

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

#### FP7 Help-Desk and its services

ISTOK-SOUYZ Project Final Event Moscow, June 7, 2011

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#### **Outline**

- ☐ Help-Desk Objectives and Services
- ☐ Help-Desk at the cluster portal
- ☐ Promotion and Advertising Actions
- ☐ Some results of the Help-Desk Use
- □ Help-Desk Status and Sustainability plan
- □ Conclusions



### The Help-Desk Objectives and Services

#### Help-Desk (HD) is assisting the ICT research actors:

- to become familiar with the procedures and opportunities for co-operation in the FP7 ICT programme
- to acquire know-how on identified areas suitable for the future EU-EECA cooperation.

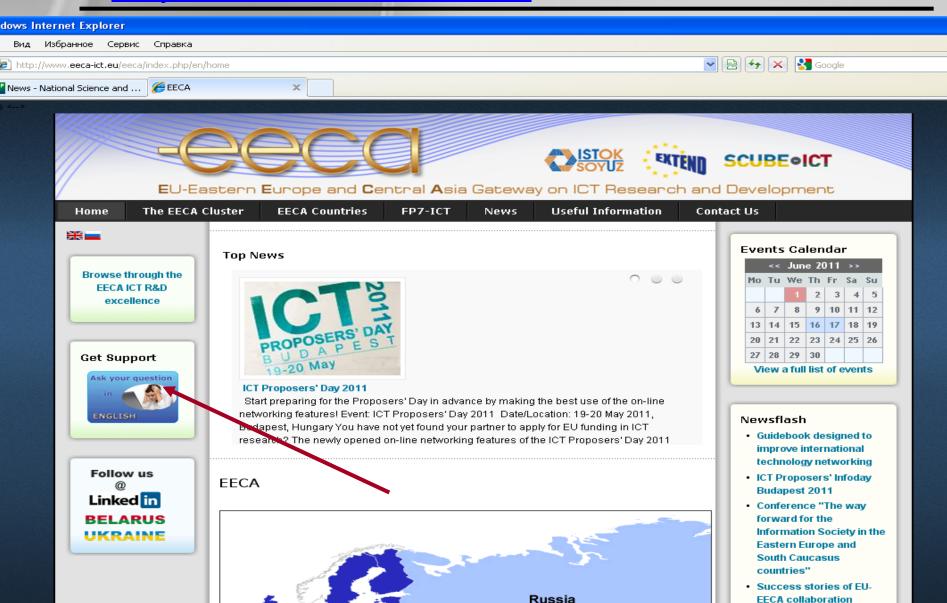
#### The following activities are offered:

- Proposal Preparation Support
- Idea Evaluation
- Making it understandable
- Coaching

The HD provides useful and practical information through the FAQ and Glossary entries.

#### Help-Desk at the cluster portal,

http://www.eeca-ict.eu



### Visible interface

☐ The flash, pictures, short phrases and the ability to use 8 national languages are provided and included in small attractive images



