PRESOURCE Final Conference

Innovative Financing Instruments for Eco-Innovation in SME

13 November 2014 - Berlin, Germany

Innovative Financing instruments for Resource Efficiency (RE)

In practice, small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) typically have problems in financing necessary investments in eco-innovations to exploit their potential of increasing resource efficiency. Against the background of declining public budgets and rising capital requirements e.g. in the course of the Basel III regulations, the session will explicitly shed light on classical and innovative financing instruments. Public, private and scientific experts in the field of eco-innovation and resource efficiency promotion in SMEs are invited to benefit from and to contribute to the event.

Venue

Ludwig Erhard Haus, Fasanenstr. 85, 10623 Berlin (where the Stock Exchange and the Berlin Chamber of Commerce are located).
The conference will take place immediately after the European Resource Forum (10-11 November 2014) and the German Resource Forum (12 November 2014).
The Ludwig Erhard Haus is next to the venue of the Resource Forum.

Social Programme

A resource Efficiency tour around the Ludwig Ehrhard Haus and the opportunity to network with colleagues from other Central European countries. A mingle area will be available with posters and information about PRESOURCE and enterprises as well as drinks and snacks.

For registration please visit
www.presource.eu

08:30-09:00	**Registration and Coffee**
09:00-09:20	**Introductory Notes** *Federal Environmental Agency,* *Dr. Michael Angrick* *Director of Fraunhofer MOEZ, Prof. Dr. rer. pol. Thorsten Posselt*
09:20-09:40	**Leasing and Factoring in Germany and Central Europe** *David Schröder - Head of Foreign Businesses -* *Deutsche Leasing für Sparkassen und Mittelstand GmbH*
09:40-10.00	**Equity financing instruments for small and medium-sized businesses** *Dr. Sonnfried Weber - Director - BayBG*
10.20-10.40	**First online credit marketplace for medium-sized businesses in Germany** *Dr. Matthias Knecht - Managing Director - Zencap*
10.40-11.00	**Zukunftsfonds as an financing alternativ for eco-innovations** *Volker Schwikowski - Managing Board - B.A.U.M. Zukunftsfonds*
11.00-11.20	**Coffee Break**
11.20-11.40	**New eco-innovation financing mechanisms in Poland** *Dr. Ewa Kochanska - Research and Innovation Centre Pro-Akademia*
11.40-12.00	**Crowdinvesting for small and medium-sized businessess** *Dirk Littig - Managing Director - Bankless 24*
12.00-12.20	**First crowdinvesting-platform for energy efficiency projects** *Patrick Mijnals - Managing Director - Bettervest GmbH*
12.20-12.40	**Crowdinvesting of "green" projects in Austria** *Dr. Susanne Weber - Project Leader - 1000x1000*
12.40-13.00	**Outlook for SMEs - Relevance of sustainability as financing indicators** *Gerrit Mumm - Owner ∞ pli-bonigo*
13.00	**Summary and Lunch** **(optional Guided Tour at "Alte Börse" Berlin)**
Moderator:	***Carsten Beyer, Managing Director, s.Pro***

PRESOURCE

PRESOURCE is implemented through the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme co-financed by the ERDF

About PRESOURCE

Policy background

The topic of resource efficiency (often quantified on a macroeconomic level as resource productivity) has become very relevant in politics and business. Evidence from past performance pointed to the need for EU response to go beyond existing policy action. Consequently the European Commission has put resource efficiency at the heart of its structural economic strategy.

Resource Efficiency is one of the 7 Flagship Initiatives of the Europe 2020 Strategy. It is complemented by an EU Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe, which provides the strategic framework for future action and calls for an integrated approach across many policy areas at European, transnational and national levels.

Challenges and barriers

The EU12 countries (most Central European partner countries belong to the New Member States) have dramatically lower material productivity than the EU15 or the EU27 average (1057 USD/ton for EU12 compared to 2482 USD/ton for EU15 in 2009), as revealed recently by the European Environment Agency (http://www.eea.europa.eu//publications/material-resources-and-waste-2014). More alarming still, while material productivity in the EU15 increased constantly since 2000, productivity in the EU12 has remained static or even decreased.

This calls for immediate action in Central Europe. It will be crucial for enterprises in the region to increase their material efficiency and, in a wider sense, resource efficiency in order to maintain or increase their competitiveness.

Two major barriers for exploiting the potential for resource efficiency in products and production processes can be identified:

1. Enterprises, especially SMEs, are not aware of their resource utilization, real costs of non-product outputs and the related (cost) reduction potential, nor of the means to improve it.
2. SMEs have problems financing necessary investments in eco-innovations in order to exploit the potential for increased resource efficiency.

What is PRESOURCE about?

PRESOURCE aims to achieve:

1. Improved in-house capacity (managerial and technological): We want to enable SMEs in the production sector to identify and exploit potentials for increasing the resource efficiency of production processes and products for the benefit of both economy and environment.
2. Improved knowledge and mechanisms for risk sharing and for financing eco-innovations in SMEs: We will provide incentives and innovative financing schemes for external and internal investment decisions.
3. Improved framework conditions: We want to enable policy makers, intermediaries and multipliers in CE to respond to the EU Roadmap.

PRESOURCE

Project duration

June 2012 – November 2014

Partners

Germany:
Federal Environment Agency

Umwelt Bundes Amt
Für Mensch und Umwelt

Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit

Fraunhofer Center for Central and Eastern Europe

Fraunhofer MOEZ

Czech Republic:
ENVIROS Ltd.

ENVIROS

Poland:
Research and Innovation Center Pro-Akademia

Research and Innovation Center PRO-AKADEMIA

Austria:
STENUM Environmental Consultancy and Research Company Ltd.

STENUM®

Italy:
ENEA –National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development

ENEA

Hungary: Corvinus University of Budapest

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