

**Target agreement
for coordination and reconciliation
in the City-suburban area Neubrandenburg
on the occasion of the foundation of the
city-suburban forum
19 May 2006**

1. Introduction

Based upon chapter 3.1.2 of the Spatial Development Programme Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (LEP) of 30 May 2005, the following municipalities constitute the city-suburban area Neubrandenburg: Alt Rehse, Blankenhof, Burg Stargard, Groß Nemerow, Groß Teetzleben, Holldorf, Neddemin, Neubrandenburg, Neuenkirchen, Neverin, Sponholz¹, Trollenhagen, Woggersin, Wulkenzin and Zirzow.

Municipalities in this area are subject to a special commandment of cooperation and reconciliation. This applies for planning, projects and measures with impacts on other municipalities in the city-suburban area.

In the future, the municipalities in the city-suburban area of Neubrandenburg will have to deal with the problems of declining population and demographic change. The planning region “Mecklenburgische Seenplatte” is model region² of the federal spatial planning administration. Main theme of this undertaking is to adapt services of general interest³ to demographic change. Concerning the cooperation process in the city-suburban area Neubrandenburg, the model undertaking will give professional input.

2. Structure of cooperation

In order to execute the process of coordination and reconciliation, organisational structures have to be agreed upon between the municipalities.

The “*city-suburban forum*” Neubrandenburg is the decision level where elected municipal officers from member municipalities and from the county have one vote each. The City of Neubrandenburg⁴ will send its lord mayor, the other municipalities their mayor. Honorary mayors may be officially represented by the chief officers of the district⁵. The county mayors

¹ Village of Sponholz

² Model undertaking „Safeguarding services of general public interest – the role of spatial planning“. Running time: Nov 2005 – Sept 2007. Commissioned by: Federal ministry for Building, Transport and Urban Development (<http://www.bmvbs.de/>) and Federal Agency for Building and Regional Planning (<http://www.bbr.bund.de/>).

Further information about model undertakings: <http://www.bbr.bund.de/moro/start.html>

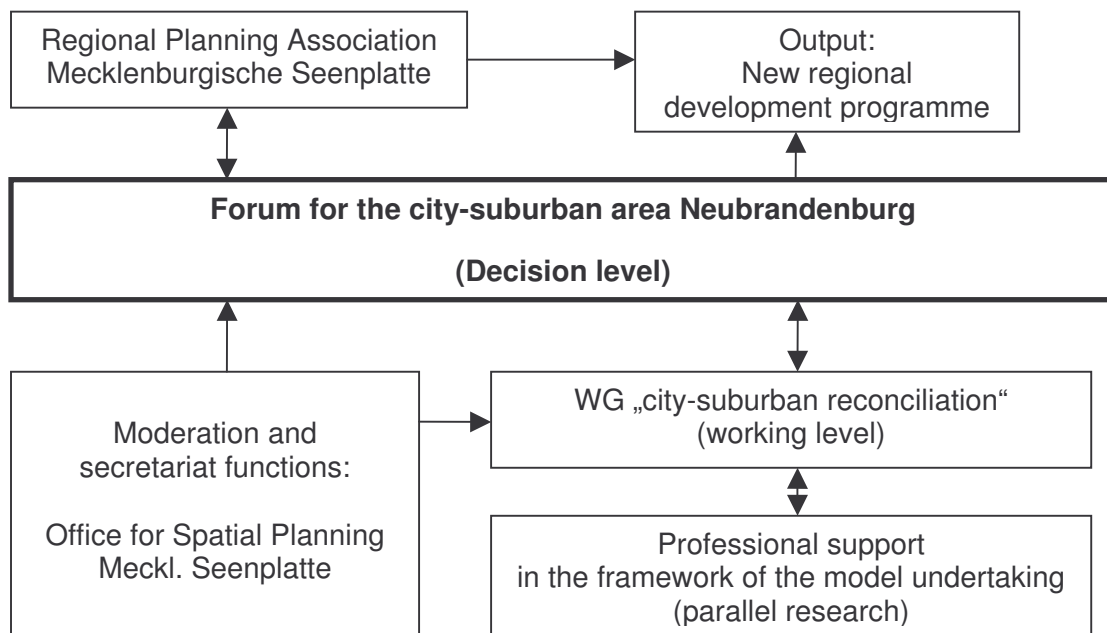
³ cf. http://ec.europa.eu/comm/secretariat_general/services_general_interest/index_en.htm; “services of general interest” is the most adequate translation of German “Daseinsvorsorge”.

