



COSME

Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs 2014-2020

Entrepreneurship & Innovation Programme
Implementation Report 2013

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I. INTRODUCTION

I.1. THE 2013 WORK PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

This Implementation Report has been set out in seven chapters following the structure of the 2013 work programme.

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

The report focuses on how far the objectives established in the annual work programme have been met during the year. It also includes the budget allocations in the 2013 work programme as approved by the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme Committee (EIPC) and reviews the budget execution achieved throughout the year.

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

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

I.2. OVERVIEW OF EIP ACTIVITIES IN 2013

The 2013 EIP work programme was based on the following:

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

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

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

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

This facility has been operational since November 2007 and is implemented by the European Investment Fund (EIF) on behalf of the European Commission. Between the start of the facility until the end of 2013, 47 GIF transactions had been approved with venture capital funds targeting investments in 26 participating countries, of which 10 in 2013, committing EU investments of EUR 587 million (including eligible costs for the respective financial intermediaries). Fourteen of these venture capital funds are investing fully in eco-innovation across Europe and two other funds are investing at least 30 % in eco-innovation, supported by EU commitments of about €239 million.

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

SMEG has been operational since September 2007 and is implemented by the EIF on behalf of the Commission. By the end of 2013, 103¹ transactions with 46 financial intermediaries from 21 countries had been approved, of which 28 in 2013, including extensions of existing contracts. The EU commitments amount to €637.8 million (including eligible costs for the respective financial intermediaries). Most of the SMEG 07 deals are under the Loan Guarantee Window. There are 14 deals under the Microcredit Window (in France, Ireland, Spain, Norway, Poland, Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovakia and 4 deals in Turkey); 2 Equity Window deals (Spain, France) and 2 Securitisation Window deals (Italy).

By the end of the third quarter of 2013, 275,113 SMEs had received financing supported by the SMEG 07 Guarantee Facility, through nearly 326,018 loans.

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

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

There are 79 framework partnership agreements in place from EU28 and 13 from CIP participating countries with specific grant agreements signed to cover the operational period

The Network covers EU28 countries, EEA countries and major economic areas like USA, Brazil, Russia, S-Korea, Canada, India Japan and China.

The complete list of the 54 countries (about 600 partners in total) can be found at the following website ec.europa.eu/enterprise-europe-network.

Additionally, conditional terms for Associated and Affiliated membership have been signed with 16 and 10 organisations respectively, as well technological partnership agreements with JRC, EUREKA, CERN and ESA.

All framework partnership agreements are managed by the Executive Agency for Competiveness and Innovation (EACI)² who is also responsible for the signature of the specific agreements, the follow-up of the budgetary workflows and all operational aspects related to the work programmes and animation of the Network. The EACI also prepared and signed the specific grant agreements with work-programmes for the last operational cycle (2013-2014).

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

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

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

Regarding **eco-innovation**, the 2013 call attracted 461 proposals. They were evaluated in the last quarter 2013, and the evaluation committee is not due to meet until February 2014. The

¹ Including extensions of existing contracts, with deduction of cancelled contracts.

²The EACI was created through the Commission Decision of 31 May 2007. Until December 2013, the EACI was responsible for the management of Community actions in the fields of energy, entrepreneurship and innovation, and sustainable freight transport.

SME participation rate was roughly 64% as in previous calls and only 7% of the proposals do not involve any SMEs. Around 80 % of the participants are from the private sector. Proposals were received by participants from 36 countries (out of 37 eligible countries) and a budget of roughly EUR 33 million was committed.

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

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

These areas are covered by several activities, such as analyses, studies and conferences. One of the key studies is the one on ‘Licensing procedures’ with a committed budget in 2013 of EUR 566 230

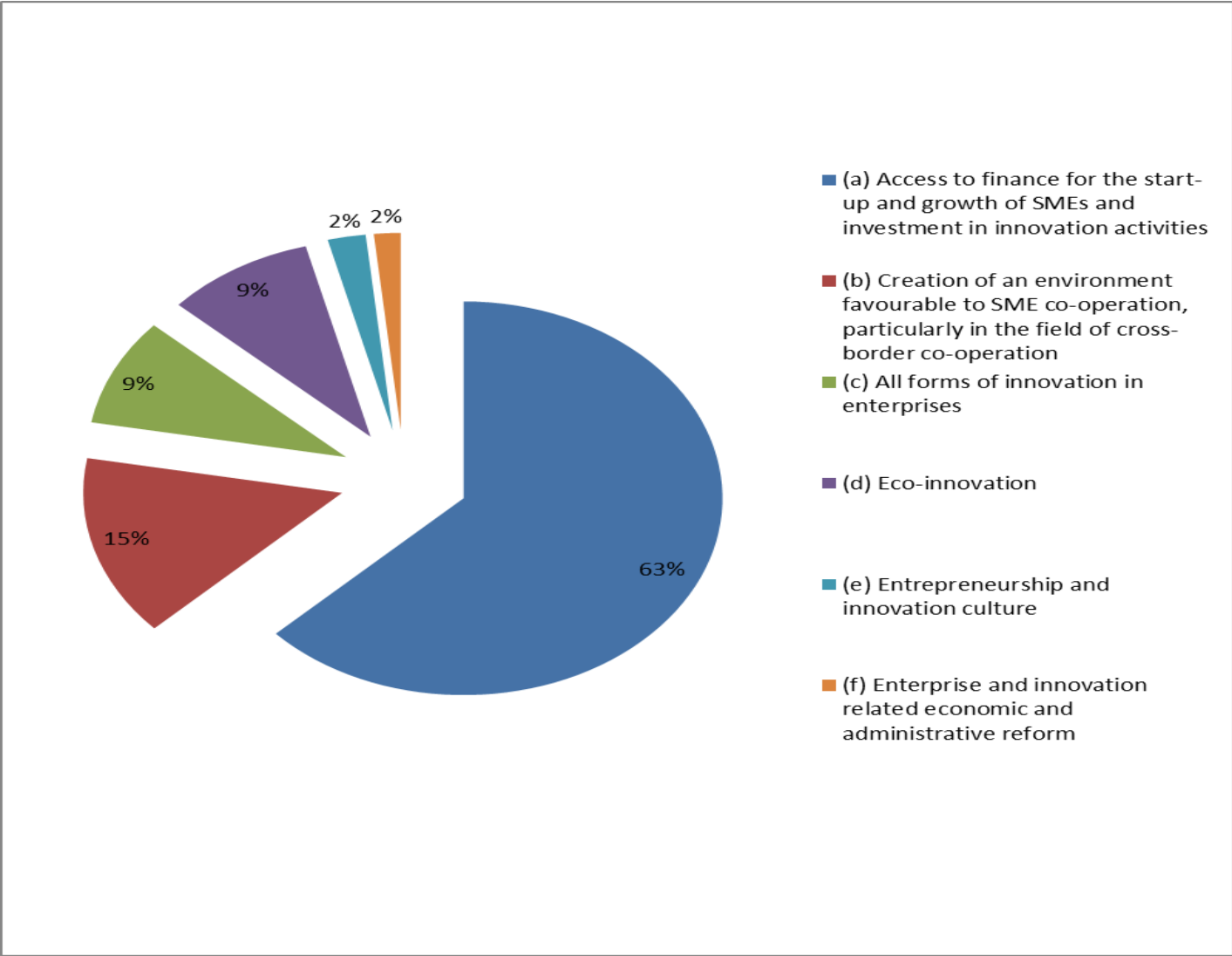
Its aim is to measure the time required to obtain licenses in each CIP participating country. The study will present a clear view of the situation in each country and may serve as an opportunity for future exchange of good practices. The expected impact of the action is to develop a tool to assess the progress made so far in administrative simplification and a reliable benchmark to measure future progress. It also aims to increase the awareness and the exchange of successful initiatives and best practices between national and/or regional authorities across Europe.

I.3. OVERVIEW OF EIP BUDGET EXECUTION IN 2013

The total amount committed under the EIP in 2013 was about EUR 399 million, leading to an execution rate of the total budget allocated to the EIP for 2013 of 100%. An overview of the budget committed is provided in the pie chart below.

Out of the total budget committed, EUR 248.7 million has been allocated to the EIP financial instruments for SMEs. Out of the remaining EUR 158.6 million committed, an amount of EUR 148.7 million has been spent on the work programme and EUR 9.9 million on support measures under Article 24 of the CIP legal base.

Graph 1 Budget by EIP Objectives



II. EIP ACTIONS IN 2013

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

EIP FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS FOR SMES ENT/CIP/13/A/N01S00

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The EIP Financial Instruments for SMEs are the High Growth and Innovative SME Facility (GIF) and the SME Guarantee Facility (SMEG 07). The overall objective of the Financial Instruments is to improve access to finance for the start-up and growth of SMEs and investment in innovation activities, including eco-innovation, by 1) increasing investment volumes of risk capital funds and investment vehicles promoted by business angels, and 2) providing leverage to SME debt financing instruments and thus increasing the supply of debt finance to SMEs.

There are three financial instruments for SMEs foreseen in the CIP/EIP legal basis:

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

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

1) High Growth and Innovative SME Facility (GIF)

By the end of 2013, since the start of the Facility, 47 GIF transactions with venture capital funds targeting investments in 26 participating countries had been approved, of which 10 in 2013, committing EU investments of EUR 587 million (including eligible cost for the respective Financial Intermediaries). Fourteen of these venture capital funds are investing fully in eco-innovation across Europe, while two funds are investing at least 30% in eco-innovation, supported by EU commitments of about EUR 239 million.

2) SME Guarantee Facility (SMEG 07)

By the end of September 2013, since the start of the Facility, 1033 transactions with 46 financial intermediaries from 21 countries had been approved, of which 28 transactions in 2013, including extensions of existing contracts. The EU commitments amount to EUR 637.8 million (including eligible cost for the respective Financial Intermediaries). Most of the SMEG 07 deals are under the Loan Guarantee window. There are 14 deals under the Microcredit window (in France, Ireland, Spain, Norway, Poland, Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovakia and 4 deals in Turkey); 2 Equity window deals (Spain, France) and 2 Securitisation window deals (Italy).

By the end of the 3rd quarter of 2013, 275,113 SMEs had received financing supported by the SMEG 07 Guarantee Facility, through nearly 326,018 loans.

3) The Capacity Building Scheme (CBS)

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

The latest evaluation of the GIF and SMEG instruments was completed in the CIP final evaluation, published in January 2012. The evaluation reiterates that the financial instruments appear to be on track to achieve the targets set and confirms that the effectiveness of the financial instruments has increased over time. In more detail, regarding:

- Effectiveness:
 - the financial instruments appear to be on track to achieve the targets set;
 - the financial instruments seem to be acquiring a certain momentum that may lead them to exceed expectations if they can exploit synergies more effectively;
- Efficiency:
 - there have been improvements in monitoring systems, especially with focus on the indicator system and the development of medium term indicators;
- Sustainability and European value-added:
 - the effectiveness of the instruments used has increased over time, notwithstanding the scope for further improvements;
 - the EIP Final Evaluation and further investigations for the current evaluation have confirmed the European value-added of venture capital (GIF) funds;
 - regarding European value-added for the guarantee instrument (SMEG), there is scope for such instruments to move on to areas that are not well covered by the market, for instance, to coverage for riskier enterprises engaged in innovative activities;
 - European value-added is evident in the development of facilities that are at the cutting-edge of provision for SMEs; this principle should be maintained.

Web addresses:

CIP website <http://ec.europa.eu/cip>

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

³ Including extensions of existing contracts, with deduction of cancelled contracts.

Access to finance website: <http://europa.eu/youreurope/business/funding-grants/access-to-finance/> (providing information on Financial Instruments for final beneficiaries and a link to the selected Financial Intermediaries where they can apply).

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The CIP market-oriented instruments under GIF and SMEG have shown high efficiency and relevance to the current market conditions. 2013 was again marked by the effects of the financial crisis and its impact on the economy, despite some recovery signs in some areas of the EU.

Regarding GIF, macro-economic developments resulted in a slow-down in European private equity activity during the period 2008-2012, in terms of fund-raising, investment levels and divestment conditions. The latest European Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (EVCA) Quarterly Activity Indicators (Q1 2007 to Q3 2013) indicate that:

- In the first three quarters of 2013, venture capital reached 46% of the total raised in the whole of 2012. Almost 50% of the venture capital raised was concentrated in Balanced funds. Early stage funds attracted 44% and later stage funds 8%;
- Venture capital investments for the first three quarters of 2013 were 13% lower than the 2012 quarterly average. The start-up stage had a share of 50%, later stage 46% and seed 4% of the equity invested;
- Venture capital investments were mainly exited via trade sale, write-offs and sale of quoted equity post flotation.

SMEG 07, on the other hand, is a partly counter-cyclical instrument and the demand for guarantees by Financial Intermediaries remained quite stable throughout 2013. The same trend is expected in 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

GIF & SMEG 07: open call from 2007 until end September 2013. New agreements can still be signed by the EIF until September 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 for both Financial Instruments (GIF and SMEG07) amounted to EUR 248 736 671.

Unit ENTR D.3

Contact: Jeremy Heath

Unit ECFIN L.2

Contact: Jean-Dominique Dresse

IMPROVING POLICIES ON FINANCING INNOVATION AND SMES ENT/CIP/13/A/N02S00

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

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

For this purpose, workshops and other events with stakeholders, leading to recommendations on regulatory and policy improvements, are regularly organised. Within this context, the SME

Finance Forum is organised and managed in order to discuss and make proposals concerning SME finance at European level.

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

Finally, raising the awareness of potential financial intermediaries about the COSME financial instruments is of particular importance for 2013 and 2014. In addition, in view of informing SMEs about all relevant EU-supported sources of access to finance, the single portal established under the 2012 WP has to be regularly updated but, also, to be promoted as a source of information.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The High Level SME Finance Forum met in May 2013 to take stock of the implementation of the 2011 Action Plan on SME access to finance. The event served also for the official launching pad for the single portal of EU sources of SME finance. Other events included a high level meeting with bankers and other financiers on the state of bank lending to SMEs and a seminar in the context of the Transatlantic Dialogue covering crowdfunding and impact investing.

Data collection and overview of existing information sources' continued. A new contract was signed in November 2013 as a follow up to the Enterprise Finance Index aiming at an in-depth overview of public SME financing programmes as well as at an update of the main indicators on SME access to finance.

The joint European Commission and ECB survey on EU SMEs access to finance was carried out and final results were delivered and made public in November 2013. The survey confirmed the SME dependence on bank lending and the negative correlation between firm size and ease of access to finance. The variety of situations across countries is very high, nevertheless, overall, one third of SMEs still don't get the credit that they asked for.

