

DG INFSO's ICT Research Intervention and the Ex-post Evaluation of IST Research in FP6 (and its follow-up)

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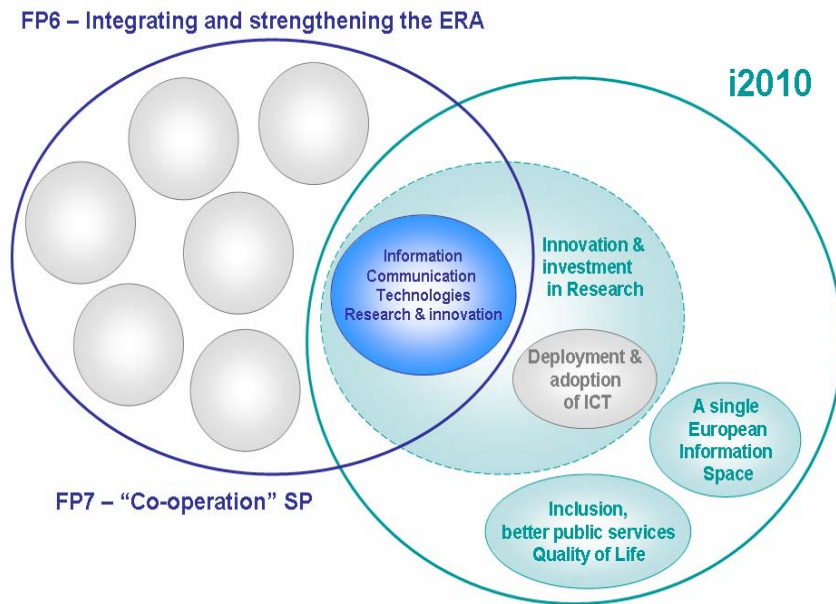
Outline of Presentation

- **i2010 Information Society Strategy**
- **Why EU Level ICT Research is important for Europe**
- **Ex-post Evaluation of FP6 ICT Research**
- **Follow-up to Ex-post Evaluation and Communication on ICT R&D and Innovation**



i2010 Strategy

- Comprehensive and holistic approach:
 - Umbrella initiative for EU Information Society and Media policies (regulation, research and deployment)



Three priorities:

- Completing the Single European Information Space
- Strengthening innovation and investment in research
- Achieving an Inclusive European Information society

