General scheme Human Resources & Settlement Structure

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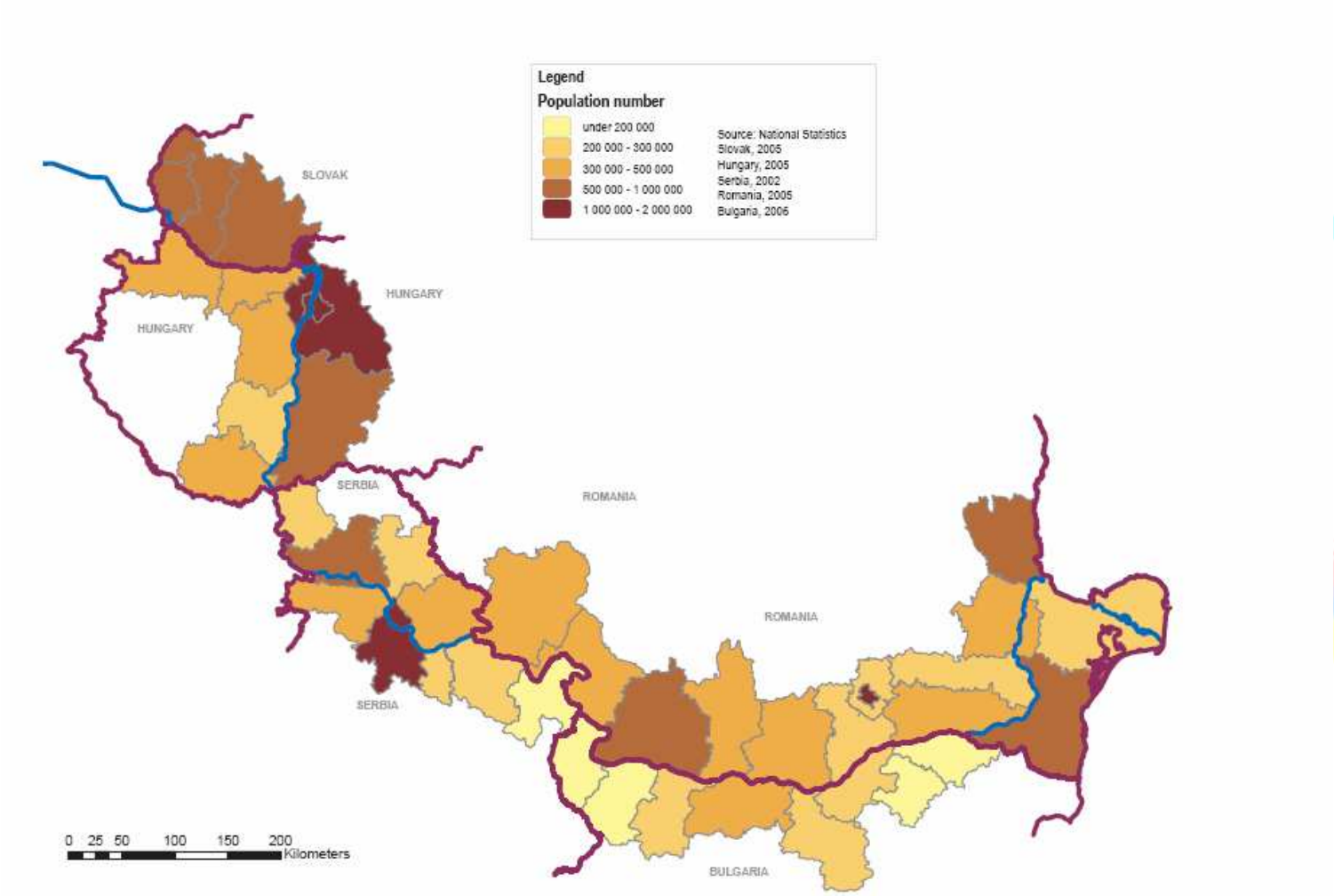
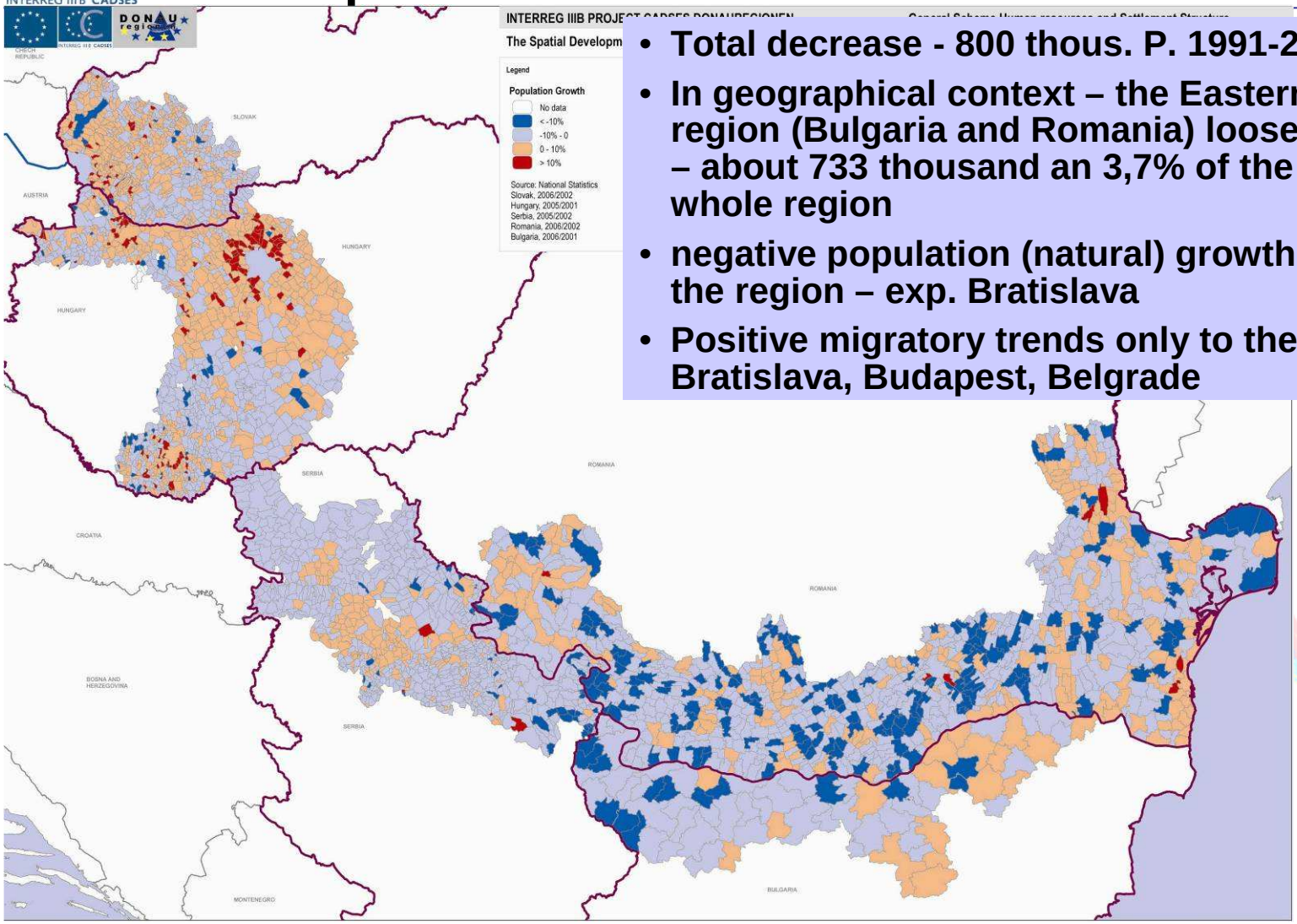
Bulgaria

HUMAN RESOURCES
General Population Data



- Total population:
- 20 millions
- Romania - 37%
- Bulgaria - 8%
- Slovak – 9,4 %
- Serbia – 19,2%
- Hungary – 26,4%.

HUMAN RESOURCES
Population Trends 1990 - 2005



- **Total decrease - 800 thous. P. 1991-2006 (4 %)**
- **In geographical context – the Eastern part of the region (Bulgaria and Romania) looses the biggest part – about 733 thousand an 3,7% of the population of the whole region**
- **negative population (natural) growth in each county of the region – exp. Bratislava**
- **Positive migratory trends only to the capital cities: Bratislava, Budapest, Belgrade**

HUMAN RESOURCES
Population Trends 1990 - 2005

- The worst negative trends - **Bulgarian part** of the region (about 20% of its population, the population drop is registered in all NUTS 3 and NUTS 4 regions
- Population decrease is taking shape also in the Danube regions of Romania and Hungary, 413 thous. and 114 thous. people respectively. The most important decreasing was in Bucharest, with 84 thous. people.
- During the 16 year period a **drop in the population is registered in Budapest** (-15.9%) and in 3 other counties located south of Budapest along the Danube; a slight increase – rather stagnation – is registered in 3 North-Transdanubian (észak-dunántúli) counties; and a significant increase (+23.4%) is registered in the Pest county around Budapest.
- Slightly increase by 60 thousand people has been registered in Serbian Danube region - 1.5%. The population growth happened in only two out of nine counties – City of **Belgrade** and **Juznobacki** County.
- Very Slight population increase has been registered in Slovak part of the region – 0,2%. **Nitra County** has recorded decrease of by 9 540 people. The number of inhabitance **increase** very slightly in **Bratislava** County, and **the biggest increase** has occurred in **Trnava County**.

