



# RFO-Perspective 2007-2013 Newsletter II



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SACHSEN-ANHALT



## Dissemination Conference in Saxony-Anhalt

### First Meeting of the Prospective Commission and Dissemination Conference

The RFO Perspective 2007-2013 held its first **Prospective Commission** in Saxony-Anhalt, Germany on the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2006. This was the first time political representatives from the RFO Perspective regions met each other to jointly plan the use of the Structural Funds for the future period 2007-2013 in order to optimize their use.

Led by the Valencian Region, the project allows these four regions to work closely over the next three years in central questions of regional development, by the means of strengthening cooperation in the field of regional competitiveness and sustainability.



The Commission was designed to set priorities and guidelines for regional experts to develop joint and comparative studies in several economic sectors. The four regional presidencies were represented: by Mr. Wolfgang Böhmer on behalf of Saxony-Anhalt; by Mr. István Tokár on behalf of North Great Plain; by Mr. Michel Sapin on behalf of Region Centre and by Mr. Juan Manuel Revuelta on behalf of the Valencian Region. The representatives have discussed guide principles that Perspective 2007-2013 must follow according to the regions' common interests regarding the future of the European Commission Regional Programmes. Finally they set a common declaration as a result of their common work. General consensus has been expressed concerning the need to exploit cooperation opportunities. Innovative ideas must be put into force and successful practices should be taken over. The **next Prospective Commission** session will be held in **Valencia on February 2007**, where the methods for putting plans into practice will be discussed.

During the meeting they have discussed about wishes and needs as well as the next steps of the project. Apart from the common objectives each region has also set its own priorities. **Saxony-Anhalt** is interested in finding solutions for a better employment. **North Great Plain** has shown its will to promote a dynamic, ecological, healthy, agricultural and opportunities providing region. Furthermore it is eager to create conditions for a self-supporting social and economic development. The priorities for the **Valencian Region** lie on the R&D sector and on the enhancement of innovation. Regarding **Region Centre**, the improvement of the territorial accessibility is its main focus.

On the other hand, one of the principal elements of the RFO Perspective 2007-2013 is to organise conferences about regions' future, in which representatives of political, economic and social world have the opportunity to take part in the discussion of important matters for the future regional development. This gives the RFO the occasion to know the opinion of the agents implicated in each area as well as the best practices. The **First Dissemination Conference** of the RFO "Perspective 2007-2013" has taken place on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2006 in Magdeburg and also parallel sessions were organised for each thematic area.

Perspective 2007-2013 is searching for new ideas to develop convincing and inter-regionally represented projects that can contribute to solve regional problems. The proposals which have bigger support by the society will be favoured.



In order to achieve successful projects, innovation and modernization as well as methods of cooperation between the government and the enterprises are needed. The participating regions have expressed their wish to cooperate in the key objectives but also in other specific areas of regional development. Although on different stages, the partners regions follow the same development path and they can further cooperation between each other.

#### Content of this edition:

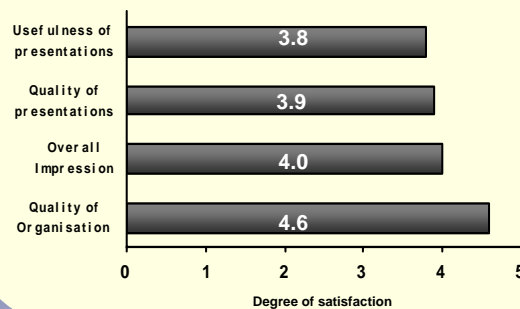
Prospective Commission & Dissemination Conference	1
RFO Evaluation & Benchmarking Studies	2
Regional Working Groups & Web page	3
Dissemination activities & Next steps/ meetings	4



## Evaluation of the Dissemination Conference

The results accomplished in the First Dissemination Conference have been impressive. **More than 200 people** took part to the event. A big media impact has been reached with **articles in newspapers, digital diaries, web pages and television reports.**

The most outstanding **conclusions after the evaluation**



of the Dissemination Conference were:

-The participants found it really interesting to **improve the interregional cooperation and acquire contacts** with other partners.

-There was a general satisfaction with the overall organisation. The **usefulness of the parallel sessions** was so remarkable to **establish first contacts** that it has been proposed to set up longer meeting next time.

