



European Commission

EIPC  
Entrepreneurship & Innovation  
Programme Management Committee

# 2009 EIP IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

(Drawn up under Article 8(5) of Decision N° 1639/2006/EC)

**EIPC of 17 March 2010**

# EIP Implementation report

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP) is one of the three specific programmes of the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP)<sup>1</sup> which began in 2007. Its aim is to boost competitiveness, innovation and the promotion of entrepreneurial culture as defining conditions for growth – they are essential to the economy as a whole – and especially important for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). The main EIP objectives as set out in Article 10 of the CIP Decision are the following:

- A) access to finance for the start-up and growth of SMEs and investment in innovation activities;
- B) the creation of an environment favourable to SME cooperation, particularly in the field of cross-border cooperation;
- C) all forms of innovation in enterprises;
- D) eco-innovation;
- E) entrepreneurship and innovation culture;
- F) enterprise and innovation-related economic and administrative reform.

The EIP brings together activities in the field of entrepreneurship, SMEs, industrial competitiveness and innovation. In order to achieve the objectives of the programme four main instruments are used.

The table below shows how the main instruments contribute to one or several EIP objectives.

Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme	
Instrument	Objectives
1. Community financial instruments for SMEs	a) <b>access to finance</b> for the start-up and growth of SMEs and investment in innovation activities, including eco-innovation;
2. Services in support of business and innovation: The Enterprise Europe Network	b) the creation of an environment favourable to <b>SME cooperation</b> , particularly in the field of cross-border cooperation;
3. Innovation and eco-innovation first application and market replication projects	c) all forms of <b>innovation</b> in enterprises; d) <b>eco-innovation</b> ; e) <b>entrepreneurship</b> and <b>innovation culture</b> ;
4. Policy analyses, development, coordination and twinning	b) the creation of an environment favourable to <b>SME cooperation</b> , particularly in the field of cross-border cooperation; e) <b>entrepreneurship</b> and <b>innovation culture</b> f) enterprise and innovation-related <b>economic</b> and <b>administrative reform</b>

<sup>1</sup> Decision No 1639/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 establishing a Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (2007 to 2013) (OJ L 310/15, 9.11.2006). For more information see the CIP portal under [http://ec.europa.eu/cip/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/cip/index_en.htm)

## **I.1. The 2009 Work Programme and Implementation Report**

This Implementation Report has been set out in seven chapters following the structure of the 2009 work programme:<sup>2</sup>

The first six chapters reflect the six EIP objectives as set out above. The seventh chapter of this implementation report concerns support measures undertaken by the Commission pursuant to Article 24 of the CIP Decision (1639/2006).

Emphasis has been given to reporting on how far the objectives established in the annual work programme have been met. The report also includes an account of the execution of the budget in 2009 which shows the budget allocations in the 2009 work programme as approved by the EIPC and the respective commitments made by the Commission during the year.

Where possible, the report already refers to impacts and evaluations by using performance indicators. In many cases, however, the impact will only be measureable after some time as some activities are carried out over several years and their impact is therefore not yet addressed in this report.

Where available, website addresses have been included where detailed information on the different measures is provided.

## **I.2. Overview of EIP activities in 2009**

The 2009 EIP work programme was primarily based on the following actions:

(1) The **financial instruments** have as an overall objective the improvement of 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 other investment vehicles;
- providing leverage to SME debt financing instruments and thus increasing the supply of debt finance to SMEs.

The CIP legal base provides the basis for three financial instruments for SMEs, operated by the European Investment Fund (EIF) together with international financial institutions on behalf of the Commission:

Ø 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 Commission. By the end of 2009, 18 GIF deals with Financial Intermediaries (Venture Capital Funds) from 15 countries had been approved (of which 4 in 2009), committing EU investments of €204.9 million in total. 4 of these venture capital funds (from 4 countries) are investing in eco-innovation, supported by EU commitments of more than €50 million.

Ø The SME Guarantee Facility (SMEG) 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.

SMEG has been operational since September 2007 and is implemented by the EIF on behalf of the Commission. By the end of 2009, 27 transactions with financial intermediaries from 14 countries had been approved (of which 13 in 2009). The EU commitments amount to €195 million. Most of the SMEG transactions are under the Loan Guarantee window. There are four transactions under the Microcredit window (in France, Ireland, Spain and Norway). By the third quarter 2009, almost 48,000 SMEs had received financing supported by SMEG, through nearly 52,000 loans.

Ø The Capacity Building Scheme (CBS) aims at supporting the capacity of financial intermediaries by improving the investment and technology expertise of funds and other

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<sup>2</sup> The EIP annual work programme for 2009 was established by Commission Decision C(2008)6519 of 11 November 2008 following the favourable opinion on the draft work programme 2009 of the EIP Management Committee (EIPC) via written procedure on 24 July 2008. It was first amended by Commission Decision C(2009)32 of 14 January 2009. It was then revised by Commission Decision C(2009)3995 of 29 May 2009, by Commission Decision C(2009)7447 of 2 October 2009 and last amended by Commission Decision C(2009)9815 of 10 December 2009 following the favourable opinion of the EIPC at its meeting of 21 October 2009.

financial intermediaries investing in innovative SMEs or SMEs with growth potential. This instrument has, however, shown no response from the market. The Commission will use the budget originally earmarked for the CBS to support mainly eco-innovation and technology transfer under GIF.

For operations regarding the financial instruments, all available funds have been fully committed. Total 2009 **commitments** were € 160,442,000, of which € 150,150,000 were the initial appropriations. Additional appropriations came from EEA contributions and from contributions of other non-EU countries participating in the EIP.

(2) The **Enterprise Europe Network** offers support and advice to businesses across Europe and helps them make the most of the opportunities in the European Union. The services are specifically designed for small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The Enterprise Europe Network is made up of close to 600 partner organisations in more than 45 countries, promoting competitiveness and innovation at the local level in Europe and beyond. The Network started its activities in January 2008.

By the end of 2009, there were 78 framework partnership agreements signed from EU27 and 14 from CIP participating countries. Additionally, there were 11 cooperation agreements signed with 3<sup>rd</sup> countries. The Network now covers EU27 countries, EEA countries and major economic areas like the USA, Russia and China

An amount of € 16,463,000 has been committed to cover part of the network grants for the second operational cycle within the same framework partnership agreements, while 99.5% of the Network animation budget of €2,500,000 was 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

Actions in this area cover several fields such as support for innovation, e-skills, e-business, clusters or studies. Two of the most important initiatives are “Europa INNOVA” and “PRO INNO Europe®”. Europe INNOVA is oriented towards the development and testing of new practical innovation support services for SMEs, notably start-ups, delivered in the field by public-private partnerships of European innovation professionals. In 2009, Europe INNOVA launched a call for proposals resulting in the selection of 14 proposals. PRO INNO Europe® contributes to closer cooperation between innovation policy makers and public innovation support organisations at different levels with a view to contributing to the development of new and better innovation policies in Europe. The call for proposals under this initiative resulted in the selection of five proposals.

Regarding **Eco-innovation**, the second call for first application and market replication projects was launched in April 2009 focusing on a list of non-exclusive priority areas:

- (a) cleaner production processes;
- (b) innovative environmentally-friendly products and services;
- (c) support to enterprises (especially SMEs) in greening their business, products and management methods.

At the time of the deadline for the Call 2009, 202 proposals were submitted. All of the submitted proposals were considered eligible. In total 614 participants from 32<sup>3</sup> countries applied and almost 70% of the participants taking part in proposals are SMEs, 83% are from the private sector. The budget committed for this measure is €32.16 million.

As mentioned before, the eco-innovation objective was also covered in 2009 through one of the CIP Financial Instruments - the High Growth and Innovative SME Facility (GIF) - where cumulatively more than € 50 million have been committed for the specific objective “eco-innovation” from the EIP budget. The overall purpose of this financial instrument is to improve access to finance for the start-up and growth of SMEs and investment in innovation activities, including eco-innovation.

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<sup>3</sup> In total there are 37 eligible countries; EU27, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Israel, Turkey, Serbia and Albania.

(4) The **policy analyses, 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.

There are several actions that cover areas such as analysis, entrepreneurship education, CSR, studies and conferences. A key measure in this category is the “Entrepreneurial Culture of young people & Entrepreneurship education good practice” with a committed budget in 2009 of € 3,435,551.

The main objectives of this specific measure are the following:

- Promoting winning ideas that will serve as models for further European, national and regional projects in the field of education for entrepreneurship and in improving the entrepreneurial mindsets of the European youth;
- Continuing – as part of Principle 1 of the SBA - the exchange of good practice in implementing entrepreneurship education measures.

### I.3. Overview of the EIP Budget Execution in 2009

The total amount committed under the EIP in 2009 was about €312.11 million, leading to an execution rate of the total budget allocated to the EIP for 2009 of 99%. An overview of the budget available and committed is provided in the summary table below.

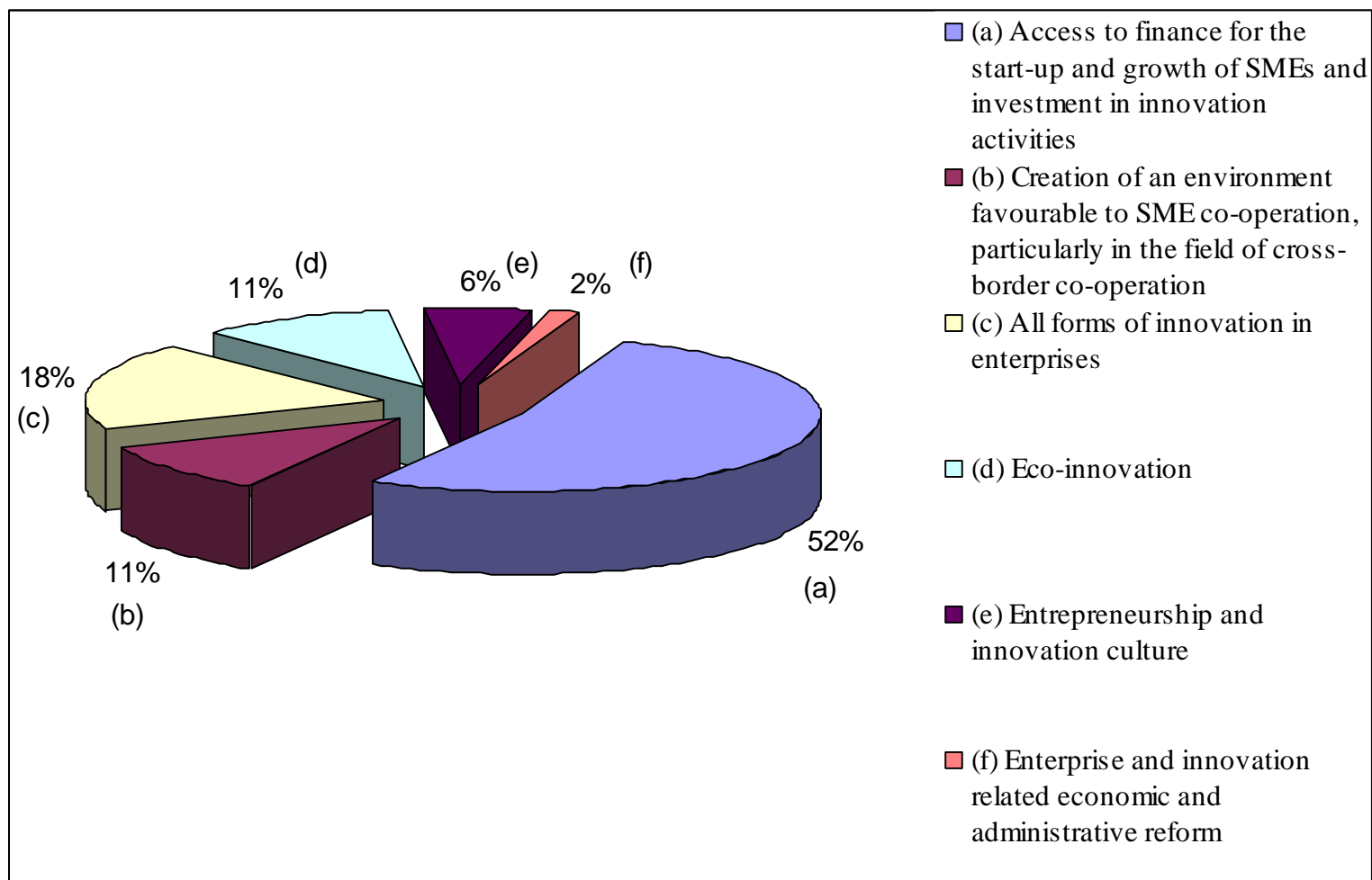
Out of the total budget committed, about € 160.442 million have been allocated to the EIP financial instruments for SMEs. Out of the remaining €151.67 million committed, an amount of €144.75 million has been spent on the work programme and €6.92 million on support measures under Art. 24 of the CIP Legal Base. €23.57 million was added to the initial budget of the EIP as contributions from non-EU member countries and EFTA/EEA countries participating in the programme.

