

Interregional
Alliance
for the

**Rhine-
Alpine
Corridor**

EGTC

One Corridor – One Strategy!

Rhine-Alpine one of nine EU Core Network Corridors



THE RHINE-ALPINE CORRIDOR:

- 1 of 9 core corridors
- 1300 km long
- 70 million inhabitants
(=13% of EU's population)
- 19% of EU's GDP
- 1 billion tons of freight/a
- 50 % of the N-S rail freight
- Intersections with 5 CNC's



THE RHINE-ALPINE CORRIDOR...

- Connecting the North Sea and Mediterranean Sea
- 70 million inhabitants in the catchment area
(=13% of EU's population)
- 19% of EU's GDP generated
- 50 % of the north-south rail freight
- 1 billion tons of freight per year
- 1300 km long



Corridor Characteristics

- 5 Member States and Switzerland
- 20 Rail-Road Terminals
- 13 urban nodes
- 22 inland ports
- 8 seaports
- 11 airports



Challenges for Cooperation:

- Increase of traffic and transit tasks
- Urgent conflicts to be tackled incl. sustainability
- Bottlenecks and capacity restrictions
- Cross-border issues and technical hurdles
- New Alpine base tunnels in Switzerland (Gotthard 2016!) release new capacities
- Expansion projects, e.g. in the Netherlands, additionally increase the pressure on the intermediary line sections
- No joint strategy, no cooperation existing

CODE24 – Facts

- Funding programme: INTERREG IVB North-West Europe
- Labelled „Strategic Initiative“
- Budget: 8 Million €
- EU-Funding rate: 50%
- Project start: January 2010
- Project duration: 5 years
- 18 Project Partners
- Lead Partner: Verband Region Rhein-Neckar



CODE24 Characteristics

- Bottom-up initiative from regions and cities
- An interdisciplinary approach:
 - Spatial, transport and ecological planning
 - Economic development.



Work Packages

Work Packages		Leader
1	Spatial and Infrastructural Development	Prof. Dr. Bernd Scholl, ETH Zürich
2	Environmental Aspects and Noise Reduction	Deputy Director Birgit Simon, Regional Association FrankfurtRheinMain
3	Increasing Regional Economic Benefits	Prof. Dr. Hansjörg Drewello, University of Applied Science, Kehl
4	Communication, Acceptance and Enduring Interregional Cooperation	1st Deputy Mayor Christian Specht, City of Mannheim

Results of CODE24

- Joint Strategy Paper “One Corridor - One Strategy”
- Tangible project results: Corridor Information System, Auralisation Tool, Online Rail Freight Exchange
- Two books, two academic dissertations, various studies, brochures etc.
- Website: www.code-24.eu



“One Corridor – One Strategy”

Development priorities of the Joint Strategy:

1. Optimise the network, procedures and the cooperation of key players
2. Raise capacity
3. Accelerate speed
4. Ensure sustainability
5. Ensure acceptance



The main objective of the Alliance:

**Jointly strengthen and coordinate
the integrated and territorial development
along the multimodal Rhine-Alpine Corridor
from the regional and local perspective.**



Starting Point and Challenges

- Regional/local level so far not directly involved in Corridor development
- No joint strategy, no cooperation existing
- Increase of traffic and transit tasks
- Urgent conflicts (bottlenecks, capacities) to be tackled incl. sustainability
- Cross-border issues and technical hurdles
- New capacities implemented (e.g. Gotthard tunnel)

FROM CODE24 TO EGTC



The will to continue cooperation

- Already intended in project application
- Many project partners became EGTC members.

The “Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor EGTC”

- shall continue and extend the successful cooperation of CODE24
- shall implement and further develop the common strategy

What is an EGTC...?

- **E**uropean **G**rouping of **T**erritorial **C**ooperation
- **legal personality** defined by European Law
- designed to facilitate and promote **territorial cooperation** (cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation)
- in view of strengthening the **economic and social cohesion** of the European territory
- an EGTC may carry out **actions** of territorial cooperation, with or without a financial contribution from the EU

Advantages of an EGTC

- **It can operate as an administration unit with own legal personality**
 - **It can independently carry out projects as a legally responsible corporate body**
 - **It provides an organizational model for a long-term cooperation**
 - **It facilitates and promotes territorial cooperation**
 - **It guarantees the saving of a sustainable partnership once a project lifetime has come to an end**
 - **It is eligible for EU-funding and may apply for and manage EU-funds**
 - **It has a strong voice and speaks for its members**
 - **It provides enhanced visibility of the Corridor in regions, countries and at European level**
 - **It offers the possibility of a strong placement in the public space and an establishing of political contact**

Declaration for EGTC signed Nov. 2014



Success factors

Interregional and international cooperation is a pre-requisite for a coordinated development of the Corridor.

Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor EGTC

- represents the local and regional level which is committed to the Corridor
- is an elemental stakeholder contributing to the joint development of the Rhine-Alpine Corridor as part of the Trans-European Network

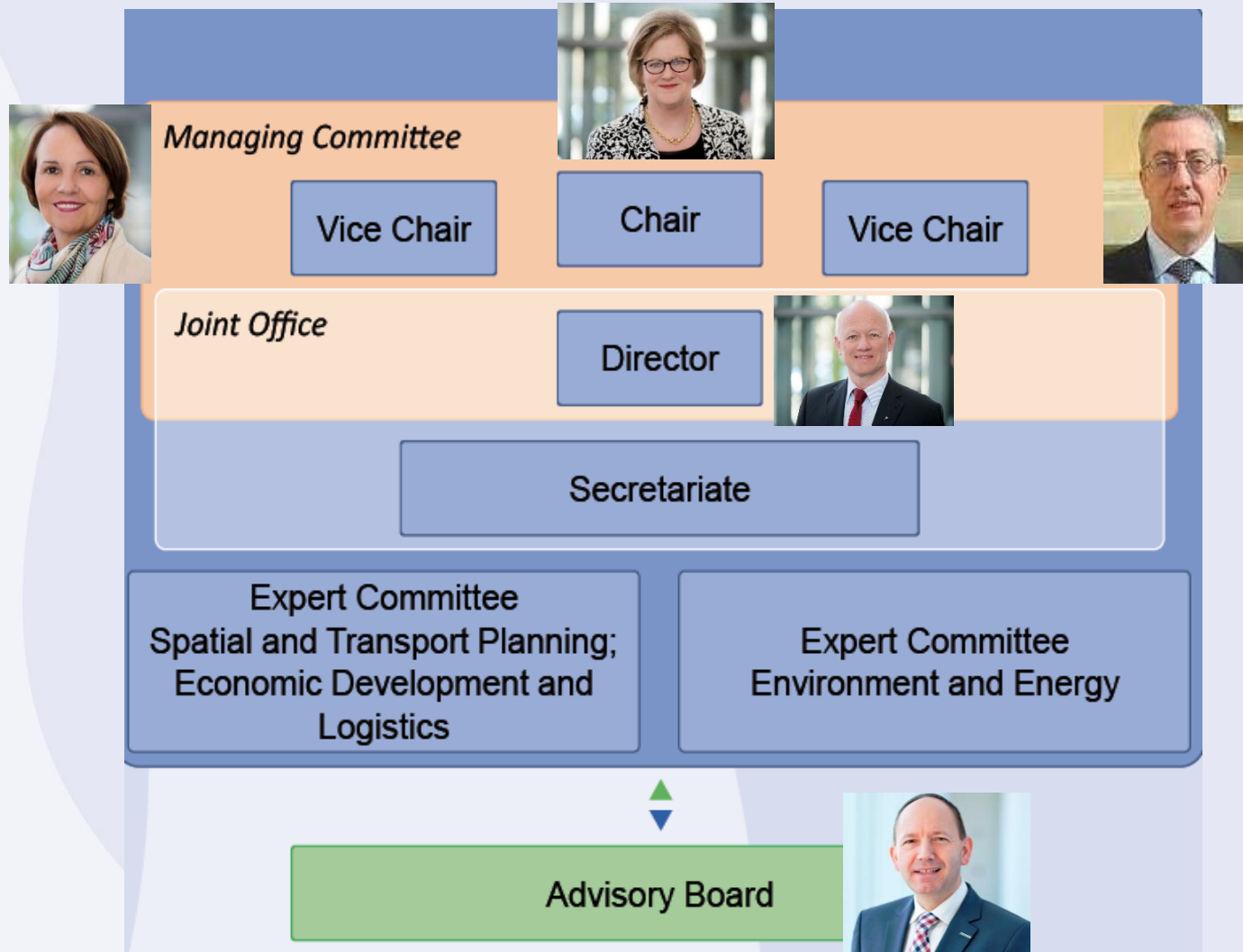
EGTC Founding: 24 April 2015



Principles

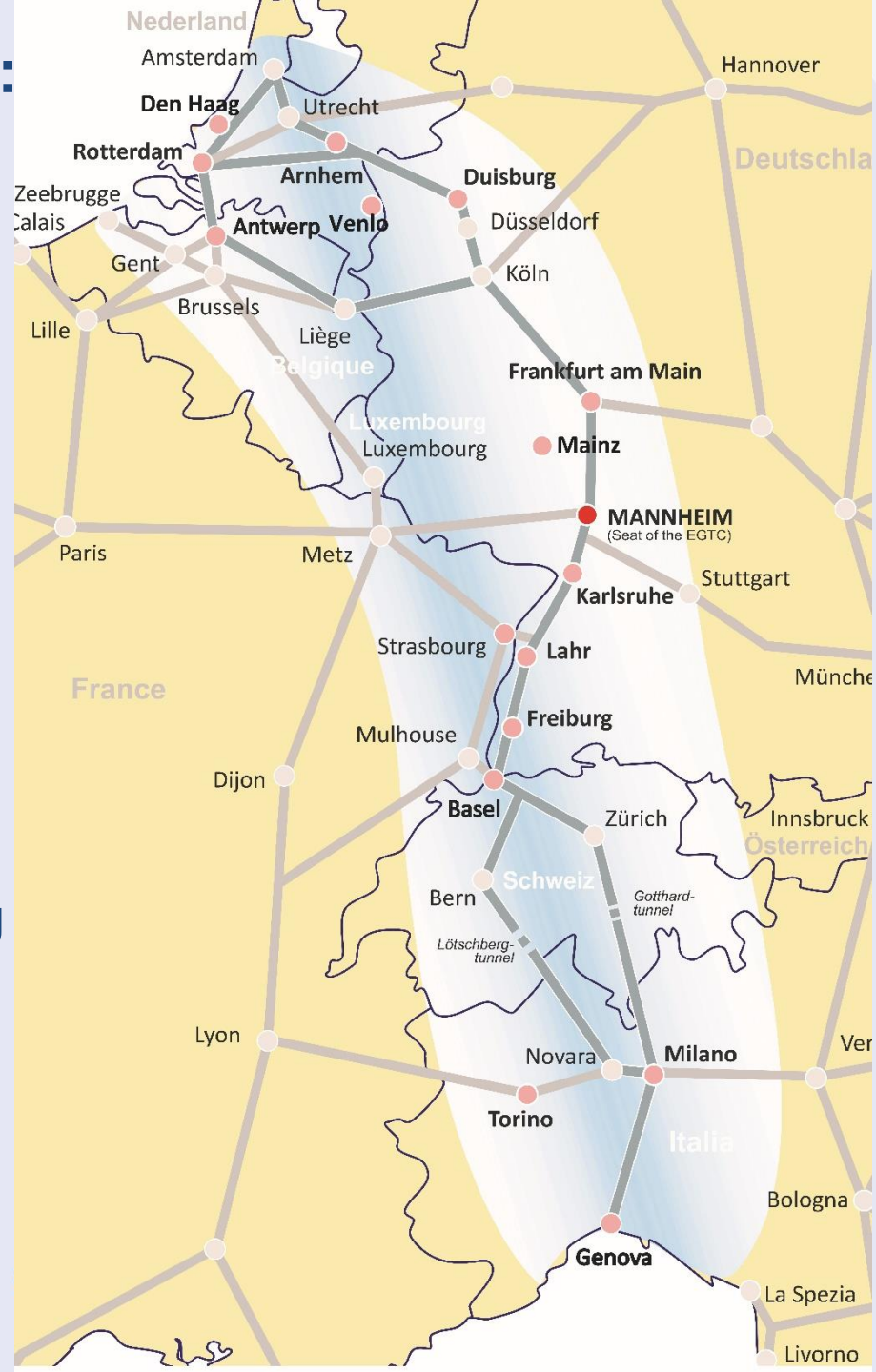
- **No new bureaucracy!**
- **Faciliate cooperation**
- **Lean structure (small team)**
- **Low budget (168.000 €/a operational costs)**
- **Open for development depending on success**

