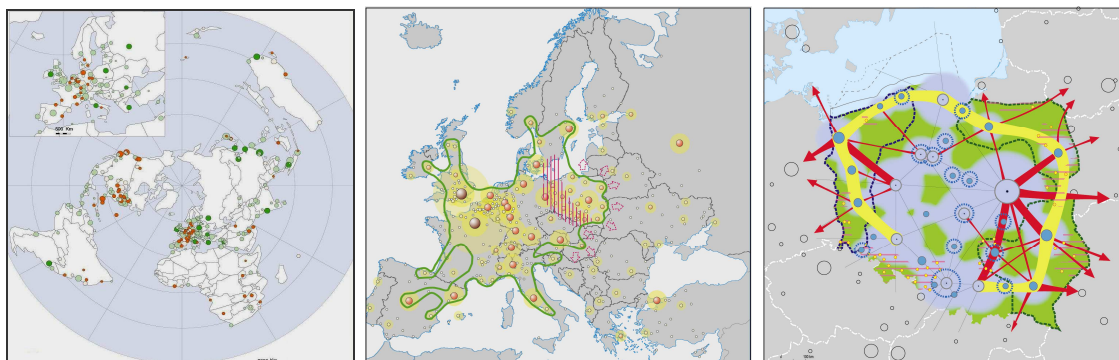




Territorial development challenges – visions of Europe & Poland



22-23 November, Warsaw

The Ministry of Regional Development of Poland has a great pleasure to invite you to participate in the Conference on **Territorial development challenges – visions of Europe & Poland** which will be an attempt of confronting the Participants with the development challenges in Europe and in Poland. The conference will be organized on 22-23 November 2012 in Warsaw, in the Ministry of Regional Development of Poland, 2/4 Wspólna Street.

The meeting will be an inspiring occasion to present visions of territorial development in Europe, therein the vision of Poland presented in the *National Spatial Development Concept of Poland 2030*. The challenges that Polish space faces are similar to those faced by other European countries. We would like to stimulate a discussion upon territorial cohesion in Europe and ways of introducing territorial dimension in European Cohesion Policy to ensure the implementation of Territorial Agenda 2020 and Europe 2020 Strategy.

The main objective of the conference is to initiate an exchange of views and opinions on the challenges in Europe. During this debate we will reflect on issues related to the future of European territory in a long term and global perspective. The visionary process has a strategic character that allows giving direction on the policy debate on territorial development.

Thus the discussion during the sessions will concentrate on possible scenarios for Europe. The debate will touch upon relations of Eastern Europe countries to the European core development areas. The meeting will start a brainstorming discussion on possible futures of Europe in the XXI century, therein Poland's role in Europe, and visions of socio-economic and territorial development of Central and Eastern Europe.

The Ministry of Regional Development of Poland would like to host this debate. In Warsaw there will be an opportunity to exchange views and good practice on conducting development policy, that can contribute to the Europe we would like to live in.

SAVE THE DATE: Come and join us during this interesting event!

Venue: Poland, Warsaw, Ministry of Regional Development, Wspólna 2/4 Street.

Language of the conference: English (the Polish<->English translation will be provided).

Detailed agenda will be available soon.

Contact person for further information is: Wiktoria Palion (wiktoria.palion@mrr.gov.pl).

We are looking forward to seeing you in Warsaw!

A PRELIMINARY AGENDA OF THE CONFERENCE

22 nd of November	
10:30-11:00	Welcome coffee and registration
OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE	
11:30-13:30	OPENING SESSION
<p>Nowadays we have no doubt that the financial and economic crisis has an impact on general development and growth asymmetrically and with different force. The European Union, its member states and their regions, are today more exposed to global shocks and international competition than any time before. The European scene represents different features of economic, social and territorial development. The European territory has many competitive advantages as well as challenges to meet. This opening session will start a brainstorming discussion on the future of European space and territorial impact of the crisis. Europe is changing – the questions are inter alia: <i>How is the European space changing in the XXI century and how is the financial crisis influencing the European space?</i></p>	
Discussion	
13:30-14:30	Lunch
14:30-16:00	FIRST SESSION
VISIONS OF THE SPATIAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF CENTRAL-EASTERN EUROPE	
<p>The debate during this session will concentrate on relations of Eastern Europe countries to the European core development areas. The balance of territorial influences is changing, and the strengths and weaknesses of regions are affected asymmetrically by crisis – the question is – are the Eastern European countries still a periphery of Europe and what are their development visions and challenges they will have to face. A place-based approach is the way to increase the territorial cohesion and development potentials at European, national and regional level. We will try to outline new spatial ideas for European territories included in the key European and national documents. The session will start a discussion upon where the peripheries are today and where will be the core of Europe in the future.</p>	
Discussion	
23 rd of November	
09:00-09:30	Welcome coffee
09:30-11:00	SECOND SESSION
TERRITORIAL COHESION CHALLENGES	
<p>Cooperation beyond and across administrative boundaries is seen as one of the most important factors contributing to innovation which is a key in the achievement of sustainable growth and territorial cohesion. In this panel we would like to bring closer territorial cohesion with functional understanding and planning as it seems to be an important element which can improve development of European space. The questions are – how functional areas could strengthen the European space, are they an important growth factor? During this session we would like to discuss what are the challenges for future cooperation in strengthening territorial competitiveness and cohesion.</p>	
Discussion	
11:00-11:15	Coffee break
11:15-13:00	THIRD SESSION
FUTURES OF THE EUROPEAN TERRITORY – ET2050 AND INSPIRATION OF OTHER ESPON PROJECTS.	
<p>Policymakers in the field of territorial development and cohesion are often in need of a future oriented and integrated vision on the development of the European territory. More focus on Europe's global advantages, links and flows seems needed in today's world. The visionary process has a strategic character that allows giving direction to the policy debate on territorial development. The aim of ET2050 project is to formulate a long-term integrated and coherent Territorial Vision for the "smart, sustainable and inclusive" development of the EU territory. The discussion during the session will concentrate on possible scenarios for Europe.</p>	
Discussion	
THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE	
13:30	Lunch