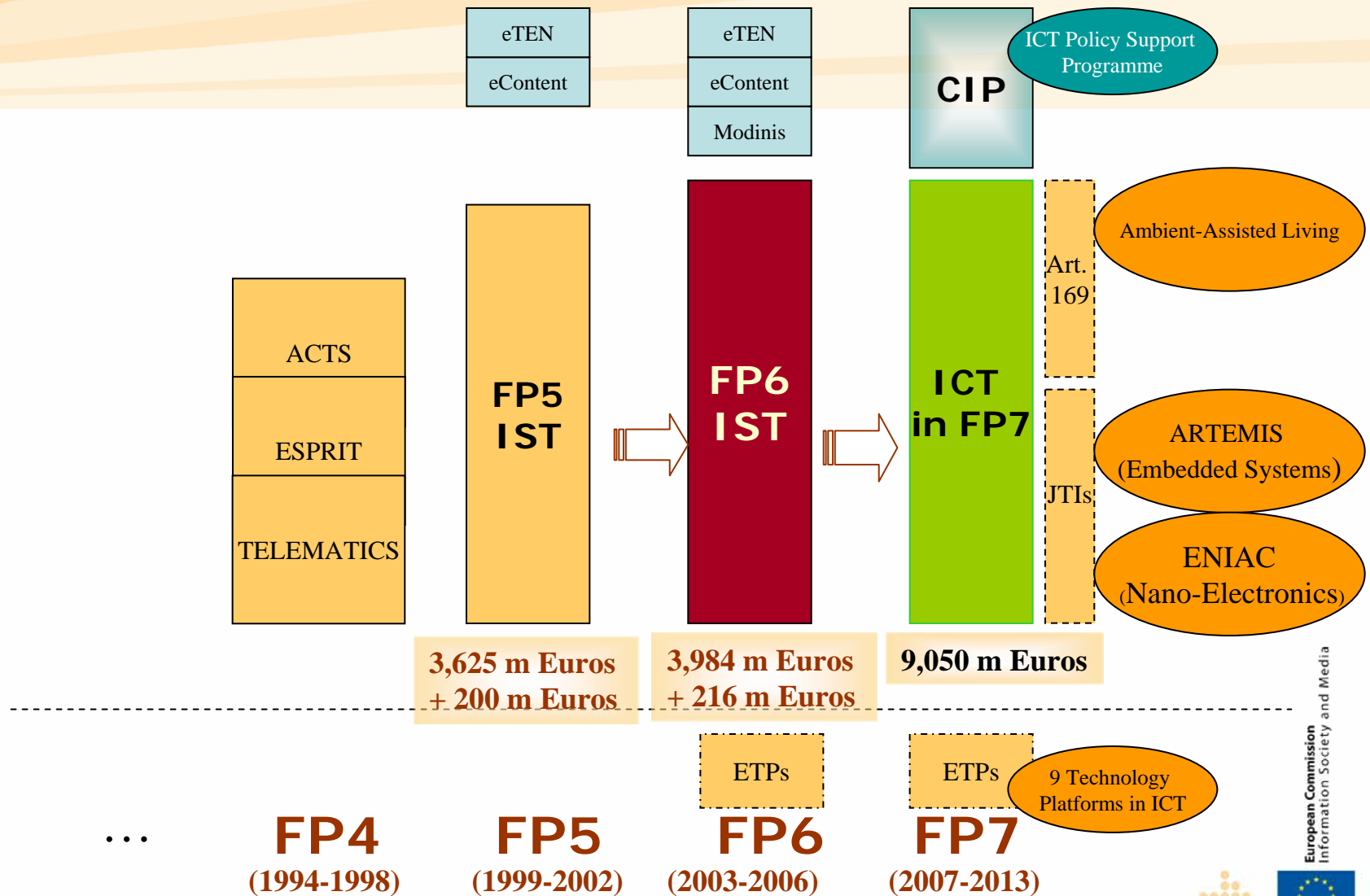
Why is ICT Research important for Europe?

- Provides essential infrastructure and tools for knowledge creation
- Boosts innovation capacity of ALL sectors
- Essential in addressing Europe's societal challenges
- Importance on ICT reflected in R&D budgets world-wide (~30%)
- ICT RTD is rightly a priority in Framework Programme Research



