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# **Supraregional Partnership in Germany – a Demonstration Project**

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**VASAB Expert Workshop**

**“Urban-Rural Partnership in the Baltic Sea Region“**

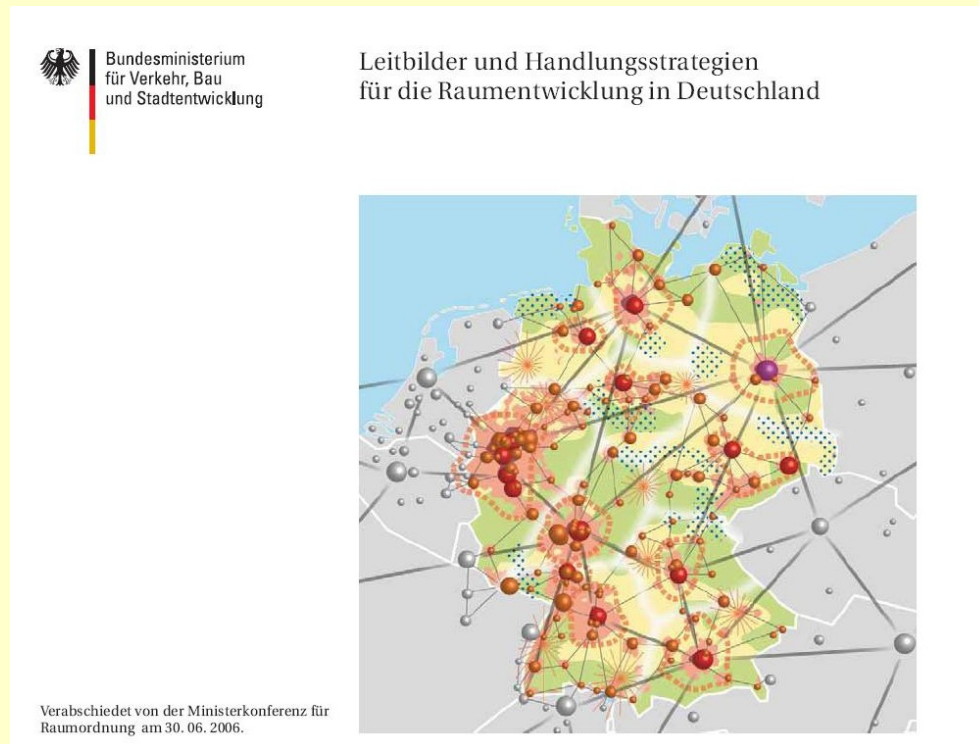
**21. September 2010 in Minsk, Belarus**

# Assignment from national and EU level

“... establishing large-scale communities of responsibility and developing them further.” (**Concepts and Strategies for Spatial Development in Germany 2006**, p. 16)

