

Potentials for Territorial Co-operation with Western Balkans

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Slovenia

Territorial Cooperation Needs and Perspectives

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Territorial cooperation

Territorial co-operation is understood as the **development of joint activities** related to territorial development policies for areas belonging to various administrative jurisdictions.

Territorial cooperation is **particularly important along national borders**, but it is also relevant **between administrative units** of the same State.

The aim of territorial cooperation is to **facilitate territorial integration** and to promote **more competitive and sustainable forms of territorial development** than would result from individual, segmented territorial development policies without cooperation.

Territorial cooperation is driven by **public authorities** of the various levels, but it may associate other types of stakeholders.



Spatial development glossary
European Conference of Ministers
responsible for Spatial/Regional Planning
(CEMAT)



Territorial cohesion

The concept of territorial cohesion is an overarching objective of territorial development. It is generally considered as **complementary** to the objectives of economic and social cohesion and aims at promoting a harmonious and homogeneous development of the entire territory.

Territorial cohesion is a **multi-dimensional concept** with at least three main components:

- **territorial quality**: the quality of the living and working environment; comparable living standards across territories; similar access to services of general interest and to knowledge;
- **territorial efficiency**: resource-efficiency with respect to energy, land and natural resources; competitiveness of the economic fabric and attractiveness of the territory; internal and external accessibility; capacity of resistance against de-structuring forces related to the globalisation process; territorial integration and cooperation between regions;
- **territorial identity**: presence of “social capital”, capability of developing shared visions of the future; local know-how and specificities; productive “vocations” and competitive advantage of each territory.



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Spatial Planning towards Territorial Cohesion

