



UPDATE No. 71

For members only

January 2007

In this Update:

- **15th Global Summit in Seattle, USA**
- **German President visits PHOENIX incubator in Berlin**
- **Developing Countries Business Incubators**
- **Sail Away – Special offer for SPICE members**

Dear Member,

The year 2006 was active and fruitful for developing the SPICE Group network. Celebrating the 15th Anniversary of our network by discussing the “Anniversary Questions” and starting the creation of the SPICE Art Ball added much to network development – to a better understanding of business incubation development in different countries as well as to analyzing the needs, potential, and limitations of international cooperation. Both processes are not yet finished and will be carried over to coming events.

For the year 2007 the agenda already is packed again with projects and events. Besides continuing the careful growth of the network it is our aim to contribute to maintaining and raising the quality standards for business incubation services and providing support to individual incubation programs – existing as well as newly established initiatives. Meeting the challenges will need the active engagement and participation of all network members.

The year 2006 in the SPICE Network

As in earlier years we provide a short summary of activities within the SPICE Group network during the last year. Of course, we cannot list all activities and projects, but only provide a very general overview. On the SPICE Group website (www.spice-group.net) you can find more details about this information:

- SPICE Group members actively took part in a large number of events including those with **SPICE Meetings held in 8 countries** (China, Denmark, India, Lithuania, Morocco, Poland, Russia, and USA).
- SPICE Group (co-)organized 125 events in 30 countries since the network was established in Berlin in 1991
- SPICE Group contributed to preparing and organizing two **Summits of the Global Business Incubation Network** (St. Louis, USA and Hyderabad, India) and thereby helped developing this joint activity of the leading business incubation associations.
- The developing **SPICE Art Ball** was presented in five countries on three continents. Works continue to finish this art work for presentation during this year.
- **SPICE Update** with **8 issues** (48 pages of reports) provided information about business incubation activities in 31 countries (Armenia, Bahrain, Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Fiji, France, Germany, Guatemala, India, Iran, Ireland, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Moldova, Nepal, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan)
- **BASTIC**, the business incubation and technology park network of the Baltic States Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania celebrated its **10th Anniversary**
- A topic important especially for the future of the network was put again on the agenda: **Youth and Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship**. Discussion began at the Poznan (Poland) Workshop in October 2006 and will be continued at coming events and SPICE meetings.
- For members actual issues of **SPICE Update** now also are available by download in PDF format from the PUMBAA pages (older issues will be added later).
- The **SPICE Group website** provides articles from SPICE Update for a wider audience. The latest news can be found under „Actual information“ (www.spice-group.de/actual/) and all articles are stored in a searchable archive.
- New countries, associations, incubators, and technoparks have been added to the only global information system on this topic: **SPICA Directory Online** (www.spica-directory.net) now presenting information from **84 countries**.
- Last not least: SPICE Group was represented by **members in 40 countries** at the end of the year 2006

Here is not enough space for listing projects SPICE members worked on in their countries as well as internationally. All in all 2006 was not bad year for the development of the SPICE Group network – but there is much left to be done during the months to come.

The SPICE Art Ball 2006

SPICE Art Ball in St. Louis



SPICE Art Ball in Shanghai



SPICE Art Ball in Vilnius



SPICE Art Ball in Poznan





SPICE Art Ball 2006 What comes next?

The process of creating “national triangles” for the SPICE Art Ball needs more time than initially expected. But continuously more and more of the “white triangles” are replaced by pieces of art work. These pictures tell stories about history, politics, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the countries represented. On the special Art Ball website (http://www.art-ball.net/spice_art_ball.php) the actual situation and the development process can be seen. Possibly the triangles already finished can inspire those who did not yet paint...

SPICE Art Ball in Poznan



Where will the SPICE Art Ball roll to next?

This question is not yet decided and – more importantly the time and place for the final Grand Presentation has not yet been chosen. Wherever the ball appeared it triggered interest and curiosity, helped making new contacts, and initiated discussion about different views on (business) incubation. If you want to have this piece of Art at your next conference or workshop or would like to host the final presentation, please contact the SPICE Secretariat.



