



**GOAL 2.3
IP SERVICES FOR SMEs**

TIMELINE

July 2020 to December 2022

INVESTMENT

EUR 718 thousand

STAFF INVOLVED

7.3 FTEs¹

MOST IMPACTED CAPITAL²

Relational

MOST IMPACTED STAKEHOLDER

Users

SME PROGRAMME: SME SUPPORTIVE INSTRUMENTS

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are the backbone of Europe's economy. They represent **99% of all businesses in the EU**. In the past five years, they have created around 85% of new jobs and provided two-thirds of the total private sector employment in the EU.

The Office's **SME Programme** foresees four work-streams: Communication and Outreach, Data Driven Science, SME Supportive Instruments, Network and Collaboration.

Under the Supportive Instruments project, the Office will carry out studies and analysis covering **feasibility assessments** – including visual proof of concepts (PoC) - of external systems and services; and **gap analysis** of services, tools and training (including the development of training material) that could benefit SMEs and start-ups such as: IP pre-diagnostics; IP pro bono; Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR); IP valuation instrument; and EU IP Information Centre.

EXPECTED BENEFITS

- “Sound decision taking” for the resulting projects
- Increased active participation in and/or promotion of the SME Programme and its initiatives and events
- Increased Office reputation and image as an SME-friendly organisation

¹ Full-time equivalent

² As part of an integrated thinking approach, in 2016 the Office adopted the five capitals value creation model (human, organisational, relational, economic & environmental).