ICT Research in the EU Framework Programmes

Complementary instruments and wider mobilisation of resources

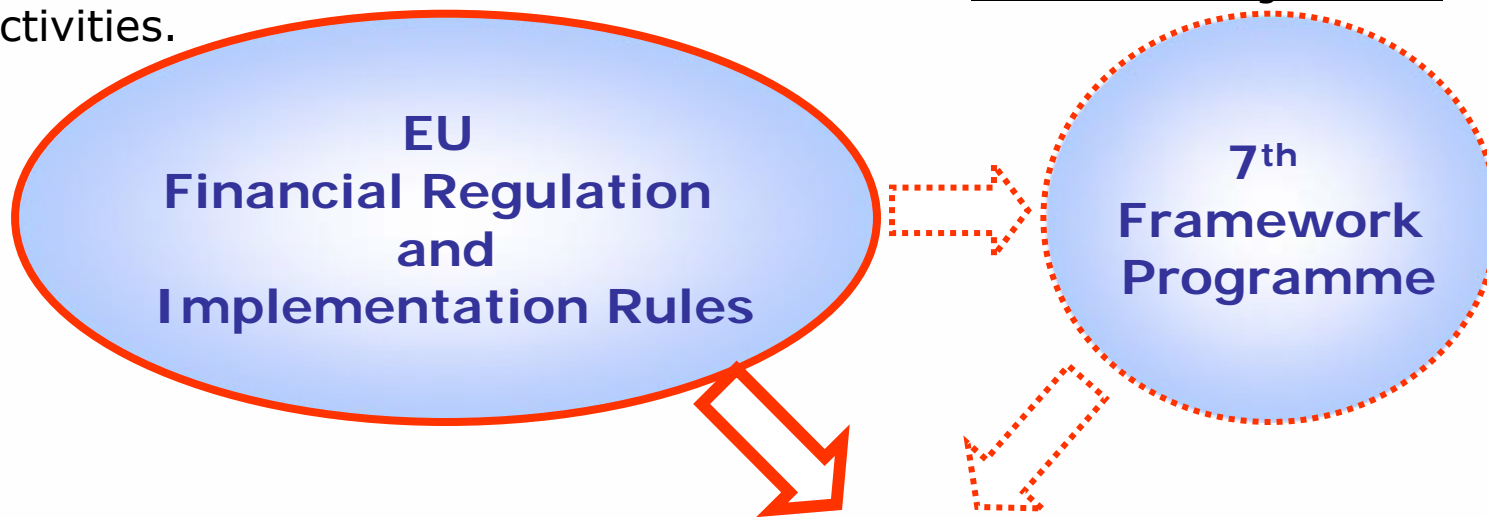


Why Evaluate FP IST/ICT RTD?

Financial Regulation - Art 27 and 60:

The Commission (AO) is responsible to implement the budget in accordance with the principle of Sound Financial Management, and therefore perform an ex-post evaluation of the research activities.

Not later than 2010, the Commission shall carry out, with the assistance of external experts, an evidence-based interim evaluation of this Framework Programme and its specific programmes building upon the ex-post evaluation of the Sixth Framework Programme...



