



# Danube strategy & space technologies

## How space technologies contribute as an enabling tool to advance the Danube strategy

16 June 2011

*High-level Workshop*

*Gerhard Stahl, Secretary-General, Committee of the Regions*



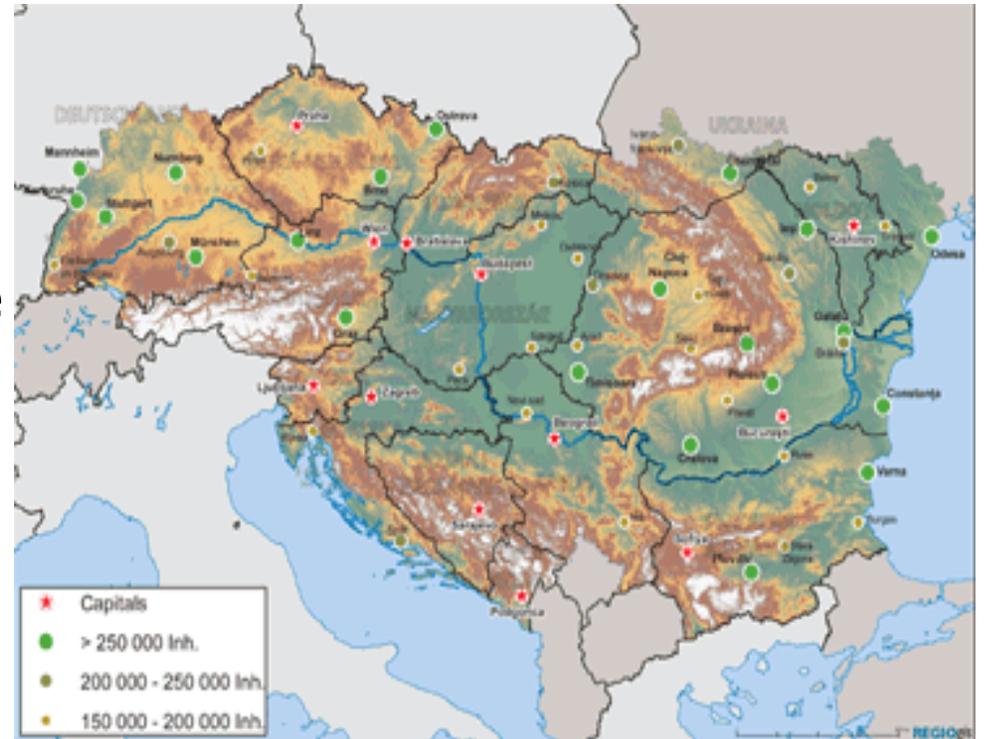


# THE DANUBE REGION STRATEGY



# The Danube Region

- 14 countries: 8 EU MS, 6 non-EU MS
- 115 millions of people
- 1/5 of the territory of the EU
- Special protections areas and special areas of conservation Natura 2000
- Danube delta: UNESCO World Heritage List since 1991





# The CoR Work

- 2 opinions

(Rapporteur: Wolfgang Reinhart)

« *An EU strategy for the Danube area* » (2009) – *own initiative*

« *The Danube region strategy* » (2011)



# The Strategy

- Commission communication (9 Dec 2010)
  - To be approved by the Council (24 June 2011)
  
- Objectives of the strategy
  - to smooth the way for economic growth, prosperity and security
  - to make the Danube region "one of the most attractive in Europe".
  
- Implementation:
  - No new laws nor institutions nor funding
  - Strengthening links between several policies and stakeholders



# The Strategy

Pillars	Priority Areas
1 Transport and interconnections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>To improve mobility and intermodality</li><li>To promote culture and tourism, people to people contacts</li></ul>
2 Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>To encourage sustainable energy</li><li>To restore and maintain the quality of the waters</li><li>To manage environmental risks</li><li>To preserve biodiversity, landscapes and the quality of air and soils</li></ul>
3 Prosperity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>To develop the knowledge society</li><li>To support competitiveness of enterprises</li><li>To invest in people and skills</li></ul>
4 Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>To step up institutional capacity and cooperation</li><li>To work together to tackle security and organised crime</li></ul>



# CONTRIBUTION OF SPACE TECHNOLOGIES



# Space Technologies in Europe

❖ Commission communication, on European Space Policy (4 April 2011 )

*"Towards a space strategy for the European Union that benefits its citizens"*

- 3 types of needs: strategic, social, economic (the EU2020 goals)
- Part of industrial policy, role in EU competitiveness and innovation
- Priorities: Galileo and GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security)

## Local and regional interests

- GMES is user driven and active involvement of users is needed to define service requirements;
- Galileo could especially contribute to better management of all forms of transport in towns and regions;
- New applications will emerge in the nearest future, but such innovation requires long term investment, so EU and national authorities should facilitate technology investment and uptake of services;
- It could be recommended for the future EU space policy to support the establishment of regional GMES centres and networking - NEREUS



# Fields of contribution for the Danube Strategy

- Environment
- Security
- Economy
- Same concern:  
contributing to the economic growth of the EU and its regions



# Environment (1/2)

- One pillar of the Danube strategy
  - improving the water quality
  - environmental risk management
  - maintaining biodiversity
- The priority is given to
  - the conservation of the natural flood retention capacity of the Danube basin
  - the prevention of the recurrence of floods.



# Environment (2/2)

- **GMES** can help providing the optimal and liable data to control and anticipate the natural phenomena
- Purpose of GMES:
  - to guarantee continuous access to information services on the environmental and security issues
  - to play a vital role in monitoring the sea, land and atmospheric environment



# Security (1/2)

- Fourth pillar "strengthening the Danube region"
  - increasing security
  - combating serious and organised crime
- GMES can help the supervision of the security in this area highly sensitive (external borders of the EU with not yet stabilised countries: Balkans, Ukraine)



# Security (2/2)

- Potential GMES' contribution to find solutions for areas such as
  - monitoring borders
  - maritime surveillance
  - civil protection.
  
- Providing of tools and network for a better coordination of national facilities.



# Economy (1/2)

- Third pillar "Building prosperity in the Danube region"
  - knowledge-based society through research, education and IT
  - competitiveness of businesses
  - clusters, investments in skills
  
- Space technologies contribution:
  - Promoting and taking part in clusters
  - Hosting the "ground segment" infrastructures of the space chain
  - Supporting higher education and research institutes as a way to promote regional knowledge and expertise
  - Frontline use of new technologies and applications
  - Creating the conditions for an industry-led innovation



# Economy (2/2)

- In terms of competitiveness, a real opportunity for the Danube region:
  - Possibility of development of a high range of expertise in one sector of space industry
  - A driving force for growth and innovation, generating highly qualified jobs and market opportunities for innovative products and services far beyond the space sector



# Other potential tools: Galileo

- Galileo: satellite navigation system designed for civilian use
  - independence of the EU
  
- Benefits: across all sectors of the economy such as
  - transport
  - telecommunications
  - the environment
  - security.



# CoR's political work in relation to EU space policy

- Opinion on the "Green Paper on satellite navigation applications," CdR 96/2007 fin
- Ongoing work: Opinion on the "Space strategy for the European Union that benefits its citizens"



Thank you!

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