In 2009 the following non-EU-member countries were fully participating in the EIP: Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway; while Albania and Israel participated in certain parts. In 2009 the Memorandum of Understanding with Turkey concerning its full participation from 2007 entered into force.

**Summary table: EIP budget 2009**

Budget available		Budget committed	
Measure	(‘ 000 €)	Measure	(‘ 000 €)
Financial instruments	160,442	Financial instruments	160,442
Implementing measures	145,165	Implementing measures	144,753
		Of which:	
		- Europe INNOVA	28,594
		- PRO INNO Europe®	17,683
		- Enterprise Europe Network and Network animation	18,951
		- Eco-innovation first application and market replication projects	32,153
		- Others	47,372
Support measures	9,520	Support measures	6,916
Total without Financial Instruments			151,669
Total with Financial Instruments			312,111
	315,127		

GRAPH 1 - BUDGET EXECUTION BY OBJECTIVES





## **II. EIP ACTIONS IN 2009**

### **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/09/AN01S00
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#### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

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.

The implemented financial instruments for SMEs are: the High Growth and Innovative SME Facility (GIF) and the SME Guarantee Facility (SMEG). They are operated by the European Investment Fund (EIF) on behalf of the Commission.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

##### **1. The High Growth and Innovative SME Facility (GIF)**

This facility has been operational since November 2007 and is implemented by the European Investment Fund (EIF) on behalf of the Commission. By the end of 2009, 18 GIF transactions with venture capital funds from 15 countries had been approved (of which 4 in 2009), committing EU investments of € 204.9 million in total. Four of these venture capital funds (from 4 countries) are investing in eco-innovation, supported by EU commitments of more than €50 million.

##### **2. The SME Guarantee Facility (SMEG)**

SMEG has been operational since September 2007 and is implemented by the EIF on behalf of the Commission. By the end of 2009, 27 transactions with financial intermediaries from 14 countries had been approved (of which 13 in 2009). The EU commitments amount to € 195 million. Most of the SMEG deals are under the Loan Guarantee window. There are four deals under the Microcredit window (in France, Ireland, Spain and Norway).

By the third quarter of 2009, almost 48 000 SMEs had received financing supported by SMEG, through nearly 52 000 loans. By the end of 2009 a number of other deals for both GIF and SMEG were in the pipeline for assessment.

##### **3. The Capacity Building Scheme (CBS)**

A further financial instrument, the **Capacity Building Scheme (CBS)** was foreseen in the CIP legal basis. This instrument has, however, shown no response from the market. The Commission will use the budget originally earmarked for the CBS to support mainly eco-innovation and technology transfer under GIF.

##### **4. Awareness**

To raise awareness of the funding opportunities for SMEs, "EU finance days for SMEs" are being organised during 2008-11 in the CIP participating countries. In 2009, 13 EU finance days were organised in the following capitals (chronological order): Athens, Madrid, Vienna, Oslo, Helsinki, Prague, Sofia, Dublin, London, Brussels, Riga, Bratislava and Lisbon.

##### **Web addresses:**

CIP website - <http://ec.europa.eu/cip>: providing links to reference documents like implementation 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.

EU finance days for SMEs - [www.sme-finance-day.eu](http://www.sme-finance-day.eu): website with programme, registration and presentations.

## 5. Evaluation

The **EIP interim evaluation** report, published in May 2009, confirmed that the financial instruments are underpinned by a strong market failure rationale and have achieved their aims. The programme has tested innovative instruments that can subsequently be adopted by other EU, national or regional schemes. The GIF provides a tool to develop a European market, with funds that have the size and geographic scale to distinguish them from national and regional funds. The recommendations of the EIP interim evaluation are being reviewed by the Commission services to determine the most appropriate follow-up actions. The CIP interim evaluation, which assesses the Framework Programme as a whole, is being conducted in the second half of 2009. The findings will be published in early 2010.

**Quantitative Indicators** (status of data: 30 September 2009; based on figures provided by the EIF):

- GIF: EC investment volumes in venture capital funds and fund size target (of which: investment into Eco-innovation funds): Investment into VC funds of €173.3 million, supporting a target fund size of €1 350.9 million (includes investments of more than €50 million into Eco-innovation funds, leveraging a target fund size of €528.5 million).
- GIF: EC investment volumes in vehicles promoted by business angels: no deals signed yet (one in the pipeline).
- SMEG: EC commitment to debt finance and total financing guaranteed: €111.8 million (cap amount) guaranteeing an actual loan volume of €2 771 million (estimated total financing guaranteed: €7 130 million).
- GIF and SMEG: number of jobs created or maintained in SMEs receiving new financing. GIF: no data available yet; SMEG: number of employees at inclusion date: 151 475.
- GIF and SMEG: number of SMEs receiving new financing; 78 (GIF; 16 of them in the eco-innovation sector) + 47 791 (SMEG).

### Qualitative assessment:

The recent interim evaluation of the EIP (see above) concluded that the financial instruments:

- § represent an adequate EU level response to the financing gap reported by SMEs across Europe.
- § include a mix of pro-cyclical (venture capital) and counter-cyclical (guarantees) instruments, which allows for flexibility and responsiveness to market conditions.
- § are efficiently managed by the whole delivery chain (European Commission, EIF, Financial Intermediaries).
- § are designed in a market-friendly way, i.e. minimising unintended consequences (such as moral hazard or crowding-out effect) while at the same time promoting private financial market activity (e.g. through a demonstration effect). In particular, the VC activities are seen as having played a crucial role in market-making and stimulation activities.
- § are considered to be highly effective and efficient, as they have enabled the EU to support a large number of SMEs across the EU at a relatively low cost (high leverage effect).
- § deliver added value, since two out of three companies would not have set up their business without the guaranteed loan (guarantee instruments), or would have done less. SMEs that received venture capital under the programme confirmed that only one in 25 companies would have been set up without the investment from EU-backed VC funds.
- § are cost-efficient: the average cost (to the EU budget) of assisting an SME through the financial instruments (figures of predecessor programme MAP) is estimated by the evaluators to be €2,127. The evaluators point out that the actual costs for the financial instruments are expected to be much lower if the revenues generated by the venture capital facility are factored in.

Moreover, the EIF has confirmed that the majority of the VC funds supported under GIF would not exist otherwise.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

For 2010 a further strong pipeline of deals under GIF and SMEG is expected, with a further increase in the geographical coverage.

The financial crisis and its impact on the economy are expected to result, with a certain time lag, in a slow-down in Venture Capital activities. SMEG, on the other hand, is a counter-cyclical instrument and the demand for guarantees by financial intermediaries is therefore likely to be sustained.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

GIF, SMEG: open call from 2007.

Awareness: Further "EU finance days for SMEs" are planned in 2010.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

For operations regarding the financial instruments, all available funds have been fully committed. Total 2009 **commitments** were € 160,442,000, of which € 150,150,000 were the initial appropriations. Additional appropriations came from EEA contributions and from contributions of other non-EU member countries.

**Payments** in 2009 amounted to €52,098,775.08, of which €51,980,000 was paid to the trust accounts. The remainder was paid to a contractor to organise the EU finance days for SMEs. It should be noted that there is an inherent time lag between commitment of budgetary funds, payment to trust accounts and disbursement for investments or called guarantees.

Unit: ENTR/D.3

Desk Officer: Jeremy Heath

Unit: ECFIN/L.2

Desk Officer: Roger Havenith

## **A.2. Improving Policies on Financing Innovations and SMEs**

ENT/CIP/09/A/N02S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The actions follow policies outlined in the "Small Business Act" and Council conclusions "A fresh impetus for competitiveness and innovation of the European Economy". The focus has been on a survey of SME finance, carried out in cooperation with the European Central Bank, and in continuing the series of Finance Days in participating EIP countries.

To contribute to better understanding of available financing options, the Commission continued to organise a series of Finance Days in the participating countries, in cooperation with other Commission services and the EIF.

Careful monitoring of the financing situation has continued, and efforts to increase understanding between SMEs and finance providers have continued.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

**Enterprise finance Index:** The website has been developed to include graphics of the key variables and to incorporate the results of the survey. The Index is becoming the key reference source for access to finance.

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/entrepreneurship/financing/enterprise\\_finance\\_index/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/entrepreneurship/financing/enterprise_finance_index/index_en.htm)

**Survey of SME finance:** The survey results raised considerable interest and indicated that more difficult access to finance (16%) is among the top concerns of SMEs. Although the availability of bank loans has deteriorated for 46% of SMEs, over 70% of SMEs got all or part of the bank loan they wanted, and only about 15% were rejected.

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/finance/data/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/finance/data/index_en.htm)

**Study on methods to help SMEs in financial distress:** To be completed in 2010.

**Ad-hoc round table on access to finance:** The Commission hosted a well-attended high-level round table that considered ways of enhancing small and medium-sized enterprises' access to finance in order to ensure that they can continue to do business, creating a renewed surge of jobs and growth despite the recession.

**Finance Days:** Since March 2008, twenty-two Finance Days for SMEs have been arranged in the participating countries in cooperation between DG Enterprise and DG Economic and Financial Affairs, and the remaining countries will be covered in 2010. The number of participants has been between 60 and 500, and most key SME stakeholder organisations have been present and the feedback from participants has been positive. Finance days organised by DG Enterprise in 2009 are listed in the table. Further information from <http://www.sme-finance-day.eu/>

20/01/2009	Athens (Greece)	500
10/03/2009	Vienna (Austria)	80
28/04/2009	Helsinki (Finland)	50
12/05/2009	Prague (Czech Rep.)	70
16/06/2009	Dublin (Ireland)	110
30/06/2009	London (UK)	70
01/10/2009	Brussels (Belgium)	110
29/10/2009	Bratislava (Slovakia)	70
04/12/2009	Lisbon (Portugal)	95

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

Study on methods to help SMEs in financial distress starts in the first quarter of 2010 and the study will be available in September 2010.

## **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Ad-hoc Round Table in January, survey in July, and Finance Days throughout the year.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€753,000** out of €770,000

Unit: DG ENTR/D.3

Desk Officers: Ulla Hudina, Cindy Fökehrer, Angelo Wille, Maciej Otulak

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

### **B.1. Enterprise Europe Network: Matchmaking Events**

ENT/CIP/09/B/N01S00
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#### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The measure is implemented through a call for proposals restricted to the partners in the Enterprise Europe Network according to Article 21(4) of the CIP Decision.

The aim of the project is to promote and support advanced business cooperation activities focusing on matching partners to facilitate business, technology and research agreements. These activities are to be implemented primarily through matchmaking / brokerage events focusing amongst others on environment, energy and lead market areas (e-health, sustainable construction, recycling, bio-based products, protective textiles or renewable energies) with the involvement and in support of the work of the Enterprise Europe Network partners.

The measure is implemented by the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI).

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The call for proposals was published early 2009 resulting in a selection of 5 proposals with 66 partners involved. The activities are planned to start in February 2010. The timeframe for the implementation of the project is 2 years. The proposed areas for facilitating business cooperation by the projects are the following: energy (including renewable energies), environment, sustainable construction, recycling, bio-based products. Results and impacts of the project will be measurable as from 2010, as the modified start date of the project is February 2010.

The signature of the grant agreements has been delayed from November 2009 to February 2010 due to administrative follow-up and workload reasons.

The approach differed from the original plan as approved in the Work Programme: due to the low number of proposals received (mainly because of the limited co-financing rate) the originally foreseen budget was substantially decreased from 6 million to 2.2 million.

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The signature of the grant agreements is planned for February 2010, the actual implementation will then start for a period of 2 years. Partners will organise several matchmaking and brokerage events focusing on environment, energy and lead market areas.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€2,147,389** (Award decision 13/11/2009)

Unit: DG ENTR /E.2

Desk Officer: István Németh

## **B.2. Enterprise Europe Network: Environmental Services for SMEs**

ENT/CIP/09/B/N02S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The purpose of the specific action on the provisioning of environmental services is to broadly spread environmental expertise within the Network and to develop a support and service delivery structure in cooperation with environmental service providers. For a geographical area covering at least three countries participating in the EIP, partners identified the sectors that are a priority in terms of their impact on the environment; assess what is done for SMEs in the field of environment through local, regional, national and European initiatives; propose solutions to create synergies between programmes; build on existing expertise and improve services to SMEs. Specific measures include training of Enterprise Europe Network staff to enable them to provide a first-level service and signpost clients to second-level service providers. A framework for cooperation between the Network and local second-level service providers will be put in place and workshops targeting environment consultants and SMEs will be organised. Finally, direct individualised second-level services to SMEs will be provided when these are not available from local service providers.

