

Kick off Meeting – Thematic Fora Trieste, 6th – 7th May 2004

The two days meeting has been divided into three half days - starting from the 6th May afternoon - each dedicated to one of the three thematic fora (TF).

In the first half day, some general and basic matters have been discussed (and treated further also in the second day), to be the basis of the future development of the fora.

During the first day, the main speakers have been Mrs. Schmolinsky, RFO-Coordinator of the lead partner of the RFO, Land North Rhine-Westphalia (Germany), and Mr. Jens Gabbe, representative of the AGEK, the Helpdesk.

The other speakers have been presenting some project ideas and best practices to be developed in order to be presented to the calls for proposal:

Mrs. Luciana Zanier presented two project ideas, one called "Network of museums" aiming at promoting the small museums in the mountains in sight of a better touristic offer, the other on the figure of the alpinist Julius Kugy for developing transborder tourism.

Mr. Stefano Gustincich presented an idea on genomics in the health care system proposing a study of the genetic variability for preventing diseases and tumours and creating an electronic network of the patient case sheets.

Mr. Nicola Pangher talked on new technologies and services for an aging society.

Mr. Fons Feekes presented a best practice of co-operation between Slovenia and Italy regarding the development of Slovene crossborder SMEs (PRIME Project), giving his availability for information exchange.

The discussion of Friday has been led in a most informal and participative way, involving the audience and presenting projects ideas.

Mr. Gabbe outlined the importance of communicating the final number of partners for each forum, the agenda and workplan, the budget and the contact person for each main partner.

Finally, some project ideas were presented and discussed among the present main partners and are ready to get adhesions (some main partners have to check and confirm their partnership to SWGs). The proposals, divided among the three TFs are the following (title and proponent):

TF 1

- INSPIRE (Territorial information system with high added value) (Navarra, Spain)
- Building cross-border - effects on the neighbouring country (Gelderland, Netherlands)
- Intervention of land use and water management strategies in shared river basin (Gelderland, Netherlands)
- Euregios and new neighbourhood (North Karelia, Finland)
- Development of human network for the monitoring and protection of costal marine environment (East Macedonia, Thrace, Greece)
- Cross-border co-operation in the field of environment and integrated water resources (Lubelskie, Poland)
- City cleannes (Lubelskie, Poland)

TF 2

- Network of small museums for enhancing tourism (FVG, Italy)
- Julius kugy route (FVG, Italy)
- MENT. Memory, Nature, Tradition Resource tourism regional network (Lubelskie, Poland)
- Qualified for Europe. Vocational training school for middle level staff with practical professional language component (Lubelskie, Poland)
- Cooperation in fields of training education and actions improving mobility of the population (Lubelskie, Poland)
- Examination of ways for improving the competitiveness of livestock farming business in cross border regions (East Macedonia, Thrace, Greece)
- Exchange of experiences between science parks and technology transfer units to improve knowledge transfer from suppliers of innovation to SME sector (Lubelskie, Poland)
- Exchange of knowledge and experience within creation of clusters (Lubelskie, Poland)
- Genomics in the health care system (FVG, Italy)
- New technologies and services for an aging society (FVG, Italy)
- SMEs cross borders (Germany)

TF 3

- Language bridges (Bolzano, Italy)
- Europe along the scars of history (Gelderland, Netherlands)
- CultureCastles (Germany)
- Multilingual and multicultural character of borderline areas (Lubelskie, Poland)