



Bundesamt  
für Bauwesen und  
Raumordnung

Federal Office  
for Building and  
Regional Planning

## RESEARCH NEWS

### Editorial

The work of BBR in 2007 was clearly marked by the EU Council Presidency which Germany took over for the first six months of the year. In general, the Council Presidency can be regarded as a success. Several important and future-oriented decisions for the EU were agreed. The Berlin Declaration and the basic agreement upon a new Treaty were milestones which guarantee the Union's capacity to act in the long term.

In the field of urban and spatial development policy as well Europe has progressed. During the Informal Ministerial Meeting on Urban Development and Territorial Cohesion in Leipzig on 24/25 May the EU ministers responsible for urban and spatial development adopted two important documents on sustainable territorial and urban development:

- The "Territorial Agenda of the EU", an action-oriented framework document, aims at mobilising the potentials of European regions and cities for sustainable economic growth and job creation by giving recommendations for an integrated territorial development policy.
- The "Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities" completes the Territorial Agenda's concern by treating integrated urban development policy as a precondition for a sustainable European city to be successful.

The Ministerial Meeting brought spatial and urban development policies together in a joint conference thus producing synergies for an integrated urban and spatial development policy by relating the two documents to each other.

This issue, in its first part, offers information on results, conclusions and follow-up activities of the Informal Ministerial Meeting on Urban Development and Territorial Cohesion. This includes information on current BBR publications such as the two background reports „Bringing Europe together – Transnational cooperation of cities and regions“ and „Maps on European territorial development“, drawn up by the BBR to substantiate the statements of the Territorial Agenda. Furthermore the current IzR volume „The German EU Council Presidency – New Impetus for Urban and Spatial Development Policy in Europe“ is being presented, giving a detailed report about the Ministerial Meeting. The most important instruments for implementation of European spatial development policy are the transnational cooperation programmes (INTERREG) and the European Spatial Planning Observation Network (ESPON). The actual status of these new programmes as part of the Structural Funds period of 2007 to 2013 is presented. In the second part of the present issue we present some additional BBR activities – especially events and publications – which should also be of interest to the international readership as they deal with topics, which are not only under discussion in Germany but also in other European and non-European countries. With this we hope to contribute to an international exchange of information about new findings and successful solutions and practices in the field of spatial and urban development policies.

Wishing you a pleasant reading!

The editors

#### Contents

The German EU Council Presidency gives a new impetus for urban and spatial development policy in Europe

BBR presents two background documents for the Territorial Agenda

Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities: What next?

EU programmes on territorial cooperation (2007-2013): The new INTERREG and ESPON programmes are about to start

BBR outlines a proposal for a continuous European territorial monitoring system

Culture in the European Region: Reservoir for Tradition – Source of Innovation

German Spatial Strategic Planning Technique – a seminar and training program held in Taiwan

Women – men – spaces: disparities in the regional living conditions of men and women

Conclusion of the ExWoSt research field "Cost-effective and quality-conscious building of new one- and two-family houses in prospering regions" – a contribution to strengthen urban housing

Journal "Informationen zur Raumentwicklung (IzR)" – new issues

From 2008 – newsletter informs about research results on spatial development and building



The issue „Die deutsche EU-Ratspräsidentschaft – Impulse für die Stadt- und Raumentwicklungspolitik in Europa“ can be obtained from the publishing section of the BBR (selbstverlag@bbr.bund.de) and from bookshops.

The abstracts of all articles can be downloaded from the BBR website: [www.bbr.bund.de](http://www.bbr.bund.de) under the category of “publications”.

For the documents please follow the links to “special publications” or “BBR Online publications”.

Territorial Agenda and Leipzig Charter can be downloaded from the Minister’s website [www.bmvbs.de](http://www.bmvbs.de)

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## The German EU Council Presidency gives a new impetus for urban and spatial development policy in Europe

With reference to the Informal Ministerial Meeting on Urban Development and Territorial Cohesion in Leipzig on 24/25 May 2007 the BBR has dedicated a special issue of its journal *Informationen zur Raumentwicklung* documenting and reflecting on the results of this meeting. The issue presents the main documents that have been discussed in the ministerial meeting, especially the Territorial Agenda of the European Union (TA-EU) and the Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities (LC), and introduces into the related experts’ background documents. The journal itself is published in German, the basic documents, however, that the issue refers to, are available in English and other European languages in the internet.

Following an introduction, in which the objectives and background of the Ministerial Meeting in Leipzig are explained, the topics are discussed in more detail in nine specialised articles.

European integration and cohesion is increasingly seen as the integration of the European territory, as the merging of European areas, cities and regions. This becomes manifest in the new objective of territorial cohesion and in the cooperation of the ministers responsible for spatial planning on European spatial development issues, which was established in the beginning of the 90s. The TA-EU advances this process and earmarks the beginning of a new evidence-based and participative understanding of European spatial development policy.

The evidence basis is enriched by the „Maps on European territorial development“, which the BBR developed for the Ministerial Meeting in Leipzig to illustrate the six priorities of the TA-EU. One article in this publication describes the use of territorial information for territorial policies, starting with the ESDP (1999) and ending up with the new TA-EU (2007). The prosperities of the scientific European cooperation (ESPO) become in the same way apparent as the further need for research (see also next article).

Transnational programmes and projects may contribute to implementing the TA-EU. An evaluation of INTERREG III B projects is used to show that transnational cooperation

in the field of spatial development has the potential to act on the topics presented in the TA-EU by implementing concrete projects (see also next article).

The following articles deal with European urban policy and present good practical examples for the political exercise of influence on deprived urban areas. The integrated urban development policy for deprived urban areas is differently implemented in the EU. In Western Europe, comprehensive approaches including social and economic aspects dominate, in Central and Eastern Europe it is rather single projects and urban development measures.

Since 1990, the ministers responsible for urban development of the EU member states have increasingly cooperated on an informal basis and have formulated joint political demands and guidelines for the sustainable development of European towns and cities. The member states and the EU institutions are developing a policy for towns and cities in Europe while learning from each other.

Organisational issues may be the key to success of urban regeneration measures. A study on the determinants of success for urban regeneration measures has come to this conclusion.

Creative and successful approaches to strengthen the local economy in deprived urban areas need not to be launched in deprived areas themselves. Such approaches can also be useful for them if they are made around such areas and emanate positive effects from there.

The contribution of local transport planning to improve the situation of deprived urban areas is often underestimated. Examples show how the mobility in urban areas can be improved by an integrated planning approach.

Successful integrated concepts of action require an active education and training policy for children and young people in deprived urban areas. A related article analyses the fields of action which are the most important in order to improve the living conditions of children and young persons.

In the annex of the issue you will find the documents as they were adopted in Leipzig.

## BBR presents two background documents for the Territorial Agenda

In order to substantiate the statements of the Territorial Agenda of the European Union that the EU ministers responsible for spatial development adopted in Leipzig on 25 May 2007, the BBR produced two background reports which were submitted to the ministers in Leipzig by the German Minister Tiefensee.

