



Bundesamt
für Bauwesen und
Raumordnung

Federal Office
for Building and
Regional Planning

RESEARCH NEWS

Editorial

This Research News issue is meant to present possible linkages between different tiers of policy advice in current European Spatial Planning and Development. Taking the idea on board to make use of synergy potentials while combining single initiatives and projects a tour d'horizon shall illustrate the bridges between these tiers.

It is half-time in European Spatial Planning Research! At least with regard to the ESPON 2006 Programme. A series of final reports were delivered. Yet a number of projects are still running, and new projects have been launched. It is time to reflect and to think about how to design a common future.

Considering the EU Community Initiative INTERREG III B this strand is about to end. In that respect it is time to contribute to ongoing discussions on future Structural Funds perspectives. The Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) is accompanying most parts of the INTERREG III B programme implementation process. It is carrying out comparative research on performance indicators of the five different INTERREG III B Programmes in which Germany takes part and communicates good practices of the programmes and projects. Taking this notion into account, BBR assumes similar functions as foreseen for the INTERact Programme.

The social, ecological and economic modernization policy of cities and municipalities in Germany is facing great challenges. As sustainable urban development is a joint endeavour of all actors the Federal Government presented the Urban Development Report 2004 in the last days of that year. The report is available (only in German) from the internet (at <http://dip.bundstag.de/parfors/parfors.htm> by entering the code 4610).

Besides, a retrospective of BBR's "*Informationen zur Raumentwicklung – IzR*" (Information on Spatial Development) is given which may provide you with some interesting insights.

The editors

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Half-Time for the ESPON 2006 Programme

The European Spatial Planning Observation Network, short: ESPON, was launched in mid 2002. Being part of the Community Initiative INTERREG III it is one element of the Structural Funds period 2000-2006 and thus will be finalised end of 2006. So with the 5th ESPON Seminar, which was held in the city of Nijmegen in October 2004, the halftime of the ESPON-2006 Programme has been reached.

This halftime situation is also illustrated by the fact that before the Nijmegen meeting the first ten Transnational Project Groups delivered their final reports, while at the same time another 14 projects are actually running and presenting interim reports, some of them having just been launched. BBR has played an important role in ESPON so far. In the following we will inform in more detail about the state and first outcomes of ESPON.

Final Reports (October/December 2004)

The following ten ESPON projects delivered their final reports until end of 2004:

Finalised ESPON Projects

Project Number	Project Title
1.1.1	THE ROLE, SPECIFIC SITUATION AND POTENTIALS OF URBAN AREAS AS NODES IN A POLYCENTRIC DEVELOPMENT
1.1.2	URBAN-RURAL RELATIONS IN EUROPE
1.2.1	TRANSPORT SERVICES AND NETWORKS: TERRITORIAL TRENDS AND BASIC SUPPLY OF INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TERRITORIAL COHESION
1.2.2	TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES AND NETWORKS: TERRITORIAL TRENDS AND BASIC SUPPLY OF INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TERRITORIAL COHESION
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2.1.1	TERRITORIAL IMPACT OF EU TRANSPORT AND TEN POLICIES
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2.1.3	THE TERRITORIAL IMPACT OF CAP AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY
2.2.3	TERRITORIAL EFFECTS OF STRUCTURAL FUNDS IN URBAN AREAS
3.1	INTEGRATED TOOLS FOR EUROPEAN SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT

ESPON 3.1 Final Report

ESPON 3.1 was the coordinating project for the first part of ESPON. It was led by BBR and included project partners from eight European countries. ESPON 3.1 had several tasks to fulfil. Besides the function to support the ESPON Coordination Unit in Esch-sur Alzette (Luxembourg) in the implementation of the ESPON programme by scientific guidance, ESPON 3.1 had the task to provide data, GIS and methodology

related integrated tools for ESPON research and to analyse and summarize the ESPON project results on a cross-thematic base.

On these grounds ESPON 3.1 provided a draft version of its final report which was presented and discussed during the Nijmegen Seminar; the final version has been delivered in December 2004 including comments and responses of/after the Nijmegen Seminar.

The ESPON 3.1 Final Report comes in three parts:

Part A presents the scientific and policy oriented conclusions of ESPON results until end of 2004. Firstly, it gives a short review on the policy background and context of ESPON. Secondly, it introduces into the ESPON data base and GIS system and the innovative tools developed within the framework of ESPON 3.1. Thirdly, it summarises the results of the other ESPON projects and evaluates their empirical findings against the goals and concepts of European spatial development policy. And finally, it draws first conclusions and extracts general policy conclusions.

Part B gives a more extended overview and summary of the ESPON results reached so far. In contrast to part A it does not present ESPON results in an integrated way but rather presents them project by project. This presentation is not restricted to the first round projects which delivered their final reports but also includes projects that started later and until now have only delivered intermediate results and interim reports. All in all, 15 ESPON projects are presented.