HUMAN RESOURCES
Population density

- The broader area of the transnational Danube region is not homogeneous from the point of population concentration.
- Average *population density (*2006) – inh./sq.km 153 – HU; 149 – Slo; 130 – SR;102 – RO; 57.4 – BG.
- The highest densities are located in the regions of the biggest metropolitan concentrations of Budapest, Bucharest, Belgrade and Bratislava.
- With few exceptions, the rest of the regions belong to the more scantily populated regions (less than 100 inh./sq.km.)

HUMAN RESOURCES
Age Structure

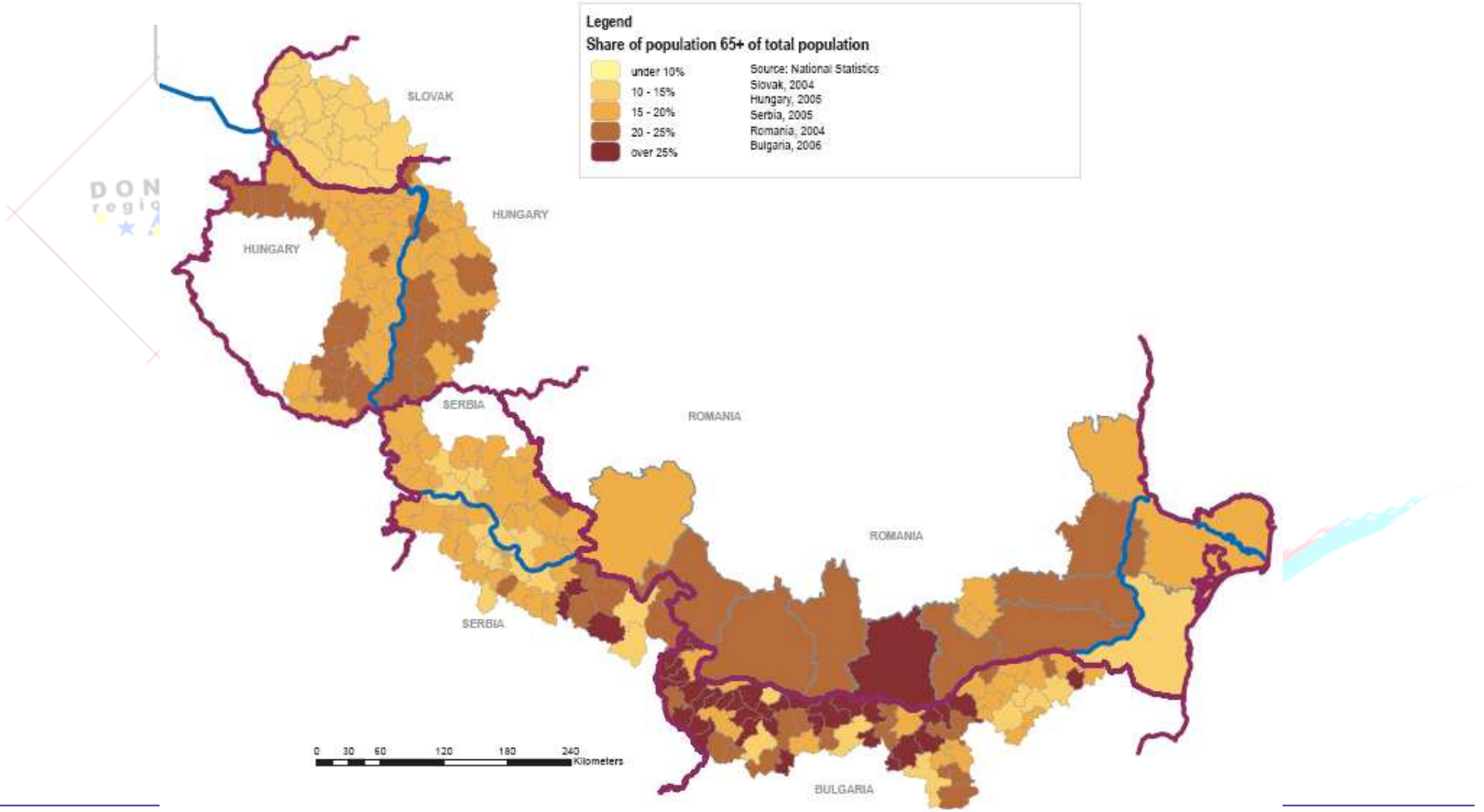
- The population distribution by age groups shows that the transnational Danube region as a whole has a relatively eldest than the EU population.
- Inside the region however there is a significant differentiation between the 5 national regions.
- More specifically, Serbian and Slovakian regions have the youngest population.
- Hungarian and Romanian parts of the region have the oldest one.
- Irrespective of the differences, the common trend in all the regions in the individual countries is characterized by a negative tendency of increase of the share of the aged (population group aged 60+) and diminishing of the share of the group aged 0-14.
- These trends are demonstrated with extreme gravity in the Bulgarian and Hungarian regions and least manifested in the Serbian part.

HUMAN RESOURCES
Age Structure

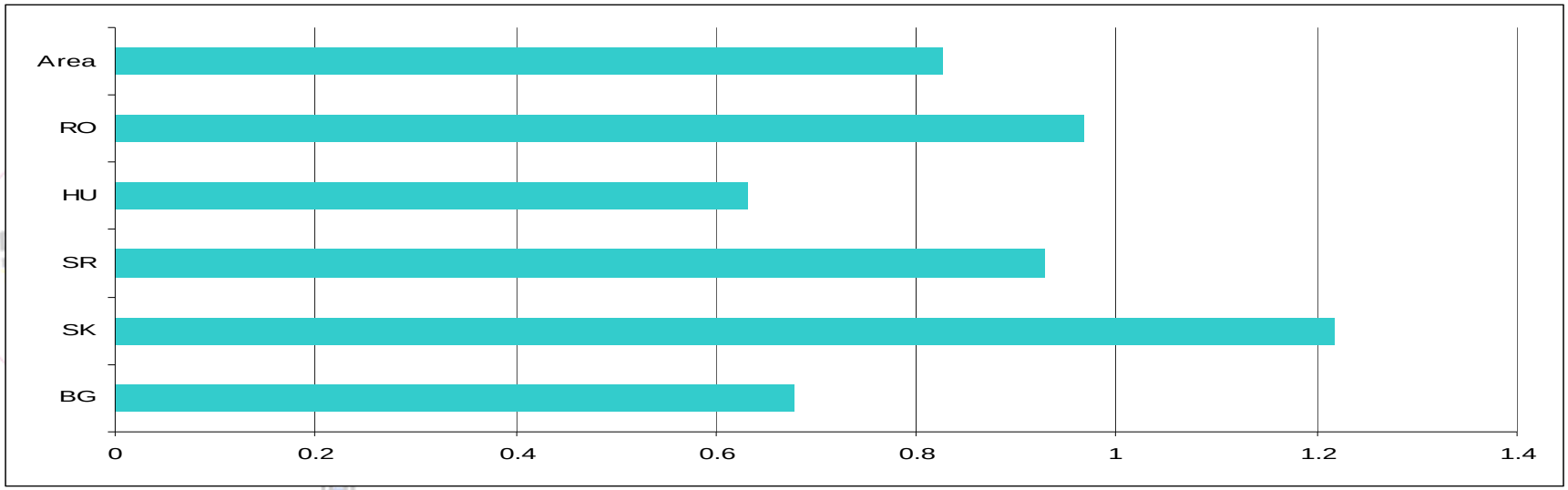
- ***Slovak part*** - significant absolute and relative decrease of the population in pre-productive age (from 23.5% in 2001 to 14.1% in 2006). In the case of productive and post-productive population, there was increase also in absolute and relative numbers.
- ***Hungarian part*** – the decrease (1990-2005) of young population (0-14 – from 18.3% to 13.5%) and the increase of the population of active age and aged 60 and above. The share of the population 60+ years is the highest in Budapest, where about 1/5 of the population belonged to this group in 1990, and ¼ in 2005.
- ***Serbian part*** of the region - population in age 0-14 is declining while population aged 65+ is gaining in importance. Relative share of the population in age 15-64 is stable.
- ***Romanian part*** - ageing of the population is observed in all the counties. An optimistic situation – less than 20% - in the south-eastern part of the region. In Bucharest it was observed a dramatically decreasing of the 0-14 years age group. the birth rate being the lowest in the region (and in Romania).
- ***Bulgarian part*** - significant absolute and relative diminishing of young people (0-14) – from 19.2% to 13.1%. Absolute decrease and relative increasing of the population in active age (15-64) - from 64.4% in 1991 to 67.32% in 2006 and the people aged 65+ (the usual retirement age) -16.46% - 1991; 19.30% - 2006. In 2006 the share of the aged population is higher than that of young people.

