



Bundesamt
für Bauwesen und
Raumordnung

Federal Office
for Building and
Regional Planning

RESEARCH NEWS

Editorial

Just as the first half of the year 2000 its second half was of utmost importance for the Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR), too. Various tasks had to be fulfilled.

To begin with, the Spatial Planning Report 2000 was finalized. According to the Spatial Planning Act, the BBR has the task to prepare and to submit the Spatial Planning Report to the Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Housing for presentation to the Federal German Parliament in regular intervals. The Report gives an up-to-date overview of the situation of the spatial structure and spatial development in the area of the Federal Republic of Germany and thus provides important information for the planning authorities of the federation, the Länder (federal states) and the municipalities as well as for the specialist public. The report analyses the most important factors determining spatial and settlement structure in their regional differentiation and estimates future spatial development in an outlook. Furthermore spatial planning cooperation in Germany and Europe is described, and spatially effective sector planning of the federation, such as large-scale transportation and regional economic policies, are documented with their application of spatially effective funds.

The past decade has witnessed decisive historic steps for European integration. In presenting the "Guiding Principles for Sustainable Development of the European Continent" on the occasion of the 12th Session of CEMAT, which was held in

Hanover, 7–8 September this year, Ministers of the Council of Europe being responsible for Regional Planning made their contribution to a strategy of social cohesion. The Guiding Principle, a legally non-binding document, stress the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy. Their objective is to define measures of spatial development policy by which people in all Member States of the Council of Europe can achieve an acceptable standard of living. This is an essential precondition for the stabilization of democratic structures in Europe's regions and municipalities. Together with the Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Housing, the BBR was in charge of preparing thematically this event.

The journal "Information on Spatial Development" (IzR) is a specialist journal for spatial planning and policy well-established since 25 years and published by the BBR. It is conceived as thematic issues commenting on present and middle-term tasks in the fields of spatial planning, urban development, housing and building. Within the scope of 1999 and 2000 a series of interesting themes has been commented on, e.g. with a focus on "European and National Structural Policy and the AGENDA 2000" or the "European Spatial Development Perspective". A retrospective shall provide an overview.

The BBR wishes all readers of Research News a happy new year 2001!

The editors

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Events and Publications

Spatial Planning Report 2000 – A Report of the BBR on Spatial Development and Spatial Planning in Germany

The Spatial Planning Report 2000 is published in German as volume 7 of the BBR-series "Berichte" (CD-ROM included) and can be obtained from the following address:

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Nominal fee: 15 DM
(plus postage and packing)

The report can also be downloaded from the Internet at
www.bbr.bund.de

The observation and analysis of spatial development in Germany belongs to the continuous central tasks of the scientific section in the BBR. It is based on a spatial information system known as "Continuous Spatial Monitoring" which has been operating with a long tradition. It includes data for the regions of Germany about the spatial distribution of the population, workplaces and infrastructure. The data are processed in such a way that they indicate the state of development of the regions (generally county areas) in economic, ecological and social respects as well as the degree of spatial linkages (transportation, commuting links). The analytical interpretations are differentiated for types of regions, such as "agglomeration areas" with their high-density settlement structure, "rural areas", which have a low settlement density and are remote from the agglomeration centres, and "urbanized areas" with mixed urban and rural settlement structures (see Fig. 1).

The Spatial Planning Report provides the opportunity to summarize the entire information available in the BBR about the wide range of special aspects which the comprehensive task of spatial planning has to deal with. As a result of its political significance the report meets with a greater public interest than other publications of the BBR.

With the submission of the Spatial Planning Report 2000 a new approach is taken in the well-tried spatial reporting of the federation in Germany. Formerly the Federal Government submitted the Spatial Planning Report directly to the Federal German Parliament. Following the revision of the Spatial Planning Act from 18 August 1997, the BBR has the task according to § 21 to submit the Spatial Planning Report to the Federal Ministry responsible for Spatial Planning for presentation to the Federal German Parliament in regular intervals. This Spatial Planning Report has therefore been prepared under the direct responsibility of the BBR in agreement with the responsible Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Housing.

The Spatial Planning Report 2000 gives an up-to-date overview of the situation of the

spatial structure and spatial development in the area of the Federal Republic of Germany and thus provides important information for the planning authorities of the federation, the Länder (federal states) and the municipalities as well as for the specialist public. The report analyses the most important factors determining spatial and settlement structure in their regional differentiation and estimates future spatial development trends in an outlook. Furthermore spatial planning cooperation in Germany and Europe is described, and spatially effective sector planning of the federation, such as large-scale transportation and regional economic policies, are documented with their application of spatially effective funds.

Inter alia the report shows that

- the multi-centric spatial structure of Germany with a large number of cities and regions is an important feature and also a locational asset of Germany at the international level, which is to be maintained and extended;
- infrastructure often has a high standard, and deficits in the new Länder were reduced to a very considerable extent, partly reaching the standards of the old Länder;
- the strong differences between rural regions and agglomerated regions are decreasing markedly, and one can speak of a general trend towards urbanization. In view of the further trends towards suburbanization a consequent land budgeting policy and a sparing use of land resources are required;
- living conditions in the city and the countryside are becoming more and more equal. Many rural areas have above-average employment dynamics and are profiting from the proximity to agglomeration areas;
- although the equalization of living conditions in the old and the new Länder has made considerable progress, serious differences still persist in individual sectors and areas. The reduction of these deficits, for instance on the labour market, requires further massive efforts;
- in some regions – particularly in structurally weak rural areas in peripheral

