



# UPDATE No. 80

For members only

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Dear Member and Reader,  
 Here is the summer issue of SPICE Update – with a photo of the SPICE Art Ball in the Macedonian sunshine. The conference season of the first half of the year 2008 is over and it is time for having a look at recent events – and for preparing for the next meetings to come. And there are many of them. A selection you find in this Update and on the SPICE Group events website.

A truly important “first time ever” is the **Global Business Incubation Day** organized by UK Business Incubation that will be celebrated December 8, 2008. As an invitation to participate we provide the necessary information in this newsletter. Hopefully many incubators and associations from all around the world will contribute to this event and make it an important experience. It will help making the aims and successes of business incubators known better.

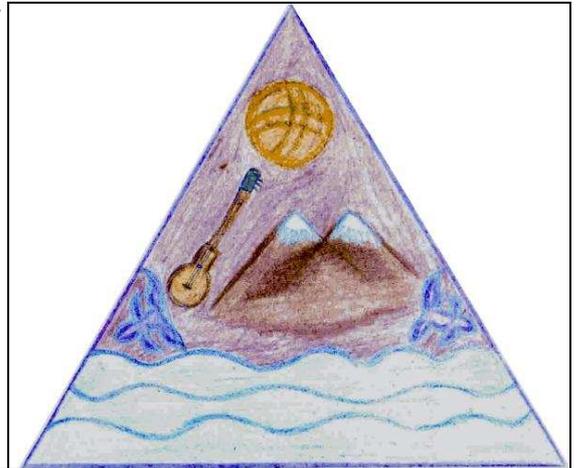
**Next opportunity for seeing and touching the real SPICE Art Ball**



In May the SPICE Art Ball visited **Macedonia** and this is the first country where the ball was exhibited in two cities in a row. In the Capital **Skopje** and in the historical city **Ohrid**. The photo shows the team of the host **Radmil Polenakovik** showing the ball on a terrace overlooking the Ohrid lake.

The International Conference for **Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Regional Development** offered the opportunity for these presentations. At this event the **135<sup>th</sup> SPICE Meeting** was held discussing the two main topics “National Innovation Policies” and “Start-up Financing”. The presentation of the SPICE Art Ball included the first time display of the new triangle created by **Kyrgyzstan**. A leaflet describing the idea of the art ball was distributed at this event.

In this issue of SPICE Update we report on the conference and the art ball presentation (see page 1 and 2). For more information about the art ball and how your country can be presented too, please visit the art ball website [www.art.ball.net](http://www.art.ball.net)



The next opportunities for seeing the SPICE Art Ball presented offer an opportunity for presenting the ball in Berlin, Germany are the **BALTIC Dynamic Conference 2008** to be held in Tartu, (see page 11) and additionally the art ball may travel to the Estonia, in September this year (see page 11 of this Update). United Kingdom for The Annual conference of UK Business The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary conference of the German ADT could Incubation (see page 8 of this Update) in Bristol, UK.

**December 08, 2008:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Global Business Incubation Day**

More information: [www.globalbusinessincubationday.org](http://www.globalbusinessincubationday.org)

Contact: Toni Wanklin: [t.wanklin@ukbi.co.uk](mailto:t.wanklin@ukbi.co.uk)



## First International Conference for Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Regional Development ICEIRD

More than 180 participants from 24 countries attended the first International Conference for Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Regional Development ICEIRD held in Skopje and Ohrid, Macedonia, May 8-11, 2008. The University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" Business Start-up Centre in Skopje organized this event together with CITY College (affiliated institution of University of Sheffield) Computer Science Department, Thessaloniki, Greece organized the ICEIRD 2008 in conjunction with the EU Day of the Entrepreneur, the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting SENSE

Network of Start-ups and Incubators), and the 135<sup>th</sup> SPICE (Science Park and Innovation Centre Experts) meeting. The objective of the Conference was to gather decision makers (government, ministries and state agencies), scientists (universities, research and development centers, start-up centers and incubators) and practitioners (SME's) in order to discuss topics that are of crucial importance for national competitiveness and increased regional development in the South East Europe. The conference proceedings (ISBN 978-9989-2636-4-4) contain 85 papers from 120 authors. The next ICEIRD conferences are already scheduled for: ICEIRD 2009 – Thessalonica, Greece (organized by CITY College, an affiliated institution of University of Sheffield) and ICEIRD 2010 – Novi Sad, Serbia (organized by Faculty of Technical Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia).

For further information, please contact Radmil Polenakovik, [radepole@mf.edu.mk](mailto:radepole@mf.edu.mk) or visit website : [www.iceird.org](http://www.iceird.org)



R. Polenakovik & Start-Up Center Team



Pre-conference workshop



Ohrid: When SENSE met ECA & SPICE



Ohrid: conference & workshops



## The SPICE Art Ball in Macedonia

With the presentations in Skopje and Ohrid, Macedonia the SPICE Art Ball visited the seventh country. The ball has been displayed in North America, Asia, Caribbean, and Eastern Europe already before coming to Macedonia. But at every presentation more colourful triangles are replacing white spots on the ball. In Macedonia the ball was assembled at the ICEIRD 2008 conference in Skopje, shown in the conference reception area, than was rolled through the hotel lobby of the conference and was presented in front of the hotel's main entrance.

After being disassembled the ball travelled to Ohrid where the conference continued with the meetings of SENSE, the South-East European Network of incubators with guests representing the infoDev ECA network. The team of SPICE Boy **Radmil Polenakovik**, the host of the events in Skopje and Ohrid, did most of the assembling work. Having been mostly spectators of the assembling process in Skopje now



the students took over – and used the time of the assembling for discussing with SPICE Group members and conference attendees what the triangles are symbolizing, what role innovation and entrepreneurship promoting have for developing the national economy, or what professional perspectives their education will offer. Team work for building the ball and at the same time developing ideas for cooperation.

