



LE GOUVERNEMENT
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG

Ministère du Développement durable
et des Infrastructures

Département de l'aménagement
du territoire

Final 30/06/2015

The potential of small and medium cities in cross-border polycentric regions

- *Recognising the challenges*
- *Understanding the concept and approach*
- *Finding appropriate responses*

organised by the incoming Luxembourg Council Presidency
in the framework of the IT-LV-LU Trio Presidency Programme

30 June 2015 in Luxembourg City

Centre de Conférence – Hôtel Parc Belle-Vue

5 Avenue Marie-Thérèse

L-2132 Luxembourg

The workshop is addressed at experts from the *European, national, regional and local level* motivated to discuss the potential of small and medium cities in cross-border polycentric regions:

- Policymakers;
- Academics and consultants;
- Representatives of administrations;
- NGOs and stakeholders;

This workshop is part of the Luxembourg Presidency Programme.

Final Programme

Tuesday, 30 June 2015 – Workshop “The potential of small and medium cities in cross-border polycentric regions”

Chair of the day: Jean-Claude Sinner, Head of Unit of European Affairs, Department of Spatial Planning and Development, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure, Luxembourg

08:30 – 09:00 *Registration and welcome coffee*

Opening

09:00 - 09:05 **Welcome**

- Frank Vansteenkiste, Director-General, Department of Spatial Planning and Development, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure, Luxembourg

09:05 - 09:10 **Setting the scene**

- Tiemo Eser, Department of Spatial Planning and Development, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure, Luxembourg

09:10 - 09:20 **The Trio theme of small and medium cities**

- Mart Grisel, European Urban Knowledge Network (EUKN)

Session 1

09:20 - 10:20 **Presentation of the state of play report: The concept of cross-border polycentric regions and an EU-wide overview**

- Dr. Antoine Decoville, Head of the Team Urban Development, Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research (LISER)

Discussion

10:20 – 10:45 *Coffee Break*

Session 2

10:45 - 12:30 **Panel: The potential and challenges of small and medium cities in cross-border polycentric regions**

- Chair: Jean Peyrony, Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière

How are small and medium cities perceived and how are their challenges taken into account at the European, national and regional level? What was the triggering aspect that led to increasing cooperation? What are the themes of cooperation? What are the challenges? How is the political process organised?

- *Judit Törökné Rózsa*, Head of Unit, European Commission - DG Regio
- *Thierry Baert*, URBACT II - Joining Forces
- *Martin Orth*, Initiativkreis Metropolitane Grenzregionen (IMeG)
- *Zoltán Póser*, cross-border region of *Oradea (RO) – Debrecen (HU)*
- *Petro Hermans* and *Reina Pasma*, cross-border region of *Aachen (DE) – Liège (BE) – Maastricht (NL)*
- *Lars Silverberg*, cross-border region of *Copenhagen (DK) – Malmö (SE)*

Discussion

12:30 - 13:45 *Lunch*

Session 3

13:45 - 15:30 **Cross-border polycentric regions put into action (thematic workshops)**

The following topics will be discussed in workshops by addressing issues related to governance, ESIF funding opportunities, and common development strategies. The discussion will be launched by impulse statements.

a) **Common infrastructure projects** (transport, public services, cultural infrastructure, etc.)

- *Petri Suopanki*, twin cities of *Haparanda (SE) – Tornio (FI)*
- *Sören Bollmann*, twin cities of *Frankfurt-Oder (DE) – Słubice (PL)*
- Moderator/Rapporteur: *Gavin Daly*, ESPON Coordination Unit

b) **Labour market**

- *Dr. Manuel Friesecke*, cross-border region of *Basel (CH) – Saint Louis (FR) – Lörrach (DE)*
- *Hermann Hansy*, cross-border region of *Vienna (AT) – Bratislava (SK) – Brno (CZ) – Győr (HU)*
- Moderator/Rapporteur: *Mart Grisel*, European Urban Knowledge Network (EUKN)

c) **Economic development, innovation and research**

- *Stef Vande Meulebroucke*, cross-border region of *Lille (FR) – Kortrijk (BE) – Tournai (BE)*
- *Marjan van Herwijnen*, ESPON Coordination Unit, “13 Cross-border regions in Europe”
- Moderator/Rapporteur: *Alfons Fermin*, European Urban Knowledge Network (EUKN)

Conclusions and closure

15:30 - 16:15 Reporting from workshops and Conclusions

- 3 rapporteurs
- *Jean-Claude Sinner (LU)*

16:15 *Farewell Coffee*