HUMAN RESOURCES
Age Structure

Share of Elderly population (65+)



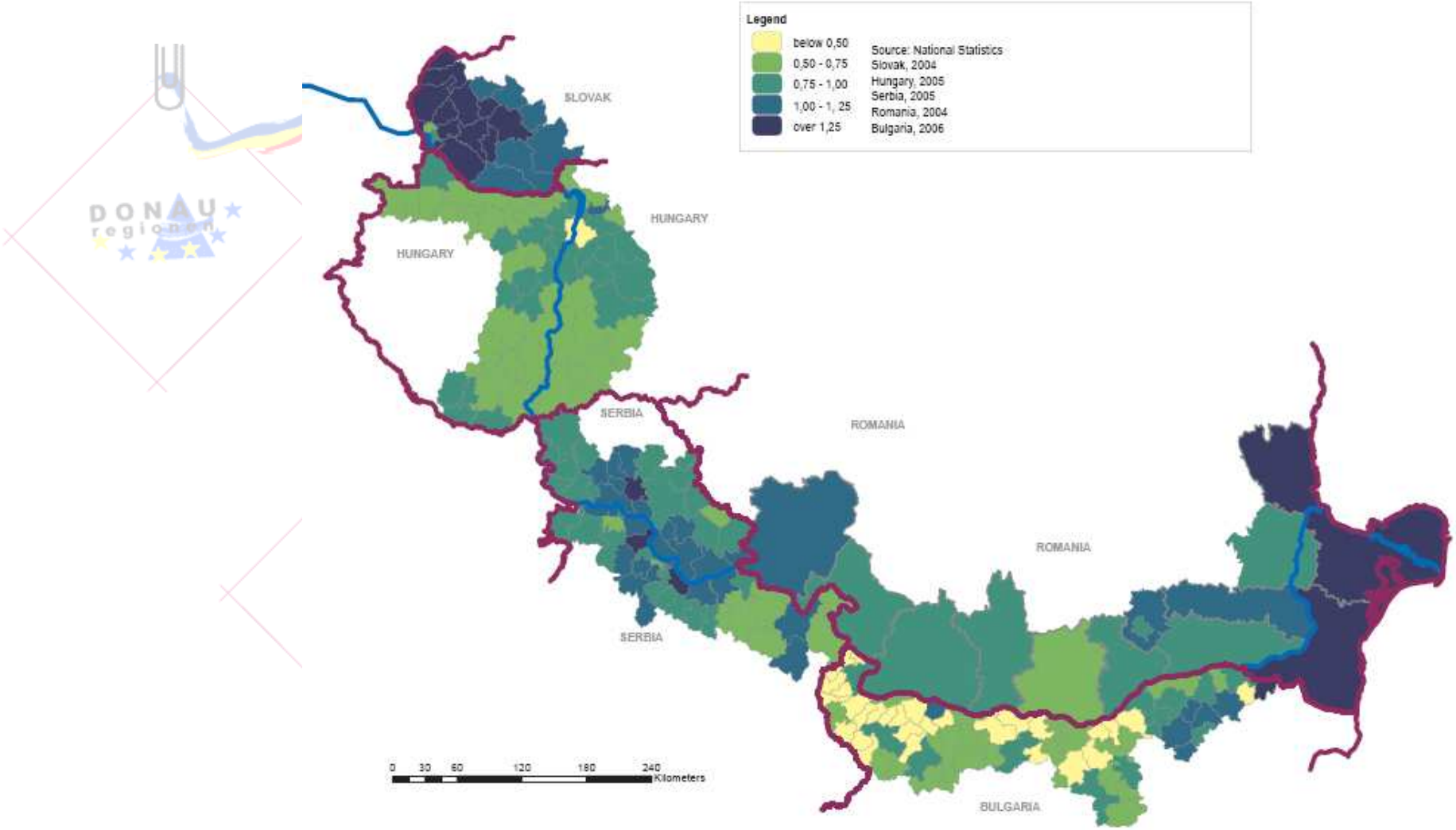
HUMAN RESOURCES
Vitality Index



In accordance with the ageing process the vitality index (ratio of population 0-14 and 65+) decreased in whole region and each country/district.

- **In 2005 the value of the Vitality Index was worst in the Hungarian (63%) and the Bulgarian (68%) parts of the region.**
- **Significantly higher values for this indicator have been noted for the Romanian and Serbian parts - 97% and 93% respectively.**
- **The best value for the Vitality Index is characteristic for the Slovak part of the region - 121%.**

HUMAN RESOURCES
Vitality Index



HUMAN RESOURCES
Educational Structure

- The most favorable characteristics for the indicator "**share of population with higher education as compared to the total population aged 24 to 64"** have been noted for the **Bulgarian part** of the transnational region - 19.1% (22% EU average). Close to this figure are the values for this indicator for the regions in **Slovakia** - 18.2%. Significantly lower is the value for this indicator for the Romanian region and the Hungarian region (about 15%).
- Significant differences in the educational structure at NUTS 3 level. The capital city regions of Bratislava, Budapest, Bucharest and Belgrade stand out as core areas of high educational level.
- The share of uneducated people is the highest in the Serbian part of the region – more than 15%, followed by the Romanian Part - 8.7%, and is the lowest in the Slovakian region - 0.4%.
- The share of university students per 1 000 inhabitants is very non-homogenous both in the individual national parts of the region and within them. The regional average figure for 2006 was 11. Standing out as university centres are the capital city regions Bratislava (with the highest index – 115.7), Bucharest (131.5), Belgrade (57.5), Budapest (23.9), as well as cities of Veliko Tarnovo (Bulgaria) (88.3) and Novi Sad (Serbia) (55.6).

HUMAN RESOURCES
Labour market

- The economically active population of the Danube region is 10 mlns people or about the **50% of the total population**. This proportion is close to the corresponding EU figure.
- The total number of employed in 2005 was 8,4 millions people and the employment rate was 58.6%. The variation range of the regional employment rates is between 41.4% for Serbian region to 60.7 % for Hungarian region and 60.0% - for Romanian region. The Slovak and Bulgarian regions are on the positions of 54.2% and 50.4%.
- According to the official data, the total number of unemployed in 2005 was 1,45 millions people and the unemployment rate was fluctuating between about 6% (in Romanian and Hungarian region) and 30% (in Serbian region - the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia have had serious negative impacts on the unemployment level). Bulgarian region's unemployment level was also very high – 16.5%. The unemployment rates of the majority of the Romanian, Slovak and Hungarian subregions are much lower than the corresponding average rate of the whole Danube region (14.6%) and lower than the EU (7,8%).

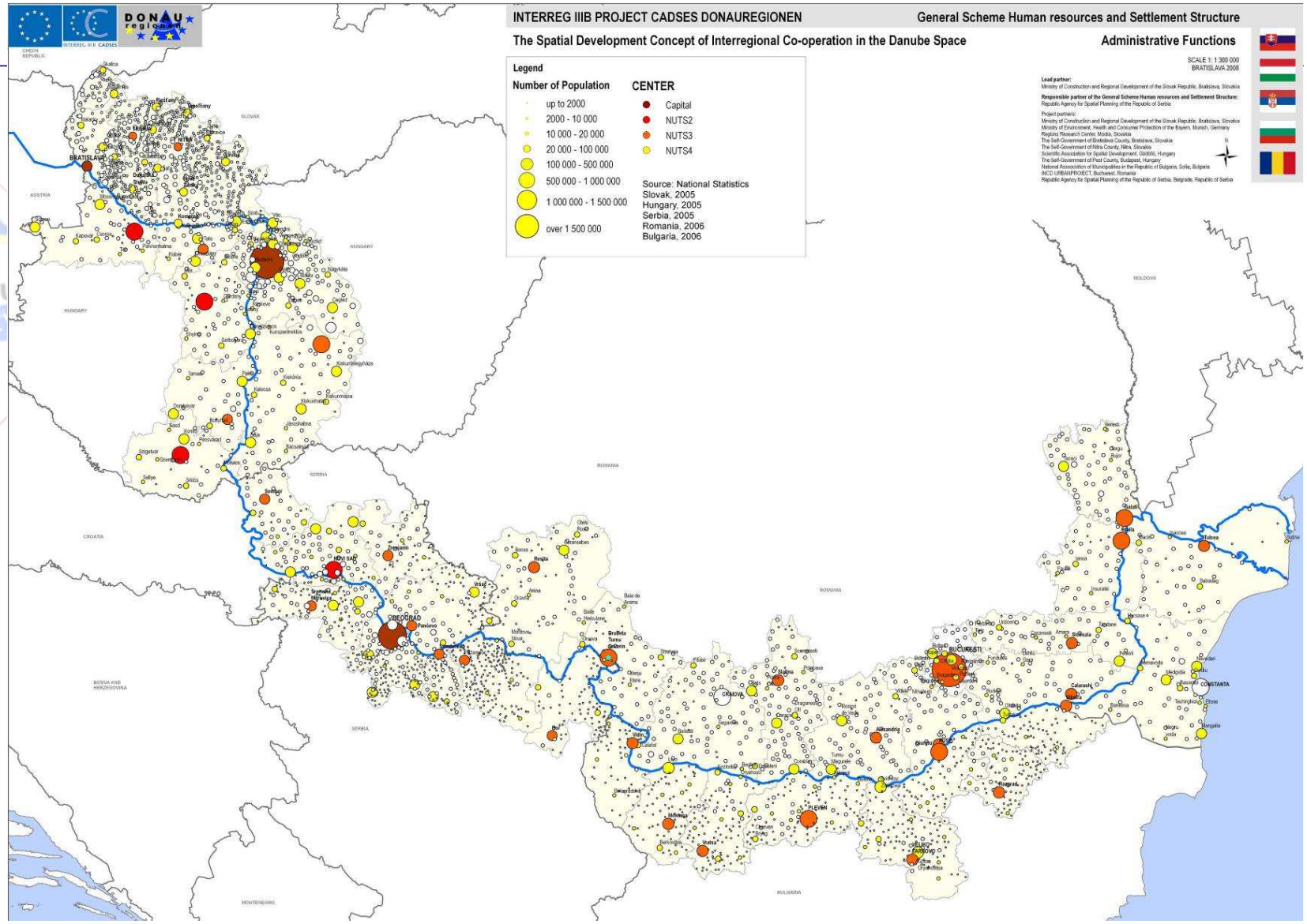
SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE
Basic Description