The Spice Art Ball now shows triangles from 33 countries. Further draft painting computer and graphics are for the time being covering the remaining “white spots – until final pieces of artwork are delivered. One challenge remains: artist creativity is needed for the remaining squares. Too large for just a single country, but the optimal space for a network. For more, please visit [http://www.art-ball.net/keep\\_rolling.php](http://www.art-ball.net/keep_rolling.php)

### **The 135<sup>th</sup> SPICE Meeting in Ohrid, Macedonia**

The 135<sup>th</sup> SPICE Meeting was held in the sunshine on a terrace overlooking the Ohrid lake. The beautiful, sunny environment however did not distract attention for the presentations on topics important for the development of business incubation: **Jana Machacova** informed about a research on “national Innovation Policies in the West Balkans” (see article on this page), **Stefan Schandera** provide information about the process of drafting a national innovation policy for Georgia, and **Constantin Thiopoulos** informed about his

experience with providing Seed and Venture Capital to start-up businesses. All three presentations were intensively discussed with the participants – an indication for the interest incubation professionals have in this topic. This SPICE event offered a



very special opportunity: A meeting with **Sergey Milosevski**, one of the fathers of the ICECE /SPICE network. He attended the first meeting of this network in November 1991 in Berlin and strongly supported the network development in following years. At that time working in the Ministry of Science and

Technology **Sergey** was the pioneer of business incubation in Macedonia – and it needed a long time until incubators in this country became what they are now. By the way: members find these an more pictures on the SPICE Group website / PUMBAA section

### **Innovation Infrastructure in the Western Balkan Countries**

by Jana Machacova

*With this summary provided by Jana Machacova we want to inform those who could not attend the SPICE Meeting in Ohrid, Macedonia about some key findings of the study on “Innovation Infrastructure in the Western Balkan Countries”*

The publication contains 6 thematic reports providing an overview on the situation regarding “Innovation Infrastructures” such as **clusters, technology and innovation centres, technological and science parks, business-start-up centres/ technology incubators** and other related organizations in: **Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia** (incl. Kosovo/UNMIK).

The publication was issued in October 2007, but due to the positive feedback from the region, information was further examined and published in an extended version (April 2008). The publication (299 pages) serves as a contact database for networking in the region and contains more than 150 contacts of the innovation initiatives in the Western Balkan Countries.

Besides the mapping, common recommendations for governments and for key stakeholders reflecting the observed situation in the target countries, are an inseparable part of the thematic reports and can be summarized as follows:

- **Formulate a clear strategy** with a comprehensive strategic vision supporting innovation infrastructures. For example Bosnia and Herzegovina lacks a SME strategy and there is no fully operational national agency (or the equivalent), which would have full political support across the country.

**Enhance involvement of business organisations** in the policy creation and improve understanding of innovation process by policy makers and key players..

- **Strengthen communication** and promote effective two-way dialogue between the government, local authorities and private sector. The relationships between various units of the ministries and responsible agencies should be strengthened and effective networking among key players ensured
- **Create policies and instruments** to facilitate innovation development and offer more **support programmes** for innovation infrastructures. E.g. Albania, FYROM and Montenegro need to implement technology and science parks, strategy for business incubators is still missing in Macedonia.
- **Improve the coordination of programs** supported by donors and support more effectively areas outside the Capitals
- **Support** systematically staff capacities of the institutions dealing with innovation and offer continuous training and other capacity building activities.- Assure increased support for research and analyses and strengthen linkages between private industry and science communities.
- **Enhance interaction** between WBC and EU countries and empower information exchange.
- **Monitor and evaluate** regularly performance and impact of the structures on the SMEs development.
- **Provide accurate and up to date information** about the operation of incubators, parks and centres (improve information dissemination - enhanced usage of internet).

(continued from page 3)

The key stakeholder in the region should take into account that one of the pre-requisites for a well functioning innovation system is the **provision of adequate and sustainable financial resources to created structures.**

In general, it can be concluded that Croatia and Serbia are being most advanced in policy development and implementation

in the region and all Western Balkan Countries are dependent on donor support for creating the needed infrastructures and further capacity building in government, academia and industry.

The actual version of the detailed recommendations' listing be downloaded at: <http://www.wbc-inco.net/doc/2331.html> (Registration is free of charge).

Contact: Jana Machacova, Email: [machacova@zsi.at](mailto:machacova@zsi.at)

### 6<sup>th</sup> MENAinc Workshop held in Damascus, Syria

The ICT Incubator of the Syrian Computer Society hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> MENAinc Workshop in Damascus, Syria in early June 2008. This event was attended by more than 200 participants from 11 countries.

H.E Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mr. Abdullah Dardari did not only open the conference, but also moderated one of the sessions and thereby showed the high importance the Syrian Government is giving to innovation and entrepreneurship support as a basis for future development of economy and society. Syria enjoys a wide variety of NGOs active in all fields of business incubation (from rural and women incubation to high tech university related incubators) as well as in youth empowerment and minority issues.

The second conference day in the Rida Said Conference Center, Damascus University offered an opportunity for intensive discussion in work groups. These sessions were focused on university based entrepreneurship, technology commercialization, incubators and venture capital, national incubator networks, and cross network cooperation. Reports are available on the website <http://idisc.infodev.org/en/Region.5.html>

After the results of the conference had been summarized by Dr. Rakan Razouk, Syrian Computer Society and Ellen Olafsen, infoDev, the Syrian NGO's announced to strengthen cooperation by establishing a Syrian Network of organizations in entrepreneurship and innovation promotion.

More information: <http://idisc.infodev.org/en/Region.5.html>



Opening: A. Dardari Interview with the host, Rima Shaban E. Cubeisy, Ellen Olafsen, Omer Oz W. Rabadi, A. Dardari O. Oz, L. Zaghلامي



Conference. lunch... dinner... ..and plenary session second day



Work group sessions... ..and Board meeting



### **Incubator Statistics - from the infoDev network (June 2008)**

End of June 2008 in the MENA region (Middle East/North Africa) 11 incubators were hosting 374 firms and serving further 95 clients off-site. In the year 2007 55 companies graduated from these incubators – in total 105 since incubators are active in the region. In the infoDev Global network now 150 incubators in 69 countries are listed. From these incubators last year 1,199 companies graduated bringing the total of graduated firms up to 4,209. In these incubators 4,651 companies were working in 2007 and further 2,473 off-site client firms were served although not being on-site. This and more information and insight you can get from infoDev website ( iDISC): <http://idisc.infodev.org/en/index.html>