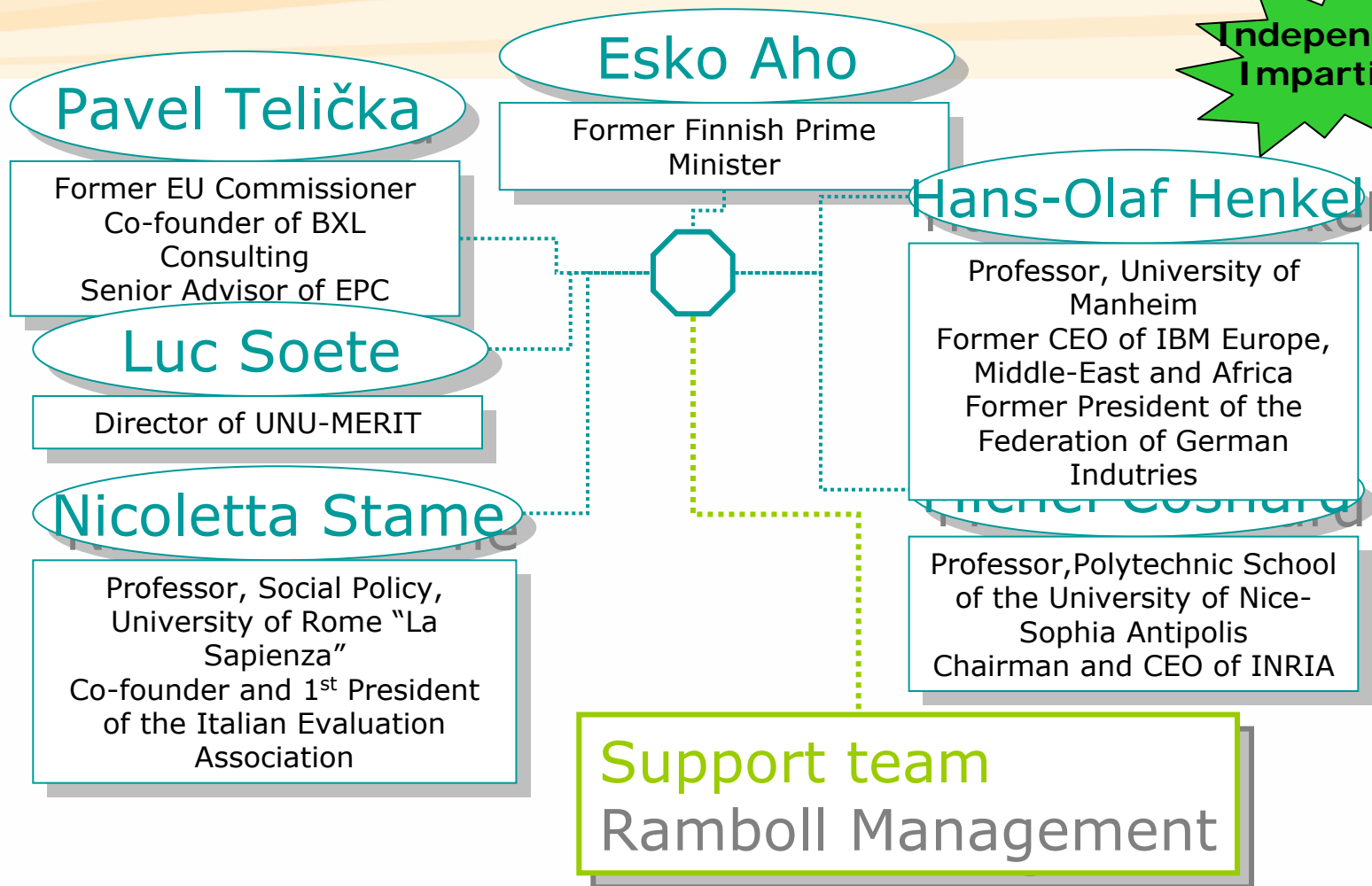
Ex-post Evaluation of IST research in FP6



Ex-Post Evaluation of ICT in FP6

A Panel of external high-level experts

Independence
Impartiality



ICT Ex-Post Evaluation Process



Building evidence base

- Studies based on network analyses
- Study of the IST intervention logic
- Impact Analysis Observatory
- Studies on Indicators
- Collection of data related to indicators (patents and publications)
- Study of impacts on Growth and Jobs
- Study of SMEs
- IST research portfolio analysis

**Acceptability
Credibility**

**Utility
Value Added**

Phase A

- Compilation of the available evidence and initial analysis
- Preparation of the Self-Assessment

Phase B

- Consultation with stakeholder groups
- Synthesis of the evidence
- Preparation of an annotated outline of the report

Phase C

- Collection of additional evidence
- Interviews and with key ICT players
- Preparation of a draft report

Phase D

- Interaction with institutional stakeholders
- Finalization of the report



Key findings and recommendations (1)

The European ICT research investment has been well managed and has been effective in reaching its goals, but improvements can be made in:

- ❖ the flexibility and simplification of the funding mechanism, by
 - Developing a more trust-based approach towards participants at all stages;
 - Adopting a number of changes at the operational level for example requesting shorter proposals, exploring new evaluation processes (more widely distributed seed funding), optimising reporting, etc.
- ❖ Encouraging more of the best researchers from outside of Europe to participate with the aim of increasing the global reach of the programme in areas where Europe can take the lead.



Key findings and recommendations (2)

The exploitation of the created knowledge and skills depends on a broad portfolio of policies and measures which affect the innovation "eco-system".

