
The Way Forward

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Chair, Colleagues I would like to thank you for inviting me to this interesting and important METREX conference. In my presentation I will begin with a broader OECD perspective followed by more specific reference to the Territorial Development Service which I represent today.

As many of you will know the OECD brings together 30 countries sharing a commitment to democratic government and a market economy. The global reach of its activities is secured by active relationships with some 70 non-OECD countries, non-governmental organisations and civil society. The Organisation provides governments with a forum in which to identify emerging issues and analyse, discuss and develop a range of public policies. Member countries compare experiences seek answers to common problems and work to improve domestic and international policy co-ordination. The work of the Organisation covers economic, social, environmental and agricultural policies, as well as development co-operation, trade, fiscal, public management, science, and other sectoral policies. Because of the interdisciplinary approach taken by the OECD in its analytical and policy work, it is well placed to support governments in their efforts to increase policy coherence and integration in pursuit of sustainable development.

Your conference here in Thessaloniki coincides with two important OECD events: the Ministers from OECD countries met in Paris on 15-16 May 2002 to review the outlook for the world economy and policy challenges relating to trade, governance, development and the environment. Their discussions followed on from the OECD Forum. The 2002 Ministerial is an integral part of a series of high level meetings this year, including the UN Financing for Development Conference in Monterrey, the G8 Summit in Kananaskis and the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.

In May 1998, OECD Ministers agreed "... that the achievement of sustainable development is a key priority for OECD countries. They encouraged the elaboration of a strategy ... in the areas of climate change, technological development, sustainability indicators, and the environmental impact of subsidies". They also agreed "... to interpret the term 'sustainable' as including social and environmental, as well as economic, considerations", and in a context of "... integrating economic, environmental and social policies to enhance welfare". Finally, they "... stressed the importance of promoting effective integration of environmental considerations in the multilateral system".

When OECD Ministers of Finance and Environment met together at the OECD in May 2001, they recognised sustainable development as an overarching goal of OECD governments and the Organisation. They emphasised that OECD countries bear a special responsibility for leadership on sustainable development worldwide, historically and because of the weight they continue to have in the global economy and environment. Endorsing the key policy recommendations from a three-year organisation-wide project on sustainable development, they recognised the difficulties inherent in implementing these policies, and the gaps in analytical and scientific understanding in the area of sustainable development. To help address these issues, they asked the OECD¹ to continue assisting them in formulating and implementing policies to achieve sustainable development, and in particular to:

*develop agreed indicators that measure progress across all three dimensions of sustainable development, with a view to incorporating these into OECD's peer review processes;
identify how obstacles to policy reforms can be overcome;
analyse further the social aspects of sustainable development; and
provide guidance for achieving improved economic, environmental and social policy coherence and integration.*

Also important are the commitments made by EU Member States. At the Summit Heads of State confirmed the commitment of EU Member States to a new economic and social agenda. A new strategic goal was also agreed for the EU to become the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion. The Lisbon conclusions established a context for change – requiring modernisation of the European Social Model and placing social inclusion high on the political agenda throughout Member States. The Summit also drew attention to the role of business in realising a meaningful social agenda. The Lisbon conclusions, in effect, establish the supranational commitment to established local and national strategic goals.

Because of the multi-dimensional nature of sustainable development, OECD countries recognise that they need to strengthen their decision making through increased integration of policies across sectors and ministries. Adequate investment is needed across the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development: in equipment and infrastructure, intellectual capital, human capital, and natural capital. Monitoring and reporting progress towards sustainable development, including through the use of indicators, is important for this process, as are increased transparency of policy decisions and participation by affected citizens, social partners and civil society.

Most OECD countries are now developing more effective communication and consultation processes.

¹. The specific role of the OECD as one of a number of major international institutions working towards sustainable development is described in Annex 1. This Annex discusses the policy and analytical work of the organisation that supports countries in working co-operatively towards sustainable development.

The growing economic importance of non-OECD countries has increased their role in ensuring the integrity of global economic, environmental and social systems. The globalisation of both economic activity and environmental problems means that co-operation and partnerships have become essential for moving towards sustainable development at least-cost. This requires co-operation not only among governments, but also between governments and stakeholders.

However, sustainable development remains a global challenge. Progress has been realised in the ten years since the 1992 Earth Summit, but many challenges remain. OECD countries have enjoyed sustained economic growth in recent years, improved social conditions, and reductions in certain environmental pressures. Their actions also supported moves towards sustainable development in non-OECD countries and globally, including removing some barriers to investment and trade, and working together to tackle some global environmental problems. But, many pressing issues remain.

Although this growth has led to improved quality of life for most OECD citizens, not all have benefited. Although education and social cohesion are fundamental to sustainable development, unemployment, social exclusion, and access to education have worsened in a few OECD countries. Everywhere, rapidly ageing populations are putting pension schemes under pressure, with important implications for inter-generational equity.

Social considerations are important for the pursuit of sustainable development in OECD countries. Most have made significant progress in establishing extensive safety nets, education and health systems, alongside well-developed governmental, legal and institutional apparatus for delivering these services to their citizens. Social policy in OECD countries has long been motivated by concerns about equity and the social externalities of poverty, unemployment, inadequate skills or ill health.

The First Principle in the Rio Declaration declares that 'human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development.' However, while researchers, policy analysts and governments have achieved some integration of Environmental with the Economic dimensions over the past ten years, efforts to fully integrate the social dimension have been left behind.

The close relationship between poverty, employment, poor working conditions, poor health and incomes requires that socio-economic policies function in tandem with those relating to the decoupling of growth and the environment. Human insecurity, poor health and social exclusion are evidence of unsustainable economic and human development. They call for policies to reduce unemployment, tackle social inequality, facilitate adjustment to economic reform, ensure adequate pensions, and other specific policies to preserve living standards, and in particular, to minimise disruption and unemployment amongst those directly affected by the transitions to sustainability.

There will be no sustainable development without reducing poverty and disease. A fifth of the world's population lives on less than US\$ 1 per day, and millions suffer from chronic hunger. HIV/AIDS and other diseases are undermining the very foundations of society in many countries. Meanwhile, international and civil conflicts threaten the ability of people to rise out of poverty, setting up a vicious circle whereby poverty feeds violent conflict, and vice-versa. Climate change, biodiversity loss, deforestation, water scarcity, and overfishing – all need immediate action. International environmental conventions and agreements have been set up to tackle many of these, but implementation difficulties abound.

This week OECD Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to sustainable development.

Let me now move on to the Territorial Development Service of OECD which was created in 1994, and since that time has built a knowledge base to cover critical and priority issues related to regional policies, urban affairs, rural development, local employment initiatives, and territorial indicators and databases. Our objective is to undertake policy analysis to enhance sustainable economic well-being, social cohesion and effective governance right across our countries. In 1999 the Territorial Development Policy Committee was created, first OECD committee to be created in 20 years.

Territorial development includes social, economic and environmental aspects of sustainable development at the sub-national level. The positive impact of territorial development policies comes in part from the fact that cross-sectoral integration takes place, often quite literally, on the ground, and is reflected in the spatial arrangements that transform the functional dimensions of different sectors (transport, energy, housing, etc.) into liveable places. Territorial policy provides a framework for linking environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainability.

We believe that progress toward sustainability will require change in the organisation of cities and regions, in the management of their natural resources — including their demand for energy — and in land-use patterns. The lessons of recent years indicate that the cities, communities and regions of developed countries can be modified and improved, but this often requires public and private investment, as well as changes in the behaviour of individuals and enterprises.

Our policy analysis and territorial review process tells us that governments have only recently begun to re-examine traditional spatial planning, land use, and social and economic development policies in an effort to meet these challenges. A major challenge is to develop a coherent strategy that operates effectively at international, national and local levels. Our Territorial Reviews reveal that:

- Territorial trends widely recognised as unsustainable (such as urban sprawl or the loss of rural amenities) have significant spillover effects, and cannot be addressed effectively at the local or regional level in the absence of sound national policies.

- A successful policy mix will combine national policies, local initiatives, and implementation strategies that are effective across different levels of government, and across administrative or jurisdictional boundaries at the sub-national level.
- To achieve policy coherence, the territorial impacts of national economic and sectoral policies need to be identified, and addressed in national policies.
- An area-based approach connects the environmental, social and economic aspects of development. Territorial development policy is the only policy field in which the spatial aspects of different sectors, and hence the spatial organisation of the economy, are explicit.
- Governance issues are critical to improving vertical and horizontal co-ordination, co-operation with the private and community sectors, and the capacity of sub-national authorities to meet the obligations of international treaties; they can also prevent competition between territories for jobs and investment due to differences in environmental standards. And that
- Top-down, technocratic strategies alone appear unable to generate a reassuring vision of the future on which an overall development strategy can be based. Territorial policies respond to the requirements for ecological sustainability and to the demand of people for places that combine economic opportunity with a higher quality of life.

The variety of regions and places within Member countries is a major factor in the emergence of territorial development policies. Carrying capacity refers to the limits within which any given place can handle the environmental consequences of activities. Precisely because conditions vary widely, not only from one region to another, but even within a single region, national policies that set uniform standards or targets may be inappropriate at best, counter-productive at worst. Macroeconomic and sectoral policies can rarely take full account of the varying density and uneven spread of positive and negative effects within a nation. Difference among and within territories should be viewed as a strength, not a liability.

Sustainable places have a capacity for renewal, whether by generating firms and creating jobs; integrating people into communities and reducing disparities; improving quality of life; or maintaining and enhancing cultural and natural amenities. These aspects of economic development highlight the importance of social capital that is rooted in the culture and traditions of a particular place. Social endowments take on greater significance in territories that do not enjoy a comparative advantage based on fortuitous geographical location or endowment in natural resources.

A territory with a diversified social and economic base is more able to respond to external shocks than a more homogenous and specialised one. Territories can become laboratories where new approaches and solutions can be developed and diffused, a phenomenon that has been a long-standing feature of policy innovation in many federal states and is increasingly recognised in centralised ones. Territorial development policy is relevant to all territories, not by imposing a single model for development, but by helping each to enhance its particular strengths and address its problems. Indeed, in many countries, regional and municipal authorities are further ahead than the central government in the design and implementation of strategies for sustainable development.

Widening social disparities — incompatible with sustainable development objectives — are a function of inadequate skills for today's economy, poverty, and spatial patterns that isolate people from jobs. At the very least, affected individuals may lack the financial and institutional resources to solve problems made more severe by the effects of spatial concentration. Areas of high unemployment and disadvantage are increasingly found in close proximity to areas of high growth, and are often part of the same region. These are neither isolated phenomena, nor the inevitable consequences of growth about which little can be done, but rather manifestations of dysfunctional patterns of growth and change at local and regional levels often resulting from shortcomings in national policies.

Short-term pressures to meet economic objectives often lead to long-term costs as localities make trade-offs between competitiveness and sustainability. Integrative, cross-sectoral approaches have much greater potential for achieving cost-effective results than those which treat environmental, economic and social issues separately. Territorial policies, which respond to the needs and strengths of particular localities, are not only complementary to macro-level measures but essential for the successful implementation of both national and international sustainable development policy goals. Moreover, local and regional activities are increasingly important in the formulation of national policies, especially where they offer opportunities for civil society to influence national priorities at the local and regional levels.