### **ADT Spring Conference: Education Institutions – Sources of new Enterprises**

The ADT Spring Conference was held in April 2008 the “Technologiefabrik Karlsruhe”, one of the oldest and most successful business incubators in Germany. One of the main topics of the event was the question how to secure the “deal flow” for incubators, to identify and attract a continuous flow of new start up companies replacing the graduating enterprises. Also the role of cooperation between incubators and research / education institutions was examined as well as the German financial support programs for innovation / technology based businesses. More information is available on the website [www.adt-online.de](http://www.adt-online.de) Just in time for the ADT Spring conference 2008 the new „Blue ADT Book“ – it is the twelfth edition - came from the print. This directory is published bi-annually and contains profiles of the German business incubators, technology parks, and their client firms. The directory can be ordered at the ADT secretariat, Email : [koop@adt-online.de](mailto:koop@adt-online.de)

### **Innovation for a Strong Economy and Healthy Planet and the 18<sup>th</sup> Global Summit**

The website of NBIA offers information about the 22nd International NBIA Conference on Business Incubation that was held in early May 2008 in San Antonio, Texas. More than 60 conference sessions and pre-conference training institutes on “Facilities Management” and “The Fundamentals of Incubator Management” offered a wide range of information and opportunities for exchanging experiences and views for the more than 600 conference attendees.

At this conference NBIA hosted the 18<sup>th</sup> Global Summit of Business Incubation Associations with 14 national business incubation associations represented continued discussion on the topics of the GBIN work groups Professional Development, Research, Information Dissemination, and Climate Change. The newly formed GABICEET (Global Alliance of Business Incubators in Clean Energy and Environmental Technologies) was endorsed by the Summit. In the Work Group on Information Dissemination, the paper “summarizing the essentials of business incubation as a basis for informing all interested parties across the world about these activities, added value, benefits and broad impacts,” was discussed and GBIN members asked to comment the draft by July 1. The 19th Global Summit of Business Incubation Associations will be held in Berlin, Germany at the 20th Anniversary conference of ADT. Contact: [summit@gbin.net](mailto:summit@gbin.net)

### **Bio Breakfast – Open Innovation**

By Klaus Plate

In the University Club Atop Symphony Towers in San Diego mid-June 2008 a “bio breakfast” made global partnership a matter of local neighbourhood. Science and Technology Parks, Incubators, High Tech Clusters and Development Zones are engines of worldwide collaboration and international networks bridging science, culture, politics and business, fostering understanding and confidence and developing worldwide business opportunities. International Partnership is creating a new ecosystem of living and working together. International partnership means to share knowledge, increase the exchange of information, link online services, offer space and support for temporary on-site exploration, and to meet and work together wherever and whenever possible. This ecosystem provides an atmosphere and an environment of open innovation. Open innovation is the key to the future. International partnership is the way to go. One of the breakfast topics in San Diego were “soft landings” or “International Partner Ports” that can be established in Incubators as well as Science and Technology Parks. The vision is to build a network of “International Partner Ports” all over the world, sharing space, services and help to make global business local. More information: Klaus Plate at [klaus.plate@heidelberg.de](mailto:klaus.plate@heidelberg.de)

### **Youth**

#### **WIEF Young Leaders Network (WYN)**

The **WIEF Young Leaders Network (WYN)** is poised to become the prime mover of change in the Muslim world, devoted to put plans into actions. The Forum reflects the proactive nature of the Network, discussing on pre-approved action programs. The **aims of the Network are:**

- to strengthen business partnerships and create synergies for the development of the Muslim world
- to empower and accord young Muslim leaders with the necessary responsibilities and leadership opportunities to take over the helm of the Muslim world in the near future
- to garner a united voice to speak in favour of progress, prosperity and peace for the Muslim world and beyond.

Such aims require the Network to adopt a strictly proactive agenda in order to stay relevant. Nine months since its inception, the **WIEF Young Leaders Network** has successfully conceptualized two pilot programs dubbed the “Groom a Leader” and “Let’s Plug-In Education”, and the main theme now is to continue practical work programs in the foreseeable future. Based on action plans, new practical ideas serving the main aims of the network in cooperation with other networks are invited. Information and contact: Academic Entrepreneurship Center of Excellence (AECE), Prof. Amjed A-Fahoum, Email: [afahoum@yu.edu.jo](mailto:afahoum@yu.edu.jo) <http://aece.yu.edu.jo>

## Views & Facts

Jordan

### Jordan Innovation Center: Graduation of 16 projects

By Yousef Abu-Hmeidan



Graduates at the ceremony

The Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation (JE) and The Delegation of the European Commission to Jordan in early April announced the graduation of 16 projects' owners in Jordan Innovation Centers in a ceremony under the Patronage of His Excellency Minister of Industry and Trade Eng. Amer Hadidi. Currently a total of five centers have been established under the JIC; the JIC at the RSS better known as the Engineering Incubator, the second centre at the University of Jordan is known as

The Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation (JE) and The Delegation of the European Commission to Jordan in early April announced the graduation of 16 projects' owners in Jordan Innovation

the Agro-industries Incubator, the third center at the Higher Council for Science and Technology is known as iPark, the fourth center at Al Hassan Industrial Estate and the fifth center at Philadelphia University

JIC's services range between providing specialized training to company formation and registration, business planning, feasibility studies, marketing and communication strategies, market analysis and research, marketing support services, financial strategy and planning, management accounting, and management information system.

The Charge d'Affaires a.i. of the European Commission (EC) delegation to Jordan stated "The European Commission is proud of its contribution to develop Jordan's most valuable asset: its human resources". He underlined that "what started modestly a few years back is now developing and producing its first graduates"

For more information contact: [Tarawneh@jedco.gov.jo](mailto:Tarawneh@jedco.gov.jo)

Jordan

### QRNEC – Third Annual Entrepreneurship Competition

Would-be entrepreneurs have a better chance for achieving the dream of having their own business. The **Queen Rania National Entrepreneurship Competition (QRNEC)** -in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year- is now open for all entrepreneurs-whether they are a university student or an aspiring entrepreneur- to enter for the opportunity to compete for US \$ 70,000 of cash awards. Applicants having an innovative business idea in any discipline of science and technology that is likely to win, pre-

it to the Queen Rania Center for Entrepreneurship (QRCE) through the its website [www.qrce.org](http://www.qrce.org) and start on the road to success!

The additional interesting "wow" for this year is that **Google** is offering an additional cash award for the best online business plan, in addition to the award that **KADDB** is offering for the best business plan for defense and security.

