



# UPDATE No. 65

April 2006 - For SPICE Group Members only

## In this Update:

- **How to celebrate the 15<sup>th</sup> SPICE Anniversary**
- **The SPICE Fund – part of the Anniversary**
- **Reports from Africa, Croatia, Germany, Guatemala, Iran, Mongolia, New Zealand, Romania, Ukraine, and Vietnam,**
- **SPICE History – the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Dear Member,

activities for celebrating the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SPICE Group are on the way. The 120<sup>th</sup> SPICE Meeting to kick-off the **SPICE Art Ball 2006** will take place April 30 and May 1, 2006 in St Louis, USA at the 20<sup>th</sup> NBIA conference. Members attending that meeting will “decorate” their space on the Art ball. Next step will be the SPICE Meeting in Vilnius, Lithuania at the BALTIC DYNAMICS 2006 conference. After that we will keep the ball rolling ...

There are more events on the agenda (see [www.spice-group.net/events](http://www.spice-group.net/events)). Especially the month of May is a global business incubation conference month with events on almost all continents – some of them in parallel so that not even the most innovative incubation professional will not be able attending them all. This makes it even more important to provide information about all the events – for those who could not attend. And it also raises the question if for example the GNBI can play a role in avoiding such developments and spreading the schedule for conferences for providing more chances to attend.

Finally, as usual, there are activities to report on -see section “Facts & Views” of this Update..

**The 13<sup>th</sup> Global Summit of Business Incubation Associations** is to be held April 30, 2006, as usual the day before the **20<sup>th</sup> Annual NBIA Conference in St. Louis, USA**. The agenda includes progress reports from the Summit Work Groups (‘Professional Development’, ‘Incubation Research’, and ‘Information Dissemination’) and will discuss how to further strengthen cooperation within the network. A leaflet describing the basic aims and work patterns of GNBI and – possibly – the question if this networks needs a logo also will be discussed. Additional topics for the agenda may be proposed by any member by contacting any member of the organization committee: Peter Harman, Odette Potter, Dinah Adkins or the secretariat [worldsummit@spice-group.net](mailto:worldsummit@spice-group.net)

## **The SPICE Art Ball 2006:**

### **To kick the Ball off...**

At the 20<sup>th</sup> NBIA Conference in St. Louis, USA the **120<sup>th</sup> SPICE Meeting** will begin **April 30, 2006** after the Global Summit of Associations and continue the following day.

The SPICE meeting will consist of three components: (1) summary and evaluation of experience gained during the last decade, (2) Learning about **Concept of the Art Ball**, and (3) starting the process of creating the **SPICE Art Ball 2006**.

Members should register for participation by sending an email to the SPICE Secretariat ([spice@spice-group.net](mailto:spice@spice-group.net)) We will respond with a detailed program for this meeting



The SPICE Art Ball will be made different to the **Ball of Nations** (above) which is based on a soccer ball. As we need more than 32 parts the SPICE Art Ball does will not offer pentagons or hexagons but mainly triangles to paint on.

## **...and to keep the Ball rolling.**

In Vilnius, Lithuania, the **121<sup>st</sup> SPICE Meeting** will continue the process of creating the SPICE Art Ball 2006. This meeting begins **May 24, 2006**, the day before the BALTIC DYNAMICS 2006.

We will meet to continue the process kicked-off in St. Louis: The evaluation of experience will be continued, members get to enjoy a continuation of the presentation on “The Concept of the Art Ball” and have the opportunity for decorating their national area on the Art Ball.

Members should register for participation by sending an email to the SPICE Secretariat ([spice@spice-group.net](mailto:spice@spice-group.net)) We will respond with a detailed program of this meeting

## **Network: evaluation and perspectives**

There are more activities related with the 15<sup>th</sup> SPICE Anniversary: Members already received by email the questions to answer for a general evaluation of networking during the last decade and for describing the potential for future action. The replies will be summarized and discussed at the SPICE meeting. The result of this discussion by travelling around the globe together with the SPICE Art Ball will than be completed meeting by meeting and most members of the network will get the opportunity for getting personally involved with this process.