The implementation of this Network-related EIP measure was entrusted to the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI).<sup>4</sup>

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The call for proposals was published in early 2009 resulting in a selection of 7 proposals with 55 partners involved and where the activities are planned to start in February 2010. The timeframe for the implementation of the project is 2 years. Proposals include both partners where environmental services are already well developed and partners where these services are less advanced, resulting in cross-region knowledge transfer.

It is expected that Network partners will deliver services to about 7,500 SMEs in 55 territories for selected sectors of activity (9 in total), and sign cooperation agreements with more than 400 environmental service providers. The delivery will start early 2010 with mainly planning activities and continue with the actual delivery until early 2012. Further information from:

[http://www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu/index\\_en.htm](http://www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm)

(individual project websites are not yet available)

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The signature of the grant agreements is planned for February 2010, the actual implementation will then start for a period of 2 years.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

The signature of the grant agreements has been delayed from November 2009 to February 2010 due to administrative follow-up and workload reasons

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

The amount of **€5,750,000** was committed and represents the EC contribution of maximum 80% to the eligible costs of the 7 selected proposals. The original budget was increased with 15% to 5,750,000 because more interesting proposals were received than foreseen.

Unit: DG ENTR /E.2

Desk Officer: Patrick De Smedt

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<sup>4</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

### **B.3. SME and Craft Enterprises' Participation in European Standardisation**

ENT/CIP/09/B/N03S00
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#### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

**1.** Support for Involvement of SME through a Framework Partnership Agreement and actions 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;
- Organise training seminars for SMEs and experts;
- Extensively disseminate information (training seminars, Website, newsletter, etc.);
- Creation of an Expert SME Guide with ESOs;
- Report back to the Commission.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

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

Number of:

- 39 SME experts participating in around 53 technical committees (TC) and Working Groups of the main standardisation bodies;
- information, 6 newsletters, 5 position papers, 15 seminars;
- Creation of an Expert SME Guide;
- Website up to date in several languages.

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

Quality of:

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

Concerning the impact of the actions, please refer to the external evaluation of the actions carried out from 2002-2008:

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/market-access/standardisation/index\\_en.htm#h2-external-evaluation-\(2008---2009\)](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/market-access/standardisation/index_en.htm#h2-external-evaluation-(2008---2009))

**Web address:** [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/market-access/standardisation/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/market-access/standardisation/index_en.htm).

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

- Specific grant agreements for 2010 actions to be signed
- External evaluation: follow up starting end of 2010, results available in Spring 2011.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

- Framework Partnership Agreement renewed on March 13, 2009, it includes the recommendations of the evaluation
- Four Specific Grant agreements signed between September and November 2009.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€2,012,665.46**

Unit: DG ENTR /E.3

Desk Officer: Isabelle Augustin

#### **B.4. Assisting SMEs to participate in global supply chains in specific industry sectors**

ENT/CIP/09/B/N04S00
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##### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The objective is to harmonise business processes and data exchange architectures and standards at European and/or international level, in the automotive industry and at cross-sectoral level. The fundamental objective is to optimise production and procurement processes in the automotive industry, in terms of profitability, time to market, and reactivity. This is expected to help SMEs in this sector to participate in global digital supply chains. The automotive industry has been selected as it is an SME-intensive sector of high economic importance for Europe, and very likely to increase its competitiveness significantly through the adoption and innovative use of ICT and eBusiness processes.

##### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

- The Commission services together with the Member States have agreed on the sector to be supported by this initiative, namely the automotive sector. (To be noted that similar initiatives have been launched in the textile and footwear sectors (in 2007) and in the transport and logistics sectors (in 2009, but through the EP budget), in an effort to follow a coordinated cross-sectoral approach.)

A call for tenders has been published in May 2009 and was very well received by industry. Four tenders have been received and evaluated by an Evaluation Committee. As a result, a service contract was awarded in December 2009 to a sound consortium led by ODETTE (an international organisation set up by the automotive industry to set standards for e-Business communications) and involving significant European and International associations and multipliers in the automotive industry (CLEPA, BOOST, CECRA and Innova +).

The action started on 1st January 2010 and will run for 2 years.

##### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The management of the project with a view to involve as many industry stakeholders as possible, in large-scale demonstration projects. Dissemination of the results with a view to promote breakthrough implementation by enterprises in the automotive industry, at local level.

##### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

1st January 2010: start of project.

June 2010: Analysis report on the current situation in the automotive Supply Chain in terms of e-Business adoption.

December 2010: Delivery of the reference architecture, establishing a set of data flow standards and interoperability principles among them; A detailed plan for the demonstration projects.

January 2011: Start of the demonstration projects, involving at least 125 European SMES. Continuous feedback to the reference architecture.

December 2011: delivery of final report "EBusiness Guide for SMES in the automotive industry". End of project.

##### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€1,940,000**

Unit: DG ENTR /D.4

Desk Officer: Dana Eleftheriadou



## **B.5. Enterprise Europe Network: Network Animation and B.11 Enterprise Europe Network: Network Grants**

ENT/CIP/09/B/N05S00 and ENT/CIP/09/B/N11C00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: 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 2009 where the first measure relates to the further development of the Enterprise Europe Network established in 2008. Network partners were selected as a result of two calls for proposals (published in December 2006 and September 2007) and provided with Community contributions to implement their work programmes. 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 organize trainings, meetings and communication activities.

The implementation of the two Network-related EIP measures was entrusted to the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI). The hand-over of the project management and network animation tasks took place already on the 1/11/2007 and 30/04/2008 respectively, followed by the management of IT tools on 23/02/2009.

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 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 2009**

The preparatory work for the Network started as the result of two calls for proposals where both calls describe the framework for the implementation of the objectives by offering:

- Information, feedback, business co-operation and internationalisation services (*Art. 21.2, Module a*);
- Services for innovation and for the transfer of both technology and knowledge (*Art. 21.2, Module b*);
- Services encouraging the participation of SMEs in the Community FP for RTD (*Art. 21.2, Module c*).

By the end of 2009, there were 78 framework partnership agreements signed from EU27 and 14 from CIP participating countries. Additionally, there were 11 cooperation agreements signed with 3<sup>rd</sup> countries. The Network now covers EU27 countries, EEA countries and major economic areas like the USA, Russia, South-Korea and China; please refer to [ec.europa.eu/enterprise-europe-network](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise-europe-network) for the complete list of the 45 countries (577 partners in total). Additionally, conditional terms for Associated and Affiliated membership have been defined where 11 and 7 memberships have been signed respectively. All framework partnership agreements have been handed over to the EACI which has been 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 Annual Guidance Note (AGN) to the Network, which gave the Commission's main political messages to the partners on which activities to promote and focus their activities during 2009 was circulated at the end of 2008, following an internal consultation with other Commission services. The Network's main policy priorities for 2009 were the implementation of the Small Business Act for Europe (SBA)<sup>5</sup>, the broad-based innovation strategy and the EU's sustainable industry policy.

Strategic decisions on the role, operations and future of the Network were discussed in 3 Steering and Advisory Group meetings. More specific working groups have been put in place for communication, intellectual property, internationalisation, FP7 NCPs and quality & performance to analyse the needs and share best practices and new developments in the Network.

Various training sessions have been organised with special attention to the new-comers trainings. Around 1,300 Network staff had participated in one of the 33 centralised or local training sessions by the end of 2009. A communication strategy, guidelines and graphical material were made available and promoted throughout the Network. New Network brochures, Newsletters, promotion packs and success stories were edited and distributed as well as a promotion video of the Network made available via specialised TV channels and EUTube (audience of about 2 million viewers reached). Network partners received 46 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.

The IT partnership tools and databases were further stabilised and actually contain about 11,500 cooperation profiles. The current tools will be modernised, enhanced and streamlined to support all major business processes for collaboration, business cooperation and technology transfer. A working group on Partnership Tools was created to formulate future business requirements and created its first reports which will be used by IT staff for further analysis and development.

The second annual conference was organised in Stockholm in liaison with the Swedish Presidency. About 800 Network partners took stock of the year 2009 activities and looked at the main priorities for 2010.

### **Quantitative indicators**

The reporting of the Network partners on the delivery of their services during the first 18 months of operation were encouraging. A summary of the most important results gives an impression of 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.

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<sup>5</sup> . COM(2008) 394, see [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/entrepreneurship/sba\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/entrepreneurship/sba_en.htm)

*Actual number of SMEs\*:*

- involved in Promotion & information local events:	363,275 (via 9.355 organised events)
- contacted via newsletters:	2,003,973 (via 9.110 newsletters)
- helped with queries on EU matters:	185,623
- receiving specialised advisory services:	73,436
- consulted via SME Panels& Feedback database:	4,000
- involved in brokerage events:	15,036 (via 900 co-organized events)
- for whom partnership proposals were produced & disseminated:	11,474 (proposals)
- with expressions of interest on partnership proposals:	47,332
- that signed a partnership agreement:	1,525
- total workforce providing services (full time equivalent):	1,246 (with about 3,000 staff involved)

*Other Network qualitative indicators:*

- client's satisfaction rate (peer to peer reviews):	(under development)
- availability of Network IT tools (number of reported problems):	2,943
- staff participating in trainings & working groups:	1,331

*\* reported numbers for the first 18 months period.*

Enterprise Europe Network Website: [ec.europa.eu/enterprise-europe-network](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise-europe-network)

EUTube video clip: <http://www.youtube.com/user/enterpriseeurope>

EuroNews documentary: <http://www.euronews.net/2009/12/08/small-companies-network-fights-the-recession/>

**OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

All expected framework partnership agreements were signed, however four more Cooperation Agreements with third countries are expected to be signed in 2010. The current specific grant agreements will come to an end on 31/12/2010; preparation work for the next operational cycle (for the years 2011 and 2012) will start early 2010.

**IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

The plan is to start the preparation work for the next operational cycle early 2010.

**FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

An amount of **€ 16,463,000** has been committed to cover part of the network grants for the second operational cycle within the same framework partnership agreements. **99.5%** of the Network animation budget of **€2,500,000** was committed.

Unit: DG ENTR /E.2

Desk Officer: Patrick De Smedt

## **B.6. Networks for the competitiveness and sustainability of European tourism**

<b>ENT/CIP/09/B/N06S00</b>
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The call for proposals on tourism knowledge networks, launched for the second consecutive year, has as an overall objective to enhance the sustainability and competitiveness of European tourism enterprises, in particular SMEs, as they are the main actors in tourism.

In particular, the call for proposals aims at supporting tourism-relevant knowledge networks and creating a favourable framework for tourism sustainability, improving cooperation on sustainability issues through tourism networks as well as increasing the level of awareness of enterprises about good practices, and fostering sustainability-driven innovation in the tourism sector.

The networking between public and/or private bodies – especially with the involvement of destinations at regional/local level – and cooperation between existing networks should trigger a higher level of involvement of SMEs with regard to sustainability.

The call for proposals co-finances actions which focus on providing networking platforms supplemented by knowledge gathering and research, awareness-raising, education and capacity building activities, and dissemination of good practices related to tourism sustainability.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

Since the contracts will only be signed in February/March 2010, no results can be reported for 2009.

A description of the winning proposals will be published on the website of the Tourism Unit at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/tourism/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/tourism/index_en.htm)

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The action will be implemented from 01/02/2010 until 31/07/2011.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Implementation start date: the call for proposals was launched on 26/03/2009

Submission of proposals: 15/09/2009

Award decision: February 2010

Commitments level 2 (5): February/March 2010

Total amount (5): 920.000 €

Signature of contracts (5): February/March 2010

Start of the action: 01/04/2010

Implementation End date: 30/09/2011.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€ 920,000**. The budget originally foreseen for this action was € 800,000. Given the high number of proposals received and the good quality of the first short listed proposals, an increase of the budget for the grant 2009 by 15% was requested to ENTR/A.1. The updated budget amounts to €920,000

Unit: DG ENTR /I.1

Desk Officer: Iuliana Aluas

## **B.7. Initiative for better involvement of Defence SMEs in the European Internal market**

ENT/CIP/09/B/N07S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities.**

SMEs in the defence sector face particular challenges with the fragmentation of national markets, a lack of cross-border competition and access to prime contractors. The ambition of the Commission is to develop tailor-made actions for SMEs in this sector. To this end, several conferences will be organised in 2009 and 2010 on “strengthening European SMEs in the defence sector”.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009:**

A conference in Berlin was organised at the end of October 2009. It was a success with regard to the degree of participation as well as with regard to the content and the outcome. The Berlin conference helped us to start a so-called action list with concrete next steps. Through the other conferences we will build on this action list.

