

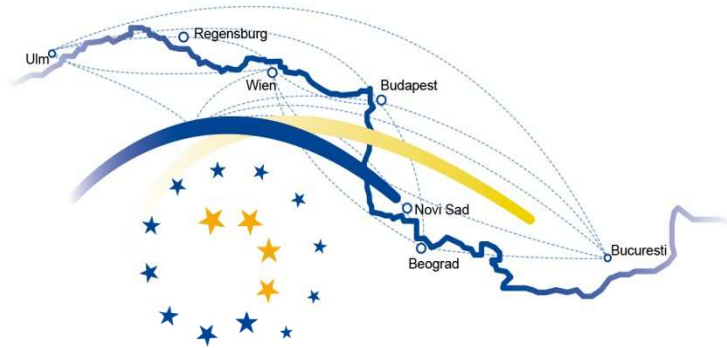
Mission of the Four Motors within
the Framework of the EU Strategy for
the Danube Region

Misija Četiri motora Evrope
u okviru Strategije Evropske unije
za Dunavski region

Challenges in developing cross-border cooperation – a need for capacity-building

Josef Frey, President of the Euro-Institute





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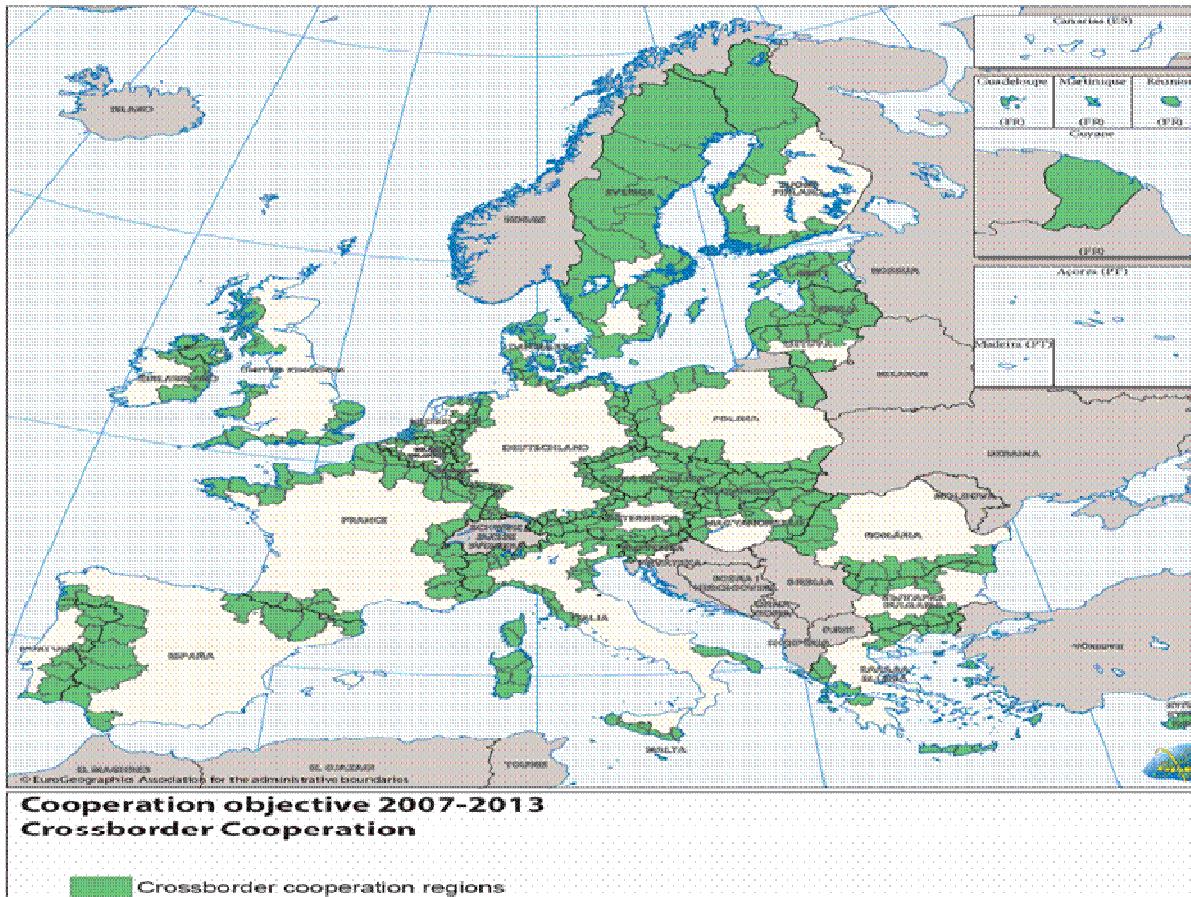
Cross-border territories: the horizontal dimension of European integration

