



# BOOSTING GROWTH AND COHESION IN EU BORDER REGIONS

#EUBorderRegions

Drama, 25.10.2018



Regional and  
Urban Policy

This meeting is co-organised by the  
**European Commission, DG REGIO,**  
and the **Drama Chamber of  
Commerce and Industry.**



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# Agenda

- 08:30 – 09:00 **Registration & Welcome Coffee**
- 09:00 – 09:30 **Welcome Address**
- 09:30 – 10:15 **Keynote Speech | Boosting EU Border Regions:  
The Way Ahead**  
Q&A session
- 10:15 – 10:30 **Coffee break**
- 10:30 – 12:00 **Good Practices | Progress is Possible**  
Q&A session
- 12:00 – 13:00 **Lunch**
- 13:00 – 15:00 **The Role of Governance**  
Q&A session
- 15:00 – 16:00 **Looking Ahead with News Tools**  
**Closing Remarks**



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# Keynote Speech

## Boosting EU Border Regions: the Way Ahead



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European  
Commission



# Ms Nathalie Verschelde

DG Regional and Urban Policy,  
European Commission

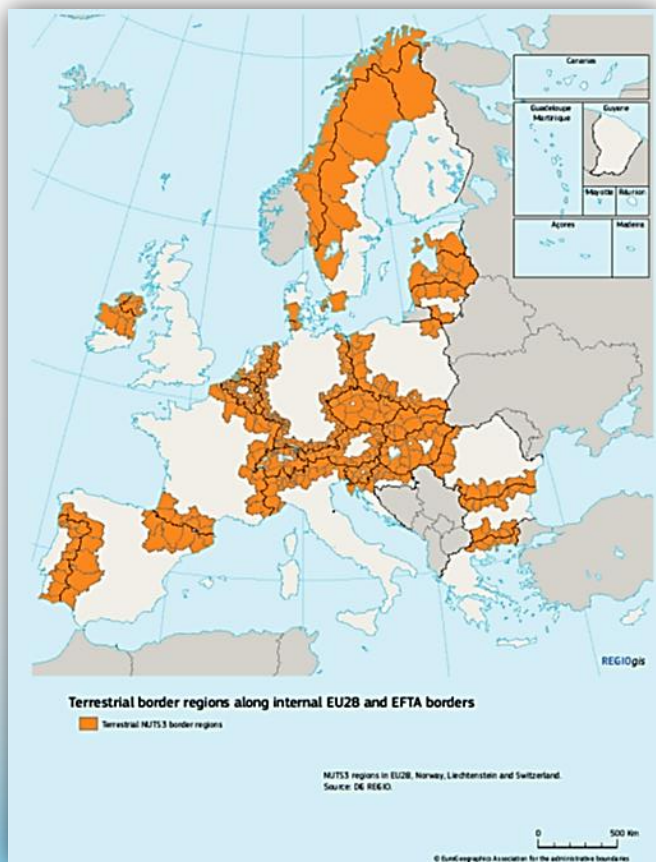
 @RegioInterreg



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# Border Regions matter...



- 40% EU territory
- 30% EU population (150m)
- 30% EU GDP
- BUT less economically developed, lower access to public services

AND they suffer...

Navigating different legal and administrative systems is still **complex, long and costly**



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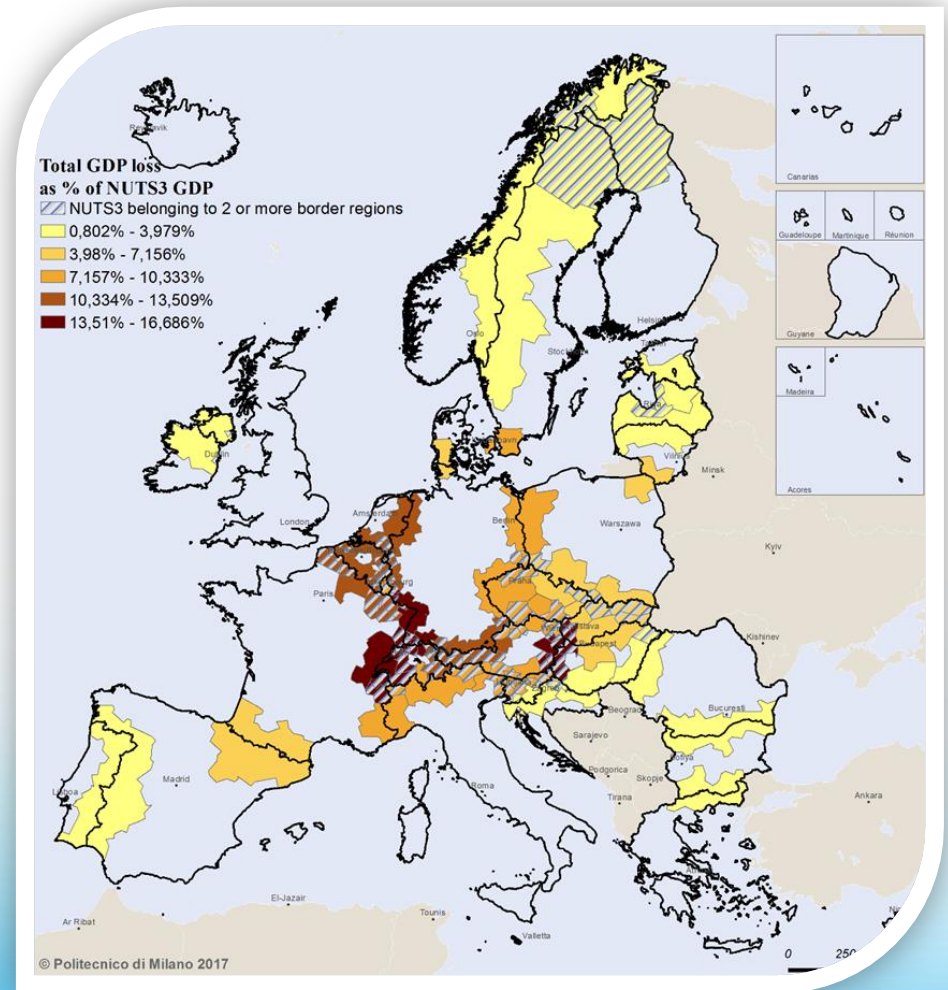
European  
Commission



ΕΠΙΜΕΛΗΤΗΡΙΟ  
ΔΡΑΜΑΣ  
Drama Chamber of Commerce and Industry ΔΡΑΜΑΣ

# Persisting issues – Cost

With only 20% of obstacles lifted, EU Border Regions could gain **2%** in GDP...



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# What can be done?

## **10-point Action Plan** **MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE**

European institutions - MS - Regions  
Stakeholders

Border Focal Point in EC (DG REGIO)



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# The Action Plan



**deepen cooperation and exchanges**



**improve the legislative process**



**support cross-border employment**



**promote border multilingualism**



**facilitate cross-border accessibility**



**e-government to enable cross-border public administration**



**provide reliable and understandable information and assistance**



**promote greater pooling of health care facilities**



**consider the legal and financial framework for cooperation**



**build evidence for better decision-making**



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# More Information



InfoRegio: <http://bit.ly/InfoRegio>



@RegioInterreg #EUBorderRegions



<https://www.facebook.com/InterregA/>



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# Thank you!

 @RegionInterreg



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# Good Practices

Progress is Possible



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# Medicinet II: Health Cooperation on the GR/BG Border

**Mr Panagiotis Michailidis**  
General Hospital of Komotini, Greece



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# Health Cooperation on the GR/BG Border

## The MediciNet & MediciNet II examples

Panagiotis Michailidis, MSc, PMP®, MCP  
Project Manager, General Hospital of Komotini  
Greece



1

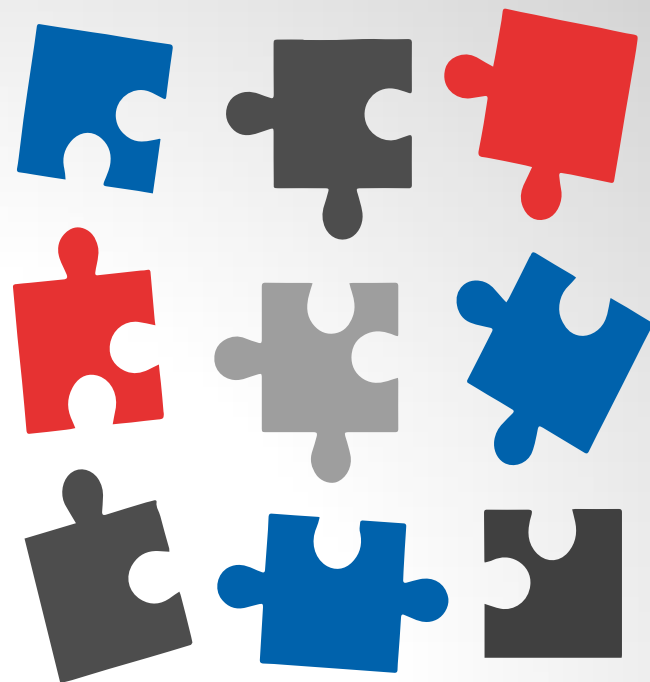
What makes a project successful ?

2

Can cross-border cooperation provide better (health) services to border citizens ?

3

What are the obstacles and barriers which prevent further development ?



# MediciNet I (2012-2014)



General Hospital of Komotini  
"Sismanogleio"



Multi-Profile Hospital for Active  
Treatment "Dr. Atanas Dafovski"

The central need which triggered project's planning and development was the new road which had been constructing and would connect the cities of Komotini and Kardzhali.



The basic idea is that any accident incurred on the international road between Komotini and Kardzhali will be carried out by these two hospitals.



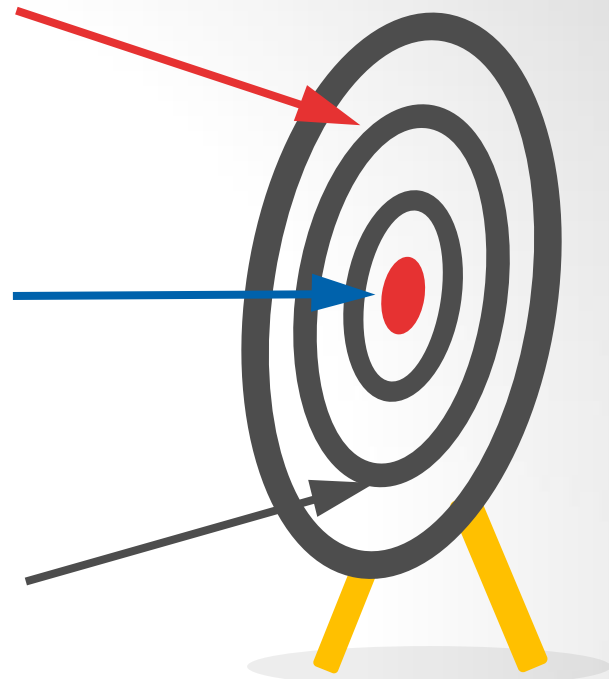
# MediciNet I - Main Objectives



**01** Meaningful / Systemic upgrade of emergency services.

**02** Establishment of cooperation between two hospitals

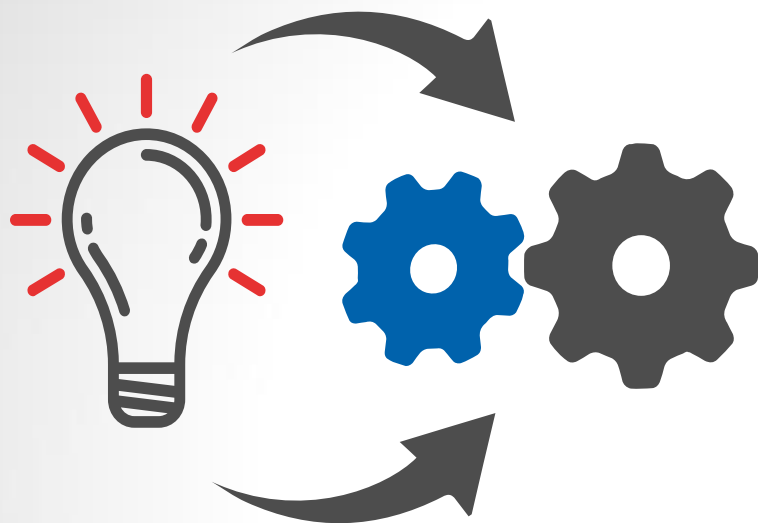
**03** Improvement of healthcare services for both cross-border and visiting population.



# MediciNet I - Main Activities



Medical Equipment &  
Infrastructure



Specialized Training  
Courses for Medical Staff



Parallel Events & Actions



# MediciNet I - Medical Equipment & Infrastructure



*New Operating Theatres for  
Kardzhali Hospital*



# MediciNet I - Specialized Training Courses for Medical Staff



# MediciNet I - Specialized Training Courses for Medical Staff



# MediciNet I - Parallel Events & Actions



Educational Workshops in Safe Driving for High-School Students



Memorandum of Cooperation  
between the two Hospitals



# MediciNet I – A “Good Practice” Project

## INNOVATIVE

Multi-Dimensional script of activities **aiming to save lives.**

## REPLICABLE

Easily transferred to other geographical or thematic (policy) areas.



No need for future prerequisites or actions.

## SUSTAINABLE

Direct And Tangible Results improving Health Services in the Cross Border Area.

## ON THE SPOT



# So... What makes a project successful ?

Apply standard Project Management Practices and Tools & Techniques throughout the whole project lifecycle



*"Think Before You Plan,  
Plan Before You Act"*



**Execution** equally  
Important as **Planning**



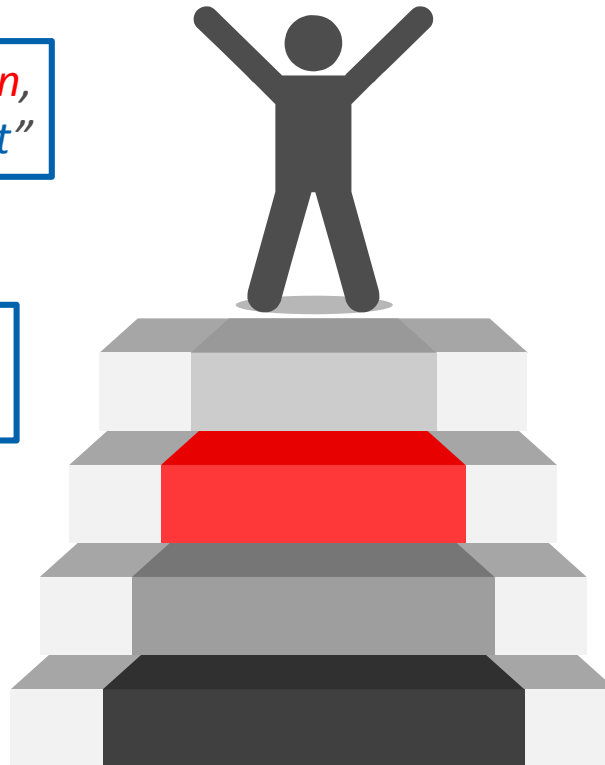
*Discover and  
address **real needs***



*Devote extra attention  
to **Detail** and **Quality***



*Produce  
**Tangible Results***



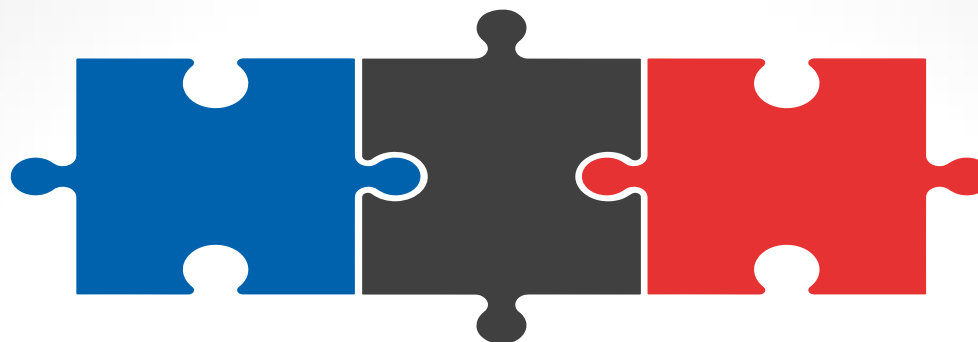
# From MediciNet to MediciNet II



European Territorial Cooperation Programme

**Greece - Bulgaria**

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE



**Interreg**  
**Greece-Bulgaria**

European Regional Development Fund

**MediciNet II**



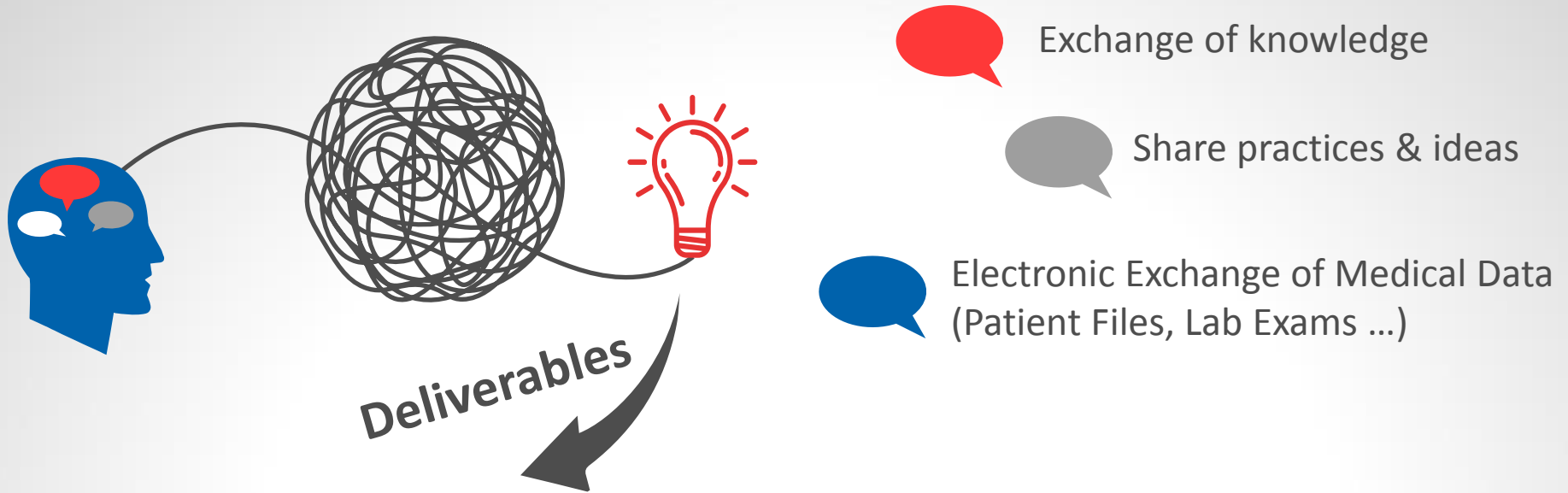
Memorandum of  
Cooperation between  
two hospitals

Valorize the previous  
effective and  
efficient cooperation

Create a dynamic  
channel for exchange  
of know-how



# MediciNet II (2017-2019)



## Medical Equipment & Infrastructure

- Renovation of operating theatres in Komotini's Hospital
- IT Equipment, PACS/HIS Integration for Kardzhali's Hospital

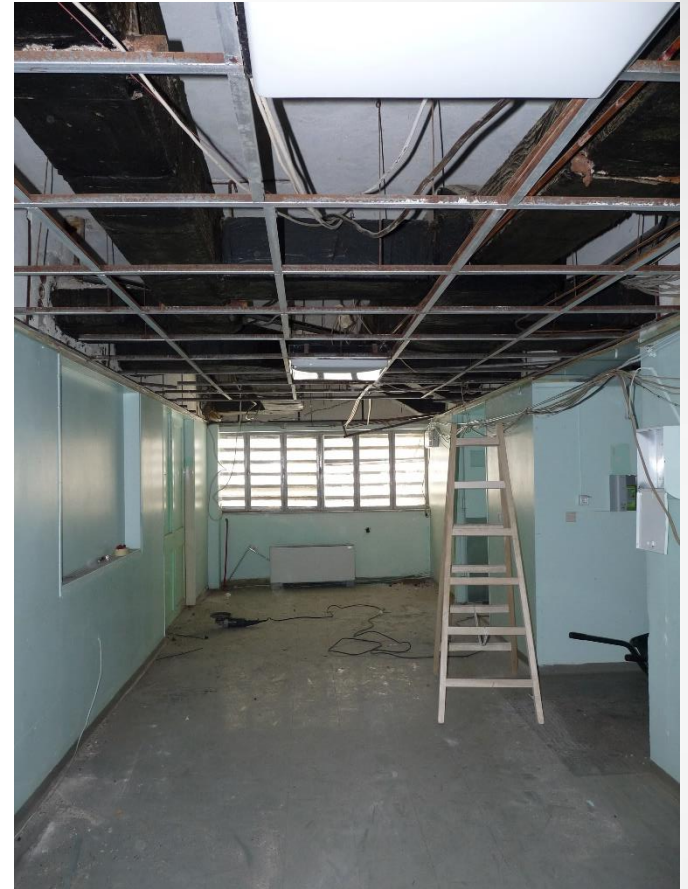


## Specialized Training Courses

- Joint Master Class for doctors
- Study Visits for medical staff



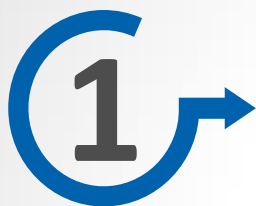
# MediciNet II (2017-2019)



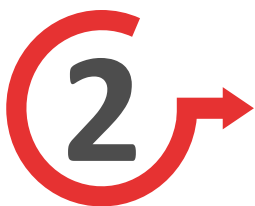
# The MediciNet projects – Lessons Learned <sup>(1/3)</sup>



Can cross-border cooperation provide better services to border citizens ?



*Common Borders  
Common Problems*



Address problems  
with common  
approach



Establish a stable  
cooperation.  
Exchange practices  
& knowledge.  
Share ideas.



Produce tangible &  
sustainable results



Advanced health  
services to cross  
border citizens.  
Reduction of  
human losses on  
emergencies.



# The MediciNet projects – Lessons Learned (2/3)



How can cross-border cooperation be further developed ?  
How is it possible to make economies of scale ?

**01**

Minimization of medical transportation

**02**

Interoperability of electronic Health Information Systems

**03**

Joint Action Plans on emergency and mass destructions management



# The MediciNet projects – Lessons Learned (3/3)



What are the Difficulties and Challenges for further development?

01

Language

02

Bureaucratic issues even for ambulance use across borders

03

EU eHealth initiatives are still in progress (epSOS, JAsEHN etc).  
HIS interoperability is still an issue in some countries





www.medicinet.eu



+30 25313 51340



Sismanoglou 45,  
Komotini, Greece



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Project MediciNet II website. The header includes the Interreg Greece-Bulgaria logo and a navigation menu with links: HOME, THE PROJECT, THE FRAMEWORK, NEWS & EVENTS, MEDICINET I, and CONTACT US. A large blue banner reads 'Welcome to Project MediciNet II' with the tagline 'Promoting health on successful grounds: Enhancing hospitals' cooperation on emergencies'. Below the banner, the text 'MediciNet II' is displayed in a large, stylized font. The main content area is divided into six sections, each with an icon and a title:

- Project Partners** (Hospital icon): Two hospitals, General Hospital of Komotini, Greece and MPHAT "Dr At. Dafovski" AD, Bulgaria continue their partnership, based on the successful cooperation during the MediciNet I project.
- Health Actions** (Stethoscope icon): Over 25 health action are planned to take place during the execution of the project, such as supply of medical equipment, training activities for doctors and citizens and development of a medical web app.
- Budget** (Euro symbol icon): The total budget of the MediciNet II project is 1.336.408€. The project is co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and national funds of Greece and Bulgaria.
- Duration** (Calendar icon): The total duration of the project is 24 months. The project started on 1st September 2017 and is expected to finish on 31st August 2019.
- Impact** (Group of people icon): The territorial responsibility of both hospitals covers a total population of 264.847 people, being the principal health institutions in the districts of Rhodopi, Greece and Kardzhali, Bulgaria.
- Participating Countries** (Globe icon): The project is being implemented in the frameworks of the European Territorial Cooperation Programme "Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020".



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# RISK: Emergency Rescue Cooperation on the BG/RO Border

**Ms Corina Marcian**

General Inspectorate for Emergency  
situation, Romania



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# „Joint Risk Monitoring during Emergencies in the Danube Area Border” - MIS ETC code 166



**Common borders. Common solutions.**

**Module 1: PREVENTION** - developing and printing of joint manual "Good practices for risk prevention in the Danube border area, joint training seminar and information campaign.

**Module 2: INTERVENTION** - The improvement of preparedness and intervention in emergencies, efficient prevention, monitoring and limiting the consequences of disasters and fighting against pollution agents in the eligible area of the Programme. The improvement of the answer in the field of prevention and managing emergency situations along with the identification of common solutions for decreasing the risks.

**Module 3: CONTROL** - implementing a common system for rapid communication when the accidents occur; organization and holding of joint procedures and inspections for control of pollution after accidents

**Module 4: MONITORING** - development of procedures for joint notification and actions in risk environmental components pollution in the Danube border area

**Module 5: RISK ASSESSMENT** - assessment the water state in the Bulgarian-Romanian part of the Danube river and development measures for reduction the risks of it contamination.