Part C introduces the genuine ESPON 3.1 results and products with a comprehensive description of the integrated tools that were developed within this project. This includes, among others, considerations on the operationalisation of European spatial planning goals and concepts, the presentation of the ESPON Data Base and basic elements of ESPON GIS, the "Dictionary of Spatial Analysis Tools" comprising elements such as Multiscalar Territorial Analysis, Homogeneity and Discontinuity Analysis, and Multiscalar Smoothing Methods, and a cross-sectoral analysis of Europe and breakdowns for different territories.

The ESPON 3.1 Final Report can be downloaded from the ESPON website:

http://www.espon.lu/online/documentation/projects/cross_thematic/index.html

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Regional Classification of Europe

The Regional Classification of Europe (RCE) within ESPON 3.1 was a first attempt to combine existing ESPON results and to provide an overall classification of the regional situation in the 29 ESPON member countries.

The task of the Regional Classification of Europe was to bring together sectoral strengths and weaknesses in a wider perspective and to evaluate the cross-sectoral situation of the EU 27+2 regions. The RCE enables researchers to identify which parts of Europe show high accumulations of strengths or weaknesses, and which parts show a more average level, with some sectoral strengths, but also some sectoral weaknesses. To meet this need ESPON 3.1 initiated a first attempt at a procedure that should lead eventually to an overall analysis of European spatial development.

Based on seven thematic fields (Economy, Labour Market, Demography, Environment, Hazards, Accessibility, Spatial Structure) and on, in total, 38 z-transformed indicators, the RCE produced an overall classification of the 280 NUTS 2 regions of the ESPON territory.

The RCE will be continued and deepened in the context of the new ESPON project 2.4.2 which is also led by BBR and due to deliver final results in December 2005.

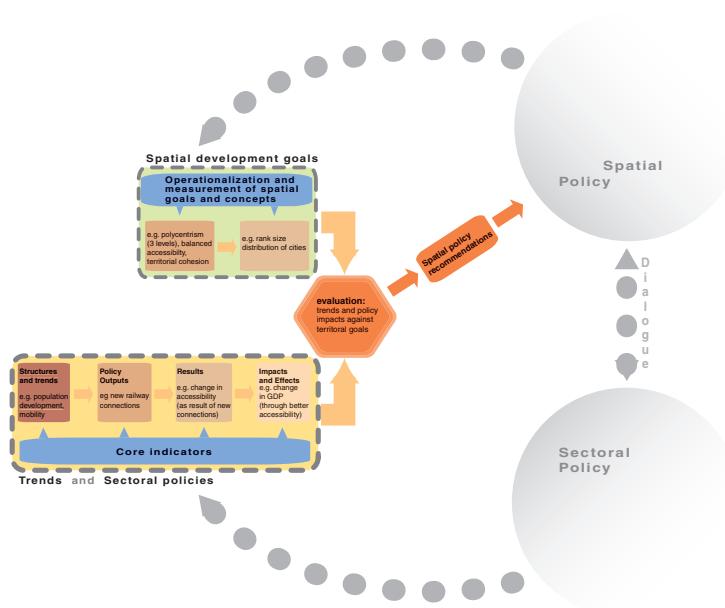
Outlook

While the first ten ESPON projects have delivered their final reports, a number of projects are still running, and new projects have been launched recently. The table below shows the ongoing ESPON Projects and the delivery of final reports until the end of the current programme.

The ESPON Programme 2006 will end in December 2006. The discussion on a possible ESPON II, a continuation of the ESPON 2006 Programme in a second phase from 2007 to 2013, is about to begin. Luxembourg has made this theme a task of high priority to be solved during their current EU Presidency.

The next ESPON seminar will take place in Luxembourg, 17-18 Mai 2005.

Methodological approach of ESPON (Matera Guidance Paper)



Source: Matera Guidance Paper, by ESPON Project 3.1, February 2004, p. 5 please refer to www.espon.lu