- Border regions account for 40% of EU territory and 30% of the EU's population
- Cross-border territories represent key areas where both effects can be studied best: the positive impact of European integration as well as the remaining obstacles to integration
- Cross-border territories are regions of high potential and therefore important catalysts for European Territorial Cohesion



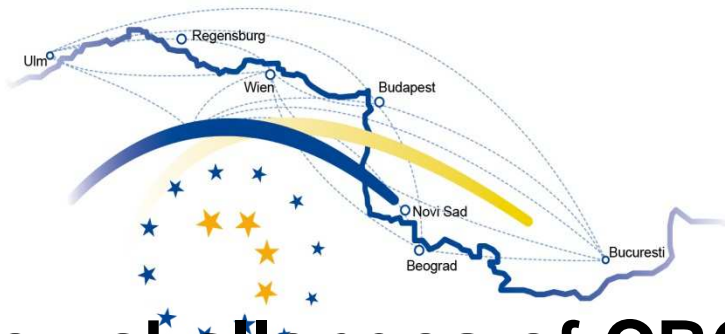
European support (INTERREG, EGTC,...) brought much progress

Cross-border cooperation regions in Europe



- Concrete projects (i.e. spatial development planning, infrastructure)
- Real partnerships with shared co-financing
- Integrated programmes
- Innovative structures

CBC territories seen under a 360° perspective: From selective problem perceptions to a joint development of integrated potentials



