

INVITATION

First Forum Meeting

Enhancing the Effectiveness of Partnerships

26 – 27 April 2005, Vienna

Area-based partnerships have been set up in many countries and regions to foster regional and local development and enhance the outcomes of employment and social policies. First designed as a response to plant closures and economic restructuring, partnerships have evolved into more systematic instruments to foster co-operation around local issues and stimulate integrated local development. Governments have been supportive to these attempts to give greater coherence to their policy actions and have in some occasions integrated them into the mainstream of institutional structures.

According to the OECD, partnership is a useful tool to improve governance and stimulate local development. Partnerships face a number of obstacles, however. Effective partnership working is impeded by disconnections between national policy objectives and local goals, the limited administrative flexibility of many public programmes, including those which are relevant to local economic and employment development and weak accountability relationships, between the various partners, between the partnership and the public, and between the representatives and their constituency (OECD, *Local Partnership for Better Governance*, 2001).

The Forum on Partnerships and Local Governance has been created to promote an integrated approach to local development and support area-based partnerships in optimising their contribution to local governance and the effectiveness of policies. This international network of partnerships seeks to overcome weaknesses of partnerships by ensuring that partnerships learn effectively from each other and that local development practitioners and policy makers at all levels learn the lessons from the partnership experience.

The First Forum Meeting will be a unique opportunity to re-assess today's need for partnerships, debate on best ways for government, business and civil society to work in partnership in practice, exchange know-how and experiences of existing partnerships and discuss the main innovations in funding partnerships.

General information:

Participants:

130 participants from OECD members and non-members countries, including:

- partnership practitioners and managers
- partnership members from government, business and civil society
- national co-ordinators of partnerships
- policy-makers
- academics

Working language:

English

Date:

26 – 27 April 2005

Location:

Hotel Penta - Renaissance

Ungargasse 60

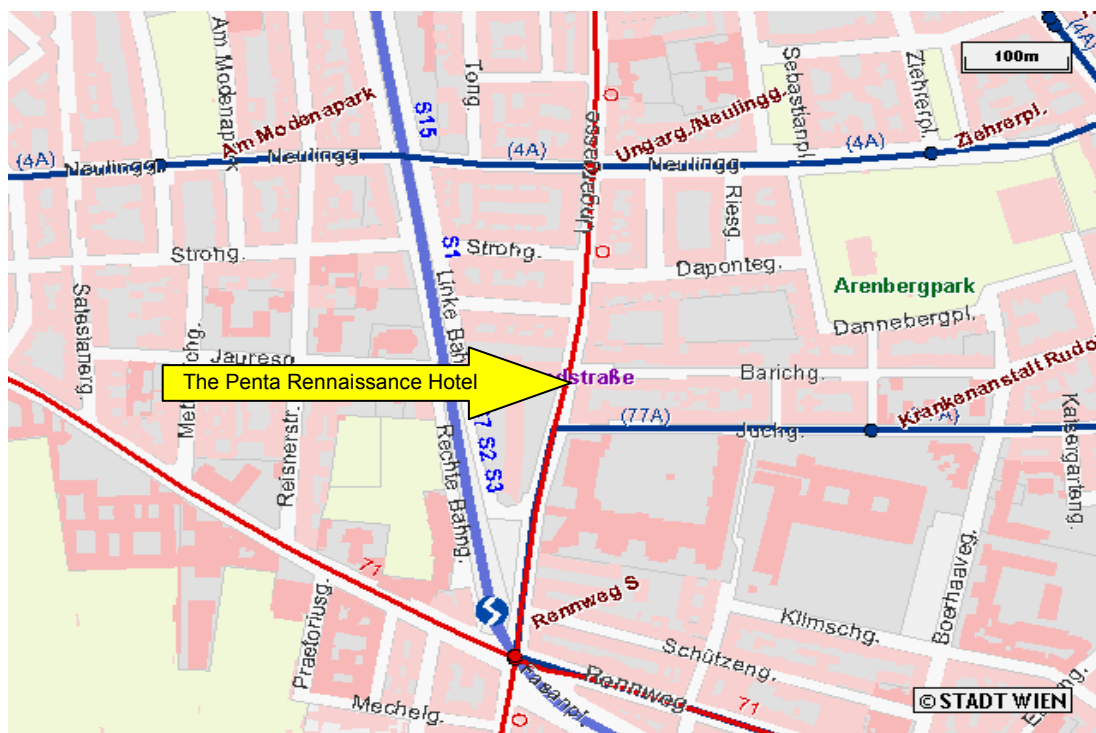
1030 Vienna, Austria

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www.renaissancehotel.com/viense



Registration:

Due to the limited number of places, please confirm your participation by returning the enclosed registration form to **machacova@forum.zsi.at** or **fax: +43/1/495044240** by **28 February 2005** at latest. If the number of received registrations exceeds the number of places available, the organisers reserve the right to make a final selection based on a geographical balance. Your participation will be confirmed by beginning of March 2005, a detailed programme will be included.

Travel and accommodation costs are covered by participants.

Hotels:

Hotel Penta – Renaissance****

Ungargasse 60
1030 Vienna, Austria
Tel: + 43 -1-711 75 0
Fax: + 43 -1-711 75 81 43
Toll-Free: + 43 - 800 200 288
www.renaissancehotel.com/viese
Price: 149 EUR incl. breakfast

Prinz Eugen Hotel Wien****

Wiedner Gürtel 14
1040 Vienna, Austria
Tel: +43 - 1 - 505 17 41
Fax: +43 - 1 - 505 17 41 - 19
reservation@hotelprinzeugen.at
Price: 90 EUR incl. breakfast

Mercure Grand Hotel

Biedermeier Wien****

Landstrasser Hauptstrasse 28
1030 Vienna, Austria
Tel: +43 - 1 - 71 67 10
Fax: +43 - 1 - 71 67 15 03
<http://www.mercure.at/Hotelliste>
H5357@accor-hotels.com
Price: from 149 EUR

Hotel Vienna Sporthotel****

Baumgasse 83
1030 Vienna, Austria
Tel: +43 - 1 - 798 8201 - 0
Fax: +43 - 1 - 798 8201 - 415
<http://www.vienna-sporthotel.at>
info@sporthotel-vienna.at
Price: 87 EUR incl. breakfast

Reservations at the hotels need to be done as soon as possible, at latest by 18 March 2005, key word: OECD LEED Forum, prices are not guaranteed. To book your room, please contact the hotel directly.

For further information, please contact:

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