



COMMIN
THE BALTIC SPATIAL CONCEPTSHARE

Training sessions: Methodology, Implementation and Findings

Susan Brockett, Programme director for Nordregio Academy



Project
part-financed
by the
European Union



Content

Nordregio

- ✦ **Development Dynamics:** April 2005, Stockholm, Sweden (15, 9 countries)
- ✦ **Innovative Indicators:** October 2005, Roskilde, Denmark (18, 7 countries)
- ✦ **Policy Development and Good Governance:** Hanaholmen, Helsinki, Finland (16, 8 countries)
- ✦ **Successful cities: Strategies for management.** November 2006, Oslo, Norway (17, 8 countries)

- ✦ **Challenges of urban and regional development**
March 2005 (10, 4 countries)
- ✦ **Innovation and Regional Economic Development**
June 2005 (23, 8 countries)
- ✦ **National, Regional and Interregional Programmes for Developing Excellence** November 2005 (15, 7 countries)
- ✦ **Spatial Planning and Regional Development in Europe** April 2006 (16, 7 countries)

- ★ **International Summer School for students of architecture** 18.-28.8.2005 & 10.-19.8 2006 (17 & 12, 13 countries)
- ★ **Developing Excellence.** September 2005

Methodology

Pedagogical concept
Experienced, capable practitioners

Reflection and challenges

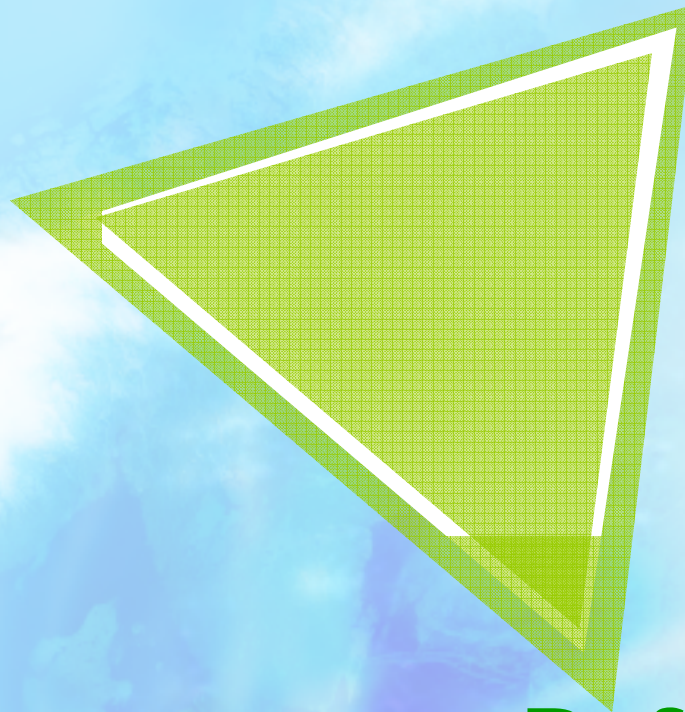
Enhancing partnerships

Development

The essential triad

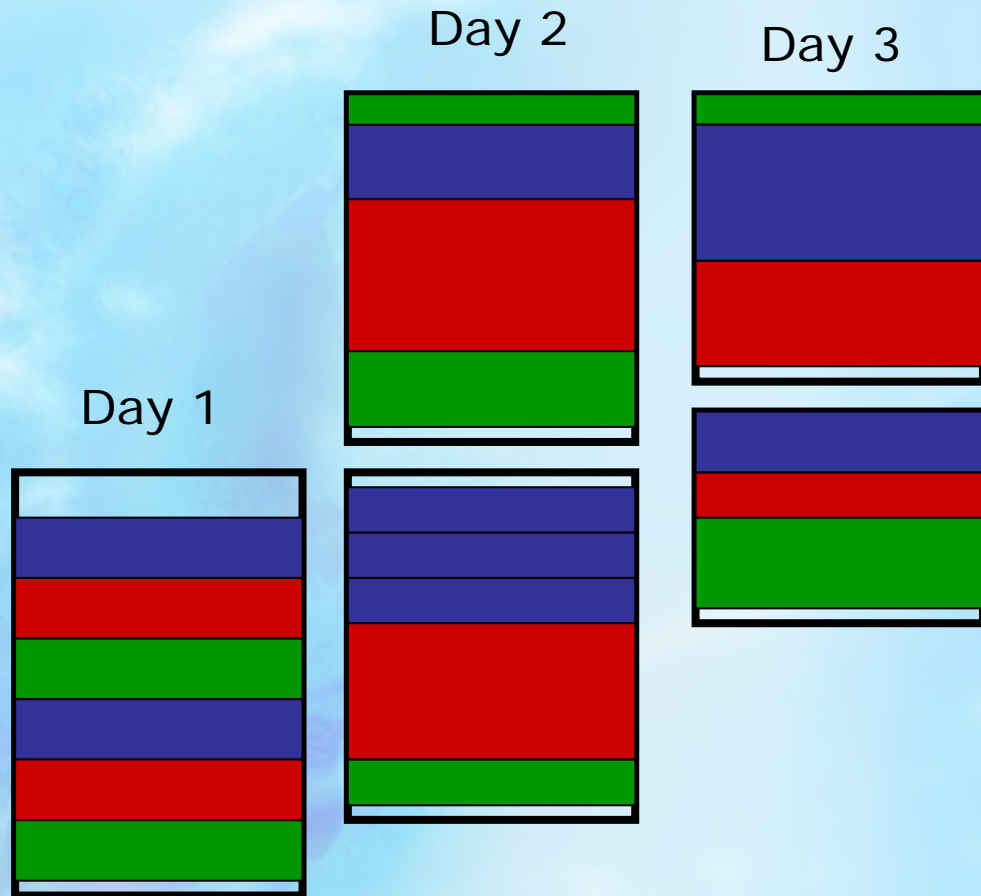
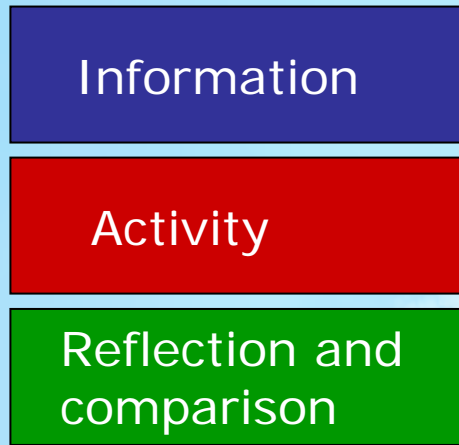
Information

Activity



**Reflection and
Comparison**

An example:

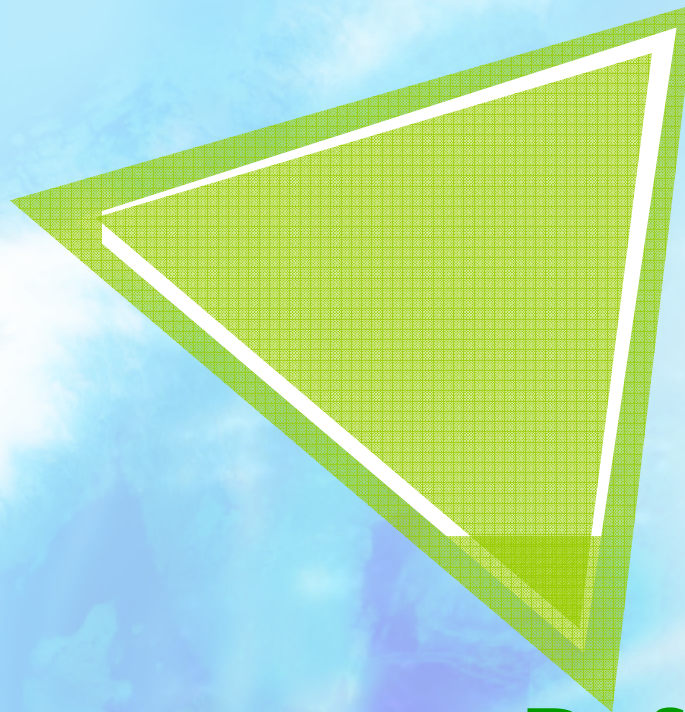


Innovative Indicators

The triad and E-learning

Information

Activity



**Reflection and
Comparison**

E-learning tools

- ✦ Extensive email usage
- ✦ All materials available on ftp sites
- ✦ True e-learning must be done **very** well, demanding special skills
- ✦ More a supplement to classroom in our cases

Evaluation

- ✦ Jyväskylä: via Internet by using Digium Enterprise system
- ✦ Nordregio: hand-out form (same as all Academy offerings)
- ✦ No common form