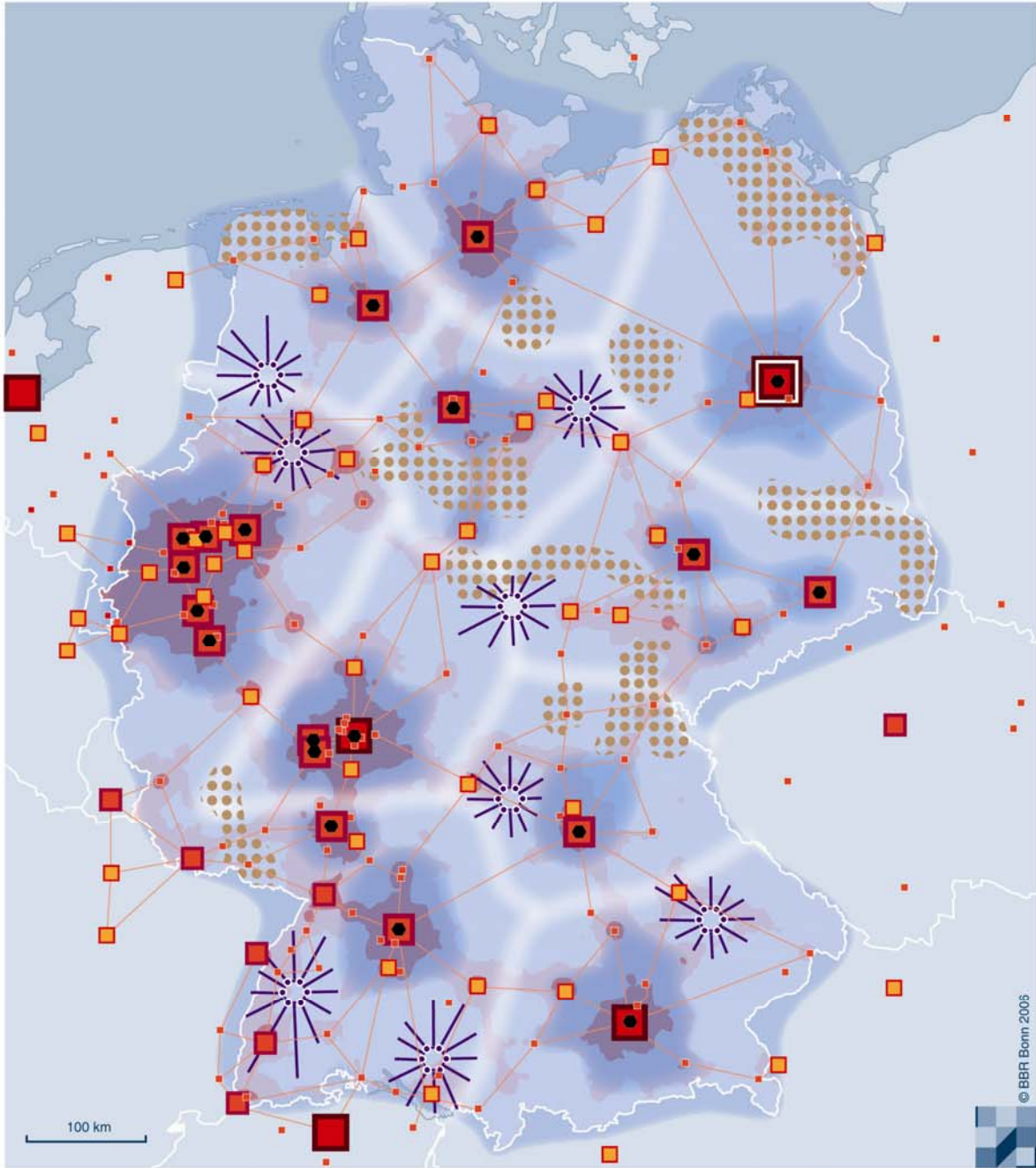


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“We need new forms of partnership and territorial governance between rural and urban areas.” (**Territorial Agenda 2007**, p. 5)

# Concept: Growth and Innovation



### Metropolitan Region

-  Cores of the Capital Region and of existing European Metropolitan Regions
-  Other cities with Metropolitan Functions
-  Metropolitan Region
-  Areas of influence including rural areas
-  Transition region between Metropolitan Regions



### Growth regions outside Metropolitan Regions



### Stabilisation areas



### Spatial structure

-  Central area of high density
-  Dense intermediate area

The map is illustrating the concept. However, the signature do not stand for determined planning.

