

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Europäischer Grenzregionen (AGEG)
Asociación de Regiones Fronterizas Europeas (ARFE)
Association des régions frontalières européennes (ARFE)
Association of European Border Regions (AEBR)
Comunità di lavoro delle regioni europee di confine (AGEG)
Europæiske grænseregioners Arbejdsfællesskab (AGEG)
Werkgemeenschap van Europese grensgebieden (WVEG)
Associação das Regiões Fronteiriças Europeias (ARFE)
Σύνδεσμος Ευρωπαϊκών Συνοριακών Περιφερειών (ΣΕΣΠ)
Stowarzyszenie Europejskich Regionów Granicznych (SERG)
Ассоциация Европейских Приграничных Регионов (АЕПР)



AEBR NEWSFLASH No. 23 WINTER 2012 (January, February, March)

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DANISH PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

In January Denmark took the helm of the European Union for six months and presented its work programme. On the subject of the Cohesion Policy, it has undertaken to make progress on the negotiations on the new regulations for 2014-2020, along with the discussions on the Multiannual Financial Framework. Its aim is to win the agreement of the Member States and European Parliament on certain priority matters, in particular: strategic planning, thematic concentration, ex-ante conditionality, simplification, financial management and controls. Two General Affairs Council (GAC) meetings will take stock of the negotiations on 24 April and 26 June 2012 in Luxembourg.

For more info see: <http://eu2012.dk/> (Source: European Commission)

FUTURE EUROPEAN COHESION 2014-2020

The AEBR has launched a consultation amongst its members to review its draft position on the proposed new regulations for European Cohesion. This reviewed version will include the analysis of difficulties and obstacles to manage cross-border programmes and projects, through practical examples to be presented during an **AEBR Seminar** organized in Brussels at the **Committee of the Regions** on **20 April 2012**.

Here you will find an updated version of the AEBR "Overview of the current discussions on the draft EU Financial Framework and Regulations for the future Cohesion Policy":

http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=101

AEBR Seminar "INTERREG Management Cases", 20 April 2012, Brussels, Committee of the Regions

This Seminar will analyse the practical side of INTERREG management (in particular obstacles and difficulties faced by overlapping procedures, financial flows, etc.). It will be a very good opportunity to exchange views and experiences in different European border areas

Interpretation will be provided in English, German and Spanish.

Please find here the updated programme and the registration form:

http://www.aebr.eu/en/events/events_detail.php?event_id=130

THE AEBR VISITS NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL OF REGIONAL POLICY

The Association paid a visit to recently nominated Director General Walter Deffaa to exchange with him on latest developments and future perspectives of Regional Policy in its aspects of interest for border and cross-border regions. The new Director General listened with attention to AEBR main arguments, expectations and opinions. For the full article please see: http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=138





Video-conference “Better information for cross-border workers in European border regions”

On 25th January the AEBR, as Lead Partner of the project “Better information for cross-border workers in European border regions”, organized a video-conference through Skype, with connections from Gronau, Brussels and St Louis. On this occasion the project contents were presented and discussed with several interested border regions, particularly active in the field of CB labour market.

For a detailed report of the Skype conference please visit the AEBR website:

http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=132

For the detailed Project Outline please log on to:

http://www.aebr.eu/files/filemanager_files/Projekte/CB_Labour_Market/120125_Project_outline_updated_EN.pdf

Several activities are planned during the implementation of this project. Next one will be a project experts’ meeting on 19th April, afternoon, at the Office of Extremadura in Brussels. Other events are planned in June and September, a specific workshop during the Open Days 2012, and the Final Conference in Berlin (9 November 2012, Annual Conference of the AEBR).

All relevant and updated information will be included in the AEBR website, including information on most relevant news about labour market, social security, professional qualifications, youth unemployment, etc..