Implementation

Work package connections

- ✦ Poor: most work done independently
- ✦ Part of ongoing activities

Both had similar models

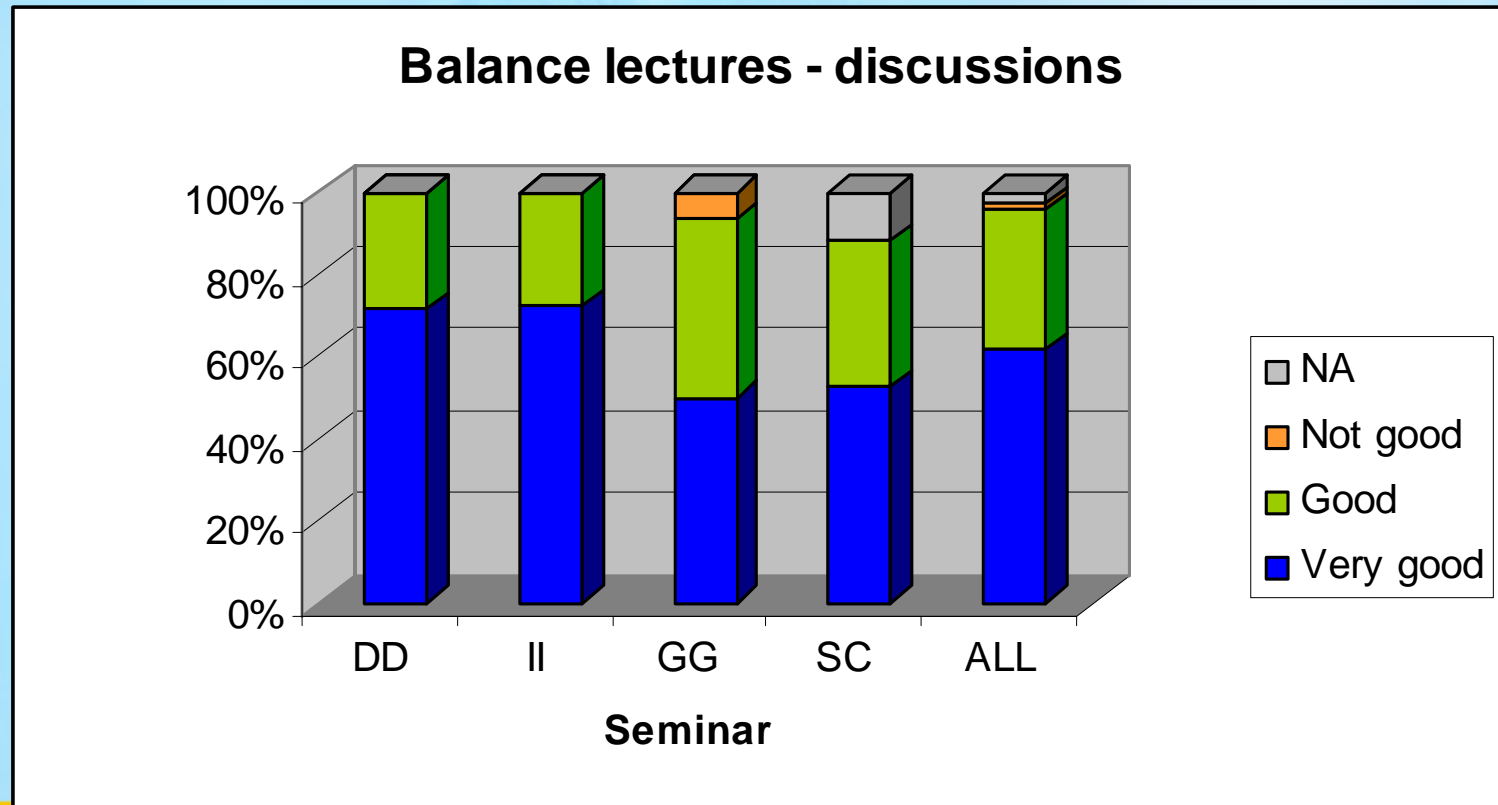
- ✦ Jyväskylä: extensive site visits, translation to Russian
- ✦ Nordregio: extensive workshops, 4 cities - only one site visit, no translation

Interaction

- ✦ Small tables
- ✦ Places dictated *and changed*
- ✦ Pragmatic approach to language



