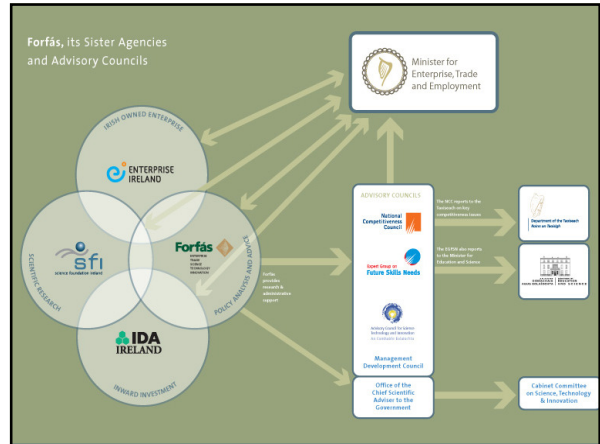


Spatial and Enterprise Strategies: The Key Linkages

ICLRD Annual Conference
Enniskillen
22nd January 2010

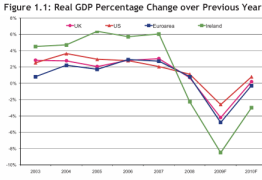
Céline McHugh



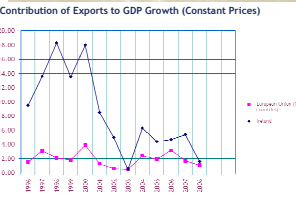
Immediate Challenges...

Figure 1.1: Real GDP Percentage Change over Previous Year




Source: IMF, World Economic Outlook, July 2009

Contribution of Exports to GDP Growth (Constant Prices)



Strong growth in the domestic economy, driven by investment in housing and consumption, replaced exports as the key driver of growth...significant increases in the cost of doing business in Ireland...



Where to from here ?

- ▶ Building the Smart Economy - a Return to Export Led Growth
- ▶ Firms' decisions are not based on cost alone
- ▶ Regions have a key role to play



Global Trends

- ▶ New Markets and increased Global Competition
- ▶ Indigenous firms are competing internationally
- ▶ New Global Business Models facilitated by Enabling Technologies
- ▶ Increased mobility of people and capital (FDI/ODI)
- ▶ Global Shift to Services
- ▶ Cities competing with Cities for Foreign Direct Investment
- ▶ Environmental Considerations: Sustainability
- ▶ The increasing importance of dynamic urban regions



Boundaries

▶ NUTS III boundaries arbitrary constructs but:

- Offer a framework for data analysis
- Have an important (and under-developed) role in terms of supporting regional co-ordination and delivery of certain initiatives at the regional level

▶ Objective is that key assets and enterprise potential are recognised and optimised - unhindered/supported by administrative

boundaries



The regions are different from each other

▶ Assets/potential

▶ Strengths

▶ Governance

▶ Gateways

▶ Challenges

Not all regions can (or necessarily should) be the same



Border

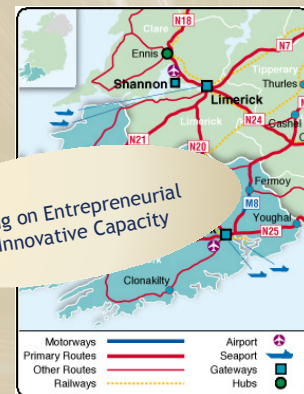


South West

Sectors:

- Lifesciences (& converging)
- Food
- Tourism
- ICT - software & services
- Marine Activities inc. aquaculture

Building on Entrepreneurial and Innovative Capacity



Enterprise related regionally based initiatives



How can we harness potential, maximise impact and ensure good ideas are supported and replicated where appropriate?



Broadband - the infrastructure need

▶ Broadband strategy - universal broadband by end 2010...

▶ Broadband is the critical enabler for enterprise development (especially outside of main centres)

▶ Investment plan explicit on where and when government will invest