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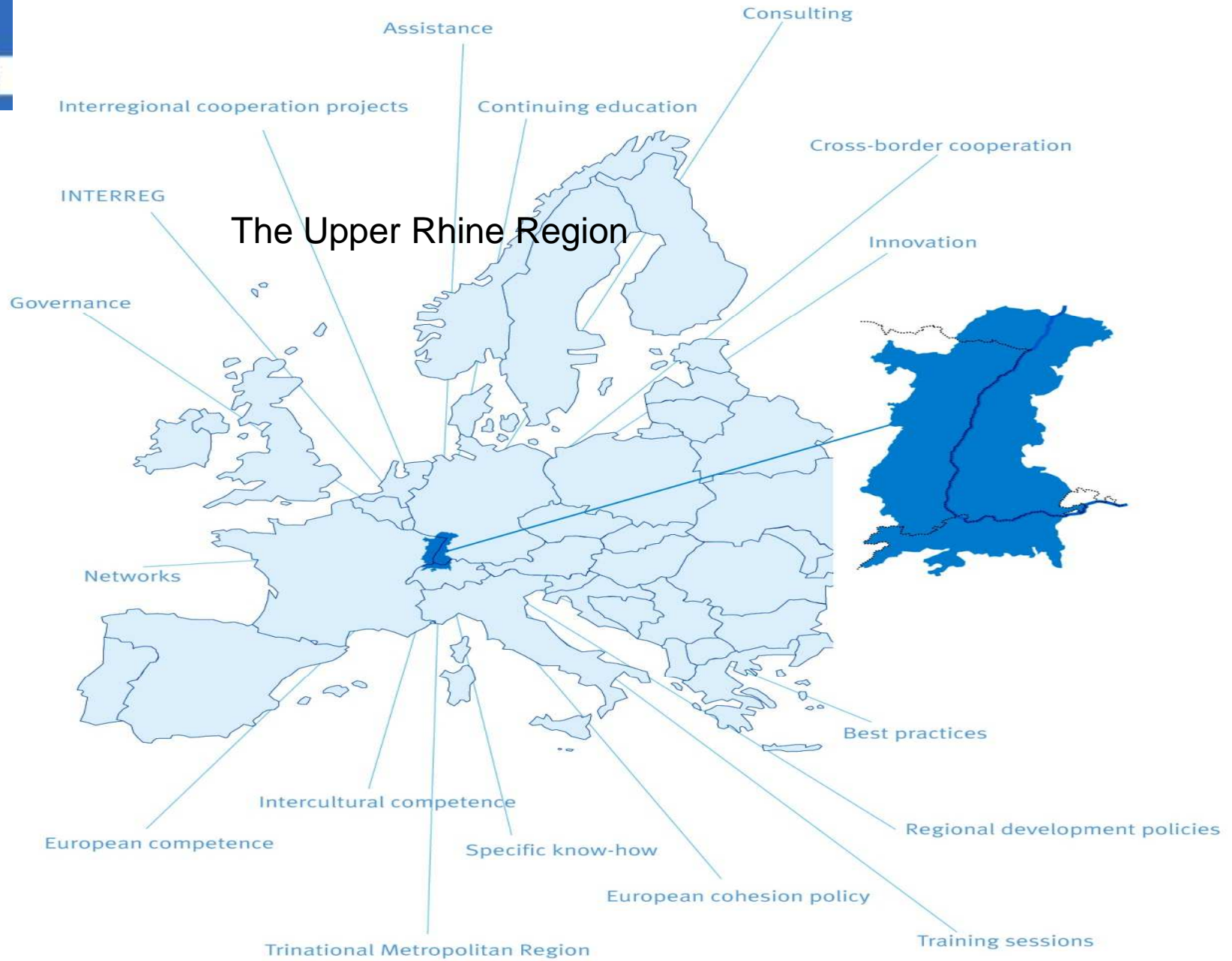
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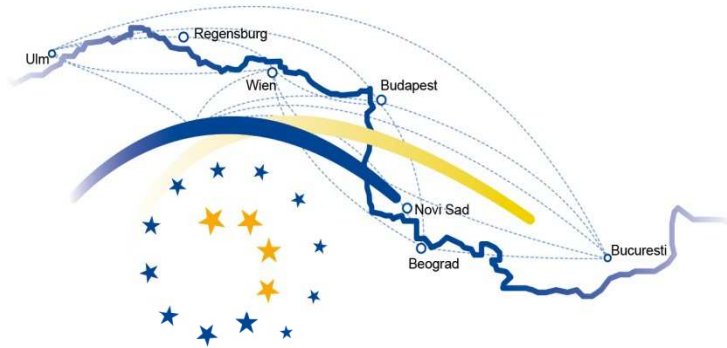
Key-challenges of CBC policy-making

- How to find the **functional equivalent** between different politico-administrative systems?
- How to base future action on a **sound knowledge of the cross-border territory** and its specific needs?
- How to act without **substantial competencies** when legal authority remains largely with the member states?
- How to turn cultural and linguistic differences into a **productive interaction**?
- How to find **the right level of institutionalization**, how to integrate new actors from the non-public sector?
- How to **define and measure the added value** of integrated cross-border action?
- How to overcome a limited project approach and develop **sustainable policy approaches** for the cross-border territory ?

New quality of CBC needs systemic capacity-building







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Lessons learned from the Upper-Rhine

Between 1870 and 1945 : 3 wars

Border moved 4 times.

Change of language, political and administrative structures.

