

NAVOBS

NAVOBS

A support measure to boost the business prospects of GMES and Telecom satellites through innovative RTD work involving SMEs

SUPPORTING THE PARTICIPATION OF SMEs IN RESEARCH PROJECTS

The NAVOBS project aimed at enhancing the participation of SMEs in research and development projects related to Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) and satellite telecommunication (SATCOM).

The NAVOBS consortium consisted of 19 organisations, most of them belonging to ESINET, the European Network of Space Incubators, which joined to implement four objectives:

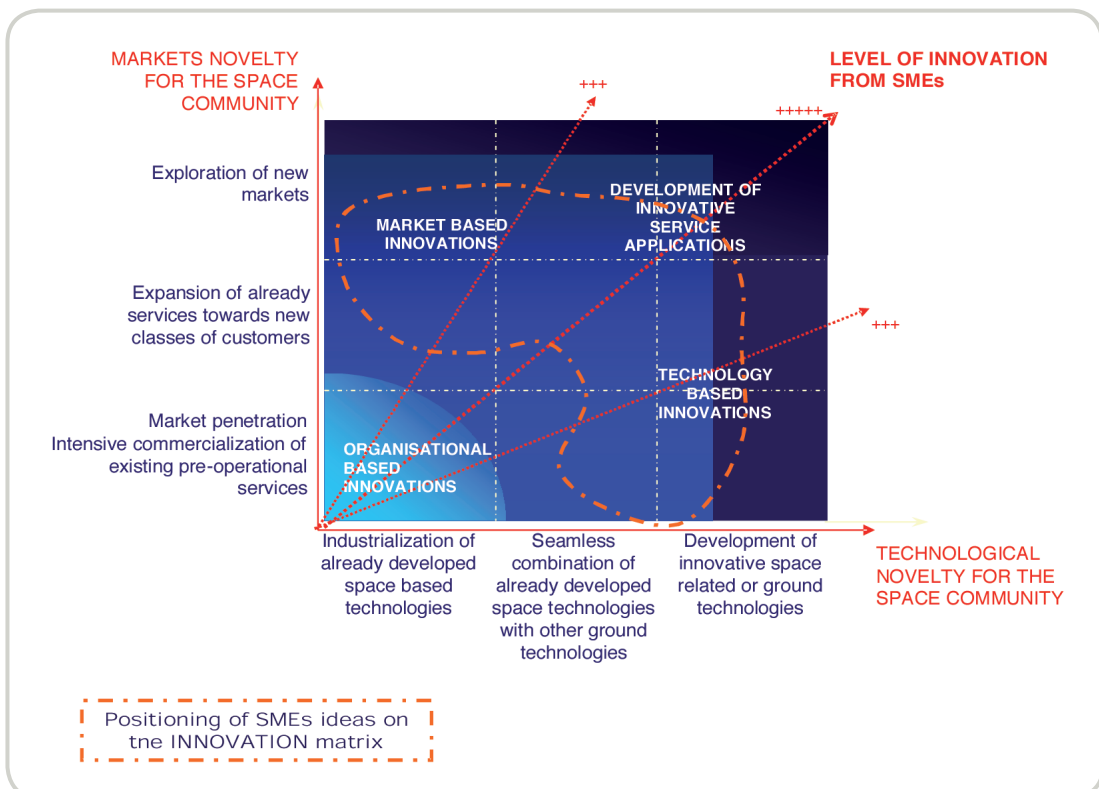
- An assessment of SMEs' research needs for development of new and innovative services using satellite generated data or transmission capabilities;
- The identification of research and technological development (RTD) projects prepared by large industrial organisations, where there was a need for SMEs' expertise;
- Selection of the most promising projects proposed by SMEs with the support of an advisory group;
- Support proposal building using SMEs' ideas as part of an Integrated Project or as a full collaborative research proposal.

The NAVOBS work led to a noticeable increase of SME participation in RTD proposals:

- A community of more than 150 SMEs, active in the development of service related to satellite telecommunication, earth observation and navigation facilities, has been created under the NAVOBS project;
- 54 SMEs were integrated into RTD projects consortia;
- NAVOBS has developed and used networking tools making the web based NAVOBS Platform the market place for SMEs being GMES or SATCOM service providers or end-users;
- Regional incubators turned out to be key in acting as 'Innovation Catalysers': they supported SMEs in building competitive business models for the development of innovative GMES or SATCOM services, while providing ad-hoc awareness workshop at regional and international levels.

SMEs AS A SOURCE OF INNOVATIVE APPLICATION

The 150 SMEs registered within the NAVOBS data base provide a broad and comprehensive mix of skills. A large majority of them have business activities in non-space related businesses. They thus bring innovative application ideas from outside the space sector, as shown on the diagram:



NAVOBS

A support measure to boost the business prospects of GMES and Telecom satellites through innovative RTD work involving SMEs



LIST OF PARTNERS

- Wallonia Space Logistics, Belgium
- European Business & Innovation Centre Network, Belgium
- European Space Agency, The Netherlands
- JRA Technology Ltd, UK
- T4TECH S.r.l., Italy
- TECHNOFI, France
- European Community Business and Innovation Centre of Attika, Greece
- Birmingham Technology Limited, UK
- CPIN – Centro Promotor de Inovação e Negócios, Portugal
- Incubateur Midi Pyrénées, France
- Polspace Sp., Poland
- Centre de Recherche Public Henri Tudor, Luxembourg
- Yuzhnoye State Design Office, Ukraine
- WISTA management GmbH, Germany
- EADS ASTRIUM SAS, France
- ALCATEL ETCA S.A., Belgium
- EUROSPACE, France, Belgium
- MST AEROSPACE, Germany
- Space research Institute - Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria

COORDINATOR

WALLONIA SPACE LOGISTICS
Liège Science Park
rue des Chasseurs Ardennais 4
B- 4031 Liège – Angleur
Belgium
<http://www.navobs.com>

CONTACT

Florence Ghiron
Tel: +33 5 59 43 85 04
E-mail: fghiron@chtech.fr

PROJECT INFORMATION

NAVOBS: A support measure to boost the business prospects of GMES and Telecom satellites through focused and innovative RTD work involving SMEs
Specific Support Action
Contract no: SSA3-CT-2003-502903
Starting date: 01/11/2003
Duration: 24 months
EU contribution: € 736.220
Estimated total costs: € 1.060.890

