



**Project No.:** 687961  
**Project acronym:** RespiceSME  
**Project title:** Regional, National and European Support for Photonics Innovation Clusters enhancing SMEs Innovative Potential  
**Instrument:** Coordination and Support Action  
**Programme:** ICT-27-2015: Photonics KET  
**Start date of project:** 01.01.2016  
**Duration:** 24 Months

## Deliverable 5.1

### Press release via Photonics21

Deliverable Name	Press release via Photonics21
Deliverable Number	D5.1
Work Package	WP5
Associated Task	T5.3
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Due Date	M02 (February 2016)
Completion Date	M02 (February 2016)
Submission Date	01.03.2016
Deliverable Lead Partner	Partner 1 - SEZ
Deliverable Author	Samantha Michaux

Dissemination Level		
<b>PU</b>	Public	<b>X</b>
<b>PP</b>	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
<b>RE</b>	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
<b>CO</b>	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	





## Press release February 2016

### ***Innovation stimulation for high-tech Photonics SMEs*** ***Launch of the European project *RespiceSME****

**RespiceSME** - Regional and National European Support for Photonics Innovation Clusters enhancing SMEs Innovation Potential

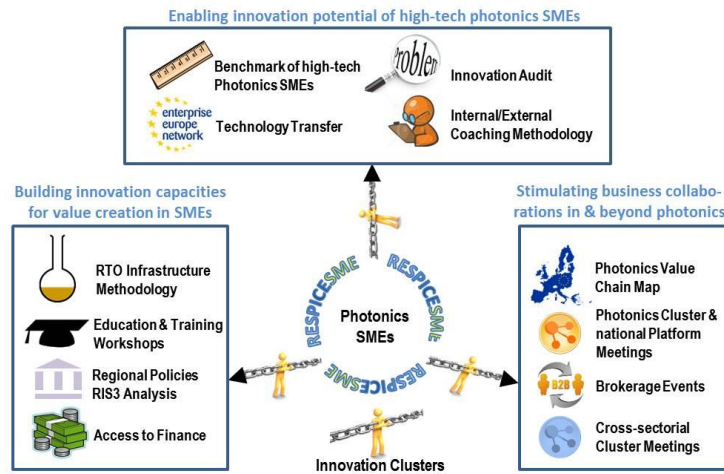
Launched by an international consortium of 10 partners from Austria, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Lithuania, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom, the European funded project RespiceSME started on **January, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016**.

This Coordination Support Action (CSA) funded within the *Photonics Public Private Partnership Initiative* aims at **reinforcing the innovative capacity** of Europe's photonics SMEs, clusters and national platforms by stimulating **targeted collaborations in and beyond photonics**. RespiceSME proposes new approaches for stronger innovative effectiveness using a **3-dimensional approach**. In the first dimension, RespiceSME will evaluate and stimulate the **innovation potential** in order to strengthen the **innovation capacity** of high-tech photonics SMEs. In the second dimension, RespiceSME will enhance the global **technological exploitation** of photonics innovation capacity by analysing different **value chains** valuable for high-tech photonics SMEs. This will allow significantly leveraging non-photonics sectors such as **Environment/ Energy, Transport and Manufacturing** and thereby, enabling the penetration of new markets and/or new application areas close to markets. The third dimension focuses on creating a bridge over the '*Valley of Death*<sup>1</sup>' to **increase the competitiveness** of the European photonics sector by developing *Best Practices* for enabling photonics SMEs access **European and regional Research Technology Organisations**, harnessing **educational and training** programmes aligned with their specific needs, determining next generation regional innovative **smart specialisation strategies** and providing access to **public and private financial supports**.

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<sup>1</sup> The name 'Valley of Death' refers to the high probability that a startup firm will die off before a steady stream of revenues is established.





Partners:



Steinbeis-Europa-Zentrum - Germany

[www.steinbeis-europa.de](http://www.steinbeis-europa.de)



Opticsvalley - France

[www.opticsvalley.org](http://www.opticsvalley.org)



Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas - Greece

[www.forth.gr](http://www.forth.gr)



OptecNet Deutschland e.V. - Germany

[www.optecnet.de](http://www.optecnet.de)



PhotonicSweden - Sweden

[www.photonicsweden.com](http://www.photonicsweden.com)



Photonics Austria - Austria

[www.photonics-austria.at](http://www.photonics-austria.at)



SECPhO - Light Technologies Cluster - Spain

[www.secpho.org](http://www.secpho.org)



National University of Ireland, Galway – Ireland

[www.nuigalway.ie](http://www.nuigalway.ie)



Laser & Engineering Technologies Cluster – Lithuania

[www.litek.lt](http://www.litek.lt)





Knowledge Transfer Network Limited – United Kingdom

[www.ktn-uk.co.uk](http://www.ktn-uk.co.uk)

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PHOTONICS PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP





The press release has been published on the website of photonics21 on February, 5th, 2016 (see snap shot below).

Friday, 05 February 2016

**PHOTONICS NEWS**  
**Innovation stimulation for high-tech Photonics SMEs - Launch of the Photonics PPP project RespiaceSME**

Launched by an international consortium of 10 partners from Austria, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Lithuania, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom, the European funded project RespiaceSME - Regional and National European Support for Photonics Innovation Clusters enhancing SMEs Innovation Potential - started on January, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

This Coordination Support Action (CSA) funded within the Photonics Public Private Partnership initiative aims at reinforcing the innovative capacity of Europe's photonics SMEs, clusters and national platforms by stimulating targeted collaborations in and beyond photonics. RespiaceSME proposes new approaches for stronger innovative effectiveness using a 3-dimensional approach. In the first dimension, RespiaceSME will evaluate and stimulate the innovation potential in order to strengthen the innovation capacity of high-tech photonics SMEs. In the second dimension, RespiaceSME will enhance the global technological exploitation of photonics innovation capacity by opening different value chains valuable for high-tech photonics SMEs. This will allow significantly leveraging non-photonics sectors such as Environment/Energy, Transport and Manufacturing and thereby, enabling the penetration of new markets and/or new application areas close to markets. The third dimension focuses on creating a bridge over the 'Valley of Death' to increase the competitiveness of the European photonics sector by developing Best Practices for enabling photonics SMEs access European and regional Research Technology Organisations, harnessing educational and training programmes aligned with their specific needs, determining next generation regional innovative smart specialisation strategies and providing access to public and private financial supports.

**Enabling innovation potential of high-tech photonics SMEs**

For any further details you can view the [PRESS RELEASE](#)

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