

*Creating our futures*

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**ECTP-CEU**

European Council of Spatial Planners  
Conseil européen des Urbanistes

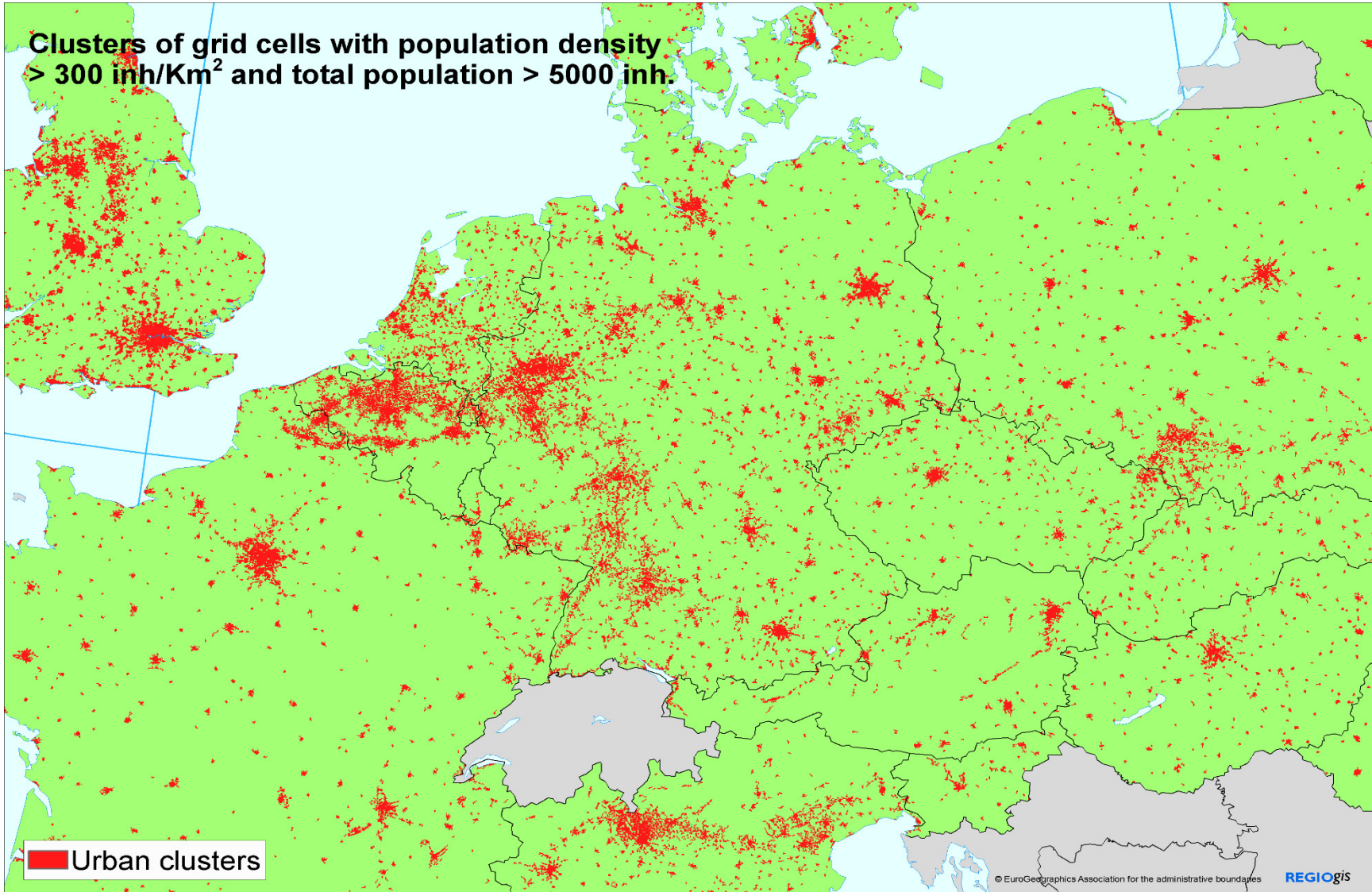



**VGP**

# Enhancing spatial efficiency in urbanized areas

Leuven, OPEK, October 6 2017

**Clusters of grid cells with population density  
> 300 inh/Km<sup>2</sup> and total population > 5000 inh.**



 Urban clusters

# European urban regions face huge challenges

*...Just a few*

- Changing mobility needs and infrastructures
- Quality of living environments (health, pollution, safety, ageing, ...)
- Digitally driven economies
- Governance (models, relations, ...) in complex urban regions





