



UPDATE No. 93

For members *first*

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Dear Member & Friend,

An outstanding event of recent two months was celebrating the 25th anniversary of one of the leading German incubators: The TechnologieZentrumDortmund, Germany is operating successfully since a quarter of a century (see report on page 3) – just 2 years less than business incubation in Germany

Other important business incubation events (like the 21st Global Summit) as well as interesting initiatives of individual incubators also are available in this summer newsletter. It also provides information about events and activities coming up after the summer break in the Northern Hemisphere.

21st Global Summit of Business Incubation Associations to be held in Orlando, USA

The Orlando Summit of GBIN, the Global Business Incubation Network was attended by representatives from 11 countries (11 associations). Hosted and chaired by NBIA's new President and CEO, **David Monkman**, the Summit discussed development strategies for associations – based on short statements / presentations provided by Peter Harman (UK), Terutaka Tansho (Japan), and David Monkman. Trends attracting much attention during the discussion were strengthening **policy**



advocacy (based on qualified information from monitoring and impact assessments of business incubation programs in as many countries as possible, and **building alliances** with other associations active in filed related with business incubation (e.g. seed / venture capital, technology transfer, enterprise associations). *continued on page 2*

Anna Lindh Foundation

The Anna Lindh Foundation headquarters has launched the latest phase of its Network Strategic Development Scheme with a financial allocation of 1.35 million Euros.

The 'Step 4' edition of the scheme, which provides logistical and operational support to Anna Lindh National Networks,

focuses on follow-up to the Forum 2010 and the mobilization of debates for the first Anna Lindh Report on Intercultural Trends. The scheme also precedes the region-wide launch of the Calls for Proposals 2010

www.euromedalex.org/news/networks-support



Reports are invited for publication in the **Asia Pacific Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship**. APJIE, a professional

journal covering entrepreneurship, innovation, incubation and related topics. APJIE Vol. 4, No 1 recently has been published (download at www.spice-group.de/actual or www.iked.or.kr) The Journal publishes original papers; theory-based empirical papers, review papers, case studies, conference reports, relevant reports and news, book reviews and briefs

The deadline for sending reports (to apjie@kobia.or.kr) for publication in Vol.4., No 4 of APJE is **October 15, 2010**.

The BALTIC DYNAMICS is the annual conference of the Baltic States and has become one of the important European events in innovation and entrepreneurship support; an opportunity not to miss. The BD 2010 **"Knowledge Flow in Innovation System: from Idea to Action"** will be held in Riga, Latvia, **September 15 – 17, 2010**. For more information, please visit www.balticdynamics.com.



Traditionally at the BD conferences SPICE Group is organizing a special workshop or roundtable (for members and invited guests only). For proposing themes to discuss or getting information about the actual planning stage, contact SPICE at spice@spice-group.net

NBIA's International Conference 2010 successfully held in Orlando, USA



NBIA's International Conference on Business Incubation 2010 was held in Orlando, Florida in May 2010 with more than 500 participants from 40

countries. Connections, networks, business leads and more is what conference-goers say they get the most from by attending NBIA's International Conference on Business Incubation.



This year was no exception. With receptions, lunches, and informative sessions, this event its role as a very important meeting place for business incubation professionals from all around

the globe. NBIA used this conference to announce the start its first international chapter: NBIA China which is seen by the association as an important step towards strengthening its in-

ternationalization.

"As usual" the many opportunities for personal meetings with professionals were a key advantage of this event.

Highlights of the conference included:

- A celebration of NBIA's 25th anniversary
- Tours of the Disney Entrepreneur Center and the University of Central Florida Incubation Program
- A panel of global incubation leaders, including **Peter Harman**, CEO of UKBI and chaired by NBIA President **David Monkman** discussing the challenges and opportunities facing the industry
- NBIA's annual awards luncheon gave the opportunity for learning more about the winners of the four client / graduate awards as well as the four different awards for incubators

More about the conference: www.nbia.org/events/ and about the awards at www.nbia.org/success_stories/awards/2010/.

Contact: mail education@nbia.org

The 21st Global Summit of Business Incubation Associations

Continued from page 1

For establishing a solid foundation for the above mentioned activities as well as for securing incubation quality (for example, through benchmarking and accreditation) the Summit agreed to undertake efforts to build on existing data provided by national association, especially in Canada and Sweden. Marie Lussier and Therese Sjölundh Sjölundh reported briefly on the results of efforts for collecting reliable information about business incubation achievements and outcomes in these countries both stressing the importance of such data for the lobbying work of associations for the benefit of business incubators. Together with the well-knowns surveys and data from NBIA such data could form a



basis for a system covering a wider range of countries. The actual development of the information system "SPICA Directory Online" (www.spica-directory.net) and the planned fur-



ther improvements, presented by **Heinz Fiedler** were agreed as being a good starting point, namely if associations invest a little time for commenting on further development needs for the system. David Monkman suggested that this should be complemented by scientific surveys.

Also topic of the Summit was an update on actual developments in business incubation in the participation countries, for example the recently established and fast growing business incubation association in Spain, the strategic interest in strengthening technology based incubation again in Australia, or the fact that the business incubation association in Japan seized activities due to lacking governmental interest and support.

The Summit also awarded its first Honorary Membership to **Dinah Adkins** for her initiative to bring this Summit together and her decade lasting support of this network.

First-ever International NBIA Chapter launched

The National Business Incubation Association in May 2010 has officially formed an alliance with the [New Jersey Business Incubation Network](http://www.njbin.org/) (NJBIN <http://www.njbin.org/>), forming the first NBIA chapter.

The joint venture comes less than two months after **David Monkman**, NBIA president and CEO, and **Lou Cooperhouse**, director of the Rutgers Food Innovation Center in Bridgeton, N.J., testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Small Business hearing on *Business Incubators and Their Role in Job Creation*. There, Monkman and Cooperhouse discussed how effective business incubation can be to communities' job-creation efforts.

This relationship with NBIA will enable the 12 incubator members of NJBIN to become an increasingly important component of the economic growth strategy for the state of New Jersey, resulting in business attraction and retention and an increase in higher-paying jobs.

In 2009, NJBIN member incubators supported 520 entrepreneurial client companies, which created more than 1,500 new high-paying jobs. Also last year, companies located in New Jersey incubators generated revenues of \$320 million, brought \$93 million third-party funding into New Jersey and graduated 35 self-sustaining companies.

For more details, contact Randy Morris: rmorris@nbia.org.

25th Anniversary of TechnologieZentrumDortmund & ADT Conference



For the **25th Anniversary of the Dortmund Technology Incubator and Park (TZD)** the ADT Spring Conference 2010 came to Dortmund. ADT, the German Federal Association of Business and Technology Incubators

itself has a history as long as the TZD – a good reason for joint activities. Also SPICE Group member **Guido Baranowski**, managing director of TZD for more than a decade (until 2002) was elected chairman of the German association. The ADT conference “Innovation Centers between national economic impact and business necessities” with more than 1000 incubator managers attending focused on the two topics included in the title. The outcome and impact of Innovation Centers (this term being used in Germany for business incubators and technology parks collectively) was presented and discussed as well as the needs for managing business incubators the same way as



a business – even if partly financed by public money German incubators look back on almost 27 years of business incubation. Very much to learn from the wide range of approaches and experiences.

Continued success of German business incubators

ADT recently has published the Annual Report 2009 providing much information not only about activities of the association, but also providing some insight into the development of business incubators in the country. Most importantly the German incubators could continue their successful work with ca. 1,700 new companies graduating from the incubators during the year 2009 – about the same number as the year before. With more than 6,000 companies in the ADT member incubators and 55,000 jobs provided by these firms with the “failure rate” of client businesses continuing to be below ten per cent.

More information: www.adt-online.de

Some Spotlights of Success factors

At this time the TechnologiezentrumDortmund hosts more than 280 client companies with more than 8,500 jobs provided directly by these companies. A total of 16,000 jobs in the region of Dortmund and beyond can be attributed to the business activities of the client companies.

