



CEI mechanisms supporting regional cooperation

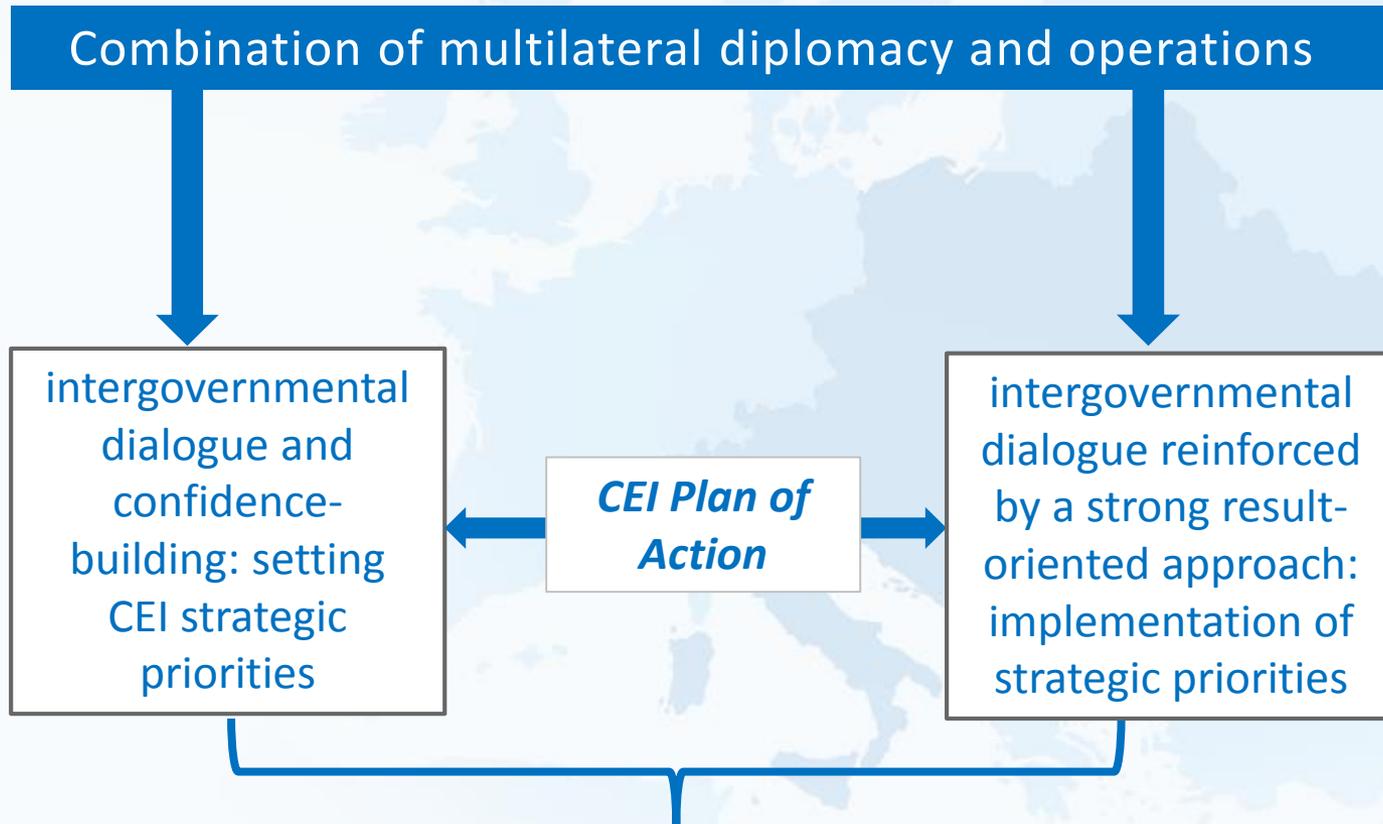
CEI Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology

Alessandro Lombardo
CEI-Executive Secretariat
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REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

