

Declaration of Intentions for Qingdao, P.R. China - October 30, 2007



Representatives of 10 dynamic regions - Baden-Württemberg (Germany), Catalunya (Spain), Flanders (Belgium), Karnataka (India), Nord-Pas de Calais (France), Oklahoma (USA), Qingdao (People's Republic of China), Québec (Canada), Scotland (United Kingdom) and Shanghai (People's Republic of China) – convened on the 30th of October in Qingdao during the 2007 Creativity World Forum.

These 'Districts of Creativity' discussed the composition of the DC network and the Working Programme 2008

DC Network

The founding members of the Districts of Creativity Network: Baden-Württemberg, Catalonia, Flanders, Karnataka, Nord-Pas de Calais, Québec, Scotland and Shanghai approve the membership of Oklahoma. This new region is unanimously admitted as associated members of the Districts of Creativity Network.

Two regions were presented as possible applicant regions, namely Kanagawa (Japan) and Queensland (Australia). These regions were introduced by Baden-Württemberg and Lombardy respectively. It was agreed to further negotiate with these regions and stimulate their application.

The DC network also agreed to further explore world-renowned innovative and creative regions

and to assess the value of their possible membership to the DC network e.g. Brainport - Eindhoven (Southeast Brabant, The Netherlands), Helsinki (Finland) and Massachusetts (USA).

Working Programme 2008

The founding and associated members state their intention to continue the exchange of best practices in the field of creativity, innovation, internationalization and entrepreneurship.

They therefore state their intention to:

1. Further collaborate on the I-POD Programme. This fellowship position will offer young professionals in the field of product development and industrial design the possibility to pursue an internship in another region. This project will be open for young graduates as from July 2008 on.
2. Jointly participate at the DC Reverse Mission that will be organised by the region of Baden-Württemberg in the spring of 2008. The reverse mission will give the opportunity to public servants and policymakers to follow a programme of 1 week. This programme will

give the participants an insight in the way innovation and creativity is fostered in the hosting region, Baden-Württemberg.

3. Foster and support the possible projects that will come out of the panel discussions in the fields of (a) sustainable development and renewable energy, (b) food processing and (c) tourism, during the 2007 Creativity World Forum.
4. Further work out the ideas generated during the brainstorming sessions with the DC regions.

In a true spirit of open coordination it is understood that only the member regions that express an interest in a particular project participate in its elaboration. Not all member regions need to be associated in every activity.

Baden-Württemberg Catalunya Flanders Karnataka Nord-Pas de Calais Oklahoma Qingdao Québec Scotland Shanghai