



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
COMPETITIVENESS
AND SHIPPING

**GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF INDUSTRY
GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR INDUSTRY SUPPORT
DIRECTORATE OF INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS**

Athens, 8 / 2 / 2011

R.N.: Oik. 1311/76

Address: 119, Mesogeion Avenue
P.O. Box: 101 92
Information: Evangelia SOLOMOU
Telephone number: (+30) 210 69 69 205

Fax number: (+30) 210 69 69 738
E-mail: solomou_e@ypa.gr

TO:
European Commission
DG Enterprise & Industry
entr-cip-consultation@ec.europa.eu

SUBJECT: “CIP Public Consultation – Written Contribution from Greece”

In addition to the on-line questionnaire on a possible successor programme to the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP 2007-2013), please find attached a written contribution by the General Secretariat of Industry / Ministry of Economy, Competitiveness & Shipping, concerning the “Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme”.

The Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme is, to our view, a programme of european added value, especially in a constricting economic environment that affects most the small and medium sized enterprise, and should therefore be continued with the necessary adaptations. Consideration should be given to the possibility of allocating more financial resources to it, with a view of raising its impact.

In this framework, we would like to draw your attention particularly to the following elements:

1. The Enterprise Europe Network is a measure of clear european added value, recognizable by european SMEs for the range and quality of services it provides. We agree with the consolidation and further strengthening of its role around a core set of priority areas, namely: access to finance, support for internationalisation, industrial innovation services.
2. Support to SMEs for access to finance should continue to be a top priority of this programme, taking nevertheless into consideration their variety and the different needs of micro, small and medium enterprises. This, in the field of providing access to finance, calls for the continuation of guarantee schemes that address the needs of more traditional forms of enterprises.
3. Innovation support measures should be oriented towards entrepreneurial and industrial innovation, and be differentiated from research innovation activities. We believe that EIP should not lose its character of an SME oriented tool, which is why its focus should be distinct from that of the Framework Programme.
4. We are in favour of a mixture of measures for eco-innovation, addressing both the demand and supply side. The promotion of public procurement in this area should be given special attention to.
5. The success of pilot and market replication projects indicates that it should be considered extending them to other areas

6. We support the continuation through EIP of soft measures and activities aiming at fostering entrepreneurship culture through, among others, the exchange of best practices, dissemination and information activities etc.
7. We are in favour of providing support to SMEs and micro enterprises in the tourism sector. The measures proposed should have a clear european, rather than sectoral, orientation, aiming at promoting a culture of innovative, eco-friendly entrepreneurship.

General Secretary of Industry
(signed)

Alexandros Furlas

Internal Distribution

- Minister of Economy, Competitiveness & Shipping
- Deputy Minister of Economy, Competitiveness & Shipping
- General Secretary of Industry
- General Director II
- DDBS (F. A 84)