

# Cluster Development Policy in Hungary

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MAG - Hungarian Economic Development Centre  
Cluster Development Office

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# Cluster programmes in Hungary from 2000



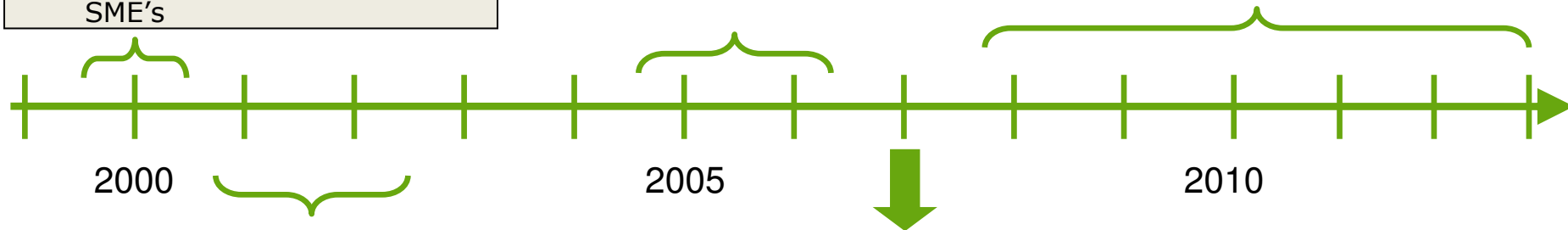
First cluster established in Hungary

- Initiated by the Ministry of Economy
- Pannon Automotive Cluster (PANAC)
- Involvement of three major Hungarian-based car manufacturers (Suzuki, GM, Audi) and more than 50 SME's

Grants for the set-up of clusters and for cluster activities from Structural Funds

2007-2013 EU budgetary period made a long-term consistent cluster policy possible

- Hungarian Pole Program (2008-2010) for cluster development and for the improvement of the business environment
- Cluster development in the New Széchenyi Plan (2010-)



Grants for the set-up and operation of cluster management organizations as part of the Széchenyi Plan (domestic funds)

As a result of the cluster support programmes approx. 50 clusters or cluster initiatives existed in Hungary by 2007

# The organizational background

## Integration of the former Pole Programme Office

- From April 2011 a division which is called Cluster Development Office has been set up within the organisation of MAG and it has taken over the tasks from Pole Programme Office.