- locations – the emerging population decline requires new strategies and instruments with respect to the organization of infrastructure;
- the impairment of agglomeration areas has continued to increase as a result of high land claims and traffic. This must be counteracted especially by coordinated transportation and settlement planning and by giving precedence to rail transport;
- due to the increasing share of foreigners and ethnic German immigrants (*Aussiedler*), the integration of these persons constitutes an important social task;
- the principle of sustainability – in its ecological, economic, social and cultural dimensions – is increasing in importance. Integrative thinking, knowledge and action therefore obtain a new rank at all levels in safeguarding the future of Germany;

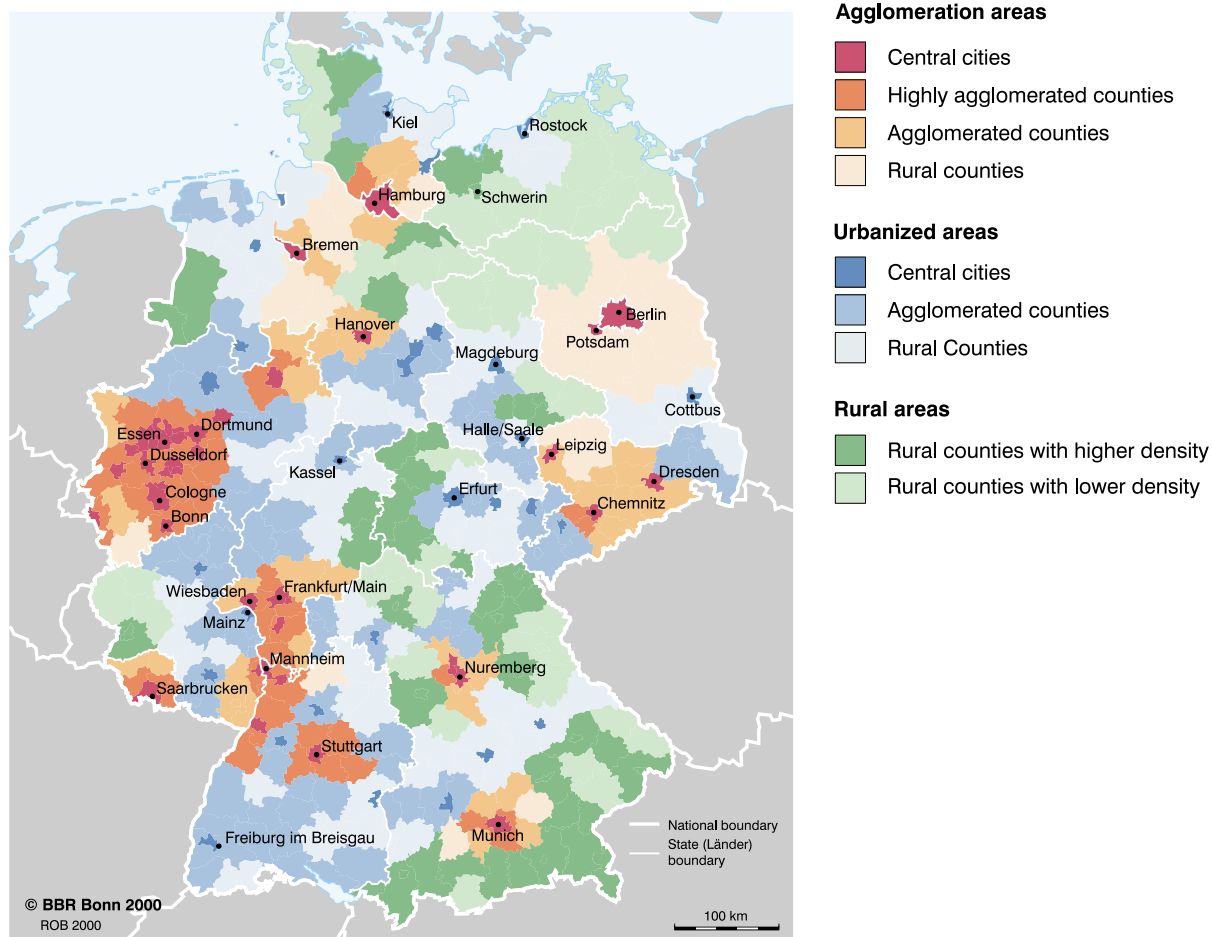
- the European level is influencing the development of the spatial and settlement structure in Germany in various ways, which makes it necessary to pay still greater attention to the coordinated integration of the European and national components of spatial development;
- the historical settlement structure with a great variety of equivalent cities and regions in Germany is differentiating more and more strongly, so that the regional level and its competence in the sector of spatial planning must be strengthened in the future.

The Spatial Planning Report 2000 includes many maps, diagrams and illustrations to clarify the presented complex issues on about 330 pages. In order to allow an up-to-date use of the report, a CD-ROM is attached to the volume with the report in digital form.

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Fig. 1: Area types according to settlement structure



Source: Data Base: Continous Spatial Monitoring System of the BBR
 Counties, data from 1 January 1996

CEMAT – The 12th Session and its Outcomes

On the occasion of the 12th Session of CEMAT the resolution titled “A 10-point Programme for Greater Cohesion among the Regions of Europe”, amongst others, was passed. The resolution is published here in full text.

The past decade has witnessed decisive historic steps for European integration. In presenting the “Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development of the European Continent” on the occasion of the 12th Session of CEMAT (*Conférence Européenne des Ministres responsables de l’Aménagement du Territoire*), which was held in Hanover, 7–8 September 2000, Ministers of the Council of Europe being responsible for Regional Planning made their contribution to a strategy of social cohesion – a major task of the Council of Europe. The Guiding Principles, a legally non-binding document, stress the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy. Their objective is to define measures of spatial development policy by which people in all the Member States of the Council of Europe can achieve an acceptable standard of living. This is an essential precondition for the stabilization of democratic structures in Europe’s regions and municipalities.