Some recommendations

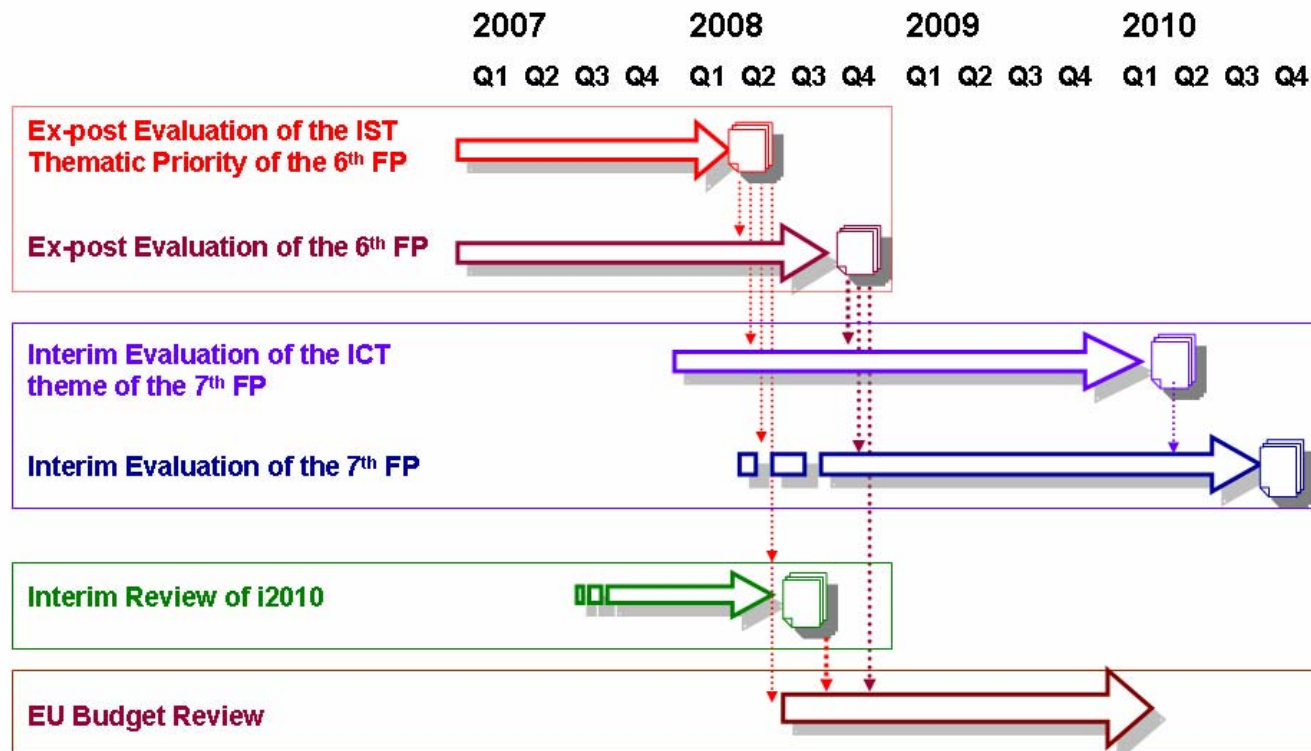
- **Reintroducing mechanisms to facilitate new and high-growth companies to meet venture capital investors;**
 - Promoting stronger interactions between users, researchers and business - notably in regional innovation systems.
 - Supporting new initiatives to allow public authorities to procure the development of innovative goods and services.
 - Promoting interoperability and development of standards where there is a well-documented need for coherent innovative services and European leadership.
 - **Facilitating the development of lead markets for innovative ICT products and services**
- Strengthening collaboration and mobilising public-private partnerships, as in the Joint Technology Initiatives.

Relevance
Strategic



Making the best possible use of the evaluation findings

Timeliness



The Evaluation report is published

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/information_society/evaluation/rtd/fp6_ist_expost/index_en.htm

European Commission

"Aho Report" on EU High-Tech Research: A Wake-up Call for Innovation in Europe, says Commissioner

MEMO/08/430
Brussels, 24 June 2008

Europe has started doing better in high-tech research to do, particularly to capitalise on the expertise of Aho, that analysed the effectiveness of the EU's 4th Framework Programme. Although Europe has considerably improved its research and innovation efforts, the European Commission is taking a gear to bridge the gap between the EU's current and 2006, compared with the Commission's 2003-2006 evaluation of the effectiveness of Information Society Research in the 6th Framework Programme 2003-2006.