During the 25 years of operation the incubator served more than 450 companies. Only less than five per cent of these client firms failed – a rate that is about half of the average failure rate in German incubators and just a fraction of the failure rate of new companies in general. Most of the businesses that started in the incubator after graduation continued their growth in the surrounding technology park. Less than 10 per cent moved to other regions. “This result is to be contri-

The celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the TZD was attended by more than 300 guests. Of course, a birthday cake of appropriate size was part of the program. The photos below are showing : **Guido Baranowski**,

managing director of TZD since its opening preparing to cut the cake and receiving the ADT Award from **Bertram Dreschel** President of the German association.



Key to success for business incubation is bringing together all players important for successful developments in innovation and entrepreneurship. The row of congratulants not surprisingly in-representatives from the shareholders: the City of Dortmund, universities, financial institutions, as well as the chambers of commerce and industry.

But also congratulations of international partners were not missing. In a live video conference the Presidents / CEOs of three associations congratulated from the Global Summit of Business Incubation Associations held

at the same time in Orlando, Florida: **David Monkman**, NBIA, United States; **Peter Harman**, UKBI, United Kingdom, and **Heinz Fiedler**, SPICE Group. This congratulation was completed by showing a short video prepared in honor of Guido Baranowski.

More information: <http://www.tzdo.de/>



butted to the strategic orientation of the incubator from its beginning.”, says **Martina Blank**, deputy managing director of TZD since its early days. “The work always focused on technology / market areas that have related research and education facilities in Dortmund.”

Therefore successful companies continue to find sources for new product and service innovations in their neighborhood and have access to qualified personnel from the universities.

Contact: Martina Blank, email blank@tzdo.de



Learn to Fly! At the BALTIC DYNAMICS 2010: September 15-17, 2010 in Riga, Latvia

Don't miss the opportunity to attend the 15th International Conference Baltic Dynamics 2010 – the biggest event on innovation in the Baltics in this year organized by BASTIV, the Baltic Association of Science/Technology Parks and Innovation Centers and supported by European Commission, IASP, EBN and SPICE Group.

The Conference will be held in Riga, Latvia September 15-17, 2010 under the theme:

”Knowledge Flow in Innovation System: from Idea to Action”

More information, call for papers, on-line registration and hotel reservation are available on the conference website www.balticdynamics.com.

Based on participants recommendations new topics are opened for discussions during the conference sessions – for example “Open Innovation”

and “Innovation Vouchers”. “We will be happy to meet innovation and incubation professionals from all around the world in Riga”, says **Janis Stabulnieks** Vice-President of BASTIC, Managing Director of the Latvian Technological Center, and founding member of SPICE Group. “We also will welcome



representatives of all types of innovation support institutions, innovation funding agencies, researchers and students from universities dealing with innovation, and knowledge transfer as well as representatives from ministries and municipalities.”

Taking into account success of previous Baltic Dynamics conferences in Riga in the years 2004 and 2007 the event certainly

will be one of the most important conferences on innovation, entrepreneurship, and business incubation. Part of the post-conference program there will be unique opportunity to visit the “wind tunnel”, participate in the show “**Flying Dynamics**” and to get personal experience with the feeling to be flying like a bird. The show will be performed by the Latvian innovative company “AERODIUM”

which made a show on the opening ceremony on the Torino Olympic games (see: www.aerodium.lv).

Looking forward in meeting you in Riga, the pearl of Baltics Contact: Janis Stabulnieks, email ltc@latnet.lv

SDO Profile: www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=253

SPICE Group at the Baltic Dynamics 2010

It has become a tradition: At Baltic Dynamics conferences SPICE Group offers a special seminar, workshop, or roundtable to discuss actual matters of innovation and entrepreneurship in a smaller circle of experienced professionals. Therefore these special events are for embers and invited guests only. But you can be invited. Just indicate your interest in this

year's roundtable on topics like “Generating income – how to run an incubator like a business?”, “Proving success – how to make stakeholders understand that the work generates results?”, or “Are there new opportunities in Green Technologies?”. Send an email to spice@spice-group.net or to the organizers of the Baltic Dynamic conference

Nokia Technopolis' Innovation Mill created more than 100 jobs and €5 million investment

Last year, Nokia, Technopolis and Tekes, Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation launched the **Nokia Technopolis Innovation Mill**, an initiative aimed at strengthening Finland's ICT cluster and spurring companies to create globally competitive products and services. The program has now stimulated the creation of 12 new companies and 120 new jobs, and Innovation Mill companies have raised over five million Euros in angel and venture capital funding.

“The program has gotten off to an encouraging start. Nokia wishes to offer support to Finnish ICT companies and help them to be competitive on an international scale. Collaborative initiatives of this kind benefit the community as a whole,” says Esko Aho, Nokia's Executive Vice President.

A three-year initiative, the Nokia Technopolis Innovation Mill has succeeded in building a new model for generating new businesses, products and services in Finland. It is the result of cooperation of the three mentioned parties with Technopolis coordinating the initiative and providing business development services to support the funding effort. In addition, these parties work very closely with 10 cities around Finland to provide funding and provide excellent support for the companies.

“We have now surpassed the goals we set for the first year of the initiative. By utilizing the existing innovations of Nokia's research and development and conveying ideas to Finnish ICT companies, we have reached our goal of stimulating the crea-

tion and growth of SMBs and jobs in Finland,” says SPICE member **Keith Silverang**, CEO of Technopolis.

In its first stages, the Nokia Technopolis Innovation Mill evaluated thousands of ideas, ca. 100 of which became part of the initiative. Through Nokia's contribution in terms of ideas, Technopolis' business development services as well as funding by Tekes and participating Finnish cities, **12 new businesses** with significant growth potential have been created. The ideas considered included innovations in the areas of environmental and energy-related solutions, location-based services, near field communication, security, healthcare and future internet services. In the first year of the initiative, 18 companies in all received positive funding decisions. Approximately ten more such decisions are expected to be made over the rest of 2010.

Tekes provides half of the program's overall public funding. The remaining half comes from the participating cities, which aim to develop their local ICT sectors. “The results of the program have exceeded expectations, and we at Tekes are very pleased. The Innovation Mill has already shown its merit.” says Dr. Saarnivaara, Director General of Tekes.

The Nokia Technopolis Innovation Mill aims to produce development projects with a value of 8 million Euros, of which 4.5 million would come in the form of public funding.

Contact: K. Silverang, email keith.silverang@technopolis.fi

MedVentures to identify the Top 100 Start-up companies

Invest in Med is launching **MedVentures 2010**, a competition targeting the top 100 innovative start-ups in Mediterranean partner countries. This EU funded initiative has the objective to highlight and support the best start-up businesses.

The competition, developed with more than 30 innovation, business and investment networks in the Mediterranean, is the first step towards the creation of a regional market place and service platform dedicated to the internationalization of high-growth ventures in the Mediterranean. The competition will help them to open up their business outreach through new partnership and investment opportunities.

MedVentures 2010 aims at creating new economic leaders in the Mediterranean by connecting promising entrepreneurs to funds, business clusters and innovation networks, talents, mentoring and coaching networks. It will mobilize key innovation stakeholders around entrepreneurs, working on cases studies, and developing focused and coordinated actions at a Euro-Mediterranean level.

Start-ups wishing to participate should apply to MedVentures via national partners who screen and coach the top 100 start-ups in 10 southern Mediterranean countries, coordinating ac-

tions with local innovation networks. The 10 best start-ups, one per country, will then be selected by the MedVentures jury on October 28, 2010 during the 2010 Europe INNOVA Conference. On December 3, 2010, the MedVentures finals and business forum will bring together all project partners, and highlight the top 3 Mediterranean start-ups who will receive a prize each (worth between €10,000 and €50,000), and will be connected with international investors and business partners. **More information:** www.medventures.biz

Invest in Med is a Euro-Mediterranean Network of organizations, funded by the EU with a budget of €9 million, committed to investment promotion and trade facilitation, strengthening SME collaboration and exchange of best-practices. It aims to increase the abilities and efficiency of Mediterranean Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs), thus enabling more foreign direct investment in the Mediterranean Partner Countries. This multi-country platform supports the economic development of the Mediterranean and reinforces cooperation between European and Mediterranean IPAs.

