Innovating Regions in Europe network

The Innovating Regions in Europe Network and the support services from the IRE Secretariat

Kraków

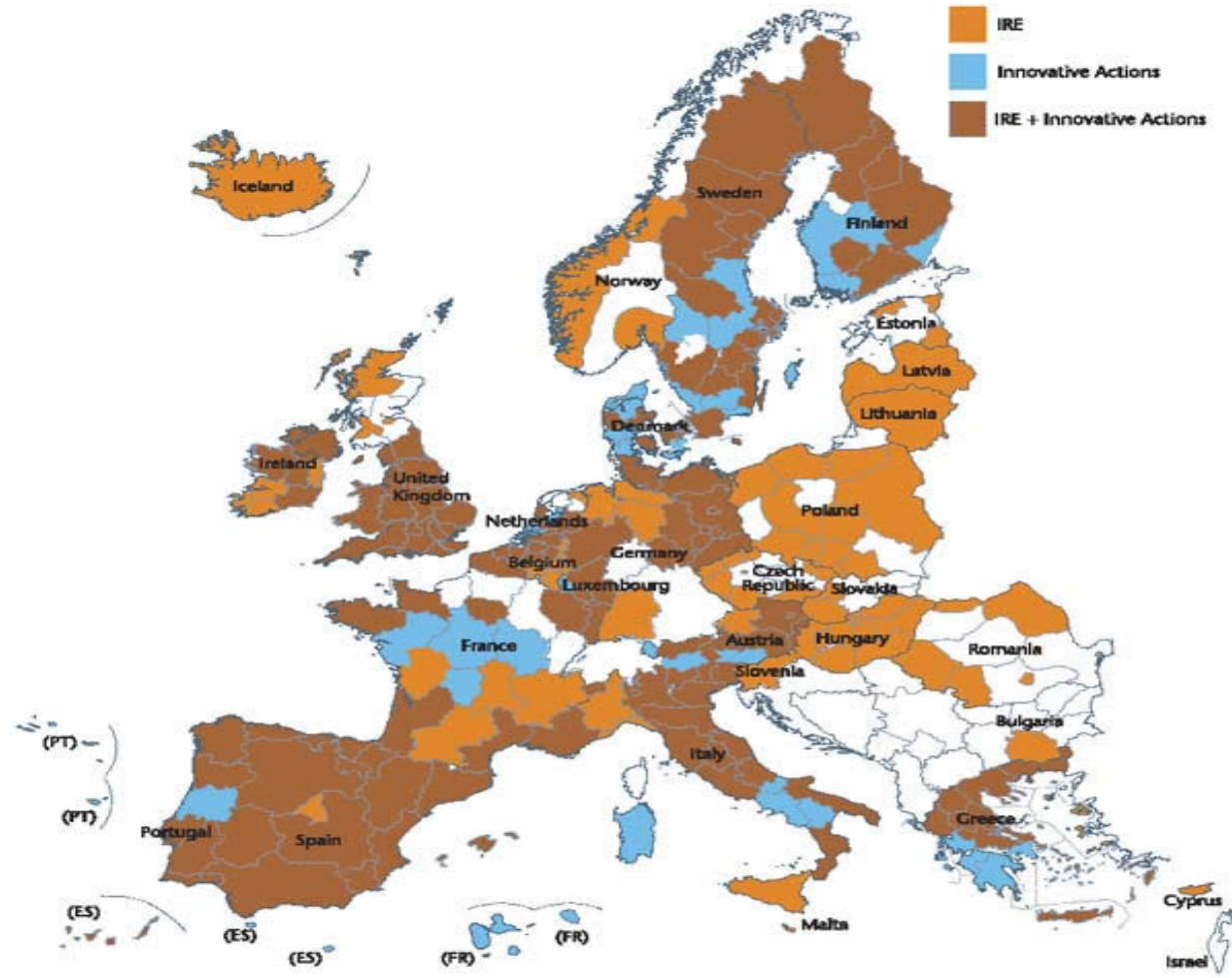### 22 April 2005

Elżbieta Książek

Innovation

Rationale & objectives

- A platform for European regions to **exchange experience** and **access good practice** in **regional innovation policies and strategies**

- Set up in mid 90's by the **European Commission**

- **Open** to any European **region** that is committed to the development of its innovation capacity

- Key **role** of **local/regional authorities** to promote innovation

Innovating Regions in Europe: members

The Innovating Regions in Europe network

200 regions

Structural projects of the IRE network

Project	Completed	On-going
Regional innovation strategies	RIS, RITTS (103) RIS+ (25) RIS-NACs (16)	RIS-NACs (33) Impact assessment /benchmarking (8) Support action to RIS-NAC (4)
Trans-regional co-operation	TRIP (11) IRE Thematic Networks (14)	Subgroups of regions (3)

Innovating Regions in Europe: achievements

Achievements of regional innovation strategies

- Move towards **strategic thinking**

- Creation of a **regional dialogue**

- Introduction of a broader concept of **innovation**

- Rationalisation of the **innovation support infrastructure**

Innovating Regions in Europe: achievements

Regional innovation strategy projects generated actions in several fields, e.g.