- 4 695 settlements
- 9 796 480 habitants.
- The majority of settlements are in the less populated Danube region of Bulgaria – 1157 (predominately the settlements under 500 people)

SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE

- The settlements system includes:
  - 4 metropolitan regions: Bratislava (1 012 thous inh.), Budapest (1 698 thous.), Belgrade (1 597 thous.) and Bucharest (2 520 thous.);
  - 6 big urban agglomerations of 200-400 thousand inhabitants;
  - 16 important regional centres of 80-200 thousand inhabitants
  - 60 middle and small size cities of 20-100 thousand inhabitants, more of which are important local centres.

SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE



SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE
Differences in the national hierarchy of the Settlement network

- The distribution of cities based on size is characterised by an important deviation of the first city, of the country's capital (in Romanian, Hungarian, Serbian and Slovak part of the region), and the normal distribution of the rest of the cities thereafter.

- The Danube regions of Bulgaria, Hungary, Serbia and Slovakia are dominated by relatively small settlements.

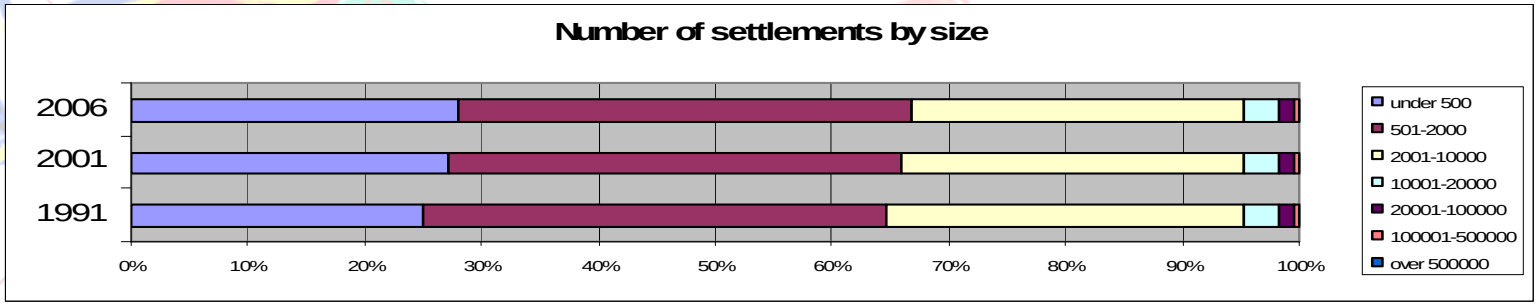
- Considering the number of settlements the share of settlements below 2 000 inhabitant in the region as a whole is almost 70%, but within this the category of 500-2 000 is the dominant (39%). Within the group of towns, the category of small ones between 2 000 – 10 000 inhabitants is dominant – more than 70%.

SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE

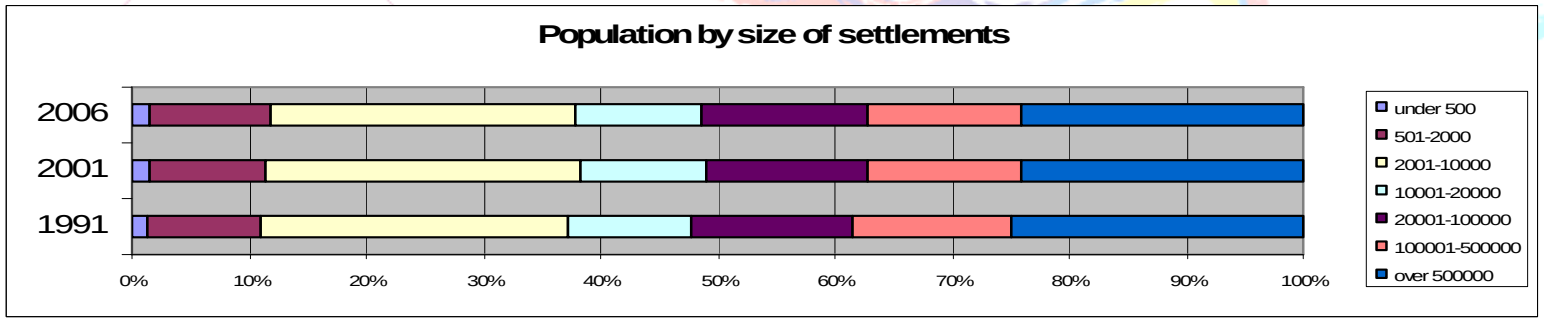
- The trends of the dynamics of the settlements by size are as follows:
  - The predominant part of cities and settlements have declining characteristics in the period 1991-2006 concerning the number of populations;
  - The biggest increase of the number of settlements is demonstrated in a group of the smallest one – under 500 inhabitants (with 15%) and the group of 10-20 thousands inhabitants (with 6%);
  - Decreasing of the number of small local centres with inhabitants 2-10 thousands people with 4%.

SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE Dynamics (1991 – 2006)

Dynamics of number of settlements by size 1991-2006



Population dynamics by size of settlements 1991-2006



SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE
Spatial organisation

- The big metropolitan regions of the capitals Budapest, Belgrade, Bucharest and Bratislava dominate the space in the regional and national context, and are important even for the international space. Around them a broader area is organised, with the inclusion into their immediate neighbouring space of other big urban agglomerations and important cities (with exception of Budapest).

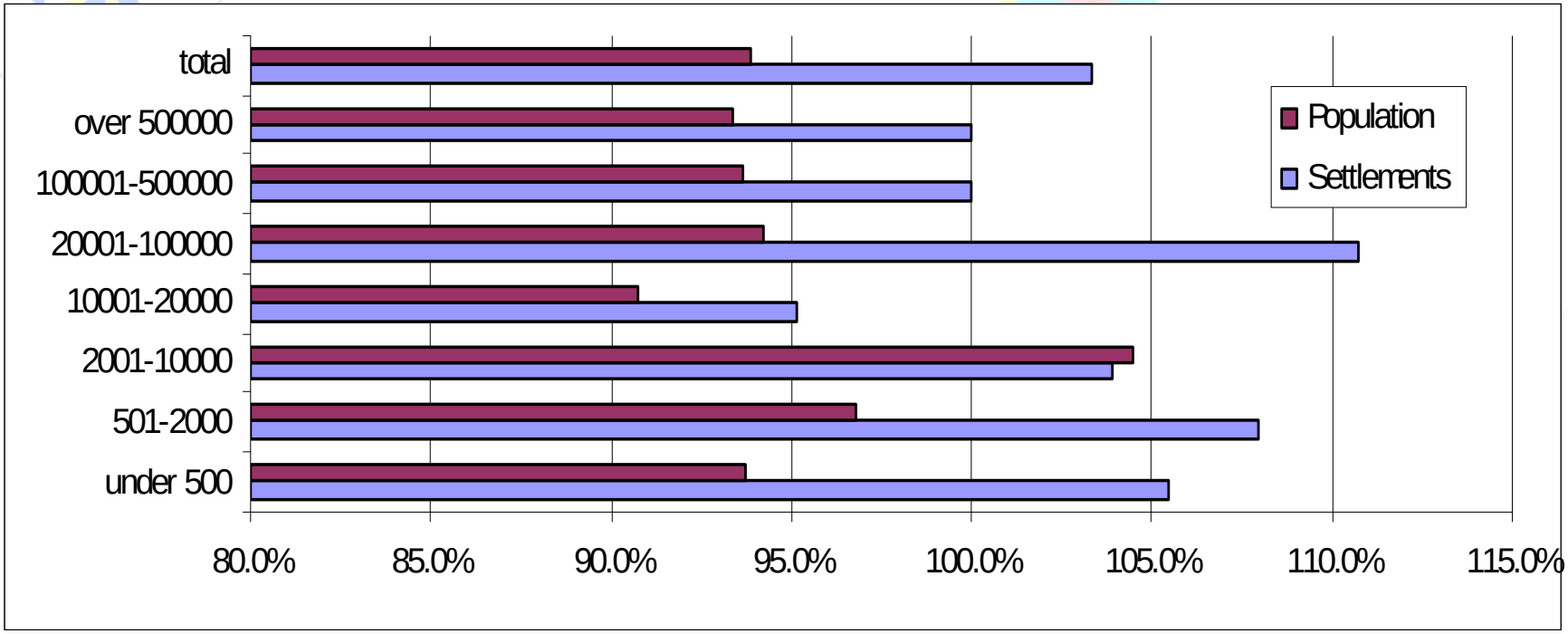
- The urban agglomerations and the regional centres develop usually in a linear form creating important development axes (following the transport corridors in a common case). As transnational development axes it is important to note Budapest – Bratislava and Bucharest - Russe.

SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE
Spatial organisation

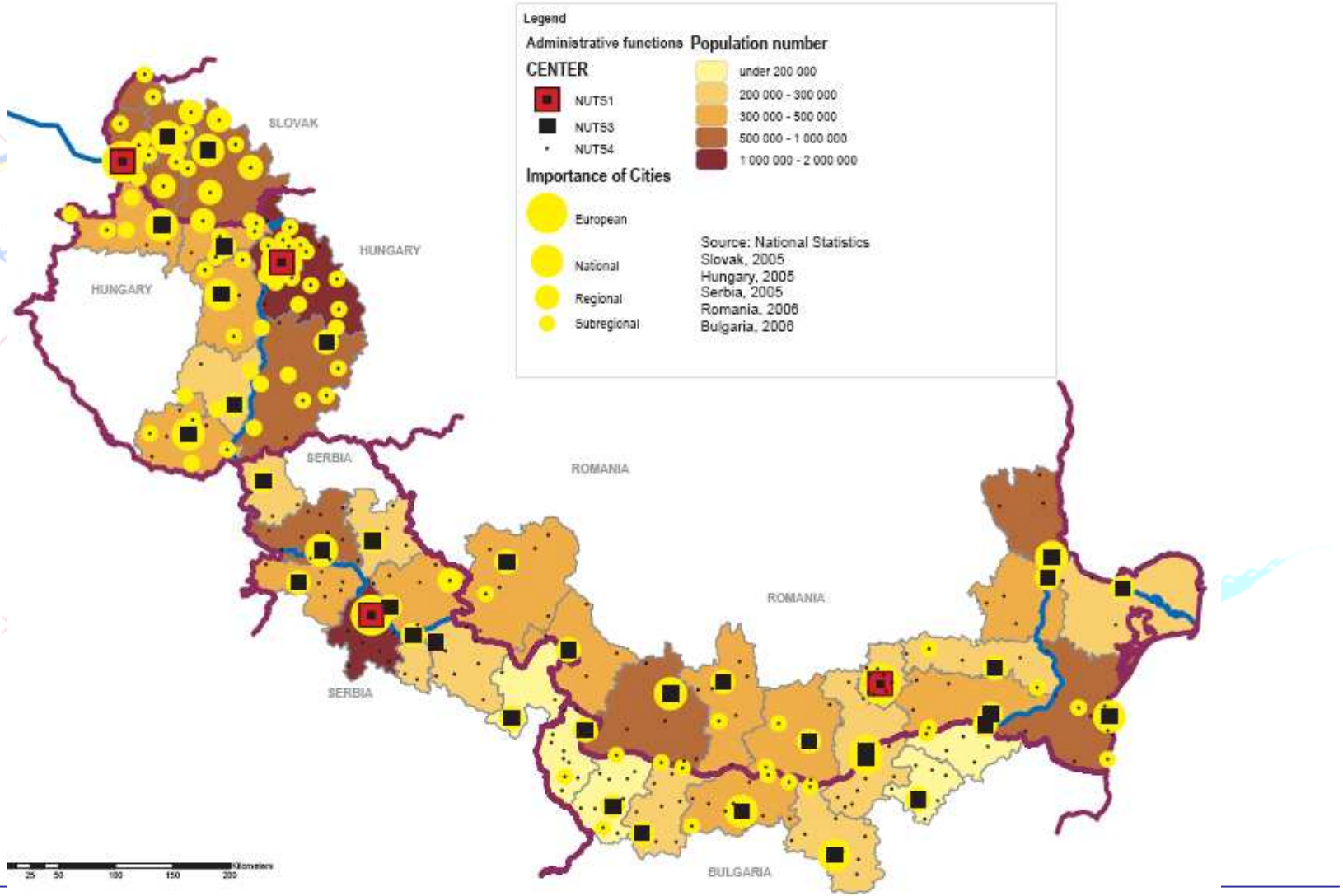
- The cities of over 100.000 inhabitants, either belong to the areas of influence of the previous centres increasing the density of the network, or are interspersed and isolated in regions which are not covered by an important regional centre, constituting themselves the organisation pole of their surrounding usually agricultural hinterland.
- Finally, there are regions that do not have important cities and are not placed under the influence of other important regional urban centres. The rural settlements and the small cities of 10-20.000 inhabitants existing in these areas face problems from their relative isolation and the communication difficulties as most of them are found in mountainous and inaccessible areas many of which are simultaneously borderlands.

SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE
Dynamics (1991 – 2006)

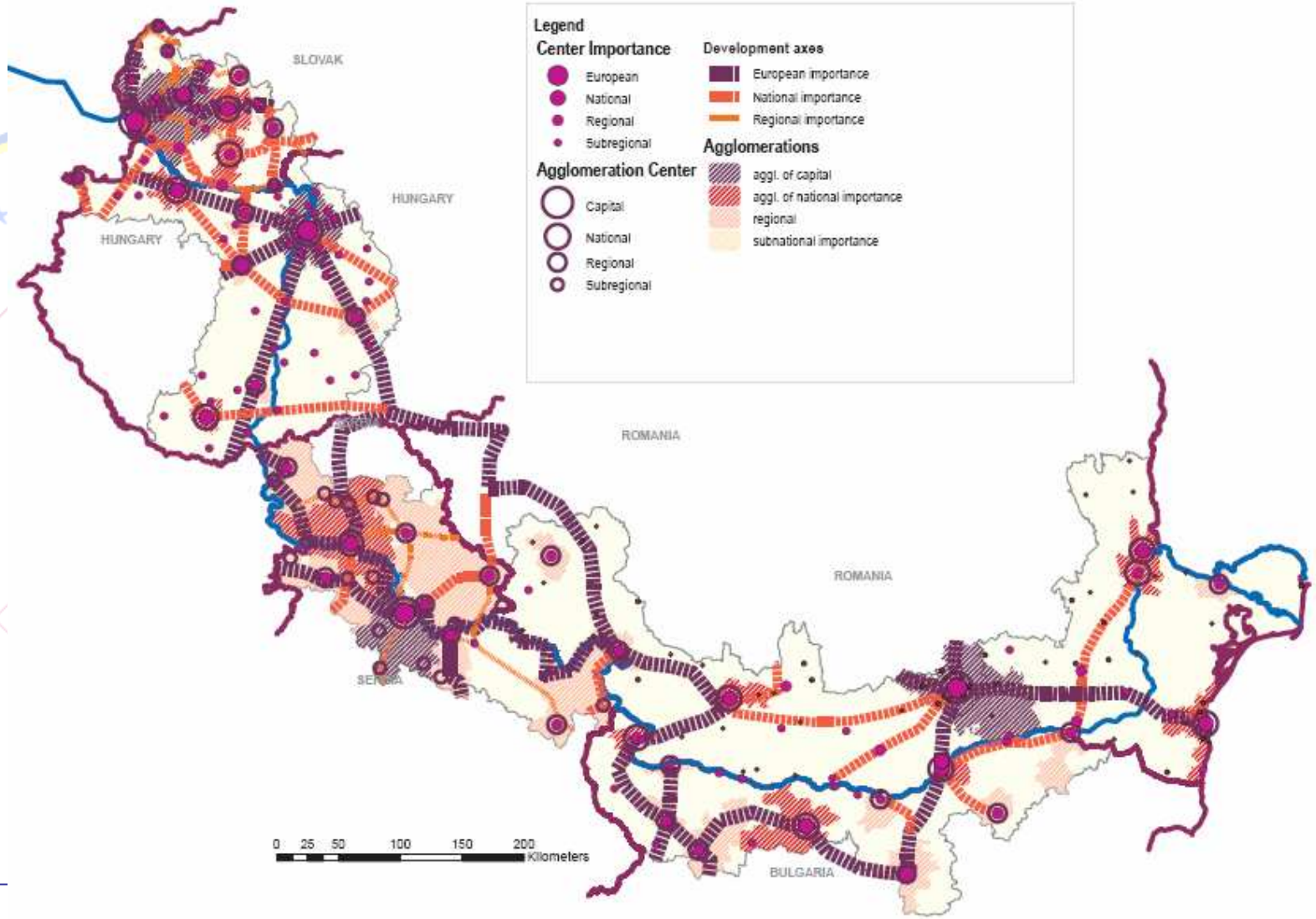
Dynamics of the number of settlements and number of population in the settlements by size of population in the whole Danube region, 1991-2005(2006)



