

## ***WP4 Hinterland trans-national concepts and regional foresight***

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# **The transnational, national and regional policy documents identified as relevant for decline issues in the hinterland regions**

**An overview  
based on the input from the Hinterland Project partners**

***The initial stage was presented at the***

**2nd HINTERLAND Forum 09-11.10.2006 Siauliai**

## *WP4 Hinterland trans-national concepts and regional foresight*

WP4 studies are conducted during the whole life-time of the HINTERLAND project

### **The WP4 objectives and planned results:**

1. Regional foresight and optimised strategies to improve Hinterland long-term future perspectives
2. Recommendations concerning new Hinterland planning and funding in BSR
3. Transfer of information to regional, national, international stakeholders

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**The task for the objective 1** in the first stage (MS1-2) was defined as:

- Collection and analysis of plans, programmes and the like policy documents relevant for the hinterland decline issues and objectives in each partner region*

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As the coordinator for these tasks served

**Baltic Institute for Regional European Concern**

– Gdansk / Gdynia (Poland)

We were assisted by prof. Thomas Weith and Anne  
Kathrin Jacobs,  
the LP's consultants from the University of Potsdam

Thank You !

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Analysis of plans, programmes and policy documents relevant for the hinterland decline issues and objectives in each partner region

### **Implemented procedure :**

1. the format of data on the policy documents for comparative analysis proposed
2. the relevant data from the partners collected and compiled
3. initial analysis of the documents made, and
4. the result of analyses presented

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### **Next steps:**

- exemplary investigation on the objectives and results of finalized projects and their strategic approaches
- comparison of relevant EU and national programmes and their objectives respecting Hinterland decline issues

### **And further, based on the results of these steps:**

- searching for most innovative and effective measures to combat / limit the decline process,
- drafting recommendation for the decline areas improved management (to be discussed by partners, and at the broader political and expert fora's).

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### **Policy levels:**

- transnational (pan European & Baltic Region),
- national (6 countries, *in Germany level of Land*)
- regional (*provinces, ial, also*)

### **7 regions:**

DK – county of Viborg

DE – Havelland-Flaeming planning region  
(*south-western part of Metropolitan region of Berlin*)

LT - north (Šiauliai, Pasvalys), south (Kaunas, Jurbarkas)

PL – 2 small regions in provinces of Pomerania, and Warmia-Mazury)

RU - republic of Karelia, Pskov region

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Assumed was that **most important documents are:**

- addressing (even partially only) the transnational / transborder and/or inter regional cooperation issues
- representing integrated approach, i.e. concerned with economic development, but also covering:
  - population and social (HR) issues,
  - management of physical (incl. built / cultural) environment)
- action oriented i.e. proposing specific strategies and measures: financial, social mobilization, cooperation of different actors etc.

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### **Main documents of European Policy level**

**European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP)**

European Commission; May 1999

**Guiding Principles for Sustainable Development within the European Continent**

CEMAT , Hanover 2000

**Visions and Strategies around the Baltic Sea 2010+**

Fifth VASAB Conference , Wismar 2001

### **Also**

*New European Policy for Rural Areas documents*

*Reports on Socio-economic (and Territorial) Cohesion*

*Leipzig Urban Development Charta*

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# European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP)

*European Commission; May 1999*

**Region is the right level for analyzing spatial development and creating strategies.**

The prerequisites of success are:

advantageous location, good quality of natural environment and cultural heritage, existence of networks, engagement of local politicians and actors of civil society.

**The rural areas are heterogenic, and document distinguishes :**

1. rural areas which are strongly influenced by nearby cities
2. rural peripheral areas.

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# European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP)

*European Commission; May 1999*

- \*Economic decline in rural peripheral areas is explained with deficits in infrastructure and in the obsolete structure of industry.
- \*The problem of migration is foreseen (and its influences on services), but not as existing already.
- \* Rural areas vary regarding their perspectives and chances. Therefore strategies for spatial development must consider local and regional conditions and needs -->

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### **Guiding Principles for Sustainable Development within the European Continent**

*Twelfth European Conference of Ministers Responsible for  
Regional Planning CEMAT (Hanover, 2000 )*

The problem of HINTERLAND-Regions is not an explicit topic of the document.

- Rural areas are not seen as heterogenic areas. Therefore the given recommendations are given generally for all rural areas.
- The topic of decline is also mentioned only once by noting, that a strong rural development policy is necessary to prevent massive migration.

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### **VASAB 2010+**

*Fifth Conference of Ministers Responsible for Spatial Planning within the BSR in Wismar 2011*

Rural areas are seen as very deversified, heterogenic:  
subdivision into four types of rural areas have been distinguished

- \* first three types are marked by the decline of working places (through the decline of agriculture or of traditional and/or resource based industries) and weak local centres
- \* the problem of decline is foreseen with such negative effects as out-migration, increase in the percentage of old people, services being more and more unprofitable, high costs of infrastructure, but not as already happening
- \* suggested measures are given for the first three types of rural areas

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### **Examples of VASAB policies / strategies**

Creation of development strategies, adapted to local conditions and needs

Improvement of relation between local centers and the surrounding rural areas

Ensuring access to infrastructure and knowledge

Preservation of cultural and natural heritage as a basis for economic and social development

Diversification of agricultural activities: marketing of high quality products, support of investments regarding protection of the environment, holiday on the farm,

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### **Examples of VASAB policies / strategies (cont.)**

Support for new enterprises: creation of new fields of income (outside agriculture)

Ensuring excess to technical, knowledge based infrastructure; supporting enterprise networks and the cooperation between education, science/research and enterprises

Development of renewable energies (wind, water, solar, biomass, tides, urban waste recycling)

