



# **EIPC**

## **Entrepreneurship & Innovation Programme Committee**

**Implementation Report 2012**

**EIPC of 14 March 2013  
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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

### **I.1. THE 2012 WORK PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION REPORT**

This Implementation Report has been set out in seven chapters following the structure of the 2012 work programme.

Chapters A to F correspond to the six objectives of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP). Chapter G concerns support measures taken by the Commission pursuant to Article 24 of the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP) Decision (1639/2006).

The report focuses on how far the objectives established in the annual work programme have been met. It also includes the budget allocations in the 2012 work programme as approved by the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme Committee (EIPC) and reviews the budget execution by the Commission throughout the year.

Where possible, the report already refers to impacts and evaluations using performance indicators. In many cases, however, the impact will only be measureable after some time. A number of activities span several years and their impact is therefore not yet addressed in this report.

Where available, the addresses of websites providing detailed information on the various measures have been included.

### **I.2. OVERVIEW OF EIP ACTIVITIES IN 2012**

The 2012 EIP work programme. It was the first full year of the Commission implementing its commitment to exempt micro-businesses from new EU legislative proposals unless their inclusion could be justified, and to develop lighter regimes where fell in scope.

The 2012 EIP work programme was based on the following:

(1) The **financial instruments** pursue the overall objective of improving access to finance for the start-up and growth of SMEs and investment in innovation activities, including eco-innovation, by:

- increasing the amounts invested by risk capital funds and other investment vehicles;
- providing leverage to SME debt financing instruments and thus increasing the supply of debt finance to SMEs.

The CIP Decision provides the basis for three financial instruments for SMEs, two of them operated by the European Investment Fund (EIF) together with international financial institutions on behalf of the Commission.

The High Growth and Innovative SME Facility (GIF) aims to increase the supply of equity for innovative SMEs in their early stages (GIF1) and in the expansion phase (GIF2).

This facility has been operational since November 2007 and is implemented by the European Investment Fund (EIF) on behalf of the European Commission. Between the start of the facility until the end of 2012, 36 GIF transactions had been approved with venture capital funds targeting investments in 26 participating countries, of which 5 in 2011, committing EU investments of €462 million (including eligible costs for the respective financial intermediaries). Eight of these venture capital funds are investing fully in eco-innovation across Europe and two other funds are investing at least 30 % in eco-innovation, supported by EU commitments of about € 147.9 million for ten funds.

The SME Guarantee Facility (SMEG 07) provides counter- or co-guarantees for schemes operating in eligible countries, and direct guarantees to financial intermediaries, in order to increase the supply of debt finance to SMEs.

SMEG has been operational since September 2007 and is implemented by the EIF on behalf of the Commission. By the end of 2012, 52 transactions with 46 financial intermediaries from 23 countries had been approved, of which 16 in 2012, including extensions of existing contracts. The EU commitments amount to €482.9 million (including eligible costs for the respective financial intermediaries). Most of the SMEG 07 deals are under the Loan Guarantee Window. There are 12 deals under the Microcredit Window (in France, Ireland, Spain, Norway, Poland, Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovakia and 3 deals in Turkey), one Equity Window deal (Spain), and one Securitisation Window deal (Italy).

By the third quarter of 2012, 202 526 SMEs had received financing supported by the SMEG 07 Guarantee Facility, amounting to 234 199 loans.

Originally, the Capacity Building Scheme (CBS) aimed to boost the capacity of financial intermediaries by improving the investment and technology expertise of funds and other financial intermediaries investing in innovative SMEs or SMEs with growth potential. This instrument was provided for in the CIP Decision. However, as there has been no response from the market, the Commission has been using the budget originally earmarked for the CBS mainly to support eco-innovation and technology transfer under the GIF.

Aggregate commitments in 2012 for CIP amounted to €181,846,025.<sup>1</sup>

This amount was committed to the EIF for both financial instruments (GIF and SMEG07). It includes initial voted appropriations of €173,010,000, EEA contributions of €4,498,260 (2.6% on top of the voted appropriations), and Entry Tickets of €4.2 million paid by third countries for their participation in the programme. The remaining amount of €100,050.36 is covered by the 2011 appropriations which were carried over into 2012 (representing a 2011 de-commitment concerning Media Consulta International Holding AG<sup>2</sup>).

(2) The Enterprise Europe Network offers support and advice to businesses across Europe and beyond and helps them make the most of opportunities in the European Union.

There are 78 framework partnership agreements in place from EU27 and 14 from CIP participating countries with specific grant agreements signed to cover the operational period 2011-2012. Work programmes were received and grant agreements prepared for the third and last operational period 2013-2014. Four additional consortia were added in 2012 (India, Canada, Morocco and Eastern China) resulting in 22 cooperation agreements signed with third countries. Moreover, a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the US Department of Commerce to cooperate with the Network and to organise common activities. The Network covers all the Member States, EEA countries and major economic areas such as the USA, Russia, South Korea, Canada, India, Japan and China. Brazil also submitted a proposal and should be joining the Network as a third country. Furthermore, conditional terms for associated and affiliated membership were signed with 16 (+4) and 10 (+1) organisations respectively as well as technological partnership agreements with JRC, EUREKA, CERN and ESA. All of the framework partnership agreements are managed by the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI), which is also responsible for the signature of the

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<sup>1</sup> The 2012 amount of aggregate commitments refers to budget line 01.040400. Additionally, a budgetary commitment of €30.000 on budget line 02.010404 was made for 2012 for the organisation of the Strategic Advisory Board (STRABO) meeting (cross sub-delegation from DG ENTR — ARES 822596-6/07/2012).

<sup>2</sup> Detailed explanations were provided in the 2011 version of the EIP Implementation Report.

specific agreements, the follow-up of the budgetary workflows and all operational aspects related to the work programmes and animation of the Network. The EACI also prepared the specific grant agreements with work programmes for the last operational cycle (2013-2014).

An amount of €47,913,000 was committed to cover part of the network grants for the third and last operational cycle 2013-2014 within the same framework partnership agreements. An amount of €3.2 million was committed for Network animation (including IT systems development) as well as a budget of €1 million for a specific action to increase the visibility of the Network in the local eco-system. Nearly 100 % of this budget has been committed.

(3) The **innovation projects and eco-innovation first application and market replication projects** fall under the following objectives of the programme:

- C: All forms of innovation in enterprises.
- D: Eco-innovation.
- E: Entrepreneurship and innovation culture.

Activities in this area cover several fields, such as support for innovation, e-skills, e-business, clusters or studies.

Regarding **eco-innovation**, the 2012 call attracted 284 proposals. They were evaluated in the last quarter, but the evaluation committee were not due to meet until February 2013. There is enough budget to fund 45 to 50 projects. The SME participation rate was roughly 67 % as in previous calls. Less than 7 % of the proposals do not involve any SMEs. Around 80 % of the participants are from the private sector. Proposals were received by participants from 31 countries (out of 37 eligible countries) and a budget of €37,440,000 was committed.

(4) The **policy analysis, development, coordination and twinning measures** mainly fall under the following objectives of the programme:

- B: The creation of an environment favourable to SME cooperation, particularly in the field of cross-border cooperation.
- E: Entrepreneurship and innovation culture.
- F: Enterprise and innovation-related economic and administrative reform.

These areas are covered by several activities, such as analyses, studies and conferences. One of the key studies is the ‘Innovation partnership on Raw Materials’ with a committed budget in 2012 of €297 000. Its aim is to investigate how structured statistical information on the quality and quantity of EU raw material deposits (reserves and resources) can be achieved. This study should also provide a gap analysis as well as some recommendations concerning the feasibility of standard codes used by all levels of decision makers and what is needed to have those pan-European standards in place (feasibility study). Moreover, the study will explore the feasibility of a European minerals yearbook and set up a web portal which will disseminate the information collected and provide tools for modelling trends.

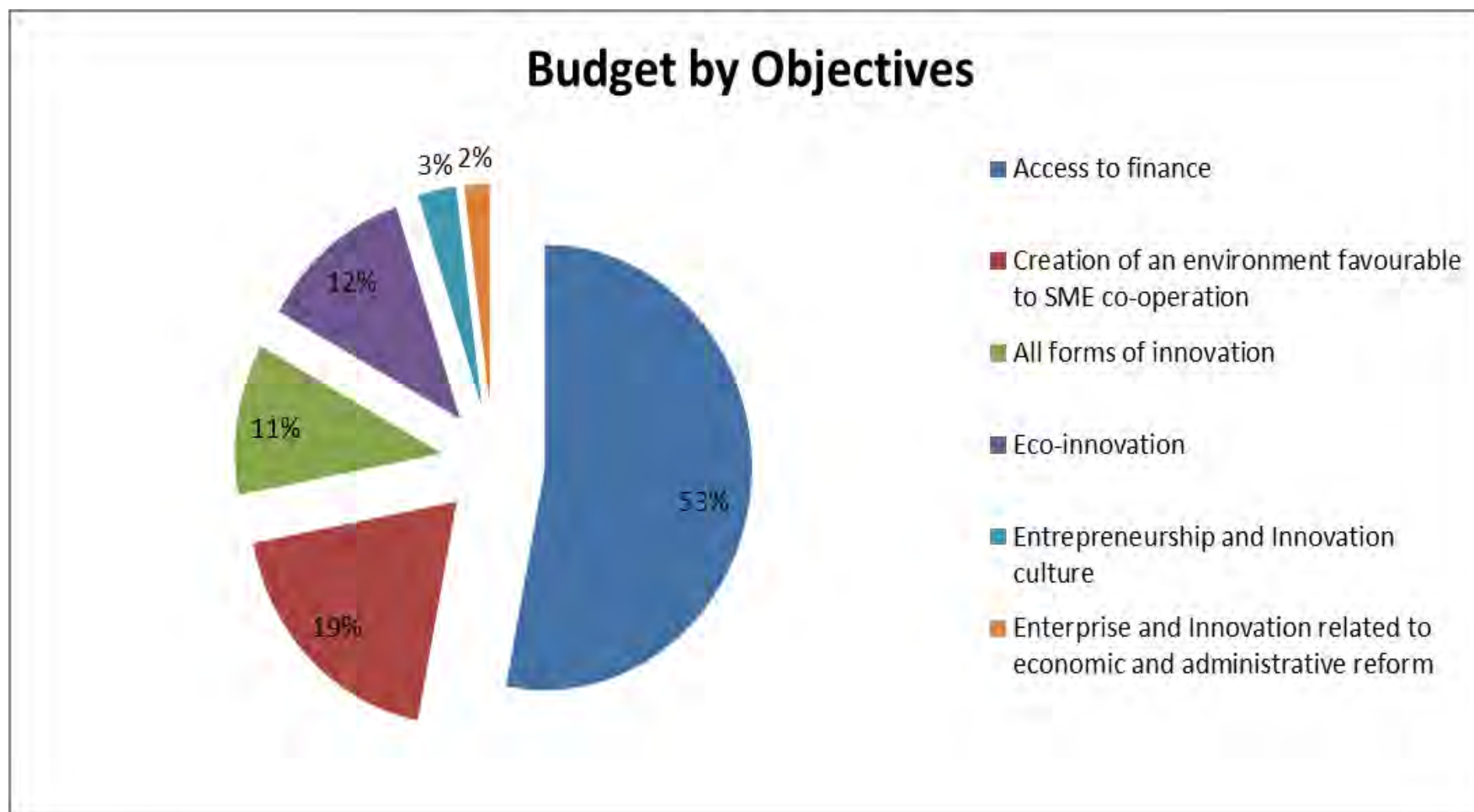
### **I.3. OVERVIEW OF EIP BUDGET EXECUTION IN 2012**

The total amount committed under the EIP in 2012 was about €346 million.

An overview of the budget committed is provided in the pie chart below.

Out of the total budget committed, some €184 million was allocated to the EIP financial instruments for SMEs, €162.7 million to the so called implementing measures and €10.3 million on support measures under Article 24 of the CIP Decision.

*Graph 1 BUDGET BY OBJECTIVES*





## **II. EIP ACTIONS IN 2012**

### **A. ACCESS TO FINANCE FOR THE START-UP AND GROWTH OF SMES AND INVESTMENT IN INNOVATION ACTIVITIES**

#### **A.1 EIP FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS FOR SMES**

**ENT/CIP/12/AN01S00**

##### **Main objectives & activities**

The EIP Financial Instruments for SMEs are the High Growth and Innovative SME Facility (GIF) and the SME Guarantee Facility (SMEG 07). The overall objective of the Financial Instruments is to improve access to finance for the start-up and growth of SMEs and investment in innovation activities, including eco-innovation, by:

- increasing investment volumes of risk capital funds and investment vehicles promoted by business angels;
- providing leverage to SME debt financing instruments and thus increasing the supply of debt finance to SMEs.

There are three Financial Instruments for SMEs foreseen in the CIP/EIP Legal Basis:

- The High Growth and Innovative SME Facility (GIF), operated by the European Investment Fund (EIF) on behalf of the Commission, aims to increase the supply of equity for innovative SMEs in their early stages (GIF1) and in the expansion phase (GIF2). Investment proposals by Financial Intermediaries are selected on the basis of an open call for expression of interest (OJ C 302 of 14 December 2007), with an initial budget allocation of €550 million.
- The SME Guarantee Facility (SMEG 07), operated by the EIF on behalf of the Commission, provides counter- or co-guarantees to guarantee schemes operating in eligible countries, and direct guarantees to Financial Intermediaries, in order to increase the supply of debt finance to SMEs, with an initial budget allocation of €506 million.
- The Capacity Building Scheme (CBS) was foreseen in the CIP legal basis, with an initial budget allocation of €73 million. This instrument has, however, shown no response from the market, and has therefore been closed down. The Commission has been using the budget originally earmarked for the CBS to support mainly eco-innovation and technology transfer under the GIF.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

### **High Growth and Innovative SME Facility (GIF)**

From the start of the Facility to the end of 2012, 36 GIF transactions with venture capital funds targeting investments in 26 participating countries had been approved, of which 5 in 2011, committing EU investments of € 462 million (including eligible cost for the respective Financial Intermediaries). Eight of these venture capital funds are investing fully in eco-innovation across Europe and two other funds are investing at least 30% in eco-innovation, supported by EU commitments of about € 147.9 million for ten funds.

### SME Guarantee Facility (SMEG 07)

By the end of 2012, 52 transactions with 46 Financial Intermediaries from 23 countries had been approved, of which 16 in 2012 including extensions of existing contracts. The EU commitments amount to €482.9 million (including eligible cost for the respective Financial Intermediaries). Most of the SMEG 07 deals are under the Loan Guarantee window. There are 12 deals under the Microcredit window (in France, Ireland, Spain, Norway, Poland, Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovakia and 3 deals in Turkey), one Equity window deal (Spain), and one Securitisation window deal (Italy)

By the third quarter of 2012, 202 526 SMEs had received financing supported by SMEG 07 Guarantee Facility, through nearly 234 199 loans.

### The Capacity Building Scheme (CBS)

A further financial instrument, the Capacity Building Scheme (CBS) was foreseen in the CIP legal basis. However, this instrument has shown no response from the market. Therefore, the Commission has been using the budget originally earmarked for the CBS to support mainly eco-innovation and technology transfer under the GIF.

The CIP final evaluation report, finalised in December 2011, had the following main findings related to financial instruments:

#### a) Relevance and Coherence

- In terms of overall policy design, the definition of the CIP's objectives is seen to be coherent;
- The general perception on the targeting of policy areas is that there has been a concentration on areas where EU action can make a difference, which represents an important improvement on earlier programmes.

#### b) Effectiveness

- The financial instruments appear to be on track to achieve the targets set;
- The financial instruments seem to be acquiring a certain momentum that may lead them to exceed expectations.

#### c) Efficiency

- There have been improvements in monitoring systems.

#### d) Sustainability and European added value

- The effectiveness of the instruments used has increased over time, notwithstanding the scope for further improvements.

European added value is evident in the development of facilities that are at the cutting-edge of provision for SMEs.

The above mentioned report has also raised some cross-cutting issues in addition to CIP:

- There is no allocated responsibility, for instance, for identifying and promoting synergies (core, methodological and operational) and no forum for discussing the implications of issues arising across the Programme;
- There are few mechanisms for systematically identifying potential for synergies, even though the accumulated achievements of earlier years now provide a substantial base for analysis of this kind and this is likely to be the greatest source of extra value in the Programme;
- Regarding Information and Awareness, the CIP as such does not have a clear profile and some of its major achievements are only being communicated, if at all, at the level of individual actions.