In the context of raising the awareness of potential financial intermediaries about the COSME financial instruments, but also of instruments under other 2014-2020 MFF programmes that target SMEs EU Finance Days will be organised (from January 2014 on) in twelve of the remaining 19 Member States (9 were covered between September 2013 and March 2014).

The overall impact of these actions in terms of making more debt and equity finance available to SMEs can only be assessed over the longer term. In the shorter term, it is expected that they will lead to a better informed decision making in the areas under review.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The Commission will continue monitoring the evolution of lending and capital markets for SMEs, reviewing possible legislative initiatives, encouraging the exchange of good practices among Member States and exploring together with stakeholders the most appropriate actions to ease access to finance for SMEs, especially in the areas studied under the EIP 2012 Work Programme. In light of the introduction of the new EU financial instruments for the period 2014-2020, the Commission will continue presenting the new financial instruments in Member States and participating countries as well as updating and promoting the EU finance portal. The EU-wide SMEs' access to finance survey coordinated with ECB will be conducted annually instead of every two years.

IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE

The action on the Enterprise Finance Index started in November 2013 (with the signature of the contract) and will end in November 2014 (with the final report).

The action on the Single portal on EU sources of SME financing started in November 2013 (contract) and will end in December 2014.

The Survey on SME access to finance started in July 2013 (contract) and will end in November 2013 (results and final report).

The Workshops and SME Finance Forum continued throughout 2013.

The awareness-raising events on future financial instruments started in December 2013 (with the signature of the contract). The EU Access to Finance Days will cover 12 Member States. From January 2014 to the end of April 2015 the events will be organized in Greece, Malta, France, Poland, Germany, Romania, Austria, UK, Latvia, Cyprus, Bulgaria and Denmark.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 1 248 885.

Unit ENTR.D.3

Contact: Georgios Lemonidis (DHoU)

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

ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK GRANTS AND ANIMATION ENT/CIP/13/B/N01C01 and ENT/CIP/13/N01C02

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

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. (article 21 of the CIP legal base).

Two EIP measures were implemented in 2013 where the first measure relates to the activities and further development of the Enterprise Europe Network. The second measure relates to the activities put in place to organise the Annual Conference and to animate the Network. It includes services needed to operate the IT tools and to organize trainings, working groups, meetings, communication activities and services to the Network partners. The implementation of the two Network-related EIP measures was entrusted to the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI).

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

- help enterprises finding partners outside their own country for developing their business, export, technology and knowledge;
- provide services encouraging the participation of SMEs in the Community Framework Programme for RTD and promote EU policies and SMEs access to EU programmes;
- develop Network recognition and awareness locally; ensure that the Network and its services are known by SMEs in the geographical areas covered;

- 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;
- 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;
- continuously increase the quality and effectiveness of the integrated services provided by the Network;
- contribute to the SMEs Feedback function by consulting businesses and obtaining their opinion on Community policy options;
- build an efficient management system in reducing the administrative burden for all parties, for planning, reporting and monitoring.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

There are 79 framework partnership agreements in place from EU28 and 13 from CIP participating countries with specific grant agreements signed to cover the operational period 2013-2014, which is the third and last operational period. One additional consortium was added in 2013 for Brazil resulting in 23 cooperation agreements signed with Third Countries. The first cooperation activities were organised implementing the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the US Department of Commerce.

The Network covers EU28 countries, EEA countries and major economic areas like USA, Brazil, Russia, South Korea, Canada, India Japan and China.

The complete list of the 54 countries (about 600 partners in total) can be found on the following website: ec.europa.eu/enterprise-europe-network. Additionally, conditional terms for Associated and Affiliated membership have been signed with 16 and 10 organisations respectively as well technological partnership agreements with JRC, EUREKA, CERN and ESA.

All framework partnership agreements are managed by the EACI who is also responsible for the signature of the specific agreements, the follow-up of the budgetary workflows and all operational aspects related to the work programmes and animation of the Network. The EACI also prepared and signed the specific grant agreements with work-programmes for the last operational cycle (2013-2014).

The 'ad hoc assistance scheme' continued to address possible weaknesses and to enhance the level of expertise of Network partners. It resulted in improved performance of some of the consortia participating in the scheme. The termination procedure was started for Network partners with a proven underperformance. To assess the impact of the services provided by Network partners to their clients (SMEs), a 4th Benefits Survey was launched. The results are encouraging: out of the 2,415 respondents, about 60% reported the access to new markets and the development of new products and services as a major benefit from the Network; about 30% reported an impact on jobs (created or safeguarded). Additionally, a Client Satisfaction Survey was launched in 2013 to assess the level of satisfaction of clients by broad categories of Network services such as events, partnering services, specialised advisory services or information services.

Also in 2013, the Network contributed to the Missions for Growth organised by Vice-President Antonio Tajani in Third Countries as well as the “Strategy for Growth Missions” in Greece and Portugal with the participation of 560 and 700 SMEs to the Business-to-Business events respectively.

The **Annual Guidance Note 2013 (AGN)** to the Network, which gave the Commission’s main political messages to the partners to promote and focus their activities on during 2013,

was circulated at the end of 2012, following an internal consultation with other Commission services. The Network's main priorities for 2013 were: (1) increasing the visibility of the Network's services; (2) cooperation with regional stakeholders; (3) Missions for Growth, and (4) services on access to finance and activities in the policy areas of Tourism, Industrial Innovation, Taxation, Environment and Sustainability, Global Opportunities, Chemicals (Reach), Health and Safety at Work, Skills, Health and Consumer Protection.

Strategic decisions on the role, operations and future of the Network were discussed in 3 Steering and Advisory Group meetings. More specific working groups were finalised and started implementing their conclusions notably on **Performance and Impact; Improving the impact of Brokerage Events and Company Missions** as well as on-going work on **Intellectual Property Rights** and **Innovation Coaching and Services**.

Various training sessions have been organised with special attention to newcomers' training. About 1,447 Network staff participated in one of the centralised, local and IT training sessions or took an e-learning course in 2013.

A communication strategy, branding guidelines and graphical material were made available and promoted throughout the Network. A group of national communication correspondents was set up and animated. One promotion video was produced on Network success stories and disseminated on EU (Euronews) and local TV channels. Network partners received about 40 Services Bulletins informing them on the latest EU programmes, legislation and initiatives which were taken up by Network staff and further disseminated to their client SMEs. About 31 success stories were produced and used to demonstrate the benefit of the Network's services.

The IT partnership tools and databases were further exploited by the Network with a stable number of business and technology opportunities of about 13,500 active cooperation profiles. The new IT platform was implemented which provides a modernised, enhanced and streamlined IT system supporting all major business processes for collaboration, business cooperation and technology transfer.

The **Annual Conference in Vilnius**, organised in association with the Lithuanian EU-Presidency, to promote with Network partners events and policies at EU level of direct relevance to SMEs, attracted 725 participants and the satisfaction survey showed a positive feedback (87% of respondents indicating 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied'). As to the impact of the conference, some 88% of respondents (39% of participants) reported that they identified up to 15 potential business opportunities for their clients.

About 2,650 companies were involved in 7 SME-Panels and feedback on subjects such as origin labelling of meat used as ingredient, quality framework for traineeship, SME rating, origin indicating for foodstuff, misleading marketing practices and cross-border transfer of registered offices of companies within the EU.

The reporting of the Network partners on the delivery of their services for the period 2013-2014 is not available yet, as the analysis of intermediary reporting 2013 has still to be received and the final reports are due on 15 February 2015. The below summary is based on available partial reporting data and information from the workprogrammes. It gives an impression on the number of SMEs and the variety of services delivered by the about 3,000 staff in the Network. Services range from information on EU matters, company visits and awareness raising campaigns to specialised advisory services, company missions and brokerage events.

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

- involved in promotion & information local events:	205,000
- contacted via (e-)newsletters etc.:	2 million
- helped with queries on EU matters:	123,000
- receiving specialised advisory services:	72,500
- consulted via SME Panels& Feedback database:	2,600 (incl. 12 Panels)
- involved in brokerage events:	24,000
- for whom partnership proposals were produced & disseminated:	11,500
- that signed a partnership agreement:	2,400
- total workforce providing services (full time equivalent):	1,473
	(with about 3,000 staff involved)

Other Network qualitative indicators:

- staff participating in trainings & working groups: 1,447
- services most appreciated by clients (Benefits survey) – top 3:
 1. Possibility to access new market by contacts and meeting with foreign companies, clusters representatives;
 2. Opportunity to develop new products and services
 3. Wide range of services offered: information, finance, technical & partner research and the promotion by the Network Partners through different channels.

Network partners have been further stimulated to contribute to the continuous improvement of the Network's value chain and benefits for SMEs. Evaluation data has been obtained by organising a 4th Benefits Survey showing the economic benefit of the services to SMEs.

Websites:

Enterprise Europe Network: ec.europa.eu/enterprise-europe-network

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

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The current specific grant agreements were signed early 2013 and cover the operational period 2013-2014; the year 2014 will be the last year on the Network as part of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The current operational period will end as planned on 31 December 2014.

For the next period, the Network will be part of COSME. The publication of the call is scheduled for January 2014 and the new Network will start its activities on 1 January 2015. The evaluation of the call will be done early summer, refinement and contract preparation is scheduled after summer time. The budget for the grant agreements of the new Network covering the first operational period 2015-2016 will be part of the COSME budgets of both 2014 and 2015.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

An amount of EUR 46 437 000 has been committed to cover part of the Network grants for the third and last operational cycle 2013-2014 within the same framework partnership agreements. An amount of EUR 3 million was committed for Network animation (including IT systems development).

Unit ENTR D.2

Contact: Patrick De Smedt (DHoU)

EUROPEAN IPR HELPDESK ENT/CIP/13/B/N02C01

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The European Helpdesk on IPR supports the beneficiaries of Union funded programmes and other Union SMEs by:

- website including support documents, FAQs, brochures, e-learning tools and case studies;
- helpline;
- training to intermediaries;
- awareness actions.

The IPR Helpdesk has also been funded under previous EIP annual work programmes. The Review report for the first contractual period shows that the launch of the new web site has been successful, and the number of questions answered by the helpline has increased steadily. It also states the necessity of continued efforts to raise IPR awareness among beneficiaries of Union-funded projects and among European SMEs in general.

The implementation of the action has been carried out in coordination with DG MARKT and with the EU Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights.

The Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI) is entrusted with the implementation of the tasks and the management of the project.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013:

The European IPR Helpdesk call for tender was launched in July 2013. The offers were evaluated in September and the contracted were signed in December. The project started in January 2014 and is a continuation of previous helpdesks.

Based on previous years of operations the service is expected to have at least 90,000 visitors of the website, 750 enquiries, 30 trainings and 22 webinars in 2014.

Website: <https://www.iprhelpdesk.eu/>

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The operations of the European IPR Helpdesk funded from EIP 2013 will entirely take place in 2014. All awareness raising and training activities, advice on IP and website and new publication development will be done in 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation of the action started in January 2014 and will end in December 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounted to EUR 899 237.

Unit ENTR A.4 & EACI

Contact: Anne Von Zukowski

CHINA IPR HELPDESK CONTINUATION ENT/CIP/13/B/N02C02

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The China IPR Helpdesk has actively worked since 2007 (Pilot project 2007-2010). The current helpdesk (financed in the period 2010 - 2013) continued until December 2013. It offers first-line advice on China IPR issues to European SMEs both in China and around Europe. These services offer practical business advice from experienced professionals (lawyers, business executives, IPR investigators) in person, on-line, and through workshops, e-learning materials, and training.

The service is offered in co-ordination with and in direct response to requests from European SMEs, SME federations and similar groupings sectoral, regional, local associations of SMEs). Services are delivered where and how they may be most useful to European SMEs, such as in their local area by visiting experts for training sessions, at their trade or sectoral groups' meetings, and before participation in relevant trade fairs.

Services and expert replies can be customised to address specific subject matter of relevance to the business or branch. In addition the service maintains contacts with the Chinese administration to 'signpost' needed contacts there.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The China IPR SME Helpdesk call for tender was launched in July 2013. The offers were evaluated in September and the contracted were signed in December.

Based on previous years of operation, the service is expected to have at least 50 workshop events, 10 webinars, to train about 2,800 persons, and to handle more than 230 individual confidential business inquiries, as well as achieve more than 30,000 visitors of the website in 2014.

Website: <http://www.china-iprhelpdesk.eu/>

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The operations of the China IPR SME Helpdesk funded from EIP 2013 will entirely take place in 2014. All activities (awareness raising, training, advice, website, and new publications) will be done in 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation of the action started in January 2014 and will end in December 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 1 199 777.

Unit ENTR A.4

Contact: Wawrzyniec Perschke

YOUR EUROPE BUSINESS PORTAL ENT/CIP/13/B/N02C03

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

Your Europe Business Portal aims at becoming the multilingual ‘one-stop-shop’ for enterprises interested in doing business across the EU. It contains practical information on the relevant EU and national rules, and signposts to various support services. It has a sister Citizens section managed and financed by DG MARKT. The information is obtained from the European Commission services and from the national authorities via the members of the Your Europe Editorial Board.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

In 2013 the revamp of EU-level content was completed. The information is of practical nature and presented in a clear, jargon-free, and concise manner. Based on the online user survey (1,600 responses), 68% of respondents found the information they were looking for, either completely or partially; 9% did not find at all the information they looked for. 56% of respondents rated the Your Europe Business as excellent or good; 6% found it poor or very poor. The Google Adwords campaign and increased presence on LinkedIn, as well as other promotional activities, helped popularise the portal and increase the number of visits, which reached 1.4 million (almost 50% more than in 2012). The number of page views reached 2.7 million (almost 74% more than in 2012).

All participating countries were asked to update their country information. Reminders were sent, if necessary. Eighteen countries sent updates requested, which were then edited, translated and published.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

Services of a web developer, webmaster, as well as editorial services, hosting, revamping of the national content of the portal and promotional activities in 2014 will still be financed from EIP budget for 2013.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The first 3 contracts were signed at the end of December 2013. Two more contracts will be concluded by the 3rd quarter 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 760 000.

Unit ENTR D.2 & EACI

Contact: Dorota Przy•udzka

WORTH PILOT PROJECT ENT/CIP/13/B/N02C05

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

Under the COSME programme (2014-2020), a multiannual operation is foreseen to promote the competitiveness of consumer goods industries, such as textile-clothing, footwear, leather and leather products, accessories and other fashion products as well as furniture and home decoration, by integrating new business models, competences and skills, such as design content.

Before launching actions under COSME, it appears prudent to test the less known ones beforehand: this is the purpose of Worth Pilot Project.

While “market replication projects” do not need to be tested as the concept is already proven, “soft measures” were never tested at European level. That is why a test is welcome: WORTH Pilot Project will therefore prepare the ground for actions to be potentially developed under COSME on a multiannual basis.

