Cross-border eSolution/eService Prototype Development

Prototype title: iPASS© - the Comprehensive Information System for Monitoring and Management of Grant Funds

Short description of the prototype (problem to be solved, expected benefits, main stakeholders, expansion opportunities, related EU projects, references):

Obtaining grant money from the European Union and implementation of grant funded projects is a long and difficult process due to complex rules for applying and reporting. The core reasons for such state are lack of systematic and comprehensive approach to programming rules on higher levels, underdeveloped knowledge management systems and an inefficient reporting system based on periodic reports. Many solutions exist but none of them tackles the core problems and thus remain partial, either in methodology or geo-political sense.

Our solution is **iPASS**© - a methodological instrument aimed at setting up standard procedures of monitoring and evaluation of EU grant funded projects. It is a system composed of methodologies, processes and procedures which need to be established in order to enable:
- efficient and transparent system of monitoring and evaluation of EU funds drawing/reimbursement,
- trained personnel **in managing authorities** for monitoring and evaluation,
- clear rules and standards,
- trained personnel in **the final recipients** for preparation, implementation, reporting and cost reporting in line with EU regulations and
- lower actual and opportunity costs for both **Managing Authorities** and **Final Beneficiaries**.

iPASS© is a **comprehensive solution** comprising of three components – developed methodology and procedures, continuous support with knowledge management, and IT component of the solution. Apart from the methodological component, which is the foundation of the solution, we have also developed a **demonstration version of the IT component** which proves that simple and efficient support to the whole process is possible, from the phase of call preparation, through application, project implementation, reporting, monitoring and evaluation, **both for Managing Authorities and Final Beneficiaries.**

All our R&D activities from 2001 to 2010 were co-financed with public EU or national grants, proving that the EU recognizes the problem and is trying to solve it:
- 2001 - 2002   FP5 (EU framework programme): R&D project »EFAMT - Easy Financial Accounting and Management Tools for EU Projects«
- 2002   PHARE: experts in »Assessment and Audit of Administrative Capacity of CFCU and other PHARE Grant Schemes Implementing Agencies«
- 2005 - 2007 MVZT (Ministry of higher education, research and technology of Republic of Slovenia): R&D project »Development of internet application EFAMT Professional«
- 2005 - 2008 Ministry of labour, family and social affairs, Cohesion funds: experts in »The evaluation of the EQUAL Community Initiative Programme in Slovenia 2004-2006«
- 2007 - today: regular use of application in cloud from Final Beneficiaries of different EU grants funds (centralised and decentralised)
- 2007 -2008 EUREKA: R&D project »SUCCESS - Uniting Europe through cost management«
- 2009 - 2010 European Regional Development Fund (Structural Funds): R&D project »iPASS© - Development of methodological instruments and informational support technological tools for build standardized process for monitoring and evaluation for structural funds and instruments for EU pre-accession assistance«
- SID Bank: „Financing of Technology and Development Projects 2011-2013"

ICT requirements for the prototype deployment:
The entire solution runs in the cloud and no installation is required on the final users side(both Managing Authorities and Final Beneficiaries).

Proposer (contact person)

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Existing partners (representative, position, organization, country):

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What type of partners are we looking for?
We are looking for foreign IT partners in Austria or Serbia, which would want to prepare the graphical user interface for their Managing Authorities and localize the system into their local languages.

To be emailed as soon as possible and not later than Thursday, July 26, 2012 to Alenka.Slabajna@JAPTI.si
Public Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Entrepreneurship and Foreign Investments