SME/SPIRE

Turning the challenges of INSPIRE implementation into business opportunities for European geo-ICT SMEs

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central questions

1. What are the main characteristics of the Geo-ICT sector in Europe?

2. How is the Geo-ICT sector in Europe currently involved in the implementation of INSPIRE?

3. Do Geo-ICT companies in Europe have the skills and knowledge to participate in the implementation of INSPIRE?

4. Does INSPIRE already have an impact on the innovative performance of Geo-ICT companies in Europe?

results – activities

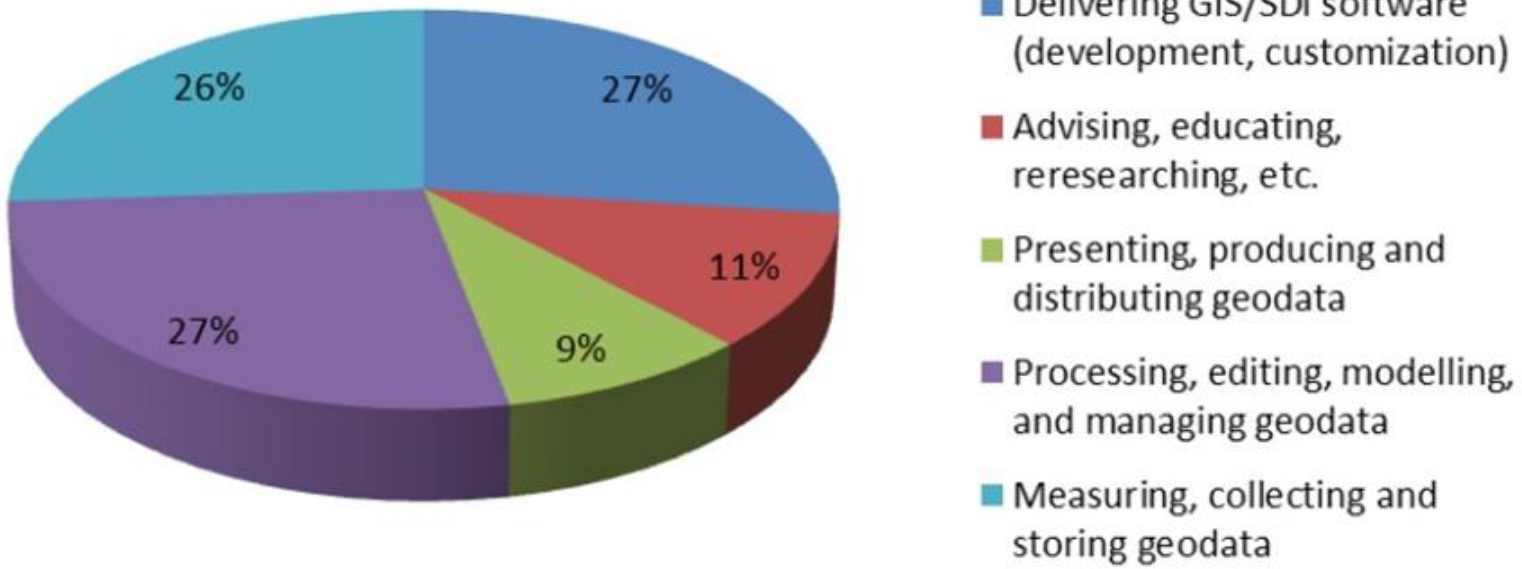

Figure: primary area of activities

Findings:

- 3 main groups of activities: software – input - throughput
- Only a limited number of SME's focussing on software development
- Processing, editing, modelling and managing geodata are important activities of Geo-ICT SMEs → potential for INSPIRE!