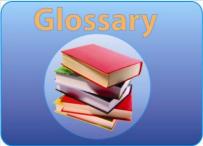








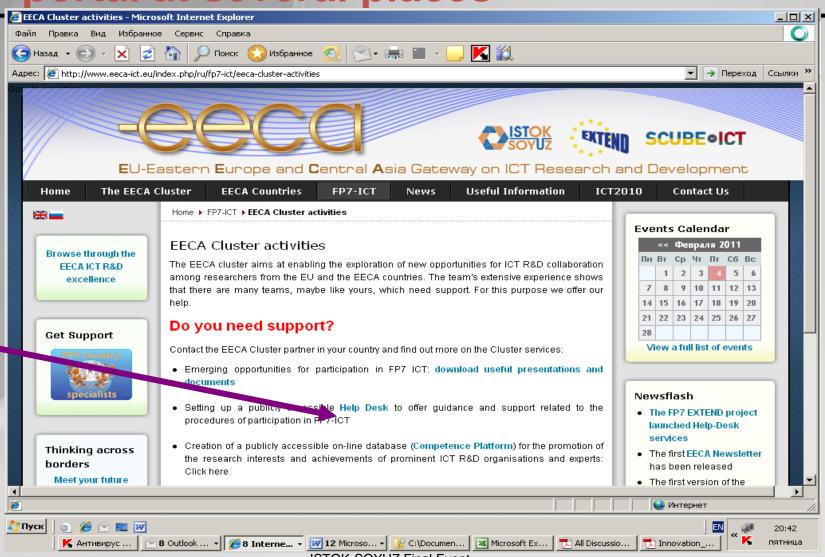






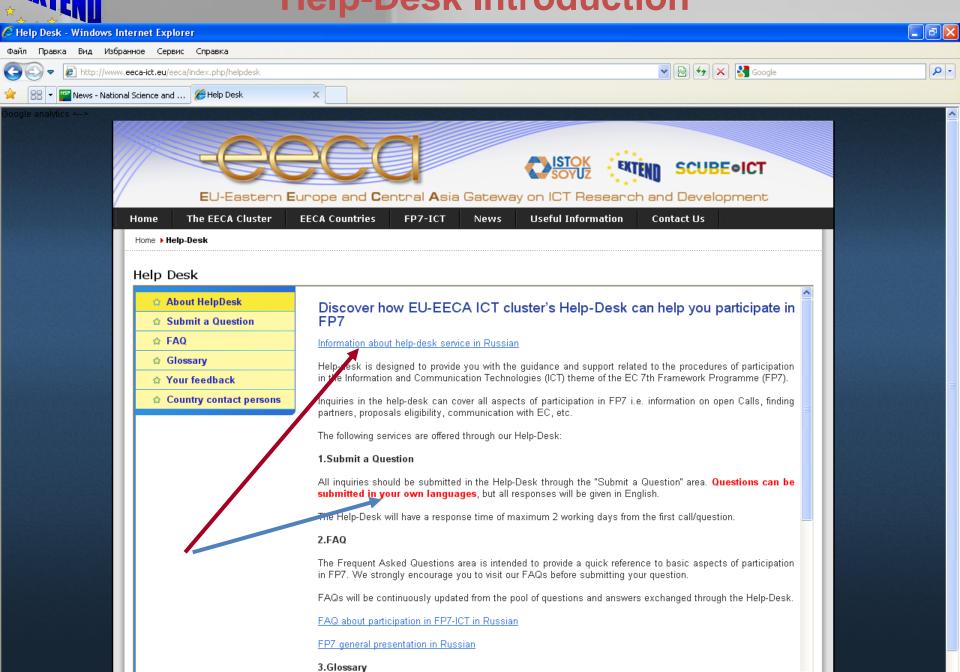


### Clear announcement at the cluster portal at several places



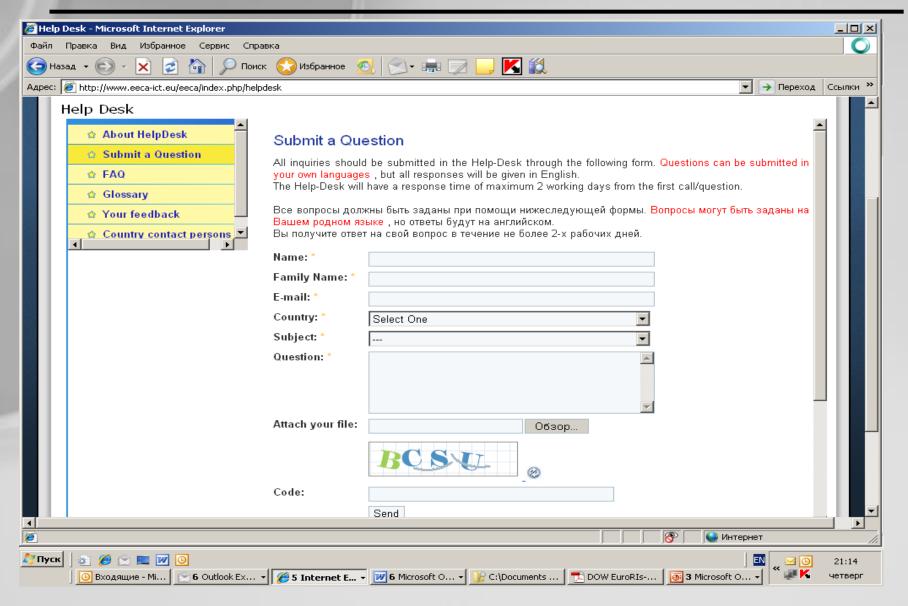


#### **Help-Desk Introduction**



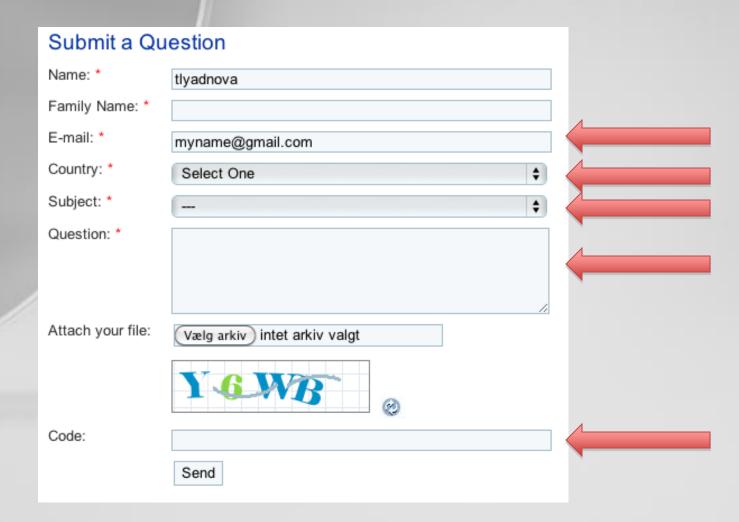


#### **Submit a Question**





### User submits a question





#### Submit a Question

- □ Question may be submitted in any language, but the answer is given **only** in English
- □ Users have also the option to attach files when submitting their question. Such a file could be a document enclosing a more elaborated description of the proposal idea.
- □ A respond time is maximum 2 working days from the first call/question



#### **Proposal Preparation Support**

### The user can get an assistance regarding the proposal preparation in general:

- ☐ the initial understanding what it is,
- ☐ where to find the information on the open calls,
- □ how to use it,
- ☐ in which way to proceed, based on the very initial draft proposal,
- what aspects are important for the proposal preparation,
- where and how to find partners,
- **u** etc.