- Strengthening **sectoral business networks** and **clusters**

- Establishment of **interfaces** between businesses and the knowledge base

- Co-ordination of **RTD and innovation** services

- Development of **financial instruments** to finance innovation

- Improvement of **market intelligence** services

- Promotion of **innovation projects** in firms

- Facilitation of university/large firms **spin-offs** and NTBFs

The IRE Secretariat - role

IRE Secretariat mandate

- **Animate** the IRE network

- Provide **technical support** to IRE member regions

- Facilitate **exchange** of experiences, transfer of **good practice** and inter-regional **learning**

- Offer **meeting** opportunities

- Raise **awareness** of the importance and benefits of innovation for regional development

IRE Secretariat services – examples (1)

1. Help desk

2. Info Point
Tailor-made information on activities and good practices from IRE member regions upon request

Examples of requests:
- Regional
- Foresight activities
- Innovation culture
- Clusters / networks
- Sectors (agriculture, biotech, aerospace, medical, etc)
- Technology transfer schemes
- Business incubators

IRE Secretariat services – examples (2)

3. Partner search

Innovation-related projects from different EU programmes

4. IRE Study visits

Support to individual IRE members wishing to visit another IRE region on site

Technical support with:
- Identification of the host region
- Preparation of agenda and content
- Organisation of logistics
- Secretariat attendance

5. IRE events

Good practice workshops (e.g.):

- Innovation financing
- Regional foresight
- RIS/RITTS projects implementation

IRE Plenary Conference

- Bi-annual meeting for all IRE members

Thematic events for groups of regions

- Subgroups of regions (academic-industry links; clusters; mutual learning platform)
- Industrial Regions group
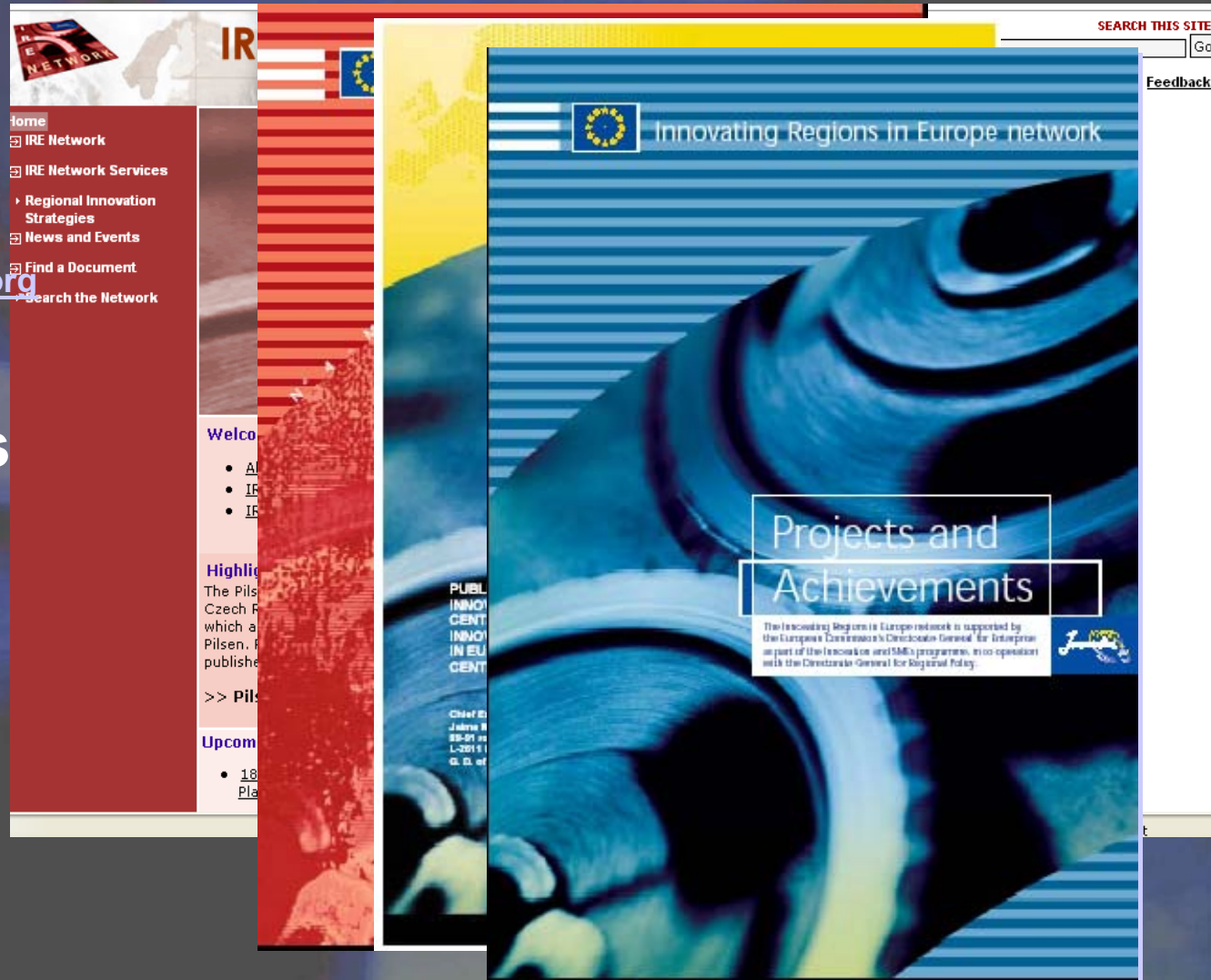
IRE Secretariat services – examples (4)

6. Promotion

– **IRE website**
www.innovating-regions.org

– **Publications**

- Periodicals
- Others

IRE Secretariat contact details

IRE Network Secretariat

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LJUBJLJANA

7-8 June 2005

6 June accompanying events

REGISTRATION OPEN NOW

http://www.innovating-regions.org