I will now give you some examples of our work to date - National Reviews of Italy, Korea and Hungary have been completed. As have a set of Regional Reviews. A Metropolitan Review of Melbourne is near completion and one of Athens about to commence. In turn these Reviews are complemented by the Urban Renaissance Series which demonstrates the practical application of territorial development concepts, highlighting the importance of urban centres for the sustainable development of the metropolitan regions to which they belong. The Series builds on substantial TDS work on urban policy. The purpose is to articulate and promote holistic and integrative approaches which can only be implemented through a combination of sound framework policies at the national level and strategic planning and local initiative at the metropolitan level.

We have now completed studies of Belfast, where the regeneration of the River Lagan has had dramatic economic, environmental and now social benefits for the city, making an important contribution to wider political changes in the province. In Krakow our attention turned to problems of the preservation of the historic urban core and brownfield sites - the case of Nowa Huta being a unique challenge for all levels of government.

In Canberra we learned that no matter how well planned a city may be it cannot take the future for granted. The city, like others has undergone massive shifts in employment patterns, over 5000 public sector jobs were lost in 1996. More surprisingly, a city which was based on idealised planning traditions has no strategic plan for the 21st century. The OECD process has contributed to preparation of a new plan and OECD will be invited to return to Canberra in 2003.

In Glasgow our focus was the River Clyde - once the raison d'être of the city and now an incredible opportunity to deliver a more sustainable future which effectively addresses the social, economic and environmental challenges posed by the waterfront area. The city has turned its economy around through targeted strategies. It benefits from well articulated Structure and City Plans and a clear economic development strategy. Partnership lies at the heart of delivering change in the city, just as it did in Belfast. Glasgow is seeking to reduce child poverty, increase educational attainment and re-skill its people - all vital ingredients to secure social sustainability.

We are currently working with the city of Berlin, focusing on three challenging and diverse districts where issues of exclusion, unemployment and immigration are prominent. In June we begin work with the State of Maryland to analyse their approach to Smart Growth. The lessons learned from cities such as Belfast and Glasgow will contribute to our promotion of the importance of the social dimension of sustainability

Finally, we know that the sustainable development agenda is a complex one, which demands action by many different stakeholders at the national and territorial levels, all of whom need to be involved in establishing shared goals and targets and in action to ensure that they are met. The Johannesburg Summit will be the next crucial step in helping us realise a more socially sustainable future for all citizens of the world. If I may conclude with two points: sustainable development is important because the status quo is not an option. And as the 2001 UN World Cities report noted "A country's global success rests on local shoulders" and that is why your Network is important and the theme of your conference here in Thessaloniki to consider the social face of sustainability is most pertinent.

Nicholas ISLES

Head of Current Affairs The Work Foundation London

I'm particularly struck by the fact you've chosen to hold the 3rd Metrex Biennial Conference in Greece where in many ways the modern Western concept of the metropolis was born. The Ancient Greek 'demos' was not simply a place where people cohabited. It also helped create the impetus to devise a whole new political economy based around participation, open trade and the rule of law.

I should say something about myself and The Work Foundation. The Work Foundation is the new name for the Industrial Society a 100 year-old-organisation founded to campaign to improve work and working conditions. It's still doing that as The Work Foundation but with a slightly different focus to the one originally envisaged. Back in 1918 The Boys Welfare Society as it was then called campaigned for such things as staff canteens and toilets in factories. Now the Work Foundation is likely to call for the creation of conversational organisations, autonomous workplaces and joining the Euro.

And as for myself I head up the Current Affairs team and have edited a book entitled 'Enterprising Europe', published next month by Spiro press in the UK and available from Amazon online and all good bookshops, which describes how European progressive business ideas can offer a model for developing globalisation in the future. That's the book plugging section over.

I've been asked to discuss The Way Forward which is, I think you'll agree, a fairly broad topic.

The first area I want to look at will consider the particular ways in which globalisation is affecting Europe and then go on to examine briefly the people and cultural consequences that flow from those effects.

I then want to look at how cities can react to the variety of challenges that are thrown up by these trends. Rather than get bogged down in a rather boring list of European and national regeneration initiatives I want to look in particular at one emerging 'big' idea as well as the issue of 'attachment'.

By using the word 'attachment' I mean to argue that a city's social and productive capital will not work as optimally as it should if geographical areas and groups of people are not fully attached to the labour market, to the city's internal political processes and to the wider world.

Finally I will describe what The Work Foundation is engaged upon in this area and in particular some work we're involved engaged upon with Manchester City Council. And I give apologies now that many of my examples are inevitably taken from the UK context.

First globalisation. There are many aspects to globalization and I'm not going to go over the more familiar ones today. However one aspect that doesn't grab headlines but is of great significance to Europe according to economists such as Diane Coyle of Enlightenment Economics, revolves around the international reorganisation of production which is particularly affecting many regions and cities across Europe.

This reorganisation is due to: (slide 1)

- declines in transport costs – air freight since 60s, ocean freight since early 80s;
- falling tariffs between OECD countries especially through the Uruguay Round and since;
- ICTs which allow monitoring and management of production across great distances. (Ref. The Work Foundation study on Hypermobile workers)

The impact of such reorganisation has been extraordinary. (Slide 2 Merchandise Exports as a share of GDP)

This increase in trade in goods is quite staggering. For the US the share of exports to value added is up from 10% in 1960 to 47% in 1999; for France 17% to 65%; for the UK 34% to 64%.

Trade is becoming more sophisticated and diverse. The growth in trade in components has been much faster than the growth in trade in finished goods. Almost 1/3 of world trade in manufactures now consists of parts, not completed goods. The share of imported components in manufacturing export value added is now more than 20% in leading OECD countries.

There has also been a rapid increase in Foreign Direct Investment Flows (FDI). FDI grew 29% a year between 1983-89. There was another surge in the 90s with a doubling between 97 and 99 alone. However of the world total of \$1.1 trillion in 2000, only 16% went to developing countries. (Slide 3 Percent of World FDI Flows 1999).

So the OECD countries have been mainly investing in each other. The take-off within Europe since mid-90s is particularly dramatic. EU15 is sending 6% of GDP across national border in FDI by 1999, up from 1-2% through early 90s. (slide 4 Percent of FDI outflows 1999)

These numbers tell us that the reallocation of production is a huge phenomenon within the EU, driven by both the forces of globalisation and by the single market and the euro. This means the disruption to Europe and European cities has been and will continue to be considerable. And we shouldn't be surprised. One would expect the single market, which in reality is really only just getting going, to lead to the relocation of production of any specific industrial sector to fewer centres and thus to greater specialisation with profound results, (both good and bad) for those cities and economies caught up in the exercise.

But so much for the bald figures. What's going on underneath the statistics in our regions, our cities, our communities? Well I think it's something pretty profound. Globalisation has a very human face. There are more people on the move in search of safety, peace and work than ever before. For example we now have more refugees worldwide than at any time since the second world war – over 13 million people. Europe is witnessing waves of refugees and asylum seekers (2.5 million in total).

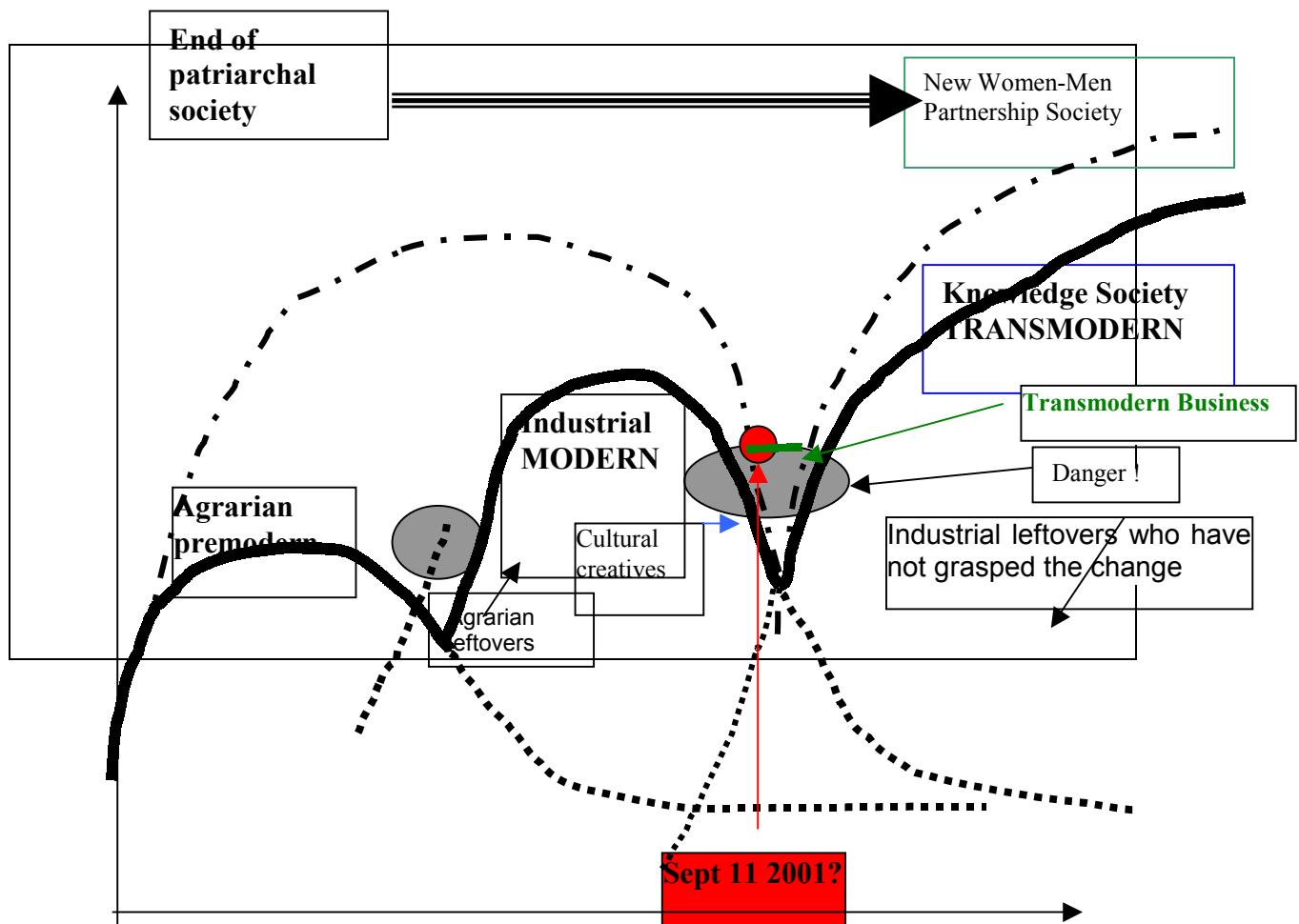
The US economic miracle of the 1990s was driven in large part by the massive immigration of migrant workers (both legal and illegal) from Mexico and other parts of central and South America.

And just anecdotally London's service sector would probably collapse without the migrant workers from the former Soviet bloc and elsewhere who provide the waiting, cleaning and catering services we need to run our pubs, clubs and restaurants from the Savoy to the Star and Garter.

The result of such mass movement is that old ideas and cultures are cohabiting alongside new and dominant cultures in our towns and cities. A battle is raging between different ideas of how to live and organise ourselves which is expressed locally as the movement of people, beliefs and ideas have become global.

Marc Luyckx, Director of a think tank called Vision 20/20 and former head of Jacques Delors Forward Strategy Unit in the European Commission describes where we are as moving towards transmodernity. He believes that we live in a time of paradigm shift comparable to the Renaissance period in Europe at the end of the 15th and early 16th centuries. A combination of now well-known drivers – internationalisation of trade, ICT, liberalisation of currency markets - has led to a situation where many communities with different belief systems and cultural mores are living together much more than in the past with all the potential for friction that that entails.

