

sprint ///

Regional Budgets as key for integrated Rural Development Policy

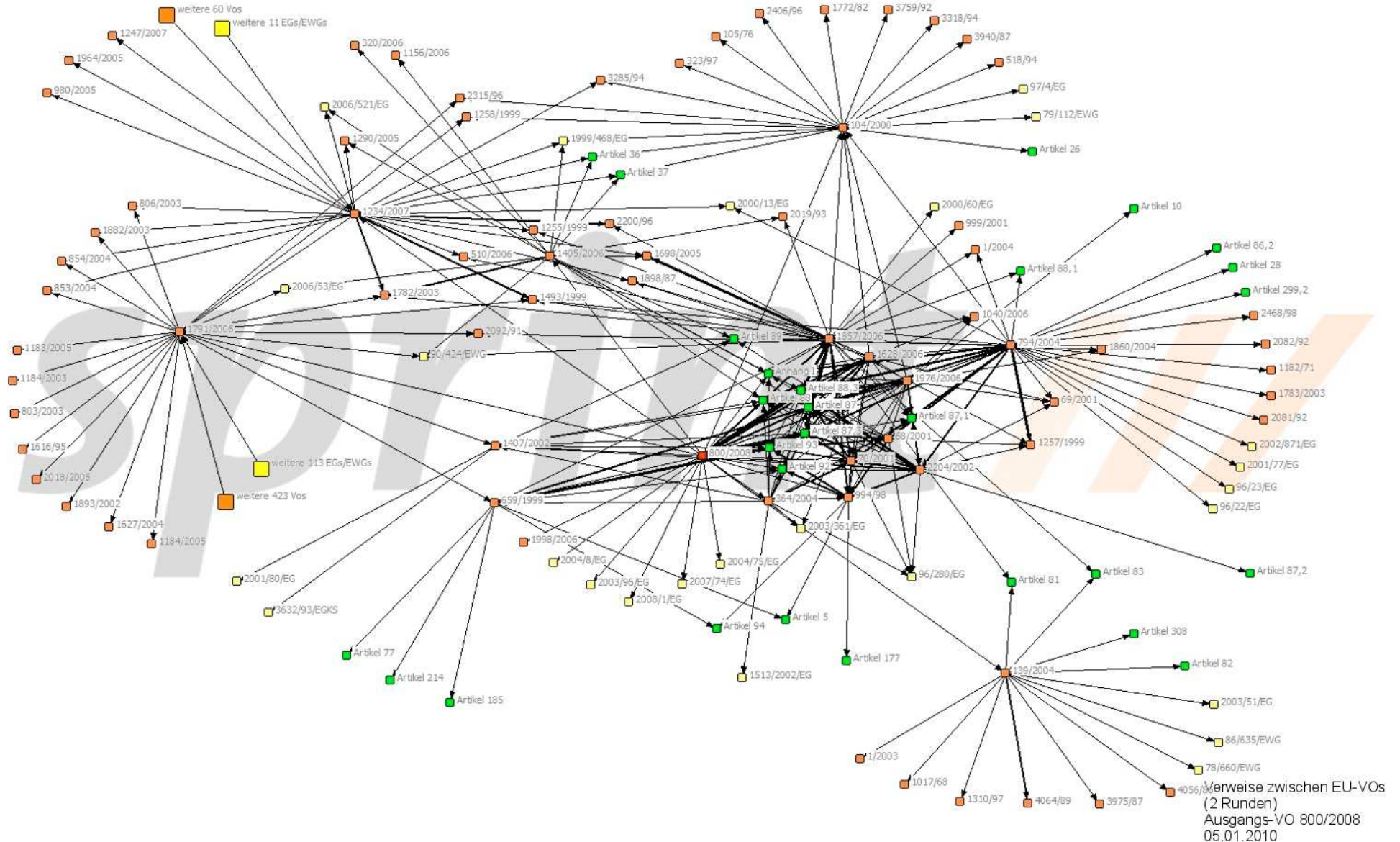
/// Dr. Sebastian Elbe

Thematic Working Group 4 on "Delivery mechanisms of EU Rural Development Policy", Brussels, 15.02.2011



Welcome to the real world ...

“Network” General Block Exemption Regulation (800/2008)



Integrated approaches and co-ordination of funds?

/// Tailwind from EU-Level(?)