New Chair and Secretary General Working Community of Pyrenees

Since October 2011 the Spanish region of Navarra has the chair of the Working Community of Pyrenees (CTP). Ms Cristina Arcaya Sánchez of the Region of Navarra has been appointed Secretary General of CTP. More info on www.ctp.org.

SCULTBORD Newsletter No. 3 now available for download:



http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/SCULTBORD_3rd_Newsletter.pdf

First Vice-President of AEBR Ann-Sofi Backgren received Cross of Merit

On the Finnish Independence Day on 6 December 2011, the First Vice-President of AEBR **Ms Ann-Sofi Backgren**, Member of the Regional Council of Ostrobothnia, received the Cross of Merit of the Order of the White Rose of Finland. On this occasion she was honoured by the President of the Republic of Finland, Ms Tarja Halonen.



Photo: Anita Ismark

The Alpine Macroregion:

The Rhone-Alps region and the European Association of Elected Representatives from Mountain Regions (AEM) invited 15 Alpine regions (PACA, Rhone-Alps, Lombardie, Piemont, Val d’Aosta, Trentino, South Tirol, Salzburg, Tirol, Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg and the Swiss canton of Saint Gall) to meet in Grenoble on 13 January to debate on the application to the European Council for the Alps to be the third macroregion, after the Baltic and the Danube. They have agreed the following priorities: energy, climate and environment, accessibility and transport, innovation and tourism.

Summary of latest Publications in the AEBR website (December 2011):

- Anniversary Brochure
http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/111222_AnniversaryBooklet.pdf
- Map of Cross-Border Cooperation Areas/Structures 2011
http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/AEBR_Map_2011.pdf

The Atlantic Strategy: a public consultation launched by MEP Alain Cadec (EPP, France) to get proposals related to the development of an Atlantic macroregional strategy, following the Commission’s communication adopted last November. The main aim is to involve regional and local authorities in projects to improve access to coastal and backlands (e.g. through motorways of the sea and railway connections). See also article on CECICN on page 3.



Missions of Martín Guillermo Ramirez, AEBR Secretary General, in January-February 2012

- Journée Espace de voisinage in Strasbourg (FR), 19 January 2012
- Presentation of AEBR at federal Landtag Nordrhein-Westfalen (DE), 27 January 2012
- NEEBOR Annual Conference in Kirkenes (NO), 5-7 February 2012
- Meeting of AEBR Task Force External Borders in Kirkenes (NO)
- CECICN/MOT Drafting Group, 14 February 2012 in Paris
- Meeting with President Lambertz and Prof. Shlomo Hasson (University of Jerusalem) on possibilities for CBC in Israel-Palestine, Brussels, 7 March, CoR
- Russian-Finnish Seminar on CB health and sport tourism, Imatra, South Karelia, 15 March
- Meeting with Director General Walter Deffaa, DG Regio, Brussels, 19 March
- Inter-institutional Conference on EGTC, CoR, Brussels, 29 March

Cross-Border Conflicts

It is not only in remote areas of other continents. Yet cross-border conflicts affect some European territories, hindering further cooperation and integration. Read more in:

http://www.aebr.eu/en/news/news_detail.php?news_id=139

Platforma Newsletter

The AEBR has been active member of PLATFORMA ever since the foundation in 2008 of this European Platform of Local and Regional Authorities for Development.

For the periodical newsletter of PLATFORMA please see:

http://www.platforma-dev.eu/newsletter.php?newsletter_id=1

A Note from the Next Door Neighbours

We would like to draw your attention to one of the most inspiring periodical letters on CBC, that is made by the well-known expert Andy Pollak from the Centre for Cross-Border Studies in Armagh (N'Ireland):