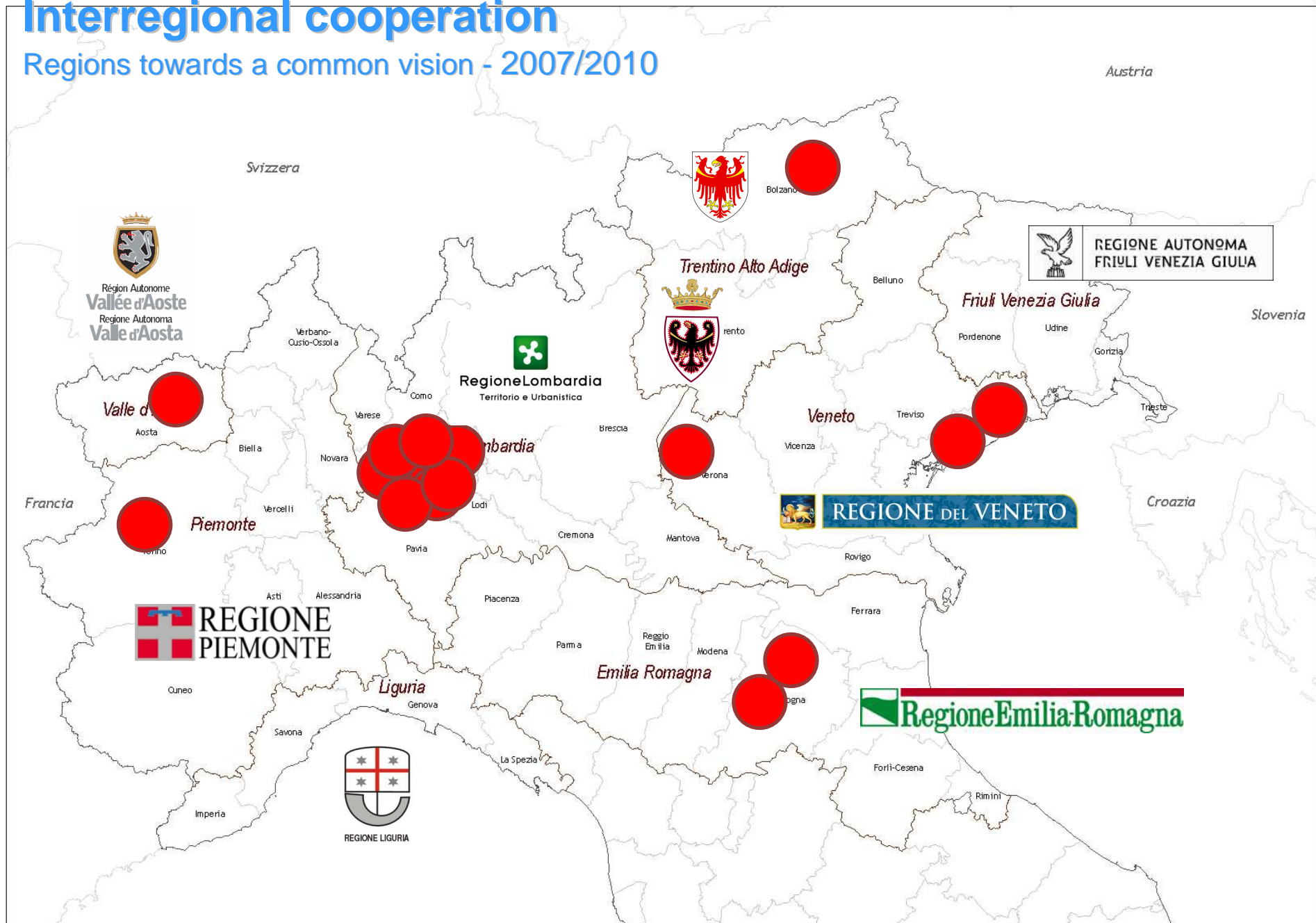
Organising the process – main steps

- Initiating an **informal process** towards a spatial vision
- Identifying (local – endogenous – key) **factors for development**
- Defining the **relevant** territory, regardless of administrative borders
- Inviting **stakeholders**
- Preparing groundwork for **community involvement**
- Organising the **process**
- SWOT analysis creating a common **understanding** and a common **jargon**
- Formulating **main goals** and targets in general terms
- Elaborating and evaluating **different scenarios**
- Agreeing on a **preferred model**: the common vision
- Supporting the **decision-making** process
- Preparing the action plan and the **legal framework**
- Communicating results and **monitoring** the process