/// Remarkable activities in the field of policy integration and stronger focus on regional/local level:

- / 10/2010:** Letter of the four Commissioners for Regional Development, Agriculture and Rural Development, Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion as well as Maritime Affairs and Fisheries to the President of EU COM Mr. Barroso proposing a STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2014 – 2020 for the four EU funds (ERDF, ESF, EFF, EAFRD)
- / 11/2010:** 5th Cohesion Report
- / 11/2010:** Communication from the Commission “The CAP towards 2020”

/// Implementation on three levels desirable and useful - but at least on Delivery Mechanism Level necessary

Strategic Level

**Programmatic
Level**

**Delivery
Mechanism Level**



European Union

EN

Investing in Europe's future

Fifth report on economic, social and territorial cohesion

Foreword
Summary
Conclusions
Maps and comments

Report from the Commission

November 2010

„The regional diversity in the EU, where regions have vastly different characteristics, opportunities and needs, requires going beyond ‘one-size-fits-all’ policies towards an approach that gives regions the ability to design and the means to deliver policies that meet their needs. This is what Cohesion Policy provides through its place-based approach.

The report argues that an efficient Europe 2020 strategy requires close coordination between Cohesion Policy and other EU policies.”

Summary of the
5th Cohesion Report, p. 7



European Union

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Investing in Europe's future

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„Involving regional and local communities can improve policies. Evaluation evidence has demonstrated that the active participation of people and organisations in projects at regional and local level, from the design to the implementation stage, is a crucial success factor. Indeed, such partnership is one of the key sources of added-value of Cohesion Policy, mobilising the skills and knowledge of those concerned to make programmes more effective and inclusive.”

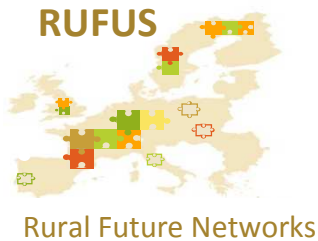
Summary of the
5th Cohesion Report, p. 15

Integrated approaches and co-ordination of funds?

/// Strategic Level

/// What should be in?

- /// strengthening the EU`s role as facilitator of policy integration including improved compliance between EU and national policies and funding
- /// providing visions and guidelines for a common European development policy including a common understanding of development in rural areas as part of regional development
- /// strengthening the place based approach to respect the diversity of EU regions and valorisation of endogenous potentials
- /// extending and improving local co-operation/governance models, like Urban, Leader, Euregio a. s. o.

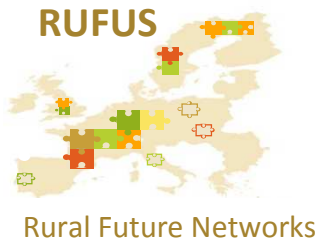


Contract no. 217381



Integrated approaches and co-ordination of funds?

/// Programmatic Level



Contract no. 217381

- /// General Regulation for Integrated Approaches in all EU-Funds:
 - /// The general regulation should define a common and simplified finance, administration and monitoring system complying with the requirements of integrated approaches.
 - /// All funding lines with integrated approaches e.g. integrated regional development, integrated coastal zone management, water framework directive, urban development etc. should be subject to this regulation.
 - /// The funding implemented through this general regulation should be earmarked so that the money can be assigned to the EU fund from where the funding comes.

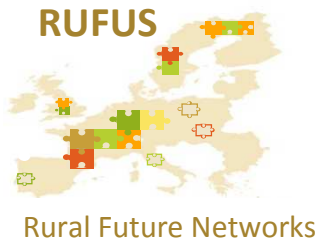
?? possible ??

COUNCIL REGULATION

laying down general provisions on the implementation of Integrated Policy Approaches

Integrated approaches and co-ordination of funds?

/// Programmatic Level



Contract no. 217381

- /// General Regulation for Integrated Approaches in all EU-Funds:
 - /// Higher Fault Tolerance for Integrated and Innovative Approaches: $10 \times 10 = 1$
Implementing integrated and innovative approaches is
 - /// connected with a higher risk of failure – but also with the chance of higher benefits for EU regions.
There should be a political decision between the EU-Parliament, the COM and MS to allocate 10% of the Funds
 - /// to these approaches and increase the max. error rate in this field to max. 10% without interpolation onto other measures or funds. As a result the maximum error rate related to the whole budget of the Funds is 1%.

?? possible ??

COUNCIL REGULATION

laying down general provisions on the implementation of Integrated Policy Approaches

Integrated approaches and co-ordination of funds?

/// Delivery Mechanism Level

- ///** What if there is not enough support from the Strategic and/or Programmatic Level?
- ///** What if Structural Funds and Fund for Rural Development will be programmed as usual by DGs and separated into single EU-Funds?

There are Delivery Mechanism worth thinking which allow to administrate the EU-Funds individually and without touching the "sector principle"

Integrated approaches and co-ordination of funds?

