

# Supporting Innovation

## “Sharing experience in view of Horizon Europe”

25th June 2018 - ENEL EU Office - Avenue des Nerviens, 9 - 31, Brussels



Innovation plays a key role in modern economies and societies. Europe’s capacity to respond to global challenges and secure future economic and social prosperity strongly depends on its ability to reinforce its **innovation ecosystem**. The current EU innovation funding structure suffers from a silos-based fragmentation of programmes, which limits the continuity across the innovation value chain. The European Innovation Council under **Horizon Europe** will have the mandate to break the current logic by favouring a systematic architecture that encapsulates an important part of current innovation funding schemes.

This workshop - organised by APRE, the Italian Agency for the Promotion of European Research with involvement of the EIT and the European Commission - intends to take stock on Horizon 2020’s schemes for funding innovation. Some of them are currently part of the EIC Pilot programme 2018-2020 (SME Instrument, Fast Track to Innovation, FET Open, Horizon Prizes), whereas other experiences come from the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) and will be discussed in view of Horizon Europe. A dedicated session will explore the current activities and strategy of well-known innovation platforms supporting innovators, bearing in mind the objective of streamlining the European innovation ecosystem as a whole.

# Programme

## Welcome 9.00

- Rationale and aim of the workshop  
*Gianluigi Di Bello, H2020 National Contact Point and Head of EU Liaison office - APRE*

## Setting de scene - 9.10

- The renewed European agenda for Research and Innovation  
*Neville Reeve, Senior Policy Analyst - DG RTD*

## Session I - 9.30

### ***Innovation & Finance: funding initiatives and perspectives towards the post-2020 EU Budget***

- Breakthrough innovation: from the EIC Pilot actions to Horizon Europe  
*Stephane Ouaki, Head of Unit - DG RTD*
- SME instrument - its role in supporting innovators  
*Bernd Reichert, Head of Unit - EASME (tbc)*
- FET innovation Launchpad and the new EIC business pilot for FET SMEs  
*Timo Hallantie, Head of Unit - REA*
- EIT - Delivering Solutions to Societal Challenges: Today's Opportunities and Future Ambitions 2021-2027  
*Mathea Fammels, Head of EIT Liaison Office*
- InvestEU - towards a single financial entry point after 2020  
*Bertrand Michaud, Financial Verifier & Budget Officer - DG RTD*

## Walking Coffee Break - 10.50

## Session II - 11.00

### ***Innovation Hubs & Platforms: the European ecosystem supporting innovators***

- Innovation Radar - a platform to identify high-potential innovation  
*Eoghan O'Neill, Policy Officer - Strategy development and implementation-DG CNET*
- Digital Innovation Hubs - the Digital Innovation Hubs strategy  
*Anna Marie Sassen, Deputy Head of Unit- DG CNECT*
- EIT Digital: the MIDIH initiative  
*Fabio Pianesi, Head of External Collaboration - EIT Digital*
- The Open Innovability experience  
*Fabio Tentori, Head of Enel Innovation Hubs - ENEL*
- Access4SMEs - Spreading knowledge on access to risk finance opportunities for innovation under Horizon 2020  
*Francesco Ferlaino, H2020 National Contact Point - APRE*

## Brainstorming session - 12.30

- The EIC as a unique framework for innovation (calls, Hubs, Platforms)?
- How to ensure *continuity* and *complementarity* between the different initiatives, avoiding overlapping?

## Light Lunch - 13.00