



This newsletter supports the activities of the ICT Theme's [National Contact Points](#). We provide you each month with key news and information on the current activities of the ICT Theme. The information contained here is not confidential and may be further disseminated. If you have any information which would be of interest to your ICT-NCP colleagues in next month's newsletter, email it [here](#).

Evaluation of ICT Call 3

At time of writing we have finished our two main evaluation weeks (which were 26th May and 2nd June) and we are conducting the last of the hearings for the IP or NoE proposers who scored well in those weeks. After this we have the final ranking and we start putting the Evaluation report together and generating the statistics. Results should be available to the Management Committee by Wednesday 2nd July, and then we will send the ESRs to the proposal coordinators shortly afterwards. This is a "target" date of course, but we are on schedule for the moment.

The remote evaluation of the proposals at the individual reading stage has been very successful, we have had many comments from the experts that the convenience of reading at home, and the ability to check facts on the Internet, has given them the chance to do a better job. Indeed several evaluators noted that they would not have been able to participate at all but for the reduced time on-site in Brussels which is made possible by the remote reading.

Hearings

Proposers of IP and NoE proposals often worry about what may happen to them during the famous hearing stage. They will receive a letter of invitation, which informs them of the time and place of their hearing - hearings for objectives managed by Directorate E take place in Luxembourg, the rest in Brussels.

The letter also communicates to them the questions which the experts would like to raise with them. Of course the proposers have no knowledge of the previous discussions of the experts, so as well as working out good answers they should also think about what issues may underlie the experts' concerns, so that they can do their best to reassure them !

Finally the letter details the practical arrangements for the hearing; there are thirteen points of which they have to be aware:

1. The discussions at the hearing are based on the proposal as it was submitted to the call. They are intended to improve the understanding of the independent experts of the proposal but not to modify or improve in any way the proposal itself.

2. Proposers are offered the opportunity to make a brief (two or three minute) introduction to the proposal, but it is not intended that the hearing will involve a re-presentation of the proposal. The hearing will focus on specific questions/issues which the experts have presented based on their reading of the proposal, and which have been communicated in advance to the proposal co-ordinator. During the hearing the experts may also ask supplementary questions which are prompted by the proposers' answers.
3. The duration of the hearing will be XX minutes¹ maximum
4. It is not necessary that every proposal participant is represented at the hearing. The proposal should be represented by a group of up to 4 persons able to speak for the consortium as a whole and respond to the experts' questions. Normally, the proposal co-ordinator should be included in this group.
5. The costs involved in attending the hearing are not refunded by the Commission, neither at the time of the hearing, nor later if the proposal is agreed as a project.
6. Proposers should plan to arrive 40 minutes in advance of the appointed hearing time.
7. Shortly before entering the hearing room, proposers will be informed of the names of the persons that constitute the hearing panel. If the proposers consider that there may exist a potential conflict of interest with respect to any panel member, they should inform the Commission official organising the hearing, who will investigate the matter and then take any necessary actions to remove the conflict of interest, if it is found to exist.
8. If not all of the proposal group have arrived by the appointed time of the hearing, the Commission may nevertheless insist that the hearing goes ahead with only the persons who have arrived.
9. If the proposal group as a whole arrives too late to be dealt with at the appointed time, the Commission will attempt to re-schedule the hearing, but is not obliged to ensure a re-scheduled hearing.
10. The working language of the experts is English.
11. Proposers may, if they wish, support the presentation of their answers with a maximum of 12 PowerPoint slides. As projection facilities cannot be guaranteed, proposers should also bring with them 10 full-size paper copies of the slides for the use of the experts.
12. Any additional descriptive material which may be brought by the proposers must be taken away again at the end of the hearing.
13. The end of the hearing will end the proposers' input to the evaluation process. No offer to supply further information or material can be agreed.

Workprogramme 2009-2010

Work is advancing on our next Workprogramme 2009-2010 and a draft has already been communicated to the Programme committee. The draft reflects the input received from the Programme Committee, the IST Advisory Group ([ISTAG](#)), the [European Technology Platforms](#) in ICT and other preparatory activities including workshops involving the main stakeholders. The Work Programme is also in line with the main ICT policy priorities as defined in the [i2010 initiative](#).