-The assistants expressed their interest in **cooperating in the following areas**: geothermic, waste management, regional innovation strategies, internationalisation of SMEs, structural funds management, environmental aspects, regional marketing, trainings, information society, development of support services for SMEs, automotive, communication & publication, multimedia, cooperation between universities, tourism, renewable energies, etc.

### Objectives of the Dissemination Conference

- Identification of success factors of regional development
- Share common strategies between the regions
- Communication of strategies, good practices and experiences
- Determine common trends in the regional development

## Benchmarking Studies

These studies have been carried out mainly in order to identify regional strategies and concrete actions of each partner to focus afterward on the priority issues of cooperation between regions in the areas of Competitiveness and Sustainability. That represents the starting point for the potential ideas of cooperation projects in the frame of

the RFO.

Analysis of the questionnaires fulfilled by experts, telephonic interviews and on-site visits, information available on internet and studies provided by the partners have served to carry out the studies. The studies will be finalised foreseeable before the end of June 2006.

### Competitiveness

#### *Automotive supplying industry and regional marketing*

1. Automotive supplying. The study



concerns 5 fields: innovative light-weight construction, electro- and multimedia technology, innovative measuring and testing systems, special machine and plant construction and innovative plastics.

2. Regional marketing as attraction of investment (in different relevant sectors and also in the field of automotive industry).

The objective of the study is to give an overview of the potentials of the automotive supplying industry for international cooperation,

mainly in the form of cluster development.

#### *Human Resources and Training in Tourism*

This study has been focused in the next terms: water tourism, cycle tourism and active travel in rural areas. Special attention has been paid to marketing strategies in the regions, the quality of the offer and regarding the human resources and the adequacy of their training.

### Sustainability

#### *Renewable energies*

The study highlights main energy trends in the four regions, from today and until 2030. It focuses on: Biomass, Wind energy, Solar thermal and Photovoltaic energy & Geothermal energy.

The study has identified different regions across Europe as benchmarking of best practices in the renewable. This work could permit the partners to adopt similar strategies in their regions to promote those energies.

Moreover, the last section of the study provides a framework for further regional work to foster renewable energies in the four partner regions.

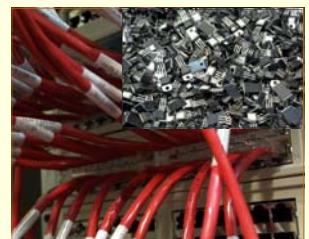
#### *Waste management*

This study contains a brief summary of the present situation of the waste management at different levels (worldwide, European and national) and a focused

analysis on the status of the different partner regions with regards to strategies and main actions on the area.

The prior attention on this study was addressed to the electrical and electronic equipment waste (EEEW), wood residues, agriculture and agri-food wastes, biological, biotechnology and chemistry waste, reusable waste from industry, construction and demolition waste as well as organic and mining waste.

A SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) determines the possibilities and capacities for each region to develop suitable proposals for cooperative projects.



### Studies divided in 4 phases:

1. Status quo analysis of the countries and regions.
2. Benchmarking analysis. Identification of best practices.
3. Realisation of a regional prospective analysis regarding the mid and long term trends.
4. Identification of highlighting ways to develop cooperation between the four regions.

# Regional Working Groups

## Valencian Region

The regional working groups of the Valencian Region have met twice during the first semester of 2006. The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of January 2006 set the priorities of actions of the RFO and its coordination with regional policies. The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2006 focused on the advance of the Benchmarking studies. The regional partners of Valencian Region have proposed **more than 20 ideas of cooperation for Perspective**.

In the Valencian Region several entities participate in the project: **Regional Vice-Ministries** of European Relations and Cooperation to Development, of Land and Housing, of Tourism, of Universities, Science and Technology, of Events and Projects, of Employment, of Telecommunication and Information Society, of Infrastructures and Transport; **other entities** as: Valencian Council of Chambers of Commerce, Foundation Valencian Community-European Region, Valencian Institute of Finances (IVF), Valencian Community Investments (VCI), Valencian Institute for SMEs (IMPIVA), Technological Institutes Network (REDIT), Valencian Institute of Exportation (IVEX), Innova Foundation from Polytechnic City of Innovation, Valencian Agency for Energies (AVEN), Energetic Enginery Institute of the Polytechnic University of Valencia, Valencian Employment Service Foundation (FSVE), Economic Promotion of Moncada (PEMSA), Valencian Region Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FMVP), FERVASA, INTERCOOP (agricultural cooperative association); and CIERVAL (regional federations of enterprises associations).



