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# European Network of Small cities

- Created upon the initiative of the French Association of Small Cities (APVF – Association des Petites Villes de France, during the first Conference of Small Towns in Bordeaux in 2007.
- Member states represented yet:  
Austria, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania and Spain.



# European Conferences of Small cities

- The Network organises every year a major European conference with the participation of small cities' elected officials as well as prominent european political representatives.
- The next European Conference will take place in Bucarest in September and October 2010.



# Actions and Priorities of the Network

- **Actions:**

- Participation to European Open Consultations
- Adoption of Common Positions and Position Papers
- Participation to European conferences
- Regular meetings of the member associations

- **Priorities:**

- Public Services
- Regional Policy
- Town Twinning
- Environment
- Intercommunality





# Development issues of Small Cities

## European Cohesion Policy's future

- The European Funds have an essential role in the development of the Small Cities. However, they have increasing difficulties with receiving the funds.
- This difficulty slows down the economic recovery and, in a long perspective, creates a bigger gap between citizens and the European Union.
- This Small Cities ask for better adapted financial tools.
- The European Network believes the cohesion policy cannot be concentrated in the metropolitan areas.



# Development issues of Small Cities

## Small Cities as protagonists of sustainable development

- Citizens expect the small cities to deliver in the field of sustainable development
- However, as first public investors in the EU, the small cities need the European Funds (FEDER, FEADER..) to implement those projects
- The small cities need also to be able to work in harmony with the big companies of public services, especially in the fields of water resources management, waste management or energy



**Thank you !**

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