Table of projects and delivery of reports

Project Number	Project Title	Delivery of the next final reports
Theme 1 Projects		
Thematic Projects		
1.1.3	ENLARGEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE WIDER EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE AS REGARDS ITS POLYCENTRIC SPATIAL STRUCTURE	December 2005
1.1.4	THE SPATIAL EFFECTS OF DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS AND MIGRATION	March 2005
1.3.1	THE SPATIAL EFFECTS AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL HAZARDS IN GENERAL AND IN RELATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE	March 2005
1.3.3	THE ROLE AND SPATIAL EFFECTS OF CULTURAL HERITAGE AND IDENTITY	May 2006
Theme 2 Projects		
Policy Impact Projects		
2.1.5	TERRITORIAL IMPACTS OF EUROPEAN FISHERIES POLICY	May 2006
2.2.1	TERRITORIAL EFFECTS OF STRUCTURAL FUNDS	March 2005
2.2.2	TERRITORIAL EFFECTS OF THE „AQUIS COMMUNITAIRE“, PRE-ACCESSION AID AND PHARE/TACIS/MEDA PROGRAMMES	März 2005
2.3.1	APPLICATION AND EFFECTS OF THE ESDP IN MEMBER STATES	May 2006
2.3.2	GOVERNANCE OF TERRITORIAL AND URBAN POLICIES FROM EU TO LOCAL LEVEL	May 2006
2.4.2	INTEGRATED ANALYSES OF TRANSNATIONAL AND NATIONAL TERRITORIES BASED ON ESPON RESULTS	December 2005
Theme 3 Projects		
Coordinating, Cross-Thematic Projects		
3.2	SPATIAL SCENARIOS AND ORIENTATIONS IN RELATION TO THE ESDP AND EU COHESION POLICY	October 2006
3.3	TERRITORIAL DIMENSION OF THE LISBON/GOTHENBURG PROCESS	May 2006
3.4.1	EUROPE IN THE WORLD	May 2006

Three Projects in South East Europe: PlaNet CenSE – Zoom In – ESTIA SPOSE. Umbrella, Focus, Data Resources

For further information please contact the following web sites at:

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www.espon.lu
www.bbr.bund.de

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Among the areas of transnational cooperation in Europe the so-called Central Adriatic, Danubian and South Eastern European Space (CADSES) is probably the largest, but definitely the most complex one. It includes 18 states, from the Baltic Sea (with Poland and parts of Germany as members) to the Mediterranean, through Austria, Eastern Italy and the Balkans, down to Greece, touching the Eastern European countries from Ukraine to the countries like Bulgaria and Romania. This geographical complexity is reflected in several aspects: the status related to the European Union (9 EU Member States, 3 Accession Countries and 6 Neighbouring States) on the one side and the economic, social and political conditions as well as the environmental situation on the other.

PlaNet CenSE

In such an area which was affected by the former "Iron Curtain" both in geographical and mental terms it is of utmost importance to achieve a common understanding about the future spatial and regional development. In that respect – with the project VISION PLANET – a network of national spatial planning institutions and experts was established in the framework of the EU Community Initiative INTERREG II C. The cooperation once being created with this network will now be continued with a thematic focus in the project "Planners Network for Central and South East Europe (PlaNet CenSE)", under the auspices of INTERREG III B. PlaNet CenSE fosters spatial integration and a cross-sectoral dialogue using three strands:

- The European Spatial Planning Gateway (ESP Gateway) is one of the three main strands within the project to stimulate a cross-sectoral dialogue between EU Member, EU Candidate and EU Neighbouring Countries. The common learning process, established in this work package, functions as a "Gateway" that connects national and EU-wide spatial development perspectives on a transnational platform. Two types of information transfers are activated by ESP Gateway. On the one hand, there is a transfer of information and knowledge from EU to national level, i.e. the

application of European Spatial Planning Observation Network (ESPON) approaches and concepts of the European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) by countries in CenSE. The converse flow implements on the other hand an influence of the national level on the EU level, i.e. an evaluation and further development of ESDP and ESPON by new EU Member, Candidate and Neighbouring Countries. According to the two pilot projects of PlaNet CenSE, "Metropolitan Networks" and "North-South Corridor", ESP Gateway concentrates its information and knowledge transfer on transnational spatial development issues with regard to urban systems and transport networks. By means of a common learning process, the ESP Working Team discusses selected approaches, concepts and research results gained from ESDP and ESPON. Findings and approaches are reflected and developed further from a CenSE point of view. The main aim of ESP Gateway is to translate the common understanding into a strategic spatial development document with objectives for future development of the urban system and transport infrastructure in Central and South East Europe. The strategic document should both provide a framework for national spatial development perspectives and place the urban system and transport network in CenSE into a wider European context. Thus, it might also serve as contribution for a revised ESDP.

- The "Forum for Territorial Impact Analysis" (TIAN FORUM) has been set up for developing the planning instrument TIAN and for testing it within two pilot projects ("Metropolitan Networks in Central and South East Europe" and "North-South Transnational Transport Corridors"). The Coordination Platform has been established to coordinate different transport projects and initiatives in CenSE with similar aims and overlapping geographies to the proposed North-South corridors (link zu North-South corridor element). The idea is to stimulate a dialogue between stakeholders of different initiatives in

order to utilise synergy effects and to reduce redundancies. The main deliverable of this work package will be a comprehensive report that maps out and informs about current transport initiatives in CenSE.

- On the occasion of the closing PlaNet CenSE Conference the progress made in transnational cooperation related to spatial development will be evaluated on expert level and, based on the results of the above mentioned two components, politically viable and sound measures for implementation in international (political) processes will be developed.

