



**Information Sessions in Regional Policy
Regional Policy Dialogues with China and Ukraine**

A pilot project of the European Commission in the framework of their European Parliament pilot project to enhance regional and local cooperation by promoting EU regional policy on a global scale

**Information Session N°4
Introduction to EU Regional Policy**

**Focus on Indicators and Evaluation
Mechanisms for Regional Development**

21 November – 02 December 2011

**A two week event prepared for delegates from the
Ministries and Regions of Ukraine**

**Technical Report
(December 2011)**

Implemented by:

Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

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1. Background of the programme

This information session for 19 Ukrainian government officials was carried out on behalf of the European Commission's Directorate General for Regional Policy (DG REGIO). It took place from 21 November to 02 December 2011 within the framework of the European Parliament's pilot project to enhance regional and local cooperation by promoting EU regional policy on a global scale. It was the second in a series of four sessions that are implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Entwicklung (GIZ) GmbH. As a federal enterprise, GIZ supports the German Government in achieving its objectives in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development.

The information session focused on indicators for regional development and evaluation mechanisms of regional development. As OECD states, *the value of indicator systems for regional policy actors extends beyond generating and distributing information. These systems promote learning and orient stakeholders toward results. They provide information to enhance decision-making throughout the policy cycle from resource allocation decisions to policy or programme adjustments.*

With regard to evaluations, the European Commission has emphasised that cohesion policy assistance should be subject to regular and rigorous evaluation. This improves the effectiveness and efficiency of programmes and provides knowledge on the impact of cohesion policy. There are three types of evaluation identified according to their timing: before (ex ante), during (e.g. on-going), and after (ex post) the programming period. Evaluation of cohesion policy is undertaken on a partnership basis, with Member States responsible for ex ante evaluation and the European Commission for ex post evaluation.

The training session contained a relevant mix of lectures and field visits. On the contents side, the course started with a briefing session in Kiev covering logistics issues as well as introducing delegates to the topic. Participants were then transferred to Poland, visiting national and local public authorities. They also visited Austria focusing on the macro-regional Danube Strategy as well as on the Austrian territorial planning. In the second week, delegates attended working sessions at the OECD (Paris), Eurostat, the University of Luxemburg and at the European Commission (Brussels). During the summary session in Brussels participants evaluated the activity and reflected on EU regional policy and its significance for Ukrainian challenges. Participants then returned from Brussels to Kiev.

The overall programme included 30 working sessions and several cultural activities.

2. Objective of the information session

The information session was designed to achieve following immediate objectives:

1. To raise awareness of the participants on the key principles of European regional policy;
2. To enable participants to understand the significance of regional indicators and statistics for the development and evaluation of regional policy;
3. To discuss with participants the problems that may arise in the implementation of specific provisions in the light of European and Ukrainian realities.

In addition to that, the overall project is designed to contribute to disseminating the experience gained during the information sessions (multiplier-effect).



3. Methodology

The information session grounded on a sound mix of lectures and study visits. The approach included three phases:

1. During the preparatory phase, interests and preferences of DG REGIO were actively requested by GIZ. Once the schedule had been approved by DG REGIO, participants received preparatory information 4 weeks before training, including an overview of the programme.
2. The implementation phase started already in Kiev with a one-day briefing session. This included preparatory information on EU integration and cohesion policy as well as a presentation by the Support to Sustainable Regional Development (SSRD) Project financed by the Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine. A particular feature of the implementation was to promote dialogue and reflection among participants through a workshop on the last day. During this session participants were asked to compare acquired knowledge on the European situation with their own realities.
3. The reporting and dissemination phase ends with this technical report aimed at communicating the results of the session to a wider community.

With regard to the methods applied during the information sessions, these included:

1. Class-room sessions of max. 90 min each of which max. 60 min were devoted to presentations and (consecutive) interpretation. The remaining time was used by the project coordinator to promote a vivid discussion between participants and speakers.
2. Field visits allowed participants to see on the spot the diversity and complexity of regional policy in Europe, as well as to understand the implementation and management of EU-funded projects.
3. Interactive participation through the half-day closing workshop allowing participants to apply the contents of the course to their own regional development challenges.

Through the practice-oriented wider capacity building approach, combining lectures, discussion and field visits, the information session promoted active commitment of participants during its entire duration. This was achieved by a sound coordination with speakers to deliver concise presentations and lectures, leaving enough room for discussion and facilitating the mutual exchange of experience between European and Ukrainian regional policy experts.



4. Rationale for selection of regions that were visited

The countries and cities visited during the information session were chosen in coordination with DG REGIO giving participants the opportunity to see a representative cross-section of European regional development areas. In order to deal with the issues of indicators for regional development and evaluation mechanisms, the programme included visits to case studies in one western and one eastern European country, as well as a visit to OECD (Paris), Eurostat (Luxemburg) and the EU Commission (Brussels).

GIZ decided to start the study visit with Poland as the biggest recipient of cohesion policy funding in the current period. Since its accession to the EU 2004, Poland has achieved a remarkable catch-up process within the European economies, being the contribution of cohesion policy funding a driving factor. Moreover, the country has undertaken a major reform of its regional development governance structure with interesting parallels to the current reform process in Ukraine. Poland holds currently the Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The second member state to be visited was Austria. Although the country has a much smaller size and a different administrative structure (federal), Austria offers interesting references for Ukrainian regional development policy-makers, including the ten-year national development strategy. Moreover, the country plays a key role when implementing the macro-regional Danube Strategy of the European Union.

The working sessions to the OECD in Paris were requested by the regional policy dialogue partners as a complementary activity to the OECD Territorial Review for Ukraine currently under elaboration. The visit to the University of Luxemburg grounded on its excellence on the analysis of territorial cohesion in Europe through cross-border cooperation (Metroborder study). Working sessions at Eurostat aimed at disseminating the importance of European statistics for EU cohesion policy. The working sessions in Brussels rounded-up the significance of cohesion and evaluation mechanisms in the European Union.

The overall rationale of the programme was to ensure a geographically balanced European programme, showing the key differences of regional development governance in different member states of the European Union.



5. Overview of the programme

Day	General Issues	Locations
Monday, 21.11.11	Morning: Briefing session in Kiev (2 Lectures) Afternoon: Flight Kiev (15h45) – Warsaw (15h15) Accommodation in Warsaw	Kiev – Warsaw
Tuesday, 22.11.11	3 Lectures, 1 Field Visit Joint Lunch Accommodation in Warsaw	Warsaw
Wednesday, 23.11.11	2 Lectures, 1 Field Visit Joint Lunch Transfer by night-train to Vienna	Warsaw
Thursday, 24.11.11	2 Lectures in Vienna, 1 Field Visit Joint Lunch Accommodation in Vienna	Vienna
Friday, 25.11.11	3 Lectures in Vienna Joint Lunch Accommodation in Vienna	Vienna
Saturday, 26.11.11	Cultural programme Transfer by night-train to Paris	Vienna
Sunday, 27.11.11	Cultural programme Accommodation in Paris	Paris
Monday, 28.11.11	8 Lectures at OECD Joint Lunch Accommodation in Paris	Paris
Tuesday, 29.11.11	Morning: Transfer by Train to Luxemburg Joint Lunch Afternoon: 2 Lectures at Eurostat Accommodation in Luxemburg	Paris Luxemburg
Wednesday, 30.11.11	Morning: 1 Lecture at University of Luxemburg Transfer to Brussels by Bus Joint Lunch Afternoon: 1 Lecture at DG REGIO Accommodation in Brussels	Luxemburg Brussels
Thursday, 01.12.11	3 Lectures at DG REGIO Joint Lunch Closing Workshop at DG REGIO Accommodation in Brussels	Brussels
Friday, 02.12.11	Return Flight from Brussels (13:35) to Kiev (17:30)	Brussels Kiev



6. Detailed programme

Monday, 21 November 2011

Venue: Delegation of the EU in Kiev

09:00 Introduction

Description: The information session started with a briefing meeting in Kiev. The first part of the session was dedicated to a broad introduction of the project, the Ukrainian delegation and the staff in charge of implementing the session in Europe. Ukrainian delegates were able to express their areas of specialisation and their expectations with regard to the study tour. This session also gave an overview of the European regional policy.

