



**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
"INVESTING IN INNOVATION:
PROMOTING NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN THE
UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE REGION"
GENEVA, PALAIS DES NATIONS, SALLE V**

Programme

Thursday, 10 April 2008	
9:00 to 10:00	Registration
10:00 to 11:15	Welcome Address Marek Belka , UNECE Executive Secretary Keynote Speeches: Philipp Hartmann , Head of Financial Research Division, ECB Charles Wessner , Director, Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, the National Academies, United States <i>"Converting Research into Innovation & Growth: SBIR, the University and the Park"</i>
11:15 to 13:00	SESSION 1. NATIONAL POLICY EXPERIENCES IN PROMOTING THE AVAILABILITY OF RISK CAPITAL MODERATOR: Karen Wilson , Founder, GV Partners and Advisor, EFER Pertti Valtonen , Counsellor, Ministry of Economy, Finland <i>"Government's venture capital policy in Finland"</i> Dinand Maas , Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Netherlands <i>"Risk capital initiatives and issues in the Netherlands"</i> Jaime Andrez , President, Institute for the Support of SMEs (IAPMEI), Portugal <i>"Instruments to enhance the access of SMEs to financial markets"</i> Simona Grobelnik , Development Advisor, Slovene Enterprise Fund <i>"The encouragements for development investments in Slovenia: The activities of the SEF"</i> Marc Cowling , Principal Economist, Institute for Employment Studies, UK <i>"On the use of tax incentives to promote equity investment in smaller, innovative firms in the UK"</i>
13:00 to 15:00	Lunch Break

Thursday, 10 April 2008 (continued)

15:00 to 18:00

SESSION 2.A. WHAT GOVERNMENTS CAN DO TO ENHANCE PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN INNOVATION? VIEWS FROM THE INVESTORS' COMMUNITY

MODERATOR: Brigitte Baumann, CEO, Go Beyond and EBAN Board Member

Pascal Lagarde, CEO, CDC Entreprises, France

"The role of CDC Entreprises in French public policies to promote risk capital"

Kerstin Kiehl, Vice-President, Economic Research Division, KfW Bankengruppe, Germany

"Financing high-tech start-ups in Germany – the role of KfW"

Marc Schublin, Head of Division, European Investment Fund

"The role of a EU financial institution in support of innovation"

Georges Noël, Director, Venture Capital Platform, European Private Equity and Venture Capital Association

"The work of the new Venture Capital Platform at the EVCA"

Jean-Pierre Vuilleumier, Managing Director, CTI Invest

"The Swiss approach to financing start-ups"

Harry Yuklea, Director, ASPER Centre for Entrepreneurship, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

"How to spell "financing innovations" in Hebrew (and why replicating the Israeli experience won't always work...)"

Anthony Bartzokas, Professorial Fellow, UNU-MERIT

"Financial markets, investment and technological change in catching-Up countries"

Friday, 11 April 2008

10:00 to 11:30

SESSION 2.B. WHAT GOVERNMENTS CAN DO TO ENHANCE PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN INNOVATION? VIEWS FROM THE INVESTORS' COMMUNITY

MODERATOR: Pierre Kladny, President Le Réseau and Managing Partner, Valley Capital SA, Switzerland

Albina Nikkonen, CEO, Russian Private Equity and Venture Capital Association

"Promoting innovation-based growth in Russia"

Birger Steen, General Manager, Microsoft Russia

"Building the Russian IT economy"

David Waroquier, Partner, Mangrove Capital Partners, Luxembourg

"European venture capital- the new frontier"

Friday, 11 April 2008 (continued)

11:30 to 13:00

SESSION 3. ADDRESSING ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES THROUGH INNOVATION

MODERATOR: Paul Clements-Hunt, Head of UNEP Finance Initiative

Matt Christensen, Executive Director, European Social Investment Forum
"VC4S (Venture Capital for Sustainability): Potential for the EU to Rival Silicon Valley"

Angelo Wille, Finance for SMEs, Entrepreneurs and Innovators, Directorate General Enterprise, European Commission
"Seed and start-up finance for eco-innovation - Need for money or for transparency?"

Paolo Anselmo, President, Italian Business Angel Network
"Business angels, venture capital and clean technologies"

13:00 to 15:00

Lunch break

15:00 to 17:45

SESSION 4. FROM ACADEMIC RESEARCH TO THE MARKET: NEW APPROACHES TO BRIDGING THE FINANCING GAP

MODERATOR: Jacqueline Fendt, Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship, ESC-EAP European School of Management

Jan-Anders Månson, Vice-President Innovation and Valorisation, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, Switzerland
"Bringing research to the market. The experiences of the EPFL"

Laurent Miéville, President, ASTP and Director UNITEC
"Some issues on technology and knowledge transfer" (title tbc)

Florian Kirschenhofer, Start-up manager, Max-Planck-Innovation
"Start-up management as technology transfer within Max-Planck-Innovation"

Tim Minshall, Centre for Technology Management, University of Cambridge Institute for Manufacturing
"Investing in emerging industries"

Nelson Gray, CEO, Firth Ventures, United Kingdom
"Using knowledge to fill the funding gap"

Serhyi Loboyko, Founder and General Manager, Techinvest, Ukraine
"Technology commercialization in Ukraine: a VC investor's opinion"

Vladimir Kozharnovich, Senior Industrial Development Officer, UNIDO
"Research commercialization: the role of international organizations"

17:45 to 18:00

Closing statements