



Daniel Ács

STATE SECRETARY
OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Bratislava 18 December 2009
MVRR-2009-16951/67765-1

Dear Sir/Madam,

With reference to public consultation on the future EU 2020 strategy, please find enclosed the contribution of the Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic to the Commission Working document „Consultation on the Future EU 2020 Strategy”.

Yours faithfully,

Enclosure

European Commission
Secretariat General
Unit D1
B – 1049 Brussels
Belgium

The contribution of the Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic to the Commission Working document „Consultation on the Future EU 2020 Strategy”

Within the context of running consultation to the working document „Consultation on the Future EU 2020 Strategy”, we are pleased to submit our contribution on behalf of the Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic

We wish to thank the Commission for the working document on future strategy for the Europe, “EU 2020”, published for public consultation seeking the views of all the partners on the new direction for our Europe.

We share the vision and the objectives sketched out in the consultation document, it is important that the European Union’s exit from the crisis should be the step forward towards the smarter, greener and socially inclusive sustainable growth. In order to reach these objectives, we need to focus on more efficient resources’ utilization in each territory of the European Union; we need to build up more on the endogenous potential of our territories and on healthy competitiveness among regions, with respect to life standard equity and environmental conditions improvement. The Lisbon Treaty states that EU “shall promote economic, social and territorial cohesion and solidarity among Member States”. The very rich territorial diversity of the EU is an asset contributing to the sustainable development of the entire EU and thus ensuring that the EU citizens can profit from the benefits and mitigate the negative side-effects created by the single market. The cohesion policy by mobilising the endogenous potential across Europe helps finding and creating more innovations for a smarter and more competitive economy.

For the new strategy to be successful we need to mobilise actors across all EU boundaries, especially on regional and local level. Through its territorial approach, cohesion policy has at its disposal a functioning governance system building on and developing local and regional assets and ensuring the ownership of the policy and its strategic objectives by all actors involved. We have to pay higher attention to integrated approach based on the principle of partnership among all actors at regional and local level. The innovative services have an internal potential in the practise, which should be more explored and utilised. The innovation in services is seen as a baseline and paradigm for design of the key priorities of the current working document.

Any ambitious vision has to be built on well defined objectives and underpinned by a functioning, effective and efficient implementation system. The right delivery mechanism is the key for a successful implementation of the EU 2020 strategy. The cohesion policy provides the framework for integrated solutions building on the endogenous potential of our territories, developing the local knowledge. The investment of the cohesion policy in improving the capacity of national and regional administrations is recognised as one of its positive spill-over effects also to other policy areas. We believe that in order to be successful, we need to recognise the interdependence of European territories and provide integrated solutions. The coherence of the European policies needs to be enhanced both in the programming and in the implementation phase, earmarking not being the right tool as it does not address the strategic dimension of the delivery of the agreed goals.