Developing Countries Incubators – Exciting Case Studies

InfoDev (www.infodev.org) since a few years is supporting the establishment and development of business incubators in developing countries. Meanwhile 66 grantees in 47 countries are participating. To support the exchange of information, experience, and know-how infoDev is supporting five regional networks of incubators – open not only for grantees, but also for other interested incubators and their stakeholders. These networks began activities for following regions. Africa, Asia, Easter Europe/Central Asia, Latin America, and Middle East/North Africa. More information and contacts are available from the website <http://idisc.infodev.org/en/index.html>. There you also find information about the “Global Forum on Business Incubation held in Hyderabad, India, last November (<http://www.infodev.org/globalforum2006>).



Incubator case Study Videos from infoDev’s website

Very impressive, helpful, and interesting is a **video case study** of four infoDev-supported business incubators in Brazil, Ghana, India and Vietnam. This material is available as a 50-minutes video as well as in shorter versions as 10-minutes videos about the individual projects and in two-minutes clips. These case studies allow impressions of the projects you cannot get from reading the printed material. If you would like to receive updates about infoDev’s work on innovation and entrepreneurship, including business incubation, please register online to receive the monthly e-newsletter: <http://www.infodev.org>
 Contact: Seth Ayers, email sayers@worldbank.org and Ellen Olafsen, email: EOlafsen@worldbank.org

Network Evaluation and Perspectives - the SPICE Group 15th Anniversary Report:

- Countries already in the Anniversary Report
- Armenia, Belarus**
- Croatia, Estonia**
- France, Greece**
- Ireland, Korea,**
- Lithuania**
- New Zealand**
- Romania, Tajikistan**
- Ukraine, Vietnam**

SPICE Members and friends sent answers to the SPICE Anniversary Questions to provide a general evaluation of networking during the last decade and for describing the potential for future action. The replies are being summarized under the lead of **Barbara Harley** and discussion will be continued at coming SPICE meetings. This process will lead to a “**15th SPICE Anniversary Report**” containing brief abstracts describing the development of business incubation in different countries (reports available are listed in the box). Other parts of the report will deal with an introduction to SPICE, the Anniversary Activities (Workshops and SPICE Art Ball), and a summary of answers regarding networking experience and perspectives.

If your country is not yet listed in the box please send us your reply to the Anniversary questions as soon as possible. Attached please find another copy of the set of questions to be answered. We aim at getting a draft report ready soon and your country should not be missing in this report on development of business incubation globally.
 Please send comments or questions to the SPICE Secretariat at spice@spice-group.net

Important: Prepare the 15th Global Summit of Business Incubation Associations in Seattle, USA

Hosted by NBIA, National Business Incubation Association, USA, the 15th Global Summit will be held April 1, 2007 in Seattle, USA. Members of the GBIN, Global Business Incubation Network, (see www.spice-group.net/gnbi) are not only invited to attend the Summit but also to make suggestions for the agenda. Based on the Agreements of the Hyderabad Summit following preparation should be done by all GBIN members – no matter if they can attend the Summit in Seattle or not:

- Actualize the **statistical base data** describing the situation of business incubation in their country
- Prepare a short document describing the **role of government** in supporting entrepreneurship and business incubation in their country

These two topics already are on the Summit agenda because of their importance for business incubation world-wide.

President of Germany visits PHOENIX Business Incubator

The President of the Federal Republic of Germany, **Horst Köhler**, together with his wife and the mayor of the District Berlin-Reinickendorf, Mrs. **Marlies Wanjura** visited the PHOENIX Business Incubator in Berlin December 12, 2006. The photo shows the President with **Rolf Friedrichsdorf**, Managing Director of the incubator and his assistant, Mrs. Petra Blum (<http://www.phoenix-gruenderzentrum.de/>).

The President first took a look for the historical “Borsig Tower” remaining from the former locomotive building company Borsig and today the best place to overlook all the area of the business incubator / technopark as well as the city. After visiting the company O&O Software GmbH in the PHÖNIX incubator the President took time for talking in detail with five successful entrepreneurs in the incubator.