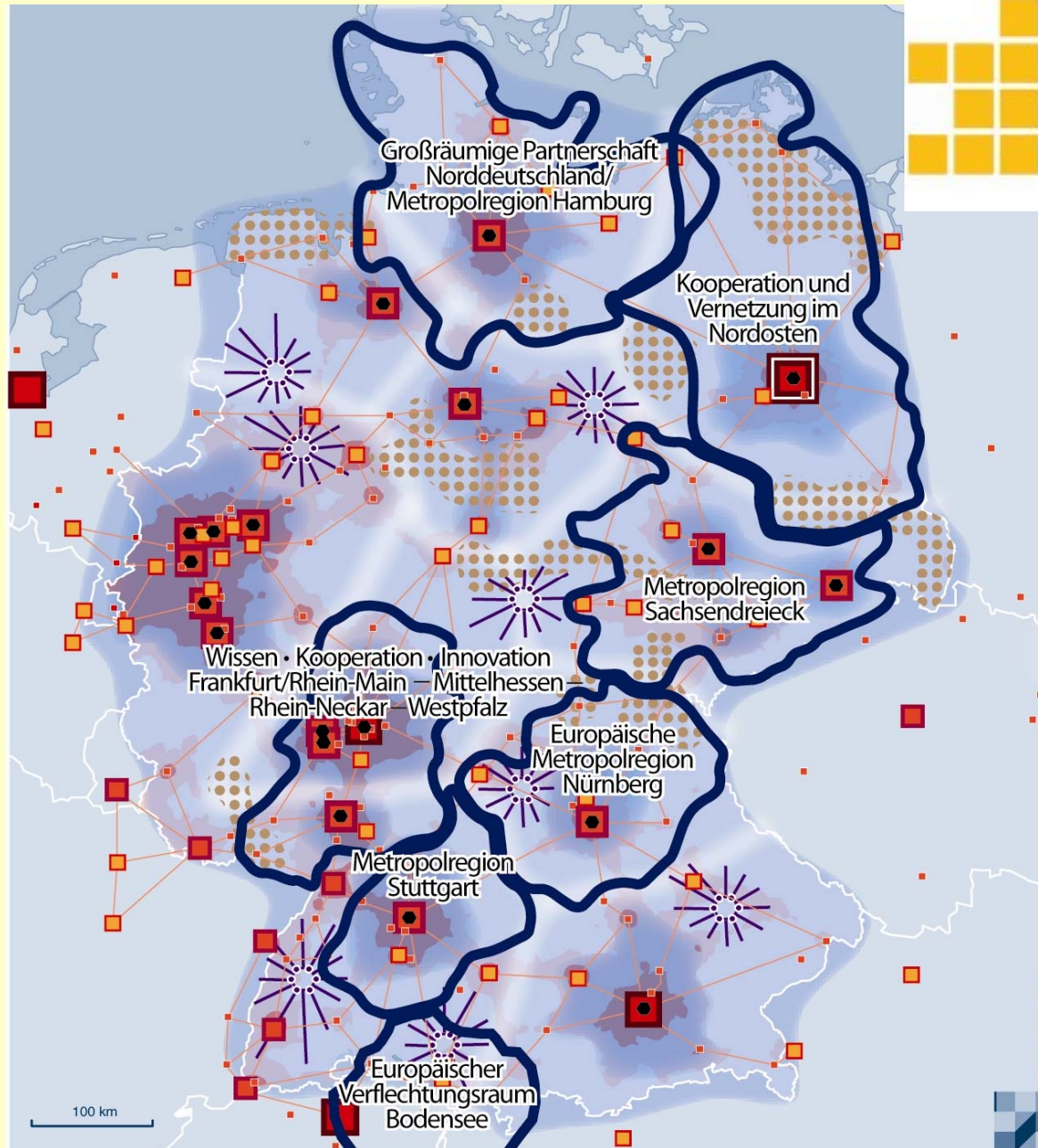


# Demonstration projects (MORO)

- informal planning instrument since 1996 from federal level for various topics
- goals: trying new ways for regional development with the help of model regions, creating good practice and positive examples for other regions (to adopt and to modify)
- convincing instead of laws (even impossible in the German federal system)
- budget about 1 Mio Euro per year
- MORO has proven to be a powerful instrument







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- 7 demonstration regions with 38 projects, selected out of 65 ideas
- large variety of topics
- covering 52% of Germany with 48% of the population
- from 1/2008 to 6/2010 + extension to 12/2012