Zoom In

Whereas PlaNet CenSE brings together policy advisers and policy makers – as it is essential for a long-term perspective cooperation to build trust among cooperation partners, trust which is necessary to overcome yet existing gaps in spatially relevant thinking and behaviour – another project will provide expert orientation from outside – as nonetheless a rethinking of space seems occasionally indispensable in order to adjust geographically boundaries. It reads: the Integrated Analysis of Transnational and National Territories based on ESPON Results Project (Zoom In – ESPON PROJECT 2.4.2) which as research project is being carried out in the framework of the ESPON 2006 Programme. This project with a broad European focus will – based amongst others on a series of mid-term evaluations dealing with the issue of transnational cooperation – analyse how and which (geographical / administrative) framework conditions and delimitations provided transnational subjects of European relevance shall be implemented in the future. Multi-layered research will be carried out on different levels addressing different concepts and principles.

ESTIA SPOSE

Elaborating a common understanding and providing proper analysis needs certainly sound data resources. In parallel with PlaNet CenSE the project “European Space: Territorial Indicators and Actions for a Spatial Planning Observatory in South East Europe – ESTIA SPOSE” is on stage right now. It aims at establishing an integrated system of territorial indicators fully

compatible with the approach of the European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) and the ESPON 2006 Programme Approach. ESTIA SPOSE consists of three components the indicators of which will be tested in a series of pilot applications in selected sectors and areas:

- Territorial Indicator System (TIS) as conceptual and methodological component,
- Pilot Applications of Indicators (PAI) as empirical component and
- the Spatial Planning Observatory Platform (SPOP) intending to establish an exchange network of spatial planning institutions.

Considering synergy aspects the Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) takes part as expert in all three projects; it even leads the one on Integrated Analysis of National and Transnational Territories based on ESPON Results.

1st and 2nd Interim Report (ESPON 2.4.2) are available as downloads at www.espon.lu



Advancing Transnational Cooperation for Spatial Development and Territorial Cohesion in Europe

The implementation of transnational cooperation programmes on spatial development (INTERREG III B) has almost reached the final stages. In cooperation programmes with German participation almost 75 % of programme funds are spent on so far more than 300 transnational projects with almost 4000 partners by autumn 2004. The 2003 mid-term evaluations have highlighted the achievements yet further challenges for transnational cooperation. Compared to the pilot phase of transnational cooperation between 1997 and 1999 (INTERREG II C), the new programmes managed in a better way to combining regional and national interests with more strategic interests of spatial development of the large transnational cooperation areas (Baltic and North Sea Region, Alpine Space and others) and of Europe as a whole.

The Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) accompanies the entire process of programme implementation, is carrying out comparative research on performance indicators of the five different programmes and communicates programmes' and projects' good practices. In that respect, BBR assumes similar functions as foreseen for the programme INTERact. It has started a series of reports on transnational spatial development which can be downloaded from BBR's homepage.

In the Fifth Report (2002), effects and impacts of EU Community Initiative INTERREG II C (1997-1999) programmes and projects were highlighted. The difficult starting conditions of applying a approach of transnational cooperation on spatial development in Europe had to be overcome by what may be described as "Learning by Doing". The starting phase of the present Initiative INTERREG III B Programmes (entire period: 2000-2006) had also been assessed. The Sixth Report (2003) analysed the differences between these two programmes and compared the performance of INTERREG III B Programmes in the five cooperation areas in which Germany is participating. It stressed the role of national authorities and transnational political cooperation networks for utilizing the outcomes of transnational cooperation

projects and for communicating respectively transferring good practices.

In 2004, BBR synthesized the mid-term evaluations' results which had been carried for the five transnational cooperation areas with German participation. The evaluators stressed the role that the transnational cooperation programmes and projects being essential for integration and territorial cohesion in Europe. Most of the programmes performed well although further improvements of the programme management were considered necessary.

Another series of BBR reports in 2004 was dedicated to impacts of the INTERREG and ESPON Programmes on Germany. German cities and regions benefit considerably from an improved integration in European networks. Due to the geographical position, German participation in transnational cooperation is at the same time vital for better integrating Europe in East-West and North-South direction. Against the background of the above mentioned report, a Conference on Transnational Cooperation, which was held in Berlin in November 2004 on behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Housing (BMVBW), revealed that cities and regions are indeed making use of transnational cooperation as location factor. Apart from gaining knowledge by exchange of experience, cities and regions mostly succeed in attracting investors as they are part of networks. Moreover, investors acknowledge European competence and openness of the respective regional and local authorities and a good "climate for innovations".

