



UPDATE No. 107

For members *first*

December 2013

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Dear Member and Reader,

It goes on and on. Events bringing together large crowds of ICT related would-be entrepreneurs with successful business people; financiers etc. make an endless row. Reports on this events list the names of speakers, the “star entrepreneurs”, but hardly say anything about the outcome for participants. And all attention is focused on “apps and friends”. But there are signs of hope. The “Pioneers” event in Vienna put light on a wider spectrum of technology entrepreneurship.

We wish peaceful, enjoyable and relaxing Holiday Season with family or friends and partners - if you are celebrating Christmas

*Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year 2014*

To those who celebrated Aïd EL Adha we wish you with some delay (sorry!) that you enjoyed the holidays and gained new energy for meeting the challenges to come and all projects you are working on or plan to start.

For the year 2014 we wish you all peace and health, happiness and success, and that your dreams and wishes turn to reality.



G&G 2014: University Pre-Incubation, Technology Diffusion, and Clusters

Attended by 18 participants from 6 countries the **Forth SPICE G & G Workshop** was hosted by PROFUND, the start-up service of the Free University of Berlin in one of their four incubation locations: The Entrepreneurs house that has been given for this purpose by Prof Günther Faltn who once himself started a successful business here.

G & G Workshops are characterized by providing much room for informal personal exchange of information and for intense roundtable discussions triggered by short introductory statements. This is why the number

of participants is limited and the time spent on each of the topics is kept flexible – according the interests of participants. This year the G & G Workshop was focused on three main topics:

- Pre-Incubation at Universities – the needs of knowledge based start-ups and pre-incubators as partners for incubators
- Benchmarking and Quality labelling of Clusters and Cluster Management
- Business Incubation in systemic Technology Diffusion.

For more information about this event see page 3-6

Spotlight

After the recent issue of SPICE Update provided information about incubation in Burundi this edition puts a spotlight on another African country: Liberia. The intention of this series is to bring attention to countries that as not commonly found “on the map” of incubation activities and possibly help initiating co-operation. More on page 11-12

Coming Up

Mark you calendars: The first upcoming events of the year 2014 are (more details on page14) :

The **infoDev Business Incubation management Training** scheduled to be held in the Bahrain Business Incubator Center, Manama, Bahrain January 26-29, 2014

The **NBIA 8th Incubation Summit of Advanced Incubation Professionals** in Orlando, Florida, Feb 9-11,2014

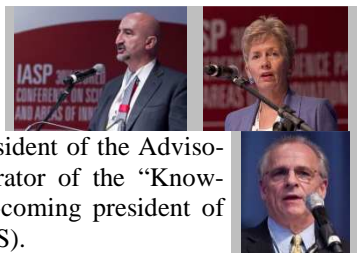
The International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation (IASP) held its 30th World Conference on Science Parks and Areas of Innovation in Recife, Brazil, 14-17 October 2013, together with the “XXIII National Seminar on Science Parks and Business Incubation” - Brazilian Association of Science Parks and Business Incubators (ANPROTEC). These events were hosted by Porto Digital, Recife’s 13-year-old urban science park, located in the historic city . It is home to almost 200 businesses and associated resident services (including 2 business incubators, 2 higher education institutions, and 2 research institutes).

The nearly 1,000 participants at the 4-day conference were faced with decisions about 30 separate pre-conference, plenary, and parallel sessions that included more than 125 talks, chats, and presentations. Following are only a few highlights of the conference.

The participants and their meeting places: Although the majority of participants were Brazilian professionals, there were representatives from 65 other countries. The largest delegations were from China (37), Thailand (13), and the US (22). Taken together, 19 delegates were in attendance from the various Middle Eastern countries (Iran, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE).

The numbers of registrants to be accommodated required six different locations for sessions within the historic city center, many of them in separate buildings that are part of the Porto Digital. The distribution of the participants to the places they were scheduled to be, whether at their sessions, distant hotels, or evening events, was orchestrated comfortably and on time via innumerable huge buses and small vans.

IASP leadership officiating at the conference included Director General Luis Sanz ,



Jane Davies (UK), President of the Advisory Council and Moderator of the “Knowledge Camps,” and in-coming president of IASP, Rick Weddle (US).

Well-known to SPICE members were Brazilian leaders, Luis Bermúdez, Mauricio Guedes, and José Eduardo Fiates, who were active throughout the conference, as were the Program Manager of the World Bank Groups’ infoDev, Valerie D’Costa, and EBN’s Philippe Vanrie. SPICE boys and girls were together one month before in

Riga at the Baltic Dynamics 2013: Pranas Milius of Lithuania, and Barbara Harley of California. Prominent at the conference were German col-



leagues, Hardy Schmitz and Helge Neumann of described the present and future of Adlershof Berlin, and André Domin stressed the relevance of Heidelberg Technology Park to the themes of the conference.

The expanded IASP focus. There were frequent discussions of the evolution “from third generation science parks to areas of innovation.” As Luis Sanz discussed in a video shown at the Baltic Dynamics 2013, and as he and Jane Davies expanded on at the conference, there are areas within and outside cities in which are clustered various high tech and other innovative companies whose presence enhance the ability of the other inhabitants to grow and succeed, and have a strong positive impact on the city or region as Areas of Innovation. These areas have usually grown organically and are not contained within a managed unit.

Terms heard in various talks that touch on these topics included Habitats of Science and Innovation, Urban Edge Parks, Triple Helix Organizations (university, industry, government). Hardy Schmitz contributed the vision of Berlin’s Urban Tech Republic, and Abdulaziz Aldusari provided an impressive overview of the Riyadh Techno Valley.



Anthony Townsend (US), research director at the Institute for the Future in California, spoke about the impact of science and innovation habitats on urban

He cited the statistic that by 2050, 7 out of 10 people in the world will be living in cities. He tied together the responsibility that science and technology parks and incubators share to become living laboratories for smart urban living with his view that The big challenge facing cities is developing solutions to both urban and global problems as fast as we are creating them. Townsend challenged the parks to lead the way.

His concerns are included in an interview in LOCUS, the ANPROTEC publication about the Brazilian innovation habitats, and in Townsend’s newly published book „Smart Cities”.

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The Business Incubator is available for free

EBN, ESA, ILS-LEDA and UKBI have provided support to *The Business Incubator* magazine so that digital copies are available for download without payment. To download the magazine just visit the magazine website (www.theincubatormagazine.com) and sign in with login and password (register if you have no login / password yet), and access the download page. On the website the actual edition of “The Business Incubator”



is available for download well as all earlier issues. Also it is possible to read the magazine online

In case you are interested you also may get the print version of “The Business Incubator” that can be ordered through the website.

G&G 2014: University Pre-Incubation, Technology Diffusion, and Clusters

The “Gründerhaus” (house of start-up entrepreneurs) of the Free University of Berlin was not only the place of the **SPICE G & G 2014 Workshop**.