Not only members of SPICE Group can participate in this process. We invite all business incubation professionals to contribute by providing their views and experience. The short list of questions to be answered is available from the SPICE Secretariat at [spice@spice-group.net](mailto:spice@spice-group.net)

### **... to keep the Ball rolling further**

after the two SPICE meetings described above we will have to roll the SPICE Art Ball to other places. Firstly because not all members will be able attending the meetings 120 and 121. And secondly because it will be fun exhibiting the SPICE Art Ball in as many places as possible. Proposals where to roll the Ball are welcome: [spice@spice-group.net](mailto:spice@spice-group.net)

At the end of 2006 the SPICE Art Ball 2006 will be exhibited at a concluding meeting and members that contributes with their piece of art on the ball will receive a special souvenir....

## **SPICE History**

In this part of SPICE Update we provide a few impressions from SPICE History: The Fifth and the Tenth Anniversaries.

Some historical facts:

- The name “**SPICE Group**” was created at the 22<sup>nd</sup> ICECE Meeting in Leipzig, Germany, **September 18, 1997** at the Innovation Fair where Jiri Coupek (Czech Republic) added “Group” to the proposal to use “SPICE” made by Heinz Fiedler. This started the process to rename the network from ICECE to SPICE and after several weeks of discussion via telecommunication
- The final decision on the first “**A & O**” document (before the network did not have any “constitution” at all) was taken at the SPICE meeting in Warnemünde, Germany, **November 15, 1997**. The “A & O became effective January 1, 1998 with 24 members having signed the document until than and
- The first “SPICE Meeting (at the same time the 25th ICECE Meeting) was held in Poznan, Poland, **March 21, 1998** at the first Polish conference on Science and Technology Parks

## **The 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our network was celebrated in Berlin at the ADT Annual conference 1996**

“ICECE News” No 3 reported (the text is “quoted” from that Update and the Joker was the “logo” for the Anniversary Meeting – with permission by the German Museum of Games):

The 5th ICECE Anniversary and WG Meeting in Berlin, November 08 - 10, 1996

This WG - Meeting was organized at the International ADT Conference with delegates from 25 countries - many of them represented by ICECE members who contributed importantly to the conference sessions on Central and Eastern Europe.

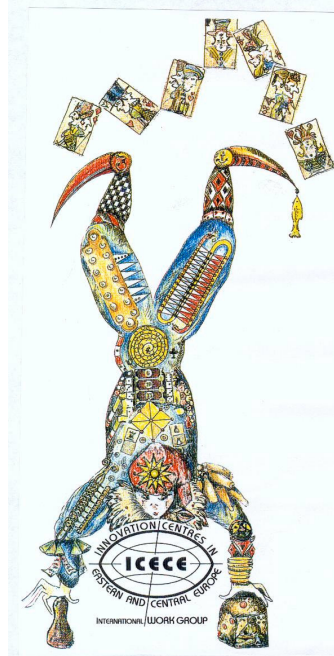
The most important parts of this event were the Special Work-shop “Innovation Centers in Central Europe” sponsored by the “German Marshall Fund of the United States” and the Anniversary celebration “**Panem et Circenses**“. The results of the Workshop which focussed on experience in business incubation in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia will be published shortly in a documentation (ICECE Focus No 2) available to be anyone interested. The results of the anniversary dinner? First of all: FUN. After a relaxing dinner we enjoyed games - guided by **Peter Lemcke**, the Founder and Director of the German Museum of Games. He thanks all members who contributed with donations from their country to complete the Museum’s international collection of games. A special contribution was “The Incubator Manager’s Game“ a new game, invented by **Barbara Harley** USA. Another result of this celebration is stocked in the ICECE wine cellar: 26 bottles of wine and liqueur now waiting for the 10th anniversary of the Work Group.

A special souvenir document of the 5th ICECE Anniversary is available: A fully colored reproduction (A4 format) of the conference poster signed by the ICECE Members present. This document - including a frame - can be ordered by Members Only with the attached form. You might use this form as well to send your proposals or comments on any issue.

During the Work Group Meeting short reports were delivered on the recent activities

- the meeting in Kierzk including the seminar on public – private - partnership and the possibilities to continue such activities to establish concrete projects.
- the publication of the ICECE - Focus No. 1 and the SPICA - Directory which was presented at the special seminar. Participants received a copy of the Directory with compliments of the German Marshall Fund.
- Concerning the ICECE News the preparations to publish a Czech translation and to make the Russian Country Report a national newsletter were presented.
- A project proposal for developing an interactive information system (using the INTERNET) how to establish and manage a business incubator was discussed and approved in principle. Further preparation is necessary to prepare a formal application. Members are invited to contribute to this proposal (copies are available upon request).
- A first draft of “The ABC of Business Incubation“ was distributed. Members are invited to comment these definitions and /or to propose additions or changes (copies of the ABC are available on request).