## The main benefits arisen from the integration

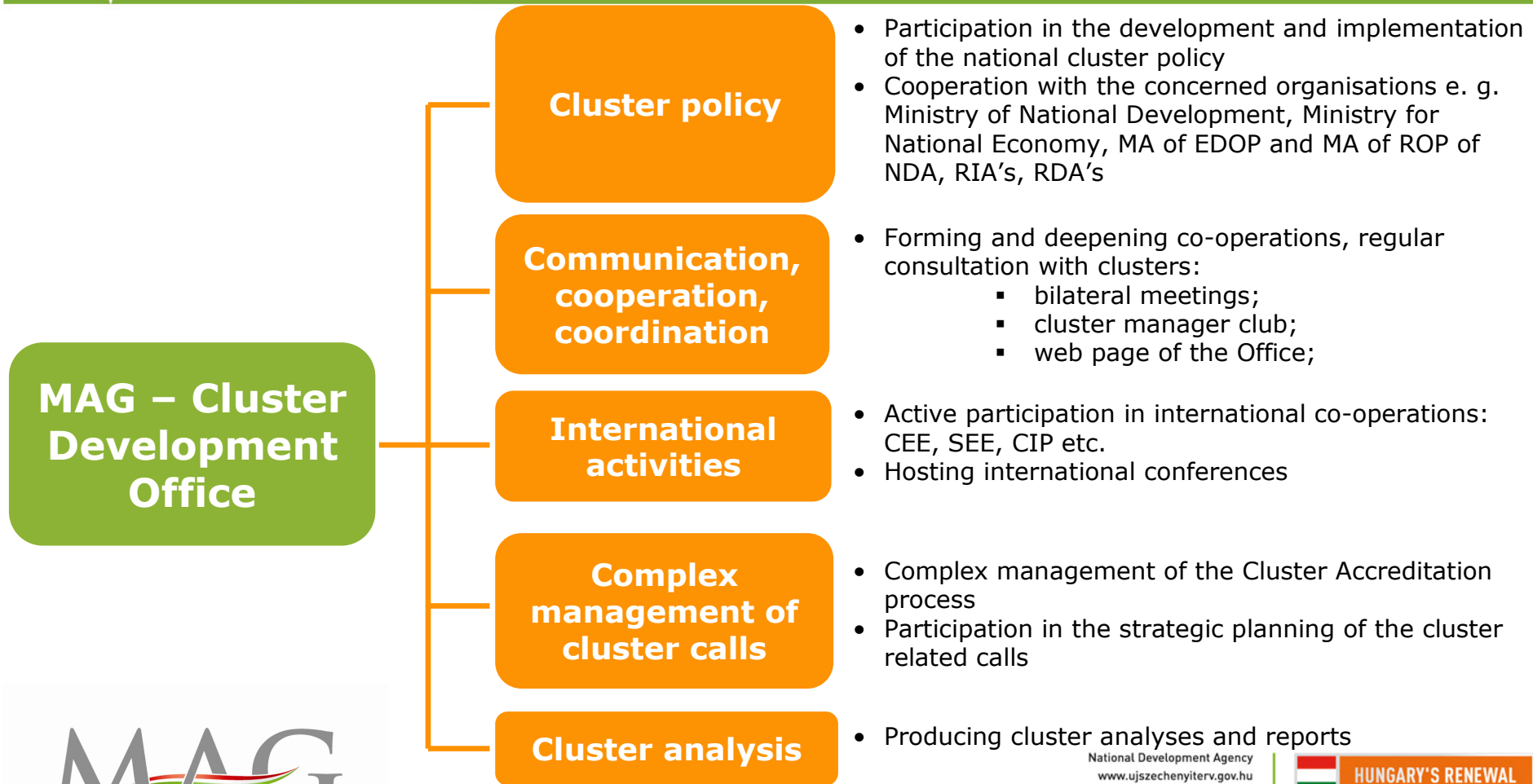
- Standardized execution
- Direct flow of information
- Significant savings of resources

**Hungarian Pole Programme Office**



**Cluster Development Office**  
**MAG – Hungarian Economic Development Centre**

# MAG – Cluster Development Office performs the following tasks in relation to clusters



The projects are supported by the European Union and co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund.

