

**CORD 2015 - 5<sup>th</sup> Conference on Overcoming Regional Disparities**  
**Programme**

AGENDA	CONTENT	SPEAKERS
Wednesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2015		
19:00	Welcome dinner	
Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2015		
8:30	Registration	
9:00	Welcome and keynote addresses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Irakli GHARIBASHVILI</b>, Prime Minister (Georgia) <i>[tbc]</i></li> <li>• <b>Nodar JAVAKHISHVILI</b>, Minister for Regional Development and Infrastructure, MRDI (Georgia)</li> <li>• <b>Janos HERMAN</b>, Ambassador of the European Union to Georgia</li> <li>• <b>Davit USUPASHVILI</b>, Speaker of Parliament of Georgia <i>[tbc]</i></li> <li>• <b>Martin HOMOLA</b>, Country Director of GIZ in Georgia</li> </ul>
9:45	Plenary 1: Update on 2014-2020 programming in Cohesion Policy, IPA II and ENI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The session reviews the 'latest news' regarding the EU financial instruments in the region. Cohesion Policy<sup>1</sup> and the IPA programme<sup>2</sup> have received a new regulatory framework. ENI has replaced ENPI<sup>3</sup>.</li> <li>• The new regulatory frameworks mean a review of overall objectives, support priorities, but also a review of the methods for programming and implementation.</li> <li>• Our key question: What are the key novelties and support priorities for each instrument? What is the role of regional and territorial development in CP, IPA and ENI now?</li> <li>• The guiding question will be: <b>What practical perspectives are opened up to countries in overcoming regional disparities?</b></li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tengiz SHERGELASHVILI</b>, Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia</li> <li>• <b>Hanna JAHNS</b>, European Commission, member of Commissioner Johannes Hahn's Cabinet, former State Secretary for Regional Development, Poland – speaking on the new ENI</li> <li>• <b>Michael RALPH</b>, European Commission, Directorate-General Regional Policy, Adviser to Deputy Director General Normunds Popen – speaking on the new cohesion policy</li> <li>• <b>Ognjen MIRIC</b>, Regional Manager for Western Balkans and Turkey (GIZ International Services), former Deputy Director of SEIO, (Serbia) – speaking on the new IPA framework</li> <li>• <i>Moderator: Peter HEIL</i></li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/information/legislation/regulations/](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/legislation/regulations/)

<sup>2</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/policy/glossary/terms/ipa\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/policy/glossary/terms/ipa_en.htm)

<sup>3</sup> [http://eeas.europa.eu/enp/how-is-it-financed/index\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/enp/how-is-it-financed/index_en.htm)



*This event is co-funded by the European Union.*

AGENDA	CONTENT	SPEAKERS
11:00	Coffee break	
11:20	<p>Plenary 2: How to reach the people? The local perspective of regional development: Part one: Territorial instruments in regional policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The success of regional development policies very much depend on the ability of the state to build an efficient system of multilevel governance and partnership which gives the opportunity to combine locally rooted assets and potentials with know-how and resources coming from central or regional levels.</li> <li>Experiences from many European countries show that building of multilevel governance systems which empower local communities can be supported by special types of instruments taking into account multidimensional territorial strategies and action plan.</li> <li>The <b>first part of the session</b> is devoted to discussion about territorially rooted instruments designed at European (like Integrated Territorial Investments), national or regional level to help in releasing the local potential and promoting wider territorial development goals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Judit TÖRÖKNÉ RÓZSA</b>, European Commission, Directorate-General Regional Policy – Head of Unit, Competence Centre Inclusive Growth, Urban and Territorial Development</li> <li><b>Aleksandar PEJOVIC</b>, State Secretary, Chief Negotiator for Montenegro's accession to EU (Montenegro)</li> <li><b>Tibor POLGÁR</b>, Strategic Director, West-Pannon Regional and Economic Development Public Nonprofit Ltd. (Hungary)</li> <li><i>Moderator: Piotr ZUBER</i></li> </ul>
12:30	Lunch	
14:00	<p>Plenary 2 (cont.): How to reach the people? The local perspective of regional development: Part two: Local governments and institutions in regional policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experiences across European Union, Balkan and Eastern Partnership countries show that efficiency of any territorially oriented policy depends on the quality and strengths of interactions between self-governments and other supporting institutions like development agencies, business centres etc. Furthermore, local governments are part of the broader multilevel governance structures whose efficiency as a whole will determine the growth performance of a given territory. The <b>second part of the session</b> is devoted to discussion about the role and ways of improvement of the quality of local governments and other institutions in fostering the growth and development in local and regional scales:</li> <li>How can local governments formulate viable objectives, link up with national policies and donor programmes? What sort of support and preparation do they need in order to become effective agents of change? Why is the involvement of local governments important for overcoming regional disparities?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Paweł SWANIEWICZ</b>, Professor, University of Warsaw, the head of the Department of Development and Local Policy (Poland)</li> <li><b>Ginka TCHAVDAROVA</b>, Executive Director, National Association of Municipalities (Bulgaria)</li> <li><b>Novak GAJIĆ</b>, Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities (Serbia)</li> <li><i>Moderator: Peter WOSTNER</i></li> </ul>



