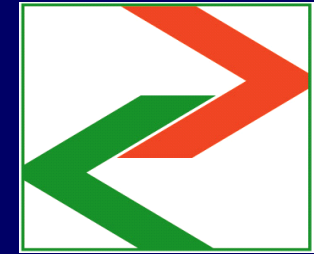




Arbeitsgemeinschaft Europäischer Grenzregionen (AGEG)
Asociación de Regiones Fronterizas Europeas (ARFE)
Association des régions frontalières européennes (ARFE)
Association of European Border Regions (AEBR)
Comunità di lavoro delle regioni europee di confine (AGEG)
Europæiske grænseregioners Arbejdsfællesskap (AGEG)
Werkgemeenschap van Europese grensgebieden (WVEG)
Associação das Regiões Fronteiriças Europeias (ARFE)
Σύνδεσμος Ευρωπαϊκών Συνοριακών Περιφερειών (ΣΕΣΠ)
Stowarzyszenie Europejskich Regionów Granicznych (SERG)

Regional Framework Operation
4th "Change on Borders" Annual Conference
Krems, Lower Austria, 23 March 2007

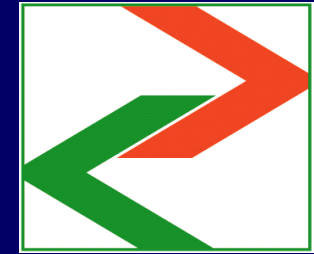


Territorial Cooperation, cohesion objectives and competitiveness:

**Future regional development and governmental
challenges of border regions in light of the
Lisbon agenda**

Martín Guillermo Ramírez
Secretary General
Association of European Border Regions

Long European Tradition

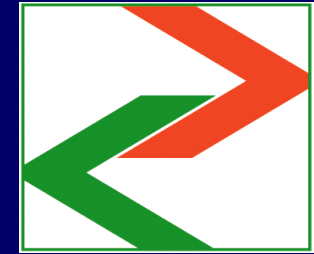


- **1960:** 20 border regions in Scandinavia, NW Europe and the Rhine basin
- **1980:** 40 (Iberian Peninsula, the Alps und Ireland)
- **2000:** 120 border regions in Europe
- **2007:** 200 structures

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- State cross-border cooperation
- Regional-state cooperation
- Regional-municipal cooperation
- Municipal cross-border cooperation

AGEG – AEBR - ARFE



1971	10 members
1980	30
2007	more than 90

200 European border areas

Represents the interests of CB regions towards the Council of Europe, the European Union and the national Governments.



In der Arbeitsgemeinschaft Europäischer Grenzregionen (AGEG) sind nahezu 200 Grenzregionen innerhalb und ausserhalb der Europäischen Union zusammengeschlossen im Hinblick auf eine optimale Interessensvertretung bei nationalen und europäischen Institutionen.

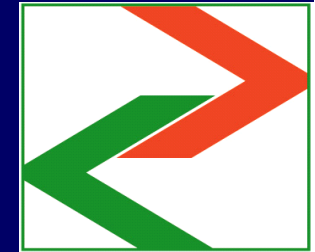
Grossräumige Zusammenschlüsse:

- Mitglied AGEG
- Nichtmitglied AGEG

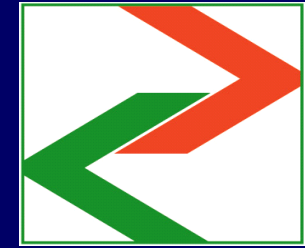
Regionale Zusammenschlüsse:

- Mitglied AGEG
- Nichtmitglied AGEG

There is a new version of this map

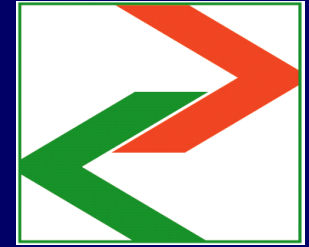


European Cohesion and Regional Pol'y



Convergence	200	B€
Economic growth and Employment	40	B€
Territorial Cooperation	8,8	B€

