



UPDATE No. 50

November 2003 - For SPICE / ICECE Members only

«Vorname» «Name»
 «Company»
 «Department»
 «Street_1» «Street_2»
 «city», «country»»

Check the Calendar and add your events
www.spice-group.net/events

In this UPDATE:

- New members from **Turkey** and **Yugoslavia**
- SPICE Group now in **30 countries**
- Spotlight on **Kyrgyzstan**

Dear «Vorname»,

Only a few weeks passed this the last UPDATE, but much has happened in the network. There were two important conferences; the **infoDev Workshop in Berlin** at the ADT Anniversary Conference and the **PBICA Annual Conference in Kalisz**, Poland. The Polish Association celebrated its **10th Anniversary** with this event. Other important events with some participation of SPICE were the infoDev Workshops in Bangalore, India and Brasilia, Brazil. SPICE Girl Barbara Harley was active with both events – for India even as a co-organizer. Much has been done. But there is no time to lean back. The 8th International Summit is on the agenda in few days. And, of course, there is much work besides the meetings and conferences. Read this UPDATE, enjoy memories, evaluate information and make plans for future events, meetings and projects and do not forget to inform us about your plans and achievements. With information from you we can keep the other members up-to-date.

And now, as usual, some spotlights on recent events:

From the 98th SPICE Meeting in Berlin, Germany

The Anniversary Annual Conference of ADT, Association of German Business Incubation and Technology Centers, “**20 Years of Business Incubators in Germany**” and the “**infoDev Advisory Workshop**” were a combination of events bringing together some 250 business incubation experts from 37 countries. This event was an example for close cooperation between SPICE Group and ADT.

The “**infoDev Advisory Workshop Berlin**” was organized by SPICE Group based on financial support from infoDev. Linking the workshop with ADT Anniversary Conference offered a wider range of information and contacts. This ADT Annual Conference, summarized the experience of German business incubators and compared it with experience from other countries (Brazil, Korea, USA, European countries). This experience was presented by outstanding highly experienced experts from the different countries. Thereby the conference offered much information, insight and contacts complementing the experience of the infoDev Workshop participants itself. Altogether the event was attended by more than 250 participants including **the 72 infoDev workshop attendees from 31 countries**.

The aims of the workshop were (1) informing participants about the business incubation related activities and programs of infoDev (World Bank), (2) exchanging information and experience in the field of business incubation between participants as well as with attendees of the ADT conference and (3) building up and strengthening the network of cooperation between business incubation experts world-wide.



E. Roustazadeh and SPICE & Team



The Kazakh Team



I. Piturescu & D. Cotet

I Gagauz, Z. Akbagysheva, R Djambazova



! Next event:

November 12 – 14, 2003: Innovation Fiesta, Kitakyushu, Japan and 8th International Summit of Associations at the

Reflecting the aims, the workshop program besides the “usual” sessions with presentations and moderated discussions offered many opportunities for the participants to informally make new contacts and develop existing cooperation. In this respect participating members of SPICE Group played an important role by facilitating contacts, bringing people together and creating an open and friendly atmosphere. To illustrate: the workshop began Saturday afternoon with an informal meeting and registration session used by participants to learn to know each other and to receive information about the program, background and aims of the workshop. Directly from this meeting transportation by boat was organized to the opening reception providing a special surprise: the first concert of IZLARAH. More about this in the photo section of this UPDATE.



Highlight of the get-together party: first time SPICE Group members & guests could enjoy a performance of IZLARAH, the true SPICE Girls. Usually working in the SPICE Secretariats **Isabella Stelmaszewska** and **Larisa Brovarska** presented their unknown talent as singers. With **Ralph Paulsen-Bahnsen**, a well-known German musician, playing guitar the new group was (almost) complete. The fourth member of the Group, Heinz Fiedler playing the tambourine is invisible as usual. Participants could take home an IZLARAH CD, especially produced for this event by “Ziegelei Studios, Ventschau, Germany. Next morning (Sunday) began with a reception in the first German business incubator, the BIG – Berlin Center for Innovation and New Enterprises and continued with a sightseeing tour by boat. One more opportunity to discuss with old and new friends and partners. The Sunday evening brought workshop participants together with attendees of the ADT conference at the opening reception of the “20 years conference”.



