SPECTORS Structure and Goals

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SPECTORS - "Sensor products for companies creating technological opportunities for airborne remote sensing" - is a project on civilian applications with drones. The international cooperation project with more than 30 partners from small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), the public sector and research institutions aims at economic development in the border region Netherlands - Germany. It is financed by INTERREG-V-A Germany-Netherlands, a strong instrument of the "European Regional Development Fund".

In order to achieve the politically initiated economic development goals of the European Union, the entire project is completely tailored to support SMEs in product innovation and development, which is realised in interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary cooperation between the Dutch and German partners.

In cooperation with our partners Oost NL and RheWaTech we use the instrument of the Business Model Canvas. With this model, we build up the current development status of the individual business model in joint meetings with companies and potential users from the market. The focus is on customer proximity, so that in many cases it is possible to convert the first technical ideas into marketable products in the further course of the project. The project started with a large scope for development, only 11 product groups were determined by key topics. SPECTORS covered a wide range of civil drone applications, such as environmental and nature conservation, agriculture, surveying, hyperspectral remote sensing, surveillance, cloud computing and artificial intelligence. The extensive cooperation of the last three years has resulted in a cross-border competence network, which already provides many companies and users in the region with uncomplicated and direct access to the diverse applications of drones in the civilian sector.

Keywords: SPECTORS, international cooperation project, civilian applications with drones, tailored to support SMEs, environmental and nature conservation, agriculture, surveying, hyperspectral remote sensing, surveillance, cloud computing and artificial intelligence