**Web addresses:**

CIP website: <http://ec.europa.eu/cip> providing links to reference documents like implementation for reports and work programmes.

EIF website: <http://www.eif.org> (containing CIP application pack for prospective Financial Intermediaries)

Access to finance website: [www.access2finance.eu](http://www.access2finance.eu) (providing information on Financial Instruments for final beneficiaries and a link to the selected Financial Intermediaries where they can apply).

**OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

2012 was again marked by the effects of the financial crisis and its impact on the economy.

Regarding GIF, after the 2010 slow-down in EU venture capital markets, stemming from the overall economic prevailing conditions by that time, a revival of market demand for venture capital financing was observed in 2011 and this trend is expected to continue in 2012.

SMEG 07, on the other hand, is a partly counter-cyclical instrument and the demand for guarantees coming from Financial Intermediaries remained quite stable throughout 2012. The same trend is expected in 2013.

**IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

GIF & SMEG 07: open call from 2007 until 2013.

Example of implementation: Clean Tec Venture Capital under GIF (*Source — CIP Final Evaluation by CSES*)

One of the venture capital funds supported through the Financial Instruments now has a capital base of € 112 million to invest in companies developing clean technology.

The fund has finished its investment period and has invested in 16 companies, both start-ups and established companies. These are all SMEs, ranging from micro to medium-sized enterprises, and all have a high growth potential. Over € 74 million have now been invested and the companies are based in 7 Member States, plus one associated country and one investment in the United States, though this is now leading to the creation of manufacturing facilities in Europe. Equity holdings range from around 12% to over 40% and as well as finance, support for the enterprises includes board membership, detailed advice, introductions and support for marketing.

The fund approached the EIF initially because at the time it was difficult to raise investment in clean technology. The support provided through the Financial Instruments (€ 15 million) helped catalyse some additional commitments to reach the € 112 million fund size. In addition to the investments made to the end of September 2012 (€ 74 million), additional equity of over three times the Capricorn investment has been made by other sources of capital. Including other sources of funding such as debt financing the figure is over 5 times. There has therefore been a significant leverage effect.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Aggregate commitments in 2012 for CIP amount to € 181.846.025.<sup>3</sup>

This amount was committed to the EIF for both the Financial Instruments (GIF and SMEG07) and includes initial voted appropriations of € 173.010.000 EEA contributions of € 4.498.260 (2.6% on top of the voted appropriations) as well as Entry Tickets of € 4.2 million paid by third countries for the participation in the programme. The remaining amount of € 100.050.36 is covered by the 2011 appropriations carried over in 2012 (representing 2011 de-commitment related to Media Consulta International Holding AG<sup>4</sup>).

Unit: DG ECFIN.L.2 / DG ENTR.D.3

Desk Officers: Jean-Dominique Dresse and George Lemonidis

### **A.2 IMPROVING POLICIES ON FINANCING INNOVATION AND SMES**

#### **ENT/CIP/12/A/N02S00**

##### **Main objectives & activities**

Overall, the actions seek to improve the functioning of the single market, to engage all stakeholders to a European dialogue on improved policies, and to provide policy-makers with comparable data about conditions of access to finance for SMEs.

For this purpose, workshops and other events with stakeholders, leading to recommendations on regulatory and policy improvements, are regularly organised. Within the actions, the SME Finance Forum is organised and managed in order to discuss and make proposals concerning SME finance at European level.

Raising awareness about SME stock exchanges and a practical guide book for SMEs contemplating a public listing were initiated together with a study on improving the market performance of business information services regarding listed SMEs. The latter study aims at identifying, analysing and proposing remedies to shortcomings in current market performance that negatively affect the optimal provision of reliable high-quality business information on listed companies, especially SMEs. These actions were also included in the 2011 SME access to finance Action Plan.

Other objectives of this measure are the analysis of developments in SME finance and further development of the Enterprise Finance Index to contribute to evidence-based policy-making, in cooperation with the OECD, Eurostat and the ECB and the dissemination of the results of these actions through the web, reports, publications, seminars, workshops and similar events.

In view of preparing the transition from the CIP financial instruments to the COSME ones, workshops with CIP financial intermediaries and of awareness-raising events to stakeholders and potential future financial intermediaries were organised.

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<sup>3</sup> The 2012 aggregate commitments amount is referring to the budget line 01.040400. Additionally, a budgetary commitment of €30.000 on the budget line 02.010404 has been made for 2012 for the organisation of the Strategic Advisory Board (STRABO) meeting (cross sub-delegation from DG ENTR — ARES 822596-6/07/2012).

<sup>4</sup> Detailed explanations have been provided in the 2011 version of the EIP Implementation Report.

Moreover, in the context of implementing the SME access to finance Action Plan was undertaken the establishment of a new single portal bringing together all relevant information about SME access to finance and a study to evaluate the effectiveness of market practices and policies in place at EU and Member State level. In addition a development project was initiated regarding SME rating and scoring systems, with a particular attention to the use of qualitative ratings, and also including feedback procedures used by banks to inform SMEs about credit decisions.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

Single market on venture capital and listings of SMEs and mid-caps: The Commission services contracted in August 2012 the making of an *online (multilingual) guide to going public* and the organisation of an *award ceremony* to raise awareness around successful SME listings. The study on 'Improving the market performance of business information services regarding listed SMEs' was contracted in December 2012. Working group level meetings on the implementation of the 2011 SME access to finance Action Plan, the financing of social businesses, micro-finance and crowd funding were held in the context of the SME Finance Forum. Also, two EU-US seminars on venture capital and crowd funding were organised in the context of the Transatlantic Economic Council. .

Analysis of the developments in SME finance and further development of the 'Enterprise Finance Index: Data collection and overview of existing information sources' continued. A new contract was signed in December 2012 to update and analyse existing information, to expand the website and to collect qualitative data on national policy measures regarding SME access to finance. A workshop to discuss best practices among public stakeholders in this area was held as well. A study to review and assess available data and existing data collection tools on SME lending, develop a methodological and operational framework for improved, regular data collection on SME lending and analyse how these data could be used in future Commission impact assessments and evaluations was contracted in November 2012.

Other measures implementing the 2011 Action Plan to improve Access to finance for SMEs: A pilot version of the single multilingual portal on SME financing was delivered in December 2012. The portal is now public and work continues to update it as well as to improve the integration of EU Structural Funds. The study on SME bank rating and scoring practices was launched in December 2012.

The overall impact of these actions in terms of making more debt and equity finance available to SMEs and reducing the related administrative burden can only be assessed over the longer term. In the shorter term, it is expected that they will lead to a better understanding of framework conditions determining SME access to finance and identifying best practices in the areas under review.

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The Commission will continue monitoring the evolution of lending and capital markets for SMEs, reviewing possible legislative initiatives, encouraging the exchange of good practices among Member States and exploring together with stakeholders the most appropriate actions to ease access to financing sources for SMEs. The implementation of on-going actions (such as the SME Finance Forum, the access to finance survey co-organised with the ECB, the development of the Enterprise Finance Index) will continue and workshops and other events with stakeholders will be organised to provide input and recommendations on regulatory and policy improvements.

In addition, in 2013 it is planned to support the organisation of awareness raising events on the future financial instruments in the Member States.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Start-end periods:

- August 2012 — May 2013 (guide): Award ceremony and guide on going public: September 2013 (ceremony)
- December 2012 — September 2013: Study on improving the market performance of business information services regarding listed SMEs
- December 2012 — December 2013: Enterprise Finance Index
- November 2012 — August 2013: Study on bank SME lending data
- June 2012 — February 2013: Single portal on EU sources of SME financing
- December 2012 — October 2013: Study on SME bank rating practices
- January 2013: Workshops with CIP financial intermediaries
- December 2012 (signature of contract) — September 2013 to the end of March 2014 (events in Belgium, Lithuania, Italy, Portugal, Ireland, Spain, Estonia, Hungary and Czech Republic): Awareness-raising events on future financial instruments:

Note that all actions of the 2011 SME access to finance Action Plan under EIP are now in implementation mode and due to be completed within 2013.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 1.879.259.

Unit: ENTR.D.3

Desk Officer: Georgios Lemonidis

## **B. CREATION OF AN ENVIRONMENT FAVOURABLE TO SME COOPERATION, PARTICULARLY IN THE FIELD OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION**

### **B.1 ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK GRANTS AND ANIMATION**

#### **ENT/CIP/12/B/N01C01 and ENT/CIP/12/N01C02**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

The objective of the Enterprise Europe Network is to ensure the support of business and innovation — in particular for SMEs — by offering information, feedback and business cooperation services, innovation, technology and knowledge transfer services as well as services encouraging the participation of SMEs in the Community framework programmes for R&D. (art.21 of the CIP legal base).

Two EIP measures were implemented in 2012 where the first measure relates to the activities and further development of the Enterprise Europe Network. The second measure relates to the activities put in place to organise the Annual Conference and to animate the Network. It includes services needed to operate the IT tools and to organise trainings, working groups,

meetings, communication activities and services to the Network partners. The implementation of the two Network-related EIP measures was entrusted to the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI).<sup>5</sup>

The operational objectives of the Enterprise Europe Network are the following:

1. help enterprises finding partners outside their own country for developing their business, export, technology and knowledge;
2. provide services encouraging the participation of SMEs in the Community Framework Programme for RTD and promote EU policies and SMEs access to EU programmes;
3. develop Network recognition and awareness locally; ensure that the Network and its services are known by SMEs in the geographical areas covered;
4. develop an integrated service range, where services towards business development are balanced with services towards technology and knowledge transfer, and synergies among network partners are increased;
5. guide clients towards the most appropriate service provider; implement the 'no wrong door' concept and build synergies with other relevant service providers within the Network as well as in the region, to offer complementary services;
6. continuously increase the quality and effectiveness of the integrated services provided by the Network;
7. contribute to the SMEs Feedback function by consulting businesses and obtaining their opinion on Community policy options;
8. build an efficient management system in reducing the administrative burden for all parties, for planning, reporting and monitoring.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

There are 78 framework partnership agreements in place from EU27 and 14 from CIP participating countries with specific grant agreements signed to cover the operational period 2011-2012. Work programmes were received and grant agreements prepared for the third and last operational period 2013-2014. Four additional consortia were added in 2012 (India, Canada, Morocco, Eastern China) resulting in 22 cooperation agreements signed with 3rd countries. Additionally, a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the US Department of Commerce to cooperate with the Network and to organise common activities. The Network covers all member states, EEA countries and major economic areas like USA, Russia, S-Korea, Canada, India Japan and China; please refer to [ec.europa.eu/enterprise-europe-network](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise-europe-network) for the complete list of the 54 countries (about 600 partners in total). Also Brazil submitted a proposal and is supposed to join the Network as third country. Additionally, conditional terms for Associated and Affiliated membership have been signed with 16 (+4) and 10 (+1) organisations respectively as well technological partnership agreements with JRC, EUREKA, CERN and ESA. All framework partnership agreements are managed by the EACI, which is also responsible for the signature of the specific agreements, the follow-up of the budgetary workflows and all operational aspects related to the work programmes and animation of the Network. The EACI also prepared the specific grant agreements with work programmes for the last operational cycle (2013-2014).

The 'ad hoc assistance scheme', developed to address possible weaknesses and to enhance the level of expertise of Network partners, was further implemented resulting in improved

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<sup>5</sup> The EACI was created through the Commission Decision of 31 May 2007. The EACI is responsible for the management of Community actions in the fields of energy, entrepreneurship and innovation, and sustainable freight transport.

performance of some of the consortia participating in the scheme. To assess the impact of the services provided by Network partners to their clients (SMEs), a third benefits survey was launched. The results are encouraging: out of the 1.345 respondents, 55% reported an increase in turnover and 26% an impact on jobs (created or safeguarded). In 2012, the Network took also a new task on board: recruiting SMEs for Missions for Growth, Vice-President Tajani's initiative to stimulate closer cooperation between the EU and the countries concerned as a means of generating growth and jobs for both sides.

The Annual Guidance Note 2012 (AGN) to the Network, which gave Commission's main political messages to the partners to promote and focus their activities during 2012 was circulated at the end of 2011, following an internal consultation with other Commission services. The Network's main policy priorities for 2012 were: Tourism, Industrial Innovation, Global Opportunities, Sustainability, Chemicals (Reach), Space, Health and Safety at Work, Research Framework, Regulatory Environment, Skills and Consumer Protection.

Strategic decisions on the role, operations and future of the Network were discussed in 3 Steering and Advisory Group meetings. More specific working groups were finalised and started implementing their conclusions notably Improving the impact of Brokerage Events and Company Missions, Cooperation with Clusters and SMEs and Intellectual Property Rights.

Various training sessions have been organised with special attention to the newcomers' trainings. About 551 Network staff participated to one of the centralised, local training sessions or e-learning in 2012.

A communication strategy, guidelines and graphical material were made available and promoted throughout the Network. New Network brochures, newsletters and promotion packs and edited distributed. Six promotion videos were produced on Network success stories and disseminated on EU (Euro News) and local TV channels. Network partners received about 40 Services Bulletins informing them on the latest EU programmes, legislation and initiatives which were taken up by Network staff and further disseminated to their client SMEs. About 30 success stories were produced and used for example in success story videos to demonstrate the benefit of the Network's services.

The IT partnership tools and databases were further exploited by the Network with a stable number of business and technology opportunities of about 13.500 active cooperation profiles. The development of the new IT platform advanced and beta testing started by the Network partners (IT Champions) on the new system which is based on the new architecture of the databases. This system provides a modernised, enhanced and streamlined IT system supporting all major business processes for collaboration, business cooperation and technology transfer.

The Annual Conference in Paphos, organised in association with the Cyprus EU-Presidency, in order to promote with Network partners events and policies at EU level of direct relevance to SMEs, attracted 680 participants and the satisfaction survey showed a very positive feedback (95% of respondents indicating 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied'). Media relations resulted in an audience reach of around 600.000 people. As to the impact of the conference, some 93% of respondents (40% of participants) reported that they identified up to 10 potential business opportunities for their clients. 82% of respondents established up to 15 new contacts during the conference.



About 2.600 companies were involved in 12 SME-Panels and feedback on subjects such as harmonisation of the fertilisers market, Eco-design requirements for storage, European Accessibility Act, Top 10 Burdensome legislations, business-to-business Alternative Dispute Resolution or on the introduction of fees for authorisation applications to the European Food Safety Authority.

The reporting of the Network partners on the delivery of their services for the period 2011-2012 is not finalised yet as the analysis only started recently (final reports were due on 15/2/2013). The below summary is based on available partial reporting data and information from the work programmes. It gives an impression on the number of SMEs and the variety of services delivered by the about 3.000 staff in the Network. Services range from information on EU matters, company visits and awareness raising campaigns to specialised advisory services, company missions and brokerage events.

Actual number of SMEs (based on latest know figures- 12 months period):

— involved in Promotion & information local events:	225.000
— contacted via (e-)newsletters etc.:	2.000.000
— helped with queries on EU matters:	125.000
— receiving specialised advisory services:	62.000
— consulted via SME Panels& Feedback database:	2.600 (incl. 12 Panels)
— involved in brokerage events:	24.000
— for whom partnership proposals were produced & disseminated:	13.000
— that signed a partnership agreement:	1.900
— total workforce providing services (full time equivalent):	1.473 (with about

3000 staff involved)

Other Network qualitative indicators:

- Staff participating in trainings & working groups: 640
- Services most appreciated by clients (Benefits survey) — top 3:

1. Possibility to make contact and/or to meet with foreign companies, clusters representatives;
2. Wide range of services offered (feasibility, finance, technical & partner research ...);
3. Partnership opportunities promoted by the Network Partners through different channels.

Network partners have been further stimulated to contribute to the continuous improvement of the Network's value chain and benefits for SMEs. Evaluation data has been obtained by organising a benefits survey showing the economic benefit of the services to SMEs.

Enterprise Europe Network Website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise-europe-network>

EUTube video clip:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/enterpriseeurope>

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The current specific grant agreements cover the operational period 2013-2014 and have been signed early 2013. One more cooperation agreement with Brazil is expected to be signed after finalising the evaluation procedure.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

The preparation work for the last operational period 2013-2014 in January 2012 and was completed in the course of 2012 in line with the projected planning (no slippage noticed).

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

An amount of €47.913.000 has been committed to cover part of the network grants for the third and last operational cycle 2013-2014 within the same framework partnership agreements. An amount of €3.2 million was committed for Network animation (including IT systems development) as well as a budget of €1 million for a specific action to increase the visibility of the Network in the local eco-system. Nearly 100% of this budget has been committed.

