

# Session 3: Fostering innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystems in the EU

**Fostering innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystems in the European Union:  
Tuesday 14 March, 9:30-11:00**

Chair: Phil Budden, MIT Sloan School of Management

Panelists:

Prof Suzanne Berger, MIT Political Science

Prof Fiona Murray, MIT Sloan School of Management

Donna Chisholm, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (Scotland)

Lourdes Núñez-Müller, Granada Health Science Technological Park (Spain)

# Innovation, entrepreneurship & ‘ecosystems’

**Our panel looks to ‘ecosystems’ as important to innovation and entrepreneurship for not just the ‘euro area’ but the wider European Union (EU)**

Panelists:

Prof Suzanne Berger, MIT Political Science: “**From Innovation to Market**”.  
Insights from MIT’s ‘Production in the Innovation Economy’ (PIE) Commission on new ‘Industrial Ecosystems’ and Manufacturing Innovation Institutes (MIIs)

Prof Fiona Murray, MIT Sloan School of Management: “**Innovation ecosystems**”.  
Insights from MIT’s Innovation Initiative (MITii), its Lab for Innovation Science & Policy, and the MIT Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program (REAP).

# Innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystems in 'regions' of the EU

Such 'ecosystems' are important to fostering innovation & entrepreneurship, and research confirms that these 'ecosystems' seem to be 'regional'.

The European Union (EU) defines its 'regions' through the 'Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics' (Fr. acronym 'NUTS'), from 'level 1' (ie Member States' largest units) down to 'level 3' regions (counties, provinces, cities, etc)

Panelists:

Donna Chisholm, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) which operates in the NUTS-2 Highlands/Islands 'region' of Scotland (a NUTS-1 region of the UK).

Lourdes Núñez-Müller, Health Science Technological Park of Granada, a NUTS-3 region of Andalusia (NUTS-2) in southern Spain (NUTS-1).

# Scotland and MIT REAP

## INCREASING INNOVATION-DRIVEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN SCOTLAND THROUGH COLLECTIVE IMPACT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Scotland's Innovation-driven entrepreneurship opportunity

- Scotland is a prosperous nation with world leading capabilities for scientific research and invention. companies capable of capturing substantial value and delivering significant economic benefit.
- However, over the past 30 years Scotland has not delivered economic growth on a par with the world's best performing innovation-driven economies. • Promoting innovation-driven entrepreneurship and creating the conditions for young companies to grow is a key focus of Scotland's economic strategy.
- Entrepreneurship, particularly when combined with market orientated innovation, is known to create

### Scotland's participation in MIT REAP

• The result is the full REAP document.



1 MIT REAP Team Scotland Initiative

### An initiative for realising Scotland's potential

Participation in REAP and the associated stakeholder consultation has identified five areas which currently constrain the ecosystem. These five areas require attention and action, if Scotland's performance in building innovation-driven enterprises is to be enhanced:

1. Actions to **improve networking linkages** between innovation capacity and entrepreneurial capacity to improve the rate of creation or transformation of growth businesses.
2. Actions to **improve skills for growth** through provision of internationally excellent education in entrepreneurship and management.
3. Actions to **improve access to growth finance** through private initiatives in the finance sector and enhancement of management capability in companies.
4. Actions to **leverage the role of our universities** to improve entrepreneurship and management education and build links with alumni to foster mentoring, support and development of Scotland's ambitious entrepreneurs.



# Insights for the Conference?

Conference has provided frameworks for evaluating innovation and entrepreneurship at the ecosystem-level that enable regional 'comparative advantage' as well as to encompass the larger, more integrated European context

MIT Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program (REAP) has provided regional examples (at the EU's NUTS-2 and -3 levels) on how to leverage cutting-edge academic research and technology to identify evidence-based solutions.

Next panel will look at the factors that support (or hinder) the scaling-up of promising new ventures...

...and the concluding panel will extract policy lessons for the 'euro area', the wider EU and the larger, more integrated European context