Reciprocal International Incubation Services

Business incubators show growing interest in facilitating client company access to new markets in other countries. Assistance for client companies entering other countries requires more skills and extra services; however, the extra efforts can be well worth it in fulfilling the mission of the incubators. Reciprocal agreements between incubators in different countries is one proven way for getting access to the necessary know-how and for providing the needed services. **Barbara Harley**, Vice President of SPICE Group, summarized her observations from working internationally in a short paper describing some of the possibilities for such services. This includes the following options for two incubators or a group of incubators in a network:

Network Desk - A desk (probably including other services such as Internet access, copying, conference rooms) is made available to clients of network member incubators for short stays. Members of the Network agree to maintain a desk that can be scheduled on an „as available“ basis. **Test-the-Market Office and Services** - This opportunity includes a full-service office where a client of a member incubator can stay for 2-6 months to receive guidance in identifying potential customers, and receive significant coaching on holding meetings with customers and potential investors. **Co-Incubation** - Two Incubators agree to provide full incubation services to an individual company at different times in its development. Co-incubation is most often created to take advantage of unique trade and technology opportunities at one of the two locations. **International Incubator Section** - Some incubators prepare a separate area and develop additional services to attract companies from one or more other countries. **Pre-Arrival Market Studies** are one of the most useful services for companies arriving in a new country and market providing specific and reliable research to identify trends, customers, product demand, competition, and pricing structures. Preparing and offering such reciprocal services require attention to many details, especially confidentiality which is an absolute requirement of all the incubator staff, including consultants and the client company staff.

Barbara’s paper also discusses additional types of International Incubator Programs, e.g. an **International Business Incubator Building** - a completely separate international trade center/incubator to attract a large numbers of companies from multiple countries; and **Incubators Abroad** - the initiative of central governments to ensure an extensive support program for an industry cluster of companies in an essential foreign market.

Contact. Barbara Harley, email: Blharley@aol.com

Sail Away

Some members already know – for others it might be new: SPICE Boy **Franz Dietrich** changed his working place from an office in Munich (he was not there often anyhow because of his work in many countries) to a manoeuvrable facility: a sailing boat.

His 13 m long Catamaran offers the luxury of a spacious apartment combined with the option to move (with the needed wind) to places more sunny (or closer to work). For his actual work assignment (see report under “Facts & Views”), however, Franz decided to use



Miss Goodnight



...a place to live



more traditional transportation. He took a flight to Maldives where he now works building up business incubators.

The best comes last: Franz does not only enjoy his “mobile home” alone, he invites SPICE members to join him for a cruise on “Miss Goodnight”. This 13 m yacht – besides the room for the owner – offers two cabins with bathroom and “terrace”. A preliminary tour plan for this year already is ready: April: Cypads, June: Eastern Peloponnesus, July: Ionian Islands &

Sicily, August: Sardinia, Mallorca, Menorca & Ibiza, September: Morocco & Canary Islands. Wouldn’t it be great to join? For further details and conditions, please contact SPICE Group secretariat (it may be difficult to reach Franz directly although his regular email address works: franz-dietrich@web.de).



Views & Facts

Cyprus *High Technology and Business Incubators*

The Government of Cyprus sees technology as one of the most fundamental parameters for enhancing the productivity and economic growth of a country and therefore continues intensively its efforts for the transformation of Cyprus into a Regional Hub for Research thus taking advantage of its strategic geographical place, its accession to the European Union and its scientifically well qualified professionals. The Government policy for the achievement of this target is promoted with various initiatives which are focused on the following three areas:

1. The establishment of research centres which constitutes an essential prerequisite for the production of knowledge and innovative ideas. The Cyprus International Institute for the Environment and Public Health and The Cyprus Research and Educational Foundation (Cyprus Institute) already has been established.
2. The creation of New Enterprises of High Technology and Innovation, which enhance the potential for the production of products with high value added in knowledge and know-how and the demand of which is sensitive with regards to their quality and innovation. The promotion of the creation of these enterprises is supported by four business incubators.
3. The establishment of the Science Technology Park in Cyprus which will constitute the infrastructure nucleus for the development of research and the area which will host the future research centres, the business incubators and the spin-off innovative enterprises.