Unit: ENTR.D.2

Desk Officer: Patrick De Smedt

## **B.2 ENHANCING COMPETITIVENESS AND SUSTAINABILITY IN THE TOURISM SECTOR**

### **ENT/CIP/12/B/N02S00**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

In line with the Lisbon Treaty, the overall objective is to enhance the competitiveness and sustainable growth of European tourism, especially by encouraging the creation of a favourable environment for the development of tourism-related enterprises.

The implementation of the EIP 2012 tourism-related actions follows the same pattern as in 2011, mainly ensuring continuity or enhancing measures which have been already undertaken along the following main priorities: enhancing the visibility of emerging tourist destinations of excellence, facilitating transnational low season tourism exchanges, supporting the enhancement and promotion of transnational sustainable tourism products including cultural routes, enhancing visibility of Europe and its destinations, enhancing the tourism socio-economic knowledge base at European level regarding aspects — such as demographic and climate changes, trends in the evolution of tourism demand and supply, facilitating a wider trans-national cooperation among tourism stakeholders, to support and improve the ICT-uptake in tourism businesses, and to enhance the career mobility of tourism professionals.

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

**1- EDEN VI** — A call for proposals was launched in March 2012 for the selection of European tourist destinations of excellence under the theme of ‘Accessible tourism’. The call proposed to reward those destinations which have developed a tourism offer based on an overall approach to accessibility for tourists regardless of their physical limitations, disabilities or age. The Commission received **21 eligible project proposals** which were granted a co-funding in November 2012.

A 2-year contract was signed in June 2012 nominating EDEN Network Facilitator to assist the functioning of the EDEN Network.

**2- CALYPSO IV-** A call for proposals on facilitating transnational low season tourism exchanges to support tourism-related public authorities to team up with private stakeholders to facilitate trans-national low season exchanges in the [CALYPSO](#) target groups: seniors, youth, families with low incomes and disabled people.

4 projects were eligible, out of which 2 were approved; they will run for 11 months until the end of November 2013.

**3- Thematic tourism** — The objectives of the call for proposals on transnational thematic tourism products were: to stimulate the diversification of transnational thematic tourism products, encourage a higher involvement of small and micro enterprises and local authorities in the development and promotion of these products and strengthen transnational public-private cooperation aimed at developing and promoting competitive and sustainable transnational tourism products. **58 proposals were submitted.** 7 projects (**68 Partners from 21 countries**) received a grant and will be implemented in maximum 18 months (during 2013-2014). **The participation of at least 5 entities and 1 SME** in the partner consortium was a requirement for each project.

**4- Cultural Itineraries** — A third Joint Management Program has been signed with the Council of Europe in December 2012 for a period of 18 months starting from 1 January 2013. The cooperation will focus on Cultural Itineraries aiming, amongst others, at developing training courses on cultural routes management, reinforcing marketing strategies, raising awareness with tour operators and regional authorities, ensuring better cooperation between stakeholders along the cultural routes value chain and contributing towards creating a more consumer-oriented web-portal and an overall interactive map. The implementation, and hence its impact, will be in 2013 and 2014.

**5- Promotion and communication activities** — Several events/conferences/expert meetings have been and will still be organised (e.g. an open conference on aspects related to quality evaluation of tourism services/establishments, expert meetings on ICT, innovation and tourism, the European Tourism Day, a meeting of the EDEN destinations Network etc.)

#### **5.1- ETQL CONFERENCE**

An open conference on the European Tourism Label for Quality Schemes initiative and its future implementation, with the participation of over 200 public and private stakeholders and the MS representatives was organised. It provided an effective platform for the exchange of views with stakeholders and for informing them of the development of the initiative.

#### **5.2- Tourism meetings and events**

Organisation of major tourism events: the European Tourism Day (27 September 2012) and the EDEN Network meeting (23 October 2012).

Meetings with experts and stakeholders (such as industry-representatives, international institutions and national observatories) took place in order to inform them of our on-going work with regards to the ICT and Tourism Business Support Portal (2 meetings with 15MS of the Sherpa) and the Virtual Tourism Observatory (a workshop where 11 international institutions and offices for national statistics were represented), and also to receive input and feedback.

#### **6.1- Study on the economic impact of short stay visa facilitation**

A service contract was signed on 31 December 2012. The aim of the study is to evaluate the current implementation of the common visa provisions in the Schengen Area from the tourism industry/travellers' viewpoint, and to develop a methodology to assess the economic impact of visa facilitation.

#### **6.2- Impact assessment on European tourism quality label**

To support the impact assessment to be carried out in the framework of the legislative proposal for the European Tourism Label for Quality Schemes. An IA Study was

commissioned in May 2012. The objective of the study was to provide data and background analysis of the proposed policy options, as a basis for the Commission's IA Report. Overall, the action was successfully implemented.

The study is published at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item\\_id=6236&lang=en&title=Estimated%2Dimpacts](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=6236&lang=en&title=Estimated%2Dimpacts)

## **7- Eurobarometer**

The 2012 Euro-barometer survey (publication in March 2013) describes the attitudes of tourists towards holidays and contributes to the tourism socio-economic knowledge base with regards to trends in tourism demand. It will be an important forecasting instrument for the upcoming tourism season.

## **8- Joint management OECD**

The Joint Management with OECD is a follow-up project of the initiative that started in July 2011. It foresees a new joint EU-OECD publication on 'Tourism Trends and Policies 2014' which will be produced as a contribution to the international tourism policy debate. The cooperation allows for those EU member states and candidate countries which are not members of the OECD to be included in the scope of the publication.

As was the case with the previous edition, the 'Tourism Trends and Policies' will be a highly valued publication and deliver data and research results to the benefit of policy makers at European, national and regional level.

## **9- Integration in EURES (the European job mobility portal) of dedicated sections for tourism industry sub-sectors**

The contract, signed in December 2012, for assisting the integration in EURES (the European job mobility portal) of dedicated sections for tourism industry sub-sectors will cover adventure tourism, cultural tourism and blue tourism. It will develop a skills taxonomy specifically adapted to the requirements of these tourism-segments, ready-to-use in the EURES mobility portal by early 2014.

## **10- Analysis and creation of a tourism business support portal**

The study with regard to the analysis and creation of a tourism business support portal will assess the requirements and possibilities for the development of a single, reliable and integrated reference point for tourism businesses; the portal should be up and running early 2014.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

### **1-EDEN VI (call for proposals)**

Signature of the grant agreements: November 2012

Selection of the winning destinations: April 2013

Submission of Final dossiers: May 2013.

Submission of Final reports: December 2013.

### **2. Calypso (call for proposals).**

Publication of the call for proposals: 12 April 2012

Deadline for submission: 11 July 2012

Start implementation of the project: 1 January 2013

Implementation: 11 month until 30 November 2013.

Submission of the Interim implementation report: by 30 May 2013

Submission of the Final technical implementation: by the end February 2014.

### **3- Transnational thematic tourism products (call for proposals)**

Publication: 24 May 2012

Deadline for submission: 25 July 2012

Start of the projects implementation is foreseen in April 2013, for a maximum of 18 months.

The final reports estimated date is end of December 2014.

**4- Cultural Itineraries** –A detailed action plan will be agreed between EC and Council of Europe in the first quarter of 2013, together with a timetable.

The end of the Joint Management is on 30 June 2014 and the final report within the following 6 months.

#### **6.1- Study on the economic impact of short stay visa facilitation**

- Kick-off meeting on 23 January 2013
- Road map by 8 February 2013 (being revised by the contractor further to Commission's comments);
- Interim Steering Group meeting on 14 March 2013
- Interim report by 5 April 2013
- Review SG meeting on 16 April 2013
- Draft final report by 7 June 2013
- Final SG meeting on 18 June 2013
- Final report by 5 July 2013

#### **7- Euro-barometer Survey**

Publication of report: March 2013

#### **8. Joint Management with OECD**

Start: January 2013

End: December 2014

#### **9-Service contract for assisting the integration in EURES (the European job mobility portal) of dedicated sections for tourism industry sub-sectors**

Start: January 2013

End: February 2013

#### **10- Study with regard to the analysis and creation of a tourism business support portal**

Start: January 2013

End: December 2013.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012:

1. €811.577
2. €180.322
3. €1.419.610
4. €500.000
5. €498.200
- 6.1 €719.296
- 6.2 €186.750
7. €417.536

- 8. € 500.000
- 9. € 328.000
- 10. € 460.952

Unit: ENTR.E.1.

Desk Officers:

Boros Krisztina, Calabro Cristina, Ilona Lelonek Husting, Girma Anuskeviciute, Cinzia de Marzo, Valentino Izzo (ENTR.E.1), and Krista de Spiegeleer (ENTR.E.2)

### **B.3 SUPPORTING SME AND CRAFT ENTERPRISES' PARTICIPATION IN THE EUROPEAN STANDARDISATION PROCESS**

**ENT/CIP/12/B/N03S00**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

##### **1. Promotion of SMEs in the European standardisation area**

Support for Involvement of SME through a Framework Partnership Agreement and action grants:

- Provide information to SMEs and craft businesses on standardisation and exploit feedback;
- Organise SMEs and craft enterprises participation and representation in national, European and International standardisation bodies: NSO, CEN-CENELEC, ETSI, ISO/IEC/ITU;
- Appoint experts in Technical Committees (TC) of the ESOs in order to represent SMEs and crafts interests;
- Participate in strategic meetings, committees and conferences to promote SME interests;
- Extensively disseminate information (position papers, training seminars, website, newsletter, etc.);
- Increased cooperation with the National Standard Organisations (NSOs);
- Report back to the Commission.

2. **e-Learning**: develop an e-Learning tool in the national language available on each NSO's website targeted at SMEs

3. **e-Comment**: develop an e-Comment on line system allowing SMEs and enterprises to comment in their national language on the draft standard. This system will be installed on the NSO's websites.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

##### **1.a. Quantitative indicators:**

- SME experts (63) participating in around 77 technical committees (TC) and Working Groups of the main standardisation bodies;
- information, newsletters (3), position papers (9), awareness events, meetings with National Standards organisations (8);
- Website up-to-date in 6 languages.

##### **1.b. Qualitative indicators:**

Quality of:

- interventions in TC
- SME-position papers concerning individual standards
- initiatives for dissemination of the information
- reports to the Commission
- Delivery at agreed milestone.

## **2. Quantitative indicators:**

- Development of an on line system available on NSO's website,
- number of NSOs and translated versions
- number of hits

## **3. Quantitative indicators:**

- Development of an on line system available on 6 NSO's websites
- number of comments
- number of SMEs commenting on the draft standards

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

Call for proposals for an operating grant for a European body representing SMEs based on the new Regulation on standardisation which entered into force on 1 January 2013.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

- 1. Normapme: 2 specific grant agreements signed in December 2012  
Final reports received in January 2013
- 2. CEN-CENELEC: specific grant agreement signed in November 2012  
Final report in the 1st Quarter 2015.
- 3. CEN-CENELEC: specific grant agreement will be signed in April 2013  
Final report end of 2017.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 1.839.875

- 1. Normapme: 796.281
- 2. CEN-CENELEC: € 403.593
- 3. CEN-CENELEC: € 640.000

Unit: ENTR.E.4.

Desk Officer: Isabelle Augustin

## **B.4 YOUR EUROPE BUSINESS**

### **ENT/CIP/12/B/N04SC01**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

Your Europe Business Portal aims at becoming the multilingual 'one-stop-shop' for enterprises interested in cross-border activities within the European Union. It has a sister Citizens section managed and financed by DG MARKT. The information has so far been obtained through ad-hoc requests to national authorities via the members of the Your Europe Editorial Board, which is a time-consuming exercise. New methods for automatic content syndication are explored.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

In 2012 the following was achieved:

- Ensure the provision of the participating countries' information:

All participating countries were requested to update their country information (due to the volume, the update was divided into 3 batches). Reminders were sent, if necessary.

– Treatment, translation and publication of their texts:

By the end of 2012, 20 countries sent updates requested. Following the necessary editions and translations into English, the information received was progressively published. At the end of 2012 the partial information for 9 countries was online.

– Build up synergies with the EU.Go network:

The portal links to EU.Go.

– Ensure the provision of the EU-level rights/obligations:

In addition to keeping the EU-level content up-to-date, in 2012 a revamping project for EU-level information has been launched, to be completed in 2013. In 2012 user testing was performed and new texts were drafted and later edited by DGT web editors, to ensure that the information is of practical nature and presented in a clear, jargon-free, and concise manner.

– Becoming a ‘front-office’ for SMEs and entrepreneurs when they look to be better informed on their rights/obligation when starting/managing a business in a different EU country:

The online promotional campaign in 2012 and increased presence on LinkedIn, as well as other promotional activities, helped promote the portal and increase the number of visitors.

– Introduce innovative ways on content provision (e.g. content syndication systems with participating countries):

Pilot project on content syndication was run at the Citizens section, and DG ENTR is monitoring the results for possible application on the Business section.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

Complete the revamp of the EU-level content followed by an online promotional campaign. New ways of national content provision and ways to compare the national and EU content will be further explored.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

New contract with the external service provider to manage the portal will have to be concluded in the 2nd half of 2013 as the current contract will have expired. We will use an existing framework contract of DG ENTR.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 799.825.00

Unit: ENTR.E.2.

Desk Officer: Janos Schmied

## **B.5 IP MARKET PLACE**

### **ENT/CIP/12/B/N04C03**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

IP Market Place is linked to the Innovation Union commitment number 22 on intellectual property exploitation and monetisation in Europe. In its conclusions of 4 February the Council invited the Commission to ‘explore options for setting up an intellectual property rights valorisation instrument at the European level, in particular to ease SMEs’ access to the knowledge market’. The aim is to create conditions for increasing intellectual property (IP) transactions with a view to putting in use unexploited IP which is expected to have a positive effect on business innovation.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**



The call for tenders has been executed and the service contract signed.  
The information about the contractor is available at  
<http://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:21766-2013:TEXT:EN:HTML>.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The project needs to be implemented.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

The project has started on 14 December 2012. It will last until 14 December 2014. Its final report will be published shortly thereafter.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 852.200

Unit: ENTR.B.3

Desk Officer: Thomas Heinemeier

## **B.6 INFORMATION CAMPAIGN ADDRESSED TO ENTERPRISES ON COMBATING LATE PAYMENT IN COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS**

**ENT/CIP/12/B/N04C04**

### **Main objectives & activities**

The implemented measure is an information campaign, which aims to inform enterprises, in particular SMEs but also public authorities, about the actions that they can take to avoid and combat late payments in commercial transactions. It also aims to initiate constructive dialogue and mutual understanding between SMEs through workshops and seminars to facilitate a decisive shift to a culture of prompt payment. An information seminar was held in the 27 Member States and Croatia.

This campaign is pursuant to the new Directive 2011/7/EU on late payment in commercial transactions which was adopted on 16 February 2011 and published in OJ on 23 February 2011. The revision of the late payment directive is part of the Small Business Act.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

There were three one-day long information seminars held in 2012 as part of the late payment information campaign.

- On 10 October 2012, the first seminar was held in Cyprus. This event attracted 39 participants.
- On 6 November 2012, the second seminar was held in the Netherlands. 25 people attended this event.
- On 20 November 2012, the third and final seminar of 2012 was held in Germany. This event attracted 41 participants.
- 

The European Commission representations in each country hosted the above-mentioned seminars on their premises.

The organisation of these events was handled by the Contractor *Ogilvy and Mather Group* along with substantial assistance from European Commission staff. Details of speakers and their presentations as well as questions raised at each seminar can be found at the following web address:

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/single-market-goods/fighting-late-payments/late-payment-campaign/events/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/single-market-goods/fighting-late-payments/late-payment-campaign/events/index_en.htm)

The feedback received from the participants at each event was very positive overall. The majority of participants remarked in the evaluation forms that the information received in the seminars would encourage them to act differently when facing late payment in the future. They are now more aware of the tools available in the collection of debts.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

There are another 15 events foreseen for the year 2013 – 13 of which are already confirmed. The information campaign will be extended during 2014 in order to cover the remaining MS.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

The kick-off event was held in Rome on 5 October 2012.

Seminar in Nicosia: 10 October 2012

Seminar in The Hague: 06 November 2012

Seminar in Berlin: 20 November 2012

End date: February 2014

The information campaign was initially foreseen to run from June 2012 until December 2013. However, because of the summer holiday period, the campaign officially started in October 2012. It will run until February 2014 due to the large number of seminars and the significant amount of time and resources needed for the organisation of each event.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €690.736

€800.000 was foreseen for this campaign but the Contractor's accepted proposal was approximately €110.000 less than this figure.

