



# RESEARCH NEWS

No 1 / April 2013

Dear Readers,

This year's first issue presents the Research News in a new layout and with an updated editorial concept. Our aim with the new layout is to meet today's reading habits. It follows the new layout of the publication "Informationen aus der Forschung des BBSR" (Information about the BBSR research activities). With this German-speaking brochure, the BBSR informs every two months with short articles about its current projects, publications and events in the fields of urban development, spatial development, housing, real estate and building. The Research News serve to inform about the European and international activities of the BBSR in particular. We will furthermore continue to report about national products and activities being of special interest for our neighbours or international readers. Newly added is the "Latest map" section, in which we will present and comment a current map of the BBSR. In this issue, we will start with a map on shrinking and growing regions in Europe. The Research News will also include news and information about latest publications. As before, the Research News will be published twice per year.

As regards personnel, there has also been an important change: Dr. Markus Eltges – an economist who has been working in various positions of the BBSR for twenty years – has taken over the directorship of the Department "Spatial Planning and Urban Development". With Dr. Eltges, who is experienced with the European structural policy and with European policies and institutions, the Department is well prepared for coping with national and European tasks (cf. page 12).

Happy reading!  
The editors

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## Territorial cohesion in future EU cohesion policy

The publication can be ordered free of charge from: [beatrix.thul@bbr.bund.de](mailto:beatrix.thul@bbr.bund.de), reference: Forschungen 156 or can be downloaded from the following website: [www.bbr.bund.de](http://www.bbr.bund.de) > English > Publications > BMVBS Publications > Forschungen

With the ratification of the Lisbon Treaty, the objective of territorial cohesion has been explicitly added to the EU objectives of economic and social cohesion. With this step, the institutional preconditions for the integration of territorial objectives in EU sector policies were created.

Incorporating territorial objectives in different EU policies is anything but easy. Debates about cutbacks of the EU budget and of different EU sector policy budgets tend to aggravate the integration. Scarcity of resources usually goes along with a concentration on a sector policy's main objectives and therefore hampers the consideration of additional concerns.

In order to strengthen territorial objectives, it is important to indicate how sector policies can benefit from synergies and policy efficiency increases, if territorial aspects are considered. This was the point of departure for the study "Territorial cohesion in future EU cohesion policy", which was carried out by Spatial Foresight GmbH in cooperation with TAURUS ECO Consulting GmbH. For different sector policies with high territorial relevance such as regional policy, environmental policy and transport policy the authors analysed how the principle of territorial cohesion can be appropriately integrated. Step by step, six cross-sector themes, which appeared to be particularly useful for better integrating territorial cohesion, were identified. Most of these themes have to be dealt with from a cross-sectoral point of view in order to consider territorial issues appropriately: urban-rural relations; services of general interest in rural areas, transport core networks, traffic congestion in agglomeration areas, adaption

of infrastructure to climate change and energy networks.

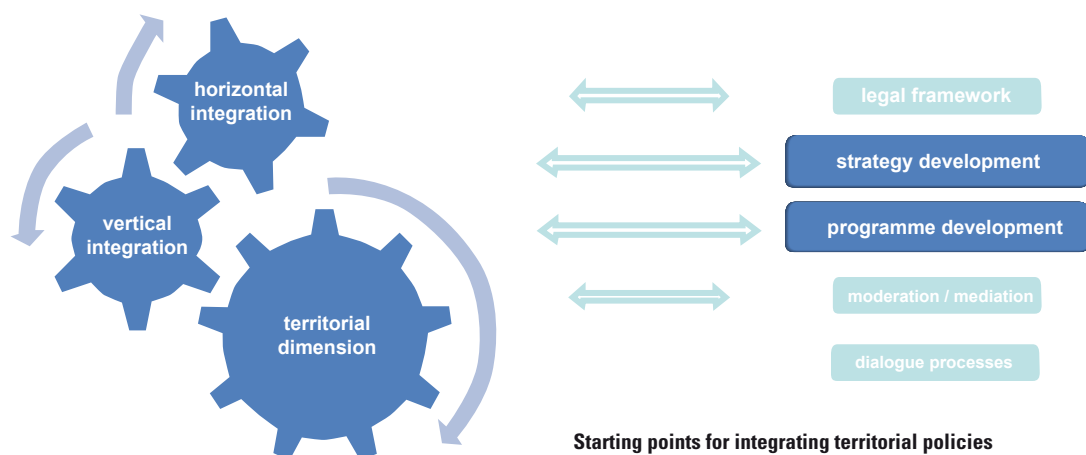
For each of these themes, the general political context was analysed and, in involving project examples, starting points for territorial policies and policy recommendations for integrating territorial cohesion were elaborated. The theme-specific starting points for strengthening spatial concerns include pure moderation and information activities as well as to participate in the formulation of regulations, strategies and programmes. Experts assessed the development of strategies and programmes to be most effective and particularly promising. At the same time, it becomes clear that the vertical collaboration of all territorial levels – from European, national and regional levels to the local level – is crucial for implementing territorial objectives.

