

CROSS-BORDER PROGRAMME

SLOVAKIA – AUSTRIA 2007-2013

Slovakia – Austria Kick-Off Event

Bratislava 19 June 2007

Martin HUTTER, City of Vienna

MANAGING AUTHORITY



DISPOSITION

Programme area

Characteristics of the programme area

Priorities of the cross-border programme

Finances of the programme

Structure of the programme implementation

Further proceeding



ADJACENT REGIONS

according to Art. 21(1) of General Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006

Austria

- Lower Austria (Waldviertel, Mostviertel-Eisenwurzen, St. Pölten, Niederösterreich- Süd)
- Burgenland (Mittelburgenland)



STATISTICAL DATA OF THE PROGRAMME AREA

Unit	Area (in km ²)	Population
Border region AT	22.086	3.376.737
Border region SK	6.199	1.154.330
Border region total	28.285	4.531.067



ASSETS AND PROBLEMS OF THE PROGRAMME AREA

- central geographic position at the intersection of three countries (AT, HU, SK)
- ageing of the labour force accompanied with negative demographic trends
- migration from peripheral regions to (sub-)urban regions
- disparities (wages, social systems, job opportunities) between the Austrian and the Slovak border region
- dynamic growth of employment in services
- few employment opportunities for highly-qualified persons in rural regions
- structural problems for the urban economies (segregation, labour market,...)
- increase in traffic with consequences on environmental situation



CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROGRAMME

- intensification and enhancement of the interactions between the stakeholder from both side of the border
- support and implementation of projects with a distinctive cross-border dimension and sustainable effects
- improvement of links between the urban centres and rural areas across the border
- promotion and support of the principle of sustainable development
- enhancement of cooperation in the field of research, development and innovation
- inclusion of all social groups in the region, based on the openness and tolerance as guiding principle



THEMATIC PRIORITIES OF THE PROGRAMME

LISBON AGENDA

- Strengthening the competitiveness and innovation capacity of European cities and regions
- Development of networks aiming at strengthening the political, economic and social cohesion

GOTHENBURG AGENDA

- Environmental protection
- Sustainability



ELIGIBLE PRIORITIES AND ACTIVITY FIELDS

P1 Learning region and economic competitiveness

1.1 Cross-border SME cooperation, cooperation in RTD

1.2 Cultural cooperation, cooperation in tourism

1.3 Education and qualification, integration of labour markets

1.4 Social dimension of integration (social and health services)

P2 Accessibility and sustainable development

2.1 Transport and regional accessibility (planning, transport organisation, logistics)

2.2 Sustainable spatial development and sound regional governance

2.3 Cooperation and joint management of protected areas

2.4 Energy efficiency and renewable energy sources, environmental protection, risk management

P3 Technical Assistance



1.1 Cross-border SME cooperation, cooperation in RTD

- increase the competitiveness of SME by supporting their participation in networks and clusters
- strengthen the knowledge base and innovation capacity of enterprises, research and educational institutions through a closer interaction
- promotion of cooperation in the field of knowledge and innovation (R&D, technology, education) to respond effectively to technological changes

1.2 Cultural cooperation and cooperation in tourism

- intensifying the cooperation and links between the organisations actively working in the field of culture (creation of sustainable cultural networks)
- further development of tourist and leisure facilities in the region, development of common strategies for promoting the border region (common destination marketing)



1.3 Education and qualification, integration of labour markets

- promotion of an establishment of intensive exchange linkages in the field of cross-border labour markets
- creation of preparatory strategies for the suspension of the transitional provisions for the new Member States
- strengthen the cooperation in the field of education and qualification

1.4 Social dimension of integration

- development of health care cooperation and cooperation of institutions for childcare, schools and universities
- enhance the economic and social integration of the border region (for and by ethnic minorities)



2.1 Transport and regional accessibility (planning, transport organisation, logistics)

- improve the overall management and organisation of the transport within the programme area, improve traffic links
- organisation and harmonisation of the planning of transport infrastructure
- efficient use of existing capacities in the field of logistics

2.2 Sustainable spatial development and sound regional governance

- development of a common cross-border perspective of spatial planning (integration of cities and regions across the border, better connection of urban centres with peripheral areas)
- strengthen the cooperation of the representatives of cities and regions in order to formulate a common development perspective of the programme area



2.3 Cooperation and joint management of protected areas

- develop a sound system for management of natural resources
- strengthen the cooperation and creation of sustainable networks responsible for protection of the protected areas

2.4 Energy efficiency and renewable energy sources, environmental protection, risk management

- improve the energy efficiency of the cross-border region,
- facilitate the cooperation between organisations promoting and facilitating the diffusion of low energy intensity development models
- promote the knowledge transfer and cooperation in the areas of research and business