Moderator: Mr Pablo Gándara, Project Coordinator

10:00 Session 1: Activities of EU Delegation in Regional Development

Description: The EU programme of financial and technical cooperation supports Ukraine's ambitious reform agenda. More than 250 projects are currently being carried out across a wide-range of sectors, regions and cities in Ukraine. EU assistance focuses in particular on support for democratic development and good governance, regulatory reform and administrative capacity building, infrastructure development and nuclear safety. EU funding for projects in Ukraine is provided in the form of grants, contracts and increasingly budget support.

Lecturers: Mr Dominik Papenheim, Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine

11:00 Session 2: EU Support to Sustainable Regional Development in Ukraine

Description: The EU financed "Support to Sustainable Regional Development in Ukraine" (EuropeAid/125234/C/SER/UA) project is assisting the Government of Ukraine to build a Regional Development system in line with international best practice. This integrated system includes many aspects of regional development including the required structures for the consistent and effective governance of regional development in Ukraine.

Lecturers: Ms Tanja Zabukovec Kovacic (Team Leader) and Mr Yuri Tretyak (Regional Development Policy Expert), SSRD Project

12:00 Joint Lunch

13:00 Transfer to the airport

15:45 Departure to Warsaw

15:20 Arrival in Warsaw

16:30 Check-in

Dinner and accommodation in Warsaw



Tuesday, 22 November 2011

Venue: Ministry of Regional Development

09:00 Session 3: The National Implementation of EU Regional Policy

Description: The Ministry of Regional Development performs functions related to the preparation and implementation of the national development strategy and manages the EU's assistance funds. The department to visit is responsible for structural policy coordination. It prepares programming documents in the area of the cohesion policy. It is also in charge of evaluating the implementation of the EU Support Framework and the National Cohesion Strategy.

Lecturer: Ms Joanna Zarzecka-Mazur, Department of Structural Policy Coordination, Ministry of Regional Development

10:00 Session 4: The Polish National Strategy of Regional Development (NSRD) 2010-2020

Description: The lecture introduced the NSRD, which provides solutions in re-formulating the thinking of regional policy in Poland. This includes basic principles as well as implementation mechanisms so as to enable Poland to fully use the potential of the territorial self-governance and regional advantages.

Lecturer: Mr Maciej Kolczyński, Structural Policy Co-ordination Department, Ministry of Regional Development

11:00 Session 5: The Ex post evaluation of the National Development Plan

Description: Presentation of several evaluation studies regarding the effects of cohesion policy in Poland since 2004. It included the macro-economic impact at national and regional level.

Lecturer: Ms Elżbieta Opałka, Evaluation Unit, Ministry of Regional Development

12:30 Joint Lunch

14:00 Session 6: Field visit to the Copernicus Science Centre

Description: The Copernicus Science Centre is a complex of buildings with usable area of 17,660 square metres including exhibition halls, a planetarium, labs, cafeterias, restaurants, conference rooms, offices, warehouses and workshops. The centre is one of the largest investments in cultural infrastructure in Poland and Central Europe in recent years and has been financed under the Operational Programme Infrastructure and Environment, co-funded through ERDF.

Lecturer: Mr Pawel Sajnog (City Hall of Warsaw) and Ms Sylwia Antoniewicz, Copernicus Science Centre.

17:00 End of sessions

Dinner and accommodation in Warsaw



Wednesday, 23 November 2011

09:00 Session 7: Statistical Information in Poland

Description: The Central Statistical Office in Poland is the government's executive agency charged with gathering data and compiling statistics at national and regional level. The official statistics cover all relevant topics on the economy and society, including economic development, population and energy. This field visit allowed Ukrainian participants to understand the methodologies used in Poland and the challenges when harmonising data at the European level.

Lecturer: Ms Ewa Bandurska, Head of the International Cooperation Section, Central Statistical Office

11:00 Transfer to field visit

11:30 Session 8: Field visit: Water supply and waste-water treatment in Warsaw Phase IV

Description: The Project, financed within the Operational Programme Infrastructure and Environment 2007-2013 for the Mazovia province, covers the expansion of the sewage treatment plant "Czajka", building of sewage transfer system from "left-bank" Warsaw to the "Czajka" sewage treatment Plant and the expansion of the sanitary sewer system. The objective of the project is the treatment of water and sewage disposal in Capital City Warsaw. This will contribute to decontaminate the Vistula River and to prevent its further degradation.

Lecturer: Mr Pawel Sajnog, European Funds Department, City Hall of Warsaw

13:00 Lunch

15:00 Guided tour in Warsaw

Dinner in Warsaw

20:36 Night-Train Transfer to Vienna

Thursday, 24 November 2011

06:22 Arrival in Vienna

07:30 Early Check-in

10:00 Arrival in Vienna City Hall. Coffee and cakes.

10:15 Session 9: The Danube Strategy of the EU – the role of the City of Vienna

Description: The main goals of the Action Plan on the EU Strategy for the Danube Region are defined by activities and exemplary projects. For its implementation and success, strong, dynamic and creative mutual support among the involved actors and networks at local and regional level will be crucial.

Lecturer: Dr. Kurt Puchinger, Director, Urban Planning Group, City of Vienna

Venue: City Hall of Vienna



12:15 Session 10: The Danube Strategy of the EU: Improving Mobility and Multimodality (Danube Waterway)

Description: Sustainable mobility overall is a clear objective of Europe 2020. Given that inland navigation has a relatively low environmental impact (it emits 3.5 times less CO₂ per ton-kilometre than trucks) it is an important mode of transport. Linked by the Main-Danube canal, the Rhine and the Danube are directly connecting eleven countries from the North Sea to the Black Sea over a length of 3,500 km. Hence, the Danube River represents the backbone of the Region. However, the development of waterways as navigation corridors must go hand in hand with the creation of modern and efficient intermodal ports to integrate navigation with rail and road.

Lecturer: Mr Otto Schwetz

Venue: City Hall of Vienna

13:15 End of sessions

13:30 Lunch at Restaurant *Wiener Rathauskeller*

15:00 Session 11: Field visit to the Port of Vienna

Description: The port of Vienna is already the largest port on the Danube in Eastern Austria and its diverse logistical capabilities and capacities continue to be enlarged. Although it is 2,000 km from the Black Sea and 1,500 km from the North Sea, it has the great advantage of being the largest trimodal logistics centre in Austria, bringing together road, rail and water transportation and making it the ideal place for the transportation of goods and for container storage, trade and management. The port of Vienna provides jobs for 5,000 people, making it an important source of employment for the entire region.