**Target group** - population from the eligible area, public institutions with responsibilities in emergency situations management, stakeholders, media.

**Budget** - 11,508,928.63 Euro

**Duration** - 48 months



# Indicative Operation

- Joint natural and technological risk prevention
- Joint monitoring actions for preventing the devastating disaster (natural of man made)/
- Joint monitoring teams for the identified regional disasters
- Joint procedure for disaster monitoring and intervention
- Joint table-top and field exercises
- Joint early warning and emergency response activities
- A better technical endowment for the intervention teams
- Share data and exchanging information between the two states

## MODULE 2 - INTERVENTION

**Partners:** IGSU/Project Leader

FSCPDG/Partner 2

**Budget:** 5 958 695,26 Euro



**Objective:** Improvement of the emergency preparedness and intervention, efficient prevention, monitoring and disaster consequences mitigation and fight for combating pollution of environmental factors in the eligible area

## ACTIVITIES

3 workshops - establishing the terms of reference for the Fesability Study

Fesability Study elaborated in three languages - RO, EN, BG



## ACTIVITIES

3 workshops - drafting the Glossary of Terms in three languages RO, EN, BG - 2000 copies printed and distributed to the target group from the eligible area



## ACTIVITIES



7 workshops - drafting the Joint notification, monitoring and intervention procedures in three languages RO, EN, BG - 2000 copies printed and distributed to the target group from the eligible area

## ACTIVITIES

3 workshops - drafting the Brochure for the Population in RO language - 70000 copies printed and distributed to the target group from the eligible area



## ACTIVITIES

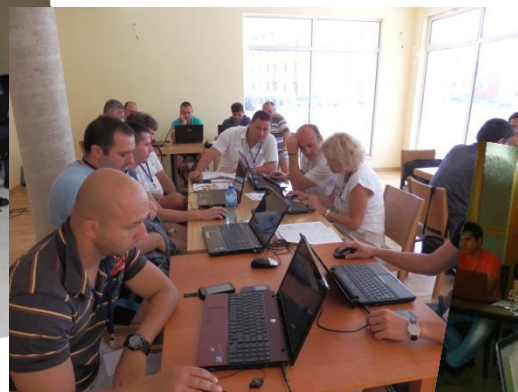
3 workshops - drafting the Brochure for the Population in BG language - 30000 copies printed and distributed to the target group from the eligible area



# ACTIVITIES

1 Best practice seminar

10 Joint training sessions





## ACTIVITIES

- 1 Joint table top exercise (in România and Bulgaria)
- 1 Joint field exercise (in România and Bulgaria)
- 1 Hot wash-up meeting at the end of the exercise
- 1 Lessons learned seminar to evaluate the exercise



# „JRM 2014” EXERCISE - IGSU



# „JRM 2014” EXERCISE - IGSU/FSCPDG



# „JRM 2014” EXERCISE - IGSU/FSCPDG





## ACTIVITIES

### Information and publicity measures

- press conferences and press releases
- articles published in the newspapers
- web page
- roll-up banners
- banners
- explanatory plaques



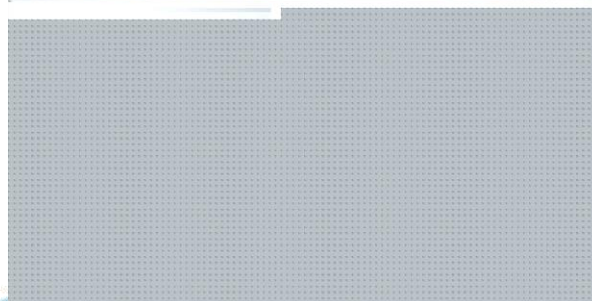
## ACTIVITIES

- promotional materials (folder, ballpoint pen, flyer, bracelet, t-shirt, cap, bag, memory-stick, bussiness card holder) distributed in the eligible area





# ACTIVITIES





## ACTIVITIES

### Public procedure procurement

- equipment and technical means
- IT equipment
- promotional materials
- office supplies



## TECHNICAL MEANS AND EQUIPMENTS - IGSU

Special vehicle for personnel decontamination - 1piece

Special vehicle for technical decontamination - 1piece

Special vehicle for high rescue - 1 piece

Pyrotechnics individual protection suits - 7 pieces

Medium Fire fighting vehicle (water and foam) - 4 pieces

Special vehicle for under water rescue (equipment transport and team) - 1 piece

Equipment for rescue and transfer using aerial means - 1 piece





# TECHNICAL MEANS IGSU



# TECHNICAL MEANS IGSU



# EQUIPMENTS IGSU



## TECHNICAL MEANS AND EQUIPMENTS - DG FSCP



Medium Fire fighting vehicle (water and foam) - 6 pieces

Medium extrication special vehicles (for extrication of victims/casualties in accidents) - 3 pieces

Mobile sampling and testing laboratory HAZMAT - 1 piece



## What happened:

| No. | Technical means and equipment                                         | Quantity | Number of worked hours | <u>Number of persons saved /that benefit from the service</u> |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.  | Special vehicle for personnel decontamination                         | 1        | 220                    | 2000                                                          |
| 2.  | Special vehicle for technical decontamination                         | 1        | 341                    | 62% from the technical means and equipment                    |
| 3.  | Special vehicle for high rescue                                       | 1        | 211                    | 1200                                                          |
| 4.  | Pyrotechnics individual protection suits                              | 7        | 143                    | -                                                             |
| 5.  | Medium fire fighting vehicle (water and foam)                         | 4        | 2354                   | 729                                                           |
| 6.  | Special vehicle for under water rescue (equipment transport and team) | 1        | 699                    | 29                                                            |
| 7.  | Equipment for rescue and transfer using aerial means                  | 1        | 150                    | 72                                                            |

**Over 4000 persons directly helped/saved by our project**

**Thank you for your attention!**

**Corina MARCIAN - External Funding Projects Department/IGSU**



**[www.cbcromaniabulgaria.eu](http://www.cbcromaniabulgaria.eu)**

**Investing in your future!**

**Romania - Bulgaria Cross Border Cooperation Programme is  
co-financed by the European Union through the European Regional Development Fund**



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# Smart Specialization on the GR/BG Border

**Ms Natasha Zarankova**

Business Incubator | Gotse Delchev,  
Entrepreneurship Promotion Centre,  
Bulgaria



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European Territorial Cooperation Programme  
**Greece-Bulgaria 2007-2013**

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and National Funds of Greece and Bulgaria



# Project

## “Plan for Regional Smart Specialization for Promoting Competitiveness, Research and Innovation”

### *Smart Specialization*

Strategic project  
Period: 2013-2015  
10 partners  
Entire cross-border  
region GR-BG

Providing a preview of European **Regional Innovation trends** for 2014-2020 programming period, by presenting the **concept of Smart Specialization** and its potential **impact on regional development**. Identifying **targeted investment priorities** for the Interregional area and **targeted actions** to support the **excellence of entrepreneurship, research and innovation**.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
REGION OF CENTRAL MACEDONIA



MINISTRY OF  
MACEDONIA  
AND THRACE



THESSALONIKI CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY



BUSINESS INCUBATOR  
GOTSE DELCHEV



ΔΗΜΟΣ  
ΚΟΡΑΕΙΟΥ  
ΕΥΟΣΜΟΥ



ΕΠΙΜΕΛΗΤΗΡΙΟ  
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РЕГИОНАЛНО СДРУЖЕНИЕ НА ОБЩИНИТЕ  
МАРИЦА  
MARITSA



## Research and Analysis

### *Strategic framework:*

- Policies, CB Programmes
- BG-GR Cross border cooperation impact

### *Strategies for Smart Specialization:*

- National and Regional RIS3
- EU trends

### *SME's:*

- State of the art
- Needs of innovation

## Findings

### *Priority sectors at CB level:*

- Informatics and ICT
- Sustainable Innovative Tourism and Recreation
- Innovative Agriculture
- Creative industries

### *CB challenges & constraints:*

- Low access to innovation
- Insufficient Innovation Funding
- Workforce quality, qualification and skills
- Lack of strong and effective connection research & apply science – business
- Common CB structure
- Lack of CB e -governance

## Specific Actions

### *At strategic level:*

- Proposed complex of measures
- Innovative trends

### *At level business environment*

- Created network of stakeholders
- Added value to entrepreneurship support structures

### *At level business:*

- Promoted innovations & smart specialization
- Good practice exchange
- SMEs' mobility
- Innovative services

## Suggested cross-border interventions

### Innovations

- CB Funding for innovations
- CB Cooperation research <-> business

### Unification of Legal frameworks BG/GR region

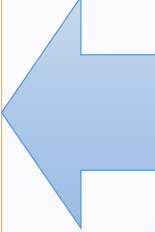
- CB Legislation for starting /doing business
- Public procurement process

### CB E-governance

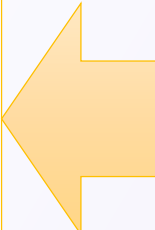
- e-services
- employment

### Workforce & human capital

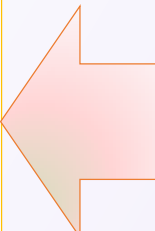
- Interaction in Education systems BG/GR
- Skills <-> needs of the business
- Youth involvement in innovation
- Social Innovation



United CB structure supporting business - Interregional Entrepreneurship Zone



Innovative Educational learning system



Youth supporting cross-border business structures



CB Small fund for innovative business ideas



European Territorial Cooperation Programme  
**Greece-Bulgaria 2007-2013**

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[www.smartspecial.eu](http://www.smartspecial.eu)

Thank you for your attention

Rositsa Djambazova

Natasha Zarankova

***Business Incubator - Gotse Delchev,  
Entrepreneurship Promotion Centre***



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[www.bi-gd.org](http://www.bi-gd.org)    [bi\\_gd@abv.bg](mailto:bi_gd@abv.bg)



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# Employment Cooperation on the RO/BG Border: the Case of SEM Centres

**Mr Gabriel Cătălin Vlăduț**  
ARIES Oltenia, Romania



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EUROPEAN UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE!



GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA



GOVERNMENT OF BULGARIA



# Employment Cooperation on the RO/BG Border: the Case of SEM Centers

**Cross-border Sustainable Employment Centres in the fields of information technologies, tourism and agriculture,**

**Project Code 16.4.2.077,**

**Co-financed by the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme**

**Dr. Eng. Gabriel Vladut**

**Cross Border Association E(quilibrum) - President**



**[www.interregrobg.eu](http://www.interregrobg.eu)**

# Project partners

- Cross Border Association E(quilibrium) - C.B.A.E.E. - Lead Beneficiary
- National Tourism Cluster “Bulgarian Guide” (NTC BG Guide) - Beneficiary 2
- *Regional Agribusiness Centre-Vidin /RABC/ - Beneficiary 3*

## Project activities

- *Emerging occupations in the fields of agriculture, tourism and IT in the CB area*

Based on the public available information sources, was determined the **labor market framework** and economic environment in the CB-region with strong focus on the target sectors - tourism, agriculture and IT. Was comprised the resources of the region and analyzed the obstacles for successful investments and economic development. The paper looked for business niches and sources of employment in the CB-area.

A selected joint team of sociologists/researchers/sociology agencies identified and approached a broad group of unemployed, job-seekers and social vulnerable groups. Also inside the activity was elaborated a “Strategy for supporting investments and employment opportunities in the CB-region in view of the synergies between the SEM-sectors”.



# Project activities

## ➤ *Legal and tax framework for creating a business in the CB region*

Inside the activity were elaborated two separate Guides: “Doing business in CB-region” and “Labor conditions and regulations in the CB-region”. The Guides reveal the legal and tax framework in both countries and will focus on topics such as social security, taxes, unemployment, recognition of diplomas and qualifications, labour rights, vocational trainings, self-employment, employment opportunities, etc.

Through this manuals was increased the understanding of the product and labor markets and facilitate the business initiatives by providing structured and accessible knowledge on the legal and tax framework.

The guides were distributed to job-seekers, employers, trade unions, local authorities, institutions, schools, etc. along the cross-border region.



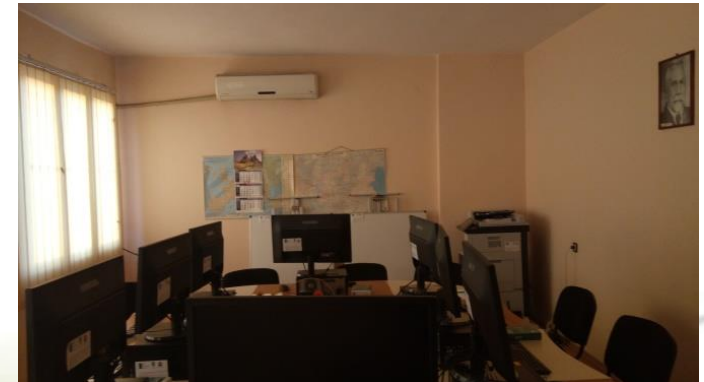
## ➤ *Establishment of cross-border SEM - Centers*

Were established 2 cross-border sustainable employment centers. Within the activity, equipment has been purchased to set up a physical center in order to help people looking for a job by facilitating access to the necessary information. A cross-border center is located in Craiova and one in Vidin.

Craiova



Vidin



# Project activities

## ➤ *Trainings in Sustainable Employment in the CB region*

Training courses in IT, tourism and agriculture in the cross-border region (Vidin, Pleven, Dobrich in Bulgaria and Craiova and Calarasi - Romania). Two training sessions in IT were organized in Craiova and Calarasi, Romania on agriculture in Vidin and Pleven and a tourism training session in Dobrich, Bulgaria. Also were organized 5 training sessions on the same fields as tourism, IT and agriculture.

*Pleven*



*Vidin*



*Dobrich*



*Craiova*



*Calarasi*

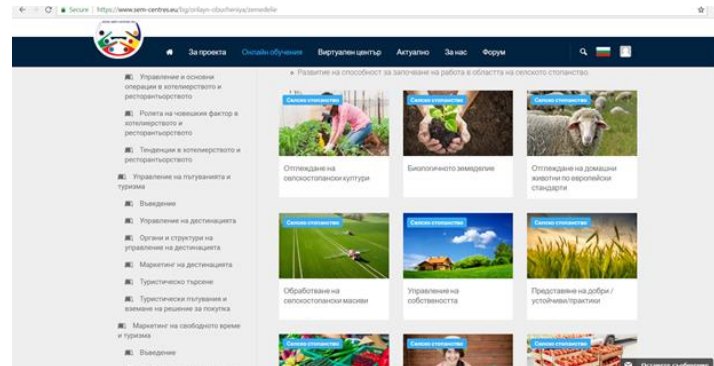
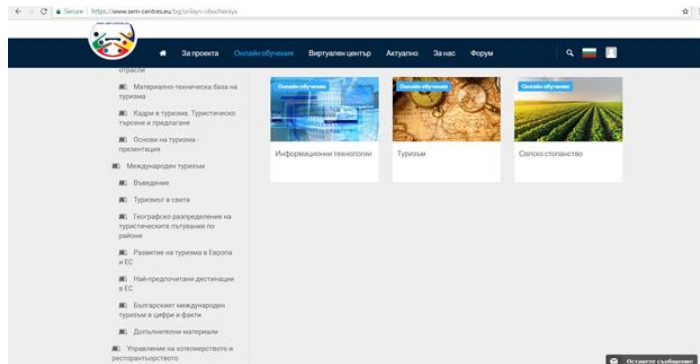


# Project activities

## ➤ *Design, creation and content management of an online training system*

Inside the activity 6 was created a platform which can be found at the adress [www.sem-centres.eu](http://www.sem-centres.eu). On this platforma the jobseekers, unemployed people can find informations usefull from the 3 domain: TIC, agriculture and tourism.

On the elaborated platform can be found all the materials elaborated inside the project.



# Project activities

## ➤ ***Joint labor exchange for organizations and job-applicants – Sustainable Employment Job-Fair***

One Sustainable Employment Cross-border Job Fair in Vidin will take place. It will present potential employers in the region and connect the business with the work force. The employers will present the career opportunities, the job seekers can apply for the open positions.

At least 15 employers will present their activities (from the entire CB region).

At the Job Fair will be invitees participants from the region in the fields of tourism, agriculture and IT.

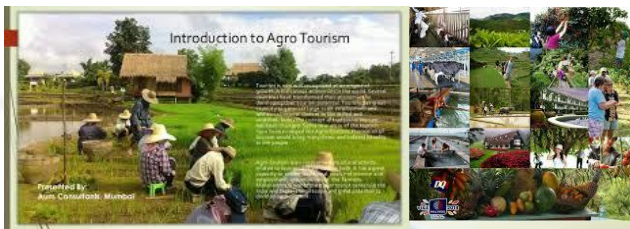
## ➤ ***Information and publicity Campaign***

The information and publicity activities were planned in order to promote the project among its stakeholders and wider community in the entire border region. Information and visibility campaign included:

- Promotional materials: brochures, T-shirts promoting the Sustainable Employment, flash memory storage devices, engraved key-chains, caps, folder, pens.
- Information events – final project press-conference in Craiova. 20 representatives of SMEs, NGOs, and district administrations will be invited to attend the conference in order widely to promote project results and deliverables.
- publications in media for the project events – press releases for Regional trainings, for the Job-fair.

# Conclusions

- The level of knowledge at cross-border area, are not so high.
- We need more Universities, High-Schools, Research Institutes, Clusters, Innovation Centers at cross-border area.
- The cross-border area need more companies with added value, base on research and innovation, with export activity.
- We highlight the value of integrating the labor market across the border.
- For this aim, to be an effective way to keep people where they come from and avoid brain drain we need to have common understanding and activities: B2B events, brokerage events during the Fairs, internships, practical activity at a cross-border companies, pilots.
- The key factors to work on to promote a more integrated labor market are: info-platforms, info services, labor offers, knowledge about the legislation on labor market, common methodologies, alignment of rules, more mutual recognition .
- Design, creation and content management of an efficient and accredited online training system.





EUROPEAN UNION

EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE!



GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA



GOVERNMENT OF BULGARIA



# Thank you for your kind attention!



[www.interregrobg.eu](http://www.interregrobg.eu)

The content of this material does not necessarily represents the official position of the European Union



# Q&A session



#EUBorderRegions



European  
Commission





# Lunch

Please be back at 13:00



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Commission





# BOOSTING GROWTH AND COHESION IN EU BORDER REGIONS

#EUBorderRegions

Drama, 25.10.2018



Regional and  
Urban Policy

# The Role of Governance



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European  
Commission



# Funding and Beyond: the Role of the Commission

**Mr Ricardo Ferreira**  
Border Focal Point team



ricardo.ferreira@ec.europa.eu



@RegioInterreg



#EUBorderRegions



European  
Commission



# A policy background

25 Years of INTERREG

=

Many achievements for Cross-Border Cooperation, via funding

But...

What else can be done?



## 2015 – Cross-Border Review

Consultation + Study (and inventory) + Stakeholders workshops

Need to promote Cross-Border Cooperation beyond funding



# Multi level engagement

- Two key success factors for the action plan:

## Horizontal cooperation:

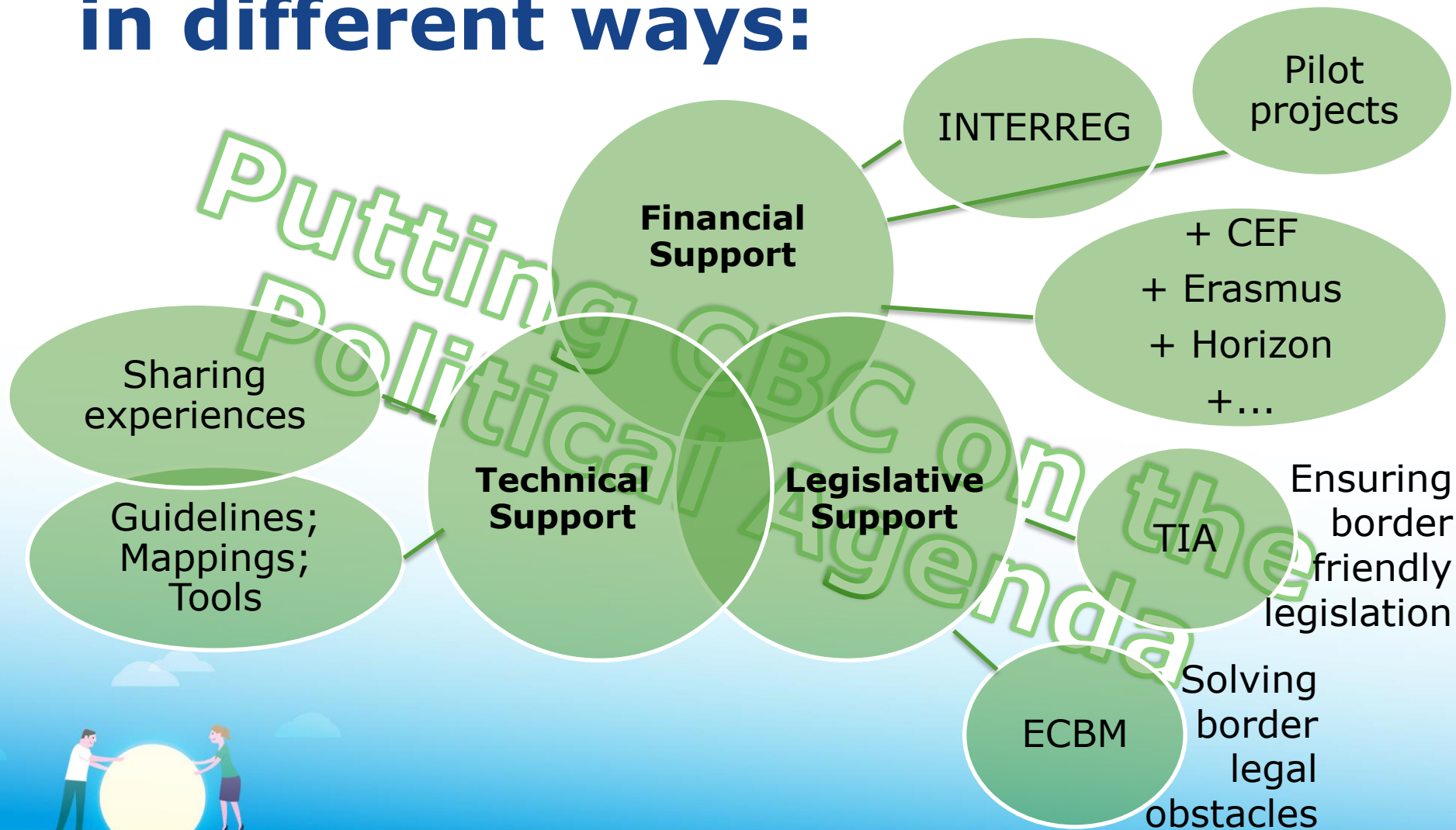
Different thematic areas in services  
(in EC => Different DGs)

## Vertical cooperation:

Engagement at European; National;  
Regional and Local levels



# EC supporting CB Cooperation in different ways:



#EUBorderRegions

# Some tools already available:

- B-Solutions – Pilot projects, to solve administrative and legal obstacles

## Legal obstacles:

*Incompatible legal (or administrative) dispositions on both sides of a border, hampering CB projects*



The infographic is titled "B-SOLUTIONS" and describes a project to tackle border obstacles. It features the European Commission logo at the top. The main text states: "Management of pilot projects to tackle border obstacles & difficulties along EU internal land borders". A circular graphic shows two people holding a large lightbulb. Below this, a section titled "About" explains the initiative's origin and goals. A row of icons represents various fields: Employment, Health, Multilingualism, Public transport of passengers, and Institutional cooperation. A map of Europe is shown with various icons indicating project locations and themes. The bottom right corner includes logos for the Regional and Urban Policy and the B-SOLUTIONS project.