#### Idea evaluation

### The User can have a preliminary basic evaluation of his proposal idea:

- checking whether it is compatible with the ICT FP7
  priorities and if it's worth pursuing.
- ☐ if proposal idea initially fits the open Call Challenges/ Objectives.
- ☐ If the contents and aims of the proposal idea comply with the Objectives and Expected outcomes. *The CS will ensure this happens or give the User necessary advices and explanations.*
- ☐ The User **should not expect** to have an evaluation from the point of view of the state-of-the-art and novelty.



#### Making it understandable

#### Help desk will try

- □ to "translate" the objectives of the Calls into a more understandable language (i.e. to explain what the EC wants/means under a certain objective),
- ☐ to map the organisation's skills to a number of possible objectives in the call.



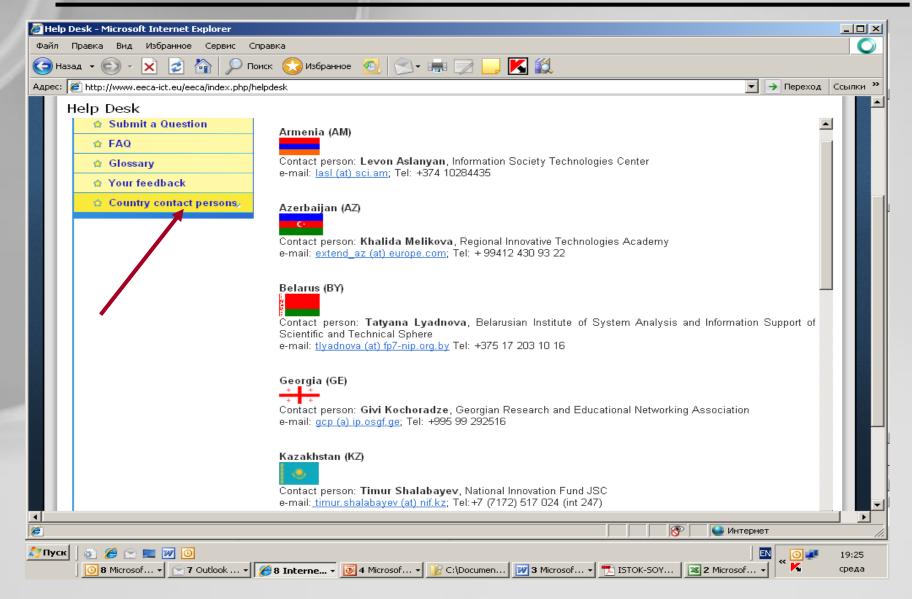
#### Coaching

### The Help desk will try to coach the proposer to approach the Commission:

- ☐ the right person
- ☐ to ask right questions so that the proposer can assess the idea weaknesses and strengths
- □ to give the name and e-mail address, telephone number (if necessary) of the EC person dealing with the issue
- □ to explain/discuss what he/she needs to get back from the EC during the conversation