A separate chapter is devoted to the issue how territorial objectives can be strengthened in the context of future transnational cooperation (INTERREG B). There are numerous starting points which include relevant EU regulations, programming processes, the development and evaluation of priorities and projects and the relation between INTERREG B and macro-regional strategies.

With their recommendations for action, the authors provide stakeholders of sectoral and spatial planning policies on different territorial levels with ideas how to define their policies. The time for these recommendations is good as the EU regulations for the programming period beyond 2014 are presently being discussed and future programmes are formulated.

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Starting points for integrating territorial policies

## Europe 2020 Strategy and the performance of German regions

The Europe 2020 Strategy with its three goals smart, sustainable and inclusive growth is central for the whole future European policy development during the current decade. For each of these three goals, concrete indicators have been agreed at EU and national level. Depending on specific regional potentials, individual regions may contribute to different extents to achieving national targets. To learn more about the regional aspects of the Europe 2020 Strategy in Germany, the BBSR had commissioned a research project, which was carried out by Spatial Foresight GmbH, Luxembourg. The results have now been published.

The project aimed at empirically analysing the (potential) contribution of German regions for achieving the Europe 2020 targets. Assuming that not all German regions may contribute to the same extent and in a similar way to achieving the targets, a statistically based regional analysis was conducted for the level of the German federal states and the NUTS 2 regions. The analysis started with examining the national targets of the German national reform programme and reconsidered opportunities and potentials for action of German regions with regard to implementing the Europe 2020 Strategy. Amongst others, this included identifying different types of regions for illustrating different needs for action in different regions.

Case studies for three federal states complemented the regional scientific analysis. They included analysing regional documents and discussions with regional stakeholders in regional workshops.

The eight target indicators of the Europe 2020 Strategy were analysed for the whole German territory, the federal states and the NUTS 2 regions (Structural Funds regions). Regarding contributions of the federal states, the report draws the following conclusions:

- There is a wide range of indicator values of federal states in Germany.
- There are some federal states – Baden-Wuerttemberg, Bavaria and Hesse – which already now achieve above-average (and above-target) values in several growth priorities of the Europe 2020 Strategy.

- And there is quite a large number of federal states whose contributions to the Europe 2020 Strategy vary strongly between the different targets.
- Some east German federal states, for instance, have above-average values with regard to environment, climate and education-related targets (see map).
- So there is no consistent general pattern of 'outperformers' and 'underperformers', e.g. no clear west-east-divide, but rather a diverse picture between the different areas of the Strategy.

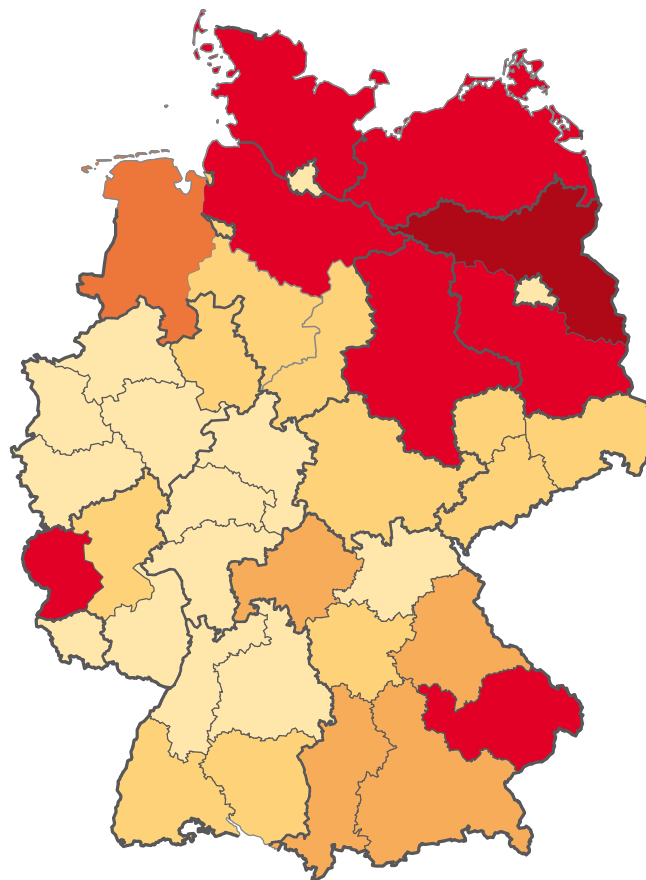
### Further information:

