



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

## **Information Society Technologies**

**A thematic priority  
for research and development under the specific programme  
“Integrating and strengthening the European research area”  
in the Community sixth framework programme**

## **Work Programme**

### **Third Update**

**(Commission Decision C(2005)4006 of 18 October 2005)**

**(Amendments to “Priority 2: Information Society Technologies” part of Commission  
Decision C(2004)4178 of 29 October 2004)**



Information Society  
Technologies

**<http://www.cordis.lu/ist>**



## **Table of Contents**

<b>1. Introduction.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2. Technical Content .....</b>	<b>5</b>
2.41.6 Networked Audio Visual Systems and Home Platforms .....	5
<b>3. Call Information.....</b>	<b>7</b>

## 1. Introduction

The Information Society Technologies (IST) 2005-06 Work Programme covers the activities for two years, 2005 and 2006, of the IST priority thematic research area of the specific programme for “integrating and strengthening the European Research Area” (SP1<sup>1</sup>). It defines the priorities for the calls for proposals in these two years, the implementation plan and the criteria that will be used for evaluating proposals responding to these calls.

The IST 2005-06 Work Programme was adopted on 29/10/04<sup>2</sup> defining the content of three calls for proposals:

- IST Call 4, closed on 22.03.2005
- IST Call 5, closed on 21.09.2005
- Continuous submission call “Future and Emerging Technologies (FET) - Open domain“, closed on 20.9.2005 for short proposals<sup>3</sup>

This update of the Work Programme sets out the detailed priorities of another call for proposals to be published in 2005:

- IST Call “Networked Audio Visual Systems and Home Platforms”, closing on 20.12.2005

The update amends the following sections of the IST 2005-06 Work Programme: Section 2. (“Technical Content”) and section 5. (“Call information”).

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 294, 29.10.2002.

<sup>2</sup> C(2004)4178, see Information Society Technologies on [http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/sp1\\_wp.htm](http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/sp1_wp.htm).

<sup>3</sup> The final cut-off date for submission of full STREP proposals, following a successful short proposal, is 14.02.2006.

## 2. Technical Content

### 2.41.6 Networked Audio Visual Systems and Home Platforms

#### Objectives

To advance Audio Visual systems and applications in converged broadcasting and IP communications environments, including the home and extended home for nomadic users and devices. The goal is to advance the state of the art, exploiting EU strengths in audio-visual and IP multimedia networking, so as to ensure a guaranteed level of service delivery across complex interoperable environments as well as an optimised use of underlying delivery network bandwidth/QoS characteristics, allowing widespread access to high added value scalable multimedia services and programmes delivered seamlessly to various types of devices. It is expected that the proposed work will facilitate the growth and development of horizontal markets across the value chain by lowering entry barriers and enabling viable new business models.

#### Focus

1. Innovative end-to-end audio-visual and multimedia data handling from the content producer to the content consumer covering several of the following issues:
  - i) content adaptation and personalisation, navigation, copy protection and rights management;
  - ii) advanced coding exploiting underlying network characteristics, data aggregation and manipulation capability, adaptable/scalable format;
  - iii) trans-coding of formats and applications;
  - iv) data access and rendering, through low power and affordable terminals capable of processing and displaying scalable or highly interactive content.
2. Open and scalable audio-visual and home network architectures across heterogeneous IP networks encompassing broadcasting and multicasting as well as communications access networks supporting nomadic/mobile users and devices, to support the distribution/storage/cache, delivery and retrieval of audio-visual content (including digital Cinema and HDTV) and to provide highly interactive multimedia services.

This research should address one or more of the following aspects: synchronisation of different delivery channels; control issues associated with service delivery in both intra- and inter-domain operators' environments; management and control of the home network and services; local ad-hoc/sensor networking; session continuity and seamless connectivity and controls across the personal, home and extended home networks.

The work must be placed in a system context, addressing multi-technology integration and convergence of broadcasting, telecommunications and consumer electronics. IPs are notably encouraged to address the whole value chain, propose interworking, interoperable solutions and provide for the validation of the proposed

end-to-end solutions using advanced interactive online distributed services and applications (eg games).

The proposed research should take into consideration the 'ease of use' for the end user, addressing user expectations for new and better audio-visual experiences.

The work should visibly contribute to the development of international open/interoperable standards. In this respect, participation of organisations from third countries is encouraged, notably from Asian and Latin-American emerging economies.

If satellite communications research is included in the proposed work, it should be placed in the context of related ESA efforts. Satellite communications activities are carried out in coordination with the thematic priority on "aeronautics and space".

Instruments: IPs, NoEs

Indicative budget: 52.5 million Euro

### 3. Call Information

#### IST Call 41

1) **Specific programme:** Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area

2) **Thematic priority/domain:** Information Society Technologies (IST)

3) **Call title:** Call 41 of the IST priority

4) **Call identifier:** FP6-2005-IST-41

5) **Date of publication**<sup>4</sup>: 18/10/2005

6) **Closure date**<sup>5</sup>: 20/12/2005 at 17.00 (Brussels local time)

7) **Total indicative budget:** 52.5 million Euro

#### 8) Areas and instruments

Proposals are invited to address the following objectives:

<b>Strategic Objectives 2005-06</b>	<b><u>Instruments</u></b> <sup>6</sup>	<b><u>Ratio New</u></b> <sup>7</sup> / <b><u>Traditional</u></b> <sup>8</sup> <b><u>Instruments</u></b> <b><u>(%)</u></b>	<b><u>Indicative</u></b> <b><u>Budget</u></b> <b><u>M €</u></b>
2.41.6 Networked Audio Visual Systems and Home Platforms	IPs, NoEs	100/0	52.5

#### 9) Minimum number of participants<sup>9</sup>

<b><u>Instrument</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum number</u></b>
IPs, NoEs	3 independent legal entities from 3 different MS or AS, with at least 2 MS or ACC

<sup>4</sup> The Director-General responsible for the call may publish it up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date of publication

<sup>5</sup> Where the envisaged date of publication is anticipated or delayed (see footnote above), closure date(s) will be adjusted accordingly in the published call for proposals

<sup>6</sup> IP = Integrated Project; NoE = Network of Excellence; STREP = Specific Targeted Research Project; CA = Coordination Action; SSA = Specific Support Action

<sup>7</sup> New Instruments: IPs and NoEs

<sup>8</sup> Traditional instruments: STREPs, SSAs and CAs

<sup>9</sup> MS = Member States of the EU; AS (incl. ACC) = Associated States; ACC: Associated Candidate Countries. Any legal entity established in a Member State or Associated State and which is made up of the requested number of participants may be the sole participant in an indirect action

**10) Restriction to participation:** none

**11) Consortium agreement:** participants in RTD actions resulting from this call are required to conclude a consortium agreement.

**12) Evaluation procedure:** the evaluation shall follow a one-stage procedure. Proposals will not be evaluated anonymously.

**13) Evaluation criteria:** see the section on evaluation criteria in Section 4 of the IST 2005-06 Work Programme<sup>10</sup>.

**14) Indicative evaluation and selection delays:** evaluation results are estimated to be available within two months of the closure date.

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<sup>10</sup> IST on [http://www.cordis.lu/ist/workprogramme/fp6\\_workprogramme.htm](http://www.cordis.lu/ist/workprogramme/fp6_workprogramme.htm)