



**Extending ICT Research Co-operation between the
European Union, Eastern Europe and the Southern
Caucasus**

ISTOK –SOYUZ Final Event

Moscow, 7 June 2011

**EXTEND: consultation process and
the main findings for the EECA
countries**

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EXTEND at a Glance

Title:	Extending ICT research co-operation between the European Union, Eastern Europe and the Southern Caucasus
Type	Support Action
Start day:	01 January 2009
Duration:	30 months
Consortium	6 EECA countries 2 European countries



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Consortium

EECA Countries

Member of the Eastern Europe and Central Asia cluster



www.eeca-ict.eu



GREECE



(Project Coordinator)

European Union

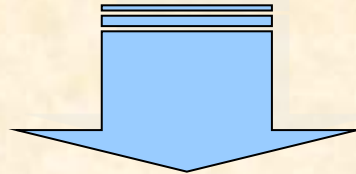
ROMANIA



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Motivation

**Research communities in the Region
are not sufficiently aware of the opportunities offered
by the Framework Programmes of EU**



**Very low participation rate
of the Eastern Europe and the Southern Caucasus countries
in the ICT work-programme**



WP 2. Development of recommendations on future ICT research co-operation

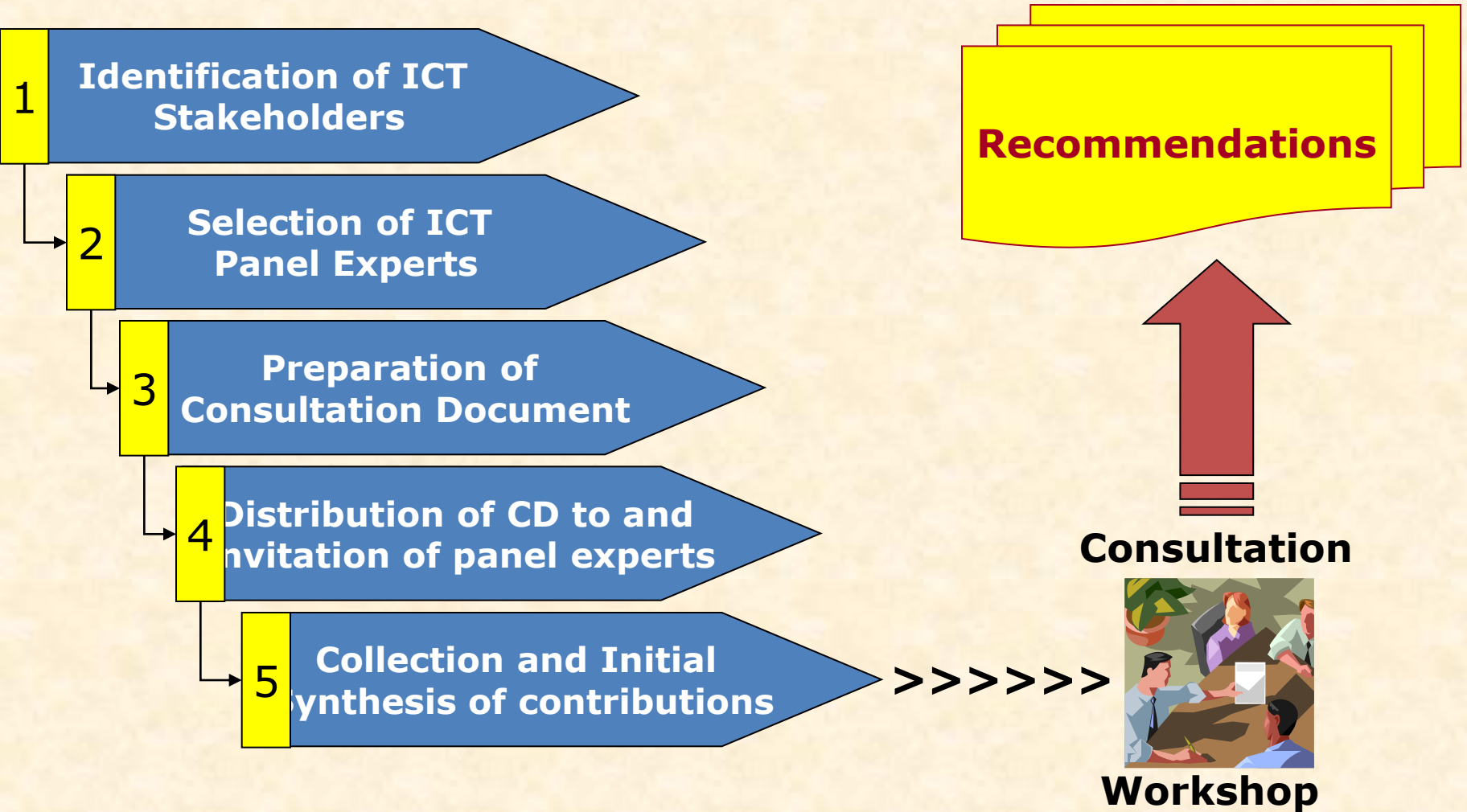
➤ Objectives

- To consult key ICT research stakeholders on the ICT research priorities of Eastern Europe and the Southern Caucasus that reflect the actual readiness and needs of the region.
- To develop recommendations on future ICT research co-operation between the EU, Eastern Europe and Southern Caucasus for the period 2010-2015. (The recommendations will provide valuable input for the shaping of future annual FP7 ICT work-programmes and calls for proposals).



