"Which tools for territorial cooperation and neighbourhood policy after 2013?"



Valencia Seminar – 25/05/2010





STATE OF PLAY AND PERSPECTIVES: POLITICAL CONTEXT AND DRIVERS

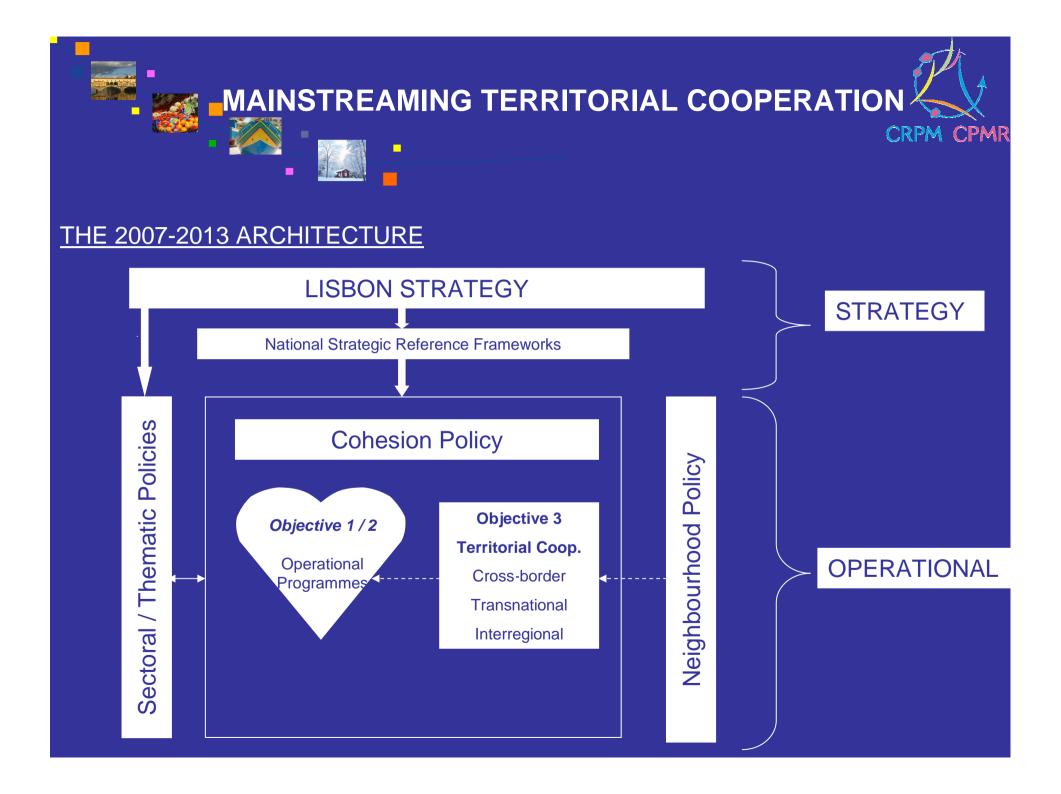
- •Territorial cooperation is now an indispensable condition for territorial development
 - -The initial objective has become less marked, but has not disappeared;
 - Growing globalisation offers territorial actors opportunities that extend far beyond Europe's borders, but first at its neighbourhood;
 - Answering the new complex and inter-dependent challenges require the intervention of various tiers of competence and therefore of different actors working in partnership.
- Reshaping the European Project with 30 member States:
 - Allowing "territorial diversity" freedom of expression is a pre-requisite for the pursuit of the European project, not a threat
 - The Macro-regional approach can be an answer