The report „**Bringing Europe together – Transnational cooperation of cities and regions**“ deals with the results, effects and benefits of transnational programmes and projects (INTERREG III B). Transnational cooperation of European cities and regions is an important element in supporting territorial cohesion. The European Union promotes the cooperation among European countries and their cities and regions within transnational programme areas with subsidies from the European Regional Development Fund. Ten thousands of actors and hundreds of cities and regions have thus become part of transnational networks in the programming period 2000 to 2006, have together promoted European spatial development and are jointly preparing new development projects.

The contribution of transnational cooperations to implementing the European spatial development policy is exemplarily shown by concrete project results. In order to achieve these results, several hundred projects from different cooperation areas were analysed. The examples concentrate on the cooperation areas “Alpine Space”, “Central European, Adriatic, Danubian and South-Eastern European Space (CADSES)”, “North Sea Region”, “North-West Europe” and “Baltic Sea Region”. Apart from interdisciplinary aspects it is investigated in how far transnational spatial development projects have already taken up the priorities of the Territorial Agenda of the European Union. Transnational cooperation proves to be an important instrument to realise the Territorial Agenda.

The “**Maps on European territorial development**” serve to illustrate the six priorities of the Territorial Agenda. They are aimed at giving a broad readership a short and comprehensible introduction into spatial structures and developments in Europe.

The report illustrates the regionally different potentials, strengths and weaknesses of

Europe and its regions and cities. The maps explain the basic structures and trends of European regions and cities through a variety of relevant topics and present the six priorities of the Territorial Agenda with their regional dimensions. Regional and urban structures and polycentric developments are highlighted, accessibilities and the access to the digital communication infrastructure are presented. The regional information is supplemented by data on technological and natural risks, ecological resources and cultural assets.

The map collection closes with scenarios giving an outlook to the spatial future of Europe. Based on the results of the ESPON programme, potential economic trends are examined against the background of cohesion and competitiveness, and the possible „ageing“ of the continent is shown. Additional maps, which are based on analyses of the Max Planck Institute for Meteorology in Hamburg, point out the future impacts of climate change on European regions.

Apart from results of the ESPON research network, the information is based on data of the “Urban Audit”, a comparison of European cities, and of the BBR’s European Spatial Monitoring System.

The reports – in English and in German – are free of charge and can be obtained from Beatrix.Thul @bbr.bund.de.

Pdf files are also available as free downloads from the BBR website [www.bbr.bund.de](http://www.bbr.bund.de) (please follow the link to “special publications”).

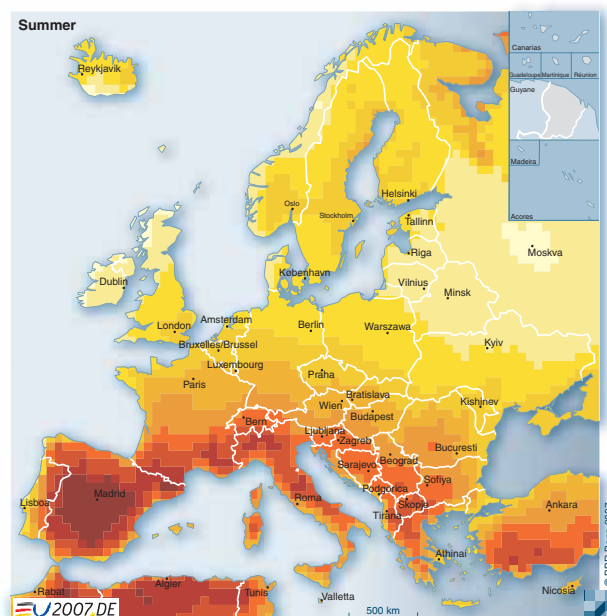
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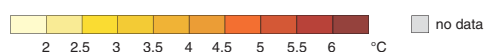
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Climate change - development of temperature by the end of the 21st century



Change of temperature near the surface (2 m) in the scenario A1B for winter and summer. The difference of the 30-year average 2071-2100 minus 1961-1990 in degree celsius is indicated.

Source: Max-Planck-Institut für Meteorologie Hamburg



## Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities. What next?

The EU Council Presidency for the first half of 2007 gave Germany the chance to place topics on the European and international level and to produce new sectoral policy-related discussions. For the German Council Presidency it was particularly important to give citizens an understanding of European decisions. Urban and spatial development is almost predestinated for such citizen-friendly policy approaches as, in the end, the population experiences the consequences of Brussels' decisions in its concrete living environment – whether within the neighbourhood, the city as a whole or within the region. Wolfgang Tiefensee, the Federal Minister, had invited his counterparts from the other 26 EU countries to an informal meeting to Leipzig on 24/25 May 2007 in order to have a political discussion on this issue and to agree on priorities of joint action.

With the Leipzig Charter (LC) and the Territorial Agenda (TAEU) – both documents were adopted during the meeting –, urban development and territorial cohesion issues were put again on the political European agenda. Both political documents point to the necessity for the Member States to take action so that cities and regions will be able to cope with the demographic and social change, the climate change and the impacts of the structural change in the economy. Both documents are equally dedicated to the sustainability objective and to the objectives of the Lisbon Strategy.

With regard to these requirements of action, the following political conclusions were formulated in the Leipzig Charter:

- Cities need enough scope for action and a sound financial basis in order to implement integrated urban development strategies. The European Structural Funds should also be used for integrated urban development programmes.
- Other forms of funding should be used as well in order to gain private capital for implementing urban development strategies.
- Based on the guidelines of the Leipzig Charter, good practice is to be exchanged under the auspices of the “Regions for Economic Change” initiative in order to spread the sectoral policy-related knowledge on the European level.

In order to implement the guidelines of the LC, i. e.

- making greater use of integrated urban development policy approaches
- while paying special attention to deprived urban neighbourhoods in the context of the city as a whole,

the ministers agreed upon

- developing a national urban development strategy and policy in the Member States thus integrating the objectives and strategies of the Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities into national, regional and local development policies;
- promoting the instrument of integrated urban development, supporting the governance structures for their implementation and creating the related necessary framework conditions on the national level.

