Enhancing the contribution of partnership structures to local development and local governance and the effectiveness of policies
Why looking at partnerships?

The area-based partnership is a tool to improve governance. It seeks to:

– Improve policy co-ordination and adaptation to local conditions
– Lead to better utilisation and targeting of programmes
– Integrate civil society’s concerns into strategic planning exercises through more widespread participatory democracy
– Stimulate corporate involvement in local projects
– Promote greater satisfaction with public policy

(OECD Local Partnerships for better Governance, 2001)
Which partnerships?

The Trento Centre in the framework of the Forum on Partnerships and Local Governance, created in 2004, in co-operation with the Austrian Federal Ministry of Economy and Labour and supported by the EC, is considering partnerships which are:

- **MULTI-LEVEL**: Partnerships decision-making involves stakeholders from supranational, national, regional and local levels

- **MULTI-SECTORAL**: Multi-sectoral (or cross-sectoral) partnerships involve stakeholders representing various economic sectors/branches, governmental and non-governmental actors seeking to improve the co-ordination between labour market, education, economic and social policies at local and regional level

- **MULTI-DIMENSIONAL**: Partnerships apply integrated approaches to multi-dimensional problems
Tasks of the Forum

Building the network (identification and networking of institutions)

Building the data base

Countries served: **50**
Area-based **Partnerships** covered: **~2600**

Forum meetings and International Partnership Fair

On-line Document Database: **455** selected **documents** (structured in country, title, year of publication, etc.) and **247 links** related to partnership and local governance issue.

3rd Forum meeting in 2007: **131 partnership experts** from 24 nationalities
International Partnership Fair in 2006: **240 partnership experts** from 33 nationalities

Mentoring and Policy advice

**Study visits** and **capacity building** for experienced partnerships and for new established partnerships

Information exchange

Annual brochure, Electronic newsletter, Forum Website, Electronic discussion group

http://www.oecd.org/els/leed/forum/partnerships
Capacity Building and Knowledge Exchange

**Activity Stream for experienced partnership managers, 2006-2008**
- Capacity Building Seminar and Study Visit to Austria, 5-7 December 2006, Vienna, **Austria**
- Capacity Building Seminar and Study Visit to Ireland, 18-20 April 2007, Dublin, **Ireland**

**Activity Stream for new partnership managers, 2006-2008**
- Capacity Building Seminar, 8 November 2006, Bucharest, **Romania**
- Capacity Building Seminar, 28-29 May 2007, Opatija, **Croatia**
- Capacity Building Seminar, 10 December 2007, Lisbon, **Portugal**
- Capacity Building Seminar, Spring 2008, **OECD LEED Trento Centre**

**Annual Forum Meeting, 2006**
- OECD Electronic Discussion Group EGD

**Annual Forum Meeting, March 2007**
- OECD Electronic Discussion Group EGD

**Annual Forum Meeting, 2008**
- OECD Electronic Discussion Group EGD
The Vienna Action Statement on Partnerships

The Action Statement was prepared by the Forum Committee of Experts – comprising selected, experienced partnership practitioners – and agreed by the participants of the third Forum meeting on 2 March 2007 in Austria.

- **Objectives** → The Action statement is a supporting tool to improve policy and governance processes as well as dialogue and co-operation, both among policy makers and between policy makers and other stakeholders at the local, regional and national levels.

- **Overview on recommended actions** → The Forum meeting participants invite governments and partnerships to work together to:
  1. *Ensure flexibility in policy implementation*
  2. *Establish robust communication mechanisms through which partnerships can influence and comment on relevant policy developments*
  3. *Better align policy objectives*
  4. *Establish evaluation tools that will accurately measure added value.*
  5. *Build the capacities of local, regional and national stakeholders to work effectively in partnership through training and development*
  6. *Provide a secure financial base*
For more information:

OECD LEED Trento Centre for Local Development

www.trento.oecd.org
Vicolo San Marco, 1
38100 Trento (Italy)
tel +39 0461 277600

OECD Forum on partnerships and local governance:
http://www.oecd.org/cfe/leed/forum/partnerships