All presentations and a summary of the conference will be published on our DG ENTR webpage: [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/defence/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/defence/index_en.htm)

In the course of the preparation of the measure it appeared to be more efficient to reduce the number of conferences initially planned (from 12 to 7) and to postpone the creation of a Defence SME Portal to a later stage when the results of all conferences are properly evaluated.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

We plan five further conferences in 2010 in Sweden, Spain, Poland, Hungary, Greece and Belgium to reach as many SMEs as possible.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

The next conferences are scheduled as follows:

21/22 October 2009 Berlin

12/13 January 2010 Stockholm

27/28 January 2010 Madrid

17./18 February Budapest

3/4 March 2010 Athens

16/17 March 2010 Warsaw

30/31 March 2010 Brussels

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€219,000**. The original budget of €650,000 was reduced in July 2009 due to a decision to reduce the number of conferences and a postponement of a Defence SME internet portal.

Unit: DG ENTR /H.1

Desk Officer: Dagmar Metzger

## **B.8. Gateway to China and India: feasibility study**

ENT/CIP/09/B/N08S00
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This measure has been cancelled

## **B.9. Accounting requirements for SMEs**

ENT/CIP/09/B/N09S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The study aims to provide an overview of the accounting requirements for SMEs from the users' point of view. The users of accounting information from SMEs are normally: business owners, management, governments, creditors, customers and employees. The study will survey, analyse and identify the users' needs for accounting information concerning SMEs.

#### **Qualitative objectives:**

1. Provide an overview of existing accounting requirements for SMEs in participating countries
2. Analyse and identify the actual needs of users for accounting information concerning SMEs
3. Identify good practice in accounting requirements for SMEs and make recommendations and conclusions on them

#### **Operational objectives:**

1. Collecting and analysing factual information on existing accounting requirements for SMEs in 20 participating countries
2. Analysis and identification of users' needs for accounting information with regard to SMEs. Surveys to be conducted among users, preparers and accounting professionals
3. Identification of the form and content of possible future policy initiatives for accounting requirements for SMEs complementary to the announced Commission proposal which would allow Member States to exempt microenterprises from accounting obligations
4. Communication of the results of the Study to policymakers and other stakeholders

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The call for tenders for the study was launched and successfully completed during 2009. A contract was signed on 11 November 2009 with the winning bidder. The kick-off meeting for the study was held on 10 December 2009.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The study will be carried out during 2010 and the final report of the study should be available by the end of 2010.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Implementation start date : 2 May 2009, the tendering documents were published in the OJEU

Implementation end date: Estimated 10 November 2010 (12 months contract).

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€400,000**. The budget foreseen was €500,000, but a saving of €100,000 was achieved.

Unit: DG ENTR /E.3

Desk Officer: Mikael Lindroos

## **B.10. Follow-up of the implementation of the European statute for cooperatives**

ENT/CIP/09/B/N10S00
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### ***Study on the Implementation of Regulation (EC) 1435/2003 on the Statute for European Cooperative Society (ECS)***

#### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The Regulation ought to be implemented by Member States by August 2006. A large number of governments took the necessary measures later. A large number of Governments took the necessary measures later. The objective is to find out how this Regulation is implemented since it contains a lot of optional rules. Thus the differences from one Member State to the other, as to the law applicable to the ECS, may be important. This heterogeneity may result in obstacles to the efficient operation of cooperatives across the EU. The Commission will have to make a report on the implementation of the statute in 2011, and it is therefore necessary to know what the situation is.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

On April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009 E3 launched an open Call for tenders No ENTR/2009/021, “Study on the implementation of EC Regulation 1435/2003 on the Statute for European Cooperative Society”. Deadline: June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009. Only one tender from the consortia of EURICSE, EZAI Foundation – Mondragon and “Cooperatives Europe” was received. The tender was approved by the evaluation committee. The contract was signed on 8/10/2009.

Performance indicators are:

1. Quality of the study as resulting from the evaluation from the Commission (info not yet available);
2. Possible proposals to amend the Regulation based on the recommendations of the study.

**Web address:** [www.euricse.eu](http://www.euricse.eu) (see reference to the study <http://www.euricse.eu/node/257>)

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

A steering committee will meet in spring 2010. The Final report is expected in the beginning of October 2010. A conference for dissemination of results will be organised not later than end of September/beginning of October 2010.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Implementation start date (publication date): 6 April 2009.

Implementation end date (final report): 7 October 2010.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€295,000**. Initial budget: €250 000. Amendment of 17 February 2009: reallocation in the framework of the CIP action N10S00, new budget: €300,000.

Unit: DG ENTR /E.3

Desk Officer: Apostolos Ioakimidis and Nikolov Kiril

### ***Collection of Statistics (Satellite Accounts) for Cooperatives and Mutuals***

#### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities.**

The Commission has developed a manual for the establishment of satellite accounts (collection of statistics) for cooperatives and mutuals. The development of such satellite accounts is the responsibility of national statistical offices. The Commission launched a call for proposals to identify countries, national services and stakeholders' organisations interested in this project, comprising collection of data, making feasibility studies, establishing of satellite accounts for the first time or updating existing satellite accounts, making transnational co-operation and exchange of good practices etc.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

On June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 E3 launched an open call for proposals No ENT/CIP/09/B/N10S00 - “Satellite accounts for cooperatives and mutuals”. The deadline to submit proposals was September 4, 2009. Nine proposals were received. Five proposals were accepted for funding. Five grant agreements were signed and four pre-financings were made in December 2009.

1. Degree of improvement of the statistics on the importance of cooperatives
2. Number of countries which extended or improved already collected statistics (info not yet available).

### **Web addresses:**

[www.stat.gov.rs](http://www.stat.gov.rs)

[www.ciriec.ulg.ac.be](http://www.ciriec.ulg.ac.be)

[www.cks.bg](http://www.cks.bg)

[www.stat.gov.mk](http://www.stat.gov.mk)

[www.ine.es](http://www.ine.es)

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

One pre-financing was made in January 2010 (the rest was done in 2009).

Five final reports are expected by the end of March 2011 (3 months after the end of activities).

Payments of balances have to be made up to June 2011.

## **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Publication date of the call: 18/06/2009. Implementation start date: 1/1/2010.

Implementation end date: December 2010. Final reports: mid March 2011. Final payments June 2010.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€ 230,000** for five projects (respectively € 35,622 + € 61,000 + € 59,849 + € 18,529 + € 55,000).

Initial budget: € 250,000. First amendment: new budget: € 200,000; 17 February 2009: reallocation in the framework of the CIP action N10S00. Second amendment: new budget: € 230,000. Increase by 15% (in the framework of the permitted flexibility for CIP ).

Unit: DG ENTR /E.3

Desk Officers: Apostolos Ioakimidis and Kiril Nikolov



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

### **C.1. Europe INNOVA: Accelerating innovation through public-private partnerships**

<b>ENT/CIP/09/C/N01S00</b>
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#### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

Europe INNOVA is oriented towards the development and testing of new practical innovation support services for SMEs, notably start-ups, delivered in the field by public-private partnerships between European innovation professionals in view of their wider application, e.g. by the Enterprise Europe Network. The overall objective is to accelerate innovation processes and thus to facilitate the commercialisation of innovative products and services. The measure concerned 3 types of actions:

1. Reinforcing or establishing European Innovation Platforms (EIPs) in the high priority policy areas of •transnational cluster cooperation, knowledge-intensive services and •eco-innovation. The EIPs each consist of (1) public-private partnerships at sectoral level that develop and test new forms of customised innovation support services to SMEs and (2) a horizontal support action that offers analytical and practical support to the sectoral partnerships. The EIPs will run for three years, with the expectation that clear strategies on how the tested services can be widely deployed (“exit strategies”) will be defined for each of the sectoral partnerships.
2. “Promotion of novel tools and service concepts for innovation support” to foster the sustainability of other outputs of Europe INNOVA.
3. Two actions that build upon previous projects, IMP<sup>3</sup>rove and ip4inno, to ensure their further maintenance and leverage of their results to the Enterprise Europe Network and other intermediaries.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009:**

A joint call for proposals by DG ENTR & DG ENV was published on 12/11/2008 with a submission deadline of 12/02/2009, resulting in the submission of 31 proposals for the first 2 types of actions, 26 of which fell under the responsibility of DG ENTR.

Following evaluation by internal and independent external experts, the Evaluation Committee selected 9 proposals and recommended that the call be republished concerning the eco-innovation strand due to a lack of proposals of sufficient quality. This new call, which was open from 25/06/2009 to 25/09/2009, resulted in the selection of an additional 3 proposals.

Two separate calls for proposals were launched for the two type 3 actions, each resulting in the selection of 1 proposal. Overall, 14 proposals were selected.

The resulting projects commenced their activities during 01/09/2009 and 31/12/2009, apart from two which will start their activities on 01/02/2010.

**Web address:** [www.europe-innova.eu](http://www.europe-innova.eu)

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The projects will run until second half/end of 2012 requiring ongoing project management, including monitoring, extraction and validation of deliverables and outcomes.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Implementation start date: 12/11/2008

Implementation end date: 31/06/2013

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€28,593,883**

Unit: DG ENTR/D.2

Desk Officers: Orsola Mautone & Thomas Heinemeier

## **C.2. PRO INNO Europe®: Fostering trans-national cooperation on support for innovation**

ENT/CIP/09/C/N02S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

PRO INNO Europe® contributes to closer cooperation between innovation policy makers and public support organisations at different levels with a view to contributing to the development of new and better innovation policies in Europe. The PRO INNO Europe® actions bring together public actors responsible for innovation with a view to fostering transnational cooperation on support for innovation through different instruments. The measure concerned 2 types of actions:

- INNO-Nets encouraging regional and national innovation policy makers and support providers to work more closely together in well-defined priority areas such as clusters, services, eco-innovation and support services provisions, and
- INNO-Actions supporting transnational cooperation among regional and/or national authorities contributing to the creation of a more favourable innovation culture in Europe and to raise the quality of services provided by cluster organisations to enterprises.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

A joint call for proposals by DG ENTR & DG ENV was published on 12/11/2008 with a submission deadline of 12/02/2009, resulting in the submission of 7 proposals. No proposals were received for the eco-innovation INNO-Net and DG ENV subsequently decided to only republish the call for this strand in 2010.

Following evaluation by internal and independent external experts, the Evaluation Committee selected 5 proposals.

The resulting projects commenced their activities during 01/09/2009 and 31/12/2009.

An open call for tender for the “Promotion of PRO INNO Europe® Results” horizontal support function was published on 25/11/2008 with a deadline of 12/02/2009, for which 9 bids were received. The resulting 3-year service contract was awarded to a consortium led by INNOVA Europe. The contract period started end August 2009.

**Web address:** [www.proinno-europe.eu](http://www.proinno-europe.eu)

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The projects/service contract will run until second half/end of 2012 requiring ongoing project management, including monitoring, extraction and validation of deliverables and outcomes.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Implementation start date: 12/11/2008

Implementation end date: 31/03/2013

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€17,683,121.**

Unit: DG ENTR /D.2

Desk Officers: Christophe Guichard & Lisbeth Bahl Poulsen

### **C.3. Public Procurement Networks in support of the Lead Market Initiative**

ENT/CIP/09/C/N03S00
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#### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

Three Public Procurement Networks became operational in September 2009. This is the first time that the Commission has funded specialised procurement networks dedicated to innovation. Each receives about €1 million in funding. We closed the call for tender in February 2009, followed by the evaluation of 11 offers of a good quality and by the selection of 3 projects of public procurer networks.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The 3 networks started to work in September (ENPOTEX), October (SCI-NETWORK) and November (LCB-HEALTHCARE).

**Performance indicators:** having 11 proposals of public procurement networks is a good rate of success. Also, having 17 partners involved in the 3 successful networks demonstrated the interest procurers had in the call.

Further information on the networks can be found at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/lead-market-initiative/public-proc\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/lead-market-initiative/public-proc_en.htm)

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The management of the networks.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Start date: September 2009

End date: September 2012

No major slippage in the timing

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION:**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€2,748,409.93**

Unit: DG ENTR/D.1

Desk Officer: Bertrand Wert

### **C.4. Regional Innovation Panorama**

ENT/CIP/09/B/N04S00
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#### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The objective of the measure is to provide users with a panorama of the state of development of regional innovation strategies and their implementation, also with a view to the national and EU context. The measure will analyse the regional innovation policies based on methodologies and indicators already developed, such as in the context of the Inno-Policy Trendchart. Analyses covered all European regions at NUTS 1 or 2 levels on a yearly basis. The results of the analyses and additional information compiled for this purpose will be shared and widely distributed via the Innovation pages of the Europa website.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The call for tenders was published in May and the bids were evaluated in October. The service contracts and the accompanying financial commitments were prepared and signed in December 2009. The activities will start in February 2010, so there has been no impact in 2009.