Following the workshop an **evaluation form** was mailed to the participants asking them to evaluate the workshop and provide comments concerning possibilities for future development. It can be understood as a positive evaluation in itself that without much need for reminding participants on the evaluation form, 63 participants sent back their opinion within a short period of time. Leaving the participating “officials” out of count, this means that almost all attendees answered. A short summary of this evaluation is available on request.



Last, certainly not least the **98th SPICE meeting** is to be mentioned. Members this time could welcome guests from many countries at the dinner, for example Luis Bermudes from Brazil, Miro Dzapo, Croatia, Ezzatollah Roustazadeh, Iran, Ruta Guste, Latvia, Walid Bakr, Egypt and Rolf Friedrichsdorf, Germany. Although already member for many years **Domnica Cotet, Romania** finally received her personal PUMBAA at this meeting – there simply was no earlier occasion. And the new member **Zamira Akbagysheva** from **Kyrgyzstan** also was welcomed by her PUMBAA and in return presented a very special hat to SPICE President Heinz Fiedler. **Veniamin Kaganov** brought a special souvenir from Russia. As usual this dinner was mainly focused on strengthening the personal links – basis for all the networking...



From the 99th SPICE Meeting in Kalisz, Poland,

This year PBICA, the Polish Business and Innovation Centres Association celebrated its **10th Anniversary** with the 14th Annual Business Incubation Conference titled “Business and Innovation Centres Within the Frame of the EU Programmes”. The Kalisz Business Incubator Foundation hosted this event October 9-11, 2003 in the new conference hall of European Education Centre, the newest conference facility in one of the oldest cities in Poland, Kalisz.

The Conference was organised by PBICA with support from many organizations, e.g. Poznan Science and Technology Park of Adam Mickiewicz University Foundation, SPICE, International Science Parks and Innovation Centres Expert Group, State Contact Dept for 6th EU Framework Programme and RIS “Innovative Wielkopolska”.

Some of the many conference topics: 6th EU Framework Programme provides the opportunity for innovation. The National Innovation Network is being founded. In many Polish regions now Science Park programmes are being created. The Polish Science and Technology Park Consortium has been founded. Within the frame of Sector Operational Programs and Integrated Operational Program for Regional Development there are Business and Innovation Centres, Pre- Incubators, Business Incubators, Science and Technology Parks, Technology Transfer Centres. The tasks of these centers were discussed, as well as methods for the best preparation of new projects and taking advantage of Polish financial means and the Structural Funds in 2004-2006. Best practices for managing Business and Innovation Centres were presented as well as suggestions on activities supporting the development of rural areas and programmes supporting cooperation and exchange of experience between Poland, Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.



10th Anniversary of PBICA Reception of the 14th Annual Business Incubation Conference



↑ Communication Training Session ↑

↓ IZLARAH's Congratulation ↓



The PBICA Trademark

... and someone must work ↑

As special conference guest PBICA could welcome the Minister of Economy, Labour and Social Policy of Poland, Krzysztof Krystowski. And, not to forget, the conference party in the beautiful **Castle Goluchowo** did not only offer excellent food and the traditional bonfire, but also a presentation of Polish and Russian folklore by IZLARAH. Participants could take home a CD with the songs of these “SPICE Girls” and pictures from ten years of PBICA conferences.

Most times the PBICA conferences were held in Poznan, but with this event the event began to travel to other cities. The **Business Incubator Kalisz**, one of the most successful business incubators of the country hosted the event. The incubator manager **Piotr Sadowski** and his team made it an effective and enjoyable event Thank you!