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The Consultation Process





Criteria for expert selection

- ❑ 4-5 research actors based on:
 - most active, most experienced in projects
 - If possible, at least 1 academic, 1 private and 1 NGO research organisation representative
- ❑ 3-4 industrial actors :
 - High representatives of 3 top ICT companies (if possible, at least 1 software, 1 hardware, 1 telecommunications)
 - At least 1 SME company with potential / highly innovative
- ❑ 3-4 experts in ICT (research) policy making:
 - People who have been involved in policy making (e.g. members of working groups etc.)
 - By de facto people influential due to position (e.g. deputy/assistant minister, head of national agency)
- ❑ 1 representative of most active and experienced NGO for ICT promotion (with civil society perspective)
- ❑ 1-2 representatives of national /international research projects





The Consultation Workshop

Participants

- 15-20 ICT stakeholders

Objectives of workshops:

- to rank the top 5 to 10 research priorities of the country following an exercise of evaluation with pre-establish criteria
- to identify specific objectives and areas of research for each priority



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ICT R&D Priorities for 2010-2015 in Belarus

- **29 stakeholders filled in the questionnaire, of which**
- **1 from public bodies,**
 - **10 from universities,**
 - **11 from R&D institutions, including 9 from the National Academy of Sciences,**
 - **5 from technological parks and associations (NGOs),**
 - **2 from SMEs.**



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BELARUS Priorities

Current priorities

Computing Systems

Internet of Services, Software & Virtualization

Digital libraries and digital preservation

Design of Semiconductor Components and Electronic-based Miniaturized Systems

Personal Health Systems

Nanoelectronics Technology

Trustworthy ICT

Cognitive Systems and Robotics

ICT for Patient Safety

2010-2015 priorities

Computing Systems

Personal Health Systems

Internet of Services, Software & Virtualization

Nanoelectronics Technology

ICT for Governance and Policy Modeling

Cognitive Systems and Robotics

Digital libraries and digital preservation

ICT for Patient Safety



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ICT R&D Priorities for 2010-2015 in Ukraine

□ 24 stakeholders filled in the questionnaire, of which

- **2 from public bodies,**
- **12 from universities,**
- **8 from R&D institutions,**
- **2 from associations**



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Ukraine Priorities

4.2. Technology-Enhanced Learning

3.5. Engineering of Networked Monitoring and Control Systems

3.6. Computing Systems

4.3. Intelligent Information Management

5.1. Personal Health Systems

1.2. Internet of Services, Software & Virtualisation

1.4. Trustworthy ICT

7.3. ICT for Governance and Policy Modelling

6.4. ICT for Environmental Services & Climate Change Adaptation

4.1. Digital Libraries and Digital Preservation



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ICT R&D Priorities for 2010-2015 in Azerbaijan

□ 27 stakeholders filled in the questionnaire, of which

- **1 from public bodies,**
- **5 from universities,**
- **12 from R&D institutions, including 9 from the National Academy of Sciences,**
- **2 from associations (NGOs),**
- **2 from SMEs**

- **3 from Telecom company,**
- **3 from other direct ICT stakeholders.**



Azerbaijan priorities

R.I.T.A.

1.2	Internet of Services, Software & Virtualization
2.2	Language-based Interaction
3.6	Computing Systems
4.1	Digital Libraries and Digital Preservation
4.2	Technology-Enhanced Learning
4.3	Intelligent Information Management
7.1	ICT and Ageing
7.3	ICT for Governance and Policy Modeling



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ICT R&D Priorities for 2010-2015 in Moldova

- **27 stakeholders filled in the questionnaire, of which**
 - **3 from public bodies (Ministry, Regulatory authority),**
 - **11 from universities,**
 - **6 from R&D institutions from the Academy of Sciences of Moldova,**
 - **2 from associations (NGOs),**
 - **1 from SME,**
 - **1 from Telecom company,**
 - **3 from other direct ICT stakeholders.**





Moldova priorities

Current Priorities

- 3.1 Nanoelectronics technology
- 1.2 Internet of Services, Software & Virtualization
- 1.1 The Network of the Future
- 5.2 ICT for Patient Safety
- 3.6 Computing Systems
- 4.2 Technology-Enhanced Learning
- 4.3 Intelligent information management
- 7.3 ICT for Governance and Policy Modeling
- 1.3 Internet of things and enterprise environments
- 5.1 Personal Health Systems

