



**ECRN - The European Chemical
Regions Network**
www.ecrn.net

Michael Hack
**Director of the ECRN e.V. Network
Secretariat**

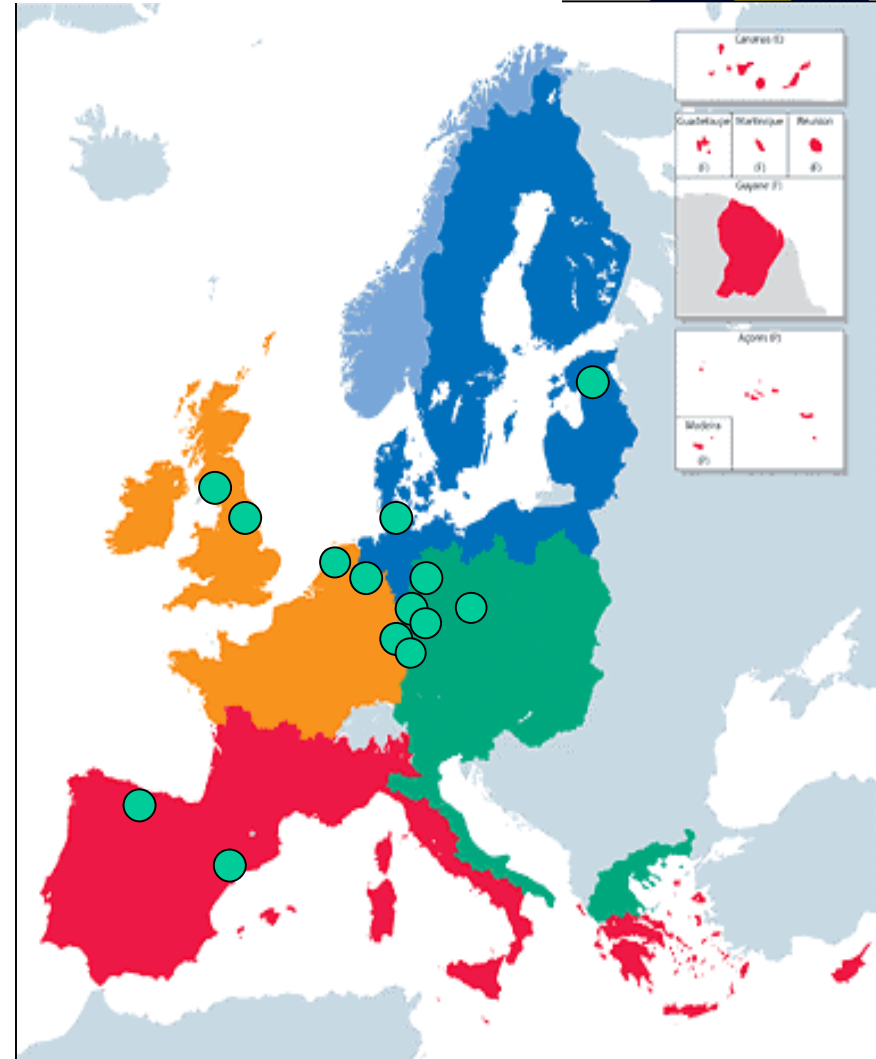
Aachen, 22. November 2007

The ECRN consortium



Partner:

- Saxony-Anhalt, D (President)
- Lower Saxony, D
- North Rhine Westphalia, D
- Hestia, D
- Rhenania-Palatinate, D
- Schleswig-Holstein, D
- Catalonia, E
- Asturias, E
- Ida-Viru, EST
- Limburg, NL
- Tees Valley, UK
- Cheshire, UK
- Usti, Cz
- Vlaanderen, B



History



May 2003:

First European Congress of Chemical Regions in Brussels

September 2003:

Proposal of a common Interreg project

January 2004:

Start of Interreg project with 13 partners and a budget of 1,6 Mio Euro and 3 years duration

February 2004:

2nd ECRN Congress in Halle; Participation of Commissioner Wallstörn

October 2005:

3rd ECRN Congress in Milano, Foundation of association with 8 members

History



November 2006:

4th Congress in Terragona, Declaration of action and finance plan

December 2006:

■ Extension of Interreg project for 2007 ■

October 2007:

Start of ECRN Network Secretariat, Brussels

November 2007:

5th Congress of the ECRN in Ludwigshafen

Aims and Objectives of the ECRN



- **Improving regional development strategies in Chemical regions**
- **Maintaining competitiveness by fostering European co-operation of regional actors**
- **Developing a European partnership of regional partnerships in Chemical regions**
- **Articulating common interests of Chemical regions towards the European institutions**
- **Recognizing the European Chemical Regions Network as a genuine stakeholder in the future debate on Chemical policy.**

Influencing EU Policies



Success factors are:

- **Defining joint interests between the regions (i.e. REACH)**
- **Developing strategic co-operations at EU level**
- **Engaging the stakeholders at regional level**

Quantitative Results



- 1. Regional Partnership Meetings**
with 1.600 regional stakeholders
 - 2. Representing joint interest in EU Decision Making Process (14 Joint Position Papers)**
 - 3. Developing spin off projects for further development and deepening of cooperation (e.g. MentorChem and ChemSME)**
- **Setting up the ECRN association as a legal body**

ECRN and future activities

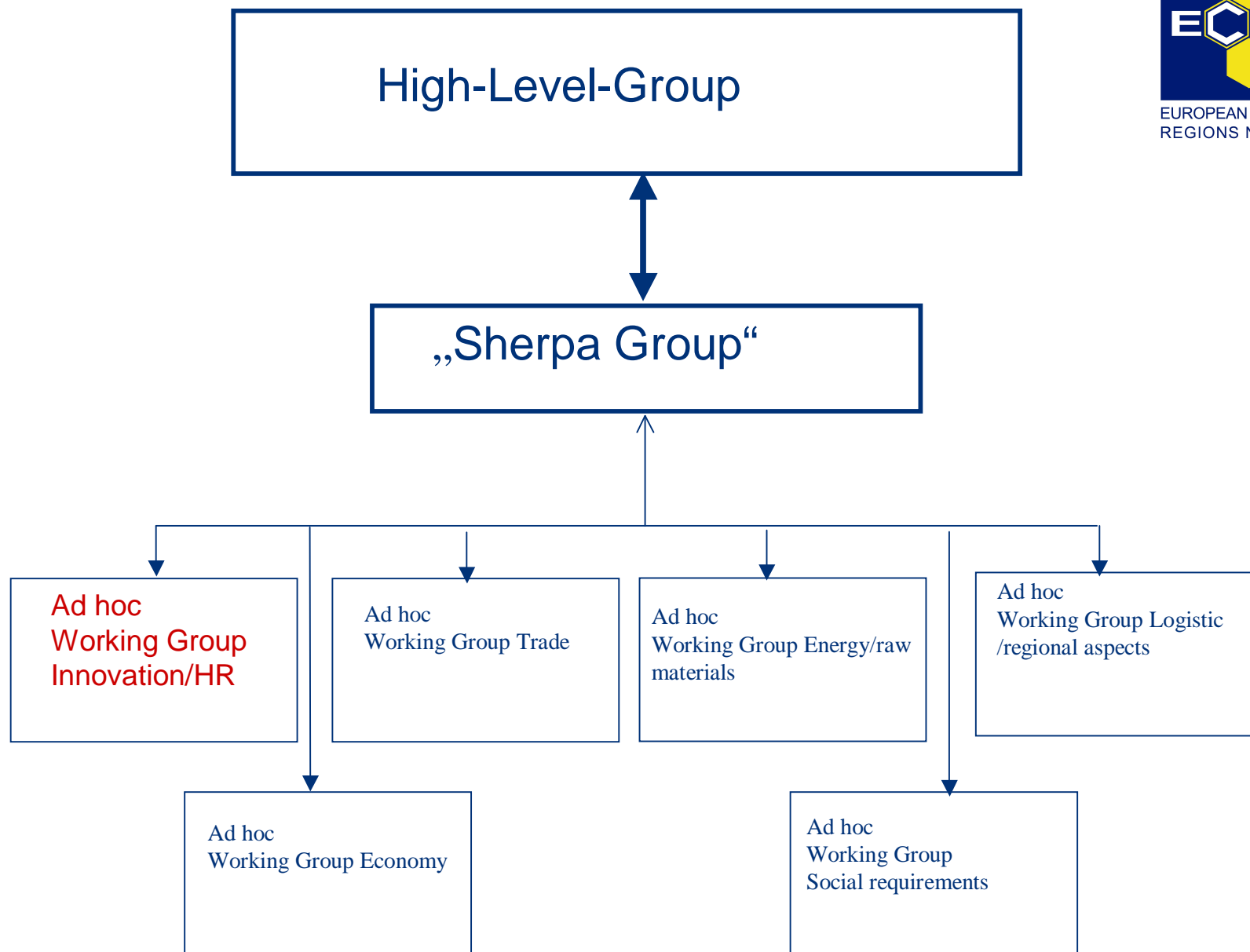


Since 2003 the ECRN took part in the SusChem project, driven by CEFIC

Focus of ECRN

➤ INTERREG IV C- cooperation with CEFIC

“Development of technology platforms in chemical regions”