Unit: ENTR.A.4

Desk Officer: Wawrzyniec Persche

## **B.7 ASEAN & MERCOSUR IPR**

### **ENT/CIP/12/B/N05C05**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

The ASEAN IPR SME Helpdesk is a new service, based on experience with the China IPR SME Helpdesk, which has been running since mid-2008 offering first-line advice on China IPR issues to European SMEs both in China and around Europe. These services will be focused on the ASEAN region and will offer practical business advice from experienced professionals in person, on-line, and through workshops, e-learning materials, and training. The service would cover the ASEAN region, with focus on markets within this region where there is high-growth, high interest from European SMEs or where there are particular IPR problems of importance to European SMEs. It will be a pilot of IPR helpdesk activities

covering more than a single country. In this case the entire region is covered to include several key countries for EU firms' interests and benefit from geographical proximity. The services will be provided both 'on the ground' to European SMEs already 'in country' and 'at home' in Europe, so that the relevant information on IPR in the region can be delivered where it is of most use, to serve European SMEs efficiently and effectively.

The services should be offered in coordination with and in direct response to requests from European SMEs, SME federations and similar groupings of SMEs. In addition, the service should maintain contacts with the relevant countries administrations to 'signpost' needed contacts there.

ASEAN region member countries are the following: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

MERCOSUR member countries are the following: Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The call for proposals for the ASEAN IPR SME Helpdesk has been successfully concluded. A contract has been signed in December 2012.

As for MERCOSUR none of the proposals were accepted and it was decided to launch again the call for the MERCOSUR part in 2013.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The measure will be effectively launched in March 2013 and should be fully operational before the summer of 2013.

MERCOSUR: Re-launch of the call in February 2013.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Implementation start date: the call for proposals was published 13 June 2012

The contract has been signed on 15 December 2012

Implementation end date: the contract duration is 20 months

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 1.198.547 was committed on 5 December 2012.

Total amount committed in 2012: €600.000 was committed (global commitment) 13 December 2012.

Unit: ENTR.A.4

Desk Officer: Wawrzyniec Persche

## **C. ALL FORMS OF INNOVATION IN ENTERPRISES**

### **C.1 KEY ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES**

**ENT/CIP/12/C/N01C01**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

The measure was implemented by three main activities:

1. An analysis of policy measures outside Europe that could cause a distortion in the global KETs (key enabling technologies) market;
2. The preparation of the implementation of the work programme on cross-cutting KETs under Horizon 2020;
3. Preparatory work for actions to be launched in support to the deployment of multi-KETs pilot lines in Europe.

EU's competitive position in the area of KETs is being challenged by intense global competition from third countries where incentives are available to attract investment in KETs R&D manufacturing. The study which has been launched will identify the most important distorting issues and shed light on the important factors influencing the decision on where to invest by selecting and in-depth studying cases of EU based companies which have invested in KETs R&D manufacturing outside Europe. The aim is to develop conclusions for possible actions with the aim of restoring EU competitiveness in KETs.

An action has been launched to develop a methodology, work plan and roadmap that will contribute to the preparation of the seven-year cross-cutting KETs work programme of Horizon 2020. The main goal of the cross-cutting KETs work programme is to tap into the high cross-fertilisation potential of these technologies and to ensure that the result is the development of the most competitive products, goods and services. A clear and common understanding is needed on the definition and nature of the cross-cutting KET activities to be targeted.

In order to prepare and foster a common understanding and consensus for future actions in Europe focusing on multi-KETs pilot lines, a preparatory action has been launched. The project will analyse the state-of-play in Europe compared with other regions in the world, develop a compelling vision, a methodology and criteria for improved competitiveness of multi-KET pilot lines in Europe and realise a one-year demonstration experience in at least two relevant multi-KETs pilot lines located in two different EU Member States.

Furthermore, a new High Level Commission experts group on KETs has been set up in 2012, in order to advise the Commission on the implementation of the European strategy on KETs.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

**MARKET DISTORTION STUDY:** a specific contract (within the implementing FC) was signed in September 2012 covering a period of six months. The following deliverables were submitted to the Commission:

- 12 October 2012: Inception Report
- 14 November 2012: Literature review

**METHODOLOGY, WORK PLAN AND ROADMAP FOR CROSS-CUTTING KETS ACTIVITIES IN HORIZON 2020:** an open call for tender has been launched in July 2012, resulting in a service contract that has been signed in December 2012, covering a period of 14 months. The project has been launched in December 2012.

**MULTI-KETS PILOT LINES:** an open call for tender has been launched in June 2012, resulting in a service contract that has been signed in November 2012, covering a period of 24 months. The project has been launched in December 2012.

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The mid-term progress report for the Market Distortion study was delivered at the end of January 2013. The final report is expected as foreseen in the contract.

For the cross-cutting KETs work plan, the first deliverable of the project consists of an inception report with a detailed timetable taking into account the conclusions of the kick-off meeting. A preliminary report, an interim report and the organisation of the final conference followed by the final report are the main deliverables of the action.

For the multi-KETs pilot lines project, the first deliverables of the project are expected in Q2 2013, following which the second phase of the project will start by selecting the two pilot lines chosen for the demonstration phase, lasting till second half of 2014

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

The final report for the Market Distortion study is planned for March 2013.

Cross-cutting KETs work plan: an interim report is planned for June 2013, the final conference and report for February 2014.

For the multi-KETs pilot lines project, the interim report and selection of pilot cases will be done by summer 2013, after which the demonstration phase will start. The final conference and report are planned for November 2014.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

The total amount committed in 2012 was:

Market distortion study: € 178.425

Cross-cutting KETs work plan: € 1.628.210

Multi-KETs pilot lines: € 3.856.000

Unit: ENTR.E.4

Desk Officer: Heidi Moens

## **C.2 E-SKILLS FOR INNOVATION AND COMPETITIVENESS**

### **ENT/CIP/12/C/N01C02**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

This measure addresses the competitiveness and innovation skills shortages faced by European enterprises, especially SMEs, in all sectors. It is aiming at:

1. Monitoring the supply and demand of e-skills and benchmarking national policy initiatives and multi-stakeholder partnerships;
2. Assessing the impact of globalisation on e-skills and analysing major policy initiatives and best practices in the world;
3. Developing European guidelines and quality labels for new curricula and training, and organising a pilot demonstration of their implementation and a large dissemination campaign.

These activities are part of the overall skills strategy of the Commission in line with the 'Digital Agenda', 'Innovation Union', the 'Agenda on New Skill and Jobs' and the 'Integrated Industrial Policy for the Globalisation Era' putting competitiveness, innovation and growth at centre stage. They will also be part of the 'Grand Coalition for Digital Jobs' to be launched in March 2013.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

Three open calls for tenders have been prepared in close cooperation with other Commission services. The call on ‘e-skills: monitoring and the benchmarking policies and partnerships’ was published in July and a contract has been awarded in December 2012 to a consortium led by empirica including sub-contractors in most CIP countries. The call on ‘e-skills: the international dimension and the impact of globalisation’ was published in July and a contract was awarded in December 2012 to consortium led by the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. For these two actions, the activities started in January 2013 for a total duration of 12 months. The call related to ‘e-skills: European guidelines and quality labels for new curricula’ was published in July and a contract was awarded in December 2012 to a large consortium led by empirica including several business schools etc. This action started in January 2013 for a total duration of 24 months.

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The management will be assured with a view to involve as many stakeholders and policy makers as possible.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

E-Skills: monitoring and benchmarking policies and partnerships: December 2013  
e-Skills: European guidelines and quality labels for new curricula: December 2014  
International dimension: December 2013.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012 for this measure: €3.336.588

Service contract — e-Skills: monitoring and benchmarking policies and partnerships:  
€499.750;

Service contract — e-Skills: the international dimension and the impact of globalisation:  
€349.558;

Service contract — e-Skills: European guidelines and quality labels for new curricula:  
€2.487.280.

Unit: ENTR.D.3.

Desk Officer: Dana Eleftheriadou

### **C.3 STIMULATING ICT-ENABLED INNOVATION AMONG SMES**

#### **ENT/CIP/12/C/N01C03**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

This action is composed of three measures:

1. Boosting ICT integration in the construction value chain: the objective is to enhance the competitiveness and innovation capacity of the construction industry through smart use of ICT in B2B transactions. In this respect, it will develop and validate a European common framework for interoperability among business processes and data exchange models for the construction sector;

Six large-scale pan-European demonstration actions have been initiated already. This action will help leverage the European added value of existing, national and European initiatives and place them in a European perspective, in order to create efficient, functional and seamless cross-border digital value chains.

2. Connecting SMEs to the Digital Market: fostering the knowledge base for Digital Entrepreneurship in Europe: it will set up a Digital Entrepreneurship Monitor to measure and appraise the key trends on digital technologies, emerging market needs, new business paradigms enabled by the digital evolution, as well as their impact on the European economy. The objective is to provide to European businesses and policy makers convincing evidence and up-to-date information on trends, market dynamics and up-coming business opportunities that would help inspire new actions to promote Digital Entrepreneurship.

3. Doing business in the digital age: market analysis and foresight study on key technological trends, and their impact on the business landscape in Europe, including policy recommendations.

These activities are part of the overall strategy of the Commission to promote smart use of ICT and Digital Entrepreneurship in line with the ‘Digital Agenda’, the ‘Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan’, the ‘Innovation Union’, and the ‘Integrated Industrial Policy for the Globalisation Era’.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

Two open calls for tenders have been prepared in close cooperation with other Commission services. The call on ‘Connecting SMEs to the Digital Market’ with two lots, was published in June. The first lot was on ‘stimulating the smart use of ICT in the construction value chains’ and a contract has been awarded in December 2012 to a consortium led by Cap Gemini. The second lot on ‘Fostering the knowledge base for Digital Entrepreneurship in Europe’ resulted in a contract awarded in December 2012 to consortium led by Ernst & Young. For these two actions, the activities started in January 2013 for a total duration of 24 months. For the third study on ‘Doing business in the Digital Age’, a framework contract was used and a specific contract was awarded in August 2012 to Deloitte. This action started in August 2012 for a total duration of 8 months.

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The management will be assured with a view to involve as many stakeholders and policy makers as possible.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Boosting ICT integration in the construction value chain: December 2014  
Connecting SMEs to the Digital Market: fostering the knowledge base for Digital Entrepreneurship in Europe or the ‘Digital Entrepreneurship Monitor’: December 2014  
Doing business in the Digital Age: April 2013.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012

Service contract — Boosting ICT integration in the construction value chain: € 1.799.530.70

Service contract — Connecting SMEs to the Digital Market: fostering the knowledge base for Digital Entrepreneurship in Europe: € 1.884.350

Service contract — Doing business in the Digital Age: € 299.995.60

Total amount committed in 2013 for this measure: € 3.983.876.30

Unit: ENTR.E.4.

Desk Officer: Dana Eleftheriadou

## **C.4 DESIGN INITIATIVE**

### **ENT/CIP/12/C/N02C01**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

Follow-up of the European Design Innovation Initiative launched in 2011. The initiative aims notably at mainstreaming design and user-centred innovation into European innovation policy through the development of a joint vision, joint priorities and a joint design innovation agenda for participating countries (see Innovation Union commitment 19). The initiative is based on an open, stakeholder-driven, non-sector specific innovation approach. The initiative has a European added value as it will diffuse experiences and best practices at political level while at the same time involving stakeholders across Europe developing joint action, in order to reinforce the design thinking process in producing innovative solutions.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

Two new projects of the Design Initiative were launched in September 2012. One project will develop regional 'ecosystems' supporting SMEs to innovate by design. The second project will develop design management competencies in the public sector. A coordination meeting with the key representatives of all projects of the Design Initiative (both EIP 2012 and EIP 2011 projects) was organised on 28 November 2012 to exploit synergies and common elements among the projects and prepare future collaboration and identify links between the projects and the recommendations of the European Design Leadership Board.

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/design-creativity/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/design-creativity/index_en.htm)

The projects are developing and piloting methodologies and other means which are essential in translating the policy objectives for design in innovation into an Action Plan for accelerating the take-up of design in innovation policy in 2013 and beyond.

The initiative has a broad geographical reach with beneficiaries from 9 countries across Europe and projects involving pan-European networks.

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The projects will run until 2015.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Agreements were signed in September 2012. The projects will be finalised in 2015.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 1.691.579.

Unit: ENTR.D.3.

Desk Officer: Antti Valle



## **C.5 EXTENSION OF THE EUROPEAN MOBILE AND MOBILITY INDUSTRIES ALLIANCE: CONCRETE ACTION ON GMES AND GNSS**

**ENT/CIP/12/C/N02C02**

### **Main objectives & activities**

This action is an extension of EMMIA which was set up in 2011 with a view to contributing to the overall modernisation of the European economy and to the implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy. By promoting and supporting service innovation, and by addressing the societal challenge of sustainable mobility, this action will complement the existing actions of EMMIA using technologies, information and services from GMES (the European Earth monitoring programme), and the European GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite Systems).

While GMES and GNSS-based services are funded by and mainly targeted at the public sector, this action would boost the use of such satellite-based information in the private sector and facilitate business opportunities for enterprises (in particular start-ups and SMEs).

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The call has been launched in April 2012 with a deadline for submission on 6 July 2012. This call consisted of two strands, namely Strand 1 ‘GMES and GNSS based services voucher schemes’ and Strand 2 ‘Large-scale demonstrators in support of GMES and GNSS based services’. Note that Strand 2 was implemented through a two-stage application procedure (stage 1: deadline on 6 July 2012 for concept notes — stage 2: deadline on 4 October for full proposals for the selected projects after stage 1).

One grant agreement has been signed for Strand 1 and the corresponding action has started on 1 January 2013.

The award of 6 grant agreements for Strand 2 is about to be concluded. The signature of the agreements is expected in March 2013.

Therefore, there are no results available in 2012 for this action.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2011?**

No remaining action.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

The call has been launched in April 2012.

A grant agreement has been signed for Strand 1 and the corresponding action has started on 1 January 2013 and will last 24 months.

The award of 6 grant agreements under Strand 2 is about to be concluded. The signature of the agreements is expected in March 2013 (most contract last 24 months, only one is shorter: 20 months).

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €3.500.000

Unit: ENTR.G.4.  
Desk Officer: Frédéric Bastide.

## **C.6 NETWORK OF ECO-INNOVATIVE FINANCIERS**

**ENT/CIP/12/C/N02C03**

### **Main objectives & activities**

The measure aims at establishing a European network of eco-innovation financiers and investors to mobilise them and respond better to their policy needs in view of accelerating investment and increasing financing available for eco-innovative companies. The network will also establish links between investors, financiers and entrepreneurs and aim at pooling financiers to overcome the fragmentation of financial markets to achieve economies of scale and better understand markets and businesses opportunities in this area

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

Measure to be implemented in 2013.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

Not applicable

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €2.000.000

Unit: ENV.E.4.  
Desk Officer: Philippe Martin

## **C.7 SOCIAL INNOVATION**

**ENT/CIP/12/C/N02C04**

### **Main objectives & activities**

The Innovation Union stressed that social innovation is an important new field that should be nurtured (see commitment 26). To achieve this, competent intermediaries, effective incentives and networks speeding up and facilitating mutual learning are needed. Following the successful launch event of the Social Innovation Europe Initiative in March 2011, many suggestions for activities to network social innovators and support mechanisms are being developed, including supporting social enterprise and new business models for social innovators (for-profit and not-for-profit). Additionally, the Social Innovation Europe Initiative will develop two technical reports with recommendations on funding and up scaling social innovation. In addition, a European Social Innovation Competition will help both raising awareness about social innovation and supporting directly some smart and concrete solutions. The modernisation of workplaces in Europe for better working conditions and more productive business organisations will also be supported through a dedicated EU learning network.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

- Social Innovation Europe: two significant reports on (i) financing and (ii) measuring the impact of social innovation were published; the web platform benefited from the contribution of more than 5 000 registered users and welcomed more than 73 000 unique visitors; its success turned into a reference for the social innovation community in Europe. More information on: <http://www.socialinnovationeurope.eu>.

