

**The Budapest Development Pole Program
within the Strategies of the Municipality**

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The New Hungary Development Plan (ÚMFT) refers to the realization of the Development Poles Program as a priority strategic element of economic development. In order to improve the compatibility of the Hungarian economy, the Development Poles Program involving the participation of small and medium sized enterprises attaining significant export potentials in the network as well as in the cluster cities involved in the Poles Program, has the objective to support economically reasonable investments aiming to improve environmental conditions in order to the Treaty of Lisbon.

The Budapest's Pole Program is basically built on two pillars: The objective of the horizontal economic development is the establishment of favorable business environment by having the local -governments as well as universities take on a role in terms of the above efforts. At the same time, the main target of vertical development of enterprises is to provide support to the cooperation of enterprises (meaning their clusters) of similar profiles as to increase their international compatibility.

In order to meet the above requirements, we have created the Strategic Monitoring Committee of the Budapest Development Pole, (SEB). This body is responsible for the the judgment and supervision of incoming applications of tenders, which at all times must correspond to the mid and long term objectives of the development of the city of Budapest.

In the framework of the Development Pole the SEB decided to support the establishment of a new biotechnological innovation center in the medical sector, in the sector of public transport a new IT communication system, in the urban development a new innovative construction method.

Project of Cities and Clusters

The project of "Cities and Clusters" of the Municipality of the City of Budapest reflects its international cooperation and strategic thinking methods, which as part of the INTERREG IV. C. program serves the exchange of experiences between regions and cities. Its objective is to contribute to the development of a more compatible Europe by promoting the exchange of good practice between local and regional authorities. The activities supported by the program can be grouped around two axis of priorities, the encouragement of innovation and economy of knowledge as well as environment protection and risk prevention.

The project called „Cities and Clusters” initiated by Lyon adjusts to the first axis, which has the objective to increase the efficiency of public policies supporting clusters by the transferring of experiences to work out recommendations for both local and EU levels and to encourage the contact between Clusters of the EU.

Joining the Development Poles Program makes this topic current for the city of Budapest, since it provides the opportunity of seeing the experiences of forming and managing clusters within the leading cities of Europe, which can be utilized by Budapest at the formation of the clusters of the capital.