Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in the Seventh Framework Programme

Support actions
ICT Call 10
Brussels : February-March 2013
What is a Support action?

Support actions are designed to

- underpin the implementation of the programme and complement the other instruments
- help in preparations for future Community research and technological development policy activities
- stimulate, encourage and facilitate the participation of SMEs, small research teams, newly developed and remote research centres, as well as organisations from International Cooperation Partner Countries

Support action proposal may be presented by a consortium or a single organization, from any country or countries.
What does a Support action do?

Support actions may carry out the following types of activity:

- Conferences, seminars, working groups and expert groups;
- Studies, analysis;
- Fact findings and monitoring;
- Trans-national technology transfer and take-up related services;
- Development of research or innovation strategies;
- High level scientific awards and competitions;
- Operational support and dissemination, information and communication activities;
- (project management)

Support Actions do not conduct S&T research!
Evaluation criteria - Support actions

1. Scientific and technical quality:

   * Soundness of concept, and quality of objectives
   * Quality and effectiveness of the support mechanisms and associated work plan
Evaluation criteria - Support actions

2. **Implementation:**

- Appropriateness of the management structure and procedures
- Quality and relevant experience of the individual participants
- Quality of the consortium as a whole (including complementarity, balance) [only if relevant]
- Appropriateness of the allocation and justification of the resources to be committed (budget, staff, equipment)
Evaluation criteria - Support actions

3. Impact:

Contribution, at the European and/or international level, to the expected impacts listed in the work programme under relevant topic/activity

Appropriateness of measures for spreading excellence, exploiting results and disseminating knowledge through engagement with stakeholders and the public at large
FP7 experience of Specific support actions

Purpose: Support to programme implementation, preparation of future actions, dissemination of results

Target audience: Research organisations, universities, industry incl. SME

Typical duration: 9-30 months

Optimum consortium: 1-15 participants

Total EU contribution: €0.03-3m (average around €0.5m)
While it may be worthwhile in many other respects, there is no evident benefit to the objectives of the ICT Theme as described in the Workprogramme.

The proposal is for a research activity.

A well-planned support action with clear and achievable aims which directly supports the work of the ICT Theme.