- Social Innovation Prize Competition: The Competition was launched by President Barroso on 1 October 2012 in front of 150 participants in Lisbon. More than 1 000 000 people were reached through Twitter and a total number of 601 entries were received by the end of the first competition phase. [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/social-innovation/competition/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/social-innovation/competition/index_en.htm) or on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/EUSocialInnov>

- Workplace innovation: A workshop organised in May 2012 helped better shape the policy agenda, define the objectives of the learning network. Workplace innovation was included as a priority in the reinforced EU Industrial Policy strategy adopted in October 2012. A contract for the learning network was signed in December 2012. More information at [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/workplace-innovation/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/workplace-innovation/index_en.htm)

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

- Social Innovation Europe platform: The activities will be extended by one year under the EIP work programme 2013 to pave the way for a more ambitious second phase under Horizon 2020 as of 2014.

- Social Innovation Competition: Award of the 3 prizes of €20.000 around May 2013. Coaching and communication means provided to contestants meanwhile. Launch of the second edition of the European Social Innovation Prize Competition (around October 2013).

- Workplace innovation: Launch of the Network in the second quarter 2013 and start of activities.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

- Signature of the service contracts for the organisation of the Social Innovation Competition: July 2012.

- Signature of the service contract for the EU learning network on workplace innovation: December 2012.

- Final deliverables: 2015.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €978.031.55.

€638.031.55 for the Social Innovation Competition (communication, specialised expertise, prize money).

€340.000 for the EU learning network on Workplace Innovation.

Unit: ENTR. B.3.

Desk Officer: Xavier Le Mounier

## **C.8 EUROPEAN INNOVATION MANAGEMENT ACADEMY**

**ENT/CIP/12/C/N02C05**

### **Main objectives & activities**

The measure will further develop a self-sustaining structure ensuring the continued availability of European Innovation Management support instruments developed in the context of earlier projects. To that end, support will be provided for the start-up phase of a not-for-profit 'IMP<sup>3</sup>rove — European Innovation Management Academy', an independent structure to sustain the services developed by the IMP<sup>3</sup>rove platform for innovation management performance benchmarking and to manage related intellectual property rights.

The measure will secure return on investments made by the IMP<sup>3</sup>rove service contract (2006-09) and IMP<sup>3</sup>rove II grant (2010-11) that developed the platform, established the assessment tool and related consultancy services accessible to all SMEs in Europe, and developed products like training and blueprints for regional SME support programmes to be financed under ERDF and national budgets.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The measure was implemented through an ad-hoc grant to a consortium of AT Kearney (Germany) and APRE (Italy) both partners in the IMP<sup>3</sup>rove action since the beginning.

Full documentation of the IMP<sup>3</sup>rove project, its services and the work of the IMP<sup>3</sup>rove Academy is available under [www.improve-innovation.eu](http://www.improve-innovation.eu)

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

Full operational ability of the IMP<sup>3</sup>rove Academy will still require a transfer of the EU held parts of the IP to the Academy.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Implementation start date: 15 December 2012

Implementation end date: 14 December 2014

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €332.036.56

Unit: ENTR. D.2.

Desk Officer: Sven Schade.

## **C.9 INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION POLICY RELATED ANALYSIS**

**ENT/CIP/12/C/N03C01**

### **Main objectives & activities**

The objective of the industrial innovation policy analysis and monitoring activities is to provide a detailed and timely EU-wide comparable evidence-base, including information on performances, trends, barriers, innovation systems at national, regional and EU level, opportunities for mutual learning through the identification of good practices and areas for

policy intervention, and insights into the innovation policies of other major innovative countries outside the EU, to facilitate policy development for business innovation at EU and national / regional level.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

A study on ‘Developing an evaluation and progress methodology to underpin the intervention logic of the Action Plan to boost demand for innovations’ was started on 1 September 2012 (until 28 February 2013). The study forms part of the first phase of the action plan to boost demand for innovative European products and services. The preliminary results have been discussed in the EPG working group on innovation in February 2013 and will provide important guidance in the preparation of roadmaps to further boosting demand-side innovation in Europe.

A study on ‘Lessons from ten years of innovation policy’ started in September 2012. The contractor has consolidated data on the innovation policy measures and the innovation performance of Member States in the last ten years. Final results will be available in spring 2013 and all databases will be available for Member States.

A contract for the ‘Regional Innovation Monitor’ was signed in December 2012. The results will be available at: <http://www.rim-europa.eu/>

A contract for the ‘Business Innovation Observatory’ was signed in December 2012. The approach was presented in February 2013 to the EPG working group on innovation.

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The study on the evaluation and progress methodology of demand-side innovation will be finalised in the first quarter of 2013. The study on lessons from ten years of innovation policy will be finalised in April 2013 and the database will be available on the web.

The activities of the Regional Innovation Monitor will be undertaken in 2013 and 2014. The activities of the Business Innovation Observatory have been launched on 22 February 2013. Case studies, trend reports and workshops will be delivered from 2013 to early 2016.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

The study on the evaluation and progress methodology of demand-side innovation will be finalised in the first quarter of 2013. The study on lessons from ten years of innovation policy will be finalised in April 2013 and the database will be available on the web.

The activities of the Regional Innovation Monitor will be undertaken in 2013 and 2014. The activities of the Business Innovation Observatory have been launched on 22 February 2013. Case studies, trend reports and workshops will be delivered from 2013 to early 2016.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €3.235.116

Business Innovation Observatory: €1.706.771

Regional Innovation Monitor: €1.197.943

Evaluation and progress methodology of demand-side innovation: €180.500

Lessons from ten years of innovation policy: €149.902

Unit: ENTR.B.3.

Desk Officers: Tomasz Jerzyniak, Alberto Licciardello, Catherine Ebah-Moussa, and Xavier Le Mounier.

## **C.10 INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION SURVEY**

**ENT/CIP/12/C/N03C02**

### **Main objectives & activities**

The Innobarometer is the instrument developed by the Commission to capture innovation phenomena at firm or citizen level. It is a poll based on the Eurobarometer methodology with interviews based on a questionnaire developed by the Commission services. The data is not available from Eurostat or other sources and provides immediate information that is comparable across countries on firms' activities and opinions. The objective of the industrial innovation policy related to the survey activities is to provide detailed and timely analysis of innovation performance and trends and of the drivers and barriers to innovation.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The Flash Eurobarometer framework contract has been used for the launch of the Innobarometer survey on the topic 'Investing in intangibles: economic assets and innovation drivers for growth'. The survey is conducted via telephone interviews amongst companies in the sectors of Manufacturing, Services and Industry in the 27 Member States of the European Union, Iceland, Norway, Croatia, FYROM, Turkey, Switzerland, Serbia, USA, and Japan.

Once finalised, the Innobarometer 2013 survey will be available on the following website: [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/facts-figures-analysis/innobarometer/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/facts-figures-analysis/innobarometer/index_en.htm)

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The survey is on-going and early results are expected in March 2013.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

The specific contract was signed in December 2012. The publication of the results is scheduled in the first half of 2013.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €388.570.16

Unit: ENTR.B.3.

Desk Officer: Alberto Licciardello.

## **C.11 EUROPE INNOVA CONFERENCE**

**ENT/CIP/12/C/N03C03**

### **Main objectives & activities**

Ad-hoc grant to the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation (DASTI) to organise, linked to the Danish EU Presidency, the biannual Europe INNOVA conference — a 2-day event bringing together up to 600 innovation stakeholders to debate the latest policy ideas, opportunities and challenges for European innovation and competitiveness.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The Europe INNOVA Conference 2012 ‘Stress Test of European Innovation’ took place, as planned, on 23-24/10/2012 in Copenhagen, Denmark, with some 600 participants. The conference, organised by DASTI was considered highly successful and innovative by both participants and organisers. All conference documentation is available at [www.europeINNOVA2012-Copenhagen.eu](http://www.europeINNOVA2012-Copenhagen.eu)

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The final report and financial statement will be submitted and processed and the related final payment effected during first half of 2013.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Submission set sent to DASTI: 19 January 2012

Deadline for submission of proposal: 10 February 2012

Start of performance period: 15 February 2012

Conference dates: 23-24 October 2012

End of performance period 14 February 2013

Final report: by 14 May 2013

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 150.000

Unit: ENTR.D.5.

Desk Officer: Lisbeth Bahl Poulsen.

## **C.12 INNOVATION SCOREBOARD**

### **ENT/CIP/12/C/N03C04**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

The measure will provide analysis to monitor and benchmark innovation potential and performances based on the latest available international statistics. It will include the provision of the annual Innovation Union Scoreboards (see Innovation Union commitment 34) and the European Public Sector Innovation Scoreboard (see Innovation Union commitment 27). The Innovation Scoreboard will provide a comparative benchmarking of levels and trends in innovation performance across EU countries, and across EU regions and with other major innovative countries outside the EU. This allows countries to assess their relative strengths and weaknesses as well as to monitor progress. Scoreboard data at regional level will also be analysed. The Innovation Scoreboard has been provided on an annual basis since 2001 and there is no comparable analysis.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

In 2012, the contractor with an external provider was signed and actual work will start on 1 March 2013. The measure is based on the previous work on European Innovation Scoreboards thus the current measure can be seen as a continuation of the previous measure of the CIP 2010 work programme (14/PP/ENT/CIP/10/C/N01C03).

It is expected that the measure will be at least as successful as the precedent measure, which resulted in a high public attention. The results of the measure were used as a reference in a large number of European, national and regional documents and strategies. The Innovation

Union Scoreboard functions as a key reference tool in benchmarking and measuring the developments of national (and to limited extent regional) research and innovation systems in the EU.

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/facts-figures-analysis/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/facts-figures-analysis/index_en.htm)

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The measure will result in the annual production of the Innovation Union Scoreboards 2014 and 2015, a production of the Regional Innovation Scoreboard 2014 and the European Public Sector Innovation Scoreboard 2015. In addition, three analytical reports will be prepared and three methodological workshops will be organised.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

The actual implementation of the measure starts in March 2013 and will last until February 2015 (24 months). It follows the publication of the call for tender on 14 July 2012 and signature of the contract on 5 December 2012.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 589.930

Unit: ENTR.B.3.

Desk Officer: Tomasz Jerzyniak.

### **C.13 EUROPEAN SERVICE INNOVATION CENTRE**

#### **ENT/CIP/12/C/N03C05**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

The main objective of ESIC is to improve awareness among European, national and regional policy makers of the contribution of service innovation and service firms to sectorial and regional economic development and, in particular, of the transformative power of service innovation on the development of emerging sectors and markets. ESIC will capture the dynamics and impact of service innovation and demonstrate how service innovation can contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth (6 model demonstrator regions will receive support and customised services from the ESIC).

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

An open call for tender was published on 28 February 2012 (OJ 2012/S 40-063839) and a corrigendum on 3 March 2012 (OJ 2012/s 44-070987), correcting an internet address for the e-tendering electronic access to information. 10 bids were received after the set deadline for submission (4 May 2012). The service contract was signed on 10 October 2012, and the kick-off meeting took place on 24 October 2012.

The web pages for the European Service Innovation Centre will be established in 2013 under the European Commission's Enterprise and Industry web portal.

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The service contract will run until 9 October 2014 requiring on-going project management, including monitoring and validation of deliverables.



## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Implementation start date: 3 March 2012

Implementation end date: 9 October 2014

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 1.791.650.

Unit: ENTR.D.5.

Desk Officer: Agnieszka Truszczynska.

## **C.14 INSTALLATION, HOSTING AND EVOLUTIVE MAINTENANCE OF RIM**

**ENT/CIP/12/C/N03C06**

### **Main objectives & activities**

To Take-over and repatriation of the Regional Innovation Monitor (RIM) website in-house from the current contractor by DG ENTR Information Systems Unit in order to provide continuity and ensure compliance with Europa.

Internalisation of the application must be started without delay in order to avoid an interruption of service.

- Install RIM in house as it stands;
- Hosting fee (infrastructure related) for one year at DG ENTR;
- Adaptation to the internal constraints;
- Evolutive maintenance (bug fixes and small enhancements) for one year.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The take-over of the system from the contractor is on-going. Local infrastructure has been deployed, analysis of the existing system and some adaptations, mostly of configuration, had to be performed in order to get the software running in its new environment. This repatriation work and the collaboration with the contractor have proved to be more difficult than expected.

RIM Website: <http://www.rim-europa.eu/>

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

In 2013, the internally hosted website will go live and will replace the externally hosted site. A new version called RIM Plus is going to be developed, incorporating the IPG Europa style guide and constraints and, where possible, simplifying the architecture.

In 2014, the system will be in corrective maintenance — no request regarding further development has been received so far.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Start date: July 2012

Deployment on Production Server: March 2013

Adaptation to RIM+: 2013

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €99.881.74

Unit: ENTR.B.3./ ENTR.R.3.

Desk Officer: Alberto Licciardello and Lietar Patrick.

## **C.15 INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP ON RAW MATERIALS**

### **ENT/CIP/12/C/N04C01**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

In line with the Europe 2020 goals, the overall objective of Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials is to achieve smart, sustainable and inclusive growth for Europe, and in particular to help Europe deploying its innovation capacity along the entire raw materials value chain, including exploration, extraction, processing, recycling and substitution of these materials as well as land use planning.

The specific objective of the study is to investigate how structured statistical information on the quality and quantity of EU raw materials deposits (reserves and resources) can be achieved. This study should also provide a gap analysis as well as some recommendations concerning the feasibility of standard codes used by all levels of decision makers and what is needed in order to have those pan-European standards in place (feasibility study). The study will moreover explore the feasibility of a European minerals yearbook and set up a web portal disseminating the information collected and providing tools for modelling trends.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The tender specifications were published and the service contract was signed on 18 December 2012. Project implementation started with the Kick-Off meeting on 22 January 2013.

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

In the framework of the study, following deliverables are planned:

- 3 workshops with stakeholders;
- 3 interim reports;
- Web portal.

Two workshops are planned during 2013 whereas a third one will take place in 2014. The project is planned to end in December 2014.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Implementation start date: contract signature on 18 December 2012.

Implementation end date: December 2014.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €599.953

Unit: ENTR.F.3.

Desk Officer: Claudia Wulz.

## **C.15 (B) INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP ON RAW MATERIALS — TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT**

**ENT/CIP/12/C/N04C01**

### **Main objectives & activities**

In line with the Europe 2020 goals, the overall objective of Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials is to achieve smart, sustainable and inclusive growth for Europe, and in particular to help Europe deploying its innovation capacity along the entire raw materials value chain, including exploration, extraction, processing, recycling and substitution of these materials as well as land use planning.

The specific objective of the Secretariat is to provide, on the one hand, the logistical support and on the other hand, the technical support to the Innovation Partnership's work, including the annual meetings of the EIP (such as High-level Steering Group, Sherpa Group and Operational Groups). The Secretariat will in particular provide support in preparing the draft Strategic Implementation (SIP) Plan, which should be adopted in July 2013 and the Monitoring scheme of the SIP, in the second part of the year. It will also carry out communication and visibility activities, publishing all documents related to the EIP meetings via the internet portal. It will be the contact point for stakeholders.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The call for tender was published in August 2012, with deadline for submission on 19 October 2012. The contract with the selected consortium was signed on 18 January 2013. No impact is therefore to be reported for 2012.

Relevant web address:

EIP on Raw Materials: [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/raw-materials/innovation-partnership/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/raw-materials/innovation-partnership/index_en.htm)

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The Secretariat will carry out all its foreseen tasks work in 2013.

It has already organised the High Level Steering Group meeting on 12 February 2013 and Operational Groups meetings on 20-21 February 2013 and provided related briefing papers.

A number of meetings are still to be organised in 2013 (two Operational Groups meetings, 1 Sherpa Group meeting, 1 High Level Steering Group meeting, Annual conference).

The Secretariat will prepare the draft Strategic Implementation Plan, based on EIP members' input and to be discussed at the second OG meeting in April 2013. The Secretariat will then adapt the SIP for adoption by the High Level Steering Group in July 2013.

It will also be in charge of developing the Monitoring Scheme of the SIP in the second half of the year.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Contract signed on 18 January 2013

End of contract in December 2013 (renewable three times)

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 700.000.00 € — level 1 commitment, followed by a level 2 commitment early 2013

Unit: ENTR.F.3.  
Desk Officer: Anne Aufret.

## **C.16 INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP ON WATER**

**ENT/CIP/12/C/N04C02**

### **Main objectives & activities**

The Implementing Measure is supporting the Innovation Partnership on Water development, through the establishment of a secretariat.

The secretariat is supporting the Commission, through organising meetings, identifying stakeholders, supporting the drafting of the EIP Water Strategic Implementation Plan, working on a communication strategy and developing the EIP Water online market place — one of the implementing tools of the EIP Water.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The EIP Water secretariat has made it possible to have the EIP Water Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) to be adopted by the foreseen deadline of December 2012. The SIP sets out the operational phase of the EIP water, by setting the priorities and initial actions. All concrete activities of the EIP Water will be based on this, aiming to deliver innovative solutions for water challenges, which will create market opportunities.