# mobility and space

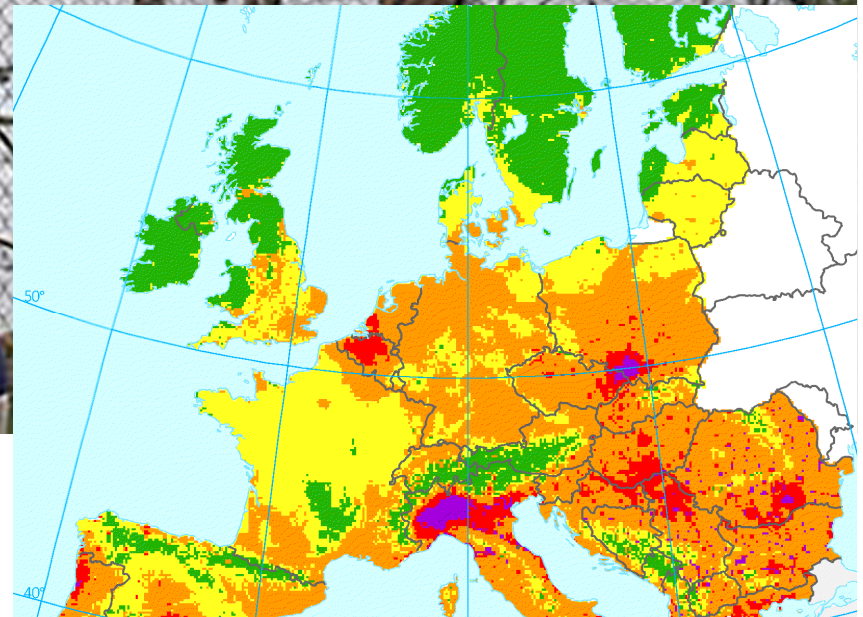
- mobility is a *derived demand*
- mobility is therefore defined by land use (effectiveness): it has a big impact on mobility's ability to be efficient in carrying out that mission (density, compact design,...)
- mobility and land use must be part of an integrated approach to be sustainable

Can efficiency of both spatial planning and mobility be enhanced?



Need for a an integrated spatial mobility vision

# Qualitative living environments



# Digital economy

## What is the digital economy?

It's the economic activity resulting from **the billions of online connections among:**

