



Institut "Jožef Stefan", Ljubljana, Slovenija



KEN

Knowledge  
Economy  
Network

Ljubljana/Brussels/Trieste, 7 March 2012

Dear Sir/Madame,

The leading Slovenian research establishment, Jožef Stefan Institute (IJS) from Ljubljana, the Secretariat of Knowledge Economy Network: the Slovenian Business & Research Association, from Brussels, and the Secretariat of Central European Initiative (CEI) from Trieste, are inviting you to participate at the international workshop in Ljubljana, on **11 April 2012**, under the title of **»European growth : Building Knowledge Society and Economy through Effective Business – Academia Partnership«**.

The international workshop is organized in collaboration with three Slovenian public universities (Ljubljana, Maribor and Primorska). It will be conducted on invitation-only principle, with the high-level participants from all four domains of knowledge society: academia, business, authorities, and NGOs.

The Workshop is expected to raise the key issues of how to properly mobilize all resources to accelerate the development of conditions leading to enhanced and improved business – academia collaboration and partnership, in order to make the economies more competitive, and also to achieve a more favourable position in the global brain circulation.

The Workshop will pay attention also to RTD systems and the challenges of their synchronised performance, by focusing on: perceptions of benefits of business-academia partnership, policy and regulatory framework with motivation & support mechanisms, the role of associations and networks linking business and research, synergies between industry-driven research and university curricula, and last but not least, the issues of innovation funding, including venture capital. Participants will also be familiarized with successful approaches and policies adopted and implemented productively in some environments (good practice).

A **»Stefan Resolution«** is to be adopted at the end of the Workshop – summarizing main positions and ideas discussed during the conference. The Resolution will then be **disseminated to many RTDI and business stakeholders around the globe**, including regional players, as well as among European and some international media.

Please confirm your participation early at the following e-mail address: **boris.savle@sbra.be**.

Looking forward to your confirmation, with best regards,

Dr. Boris Cizelj  
KEN Chairman

Ambassador Gerhard Pfanzelter  
Secretary General CEI

Dr. Jadran Lenarčič  
Director Jozef Stefan Institute

## **Programme**

### **KEN International Workshop**

**Institute Jožef Stefan, Ljubljana, 11 April 2012**

08.30 -- 09.00 Registration

#### **09.00 – 10.00 First Session**

Welcome Address: **Prof.dr.Jadran Lenarčič**, Director Jozef Stefan Institute

Opening speech:

»Implementing the National Research and Innovation Programme 2011-2020« by **Prof.dr.Žiga Turk**, Minister for Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia

Address by a senior representative of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Research, Science and Innovation (**name to be confirmed**)

Opening observations by 2 senior representatives from the region of Central Europe (**names to be confirmed**)

#### **10.00 – 11.30 Second Session**

»Advantages of comprehensive Innovation Policy – the Canadian Experience« **Prof.dr.Howard Alper**, Chair Canadian Research, Technology and Innovation Council

»Networking Knowledge Centers in the Region of Central Europe« Ambassador **Gerhard Pfanzelter**, Secretary General of Central European Initiative, CEI, Trieste

»Implementing Effective Business-Academia Partnership: Presentation of Experiences from: Fraunhofer, Max Planck, Leibnitz Association, CNFS, TNO, ..« (**names to be confirmed**)

**11.30 – 11.45 Break**

**11.45 – 12.45 Third Session: Discussion**

Questions and comments limited to 5 minutes

**12.45 – 13.00**

Presentation and adoption of the draft »Stefan Declaration« and closing remarks by

**Prof.dr.Jadran Lenarčič**, Director of Jožef Stefan Institute.

Linking the »Stefan Resolution« to the Knowledge Economy Network Forum 2012

**Prof.dr.Boris Cizelj**, Chairman KEN