Session 2: Science policy for economies in transition

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**German Scientific Co-operation with Economies in Transition - with Emphasis on ICT**

Scientific Co-operation with Economies in Transition, such as the economies of Candidate Countries (CCs) and Potential CCs aims at strengthening their respective science and research potentials and at supporting their integration into the European Research and Education Areas by:

- achieving a more balanced and efficient exchange of students and academic staff,
- intensifying of cooperation between science organizations, industrial firms, educational experts and governmental agencies,
- identifying complementary potentials for common projects under the 6th Framework Program of the European Union (FP6),
- supporting and funding of definition projects under FP6.

An example for this co-operation is the pilot project for the “Scientific Information Network South Eastern Europe” (SINSEE), which was funded by BMBF. Such high power networks are the backbone of knowledge-based, dynamic, modern economies and arguably the single most important tool to overcome structural deficits typical for economies in transition and to communicate with the educational and scientific community nationally and internationally.

The philosophy and the technical concept of SINSEE will be discussed as well as the achievements of the pilot project.

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