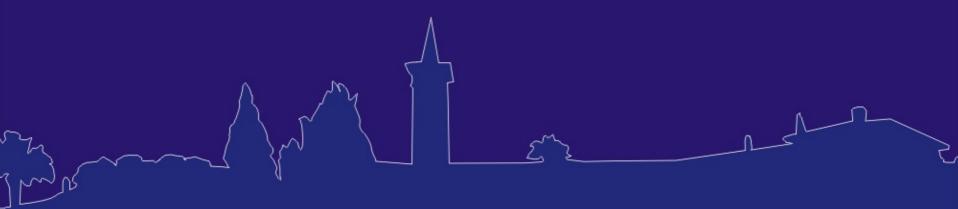


Πανεπιστήμιο Κύπρου



Innovation and Economic Growth

The Lefkosia Knowledge Region

Professor Stavros A. Zenios University of Cyprus

February 2008

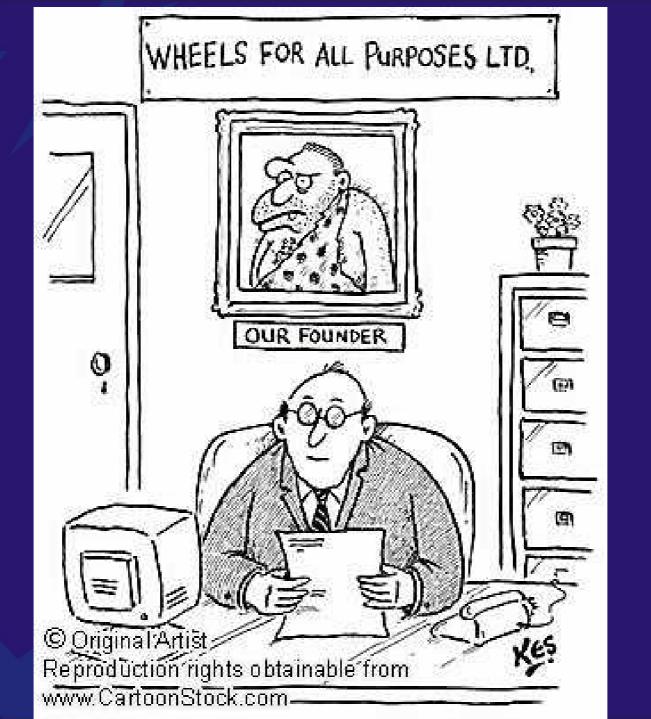


Outline

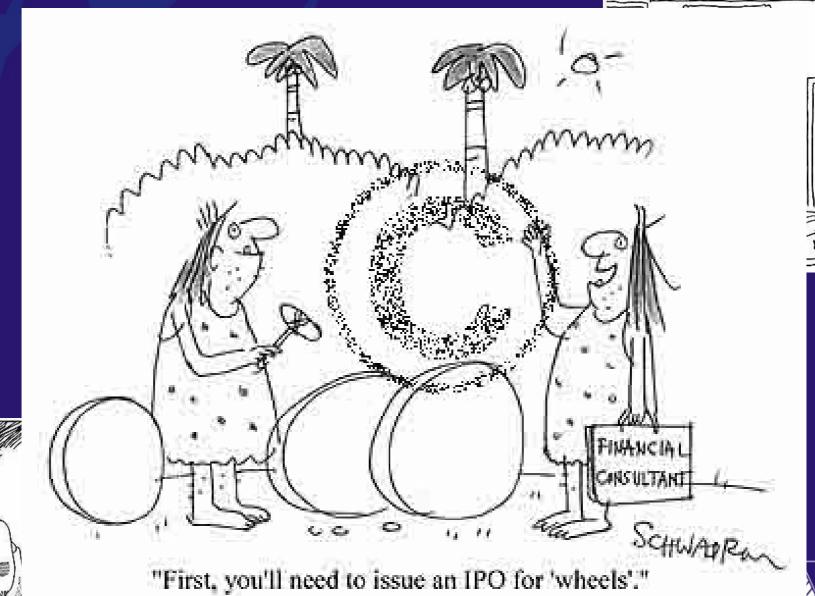
- Knowledge Regions: they do matter!!
- The Triple Helix: universities-government-industry
 - The nine factors of success
- Social Capital
- Human Capital
- Geography is not Dead











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NICE ROUND THING!