In the framework of COSME, two different actions will be proposed:

- “Market replication projects” inspired in terms of methodology by the current EIP ecoinnovation projects but with a stronger focus on business aspects, including customisation of products;
- “Soft measures” to promote the integration of skills and competences by consumer goods industries.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

As the work only started end of November, meaningful information on the results of the action is yet to be available.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The contract was signed end of November 2013, the kick-off meeting took place in January 2014. Implementation of the project will actually start in the first quarter 2014 with first reports available during the second semester and preliminary results expected by the end of 2014.

Over the period 2014-2015, the contractor of the WORTH pilot project is expected to: establish a Steering Board; deploy the web and IT tools required to provide information to designers, enterprises (SMEs) and the general public about the project’s timetable and activities; provide support to designers and SMEs; organise and manage calls for applications; and define the terms and conditions for partnership agreements between designers and enterprises. The contractor is expected to organise 30 partnership agreements and showcase the deliverables from such partnerships on international exhibitions and trade fairs.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

- Publication of the call for tenders: 18 April 2013
- deadline for submission: 28 June 2013
- Signature of the contract: 25 November 2013
- Start implementation of the project: 25 November 2013. Implementation: 24 months:
 - Inception report due by the end of January 2014
 - Interim reports on months 8 and 16
 - Final report on month 24
 - Stock-taking meetings every 6 months
 - On-going information and dissemination activities; presence at exhibitions and trade fairs throughout 2015.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 988 695.

Unit ENTR E.3 Contacts: Jean-François Aguinaga (HoU), Agnieszka Wojdyr

TOURISM

ENT/CIP/13/B/N03S00

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

Supporting the enhancement and promotion of transnational thematic tourism products

This action has aimed at supporting the enhancement and promotion of transnational thematic tourism products, through the call for proposals and through the organisation of a conference, match-making and marketing event (Carrefour d'Europe Fair) on Cultural Routes. The objectives of this measure was to contribute to the diversification of the transnational tourism offer, strengthen transnational cooperation with regard to sustainable tourism and encourage a higher involvement of small and micro enterprises and local authorities.

Enhancing the visibility of emerging tourist destinations of excellence

This action has aimed at enhancing the visibility of emerging tourist destinations of excellence, as destinations where the economic growth objective is pursued in such a way as to ensure the social, cultural and environmental sustainability of tourism. The objectives of this initiative were to enhance awareness about and recognition of lesser known/emerging tourist destinations and to ensure a better coordinated and integrated approach to their promotion.

Enhancing visibility of Europe and its destinations

This action has aimed at enhancing promotion and visibility of Europe and its destinations, in particular towards emerging Third Countries. The activities under this action have focused on communication about the diversity of Europe as well as its wealth of heritage and transnational thematic tourism products. The main objective was to contribute to a better coordinated and integrated approach to communication activities about diversity in Europe and about the potential of transnational thematic tourism products.

Facilitating transnational low season tourism

The action has aimed at facilitating transnational low season tourists' flows in Europe for specific target groups, focusing in particular on seniors, adding value to national, regional and private initiatives. The objectives were to contribute to the improvement of tourism seasonality patterns across Europe, to strengthen transnational cooperation with regard to the extension of the touristic season to create jobs, promote regional development and generate economic growth across Europe, to foster the European citizenship, as well as to involve SMEs in strengthening structures and in facilitating tourists' flows in the low season.

Facilitating the adaptation of workers in the sector to new technologies and market expectations

This action has aimed at facilitating the adaptation of workers in the sector to new technologies and labour market expectations and eventually their mobility through adaptation and improvement of professional skills that are trans-nationally recognised. The objectives were to assist the tourism sector in developing a high quality and relevant training framework based on skills and capabilities required by the labour market and to enhance the possibilities of workers in the sector to acquire the adequate training and education that would lead to their adaptation to new requirements of the market and that is transnationally recognised.

Enhancing the tourism socio-economic knowledge base

This action has aimed at enhancing the tourism socio-economic knowledge base regarding, amongst others, aspects such as demographic and climate changes, trends in the evolution of tourism demand and supply or impacts of unforeseen events and difficult situations with a view to providing more useful elements to the industry strategies and to the public authorities' policies.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

Information on past and on-going work as well as outputs can be accessed through the website: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/tourism/index_en.htm

Supporting the enhancement and promotion of transnational thematic tourism products

- a) Forty-eight proposals (including 350 entities – public & regional administration, European tourism associations, SMEs) were registered following our call for proposals launched in May 2013, showing the great interest of different sectors involved in the field of Tourism. Given the high number of proposals, the award decision has been postponed to January 2014 and the implementation of the projects should start in March 2014. Given the available budget, it is expected that 7 projects will be co-financed. The impact of this action will be known at the end of 2015.
- b) For the second year, the fair "Crossroads of Europe", organized in Toulouse, has highlighted the importance of European Cultural Routes in the development of a new form of tourism, focused on the respect of environment, culture and populations. Hundreds of experts participated to the different events spread over 3 days (conference, workshops & fair).

More details can be obtained on http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/tourism/cultural-routes/toulouse-2013/index_en.htm.

The preparation of the next meeting that will take place in Ferrol (Spain) has already started with the Spanish authorities.

Enhancing the visibility of emerging tourist destinations of excellence (EDEN)

- a) Fifteen National Tourism ministries/organizations answered to the call of proposals and decided to promote and to enhance the visibility of their destinations of excellence for the period 2014-2015.
- b) As CIP participating country, the Republic of Serbia decided for the first time to participate to the EDEN programme and should select a destination by June 2014.

Enhancing visibility of Europe and its destinations

In order to further contribute to the enhancement of Europe's and its destinations' visibility, dedicated events were organized, i.e. the dedicated ceremony for the European Destinations of Excellence (EDEN) Award and EDEN Network meeting (November 2013) and the European Tourism Day (December 2013). The events gathered respectively 200 and 400 participants together and were well received and appreciated by stakeholders. Their impact has been also spread over via dedicated press-releases and awareness-raising flanking activities. Specific contracts were signed for the management of the European Tourism Day and EDEN events.

Facilitating transnational low season tourism encouraging Senior Citizens to travel

Fifty-eight proposals (including 388 entities – public & regional administration, European Tourism Association, SMEs) were registered following call for proposals (launched in September 2013, showing the great interest of different sectors involved in the field of Tourism & policies in favor of the "seniors". Given the high number of proposals, the award decision has been postponed to February 2014 and the implementation of the projects (4 projects should be co-financed) should start in March 2014. The impact of this action will be known at the end of 2015.

Facilitating the adaptation of workers in the sector to new technologies and market expectations

Thirteen bids were registered following the call for tenders (Mapping and performance check of the supply side of tourism education and training) launched in August 2013. The award decision has been postponed to February 2014 and the implementation of the projects should start in March 2014. The impact of this action will be known in the second quarter 2015.

Enhancing the tourism socio-economic knowledge base

The 2013 Euro-barometer survey (publication in March 2014) will describe the attitudes of tourists towards holidays and contribute to the tourism socio-economic knowledge base with regards to trends in tourism demand. It will be an important forecasting instrument for the upcoming tourism season. The results of this survey will be ready in March 2014.

Within year 2013 a series of actions have been implemented to set up the Virtual Tourism Observatory website (VTO), based on the first set of requirements provided in the Feasibility Study.

Conferences & Meetings

In order to allow a maximum participation to the initiatives, several meetings were organised in 2013 on different topics: System of indicators on sustainable management, Senior tourism, Future of the EU tourism sector, European Tourism Forum (in cooperation with the Lithuanian Presidency).

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The implementation of most of the actions will start in the first quarter 2014. Most of the results and deliverables will be submitted during 2014 and at the beginning of 2015.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

Given the unexpected success of the initiatives (call for proposals & call for tenders) resulting to the submission of a high number of proposals and bids, the starting date of most of the projects has been postponed to the first quarter 2014 and the impact & results should be known during 2015 and 2016.

Supporting the enhancement and promotion of transnational thematic tourism products

Call for proposals

- Publication of the call for proposals: 3 May 2013
- Deadline for submission: 3 July 2013
- Start implementation of the projects: 1st March 2014
- Implementation: 18 months
- Submission of the Interim implementation report: every 6 months
- Submission of the Final technical implementation report: December 2015

Organization of Crossroads of Europe (Toulouse, May 2013)

- Definition of needs: 1st quarter 2013
- Signature of the service contract: 11 April 2013

Enhancing the visibility of emerging tourist destinations of excellence (EDEN)

- Publication of the call for proposals: 18 April 2013
- Deadline for submission: 18 June 2013
- Start implementation of the project: 1st January 2014
- Implementation: 18 months
- Submission of the Interim implementation report: every 6 months
- Submission of the Final technical implementation report: September 2015

Enhancing visibility of Europe and its destinations

- Publication of the call for tenders: 15 March 2013
- Deadline for submission: 5 April 2013
- Start implementation of the project: July 2013
- Implementation: 6 months
- Submission of the Final technical implementation report: March 2014

Facilitating transnational low season tourism encouraging Senior Citizens to travel

- Publication of the call for proposals: 27 June 2013
- deadline for submission: 26 September 2013
- Start implementation of the projects: 1st March 2014
- Implementation: 18 months
- Submission of the Interim implementation report: every 6 months
- Submission of the Final technical implementation report: December 2015

Facilitating the adaptation of workers in the sector to new technologies and market expectations

- Publication of the call for tenders: 23 August 2013
- deadline for submission: 24 October 2013
- Start implementation of the project: February 2014
- Implementation: 14 months
- Submission of the Final technical implementation report: May 2015

Enhancing the tourism socio-economic knowledge base

- Preparation/finalisation of the questions: 4th Quarter 2013
- Signature of the service contract: 16 December 2013
- Publication of the survey results: March 2014

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 5 961 000. More specifically:

Transnational thematic tourism products

Call for proposals EUR 1 730 000

Given a high number of registered proposals and good quality of proposals, the budget was increased from 1 500 000 originally foreseen to EUR 1 730 000 (within the 20% of flexibility authorised in the financing decision).

Organization of Crossroads of Europe EUR 173 000

EDEN EUR 860 052

Enhancing visibility of Europe and its destinations EUR 729 210

Transnational low season tourism EUR 1 200 000

Given the high number of registered proposals and the good quality of the proposals, the original budget of EUR 1 000 000 was increased to EUR 1 200 000 (within the 20% of flexibility authorised in the financing decision).

Facilitating the adaptation of workers EUR 500 000

Enhancing the tourism socio-economic knowledge base EUR 567 060

Conferences & Meetings EUR 202 000

Unit ENTR E.1 Contact: Alain Liberos (DHoU), Ilona Lelonek Husting, Girma Anuskeviciute, Nicole Huckert, Oscar Almendros.

Unit ENTR E.2 Contact: Antonella Correra, Giulia Garofalo.

MACHINE TRANSLATION SERVICES FOR PATENTS ENT/CIP/13/B/N04S00

This action has been cancelled

C. ALL FORMS OF INNOVATION IN ENTERPRISES

E-SKILLS FOR COMPETITIVENESS AND INNOVATION ENT/CIP/13/C/N01C01

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The objective is to support the implementation of a long term e-skills strategy⁴ to generate a large talent pool and strengthen Europe's global competitive positioning. The needs go beyond technical skills and include also business, leadership and entrepreneurship skills etc. This measure is contributing to the "Industrial Policy for the Globalisation Era" and the "Digital Agenda" flagships of Europe 2020 as well as to the "Grand Coalition for Digital Jobs" launched by President Barroso at the conference on "Filling the Gap: e-Skills and Education for Digital Jobs"⁵ on 4-5 March 2013 in Brussels. This measure is composed of three actions:

1. Promotion of ICT Professionalism and the development of a European meta-model of foundational body of knowledge for ICT practitioners and of a sustainable operating model for the promotion of ICT professionalism in Europe;
2. Development of targeted actions for start-ups and fast growing SMEs to provide them with relevant e-leadership skills and qualifications for entrepreneurs, managers and advanced users that are trans-nationally recognised.
3. Organisation of a pan-European awareness raising campaign "e-Skills for Jobs" based on the successful experience of the European e-Skills Week.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

Three open calls for tenders have been prepared in close cooperation with other Commission services.

- The "e-Skills for Jobs" communication and awareness raising campaign will be implemented in 2014 by a large consortium composed of Digital Europe and EUN assisted by more than 30 institutes, universities and technological Federations and Associations.
- The "e-Leadership Skills for Small and Medium Size Enterprises" initiative will be implemented by the company empirica GmbH assisted by 9 companies from 9 Member States.
- The "Promotion of ICT Professionalism in Europe" initiative will be implemented by a consortium composed of Capgemini and Ernst & Young Financial Business Advisors.

These three actions will be implemented in close cooperation with Member States and the relevant Commission services (ENTR, CNECT, EMPL and EAC) which working together in the context of the "Grand Coalition for Digital Jobs".

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The implementation started in January. Most of the results/deliverables will be submitted in 2015 and 2016.

⁴ Further information is available here: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/ict/e-skills/index_en.htm with reports and documents: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/ict/documents/e-skills/index_en.htm

⁵ See www.filling-the-gaps.eu

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

e-Skills for Jobs

Publication of the call for tenders	25 June 2013
Deadline for submission	13 September 2013
Signature of the contract	18 December 2013
Start implementation of the project	January 2014
Implementation	12 months
Final report	December 2014

e-Leadership Skills for Small and Medium Size Enterprises

Publication of the call for tenders	25 June 2013
Deadline for submission	20 September 2013
Signature of the contract	17 December 2013
Start implementation of the project	January 2014
Implementation	18 months
Final report	June 2015

Promotion of ICT Professionalism in Europe

Publication of the call for tenders	4 July 2013
Deadline for submission	20 September 2013
Signature of the contract	19 December 2013
Start implementation of the project	January 2014
Implementation	12 months
Final report	December 2014

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed amounted to EUR 3 318 678. More specifically:

e-Skills for Jobs EUR 1 977 267

e-Leadership Skills for Small and Medium Size Enterprises EUR 899 870

Promotion of ICT Professionalism in Europe EUR 441 542

Unit ENTR E.4

Contact: André Richier

KEY ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES ENT/CIP/13/C/N01C02

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The objective is to support the implementation of the European strategy on Key Enabling Technologies (KETs) – a bridge to growth and jobs⁶. KETs provide the indispensable technology bricks for a wide range of product applications, including those required for improving energy efficiency, boosting the fight against climate change or allowing for healthy

⁶ COM (2012) 341

ageing. They are a key innovation accelerator and provide European industries with the competitive edge at a global level.