The building is the core of many activities to promote and support entrepreneurship. Here entrepreneurs work and members of the support network meet. For example at the garden parties of the “Network Entrepreneurship” or the monthly “Business & Beer” gatherings. The house is part PROFUND, the start-up support system of the Free University of Berlin. with four locations to cater for the different needs of entrepreneurs.



For having relaxed start the SPICE G&G 2013 was opened with the World Premiere of three new SPICE video clips showing the SPICE 20th anniversary events in Tallinn (September 2011), the recent activities of the network at the Baltic Dynamics 2013 conference in Riga, and a special feature “Planting the Innovation Tree Latvia” , These videos will be available on the SPICE Art Ball [website](#) and also can be found on YouTube (see page 16)

After these videos a spontaneous discussion with one of the entrepreneurs working in the “Günderhaus” made

LEBEPUR



the start of the workshop. The entrepreneur Stephan Arndt (see left pic) just wanted to check if packages piled up in the meeting room were ready for mailing, but readily presented his company and answered numerous questions. about how this venture started

and the planned development. At this time the turnover reached is ca. 200 k€ and within a few years €5 million are planned to be reached. So far the company has been financed out of own resources and the income generated through the business – this way of financing is also foreseen for the growth of the firm. The products of the company “LEBEPUR” (live purely) are instant fruit and vegetable smoothies. The specialty is the controlled production of the organic raw materials as well as the drying and grinding process securing a high quality.

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After the very informative and inspiring workshop start with an entrepreneur the presentation of the hosting incubator, PROFUND, introduced to the first topic: **“Pre-Incubation at Universities – the needs of knowledge based start-ups and pre-incubators as partners for incubators”**. Under this title Fabian Feldhaus und Steffen Terberl presented the experience of this university incubator that began to work in 2006. Since then more than **100 start-ups** have graduated from PFOFUND and 23 million EURO of finance could be acquired from public sources additional to the 24 projects that received financing from the “Investitionsbank”. Annually about 70 students attend the “start-up seminars” offered as preparation for the



entrepreneur competitions that each year involve some 50 start-up teams (with 2 – 4 members each).. However the special approach of PROFUND is to actively search the university to technology developments that could serve as basis for a start-up. The basis for successfully doing this

search is the experience the PROFUND Team gained form PULS, the Patenting and Licensing Office of the university. This work led to the concept for the incubator and together with the university’s entrepreneurship education laid the foudnation for starting PROFUND. Once ideas from research are identified they can serve for acquiring funding from the

German Federal start-up support program EXIST funding the cost of such projects for a year if the idea is based on technology transfer from a university and succeeds in the competitive process.

The start-up and entrepreneurship support activities of the FU Berlin



are embedded in the a system supporting cooperation between industry and university research and education and to promote technology transfer. This systematic and complex approach allows coordinating the business related activities and making them more efficient.

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For information about the following parts of the workshop see next page

... more about the Forth SPICE G&G Workshop

After discussing the experiences of university based pre-incubation activities of the Free University of Berlin (see [previous page](#)) the lunch break was used not only for

food and drinks, but also to take some fresh air and walk to the latest business incubation project of Berlin: The Technology Center South-West

Technology Center South West

The latest incubation development project in Berlin is the "South - West Technology Center" (TC SW). Using the existing infrastructure of a former US military hospital the project is aimed at supporting start-ups and collaboration between science and industry. Therefore, close cooperation with the Free University of Berlin (FUB), including their pre-incubator and start-up initiative "PROFUND" as well as research institutions is an essential part of the concept. The TC SW will offer the space and services start-ups need after having graduated from pre-incubation.



SPICE G&G 2014 participants visit the future TTC SW

Additionally TC SW will accept other new businesses with growth potential.

This project also aims at strengthening the technology focus of Berlin in environment / green technologies, ICT, life sciences, and



new materials. TC SW will serve as a node for a network involving above mentioned science and business partners as well as the real estate sector to enable companies to grow outside the incubator but in its vicinity.

The District "Steglitz-Zehlendorf" (where the TC SW is located) is planning to additionally establish a business incubator especially for entrepreneurs from this district with special focus on women entrepreneurs.

All in all this project will create a new "entrepreneurship hub" for the South-Western region of Berlin by integrating research and education with existing and new companies. With TC SW the Free University of Berlin will be able to expand its successful pre-incubation services to supporting growth companies "on the campus" – as the other universities in Berlin already



do. With a capacity of ca. 11.000 m² rentable space TC SW will add significantly to the existing facilities in Berlin that are working closely together in the "InnovationsKolleg", a Network also including incubators in the neighboring state Brandenburg, The site of TC SW has 50,726 m² so that space for building new facilities for growing companies will be available when needed.

At this time transfer of land ownership to IZBM GmbH (the company already operating three incubators in Berlin) is in progress. Once this has been achieved construction planning and preparation will be finalized so that tenders could be published and construction (re-modeling) could start in 2015 for an opening of TC SW in 2018.

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Benchmarking and Quality labelling of Clusters

Thomas Lämmer-Gamp

This is a short summary / some keywords of the presentation given at the G&G Workshop by Thomas Lämmer-Gamp:

Clusters are complex and dynamic structures that are subject to continuous change. Strong clusters can promote economic growth through leveraging the innovation and business potential of a region. New employment opportunities, new products and services, new companies, new R&D activities and new patents can be the result of activities within a cluster. A professional cluster management can contribute to such a development through projects and services that tap the cluster's potential. In order to promote profes-



sional cluster management the European for Cluster Analysis (ESCA, <http://www.cluster-analysis.org/>) provides management advice through benchmarking and quality auditing of cluster management organizations.

Until today more than 500 cluster management organizations have been benchmarked in terms of their structures, composition of the cluster and services.

For further information about the benchmarking please visit the [ESCA website](#). More information about the quality auditing is available on the "[Gold Label](#)" page.

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Business Incubation in Systemic Technology Diffusion

by Uwe Seidel

This is a short summary / some keywords of the presentation given at the G&G Workshop by Uwe Seidel :

Structural shift of business processes and value chains leads to modified action for companies and state innova-

tion policy. New production practices, new technologies and and new forms of labor employment have led to adaptation challenges, but also significant opportunities for stakeholders ... continued on next page

... continued from previous page....

from industry and the service sector. In major areas of technology, innovative products and services could open up new markets and affect the competitiveness positive. These changes are relevant for important for global Business Incubation. For the diffusion in high-tech sectors: technologically dominated system innovations require networks to implement. Successful companies act no longer "stand-alone", they Are successful because they are looking for technologies and skills across corporate boundaries. Cutting-edge technologies require new system architectures. Network economy is particularly evident in crosscutting fields of technology such as Smart Home, Smart Mobility and Smart City. Innovations in these fields, but also in many



other areas are to be conceived as System Innovations. To create new companies and new business models, systemic technology diffusion needs embedded incubation. This will include a combination of traditional incubation services and new forms of support. The focus should be on the formation of industrial networks and end-customer involvement. Obviously, sustainable business ideas are global and for this reason continue to be a hot topic for the

SPICE network!