2010-2015 priorities

- 4.2 Technology-Enhanced Learning
- 7.3 ICT for Governance and Policy Modelling
- 1.2 Internet of Services, Software & virtualisation
- 3.6 Computing Systems
- 4.1 Digital libraries and digital preservation
- 4.3 Intelligent information management
- 5.1 Personal Health Systems
- 7.2 Accessible and Assistive ICT
- 3.1 Nanoelectronics Technology
- 5.2 ICT for Patient Safety





ICT R&D Priorities for 2010-2015 in Armenia

- 20 stakeholders filled in the questionnaire, of which**
 - 4 from public bodies,**
 - 3 from universities,**
 - 7 from R&D institutions, including 6 from the National Academy of Sciences,**
 - 3 from technological parks and associations (NGOs),**
 - 3 from SMEs**



Armenia priorities

	FP7 areas
4.3	Intelligent information management
4.1	Digital libraries and digital preservation
1.4	Trustworthy ICT
3.4	Embedded Systems Design
4.2	Technology-Enhanced Learning
2.2	Language Based Interaction
1.2	Internet of Services, Software & virtualization
3.6	Computing Systems
2.1	Cognitive Systems and Robotics
7.3	ICT for Governance and Policy Modeling



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ICT R&D Priorities for 2010-2015 in Georgia

- 27 stakeholders filled in the questionnaire, of which:**
- 3 National authorities, policy representatives**
 - 5 SMEs**
 - 10 from R&D institutions, Research Organisations**
 - 1 NCPs/NIPs or other EU-related guests**
 - 8 other**



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Georgia priorities

Initial selection	Final selection
3.1 Nanoelectronics Technology	6.3 ICT for energy efficiency
4.1 Digital libraries and digital preservation	1.2 Internet of Services, Software & virtualisation
4.2 Technology-Enhanced Learning	4.2 Technology-enhanced learning
6.3 ICT for Energy Efficiency	3.1 Nanoelectronics Technology
1.2 Internet of Services, Software & virtualisation	4.3 Intelligent Information management
3.7 Photonics	5.1 Personal Health Systems
3.6 Computing Systems	3.7 Photonics
5.1 Personal Health Systems	3.6 Computing Systems
4.3. Intelligent information management	4.1 Digital libraries and digital preservation
6.4. ICT for Environmental Services & Climate Change Adaptation	6.4 ICT for Environment Services and Climate Change



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The final table

FP7 Objective	ICT R&D PRIORITIES	ARMENIA	AZERBAIJAN	BELARUS	GEORGIA	MOLDOVA	UKRAINE
1.2	Internet of services, software & virtualization	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3.6	Computing systems	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
4.1	Digital Libraries and digital preservation	✓	✓	✓		✓	
4.2	Technology enhanced learning	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
4.3	Intelligent information management	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
2.1	Cognitive systems and robotics			✓			✓
2.2	Language based interaction	✓	✓				
3.1	Nanoelectronics Technology			✓	✓	✓	
3.7	Photonics			✓	✓		
5.1	Personal health systems			✓	✓		
5.2	ICT for Patient Safety			✓		✓	
7.3	ICT for Governance and Policy Modelling		✓	✓			



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Comments:

- Targeted regional / SICCA calls should be developed for common EU-EECA ICT R&D priorities such as Objective As mentioned by some of the experts consulted researchers in the region '*raise questions about the existence of real opportunities in investing time and effort in FP7 proposal preparations*'.
- Support actions on FP7 procedures and proposal development are still considered important for the region,.
- Projects that will address and further support the EU's Eastern Partnership policy will be beneficial for strengthening the R&D collaboration between the EU and EECA.





Comments:

- The comparison and 'alignment' of the identified country-specific priorities to the FP7 Challenges was not always smooth. One of the suggestions made by experts was to involve European Commission staff (i.e. from DG Information Society and Media) in future consultations that aim to define common EU-EECA ICT R&D priorities.
- Complex terminology and description of FP7 challenges and objectives to be taken into account in the development of future ICT work programmes.
- The question of follow-up of the identified common ICT R&D priorities from the side of the EU was raised during the consultations. Specifically, experts questioned how the project's results will be exploited/used in the near future by the European Commission.
- Similarly, experts questioned how the ICT R&D identified priorities can be used nationally and 'individually' by the involved stakeholders within the consultation. It is obvious that the results of the project need to be well communicated within the national policy and R&D communities so as to enable their future exploitation.





Problems:

- ✓ Lack of collaborative team work experience both a national and international level
- ✓ Low level project management skills in research teams
- ✓ Low awareness in Europe about the EECA national research teams
- ✓ Lack of funds for participating in European events, conferences, infodays, proposers meetings,
- ✓ Weak technical basis in research infrastructure
- ✓ The industrial sector is not enough developed to become a driving force for research
- ✓ Techno parks and techno centers, business incubators are not established.
- ✓ Absence of innovative small and medium enterprises (SMEs)
- ✓ Researchers' low capacity in communicating and working in English





The above mentioned issues will be the brought forward as subjects of sessions at the final Conference in view of their verification and consolidation to be integrated at the final version of the Policy Recommendations document.



Thank you for attention!

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