**B-SOLUTIONS**  
Management of pilot projects to tackle border obstacles & difficulties along EU internal land borders

**About**  
An Initiative promoted by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) and managed by the Association of European Border Regions (AEBR).  
A pilot project to collect concrete & replicable actions which aim at identifying & testing solutions to cross-border obstacles of a legal and administrative nature on EU internal land borders in 5 fields:

Employment Health Multilingualism Public transport of passengers Institutional cooperation

Regional and Urban Policy  
B-SOLUTIONS

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# Some tools already available, Health sector:

- Mapping of cross-border cooperation in the health sector
- Including toolkit to trigger new cooperation projects
- Conference  
4/12/2018 - Brussels



## Study on Cross-Border Cooperation

Capitalising on existing initiatives for cooperation in  
cross-border regions

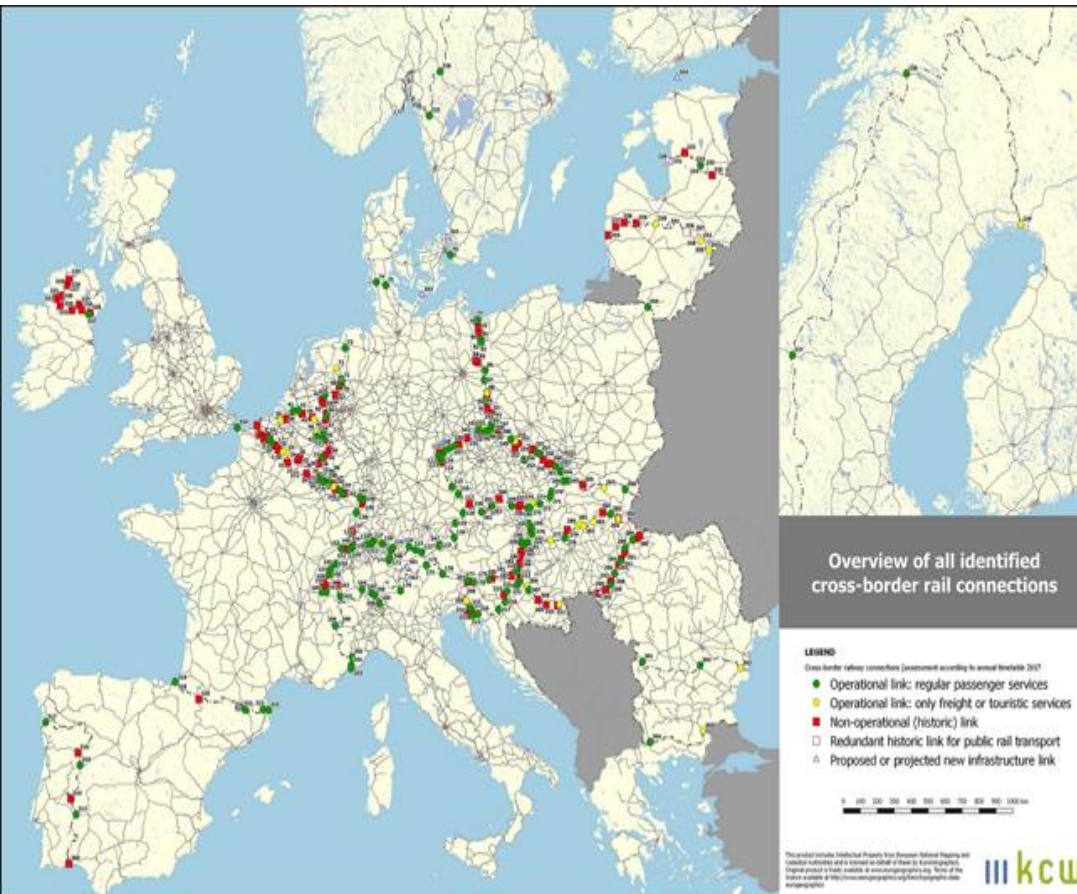
Cross-border.Care 

[https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/cross\\_border\\_care/docs/2018\\_crossbordercooperation\\_frep\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/cross_border_care/docs/2018_crossbordercooperation_frep_en.pdf)

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# Some tools already available, Transport sector:



- Inventory of cross-border missing links;
- List of 48 "potentially most promising projects"
- One fiche per project

Comprehensive analysis of the existing cross-border rail transport connections and missing links on the internal EU borders

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/information/publications/reports/2018/comprehensive-analysis-of-the-existing-cross-border-rail-transport-connections-and-missing-links-on-the-internal-eu-borders](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/reports/2018/comprehensive-analysis-of-the-existing-cross-border-rail-transport-connections-and-missing-links-on-the-internal-eu-borders)

# Some other steps already taken:

Methodologies for  
Territorial Impact  
Assessment

Promotion of  
informa

Promotion of eGov in Cross-  
Border regions – Link with  
European eGov Action Plan

Support material for Employment  
Services in Cross Border regions

Promotion of Cross-Border  
multilingualism

European Cross-border  
mechanism proposal

Study on Cross-border  
data collection  
methodologies

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Commission

# How can I keep track of all this tools?

"...EC will establish an EU wide...  
...**online professional network**..."

"Boosting EU Border Regions"

[https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/  
border-regions](https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/border-regions)

In  
this  
QR



*"...where legal and administrative border  
issues can be presented and discussed  
between border stakeholders."*

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# Thank you!



ricardo.ferreira@ec.europa.eu



@RegionInterreg



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# BOOSTING GROWTH AND COHESION IN EU BORDER REGIONS

#EUBorderRegions

Drama, 25.10.2018



Regional and  
Urban Policy

# The Role of the National Level: the Hungarian Case

**Mr Gyula Ocksay**

Central European Service for Cross-Border Cooperation (CESCI)



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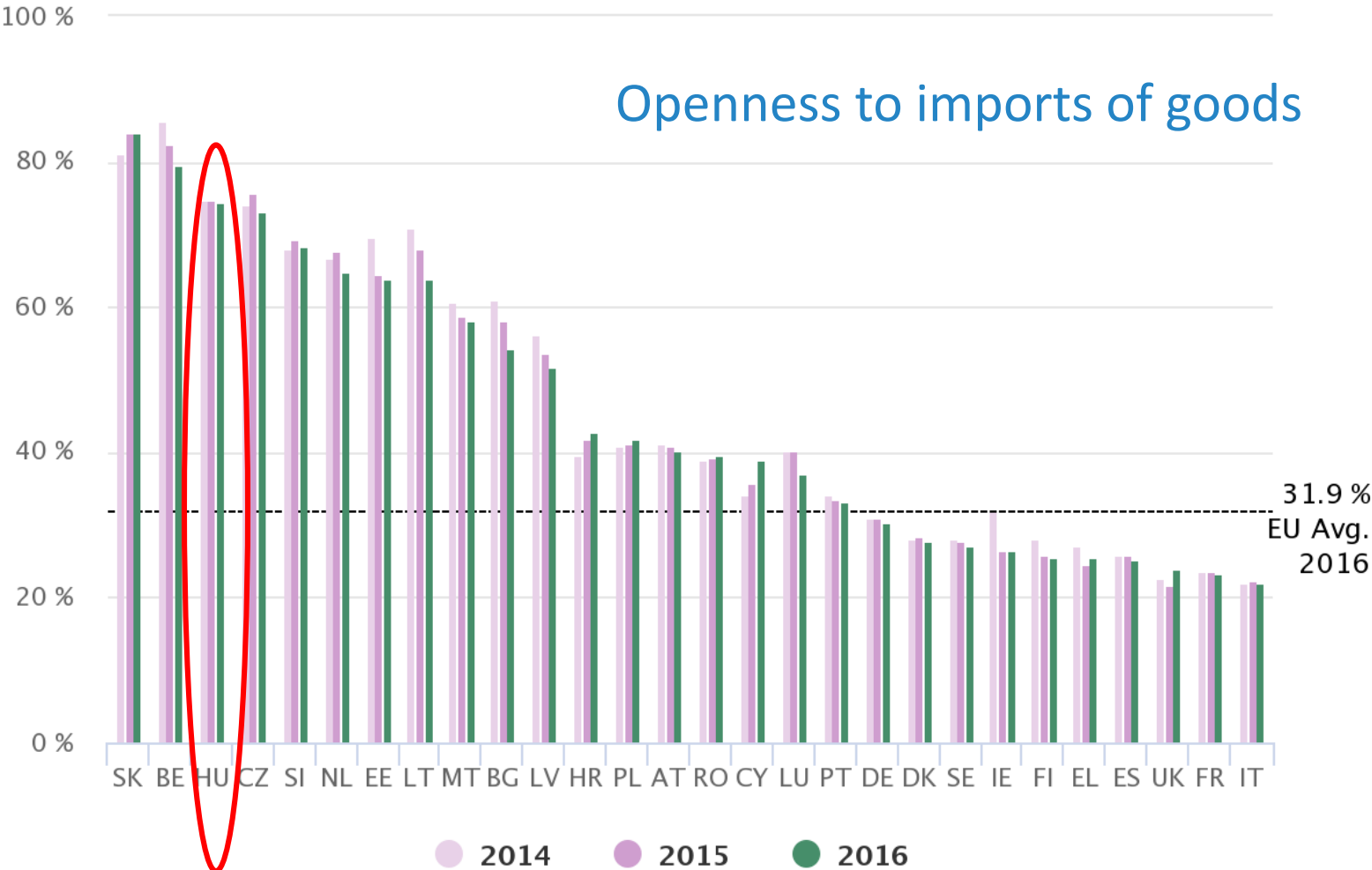


# The Role of the National Level: The Hungarian Case

Drama, 25 October 2018

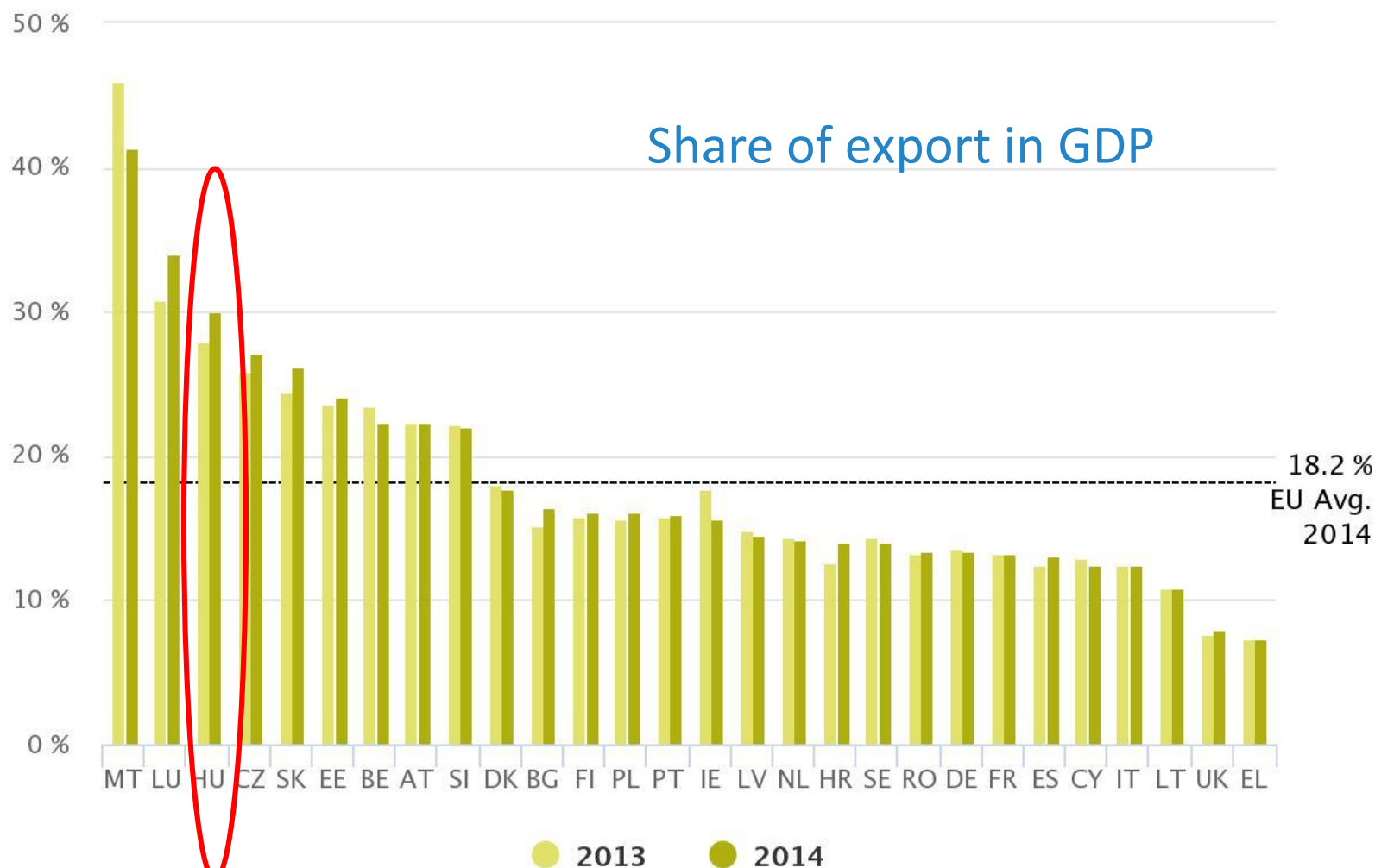


(1) Hungarian is one of the most open economies in the EU.

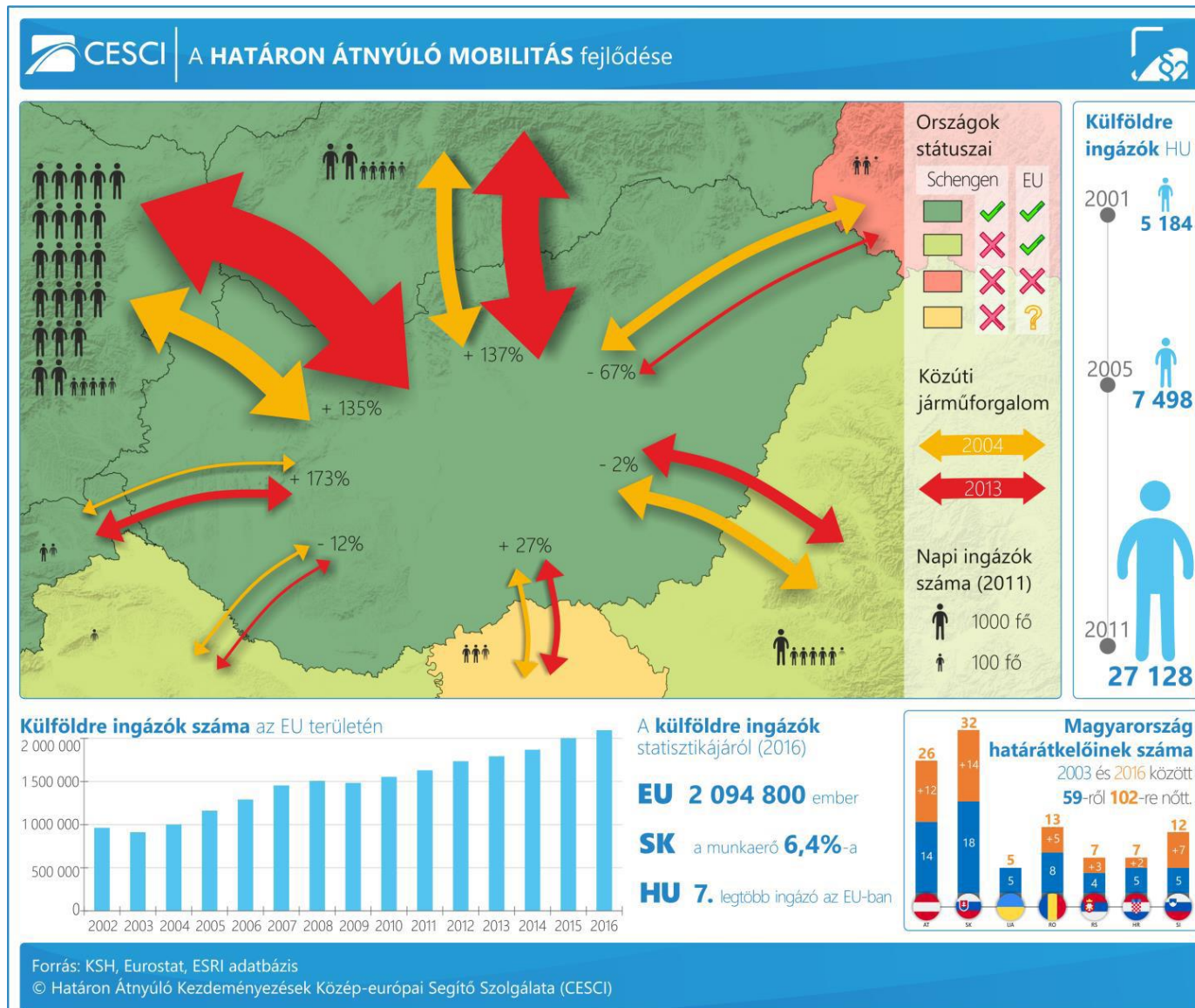




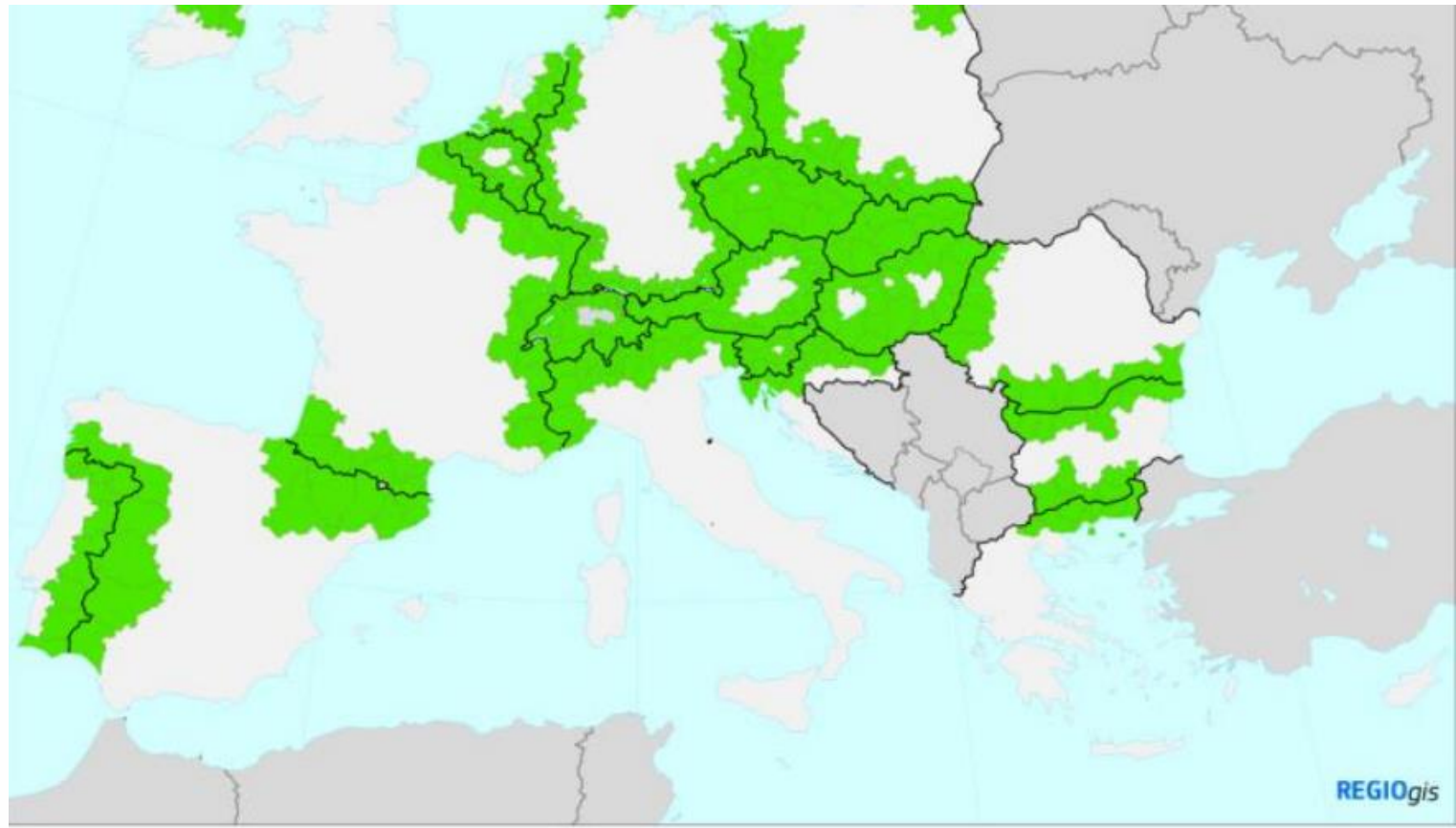
(1) Hungarian is one of the most open economies in the EU.



## (2) The volume of cross-border commuting reaches 150 000.



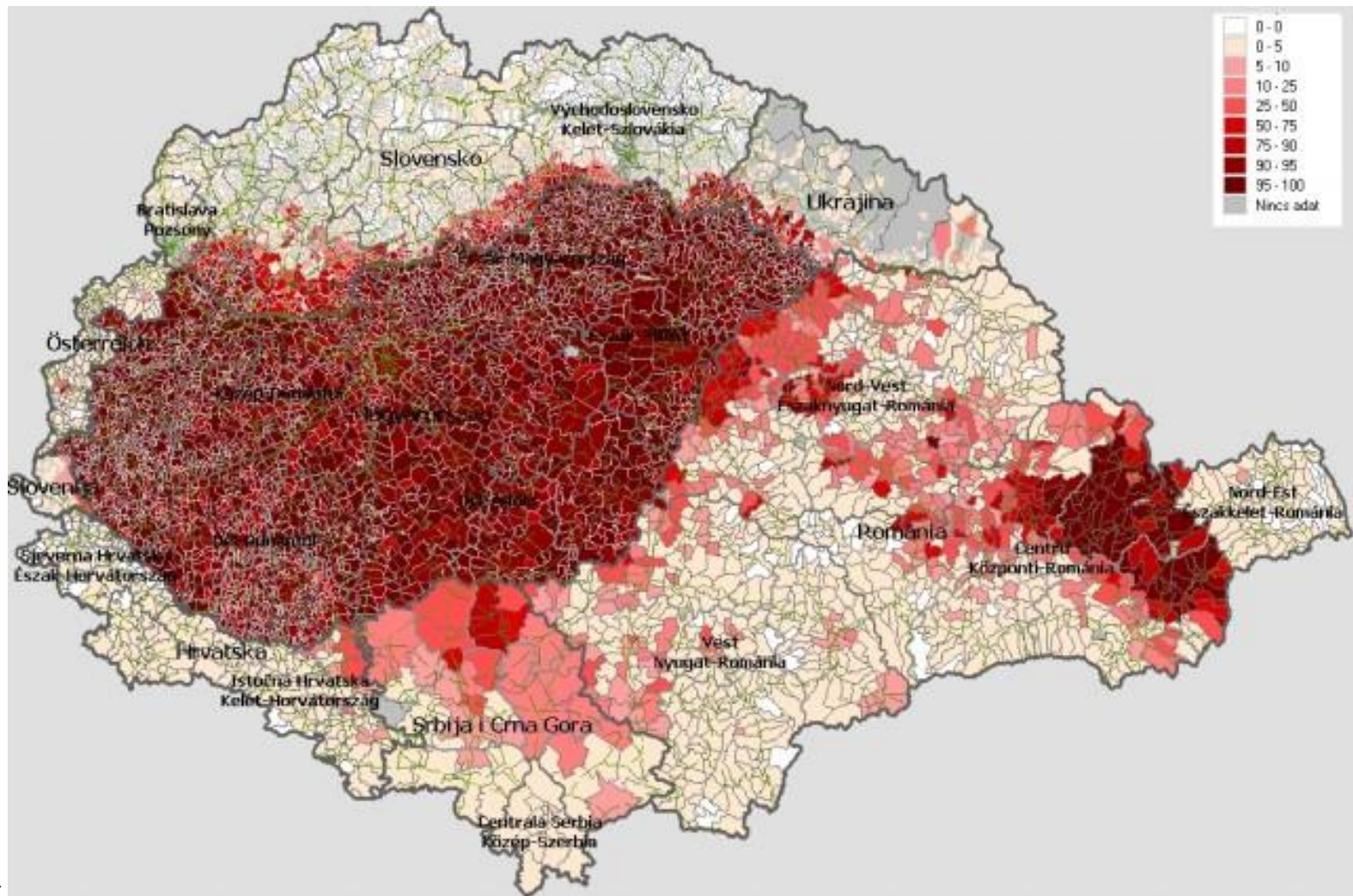
(3) Hungary is a relatively small country where almost everyone lives in a border area.



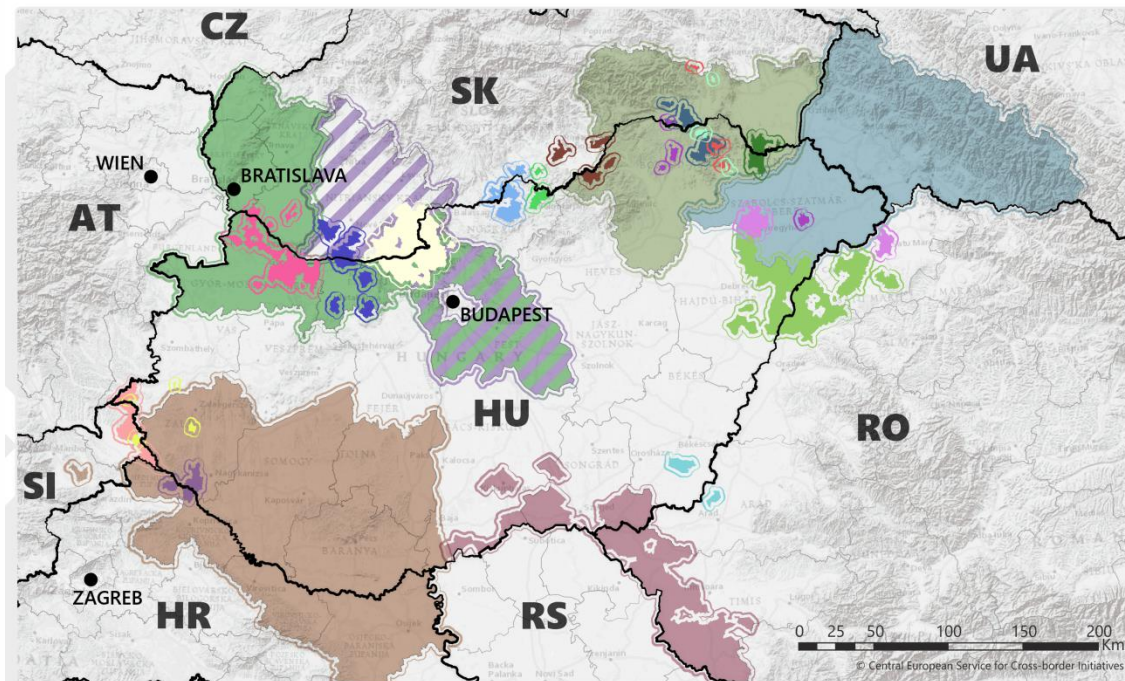
**Terrestrial border regions along internal EU28 and EFTA borders**

 Terrestrial NUTS3 border regions

(4) Nearly 2,5 M Hungarian people are living in the neighbouring countries.