The follow-up Leipzig process also has begun in Germany. On 2 July 2007, two days after the end of the German Council Presidency, Federal Minister Wolfgang Tiefensee gave the starting signal to establish a national urban development policy. During a conference with 800 participants in Berlin, the priorities of a national urban development policy were discussed. On 27 September 2007, a more regional conference concerning the topic “Leipzig Charter. What next?” took place. Political representatives from Southern German cities and municipalities were invited. The conference aimed at discussing the potential role of the LC within the local municipal policy and thus concentrated on the question in how far local actors benefit from the European activities of national governments. The outcome was deflating. The first reason was that the political representatives of cities and municipalities were invited but that instead local civil servants participated. The second reason was that the LC and its contents were largely unknown among local actors. There seems to be a big gap within the political communication between the federal levels in Germany although all German local government associations were just as involved in the development of the LC as European umbrella organisations like Eurocities and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions. This shows

that there still is a big distance between Europe and the local level. After all, the conference has raised the awareness of the participating actors concerning the LC. Many of them intend to discuss the LC in their city or municipal councils in the near future in order to define the political benefit of the LC for their city or municipality. Especially the LC's call for a better city-regional coordination was supported by all participants as an important challenge for the future although there was no consensus how to reach this objective – whether by enhancing the legal obligation or on a voluntary basis. In order to bring the policy of city-regional coordination forward in Germany as well and in line with the LC, the Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning will soon award two projects: “Supraregional partnerships – innovative projects to promote city-regional cooperation, networking and supraregional

responsibility”, funded by the research programme “Demonstration Projects of Spatial Development”, and “Integrated urban development in city regions” funded by the programme “Experimental Housing and Urban Development”. These projects are i. a. supposed to increase the aesthesia of cities and municipalities towards the LC.

It is for sure that the LC has caused Europe to close ranks. Within its EU Council Presidency, Germany has used another opportunity to distinguish urban development policy. The implementation of the proposals and decisions developed during the Leipzig process does not only remain in the hands of policy-makers and administrators but also of economic actors and citizens. What is important is that all territorial levels are involved: Europe, Member States, regions, cities and rural areas. There is still a lot to do.

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## EU programmes on territorial cooperation (2007–2013): The new INTERREG and ESPON programmes are about to start

The implementation of the new Structural Funding period 2007–2013 is under way. The transfer of the INTERREG programmes into the new objective “European Territorial Cooperation” on the one hand is characterised by a large continuity, on the other hand it goes flexibly into the new requirements.

### INTERREG IV B

In the new INTERREG IV B programme on transnational cooperation, Germany will continue to participate in five transnational cooperation areas. The geographical shape of these areas is mostly unchanged. Only the former Central European, Adriatic, Danubian and South-Eastern European Space (CADSES) was divided up into two new separate cooperation areas. Germany will continue the transnational cooperation started in the framework of the CADSES programme within the “Central Europe” cooperation area. The term “INTERREG” can be used further on. Most transnational programmes keep the established terms for their cooperation areas.

Despite all continuity, the integration into the so-called mainstream programmes of the Structural Funds also causes some – mainly thematic – changes. As mainstream programmes, the new transnational programmes 2007–2013 especially have to contribute to implementing the Strategies of Lisbon for more growth and employment and of Gothenburg for sustainable development. In the last Research News issue (1/2007) we gave a detailed report about the concrete new challenges for programme and projects. To implement the new demands within the new programmes was a key objective of the last year.

The first three programmes for the programming period 2007 to 2013 with German participation were recently approved by the European Commission so that their implementation through concrete projects could be started.

- The new Alpine Space programme was approved on 20 September 2007. The first project call will be opened for all three programme priorities. The first phase of the two-tier process of approval is likely to start at the beginning of December 2007.

#### Further information:

[www.alpine-space.eu](http://www.alpine-space.eu)  
[www.central2013.eu](http://www.central2013.eu)  
[www.northsearegion.eu](http://www.northsearegion.eu)  
[www.nweurope.org](http://www.nweurope.org)  
[www.eu.baltic.net](http://www.eu.baltic.net)

#### Further information:

[www.espon.eu](http://www.espon.eu)

- The North Sea Region programme was approved on 27 September 2007. The first call closed on 15 October 2007. The second call is scheduled to run from 18 February to 17 March 2008.
- The North-West Europe programme was approved on 3 October 2007. The first call for proposals was launched on 17 September and closed on 15 October 2007.

The programmes for Central Europe and the Baltic Sea Region as well have been submitted for approval. The Central Europe programme is expected to be approved in the middle of December. The approval for the Baltic Sea Region programme is also expected by the end of 2007. For that area, an integrated programme was submitted which is financed by both the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). The ENPI aims to support the involvement of Russian and Belarussian partners in the joint projects. The first call for proposals is expected by the beginning of 2008.

### ESPON 2013

With the end of 2007 also ESPON will start into its second term until 2013. ESPON 2013 will be part of the objective on European Territorial Cooperation and perform the role of a European observation network on territorial development and cohesion. In total 31 European states intend to participate as full partners in ESPON 2013: these include all 27 EU member states as well as Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Liechtenstein.

The ESPON 2013 Programme will involve numerous actions within 5 priorities at Programme level, which reflect the Programme's strategy and overall objectives. The five ESPON 2013 Programme priorities are:

1. Applied research on territorial development, competitiveness and cohesion: Evidence on territorial trends, perspectives and policy impacts
2. Targeted analyses based on user demand: A European perspective to development of different types of territories
3. Scientific platform and tools: Territorial indicators and data, analytical tools and scientific support

4. Capitalisation, ownership and participation: Capacity building, dialogue and networking

5. Technical assistance, analytical support and Communication.

In continuity with the ESPON 2006 Programme the ESPON 2013 Programme will enhance European evidence and knowledge in relation to territorial cohesion and development, building further the platform created by the ESPON 2006 programme. It will provide comparable information, evidence, analyses and scenarios on framework conditions for the development of regions and larger territories. As one central element it will further develop the existing scientific platform and tools: The territorial indicators and data, analytical tools and scientific support for European territorial cooperation and a sustainable and balanced development.

Particularly in its priority 2, the ESPON 2013 Programme will adopt a new and innovative user-oriented approach. Through awareness raising and partnerships, the new Programme will offer and carry through targeted analytical deliveries upon demand, responding to needs that should have a European added value but need not necessarily cover the whole European territory.

As ESPON 2006 also the new ESPON 2013 Programme will rely on transnational project groups to implement projects, will have a network of national ESPON Contact Points and a Monitoring Committee to steer the Programme. In addition there will be new tasks and roles implemented. For example, the Knowledge Support System will comprise of a pool of scientists (specialists in many thematic fields), who can assist the applied research actions in an advisory role, providing continuous feedback and guidance.

The ESPON 2013 Programme will dispose of a budget of approximately 47 Mill. Euro. The approval of the ESPON 2013 Programme by the European Commission is expected by November 2007. It can be expected that the first round of projects will be tendered at the beginning of 2008.

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## BBR outlines a proposal for a continuous European territorial monitoring system

Recently the BBR, as project lead partner, presented the final report of the ESPON project 4.1.3 "Monitoring territorial development in Europe". Based on the results and experiences made within the 35 research projects of the ESPON 2006 Programme, BBR was asked to further develop and integrate the current components of the ESPON data and indicator sets and to draft a monitoring system of European territorial development and gain first experience from testing it.

So the project headed to finally wind up the experiences made in ESPON 2006 and to propose measures for a further calibration and improvement of the existing system in a new ESPON 2013 programme. The project analyses the possibilities, potentials and of spatial monitoring in order to satisfy both the demand for a sound basis for spatial analysis and to meet the varying political demands for the evaluation of policy strategies and the assessment of the achievement of policy aims.