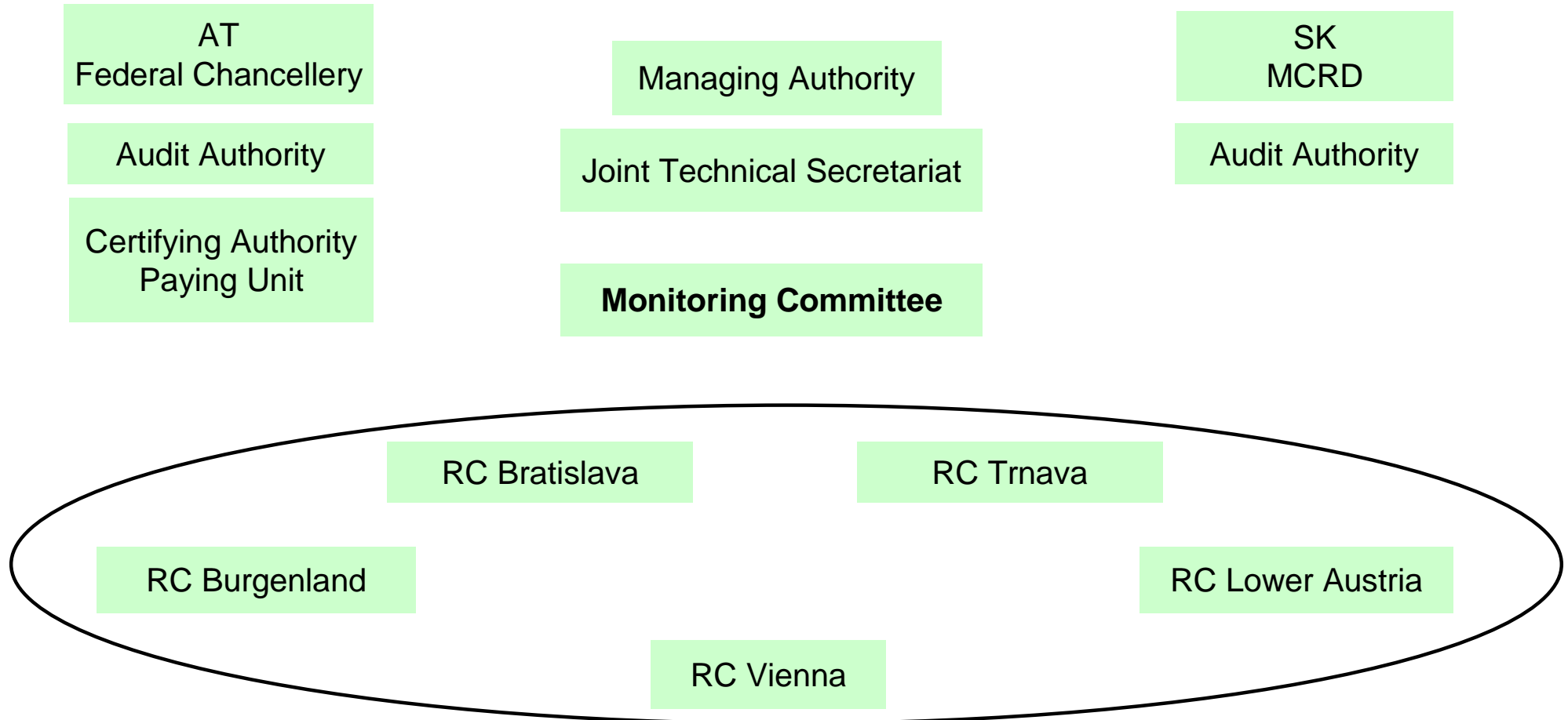
FINANCIAL TABLE OF THE PROGRAMME

	Community funding (ERDF)	National public funding	Total funding	Cofinancing rate
Priority 1	27.194.000	4.799.000	31.993.000	85%
Priority 2	29.118.000	5.138.000	34.256.000	85%
Priority 3	3.594.000	3.594.000	7.188.000	50%
Sum	59.906.000	13.531.000	73.437.000	82%

