



ICT PSP Funding Instruments

ICT-PSP information day
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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

* Croatia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Turkey and expected in 2012 FYROM



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 “legacy” instrument, reserved for “digital library” theme:

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

*Implementation through **Call for Applicants***

Pilots Type A



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*

Pilots Type B



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
- Particular attention to **communicate and disseminate** the pilot experience and outcomes in view of exploitation, replication or scaling up of piloted services

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 for at least 6 months
- 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 typically **300-500 K€/network** funded through **lump sums** or actual cost (as specified in the workprogramme objective)

Main features of Best Practice Network (BPN)

- Only for the **digital libraries** theme.
- 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-imburement based on actual cost (Pilots, BPNs, actual cost TNs)

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

For Thematic Networks specified as actual cost funding in WP

- funding up to 100% of eligible cost, but
 - » *“The financial contribution of the Union shall not finance the entire costs of the project. It shall be limited to the additional costs of coordinating and implementing the network”.*
 - » *direct cost “... for beneficiaries other than the coordinator shall be limited to travel and subsistence expenses as well as personnel costs incurred for the elaboration of any of the deliverables described in Annex I”*
 - » indirect cost calculated as 7% of direct cost excluding subcontracting



Lump sum Funding / Thematic Networks

Use of lump sums

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

Thematic network – lump sum Community financial contribution

	<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 Simplifications

- **No definition of eligible cost**
- **No actual cost reporting**
- **No justification of costs**
- **No provision of certificates**
- **No budget transfers**
- **Only coordinator financially validated**



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 18 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