



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE AGENCY FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (EASME)

Department A COSME, H2020 SME & EMFF
COSME

Brussels,
EASME.A.1/NMP

SUBJECT: COSME WORK PROGRAMME 2018, STUDY ON THE COMPETITIVENESS OF THE EU'S ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES (CONTRACT REF. EASME/COSME/2018/030).

PARTICIPATION AND SUPPORT IN THE DATA-GATHERING PROCESS

The Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) under the powers delegated by the European Commission, Directorate General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SME (DG GROW), has commissioned the Centre for Strategy & Evaluation Services (CSES) and their consortium partners at IDEA Consult, KMFA, Prognos and specialist partner DECISION to carry out the above Study on the Competitiveness of the EU's engineering industries.

The study assignment's objectives are, in summary, to:

- Provide the European Commission with a clear and up-to-date **assessment of the competitiveness of the European electronic, electrical and mechanical engineering sectors**.
- **Map and analyse the current baseline situation** (market size and structure, degree of competitiveness of European firms and their international counterparts) and to identify and assess current and future trends and developments in respect of digitalisation.
- Assess the **impact of digitalisation on the European engineering sector's competitiveness**, and at a sub-sectoral level across the three engineering branches (the mechanical, electrical and electronic and component engineering sectors).
- Undertake a **SWOT analysis at regional level to examine how smart specialisation is developing**, and how far digitalisation, regulation or particular policies enable such developments. This will include a comparison with the situation in other parts of the world.
- Provide a strategic outlook and an assessment of the challenges and opportunities ahead for the European engineering industries to inform EU policy-making in this area in future.

The Study will consist of three parts:

- Part 1 – An economic and competitiveness analysis to include a mapping of market size and structure

- Part 2 – Comparison of the regulatory framework in the EU and in major third country competitor countries.
- Part 3 - Analysis of the extent of digitalisation of the EU engineering industry and an assessment of the impacts, challenges and opportunities of key trends and developments driving digitalisation and technology adoption e.g. Industry 4.0, the Internet of Things, etc.


As part of the data collection exercise, the consultants will be undertaking targeted consultations with relevant stakeholders (e.g. manufacturers, industry associations, notified bodies, public authorities etc.) through an interview programme and online survey questionnaires. **I would therefore be grateful if you could participate in these consultations and support the consultants in the data-gathering process. This will ensure that the European Union has a strong evidence base to inform the Study.**

If you have any questions about the Study, please feel free to contact Mr. Mark Whittle from CSES (mwhittle@cses.co.uk)

For any question concerning the contract with the consortium led by CSES please contact Mr. Ricardo Aguado at EASME (ricardo.aguado@ec.europa.eu)

I would like to thank you in advance for your continued cooperation.

Yours sincerely,


Natalia MARTINEZ PARAMO
Head of Unit