This slide illustrates this thesis. (Slide 5) **The end of modernity, patriarchalism, and capitalism.**



So what does all this mean? First transmodernity is **democratic**. Everyone is brought to the table whatever their starting point in order to resolve common problems (unemployment, sectoral decline or whatever).

Second transmodernity is **tolerant** by definition. This tolerance is active. Its definition of the truth is **inclusive**. All cultures and all citizens in the world are included.

Third transmodernity establishes and redefines a new relationship **between religions and politics**. On the one hand one has to avoid any confusion between religion and politics as occurs frequently in pre-modern, fundamentalist societies, but on the other one has to abolish the modern separation which has led in part to disenchantment, disenfranchisement and disengagement with political processes. Transmodernity is thus also **post-secular**.

Finally transmodernity redefines **fundamentally the relationship between science, ethics and society**. Science itself is going through a deep transformation. It is decompartmentalizing the various scientific disciplines in order to integrate ethics and meaning at all levels. The very distinction between hard and soft sciences becomes obsolete.

In people and policy terms this analysis of the consequences of the forces of globalisation means the battle between the three big global ideological forces must be fought at the level of the city or community as well as on the more national and international stage.

And just to be crystal clear what shape those forces take I would describe them as follows.

1. Islamic fundamentalism as expressed by September 11 and all that followed.
2. The so-called Washington consensus, with its Christian right flavouring, its adherence to free market economic nostrums and its emphasis on the individual over the collective. The current outlook of the Bush led US Government.
3. And then there is the social market liberal tradition, with an emphasis on religious tolerance, the role of the state, the importance of the collective over the individual and the recognition of business as being embedded in the communities in which it operates.

In Europe at the moment these 'big' ideas are in conflict. The dominant European social economic model is under siege from the conservative model outlined above and from its own inability to decide how best to integrate its minority populations. And the foci of this people-centred challenge, the cauldron where all this potential for conflict arises, are Cities.

Hutton describes where we in Europe should be heading. He says, "Human beings depend for their humanity on association, and this requires that they participate in a collective consciousness and shared belief system that allows them to empathise with the conditions of others. Membership of an associative conscience cannot be established if there is not a common culture, which in turn implies that everyone can belong to it on the same terms and has the same chance fully to participate in the civilisation that creates it."

What then to do? If ICT has enabled the world to become in Marshall McLuhan's phrase, coined back in 1961 'a global village' then the potential for cities to develop 'hot' networks is there for all to see. In the US a number of cities have developed a new concept that of the knowledge-rich 'ideopolis'. As the nature of the businesses that sustained them changed, these cities such as Seattle, Boston, Silicon Valley to name three, realised they were sitting on a pot of gold – namely their knowledge and innovation rich universities. They placed the knowledge creators and infrastructure onto a much higher platform within their city/regional strategies.

For example they included the universities in the City's transport system with fast access from the city centre to areas of knowledge development and beyond. Around these universities they clustered businesses (usually high tech service and manufacturing businesses) that could feed off the inputs from the universities most effectively.

The ideopolis also involves explicit job creation strategies for enterprises that service the infrastructure and its workers – micro credit providers, supply chain employers (service, technology, high tech manufacturing/engineering etc). The developing infrastructure then leads to increased demand for new off central area growth around new hubs concentrating on cultural industries or tourism or sport for example.

Though lacking the strategic cohesion implicit in the concept of the ideopolis there is in the UK a long track record of initiatives (see slide 7) designed to stimulate local growth and regeneration generally aimed at stimulating the supply side through providing venture capital (eg Regional Venture Capital Funds, Phoenix Fund, and most recently the Community Venture Capital Fund).

There are also a whole host of further initiatives around cluster development, again aimed at the supply side (eg improving university spin-outs – University Challenge Funds, Higher Education Innovation Fund, Science Enterprise Challenge etc.).

Inner City 100 – nominally supported by the Treasury, aims at demand side/cultural change through celebrating the "top" entrepreneurs from inner cities across UK.

The only purely private sector managed fund (with support from EIB/EIF) is the Merseyside Special Investment Fund. This fund has a specific remit for investment in employment generating projects.

All are based on lessons from the US – especially Michael Porter's work on cluster development and community venture capital.

None of these initiatives are particularly 'joined up', to quote a current piece of jargon, except the Merseyside Special Investment Fund. And all are focused on a relatively small proportion of the total SME population – those businesses which have high growth potential through venture capital (even Community VC funds require high growth potential).

However venture capital is only one element of a more complex integrated strategy. Inner City regeneration requires major investment in transport and infrastructure (eg Manchester or Newcastle or Leeds). It is not enough to assume the market will do this by itself as the risks are too high.

Culture change takes a long time and will only happen if the locally based institutions change – for example, outreach by universities to capture innovation, education and skills training to meet the needs of locally based businesses

Policy makers must have the confidence to identify the needs of locally based businesses and how to develop the workforce skills around these needs (eg the food industry in Yorkshire).

Denmark/Eastern Germany have led the way in identifying and building sectoral strengths at a local/regional level. For example – Schwerin and shipbuilding – died when the Berlin wall came down, but a marine technology industry around university research strengths is developing – including substantial inward investment – and means Schwerin now has the lowest unemployment of all Eastern Germany at 13% (including labour market inactivity)

Certainly in the UK for 25 years we have relied on solutions which address perceived market failure – this is wholly inadequate as it can only scratch at the surface of what is actually an institutional problem. Our key actors do not speak to each other (eg social partners, universities and businesses, venture capital funds and universities, or venture capital funds and business angels). This means that opportunities get missed and the total effect is of an "initiative swamp" which clouds the market.

Finally, more clouding comes from the fact that noone has defined what entrepreneurship actually is yet many policy initiatives are directed at stimulating it. There is a strong link between SME growth and employment (a very large proportion of inner city employment is in small firms, especially in the New Economy sector) but the number of employees that high-growth firms use can be small. Therefore we need to distinguish between opportunity entrepreneurs (i.e. where there is a clear market opportunity and potential for growth) and necessity entrepreneurs (where people become self employed because there is no alternative employment).

The level of necessity entrepreneurship is likely to be higher in areas where labour market inactivity is higher. These are not businesses that are "investable" in the venture capital sense of the word but are important as employment routes at an individual level. And notably Government initiatives are not aimed at this group!

This last point picks up on the fact that many communities usually living in our inner cities have become so detached from the opportunities being created elsewhere in the city – usually in our outer cities – through low skills, multi generational economic inactivity, poor transport links etc – that most if not all such venture capital initiatives pass them by.

This exclusion effect driven by the transmission mechanisms of globalisation has proved remarkably stubborn in remaining too often unaffected by initiatives designed to regenerate cities as a whole. Such communities are gripped by an immobility that is practical, psychological and cultural.

Slide 8 This next slide again taken from UK examples illustrates my point.

Employment Change in 12 towns and cities 1984-91
(Department of the Environment 1996)

City/town	Inner areas - change in number of jobs	Outer areas – change in number of jobs
Preston	-8%	14%
Plymouth	-7%	29%
Nottingham	2.5%	4%
Coventry	-5%	6.5%
Bristol	6%	2%
Sheffield	-6%	1%
Newcastle	-7%	9%
Manchester	-6%	41%
Liverpool	-12%	-9%
Leeds	6%	7%
Birmingham	-7%	10%
London	-8%	-2.5%

As we can see jobs have been largely created in the suburbs around new service sectors and old manufacturing type jobs in the inner city have disappeared leaving behind the people who worked in them.

Add to this housing policies that have grouped the disadvantaged in the same job-poor infrastructure-less environments and it is not hard to see why inactivity rates and other adverse social outcomes such as hard drug use, high crime rates etc etc become endemic in these areas.

So what to do? How in the UK are we trying to tackle this mix of problems and rise to this range of challenges? First we're trying a range of intermediate level strategies based on work experience and training. Hand-in-hand with these are newer attempts to redefine what we mean by work. There's not time here to describe in any detail the range of options being explored under the headings 'Broad Work' or 'Soft Work' but I would recommend an excellent publication by two of my colleagues Andy Westwood and Max Nathan entitled '*Broad Work*', downloadable from The Work Foundation website www.theworkfoundation.com in order to find out more.

What I want to do with the time left is look at a Case Study drawn from a particular city in the UK, Manchester. I've chosen Manchester because my colleague Andy Westwood is working with them on an ambitious plan. The idea no less is to try and turn Manchester into an ideopolis and in so doing reconnect those parts of the city that have become disconnected over the last 30 years. A small challenge then!

Slide 9 Here are the characteristics that describe what's been happening to Manchester over the last few years. And in the UK it's a familiar story.

- High levels of central area job loss (down 6%) but large outer job growth (up more than 40%)
- Industrial jobs have been replaced by predominantly service sector jobs
- Industrial jobs that remain are increasingly higher technology engineering/manufacturing
- Part time and short term work is growing. Full time permanent employment is shrinking
- Workforce skills culture and psychology in those who have lost their jobs have not matched the needs of 'new' employers in the high tech sectors
- Recent growth in the City Centre in the 'aesthetic' labour market has not helped the 'excluded'

In short though there are 44,500 unfilled vacancies in the North West of the UK unemployment rates across some wards and neighbourhoods in Manchester is nearly 20%.

Manchester's economic inactivity story looks like this. (Slide 10)

- Total population of 439,000 of which 12.1% are from ethnic minorities.
- 10.2% of households are headed by lone parents, mainly females the majority not working
- Nearly 20% of Manchester's population have long term illness that in most cases prevents them from working
- Recent job growth has been in public administration, including health and social care and financial and business services
- Other job growth has occurred in clerical,sales, associate professional and professional jobs
- Male full time employment set to continue to fall

Manchester City Council working through the partnership structures of the Manchester Local Strategic Partnership and the Manchester Community Strategy has drawn up the Manchester Employment Plan designed to tackle unemployment, increase employability and improve access to jobs for Manchester residents. The key elements are as follows: (slide 10)

- Partnership action that improves co-ordination and alignment of spending by partners against agreed priorities while reducing the complexity of interventions across and within Manchester
- Improve attainment levels in Manchester schools to the best compared across the country
- Better linking of advice and guidance for the unemployed across the city
- Improve labour market research capacity
- Target the economically inactive as well as the unemployed
- Establish a systematic approach to engaging employers to improve residents access to the full range of job opportunities available in Manchester

Alongside this approach The Work Foundation is developing ideas that will speed up and work with the above employment strategy. Notably we are preparing proposals that will do the following (Slide 11)

- Suggest the merger of the four Manchester based universities – University of Manchester, UMIST, Salford and Manchester Metropolitan University.
- Restructure the new university so that it is more outward facing and thus better able to network intellectual capital into the business sector.
- Rethink the planning and transport system so as to facilitate the networking of such capital and the freeflow of contact between knowledge centres, local business and the outside world.
- Reinforcement of those localities with urban initiatives such as conference centres, sporting facilities such as the new Commonwealth Games stadium and municipal buildings

- Job creation strategies that focus on those enterprises that service the infrastructure and its workers such as micro service providers

Integration, big picture thinking and smart supply side measures are coming together in the case of Manchester to create a new type of city with attachment programmes at one end of the spectrum and sustainable knowledge jobs at the other.

Conclusion:

So to conclude. The rationalisation of production in Europe, the globalisation of peoples and ideas and the particular circumstances of European integration are combining to exert massive structural, cultural and psychological change on each and every European city and metropolitan region.