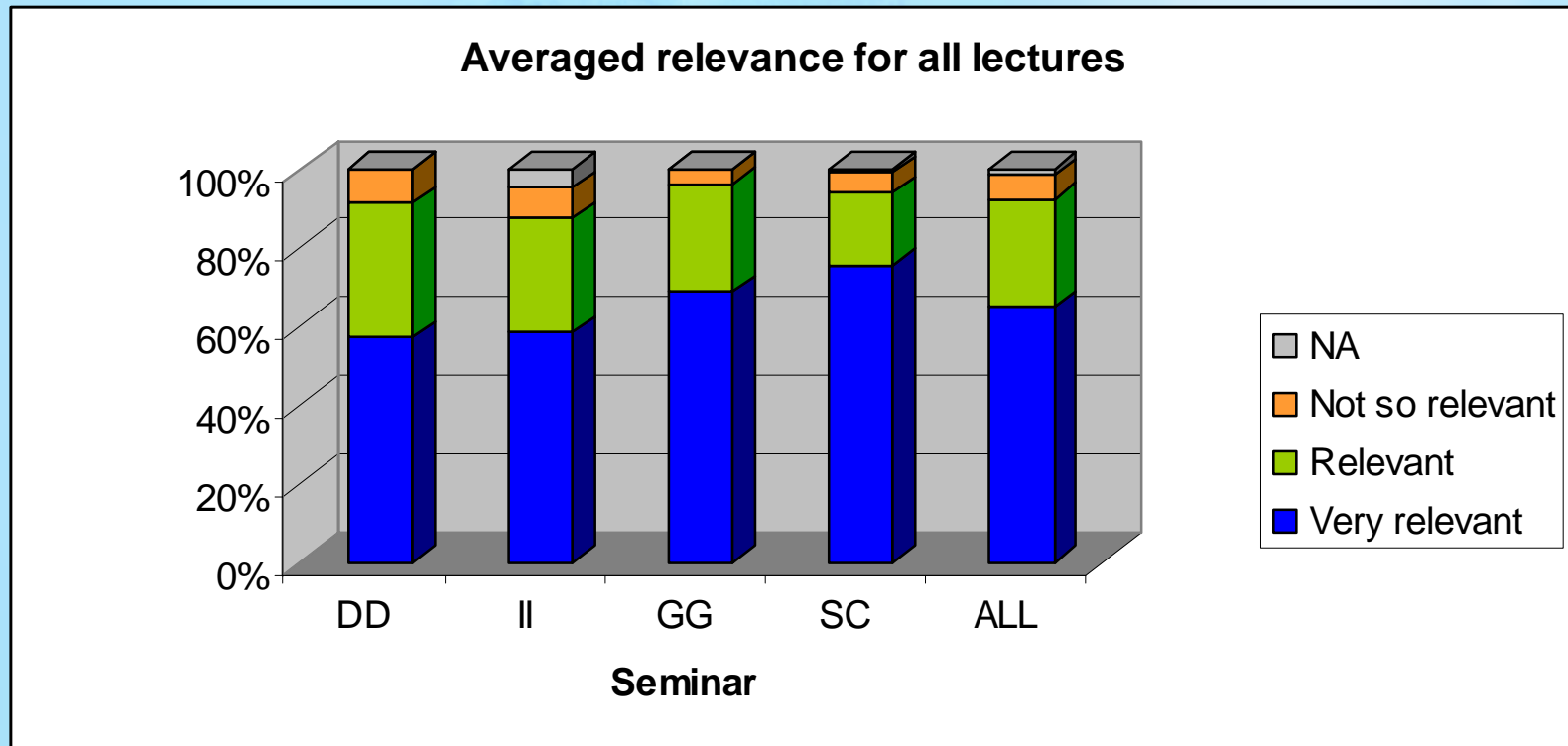
Nordregio offerings only



Choice of topics

- ✦ Assessment by staff and COMMIN members
- ✦ Early seminars feed into later
- ✦ "Hot topics"
- ✦ Only NOW have a good sense of topics

Nordregio offerings only



Participation

- ✦ Nordregio Academy 66 persons, 12 countries
- ✦ Jyväskylä 119 attendees, 27 repeats, 16 countries

- ✦ Nordic participation disappointing
- ✦ Two-tiered paying scale, Nordregio
- ✦ BUT! Good exchange among many countries

Topics for the future

General categories

- ✦ Topics related to EU, EU policy areas and international issues
- ✦ Regional development and related topics
- ✦ Urban development and related topics
- ✦ Tools and techniques
- ✦ Governance, participation, partnerships and democracy
- ✦ Exchange : MIND SETS!



