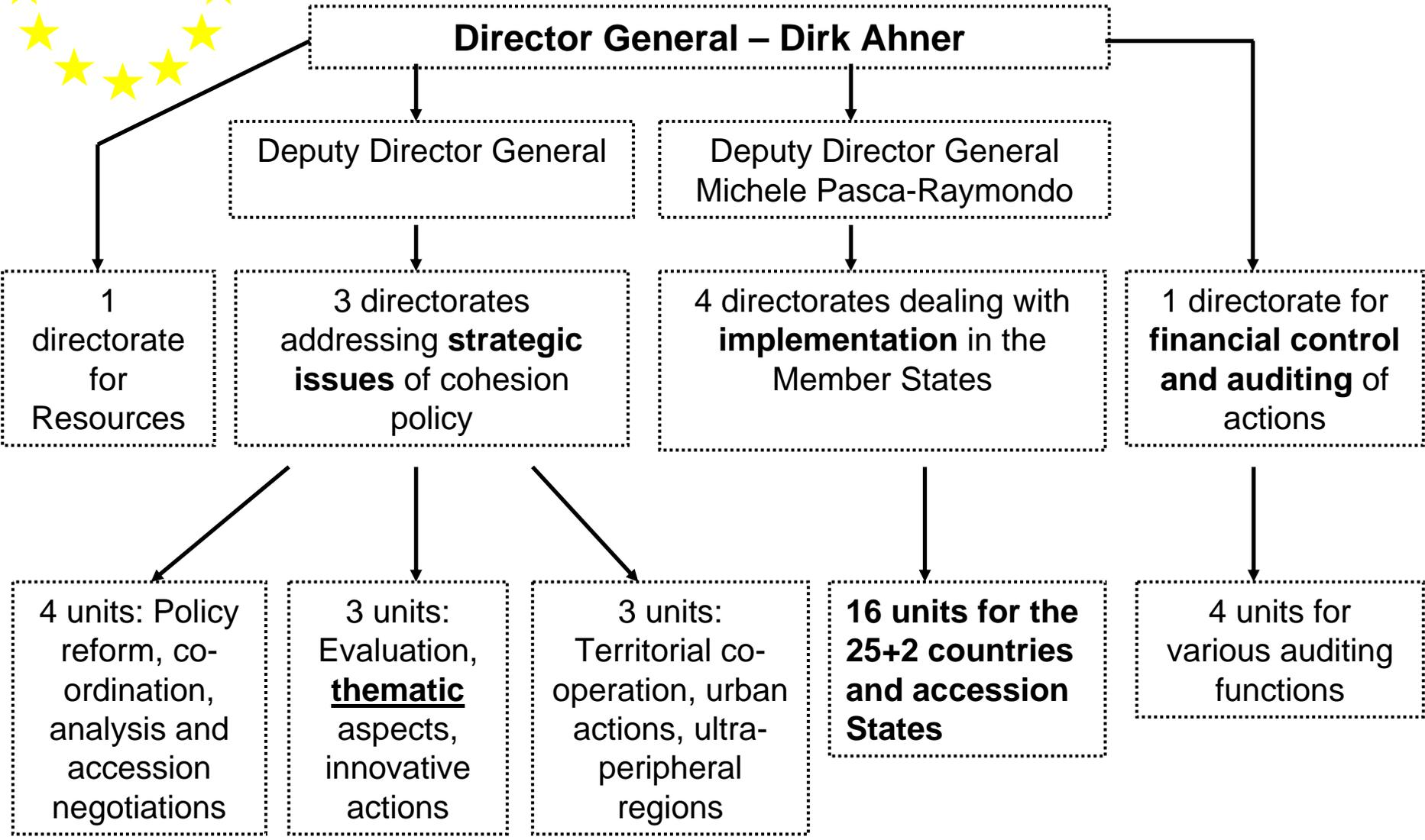




EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
*DG REGIO*

# Growth and Jobs: Challenges for **EU8+2**

John WALSH  
DG Regional Policy  
21/6/2007



DG REGIO – organisation



# Programming and follow-up

**1****Community's strategic guidelines on cohesion**

*proposed by the Commission, adopted by the Council, assent by the European Parliament*

**2****National Strategic Reference Framework**

*proposed by the Member State in applying the partnership principle; reflects on the Union's orientations, lays down a national strategy and its programming; finally decided by the Commission*

