

## **Boosting the Slovak start-up ecosystem**

Proposed Schedule of the Meeting with the EU representatives

**Date: June 28 - 29, 2017**

Venue: Representation of the European Commission in Slovakia, Palisády 29

Participants:

**Experts EC EU (EU)**

**The Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic (MoE)**

**The Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic (MoF)**

**The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic (MoED)**

**The Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic (MoJ)**

**The Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic (MoI)**

**Stakeholders: Agencies, business angels, incubators and accelerators representatives**

*Aim:* Transparent, coherent and effective start-up ecosystem in the Slovak Republic

### **Topics of discussions:**

- Improve business environment and organization of Slovak ecosystem;
- Supporting startup ecosystem Education (entrepreneurship in schools, universities, incubation...)
- Access to Finance (Business angels, venture capital...)

## **A G E N D A**

### **Day 1, June 28 (Wednesday)**

**Session I: Participants:** EU, MoE, MoF, MoED, MoJ and Agencies

**9:00 – 9:40 Welcome remarks** held by Šimončíčová/Svoboda  
(Business environment department/Department of Innovation and Applied Research)

**9:45 – 10:45 Discussion topic: Improve business environment and organization of Slovak ecosystem**

*“Managing with care” and supporting the startup ecosystem by improving interconnectivity and business regulations. Effective monitoring and data collection in order to improve understanding.*

**Participants:** EU, MoE, MoF, MoED, MoJ and MoI

**10:45- 11:00 Coffee break**

**11:00 – 12:15 Discussion topic: Supporting startup ecosystem by education**

*Education faces challenges how to reflect new needs of economy and motivate students to entrepreneurship and innovation. Improving education as human capital is a key element of boosting the startup ecosystem in Slovakia.*

**12:30 – 13:30 Lunch with state secretaries as representatives of ministries**

**Participants:** EU, MoE, MoF, MoED and MoJ

**14:00 – 15:45 Discussion topic: Access to Finance**

*The interests of the public sector in regulating and promoting the access to finance by startups aims for both transparency and enhancing the creation of value in the new ventures.*

**Participants:** EU, MoE, MoF, MoED and MoJ

**15:45- 16:00 Coffee break**

**Session II: Participants:** private stakeholders

**16:00 – 17:30 Meeting with stakeholders: Business environment and startup ecosystem**

*Startups always are exposed to larger corporations – as suppliers, either competitors or partners. Their understanding of the specifications of the ecosystem can build on the recommendations of the other private stakeholders.*

<b>Day 2, June 29 (Thursday)</b>
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**Round table session**

**Participants:** EU, Ministries, Agencies, stakeholders (invitation can be sent to all listed in the list: private; Universities etc.)

**9:00 – 11:00**

- **Improve business environment and organization of Slovak ecosystem**

*Startups as youngest and most vulnerable businesses, are dependent on the business environment and regulations. While radical reforms can be the most effective, they can also be the riskiest, thus understanding international experiences can improve efficiency of potential reforms.*

- **Supporting startup ecosystem by education**

*Universities and public incubators are the direct public sector input into the startup ecosystem. Educating for entrepreneurship and promoting startups at academic soil should be a direct boost by state into the ecosystem.*

- **Access to Finance**

*The funding necessary for growth of startup ventures comes primarily from private funds that understand their part of the network. Helping them can boost the flow of funds in the ecosystem.*

**11:00- 11:30 Next steps and future plans**