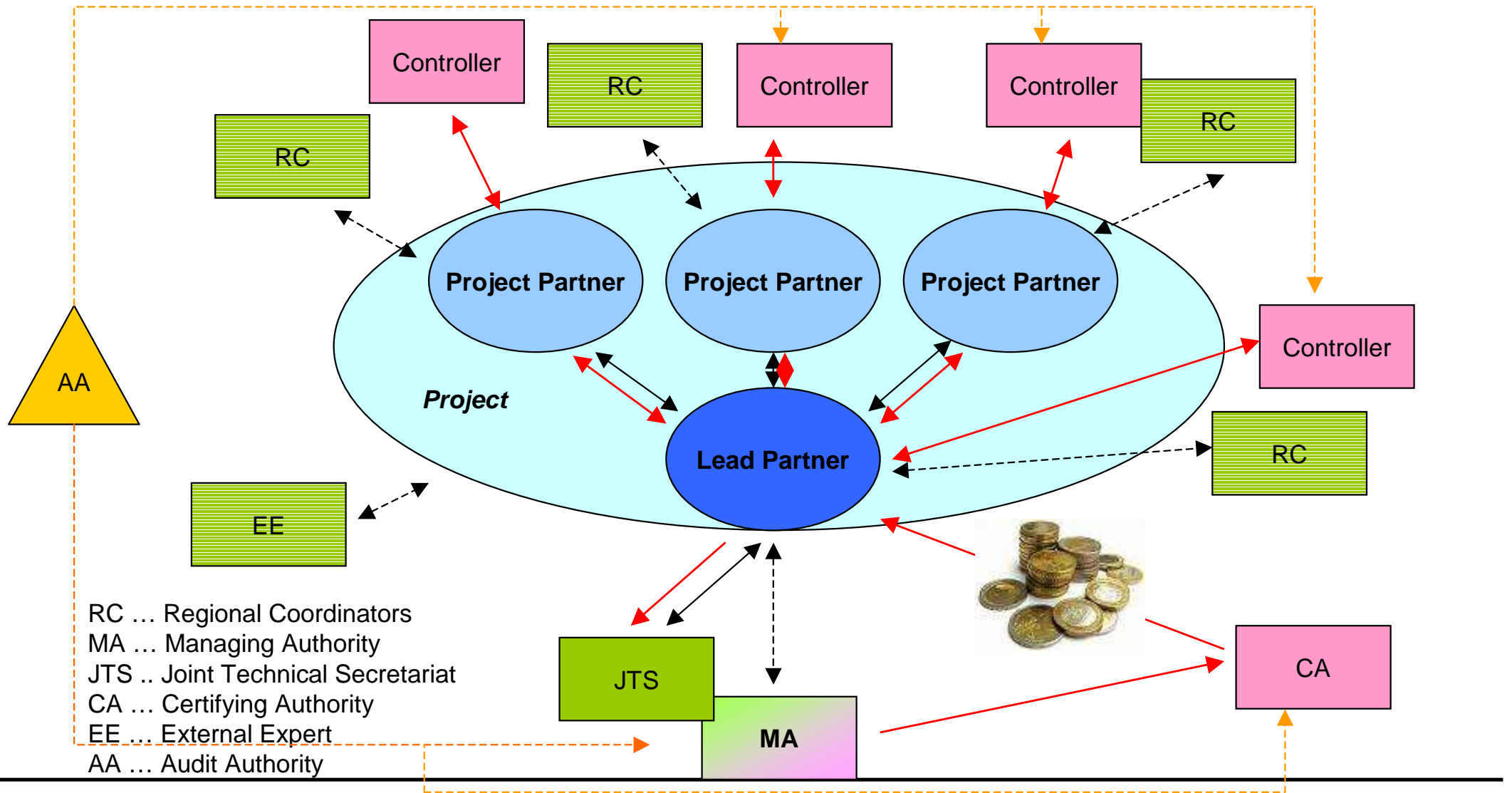
Maximum eligibility for projects: ERDF : national = 85 : 15



IMPLEMENTATION STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME



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TASKS OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING BODIES

MANAGING AUTHORITY

Main responsibility: managing and implementing the operational programme in accordance with the principle of sound financial management

- ensuring that selected projects are in line with the criteria of the programme and Community and national rules
- ensuring that there is a system for recording and storing in computerised form accounting records
- guiding the work of the Monitoring Committee
- ensuring compliance with the information and publicity requirements



CERTIFYING AUTHORITY

Main responsibility: certifying that the statement of expenditure is accurate and the expenditure complies with Community and national rules

AUDIT AUTHORITY

Main responsibility: verify the effective functioning of the management and control systems of the programme

MONITORING COMMITTEE

Main responsibility: ensure the effectiveness and quality of the implementation of operational programme



JOINT TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

Main responsibility: support the Managing Authority and Monitoring Committee in fulfilling their tasks

- organise the Monitoring Committee meetings (preparation, follow up)
- assess the projects according to criteria of the programme
- monitor approved projects (financial and quality monitoring)
- draw up annual and final reports on implementation of the programme
- prepare an Application Package and standardised ERDF subsidy contract in cooperation with the Regional Co-ordinators



REGIONAL CO-ORDINATORS

Main responsibility: support the project holder (Lead Partner or Project Partner) during the implementation of the project

- give support on project development to the applicant
- give support on reporting (interim and final) to the project holder
- exchange information and Know-how with other involved Regional Co-Ordinators
- contribute to the dissemination of the programme on regional level



FURTHER PROGRAMMING STEPS

End of June 2007	Official Submission of the Operational Programme to the European Commission
Midsummer 2007	Start of work of Joint Technical Secretariat Preparation of documents and templates for the Applicant (Application Form, Partnership Agreement...)
Autumn 2007	Approval of the Operational Programme
End 2007 / Beginning of 2008	Submission of first projects according to the Lead Partner Principle



Thank you for your attention!