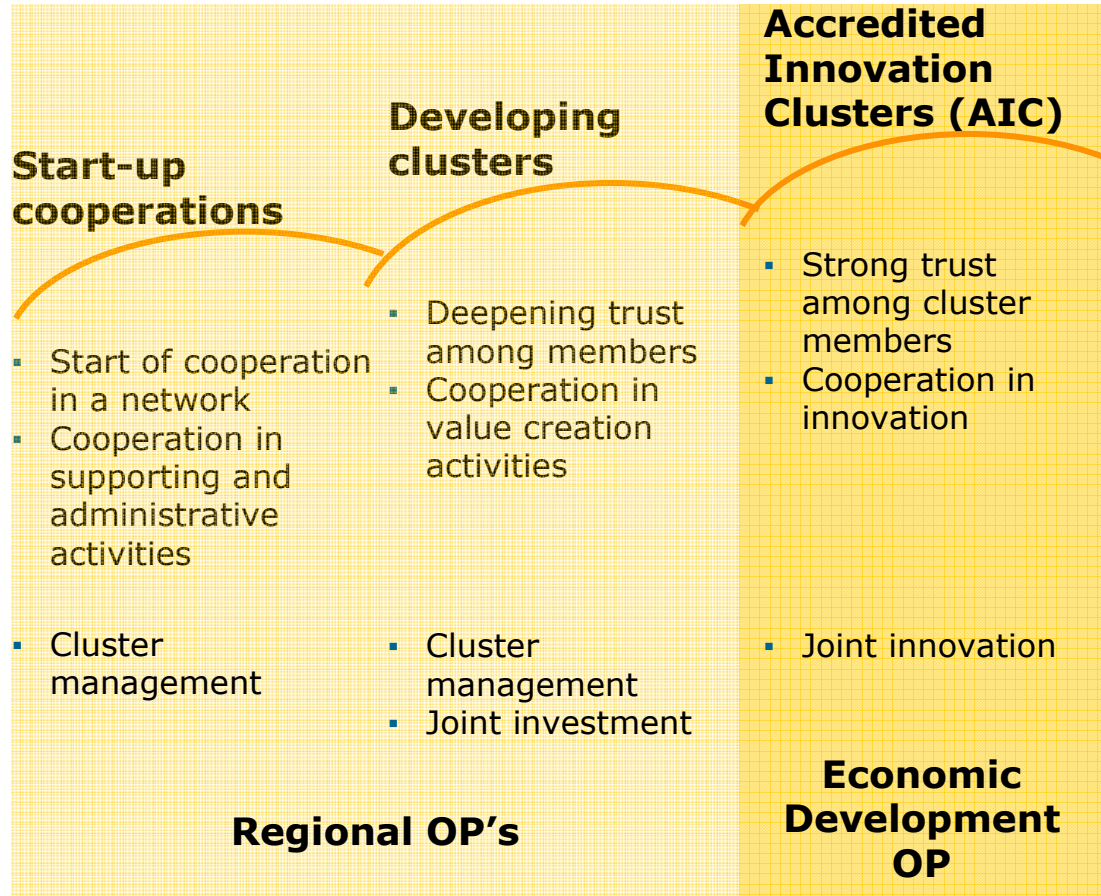
# Multi-stage cluster development model



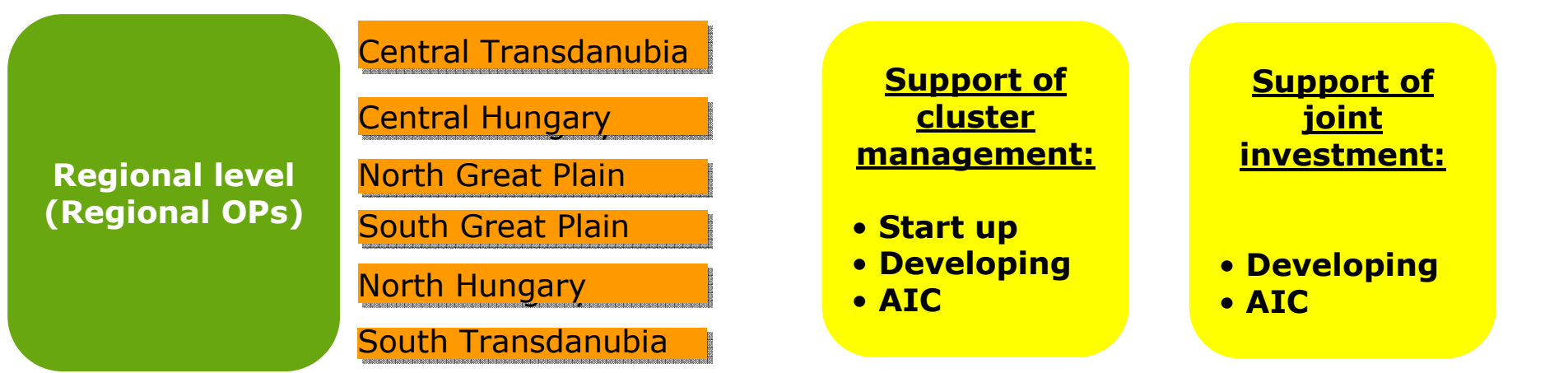
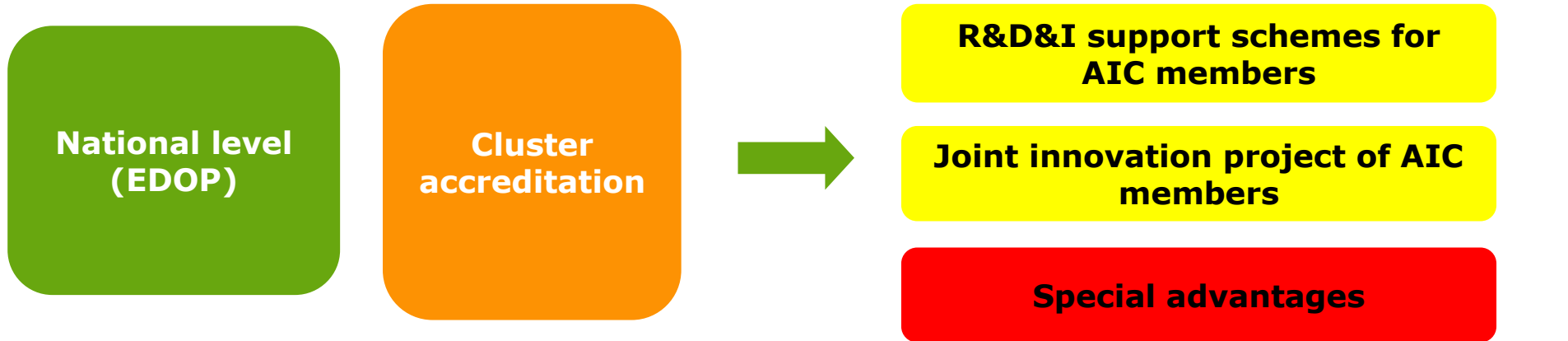
**Development stage**