The Technology-Incubating Program is an innovative system designed to assist entrepreneurs and inventors in the development of new technology-based companies. It seeks to effectively link talent, technology, capital and know-how in order to accelerate the development of new companies thus speeding up the commercialization of technology. Within the framework of the Program four business incubators have successfully started their operation and already thirty five teams of inventors are involved with the Program in subjects such as Biomedical Engineering, Biotechnology, Electronics, Fluid Dynamics, Telecommunications, and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

For more information, please contact: Pantelis Panteli, email: ppanteli@mcit.gov.cy

Germany *International Awards for German Incubators*

At the conference "Best Practices in Science Based Incubators" organized by Science Alliance in Copenhagen in December 2006 with ca. 50 incubators from 22 countries participating in the competition. German incubators won awards in different categories:

The "Technologie- und Gründerzentrum Bautzen" received the award "Return on Investment"

The "Technologie- und Gründerzentrum Oldenburg" was awarded "most promising new incubator".

The TechnologieZentrumDortmund was named as an excellent example for successful work.

Info: www.science-alliance.nl/english/meetings.htm

Jordan *Dream, Aim, Reach and Target*

Established in 1991, the Princess Sumaya University for Technology (PSUT) is a specialized non-profit Jordanian university. In 2003, PSUT embarked on a vigorous development & expansion plan. An integral part of the plan was to establish an Entrepreneurship Center. The idea was to name the Center after a prominent Arab dignitary known for his/her distinguished role in developing entrepreneurship. Work towards launching the Queen Rania Center for Entrepreneurship (QRCE) started in October 2004. The center is set up to be the regions' corner stone for technology commercialization and entrepreneurship development. The QRCE targets university students, researchers, innovators, entrepreneurs and others. According to PSUT's development plan.

Current Programs of QRCE are:

The **Technology Commercialization Program** is a national program initiated by PSUT, the Royal Scientific Society, the Higher Council for Science and Technology, and several key organization and companies from the private and public sectors. It aims at increasing the awareness of researchers and innovators about the economical value of their intellectual assets.

The program is supervised by a group of specialists from Jordan and the region representing both the private and public sectors. The program also created the Innovation & Intellectual Property Forum of Jordan (I²FJ) that brings together institutions concerned with fostering innovation and commercializing technology (www.tcpjordan.com).

QRNEC - The **Queen Rania National Entrepreneurship Competition (QRNEC)** provides a platform to increase the interest of Jordanian university students in designing a path to achieve their dreams. The competition strives to advocate entrepreneurial skills as students coalesce their university knowledge with their resources along with their competitive drive to create a business plan that is both practical and innovative (www.qr nec.com).

CONNECT Jordan is an organization that links entrepreneurs to the financial, technical and business development resources they need to create and develop high-growth technology companies in Jordan. By organizing activities and offering advice, CONNECT Jordan supports and improves the opportunities for entrepreneurs and start-ups. An expert panel helps entrepreneurs solve problems and identify opportunities, and gives practical advice on what action entrepreneurs should take to exploit these opportunities. "Springboards" are intended primarily to serve newly started companies, but can also help more mature companies to make progress (www.connectjordan.com). **DART**, founded in September 2004, is the student's entrepreneurship society at PSUT's campus. The DART name is an acronym for: Dream, Aim, Reach and Target. DART students work to bridge the gap between the academic and the business world. DART focuses on promoting the entrepreneurial spirit amongst PSUT students as a style of life. In the ICT-oriented youth society the increasing demand for highly competent graduates makes causes a pressing need to be innovative and aware of the ever evolving labor market (www.dartjordan.com).

With the increasing demand and the current limitations of space, the need to expand has never been greater. PSUT envisions placing the center as the major hub for entrepreneurial activities in the field of technology in Jordan and in the region. The future center will be "eco-friendly". Careful consideration will be placed on choosing construction materials that are "green" and environment friendly. The new center will be composed of several administrations. The important areas of service include: business incubation, training, consulting, and event management. The incubation area will host and service start-up businesses. The center has developed a training program that shape an entrepreneurs character and skills. The counseling division will host the QRNEC mentorship network as well as CONNECT Jordan's springboards. Lastly, the center will host several events associated with its current components: CONNECT Jordan, TCP Jordan, and QRNEC's University campaigns.

