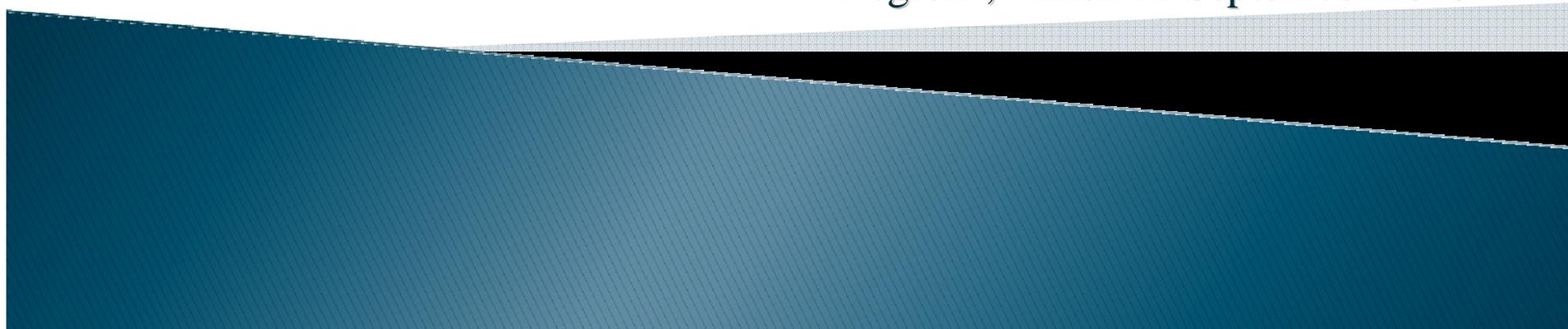




Urban-rural partnerships and VASAB Long Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region (LTP)

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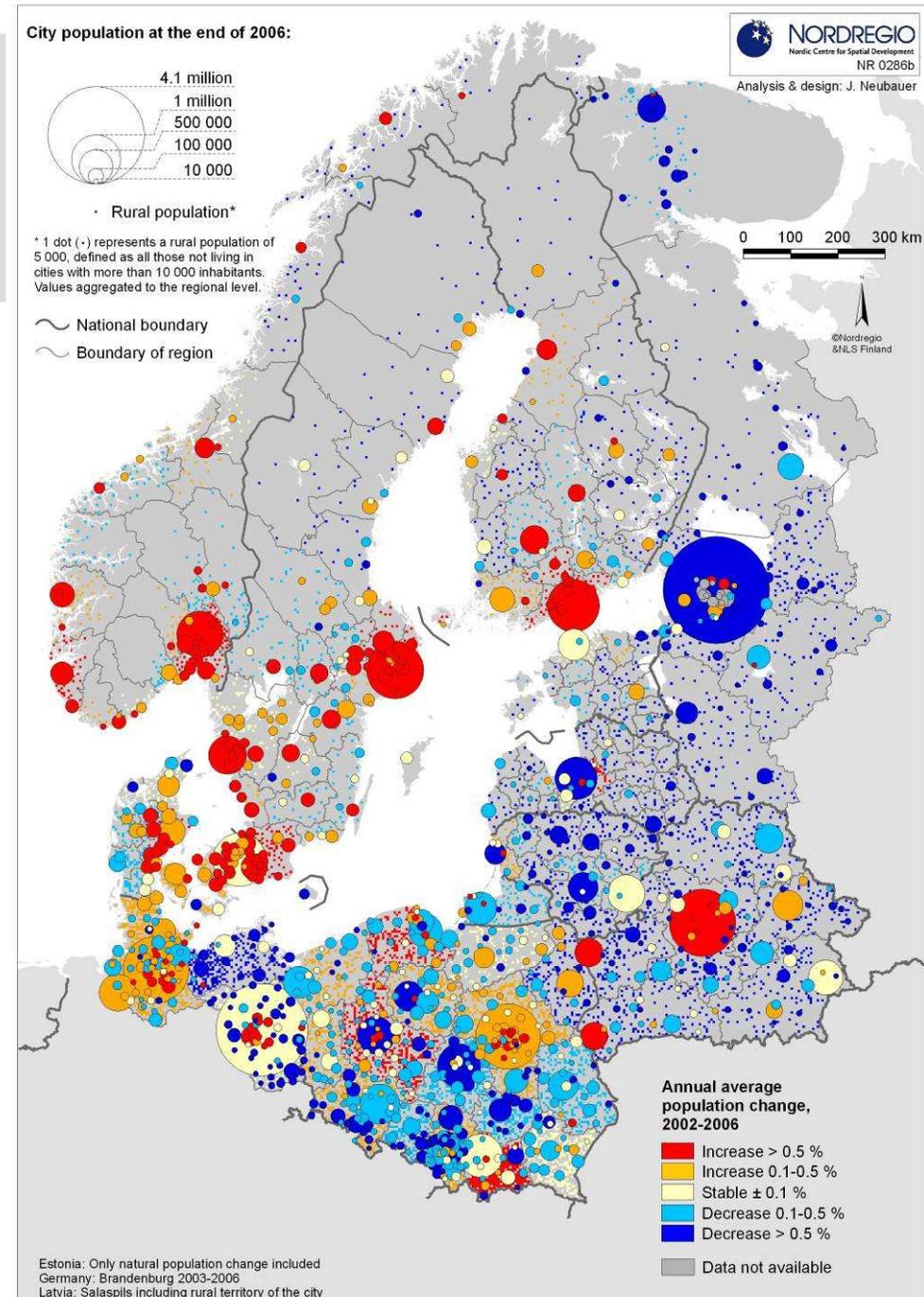
LTP: The Challenge

