

Annex 7

Methodological Approach and the Criteria for Selection of the Innovative and Cohesion Growth Poles

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1. Procedure of processing

The theoretical approach to the selection of innovative and cohesion growth poles was presented at the working meeting held at the MCRD SR on 17 January 2007 to all the relevant social-economic partners (within the involved Ministries, regional self-governments, representatives of entities associating local self-governments, non-governmental sector).

The new proposal for structure of settlements of the SR for the purposes of the NSRF SR for the years 2007-2013 was elaborated from January till February 2007. The first draft of the list of structure of settlements was elaborated based on the available statistical data and criteria listed below.

The following input data were used:

- Number of inhabitants as of 31 Dec 2004, Statistical Office of the SR
- Data on the schools for the school year 2005-2006, Institution of Information and Prognoses of School System
- Slovakia Territorial Development Perspective 2001, MEnv SR, AUREX, s.r.o.
- Information on the existing joint municipal offices (Building Offices), MCRD SR
- Information on the municipalities considered for the joint municipal offices, Slovakia Towns and Municipalities Association 2002
- Registration offices, Regulation of the MI SR 529/2001 Coll. as amended
- Organisation of the SR Settlements, URBANITA, volume no. 51, February 1985

The first draft of list of the settlements structure served as a ground for the following negotiations and refining by the MCRD SR and the self-governing regions.

At the beginning of March 2007, the new proposal for settlements structure according to the regions was sent to the separate self-governing regions for commenting and taking a stance. The relevant units of self-governing regions (territorial planning and regional development units) raised their comments and proposals for adding. The processors of methodology discussed, at the joint working meetings with the representatives of self-governing regions individually, all the submitted proposals and recommendations. All the comments and proposals were evaluated by the authors of draft growth poles.

2. Methodological approach and criteria for selection of innovative and cohesion growth poles

2.1. Groups of municipalities

The municipalities were sorted into groups according to their significance and localisation in the settlements system. There were specified innovative growth poles, interest territory of innovative growth poles and cohesion growth poles followed. In identifying of the innovative growth poles, it was issued from the national territorial planning documentation Slovakia Territorial Development Perspective 2001 and the administration distribution of the SR. The total number of the municipalities evaluated within the SR was 2 891, of them 73 were evaluated in the Bratislava Region.

1. **The innovative growth poles** are subdivided in terms of hierarchy as follows:
 - settlement centre of the national up to international significance (regional town)
 - settlement centre of the regional significance within the core band of core settlement of the 1st grade
 - settlement centre of the regional significance within the suburban band of settlement core of the 1st grade
 - settlement centre of the regional up to supra-regional significance as a core of the settlement core of the 2nd grade
 - settlement centre of the regional significance
2. **The interest territories of the innovative growth pole** are limited based on the Slovakia Territorial Development Perspective 2001 (STDP 2001) where the cores of settlement were defined. The interest territories of the innovative growth poles are limited around the settlement centres of the national up to international significance (regional town) and around the settlement centres of the regional up to supra-regional significance, establishing a core of settlement of the 2nd grade. The interest territory of the innovative growth pole comprises of the cadastre territories of the core and suburban band of settlement core of the 1st grade and settlement cores of the 2nd grade.
3. **The cohesion growth poles** are subdivided in terms of hierarchy as follows:
 - micro-regional centre laying in the interest territory of an innovative growth pole limited by the core band of settlement core of the 1st grade
 - micro-regional centre laying in the interest territory of an innovative growth pole limited by the suburban band of settlement core of the 1st grade
 - micro-regional centre laying in the interest territory of an innovative growth pole limited by settlement core of the 2nd grade
 - micro-regional centre outside the interest territory of innovative growth poles
4. **the municipalities outside the innovative and cohesion growth poles** are subdivided according to their localisation in the settlement system as follows:
 - municipality of the interest territory of an innovative growth pole limited by the core band of settlement core of the 1st grade
 - municipality of the interest territory of an innovative growth pole limited by the suburban band of settlement core of the 1st grade
 - municipality of the interest territory of an innovative growth pole limited by the settlement core of the 2nd grade
 - municipality in other territory.

