



EU-Eastern Europe and Central Asia Gateway on ICT Research and Development

SUPPORT TO THE ICT R&D EECA COUNTRIES TEAMS: ISTOK-SOYUZ EXPERIENCE

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CTE of EECA Cluster for the joint effort of ICT support at the ISTOK-SOYUZ, SCUBE ICT, EXTEND on the initiative of ICT research between Europe, Eastern Europe and Eastern Central Asia (EECA) countries

Goal and tasks of the hands-on support activity



Under “partnership”, ISTOK-SOYUZ team understands a written or oral voluntary arrangement where two or more teams / organizations (parties) from EECA and EU countries agree to cooperate to achieve common purpose and mutual success by elaboration of project ideas for FP7 ICT Work Programme

Under “proposal” team understands projects have been written and submitted to FP7 ICT Calls by EECA-EU partnerships

At least **20 ICT partnerships** between organisations from the European Union and the five targeted Eastern European and Central Asian countries had to be set up. These partnerships have to submit **20 proposals into FP7 ICT Calls.**

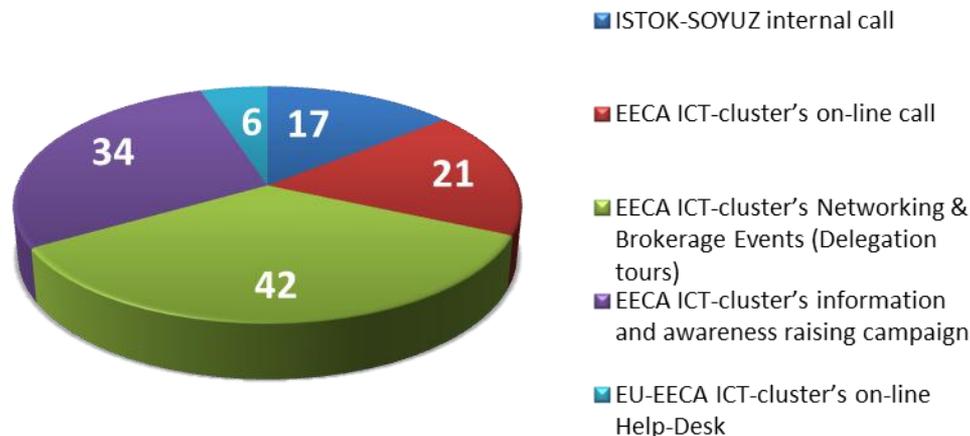
Target groups and Tools for identification of EECA teams

Teams from companies, universities and research organizations from target EECA countries implementing ICT R&D and having strong ICT R&D collaboration potential

European organizations and consortiums that can be partners for EECA teams for participation in FP7 ICT Calls

- ▶ **ISTOK-SOYUZ internal call (April-June, 2009)** – 45 applications
- ▶ **Joint EECA ICT-cluster's on-line call (June-August, 2010)** – more 110 applications
- ▶ **The EECA ICT-cluster's Networking & Brokerage Events (Delegation tours) in Russia (Moscow, 2009) and in Kharkov (Ukraine, 2010)** – more 70 participants
- ▶ **EU-EECA ICT-cluster's information and awareness raising campaign** - 3 400 ICT specialists in the target countries
- ▶ **EU-EECA ICT-cluster's on-line Help-Desk**

120 EECA teams received hands-on support from ISTOK-SOYUZ experts



Hands-on support

- ▶ **Assistance for integration of the teams to European existent consortiums**: integration into existent consortiums is the best way
- ▶ **Assistance in European partner' search** to discuss (test) the proposed idea and to form a consortium of partner(s) with necessary competences for realization of proposed idea
- ▶ Assistance for **contacting with identified/potential partner(-s)**
- ▶ Assistance in **developing or realization team' promotion and partners search strategy in EU**: CORDIS, Ideal-IST web-portals and EECA platform of competences; brokerage events etc.
- ▶ **Financial support for travel cost**
- ▶ **Consultancy and Methodological assistance** on the participation in the FP7



Results and Follow-up

	Armenia	Belarus	Kazakhstan	Russia	Ukraine	Central Asia	TOTAL
Supported teams	5	8	5	54	42	6	120
Partnerships established	7	12	1	52	22	7	101
Proposals submitted to FP7 ICT Calls	1	1	-	19	3	1	25
Teams included	2	2	-	22	4	4	34
Proposals submitted to other FP7 Calls or EU Programmes	4	4	-	7	4	-	19
Proposals under preparation for FP7 ICT 8 call or following	2	3	-	11	8	3	27

3 projects for FP7-ICT-2009 Call 4
3 projects for FP7-ICT-2009 Call 6

15 projects for FP7-ICT-2009 Call 5
4 projects for FP7-ICT-2009 Call 7

8 Call (July, 2011) – next steps

Lessons learned

Ideas generation stage

- **Project ideas \ competences for FP7 Calls have to match EC priorities / objectives** stated in the relevant work programmes
- **A proposed ideas should be feasible**

Consortium building and proposal elaboration stage

- **The important stage of proposal building is searching partners for consortium:**
 - dissemination information about team's competences and project ideas via CORDIS, Ideal-IST web-portals and EECA platform;
 - dissemination information via special networks and associations;
 - presentation teams on thematic EU conferences / brokerage events such as ICT conference organized by the EC;
 - address contact with coordinators of EU consortiums organized where the team's competences would be relevant

Lessons learned

- **First step**, before any specific action made by the team of experts, shall be a **publication on ideal-IST or CORDIS websites**
- **The consortium should include of people and organisations that possess the competences project needs** and include representatives of different stakeholders (research, business, users, associations, etc.); **each partner has a clear role at work package and task level**
- **The EECA teams should to address only one or two subjects covered by the call**
- It is recommended **to be as quick as possible in the reply to the European partners**
- **It is recommended to use had regular phone or skype conferences between core partners**

So what makes a good proposal? In summary the following areas are all important:

- Orientation on the EU priorities / objectives;
- Idea upon which proposal is based;
- Methodology & Project management;
- Balanced project team included representatives of different stakeholders (research, business, users, associations, etc.);
- Well-established communications among project partners;
- Resources, budget & timetable;
- Quality of the proposal content.

IMPORTANT: existing **teams of experts** from prominent organizations from EECA and European countries with well networking experience that can help ICT teams correct formulate the idea of a project and ICT competence

Availability of **channels and networks** for wide and addressed dissemination of information