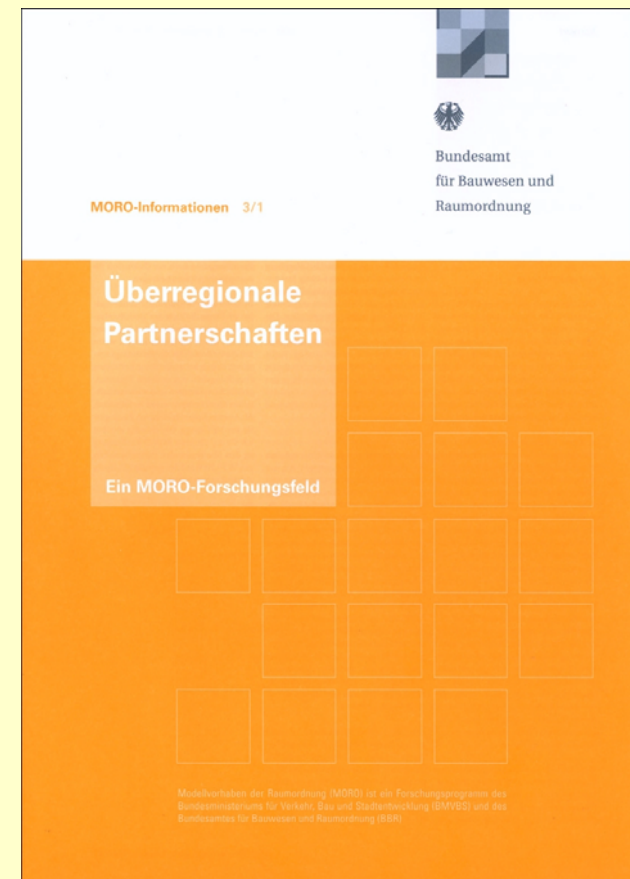
# Support (from federal level)

(Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Affairs and Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning)



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- interest in this topic
- project management for coordination, workshops and publications
- 670,000 Euro for 3 years for regions and project management (+ 730,000 Euro from the regions themselves) [+ '11/'12: ~ 270,000 Euro]
- publications, meetings (3 times a year)
- analysis of the results and formulation of political advice



# Regional chains of value added – e.g. Nürnberg region



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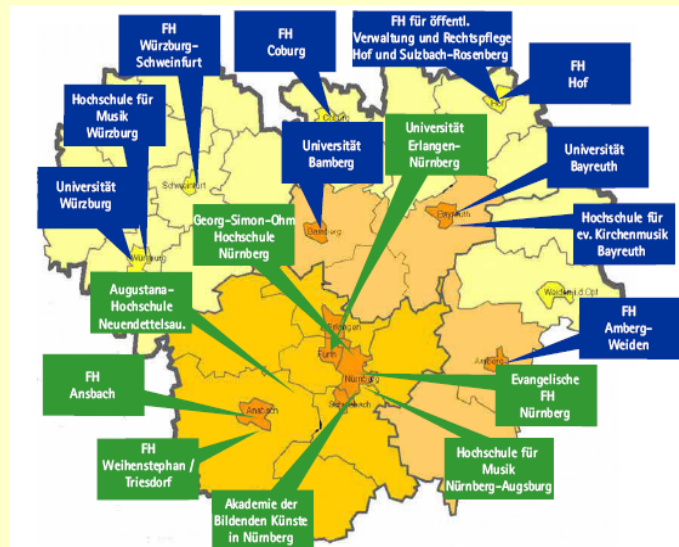
- creation intensive links between urban and rural regions, increase of value added in the region
- network of 16 partners
- regional marketing of e.g. food stuff, wood products (from furniture to houses – 95 % out of the region)
- Siemens-canteen: 50 % to 75 % of fresh food out of the region = 4 Mio. Euro for regional agriculture – e.g. apples from the region and not from New Zealand



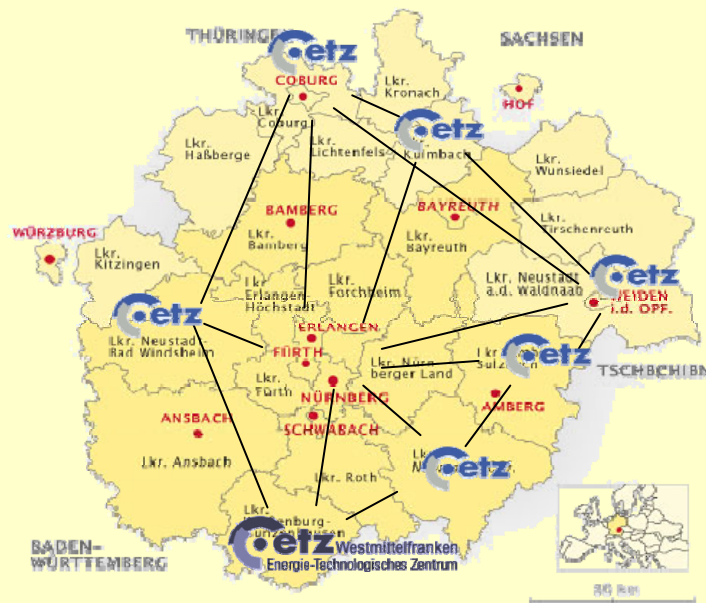
# Cluster and networks – e.g. Nürnberg region