For more information, please visit: http://www.enpi-info.eu/mainmed.php?id_type=1&id=21356&lang_id=450

What is an Incubation Manager? Austrian training program provides answers

An initiative of VTÖ (Association of Austrian Technology Centers (www.vto.at)) found financial support of the Commission of the European Communities under the Life Long Learning Program. And this program has the right headline. "Business Incubation management is a continuous never ending learning process", said **Wolfgang Rupp**, Chairman of the Board of the Austrian association and member of SPICE Group. "From the idea to market success it is a process. The Incubation manager is a process-coach supporting existing SMEs and start-up entrepreneurs".

Incubation managers help SMEs to remain competitive by means of innovation (new products/services, new business ideas, diversification, know how transfer, etc) and to be able to grow in order to create jobs.

In an ever changing (globalizing) environment there is not one valid answer to such questions. This is why VTÖ developed a modular training program that enables incubation managers for find new answers to the questions. Each of the seven training modules has defined learning targets

Module 1 Introduction: To sensitize the participants to innovation / necessity of innovation for SME / entrepreneurs

Module 2 Strategy in general: Strategic tools, advantages and disadvantages of the tools, content of a business plan.

Module 3 Innovation in general: The basics of innovation (-strategy), controlling the process of innovation

Module 4 Searching and finding of innovations: The tools for finding ideas, how to create an invention-team, prepositions of the management to be inventive.

Module 5 Evaluation and selection of innovations: How to handle tools to evaluate an invention / innovation, marketing and amortization of an innovation, Innovation-SWOT

Module 6 Implementation of innovations: How to introduce a new product/service into the company and the market

decision strategy, evaluate the benefits for the customers and the company

Module 7 Controlling: To accompany a SME / start up during the starting time and finishing of an innovation-process – to secure the market-entrance.

"Incubation Manager" as a new European job profile with modular skills, learning materials with blended learning (face to face courses and/or web-based EU-wide learning material on www.ecqa.org European Certification and Qualification Association, ECQA. The certified training is based on the EQF – European Qualification Framework and offers training based on a modular structure

- (e-) Learning outcomes and references for Online self assessment, E-Learning, exam test portal
- A LMS Learning Management system (Moodle) for on-line learning
- Follow-up activities (Expert Certificate)

This Europe-wide qualification platform holds a large array of job profiles and skills sets of which the Incubation Manager is a part of. Interested trainees can browse the job profiles, sign up for courses and trainings and can be registered as certified trainers in their relevant topics.

The Incubation Manager Skill Set will be available for online exam testing. Certificates will be issued by an independent exam body of ECQA. After the end of the project "incubatraining" future incubation managers are able to evaluate their existing knowledge in an online browse the self-assessment performance criteria and is furthermore able to test her/his existing knowledge. Or take the MCQ exam and become a Certified Incubation manager.

New training workshops (incl. excel-tools, handed over to the participants) will be offered in autumn 2010.

Info www.adam-europe.eu/adam/homepageView.htm

More about training: The “Research Park 101” at the AURP conference

At the International AURP conference in Minnesota (see also page XX) another training option is offered on September 15, 2010, The **Research Parks 101**. As the title says this training is aimed at people working for research / science parks. The preliminary agenda includes topics like **Research Parks - What are they?** (Public Private Partnerships, University Research Models, Technology Commercialization, City/County/State/National & International); **Setting Up a Research Park** (Type of Park, University, Establishing Boards & Councils., Agreements, Ground Lease, Building, Sub-Lease, MOU's, IMOU's, Staff , Strategic Plan)

Research Park Setting Decisions: New Campus, Campus Expansion or Infill Development? (Feasibility Study, RFP's, Layout of Buildings Identifying Common Areas Infrastructure Open parking vs. parking terraces), **Financing Your Park** (Bonding, Master Developer, Grants, EDA/RDA Programs), **Marketing Your Park** (Creating a Niche, Business Partner Programs, Lessons learned) and finally a session about **Incubators in Research Parks**.

All in all this is a comprehensive program and a packed day of training. For more details, please visit the website <http://international.aurp.net/mc/page.do?sitePageId=111955&orgId=aii>

From the idea to market

The Austria Association of business incubators, VTÖ in June successfully concluded a project that set up a system to help bringing ideas to the marketplace. “**business pro austria**” brought together 15 project partners under the lead of the Technology and Innovation Center Steyr. VTÖ chairman and SPICE member **Wolfgang Rupp** was member of the project expert group.

Business pro Austria provides coaching for start-up entrepreneurs and SMEs through a defined process (Stage Gate®) with the involvement of business incubators in an open network with other actors in entrepreneurship and innovation

promotion, like experience businesses, tax advisors, marketing experts or financiers.

For the first round of the process 38 ideas were proposed, Ten proposals were selected for the nine month Star Gate process and accompanied by expert teams custom made for the specific projects. One of the projects already during the project phase resulted in a successful start-up company. During the project 77 organizations have joined partners and now form a nationwide network – preparing for a project continuation.

Information: website www.businessproaustria.at

Contact: Wolfgang Rupp, email office@rupp-pdp.com

New members



David Monkman

President and CEO of NBIA, the National Business Incubation Association, USA has joint SPICE Group as member.

He continues the more than ten years of membership of NBIA after taking over leadership of the association a

few months earlier from Dinah Adkins who will remain SPICE member as president eremita of NBIA. David Monkman brought wide international experience with him when

starting his new activity as NBIA president. He has worked in a number of countries in Asia and Africa and intends to expand the already wide international membership and activities of NBIA. As a concrete step during the recent annual conference of this association the “NBIA China” was announced to have started.

Also in SPICE Group David will actively seek partners for projects and initiatives that help promoting international collaboration for developing the business incubation industry.

Contact: David Monkman, email dmonkman@nbia.org

About members



Klaus Plate

Will speak at the 7th Annual Conference of the Technopolicy Network that will be held in Heidelberg end of September (see page 15)

‘**Building a World-Class Knowledge Region**’. Under this theme the event will focus on the role of interregional

alliances to elevate a region to a world-class knowledge region. How to create such regions and what are the key factors for success? Over the course of two days, various international speakers from government, industry, research institutions and others will give their insights and discuss the ingredients necessary to build a world-class knowledge region. The conference will take place in the Rhine-Neckar Triangle, a leading life science cluster in Europe. We are building a world-class program for you, so sign up and join us in Heidelberg to experience

it first hand!. The Rhine-Neckar Metropolitan Region, or Rhine-Neckar Triangle, located in the South-West of Germany, has a population of over 2,4 million inhabitants on an area of 5637 square kilometres, its three major cities are Mannheim, Ludwigshafen and Heidelberg

The Triangle has also brought forth one of the leading life science clusters in Europe, the Biotech Cluster Rhine-Neckar (BioRN), successfully integrating two renowned Universities-including the oldest in the country -, a significant number of prominent research institutions and an advanced industrial sector. Unique within Europe is the vast number of research institutions with the focus on cancer research at the Technology Park in Heidelberg. Furthermore, in 2008 BioRN was selected by the German government as one of the Top Clusters in Germany.

<http://www.technopolicy.net/annualconference/>

The SPICE Art Ball is rolling on Video

http://www.art-ball.net/keep_rolling.php

Available on the SPICE Art Ball website: The Triangle Jordan with the “story behind” as well as information about the artist that create the triangle and the host.

The Triangle Jordan is one of the 42 triangles representing countries with SPICE Group members on the SPICE Art Ball. This “ball project” has been initiated at the 15th Anniversary of the SPICE Group network in the year 2006 and since then rolled around the globe. Presentations on 3 continents, in 16 countries, 21 cities exhibited the SPICE Art Ball under the motto “Creativity for Innovation and Entrepreneurship - globally”: China (Shanghai), Dominican Republic (Julio Dolio), Germany (Berlin), Kyrgyzstan (Bishkek Issyk-Kul), Latvia (Riga), Lithuania (Vilnius), Macedonia (Skopje; Ohrid), Poland (Gdansk, Poznan), Russia (St. Petersburg, Petrozavodsk) Sweden (Stockholm) Thailand (Bangkok), and USA (St. Louis, Kansas City), Gdynia (Poland), St.



Petersburg (Russia), Petrozavodsk (Russia), Vilnius, Lithuania Stockom (Sweden)

Another example shown on the Art Ball website is the “Triangle Bahrain” that was among the early contributions and illustrates the Lithuanian individualism: It is the only triangle painted “top down”.

