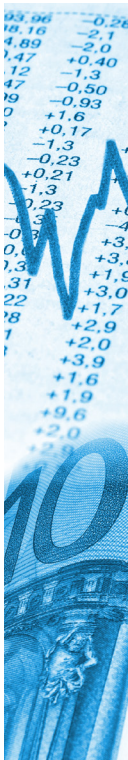
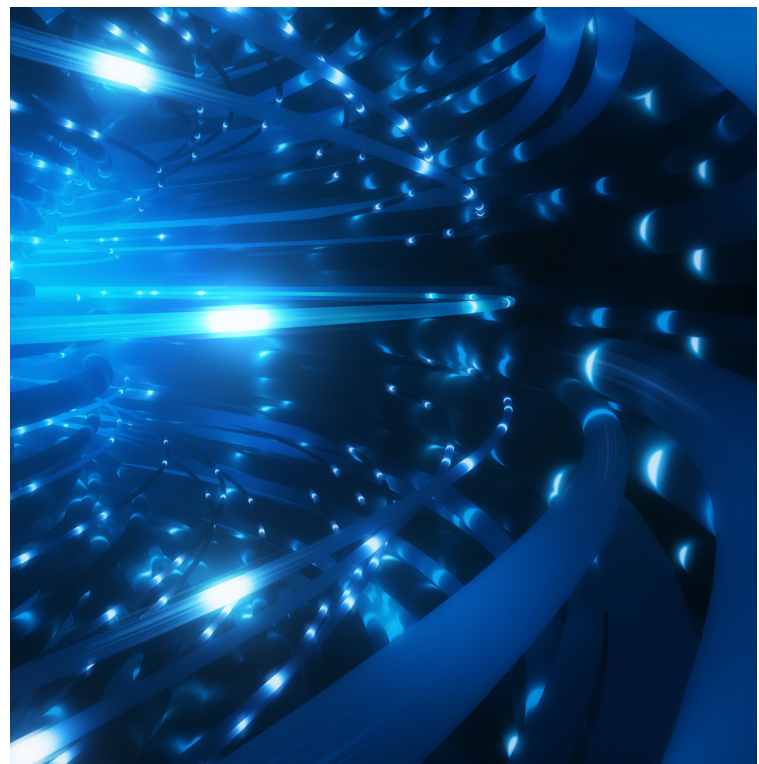




Workshop on Investment Vehicles and Financial Instruments supporting Technology Transfer and Innovation

Focus on the Danube Region and the Western Balkans countries

1-2 March 2017, Belgrade, Serbia
Programme



In Collaboration with:



Background

Many of the challenges in funding technology transfer and innovation are common across the Western Balkans countries and the broader Danube region. Several issues have been identified, in particular during the Macro-Regional Innovation Week held in Trieste, 26-30 September 2016 and this workshop is one of the first follow-up activities.

Furthermore, it will set the scene for the upcoming innovation workshop, part of the Berlin Process Summit, by exploring one of the most crucial elements of research and innovation – the funding component.

Content

The objectives of the workshop are to identify existing financial instruments to support innovation and technology transfer activities in the region, explore where the evident gaps exist and explore ways to address currently unmet demand with synergistic solutions. The workshop also aims to strengthen and cement an emerging community of practice on these issues that should help to maximise impact on regional innovation.

The workshop should stimulate exchange and discussion on the nature, features and the general suitability of existing financial instruments for the financing of different innovation and tech transfer projects (including start-up creation, joint ventures, licensing transactions etc.). The final results will be a definition of the type of financing instruments necessary for the region (in the form of vouchers, financial products, enhancements of features of existing innovation funds etc.) and a plan to accelerate their creation.

The second day of the workshop will give attention to access to finance in four specific sectors of particular importance to the region, including:

- Agri-food industry – focusing on rural development and social innovation
- Biotech – focusing on medical and life sciences projects and innovation
- Creative industries – focusing on social entrepreneurship and social innovation
- Eco-industry – focusing on innovation with environmental impact in the region

The Counterparties

The workshop is organised by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre in collaboration with the European Investment Bank, World Bank, European Investment Fund and the EU Delegation in Serbia.

The European Investment Bank (along with the Fund) plays a major role in the region through, among others, the Western Balkans Enterprise Development & Innovation Facility (WB EDIF).

The World Bank and their Trade and Competitiveness Unit for Europe and Central Asia focuses on the areas of investment climate assessment, innovation and competition policies, and private participation in infrastructure. The organisation has done extensive work in assessing the environment for Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) in all Berlin process countries and has also devised a strategy for cooperation and development in RDI.

The JRC and Unit (I.4) are in possession of operational and technical expertise in the domains of Technology and Knowledge Transfer. Our flagship activities and tools (training, capacity building, studies) are highly relevant to the harmonisation and development of RDI in the Western Balkans.

The **agenda** should respond to the **purpose** of the workshop which is to:

- Provide participants with an opportunity to learn more about the existing investment vehicles (innovation vouchers, innovation funds, proof of concept funds, venture capital funds, etc.) and financial instruments (grants, equities, debts, guarantees, etc.) that can support innovation in their respective countries and organisations.
- Explore other relevant financing mechanisms and financial instruments in Europe, existing or potential, in support of innovation.
- Foster the sharing of experiences in using financial instruments, enabling dialogue and learning between stakeholders in the region

The **target audience** are technology transfer practitioners, investors, innovation practitioners from both the supply and demand sides, agencies and bodies managing investment funds, financial intermediaries, corporate venture funds, science parks, SMEs, business associations, managing authorities and financial institutions directly involved in the design, operation and promotion of financial instruments.

