

ESPON 2103 Programme Open Seminar “Territorial Challenges and Cooperation in a Wider Europe”
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE’S SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

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Introduction

What is CEMAT?



CEMAT is the Conference of Ministers responsible for Spatial/Regional Development of the Council of Europe

CEMAT brings together representatives of the 47 member states (MS) of the Council of Europe, **united around** a common objective: sustainable spatial development of the European continent

The activities of the Council of Europe relating to spatial planning began in 1970, in Bonn, with the first CEMAT session

The Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) of CEMAT, composed of representatives of the MS, is the “executive body” between the CEMAT sessions.

CSO main task is the implementation of the Ministers’ decisions, namely preparing the CEMAT sessions according to the themes decided by the Ministers and following a triennial work programme

Introduction (2)

Over the years a number of reference texts aimed to provide guidelines for spatial planning policies have been prepared by the CSO and adopted by the Ministers



Some examples:

The European Charter of Spatial/Regional Planning (Torremolinos Charter, 1982)

The Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development of the European Continent, adopted at the 12th Session of the CEMAT held in Hanover in 2000 and incorporated into Recommendation (2002)1 by the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development of the European Continent

The Ljubljana Declaration on sustainable territorial development (2003)

The Lisbon Declaration on Networks for sustainable spatial development (2006)

Introduction (3)



CEMAT's concept of spatial planning

Spatial planning gives geographical expression to the economic, social, cultural and ecological policies of society. It is at the same time a **scientific discipline**, an **administrative technique** and a **policy** developed as an **interdisciplinary and comprehensive approach** directed towards a balanced regional development and the physical organisation of space according to an overall strategy

Characteristics of spatial planning

Should be democratic, comprehensive, functional and long-term oriented

Introduction (4)

Main objectives

Balanced socio-economic development of the regions

Improvement of the quality of life

Responsible management of natural resources and protection of the environment

Rational use of land

European dimension of spatial planning

Spatial planning contributes to better spatial organisation in Europe and in finding solutions to problems that go beyond the national framework

Its aim is to create feelings of common identity, in North- South and East-West relations



CEMAT's Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development of the European continent

The "Guiding Principles" offer the member states of the Council of Europe a flexible and forward-looking framework for cooperation

They present a **vision or concept for sustainable development**, aimed at the **different political levels and societal bodies working levels**, inside and outside governments and administrations

To the traditional 3 pillars of sustainability (social, economical and environmental), the Guiding Principles add a 4th dimension : **cultural sustainability**



The CEMAT's Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development of the European continent

The Guiding Principles present

10 principles for a planning policy for sustainable development in Europe

9 spatial development measures for different types of European regions

1 chapter on strengthening of co-operation between the Member States of the Council of Europe and participation of regions, municipalities and citizens



10 Principles of a planning policy for sustainable development in Europe

1. Promoting territorial cohesion through a more balanced social and economic development of regions and improved competitiveness
2. Encouraging development generated by urban functions and improving the relationship between the town and the countryside
3. Promoting more balanced accessibility
4. Developing access to information and knowledge
5. Reducing environmental damage
6. Enhancing and protecting natural resources and the natural heritage
7. Enhancing the cultural heritage as a factor for development
8. Developing energy resources while maintaining safety
9. Encouraging high quality, sustainable tourism
10. Limitation of the impact of natural disasters



9 spatial development measures for different types of European regions

Landscapes

Urban areas

Rural areas

Mountains

Coastal and island regions

Eurocorridors

Flood plains and water meadows

Redundant industrial and military sites

Border regions



Strengthening of co-operation

Conceiving a development-oriented spatial planning

Developing Europe -wide co-operation activities on the basis of the Guiding Principles

Horizontal and Vertical co-operation

Broadly-based participation of society in the spatial planning process

The Ljubljana Declaration on the territorial dimension of sustainable development (1)

The Territory is a complex system, ... and the basis of sustainable development. Inconsistent development policies cause risks ... and unsustainable development

Processes that are challenging the sustainability of our common European future:

- the disparities in economic and social development ...
- the accentuation of social inequalities, the extent of poverty and uneven accessibility to essential goods and services, ...
- the deterioration of the environment, the degradation of settled areas ...
- the intensification of transport flows, the congestion of road traffic ...
- the more frequent occurrence of natural and man-made hazards, partly caused by climatic changes, ...
- the loss of vitality and quality of life in rural areas, ...
- the need to revitalise cities, to contain urban sprawl and to reduce the threat to cultural identity and collective traditions of European living, settlement types and heritage

The Ljubljana Declaration on the territorial dimension of sustainable development (2)

The adequate management of the major challenges needs improvement of relevant policies to:

- reduce disparities, ...
- support the balanced polycentric development, the formation of functional urban regions, including the networks of small and medium-sized towns and of rural settlements
- provide measures for the revitalisation of declining settlements and for the redevelopment of brownfield sites ...
- increase the efficiency of transport and energy networks and minimise their adverse impacts,
- prevent and reduce the potential damages of natural hazards, ...
- protect and improve the natural and the built environment, ...

