

Innovation & Green Economy

13h30 Registration

14h00 **Opening & Introduction**

- H.E. Milena VICENOVÁ, Czech Permanent Representative to the EU
- David HARMON, Member of the Cabinet of Commissioner Máire GEOGHEGAN-QUINN
- Arnaldo ABRUZZINI, Secretary General of EUROCHAMBRES

14h45 **Panel on “INNOVATION IN MARKETS” – intelligent networks**

- Kristian TAKAC, Security of Supplies, Energy Markets & Networks Directorate, DG ENER, EC
- Milan ŠPATÉNKA, Director of Distribution Grids Development, ČEZ Group
- Paul RÜBIG, Member of European Parliament, Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

15h30 Coffee break

16h00 **Panel on “INNOVATION IN ENVIRONMENT” - innovative solutions**

- Ladislav MIKO, Director for Nature and biodiversity, agriculture, soils and forests at DG ENVI, EC
- Miroslav ŠINDLAR, Directing manager and owner of ŠINDLAR company
- Jean-Roger DREZE, Belgian Federal Public Service for the Environment and Public Health

16h45 **Panel on “REGIONAL PRIORITIES IN INNOVATIONS” - transfer of knowledge**

- Olivier BRUNET, manager of Regions of Knowledge programme, Unit B4 – Regions of Knowledge and Research Potential, DG Research, EC
- Tomáš HRUDA, Director of CEITEC – Central European Institute of Technology

17h25 **Closing remarks**

- Martin HLAVÁČEK, Head of Agriculture and Environment Unit, Czech Permanent Representation
- Folker FRANZ, Senior Policy Advisor at BUSINESSEUROPE

17h30 Small reception / standing dinner

THEMATIC PANELS

14h45 – 15h30 **Panel on “INNOVATION IN MARKETS” – intelligent networks**

Modern integrated grids form the backbone of a fully integrated European internal energy market enabling gas and electricity to flow between MEMBER STATES without bottlenecks. They link the European Union to diversified supply sources in third countries. They allow to feed renewable energy production, off-shore and on-shore, into the European supply system. The modern grids should be smart, i.e. allow to integrate intelligently actions of generators and consumers in order to efficiently deliver sustainable, economic and secure energy supplies.

These general questions will be addressed by the speakers:

- What needs to be done in order to have smart integrated grids in the very near future?
- How can the EU help the industry to make the grids smart?
- What are the benefits of the integrated smart grids for consumers?

16h00 – 16h45 **Panel on “INNOVATION IN ENVIRONMENT” - innovative solutions**

Creation and adoption of new, cleaner technologies and know-how provides a means to achieve local and global environmental goals, pollution reduction, at significantly lower costs. The key is to find a good mix of policy tools that will stimulate innovation and development of cleaner technologies for the future, therefore ensure improvement of our environment.

Environmental innovation can take many forms, and be characterized in many ways. In the environmental innovation, important role play following factors: social, technology, economic and political. Social factors are linked to the availability of skilled people, the professional skill of subcontractors and entrepreneurial culture. Economic factors consist in the availability of risk financing and private equity investments as well as personnel costs. Political factors concern the predictability of operating environment, taxation policy and technology and innovation policy.

These general questions will be addressed by the speakers:

- How can we define innovation in the field of environment and how shall it be supported?
- Which are the policy tools to use at national and EU level?
- What is behind the innovation in the environment?

16h45 – 17h30 **Panel on “REGIONAL PRIORITIES IN INNOVATIONS” - transfer of knowledge**

Investing in research and innovation is a top priority for the EU and many of the member states even in the times of economic and financial crisis. The ultimate goal of reaching 3 % GDP to be invested in research is still on the table. But innovation does not happen in Brussels or on the politician's tables. It happens at the grassroots level in interaction between companies and researchers. What is needed is the right environment stimulating these interactions and rewarding practical results. Important part of Structural funds of Structural funds is being earmarked for investment into research, development and innovation. How these investments will be transferred into research results (publications, new methodologies, new discoveries), into intellectual property (patents or industrial designs), and ultimately into innovation and increased competitiveness of economies will be discussed during this workshop.

These general questions will be addressed by the speakers:

- How can innovative regions contribute to competitive Europe?
- What is the added value of regional innovation policy and its link towards innovation in Europe?
- What are necessary ingredients of regional innovation policy?
- What are the possible measures and incentives that motivate regional universities, research centres and companies to innovate and invest in research?
- Is cooperation of universities and companies in research and innovation really possible?

LIST OF SPEAKERS

Milena Vicenová, Czech Permanent Representative to the EU



H.E. Milena Vicenová graduated from the University of Veterinary Medicine. After working in several private and state administration posts, she was appointed the Minister of Agriculture in 2006. She took up the post of the Czech Permanent Representative to the EU in January 2008 and led the Representation during the Czech EU Presidency from January till June 2009.