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

Follow-up of the activities foreseen in the service contract resulting from the call for tender.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

The activities will start in February 2010 for a period of 36 months. There will be three interim payments and a final payment as foreseen in the service contract.

**FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION: Total amount committed in 2009**

Total amount committed in 2009: €2,448,984

Unit: DG ENTR /D.1

Desk Officer: Alberto Licciardello

**C.5. Analysis of Innovation drivers and barriers in support of better policies**

ENT/CIP/09/C/N05S00
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**DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The first objective is to provide an analysis of developments worldwide relating to innovation theory and policy as a basis for evidence-based policy making at EU level. The second objective is to provide an analysis of innovation drivers and barriers to innovation at company level. The purpose of the analysis is also to support the process of evidence-based policy development.

The services to be provided have to be seen in the context of the PRO INNO Europe initiative, where they will provide a continuation to the services delivered so far by INNO-GRIPS and INNO-Views. These two streams merge into a single INNOGRIPS label under the service contracts resulting from this tender.

**RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The call for tenders was published in July and the bids were evaluated in September. The service contracts and the accompanying financial commitments were prepared and signed in December 2009.

The activities will start in February 2010, so there has been no impact in 2009.

**OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

Follow-up of the activities foreseen in the two service contracts resulting from the call for tender.

**IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

The activities will start in February 2010 for a period of 36 months. There will be two interim payments and a final payment for each of the two service contracts.

**FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: €2,327,800

Unit: DG ENTR /D.1

Desk Officer: Cesar Santos

**C.6. Sustainable Industrial Policy–Building on the Ecodesign Directive**

ENT/CIP/09/C/N06S00
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**DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities.**

DG Enterprise & Industry aims at fostering the integration of sustainable development into policies supporting the EU's competitiveness, such as innovation policies. **Sustainable industrial policy**, in particular, aims at fostering environmental and energy efficient products in the Internal Market. The Ecodesign Directive 2005/32/EC is the cornerstone of this approach. It establishes a framework for improving the environmental performance of energy related products placed on the EU market, through mandatory ecodesign requirements and voluntary benchmarks for industry.

The Ecodesign studies under this implementing measure aim at identifying and recommending ways to improve the environmental performance of the selected products from the earliest stage of product design. They should provide the necessary analysis that would inform and help policy makers regarding any future eco-design measures for these products.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

A call for tender including three lots was published in 2009 and led to the signature of 3 contracts in December 2009 for the elaboration of 3 Ecodesign studies covering the following product groups: industrial and laboratory ovens and furnaces (ENTR Lot 4), machine tools (ENTR Lot 5), air conditioning and ventilation systems (ENTR Lot 6).

For each study, the contractor will organise at least 2 stakeholder meetings and set up a stakeholder group to be consulted on a regular basis (including industry, environmental NGOs, consumer organisations, technical experts from e.g. technological institutes as well as Member States' representatives). A website is being created for each of the 3 studies.

More information on these studies can be found at: [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sustainable-business/sustainable-product-policy/ecodesign/product-groups/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sustainable-business/sustainable-product-policy/ecodesign/product-groups/index_en.htm)

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The work contracted in December 2009 will continue in 2010 and 2011. For each of the 3 product groups, two stakeholder meetings will take place in 2010. The final reports of each of the 3 studies will be delivered by November 2011. Based on the results, the Commission will prepare ecodesign requirements for the 3 product groups, including voluntary benchmarks encouraging the take-up of innovative techniques by industry. Where appropriate, eco-design requirements and benchmarks may be complemented by other policy instruments for driving the environmental performance of products upwards, such as labelling and incentives for better products.

## **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Implementation start date (publication of the call for tenders in OJ 2009/S 126-182772): 4 July 2009

Implementation end date:

- Lot 4: 9 November 2011

- Lot 5: 4 November 2011

- Lot 6: 15 November 2011

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€952,912.56**

Unit: DG ENTR /B.1

Desk Officer: Laure Baillargeon

### **C.7. Sectoral Approaches to fostering international action on climate change**

<b>ENT/CIP/09/C/N07S00</b>
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The objective of this action is to identify the suitable sectors and favourable conditions that can help take forward the development and implementation of sectoral approaches in a post-2012 international framework for limiting CO2 emissions. For the sectors chosen the necessary data, understanding technologies, capability and expertise in monitoring and reporting in key developing countries through partnerships between EU and non-EU industry is being collected.

Since the implementation of sectoral approaches will require the establishment of new mechanisms in the international framework (United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change – UNFCCC), another objective of the study is identifying options and a possible mandate for a more formal business engagement in the international negotiations on climate change. In this way, UNFCCC decisions could make use of business know-how and implementation of climate change policy by the private sector (finance, technology development and deployment, capacity building, etc.) would be more effective.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

A comprehensive analysis of the situation of European Industry with regard to the risk of carbon leakage was undertaken; for this analysis contracts 1 and 2 were signed (see below). The project also allowed further study of sectors where official data was not available by auditing quality of industry provided data. The assessment covered all mining and industry sectors under the NACE 4-digit classification involving close contact with industrial associations for over 40 sectors. Moreover, uptake of the studies result was achieved as the analysis was the basis for the adoption of the "*COMMISSION DECISION of 24 December 2009 determining, pursuant to Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, a list of sectors and subsectors which are deemed to be exposed to a significant risk of carbon leakage*" published in the OJEC on 05.01.2010.

The kick off meeting of the business consultative body in the UNFCCC project (contract 4) took place at the end of October. The study objectives, timeline, approach and consultation process were presented at a side event in the Copenhagen Climate change Conference in December 2009. The project raised very positive expectations from business attendants. A website was created where all project information can be found: <http://www.businessandunfccc.org/>

Two other project objectives, namely the detailed analysis of US climate change policy and obtaining relevant data from industrial sectors in third countries will be implemented during 2010 following the commitment of the funds in late 2009 (contracts 3 and 5). Again this will cover all industrial sectors and involve intense consultation with industry in order to inform policy to be implemented in 2010 to address carbon leakage and competitive issues.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

During 2010 three contracts will be further implemented (See contracts 3, 4 & 5 in the implementation calendar below). They will develop an industry approach towards implementing sectoral approaches in an international framework to limit CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in an efficient manner, helping to set a level playing field with regards to CO<sub>2</sub> costs for industry world wide. Kick-off meetings for 3 and 5 took place in January 2010 and should be finished by Q3-2010. Regarding contract 4, four workshops in different regions of the world are to take place in spring 2010 to test study results, with final results being delivered at the UNFCCC meeting in Bonn in June 2010.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

*Five contracts were signed in the course of 2009*

<b>Contract objective</b>	<b>Signature date</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>End date</b>
Support to carbon leakage assessment	08/04/2009	135,987	07/09/2009
Qualitative cross-check of specific sectors	08/04/2009	50,566	07/03/2010
Assessment of US climate policy	17/12/2009	25,000	16/09/2010
Design of a business consultative body as part of the climate change framework	09/10/2009	262,566	08/07/2010
Industrial impacts of third countries climate policy	14/12/2009	299,786	13/09/2010

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€773,905**

Unit: DG ENTR /B.1

Desk Officers: Ingmar Juergens, Jesus Barreiro-Hurle, Anna Sole Mena

### **C.8. Innobarometer**

<b>ENT/CIP/09/C/N08S00</b>
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The Innobarometer is the instrument developed by the Commission to capture innovation phenomena at company or citizen level. It is a poll based on the Eurobarometer methodology with interviews based on a questionnaire developed by the Commission services. The geographical coverage is defined by the Commission and might cover EU27, Candidate Countries, Associated Countries, US. When the Innobarometer covers innovation in firms, 4000-5000 firms will be interviewed on specific subjects

(e.g. different forms of innovation, role of users, innovation culture, factors affecting innovative investments and success).

The data captured is not available from Eurostat or other sources and provides immediate information that is comparable across countries on firms' activities and opinions.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The Innobarometer 2009 survey was conducted in April 2009 and provided valuable information and insights on trends in companies innovative investments and behaviour and the effects of the economic crisis. It was an input to Commission Communication " **Reviewing Community innovation policy in a changing world**" COM(2009) 442

<http://www.proinno-europe.eu/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.display&topicID=250&parentID=51>

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

None, but to note that a separate measure on the next Innobarometer survey is included in the 2010 EIP work programme.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

A specific contract was signed in March 2009. The report was published on the internet in May 2009, the final payment was made in June 2009.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€328,838**

Unit: DG ENTR /D.1

Desk Officer: Keith Sequeira

## **C.9. Foster SMEs through technology innovation, marketing capabilities and access to financing**

ENT/CIP/09/C/N09S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The main objectives of this measure are the following:

- to disseminate to agro-food SMEs within the participating countries the necessary information for innovation in their field of activities, mainly by way of appropriate thematic conferences;
- to favour the exchange of good practices;
- to favour the cooperation between SMEs and other local, national and international bodies;
- to highlight accomplishments.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

In 2009 three national conferences have been organised, respectively in Sweden, Spain and Greece. Furthermore, a number of presentations and reports linked to the competitiveness and the main aspect of the agro-food industry are published on the F4 website.

1. Sweden 2009 Conference: 80 people registered (good evaluations from the participants)
2. Spain 2009 Conference: 160 people registered (good evaluations from the participants).
3. Greece 2009 Conference: 125 people registered (average satisfaction of participants:4.2/5)

More information can be found in the following websites:

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/food/competitiveness/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/food/competitiveness/index_en.htm)

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/food/events/greece-2009/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/food/events/greece-2009/index_en.htm)

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/food/events/sweden-2009/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/food/events/sweden-2009/index_en.htm)

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/food/events/spain-2009/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/food/events/spain-2009/index_en.htm)



**OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

Other conferences on the competitiveness of the agro-food industry are ongoing and the main issues are also addressed in the recommendations of the High Level Group.

**IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

1. Greece 2009 Conference: 6-7 March 2009
2. Spain 2009 Conference: 18-19 June 2009
3. Sweden 2009 Conference: 15-16 October 2009

**FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€345,000** (for the following conferences: Spain 2009, Sweden 2009 and Italy 2010).

Unit: DG ENTR /F.4

Desk Officer: Louis Bouthors

**C.10. Patinnova Conference**

<b>ENT/CIP/09/C/N10S00</b>
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**DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The underlying objective is to contribute to the Lisbon strategy for more growth and jobs, through a more efficient IPR policy. The Patinnova conference should gather stakeholders to discuss this.

**RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The conference was organized in Prague, together with the European Patent Office. The theme of the 2009 conference was "*IP in rapidly developing industries - does it stimulate innovation?*". The conference served as an important tool for strategic consultation and communication on IPR and innovation issues, to feed into policy development.

Performance indicators: Number and relevance of participants, and degree of satisfaction.

The number of registered participants was 360 in total for the 3 days. Around 50% of the audience consisted of representatives of Patent Offices or governmental/European bodies. Patent professionals represented another 20%. Users of the IPR system represented less than 1/3 of the audience, with a large majority of representatives from large firms and sectoral associations.

More information on the EPO web site:

<http://www.epo.org/about-us/events/archive/2009/epf2009.html>

**OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The measure was fully implemented in 2009.

**IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Date of conference: 28-30 April 2009

**FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€249,205.11.**

Unit: DG ENTR/D.1

Desk Officer: Lennart Grundberg



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

ENT/CIP/09/D/N01S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme contains a number of tools to support eco-innovation with an earmarked budget in 2009 of € 67.16 million. This includes € 29 million under financial instruments supporting investment into eco-innovation (see related section above), € 2 million earmarked to establish a 'Networked Observatory' under Europe Innova and € 3 million to support policy exchange in the area under PRO INNO Europe as well as € 1 million for pro-active environmental services for SMEs. € 32, 16 million were earmarked for first application and market replication projects. 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 Community 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.

The promotion of eco-innovation through the EIP contributes to the implementation of the Environmental Technologies Action Plan (ETAP) and takes forward other Community actions in the areas of the Climate Change Package, Sustainable Consumption and Production Action Plan, Sustainable Industrial Policies and Lead Market Initiative.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The call for proposals for eco-innovation first application and market replication projects was published on 18 April 2009 and closed on 15 September 2009.