**3****Operational Programmes**

*one programme by fund and Member State or region, description of priorities, management and financial sources; proposed by Member State or region; finally decided by the Commission*

**4****Programme management and project selection**

*by Member States and regions; "shared management" principle = concertation with the Commission*

**5****Strategic follow-up and annual debate**

*by the European Council in Spring, based on an annual report of the Commission and Member States*



# Optimal funding allocations?

- Funding allocations – how important are these?
- ... Compared to the content and quality of the strategies (and governance) ...
- ... coordination between strategies and programmes ...
- ...and the implementation challenges



# Concentration of Cohesion policy budget of €347 billion

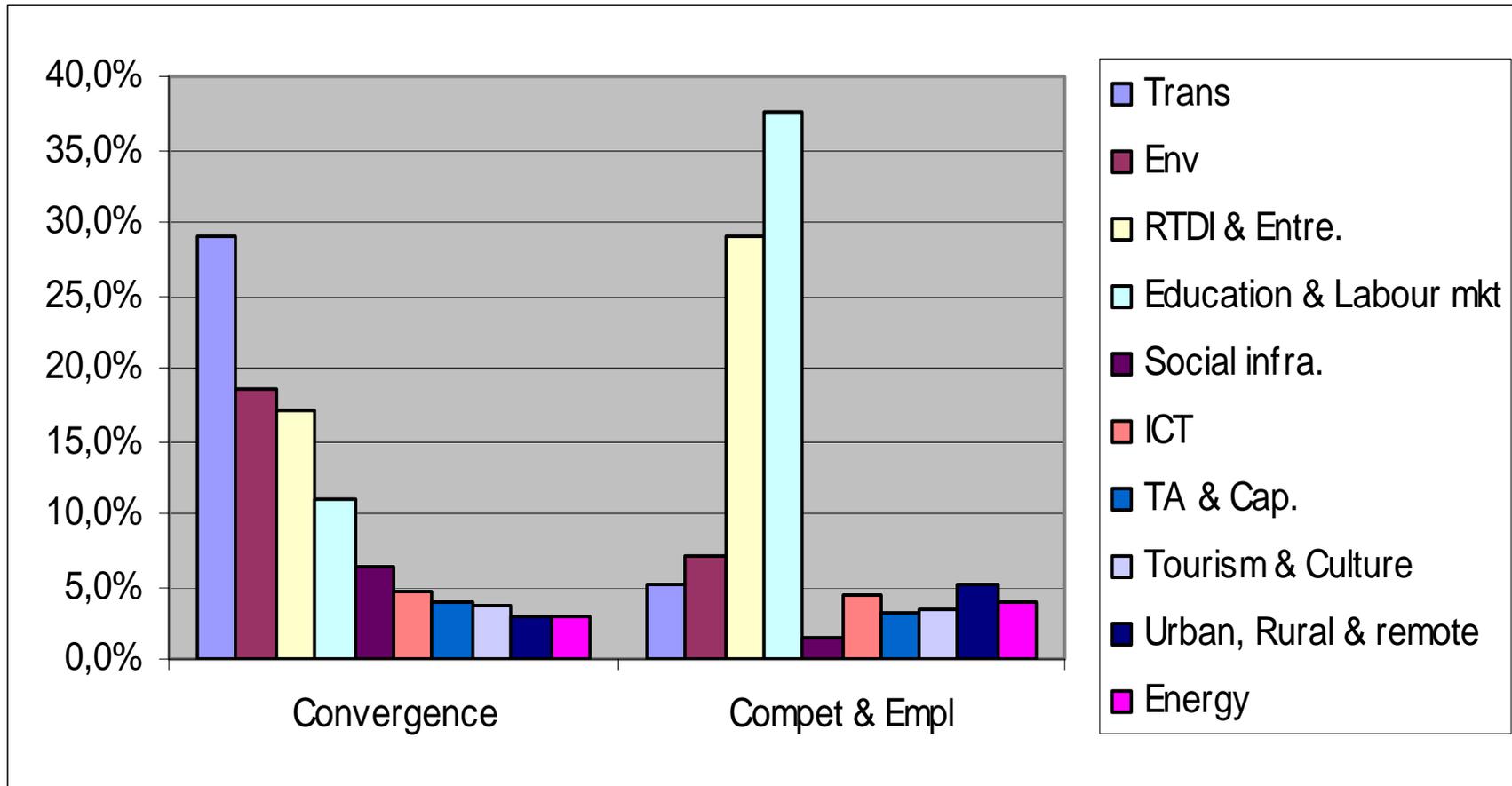
- **Convergence** regions (ex-Obj 1) covering 35% of EU population – almost 82% of budget (up from 72%)
- **Competitiveness & Employment** regions (ex-Obj 2+3) – almost 15%
- **European Territorial co-operation** (ex-Interreg) – 2.4%
  - Cross Border
  - Transnational
  - Interregional (ESPON, INTERACT, IVC, URBACTII)



