

Brussels, 7th April 2005



€ 4.2 billion “competitiveness and innovation programme” to boost growth and jobs

Competitiveness and innovation are the twin keys to unlocking Europe’s potential for sustainable growth and more and better jobs. The Commission today proposed a Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) with a budget of € 4.213 billion for the period 2007 – 2013. The CIP will support actions that develop the capacity of enterprise and industry to innovate. It will boost the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), environmental technologies and efficient and renewable energy sources. The CIP provides a comprehensive response to the call of the Lisbon mid-term review for simpler, more visible and more targeted EU action. For more details see [MEMO/05/113](#).

Commission Vice-President Günter Verheugen said “*This is a package of concrete actions to boost competitiveness and innovation of business and to deliver higher growth and employment.*”

Commissioner Viviane Reding said “*The ICT Policy Support programme will provide the means to meet growing demands for better health care, efficient education and lifelong learning, better quality of life in old age, security, and social inclusion*”.

Commissioner Stavros Dimas added “*The CIP will also be an important instrument to help overcome obstacles that investors, especially SMEs, often face when developing eco-efficient initiatives.*”

Commissioner Andris Piebalgs commented “*The Intelligent Energy – Europe programme is a key element of the Union’s strategy to reduce Europe’s growing dependence on energy imports and to meet the Kyoto requirements.*”

Whilst building on tried and tested programmes, CIP also includes many **new elements** such as:

- a risk capital instrument for High Growth and Innovative Companies (GIF2)
- securitisation” of banks’ SME loan portfolios
- enhanced role for innovation and business support networks
- demonstrators of technological and organisational solutions to European ICT-services
- a twinning programme for policy makers.

In its three specific programmes the CIP combines concrete actions which will promote:

- Start up and growth of SMEs: the “**Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme**” with a budget of 2.631 billion including up to € 520 million to promote eco-innovation, will facilitate access to finance and support investment in innovation activities. It will provide SMEs with information and advice on single market opportunities and Community matters and assist Member States in introducing a better regulatory and administrative environment for business and innovation. It will also further develop strategies for industrial and service sectors and monitor their progress.
- Information and communication technologies: the “ICT Policy Support Programme”, with a budget of € 802 million, will contribute to competitiveness, growth and jobs through stimulating a wider adoption and more efficient take up of ICT. In particular, it will support operational demonstrations of technological and organisational solutions to ICT-based services at EU level in particular addressing interoperability, identity management and security challenges
- 12% share of renewable energy by 2010 and reduce energy consumption: the “**Intelligent Energy-Europe Programme**” with a budget of € 780 million will support energy efficiency, new and renewable energy sources, and technological solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions caused by the transport sector.

More information:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/enterprise_policy/cip/index_en.htm