Triangle Jordan: www.art-ball.net/spice_art_ball_country.php?cnt=jordan*
Bahrain: www.art-ball.net/spice_art_ball_country.php?cnt=bahrain*



SPICA Art Ball Videos

Also on the Art Ball website videos of ArtBall presentations are available to give an impression of the respective event. For getting your own impression, please visit http://www.art-ball.net/keep_rolling.php Please note: the clips shown on the website are low resolution samples – you may order full quality clips on CD through the ArtBall website.

Innovation System Best Practices

In April 2010, InnoPraxis, Finland, hosted an international group of participants of the orientation training: Best Practices of the Innovation System. Participating experts represented organizations from Botswana, Hungary, Mauritius, Belgium, South Africa, Denmark and Lithuania. This set-up of participation supported discussion of this year’s main topic – internationalization of the innovation systems.



Among the impressions from the training the participants stressed the role and importance of discussions and learning from colleagues. A workshop, organized by InnoPraxis experts gave a good platform for international benchmarking and very active discussions. The training also showed the need for learning for learning practical experiences not only from the best practices but from mistakes.

Participants have valued highly the Finnish approach to innovation support, technology parks and business incubation and sometimes were surprised by Finnish self-criticism combined with high readiness to adapt to the most recent international challenges.



The main learning from the training stressed by participants included the importance of institutional framework in developing innovation system, business oriented and practical approach of the Finnish innovation system, low level of bureaucracy and simple and clear processes. Participants mentioned that as a result of the training they plan to create new measures in their home countries for start-up, spin-offs, and incubation and contribute to national innovation strategy as it is the key element of the successful innovation framework

Inno|Praxis Contact: Julia Roelofsen julia@innopraxis.fi

Views & Facts

Ingria-ITMO - New Incubator opened in St. Petersburg

In January 2010 the Director of JSC Technopark of St. Petersburg, Ilya Tolstoy, and the rector of St. Petersburg State University ITMO, Vladimir Vasiliev, opened the business incubator Ingria-ITMO on the territory of St. Petersburg State University of Information Technologies, Mechanics and Optics at the Birgevaya Line, 16. This incubator is a pilot project under the program of cooperation "Ingria" with the universities of St. Petersburg «I2U Center».

The Business Incubator "Ingria" aims to support new technology based start-up companies to support especially financing and market entry. The business incubator short after the opening already had 12 resident innovative companies, and is expecting to welcome additional incubation clients soon.

The Program «I 2 U Center» starts in 2010 and focuses on the interaction of business incubator "Ingria" and the leading St. Petersburg universities, research centers and organizations en-

gaged in research and development (R & D) and development. The main purpose of the program is development of entrepreneurial activity by attracting talented young people to high-tech business. This will be accomplished through the services provided to the business incubator and special events in local concentration of research activities.

Currently established partnerships with St. Petersburg State University ITMO and SPbGUT created a business incubator with total area of 922 sqm, recruited staff and selected candidates for the incubation process. Joint activities to attract students, graduate students and staff of departments and laboratories of universities to high-tech business will strengthen the outreach of the incubator.

For more information, please visit: <http://ingria-startup.ru/en/>
Contact: **Dmitry Stepkin** Project Coordinator, email d.stepkin@ingria-park-ru

10 Technology Incubators are changing the World

The US business magazine Forbes published an article that named "10 technology incubators that are changing the world." One of those incubators is not located in the USA, the Icehouse

in New Zealand. Forbes notes: "Since its inception in 2001 this incubator - a collaboration between Auckland Business School, The Boston Consulting Group, Telecom and Geni, Ernst & Young, HP and Microsoft - has launched 75 technology companies and has raised \$US50 million for them through its angel-investor network, the largest in New Zealand." NZTE's Incubator development Manager **Richard White** said the Forbes citation is recognition of the high quality work of New Zealand's most successful incubator and a reminder of the access that New Zealand businesses have to high quality tools and opportunities to support international business growth.

The other nine incubators on the Forbes list are the Advanced Technology Development Center (ATDC) in Atlanta, Georgia; the Environmental Business Cluster in San Jose, California, Houston Technology Center in Houston, Texas; the Massa-



chusetts Biomedical Initiatives in Worcester, Massachusetts; the Palo Alto Research Center (Palo Alto, California), the Research Park at the University of Illinois at Urbana, Champaign, Illinois; the Technology Innovation Center (Evanston, Illinois); the University Research Park & MGE Innovation Center at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Wisconsin, and the Y Combinator (Mountain View, California).

"Congratulations to the ten business incubators that according Forbes - are changing the world" said **Heinz Fiedler**, President of SPICE Group when being asked about his reaction to the Forbes report. "I am glad that an important business magazine like Forbes understands and recognizes the importance of incubation for economic development, but I suggest that there are many more incubators in other countries with significant impact. It could be worth looking around with a wider horizon."

Read yourself. The link to the Forbes report: www.forbes.com/2010/04/16/technology-incubators-changing-the-world-entrepreneurs-technology-incubator_slide.html

International VC Zone launched in Helsinki

Technopolis Press Release

End of May 2010 Technopolis and Greater Helsinki Promotion announced the launch of the Helsinki International VC Zone, an initiative aimed to providing top-tier, technology-focused international VCs with an easier way to conduct business in the Nordic Countries and find interesting companies for potential investments and/or partnerships.

At the VC Zone, international venture capital companies are provided with arranged meetings with pre-screened companies to add to their own agenda; full subscription to Technopolis Online - a leading English-language Finnish market intelligence service; access and visibility to the world-class MoneyTalks™ VC/Angel pitching events as a VC partner; and access to furnished offices during their visits to Finland. The services provided by Technopolis Oyj and Greater Helsinki Promotion Ltd. are free of charge.

By lowering the barriers for screening, analyzing, executing

and managing deals in Finland, VC Zone aims to create a service that facilitates the setting up of operations by international technology-focused venture capitalists, so that they will become more active in the Finnish market. Technopolis and Greater Helsinki Promotion are confident that the VC Zone will help to create long-lasting investment partnerships that benefit investors by introducing them to Finland's most promising high-tech start-up and growth companies, and in turn, make young Finnish companies grow into global players.

The initiators of the VC Zone expect that while Helsinki might be the starting point, it is obvious that the VC will look into the Finnish deal flow as a whole.

For additional information about VC Zone, please contact:

Karita Huotari, email: karita.huotari@technopolis.fi

For inquiries about the Helsinki International VC Zone

Olli Pölönen, email: olli.polonen@technopolis.fi

4-Country Symposium on Business Incubation Celebrates Networking in Southeast Asia

At a 4-day workshop in Jakarta, Indonesia, 14-17 June, organized by InWEnt (Capacity Building International-Germany) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development and the Department Perindustrian-Indonesia, there was emphasis on networking and dialogue among incubator programs both country-wide and region-wide. SPICE Girl Barbara Harley of the USA participated in the program as did Australian Phil Kemp who provided lessons learned from managing Perth's Business located in an historic prison complex. The workshop, attended by more than 60 incubation professionals, academics, and government officials from Indonesia, The Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam, was part of InWEnt's 4-year program of workshops, training programs, and train-the-trainer sessions on business incubation. Called ['bizi] (Business Incubation in Southeast Asia), the program is one of many such activities headed up by InWEnt's senior project manager, Dr. Joachim Langbein. Through its partnerships with lead government agencies in each of the four Southeast Asian countries, the ['bizi] program has facilitated the establishment of almost two dozen incubators in the region and had an impact of a number of other ones.

Most of this workshop's activities, leading to intensive networking among the various participants, were carried out in small groups of 8-10 individuals with the encouragement of



The Philippine group displays festival dress during dinner.

the symposium's leader – Frank Wältring (Germany), a specialist in economic development and in participatory environments. Creative concepts for immediate and future out-

comes of the workshop evolved through writing and drawing on paper tablecloths, on very large pin boards, and on case study mapping posters.

Dr. Chachanat Thebtaranonth, vice president of NSTDA, Thailand's National Science and Technology Development Agency, gave a valuable



Ideas noted on the table clothes among the coffee cups

and inspiring talk that reinforced the concept of the potential impact of business incubators on a country's expansion into a knowledge-based society. She described her country's place in global competitiveness and the impact of the NSTDA funding and support on innovation. The message was very clear that Thailand's careful development of a science park network and of more than 80 business incubators, coupled with meaningful financial support, business services support, and R&D guidance, was paying significant dividends throughout the country.