**Description**

**Available grants**



# Support system of the Hungarian clusters



National Development Agency  
www.ujszechenyiterv.gov.hu  
06 40 638 638



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# General introduction of the Cluster Accreditation (CA)



## Aim of the scheme

To select and classify those clusters that

- have remarkable contribution to the Hungarian employment
- have high innovation potential,
- are export-oriented,
- are able to reach significant international and domestic performance

## The accreditation entitles the clusters for

- applying for dedicated sources of the EDOP
- advantages and preferential treatment in certain calls for proposals

## Advantages of the accreditation

- In the past three years the Cluster Accreditation system had become a significant incentive of economy development
- The CA system recognised as a good-practice by the European Commission
- The „Accredited Innovation Cluster” title had become an internationally known brand
- The accreditation of clusters can be flexibly used to „pre-filter” a large scale of companies applying for grants in the field of innovation and technology development

# Currently 22 clusters hold the Accredited Innovation Cluster title in Hungary

## Accredited clusters

Industry	Number
 ICT	8
 Healthcare	5
 Environmental industry	2
 Construction/ Energy	2
 Machinery/vehicle production	3
 Packaging/plastics industry	1
 Wood/furniture industry	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>



- Most of the 22 Accredited clusters have its geographical focus in regional centres
- Total number of cluster members: 782 (SME members: 677);
- Total revenue of member companies (11): EUR 30.9 billion;
- Total export revenue of SMEs (11): EUR 416 million;
- Total employment of cluster member companies: ≈ 70.000;



# Results of cluster supports 2007-13



## Lessons learned, future steps & challenges



- The support and development of clusters and cluster organisations should be continued in the next programming period, however more emphasis should be given to self-financing
- Priority in the support of those clusters which already have a significant track-record;
- Enhancing the skills of the Cluster management organisation;
- The cluster accreditation system is capable to filter and qualify clusters, but the recent experiences should be channelled into the qualification system;
- Room for internationalization;
- The cluster phenomena should be embedded into the general business environment (taxation, accounting etc. issues);

Thank you for your kind attention!

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