Wednesday 1 March 2017

Belgrade, University of Belgrade, Solemn hall

Programme

EU and International Initiatives

09:30 – 10:00

Registration and Welcome coffee

10:00 – 11:00

Welcome address

Moderator: Giancarlo Caratti, Head of IPR and Technology Transfer Unit, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

Giovanni De Santi

Director for Competences, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Steffen Hudolin

Head of Operations II, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia

Vladimir Bumbaširević

Rector, University of Belgrade

Gordana Danilović Grković

Director, Science and Technology Park of Belgrade

Marko Čadež

President, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia

Ivana Petričević

Senior Advisor, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)

11:00 – 12:30

Introductory discussion – overview of local challenges

Moderator: Dejan Šuvakov

Programme Manager for SMEs, Competitiveness, Innovations - Operations II, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia

Viktor Nedović

Assistant Minister for International Relations and European Integrations, Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, Serbia

Clément Brenot

Project Manager, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Giovanni Nicola Pes

Deputy Secretary General of the Italian National Government Agency for Microcredit

Lisa Cowey

Key Expert for Technology Transfer. Project "Capacity Building for Technology Transfer for the Western Balkans - EU4Tech" (Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations)

12:30 – 13:30

Lunch

13:30 – 15:00

On-going EU initiatives

Moderator: Alessandro Fazio, Policy Officer, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Patrick McCutcheon

Policy Officer, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission

Jean-Luc Revereault

Head of Strategy, Advisory Services Department, European Investment Bank (EIB)

Dragan Šoljan

Advisor, Western Balkan Enterprise Development & Innovation Facility (WB EDIF), European Investment Bank (EIB)

Andrea Bua

Head of Unit, Financial Instruments Adriatic Sea Department, European Investment Bank (EIB)

Piyush Unalkat

Head of Technology Transfer Investments, European Investment Fund (EIF)

Marco Giuliani

Mandate Manager, European Investment Fund (EIF)

15:00 – 15:30

Coffee Break

15:30 – 17:00

On-going international initiatives

Moderator: Olga Spasić

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

Paulo Guilherme Correa

Practice Manager, Trade and Competitiveness, World Bank

Olga Spasić

Counselor, Knowledge Transfer and IP Commercialization, SMEs and Entrepreneurship Support Division, Department for Developed and Transition Countries (TDC), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

Fabio Serri

Regional Head for SME Finance and Development in the Western Balkans, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Christophe Yvetot

Head, Liaison Office to the European Union, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

17:00 – 17:30

Closing

20:30

Networking dinner

Thursday 2 March 2017

Belgrade, Science and Technology Park

Programme

Regional Ecosystems and Actors

09:00 – 09:30

Registration and Welcome Coffee

09:30 – 09:35

Welcome Address

Ms Gordana Danilović Grković

Director, Science and Technology Park

09:35 – 11:00

Industry-public research partnerships

Moderator: **Mattias Dinnetz**

Policy Officer, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Stephen Taylor

Director of Marketing, Communications and Business Development, AREA Science Park

Nedeljko Milosavljević

TTO Director, University of Belgrade, Serbia

Anwar Aridi

Innovation Specialist, World Bank

Ljiljana Ršumović

Project Coordinator, Science and Technology Park of Belgrade

Blagoy Stamenov

Policy Analyst, Knowledge for Finance, Innovation & Growth Unit, Joint Research Centre European Commission

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:00

Regional Investors

Moderator: **Elena Andonova**

Policy Officer, Joint Research Centre European Commission

Ivan Rakonjac

Interim Managing Director, Innovation Fund, Serbia

Aleksandar Tasev

Managing Director, Balkan Unlimited Foundation

Jasmina Popovska

Director, State Fund for Innovation and Technological Development, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Mariyana Hamanova

Co-Founder and Director Cleantech Bulgaria

Luigi Amati

President, CEO & Co-Founder of META

Boris Golob

CEO at STEP RI Science & Technology Park, University of Rijeka

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch and a group photo

14:00 – 16:00 Parallel Roundtables

Agro-food industry round table

Moderator: **Massimiliano Rudella**

Coordinator of the working group on innovation and rural development, AREA Science Park

Biotech industry round table

Moderator: **Maria Luisa Fichera**

Chief, Legal and Administration Department, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) with contribution from:

Martina Viviani

Head, Fund Raising, Technology Transfer and Innovation, ICGEB

Nataša Skoko

Staff Research Scientist, Biotechnology Development Unit, ICGEB

Mersiha Alkić-Subašić

Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences of the University of Sarajevo

Veljko Mihajlović

Founder, Novel IC Company

Creative industries round table

Moderator: **Michela Magas**

Founder of Stromatolite, a Design Innovation Lab and a finalist in the European Union Women Innovators Prize 2017 with contribution from:

Neven Tubić

Founder, Dotas Company

Eco-industry round table

Moderator: **Jelena Plavanski**

Head, Centre for Ecology, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia (Belgrade office) with contribution from:

Mariyana Hamanova

Co-Founder and Director Cleantech, Bulgaria

Christophe Yvetot

Head, Liaison Office to the European Union, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Nenad Mitošević

Founder, Ant Energy Company

16:00 – 17:00

Presentations of results from group activities and conclusions

17:00 – 18:00

Closing cocktail

JRC Mission

As the science and knowledge service of the European Commission , our mission is to support EU policies with independent evidence throughout the whole policy cycle.



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