The Council of Europe now includes 41 Member States and covers – with a few exceptions – the European continent as well as northern parts of the continent of Asia (see Fig. 1). For the first time, almost all European States are united in supporting human rights and democracy. The Council of Europe therefore has gained a continental significance. The Guiding Principles aim to ensure that all regions and municipalities can actively participate in this process of European integration and democratization. They are based on the European Charter for Regional/Spatial Planning, the so-called *Torremolinos Charter*, passed in 1983, which sets out principles for national and European policies designed to improve the spatial organization of the then 22 Member States of the Council of Europe and to resolve problems extending beyond national frontiers.

Representatives from European institutions as well as from Member States welcomed the Guiding Principles as framework document towards a pan-European sustainable development. One came to the conclusion that after having accepted the Guiding Principles, now their application and implementation on the national, regional and local level is of utmost importance.

Apart from presenting the Guiding Principles, two resolutions were passed by the Ministers. The one is dealing with organizing the 13th Session of CEMAT which will take place in Ljubljana, 11–12 September 2003. With the other one Member States agreed upon targets and fields of action aiming at greater cohesion among the regions of Europe.

Resolution – “A 10-point Programme for Greater Cohesion among the Regions of Europe”

We, the Ministers of the States of the Council of Europe attending the 12th Session of the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning in Hanover on 7 and 8 September 2000, have discussed the contribution that spatial development policy can make towards achieving the goal of social cohesion in Europe.

We wish to thank the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe for their participation and for their contribution, in particular for the work carried out concerning the mountain regions.

- *We believe that social cohesion in Europe, which was defined as one of the main objectives of the Council of Europe by the heads of state and government of our Member States at their second summit on 10 and 11 October 1997, has to be accompanied by sustainable spatial development policies that bring the social as well as the economic requirements to be met by the territory into line with its ecological and cultural functions;*
- *We consider that one of the aims of the Council of Europe is to strengthen local and regional democracy in Europe by means of a territorially more balanced development of our continent;*
- *We consider the Council of Europe as the European organization in which all the states of Europe can cooperate on the basis of equal rights and consider the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning and its Committee to be a suitable political body to contribute to the coordination of common, Europe-wide territorial development goals and strategies;*

- *We are convinced that the trans-European, interregional and transfrontier cooperation between states, regional authorities and local authorities in the sphere of spatial development has to be strengthened, especially between the countries of West Europe and Central and East Europe in order to ensure the social and territorial cohesion of the European continent as a whole.*

The results of our conference are as follows:

1. *We consider the adopted document entitled "Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development of the European Continent" to be:*

- *a major contribution for implementation of the strategy of social cohesion adopted at the second summit of heads of state and government in 1997;*
- *a policy framework document which takes into account relevant activities of the Council of Europe and its bodies, and in particular the work of its Parliamentary Assembly and its Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe, in the field of continental spatial development policy; and which could contribute to strengthen the European integration process by means of transfrontier, interregional and transnational cooperation;*
- *a coherent strategy for the integrated and regionally balanced development of our continent, while based on the principles of subsidiarity and reciprocity, strengthens competitiveness, cooperation and solidarity among local and regional authorities across borders, thereby making a contribution to the democratic stability of Europe;*
- *common guidelines that will help to strengthen the process of European integration through transfrontier, inter-regional and transnational cooperation.*

2. *We recommend to our national and regional authorities that*

- *the Guiding Principles be used as a basis for national regional planning and spatial development measures;*
- *the Guiding Principles be implemented in national and international spatial development projects as appropriate;*
- *the cooperation with the Central, Eastern and South-eastern European states undergoing reforms to help them establish regional governmental and administrative bodies be continued and*

intensified in order to facilitate better spatial integration of the various regions of Europe.

3. *We welcome*

- *the progress made in coordinating common spatial development goals and strategies in the European Union (ESDP) as well as regional cooperation mechanisms, the Baltic Sea Region (VASAB 2010), the North Sea Region (NorVision) and in Central and South-eastern Europe (VISION PLANET) and the Mediterranean Region (MED-OCC and ARCHI-MED) as well as the regional cooperation mechanisms (e.g. Central European Initiative, Black Sea Economic Cooperation Council, Baltic States Council).*

4. *We agree*

- *to cooperate in concrete spatial development projects in the INTERREG III B cooperation areas and call for all Member States of the Council of Europe, regardless of whether they wish to accede to the European Union or not, to be included in the spatial development cooperation among EU Member States. This also applies to cooperation in the sphere of spatial research;*
- *to continue the project forum launched by Germany within the framework of the INTERREG activities.*

5. *We call on*

- *the European Union to revise the current regulations governing project cooperation between the INTERREG initiatives and the PHARE and TACIS programmes in order to facilitate cooperation that is better coordinated;*
- *the non-Member States of the EU explore, at the same time, their own possibilities of achieving better cooperation between the programme concerned.*

6. *We suggest*

- *that the states on the Black Sea and in the Euro-Mediterranean Region should cooperate on appropriate future-oriented spatial development visions, based on the Guiding Principles document.*

7. *We stress*

- *that the speedy development and implementation of the pan-European transport network (especially the 10 Pan-European Transport Corridors), as an indispensable prerequisite for good*

For further information please refer to www.bmvbw.de and follow the advices at the website.

