



ANNOUNCEMENT

Central Bank of Ireland Conference: The Irish SME lending market: Descriptions, Analysis, Prescriptions.

Friday 2nd March 2012, Radisson Blu Hotel, Golden Lane, Dublin 8, 9am-5.30pm.

The Central Bank of Ireland will host a conference on SME lending on March 2nd 2012. This conference will combine work by Central Bank of Ireland researchers on the Irish SME lending market with research from international experts in the area.

Admission to the conference is free, but must be reserved by emailing patricia.kearney@centralbank.ie with "SME conference" in the subject line.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

9am Introduction:

Patrick Honohan

9:15 – 11.00

Session 1: Irish SMEs: Stylized Facts on the Real Economy and Credit Market.

Chair – Paul Walsh (UCD).

Discussant – Helena Lenihan (University of Limerick).

- Barra Casey, Steve MacFeely (CSO): Small and Medium Enterprises: Lessons from Business in Ireland 2009.
- Martina Lawless, Fergal McCann, Tara McIndoe-Calder (Central Bank of Ireland): SMEs in Ireland: Stylized facts from the real economy and credit market.
- Combined presentation (all Central Bank of Ireland):
 - Fergal McCann, Tara McIndoe-Calder: Competition in Irish private sector lending.
 - Martina Lawless, Fergal McCann: The Irish SME lending market – a snapshot, December 2010.

Coffee

11.30 – 12.30

Session 2: Keynote Lecture

Gregory Udell (Kellogg School of Business, Indiana University)

Lunch

13.45 - 15.30

Session 3: Credit Access.

Chair - John FitzGerald (ESRI).

Discussant - Cristoffer Kok-Sorensen (ECB)

- Santiago Carbo-Valverde (University of Granada): Lending relationships and credit rationing: the impact of securitization.
- Sarah Holton, Martina Lawless, Fergal McCann (Central Bank of Ireland): SME credit access in the European crisis.
- Thorsten Beck (University of Tilburg): Foreigners vs. natives: Bank lending technologies and loan pricing.

Coffee

15.45 - 17.30

Session 4: Financial Constraints, Loan Performance.

Chair - Stefan Gerlach (Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Ireland).

Discussant - Brian O'Kelly (DCU)

- Fergal McCann, Tara McIndoe-Calder (Central Bank): Borrower-level determinants of default in SME loans – the importance of borrower heterogeneity.
- Stuart Fraser (Warwick Business School): Are small businesses financially constrained? A new test with evidence from the UK Survey of SME Finances.
- Martina Lawless, Fergal McCann (Central Bank): Drivers of default: Evidence from a sector-level panel of Irish SME loans.