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- network of existing clusters: within branches, between branches, between institutions and economy
- classical approach for spatial development, but here in a large regional context
- synergies and exchange of ideas, as the existing clusters and networks are too small (i.e. networking of networks)





# Spatial planning – e.g. Stuttgart region

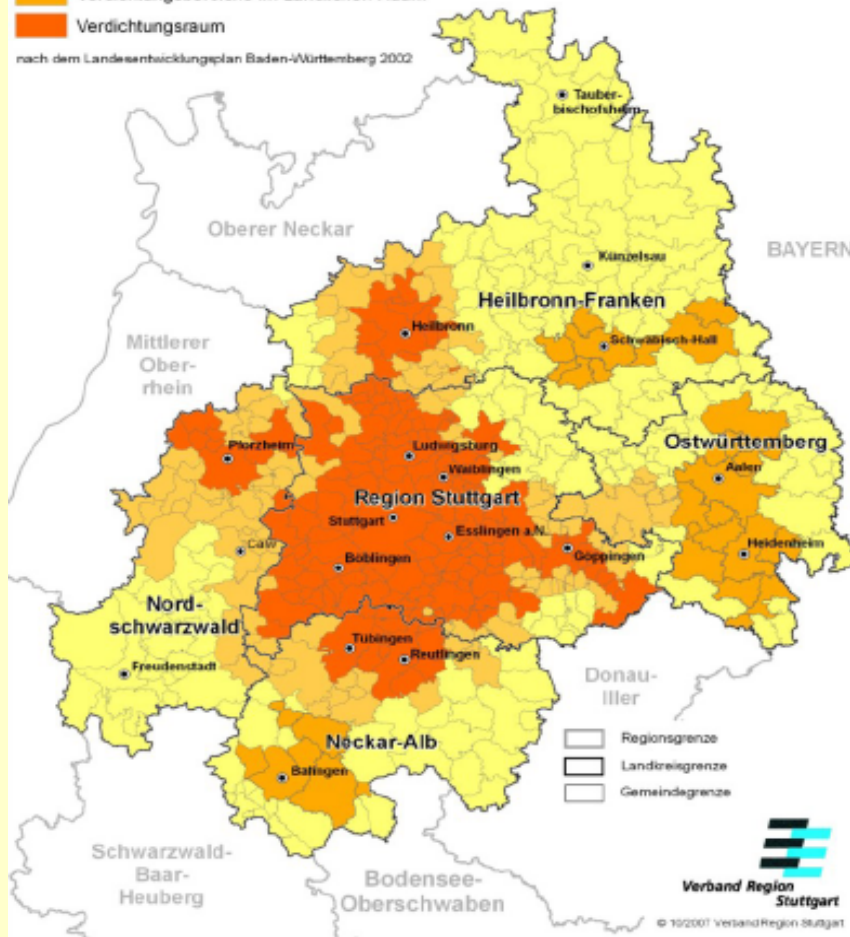


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## Kooperationsraum Metropolregion Stuttgart

