



**COBIK**  
Centre of Excellence for Biosensors,  
Instrumentation and Process Control



## 3rd COBIK CONFERENCE

25 OCTOBER 2012

Faculty of Economics Ljubljana, Lila Hall (Lila dvorana)

2:00–6:30 PM

The COBIK conference is a meeting point for innovative ideas, research reflections, and attention to the responsibility for research and development projects that create new added value and recognition for Slovenia on international markets. This is also part of the COBIK mission and its day-to-day operations. This year's conference is dedicated to the importance of quality and effectively used resources for research breakthroughs in high-tech SMEs. All good ideas need not only the knowledge of active, motivated individuals and the team and company they develop in, but also adequate financial resources to support developmental ideas, inventiveness, and innovation from their origin to active market positioning. Because both economic and financial markets are constantly and increasingly exposed to various influences, it is that much harder to convince investors of long-term support and to get them to "believe in" a project. This event is therefore dedicated to transferring investors' and other countries' experience in this area and to revealing the necessary knowledge and opportunities for how to bring all types of resources together into a successful whole on the market.

**No registration FEE.**

e-registration from 1 October  
[www.cobik.si/konferenca/  
cobik-konferenca-2012](http://www.cobik.si/konferenca/cobik-konferenca-2012)

The number of participants is limited!

“ Good  
development  
ideas need  
good capital! ”

### PROGRAM

**1:00–2:00 pm: Registration for participants**

**2:00–2:30 pm: Welcoming address**

**Mojca Indihar Štemberger**, Phd, vice dean for finance and organisation, Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana

**Borut Rončević**, Phd, general director of the Directorate of Higher Education and Science, Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport

**2:30–3:00 pm**

**Jussi Tuovinen**, vice president, R&D, Operations Development, VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, Finland: Overcoming the innovation gap: A bridge from lab to fab\*

**3:00–3:30 pm**

**Michael Stampfer**, CEO, Vienna Science and Technology Fund (WWTF), Austria: Public support measures for SME innovation: Some lessons from Austria\*

**3:30–4:00 pm**

**Franz Krejs**, partner and investment director, Primus Capital Partners LLC, Austria: Experiences from a global investor in high-tech SMEs\*

**4:00–4:30 pm: Break**

**4:30–5:30 pm COINVEST initiative: Presentation of the project and user experience**

**Matjaž Polak**, CEO, EN-FIST and **Aleš Pustovrh**, COINVEST project head, COBIK

The COINVEST project is a joint initiative by several Slovenian centers of excellence intended for high-tech projects and entrepreneurs. It promotes high-tech entrepreneurship. As part of the project, we help turn entrepreneurial ideas into successful and growing companies. We build on outstanding technical solutions that are developed as part of the project into a business model, and we help obtain funding that the entrepreneur lacks. In 2012 we will also hold our first investment conference, where we will present our entrepreneurs to investors. The COINVEST project also has a connective function because we cooperate with other institutions that help develop entrepreneurship and commercialize high-tech projects not only in Slovenia but also in the broader region of central, eastern, and southeast Europe. More information is available at [www.coinvest.si](http://www.coinvest.si).

**Good practice example: Si.Zyme**

The members of the Si.Zyme project will present their technology for reducing the costs of biosynthesizing active ingredients for biotechnology companies. This technology, which was developed at the National Institute of Chemistry, makes it possible to develop an enzyme "assembly line" inside bacteria cells, which enables a significant improvement in molecule production. The use of this technology could, for example, increase the production of the bioactive molecule resveratrol (an antioxidant used as a pharmaceutical and dietary supplement) by 500%. This technology thus has the potential to reduce production costs of active ingredients for pharmaceuticals by tens of millions of euro per year. The presentation of this technology won the prestigious iGEM competition in 2010 at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

**5:30–6:30 pm Roundtable: Slovenia as a Meeting Point for High-Tech Investors? Discussion on the problems of financing Slovenian high-tech SMEs.**

Leader: **Marko Jaklič**, head of the COBIK Laboratory for Open Innovation Systems and full professor at the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana.

Guests: **Sibil Svilan**, CEO of SID Banka; **Ulla Hudina Kmetič**, Msc, Deputy Head of Representation, European Commission, Representation in Slovenia; **Maja Tomanič Vidovič**, head of the Slovenian Enterprise Fund; **Aleš Štrancar**, Chief Executive and Chief Business Development Officer, BIA Separations; other interesting speakers.

**6:30 pm: Conclusion**

The program is moderated by **Maja Makovec Brenčič**, head of the COBIK conference program board and vice dean for development at the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana.

\* The talk will be given in English; no interpretation will be provided.