

Trainers' Digest



ETUI-REHS
European Trade Union Institute

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***ETUI-REHS EDUCATION 's
information bulletin about EU
training programmes***

New CIP – “Competitiveness and Innovation Programme” 2007- 2013

On 6th April 2005, the European Commission adopted the proposal on establishing a Competitiveness and Innovation framework Programme (CIP) for the period 2007-2013; this was finally approved in October 2006 and has started in January 2007. The proposal follows the re-launching of a reinvigorated 'Lisbon process', which aims at making Europe a more attractive place to invest, by boosting entrepreneurial initiative and creating a productive environment where innovation capacity can grow and develop. This programme will bring together activities previously carried out under the multiannual Programme for Enterprise, and the environmental part of the LIFE environment programme.

CIP will also build on innovation activities that were previously implemented through framework programmes on research, technological development and demonstration. The framework Programme will provide a coherent framework for all Community actions implemented in the field of entrepreneurship, small and medium enterprises, industrial competitiveness, innovation, ICT development and use, environmental technologies and intelligent energy.

The final budget for the CIP is EUR 3.62 billion.

General objectives

The CIP has the following objectives:

- to foster the competitiveness of enterprises, in particular of small medium enterprises;
- to promote all forms of innovation including eco-innovation;
- to accelerate the development of a sustainable, competitive, innovative and inclusive Information Society;
- to promote energy efficiency and new and renewable energy sources in all sectors including transport.

We welcome any suggestions you may have to help us improve this newsletter

Structure

There are three specific sub-programmes with a transversal theme of “**Eco-innovation**”:

The Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme

With a budget of € 2.17 billion, this is the largest sub programme of the three and brings together activities aimed at promoting entrepreneurship, industrial competitiveness and eco-innovation, with a specific focus on SMEs; it supports services offering business advice. More than € 1 billion will be devoted to boosting the highly successful financial instruments managed by the European Investment Fund (EIF), which co-invest in venture capital funds (covering early stage and expansion stage), and provide co-guarantees on loans.

The ICT Support Programme

The ICT Policy Support Programme, with a budget of € 728 million, will contribute to competitiveness, growth and jobs through stimulating a wider adoption and more efficient take-up and better use of Information and communication technologies. It will support the aims of the new integrated strategy on European Information Society 2010 and builds on the aims of the previous [E-TEN](#), [MODINIS](#) AND [E-CONTENT PROGRAMMES](#).

In particular, it will include support for pilot actions using innovative ICT-based services of public interest; for the development of digital content and for enhancing the security of, and trust and confidence in, ICT and its applications.

It includes measures to encourage the uptake of ICTs in both the public and private sectors and to assist the development of an open and inclusive European Information Society through stimulating innovative approaches to inclusion, quality of life and public services.

The Intelligent Energy-Europe Programme

This sub programme, with a €727 million budget, sets out to encourage the wider take-up of new and renewable energies, to improve energy efficiency and to foster compliance with the EU energy regulatory framework.

It will support energy efficiency, new and renewable energy sources, and technological solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions caused by the transport sector.

Actions

- Information, feedback, business co-operation and internationalisation services,
- services for innovation and for the transfer of both technology and knowledge,
- services encouraging the participation of SMEs in the Community framework programme for RTD.

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Support measures: sectoral studies, dissemination activities on SMEs, competitiveness and cross-sectoral studies, conferences, study groups, communication and information.

EU funding

The Commission will provide a co-financing of up to 60% of eligible costs.

Interest for trade unions

The CIP is included here primarily for information, as a significant element of the Lisbon Strategy and as a complementary programme to FP7. It is not an obvious programme for trade union participation, although there may be opportunities for participation in some of the dissemination activities or in some of the e-content elements in the ICT area. It may, however, also be useful for trade unions to be aware of the CIP and its possibilities because of the potential involvement of employers, in both the public and the private sectors, and particularly because of the opportunities provided to SMEs.

Where to get the information and contact

Calls for proposals and the related documents (work programme, guidelines, policy developments, and the information package) will be regularly published on: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/enterprise_policy/cip/index_en.htm

The Programme is managed by:
European Commission
DG Enterprise and Industry, Unit E2
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We advise promoters to read very carefully all the above-mentioned documents related to the relevant Call for proposals under which they aim to submit their proposals. Themes, eligibility conditions, deadlines and funding rules can change depending on the Call and the annual work programme.

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