## (5) Lively cross-border para-diplomacy and CBC.



### HU-SK BORDER

- ABAÚJ-ABAÚJBAN EGTC
- Arrabona EGTC
- BODROGKÖZI EGTC
- Ister-Granum EGTC
- Ipöly-völgye EGTC
- Novohrad – Nógrád EGTC
- Pons-Danubii EGTC
- PONTIBUS EGTC
- Rába-Danube-Váh EGTC

- Sajó - Rima/Slaná - Rimava EGTC
- Svinka EGTC
- Torysa EGTC
- Ung-Tisza-Túr-Sajó EGTC
- Via Carpatia EGTC

### HU - UA BORDER

- Tisza EGTC

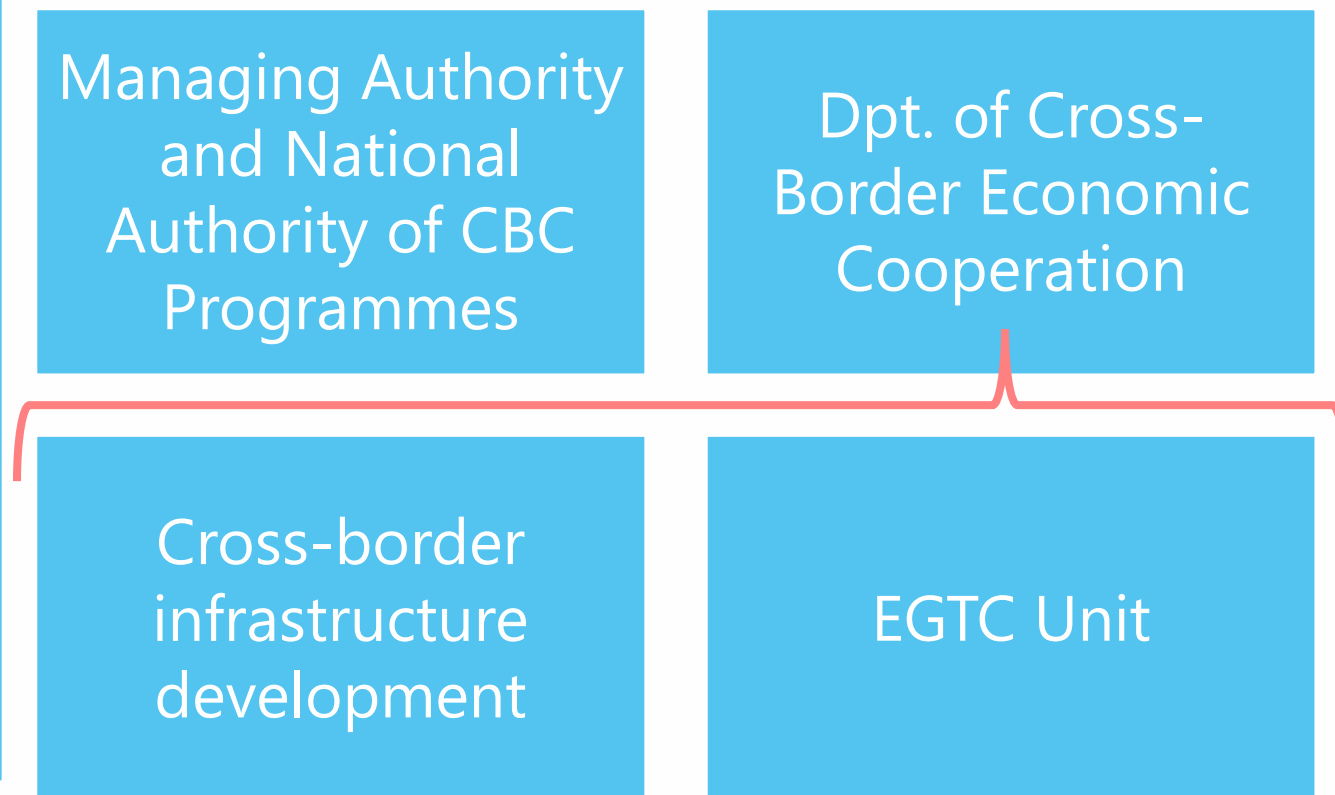
### HU-RO BORDER

- Banat-Triplex Confinium EGTC
- European Border Cities EGTC
- European Common Future Building EGTC
- Gate to Europe EGTC

### HU - HR - SI BORDER

- MASH EGTC
- Mura Region EGTC
- MURABA EGTC
- Pannon EGTC

- **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade**
- Deputy State Secretary of Regional and Cross-Border Economic Cooperation



## **INTERREG V-A, IPA CBC and ENI**

- National co-financing as advance payment
- Advance payment for ERDF contribution (from 50 to 100%)
- Application of innovative tools in the programmes (SPF managed by EGTCs, strategic projects, B Light scheme, TAPE)

## **LEGAL ACCESSIBILITY**

- Support for the ECBM instrument
- Obstacle management mechanism under development at V4 level + CESCI projects

## **EGTC POLICY**

- Among the first MSs adapting the EGTC Regulation (in 2007) and its amendments (in 2014)
- EGTC policy (2010 – government decree)
- EGTC fund since 2011 (750 000 EUR in 2019)
- Service support project
- EGTC workshop
- Annual conference of EGTC approval authorities
- Pálfi István Award

## THE ROLE OF CESCI

- Researches and studies
- Integrated cross-border strategies
- Cross-border programming
- Institutional development (12 EGTCs)
- Project development
- Participation in policy making (e.g. *Legal accessibility*)
- Awareness raising and knowledge transfer

Thank you for your kind attention!

[gyula.ocskay@cesci-net.eu](mailto:gyula.ocskay@cesci-net.eu)

[www.cesci-net.eu](http://www.cesci-net.eu)



# BOOSTING GROWTH AND COHESION IN EU BORDER REGIONS

#EUBorderRegions

Drama, 25.10.2018



Regional and  
Urban Policy

# CoE Supporting Capacity Building for Cross- border Cooperation

**Ms Alina Tatarenko**  
Council of Europe



#EUBorderRegions



European  
Commission





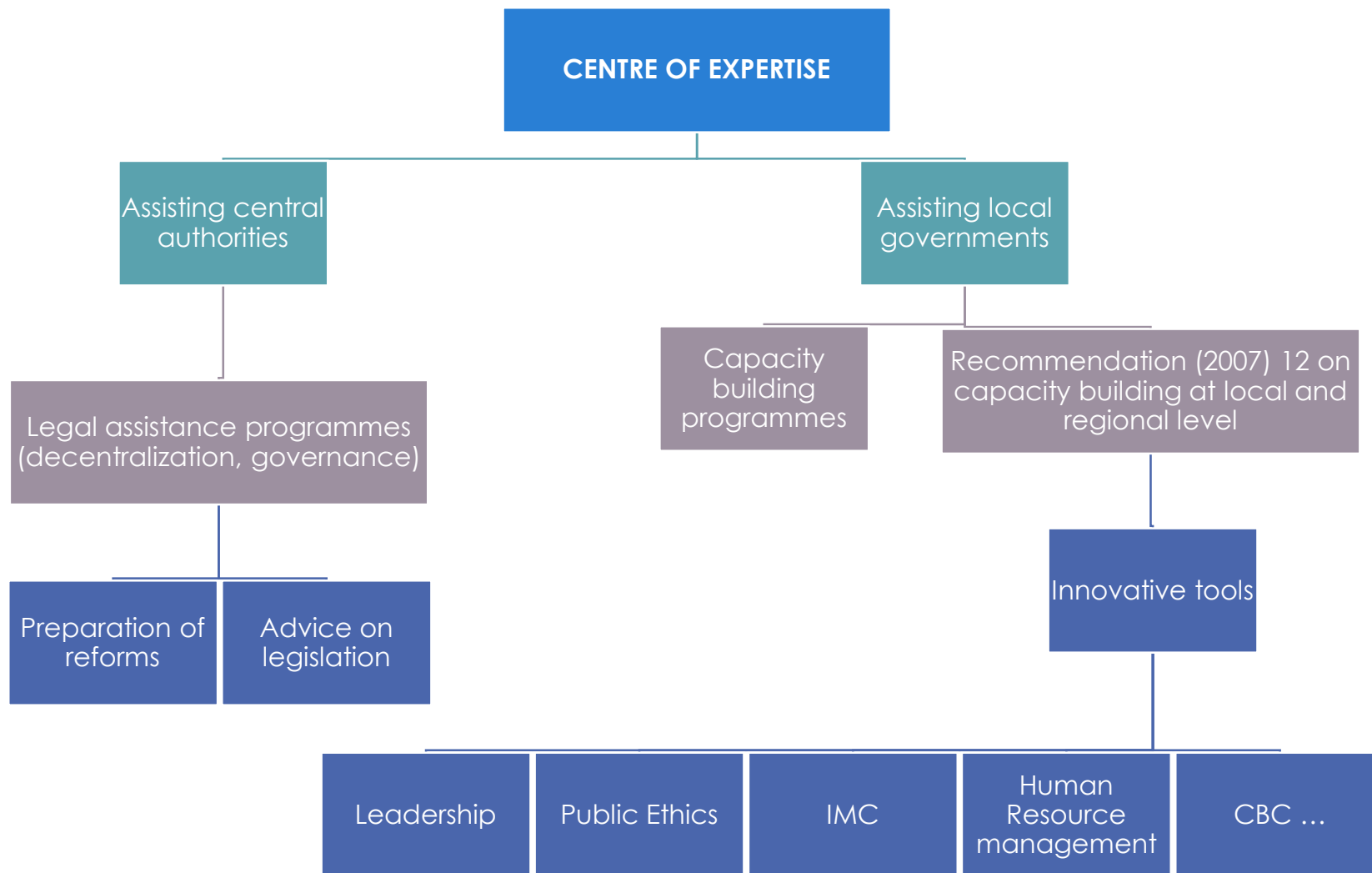
# Centre of Expertise for Local Government Reform

Alina Tatarenko  
Head of the Centre of Expertise



CENTRE OF EXPERTISE  
FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM





## AVAILABLE LEGAL FRAMEWORKS

Madrid Convention and Additional Protocols



## UNDERSTANDING CBC

Cross-Border Cooperation Toolkit (2012)



## REMOVING OBSTACLES TO CBC

MANUAL ON REMOVING OBSTACLES TO CBC (2013)

EDEN <https://www.coe.int/en/web/good-governance/eden>



## STAKEHOLDERS' ENGAGEMENT IN CBC

EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE OF CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION IN CROSS-BORDER GOVERNANCE (2015)



## CBC LEADERSHIP

C2C, Participation, URSO, Toolkit for CBC Practitioners

Leadership Academy Programme (LAP) for CBC



- The European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Co-operation between Territorial Communities or Authorities introduces, for the first time at international level, **the possibility for geographically contiguous local authorities from different countries to cooperate** with each other and to accomplish agreements.
- The Convention does not establish a "right" of local authorities in such cooperation, but rather **an obligation for the states (as contractors) to "facilitate and promote" cross-border cooperation of local authorities.**
- CBC is defined as any concerted action designed to strengthen and promote neighbourly relations between local communities and authorities belonging to two contracting states.
- **CBC may take place within the jurisdiction (i.e. competences and powers) which local authorities have under applicable domestic law** (Art. 2, § 1). The Contracting States may (Art. 2, § 2) indicate to which local authorities the Convention is (or is not) applicable and in which fields local authorities can engage in CBC. Thus, the scope of CBC may be limited when compared to the competences and powers that local authorities have under constitutional or national law.
- States are able to list those local authorities to which the Convention applies or does not apply. States may subordinate local communities and authorities' right to cooperate across borders to the signature of bilateral agreements (treaties) between States (Art. 3, § 2), identifying the entities concerned as well as the subjects and the modalities of such cooperation.

**MADRID  
OUTLINE  
CONVENTION  
1980**

- The Additional Protocol aims to complete the Madrid Outline Convention with **provisions on the possibility for local communities and authorities involved in CBC to sign agreements with their counterparts across borders** (Art.s 1 and 2, § 3, § 1 of the Convention). Such agreements may include the purpose, content and arrangements of CBC, yet within the above-mentioned restrictions (i.e. compliance with domestic law).
- These agreements, however, may also be **designed to create structures, organisations, institutions in which the institutions concerned pursue and implement their cooperation**. These structures can be more or less complex, temporary or permanent, or may not have an institutional, legal personality, etc.
- The Additional Protocol to the Madrid Outline Convention responds to concrete CBC developments. **Local communities and authorities engaging in CBC activities across borders tend to develop CBC arrangements to coordinate, promote and support CBC itself. Such structures serve as contact structures; they can promote ongoing dialogue between CBC partners, support information exchange, and establish common offices to carry out specific activities.** Finally, such structures play a symbolic role strengthening the CBC framework and enhancing its visibility.

Additional  
Protocol  
1995

1. Protocol No. 2 defines interterritorial cooperation as any concerted action designed to establish relations between territorial communities or authorities of two or more Contracting Parties, other than relations of transfrontier co-operation of neighbouring authorities, including the conclusion of co-operation agreements with territorial communities or authorities of other States.
2. The Madrid Outline Convention refers to transfrontier co-operation (i.e. CBC), that is, those forms of "concerted action" that can be put in place between neighbouring local authorities (i.e. "neighbourly relations"). It does not explicitly state that cooperation must take place between local authorities separated by the same border, but this can be deduced from the text and is also explained by the explanatory report to the Convention itself.
3. Experience has shown, however, that CBC activities may develop even among non-contiguous local authorities. This raised the issue of applicability of the Madrid Outline Convention to local authorities geographically distant from the border and located far from each other. Protocol No. 2 responds to this issue.
4. Interterritorial co-operation is made equivalent to transfrontier cooperation (Art. 3). In addition, local authorities that could not previously engage in such activities under the Madrid Outline Convention see that their right to promote discussions and agreements (in matters of common competence) is now recognised (Art. 2). Contracting States shall, on their part, undertake to recognise and respect this right.

Protocol  
No.2  
1998

1. Protocol No. 3 to the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Co-operation between Territorial Communities or Authorities provides the legal status and operational form of the constituent Euroregional Co-operation Groupings (ECGs).
2. ECGs may be composed of local authorities and other public agencies of member countries with the aim of putting into practice cross-border and inter-territorial cooperation in the areas covered by their role and responsibilities. States, from the moment of ratification of the Protocol, can indicate all those communities, local authorities, public law and private entities that they wish to exclude from the scope and applicability of the Protocol (Art. 16).
3. Protocol No. 3 allows for the establishment of CBC bodies with or without legal personality (in this case the protocol connects the legal personality to the law applicable in the state where the ECG has its headquarters). In addition, the Protocol provides the basic rules for the establishment, membership conditions, tasks and responsibilities of the ECG.
4. ECGs may be composed of territorial communities or authorities in Member States if one or more of their own communities or local authorities are already members. Other agencies with different legal personality may be part of the ECG

**Additional  
Protocol  
2009**

**CM/Rec(2007)12  
recommends  
the governments  
of member  
states are  
recommended  
to clearly  
recognise:**

The importance of local government capacity to deliver high quality local public services and to engage the inhabitants in the democratic functioning of local authorities;

That the capacity of local government hinges essentially on the skills of elected representatives, the corporate management capacity of the organisation, the workforce capacity (its skills, recruitment and retention) and financial and project management skills;

The importance of developing this capacity further.



## DEFINITION

Cross-border cooperation (CBC) is a concerted process of building neighbourly relationships between local stakeholders and authorities on either side of a border, with a view to overcoming such problems and fostering harmonious development of neighbouring communities.



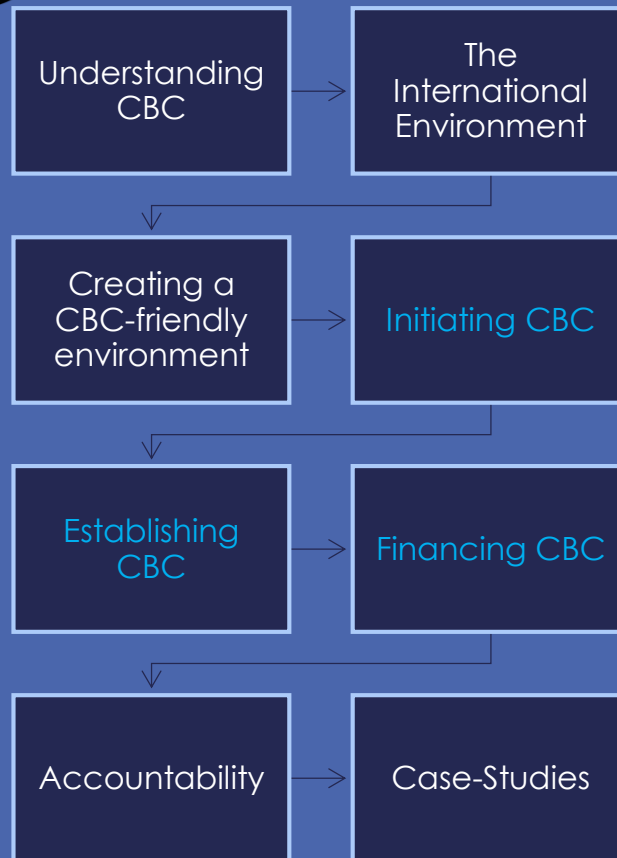
## OBJECTIVE

To provide a step-by-step guide on how to turn cross-border projects into concrete realities:

- how to carry out feasibility studies?
- how to finance cross-border projects?
- what types of obstacles may arise and how these can be overcome?
- how to nurture a cross-border friendly environment?



## STRUCTURE





## DEFINITION

The Toolkit was developed within the Leadership Academy Programme (LAP) as a specific training tool, providing trainers and trainees with knowledge, case-studies and exercises focusing on CBC.

The Leadership Academy Programme (LAP) is a learning and action course targeting senior officials and elected representatives of public organisation.



## OBJECTIVE

To provide an overview of existing tools and frameworks, while enriching them with new methods and instruments with a specific focus on training. The toolkit structure allows practitioners to better “decode” existing materials and stimulates them to increase their leadership skills in order to ensure efficient and sustainable CBC processes.



## STRUCTURE





## DEFINITION

City-to-City Cooperation is the full range of processes initiated by city institutions and civil society organisations engaging in international relations with the aim of representing themselves and their interests to one another.



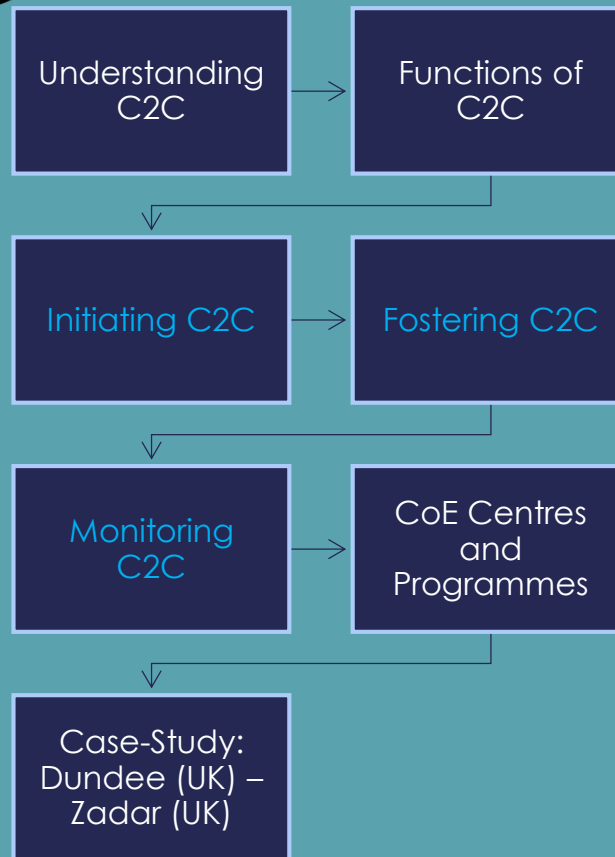
## OBJECTIVE

To provide a step-by-step guide on how to initiate and develop cooperative actions to the mutual benefit of the cities engaged in the process.

It support cities to identify the operative framework within which C2C action can originate, develop and be assessed from a goal-oriented perspective.



## STRUCTURE



E-DEN

ABOUT E-DEN

PARTICIPATE

USEFUL MATERIALS

CHANGE LOCATION

E-DEN

Contributors

Area of CBC

Search for

Country



COUNTRY

REGION

CITY

EVERYWHERE

Everywhere

Basel

Bratislava

Bregenz

Brussels, Brussels

Popular Categories



Administrative  
Cooperation



Education and  
Training



Mobility



Environment



Health



CENTRE OF EXPERTISE  
FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM



June 2012

# UNDERSTANDING CBC

# Cross-Border Cooperation Toolkit (2012)



Mobility and (public) transport

Health care

Education and Training

Labour market

Crisis and Disaster/Emergency Management

Crime prevention and Criminal Investigation

Environment

Finance

## BORDER MUNICIPALITIES

Overcoming peripheral positioning  
Share resources in addressing common problems  
Better management of common assets  
Better economies of scale  
Better access to external funding and expertise

## BORDER COMMUNITIES

Better accessibility to cross-border infrastructures and services  
Stronger civic participation opportunities  
Improved socio-cultural relations and networks across borders

## LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Economy

- Employment growth
- Investments
- Incubators
- Territorial Marketing

Environment

- Heritage preservation
- Crisis management
- Tourism

Culture

- Heritage promotion
- Education
- CSOs promotion

Infrastructure

- Utilities / Services
- Transport

## DIRECT

- Address (locally) joint border problems
- Improve opportunities for border municipalities to perform their functions
- Making the best of available Legal frameworks and tools
- Making the best of available funds

## INDIRECT

- Cross-border peer-to-peer and on-the-job learning
- Encouraging co-operative culture.
- Partnership working
- Strategic responsibilities
- Accountability and transparency
- Solidarity
- Fostering European citizenship
- Fostering citizens' sense of ownership of democratic institutions
- Stimulates IMC
- Stimulates PPP

Less dynamic decision-making

Over-elaborated CBC bodies

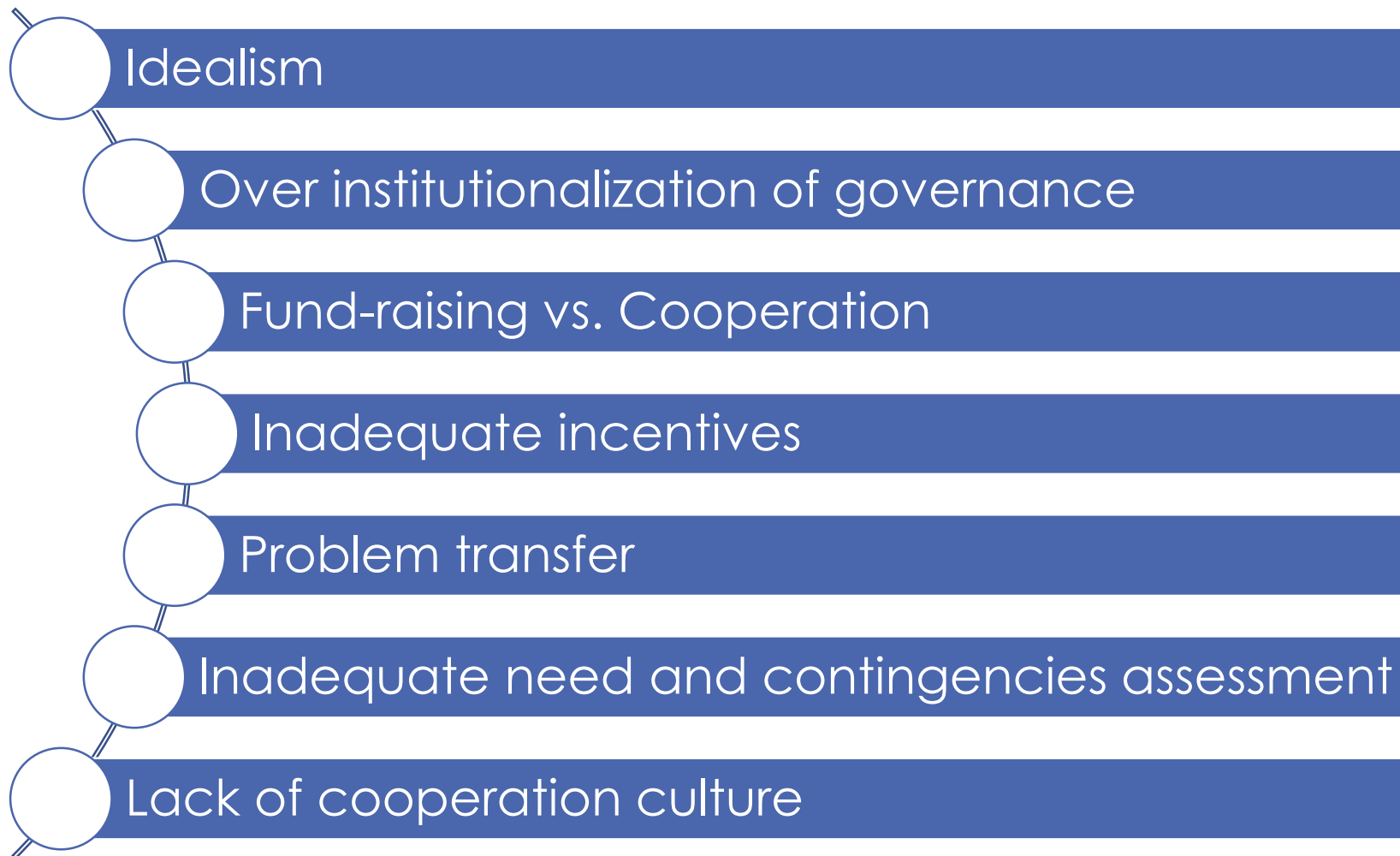
Democratic deficit

Harden (national) administrative borders

Weaken relations with national authorities

Political costs (i.e. sharing prestige)

Subject to politicisation



Strong political commitment

Joint technical team

Long-term integrated strategy

**PHASE 1**  
**Initiating CBC**

**PHASE 2**  
**Establishing CBC**

**PHASE 3**  
**Implementing and  
Evaluating CBC**

Are there specific provisions on CBC, whether national or international, that can be applied to the specific case?