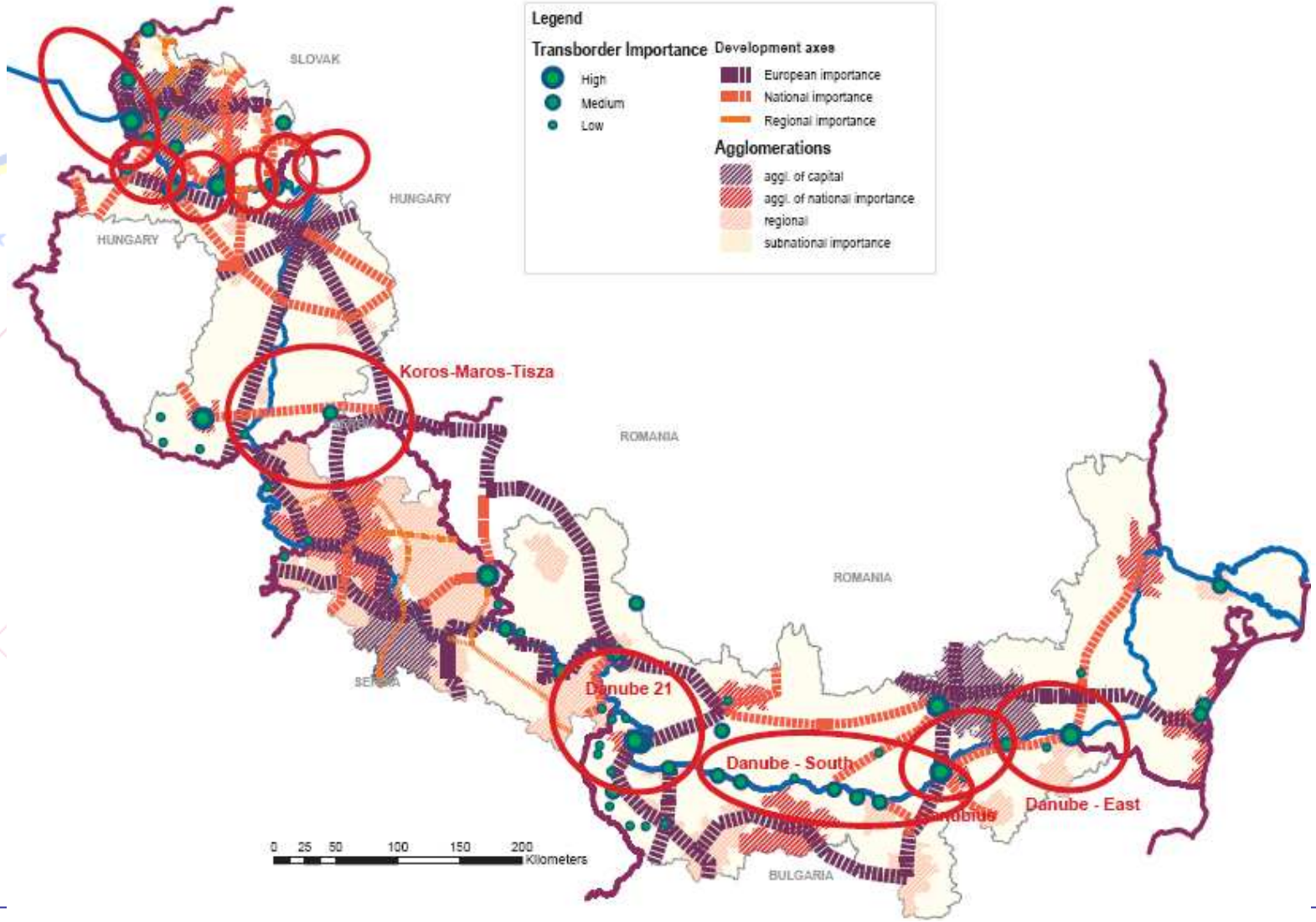
HUMAN RESOURCES
Importance of Cities



SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE
Agglomerations and Axes



SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE
Transborder cooperation



LIVING STANDARDS

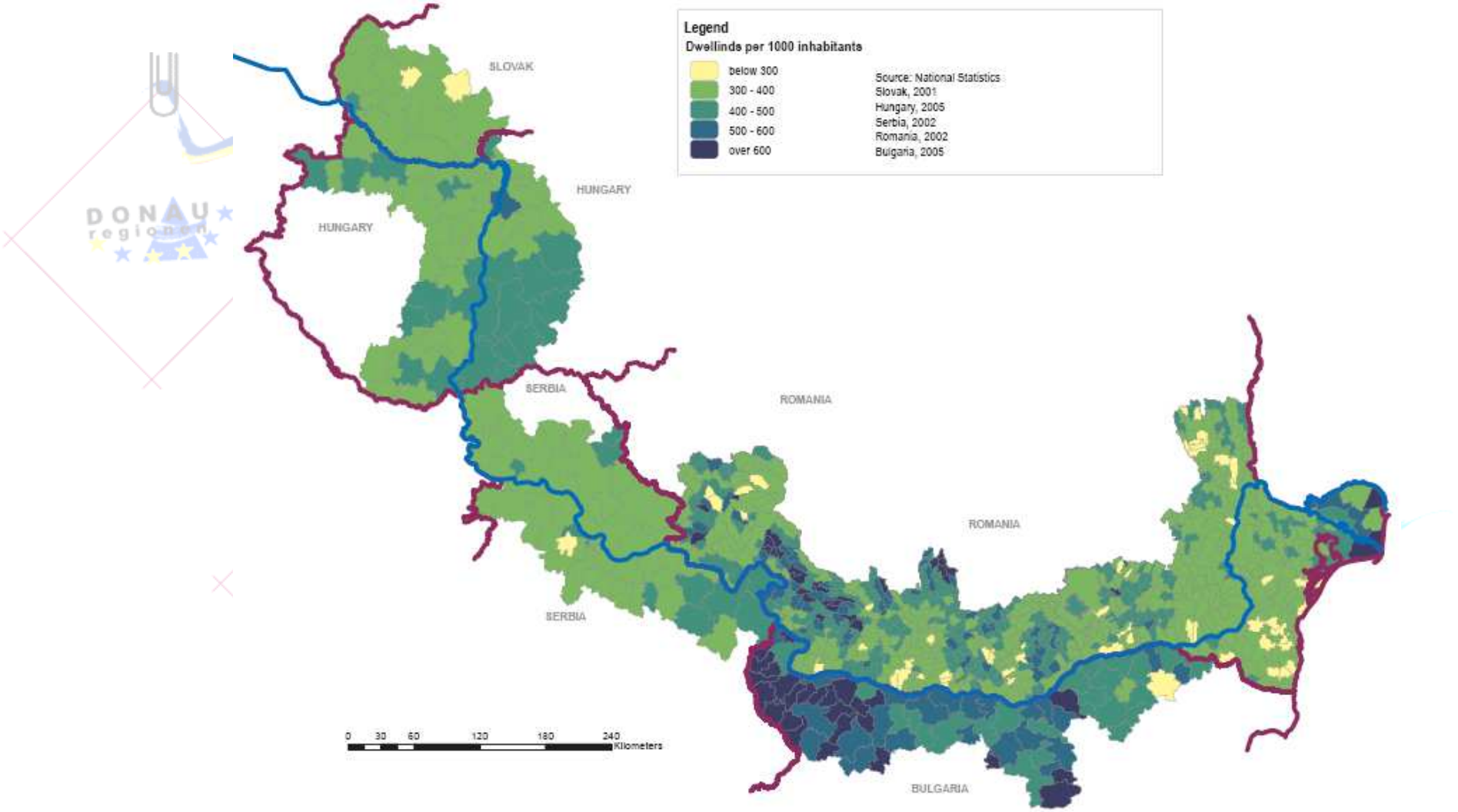
- The measure of living standards is based only on the indicators:
  - Dwellings per 1000 inhabitants,
  - Share of dwellings, connected to water pipelines, and
  - Share of dwellings, connected to sewage system.
- The data are taken from the results of censuses of the population and housing stock in the selected countries in 2001/2002.

LIVING STANDARDS HOUSING

- The number of dwellings per 1000 inh. varies from 332 for Slovak part of the whole region to 478 for Bulgarian part. The average result for the region is 390.
- Problems of adequacy of housing stock in selected Danube areas of the countries.
- Housing provisions by NUTS 3 regions is lower in Slovak part than in all other NUTS 3 regions.
- One of the reasons for such high values of this indicator in Bulgarian part of the region is the accelerate process of depopulation in some areas.

