



European Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP) 2007- 2013



Business Support on Your Doorstep

Enterprise Europe Network London
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1. What is the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme?

The Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP) is a framework for European Union support actions in the areas of entrepreneurship, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), industrial competitiveness, innovation, ICT development and use, environmental technologies and intelligent energy.

It is primarily aimed at improving competitiveness of European SMEs by means of supporting their innovation activities, facilitating their access to finance, providing direct funding and regional business support services, encouraging better use of information and communication technologies as well as renewable sources of energy and energy efficiency by means of training and research.

The programme was established in 2006 and runs from 2007 to 2013. It has been allocated a budget of €3.6 billion and is structured around three main areas:

- Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Information and Communication Technology
- Intelligent Energy Europe

Entrepreneurship and Innovation

The Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP) targets primarily small and medium-sized businesses. In the area of direct funding available to enterprises, the main instruments are the European Investment Fund and the Eco-Innovation fund. Other projects developed and sponsored by this programme include provision of advice and information by business and innovation support organisations, research initiatives and networking platforms.

Direct support for businesses under the EIP:

Eco-Innovation

The Eco-Innovation fund provides direct funding for businesses in support of all forms of innovation activities resulting in or aimed at significantly improving environmental protection. Through this programme the EU wants to encourage development of innovative technologies, processes, business methods, products and services that will make better use of natural resources, lessen the negative impacts of the use of resources throughout the production and consumption lifecycle, reduce pollution and decrease EU's ecological footprint.

There is nearly €200 million available to fund eco-innovation projects between 2008 and 2013. Further information about how to apply can be found via the following link:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eco-innovation/application_en.htm

Sample past projects include:

Using used tyres as environmentally friendly fillers for road embankments

Eco-sludge: treatment of sewage sludge to multi-usable ash

Process for colouration of leather using natural substances and eliminating energy consumption

For further information about the Eco-Innovation programme please contact the Enterprise Europe Network London at www.een-london.co.uk

European Investment Fund

The European Investment Fund provides equity financing to intermediary institutions and guarantees to private equity and venture capital investors and banks to increase lending to small businesses. The goal is to reduce banks' exposure to risk and thus encourage financing of risky yet highly innovative companies in seed and growth stages. The Fund has a budget of €1.1 billion under its management. Individual businesses should contact intermediary institutions (venture capital funds, banks and other

lending institutions) in order to access these products. There are two main financial instruments available to SMEs depending on their stage of development and financing needs:

- **High Growth and Innovative SME Facility (GIF)**

The European Investment Fund can invest 10-25% of the total funds raised by the intermediary venture capital fund in a particular SME in its early (seed) stage of development and 7.5-15% of the total amount raised for SMEs in expansion stages.

- **SME Guarantee Facility (SMEG)**

The aim of this instrument is to provide various types of guarantees ranging from debt financing via loans and leasing, guarantees for microcredits, guarantees to cover equity and quasi-equity investments in SMEs to guarantees to support securitisation structures.

SMEs wishing to apply for equity investment need to contact the investment funds or the financial institutions that have signed an agreement with the European Investment Fund. The list is available at: www.access3finance.eu

For further information please visit: www.eif.org/guarantees/cip_portfolio_guarantees/index.htm

Indirect support for businesses under the EIP:

Enterprise Europe Network

The Enterprise Europe Network is made up of some 800 partner organisations in 45 countries. It provides free-of-charge information and practical advice on European and UK trade and legislation topics and on doing business with Europe, access to networking and brokerage events, assistance with trade missions, and technology matchmaking. SMEs are also given access to European tender opportunity alerts and to two major databases linking European and UK businesses to trading and innovation partners. For further information please visit:

Enterprise Europe Network London at London Chamber of Commerce and Industry

33 Queen Street
London, EC4R 1AP
T: 020 7489 1992
F: 020 7203 1812

E: europe@londonchamber.co.uk

W: www.een-london.co.uk, www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu

Other initiatives in support of entrepreneurship and innovation

Pro-Inno Europe is a policy research initiative in which experts work together with businesses in order to analyse innovation policies and make new policy suggestions and proposals. These can then be used by the European Union and/or national governments as a basis for new proposals. For further information please visit: www.proinno-europe.eu

Europe INNOVA is a pan-European platform for innovation professionals facilitating discussion, development, laboratory testing and exchange of best practices in order to contribute to a better understanding of the innovation patterns in different sectors. For further information please visit: www.europe-innova.eu

IPR Helpdesk is a free-of-charge information centre advising on how to manage intellectual property rights in R&D and EU funded innovation projects. It also gives direct access to national centres for general IP issues. For further information please visit: www.ipr-helpdesk.org

Information and Communication Technologies

The aim of the Information and Communication Technologies Policy Support Programme is to stimulate wider uptake and better use of information and communication technologies by citizens, governments and businesses. It focuses primarily on new converging markets for electronic networks and services, media content and digital technologies. It also aims to support projects that raise productivity in public services.

