

7.2. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS (1-2 pages for each separate action: 7.1, 7.2, 7.3., etc.)

Title of the Action:

INNOVATIC. Promoting and developing the ICT sector as an accelerator of technological change and regional economic growth

Theme: (i) (ii) (iii) (choose the predominant theme)

Description of the Action (for example: studies, pilot projects, strategic planning, participation in networks, technical assistance, etc.):

Approach and Objectives:

The strategy underneath this Programme of Innovative Actions matches the philosophy of the “II Action Plan for the Promotion of the Information Society and Telecommunications in Navarre” and the “Sectoral Study and Strategic Plan of the ICT Sector in the region of Comunidad Foral de Navarra”, all of which were recently concluded and elaborated with the support of PRAIN. These plans and studies have laid the grounds of the regional policy for the advance of the knowledge and learning age based on the development of a strong regional ICT sector, making the most of existing knowledge and innovation potential in the region.

The “Sectoral Study and Strategic Plan for the ICT sector in the region of Comunidad Foral de Navarra” highlighted several factors that have led to the actions scheduled for this programme:

- The contribution of ICTs to productivity in enterprises is a fact. However, it is more important to approach this contribution as one of the factors accelerating technological change and ultimately long-term economic growth.
- The importance of the ICT sector becomes evident on the grounds of its being a “cross-sectoral” sector, unlike others.
- The importance of developing actions contributing to the development of emergent sectors having a strong potential: Biotechnology, Nanotechnology and Renewable Energies.
- The transferability of technology between Universities and enterprises is very limited.
- The need to encourage R&D investment to diversify sectors.

Cooperation between the different agents becomes crucial. Enterprises, public administrations, universities and research and technological institutes need to work these innovative projects out together.

Participants:

Public bodies:

Government of Navarre (DG Information Society , DG European Affairs and Planning and DG Industry and Commerce), Innovation Agency of Navarre, NGA (Navarra of Administration Management), CEIN.

Private bodies:

CENER- CIEMAT, CIMA, CNTA-Laboratorio del Ebro, CEMITEC, AIN, ATANA (Asociation of ICT sector).

Universities:

Public University of Navarre and University of Navarre.

Enterprises:

Enterprises in the ICT Sector and in the sectors of Biotechnology, Nanotechnology and Renewable Energies.

Activities:

- 1- Animating the ICT sector testing a cluster methodology. The ICT cluster should become *the* cluster considering its cross-sectoral nature. This feature accounts for the importance of starting the cluster, promoting and animating the actions scheduled in the strategic plan and supporting the identification of innovative and collaborative projects.
 - Organisation of sectoral worktables with the different sectors (Biotechnology, Nanotechnology and Renewable Energies).
 - Identification and selection of projects.
 - Implementation of measures to disseminate the Cluster.
- 2- Cross-sectoral support to integrated projects. Developing and participating in projects deploying

ICTs to support the subsequent starting of “Integrated Projects” in the target sectors, so that they may act as accelerating factors for the latter.

3- Encouraging cooperation and actions to integrate the sector into networks and projects. This point is further developed in Action 7.3 Innovanetworks.

Geographical coverage:

- Objective 1 areas:
- Objective 2 areas: 50%.
- Areas outside Obj. 1 and 2: 50%.

Groups targeted:

- Enterprises in the ICT sector
- Enterprises in the sectors of the “Integrated Projects” (Biotechnology, Nanotechnology and Renewable Energies).
- Research and Technological Institutes
- Universities
- Administration

Indicative project selection criteria:

- Degree of innovation of the project
- “Cross-sectoralism” of the Partnership
- Benefits expected from the project from a regional and European viewpoint, transferability of results

Results expected (specify the choice of indicator depending on the type of action):

1- Animation of the ICT cluster

- Organisation the 5 sectoral joint worktables (ICT enterprises and enterprises in the sectors of Biotechnology, Nanotechnology or Renewable Energies), 50 participants.
- Identification and evaluation of 20 projects in these sectors (5 worktables* 4 projects).
- Implementation of 5 actions to disseminate the cluster (conferences, presentations, etc), 200 participants.

2- Cross-sectoral support to projects.

- Support to the actual implementation of 5 projects.
- Average investment of the projects: EUR 170,000.00.
- Creation of 10 jobs.

3- Encouraging cooperation and actions to integrate the sector into networks and projects.

- Indicators described in Action 7.3 INNOVANETWORKS.