

Project fact sheet

4 main expected results:

1. Assessment of market potential for SMEs in relation to INSPIRE as an integral component of the Digital Agenda for Europe, describing obstacles for SMEs to enter this market in terms of knowledge gaps
2. Collation, translation and exploitation of a Best Practice Catalogue in the management of environmental content
3. Development of a multilingual package to train environmental data analysts in the maintenance and exploitation of environmental data commons
4. Creation of a network capable of transferring result-driven knowledge throughout Europe with research centres, environmental agencies, progressive technology providers and digital content providers.

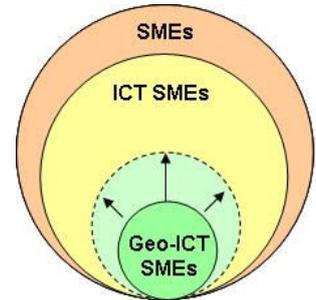
8 concrete output:

1. Assessment, in 12 EU Member States, of the market potential for geo-ICT SMEs in relation to INSPIRE as an integral component of the DAE, to characterise the obstacles for geo-ICT companies to enter this market in terms of knowledge gaps and training needs as defined in WP1.
2. A training package based on vocational training curricula, designed to train environmental data analysis professionals, expert in the maintenance and exploitation of environmental data commons. The training package, including a catalogue translated in all the official languages of the participating Member States, will be made available on an e-learning training platform.
3. A Best Practice catalogue, including lessons learned and unsuccessful outcomes, in the field of the management of environmental digital content across Europe.
4. Dissemination events, in the form of smeSpire days, which will include training workshops, to be organised in the 12 participating countries, potentially organised as ePractice workshops.
5. A network of SMEs and other institutional stakeholders aiming at bridging the gap between the INSPIRE driven demand of environmental digital data and the industry-driven offer of geo-ICT solutions, stimulating, encouraging and facilitating the participation of SMEs.
6. A business model aiming at enabling already established and new geo-ICT SMEs in Europe to convert technological innovation which is inside the INSPIRE implementation process into economic value.
7. A database containing information about the geo-ICT SMEs in Europe, enabling complex business intelligence studies and analysis, even beyond the project lifetime, useful to extract real indicators and to map competences from SMEs across Europe.
8. General awareness about the importance of interoperability, about the EIS/EIF, and about relevant results from the ISA programme.

Target groups and end-users

The following target groups, all of them being end-users at the same time, will be addressed by smeSpire:

- already established SMEs active in the geo-ICT domain
- new entrant SMEs in the geo-ICT domain, consisting of:
 - already established ICT SMEs, looking for new business opportunities
 - start-up SMEs.



The partnership

15 partners from 12 Member States.

smeSpire is a Support Action for SMEs driven by SMEs: 8 of the 15 partners are SMEs all of them active in the geo-ICT sector, one partner SME is the Project Leader and three partners SMEs are WP Leaders, with a 51% of the total budget allocated to the 8 participating SMEs.

The consortium is complemented by 3 Research Centres (JRC, K.U.LEUVEN and Fondazione Graphitech), 2 National Environmental Agencies (CENIA and SAZP), the no-profit association GISIG (recently qualified as an SME) and the government owned body Tracasa, with high skill in geo-ICT technologies.



Main project features:

Start date	01 May 2012
Duration	24 Months
Budget	1.791.000 Euro
Coordinator	Giacomo Martirano (Epsilon Italia)
Project website	www.smespire.eu