Lecturer: Mr Otto Schwetz, City of Vienna

Venue: Port of Vienna

17:00 End of Sessions

19:00 Dinner in Vienna

Accommodation in Vienna

Friday, 25 November 2011

Venue for morning sessions: ÖROK (Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning)

09:30 Key note by Mr Roland Arbster, Austrian Federal Chancellery, on Austrian Regional Development Planning and the European Context

**10:00 Session 12: Regional Policy in Austria Part 1
Introduction and the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011**

Description: The Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning is an organisation set up 1971 by the national, regional and local governments to co-ordinate spatial planning at the national level. The executive body at the political level, under the chairmanship of the Federal Chancellor, includes all the federal ministers and state governors, together with the presidents of the Austrian Union of



Towns and the Austrian Union of Communities and with the presidents of the social and economic partners participating as advisors.

Within the context of European regional and spatial development policies, ÖROK plays an important role as the co-ordinating body between the internal and the European level. It also prepares the "Austrian Spatial Development Concept" which is revised generally every ten years. The most recent one has been published in October 2011. Based on this concept, embedded in projects there are ongoing studies and research on spatial development policy in Austria which are issued in a special publication series.

Lecturer: Ms Elisabeth STIX and Mr Andrés Peña, Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (ÖROK)

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30 Session 13: Regional Policy in Austria Part 2: Evaluation mechanisms

Description: Evaluation is an essential element of the implementation of EU-Programmes (co-funded by ERDF, ESF, and EAFRD). The contents of this lecture included the external pressure to introduce evaluation, the existence of binding legal requirements, the capacity to define clear objectives and indicators in the programme, the development of a valid monitoring system including quality control mechanism and the existence of a vibrant evaluation community / evaluation society and competition between evaluation teams. The lecture also gave examples of evaluation plans, tasks, guidelines and of the overall support provided by the European Union.

Lecturers: Mr Andreas Meier (ÖROK) and Mr Andreas Resch, Principal Consultant at Metis

13:30 Lunch

15:30 Session 14: Statistical Harmonisation in Europe and Indicators of Regional Development in Austria

Description Statistics Austria (STAT) is an independent and non-profit-making federal institution and the leading provider of information services in Austria. STAT produces statistics of high quality as well as analyses which give a comprehensive and objective picture of the Austrian economic and social situation. Presentations focused on regional statistics.

Lecturer: Ms Norbert Rainer, Mr Johannes Klotz, Ms Kerstin Gruber, Mr Gernot Katzlberger, Statistics Austria

Venue: Statistics Austria

17:00 End of sessions

18:30 Dinner and Accommodation in Vienna

Saturday, 26 November 2011

Morning: Guided Tour in Vienna

18:14 Transfer by Night Train to Paris

Sunday, 27 November 2011



09:23 Arrival in Paris Est

Morning: Guided Tour in Paris

Afternoon: Free

Dinner and Accommodation in Paris

Monday, 28 November 2011

Note: Discussions with OECD representatives will also focus on the implications on the different presentations for the OECD Territorial Review work for Ukraine.

09:30 Session 15: OECD overall approach to Regional Development Policy

Key Words: Policy complementarities and a more balanced development paradigm

Lecturer: Mr Joaquim Oliveira Martins, Head of Division, OECD

10:15 Session 16: Growing lagging regions

Key Words: Introduction to the driving forces of regions

Lecturer: Mr William Tompson, Senior Economist, OECD

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30 Session 17: OECD Multi-Level Governance Approach

Key Words: Multi Multi-level governance, which can be understood as the exercise of authority and the various dimensions of relations across levels of government, has changed over the last two decades.

Lecturer: Ms Claire Charbit, Deputy Head of Division, OECD

12:15 Session 18: OECD Territorial review: The case of Poland (2008)

Key Words: Presentation of the working methodology during the elaboration of the review.

Lecturer: Ms Dorothee Allain-Dupré, OECD

13:00 Lunch at Restaurant des Nations, OECD

14h30 Session 19: OECD's fiscal federalism network

Key Words: Major lessons and best-practice principles

Lecturer: Ms Camila Vammalle, OECD

15:15 Session 20: National urban policy reviews

Key Words: Touching on Poland but by no means limited to it.

Lecturer: Mr Javier Sanchez Reaza, OECD



16:00 Coffee Break

16:30 Session 21: Rural Development Policy

Key words: Sustainable growth

Lecturer: Mr Raffaele Trapasso, OECD

17:15 Session 22: Regions and innovation

Key words: Territorial innovation reviews

Lecturer: Ms Giulia Ajmone Marsan, OECD

18:00 End of Programme

19:00 Dinner and Accommodation in Paris

Tuesday, 29 November 2011

08:39 Train trip to Luxemburg (TGV)

10:56 Arrival in Luxemburg

13:00 Lunch at Eurostat

14:00 Session 23: Eurostat – The European Statistical System (ESS) and the Code of Conduct

Description: The ESS comprises Eurostat and the statistical offices in the EU member states, as well as other national and European organisations that submit data to the ESS. The objective of the ESS is to provide comparable statistics at EU level. The ESS is designed as a network in which Eurostat's role is to lead the way in the harmonisation of statistics in close cooperation with the national statistical authorities

Lecturer: Ms Jolanta Janina.Szczerbinska, Eurostat

15:30 Session 24: Eurostat – Regional Statistics

Description: Together with National statistics, Eurostat collects a number of indicators at the regional level. The session described the way in which EU Member States territory is divided into harmonised statistical units (NUTS). It also provided examples of statistical indicators collected at the regional level and showed examples of how this information can be exploited for European policy making purposes. The session also informed on the geographical information collected and managed by Eurostat, used to complement the statistical indicators for an integrated approach to territorial understanding and pan European monitoring.

Lecturer: Ms Teodora Brandmuller and Mr Daniele Rizzi, Eurostat

Dinner and Accommodation in Luxemburg



Wednesday, 30 November 2011

09:00 Session 25: Territorial Cohesion in the European Union – the Metroborder Study

Description: As the lead partner of a transnational project group, the University of Luxembourg conducted the ESPON study “METROBORDER Cross-Border Polycentric Metropolitan Regions“ (2008-2009). Metropolitan regions are generally seen as drivers for territorial development in the national context, as well as drivers for economic, social and cultural development on a European and global scale. Many border regions dispose of specific potentials but also specific barriers for a cross-border polycentric metropolitan region. However, cross-border areas appear to be systematically underestimated in their development opportunities so that awareness about specific advantages needs to be improved.

This is why this project addresses cross-border metropolitan regions in Europe in relation to the policy aim of polycentric development. It aims at identifying criteria, potentials and governance practices based on available ESPON evidence for polycentric cross-border metropolitan regions in Europe and proposing options for development strategies towards a multilevel approach for two case study regions (Upper Rhine Region and the Greater Region).

Lecturer: Prof. Christian Schulz, European Sustainable Spatial Development and Analysis, University of Luxemburg.