LIVING STANDARDS

Dwellings per 1000 inhabitants



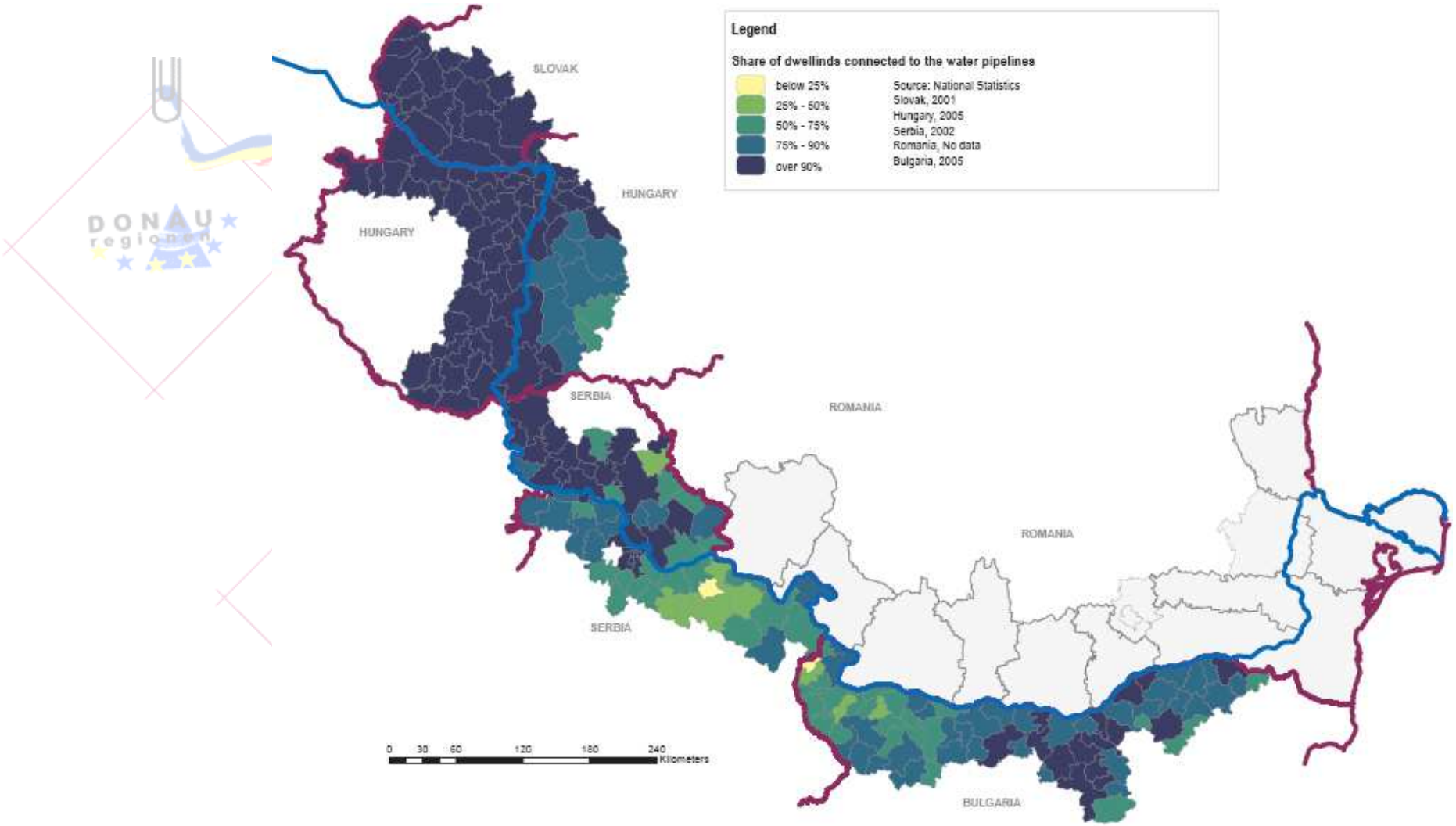
LIVING STANDARDS

Dwellings connected to water pipelines

- The share of dwellings, connected to water pipelines is the highest in the Slovak (94,8%) and Hungarian part (94,0%) of the Danube region.
- For the rest parts of the region – Bulgarian, Romanian and Serbian, these figures are lower – 84-85%.
- In these parts one can note a big differences at NUTS 3 level and to Indicate very low figures as 53-70%.

