



Satellite Broadband for European Regions
CIP-ICT PSP Call 6

Working session: Deliverable ...

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WP2 - Early Analysis & Guidelines

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Information Society and Media

www.project-saber.eu

Comments

- Add a foreword to document explaining the advantages of using satellite connectivity (?this might be covered in one of the further WP documents?)
- ‘Beneficiary’ is stated as the ‘operator’ of the service – but in our view, the beneficiary is the ‘end user’
- Need to get terminology correct
- Could give examples of the types of solutions that might deliver the outcomes/objectives you are seeking
- Guidelines could suggest that you should evaluate whether an existing Programme or project can be enhanced/amended rather than scoping a new project – this reflects the very tight timescales to 2013 – give examples of what could be examined
- Any enhanced scheme or new project may need State Aid approval – this will add to your timescales to deliver

List of suggested amendments

- Contextualise the purpose of the Guidelines – to help regions looking to support the 2013 targets for satellite broadband
- Amend the ‘reseller’ to ‘provider’ (search and replace in document)
- Prepare a schedule of the terms and conditions that will apply to the Contract and circulate at time of tender process to all bidders
- Introduction section – amend scope to cover access to satellite services – delete reference to deployment and management of services
- Need to specify the extent/terms of the subsidy envisaged & and timescales that apply – this may vary depending on what aims you have for the project/how much subsidy is on offer – delete comment about providing the ‘total cost’ of the service and specific timescale on availability of the grant scheme/subsidy
- Amend ‘beneficiary’ to mean ‘end user’ and ‘recipient’ to mean service provider
- Amend/update Annex list of case studies
- See FAQs for additional suggestions

Conclusions

- Need Commission to give feedback on documentation before it is finally issued and then endorse the final draft

List of proposed FAQs

- What is the starting point in planning a new scheme or new intervention?
 - Check whether you have a national broadband scheme?
 - Does the national scheme have State Aid approval?
 - If so, does it allow inclusion of satellite?
 - If not, does it preclude the use of satellite?
- What is the proposed funding source?
 - Are there onerous rules that apply? E.g. detailed audit/checking procedures?
- Can more finance be added to Structural Funds to strengthen the scheme or support more outputs/beneficiaries by using satellite services?