In the last years, the cooperation between regions, especially between old and new member states, has become increasingly dynamic. This is especially the case for urban and regional development policies. European programmes such as INTERREG continue to foster the integration process of new member states by supporting the exchange of experience and the transfer of relevant knowledge.

Due to current transformation processes and economic, ecological and infrastructural challenges in Central and Eastern European Countries, there is a high demand for expertise and support in the fields of urban and regional development. Since the Eastern German regions have had to cope with similar development challenges and adjustment processes in the past, it seems reasonable and necessary to establish viable patterns of know-how transfer. The project INCORD – Integrated Concepts for Regional Development – assesses at this certain point. INCORD strengthens the cooperation between Eastern German and Eastern European regions.

The project especially examines the instrument of regional development concepts, which guarantee a more efficient use of public financial means (especially EU-funding). The partnership particularly develops those concepts within five pilot regions in the Czech Republic, Estonia and Poland.

**Project duration:**
January 2004 to June 2006

**Partners:**
- **Czech Republic:** Olomouc Region; City of Ostrava; RDA Ostrava
- **Estonia:** City of Keila
- **Germany:** Association of the State Development and Real Estate Companies; German Association for Housing, Urban and Spatial Development; State Development Corporation Thuringia; EGS Development Company
- **Poland:** RDA Malopolska; Drawski District; Zachodniopomorskie Voivodeship

**进一步信息**

German Association for Housing, Urban and Spatial Development [DV e. V.]
Silke Brocks
Email s.brocks@deutscher-verband.org
Tel +32 (0)2 5501613

Simultaneous translation will be provided in English and German.

www.incord.org
It is our great pleasure to invite you to the conference "Models and added value of cooperation between regions for the next structural funding period". The conference’s aim is to connect the positive practical experiences of the INTERREG IIIC-project INCORD with the general perspectives of interregional cooperation. The conference will address the importance of integrated and cooperative planning approaches for an efficient use of public financial means within the next structural funding period. Furthermore, future values and challenges of interregional cooperation will be topics of the debate. The conference will provide a platform for discussion between high ranking representatives of European institutions and politicians of regions in Europe.

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Brussels.

Christine Holeschovsky (Thuringia Office Brussels)

Roman Petrusek (BVLEG, Lead Partner)

Christian Huttenloher (DV e. V., Thematic Coordinator)

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**PROGRAMME**

**Wednesday, 26 April 2006**

09h00 **Registration**

09h30 **Welcome and Introduction**
Gerold Wucherpfenning, Thuringian Minister for Federal and European Affairs

Exchange of experiences in the field of integrated regional development – the INCORD-project
Roman Petrusek (Director)/Franziska Hellmer (Project leader), Federal Association of the State Development and Real Estate Companies

10h00 **INCORD-Pilot Projects:**
Integrated brownfield development to strengthen regional competitiveness
Pilot project in Ostrava (CZ):
Tomas Fiedler, City of Ostrava
Pilot project in Malopolska (PL):
Bogumila Kowalik, Malopolska Regional Development Agency (MARR)

10h30 **Coffee break**

11h00 **The necessity of new and cooperative planning approaches for regions in Europe**
Prof. Dr.-Ing. Jörg Knieling, Technical University of Hamburg-Harburg, Department for Urban and Regional Planning

11h30 **Panel discussion:**
Perspectives for the cooperation between regions

**Topics of the debate:**
- Importance of integrated and cooperative planning approaches for the future Structural Policy.
- Added value and future of cooperation between regions.

Chair: Walther Stöckl, Head of the Managing Authority INTERREG IIIC East; Head of the Department of EU-Funding of the City of Vienna
Elisabeth Helander, DG Regio, Director of the Directorate “Territorial Cooperation”
Rolf Berend, Member of the European Parliament
Kirsten Scholl, German Ministry of Economics and Technology, Member of the Steering Committee INTERREG IIIC
Andreas Krey, State Development Corporation Thuringia, Chairman of the Board of Management

13h00 **Lunch reception**