Contact: Mohammad Asfour , email: masfour@psut.edu.jo

Czech Republic *Dynamic Development of BIC Pilsen*

Jana Klementova

The Business Incubator and Technology Centre Pilsen in the Borsk pole industrial zone was fully occupied for most of 2006. During the year, part of the premises was vacated by companies that had expanded and relocated outside the Business Incubator. Six new businesses expressed an interest in locating to the vacated spaces. At the end of 2006, at BIC Pilsen's premises were being used by 20 companies operating mostly in IT development of measurement and testing equipment and similar technology fields. For improving operating conditions and making the premises more attractive for clients the "Morseova 5" building was completely reconstructed during the second half of 2006. This former military barrack was converted to an incubator more than ten years ago - at that time with very limited resources for renovation. Now renovation of the exterior included repairing the roof, redesigning the façade, replacing the windows and the main entrance, and improving the interior of the building. But the main attractions of the incubator remain the services client companies may use. The extensive experience of the incubator with international cooperation plays an important role.



BIC Pilsen's work in this area is compliant with the requirements for gaining accreditation from the Science and Technology Parks Association of the Czech Republic. BIC Pilsen was awarded this accreditation in June 2006. At present, most new clients of the Business Incubator are entrepreneurs starting up businesses as former employees of larger companies, or newly established small subsidiaries of foreign corporations. Graduates of the University of West Bohemia are well represented among these new entrepreneurs and specialists. But BIC Pilsen also endeavors to promote entrepreneurial thinking among students and to motivate them. A new activity in 2006 therefore was developing a new study program. A new building is under construction – the positive development continues.

Contact: **Jana Klementova**, Managing Director of BIC Pilsen, Email: Klement@bic.cz

Bulgaria *Forum for Young Leaders*

Rositza Djambazova

December 21, 2006, just 10 days before full membership of Bulgaria in EU, the Business Incubator Gotse Delchev organized a Forum on "Local Capacity Development for effective utilization of EU Structural Funds" under the PHARE Cross-border co-operation project. 50 representatives of municipalities in the Gotse Delchev region, local businesses, educational institutions, Employment Agency, NGOs and media participated in the forum.

20 young people presented their 8 proposals to demonstrate their ideas for the future in the region and the knowledge and skills have obtained from one-year training in the Business Incubator-Gotse Delchev. The proposals aim to resolve local community's problems or use opportunities for development. Projects are infrastructural such as a regional airport, diversification of agricultural sector and forestry, human resources development in the tourism sector and providing social services for disadvantaged children and encouraging children creativity by involving them in theatre and art activities.

A 50-page report on Greek good practice in project development and management, examples of successful projects and obstacles for Greece in the EU, prepared by 3 trainees during their training in Drama, was disseminated among the participants. This paper was discussed for better understanding challenges and opportunities for Bulgaria. To achieve economic growth and competitiveness the critical factor are competent and motivated human resources at local, regional and national levels.

Closing part of the forum was the rewarding ceremony for the successful trainees. They have improved their computer literacy and presentation skills, their knowledge in business communications, marketing, management and finance, project development, cooperation and partnership development and successfully passed all the exams. Now they are better prepared to develop good projects and adapt foreign practices in local communities.

Contact: Rositza Djambazova, email: bi-gd@gocenet.net

Maldives *Business Incubation, Beaches, and Palm Trees*

In last SPICE Update we reported on business incubation activities on Fiji Islands – SPICE Boy **Julian Webb** reported on his work in this environment known in many places around the world as a great place for vacation. Now another place of this kind is on the global business incubation list: Maldives. **Franz Dietrich**, SPICE Boy from Munich, Germany (or maybe now better to say from any place where the wind brings "Miss Goodnight" – see report on page 3), just began working on a project on these almost 1,200 coral islands forming an archipelago of 26 major atolls. From north to south these atolls stretch 820 kilometers – east to west 120 kilometers. Only about 200 of the island are inhabited and almost 90 are exclusive resort islands. Located west of South India, on the equator, Maldives offer sunshine all year through with an average temperature around 29 - 32 degrees Celsius. Not a bad place to work.