<http://www.crossborder.ie/category/notes-from-the-next-door-neighbours/>

ELECTION OF A NEW PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

MEPs elected Martin Schulz to be the new European Parliament president. The 56-year old German MEP (S&D) will lead the institution for two and half years, until the beginning of the next legislature in July 2014, replacing Jerzy Buzek (EPP, Poland). In a brief address to the European Parliament in Strasbourg immediately after the vote, Mr Schulz said: "We must grasp the fact that people in Europe have little time for institutional debates because they are too busy worrying about their future, their jobs, their pensions (...). This Chamber is the place where the interests of the people are defended". For more info see: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/content/20120106FCS34949/3/html/Martin-Schulz-elected-President-of-the-European-Parliament>

(Source: European Parliament)

CECICN, the Conference of European Cross-border and Interregional City Networks, bringing together the MOT, the RIET, UBC, MedCities, the Forum of Adriatic and Ionian Cities and Towns, and Atlantic Arc Cities has promoted the elaboration of a strategic document "Cities and Regions cooperating among borders as an opportunity to overcome crisis", and call for a Congress on Smart CBC to be held in A Coruña (Galicia, Spain) on 25-26 June, 2012. Despite the absence of references to that, the AEBR took active part in the elaboration of this document, as part of our strategy to support border and cross-border regions' views on the future Cohesion Policy. The AEBR will be represented at the event in Coruña by one of its Vice-presidents.

Learning from the economic crisis – public consultation, open until 30 March 2012: http://ec.europa.eu/news/economy/120118_en.htm

Making it easier to pay without cash – consultation open until 11 April 2012: http://ec.europa.eu/news/economy/120113_en.htm

Last year the AEBR has elaborated a report on CBC in Latin America for the European Commission, DG REGIO. This report as well as the report on CBC in West Africa, elaborated by AEBR for the EC, DG REGIO, as well, are online on the DG REGIO website:

CBC Latin America Report:
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/international/pdf/final_report_cbc_la_en.pdf

CBC West Africa Report:
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/international/pdf/Final_Report_CBC_WA_EN_6-0.pdf



ARLEM General Assembly in Bari on 29-30 January 2012

The ARLEM General Assembly took place in Bari (Italy) on 29-30 January 2012.

The promotion of the access of local and regional authorities to European Neighbourhood Policy funding, the extension of the Covenant of Mayors to Southern Mediterranean cities and regions and the enforcement of territorial cooperation in strategic fields like sustainability and energy infrastructures can open the way to an innovative Euro-Mediterranean cohesion policy. This was the ambitious message delivered on Monday by regional and local representatives from more than 30 countries, gathering in Bari for the third plenary of the Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM), co-organised by the Puglia region and chaired by ARLEM co-presidents Mercedes Bresso, president of the Committee of the Regions, and Mohamed Boudra, president of the region of Taza-Al Hoceima-Taounate (Morocco).

ARLEM, a joint project of the Committee of the Regions, regional and local authorities around the three shores of the Mediterranean, and European and international associations representing regional and local authorities working on the ground, is a response to the request to put the role of regional and local authorities in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership on an institutional footing. It therefore gives the partnership a territorial dimension and seeks to involve local and regional authorities more closely in the specific projects of the Union for the Mediterranean.

To be updated on the latest developments, visit the ARLEM website at: www.cor.europa.eu/arlem

“Revised Practical Guide to EU funding opportunities for research and innovation”

available on line:
http://ec.europa.eu/research/regions/index_en.cfm?pg=publications#guide

The initial "Practical Guide" is one of the documents which has been most frequently downloaded from the DG Research website since its completion in 2008. The upgrading of this Guide was initiated at the request of the Competitiveness Council in the conclusions of its meeting on May 26th, 2010.

Contact for more information:

Mr. Olivier Brunet (Olivier.BRUNET@ec.europa.eu)
C5 . Policy Officer: Regional dimension of innovation
EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Research & Innovation DG.