/// Delivery Mechanism Level

| Options | Regional Budgets incl. Mutual Eligibility of EU-Funds | Deduction in Advance. EU-Community Initiative / Innovative Measure |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Characteristics | <p>EU regulations for the different Funds (or for at least one EU-Fund) include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ earmarked money from EU-Funds for Regional Budgets on OP/RDP-level ⇒ max. 10-15% of the EU-Funds. Incentive for OP/RDP-Level: If not implemented money goes back to EU-level ▪ that the EU-Funds money for Regional Budgets is mutually eligible in compliance with all current regulations and guidelines including General Block Exemption Regulation and <u>de-minimis</u> aid regulation ▪ the money of the Regional Budgets is earmarked to the EU-Funds it is coming from | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deduction in advance during budget negotiations on EU-level for Regional Budgets ▪ One Directorate General has to program and take the responsibility for implementation and administration of the Community Initiative ▪ Option for EU-Level to give Regional Budgets directly to NUTS 3 / co-operation of NUTS 3 ▪ The EU-Funds money for Regional Budgets is mutually eligible in compliance with all current regulations and guidelines (see Option Mutual Eligibility) ▪ earmarking of Regional Budgets to EU-aims and not to funds |
| Experiences | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mutual Eligibility of EU-Funds between ESF and ERDF ▪ EU-Initiative Leader + (2000-2006) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>XperRegio</u> ▪ <u>Active Regions (Regionen Aktiv)</u> ▪ <u>EU-Initiative Leader + (2000-2006)</u> |
| Prerequisite | <p>Regional level has to be qualified for implementation of Regional Budgets. Solution: Part of the Regional Budget is earmarked for qualification</p> | |

Integrated approaches and co-ordination of funds?

/// Regional Budgets (Region = more or less NUTS 3/local)

/// To distinguish two levels:

- / Implementation within one EU-Fund**
- / Implementation combining two or more EU-Funds**

/// Within one Fund

- / Global Grant (MAs: no! acceptance, high requirements for LAG! incl. question of institutionalisation and division of work)**
- / “semi” Regional Budgets (fixed budget, part of the administration on regional/local level)**
- / “vritual” Regional Budgets (budget not fixed, administration outside the region or parts in the region)**

Integrated approaches and co-ordination of funds?

/// Regional Budgets (Region = more or less NUTS 3/local)

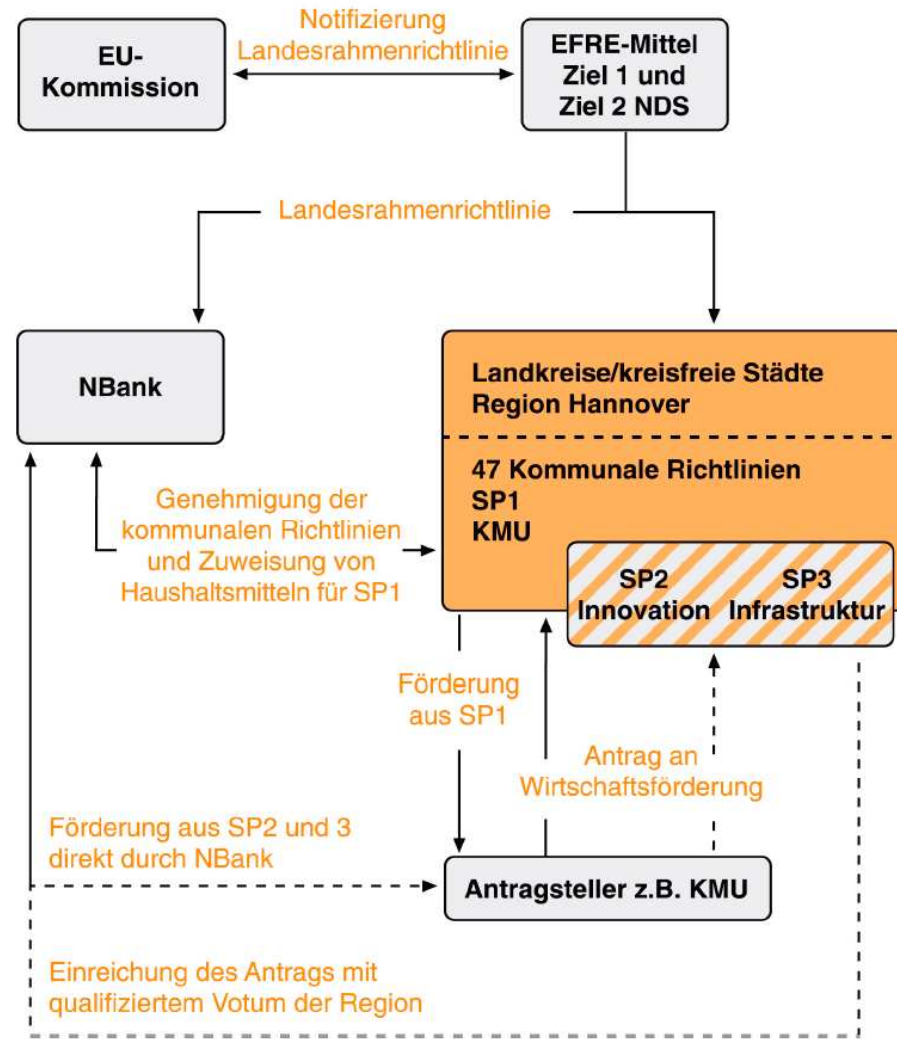
/// How to combine different EU-Funds? Three Models.

