

REGIONAL INNOVATION FORUM FOR EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA
Bratislava, Slovakia, March 22-24, 2018

DRAFT AGENDA

WEDNESDAY MARCH 21, 2018 WELCOME RECEPTION Venue: Reduta (Slovak Philharmonic)	
18:30-19:00	<i>Welcome Remarks</i> Andrej Kiska , President of the Slovak Republic or Peter Pellegrini , Vice-Prime Minister for Investment and Informatization, Slovak Republic (TBC) Cyril Muller , Vice-President for Europe and Central Asia, World Bank Group
19:00-20:30	WELCOME RECEPTION
THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018 INNOVATION IN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA? REGIONAL CHALLENGES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT Venue: Historical Building of the Slovak Parliament	
09:00-09:15	WELCOME REMARKS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cyril Muller, Vice-President for Europe and Central Asia, World Bank Group • Peter Kazimir, Minister of Finance, the Slovak Republic • Vazil Hudak, Vice President, European Investment Bank <p><i>Master of Ceremony for the event: Matthew Karnitschnig</i>, Chief Europe Correspondent, POLITICO</p>
9:15 – 10:15	LIGHTNING TALK – INFLUENCER
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicholas Haan, Vice President of Impact and Faculty Chair of Global Grand Challenges, Singularity University • Vazil Hudak, Vice President, European Investment Bank <p><i>Moderator: Cyril Muller</i>, Vice-President for Europe and Central Asia, World Bank Group <i>Facilitator: Natasha Kapil/Anwar Aridi</i></p>
10:15-11:30	PLENARY SESSION I
	<p><i>Innovation for Growth: Why Now More Than Ever?</i></p> <p><i>Productivity growth in Europe has stagnated. Job creation has been stalled since the financial crisis. The Europe 2020 strategy sets new and ambitious targets for employment, education, and R&D spending. How proactive EU, national, and regional innovation policies and industry specific programs could prepare for future and sustainable economic growth and achieve the stated vision. What are the lessons learnt from the previous decade? What are the common future challenges? And what is most relevant to transition and developing economies? The session's discussions will highlight some of the findings from the World Bank's Flagship on Innovation.</i></p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill Maloney, Chief Economist, Equitable Growth, Finance, and Institutions, World Bank Group • Sergei Guriev, Chief Economist, EBRD • Roman Arjona Gracia, Chief Economist at DG Research and Innovation, European Commission • Susana Borrás, Professor, Copenhagen Business School <p><i>Moderator: Linda van Gelder</i>, Country Director, World Bank Group <i>Facilitator: Anwar Aridi</i></p>
11:30-11:45	COFFEE

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11:45-13:00	PLENARY SESSION II
<p><i>Industry 4.0 and Emerging Economies: The Future of Manufacturing-led Development and the Demand for Skills</i> <i>New technologies, such as advanced robotics, industrial automation, and 3-D printing, are changing the landscape of global manufacturing. Manufacturing-driven economic models may be at risk due to shifts in the attractiveness of production locations. The challenge for government is to take policy action on Competitiveness, Capabilities, and Connectedness (3C).</i></p> <p><i>How would ECA economies cope to the emerging trends in manufacturing and how will Industry 4.0 impact the competitiveness of ECA's emerging and transition economies? How have innovative industries changed the demand for skills and jobs? What characteristics should the future work force have? What is the role of government, private sector education and training providers in preparing for future demands and retraining the workforce?</i></p> <p><i>This session will highlight the World Bank's Flagship on The Future of Manufacturing-Led Development.</i></p> <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaurav Nayyar, Co-Author of the Future of Manufacturing-Led Development Flagship Report, Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation Global Practice, World Bank • Amalya Yeghoyan, Deputy Minister for ICT, Armenia • Irene Petrick, Director of Business Strategy, Intel Corporation • Stefan Seer, Senior Scientist, Dynamic Transportation Systems, Center for Mobility Systems, Austrian Institute of Technology • Shuki Gleitman, Chairman of Guangzhou Israel Bio Tech Fund, Innovation Office in Tel-Aviv and Capital Point Ltd (former Chief Scientist of Israel) <p><i>Moderator:</i> Marialisa Motta, Practice Manager, Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation Global Practice, World Bank Group</p> <p><i>Facilitator:</i> Karen Grigorian</p>	
13:00-14:30	LUNCH
14:30-15:45	PLENARY SESSION III
<p><i>The Role of High Growth Firms: Gazelles, Unicorns, and Zombies</i> <i>Nurturing Innovative Startups and High-Growth Firms – Intermediaries, Incubation and Acceleration.</i></p> <p><i>High-Growth firms play an especially important role in the process of job creation over time compared to either large existing firms or very small startups that tend not to grow. They can play a key role in improving productivity and addressing unemployment by creating value added jobs. What obstacles prevent high-growth firms from launching and growing? And what policies could promote high-growth firms, especially in the European context?</i></p> <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paulo Correa, Practice Manager, World Bank Group • Albert Bravo-Briosca, Director Innovation Growth Lab, NESTA • David Storey, Professor of Enterprise, Sussex University • Rhett Morris, Director, Endeavor Insight <p><i>Moderator:</i> Najy Benhassine, Director, Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation Global Practice, World Bank Group</p> <p><i>Facilitator:</i> Anwar Aridi</p>	
15:45-16:00	COFFEE BREAK