Information Society and Media Directorate-General

Ex-post Evaluation of the ICT theme of the 6th FP for RTD

Background and Legal Basis

Both the increasing importance of the changes in the policy context and the objectives of and the proposed level of investment in the EU's RTD activities result in the need to further improve and strengthen the evaluation function in order to best meet the public requirements for increased transparency, accountability and cost-effectiveness.

The Commission is therefore bound, through the Financial Regulation (Articles 60 and 27) and its Implementing Rules, to perform an ex-post evaluation of the 6th FP research activities in line with the principle of Sound Financial Management.

As a consequence of this obligation, the legal base of the 7th Framework Programme for Research, Technological development and Demonstration (RTD) explicitly mandates that "Not later than 2010, the Commission shall carry out, with the assistance of external experts, an evidence-based impact evaluation of this Framework Programme and its specific programmes building upon the ex-post evaluation of the Sixth Framework Programme," and clarifies that this "independent ex-post programme evaluation would be undertaken 2 years after the end of FP6."

Key information

- Terms of reference
- Panel of Independent experts
- Evaluation report
- Web-based workspace

European Commission Information Society and Media

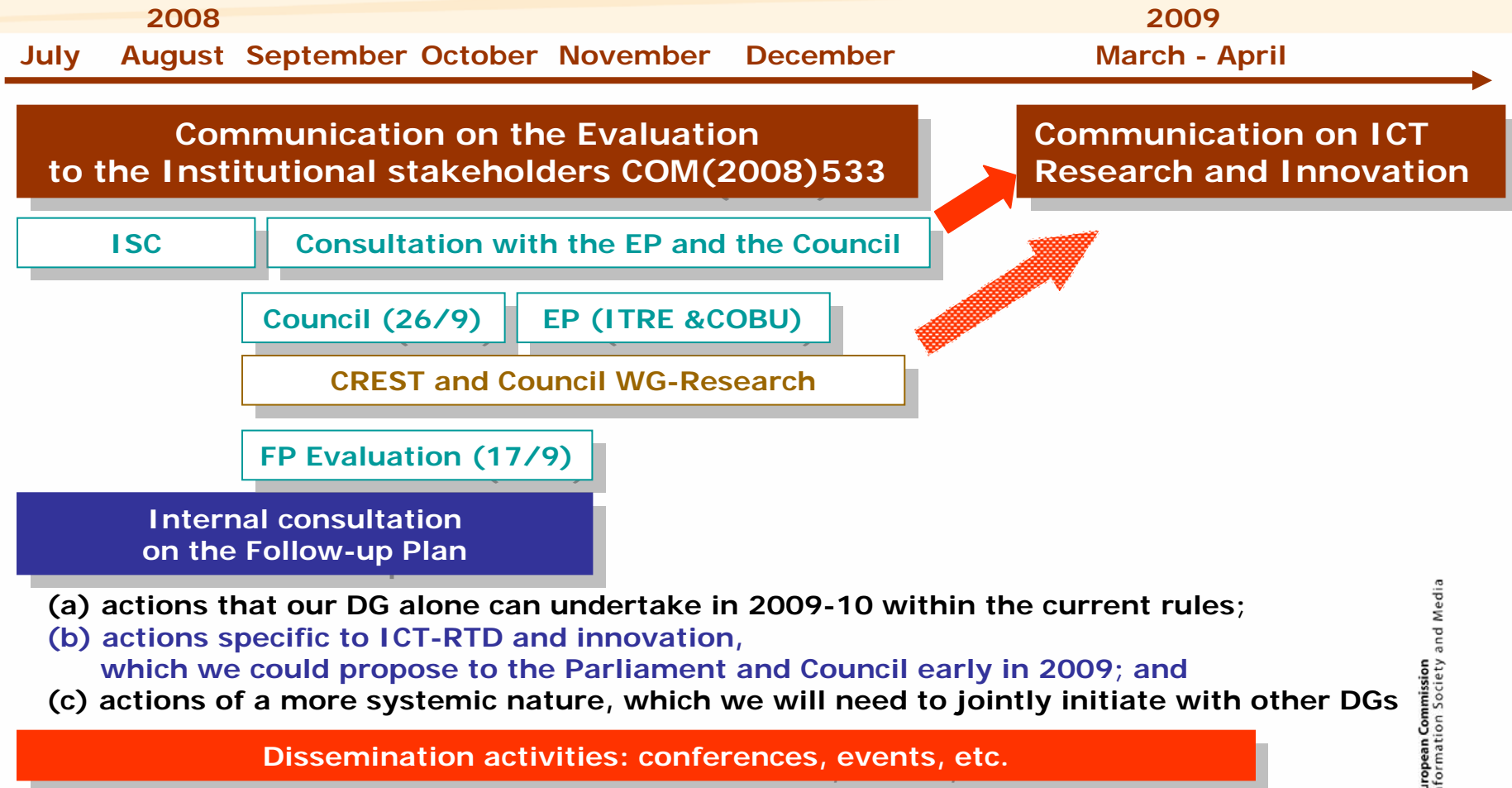
Follow-up of the Evaluation Results

Capturing the needs for information

- **The ex-post evaluation of ICT was designed in such a way that its results (findings and recommendations) were useful**
- **It was properly timed and the evaluation findings were disseminated to stakeholders**
- **Recommendations will be taken into account in the revisions of the FP ICT RTD work-programme**



Follow-up of the Evaluation Results



Actions that our DG alone can undertake in 2009-10 within the current rules

- **Increasing Global reach and reputation of participation in FP ICT RTD**
- **Simplifying Management/Reducing Red-Tape**
- **Expansion of eInfrastructures approach to more application and user-oriented in sectors beyond scientific research**
- **Better Access to Venture Capital**