Strategic Objectives

- ✓ Support EU integration of CEI Member States
- ✓ Promote the alignment to EU standards and the *Acquis*
- ✓ Implement small and medium-sized projects

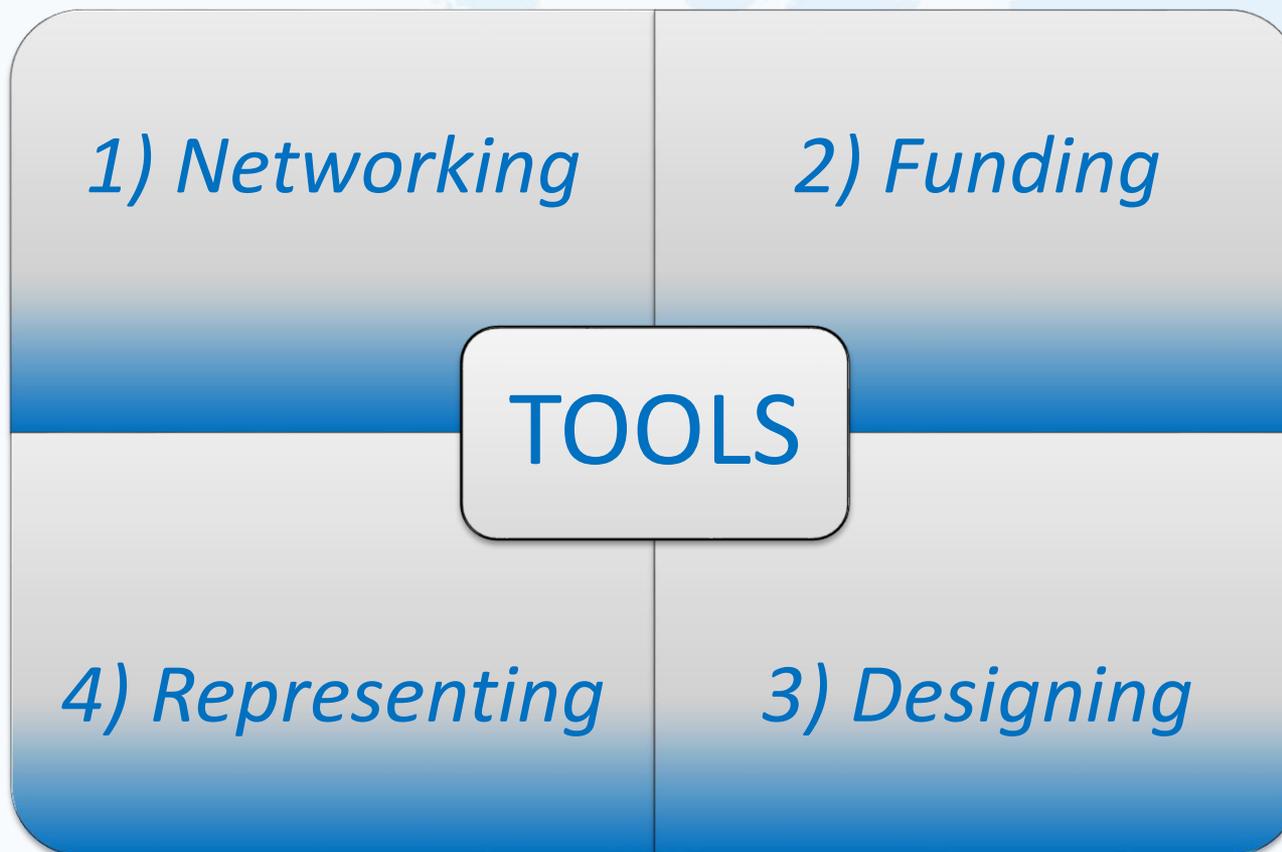


In addition to providing a large platform for political dialogue, the CEI is actively engaged in Fund, Programme and Project Management

CEI mission and strategic objectives perfectly apply to the field of science and technology

Scientific interactions to address common societal challenges, while building constructive, knowledge-based international partnerships