“The urban-rural divide presents itself as one of the major challenges for the BSR cohesion. As confirmed by the current observations, this divide becomes more and more detrimental for the rural areas in effect of the population ageing and outward migration. Additionally, some remote territories with low accessibility suffer from a deficit of affordable and modern ICT connections and ICT-related skills.”

Applies also to economic performance!

A Rich and Diverse pattern of Cities around the Baltic Sea

- **Urban-rural divide has widened in the period 2002-2006**
- **spatial polarisation of population towards capitals and higher order urban centres**
- **extensive natural losses in the Eastern BSR, with distinctive variations (e.g. low fertility rates, out-migration etc.)**



LTP: The Tasks

„Overcoming of urban-rural divide in the BSR through enhanced cooperation and partnership, and through developing the local capacities for change.“



Functional profile of urban regions and centres *

-  Globally integrated metropolitan area with prominent R&D and knowledge intensive business services
-  Globally oriented metropolitan area with shortcomings in business services and international functions
-  Urban region in process of metropolisation with growing globally linked R&D and knowledge intensive business services
-  Urban region in process of metropolisation with shortcomings in quality of business services and international functions
-  Regional development centre

* Urban regions as defined in the report 'Towards an Integrated Baltic Sea Region', Nordregio, Stockholm 2008