New Publications of European Institutions

- European Commission, DG Regio: European Territorial Cooperation: building bridges between people: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/information/pdf/brochures/etc_book_lr.pdf
- "Cohesion Policy 2014-2020 investing in Europe's Regions": full analysis and feedback in the latest edition of Panorama magazine now online: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/newsroom/detail.cfm?id=160
- The regional diversity of the EU illustrated through maps and figures, EUROSTAT Yearbook 2011: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/product_details/publication?p_product_code=KS-HA-11-001
- The future of EU cohesion policy as seen by regions and cities, with contributions from CoR and EP rapporteurs. It will be available soon on paper and in other language versions. This can be downloaded here: <http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/DocumentTemplate.aspx?view=folder&id=eef83e7a-769e-4fc2-8bc9-7ff9fbca31fe&sm=eef83e7a-769e-4fc2-8bc9-7ff9fbca31fe>

New EGTC registered on 21 December 2011: Rába-Duna-Vág

The EGTC groups 3 partners: The Hungarian county councils of Győr-Moson-Sopron and of Komárom-Esztergom, and the Self-governing Region of Trnava. Its seat is located in the Hungarian city of Tatabánya. The EGTC was registered by the Metropolitan Court of Budapest last 12 December.

<http://portal.cor.europa.eu/egtc/en-US/news/Pages/NewEGTC-RDV.aspx>

New EGTC project in PL-CZ

On 27th of March in Wrocław (Lower Silesia) the inaugural conference of a new EGTC project in the Polish – Czech border took place. During the event entitled: "Strategy for Integrated Czech-Polish Cross-Border Cooperation" key areas of the cross-border partnership within the framework of the EGTC were presented. This project resulted from cooperation between Lower Silesia and the neighbouring Czech regions, as well as Nysa and Glacensis Euroregions.

More info: <http://www.cz-pl.eu/>



EVENTS IN THE EU

DATE/PLACE	TOPIC	INFOS
17 January 2012 Brussels	Meeting of the Secretaries General at the CoR	www.cor.europa.eu
18 January 2012 Brussels	URBACT Info Day	http://urbact.eu/en/header-main/news-and-events/view-one/urbact-events/?entryId=4891
19 January 2012 Strasbourg/France	Séminaire Axe « Frontières » L'approche pluridisciplinaire des espaces de voisinages de proximité	For more information: aurelie.kraft@unistra.fr
19 January 2012 Brussels	CoR Stakeholders' Consultation on the proposal for the new Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on specific provisions concerning the European Regional Development Fund.	http://selectsurvey-gen.cor.europa.eu/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=94026p4
23 January 2012 Brussels	CoR Stakeholders' Consultation the Cohesion Fund COM(2011) 612 final	www.cor.europa.eu
24 January 2012 Brussels	Meeting at the CoR to discuss involvement of associations in CORLEAP	Contact: corleap@cor.europa.eu
25 January 2012 Brussels	CoR Stakeholders' consultation on the new EU Guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network COM(2011) 650 final	www.cor.europa.eu
29-30 January 2012 Bari, Italy	3rd ARLEM Plenary Assembly	For more information: arlem-secretariat@cor.europa.eu
27 January 2012 Brussels	EUREGHA General Assembly	http://www.euregha.net/
31 January 2012 Valencia, Spain	Conference on the future of Cohesion Policy - ETC	http://event.interact-eu.net/227138/987893/0/2923
31 January 2012	TEN-T Info Day	http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/en/news_events/events/ten-t_info_day_for_annual_call_2011.htm
1 February 2012 Brussels	CoR Stakeholders' consultation with regard to the "Consumer Programme 2014-2020 COM(2011) 707 final"	Contact: peter.verlinden@cor.europa.eu
2 February 2012 Brussels	Meeting of Associations' representatives at the CoR to discuss 2012 planning for Structured Dialogues	Contact: peter.verlinden@cor.europa.eu
6-7 February 2012 Brussels	Carpathian Convention Working Group on Adaptation to Climate Change Meeting	For more information: eva.janovska@unvienna.org
8 February 2012 Brussels	European Commission, Joint kick-off meeting of labour market projects	Contact: marzena.matyja@ec.europa.eu
6-8 February 2012 Kirkenes, Norway	NEEBOR Annual Conference	http://www.neebor.eu/index.php?page=news&id_news=202&str_nr=1&lg=gb
8 February 2012 Brussels	INTERMODES 4	www.intermodes.com
14 February 2012 Brussels	CoR Forum about the "European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations	www.cor.europa.eu/EY2012
16 February 2012 Brussels	INTERACT seminar on irregularities in ETC programmes	http://www.interact-eu.net/interact_events/irregularities/15/11107