The Maldives has been a melting pot of different cultures. People from many parts of the world came here and settled down - the first settlers came some 3,000 years ago. Some of the local music resembles African influences; with songs in a language that is not known to any but certainly represents that of East African countries. Today Dhivehi is the language spoken in all the Maldives but possibly for visitors it is easier to rely on English that is widely spoken by Maldivians. There is a great South Asian influence too especially in the traditional food. Economy of the Maldives for the past two decades has been growing at an annual average of 10%. No surprise that tourism is the main industry, contributing close to 20% of the GDP. Fisheries and trade follow close behind. The Maldivian welcome foreign investment.



Maldives – a place for business incubation

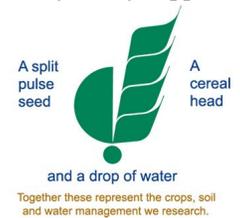
This is the environment for the project **Franz Dietrich** will be working on: Developing the basis for an ICT Incubator and a strategy for supporting ICT companies on the Maldives.

Contact: Franz Dietrich, email: franz-dietrich@web.de

India *Incubation in Agriculture Sciences*

ICRISAT, the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT, <http://www.icrisat.org/>) is a non-profit, apolitical, international organization that is devoted to science-based agricultural development. It is one of the 15 Future Harvest Centers of Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. ICRISAT works mainly on agricultural research envisaged the AgriBusiness Incubator in partnership with Department of Science and Technology to facilitate entrepreneurs through agricultural research. Participants of the infoDev” Second Global Forum on Business Incubation”, held in November 2006 in Hyderabad, could get a personal impression of this research institute by attending a visiting program and one of the conference receptions. Arriving on this campus visitors have the impression of a huge and well maintained beautiful garden. ICRISAT is not only doing important research, but also hosts a business incubator.

The Agri-Business Incubator (ABI) is a place where the process of starting Agri-Business ventures are catalyzed by supporting the entrepreneurs with Agriculture Technology, Business Consultancy, Networking with Management Experts, Venture Capital Funding, and Infrastructures and Facilities. The incubator maximizes success of the venture by offering the best opportunity with a minimum risk. ABI is an initiative of ICRISAT in partnership with Department of Science and Technology (DST, Government of India). Incubator tenants, for example, produce biological seed, distill ethanol production from sweet sorghum, market fermentation technology, produce biopesticides and PCR reagents, or provide consultancy in agriculture related disciplines.



ICRISAT also hosts this year’s conference of ISBA, the Indian Science Parks and Business Incubator Association (see information on page 6 of this Update) – certainly a good opportunity for visiting the business incubator and its client companies.

Contact: Dr. K K. Sharma, email: k.sharma@cgiar.org website: <http://www.abiicrisat.org/default.htm>

International *USD 1 billion in funding for community-based technology and learning centers*

Non-profit organizations are welcome to submit proposals for Microsoft’s giving programs if they meet our general eligibility criteria and giving guidelines. Microsoft will contribute more than \$1 billion in funding to its new global initiative Unlimited Potential (UP) over the next five years. UP focuses on providing technology skills for disadvantaged individuals through community-based technology and learning centers.

Info: www.microsoft.com/mscorp/citizenship/giving/apply/guidelines.asp

To find the contact office in your region: <http://www.microsoft.com/worldwide/>

For example: **Jordan**, Microsoft Jordan, Astra Building, 5th Floor, In front of the Radisson SAS Hotel, PO BOX 3321, Amman, Phone: 96264626969, Fax: 96264637686. **Morocco**, Microsoft Afrique du Nord, Twin Center, Tour A - 15ème étage, Bd Zerkoutouni, 20100 Casablanca Maroc, Phone: (212) 22 95 61 50. Fax: (212) 22 95 85 85. **Middle East**: Microsoft Gulf FZ LLC, Dubai Internet City – Bdlg No 8, Sheikh Zayed Road, Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Phone: +9714 391 7000, Fax: +9714 391 7001. **Latin America**: Latin American Headquarters, 6750 North Andrews Avenue, Suite 400, Fort Lauderdale, USA, Phone: (+1) (954) 489-4800, Fax: (+1) (954) 491-1616

International *A Good Example*

NBIA has taken initiative for making conference participation possible for new attendees. It all began with a Silent Auction at the NBIA St. Louis conference in 2006. Through this auction donations from different sources were sold for generating a fund for conference scholarships. Thanks to the generosity of those who participated in this auction NBIA will be awarding **five \$500 scholarships** for the 21st International Conference on Business Incubation. The scholarships are intended to make it possible for five association members to attend the conference for the first time. A panel of NBIA members will review the applications and select the five scholarship recipients. Preference will be given to applicants who are directly involved with or responsible for an operating/developing business incubation program. Deadline for applications already is over. However, this example for supporting “newcomers” is worth being reported about – as a good example for other associations.

