

# Learning from Each Other

## U.S. & European Perspectives on Small Business Innovation Programs



National Academy of Sciences  
Washington, DC  
March 19, 2015

Dr. Luis M. Proenza  
Board on Science, Technology, and Economic Policy  
University of Akron

# Welcome to the National Academies



**National Academy of Sciences (NAS)**



**National Academy of Engineering (NAE)**



**Institute of Medicine (IOM)**



**National Research Council (NRC)**

# The Academies' Board on Science, Technology, and Economic Policy

- For over 20 years, STEP studies have identified ways to:
  - Accelerate innovation,
  - Advance U.S. competitiveness through better policy,
  - Improve our understanding of the nation's economic performance, and
  - Learn from other nations' policies and practices.

# The Innovation Policy Forum

A focal point for a national and international dialogue  
on innovation and manufacturing policy

Co-Chairs

Dr. Luis Proenza

Ambassador Alan Wm. Wolff

# The Premise of the Forum

- Innovation is now widely recognized as a key element in economic growth and national competitiveness.
- Policies to support innovation have become a central theme in policy discussions in both the United States and around the world.
- Many of the world's leading countries are making unprecedented investments in promoting innovation.
- We need to understand this changing environment, exchange best practices, and, where appropriate, draw lessons for U.S. policy.

# The Role of the Innovation Policy Forum

- A mechanism for regular policy discussions and learning.
- A recurrent opportunity to explore Best Practices in Innovation Policy from around the world.
- An arena for cooperation with other countries.

# 2014 Forum Activities

- October 2014: Release of the final report of the President's Advanced Manufacturing Partnership (AMP2.0)
- September 2014: Workshop on Medical Device Innovation and Cybersecurity.
- March 2014: Workshop on the Industrial Commons and Cybersecurity in the Manufacturing Supply Chain.
- Meetings with Delegations from Vietnam, China and the United Kingdom.

# The Forum's Agenda for 2015

- Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights in BRICS
  - To explore issues surrounding reform of the patent systems in Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa and other emerging economies.
- U.S.-India Dialogue on Innovation
  - Engagement with Industry leaders, Policymakers and the Indian National Science Academy
  - Focus on best practices in manufacturing innovation, skills development, and SME policies.



# The Forum's Agenda for 2015

- U.S.-China Dialogue on Innovation
  - Continues a series of high level meetings with China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC)
- Workshop on "University Innovation: Building Communities of Trust."
  - To examine the role and experiences of universities as engines of regional development, both in the United States and overseas.

# Additional Topics for Forum Meetings...

- The strategic role of innovation policies in “economic warfare”
- National policies to support medical and pharmaceutical innovation.

# Today's Innovation Policy Forum Meeting:

Learning from Each Other:

U.S. and European Perspectives on  
Small Business Innovation Programs

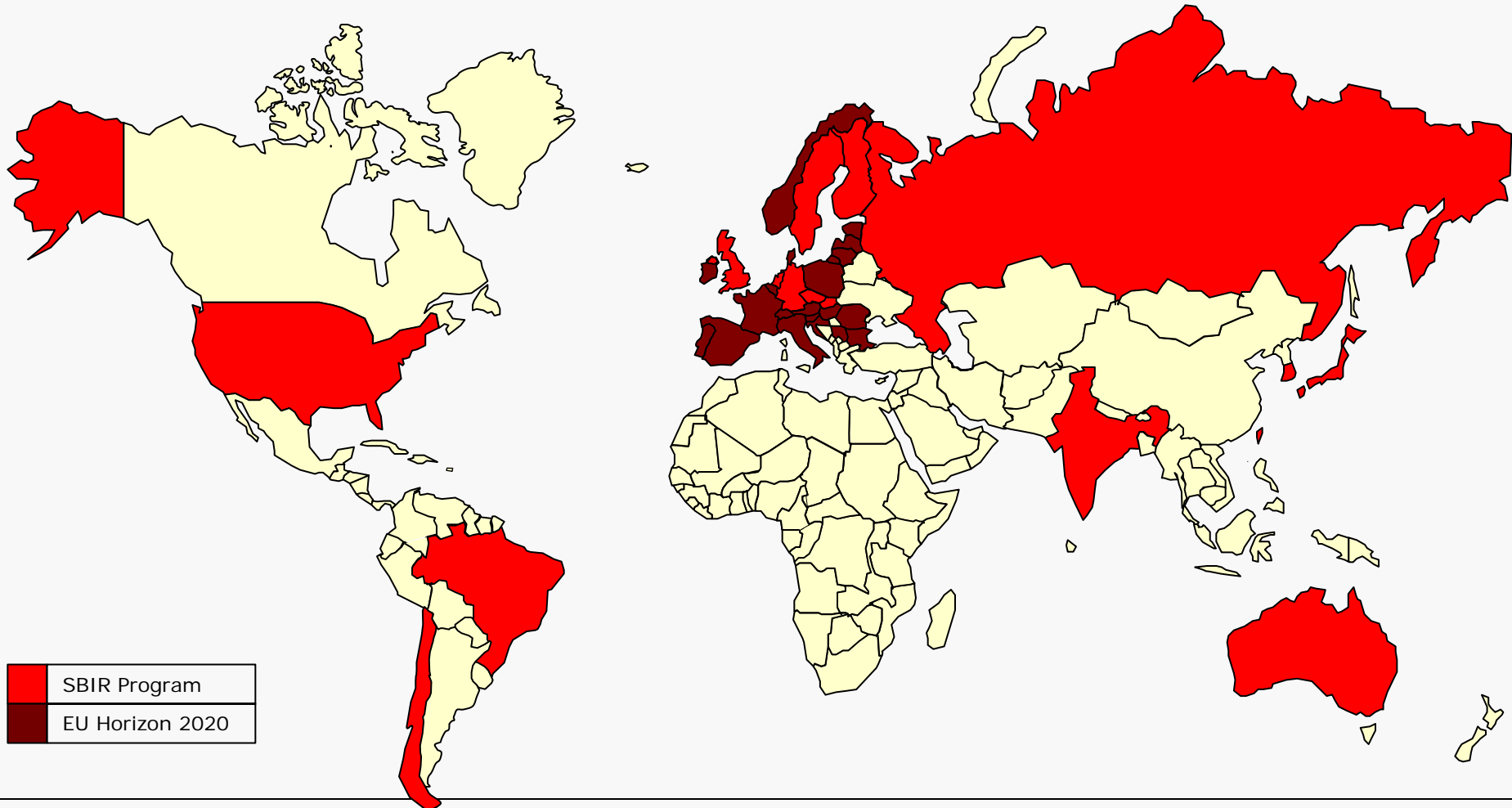
# Small Businesses are Key for Innovation

- Small businesses are widely recognized as key players in bringing new technologies to market.
- The Small Business Innovation Research program is one of the most important public policy programs, with a goal of generating innovative high-technology firms and promoting competitiveness and growth.

# SBIR is now Global

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## An Opportunity to Learn from Each Other



Today's event has been organized  
in cooperation with...

The Small Business Administration  
The American Association for the  
Advancement of Science

The Delegation of the European Union  
The Embassy of Italy

# Forum Sponsors

We thank:

The Office of Naval Research

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IBM



Thank You

Dr. Luis M. Proenza  
President Emeritus  
The University of Akron