Although he was unable to attend this particular program, the SPICE Group's own world-sailor, Franz Dietrich, who had lead many of the capacity building programs for InWEnt in Southeast Asia, was quoted frequently throughout the 4 days.

Contact: Barbara Harley, email Blharley@aol.com

Joachim Langbein: joachim.langbein@inwent.org



Indonesian group introduces itself and its incubators in IT, agriculture, textiles, and leather products

and inspiring talk that reinforced the concept of the potential impact of business incubators on a country's expansion into a knowledge-based society. She described her country's place in global competitiveness and the impact of the NSTDA funding and support on innovation. The message was very clear that Thailand's careful development of a science park network and of more than 80 business incubators, coupled with meaningful financial support, business services support, and R&D guidance, was paying significant dividends throughout the country.

Petrozavodsk, Karelia: The Third Business Extreme Forum

The 3rd International Business Extreme Forum "Traditions and Culture. Training Innovators" will be held August 6-9 August 2010 in the Republic of Karelia, Russia.

This Forum will again provide a unique environment for generating new ideas, establishing business relationships, and exploring advanced views and experiences.

The Forum's regular participants include representatives of international business community as well as representatives of Russian federal and executive authorities, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russian Venture Company, Foundation for Assistance to Small Innovative Enterprises (FASIE), Bank VTB 24, Nefteprombank, ONEXIM Group, Russian Microfinance Centre, National Union of Business Angels of Russia (SBAR), Agency for Innovative Entrepreneurship Develop-

ment, Moscow Training Foundation, Russian Union of Innovative Technological Centers, and other organizations.

This year the Forum participants will be challenged to discuss the perspectives of development of innovative entrepreneurship based on social responsibility and human values, and the traditions in forming business moral. Beside the traditional business program the Forum participants will be encouraged to become experts of the 2nd International Innovative Forum "Hyperborea: Youth in Action" which will host more than 1,500 young people from 20 countries.

The Draft Program for this year's event is available at <http://www.b-xtreme.ru>.

Contact: Ms. Inna Gudovich, Executive Director of the Forum, email: inna.gudovich@gmail.com

Last Minute: Chance to register for the Third SPOAC

Indeed, registration for the Third SPICE SPOAC would be last minute now – and we cannot guarantee availability of hotel rooms anymore. But we would try whatever possible for allowing members to attend this special event.

A unique combination of a workshop, a picnic, and an open air Beethoven concert last time was offered ten years ago.

The Third SPICE Picnic and Open Air Concert (SPOAC) will take place in Martonvásár (not far from Budapest), Hungary. For more information, please contact: spice@spice-group.net



Business Incubation in MENA

This page provides information about incubation activities and programs from the MENA region (Middle East and North Africa). MENA^{inc} is the regional network of business incubators and technology parks that has been set up with support from the infoDev program. For more information, visit <http://idisc.infodev.org/en/Region.5.html> or contact Mr. Omer Oz at omeroz1@gmail.com



Abu Dhabi

University Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center to be launched soon

The Abu Dhabi University has officially announced the launch of the "Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center", that will consist of three components:

- Proof of concept center: to attract senior students and graduates in addition to faculty members interested to commercialize their technical projects or researches. The center also will offer a training and mentoring program for all potential startups. A degree program in partnership between our business school and one potential partner university is planned to be offered in a later stage.
- Business and technology incubator to offer all incubation and capacity building services to incubated startups as a second phase.

- Long term perspective is an Innovation and Technology Park to be launched to host technological enterprises and to support the incubator and the proof of concept center creating the enabling environment for the growth and development of innovative technology based SMEs.

Work for developing a detailed plan is still not finalized. But an awareness raising campaign and network building of partners and shareholders are well under way. As project start the proof of concept center is scheduled to be launched later this year.

SPICE Update will continue to report on this new initiative in Abu Dhabi as soon as further details become available.

Contact: Rima Shaban, email rima.shaban@gmail.com

Business Incubation in Africa

This page provides information about incubation activities and programs from the AFRICA region. AIN is the regional network of business incubators and technology parks that has been set up with support from the infoDev program. For more information, please visit the website <http://www.infodev.org/en/Project.22.html> or contact Lalane van Rensburg, lalane@sbti.co.za



AIN

Celebrating Incubation in Africa 2010

South Africa is not only hosting the FiFa World Cup 2010. This country also has a successful track record in business incubation. But not only incubation experience from South Africa is interesting to know about. This is easy to understand by having a look at a brochure that was published by the Africa Incubation Network (AIN) with support from infoDev, SEDA, SABTIA, and Furntech. This publication contains information about "Critical success factors for an incubator" and provides "Checklists for successful incubation". It also reports on "The

story of business and technology incubation in South Africa" and offers information about the South African Incubator Network (SABTIA) as well as short profiles of business incubators in Angola, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda. The combination of overviews, summaries of experiences and practical insights makes this publication worth reading!

The brochure „Celebrating Incubation in Africa 2010" is available on www.idisc.net/en/Article.38994.html

South Africa

Last SPICE Update reported on the new board of AIN, the Africa Incubation Network. The Chairperson, Michael Reddy is chief executive officer of Furntech. In this issue of our newsletter we provide more information about this organization. Furntech is set up to be South Africa's Centre of Excellence for the furniture industry and an information hub for business incubation and skills development in furniture manufacturing. Quality service delivery has resulted in the Forest Industries Education and Training Authority (FIETA) recognizing Furntech as the Institute of Sectoral and Occupational Excellence for the industry. The components of Furntech's integrated service are:

- Business Technology Incubation (SME's)
- Vocational Skills Development

These services are available at all Furntech centers which are spread around the country as a basis for accomplishing Furntech's mandate: Improving skills levels in the industry, raising the level of global competitiveness, stimulating job and SME creation and transferring new technologies to industry partners

The Furntech facilities offer a combination of training, business and technical support:

- Technology entrepreneurs space for entrepreneurs
- Technical expertise for furniture production
- Shared-use facilities with modern equipment
- Accredited training programs presented by qualified and experienced facilitators.

Furntech's Business Technology Incubation Model has been designed to assist existing and potential entrepreneurs and businesses through the early stages of developing and growing the business; to ensure that small business entrepreneurs in the woodworking and furniture industries grow into successful business people who are well grounded financially and secure in their knowledge.

SPICA Profile: www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2245

Contact: Michael Reddy, michaelr@furntech.org.za

Website: <http://www.furntech.org.za/>



Business Incubation in Latin America

This page provides information about incubation activities and programs from the Latin America and Caribbean region. Relapi is the regional network of business incubators and technology parks that has been set up with support from the infoDev program. For more information, please visit the website http://www.relapi.org/site_novo/index.php



Mexico *Award 2009 for the ITESCO incubator*

The incubator PROGINNT of ITESO is an organization that incubates new companies; preferably high-tech project operates with public and private funds. The technical areas of expertise are software development, electronic design, and biotechnology, food processing and recycling.

PROGINNT since inception in 2004 the incubator has supported more than 45 technology companies in the region, of which over 85% still active. More than 30 companies already graduated from the incubator that serves about 10 new projects each year and more than 10 companies in projects of post incubation. PROGINNT is located in the new Technology Park ITESO and its facilities are designed specifically for technology companies. By being part of the Technological Park ITESCO the incubator also can offer space for growth for its successful client firms.

The incubator pays special attention to internal and external partnerships for securing access to the of widest possible

range of expertise and support. Partners are, for example, the Competitive Intelligence Center, the University-Enterprise Center, JOVEM Departments of Electronics, Systems and Informatics, the Department of Economics, Administration and academic Marketing as well as a wide range of governmental agencies.

Active participation in national and international networks of entrepreneurship, incubation and innovation also has been important to stay focused on a group of sectors relevant to the state. Primarily electronics, software and green industries, were identified as the best

Last but not least, it is social and ethical commitment to the environment, customers, suppliers, sponsors and partners, are consider basic to generate the confidence required for this type of project.

