LOCLAB FROM BIALYSTOK TO MOSCOW
Intermediary report 24/3/06

1.) Summary of the previous work and research steps

The previous work was focused on the description and pre-analysis of the country-specific situations by the research teams. According to the guideline of the questions published in Newsletter VI these situations were presented and discussed at the Bialystok meeting (see http://www.culturprospectiv.ch/upload/uploads/nl06.pdf). The conclusions from the conference are…

• **Variations of national and local situations:** The contexts of the countries, Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Poland are very specific in regard to the labour situations and its probable impacts on local societies. This variation increases if we take into account the national, regional and local contexts of the other countries as Georgia and Western countries like Germany and Switzerland, which are included into the secondary analysis. Mainly the disparities and the polarization between centers and peripheries in the different countries are even not comparable, for instance as the discussion showed, the meaning of periphery in big centralist states like Russia compared to smaller states or to the strongly decentralized municipalities in Switzerland.

• **Three rural cases and two urban cases** (see overview): Although these differences are evident the consortium decided to seek for a concept, which guarantees a comparative analysis of the relations between labour market situations and the impacts on societies. A "rough" typology of the case-specific labour market situations differentiates between re-industrialisation (Bulgaria), significant foreign investments (Russia, Ukraine), work migration and shadow unemployment (Belarus, Poland and Ukraine).

• **Labour situations linked to globalization:** Across these cases we suppose a general trend; the case-specific labour markets are influenced by global changes and international influences. Across the selected cases, the three rural and the two urban contexts, we analyse the different local reactions to the same general trend. The nation-specific environment will play an important role: specific history and experiences of transition, cleavages and policies between centers and peripheries, states of welfare, expectations to the future roads. The local "laboratories" will study the general process of globalization with an emphasis on the specific contexts.

• **Comparative and individual case specific data:** The field studies need a concept as framework for the questionnaire (see 2.). The first propositions of questions for the instrument started after the Bialystok meeting. Our discussions in Suprasl showed, on the one hand, that it will be difficult to respond to such a high variety of situations. On the other hand, to find a common pool of questions is necessary. Each country has its own features and the teams are used to different styles shaping instruments, procedures and relevancy of topics. However, we proceeded to a common instrument and have completed it 24th of March 06 in an English and Russian form. A very important point is that each team should add the individual data, which are necessary for understanding the cases and contexts (see secondary analysis and qualitative data).
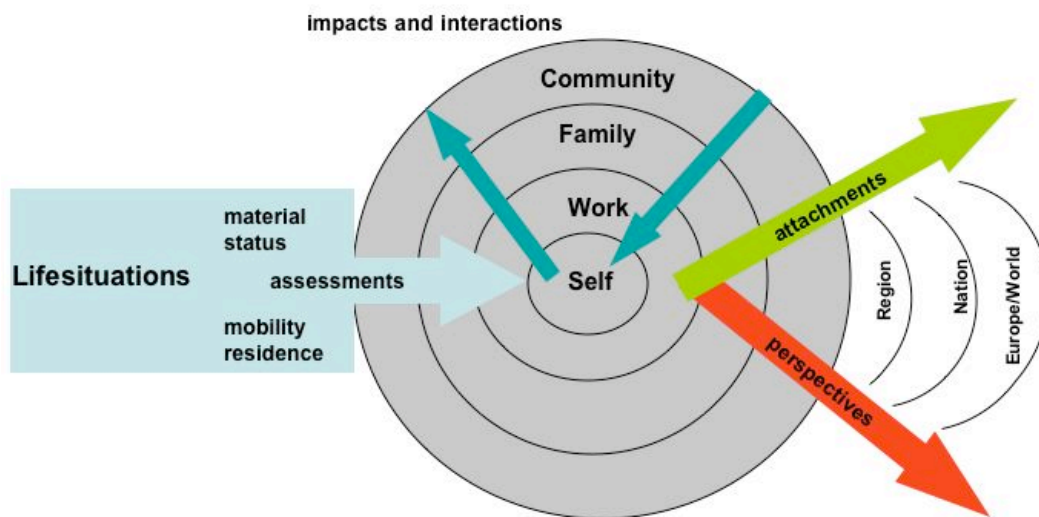
Overview on the cases selected for the case studies (state March 24/3/06)

