Project Summary

Project Background
Project and programme preparation, management and evaluation requires manifold technical and methodological contributions, some of which are outsourced to the EC services to specialist consultants. A proven instrument of the EC to enlist such services has been the system of “Frameworks”. The Framework Contract (FWC) is a specific contractual procedure for the provision of short-term technical assistance, mobilised at short notice, to EC Agencies or beneficiary countries that benefit from the European Commission (EC) External Aid programmes. INTEGRATION has been providing services under Framework Contracts for more than 5 years, mainly evaluation assignments in the fields of industry, commerce, employment, education and macro management.

Project Objectives
Individual FCWs have mostly the objective to provide specific expertise, independent outside judgement or other technical assistance to Commission services and/or the beneficiary on short notice. Specific elements of ToR range from contributions to country strategy papers and specific technical assessments to project evaluations and impact assessments.

Project Activities
At present, INTEGRATION contributes to the following 6 FWCs, both, for Commission FWC (Lot 2 & 4) and Beneficiary FWC (Lot 9-11):
- EC Lot 2: Evaluation of Calls for Proposals
- EC Lot 4: Sectoral and Project Evaluations
- EC Lot 9: Education, Employment and Social Issues
- EC Lot 10: Support to Industry/Commerce/Services
- EC Lot 11: Macro Economy, Public Finances and Regulatory Aspects
- ETF: Evaluation and Monitoring for European Training Foundation

Implementation Features
During the last five years, INTEGRATION has provided more than 40 consultants for 18 assignments in 14 countries. Assignments under FWCs involve usually small teams of consultants for duration of 2 – 6 weeks. Services cover specialised tasks such as country strategies, project preparation, project appraisals, work plans, mid-term and ex-post evaluations and sectoral or programme assessments. ToR include usually the following steps:
- desk research and scrutiny of project documentation
- field research including interviews with stakeholders
- dialogue workshops with project stakeholders
- analysis and drafting of a report
- discussion of findings, feedback workshop(s) and final report.

Services Provided
- 18 missions involving more than 40 consultants
- Contributions to country strategy papers
- Project appraisals; evaluations of calls for proposals
- Project preparation, work plans, technical expertise
- Feed-back workshops and stakeholder dialogue
- mid-term and ex-post evaluations

More than 14 Countries

Services under Framework Contracts

Client
European Commission / EC

Duration
2002– 2009

Personnel
- 40 consultants provided, mainly specialists with more than 10 years TA experience
- Wide sectoral coverage: macro economists, industry and SME development specialists, financial analysts, education and VT specialists, engineers, evaluation and monitoring specialists, program managers etc.