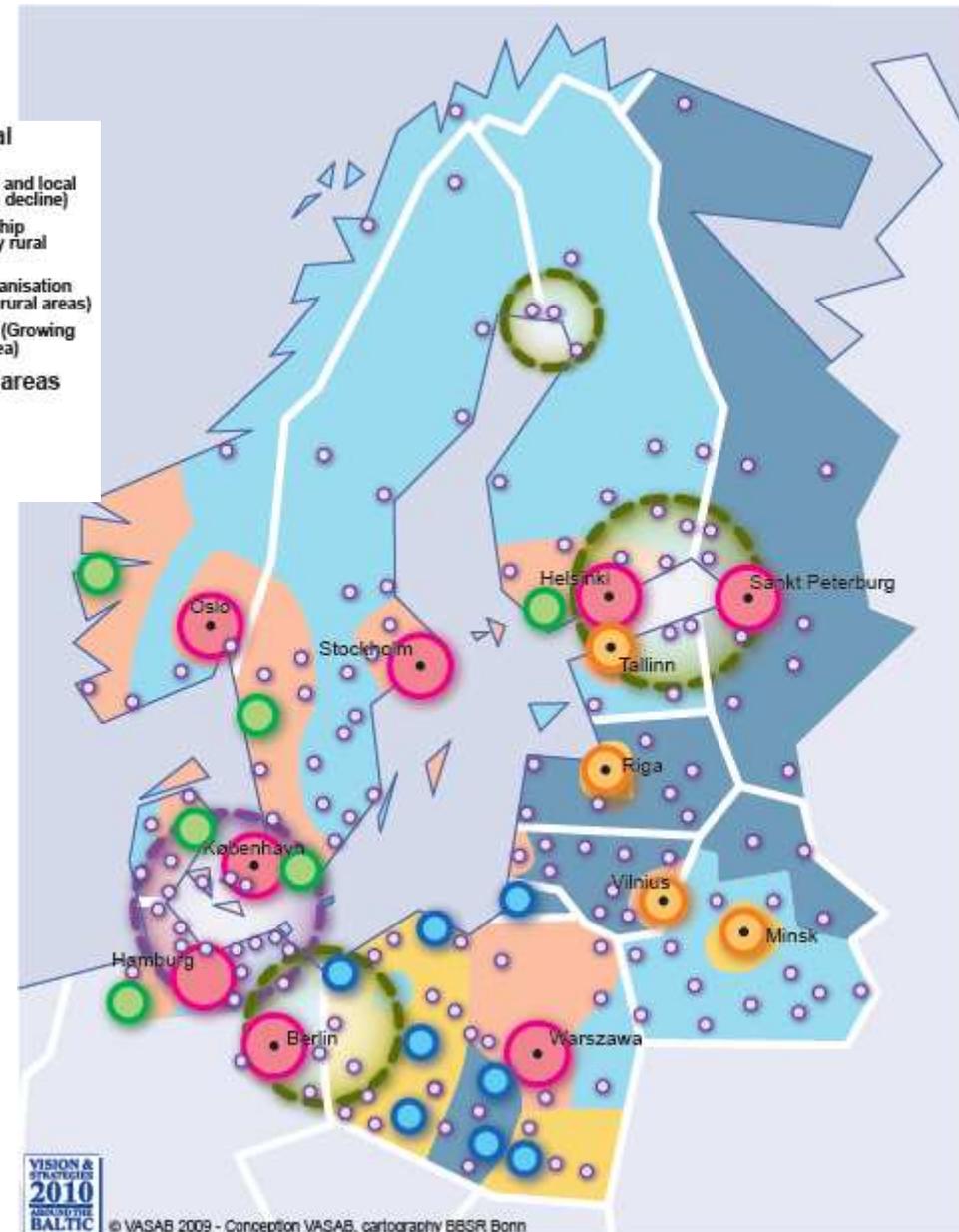
Development needs for urban-rural territories

-  Need for municipal service adjustments and local revival policies (cities and rural areas in decline)
-  Need for enhanced urban-rural partnership (growing mid-sized cities surrounded by rural areas in decline)
-  Need of balanced development (Suburbanisation trends around urban centres, shrinking rural areas)
-  Need for integration and harmonisation (Growing urban regions and surrounding rural area)

Cross-border cluster cooperation areas

-  Existing
-  Potential

2010 : Promoting urban networking and urban-rural cooperation



LTP: The Actions

Launch joint transnational and cross-border initiatives to combine the development of metropolitan areas and their rural surroundings in a better way. (Action Agenda 7)

Organise a pan-Baltic conference to work out measures for counteracting the impact the demographic trends and labour market development have on the urban-rural polarisation and social cohesion in the Region. (Action Agenda 9)

What was done so far?

Investigations on urban-rural situation and urban-rural partnerships in Russia in the framework of the BSR Interreg IIIB project East-West Window and recommendations to the Russian Government

Recommendations for similar investigations on the same methodology in other BSR countries but not applied yet

However: Making use of experience of different EU and BSR countries (e.g. Germany, Finland) and projects for VASAB LTP

Supporting the development and implementation of projects such as „New Bridges“

Discussing the issue with pan-Baltic organisations and EU in the framework of EU BSR strategy