I do not believe we can avoid these changes. Indeed we should in many cases welcome them. But certainly we must manage them. The American conservative way does not offer us a road we can travel in Europe. We cannot segregate or ghettoise 'others' . Our history and geography will not allow or enable us to do so.

We must ensure we engage, include and attach those at the margins while delivering quality, knowledge-based jobs that speak to the comparative advantages that we have as developed economies.

I hope the example I shared with you today of an attempt to do this in the UK mirrors the work many of you are undertaking in your own countries.

Thank you.

Dr Thorsten WIECHMANN

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„Smart Growth“ oder sozialverträgliche Schrumpfung? Nachhaltigkeit aus einer ostdeutschen Perspektive

die 3. Jahrestagung des METREX-Netzwerkes befasst sich mit den vielfältigen Facetten der sozialen Dimension von Nachhaltigkeit in europäischen Metropolregionen. Dabei wurde vor dem Hintergrund des demografischen Umbruchs und der regionalen Disparitäten in Europa deutlich, dass wir vor bedeutsamen und schwierigen Herausforderungen in allen europäischen Agglomerationen stehen. Es darf jedoch nicht verkannt werden, dass sich im Einzelfall immer ganz spezifische Probleme und Handlungsbedarfe zeigen, so dass die Lösungsstrategien immer auch einen lokalen Charakter haben müssen.

Betrachtet man die Gesamtheit der Beiträge auf dieser Konferenz wird jedoch deutlich, dass die überwiegende Mehrheit der Referenten unter einer nachhaltigen Entwicklung auch und vor allem eine Entwicklung verstehen, die auf einem intelligenten, zukunftsfähigen ökonomischen Wachstum basiert. Dieses Wachstum soll soziale Ausgrenzung verringern und eine stabile demografische Entwicklung sichern, im Falle der Beispiele Stuttgart und Sofia sogar dazu führen, dass Abwanderer in ihre Stadtregion zurückkehren und so den negativen Trend in der Bevölkerungsentwicklung umkehren.

Die vielschichtigen und facettenreichen Beiträge der Konferenz sollen an dieser Stelle noch einmal reflektiert werden aus Sicht eines ostdeutschen Vertreters. Diese Sicht unterscheidet sich in einigen Punkten von dem, was hier bisher gesagt wurde. Dies liegt natürlich an der Ausnahmesituation, in der sich Ostdeutschland seit nunmehr 12 Jahren befindet. Nur 11 Monate nach dem Fall der Berliner Mauer am 9. November 1989 traten die ostdeutschen Länder am 3. Oktober 1990 der Bundesrepublik Deutschland bei. Dies bedeutete zugleich die Mitgliedschaft in EU und NATO. In einer historisch betrachtet sehr kurzen Zeit wurde ein radikaler Systemwechsel vollzogen, mussten postsozialistische und postfordistische Transformationsprozesse gestaltet und bewältigt werden. Mit enormen Transferleistungen aus Westdeutschland wurde in Ostdeutschland modernste Infrastruktur geschaffen und bedeutende Wirtschaftsunternehmen angesiedelt. Jedoch verlief und verläuft dies nicht ohne Komplikationen, ohne wirtschaftliche und soziale Spannungen. Die Euphorie der deutschen Wiedervereinigung ist heute weitgehend verflogen. Stattdessen dominieren Negativschlagzeilen: folgt man den Massenmedien prägen hohe Arbeitslosenzahlen, geringe Produktivität der Wirtschaft, Geburtenrückgang und eine inzwischen sogar wieder anwachsende Abwanderung junger gut ausgebildeter Menschen in den Westen das Bild von Ostdeutschland.

Die in den jüngsten Jahren wieder auseinander gehende ‚Wohlstands-Schere‘ zwischen West- und Ostdeutschland hat natürlich auch Einfluss auf die Nachhaltigkeitspolitik in Deutschland. An zwei Beispielen soll dies im Folgenden illustriert werden: der unterschiedlichen Wahrnehmung der Agenda 21 in Ost und West und den regional selektiven Folgen der schrumpfenden Bevölkerung in Deutschland.

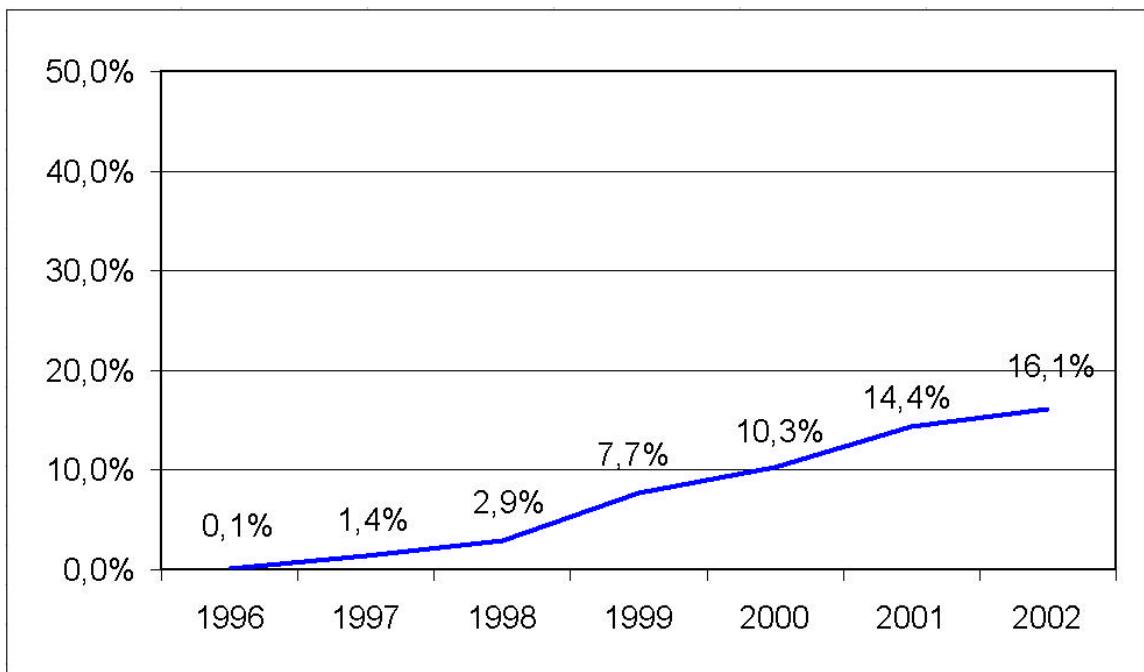
1 Die Agenda 21 und ihre Wahrnehmung in Deutschland

Der Begriff ‚Nachhaltige Entwicklung‘ hat eine steile Karriere hinter sich. Ausgang nahm der internationale Dialog über nachhaltige Entwicklung bereits in den 1980er Jahren. Vor allem der 1987 veröffentlichte Brundtland Report „Our common future“ wirkte als Initialzündung. Mit der UN-Konferenz für Umwelt und Entwicklung in Rio de Janeiro erreichte die internationale Verständigung über eine globale nachhaltige Entwicklung 1992 ihren vorläufigen Höhepunkt. Das Abschlussdokument der Rio-Konferenz, die Agenda 21, formuliert die Grundlagen für eine nachhaltige Entwicklung, die wirtschaftliche, soziale und ökologische Belange gleichermaßen beachtet und zusammenführt. Im Kapitel 28 dieser Agenda für das 21. Jahrhundert werden die Kommunen aufgefordert, mit den Bürgern und Bürgerinnen in einen Dialog zu treten und sich aktiv bei der Aufstellung und Umsetzung lokaler Agenden zu beteiligen. Diese Aufforderung hat vielerorts zu ersten Ergebnissen geführt. Europäische Städte und Kommunen haben sich 1994 in der Charta von Aalborg auf die Ziele der Agenda 21 verpflichtet.

In Deutschland wurde eine nachhaltige Entwicklung 1994 Verfassungsziel. Seit 1998 gilt sie auch als Oberziel deutscher Raumordnung, verankert im § 1 des Raumordnungsgesetzes. Im Jahr 2000 wurde schließlich auf Bundesebene ein „Green Cabinet“, bestehend aus den relevanten Staatssekretären, geschaffen und ein unabhängiger Nachhaltigkeitsrat berufen. Im Frühjahr 2002 wurde mit Blick auf die Rio+10 –Veranstaltung in Johannesburg eine ‚Nationale Strategie für nachhaltige Entwicklung‘ vorgelegt.

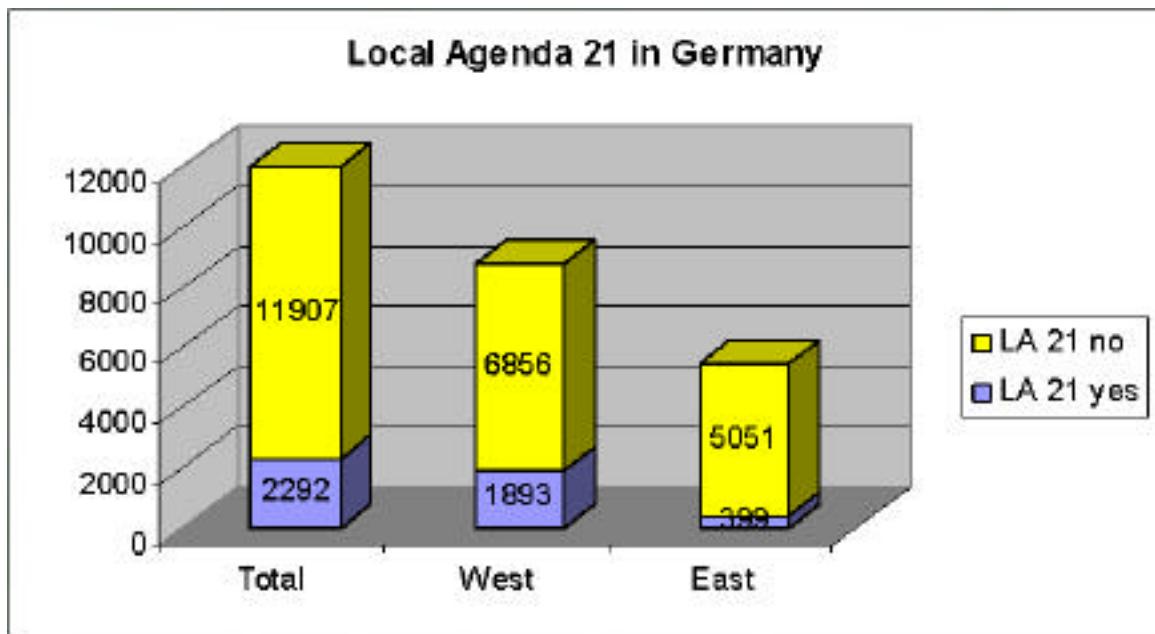
Auf der kommunalen Ebene war jedoch nur eine – im Vergleich mit anderen europäischen Ländern – sehr langsame Adaption zu beobachten. 1996, zu einem Zeitpunkt als eigentlich alle Kommunen bereits eine lokale Agenda hätten vorlegen sollen, hatten erst 0,1% der über 14.000 deutschen Kommunen einen entsprechenden Ratsbeschluss gefasst (vgl. Abb. 1). Kontinuierliche Zuwachsrate führten immerhin dazu, dass heute 2.292 kommunale Beschlüsse zur Aufstellung der ‚Lokalen Agenda 21‘ existieren. Dies entspricht 16 % aller deutschen Gemeinden.