AGENDA		CONTENT	SPEAKERS
15:10	Coffee break		
15:30	Parallel session 1: - Role of the cities for regional development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The session takes a closer look at <b>experiences of Poland</b> in building up territorially rooted cooperation and coordination systems centred around big cities and involving partners representing Government, regional authorities, business and other development parties. Those systems are used in support of functional integration of larger metropolitan areas across the country but also in many aspects are at the core of regional development policy which looks for ways of diffusion of growth and employments from regional centres to other areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Jacek SZLACHTA</b>, Professor, Warsaw School of Economic (Poland)</li> <li><b>Jacek WOŹNIAK</b>, Deputy Director, Strategy Development Unit, City of Cracow, former director of the Regional Development Department, Malopolska voivodeship (Poland)</li> <li><b>Joseph SALUKVADZE</b>, Professor, deputy rector of the Tbilisi State University (Georgia)</li> <li><i>Moderator: Piotr ZUBER</i></li> </ul>
	Parallel session 2 - Rural areas, urban-rural linkages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The session looks at successful examples of rural development programmes, with special regard to EU best practices from LEADER to Community-lead Local Development.</li> <li><b>Key questions</b> are: How can rural and regional development policies work together effectively? How can successful local development initiatives be organised in a bottom-up way? How can local development communities make use of different development instruments (domestic and foreign)? What are the key elements of designing and implementing successful local development strategies in rural and urban-rural regions?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ádám FICSOR</b>, former Government minister, former State Secretary for Rural Development (Hungary)</li> <li><b>Tibor POLGÁR</b>, Strategic Director, West-Pannon Regional and Economic Development Public Nonprofit Ltd. (Hungary)</li> <li><i>Moderator: Peter HEIL</i></li> </ul>
	Parallel session 3 - Regions with handicaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The session will look at the approaches to development of handicapped regions with special emphasis on mountainous regions, regions caught in industrial restructuring, remote regions, etc. Discussion will be focused towards <b>two key policy dimensions</b>:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governance: How to approach capacity development in handicapped regions?</li> <li>Policy-mix: What worked best in different kinds of handicapped regions?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Frank GASKELL</b>, former President of Euromontana association</li> <li><b>Nahit BINGOL</b>, Director General for Regional Policy, Ministry of Development (Turkey)</li> <li><i>Moderator: Peter WOSTNER</i></li> </ul>
	Parallel session 4 - Better policy making and project design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graham Meadows, former Director-General of European Commission's Directorate-General for Regional Policy, speaks about <b>Do's and Don'ts</b> of policy-making and project design.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Graham MEADOWS</b>, former Director-General of European Commission's Directorate-General for Regional Policy</li> </ul>
17:00	End of day 1		
19:00	Dinner		



# CORD 2015 Tbilisi

AGENDA		CONTENT	SPEAKERS
<b>Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015</b>			
9:00	Reports from parallel sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion from the parallel sessions will be taken to the plenary focusing on key lessons learned. Presenter from each session will be nominated, supported by the moderators, that will make the opening presentation followed by discussion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderators: Peter HEIL, Peter WOSTNER, Piotr ZUBER</li> </ul>
10:30	Coffee break		
11:00	Plenary 3: Keynotes on the place-based approach: finding strengths and development potentials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The final plenary's mission is to proceed towards the key messages of the conference, building on the best practices from the around the world. Where did place-based approach really deliver in practice?</li> <li>The Croatian and Ukranian high level representatives will on the other hand be looking at the future of how those practices could be applied in their respective countries and where they see room for strengthened cooperation among the participating countries.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Andris JAUNSLEINIS</b>, Committee of the Regions</li> <li><b>Jaksa PULJIZ</b>, Deputy Ministry for regional development (Croatia)</li> <li><b>Olena KUCHERENKO</b>, Head of Regional Development Directorate, Ministry for Regional Development, Construction and Municipal Economy (Ukraine)</li> <li><b>Graham MEADOWS</b>, former Director-General of European Commission's Directorate-General for Regional Policy</li> <li>Moderator: Peter WOSTNER</li> </ul>
12:00	Closing session, end of conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bringing conference to a close with presentation of what should be expected to be put in the "conference key messages" document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderators</li> <li>MRDI representative</li> <li>EU representative</li> <li>GIZ for final closing statement</li> </ul>
12:30	Lunch		
14:00	Excursion with dinner reception		



This event is co-funded by the European Union.