

## EU-PROJECTS IN TURKU

**There are some 40 ongoing projects partly financed by the EU in Turku. Their part-financing by the city of Turku is altogether about 17 million USD. In the following a couple of examples of the projects in the fields of health and environment are being introduced.**

### Health

There are five projects in progress in Turku concerning health matters.

*Supporting Clinical Outcomes in Primary Care for the Elderly* works within the frames of the programme BIOMED 2 / SCOPE. The aim of the project is to create inter-European standards for estimating the quality and productivity of the care for the elderly. These standards will be tested by the participants of the project. By means of the standards an expansion of a target-oriented culture in the care of the elderly will be supported.

A good example of combining health and environment is provided by the LIFE project *Hospital Waste Management* taking place in St Petersburg. The project aims at creating a model for a better processing of hospital waste. The good results of the project will certainly be utilized in other cities as well.

Another example of sustainable development is the project "*Environment and Health in the Baltic Sea Region*", working within the frames of the programme PACTE. Being based on the fact that the state of environment and the health of people are strictly bound to each other, the project concentrates in investigating this interdependency in the Baltic Sea Region.

### Environment

The city of Turku participates in several projects concerning environmental matters. The special interest of any of them is to investigate and take care of the environment in the Baltic Sea Region. Quoting Co-Chairman of the UBC Commission on Environment *Mikko Jokinen* in the editorial of the *UBC Environmental Bulletin* 2/97: "*In this work everyone will be rewarded — by the improvement of our common Baltic Environment.*"

Considering the Baltic Sea Region, perhaps the most important project in which Turku is involved is the project *Municipal Environment Auditing Project* in the LIFE programme. The aim of the project is to develop a model for conducting environmental audits in Baltic cities. For more information,

please see a separate article on page 16.

Clean food by clean production methods is the motto of the LEONARDO project *FRIENDLYFOOD - Environmental Training for Food Industry Employees*. It is about the participating food industry companies internal adult education, which consists of a relatively large packet of environmental concerns, containing both basic level environmental matters as well as those specially directed to the needs of food industry. Special themes are water protection, packages and food industrial waste. The aim is to reduce the food industry's burden to the environment.

The amount of environmentally orientated projects in our region is remarkable. For example, out of the EU-projects with Turku involved, 20 per cent deal with environmental questions and many more include ecological aspects. In addition to these there is a large number of other projects in progress where the City of Turku is involved, concerning e.g. cultural exchange and language education, technology, commercial points of view etc.

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## COPENHAGEN - TRADITIONS IN EU

Denmark became a member of the EEC in 1972. Consequently, there has been set up an administrative unit that is dealing with EU-policies. Furthermore, it - like many other regions and cities in Europe - has established a permanent representation in Brussels.

Copenhagen is going to be "the European Capital of the Environment". Already now, the EU Environmental Agency is situated in Copenhagen.

The INTERREG II programme, aiming at increased cohesion between border areas, has designated 15 MECU's to strengthen ties between the Greater

Copenhagen Area and the South Scania Region of Sweden.

In May the European Commission released the communication "Towards an urban agenda in the European Union". This communication can be seen as the starting point for a debate on future EU initiatives within urban development. It is our belief that there is a need for goal oriented and coherent urban policies, mainly because this clears the way for future urban development, but also because urban development is a precondition for sound regional and national development.

In the central and coordinating in-

ternational unit of the City of Copenhagen, International Affairs office, around 10 people are working with international cooperation. Of these, three are situated in the Copenhagen EU Office in Brussels.

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