## Saxony-Anhalt

The regional working group in Saxony-Anhalt comprises representatives from the State Chancellery, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, the Ministry for Regional Development and Transport as well as the State Office for Political Education. In the first semester of 2006 two meetings of the **regional working group** have taken place. The first one in January dealt with the preparation for the **First Prospective Commission and the First Dissemination Conference**. On the second meeting in April organizational and financial aspects were discussed. Moreover the further procedure with regard to the subprojects were talked over. A third meeting is scheduled for June concerning the meetings of the Management and Steering Group on 5<sup>th</sup> July in Magdeburg.

## North Great Plain

In the first half of the year 2006 experts arrived from Germany to make the **interviews** necessary for the **benchmark study on tourism**. In the course of the interviews relevant experts who are in charge of the topics water tourism, cycle tourism and active tourism were questioned.

On 24-25<sup>th</sup> April 2006, RFO Perspective 2007-2013 Inter-regional Working Group took place in Debrecen. The Working Group was preceded by a series of interviews with experts of clusters, economic development and regional marketing of the Észak-Alföld region to contribute with inputs for the study about automotive supplier clusters and regional marketing.

During the Working Group, presentations of first results of the studies were carried out. Moreover additional sustainability and competitiveness workshops were organised to discuss about the studies.

On the last day a project visit was organized to **Lake**



**Tisza certified by Village+ label**, first in Europe.



January 17<sup>th</sup> 2006. First Meeting of the Valencian Region Working Group



April 7<sup>th</sup> 2006. Second Meeting of the Valencian Region Working Group.

## Region Centre

Region Centre has dedicated most of the time to the good progress of the two studies on waste management and renewable energies. The results of these two studies are now available. Moreover, a meeting with the research centres of the region took place on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March.

During this meeting the project "Perspective 2007-2013" has been presented.

## Web page: [www.perspective2013.info](http://www.perspective2013.info)

In January during the First Dissemination Conference of the RFO Perspective in Magdeburg the **web page** of the operation has been presented.

It has been created to be used not only as an informative tool but also as a way to **promote the cooperation between the regions**, by sharing interesting documents in the areas of the project, communication and organisation of **related events, project proposals** even

in **other European Programmes** and to establish a **durable cooperation** between the partners.

The web page includes also an **Intranet** section to easily communicate with each regional working group.

The web page will be specially useful as a valuable tool to **find partners to develop projects** in the framework of the RFO.

[www.perspective2013.info](http://www.perspective2013.info)





## Dissemination of Perspective 2007-2013



The RFO Perspective 2007-2013 has been presented in several events. This is a good chance for effective and efficient communication of the Perspective objectives. And also a opportunity to extend international cooperation, to exchange knowledge and to learn from other projects, but it is also a great chance to show how and why Perspective has been successful so far.

### Forums where Perspective has been presented:

- Summer University-Territorial Prospective in Europe. Lille. 7-8<sup>th</sup> September 2005.
- Open Days; Second Week of the Valencian Region. Brussels. 10-14<sup>th</sup> October 2005.
- European Regional Economic Council. Nova Gorica (Slovenia). 27-28<sup>th</sup> October 2005.
- Presentation at the Committee of European Integration and Foreign Affairs of the Municipality of Budapest. Valencia. 10<sup>th</sup> November 2005.
- Study Visit RTP SP in the Valencian Region. Valencia. 21<sup>st</sup> November 2005.
- Study Visit –Lithuania. Valencia. 21<sup>st</sup> November 2005.
- Lisbon Regional Networks-Seminar LRN. 2<sup>nd</sup> Decem-

ber 2005. Additionally, it is worth mentioning the Interreg IIIC Legacy Conference, which took place at the Committee of the Regions in Brussels on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2006. The event has been promoted and coordinated by Perspective 2007-2013 together with Valencian Regional Office in Brussels, ANCI-IDEALI (National Association of Italian Municipalities) and City Factory. The RFO Perspective with 13 other Interreg III outstanding projects have presented their