Technology business models in systemic environments are ready to win the long run!

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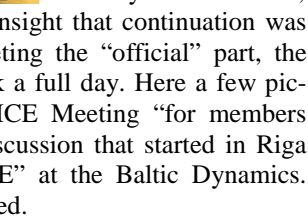
Last not least: Christmas Markets in and around Berlin



When it all began the idea of a SPICE pre-Christmas meeting was just to explore the Christmas Markets in Berlin. However, that meeting – initiated in 2010 by Ints Viksna,

Latvia – brought so much insight that continuation was decided. At the forth meeting the “official” part, the round-table discussions took a full day. Here a few pictures from the internal SPICE Meeting “for members only” that continued the discussion that started in Riga about the “Future of SPICE” at the Baltic Dynamics. This process will be continued.

However, visiting Christmas Markets also was part of the program. Here some impressions of these explorations providing much opportunity for continuing the informal talks.



HighTech Start-Up Fund

In the recent edition of “SPICE Update” we reported on a presentation of the High-Tech Start-Up Fund (Gründerfonds, HTGF) at the ADT anniversary conference in Berlin. Here we add a few more details about this financial option for technology based start-up enterprises in Germany.

The HTGF has been financing young technology companies on attractive terms since 2005. HTGF was initiated by the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology and from the start had strong investors and support from the industry, for example, BASF, Deutsche Telekom, Siemens, Daimler, Robert Bosch and Carl Zeiss, as well as the BMWi and the KfW Banking Group.

Finance from HTGF always comes with active support for the management teams taking advantage of the strong network and business expertise of HTGF. The

fund is focused on early stage investments in life science, materials science,

and information technology. During the first 5 years 250 high-tech companies received finance.

This positive experience led to “Start-up Fund II (Gründerfonds II) that started in October 2011 with a second phase in December 2012. This also brought additional strategic partners from the industry and finance sector to the fund.

At the ADT conference HTGF announced that soon another fund will be available soon at clear indication for the positive evaluation of the experiences so far.

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Pioneers – towards a new type of Start-Up Event

The Pioneers Festival held in Vienna in early November 2013 made a difference. Other than the usual app focused events this festival was “not a web conference, it’s a future tech conference” as [Forbes](#) described in a report, “it’s a festival that celebrates the “what if” of tech, the practical application of tech we take for granted in our cultural, political, environmental and emotional lives.”

This is good news. Looking at start-up related activities too much is targeted at web-based, ICT oriented activities that promise fast (and easy) success for the entrepreneurs and their financiers. Indeed, building up a business based on technology in life sciences, robotics artificial intelligence, transportation, health and the like is a more time consuming and risky matter.

By the way, this is one of the reasons why business

incubators spend more time with their client companies than the trendy accelerators giving a start-up six weeks to six months only.

“Pioneers Festival isn’t a couple of coffee machines and 2,000 people jammed in a room”, concludes Forbes. It is “a two day festival that’s for anyone who cares about technology and wants to see it make an impact on a child, an adult, your grandmother, a city, your home, the sea, the skies or your bank account.” It seems hope is allowed that economy and society need more than apps and add-ons. support@pioneers.io



Positive Outlook for Technopark Pomerania in Szczecin, Poland

Since September 2010 entrepreneurs in Szczecin, Poland 1200 square meters at their disposal - in a converted former school building that became a center for business incubation in the Technopark Pomerania

The **incubation program** today continues to focus on new business projects (start-ups), intending to have headquarters at Technopark Pomerania. The program includes a package of consulting services with a total value of 20 thousand. zł (ca. € 5000) per year with 50 hours consulting time per year with a service management consultant firm / mentor plus 100 hours per year of work of experts (PR, marketing, sourcing of External finance, law, EU funds management) for the company. Additionally, unrestricted access to the IT experts and preferential rent of office space are provided. In the neighborhood of IT professionals, newly created projects for two years can enjoy a range of activities that will support their activities, such as: database of contacts, access to knowledge and experiences, contacts

with investors, assistance in preparing the

for funding from public and private sources, legal advice and business or accounting services.

Being located in the technopark gives young companies continuous access to information through industry events, specialized training, IT management and support to promote their products or services. Started in 2001 the Technopark Pomerania since 2008 is significantly investing in new facilities for enabling the growth of its companies. Supported by the European Union some € 25 million have been invested in ne buildings and infrastructure including the business incubator. Another development and investment phase for the Technopark Pomerania is scheduled to begin in the last quarter of 2014.

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It's an Economic Imperative

The European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) "ACT4Growth" does not see Female Entrepreneurship as a gender issue. ACT4Growth says "It's an Economic Imperative - contributes to creating jobs, growth and sustainability. Act4Growth proposes four specific policy interventions to increase female entrepreneurship in the European Union as a strategy for economic growth:

1. Create an office of European Women's Business Ownership within the Ministry of Economy.
2. Appoint a Women's Enterprise Director
3. Collect data, produce annual policy and research updates
4. Enforce current gender equality legislation

A **European Citizens' Initiative** is a recent instrument of the European Commission for the inclusion of citizens into the European law making process. With this tool, European citizens have equal right to propose

isolation. If one million signatures are gathered

from at least seven member states the European Commission has to consider the proposal put forth by the initiative. The European Commission will then have three months to decide on the initiative. ECIs cover a range of issues from environmental, to health, to public morality.

To support this initiative you may **sign online** even if you are not a citizen of European Union. The [website](#) of ACT4Growth provides further information. This website also provides information about partners of the initiative that support women entrepreneurship in 28 European countries.

Contact: info@act4growth.org.

Website: <http://www.act4growth.org>



Helping Young Women to start their Business in Jordan

The Jordanian capital Amman hosted a Women's Entrepreneurship Day in early November 2013 held by the Jordan Forum for Business & Professional Women (JFBPW). This event was part of a Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) project "Young Women as Job Creators", aiming to help young women start up their own businesses.

Some 30 young women and male students from six Jordanian universities attended the workshop. During the event also the Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Dr. Heike Harmgart, explained the importance of initiatives supporting young university students to set up a new businesses and what support EBRD can provide.

For insight into the practice two local businesswomen

shared their experiences to provide advice and answer the questions participants raised.

Young Women as Job Creators provides young women university students in Jordan, Morocco, Palestine and Spain with information about the benefits they can draw from being entrepreneurs, and motivates them to start up their own businesses after graduating from university. The students receive concrete information and advice about the process of setting up a company with examples of young women entrepreneurs, acting as role models. They are further assisted by professional business creation trainers who additionally analyze the possibilities of their initial business ideas and help them in their start-up projects.

