



CONFERENCE on

**FINANCIAL FACILITIES FOR SMEs:
TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR BUSINESS SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS
IN NON- EU MEMBER STATES OF THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN INITIATIVE**

*13-14 April 2011, Trieste, Italy
Hotel Savoia Excelsior Palace*

DRAFT PROGRAMME

First day: 13 April 2011

- 09:30 - 10:00** **Welcome coffee and registration**
- Moderator** Mr Giuseppe Morandini, *President, Cassa di Risparmio Friuli Venezia Giulia, Italy*
- 10:00 - 11:00** **Opening session**
- Amb. Gerhard Pfanzelter, *Secretary General, Central European Initiative*
Representative of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Italy
Representative of Serbia
Hon. Roberto Antonione, *Head of the Italian Delegation to the CEI Parliamentary Assembly*
Ms Silvia Acerbi, *Vice-president Informest*
Ms Federica Seganti, *Councilor for economic activities, Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia*
- 11:00 – 11:15** **Coffee Break**
- 11:15 - 12:45** **Focus on International Financial Institutions: general overview, programmes and facilities dedicated to SMEs followed by Q&A**
- Representative of the European Investment Bank
Mr Giulio Moreno, *Head of Sarajevo Resident Office, Bosnia and Herzegovina, European Bank Reconstruction and Development*
Mr Massimiliano Paolucci, *Sr. External Affairs Officer/Head of Office, The World Bank - Southern European Office*
- 12:45 – 13:20** **The role of territorial cooperation in the development of South East Europe: state of art and perspectives towards Europe 2020**
- Ivan Curzolo, *Head Unit Joint Technical Secretariat, South East Europe Programme*
- 13:20 – 13:30** **Conclusions**
Informest Representative



13:30 - 14:30 ***Lunch***

14:30 - 15:30 **Focus on Serbia**

15:30 – 15:45 **Coffee Break**

15:45 – 17:30 **Parallel panels**

Panel 1: presentations by business support organisations operating in the EU Candidate Countries within the CEI region (Croatia, Montenegro, Macedonia)

Panel 2: presentations by business support organisations of EU Potential Candidate Countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Panel 3: presentations by business support organisations of ENP Countries within the CEI region (Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine)

Second Day: 14 April 2011

09:30 -12:30 **Training session: EU programmes and funds**

Representative of Informest

Overview of instruments for territorial cooperation: SEE, IPA, EuropeAid, and cross-border programmes

10:30 - 10:45 ***Coffee Break***

12:30 - 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 – 16:30 **Training session: EU programmes and funds**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION - THE PROJECT

“Financial facilities for SMEs: training and capacity building for Business Support Organisations in non-EU member states of the Central European Initiative”

The conference is organised in the framework of a project that aims to train staff members of selected business intermediary organisations on instruments made available by international financial institutions. The geographic focus of the project is on the non-EU member states of the Central European Initiative: Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine. Throughout the project implementation, the selected business support organisations are expected to be involved in initiatives and actions, aimed to specialise and boost their know-how in helping SMEs. Particularly, the project hopes to enhance the knowledge and skills of identifying and accessing SMEs-dedicated financial instruments made available by international financial institutions. The assignment is a first part of a larger programme, which seeks to develop skills and improve capacities of participating business intermediary organisations to help them to provide a similar level of assistance in advising SMEs on access to finance as the one offered by business support organisations in the European Union countries. The project is developed under the Know-How Exchange Programme (KEP), a grant facility that supports capacity building and best practice transfer from CEI EU countries institutions to recipients in the non-EU CEI member states.

