

INNOVATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



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CEO of SIEA

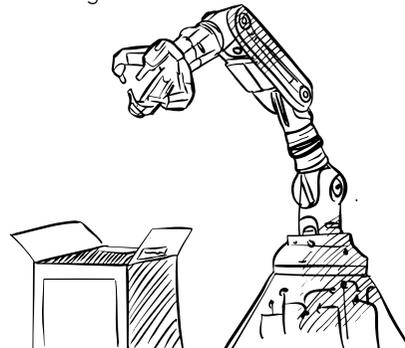
In 2050, more than nine billion people will live on our planet. If we don't change anything in the way we live and produce then we will end up unable to meet the people's demand. We are therefore facing huge global challenges. At the same time, these challenges open up many opportunities for all of us. In this respect, support of innovations is essential and can lead to transformations in individuals, organizations, supply chains, and communities toward a sustainable future.

The year 2020 was dominated by the unexpected and in decades, the unprecedented spread of devastating disease. During these hard times we have learned that governments and organizations can act quickly and innovatively. We have to build up this innovative thinking, keep the momentum going and we should act fast even in the post-corona period.

The history of the industrial revolution teaches us that technological progress drives or fosters social and economic changes. If humanity is serious about solving the economical, ecological and social challenges, innovations on the scale of the industrial revolution must create pathways towards sustainable development. We should bear in mind that a vaccine against COVID-19 will be invincible, but there is no available vaccine for climate change. This will require inventing and disseminating new technologies

We consider it important that topics of our TAFITIE chairmanship contribute to the improvement of the quality of life with respect to the environment. The city as an urban area we live in; advanced technologies for a better future; climate change and challenges for our planet; a need for closer cooperation and networking. Last but not least we will focus on the healthcare and the EU response to pandemic crisis.

Our goal is to examine specific cases of "system interventions" (e.g. policy interventions, institutional innovations, new approaches to shaping the innovation processed, the innovation ecosystems) intended to strengthen the European innovation system, and help Slovak innovation ecosystem and Taftie members to share best practices from Europe and other regions Taftie is partnering with. I believe that our findings will help to unlock the full potential of science and technology to meet the most pressing sustainable development challenges.



OUR PRIORITIES



In our presidency we will focus on 5 main topics:



Resources, environment and climate: Dramatically rising energy demand is one of the world's most pressing challenges. In addition, access to clean water and other non-renewable resources is becoming increasingly important. The promises of new technology is posing question: can ‚green tech‘ be used in a new industrial revolution? Does digital technology create a more inclusive and environmentally-friendly society?



Quality of life: Population growth, urbanization and globalization present further challenges. Aspirations differ greatly from region to region and among different social groups, but there is a common ambition: people want to improve their individual quality of life.



Key technology enablers: e.g. artificial intelligence and smart cities. We know, that innovation is not a linear process but rather a complex adaptive system involving many actors and institutions operating simultaneously.



Cooperation and co-creation: Many actors have the power to re-orient innovation systems towards sustainable development through research, advocacy, training, convening, policymaking, and financing. Networking is the way how to begin mobilizing investment in inventing suitable and affordable technologies to meet sustainable development objectives; developing measures to engage marginalized populations systematically through all stages of the innovation process; and establishing channels for regularized learning across domains of practice.



EU leadership in healthcare and medical: the leadership challenges associated with sustainability are highlighting the links between leadership, innovation, and sustainability. We would like to look at the speed of actions and their effect on mitigating the impact of COVID-19 simultaneously from local to EU/global levels; taking into account the complexity of the current situation.

EVENTS

DATES 

24. - 25. February 2021

 MEETINGS

EWG & GM - City As Innovation Hub

29. - 30. April 2021

EWG & GM - Artificial Intelligence
/ Robotics vs Humanity

16. - 17. June 2021

Annual Conference & BM - Europe As A Leader
In Carbon Free Strategies

16. - 17. September 2021

EWG & GM - Networking

11. - 12. November 2021

Policy Forum & BM - Health Care

OUR TEAM

Chairman

Peter Blaškovič
CEO of SIEA



Executive Secretary

Artur Bobovnický
Director of Innovations,
SIEA



SUPPORT TEAM



Jana Heglasová
Content Manager



Michal Mühl
Content Manager



Alexandra Vavrdová
Financial Manager

ABOUT SIEA

The Slovak Innovation and Energy Agency (SIEA) is an implementing agency of the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic. SIEA performs consulting, training, and implementation of various support programmes in the energy and innovation sectors. Moreover, SIEA performs tasks which support and increase innovation performance of Slovak enterprises. For more than ten years, SIEA has implemented measures supported by the European Structural and Investment Funds.

The role of SIEA in the innovation environment is to prepare and implement support schemes and mechanisms for entrepreneurs, analyse the innovation potential of industries, advisory services on the implementation of research findings into practice and active participation in international projects funded through the European Structural and Investment Funds and other sources.

ABOUT SLOVAKIA

Capital: Bratislava

Geographical area: 49 035 km²

Population: 5 459 816 inhabitants

Time: Central European Time (+1 hour from GMT)
(Summer time/daylight – saving time from March to November: +2 hours from GMT)

Location: Central Europe (17° – 22° E, 47° – 49° N)

Do you know that?

- Slovakia is after Austria the second country in the Central Europe with the largest area of forests? Almost 40 % of its territory is covered by the forest, while in Austria it is only 6 % more.
- Bratislava and Vienna are two closest located capitals in Europe? There is only less than 60 km between them.
- „bryndza“ stands for a traditional Slovak speciality made of sheep milk? Within the European Union it can only be produced in Slovakia and is distributed under the name „Slovenská bryndza“. It is made of non-pasteurized sheep milk from the sheep kept in the central, northern and eastern Slovakia.
- Štefan Banič, the inventor of the parachute, was Slovak? He lived in the years 1870 – 1941 and worked also in the USA. Exactly there in 1914 he tested his invention in front of the patent committee by jumping from a high building. The parachute later belonged to the standard equipment of the US Army pilots during World War I.

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