YES

- What is allowed?
- What is prohibited?
- What actors can be involved?
- What is the eligible area for CBC?
- Is the scope of CBC action identified?
- Are the prerogatives of a possible CBC arrangement identified?

NO

- Is there any other legal provision which could provide a reference for CBC?
- Is there a history of cooperation?
- How are the objectives of cooperation defined?

- Can de facto tools under private law be used?
- Is it possible to enter international cooperation projects?
- Can international funds be used?

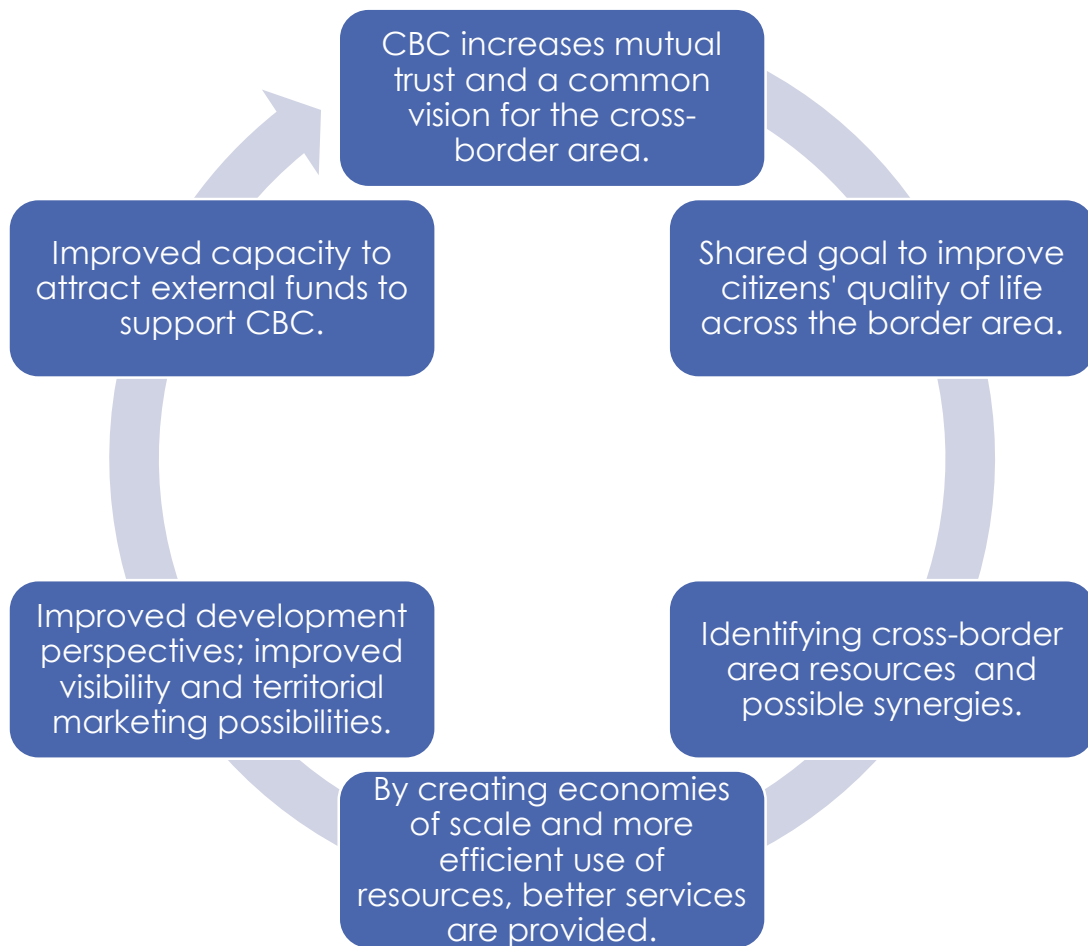
## ISSUES

- High risk where funding is starting point
- Importance of ensuring long term financial sustainability
- Exploit all sources of revenue
- Balance interests of service users with those of tax payers
- Must be transparent

## STRENGTHS

- Share administrative overheads (e.g. experts, consultants, equipment, secretariat, etc).
- Reduce unit costs and improve service quality through economies of scale in the use of infrastructure, equipment and skilled personnel.
- Attract investment funds reserved for a project of a specified minimum size, partnership compositions, etc.
- In some countries, attract additional grant aid offered as an incentive to cooperation.
- Enhance economic performance through co-ordinated planning and environmental protection.

- Clear objectives
- Acknowledge concerns of partners
- Open communications
- Clear performance information
- Annual performance report
- Decisions understood





ISIG

MANUAL ON  
REMOVING  
OBSTACLES TO  
CROSS-BORDER  
COOPERATION

November

2013

It is with Europe's citizens in mind that the ministers responsible for local and regional government of the 47 member States of the Council of Europe launched in 2009 a major survey of difficulties and obstacles that hamper the cooperation across the borders and agreed in 2011 to further develop their cooperation with a view to reduce or remove those obstacles. This Manual is a compilation of both difficulties recorded across the frontiers and solutions found to overcome them. With the help of ISIG of Gorizia (Italy) the data collected through a questionnaire have been systematised and organised in such a way as to enable all actors of crossborder cooperation to find examples that correspond to their situation and solutions that may help them to adopt the response to their needs.

# REMOVING OBSTACLES TO CBC

MANUAL ON REMOVING OBSTACLES TO CBC (2013)

EDEN PLATFORM (<https://www.coe.int/en/web/good-governance/eden>)



CENTRE OF EXPERTISE  
FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

## Obstacles to CBC

Once entered in a cross-border process, local authorities can encounter a plurality of obstacles that hinder their further cooperation.

The factors that determine the persistence of the obstacles are related to different aspects, both internal (i.e. the cooperation dynamics) and external (i.e. caused by national and international settings).

- Problem determined by a set of causes and implying a number of effects

DEFINITION



## Mapping obstacles

What does it mean?

### IDENTIFYING THE PROBLEM

Define the core problem

Identify causes

Identify effects



### SET THE PROBLEM AGAINST THE WIDER CBC CONTEXT

Identifying the operational area within which the obstacle arises

Identifying the factors contributing to its persistence

Identify the level of clearance requested by the obstacle



## FROM OBSTACLES TO SOLUTIONS:

- Mapping and analysing CBC obstacles are the first steps towards the identification of a solution.
- When entering a CBC process, it is important to understand, that, although such process is highly heterogeneous, it is most likely that other local authorities have encountered similar obstacles (i.e. operational areas, factors of persistence, etc.). Often this means that they have already identified mechanisms in order to overcome obstacles.

## 1. CLEARLY DEFINE THE CORE PROBLEM

- What is the problem that requires immediate action?
- Why is it a priority? To whom?
- Is something being done already? By whom? How?
- Is it necessary to deploy cross-border actions?

## 2. IDENTIFY ITS CAUSES

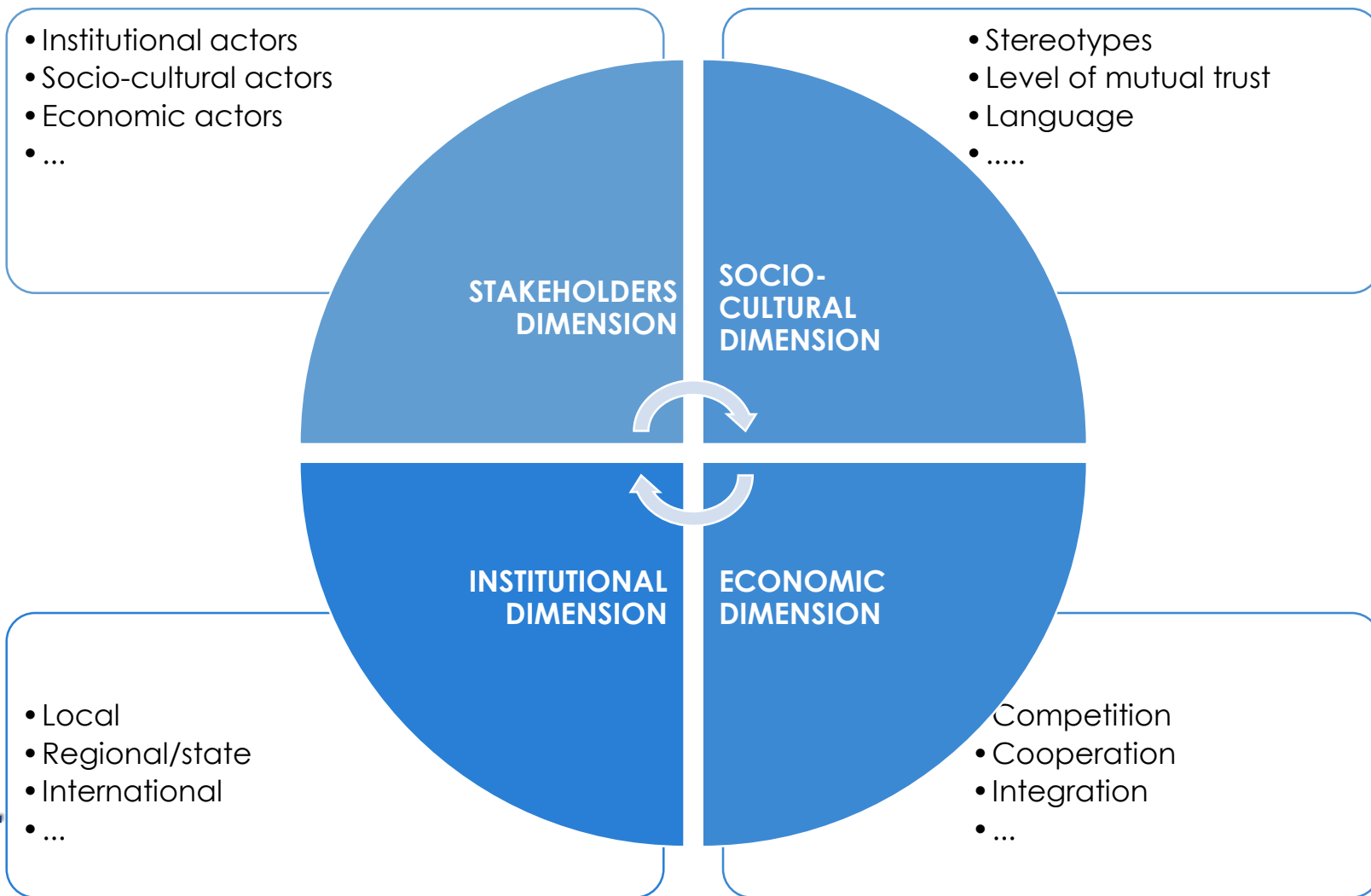
- Why did this problem arise now?
- Where does it come from? What is causing it?
- Is it linked to social/economic/environmental/institutional/administrative characteristics of the border area?

## 3. IDENTIFY ITS EFFECTS

- Who is most affected? How? How much?
- What would happen if no solution is found?
- What implication would there be on the social/economic/environmental/institutional/administrative levels?



## Step 2 – Identifying the operational area



## STEP 3 – Identifying factors for obstacle persistence

- CBC is a cross-sectorial process, thus implying that the obstacles that may hinder it, cross-sectorial as well, are likely to be determined by transversal factors, such as:
  - Institutional factors
  - Administrative factors
  - Economic factors
  - Factors linked to the level of Expertise of stakeholders involved
  - Cultural factors
  - Factors linked to the degree of propensity to cooperate of stakeholders involved
- In order to assess the persistence of such factors, 6 evaluation grids are available in the CoE/ISIG “Manual on removing obstacles to CBC” (2014). The grids allow for the assessment of the relevance of ten statements, to identify which factors are most likely to represent an obstacle.
- Moreover, by comparing the score obtained in each grid it is possible to prioritize among obstacles categories.

### ADMINISTRATIVE FACTORS

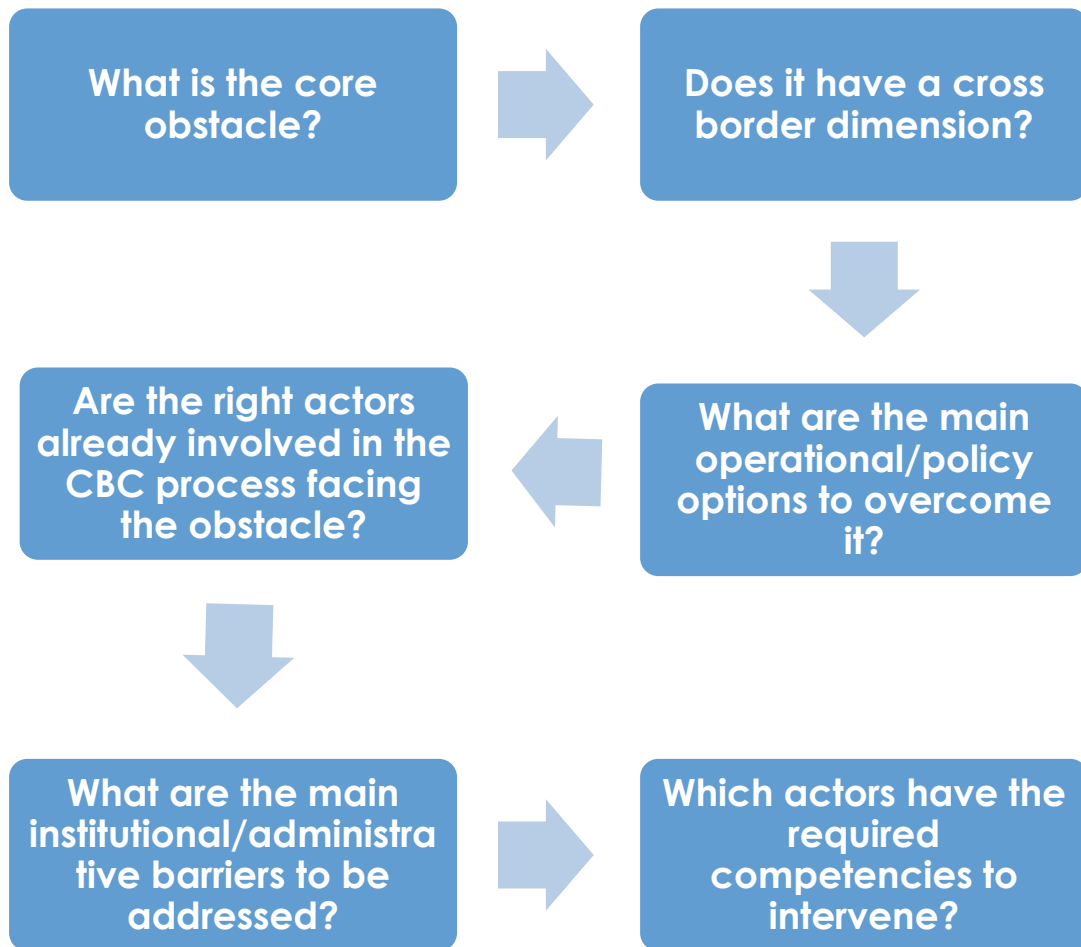
|                                                                                                   | Totally untrue | Partially untrue | Partially true | Totally true | Not relevant |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| The border area is not clearly defined                                                            | 1              | 2                | 3              | 4            | 0            |
| The actor with competence on the matter is not entitled to act on a CBC level                     | 1              | 2                | 3              | 4            | 0            |
| Complex administrative matters are dealt with regional or central authorities                     | 1              | 2                | 3              | 4            | 0            |
| There is no administrative protocol to handle the matter                                          | 1              | 2                | 3              | 4            | 0            |
| Bureaucratic requirements are too lengthy and complex                                             | 1              | 2                | 3              | 4            | 0            |
| Fees for the provision of public services are set through different standards                     | 1              | 2                | 3              | 4            | 0            |
| Public-private partnership schemes are difficult to set up                                        | 1              | 2                | 3              | 4            | 0            |
| It is difficult to collect information about the administrative requirements across borders       | 1              | 2                | 3              | 4            | 0            |
| Co-financing of international projects is not allowed by domestic law                             | 1              | 2                | 3              | 4            | 0            |
| Recognition of diplomas, degrees and professional certification is handled by central authorities | 1              | 2                | 3              | 4            | 0            |

SCORE



## STEP 4 – Identifying the level of clearance

Obstacles may need to be tackled at different levels of clearance: local – when action-oriented, and regional/central as the complexity of the CBC increases.



## Step 5 – Learning from best practices to overcome obstacles

- The EDEN database is a valuable instrument for the exchange of best practices.
- The database allows also for the browsing by country of good practices, or by institutions that supplied the case-studies.

[www.cbc.isig.it](http://www.cbc.isig.it)

- EDEN is structured into four different sections, as follows:
  - Areas of CBC - the section gives information on the main areas of intervention (Labour Market, Health-Care, Education and Training, etc) and allows for the identification of activities that other users implemented, as well as the obstacles they encountered and the solutions found so to overcome the obstacles;
  - Issues: - the section gives a complete list of all the CBC activities that the users implemented, which allows for the identification of the area of interest;
  - Obstacles: - the section gives information on all the obstacles that have been encountered in the implementation of CBC activities, allowing for the identification of areas encompassing the obstacles, as well as the factors that contributed the most to the persistence of the obstacle.;
  - Solutions: - the section gives information on all the solutions that the users found to the obstacles they encountered, allowing for the identification of specific areas of intervention.

## Step 6 – Crossing solutions against the CBC context

- Just as obstacles, which need to be crossed against the wider CBC context, solutions must be as well anchored to the specific case.
- In order to assess the replicability of an identified solution, a list of guiding questions may be used, as illustrated in the next grid

|         | INTERVENING FACTOR                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | MAIN GUIDING QUESTIONS                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HISTORY | <p>Age of border (long established vs. recent)</p> <p>History interpretation (shared vs. opposite)</p> <p>Territoriality (continuity vs. fraction)</p> <p>...</p>                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| CULTURE | <p>Language</p> <p>Ethnicity</p> <p>Religion</p> <p>Role of minorities</p> <p>...</p>                                                                                                                                                   | <p>Do they play a positive or negative role?</p> <p>Are the right actors already involved in the CBC process facing the obstacle?</p> <p>What are the main institutional/administrative issues to be addressed?</p> |
| ECONOMY | <p>Level of socio-economic development</p> <p>Cooperative / competitive businesses</p> <p>State subsidies</p> <p>Advantageous positions deriving from the border (e.g. customs economy)</p> <p>Infrastructural endowment</p> <p>...</p> | <p>Which actors have the required competencies to intervene?</p>                                                                                                                                                    |



EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE  
OF CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION  
IN CROSS-BORDER GOVERNANCE



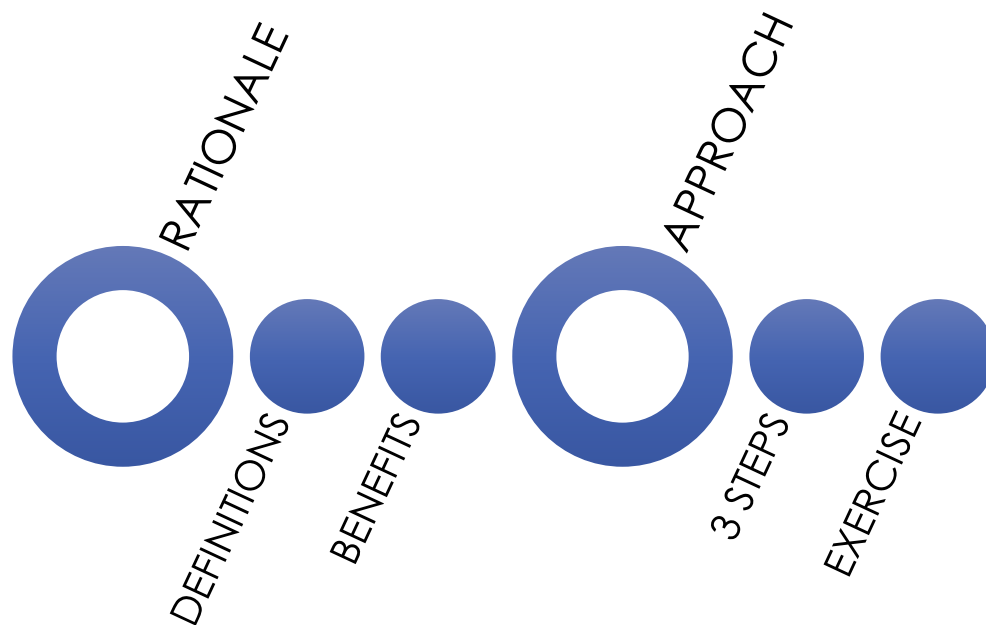
# STAKEHOLDERS' ENGAGEMENT IN CBC

EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE OF CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION IN CROSS-BORDER GOVERNANCE (2015)

## APPROACH

### SESSION 1 – RATIONALE FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN CBC

### SESSION 2 – HOW TO MAP STAKEHOLDERS



## Civic Engagement in CBC

Due to the fact that CBC arrangements lack the direct political accountability of public institutions that can be registered at the local level, CBC governance mechanisms must pay particular attention to civic engagement.

CBC governance mechanisms must ensure:

- Care of citizens' interests ;
- Efficiency and effectiveness;
- Minimisation of public costs;
- Respect of the ethics of public administration;
- Local accountability.

- the participation of citizens to elections
- the possibility of citizens to act directly towards modifications in the legislation (e.g. referendum)
- the active engagement of citizens within volunteer associations or informal networks devoted to community actions aimed at improvement of life within a society.