The EIP Water secretariat has successfully delivered its agreed actions for 2012, allowing the EIP Water to develop as set out.

Performance indicators:

- 3 meetings organised
- Communication strategy started
- Development of online Market place started
- Strategic Implementation Plan delivered

No direct impact can be seen yet, as the measure supports the EIP water, which will start delivering results in terms of innovation from 2013 onwards. The secretariat has played an key role in enabling the Partnership on Water to start the operational phase on time in 2013.

EIP water web-address:

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/innovationpartnership/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/innovationpartnership/index_en.htm)

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The secretariat of the EIP Water will remain operational until 2014, to support the operational phase of the EIP Water to organise meetings, supporting the EIP Water implementing actions etc. The activities will be carried out according to the call for tender.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Starting date: 1 September 2012

Final date: June 2014

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 1.000.000

Unit: ENTR.F.3.  
Desk Officer: Claudia Wulz.

## **C.17 PROMOTION OF ELECTRIC CAR VEHICLES**

**ENT/CIP/12/C/N05S00**

### **Main objectives & activities**

The call consists of two lots corresponding to separate specific objectives:

Lot 1: Complete construction of an electric car designed for competition

The objective of lot 1 is the design and construction of a concept car powered by an electric Power-train, specifically conceived for a racing event.

Lot 2: Organisation of a demonstration event with the presence of the electric car built for lot 1

Organisation of a public event that involves the driving demonstration of the electric car constructed for lot 1

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The car under lot 1 has been built, and it shall be shown in two demonstration events planned for 28 February in the Circuit of Catalunya in Barcelona, and for 10 March in a public area of the same city. The performance indicators shall be provided by the organiser once the events have taken place.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

See above

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Publication date: 16 February 2012

Implementation end date: 28 December 2012 for lot 1 and 28 March 2013 for lot 2.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 2.000.000

Unit: ENTR.B.4.

Desk Officer: Bernardo Martinez.

## **C.18 THE EUROPEAN CLUSTER COLLABORATION PLATFORM**

**ENT/CIP/12/C/N06C01**

### **Main objectives & activities**

This action will maintain the current European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP) which is an online platform established in 2010 that is instrumental to further implement the Memoranda of Understanding in support of SME internationalisation through clusters. This action is implemented through a direct grant with the current consortium, based on a list of agreed deliverables and under the condition that a legal form for the ECCP was agreed among the existing consortium that ensures its openness to all cluster organisations and managers from CIP participating countries.

Further activities of the ECCP include:

- maintenance and further development of the current web-based ECCP;

- facilitation of networking between cluster organisations within and outside Europe and support for better profiling European clusters on international markets;
- analysis of target markets and strategic areas offering the largest potential for cooperation, and
- maintenance and further development of the MoUs signed with international partners in support of SME internationalisation through clusters (including 4 MoUs already signed with partners in India, Japan, Brazil and South Korea as well as new ones expected notably with neighbouring countries such as South Mediterranean countries).

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

A letter with a direct request for a proposal to implement the action was sent on 2 July 2012 with a final submission deadline of 24 August 2012, resulting in the submission of one proposal. The resulting ad hoc grant was awarded with a starting date of 1 September 2012.

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The action will run until end August 2014 requiring on-going project management, including monitoring and validation of deliverables.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Implementation start date: 02 July 2012

Implementation end date: 31 August 2014

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 712.448.00

Unit: ENTR.D.2.

Desk Officer: Christophe Guichard.

## **C.19 EUROPEAN FOUNDATION FOR CLUSTER EXCELLENCE**

### **ENT/CIP/12/C/N06C02**

### **Main objectives & activities**

This action aims at ensuring the maintenance and future development of the training materials developed under the CIP-funded European Cluster Excellence Initiative (ECEI) by contributing to the creation of an independent and self-sustainable European Foundation for Cluster Excellence. The Foundation will act as the engine for cluster excellence putting the priority focus on cluster organisations in the periphery. The Foundation is receiving seed-funding from CIP towards putting together a training scheme that would encompass continuous updating over time.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

A call for proposals was launched on 13 July 2012 with a submission deadline of 27 July 2012 to support the European Foundation for Clusters and Competitiveness and the organisation of trainings on cluster excellence via an ad hoc grant. The action started on 15 October 2012.

The first trainings were organised in December 2012 and 29 experts (multipliers) from different public organisations in EU countries attend these trainings.

Through the first training cycle, 22 case studies were provided as training material to the experts. 16 of these were developed under the previous European Cluster Excellence Initiative and 6 are from various business schools.

It is expected that more than 25 experts will be certified by the Foundation as cluster instructors to provide cluster excellence services to cluster managers.

Further information can be found at the specific web site created by the Foundation:

<http://www.clustercompetitiveness.org/>

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The project will complete the first series of the trainings by the summer 2013. Moreover, the project will develop new training modules on cluster internationalisation, dissemination of key enabling technologies through clusters and a module on how to better use creativity by cluster organisations and cluster firms.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

- Start: 13 July 2012

- End: 14 October 2014

- First trainings provided in December 2012

- Completion of first series of trainings: first semester 2013

- Preparation of the first series of (new) cases studies: first quarter 2013

- Preparation of the second series of case studies: end of 2013

- Second series of trainings: December 2013

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 399.999

Unit: ENTR.D.5.

Desk Officer: Nikos Pantalos.

## **C.20 PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL CLUSTER ACTIVITIES**

### **ENT/CIP/11/C/N06C03**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

This action provides incentives for stronger cooperation among regional and national cluster programmes in view of developing international cluster cooperation on foreign markets beyond Europe and providing SMEs with more effective support for internationalisation in two specific industrial fields. This action will contribute to reinforce activities in support of SME internationalisation through clusters in these two specific fields and has been implemented by awarding grants to the first two proposals that were on the reserve list of the 2011 Call for proposals No 3/G/ENT/CIP/11/C/N04C011 'Promotion and development of world-class clusters in Europe — Strand 1: Promoting international cluster activities in the EU'. Following high interest of

Member States and regions in responding to the 2011 call for proposals, and the fact that insufficient funding was available under the 2011 EIP Work Programme to meet this demand a reserve list was established in case additional funding would become available in the 1<sup>st</sup> revision of the EIP 2012 Work Programme.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

A post information letter was sent on 29/06/2012 to the lead coordinators of the two proposals, namely Textile2020 and Feeding the Planet, that were on the reserve list of the 2011 Call for proposals No 3/G/ENT/CIP/11/C/N04C011 to inform about the possibility of funding their action.

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The two actions will run until August 2014 for Textile2020 and October 2014 for Feeding the Planet requiring on-going project management, including monitoring and validation of deliverables.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Implementation start date: 29 June 2012

Implementation end date: 31 October 2012

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 1.166.308

Unit: ENTR.D.5.

Desk Officer: José Freitas.

## **D. ECO-INNOVATION**

### **D.1 ECO-INNOVATION: FIRST APPLICATION AND MARKET REPLICATION PROJECTS**

**ENT/CIP/12/D/N01S00**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

Eco-innovation first application and market replication projects are concerned with the first application or market replication of eco-innovative techniques, products, services or practices of Union relevance, which have already been technically demonstrated with success but which, owing to residual risk, have not yet penetrated the market. Supporting such innovative eco-technologies should contribute to remove obstacles to the development and wide application of eco-innovation, create or enlarge markets for related products and improve the competitiveness of EU enterprises on world markets. The projects should also aim at reducing environmental impacts or improve environmental performance of enterprises, in particular SMEs.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The Call 2012 attracted 284 proposals. They have been evaluated in the last quarter, but the evaluation committee will only take place in February 2013. There is budget to fund 45 to 50 projects.

Projects have a lifespan of up to 36 months, so environmental and economic impacts will show only from 2015 onwards.



The SME participation rate was ~67 % like in previous calls and less than 7 % of the proposals do not involve any SME.

Around 80 % of the participants are from the private sector.

Proposals were received by participants from 31 countries (of 37 eligible countries). The proposals covered well the 5 priority sectors:

- Green Business 33 % (products and services: 26 %, clean production 7%)
- Recycling 20 %
- Water (new priority since Call 2010), Buildings, Food and Drink ~ 15 % each
- Others 7 % (The priorities are non-exclusive)

For more statistics, see also the 'First overview of the Call 2012' here: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eco-innovation/in-action/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eco-innovation/in-action/index_en.htm)

#### **Web address**

<http://ec.europa.eu/ecoinnovation>

The website contains information on the measure (including information on on-going projects) and gives detailed instructions on 'How to take part' (Call documentation, FAQ, Guide for proposers, link to proposal submission system, eligibility).

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

Evaluation Committee and Final Decision by the Director: February 2013.

Report on the evaluation results to be published on Eco-innovation website in March 2013

Negotiations and contract signatures: March — summer 2013

Start of the projects from May 2013

#### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Call publication: 8 May 2012

Deadline for proposal submission 6 September 2012

8 May 2013: European Info-day in Brussels together with display of showcases with eco-innovative products from funded Eco-innovation projects, 340 participants plus 420 web viewers, participants from 26 countries. 76 bilateral meetings took place to discuss proposal ideas with Eco-innovation staff.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 37.440.000

Unit: EACI

Desk Officer: Astrid Geiger.

### **D.2 SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRY LOW CARBON SCHEME (SILC) — SILC I: SHORT TERM INNOVATION MEASURES**

**ENT/CIP/12/D/N02S00**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

The SILC-scheme is an industrial programme which consists of a set of sector-specific or cross-sector industrial projects. The programme targets 'traditional' manufacturing and process industries to enable these to cope with the challenges of a low carbon economy and maintain their competitiveness, with a particular view to tackling the stringent requirements resulting from the ETS-Directive as of 2013.

Projects under SILC will be carried out by industry-led consortia and will receive EU co-financing in form of grant agreements. In addition, a general coordinator shall ensure the overall coherency of the works by identifying synergies and commonalities across the sectors and managing effective cooperation of the consortia in these areas.

SILC is implemented through two different steps: SILC I (2011-2013) — funded under the Competitiveness and innovation Framework Programme (CIP) and supporting short-term innovation measures — and SILC II (2014-2020) — funded under Horizon 2020 and supporting medium to longer-term breakthrough solutions still requiring pilot and demonstration programmes prior to their industrial implementation.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

In 2012, the second batch of the three foreseen calls for proposals under SILC I was implemented, with the following main actions and milestones:

- 8 March 2012: Publication of the call for proposals
- 25 June 2012: Deadline for submission of proposals
- 2 July 2012: Evaluation of admissibility, selection and eligibility criteria
- 10 July 2012: Evaluation of the award criteria against the criteria set out in the call for proposal
- 17 November 2012: Formal award decision taken.

Overall, six proposals were received, all of which eligible. Out of those six, four did not pass the necessary minimum thresholds and two were finally retained for funding. Notification to successful applicants and signature of the grant agreements were carried out in December 2012.

Input indicators: via the 2012 call for proposals, 4 stakeholders (2 for each project, one of which in each project subject to the EU ETS) were selected for participating in the actions. At the current stage, neither ‘result’ nor ‘impacts’ indicators can be determined.

As announced in the Work Programme, an administrative arrangement with JRC Petten was signed for:

- ensuring an overarching technical/scientific coordination of all on-going SILC I projects
- providing assistance for the evaluation and selection of proposals under the 2012 and 2013 calls
- ensuring the effective dissemination of projects’ results (‘market replication’ effect)

### ***Web address***

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item\\_id=5811&lang=en](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=5811&lang=en)

### ***Web addresses***

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemlongdetail.cfm?item\\_id=5161&lang=en](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemlongdetail.cfm?item_id=5161&lang=en)

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The third and last call for proposals under SILC I is expected to be launched early in 2013. Then, follow-up actions are planned for the management of all 2011, 2012 and 2013 grants. The signature of a second phase of the administrative arrangement with JRC Petten is also forecasted.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Implementation start date of the 2nd SILC I batch: 8 March 2012 (Publication of the call for proposals)

First project: starting date 18 December 2012; end date (final report due) 17 June 2014

Second project: starting date 20 December 2012; end date (final report due) 19 December 2014

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €1.264.769.45 for the two selected projects under the second call for proposals.

The maximum budget allocated in the 2012 EIP Work Programme was €1.900.000, but the budget requests of the awarded projects was lower than the planned financial availability.

Unit: ENTR.B.1.

Desk Officer: Alessandro Cisotta.

## **D.3 EU ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY VERIFICATION (ETV) PILOT-PROGRAMME**

**ENT/CIP/12/D/N03S00**

### **Main objectives & activities**

The EU ETV pilot programme — on a voluntary basis — will generate independent and credible information on new environmental technologies, by verifying that performance claims put forward by technology developers and vendors are complete, fair and based on reliable test results. Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) are expected to be among the main beneficiaries of such ETV services, but the cost to them may be too high, if not subsidised initially by public funding.

Verification of environmental technologies under the ETV pilot is provided by Verification Bodies (VBs), which are specifically accredited by national accreditation bodies (in a similar way to the ‘new legal framework’ for internal market product Directives). In order to lower the cost for vendors, in particular SMEs, grant agreements are proposed for accredited VBs in order to cover the ‘fixed costs’ of the system. In exchange, the VBs will commit to:

- Participating actively in the ETV pilot programme by taking part in thematic technical groups and implementing ETV procedures in a specific technical area;
- Setting-up and maintaining a Quality Management System ensuring a high level of quality and reliability for ETV procedures and products;
- Facilitating access to verification procedures under ETV particularly for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises;
- Reporting on the implementation of ETV, on results and indicators as part of the evaluation of the ETV pilot programme and preparation of further steps.

The implementing measure under EIP, by off-setting or reducing the fixed costs of the scheme, aims to facilitate the efficient and effective establishment of the ETV programme, including the setting-up of robust and reliable verification procedures; and to lower the net cost for technology providers and vendors, in particular SMEs. The goal is to ensure that the average net cost be limited to around €20 000 per verification for SMEs. Over the three-year duration of the measure, it is expected that some 100 technologies will be verified, of which at least 50 will be technologies presented by SMEs. The measure will also be assessed in terms

of the environmental and economic benefits reported by SMEs which have developed or marketed technologies verified under ETV.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

A call for proposals was published on 7 July 2012, with a deadline on 7 September 2012. After evaluation of the proposals based on criteria including their quality and their potential to meet key ETV objectives as well as cost-effectiveness, as planned in EIP work programme 2012, an award decision was taken on 7 November 2012 and amended on 12 December 2012 to take account of updated information on the accreditation of candidate organisations. In total, 7 organisations are offered a grant agreement:

- 2 organisations awarded under Budget 2011, for which a global commitment was entered in 2011, for a total of €877.738
- 5 organisations awarded under Budget 2012, for a total of €908.727
- 5 other organisations were ranked in a reserve list; 1 was considered ineligible and 1 did not pass the threshold for the award criteria.

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The signature of grant agreements with organisations awarded in 2012 will continue in the first months of 2013 and the implementation of grant agreements is expected to continue until 2016.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Conclusion of grant agreements and individual financial commitments: Q1-Q2 2013

Implementation of grant agreements: Q1 2013 — Q1 2016

Final reports of projects and final payments: Q1-Q3 2016

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Commitments entered in 2012 and replacing a global commitment under Budget 2011: €877.738

Global commitment entered in 2012: €1.000.000

The total of commitments entered in 2012 under Budget 2011 is 12 % lower than the 2011 financing decision (€877.738 instead of €1.000.000). This was due to the later-than-expected accreditation of candidate organisations.

The total of commitments to be entered under Budget 2012 after conclusion of grant agreements will be 9 % lower than the 2012 financing decision (€908.727 instead of €1.000.000).

Unit: ENTR.F.4.

Desk Officer: Pierre Henry.

## **D.4 "TO PROMOTE ECO-DESIGN AMONG SME MANUFACTURERS" SPECIFIC ACTION**

**ENT/CIP/12/D/N04S00**

### **Main objectives & activities**

The objective of this specific action is to enhance the competitiveness of SME manufactures by promoting eco-design in at least eight Member States or countries participating in the Network under Article 4 of the CIP. This includes the following specific objectives:

- Mutualising existing tools for training and advisory services in eco-design, and make them available to the Enterprise Europe Network (including appropriate training of the EEN staff)
- Providing training and advisory services to promote eco-design in SMEs, including:
  - information on eco-design to at least 5 000 SMEs
  - in-house specific training on eco-design (at least ½ day) to at least 2 500 SMEs
  - company visits (first-level eco-design audit) in at least 2 500 SMEs
  - full eco-design training (including specific project to ‘eco-design’ a given product or product range) to at least 200 SMEs
- Evaluating ex-post the results and reporting on lessons learnt to feed into EU policy making in the field of eco-design.