- ber 2005.
- Regional Paths to deliver the Lisbon Strategy. Brussels. 13<sup>th</sup> December 2005.
- Strategy for sustainable growth in Europe and its regions. Milan. 15-16<sup>th</sup> December 2005.
- Network of European Automotive Competence. NEAC. Valencia. 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2005.
- Forum EIPA. Milan. 16<sup>th</sup> February 2006.
- TAIEX Programme. Bulgaria, Rumania & Cyprus. Valencia. 21-24<sup>th</sup> February 2006.
- European Agenda. Brussels, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2006.
- World Sustainable Energy Days. Wels. 28<sup>th</sup> February-3<sup>rd</sup> March.
- World Water Day Conference. Brussels, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2006.
- EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation. Brussels. 10<sup>th</sup> April 2006.
- ARE Centurio Conference. Valencia. 20<sup>th</sup> April 2006.
- Lisbon Regions Network (CENTURIO). Valencia. 28<sup>th</sup> April 2006.
- World Social Tourism Congress. Aubagne. 10-12 May 2006.
- TAIEX. Delegation Regions of Calabria. Valencia. 11-12<sup>th</sup> May 2006.
- European Union & Local Entities Valencian Region Seminar. Valencia. 29<sup>th</sup> May 2006.

know-how, experience in interregional cooperation and their main results. This meeting has served to provide policy recommendations for the next programme period 2007-2013. A common declaration has been signed by the projects' representatives to express their opinions on the basis of the experience for the future EU Territorial Cooperation Programmes. Some suggestions were: procedures simplification and flexibility, introduce prepayments, etc.

### For further information:

#### Comunidad Valenciana (ES):

- [www.uegva.info](http://www.uegva.info)
- [www.qva.es](http://www.qva.es)

#### Saxony-Anhalt (DE):

- [www.sachsen-anhalt.de](http://www.sachsen-anhalt.de)

#### Région Centre (FR):

- [www.regioncentre.fr](http://www.regioncentre.fr)

#### Eszák-Alföldi (HU):

- [www.eszakalfoldi.hu](http://www.eszakalfoldi.hu)

#### Interreg IIIC Programme:

- [www.interreg3c.net](http://www.interreg3c.net)

#### Previous Newsletter:

- [www.perspective2013.info/index.php?pg=12](http://www.perspective2013.info/index.php?pg=12)

### Accomplished meetings

#### November 2005 :

- Management Group
- Steering Group  
Orleans (Region Centre)

#### January 2006:

- Dissemination Conference
- Prospective Commission

#### April 2006

- Working Group on Sustainability & Competitiveness in Debrecen

### Next events

#### First Brochure:

- July 2006

#### Next newsletter:

- December 2006

#### Open Call for projects:

- Third Quarter 2006

## Planned meetings

#### July 2006:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Management Group, Magdeburg
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Steering Group, Magdeburg

#### Second Semester 2006:

- Interregional Working group in Magdeburg
- 4<sup>th</sup> Management Group, Valencian Region
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Steering Group, Valencian Region

## Latest news/ Next steps

In March 2006, the financial audit of the Perspective 2007-2013 was **successfully accomplished**. Lately, on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2006, the **Progress Report** was submitted to Interreg IIIC South Joint Technical Secretariat with the purpose of **evaluating the development of the RFO**. This has shown the good management and coordination of the operation and consequently has given Perspective the opportunity to publish an **article** on the **Interreg IIIC web page**.

The **Interregional Working Group on Competitiveness and Sustainability** met in Debrecen, North Great Plain, on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2006. This session has served to comment the advance of the **benchmarking studies**. Due to some concerns of regional partners, additional

ideas and suggestions have been made. The meeting in Debrecen has also served to discuss **first project ideas on the 5 areas of cooperation**. At the moment more than **30 ideas for proposals** have been collected showing the successful development of the RFO.

The **Second Management Group and Steering Committee** are planned for the end of June 2006. During those meetings priorities will be discussed for the **conclusions of the Benchmarking studies** and the **requirements and evaluation methodology for the projects selection**.

In this term, the **Projects Call for Proposal** will be launched during the **Third Quarter of 2006**.



[www.perspective2013.info](http://www.perspective2013.info)