Science Diplomacy as a tool to support confidence-building, mutual trust and friendly cross-border and transnational relations



- ✓ Support to partner search and consortium building in response to EU calls for proposals
- ✓ “Triple-Helix” Brokerage Events involving line ministries, industries and research + Open Innovation Events to facilitate interactions between industry and research (industrial challenges vs. solutions provided by research)
- ✓ Facilitation of contacts with institutions and research centres of the Trieste Science System:
 - AREA Science Park
 - Synchrotron ELETTRA
 - National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics (OGS)
 - International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)
 - Central European Research Infrastructure Consortium (CERIC)
- ✓ Establishment and management of expert panels (providing scientific expertise to decision-makers on issues of common interest for CEI MS)



CEI Cooperation Fund

- ✓ Financed by all Member States: since 2002, grants in support to seminars, workshops, conferences, training courses (about 1.000 Cooperation Activities co-financed with more than €8 million)
- ✓ Main objective: transnational mobility of participants (an estimated 5.000 participants take part in the events every year). It can be used as “seed money” to generate larger projects (such as EU applications)
- ✓ Eligible applicants: public and private entities registered in CEI MS, international and regional organizations (Next Call for Proposals, first half of 2018)
- ✓ Funded activities need to be in line with CEI Plan of Action and involve at least 6 CEI MS (participation quorum)

CEI Know-how Exchange Programme

- ✓ Financed by Italy through the CEI Fund at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD): since 2004, grants in support to bilateral/trilateral know-how transfer projects aimed at strengthening economic and social advancement of non-EU CEI MS (86 KEP projects co-financed with €2.4 million)
- ✓ Main objective: transfer of know-how and best practices from EU to non-EU CEI MS
- ✓ Next Call for Proposals, first half of 2018
- ✓ Priority Areas: European integration and capacity building; Agriculture, energy and environment; Infrastructure planning and development

EU projects

- ✓ In addition to providing resources through its funding instruments, the CEI is also a beneficiary of EU funds, through participation in EU co-financed actions since 2004
- ✓ EU funding programmes: an opportunity to develop joint transnational efforts contributing to the concurrent implementation of EU public policies and the CEI Plan of Action
- ✓ A permanent Unit for EU Projects within the CEI Secretariat for project design and project implementation
- ✓ 29 projects implemented + 11 under implementation; participation both as Lead Partner and Project Partner; project proposals under continuous elaboration
- ✓ Experience in INTERREG programmes + FP7/H2020

A) Identification of EU funding programmes

Geographical scope (eligibility of CEI countries)



Thematic scope (compatibility with CEI PoA)