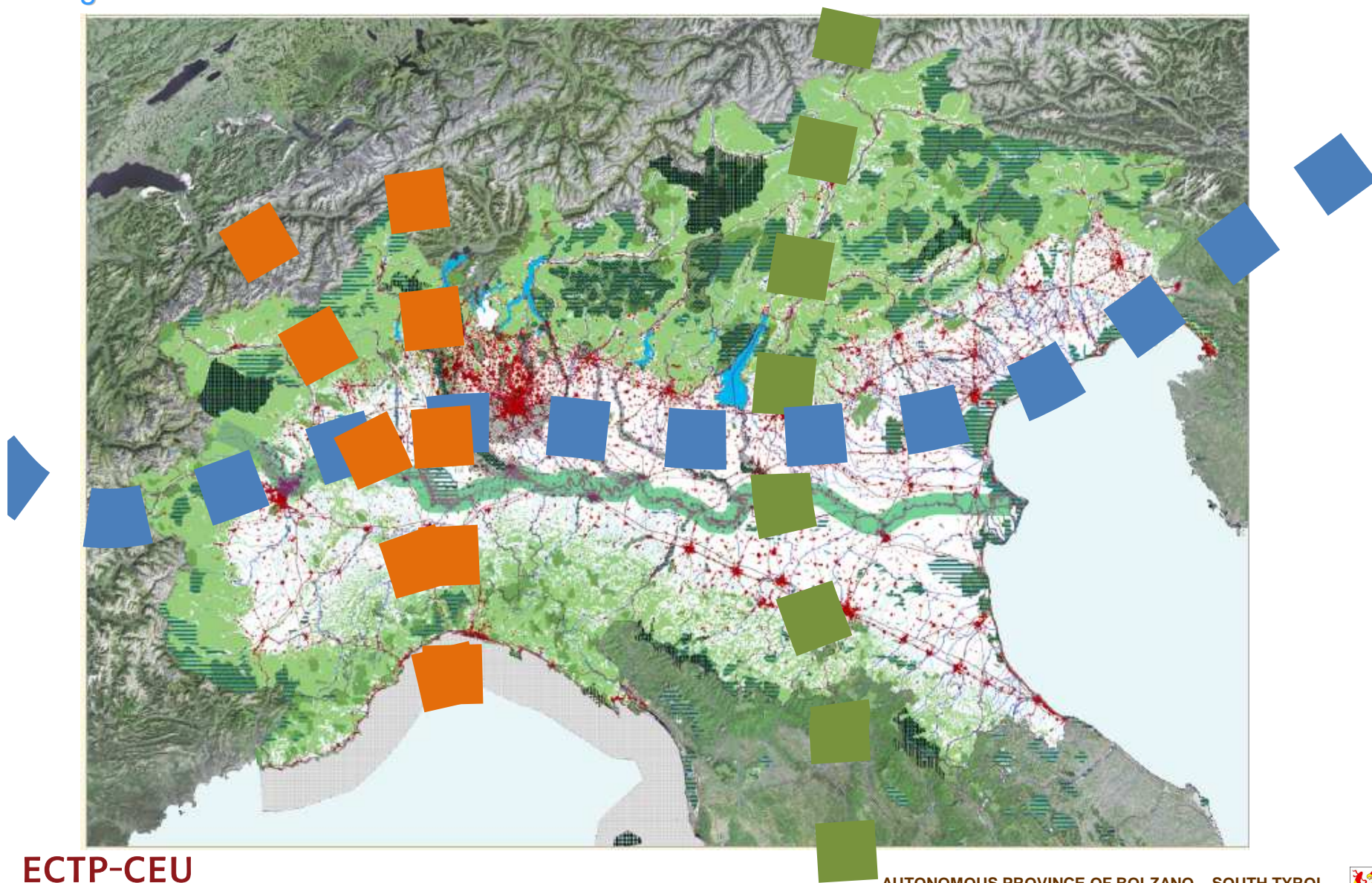
Interregional cooperation

Regions towards a common vision - 2007/2010



Interregional cooperation

Regions towards a common vision - 2007/2010



