



Céad Míle Fáilte

35th Annual ISBC Congress

4th – 6th November 2008

Belfast

Northern Ireland



AN ENTREPRENEURIAL ODYSSEY

~ from local heroes to global champions ~



Patron

HRH Prince Michael of Kent GCVO



Steering Committee Members

- **Tsugio Ide** *Honorary Secretary, c/o Organisation for SMEs & Regional Innovation, JAPAN*
- **Leszek Janowski** *President, Foundation of Small & Medium-sized Enterprises, POLAND*
- **Roscher Ping-Pin Lin** *Chairman, National Association of Small & Medium Enterprises, TAIWAN*
- **Hans-Werner Mueller** *Secretary General, European Association of Crafts & SMEs, BELGIUM*

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- **Kim Ki-Mun** *Chairman, Korea Federation of Small & Medium Business, KOREA*
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- **Hanns-Eberhard Schleyer** *Secretary General, Zentralverband des Deutschen Handwerks, GERMANY*
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- **Catherine Swift** *President & CEO, CFIB, Canadian Federation of Independent Business, CANADA*
- **Ken O'Neill** *Professor, Entrepreneurship & SME Development, University of Ulster, N. IRELAND*



Sponsors

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Topics 1

- Why do some businesses grow and not others?
- Managing business growth – skills and capability
- Innovative financing for growth & emerging economies
- Exports & internationalisation – challenges & solutions
- Enterprising cities, regions & countries – role of SMEs
- Support for SMEs in the 21st century
- Accessing global supply chains – best practice



Topics 2

- Do women entrepreneurs need support?
 - Policies and strategies for global business growth
 - The Green Revolution – SME threat or opportunity?
 - Policies to support transfer of small businesses
 - Role of Business Associations in supporting SMEs
 - The making of the “Celtic Tiger”
 - Business matchmaking/best practice visits
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Why Northern Ireland?

- The making of the Celtic Tiger
- ISBC last held in UK – 23 years ago
- In conjunction with ISBE Conference
- Pre & Post Conference Tour Options
- Traditional Irish Hospitality “craic”



Who should attend?

- Trade Associations
 - Support Organisations
 - Practitioners
 - Policy-makers
 - Financiers
 - Entrepreneurs
 - Consultants
 - Business Strategists
 - Advisers & Mentors
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Why should you attend?

- Share best practice in business management and development
- Discover best practices and policies for SME development
- Consider applications and policy implications of latest research
- Find out what new opportunities and threats lie ahead
- Develop your networks and establish new working relationships
- Business to business networking and match-making opportunities
- Visits to Industrial Parks, Incubation and Innovation Centres



Tour & Travel Options

- Industrial Parks, Incubation & Innovation Centres
 - City Sightseeing Tours
 - Giant's Causeway & Bushmill's Distillery
 - Dublin City
 - Airports: Belfast (2) + Dublin International
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ISBE 31st International Entrepreneurship Conference 5-7th November 2008

*~ promoting excellence in education,
research and practice ~*

(ISBC delegates welcome at all Plenary Sessions)



Organising Experience

- ICSB 2003 Belfast
- ISBA 2004 Newcastle
- ISBE 2005 Blackpool
- ISBE 2006 Cardiff
- ISBE 2007 Glasgow
- ISBE 2008 Belfast





Sláinte

**4-6th November 2008
Belfast, Northern Ireland
www.isbc2008.org**