Cross-border Cooperation (CBC)

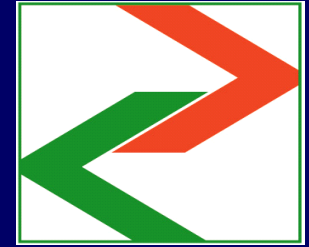


CBC has never been a national priority, but it is European task and EU political objective

European integration

Implementation of Lisbon Strategy

European Diversity



Various:

- Cultures and social systems
- Administrative structures and powers
- Fiscal and social legislations
- Many other political activities

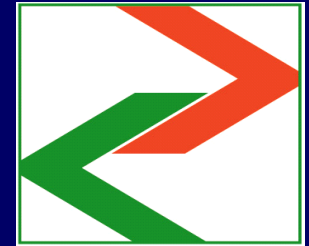
- Citizens have grown up in different environments
- They will not sacrifice aspects of everyday lives
- No State will alter its tried and trusted structures

CBC Added Value



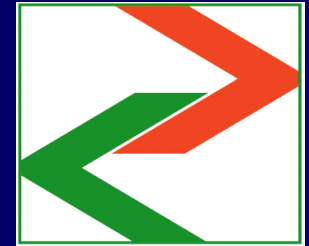
- European
- Political
- Institutional
- Socio-economic
- Socio-cultural

European Added Value



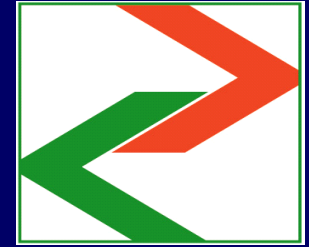
- Promotion of peace
- Freedom
- Security
- Observance of Human Rights

Political



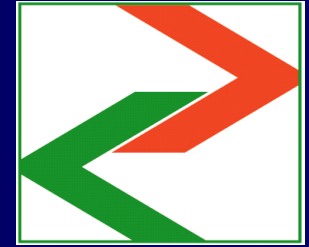
- European integration
- Getting to know each other
- Subsidiarity and partnership
- Economic and social cohesion and cooperation
- Accession of new members
- Securing CBC via EU funding

Institutional



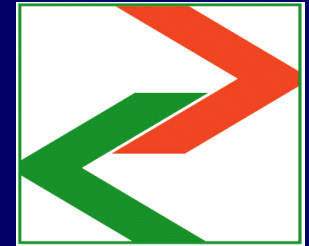
- Active involvement of citizens
- Knowledge about neighbours
- Long-term CBC
- Joint drafting, implementation and financing of CB programmes and projects

Socio-economic



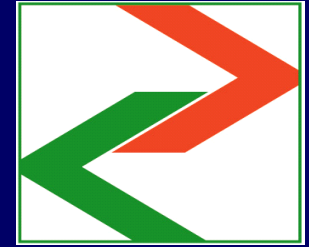
- Mobilisation of endogenous potential
- Participation of economic and social actors
- Opening up of labour market
- Additional development
- Lasting improvements in Spatial Development
- Improvement of transport infrastructure

Socio-cultural



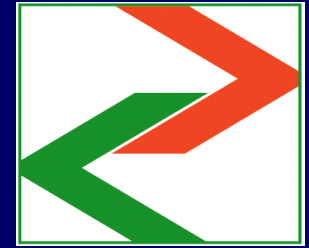
- Dissemination of knowledge
- Overview of CB region in maps, publications, teaching material, ...
- Circle of committed experts
- Equal opportunities and extensive knowledge of the languages

Specific added value to implement Lisbon Strategy



- Additionality
- Synergy
- Joint Research and Innovation
- Networking
- Benchmarking
- Spin-off effects
- CB resource management