[www.bbsr.bund.de](http://www.bbsr.bund.de) > English  
> Programmes > General  
Departmental Research  
> Spatial Planning > The  
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### Renewable energy sources



Share of electricity generation based on renewable energy sources (2010) in electricity consumption (2007) in % in NUTS 2 regions

■ 160	■ 18 to 29.9
■ 40 to 58.8	■ 10 to 17.9
■ 30 to 39.9	■ 1.1 to 9.9

Databasis: EEG-Anlagenregister der Netzbetreiber,  
Länderarbeitskreis Energiebilanzen,  
Federal Statistical Office, own calculations

## A new territorial cooperation programme for the Danube Region

On 18 December 2012, the European Commission published a proposal concerning the delimitation of programme areas for territorial cooperation in the period 2014 – 2020. Most of the programmes will continue with the same geography, however, the current South East Europe (SEE) transnational cooperation programme is proposed to be divided. The northern part would newly include the Czech Republic and parts of Germany and would then comprise 14 countries – Austria, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Germany (including the Länder Baden-Wuerttemberg and Bavaria), Hungary, Romania, Slovak Republic and Slovenia as well as the non-EU states Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine (Chernivetska Oblast, Ivano-Frankiviska Oblast, Zakarpatska Oblast and Odessa Oblast) – see map. This extended northern part of the recent SEE programme would then form the new transnational Danube Region programme area. Such a programme would better contribute to the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and was the main reason for the proposed new division of the area. The southern part of the SEE programme is to be continued as the “South East Gateway” programme.

### Further information:

www.interreg.de and on the EU Strategy for the Danube Region see [www.ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy](http://www.ec.europa.eu/regional_policy)

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As described above, the Czech Republic and the two German Länder will be new participants in the Danube Region programme compared to the previous SEE programme. However, both countries have already gained cooperation experience with the other states in the framework of the former Central European, Adriatic, Danubian and South-Eastern European Space (CADSES) in the period 2000–2006.

As a consequence of the proposed new geography, the European Commission invited the potential partner states to discuss the preparation of the new transnational cooperation programme for the Danube Region at a meeting on 17 January in Brussels. Another preparatory meeting took place on 5 February in Vienna. All representatives of the partner states declared their readiness to cooperate under the new programme. First decisions on the programme preparation and future management structures were taken. In order to compensate for the delayed start of the programming (compared to other programmes which will be continued with the same geography), the partners decided to use the templates and preparatory documents of other programmes as far as possible. Moreover, analyses carried out for the EU Strategy for the Danube Region will be utilised. The future transnational programme will have to tackle challenges, such as:

- more intensive utilisation of the Danube River as a transport axis,
- protection and sustainable use of the hydrological basin and ecological corridor of the Danube,
- prevention of floods, droughts and industrial pollution in the area,
- reliable and cost-efficient energy supply and increased energy efficiency,
- huge socio-economic and territorial disparities.

At the same time, important opportunities need to be taken such as important transport connections to the Black Sea, the Caucasus region and Central Asia, solid education systems, highly qualified workers, striking cultural, ethnic and natural assets as well as renewable energy sources.

### Danube-Region



INTERREG B cooperation area 2014–2020

Source: European Commission,  
as proposed on 18th December 2012  
Geometrical basis: GFK MACON

## Maritime Spatial Planning in the Baltic Sea Region

A sustainable use of marine resources as well as growing sea use conflicts require to introduce and further develop maritime spatial planning systems. More than ever, there is a need for balancing the concerns of different sectors as well as different interests, such as shipping, fishery, tourism, sports and recreation, using raw materials, protecting sensitive areas, building wind parks, using space for pipelines, cables etc. Particular pressure is evident in the Baltic Sea with high water pollution and intensive use. At the same time, the maritime spatial planning systems around the Baltic Sea are only in the initial state of development (see respective map of the VASAB Long-Term Perspective for Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region). Therefore, the ministers responsible for spatial planning and development have agreed on concrete steps towards developing the foundations for maritime spatial planning systems in all countries in the Baltic Sea Region and towards making the region a model case for Europe. The ministers initiated cooperation between their own Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea (VASAB) network and other actors, especially the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM) and the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS). First concrete results have already been reached:

- Agreement on common principles for maritime spatial planning in the Baltic Sea Region and their practical follow-up in planning
- Developing a vision for maritime spatial planning in the Baltic Sea Region
- Supporting the implementation of the European Union's Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region concerning horizontal activities to "develop and complete land-based spatial planning" and "maritime spatial planning"
- Fostering the implementation of maritime spatial planning in all countries of the Baltic Sea Region and developing common foundations for this as well as preparing a number of cross-border pilot plans.
- Providing an updated overview on maritime spatial planning systems for all countries of the Baltic Sea Region
- Drafting minimum requirements for the implementation of maritime spatial planning systems

- Developing good practice examples on maritime spatial planning.