The report presents in detail a catalogue of spatially relevant indicators necessary to explain territorial phenomena and to give support for the political discussion of spatial relevance. These considerations include a reflection on indicators to be applied in policy advice and a discussion of the availability, homogeneity and quality of existing data and indicators. The project defines the framework for a continuous European spatial monitoring system which can appropriately describe spatial developments of the European territory. The indicator selection has been grouped into six thematic fields: territorial cohesion, competitiveness (Lisbon), infrastructure and accessibility, environment (Gothenburg), socio-cultural issues and governance.

Based on this broad indicator discussion, the final report outlines four main elements of a Tentative Spatial Monitoring Report of the European territory. These have been identified along the dimensions thematic – territorial and simple – complex indicators:

- Thematic sectoral themes
- Territorial typologies
- Indication of complex policy strategies
- Complex territorial concepts

### Components of territorial monitoring

The first element deals with simple thematic indicators of territorial development. Economic and demographic structures and developments and the situation of regional accessibility are taken as examples to demonstrate how single themes and indicators can build the basis to form a mosaic of territorial development in Europe.

The second element covers the more simple territorial approaches. To assess and monitor territorial development it is often of interest how specific types of regions develop. Based on regional typologies and classifications we can analyse and compare, by statistical breakdowns for these types, how specific types of regions, like urban vs. rural regions, develop. Also for "politically defined" regions, like the transnational cooperation areas under the Interreg programme, it can be interesting to trace their regional characteristics. Another variety of this typological approach is the "inductive" typology: We start from a specific phenomenon that we are interested in, e.g. regional population decline, and explore how the type of depopulating regions can be characterised in more general (statistical) terms.

The third element of monitoring explores more complex thematic approaches. Taking the example of the two currently most important complex policy strategies in the European Union, the Lisbon and the Gothenburg Strategy, we show how a European spatial monitoring report can contribute to the assessment of these strategies in a regionalised context. Here a crucial point is to define and calculate indices or other more complex indicators to statistically mirror the complex policy strategies.

Finally, the fourth element deals with complex territorial concepts. As examples we take polycentricity and good territorial governance to discuss which types of statistical data and measures could be appropriate to describe such complex territorial concepts.

The presented elements of a spatial monitoring report should be seen as a first approach and test, not a full prototype, for a

Partners involved in ESPON 4.1.3: TAURUS Institut an der Universität Trier (Germany), IRS – Institute for Regional Development and Structural Planning (Germany), IGEAT – Institut de Gestion de l'Environnement & Aménagement du Territoire Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium), NORDREGIO – Nordic Centre for Spatial Development (Sweden), ÖIR – Österreichisches Institut für Raumordnung (Austria), DIG – Department of Management, Economics and Industrial Engineering, Politecnico di Milano (Italy), RRG – Büro für Raumforschung, Raumplanung und Geoinformation (Germany)

periodical spatial monitoring report within the future ESPON 2013 programme. It shows the main elements and approaches that can be used to compose a future periodical spatial monitoring report for Europe.

Before a periodical spatial monitoring report in ESPON 2013 can be implemented, the main goals and contents, but also some contextual conditions and requirements, have to be identified. This should give an input for the ESPON Monitoring Committee to design and decide about an ESPON project that is asked to develop a reporting system and to deliver the specific spatial monitoring reports.

It has been made clear that a spatial monitoring report might consist of different elements of diverse complexity which in turn – to put it into more practical terms – are associated to diverse degrees of work load.

Contents and periodicity of a periodical spatial monitoring report are the two connected core subjects to be decided on. Basically, there is a choice between a

larger “full” report with a longer periodicity and shorter update reports with smaller intervals. The periodicity and thematic depths of reports is of course linked to the different speeds or rates of change in different fields of spatial development.

The report in the end suggests an ESPON 2013 project dealing with this challenge and outlines the tasks of the project stretching from the establishing of a concept for a continuous monitoring system and the contents and time frame for several “full” spatial monitoring reports and selected thematic updated “interim” reports.

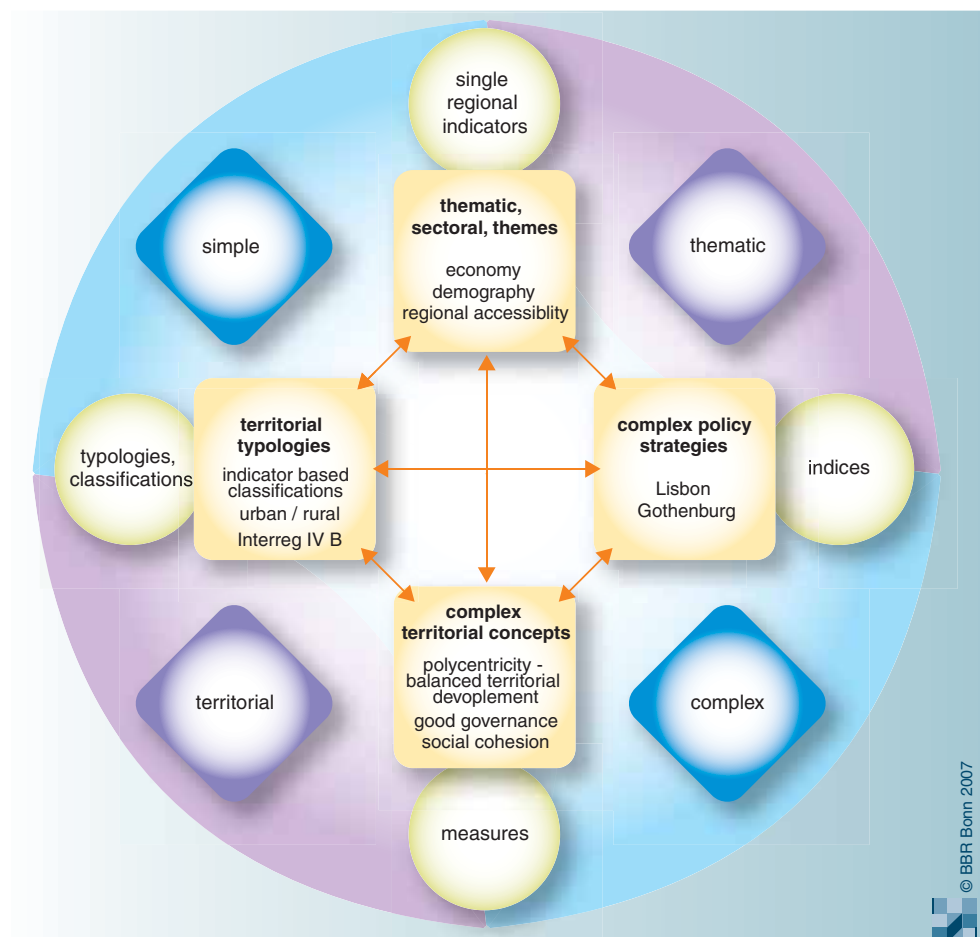
The report also points to the aspects of continuous spatial monitoring which covers for example continuous work on the maintenance of indicators and the physical production of the reports. Involvement in the political discussion to enable an updating of main spatial policy aims, diversified analytical background and technical facilities are prerequisite in this context.

