

Joint Partner Search Seminar: Alpine Space, Central Europe, South East Europe and Mediterranean Programmes

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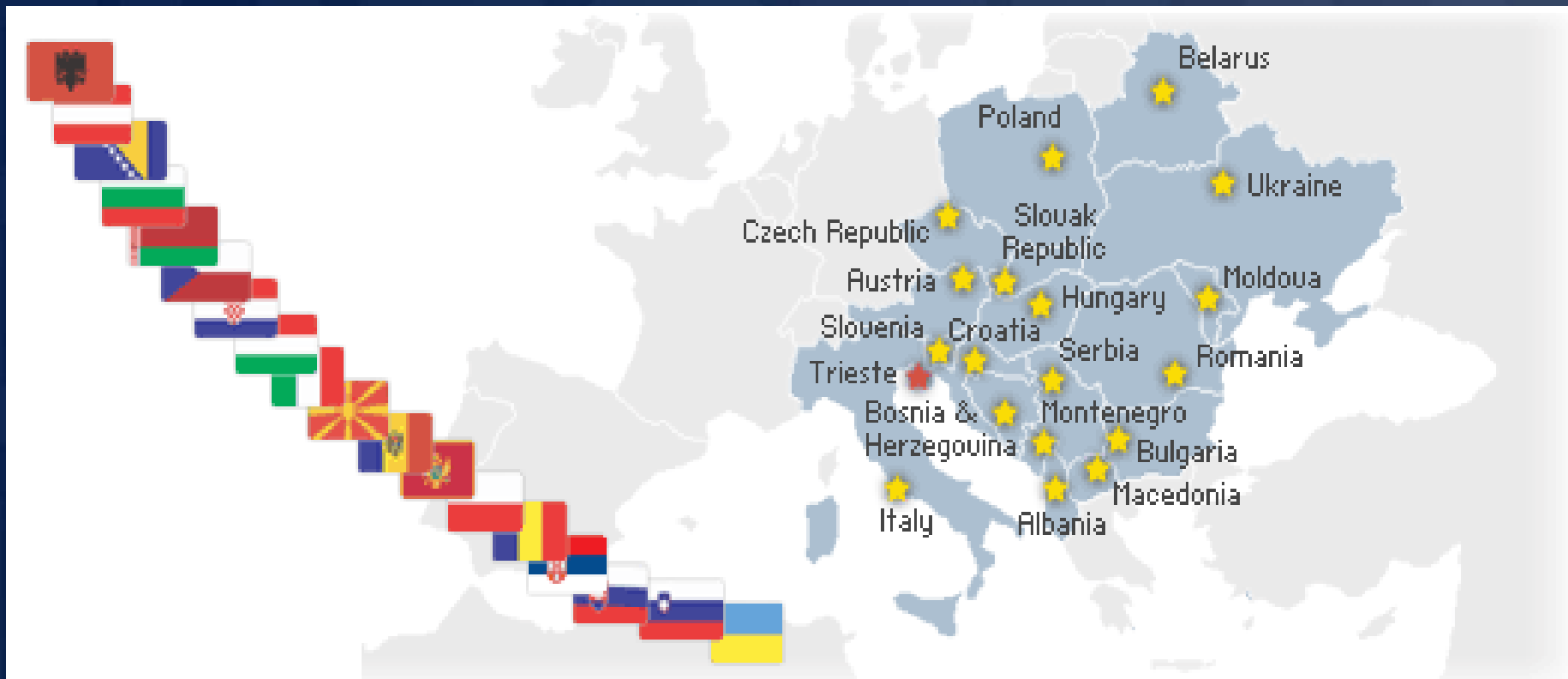
**CEI Experience in Transnational EU Programmes:
the need for capitalising results and promoting exchange
of experience**

Silvia Bolzan

***Central European Initiative – CEI
Secretariat for EU Projects***

The CEI region

18 Member States



The CEI Membership

9 EU and 9 non-EU countries:

- **9 EU Members (Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia)**
- **2 EU Candidate Countries (Croatia, Macedonia)**
- **4 EU Potential Candidate Countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia)**
- **3 Eastern European Countries (Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine)**

The CEI: Aims

- **Promotion of dialogue and cooperation in the region**
- **Strengthening economic, political and cultural cooperation among its Member States**
- **Bringing non-EU Member States closer to the EU**
- **Avoiding the creation of new divisions among advanced and less advanced countries**