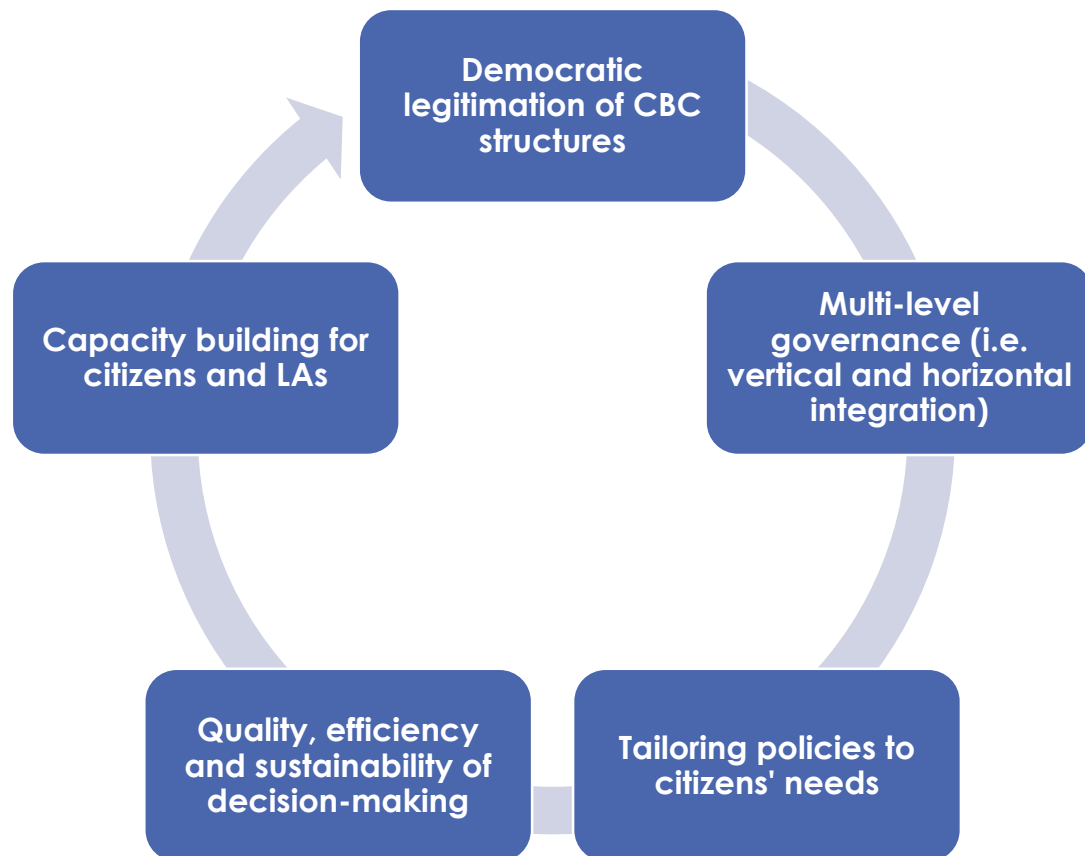
## DEFINITION



## Citizens' participation in CBC

For implementation of civic engagement in CBC processes, CBC promoters need to:

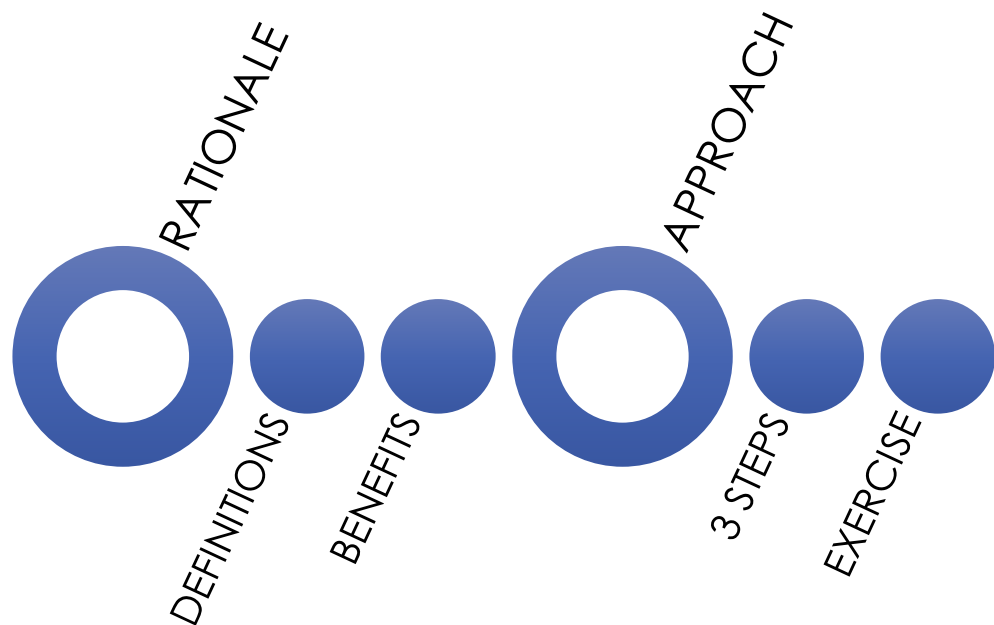
- identify stakeholders of their area.
- assess the functionality/relevance of involving stakeholders based on their interest towards a specific CBC area/project as well as on their capacity.



## APPROACH

SESSION 1 – RATIONALE FOR  
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN CBC

**SESSION 2 – HOW TO MAP  
STAKEHOLDERS**



## Step 1 – Identifying the problem

- ELABORATION OF A COMPLETE DATABASE OF STAKEHOLDERS OF THE CROSS-BORDER AREA:
- Consultation of existent materials (e.g. studies, research) regarding cross-border areas.
- Consultation of official registers (e.g. municipalities, chamber of commerce, etc.)
- Consultation of on-line materials;
- Identification of relevant dimensions for the context (e.g. institutional, cultural, economic, civil society, etc);
- Elaboration of the concrete tool for stakeholders recording (i.e. Excel file)
- DATA SYSTEMATIZATION
- The complete list of actors of the cross-border area has to be arranged according to specific dimensions, as follows:
  - Institutional – E.g. Actors representing different levels of government and governance
  - Cultural - E.g. Actors involved in the management, promotion and conservation of cultural goods
  - Economic - E.g. Economic operators of different sectors
  - Social – E.g. Associations and/or NGO of Civil Society operating in

## Step 2 – Assessing stakeholders' interest and capacities

The level of interest for a specific CBC intervention/project/area/etc of a stakeholder, must be assessed by means of a questionnaire, aiming to gather data on:

Rationale -brief explanation of the topic at stake;

Identification of the level of interest stakeholders have on the topic;

Identification of the availability of the actor to be involved (in terms of resources: time, financial, in-kind, etc);

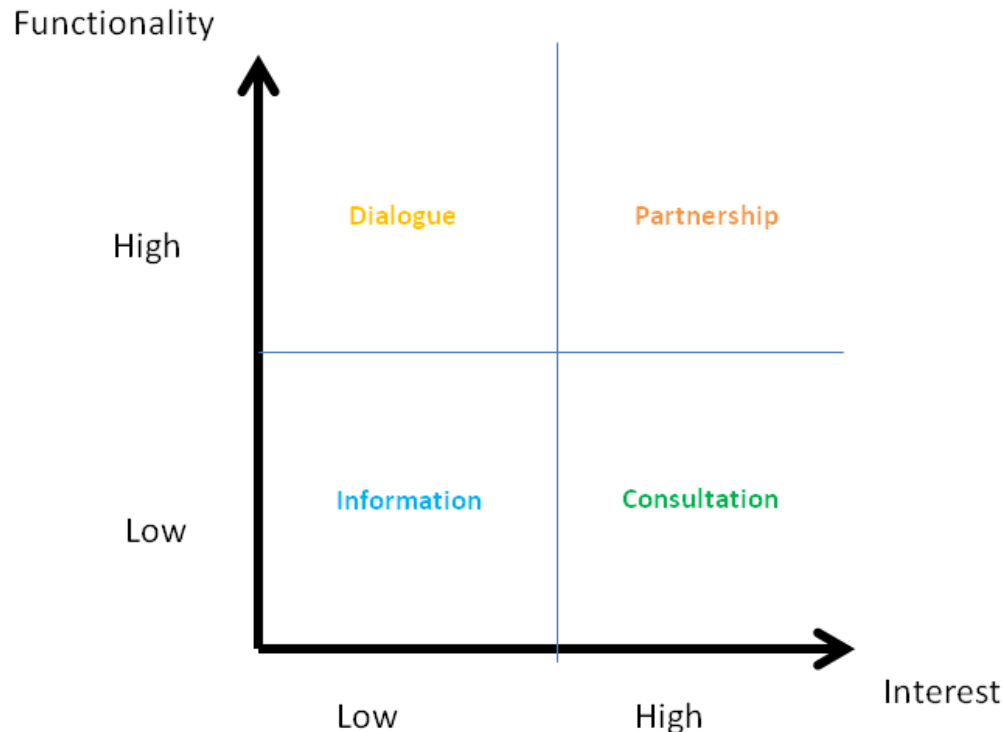
Identification of the capacities of the actor in the field at stake;

Identification of the positioning of the actor within his/hers operative network of reference (i.e. potential multiplier effect of the stakeholder).

## STEP 3 – Identifying stakeholders' involvement relevance

In order to identify the relevance of a specific stakeholder for a specific CBC project/process, an assessment of its functionality must be performed.

The results of such assessment will be crossed against the stakeholders' level of interest, in order to identify the desirable level of involvement of the stakeholder.





## TOOLKIT FOR CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION PRACTITIONERS

Leadership Academy Programme (LAP) for Cross-Border Cooperation

*Delivering Good Governance*

### TOOLKIT FOR CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION PRACTITIONERS

Leadership Academy Programme (LAP) for Cross-Border Cooperation

The Toolkit is intended as an easy-to-use companion for both CBC actors (i.e. competent regional and local authorities) and CBC trainers, targeting CBC practitioners within border areas.

### CENTRE OF EXPERTISE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

in cooperation with  
ISIG  
Institute of International Sociology of Göttinge

June 2017



CENTRE OF EXPERTISE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM



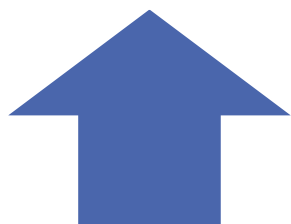
# CBC LEADERSHIP

Toolkit for CBC Practitioners (2016)

Leadership Academy Programme (LAP) for CBC (2016)

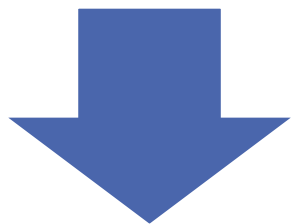


CENTRE OF EXPERTISE  
FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM



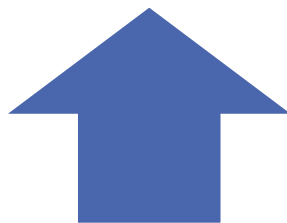
Leadership - delivers and tackles change by giving purpose. Leadership is about taking risks and crossing boundaries - both organizational and personal

## Leadership vs. Management



Management - coordination of available resources so to achieve set goals and objectives. Management is about following a schedule of known tasks, minimizing risks, pursuing efficiency and effectiveness.

## Leadership vs. Authority

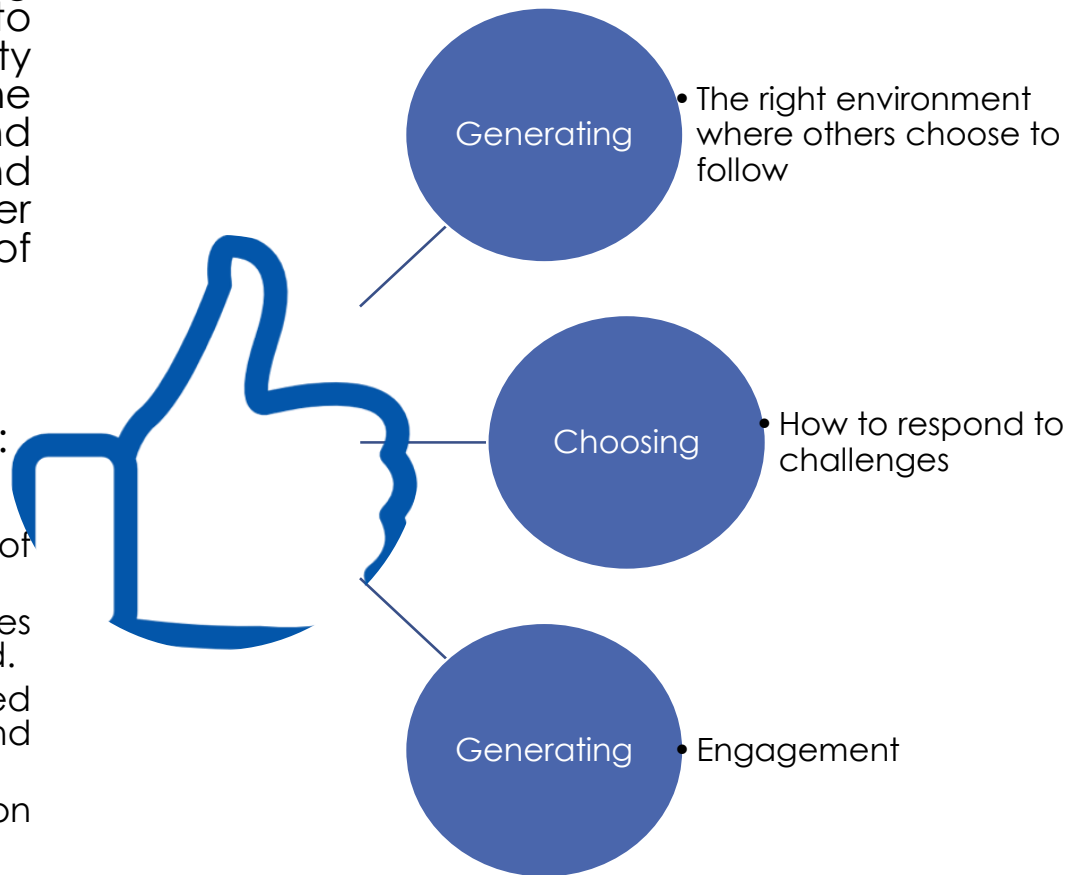


Leadership - relates to the "living" mechanisms of an organization. It is about stimulating the "informal" elements in the organizations, such as staff motivation and commitment.



Authority - relates to the formal mechanism of power. It is about giving directions on how to achieve set objectives and deadlines, thus relating to formal mechanisms in an organization.

- CBC is about horizontal, non-hierarchical relationships among local authorities. A key stimulus to CBC is competent local authority leadership that can see the opportunities that CBC provides and will use influence, conviction and commitment to bring on-side other local authorities from both sides of the border.
- Such leadership will take the time to:
  - Explain the benefits of CBC.
  - Acknowledge the different interests of potential partners.
  - Seek a 'win-win' solution to challenges faced or opportunities to be exploited.
  - Prepare staff and elected representatives to welcome and sustain cooperation.
  - Mobilise all efforts in a common purpose.



## Small steps approach

- change occurs when you undertake small initiatives and achieve specific objectives

## Organisation iceberg

- give motivation to the actors engaged in CBC, do not concentrate only on the “tip of the iceberg”. Stress the importance of CBC for the community's development – do not approach CBC by tasks

## Listening

- a CBC champion is required to perform active listening

## Team-working

- CBC is about team-work, a CBC champion must inspire and coordinate, but the process is developed by the team as a whole

## Strategic thinking

- a CBC actor should share the priorities with his/her team

## Managing criticism

- a CBC champion should take responsibility of his/her actions

## Managing risk

- a CBC champion does not avoid risk, but exercise caution

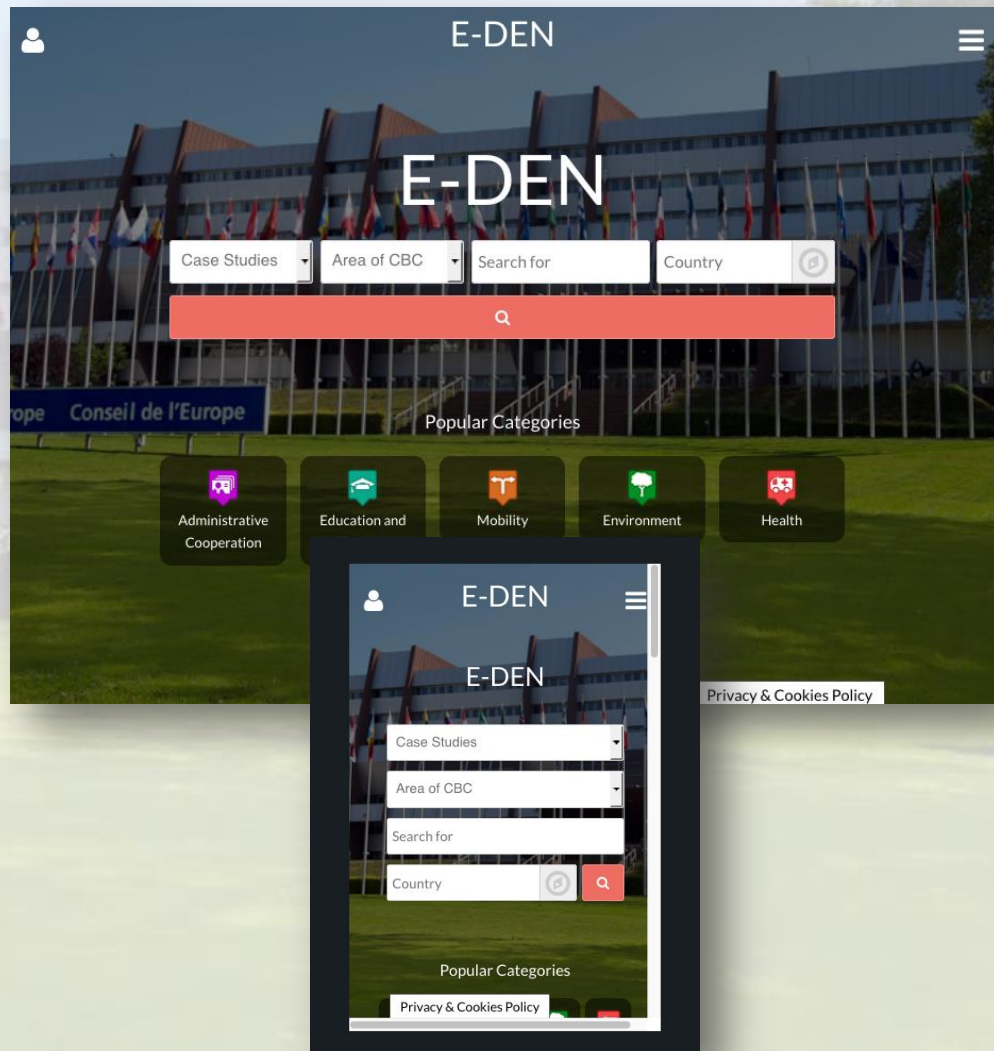
The main objectives of EDEN are:

- To serve practitioners and institutional actors by providing the CBC experiences and good practices developed by their colleagues in more than 20 European countries.
- To develop a network of knowledge that may evolve in networks of partners for project making across the Council of Europe Member States
- In order to do so, from September 2017 EDEN is hosted on an upgraded platform and benefits of new specific features to bring users a cleaner, more intuitive, and simpler approach to its content.



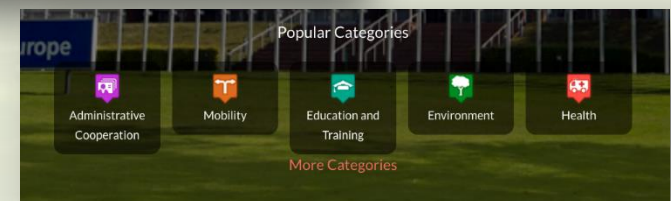
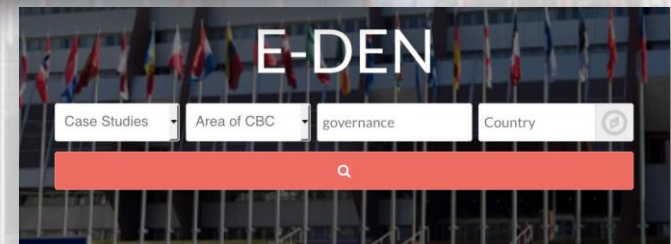
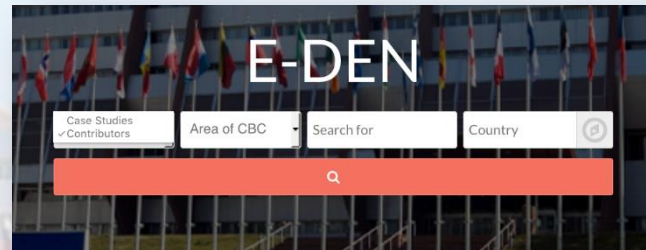
## A new interactive tool, easy-to-access from all devices

EDEN 2017 has a specific **mobile-friendly design**, looking its best and conserving its new features on **computers, smartphones and tablets**



## Enhanced search functionalities and interoperability between contributors and case study

The first section of the HP gives access to an evolved search mask allowing the user to browse the website directly – by freely inputting a search word – as well as by cross-referencing it with different variables (i.e. CBC areas, geographic location of the case study) or sorting it out using the categorization system



## Geo-localisation and intuitive thematic marking system

The second section of the HP brings the user directly on an interactive map where an intuitive marking system distinguish thematically the different case studies accessible in a specific geographic space. By clicking on the markers, the user is given basic information on the case study or the contributor.

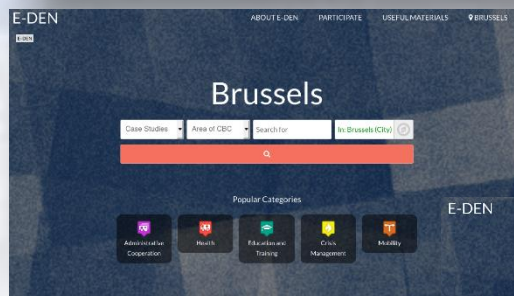
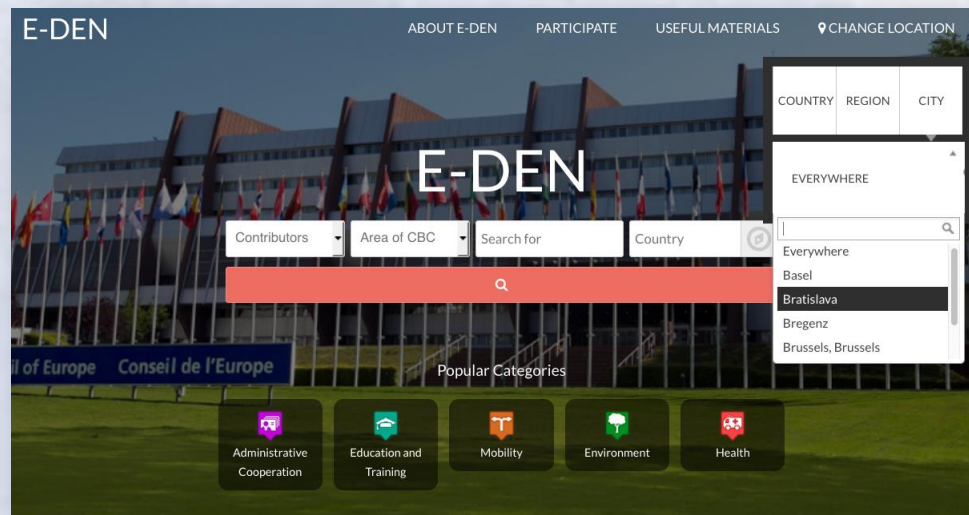


[Learn more...](#)



## In-depth focus on specific geographical areas

EDEN 2017 improved geo-localization system allows her to browse the data spatially through a specific Location Selection System (Country-Region-City) redirecting to a geographically-dedicated search interface.



## Enhanced data organisation and accessibility

The information stored in EDEN 2017 are organized in case studies. For each case study, the user can easily access:

a brief description of the CBC issue at stake;

the obstacles faced by the actor during her action;

the solutions/good practices implemented to overcome them.

The screenshot displays the EDEN 2017 website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: ABOUT E-DEN, PARTICIPATE, USEFUL MATERIALS, and CHANGE LOCATION. Below this, a search bar is visible with fields for Case Studies, Area of CBC, Search for, and Country. The search results show a list of case studies, including 'Agreements between the Autonomous Community of Navarre and the French border area (Spain-France)'. A detailed view of a case study is shown, titled 'CBC in Labour market in the Øresund Region'. This view includes a description of the CBC operation, a map, and a list of related case studies. Another case study, 'Cross-border journalistic activity (Switzerland-France-Germany)', is also visible, showing its description and related case studies. The website uses a clean, modern design with a white background and blue accents.

## Improved horizontal navigation and interconnection between case studies and contributors

From each case study pages, the user can easily access:

all the case studies uploaded by the same contributor

All the case studies of the same thematic area (i.e. mobility, education, etc.)

All the case studies pertaining to the same specific geographic area

The screenshot displays the EDEN 2017 Case Studies/1 interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'ABOUT E-DEN' and 'PARTICIPATE'. The main content area shows a list of case studies. One case study is highlighted: 'Regional Cross-border Mobility (Switzerland-France-Germany)' by 'Basel, Basel City, Switzerland'. Below this, there's a map showing the region. To the right, a sidebar provides more details about the case study, including 'Administrative Cooperation', 'Case Study Description', 'Map', 'Related Case Studies', 'Obstacles', 'Solutions and Good Practices', and 'Contributor(s)'. The sidebar also features a 'COOPERATION' button and a link to 'Preparation of Programmes and Application Projects (Portugal-Spain)'. At the bottom, there's a search bar and a list of case studies filtered by 'Area of CBC' and 'Search for'.

E-DEN

## Upgraded networking possibilities

From each EDEN contributor page, the user may

Access to a concise but exhaustive description of the institution's goals, activity and specific CBC actions

Easily get in touch with the contact person to ask more informations or explore the possibility to develop a partnership or a network

Share all this information with a friend/colleague

ABOUT E-DEN

PARTICIPATE

USEFUL MATERIALS

CHANGE LOCATION

### GNP-EGTC – European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation Galicia-Norte Portugal

Vigo, Pontevedra, Spain  
☎: 0035 1213133000



Contributor

Contributor Profile

Map

Related Contributors

The European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation Galicia-Norte Portugal (GNP-EGTC) is an agent and promoter of interconnection for cooperation among its members, at different levels, where its main concern is the development of different areas of performance.