Links between relevant European SMEs and eco-design experts will be developed through the mediation of Enterprise Europe Network partners.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The abovementioned Call for Proposals (restricted to Enterprise Europe Network Partners) was published on 5 September 2012. The Terms of Reference set up the deadline for submission of proposals on 5 November 2012.

The Evaluation Committee was appointed on 8 November 2012.

Eleven proposals were received by the submission deadline. The Evaluation Committee started the assessment phase immediately after reception of proposals.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The results of the assessment phase were completed on 18 February 2013. The refinement phase is currently on-going.

The next steps will be:

- Award Decision (first quarter of 2013)
- Signature of grant agreements and release of pre-financing (second quarter of 2013)
- Start of the implementation of the action (second quarter of 2013)

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

The beneficiaries should implement the action between 1 April 2013 and 31 December 2014.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount implemented in 2012: € 0 (there was no commitment in 2012).

Unit: EACI Unit 4  
Desk Officer: Daniel Ugarte.

## **E. ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION CULTURE**

### **E.1 ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION CALL**

#### **ENT/CIP/12/E/N01C01**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

A call for proposals on entrepreneurship education was launched in 2012. As a result, European projects will address issues that have been identified as key to further developments in this area, such as:

- Train primary, secondary and higher education teachers;
- Create an online platform for educators;
- Develop new methods and indicators to assess entrepreneurial skills acquired by students.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The ninety-three project proposals received have been evaluated, and the winning proposals awarded according to the planned timetable.

As a result, seven new projects co-funded by the ENTR have started between November and December 2012. Among the project coordinators and partners are some of the most important players in the field, like leading universities in entrepreneurship, NGOs and research institutions.

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The implementation of the projects co-funded will be monitored during 2013-2015. Interim and final payments to beneficiaries of the grants will be made.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Starting date: 18 January 2012 (publication of the call)

Ending date: December 2015 (estimated end date of the last projects)

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €2.832.076

Unit: ENTR.E.1.

Desk Officer: Simone Baldassarri

### **E.2 EUROPEAN SME WEEK**

#### **ENT/CIP/12/E/N01C02**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

The main objectives of the SME Week have been:

- To provide information on what the EU and national, regional and local authorities are offering as support to micro, small and medium-sized businesses;
- To promote entrepreneurship so that more people, and in particular younger ones, seriously consider becoming an entrepreneur as a career option;
- To give recognition to entrepreneurs for their contribution to Europe's welfare, jobs, innovation and competitiveness;
- To enhance dialogue among various stakeholders in order to discuss actions how to address challenges of the EU economy, to build and disseminate sectorial knowledge and to put forward possible policy recommendations.

The main activities were:

- A pan-European campaign in 37 participating countries, including a central website with information on all events organised at EU and national, regional and local level;
  - The European SME Week 2012 Summit;
- The SME Week brochure 'The Secret of Success'.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

1.562 events/activities took place across the 37 participating countries were published on the website.

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/intsub/sme-week/index.cfm?fuseaction=sme.viewmap\\_osm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/intsub/sme-week/index.cfm?fuseaction=sme.viewmap_osm)

The European SME Week main event, the European SME Week 2012 Summit took place in Brussels on 17 October. The theme of the conference was 'Women's Entrepreneurship makes business sense'. 619 participants attended the conference: Women entrepreneurs from across Europe and representatives from business associations, European, national, regional organisations.

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/initiatives/sme-week/summit/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/initiatives/sme-week/summit/index_en.htm)

In the evaluation the participants were very positive about the conference: 97.9% found the information presented useful for their work; 70.9% plan to attend the 2013 Summit.

The 2012-13 edition of the general SME Week brochure 'The Secret of Success' was produced with the theme 'European SMEs as International Champions'. The brochure is available in 21 official EU languages.

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/initiatives/sme-week/portraits/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/initiatives/sme-week/portraits/index_en.htm)

Actions were delivered as planned, on time, within the budget and coverage of the SME Week in the media was significant.

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

There will be a similar campaign in 2013.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

January 2012 — December 2012

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 1.485.000

Unit: ENTR.E.1.

Desk Officer: Rosemarie Hensley

## **E.3 FLASH EUROBAROMETER ‘ENTREPRENEURSHIP’**

**ENT/CIP/11/E/N01C03**

### **Main objectives & activities**

The Flash ‘Eurobarometer’ is a complete and detailed tool that helps managers to comfort and to orient decisions on entrepreneurship. It is an opinion survey of the entrepreneur attitude, in the Member States, CIP countries and third countries.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The action has been carried out in 2012. The final report has been provided and accepted in October. The data and the results were made available to usual users (Universities, OECD ...) and on the web.

These actions took place exactly following the planning.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

A new survey could be launched in 2014.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Starting date: 13.06.2012 (signing of the contract)

Ending date: March 2012 (final payment).

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €940.414

Unit: ENTR D.1.

Desk Officer: Sylvie Ribaille.

## **E.4 TRANSFER OF BUSINESS**

**ENT/CIP/11/E/N01C04**

### **Main objectives & activities**

As an implementing measure of SBA and Entrepreneurship 2020, the working group dealing with ‘transfer of business’ has been re-launched and a contract has been signed by the end of 2011 to support it.

The objective is twofold:

- Evaluation of the implementation of two Commission Regulations (from 1994 and from 2006)
- Establishment of best practices.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

- The first session of the working group took place on the 13 February 2012.
- The contractor presents its inception report that will be evaluated on the 28 February 2012.

These actions take place exactly following the planning.



## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

A final conference is planned beginning 2013

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Starting date: 22.12.2011 (signing of the contract; invitations launched to the Perm Reps)

Ending date: beginning of 2013 (final conference).

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 369.500

Unit: ENTR.D.1.

Desk Officers: Sylvie Ribaille.

## **E.5 ERASMUS FOR ENTREPRENEURS**

### **ENT/CIP/12/E/N01C05**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

Erasmus for Entrepreneurs is a mobility scheme that allows potential or newly established entrepreneurs to spend a period of time working with an experienced entrepreneur in another participating country on concrete, real-life business projects. These mobility actions aim to help the entrepreneurs to enrich their experiences as well as to learn directly on the job, get to know new markets outside their home country and network with entrepreneurs in other participating countries.

This measure will expand, strengthen and modify the existing network of Intermediary Organisations in charge of recruiting and matching the entrepreneurs and facilitating the mobility actions by providing training on business related issues (such as internal market regulations) and assistance in the visited country on practical issues related to the stay.

Activities to support the network will also be carried out, including regular meetings with the intermediary organisations to foster networking and monitoring of the implementation of the actions. Promotional activities will also be covered by this measure. This measure is a follow-up of the preparatory action carried out in 2009-2011. For more information please consult:

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/promoting-entrepreneurship/erasmusentrepreneurs/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/promoting-entrepreneurship/erasmusentrepreneurs/index_en.htm)

The interim evaluation of the preparatory action has confirmed the added value of this action and the lack of similar schemes at national level. It notes that the number of participants has been steadily increasing and that the level of activity is a significant achievement for a new programme that is still developing. It also confirms the efficiency of the operational setup to fulfil the pursued objectives and the quality of the exchanges carried out. According to the interim evaluation, there is a strong rationale for the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs Action. The cross-border nature of the action makes it unique as a way of promoting entrepreneurship and is directly relevant to a key EU policy objective of internationalisation and helping new and growing businesses to take advantage of the EU's Internal Market. The evaluation report is available on the above website.

The objectives of the Erasmus for Entrepreneurs mobility scheme are:

- Helping new entrepreneurs acquire and build entrepreneurial skills and knowledge and to further develop their business plan/activity by learning from experienced entrepreneurs;

- Learning on the job for the new entrepreneurs by working with the host entrepreneur on concrete business projects;
- Supporting of the host entrepreneur in researching, developing and testing/piloting new business concepts/products/services by the new entrepreneur's bringing in fresh ideas from another environment (in national, academic, market etc. terms);
- Raising the new and the host entrepreneurs' awareness for the benefits from going international and, in particular, from exploiting the potential of the Single European Market by getting hands-on know-how about other national markets within the EU;
- Intensifying the networking and business relationship between entrepreneurs from different participating countries, especially laying the ground for further internationalisation of SMEs' businesses, further networking and cooperation as well as for further spreading of innovative methods or products in the Single European Market.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

Through an open call for proposals published on 20 February 2012, 'intermediary organisations', i.e. business support organisations of various profiles (chambers of commerce, regional/local development agencies, incubators, start-up centres etc.) were selected. These intermediary organisations act as local contact points to promote the programme, recruit the participating new and host entrepreneurs, carry out the matching between new and host entrepreneurs and help the entrepreneurs organise their mobility exchange (applications, contracts, and logistics).

The evaluation of the proposals received was organised by an external panel of experts on 25 – 29 June 2012 in Brussels. In total, 115 intermediary organisations from CIP countries were selected. Some of these organisations are new to the programme, while others have participated in previous cycles of the programme as well.

Through a call for tender published on 29 April 2012, a Support Office (SO) for the programme was selected. The SO coordinates the work of the intermediary organisation. The service contract entered into force on 1 November 2012.

An award ceremony to celebrate successful exchanges and entrepreneurs in five different categories was organised on 11 October 2012 in Brussels. Prizes were given for the best success story video, best host entrepreneur, most successful post-exchange cooperation, best business concept, and best performing intermediary organisation.

The total number of registrations and exchanges of the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs is steadily growing. So far, more than 6000 entrepreneurs are registered and over 1500 exchanges have been established. Out of this, nearly 2000 entrepreneurs (both new and host) have registered in 2012 and slightly over 400 exchanges (involving a new and a host entrepreneur) have been organised for the same period. There are currently intermediary organisations in all EU member states except Luxembourg, plus two in Croatia, two in Turkey, and one in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The feedback from entrepreneurs who have participated in an exchange is extremely positive, and shows significant benefits for all the entrepreneurs having participated: 94 % of the new entrepreneurs and 85 % of the experienced host entrepreneurs state that the programme helped them develop their business idea. In addition, 89 % of the new entrepreneurs consider that their participation contributed to their ambition to start their own business; 83 % think that they gained knowledge about foreign markets and 26 % expect to engage in business cooperation with their host entrepreneur; 83 % of the entrepreneurs having hosted a young entrepreneur are willing to renew the experience. Some have already hosted 4, even 5 entrepreneurs so far.

More information on the programme, including various success stories and how to participate, can be found on its dedicated website at the following link: <http://www.erasmus-entrepreneurs.eu/>

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

Implementation of the grant agreements with the intermediary organisations and the service contract with SO.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Call for proposals published on 20 February 2012

End date for activities of the intermediary organisations: 31 January 2015

Final reports submission: April 2015

Call for tender: publication on 29 April 2012

Service contract entered into force on 1 November 2012 and it is valid for 30 months

Expert meeting (evaluation of call for proposals): 25 – 29 June 2012

Award ceremony: 11 October 2012

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €4.805.425

The amount envisaged in the financial decision for the programme for 2012 was €3.100.000. However, in view of the high number of proposals in the reserve list, it was decided to allocate unused budget initially foreseen for promotional activities to the award of two further proposals.

Further additional funding became available towards the end of 2012 from unused funds by other CIP activities. The additional funds were used to finance the following five proposals on the reserve list established after the evaluation of the call 2012. In total, 25 proposals could be funded, resulting in the signature of 25 grant agreements to be implemented in the period 2013 – 2015.

Unit: ENTR.F.2.

Desk Officers: Sylvie Grajales.

## **E.6 PROMOTION OF CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN SUPPORT OF EU2020**

### **ENT/CIP/12/E/N02S00**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

Main objectives and activities in 2012 have been the following:

##### *CSR sector platforms:*

To facilitate a small number of sector-based platforms via which enterprises and other stakeholders will make commitments regarding CSR and review progress. The objective is to encourage more enterprises and stakeholders to make and jointly review public commitments on CSR.

##### *Eurobarometer survey:*

To finance a survey of citizen trust in enterprises and attitudes towards CSR in order to provide policy-makers, employers' associations and other stakeholders with information about current levels of citizen trust in business and attitudes towards CSR, as a basis for dialogue and possible further actions.

*CSR award:*

To organise a European award scheme to recognise leading enterprises in the field of CSR and thereby inspiring more enterprises to take initiatives on CSR.

*Monitoring:*

To monitor the policy commitments of large enterprises making reference to globally recognised CSR principles and guidelines in order to encourage more large European enterprises to build their own CSR approach on the basis of globally recognised CSR principles and guidelines.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

*CSR sector platforms:*

Call for proposals published and 3 proposals in different business sectors selected (fruit juice, social housing). The project start is expected for March 2013.

*Eurobarometer survey:*

A survey was carried out in November 2012, and its results are due to be published during the first half of 2013.

*CSR award:*

Grant agreement signed to support 28 national European CSR award schemes. Winners will be invited to European award ceremony in June 2013.

*Monitoring:*

As internal capacity was found to carry out initial monitoring exercise funds foreseen were not used.

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

See above

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

*CSR sector platforms:*

Project start expected for March 2013, duration 18 months until September 2014.

*Eurobarometer survey:*

Results expected for publication during the first half of 2013.

*CSR award:*

Winners will be invited to European award ceremony in June 2013.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 1.700.000

Unit: DG ENTR.D.1.

Desk Officers: Iris Kröning.

## **F. ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION RELATED ECONOMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM**

### **F.1 SBA IMPLEMENTATION: MONITORING AND EXCHANGE OF GOOD PRACTICES**

**ENT/CIP/10/F/N01C01**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

In order to monitor and exchange good practices in SBA implementation, conferences, meetings and the online database contribute to drawing the attention to good practices on SBA implementation collected all over in Europe.

In particular, there will be:

- SME Assembly and European Enterprise Promotion Awards
- Monitoring implementation of SBA & SBA review and promotion of impact
- Expert meetings, including Network of national SME Envoys, SBA national contacts (sherpas level for Network of national SME Envoys) and EEPA single points of contact (SPOCs).

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

Year 2012 saw the sixth edition of the European Enterprise Awards, now renamed Enterprise Promotion Awards (EEPA), for sake of clarity. The awards continued to attract a lot of interest from across Europe with over 400 (an all-time high) entries competing in national competitions and 54 entries competing at European level. The winners were announced during the 2012 SME Assembly organised on 15 and 16 November in Nicosia together with the Hungarian EU Presidency. The national nominees were invited to the event and finalists were able to present their practices at a special session and attend the SME Assembly, the annual conference on the implementation of the SBA. Around 450 participants from national and local authorities, business organisations and media attended the event. The winning practices have been promoted via a special compendium on the finalists available in all EC languages, a website and a network of promoting organisations that work in relevant areas. All shortlisted projects have been added to the online database of good practices.

All Member States participate actively in the competition. In addition Norway, Iceland, Turkey, and Serbia continued to participate in the scheme.

Publicity of the awards was very good and managed to sustain the interest in the competition. The visibility of winning practices is achieved mainly through the network of promoting organisations such as the Committee of the Regions, Eurochambres, Eurocities and Eurada as well as the media.

The SME Assembly in Cyprus was a huge success. In a number of workshops and plenary sessions the delegates discussed most of the SBA themes and in particular challenges that SMEs are likely to face in 2013. Over 90% of the delegates indicated that they found the meeting very good or good and that they would be likely to attend the 2013 SME Assembly.

The SME Envoys met four times in 2012, as foreseen in their mandate. In June they met to discuss in particular issues related to the entrepreneurship action plan (adopted in January

2013) and issued a report on the implementation of the SBA in November 2012. Envoys also discussed specific EU dossiers that had the potential to pose disproportionate regulatory burdens on SMEs. Envoys ensured that these concerns were conveyed to the Commission to better adapt policy to the needs of SMEs.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The 2013 SME Assembly, whose preparation is on-going, will be held on 25 and 26 November 2013 in Vilnius in cooperation with the Lithuanian Presidency.

The 2013 EEPA has been launched in February.

In 2013 four meetings of the SME Envoys will be held (8 February, 11 June, 27 September and 25/16 November). The Envoys' Sherpas will also meet four times to prepare the meetings.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

On-going

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €1.988.591

Unit: ENTR.D.4.