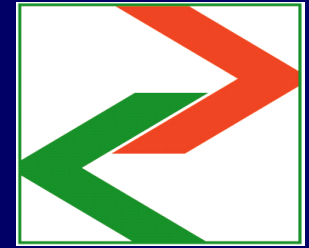
Territorial Agenda of the European Union



Towards a More Competitive and Sustainable Europe of Diverse Regions

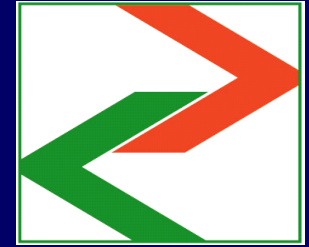
- Tomorrow's territorial challenges to be tackled today
- Strengthening Regional Identities and Territorial Diversity
- New Territorial Priorities for EU Development
- Actions for Implementing the Territorial Agenda

Tomorrow's territorial challenges to be tackled today



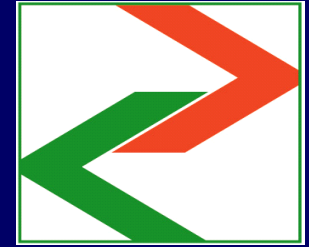
- Diverse impacts of climate change
- Rising energy prices and opportunities for a new energy paradigm
- Geographical concentration of activities while dislocating jobs
- Integration of regions in global economic competition
- Impacts of the enlargement
- Ageing population and in and out migration
- Growing traffic problems
- Overexploitation of ecological resources and loss of biodiversity

Strengthening Regional Identities and Territorial Diversity



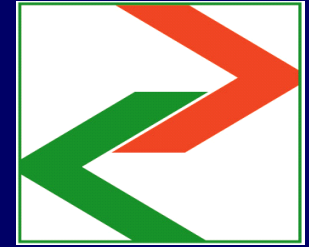
- Territorial cohesion for equal opportunities for citizens and development perspectives for entrepreneurs.
- National and regional concerns should closely intertwine with EU Policies. Particularly Rural Development, Environmental, Transport and EU Cohesion Policies.

New Territorial Priorities for EU Development



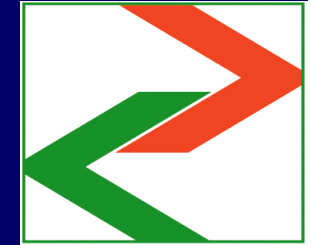
1. Strengthening Innovative and Cooperative Urban Development in Metropolitan Regions, Urban Areas and Regional Centres
2. New Forms of Partnership and Territorial Governance Between Rural and Urban Areas
3. Strengthening and Extension of Trans-European Networks
4. Promotion of Trans-European Risk Management
5. Strengthening of Ecological Structures and Cultural Resources for a New Approach to Development

Actions for Implementing the Territorial Agenda

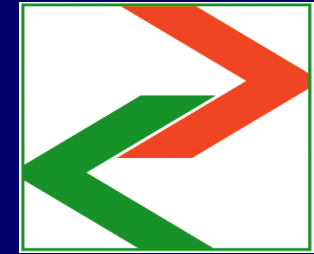


1. **European Institutions**
2. **Close Cooperation between European Commission, EU Member States, Regions and Cities**
3. **Strengthening Territorial Cohesion in EU Member States**
4. **Joint Activities by Ministers**

Key Dossiers - Debates



- Lisbon process post 2010
- EU Budget review 2008-2009
- 2010 Cohesion Policy midterm review
- Post 2013 Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)
- 2010 midterm review EU Rural Development Policy
- 2011 review of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS)
- Implementation of the Green Paper on Maritime Policies
- 7th Environmental Action Programme of the EU
- 2010 midterm review of the programme "Culture" (2007-2013)
- Transport Policy post 2010
- Energy Policy
- Research and Innovation Policy
- Neighbourhood Policy
- EU Internal Market and Competitiveness Policy
- EU Governance
- EU Constitution



THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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info@aebr.net