### State Chancellery of Rhineland-Palatinate

Mainz, Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany



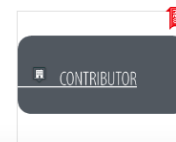
Contributor

Contributor Profile

Map

Related Contributors

Input on Obstacles



GNP-EGTC – European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation Galicia-Norte Portugal  
The European Grouping [Read more \[...\]](#)

### Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) – Kyustendil

Kyustendil, Kyustendil Province, Bulgaria  
☎: 00359 0785511835



Contributor

✉ [Send Enquiry](#) | [Send To Friend](#)



## Alina TATARENKO

Head of the Centre of Expertise  
Directorate General II -  
Democracy Council of Europe,  
67075 Strasbourg, France  
Tel: +33.3. 88 41 2847

[Alina.Tatarenko@coe.int](mailto:Alina.Tatarenko@coe.int)





# BOOSTING GROWTH AND COHESION IN EU BORDER REGIONS

#EUBorderRegions

Drama, 25.10.2018



Regional and  
Urban Policy

# Engaging Regions to Promote Cooperation

**Mr Martin Guillermo-Ramirez**

Association of European Border Regions  
(AEBR)



#EUBorderRegions



European  
Commission





## The Commission's Communication and b-solutions

<https://www.b-solutionsproject.com/>

# AEBR position on the Commission's Communication



- **Border Focal Point:** becoming very active in dealing with general and specific cross-border issues, while coordinating and gathering most relevant information.
- **Online Professional Network:** <https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/border-regions>; yet under-used but becoming a growing repository of relevant information, it is a very easy tool for exchange of information, questions and answers, dissemination, etc.
- **B-Solutions**, implemented by AEBR
- Promotion of **e-Government** and once-only principle
- Development of a new instrument to apply the rules of a Member State in the neighbouring one for a specific project or action limited in time, located within a border region and initiated by local and/or regional public authorities —formerly known as **ECBC (European Cross-Border Convention)** and now as **European Cross-Border Mechanism**—, promoted by the Governments of Luxembourg and France. On 29 May 2018 the Commission adopted a proposal of regulation on a *mechanism to resolve legal and administrative obstacles in a cross-border context* (COM(2018) 373).
- Collecting **data and evidence** on border obstacles. Regarding data, national statistical offices are taking part in some pilot actions, and the regulations include these aspects. Different initiatives are also under implementation to provide solid evidence, such as *B-Solutions* project. Furthermore, the Commission (and AEBR) are trying to identify CBC cases or projects of cooperation that are not necessarily supported by EU funding. In the framework of a wider survey on the Association activities and operation, AEBR members will be asked to identify these cases “beyond Interreg”.



# Objective:

**identify** and **promote** sustainable methods of resolving border obstacles of a legal and/or administrative nature along EU internal land borders

> Working fields:

employment, health, transport, multi-lingualism and institutional cooperation



# Specific objectives:

- specific solutions addressing concrete legal and administrative obstacles
- innovative proposals to inform innovative approaches
- increased exchange of information and mutual engagement
- raised awareness of key stakeholders at local/regional/national/EU level



# Background information

- 40 land borders between the 28 EU Member States and EFTA countries
- 448 regions (NUTS3 level) located alongside at least one border;
- 30% of Europeans live in these regions

These regions and their citizens suffer from lack of infrastructures and persist in facing challenges

> obstacles are a clear brake to the development of the endogenous growth potential of border regions



# Timeline and results of the project

- Call for Proposals: 01 February – 30 April 2018
  - > 36 applications received
- Screening of the applications received: May – June 2018
  - > 31 applications passed eligibility check
  - > 10 cases won the grant
- Implementation of the actions: August 2018 – September 2019
- Analysis and reporting of the initiative: October – December 2019

# The 10 selected cases...



| Case no. | Topic                     | Title                                                                                                                                                               | Lead Applicant(s)                                                                            | Geographical Area            | Legal/admin obstacles...                                                                                                          | Solution                                                                                                       |
|----------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1        | Multilingualism           | <i><b>Bilingualism in the Functional Tri-Border Region AT-HU-SK</b></i>                                                                                             | Office of the Lower Austrian Government, Department of Pre-Schools/Kindergartens and Schools | Austria – Hungary – Slovakia | ...regarding the high demand for a kindergarten and primary education attendance in the respective countries                      | CB attendance of kindergartens/schools to promote multilingualism                                              |
| 2        | Institutional Cooperation | <i><b>Elaboration of a cooperation protocol aimed at simplifying administrative procedures for frontier workers in the field of health insurance</b></i>            | Eurodistrict PAMINA                                                                          | France - Germany             | ...regarding the admin burden frontier workers face in their application and reimbursement procedures with health insurance funds | Drawing up a cooperation protocol between the competent national authorities, with the help of legal expertise |
| 3        | Institutional Cooperation | <i><b>Lithuanian Geological Survey and Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre institutional cooperation on cross-border groundwater management</b></i> | State Limited Liability Company Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre          | Latvia - Lithuania           | ...identified in groundwater management - different rules/methodologies across the border                                         | Improve data exchange & harmonise methods for groundwater monitoring & develop a monitoring plan               |

| Case no. | Topic                     | Title                                                                                                     | Lead Applicant(s)                                        | Geographical Area                       | Legal/admin obstacles...                                                                                                                                                                                       | Solution                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4        | Institutional Cooperation | <b>GeoConnectGR</b>                                                                                       | GECT Secrétariat du Sommet de la Grande Région           | Belgium - Luxembourg - France - Germany | ...identified in groundwater management - geographic data produced by BE, FR, LUX geographic agencies is not comparable; cannot be obtained under open licence & not detailed enough for fine-grained analyses | Harmonising topogeographic reference datasets in the border area & developing an integrated dataset for hydrography based on harmonized datasets                                                                                                  |
| 5        | Institutional Cooperation | <b>CrossMarkets - Institutional cooperation to enhance cross-border selling at local farmers' markets</b> | PANNON EUROPEAN GROUPING OF TERRITORIAL COOPERATION Ltd. | Croatia - Hungary                       | ..because of lack of clear & bilingual information about regulations to support local farmers trade across the HR-HU border                                                                                    | Institutional cooperation among operators of farmers' markets (mostly municipalities) & making available all necessary information about locations & specific requirements of farmers' markets on both sides of the border in a bi-lingual format |

| Case no. | Topic      | Title                                                                                                                     | Lead Applicant(s)                                                                    | Geographical Area        | Legal/admin obstacles...                                                 | Solution                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6        | Health     | <i>When EMS (emergency medical system) erase borders</i>                                                                  | Consortio de la Comunidad de Trabajo de los Pirineos                                 | Spain - France - Andorra | ...regarding the CB validation of diplomas of doctors & nurses           | Formulate a convention between health institutions & developing working agreements between the Orders of Doctors in those three countries & pilot test between two hospitals |
| 7        | Employment | <i>Facilitating cross-border mobility within the scope of dual education in the Eurometropolis Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai</i> | European grouping of territorial cooperation "Eurometropolis Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai" | Belgium - France         | ...because of the absence of a cross-border framework for dual education | Pilot project & collection of statistical information within the territory about the dual education in order to increase youth employment                                    |

| Case no. | Topic                            | Title                                                                                                                                                                    | Lead Applicant(s)                                                                                                                              | Geographical Area         | Legal/admin obstacles...                                                                                                | Solution                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8        | Employment                       | <b><i>XBORDER – WORK: tackling administrative issues that hinder free movement of workers</i></b>                                                                        | Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia - Direzione centrale lavoro, formazione, istruzione, pari opportunità, politiche giovanili, ricerca e università | Slovenia - Italy          | ...because of lack of a fully defined tax statuses of CB workers, leading to tax reviews and fines (or double taxation) | Test a bilingual shared paper form for declaring the taxes & produce a recommendation paper for the legislators in both countries to apply this paper form for declaring taxed of cross-border workers |
| 9        | Employment                       | <b><i>Roadmap &amp; factsheet for the recognition of qualifications for highly demanded professions: two practical documents for first line support and citizens</i></b> | Province of Limburg                                                                                                                            | Germany - The Netherlands | ...concerning the recognition of particularly regulated professions' qualifications                                     | Produce practical documents with the involvement of competent authorities to support key stakeholders & citizens for the CB recognition of diplomas                                                    |
| 10       | (Public) transport of passengers | <b><i>EGTC GO Cross-border Public Urban Mobility Plan</i></b>                                                                                                            | European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation of the Municipalities of Gorizia (I), Nova Gorica (SLO) and Šempeter-Vrtojba (SLO)                | Italy - Slovenia          | ...hindering the integration of urban transport networks operating in the EGTC GO area                                  | Study & support from key decision-makers to develop a cross-border urban transport system                                                                                                              |

# What has been done so far



First meetings served to plan activities in details and identify the specific challenges. A deep analysis of the current state-of-the-art of the situation has been the first step for all beneficiaries:

- > Project “*GR-GeoConnect*”: partners set up a comparison of aspects of data harmonization for use for groundwater management;
- > Project “*When EMS (emergency medical system) erase borders*”: partners implemented a comparison of emergency doctors in the Orders of Doctors of all neighboring country;
- > Project “*EGTC GO Cross-border Public Urban Mobility Plan*”: transport operators met to highlight the main obstacles in the field;
- > Project “*Roadmap & factsheet for the recognition of qualifications for highly demanded professions*”: partners agreed on a list with the highly demanded professions in the cross-border regions;
- > Project “*Elaboration of a cooperation protocol aimed at simplifying administrative procedures for frontier workers in the field of health insurance*”: partners agreed on preparing a table with the various obstacles that arise in the area of cross-border cooperation between health insurance funds via an online cooperation platform.

# What is next?



AEBR and DG Regio want to continue investigate on the challenges and the possibilities that border regions have to integrate legal and administrative systems with their neighbouring country



# Stay tuned!

The latest updates on *b-solutions* shared by the appointed participants can be found on the online platform “[Boosting EU border regions](#)”

and on *b-solutions* website: <https://www.b-solutionsproject.com/>

# Q&A session



#EUBorderRegions



European  
Commission



# Looking Ahead with New Tools



#EUBorderRegions



European  
Commission





# BOOSTING GROWTH AND COHESION IN EU BORDER REGIONS

#EUBorderRegions

Drama, 25.10.2018



Regional and  
Urban Policy

# ECBM Hand in Hand with EGTC: A New Mechanism to Solve Obstacles

**Ricardo Ferreira**

DG Regional and Urban Policy,  
European Commission



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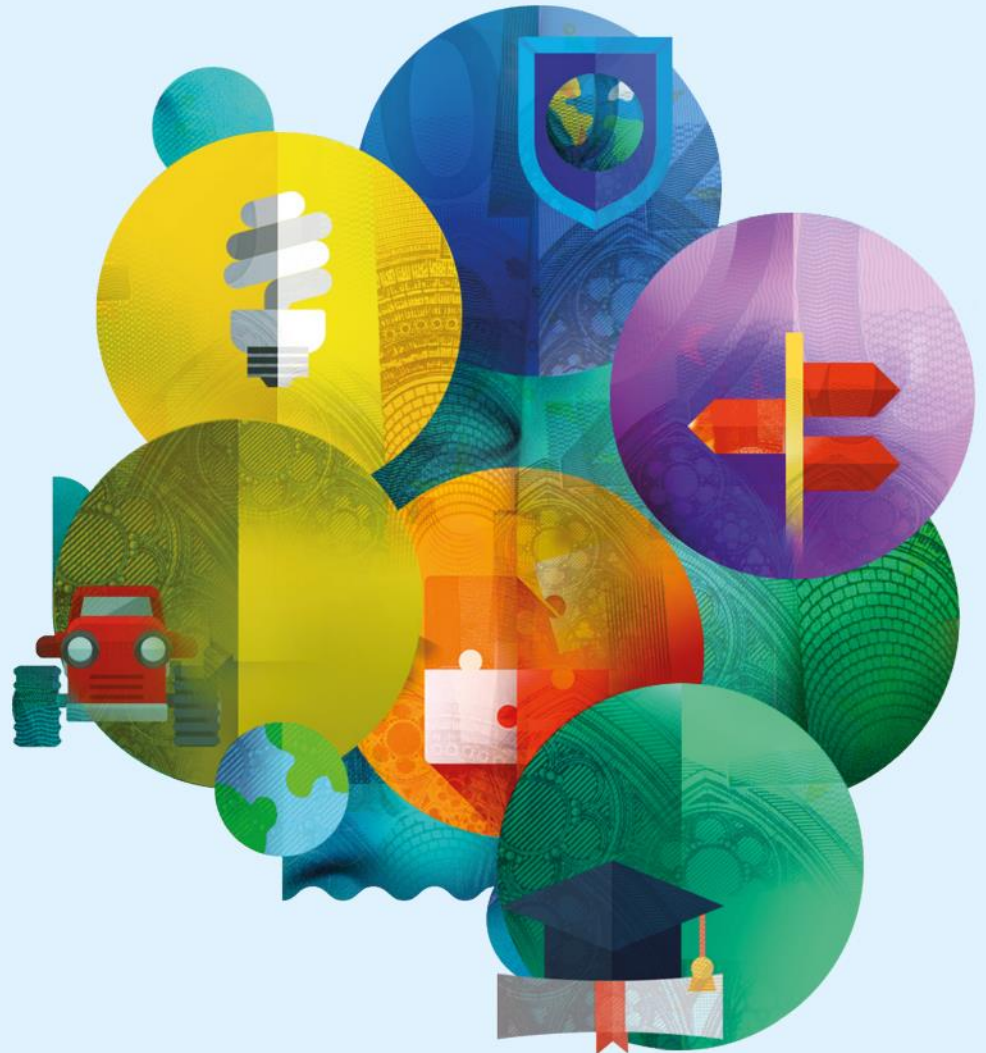


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# ECBM

What it is?  
and what it is not?

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# What is it?

- *A legal mechanism to overcome legal obstacles that hamper stronger cross-border interaction*
- *The framework to establish case by case agreements (Commitments ECBC; or Statements ECBS) to overcome existing obstacles*
- *ECBC and ECBS apply in the limits of a well-defined case/project*
- *Within those limits, allows for the application in one MS of the legal provisions from another MS*

# What it is not

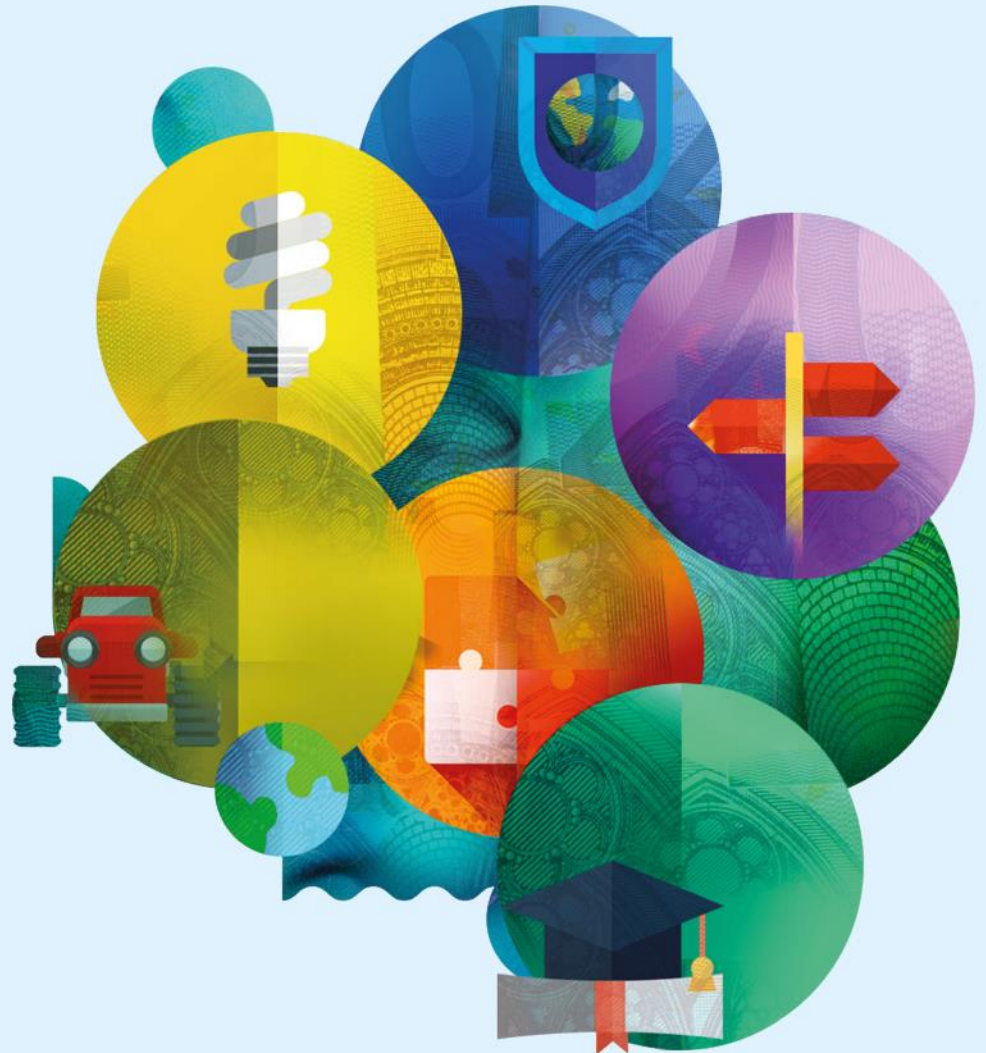
- *A revision of, or a new form of EGTC*  
(it is not aimed at creating new legal persons)
- *Mandatory*  
(MS may opt to keep other "existing ways to solve legal obstacles")
- *A mere support for INTERREG*  
(it aims at overcoming obstacles, even when EU funding is not involved)
- *A way to bypass national legislative powers*  
(When a ECBS is agreed, it only commits authorities to present proposals to the respective legislative bodies)
- *Applicable everywhere*  
(Scope defined as cross-border regions = NUTS3)

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# ECBM

## Why is it needed?

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# Why is it needed?

- *Article 174 of Treaty FEU: "particular attention to ...cross-border...regions"*
- *In spite of the Single Market legal and administrative obstacles still hamper cross-border interactions in the EU.*
- *"If only 20% of existing obstacles were removed border regions would still gain 2% in GDP."*

*(Com(2017)534, data from Politecnico de Milano)*

# What kind of obstacles?

- *Legal or administrative provisions with regards to the planning, development, staffing, financing or functioning of a joint project*
- *Many possible causes:*
  - . *Not compatible administrative procedures;*
  - . *Planning not considering the neighbour;*
  - . *Incompatible transpositions of a Directive;*
  - . *Different applicable technical standards;*
  - . *...*
- *Some illustrations???*

# Extension of Strasbourg (FR) tram line to Kehl (DE)



# Strasbourg – Kehl tram... Obstacles e.g.:

**Adaptation of the equipment** of a tram (light, wheels, extincor..)

**Mixing of signalisation** for road and tram traffic

**Installation of travel ticket machines** with mixed systems

**Circulation** of a French tram in a foreign country

**Statute** of equipment: bridge, tram platform, ticket machines..

**Recognition** of travel tickets

Responsibilities for **security matters** during CB travels

**Conditionality** of the financial support through ministries

**Separate tariffication** and travel tickets

**Distribution** of tickets

**Coordination of public certification** for the circulation of trams

## ... led to a too long process

**2009**

Memorandum of  
Understanding



**2016**

Convention on the Joint  
Tariffication

# Obstacles in emergency services

- Firefighters and ambulances are in many cases prevented to intervene as legal restrictions impede them from crossing the border*



13/5/2000

Major explosion in firework factory in Enschede (NL) on DE border;

Police cars were already allowed to cross the border with their signals, but not the ambulances! An on-the-spot solution had to be found: one police car with the siren on ran in front of an (silent) ambulance which followed at the same speed.

# Cross-border triathlon

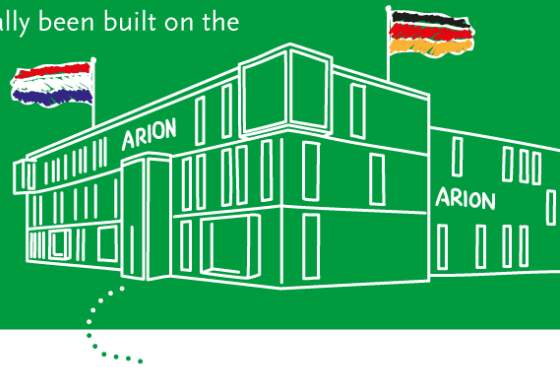
The poster is for a triathlon event titled "LA TRANSFRONTALIERE D'ALZETTE BELVAL" in Villerupt-Belval-Villerupt, Edition 2016. It features a comic book style layout with speech bubbles containing key information: "NOUVELLE COURSE A PIED !!", "DIMANCHE 13 NOVEMBRE", "15 KM EN INDIVIDUEL, EN RELAIS OU EN EQUIPE !!", "DEPART 10H DE VILLERUPT", and "ET AUSSI UNE MARCHE!". The background shows industrial buildings and a runner. At the bottom, it provides contact information: "Plus d'infos sur gectalzettelbelval.eu ou www.tgv54.com" and mentions the requirement for French licenses (FFA / FFTri...) or a medical certificate. A QR code is also present. Logos for various sponsors like Interreg, TOV, and others are at the top.

Les participants ne résidant pas en France sont tenus de fournir un **certificat médical de non contre-indication à la pratique de l'athlétisme ou de la course à pied en compétition**, même s'ils sont détenteurs d'une licence compétition émis par une fédération affiliée à l'IAAF [International Association of Athletics Federations] (article II-A-4 de la réglementation des manifestations pédestres hors-stade).

# Cross-border headquarters

## we are moving

As of the **5th of september** our Headquarters will be located at business park Avantis. Our brand new office has literally been built on the **Dutch-German border**.



“Because the building has to meet German as well as Dutch strictest requirements, it is so sturdy that it might even resist wind force 12.”

<https://www.arion-group.com/en/video.html>

# ... and the examples could continue

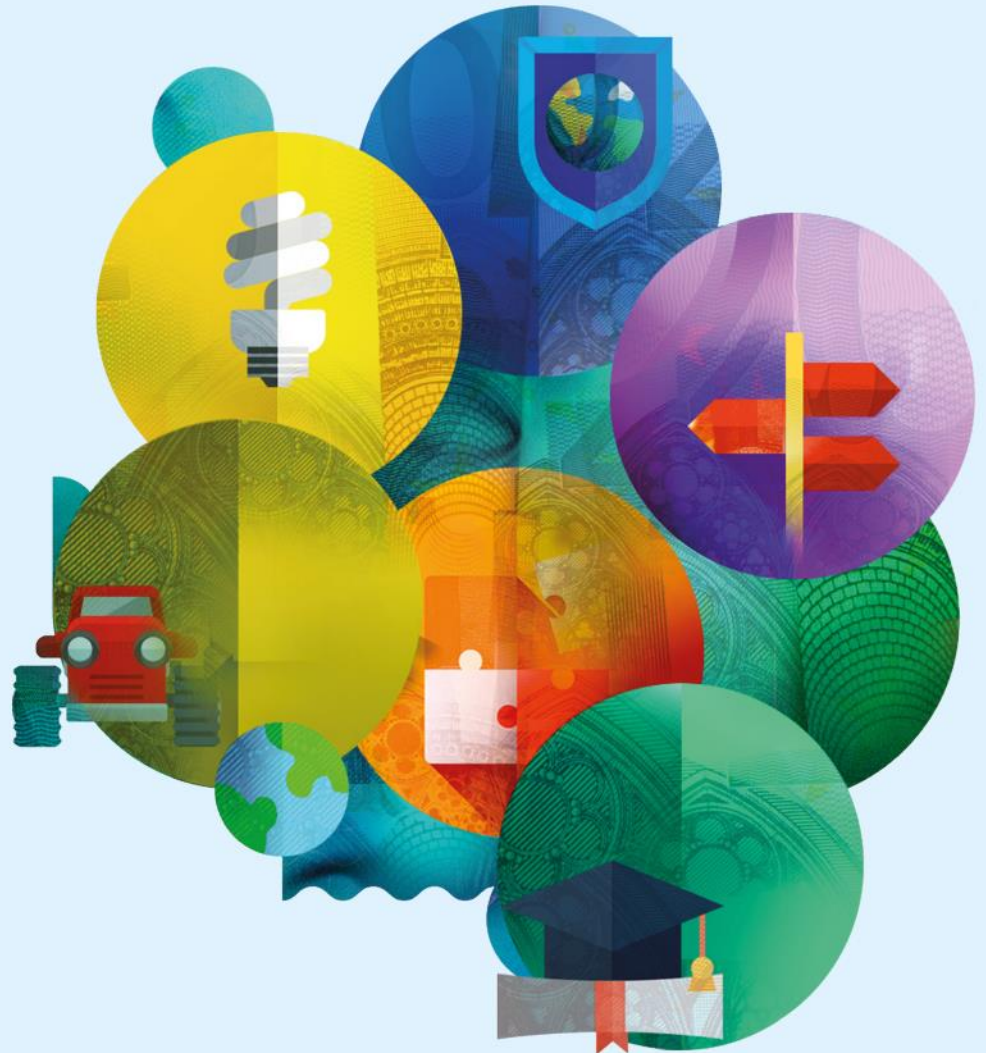
- *Different legal provisions hamper cross-border traineeships*
- *Lengthy and costly cross-border mail delivery*
- *Lack of legal certainty for medical practitioners in hospital across the border*
- *Restricted supervision of PhD students from neighbouring countries*
- ...

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## How does it work?