#### Country contact persons





#### **Help-Desk practical content**

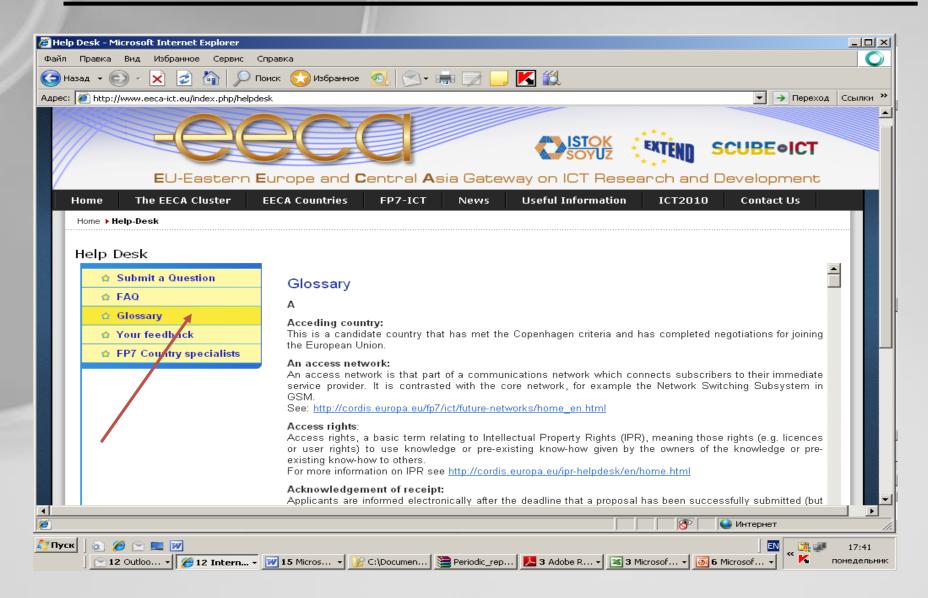
During the cluster run there was continuous information updating, including:

#### □ FAQ section

- ✓ There were collected the most frequent questions, which could appear when the user just starts to be involve in the FP7 programme, in FP7 projects.
- ✓ The NCPs partners' experience had been definitely used, as well as the questions, received during the Help-Desk functioning by the FP7 Country Specialists.
- ✓ More than 60 useful and actual for the <u>newcomers</u> questions are included in FAQ section.
- ☐ Glossary section similar approach had been used
  - ✓ the most frequently used, basic 'popular' and unclear terminology had been included first of all for the beginners to familiarize them with the acronyms, rules and definitions used by the EU R&D programmes.
  - ✓ this was <u>gradually extended</u> to include wider and more specific terms which the *more advanced* users need to know at the latest stages.



#### The Glossary at the cluster portal





#### **Promotion and Advertising Actions**

Moscow, June 7, 2011

# Promotion and Advertising Actions – 2 by cluster projects

IS'	TOK-SOUYZ promoted the Help-Desk
	through the newsletters
	usual day-to-day activities
	project activities, eg. during delegation tour in Ukraine
	we offer support services in Russia (Help-Desk, but without the IT tool) since 2006 (ISTOK-RU project). Many people got used to contact us directly, by email, without passing through helpdesk. When we added Help-desk, people still continue to contact us personally by email and phone, it's easier.
	ISTOK-SOYUZ partners promote Help-Desk, the same way as EXTEND partners promote the Competence Platform.
	the Networking Guide developed by ISTOK-SOYUZ gives links to the Helpdesk, and Glossary, in particular <a href="http://www.eeca-ict.eu/index.php/helpdesk">http://www.eeca-ict.eu/index.php/helpdesk</a>