Using the potentials of information technologies, improvement of education regarding technological knowledge

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### Synopsis of the national & regional policy documents relevance for hinterland decline (“shrinkage”) issues

National doc.		Regional doc.	
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	DK	DE	LT	PL	RU
<b><i>Are the documents - in the respect of “shrinkage” - identifying / proposing:</i></b>					
<b>Hinterland/decline issues and problems</b>	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Strategic aims/objectives to control the process</b>	(X)	X	X	X	X
<b>Specific measures/operations</b>		X	(X)	(X)	(X)
<b>Transnational/transborder cooperation</b>	(X)		X		(X)

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Synopsis of the national & regional policy documents relevance for hinterland decline (“shrinkage”) issues, *cont.*

National doc.		Regional doc.	
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	DK	DE	LT	PL	RU
<b><i>What particular approach has been used as the model</i></b>					
<b>General /sectoral economic</b>	X	X		X	X
<b>Integrated regional approach</b>			X	X	X
<b>Comprehensive rural development</b>		X			
<b>Spatial and environmental management</b>		X		X	X

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### *Main decline issues identified-Germany*

#### *National level*

Not mentioned at national level

Hinterland-regions are heterogeneous and therefore have to adapt themselves on changing demands

#### *Regional level*

Within the Common State Development Programmes decline and its effects have to adapt themselves on changing demands (but it is left open how it should happen)

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### ***Measures to mitigate decline in the hinterland areas- Germany***

#### ***National level***

- Secure equal living conditions in all regions Services and high-quality-working places are to be concentrated in local centres, Improvement of technical infrastructure
- Problem solving strategies are best found on regional level
- Improvement of technical infrastructure is seen as necessity for development

#### ***Regional level***

Chances for development are seen in tourism, renewable energies, landscape protection, processing and (direct) marketing of agricultural (high-quality) products.

*This stigmatisation ignores the mentioned heterogeneity of Hinterland-regions*

Further potentials are seen in the provision of cheap, developed industrial areas

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### *Main decline issues identified - Denmark*

#### **National level**

Need for improvements in living and working conditions, support for cultural heritage and local activities, agricultural products development, also recreation and green parks

#### **Regional level**

Enhancing employment opportunities in rural areas, development of agriculture, marketing of quality products.

Better management of environment and cultural assets.

Development of infrastructure, services and public transport in rural areas.

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### ***Measures to mitigate decline in the hinterland areas - Denmark***

#### **National level**

Eg. the LEADER + in Denmark:

- Supporting local initiatives to make villages better places to live
- Improving the internet access of rural areas and development of skills in modern communication technologies
- Profiling of the local areas towards potential newcomers and tourists
- Developing business networks and marketing of specific local products

#### **Regional level**

- Involvement of local citizens in decision-making    Cooperation (formal and networking) among decision-makers
- Supporting any local initiatives to make coasts and villages more attractive to live and go about, establish more tracks for walking, bicycling and horseback riding
- Also typical programming and land-use strategies for development of villages

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### *Main decline issues identified – Lithuania*

#### **National level**

A really extensive list of issues which were identified by the two basic national documents

And two other for sectors of agriculture and tourism

#### **Regional level**

No information available

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### ***Measures to mitigate decline in the hinterland areas - Lithuania***

#### ***National level***

Most (!) comprehensive strategic goal: Stable and balanced development of the rural areas seeking to ensure favorable business, working, living and social conditions for village residents, being close to the average level nationwide for the strong rural community to be able to preserve, expand and properly use a positive material and spiritual heritage of the village

#### ***Regional level***

No information available for specific regions represented by the Lithuanian PP's

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### *Main decline issues identified-Poland*

#### *National level*

The National Development Strategy for 2007-2015 distinguished the spatial differences in socio-economic development, but specific issues of decline and hinterland areas were identified in more detail in the background document – National Strategy of Regional Development

#### *Regional level*

The issues covered by local strategic plans in 2 different subregions very similar, focussed at the basic infrastructure

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### ***Main measures to mitigate decline in the hinterland areas-Poland*** ***National level***

Promoting development of

- basic infrastructure, esp. transport routes linking metropolises with their regions
- tourist infrastructure and attractions
- employment and entrepreneurship in less economically developed regions
- business environment, esp. for the innovation sectors local
- human capital (social trust and civil society) educational and training institutions),
- stronger networks of urban centres and links with their regional surroundings
- small towns as local growth centres for rural areas development and restructuring

### ***Regional level***

Priority to infrastructure investments (roads, environ. facilities), much efforts also towards social capital enhancement through education and networking projects in many fields

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### ***Main decline issues identified-Russia (Karelia)***

#### ***National level***

Structure of economy too much oriented onto raw materials,  
Cooperation problems with neighboring Finland;  
Development gaps in the near-boarder infrastructure, capital stock deterioration  
Underdevelopment of market economy institutions and low trust between economic actors

#### ***Regional level***

Unfavorable demographic conditions (migration and population decline), low quality of life, incl. crime,  
Subsidized economy, budget deficit,  
Local ecological problems

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### ***Measures to mitigate decline in the hinterland areas- Russia (Karelia)***

#### ***National level***

Many strategic objectives and measures are proposed, including structural change of Karelian economy and international cooperation but specific social and subregional issues are not addressed directly.

The central regions are not interested in developing the hinterland territories, it is left to their own initiatives and measures

#### ***Regional level***

- Forming the attractive image of the territory and favorable climate for investment, external foremost,
- Developing the economical activeness and self identity of population

At the local level specific strategies for different sectors are formulated

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### ***Main measures to mitigate decline in the hinterland areas-Russia (Karelia)***

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