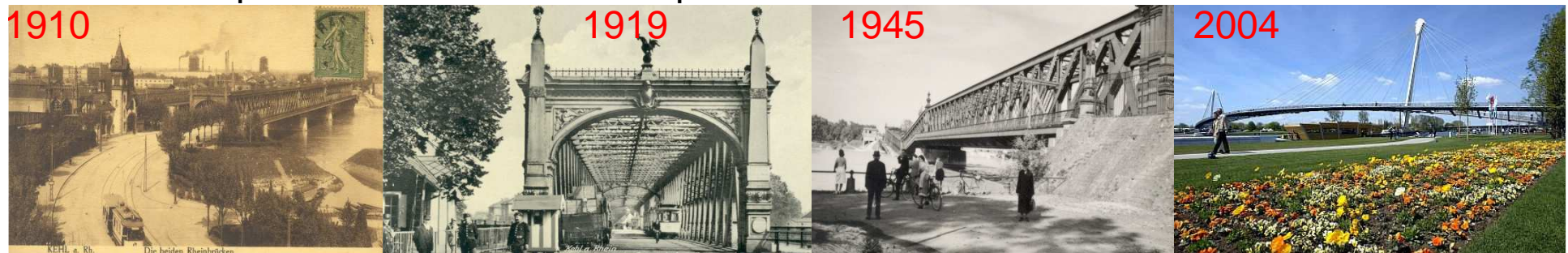
Migration and displaced people.

After the 2nd World War

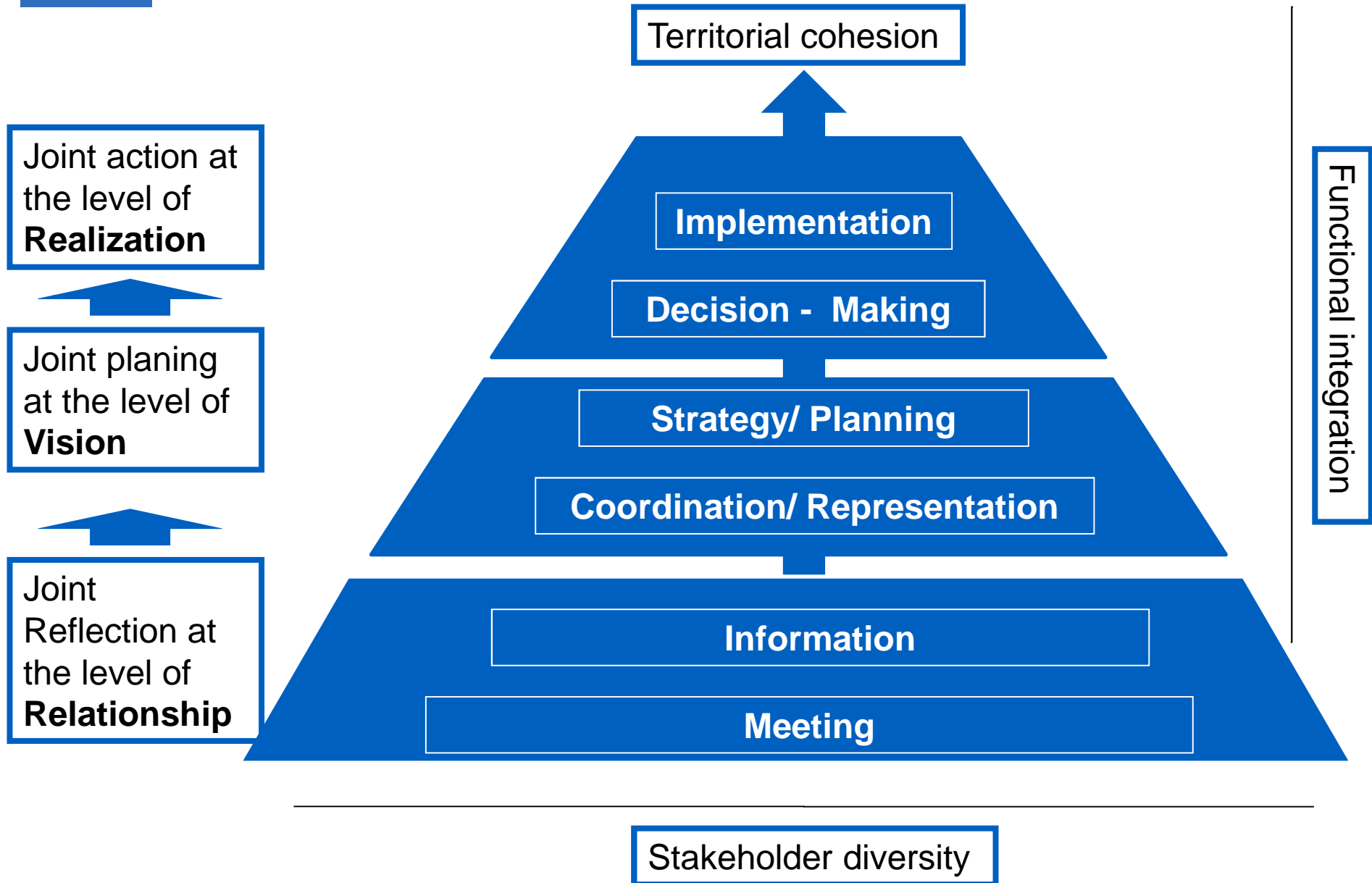
Reconstruction and individual reconciliation initiatives.