Contact: Ms. Sara Ortiz, jebt@iteso.mx

SDO Profile: www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2239

Nicaragua *Business Incubator INSPIRE is starting*

The infoDev supported project to establish a business incubator in Managua soon will take the first steps of realization. The pilot phase of the incubator is started in early July 2001 to welcome its first client companies. During coming six months the incubator will build up the service and advisory capacities needed for full operation that is planned to begin once renovation of the final facilities has been accomplished.

Shareholders of INSPIRE, Incubadora de Empresas de Nicaragua are UNI, National University of Engineering, UCC, the University of Commercial Sciences for Science and Technology and COBICYT, the National council for Science and Technology. Further shareholders are invited and CADIN, Chamber of Industries of Nicaragua, is ready for joining shortly. The project start is the result of intensive work of a project team made up by representatives of the named institutions, complimented by AGORA Partnerships, a seed/venture capital in Managua. infoDev is providing financial support as well as advice by consultants from Argentina and German. On May 17, 2010 the grant agreement between the project partners in Nicaragua and infoDev was signed in Managua establishing the basis for the beginning of the project pilot phase. The photo shows the participants of the signing ceremony (from left to right): Jorge Quintana, General Secretary UCC, Guadalupe Martínez,



Executive Secretary CON-ICYT; Rick van der Kamp, officer of the IFC, and Aldo Urbina Villalta, Rector of UNI.

The official launch of the program "Business incubator" on June 23, 2010 was celebrated by a workshop with wide participation of organizations from the public and private sector, opened by the Vice President of Nicaragua Morales Carazo. At the presidium of left to right: Guadalupe Martínez, Jorge Quintana, Aldo Urbina Villalta, Vice President Morales Carazo; Rick van der Kamp, Aura Ivana Aráuz, Manager of the new Nicaraguan incubator INSPIRE and Telemachus Talavera, President of the National Council of Universities, and



Director of the National Agrarian University (UNA). Meanwhile the preliminary facilities have been renovated so that first client firms soon will be admitted for moving into the incubator.

<http://impreso.elnuevodiario.com.ni/2010/06/24/economia/126829>

Nicaragua *University Entrepreneurship Programs exchange Experiences*

With the Conference "Nicaragua Innova" held early July in Managua, Nicaragua, the university entrepreneurship programs of the country provided information about their experiences and discussed activities for the near future. Not only Nicaraguan universities presented, but also ministries and governmental organizations as well as the private sector represented by the Chambers. Participation of speakers from neighboring coun-

tries as well as Sweden widened the basis for discussion. Especially Chalmers University in Gothenburg, Sweden has decades of experience in supporting entrepreneurship that well could be used to learn from. The technology park at Chalmers university and the Chalmers Innovation Business Incubator are well-known players in business incubation SDO Profile. <http://www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=1812>

Business Incubation in ECA

This section provides information about incubation activities and programs from the ECA region (Eastern Europe and Central Asia). ECA^{bit} is the regional networks of business incubators and technology parks that has been set up with support from the infoDev program. For more information, please visit the website <http://www.ecabit.org/> or contact Todor Yalamov todor.yalamov@online.bg



South-East Europe

Business Incubators in South East Europe supported by Norwegian Institutions

Business incubators in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, and Romani are supported by funding from Norway and transfer of knowledge from Norwegian organizations active in innovation promotion and entrepreneurship support. The main Norwegian partners are SIVA and SINTEF (see boxes inserted on this page)

SIVA – The Industrial Development Corporation of Norway

is a governmental corporation and national instrument founded in 1968. SIVA aims to develop strong regional and local industrial clusters through ownership in infrastructure, investment and knowledge networks as well as innovation centers.

The goal is improvement of national infrastructure for innovation. SIVA's main objective is to contribute to the achievement of the Norwegian government's policy goals in remote areas, and within this framework contributes to unleash innovation capability and increase wealth creation in all parts of the country.

The enterprise is organized in main areas Real Estate, Innovation, Industry and International. Special tasks are organized separately. SIVA corporation has ownership in 150 companies (includes subsidiaries).

Info: <http://www.siva.no>

The “RoNoMar” Maritime Innovation Center in Constanta, Romania aims at promoting social and economic development in the country, especially to strengthen the maritime sector. This project is financed by Norwegian EEA fund and run by the Science Park Ålesund Kunnskapsark, Norway. Info: the website of RoNoMar does not contain actual project or contact information. Most data appears to be out of date.

“CroNoMar”, the Maritime and Marine Innovation Center in Sibenik, Croatia is a focused on stimulating entrepreneurship and creating new business

businesses in the marine/maritime sector, shipbuilding, marine engineering, fishery, aquaculture, oceanography, and related areas. The planned incubator is run the Norwegian science park Leiv Eriksson Nyskaping and financed by Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The current ambition of CroNoMar is to establish the iNavis Centre through the reconstruction of existing facilities (former military camp).

Info: see website <http://www.cronomar.hr/>

The “YES” IT incubator in Skopje, Macedonia is already known to our readers from earlier reports. YES has been set up to strengthen the local innovation system by stimulating entre-

preneurship among the youth. YES is a project operated by SINTEF and financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

SPICA: <http://www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2053>

Info: see website <http://www.yesincubator.org.mk/>

The “BIT” incubator in Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina provides a supportive environment for new and growing ICT busi-

nesses. It is a project run by SIVA & SINTEF and financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

SPICA: www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2168

Info: <http://www.bit.ba/>

Not located in Southeast Europe, but also supported by Norwegian finance and know-how is the “Polar Star” incubator in Murmansk, Russia - the first Norwegian-Russian business incubator that has been initiated by SIVA and financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Trade and Development Polar Star specializes on support to Norwegian and Russian

SINTEF

was established in 1950 by the Norwegian Institute of Technology (NTH), which now forms part of the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU).

SINTEF is to encourage technological and other types of industrially oriented research and to meet the need for research and development in the public and private sectors.

SINTEF is a multidisciplinary research organization with world class expertise in specific fields. SINTEF cooperates closely with universities, the authorities and industry

SINTEF utilizes its competence to develop societies - nationally and internationally, for example in Namibia, helping to ensure that people with disabilities are given practical mobility aids or in Macedonia, with building networks between a newly revived industrial sector and university groups.

Info: <http://www.sintef.no/Home/>

companies and entrepreneurs who intend to start up business in North-West Russia. SPICE Update already reported on this incubator in several issues.

SPICA: <http://www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2047>

Info: <http://polarstar.barentsnova.com/>

In May 2010 a workshop in Tuzla, Bosnia & Herzegovina, brought together incubators established with financial support from Norway. Fostering the exchange of experience, triggering cooperation, and generating synergy between the projects with Norwegian finance were important aims of the event.

For more information also visit <http://www.ecabit.org/?p=311>

Uzbekistan

Business Incubators contribute to economic Success

By Valijon Amanlikov

After gaining independence, Uzbekistan has chosen its own path of development. As a result, the country maintained macroeconomic stability and economic growth, created a reliable financial system, and achieved energy independence. The state budget consistently results in a surplus, growth is observed in all sectors of economy, new jobs are created and incomes are growing. A great contribution to the dynamic development of the country is made by new high-tech industries like automo-

Motive, oil and gas, chemical, and electrical.

All this has become a solid foundation for mitigating the negative impact on the economy of the world financial crisis. The anti-crisis program for 2009 – 2012 made it possible not only to maintain the previously achieved results, but also to lay the foundation for future intensive development. Exports are exceeding USD 11.771 billion with more than 70 percent of products being with high added,

continued on next page

(continued from page 12) value. At the same time, the social sector every year receives more than 50 percent of the state budget, which contributes significantly to development of human capital, including improvements of the education institutions.

