

EPISTEP

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Enhanced Participation of SMEs in IST European Technology Platforms

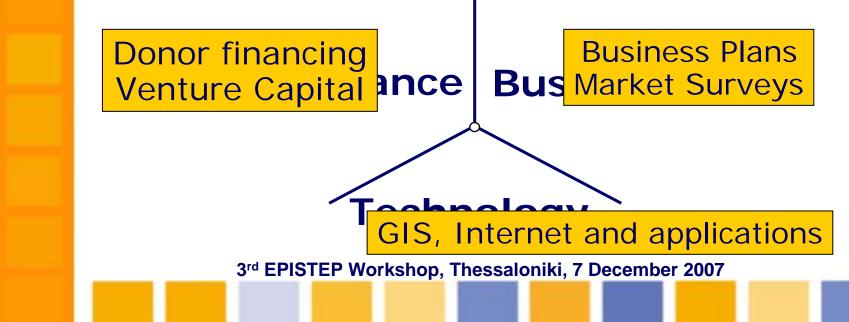
Ulrich Boes, URSIT Ltd., Sofia, Bulgaria

3rd EPISTEP Workshop, Thessaloniki, 7 December 2007

URSIT Ltd. Profile

http://www.ursit.com

- Founded in 2000
- Vision:
 - Introduce innovative technology into SEE
- Consultant and Service Provider



EPISTEP – A Brief Overview

- Part financed through FP6
 (ETI EC Innovation Programme)
- Project start date: September 2005
- Project duration: 28 months
 - □ Extension of 3 months requested
- Co-ordinated by:
 - □ Targeting Innovation, Glasgow, Scotland
- 25 Partners
- 15 Countries
 - □ inc. new member states & associated countries

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EPISTEP – Aims & Objectives

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Key Objective

to enable greater SME participation in the EU's Framework Programmes

Main Aim

□ to enhance SME access to 3 ICT European Technology Platforms (ETPs).

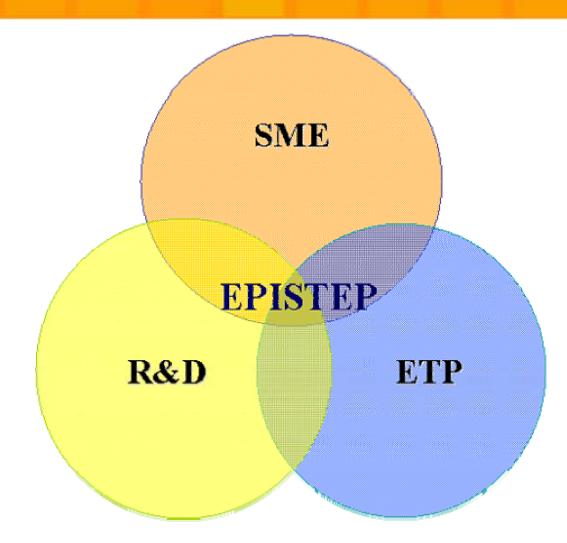
EPISTEP seeks to co-operate with:

Mobile Communications (e-Mobility)

- Embedded Systems (ARTEMIS)
- Nano-electronics (ENIAC)

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What is new in EPISTEP?

