Seminar

Regional Diversity and Local Development in Central and Eastern Europe

Warsaw, 10 November 2006
Warsaw University
Pałac Tyszkiewiczów-Potockich
Sala Balowa
Ul. Krakowskie Przedmieście 32
The seminar promoted by Unidea UniCredit Foundation in collaboration with the OECD/LEED Programme, CoDe Joint European Master in Comparative Local Development (University of Trento), EUROREG – Centre for European Regional and Local Studies (Warsaw University) and the Regional Studies Association - Polish section, will discuss regional diversity and local development in Central and Eastern Europe, the opportunities for both public and private actors to actively contribute to the improvement of local realities, and the regional and European context of such local strategies.

In economies once dominated by central planning and large-scale enterprise based on mass production, local development can play a significant role in restructuring and revitalizing the economy. Various local actors, both public and private, can make important contributions to economic growth and development, by innovating, upgrading human resources and so generating jobs, in particular for young people, and by promoting the social (re-)integration of local environments. Nevertheless successful local economic development is not a reality everywhere in Central and Eastern Europe and regional and local differences have widened since 1989.

Local development provides an answer to regional inequalities through business development and the amelioration of its environment. Local development is, however, no guarantee for equal and inclusive economic growth, also because some regions seem to be in a better position to exploit opportunities than others. And multiple levels need to be considered, as local economies are not self-sufficient but participate in a multi-level interplay of governance, in which various actors attempt to deal with developmental problems. The European dimension is particularly crucial, involving both challenges and possibilities for the economies in transformation.

08:45 a.m.
WELCOME COFFEE AND REGISTRATION

09:00-09:30 a.m.
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Katarzyna Chałasińska-Macukow
Rector of Warsaw University

Paola Pierri
Chairman, Unidea-UniCredit Foundation, Milan

Grzegorz Gorzelak
Director, EUROREG - Centre for European Regional and Local Studies, Warsaw University

Sergio Arzeni
Director, CFE and Head, LEED Programme, OECD, Paris

Bruno Dallago
Academic Director, CoDe Joint European Master in Comparative Local Development, University of Trento

09:30-10:00 a.m.
OPENING LECTURE

John Walsh
Deputy Head of Unit, DG REGIO/C1 - Thematic Development and Impact, European Commission
10:00-11:30 a.m.

REGIONAL DIVERSITY AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE: THE EXPERIENCES OF NEW AND PROSPECTIVE EU MEMBER STATES

Ivo Bićanić
Faculty of Economics, University of Zagreb
How much have multiple shocks (independence, war, transformation) changed the development gradient of Croatian regions?

Petr Pavlinek
Department of Geography and Geology, University of Nebraska at Omaha
Regional development effects of foreign direct investment in Central and Eastern Europe

Grzegorz Gorzelak
Director, EUROREG - Centre for European Regional and Local Studies, Warsaw University
Main processes of regional development in Central and Eastern Europe after 1990

11:30-12:00 a.m.
COFFEE BREAK

12:00 – 01:30 p.m.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC POLICY AND PRIVATE ACTORS

Éva Ruttkay
Hungarian Association of Local Governments, Budapest
Local development and local authorities in Hungary

Aleksander Surdej
Department of European Studies, Cracow University of Economics
Designing institutional assets for local development: in search of theoretical guidance

Elżbieta Chojna-Duch
Centre of Studies in Territorial Self-Government and Local Development, Warsaw University
Local government in the process of transformation

01:30 – 03:00 p.m.
LUNCH
03:00 - 04:30 p.m.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

Marek Kozak
EUROREG - Centre for European Regional and Local Studies, Warsaw University
*Regional development in the process of enlargement*

Sorin Ionită
Romanian Academic Society, Bucharest
*Social benefits and administrative strains: the golden burden of EU funds at the sub-national level in Romania*

Jana Gašparíková
Institute for Forecasting, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava
*Regional differentiation in Slovakia and the position of SMEs (the role of young entrepreneurs)*

04:30 - 05:00 p.m.
COFFEE BREAK

05:00 - 07:00 p.m.

ROUNDTABLE ON REGIONAL DIVERSITY AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Chair
Bruno Dallago
Academic Director, CoDe Joint European Master in Comparative Local Development, University of Trento

Jana Gašparíková
Institute for Forecasting, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava

Grzegorz Gorzelak
Director, EUROREG - Centre for European Regional and Local Studies, Warsaw University

Grzegorz W. Kołodko
Transformation, Integration and Globalization Economic Research (TIGER) at Kozminski Business School (WSPiZ), Warsaw

Éva Ruttkay
Hungarian Association of Local Governments, Budapest

Piotr Stronkowski
Deputy Director, Department for ESF Management, Ministry of Regional Development, Warsaw

Kuba Wygnański
KLON/JAWOR Association, Warsaw
EUROREG
Centre for European Regional and Local Studies
tel. + 48 22 8261 654

Unidea – UniCredit Foundation
Tel. + 39 02 8862 3939 Fax +39 02 8862 3937
info@unicreditfoundation.org www.unicreditfoundation.org