10:30 Transfer by bus to Brussels

13:30 Arrival in Brussels

14:00 Lunch with DG REGIO (Brasserie Merode)

15:00 Session 26: EU Regional Policy: The 5th Cohesion Report

Description: Every three years, the EU publishes a report on economic, social and territorial cohesion, detailing progress in these areas and how the EU, national and regional governments have contributed. The 5th Cohesion Report has just been published. The main issues covered are: analysis of regional disparities; the contribution of the EU, national and regional governments to cohesion; the impact of Cohesion Policy and; Cohesion Policy after 2013

Lecturer: Mr Lewis Dijkstra, Deputy Head of Unit, Analysis Unit, DG REGIO

Venue: DG REGIO

17:00 Guided Tour in the City Centre

Dinner and Accommodation in Brussels



Thursday, 01 December 2011

Venue: EU Commission, DG REGIO

09:30 Session 27: EU Regional Policy Making

Description: The regions within the EU face different levels of economic development. For this reason, the Directorate-General Regional Policy develops programmes and launches funds in order to bridge these disparities of prosperity and development. But every region needs its tailor-made solution. This is why the EU engages strong partnerships with many actors on national, regional and local level. This lecture will introduce the key lessons of EU regional policy. To be decided with DG REGIO

Lecturer: Mr Raphaël Goulet and Mr Charles White, Unit B.1, DG REGIO

10:30 Coffee Break

10:45 Session 28: DG REGIO Working Session on Evaluation

Description: Over successive programming periods, the European Commission has emphasised that cohesion policy assistance should be subject to regular and rigorous evaluation. This improves the effectiveness and efficiency of programmes and provides knowledge on the impact of cohesion policy. There are three types of evaluation identified according to their timing: before (ex ante), during (e.g. on-going), and after (ex post) the programming period. Evaluation of cohesion policy is undertaken on a partnership basis, with Member States responsible for ex ante evaluation and the European Commission for ex post evaluation.

Lecturer: Mr Adam Abdul Wahab, DG REGIO

13:00 Lunch at PARK HOTEL BRUSSELS (300m from DG REGIO)

14:30 Session 29: Closing Workshop

Description: Participants were asked to develop their own reflections on EU regional policy and its lessons for Ukrainian challenges. Moreover, Ukrainian experts were requested to propose ways to further fostering the regional policy dialogue between both partners. The workshop also comprised the key contents of the seminar. Participants were also to assess the seminar and to receive participation certificates.

Moderators: Mr Michael Funcke-Bartz, GIZ

Venue: Park Hotel Brussels

17:30 End of Sessions

Dinner and Accommodation in Brussels

Friday, 02 December 2011

10:30 Transfer to the Airport

13:35 Flight back to Kiev (Ukrainian International Airlines)



7. Summary of the information session's programme

The programme started with one briefing session at the Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine in Kiev which included a presentation of the basic logistic issues as well as an introduction to the European Union (focus on cohesion policy). Delegates were able to introduce their background and expectation for the study tour.

Mr. Dominik Papenheim, Sector Manager – Regional and Local Development/Decentralisation of Governance, explained the EU programme of financial and technical cooperation with Ukraine. He explained that EU regional policy is one of the most successful policy fields of the European Union. With regard to cooperation with Ukraine, he underlined the significance of a comprehensive association agreement between the EU and Ukraine and stated that the EU will support regional development through budget support as long as certain preconditions are achieved. These include a wider regional development strategy, transparent financial management of funds and a market-oriented economic framework. Mr. Papenheim explained the EU will also support technical assistance and capacity building during 2012 and 2013, and will keep its mechanisms towards promoting cross-border cooperation. He also mentioned the EU-financed Common Development Approach implemented by UNDP as well as support to the Crimea region.

Ms Tanja Zabukovec Kovacic, Team Leader of the EU funded project “*Support to Sustainable Regional Development in Ukraine SSRD*” explained the aim of the venture. SSRD is assisting the Government of Ukraine to build a Regional Development system in line with international best practice. This integrated system encompasses many aspects of regional development including the required structures for the consistent and effective governance of regional development in Ukraine. Ms Zabukovec explained the complexity of regional development governance and focused on the implementation and management capacities. She referred to the significance of monitoring statistical data and regional development indicators. This process should be undertaken in both top-down and bottom-up manner.

Mr. Pablo Gándara, Project Coordinator, introduced the key figures of European integration and briefly explained the regional diversities across the continent. He also explained the institutional policy making of European legislation as well as the key instruments of European regional policy (ERDF, ESF, etc). The presentation included the wider scope of regional policy since the Lisbon Treaty (“territorial cohesion”) and the economic development strategy Europe 2020.

Discussion centred on EU technical assistance measures, coordination of cross-border cooperation programmes, EU support to administrative reform and the creation of monitoring agencies for regional development.



Sessions in Poland

In Warsaw, the delegation visited the Ministry of Regional Development. Ms Justina Wenglorz, Department of Structural Policy Coordination, welcomed the delegation and briefly explained the competences of the ministry in cohesion policy. The Ministry of Regional Development is responsible for shaping and coordinating numerous policies, including above all: development policy aiming to ensure a durable and sustainable development of the country and socio-economic cohesion; regional policy with the objective to enhance competitiveness of Polish regions as well as ensure territorial and spatial cohesion; spatial policy aiming at maintaining spatial order and a harmonious development of Poland and; cohesion policy focusing on reducing the developmental disparities between European Union regions.

The Ministry of Regional Development ensures that the system for the strategic management of development is well ordered, prepares and implements a socio-economic development strategy which takes the spatial development of the country into account, and coordinates activities of sectoral ministers, self-government, units and socio-economic partners within the area of the development policy. The ministry is also in charge of managing European Funds.

Mr. Maciej Kolczyński, from the Structural Policy Co-ordination Department, delivered a comprehensive presentation about the National Strategy of Regional Development (NSRD) 2010-2020. The lecture introduced the most important regional policy challenges and the key instruments to tackle them. NSRD covers regions, cities and rural areas and has implemented innovative horizontal and multi-level coordination mechanisms. Ukrainian delegates were highly interested in the administrative reforms undertaken in Poland and in the governance system of regional policy.

Ms Elżbieta Opałka, from the Evaluation Unit, introduced the ex post evaluation of the National Development Plan for 2004-2006, focusing on key effects and conclusions. Her presentation included the design and impact of NDP ex post evaluation and the implication for policy makers. Cohesion Policy had a significant impact on increasing the scale of public pro-development structural expenditure (while EU funds alone accounted for about 30% of expenses). Moreover, Ms Opałka explained the high efficiency of interventions based on the significant impact on the basic macro-economic indicators as well as on considerable effects as compared to the scale of interventions. She stated that EU funds also increased positive macro-economic effects and decreased the costs of Cohesion Policy for net payers. Ms Opałka explained some recommendations, including the concentration of activities and resources, the necessity to implement territorially and thematically integrated approaches to socio-economic development and the continuation of structural reforms within strategic areas. She also stated that the evaluation process should be integrated into the decision-making process at all levels of management, building a knowledge management system in the entire public administration based on evidence-based policy.

Discussions centred on the co-financing mechanisms of Poland, the elaboration of sectoral programmes, the monitoring mechanisms of regional development, the partnerships with regions, the negotiations with the European Union towards contents of the operational programmes and the evaluation methodology of regional development.



The working sessions in Warsaw also included two site visits organised by the City of Warsaw. Mr. Paweł Sajnog from the Regional Development Projects Unit of Warsaw City Hall brought delegates to the Copernicus Science Centre. The Centre is a complex of buildings with a usable area of 17,660 square metres including exhibition halls, a planetarium, labs, cafeterias, restaurants, conference rooms, offices, warehouses and workshops. The centre is one of the largest investments in cultural infrastructure in Poland and Central Europe in recent years and has been financed under the Operational Programme Infrastructure and Environment, co-funded through ERDF.