{Abbildung 1: „Kommunale Beschlüsse zu Lokalen Agenden in Deutschland“ einfügen!}



Interessant sind jedoch die regionalen Unterschiede, betrachtet man einmal west- und ostdeutsche Länder getrennt (vgl. Abb. 2). Lag die Quote im März 2002 in Westdeutschland bei ca. 22 %, so fiel sie in Ostdeutschland mit 7% sehr viel niedriger aus. In einigen Gebieten – etwa in Sachsen – lag sie unter 1%.

{Abbildung 2: „Lokale Agenda in West- und Ostdeutschland“ einfügen!}



Die Erklärung für diese unterschiedliche Wahrnehmung des Agenda-Gedankens in Ost- und Westdeutschland ist v.a. in der unterschiedlichen sozioökonomischen Ausgangssituation zu suchen. Die krisenhafte Transformation Ostdeutschlands erfordert aus Sicht der dortigen Kommunalpolitiker eine volle Konzentration auf „harte“ Aufgaben, wie z.B. Ansiedlung von Unternehmen, Schaffung von Arbeitsplätzen, Verbesserung der kommunalen Finanzkraft. Informelle „weiche“ Aufgaben, wie eine lokale Agenda, werden nicht selten als Luxus aufgefasst, den sich nur die Kommunen leisten können, denen es wirtschaftlich gut geht. In der Prioritätenabfolge stehen diese Aufgaben daher in Ostdeutschland relativ weit hinten.

Ich möchte in meinem Beitrag noch einen zweiten Aspekt beleuchten, der die Wahrnehmung der Agenda 21 in Deutschland betrifft. Gemeint ist die in der Relation zu den ökologischen und ökonomischen Zielstellungen vernachlässigte soziale Dimension von Nachhaltigkeit. Dass dies so ist, haben verschiedene Untersuchungen immer

wieder gezeigt (vgl. Müller 2001, Rösler / Trapp 2000). Beispielhaft lässt es sich am Bundeswettbewerb „Regionen der Zukunft“ (1997 – 2000) verdeutlichen.

Im September 1997 hat das für Raumordnung zuständige Bundesministerium einen Ideen- und Realisierungswettbewerb "Regionen der Zukunft" ausgelobt. Ausgewählte Regionen sollten bis zur Weltkonferenz Urban 21 im Jahr 2000 in Berlin in Dialog- und Kooperationsprozessen mit Vertretern unterschiedlicher Bevölkerungs- und Interessengruppen regionale Agenden für eine nachhaltige Raum- und Siedlungsentwicklung beispielhaft entwerfen und mit ihrer Umsetzung beginnen. Die räumliche Abgrenzung und organisatorische Verfassung wurde dabei den teilnehmenden Regionen freigestellt. Aus 87 Bewerbern wurden im Mai 1998 von einer unabhängigen Jury 26 Regionen ausgewählt (vgl. Abb. 3). Erklärtes Ziel war es, selbsttragende Strukturen für eine nachhaltige Regionalentwicklung aufzubauen. Eine Besonderheit bestand darin, dass die teilnehmenden Regionen zwar einen Imagegewinn erzielen und für die Dauer des Wettbewerbs eine fachliche und organisatorische Beratung durch das Ministerium erhalten konnten, darüber hinausgehende finanzielle Anreize waren mit dem Wettbewerb jedoch nicht verbunden.

{Abbildung 3: „Regionen der Zukunft“ einfügen!}



Seinen Abschluss fand der Wettbewerb mit der Prämierung von ersten, zweiten und dritten Plätzen auf der Weltkonferenz URBAN 21 im Juli 2000 in Berlin. Aus Sicht der Auslober und der teilnehmenden Regionen konnte dies jedoch nicht der Endpunkt der Entwicklung eines neuen Ansatzes sein, sondern wurde als ein Etappenziel auf dem Weg zur Schaffung nachhaltiger Regionen angesehen. Als Modellvorhaben der Bundesraumordnung wird das „Netzwerk der Regionen der Zukunft“ bis 2003 bei dem Bemühen unterstützt, eine dauerhafte Struktur zu entwickeln. Das Institut für ökologische Raumentwicklung (IÖR) in Dresden führt in diesem Rahmen eine wissenschaftliche Begleitforschung durch und untersucht insbesondere wie regionale Agendaprozesse optimiert und verstetigt werden können. Dabei zeigt sich u.a., dass

- erhebliche Unterschiede bei der Organisation, dem Akteursspektrum und den erkennbaren Effekten in den Regionen zu beobachten sind,
- ein starker Mobilisierungseffekt auftrat, die Mehrzahl der implementierten Projekte jedoch bereits zuvor geplant war,
- nach Wettbewerbsende einige Regionen erfolgreich Mittel eingeworben haben, andere ihre Arbeit kontinuierlich fortgesetzt und einige ihre Initiative beendet haben
- bislang die meisten Versuche, ein Monitoring einzuführen, gescheitert sind
- die Nachhaltigkeitsidee jetzt eher im Hintergrund steht - wichtiger ist der Gedanke des regionalen ‚Networkings‘,
- Projekte zu einer Untergewichtung sozialer Aspekte tendieren.

Der letzte Punkt war in der Ausschreibung des Wettbewerbes schon angelegt, als die generelle Leitvorstellung einer nachhaltigen Siedlungsentwicklung zur näheren Orientierung auf sieben konsensfähige Ziele herunter gebrochen wurde: vier ökologische, zwei ökonomische und nur ein soziales, nämlich die gleichberechtigte Beteiligung und Berücksichtigung der Interessen aller regionalen Akteure und Bevölkerungsgruppen.

In der Tradition der Brundtland-Kommission wird Nachhaltigkeit in Deutschland – und dies gilt in Ost und West gleichermaßen – primär mit Blick auf den Interessengegensatz zwischen Ökologie und Ökonomie thematisiert. Soziale Aspekte treten dabei regelmäßig in den Hintergrund oder werden nur implizit angesprochen, etwa über das Handlungsfeld ‚Schaffung von Arbeitsplätzen‘, worin natürlich auch eine starke soziale Komponente liegt.

Edda Müller, Mitglied des deutschen Nachhaltigkeitsrates, fasst den gegenwärtigen Stellenwert sozialer Themen in der deutschen Nachhaltigkeitsdiskussion wie folgt zusammen (vgl. Müller 2001):

- Im Vergleich zum Umweltdiskurs hat die soziale Nachhaltigkeit noch keine eigenständigen Kategorien hervorgebracht. Wo im Umweltbereich über Effizienz, Lebensstile, über Technik und Emissionsziele geredet wird – wo also das Messbare gemanagt wird – da bleibt die soziale Nachhaltigkeit vergleichsweise nur Appellhaftes, Unverbindliches und Anekdotenhaftes zu konstatieren.
- Die soziale Dimension wird bisher weitgehend defensiv verstanden. Im Vordergrund steht die Maxime „don't damage“.
- Politische Gestaltung der sozialen Nachhaltigkeit steht nicht an. Allenfalls werden soziale Aspekte im Sinne fast karikativer Hilfe beachtet.
- Soziale Nachhaltigkeit hat keine eigenständigen Akteure.

2 Die demografische Herausforderung: „Going for Growth?“

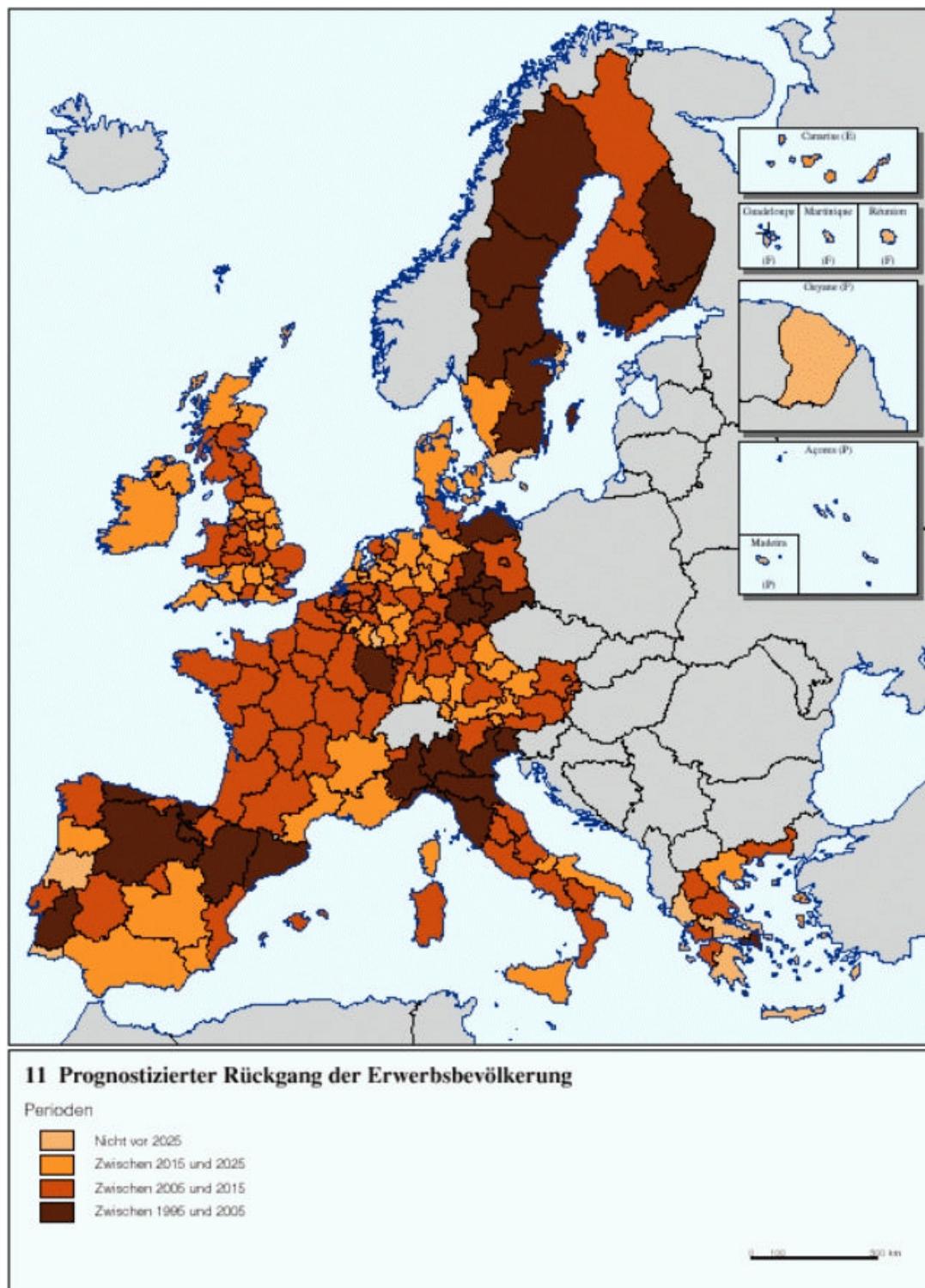
Ganz Europa steht heute vor einem dramatischen demografischen Umbruch. Wir werden uns daran gewöhnen müssen, strukturelle Schrumpfungsprozesse als einen wesentlichen Trend europäischer Raumentwicklung im 21. Jahrhundert zu akzeptieren. Schrumpfung meint dabei in Anlehnung an Wood (1994) einen mehrdimensionalen Prozess, einer Krisenhaften Umstrukturierung von Wirtschaft, Gesellschaft und letztlich auch von baulich-physischer Struktur. Schrumpfung geht also über die zyklischen Schwankungen der Wirtschaft hinaus. In der Regel folgen demographische Schrumpfung (durch Abwanderung) und technischer Rückbau dem wirtschaftlichen Niedergang. In Zukunft kommt aber auch der natürlichen Bevölkerungsabnahme große Bedeutung zu. In historischer Betrachtung sind Schrumpfungsprozesse ein normaler Vorgang gesellschaftlicher Entwicklung. Staaten und Regionen sind den Phasen des Wachstums, der Stagnation und der Schrumpfung ausgesetzt: sie durchlaufen ‚Wachstumszyklen‘. Wichtige Ursachen struktureller Schrumpfungsprozesse in Europa seit den 1970er Jahren sind:

- Natürlicher Bevölkerungsrückgang (Geburtenrückgang),
- Technologische Innovationen (Automatisierungen, Arbeitsplatzabbau),
- ‚Krise des Fordismus‘,
- Niedergang ganzer Industriezweige durch globale Konkurrenz,
- Interregionale selektive Migration als Folge des Strukturwandels,
- Intraregionale Migration (Suburbanisierung),
- weitgehende Deindustrialisierung in Mittel- und Osteuropa nach 1990.

