

DeepDiveRIS Sofia Conference Programme

28 September 2023

- 11:00 - 11:30 Registration. Coffee and Refreshments**
- 11:30 - 11:40 Opening Session - Welcome and Introduction**
- **Konstantinos Georgoulas**, Director of RIS & EU Affairs, EIT Manufacturing
- 11:40 - 11:50 Introduction to the Conference**
- **Mariyana Hamanova**, Executive Director, Cleantech Bulgaria
 - **Loris Valero-Leconte**, RIS Hubs Manager, EIT Manufacturing
- 11:50 - 12:30 Public Authorities Keynotes**
- **Prof. Dr. Georgi Angelov**, Vice Minister of Innovation and Growth
 - **Milen Obretenov** – Director of "Management of Territorial Cooperation" Directorate, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works
 - **Milena Damyanova**, Director of Science Directorate, Ministry of Education and Science
 - **Smilen Valov**, Executive Director of the Employment Agency
- 12:30 - 12:50 EIT Strategic Objectives**
- **Eva Atanassova**, Head of Monitoring and Evaluation Section, EIT - European Institute of Innovation and Technology
- 12:50 - 13:10 EIT Manufacturing RIS Objectives and Results**
- **Francesca Girardi**, RIS & EU Operations Manager, EIT Manufacturing

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13:10 - 14:25 **Lunch Break**

14:25 - 15:10 **Panel 1: Education and Training to Attract Deep Tech Talent**

Moderator: **Paola Fantini**, Director of Education, EIT Manufacturing

- **Matej Rajchl, PhD**, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology, STUBA
- **Migle Trinkūnaitė**, Project Manager, Engineering and Technology Industries Association of Lithuania LINPRA
- **Petr Kolář**, Head of Department of Production Machines and Equipment, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, CTU
- **Vaido Mikheim**, Deep Tech Project Lead, Start-up Estonia

15:10 - 15:55 **Panel 2: From Theory to Practice, the Path of Entrepreneurs to Reach the Market**

Moderator: **Xavier Baillard**, Director of Innovation, EIT Manufacturing

- **Igor Kovac**, Asst. Prof. Dr. at Jožef Stefan Institute
- **Miro Hegedic**, PhD, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture, FMENA
- **Sandor Kolumban, PhD**, Founder at Exlteron, Asst. Prof. at Babeş-Bolyai University
- **Vasco Teles**, Technology strategy and licensing, Inesctec



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15:55 - 16:25 **Coffee Break & Networking**

16:25 - 17:10 **EIT Manufacturing RIS Metaverse**

Moderator: **Patricia Karrer**, Cross-KIC Strategic Regional Innovations Project Manager, EIT Manufacturing

- **Gianluigi Vona**, Web3 Advisor, Acumen Public Affairs
- **Laetitia Bochud**, President XR4Europe
- **Michal Hladky**, Interim CLC East Director - EIT Culture and Creativity
- **Patrick Grady**, Techlead at Fourtold EU/ Founder of Metaverse EU

17:10 - 17:55 **Panel 3: Becoming an Entrepreneur in Deep Tech**

Moderator: **Kevin Lenehan**, Director of Business Creation, EIT Manufacturing

- **Aleksandar Stamboliev**, National Secretary in North Macedonia, EIT Community RIS Hub
- **András Végh**, StartITup Association
- **Anna Pajak**, Board representative, Future Industry Platform
- **Ina Todorova**, Project Coordinator CleanTech Bulgaria

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17:55 -18:10 Collaborating with Authorities – Success Factors from the MIRRI Project in Slovakia - The RIS Foster Project Applied at CLC East

- **Lubica Šebeňová**, Collaboration Manager, EIT Manufacturing

18:10 -18:25 Closing Day I

- **Mariyana Hamanova**, Executive Director, Cleantech Bulgaria
- **Loris Valero-Leconte**, RIS Hubs Manager, EIT Manufacturing

18:25 -20:30 Cocktail & Networking



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29 September 2023

09:00 - 09:30 **Registration. Coffee and Refreshments**

09:25 - 09:30 **Opening of 2nd Day - EIT Manufacturing**

09:30 - 10:30 **Ecosystem Builders**

- **Iskra Mihaylova**, Member of the European Parliament
- **Boyko Takov**, Executive Director of the Bulgarian SME Promotion Agency
- **Todor Mladenov**, CEO, Sofia Tech Park
- **Emil Shekerdzhiski**, Co-Founder of Networking Premium Coworking
- **Irina Ilieva**, CEO Junior Achievement Bulgaria

CLC SE Participation – the SE Region in the RIS

- Vivian Sophou, Business Creation Manager, EIT Manufacturing South East

10:30 - 10:40 **Closing Remarks**

- Cleantech Bulgaria Representative
- EIT Manufacturing Representative

10:40 - 12:10 **Company Expo: Showcase of EIT Manufacturing RIS Success Stories**

10:40 - 12:10 **Matchmaking & B2B & Prototype Demos**

12:10 - 13:30 **Lunch**