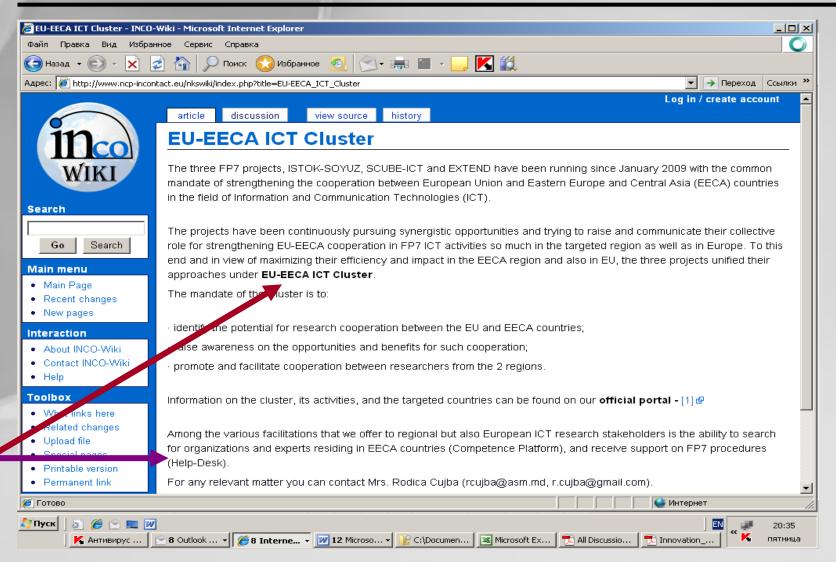
## Promotion and Advertising Actions – 3 by cluster projects

#### SCUBE-ICT promoted the Help-Desk through

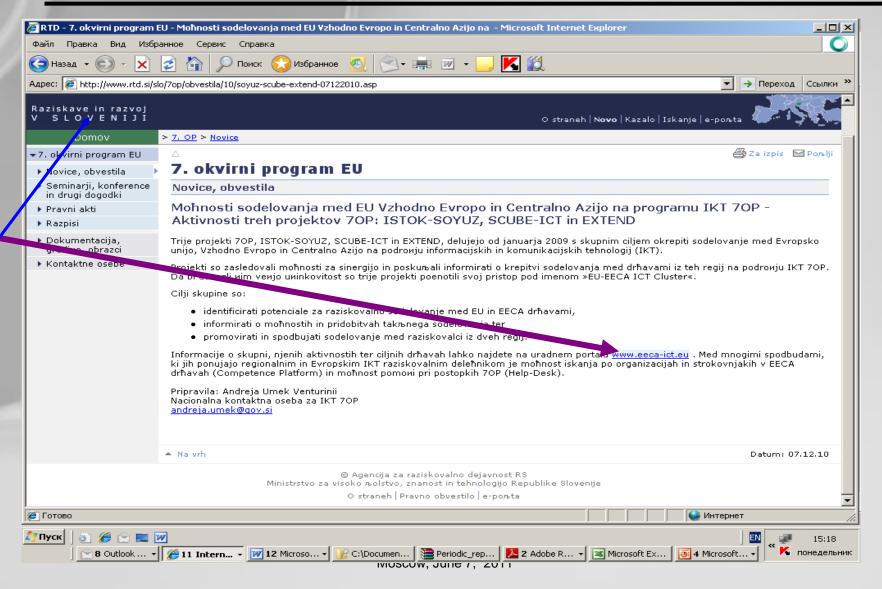
- □ special articles about the Help-Desk (e.g. on the webpage of LvCSTEI (<a href="http://cstei.lviv.ua/en/item/281">http://cstei.lviv.ua/en/item/281</a>)
- ☐ It was disseminated via partners e-mail data base
- was promoted during Scientific Workshops organised by SCUBE-ICT in Ukraine (<a href="http://cstei.lviv.ua/en/item/441">http://cstei.lviv.ua/en/item/441</a>) on 18-21 May, 2010
- ☐ Final Conference in December, 2010
- □ All project events infodays, trainings in Belarus and Ukraine promoted Help-Desk services
- □ All project partners disseminated the info among their clients



#### Help-Desk promotion by other projects



## Help-Desk promotion by other EU organisations





#### Some results on the Help-Desk Use

#### The statistical analysis shows:

- ☐ the EECA ICT actors are more aware on the existing Help-Desk services and using them
- many users are making their questions by phone: to really utilize the benefit of national language use, as well as more confidential approach and immediate response plus possibility to discuss the issue more deeply
- ☐ the increasing level of visits in the FAQ and Glossary sections
- ☐ the section "HD Country Specialist" has regular visitors



### Help-Desk Status and Sustainability Plan

- ☐ HD service was launched in July 2009
- □ HD services are offered through the EECA Cluster portal <a href="http://www.eeca-ict.eu/index.php/helpdesk">http://www.eeca-ict.eu/index.php/helpdesk</a> and through the EXTEND website <a href="http://www.extend-ict.eu/">http://www.extend-ict.eu/</a>
- ☐ It will remain operational until the end of the cluster run under the control of the EXTEND project team
- □ Provision of HD services responsibility of the EECA partners/ per country



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# Thank you for your attention! We are glad to help you!!!

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