



INTERNATIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM 2006

6th International Conference

31 August to 2 September, 2006

**Riga
Latvia**

**New Venture Creation and the Creative Trajectory: Entrepreneurship,
Innovation and Creativity in Business**

FIRST NOTICE

Introduction

The International Entrepreneurship Forum (IEF) network consists of academics, practitioners and policy makers. The IEF events are designed to encourage the meeting of these three groups based on the belief that there is as much value in academic exploration as in discovery through practice. Through this process of interaction, the IEF network aims to obtain a better appreciation of the subject of entrepreneurship.

The IEF works in close collaboration with the Centre for Entrepreneurship and the Local Employment and Economic Development (LEED) Programme of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Since its inception the IEF has held an annual event each year, with a specific and typical theme for deliberation, presentations and discussion. These events include

- a) the inaugural ceremony in Birmingham, United Kingdom in 2000
- b) the 1st IEF conference on “Entrepreneurship and Learning” in Naples, Italy in 2001;
- c) the 2nd IEF conference on “Entrepreneurship and Regional Development” in Beijing, China in 2002; and
- d) the 3rd IEF conference on “Entrepreneurial Innovation” in Bangalore, India in 2003,
- e) the 4th IEF conference on “Entrepreneurship: Contexts, Locales and Values” in Paris, 2004.
- f) two in 2005 – the conference on “Entrepreneurship and the Role of Higher Education” supporting the OECD in Trento, and the 5th IEF conference on “New Ventures Across Borders” in Cape Town, South Africa in September, 2005

An impressive array of speakers and other contributors have generated a wealth of knowledge on the subject. Each event has been marked by a rich variety of research papers, key contributions by practitioners and decision makers, and, significantly, by formal and informal hours of interaction between owner-managers, academics and decision makers. Crucially, participants have been able to use the highly interactive format of the events to develop new partnerships and projects to pursue particular activities. One of the most satisfying outcomes of all the events has been the identification of new interest, scholarship and insight into entrepreneurial activity, across different countries, demonstrating the value of learning in an international arena of thought and practice. This outcome informs the themes and topics chosen for each conference.

The 6th IEF Conference

The 6th IEF conference on the theme “New Ventures and the Creative Trajectory: Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity in Business” is going to be held in Riga, Latvia, from 31 August to 2 September, 2006. This refereed conference will be a collaborative venture between the Riga International School for Economics and Business Administration, in Latvia, the University of Essex Southend, and the OECD, LEED Programme.

As the theme suggests, the conference will focus on key issues concerning entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity in business, with a particular (but not exclusive) emphasis on the growing small and medium sized firm. Loose assumptions about the relationship and connections between entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity, are made in various quarters often at the expense of our better understanding of the changing dynamics of industry, economic regeneration and business growth. The much vaunted growth of the ‘creative industries’ and of the assumed need for greater creativity in business and economic activity to enable competitive differentiation between ‘new’ and ‘old’ economies, calls for a coherent approach to the study of creativity in a variety of industry scenarios.

The conference aims to provide a platform for researchers, policy makers and practitioners to engage in discussion and debate on issues relating to the flow of creative ideas, resources and knowledge between firms, in and across regions and international environments, resulting in the generation of opportunities for new venture creation, growth based on creative talent, creative communities of interest, innovative firms and entrepreneurial locations. These developments pose new challenges to the way we look at firms, their people and the locations in which they are based. They generate curiosity in the ways in which new ventures emerge through different forms of learning and the use of technologies for creative solutions to problems of wealth creation and distribution, among researchers, policy makers and practitioners.

To help unravel the variety of issues connected to the main theme of the conference, this call for papers welcomes contributions covering any of the following or related topics:

- The value of creativity in business
- Creative talent and the rise of the creative industries;
- The creative process in new product, service and organisational development;
- Creativity and innovation in entrepreneurial organisations
- Creative management and leadership
- Creative communities, enterprise and creative locations
- Public policy and the creative industries
- Technology, creativity and innovation
- Cultural diversity and creativity
- Creativity, innovation and globalisation

This is not an exhaustive list, and contributions are welcome in other areas as long as they address the main theme of the conference.

Conference Format

The conference will include keynote contributions, a range of interactive parallel sessions and workshops involving academic research paper and reflective practice presentations, policy and practice level debates and demonstrations.

Keynote Speakers

An exciting range of keynote speakers from major institutions around the world have been invited to speak and participate in the conference. Further details will follow shortly.

Conference Organisers

The conference organisers are Ms Irina Sennikova, Dean of RISEBA, Riga, Latvia, and Professor Jay Mitra, Head of the School of Entrepreneurship and Business, University of Essex Southend, United Kingdom. The two main organisers will be supported by the committee members of the International Entrepreneurship Forum.

Deadlines

Abstracts of no more than 250 words should be submitted no later **than 30 May, 2006**. All abstracts should show the names of the authors, their institutional affiliation (where appropriate), contact details (including full address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address). The abstracts should be presented in Word format and should also include no more than 5 keywords.

Notification of abstracts accepted for the conference will be made by no later than 20 June, 2006.

Full papers must be submitted **no later than 15 August, 2006.**

All full papers will be considered for two best paper prizes (one for scholarship and academic rigour and the other for originality, creativity and innovation in its contribution to policy making or practice). *Any paper submitted after 15 August will automatically be excluded from selection for any one of the two awards.*

Both abstracts and full papers will be subject to the standard referring process.

All abstracts should be sent directly to:

Ms Kristine Guseva at RISEBA, preferably by e-mail.

Contact details:

RISEBA, 1 Meza Street, building 2, Riga, LV-1048, Latvia. Tel.: +371 7807963, fax: +371 7500252, e-mail: kris@riseba.lv

The Programme

The conference will start on 31 August at 9.30 am and finish at 5.30 pm on September 1. The two day programme will consist of a mix of plenary, roundtable, parallel sessions, networking meetings, and an exciting range of social events. Full details of the programme will be available on the conference web site: <http://www.riseba.lv>

Conference Fees

The conference registration fee structure for the conference is as follows:

- a) PhD and other students - 250 Euros + 18% VAT
- b) All other delegates – 450 Euros + 18% VAT

A discount of 10% is available for registrations made and fees paid before 31 July, 2006.

Please note that the above registration fees **excludes** costs of accommodation, subsistence and travel, but **includes** 3 lunches, the conference dinner, tea and coffee during the conference, and a conference pack.

Payment should be made to:

Beneficiary	RISEBA Consulting Ltd.
Registration number	40003473438
Bank	AS Hansabanka
Account	IBAN LV27HABA0551001585578
SWIFT code	HABA LV 22

Publications

Selected papers will be considered for special issues of selected journals. Negotiations are in progress for such publication with the editors of refereed journals.

Accommodation

The conference hotel is Maritim Park Hotel Riga (<http://www.maritim.lv/EN/>). Accommodation will be made available in this hotel at a discounted rate. Early reservations (no later than June 30, 2006) are strongly recommended as Riga is a popular destination in late August and September.

Contact Details:

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Other details and updates will be made available on a regular basis on the web site