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Draft Agenda

UfM Conference
Addressing the challenge of access to finance for Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in the South and East Mediterranean region
Barcelona/Spain, 20 March 2020

Venue: Hotel Pullman Barcelona Skipper - Av. del Litoral, 10 - 08005 Barcelona

08:30 - 09:30	Registration and networking
09:30 - 10:15	Opening session Introduction *Mr. Matt Gamser* *CEO of SME Finance Forum, Moderator of the Conference* Opening remarks *H.E. Nasser Kamel* *UfM Secretary General* *Mr. Klaus Prochaska* *Head of Section, Financial Systems Development and Insurance, GIZ GmbH* *Ms. Flavia Palanza* *Director of Department for lending in EU Neighbouring Countries, European Investment Bank (EIB)* *Representative of the European Commission* Keynote speech *Mr. Hans van Grieken*
10:15 - 11:45	Panel 1 State of play and constraints: Where do we stand in the region with respect to MSME access to finance? Why does it matter? What is holding us back and what can we do about it? *The objective of this "macro" session is threefold: (i) give a sense of where we stand: what are the gaps and what is causing them (ii) explain why this is important and needs to be addressed and (iii) identify the constraints and possible policy response.* *Moderator* *Mr. Hans van Grieken* *Panelists* - ***Ms. Barbara Marchitto***, *Head of Country and Financial Sector Analysis, European Investment Bank (EIB)* - ***Mr. Ismail Mahamoud,*** *Principal Financial Sector Development Officer, African Development Bank (AfDB)*
11:45 - 12:00	Coffee Break
12:00 - 13:30	Panel 2 Policy innovators: What are they and how can they be addressed?

The objective of this "policy" session is to learn about global and regional trends in MSME finance policymaking. The session will discuss challenges in MSME's access to finance and how financial sector regulators, policymakers and industry experts respond to these challenges.

Moderator
Mr. Hayder Al-Bagdadi
Head of Project Financial in the MENA Region, GIZ GmbH

Panelists
- *Mr. Najib Anwar Choucair, Executive Director, Central Bank of Lebanon*

13:30 - 15:00	Lunch: Syrah Room (ground floor)
15:00 - 15:55	**Panel 3** **Industries innovators: Unpacking the ecosystem of MSME finance** *The objective of this session is to give the floor to market players and practitioners from the MSME finance ecosystem. Innovations and good practices at the level of the broader financial infrastructure (credit guarantee schemes, credit scoring, credit information) and at the retail level will be highlighted and discussed. IFIs could also highlight how they have supported some of the market players* *Moderator* *Mr. Matt Gamser* *CEO of SME Finance Forum, Moderator of the Conference* *Panelists* - *Ms. Nagla Bahr, Managing Director, Credit Guarantee Company (CGC Egypt)* - *Mr. Ahmed Moor, Co-founder and CEO, Liwwa (Jordan)* - *Ms. Miriam Ballesteros, Marketing Director, Strands (Fintech Barcelona)* - *Mr. Andreas Berkhoff, Senior Loan Officer, European Investment Bank (EIB)*
16:00 - 16:55	**Panel 4** **Network innovators: Tackling the startups' access to finance problematic** *The objective of this session is to discuss major challenges startups are facing in accessing finance, especially at the stage of seed funding. Angel networks of different geographical focus are invited to share their views and solutions in order to understand the challenges from a global, regional and country perspective.* *Moderator* *Mr. Keith Wallace* *Managing Partner at DeInvesteerdersClub* *Panelists* - *Mr. Baybars Altuntas, Chairman, World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF)* - *Mr. Tarek El Kady, Founder and Chairman, Med Angels* - *Mr. Josep Mª Casas, Asociación Española Business Angels (AEBAN)* - *Ms. Amparo De San Jose, Director of the Investor's network at the EISE Business School*
17:00 - 17:30	Closing Remarks

* Simultaneous interpretation will be provided for all sessions in English and French.

Dinner
19 March 2020 - Barcelona/Spain
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20:00 - 20:30	Pitch Event – MedAngels
20:30 - 22:30	Dinner

* The working language of the pitch-event is English.