[Read more](#)



Helping Women to start their Business Latin America

The Agora Accelerator is an program to give entrepreneurs access to the knowledge, networks, and capital. The four-stages of the program (including the Entrepreneur Retreat, business consulting, Investor Conference, and investment follow-up) begin with an online registration. In its first year more than \$100,000 were raised for the 2012 Agora Women's Scholarship Fund. This time, the aim is to at least double that amount. More about the Agora Accelerator see [website](#).

Accelerate Women Now (AWN) focuses on women entrepreneurs and aims at accelerating the growth of their businesses. Such companies should not just aim at making profits, but at creating and scaling social and environmental impact, because "These women are leading a global shift in the perception and purpose of business in society; a shift from viewing business as purely commercial in nature to viewing business a means to create impact. Agora recruits high potential women entrepreneurs with passion for their business, perseverance, a clear vision of growth, and have impact woven into the core design of their businesses."

45 companies participated in the program that facilitated more than US\$ 11 million investment in recent three years, During the same time period the participation of women -owned or co-owned businesses increased from 22% (2011) to 44% of (2013). A further increased is envisaged for this year's program for which Agora accepted 18 women businesses from 11 different countries throughout Latin America. The business activities range from affordable solar lighting in Peru to market access and employment for artisanal communities in rural Guatemala.. By covering (part of or all of the) entrepreneur's cost for the program, the Agora Women's Scholarship Fund ensures that no woman with real potential to improve her community through entrepreneurship is deterred from participating due to cost.

To read more, please visit the AGORA websites:

Agora general information and mission:

<http://agorapartnerships.org/model/our-purpose>

Accelerator: agorapartnerships.org/accelerator-2

Accelerate Women <http://acceleratewomennow.org>



Strong culture of technology entrepreneurship not a recent phenomenon

In September 2003 the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation released a white paper that finds that Kansas City and other areas viewed as "new" startup hubs actually have been fostering a culture of entrepreneurship for some time. Many of these cities have a history of strong technology sectors or experienced strong growth among technology startups over the past two decades.

The publication, "Path-Dependent Startup Hubs – Comparing Metropolitan Performance: High-Tech and ICT Startup Density," says that a strong regional or local culture of technology entrepreneurship is not a recent

phenomenon. The top 10 US cities in 2010 also ranked among the top 20 cities two decades earlier.

The analysis shows that many cities' recent adoption of new entrepreneurship programs is more an indication of the underlying strength of the region and its base of talent on which those programs can build than it is a cause of startup activity. Research universities and other postsecondary institutions are important for metropolitan entrepreneurship, but are not the sole cause in spurring such activity.

Source: [Kauffmann Foundation](#)

Stockholm has a new Co-Working Space

Since the beginning of October 2013 Stockholm has a new co-working space right in the center of the city SUP46 (Start-Up People of Sweden). "Our vision is to make Stockholm the number one startup city in the world. SUP46 will become an important part of the ecosystem to contribute to more Swedish success stories." said Jessica Stark, CEO and Co-founder of SUP46 at the opening that was attended by more than 300 people from the entrepreneurs and financiers scene of the city.

SUP46 offers a work environment that is made-for-meetups event & conference space. Only the most exciting and innovative companies are accepted as members: scalable startups with global ambitions in the areas of internet, mobile, media and gaming. SUP46 is backed by top VCs and accelerator partners.

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Call for Papers - Seventh International Conference ICEIRD 2014

A preliminary **call for papers** has been published for the **7th International Conference for Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Regional Development (ICEIRD 2014)** that will be held June 5-6, 2014 in Nicosia, Cyprus under the theme: Igniting Regional Economies - Innovation and Entrepreneurship in South East Europe

Conference Topics of Interest are

- Creativity, Complexity and Competitiveness Issues for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in SEE vs. other regions (EU and other)
- South East European Entrepreneurial Innovation

- Strategic Integration vs. Flexibility and SME Competitiveness
- Technology Innovation, Transfer and Commercialization across Government, University and Industry



ICEIRD 14 invites submissions of papers related to all the topics. Papers that address collaborations between industry and academia, case studies as well as experience reports on any of the conference themes are welcome. For more detail please visit the ICEIRD 2014 website iceird2014.cs.ucy.ac.cy.

White Paper of SGBs - News from the Fifth annual ANDE conference

In October 2013 ANDE, the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs, held its 5th Annual Conference in Glen Cove, New York with more than 180 participants from 135 organizations and 26 countries. At this event ANDE announced a **New Strategic Plan** and released a **White Paper "Growth and Opportunity: The Landscape of Organizations that Support Small and Growing Businesses in the Developing World"**.

ANDE also announced the **Capacity Development Fund Winners** of the fifth round of the ANDE Capacity Development Fund (CDF) with six grants of US\$ 50,000 each. The winners include

- Adoption of best practices for supporting Women Led Small and Growing Businesses in Mexico
- App Store for Small and Growing Businesses (SGB) to offer a suite of SGB focused mobile business applications to make them more accessible to businesses and service providers.
- Demystifying Due Diligence of technology based

ventures to address the knowledge gap  inhibiting capital flows to technology ventures

- Developing Legal Tools Tailored to Women Entrepreneurs in East Africa to develop a guide to overcoming legal barriers and to offer training to lawyers on how to assist women entrepreneurs.
- Catalyzing Women Entrepreneurs via skill building, mentoring and access to resource strives to develop new female role models in India,
- Supporting Women owned businesses to win Government Contracts will train female entrepreneurs to assemble tender documents and raise financing to secure government contracts

Other conference highlights include the publication of two new [ANDE Case Studies](#), launching the **ANDE Member Communications Toolkit** and releasing a new research report "[Breaking Barriers for Women's Entrepreneurship](#)"