EVENTS IN THE EU

DATE/PLACE	TOPIC	INFOS
17 February Brussels	CoR Stakeholders' consultation with regard to "Health for Growth"	Contact: peter.verlinden@cor.europa.eu
28 February 2012	EIT Climate-KIC MEP Network	http://www.climate-kic.org/ More info: acampos@delcomval.be
29 February 2012 Brussels	Kick-off TEN-T at the CoR	www.cor.europa.eu
8 March 2012 Brussels	CoR Stakeholder Consultation "EU Financial Instruments in Home Affairs", Rapporteur: Mr Samuel Azzopardi (MT/EPP)	http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/CoRAtWorkTemplate.aspx?view=calendar&showEmptyDate=0&IncludeBody=0&calendarTitle=ASSOCIATIONS&eventType=Associations&sm=4c553dd4-f12c-491e-b3fa-9dd076982d2f
14-15 March 2012 Marseille, France	3rd International Conference of Local and Regional Authorities (WWC/UCGL)	http://www.regionsunies-fogar.org/en/
14 March 2012 Seeon, Germany	Expert conference "Probleme von Grenzregionen am Beispiel des bayrisch-obersterreichisch-salzburgischen Grenzraumes"	www.institut-ire.eu
12-17 March 2012 Marseille, France	6th World Water Forum	http://www.worldwaterforum6.org/en/
15 March 2012 Imatra, Finland	Seminar on Border Crossing Routes	Contact: Johannes.moisio@ekarjala.fi
22-23 March 2012 Copenhagen, Denmark	5th European Summit of Regions and Cities	http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/EventTemplate.aspx?view=detail&id=d8d81c12-155a-4b2e-8833-0193b29ae209
27 March 2012 Brussels	CoR Stakeholder Consultation "Specific provisions for the support from the European Regional Development Fund to the European territorial cooperation goal", Rapporteur: Petr Osvald	More info: carole.labbe@cor.europa.eu
27 March 2012 Brussels	3rd Annual Collaborative Border Management Conference: Delivering Smart and Secure Borders	http://www.eur-ems.com/summary.asp?event_id=99&page_id=697
28 March 2012 Montmédy, France	CB Seminar of the Institute of Territorial Governance	www.igt-itg.eu
29 March 2012 Brussels	EGTC Conference and Platform meeting	www.cor.europa.eu/EGTC
30 March 2012 Brussels	Seminar 'European Citizens' Initiative: time to act! Perspectives from civil society and local/regional authorities, EESC and CoR	www.cor.europa.eu/ECI
2-3 April 2012 Florence, Italy	PLATFORMA Forum and meeting of PLATFORMA members	http://www.platforma-dev.eu/fr/agenda.html
20 April 2012 Ljubljana, Slovenia	3rd Political Expert Forum of the FLOOD-WISE project	http://flood-wise.eu/elgg/pg/pages/view/1461/
10 May 2012 Brussels	CoR Forum "Regions and cities for integrated territorial development"	http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/EventTemplate.aspx?view=folder&id=2a7209c1-4422-4a9f-8561-a124427c3126&sm=2a7209c1-4422-4a9f-8561-a124427c3126



