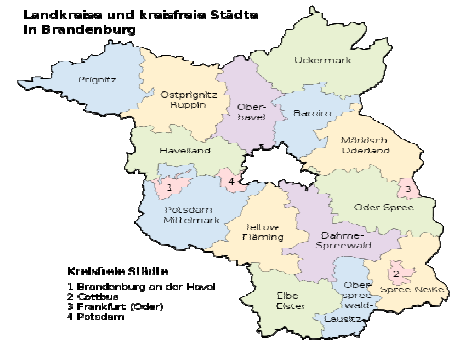


BRANDENBURG



1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- Date of application: 15 January 2010
- EER year : 2011 and/or 2012
- Applicant: Ministry of Economic and European Affairs of the State of Brandenburg
- Political endorsement: Brandenburg's application is supported by the Ministry of Economic and European Affairs of the State of Brandenburg, as clearly demonstrated by the letter attached written by the Minister Ralf Christoffers
- Contact person: Dr. Carsten Enneper, Head of Department in the Ministry of Economic and European Affairs of the State of Brandenburg, Tel: +49 331 866 1680

2. REGIONAL DATA

- NUTS1: DE4
- Population: 2.567.220
- Area: 29,478.63 km²
- GDP / inhabitant: €19 700
- TEA Average Germany: 5.0%
- The self-employment rate is the highest among the East German Länder and well above national average
- Brandenburg is Eastern Germany's top region for start-ups due to extensive activities in order to foster self-employment and start-up activities

3. COMPETENCES / ACTIVITIES / AWARDS IN THE FIELD OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- Represented in the Assembly of the Regions of Europe, Member of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, the Fruit Vegetable and Horticultural European Regions Assembly (AREFLH), the Conference of European Regional Legislative Assemblies (CALRE)
- Numerous scientific and research institutions, such as the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, have been located in Brandenburg, creating links to and between enterprises
- Starting in October 2011, Brandenburg and Berlin will collaborate on a common innovation strategy and the new international airport
- The Brandenburg Institute for Entrepreneurship and SME (BIEM) incorporates the entrepreneurship programs of the nine universities in Brandenburg in cooperation with the ZAB, the Ministry of Science, and extra-faculty research institutions. It works to increase the number of technology-driven start-ups by improving conditions
- Brandenburg has launched an “*emergency aid package*” as one of the first German regions for enterprises at risk in order to protect investments and employment
- The network “iq brandenburg” is a network of technology transfer centres
- The project “ProTraC” for cross-sectoral transfer projects within the region will start in the next years to boost the collaboration of business (SMEs) with science supported by transfer structures and regional clusters