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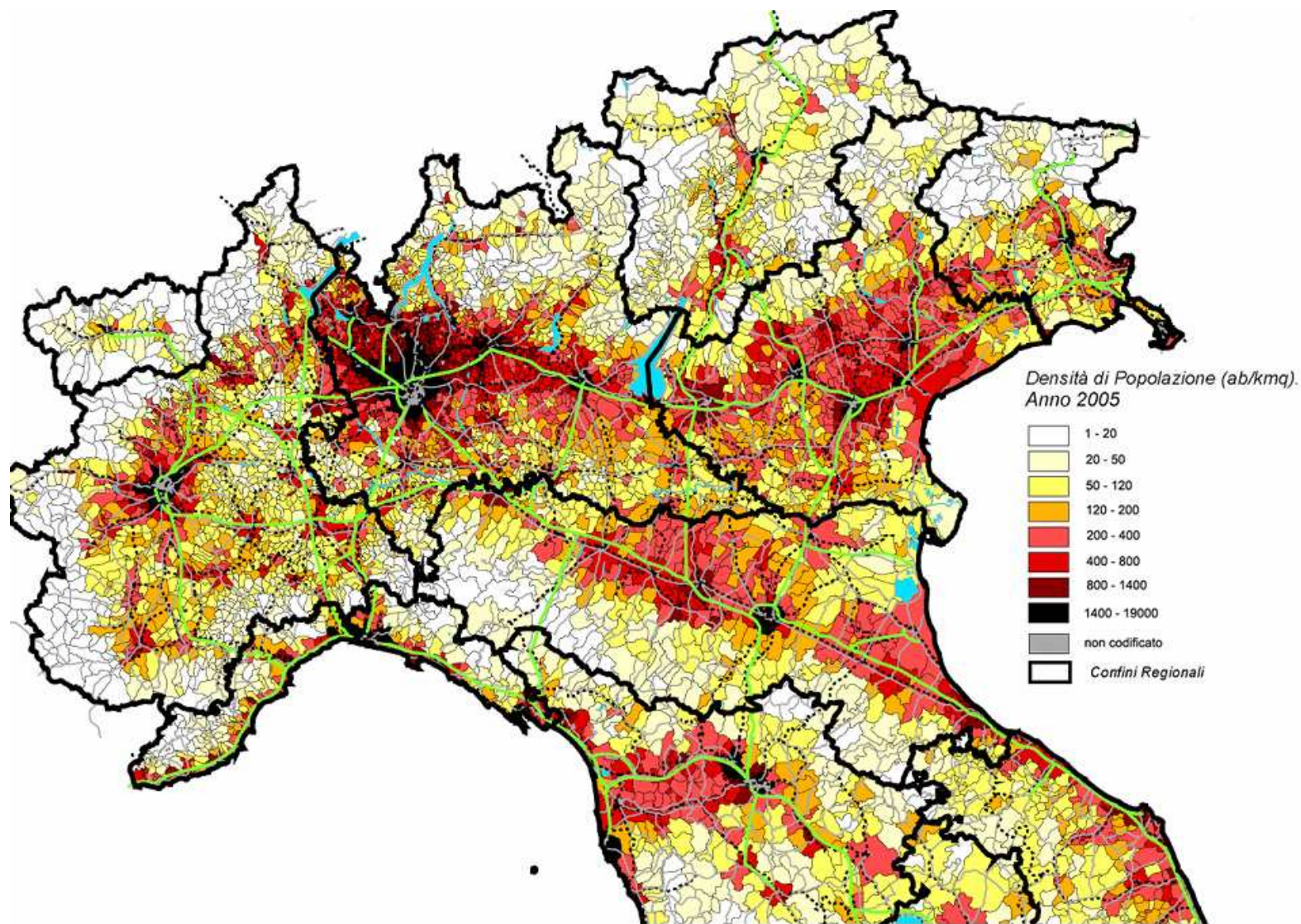
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Interregional cooperation