Summing up, the reports have shown the potentials of transnational cooperation for future European integration. The effects can still be enhanced if

- more strategic themes, such as promotion of strategic European development zones and transport corridors, integrated management of resources, river basins, coastal zones, mountain ranges, risk management, promotion of R&D, knowledge and information society, shaping and using cultural heritage are combined with a cross-sectoral approach of spatial development;

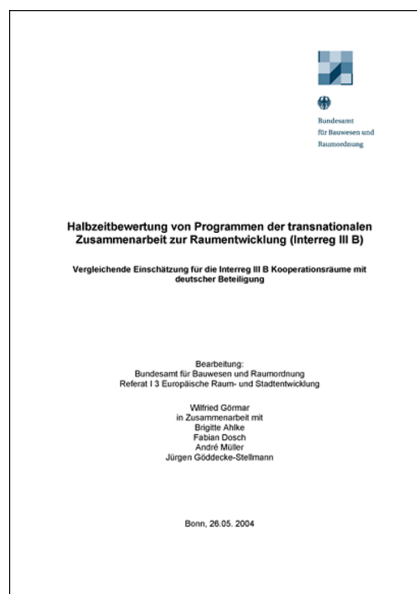
The acronym INTERact stands for "INTERREG Animation Cooperation and Transfer". It is a specific EU Programme intending to promote networking and the exchange of experience **between** different strands and programmes of the EU Community Initiative INTERREG. For further information please refer to www.interact-eu.net

The reports (in German) mentioned can be downloaded from BBR's web site at www.bbr.bund.de The included summary of mid-term evaluations contains also an overview (in English) of the outcomes in the five cooperation areas in which Germany is participating. Other downloads (in German) deal with information on the programmes and information for applicants.

- projects will be directed more towards gaining pilot experience and creating good practices applicable elsewhere in Europe as well;
- national authorities and transnational political cooperation networks assist regional and local authorities more intensively in developing such innovative “demonstration projects” and in communicating and transferring an “experience by learning”;
- projects create more products and structures which are durable beyond EU financing;
- projects will be directed more towards implementation and preparation of investments;
- more projects are carried out following the Public-Private Partnership Principle;
- programme and project management will be applied more professionally while – at the same time – procedures will be simplified wherever possible.

The main challenge for Europe in the near future is to make use of its diversity while – in parallel to this – to diminishing unjustified economic and social disparities. This is essential not only for an EU territory of 25 and more countries but also for relations with neighbours such as the Russian Federation and others. New axes of integration and new areas of economic growth will have to be shaped such as in Central Europe, the south-western Baltic Sea Region etc; sustainable development in general will have to be guaranteed. Transnational cooperation in spatial development is an excellent tool to meet these challenges.

In the Third Cohesion Report, the European Commission proposed to continue transnational cooperation in large European territorial cooperation areas in the forthcoming Structural Fund Period (2007–2013). It has also been suggested to continue this kind of cooperation not as Community Initiative but as new Structural Fund Objective 3 under the heading of promoting territorial cohesion. With such an upgrading (also in financial terms) the European Commission has recognized the benefit and European added value of transnational cooperation. In the framework of forthcoming negotiations on budgetary and structural funds issues the European Commission – and the EU Member States – have to decide on if and how these proposals will be implemented.



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Journal “*Informationen zur Raumentwicklung – IzR*“ (Information on Spatial Development) Retrospective 2003 / 2004

Currently available volumes are dealing with:

Volume 12.2003
Demographic Change and Infrastructure in Rural Areas – Lessons to be Learned from European Experiences?

Volume 1/2.2004
Spatial Development Scenarios from Neighbouring Countries

Volume 3/4.2004
Spatial Planning Prognosis 2020

Volume 5.2004
Regional and Urban Development Aspects of Fuel Cell Technology and Hydrogen Supply

Volume 6.2004
Spatial Planning and (Federal German) Transport Infrastructure Planning in the 21st Century

Volume 7/8.2004
Spatial Planning at Sea

Volume 9 / 10.2004
Revitalization of Derelict Land

Volume 11/12.2004
Unbuilt Environment

Volume 1.2005
Fine Arts and Space

Forthcoming volumes will focus on:

The Socially Integrated City – A Programme is Being Evaluated

Quantitative Regulation of the Growth of Settlement Areas

The journal “*Informationen zur Raumentwicklung – IzR*” (Information on Spatial Development) is a specialist journal for spatial planning and policy well-established since more than 25 years. It is published by the Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) and is conceived as a collection of topical volumes commenting on present and middle-term tasks in the fields of spatial planning, urban development, housing and building. The themes of each volume 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 was commented on within 2003 and 2004.

Demographic Change and Infrastructure in Rural Areas – Lessons to be Learned from European Experiences?

The German population is ageing and declining. This lingering process has reached public awareness only slowly. During the 1980s and 1990s high international net in-migration and the birth numbers of strong age groups have obstructed the view of the process of decline that has set in decades ago. Only when the drastically declining birth numbers in the new German *Länder* led to the closure of kindergartens and schools, greater attention was devoted by politicians and planners to the impacts of population decline. Thus, inter alia, the centennial work “generation contract” was put on the agenda, and the discussion has created public awareness for the coming decades through numerous demographic excursions. The volume is now to learn from the experience of other European countries in dealing with demographic change.