Ukrainian delegates also visited the sewage treatment plant "Czajka", financed within the Operational Programme Infrastructure and Environment 2007-2013 for the Mazovia province. The objective of the project is the treatment of water and sewage disposal in Capital City Warsaw. This will contribute to decontaminate the Vistula River and to prevent its further degradation.

The working sessions in Warsaw also included discussions at the Central Statistical Office (CSO) in Warsaw. Presentations by Ms Dominika Rogalińska and her team introduced the regional statistics in the Polish statistical system, the harmonization of regional statistics in the process of Polish accession to EU, the importance of regional statistics for policy makers (examples), the cooperation between the Central Statistical Office and policy makers, as well as the Polish experience in development and dissemination of regional statistics. Discussions focused on the importance of administrative services provided at the communal level, the cooperation of CSO with the OCED during the elaboration of the Territorial Review for Poland and regional statistics.

Sessions in Austria

On the next day, the delegation visited the City Hall of Vienna. Dr. Kurt Puchinger, Director of Urban Planning Group at the City of Vienna and coordinator of one priority area of the Danube Strategy, delivered an introduction to this initiative. He underlined the bottom-up nature of the programme and the concept of organising EU regional policy in macro-regions. Mr. Puchinger mentioned key activities and exemplary projects. He stated that for the success of the strategy, mutual support among the involved actors and networks at local and regional level is crucial. Mr. Puchinger also mentioned the Danube waterway and the need to upgrade nodes to multi-modal nodes.

Mr Otto Schwetz, Manager of the Pan-European Transport Corridor VII, introduced the Trans-European Transport Networks (TEN-Ts) and the corridor VII that includes Ukraine. He stated that the Danube region is an economic growth belt for the European Union and that therefore it is necessary to have a macro-regional development strategy. He also stated that this is the first EU strategy in which non-EU member states have equal rights with regard to priorities. Mr Schwetz concentrated on the importance of inter-modality and multi-modality for connecting Ukraine's main rivers to the Danube. He also referred to the inter-modal nodes for connecting the Black-Sea with the North Sea, explained the functioning of the priority areas of the Danube Strategy and gave some ideas for the participation of Ukraine.

Mr Schwetz organised a visit to the Port of Vienna, the largest tri-modal logistics centre of Austria. Ms Monika Unterholzner, general manager, explained that the port is made up of six harbours offering all logistics services (warehousing, shipping, etc). The company is owned by the City of Vienna. Ms



Unterholzner explained the master plan for the further development of the port, the importance of strengthening inter-modal transportation and the international cooperation activities with other European ports within the TEN-T.

On the next day, delegates visited the Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (ÖROK). Mr Roland Arbster, from the Austrian Federal Chancellery, introduced the basic territorial figures and the regional policy in Austria. He explained the main functional regions, the heterogeneous urban-rural development and the demographic trends. Mr Arbster also introduced the governance structure of regional policy, based on a federal model of nine regions (*Länder*). Regional policy is governance by a multi-level / multi-actor system with soft coordination and complex interactions between different levels of governments. Mr Arbster delivered some examples of the coordination task carried out by the Federal Chancellery. The elaboration of multi-annual regional development strategies is implemented by ÖROK, which is chaired by the Federal Chancellery. Mr Arbster also referred to the EU structural funds in Austria, which focus on strengthening regional competitiveness and innovation (objective 2 of EU cohesion policy). EU structural funds are important specially for promoting specific areas (e.g. innovation) as well as for promoting cross-border cooperation.

Ms Elisabeth Stix and Mr Andrés Peña introduced the Austrian Spatial Development Concept "ÖREK 2011". The concept was designed in the course of a broad and participative process including stakeholders and citizens. ÖREK 2011 is a scheme for cooperation among all levels of government involved in regional development issues. Among other territorial objectives, it aims at strengthening compact and polycentric structures. ÖREK 2011 concentrates on few key issues, including regional competitiveness, social diversity and solidarity, climate change adaptation and resource efficiency. Implementation of proposed measures is to be carried out through partnerships between the public and the private sector. Here fore, ÖROK has developed a handbook and a checklist for establishing these partnerships.

Discussions centred on the criteria for the allocation of regional development funds, the coordination of sectoral and regional development strategies, the sub-national investments and the net contribution of Austria to regional development in Europe.

This first block of lectures was followed by a presentation on evaluation of EU programmes in Austria. Mr Andreas Resch, principal consultant at Metis Vienna, analysed some EU programmes in Austria for the period 2007-2013. He explained that the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) co-finances one Convergence Programme, eight Regional Competitiveness Programmes and 13 Territorial Cooperation Programmes under different strands, amounting to a total of EUR 1.9 billion public funds (allocation EU plus national). The European Social Fund (ESF) co-finances one Employment Programme amounting to a total of EUR 1.1 billion public funds (allocation EU plus national). Mr Resch mentioned that the importance of EU Programmes is that they offer a platform for cooperation at different regional development governance levels. Evaluating EU programmes is important as best practice for the national programmes. The key principles for evaluations are independence, partnership, transparency and high quality standards. The core tasks for monitoring include setting up databases, reporting on progress by annual reports and strategic reporting. Mr Resch also mentioned key evaluation tasks ex-ante, ongoing and ex-post. He delivered practical examples of net results of EU programmes in Austria. He also introduced the key factors for



developing an evaluation culture, including the external „pressure“ to introduce evaluation, the existence of binding legal requirements, establishing clear objectives and indicators, developing a valid IT monitoring system including quality control mechanism and promoting a vibrant evaluation community with competition between evaluation teams. Mr Resch also stated that the capacity of the public administration to manage evaluations and “digest” evaluation results should be promoted. Moreover, he pointed out that it is necessary to improve continuously the quality of evaluations by fostering the exchange of experience with other Member States and with the European Commission.

On the next day, Ukrainian delegates visited Statistic Austria. Mr Norbert Rainer, Head of Division Classification and Methods, welcomed the delegation and explained key facts of the institution. Since the Federal Statistics Act approved in 2000, Statistic Austria is an independent public institution guaranteeing confidentiality of statistics, security of data and trust of respondents. It produces federal and regional statistics and is based on the principles of objectivity, reliability, cost-efficiency, transparency and comparability of data. Most data is available on the internet free of charge.

Three presentations followed focusing on EU – harmonised Regional Accounts Indicators (Ms Kerstin Gruber, Directorate Macroeconomic Statistics); Regional classifications (Mr Gernot Katzberger, Registers, Classifications and Methods Division Cartography and GIS) and Model-based estimation of regional social policy indicators (Johannes Klotz Directorate Population Statistics).

Sessions in Luxemburg

Ms Jolanta Janina Szczerbinska welcomed Ukrainian delegates at Eurostat. Eurostat is the central institution of the European Statistical System (ESS) a network of national statistics institutions from all EU and EFTA Countries. ESS was built up with the objective of providing comparable statistics at EU level. The extension of EU policies has extended ESS's work on harmonisation to nearly all statistical fields. Ms Szczerbinska stated that the role of Eurostat is based on subsidiarity principle, i.e. it receives, processes and disseminate data at EU level. She gave examples of the main tasks of Eurostat including regional statistics. Ms Szczerbinska underlined the principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice, including professional independence, impartiality and objectivity. She then gave an overview of bilateral cooperation between Eurostat and Ukraine and explained the instruments for staff exchange (TAIEX, etc). She also referred to the Chapter on Statistics of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement.