This measure contributes to closing this innovation gap in the area of KETs. It follows the request of the March 2012 European Council to strengthen Key Enabling Technologies and contributes to the implementation of the Europe 2020 flagship initiatives "Industrial Policy for the Globalisation Era", "Innovation Union" and "Digital Agenda".

This measure is composed of three actions:

1. Launch of a monitoring mechanism on the supply and demand of KETs in the Union, including a comparative benchmark at international level;
2. Support to the implementation of the KETs Action Plan with focus on promoting cooperation between EU KETs centres of excellence and multi-disciplinary technology training in these centres;
3. Development of a sectorial pilot on skills for KETs as a follow-up to the Communication establishing a European strategy for KETs.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013:

Three open call for tenders have been prepared in close co-operation with other EC services.

1. **Key Enabling Technologies (KETs) Observatory** was implemented by a consortium composed of IDEA Consult, Nederlandse Organisatie voor Toegepaste Natuurwetenschappelijke Onderzoek (TNO), Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique et aux Energies Alternatives (CEA), Zentrum für Europäische Wirtschaftsforschung GbmH (ZEW), Niedersächsisches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (NIW) and Ecorys UK Ltd.
 - An Inception report was approved in November 2013;
 - Updated data on trade and technology performance were available in December 2013;
 - Observatory website is published at www.ketsobservatory.eu.
2. The '**Support to the implementation of the KETs action plan** with focus on promotion co-operation between EU KETS technology centres of excellence' was implemented by a consortium composed of Steinbeis-Europa-Zentrum der Steinbeis Innovation gGmbH (SEZ), International Environment and Quality Services North Greece Ltd (Q-Plan North Greece Ltd), and d-mind Gesellschaft Bürgerlichen Rechts (d-mind GbR).
3. The '**Vision and Sectoral Pilot on Skills for Key Enabling Technologies**' was implemented by PwC EU Services.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

For action A, it is planned in 2014 to publish new indicators on production and business data in the first quarter and a first annual report in September, focussed on KETs performance in the EU and third countries. The project will end in the summer 2015.

The implementation of actions B and C will start in the first quarter 2014, the final results/deliverables will be available 2015 (see implementation calendar below).

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

Key Enabling Technologies (KETs) Observatory

Publication of the call for tenders	7 March 2013
Deadline for submission	7 May 2013
Signature of the contract	27 August 2013
Start implementation of the project	September 2013

Implementation	24 months
Final report	August 2015
Support to the implementation of the KETs action plan	
Publication of the call for tenders	12 July 2013
Deadline for submission	13 September 2013
Signature of the contract	13 December 2013
Start implementation of the project	January 2014
Implementation	14 months
Final report	February 2015
Vision and Sectoral Pilot on Skills for Key Enabling Technologies	
Publication of the call for tenders	2 July 2013
Deadline for submission	20 September 2013
Signature of the contract	13 December 2013
Start implementation of the project	January 2014
Implementation	18 months
Final report	May 2015

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 1 943 470. More specifically:

KETs Observatory EUR 880 400

Support to the implementation of the KETs action plan EUR 499 070

Vision and Sectoral Pilot on Skills for Key Enabling Technologies EUR 564 000

Unit ENTR E.4

Contacts: Nathalie Pasquier, André Richier

MAINSTREAMING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES AMONG ENTERPRISES AND SMES IN EUROPE ENT/CIP/13/C/N01C03

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The objective of the measure is to shape and implement an EU long-term strategy, in line with the Digital Agenda review and the Industrial Policy Update targets. The strategy offers SMEs a leading place in the modern digital economy by fostering the use of novel digital technologies as an important enabler for innovation, growth and jobs creation. This measure enables established innovative and dynamic businesses grow to their full potential, thanks to innovative ideas enabled by new advanced digital technologies. It also encourages the creation of new dynamic high-growth businesses in the digital era. This measure contributes to the implementation of the “Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan”, the “Industrial Policy for the Globalisation Era”, “Innovation Union”, “Digital Agenda”, “Small Business Act” and the “Single Market Act” flagships of Europe 2020.

This measure is composed of two actions:

1. Connecting SMEs to global digital value chains
2. Boosting Digital Entrepreneurship in Europe, by raising awareness and the visibility of digital icons and creating a European ecosystem of eMentors to help inspire, spark and support new business ideas.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

Two open calls for tenders have been prepared in close cooperation with other Commission services.

1. The project 'Leveraging the integration of SMEs to global digital value chains' will be implemented by a consortium composed of Ernst & Young & Associés and Mostra.
2. The project 'Fostering Digital Entrepreneurship in Europe: raising awareness and the visibility of digital icons and creation of a European Network of eMentors ecosystem' will be implemented by a consortium composed of Deloitte Consulting and Digital Europe assisted by 12 other European companies involved in the field of Research & Innovation.

These two actions will be implemented in close cooperation with Member States and the relevant Commission services (ENTR, CNECT, MARKT, EAC and EMPL).

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The implementation started in January. Most of the results/deliverables will be submitted by the end of 2014 for the first project and 2015 for the second one.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

Leveraging the integration of SMEs to global digital value chains

Publication of the call for tenders	25 June 2013
Deadline for submission	6 September 2013
Signature of the contract	10 December 2013
Start implementation of the project	December 2013
Implementation	12 months
Final report	December 2014

Fostering Digital Entrepreneurship in Europe

Publication of the call for tenders	27 June 2013
Deadline for submission	12 September 2013
Signature of the contract	13 December 2013
Start implementation of the project	December 2013
Implementation	24 months
Final report	December 2015

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 3 502 545. More specifically:

Leveraging the integration of SMEs to global digital value chains EUR 686 400

Fostering Digital Entrepreneurship in Europe EUR 2 816 145

**DEMAND SIDE POLICY MEASURES FOR INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION
(SUCCESSOR OF LEAD MARKET INITIATIVE)
ENT/CIP/13/C/N02C01**

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

Demand-based innovation policy is a key element of the Innovation Union and Industry Policy Flagships. The measure, which would be a key initiative in the context of the action plan to boost sales of European innovative solutions at a global scale, aims at further developing the approach of the Lead Market Initiative as a prime model for demand-oriented industrial innovation policy.

In 2013, the specific intention of this implementing measure is to set up 'strategic roadmaps' in a number of sectors and markets that organise the prioritisation and implementation of demand-side measures. In addition, these roadmaps can plan the demand-side actions in larger initiatives, such as European Innovation Partnerships, and public-private partnerships in Horizon 2020.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The grant agreements for six projects to develop strategic roadmaps for demand-side innovation policy measures were signed in December 2013.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

As foreseen in the Work Programme, the call for proposals was launched in 2nd quarter 2013. In the course of the preparation of the action it became evident that 12 months will be too short for such projects which have to involve many stakeholders. Therefore, the duration of the projects was extended from 12 to 18 months, so that the final report is not due in 4th quarter 2014, but in the 2nd quarter 2015.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation of the six selected projects started in January 2014 and will end in June 2015.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

Total amount committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 891 102

Unit ENTR B.3

Contact: Catherine Ebah-Moussa

**SUPPORTING PUBLIC PROCUREMENT OF INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS
ENT/CIP/13/C/N02C02**

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The support to innovative companies is a centrepiece of the European Commission's growth strategy Europe 2020. Businesses will have more success in Europe if public authorities put the right framework conditions in place. Public procurement accounts for nearly 20% of GDP in the EU and can be a potentially huge market for innovative solutions (products and services). This potential is massively under-used in Europe. Purchasing innovative products

which are not yet available on a large-scale commercial basis entails a higher risk than purchasing products that are already commercially widely available.

The European Commission called on public procurement bodies to form "buyers' groups" of innovative solutions to improve the economic framework conditions for innovation and thereby contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The measure provides a bridge between on-going projects – eight projects supporting the public procurement of innovative solutions are currently running co-financed under EIP 2011 - and the launch of innovation procurement projects under Horizon 2020.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The call for proposals was published on 15 March 2013. An Info Day took place in Berlin on 21-22 March 2013. Six proposals were submitted.

Grant agreements were signed in October and November 2013 for 2 projects: PAPIRUS (Public Administration Procurement Innovation to Reach Ultimate Sustainability) and PROBIS (Procurement of Building Innovative Solutions).

These projects cover 8 CIP participating countries: Italy, Norway, Spain, Hungary, Germany, France, Sweden, and Poland.

Website

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/public-procurement/index_en.htm

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The measure will be implemented until the end of 2016.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The call was published on 15 March 2013. Grant agreements were signed in October and November 2013. The implementation will end in the 4th quarter 2016.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 5 292 163.

Due to a lack of sufficient high-quality proposals, the budget was reduced from EUR 6.35 million to EUR 5.5 million in the 3rd revision of the EIP Work Programme.

Unit ENTR B.3

Contact: Bertrand Wert

SOCIAL INNOVATION ENT/CIP/13/C/N02C04

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The Innovation Union stressed that social innovation is an important new field that should be nurtured (see Commitment 26). The Social Innovation Europe (SIE) initiative was launched as a pilot in early 2011 to connect social innovators across Europe, encourage mutual learning, develop the knowledge base of this community and allow the development of joint-projects across borders. Given its success in delivering against those objectives but the need to still expand the community around the platform, the action aimed at extending the pilot for one more year.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The SIE pilot initiative was extended as of May 2013 until May 2014, allowing the consolidation of results achieved over the first 2 years of existence and allowing a transition towards a more ambitious phase under Horizon 2020. This consisted of:

- the repatriation of the website to European Commission's servers and its technical maintenance internally by Commission staff to avoid continuity risks;
- the recruitment of editorial and web support for the provision of content to the Platform and its daily administration.

Thanks to this extension, the SIE initiative has achieved the following results since its beginning:

- The website has consistently be within top 3 Google search results for key words 'social innovation Europe';
- About 7,000 website visits are recorded per month, with between 300-600 daily users on weekdays;
- Over 80,000 unique visitors and 40,000 returning visitors have browsed the site;
- Almost 5,000 items of content have been posted – including organization listings, news items, articles, interviews and contributions from registered users;
- About 5,000 persons are registered on the website and/or in social media groups.

Websites

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/socialinnovationeurope>

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/social-innovation/index_en.htm.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

Further phases of the Initiative will be funded under Horizon 2020.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The low-value tender was sent to 7 companies on 8 February 2013.

The low-contract was signed on 8 May 2013 for one year (end date: 7 May 2014).

The repatriation achieved on European Commission's servers took place in May 2013.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 93 550.

Unit ENTR B.3

Contact: Xavier Le Mounier

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS: PREPARING THE FUTURE ENT/CIP/13/C/N02C05

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The Commission intends to support the development of civil applications of drones, while addressing potential adverse impact on citizens including liability/insurance issues in case of accidents as well as privacy and data protection. To that end, the Commission has launched 2

studies, one on Liability and Insurance issues related to civil drones applications and one on Privacy and Data protection issues.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

As the two studies were launched at the end 2013, the results are expected by end 2014.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The studies will be finalised during 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

Study on Insurance

Tender publication: 31 May 2013

Final Report: 1 September 2014

Study on Privacy

Tender publication: 10 August 2013

Final Report: 15 October 2014

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 286 607.

Unit ENTR G.5

Contact: Jean-Pierre Lentz

FOLLOW-UP OF LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE: IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE OF SHIPS AND DIVERSIFICATION OF SHIPBUILDING INTO OFF-SHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY
ENT/CIP/13/C/N02C06

This measure has been cancelled.

INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION SURVEY (INNOBAROMETER)
ENT/CIP/13/C/N03C01

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The Innobarometer is the instrument developed by the Commission to capture innovation phenomena at firm or citizen level. The 2014 Innobarometer survey will explore the perception of companies from all EU Members States plus Switzerland and US (which are top international innovators) about the issue of public support to companies in the uptake and commercialisation of innovations.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The questionnaire has been developed in cooperation with UNU-MERIT Maastricht and Technopolis Group, DG ENTR, DG COMM and the Contractor. The specific contract was signed in December 2013.

The results will be published in the DG COMM Eurobarometer webpage:

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/flash_arch_en.htm

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

- Finalisation of the questionnaire and translation into 28 languages;
- The field work have been carried out during the months of January and February 2014;
- Results will be available in March/April 2014.
-

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The specific contract was signed in December 2013.

The final report is expected to be available around April 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 413 479.

The budget increased from the original EUR 380 000 following the increase of the sample sizes from 200 to 400 companies for Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Switzerland and Croatia (suggested by DG COMM in order to increase the robustness of the analysis).

Unit ENTR B.3

Contact: Alberto Licciardello

SUPPORT ACTIONS FOR THE PROMOTION OF INNOVATIVE SERVICES AND BUSINESS APPLICATIONS USING DATA AND INFORMATION FROM THE GMES PROGRAMME AND THE EGNOS AND GALILEO SIGNALS

ENT/CIP/13/C/N03C03

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The objective of the measure aimed at promoting the deployment of GMES and GNSS-based services through large scale demonstrators. The demonstrators will focus on finding solutions and systematically creating entrepreneurial opportunities for the wider use of mobile and mobility services to offer new and better ways of attracting new customers and of better satisfying their needs.

They will test and implement new approaches to make use of innovative services based on GMES and GNSS, for example by supporting and facilitating the collection of environmental information on the field (e.g. on land cover/land use, on the state of vegetation, on water quality, ecosystems and biodiversity) using modern IT systems like GNSS-enabled devices receiving Galileo/EGNOS signal and GMES information as a background for better monitoring and implementing the environmental policies and for improving the knowledge basis.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

A Call was published on 13 September 2013 aiming to select 2 proposals. Twelve offers were received and evaluated.

The Call for proposals was published at the following address:

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=6944&lang=en&title=European%2DMobile%2Dand%2DMobility%2DIndustries%2DAlliance%2DE2%80%93%2D2013

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The signature of the grant agreements stemming out of the Call for proposals and the implementation of the projects will be carried out during 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The grant agreements is due to be signed in February 2014. The final reports will be drafted after 18 months.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 2 375 000

Unit ENTR G.2

Contact: Nicolae Mitu

INNOVATION DEMAND MONITORING SYSTEM ENT/CIP/13/C/N03C04

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities.

This measure is aimed to develop a monitoring and evaluation methodology toolbox which provides guidance to public authorities on how to assess the progress, degree of implementation, costs and benefits, as well as the achieved results of demand-side policy measures carried out by public authorities. It is part of the action plan to boost demand for European innovative solutions. The demand-side policies are expected to grow in Europe, but the evidence base for such policies has repeatedly been found unsatisfactory. In the evaluation of the Lead Market Initiative of July 2011, it was pointed out that it is essential to have good baseline data for developing demand-side policies.

The new data and methodologies developed serve to establish a baseline for demand-oriented innovation policies, and also to monitor such policies and to generate new analysis on impact, drivers and obstacles, innovation trends and patterns from combinations with traditional datasets.

