

ICT PSP

Funding Instruments

ICT-PSP information day
Brussels: 28th February 2011

Peter Diry
Deputy Head of Unit "ICT Operations"



Overview

- Who can participate
- The instruments
- Funding mechanisms

Who can participate?

- The programme is open to **all legal entities** established in the EU Member States
- Legal entities established outside the EU may participate **on equal terms with Member States** on the basis of and in accordance with the conditions laid down in the **association agreements** (associated countries*)
- Other third countries may participate on a case-by-case basis but will not receive any funding

* Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway, Croatia, Turkey, Serbia

Instruments overview

Three complementary instruments based on combined approaches:

Building on initiatives in member states / associated countries → **Pilots Type A**

*Stimulating **innovative use of ICT** in public & private sector* → **Pilots Type B**

***Mobilisation/Exchanges** between practitioners & policy makers* → **Thematic Networks**

One “transitory” instrument, reserved for “digital library” theme:

Combining consensus building / awareness raising / large scale implementation → **BPN**
(Best Practice Network)

*Implementation through **Call for Applicants***

Rationale & implementation

Main features of Pilots Type A

- Focus on **interoperability** and building on Member States solutions
- Member States - Lead actors (Industry key role in the Implementation)
- The outcome should be an **open, common interoperable solution** with results widely disseminated and available to all Member States (→ 1 project per objective)

Scale and participants

- Legal minimum of **6 Member States** (=national administrations or competence centres acting on their behalf) or associated countries participating in the consortium.

Duration and Funding

- Duration is typically up to **36 months** with a pilot service operating for 12 months.
- The EU contribution is limited to the **costs for achieving interoperability**. The indicative Community contribution available is **5-10M€ / pilot**

Pilot Type A - specificities

- Intellectual property – publication and free accessibility of results
- Possibility to subcontract co-ordination task
- Reservation of budget for extension of consortium at application stage (budget to be set aside in the budget of the co-ordinator - should typically not exceed 15% of the total budget of the pilot)
- Possibility for launching competitive calls for participation
- At contracting stage a consortium agreement needs to be concluded

Main features of Pilots Type B

- Carry out an **implementation** of an ICT based innovative service under realistic conditions. Replication and wide validation of best practices can be specified in objective.
- emphasis on **fostering innovation** in services → e.g. take-up completed R&D work, extend already tested prototype services or combine / integrate several partial solutions to realise a new innovative approach

Scale and participants

- Minimum of **4 legal entities** from 4 different Member States or associated countries.
- Consortia are expected to engage the **complete service value chain**, including relevant public authorities (sustaining partners), service providers, industrial stakeholders & users

Duration and funding

- Duration is typically **24-36 months** including the operation of a pilot service
- The Community contribution is typically in the range **2-3 M€ / pilot**

Main features of Thematic Networks

- bring together stakeholders - **explore new ways of implementing ICT based solutions.**
- E.g. **working groups, workshops, exchanges of good practices** in view of **action plans, standards and specifications**
- **Clearly defined and measurable** results - shall be in the public domain.

Scale and participants

Minimum **7 legal entities from 7 different Member States or associated countries.**

Duration and funding

- Duration between **18-36 months.**
- EC contribution is **300-500 K€/network** funded through **lump sums**

Rationale & implementation

Main features of Best Practice Network (BPN)

- Only for the **digital libraries** theme, only for a transition period up to 2011.
- Promote the adoption of respective standards and specifications by **combining** the "**consensus building and awareness raising**" function of a network with **large-scale implementation** on a **sufficient mass of content**.
- The commission can organise "Clustering meetings" in order to **achieve broad consensus and create the conditions for the widest possible uptake** of the recommendations of the BPNs.

Scale and participants

- Legal minimum of **7 legal entities** from 7 different Member States or associated countries.

Duration and funding

- The indicative Community contribution available is **3 - 5 M€** per BPN

Re-imbbursement based on actual cost

(Pilot Type A, B, BPNs, TNs of objective 2.1 and 3.2b)

Eligible and non-eligible costs

Eligibility conditions include necessity, actually incurred during the duration of the project, recorded in the accounts

Direct cost

- Personnel
directly hired by the beneficiary, under sole technical supervision, remunerated in accordance with normal practices
- Subcontracting
To be awarded according to the principle of best value for money under conditions of transparency and equal treatment
- Other specific direct costs

Indirect costs

- Costs which cannot be identified as directly attributed to the project but incurred in direct relationship with the eligible costs
- calculated on the basis of flat rates

Actual Cost Funding

For Pilot Type A and B

- 50% of direct and indirect cost
- Indirect cost is calculated as 30% flat rate of personnel cost

For Best practice Networks

- 80% of direct cost
- No funding of indirect cost

Lump sum Funding

For Thematic Networks

- Coordinator – lump sum for coordination (dependent on number)
- Other beneficiaries – lump sum for implementing the network
- All – lump sum for attendance of meeting cost

Thematic network – lump sum Community financial contribution

- The normal implementation will be using a lump sum approach

	<i>Lump sums 'Coordination costs'</i>	<i>Lump sum 'Implementation costs'</i>	<i>Lump sum 'attendance of meetings costs'</i>
<i>Coordinator</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3.000€ per year and per beneficiary for the first 10 beneficiaries (incl. the coordinator); - 2.000€ per year and per beneficiary from the 11th beneficiary on. - No additional funding from the 21st beneficiary on. 		Costs for attendance of networks meetings and network related events are financed by a lump sum of 5.000€ per year per beneficiary
<i>Other Beneficiaries</i>		3.000€ per year per beneficiary	

Thematic Network – lump sum advantages

- Simplification
 - No definition of eligible cost
 - No actual cost reporting
 - No justification of costs
 - No provision of certificates
 - No budget transfers

Reporting and Payment conditions

The consortium has 60 days after the end of reporting period to submit reports and the Commission has 105 days to pay

Payment

- Pre-financing – typically to cover 16 months
- Interim
- Final - payment of the balance

Payments upon approval of reports and deliverables

Where to get Information

Documents available on
http://ec.europa.eu/ict_psp e.g.:

- Model grant agreement
- Financial guidelines
- Guidelines for legal and financial validation
- Communication guidelines
- Guidelines on certification

Helpdesk: info-ict_psp@ec.europa.eu