The CEI Neighbourhood Cooperation

- **Support to CEI member countries in developing infrastructure and shaping their policies according to the EU model**
- **After the EU enlargement, the CEI focus has shifted towards CEI MS remaining outside of the EU**
- **Thanks to its well-structured cooperation network, the CEI can ensure a real transnational approach**

CEI Instruments (1)

- **CEI Funds**
e.g. Co-operation Fund, CEI Trust Fund at the EBRD,
CEI Solidarity Fund
- **CEI Networks**
e.g. Expert Working Groups, CEI University Network, CEI
Science and Technology Network, Business network – CECCI
- **CEI Programmes, Awards**
e.g. Know-How Exchange Programme, From Research to
Enterprise
- **CEI Feature Events**
e.g. Summit Economic Forum, Energy Forum, Youth Forum

CEI Instruments (2)

CEI Secretariat for EU Projects (former Funding Unit)

- **Created in 2004 to promote the CEI participation in EU projects and programmes, since several CEI countries have become eligible for EU funding**
- **Offers assistance to CEI Member States seeking for cooperation at European level for their inclusion in European projects**

CEI Participation in EU Projects

The CEI Secretariat for EU Projects operates as main financial and organisational link between EU and CEI Member States through:

- **Facilitating links with authorities from Central and Eastern Europe**
- **Enhancing and co-financing transfer of the transition and negotiation experience**
- **Disseminating project activities and results throughout the CEI region**
- **Promoting participation of CEI Member States, particularly non-EU ones, in EU programmes**

CEI Involvement in Territorial Cooperation

Focus on transnational (rather than cross-border) territorial cooperation across the new EU borders

CEI geographical area



Central Europe Programme (CEP)

South East Europe Programme (SEEP)

CEI Priorities

CEI priorities are in line with CEP and SEEP priority areas

So far, the CEI participation in EU projects had a focus on:

- Sustainable spatial planning and education**
- Information society technologies**
- Development of innovative SMEs**
- Development of trans-European transport corridors**
- Promotion of renewable energy sources**

CEI Added Value to EU Projects

In line with its institutional mission, the CEI can provide an added value to EU projects by:

- *promoting horizontal institutional links with those countries not directly involved in the project*
- *promoting vertical links between local/regional and central government authorities*

The needs to be conveyed to EU Transnational Territorial Programmes (1)

- Promoting know-how transfer and exchange of experiences at transnational level beyond the limited project area**
- Promoting the implementation of strategic documents and action plans elaborated during the project implementation**

The needs to be conveyed to EU Transnational Territorial Programmes (2)

Future transnational projects should take into consideration the need for:

- Capitalising/implementing the results achieved in the context of past CADSES projects (e.g. RAVE Space Project)
- Facilitating know-how transfer and exchange of experiences among EU and non-EU countries

An example: The R.A.V.E. Space Project

- **INTERREG IIIB CADSES Project involving national, regional and local authorities in Greece, Italy, Poland, Montenegro and Slovenia**
- **Project duration: 34 months (2005-2007)**
- **Aim: improving the role of education in the field of spatial planning and sustainable development in primary and secondary schools**
- **(CEI supported the participation of Montenegro in the project through the Cooperation Fund)**

Demands for the Project and its Transnationality

Observation of existing situation in Slovenia on spatial development

- **Proposal by Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning and Ministry of Education of the Republic of Slovenia, to raise common knowledge about spatial planning and values of space**
- **The transnational level to bring better solutions to the complex issue**

R.A.V.E. Space Project: General Objectives

- **Methodology enabling the step - by- step integration of concepts of sustainable spatial development in to the regular curricula of children and youth at the European level**
- **Strategic document as base for harmonization of educational and spatial politics on national and transnational level**
- **Raising the awareness of spatial planning and values of space**

R.A.V.E. Space Project: Needs for Future Cooperation

- **Disseminate project results at all national levels (also in the countries which are not included in the project)**
- **Sensitize relevant ministries especially in partner countries**
- **CEI networks and mechanisms useful for dissemination of proposal and results related to the project field of interest**
- **Possible follow up of the project**

Contacts

***CEI – Central European Initiative
Secretariat for EU Projects***

**Via Genova 9, 34121 Trieste – ITALY
Tel. +39 040 7786 777 - Fax. +39 040 7786 783**

EU.projects@cei-es.org

www.ceinet.org