For more information, please visit our website: [www.qrce.org](http://www.qrce.org)

Jordan

### FOCUS Solution – a success Story for Jordan

FOCUS Solutions [www.focuskm.com](http://www.focuskm.com), is a Jordanian Business Solutions Provider, started as a software Development Company, and then expanded to provide value-added business solutions to financial institutions and professional service providers such as law firms, consulting companies, media and advertising. Focus Solutions now offers a wide range of financial and professional business support services and solutions with a dedicated team for the banking sector.

Focus Solutions was created by two young Jordanian entrepreneurs, Samer Al Jabari and Rami Quttaineh. Samer Al Jabari had a vision to start his own business, but had no understanding of entrepreneurship: "I was like a pilot wants to land a plane on unlit runway. You know where you want to go, but you don't know how to get there". He continues "It was not an easy decision for me to start my company with my partner Rami Quttaineh, we just graduated from the university, and we had no Cash. Therefore, we decided to start our business from our homes using our pc's. The target market were software applications for law firms in Jordan. But unfortunately we didn't know how to sell our solutions, so we took the initiative and contacted the Young Entrepreneurs Associations" With their help ([www.yea.com.jo](http://www.yea.com.jo)) the start-up enterprise got the first client.

Later on through own market research the entrepreneurs found that they were able to add new products to the banking industry. From experience with customer contacts they focused their solutions on legal departments in banks and succeeded with introducing application such as Focus Power Remedial and Collections which was sold to two local banks. The first phase of the entrepreneurship journey ended - the entrepreneurs were still working from home.

The second Phase of enterprise development started June 2004 by joining iPark in Amman. Supported by iPark the entrepreneurs developed a business/strategy plan, registered a Limited liability company, and hired three new staff. This phase ended in 2006 by graduating from the incubator. Now Focus solutions products are working in 10 banks in Jordan and the region, such as Citi Bank, Standard chartered Bank, ABC group, Arab Bank and Jordan Bank. The number of staff rose to seven, the customers list contains more than 20 enterprises, and FOCUS sells 5 solutions for banking and financial industry. For more details, please visit the infoDev / iDISC website <http://www.idisc.net/en/Article.38738.html>

Samer Al Jabari , email [samer.jabari@focuskm.com](mailto:samer.jabari@focuskm.com) This story is brought to you by [Yousef.abuhmeidan@ioi-jo.com](mailto:Yousef.abuhmeidan@ioi-jo.com)

Tanzania

### Out of School – Start a Business

Mr. Abdulla M. Abdulla, Commissioner in the Ministry of Policy, Planning, Budget and Research, Tanzania, is the project manager for this center and is pleased to be associated in the **MENA<sup>inc</sup>** network. He specifically is interested in working with

other Youth incubators. Contact: Abdulla M. Abdulla, Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Alternative Learning and Skills Development Project, Zanzibar email [edu.alsd@zanzinet.com](mailto:edu.alsd@zanzinet.com)

### **Philippines** *Rural Business Incubation*

The Philippine Rootcrop Research and Training Center (PRRTC) is a national program on rootcrops. The center has a number of rootcrop-based processing technologies (a number of which have high beta-carotene and anthocyanin content) that are appropriate for being used as a basis of micro-enterprises or household-based enterprises for women. These technologies are simple but requires the standards of quality and the needed "good manufacturing practice" facility to ensure competitiveness of the micro-enterprises in wider markets.

PRRTC, therefore, is interested in establishing a "business incubation program" appropriate for rural women where they can:

- learn the processing and quality control standards;

- test and develop their markets using the products while building capacities; and
- prepare, together with the RDE staff, a feasibility analysis and business plan for their enterprise

This approach minimizes the risk of undertaking business while skills and entrepreneurship capabilities are developed. The UPWARD network (Southeast Asia and the Pacific) of the International Potato Center will be partner of PRRTC with the idea of reaching out to other areas in the Philippines and Asia - to share experiences and for greater impact.

Contact: Julieta R. Roa, Philippine Rootcrop Research and Training Center, Email: [nello\\_roa@yahoo.com](mailto:nello_roa@yahoo.com)

### **Kyrgyzstan** *Art meets Business Incubation*

By making businesses more competitive, economy more productive, and most of all by empowering people with appropriate knowledge, Information and Communication Technologies the Business Incubator of the Congress of Women of the Kyrgyz Republic (CWKR) aims at strengthening the basis for economic and social development. Since its opening the incubator is arranging events for raising awareness about and support for women entrepreneurship, and actively contributes to the social and economic development of the region and country. In April the Incubator of CWKR celebrated the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of Chingiz Aitmatov, a famous Kyrgyz writer with an exhibition of works of the students of Arts College. Among the honored guests of the event, which took place in

the Arts College, were the ambassadors of the USA, Russia, Japan, Ukraine, as well as leading representatives of the Kyrgyz institutions. The exhibition found much interest in all and contributed much to building links between art and business.

The BI of CWKR is the first women focused incubator in the country. One of the initiatives of the BI is special educational sewing center, where until now 30 women were educated sew-

ing. Through the quality of work the participating women succeeded attracting important clients, for example they sewed uniforms for the students of Krasnorechensk orphans' school. Also all other handicraft produced is being sold at good

prices. The further employment of the graduates of the "Orion" sewing center is secured. Especially because the BI is women focused it made great contributions to the life of thousands of women of the country. The unemployment rate decreased, women gained more rights, and especially gender-based problems were paid special attention.

Contact: Zamira Akbagysheva, [congresswomen@intranet.kg](mailto:congresswomen@intranet.kg)

By Zamira Akbagysheva



### **Turkey** *Turkish Business Incubator Association Established*

The Association of Turkish Business Incubators has been established. The head is Mr. **Adem Gul**, manager of the biggest Turkish incubator in Tarsus, Southern Turkey at the Mediterranean Sea. This incubator offers 24.000 m<sup>2</sup> of space for rent.

companies and therefore certainly is one of the largest facilities of its kind.

More information: Adem Gul, Business Incubator (İŞGEM), Email: [ademrose@gmail.com](mailto:ademrose@gmail.com)

### **Turkey** *Istanbul – the Silicon Valley of Europe*

According the newspaper "Turkish Daily News" of June 21-22, 2008 the European Union has selected Istanbul to be its "Silicon Valley". The Taksim and Maslak districts of Istanbul will be primary target for authorities in establishing the new hub because many informatics companies are already located in this area. Deputy Prime Minister Nazim Erken said NGOs representing informatics sector, along with Ministry of Industry and Trade, will cooperate during the settlement process. The Housing Development Administration of Turkey, TOKI will provide

the land. Information and communications, telecommunications bio-, nano- and neurotechnology will be the main technological focus sectors for the proposed technological centre.

