

# Power your business with the SME Fund

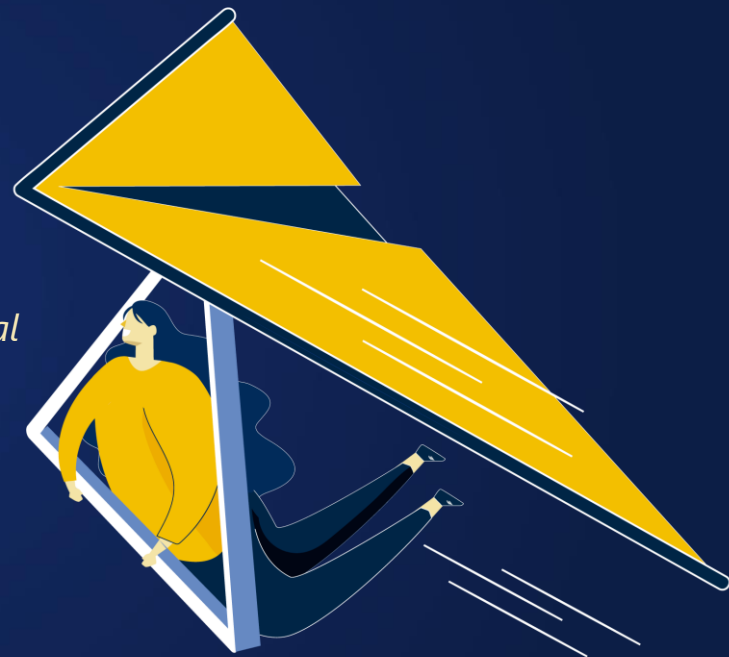
*Helping EU SMEs reach their full intellectual property potential*

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## SME FUND 2023 – KEY ELEMENTS

- **Objective:** offer financial support to SMEs to protect their IP and develop an IP strategy
- **Eligible beneficiaries:** SMEs based in the EU
- **Budget:** €25 M for voucher 1 and 2
- **Term to apply:** from 23/01/2023 to 08/12/2023
- **IP activities included:** IP Scan, trade marks and designs
- **Lessons learnt:** new features, simpler and faster process
- **Two phases:**
  - First opening (vouchers 1 and 2): 23 January 2023
  - Second opening (voucher 3 and 4): to be announced later



## SME FUND 2023 RECAP

VOUCHER	IP ACTIVITY	AMOUNT (EUR)	FEES INCLUDED	COVERAGE	REFUND RATE	ACTIVATION PERIOD	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	BUDGET (EUR)
1	IP Scans	1 350 <sup>(1)</sup>	IP Scan	National <sup>(2)</sup>	90 %	2 + 2 (months)	6 months	25 000 000
2	Trade marks & designs	1 000	Application, class, examination, registration, publication and deferment of publication fees	Within the EU	75 %	2 + 2 (months)	6 months	
			Basic, designation and subsequent designation fees <sup>(3)</sup>	Outside the EU	50 %			

(1) Up to max Eur 1 350, depending on the applicable fees at national level for this service

(2) IP Scans of participating Offices with a ceiling of cost for the service of EUR 1 500.

(3) Excluded fees: designation fees of EU countries and handling fees charged by the office of origin.

## SME FUND 2023 VOUCHER 1

VOUCHER	IP ACTIVITY	AMOUNT (EUR)	FEES INCLUDED	COVERAGE	REFUND RATE	ACTIVATION PERIOD	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD
1	IP Scan	1 350 (*)	IP Scan	National (**)	90 %	2 + 2 months	6 months

(\*) Up to max Eur 1 350, depending on the applicable fees at national level for this service

(\*) IP Scans of participating Offices with a ceiling of cost for the service of EUR 1 500.

## SME FUND 2023 VOUCHER 1

<b>Country</b>	<b>Maximum cost of service (in EUR)</b>	<b>Maximum Grant amount (in EUR)</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	1 500	1 350
<b>Bulgaria</b>	500	450
<b>Croatia</b>	800	720
<b>Cyprus</b>	900	810
<b>Czech Republic</b>	900	810
<b>Finland</b>	1 500	1 350
<b>Germany</b>	1 500	1 350
<b>Ireland</b>	1 500	1 350
<b>Latvia</b>	700	630
<b>Portugal</b>	900	810
<b>Lithuania</b>	700	630
<b>Sweden</b>	1 500	1 350



## SME FUND 2023 VOUCHER 2

VOUCHER	IP ACTIVITY	AMOUNT (EUR)	FEEs INCLUDED	COVERAGE	REFUND RATE	ACTIVATION PERIOD	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD
2	Trade marks & designs	1 000	Application, class, examination, registration, publication and deferment of publication fees	Within the EU	75 %	2 + 2 (months)	6 months
			Basic, designation and subsequent designation fees (*)	Outside the EU	50 %		

(\*) Excluded fees: designation fees of EU countries and handling fees charged by the office of origin.