David Harmon, Member of Cabinet of Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn



David Harmon qualified with an honours law degree from University College Dublin in 1991 and finished a Masters degree in European law from University College Dublin in 1992. He worked as a political lobbyist and press director. For several years he was the director of press for the Fianna Fail party. In 2010 he became a Member of Cabinet of the Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn and he is responsible for inter-institutional relations, international scientific cooperation, regional aspects of research policy and communication.

Arnaldo Abruzzini, Secretary General, EUROCHAMBRES



Arnaldo Abruzzini is a graduate of the Rome University "La Sapienza". He was a Managing Director of several companies active in strategic development, marketing, communications and business consultancy. In 1999 he joined the European Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry – EUROCHAMBRES as its Secretary General. He is still a member of several Boards of Directors and a shareholder in several companies.

Kristian Takač, Security of Supplies, Energy Markets & Networks Directorate, DG ENER, European Commission



Kristian Takač studied at the Charles University in Prague, at the University of Durham and at the Lomonosov University in Moscow. He worked at the Regional Office in Brussels and was responsible for monitoring of EU activities, initiatives and calls. Currently he works in the European Commission in DG for Energy.

Milan Špaténka, Director of Distribution Grids Development CEZ Group



Milan Špatenka graduated from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering of Czech Technical University in Prague in 1993. Since 1994 he has worked in energy sector in several areas – IT and distribution development. Currently he is involved in smart grid activities of the CEZ Group which is focused on two pilot projects for smart metering and smart grid.

Paul Rübzig, Member of European Parliament



Paul Rübzig studied economics and was managing director of the Rübzig Schmied company. In the 1190s he was a Member of Upper Austria Regional Assembly and of the Nationalrat. Since 1996 he is a Member of European Parliament (EPP group). He is a Member of ITRE Committee and of Delegation for relations with Switzerland, Iceland and Norway and to the EEA Joint Parliamentary Committee. He was also a president of many business and political associations such as SME Union and SME Circle.

Ladislav Miko, Director for Nature, DG ENVI, European Commission



Ladislav Miko graduated at Charles University in general and systematic biology and ecology. He worked at the Czech Environmental Inspectorate and in 2002 he became a Deputy of the Czech Minister of Environment. From 2005 Miko has been a Director of the Directorate „Nature“ in the European Commission's DG ENVI. From May 2009 till November 2009, he served as the Czech Minister of Environment. Miko is back at DG ENVI now and works as a director responsible for nature and biodiversity, agriculture, soils and forests.

Miloslav Šindlar, owner Šindlar EU company



Miloslav Šindlar graduated at Czech Technical University, Faculty of Civil Engineering specializing in Water Resources. He started as a Head of Environmental Department at Directorate General in a managing authority of Upper and Central Elbe River Basin. He also worked at Czech Ministry of Environment and then he became a freelance consultant for water construction and river restoration. In 2004 he established his company ŠINDLAR. In order to cover foreign requirements the company has become a part of SINDLAR EU.

Jean-Roger Drèze, Belgian Federal Public Service for the Environment and Public Health



Jean-Roger Drèze graduated in political economy from the Louvain University and post-graduated in Energy science and management from Brussels University, Polytechnics. He worked for European Commission and the World Bank on various projects. In 1995 he joined the Federal administration. In 2000 he became the Climate Advisor of the Prime Minister. He is currently an assistant to the Director-General for Environment in charge of policy integration and innovation strategies.

Olivier Brunet, manager of Regions of Knowledge programme, DG RTD, EC



Olivier Brunet initially worked as a „factory inspector“ in France. He has been working in the European Commission for the last twenty years, in five different fields (social policy, environment, education, regional policy, research). Brunet is managing the „Regions of Knowledge“ programme aiming at boosting regional development, from a European perspective, through cooperation between regional research-driven clusters on specific topics (health in 2010, transport in 2011).

Tomáš Hruša, Director of CEITEC



Tomáš Hruša started his career as a project manager in the government Investment and Business Development Agency CzechInvest. Later he moved to Japan, where he worked as the Director of a local branch of CzechInvest. After his return to the Czech Republic he was appointed the position of Chief Executive of the agency. Since the beginning of 2009 he has held the position of the CEITEC Project Director.

Martin Hlaváček, Head of Agriculture and Environment Unit, Czech Permanent Representation



Martin Hlaváček graduated in agriculture economics at Prague's University of Agriculture and in general diplomacy at Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. He worked on agriculture agenda during the final phase of Czech accession to the EU and was involved in negotiations on Financial Perspectives of the EU for the programming period 2007-2013. From 2005 he served as agricultural attache at the Czech Permanent Representation to the EU where in 2009 became Head of Unit for Agriculture and Environment.

Franz Folker, Senior Advisor for Environmental Affairs, BUSINESSEUROPE



Folker Franz is a trained economist and holds a Master in International Economics from the Université Paris-Dauphine. Prior to BUSINESSEUROPE, he worked as a business consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers in Berlin. Franz represented the views of European industry in the political discussions leading up to the adoption of the landmark EU Climate and Energy Package in December 2008, including the Directive reviewing the EU Emission Trading Scheme.