Information, Facts & Views

Spotlight on Kyrgyzstan:

History and Development of Business Incubators (by Tamara Kozhomuratova)

In August 2000 the development of business incubators began with the establishment of the first Business Incubator in Kyrgyzstan, the **Business Center Bishkek** (BCK). This project, managed by **Tamara Kozhomuratova** operated in the frameworks of the Kyrgyz-German Project "Labor Market Policy and Employment" and was supported by GTZ, the German organization for international technical cooperation and support. A reconstructed building, with 1.500 m², was provided to the incubator free of rent for 10 years. For the first year the incubator worked with financial support of German partners. After finishing the pilot stage BCK developed to self-finance terms. The results: "BCK clients" create jobs (more than 200 until now), implement measures on social protection of employees and help to reduce poverty in Kyrgyzstan. In 2002 the first 4 small enterprises graduated from the incubator. New start-up entrepreneurs could move in. In 2003 further five BI clients left. In total 16 enterprises have been supported now by BI. For celebrating three years of BI activity the Prime-Minister of the Republic visited the business-incubator. His visit was not just an informative; he helped to solve problems raised by clients in short time. One of the most important directions according to the National Strategy on Poverty Reduction is promotion and support of entrepreneurship development. Business-incubator that was supported by Kyrgyz-German Project became a motivation for experience replication across the republic as an effective. The participation of the state authority bodies benefits in this process therefore the Governors of all regions of the Republic had visited business-incubator. They realized how business-incubators can be created and how they help economy growth. Also, in July 2003 the members of Bundestag, the Germany Parliament visited the incubator and showed high appreciation got the achievements. This also was very important for all people involved in this project, because the first two years of activity were not easy.

For 2001-2002 Tacis PROJECT IN Kyrgyzstan established five business-incubators in the remote mountainous regions of the Kyrgyzstan. Their project managers and staff were trained in BCK. In 2003 all 6 operating business-incubators combined their interests and efforts and established the Association of Business-Incubators in Kyrgyzstan (ABIK).

In September 2003 UNDP in cooperation with business incubator managers conducted a round-table in the largest region of the Republic "Osh oblast" to study the opportunities and resources to create a business-incubator in the south of the Republic. Steps to establish "Osh BI" have been already implemented. ABIK members take part in this project. Business-incubator development in Kyrgyzstan become more confident. The most important fact is that the idea of business incubation found its place in the minds of the majority of operating and potential entrepreneurs, officials and the public.

More information: Tamara Kozhomuratova, Email incub@elcat.kg

First Conference: Supporting New and Growing Businesses

The First International Conference on business incubation was held in Bishkek, the Capital of Kyrgyzstan. The conference was organized by the Congress of Women of Kyrgyzstan, with support from «Eurasia» Foundation, Soros Foundation-, UNDP as well as other national organizations. Experts from 10 countries, in particular specialists from Poland, Russia, Estonia, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, chiefs of international organizations, businesspeople of Kyrgyzstan, and state representatives, discussed key problems of creation, organization and development of new businesses and support structures, namely business incubators. A memorandum on cooperation between the Union of Business Incubators and Innovation Centers of Kyrgyz Republic and associations of business incubators from Poland, Estonia, Uzbekistan and Russia (Volkhov) was signed during the conference with the aim of promoting cooperation in the field of development of business incubators and innovation centers.

According to Zamira Akbagysheva, president of the Congress of Women of Kyrgyzstan and the General Secretary of the Union of Business Incubators and Innovative Centers of Kyrgyz Republic, the formation of business incubators and innovation centers is a very important tool for realization of regional social and economic programs and projects aimed at combating poverty and unemployment. More information: Zamira Akbagysheva, E-mail: congresswomen@intranet.kg

Russia – Czech Republic

New activities of SPICE Boy Veniamin Kaganov: He is preparing for opening a "Branch Office" in Prague. At this time, this is on the stage of juridical registration and this process may take a few months. However the process of identifying partners interested in Czech – Russian cooperation already has begun.