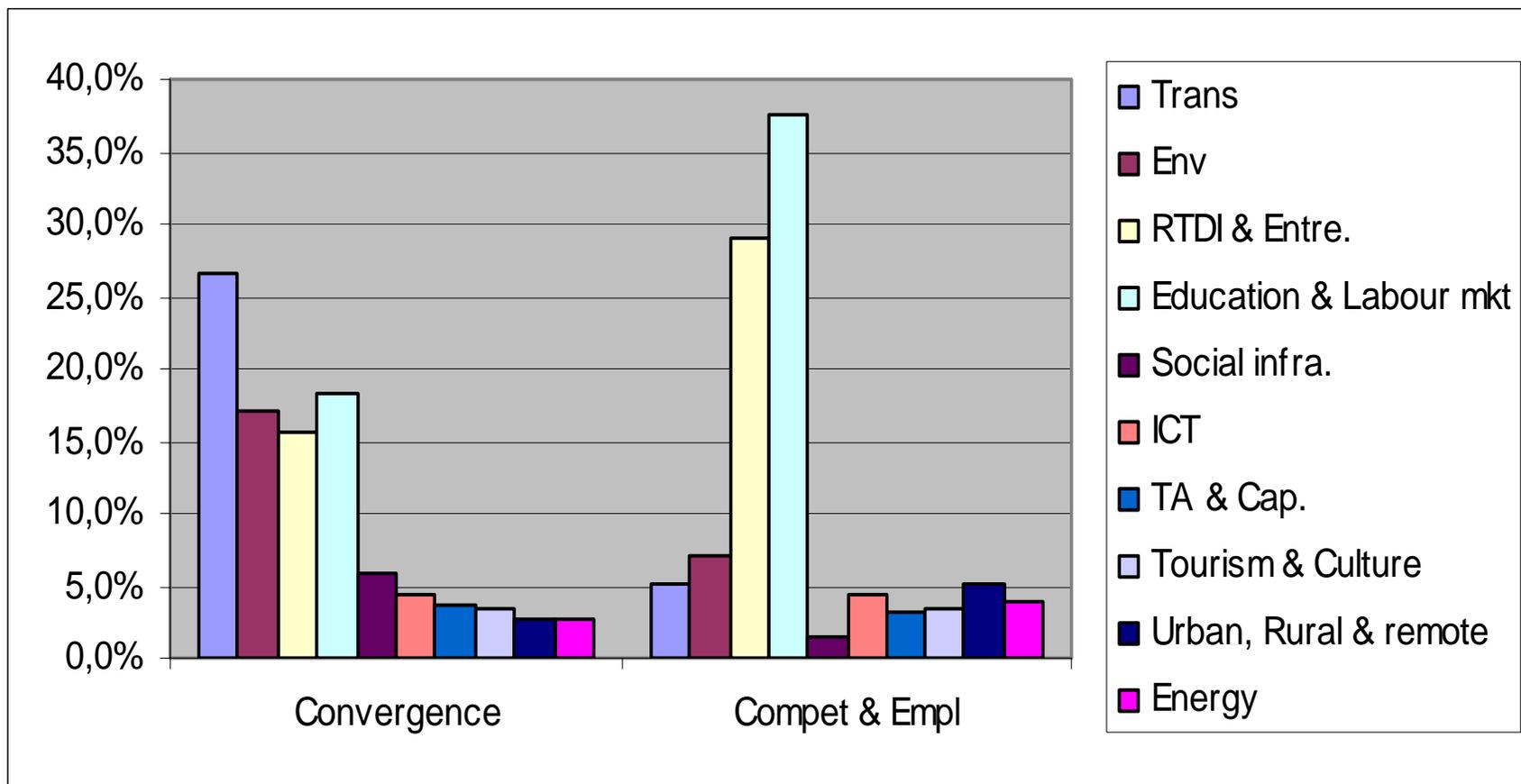
# Spending priorities by volume – Convergence vs Competitiveness