International *Information Source*

The International Association of Science Parks has a new web site. For those who want to know more about science parks all around the globe it is worth to have a look at www.iasp.ws. This website provides lots of valuable knowledge, facts and figures, statistics, news, definitions, publications, conference announcements and information and links to hundreds of Science Parks all across the world. Contact: Ebba Lund, Services Manager, IASP, Email: lund@iasp.ws

International *World Bank reports on Business Incubation*

World Bank is featuring a story about infoDev's Business Incubator Initiative on its homepage: <http://www.worldbank.org> (click on "Topic in Focus"). This story will be available on the World Bank's homepage only for a few days, But it can also be found on infoDev's homepage: <http://www.infodev.org>

With the success of the 2nd Global Forum held in India last November, and the impact that each of the infoDev grantees (as well as other business incubators) are having in their communities, awareness of business incubation as a tool for supporting innovation and entrepreneurship is growing. The story on the World bank page highlights the important work incubators (in developing Countries) are doing. Therefore it is important material to share with colleagues and key stakeholders.

International *Resolutions*

Resolutions can be an important tool for informing about activities on one hand and for making the "rest of the World" aware of the achievements and needs of business incubation initiatives. Therefore we provide information where to find important resolutions related with business incubation.

- The Resolution of the "Second Global Forum on Business Incubation", Hyderabad, India, November 5 -10, 2006 can be found on the infoDev website: <http://infodev.org/en/Article.79.html>
- The Resolution of the 14th Global Summit of Business Incubation Associations, Hyderabad, India, November 10, 2006 is available on the website <http://www.spice-group.de/summit/earlier/> There also other Resolutions of the Global Summit can be found.

Especially for members

ISBA, the Indian Science Park and Business Incubation Assopciation will hold its Annual Conference "ISBA 2007", February 25 – 27, 2007 at ICRISAT, Hyderabad. For more information about ICRISAT, please see article on page 6 of this Update.

SPICE members are invited to this event and offered a **50% discount on the registration fee**. All the details regarding the conference are available at www.isba2007.org. Although the time is short, ISBA hopes that members of the SPICE Group network can attend the conference..

Contact Raghunandan Rajamani, Chief Executive of ISBA, email: ce@jssstenoidea.org

**Special Offer
for
SPICE
Group
Members**

About members



Congratulations !

Beginning of this year Pavel Komarek was appointed Vice Minister of Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports with the responsibility for research and higher education.

Pavel joined the SPICE Group network many years ago when he was Managing Director of the BIC C.T.U. in Prague and at the same time Board member of the Czech Science and Technology Park Association (SSTP).

For the members of SPICE Group we congratulate Pavel Komarek and wish that especially experience from his innovation based activities will help him meeting the challenges of his new and high responsibility.

Contact: pavel.komarek@msmt.cz

New members



Dinyar Lalkaka

of Business & Technology Development Strategies LLC of New York, is a consultant in the field of small enterprise promotion and environmentally sustainable development. He has worked on about twenty incubation projects worldwide over the last nine years. Prior to becoming a consultant, Dinyar spent a decade in marketing and consulting positions in the private sector. He holds a Master of International Affairs degree from Columbia University, an M.A. in demography from Brown University, a Graduate Diploma in economics from Peking University and a Bachelor's degree in economics from Clark University. In his spare time, he keeps fish and reads history and literature.

Contact: dlalkaka@btds.biz

And finally...

This first Update of 2007 reminds on "left-overs" from the Anniversary year. Those members & friends who did not yet create a "national triangle" for the SPICE Art Ball should do this soon. And who did not yet comment on the "Anniversary Questions" is asked to send the reply better today than tomorrow. We encourage all members and friends to use these opportunities for presenting their country and business incubation experience and thereby contribute to further strengthen global cooperation.

With best regards from the SPICE offices in Berlin and Poznan

Heinz Fiedler & Larisa Brovarska