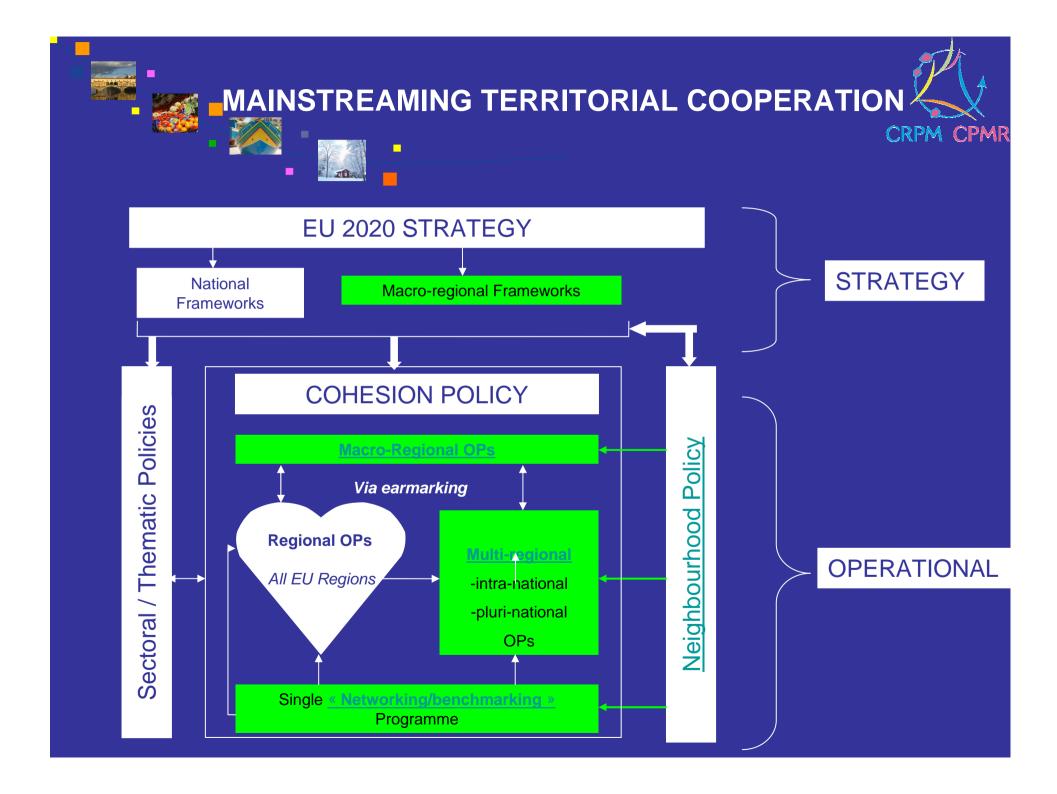


STATE OF PLAY AND PERSPECTIVES: THE EU INSTRUMENTS

- The EU Territorial cooperation struggles to produce adequate results due to "incomplete" mainstreaming and
 - Cross-border: too narrow areas in some cases
 - Transnational: same priorities for all programmes and ill-adapted governance
 - Interregional: very focused for little funding
- The EU Neighbourhood Policy Instrument (ENPI) is limited by
 - Lack of territorial approach
 - Lack of coordination with EU policies (Cohesion Policy)

○ These limitations open the way for improvements







1. DEVELOPPING MULTI-REGIONAL PROGRAMMING

- 2 types of programmes:
 - Between several Regions in a given State (mountain, river basin, coastal areas...)
 - At large cross-border level (e.g. Euroregion), tailored to specific needs of the area
- Operational provisions:
 - Managed by a European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation (EGTC);
 - For OPs area involving both Objective 1 and 2 Regions: specific financial solutions such as reducing the ratio to 1 to 5, and/or adjusting the co-financing rates.
- No additional costs for the regional policy budget :
 - Re-distributing the national and regional envelopes, including these OP (as is the case today within a given State),
 - Integrating part of the envelope of the current cross-border strand of the Objective 3 into the mainstream of regional policy.



2. MAKING THE MOST OF THE MACRO-REGIONAL APPROACH

- Need to draw the lessons of the Baltic sea Strategies:
 - Synchronizing future strategies and Programming Period
 - Ground ownership as a pre-requisite for the effective delivery of such top-down strategies.
 - Rather take inspiration from the spirit of the Baltic process than replicating it!
- Need to agree on an adequate preparation timeframe:

WHEN?	WHO ?	WHAT ?
Sept. 2010	European Council	ASKS -All EU macro-regional strategies to be implemented from 2014 be developed by the end of 2012 -The EU Commission to propose a conceptual and operational framework by June 2011
June 2011	European Commission	PROPOSES A conceptual and operation framework
By the end of 2011	The 13 transnational cooperation programmes	CARRY OUT -A general debate on the definition of the relevant area -Thematic conferences to help identifying a small number of priorities to be integrated in the Strategy.
End 2011	Member States	IDENTIFY the Macro-regional strategies to be developed. They will be prepared during 2012.
End of 2012	Member States, Regions and the EC	PREPARE the corresponding macro-regional strategies