Ms Teodora Brandmuller from the Unit for Regional Indicators and Geographical Information at Eurostat explained the significance of regional statistics to support the European Cohesion Policy. She stated that data are used to allocate the funds, to evaluate proposals, to monitor developments, to assess the impact of the policy measures and to report to the wider community. Ms Brandmuller introduced the regional classification of NUTS and gave examples of regional and urban statistics dealing with population, economic accounts, land use, labour market, etc. Mr Daniele Rizzi focused on the relevance of geographical information systems for statistics. He showed the functionality of the GISCO database, which contains information based on regular grids.

On the next day delegates attended a presentation by Prof. Christian Schulz from the University of Luxemburg. He introduced the Metroborder Study as an analysis of cross-border polycentric



metropolitan regions. The study concentrates on eleven functional areas in cross-border polycentric metropolitan region, including the Greater Region with boundaries of Belgium, Germany, France and Luxemburg. The region, which comprises a population of 11 million inhabitants, has a stronger macroeconomic output as urban areas like the Upper Rhine or Barcelona. This shows that polycentric development is one of the key goals of cohesion policy.

Sessions in Brussels

Meetings in Brussels took place at the European Commission (DG REGIO). Mr Lewis Dijkstra, Deputy Head of Unit, Analysis Unit, introduced the Fifth Cohesion Report, released in December 2010. According to the report, disparities between EU regions are narrowing but more developed regions are more competitive especially due to their innovation skills, higher rates of employment and better infrastructure. Mr Dijkstra explained that well-being and life satisfaction are strongly linked to higher household income in the less developed parts of the EU, but not in the more developed regions. With regard to environmental sustainability, some regions are at high risk from climate change whereas others have a strong potential to produce more renewable energy. He stated that better coordination is needed between regional development and other EU and national policies. With regard to the Europe 2020 strategy, Mr Dijkstra stated that regions and regional development policy can significantly contribute to their goals, but it seems necessary to give a strong role for regions, cities and local authorities.

On the next day, delegates were welcomed by Mr Raphaël Goulet, Head of Unit, Relations with Third Countries. Mr Goulet referred to the need of narrowing existing regional development gaps by providing smart investment across the European Union. He focussed on some basic lessons for Ukraine of the European experience with regional policy. First, there is a need of accurate indicators, statistics and monitoring systems. Each operational programme (OP) of EU regional policy is based on a SWAT analysis with the key goal of prioritising investment. Second, a strategic programming based on good coordination mechanisms among different regional development levels is necessary. This allows multi-annual budgeting with a long term planning perspective. Third, programmes for regional development have to be implemented in partnerships and based on the principle of subsidiarity. Mr Goulet also referred to the proposals for the cohesion period 2014-2020. Discussions focussed on regional development issues in Ukraine, cooperation possibilities between both partners, the access to public services in Ukraine and the new regional development fund proposed for Ukraine.

Mr. Charles White (DG REGIO) delivered a presentation on EU regional policy as an inspiration for third countries. He underlined the cooperation between public and private sector in financing regional development and emphasised that regional policy is not only a budget but rather a working methodology. The approach grounds on the assumption of investing in new projects rather than in subsidising inefficient sectors. He focussed on the evaluation of the period 2000-2006 and gave examples of progress in several European regions. Mr White also referred to growing disparities between urban and rural areas in the new EU member states. With regard to the evaluation methods, he mentioned different models like Hermin, Quest and Transtools. Mr White also gave insights to enterprise support and discussed some policy questions. Discussion with the Ukrainian experts focused on the future of EU cohesion policy.



The last presentation by DG REGIO was held by Mr Adam Abdulwahab (Evaluation Unit). Mr Abdulwahab focused on Monitoring, Indicators and Performance of regional policy. He stated that some current programmes are often just designed to spend. As some objectives are vague, it is difficult to recognise success or failure of a programme. Due to differences in monitoring it is difficult to evaluate and to demonstrate the value of the policy. The EU Commission has proposed to concentrate the funding and to focus on results (not only in spending). Moreover, programmes should be developed with clear articulation of what they aim to change and how. Mr Abdulwahab explained that there is a need for better gathering basic data on outputs and to make ex ante evaluation obligatory. He explained the new intervention logic of the EU Commission and the requirements for indicators. Mr Abdulwahab gave the example of support to enterprise. He finally referred to the performance framework and to the evaluation methods.

The seminar ended with a closing workshop session in Brussels, moderated by Mr. Michael Funcke-Bartz, Head of Division Sustainable Technologies, Industrial and Urban Development at GIZ. Participants were requested to develop their own reflection on EU regional policy and its usefulness for Ukrainian challenges.

Delegates expressed their gratitude to GIZ as all expectations expressed during the opening session in Kiev had been fulfilled. They also referred to the importance of the field visits in order to see regional policy effects on the spot. Delegates also stated that the strategic goal of Ukraine's regional development is the European integration. They also referred to the added value of visits to the OECD and Eurostat, which are particularly relevant during the elaboration of the territorial review. Delegates focused on the importance of statistics for decision-making on regional policy and mentioned the visits to the statistics offices in Poland and Austria. They also referred to the importance of the Danube Strategy for Ukraine and expressed their will to further commit their regions.

Another issue of discussion was the role of the local level in regional policy making. Best practices seen during the study tour inspired most delegates to disseminate their knowledge in regional and local networks. Local self-government authorities wished to be further involved in the regional policy dialogue. Delegates also referred to the chapters of regional development of the EU-Ukraine association agreement, dealing with urban, rural and cross-border cooperation. They also mentioned the EU-Ukraine Summit of December 2011 and the need for an EU membership perspective for Ukraine. Delegates also highlighted the high level of presentations expressed their will to work with EU regional policy makers at different levels during the implementation of programmes.

The workshop also included a brief summary of the field visits delivered by the project coordinator, Mr. Pablo Gándara. Participants were also able to evaluate the activity and to receive participation certificates.

It should be stressed that all lecturers were highly motivated with the activity as well as with the discussions with Ukrainian delegation members.



8. Cultural programme

GIZ was committed to implementing an attractive cultural programme in order to facilitate interaction among participants and to promote cooperation with the regions that have been visited. The cultural programme included guided tours in the cities of Vienna and Paris.

9. Composition of the Ukrainian delegation

The Ukrainian delegation consisted of regional-level officials and representatives of different national ministries. All participants were senior experts in their policy areas and had decision-making competences on regional development issues.