Incubator Quality	New on SPICA World Map
<p>SPICA Directory has introduced a minimum “quality standard” for being listed on SPICA World Map”. This standard does not evaluate the quality of an incubator / technopark operations, but the quality of information provided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizations that have provided actual and complete data within recent two years are shown on SPICA World Map. • Profiles inserted or updated more than 24 months ago are not accessible for directory users <p>SPICA World Map only shows locations of “Centers” (incubators, TPs, associations, consulting, support and finance organizations that have provided a complete profile and information is not more than 2 years old</p>  <p>SPICA World Map www.spica-directory.net/map</p> <p>SPICA World Map now is the main entry point for users of the directory. From that map access to the individual incubator technopark/ / association profiles in SPICA Directory is possible There also are other ways of finding a specific profile. For example, by using the tabs “countries” or “associations” of the SPICA Directory website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add your profile to the SPICA World Map – it is simple If your organization is not yet in the Directory select “Insert new Profile” from main menu of the SPICA homepage www.spica-directory.net and follow instructions • If your organization is listed in the Directory but you did not yet receive a user name and password for accessing the information system, please contact the SPICA Directory Team at update@spica-directory.net <p>Note: to access SPICE Directory profiles you need to be registered as user., Profiles that have been updated recently are available at www.spica-directory.net/recent.php</p>	<p>Burundi: MOBINC, the Mobile Business Incubator started activities in June 2013. The incubator works with a focus on agribusiness and provides services where they are needed: at the place where the incubator client works. SDO Profile: www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2539</p> <p>Romania: The Start-Up Hub is the latest addition to business incubation activities in this country. It started just a year ago (in 2012) and has 11 clients at this time SDO-Profile: www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2524</p> <p>Thailand: The incubator of Suranee Science Park is working since 2005. At this time it has 2 on-site and 20 off-site client companies. 12 firms graduated SDO-Profile www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2361</p> <p>Turkey: IZTEKGEB Innovation Center focused on ICT, Creative Industries and Biotechnology served in total 25 clients. Last year 8 firms graduated. At this time it has 15 clients firms SDO-Profile www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2546</p> <p>Canada: Innovation Place Research Park began to operate in 1980. For today it has 188 client firms with 5000 employees SDO-Profile www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=506</p> <p>USA: Arizona Center for Innovation part of University of Arizona Science and Technology Park was opened in 2003. At that time it has 14 firms with 35 employees. 75 clients were served in total SDO-Profile www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2272</p>
<p>Advice – Support – Finance in SPICA Directory ASF, Advice – Support – Finance provides access to information about organizations and companies active in the ecosystem to provide important functions for innovation, entrepreneurship and growth.</p> <p>Being still in a “Beta status” the ASF section already offers the possibility to access information and to insert information about consulting, supporting and financing organizations.</p> <p>We invite you to try and test the new section and help us to improve www.spica-directory.net/asf/entry.php</p> <p>To add a new profile of your organization to the ASF section of SPICA Directory (related with any incubator / technopark already listed) use the following link www.spica-directory.net/admin/centers/new.php</p>	<p>India: VIT-Technology Business Incubator was established in 2003, served 31 companies on-site and 2 off-site. For today it has 8 clients, 20 firms graduated. 12 companies still in operation 3 years after graduation SDO-Profile www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2443</p> <p>India: Global INCubation SERVICES (GINSERV) started to operate in 2010. It has 26 companies with 300 employees 7 firms graduated, 35 clients in total were served SDO-Profile www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2247</p> <p>Luxembourg: Technoport was opened 1998. At that time it has 20 clients, 21 firms (340 employees) graduated. 18 firms still in operation 3 years after graduation SDO-Profile www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=1258</p>

Business Incubation in MENA

This page provides information about incubation activities from MENA (Middle East and North Africa). MENA^{inc} is the regional infoDev supported network of business incubators and technology parks. More information: <http://iisc.infodev.org/en/Region.5.html> or <http://www.menainc.org> contact Mr. Mohammed Allam at m3allam@gmail.com



Bahrain *infoDev Business Incubation Management Training Program*

The Bahrain Business Incubator Center (a subsidiary of Bahrain Development Bank Group) in association with the Middle East and North Africa Incubators Network (MENAinc) January 26 – 29, 2014 is organizing a new session of the **infoDev Business Incubation Management Training Program**.

This training program will be held in Bahrain and is designed for business incubation managers and other business incubation stakeholders wishing to increase their understanding and know-how of the business incubation process.

The following modules will be offered:

- Module 1 & 2 – Business Incubation Definitions, Models, and Success Factors
- Module 3 - Planning an Incubator
- Module 6 – Managing the Business Incubator
- Module 7 – Monitoring, Evaluating and Benchmarking Business Incubators

For more information about the modules please visit the following link: [Modules Descriptions](#)

For more information and registration please [click here](#)

Contact: Mohammad Allam, mallam@bdb-bh.com

Tunisia *Catalyst for Satellite Navigation Services in the EUROMED region*

GEMCO, the Galileo EUROMED Cooperation Office has been opened in Elgazala Technopark on October 23, 2013. This office will act as a catalyst for the introduction and development of satellite navigation services in the Euromed region of North

Africa and the Middle East. EUROMED includes Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Syria.

GEMCO will act as an incubator for new ideas and initiatives in satellite navigation. It will promote start-

ups, cooperation, and the sharing of best practices between Europe and countries of the EUROMED area. It will focus on the use of the satellite navigation systems within various application domains, mainly aviation, freight transport, and road, rail and sea transport.



Contact: Monia Jendoubi, j.monia@elgazala.tn

SDO Profile: www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2339

Lebanon *Rural Women Entrepreneurship*

In early December 2013 a meeting in Maad, Lebanon brought together six players in the field of micro-finance. Being part of the EU-funded project “Social and economic promotion of the Lebanese rural woman through the development of tourism, hotel trade and micro-entrepreneurs networks” the aim of this meeting was to discuss ways for encouraging rural women’s entrepreneurship through the creation of micro-companies and the access to finance.

Results of a field study conducted with 150 rural micro-companies in the regions of Bcharré and Deir el

were represented at the meeting illustrating the current situation of rural micro-companies, especially regarding their access to micro-credits.

As next step an action plan will be developed to create a brochure on micro-finance for making such products more accessible to rural women. An informative guide with the contacts of the different rural players (women entrepreneurs, NGOs, associations, local and national events) will be published to facilitate the access to the market and to the micro-finance instruments.

To read more, please visit [website](#)

Palestine *Women Entrepreneurship Support in Old Jerusalem*

The Agricultural Development Association (PARC) is opening two new income-generating projects for women’s Saving & Credit Groups (SCG) in Jerusalem. This initiative is part of a €3.5 million EU-funded project that seeks to strengthen the work of Palestinian civil society, address the Israeli governmental violations causing poverty and displacement, and improve living conditions for 30,000 Palestinians in East Jerusalem. PARC, together with European Union representatives, Oxfam, and a group of dignitaries celebrated the establishment and opening of a women’s club at Essayieh, and a Tailoring Workshop in the Old City of Jerusalem.

PARC restored a house in Essayieh to use as a Women’s Club, and in addition helped establish a beauty center there for members of the Savings and Credit Women Group (SCG). They also provided the women’s group with logistical support, equipment and tools, as well as the necessary technical trainings.

PARC also helped the establishment and equipment of a tailoring workshop for women members of the SCG in the Old City. The women’s group there was provided with sewing machines, and the necessary materials, as well as sewing courses so they can produce garments and other products as they choose.

Source: [EU Neighborhood Info](#)

Business Incubation in Africa

This page provides information about incubation activities and programs from the AFRICA region. AIN is the 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



Spotlight on Liberia

Not long ago Civil War was destroying Liberia seriously affecting civil society and damaging infrastructure. Beginning with a military coup (1980) two successive civil wars (ca. 250,000 people dies) devastated the economy. After the peace agreement in 2003 to democratic elections in 2005 and an ongoing economic recovering still about 85% of the population lives in poverty. Liberia is one of the world's poorest

countries, with a formal employment rate of only 15%. On this background supporting entrepreneurship is of greatest importance for economic and social development. The educational sector, namely the University of Liberia Monrovia, has already taken initiative by supporting the first Business Support Center of the country. Also the Community College in Buchanan recently joined by housing a BSC branch.

