



# **EURADA**

**Introduction to the  
European Association of Development Agencies**



# EURADA

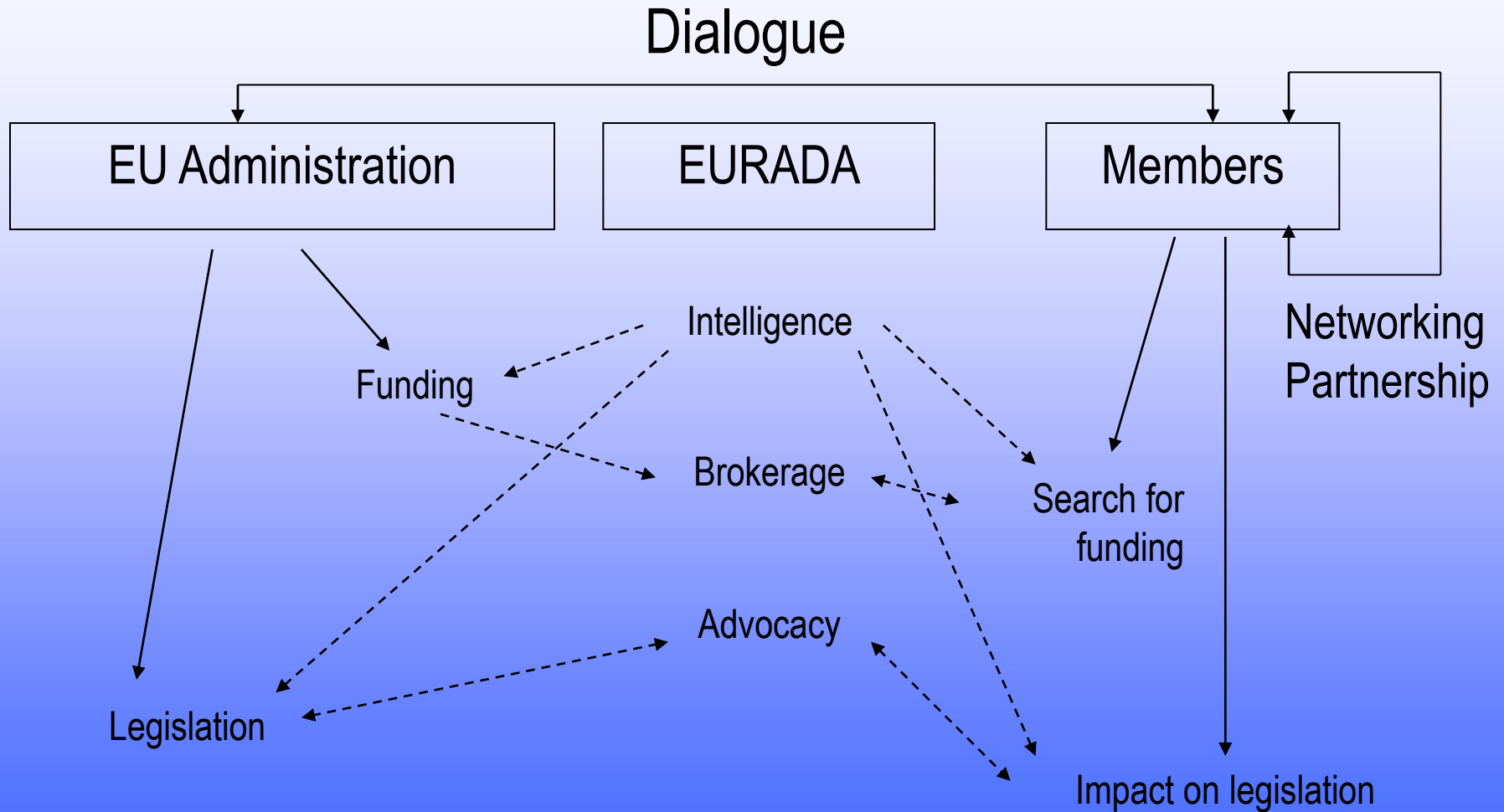
- a not-for profit organisation, set-up in 1991, which today counts 100 members in EU & Candidate Countries
- an independent organisation, financed directly by the subscriptions of its members.
- it represents the interests of all organisations that work with public sector participation to implement programmes for regional economic development in the European Union.

# Missions and objectives

## 7 key missions

- lobbying and fostering a group dialogue with the EU Administration
- exchanging experience via conferences and publications
- promoting transnational projects
- promoting the concept of RDA
- assessing and disseminating new tools in economic development and RDA management
- serving the members
- facilitating the integration of members from new member States.

# Working methodology



# Clusters of activities

- Organisation of world and European conferences
- Organisation of dialogue days with the EU Administration
- Organisation of thematic workshops
- Publication of newsletters
- Publication of papers and documents
- Management of or involvement in transnational projects
- Representation in EU working committees
- Delivery of speeches in conferences and seminars

# Dissemination tools

## ○ Conferences

- AGORADA
- WIC Europe (World Investment Conferences; target: FDI Agencies)
- INSME (enterprise and innovation support)

## ○ Newsletters

- EURADA News
- e-Reminder
- e-Project Dissemination

# Cooperation outside Europe

- links with US through IEDC (International Economic Development Council) ([www.iedconline.org](http://www.iedconline.org))
- partnership with CADZ (China Association of Development Zones) ([www.cadz.org.cn/en/](http://www.cadz.org.cn/en/)) and Shanghai Minlian Lingang United Development Co. Ltd ([www.smduc.com/en/index.htm](http://www.smduc.com/en/index.htm))
- cooperation with SMRJ (Organisation for SMEs and Regional Innovation, Japan – ([www.smrj.go.jp/utility/english/index.html](http://www.smrj.go.jp/utility/english/index.html)) and the Development Bank of Japan ([www.dbj.go.jp/english](http://www.dbj.go.jp/english))



# Informal cooperation

- Staff exchange: Satu Freyberg (JYKES Finland) spent a week at Brussels Enterprise Agency (Belgium)
- Representative of Mulhouse Chamber of Commerce (France) visited Milano Metropoli (Italy) to understand what a city agency provides as support services
- Search for report: Paul O'Donovan (United Kingdom) was looking for a report on the evaluation of RDA's activities and received at least one from Scottish Enterprise (United Kingdom)
- Lucyan Papiernik (IGRETEC Belgium) wanted to visit the EIRE Fair in Milan and was able to do so thanks to Renato Galliano (Milano Metropoli, Italy)
- Jacques Evrard was interested in meeting companies in Atlanta (USA), IEDC's past president offered him a tailor-made solution with 20 enterprises
- ...





# Conclusion

EURADA's business model aims to create and provide added value both to its members and to EU departments with whom relationships have been developed. The main added values are in the form of:

- to the point, easy and ready to use information
- networking opportunities including with non EU organisations
- dialogue between RDAs and with EU representatives
- scanning new ideas in economic development
- keep record of project conclusions.



# RDAAs in Europe: observations

- No European model
- Their existence and their recognition depend on
  - Regional governance
  - Decentralisation/regionalisation of the country
  - Local partnerships
  - Financial means
  - Political debate, what type of support for endogenous development?



# Pre-conditions of success

- of an RDA
  - Institutional recognition
  - Quality of partnerships
  - Relevance of the mid-run vision of local/regional economic development
  - Available financial and human resources
- of an economic development strategy
  - Sound governance
  - Direct and indirect services to businessmen and firms – whether they operate in the commercial sector or not is irrelevant
  - Quality human resources in the region
  - Attractiveness of the region for local and foreign investors



**For more information:**

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