



RESEARCH NEWS

Bundesamt
für Bauwesen und
Raumordnung

Federal Office
for Building and
Regional Planning

Editorial

The Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) has moved to new premises, as previously announced in Research News No 2 / December 2001. Meanwhile the relocation is completed and both Department I (dealing with research and policy-advising tasks in the field of spatial planning and urban development) and Department II (mainly dealing with aspects of housing and architecture from the scientific point of view), which have been accepted as Federal research institutions in Germany, now jointly work at the same place. Please visit our lately redesigned website at www.bbr.bund.de

This year new tasks will approach, amongst others: The BBR was appointed ESPON Contact Point of Germany within the framework of ESPON - The European Spatial Planning Observation Network. To implement ESPON EU Member States and the European Commission agreed upon the ESPON 2006 Programme under the umbrella of the EU Community Initiative INTERREG. For the first time in European Union's history EU Member States, EU Accession Countries and Third Countries will carry out together spatially relevant research.

Concerning INTEREG III B: All five cooperation areas (Baltic Sea Region, CADSES, North Sea Region, North West Europe, Alpine Space), in which German is involved, have already launched first calls for projects. For further information please look up the websites of the cooperation area in question at

www.spatial.baltic.net
(Baltic Sea Region)

www.cadses.net
(CADSES)

www.interregnorthsea.org
(North Sea Region)

www.nweurope.org
(North West Europe)

www.alpinespace.org
(Alpine Space)

The editors

Contents

ESPON 2006: The Programme will soon Start

Transnational Cooperation in the Field of Spatial Development - INTERREG III B Programmes Adopted

The Spatial Monitoring System of the BBR

Short News

Actual information can be found at

www.espon.org
(soon, at present on
www.espon.lu) and
www.bbr.bund.de

The following reports will be published within the BBR series "Forschungen":

Criteria for the Spatial Differentiation of the EU Territory:

- Wirtschaftliche Stärke (Heft 98.1)
- Economic Strength (Heft 98.2)
- Kulturelles Erbe (Heft 100.1)
- Cultural Assets (Heft 100.2)
- Geographische Lage (Heft 102.1)
- Geographical Position (Heft 102.2)

Price: Euro 5.00 each (incl. dispatch)

SPESP Final Report:

- Studienprogramm zur Europäischen Raumplanung. Endbericht (Heft 103.1, in progress)
- Study Programme on European Spatial Planning. Final Report (Heft 103.2)

Price: Euro 8.00 each (incl. dispatch)

Ordering address:

Selbstverlag des BBR
Postfach 21 01 50
53156 Bonn
Germany
selbstverlag@bbr.bund.de

The reports are also available at
www.nordregio.se
(ESDP).

ESPON 2006: The Programme will soon Start

Since about ten years, the ministers responsible for spatial planning of the EU Member States and the Regional Policy Directorate General of the European Commission have continuously been cooperating discussing issues, problems and solutions of European spatial development. The European Spatial Development Perspective – ESDP – (Potsdam 1999) has been an important result of this cooperation.

The ESDP combines the scientific description of actual European spatial development trends with political assessments of these results and with the agreement upon objectives, needs for action and political options of action. Scientific policy advice has considerably contributed to the success of the total ESDP process. In 1994 already, during their informal meeting in Leipzig, the ministers responsible for spatial planning decided to strengthen the European level of policy advice and to establish a European spatial development observatory in terms of a network of national spatial scientific research and policy advice institutes. They initially did not manage; only now – from the beginning of 2002 and limited to at first five years until 2006 – the European Spatial Planning Observation Network (ESPON) is being implemented.

This was preceded by a one-year pilot phase (1999/2000): the Study Programme on European Spatial Planning (SPESP). The SPESP as well as the three thematic reports with German participation are presently being published in English (original) and in German language within the BBR series "Forschungen" (see marginalia).

The ESPON 2006 Programme will be implemented in the framework of the Community Initiative INTERREG III. Under the overall control of Luxembourg, the EU Member States have elaborated a joint application with the title "The ESPON 2006 Programme – Research on the Spatial Development of an Enlarging European Union". The European Commission adopted the programme on 3 June 2002.

The ESPON 2006 Programme provides five priorities:

- thematic projects on important spatial development aspects (polycentric urban system, urban-rural partnership;

infrastructure and knowledge networks; natural and cultural heritage)

- impact analyses of European policies (spatial impacts of sectoral policies and of the Structural Funds; institutions and instruments of spatial development policies at different spatial levels)
- coordinating cross-sectional projects and scenarios on European spatial development
- ESPON implementation and networking
- technical support, information strategy

The programme is steered by a monitoring committee formed by the 15 EU Member States and the European Commission. It is planned to involve further countries (the EU Accession Countries, Norway, Switzerland) with an observer status. The Monitoring Committee is supported by a coordination unit based in Esch-sur-Alzette in Luxembourg. Decentral coordination is also promoted by the network of national ESPON Contact Points. The Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) is the ESPON Contact Point for Germany and is involved in different projects.