Moreover, a number of joint transnational projects such as BaltSeaPlan, Plan Bothnia and PartiSEApate was developed and implemented. The BaltSeaPlan project developed a vision and tools for maritime spatial planning in the Baltic Sea Region as well as 8 pilot plans.

The progress on maritime spatial planning for the Baltic Sea Region will be analysed at ministerial meetings of both HELCOM and VASAB in 2013 or 2014 respectively and further steps will be agreed.

### Further Information:

[www.vasab.org](http://www.vasab.org)

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### 2010: enhancing maritime spatial planning and management





## Dialogue for Change – a learning network of German and US cities

### Again a network – so what?!

Cooperation, neighbourhood building and civic engagement are food for actions to make resilient and sustainable urban development processes liveable. Cities face various experiences made in these processes. In times of resource scarcity and the need to synergize activities, it is of crucial importance to foster the exchange of these experiences in such a way between cities that city administrations and mayors will be enabled to integrate them in their daily work routine without a long way round. The “Dialogue for Change” between cities in Germany and the US is the current setting in which a couple of cities are closely working together.

Based on a memorandum of understanding signed between the German Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Development (BMVBS) and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), a peer-to-peer network between three German and three US cities has been established. For the time being, Austin/Texas, Flint/Michigan and Memphis/Tennessee are concretely learning from the German cities of Bottrop, Leipzig and Ludwigsburg and vice versa in order to be able to face their urban challenges to a more satisfactory extent.

Both, the BBSR and the German Marshall Fund of the United States with its Urban and Regional Policy Programme as well as the Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations at Harvard University and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University moderate the work of this learning cities network and thus contribute to implementing the memorandum of understanding. Implementation here means as well further developing policies and programmes on the respective national levels in Germany and the US.

The network as such refers to existing tools of civic engagement, yet combines them in an innovative way to better address the needs of those being responsible for urban development and planning in their respective city. Thus, the elements of learning are well-known but the format of interacting with each other is new. That is the clear advantage of this cities network.

### Framing elements of learning

The learning elements derive from a set of priorities provided by the LEIPZIG CHARTER on Sustainable European Cities, on the one hand, and the six liveability principles laid down by HUD’s Partnership for Sustainable Communities, on the other:

- Creating a broad variety of jobs
- Fostering reasonable and affordable housing
- Supporting neighbourhoods on city quarter level as well as deprived ones
- Enhancing the competitiveness of cities
- Coordinating policies and investments
- Aiming at an integrated urban development approach.

A mix of formats stimulates the exchange between the aforementioned cities. Obviously inherited cultural barriers will be removed step by step while cultural backgrounds and traditions are being respected to a reasonable extent.

### Interim workshop successfully held in Washington, DC

People meet and they need to meet. Getting to know each other and one’s needs was the purpose of the first workshop which was held on the occasion of the International Conference on Urban Energies in Berlin on 11/12 October 2012. It brought together all cities and network partners involved and it prepared the project’s framework setting for learning.

The next project step successfully taken was the second workshop held in Washington, DC, in mid-January 2013 and organised by all network partners. A central workshop message, derived from The New Yorker journalist James Surowiecki and his book “The Wisdom of Crowds” (2004), is that “workshop facilitators noted that (...) groups are seen as holding greater wisdom than any individual person and in order for groups to be intelligent, three preconditions must be met. These include: diversity, independence and decentralization. The best and most productive decisions arise through diverse groups that



© Rinn, Ruf, Washington, DC 2013,  
revised illustration

make independent assessments and utilize decentralized decision-making powers. Once these conditions are met, all the information has to be aggregated into one single group answer or response". This correlates with a finding of political scientist Robert D. Putnam, published in his book "Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community" (2000), stating that – related to the situation in the US at that time – the more diverse a society is, the less trust exists between the different groups of this society.

Designing successful civic engagement processes thus mainly refers to properly covering the sequence of topics consisting of communication, evaluation, logistics,

capacities, roles of stakeholders, flexibility, use of data, shared learning, clarify goals and – last, but not least – cultural considerations. Herewith, transparency is the overarching principle.