No	Authority	Name	Position
1.	Ministry of Regional Development, Construction and Municipal Economy of Ukraine	Romaniuk Serhiy	Director of Regional Policy
2.	Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine	Kulikovska Olena	Chief Specialist of Division of Cooperation with EU Institutions of the Directorate for European Integration
3.	Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine	Pashkevych Serhii	Chief Specialist of Directorate for cooperation with Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and regions
4.	Administration of the President of Ukraine	Tabalov Artem	Chief Specialist of the Main Department on Regional and Personnel Policy
5.	Ministry of Regional Development, Construction and Municipal Economy of Ukraine	Umarov Tymofii	Head of Division of Regional Development of Directorate of Regional Policy
6.	Ministry of Regional Development, Construction and Municipal Economy of Ukraine	Voytsekhovska Inha	Head of Division for Multilateral Cooperation and Protocol of Directorate for Interregional and International Cooperation
7.	Ministry of Regional Development, Construction and Municipal Economy of Ukraine	Palagusynets Roman	Chief Specialist of Division for Multilateral Cooperation and Protocol of Directorate for Interregional and International Cooperation
8.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine	Koziarska Anna	Third Secretary of the Directorate of EU



9.	Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine	Panchuk Kateryna	Chief Specialist of Division of Regional Development Monitoring and Regional Economic Services Coordination of Department of Regional Development Planning of the Directorate of Regional Policy
10.	State Service of Statistics of Ukraine	Redchenko Svitlana	Deputy Head of Directorate of Statistics of Population, Administrative and Territorial System – Head of Division of Regional Statistics
11.	Main Department of Statistics in Kyiv	Vilenchuk Raisa	Head of Main Department
12.	Donetsk Regional State Administration	Bardakova Ganna	Head of Department of Foreign Economic Relations
13.	Kyiv Regional State Administration	Dotsenko Oleg	Deputy Head of Main Department of Economy Head of Department of Foreign Economic Policy
14.	Odessa Regional Council	Honcharenko Oleksii	Deputy Head of Odessa Regional Council
15.	Chernivtsi Regional State Administration	Reva Petro	Deputy Head of Administration
16.	National Agency of Ukraine on Civil Service	Gavrylov Kostiantyn	Head of Unit for International Development Projects and European Integration of the Department for Civil Service Modernization
17.	National Association of Regional Development Agencies (NARDA)	Tretyak Yuriy	Executive Director
18.	Ukrainian Association of Local Authorities “Association of Cities of Ukraine”	Slobozhan Oleksandr	Expert on Monitoring of Legislation
19.	Ukrainian Association of Local Self-Government “Ukrainian Association of district and regional councils”	Bezuglyi Dmytro	Deputy Head of Dnipropetrovsk Regional Council – Head of Division on Internal Policy



10. Documentation provided to the participants

Detailed documentation folders were handed out to the participants in their introductory session in Trier. The prepared folders included:

- Programme
- Background material on EU-Ukraine Regional Policy dialogue, EU Cohesion Policy 2007-2013.
- Background material on the relevant Operation Programmes (OPs) to be visited
- Background material on some lectures and presentations

11. E-Learning platform Global Campus 21 ©

Most presentations held during the two-week training were uploaded to Global Campus 21® (GC21), GIZ's virtual learning platform on the Internet. It is based on a learning management system using modern web technology.

For this information session, a shared workspace was established in English. This provided various online tools, such as chat & discussion forums, pin board, document pools, link collections, and mailing features.

The screenshot shows the Global Campus 21 interface for 'Information Session Nr. 4 (21st Nov-02nd Dec 2011)'. The main content area displays a 'Documents • Overview' section with a table of documents. The table has columns for Subject, File, Sender, Date, Updates Count, Status, and Last Update. The documents listed are:

Subject	File	Sender	Date	Updates Count	Status	Last Update
Vienna: Consolidated version of the Bundesstatistikgesetz		Volker Kienast	2011-12-16 12:09			2011-12-16 12:09
Vienna: Model-based estimation of regional social policy indicators		Volker Kienast	2011-12-16 12:05			2011-12-16 12:05
Vienna: Regional Classifications		Volker Kienast	2011-12-16 12:02			2011-12-16 12:02
Vienna: EU – harmonised Regional Accounts Indicators		Volker Kienast	2011-12-16 11:59			2011-12-16 11:59
Brussels: Regional Policy		Volker Kienast	2011-12-16 11:54			2011-12-16 11:54
Luxemburg: METROBORDER: Cross-border polycentric metropolitan regions		Pablo Gandara	2011-12-12 10:18			2011-12-12 10:18



12. Results of the written evaluation by the participants

Each participant received an evaluation form to be filled in after the seminar. The form contained several categories including contents, logistics and assistance. Participants were also able to enter additional remarks on different aspects of the seminar. The results of the assessment form are as follow:

Each participant received an evaluation form to be filled in after the seminar. The form contained several categories including contents, logistics and assistance. Participants were also able to enter additional remarks on different aspects of the seminar. The results of the assessment form are as follow:

1. Overall evaluation

Excellent (1,3 from 1 to 5, where 1 is excellent and 5 is poor)

2. The impact of the information session on your future work

All participants think what they have gained from the information session will play an important and positive role in their future work and they are ready to transfer it to their colleagues or related persons.

3. Please write some topics particularly relevant for cohesion policy in Ukraine

- Danube strategy
- DG Regio – presentation for the next programming period
- Regional policy of Austria
- Rural development policy by OECD
- Regional policy in Poland
- Economy-geographic approach to statistics
- EU regional policy
- Evaluation of results
- Competitive model
- Territorial cohesion – Metroborder study
- Cooperation with European projects, e.g. Danube strategy
- Experience of statistical offices in Poland and Austria
- Eurostat – regional statistics
- General OECD approach to regional development
- Territorial cohesion, indicators, monitoring, evaluation
- Topics on the development of statistical indicators in order to provide for informational needs of cohesion policy
- National development strategy of Poland
- Support to sustainable regional development
- Statistical and indicator harmonization between EU and Ukraine
- Spatial planning



- Evaluation criteria for regional policy
- As Ukraine made first step to creation of regional policy, the impact on life of people and funds allocation have to be evaluated
- Regional development strategy of Poland for 2010-2020
- Evaluation mechanisms (regional policy of Austria)
- Regions and innovations
- Development of lagging regions
- Regional development strategies (principles and ways of implementation)
- Methods of ex-ante evaluation, monitoring, ex-post evaluation
- Evaluation (Austria)
- OECD territorial reviews

4. Please mention some issues not dealt with or not dealt with in sufficient depth during this Information Session

- Cross-border cooperation
- Cluster potential of regions bordering with Ukraine
- All topics were correspondent to my expectations
- Legislation concerning EU regional development in a systematic chart
- Implementation of NUTS into statistical activity and correlation with national classificatory
- Implementation of projects under cohesion policy
- Participation of LSG organizations in the development of regional policy

5. Please mention some own concrete ideas about how to apply what you've gained from the information session in Ukraine

- Constant application on my work place and deep cooperation with the members of the workgroup
- Analyse knowledge gained during study visit, analyse current legal base in order to define ways for regional development of Ukraine
- Development of a document on basic approaches to regional development strategy evaluation by all stakeholders
- During OECD territorial review work and cooperation with DG Regio
- Development of cluster model
- Evaluation of results of the programme
- Development of indicators, quality statistical information, use of modelling, implementation of geo-informational systems
- Preparation of statistical information for OECD territorial review in Ukraine;
- Implementation of NUTS system
- Use the skills in Ukraine while implementing monitoring and evaluation instruments
- Attraction of investments
- Creation of Euro-Regional strategy for eastern Ukraine
- Implementation of the programme for online collection of municipal statistics



- Special education module for municipalities
- Dissemination of information
- I will prepare a detailed report on the topics discussed during visits to European institutions, description of methods of evaluation of socio-economic development of the regions
- Inclusion in draft legislative acts

6. What concepts/ideas in your opinion can be effectively implemented in Ukraine?

- Comparative method, analytical method, modelling, spatial planning
- Analyse knowledge gained during study visit, analyse current legal base in order to define ways for regional development of Ukraine
- Evaluation of regional development agreements;
- Evaluation of projects under regional development strategies
- Evaluation methods for regional and rural development
- Economy-geographic approach to statistics
- Elaboration of regional development strategies
- Territorial contracts
- Competitive model for allocation of funds
- To get more knowledge on geo-informational systems for information dissemination
- Danube strategy
- Cross-border cooperation
- Implementation of cohesion policy in Ukraine
- Model method is the most effective, ex-post evaluation, good governance, SWOT analysis
- Cohesion policy
- The unified system of collection of static information of socio-economic development of the regions
- Indicators
- Evaluation