The ESPON Programme is implemented through approximately 20 projects. The total programme volume is 12 m Euro. Terms of Reference have been developed for each project, invitations to tender for the projects have already been launched. First contracts are foreseen to be signed soon. All projects are implemented by Transnational Project Groups composed of at least three (in cross-sectional projects: six) partners from different EU Member States and represented by a Lead Partner. The projects should also involve at least one ESPON Contact Point each to ensure the coherence and networking of the whole programme.

Contact:

Dr. Karl Peter Schön
Tel.: + 49 1888 4012329
peter.schoen@bbr.bund.de

Head of Unit
European Spatial and Urban Development

Transnational Cooperation in the Field of Spatial Development – INTERREG III B Programmes Adopted

The European Commission has adopted the five INTERREG III B programmes in which Germany participates. The programme- and project-oriented transnational cooperation in the field of spatial development, which has been successfully tested in the framework of the Community Initiative INTERREG II C, can thus be continued and intensified in the present funding period (by 2006).

Germany is active in five cooperation areas in the context of INTERREG III B: in the Baltic Sea Region, in the North Sea Region, in North West Europe, in the Central, Adriatic, Danubian and South-Eastern European Space (CADSES) and in the Alpine Space. Cooperation is based on joint programmes of the participating partner states, the so-called "Community Initiative Programmes (CIP)". The priorities and measures for cooperation defined in these CIPs shall be implemented by transnational spatial development projects which may be subsidized by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

About 745 million Euro ERDF funds can be granted for transnational spatial development projects in the five cooperation areas by 2006. About 1,477 million Euro in total – including national cofinancing – can be spend on INTERREG III B projects.

The partner states used the period between programme submission and adoption

- to create respectively prepare the necessary joint implementation structures.

This especially includes to establish joint managing and paying authorities as well as to found joint transnational secretariats (including to advertise the posts etc.). The map shows the locations of the joint managing authorities and of the secretariats. It reveals that the Baltic Sea and the North Sea Region take up the INTERREG II C structures and that the secretariats continue their work in the context of INTERREG III B. North West Europe has, however, agreed upon a new INTERREG III B secretariat in Lille. In contrast to the previous period during which the secretariats worked decentrally in the participating countries, CADSES

and the Alpine Space have for the first time joint transnational secretariats in Dresden respectively in Garmisch-Partenkirchen. The official opening of the CADSES secretariat in mid-May involves that the secretariats in all cooperation areas with German participation become capable of work. Furthermore, the partner states have nominated the members of the Monitoring and Steering Committees and have prepared appropriate rules of procedure.

- to elaborate the Programme Complements.

The Programme Complement which has to be elaborated for each CIP has to be submitted to the Commission three months at the latest following the decision of the Commission on the adoption of the CIP. It informs inter alia about project selection criteria, on activities, outputs, expected results as well as impacts of each measure and of appropriate indicators. Apart from the CIP, it is thus an important document for the project applicants.

- to elaborate the application documents.

A further focus was the elaboration of project application documents which normally can be retrieved from the relevant programme websites. As a rule, these documents comprise the CIP as well as the Programme Complement, the project application form, an applicants

Information flyer in German language have been produced for each cooperation area with German participation. They primarily address potential project managers and inform about

- each eligible area,
- measures in which transnational projects can be assisted,
- application and approval procedures,
- contacts, etc.

The German-speaking brochure "INTERREG II C Transnationale Zusammenarbeit auf dem Gebiet der Raumentwicklung – 20 Beispielprojekte" presents selected exemplary projects on transnational cooperation.