The aim of this new activity is to promote international business cooperation – including partners from neighboring countries, for example Germany. The branch office will be consulting firm, to help and provide Czech companies with services for searching the partners in Russia, registration of the companies and representative offices in Russia, office and accommodation support, advertisement, exhibition activity and other essential kinds of consulting services for Czech companies which have an interest to operate on the Russian markets or cooperate with Russian companies. Czech business is quickly developing and Russia is market for them.

Moldova Business Incubator "Impuls"

May 22, 2001 was the opening date of Business incubator "Impuls" in Bălți, Moldova. This incubator is aimed at supporting especially technology based enterprises to create highly qualified jobs. This activity is not limited to tenants in the incubators, but also includes advise to would-be entrepreneurs from the region. Close cooperation with the Bălți Chamber of Commerce and Industry is an important basis for the work of the incubator. The main finance source for the incubator is from national organizations, but there also is foreign support available from German organizations and partners. Beginning 2003 already 13 companies with 96 employees were working in the incubator. Contact: Ivan Banari, Email cci_publ@mdl.net

New members



Konstantin Vuk Savicevic from Belgrade attended the infoDev Workshop in Berlin. He now is the first SPICE member (ICECE[®]) from Yugoslavia. Konstantin is working with a Swiss cooperative and network dedicated to investing in Yugoslavia and Southeast Europe. His suggestion for main areas to focus on in the near future are Development of a regional (Balkans) network, and cooperation with innovation centers in other countries in order to build communication between companies operating therein.

Contact: Email kvs@ict-tower.com / kvs@orah.com



Ugur Yuksel from Ankara, Turkey, joined the network after the infoDev Workshop in Berlin. Ugur is Managing Director of METU-Technopolis, Ankara, a technology incubator established 1991. At this time there are 27 tenant firms (mainly in electronics and software business) in the incubator- but another 39 already matured and created some 600 jobs. Ugur is specifically interested in building up and developing a network with partners interested in an open and intensive exchange of experience.

Contact: Email: oz@kosgeb.tekmer.gov.tr

Coming SPICE (and other) events

Japan

While you are reading this UPDATE the **Innovation Fiesta in Kitakyushu, Japan** is taking place (November 12 – 14, 2003) with the **8th International Summit of Business Incubation Associations**

And finally...

Even if this UPDATE offers many visual impressions, nothing compares with having been there. Just as an example to illustrate the meaning of this statement: Those who have experienced IZLARA^H at the events in Berlin, Germany and Kalisz, Poland now know that there are more hidden talents in the SPICE network than most members expected or imagined. Of course, you can get a copy of the CD to hear the music, but having been there is a different story.

Now we are looking for proposals where and how to celebrate the 100th SPICE Meeting[®]. Any idea?

Looking forward to hearing from you soon or, if possible by any means, meeting with you personally at one of the coming SPICE events

Heinz Fiedler



The SPICE Calendar 2003

For information about coming events check the web site:

www.spice-group.net/events

Events of SPICE History

	<i>Warnemünde, Germany</i> May 10, 2003	95	<i>Vilnius, Lithuania</i> May 15–17, 2003	96	<i>Virginia, USA</i> May 18–21, 2003	97	<i>Lisbon, Portugal,</i> June 1-4, 2003
98	<i>Berlin, Germany,</i> September 28-30, 2003	99	<i>Kalisz, Poland,</i> October 12-14, 2003				

Answer Form for SPICE UPDATE No 50

Please send your answer to email spice@spice-group.de

SPICE Homepage

This is a **never ending request**: Please check www.spice-group.net/members and inform us if you want your email and homepage links activated.

- Yes**, I want my email and homepage links on the SPICE Group Homepage to be active. These links should lead to
- (a) for email:
- (b) for homepage:

For the “To Do” List:

Check the profile of your association and / or business incubator / technology park in SPICA Directory Online: www.spica-directory.net Many organizations have updated their information and new countries have been added. Your profile should not be out-dated !

- Please**, send my **password** for SPICA Directory Online and the “PUMBAA pages”
- Please**, send a copy of the evaluation summary “infoDev Workshop Berlin”

Place, Date

Signature

«Vorname» «Name»