Schrumpfungsprozesse sind nicht nur in den Transformationsstaaten Mittel- und Osteuropas zu beobachten. Vielmehr zeichnet sich in über 90 % der NUTS II-Regionen in Europa ein Rückgang der Erwerbsbevölkerung in den nächsten 20 Jahren ab (vgl. Abb. 4). Besonders betroffen sind folgende Gebiete:

- Westeuropäische Industrieballungen im wirtschaftlichen Niedergang (Ruhrgebiet, Mersey Side, Pays Noir, etc.)
- Ländlich-peripherie Entvölkerungsgebiete (v.a. Nordschweden, Ostfinnland und Schottland)
- Transformationsregionen mit stark rückläufiger industrieller Entwicklung (u.a. Ostdeutschland)
- Gebiete mit extremen Geburtenrückgang (Spanien, Italien, Griechenland)

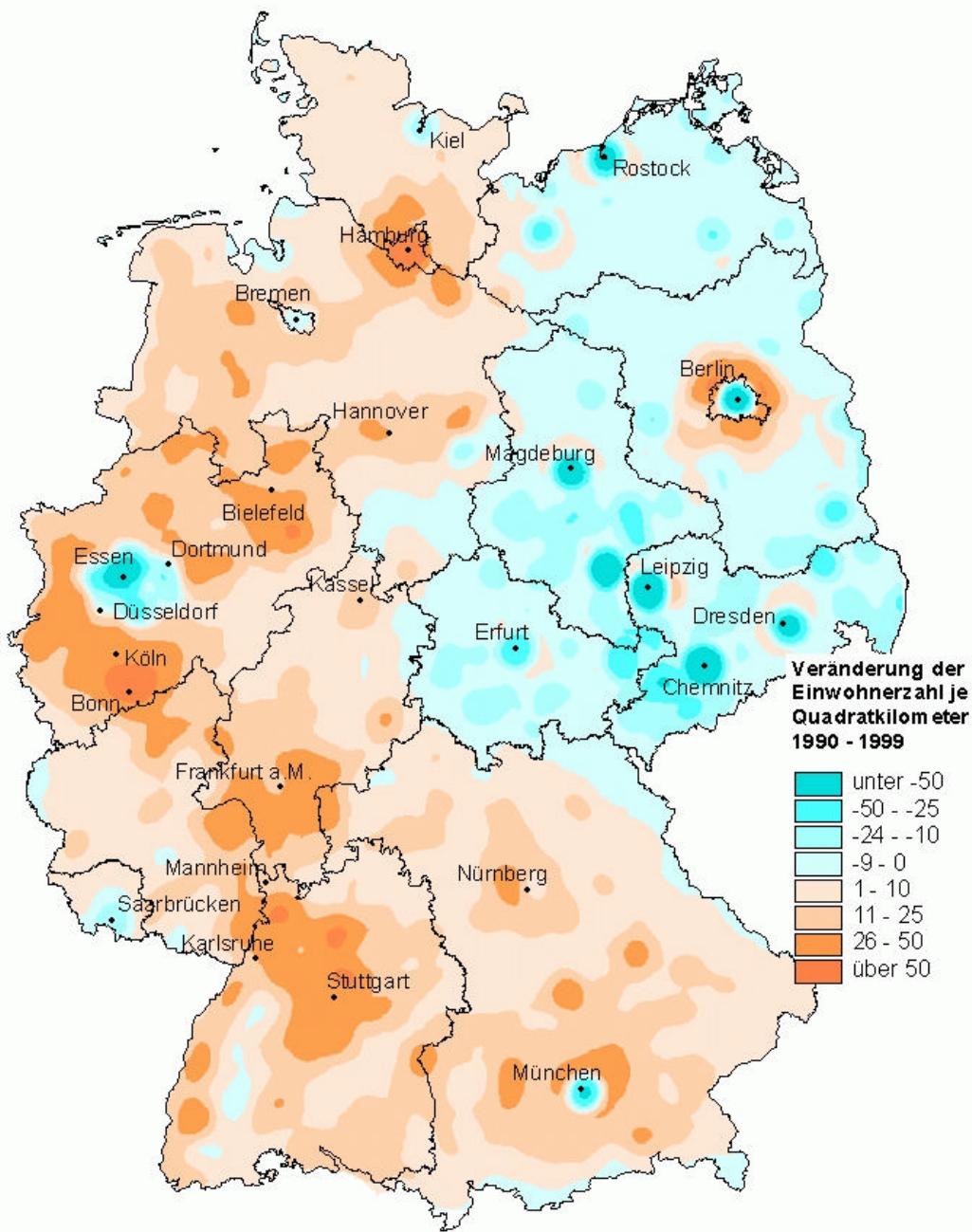
{Abbildung 4: „Erwarteter Rückgang von Erwerbspersonen 1995 - 2025“; Quelle: 2. Kohäsionsbericht der EU (2001); einfügen!}



Die aktuelle Prognose des Statistischen Bundesamtes erwartet trotz erheblicher Wanderungsgewinne allein in Deutschland einen absoluten Bevölkerungsverlust zwischen 1999 und 2050 von 12 bis 17 Mio. Einwohnern, dies entspricht einem relativen Rückgang von ca. 18% (Statistisches Bundesamt 2000). Schrumpfung ist dabei keineswegs ein originär ostdeutsches Problem. Schon in den 1990er wiesen auch in Westdeutschland einige altindustrialisierte Regionen (Ruhrgebiet, Saarland), einzelne Städte (München, Bremen, Kiel) und einige periphere Regionen (Schwarzwald, Fichtelgebirge, Westeifel, Harz, Eichsfeld, Küste, Alpen) negative Bevölkerungssalden auf. Allerdings hat sich in Ostdeutschland in den letzten Jahren eine Entwicklung vollzogen, die andernorts erst noch bevorsteht. Hier trafen hier mehrere Faktoren zusammen, die in einem sehr kurzen Zeitraum zu besonders starken Bevölkerungsverlusten führten (vgl. Abb. 5). Dies gilt gerade für die Großstädte wie Leipzig, Halle, Magdeburg,

Chemnitz oder Dresden. Waren die Schrumpfungsprozesse in Westdeutschland in den 1970er und 1980er Jahren noch gut zu verkraften und durch den Wiedervereinigungsboom sogar auszugleichen, verstärken sich in den Regionen Ostdeutschlands seit 1990 postfordistische und postsozialistische Schrumpfungsprozesse.

{Abbildung 5: „Differenz der Bevölkerungsdichte in Deutschland zwischen 1990 und 1999“; Quelle: Siedentop et al. (2002); einfügen!}



Wie erfährt nun der Bürger diesen demografischen Umbruch? Wie wird er im Alltag konkret erlebt? Am sichtbarsten sind zweifellos die baulich-physischen Folgen, seien es nun Industriebrachen oder leerstehende Wohngebäude (vgl. Abb. 6 und 7). Allein in Ostdeutschland stehen heute über 1 Million Wohnungen leer. Die Leerstandsquote liegt in vielen Städten über 15 %, zum Teil über 20 %. Angesichts der Bevölkerungsprognosen, die eine weitere Zunahme des Rückgangs erwarten, ist ein teilweiser Rückbau unvermeidbar (vgl. Abb. 8). Noch Mitte der 1990er Jahre ein Tabu, gibt es seit 2000 in den ostdeutschen Ländern Förderprogramme für den Abriss von Wohnraum, insbesondere in großen Plattenbaugebieten. Prinzipien dieser neuen Stadtumbaupolitik sind: die Forderung nach integrierten Stadtentwicklungskonzepten, Stärkung der Innenstädte, der Umbau der Plattenbausiedlungen und die Erhöhung des selbstgenutzten Wohneigentums. Mit dem Bund-Länder-Programm ‚Stadtumbau Ost‘, das im Zeitraum 2002 bis 2009 über 2,5 Mrd. € zur Verfügung stellt, unterstützt auch der Bund die neue Stadtumbaupolitik in Ostdeutschland.

{Abbildung 6: „Industriebrache in Ostdeutschland“, Abbildung 7: „Wohnungsleerstand in Ostdeutschland“ und Abbildung 8: „Abriss von Plattenbauten in Ostdeutschland“ einfügen!}



Was bedeuten die vorherrschenden Schrumpfungsprozesse nun für die Strategien nachhaltiger Entwicklung? Sind die vorhandenen Instrumente der Stadt- und Regionalplanung für die neue raumstrukturelle Situation geeignet? Nun, es bedeutet zunächst einmal, dass Schrumpfen als in Teilläufen dominante Entwicklung nicht länger verleugnet werden darf, auch wenn Planung der Schrumpfung komplexer, schwieriger und politisch unverdaulicher ist als Planung des Wachstums. Dabei fehlt es in Deutschland – und es ist zu vermuten, dass dies in den meisten anderen europäischen Ländern nicht anders ist – an leistungsfähigen Instrumenten für eine Raumentwicklung unter Schrumpfungsbedingungen. Das kommunalpolitische Instrumentarium folgt den vorherrschenden Wachstumszielen und orientiert sich am Planungsbedarf unter Wachstumsbedingungen. Förderprogramme, sowohl bezüglich der Wirtschaftsentwicklung wie auch für die öffentliche Infrastruktur richten sich vorrangig an Neuinvestitionen bzw. Neubauten.

Die gleiche Orientierung gilt auch für das raumordnerische Instrumentarium, da auch hier der Grundsatz des Bestandsschutzes von erheblicher Wirkung ist. Außerdem: was kann mit dem Ansatz der zentralen Orte oder der Entwicklungsachsen erreicht werden, wenn es kaum neue, zusätzliche Bedarfe gibt, die es zu verteilen gilt? Typische Vorgaben in Raumordnungsplänen sind von expansiven Entwicklungserwartungen geprägt: Schaffung zusätzlicher Arbeitsplätze, die Entwicklung der Wirtschaft, womit Wachstum gemeint ist, der Infrastrukturausbau, usw. Daher kann es nicht überraschen, dass die planerische Antwort auf Schrumpfungsprozesse regelmäßig die Umkehr zu neuem Wachstum zum Ziel hat. In Newcastle, einer Industriestadt im Nordosten Englands, die seit Jahrzehnten mit Bevölkerungsrückgang zu kämpfen hat, lautet der aktuelle Strategieplan bezeichnenderweise „Going for Growth“, ungeachtet der geringen Aussichten, tatsächlich Wachstum zu realisieren.