<i>Millions of €</i>	Convergence	Compet & Empl	Multi Obj
<b>Transport</b>	<b>70.607</b>	<b>2.277</b>	<b>554</b>
<b>Environment</b>	<b>45.332</b>	<b>3.220</b>	<b>426</b>
<b>R&amp;TD, innovation and entrepreneurship</b>	<b>41.485</b>	<b>13.067</b>	<b>4.525</b>
<b>Training, Education, Labour market</b>	<b>26.609</b>	<b>16.880</b>	<b>28.714</b>
<b>Social infrastructure</b>	<b>15.469</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>822</b>
<b>Information society</b>	<b>11.506</b>	<b>1.960</b>	<b>1.067</b>
<b>TA &amp; Capacity</b>	<b>9.434</b>	<b>1.409</b>	<b>2.061</b>
<b>Tourism and Culture</b>	<b>9.144</b>	<b>1.565</b>	<b>158</b>
<b>Urban, Rural and remote</b>	<b>7.430</b>	<b>2.314</b>	<b>179</b>
<b>Energy</b>	<b>6.974</b>	<b>1.719</b>	<b>66</b>
	<b>243.988</b>	<b>45.073</b>	<b>38.573</b>

# Relative spending priorities – Convergence vs Competitiveness



# Relative spending priorities – Convergence vs competitiveness





## Transport in OPs (2007-13) issues during informal and formal process

- Draft National OPs, regional OPs result from consultations and partnerships
- Justification of priorities and relative financial allocations (CSG, ex-ante evaluation / SWOT)
- Content of overall transport **strategy** and sub-sectoral strategies
  - spending balance on sub-sectors (public transport and other modes)
  - absorption capacity
  - Coordination and complementarity between OPs and funds
  - List of major projects - indicative



# Transport Investments

Estimates from notified draft OPs show total transport plans ~ € 74 bn (23.3% of Cohesion budget)

<i>Million €</i>	TENT T	OTHER
Railways	17.011	4.030
Motorways	17.561	4.927
Multimodal transport	431	1.149
Inland waterways (regional and local)	567	191
National roads		7.068
Regional/local roads		8.979
Urban transport		1.449
Airports		1.827
Ports		2.865



## **DG REGIO : Strategic transport evaluation recommendation (15 countries)**

- Coherent national strategy for network
- Address missing links – stronger cross border coordination
- Stimulate sustainable transport => climate change
- Set socio-economic criteria to choose and prioritise (CBA)
- Specific recommendations on
  - Priority transport axes by Member States
  - national delivery capacity



## **Priorities for innovation policy and systems (REGIO Strategic evaluation)**

- Diversity of regional potential => implies tailor-made approaches
- Long term planning
- Exploit ETC to create inter-regional innovation platforms
- Structuring infrastructure vs structuring behaviour



# Innovation – operational findings (1)

## ➤ For enterprises

- Support for hiring and exchange of science & engineering staff
- Ensure RTD and innovation supports are available for a broader range of innovation activities
- Connect SMEs to knowledge providers linked to product renewal



## Innovation – operational findings (2)

### ➤ For MS & regional bodies

- Policy formulation: Improve coordination & invest in benchmarking, foresight & interregional cooperation
- Policy design: adopt a phased approach
- Policy bodies: rationalise and review intermediary networks
- Cooperation culture: clear roles, analyse existing culture before deciding cluster measures



## ICT priorities

- upgrade and complete telecommunication networks
- contribution of ICT to innovation
- balanced with demand side and on providing an access to ICT for all.



Regions for  
economic change

North East South West

INTERREG III C



Interregional cooperation +  
urban development network  
(adopted mid-2007)

= 375 m€

+

Four new aspects:

1. 30 Themes
2. Bridge to main programmes
3. Communication
4. Fast Track option - FTO



## The steps for FTO

- Call for proposal by secretariat 09/2007
- Submission of project applications
- Transmission of all project applications to Commission and Member States
- Commission proposes participation in some of the projects = fast track network
- Decision by Network Programme Monitoring Committee