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16:00-17:30	<p>PLENARY SESSIONS IV</p> <p><i>Partnering on Innovation: Impact of Innovation Funding Programs (EU, OECD, EIB, WBG)</i></p> <p><i>How effective has EU funding for innovation programs been, including that for Smart Specialization Strategies and Research Collaboration Programs like Horizon 2020? What impact has the influx of EU funds had on innovation, including the potential crowding out effect? The effectiveness of policies and instruments targeting industrial competitiveness in the age of innovation, especially RIS3. Do we have adequate tools to evaluate the outcomes that it has or has not delivered? Has the private sector fulfilled its role in driving innovation financing? The role of European MNEs and SMEs and cross border collaborations.</i></p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marialisa Motta, Practice Manager, Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation Global Practice • Flavia Palanza, Director, Operations, Neighboring Countries Department, European Investment Bank • Mario Cervantes, Science and Technology Policy Division, Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry, OECD • Robert Pasicko, PhD, UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub <p><i>Moderator:</i> Mercy Miyang Tembon, Country Director, South Caucasus, World Bank Group <i>Facilitators:</i> Tatiana Segal, Karen Grigorian</p>
19:00-21:00	<p style="text-align: center;">DINNER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2018</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PEER TO PEER EXCHANGE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Venue: Historical Building of the Slovak Parliament</p>
09:00-11:00	<p>ROUNDTABLE I</p> <p><i>Innovation Leaders' and Policy Practitioners Roundtable</i></p> <p><i>Building national and regional innovation ecosystems, actors and linkages. Challenges in governance, coordination, design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of innovation policy.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vladimir Popovic, State Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science, and Technological Development, Serbia • Gabriela Macoveiu, Director for Innovation and External Cooperation, North East Regional Development Agency, Romania • Bartosz Jadam, Chief Executive Officer of Podkarpackie Center for Innovation • Tim Vorley, University of Sheffield (formerly Cambridge, Oxford) • Gunnar Muent, Director, Innovation and Competitiveness Department, European Investment Bank <p><i>Moderator:</i> Mercy Miyang Tembon, Country Director, South Caucasus, World Bank Group <i>Facilitator:</i> Maja Andjelkovic</p>
11:00-11:15	COFFEE BREAK

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11:15-12:45	ROUNDTABLE II
<p><i>Financing Innovative Firms: from Early Stage to Growth Investments - How to Address Failures Along the Firm Lifecycle</i></p> <p><i>Public sector interventions to provide financing or indirect-support at the firm and the ecosystem levels are usually justified based on the market and coordination failures argument. Factors such as the nature of the innovation activity and its industry, the size and age of the firm and the stage of the innovation process are important elements in determining access to finance constraints and what could be effective public sector solutions. The sessions will discuss among others issues such as; i) whether neutrality or targeting is more desirable especially related to early stages of innovation; ii) where, when, and how, should governments provide or facilitate financing to innovative ventures without crowding out private funds and distorting the markets?; iii) is there a role for governments in the commercialization and scaling-up stage beyond improving the overall regulatory and institutional framework?</i></p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ivan Rakonjac, Director, Serbia Innovation Fund, Serbia • Mr. Mislav Jurisic, Head of Division for Grants, Research, Development and Innovation (RDI), Hamag-Bicro, Croatia • Mr. Bagrat Yengibaryan, Executive Director of the Enterprise Incubator Foundation, Armenia • Mr. Igor Kočiš, Founder and CEO, GA Drilling <p><i>Moderator:</i> Mario Guadamillas, Practice Manager, Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation Global Practice, World Bank Group</p> <p><i>Facilitator:</i> Jieun Choi</p>	
12:45-14:00	LUNCH
14:00-15:30	PARALLEL BREAK-OUT SESSION 1
<p><i>Technology Transfer and Public Research Commercialization Challenges in ECA: Successful Models, Initiatives, and Interventions</i></p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Crowell, Principal Consultant, Academy Innovation Advisors • Jelena Begovic, Acting Director, Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering, University of Belgrade • Eva Baltar, Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer, EC Joint Research Center (JRC) • Jurgen Raizner, Director, Steinbeis Transfer Management <p><i>Moderator:</i> Sylvie K. Bossoutrot, Country Manager, Armenia</p> <p><i>Facilitator:</i> Natasha Kapil</p>	