Spatial Development Scenarios from Neighbouring Countries

Spatial planning policy of the next years will include the development of a new political framework or programme for spatial planning. One step in this process will be to develop concepts. This implies that spatial planning policy already has some ideas about the probable long-term perspectives of the change of the spatial and settlement structure which again would provide the basis for developing concepts, strategies

and instruments of spatial planning. As a contribution to designing the future, it is necessary to critically analyse reality and to estimate what is feasible in the future. This volume would like to contribute to this.

Spatial Planning Prognosis 2020

The BBR is continuously working on spatial planning prognoses with the present prognostic horizon of 2020. The new prognoses on demographic development as well as on private households and on the active population have already been finished. It is furthermore planned to work out prognoses on the development of the housing market and the use of settlement areas. The prognoses of private households and of the active population will be published in this issue for the first time. The new prognoses of the population, of private households and of the active population do not only update the database and enlarge the prognostic horizon. They have also been further differentiated in the spatial respect. 440 German *Landkreise* (counties) and cities not belonging to a county are now the smallest prognostic units with regard to the population. The prognoses for private households and for the active population are continued at the regional level, however, complementary models have been generated distributing selected results of the regions to related counties.

Regional and Urban Development Aspects of Fuel Cell Technology and Hydrogen Supply

The fuel cell principle has actually been known for over hundred years. Unsolved problems with materials and a problematic use have resulted in the fact that other energy production technologies have established. The fuel cell in connection with hydrogen as applied energy presently dominates scientific and energy policy-related discussions. They speak of the “Century of Energy Sustainability” as hydrogen represents a renewable energy source, which there is plenty of and nearly without harmful substances, and the fuel cell is a key technology to convert energy which is used in various ways. The sustainability strategy of the Federal German Government as well prefers fuel cell and hydrogen. The fuel cell is used in

many fields: They range from the stationary area of power plants and heating systems over battery-supplied, small electrical apparatuses such as laptops to the mobile area of automobiles. The BBR has taken the present discussion as a reason to discuss spatial and urban development aspects of the topic with a selected circle of experts. The topic documents the most important results.

Spatial Planning and (Federal German) Transport Infrastructure Planning in the 21st Century

Traditional transport policy is presently increasingly supplemented by the involvement of criteria of sustainable development and is accompanied critically and controversially. This concerns all political levels including the municipalities, the *Länder* and the national level up to the European Union. Present spatial development and structural policy have become the centre of discussions. Furthermore, the general competence of the Federal German Government, new focal regions up to radical restructuring ideas are discussed. This all happens against the background of the challenges of the 21st century – EU Internal Market and Enlargement, globalization of the economy, development of the service and information society, funding shortages, reconstruction of the East and restructuring of the West as well as dramatic shifts of age structures from 2030 on far exceeding legislative periods. Transport infrastructure and spatial development, which are thus indicated as areas of conflict, are too large to present and deal with them more comprehensively in this issue. Nevertheless, the articles in this issue shall contribute to the discussion and show perspectives for a future-oriented mobility – thus giving an overview of the far-reaching challenges of the 21st century.

Spatial Planning at Sea

“Spatial Planning at Sea“ and “Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)“ are two sides of a coin. The first case means the order function of spatial planning for the sea area which is increasingly under use pressure, the other case means an instrument intending to steer competing uses including a sustainable development and sustainably reducing or preventing use conflicts: Both topics – “Spatial Planning at Sea“ as well as “Integrated Coastal Zone Management“ – have only been on the agenda of spatial planning policy for a few

years and are increasingly in the centre of discussion of a specialized public. Why “Spatial Planning at Sea“? In the last few decades, it was possible to regulate all traditional uses at sea (shipping, fishery, dumping and waste sites, mining, firing danger areas) according to sectoral planning laws and regulations. New upcoming uses such as offshore wind energy parks, NATURA 2000 Conservation Areas, aqua culture etc have led to a diametrically opposed position of use demands at sea leading to conflicts. They can only be solved by spatial planning instruments. Only a comprehensive, appraising and prospective spatial planning is able to coordinate such use conflicts and to find a sustainable solution.