LIVING STANDARDS

Share of dwellings, connected to water pipelines



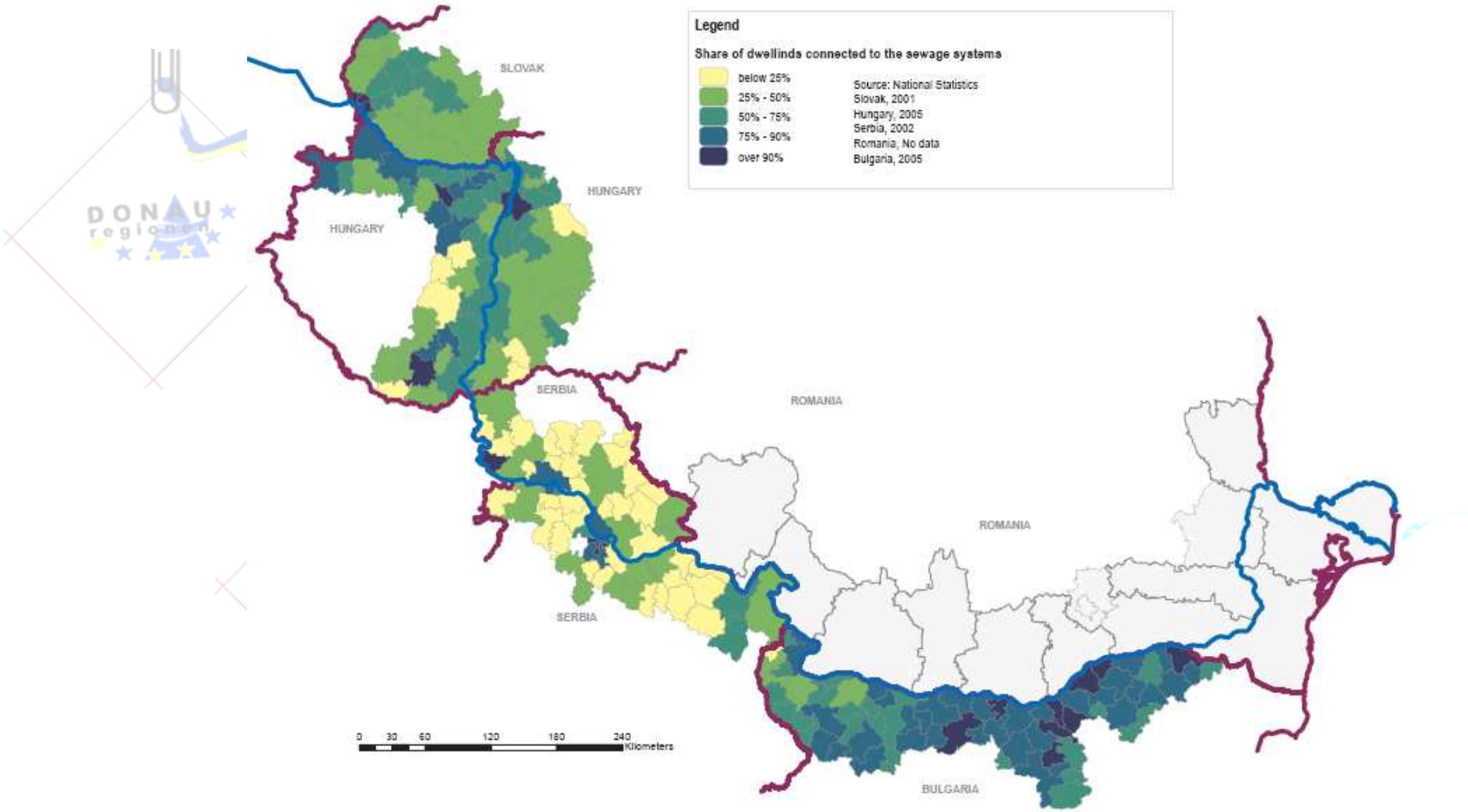
LIVING STANDARDS

Dwellings connected to sewage systems

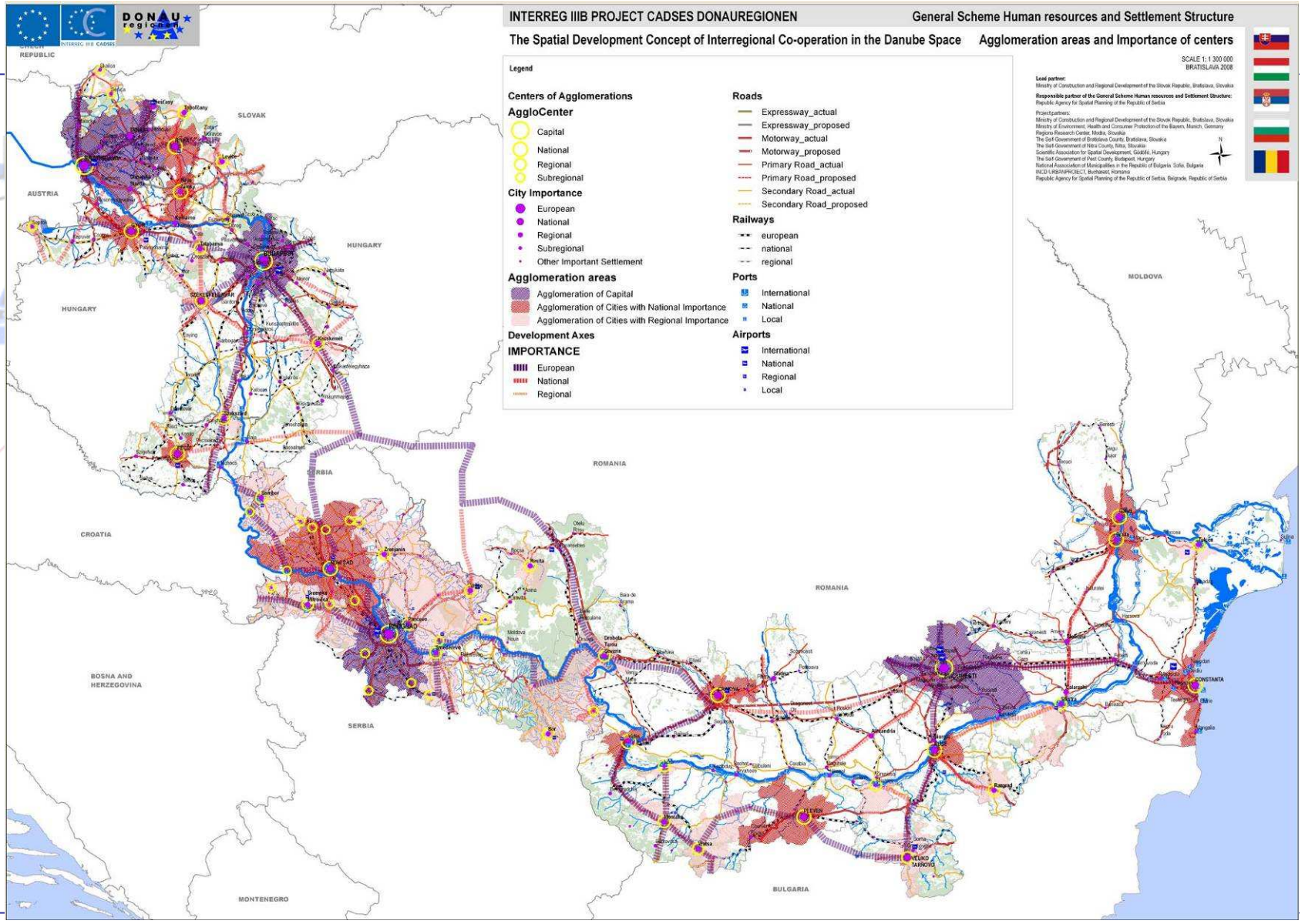
- Bulgarian part of the region shows the highest standard with 80,5% of dwellings, connected to sewage.
- For the Hungarian area this figure is 64,1%,
- for the the Slovak - 61.5%.
- The lowest is the average indicator for the Serbian part – 52,3%.
- On NUTS 3 level the discrepancies between the counties are highly manifested.
- The variation is between 19.42% (for Stremski county) to 92.59% (for Budapest).

LIVING STANDARDS

Share of dwellings, connected to sewage systems



Summary map


INTERREG IIIB PROJECT CADSES DONAUREGIONEN
General Scheme Human resources and Settlement Structure
The Spatial Development Concept of Interregional Co-operation in the Danube Space
Agglomeration areas and Importance of centers
Legend
Centers of Agglomerations
AggloCenter
Capital
National
Regional
Subregional
City Importance
European
National
Regional
Subregional
Other Important Settlement
Agglomeration areas
Agglomeration of Capital
Agglomeration of Cities with National Importance
Agglomeration of Cities with Regional Importance
Development Axes
IMPORTANCE
European
National
Regional
Roads
Expressway_actual
Expressway_proposed
Motorway_actual
Motorway_proposed
Primary Road_actual
Primary Road_proposed
Secondary Road_actual
Secondary Road_proposed
Railways
european
national
regional
Ports
International
National
Local
Airports
International
National
Regional
Local
SCALE 1: 1 300 000
BRATISLAVA 2008
SLOVAK REPUBLIC
AUSTRIA
HUNGARY
SERBIA
CROATIA
BOSNA AND HERZEGOVINA
MONTENEGRO
ROMANIA
BULGARIA
MOLDOVA

CONCLUSIONS

- The complex demographic landscape of the whole Danube region are *stagnation areas* on the one hand, and *areas of population decline*, on the other hand.

- Population development presents both prerequisites and restrictions on functional labour markets and polycentric development. In the whole project area the trends in the dominant part of settlements are toward ageing, skewed gender and age structures with their consequences on the composition of the labour force and with *future labour market problems within the region*.

- The *living standards* and the housing stock are heavily depreciated in a big part of the Danube region.

CONCLUSIONS

- Danube area has its own territorial dynamic and special significance for the future development of the European space. At the same time, this area is *internally fragmented* in many ways and is consisting of different sub-regions.

- There are signs of a *polycentric* spatial development within the whole project area, but predominant are areas with *monocentric* development.

- The settlements network is relatively evenly developed across the entire project territory. The network of large cities – centers of the general socio-economic development – is, however, unevenly distributed. This gives rise to the problem “center-periphery” and becomes a factor for inter-regional and especially intra-regional differences within the area as whole.

CONCLUSIONS

⇒ The development level of the regions within the area largely depends on the availability of large cities. The big metropolitan regions of Budapest, Belgrade, Bucharest and Bratislava dominate the space in the regional and national context, and are important even for the international space. Around them a broader area is organised in big urban agglomerations. The existence of large cities is an opportunity to make use of their potential and to spread their positive impact over the entire areal around them.

⇒ At the same time, parallel with the formation of urban agglomerations and the accumulation of problems there, on the opposite pole stands out the aggravation of the problems of the so-called “peripheral areas” with negligible concentration of population and underdeveloped settlements. It is there that the effects of the not adequately mastered urbanization manifest themselves with particular gravity.

CONCLUSIONS

- In recent years the active relations between urban (especially small towns) and rural settlements, manifested through commuter trips, have gradually been extenuated and are presently extremely limited. There is a risk of deterioration of the urban functions of these settlements and the organizing role of the cities with respect to the hinterland because of economic hardships and the forced ebb of urban population to the rural areas.

- The recovery of middle size cities and regional and local centres now is started and it is a perequisite for new polycentric development.

- **Policentricity is here both a way to reach the aims of ESDP/EU Territorial Agenda and an objective of its own.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

- There is a necessity to promote the spatial integration of the Danube Area region understood as a mean to improve the ability of the area as a whole and of its components to enter into the cooperation and competition occurring at the European and global scale.
- The Danube project area includes important urban centres with historical co-operation tradition and strong current dynamism. The increase of co-operation and complementarity between the metropolitan centres and main cities could set in motion the creation of development corridors, which could become the central spillover system for development and cohesion between the regions and between the cities and the countryside. For big metropolises (Bratislava, Budapest, Belgrade, Bucharest) and the important cities of Bulgaria will have to be developed as an urban constellation which will reinforce the spill-over of development in big zones of influence along the basic interconnections.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A set of join development strategies and plans has to address the need to create and promote the conditions for the spatial integration of the internal regions sensitive to social and functional diversity with particular attention to restructuring of cities and problem areas, to stimulate polycentricity and integrated development, thus contributing to an effective implementation of the EU Territorial Agenda and the Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities.
- The cooperation should include the reinforcement of the creation of a polycentric and more balanced urban system through the co-ordination of the actions of the structural policies and of the policy for the trans-European and pan-European networks and the improvement of the connections between international/national and regional/local networks.
- It is advisable to promote the development of strategies for an integrated spatial development of groups of cities and of the network of settlements and urban areas with importance within the whole Danube region. This co-operation might concern the cross-border regions, as well areas with common bridge crossing Danube river.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- It is recommended to address the reinforcement of competition, dynamism, and the strategic role of the metropolitan areas and of the cities-gates. More specifically, it concerns the development of sectoral policies oriented towards the international character of these areas and simultaneously policies that support this function mainly through urban infrastructures and programmes of urban regeneration. The co-operation and exchange of experience between the corresponding regions can play an important role.

- It is necessary to develop the join policies for reinforcement of the small and middle cities in urban areas in order to function as central points of regional development and promotion of their networking in parallel with the support to the co-operation and the exchange of information between the rural areas on the basis of common policies like rural, ecological tourism etc.

Thank you!