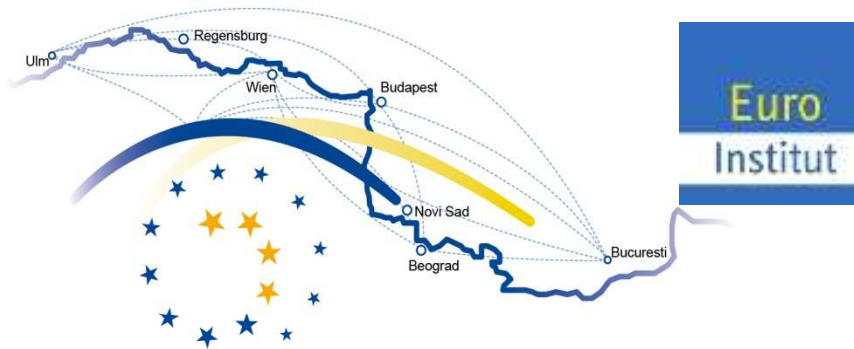
Trade relations and economic growth.

Development of a culture of cooperation.



A step by step approach that creates mutual confidence...



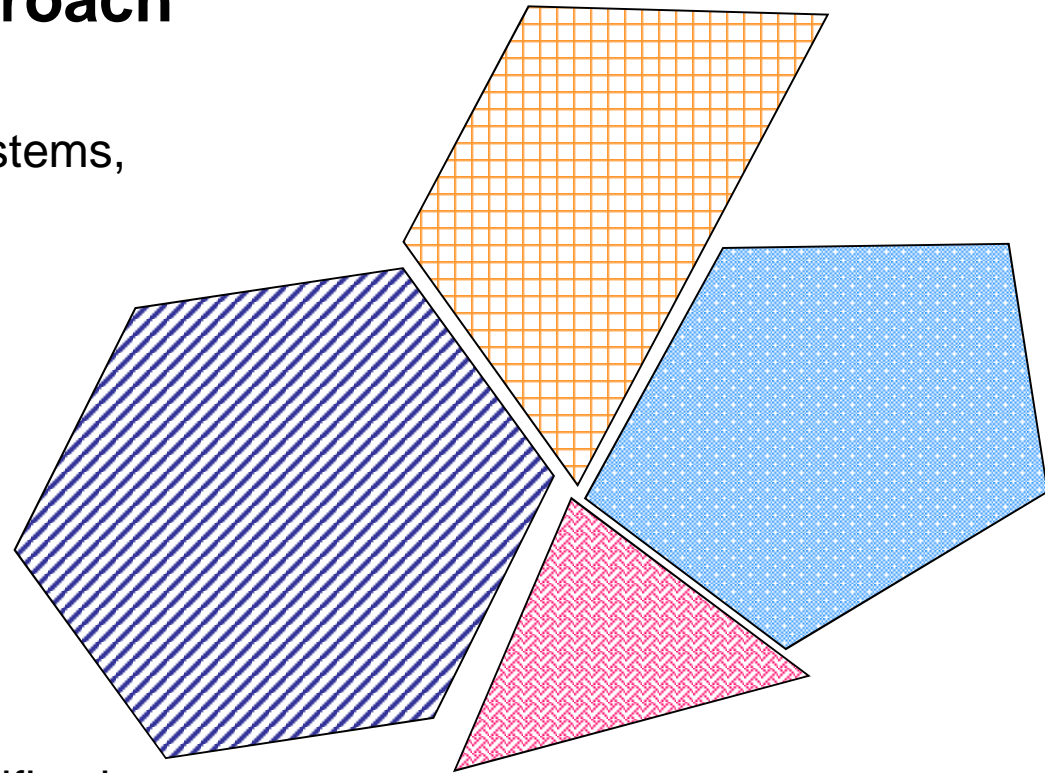


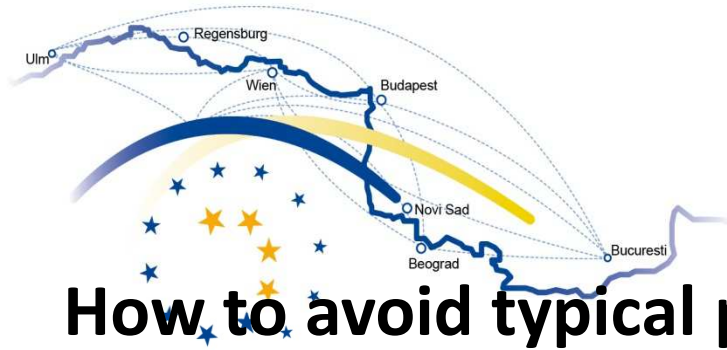
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The border is a complex issue ... requiring a multi-dimensional cbc approach

- politico- administrative systems,
- legal systems,
- (administrative) cultures,
- mentalities,
- languages,
- historical background,
- economy and currencies,
- education,
- coaching and workshops,
- recognition of foreign qualifications





