

REGION OF CHAMPAGNE ARDENNE

The region in numbers

Area: 25 606 km2

Population: 1 337 672

Population density: 52 (persons/ km²)

GDP (2008): 37 115 M€ (millions of euro)

GDP/capita (2008): 27 835 (euro per inhabitant)

Unemployment rate (2008): 9.4% (%)

Activity rate (2008): 39.3% (%)

R&D expenditure (2004): 238 (millions of euro)



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Economy, businesses

Key features of the economy

Champagne-Ardenne is ideally located close to Paris area and to large economic markets of North Eastern Europe. The region is dominated by lakes, rivers, canals and forests. There are huge preserves and vineyards stretching for miles. 26% of its territory is covered with forest and 61% is agricultural area. The region is rich in timber and minerals. The region of Champagne - Ardenne is among the first ten regions in investment attraction. Its aim is to create an inciting environment for the little and medium sized enterprises.

Industry, services

The region is among the first three regions in the production of cast-iron (1st place), agro resources (2nd place), metallurgy (3rd place) and textile. Champagne - Ardenne does all that it can to reinforce the competitiveness of its area and provide the best possible conditions for welcoming the settings up of new enterprises. With constant promotion of local resources, trade and knowledge, the region has built up several well performing business areas such as packaging, logistics, timber, textile, metallurgy, automobile or medical instruments industry.







25% of its activity is dominated by champagne, and this business sector based on the wine of champagne is comprised of activities like: manufacturing glass bottles and boxes as well as label printing. This sector employs 5 000 people.

Research and Development, Innovation Activities

Champagne Ardenne intends to consolidate the area's economic performance and support the creation of strong value added activities. It acts to reinforce the indispensable links between research, higher education and businesses of all sizes in all sectors.

To encourage the emergence of innovative projects, there are two globally-oriented clusters of competitiveness (1) The Industries and Agri-Resources cluster (with the Picardie Region) dedicated to the non alimentary valorization of the entire plant: bio energy, bio materials, and bio molecules. (2) The MATERALIA cluster (with the Lorraine Region) created in 2008, dedicated to new materials: Metalworking and processes, Nano materials, Composites, New manufacturing processes, Sustainable development.

ORGANISATION OF CARINNA

Role in the PERIA project: Project leader

Mission

CARINNA aims at facilitating collaborations between companies and universities on innovation projects

General description

CARINNA is a regional innovation agency focusing on four thematic areas (Agro-resources, Materials and processes, ICT and systems security, Health) and has three transversal



activities dedicated to the creation of Young Innovative Enterprise (Incubator), promotion of European projects and regional technological network which helps SMEs to find technological solutions.

Target groups

SMEs, Young Innovative Enterprises (YIE), Companies, Universities, Research centers, individuals interested in the creation of YIE

Objectives

CARINNA's objective is to strengthen existing collaboration and develop the innovation







activities at regional level and to foster innovation in existing companies, to develop collaboration between companies and public research laboratories.

Services

CARINNA staff provides advice and support to create, develop and implement projects at regional, national and international level. CARINNA is able to fund companies during the incubation process and manage innovation vouchers.

Examples of Experience

In 2009, CARINNA managed 7 companies' incubation, 42 innovation vouchers and it is taking part in the elaboration and implementation of the Regional Innovation Strategy.

Similar Projects like PERIA

At European level, CARINNA has been involved in the FP6 project Biorefinery Euroview to identify and analyse the development of biorefinery in Europe. CARINNA is currently participating in the Connect-2-all project dedicated to logistics and ICT.