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## Culture in the European Region: Reservoir for Tradition – Source of Innovation

Fourth Federal Congress on Cultural Policy on 7/8 June 2007

Culture is not least manifested in regions. This applies on a large scale to the continent of Europe as a “world region”, and similarly on a smaller scale to the regions within Europe. Regional culture moulds our societies. It is the result of centuries or millennia of human activities. It mostly presents itself as a complex, heterogeneous mixture of conserving and sometimes development-inhibiting elements as well as the opportunity to create new things on the basis of the old. Consequently, historically shaped regional culture can be both: a reservoir for tradition and a source of innovation. What prospects and options thus arise in terms of cultural and regional development policy on a European scale?

This was one of the topics of the Federal Congress on Cultural Policy “kultur.macht.europa” on 7/8 June 2007 in Berlin. In Forum 10 “Culture in the European Region: Reservoir for Tradition – Source of Innovation“ the professors Roberto Camagni, consultant of the Italian government, Milan Polytechnic, Italy, Grzegorz Gorzelak, University of Warsaw, Poland, and Wendelin Strubelt, Vice-President and Professor of the Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning, Bonn, Germany, discussed the question what European spatial development policy has to do with culture. Peter Schön, BBR, was the mentor of this forum.

Different regions in Europe have different “territorial capital”. Especially the regional diversity in Europe helps each region to better develop its own profile, to find its own “gifts” and to strengthen its identity thus improving its position in Europe. In so far, the regional diversity finally is an economic and development factor which might contribute to reducing regional economic disparities.

Human and cultural capital is becoming increasingly important in our modern knowledge and information society - and, as a result, so is the interface between regional development policy and cultural policy. Apart from the direct “capitalisation”

of the regional endowment with cultural assets and cultural landscapes (e.g. by developing touristic routes) and the importance of the “high culture” and of the “creative class” as a locational factor particularly in metropolitan regions, the economic importance and use of innovative regional and social milieus and of regional cultural identities plays a crucial role. This can be exemplified by examples such as the “Third Italy” or the development of Swabia.

It is therefore not astonishing that the European regional development policy has discovered the diversity of the regions as a positive factor. The regional diversity of cultural imprints appears as a positive counter-model to the existing regional disparities (to be overcome) in Europe. This is underlined by the Territorial Agenda, which was adopted by the EU ministers responsible for territorial development during their meeting in Leipzig on 24/25 May 2007, aiming to use the potentials of territorial diversities in a better way.

The discussion centred the question how and in how far spatial development policy might be able to support this process. The current spatial development policy increasingly focuses on endogenous regional potentials and tries to identify the regions’ own abilities and to tie up to them. This includes that not everything can be found in all places and that development expectations must be based on reality, although the latter change. Regions are bound to a historical context and within a new context old abilities and functions might not be important anymore. Many examples from the former GDR attest such losses of functions.

A development, which is sustainable in the long term, implies that people feel responsible for themselves. Modernisation processes based on external models, however, are hardly promising. The culture of self-responsibility is one of the most important factors of a successful regional development. This was one of the main results of the discussion.

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www.kultur-macht-europa.eu

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## German Spatial Strategic Planning Technique – a seminar and training program held in Taiwan

In a global world, international exchange of science and politics becomes more and more important. In recent years BBR has intensified international scientific exchange, mainly with Asian countries and regions. In this context, between February and May 2007, five German lecturers held a series of seminars in Taipei, Taiwan, about “German Spatial Strategic Planning Technique – A Seminar and Training Programme”.

Peter Schön, who on the German side organised this seminar and training programme for Taiwanese planners, started the series of seminars in Taiwan. In three days, from February 6th to 8th 2007, he gave a comprehensive overview on the actual analytical findings and policy strategies in German and European spatial development. In his lectures he presented basic spatial structures, challenges and future perspectives of spatial development in Germany and Europe. And he gave an introduction into the spatial planning system in Germany and the relations between science and analysis (including the BBR Spatial Monitoring System) and policy and planning (an approach which nowadays is often referred to as ‘evidence-based planning’).

With these first lectures a basic understanding was achieved and the scene was set for the next four seminars. These following four seminars took place between April 16th and May 5th 2007 deepening the topics from different professional positions and backgrounds.

The main topic of Rupert Kawka’s presentation was “economic and demographic development, quality of life”. The first lecture was about the use of statistical data for regional analysis with examples from the work of the BBR. In this respect, their importance for evidence based planning in Germany – including the BBR’s constant search for new data to create more precise images of the spatial structure – was described. The following two lectures presented the analytical foundations of the first and the second concept of the new guiding principles for spatial development in Germany. The empirical layers and the methodologically necessary steps in processing the information were shown.

Furthermore, related demonstration projects and their importance for finding out best practices in the regions were described.

The session “Landscape, Resources and Environment”, held by Fabian Dosch, was on strategic land use management for urban areas and open space. He presented facts, case-studies and trends from global to local land use changes and for landscape management. Special emphasis was given on monitoring of land consumption and land use planning procedures. Furthermore the analytical concept of the guiding principles for spatial development in Germany for conservation and shaping of natural resources was presented.

The discussion was lively, not only on the liability of planning regulations in both Germany and Taiwan. Taiwan’s rapid growth and exhaustive urbanisation raised many environmental conflicts. The persistent pressure of spatial and industrial development needs further efforts for smart development.

Two German experts with a practical planning and policy background complemented this scientific exchange on ‘evidence-based planning’.

Manfred Sinz, Berlin, gave lectures on the new concepts and action strategies for the spatial development of Germany (‘Leitbilder und Handlungsempfehlungen’) which were adopted by the Standing Conference of Federal and State Ministers Responsible for Spatial Planning (MKRO) in June 2006 and which represent a strategic consensus regarding future spatial development.

Wilhelm Schulte, Hamburg, focused on policy and governance at regional level. He presented recent strategies and projects of urban development in Hamburg and explained how the Metropolis Hamburg cooperates with other municipalities in the Metropolitan Region.

All the seminars have been documented and published in Chinese language. The synthesis documentation and all five original lecture materials are available on the internet.