# VOUCHER IMPLEMENTATION TERMS

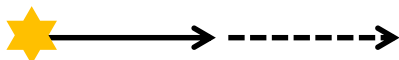
If a SME is awarded a grant, vouchers 1 and 2 must be activated within 2 months. This period can be extended by another 2 months. The implementation period starts, which lasts 6 months, during which SMEs can keep using their vouchers and request further reimbursements.

## A hypothetical example:

**Month 1:** Grant awarded

**Month 2:** Voucher(s) activated

Months	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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**Term to activate the voucher**



 Additional 7 days max. to request reimbursement after implementation period	 Grant awarded	 Voucher activated
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## SME FUND 2023 PROCESS



### 1. Apply for the Grant

Visit the SME Fund website and fill out the application form



### 2. Receive your Grant

Grant decision delivered less than 15 working days



### 3. Initiate your IP Activities

Run an IP Scan, apply for your trade mark and design

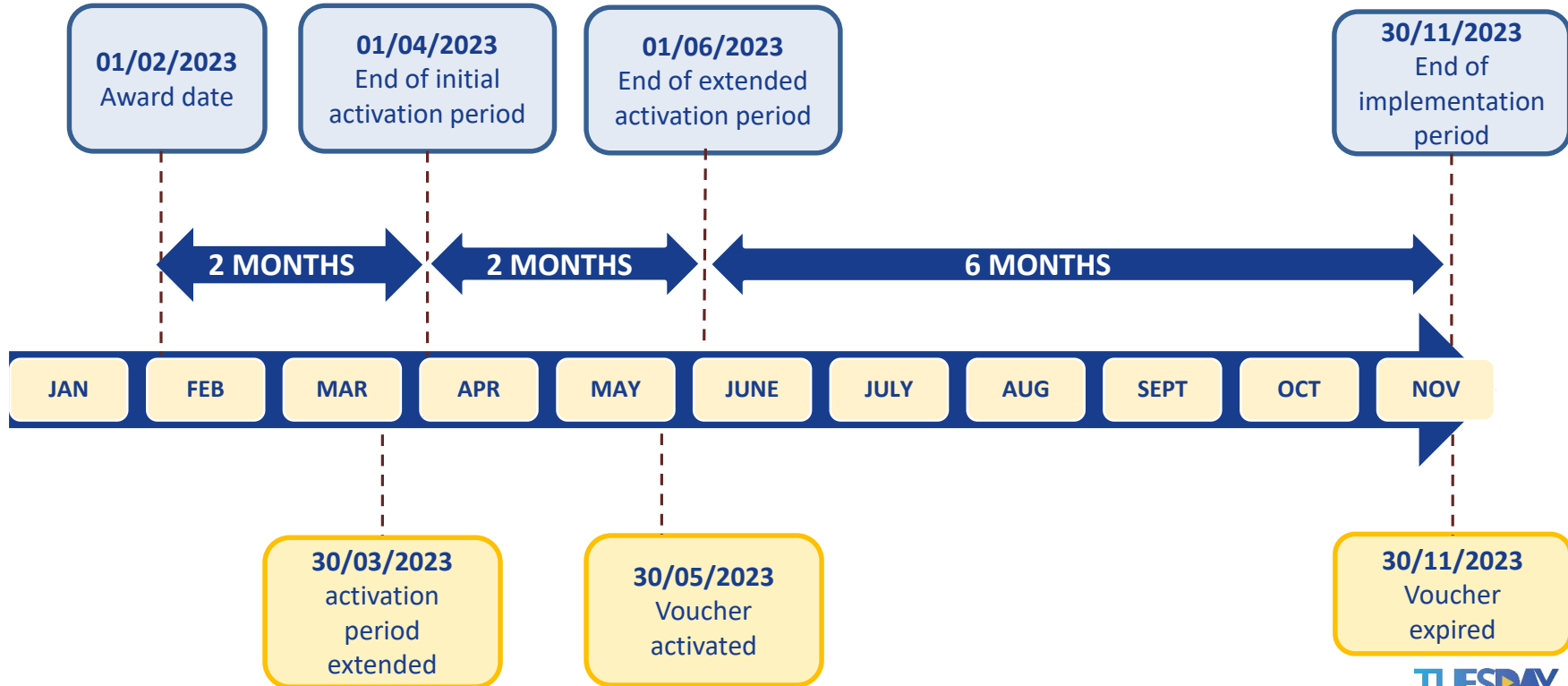


### 4. Get Reimbursed

Pay up-front for activities, fill out the reimbursement form in your SME Fund account area, and receive your reimbursements



## SME FUND 2023 APPLICATION TIMELINE (example)



## 2. RECEIVE YOUR GRANT



Within 15 working days of submitting your application, you will receive:

- An email with your **grant award**, or
- a **clarification email** requesting details on missing information or documents pertaining to your application, or
- A **rejection** email stating why you are not eligible to receive the grant

## SME FUND 2023 – OTHER KEY ELEMENTS

- SME Fund 2022 and 2023 initiatives will be running in parallel
- Each SME can request one voucher per type of IP activity
- Beneficiaries of 2022 can apply again in 2023 but must request reimbursement for different IPRs
- New fast track process in place to speed up repeat
- More vouchers will be available later



## SME FUND 2023 RECAP – ALL VOUCHERS

VOUCHER	IP ACTIVITY	AMOUNT (EUR)	FEES INCLUDED	COVERAGE	REFUND RATE	ACTIVATION PERIOD	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	BUDGET (EUR)
1	IP Scans	1 350 <sup>(1)</sup>	IP Scan	National <sup>(2)</sup>	90 %	2 + 2 (months)	6 months	25 000 000
2	Trade marks & designs	1 000	Application, class, examination, registration, publication and deferment of publication fees	<u>Within the EU</u>	75 %	2 + 2 (months)	6 months	