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14:00-15:30	<p>PARALLEL BREAK-OUT SESSION 2</p> <p><i>Skills for Growth and Competitiveness: Promoting Demand-Driven Skills Development</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anton Ondrej, Head of HR and Leadership Team Member, KIA Slovakia • Alessia Pozzi, Program Manager, Unitythrough Knowledge Fund, Croatia • Marina Vyshegorodskikh, Senior Advisor to the Board of Directors, CIKLUM Holdings, Ukraine • Yerden Kussain, Executive Vice President, Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan • Ulf-Daniel Ehlers, Professor, Baden-Wurttemberg Cooperative State University, Germany <p><i>Moderator:</i> Cristian Aedo, Practice Manager, Education Global Practice, World Bank Group <i>Facilitator:</i> Karen Grigorian</p>
14:00-15:30	<p>Parallel Break-Out Session 3: Policy Experiments in Innovation and Competitiveness</p> <p><i>The approach to policies supporting innovation, competitiveness, and productivity growth has been evolving, with greater emphasis placed on rigorous evaluation methods. This involves making much more use of randomized controlled trials (RCTs) to find out what works and what doesn't (and when), and learning from the successful experience in other fields.</i></p> <p><i>IGL is a global collaboration, housed at NESTA, that aims to enable, support, undertake and disseminate high impact research that uses RCTs to improve the design of programs and institutions that help make economies more innovative and entrepreneurial. The Competitiveness Policy Evaluation Lab (or ComPEL) is an umbrella program at the Finance, Innovation, and Competitiveness (FCI) Global Practice at the World Bank Group to support and coordinate impact evaluation efforts to inform policy making on firm productivity, job creation, and investment. The session will present some of the latest evidence collected by the two initiatives, discuss future research directions, and make practical suggestions on incorporating experimental evidence and robust M&E frameworks as part of policy design and implementation.</i></p> <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albert Bravo-Briosca, Innovation Growth Labs, NESTA • Ana Goicoechea, ComPEL, World Bank Group • Aleksandr Khachatryan, Director, Center for Strategic Initiatives Foundation (Armenia) <p><i>Moderator:</i> Denis Medvedev, Lead Economist, Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation, World Bank Group <i>Facilitator:</i> Anwar Aridi</p>

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16:00-17:15	<p>Case on Point: Ukraine Innovation Policy Reforms, Challenges, and Lessons from Transition Economies</p> <p><i>Ukraine is a European economic transition story in the making with impressive human capital potential, scientific and technological legacies, and industrial capacity. Nevertheless, it is struggling with sluggish growth, brain drain, decline of research infrastructure, and pending reforms. What can Ukraine learn from the experiences of regional economies with similar legacies as it contemplates innovation-related reforms? What are the immediate reforms as well as the long-term ones?</i></p> <p><i>This discussion will highlight (i) Ukraine's innovation potential and strengths as well as its immediate challenges (ii) the relevant experiences and lessons from neighboring and regional economies such as Poland, Romania, Turkey, and others.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oleksandr Saienko, Minister of the Cabinet of Ministers, Ukraine • Katarina Mathernova, Deputy Director-General, European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, European Commission • Adrian Curaj, Former Minister of Education and Scientific Research of Romania • Hans Chang, Policy Support Facility, Peer Review Team, European Commission • Alla Oliinyk, National Innovation Council of Ukraine <p><i>Moderator: Anwar Aridi, Private Sector Specialist, WBG,</i> <i>Facilitator: Iryna Kuzmina</i></p>
17:15-17:30	<p>CLOSING REMARKS</p> <p>Johannes Hahn, Commissioner, European Neighbourhood Policy & Enlargement Negotiations, EC</p> <p>Cyril Muller, Vice-President for Europe and Central Asia, World Bank Group</p>

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SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2018 Venue: Vienna, Bratislava, Trnava (30-40 participants each)	
9:00-12:30	<p>A: GA Drilling: perspective of a leading cleantech company (geothermal energy), Bratislava</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Company introduction 45 min.➤ Technology presentation 60 min. + break➤ Discussion 120 min.➤ Innovation Policy – our experience➤ Regulations and legislative frameworks – our experience➤ Market needs – our ideas and proposals <p>Approximate duration: 4 hours</p> <p>B: Pilot Factory Industry 4.0 at the Technical University: building clusters, Vienna</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Showcasing facility, research work, machines• http://pilotfabrik.tuwien.ac.at/en/ <p>Approximate duration: 1.5-2 hours, 1 hour journey</p> <p>C: Binarium, The Digital Sanctuary, Bratislava</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.binarium.sk/ <p>Approximate duration: 1 hour, 30 min journey</p>