The Ljubljana Declaration on the territorial dimension of sustainable development (3)

Spatial development policy should:

- foster diversified economic activity and create opportunities for rural populations
- achieve a balance between preserving the existing cultural heritage, attracting new investments and supporting existing living and working communities in urban and rural areas;
- increase active public participation
- be based on regional differences and local needs
- have stronger transsectoral and involve co-operation of various sectors of activity, various levels of authorities, and various stakeholders
- consider that territorial impacts require trans-european co-operation at all levels

The Ljubljana Declaration on the territorial dimension of sustainable development (4)

The CEMAT Ministers:

- stressed that the spatial development approach is an essential method of achieving the sustainable development objective
- committed to create synergies of activities, to promote the horizontal and vertical cooperation within the States and on transeuropean level, and to co-operate in the framework of ESPON
- invited the European Union and the Council of Europe to enhance their co-operation in the field of spatial development
- asked the European Commission to define tools which ... would facilitate transeuropean co-operation between European and neighbouring countries in the field of spatial development

The 14th session of CEMAT

In Lisbon, on 26-27 October 2006, the CEMAT Ministers adopted:

The Lisbon Declaration on “Networks for sustainable spatial development of the European continent: *Bridges over Europe*”

Resolution n. 1 on “Polycentric development: Promoting competitiveness, enhancing cohesion”

Resolution n. 2 on “Territorial governance: Empowerment through enhanced coordination”

Resolution n. 3 on “The Territorial Agenda of the European Union and its relation to CEMAT”

Resolution n. 4 on “The organisation of the 15th Session of CEMAT”, by the Russian Federation, with the theme “*Challenges of the future: Sustainable Territorial Development of the European Continent in a Changing World*”



The Lisbon Declaration on “Networks for sustainable spatial development of the European continent: *Bridges over Europe*”



Four key-ideas for our common Europe

Promoting and strengthening pan-European networks of territorial cooperation is crucial to improve sustainable spatial development and territorial cohesion in the European continent

CEMAT and other bodies of the Council of Europe have a fundamental role in developing, strengthening and diversifying the European dimension of cooperation networks

CEMAT should promote “network creation environments” at different levels of action

An agenda of cooperation between the Council of Europe and the EU should be developed aiming at the development of new forms of territorial governance through the development of networks for the European Continent as a whole

The Lisbon Declaration on “Networks for sustainable spatial development of the European continent: *Bridges over Europe*”



Priority trans-national networks of territorial co-operation
(symmetrical networks of people, organizations and territories)

- City networks
- Cultural and civic networks
- Ecological and landscape networks
- Rural development networks
- Coastal zones networks
- Knowledge networks

The Lisbon Declaration on “Networks for sustainable spatial development of the European continent: *Bridges over Europe*”



The network of territorial cooperation approach at trans-European level is an efficient way to foster:

- The dissemination of information, target-oriented knowledge, training and good practices
- The development and testing of new ideas
- The development of better projects and efficient public policies
- The reinforcement of supra-national spatial planning strategies
- The enhancement of European identity, sustainability, competitiveness and social and territorial cohesion

The Lisbon Declaration on “Networks for sustainable spatial development of the European continent: *Bridges over Europe*”



Networks, bridges over Europe:

A strong and firm commitment on

- Implementing the CEMAT Guiding Principles
- Promoting the territorial dimension of sustainable development
- Promoting and strengthening trans-national networks of territorial cooperation for the spatial and socio-economic development of the whole European continent

The CEMAT Glossary of Key Expressions used in spatial development policies in Europe

*Prepared by the Committee of Senior Officials
with the assistance of Mr Jacques Robert*



It's a glossary of concepts, categories and terms used in areas related to spatial development to answer both an existing need for their clarification and help "build bridges" of understanding and communication between the professionals of the Member states

Main objective

To provide:

a **definition** of expressions and concepts frequently used in most European countries and some **explanations** about their **use** and recent **evolution** with a view to **matching** current linguistic and cultural diversity with the need for communication and comparability of situations and results

Assessing the implementation of the Guiding Principles

Qualitative assessment



The Questionnaire is fulfilled with assistance of the Nature Protection Ministry of RA and State Committee of a Water Facilities(Economy) of the Regional Management Ministry of RA.