Broken down into pieces of daily work routine, Bottrop thus cooperates with Flint on low-carbon urban and business development, Memphis and Leipzig will exchange on urban and regional planning of cities being a transport hub at the same time, while Ludwigsburg and Austin concentrate on implementing sustainable and integrated thinking into their administrative acting. All six cities thus prepare the future setting for lifelong learning.

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## Online relaunch of the Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities

The revised version of the Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities (RFSC) is now for everybody online and can be used free of charge. It provides tools and proposes measures for achieving sustainable urban development. For the time being, the RFSC is available in English only; additional language versions will be developed in the months to come. Applying the RFSC during one's daily work routine would simply require registration on its homepage at [www.rfsc.eu](http://www.rfsc.eu).

The Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities was initiated on 25 November 2008 under the umbrella of the French EU Council Presidency. Altogether 66 European cities tested its alpha version in 2011 and 2012.

Recommendations made by these cities led to the currently available online version. The RFSC supports the implementation of the LEIPZIG CHARTER, which was agreed upon by ministers responsible for urban and territorial development on the occasion of their informal meeting held on 24 May 2007 under the auspices of the German EU Council Presidency.

All those applying the RFSC will be provided with a tool that helps them evaluating targets, criteria, methods and measures of concepts and single projects related to urban development against the background of sustainable development, especially the LEIPZIG CHARTER.

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## Cost-optimal calculations regarding the energy efficiency requirements of buildings

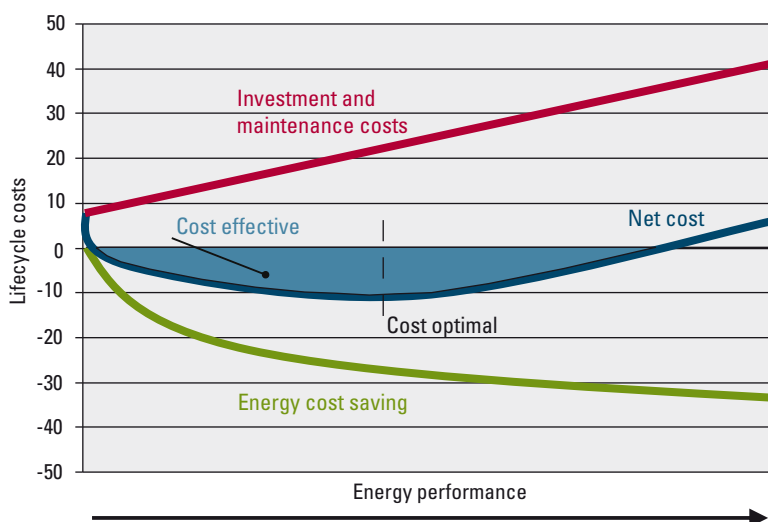
In committing all EU member states to calculate the cost-optimal energy efficiency levels for new buildings and refurbishments of buildings, the European Commission shall be enabled to compare the various energy efficiency levels of the member states.

A long-term goal of this directive is to reach equally ambitious levels of energy efficiency throughout Europe. Member states, in which the real levels are far behind a cost-optimal level - that means by more than 15% (referring to the primary energy demand) according to the related delegated regulation – have to justify this difference.

### Implementing the European calculation method on the national level

The Federal Institute for Research on Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Development (BBSR) has commissioned a research institute (ECOFYS Deutschland) to analyse the cost-optimal levels for three types of residential buildings (single-family houses, semi-detached houses, multifamily houses) and three types of non-residential buildings (office buildings, hotels, supermarkets) in cases of new construction and partial refurbishment. The research institute compares two scenarios for the economic boundary conditions in the context of a sensitivity analysis. In the first scenario, the same parameters were assumed than for the economic efficiency calculations

in the German Energy Saving Ordinance. This is a rather conservative scenario with regard to the purpose of these calculations. The second scenario is mostly oriented towards the energy price trend based on an international forecast mentioned by the EU Commission. This scenario represents the optimal assumptions for efficiency-improving measures. In order to cover a potential variability of interest rates, two scenarios as well are used. One scenario describes the current situation: the interest rates for building loans with a fixed interest period of 15 years are currently a shade over 3 %. The European Central Bank's key interest rate is currently 0.75 %. A second scenario, using higher real interest rates, considers a possible future trend thus providing for comparability with the economic efficiency studies of the German Energy Saving Ordinance. In order to determine the most realistic investment costs, previous studies are analysed and compared. They reveal considerable price margins especially with regard to improving the thermal quality of the building envelope. In order to consider such facts, different key variations are observed in these cases as well. The building automation system costs are basically derived from the information of manufacturers. They are composed of permanent investments (e.g. gas connection, flue gas system, probes of brine pumps, wells of water source heat pumps), on the one hand, and short-term investments (e.g. boilers or heat pumps including installation), on the other hand. If the lifespan of an automation system, according to DIN EN 15459:2008-06, ends within an observation period, the related costs will be calculated based on the replacement investments. In the case of new buildings, measures included improved air tightness and the elimination of thermal bridges against the background that, according to the European Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) measures even had to consider the level of Nearly Zero Energy Buildings. In order to maintain a variety of heat generation technologies, measures do not only consider a fossil-fired thermal power station for each type of building element but also a heat pump and a power station with solar plant using wood pellets. Furthermore, due to the variety of heat generation costs, the assumed heat





generator has an influence on the optimal building requirements.