„Going for Growth“ ist implizites Leitbild heutiger Planung und ihres Instrumentariums. Meine These ist nun, dass die anhaltende Orientierung auf Wachstum, die Folgen der Schrumpfung erst problematisch werden lässt. Alle großen Fehlplanungen der Vergangenheit basierten auf unrealistischen Wachstumserwartungen. Planung muss den realen Entwicklungen angepasst werden. Zudem sollte Schrumpfung auch als Chance begriffen werden: Neue Raum- und Zeitpotenziale werden verfügbar. Eine nachhaltige Entwicklung ohne Stagnation bzw. Schrumpfung wird es nicht geben.

Tabelle 1: Wachstums- versus Schrumpfungsplanung

Traditionelle Wachstumsplanung	„Neue“ Schrumpfungsplanung
Ziel: Wachstum	Ziel: Korrektur, Stabilisierung und Erhalt der Regenerationsfähigkeit
Vorrangige Aufgabe: Defizite durch zusätzliche Angebote abbauen, Investitionen kanalisieren	Vorrangige Aufgabe: Defizite im Bestand abbauen, Deinvestitionen verhindern
Steuerung durch Pläne bei umfassenden Bestandsschutz	Prozesssteuerung (Beratung, Moderation)
Orientierung auf neue Bauflächen und Neubauten	Orientierung auf Um- und Nachnutzung des Bestands und kreativen Rückbau
Eindeutige, verbindliche Vorgaben (z.B. für Art und Maß der Nutzung)	Alternative Entwicklungsmöglichkeiten, multifunktionale Architektur
Sozial-räumliche Trennung von Wohnen, Arbeiten, Einkaufen und Erholen	Effizienter Mitteleinsatz durch strategische Rahmenkonzepte und sektorale übergreifende Lösungen
Kommunale Planungshoheit	Interkommunale Kooperation

Eine Umorientierung von Wachstums- auf Schrumpfungsprozesse bedeutet ein anderes Verständnis von Planung und verlangt eine Abkehr von „ingenieurtechnischer Planung“. Es geht vor allem darum, Defizite im Bestand abzubauen und eine Stabilisierung der stadtregionalen Entwicklung anzustreben. Eine notwendige Orientierung auf die Um- und Nachnutzung des Bestands und den kreativen Rückbau erfordert einen effizienten Mitteleinsatz durch strategische Rahmenkonzepte und sektorale übergreifende Lösungen. Der Planung kommt dabei stärker als heute die Rolle als Moderator und Berater in den Entscheidungsprozessen zu. Politisch wird Schrumpfung allerdings erst diskussionsfähig, wenn ein neues Leitbild entworfen wird. Schrumpfung an sich kann kein Ziel sein.

3 Fazit: „Smart Growth“ oder sozialverträgliche Schrumpfung?

Meine Ausführungen sollten verdeutlichen, dass die Stadt- und Regionalentwicklung in Europa am Beginn des 21. Jahrhunderts vor neuen Herausforderungen steht. Demografische Schrumpfungsprozesse werden dabei eine der dominanten Rahmenbedingungen sein. Wie sich ein drastischer Bevölkerungsrückgang auswirkt, kann heute schon in einigen Teilen Europas beobachtet werden, so auch und gerade in Ostdeutschland.

Im Kontext von Nachhaltigkeit kann Planung angesichts der Herausforderung ‚Schrumpfung‘ grundsätzlich zwei Reaktionen zeigen: sie kann an ihrem traditionellen Selbstverständnis als wachstumsorientierte Steuerung durch Pläne festhalten und dem erhofften Wachstum eine intelligente Richtung geben: wie in der US-amerikanischen „Smart Growth“-Bewegung wird dabei Wachstum an sich nicht in Frage gestellt. Es wird vielmehr als Voraussetzung verstanden, sich überhaupt mit ökologischen und sozialen Problemen erfolgreich auseinander zu setzen. Durch eine ökologische Modernisierung soll das Wachstum in nachhaltigere Bahnen gelenkt werden.

Abgesehen davon, dass unbegrenztes Wachstum der Nachhaltigkeitsidee im Kern widerspricht, läuft diese erste denkbare Reaktion auch Gefahr, der realen raumstrukturellen Entwicklung nicht gerecht zu werden. Schrumpfungsprozessen kann mit Wachstumsplanung nicht begegnet werden. Für die Nachhaltigkeit unserer

Gesellschaften bietet gerade ein Bevölkerungsrückgang erhebliche Potenziale. Die Alternative zum traditionelle Wachstumsplanung lautet daher ‚Schrumpfungsplanung‘, also eine Planung, die Schrumpfen als in Teilläumen dominante Entwicklung nicht länger verleugnet und sich auf die Bestandsentwicklung konzentriert.

Die aktuellen Entwicklungstendenzen legen es nahe, dass neben das traditionell wachstumsorientierte Planungsparadigma in Zukunft ein „Paradigma der Schrumpfung“ treten muss (Müller / Wiechmann 2002). Dazu gehört auch Rückbau von Gebäuden, Anlagen und Infrastruktur. Welchem Paradigma die Planung in einem konkreten Planungsprozess folgen sollte, hängt in erster Linie von den jeweils vorherrschenden raumstrukturellen Problemen ab, die es zu lösen gilt. Die Kleinteiligkeit der zu beobachtenden siedlungsstrukturellen Entwicklungen und die Tatsache, dass Wachstums- und Schrumpfungsprozesse zeitlich wie räumlich eng miteinander verflochten sind, macht jedoch deutlich, dass die Planung in der Regel beide Paradigmen berücksichtigen sollte. Weder eine unkritische Wachstumsorientierung noch eine Abfederung der Folgen von Schrumpfungsprozessen werden allein den anstehenden Herausforderungen gerecht.

Der anhaltende Bevölkerungsrückgang und die damit verbundene Überalterung der Gesellschaft sind zentrale Themen sozialer Nachhaltigkeit. Die Städte und Regionen Europas sind aufgefordert, sich offensiv damit auseinanderzusetzen und zur Bewältigung der demografischen Herausforderung neue Wege zu beschreiten. Dazu gehört unvermeidlich auch die Gestaltung sozialverträglicher Schrumpfungsprozesse.

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The view from the Conference Delegates

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Dr Rolf JENSEN

Planning Consultant Former Director of Urban Planning, Culture and Commerce, City of Oslo
Professor of Urban and Regional Planning

I have been asked to comment/reflect upon the METREX conference theme, as a planner from Norway – the fairly large country, with a small population of about 4,5 mill. people whos majority twice has voted not to join the EU, so we might also add the rather "strange" country.

First of all let me emphasize that all the challenges which have been presented at this conference also have relevance for Norway – we are indeed in practice a part of EU, and I shall refer to some examples of this in a moment, but first of all I like to start by telling you a little story.

Many years ago I was interviewed by the Norwegian Development Aid Organization for a job of an environmental study in Sri Lanka. The interviewer was an experienced and reflected man. One main principal question he dwelt with was this:

"On the coast of Sri Lanka there are some few places where "coral forests" are growing – they are scarce and must be protected. But on the shores live some of the poorest people of Sri Lanka. They have found that coral can be used as fertilizer for simple agriculture. Therefore, during the night they sneak out and collect coral branches and use them for their own purpose or they sell them to farmers. This is their main and only possibility of survival. What will you do, facing this?"

A very basic question, indeed. And a question we are similarly faced with in our part of the world when for instance polluting workplaces are meeting new environmental requirements and might be closed.

Norway, I will argue, has actually a tradition of awareness for sustainability. The farmers have their cultural heritage of trying to hand over the farm to the next generation in an improved condition where nature, animals and humans live in a balanced way.

We are fond of our nature and cultural landscape – and we do pay a price by subsidizing the rural areas and villages quite heavily. But so far there is a broad consensus for this. For years we have tried to slow down the migration to the larger towns – partly in vain – but more successfully than many other countries. The educational society with high demands on specialized jobs makes this even more difficult.

Now turning to the urban challenges and the issues taken up in this conference. As I have said, Norway is not very different from other European countries. We do have a planning tradition which of course is similar to that of the other Nordic countries, with strong links to for instance Holland and England.

Environmental challenges and sustainability therefore are seen as a natural extension or widening of planning.

We do not, however, have any national physical planning except for the reservation of national parks and national monuments.

We do not have any regional planning either, if we are talking about functional regions, we do, however, have planning at the county level. But this planning is advisory, and in reality the true planning power is vested in the municipalities. Therefore, we are again often faced by the basic challenge of "human needs" (although of a different character than I mentioned from Sri Lanka) and sustainability, with very short distance between those who demand and the administrative/professional/and political level. This of course emphasize the tasks of information and dialogue.

This then brings me to another point which has been commented upon from some of the previous speakers in this conference, and which also the international planning theory is concerned with, namely the need for open dialogue between all parties involved and a more collaborative approach.

In Norway we are faced with a challenge which we have not experienced for – I would say two generations - but I have heard in this conference that several of the countries in Europe are more familiar wit it. We are experiencing "a privatization" of every kind of development, and of planning! This dimension also leads to a behavior of municipalities and even the state – similar to that of private interests. Let me give you one example: Land ownership. There is now a wide political consensus in Norway that there is no reason for the municipalities and the state to own land. Therefore sell it. But sell it to top prices in the market. An added excuse for this is our agreement with the EU which prohibit state or municipal subsidies, as it is called, to private interests. Land ownership then is not used to influence the market or to cater for special needs – like social housing – as we extensively did before, and have been doing for more than 100 years regardless of political color!

This attitude also, in my mind and to my experience, leads to a large concentration on the public side for short term gains, and leave the long term consequences to a lesser concern.

Instead planners are basically left with frame-setting for private actors, and with negotiations and mediations in order to secure good social and environmental solutions.

Planners try to deal with this in different ways, and again I appreciate some of the presentations in this conference. Just one example. How can we monitor the privately driven development and its effects? We heard about the interesting approach from the UK on the use of indicators, and how this also caught the attention of the media. This is, no doubt, a way to follow – and at the same time it again reminds me of getting back to very basic concerns.

In our work on environmental study for Sri Lanka we were fortunate to have very scholarly local people. One of them, a professor of biology, told us about his grandmothers worry for her village. After the farmers started to use pesticides all the cats disappeared and the rats took over. The cats lived on birds, the birds lived in the fields which had been heavily polluted by chemicals. The food chain showed the ecological, and in the end social consequences.

Public, private, partnership is the only way forward in our situation, and many of you can give us advice on how to proceed in a fruitful way.

In order to give you an example of typical challenges for a city like Oslo, I will briefly mention some of our practices which try to meet also the social face of sustainability.

- Oslo, a city of 500.000 in a region of 1 mill. has a beautiful setting between the fiord and the green hills which surround the city. The municipality of Oslo, the city, covers some 420 km2. However, only 1/3 is built up area, the rest is forest and hills. The limit – the border between the built up area and the rest of the area is strictly enforced by regulation – and so far upheld politically. This then leads to more intensified utilization of land – as we all have been discussing here.
- The densities that Ann Power wished for, with reference to Barcelona, is not regarded as socially sound in our culture, however. The city is now debating the use of high-rised buildings --also dwellings, in the city center.
- Green areas are to be protected and shaped into continuous patterns leading from the waterfront to the forests. Rivers are to be protected, and the previous dominant harbor is to be concentrated and built down in favor of new mixed land use development. At the most central part – the central railway station – the state and the municipality now have agreed to a joint effort for infrastructure – in order to secure the surroundings of the new national opera to be built, and to open the area for private development. This is a unique example of cooperation, and not the rule unfortunately.
- Further urban, and in fact also regional development in the Oslo area shall take place primarily in what we call “areas of concentrated efforts”, or transportation nodes which are in reality the basis for the focusing. This in order to enhance public transport uses.
- Norway (and Oslo in particular) has since the late 1960ies experienced immigration of people from other cultures and of different religious background. For many years we have been somewhat naive in dealing with this – and we do not have the experience like Thessaloniki of being a multi cultural city. Now we are. There are classes in schools in Oslo where you have more than 10 nationalities represented. This does create interesting opportunities, but unfortunately it also creates problems, as most of you already know. We have not been very good in dealing with these challenges, and I think we can learn a lot from many of you.