The measure establishes a reference methodology in demand-oriented policies that could be used also by CIP participating countries. Thus, it contributes to the implementation of the European Council Conclusions 1-2 March 2012, which states: "Creating the best possible environment for entrepreneurs to commercialise their ideas and create jobs and putting demand-led innovation as a main driver of Europe's research and development policy".

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The call for tender was launched in the 2nd quarter 2013. The contract was signed in December 2013.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The development of the monitoring and evaluation methodology toolbox will be carried out throughout 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The work started in January 2014 and will end in December 2016.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 1 718 850.

Unit ENTR B.3

Contact: Catherine Ebah-Moussa

EUROPEAN CLUSTER OBSERVATORY II ENT/CIP/13/C/N04C01

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

Building upon the results obtained from the first generation of the European Cluster Observatory, this second generation of the European Cluster Observatory is aimed at supporting efforts to promote the development of more world-class clusters in Europe, notably with a view to fostering competitiveness and entrepreneurship in emerging industries and facilitating SMEs' access to clusters and their internationalisation activities through clusters.

The main task of the 'European Cluster Observatory' is to offer statistical analysis, mapping tools and policy advice towards the design of more evidence-based cluster policy in Europe. Specific aims to be met by 'European Cluster Observatory II' are: to publish a biannual European cluster panorama (statistical cluster mapping), to provide a European cluster trend analysis report, to develop a European stress test for cluster policy, to provide customised advice to selected model demonstrator regions, and to promote and raise awareness of the role that clusters and cluster policy can play.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

An open call for tenders was published in the OJ/S Supplement to the Official Journal of 21.06.2013 (2013/S 119-202156) and a corrigendum was published on 16.08.2013 (2013/S 158-275090), which extended the time limit for receipt of tenders from 16.08.2013 to 26.08.

Three bids were received after the set deadline for submission. The service contract was signed on 5 December 2013, and the kick-off meeting will place by the 1st quarter 2014.

The web pages for the European Cluster Observatory will be established in 2014 under the European Commission's Enterprise and Industry web portal.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The service contract will run until 5 January 2017 requiring on-going project management, including monitoring and validation of deliverables.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation started on 6 January 2014 and will end on 5 January 2017.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 2 352 418.

Unit ENTR D.5

Contact: Carsten Schierenbeck

CLUSTERS IN SUPPORT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN EMERGING INDUSTRIES

ENT/CIP/13/C/N04C02

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The action aims to support regions to adapt and change their industrial structures to unlock the potential of clusters and entrepreneurship for regional economic development and for addressing societal challenges by better capitalising on all forms of creativity, new technologies and the transformative power of innovation to shape new globally competitive value chains that may help to foster the development of emerging industries in Europe.

To achieve such “systemic impact”, a “systemic approach” must be adopted that strives to put in place a favourable environment for developing and testing new business models that integrate radical innovations under real-life conditions into existing value chains or successfully shape new ones.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

An open call for proposals was published on the DG ENTR website on 7 March 2013 with a two-stage submission procedure, the submission deadline for stage one being 17 April 2013 and with an indicative deadline of 23 August 2013 for stage two. Due to an unexpectedly high number of stage one submissions (124 proposals) the evaluation methodology for stage one had to be redesigned to include two rounds.

The two-round methodology and the high number of proposals resulted in a considerable delay in the finalisation of the evaluation of stage one, so the submission deadline for stage two had to be put back to 17 October 2013 in order to allow the min. of 6 weeks for the 12 short-listed candidates to prepare their proposals. This meant that the evaluation procedure and the resulting individual commitments could not be completed before the end of the year. The evaluation and award procedures will be completed at the beginning of 2014, so the resulting 6 projects may start their activities in February 2014.

The projects will be invited to profile themselves on the European Cluster Observatory website to be established in 2014 under the European Commission's Enterprise and Industry web portal.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The projects will run until the beginning of 2016 requiring on-going project management, including monitoring, extraction and validation of deliverables and outcomes.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation is expected to start in February 2014 and will end after 24 months.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 4 250 000.

Unit ENTR D.5

Contact: Lisbeth Bahl Poulsen

CLUSTER EXCELLENCE AND SME INTERNATIONALIZATION THROUGH CLUSTERS ENT/CIP/13/C/N04C03

This action has been implemented through 2 different measures.

1. Towards World-Class Clusters: promoting Cluster Excellence

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The objective of the action is to pursue the EU efforts aimed at strengthening cluster management excellence in the EU by further using the results and tools developed by the European Cluster Excellence Initiative (ECEI) and building upon the experience and lessons learned from the current projects working on cluster excellence. The action supports:

- Training activities on how to use the benchmarking tool provided by the European Secretariat for Cluster Analysis (ESCA) for assessing the performance of the management of cluster organisations;
- Training activities on how to assist cluster managers to improve their management skills and provide high quality services to their cluster members, by using the training materials provided by the European Foundation for Clusters and Competitiveness (EFCC);
- Activities to support the efforts of cluster organisations, which have already acquired the bronze label of excellence, to move to the next level of excellence and acquire the gold label.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

An open call for proposals was published on the ENTR website on 17 April 2013. In order to accommodate late requests, the initial submission deadline for the call was postponed by one week to 25 June 2013. The evaluation committee recommended 4 proposals for award (out of the 9 proposals received) and grant agreements were signed in mid-December 2013.

The projects will be invited to profile themselves on the European Cluster Collaboration Platform on the following website: <http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/>

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The projects will run until the beginning of 2016 requiring on-going project management, including monitoring, extraction and validation of deliverables and outcomes.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation started on 6 January 2014 and will end on 5 January 2016.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 1 374 896.

Unit ENTR D.5

Contact: Nikos Pantalos

2. EU Matchmaking Missions for SME Internationalisation through Clusters

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

Building upon the Memoranda of Understanding signed with the European Cluster Collaboration Platform and following the experience of a previous CIP-funded action organising international cluster matchmaking missions, this action aims to organise a number of specific matchmaking missions in or with partner countries to promote closer cluster cooperation with partners outside Europe in areas of mutual interest. Specifically, the action aims to:

- Develop a roadmap for the organisation of the missions and identify, with the support of the ECCP, where these missions shall take place, which organisations will host these missions and what their thematic focus shall be;
- Prepare and support a delegation of clusters from CIP participating countries in the specific area identified in view of establishing concrete cooperations/partnerships with international partners;
- Complete the planning, preparation and co-ordination of the missions and the necessary preparatory documentation, communication and reporting/follow-up activities.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

An open call for tenders was published in the OJ/S Supplement to the Official Journal of 06.03.2013 (OJ 2013/S 046-073103) with a submission deadline of 30.04.2013. Eight bids were received after the set deadline for submission. The service contract was signed on 10 December 2013, and the kick-off meeting will take place in early 2014.

The matchmaking missions will be announced on the web pages of the European Cluster Collaboration Platform: <http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/>

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The service contract will run until the end of 2015 requiring on-going project management, including monitoring and validation of deliverables.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation started on 31 December 2013 and will end on 30 December 2015.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 343 470.

Unit ENTR D.5

Contact: Christophe Guichard

EUROPEAN DESIGN INNOVATION INITIATIVE ENT/CIP/13/C/N05S00

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The objective is to accelerate the take-up of design in innovation policies at European, national and regional levels and to promote the increased use of design in European industry as well as in the public sector to promote value creation, competitiveness and efficient use of resources. A special emphasis is put on closing the divide between the advanced regions and those lagging behind in applying design-driven innovation.

A coherent set of actions will be implemented to boost the adoption of design in innovation policies and to support the creation of capacity and competencies necessary to deliver these policies. This set of actions will be called the European Design Innovation Platform and falls under the framework of the Commission's Action Plan for Design-Driven Innovation. The European Design Innovation Platform (EDIP) project is aiming at increasing the use of design for innovation and growth across Europe. The EDIP project will provide a web-based platform to support peer-learning and partnerships as well as a programme of engagement advocating design-driven innovation to policy-makers and supporting the design capabilities in enterprises as well as in the public sector.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The grant agreement for the European Design Innovation Platform was signed in December 2013.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

Implementation of the EDI Platform project started in January 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The EDI Platform will be delivered over 36 months, starting from 6 January 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 2 849 968

Unit ENTR B.3

Contact: Antti Valle

EUROPEAN INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP ON RAW MATERIALS ENT/CIP/13/C/N06C01

This action has been implemented through 7 different measures.

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 2 675 141.

1. International dialogues and Raw Materials Diplomacy events

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

Raw Materials Diplomacy events took place in 2013 and will continue in 2014. The events will follow up on existing dialogues established by the nine agreements on cooperation in the area of raw materials signed by Vice President Antonio Tajani on behalf of the European Union (via a Letters of Intent) with the following countries: Argentina, Uruguay, Colombia, Mexico, Chile, Peru and Greenland, Morocco and Tunisia. The events will also follow up on other dialogues where the EU has specific interest. Each event consists of one or several meetings, involving stakeholders from administration, industry, research institutes and other relevant parties. For the period 2013-2014 five different Raw Materials Diplomacy events have been foreseen:

- EU-US-Japan trilateral workshop on criticality, Brussels, October-November 2013
- EU-Latin America dialogue (with Peru, Colombia, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, Mexico), Peru, February 2014
- Workshop on best practices on mining policies (including technologies) with Canada, Australia, Chile, South Africa and United States, Brussels, June 2014
- EU-Greenland workshop in Greenland, Greenland, September 2014
- EU-AU workshop on infrastructure development, Brussels, October 2014

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

A first event has been organised on 2 December 2013 with the EU, Japan and US counterparts on critical raw materials. The purpose of the workshop, which is part of the Raw Materials Work Plan agreed by the Transatlantic Economic Council (TEC), was to exchange information with the United States and Japan on the upcoming review of critical raw materials list, inform of the progress and possibly compare it with the US and Japanese analysis and data on critical raw materials. The EU presented the review of the list of critical raw materials. US and Japanese delegates presented their approach to critical raw materials and proposals on further cooperation between the parties when it comes to defining critical and strategic materials in the future. A joint call under Horizon 2020 could be foreseen with Japan on a project involving critical raw materials.

Defining critical raw materials has an impact on the value chain of raw materials because it highlights supply security problems which can be tackled by the European Commission with different industrial and trade policy options. As SMEs are also users of critical raw materials within the value chain, the EU critical raw materials list is valuable information for their business practices.

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/raw-materials/critical/index_en.htm

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

In 2014 the 4 remaining Raw Materials Diplomacy events will be organised. Another phase of similar events is foreseen in 2015 to follow up on the letters of intent signed by VP Tajani with other countries.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation started in November 2013 and will end in December 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 645 837.

Unit ENTR F.3

Contact: Sebastian Zaleski

2. Study on data inventory for a raw material system analysis: roadmap and test of the fully operational MSA for raw materials.

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The study was awarded in the context of the EU 2020 strategy flagship initiative on Innovation Union and on the basis of the European Raw Materials Initiative. Therefore, it covers all aspects of the entire value chain of non-energy, non-agricultural raw materials and needs to take into account related environment directives on land and in the marine environment were appropriate in this context.

In 2012 a study “Study on Data Needs for a Full Raw Materials Flow Analysis” examining gaps and bottlenecks of data required for a full Material System Analysis (MSA) on the raw material sector was finalised.

The present study is the follow-up of the one mentioned above and shall implement its recommendations. The main challenges are to fill the data gaps and remove the bottlenecks of the data flows. Solutions for these challenges are either finding data sets or developing appropriate MSA modelling that would fill the gaps and remove the bottlenecks.

In line with the European Commission’s policy, any website that may be considered necessary in the context of this tender will be created and hosted by the Commission services and will be maintained under the Europa domain. Any proposition of information dissemination using a web site by the Tenderer should take into account the constraints of the European Commission visual identity and its Information Providers Guide and should be presented to and agreed by the Commission services in charge.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013:

Some results are expected in 2014, most of them in 2015 when also the impact of the study should be visible.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The Kick off meeting of the study will take place in the 1st quarter 2014; the study will be carried out in 2014 and 2015.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The contract was signed in December 2013. The end of contract is set in September 2015.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 497 019.

Unit ENTR F.3

Contact: Slavko Solar

3. European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials – Administrative and technical Secretariat

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

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

The specific objective of the Secretariat is to provide, on one hand, the logistical support and on the other hand, the technical support to the EIP's work, including the annual meetings of the EIP (such as High-level Steering Group, Sherpa Group and Operational Groups). The Secretariat in particular provides support in preparing documents such as the draft Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) - adopted in September 2013 – and the Monitoring scheme of the SIP – to be adopted in 2014. It also carries out communication and visibility activities, publishing all documents related to the EIP meetings via the internet portal. It is the contact point for stakeholders.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The EIP was launched in 2013. The EIP Secretariat is an on-going activity to support the EIP in its work. The contract with the selected consortium for the EIP Secretariat was signed on 18 January 2013 (commitment from 2012 Work Programme). The contract has been renewed on 20 December 2013, in order to cover the activities of the EIP meetings of 2014.

The main objectives of 2013 were to develop the Strategic Implementation Plan of the EIP, prepare its implementation via the launch of a Call for Commitments and prepare the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

In order to do so, a number of meetings took place in the course of the year: two High Level Steering Group meetings, four Sherpa Group meetings, two Operational Groups meetings, one stakeholder workshop on EIP-related initiatives and one EIP Annual Conference. The Strategic Implementation Plan of the EIP was adopted by the High Level Steering Group on 25 September 2013, the Call for Commitments was launched on 31 October 2013 and the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework discussed at the last Sherpa Group meeting for adoption in 2014.

A balanced and full participation of different partners (i.e. government, industry, academia...) and sectors in meetings was ensured (see membership of different EIP groups at <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/raw-materials/en/members>). Meeting documents were delivered on time. No technical support/studies were requested by the High Level Steering Group.

Website: EIP on Raw Materials <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/raw-materials/en>

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The Secretariat will continue to support the work of the European Innovation Partnership, during 2014.

A number of meetings are to be organised: one High Level Steering Group meeting, three Sherpa Group meetings, two Operational Groups meetings, one EIP Annual conference.

In the first part of the year the Secretariat will provide support in finalising the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, analysing the results of the Call for Commitments, preparing the first monitoring exercise. In the second half of the year, draft the first Monitoring Report on the implementation of the Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP). It will also be in charge of regularly feeding new information into the EIP website and keeping it updated.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The contract was signed on 18 January 2013 and renewed on 20 December 2013 for 2014 services.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 692 105.