			Basic, designation and subsequent designation fees <sup>(3)</sup>	<u>Outside the EU</u>	50 %			
3	Patents	1 500	Patent prior art searches	National <sup>(4)</sup>	75 %	2 + 2 (months)	12 months	
			Filing, search, examination, grant and publication fees	National				
			Filing and search fees for European Patents	European <sup>(5)</sup>				
4	<u>Community Plant Varieties</u>	225	Online application fee	EU	50 %	2 + 4 (months)	N/A	100 000

(1) Up to max Eur 1 350, depending on the applicable fees at national level for this service

(2) IP Scans of participating Offices with a ceiling of cost for the service of EUR 1 500.

(3) Excluded fees: designation fees of EU countries and handling fees charged by the office of origin.

(4) Service provided by MS IPOs but for global search.

(5) See the [list of countries](#) covered by European patents

## SME FUND 2023 RECAP

VOUCHER	IP ACTIVITY	AMOUNT (EUR)	FEES INCLUDED	COVERAGE	REFUND RATE	ACTIVATION PERIOD	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	BUDGET (EUR)
3	Patents	1 500	Patent prior art searches	National (*)	75 %	2 + 2 (months)	12 months	2 000 000
			Filing, search, examination, grant and publication fees	National				
			Filing and search fees for European Patents	European (**)				

(\*) Service provided by MS IPOs but for global search.

(\*\*) See the [list of countries](#) covered by European patents

## SME FUND 2023 RECAP

VOUCHER	IP ACTIVITY	AMOUNT (EUR)	FEES INCLUDED	COVERAGE	REFUND RATE	ACTIVATION PERIOD	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	BUDGET (EUR)
4	Community Plant Varieties	225	Online application fee	EU	50 %	2 + 4 (months)	N/A	100 000

## THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

### Tips before submitting your online forms

- Check your documents **match** the details provided in the online form
- Check the uploaded documents are **readable**
- Check the **contact emails** provided

### We are here to help!

- Read **FAQs** in SME Fund landing page
- Use the **online chat** if you have any questions
- If you need any help, contact us at [INFORMATION@EUIPO.EUROPA.EU](mailto:INFORMATION@EUIPO.EUROPA.EU) or your national IP office

**And remember, we are here at your service!**



# Thank you!

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