- Ländlicher Raum
- Randzone des Verdichtungsraumes
- Verdichtungsbereiche im Ländlichen Raum
- Verdichtungsraum

nach dem Landesentwicklungsplan Baden-Württemberg 2002



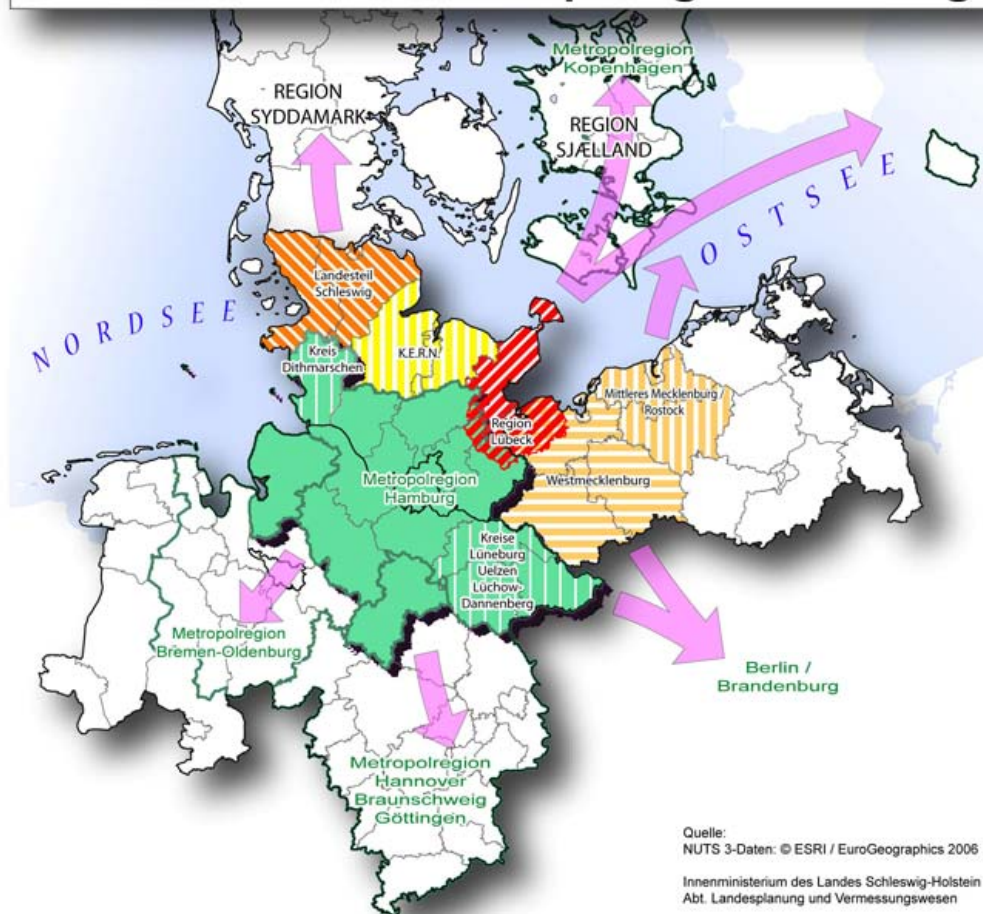
- one instead of five regional development plans in Stuttgart and surrounding
- e.g. matched concept for logistics – how to deal with traffic, land prices and competition in a densely settled area?
- Joint negotiations with German Railway for an adequate timetable in the regions

# Rural areas – e.g. Hamburg/Northern Germany



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## Großräumige Partnerschaft Norddeutschland / Metropolregion Hamburg

