

ABOUT IRISH RURAL LINK AND SBFIC



Irish Rural Link (IRL), formed in 1991, is a national network of organisations and individuals campaigning for sustainable rural development in Ireland and Europe. IRL, a non-profit organisation, now directly represents nearly 500 community groups with a combined membership of 25,000. A member of the Community and Voluntary Pillar of Social Partnership, the network provides a structure through which rural groups and individuals, representing disadvantaged rural communities, can articulate their common needs and priorities, share their experiences and present their case to policy-makers at local, national and European Level. <http://www.irishrurallink.ie/>

This is a not-for-profit foundation which is the consulting arm of the DSGV (German Savings Bank Association). The SBFIC advocates for the Sparkassen concept globally, and promotes core Savings banks issues e.g. financial inclusion, equal opportunities and education. It recognises that local banking serves the people and the real economy (SMEs) directly.



It supports financial institutions promoting a sustainable economic and social development at a local, regional or national level by offering banking services that are tailored to the needs of the target groups. <http://www.sparkassenstiftung.de/en/home.html>



NICLAUS BERGMANN:
Managing Director SBFIC

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RDS Concert Hall
Wednesday 16th November 2016,

A Simply Different SME Banking System: Closing the Credit Gap and creating a Virtuous Cycle

"We will thoroughly investigate the German Sparkassen model for the development of local public banks that operate within well-defined regions"
- Programme for Partnership Government, 2016

RDS Library Speaker Series



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



HEINRICH HAASIS:
Chairman of the Board of Sparkassenstiftung für Internationale Kooperation (SBFIC) and President of the World Savings Bank Institute.

Heinrich Haasis holds a Diploma in Public Administration from Württemberg Management Service. From 1971 to 1981 he was the Mayor of Bisingen. He also served as a member of the State Parliament of Baden-Württemberg (1976-2001). From September 1991 to January 2001, he was Chairman of the former Württemberg Savings Banks Association (WSGV). Later, in January 2001, he was elected Chairman of the Board of Landesbank Baden-Württemberg (LBBW) and the Landesbausparkassen and Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Sparkassen-Versicherung Holding AG Baden-Württemberg. From 2006 to 2012 he served as the President of the German Savings Bank Association (DSGV). He was elected as the President of ESBG from 2006–2009. In May 2012, he was appointed as President of WSBI.



DR KARL-PETER SCHACKMANN-FALLIS:
Executive member of the Board DSGV, Member of the European Economic & Social Committee Brussels

In 1979, Dr. Schackmann-Fallis graduated with a degree in economics. He received his doctorate (Dr. rer. pol.) from the University of Trier in 1985. Between 1985 and 1997, Dr. Schackmann-Fallis was employed in the policy department of the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and was granted leave to work with the SPD in the Bundestag (Lower House of the German Parliament), Working Group III (Economic Policy) and the SPD Executive Committee. From 1997 until 1998 he was departmental head in the Ministry of Finance for the Land of Saxony-Anhalt, responsible for economic and asset-related matters, before becoming State Secretary in the Ministry of Finance. In 2001, he was appointed State Secretary in the Ministry of Finance for the Land of Brandenburg, a position he held until 2004. On 1 November 2004, he took up his current role as Executive Member of the Board at the Deutscher Sparkassen- und Giroverband (DSGV).



SEAMUS BOLAND:
CEO Irish Rural Link

Formerly manager of Tullamore Traveller Workshop, and Shannon Banks Workshop in Athlone, in 1995 he was appointed Regional Director of Midland Regional Youth Service. He became national Co-Ordinator of IRL in 2001. A member of the Carnegie Rural Commission, which examines rural issues in Great Britain and Ireland, he has recently been appointed to the board of Pobal. He serves on a number of National Development Plan monitoring committees and is a community and voluntary pillar representative on the National Economic and Social Council. He is a holder of a BSc in Rural and Community Development from NUI Maynooth.

AGENDA

Moderator		Presentations by:	
			
Dr Sean Barrett Associate Professor in the Economics Department of Trinity College, Fellow of Trinity College		Dr. Eoin O'Dell Associate Professor, Trinity College School of Law	
			
		Dr. Charles Larkin Research Associate/Adjunct Lecturer at Trinity Business School	
9:30 – 10:00	Registration		
Welcome by Moderator Dr Sean Barrett			
10:00 – 10:10	Opening Address: John Holohan, RDS Council Member & Chairman of the RDS Speaker Series Working Group		
10:10 – 10:20	Introduction: Niclaus Bergmann, Managing Director SBFIC		
10:20 – 10:40	Presentation: Legal Framework: Dr Eoin O'Dell		
10:40 – 11:00	Presentation: Economic Models: Dr Charles Larkin		
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee Break		
11:15 – 11:25	Think Globally, Act Locally, Cooperate Internationally: Heinrich Haasis		
11:25 – 12:00	Summary: The Case for Ireland: Dr Charles Larkin		
12:00 – 12:30	Question & Answer Session: Moderator: Dr Sean Barrett		
12:30 – 13:00	Lunch		
13:00 – 13:30	Keynote Address: The Roots of German Local Banking, and its Future: Dr Karl-Peter Schackmann-Fallis		
13:30 – 14:00	A Real Solution for the Irish Rural Economy: Seamus Boland		
14:00 – 14:30	Question & Answer Session: Moderator: Dr Sean Barrett		
Closing Summary by Dr Sean Barrett			