INTERREG III B programmes with German participation

Cooperation area	CIP adopted on	Programme funds in m Euro (2000–2006)		Programme website
		in total	ERDF	
Baltic Sea Region	14.09.2001	183	97	www.spatial.baltic.net
CADSES	27.12.2001	237 ¹	129	www.cadses.net
North Sea Region	13.12.2001	278 ²	129	www.interregnorthsea.org
North West Europe	22.03.2002	655 ³	330	www.nweurope.org
Alpine Space	19.12.2001	124 ⁴	60	www.alpinespace.org
Areas with German participation		1.477	745	further information: www.bbr.bund.de

¹ without financial contribution of Accession Countries and other countries

² including financial contribution of Norway

³ including financial contribution of Switzerland

⁴ including financial contribution of Switzerland, without financial contribution of Slovenia

EU Community initiative INTERREG III B



Cooperation areas with German participation

	Baltic Sea Region
	CADSES
	North Sea Region
	North West Europe
	Alpine Space

Secretariat

	Rostock
	Dresden
	Viborg
	Lille
	Garmisch-Partenkirchen

Managing authority

	Rostock
	Rome
	Silkeborg
	Lille
	Salzburg

The INTERREG III B information flyers and the INTERREG II C brochure can be ordered at the

BBR
Unit I 3
European Spatial and Urban Development
Contact: Beatrix Thul
Tel.: + 49 1888 4012333
beatrix.thul@bbr.bund.de

Further information and contacts on the topic can be found at

www.bbr.bund.de

information guide and the so-called "fact sheets" giving answers to frequently asked questions.

- to push the development of the project.
The project development was mainly supported by books on project ideas, by organizing project fairs and by programme information workshops.
- to create bases for information.

Finally, information bases about the programme have to be created. Apart from developing and maintaining internet websites this also includes to produce information flyers, books on project ideas, etc. The programme websites (see table) provide all the important information and project application documents of the relevant programme areas.

In some cooperation areas the constituent meetings of the Monitoring Committee and of the Steering Committee have already taken place. All five cooperation areas have already launched first calls for projects. In the Baltic Sea Region and in the North Sea Region the Steering Committees have already approved first projects.

While most INTERREG II C projects focus on the exchange of experiences and joint studies, measures to prepare investments will now primarily be promoted leading to concrete, visible and innovative results, which is a consequence of the considerably higher funds. Many INTERREG III B projects being presently prepared respectively approved take up the results of the INTERREG II C projects.

The Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) has published a brochure in German language presenting selected exemplary projects. These projects demonstrate convincingly the importance of transnational cooperation and may give incentives and impetus to INTERREG III B. They show that the cooperative development of strategies and their implementation by common projects leads not only to a better exchange of experiences. Compared with single activities coherent and coordinated measures may furthermore generate synergy effects. The brochure also contains a CD-ROM with basic information on all the 168 INTERREG II C projects with German participation (project data base). The project data base can be retrieved from the BBR website.

Contact:

Brigitte Ahlke
Unit I 3
European Spatial and Urban Development
Tel.: + 49 1888 4012330
brigitte.ahlke@bbr.bund.de

The Spatial Monitoring System of the BBR

A central task of the Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR), laid down in section 18, subsection 5 of the German Federal Regional Planning Act, is to manage a spatial information system. This information system serves a comparable analysis and documentation of spatial development tendencies on the German territory and in Europe by comparing time and space. The necessary data are continuously updated and documented; indicators are edited for different spatial contexts.

The spatial monitoring system is divided into different components according to the individual spatial perspectives:

The Continuous Spatial Monitoring System Germany (*Laufende Raumbewachung – LRB Deutschland*) forms the core of the information system. It analyses and evaluates the intra-regional and regional living conditions in Germany at the level of municipalities, counties and regions. Indicators shall help to illustrate the state of regional disparities within the living conditions of the population extensively and nation-wide. The range of perspectives of the LRB is therefore varied. Apart from nation-wide available data of official regional statistics, it uses those of other authorities, offices and organizations (e.g. Federal Labour Office, Federal Medical Association, Central Register of Foreigners, Federal Motor Transport Authority). The data are selected in a problem-oriented way and short-term (normally annual) periodicity. However, the spatial monitoring system is not only retrospective. Forward-looking data, e.g. concerning population, households or housing, which are regularly generated by means of models, form an also prospective component. The regional statistical databasis is then completed by spatial references. They contain allocations of municipalities and/or counties to non-administrative spatial references. These reference codes enable a regional aggregation of data according to arbitrary spatial references if they are composed of the county or municipality as a basic element.

The spatial development is essentially measured based on counties and spatial planning regions. The latter largely

coincide with the location pattern of higher order centres and related catchment areas. They largely correspond to the planning regions of the German Federal states respectively are adapted to them. For interregional and intraregional comparisons especially the instrument of types of areas according to settlement structure is used. They serve as an analytical raster and enable to compare regions, counties or municipalities with similar settlement structure. The area types are based on the criteria of "centrality" and "density". These types are determined "top down", i.e. from the regional level (types of regions) and the county level (types of counties) down to the municipal level (types of municipalities). They are completed by the determination of types of urban districts of the Comparable Urban Monitoring System.