Unit ENTR F.3

Contact: Anne Auffret

4. Competitiveness of the EU mineral raw materials sector: non-energy extractive industries and recycling industries

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The aim of the study is to have a complete, up-to-date and concise overview on the competitiveness of the European Mineral Raw Materials Sector (MRMS), namely Non-Energy Extractive Industries (NEEI) and Recycling Industries (RI). This will assist the European Commission, as well as Member States, industry and other stakeholders in developing, implementing and assessing the policies and actions supporting the goals of EU Industrial policy to increase the share of industry on GDP to 20% as well as the goals of EU Raw Materials Strategy, and the European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials.

NEEI include the production of metals (ferrous and non-ferrous), industrial minerals and construction materials (aggregates, dimension stone, different clays, etc.).

RI in this study is limited to the industries that include the production of metals, industrial minerals and construction minerals as the ones provided by non-energy extractive industries.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013:

The results of the study are expected by the end of 2014.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The Kick off meeting of the study took place on 9 January 2014. The study will be carried out in 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The contract was signed in December 2013. It will end in December 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 250 474.

Unit ENTR F.3

Contact: Slavko Solar

5. Communication strategy

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

A contract was signed with EMAKINA in August 2013. The production of a creative and innovative video should convey a message that the raw materials are essential for a modern society; therefore the sector requires more educated and skilled professionals. There was a need to have an adaptation in several languages, as well as an EU-wide dissemination campaign. This video is part of the supporting material of the Communication Strategy within the European Innovation Partnership and it targets in particular the young people. The main objectives of the video clip are to:

- Show attractiveness of the sector for potential students and career opportunities;
- Increase the target public awareness of the benefits of raw materials sector;
- Enhance target public acceptance and trust for the activities of the sector throughout its mine life cycle by improved communication and transparency (as the change of perception among young people is crucial);
- Show that industries using raw materials will become increasingly innovative and green in the future (e.g. digital and green economy).

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013:

The video 'Raw Materials: stuff that dreams are made of' produced for the Raw Materials University Day, was shown to the audience by VP Tajani on 6 December 2013 at the launching event in Rome, Italy. The final product was a great success and will be used in the future RMUD events, which will be organised 4-5 times per year in various CIP Participating Countries until 2020. Moreover, the contract with EMAKINA covers an EU-wide dissemination campaign and the results will be reported in early 2014. To date the video was viewed by 48,045 people in about 3 weeks' time bearing in mind that we plan to distribute it also to our stakeholders, which should increase the amount of viewers.

The final video in EN is visible in <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LQFEuFX8wa0>

The final report will be delivered after the dissemination campaign is be finalised.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The dissemination of the video will be carried out during 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The contract was signed on 20 August 2013. The video was delivered on 5 December 2013. The dissemination campaign started in December 2013.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total amount budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 91 731.

Unit ENTR F.3

Contact: Marcela Válková

6. The EU furniture market situation and a possible furniture products initiative”

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE: Main objectives & activities.

The study will consist in: i) an analysis of the EU furniture market situation and competitiveness and ii) based on sufficient evidence, an assessment of the possible need for enhanced information to customers on furniture products characteristics and problems. It would address the impacts of different policy options and their effectiveness and efficiency in responding to the identified problems and corresponding objectives and the complementarity with other EU instruments on product information.

In this context, the study will identify the type of information to be provided to customers, define the form of conveying such information and appropriate scheme and implementation mechanism, which should provide information on certain product characteristics in a manner accessible, transparent and understandable to customers, facilitating the comparison of different products in decision-making.

The study will also assess product coverage for which improved information is needed according to the problems and objectives identified.

The work carried out by the contractor shall provide technical background to enable a political decision to be taken and will serve as a background study for an impact assessment accompanying a possible Commission proposal.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

Inception report has been already received, including delivery of task 1 on furniture market situation.

Consumer survey was finalised in the 4th quarter 2013.

Public stakeholder consultation was launched on 11 December 2013 (deadline 4 March 2014).

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

Public consultation is on-going. The interim report, the stakeholders' workshop and the final report will be made throughout 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The interim report is due on 5 February 2014. The draft final report is due by 25 March 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 298 150.

Unit ENTR F.3

Contact: Ewa Oney

7. Study on EU needs with regard to cooperation with Greenland

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The study follows the letter of intention co-operation in the area of raw materials signed on 13 June 2012 in Nuuk by prime Minister Kleist on behalf of Greenland and Vice-President Tajani and Commissioner Piebalgs on behalf of the European Commission. The letter set the strategic framework for the EU-Greenland relationship, and provided guidance for cooperation, stressing the mutual interests: diversification of the Greenlandic economy and security of supply of strategic raw materials for the EU, in a context where most licenses went to non-EU operators. It foresaw cooperation in a number of fields, ranging from geological knowledge to the environmental and social issues related to mining.

The study will assess the needs of the EU- Greenland cooperation in the area of mineral resources, with special focus on the downstream industry and the policy options on which type of projects to support. The areas to be assessed are:

- geological knowledge
- analysis of infrastructure and investment needs
- competence building
- environmental issues related to mining
- social impacts of mining

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

As the contract has been signed on the 10 December 2012 and work has just started, there are still no results to be reported.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

After the study has been delivered, it will provide a basis for policy actions in the sector.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

Final report: October 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 199 825.

Unit ENTR F.3

Contact: Ugo Miretti

EUROPEAN INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP ON WATER ENT/CIP/13/C/N06C02

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

This measure aims to assist in the implementation of the Partnership by establishing a European Innovation Partnership (EIP) Water secretariat. This measure will be instrumental in the implementation of the European Innovation Partnership Strategic Implementation Plan, to coordinate the activities and the actions of involved stakeholders. It aims to assist in the organization of meetings and in drafting of documents, work on the communication strategy

of the EIP and facilitate on-line tools that are linked to the EIP, under supervision of the responsible Commission service.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013:

The EIP Water Strategic Implementation Plan was adopted on 18 December 2012

A first call for expressions of commitment to establish Action Groups was launched in January 2013 and closed in April 2013. Sixty-four proposals were received and evaluated. Nine Action Groups were selected and have started their activities, supported by the EIP Water secretariat. The Action Groups are working on innovative solutions that can be applied and where relevant brought to the market

A second call for expressions of commitment to establish Action Groups was launched in November 2013.

An Online Market Place was launched in August 2013, attracting over 600 users by December 2013.

Two meetings of the Steering Group and 2 meetings of the Task Force were organized.

A first annual EIP Water conference was organized on 21 November 2013, with over 400 participants.

Ten Newsletters have been sent out.

A communication strategy was developed and is being implemented.

A monitoring and evaluation framework has been developed and is being filled out with data.

Website: www.eip-water.eu

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The continuation of the implementation of the EIP Water is secured by a new CIP contract for the EIP Water secretariat for the period 2014 – 2016. Activities will continue with a growing number of Action Groups expected to start working and delivering innovative solutions.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The call for tender is expected in the 1st quarter 2014. The implementation will start during the 3rd quarter 2014 and will run until the end of the 2nd quarter 2016.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 1 500 000.

Unit ENV C.1

Contact: Robert Schröder

D. ECO-INNOVATION

ECO-INNOVATION: FIRST APPLICATION AND MARKET REPLICATION PROJECTS **ENT/CIP/13/D/N01S00**

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

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

One call for proposals and one call for tenders were launched in 2013.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The **call for tenders** was launched on 25 November 2013. It aims to conclude a contract with a service provider (or consortium) for a study with the following title: "Analysing and reporting on results achieved by CIP Eco-Innovation market replication projects". The study will support the overall analysis and evaluation of results and achievements of on-going and finished Eco-innovation market replication projects in terms of environmental and economic impacts, with a focus on the calls 2008-2011. The study will also give a consolidated feedback on specific sectors such as water, waste and raw material.

The **call for proposals**, launched on 13 May 2013 attracted a record number of 461 proposals (an increase of more than 60% compared to the previous year). They have been evaluated in the last quarter, and the evaluation committee will take place in February 2014. There is budget to fund 45 to 50 projects.

Projects have a lifespan of up to 36 months, so environmental and economic impacts will show only from 2016 onwards.

In the Call for proposals, the SME participation rate was ~64% like in previous calls and 93% of the proposals involve SME. Around 80% of the participants are from the private sector.

Proposals were received by participants from 36 countries (of 37 eligible countries). The proposals covered well the 5 priority sectors:

- Green Business 28% (products and services: 24%, clean production 4%);
- Recycling 20%;
- Water, Buildings, Food and Drink ~ 15% each;
- Others 8% (the priorities are non-exclusive).

In terms of communication, the following activities can be reported:

- European infoday with almost 400 participants, 86% satisfaction rate, ~70 bilateral talks with potential proposers about their ideas;
- ~10.400 subscribers to the Eco-innovation newsletter, 4 newsletters sent;
- ~217.000 website visits, ~200 media mentions;
- 1 new project brochure (best-of) produced (~8.500 copies distributed);
- 1000 followers on twitter;

- 1 infographics produced together with a press event with the Commissioner for the Environment Mr Potocnik, presenting the results of a study on the economic and environmental impacts of Eco-innovation projects – very good results achieved.⁷

Websites: www.ec.europa.eu/ecoinnovation

“First overview of the Call 2013” http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eco-innovation/apply-funds/call-proposal/index_en.htm

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

Call for tenders

Tender submission deadline: 27 January 2014.

The Evaluation Committee is foreseen for the end of February.

Call for proposals

Evaluation Committee and final decision: February 2014.

Info to the proposers and report on the evaluation results to be published on Eco-innovation website in March 2014.

Negotiations and contract signatures: April – Summer 2014

Start of the projects as of May 2014

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

Call for tenders

Tender publication: 25 November 2013.

Tender submission deadline: 27 January 2014.

The Evaluation Committee is foreseen for the end of February.

Call for proposals

Call publication: 13 May 2013

Deadline for proposal submission 5 September 2013

Evaluation Committee: 13 February 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 33 000 000.

Unit EACI.B.3.2

Contact: Astrid Geiger

⁷ Since its beginning in 2009, more than 170 million m³ of water were saved, equivalent to the annual water consumption of an EU city of 350,000 people, while another 1.4 million tonnes of raw materials were saved, enough to build 200 Eiffel towers. The reduced greenhouse gas emissions (11.6 million tonnes when including CO₂ emissions reduced by energy savings), equal those from the annual electricity use of 1.7 million homes in the EU. The 609,000 tonnes of reduced waste make up for the annual waste generation of an EU city of 125,000 people. Moreover, despite its young age, economic impacts are also already substantial; 30 % of the projects have already led to commercial benefits. Project leaders indicate an average leverage factor of around 20 (1 € of public investment leads to a gross revenue leverage factor of x 20, 2 years after the project ends). Finally, the average net employment generation is around 8 persons (full-time) per project. Converted into cash terms, the value of the total global environmental and economic benefit from CIP Eco-Innovation initiative is put at more than EUR 1.6 billion in 5 years. Full report and infographics at http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eco-innovation/discover/publications/index_en.htm

EU ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY VERIFICATION (ETV) PRE-PROGRAMME
ENT/CIP/13/D/N02S00

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

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

Verification of environmental technologies under ETV is provided by Verification Bodies (VBs), which are specifically accredited by national accreditation bodies. Grant agreements will be proposed to accredited VBs in order to cover a portion of the 'fixed costs' of the system and, indirectly, to lower the costs for technology vendors, in particular SMEs. In exchange, the VBs will commit to:

- Completing and maintaining Verification Bodies' internal procedures, especially Quality Management procedures and controls, these being necessary for the implementation of ETV;
- Implementing ETV procedures, including participation in thematic technical groups and adherence to the guidance published by these groups;
- Facilitating access to ETV verification procedures by Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, by adapting fees as appropriate, and/or by setting-up specific support activities;
- Monitoring of the impacts of technology verifications, to gather evidence as to their utility in real market conditions, and reporting annually on ETV activities, with reference to an agreed set of indicators;
- Outreach activities, to inform potential proposers and other stakeholders such as technology users and investors, about the potential benefits and results of verifications under ETV.

In 2013 the measure has been implemented through a call for proposals restricted to organisations accredited to implement ETV procedures, in conformity with the organisation of the ETV pilot programme. The selection of the proposals has been based on the horizontal criteria listed in the introduction to this Annex, and also on organisations' financial capacity and on their professional and technical capacity. The award of grants will then be based on the horizontal criteria listed in the introduction to this Annex, and also on the following criteria: relevance of proposals in view of ETV objectives; expected impacts of the proposed activities, quality of the proposals; budget and cost-effectiveness. Grant agreements will be concluded with successful proposals for a maximum duration of three years.

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

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The planned call for proposals was published on 5 August 2013, with a deadline set on 27 September 2013.

Eight proposals were received and were admissible for the call. The evaluation of proposals is not finalised yet at the time of this implementation report. It is therefore not possible to give the final results of the evaluation.

Performance indicators will be reported with the results of the ETV pilot programme in the evaluation report planned in 2015-2016.

Information on the EU pilot programme, including Verification Bodies, policy documents and results, are available and will be regularly updated on the site of ETV managed by the Joint Research Centre, Institute on Energy and Transport, at the following address: <http://iet.jrc.ec.europa.eu/etv/>

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

After finalisation of the evaluation of proposals and publication of the award decision, the organisations awarded which are not yet accredited, have six months to complete the accreditation procedures. The signature of grant agreements will take place after finalisation of the accreditation procedures, around mid-2014. The implementation of grant agreements is expected to continue until 2017.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The conclusion of grant agreements and individual financial commitments will take place in the 2nd and the 3rd quarters of 2014. The implementation of the grant agreements will start in the 2nd quarter 2014 and will run until the 3rd quarter 2017. The final reports of projects and final payments will be delivered in the 3rd and the 4th quarters 2017.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 1 200 000.

The amount dedicated to the call was increased by EUR 200 000 to EUR 1 200 000 in December 2013, as a non-substantial modification of the financing decision 2013.

Unit ENV A.1

Contact: Pierre Henry

SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRY LOW CARBON SCHEME I (SILC I) – SHORT TERM INNOVATION MEASURES (3RD BATCH)

ENT/CIP/13/D/N03S00

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

SILC is a Union grant scheme that aims at finding technological and non-technological innovation measures in order to help energy intensive manufacturing industries reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Through SILC, the Union co-finances sector-specific industrial projects which are carried out by consortia of industrial stakeholders.

As for the implementation of SILC, two fundamentally distinct activities can be distinguished: the first one (SILC I, 2011-2013 – funded under the Union's Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP)) deals with innovation measures which can be implemented in the short term in industrial installations. The second one (SILC II, 2014-2020 – funded under Horizon 2020) will be spurring further progress on measures or possible breakthrough solutions that require pilot and demonstration programmes prior to their industrial implementation.

In 2013, a call for proposals under SILC I was launched, which was the last of three calls over the 2011-2013 period.

