICT for adaptive urban transport management infrastructure and services	2 Pilots: **IN TIME** **FREILOT**	2.29 M€ 2 M€	
	2.3: Consensus building and experience sharing for ICT for energy efficiency and sustainability in urban areas	2 Thematic networks **ICT4SMARTDG** **SEESGEN-ICT**	0.531 M€ 0.494 M€	
Theme 3: Consensus building, experience sharing on Internet evolution and security	3.1: A European concerted effort on RFID	1 Thematic networks **RACEnetworkRFID**	0.741 M€	**1.219 M€**
	3.2: Trusted Information Infrastructures and Biometric technologies	1 Thematic networks **BESTnetwork**	0.478 M€	
	3.3: Leveraging IPv6 take-up in Europe for scaling the expected growth of the Internet	Not covered		

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[5] The total amount of ICT PSP budget for 2008 was € 52.312 million (for total commitment appropriations). € 44.584 million were attributed to the ICT PSP Work Programme 2008. The rest of € 7.728 million had been frontloaded for supporting actions in Work programme 2007.

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Annex Ibis: 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
4.1: Benchmarking the progress of the Information Society	- Households and Entreprises surveys - Surveys on broadband coverage and access costs, eGovernment and other line services	**2.549 M€**
4.2:Studies, conferences, events and support to evaluations, reviews and communication	Studies : - assessment of eGov action plan Common repository - extension of ePractice portal (ePractice.EU) Support to events : - i2010 Annual conference (grant to the EU Presidency) - eHealth annual conference (grant to the EU Presidency) - Support to eInclusion conference	**1.933 M€**