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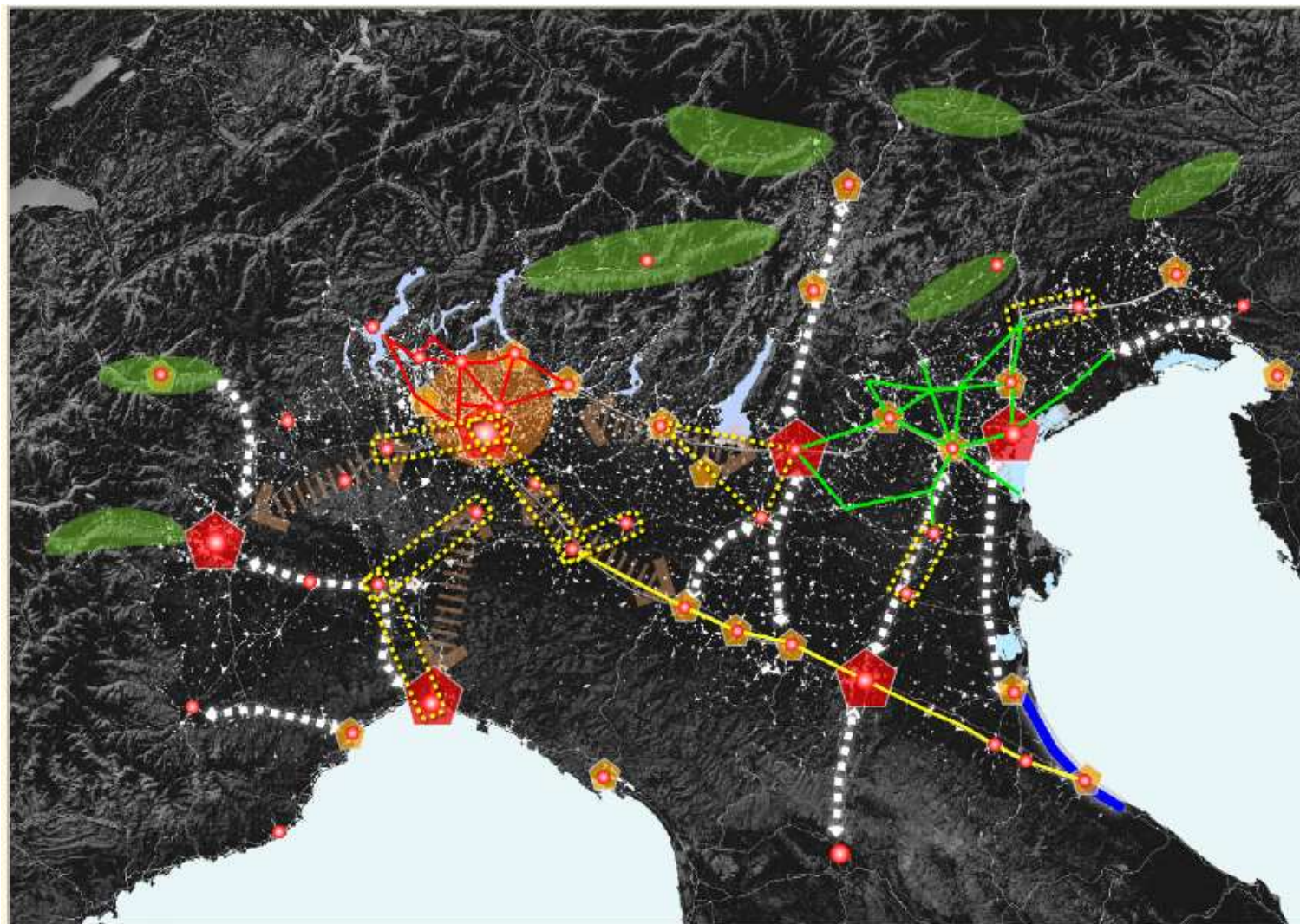
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