7. How would you like to be involved into the programme planning?

- As a representative of local self-government
- Via e-mail
- Through the contact point in the Ministry for regional development of Ukraine
- As a coordinator of implementation of the MoU I can provide my ideas on the topics
- I'm ready to take part in the determining of themes of the visit
- By asking questions to participants in advance



- Agreeing on future topics
- Approving topics before project start
- Providing feedback on topics and goals of the visit
- Sending topics and countries beforehand in order to give suggestions.
- As previous time, by an official letter

8. Is it important for you to know in advance contents, lecturers and projects?

- Yes, so it will help to prepare relevant tasks
- Very important
- Yes, to be informed about the programme

9. What kind of actions do you recommend after the visit?

- Online presentations, access to information sources, e-learning
- Special presentations
- Online presentations
- As suggested by the project
- Online access to information
- Involvement of experts to further work in Ukraine
- Online access to information
- Cooperation in realisation of some projects – is the best.
- Also we can receive ongoing information about the themes from lecturers.
- Informational follow-up (accessibility of info online, communication with EU-member partners)
- Online information sharing
- Online courses, e-learning, information sharing
- Communication with participants, information in media
- Exchange of contacts and information between participants
- Online module, presentation in Ukraine, seminar on exchange of experience
- Participation of best lecturers in seminars in Ukraine

10. Other comments

- High level of organisation of participation of delegation
- Thanks to the organisers
- Make 5 minute breaks between presentations to make it easier for the interpreter and give time to absorb information to the members of the group

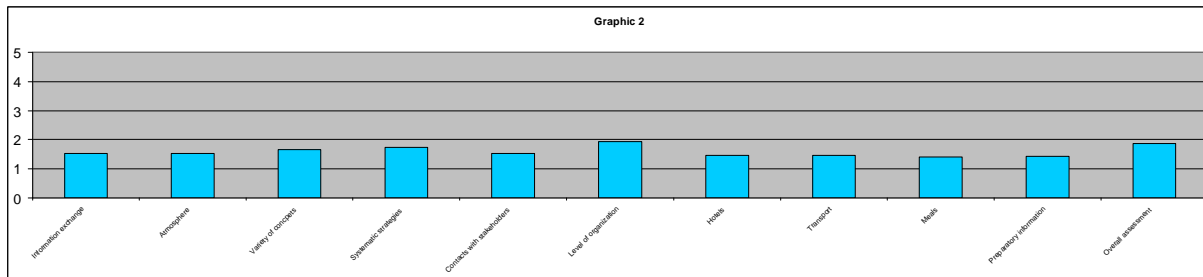
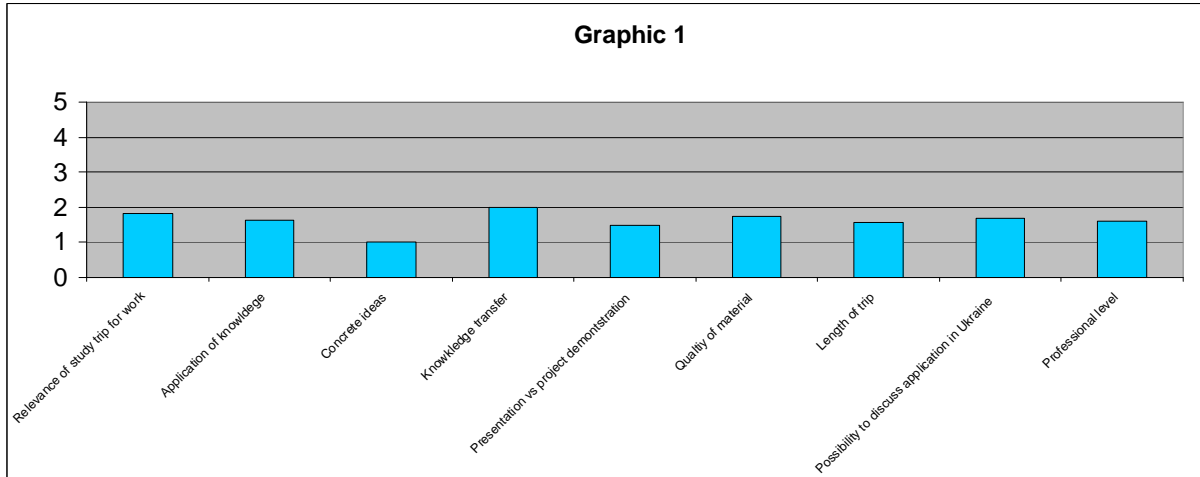


- Thank you for perfect organization of the visit!
- Professionalism, openness and friendliness of coordinator has to be underlined
- Perfect!
- Need more free time to get acquainted with the cities
- Special thanks to Pablo Gandara and Volker Kienast. They did great job
- It is worth to reduce the programme by one location – it's a little bit too long and too tough. In general – very interesting and inspiring. Thank you very much!
- No pizza, please
- To examine the possibility to have parallel sessions on specialised issues in order to save time and have deeper discussion
- To limit the visit to max 3 countries (cities). Not to use night trains
- To give more time for discussion (question/answer sessions) with experts. To send presentations to participants before the visit
- To give more specific examples from EU regions on evaluation results
- Everything was of high level. High level of presentations and logistics
- Visit (programme) was well structured, role of coordinator was clear, presentations of high quality.
- As logistical issues appeared, project coordinator got involved into solving them and was successful
- Sometimes the work of assistant was not of high quality



13. Quantitative presentation of the evaluation results

Please find below the aggregated data of the evaluation made anonymously by Ukrainian delegates. The scale goes from 1 (excellent) to 5 (poor).





14. Staff engaged in the implementation of the programme

Pablo Gándara, Project Coordinator

Mr. Gándara studied political science with a focus on economics in Chile (Santiago) and Germany (Berlin). Mr. Gándara has a long track record in leading public communication agencies, economic associations as well as academic and training institutions. He has also published several articles on EU foreign policy and regional integration issues. Mr. Gándara has developed and managed large scale research and training projects co-funded by the European Commission.

Volker Kienast, Project Assistant for GIZ, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Mr. Kienast studied geography and sinology in Germany and Taiwan. He is experienced in planning, implementing and evaluating of capacity building activities for executives of different Asian countries. He has provided capacity building and advisory services, especially of public urban transport and logistics and urban planning.

Michael Funcke-Bartz, Head of Division Sustainable Technologies, Industrial and Urban Development, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Since 2010, Mr. Funcke-Bartz is in charge of the Division “Sustainable Technologies, Industrial and Urban Development” at GIZ’s head office in Bonn. Since 1985, he worked for the predecessor organisations Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft e.V. (CDG) and Capacity Building International, Germany (InWEnt) as human capacity building specialist in the field of urban development and infrastructure management. As senior project manager, he was responsible for the developing, implementing and monitoring advanced professional training programmes for professionals and decision-makers in developing countries.



15. Pictures Gallery



Visit of the water treatment plant in Warsaw



Presentation by Dr Kurt Puchinger, City of Vienna



Visit to the Port of Vienna



Discussions at the Austrian Spatial Planning Conference (ÖROK)



Visit to the OECD in Paris



Meetings at the EU Commission in Brussels