EU programmes

European Territorial
Cooperation / ERDF

Sector-based
cooperation

External cooperation

EU regional policy /
INTERREG

H2020, CEF, COSME,
LIFE, ERASMUS+,
CULTURE

EU neighbourhood
and enlargement /
IPA, ENI

B) Design of project proposals

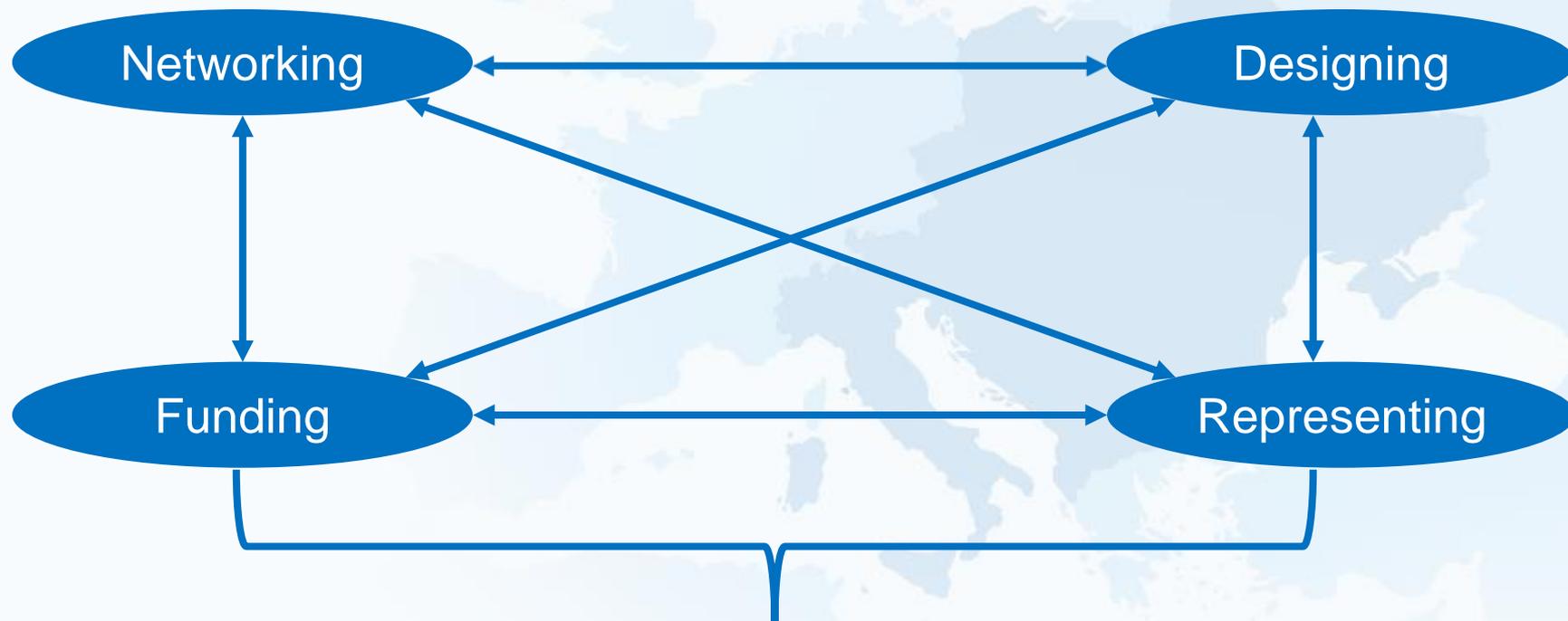
- ✓ The CEI Secretariat can both initiate the process of designing a project application (“owner of the project idea”) or be invited to join an already existing consortium (provided that the objectives pursued by the proposal are in line with the CEI mission and Plan of Action)
- ✓ The design of a project-proposal and the development of a project application are always a participatory process involving diverse stakeholders, which cooperate on the basis of their own specific knowledge and field of experience
- ✓ Over the years, the CEI Secretariat has increased its network of potential partners, having cooperated with more than 100 institutions in the implementation of EU projects, such as public authorities, research centres, universities, development agencies, consultancies from all over Europe

- ✓ The CEI-Executive Secretariat can represent shared interests of CEI MS or promote joint activities/projects in science-related multilateral fora such as the “Steering Platform on Research & Innovation for the WBCs” or the “Steering Group on Knowledge Society of the EUSDR”
- ✓ The CEI-Executive Secretariat participates in the European Innovation Partnership in Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP on AHA), particularly in the Action Group “Age friendly environments”



***Promotion/Dissemination/Capitalisation of ideas +
networking opportunities***

- ✓ EuroScience Open Forum (ESOF), the largest science conference in Europe, held every two years and gathering scientists, teachers, media, politicians, industry, as well as the public at large
- ✓ The CEI strongly supported the successful candidature of Trieste for 2020 and was attributed the role of bridge towards Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe
- ✓ Scientific programme of ESOF 2020 to be outlined in 2018-2019. A call for ideas will be launched: the CEI will ensure broad dissemination of ESOF opportunities, researchers from CEI MS will be encouraged to participate in the call
- ✓ Health and active ageing high on the agenda of the scientific programme: biomedical, biotechnology, bioinformatics for disease prevention, digitalisation of healthcare



CEI mechanisms for turning strategic goals into effective projects

Thank you!
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