2.2. Criteria for selection of growth poles

The proposed municipalities, as the innovative and cohesion growth poles, were selected based on the input data and the following criteria:

2.2.1. Innovative growth poles:

- regional town
- town with the seat of district
- town with the former seat of district

In the SR, 72 innovative growth poles are limited. Within the Bratislava Region, there are defined four innovative growth poles.

2.2.2. Cohesion growth poles:

- The municipalities where there are concurrently located: a register office, joint municipal office, elementary school of the 3rd type, which were the former settlement centre of the local significance and were considered by the Slovakia Towns and Municipalities Association as the seat of the joint municipal office (92 municipalities in total)
- The municipalities where is located: an elementary school of the 3rd type with more than 100 pupils (in total 774 municipalities)
- The municipalities where is no elementary schools of the 3rd type but which have a secondary school (in total 9 municipalities)
- The municipalities which do not comply with the given criteria and have more than 1,500 inhabitants in the Regions of Prešov and Košice (17 municipalities in total)

Through the product of given criteria, in the first proposal there were limited 802 cohesion growth poles within the Slovakia in total, including the Bratislava Region. Number of such limited cohesion growth poles within the Bratislava Region was 33 municipalities.

2.2.3. Municipalities which are not the growth poles in the interest territory of growth poles:

- The municipalities located in the territory of the core and suburban bands of settlement cores of the 1st level¹
- The municipalities located in the territory of settlements cores of the 2nd level².

In total, the original list limited 412 municipalities in the SR, which are located in the interest territory of innovative growth poles and which are not innovative or cohesion growth poles. Outside the Bratislava Region, 380 municipalities were counted in total. This list was refined after the agreement with the self-governing regions into number of 415 municipalities in the SR, which are located in the interest territory of innovative growth poles, while 22 municipalities of them are in the Bratislava Region.

¹ See Slovakia Territorial Development Perspective 2001

² See Slovakia Territorial Development Perspective 2001

2.2.4. Municipalities which are not growth poles outside the interest territory of innovative growth poles

The number of municipalities, which are not innovative or cohesion growth poles and do not lay in the interest territory of innovative growth poles, is 1 503. Within the Bratislava Region, there are 14 such municipalities.

There are 1 918 municipalities in the SR, which are not innovative or cohesion growth poles, regardless their localisation (also those, which lay in the interest territory of innovative growth poles), and 36 such municipalities are in the Bratislava Region.

(Note: Number of municipalities with the number of inhabitants less than 1 000 is in total 1 946 in the SR, while in the Bratislava Region such number is 24.)

2.2.5. Summarising overview

Numeric overview of the number and share of inhabitants and municipalities according to the classification into the settlement structure of Slovakia is given in the following tables:

| Bratislava Region | | Number of inhabitants | | Number of municipalities |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| | Year | 2001 | 2004 | |
| 1 | Innovative growth poles | 482 200 | 479 353 | 4 |
| 2 | Cohesion growth poles | 89 136 | 92 458 | 33 |
| | Innovative and cohesion growth poles in total (1+2) | 571 336 | 571 811 | 37 |
| 3 | Municipalities, which are not growth poles, in the interest territory of innovative growth poles | 18 340 | 19 851 | 22 |
| 4 | Municipalities, which are not growth poles, outside the interest territory of innovative growth poles | 9 339 | 9 470 | 14 |
| | In total | 599 015 | 601 132 | 73 |

| Bratislava Region | | Share of inhabitants | | Percentage Share of municipalities |
|-------------------|---|----------------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| | Year | 2001 | 2004 | |
| 1 | Innovative growth poles | 80,5 | 797,7 | 5,5 |
| 2 | Cohesion growth poles | 14,9 | 15,4 | 45,2 |
| | Innovative and cohesion growth poles in total (1+2) | 95,4 | 95,1 | 50,7 |
| 3 | Municipalities, which are not growth poles, in the interest territory of innovative growth poles | 3,1 | 3,3 | 30,1 |
| 4 | Municipalities, which are not growth poles, outside the interest territory of innovative growth poles | 1,6 | 1,6 | 19,2 |
| | In total | 100,0 | 100,0 | 100,0 |

