



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](#).

☺ ICT NCP News is back after a July-August break caused by the Call 1 evaluation and the holidays !

ICT Call 1 results

The evaluation and selection of proposals from ICT Call 1 was completed at the end of July. Of 1836 proposals considered in the call, just 318 (17%) made it through to selection for grant agreement negotiations.

The retained list of proposals involves a total of 3121 participants¹. Of these, 2820 are organisations based in the EU Member States

EU	Participations	EU	Participations
Austria	113	Latvia	1
Belgium	129	Lithuania	3
Bulgaria	10	Luxembourg	6
Cyprus	12	Malta	3
Czech Republic	30	Netherlands	149
Denmark	35	Poland	40
Estonia	5	Portugal	53
Finland	97	Romania	20
France	338	Slovak Republic	12
Germany	534	Slovenia	20
Greece	140	Spain	219
Hungary	30	Sweden	117
Ireland	43	United Kingdom	332
Italy	329	TOTAL	2820

¹ With some double counting - the same organisation could be a participant in more than one successful proposal

190² participants are from states which are associated with the framework programme or are in the process of negotiating association:

Assoc. countries	Participations	Assoc. countries	Participations
Croatia	3	Norway	27
FYROM	1	Serbia	1
Iceland	0	Switzerland	93
Israel	53	Turkey	11
Liechtenstein	0	-	
Montenegro	1	TOTAL	190

The remaining 111 participants are from "third" countries. We have a wide spread this time, as International cooperation activities and SICA projects were included among the objectives in the call.

Other countries	Participations	Other countries	Participations
Argentina	4	Mexico	1
Australia	2	Morocco	1
Botswana	1	Mozambique	1
Brazil	5	Namibia	1
Cambodia	2	Nigeria	1
Canada	3	Peru	2
Chile	1	Philippines	1
China	13	Russian Fed.	2
China - Hong Kong	2	Rwanda	1
Dominican Rep.	2	Senegal	1
Egypt	3	Singapore	4
Ghana	2	South Africa	6
India	6	Taiwan	1
Indonesia	1	Tanzania	1
Jamaica	2	Thailand	1
Japan	8	Tunisia	1
Jordan	1	Uganda	2
Korea, Rep. of	3	USA	17
Lebanon	1	Viet Nam	1
Lesotho	1	W. Bank & Gaza	1
Malaysia	1	TOTAL	111

The negotiations with the successful proposers have – despite the summer holidays - in many cases already commenced. We would expect to be signing the grant agreements starting from the end of October.

Call 1 Redress procedure

Along with their Evaluation Summary Report, proposers in ICT Call 1 were also informed of the new "Redress" procedure in the framework programme. Proposers who think that the Commission has in some way not properly handled their proposal in the evaluation can, within a reasonable time limit, make a [claim for redress](#). These claims are examined by an internal committee. If the committee concludes that there was a shortcoming in the way the proposal

² Reported in our Implementation plan in July as 188 – The Serbian and Montenegrin participants are here added as these countries are now associated or in process of negotiating association

was handled, and as a consequence it was rejected when it might have been accepted, it can recommend a re-evaluation of the proposal.

Some 63 requests for redress have arisen from ICT Call 1, which is 3% of the 1836 proposals in the call. However, only a handful of the complainants suggest that the Commission has made a mistake - the purpose of the Redress procedure. Most are complaining that the experts have made a mistake, and that their proposal should have a higher mark. Despite the fact that they are clearly warned "the committee will not call into question the scientific or technical judgment of appropriately qualified experts", we have received many representations of material which was in the proposal. In a few cases, the complaint is based on information which wasn't in the proposal.

The Redress committee will work on all the cases through the month of September and will make recommendations for answers to the complaints and actions to be taken to the ICT Directors at the end of the month – it is the Director who has the responsibility for the call in his Directorate and who therefore responds to the complainants.

Call 1 Ethical issues reviews

Some 27 proposals on our list of the 318 selected for negotiation of a grant agreement have been judged to include significant ethical issues. Copies of the proposals have been sent of to our colleagues in the "Ethics" unit in DG Research, and they are presently being reviewed by their team of independent experts. While we go forward with the normal negotiation procedure for these proposals, no grant agreement will be offered until we have the recommendations of the experts and can incorporate them into the negotiation discussions. The ethical reviews are expected to be completed by the end of this month.

Second Infrastructures call

DG INFSO opened on 19th June a second [Infrastructures call](#) under the "Capacities" Theme. It involves e-Science grid infrastructure projects and also Coordination and Support actions. Funded at €64m, the call closes on 20th September 2007 at 17h00. The evaluation will commence in October, with hearings for the highest-scoring proposals towards the end of that month.