It is no surprise that this Workprogramme features further activities in each of the seven Challenges which we identified at the beginning of the programme:

- Challenge 1 - Pervasive and trusted network and service infrastructures
- Challenge 2 - Cognitive systems, interaction and robotics
- Challenge 3 - Components, systems and engineering
- Challenge 4 - Digital libraries and content
- Challenge 5 - Sustainable and personalised healthcare
- Challenge 6 - Mobility, environmental sustainability and energy efficiency
- Challenge 7 - Independent living and inclusion

¹ 45 minutes, 60 minutes or 90 minutes, as decided by the objective carrying out the evaluation; but then all proposals in that objective are allotted the same amount of time

As well as these main topics, the Workprogramme identifies a number of new FET Proactive initiatives and horizontal support actions. The FET Open action is also continued for the next two years

Three main calls are foreseen, and their timing is dictated by the practicalities of evaluating proposals – we can't find large numbers of experts available to work during July and August, nor in December-January, so evaluations always have to be fitted into the spring and autumn periods.

Call 4 will be announced in time for the [ICT event in France](#) at the end of November this year. The call deadline and evaluation will be in the spring of 2009, with results available before the summer holidays. Its main weight is foreseen to be in Challenges 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7.

Call 5 will be launched in the spring of 2009, with a deadline and evaluation in the autumn and a target date for results to the proposers before Christmas 2009. This Call will be the main vehicle for Challenge 1 and Challenge 4's activities.

Call 6 will be launched at the end of 2009, evaluation and results in the spring of 2010. It will pick up longer term objectives through most of the Challenges which are foreseen to be ready for implementation by that time.

In addition to these calls we are discussing with our colleagues in the Energy Theme a joint call on novel ICT solutions for smart electricity distribution networks

ICT Projects in FP7

We are continuing to upload onto CORDIS details of our [first projects](#) funded under FP7. Project details are published only after the negotiation and the signature of the grant agreement between the European Commission and the beneficiaries, we have at present nearly 400 entries. As projects progress and achieve their goals, they may feature on the [ICT Results](#) page.

Ideal-ist opens partner search for ARTEMIS call

The [Ideal-ist project](#), which has for many years provided an essential partner-search service for participants in IST/ICT Calls for proposals, has now [expanded its service](#) to include the ARTEMIS Joint undertaking's [first call for proposals](#). A similar service for the ENIAC Joint undertaking [first call](#) is under negotiation.

Joint undertaking funding

We are for the moment running the Help desk for proposers questions concerning submissions to the [ARTEMIS](#) and [ENIAC](#) calls, and we have had many questions about what is and what is not an eligible cost, what overheads are included, whether there is a ceiling on management costs and many similar issues.

The answer is, "it depends.....".

In the **Joint undertakings ARTEMIS and ENIAC**, each partner's funding may come from up to three sources:

- The first source of funding is – if his country is one of the member states of the Joint undertaking - from his own national government. The calculation of what can and what cannot be included as an eligible cost, and what percentage of that eligible cost he can claim as funding, is based entirely on the rules which apply in his country as

defined in the call documentation for each country. So we have no answer to his questions. He has to consult his national funding authority whose website we identify in the Guide for applicants.

- The second part of the funding - if his country is an EU Member state or FP7 Associated country - comes from the Commission, and it is just a straightforward percentage of his eligible costs as they were calculated according to his national rules. The percentage depends on the total budget available at the time to the JU and will therefore vary from call to call - for example for ARTEMIS and ENIAC Call 1 the Commission's contribution will be 16.7% of his eligible costs as they were calculated according to his national rules.
- The third part of the project funding comes from his own pocket. This is a shared-cost programme !

The model grant agreement for ARTEMIS was approved on June 3 in the Governing Board meeting and can be found [here](#)

Updated Negotiation notes

An updated version (8th May 2008) of the FP7 [Negotiation Guidance Notes](#) is now available on the Cordis website

Maria Koutrokoi

After 25 years in the Greek National Documentation Centre NHRF, during which time she was one of our longest-serving NCPs, Maria has been since mid-May on secondment to the General Secretariat of Research and Technology (European Division) in the Greek Ministry of Development. Her colleague Dr. Nikolaos Houssos (nhoussos@ekt.gr) takes over the ICT NCP task for Greece.