In addition to the sector-specific projects, the JRC's work started in 2012 was pursued in 2013 for ensuring the cross-cutting valorisation and dissemination of results obtained under SILC I.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

In 2013, the third and last batch of the three calls for proposals under SILC I was implemented, with the following main actions and milestones:

- 13 March 2013: Publication of the call for proposals;
- 13 June 2013: Deadline for submission of proposals;
- June & July 2013: Evaluation of the eligibility and selection criteria;
- 17-19 July 2013: Evaluation of the evaluation criteria;
- 15 November 2013: Formal award decision taken and notification of the results to applicants;
- 20 December 2013: Signature of the grant agreements.

Out of the 16 proposals received under the 2013 call for proposals, 4 were retained for funding. As the formal starting date of the four retained projects was only in late December 2013 following the counter-signature of the grant agreements by the EC representative, any results or impacts for 2013 cannot be reported.

Performance indicators defined in the EIP 2013 work programme:

- Input indicator: Number of operators of installations participating in the actions (target: > 1 operator/project)
 - Grant n°1: 1 operator;
 - Grant n°2: 1 operator;
 - Grant n°3: 1 operator;
 - Grant n°4: 1 operator.
- Output indicator: CO2 emission reduction potential identified for each sector/subsector
 - Grant n°1: 4.6-7.6 Mt CO2 emission reduction/year (iron & steel, cement, glass and gas compressor installations plants);
 - Grant n°2: 25-30% CO2 emission reduction in cement plants;
 - Grant n°3: 15-20% CO2 emission reduction in glass plants;
 - Grant n°4: no quantification.
- Output indicator: Number of installations benefitting from measures identified
 - Grant n°1: 1 installation + potential for about 400 iron & steel installations, 250 cement installations, 50 glass installations and 500 gas compressor installations;
 - Grant n°2: 5 installations + potential for >100 cement installations;
 - Grant n°3: 5 installations + potential for >400 glass installations;
 - Grant n°4: 3 installations + potential for many installations (iron & steel, cement, power, ceramic and glass plants);

As for the result indicator (Expected emission intensity improvement, expressed as % of the relevant ETS benchmark value), it cannot be determined at the current stage.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The selected 2013 projects will be monitored until the end of the grants.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation started on 13 March 2013 with the publication of the call for proposals. The implementation of the grants will end with the final reports on the following dates: Grant n°2 and Grant n°4 20 December 2015; Grant n°1 on 20 June 2016; Grant n°3 on 20 December 2016.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 2 656 021

Unit ENTR B.1

Contact: Aurélien Genty

E. ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION CULTURE

ERASMUS FOR ENTREPRENEURS

ENT/CIP/13/E/N01C01

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

Erasmus for Entrepreneurs is a mobility scheme that allows potential or newly established entrepreneurs to spend a period of time working with an experienced entrepreneur in another participating country on concrete, real-life business projects. These mobility actions aim to help the entrepreneurs enrich their experiences as well as learn directly on the job, get to know new markets outside their home country and network with entrepreneurs in other participating countries. This measure will expand and strengthen the existing network of Intermediary Organisations (IOs) which act as local contact points in participating countries.

Intermediary organisations are responsible for entrepreneurs located in their country.

The selection of IOs is based on a competitive call for proposals which is open to all participating countries. Activities to support the network are carried out, including regular meetings with the Intermediary Organisations to foster networking and monitoring of the implementation of the actions. Promotional activities will also be covered by this measure.

The objectives of the Erasmus for Entrepreneurs mobility scheme are:

- Helping new entrepreneurs acquire and build entrepreneurial skills and knowledge and to further develop their business plan/activity by learning from experienced entrepreneurs;
- Learning on the job for the new entrepreneurs by working with the host entrepreneur on concrete business projects;
- Supporting the host entrepreneur in researching;
- Developing and testing/piloting new business concepts/products/services by the new entrepreneur's bringing in fresh ideas from another environment.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The call for proposals has drawn a lot of interest and 91 proposals have been received. A high percentage of the proposals were of very good quality, with 33 proposals with a score of 70 points or more (out of 100). Budget availability has only allowed awards to the first 15

proposals, which scored more than 80 points. These 15 grants involve 98 Intermediary Organisations from 29 participating countries.

Details can be found at www.erasmus-entrepreneurs.eu

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

Implementation started on 1 February 2014 and will run until 31 January 2016. Four meetings will be organised with the Intermediary Organisations to foster collaboration, networking and exchange of best practices and knowledge.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation started on 15 April 2013 and will end on 30 April 2016.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 6 071 000.

Unit ENTR D.1

Contact: Gloria Lorenzo Leronés

EUROPEAN SME WEEK ENT/CIP/13/E/N01C02

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

Main objectives of the measure are:

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

The activities carried out during 2013 are the following:

- A pan-European campaign in 37 participating countries, including a central website with information on all events organised at EU and national, regional and local level;
- The European SME Week 2013 Opening on 24 November 2013 in Vilnius, Lithuania;
- The SME Week brochure "The Secret of Success" 2012-13 reprint.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

1,623 events/activities taking place across the 37 participating countries were published on the website

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/intsub/sme-week/index.cfm?fuseaction=sme.viewmap_osm

The conference “**Europe 2020 Strategy for Growth: Promoting Business Partnerships in Greece**” took place in Athens on 11-12 March 2013. It was a high profile event with large

media interest in the presence of the VP Tajani and the Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras. The national television channels and almost all national newspapers had covered the event with relevant articles and reportages. More than 500 participants attended the event. http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=6491.

The **B2B event** took place on the second day. More than **1,300 bilateral meetings** between 418 Greek and 144 foreign enterprises coming from 27 European and Third Countries were organised through the matching platform of the EEN. The participants expressed their appreciation for the concrete and down-to-business nature of the initiative. Many participants already informed the Commission of companies' intentions to make business deals and partnerships. A workshop devoted to the clusters active in Greece and related policy initiatives was also organised. It was the first concrete effort to introduce commercialisation of the clusters notion to the Greek market.

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

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

There will be a similar campaign in 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation started in January and ended in December 2013.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 461 600.

Unit ENTR D.1

Contact: Rose Hensley

ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION ENT/CIP/13/E/N01C03

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The study on the impact of entrepreneurship education strategies and measures gathers information across Europe on the impact of strategies and measures implemented by national and regional authorities to promote education for entrepreneurship in schools and universities.

This study did not aim to produce new data: it has run a comprehensive overview of how CIP countries and regions that introduced coherent measures for entrepreneurship education are assessing the impact of such measures, on different levels (attitudes and skills developed by students, employability of young people, number and quality of new start-ups, etc.). The ultimate goal was to provide evidence of the effects and impacts of entrepreneurship education on societal values and on economic development.

Moreover, the new Manual on Teacher Education and Training in Entrepreneurship, with guidelines and good practice examples, will be translated into all EU languages and published in these languages (currently only a version in EN exists).

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

A specific contract was signed on 2 September 2013 for the study on the 'Impact of entrepreneurship education strategies and measures'. An Inception Report was received on 21 October 2013.

An order form has been signed in August 2013 with the Publication Office for the publication: "Entrepreneurship education: a Guide for Educators".

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The measure has been fully implemented.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation was carried out throughout 2013.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 200 000.

The decrease of budget (from EUR 380,000 to 200,000) is due to the fact that the work was contracted via the Publication Office for a cheaper amount. Both the translation into 20 languages and the quality control and revision of such translation were obtained free of charge.

Unit ENTR D.1.

Contact: Simone Baldassarri

FEMALE ENTREPRENEURSHIP ENT/CIP/13/E/N01C04

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

Study on statistical data on women entrepreneurs in Europe and on the creation of an e-platform for Women Entrepreneurs.

Study on the profile of women entrepreneurs in Europe: one of the main problems in the area of female entrepreneurship policy is the lack of comparable statistical data. There has been an increasing need and recurring demand to map the profile of women entrepreneurs in Europe. Both the European Parliament and the European Economic and Social Committee have recently pinpointed this issue and asked the Commission and MS to take action to remedy the situation. ESTAT does not provide data on women entrepreneurs since discrepancies between national statistical information exist.

A study has therefore been commissioned in the form of a desk review of available data on the profile of women entrepreneurs in CIP participating countries. This will allow future policy to be developed on a firmer evidence base and to more clearly identify areas of work for both the Commission and CIP participating countries.

The Entrepreneurship Action Plan 2020 of January 2013 stipulates the creation of an on-line, Europe-wide educational, mentoring, advisory and business networking e-platform for women entrepreneurs.

In this context, the current study will also examine the feasibility of such a platform and the key factors that will ensure its success.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The results are not yet available.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The final study report will be delivered in July 2014. An e-platform for women entrepreneurs will be created in 2015.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation started on 22 October 2013 and will end in October 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total amount committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 799 860.

Unit ENTR D.1

Contact: Anna Danti

SECOND CHANCE FOR HONEST ENTREPRENEURS ENT/CIP/13/E/N01C05

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

A study to verify individual compliance by each Member State with the May 2011 Competitiveness Council's recommendations to promote a second chance for honest bankrupt entrepreneurs, in particular in relation to the 3-year maximum discharge period.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013:

The study has been launched.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The final results of the study are expected by end of July 2014. A final conference is planned during the 4th quarter of 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The contract was signed on 19 December 2013. The first draft report is due by 28 February 2014, and interim report by 1 May 2014. The final results are expected by end of July 2014 and the final conference is due before year-end 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total amount committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 239 325.

Unit ENTR D.1

Contact: Lucyna Kaminska

TRANSFER OF BUSINESS
ENT/CIP/13/E/N01C06

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The measure aims to:

- Intensify the policy measures of MS in the area of transfers of business;
- Facilitate transfers of businesses to keep existing SMEs going and preserve jobs in the current crisis;
- Offer concrete solutions to MS policy makers on how to tackle issues in the area of transfers of business;
- Foster the deepening of a Europe-wide market for transfers of business.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

- Three meetings of the MS' expert group supporting the study aiming at assessing the implementation of the 2006 Communication on business transfers (28 February, 3 June and 28 October);
- A study on business transfers was completed in December 2013 – to be published online end of January 2014;
- A call for proposals on business transfers published on 18 December 2013.

Website:

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=7195&lang=en&title=Transfer-of-Business-

The expected impacts of the measure are the following:

- Awareness-raising of the size/economic importance of the market for transfers of business at European level;
- Identification and Europe-wide dissemination of good practices in the area of transfer of business.

As the work of the Expert Group and study progressed, the preliminary findings of the study were such that it became apparent that further progress in the field would be better served by supporting specific actions rather than conducting another more detailed study.

Therefore, a call for proposals was launched to support specific actions in this area, such as improving data collection, support and advice services.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The selection of projects under the call for proposals on business transfers published on 18 December 2013 (deadline 5 March 2014) will be made during 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

A study on business transfers was completed in December 2013 and was published online at the end of January 2014. The grant agreements will be signed in the second half of 2014. A final conference to disseminate results is planned for 2nd quarter of 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 700 000.

**EXCHANGE OF NEW ENTREPRENEURS BETWEEN THE
FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL AND EUROPE
ENT/CIP/13/E/N01C07**

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

This project aims to select an organisation, active in business support, to manage the Exchange of New Entrepreneurs between the Federative Republic of Brazil and Europe. They will assist entrepreneurs to participate in the action by organising exchanges under this scheme.

This will enable European new entrepreneurs from countries participating in the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP Participating Countries) to work alongside experienced Brazilian entrepreneurs and will enable Brazilian new entrepreneurs to work alongside experienced European entrepreneurs in CIP Countries.

Entrepreneurs thereby will acquire new skills, enrich their experiences and broaden their network, which enhances entrepreneurship, as well as the internationalisation and competitiveness of potential start-ups and participating SMEs.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The call for proposals was launched, the evaluation process completed and a project selected. The award was finalised in the end of 2013.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The project was officially launched on 1 January 2014 and will run for a period of 18 months.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

- Reporting period 1 covering month 1 to month 6;
- Reporting period 2 covering month 7 to month 12;
- Reporting period 3 covering month 13 to month 18;
- Final reporting period 4 covering month 1 to month 18 (end June 2015).

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 218 537.

Unit ENTR D.1

Contact: Kiril Nikolov

LICENSING PROCEDURES

ENT/CIP/13/E/N01C08

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The study aims to measure the actual time required to obtain licenses in each CIP participating country. The study will present a clear view of the situation in each country and may serve as an opportunity for future exchange of good practices.

The study was committed in 2013 and the measurements will be carried out in early 2014 following the indications of the May 2011 Competitiveness Council conclusions.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

A study on the compliance by EU and CIP participation countries on the time needed to obtain licences and permits to take up and perform the specific activity of an enterprise as from beginning of 2014 was launched in November 2013.

Kick-off meeting took place on 10 December 2013.

The expected results of this measure are the following:

- Developing a tool to assess the progress made so far in administrative simplification and a reliable benchmark to measure future progress.
- Better awareness and a possibility for an exchange of successful initiatives and best practices between national and/or regional authorities across Europe. They will also be used in peer reviews and in various reports of the Commission, like the SMEs performance Review (country fiches on the national policies promoting SMEs) etc.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The results of the study are expected by the end of 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The contract for the study was signed on 11 November 2013. The kick-off meeting took place on 10 December 2013.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 566 330.

Unit ENTR D.1

Contact: Lucyna Kaminska

ACTIVITIES PROMOTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE SOCIAL ECONOMY AREA ENT/CIP/13/E/N03S00

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The measure aims to contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth through raising awareness about the role of social enterprises (including cooperatives and mutual societies) for development of a “highly competitive social market economy”. Social business model contributes to socio-economic development particularly on local level and shows strong resilience to the economic crisis.

In order to reach these objectives, 2 initiatives were launched:

- a large conference on Social Business Initiative (SBI) organised by the European Commission at the beginning of January 2014;
- the support for a European Fair of Social Enterprises in Bulgaria.

The SBI proposes three groups of key actions including increasing the visibility of social enterprises by developing tools to gain a better understanding of the sector. As the European Fair for Social Enterprises provides for a large visibility of the sector, it contributed to the implementation of SBI.

The Fair was organised by the Commission, the Bulgarian Government and the European Confederation of Social Workers' Co-operatives, Social Co-operatives and Social and Participative Enterprises (CECOP).

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

Organisation of a large conference on social Business initiative (in conjunction with EESC, and coordinated amongst DGs Internal Market, Employment, Regional Policy) at the beginning of January 2014 in Strasbourg.