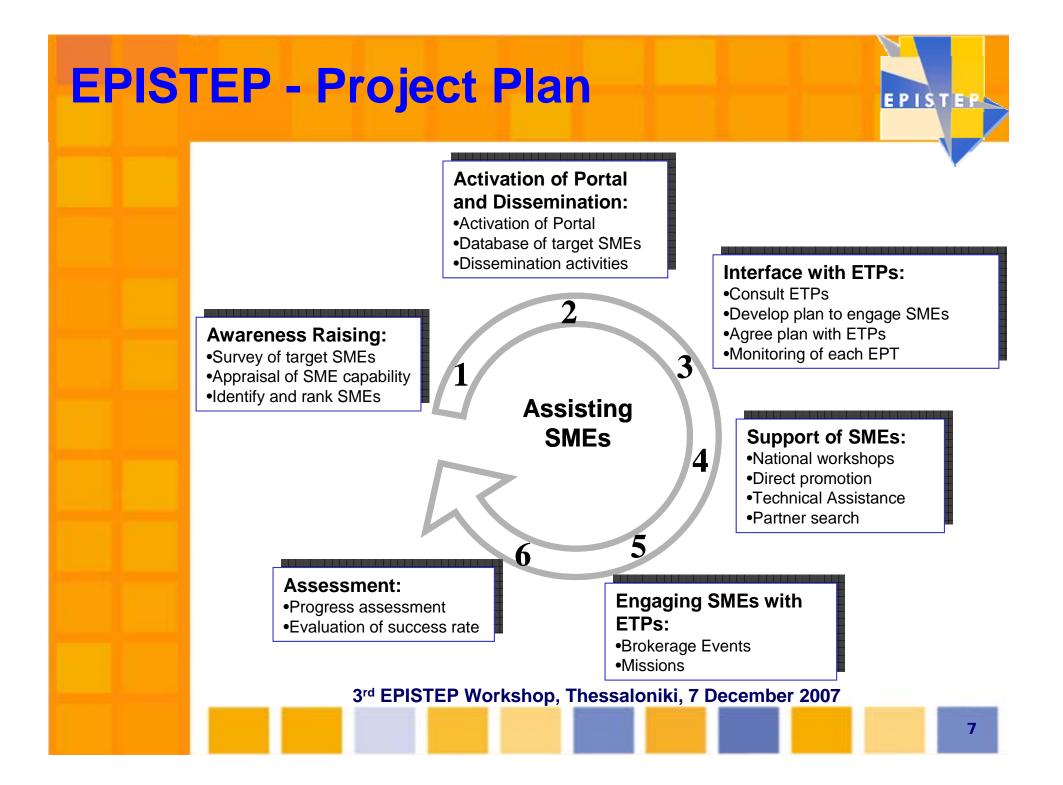


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EPISTEP – Main Activities

- EPISTEP
- Agree co-operation with 3 ICT ETPs
- Creation of database of 1500 SMEs
- Analysis of capabilities of target SMEs
- Interactive website with partner search facility at <u>www.epistep.org</u>
- Organisation of:
 - □ Missions to meet ETPs
 - Brokerage events
 - Information stands at relevant events

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EPISTEP – Joint Activities with ETPs

E-Mobility

- Memorandum of Understanding
- Attend EPISTEP management meetings
- Reciprocal website links
- Survey of EPISTEP SMEs
- Article in e-Mobility newsletter
- Promotion of e-Mobility to SMEs
 - General Assembly
 - Working Groups
 - SME Membership

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EPISTEP – Joint Activities with ETPs

ARTEMIS

- Informal co-operation agreement
- Attend EPISTEP management meetings
- ARTEMIS newsletter
 - □ Article on EPISTEP
 - □ 5 EPISTEP SMEs interviewed
- IST 2006
 - Promotion of Networking Session

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EPISTEP – Joint Activities with ETPs

ENIAC

- Informal co-operation agreement
- Attend EPISTEP management meetings
- Carried out survey of EPISTEP SMEs
- IST 2006
 - UK SME participated in ENIAC Networking Session with ETP & EC

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EPISTEP – Current Situation

 SME recruitment to database – ongoing activity

- currently around 1120 across the partnership
- SMEs on database
 - Company profile
 - Partner search by country/sector
- Engagement with SMEs with consortium participants' regions

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EPISTEP - Support for SMEs

Information dissemination

- EPISTEP website
- Quarterly Newsletter
- □ Advance notification of FP7 Calls
- □ ETP information

National workshops

- □ Training for missions
- Awareness raising

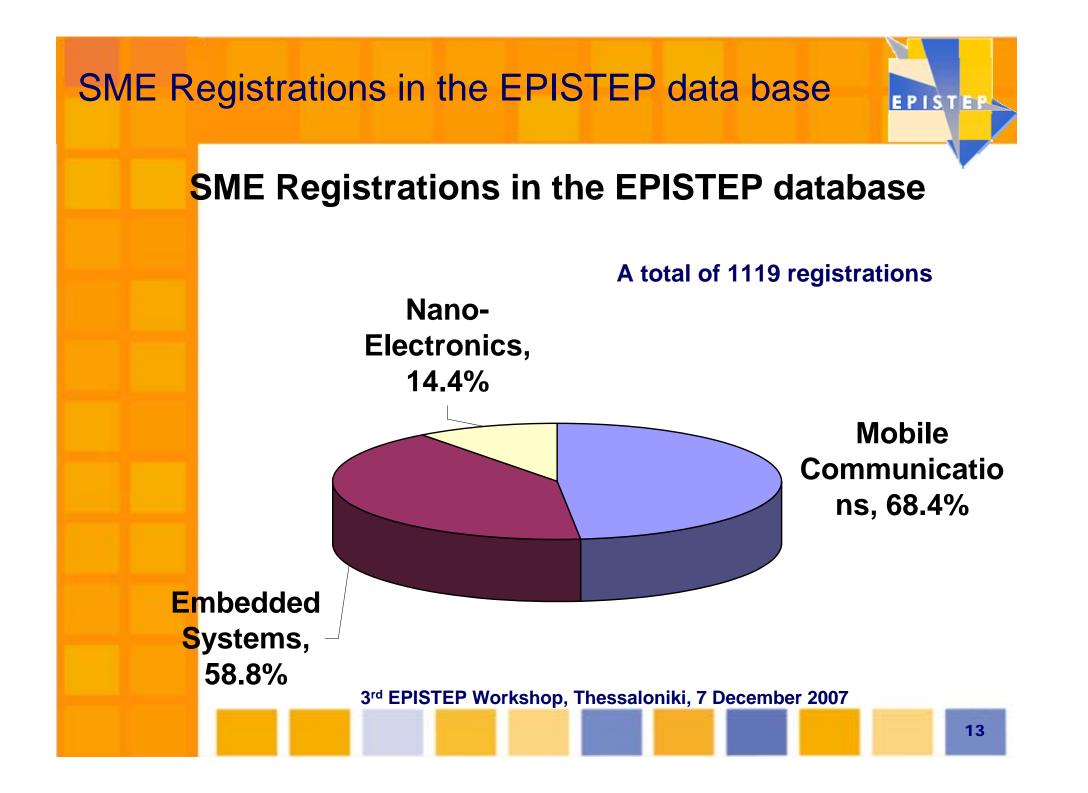
Technical assistance

Help desk

Identification of ICT ETP projects

Partner searches & Missions

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www.epistep.org

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Thank you for your attention!

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