Both, the Guiding Principles and the Torremolinos Charter can be downloaded at www.bmvbw.de

accessibility of large areas across the entire continent, has to be expedited, and point out that the agreements reached on the shape of the networks should, if necessary, be reviewed and augmented taking sustainable spatial development and environmental aspects into account;

- *that the dialogue between the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning (CEMAT) and European institutions, especially the European Commission, and international organizations such as the OECD and the UN institutions (ECE/CSD) on spatial development issues should be intensified, both within Europe and beyond its borders, and that the division of responsibilities among these institutions should be defined more clearly in order to avoid a duplication of activities.*
8. *We request*
- *the European funding institutions to apply the Guiding Principles document as a wider basis of information when taking decisions on the provision of assistance to spatial development projects.*

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9. *We invite the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe*

- *to contribute to the implementation of the Guiding Principles, in particular through the Council of Europe instruments;*
 - *to take into account the Guiding Principles document and its integrated approach for decision-making in discussions and votes in the Committee of Ministers on projects with a spatial impact;*
 - *to maintain in the intergovernmental programme of the organization the activities of the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning (CEMAT);*
 - *to start immediately a training programme in order to help regional and local planning authorities in the new Member States of the Council of Europe, perform as well as possible the tasks under their competence;*
 - *to convert the Committee of Senior Officials into a steering committee.*
10. *We call on the local and regional authorities of Europe*
- *to support the efforts being made by the European Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional Planning to achieve regionally balanced sustainable development in Europe, applying the principles of partnership and subsidiarity.*

We will forward the results of our conference to our governments and parliaments and make them available to the public.

Outlook

The resolution shows that applying and implementing the Guiding Principles in European regions is seen as one of the major tasks in the future. This tasks will be carried out in a Central and Eastern European region in close cooperation with a Western European region. It is planned to exemplarily implement the Guiding Principles by shaping a two-regions-tandem.

Fig. 1: Member States of the Council of Europe



- Member States of the Council of Europe
- States which have applied for full Membership
- Other countries

Making Use of Development Impacts along the Trans-European Transport Infrastructure – Regional Concept for the German-Polish Border Area

In most Central and Eastern European states the expansion of the transport and telecommunication infrastructure is considered to be one of the main tasks of economic and social policy. Emphasis is laid on the improvement of transport links along the trans-European transport axes, resulting in considerable investments. These investments might not only realize objectives of transport policy but also represent incentives regional development.

The improvement of such transport links is expected to result in positive growth, income and employment effects. To reach these effects, the interactions between high-level transport infrastructure and settlement infrastructure, regional economy, regional transport networks and the requirements of environmental protection have to be considered. Against this background, the BBR coordinates a research project, which shall, apart from the infrastructural integration of the accession countries, also contribute to economic, social and environmental integration. The project seeks to identify measures and instruments which are appropriate to maximize the benefit with regard to spatial development policy in cross-border regions with high-level transport infrastructure. It should result in the formulation of a regional development concept for cross-border sections of eurocorridors which

- might form a thematic basis to elaborate transnational cooperation projects with the accession countries in the field of spatial development in the context of INTERREG III and
- which might serve the further development of the European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP, Potsdam, May 1999) by involving the accession countries and the future neighbouring countries of the European Union.

The research project should concretely deal with the following aspects:

- analysing of current projects with regard to present or expected impacts of the development of international transport links on regional development along these lines as well as implemented respectively proposed measures for settlement development;
- discussing guidelines for a better interconnection of regional development and extension of transport links in selected parts of the Polish-German border area;
- elaborating catalogue of strategies and measures;
- examining appropriate instruments for implementation.

Of particular importance for the success of the project is a permanent exchange with regional and local actors in Poland and Germany, e.g. through workshops, conferences and continuous (local) press coverage.

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Programmes for Spatial Development in the Baltic Sea Region – VASAB 2010 Plus and INTERREG III B

Further information on Baltic Sea Region spatial development can be obtained at the following homepages:

www.bbr.bund.de
www.vasab.org.pl
www.spatial.baltic.net
www.vasab.leontief.net

Here also links to other relevant homepages, including homepages of different networks and projects will be provided.

Please note: In Research News 1/2000, the headlines of Fig. 1 and 2 on pages 10 and 11 have to be exchanged against each other.

The key issues for transnational cooperation within the next decade are currently discussed in the Baltic Sea Region (BSR). The project “VASAB 2010 Plus – Spatial Development Action Programme” provided the focal points for a new Community Initiative Programme (INTERREG III B) concerning analysis, evaluation of ongoing projects and key themes for BSR spatial development (see Research News 1/2000). Through prioritizing future projects and actions, further inputs for project generation under INTERREG III B are expected from VASAB process in 2001. The INTERREG III B programme has been widely discussed in the BSR. Many proposals from national and regional authorities and pan-Baltic organizations have been incorporated in the programme draft. Compared to the INTERREG II C programme, INTERREG III B is characterized inter alia through a more active involvement of representatives of non-EU Member States, an extended cooperation area, a more comprehensive analysis, a stronger focus of actions concerning themes and measures, priority areas and character of projects. The details

will be laid down in a Programme Complement. There is also a stronger differentiation of tasks of the different implementation bodies, a stronger involvement of private actors and public private partnerships in project funding. An ex-ante evaluation team has been involved in all steps of programme preparation. The programme management intends to implement a dynamism on further guiding the programme through calls for projects (pro-active approach) and considers possible spending of money for project development (seed money approach).

The following thematic focus of action is foreseen:

- Development concepts and concrete pilot actions for strategic development zones;
- Spatial development concepts for energy and tourism sector;
- Strategic networking of major urban centres and urban-rural partnerships;
- Pan-Baltic intermodal transport strategies and better access to information society;
- Baltic “green” corridors/natural and cultural landscapes as attractive environment for business development;
- Wise management of natural resources (in particular water);
- Integrated management for coastal zones and islands;
- Institution building together with CEEC countries.

