

[INTERREG IIIC and the Triangle of]

INTERREG IIIC is a programme that is financed by the European Union.



The objective of the programme is to help the regions of Europe to create partnerships in order to work together on common projects.

Due to the sharing of acquired knowledge and experiences, these partnerships allow the implied regions to develop new solutions for their social, economic and environmental challenges.

The **Regional Triangle of Weimar** is a



regional framework operation within the INTERREG IIIC programme. After the fall

of the iron curtain, the historic, economic and human links between the Nord-Pas de Calais region, the Land of North-Rhine-Westphalia and the Voivodship of Silesia have led to bilateral cooperations and common projects at the beginning of the 90ies.

On the 29 of August of 1991, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Poland, France and Germany signed in Weimar the « Common Declaration of Cooperation taking the Responsibility of a Future Europe ». With the creation of new autonomous voivodships, Cooperation Agreements have been signed between the Voivodship of Silesia and the Nord-Pas de Calais region on the 16th of July 1999 as well as between the Voivodship of Silesia and the Land of North-Rhine Westphalia on the 1st of September of 2000.

Following this spirit, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Triangle of Weimar, the region of Nord-Pas de Calais, the Land of North-Rhine-Westphalia and the Voivodship of Silesia signed the « Regional Declaration of Cooperation of the Regions of Europe » on the 24th of August 2001. This Declaration reflects the willingness for reconciliation of the three countries on one regional level and it underlines the willingness to cooperate through the programmes of the European Union.

The I-NET-I project is realised within the framework of the Regional Triangle of Weimar and it is financed by the programme INTERREG IIIC.



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I-NET-I
Inter-regional network of incubators – a way to enforce the process of industrial restructuring in the regions



[Context]

The main objective of the I-NET-I project is to develop services who can be used in order to help young innovating enterprises to succeed on the common market of the European Union in general and in Nord-Pas de Calais, Silesia and North-Rhine-Westphalia in particular.

Historically, the regions of the Triangle of Weimar share a similar industrial tradition. The economic growth of the 60ies has caused a period of prosperity in the Nord-Pas de Calais region, in Silesia and in North-Rhine-Westphalia. However, this period was not completely free of social and environmental problems.

At the beginning of the 70ies, the economic crisis threw its shades on the three regions. The end of coal mining and major changes in the steel producing industry had a massive effect on the regional economies.



Today, the regions are regaining their dynamism, due to the determining activities of the public authorities who are putting great efforts on industrial restructuring. Thus, the regions are following a strategy of constant mutations that enable the economic diversification.

In this context, the young and innovating enterprises play a decisive role for the creation of employment. The public authorities are helping them with a large number of measures that are designed to support the creation and development of young and innovating enterprises.

The I-NET-I project will thus contribute to the identification of good practices and to the exchange of experiences between the different socio-economic key players of the three regions that constitute the Regional Triangle of Weimar.

[Activities]

During a period of 18 months (from the 1st of July 2005 to the 31st of December 2006) the following activities will be realised in order to achieve the objectives of the I-NET-I project:

- ▶ Realisation of a **survey** in order to identify the services that are needed by young innovating enterprises.
- ▶ Identification, implementation and dissemination of **best practices** that correspond to the needs of young innovating enterprises.
- ▶ Realisation of **information material** about the I-NET-I project. In this context, a book will be published about the best practices identified and implemented during the project period.
- ▶ Organisation of some **conferences** taking place on a regional and European level in order to present the results of the project and to underline the role of young and innovating enterprises in the three regions.
- ▶ **Study trips** within the three regions in order to better understand the respective socio-economic environments.
- ▶ **Matching** of young and innovating enterprises from the Nord-Pas de Calais region, Silesia and from North-Rhine– Westphalia in order to foster economic cooperations.
- ▶ **Creation of a network** of support structures for the development of young and innovating enterprises in the area of the Regional Triangle of Weimar.
- ▶ Creation of a **website** that will be used as a source of information and a partnering platform for public authorities and enterprises from the three regions.

[Partners]



**RUDZKI INKUBATOR
PRZEDSIĘBIORCZOŚCI**

RUDZKI INKUBATOR is an incubator in the city of Ruda Śląska in Silesia (Poland). The incubator is an important vector for the economic development of the city. The main objective of the incubator is to help to create knowledge, means and ideas that lead to the creation of enterprises.



The **CENTRE INNOVATION & ECHANGES CIEL** is located on the Haute Borne Science Park in Ville-neuve d'Ascq (France). CIEL is a platform fostering the creation, the development and the location of innovating activities. CIEL is also a tool for the promotion of research and convivial place for exchanges between researchers and creators of enterprises. CIEL is in fact a place where all types of cooperation between the worlds of research and enterprises can be discussed.



GILDE-ZENTRUM is a centre of arts, craftsmanship and innovation at the city of Detmold in North-Rhine-Westphalia (Germany). The centre brings together in a privileged environment innovating entrepreneurs, small and medium-sized enterprises and researchers of applied sciences.