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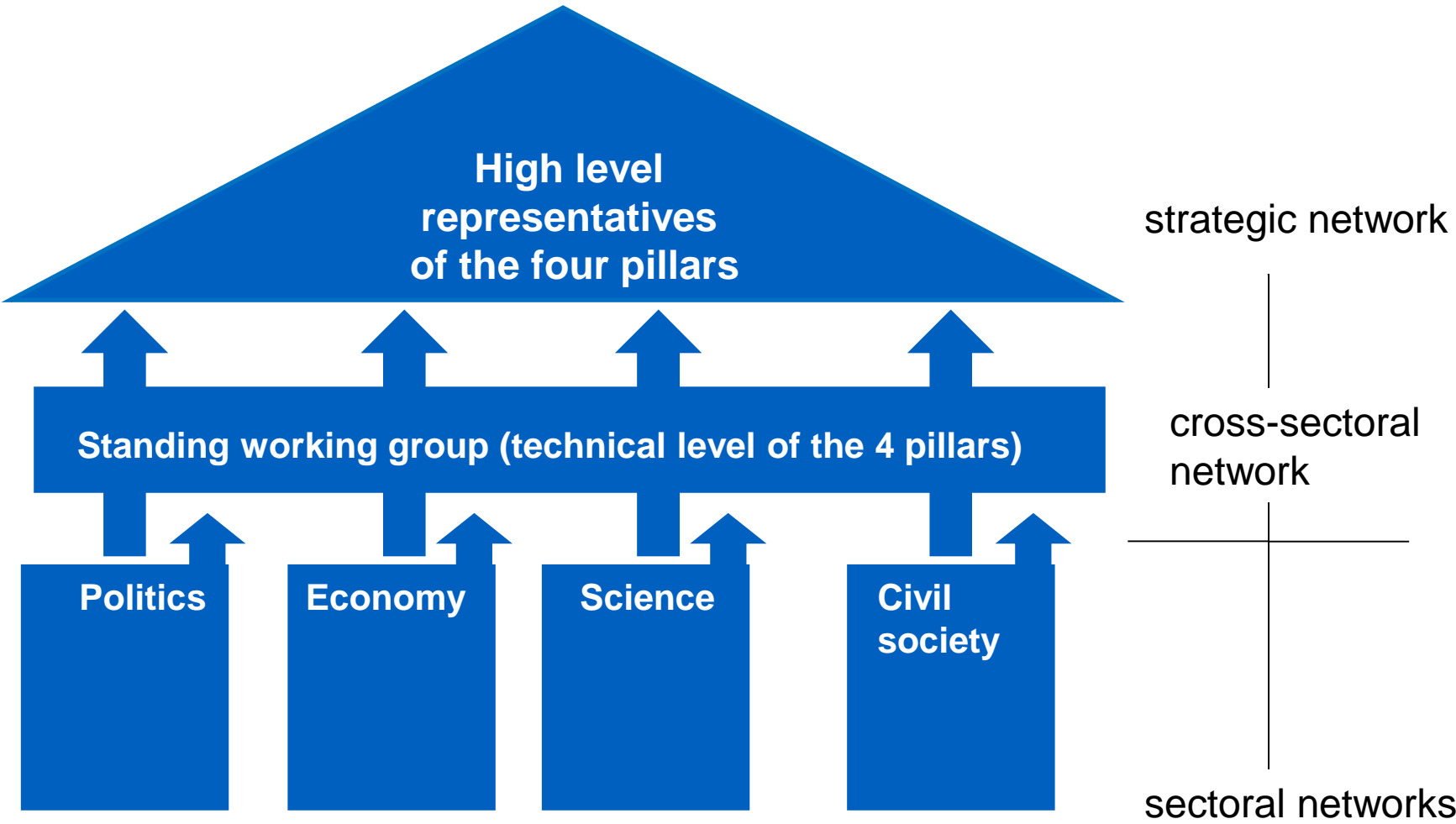
How to avoid typical problems of CBC during the implementation of key elements by...

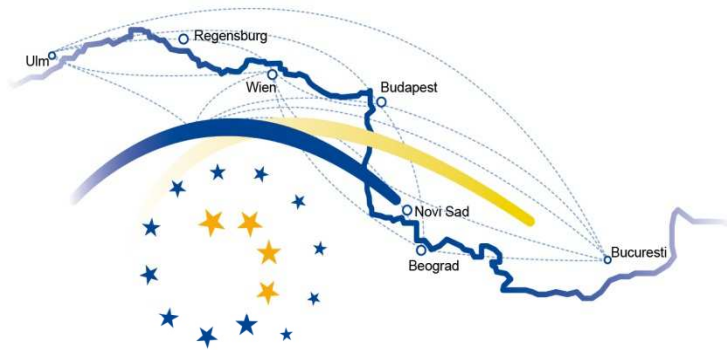
- Knowing how to identify the right partner in the neighbour state and develop a relationship based on confidence
- Being aware of the (administrative) complexity
- Keeping in mind the dimension of culture and language
- Focussing on evidence based problem-analysis and functional partnership relations
- Providing external support to the „home“ institution (to overcome limits of interpersonal networks)
- Operating with institutional committees and working groups on the same level and with equal competencies