These brief remarks show, I hope, that Norway is not that different from the rest of Europe, and that we all probably experience the global connections and interplay. I have not taken up our economy which is indeed a part of the “global capitalism” if I may call it so.

I thank METREX for inviting me to this very interesting conference, and I thank the local organizers for a very pleasant arrangement. If I should dare to give just one advice, I would suggest a different practical arrangement for the workshops where smaller groups more “intensely seated” would be a gain.

As for METREX – I can only wish you the best of luck – and hope you will continue to take up new challenges, new questions of mutual interest, and thus be an inspiration for sustainable planning and implementation!

Conference Resolution

Roger READ Secretary General METREX

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Thanks to the work of the Rapporteur General, and his team of Workshop Chairs and Rapporteurs, and the progress made with the SocioMETREX project, it has been a straightforward task to draw up the Thessaloniki Conference Resolution for your consideration this morning.

In her opening remarks our President emphasised the need for an integrated approach to sustainability that recognises the related roles of social, economic and environmental interests and of local communities. The importance of these relationships was touched on by many of our Plenary and Workshop speakers.

Our common experience since the METREX 2000 Torino Conference

We bring to our third Conference in Thessaloniki the experience that we have shared since our last Conference in Torino in 2000. We have held meetings in Sevilla, Rotterdam and Copenhagen where we have seen at first hand the constructive way in which issues of urban migration, urban deprivation, economic inclusion and inclusive accessibility have been addressed.

Sevilla is a wonderful example of renewal and regeneration aimed at maintaining a compact mixed use city form. Rotterdam is taking advantage of the opportunities that have become available through port rationalisation to reinforce its urban core and Copenhagen has balanced traffic management and public transport to sustain a high level of inclusive accessibility.

Here in Thessaloniki we have also experienced at first hand a unique form of compact, mixed use, urban housing and development.

Social sustainability

We know what is not socially sustainable. Metropolitan areas which sprawl at low density and have no sense of place or identity are inherently less sustainable than compact, mixed use, urban areas focussed on our heritage of city living. How this tradition can be sustained in the face of pressures for decentralisation of many of the core functions of urban life including retailing, business, health, education and entertainment to peripheral parks and campuses is a challenge for metropolitan spatial planning and development.

Our great challenge is also the management of the use of the car to sustain inclusive accessibility to our city and town centres and to maintain their environmental quality. The provision of a public transport system that enables all citizens to participate in urban life, at a price that is affordable, seems to be an essential. There is clearly a strong relationship between a compact mixed use urban form and a viable public transport system.

Affordable housing, within a polycentric urban form, is a key issue in many metropolitan areas. In economically successful urban areas it will be necessary to manage the housing market to ensure a balance between market demand and social housing need.

An Integrated Regional Strategy

It seems that the function of spatial planning and development can make its most effective contribution to social sustainability within the framework of an Integrated Regional Strategy. This requires the establishment of some form of effective metropolitan governance and we have seen one interesting approach to this in Greece though the Organisations for Thessaloniki and Athens.

A polycentric approach

In her opening remarks our President also suggested that the polycentric approach to the renewal and regeneration and development and expansion of European urban areas, advocated by the European Commission and supported by the key European institutions, may be one way in which progress towards social sustainability can be achieved.

Through the contributions of our Keynote Speakers and the case studies given to the Workshops it is clear that Europe, with its long tradition of rich and varied urban life, is well placed to demonstrate the way forward.

Community action

Whilst we have focussed on the contribution to social sustainability that can be made at the metropolitan level, and the need for an integrated regional framework within this can be achieved, we have also all been conscious of the need for action at the community level to foster social and economic inclusion.

Such action will usually address the related needs for housing choice, employment opportunities, health, education and leisure provision, security and environmental improvements.

Thessaloniki METREX Conference Resolution

As a result of these general findings and conclusions I would suggest to you that our Conference Resolution might have three core considerations. These might relate to an Integrated Regional Strategy, based on the outcome of Workshop 1, a polycentric approach, based on the outcome of Workshops 2-5, and community action based on the Workshop programme as a whole. These matters were also covered by our Keynote Speakers.

A Conference Resolution is by its very nature a highly abbreviated, and perhaps oversimplified, summary of the outcome of much more detailed and complex discussions. However, its value is perhaps as mentioned by our President in her opening remarks. It seeks to leave delegates with some key common concepts to take away with them. It is in this spirit that your Conference Resolution might be as follows.

The third METREX Conference, meeting in Thessaloniki from 15-18 May 2002, resolved that,

Spatial planning and development can an effective contribution to social sustainability when it,

- **is set within an *integrated regional strategy* that includes social, economic and environmental considerations.**
- **sustains and rejuvenates *city and town centres* as the preferred locations for core metropolitan functions such as retailing, entertainment, culture, health, education and business.**
- **adopts a *polycentric approach* to the restructuring or planned extension of metropolitan areas based on compact, mixed use, public transport orientated development, focussed on centres, rather than low density, single use, decentralised, car orientated development.**
- **recognises the value of such an approach in achieving *balanced urban renewal and development, economic competitiveness, social cohesion and accessibility*.**
- **provides a context for *community level initiatives* to promote social and economic inclusion.**

METREX Network Development

Dr Gerald McGrath Honorary President METREX

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Thank you colleagues for your support for the Conference Resolution.

It is now my role to bring this most enjoyable and successful third METREX Conference to a close. I do this on behalf of our President, Mercedes Bresso, who, as you know, had to return to the Plenary Session of the Committee of the Regions yesterday.

The Conference theme and sub themes have been thoroughly explored over the past three days and there will be a whole range of ideas and approaches that delegates will have considered and thought about in relation to their own circumstances.

The SocioMETREX project

When beginning the SocioMETREX project, in Rotterdam last year, Professor Anne Power wisely observed that the value of European projects is very often that they enable colleagues to view their own problems in a new light as well as providing a source of new ideas. They can open windows onto different ways of thinking rather than providing ready made solutions. I sense that our Conference in Thessaloniki has enabled many delegates to look at their own problems in new ways that may be helpful and if so then it will have fulfilled its purpose.

A multi national multi cultural Europe

You may have heard of the Slow Food movement that had its origins in Italy and is dedicated to the preservation and promotion of traditional food cultures from farming to retailing, cooking and eating. It hopes to be a counter force to fast food in the tourist and leisure industries and help to preserve the traditional Italian love and respect of eating as a social activity. Such food cultures exist in most Mediterranean countries but are less strong elsewhere in Europe.

In Rotterdam they have taken the wonderful sounding initiative of "Eating in the streets" to enable mixed culture communities to cook for one another, sample each others food cultures and to begin to share new experiences. The Dutch have also been very progressive in enabling ethnic minorities to learn their language, travel in Holland and experience the opportunities of living in a multi cultural society.

These are just two different examples of the building blocks for the multi national, multi cultural, society that Europe now is. A concern and respect for traditional values and cultures but a willingness to share these with others. Sustaining societies means being able to retain the traditions that add value to life, such as food cultures, but also adapting these to changing circumstances.

The quality of European urban life

The same approach applies to our urban heritage and European tradition of city living. We need to retain and conserve our urban fabric but to ensure that it remains fit for the new roles that it has to fulfill in a competitive global economy. What we clearly must not do is to lose sight of the qualities that still make European urban life so special, enjoyable and fulfilling.

Metropolitan governance

In the age of the specialist it is all the more important to retain groups of non specialists, especially at the European, national, regional and metropolitan levels, to take the longer term and wider view of the future that is required. They need to be concerned about the social, economic and environmental issues that require integrated consideration in any sustainable approach.

We have explored some of the ways in which this can be achieved here in Thessaloniki and I am delighted that the next METREX Meeting, which I hope will be in London this autumn, will continue consideration of the issue of Metropolitan Governance.

The InterMETREX and PolyMETREX projects

The coming year will be an exciting and challenging one for METREX. This summer and autumn we will be submitting the InterMETREX and PolyMETREX projects to the relevant Interreg IIIC secretariats of the European Commission. If we are successful with these applications then the basis will have been laid for much of the Network's activity from 2002 until 2006.

The InterMETREX project will enable exactly the exchange of knowledge and experience that METREX was founded to promote. The PolyMETREX project will enable the Network to begin to play a significant role in European spatial planning policy by taking forward the concept of cooperation between European metropolitan areas.

These projects will involve between 40 and 60 European metropolitan areas, in each project, in an intensive programme of 20 Workshops at three monthly intervals over the period 2002 to 2006. This is a very ambitious

programme that could not be contemplated without the backing and support of the Lead Partners. The projects have the potential to enable METREX to make a quantum leap in the scale and significance of its activities.

London in 2002, Stuttgart and Stockholm in 2003, Barcelona in 2003

This year we hope to meet again in London in the autumn when the theme of Metropolitan Governance could be informed by hearing at first hand about the work of the new Greater London Authority in producing the Spatial Plan for London. Next year we will have Meetings in Stuttgart and Stockholm, on issues to be chosen by our hosts and we thank them for their kind invitations to us. In 2004 we will have the great pleasure of holding our fourth biennial Conference in Barcelona, hosted by the Generalitat de Catalunya.

Our kind thanks

Colleagues, I know that you share my gratitude to our friends and METREX Members in Thessaloniki and Athens for the care and consideration that they have given to making our third biennial Conference such a success. Greek hospitality is legendary and now we all know why!

In closing our Conference there are some special thanks that I know you would wish me to give on your behalf.

Firstly, to Kostas Loizos, Chairman of the Organisation of Thessaloniki and to Abraam Kalteberides, Vice Chairman. They it is who have ensured that the Conference happened in this wonderful venue.

I want to make special mention of Magda Segkouni who has taken on much of the organisational burden of the Conference and has remained her calm and considerate self throughout.

Secondly, to our long standing colleague Avghi Markopoulou, President of the Organisation of Athens and her close colleagues. They have promoted the Conference theme and ensured that the issues have been well explored.

Thirdly, to all the contributors to the proceedings of the Conference including our distinguished speakers, Rapporteur General and Workshop Chairs and Rapporteurs. To you all our grateful thanks for your time and constructive thought about the Conference theme and sub themes.

Finally, to the Metron and CMD Agencies that have arranged our accommodation and managed the Conference bookings and to the METREX Secretariat and Interpretariat who helped to put together the Conference programme.

As ever the Conference could not have taken place without the interpretation services which on this occasion have been provided by the METREX Interpretariat and colleagues from Greece. Our thanks to you all.

On behalf of President Mercedes Bresso I now draw the Conference to a close. As on previous occasions the Conference Proceedings will be published on the METREX web site in about one month. Can I ask all speakers to make their contributions available to the METREX Secretariat if they have not already done so?

Please enjoy the excursions this afternoon and tomorrow and I look forward to hopefully meeting you all again in London this autumn. Have a safe and comfortable journey home.