Good practice example in implementing territorial cohesion in Latvia

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Content

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• Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia until 2030, incl.:
  – Spatial development perspective of Latvia

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Latvia's interpretation of Territorial Cohesion concept

Territorial Cohesion:

- **a set of principles** for sustainable and coordinated development of all EU regions
  - goes beyond the scope of Cohesion policy

- Aimed at providing:
  - equivalent standards of life quality in regions
  - accessibility of services for inhabitants

- Increases the importance to national regional policies
Territorial Cohesion principles

• **Subsidiarity:**
  - increased discretion at sub-national level
  - increased responsibility at sub-national level

• **Coordination of policies:**
  - interaction and coordination of different sectors within a particular territory

• **Territorial coordination:**
  - more effective use of resources in order to achieve common goals
  - complementarity of investments and positive spill-over effects beyond administrative borders
Territorial Cohesion within EU Cohesion policy post 2013

• CP should respect territorial diversity and different challenges they faces

• Decisions on support areas and intensity should be taken at national/regional level

• CP should encourage implementation of local development strategies and solutions on the ground

• Territorial cooperation objective should be strengthened, programme implementation rules should be harmonised and simplified
Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia until 2030

• Approved by Latvian Parliament on June 10, 2010

• Defines long-term:
  – overall national development objectives
  – social, economic and environment development priorities and development directions
  – spatial development perspective
Latvia 2030 position in the planning system of Latvia and relation European planning system:

- European Sustainable Development Strategy
- EU 2020
- Latvia 2030
- The Common Agricultural Policy, Cohesion Policy etc.
- EU Financial Perspective/Budget
- Latvian National Development Plan 2014-2020, inter alia Sector and Regional Development Priorities
- National Budget
Vision, research and analysis
12 thematic "brain storms"

Discussion reports:
- Society
- Competitiveness and resources
- Spatial development
- Energy and transport

Strategic dilemmas

"Latvia 2030. Your choice" – regional forums, youth and expert discussions

Scenarios for long-term development

"Latvia 2030. Your choice" – regional forums, involvement of youth

Summary and the 1st draft

"Take-off. Latvia 2030" – National forum, round table discussions

Latvia 2030 1st draft

Public discussion (27.04 - 17.07.2009) and the improvement of draft

Latvia 2030 project > Cabinet of Ministers > Parliament
Spatial development perspective of Latvia until 2030

Policy directions for sustainable and balanced territorial development

Main aspects:

- accessibility and mobility
- settlement as the economic development, human life and work environment
- spaces of national interest – unique specific territories
Accessibility

Development directions:

• improvement of external accessibility

• improvement of internal accessibility

• availability of communications, mass media and data transmission
Settlement structure

Development directions:

• enhancement of the potential and competitiveness of the development centres

• mutual co-operation and interaction of urban and rural areas

• establishing of functional networks of development centres
Spaces of national interest

Development directions:

• rural development space

• Baltic Sea coastal area

• Riga metropolis area

• Eastern border (EU external border)

• outstanding areas of nature, landscape and cultural history
Urban priority “Polycentric development”

**Objective**
- To foster polycentric development
  - strengthening competitiveness, accessibility and attractiveness of the urban environment and city-regions according to integrated local development strategies

**Activities**
- Growth of national and regional development centres
- Sustainable development of Riga
- Growth of amalgamated municipalities

**Total ERDF co-financing – 268 701 076 EUR**
Urban priority beneficiaries

Beneficiaries of urban priority “Polycentric Development”

Sustainable development of Riga

Growth of national and regional development centres for sustainable and balanced development of the country

Support of amalgamated municipalities to promote complex growth
Development visions of cities and towns

- Ventspils: center of logistics, tourism and recreation
- Liepāja: industry, transport and logistics, tourism
- Talsi: center of services and development – harmony of environment
- Saldus: center of social and economic activities, creative and healthy living environment
- Jelgava: center of economic development, technology and innovations
- Jēkabpils: creative city of logistics and industry at point of intersection of traffic flows
- Valmiera: environmentally friendly production, center of creative industries and qualitative services
- Čepel: Most important center of creative industries and tourism in Vidzeme region
- Smiltene: beginning of new roads
- Aizkraukle: production of high quality products with added value, by securing historical heritage
- Jēkabpils: creative city of logistics and industry at point of intersection of traffic flows
- Madona: Economic growth, environmentally friendly production
- Livāni: Center of traditional heritage, technologies, cyclists and "green news"
- Gulbene: Center of economic activities and services based on cultural heritage background
- Rēzekne: East-Latvian center of culture and education
- Daugavpils: center of crossborder economic development, cultural, science and education
- Rīga-Baltic metropolis and city of possibilities for everyone
- Rīga: creative city of logistics and industry at point of intersection of traffic flows

Rīga: environment and tourism.

Valmiera: environmentally friendly production, center of creative industries and qualitative services.

Smiltene: beginning of new roads.

Gulbene: Center of economic activities and services based on cultural heritage background.

Madona: Economic growth, environmentally friendly production.

Livāni: Center of traditional heritage, technologies, cyclists and “green news”.

Daugavpils: center of crossborder economic development, cultural, science and education.

Rīga-Baltic metropolis and city of possibilities for everyone.
Support directions of the Urban Priority

• Development of entrepreneurship infrastructure
• Construction or renovation of streets and roads essential for inhabitants and entrepreneurs
• Improvement of efficiency of public transport
• Development of tourism objectives
• Preservation of culture and historical heritage
• Energy efficiency activities
• Renovation or construction of water supply, sewage and heat supply infrastructure
• Reducing pollution and general improvement of territory
• Development of deprived neighbourhoods
Advantages of territorial approach

• Increased importance of strategic planning at local level
  – providing support for implementation of local development strategies and local initiatives

• Investments are based on the real needs of a particular territory
  – identified in the development strategy

• Opportunity to make complex investments that cover more than one sector

• Opportunity to coordinate (in time and space) investments related to different sectors
### Examples of integrated projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City: Jelgava</th>
<th>Priority: Modern and sustainable living environment</th>
<th>Project: Development of transport infrastructure in order to promote transport security as well as accessibility of city center and surrounding areas</th>
<th>Supported activities:</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>• One of the cities main streets reconstruction (one part)</td>
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<td>• Reconstruction/building of communications</td>
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<tr>
<th>City: Valmiera</th>
<th>Prior directions: Development of infrastructure; Development of entrepreneurship</th>
<th>Project: Reconstruction of Matišu motorway</th>
<th>Supported activities:</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>• One of state importance motorways reconstruction (one part)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Construction of industrial building in order to provide operation of Valmiera Business and Innovation incubator</td>
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<tr>
<th>Town: Līvāni</th>
<th>Priority: Improvement of life quality and sustainable development</th>
<th>Project: Improvement of inhabitants life quality</th>
<th>Supported activities:</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>• Reconstruction of streets</td>
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<td>• General improvements in area of apartments houses</td>
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<td>• Reconstruction of library</td>
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<td>• Energy efficiency improvement in schools and in municipality buildings</td>
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<td>• Reconstruction of music school</td>
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Further steps (until 2014)

- Review of Regional Policy Guidelines (2011)
- Elaboration of new territorial development measures for next programming period (2014-2020) according to national regional policy strategy (2013)
- Capacity building of local municipalities (planning and fiscal capacity)
Thank you for your attention!

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