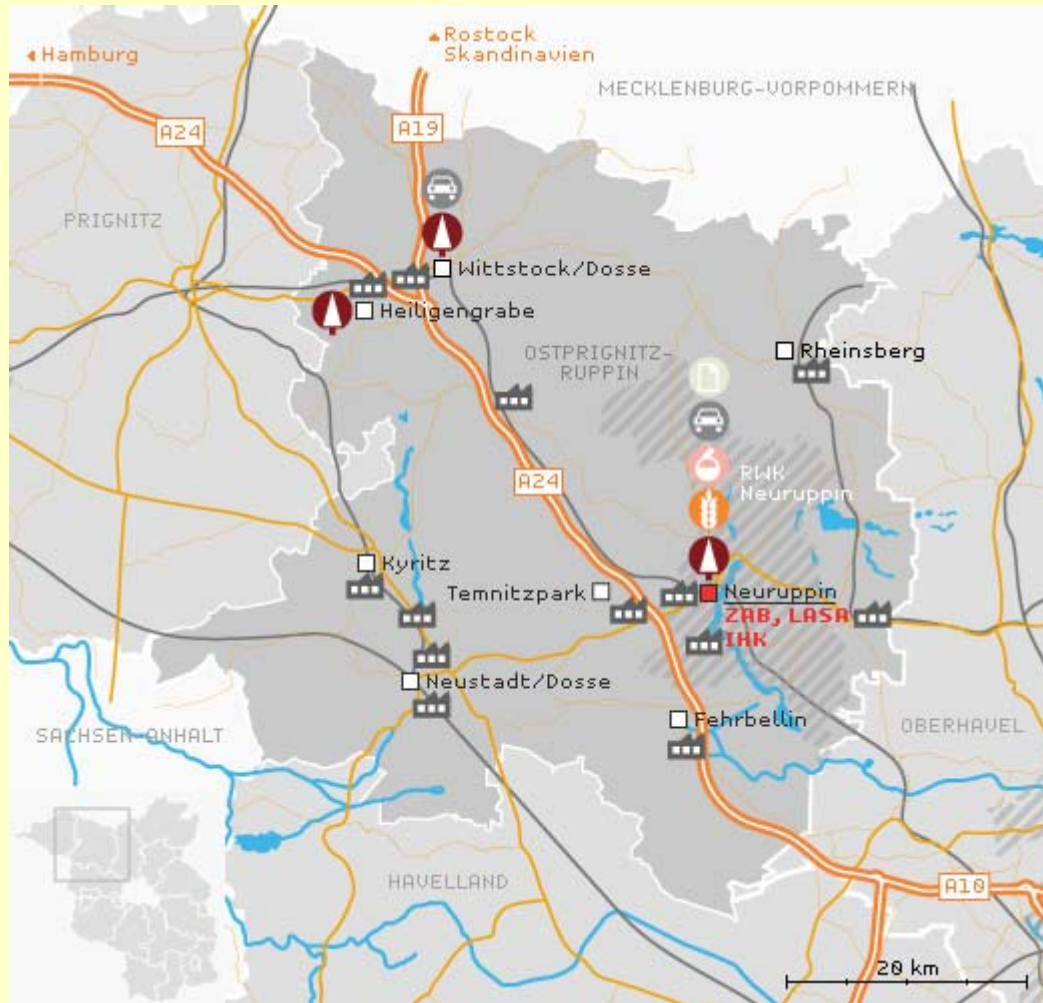


- two conferences for an exchange of ideas between regions and actors
- survey among 325 actors from urban and rural areas about their topics and goals
- strategy paper presented in April 2010 to incorporate the needs and potentials of rural areas

# Skilled labour – e.g. Brandenburg/ Mecklenburg Western Pomerania



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- a regions between Hamburg and Berlin
- trade show for pupils about vocational training in region (1.000 visitors)
- region far away from colleges: establishment of a distance learning university to combine work and further training

## + further topics, e.g.

- knowledge networks covering large spaces
- international and internal marketing
- improvement of transport infrastructure
- networks and clusters
- natural heritage and tourism concepts
- cross-border cooperation with neighbour countries (another demonstration project)
- appropriate governance models
- [social infrastructure]



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# Some Results



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# Basic Observations

- urban-rural partnerships are possible (even on a large scale)
- shared problems or the hope for a positive effect promote urban-rural partnerships
- win-win- (at least: win-stand-by-) situations are important
- many topics can lead to urban-rural partnerships
- functional linkages between regions as basis for partnerships
- (spatial) difference between a strategic and an operative (project) level (variable geometry)
- trust among actors (from politics, economy, civil society) is important
- goal: (every) region can contribute with its potentials and has to benefit from the results



# Some key factors

- **positive:** shared agenda, guiding principles or defined goals
- **beneficial:** variety of projects to incorporate many actors and to compensate failure
- **pragmatic:** from win-win-situations to conflict management
- **purposive:** from successful projects to governance
- **practical:** use of existing structures and networks, experience in regional co-operation
- **motivating:** successful project motivate actors (!! ) and bring political attention
- **important:** voluntary bottom-up processes on the same eye-level (with support from the top)
- **flexible:** topics dependent on regional setting and needs



  
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**Thank you for your kind audience!**

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**Please feel free to contact me.**