Conclusions

Comments we love to get:

“Thank you, for the opportunity to participate! It was very useful for my personal development. I had a possibility to look from another point of view.”

“During everyday job-life my duties, responsibilities etc. etc, I have forgotten that the world is so wide and dynamic. Thank you for opportunity to remember it!”

Vision in a nutshell...

The measure of our excellence will be how critically we can examine ourselves and our own practice...

and how open and curious we can be in learning from one another.

Thank you for your attention

Annex: Content of seminars

Development Dynamics

- ✦ Challenges
- ✦ Models of territorial division
- ✦ Policy, territorial cohesion and polycentricity
- ✦ Branding as a technique
- ✦ Innovativeness and competitiveness
- ✦ Regional enlargement
- ✦ Strategies for regions under pressure, that are lagging.
- ✦ Balancing between regulation and the market.
- ✦ The participants' regions: what types of strategies are realistic and effective?

Innovative Indicators

- ✦ Understanding indicators: qualitative and quantitative indicators
- ✦ A critical look at indicators in use
- ✦ Comparisons and the use of indicators
- ✦ Examples of indicators in use
- ✦ Choosing indicators to monitor and evaluate one's projects
- ✦ Communicating indicators.

Policy Development and Good Governance

- ✦ The search for “good governance” and effective policy
- ✦ Structural reform processes: an analysis of governance
- ✦ Evolution of policy and regional governance in Finland
- ✦ Examples
- ✦ Sustainability management: from government to governance
- ✦ Governance, partnership and democracy
- ✦ Reform trends and new directions in governance

Successful cities

- ✦ Ideas : creativity and inclusion, territorial capital, social capital and sustainability.
- ✦ The Lisbon and Gothenburg strategies.
- ✦ Coherent urban management
- ✦ Strategy: natural resources, integrated housing and transport, technology, education and culture.
- ✦ Strategy: urban transformation with business, culture, university, housing and natural amenities.
- ✦ Assessing the quality of an urban environment
- ✦ Cities, growth and culture

Annex: Topics suggested for future training

Topics related to EU, EU policy areas and international issues

- ✦ Political, cultural and other differences across EU
- ✦ Effectiveness of implementing EU horizontal policies (i.e. gender equality, information society, environmental policies etc.)
- ✦ Polycentric development for a growing EU space.
- ✦ Methodology of trans-border concept development
- ✦ Development of international regions
- ✦ Interreg organisation in Europe

Regional development and related topics

- ✦ Regional development in general
 - ✦ How to prepare Regional Development plans
 - ✦ Regional Energy development policy
 - ✦ Measures for different regional policies
 - ✦ Marketing of the region
 - ✦ Urban, rural planning and development
 - ✦ Regional strategies in Nordic and Baltic Sea countries.
-
- ✦ Evaluation of projects as well as policies

Urban development and related topics

- ✦ City development (strategic planning)
- ✦ Effective organisation/performance
- ✦ Innovation in public development
- ✦ Financial planning and city development
- ✦ "Urban planning" in small and medium towns.
- ✦ The concept of "liveability" as a basis for policy-making
- ✦ City and culture
- ✦ How to avoid developmental conflicts.
- ✦ Urban sprawl - is it good or bad for city development?
- ✦ City marketing/City image

Tools and techniques

- ✦ Strategic planning, right strategies.
- ✦ Project management, project development
- ✦ Research principles, methods for analysis, prognosis methods
- ✦ Analysis of the state of development trends
- ✦ One-day courses on indicators for policy-makers in ministries etc. with emphasis on a critical approach
- ✦ Indicators systems

Governance, participation, partnerships and democracy

- ★ Political aspects of governance in Northern countries.
- ★ Administrative reform
- ★ Democracy, good governance.
- ★ Social participation in planning
- ★ How increase public awareness.
- ★ Participation in public sector
- ★ "Business-Authorities-Education" cooperation (Triple helix)
- ★ Partnership development
- ★ Social project management

Exchange

- ✦ Case studies, good examples of combination of spatial aspects and development aspects
- ✦ Quality examples/Bad examples
- ✦ Real experience and models to examine.
- ✦ Twinning (exchange)