An important topic was the future structure of the ICC and ICECE WG. In general the statements summarized from the Kierzk - Meeting were confirmed (see UPDATE No. 2). The following months will be used to prepare a proposal for the future organization of the ICECE WG and the ICC as well as the possible establishment of an association. This proposal is intended to be circulated to the members prior to the Kaunas - Meeting/Forum where decision should be taken.



## The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our network was celebrated in San Jose at the NBIA Conference 2001

SPICE Update No 36 reported:

**The First 10th SPICE Anniversary Workshop held in San Jose, California, May 19, 2001,** was attended by 19 participants (14 SPICE members) from **12 countries**. Thanks to our hosts **Barbara Harley** and **Ingrid Rosten** this event was something to remember, a really spic(e)y beginning of the anniversary workshop series.

**Part 1: "CHEZ HARLEY"**, the evening before the workshop was *the* special reception for SPICE members and invited guests – Silicon Valley professionals. **Barbara Harley** invited to her home and cared not only for great food and excellent Californian wine, but also secured that people meet new people. This evening alone would have been worth traveling to San Jose.

**Part 2: The SPICE Workshop:** Certainly you want to see some impressions from the **workshop**. Participants provided short statements as basis for intensive and fruitful discussions. There is too much to learn about global developments in business incubation. To mention just four examples:



**The First SPICE Group  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Workshop**



**Janis Stabulnieks** (Latvia) presented the outcomes of ten years of SPICE networking in the most enjoyable and innovative way you can imagine.

**Polad Kuliye**v informed about the fast growth of the number of business incubators in Kazakhstan. After the SPICE supported conference last year, business incubation gained political attention.

**Hong Kim** (Korea) informed about the booming incubator development in his country. There is much room to develop co-operation in the future

**Vadim Kotelnikov** (India) introduced to his new Internet portal specialized on the needs of the business incubation industry – something for the electronic future of SPICE to be discussed in more detail

**Part 3: The Art of SPICE:** In a joint effort, guided by the German painting artist **Ilja Heinig** the attendees joined to paint **"Global Innovation Bridges"** with acrylic colors on canvas. The result is a 1 by 6 m painting. Now we are looking for a proper place to exhibit this **piece of SPICE art**.



There is more material in the files. If you are interested, just check the SPICE Updates - and if you do not have these newsletters anymore in your files: Send an email to the SPICE Secretariat and we will send you copies.

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## Views & facts

### **International** African Business Incubation Network

By Steve Giddings

Good news for the business incubation industry in Africa: *infoDev* will support not only a **Regional Workshop in Accra, Ghana, May 3 – 5, 2006** but after that also the development of three sub-regional networks. The people at BusyInternet in Ghana already are planning and organizing the workshop. Kerry McNamara ([kmcnamara1@worldbank.org](mailto:kmcnamara1@worldbank.org)) from *infoDev* extended an open invitation to the network to attend this conference and has asked to advise on issues that should be discussed, types of experts that should be invited to provide, assistance or training, specific training/capacity building activities that should be considered, people and organizations that should be invited to participate. *infoDev* also considered sponsoring a small number of participants to attend this event. When this Update goes to mail this process will be finished, but to better understand how the *infoDev* Regional Workshops are designed we wanted to briefly describe the preparation. Direct involvement of the network is key – and so is participation of decision makers so they can see first hand how incubation and business development support is contributing to the development of the continent.

The second piece of good news is that *infoDev* have recently awarded a grant to a consortium lead by Bodibeng Technology Incubator in South Africa, and including colleagues in both East and West Africa, to facilitate the creation and development of **three sub-regional networks in West Africa, East Africa and Southern Africa**.

The Conference will be a good forum for identifying what these sub-regional networks should focus on (how they should operate etc), and the consortium will delay any detailed planning activities until after the Conference. The point being that there will be ongoing (and relevant) activities after the Conference and we can look to really build on our vision for a vibrant small enterprise development community across Africa!

