

## **International IMP³rove Roundtable: “Fostering Cohesion with Innovation”**

**November 25, 2015**

**40211 Düsseldorf, Dreischeibenhaus 1**

### **Agenda**

#### **Objectives:**

- Creating awareness for the gaps between the innovation/smart specialization strategies of the regions (the “What”) and the approaches and tools (the “How”) to achieve the defined strategic targets
- Discussing possibilities of closing the gaps and understanding needs of partners and how to best address them
- Discussing innovative financing approaches for SMEs

#### **Agenda:**

Chatham House rule applies. The session is interactive. The seating will be at the beginning in 4 – 5 “semi circles” to allow every participant to face the “stage” where the speakers will be standing to give their short speeches.

10:00 – 10:30 Registration and Breakfast

10:30 – 10:45 Opening of the International IMP³rove Conference  
*by Eva Diedrichs, Managing Director, IMP³rove Academy*

10:45 - 12:00 Speeches

*Moderation by Martin Ruppert, Managing Director, IMP³rove Academy*

- The European perspective: European Regions – actions required  
*by Christian Saublens, Secretary General, EURADA*
- Challenges of implementing the smart specialization strategies  
*by Mathieu Doussineau, European Commission, JRC-IPTS*
- The US perspective: Innovative financing of innovative SMEs  
*by Giuseppe Gramigna, Expert in SMEs and Chief Economist, U.S. SBA*

12:00 – 12:30 Structuring the problem in discussion circles (4-5 circles on key challenges to implement smart specialization strategies)

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

13.30 – 14:15 Reporting back

14:15 – 14:45 Case examples from Regions

- Realizing smart specialization strategies based on innovation and transfer of knowledge  
*By Teodora Georgieva, Senior fellow, Applied Research and Communication Fund / ARC Consulting*

14:45 – 15:15 Moderated discussion within the 3-4 circles based on 3 questions per circle:  
How to get a grip on the issues

15.15 - 15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 16:15 Reporting back and Q&A from the plenary

16:15 – 16:30 Case examples of support provided by IMP<sup>3</sup>rove Academy and Farewell

16:30 – 17:30 Snacks, networking and Goodbye

**Contact:**

Eva Diedrichs: [eva.diedrichs@atkearney.com](mailto:eva.diedrichs@atkearney.com)

Martin Ruppert: [martin.ruppert@atkearney.com](mailto:martin.ruppert@atkearney.com)

IMP<sup>3</sup>rove – European Innovation Management Academy (non profit)

Dreischeibenhaus 1

D- 40211 Dusseldorf

Tel: +49 211 13 77-0

[www.improve-innovation.eu](http://www.improve-innovation.eu)