Knowledge Regions

Ideas have economic power

- Means of production:
 - Capital, natural resources, labor
 - Knowledge and innovation,coupled with favorable local conditions
- High value added from innovation
- CER (14 Feb. 2007): decline of manufacturing
 - PWC (18 Feb. 2007): risk to tourism sector



Knowledge Regions

The end of manufacturing is u

Think "The Thi

- Tex Control
- **Fabrica**



Knowledge Regions

Knowledge – Innovation – Economic growth

Knowledge workers

Sticky business

Knowledge Regions

Knowledge regions, European Parliament, 2003 Knowledge regions, FP7, European Commission, 2007



The Lefkosia Knowledge Region

- University of Cyprus
- Open University
- Cyprus Institute
- Cyprus International Institute (Harvard)
- Cyprus Institute of Genetics
- Agricultural Research Center
- Private Universities
- 1300 researchers
- 100 million CYP p.a.



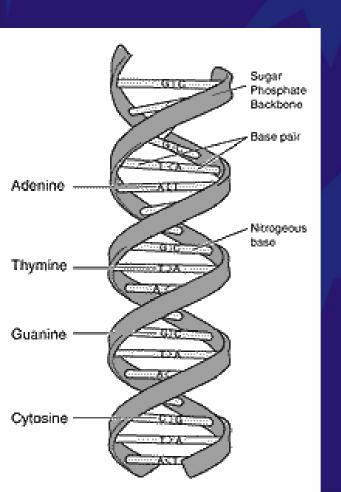
The Lefkosia Knowledge Region

750 million Euro from FP7

- Participate in EU initiatives
 - Renewable energy sources
 - 6% today
 - -20% by 2020
- Attractors of human capital



The Triple Helix





Universities
Government
Industry

Factors of success for knowledge regions

- Innovative sectors of economic activityStrong forces of innovation in all organizations
 - Appreciation of a culture of knowledge
 - Free flow of information
 - Significant support for creative activities
- Strong ties between the arts and culture, with scientific and technological knowledge
- Significant percentage of the work force engaged in innovative activities
- Active participation of citizens in shaping the urban environment and its special character
 - Abundance of places and activities appreciated by knowledge workers

Social Capital

Strong ties among members and organizations of a society based on a set of common values that promote collaboration:

- Honesty
- Keeping promises
- Reliability in performing duties
 - **Professionalism**
- Reciprocity



Social Capital: Constructive or Destructive

- Economic value added
- Free flow of information
- Based more on habits and less on logic
- "Rousfeti" (nepotism), Mafia
- Government role:
 - Do not reward small groups with large internal social capital
 - Create a stable environment
 - Do not interfere with civil society and the private sector
 - Education preserves and increases social capital

Social Capital: Preservation and creation

Education:

Humanistic AND Technocratic

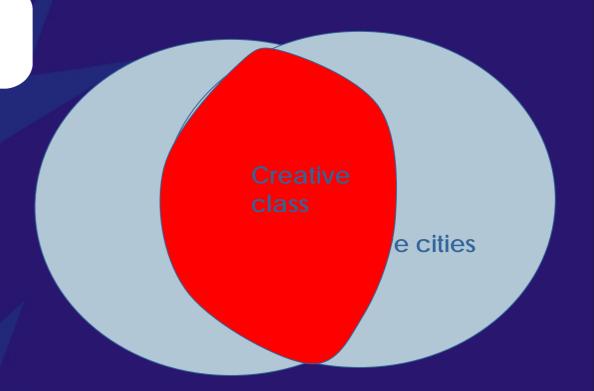


Human Capital

- Cities of the industrial age:
 - Cost effective production of products and services
 - Access to natural resources or transportation hubs
- Cities of the innovation age
 - Critical mass of "knowledge workers"
 - Attract the supercore of the "creative class"
- Robert Lucas, Nobel Prize in Economics, 1995
- R. Florida (2005), Cities and the creative class 🔊 🕸



Human Capital Attractors



- Austin, TX, Dublin in Ireland, West Jutland in DK,
- Route 128 in Boston, Silicon Valley in CA
- Brescia and Como in N. Italy
- Lefkosia?



Conclusions

- Vision: *The Lefkosia Knowledge Region* let us go for it.
- Mission: We can do it.
- It is tough---so let us pull our sleeves up.

• Trust our institutions.



Conclusions

God, grant me the SERENITY to accept the things I cannot change, COURAGE to change the things I can, and WISDOM to know the difference.

Damn the torpedoes! Full speed ahead.