NEWS FROM EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

- Commission launches dialogue on visa free travel with Kosovo:
http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/press_corner/whatsnew/news/120120_en.htm
- Climate Change: Finns investigate how climate change is affecting nature:
http://ec.europa.eu/research/headlines/news/article_12_01_18_en.html
- 03.01.2012: Have a bigger say in European policy-making: Commission extends public consultations to 12 weeks and creates new 'alert service':
<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/12/1&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>
- 30-12-2011, Guimarães and Maribor: European Capitals of Culture in 2012:
<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/1598&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>
- European Year of Active Ageing: <http://europa.eu/ey2012/ey2012.jsp?langId=en>
- The European Commission has published a practical guide to 'EU funding Opportunities for Research and Innovation':
ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp7/docs/practical-guide-rev3_en.pdf
- EU funds support youth employment and SMEs: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/newsroom/detail.cfm?id=167
- RegioStars 2013: applications must be submitted before 20 April 2012:
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperate/regions_for_economic_change/regiostars_13_en.cfm
- 3rd URBACT Call for Proposals for the Creation of Thematic Networks:
<http://urbact.eu/en/header-main/get-involved/call-for-proposals-and-jobs/>
- Commission payments getting EU Cohesion Policy working on the ground:
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/newsroom/detail.cfm?id=165
- Live webstreaming : Commissioner Hahn to address European Parliament Committee on Regional development:
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/newsroom/detail.cfm?id=164

EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN

- Press release no. 2/2012: Commission needs to review the "Early Warning System":
<http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/cases/drafrecommendation.faces/en/11126/html.bookmark>

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

- Martin Schulz elected President of the European Parliament:
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/content/20120106FCS34949/3/html/Martin-Schulz-elected-President-of-the-European-Parliament>
- Portrait of new EP President: who is Martin Schulz?
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/content/20120113STO35289/html/Portrait-of-new-EP-President-who-is-Martin-Schulz>
- **REGI-News December 2011:** <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/document/activities/cont/201112/20111213ATT34026/20111213ATT34026EN.pdf>
- 18-01-2012: Danish Presidency - Europe at work in the Parliament:
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/pressroom/content/20120118IPR35616/html/Danish-Presidency-Europe-at-work-in-the-Parliament>
- 10-01-2012: 18 new MEPs take their seats:
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/content/20120103MUN34829/html/18-new-MEPs-take-their-seats>
- REGI News, March 2012: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/de/REGI/home.html>

COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

- 18-01-2012: Meeting of Secretaries General of European Regional Associations at the CoR
- 18-01-2012: Hungary: Committee of the Regions expresses serious concern for Hungarian local democracy:
<http://www.cor.europa.eu/pages/PressTemplate.aspx?view=detail&id=cc9bbf27-bb62-4ec6-8c45-4aca9d6fdaa1>
- 21-02-2012: Film competition to promote solidarity between generations launched by EPP and the EPP Group in the Committee of the Regions: www.eppcompetition.eu (deadline 15 May 2012)

CONGRESS OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

- **Newsletter edition 14 December 2011:**
http://www.coe.int/t/congress/mailling/source/newsletter/20111207-newsletter_en.htm

DANISH PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

- 06-01-2012: The Danish government presents the programme of the Danish Presidency of the Council of the European Union 'Europe at work': <http://eu2012.dk/en/NewsList/Januar/Programme-presented>
- The EU's Health Policy: <http://eu2012.dk/en/EU-and-the-Presidency/About-the-Presidency/~link.aspx?id=19C896D60D754EE793BF6FFCBEA52593&z=z>

OTHERS

PLATFORMA Newsletter No. 8:

EUBORDERREGION Newsletter No. 2: <http://www.euborderregions.eu/files/publication.pdf>



NEWS FROM AEBR MEMBER REGIONS

NEW MICRO-PAGE HAS BEEN ADDED TO THE DATABASE OF AEBR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS (<http://www.aebr.eu/en/profile/executive-committee.php>):

Mr Finn Lauritzen, Managing Director of Öresundskomiteen (DK/SE)

If you discover that your region is not yet presented in the AEBR database, you are cordially invited to download and complete the template of the fact sheet available in http://www.aebr.eu/files/publications/Fact_sheet_member_regions.doc and to send this information with the logo and map of your organisation (format: JPG) to c.pandary@aebr.eu. Thank you!