For diminishing main disparities, the programme envisages also a geographical focus. Especially overcoming East-West and North-South divide receives emphasis in the programme. In particular, integration of areas in the Southern and Eastern BSR – of the Baltic States, Belarus, Poland, Russia and of Northern Germany, especially of the New German Länder – will be promoted. With regard to EU enlargement and a possibly isolated location for Kaliningrad, the programme will try to intensify cooperation with Russia. The programme will also contribute to implementation of Northern Dimension Action Plan. The Barents Region will be incorporated in transnational cooperation schemes. Concerning institution building together with CEEC

Fig. 1: Baltic Sea Region INTERREG III B – programme area 2000–2006



countries, the example given by Swebaltcop programme and other cooperation schemes will be followed and further developed. Besides diminishing disparities, the programme will also encourage action to strengthen major urban regions and the more densely populated areas and to use their capacity in terms of R&D, Service, ITC, etc. more intensively for further development of the whole region.

The activities undertaken in the framework of INTERREG III B are understood as system, comprising:

- Transnational studies, spatial development concepts and further investigations which prepare investments (impact assessments, regional and land use plans, technical and economic studies and expertise);
- Implementation structures, e.g. regional development managers, moderators and agencies;
- Concrete small-scale infrastructure investment;
- Marketing strategies.

Also training of professional staff together with participants from non-EU Member States might form part of projects. Each

category of measure should be result or part of transnational investigations or concepts and cannot be chosen only from national or regional context.

The programme is intended to be implemented through the following priorities and measures:

I. Promotion of spatial development approaches and actions for specific territories and sectors

I.1 Supporting preparation and implementation of strategies for macro-regions

I.2 Promoting sustainable development of specific sectors

I.3 Strengthening sustainable development of coastal zones, islands and other specific areas

II. Promotion of territorial structures supporting sustainable BSR development

II.1 Promoting the development of balanced polycentric settlement structures

II.2 Creating sustainable communication links for improved spatial integration

II.3 Enhancing good management of cultural and natural heritage and of natural resources

III. Promotion of institution building, strengthening transnational spatial development

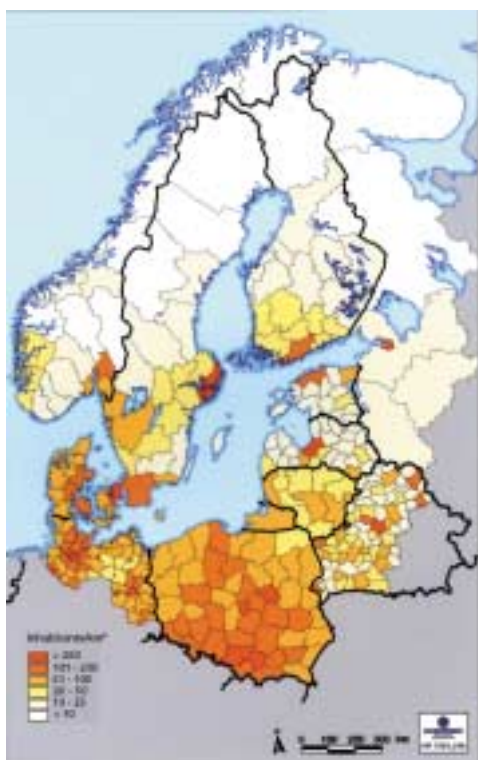
IV. Technical assistance to support transnational cooperation

The programme budget, comprising funds from EU and from all partner states, will be around 200 M EURO. Cooperation with non-EU countries will be facilitated through new mechanisms and indicative allocation of funds from the PHARE and TACIS programmes and national sources. The programme will be jointly implemented and managed by the four EU Member States (Denmark, Finland, Germany, Sweden) together with all seven partner countries (Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia), which will have equal voting rights in both the Monitoring Committee (MC) and the Steering Committee (SC). Representatives of the regions of the EU Member States and of the Åland islands will also be present in the MC and SC. In addition, several other actors, including regional and local authorities and social partners, will be represented in national Sub-Committees. Pan-Baltic organizations such as VASAB may act in advisory capacity. The programme has been submitted to the European Commission in November 2000 for approval. A decision is expected in early 2001.

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Fig. 2: Population density in the Baltic Sea Region 1998



Explanatory Note: This Figure was prepared by NORDREGIO for INTERREG II C VASAB 2010 Plus project

The Experience of Regional Development in the Unified Germany and its Implications for Inter-Korean Integration

The Proceedings of the workshop will be published by KRIHS in Korean and English.

On 18 and 19 October 2000 the Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS) and the BBR held a joint workshop at the premises of KRIHS in Anyang near Seoul to discuss the "Experience of Regional Development in the Unified Germany and its Implications for Inter-Korean Integration". Dr. Karl Peter Schön and Dr. Steffen Maretzke represented the BBR in this workshop.

The historic summit of June 2000 between the South Korean President Kim Dae-jung and North Korean President Kim Jong-il provided a new orientation towards a gradual peaceful re-integration of the Korean peninsula. However, many uncertainties exist concerning the ultimate goal, the paths and speed of this "reconciliation" process. One of the major questions in this context is the North Korean willingness to economic reform and towards an intensification of economic cooperation with South Korea and with the rest of the world. On the other side, South Korea has to develop concepts to support reform processes in the North and to contribute to a more balanced development on the Korean peninsula.

In this context, one of the main aims of the joint workshop was to present and exchange views about the German experiences, i.e. concerning the process of German reunification in the 1990s but also considering German-German relations before 1989, and to relate these experiences to the Korean situation. The focus was on regional development and on the development of regional disparities in united Germany.