Revitalization of Derelict Land

The revitalization of derelict railway sites has been subject of urban planning efforts already at times of *Deutsche Bundesbahn* (German Federal Railway) due to its internal structural changes at that time. The railway reform adopted by the German Parliament in 1993 and introduced in 1994 as well as the related restructuring of *Deutsche Bahn* (German Railways) are still implying further abandoning land. Almost every municipality with a railway link has railway sites which have been abandoned. The handling of railway sites from the point of view of urban development, which are becoming or have become vacant or which have been formally deprived of a certain stipulated use, their development and utilization are intensively discussed. These sites are often to be found in locations integrated with regard to urban planning and frequently provide important land potentials for urban development due to their size. Being an element of inner-city development the revitalization of railway sites may contribute to a resource-conserving and -saving strategy of urban development. It may also help to slow down the still ongoing use of white land or suburbanization according to the German National Sustainability Strategy respectively. In prosperous regions, cities and urban districts, the exploitation of railway sites has to be judged in another way than in areas with stagnating or backward development respectively. Especially in the latter regions it is often not useful to provide all the derelict areas for new building investments. Here the abandonment of areas in other inner-city zones due to land competition has to be avoided.

The journal is available in German with English summaries. It can be obtained from:

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Sustainable Urban Development – A Joint Endeavour. Federal Government Presents the Urban Development Report 2004

The Urban Development Report 2004 (in German) can be downloaded from the internet at <http://dip.bundestag.de/parfors/parfors.htm> (please enter the code 4610)

The social, ecological and economic modernization policy of cities and municipalities is facing great challenges. The decline of the population, its ageing and getting more heterogeneous will affect cities in the long run – even though in a regionally different way. Considering the population development until 2050 it is clear that the new German *Länder* will constantly lose population. Only 12.9 million inhabitants will live in the new *Länder* including Berlin in 2050 according to the mid-variant of the population projection which was elaborated by the Federal Statistical Office. This means 4,2 million less than in 2001. Urban renewal and restructuring processes will constitute significant features of urban development with respective financial needs. Taking this projection into account even the population of the old *Länder* will decrease whereby the biggest wave of loss threatens between 2020 and 2050. Despite an increase by 2020 regions with needs for adjustment in the new *Länder* are visible – even provided the fact of economic-structural alteration processes. Simultaneously, framework conditions for actions of national policy are changing basically. Key words in this context are growing interdependence of the world economy, internationalization of financial markets, advancing integration of Europe and the global challenges of sustainable development.

Against this background, the *Deutsche Bundestag* (Federal Parliament) requested the Federal Government on 17 June 2004

- to present the current need for action in the field of urban development and to point out with which measures the Federal Government has reacted on;
- to present an analysis on the effectiveness of previous urban development instruments and on the spatial efficacy of direct and indirect instruments of housing support and to illustrate the intention of the Federal Government to further evolve the urban development promotion in a user-oriented manner.

The Urban Development Report 2004 which was mainly elaborated by the Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) states clearly that the Federal Government has met the urban development challenge with a bunch of target-oriented activities. First of all adaptations of spatial planning and building code regulations are to be mentioned. Additionally housing regulations have been adjusted. By the Act Adapting the Federal Building Code to EU Directives of 24 June 2004, not only European regulations have been integrated into the German legislation especially with regard to environmental protection. By amending the Federal Building Code the Federal Government has taken the chance to embed the new challenges in the field of urban development into a new regulatory framework. In reforming housing regulations the former social housing will be further developed to a targeted and efficient social housing support.

Furthermore, the Federal Government has sustainably supported cities and municipalities with its numerous funding measures in managing its various urban development tasks. Especially urban development support programmes, which are considerably contributing to urban renewal and development, have to be mentioned here. The "classical" programme "Urban modernisation and development measures" has been existing since 1971. In 1991 it has been supplemented by the new programme "Preservation of Historic Cities in the new Länder" and in 1999 by the Federal Government-Länder programme "Social City". In 2002, the programme "Urban Restructuring in East Germany" was launched by the Federal Government, followed by "Urban Restructuring in West Germany" in 2004.

Various housing policy measures as well contribute to a sound urban development such as social housing support, the tax relief for the acquisition of property, the housing policy-related credit programmes of the "Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW)" as well as in the new Länder the investment allowance and the historical debt assistance.

For a sustainable urban development, the report proposes 12 topics being in the centre of political decision-making (see box).

According to the Federal Government, urban development should be a joint task of the municipalities, the Länder and the Federal Government. The joint respon-