### Conclusion

The Figure shows the typical cost curve established based on the method of the European Directive. First results from the calculations of the research institute show a very flat progression of the cost-optimal curves that means there is a large range of nearly identical net present values of the total costs. For example with regard to refurbishing the exterior wall and with only a 2 % deviation from the minimum of the total costs, the cost-optimal scope can only be illustrated with an insulation thickness of 5 to over 20 cm. The influence of national parameters, especially the choice of reference buildings, investment costs and energy price trends assumed is therefore of great importance. According to the European method, the cost-optimal insulation thickness of existing buildings varies between 9 and 14 cm. With the existing requirements laid down in the Energy Saving Ordinance of 2009, the optimal costs of

exterior wall and steep roof are more or less achieved. The Regulations' requirements regarding cellar ceiling and upper floor ceiling, however, do not reach the cost-optimal level. Technical limitation for example in the case of low rafter heights or too low ceiling heights are a good reason why the cost-optimal level is not always suitable in practice. The current requirements of the Energy Saving Ordinance regarding new buildings are below the cost optimum, despite the conservative boundary conditions. Nevertheless, scenarios considering economic efficiency, especially macroeconomic approaches, bear another potential for stricter requirements. This is why the results provide a very general statement and a rough orientation for future legal energy efficiency standards. Experts anyway have to decide individually and on site, which efficiency measures make sense beyond the legal standard in economic terms. In addition to the reporting activities to the EU Commission, the complete results of the study will be published on the BBSR website when the project is completed (expected for the second quarter of 2013).

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## Building

### Closing workshop for „Sustainable Housing“ and information brochure

The Round Table „Sustainable Building“ at the BMVBS developed a system for the description and assessment of the quality and sustainability of newly built multiple dwellings. A system test and first application of the assessment system took place. Content of the research project was the preparation, accomplishment and evaluation of a closing workshop with the participation of revisers and enterprises.

[English](#) > [Programmes](#) > [Future Building](#) > [Sustainable building](#)

## Urban development

### Local Baukultur Competency

How can Baukultur be strengthened in local-authority practice? Which tools and processes can contribute to strengthening „local Baukultur competency“? These are some of the questions examined by the „ExWoSt“ research project. The focus was on supporting processes which could explore the possibilities of promoting Baukultur.

[English](#) > [Programmes](#) > [ExWoSt](#) > [Studies](#)

### Young Energies: Youth Creating the City

Since 2009, the Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Development has been actively testing and systematically monitoring new models for youth participation in urban development. Young Energies reflected the findings of this program and worked with young people to identify their ideas for the future of the city. The results, from three different components, ultimately informed the Young Energies exhibition at the Urban Energies international urban development conference in October 2012.

[English](#) > [Programmes](#) > [ExWoSt](#) > [Fields of Research](#)



Source: [anschlaege.de](http://anschlaege.de)

## Latest Map

### Growing and shrinking regions in Europe

#### Further information:

www.bbsr.bund.de > English  
> Spatial Development >  
Spatial Development in  
Europe > Analyses on spatial  
development in Europe >  
projects

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The regional picture of growing and shrinking regions in Europe reveals their parallel development in nearly all countries. Only a few countries show homogeneous national development tendencies such as Switzerland and Norway with growth trends or Bulgaria and Hungary with shrinkage trends.

In nearly all countries, there is a more or less large number of growth regions. In Eastern Europe, they are often but not principally concentrated in and around capital regions, as shown by the case of Poland. In Spain and Portugal, growth tendencies, if at all, can be mainly found in their capital regions.

The question, whether regional shrinking tendencies in European crisis countries might provoke further concentration processes, might be raised. In France, except Greater Paris, “shrinkage” can be found in the north and “growth” in the south. Germany is separated into four parts with “growth regions” in the north-west, in the south, in Greater Berlin and with shrinkage tendencies in a large centre.