In their speeches, Dr. Karl Peter Schön and Dr. Steffen Maretzke presented facts and ideas about

- the main lines of development of German-German relations through 40 years of separation;
- economic and social structures in East Germany at the end of the 1980s, derived from the political system of the former German Democratic Republic;

- challenges for the German unification process resulting from these structures;
- economic and social development trends in the East German regions during the last ten years;
- compared with West Germany on the one hand and the Central and Eastern European states and regions on the other.

The Korean colleagues spoke about

- regional development processes and the transport infrastructure in North Korea;
- possible perspectives of the Korean unification process;
- the relevance of German experiences with reunification for regional developments in North Korea.

The two-day discussion at KRIHS has shown that there are a lot of similarities with but also considerable differences to the German situation at the beginning of the 1990s. Type and structure of problems might, indeed, be very similar. The consequences of the economic and social disparities between North and South Korea are, however, much more striking than in Germany. Although South Korea compared with North Korea has shown a much better development during the last 50 years, it is presently in a deep economic and social crisis so that it could hardly manage a potential unification process without broad international assistance. Besides, in this process South Korea would be dependent on an open and predictable cooperation with North Korea. However, for the time being, the true North Korean interests and political strategies are still difficult to be estimated.

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Journal „Information on Spatial Development“ (IzR) – Retrospective 1999/2000

The journal “Information on Spatial Development” (*Informationen zur Raumentwicklung* – IzR) is a specialist journal for spatial planning and policy well-established since 25 years. It is published by the BBR and is conceived as thematic issues commenting on present and middle-term tasks in the fields of spatial planning, urban development, housing and building. The themes of each issue are especially determined by the tasks of the BBR departments I (Spatial Planning and Urban Development) and II (Building, Housing, Architecture). A short retrospective shall illustrate what has been commented on within the last two years.

Regional Impacts of Globalization

This theme issue goes back to a conference which took place in the BBR in April 1998. The aim of the conference was to discuss the results and evaluations of the spatial impacts of globalization established by a BBR working group with external experts in a wide specialist public. Following the complexity of globalization processes, the contributions cover a wide spectrum. In accordance with the structure of the participants in the expert discussion, the structure of the contributions reflects mainly theoretical and empirical aspects on the one hand and the predominantly practice-oriented local experience of regional agencies on the other. The first five contributions analyse the globalization process in the national and partly international context. In the two following articles regional agents describe and evaluate their experience in the regions Bonn/Rhein-Sieg/Ahrweiler and Lörrach.

Housing Market Monitoring. System – Indicators – Results

By the end of the 1980s and the beginning of the 1990s at the latest, when a housing supply crisis which came unexpectedly for many agencies particularly affected the agglomeration areas of the old Länder (federal states), the lack of suitable evaluation bases for the development of the housing market became clear. The hectic change in the housing policy discussion from “vacant housing” in the middle of the 1980s to “housing shortage” at the

beginning of the 1990s could only be conveyed by experts and literally enforced the objective of continuity in housing policy at the local and state level. A good data base was indispensable for this purpose. Under the impression of this critical situation – with a lack of housing as well as of relevant information – the instrument of housing market monitoring received a decisive impetus. Since the beginning of the 1990s housing market monitoring systems were established at the municipal level as well as in some Länder. This issue informs about different approaches to housing market monitoring.

Project-oriented Planning – The Example of the International Building Exhibition Emscher Park

Since the beginning of the 1990s spatial planning in the federation and the Länder is increasingly guided by a new, more strongly process-, implementation- and project-oriented conception of planning. The sources of this new planning conception lie in the failure of integrated planning during the 1970s, in the almost unsuccessful attempts at implementing guiding planning concepts through sector planning during the 1980s, and in the limitations of static programmes and plans for future development, which have become fundamentally apparent in times of accelerating political, economic and social change. More activities and projects instead of programmes and plans is the new working principle for spatial planning. The International Building Exhibition Emscher Park understands itself as a forerunner of this new, implementation- and project-oriented policy and planning conception.

Conservation and Development of Cultural Landscapes as a Task of Spatial Planning

Cultural landscapes are changing their appearance and ecological structure more and more rapidly as economic and social dynamics increase. At present this particularly affects rural areas in regions with unfavourable location qualities in terms of the natural environment, agricultural structure and the regional economy. The cultural landscapes of these rural areas are largely a by-product of

Currently available issues are dealing with:

Issue 1.1999
Regional Impacts of Globalization

Issue 2.1999
Housing Market Monitoring. System – Indicators – Results

Issue 3/4.1999
Project-oriented Planning – The Example of the International Building Exhibition Emscher Park

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Conservation and Development of Cultural Landscapes as a Task of Spatial Planning

Issue 7.1999
Sustainable Spatial and Settlement Development – The Regional Perspective

Issue 8.1999
Management of Land Use

Issue 9/10.1999
Perspectives for the Region as a Level of Planning and Policy Action

Issue 11/12.1999
Perspectives of Future Spatial Development

Issue 1.2000
Sustainability as a Social Process

Issue 2.2000
European and National Structural Policy and the AGENDA 2000

Issue 3/4. 2000
European Spatial Development Perspective

Forthcoming issues will focus on:

Redevelopment and Development Areas (working title)

Labour Market and Employment (working title)

Local and Regional Changes (*Bau-Raum Gespräche*) (working title)

Neoregionalism in Germany? (working title)

European Metropolitan Regions (working title)

agriculture, which predominated in the EU as a whole with a proportional area of 51 per cent. The structural changes taking place in agriculture are considered as the main threat to historical cultural landscapes at present. These are particularly related to the impacts of agricultural policy in the European context. As a result, a greater pressure of land use and the intensification of agricultural production methods can be noted on the one hand and the marginalization and neglect of landscapes on the other. Pressure for change in cultural landscapes can also be observed with respect to urban areas. Cultural landscapes must not only be understood as "rural" and "beautiful" landscapes, but generally as cultural landscapes which have been altered by human intervention.