The Chinese-language documentation is available in the internet

<http://theme.cepd.gov.tw/gsspt/>

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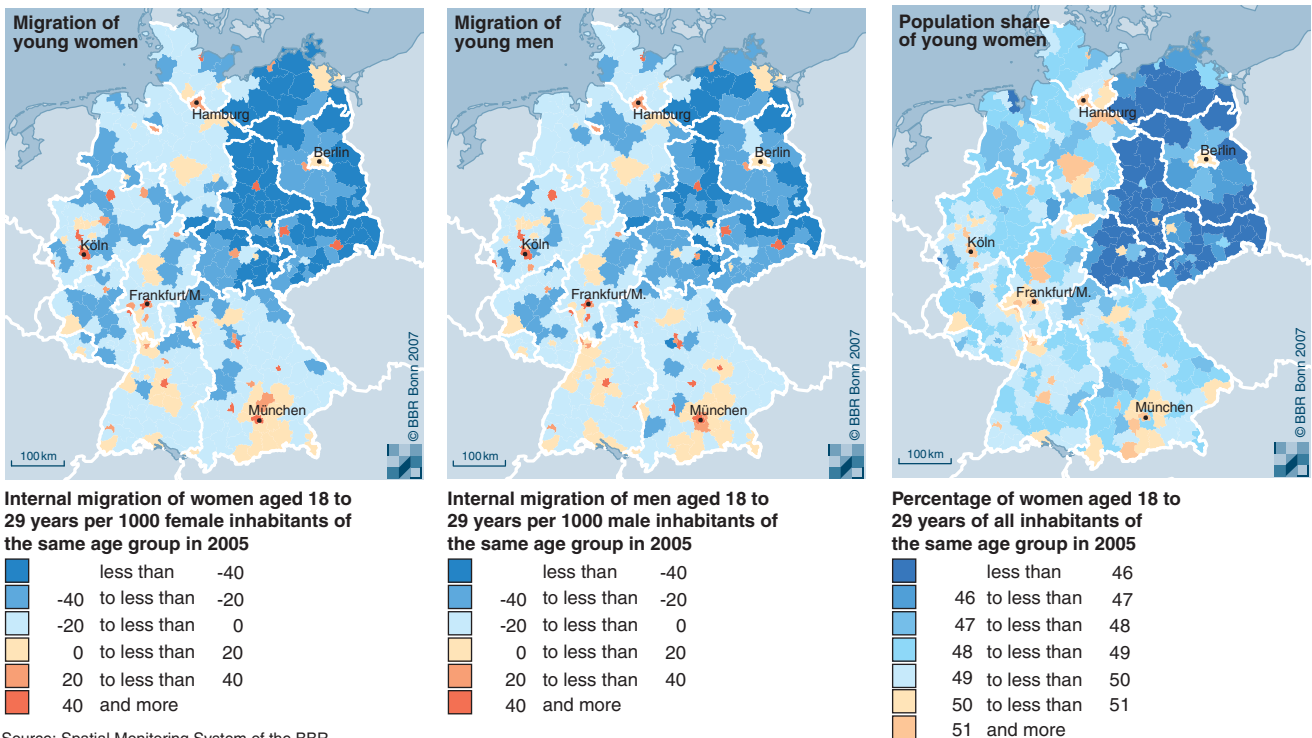
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## Women – men – spaces: disparities in the regional living conditions of men and women

A few months ago the study Distressed men („Not am Mann“) of a private institute (1) raised high attention. A high number of young and well educated women, which is extreme in the international context, leave their home regions in East Germany, mainly rural regions. Despite some different explanations, the BBR observes the same phenomenon – with demographic studies (2) and last but not least with the

report „Women – men – spaces“ (3). The disproportionately higher out-migration of women in the age of 18 to 29 years (see map) leads to a high percental unbalance of men and women in great parts of East Germany with many consequences for today’s regional functions and for the next generation whose dimension cannot yet be calculated and foreseen so far.

### A highly unequal migration of men and women leads to unbalanced proportions of the population



The migration of young people away from rural areas is a result of worse education and job possibilities in their home regions and much higher career chances in cities and agglomeration areas. What is exceptional in East Germany is firstly the migration rate, which is ten times higher than that in West Germany, and secondly the much higher difference between men and women. It seems that young women react more and earlier to poorer job possibilities and unfavourable labour markets by migration than their male counterparts. The driving regional factors have been not yet been analysed in detail. But the report „Women – men – spaces“ gives many hints by mapping the regional living conditions for men and women and by analysing the spatial impact

on the different lifestyles of women and men by statistically advanced methods.

The report is based on a number of indicators covering various aspects of living: education and training, professional life, compatibility of family and career, transport and mobility, housing. The findings show that the regional context is important for gender-related differences with regard to approximately 80 % of indicators investigated:

- **Young men more often drop out of education and training.** The greatest educational problems result from the fact that educational careers are still heavily dependent on the educational level and status achieved by the respective

(1) Berlin-Institut für Bevölkerung und Entwicklung (ed.): Not am Mann. Berlin 2007

(2) BBR (ed.): Raumordnungsprognose 2020/2050. Berichte. Bd. 23. Bonn 2006

(3) BBR (ed.): Frauen – Männer – Räume. Berichte. Bd. 26. Bonn 2007

(4) BMVBS (ed.): Leitbilder und Handlungsstrategien für die Raumentwicklung in Deutschland. Berlin 2006

The report "Frauen – Männer – Räume" (*Women – men – spaces*), Berichte, Issue 26, Ed.: BBR, Bonn 2007 (price: 25 Euro plus postage and packing) is available in German language and can be obtained from the publishing section of the BBR

(selbstverlag@bbr.bund.de) and from bookshops.

German ([http://www.bund.de/DE/Veroeffentlichungen/Berichte/2006\\_2007/Bd26.html](http://www.bund.de/DE/Veroeffentlichungen/Berichte/2006_2007/Bd26.html)) and English summaries ([http://www.bbr.bund.de/EN/Publications/Berichte/2000\\_2007/Bd26.html](http://www.bbr.bund.de/EN/Publications/Berichte/2000_2007/Bd26.html)) are available as free downloads.

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parents. Many regional differences can be attributed to the over- or under-representation of certain social groups at a regional level and partly to a smaller supply and worse accessibility of institutions facilitating higher education qualifications in rural compared to urban areas. One social problem that needs to be taken seriously is the dropping out of education. This is generally more widespread amongst young men than young women. An essential task of education policy is to make young adults more aware of the importance of a good education. A further task would be to break down the barriers between so-called female and male professions.

- **Women would like to work more, men get ahead.** The high employment level of women, which characterised the GDR, still remains a feature today, whether owing to the self-perception of women, the higher number of child care facilities (still) available or owing to economic requirements. But the proportion of women employed in West Germany has also increased in recent years, above all due to the shift from an industrial towards a service economy and the concomitant increase in the number of part-time jobs. Nonetheless, the proportion of men employed in West Germany is still significantly higher than that of women. And more good jobs are held by men, disproportionately more where more of the better jobs are available. From a spatial perspective, well educated men win out over equally-qualified women the further one moves away from the countryside to urban centres.
- **Traditional gender roles are more entrenched in suburban districts than elsewhere.** Working parents in suburban districts are, on the one hand, affected by compatibility problems between career and care responsibilities, but these are also the areas with the lowest employment rates particularly with regard to women. Infrastructure facilities, in particular for child care, are, on the other hand, less accessible here than in other districts. Apparently the compatibility problem in the urban periphery is „solved“ by one parent (temporarily) giving up employment.
- **Men drive cars, women use public transport or walk.** The mobility of women differs from that of men: while

men usually travel by car, women make greater use of public transport or walk on foot. Wherever the local public transport infrastructure is good – mainly in urban centres – the differences between women and men are somewhat smaller. This also leads to a greater approximation of the distances travelled and the time required for individual journeys, despite continuing differences. Many of these different behaviour patterns are due to the availability of a vehicle and/or possession of a driving license. *Young* women are catching up in both categories and by now differ only little from men in this respect. It is to be expected that, they will adapt their mobility patterns more to the behaviour of men.