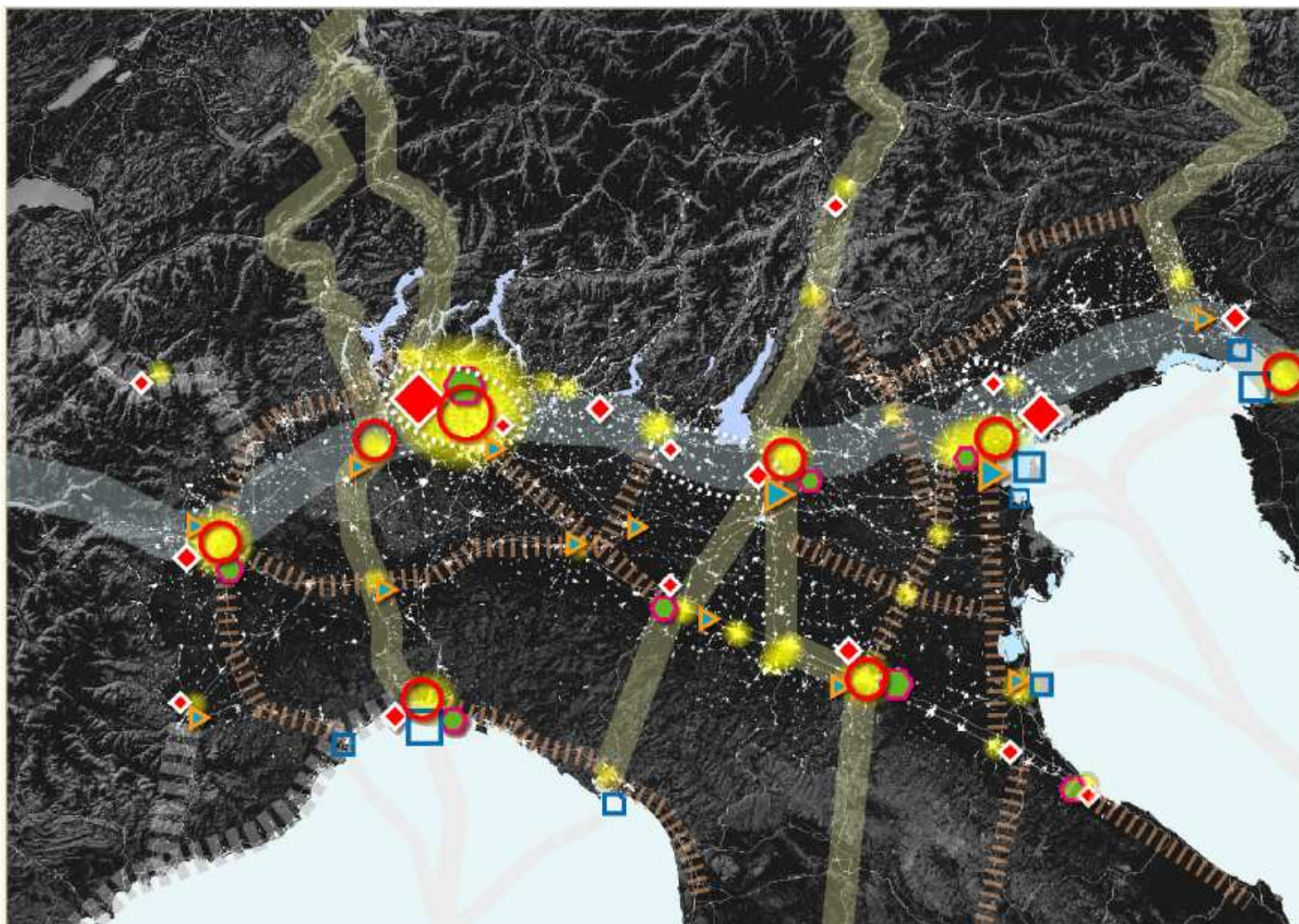
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Interregional cooperation

