



Riga
Wednesday, 28 October 2009
Reval Hotel Latvija (Conference Center)
Elizabetes iela 55, LV-1010 Riga

Programme

Working languages will be Latvian and English – Interpretation will be provided

- 8h45 Registration of participants
Moderator of the morning session: Ansis Bogustovs
- 9h15 Welcome address
Iveta Šulca, Head of EC Representation in Latvia
- 9h25 Address by the Latvian Government
Edmunds Beļskis, Director, Ministry of Economy
- 9h50 European Commission SME policies
Angelo Wille, Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry
- 10h10 Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP), focusing on CIP Financial Instruments
Vygandas Jankunas, European Commission, Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs
- 10h30 Implementation of CIP financial instruments and how to apply
European Investment Fund
- 10h50 Questions and answers
- 11h00 Coffee break and presentation of the *Access to Finance* website
Press conference parallel to coffee break
- 11h30 Experience with EU financial instruments in Latvia: Loan guarantees
Aigars Šmelde, Mortgage and Land Bank of Latvia
- 11h50 Experience with EU financial instruments in Latvia: Venture Capital
Dagnis Dreimanis, BaltCap
- 12h10 Presentation of the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)
Gundega Lapina, EEN Latvia, Latvian Technological Center
- 12h30 EU 7th Framework Programme for Research and Development – Opportunities for SMEs
Geatano Petralia, European Commission, DG Research
- 12h50 Questions and answers



- 13:00** **Networking lunch offered**
- 14h15** **Afternoon session "Other sources of Finance"**
Moderator: Daniels Pavluts, Latvian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 14h15 Financing SMEs: Other sources of support in Latvia
Ilze Stafecka, Investment and Development Agency
Anete Vītola EEN Latvia, Investment and Development Agency, Project JOSEFIN
Ivars Golsts, Director, Latvian Guarantee Agency (LGA)
- 15h15 Implementation of the Small Business Act (SBA) in Latvia
Jānis Endziņš, Latvian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- 15h35 Views and needs of the entrepreneurs
Mārcis Dzelme, Employers' Confederation of Latvia
- 15h55 Guarantee mechanisms of SMEs' external finance
José Fernando Figueiredo, Chairman, European Association of Mutual Guarantee Societies (AECM)
- 16h15 Equity sources of SMEs' external finance: Venture Capital
Astra Neimane, Latvian Venture Capital and Private Equity Association (LVCA)
- 16h35 Questions and answers
- 16h45** **Conclusion**
Coffee offered