Sustainable Spatial and Settlement Development – The Regional Perspective

This issue presents and analyses instruments and policy approaches which can initiate and promote sustainable development at the regional level. These include informal dialogue and cooperation processes as well as formal regional planning, indicators as a means of the transparent evaluation of success based on the objectives of sustainable development, visions which point the way to the future, provide encouragement and draw attention to necessary changes at the same time, as well as the integration of regional activities in supraregional and global framework conditions and processes of change. With these themes the discussion about sustainable spatial and settlement development is continued and put into concrete terms for the regional context.

Management of Land Use

Land claims for settlement purposes have received increasing political and public attention with the catchword "landscape consumption" since the 1970s. Thus the Soil Protection Concept of the German Federal Government from 1985 already called for a reversal of the trend of "land consumption". Without doubt the awareness of the quantitative and qualitative aspects of the growth of settlement areas and their impacts is much greater today. In the end, sustainable land use will only be achieved through the coordination of public policy law, planning, the regulation on planning

intervention and price incentives. However, the significance of price incentives is still relatively limited at present. The discussion about price-related measures to guide land use and the realization of these conceptual considerations in political practice is still at the beginning.

Perspectives for the Region as a Level of Planning and Policy Action

Which new approaches to strengthen the region as a level for policy action and planning can be recognized in the Federal Republic of Germany (but also in Europe)? How can these new concepts, but also "traditional" approaches to regional cooperation be evaluated with respect to their effectiveness? Are there good arguments for a variety of regional types of cooperation in a rather informal manner, or is the creation of "hard" forms of regional organization necessary to achieve greater effectiveness? What are the different requirements and approaches in more strongly agglomerated regions and in regions with rural features, some of which have an extremely low settlement density? Which specific forms of regional policy approaches have emerged under conditions of political and structural reversal in East Germany? What can be learned from the experience of neighbouring countries, which was partly gained under different administrative conditions? Which impulses are created in this respect by cooperation across national boundaries? These and other questions are analysed and discussed in the contributions of this issue.

Perspectives of Future Spatial Development

The planning of spatial and settlement development depends particularly strongly on medium- and long-term perspectives. This is even more so today, since the speed of economic and social change in Germany and Europe has increasing spatial impacts and is accompanied by growing insecurity about the desirable objectives for the "futures" of spatial and settlement development in the area of the Federal Republic of Germany. Spatial planning policy, urban development policy and housing policy are confronted more strongly than before with the following questions: Which policy requirements have emerged? Which scopes of action are available? Which

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changes in previous strategies, concepts, instruments and measures are possibly required? Regional prognoses can provide first answers in this context. The current regional prognoses of the BBR presented in this theme issue continue the long tradition of the former Federal Research Institute for Regional Geography and Regional Planning (BfLR) as a "prognostic institution". They aim at indicating and quantifying the long-term development perspectives of the population, the labour force and workplaces, households and dwellings as well as of settlement areas in regions of the Federal Republic of Germany, in order to clarify the extent and hence the political relevance of problems.

Sustainability as a Social Process

Still a decade ago, sustainability was a term only known to experts. Today it is widely used in public as well as specialist discussions – some people even fear that it has become common place. Since the so-called *Rio Conference on the Environment and Development* stressed the global dimension of responsibility for the environment and recommended the preparation of action plans at the local level in 1992, many cities, municipalities and engaged citizens have joined their activities under the heading "Local Agenda". This theme issue also engages itself for this purpose. It intends to keep the discussion about sustainability alive and, in particular, to create an awareness of the fact that the social dimension of sustainability is a continuous task which has already become an everyday concern of spatial planning.

European and National Structural Policy and the AGENDA 2000

Regional structural policy belongs to the major policy areas with a spatial significance. Through the designation of regional assisted areas this sector has a high degree of regionalization. In the course of the reform of European structural policy in the framework of the AGENDA 2000 it has increasingly become the focus of public and political interest in recent years. This reform has influenced the preliminary discussions about the redesignation of national assisted areas in the framework of the "Joint Task for the Improvement of the Regional Economic Structure" (*Gemeinschaftsaufgabe Verbesserung der regionalen Wirtschaftsstruktur* –

GRW) on the one hand and has generated important changes concerning the design of European structural policy itself on the other.

European Spatial Development Perspective

The representation of Germany's federally structured spatial planning policy in the European context has become one of the most important aspects at the federal level in the vertical system of spatial planning and spatial development policy during the 1990s. The federation and the Länder participate together in European cooperation in the sector of spatial planning and represent the interests of Germany in the EU. The most important European project of the 1990s was the European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP). The ESDP was developed jointly by the 15 Member States of the European Union and the European Commission. With the ESDP a document is now available in which 15 states agree upon the principles and perspectives of the development of their common territory – which is unique in worldwide comparison. The impacts and implications of this document only become gradually apparent. The central concern of this theme issue is to examine the implications more closely.

Information on Spatial Planning (IzR) is published monthly. Annual subscription 80 DM (plus postage and packing). Single issues 10 DM; double issues 20 DM.

English summaries are also available at the website of the BBR at www.bbr.bund.de

Please follow the advices at the website.

Via internet full texts may soon be obtained as subscriptions, too.

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Journal “Spatial Research and Spatial Planning” (RuR) – Retrospective 1999/2000

The journal is available in German with English summaries.

It can be obtained from the following address:

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Germany
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The journal is published six times a year. Annual subscription 105 DM (plus postage and packing).
Single issues 21 DM.

