



# Assembly of European Regions (AER) How to reap the benefits of EU funding

Ourania Georgoutsakou Regine Kramer AER Secretariat

Nicosia (CY), 11/09/2012









- Foundation date: 1985
- 253 regions, 35 countries and 16 interregional organisations
- Political assembly (Presidents, \_ Marshalls, elected representatives, executives)
- 60% EU regions, 40% from outside the EU
- Secretariat in Strasbourg; Liaison offices in Brussels (B) and Alba (RO)







## 1. AER in brief





#### Political lobbying



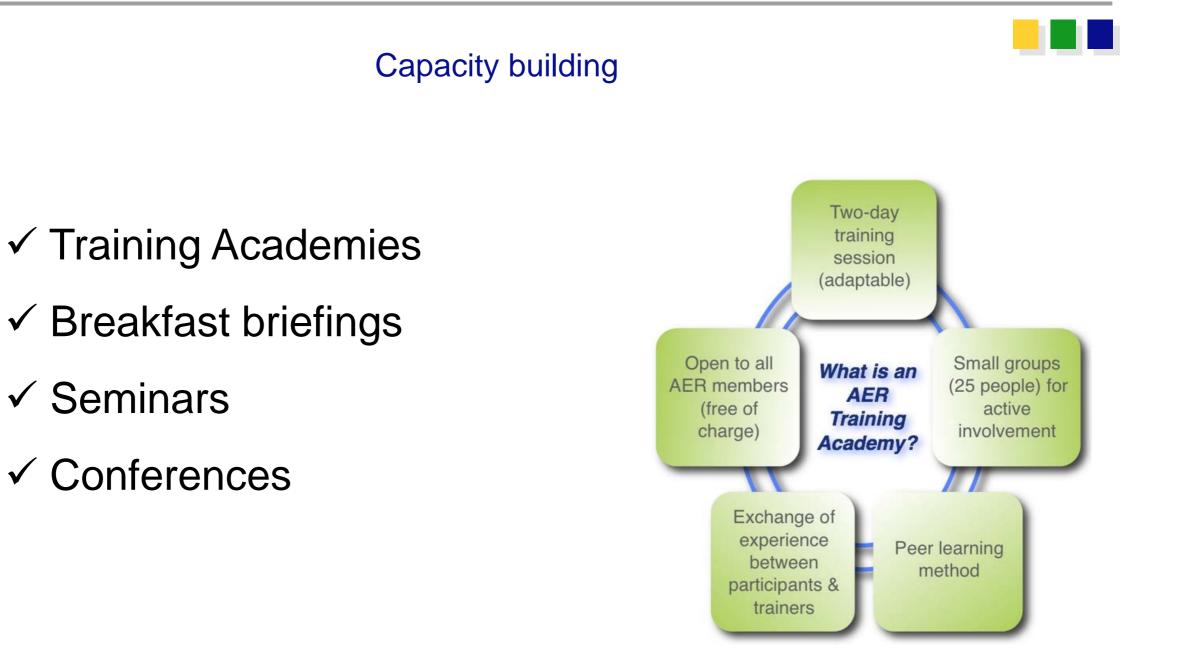
towards all relevant institutions, including bilateral meetings with members of the european parliament and officials of the Commission



St.Pölten Manifesto, 21 October 2011













#### Exchange programmes





**AER Summer Schools** 





ssemblée des Régions











Participation in projects: Mutual learning

Eco-innovation = knowledge economy + environment + Risk prevention = a driver for regions' sustainable development

Regional Adult Learning Multipliers and the Europe 2020 Flagship Initiatives

Innovation & Sustainability in Tourism - regions present ideas & solutions

Regional strategies on innovation-based employment opportunities

Investments in sustainable energy projects on renewable energy and energy efficiency measures









### 3. AER and EU Funding



AER can assist you through:

- a) Being a partner
- b) Providing information about funding opportunities (AER
  - funding trackers)
- c) Finding a partner
- d) Disseminating your project results
- e) Organize training sessions on European funding





## What do we want to achieve today?

- Do you see an added value in EU projects?
- Where do you see the biggest challenge in accessing EU funding?
- Do you feel informed enough about EU funding?
- Do you think that you have enough capacities?





### 3. AER and EU Funding



AER experience

- a) Be strategic and not opportunistic
- b) Be afraid
- c) Don't be afraid
- d) Dare to think outside the box
- e) Experience



Contact





Thank you for your attention!

Ourania Georgoutsakou Regine Kramer AER Policy Coordinator g.ourania@aer.eu <u>r.kramer@aer.eu</u>

www.aer.eu