Business Start-up Centre (BSC) Monrovia

The **Business Start-up Centre (BSC) Monrovia** (started in 2009 through SPARK and the Association of Liberian Universities (ALU)) is located in the campus of the University of Monrovia. BSC and was set up to promote entrepreneurship and SME development. The BSC is not (yet) an incubator, but builds capacity of Liberian economic and educational institutions. Nevertheless BSC reports on success stories of about ten start-up enterprises that were financed through BSC business plan competition and were supported, coaching and mentoring, matchmaking events, and access to finance /soft loans. BSC is working with more than 100 entrepreneurs. In general BSC is providing training and workshops on a wide range of topics. This work has resulted in a wide network of excellent contacts with all sectors of society that are active in entrepreneurship support..

Not yet available are a systematic business incubation program for supporting start-up companies and physi-

cal facilities for hosting such clients.

In an environment where electricity black-outs are frequent and internet connections are shaky

physical incubation service has special importance.

The team of BSC Monrovia under the lead of William Reide Dennis, however, is actively seeking information and opportunities

for improving their skills. For example, in August 2013 with an intense Business Incubation Management training program

financed by SPARK and delivered by an infoDev team.

Contact: William R. Dennis derfy_may@yahoo.com

SDO Profile: www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2548



Business Start-up Centre (BSC) Buchanan

Opened March 6, 2013 BSC Monrovia has established a Buchanan Office, located on the campus of Grand Bassa Community College (GBCC) in Buchanan. After the grand opening with more than 120 attendees from all sectors of society the first activity of **BSC Buchanan** was the first ever business plan competition in his city (with 50 applicants). An important service of the center is to offer training aimed at changing attitudes of young people (six week courses with full day lectures three days per days per week),- An initiative to support women entrepreneurship adds to the services tailored to the needs of the community . The leadership and professors of the college are supporting this initiative and see it as an important contribution to the development of the young generation. With the intention to integrate entrepreneurship into all courses of the college professors began to take lessons at BSC

The project is supported by Chevron, the International Youth Foundation SPARK and BiD Network, and the project finds interest form a wide range of institutions,

including the Tailoring Union Association, Goldsmith Association, the Global Bank. Bassa Women Development Association - as well as educational institutions including; St. Peter Catholic School, Liberia Christian High School, and Bassa High School.

Participants of the Business Plan Competition receive entrepreneurship training, business plan writing and financial training as well as the opportunity to participate in an online annual business plan competition, to secure a loan of USD 10,000 and to compete for a trip to the international Growing SMEs conference.

The BSC Monrovia office in Buchanan sees many opportunities for supporting the start and growth of many businesses in the city and region of Buchanan – especially after the center has moved to the brand new campus of the Bassa Community College

Contact: Joshua Beware bewarejoshua@yahoo.com

Website: www.spark-online.org/content/view/594/1/



Strategic Development of Entrepreneurship Support

Having been active in Liberia already for some years in January 2011, SPARK began collaborating with BSC Monrovia in a different capacity - as a partner.

This is part of a broader international program headed by the United Entrepreneurship Coalition (formed by SPARK and BiD Network) which aims to create 8,559 jobs in Kosovo, Palestinian Territories, Rwanda, Burundi and Liberia by 2016.

The first strategic objective of the program is to strengthen the capacity of the partner organizations themselves, so that they will be able to continue to support the development of SMEs even after the UEC program ends. Together, these partner organizations

can work toward creating new enterprises and employment opportunities, and thereby the alleviation

of poverty. The UEC program in Liberia will target young potential entrepreneurs in the rural counties of Montserrado, Grand Bassa and Bong County. SPARK works with the local partners to support the development of SMEs: BSC Monrovia, The Association of Liberian Universities (ALU), Liberia Better Business Forum (LBBF) and the Local Enterprise Assistance Program (LEAP).

Contact: spark@spark-online.org

Website: <http://www.spark-online.org>



The White Villa for Startups

Drive Nelson street in Monrovia uphill and you cannot miss it: the white villa on your left hand side:

The **Market Place** started in 2009 with support from the Soros Economic Development Fund and other organizations. This initiative can be seen as a “mixed use” incubator, but experience has shown that the startups need many efforts for guiding them to success. At this time “Market Place” is offering co-working space with very small units and limited consulting. Although the interest in these small units is high the entrepreneurial potential cannot be catered for with just this offer. When The Marketplace started a

business incubation program was offered, but did not find sufficient finance. While operating with co-working space for the time being the management is developing a new concept and

business model to re-start the business incubation program. The Marketplace at this time is covering 50 % cent of its cost through income generated from its clients; the other half is covered by projects and grants.

Contact: O. Burke, oburke@themarketplacebds.com

SDO Profile: www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=2549



iLab – widening opportunities for the use of ICT

iLab Liberia is not a business incubator, but provides services that improving the knowledge about and use of ICT. It “is a non-profit computer laboratory providing access to technology, IT assistance and a community leveraging technology.” The mission is to assist IT professional, newcomers, as well as organizations to share information. iLab is providing trainings iLab (originally focused on open source) have expanded to include topics such as web development for teens, social media, ICT for small businesses, Google Earth and Map Maker, as well as basics of internet use. iLab also is providing co-working opportunities in a functioning infrastructure (in an environment where electricity supply is unstable and internet access

expensive) and has become a space for local meet-ups of special interest technology groups and for local and international organizations.

Most of the trainings offered are free for the users and financed by various donors and partners. Although iLab does not have a

systematic incubation program it helps building up the entrepreneurial potential, also by cooperating with. BSC Monrovia, for example organizing business plan competitions, workshops, and events.

Website: <http://ilabiliberia.org>



Financing Start very ups and SMEs in Liberia

It is a challenge to finance startup businesses – especially in an environment like Liberia. However, there are promising experiences and initiatives.

LEDC Liberia Enterprise Development Financial Company (since June 2013 is owned by the Ghana Growth Fund) a private organization that started 2007 to provide finance (through loans) for the development of SMEs.. Loans of 10.000 to one million Liberian Dollars (€ 90 to 9,000) are provided at interest rates of 13,5 – 15,5 % (without collateral) with a focus on agricultural and transportation businesses – areas that are widely seen as having much potential in Liberia. The interest rate is calculated for each case based on

individual risk evaluation. The average loan is 50 / 55.000 LRD. Many repeat loan clients underline the successful work of this scheme. The CEO of LEDC, William Koon, sees important gaps Liberia’s economy: food processing and the lacking loan guarantee scheme for SMEs. LEDC is also providing some educational and training services its clients (that do not include start-ups).