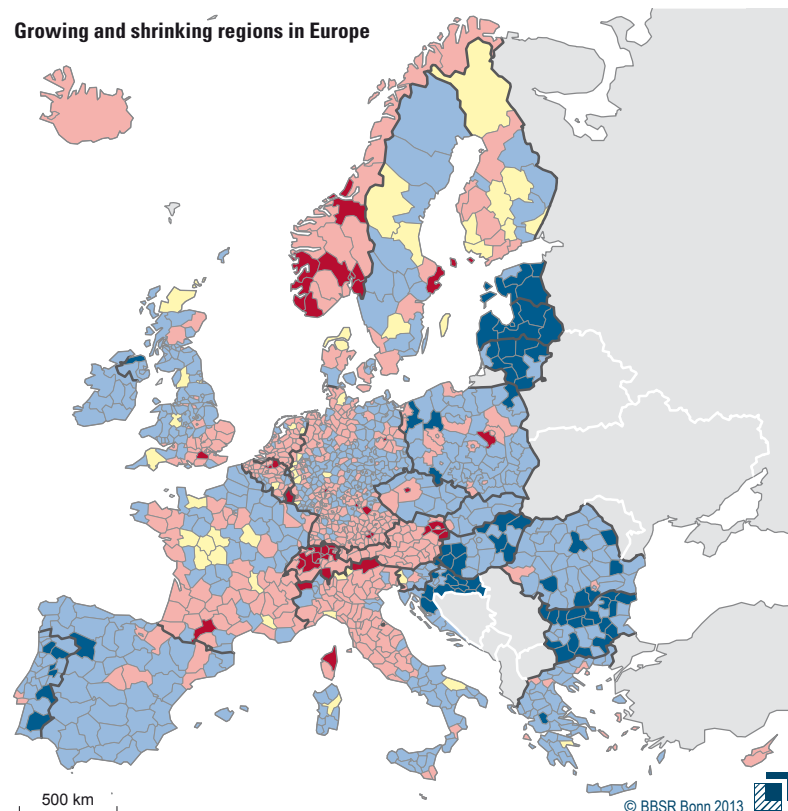
46 % of the 516 million inhabitants of the EU 28, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland live in growing regions, 4 % of them living in strongly growing regions. With 51 %, just under half of them live in shrinking regions, 4 % of them living in strongly shrinking regions. 65 % of the gross domestic product of these 32 European countries is made in growing regions, 7 % in strongly growing regions and 32 % in shrinking regions (1 % in strongly shrinking regions).

The development tendencies of the regions are reflected by the unemployment rates. With rising growth tendency, the average unemployment rate of each group of regions is decreasing. The regional average rate in 2010 was 14.9 % in strongly shrinking regions, 10.5 % in shrinking regions, 7.7 % in stable regions, 6.3 % in growing regions and 4.1 % in strongly growing regions.

The analysis is based on eight indicators representing demographic and economic structures and development trends (see map description). Growth and shrinkage are categorised by classifying the indicators in the bottom and top quintiles of the indicator values. If, for five to eight indicators, regions are classified in the bottom quintile, that means if they belong to the 20 % of the regions at the lower end of the ranking, they are affected by “strong shrinkage”. For one to four indicators, regions can be classified as shrinking regions. The same applies to the opposite character “growth”. The same amount of indicators in the bottom and top quintile are classified as shrinking regions. Regions, which do not fall in the bottom or top quintile for any of the indicators, are said to be stable.

In comparison to a similar study of German cities and regions the developments of the economy and the labour market have been introduced to consider the economic crisis in Europe.

Growing and shrinking regions in Europe



#### Shrinkage

- strongly shrinking
- shrinking
- stable
- growing
- strongly growing

#### Growth

- no data

Database: European Spatial Monitoring System,  
Eurostat REGIO, national statistical offices, GfK market data  
Geometric basis: GfK GeoMarketing, NUTS 3 regions

#### Indicators considered:

- Population development 2005–2010
- Net-migration rate 2007–2009 (three-year average)
- Development of persons employed 2007–2011
- Unemployment rate 2010
- Development of unemployment rate in percentage points 2007–2011
- Purchasing power of households 2001
- Gross domestic product (PPS per inhabitant) 2009
- Development of gross domestic product (PPS per inhabitant) 2006–2009

## Urban development via major projects?

Informationen zur Raumentwicklung (IzR), Issue 11/12.2012  
Ed.: BBSR, Bonn 2012

Major urban development projects, e.g. flagship projects or large events in the fields of urban development, normally imply large expectations by cities. They hope that such projects provide positive impetus for the future urban development, that their attractiveness increases while competing for inhabitants and enterprises with other cities and that they, their economies and citizens benefit from such projects. Are such expectations always fulfilled? What must cities take into account when developing such projects so that they do not cause conflicts within a city? These and other issues will be investigated in this IzR issue in theory and by concrete examples in German cities.