I - National, regional, local level

1. Do you have a national policy/legislation on water management?
Yes No
2. If yes, is that policy/legislation specific or is it integrated into any other policy (for example, spatial planning, agriculture/forestry, ...)?
Specific
Integrated in another policy/legislation
Please, specify **In the other nature protection policies.**
3. Which bodies are responsible for this policy (ministry, river basin management authority,...)?
Please specify
**State Committee of a Water Facilities(Economy) of the Regional Management Ministry of RA;
Agency of Water Resources Management of the Nature Protection Ministry of RA with the
Agency's regional divisions**
4. What is the administrative level of this body (or bodies)?
National Regional Local Other
5. Is water management policy implemented within the country's administrative division framework or within its river/lake basins framework?
Administrative division River basins
6. Is flood prevention specifically considered within water policy/legislation?
Yes No
7. Do you keep records of flood levels?
Yes No
8. Are the areas threatened by floods mapped? If yes, in relation to what type of floods? at what scale?
Yes No
Scale **1:50000** Type of flood **Waterflood, water-covered zone**
9. Do you have a classification of rivers/lakes according to their flood risk?
Yes No
10. Do you have legislation on mandatory mapping of flood plains in spatial plans? If yes, at what level?
Yes No

Conclusions on the implementation of the Guiding Principles

The spirit of the Guiding Principles is widely taken into consideration in territorial development policies of the various levels

The Guiding Principles had more impact in the countries that joined the Council of Europe in the past 15 years

In some cases they have gained a legal or prescriptive base through their inclusion into the legislation and into strategic planning documents

A more systematic application seems necessary in relation to:

Guiding Principle 4 - Developing access to information and knowledge

Guiding Principle 8 - Developing energy sources while maintaining safety

Guiding Principle 10 - Limitation of the impact of natural disasters

Participation of society in the process of territorial development policies has to be improved

Specific procedures have to be developed to involve the sectoral bodies to the planning process, from its beginning



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Questionnaire for the implementation of Resolution 3 concerning the prevention of floods and better coordination of all activities designed to minimise the risks and consequences of disastrous floods, adopted at the 13th CEMAT in Ljubljana, in 2003

CEMAT's Permanent Work Programme

Maintaining and up-dating the CEMAT website (www.coe.int/CEMAT)

- Presentation
- Ministerial Conferences
- Committee of Senior Officials (CSO)
- **National data** (national policies, legislation, basic texts and institutions in spatial and regional planning, with the information organised by country)
- Reference texts
- Publications
- Contact

Pan-european cooperation

The **Network of CEMAT Regions of Innovation** supports innovative, crossborder as well as transnational cooperation between regions and cities in Armenia, Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russia and Ukraine. It aims at establishing and strengthening networks, developing jointly topics of the future and organising development and planning knowledge transfer and exchange.

CEMAT's Work Programme 2007-2009

Focuses on a series of thematic issues corresponding to important changes in the global context with significant territorial impacts

Takes into account the requirements for integrated approaches raised by the new thematic issues.

Considers the need for complementarity with the activities of other international organizations or programmes, especially the European Union (ESPON Programme as well as activities under the Objective of Territorial Cooperation of Structural Funds, especially transnational cooperation programmes_) and the UN/ECE

Work on the implementation of the sustainable territorial development initiative concerning the Tisza/Tisa river basin, as a cross-border region (Hungary, Slovak Republic, Romania, Serbia, Montenegro and Ukraine) and on the CEMAT "Region of Innovation"

The regular updating of CEMAT's website

Organization of thematic seminars

CEMAT and the EU Ministers initiatives

Council of Europe commitments on spatial development

The Torremolinos Charter (1982)

CEMAT Guiding Principles (2002)

CEMAT Ministers specific commitments on spatial development

The Ljubljana Declaration on sustainable territorial development (2003)

The Lisbon Declaration on Networks for sustainable spatial development (2006)

European Union Ministers responsible for spatial development orientations on spatial development

ESDP (European Spatial Development Perspective) (1999)

Territorial Agenda of the EU (2007)

The 1st Action Programme for the implementation of the Territorial Agenda (2007)

All have the aim of strengthening the global competitiveness and cohesion of all regions of Europe

ESPON and CEMAT

While ESPON carries out mainly research activities, CEMAT works mainly through sharing experiences, information and good-practices and by organising seminars, symposiums and conferences

There is de facto a complementarity, since results of ESPON research projects can be used as **inputs** for CEMAT debates involving representatives of administrations, of elected bodies, of scientific institutions and of the civil society

CEMAT is a useful network of expert contacts, specially in non-EU countries (research and training centres data base - CEMAT website)

The outcomes of CEMAT activities (such as the compendium of spatial development policies) can be used as inputs for ESPON projects

The ESPON I Programme has delivered a number of results which can be exploited in the context of CEMAT's activities

ESPON 2013 Priority 2 gives an opportunity for CEMAT Member States (EU and non-EU) to organize themselves to propose themes to be explored