LIBA, the Liberian Business Association is preparing to set up another loan scheme making use of the recently received USD 5 million for that purpose. Conditions for that scheme are not yet set, but including startup finance is being considered.

Business Incubation in ASIA

This section provides information about incubation activities from the ASIA region. APIN, the Asia Pacific Incubation Network is the regional networks of business incubators and technology parks set up with support from infoDev. See www.incubationasia.com/index.php; contact Suresh Kumar, psgstep@vsnl.com



Nepal

infoDev supported Agribusiness Innovation Center

The infoDev report "Promoting Agribusiness Innovation in Nepal" informs about the results of a feasibility study for an Agribusiness Innovation Center (AIC). This AIC would be aimed at the agro-processing sector in Nepal; the study proposes a sustainable business model. Objective of this AIC would be to foster and accelerate the growth the agro-processing sector of Nepal and to help commercializing agricultural production. The outcome would be increased agricultural incomes and reduction of poverty. For conceptualizing this AIC lessons from various agribusiness incubators and similar feasibility assessments carried out in Ethiopia, Mozambique, Senegal, and Tanzania could be utilized. Also experiences from infoDev's earlier efforts to develop and expand business incubation in Nepal could be taken into account.

Recently, the Ministry of Agriculture Development of Nepal that received financing from the infoDev/World Bank for the project for Agriculture Commercialization and Trade (PACT), published a tender to find a partner for the management of Agribusiness Innovation Centre.

This tender included the management of the AIC, securing appropriate facilities, engaging an experienced management team, providing services and programs, ensuring effective monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the center, reporting, and ensuring sustainability of the AIC. These services should be provided under the project finance for three years. After this time it is expected that the AIC will be able to manage its activities internally from revenue earned. The report can be [downloaded](#) from the infoDev website. More information is available, for example through [weblink](#). For a wide set of information about agribusiness innovation and entrepreneurship initiatives, for example, information about infoDev supported agribusiness centers in Ethiopia, Senegal, and Tanzania, and about the infoDev agribusiness / incubation training program [click here](#).



Bangladesh

infoDev supported Agribusiness Innovation Center

Bizcube, the country's first business incubator, is moving on. About a dozen promising entrepreneurial teams - drawn from World Bank Sanitation Hackathon 2012, Start-Up Weekend Dhaka 2013 and external applicants signed with the incubator in April 2013, adding to the 10 client firms already served by the incubator.

As an incubator center Bizcube provides office space, legal advice, business consultancies, and networking opportunities with potential investors for entrepreneurial business development, expansion and synergy partnerships.

The business model of the incubator foresees that client firms either share their equity with Bizcube (10-15 per cent) or share their profit (20-25 per cent) or pay Tk

50,000 per month for each desk.

Bizcube is considering

raising equity investment, said Minhaz Anwar, founder of the company. "The company is considering keeping a stake of 51-67 per cent of the business by offering the space where Bizcube is currently located," said Mr Minhaz. Bizcube is looking for investors bringing in complimentary skills and network and, therefore, is not going to add any premium above the base value of the real estates.

Contact: Minhaz Anwar minhaz@betterstories.asia

For more information, please visit the incubator website: <http://bizcube.asia/>



Afghanistan

Innovation for the Media

Organized by Internews and supported by USAID the 2nd Kabul InnovationLab in February 2013 brought together technologists, media experts and entrepreneurs from across Afghanistan for a four-day forum and workshop.

The event was aimed to create new ways for the media to use digital technologies to reach new audiences and distribute content through innovative technology-based systems to improve the media's reach, professional standards, and quality of content.

USAID described the InnovationLab as a place where "young Afghan software engineers and ICT experts will work in small groups to create innovative technical solutions such as apps, tools, and games for leading Afghan media agencies".

The [website](#) of the Kabul InnovationLab presents five projects: **Mobile Traffic** (actual traffic

Information), **8AM news** via Android! Mobile application to customize content from one of Afghanistan's leading investigative newspaper, **Tolo News** online elections coverage to maximize user-driven content including mapping public opinion, **Radio Rabia Balki** (new SMS and IVR to get messages from women in the northern provinces to a wider audience), and **ITV** (reporting App to feature moderated content from members of the Afghan public. For details visit:

<http://kabulinnovationlab.com/projects-2013>



Important upcoming Events

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

If the conference hosts are members of **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. Just click on "[Add new information](#)" and you will be guided through the simple process.

Jan 26 –29, 2014 in Manama, Bahrain: *infoDev Business Incubation Management Training*



The Bahrain Business Incubator Center and the Middle East and North Africa Incubators Network, MENAinc will offer an **infoDev Business Incubation Management Training Program** January 26 – 29, 2014 in Bahrain.

This training program is designed for business incuba-

tion managers and other business incu-

ation stakeholders wishing to increase their understanding and know-how of



the business incubation process. For more information **contact** Mohammad Allam, mallam@bdb-bh.com

More [information \(modules\)](#) and [registration](#)

SDO Profile: www.spica-directory.net/centers/?id=1980

Feb 9 –11, 2014 in Orlando, Florida: *NBIA's Eighth Incubation Summit*



The NBIA Summit for Advanced Incubation Professionals is a members-only event for experienced incubation leaders (that are three years or more in the industry). The summit is a unique forum for leaders to discuss debate and exchange ideas about innovation, entrepreneurship and business incubation. The event provides opportunity

for learning from other high-level professionals and **connecting with the** network and brainstorm with other industry practitioners. Participants share their extensive expertise in all matters of incubation and explore the trends. Last not least, the summit is to **take** a break from winter and enjoy the sunny weather!

Contact: info@nbia.org

Website: www.nbia.org/events/summit2014/index.php

May 18 –21, 2014 in New Orleans, USA: *28th International Conference on Business Incubation*



The annual international NBIA conference certainly is one of the most important business incubation events. It provides access to firsthand how successful incubator managers operate their programs form all

around the world in conference sessions, workshops, roundtable discussions and panels.

Mark your calendars for the 28th international NBIA conference to be held in New Orleans – a conference and city certainly worth visiting.

Info: <http://www.nbia.org/events/conf2014/index.php>

June 5-6, 2014 in Nicosia, Cyprus: *Seventh International Conference ICEIRD 2014*

A preliminary **call for papers** has been published for the 7th **International Conference for Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Regional Development (ICEIRD 2014)**: "Igniting Regional Economies - Knowledge, Innovation and Entrepreneurship in South East Europe".

More information about conference topics and de-

tailed ions for the submission of papers is available on the conference website

Submission deadline for papers:

March 1, 2014

For more details, please visit the [ICEIRD website](#)

Contact: info@cyprusconferences.org



June 8 –11, 2014 in Dublin, Ireland: *Innovation for Sustainable Economy & Society*

Organized by ISPIM in partnership with Intel Labs Europe and The Innovation Value Institute, the 25th **ISPIM conference "Innovation for Sustainable Economy & Society"** is expected to bring together around 500 innovation experts from 50 countries. The three-day program will include: The Knut Holt Memorial Address; Industry-Leading Keynote Speakers; Innovation for Business Sessions featuring leading companies; "Hot Topic" Roundtable Discussions;

"Innovation for Sustainable Economy & Society" with academic and Practitioner Presentations; Workshops;

Special Interest Groups; Academic Research Development Sessions. Delegates also will experience a taste of local culture at magnificent dinner venues and plenty of time for networking.

