



Horizon 2020 SME Innovation Associate

Matching talented researchers and business



**SMEs**



**PHDs**



**WORKSHOP**

BRUSSELS | 19th of February, 2019

# **Introduction to the group sessions**

Pär Weström  
CARSA



# Plain objectives of the group sessions

- To discuss the best means to implement the SME Innovation Associate action in the future
  - gather experiences and viewpoints from different stakeholder types
  - while bearing in mind other related policy initiatives
- To obtain additional input for the revision and finalisation of the findings of the accompanying study

# Overall setup of the afternoon sessions

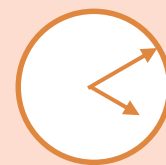
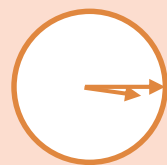
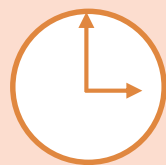
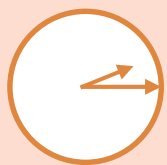
## Group session:

Split in 5 groups  
(3 + 2)

Each group sum up main findings  
(~15 min)

## Plenary session:

Presentations from each group  
(~5 min/group)



14:15

15:00

15:15

15:40

16:10

Parallel group discussions:  
3 main questions  
(~3x15 min)

*Coffee break*

EASME/DG GROW sum up the day with closing remarks  
(20 min)

# Main questions to be discussed



## **Are SME's in Europe still struggling to get access to innovation skills?**

- Which types of skills are most sought for? (examples of sectors, technologies ...)
- Known differences between countries and possible reasons for such differences?

## **Are there alternative or complementary actions that could be implemented to successfully address the access to skills challenge for SMEs?**

- If yes, which are these alternative or complementary actions?
- Describe briefly the main features and overall design of such initiative.

## **What are the major strengths of the innovation associate programme and what are those features that would need to be improved in your opinion?**

# General workshop guidelines

- **The time is very limited – try to be concise**
- **Use key words to sum up your findings**
  - Post it marks
  - Flipchart sheets
- **Handle one topic at the time ...**  
**.... but try to cover all 3 main questions**
- **Save time to prepare a short presentation**
  - Who present? Volunteer from the group and/or group moderator
  - 5 minutes summary of main aspects discussed



# Any questions?



## GROUP 1

**Moderator:**

Pär Weström  
CARSA

## GROUP 2

**Moderator:**

Thorsten Lübbers  
Ramboll

## GROUP 3

**Moderator:**

Patrice Muller  
LE Europe

## GROUP 4

**Moderator:**

Anselm Mattes  
DIW Econ

## GROUP 5

**Moderator:**

Ricardas Juskevicius  
Ecorys