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*#EUinmyRegion*





# Two levels decision

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Will the MS apply the EU Mechanism (art 4)?
- Reflection at national level
  - Decision taken once, border by border
  - If there is another "existing way to resolve legal obstacles..." → MS may opt-out of EU Mechanism
  - Otherwise EU Mechanism applies to that border
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – For borders where EU Mechanism will apply:
- MS creates CB Coordination Point
  - ... then processes for Commitments or Statements addressing specific obstacles can be triggered

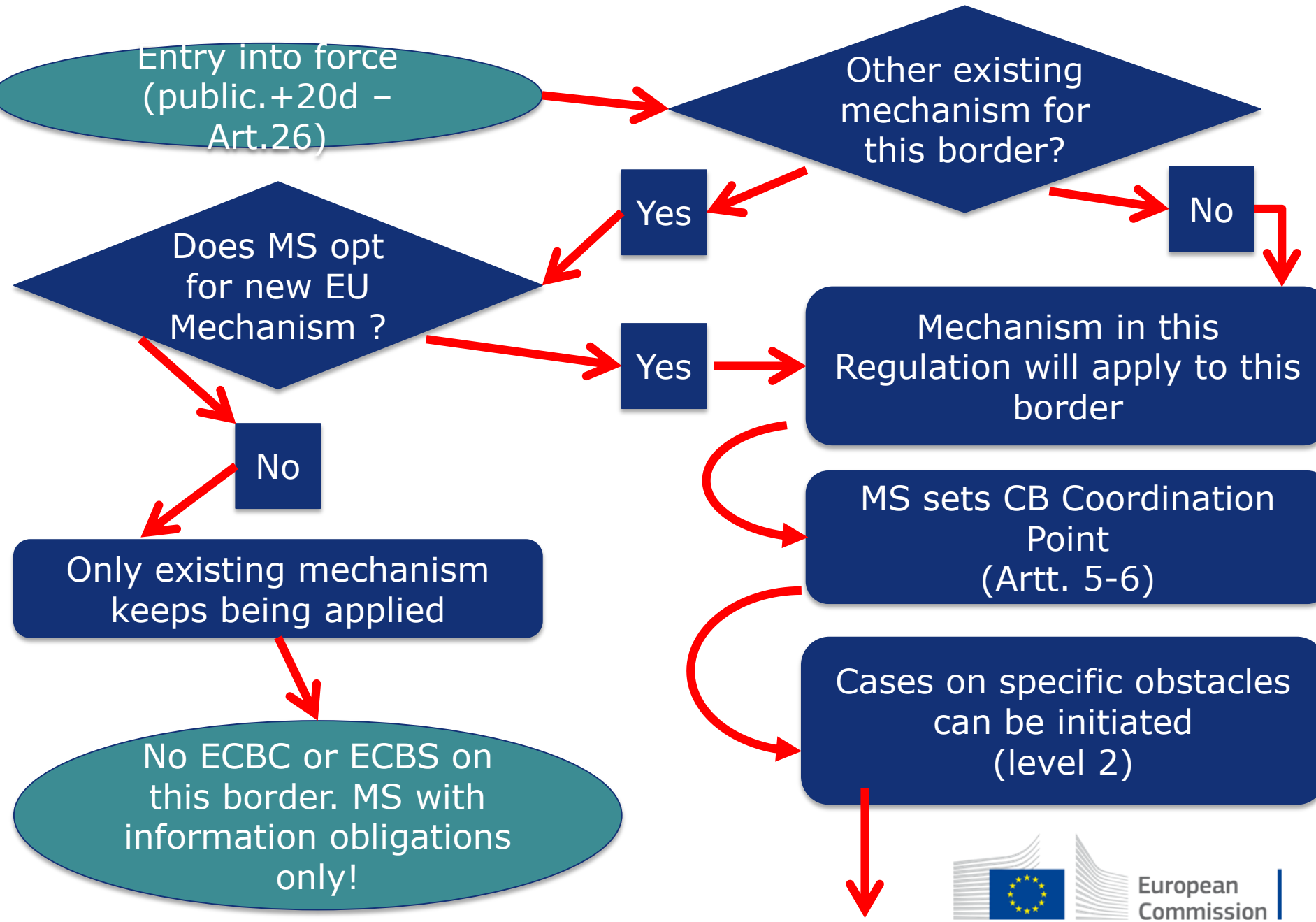
## Not to confuse:

- 1 - Mechanism (ECBM): a procedure to overcome cross-border legal obstacles. The process is set out in the Regulation.
- 2 – Commitment (ECMC) or Statement (ECBS): a specific solution found for a specific cross-border legal obstacle. One solution per case.

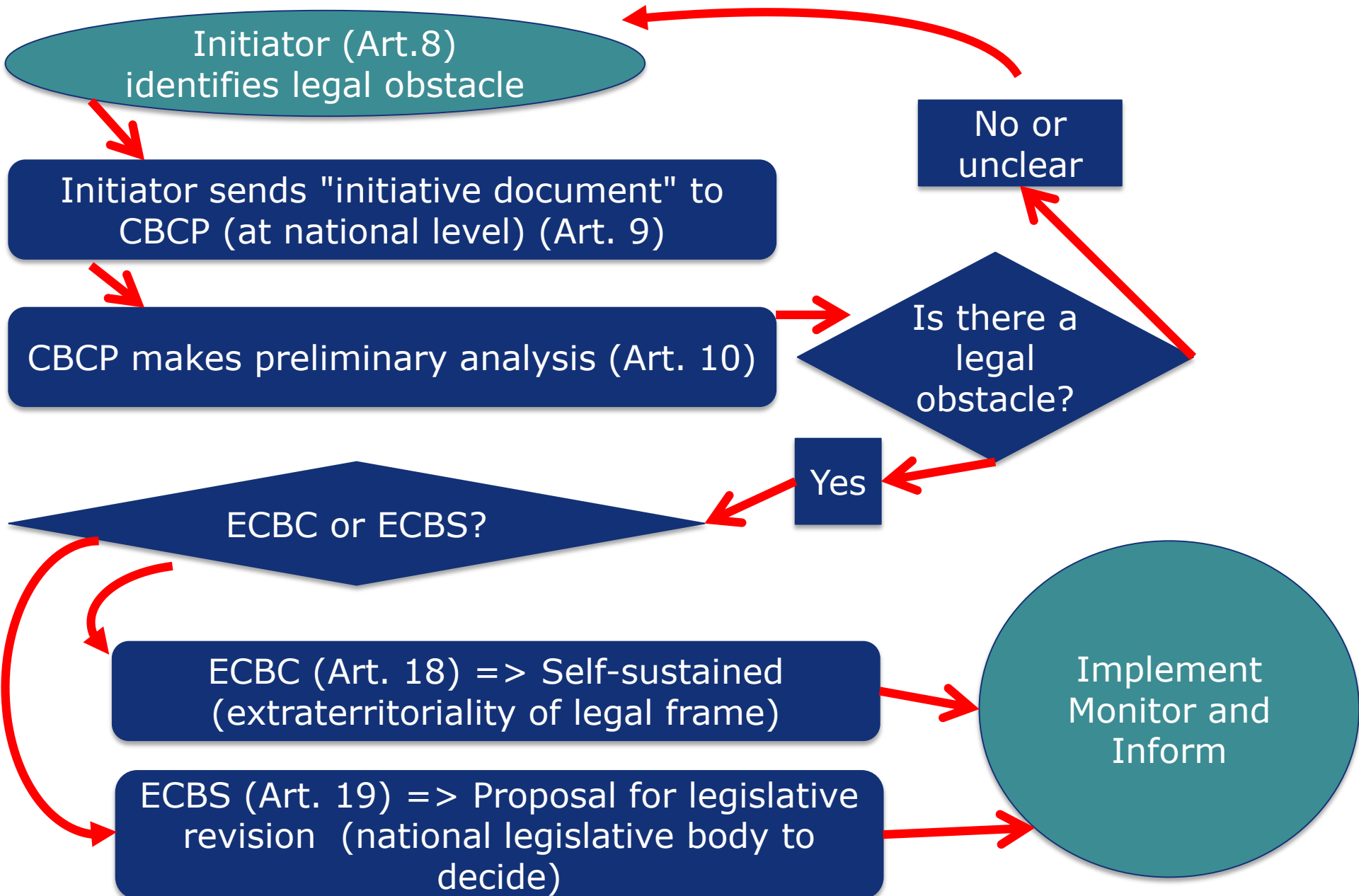
## Other used acronyms:

CBCP = Cross-Border Coordination Points, to be set at national/regional level

# First level (single decision per border – Art. 4)



## Second level (one decision per obstacle Artt. 8-20)





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# Territorial Impact Assessment

**Mr Eleftherios Stavropoulos**

DG Regional and Urban Policy,  
European Commission



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# Legislation tends to be "border-blind"



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# How can you influence EU legislation

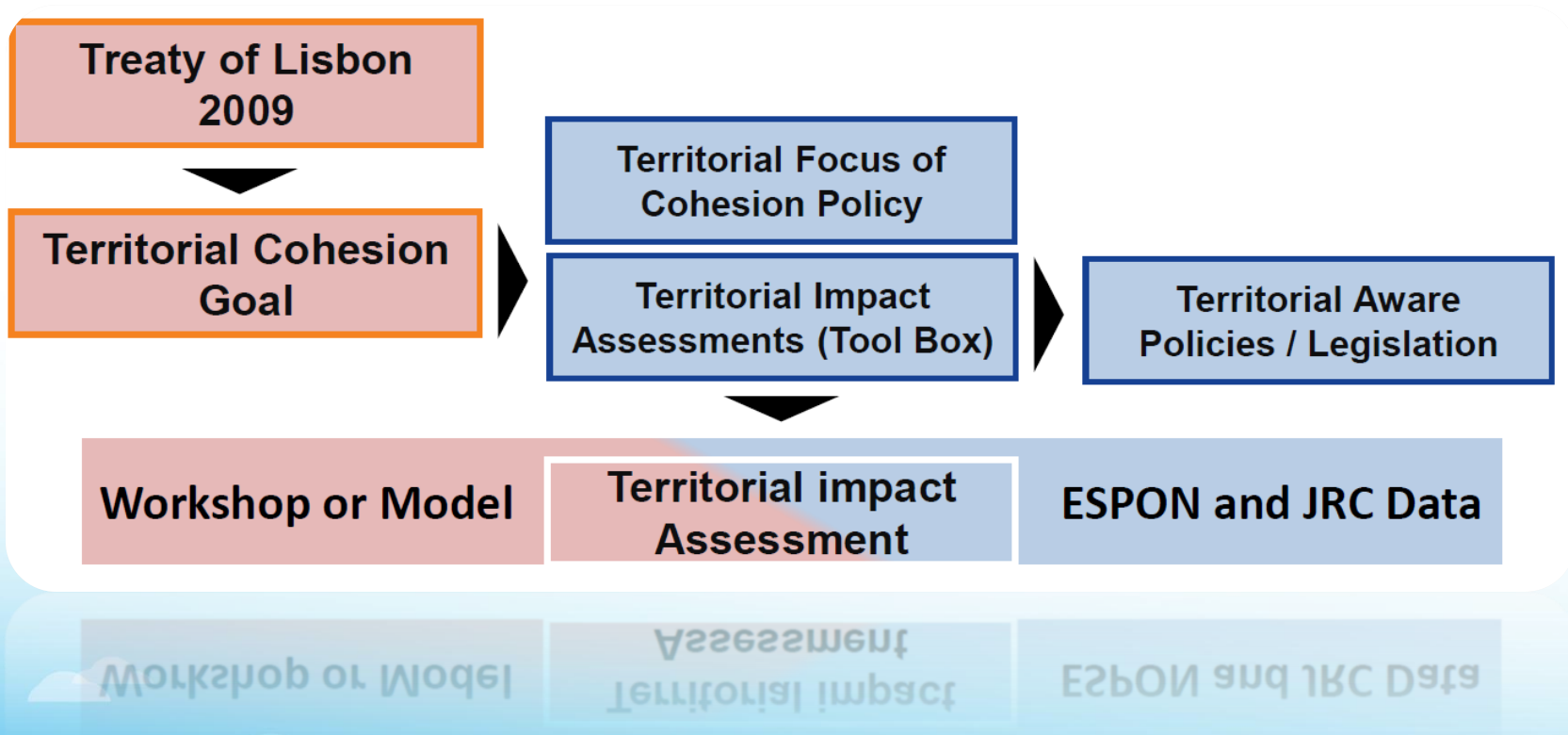
- Public consultations - submit comments  
[https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations_en)
- National and European associations that are invited by Commission services to take part in stakeholder consultations and focus groups
- Your representatives at the Committee of the Regions
- Your representatives at the European Parliament and Council



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# Background for TIA



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# Territorial Impact Assessments TIA

**Proactive**  
**Reactive**



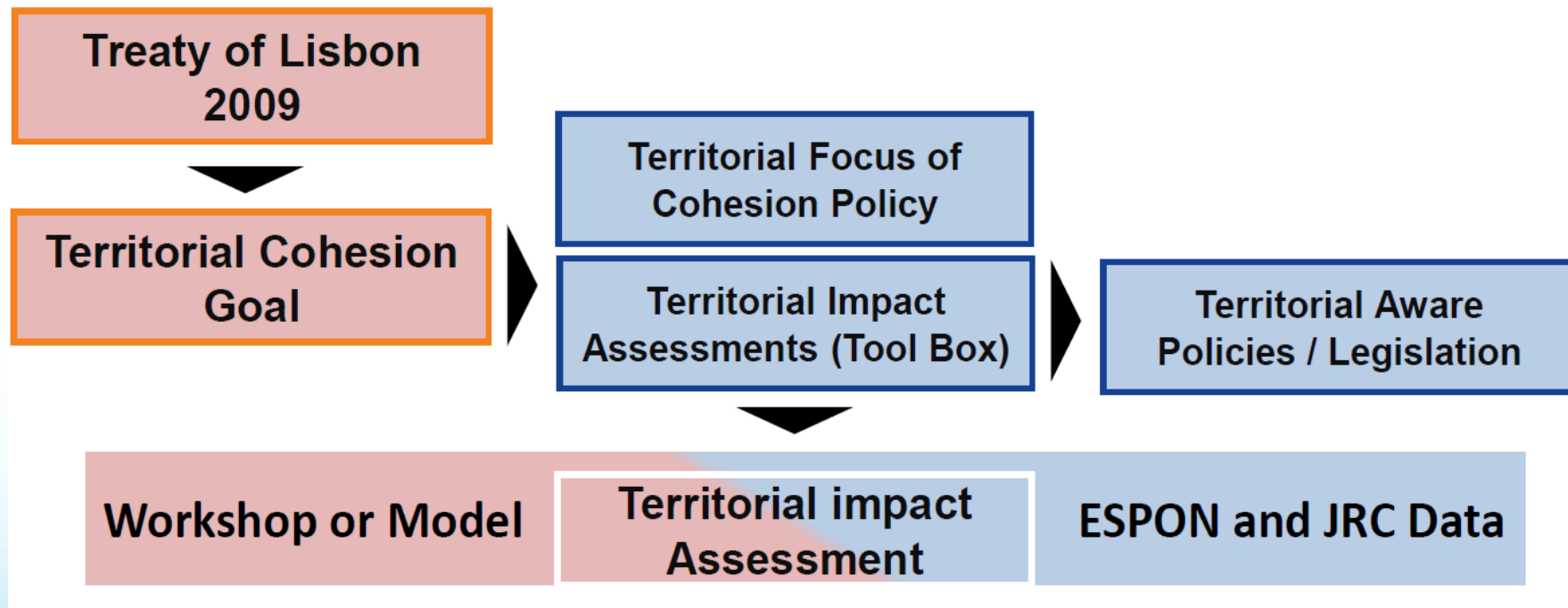
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# COM = 10 actions for EC/MS/REGIONS

1 – Cooperation = ePlatform for stakeholders + Pilot Projects

2 – Legislative Process = Territorial Impact Assessment + Support MS

3 – eGovernment = Promote existing solutions (with CNECT)

4 – Information Services = Single Digital Gateway + SOLVIT (with GROW)

5 - Employment = Public Employment Services + EURES (with EMPL)

6 – Multilingualism = ERASMUS+ (with EAC)

7 – Accessibility = Missing rail links + CB public transport (with MOVE)

8 – Health = Mapping health CB cooperation + conference (with SANTE)

9 – Legal + € framework = ECBC legal act + Interreg post 2020

10 – Evidence = Pilot project on data + Research on CBC (with EUROSTAT)

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# Cross Border TIA

- ✓ Legislation tends to be "border-blind"
- ✓ EC can lead the way in developing "border-proofing"
- ✓ Some existing examples – ITEM with NL, BE and DE legislators
- ✓ How to adapt TIA to cross-border territories
- ✓ **ESPON's Quick-Scan tool** useful starting point (serious data issue in EU)
- ✓ Qualitative dimension needed



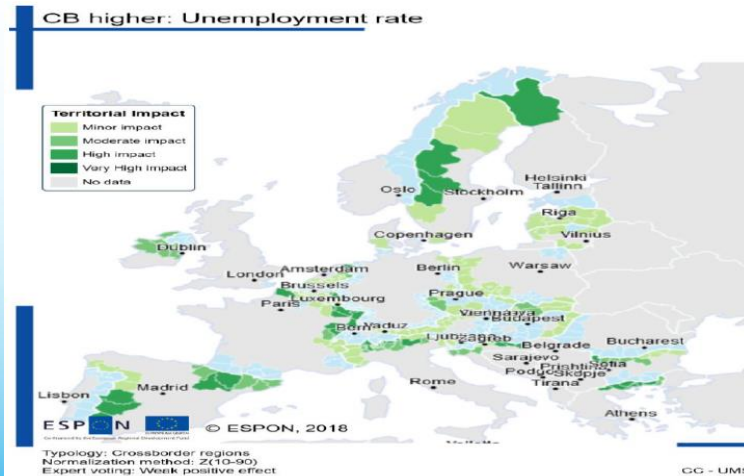
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# Cross Border TIA – ESPON Quick Scan tool



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# ESPON Quick Scan tool

The TIA Quick Scan tool has its **limitations** as a methodology and the lack of adequate data or relevant indicators can limit its applicability.

It is a **good "decision" making tool** and it can signal to Commission Services when and where more time and resources should be devoted to look into more detail when serious asymmetrical territorial impacts are detected.

TIA should be used when **relevant** has to be **proportional** and is **integrated** part of the Impact Assessment process



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# TIA needs data



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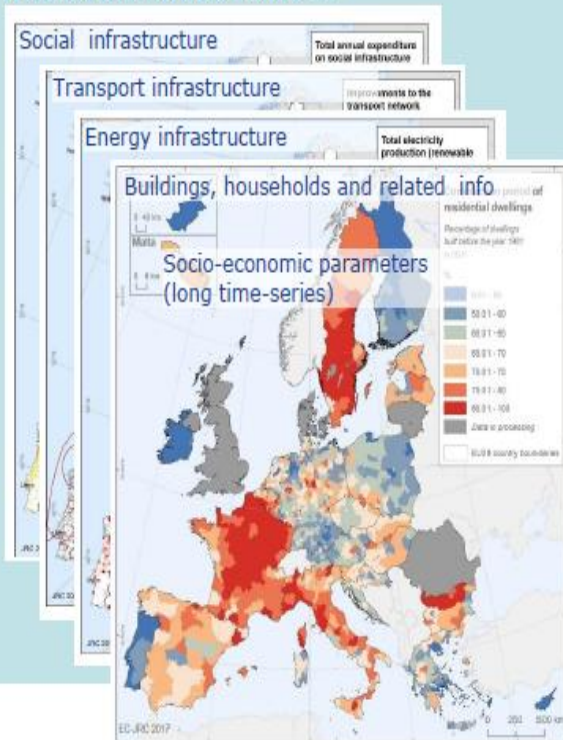


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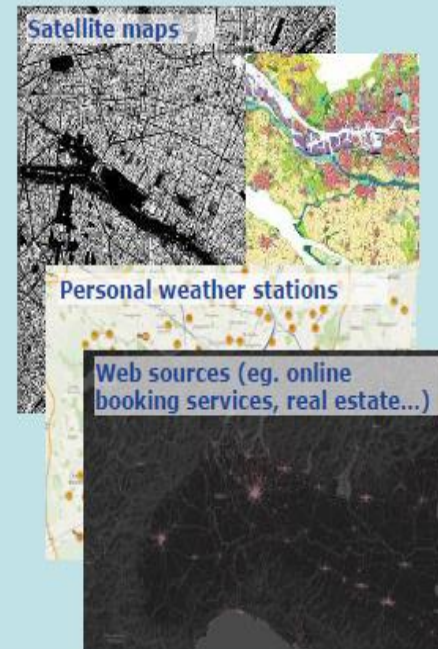
# TIA needs data



## Traditional data sources



## Crowd-sourced and Big Data

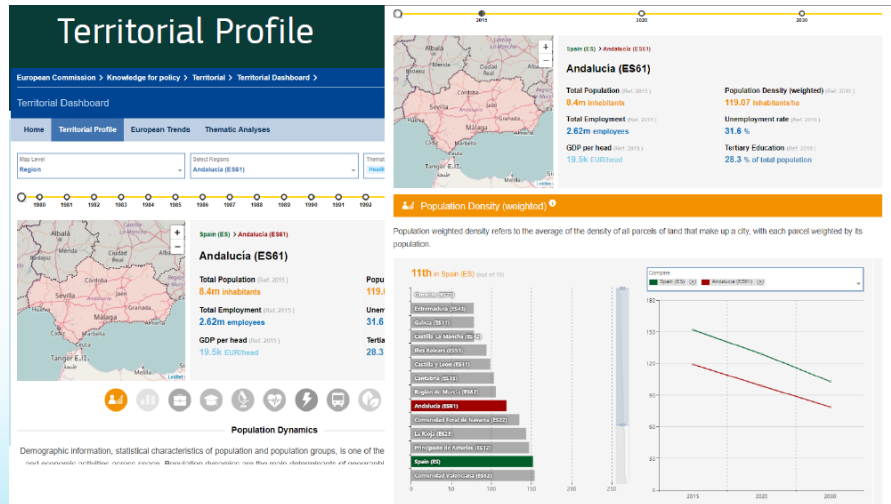


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# TIA - modelling

ESPON Quick Scan tool can build upon the work of other more robust and quantitative methodologies such as the **LUISA** modelling platform and **RHOMOLO**.



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# Cross Border TIA

- ✓ Test case 2018 : ECBM
- ✓ Draft legislation in May 2018
- ✓ Stakeholders workshop June 2018
- ✓ Initial conclusions:
  - All borders to benefit from ECB
  - differentiated ECBM impacts in different borders



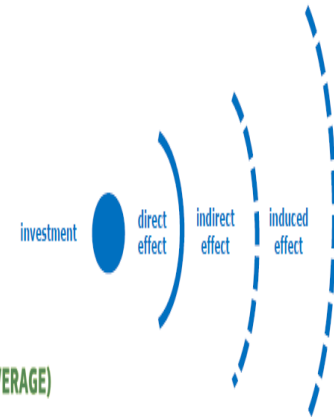
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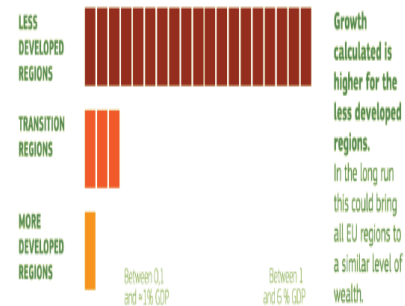
Analytical reports are produced with regard to potential territorial impacts.

## RHOMOLO: Dynamic Spatial General Equilibrium Model for EU Regions and Sectors

RHOMOLO simulates the impact of policies on **each specific region's economic performance**



### SIMULATED IMPACT ON GDP GROWTH (AVERAGE)



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# Territorial Impact Assessment

## Next steps

- ✓ Finalise first test case;
- ✓ Refine methodology;
- ✓ Share widely inside EC (Inter-service group);
- ✓ Share with MS and regions (use Border Regions' e-platform);
- ✓ Monitor implementation



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# Closure Remarks

Cross Border TIA provides the opportunity to consider better the specificities of different cross border regions and territories something that helps the EU legislation to become more targeted but also provides to EU a more democratic and accountable profile.

Especially this is more evident when we use Quick Scan methodology for TIAs where the participation of experts from cross border regions are taking part and the different local and territorial realities can be taken under consideration



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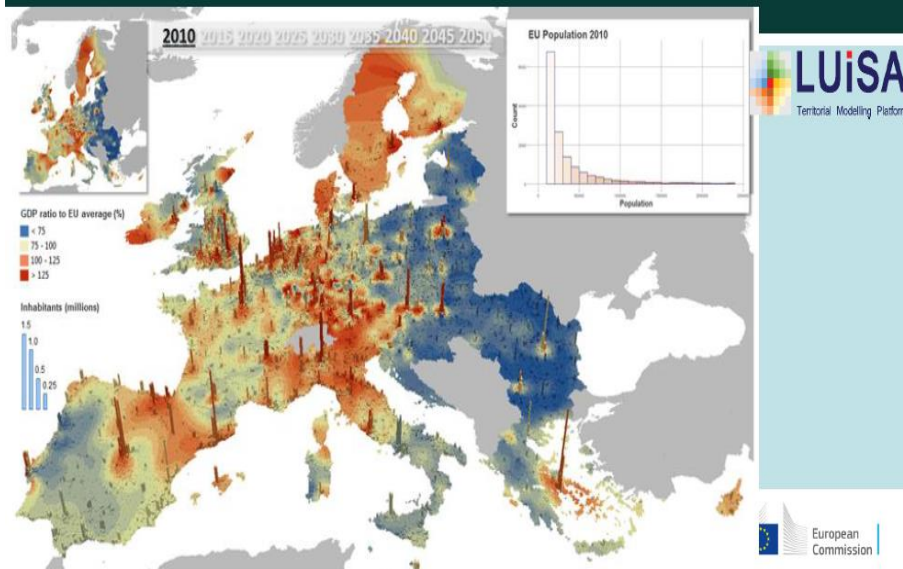


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# Thank you

## LUIA: GDP and demographic trends 2010-2050



## Questions?



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