



GreenEcoNet

A best-practice platform to support SMEs transition towards a green economy



Corrado TOPI (SEI-York)
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Background

- SMEs are the core of EU economy (depending on how you measure it between ~45% and ~90%).
- SMEs are often left out of the debate on green economy
- SMEs do not have many instruments available to manage the transition to a green economy (energy efficiency, resource efficiency, and so on) in particular because of a lack of investment capacity
- SMEs have often been at ***the forefront of green economy transition***, introduced innovative solutions and have developed revolutionary organisational, behavioural and technological approaches to the problem of sustainability and human well-being.

Aims

The aim of the project is to address these two issues:

- the disconnection between best in class / benchmark “green business” practices and the wider SMEs communities
- the disconnection between applied research institutions, who can offer support and solutions, and the SME community who can offer innovation, capacity, and flexible rapid deployment in the real world.

Objectives & Outcomes

- A EU wide network of SMEs
 - Workshops, conferences, meetings
- An online platform:
 - Opportunities for networking, funding, suppliers, customers
 - Case studies
 - Tools, Expertise & Technical Support on overcoming barriers
- **SME hubs** in few selected non EU countries
- A plan, organisational structure and funds to make the platform survive beyond the project

Project details

- GreenEcoNet is a CSA in FP7 framework
- ‘Business practices to promote green economy and SCP post Rio+20 (resource efficiency)’;
- Project duration: 06/2013 - 05/2016;
- Overall budget of 1.14 million Euros;
- The GreenEcoNet consortium:



Questions?