Particularly important for the comparable analysis of state and tendencies of spatial development – besides area types – are the visualization and cartographical illustration of the results of the Spatial Monitoring System. Related appropriate instruments are made available enabling the creation of thematic maps based on administrative and non-administrative, regional statistical elements.

The Comparable Urban Monitoring System (Inner-Urban Spatial Monitoring System) mainly illustrates the state and direction of the development within cities and city regions. It uses local statistical data based on comparably delimited urban districts. These data are provided by the cities within a cooperative community with the BBR according to a coordinated catalogue of features. This includes to harmonize types of city regions and types of areas according to the urban structure which illustrate essential development trends within cities and their surrounding area. The Comparable Urban Monitoring System knows from experience that each city is able to give information about its present trends and problems; it is, however, often difficult to differentiate according to specific urban and general tendencies. This especially goes for internal urban development processes at the urban district level for which, from the local perspective, local characteristics often seem to determine the



development direction whereas societal trends do not play an important role. This requires to compare cities and their internal inner-urban development in order to be able to contrast and reveal general and specific development trends. The starting situation of urban statistics is though very different in local offices. As the local statistics, compared with the official statistics, do not have a differentiated programme of well-defined statistics, the harmonization and standardization of basic local statistical data within the Comparable Urban Monitoring System is a considerable problem. Furthermore, the considerable lack of data also makes a broad thematic, area-wide, comparable interlocal and intralocal reporting problematic.

The component "social indicators" (present survey of the BBR) records subjective estimations of the housing and living conditions of individuals and groups within the different contexts of settlement structures as well as deficits of everyday life and their subjective importance, related behaviours and general measures of value, orientations for action, needs and priorities used to encounter objective living conditions. This survey has been executed in terms of a representative survey (about 2000 interviewees annually) since 1985 in the old German *Länder* (normally in participating in social scientific, multi-thematic surveys). Since 1990, the survey has been extended to the new *Länder* (also 2000 interviewees). The range of topics aims at spatially relevant phenomena and societal trends. It is oriented towards perspectives of urban and spatial monitoring systems, uses their area classifications and thus supports the analysis and interpretation of spatial development tendencies.

The European Union forms a focus of the Continuous Spatial Monitoring System Europe. The data structure can be compared with that one of the LRB Germany. The regional reference system is oriented towards the *Nomenclature des Unités Territoriales Statistiques* (N.U.T.S.) of EUROSTAT. The regional statistical information refers to the three regional levels NUTS 1 to NUTS 3. In Germany these are the *Länder* (Federal states), the *Regierungsbezirke* (regional districts), the *Kreise* (counties) respectively the *kreisfreie Städte* (cities not belonging to a county).

The territorial units of the NUTS 2 level serve as basic regions for regional comparisons, within the European Union these regions form the spatial framework for European regional policy according to Objective 1.

The REGIO data basis of EUROSTAT forms the basic data basis for the Union. It is completed by statistical information of other EU institutions, e.g. the European Commission, national statistical offices or spatial institutions. The spatial monitoring system of other European subareas is still being developed. A data basis for the European Economic Area comparable to the European Union is already available respectively is sought. For the Central and Eastern European countries and the GUS a reduced stock of regional statistical parameters is being developed respectively planned.

The results of the spatial information system are annually published in the form of a manual of indicators under the title "*Aktuelle Daten zur Entwicklung der Städte, Kreise und Gemeinden*" (actual data on the development of cities, counties and municipalities). The volume contains about 260 indicators on all spatial monitoring topics on over 350 pages. For the Federal Republic of Germany the indicators are calculated based on the level of municipalities with more than 20,000 inhabitants, counties, spatial planning regions, types of settlement structure, *Länder* and the Federal territory in total. For the European Union the indicators are based on the levels NUTS 0 (national states), NUTS 1 and NUTS 2.

Since 1998, the CD-ROM "*INKAR Indikatoren und Karten zur Raumentwicklung*" (INKAR Indicators and Maps on Spatial Development) is published parallelly to the manual of indicators. Apart from the indicators in the manual it contains a fact retrieval programme to create tables, an export module as well as a cartographical programme to visualize all indicators in the form of thematic maps of Germany or Europe. An INKAR online version on the internet pages of the BBR supplements the multimedia information supply of spatial monitoring.

