

COMMISSION THEME

As globalisation continues to deepen and the pattern of the international economy continues to change (particularly as China and India expand), as resource capacities shift, and as the governance structures of production and trade evolve at a quickening pace, there is a need to deepen understanding of the processes that are shaping the dynamics of economic spaces. In particular, there is a need to better understand how the processes of economic change feed into economic and spatial policies in different countries, and how these policies, in turn, feed into development practices on the ground. For this reason for the period 2009-2012 the Commission would focus on the theme:

Linking Theory, Policy, and Practice: the Dynamics of Economic Spaces

Never has there been a more urgent need for new thinking on the processes that are shaping our economies and economic activity. There is also a fundamental need on the one hand for this stream of thinking to better inform policy, but, on the other hand, for this area of research to be more fully aware of the possibilities and limitations of the policy arena. At the same time, it is important to better appreciate, comprehend, and be familiar with the way policy and process play out on the ground to understand the practices underpinning the local dynamics of economic change.

The Program

To address this theme it is proposed that the renewed Commission will explore four broad topics in its annual meetings, in the context of the dynamics of economic spaces:

- 2009 - Local Growth Mechanisms (Location, Perth, Australia)
- 2010 - Resources and Resource Exploitation (Location, Santiago, Chile)
- 2011 - Networks and Networking (Proposed Location, Hanover, Germany)
- 2012 - Enterprise and Entrepreneurship (Proposed Location, Beijing China)