- **Women rent housing, men buy it.** Determining regional differences between genders in the area of housing is much more difficult than in most other areas because women and men live in partnerships or families and their own housing needs are mixed with those of the whole household. Nonetheless, some differences can be demonstrated: Women for example spend more time at home, attach greater value to a pleasant living environment and are relatively more willing to spend money on their home. But at the same time they are less likely to be the owner of their own flats or houses.

There are regional differences in life situations of women and men. The area-related gender differences can principally be explained by different demands of women and men and their behaviour in their relevant areas. Therefore, the report likes to sensitise the spatial development policy in Germany to gender mainstreaming. The „guiding principles and action strategies for spatial development in Germany“ published by the German Standing Conference of Ministers Responsible for Spatial Planning (4) for example call for guaranteed access to utilities and infrastructure facilities and employment options as well as for defined infrastructure and environment quality standards. The guiding principles in this case should also clearly call for improvements in providing equal opportunities for women and men primarily in order to meet their specific needs and wishes and secondly to avoid unfavourable regional structures leading to a highly age- and gender-related migration as described above.

## **Conclusion of the ExWoSt research field „Cost-effective and quality-conscious building of new one- and two-family houses in prospering regions” – a contribution to strengthen urban housing**

Demographic development and lifestyles becoming more and more different influence the future housing demand and make new demands on various forms of building and housing. A higher professional flexibility and spatial mobility require future-oriented solutions for the acquisition of property with regard to place of residence and housing concepts. A stable value of the owner-occupied property gains in importance.

In the light of various processes of change, local governments face the challenge to ensure sustainable urban and settlement structures. In doing so, the discussion about the inner-city development and the strengthening of core cities becomes more dynamic. Numerous households still migrate to surrounding areas. It is therefore imperative to improve the attractiveness of cities with offers that meet the requirements of occupants.

The research field ties up to all these trends: The attractiveness of core cities for the acquisition of one- and two-family housing is to be increased, small housing projects are to be integrated into existing urban development structures and new forms of building and housing to be developed in view of the changed demand structures of builders and users.

Within six demonstration projects urban forms of building and housing were tested and scientifically evaluated, supported by a special expertise providing information about the housing preferences of demanders of one- and two-family houses.

The central issues of the research field were the following: Which compact forms of building and housing are accepted? Which functional and creative qualities are demanded? How do these homes fit into existing urban development structures? How are urban development and property qualities perceived and communicated?

The research results were assigned to four central fields of action: availability of property, location and urban development, building characteristics and constellation of builders.

The demonstration projects have shown that local governments must provide for an active and strategic control of property supply to run this process effectively. Furthermore, legally binding land-use plans should be drawn up simultaneously with the development of the project so that new building concepts on construction sites can be realised. A project-oriented legally binding land-use planning and a flexible parcelling promote different forms of building, differentiated public and private (open) spaces, enhance the urban development quality and may counteract social segregation.

Interviews prove that urban housing offers must allow to be judged by the qualities of detached houses in order to be accepted as an alternative for living in the hinterland. The sum of characteristics of a property, a real estate and of the residential environment is decisive for compact forms of building to be accepted. Privatness and suitability for daily use are criteria to judge them. It is, however, difficult to communicate urban development concepts to builders and buyers. Detailed provisions in legally binding land-use plans, regulations concerning functional and creative qualities to be met by planners and last but not least restrictions caused by standardisation, prefabrication and serial production to reduce costs limit the room for manoeuvre. With regard to the outward appearance, design provisions are accepted if they are considered to have a special quality or to improve the image. For ground plans more freedom is demanded. The adjustment of a property to the stages of life of its residents, however, is of inferior importance to buyers and builders. To resell it while maintaining the value of a property is much more important.

The demonstration projects have shown that the development and implementation of an attractive and demand-oriented supply of homes in cities requires convenient procedures and dialogue on all levels of process.

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For further information  
on the research field  
see [www.bbr.bund.de](http://www.bbr.bund.de).



## Journal „Informationen zur Raumentwicklung (IzR)“ – new issues

The journal „Informationen zur Raumentwicklung – IzR“ (Information on Spatial Development) is an established specialist journal for spatial planning and policy. It is published in thematic issues that comment on present and middle-term tasks in the fields of spatial planning, urban development, housing and building. A short retrospective is supposed to present the latest issues.

The latest IzR issues are dealing with:

Issue 1.2007  
Bürgermitwirkung in  
Stadtentwicklungs-  
prozessen  
(*Citizen participation  
in urban development  
processes*)

Issue 2/3.2007  
Siedlungsstruktur und  
Berufsverkehr  
(*Settlement structure  
and occupational traffic*)

Issue 4.2007  
Wohnungsgenossen-  
schaften und Stadt-  
entwicklung  
(*Housing associations  
and urban development*)

Issue 5.2007  
Integriertes Küsten-  
zonenmanagement  
(*Integrated Coastal  
Zone Management*)

Issue 6.2007  
Soziale Stadtpolitik –  
eine Zukunftsaufgabe  
(*Social urban policy –  
a future task*)

Issue 7/8.2007  
Die deutsche EU-Rats-  
präsidentschaft –  
Impulse für die Stadt-  
und Raumentwicklungs-  
politik in Europa  
(*The German EU Council  
Presidency – New  
Impetus for Urban and  
Spatial Development  
Policy in Europe*)

Issue 9.2007  
Stadtentwicklungsfonds  
(*Urban development  
funds*)

### **Citizen participation in urban development processes**

Citizen participation in urban development processes does not only contribute to identification with the own city, which is important, but increasingly becomes a precondition for tackling the various local tasks and challenges as well. Especially the changed social and financial framework conditions of cities, local urban restructuring and social city issues result in a new assignment of tasks between public authorities, private industry and citizens and push the necessity for co-operative action and an extended idea of participation. The present issue certainly is not able to completely deal with the manifold topics of citizen participation and urban development. It goes further into the following questions: In what form do citizens participate in current tasks of urban development? What are the experiences with the programme Urban Restructuring in East Germany, which has been running since about five years? Examples of citizen participation are presented. How should a communicative planning culture be developed? What are the new challenges? Various experiences, attitudes and estimations are presented.

