



**GOALS 2.1 & 2.2  
IMPROVED USER EXPERIENCE,  
QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY &  
NEW SERVICES TO INCREASE  
ADDED VALUE TO BUSINESSES**

**TIMELINE**

July 2020 to Dec 2022

**INVESTMENT**

EUR 2.5 million

**STAFF INVOLVED**

6.6 FTEs<sup>1</sup>

**MOST IMPACTED CAPITAL<sup>2</sup>**

Organisational

**MOST IMPACTED STAKEHOLDER**

Users

<sup>1</sup> Full-time equivalent.

<sup>2</sup> As part of an integrated thinking approach, in 2016 the Office adopted the Five Capitals Value Creation Model (human, organisational, relational, economic & environmental).

**IP TOOL EX PARTE DESIGNS**

On behalf of the EU, the Office is responsible for the registration of the Community Design (RCD) following the unitary design right established by Regulation No 6/2002 on Community design. **Designs play a key role in the EU economy** bringing new ideas to consumers and transforming those ideas into appealing products or services.

The examination of designs is already efficiently managed in terms of **timeliness** and **quality**. However, it is an outstanding objective to integrate it into the IP Tool in order to cover all first instance proceedings. Embedding the examination of designs into the 'single tool' will further improve the Office's flexibility in handling unexpected changes in the number of applications received. It will also allow examiners to expand their areas of expertise.

**Automating repetitive tasks**, facilitating data administration and applying **state-of-the-art technology** in handling designs and views will be key to reaching the desired **efficiency**.

In addition, the project will incorporate important **improvements to RCD e-filing**. These will be aimed at identifying possible deficiencies with the proposed design before it is filed. This will ensure that the new design is successfully registered in an optimal time.

**EXPECTED BENEFITS**

- Enhanced operational effectiveness
- Reduced RCD deficiency rate