



**Conference "SMEs and Entrepreneurship - Successful Local Strategies"  
& European Enterprise Awards 2007 Ceremony  
6 - 7 December 2007, Porto, Portugal**

Thursday, 6 December 2007		
Venue: Centro de Congressos do Porto, Edifício da Alfândega		
9:00 – 10:45	<b>Conference Registration &amp; Opening of European Enterprise Awards Exhibition Sala do Arquivo</b>	
10:45 - 12:45	<b>Plenary Session: Sala do Arquivo</b>	
	10:45 - 11:45	<b>Opening session: Sala do Arquivo</b> Françoise Le Bail, European Commission SME Envoy and Deputy Director General for Enterprise and Industry Michel Delebarre, President of the Committee of the Regions Manuel Pinho, Portuguese Minister of Economy and Innovation
	11:30 - 12:45	<b>Supporting Europe's SMEs: From European to Local Level</b> "Euro Info Centres: twenty years of experience on the ground": Joseph Jamar, Head of Unit, DG Employment and Social Affairs, European Commission Hans-Werner Müller, Secretary General of UEAPME (European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises) Arnaldo Abruzzini, Secretary General of EUROCHAMBRES (The Association of European Chambres of Commerce and Industry)
13:00 - 14:30	<b>Standing Lunch - Sala dos Despachantes</b>	
	14:00 -14:30	<b>Guided tour of Alfândega exhibitions:</b> " The car in space and time" and " Metamorphosis of a place - the customs museum". Please sign up at the conference registration desk.
	14:00 -14:30	<b>European Enterprise Awards Exhibition:</b> Guided visit to the stands by VIP's
	<b>European Enterprise Awards: Exchange of Good Practices</b>	
		
14:30 - 17:15	<b>Workshop A - Sala do Arquivo</b>	<b>Workshop B - Sala do Infante</b>
	<b>Panel of shortlisted candidates</b>	<b>Panel of shortlisted candidates</b>
	Moderator: Lucio Gussetti, Director for Consultative Works, Committee of the Regions	Moderator: Maive Rute, Director 'Promotion of SMEs' competitiveness', DG Enterprise and Industry, European Commission
	14:30 - 15:45	
	Presentation of certificates to all candidates by Petri Palviainen, Y4 Committee (Winner of 2006 Grand Jury Prize)	
	<b>Entrepreneurial Trailblazer:</b> XperRegio (Germany), Alfons Sittinger	<b>Investment in People:</b> CAP Création Sarthe (France), Daniel Girandier Cap'Tem (Belgium), Laurence Lievens Eigen Werk (Netherlands), Frans Heessels
	Ethnic Coach in the Vejje Area (Denmark), Mushin Turkyilmaz and Michael Jul-Norup Pedersen	<b>Responsible Entrepreneurship:</b> Fabrica Ethica (Italy), Fabrizia Paloscia Paper Trail (UK), Jacky Bennett
	Questions and Answers	Questions and Answers
15:45 - 16:00	<b>Coffee break</b>	
		Presentation of certificates to all candidates by Petri Palviainen, Y4 Committee (Winner of 2006 Grand Jury Prize)
	16:00 - 17:15	
	<b>Enterprise Support:</b> Enterprising North Staffordshire (UK), James Capper Thuishuis Foundation (Netherlands), Sjikke Mulder	<b>Red Tape Reduction:</b> Company Registration Portal (CReP) (estonia), Ingmar Vali Széchenyi Card Scheme (Hungary), László Krisan and Zoltán Szép
	1,2,3,GO, the Greater Region network of experts and its business start-up bonuses (Luxembourg), Rachel Gaessler	
	- Questions and Answers	- Questions and Answers
17:30	<b>Bus shuttle for guests: conference venue to hotels</b>	
<b>Close Conference day one</b>		
19:15/19:30	<b>Bus shuttle for guests:</b> - from hotels to European Enterprise Awards ceremony/ Gala Dinner at Casa Ferreira (by invitation only) - from hotels to Euro-Info-Centre Gala Dinner at Palácio da Bolsa (EICs only) (see full bus itinerary in conference bags)	
19:30	<b>Guided visit to casa Ferreira port wine cellars</b> (prior registration only)	
19:45 - 23:00	<b>European Enterprise Awards Ceremony and Gala Dinner - announcement of the winners and awards</b> Venue: Casa Ferreira, Vila Nova de Gaia (by invitation only) Hosted by Manuel Pinho, Portuguese Minister of Economy and Innovation, Günter Verheugen, European Commission Vice President and Michel Delebarre, President, Committee of the Regions	
A bus shuttle back to the hotels will be provided for guests after the Gala Dinners		
<b>Close of day one</b>		