Functional profile of urban regions and centres *

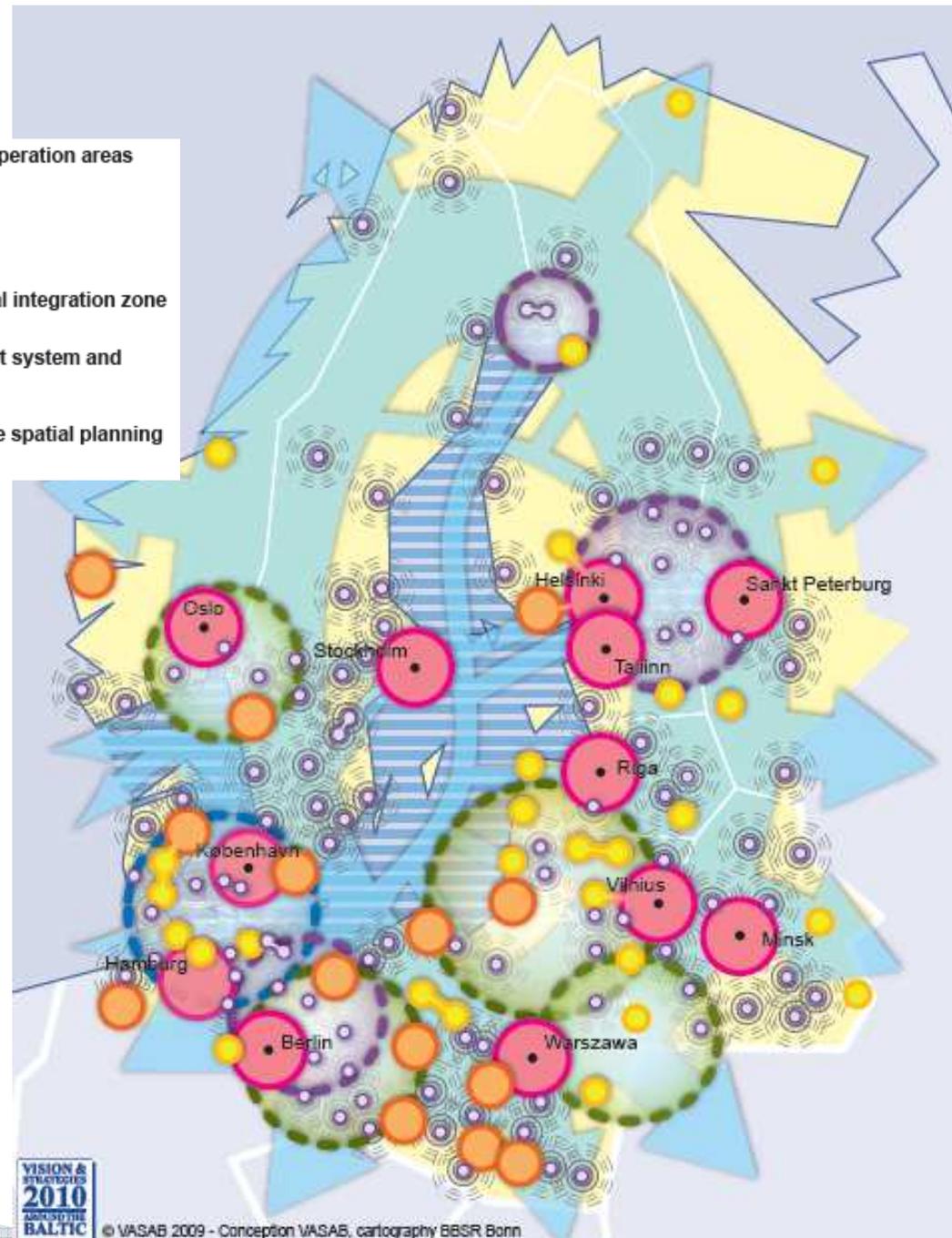
-  Global gateway with prominent R&D and knowledge intensive business services
-  BSR gateway with well developed R&D and knowledge intensive business services
-  Urban region in process of metropolisation with growing globally linked R&D and knowledge intensive services
-  Regional development centre providing high quality services to residents in the surrounding area
-  Bi-polar and multipolar urban development

* Urban regions as defined in the report 'Towards an Integrated Baltic Sea Region', Nordregio, Stockholm 2008

Cross-border cluster cooperation areas

-  Existing
-  Potential
-  Cross border global integration zone
-  Integrated transport system and international links
-  Integrated maritime spatial planning

2030 : Territorial development perspective



Expectations to the workshop

- Discuss the issue, exchange ideas and develop recommendations
- Develop new ideas on activities, actions and projects
- Prepare inputs for the foreseen pan-Baltic Conference
- Develop inputs for further development of EU BSR Strategy



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