The journal “Spatial Research and Spatial Planning” (*Raumforschung und Raumordnung* – RuR) is an interdisciplinary scientific journal which deals with themes in the field of space-related research and planning, especially in the fields of spatial planning, state development, regional development and urban development and planning as well as landscape and environmental planning. The journal is jointly published by the German Academy for Regional Research and Regional Planning (*Akademie für Raumforschung und Landesplanung* – ARL) and BBR. Within the scope of 1999 and 2000 the issues were composed of various articles reflecting on different issues:

- The Alps: In the Web of European Spatial Planning Policy
- Native and Alien Sociology
- Flood Protection in Spatial Planning – With Special Reference to the River Lenne
- Consolidation not Liquidation
- Conjoint Analysis
- Regional Development in Central and Eastern Europe: Between Transformation and Integration. The Example of Poland
- The Importance of Larger-scale Facilities for the Disabled for Regional Economics
- Technical Training Centres, Developers and their Contribution to the Innovation System
- Indicators of Sustainable Development
- Locational and Site-related Trends in Connection with Large-scale Retail Projects
- Some Approaches to Developing the Central Places System in the Land of Schleswig-Holstein
- Regional Planning at Federal, State and Interauthority Levels
- The “Creative Milieu” – No more than a Theoretical Concept or an Instrument of Regional Development?
- The Region
- Urban Development in the People’s Republic of China – Closed and Open Phases of Urbanization
- Do the Classical Normative Concepts of Settlement Structure Satisfy the Requirements of Sustainable Spatial Development?
- Spatial Planning and Sustainable Settlement Development

- The Future Utility of the Instruments of Planning Law for Sustainable Settlement Development
- Desurbanization through the Uncoordinated Designation of Housing Land
- What Contribution Can Regional Planning Capable Make to the Implementation of a “Sustainable” Approach to Securing the Supply of Raw Materials?
- City Networks – Expectations and Reality from an Ecological Perspective
- Global Localities/Local Worlds. On the Constitution of the Scope of Local Action in the Late Modern Age
- Between Efficiency and Balance. An Economics-based Perspective on Town and Country. The Example of Switzerland
- Saarland’s “Commercial Site Potential Model”. A Method for the Identification and Assessment of Commercial Sites in Spatial Planning
- Planned Factory Outlet Centres in Germany
- Expert Reports on Factory Outlet Centre. A Critical Appraisal
- Regional Planning and Golf. A Contribution to the Debate on Deregulation. The Example of Munich
- Tendencies in Spatial Research

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Publications

Forthcoming Publications

Study Programme on European Spatial Planning (see Research News 1/2000)

Working Group Report on Geographical Position

The working group geographical position selected geographical, physical and cultural accessibility indicators and developed a framework of accessibility with its various dimensions. Based on a review of accessibility indicators and research in the EU a standard set of indicators was proposed. Further indicators and areas for future research such as new concepts of accessibility (e.g. accessibility to telecommunication) and the integration of timetable information, different actors or types of barriers were identified, too. Innovative approaches to visualizing geographic position are another central aspect of this report.

Working Group Report on Economic Strength

Economic strength is being investigated in terms of a broad understanding of competitiveness. Causal factors and effects of competitiveness taken from theory and previous studies are distinguished and the interrelation of these factors as well as their representation in the regional web is analysed. "Classic" economic indicators as well as the concepts of Globalization and territorial rootedness of production and modernization and diversification form part of this report, too.

Working Group Report on Cultural Assets

There are two parts of this working group: cultural landscapes on the one hand and cultural sites and monuments on the other. Based on an extensive questionnaire, they both work towards a typology and a set of indicators. Insufficient data availability is compensated by illustrative case studies.

Final Report

The final report on the Study Programme on European Spatial Planning presents an overview of the work and its outcomes, and elaborates possible fields of further policy advising research work and future cooperation. The report has been prepared by the coordination team, lead by NORDREGIO (*the Nordic Centre for Spatial Development*), Stockholm in close cooperation with the National Focal Points of the EU Member States.

All reports of the Study Programme on European Spatial Planning, which above mentioned, will be available in both English and German at the BBR by forthcoming publications.

Journal "Information on Spatial Development" (IzR)

Issue 2/2000

European and National Structural Policy and the AGENDA 2000

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Events

Bonn

15-16 November 2001

German National Congress on Spatial Development

This event will jointly be staged by the German Academy for Regional Research and Regional Planning (*Akademie für Raumforschung und Landesplanung*) and the BBR.

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www.bbr.bund.de

News will be provided continuously at the website of the BBR at www.bbr.bund.de

Editor, Producer and Publisher

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Planning – Bundesamt für Bauwesen
und Raumordnung
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Research News is published twice a year.
It is available in the internet at the website
of the BBR at www.bbr.bund.de

Print copies can be ordered free of charge.

Free to reprint. Please send a voucher
copy to the editor.

Citing:
Research News BBR 2/2000

ISSN 1437 - 5850

**Journal “Information on Spatial
Development” (IzR)**
**Issue 3/4.2000
European Spatial Development
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**Building and Regions *Bau und Raum*
Annual Jahrbuch 1999/2000**

*The 1999/2000 annual opens with the Neue Wache on Unter den Linden – Schinkel's first major building, the first building of the Prussian state after the defeat of Napoleon, and the first monumental Building of the Federal Republic of Germany in reunified Berlin (...) The present and the future likewise call for new sings. Since the Wall came down, Berlin has expanded not only outward, but upward as well. The project “Euopolis” at the Zoo railway station presents the towering vision of an urban quarter of the future; its skyscraper, saluting Alexanderplatz on the other side of the city, sets a self-confident landmark for the new Berlin. Perhaps one day it will cast shadows, for signs and wonders still happen. This publication can be obtained at *Hatje Cantz Verlag*. Please refer to www.hatjecantz.de (price 68 DM).*