The Istanbul-based Silicon Valley will be pioneer for other similar hubs planned for the Black Sea, Central Anatolian, eastern Anatolian and south-eastern Anatolian regions. Land reserved for the project begins with 50.000 m<sup>2</sup>, but could ultimately increase to 500,000 m<sup>2</sup> if there is a rise in demand.

Contact: Krzysztof Zasiadly, [zasiadly@mail.ru](mailto:zasiadly@mail.ru)

### **Dominican Republic** *Technology Trade Show in the Caribbean*

"TECDO 2008" (Technologic en Dominicana) is scheduled to be held October 22-26, 2008 at the Parque Cibernético Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic Cyberpark is the first technology park and incubator in Dominican Republic.

Tecdo 2008 will be focused on 6 technological Sectors: ITES/;

BPO/Telecommunications; Software&Hardware Development Electronic Consumer & Audiovisual Products; Biotechnology; and Agro technology It is supposed to be the largest Technological Trade Show in the History of Dominican Republic.

For more information, please visit the website [www.tecdo.com](http://www.tecdo.com)

## United Kingdom **UK Business Incubation Tenth Annual Conference**



UK Business Incubation are pleased to announce that their tenth annual international conference BI: 10 – Celebrating Innovation and Entrepreneurship through Business Incubation will take place on November 19-20, 2008 in Bristol. The event will take place over 2 days and will offer you plenty

of opportunities to learn and network with colleagues from across the globe. You will have the chance to build your own conference experience by choosing from the various options available.

Ensure you're up to date with good practice from across the globe and book your place now!

For more information, please visit the conference website <http://www.ukbi.co.uk/index.asp?SID=208>

**December 08, 2008:**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Global Business Incubation Day**

**More information:** [www.globalbusinessincubationday.org](http://www.globalbusinessincubationday.org)

**Contact:** Toni Wanklin: [t.wanklin@ukbi.co.uk](mailto:t.wanklin@ukbi.co.uk)



**Global 1<sup>st</sup>**  
Business Incubation Day

8<sup>th</sup> December 2008 will see the world's focus switch to business incubation as incubation environments, their funders and supporters open their doors to show how the process is supporting and growing the businesses of the future.

8th December 2008 will see the first ever global celebration of innovation and entrepreneurship through business incubation. Although the process of business incubation has been utilized to regenerate and revitalize economies across the globe for over 50 years, never before have practitioners and supporters all focused on one day to detail how they are growing the enterprises for the future.

#### **How to celebrate the Global Business Incubation Day?**

On the day itself, this site will feature webcasts from around the globe as celebrations take place in countries such as New Zealand, America, Romania, India, Chile, the UK, Japan, Korea and others across all 5 continents. Details of all participating business incubation environments and supporters will be listed on [www.globalbusinessincubationday.org](http://www.globalbusinessincubationday.org) over the coming weeks, with more and more contacting us each day.

**Toni Wanklin**, Marketing and Development Manager, UKBI, who is coordinating the Day said: "It's amazing how much interest and enthusiasm there is for Global Business Incubation Day. Although there has been a relatively small amount of promotion for the Day, the response has been fantastic. It's brought incubators and their supporters from around the world together already and has helped people to focus on one day when they can really promote their successes and the successes of their client companies. The global community is coming together and spreading the word – I had one contact from Russia who said that she overheard people talking about it in a bar and that's how she got involved. My aim for the Day is to highlight how business incubation is an essential business support process."

#### **United Kingdom **UK Business Incubation mission to Prague and Warsaw****

A UKTI UK Trade & Investment, mission took place to Prague and Warsaw. One of the key components of this mission was a UKBI led day-long workshop on business incubation and its role in/with innovation and economic development. In Prague the delegates of the mission also visited the University of Chemical Technology and the Technology Innovation Centre In Warsaw briefings from the Ministries of Economy, Regional Development and Science and Education and visits to/ presentations from University have been part of the program.

Already, there are over 40 nations preparing their celebrations for GBID, with planned events such as:

- Official launches of new business incubation environments
- Exhibitions of successful client companies
- Open days for the local community to go into the business incubators to see firsthand how business incubation work
- Local, national and international press campaigns
- Groundbreaking research into the impact of business incubation on socioeconomic factors; and
- Parties to celebrate the success of the past and to look forward to the bright future.

One of the leading partners in supporting the Day is SPICE Group, and **Heinz Fiedler** said: "Raising awareness for the importance of innovation is critical for the success not only for start-ups and growth enterprises, but for society at large. Business incubators have played an important role for innovating not only in the market place, but also in their social and economical environment. The Global Business Incubation Day will help improving knowledge and understanding about the role of entrepreneurship in the societies all around the world and I hope that many members of our network participate actively"

Whoever wants to be involved in the first ever celebration of innovation and entrepreneurship through Business Incubation, please visit [www.globalbusinessincubationday.org](http://www.globalbusinessincubationday.org) and inform about your plans! Monthly updates on who else is celebrating will enable participants to network with colleagues across the globe and help generating even more ideas. For reading Toni's blog on the development of Global Business Incubation Day and downloading the 1st Global Business Incubation Day logo, and if you would like to link to the site, please use [www.globalbusinessincubationday.org](http://www.globalbusinessincubationday.org)

Also part of this mission were other UK organizations active in innovation and entrepreneurship support, e.g. PERA ([www.pera.com](http://www.pera.com)), Strata Technology ([www.strata-partners.com/](http://www.strata-partners.com/)), SINFONEC ([www.simfonec.co.uk](http://www.simfonec.co.uk)), as well as three UK Knowledge Transfer Networks, Higher Education Funding Council for England, AEA Technology, and Qinetiq. For more information, please visit the sites mentioned above or contact: Peter Harman, UK Business Incubation at [p.harman@ukbi.co.uk](mailto:p.harman@ukbi.co.uk)

## **United Kingdom** *UK Business Incubation now issues newsletter*

For those interested in knowing more about the development of business incubation programs in the United Kingdom as well as about international activities in this field, the newsletter of "UK Business Incubation" (UKBI) the United Kingdom national association of incubators "UKBINews" is an interesting source of information.