Joint Call with Security

On 3rd August (a little earlier than advertised, in order to get the job done before we all went on holiday), DG INFSO launched a first [joint call with the Security Theme](#). Funded at €40m in total, the call covers four "foci". ICT's interest lies in focus 1, *Technology building blocks for creating, monitoring and managing secure, resilient and always-available information infrastructures*, which will take up €20m of the funding. This call closes on 29th November 2007 at 17h00; the evaluation of proposals will take place during January 2008.

An [information day](#) for proposers in this joint call will take place in Brussels on Thursday, 27th September at the Centre Albert Borschette in Brussels.

Studies on ICT and Ageing

On 11th August our Directorate H launched a call for tender for a study on [ICT and Ageing](#). The study is aimed at providing comprehensive information and understanding on ICT and ageing markets and existing barriers. It should help to identify and measure existing market barriers at national or European level as well as providing recommendations for their reduction to all relevant stakeholders. In addition the study should provide assistance to clustering and improved coordination between a number of ongoing EU RTD projects launched at the end of

FP6 as well as new ones expected in the first call of FP 7 related to ICT and Ageing. The deadline for the tender is 8th October 2007.

And on 25th August they also launched a call for tender for a study on [accessibility to ICT products and services](#) by disabled and elderly people. The purpose of the study is to provide a rigorous analysis of both existing and possible new legal approaches, as well as their impact, in order to promote e-Accessibility in the EU, taking into consideration users' interests and other relevant aspects including competitiveness and the functioning of the internal market. The deadline for this call is 1st October 2007.

FET Open first batch

For research projects in our [Future and Emerging Technologies \(FET\) Open scheme](#), the proposer must first submit a short proposal of the research idea (no more than five pages), and then those whose short proposals are well-rated are invited to develop and submit a full STREP proposal. The scheme is open continuously for submissions, with evaluations of the short proposals carried out promptly as they arrive.

The submitted full proposals are also evaluated in batches, and the first batch of full proposals for this framework programme was closed on 4th September. There are 23 STREPS and 6 Coordination Actions³ in the batch. Their evaluation will take place during October 2007.

New Head of Unit

.....And Mr. Ales Fiala has been appointed Head of Unit for the Unit F2, which manages the FET Open scheme. The current organigramme of the Directorate General is always available on [europa](#).

New guidance for participants in FP 7

The Commission has recently published two new documents to aid participants in the programme. The [Guidance notes on audit certification](#) is intended to guide project participants and their auditors in the preparation of *Certificates on the Financial Statements* and *Certificates on the Methodology* which are required of some participants in our projects.

A [Guide to Financial Issues](#) for participants has also now been released. The purpose of this guide is to help participants to understand and interpret the financial provisions of the Model Grant Agreement which they are offered.

NCP Meeting for ICT Call 3

We have begun planning for a meeting of ICT NCPs in Brussels on 13th December 2007. The meeting will mainly focus on briefing you on the objectives of ICT Call 3, which we will have opened at the beginning of that month, but of course we will cover any other matters of interest. Please [send us](#) any suggestions which you may have for the agenda.

³ Coordination action proposals in the scheme are directly submitted as full proposals

And for the record.....

ICT Calls currently open

[ICT Call 2](#) was launched on 12th June 2007. It covers nine objectives within five of the Challenges which have been set for ICT in FP7, and is funded at €477m. The call closes on 9th October 2007 at 17h00.

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.

A little earlier than planned, DG INFSO launched on 3rd August a first [joint call with the Security Theme](#). Of the four "focuses" involved, our interest lies in focus 1, Technology building blocks for creating, monitoring and managing secure, resilient and always-available information infrastructures. The call is funded at €40m (€20m in the ICT focus) and closes on 29th November 2007 at 17h00.

DG INFSO opened on 19th June a second [Infrastructures call](#) under the "Capacities" Theme. Involving e-Science grid infrastructure projects and also Coordination and Support actions, the call is funded at €64m and closes on 20th September 2007 at 17h00 and.

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 as an expert in evaluations
Information Society factsheets	NEWS
Read our other newsletters	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	

General support projects

CISTRANA	Coordination of national ICT programmes with each other and with European RTD programmes in the ICT sector
CEEC IST NET	Establish a sustainable network of researchers and entrepreneurs active within the field of ICT in Central and Eastern European countries
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 is 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
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
STAR-NET	Coordination of support actions in New Member States and Candidate countries

ICT-NCPs

[National Contact Points](#) (Please send any corrections or updates [here](#))