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Friday, 7 December 2007	
<i>Venue: Centro de Congressos do Porto, Edifício da Alfândega, Porto</i>	
9:00 - 10:30	<b>Plenary Session - Ensuring SMEs' sustainable growth in the future - Sala do Arquivo</b>
	<p><b>Chair:</b> Manuel Pinho, Portuguese Minister of Economy and Innovation</p> <p><b>Opening speech:</b> Günter Verheugen, Vice President of the European Commission</p> <p>"Entrepreneurial Solutions to Insoluble Problems", John Elkington, Founder, SustainAbility Ltd, UK</p>
10:35 - 10:55	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11:00 - 12:30	<b>Parallel workshops</b>
11:00 - 12:30	<b>Workshop 1 - Sala do Infante</b>
	<p><b>Improving SME financing through micro-credit</b></p> <p>Chair: Jaime Andrez, President, IAPMEI (Portuguese SME and innovation support institute)</p> <p>speaker 1 - <b>Széchenyi credit card for SMEs:</b> László Krisán, KA-VOSZ, Hungary (2006 and 2007 European Enterprise Award nominee)</p> <p>speaker 2 - <b>Micro-credit for SMEs - JEREMIE and CIP (Competitiveness and Innovation Programme):</b> Patrice Liauzu, European Investment Fund</p> <p>speaker 3 - <b>Financing innovation through micro-credit:</b> José Figueiredo, President, AECM (European Association of Mutual Guarantees), Portugal</p> <p>speaker 4 - <b>Regulating micro-credit in Europe:</b> Cindy Fökehrer, Unit 'Financing SMEs, entrepreneurs and innovators', European Commission DG Enterprise and Industry</p> <p>rapporteur 1 - Typhaine Beauperin, EUROCHAMBRES (The Association of European Chambres of Commerce and Industry)</p> <p>Questions and Answers</p>
	<b>Workshop 2 - Sala do Arquivo</b>
	<p><b>Creating entrepreneurs</b></p> <p>Chair: Maive Rute, Director 'Promotion of SMEs' competitiveness', European Commission DG Enterprise and Industry</p> <p>speaker 1 - <b>How entrepreneurial is Europe? Is there still hope?:</b> Christian Weinberger, Head of Unit 'Entrepreneurship', European Commission DG Enterprise and Industry</p> <p>speaker 2 - <b>Voodoo Economics in Europe's Schools - what French and German curricula and textbooks teach about capitalism and entrepreneurship :</b> Stefan Theil, European Economics Editor, Newsweek</p> <p>speaker 3 - <b>Supporting women entrepreneurs:</b> Bola Olabisi, Director, EUWINN (European Union Women Inventors &amp; Innovators Network)</p> <p>speaker 4 - <b>Supporting start-ups and business transfer:</b> Christina Diegelmann, ifex (initiative for Start-ups and Business Transfer), Germany (2006 European Enterprise Awards winner of Entrepreneurial Trailblazer category)</p> <p>rapporteur 2 - Armindo Monteiro, ANJE (Portuguese National Association for Young Entrepreneurs)</p> <p>Questions and Answers</p>
12:30 - 14:00	<b>Standing Lunch</b>
14:00 - 15:30	<b>Parallel workshops</b>
14:00 - 15:30	<b>Workshop 3 - Sala do Infante</b>
	<p><b>Reducing the regulatory burden on SMEs</b></p> <p>Chair: Mechthild Wörnsdörfer, Head of Unit 'Horizontal Aspects of SME policy', European Commission DG Enterprise and Industry</p> <p>speaker 1 - <b>Good practice example of reducing the regulatory burden on SMEs:</b> Henrik Wingfors, Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications, Sweden</p> <p>speaker 2 - <b>Avoiding "gold plating" of EU regulation:</b> Tina Sommer, Chairman for International Affairs, Federation of Small Businesses, UK</p> <p>speaker 3 - <b>New projects and tools for cutting red tape:</b> Anabela Pedroso, President of the Directive Council, Agency for Administrative Modernization (AMA), Portugal (associated with "One-hour-company" 2006 European Enterprise Award category winner)</p> <p>speaker 4 - <b>Simplification of tax compliance procedures for SMEs:</b> Tomas Balco, PricewaterhouseCoopers Tax &amp; Advisory LLP, Kazakhstan</p> <p>rapporteur 3 - Luc Hendrickx, Director for Enterprise Policy &amp; External Relations, UEAPME (European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises)</p> <p>Questions and Answers</p>
	<b>Workshop 4 - Sala do Arquivo</b>
	<p><b>Supporting SMEs in the regions</b></p> <p>Chair: Luis Braga da Cruz (previous Portuguese Minister for Economy)</p> <p>speaker 1 - <b>Platform for the implementation of the Lisbon agenda in the regions:</b> Constance Hanniffy, Member of Offaly County Council, Ireland, Member of the Committee of the Regions</p> <p>speaker 2 - <b>The role of entrepreneurship and innovation as engine for local economic development:</b> Mateu Hernández Maluquer, Executive Director, Barcelona Activa, Spain</p> <p>speaker 3 - <b>Promoting enterprise in cities - European Cities Entrepreneurship Ranking:</b> Hans Crijns, Vlerick Leuven Management School &amp; Benoit Quignon, Directeur General of Services, GRAND LYON (Lyon metropolitan area), France</p> <p>speaker 4 - <b>Supporting enterprise at local level:</b> Dana T. Redford, University Institute of Lisbon – ISCTE Business School, Institute of European Studies, UC-Berkeley</p> <p>rapporteur 4 - António Marques, UERN (Union of the Entrepreneurial Associations of the North of Portugal)</p> <p>Questions and Answers</p>
15:35 - 15:55	<b>Coffee Break</b>
16:00 - 17:00	<b>Final Round Table - Sala do Arquivo</b>
	<p><b>Reporting back from the four workshops - analysis and recommendations</b></p> <p>Chair: Françoise Le Bail, SME Envoy and Deputy Director General for DG Enterprise and Industry</p> <p>rapporteur 1 - Typhaine Beauperin, EUROCHAMBRES (The Association of European Chambres of Commerce and Industry)</p> <p>rapporteur 2 - Armindo Monteiro, ANJE (Portuguese National Association for Young Entrepreneurs)</p> <p>rapporteur 3 - Luc Hendrickx, UEAPME (European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises)</p> <p>rapporteur 4 - António Marques, UERN (Union of the Entrepreneurial Associations of the North of Portugal)</p>
17:00	<b>Closing Session - Sala do Arquivo</b>
	<p>Françoise Le Bail, European Commission SME Envoy and Deputy Director General for DG Enterprise and Industry</p> <p>Carlos Zorrinho - National Coordinator of the Lisbon Strategy and the Technological Plan of Portugal</p>
<b>Official close of the Conference</b>	