At the time of the deadline for the Call 2009, 202 proposals were submitted. This represents an increase of almost a half as compared to the 134 proposals submitted in the Call 2008. All of the submitted proposals were considered eligible. In total 614 participants from 32<sup>6</sup> countries applied. The response from the market covered well the non-exclusive priority areas (Buildings, Food& Drink, Green Business and Recycling). Recycling (65 proposals) and Green Business (59) are the sectors attracting most proposals, followed by Buildings (37) and Food and Drink (34). The total funding request is of more than 150 million<sup>7</sup> € which corresponds to an increase of almost 40% compared to the Call 2008. Almost 70% of the participants taking part in proposals are SMEs, 83% are from the private sector. Regarding the structure of the proposed projects, 65% of the proposals are submitted by consortia where two thirds of these consortia involve participants from different countries.

The measure is implemented by the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI).

As no projects of the Call 2009 were yet implemented, no performance can be measured yet.

The dedicated website <http://ec.europa.eu/ecoinnovation> contains information on the measure (including information on ongoing projects) and gives detailed information on "How to take part" (Call documentation, FAQ, Guide for proposers, link to proposal submission system, eligibility issues).

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<sup>6</sup> In total there are 37 eligible countries; EU27, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Israel, Turkey, Serbia and Albania.

<sup>7</sup> Two proposals have been removed from this statistics to avoid distorting the calculations; the removed proposals request a considerable amount of funding (more than 35 million euro).

**OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The proposals were pre-evaluated with the assistance of external experts between 30 November and 16 December 2009. The reports from the evaluation and financial documentation will be submitted to the Evaluation Committee and then to the Director of the EACI for approval of the evaluation results in February 2010. Thereafter, the selected projects will be negotiated from February to August 2010 with first projects starting in March 2010.

**IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

The implementation of the measure follows an agreed format.

Publication of the call: 18 April 2009

Call closing date: 15 September 2009

Evaluations of the Call for proposals 2009 will be finished and proposers informed as from mid-February 2010. Implementation of the first projects may start in March 2010.

**FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€32,153,000**

Unit: DG ENV/E.4

Desk Officer: Maciej Szymanowicz

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

### **E.1. SME Performance Review**

ENT/CIP/09/E/N01S00
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#### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The general objective of the SME Performance Review is to provide an empirical tool to monitor SME performance and guide policy making. Its specific objective is to increase and disseminate information on the characteristics and specificities of SMEs in Europe through the supply of comprehensive data, the description and analysis of economic performance as well as its main determinant factors. Its operational objectives are the publication of key statistics on SMEs together with an economic analysis and policy conclusions as described in the section “results and impacts in 2008”.

**General objective:** provide empirical and analytical foundation for SME policy measures and enable the Commission to effectively monitor the implementation of the Lisbon partnership for growth and Jobs at Member States’ and EU levels as regards SME-related policies

**Activities:** studies and surveys.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

In 2009, the following activities have been effectively started/carried out:

- The 2009 SME annual Report and SBA fact sheets
- Helping SMEs turn environment challenges into business opportunities
- Future skills needs in micro and craft (type) enterprises
- SME Impact on EU's Labour Market
- Eurobarometer on entrepreneurial attitudes
- Business dynamics, bankruptcy / start-ups / transfer
- SME Access to public procurement

In addition one workshop has been organised in the context of the preparation of mainly the SBA country fact sheets.

A dedicated web-site for the SPR has been established ([http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/facts-figures-analysis/performance-review/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/facts-figures-analysis/performance-review/index_en.htm)).

As for performance indicators describing the impact of these activities, since all of the above activities are still ongoing, evidence on the effective impact is not yet available. On other qualitative indicators, the draft terms of reference for each of the above studies were designed to fully take into account the quality of data treatment as well as estimation and policy relevance of the analysis, an improved understanding of the situation of European SMEs 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 with the large enterprises sector. This is particularly the case with the Annual SME Report and the study on the “SME impact on the EU labour market”. Particular attention is paid in the implementation of each project so as to ensure that these issues are taken into account appropriately.

As for the above mentioned workshop the following impact-relevant evidence is already available. It was well attended as in total, 30 experts -representing Ministries as well as dedicated SME research institutions from 24 different countries- took part. The discussion as well as the large number of written statements received after the event, showed a great interest in the project.

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

All of the above studies are at various stages of completion. All of them will be finalised and published in 2010, with the exception of the studies on “Future skills needs in micro and craft (type) enterprises” and “SME Impact on EU's Labour Market” which will become available in January, resp. February 2011.

## **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

- The 2009 SME annual Report (date of contract signature: 16 June 2009; date of final delivery: 24 March 2010)
- Helping SMEs turn environment challenges into business opportunities (date of contract signature: 28 August 2009; duration 14 months; date of final delivery: 25 August 2010)
- Future skills needs in micro and craft (type) enterprises date of contract signature: 21/12/2009.; date of final delivery: 20 January 2011
- SME Impact on EU's Labour Market date of contract signature: 11 December 2009.; duration: 14 month date of final delivery: April 2011
- Eurobarometer on entrepreneurial attitudes date of contract signature: 30 October 2009.; date of final delivery: February 2010
- Business dynamics, bankruptcy / start-ups / transfer date of contract signature: 23 November 2009; date of final delivery: December 2010
- Internationalisation of SMEs (Pilot project EP) date of contract signature: 28 August 2009, duration date, date of final delivery: December 2010)
- SME Access to public procurement date of contract signature: 21 December 2009; duration: 9 months; date of final delivery: September 2010
- Meeting of the expert group on SME policy research discussing the SME annual report and the SBA country fact sheets : 4 November 2009

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€3,413,427.61**

Unit: DG ENTR/ E.3

Desk Officer: Ludger Odenthal

### **E.2. Entrepreneurial culture of young people & Entrepreneurship education good practice**

ENT/CIP/09/E/N02S00
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## **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

### **Qualitative objectives**

Action 1 (Call for proposal): Promoting winning ideas that will serve as models for further European, national and regional projects in the field of education for entrepreneurship and in improving the entrepreneurial mindsets of the European youth.

Action 2 (High Level Reflection Panels for Entrepreneurship Education- Phase 2): Continuing – as part of Principle 1 of the SBA - the exchange of good practice in implementing entrepreneurship education measures

### **Quantitative Objectives**

Action 1: Selection of a number of trans-national projects with high added value and a European dimension.

Action 2: Running two High Level Reflection Panels and producing a final report with an evaluation of the action.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The call for proposal was launched in January 2009. At the end of the evaluation process, 9 projects were selected. Projects have started / are starting in November and December 2009.

Two High Level Reflection Panels for the exchange of good practice in implementing entrepreneurship education measures were held (Prague 25-26 June 2009, Rome 15-16 October 2009).

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The final report of the High Level Reflection Panels will be completed in January 2010.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Implementation start date: January 2009

Implementation end date:

Action 1: March 2011 (Lot 2), December 2013 (Lot 1)

Action 2: January 2010

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€3,420,551.91**

The amount was increased through amendments to the financing decision, from € 3.000.000 as originally planned to €3.435.551, 91, due to the high response to the publication of the call and the number of valuable proposals received.

Unit: DG ENTR/ E.1

Desk Officer: Simone Baldassarri

### **E.3. Corporate Social Responsibility in support of the European Growth and Jobs Strategy**

ENT/CIP/09/E/N03S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The overall objective of the proposed measure is to increase the uptake of CSR amongst European enterprises, in support of the Growth and Jobs Strategy and sustainable development. Specific objectives are: 1) to improve capacity at national level to support the uptake of CSR amongst enterprises, especially SMEs; and 2) by highlighting the potential of enterprises to address social and environmental issues, to promote a culture of responsible entrepreneurship amongst young Europeans and to make an entrepreneurial career more attractive to young people.

To achieve these objectives, the Commission will 1) co-finance national multi-stakeholder platforms for the promotion of CSR, with a focus on countries where CSR is currently less well developed; and 2) will finance the production and distribution of videos that profile inspiring young European entrepreneurs and social entrepreneurs and that highlight their commercial, social and environmental achievements.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

1) National Platforms: call for proposals published in May 2009: The evaluation process is currently being completed and results will be announced early 2010.

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemlongdetail.cfm?item\\_id=3124&lang=en](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemlongdetail.cfm?item_id=3124&lang=en)

2) Educational videos on responsible entrepreneurship: contract signed February 2009, action completed in December 2009. This initiative, called Your World Your Business, has been implemented in close partnership with Junior Achievement Young Enterprise Europe.

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/yourworldyourbusiness/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/yourworldyourbusiness/index_en.htm)

Relevant indicators for this part of the measure: a) "Number of downloads of responsible entrepreneurship videos, and demand for DVD copies": short video viewed approx. 200.000 times, long video viewed 5.000 times online by Sept 09, 10.000 copies of teachers' guide and DVD distributed and a further 4.000 produced to meet additional demand. b) "Qualitative feedback from teachers and students on the impact of the responsible entrepreneurship videos": feedback website established. Initial data looks very positive but final data not yet presented and analysed.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

- 1) National Platforms: Signature of grant agreements and implementation of actions by selected beneficiaries.
- 2) Your World Your Business: reception of final implementation report from contractor, with provision of complete information for indicators.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

- 1) National Platforms: signature of grant agreements March 2010, final reports by March 2012.
- 2) Your World Your Business: final report due February 2010.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

The total amount committed in 2009 was **€1,431,650**. The amount of **€900,000** was committed on National Platforms. The budget initially foreseen amounted to €2,400,000. However the proposals provisionally selected for funding required a total of budget of approx. €900,000.

Total amount committed in 2009 in “Educational videos on responsible entrepreneurship”: **€531,650**.

Unit: DG ENTR.I.2

Desk Officer: Tom Dodd

## **E.4. E-skills: awareness raising campaign and evaluation**

ENT/CIP/09/E/N04S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The European Commission adopted in September 2007 a Communication on “e-Skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”. It includes a long term e-skills (ICT-related skills) agenda for Europe and five action lines at the EU level. **The objective of this measure is to organise the European e-Skills Week (1-5 March 2010), a major awareness raising campaign in Europe to promote e-skills, and to evaluate the implementation of the Communication on “e-Skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”.** The e-Skills Week will offer the opportunity to present the goals and the results of the EU e-skills strategy and provide a unique pan-European platform to promote experiences and best practices, foster cooperation and efficiently mobilise stakeholders. Based on the results of the evaluation, the Commission will report before the end of 2010 to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the European Committee of the Regions.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

- § **e-Skills Week:** An open call for tenders was published in June 2009. A service contract was awarded in October 2009 to a consortium led by DIGITALEUROPE (a European association of 40 national ICT associations in Europe and 58 leading ICT companies) and EUN (a network of 31 Ministries of Education). The kick-off meeting took place in October 2009 and the work started immediately.
- § **Evaluation:** an open call for tenders was published in August 2009 to evaluate the implementation of the e-Skills Communication. A service contract was awarded in December to Empirica GmbH. The kick-off meeting took place in January 2010. The final report is expected in September 2010. This evaluation will be supervised by the Steering Committee.
- § **Steering Committee:** an “e-Skills Steering Committee” with representatives from all CIP participating countries has been established to supervise the successful implementation of these two activities. Members of the Steering Committee participated at the European e-Skills 2009 Conference organised in November 2009 in cooperation with the European Economic and Social Committee and stakeholders. They met also in December and three meetings are planned in 2010 (February, April and June).

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

- § **e-Skills Week:** The detailed roadmap and the Media and Communication Plan were delivered in November and December 2009 as planned. The website was delivered in December 2009 and will be fully operational by the end of January 2010 (<http://eskills-week.ec.europa.eu>). The awareness raising activities will take place during the first week of March 2010 (1-5 March 2010) in more than

20 countries with two central flagship events (a launching event at CeBIT on 2 March and a closing event in Brussels on 5 March). An analysis of the results will be made and the final report will be delivered in April 2010.

§ **Evaluation:** A detailed roadmap will be delivered in February with a dedicated website to present the study and invite stakeholders and experts to submit written contributions in March. An interim report will be delivered in May and the final report will be released in September 2010.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

§ **e-Skills Week:** 1-5 March 2010 with a final report in April 2010

§ **Evaluation:** Interim report in May 2010 and final report in September 2010

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€2,489,830.43**

Unit: DG ENTR/D.4

Desk Officer: André Richier

### **E.5. European SME Week**

<b>ENT/CIP/09/E/N05S00</b>
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#### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

This measure covers the preparation and organisation of the European SME Week as a pan-European campaign consisting of events and other relevant promotional activities. Furthermore, the European Entrepreneurship Video Award (EEVA) is organised in that context. The contest is open for everybody, but will be especially addressed to the media and to young people.

Qualitative objectives:

§ provide information on what the EU and national, regional and local authorities are offering as support to micro, small and medium-sized businesses;

§ promote entrepreneurship so that more people, and in particular younger ones, seriously consider becoming an entrepreneur as a career option;

§ give recognition to entrepreneurs for their contribution to Europe's welfare, jobs, innovation and competitiveness.