FURTHER NEWS OF AEBR MEMBERS:

- **East Border Region, Newsletter No. 5:** http://www.aebr.eu/files/filemanager_files/Regionen/E/East_Border_Region/Newsletter_5th_Edition.pdf
- **New brochure on small project funds published by the 6 Euroregions at the Austrian/Bavarian border:** http://www.rmooe.at/default.asp?ref=de/20111213_KPF%20Broschuere_NachleseNovDez2011.asp
- **From 1 February 2012 on, the ÖRESUNDSKOMITEEN has a new Managing Director, Mr Finn Lauritzen**

New projects for citizens and businesses

On 16 March seven new small projects have been adopted during the last meeting of the Council of EUREGIO. The objective of these projects is to improve cross-border cooperation of citizens and companies in the EUREGIO. In the framework of the INTERREG Programme Germany-Netherlands more than 160.000 € of European subvention has been allocated to these projects. Together with the national and regional cofinancing the investment volume of these projects is approx. 373.000 €. Furthermore the Council of EUREGIO approves an enhancement of the project 'Tourismus-Marketing Grenzregion' (marketing of tourism in the border region). (For more info on EUREGIO see www.euregio.nl).

EVENTS OF AEBR MEMBER REGIONS

- 20 January 2012, Emsdetten/EUREGIO, Germany: New Year Reception and General Assembly of EUREGIO (DE/NL)
- 9 February 2012, Berlin, Germany: Info event on European Territorial Cooperation
- 15 March 2012, Imatra/Regional Council of South Karelia, Finland: Seminar on Border Crossing Routes
- 12-14 June 2012, Kvarken Council: Nostra Meeting



MAIN AEBR EVENTS 2012

25 January 2012:	1st online Workshop of the Project "Improving information for cb commuters"
27 January 2012:	Presentation of the AEBR at the Parliament of NRW, Düsseldorf: http://www.landtag.nrw.de/portal/WWW/dokumentenarchiv/Dokument/MME15-567.html
7 February 2012:	Meeting of the AEBR Task Force External Borders, Kirkenes (NO)
15 March 2012:	Meeting of the AEBR Task Force External Borders, Imatra (FI)
15-30 April 2012:	Information Session 1 for Latin American experts
19 April 2012:	Project meeting "Improving information for cb commuters", Brussels
20 April 2012:	AEBR Seminar on "INTERREG Management Cases", Brussels
20 April 2012:	Informal Executive Committee meeting, Brussels
1-15 May 2012:	Information Session 2 for Latin American Experts
17-19 May 2012:	AEBR Forum and Executive Committee meeting, Istanbul (Turkey)
7 June 2012:	African Borders Day; European and American Borders Day
23-27 July 2012:	IV Youth Forum on External Borders, Trieste (Friuli Venezia Giulia, IT)
8-9 November 2012:	AEBR Executive Committee meeting, General Assembly and Annual Conference 2012, Berlin

Editor of the AEBR Newsflash:

Martín Guillermo-Ramírez,
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If you wish to announce events or publish news from your region in the AEBR newsflash, please get in touch with the AEBR Head Office by contacting c.pandary@aebr.eu.

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Thank you!

The "Association of European Border Regions" (AEBR) is the oldest independent association of regions in Europe, founded in 1971, and the only one dealing with Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC). AEBR has almost forty years of extensive theoretical and practical experience in all aspects related to CBC, but also in the fields of inter-regional and transnational co-operation.

With its 100 members (European border and cross-border regions), the AEBR is a forum for cross-border cooperation and makes the voice of the border and cross-border regions heard at European level.

Euroregions, border and cross-border regions or organisations interested in receiving information about the conditions of an AEBR membership are invited to contact the AEBR Head Office.

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