Case	Population (in thousands)	Region	Main case-specific labour market issues	Month of survey	Sample size	Individual data
Urban contexts						
Bulgaria Pernik	93	Pernik Province	Reindustrialization	April	....	....
Russian Federation Stupino	80	Stupino Raion	Western investments	April	....	....
Rural contexts						
Belarus Skidel (with Sopotskin village)	12	Grodno Raion	Shadow unemployment work migration	April	....	....
Poland Siemiatycze and surrounding rural village	22	Podlasie Province (Voivodeship)	Work migration	July	....	....
Ukraine Uzschgorod and villages	74.5	Zakarpatie Oblast	Work migrations and Western investments	April	....	....

2.) Conceptual framework of the instrument

The concept and the instruments developed rely on the following general assumptions (see graph):

LOCLAB: The concept of the questionnaire

➔ the existential life situations, especially the positions in the labour market, have impacts on the self, its feeling, attitudes, future perspectives and behaviour, that is on the "social capital" on an individual level;

➔ the self is not isolated but interacts within specific societal fields on different levels, work situations, familial and communal contexts; in this sense individual capital is contributing to the "social capital" shared by groups and a community;

➔ it can be expected that the relations to the local context, the perspectives and outlooks to future developments on regional, national and international levels, are explained by the individual resources as well as the socially reinforced capacities to build social capital in a community.

The concept does not prefigure the coming reflection and specification of the hypotheses but provides a general guideline. Each team and the joint further work of the consortium will specify the hypotheses and results in detail and in depth taking into account the state of art and the country's situation represented by the case.

The concept and variables of the questionnaire
The following slides present the concept as a frame for the specific questions of the instruments (final state)
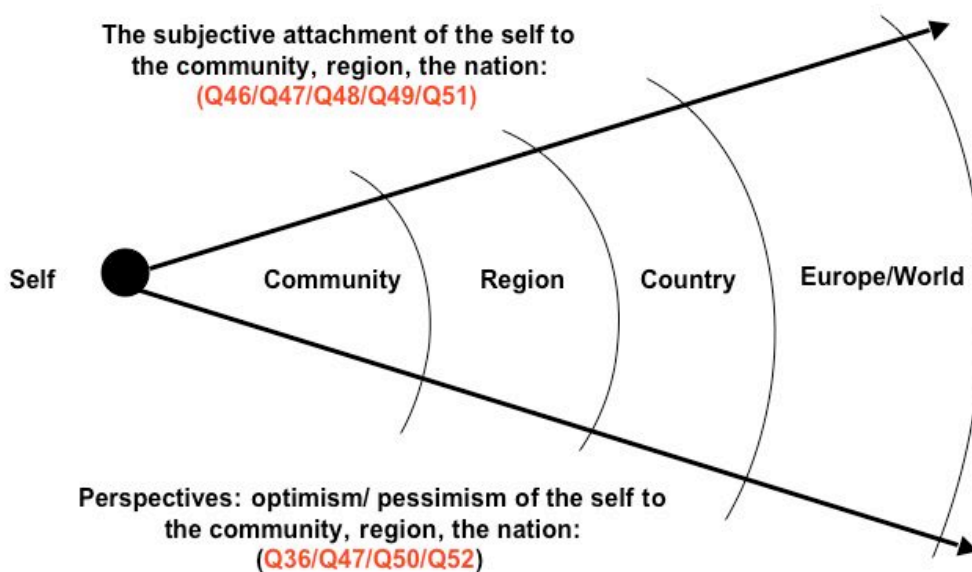
Q means question and the number refers to the final version sent 24th of March 06 (see list at the end):