Regions towards a common vision - 2007/2010

- **exchange of experiences** and best practices in spatial development issues,
- development of **shared visions** embedded in regional planning schemes and programmes,
- **cooperation** in drafting calls for EU programmes (i.e ESPON)
- **exchange of knowledge** on particular themes (ecologic networks, infrastructural nodes, etc.)
- definition of a **common jargon**
- **awareness raising** of common problems and strengths.



Regional cooperation

Municipalities towards a common vision – Gardena 2040



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Regional cooperation

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- **CONSISTENCY** of the different approaches and in the long term
- **COHERENCE** between scales and layers
- **CREATIVITY** of possible solutions
- **COMMUNICATION** and **COOPERATION** between actors
- **CONSENS** of all relevant parties
- **CONNETTIVITY** of the various part of a unique territorial system
- **CONTEXT** as a functional unit

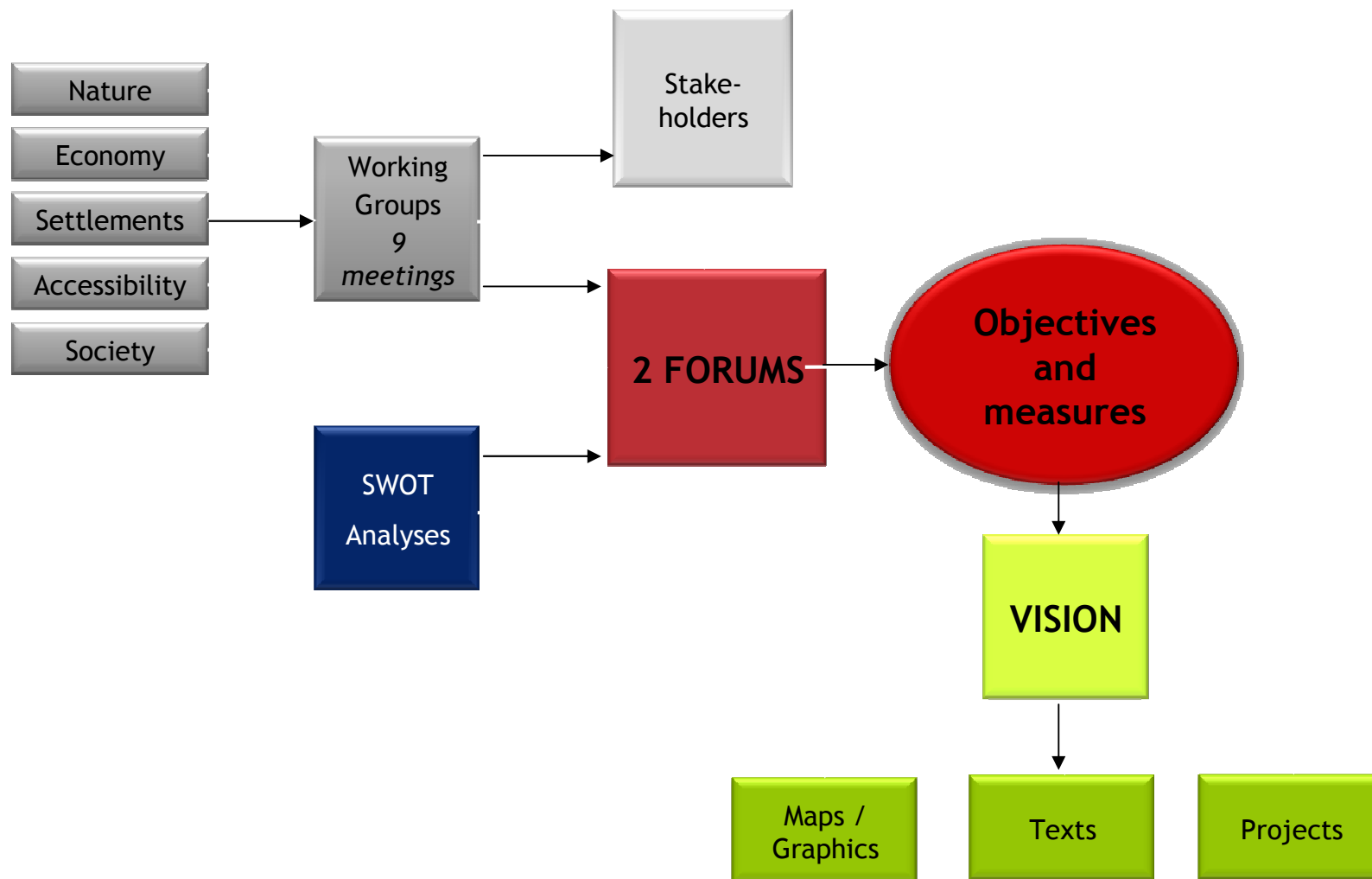


Territorial Cohesion



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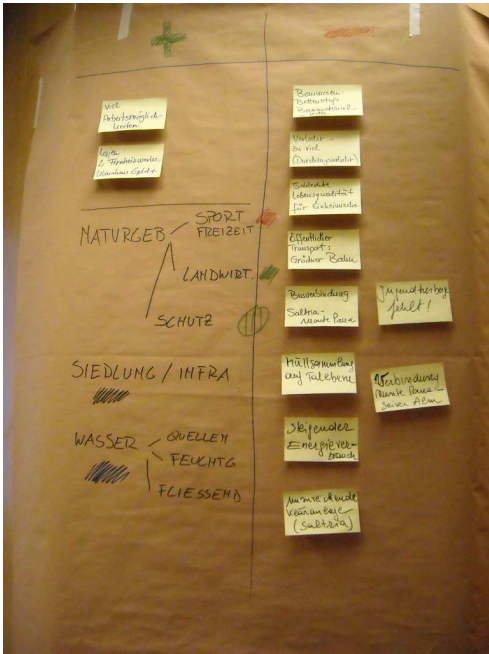
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Discussion on potentials and issues

Identification of possible future development scenarios

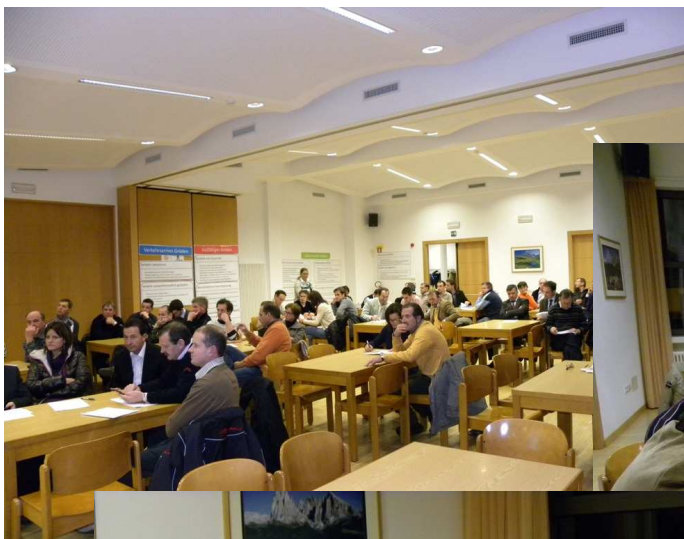
Formulating main goals



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Agreeing on a preferred model: the common vision