⁴ <http://www.neubrandenburg.de/>

⁵ In Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and other federal states, the „Amt“ (translated with “district”, pl. „Ämter“) comprises several municipalities. Thus, even small municipalities can rely on a professional administration on local level, and the system of administration in MV has four tiers: 1) Municipality / Gemeinde, 2) District / Amt, 3) County / Landkreis and 4) Federal State / Land.

of Demmin, Mecklenburg-Strelitz and Müritz⁶ also have seat and vote in the city-suburban forum. If needed, further members without vote can be called in to participate. The city-suburban forum decides about questions of strategic importance and represents the cooperation in the public. Decisions in the forum shall be made unanimously.

Organisational structure for cooperation and reconciliation in the city-suburban area Neubrandenburg



The *working group “city-suburban reconciliation”* is the core working group and constitutes the working level. Members are representing the administration on regional, county and local level. These are especially the office of the Regional Planning Association Mecklenburgische Seenplatte⁷, the working group of the executive committee of the Regional Planning Association, professional representatives of the city and county administrations and the chief officers of the districts in the city-suburban area.

The working group will get professional support by representatives of the highest spatial planning authority⁸, of the Federal Ministry for Building, Transport and Urban Development, of the Federal Agency for Building and Regional Planning and the parallel research for the model undertaking “Safeguarding services of general public interest”. If needed, further experts can be called in.

The working group will give professional guidance to daily work. It will prepare decisions and decision proposals for the city-suburban forum and will – if needed – initiate and guide further thematic working groups.

The Office for Spatial Planning Mecklenburgische Seenplatte will moderate and guide the process of coordination and reconciliation in the city-suburban area Neubrandenburg.

⁶ <http://www.landkreis-demmin.de/>, <http://www.mecklenburg-strelitz.de/>, <http://www.landkreis-mueritz.de/>

⁷ <http://www.region-seenplatte.de/>, literally: Lake District Mecklenburg

⁸ Currently Ministerium für Arbeit, Bau und Landesentwicklung MV / Ministry for Labour, Building and Regional Development MV

3. Guiding principles and objectives of the cooperation

For the cooperation of municipalities in the city-suburban area, the following guiding principles and objectives have been set up:

- The city-suburban area Neubrandenburg shall be strengthened in order to contribute substantially to economic development of the region Mecklenburgische Seenplatte.
- Against the background of demographic change, an efficient and attractive supply of infrastructure will have to be developed in the city-suburban area Neubrandenburg.
- The municipalities which are member to the cooperation regard the city-suburban area as a functional entity which is to be developed in common. Decision procedures on municipal level shall always take account of interrelations and consequences for the city-suburban area.
- The common development of the city-suburban area Neubrandenburg as an attractive place to live and make business is influenced substantially by the inhabitants being aware of their affiliation to this area and by the common responsibility for its development. The process of coordination and reconciliation shall contribute to this awareness and strengthen it.

4. Lines of action in the cooperation

Planning, projects and measures with impacts on other municipalities in the city-suburban area shall be reconciled in the frame of the cooperation process. The municipalities in the city-suburban area Neubrandenburg agree upon those fields with an urgent need for cooperation.

The following fields are regarded as being important for the future development of the city-suburban area:

- Social infrastructure
(inter alia schools, institutions for children and teenagers, institutions caring for the elderly and disabled, sports infrastructure, cultural infrastructure)
- Transport planning / mobility / accessibility
(inter alia public transport, road construction and maintenance)
- Land use planning
(inter alia development of commercial zones and industrial estates, building land, land reserves for special purposes, reconstruction and demolition)
- Tourist projects
(inter alia common development and marketing of the area as a tourist destination, agreement upon common tourist events)

The list is not final.

5. Ultimate objective of cooperation

Following the Spatial Development Programme Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (LEP), the outcome of the cooperation has to be documented in form of a text and a map. It will have binding character for a period of ten years by a self-commitment of the participating municipalities.

A first draft shall be available three years, a binding paper five years after the LEP has come into force⁹.

Following the LEP, the results of city-suburban cooperation will have to be integrated into the Regional Development Programme Mecklenburgische Seenplatte¹⁰.

6. Signatures

The undersigned agree to this target agreement and thereby declare their intention to cooperate. The agreement itself does not have a binding character.

[Lord mayor of Neubrandenburg, county mayors of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Müritz and Demmin, mayors of the municipalities in the city-suburban area.]

⁹ Since the LEP has come into force mid-2005, the relevant dates are mid-2008 and mid-2010.

¹⁰ In the four planning regions of MV, the regional development programmes in force are from the mid-nineties. New programmes will be elaborated 2006-2008.