Organisation

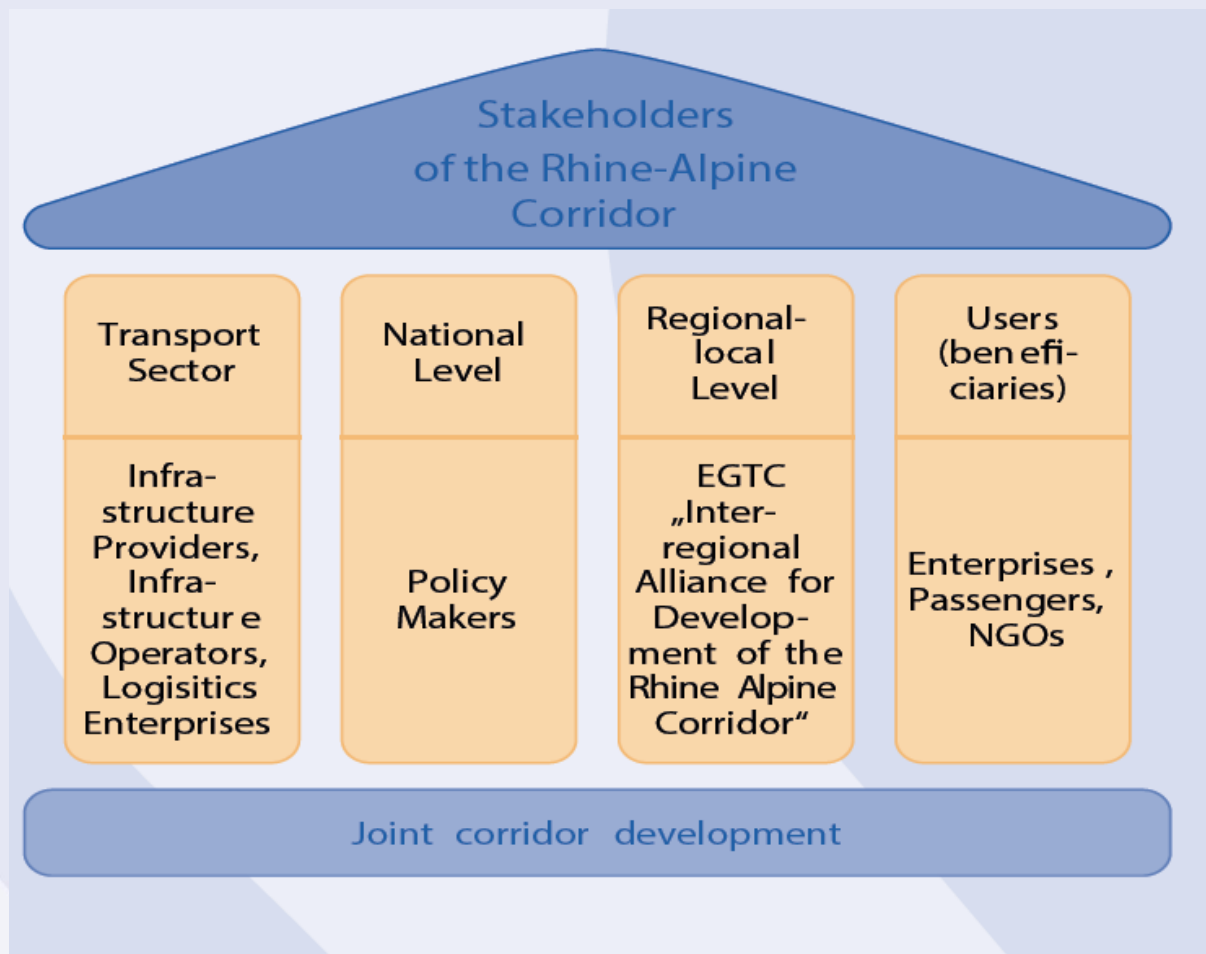


21 Members / 6 countries:

- Havenbedrijf Rotterdam N.V.
- Provincie Gelderland
- Provincie Zuid-Holland
- Venlo
- Port of Antwerp
- Duisburger Hafen AG
- City of Mainz
- Region FrankfurtRheinMain
- Region Rhein-Neckar
- Stadt Mannheim
- Region Mittlerer Oberrhein
- TechnologyRegionKarlsruhe
- City of Karlsruhe
- Port autonome de Strasbourg
- City of Lahr
- Region Südlicher Oberrhein
- Canton Basel-Stadt
- Region Piemonte
- Region Liguria
- Region Lombardia
- Uniontrasporti, Milano



The main pillars



Objective:

Innovative, green and smart Corridor!



Activities:

- Capitalising on the results of the project CODE24
- Combining and focusing the joint interests of its members towards national, European and infrastructure institutions
- Improving the visibility and promotion of the Corridor
- Jointly promoting and lobbying the regions in the Corridor
- Implementation and evolution of the joint development strategy
- Directing funds to corridor related activities and projects
- Providing a central platform for mutual information and exchange

Approved Projects

- ERFLS/ European Rail Freight Line System (CEF Transport)
- VitalNodes (Horizon2020)
- RAISE-IT/ Rhine-Alpine Integrated and Seamless Travel Chain (CEF Transport)



First evaluation

- 3 years after its foundation, the EGTC has proven to be a success!
- Number of members raised from 10 to 24
- First EU-funded project approved
- EGTC member of Rhine-Alpine Corridor Forum
- EGTC a „door opener“

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Contact:

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