Lake Phoenix: a local recreation area on a former steelworks site in Dortmund, Germany. Photo: Hans Blosssey

## Region as a system – theories and approaches on regional development

Informationen zur Raumentwicklung (IzR), Issue 1.2013  
Ed.: BBSR, Bonn 2013

Each decision has impacts, not only desired impacts but also on other areas. The various contexts and interactions between areas of life are perceived as complex and with increasing powerlessness by decision-makers as well as citizens. Can systemic thinking help to better overcome complexity thus making the consequences of decisions better visible and foreseeable? In this IzR issue, systemic regional development approaches are analysed in theory and practice. A main issue is in how far models from other disciplines can be applied to regional research – including the Spatial Monitoring System of the BBSR.

The journal IzR is available in German language with English abstracts. Some issues contain articles in English language. The abstracts are available as free downloads ([www.bbsr.bund.de](http://www.bbsr.bund.de) > English > publications > Informationen zur Raumentwicklung).

The IzR can be obtained from the Franz Steiner Verlag ([service@steiner-verlag.de](mailto:service@steiner-verlag.de)) and from bookshops as single issue or by yearly subscription. The price for a subscription is 72 euros, a single issue costs 19 euros. All prices plus postage and packing.

## Transactions of major housing stock

BBSR-Analysen KOMPAKT 01/2013, Ed.: BBSR, Bonn 2013  
Free of charge available from:  
[forschung.wohnen@bbr.bund.de](mailto:forschung.wohnen@bbr.bund.de)  
Reference: BBSR-Analysen KOMPAKT 01/2013

After sellers and investors, due to the economic and financial crises in the past years, were markedly reserved with respect to housing stock transactions, that market showed visible signs of movement again in 2011. This issue presents the current sales situation involving major housing stock in 2011.

## Regional Planning Forecast 2030

BBSR-Analysen KOMPAKT 03/2013, Ed.: BBSR, Bonn 2013  
Free of charge available from:  
[ref-1-1@bbr.bund.de](mailto:ref-1-1@bbr.bund.de)  
Reference: BBSR-Analysen KOMPAKT 03/2013

Germany grows older, shrinks and becomes more colourful. This is not new. What is new, however, is that demographic changes now affect virtually all regions. The regional planning forecast 2030 of BBSR shows the key trends: Which regions are shrinking particularly quickly, and which ones are growing contrary to general trends? How does the age structure of the population shift? What does this mean for labour and housing markets? This publication provides empirically founded answers to these questions.

The present results of the regional planning forecast 2030 illustrate, by way of a kind of early warning, the extent of the medium-term demographic adjustment requirements in Germany in terms of regional and urban planning policy.

## Abstracts of German publications

### How can regional planning contribute to the adaptation to the climatic change?

Forschungen 157, Ed.: BMVBS, Berlin 2013

### Measures to implement the objectives of the energy concept in buildings – achievement scenario

BMVBS-Online-Publikation 03/2013, Ed.: BMVBS, Berlin 2013

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## Markus Eltges new head of Spatial Planning and Urban Development department

The BBSR has started the new year with a new head of Department I “Spatial Planning and Urban Development”. With Dr. Markus Eltges – an economist who has been working in various positions of the BBSR for twenty years, lastly as head of Division I 6: Spatial and Urban Monitoring – the Department was provided with a new directorship.

General task of Department I is to provide information, to carry out research and to consult the German Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Development (BMVBS) and other ministries in the fields of spatial planning/spatial development and urban planning/urban development. Detailed activities of the Department include

- to run a spatial monitoring system serving to assess spatial and urban development;
- to elaborate spatial planning and urban development reports;
- to provide scientific advice to and to manage and evaluate research activities for the BMVBS;
- to support European and international cooperation and to monitor related programmes such as INTERREG, ESPON and URBACT;
- to transfer results to politicians and practitioners.

When taking office, Dr. Eltges underlined his wish to further specify the Department’s profile. According to him, the Department’s activities should become an essential part of the Federal Government’s activities. Its competence would enrich the political discussion especially with regard to the regional and urban consequences of the demographic change. Furthermore, the discussion about the funding policy in Germany beyond 2019 was a great chance for spatial planners to have a say in the political discussion about “equivalent living conditions”. Dealing with critical infrastructure and tackling the consequences of climate change also were at the top of the political agenda and required scientific competence, he said.

Experienced with European structural policy and actively involved in the German EU Council Presidency when elaborating the “Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities”, the new head of department is well acquainted with European policies and institutions. According to Dr. Eltges, European cooperation in the fields of spatial and urban development should bring more tangible benefit to people and enterprises in cities and regions.

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