results – barriers to innovation

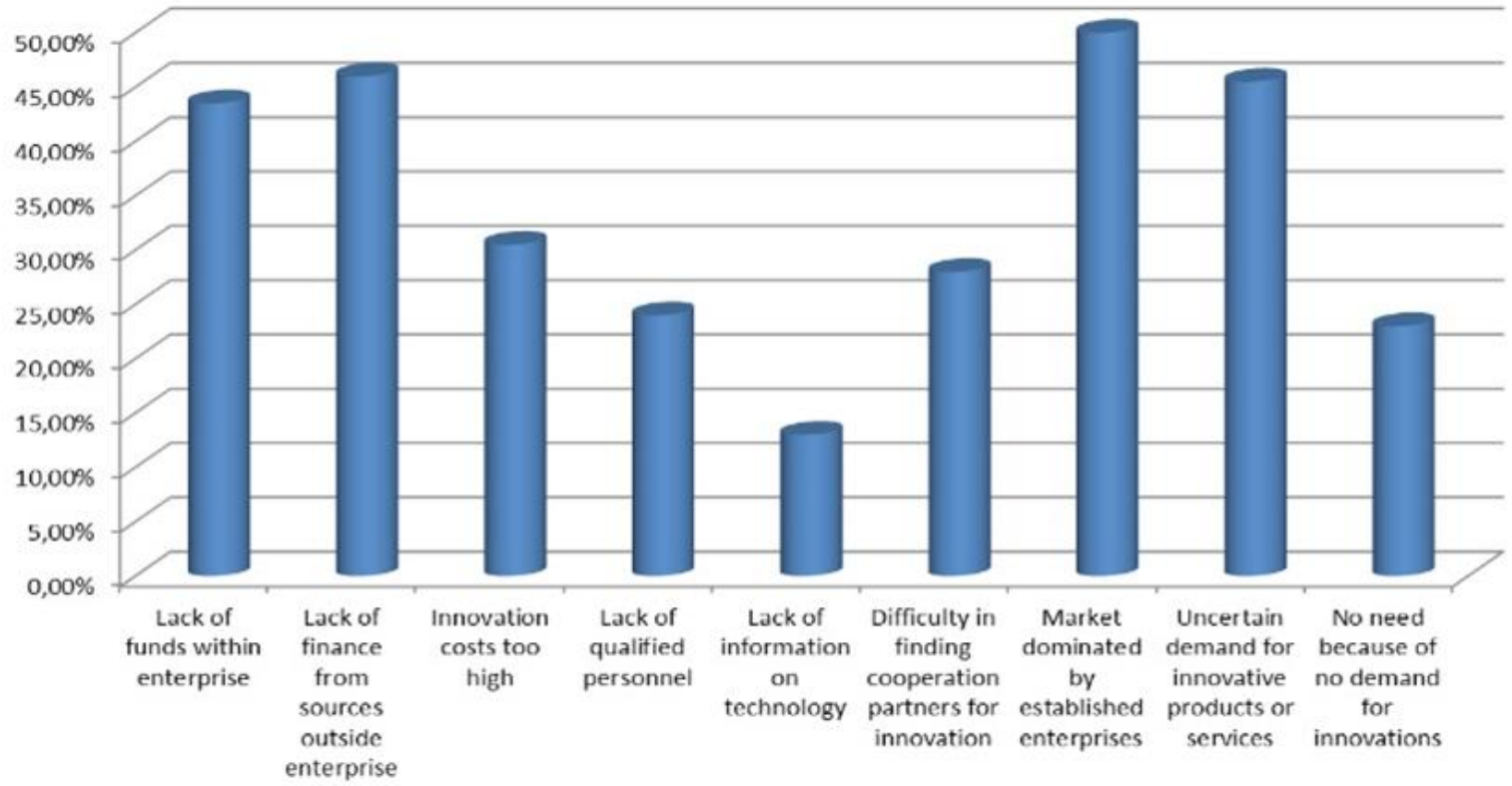

Figure: barriers that hinder or prevent innovation

Findings:

- Main barrier: dominance of market by established enterprises
- Several barriers related to financial aspects
- Internal and external barriers

conclusions

1. What are the main characteristics of the Geo-ICT sector in Europe?

- what is 'the' Geo-ICT sector? mainly Geo-ICT vs partly Geo-ICT
- a lot of small enterprises (less than 50 employees and turnover < EUR 10 million)
- spread over different stages in spatial information chain

2. How is the Geo-ICT sector in Europe currently involved in the implementation of INSPIRE?

- public sector as most important customer
- mainly involved in the use of spatial data
- involvement in implementation of INSPIRE is relatively limited