

City Regions International Expert Conference

Dresden – 24 September 2014

POSITIONING OF URBAN REGIONS IN EUROPEAN STRATEGIES

Panel:

Towards Future Cooperation – Are there arguments for a
Central European Macro-regional Strategy?

**The vision of the Central European Initiative
on the opportunities for MRS synergy**

Ugo Poli – CEI Project Manager

State of the art and assessed needs

Established in 1989, the CEI currently comprises 18 Member States:

10 EU MS and 8 non-EU, of which 5 potential candidates and 3 Eastern Partners.

The CEI has countries in common:

1 to EUSBR (Poland), **13 to EUSDR** (Austria, Bosnia Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine), **3 to EUSAR** (Austria, Italy, Slovenia), **7 to EUSAIR** (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Italy, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia).

Whereas ETC OPs were eventually photocopied to the MRS geographical scope, **the Central Europe programme area comprises countries:**

2 of the EUSBR (Germany, Poland), **7 of the EUSDR** (Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Slovakia, Slovenia), **4 of the EUSAR** (Austria, Germany, Italy, Slovenia), **3 of the EUSAIR** (Croatia, Italy, Slovenia).

But Transnational OPs of the ETC Objective cannot be considered as the only nor the main funding source for the implementation of the MRS!

Opportunities for better governance of MRS

EC assessed **needs for the delivery of MRS added value** are i.a. :

- Sharing experience among MRS;
- Matching funds from different international & national sources, both public & private;
- Involving civil society organizations and subsidiary institutional levels;
- Make the most of existing regional international organizations.

Whereas Danube & ADRIAN OPs **have priority axes focused on TO 11 with MRS goals**

Central Europe OP has the opportunity to elaborate on the coordination of sector policies among all the four existing / starting soon MRS crossing on its geographical scope:

all CE projects 2014–2020 should include MRS WPs (policy coordination – matching funds)!

CEI vision provides also for the **establishment of a “CEI of the Regions”** as a platform aiming first to provide a clearing house for the exchange of knowledge, the stock-tacking of results and the draft of new projects crossing the macro-regional strategies in the frame of the other OPs of the transnational strand of the ETC and of the EU vertical programmes.

Thank you for your attention!

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