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/conferences/2014/0116-social-entrepreneurs/index_en.htm

Support for European Fair of Social Enterprises in Bulgaria, which was organised by the Commission, Bulgarian government and European Confederation of Social Workers' Co-operatives, Social Co-operatives and Social and Participative Enterprises (CECOP), with more than 10,000 visitors.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The report on the conference's results will be available by the end of 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

European Fair of Social Enterprises in Bulgaria on 18-24 March 2013.

Conference in Strasbourg on 16 and 17 January 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 160,000.

The study for an impact assessment on a possible amendment of the regulation of the European cooperative society was not carried out as it was decided not to propose any amendments to this regulation for the time being.

Unit ENTR D.1

Contact: Apostolos Ioakimidis

F. ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION RELATED ECONOMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM

INTERNATIONALISATION ENT/CIP/13/F/N01C01

The measure was cancelled.

EURO-MEDITERRANEAN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION IN 2013
ENT/CIP/13/F/N01C02

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

Opening action and networks in the Union to promote SMEs, innovation, sustainable enterprise development and sector specific developments to the participation of Mediterranean neighbour countries.

Objective is to help Union and Mediterranean Business start, grow, import, export, invest, compete at international level and create jobs. The aim is to help to enhance democracy and share prosperity in the Euro-Mediterranean Area. With respect to SMEs, innovation, sustainable enterprise development and sectors of common interest, the proposal consists in sharing tools, experience, promotion and networking activities with Mediterranean countries.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

Due to political conditions prevailing in the Mediterranean countries, the main scale of actions had to be postponed to 2014.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The implementation is starting in 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The contract was signed on 30 October 2013. The action will be carried out until October 2015.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 185 000.

Unit ENTR A.2

Contact: Marie Corman

SME INTERNATIONALISATION: INFORMATION GATEWAY
ENT/CIP/13/F/N01C03

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The measure covers the continuation of the project financed in 2012 on creating an EU-wide information portal on support services for SME internationalisation. The 2013 funds have been used to maintain, update and improve the portal and translate part of the information in several EU official languages.

The Task Force for the SME Internationalisation Portal met regularly. The portal's design has been finalised and the data provided by the mapping exercise (delivered by the company Ecorys) have been uploaded. Participating Countries and Business organisations have been consulted on the features and the content of the portal.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The portal was presented at the Annual SME Conference.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The measure has been fully implemented during 2013.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The launch of the portal will continue during 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 237 500.

Units ENTR A.2, D.2, D.4, R.3, R.4

Contact: Martin Muller

**SME INTERNATIONALISATION: MAPPING SUPPORT SERVICES
ENT/CIP/13/F/N01C04**

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The main actions have been postponed to 2014.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The implementation will start in April 2014.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The results are expected by October 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 237 500.

Unit ENTR A.2

Contact: Martin Muller

**EASTERN PARTNERSHIP SMES/BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT
PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKING
ENT/CIP/13/F/N01C05**

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The project focuses on a review of the SME policy and business environment in the countries of the Eastern Partnership using the principles of the EU Small Business Act. It follows on to a first round of assessment. The measure aims to facilitate co-operation between the Commission services and the public authorities responsible in the countries concerned for the formulation of SME policies and measures designed to improve the business environment. The purpose of this project is to induce the countries, via a performance measurement & benchmarking system, to introduce reforms aligned to Union good practice.

This will allow that the Eastern Partnership countries, which are potentially important partners for EU trade and investment, develop the sort of policy measures in their countries which EU companies are familiar with in their own countries. The region's markets and investment opportunities would thus become more easily accessible for EU businesses and support the growth of EU companies in this neighbourhood region.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013:

The project will start in March 2014.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The project will start in March 2014 and last until end 2015.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The contract was signed in December 2013. The revision of the project methodology focusing on implementation and the impact of policies 'on the ground' (including company surveys) will be carried out between March and August 2014.

The assessment process based on government assessments; the independent assessments; stocktaking missions; the company surveys and the SME stakeholder meetings will be carried out between September 2014 and April 2015.

The production of the SBA Assessment report and dissemination are due between May and December 2015.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 500 000.

Unit ENTR A.2

Contact: Michaela Hauf

EU-BRAZIL AD-HOC WORKING GROUP ON COMPETITIVENESS AND INVESTMENTS ENT/CIP/13/F/N01C06

The measure was cancelled.

SBA IMPLEMENTATION: MONITORING AND EXCHANGE OF GOOD PRACTICES ENT/CIP/13/F/N02C01

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

In order to monitor and exchange good practices in SBA implementation, conferences, meetings and the online database contributed to drawing the attention to good practices on SBA implementation collected all over in Europe. In particular, there will be:

- 2013 SME Assembly and European Enterprise Promotion Awards (EEPA);

- Network of national SME Envoys;
- Monitoring implementation of SBA & SBA review and promotion of impact (outreach activities).

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The 2013 SME Assembly; European Enterprise Promotion Awards was organised together with the LT Presidency in Vilnius on 25 and 26 November; over 500 delegates attended and the conference got an over 90% approval rate from delegates in an electronic post-conference survey with an extremely high response rate of over 30%.

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/small-business-act/2013-sme-assembly/index_en.htm

The 2013 EEPAs were handed out during the SME Assembly on 25 November; 53 national winners had entered the European level competition for the awards and 19 projects had been shortlisted; the jury awarded prizes in each category and gave special mentions to additional projects.

The EEPA promotional Facebook page has over 18,000 likes and the awards had a high media impact in 2013.

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-13-1024_en.htm

The SME Envoy Network met 4 times in 2013 as foreseen in the mandate; the Envoys discussed the future of the SBA and policy issues such as access to finance, access to markets and training & skills.

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/small-business-act/sme-envoy/index_en.htm

As regards the outreach activities, a 3 minutes TV programme (Business Planet) was made in cooperation with Euronews.

Twenty-three videos were produced and broadcast over the calendar year 2013. Over 800,000 impacts were made on average from Euronews TV broadcasting and over 67,000 videos viewed so far on Youtube.

The distribution of the videos started in the 2nd quarter 2013 and over 10 additional EU TV channels broadcast this programme (mainly E12 Member States).

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The measure has been implemented throughout 2013. All future actions in the domain will be financed by the COSME programme.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The implementation started in January and ended in December 2013.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 3 177 034. More specifically:

SME Envoy Network EUR 563 345

2013 SME Assembly and EEPA EUR 1 941 696

Monitoring implementation of SBA & SBA review and promotion EUR 671 984

Unit ENTR D.4

Contact: Mireille Busson, Rosemarie Hensley, André Mayer

COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES ON SBA IMPLEMENTATION

ENT/CIP/13/F/N02C02

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The measure aims at maintaining and updating the Small Business Portal, as well as running online promotion campaigns

The actions under this measure are focused on communicating on communicating on the Small Business Act for Europe and on EU SME policy and support.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The content of the Small Business Portal has been regularly updated.

During 2013 the traffic has increased by 45% to 432 000 visits thanks to an advertising campaign on Google (Google AdWords) and work to make the editorial more attractive on search engines.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The contract was signed in September 2013 and will run for 24 months.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 249 578.

Unit ENTR D.4

Contact: Mireille Busson

SME PERFORMANCE REVIEW

ENT/CIP/13/F/N02C03

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The actions under this measure are focused on the implementation of the Small Business Act for Europe. The SME Performance Review (SPR) is an essential tool for the SBA implementation as stated in the SBA review and supported by the Competitiveness Council. The SME Performance Review is made up of annual reports, SBA country fact sheets and studies, which investigate key areas of importance to SMEs, particularly in the light of the Small Business Act for Europe (SBA) and the EU2020 strategy.

They describe and analyse the main factors affecting European SMEs' performance and competitiveness. The 2013 study is the second edition of the "Eurobarometer business survey on "SMEs and the Environment". This exercise is carried out on a regular basis to provide crucial evidence on the link between SMEs and the "greening of the EU's economy. Finally, 2 expert groups discussing the annual report and the SBA fact sheets are organized annually.

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

During 2013, the following activities were effectively carried out:

- The 2013 SME annual Report and SBA fact sheets;
- A Eurobarometer business survey on "SMEs and the Environment";

- In addition, two working group meetings were organised in the context of the preparation of the EU SME annual report and the SBA country fact sheets.

The final versions of the Annual report and SBA fact sheets were published in 26 November 2013 during the EU SME assembly in Vilnius, Lithuania. They are available online on the SPR's homepage alongside with previous years' version of the report.

<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/facts-figures-analysis/performance-review/>

The results of the Eurobarometer survey were made public via a press conference on 17 December 2013. As for performance indicators describing the impact of these activities, as all of the above activities since they have just been finalised, it is too early for any effects in terms of national policy making in the area of SMEs.

It is evident, though, that the studies have received a substantial media attention. Since the launch on 26 November 2013, a 67 pages strong press map with dedicated articles was compiled on the Annual Report and the Fact Sheets. The documents have been downloaded from the SPR website almost 10,000 times during the first two weeks. The total visits to the SPR website amounted to more than 56,000. In 2013, the SPR website was in the top 1% of the most frequented sites of DG ENTR. For the Eurobarometer, the process of compiling the media coverage is still on-going.

All workshops envisaged for 2013 have been implemented. The first one on 24 June 2013 and the second one on 10 January 2014 (the date of the second workshop was deliberately postponed from its usual timeslot at the beginning of December due to the closeness with the SME assembly at the end of November). As in previous years, the two working group meetings were well attended with the vast majority of delegates from the 37 participating countries.

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The measure has been fully implemented throughout 2013.

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The 2013 SME annual Report and fact sheets were delivered on 26 November 2013.

The contract for the Eurobarometer business survey on "SMEs and the Environment" was signed on in August 2013. The survey was delivered in December 2013.

The meetings of the expert group on SME policy research discussing the SME annual report and the SBA country fact sheets met 24 June 2013 and on 10 January 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The total budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 1 478 000.

Unit ENTR D.4

Contact: Ludger Odenthal

HIGH LEVEL GROUP ON ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS ENT/CIP/13/F/N03S00

DESCRIPTION of IMPLEMENTED MEASURE

The High Level Group on Administrative Burdens (HLG AB) was set up in 2007. On 5 December 2012 its mandate was prolonged until 31 October 2014. This Group therefore

continues to work under the EIP. The HLG AB advises the Commission on how to reduce administrative burdens on businesses stemming from EU legislation and how to simplify regulation. In particular, the HLG adopts opinions on the performance of EU regulation, on the basis of a variety of sources including suggestions from the Commission and stakeholders. This work can require the contracting by the Commission of additional mapping and measurement of information obligations. In addition, the group promotes best practices in implementing EU legislation in the least burdensome way for the Member States. The current mandate focuses on administrative burden for SMEs and on how EU legislation can be implemented in the least burdensome way. In this context the HLG AB looks into the national implementation of selected measures adopted under the Action Programme for Reducing Administrative Burdens in the EU ('ABRplus').

RESULTS AND IMPACT in 2013

The Group met 8 times in plenary in 2013, once in Berlin and seven times in Brussels. In addition, the Chair went on 7 missions to further the work of the Group and promote specific reduction ideas and the exchange of best practice to implement EU legislation in the least burdensome way, for example with high ranking officials in Member States or through interventions in the European Parliament (e.g. in the S&D Group and the Green Group).

In 2013, the Group adopted an opinion on stakeholder suggestions for reducing administrative burdens. In addition, the Group discussed administrative burden related issues with President Barroso and Vice-President Tajani and discussed the implementation of EU legislation in Member States concerning inter alia the areas of annual accounts, public procurement, the Services Directive, statistics and environment. It decided on its priorities for following up with Member States on the implementation of 8 measures adopted in the context of the Action Programme on Administrative Burdens. Furthermore, it held frequent exchanges with small-business owners on bureaucratic challenges in their daily activities.

Websites:

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/secretariat_general/admin_burden/docs/enterprise/files/docs/memo_hlg_en.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/refit/admin_burden/ind_stakeholders/ind_stakeholders_en.htm

OUTLOOK: What remains to be done after 2013?

The Group will continue its work until 31 October 2014 under the new mandate provided by the Commission on 5 December 2012, in close cooperation with stakeholders and Commission services. In this context, the Group should focus on the needs of SMEs, and in particular micro companies, and on measures that could be undertaken at national level to make the implementation of EU legislation less burdensome, in particular for SMEs.

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

IMPLEMENTATION CALENDAR

The measure was fully implemented during 2013.

FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The budget committed in 2013 amounts to EUR 550 000.

G. SUPPORT MEASURES

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

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

These objectives are achieved through support measures which, as stated in Article 25 of Decision 1639/2006, are not covered by the annual work programme and do not involve the procedure referred to in Article 46(2) of the same Decision. In 2013, five types of support measures were included:

- Competitiveness and cross-sectorial studies, notably for the annual European competitiveness report, covering topics like food, healthcare and biotech industries;
- Sectorial studies in several areas of European industry, such as raw materials, automotive or pharmaceuticals;
- Impact assessment studies, such as the one on Impact of the 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy Policies on the Competitiveness of European Industry; The overall objective of the study is to analyse the impacts of EU climate change and energy policies on the competitiveness of European industry taking into account direct impacts (e.g. due to mandatory requirements on specific industries) as well as impacts on the business environment (for instance risks or opportunities for businesses). The study focus through policy scenario analysis on the potential impacts that the 2030 climate and energy policy framework (under preparation) may have on EU industry at sector level and within Member States in terms of costs, competitiveness and carbon leakage.
- Conferences, study groups and technical support, such as the Bio International Convention in Chicago (USA) held April 2013, where the Commission's presence provided a meeting and networking hub for the European biotech and pharma industry;
- Workshops, such as the workshop on the development of the European marine supplies industries;
- Expert meetings, like the Task Force to support the advanced manufacturing technologies for clean production;
- Communication and information activities, such as websites, newsletters and other publications, such as the communication activities for promotion of the Erasums for Entrepreneurs' programme, including information days for the call for proposals.

Some of the most relevant activities listed above are, among others:

- The "Process on Corporate responsibility in the field of pharmaceuticals", where competent authorities from CIP participating countries together with key stakeholders from private and public constituencies were invited to share openly their individual challenges and potentially define new approaches of making business in the field of healthcare.

- The preparation of impact assessments of EU measures such as assessment of the impact of adaptation to progress in the Measuring Instrument Directive (MID) and the impact of a draft proposal for a regulation for European Mutual Statute.

- The Conference related to innovation in the construction sector, aiming at examine what innovative approaches already exist or are needed to help the construction industry to achieve greater sustainable competitiveness through new working practices in the renovation domain, in particular.

Another important support measure implemented was the Evaluation of EU Cluster Initiatives, whose objective was the assessment the effectiveness of European cluster initiatives in supporting SMEs, i.e. what have been so far the impacts of cluster initiatives on SMEs and what was useful in terms of cluster initiatives and why.

A total of EUR 9.9 million was committed for such activities in 2013.