

Project Partners and Map



Leadpartner:

- InvestitionsBank des Landes Brandenburg, DE

Partners:

- State of Brandenburg, represented by the State Chancellery, DE
- Free State of Saxony, represented by the State Chancellery, DE
- West Regional Authority, IE
- Central Bohemian Authority, CZ
- Regional Council of North Karelia, FI
- Joint Authority of Kainuu Region, FI
- Xunta de Galicia (Autonomous Community Government), ES
- Province of Limburg, NL
- Veneto Region, IT
- Lower Austria Health and Social Fund, AT
- BSC - Business Support Centre Ltd., SLO
- Lower Silesian Centre for Social Policy, PL
- „CENTRU“ Regional Development Agency, RO



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Contact DART

Pertti Hermanek
InvestitionsBank des Landes
Brandenburg (ILB)

Steinstraße 104 - 106
D-14480 Potsdam

Tel.: +49 331 660 1605
info@dart-project.eu

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subscribe to the newsletter at

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DART

Declining,
Ageing and Regional
Transformation



Declining, Ageing and Regional Transformation

Demographic Change
in European Regions

Fotonachweis: www.pixelio.de



What is DART's background?

By 2030 every third person in the EU will be 60 or older. Low fertility rates and migration are leading to a declining population. Lower population, shrinking regional demand and the lack of qualified staff endangers the



provision of adequate public and private services and the sustainable economic basis of the regions. Meeting this demographic challenge is one of the biggest European issues as stated in „Regions 2020 – An Assessment of Future Challenges for EU Regions“, and the EU initiative, „Regions for Economic Change“.

Declining, Ageing and Regional Transformation (DART) are challenges for many regions across Europe. For this reason 13 regions – affected by ageing and declining – are cooperating to benchmark, identify and transfer appropriate solutions.

There are already several projects with the aim of preventing a downward spiral. This offers the opportunity to outline and exchange those experiences, to underpin them with adapted standards and indicators, and to work out innovative and integrated solutions that would maintain quality of life and enhance social inclusion in declining and ageing areas for all generations.

What results can be expected?

DART deals with the challenges of shrinking regions. The overall objective of DART is the formulation of an integrated strategy combining three main elements: Education and Lifelong Learning, Health Care and

Social Services as well as Tradition and Innovative Economy. The objective will be reached through the exchange of experience, identification of good practice and interregional cooperation. These will contribute to improving the effectiveness of regional development policies.

Within the DART regions there are several projects dealing with demographic change. However, most of them focus on sector-specific solutions. DART wants to adjust policies relating to demographic change by the implementation of:

- good practices from partner regions and previous projects,
- new products and services to improve the quality of life, especially in new business fields for SME and
- a set of indicators to benchmark regions.

DART raises awareness of demographic change and communicates the facts and opportunities of demographic change to all stakeholders of regional policy.

How will this be achieved?

Exchange of Experience

DART will identify and exchange good practices which strengthen the economy in all partner regions, as well as educational and health care services.

The best of these practices will be transferred to other regions.

The partners will organize three main conferences in the fields of:

- Traditional & Innovative Economy: spring 2011 in Dresden, Germany
- Education, Lifelong Learning & Job Market: summer 2011 in Prague, Czech Republic
- Health Care & Social Services: spring 2012 in Kainuu, Finland

Five study visits and eight meetings and workshops will take place in nearly all countries involved.

Political Recommendations

DART will define common indicators to measure demographic change and shrinkage in European regions in line with the Lisbon Strategy and its successor, Europe 2020. These indicators will allow the analysis and comparison of data from different regions.

DART will give political recommendations for regional and European stakeholders.