From the UKBINews:

### **UKBI Awards 2008—Nominations are now Open**

Each year, UK Business Incubation awards its members who have shown excellence in providing the right environment for start-ups businesses and entrepreneurs to flourish and this year's awards are bigger and better than ever before!

Open to members only, the awards give UKBI, the body for the advancement of good practice, the opportunity to reward those who strive to support world class businesses and.

The first edition of this newsletter, published mid-April 2008, included a wide range of information - from the British Education System and a UKBI Mission to Czech Republic and Poland to the results of an incubator manager salary survey.

For getting the newsletter, please contact Keiron Broadbent [k.broadbent@ukbi.co.uk](mailto:k.broadbent@ukbi.co.uk)

entrepreneurs, impacting on local, regional and national economies whilst at the same time creating a sustainable environment/s for the future. Again this year, there are 6 categories reflecting the growing importance of the community.

The awards will be presented at the International Gala Dinner in Bristol, as part of UKBI's 10th International Conference, November 19-20, 2008. The **deadline for submissions is August 29, 2008**. For information please contact Keiron Broadbent email [k.broadbent@ukbi.co.uk](mailto:k.broadbent@ukbi.co.uk)

## **Windward Islands** *Regional Business Incubation Training Program*

We already reported in earlier Updates about the Business Incubation Initiatives in the Eastern Caribbean Regions under the European Union SFA 2005 project. Here a brief update:

**Dominica** The incubator initiative is being implemented by National E-Business Incubator (NEBI) with the support of UTECH, Jamaica, the project started in June 2007. **Grenada** The project started in November 2007 and is being implemented by Integration. **St Vincent and the Grenadines** The project started in January 2008 and is being implemented by the German Steinbeiss Foundation. The general organization is taken care of by the Regional Management Office (RMO). Organized by the RMO, the European Commission Delegation and the Eastern Caribbean in May 2008 a business incubation training was held in Dominica with **Julian Webb** (left) as the main trainer. The purpose was to build capacity in the Caribbean regions and

knowledge of policy makers and practitioners on Business Incubation. The SFA 2005 program has components on business incubation focused on the three Windward Islands. Networking and regional coordination plays an important role for sharing experiences and learning from the different islands.

The training was attended by 30 participants from Dominica, Grenada, St Vincent and the Grenadines and St Lucia and covered five key topics: (1) Understanding small enterprises and the role of incubation in supporting them, (2) Incubator infrastructure and services needed to support small enterprises, (3) Business incubation concepts, (4) Marketing (positioning) for incubators and their firms and client selection, and developing mentoring and coaching programs for business incubators.

For more information about the training and incubators in the Caribbean region, please contact the Regional Management Office: Roshan Seebaluck, [roshan.krs@gmail.com](mailto:roshan.krs@gmail.com)



as the main trainer. The purpose was to build capacity in the Caribbean regions and



More pictures on website <http://picasaweb.google.com/rk.seebaluck/RegionalMeetingTrainingOnBusinessIncubation>

## **International** *Business Incubation in Latin America*

The development of business incubators, technoparks, and related projects that support the entrepreneurial spirit has been improved in Latin-America and the Caribbean as a result of the creation of regional networks of coordination and collaboration.

Much of the recent development was stimulated by the conception of the Latin American Network of National Associations of Incubators and Technology Parks (**RELAPI** - for its initials in Spanish), founded in 2005 by entities from eight countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela) together with the International Association of Technological / Scientific Parks (IASP).

Within the RELAPI project, the Latin-American and Caribbean Network of Enterprise Incubators (**REDLAC**) was launched in

tors and innovative entrepreneurial activities and it was designed as an open network with free and active participation of incubators, parks, technopoles, professionals and private or public entities dedicated to foster entrepreneurship in Latin America and the Caribbean. The network is composed and managed by five national entities (ANPROTEC, AIPyPT, CHILEINCUBA, PERUINCUBA and URUNOVA) with the support by infoDev. ANPROTEC is the recipient of the infoDev grant to promote the LAC network.

REDLAC has five lines of action: (i) entrepreneurship & ITCs; (ii) business incubation process management; (iii) external support & networking; (iv) evaluation; and (v) public policy.

For more information and contacts, please visit the SPICA Directory Online at [www.spica-directory.net](http://www.spica-directory.net)

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**International****Information about Regional Business Incubation Networks**

**SPICA Directory Online** provides information about business incubators, technology parks and their national associations.

**MENA<sup>inc</sup>**, the Middle East and North Africa Business Incubation Network: [www.spica-directory.net/associations/?id=128](http://www.spica-directory.net/associations/?id=128)

**Relapi**, the Latin American Association of Technological Parks and Enterprise Incubators Network [www.spica-directory.net/associations/?id=136](http://www.spica-directory.net/associations/?id=136)

These networks are linked as the Global network of infoDev bringing together all business incubators from developing countries - see <http://idisc.infodev.org/en/index.html>

And you also find other networks listed in the directory, for example, South-East SENSU European Network of Business Start-up Centers and Incubators, at [www.spica-directory.net/associations/?id=129](http://www.spica-directory.net/associations/?id=129)

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**International****The 4th Arab Technology Business Plan Competition (TBPC)**

The Arab Science & Technology Foundation announced the 4th Arab Technology Business Plan Competition "Take Your Innovation to the Market". Application deadline is July 22, 2008. The Arab Technology Business Plan Competition is a regional Technology investment competition organized by Arab Science and Technology Foundation (ASTF) in cooperation with Intel Corporation. The competition provides the Arabian Entrepreneurs with tools to turn their Technological innovation into

business opportunities. It is the chance for entrepreneurs to:

1. Prepare a professional business plan
2. Show the business plan to venture capitalists, angel funds and investors in the *ASTF Investment in Technology Forum*.

