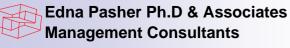
## The In-and-Out Intellectual Capital of Israel

Dr. Edna Pasher

The World Conference on Intellectual Capital Paris, 2006



## **Diaspora** = in Greek means scattering

For 2000 years Jews used Diaspora or Exile to describe themselves as scattered and living in many different countries, and out of Israel

#### The land of Israel -

A unifying symbol of hope for a scattered people – "Next Year in Jerusalem"

## In the last 100 years Israel has reinvented itself as a living knowledge community:

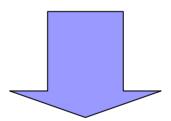
- Immigrants from more than 100 diasporas coming together
- A history and a culture of adjustment and survival
- Historic social capital and admiration for wisdom and education

## Israel's characteristics include:

- A mutual cooperation where everybody knows everybody and everybody knows somebody abroad
- Israelis are, by nature, not risk averse
- Fast adjusters and early adopters

#### The result:

- Forming networks in and out of Israel
- Creating knowledge workers with intrinsic motivation to survive and succeed



Creating an Israeli knowledge based community & economy

## Israel identifies new opportunities and strategic directions

 Through the development of a strong and innovative defense industry, Israel is the second Silicon Valley

## **Venture Capital networks**

• A strong Israeli Venture Capital infrastructure due to the foresight of Israeli government. The Office of the Chief Scientist was created in the early 70's to encourage R&D-based export-oriented industries

## From Defense to Health:



## From Defense to Security:







Israel once an exporter of only Jaffa oranges today, a world leader in technological fields including: medical devices and imaging, semiconductors, chip design, networking and communications systems, wireless communication solutions, security software solutions, enterprise software solutions, etc.



Management Consultants



- Brain drain Israeli market is too small and international companies and academia lure great young minds
- Israeli Companies are sold to American companies
- No new immigration planed (compared to the mass of ex-Soviet Union immigrants in the 90s)
- •How to keep and develop human capital?

# Thank You edna@pasher.co.il