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### **International** Networking for SMEs

INSME celebrates the second anniversary, having been set up on February 18, 2004. The Network has grown and accomplished numerous achievements in these 2 years.

The goal of INSME is making the right connections at the right time, stimulating and increasing knowledge sharing and linkages among institutions, intermediaries, companies and people, involving both policymakers and providers of innovation services to SMEs.. The ability to build timely and stable business relationships and partnerships is crucial to make innovation happen in SMEs. INSME in short is about helping these organizations and professionals network effectively for mutual benefits. The INSME Secretariat is involved in a number of activities (events attendance, organization of training programs, participation in calls for tenders, etc) aimed at this goal, and its most important being the upcoming INSME Annual Meeting in Montevideo.

Access to knowledge, information and technologies is vital for all enterprises to be innovative and competitive in any geographical area. INSME is about encouraging international cooperation and political dialogue for the diffusion of a culture of innovation among companies. This means establishing a network that is built around three main groups of stakeholders: the creators/providers of knowledge and innovation, those who need/use and take advantage of innovation and the policymakers that affect this field.

The INSME Annual meeting in Montevideo will be the right occasion to make the most of the international networking potential and get to know better the people behind the INSME Association!

Contact: Ms. Simona Marzetti, Email: [marzetti@ipi.it](mailto:marzetti@ipi.it)



Simona Marzetti

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### **International** Stanford Research The Globalization of the Incubator Model

Business incubators and Technoparks have sprouted in countries worldwide - why? Professors Gili S. Drori, of Stanford University, and Yong Suk Jang, of Korea University, are studying the globalization of business incubators and technoparks, seeing what conditions encourage their establishment. Studying some 1,500 business incubators and technoparks worldwide, they compare between national or local conditions (such as strength of local support, legacy of local business and industry, and existence of a local consultancy sector) and international conditions (such as the ties with the global business community or immersion in entrepreneurial networks). In addition to the strategic implications of this study (on what conditions foster business incubators and technoparks and what conditions hinder their establishment), they also put this practice in the context of globalization. Specifically, they emphasize that the institutionalization and subsequent globalization of the incubator model is dependent on a country's or a region's embeddedness in world society and thus and on the fostering of ties with the global industrial, business, and cultural sectors.

During earlier studies of the globalization of science and innovation, Gili S. Drori came across the SPICE Group network and now SPICE Group's information – specifically SPICA Directory Online – will be one of the sources. This information will be used to assess process of global diffusion (in this case of the incubator model).

Contact: Gili S. Drori, International Relations Program, Stanford University, email: [drori@stanford.edu](mailto:drori@stanford.edu)

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### **New Zealand** Pipeline of high growth

By Richard White

In New Zealand the intent of the government's Incubator Support Program and that of the industry association is to build a business incubation industry that produces a pipeline of high growth, internationally focused exporting companies. New entrants must satisfy incubator management that they have international ambitions and a will to implement strategies from day one that reflect this. An example is an explicit acknowledgement that when and if necessary they will to sell down equity in

return for capital and skills that will support international market entry plans. On graduation, the expectation is that companies will have already established their first international sales, or at the very least have international growth plans in place. These companies face particular challenges that our incubators are resourced to help overcome, such as New Zealand's geographic isolation and distance from key international markets and networks, and the small size of its domestic market. The assistance comes in the form of: experienced and entrepreneurial incubator management, early introduction of appropriately skilled mentors and advisory boards, regular educational and training seminars, access to capital, timely introduction to government support programs, notably New Zealand Trade and Enterprise ([www.nzte.govt.nz](http://www.nzte.govt.nz)), and links to international networks (including incubators).

New Zealand welcomes interest from international friends and networks. Information about the industry association can be found on [www.incubators.org.nz](http://www.incubators.org.nz).

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## **Vietnam**

### ***New technology based business incubators***

*By Chu Van Thang*

Vietnam is preparing for building a business incubation program and the first incubators are close to be opened. Here the latest news about business incubator development in Vietnam. A high-tech business incubator is planned to be established in 2006 by Hoalac High Tech Park, which is located in Hatay province about 30 km from Hanoi. Also, in Ho Chi Minh City an university-based incubator, namely Phutho incubator, will be set up soon in Ho Chi Minh city University of Technology. The Hoalac hi-tech Business Incubator and the Phutho Incubator are pilot technology business incubators (TBI) within the framework of the cooperation project "Technology Management and Innovation in South Asia/Vietnam" between Ministry of Science and Technology of Vietnam and Inwent-Capacity Building International, Germany.