Email: conference.ispim.org web: www.ispim.org



June 11–14, 2014 in Dublin, Ireland: *Conference of the International Council for Small Business*

A **Call for submissions** has been issued for the 59th **Annual Conference of the International Council for Small Business** to be held in Dublin, June 11-13, 2014 und the title "**Entrepreneurship and Sustainability**". Abstracts will be accepted in the following tracks: Sustainability, Policy, Minority, Small Business. The deadline is January 31, 2014

Management, Gender, Education, Internationalization, Different Contexts, Innovation, Firm Performance, Family Business, Theory and Methodology.

Performance Contact: sorcha@conferencepartners.ie

Website: www.icsb2014.org/



Sep 17–19, 2014 in Tartu, Estonia: Baltic Dynamics 2014



The Baltic Dynamics 2014 is organized by Tartu Science Park in cooperation with Tartu City Government, Tartu Regional Energy Agency and Interreg IVC Program. Rapidly changing environment, innovation and technology influence daily life in many ways: Where is the future?

For the BD 2014 key topics of future have been selected for discussion. Four finalists: HARDWARE,

START-UP, HEALTHCARE and ENERGY will compete for the title. The winners will be chosen by the conference participants.

The Baltic Dynamics conference is an initiative of the Baltic Association of Science/Technology Parks and Innovation Centers (BASTIC) and has been held annually since 1995. This year the conference will be held in Tartu, and hosted by Tartu Science Park.

For more information

Watch the [teaser video](#)

Check the website; www.balticdynamics.com/why

Oct 19–22, 2014 in Doha, Qatar: IASP World Conference

The IASP World Conference 2014 under the theme “Science parks: where technology goes to work” will take place in Doha, Qatar, on 19th – 22nd October 2014, hosted by Qatar Science and Technology Park.

The main general themes of the conference will be “Role of STPs as technology development catalysts”,

“Models of cooperation between universities and companies and the role that STPs can or should play”, and “STPs and their resident companies”.

Website www.iasp2014doha.com



Addendum: The 169th SPICE Meeting - at the Baltic Dynamics 2013 in Riga

We reported about the Baltic Dynamics 2013 in the recent edition of this newsletter (No 106). But space was not sufficient to also inform about the 169th SPICE Meeting (attended by six members and two invited guests) and about the related SPICE Dinner hosted by Janis Stabulnieks.

The meeting focused on discussing potentials, expectations, and challenges for the development of this network. Much has been achieved, but preparing for the needs of a new “incubation generation” needs to reconsider work focus and pattern. This discussion will be continued with the aim to develop and agree on a strategy for future SPICE development. Other parts of this meeting were the great SPICE Dinner hosted by Janis Stabulnieks in an excellent restaurant with art on the walls, on the table clothes, and on the plates. The artwork painted on the table by the waiter was composed of many different sources

There were many more opportunities for SPICE members and friends to meet and exchange the latest news and gossip. Riga offers plenty of possibilities for enjoying good food, good drinks (like black current juice with Riga Balsam!), and great music - from the welcome dinner in Riga’s latest restaurant “HE’s” with ingredients from organic production around Riga to daily and nightly ventures in various places- The post conference SPICE excursion offered much room for informal talks between friends about experiences and plans and brought the group to exciting historical places.

For more information about the conference, please check SPICE Update No 106 and visit the website (<http://www.innovation.lv/bd2013/programme.htm>) providing access to the presentations. Another option is to have a look at the SPICE Video about the event: <http://youtu.be/nMRUmsvSCMo>



About Members and (not only) for members

No 14 and 15 - The SPICE BÄR dinners continued

Number 14 of the SPICE BÄR Dinners was held in November 2013 in an Italian restaurant offering special regional cuisine: Trattoria a' Muntagnola in the "City West" of Berlin. Food was great – and so was the conversation about new developments in the entrepreneurship scene in Berlin – enough material for another special on the "Entrepreneurial Hotspot Berlin in next SPICE Update. Another topic of discussion, of course, was preparation for the 15th SPICE BÄR Dinner at the Forth SPICE G&G Workshop in Berlin December. Meanwhile this planning has turned into reality (see report in this newsletter, pages 2 – 5).

In case you wish to experience the good food, check the website of the restaurant [Trattoria a' Muntagnola](http://www.trattoriaamuntagnola.de)

The SPICE Bears will meet again in January 2014. Are you in town and interested to attend? Let' see what we can do for making this possible. To become an invited guest, please contact heinz@spice-group.de



Good Entertainment for the Holiday Season; New SPICE Videos available



You did not see the famous SPICE Art Ball for a while – and we cannot roll it into your garden.

But, you have the chance to see the ball at its last public appearance at the Baltic Dynamics conference in Tallinn 2011. Yes, more than two years

have passed since we celebrated the 20th anniversary of the SPICE Group network. But finally, a new video is

Available showing impressions of this event (including the role of the SPICE Art Ball) as part of a set of three new films:

NEW SPICE Videos

available on Youtube.

Tallinn: <http://youtu.be/x2UNo8qWmhs>


Riga: <http://youtu.be/nMRUmsvSCMo>


Innovation Tree http://youtu.be/YWfb_Q843Kw

For watching the earlier SPICE Videos search YouTube for "SPICE ART Ball"


Good Advice: To be done as soon as time allows


SPICE Group members can use a number of services provided through the SPICE Group website (www.spice-group.net). Here some examples:

 **To send a message to all members** use the simple tool the SPICE Group website offers in the PUMBAA section. Log in with your user name and password and select "mailing"

 **Publish a short article** about your activities in business incubation as well as innovation and entrepreneurship support. Just click "Add news" right on top of page <http://www.spice-group.de/actual/> and insert your article.

...and SPICE Group offers services to **non-members**. Of course, these features also network members can use through the website

 **Publish information** about your conferences, seminars, etc. Visit <http://www.spice-group.de/events> and click on "Add new information" under the "Events" page headline

 **Do you want others to know about a publication you consider important?** Check SPICA Library at: www.spica-directory.net/library/index.php5 Select "add new book" from the menu and add the publication you want to upload

And finally...

As technology and markets change business do as well. No surprise that business incubation remains challenging. New approaches and new (business) models come up continuously with more or less "noise" and only time and testing shows what is effective for reaching the goal: help new businesses to start and grow. May the New Year bring new impulses and ideas, exciting experiences to make

Heinz Fiedler & Larisa Brovarska

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