Contact:

Helmut Janich
Unit I 6
Spatial Information
System
Tel.: + 49 1888
4012258
helmut.janich@
bbr.bund.de

Short News

Activities in the German-Polish Border Area

On 13 and 14 May 2002, the Spatial Planning Committee of the German-Polish Governmental Commission for Regional Cooperation met in the Polish town of Rydzyna to discuss some current issues. The Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) is involved in the activities of this committee by managing or co-financing several research projects e.g. on flood protection or transport corridor development. The Committee agreed that in addition to the on-going cooperation in the immediate border areas, regional cooperation could be further deepened especially in a larger region framed by the cities of Berlin, Szczecin, Poznan, Wrocław and Dresden (the so-called "German-Polish home"). To facilitate the cooperation, the Commission agreed to initiate the drafting of scenarios showing the development possibilities of the region until the year 2020. Work will start in the next months.

Cooperation Germany / France

The Building / Urban Development Directorate-General of the German Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Housing (BMVBW) and the Urban Development and Housing Directorate-General (DGUHC) of the French *Ministère de l'équipement, des transports et du logement* (METL) agreed upon an informal exchange of experiences in 1998. This has resulted in two fields of cooperation between DGUHC and BMVBW / Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR). Against the background of concrete urban development projects and in the framework of a joint project in the Saar-Lorraine border region it is investigated how similar tasks in Germany and France are tackled and how cooperation in the region can be improved. Furthermore, the DGUHC has prepared a project within the EU INTERREG III B Programme North Western Europe supported by BMVBW and BBR dealing with urban renewal and urban development policy.

The "Stadtumbau Ost" Contest (a Federal Urban Restructuring Programme in east Germany) – for attractive cities and living

In October 2001, the Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Housing invited tenders for the Federal contest "Stadtumbau Ost". The contest, which involves 261 local authorities, aims at promoting urban development concepts revealing exemplary and pathbreaking solutions for cities affected by vacant buildings. The contest will end in September 2002 by awarding prizes to the best urban development concepts.

Öffentlicher Raum und Stadtgestalt (Public Space and Urban Design)

Public areas are one of the central challenges to urban development and have been rediscovered as a central task of local urban planning. Strengthening the quality and societal integration power of public areas must not involve to ignore other sectoral policies. Public areas have to be regarded within an interdisciplinary context with regard to topics, institutions and space and further developed. – This is a way to summarize the focal points of the different contributions, as stated on a joint seminar staged by the Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) and the *Deutsche Akademie für Städtebau und Landesplanung* (German Academy of Urban Development and Regional Planning) in Chemnitz, 24 / 25 May 2002.

European Journal of Spatial Development

A new web-based journal is born: "Let science have relevance! Nordregio has decided to pursue the issuing of an electronic, academic journal entitled *The European Journal of Spatial Development*. The aim of the journal is to provide a scientific forum on spatial and environmental analyses, physical planning and regional development. The journal is edited by Nordregio staff members in cooperation with an editorial board, composed of distinguished members of the

Zukunftsforum RaumPlanung (Forum on the Future of Spatial Planning)

The proceedings of this event jointly staged by the *Akademie für Raumforschung und Landesplanung* (Academy for Regional Research and Regional Planning) and the Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) in the former premises of the *Deutsche Bundestag* (German Federal Parliament) at Bonn on 15/16 November 2001 are available and can be obtained from VBS-Verlagsservice Braunschweig, Postfach 4738, D – 38037 Braunschweig (ISBN 3-88838-047-2, 14 Euro).

Initiative Architektur und Baukultur (Architecture and Building Culture Initiative)

The fourth newsletter is now available. It can be downloaded as data file in pdf format from the website of the initiative (www.architektur-baukultur.de).

Editor, Producer and Publisher

Federal Office for Building and Regional
Planning – Bundesamt für Bauwesen
und Raumordnung
Deichmanns Aue 31–37
53179 Bonn
Germany
Tel.: +49 1888 4012329
Fax: +49 1888 4012260
info@bbr.bund.de

Selbstverlag des BBR, Postfach 21 01 50, 53156 Bonn, Germany

Z**Responsible Editors**

Karl Peter Schön, Wendelin Strubelt

Editing

Edeltraud Bahles, Karin Goebel, Marion Kickartz,
André Müller, Klaus Schliebe, Beatrix Thul

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 1/2002

ISSN 1437 - 5850

international academic community. All contributions will be subject to referees of recognized integrity and published articles will be included in standard data files providing contributions are cited using the journals title. Publication activity will be continuous, thus individual contributions need not be connected to thematic issues, as each article will be published immediately after passing the standard academic editorial review process. In order to guide readers over time, thematic code words will provide entries to topics of interest covered by the journal."

Editor-in-chief of the journal is Professor Christer Bengs, Senior Research Fellow at Nordregio – The Nordic Centre for Spatial Development, Stockholm. Wendelin Strubelt, Vice-President and Professor of the Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) is member of the Editorial Board.