3. Attend the finals in Morocco during the *Scientific Research Outlook Congress* in Morocco 26-30 October

4. Represent the Arab World in the world finals

For more information, please visit [www.tbpc-astf.net](http://www.tbpc-astf.net)

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**Ukraine****Knowledge Economy Dialogue**

In Kiev the World Bank has organized the "Ukraine Knowledge Economy Dialogue". Topics discussed were, for example, Public Financial Support for Innovation & Technology Absorption, Public Financial Support for Innovation Infrastructure as well as Law on Innovation, Technoparks and Special Economic Zones. Within session on Public Financial Support for Innovation Infrastructure EIF, the Enterprise Incubator Foundation, Yerevan, Armenia, has been presented as a case study and model of business incubation project effectively combining traditional facility infrastructure and basic business services with virtual incubator providing a wide range of business

and skills development services to both tenants and general IT sector clients. SPICE Group member **Bagrat Yengibaryan**, Director of EIF, also participated at discussions on future development of incubators and technoparks in Ukraine. His presentation in Kiev, showed EIF as a case of public financing for innovation and infrastructure. The focus was also done on demonstration effect of EIF as IT sector development driver in Armenia and model that can be replicated in other sectors of economy.

Contact: Bagrat Yengibaryan, Director E-mail: [info@eif.am](mailto:info@eif.am)  
[www.eif.am](http://www.eif.am) [www.eif-it.com](http://www.eif-it.com)

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**Important upcoming Events****July 12 – 14, 2008 Open Air Conference in Russia**

"Development as a Key Aspect of Russia's Economic Upturn" is the title of a conference to be held in July this year in Karelia (not too far from St. Petersburg), Russia. Summer in this area is the time with very short nights because the sun only briefly disappears under the horizon. Therefore days are long enough for exploring nature and the city besides attending the conference with sessions under the open sky.

Representatives of the Authorities of the Republic of Karelia, Russian Federal Ministries, entrepreneurial and business associations as well as organizations from the regions of Russia and

abroad will present at the plenary sessions. The parallel work sessions will focus on: Creation of SMEs, New Technologies, Business Incubation, Innovative Project Realization. International and Regional Practice, Subcontracting – Business Partnership Technology, Microfinance as an instrument of regional development, Venture Finance. Cooperation of Investors, Businessmen, Researchers, Modern Humanist Technologies of Personality Development and Health Preservation, and Innovative Technologies of Business Personnel Training.

Info and registration: [info@robinzonada.com](mailto:info@robinzonada.com), [innagd@mail.ru](mailto:innagd@mail.ru)

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**August 10-14, 2008 in Gabrone, Botswana: 3<sup>rd</sup> SABTIA Annual Conference - postponed to end September 2008**

The third annual conference of SABTIA, South African Business and Technology Incubation Association should be attended by incubator managers, government institutions, funders, development agencies, stakeholders and industry leaders.

Conference Aims: To facilitate the process of creating a platform for developing best practice in Southern African incubation; Raising the profile of incubation in Southern Africa; Facilitate the development of individuals in the practice of business incubation; Facilitate the sharing of information amongst the practitioners; Profiling and promoting the members of the organisation as participants in the Southern African incubation domain; Lobbying of governments, regional and international

support agencies and organisations; Creating an opportunity for networking and alliance building and; Spreading of learning. Topics to be discussed: Projections on the Southern African economy, the challenges and opportunities; Review the Incubation industry and the medium-term strategic and social prospects for Southern Africa; Identifying and discussing major trends and provocative ideas that will have an impact on the industry; Training and development, knowledge sharing and case studies; International perspectives on the global economy, business, society and technology.

Contact and information: Lalane van Rensburg, Email [lalane@sbti.co.za](mailto:lalane@sbti.co.za) website <http://www.sabtia.org.za/>

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### **September 3-5, 2008 in Tartu, Estonia: Innovation – Key from Slowdown to Growth**

The BALTIC DYNAMICS conferences are one of the most important annual meeting places for the international business incubation industry. Being hosted by the national business incubation associations of the Baltic States by turns this year Estonia will welcome the participants in Tartu – home of one of the oldest universities in Europe (founded 1632) and of the first Estonian Technology Park.

"**Innovation – Key from Slowdown to Growth**" is the theme of the BALTIC DYNAMIC 2008 with following main conference topics: Open Innovation, Foresight, novel and innovative approaches for science and technology parks, E-Services,

Environment and Energy as well as Global Context for Innovation. Among other, key speakers of the conference will be **Maive Rute**, Director, DG Enterprise and Industry, European Commission, **Rick Weddle**, President and CEO of the Research Triangle Foundation of North Carolina, owner and developer of The Research Triangle Park, **Sten Tamkivi**, General Manager, Skype Estonia, and **Chuck Erickson**, CEO, US Market Access Center, San Jose, U.S.A.

For more information, please contact

Conference Organising Committee: [info@balticdynamics.com](mailto:info@balticdynamics.com)

Conference homepage: [www.balticdynamics.com](http://www.balticdynamics.com)

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### **September 14-17, 2008 in South Africa: World Conference of Science Parks in Johannesburg**

The next World Conference on Science and Technology Parks will take place in Johannesburg, South Africa, and is organised by The Innovation Hub. More information is available at <http://www.iaspsa2008.com>

Key topics of the conference are: Entrepreneurship as a key tool in knowledge economies - role of STPs; Fast-tracking developing economies into the global economy - STPs as vehicles; Innovation and business country culture in relation

to the development and success of STPs; Cities and their Science Parks - growing local economies; Impact Measures for Science and Technology Parks; Partnerships and Collaboration to accelerate integration in the value chain; Policies that drive innovation; Exploring the new horizon of STPs; Designing an STP - making the 'big choices'.

For more information, please contact Ebba Lund

[iasp@iasp.ws](mailto:iasp@iasp.ws) or check the website:

<http://www.iaspsa2008.com>

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### **September 21-23, 2008 in Berlin, Germany: 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of ADT**

The annual conference of ADT, Germany Federal Association of Technology and Business Incubators this year celebrates the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this association. As an informal work group ADT already exists a few years longer but the conference to be held in Berlin, Germany celebrates the anniversary of the formal association foundation.

Being one of the largest and most experienced incubator associations world-wide ADT has a wealth of knowledge and infor-

mation to share with professionals from all countries. The conference in Berlin will provide the opportunity - Illustrating the excellent cooperation between the association and policy makers, the conference will be held in the conference center of the German federal Ministry for Economy (BMWi) right in the heart of Berlin.

More information will be made available shortly or contact ADT, Marita Koop, email [koop@adt-online.de](mailto:koop@adt-online.de)

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### **October 2008: APEC Forum in Xi'an in China: Call for Papers Issued**

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation is asking for papers for the APEC Forum, "Business Incubators Promote Regional Innovation," to be held in Xi'an, China, in October 2008. Topics of discussion will be business incubators and regional innovation; and new development trends in business incubation.