Desk Officer: André Meyer.

## **F.2 SME PERFORMANCE REVIEW**

**ENT/CIP/12/F/N01C02**

### **Main objectives & activities**

The actions under this measure are focused on the implementation of the Small Business Act for Europe. The SME Performance Review (SPR) will be continued as an essential tool for the SBA implementation as stated in the SBA review and supported by the Competitiveness Council. The SME Performance Review is made up of annual reports, SBA country fact sheets and studies, which will investigate key areas of importance to SMEs, particularly in the light of the Small Business Act for Europe (SBA) and the EU2020 strategy. They will describe and analyse the main factors affecting European SMEs' performance and competitiveness. The 2012 study covers core actions from the SBA agenda, e.g. better access to markets for SMEs. Finally, there will be 2 expert groups discussing the annual report and the SBA fact sheets.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

In 2012, the following activities have been effectively started or carried out:

- The 2012 SME annual Report and SBA fact sheets;
- A Eurobarometer business survey on 'SMEs and the Environment';
- An information event on green markets & business opportunities for SMEs' scheduled for 27 March 2012 (based on the results of the Eurobarometer);
- In addition, two workshops had been organised in the context of the preparation of mainly the SBA country fact sheets.

As for performance indicators describing the impact of these activities, as all of the above activities are still on-going: hence, evidence on the effective impact is not yet available. On other qualitative indicators, the draft terms references for each of the above studies were designed to fully take into account the quality of data treatment as well as estimation and analysis policy relevance of the analysis, an improved understanding of the situation of the European SME and a dedicated focus on policy developments. In addition all studies also take into account — to the extent it is possible and appropriate — a comparison against the large enterprises sector. This is particularly the case with the Annual SME Report. Particular attention is paid in the implementation of each project so as to ensure that these issues are taken into account appropriately. The final versions of the Annual report and SBA fact sheets were published in October 2012. They have been posted on the SPR's homepage (see below) alongside with previous years' version of the report and the fact sheets. The results of the Eurobarometer survey were made available on 27 March 2012.

As for the above mentioned workshops the following evidence is already available. All workshops envisaged for 2012 have been also actually implemented. In addition, they were — as in previous years- well attended.

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

Not applicable

#### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

The 2012 SME annual Report and fact sheets (date of contract signature: 7 September 2011 and 4 December 2011; date of final delivery: 27 June and 19 October 2012, respectively) actual delivery dates: for both 15 October 2012 (note: there was a political decision by the spokespersons office to wait with the publication of the annual report and have it, as done in previous years, published jointly with the SBA country fact sheets)

Eurobarometer business survey on 'SMEs and the Environment' (date of contract signature: 9 December 2011, duration date, date of final delivery: 27 March 2012), actual implementation: no change

The information event on green markets & business opportunities for SMEs' is scheduled for 27 March 2012, actual implementation: no change

Meetings of the expert group on SME policy research discussing the SME annual report and the SBA country fact sheets: on 15 June and 5 December 2011; actual implementation: no major change (second event took place on 11 December as opposed to 5 December)

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 1.076.926.

Unit: ENTR.D.4.

Desk Officers: Ludger Odenthal.

## **F.3 COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES ON SBA IMPLEMENTATION**

**ENT/CIP/12/F/N01C03**

### **Main objectives & activities**

This communication measure will support the implementation of the Small Business Act. Fully in line with the newly adopted Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan from January 2013, the European Commission will target small and medium-sized enterprises and potential entrepreneurs.

The communication campaign will make use of an intelligent media mix, comprising of radio advertisements, a web-based dissemination of video clips and outdoor advertisements. This media mix will reflect the media landscape of the targeted Member States in question and will be customised accordingly. All tools will raise the attention of the target group and induce them to enquire for further information at the European Small Business Portal, which is the one-stop entry point for small business owners to the EUROPA website.

One of the key objectives of the communication campaign is to raise awareness on European Union policies that improve the business environment for small and medium-sized companies. On case on point is the transposition of the late Payment Directive in mid-March 2013, which enables businesses to claim extra fees, if their customers fail to pay their bills within 60 days (30 days in some cases) after having received the corresponding invoice.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

Following the launch of an open call within a framework contract with reopening competition, the European Commission signed on 13 December 2012 a contract with a specialised communication agency.

Scheduled to run until December 2013, the result and impact of the action will be realised throughout the course of the year 2013.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

The entire action will be carried out during the course of the year 2013.

Implementation start date (launch of the call for tender): 05/11/2012.

Implementation end date: 12/12/2013.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total commitment in 2012: €603.165

The total commitment was €96.834 less than what originally forecasted in the budget as a result of the contracting process within the open call (No 241/PP/ENT/CIP/12/F/N01C032).

Unit: ENTR.R.4.

Desk Officer: Frank Knecht.



## **F.4 ACCOMPANYING MEASURES IN THE FIELD OF ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRIAL POLICY IN THE WESTERN BALKANS, TURKEY, AND THE MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES**

**ENT/CIP/12/F/N02C01**

### **Main objectives & activities**

*Accompanying measures in the enterprise and industrial policy in the Mediterranean countries*

The accompanying measures are to help European businesses to fully tap opportunities in Mediterranean partner countries (MED countries) and partner with MED businesses, further regulatory convergence will be sought across the whole Euro-Mediterranean area by implementing the European Small Business Act/Euro- Mediterranean Charter for Enterprise. Progress towards convergence between enterprise and industrial policies in the EU and in the targeted non-EU-countries will be evaluated.

*Accompanying measures in the enterprise and industrial policy in the Western Balkans and Turkey*

The accompanying measures are designed to improve the business environment and promote industrial cooperation in order to help and to facilitate the economic integration of the Western Balkan countries with the EU.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

*Accompanying measures in the enterprise and industrial policy in the Mediterranean countries*

Progress in implementing the Euro-Mediterranean Charter for Enterprise/SBA in Mediterranean neighbour countries is being evaluated using a Joint Management agreement signed with the OECD. On 16 November 2012, the evaluation was launched in cooperation with Mediterranean neighbour countries and the OECD. Further organisations involved in the exercise are: the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for reconstruction and Development and the European Training Foundation.

All involved parties agreed on joint indicators (SME policy index) and guidelines.

*Accompanying measures in the enterprise and industrial policy in the Western Balkans and Turkey*

The main part of the work will be carried out in 2013.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

See sections above and below.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

*Accompanying measures in the enterprise and industrial policy in the Mediterranean countries*

Contract signed: December 2012

Evaluation: January-August 2013

Drafting of report: September 2013-December 2013

Publication of report in English and French: beginning 2014

*Accompanying measures in the enterprise and industrial policy in the Western Balkans and Turkey*

Contract signed: December 2012 (Implementation period: 24 months)

Evaluation: April-November 2013  
Drafting of the report: January 2014  
Publication of the report in English: Spring 2014.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

*Accompanying measures in the enterprise and industrial policy in the Mediterranean countries*

€ 600.000

*Accompanying measures in the enterprise and industrial policy in the Western Balkans and Turkey*

€ 250.000

Unit: ENTR.A.2.

Desk Officers: Marie Corman and Liliana Popescu.

## **F.5 DIALOGUE WITH EUROMED COUNTRIES ON COMPETITIVENESS**

**ENT/CIP/12/F/ N02C03**

### **Main objectives & activities**

Euro-Mediterranean economic cooperation calls for sharing information on policies, programmes, good-practice in economic sectors that are relevant for EU Member States and Mediterranean neighbour countries, such as raw materials, tourism and space.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

DG ENTR organised a seminar on sustainable tourism on 21-22 June 2012, a seminar on raw materials on 15–16 October 2012 and a seminar on space-based applications and services on 28 November 2012. They were attended by senior officials and experts from Mediterranean neighbour countries as well as by other international partners (EIB, Chambers of Commerce, UNWTO, etc.).

### **Web Site**

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/international/promoting\\_neighbourhood/mediterranean/index\\_fr.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/international/promoting_neighbourhood/mediterranean/index_fr.htm)

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

Not applicable as no action are forecasted for 2013.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Implementation start date: June 2012

Implementation end date: November 2012

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 150.000 (€ 50.000 per seminar), but for the seminar on space-based application the amount spent was € 14.126.

Unit: ENTR.A.2.

Desk Officer: Marie Corman.

## **F.6 INFORMATION FOR SMES THAT SEEK ACCESS ABROAD**

### **ENT/CIP/12/F/N02C04**

#### **Main objectives & activities**

A portal will be developed with an International perspective that will promote information and links to support measures available for SMEs and practical steps on how to do business in International markets.

The delivery of the portal will occur in two phases. The first phase will provide information on European measures at EU level and at National level. The second step will provide information and practical guides on how to do business in specific international markets.

Data on measures will be collected by an external contractor and this will serve as the basis for the content of the portal during the first phase. The results of the two steps should appear at the same time on the portal.

A proof of concept will first be developed to identify the technology for the portal and to provide a mock-up of the possible layout and contents of the portal.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

Lead by unit R3 and with the participation of the Business units and Communication unit, the Task Force for the SME Internationalisation Portal met bi-monthly and identified the portal scope, high-level requirements and features.

A proof of concept for the future portal was developed in three technologies (Mura, Drupal and SharePoint) to identify the best Content Management System platform for this portal and for future websites. Drupal was selected and approved in the ITSC and Architecture Steering Committee.

The proof of concept was presented to the business units and to SBA organisations representing SMEs.

Data coming from the data collection (mapping) exercise being conducted by the external contractor Ecorys has been assessed and will be repatriated once available.

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

One of the first things to be done will be to develop a first version of the portal for March 2013 with data from the mapping exercise. Further versions of the portal are anticipated, extending the portal to cover 'how to do business' in international markets

Synergies will be made with our other website developments in Drupal. The portal will be a client of DocsRoom.

A model for the governance (i.e. sustainability) of websites needs to be developed

A technical analysis will be launched on the automation of data collection (trawling and indexing of websites).

#### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

March 2012: Pilot version of portal with data for review by representative users from associations, organisations, and Member States.

June 2012: First release of portal.

Nov 2012 Presentation of proof of concept.

Dec 2012 IT project team formed.

Dec 2012 Reception of mapping exercise data from Ecorys.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €249.500

Unit: ENTR. A.2./ ENTR.R.3.

Desk Officers: Nikoletta Nagy and Pierre Francois Ryelandt.

## **F.7 MAPPING SUPPORT SERVICES FOR SMES**

**ENT/CIP/12/F/ N02C05**

### **Main objectives & activities**

The Commission launched an in-depth ‘mapping’ and analysis of existing services in support of SME Internationalisation within the EU and in third countries. The activity mainly consisted in identifying the organisations which are providing support for EU SMEs doing business outside the European Union and collecting information on those services. To this end, a survey has been used and the organisations have been invited to fill it in.

The second component is the analysis of the data collected.

This mapping is needed in order to identify possible gaps and overlaps in the current services offering and pave the way for further action in support of SME internationalisation.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The contract for the mapping exercise was signed mid-2012 with a consultant. The final report is expected in March 2013.

The exercise covers all Member States and twenty-five non EU States including all the BRIC countries (Brazil, China, and India) and some of the EU neighbourhood countries.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The report will be disseminated in 2013 and the data collected will feed into a portal on SME internationalisation to be launched in the second part of 2013.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Implementation start date: May 2012

Implementation end date: March 2013

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: € 249.825

Unit: ENTR.A.2.

Desk Officer: Carmen Raluca Ipate.

## **F.8 HLG OF INDEPENDENT STAKEHOLDERS ON ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS**

**ENT/CIP/12/F/N03C00**

### **Main objectives & activities**

This measure supports the activities of the High Level Group of Independent Stakeholders on Administrative Burdens (HLG AB). The HLG AB was set up in 2007 and its mandate has

been extended to 31 October 2014. The HLG AB advises the Commission on how to reduce administrative burdens on businesses stemming from EU law and how to simplify regulation. In particular, the HLG adopts opinions on the performance of EU regulation, on the basis of a variety of sources including suggestions from the Commission and stakeholders. Support for the HLG AB may include contracting by the Commission of additional mapping and measurement activities. In addition, the group promotes an exchange of best practices in implementing EU legislation in the least burdensome way in Member States.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2012**

The Group met eight times in plenary in 2012, once in Lisbon and seven times in Brussels. In addition, the Chair went on fourteen missions to further the work of the Group and promote specific administrative burden reduction ideas. The exchange of best practices in implementing EU legislation in the least burdensome way was promoted through high level meetings in Member States and presentations in the European Parliament (e.g. in the ENV committee, the Conference of Committee Chairs and the EP Group Chairs). Since 2007, the Group has to date met in total forty times in plenary.

In 2012, the Group adopted three opinions on e-Cohesion, Smart Regulation and the Common Agricultural Policy after 2013 — as well as two opinions on stakeholder suggestions for reducing administrative burdens. In addition, the Group's report 'Europe can do better: Report on best practice in Member States to implement EU legislation in the least burdensome way', was published on 21 February 2012.

The final report of the Commission on the Administrative Burden Reduction programme to which the Group contributed was published as an Annex to the Commission Communication COM(2012) 746 of 12.12.2012. Measures worth €30.8 billion in annual savings for businesses have been adopted at EU level. This represents a 25% reduction in existing administrative burdens stemming from EU legislation, which have been estimated at €123.8 billion. Another 5.5% of burden reduction, which would take the total to 30.5%, could be achieved if the additional measures already proposed by the Commission were adopted by the European Parliament and the Council. It has been estimated that in the medium term the programme could lead to an increase of 1.4% in EU GDP, equivalent to €150 billion.

[http://ec.europa.eu/governance/better\\_regulation/documents/document\\_travail\\_service\\_part2\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/governance/better_regulation/documents/document_travail_service_part2_en.pdf)

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2012?**

The Commission, in its Decision of 5 December 2012, provided a new mandate for the Group to continue its work until 31 October 2014, in close cooperation with stakeholders and Commission Directorates. In this context, the Group should focus on the needs of SMEs, and in particular on micro-companies, and on measures that should be undertaken at national level to make administrations more responsive to SME concerns.

This measure continues on-going work under the EIP to be carried out under COSME (Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs 2014-2020).

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

Not applicable

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2012: €200.000

€100.000 has been transferred from expert reimbursements to studies carried through existing framework contracts.

Unit: SG.C.1.

Desk Officers: Gerhard Keinhorst and Nicolas Tokalatzidis.

## G. SUPPORT MEASURES

In accordance with Article 24 of Decision 1639/2006 establishing the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (2007-2013), the Commission has to regularly undertake the following:

- (1) Analysis and monitoring of competitiveness and sectorial issues, including for the Commission's annual report on the competitiveness of European industry;
- (2) Preparation and publication of impact assessments of measures of particular relevance for the competitiveness of enterprises with a view to identifying areas of existing legislation requiring simplification or the need for new legislative measures to make innovation more attractive in the EU;
- (3) Evaluation of specific aspects or specific implementation measures in relation to the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme;
- (4) Dissemination of appropriate information in relation to the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme.

These objectives are achieved through support measures which, as stated in Article 25 of Decision 1639/2006, are not covered by the annual work programme and do not involve the procedure referred to in Article 46(2) of the same Decision. In 2012, five types of support measures were included:

- Competitiveness and cross-sectorial studies, notably for the annual European competitiveness report, covering topics like Structural change, Manufacturing imperative in the EU, Reducing productivity and efficiency gaps, Production and trade in KETs-based products, Bringing research to the market, as well as Exchange of good practice in foreign direct investment promotion;
- Sectorial studies in several areas of European industry, such as raw materials, shipbuilding, chemicals or pharmaceuticals;
- Preparation of impact assessment studies to support Commission impact assessments, including among others studies on the Alignment of the PED (97/23/EC) to the NLF and the CLP Regulation, on a European Tourism Quality Label, on Nano-materials, on a potential merger of the Noise and Machinery Directives, on competitiveness proofing for Personal Protective Equipment, and on competitiveness proofing for a potential revision of the Fertiliser Regulation;
- Conferences, study groups and technical support such as the Bio International Convention and the workshops and expert meetings to support the implementation of the Innovation Union flagship initiative;
- Communication and information activities, such as websites, newsletters and other publications.

Some of the most relevant activities listed above are the Study on the competitiveness of the Toy Industry.

Another important support measure implemented was the Study on SME taxation in Europe, whose objectives have been, *inter alia*, the identification of key competitive advantages and disadvantages resulting from CIT of SMEs vs. LSEs, and the identification of good SME CIT practices.

A total of € 10.3 million was committed for such activities in 2012.