2. MAKING THE MOST OF THE MACRO-REGIONAL APPROACH

- Need to set an operational mechanism at EU level for their implementation:
 - A macro-regional Operational Programme for each area to give substance to the priority axes of each strategy.
 - No additional cost for the Cohesion Policy budget:
 - A "technical assistance" envelope, aimed at developing a body to be responsible for strategic monitoring, coordination, and capitalisation,
 - A "project" envelope, aimed at funding a limited number of strategic projects under each priority.
 - Direct implementation of the strategy through the regional OP and possibly multi-regional OP via earmarking.
 - Monitoring bodies organised according to criteria specific to each area, with compulsory representation of the territories on the strategic monitoring body





3. KEEPING A LIGHT INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION INSTRUMENT

- A more flexible cooperation instrument suitable for:
 - Thematic cooperation;
 - "Soft" cooperation actions (networking / benchmarking) which do not fall within the scope of a mainstream programme.
- A programme such as the existing Interreg IVC programme, with:
 - Wider-scope priorities,
 - Financial envelope equivalent to that of the remaining envelopes of the territorial cooperation objective.
 - More fluid decision-making thanks to qualified majority and restriction of the use of the veto by members in the Monitoring Committee
- Increased complementarities with "Culture" and "Active Citizens" programmes (DG EAC)
 - to avoid over-subscribing
 - not to overlook the entrance of potential new cooperation actors





IMPROVING AND « TERRITORIALISING » THE EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY

- •Creating a common area of development and growth for 800 Million of inhabitants
- Using the existing instruments and the partnership with the States of the Neighbourhood

• Integrating the territories in the definition of a strategic area « EU + Neighbourhood »

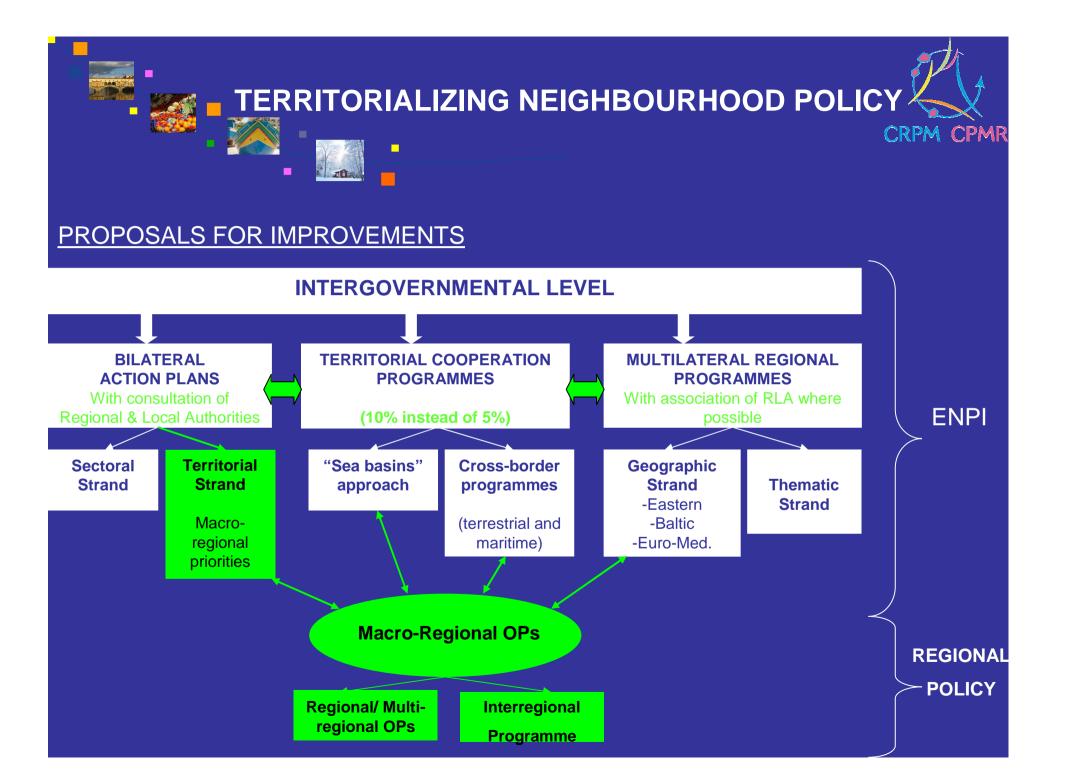




Objective 3

Transnational cooperation programmes

REGIONAL POLICY





Thanks for your attention!