Life-situations

	Individual level	Familial level	Public level
Material situations, sociodemographic status	Q2 Q5 Q6 Q11 Q15 Q18 Q19 Q31 Q57 Q66	Q14 Q30 Q56 Q59 Q64 Q65	Q3 Q4 Q7 Q15 Q55 Q60 Q61 Q62
Assessments	Q22 Q24 Q25 Q26		
Residence, mobility, borders	Q1 Q43 Q44	Q45	Q58

impacts and interactions

Self	(1) Degree of selfesteem (Q37)
	(2) Balance of self-realisation, influence (Q21)
	(3) Well-being and health (Q63)
	(4) Degree of life-satisfaction (Q22)
Work/Job	(1) Job satisfaction (Q8)
	(2) Significance/meanings of job (Q20/Q32)
	(3) Matches between aspirations/realisation in occupation (Q9/Q10/Q12/Q17/Q17/Q13)
	(4) Changes experienced/expected: material, immaterial categories (Q25/Q26)
Family	(1) Relevance of family, primary relations (Q20)
	(2) Climate in famjly, primary relations (Q23)
	(3) Changes experienced/expected (Q32)
Community	1) Activism/passivism in community's life: feeling as player, loser or excluded (Q20)
	(2) Relevance of secondary interactions fields: friends, institutions, entreprises (Q28/Q29/Q38)
	(3) Assessment of relations between private and public space, problems, entreprises (Q33/Q34/Q35/Q40/Q41/Q42)
	(4) Satisfaction with infrastructures, life conditions (Q27)
	(5) Trust/ Distrust to governance and leaders (Q39/Q53)
	(6) State-society and international relations (Q50)

Attachments, identification and perspectives

The subjective attachment of the self to the community, region, the nation: (Q46/Q47/Q48/Q49/Q51)

Self — Community — Region — Country — Europe/World

Perspectives: optimism/ pessimism of the self to the community, region, the nation: (Q36/Q47/Q50/Q52)

3. List of questions and definition of variables

LOCLAB: List of variables

Q 1:   Duration of residence
Q 2:   Status of employment
Q 3:   Sector of economy
Q 4:   Form of property of enterprise
Q 5:   Professional position
Q 6:   Working time
Q 7:   Contract of employment
Q 8:   Job satisfaction
Q 9:   Congruence of job and education/training
Q10:   Professional training
Q11:   Additional jobs during last year
Q12:   Job offer with higher salary
Q13:   Reduction of salary
Q14:   Status of jobless people
Q15:   Duration of unemployment
Q16:   Professional training (in the past)
Q17:   Professional training (future)
Q18:   Use of computer
Q19:   Use of internet
Q20:   Importance of life domains
Q21:   Overall self-efficacy
Q22:   Overall life satisfaction, satisfaction with habitation, satisfaction with dwelling
Q23:   Quality of family relations
Q24:   Financial situation
Q25:   Change of material well-being in the last 5 years
Q26:   Expected change of material well-being for the coming 5 years
Q27:   Personal relevance of current problems
Q28:   Social capital (when being hard-pressed for money)
Q29:   Social capital and self responsibility (when looking for a job)
Q30:   Plot of land to grow vegetables
Q31:   Major source of income
Q32:   Attitudes to work
Q33:   Social deviant behaviour in the local context
Q34:   Self responsibility and State's responsibility
Q35:   Reasons for the deficits of jobs or people lacking jobs
Q36:   Plans for future
Q37:   Feelings for the future
Q38:   Social capital beyond the family members
Q39:   Corruption
Q40:   Impacts of foreign enterprises
Q41:   Example for good impacts
Q42:   Example for bad impacts
Q43:   Working abroad or migration to an other country
Q44:   Token steps in the last 12 months for jobs or migration
Q45:   Relatives or friends living abroad
Q46:   Motivations for migration
Q47:   Country of desire
Q48:   Motivations for staying

Q49:   Local forces of adherence
Q50:   Ways to solve regional problems
        A-most preferred; B-least preferred
Q51:   Identification with spatial-political level (A-1st/B-2nd)
Q52:   Optimism/Pessimism
Q53:   Political trust
Q54:   What hasn't been asked, which seems important for you?
        1. country / 2. region
Q55:   memberships
Q56:   gender
Q57:   age
Q58:   nationality
Q59:   marital status
Q60:   religious person
Q61:   religious confession
Q62:   religious practice
Q63:   physical health
Q64:   children under 18 years
Q65:   number of members in household
Q66:   education

4.) Steps in execution

➔ **Sampling procedures for the case studies**

➔ **Preparation field work**

➔ **Preparation of the provisional program for Moscow by the Russian team**

➔ **Preparation and edition of the Newsletter LOCLAB MOSCOW (invitation document) by the Russian team and coordinators**

➔ **Second serial of payments**