

# ICT PSP

## Funding Instruments

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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

\* Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway, Croatia, Turkey, and starting from 2010 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 normally through **lump sums**, but workprogramme can specify actual cost funding – in 2010 objective 2.1 and 3.2b (see slide 12)

# 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-imburement 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

## For Thematic Networks

- only for objective 2.1 and 3.2b
- funding up to 100% of eligible cost
  - direct cost except for coordinator limited to travel and subsistence expenses as well as personnel costs for deliverable writing
  - indirect cost calculated as 7% of direct cost excluding subcontracting

# Lump sum Funding

## Standard Option 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"> <li>- <b>3.000€</b> per year and per beneficiary for the first 10 beneficiaries (incl. the coordinator);</li> <li>- <b>2.000€</b> per year and per beneficiary from the 11<sup>th</sup> beneficiary on.</li> <li>- No additional funding from the 21<sup>st</sup> beneficiary on.</li> </ul>		Costs for attendance of networks meetings and network related events are financed by a lump sum of <b>5.000€</b> per year per beneficiary
<i>Other Beneficiaries</i>		<b>3.000€</b> 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](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](mailto:info-ict_psp@ec.europa.eu)