To further support to small businesses during the first quarter of this year to credit resources was improved. The volume of loans from commercial banks to small businesses and private entrepreneurship was 625.1 billion UZS, or 1,4 times more than the same period in 2009, including 116.5 billion UZS of microcredit has increased in 1,5 times. During the first quarter of this year the number of registered small businesses (excluding farms) increased by 1,3% and amounted to 227.2 thousand. Increase in the share of small business in GDP - from 36.2% in the first quarter of 2009 to 38,0%, in industry - from 14,1% to 15,8%, in employment - from 73.1% to 74, 3%. During the reporting period, active steps to encourage the introduction

of innovative technologies in the manufacturing sector were taken. The **network of 30 business incubators** plays an important role. During the year 2009 107 SME (17 in the field manufacture and 41 service companies), also 49 agriculture entities were incubated. They delivered products for a total of 800 mln. UZS and also created 725 new jobs. 72 SME graduated from the business-incubation process. At the end of last year more than 400 SME were in business incubation's process. With support of business incubators 300 investment projects with attraction of credit of financial institutions and grants from international donors have been implemented, totaling more than 4.7 billion UZS and 125 000 USD. The various short courses organized by business incubators last year trained 6000 people. Currently, 400 SMEs in business incubation work within the Uzbek business incubator network.

Contact: Valijon Amanlikov, email amanlikov@rambler.ru

Belarus

2nd Belarusian Innovation Forum

In November 2010 Minsk will host the International Conference of Applied Science "2nd Belarusian Innovation Forum". It is the main annual event in Belarus to review the best national and foreign theories and experiences in innovation-related activity. The key organizers of the Forum are the State Committee on Science and Technology of Belarus, the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, several national ministries and state concerns, the executive committees of the six administrative regions and the Minsk Municipal Executive Committee, a few foreign embassies accredited in Belarus, the National Library of Belarus, the Belarusian Innovation Foundation, the Republican Centre for Technology Transfer, the Belarus Hi-Tech Park, business associations from across Belarus, etc.

This year's Forum will be held supported by the Cooperation Foundation of the Central European Initiative (CEI), the UNDP Office in Belarus, and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The objectives are

- to appraise the present status of the innovation system;
- to exchange the world's experience and find guidelines towards boosted innovation-based development of Belarus;
- to inform the national and international public about the progress made in the innovation-related activity across Belarus, the CIS and CEI countries.

The conference will be held in Russian and English. Deadline for applications: **October 30, 2010** online www.konferencii.ru/info?id=25953 , email innovationforum@mail.ru

Mongolian Incubators get boost by International Conference and Training

The Mongolian National Business Incubator Federation held its Business Incubator Conference and International Forum in early June 2010 in Mongolia's capital Ulaanbaatar. More than 500 participants could select from training sessions, workshops, panel discussions, bilateral meetings, networking lunches and incubator tours.

At this time 12 business incubators re working in Mongolia funded by the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, Additionally four SME Development Centers are funded by the Department of Agriculture. About 220 businesses are served by these 16 centers.

The Department of Social Welfare and Labor, the Mongolian National Business Incubation Federation and Khan Bank signed a *Memorandum of Understanding* at the conference, committing to ongoing support to business incubation.

The objective of Mongolia's First International Forum on Business Incubation was to "build the capacity of sustainable

business incubation and entrepreneurship development by promoting services based on new ideas and innovation". Therefore the topics for discussion included: Innovation and sustainable entrepreneurship; capacity building of small businesses; Marketing; Financing incubators and incubators clients; State role to support small businesses.

Prior to the Forum a two-days training program of infoDev was held for 80 incubator managers, focusing on Marketing your Incubator; Developing a Mentor Program and Financing for Incubator Clients

The Federation introduced an annual award program "Golden Egg" for the most successful business incubator tenant. The first winner was presented with a trophy depicting a Golden Egg and a prize of approximately USD800 from the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare.

More information: <http://www.idisc.net/en/Article.39015.html>
SDO Profile: www.spica-directory.net/associations/?id=144

Innovative Russia

September appears to become a months of innovation and business cooperation in the Russian Federation. There are two parallel conferences on innovation and business-to-business collaboration to be held September 23 – 25, 2010: The "European-Russian Business Forum" in St. Petersburg and the "Sibe-

rian International Innovative Business Congress" in Novosibirsk. But this is not all. The "St. Petersburg International Innovation Forum" in St. Petersburg is to follow the same month beginning September 28. For more information, please check page 14 or www.spice-group.net/events

Important upcoming Events

<http://www.spice-group.de/events/>

If the conference hosts / organizers are represented in **SPICE Group** the respective logo is shown at the event. As the full list of events is taking too much space in the newsletter only a brief overview can be provided. We recommend visiting the "Events" section on the SPICE Group website. This page also offers the feature to put your own event on the list – directly and online. Just click on "[Add new information](#)" and you will be guided through the simple process.

August 23 – 25, 2010, Dalian, China: The NBIA International Training and Soft Landings Conference



NBIA and the Dalian Business Incubation Association (DBIA) announced a joint event with a focus on business incubation management training, Soft Landings, and international cooperation. Highlights of the event include an intensive, one-day

international certificate program for incubator managers (new and experienced) and the International Business Incubation and Soft Landings Exchange; a whole day's program targeting international incubation. Tours of the business incubators in Dalian and a tour to Shanghai /World Expo 2010

Information: www.nbia.org

September 12 – 15, 2010, Cairns, Queensland, Australia: 2010 Small Business Development Conference



The three key Australian associations representing business incubation, support and training, Business Innovation and Incubation Australia (BIIA), Business Enterprise Centres Australia (BEC Australia) and the National NEIS Association (NNA) will jointly host their annual national conference. They will be joined by the Small Enterprise Association of Australia and

New Zealand (SEAANZ), offering an opportunity for the academic and the practitioner of the business assistance community to gain insight into business in the Asia-Pacific Region. The conference also incorporates the 15th AABI Conference on Business Incubation.

More information: www.intent2010.com
Contact: Paula Beare, conference@becaustralia.org.au

September 15- 17, 2010 in Minnesota, USA: AURP International Conference



Creating Communities of Innovation

Global research park leaders will meet in Minneapolis, Minnesota in 2010 for the **AURP International Conference: Building the Innovation Engine.**

Featuring pre-conference intensives and unmatched networking opportunities, the conference will focus on research park

best practices and new opportunities to grow this emerging sector. Hosted by the University of Minnesota Academic Health Center in one of the country's emerging life science centers, this conference will draw the brightest minds in on the future of research parks.

Contact: Victoria Palmer: vickiepalmer@aurp.net

September 15- 17, 2010 in Riga, Latvia: Baltic Dynamics 2010



The Baltic Dynamics 2010 conference, the meeting place for innovation & entrepreneurship professionals will be held in Riga, Latvia with the main topics

- Sustainable development of Innovation Systems
- Education & Research - components of innovation systems
- Technology transfer - catalyst for efficient knowledge flow
- The role of cooperation (associations, networks, clusters, etc.) in the development of innovation system

The following pre-conference events are planned:

- Baltic Sea Region Cooperation (BSR)
- Soft landing program for SMEs in BSR – project SMEDGE (Interreg)
- EEN Network on technology transfer
- project EEN Latvia (CIP)
- How to evaluate efficiency of research systems in small countries – project ERA-PRISM

A SPICE Group Workshop will complement the program.

Information: <http://www.balticdynamics.com>

Contact: info@balticdynamics.com



September 23 – 25, 2010 in St. Petersburg, Russia: European-Russian Business Forum

The Association of the European Businesses and North-West Development and Investment Promotion Agency under auspices of the Association "North-West" and the Northern Dimension Business Council organize the First European and Russian Business Forum. in St. Petersburg.

The Forum will provide information on practical aspects of doing business in Europe and Russia about Russian businesses in Europe and will compare expectations and reality.

Special focuses will be health and pharmaceuticals as well as electro energy and energy efficiency. Investment opportunities within the Russian regions and an investment projects catalogue Will be presented in addition to individually arranged business-to-business meetings.

Information and registration on website: www.investa.spb.ru

Contact: Oksana Grinyuk grinyuk@investa.spb.ru



September 23 – 25, 2010 in Novosibirsk, Russia: Siberian International Innovative Business Congress

"The Key to Russian Innovations" is the title of the "Siberian International Innovative Business Congress" that will to bring together multinational corporations, entrepreneurs from the G20 countries, innovators from Siberia and Russia, policy-

makers and business leaders of Russia. The mission of the Congress is to be a source of new opportunities for innovative development. More information about the Congress, and registration at: <http://www.innsib.com>.

