



**GOAL 2.3  
IP SERVICES FOR SMEs**

**PROJECT MANAGER**

Jose Ignacio Maldonado

**TIMELINE**

July 2020 to December 2022

**INVESTMENT**

EUR 1 139 570

**STAFF INVOLVED**

17.81 Full-time Equivalents (FTEs)

**MOST IMPACTED CAPITAL<sup>1</sup>**

Relational

**MOST IMPACTED STAKEHOLDER**

Users

<sup>1</sup> As part of an integrated thinking approach, in 2016 the Office adopted the five capitals value creation model (human, organisational, relational, economic & environmental).

## 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; pro-bono Front Office (FO); 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