. Quantitative objective:

§ preparation and organisation of European SME Week and related European, national, regional and local events and activities.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

Part of this project's budget was used to organise the 2009 European SME Week and part for the 2010 edition of the SME Week.

For 2009, the marketplace of the SME Week exhibition was organised in the context of the opening of the Week, the entrepreneurs portrayed in the Secret of Success brochure were invited to the opening of the Week and a virtual tour of the exhibition was produced for the SME Week website.

For 2010, a contract was signed to carry out the 2010 SME European Week campaign including website updates, opening event, organisation of European Entrepreneurship Video Award, secretariat and related promotional activities.

#### **Qualitative indicators:**

- Number of countries participating in actions of the SME Week: 35 in 2009 and 37 for 2010.
- Number of events organised under the SME Week umbrella: over 1200 in 2009

More than 250 participants from 32 countries sent in videos for the video contest.

- Quality of the SME Week: feedback from SME Week National Coordinators and participants was scored through feedback forms: the initiative received positive feedback from National Coordinators, event organisers and participants. Two thirds of event organisers are convinced that the SME Week brought real added value to them. More specifically, they said that the Week increased both the awareness of the role of the EU in supporting SMEs and the national and international visibility of their events.
- Level of media coverage received for the SME week (number of articles published and coverage in TV and in radio): Very good press coverage for over two weeks in almost all Member States. Coverage was particularly good in the Czech Republic, whilst it remained low in the larger Member States: France, Germany and United Kingdom. The many events organised throughout the Week attracted constant media coverage which reached its peak on 7 and 8 May following the publication of the Commission press release on 6 May (and its subsequent additional publication by many representations at national level). The press release was also taken up by several news agencies which usually have a high multiplication factor.

Actions were delivered as planned regarding timing and allocated budget.

<http://ec.europa.eu/sme-week>

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The SME week will take place from 25 May to 1 June 2010, but in agreement with the National Coordinators, all events taking place in May and June can be branded under the SME Week, provided they are meeting the SME Week's objectives. Preparatory work is ongoing. The programme for the opening event will be finalised and invitations sent. The SME Week website and private pages are currently updated and should be launched on 18 February. An online event registration tool is currently finalised. Promotional material will be produced. A 2010 edition of the brochure with entrepreneurial portraits will be published for the opening event. The European Entrepreneurship Video Award competition has been launched and winners will be awarded their prizes at the opening event as well.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Overall implementation timeline: 14.01.2009 – 12.11.2010

SME Week 2009: 6-14 May 2009

SME Week 2010: 25.5. - 1.6.2010

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€2,183,649.27.**

Unit: DG ENTR /E.1

Desk Officers: Brigitte Degen and Jaime Silva

## **E.6. SME access to public procurement**

ENT/CIP/09/E/N06S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities.**

The overall objective of the action is to contribute to the implementation of the “Small Business Act” for Europe and in particular to the implementation of the “European Code of Best practices” facilitating access by SMEs to public procurement contracts”. The action aims at compensating the lack of technical capacities in SMEs to participate in public procurement procedures and promoting SME-friendly procurement techniques to public authorities / buyers.

The activities under the project are expected to include: seminars and training sessions, events bringing together public authorities and SMEs, communication activities.



## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009:**

The call 'SME access to public procurement' was published on 27 November 2009 with a deadline of 2 February 2010.

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

Implementation of the project will start in 2010 and depending on the proposals made could possibly spread over 2011 and 2012.

## **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

The call was published on 27 November 2009 and is being managed by the EACI. It was limited to Enterprise Europe Network members.

Projects are expected to start in May 2010 and may last up to 2 years maximum.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€1,500,000**

Unit: DG ENTR /E.4

Desk Officer: Simeon Chenev

### **E.7. Competitiveness Analysis of the construction sector / Lead Market on sustainable construction**

ENT/CIP/09/E/N07S00
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## **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

Based on the Communication on the Competitiveness of the European Construction Industry (COM(97) 539) and the subsequent follow-up actions, and the Communication on the Lead Market Initiative (COM(2007) 860), this action will aim at:

- Developing the basis for an in-depth discussion with public and private stakeholders on a new competitiveness agenda for the construction sector integrating recent and current developments in the sector and changes in policy priorities (energy, sustainability and social fields);
- Accessing technical expertise to implement the Lead Market action plan related to sustainable construction.
- improving knowledge in third countries of the sector's EU-level legislative setup through targeted Eurocodes promotion efforts;
- Improving external communication on EU initiatives having an impact on the construction sector.

A total of four activities will be implemented:

1. Based on an analysis of the policy and legislative actions undertaken with respect to the key strategic areas identified in Communication COM(97) 539, and on an assessment of how these actions are adapted to the construction sector of today, priority actions for the Commission, public authorities and construction stakeholders in view of developing a Competitiveness Agenda for the construction sector should be identified;
2. Support the development of the Lead market initiative in the areas of legislation and administrative simplification;
3. Develop a strategy for promotion actions related to the use of the Eurocodes in third countries and implement a handful of these actions;
4. Implement the Construction Information Platform (based on feasibility study under EIP 2008).

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The first activity is the subject of a specific agreement within the context of a Framework Contract for competitiveness studies carried out by a consortium lead by ECORYS. This specific agreement started in December 2009.

Three calls for tender have been launched for the 3 other activities. The evaluation has been concluded with the selection of 4 tenders. The contract related to action 3 was signed in October 2009 while the other contracts were signed end of November/early December 2009.

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The projects/actions will be implemented during 2010

## **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Start dates: Action 3, promotion of Eurocodes in October 2009, other studies: November/December 2009.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€1,388,457.**

Unit: DG ENTR/I.5

Desk Officers: Claes Andersson and Antonio Paparella

### **E.8. Enterprise Europe Network: Network of female entrepreneur ambassadors**

ENT/CIP/09/E/N08S00
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## **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The measure is implemented via call for proposals and use of existing framework contracts.

### **Qualitative objectives:**

This measure aims at boosting the rate of female entrepreneurial activity. The Network of Ambassadors aims to have successful entrepreneurs campaigning on the ground to encourage women — including women in active professional life and students — to set up their own businesses and become entrepreneurs. The ambassadors will seek to make women more confident about setting up and creating successful businesses. They also will act as role models, to inspire other women to become entrepreneurs by ‘telling their story’.

### **Quantitative objectives:**

- Ambassadors actively involved in awareness campaigns
- Female “would-be entrepreneurs” reached by the project
- Satisfaction expressed by the target group
- National kick-off meetings held with visibility
- National workshops and activities, linked as well to major European SME umbrella events
- Reports and updates on the woman entrepreneurship ambassador scheme available.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

- As an outcome of the first call, 8 projects coordinated by Enterprise Europe Network partners in 8 countries are supported by the Commission. Around 150 female entrepreneurship ambassadors have been chosen in the following 10 countries: Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden. Activities will be completed in 2011.
- The inauguration of the European Network of Female Entrepreneurship Ambassadors took place on 5 October in Stockholm at an event co-organised with the Swedish Presidency with the presence of Commissioner Špidla and the Crown Princess of Sweden Victoria.
- Moreover, the Commission will publish a second call for the ambassadors at the end of the year in order to invite the remaining European countries to join the network. This call will be open to all

interested stakeholders.

- Expected results: By 2010 a European Network of Female Entrepreneurship Ambassadors will be organised in at least 15 CIP countries. It is expected that the network will continue running after the end of the projects in 2012 and will form the basis of mentoring schemes for women that the Commission will work on in 2010.

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

- Second call for proposals: selection of projects : Q2/2010
- Induction event for the ambassadors selected via the second call for proposals: October 2010
- The activity will continue in 2011 and 2012

#### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

a) First call publication date: 6 February 2009

Final report: Q1/2012

Ambassadors inauguration event: 5 October 2009

b) Second call publication date: December 2009

Induction event for the ambassadors selected via the second call for proposals: October 2010

Final report: Q4/2012

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€1,155,000.**

Unit: DG ENTR/E.1

Desk Officer: Anna Danti

### **E.9. European Enterprise Awards 2010-2011**

<b>ENT/CIP/09/E/N09S00</b>
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#### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The European Enterprise Awards aim at

- Identifying and recognising successful initiatives taken by Europe's policy and decision makers to promote entrepreneurship;
- Showcasing and sharing examples of best SME policies and practices;
- Raising awareness of entrepreneurship and SME policies.

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The third edition of the EEA continued to attract interest from across Europe with a total of 350 entries competing in national competitions and 47 entries competing at European level. The winners were announced at a high-level ceremony organised in with the Czech EU Presidency in Prague to coincide with the end of the first European SME Week. All national nominees were invited to the event and finalists were able to present their practices at a special session and attend the subsequent conference on the implementation of the SBA. More than 350 participants attended the event, mostly from national and local authorities, business organisations and media. Throughout the year, 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 Member States and Norway participated in the project by organising national competitions and 25 countries sent entries to the European competition. Three countries, Malta, Luxembourg and Bulgaria were not able to send entries for internal reasons.

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.

All other performance indicators were achieved as planned.

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/best-practices/european-enterprise-awards/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/best-practices/european-enterprise-awards/index_en.htm)

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The EEA will continue in 2010 and 2011 and the award ceremony will continue to form part of the European SME Week. In addition, they will continue to be integrated with a major conference on exchanging best practice in SME policy which will now become the only such annual event organised by DG ENTR.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Call for tender for new Secretariat was completed as planned and signed in July 2009.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€662 447,82**. The contract signed was for approximately €140.000 less than what initially budgeted for. This difference is due mainly to the fact that the chosen contractor performs many of the required tasks internally (translations, travel arrangements) thus offering a more efficient and competitive price structure.

Unit: DG ENTR/E4

Desk Officer: Tina Zournatzi

## **E.10. European Charter for Small Enterprises - Annual Conference 2010**

ENT/CIP/09/E/N10S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

Organisation of conference to exchange good practices in 2010 among representatives of governments, and European and national business organisations from participating countries. Since the European Charter for Small Enterprises has been superseded by the Small Business Act for Europe (SBA), the conference will focus on exchange of best practices in implementing the SBA.

The measure also includes preparatory work on specific subjects, and the updating of the on-line database of good practices (previously covering the Charter good practices) to include other examples of good practices under the SBA.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

An agreement was reached on the co-financing of the event with the Spanish Presidency, to take place in Madrid on 31 May-1<sup>st</sup> June 2010, and on its overall structure. Using an existing framework contract for event organisation, a contract was signed in December 2009 for the organisation and logistics of the conference.

Using an existing framework contract, a contract was also signed to update the on-line database of good practices, to better reflect the structure of the SBA priorities.

A meeting of the national start-up coordinators also took place on 30/09/2009, with funds from this measure being used exclusively for the reimbursement of participants' travel costs.

The action is now focused on exchange of SBA good practices, and not those collected via the Charter process, which has been discontinued.

**Web address:** [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/best-practices/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/best-practices/index_en.htm)

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

During 2010, full preparations for the conference will take place, as well as the conference itself on 31 May-1<sup>st</sup> June 2010. The update of the on-line database of good practices will also be completed, as will the dissemination of the good practices identified. A meeting of the national start-up coordinators will also take place in January 2010, with funds from this measure being used exclusively for the reimbursement of participants' travel costs.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Implementation start date: September 2009. Implementation end date: December 2010

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€168.714,48**

Unit: DG ENTR/E.4

Desk Officer: Alison Imrie

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

### **F.1. Enterprise Europe Network: SME panels - Communication with SMEs**

ENT/CIP/09/F/N01S00
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#### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The measure will be implemented through a call for proposals which will be restricted to the partners in the Enterprise Europe Network according to Article 21(4) of the CIP Decision.

The aim of the action is getting the views and feedback of SMEs via the Enterprise Europe Network on forthcoming policies and legislation. It is closely linked to the activities of the SME Envoy, who represents the interest of SMEs within the Commission. SME panels are an important tool for "Listening to SMEs", for a two way communication with them. Getting views on forthcoming legislation is notably a valuable manner to give substance to ex-ante impact assessments. The Enterprise Europe Network partners/consortia are expected to run the SME panels by selecting relevant SMEs for the consultation and by collecting and summarizing the results.

The measure is by the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI).

#### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The call for proposals was published early 2009 resulting in a selection of 11 proposals with 108 partners involved. The activities are planned to start in February 2010. The timeframe for the implementation of the project is 2 years.

Results and impacts of the project will be measurable as from 2010, as the modified start date of the project is February 2010.

#### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The signature of the grant agreements is planned for February 2010, the actual implementation will then start for a period of 2 years.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Implementation start date February 2010

Implementation end date February 2012

The signature of the grant agreements has been delayed from November 2009 to February 2010 due to administrative follow-up and workload reasons.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: € 1,161,700 (Award decision on 13/11/2009). The number of proposals was lower than planned therefore the awarded amounts are lower than the budget foreseen (€ 2,000,000)

Unit: DG ENTR /E.2

Desk Officer: István Németh

### **F.2. Information campaign on CE Marking**

ENT/CIP/09/F/N02S00
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#### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The CE Marking campaign intends to

- Provide target groups (manufacturers, importers, distributors, consumers, conformity assessment bodies, laboratories as well as authorities) with a clear picture for what CE Marking does (not) stand for and fight misinterpretations. The campaign focuses on SMEs
- Improve the image of the CE Marking among target groups;
- Provide material in support of EU and EFTA Member States possible communication campaigns on CE Marking;

- Provide information to stakeholders/operators to contribute to monitoring of the CE Marking mechanisms (e.g. better defending themselves in front of courts against unfair practices of competitors).

The information campaign will be composed of a mixed set of tools in order to address the different audiences, e.g.:

- Presence at different events to promote the message (stands, seminars, etc...);
- Different kinds of multi-media actions and developments (tv, radio, press, video, internet, etc..)
- All kinds of commercial materials to bring out our message: flyers, banners, gadgets, etc
- Make use of existing networks such as the Enterprise Europe Network the European Consumer Centres.

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

Not applicable. The implementation of the measure will start in 2010 and will span over 2010 -2011.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

The implementation of the measure will start in 2010 and will span over 2010 -2011.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Specific contract signed in December 2009.

The campaign will last 24 months approximately (2010-2011).

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€1,899,987.14**

Unit: DG ENTR /C.1

Desk Officer: Zacharias Bilalis

## **F.3. Eurobarometer survey of attitudes towards structural economic reforms**

ENT/CIP/09/F/N03S00
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This measure has been cancelled

## **F.4. Follow-up on the High Level Group on Administrative Burdens**

ENT/CIP/09/F/N04S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

#### **Main objectives**

The main aim of the Action Programme is to suppress unnecessary information obligations imposed on businesses, thereby reducing the administrative burden imposed on them and leaving them with more resources to invest and remain competitive.

In this framework, the objective of the High Level Group of Independent Stakeholders on Administrative Burdens (HLG) is to advise the Commission on the Action Programme, in particular on reduction ideas coming from Commission services, consultants, stakeholders and the Member States.

#### **Main activities**

The HLG passes opinions on draft proposals to reduce administrative burden prepared by the Commission Services as well as on reduction recommendations made by third parties (online and offline consultation) and by the consortium of consultants hired for that purpose. In this context, the HLG may request specific studies. Since most of the members do not have staff to support their voluntary work, they need additional input from Commission services and specific studies on individual proposals. Proper follow-up of the HLG advice needs to be assured.

The HLG heavily draws upon the work performed by the Commission's consultants, which in 2009:

- Carried out mapping and measurements of administrative costs/burdens deriving from specific EU legislation in 13 priority areas<sup>8</sup>; this task included IT work (burden database)
- Provided recommendations to reduce administrative burdens imposed by EU obligations and their transposition by the Member States

To ensure follow up of the advice of the HLG, the main activities in 2009 concerned the following:

- Raising awareness of the Action Programme and promote reduction measures, notably by developing and disseminating communication and information material
- Promoting and facilitating reduction on national level by providing assistance to Member States for their national measurement and reduction programmes, notably in the form of IT support and workshops<sup>9</sup>

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The HLG met 8 times in plenary in 2009. These meetings were prepared in 12 preparatory meetings with reporting members. In addition the Chair and other members went on 28 visits, meetings and conferences to prepare and promote the work of the HLG (such as in meetings with high ranking officials in Member States and speeches in EP committees).

The HLG adopted 11 opinions covering priority areas of the programme (Agriculture, Pharmaceuticals, Food Safety, Transport, Environment, Taxation, Fisheries, Employment, Financial Services, Statistics, Cohesion), not yet covered in 2008, and 4 opinions covering suggestions made by stakeholders in the online/offline consultation. Each opinion used the measurement results and commented on the reduction recommendations provided by the consultants and by stakeholders. Apart from adding their stakeholder expertise to these ideas, HLG members tabled reduction ideas of their own.

In addition, the HLG presented its intermediate report, covering all 13 priority areas of the Action Programme, to the Commission and its president.

With regard to the activities, on which the HLG work builds, the main results are:

- The finalization of the mapping and measurement for the 42 legal EU acts, in scope since January 2007, and of the 30 additional acts in scope since January 2009. The total burden is estimated at € 123.8 billion which is in line with earlier predictions. The measurement data is available in its most detailed form in a specific IT tool developed for this purpose which comprises custom-made calculation functionalities to facilitate the quantification of future reduction proposals (impact assessment support).
- The presentation of more than 200 reduction recommendations developed by the consultants covering all remaining priority areas in scope of the Action Programme<sup>10</sup>. After the HLG has given its advice on these ideas, many have been retained in the Sectoral Reduction Plans presented in October 2009, annexed to COM(2009)544.

In terms of follow-up of the advice of the HLG, the Commission (in addition to tabling a number of important reduction proposals in 2009) has achieved the following results:

- Follow-up on advice by the HLG with regard to reduction measures on national level (as comprised in the Sectoral Reduction Plans) has been facilitated by workshops with experts from national ministries and the roll-out of the national application.
- Communication activities have complemented the Commission Communication COM(2009)544 of 22 October 2009, where a detailed state of play of the Action Programme has been presented. The Communication has found a good echo in the press. Parts of the communication material, developed to reinforce the message presented in COM(2009)544, have been distributed to stakeholders.

<sup>8</sup> Administrative costs are defined as those costs incurred by businesses when complying with legal obligations to provide information to public authorities or third parties - reporting, labelling, inspection, statistics, etc; Administrative burdens are those parts of the administrative costs that the business incurs only because of the legal obligation. The measurement covers obligations stemming from EU legislation and from national measures implementing or transposing it.

<sup>9</sup> The network of national contact points on administrative burden reduction was used to organize these activities.

<sup>10</sup> Reduction recommendations for the priority area Company Law/Annual Accounts were presented already in 2008.

## **Main Impacts**

The work of the HLG and the advice given on reduction recommendations have allowed the Commission to identify a total reduction potential of EUR 40.4 billion<sup>11</sup> at the end of 2009, equal to 33% of the measured burden. Among the 48 reduction measures adopted, proposed or in preparation, the two most important ones in light of their high reduction potential (promoting electronic invoicing by a change to the VAT rules; allowing Member States to exempt micro-enterprises from the EU accounting rules) directly followed the advice by the HLG and profited from the political momentum created by this advice.

All Member States have set reduction targets of their own (most of equal ambition to the EU target) and are now embarking on measurement and reduction efforts. The communication activities to raise awareness of the Action Programme have been important in this regard and the National Application (formerly known as Starter Kit) has and will contribute to better and more harmonized measurements.

More information on the Action Programme can be found here:

<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/better-regulation/administrative-burdens/>

The state of play as of 22 October 2009 can be found here:

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/better-regulation/documents/files/com\\_2009\\_544\\_main\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/better-regulation/documents/files/com_2009_544_main_en.pdf)

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/better-regulation/documents/files/com\\_2009\\_544\\_annexes\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/better-regulation/documents/files/com_2009_544_annexes_en.pdf)

## **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

1. The HLG will hold around 7 plenary meetings in 2010, prepared by meetings between HLG members and stakeholders. It will adopt further opinions on ideas submitted by stakeholders and will work on the additional acts to be taken into the Action Programme and not yet covered.
2. New legal acts and reduction measures will be quantified and the IT support tools for storing and using the measurement data (and, potentially, reduction insights) will be further developed.
3. Sectoral reduction plans (based on advice by the HLG) will be implemented. Implementation by Member States with regard to reduction measures that concern the national level, will be facilitated in further sectoral workshops with members from national administrations.
4. Further communication material will be developed and disseminated. This concerns paper material but also audio-visual elements.

## **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Action 1: HLG meetings are foreseen for January 28, March 11, May 20 and July 08. Further meetings are provisionally planned for Sept 22, Oct 22 and Dec 7.

Action 2-3: Throughout the year.

Action 4: Production of the remaining communication material is foreseen for Q1-2 of 2010. Dissemination will then happen over the subsequent months.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€1,107,592.51**

Unit: DG ENTR/B.5

Desk Officer: Torsten Frey



## **F.5. Follow-up and accompanying actions to the HLG on the Competitiveness of Agro-Food Industry**

ENT/CIP/09/E/N10S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

- 1) Prepare, analyse and report the Agro-food recommendations towards outcome of the works of the High Level Group (HLG)
- 2) Present and disseminate recommendations of the HLG
- 3) Follow-up of recommendations

### **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

- 2 meetings of the HLG took place in 2009: 17 March and 6 July 2009
- Publication of the reports of the HLG: Main report, Recommendations, Roadmap of recommendations

### **Quantitative indicators:**

- Publication on the website and in hard copies, of the reports of the HLG
- 2 HLG meetings held in 2009
- 30 Recommendations for follow up.
- Publication of the study on the competitiveness of the EU food industry (Case studies in the dairy industry)

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/food/competitiveness/high-level-group/documentation/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/food/competitiveness/high-level-group/documentation/index_en.htm)

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/food/documents/studies/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/food/documents/studies/index_en.htm)

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

- Follow up of the 30 Recommendations of the HLG
- Completion of 2 studies (impact of private labels on the competitiveness of the SMEs and functioning of the food supply chain in the meat sub-sector)
- Setting up of the forums on the: 1) food supply chain, 2) agro-logistics platform

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Meetings of the HLG: 17 March and 6 July 2009

Publication for the reports of the HLG on the website: 17 March – 6 July

Follow up of the recommendations of the HLG: ongoing

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€317,874**

Unit: DG ENTR/F.4

Desk Officer: Louis Bouthors

## **F.6. Interim evaluation of the CIP**

ENT/CIP/09/E/N10S00
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### **DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities**

The study will measure the impact of the programme against its objectives. It will assess the extent to which the objectives of the programme are pertinent to the needs, problems and issues it was designed to address. It will also evaluate the synergies and coherence between the three specific programmes under CIP.

## **RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2009**

The study is ongoing. The final evaluation report is due in Q1/2010.

### **INDICATORS:**

- Delivery of the final report in time.
- Quality of the final evaluation report, as assessed by the steering committee using the standard European Commission criteria for assessing the quality of evaluations.

### **OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2009?**

Final evaluation report will be delivered in 2010.

Presentation of the report to EC staff.

Presentation of the report at the joint Management Committee meeting.

### **IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR**

Specific contract: 05/05/2009

Final Report: Q1/2010

### **FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Total amount committed in 2009: **€229,770**

Unit: DG ENTR /A.4

Desk Officer: Małgorzata Zambrzycka

## **G. SUPPORT MEASURES**

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

- (1) Analysis and monitoring of competitiveness and sectoral issues, including for the Commission's annual report on the competitiveness of European industry;
- (2) Preparation of impact assessments of Community measures of particular relevance for the competitiveness of enterprises and their publication 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 Community;
- (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 accomplished 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 2009, this included five types of support measures:

- Competitiveness and cross-sectoral studies, such as the annual competitiveness report;
- Sectoral studies in several areas of European Industry such as aerospace, pharmaceutical, shipbuilding, etc.;
- Preparation of impact assessments of Community measures such as the SME Test Study on possible policy options for reviewing the Noise Directive 2000/14/EC and the impact assessment on possible policy options (concerning conformity assessment procedures) for reviewing Directive 2000/14/EC related to noise emission in the environment by equipment for use outdoors;
- Conferences, study groups and technical support such as the High-level Conference on Industrial Competitiveness policy after crisis;
- Communication and information activities, such as websites, newsletters and other publications.

Some of the most relevant activities of the above list are the economic studies to elaborate the Competitiveness Report 2010, which include amongst others:

- Study on innovation and competitiveness of the creative industries, to give a comprehensive picture on the relative size and performance of the creative industries in the EU-27, their innovation performance and competitiveness;
- Examination of the internationalisation of business R&D and innovation activities;
- Analysis of the current technological competitiveness of Europe;
- Studies to understand the developments before the crisis and further points towards potential effects of the crisis concerning the trends of intermediate products and EU manufacturing supply chains.

Among the studies, an evaluation of the use of indicators under the EIP was carried out. The scope of the study was to analyse and improve the EIP indicators for the large projects (Financial instruments, Enterprise Europe Network, Innovation measures, eco-innovation) and also for smaller-scale but visible and repetitive projects. Results will be available in early 2010.

Another important support measure implemented the workshop on the financial instruments of the EIP organised for the EIPC based on its specific request.

A total of €6.91 million was committed for such activities in 2009.