### **Settlement structure and occupational traffic**

The traffic problem, i. e. the growing traffic volume and its social costs as well as environmental impacts remain a social key topic, rush-hour traffic, i. e. work-related commuting, playing a considerable role. Currently, every fifth distance is covered by the rush-hour and student traffic and nearly every fourth kilometre per person is covered by the rush-hour traffic. Current forecasts rather suggest an expansion of

commuter flows as fewer and fewer gainfully employed persons are willing or able to find an appropriate job in their place of domicile. Against this background, the thematic issue analyses the current work-related commuter traffic, its causes and social impacts – all this from an international point of view. Central aspects are the interactions between spatial structure and commuter flows. In the first part of the issue, rush-hour traffic trends in Germany are investigated and the context between spatial structure and commuter flows on the level of large regions in North Rhine-Westphalia and in Germany as a whole is analysed. Additionally, in the second part, development trends of the work-related commuter traffic in Switzerland, in the US, in Denmark, the Netherlands and Norway are presented. In the third part, the various framework conditions of work-related commuter traffic are discussed.

### **Housing associations and urban development**

Housing associations including their principles self-help, self-responsibility and self-administration are (again) in the centre of the housing and urban development policy, last but not least in the context of the increasingly propagated concept of the „activating welfare state“ (aktivierender Wohlfahrtsstaat). In the framework of the programme „Experimental Housing and Urban Development“ and the field of research „Cooperative housing models“, different approaches, ways and strategies for innovative concepts of housing supply, for strengthening the cooperative idea in the field of urban and neighbourhood development and stabilisation as well as for creating framework conditions and helpful structures to support start-ups were tested. In doing so, the fact that cooperative housing estates may be relevant stabilising factors for a social city proved to be an important result. This thematic volume concentrates on concrete practical contributions and examples which can be given by housing associations in the field of neighbourhood development.

### **Integrated Coastal Zone Management**

An Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) is supposed to provide for a Europe-wide sustainable, consistent and comprehensive use and conflict management of coastal zones and of the sea area which is close to the coast. The EU recommendation to establish the ICZM in the member states meets with favourable conditions in Germany. Above all new planned forms of land use and protected areas on the sea have induced spatial planners and other policy-makers to become active. Spatial planning in Germany has only taken a few years to be expanded to the sea. Based on spatial planning regulations of the Federal Government and of the coastal *Länder* in North Germany, the whole maritime and coastal area – for the terrestrial and marine sector – for the first time has been defined as a coherent, consistent development area. Spatial planning policy-makers on the Federal and the *Länder* level have thus created the preconditions which are of great importance for the ICZM. The thematic issue reports about backgrounds, philosophy and instruments of the ICZM and the progress made on the EU, Federal and *Länder* level since its establishment.

### **Social urban policy – a future task**

Social trends always have a spatial dimension as well. The impacts of social and economic transformation processes become the most apparent in cities. Urban policy thus can always be equated with social policy. It has to face topics and challenges which are not new but reach new qualities with their dimensions. Immigration, polarisation, segregation are topics of a socially integrative urban policy. With the Leipzig Charter the ministers responsible for urban development of the 27 EU member states agreed upon a strategy of integrated and sustainable urban development and upon special fields of action for deprived urban areas. The volume analyses different aspects of a socially oriented urban policy. Various trends and approaches in France, Great Britain and Germany are presented. Empirical analyses on segregation processes in German inner cities draw the reader's attention to current urban development processes. The research programme „Social City“, which is funded by the Federation

and the *Länder*, is presented as well as other programmes which take up the social area approach. Especially in non-investment-related areas these programmes provide an important support and show potentials to combine urban development, social, education and labour market measures. The volume furthermore shows that the strengthening of endogenous potentials through the local economy plays an important role in order to stabilise deprived urban areas.

### **The German EU Council Presidency – New Impetus for Urban and Spatial Development Policy in Europe**

The volume informs about the current urban and spatial development policy in Europe as it has presented itself since the Informal Ministerial Meeting on Urban Development and Territorial Cohesion in Leipzig on 24 and 25 May 2007 (see detailed report on p. 2).

### **Urban development funds**

By supporting revolving urban development funds, the European Union in cooperation with the Member States and the European Investment Bank (EIB) would like to enable a more effective and, if possible, permanent financing of urban development investments. The acronym for this initiative is called JESSICA (Joint European Strategy for Sustainable Investments in City Areas). The volume informs about the state of affairs and open questions regarding the implementation of the JESSICA initiative in Germany and at European level. For instance the role of the European Investment Bank in European capital markets for urban development is discussed and recent considerations and estimations of the European Commission on the JESSICA initiative are outlined. Furthermore, the framework conditions and application possibilities of JESSICA are shown from the point of view of the EIB, which is intensively involved in developing new financing instruments. In Germany, considerations on how to implement the JESSICA initiative have just started. Against this background, first ideas and forms of organisation of urban development funds are presented and governance issues in the field of urban development in Germany are put up for discussion.

The journal is available in German language with English abstracts. Some issues contain articles in English language. The abstracts are available as free downloads ([www.bbr.bund.de](http://www.bbr.bund.de)).

The Journal can be obtained from the publishing section of the BBR ([selbstverlag@bbr.bund.de](mailto:selbstverlag@bbr.bund.de)) and from bookshops. It can be obtained as separate volume or by yearly subscription. Annual subscription: 50 Euro. Separate volumes cost 6 (single issue) or 12 Euro (double issue). All prices plus postage and packing.

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## From 2008 – newsletter informs about research results on spatial development and building

The Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning (BBR) oversees national research programmes on the topics spatial planning, urban development, housing and building. The BBR also publishes the results in English on its homepage. From 2008, the BBR will inform about new/current articles on the English homepage by means of an electronic newsletter. The newsletter will be published four times per year and can be subscribed free of charge via [bbr-news-online@bbr.bund.de](mailto:bbr-news-online@bbr.bund.de). The newsletter is supposed to complement the Research News, which are published twice a year.

So far, only the results of European research and cooperation programmes – ESPON and INTERREG – have been published in English. In 2007, the English websites concerning the national research programmes of the German Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Affairs were expanded. The category „Research Programmes“ now includes the results of the following national programmes:

- General Departmental Research
- Experimental Housing and Urban Development (ExWoSt)
- Demonstration Projects of Spatial Planning (MORO)

- Development of Eastern Germany
- Future Building

Since September 2007, the following research projects have been published in this category (as per 22 October 2007):

- Strategies strengthening the tourism in the new federal states with regard to the national and international competitive environment
- The formal and effective incidence of federal funds
- Investigation of investment processes in housing stock
- Municipal Housing Supply Concepts
- The Contribution of Technology Transfer to the Development of Regional Innovation Potentials in Eastern Germany
- The building sector: some structural data
- Liveable city centres

For 2008, funds of 36.5 million euros earmarked for research will be available. All project results are supposed to be published via informative English articles.

The category „Publications“ as well was expanded. Apart from English publications it also contains English summaries of German publications.

The newsletter can be  
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[bbr-news-online@bbr.bund.de](mailto:bbr-news-online@bbr.bund.de)

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