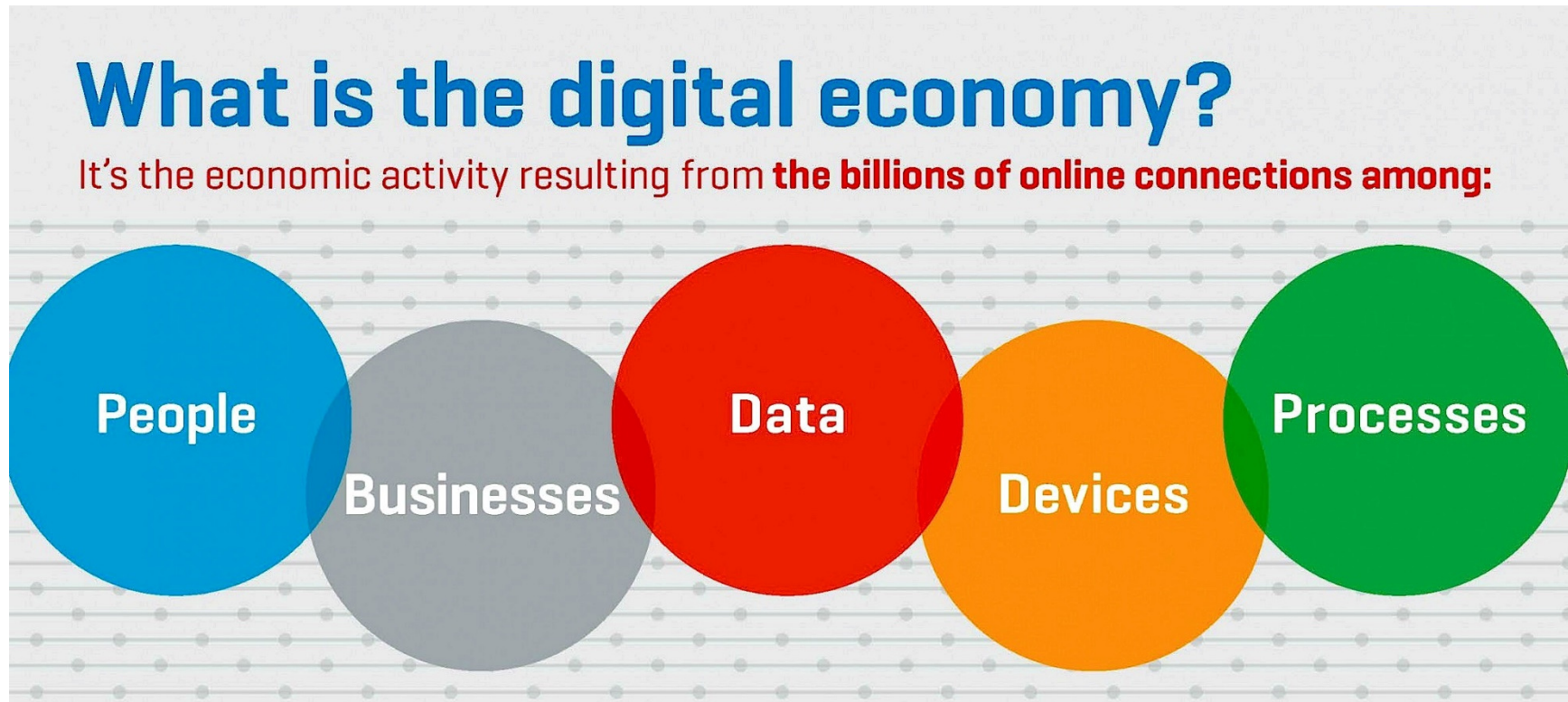
People

Businesses

Data

Devices

Processes





# Cashing in on the "Digital Gold Rush"

## The Digital Arbitrage

By increasing the ease and speed of transaction, an arbitrage is created. Digital marketers capitalize on this by connecting digital buyers and sellers around the world, getting remunerated in the form of affiliate commissions.



### Traditional Economy

### Digital Economy

### The "Digital Gold Rush"

SFM The SIXFIGURE Mentors

The Six Figure Mentors is an exclusive, private, Digital Marketing System & Community by Digital Experts Academy



# Governance



How to deal with complexity ?

# Governance issues

## Reality

- Many cities dealing with changing roles and declining possibilities, having limited experiences and capacities
- Every European town, city or region has to deal with 'big issues' such as transport and mobility, economic transition, migration, ...etc.
- Inter city and inter regional cooperation still weak
- Strong Real Estate - driven urban development

# Governance issues

## Reality

- Liveability/quality of life not (always) the prime target, social policy under threat
- No idea what to do with the digital era and the effect on spatial development
- Weak coordination and integration
- Difficulties linking up scales

# Governance issues

## Solutions

- Regional development coalitions (France, Italy, Portugal, ...), and how to deal with polycentrism (Flanders, Ruhrgebiet)?
- Longer term coherent spatial development processes, based on a **three tier methodology**
  1. a coherent and sustainable long term spatial vision
  2. creation and application of concrete instruments (like f.i. development plans, specific funds, ...)
  3. an effective on-the-field implementation (budget)

# Enhancing spatial efficiency in complex urban regions

- Specific condition
- Layers of complexities
- Interplay of different functional structures
- Density – open space
- Diversity
- Need for coordination
- Many powerful players

How to work on an integrated approach enhancing spatial efficiency ?

# Central questions

1. What kind of tools are being developed in order to enhance spatial efficiency for strong and coherent urbanized regions?
2. Are all instruments successful and what is possibly colateral damage ?
3. What role spatial planners can play (and not play) ?
4. How can spatial efficiency be best governed ?