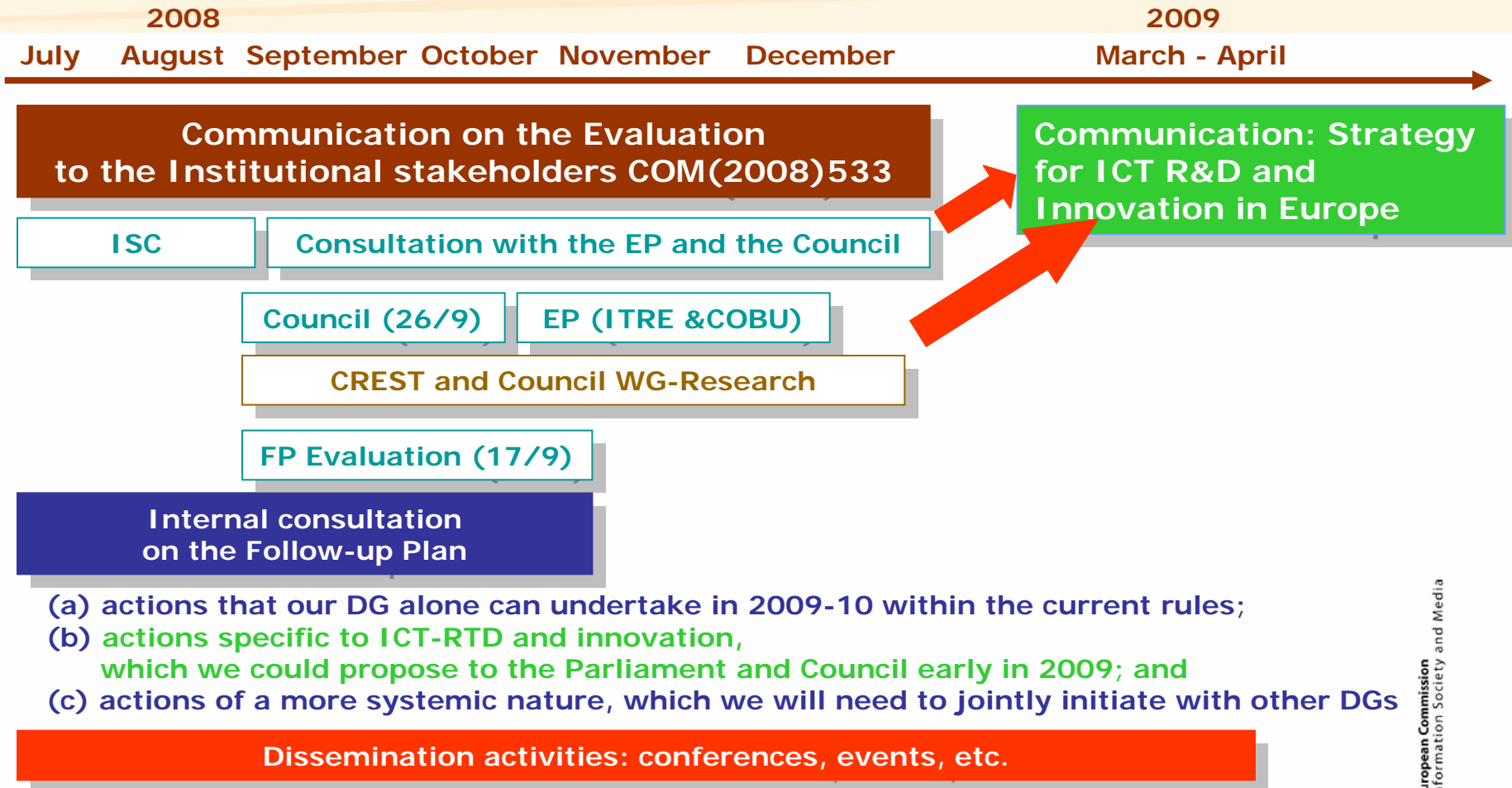


Actions of a more systemic nature, which we will need to jointly initiate with other DGs

- **Strengthen Networking Opportunities**
 - Continue to consolidate public-private partnerships of a more permanent nature from FP7 such as the JTI's
- **Create and Access European and Global Markets**
 - A more strategic approach to, and use of standardisation at the European Level
 - Further development of interconnection of large regional and national infrastructures



Follow-up and Dissemination



Communication:

A Strategy for ICT R&D and Innovation of Europe Raising the Game

- Part of the Commission's response to recommendations from the ex-post evaluation of IST RTD in FP6 (Aho Panel)
- Objectives and targets:
 - - Reinforce the intensity of Europe's ICT R&D and innovation investments.
 - - Double private and public investment in ICT R&D
 - - Triple utilization of pre-commercial procurement in ICT
- - Online public consultation from Sept to Nov '08
- Adoption Planned in March 2009



Communication:

A Strategy for ICT R&D and Innovation of Europe

Strategy

- Adopt a more efficient and systemic strategy for ICT R&D and innovation
- Better articulation between policies at regional, national and European levels
-along three interlinked Lines of Action
 - Raise investments in ICT and increase their efficiency.
 - Prioritise ICT research & innovation into key areas and reduce fragmentation
 - Facilitate emergence of markets for innovation



Communication:

A Strategy for ICT R&D and Innovation of Europe

..plus

- European-scale projects spanning from R&D to deployment**
- Simplification and streamlining**
- International Co-operation**



Information Sources

i2010 Strategy

http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/eeurope/i2010/strategy/index_en.htm

ICT Research in FP7

<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/>

Ex-post Evaluation of IST Research in FP6

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/information_society/evaluation/rtd/fp6_ist_expost/index_en.htm