A two day training course entitled "Coaching and Consulting of SMEs" for training TBI staffs was held by the MOST-Inwent project (led by SPICE Boy Franz Dietrich, Experplan, Germany) in Hanoi and in Ho Chi Minh City from in March this year (see pictures).

Contact: Chu Van Thang, email: [cvthang@most.gov.vn](mailto:cvthang@most.gov.vn)



Training course in Hanoi with business



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## **Croatia**

### ***Fashion for the Incubator***

*By Ivan Stefanic*

International contacts and cooperation are important for developing a business incubator successfully. Therefore the Business Incubator Osijek always considered international activities as a vital component and SPICE Group as promising way to communicate with other people with the same interests. On this background it is a logical step to join SPICE Group as a member (next issue of SPICE Update will introduce Ivan Stefanic as a new member).

There is plenty of good news from Technology Development Center Osijek. For example the fashion show organized April 27<sup>th</sup>. Models presented at that show are created from washable leather (outcome from one of the incubator projects). Indirect conclusion from this: we made quantum leap, The Center does not just serve the clients, it organizes own research & development projects to widen the basis for start-up entrepreneurship.

Another example is the 2<sup>nd</sup> international exhibition of innovations, prototypes and student business plans. Beside medals a limited number of free incubation certificates were awarded and even sponsored vehicle for limited time (as a price in the category student business plans). This event will take place from May 10-13, 2006. On that occasion many supporting institutions for entrepreneurs will present their programs. Contact: Ivan Stefanic, email: [istefanic@tera.hr](mailto:istefanic@tera.hr)

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## **Ukraine**

### ***Popularization Of Science***

*By Inna Gagauz*

Already the second year Kharkiv Technologies Center (KHC) jointly with the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine holds the annual open Ukrainian Competition of Science-popular Articles and Scientific Pictures. This Competition is an Internet Project aimed at popularization of the latest achievements of national science, discussion of problems and perspectives of its further development, assistance in wider application of scientific results and innovations into practice.

Partners of the Competition are such recognized in Ukraine international organizations as Science and Technology Center of Ukraine, British Council in Ukraine, Russian editions "InformNauka" and "Poisk", Ukrainian Technoparks and a number of popular Ukrainian newspapers.

For this Competition KTC developed a special trilingual Internet resource "Science. Technology. Innovation" [www.nauka-info.com.ua](http://www.nauka-info.com.ua) in order to made the competition available for authors who write in Russian, Ukrainian and English. This made the Competition well-known and popular not only in Ukraine but also in Russia. Besides we received the competition works from Great Britain, Canada, Mexico.

In 2005, Kharkiv Technologies Center published the book "Up-to-date Innovation Structures" (authors are I. Gagauz and A. Mazur) aimed at the same goal – to involve as much as possible scientists and engineers into commercialization of scientific achievements. In this book it is systematized the methodology, world practice of innovation activities, experience of creation and functioning of innovation structures that realize scientific ideas into business.

The book is designed for scientists, engaged into innovation activity, teachers, trainers, students and post-graduate students that study course of innovation management. Contact: Inna Gagauz, email [gagauz@isc.kharkov.com](mailto:gagauz@isc.kharkov.com)

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## **Guatemala** *Technopark - excellent basis to enter Latin American Market*

Created in 2003 **Tecnopark** Guatemala is one of the first technology parks in Central America and provides an international complex for industry, education, research, and innovation. The legal framework allows clients to work freely in designing and building facilities that best fit their style and needs. At this time almost 100 companies are located on the 1,000 Hectares and Tecnopark is rapidly becoming the logistics, commercial, industrial, and information technology and communication center of the Central American region. Because of its strategic location in Central America, as well as its economic advantages, Tecnopark is one of the best options for investors and entrepreneurs in the region.

Due to the approval of the region's FTA, this location will allow investors to have convenient access to the biggest markets in the world (NAFTA) in its own vicinity; Central America is becoming a very interesting investment opportunity region in Latin America. In Guatemala specifically, the Government has targeted a priority of infrastructure modernization in the country and is in the process of revising investment laws and offering incentives for international participation in local businesses (see: [www.investinguatemala.org](http://www.investinguatemala.org) ).

