

CFFO Ecosystem Leadership Symposium

Exploring the Challenges of Business Ecosystem Engagement

November 28-29 | UnternehmerTUM Entrepreneurship Center Garching/Munich, Germany

Why a Symposium on Ecosystem Leadership?

Over the last two years, our work has focused on how to succeed in business ecosystems. A global survey about the subject led to the creation of a [capability framework](#) and the development of an [Ecosystem Leadership Index \(ELX\)](#).

The resonance we received for our work is testament to how important leaders view this topic. In our survey, more than 100 executives expressed interest in attending a symposium and/or join a cross-industry consortium to better leverage business ecosystem networks¹.

We respond to this interest by organizing a 1 ½ day invitation only symposium during which we will share perspectives, discuss typical ecosystem challenges, and jointly explore how to best structure a consortium initiative.

We are excited that [UnternehmerTUM](#) (U-TUM), one of the world's largest hubs for business creation and innovation and a benchmark ecosystem on its own, has partnered with us to host and co-produce this inaugural event.

What to Expect

In a highly interactive setting, we will

- Share results of our most recent research on ecosystem dynamics.
- Discuss implications for companies' strategy, leadership, and organization.
- Share experiences and perspectives among participants.
- Identify key areas of ecosystem leadership to focus on in the future.
- Finalize the consortium cornerstones in a co-creative process and develop an initial agenda.
- Build relationships among participants for future collaboration.

While the symposium will serve as a launching platform for the consortium, **attendance does not require participation in future consortium activities.**

¹ A selection of companies who have expressed such interest is attached to this outline.

Who Should Attend?

The symposium **is an invitation only** event as the curation of participants is key to its success. We invite executives who

- Represent companies with a certain strategic and organizational complexity.
- Come from various functions (general management, strategy, corporate development, innovation, operations, IT, procurement, digital transformation, OD, HR, etc.).
- Have a level of seniority and experience that allows for meaningful conversations.
- Are keen to leverage the experience of peers to (further) develop their Ecosystem Leadership capabilities and collaborate on future research in this domain.

To ensure an intimate setting and a high quality of discourse, the size of the group will be **limited to 40 attendees**. At this point **we do not invite consultants and/or academics outside CFFO**.

Program Outline

Pre-event survey

3-4 weeks before the event we conduct a 10-minute survey among participants about their expectations, current key challenges and opportunities their organizations face, their areas of interest, etc.

Day 1 | 16:00 – 19:00

- Welcome and outline of symposium purpose and objectives | 15 min
- Round Tables: Mutual intro of participants and their respective contexts | 1hr
- Presentation CFFO: Latest insights on business ecosystem leadership | 45 min
- Case U-TUM: Success factors of a benchmark innovation ecosystem | 45 min
- DINNER at Marriott Hotel

Day 2 | 09:00 – 16:00

- Results from the pre-event survey | 30 min
- Panel of participants about lessons from experience (either curated in advance or spontaneous from audience) | 1 hour
- COFFEE | 30 min
- Breakout groups: In-depth discussion of key topics participating companies would like to focus on, and how to best address them (based on results of pre-event survey) | 45 min
- Sharing and discussion in plenary | 45 min
- LUNCH at UTUM | 1 hour
- Collaborative outline of consortium cornerstones and development goals for the next 12-18 months | 60 min
- Planning of next steps – potential constitution of interest groups/task forces | 60 min

Logistics

When	Tuesday, Nov 28, 16:00 – Wednesday, Nov 29, 16:00
Where	UnternehmerTUM Entrepreneurship Center Garching Lichtenbergstrasse 6 85748 Garching near Munich (→ map)
Accommodation	We suggest you book your accommodation at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel which is conveniently located in less than 5 minutes walking distance from the event venue.



U-TUM Entrepreneurship Center



Marriot Courtyard Munich Garching

How to Participate

This is an invitation only event. If we have not contacted you directly and you would like to receive an invitation, please [contact us](#) to discuss your application.

Symposium Fee

€ 900 | USD 990 – includes all meals and symposium documentation.

Your participation is confirmed after your application is approved and we have received payment. Payments must be made by credit card via an online link which attendees will receive after accepting an invitation. In case a confirmed participant can't attend, a substitute is welcome, provided they fit the curation criteria.

Contact

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