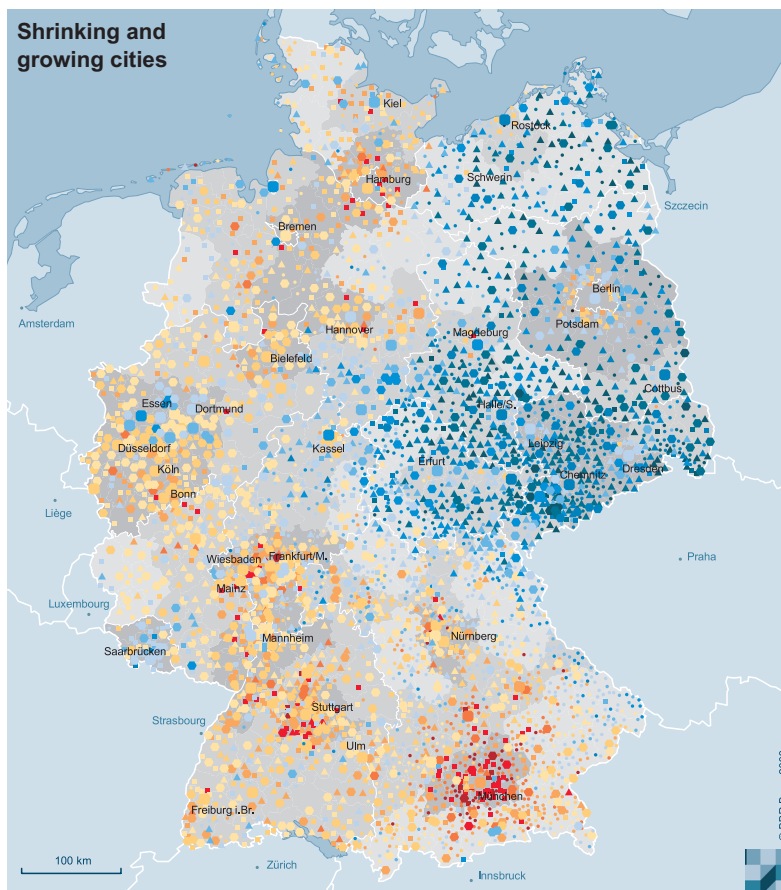
sibility for the cities is important as, due to decreasing receipts, cities, regions and Länder often are not able to finance the elimination of nuisances or development bottlenecks in urban development, to face functional weaknesses, to reduce social conflicts, to care for a sustainable urban transport or to provide for social housing.

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12 Guidelines of the Federal Government on Urban Development in Germany

1. Urban development under changing framework conditions – orientation towards cities
2. Extending cooperation of cities in regional contexts
3. Using the decrease of land use as a chance – making neighbourhoods more attractive for families with children
4. Creating socially stable quarters – using migration as a chance
5. Making infrastructure suitable for the elderly
6. Adapting mobility to the needs of the city and the environment
7. Enhancing cities as places of economic activities and innovation
8. Maintaining retail trade in its diversity – strengthening central areas of supply and care
9. Improving the cooperation between local planning and private investors
10. Providing cities with a face – culture designs cities
11. Maintaining historic cities and using them as economic factors
12. Enhancing the modernization of the building stock – reducing CO₂ emissions



<p>Shrinking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipalities with strong structural weakness: 6 (dark blue), 5 (medium blue) Municipalities with structural weakness: 4 (light blue), 3 (yellow), 2 (orange) Municipalities without structural weakness: 1 (light yellow), 2 (yellow), 3 (orange) Prosperous municipalities: 4 (red), 5 (dark red), 6 (bright red) <p>Growth</p>	<p>Type of city/municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large city: circle Medium-sized city: square Small city: triangle Large rural municipality: diamond Small rural municipality: star <p>Types of regions according to settlement structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agglomeration area: dark grey Urbanised area: medium grey Rural area: light grey 	<p>Structural indicators considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Demographic development 1997-2002 ◆ Total net migration 1999-2001 ◆ Development of jobs 1997-2002 ◆ Unemployment rate 2001/2002 ◆ Real tax-paying ability 2000/2001 ◆ Purchasing power 2002
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Short News**Interministerial Research and BBR's Library Online**

The monitoring of Interministerial Research is a central task of the scientific departments of the Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR). Using the button "Ressortforschung" (Interministerial Research) on its homepage (www.bbr.bund.de) the BBR informs about results from new, current and finished projects (only in German). The button "News" gives a quick overview of new projects and current results from current projects (only in German, too).

Presently, the BBR deals with the following research programmes for which it has been commissioned by the German Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Housing:

- General Interministerial Research focusing on spatial planning, urban development, housing and building;
- Experimental Housing and Urban Development;
- Demonstration Projects of Spatial Development;
- Assistance of Building Research;
- Reconstruction East focusing on future planning, regional development, location development, infrastructure as well as housing and building;

- evaluation of the German funding programmes "Social City", "Urban Restructuring in East Germany" and "Preservation of Historic Cities";
- INTERREG III B.

The BBR's library as well is now online. The library, one of the largest scientific libraries in the field of spatial planning, urban development and housing – since 1998 literature from the building and architecture sector has been acquired as well – has now given online access to its catalogue (OPAC; in German) at www.bbr.bund.de. Thus, a comprehensive selection of the national and international literature on spatial planning and neighbouring disciplines in Germany and the EU (partly also in the USA) has been made available to the interested public. The OPAC, which presently lists about 120,000 references, contains apart from independent publications technical essays from about 450 journals, permanently obtained and analysed by the library, as well as individual contributions from collected editions. The library stocks can be investigated from 1978 (year of publication) on.

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