

Short bios of Speakers

Ken Guy

Ken Guy operates as a freelance consultant under the umbrella of Wise Guys Ltd., a company he launched in 2000 to conduct innovation policy research and provide advice to policymakers and administrators. Formerly an academic at SPRU, University of Sussex, and founder of Technopolis Ltd., an innovation policy consultancy he established in 1989, he was also a member of the EU's Innovation Union Task Force from 2009-11 and Head of the OECD's Science and Technology Policy Division from 2012-2015. On leaving the OECD in January 2015, he returned to Wise Guys Ltd., where recent projects have included leading the team of external consultants involved in the OECD's Review of Swedish Innovation Policy; chairing an EU Expert Group responsible for an ex-ante evaluation of a proposed Article 185 initiative to support R&D and innovation in the Mediterranean region; and conducting a comparative assessment of country review procedures across the OECD, with a view to improving value for money.

Yannis TOLIAS

Yannis is one of the founding partners of Innovatia Systems. He holds a Dipl-Ing degree (MSc equivalent) in Electrical Engineering (1993) and a Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering (1998) both from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. During his undergraduate studies, he has been awarded with two Greek Government scholarships and a Technical Chamber of Greece-sponsored prize for academic achievement.

Before launching Innovatia Systems in March 2000, he worked with Athens Technology Center S.A. (1993-1999) as a technology consultant, participating in the implementation of national and European competitive research projects such as BOURBON (ACTS-001), CICERO (Telematics applications-UR-1002), MULTISPACE (ESPRIT-23066), RESHEN (IST-2000-25354) and also as a research associate with the Telecommunications Laboratory at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

His areas of expertise are academic entrepreneurship, technology transfer, innovation management and project management. During the last decade, among others, he has helped three Greek Universities in developing their institutional technology transfer policies, elaborate feasibility studies for research infrastructures, establish more than 10 academic spin-off companies and get seed and growth funding for them. He has also participated as an expert in the joint elaboration of the RIS3 strategies and the Regional Operational Programmes of three Greek Regions.

He is a member of the Technical Chamber of Greece (1993) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (1991). He is also a Certified Assessor by the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM) for the Recognised for Excellence and Committed to Excellence awards (2007) and listed as an expert to assist European Commission's Directorate-General for Regional Policy to support Cohesion Policy, regional and urban development (2015).

Angelos SANOPOULOS

Angelos is currently Team Leader of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Monitoring and Evaluation Support Unit and also co-founder and manager of M&E factory, a consulting company specialising on evaluation. He also lectures at the Vienna University of Technology in the Course "Systemic Impact Assessment and Evaluation".

Angelos holds a Master of Science in Urban and Regional Planning, a Master of Science in Geo-Information Systems and Science, and a Master of Science in Environmental Infrastructure Planning. He is fluent in English, German and Greek and speaks some Bulgarian, Italian, French and Spanish.

He has 20 years of experience in EU-funded programmes and the provision of technical assistance in the programming cycle, strategic environmental assessment and evaluation in a broad array of thematic fields. Since 2000 he has been involved in numerous projects for the European Commission (DG AGRI, DG CLIMA, DG ELARG, DG EMPL, DG ENV, DG MARE, DG REGIO), UNDP, the World Bank/IFC, GEF bilateral donors, and national governments mainly with projects addressing regional development, environmental protection, climate change and related multidisciplinary issues.

Ricard ESPARZA MASANA

Ricard is an adjunct professor at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB). He holds two Masters of Science in Economic Analysis and the Economics of Science and Innovation, respectively. He is a Doctor in Economics, and he has focused his research and other academic activities in the field of innovation policy for socio-economic development and the role of institutions in this context. Before becoming a full-time professor, he held the role of head of department for international strategic projects at UAB's science park.

Since 2012, he has participated in over 20 European and international projects linked to innovation projects, working with over 50 institutions in 6 continents, including several regional and national governments, as well as international organisations.

In the field of smart specialisation, he has focused his activity in (i) the role of higher education institutions, (ii) monitoring, and (iii) S3 in emerging economies. In this field, he has worked in strategic design jointly with the Joint Research Centre (European Commission), the Government of Catalonia, the Government of Peru. Additionally, he has worked in projects linked to S3 with over 30 partners in the EU and beyond (Latin America, Australia).

Luc Hulsman

Luc has been dedicated to 'the Northern-Netherlands case' for 15 years now. Since joining as a trainee immediately after obtaining his master's degree in Economics at the University of Groningen, he contributed to SNN in various positions. In his current position as programme manager his main occupation is the implementation of the Northern Netherlands' Smart Specialisation Strategy and Structural Funds Operational Programme. In this respect improvements in the innovation eco- and support system are major themes. Luc is member of several working groups and networks related to S3 and structural funds management, at the national and European level.

Francesco Prota

Francesco Prota (Ph.D. in Agricultural and Environmental Economics, University of Naples 'Parthenope'; M.Phil. in Environmental and Sustainable Development, University of Glasgow) is Lecturer in Economics at the University of Bari "Aldo Moro" (Italy). He has extensive experience teaching both at undergraduate level (Macroeconomics and Development Economics) and at postgraduate level (Development Economics).

His research interests include development economics; public policy evaluation; innovation economics; regional economics and international economic integration.

He is author of several articles in economics journals, including World Development, Regional Studies, Papers in Regional Science, Journal of International Development, Development Policy Review, Economics Letters, European Planning Studies, Economia Politica, Journal of Analytical and Institutional Economics. Besides serving as referee for international journals, he is Associate Editor for Regional Studies, Regional Science and for L'Industria. Review of Industrial Economics and Policy.

Since 2011, he has been acting as consultant to UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) on several research projects (mainly on cluster development and FDI in Africa). He has also a long track record of collaboration with different Italian government departments and agencies.

Currently, Francesco is the scientific director of the project "Assessment of support to the development and implementation of smart specialisation strategies provided by the European Commission from 2010 to 2017" financed by the European Commission, DG REGIO.

Dr Carlo Gianelle

Carlo Gianelle is Scientific Officer at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (Seville, Spain). He holds a PhD in economics from the University of Siena, Italy, and studied at the University of California Berkeley, specialising in applied economics. His research interests encompass labour economics, innovation studies and regional studies. He has been involved in the implementation of the Smart Specialisation policy of the European Commission from its inception in 2011, contributing in particular to the development of analytical methodologies and impact assessment.

Dr Fabrizio Guzzo

Fabrizio Guzzo is a Scientific Officer at the European Commission, Joint Research Centre (Seville, Spain). He holds a Master degree in Local Economic Development from the London School of Economics (UK) and a PhD from the University of Calabria (Italy). His research interests include regional and local development and urban studies. He was an International Fellow at the Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, US).

Over the years, parallel to his research activities, he has been working on different projects, within the EU Structural Funds umbrella, in the field of regional and local development and innovation with public and private organisations.

Dr Elisabetta Marinelli

Elisabetta Marinelli is a Scientific Officer at the European Commission Joint Research Centre (Seville, Spain). An economist by training, she holds a PhD from the London School of Economics. She has published articles in journals such as *Regional Studies*, *Technovation*, *Environment and Planning* and *The Journal of Business Research*. Over the years she has researched a variety of topics, including graduates' migration, the R&D investment strategies of MNEs, technology foresight and regional development. More recently she has been working on Smart Specialisation Strategies (an EC policy tool for knowledge-based regional development), with a particular attention to the role universities, the mechanisms of stakeholders' interaction and the monitoring processes.