The programme has approximately €728 million in its budget for the period 2007-2013. The calls for proposals will be published in February 2010. This year's funded areas include ICT for low carbon economy and mobility, digital libraries, ICT for health and inclusion, internet enabled services for 'smart' cities and multilingual web. Further information about how to apply can be found via the following link: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/ict_psp/participating/calls/index_en.htm

Sample past projects include:

European Civil Registry Network: Electronic exchange of Civil Act certificates across national borders

REACH112: Provision of emergency communication services to disabled people

LITES: Intelligent street lighting using solid-state LED lights

Further information about the Information and Communication Technologies programme can be found on its homepage at: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/ict_psp/index_en.htm

The national contact point in the UK is:

TUV NEL

Balfour House, Churchfield Road

Walton on Thames, KT12 2TD

T: 0193 2251 260

F: 0193 2251 201

E: pwalters@tuvnel.com

W: www.tuvnel.com

Intelligent Energy Europe

Intelligent Energy Europe is a funding instrument designed to help businesses become more competitive while meeting EU's environmental targets. It provides financial assistance in the fields of energy efficiency and renewable sources of energy. This programme funds projects that are eliminating barriers to the market uptake of new technologies. It does not support direct costs related to investments in new technology development.

Who is eligible to apply for Intelligent Energy Europe funding?

Any private or public organisation with headquarters in an EU member state can apply. The project for which you are seeking funding should run for 2-3 years and involve three or more partners from at least three countries. Projects should offer creative ideas with significant market impact, for example cross-border knowledge transfers, information and best practice sharing, visibility and availability improvements.

Projects related to a single action at national or local level are not funded. Research, technology development and hardware investments are also not covered by this programme. However, these costs might be eligible for funding from the 7th Research & Development programme (FP7).

Further information about how to apply can be found via the following link:

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/call_for_proposals/index_en.htm

Sample past projects include:

Energy certificates to be put on display in public buildings across Europe

Bike sharing in European cities

Advanced ventilation approaches for social housing

Further information about the Intelligent Energy Europe programme can be found on its homepage at: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/index_en.html

The national contact point in the UK is:

Energie Helpline UK

Telegraphic House, Waterfront Quay

Manchester, M50 3XW

T: 0161 874 3636

F: 0161 874 3644

E: energie@enviros.com

W: www.energiehelpline.co.uk

ManagEnergy

Part of the Intelligent Energy Europe is also the **ManagEnergy** initiative. It does not offer direct finance, but rather facilitates specialised trainings and workshops for local and regional energy agencies and practice sharing. ManagEnergy also administers a database of approximately 4000 organisations including local energy agencies, which offer and/or look for partners in energy projects. Any organisation can register on the database and receive tailored alerts of specific partnership opportunities. The webpage also contains a useful database of European and national legislation in the area of energy. For further information please visit: www.managenergy.net

2. Useful contacts and websites

European Commission's Directorate General for Industry and Entrepreneurship is responsible for the overall coordination and priority setting within the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme. For more information please consult:

W: http://ec.europa.eu/cip/index_en.htm

E: entr-cip@ec.europa.eu

The EU's Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Enterprise Europe Network, Eco-Innovation and Intelligent Energy Europe programmes. For further information please consult:

http://ec.europa.eu/eaci/programmes_en.htm

In the UK, for further information and advice on the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme please contact:

Enterprise Europe Network London at London Chamber of Commerce and Industry

33 Queen Street

London, EC4R 1AP

T: 020 7489 1992

F: 020 7203 1812

E: europe@londonchamber.co.uk

W: www.een-london.co.uk



This factsheet was produced by the Enterprise Europe Network London team at London Chamber of Commerce. The Enterprise Europe Network London brings together GLE, London Chamber of Commerce and London Technology Network. The Enterprise Europe Network London is funded by the European Commission and the London Development Agency.

We provide practical, hands-on support and information for London's small and medium businesses seeking funding, hoping to expand their business into Europe, or wishing to develop (technology) partnerships with other European businesses. For more information please go to:

www.een-london.co.uk

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