



## Abstract for the 12<sup>th</sup> INSME Annual Meeting Round Table II

**At the 'Smart Growth Restaurant' SMEs ordered 'Sustainable Development Goals' chicken topped by Innovation curry but didn't find the cutlery.  
Intermediaries role and Tools for a sustainable growth.**

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The Heads of State and Government and High Representatives meeting, held on 25-27 September 2015 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, have adopted a historic decision on a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centered set of universal and transformative goals and targets. Those are the results of over two years of intensive public consultation and engagement with civil society and other stakeholders around the world, which paid particular attention to the voices of the poorest and most vulnerable. The 17 “Sustainable Development Goals” (along with 169 targets) encompass a broad spectrum of challenges and will stimulate action over the next 15 years. If we look it from another perspective it is a terrific chance for socio-economic development as micro small industries from the target countries will be supported in applying innovative solutions to achieve the goals. Reading in details the SDG document, innovation could be everywhere. It is a matter of fact that the immediate follow-up<sup>1</sup> was the creation of a ‘Technology Facilitation Mechanism’ and it is also a challenge the set-up of an innovation eco-system for growth and poverty reduction. Urbanization sustainability, environment protection and (water) sanitation, affordable and clean energy, sustainable consumption and production are some of the global trends that could drive the innovation revolution. With this respect the role of intermediaries and the tools that could be made available are of paramount importance. The ‘rain forest’ approach shall be empowered by organizations who help smart SMEs (facing smart challenges) as well as companies from developed countries that approach the ‘reverse innovation’ paradigm also by providing new (specific) tools. The presentation proposed will focus on SDGs innovation aspects and opportunities for ‘smart’ micro-SMEs as well as how the innovation-driven eco-systems for SMEs could be an opportunity for developing and developed countries if the right intermediaries and tools are there. A revised model deriving from the Galbraith’s Star Model will be drafted.

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<sup>1</sup> Paragraph 70 of the Post-2015 Development Agenda Outcome Document