

From LEKTOR to Lexelerator

- Legal Knowledge Transfer Accelerator for SME Clusters and Digital Business Ecosystems
- 24 months
- Goal: raise awareness of potential legal obstacles in e-business and provide solutions by creating a platform for autonomous legal knowledge among SMEs
- Aim: accelerate ICT take-up in various business processes to boost SME competitiveness
- Based on the experience and SME networks of an international consortium

E-business challenges for SMEs

- Complying with ICT requirements of large firms
 - Risk for SMEs to have to comply with different systems in parallel
- Lack of ICT skills and strategy
- Only 20% of SMEs have their own ICT department

E-business opportunities for SMEs

- ICT usage facilitates cooperation
 - To create networks and ecosystems
 - Through project management tools, online collaboration tools for design
- ICT potential for SMEs
 - Voice-over-IP telephony, mobile e-business
 - ICT companies are increasingly addressing the SME market (affordable solutions)
- Large companies need to get their small business partners on board in order to reap the full benefits of e-business
- Going international
 - « globalisation »

SMEs and the e-business perspective

- Opportunities for SMEs of all countries and industries to devote resources and investment to well defined ICT strategies
- « E-inclusion » of micro-enterprises
- Digital business ecosystems
- European network of « Living Labs »
- Cross border « e-Regions »

Policy implications of e-business

- Technology and innovation policy
- Competition policy
- Improving the skills base in SMEs
- Promoting interoperability and standardisation within and across sectors
- Creating a favourable regulatory environment
 - Cross border issues, e-invoicing, safety issues etc.
- Public sector role

Lexelerator

- An evolving and sustainable tool which matches current and future needs to help SMEs identifying legal information to participate in the digital economy
- International dimension outside Europe
 - Chile, India, USA
- In line with the i2010 objectives
- Supports SMEs when seeking access to FP7
- Today's challenges for SMEs: the Internet of the Future, the Internet of Things

LEKTOR: What it did

- Analytical study on legal issues for e-business
- E-catalogue of key legal issues for European and cross border e-business, and a knowledge base of norms, laws and best practices in e-business in different scenarios and contexts
- LEKTOR P2P platform
 - To make legal knowledge accessible
 - To allow autonomous exchange of legal knowledge via a P2P platform
- Testbeds for legal knowledge exchange