**Tecnopark** is located next to the Pan-American freeway; it serves as a strategic point to the national seaport, Puerto Quetzal, and connects to Guatemala City, and to Mexico and El Salvador borders. It is a central point for all the main Central American markets, (35 million consumers) and offers all of the amenities of Guatemalan urban areas without the congestion and high cost of living including: average commute to work is less than 45 minutes from Guatemala City, affordable housing and access to medical facilities and local schooling as well as excellent climate all year round.

Other interesting features include a free trade zone, facilities to purchase or use the land offered by the park, availability of well-trained, competitive labor force including alliances with Guatemala's top high-tech universities and high-tech security. The project has currently established strategic alliances with leader organizations, are generating opportunities in fields like: energy supply, international logistics, transport, fuel supply and construction, mechanic services, telecommunications, informatics, finance services, customs services, convention centers, hotels, restaurants, education facilities, shopping centers, and accounting services.

For further information about projects, partnerships or business ventures please contact: [www.tecnoparkgt.com](http://www.tecnoparkgt.com)

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## **Germany** *Strengthening the basis for SMEs*

The **Innovation Park Wuhlheide, Berlin**, Germany took initiative for bringing together associations active in innovation and entrepreneurship support for Colloquia on "Strengthening the basis for technology based SME to foster structural change in Germany" At the second colloquium, held in IPW in March 2006, a resolution was signed by three associations: ADT, German Federal Association of technology and Business Incubation Centers, VIU, Association of Innovation Enterprises, and VITO, Association of Technology and Innovation Consulting Centers. This initiative is supported by the "Beckmann Institute for Cooperation development for SME".

The resolution warns that innovation based enterprise development needs continued attention of policy makers to secure future economic development in Germany in view of an increase of global competition. Research and development investments of German SMEs decreased by 3 per cent in 2004 – an alarming signal – and also the research portion in the budget of the new German government failed to reach the level of three per cent of GNP. The basis for innovation and knowledge based entrepreneurship is at danger. The resolution appeals for increasing political attention to start-up entrepreneurship and SMEs, for simplifying the administrative procedures, and increasing supporting initiatives.

Info: Dietrich Reiblich, IPW Berlin, Email: [img@ipw-berlin.de](mailto:img@ipw-berlin.de)

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## **Iran**

*By Ramin Navvabpour*

The Incubator Network in Tehran (INT) which consists of 3 technoparks and 13 incubators in different fields of technology is developing momentum and developing links with of technoparks and incubators from other provinces in Iran.

Now The INT started 6 spin-off workgroups to support members needs in different fields such as IP, Training, Human resources, Venture Capitalism, and developing Operational Models

INT is interested in exchanging experience and establishing co-operation with SPICE Group and other networks as well as special clusters in Iran..

The main project of INT in this year is Establishing "Incubators' SMEs Network" .It will consist of special clusters such as : Bio Technology, Polymer and Petrochemical, ICT, and Nano technology ...

Contact: R. Navvabpour ,Head of "Tehran Tech Parks & Incubators Network", email: [navvabpour@itincubator.com](mailto:navvabpour@itincubator.com)

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## **Romania**

The CITAf incubator in Bucharest, Romania is continuing international projects an gaining increasing national recognition. The Romanian Research and Education Minister visited the incubator in February on the occasion of the official opening of the Technology and Business Incubator Centre as entity accredited by Research and Education Ministry.

CITAf has submitted two project in the field of using biomes as alternative source of energy ( for obtaining biogas / hydrogen) in the frame of national research programme. Of course, all these activities a carried out to further increase capabilities of the incubators to serve its clients.