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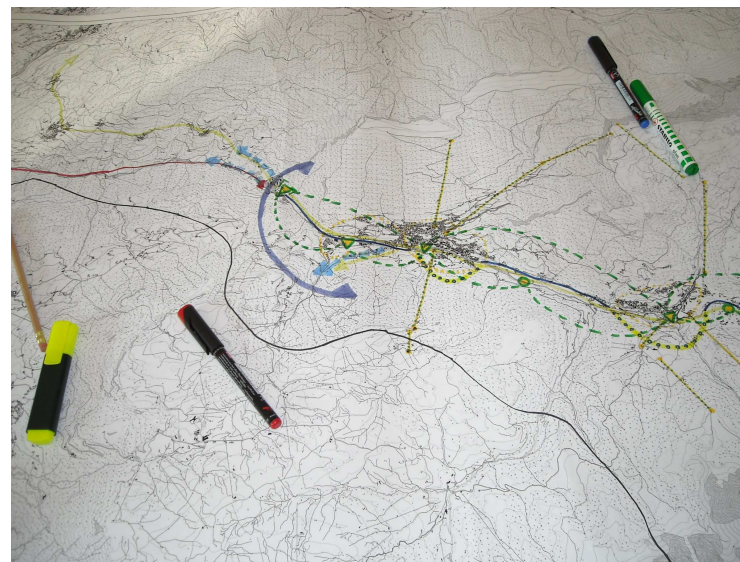
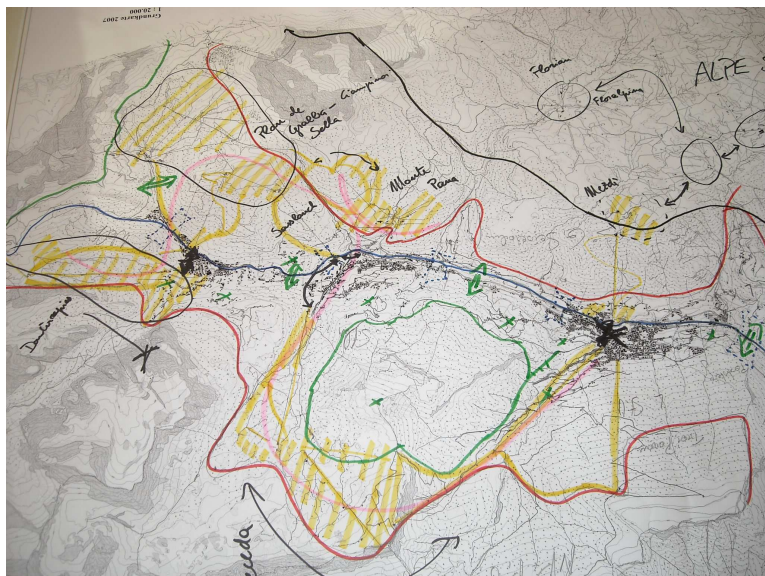
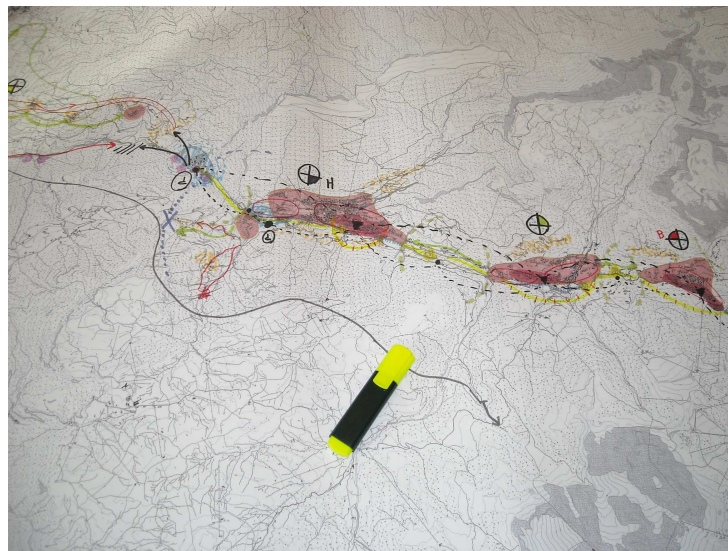


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Preparing the action plan and the legal framework



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Territorial Cooperation Needs and Perspectives

Conclusions

Effective and efficient territorial cooperation needs modern **spatial planning** which requires to:

- involve **spatial planners** on all levels
- start **informal processes** with local stakeholders
- identify the **relevant territory** and its **vocations**
- **integrate sectors and levels**
- agree on a common **shared vision**

Thank you!