September 28 - Oct 1, 2010 in St. Petersburg, Russia: St. Petersburg International Innovation Forum

The St. Petersburg International Innovation Forum 2010 and the Innovation Russia Exhibition this year it will be held September 28 – October 1 in St. Petersburg, Russia as part of the Russian Innovation Week. The organizer, RESTEC Exhibition Company was founded in 1990 and today is one of the five leaders of Russian exhibition business. The 2010 Forum program covers all the market levels (from technology innovation to consumer goods) and reflects the Russian priority innovation trends, especially: ICT, manufacturing; materials and chemical

products; fuel and power energy; and environmental management and transport.

The Innovation Forum is a main innovation event of St. Petersburg. The Forum is an umbrella event composing congresses, exhibitions, business and cultural programs. The Exhibition will feature Russian and foreign experience of implementing innovative strategies.

Contact: Mr. Kirill Pakhryaev, skandmarket@restec.ru



September 30 - Oct 1, 2010 in Heidelberg, Germany: Building a World-Class Knowledge Region

The Technopolicy Network has announced its 7th Annual Conference, "Building a World-Class Knowledge Region. The conference is organized in cooperation with BioRN Cluster Management GmbH. The conference focuses on the role of interregional alliances to elevate a region to a world-class knowledge

region. During the two days, international speakers from government, industry, research institutions and others will give their insights and discuss the ingredients necessary to build a world-class knowledge region. For more conference information, visit website www.technopolicy.net/annualconference/

October 5-6, 2010 in Poznan, Poland: 15th Anniversary Conference of Poznan S&T Park



This conference will be held at the **15th Anniversary of Poznan Science and Technology Park**, the first such park in Poland that opened in 1995. Organized in cooperation

with PBICA, the Polish Business and Innovation Center Association this conference will summarize experience accumulated during recent fifteen years of active work in innovation and entrepreneurship support in Poland as well as abroad. The event thereby will link with the first conference held in Poland on science and technology parks that took place in 1998, organized by the Adam Mickiewicz Foundation that also

also is the organization "behind" the Poznan Science and Technology Park. and discuss perspective. Already before the first S&T park

conference SPICE Group had been in close contact with the people working hard and successfully to initiate business incubation and technopark initiatives in Poland. A good basis for now supporting the initiatives leading to future development of innovation and entrepreneurship support in Poland.

Contact: [Elzbieta Ksiazek](mailto:elzbieta.ksiazek@ppnt.poznan.pl); elzbieta.ksiazek@ppnt.poznan.pl
SDO Profile: <http://www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=43>



October 20-22, 2010 in Cologne, Germany:

The 14th Annual Interdisciplinary Entrepreneurship Conference G-Forum 2010 will take place in Cologne in Germany. Leading organizer of this year's conference are the Department of Information Systems University of Cologne and the Richard Cologne competence network for technology-and knowledge-based companies as well as CENSET - Center for Scientific Entrepreneurship and Transfer. The objective of the two-day

G-Forum is to encourage scientific discussion and the exchange of ideas among entrepreneurship scholars, entrepreneurs and policy makers. The keynote will be extended by Prof.

Dr. Wolfgang Ketterle (Nobel Prize in Physics 2001) from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (USA)

More details on website <http://www.gforum2010.de/>



November 24 -26, 2010 in Perth, Western Australia: Joint IASP-ASPA Conference

The 2010 IASP-ASPA Joint Conference on Science and Technology Parks will be held under the title "The Asia-Pacific Region's Innovation Hot Spots - Opportunities for Sustainable Collaboration". The Technology Park Bentley will be

14th joint conference of ASPA, the Asian Science Park Association and IASP, Internationals Science and Technology Park Association in Perth, Western Australia.

Contact: 2010iasp-asp@iceaustralia.com

November 18 -19, 2010 in Minsk, Belarus: 2nd Belarusian Innovation Forum

The International Conference of Applied Science "2nd Belarusian Innovation Forum" will be held to summarize and review national and foreign theories and experience in innovation-related activity. For organizing this event a number of Belarusian and foreign institutions cooperate (see page 14).

The objectives of the Forum are to appraise the present status of the innovation system; to exchange experience; and to inform the national and international public about innovation-related activity across Belarus, the CIS and CEI countries.

Info: <http://www.konferencii.ru/info?id=25953>

2011

March 2011 in San Jose, California, USA: 26th International NBIA conference



Have you been missing the annual conference of UK Business Incubation in November 2010? No, don't worry. You did not miss that event.

UK Business incubation decided to change the conference date from November to March. Those who know about No-

vember weather in the UK (like in other regions of Europe at that time of the year) will appreciate this change.

Curious about the conference place, topics and program? Have a look at the UKBI website that will provide further information in due time.

Contact Faye Busby, email f.busby@ukbi.co.uk

April 10 -13, 2011 in San Jose, California, USA: 26th International NBIA conference



San Jose, right in heart of the Silicon Valley with numerous business incubators of different kind around and not far from San Francisco: This is the place for NBIA's next annual conference. As the twenty-five conferences before this event cer-

tainly. One more time will be the meeting place for business incubation professionals from around the globe. Preconference seminars and parallel conference sessions, roundtables, and workshops will offer a wide range of topics to discuss and to About te basics and te future of business incubation.

Information: www.nbia.org

May 30 –June 03, 2011 in Helsinki, Finland: Fourth Global Forum on Innovation and Entrepreneurship

The 4th infoDev Global Forum on Innovation & Entrepreneurship will be held in Helsinki, Finland May 30 – June 3, 2011 in cooperation with the Government of Finland. Building on the Global Forums held in India in 2004 and 2006, and in Bra-2009, infoDev confirmed the dates for the fourth Forum well in time. With its strong national innovation policy and strategic international networks Finland presents a stimulating platform for infoDev's global community of innovation & entre-

ship practitioners, thought leaders, stakeholders and donors. infoDev and the government of Finland working to design a program that is on the cutting edge of the innovation & entrepreneurship agenda. Continuously updated information is available on infoDev's website:

<http://www.idisc.net/en/Article.38991.html>



September 11 -13, 2011 in Perth, Western Australia: 3rd International Conference of Fashion Incubators

A **Call for Papers** for the 3rd International Conference of Fashion Incubators was published by the conference organizers. This Fashion Incubator Conference will offer new opportunities for fashion business educators and fashion traders from around the globe to network, discuss best practice and expand

global designer marketing and promotional opportunities. It will also launch an International Fashion Incubator Organization that will form strategic alliances.

Closing date for papers: January 31, 2011. Papers are to be sent to conference@tcfglobal.com

Services for Members

SPICA Directory Online (SDO) – More actualized information

Profiles of incubators, technology parks and associations in SPICA Directory Online continuously are being added or updated as well as adapted to the new format of the profiles. Therefore at any time it is worth having a look, and see what is new in the directory.

The new format of the profiles in SPICA Directory now allows providing visual information (logo and pictures as well as general introductory text. And "behind the scenes"

SPICA Directory now began with providing comparative statistical data – only available to individual incubators and parks that provide up-to-date and complete information.



All readers are invited to insert a new profile. Simply visit www.spica-directory.net and in the main menu click on "Insert new profile". The system then provides instructions for

implementing a new profile and helps avoiding double registration of incubators

Users implementing a profile also receive a user name and password for **free access** to the full directory.

Of course, also existing profiles should be updated. This also can be done online. For this a user ID or password is needed. In case you do not have your access data available, contact update@spice-group.net

And finally...

We wish relaxing and enjoyable summer holidays to those having the opportunity during the warm season of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. The others living on the Southern parts of the globe hopefully will not experience too cold and uncomfortable weather at this time.

We also hope that the FiFa World cup did not consume too much time of our readers (and the results are satisfying regarding their favorite team) so that the workload that piled up is not too heavy – and some time is left for supplying us with information for the next issue of SPICE Update about what is going on in incubation and entrepreneurship support in your organization or country.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon – and meeting with you personally at one of the upcoming events

Heinz Fiedler & Larisa Brovarska

SPICE Update is the newsletter of SPICE Group. In general this newsletter is published 6 - 8 times per year and regularly delivered free of charge to members of the network as well as selected partners. Articles for publication are invited and will be published under the name of the author. Although we do our best for making sure that published information is correct we cannot accept responsibility for errors that may occur nor for the content of website links provided. Editor: Heinz Fiedler, SPICE Group, Niedstr. 40, 12159 Berlin, Germany, Email update@spice-group.net