- /** Model “State Aid Rules”: Common rules based on EU-Budget/Financial Regulations, GBER, de-minimis etc.
- /** Model “Acceptance”: Mutual acceptance of regulation from all funds by all funds (all regulations have to be accepted by all Committees)
- /** Model “Policy Competition”: Region/LAG select at the beginning of the funding period the rules e.g. following the REGIO or the AGRI or the EFF system

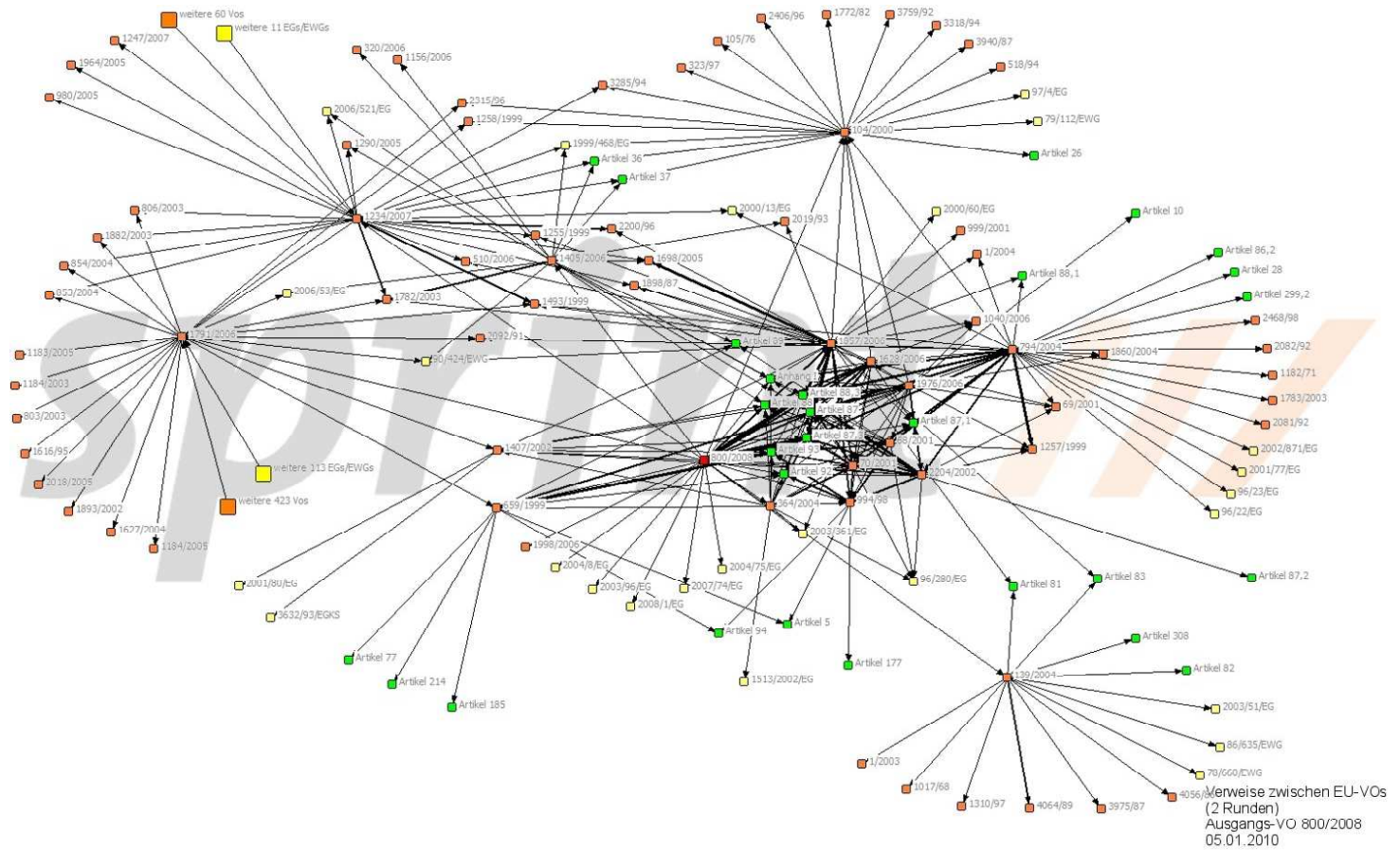
Integrated approaches and co-ordination of funds?

/// Ideas and Examples from Germany

/// Example RTB
Lower Saxony



Many Thanks for your Attention



research
evaluation
implementation **sprint**