Papers will be published in the forum proceedings; those submitting papers on significant innovations will be invited to speak at the forum, with travel and hotel courtesy of APEC.

The forum will be hosted by the Xi'an International Business

Incubator, the largest business incubator in China -- with 535 clients in 3.7 million square feet of space. In its 14-year history, XIBI has graduated 255 companies.

In addition to the proceedings, the event offers a great cultural opportunity: Xi'an, one of the four great ancient capitals of China, is home of the famed terracotta warriors and is surrounded by the largest intact city wall in the world.

For more information on the APEC Forum, contact Mr. Jia Shan at [jiashan@xibi.com](mailto:jiashan@xibi.com), or Ms. Yang Shan at [ys@xibi.com](mailto:ys@xibi.com).

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### **October 28-30 2008: Incubation and Technology Parks for Economic Growth in Fez, Morocco**

This conference, organized by ASTF, the Arab Science and Technology Foundation is aimed at strengthening relations and exchange experience of incubation programs and technology parks in the Arab world. Besides a wide range of technology specific conferences and workshops this includes sharing the challenges incubation and technology parks in the Arab world are facing and proposing practical solutions to overcome them. Other aims of the conference are

- to reach a model for regional cooperation to maximize technological innovation within the Arab World,

- to discuss metrics of success and the economic impact of incubators and technology parks, and  
- to discuss important issues related to the management of incubators and technology parks.

The official work languages of the conference are Arab and English. A **Call for Papers** has been issued with the final submission date was June 30, 2008. For more information and submitting an abstract contact [tarek.sro@astf.net](mailto:tarek.sro@astf.net)

For registration visit the website at [www.astf.net/sro/sro5](http://www.astf.net/sro/sro5) or email to [sro@astf.net](mailto:sro@astf.net)

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### **November 19 -20, 2008: UKBI's 10th International Conference in Bristol, UK**

More information about this year's annual conference of UK Business incubation can be found in the UK Special section on page 7 + 8 of this Update where you also find information

about the First Global Business Incubation Day and more news about development of business incubation in the UK. Also the website: [www.ukbiconference.co.uk](http://www.ukbiconference.co.uk) provides more details

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## ***December 11 -12, 2008: “Best Science Based Incubators” in Paris, France***

For the past six years, Science Alliance has successfully organised the annual conference and award on ‘Best Practices in Science Based Incubators’. First established in 2002, this international conference has developed into an memorable event in which the yearly Best Science Based Incubator Award ceremony is held. Annually, over 50 incubators from around the world compete for this award. Last year, the Wallonian Space Logistics, based in Liege, Belgium received this award for

outstanding science based incubation. This year, due to organisational changes, the 7th conference and award will be organised by The Technopolicy Network, a network established and managed by Science Alliance. The event will take place on **December 11-12, 2008 in Paris, France** and will be organised in cooperation with Genopole, the leading Science Park and Incubator dedicated to Biotechnology.

Info: [www.technopolic.net](http://www.technopolic.net)

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## ***About members***



### ***Annuar Safar***

is Executive Director of the Kulim Technology Management, Kulim High-Tech Park, Malaysia and SPICE member since 2006. He has been elected the new **President of Asian Association of Business incubation (AABI)** for two years (January 2008 – Dec. 2009) during AABI’s 11<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Taiwan.

Annuar has been involved in incubation and technology parks since more than 15 years and held several senior positions in

both government and private sectors. Because of his experience Annuar has been engaged by infoDev as a resource person on various aspects of business and technology incubation.

Being AABI President Annuar will be leading a movement that represents more than 1500 business incubation and innovation centers in 15 countries and economic zones in Asia-Pacific including Japan, China, Korea, Chinese Taipei, New Zealand, Australia, Singapore, India, Hong Kong, Philippines, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Malaysia

Annuar is also the current Honorary President for National Incubator Network Association (NINA) Malaysia

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## ***New members – Welcome to the network***



### ***Hugo van Veghel***

Born In Belgium in 1952 and active in project development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation in the Western Balkans since 1998. PhD in Strategic Management. Recently delivered a study on industrial clustering in the Panonian Croatia Region with a step by step tool and action plan. Established in 2008 a new

consultancy firm in Serbia (Novi Sad, Vojvodina) aiming with main focus on development of creativity and innovation for

SME’s based on HR trainings and workshops: TARA International Consulting (TARA stands for Training Advocacy Research and Advance). Having the experience of development programs in SEE for almost 10 years and more recently on supporting cluster development, it became more obvious that nothing will move properly without innovation and creativity. Therefore TARA linked up with the Region of Flanders (Hugo is Flemish) and the Flanders DC (District of Creativity). For TARA it is most important to find valuable experience and

partners which can be shared in our projects.

Contact: [hugo.vanveghel@usa.net](mailto:hugo.vanveghel@usa.net)

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## ***SPICE Art Ball booklet & leaflet***

Not only for showing the pieces of triangle art that have been created for the SPICE Art Ball a brochure has been prepared and distributed first time at the art ball presentation in Riga, Latvia. This brochure now also presents the situation of business incubators in the countries that delivered a “national triangle” to this project. This way we offer an unusual channel for

marketing the activities of business incubators, a channel that already has shown its potential. Exhibiting this ball leads to contacts with people who are not the usual “customers” of business incubation initiatives and also offers opportunities for explaining the needs for innovation and entrepreneurship support to an audience that needs to be informed.

## ***New in SPICA Directory Online***

The Global Online Directory “SPICA Directory Online” of business incubators, technology parks and their associations is permanently updated. Just as examples for recent additions and developments: Now **Lebanon** is included in the directory with

the technology park / business incubator BERYTECH All incubators and technology parks are invited to present their profile in SPICA Directory Online free of charge. For more information contact [update@spica-directory.net](mailto:update@spica-directory.net)

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## ***And finally...***

More than two months have passed since Update No 79 has been mailed. This is why the actual newsletter is longer than usual and offers information on twelve pages. We hope you find information you are interested in an invite all readers to send us their comments regarding the content and presentation of articles. These comments will help us to provide information important to members and friends. Looking forward to hearing from you and hoping to meet personally during coming months

*Heinz Fiedler & Larisa Brovarska*

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