We would like to thank Maria for her many years of good service to the programme, and especially her active support to networking activities among our NCPs. *Efharistoomay Maria!*

And for the record.....

ICT CALLS CURRENTLY OPEN

The ICT [FET Open](#) call was launched on 22nd December 2006. This is open continuously for the duration of the current Workprogramme. It involves only STREP and CA proposals. STREP proposals have to be submitted in two stages, with an initial five-page short proposal followed, if successful in the evaluation, by the full proposal at a later deadline.

OUR JOINT UNDERTAKINGS

AAL	Ambient assisted living
ARTEMIS	Embedded systems
ENIAC	Nanotechnology

USEFUL INFORMATION

ICT	
INFSO organigramme	Association agreements with FP7
INFSO who's who	FP7 news
Our Commissioner's website	FP7 Library service
The current ICT Workprogramme	The Commission staff directory
ICT on Cordis	Information Society A-Z
ICT on Europa	Application to work as an expert in evaluations
Information Society factsheets	Financial viability check tool
Read our other newsletters	NEWS
ICT 2008 Event	Cordis Guidance introductory page
HELP	Cordis News
The ICT Information desk	Cordis Express weekly briefing
The FP7 Enquiry service	Cordis Wire open forum
Questions on Intellectual Property Rights	Cordis National R&D and Innovation pages
The informal association of RTD contact points	Cordis Technology marketplace
Other support services	
	
IST project management support	
The IST Results service	

OUR SUPPORT PROJECTS

CEEC IST NET	Establish a sustainable network of researchers and entrepreneurs active within the field of ICT in Central and Eastern European countries
CHINACOOOP	Increase research cooperation with China
CISTRANA	Coordination of national ICT programmes with each other and with European RTD programmes in the ICT sector
ERA-CAN and IST-EC2	Increase research cooperation with Canada
EURO-INDIA	Increase research cooperation with India
EUROPEAN IST	Enhancing participation of research organizations from New Member States and Associated Candidate Countries, networking the ICT research community across Europe
FINANCE NMS	Portal and helpdesk for the latest ICT-related financial information aimed at organisations from the New Member States.
GET IN	Increasing participation of candidate countries SMEs in ICT projects by providing training, tools and support services
HAGRID	To exploit the potential synergies between EU funded support actions for the benefit of European and ICPC organisations interested in participating in ICT. To provide added value services tailored to the needs of interested organisations. HAGRID services will help to assimilate the know-how, assess the competitive advantages and clarify the strategic research objectives of interested organisations
IDEALIST	Ideal-ist a sophisticated worldwide ICT Partner Search Network - an easy to use, efficient and fast web-based system. Ideal-ist collaborates through a broad geographical network of 50 representatives with more than 10 years of experience. The quality of Partner Searches is assured by a quality team.
IS2WEB	Assist research organisations in the Western Balkan countries to get informed about and actively participate in EU-funded research in the field of ICT
IST MENTOR	Develops a networked group of proficient ICT multipliers, whose task will be to enhance building awareness of the ICT Theme and to assist potential proposers in submitting high quality proposals.
IST WORLD	Set up and populate an information portal with innovative functionalities that helps to promote RTD competencies in ICT in the New Member States and Associate Candidate Countries
IST4BALT	Promote the ICT Theme to Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania by implementing fast dissemination and awareness actions
IST-AFRICA	To promote dissemination and exploitation of European IST research results in Southern Africa in particular through workshops and training seminars.
IST-EC2	Increase research cooperation with Canada
ISTOK.RU	ICT research cooperation with Russia.
MAP-IT	ICT research cooperation with Mediterranean Partner Countries.
MED-IST	ICT research cooperation with Mediterranean Partner Countries.
SCORE	ICT research cooperation with Western Balkan countries.
SEE INNOVATION	A Specific Support Action tasked with assisting South Eastern European ICT SMEs to actively participate in EU-funded ICT research through a combination of surveying, mentoring, know-how transfer, and coaching and networking services and activities
SOLAR ICT	ICT research cooperation with Latin America.
SPICE	ICT research cooperation with China.
STAR-NET	Coordination of support actions in New Member States and Candidate countries
START	ICT research cooperation with Africa.
WINDS-LA	ICT research cooperation with Latin America.



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