Tasks of ad hoc Group on Innovation



1. To evaluate

- the future innovation needs
- the role of the EU in global comparison



2. To analyse

- the strengths and weaknesses
 - make proposals to solve the weaknesses
- 

The proposals should flow into the work of the

- ad hoc Group Energy/ Raw materials and
- ad hoc Group Economy



ECRN - an ongoing success story



Engagement of stakeholders at regional level leads to

- co-operations in INTERREG projects**
- development of strategic co-operations at EU level**
- influence EU policies**

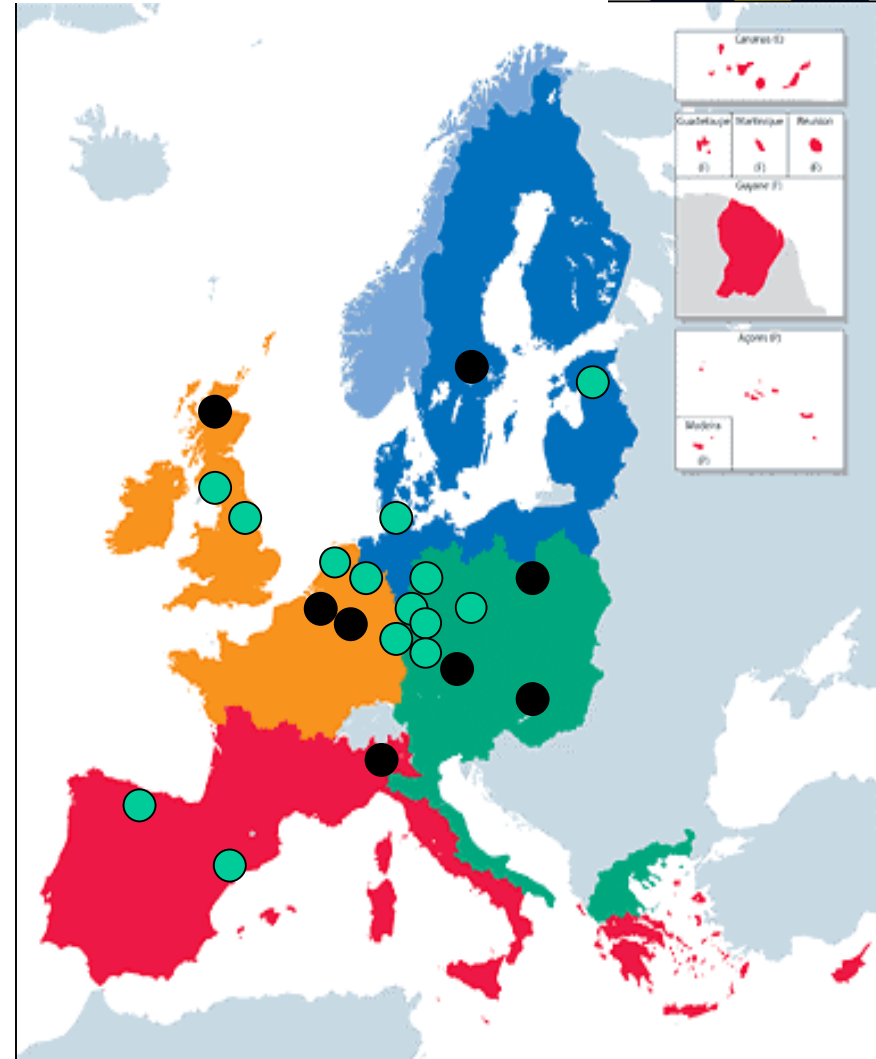


Extension of the ECRN consortium? “●



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Joining the ECRN is a clear commitment from the member-regions towards the Chemical Industry and potential investors for a sustainable long-term relationship.

Further Contacts

ECRN Brussels office

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EUROPEAN CHEMICAL
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