Remember: Success depends on the (involved) people and personal relationship



Successful cbc integrates networks of actors coming from different sectors





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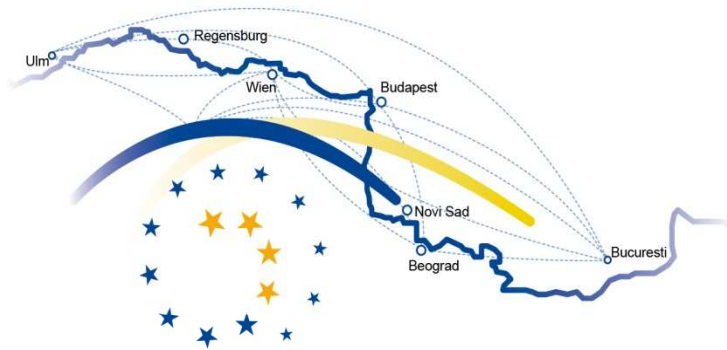
This requires multi-level-governance

...and new approaches of capacity building

1. At the EU-level:

- anticipates impacts of future EU-initiatives on the cross-border territories (CBC category in the IA system) and gives financial and technical assistance
- applies knowledge generation and management on a 360° basis
- follows subsidiarity principle and multi-level-governance (respecting the vertical and horizontal differentiation)





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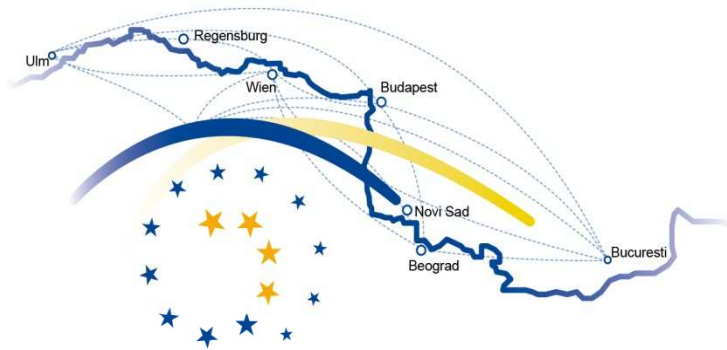
This requires multi-level-governance

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2. At the state-level:

- supports CBC actively and allows for flexible solutions to be developed on the borders (“horizontal subsidiarity”: setting the frame via direct coordination between neighboring states in relevant policy fields)
- provides legal flexibility (experimental and opening clauses, exemptions based on *de minimis* rules)





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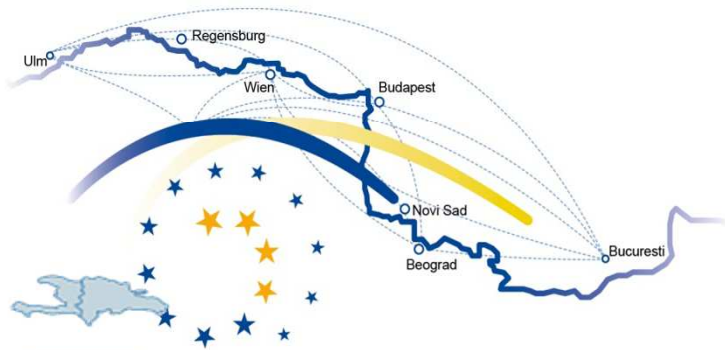
This requires multi-level-governance

...and new approaches of capacity building

3. At local and regional level

- develop shared cross-border services and transfer real competencies to joint cross-border bodies like joint interest-representation (consultations, IA System of European Commission) of the cross-border territory
- Training of actors, facilitation and active promotion





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A new actor for CBC capacity-building: TEIN as a strong and efficient network of interdisciplinary excellence on training, do research and support - www.transfrontier.eu

Only by building bridges for people we reach a peaceful future in Europe

