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**2<sup>ND</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP, INNOVATION  
AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
- ICEIRD 2009**



**THEME:**  
**ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION CROSSROADS:  
TRIGGERS, CATALYST AND ACCELERATORS  
FOR SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**24-25 APRIL 2009,  
THESSALONIKI, GREECE**

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■ **SCOPE AND AIMS**

*ICEIRD 2009 aims to provide an effective channel of communication between decision-makers (government, ministries and state agencies), researchers (universities, research and development centres, start-up centres and incubators), practitioners (SME leaders and managers) and persons concerned with the latest research, scientific development and practice on innovation and entrepreneurship in order to discuss topics that are of currency, relevance and significance for national competitiveness as well as sustainable, robust, and equitable regional development. ICEIRD09 aims to:*

- *address key factors in regional economic development, entrepreneurial vitality and innovation processes*
- *raise the level of awareness about innovation, entrepreneurship and competitive advantage*

- *strengthen the regional and international network among representatives from SEE countries and those from EU member states*
- *consolidate intra-SEE networks of SMEs, Start-up Centers and Incubators*
- *understand cultural and national barriers of entrepreneurship in the global economy*
- *promote best practices in innovation research and business development*
- *facilitate regional partnerships and innovation networks*

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■ **MISSION:**

*Mission of the International Conference for Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Regional Development (ICEIRD) is to strengthen the entrepreneurial spirit and help develop and sustain economic growth by fostering innovation, through the academic knowledge and expertise. ICEIRD Consortium has been established to provide a multi-disciplinary and cross-sectoral forum for researchers, practitioners, and policy makers in the field of innovation and regional development, and a means for sharing findings that promote innovation and therefore enhance economic, technological and regional socio-economic development through new economic activities that stimulate generation of wealth through entrepreneurial and sustainable employment and growth and thus increase competitiveness as well as civil society development and enhancement via the inter-networking of disciplines, researchers, policy makers and practitioners in diverse countries in the region.*

*The ICEIRD Consortium drives research agenda in the field of technology, innovation and entrepreneurship and regional economic development. It is one of the premium and pioneering consortia that successfully and effectively link theory and practice through well-established research outputs and annual meetings.*

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■ **GOALS:**

*The objective of ICEIRD Consortium is to establish an effective channel of communication between policy makers, government agendas, academic and research institutions and persons concerned with the latest research, scientific development and practice on innovation and regional development, with the following goals:*

- *To bridge the gap between academic and industry through applied research on technology, innovation and entrepreneurship and regional economic development*
- *To foster knowledge transfer and collaboration between the academic and industry sectors in emergent technology, system and model contexts*
- *To organize annual conferences/workshops to meet with members and participants and disseminate latest research and practice*
- *To publish results of projects in quality academic and professional journals, books, handbooks, proceedings, and reports.*
- *To generate funding from sources such as local government and research councils for furthering and developing new projects that could benefit the regional and country economy and industry by sharing of experiences and know-how between regions and countries*
- *To work in partnership with industry on specific entrepreneurial challenges, or innovative ideas*
- *To drive international research collaboration on projects related to innovation and regional development.*
- *To serve as the resources and expertise's hub on entrepreneurship and innovation by providing an ICEIRD consortium platform and a knowledge bank.*
- *To infuse and pump knowledge and expertise into improving the competitiveness of enterprises in developing countries.*
- *To be the first successful international network that enables exchange and transfer of knowledge, expertise and resources between developed and developing countries (the real global innovative chain)*

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■ **TOPICS:**

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**CREATIVITY, COMPLEXITY AND COMPETITIVENESS ISSUES FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SMEs) IN SEE vs. OTHER REGIONS (EU AND OTHER)**

- *Managing and Leveraging Complexity, Creativity and Innovation in SMEs*
- *Trust, Respect, Culture and Collaboration Issues for SMEs in SEE vs. other regions (EU and other)*
- *Leadership and Management practices that can be applied to SMEs*
- *SME Knowledge management and technology transfer*
- *SME Business process modeling*
- *New Technology Ventures Financing*
- *Business incubation management and leadership*
- *Human Resources Practices for promoting innovation for SMEs*

**SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN ENTREPRENEURIAL INNOVATION CLUSTERS**

- *SMEs' Entrepreneurship as an Innovation Driver*
- *Opportunities and barriers for closer cooperation between South East European SMEs in Innovation & Entrepreneurship:*
- *Strategic Integration vs. Flexibility and SME Competitiveness*
- *Innovation Clusters, Technology Transfer and Social Entrepreneurship*
- *Social Networking as Driver of EICs formation*
- *Science & Technology Parks and EICs*
- *Young and Women Entrepreneurs development via EICs*
- *Benchmarking of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Best Practices in the region*
- *Innovation policy in SMEs*

**TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION, TRANSFER AND COMMERCIALIZATION ACROSS GOVERNEMENT, UNIVERSITY, INDUSTRY DOMAINS**

- *The role of the State and Public Policy with regards to SME Innovation and Entrepreneurship*
- *Governmental and regional policies on entrepreneurship and innovation*
- *Entrepreneurial Universities and Entrepreneurial Innovation Clusters*
- *Entrepreneurship education, University – Industry collaboration*
- *ICT and SME Regional competitiveness*
- *SMEs and the role of the Innovation Zone (business centers and incubators)*
- *Intangibles Valuation and Intellectual Property Rights*

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■ **CONFERENCE CHAIR:**

*PANOS KETIKIDIS (CITY COLLEGE),*

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■ **CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS (ORGANISATION):**

*THANOS HATZIAPOSTOLOU (CITY COLLEGE),*

*FOTIS MISOPOULOS (CITY COLLEGE)*

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■ **PROGRAMME COMMITTEE:**

*ELIAS CARAYANNIS (GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY),*

*SIAU CHING LENNY KOH (UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD),*

*NICOS KOMNINOS (ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI),*

*RADMIL POLENAKOVIK (SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS UNIVERSITY),*

*JAKA VADNIAL (GEA COLLEGE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP),*

*COTET DOMNICA (MECHANICAL RESEARCH ENGINEERING INSTITUTE),*

*PETKO RUSKOV (SOFIA UNIVERSITY),*

*ZORAN ANISIC (UNIVERSITY OF NOVI SAD),*

*LUKE PITTAWAY (GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY),  
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ROBERT HUGGINS (UNIVERSITY OF WALES INSTITUTE),  
ROUMEN NIKOLOV (UNIVERSITY OF SOFIA),  
ZENON MICHAELIDES (UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL),  
LEON OERLEMANS (TILBURG UNIVERSITY)*

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■ **LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE:**

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*ANNA SOTIRIADOU (CITY COLLEGE),  
NIKOS ZAHARIS (SEERC),  
STELIOS KEHAGHIAS (CITY COLLEGE),  
LESLIE SZAMOZI (CITY COLLEGE),  
ALEXANDROS PSYCHOGIOS (CITY COLLEGE)*

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■ **SUBMISSIONS, REVIEW AND PROCEEDINGS:**

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*Authors are invited to submit a full paper of 6-10 pages. Submitted papers, which will go under blind review by at least two referees.*

*Following acceptance, authors are asked to prepare a camera ready paper in a predefined format. The Conference Proceedings, including all papers presented will be published as a SEERC book edited by the Conference Chairs. Selected papers will be published in a special issue of the International Journal for Innovation and Regional Development (IJIRD) Interscience Publisher Ltd. The official language of the conference is English.*

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■ **IMPORTANT DATES:**

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**SUBMISSION OF FULL PAPERS:** 12 JANUARY 2009

**NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE:** 23 FEBRUARY 2009

**SUBMISSION OF CAMERA READY PAPER:** 10 MARCH 2009

**EARLY REGISTRATION AND AUTHOR REGISTRATION:** 16 MARCH 2009

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■ **SECRETARIAT:**

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**2ND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP,**

**INNOVATION AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

*CITY COLLEGE, AFFILIATED INSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD*

*SOUTH-EAST EUROPEAN RESEARCH CENTER SEERC*

*THESSALONIKI,*

*24-25 APRIL 2009*

*Contact: iceird2009@seerc.org*