CITAf also is considering to take part in the EU program "Competitiveness and Innovation" to be launched next year. The proposed framework Programme will be structured around three main blocks of activities: The Entrepreneurship and Innova-

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tion Program, particularly focussing on SMEs The ITC Policy Support Programme, to support the adoption of ICT in business, administrations and public sector services The Intelligent Energy Europe Programme. SPICE members interested to join for preparing proposals for their program are invited to contact Domnica Cotet, email: [cie1@ictcm.ro](mailto:cie1@ictcm.ro)

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## Mongolia

E-learning Development and Training

By Tsetseg-Ulzii Yadamsuren

Tsetseg-Ulzii Yadamsuren, an executive director of the Mongolia Development Gateway (MnDG) participated in a special program on e-learning, Development and Implementation training. This blended learning course started with an online-introduction followed by a Start-up-Workshop in Feldafing, Germany. The participants attended 4 online modules after the workshop, which impart an overview of all relevant aspects concerning e-learning before they can choose 2 of 4 topics in order to further qualify themselves as e-learning experts until end of October 2006. The participants are supported by e-tutors during these online phases. The course will be completed by another workshop in November 2006, which enables the participants to finalize and to present their individual online products which are to be developed during the course.

Contact & information: Tsetseg-Ulzii Yadamsuren Email: [tsetsegu@magicnet.mn](mailto:tsetsegu@magicnet.mn), Web: <http://www.gateway.mn>

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## New members



### Omer Oz

I have been working as General Manager of ODTU-KOSGEB Technology Incubator Manager in Turkey since 1992 and I have recently joined Bahrain Business Incubator as its new manager. During my career I have developed experience in promoting and development SME sector and gained experience of managing Business Incubators. I am mechanical engineer by profession and started my career working as a preventive maintenance engineer in Al Qassim area in Saudi Arabia. After working for around four years I went back to Turkey to set up my own business for manufacturing and exporting industrial machinery to Iraq for around another three years until the Iraq war which consequently stopped my market and business linkages to Iraq. Further to that in 1990, I seized the opportunity to work for Turkey Small and Medium Size Industry Development Organization. I have involved in setting up the incubator industry in Turkey and developed rules and regulations for establishing and managing incubators in and gradually become the general coordinator of incubators in Turkey. I have involved in several international projects to promote Business Incubator Centers. I have also been involved in preparation of Business Plan for Bahrain Business Incubator Center where I worked as an international expert for UNIDO.

Contact: Omer Oz, email [omeroz1@gmail.com](mailto:omeroz1@gmail.com)

## SPICE Partners

INSME and SPICE Group will strengthen cooperation. A first step is establishing mutual links on the websites. For SPICE Group you find this link under [www.spice-group/links](http://www.spice-group/links) You also may contact INSME directly through their website and by email: Simona Marzetti, email: [marzetti@ipi.it](mailto:marzetti@ipi.it)

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## Coming Events

*The most important coming events are the SPICE 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meetings at the*

- **20th NBIA International Conference on Business Incubation** "Cultivating the Seeds of Innovation" in St. Louis, USA, April 30 – May 3, 2006 (contact: [dadkins@nbia.org](mailto:dadkins@nbia.org)) with the **120<sup>th</sup> SPICE Meeting** beginning on **Sunday, April 30, 2006** after the Global Summit of Business Incubation Associations
- **BALTIC DYNAMICS 2006 conference** in Vilnius, Lithuania, May 24 – 26, 2006 (Contact: Ms. Monika Alimienė, WWW: [www.ktc.lt](http://www.ktc.lt), Email: [Monika@ktc.lt](mailto:Monika@ktc.lt)) with the **121<sup>st</sup> SPICE Meeting** beginning **May 2, 2006 at 13.00 h**

Please do not miss to prepare for these meetings by answering the "SPICE Anniversary Questions" and creating a concept and draft for your "national space" on the **SPICE Art Ball 2006**

Please confirm your attendance by sending an email to the SPICE Secretariat

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*More information about important events you can find on the website [www.spice-group.net/events](http://www.spice-group.net/events)*

For example the **23rd IASP World Conference on Science and Technology Parks** to be held in Helsinki June 6-9 2006.

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## And finally...

The SPICE Anniversary is a good reason for checking old files. As much as time allows we are doing this to discover hidden treasures and share them with you. In case you have photos, reports or other results of earlier network activities we appreciated to receive copies for further reports on SPICE history. Another important activity could be to update your personal profile in the PUMBAA section of our web site. This section is aimed at becoming a resource for information about members of our network – to initiate cooperation, find qualified partners for projects, or develop synergy within the network.

Looking forward to meeting with you personally at one of the 15<sup>th</sup> SPICE Anniversary meeting in near future

*Heinz Fiedler & Larisa Brorarska*