

Future perspectives for the Balkans: Vision Building 2020 Foresight project

SEE Annual event 2010 Thessaloniki

Blaž GOLOB

**Centre for eGovernance Development for South East Europe
CeGD**

Bled Forum on Europe (Millennium Project Node)



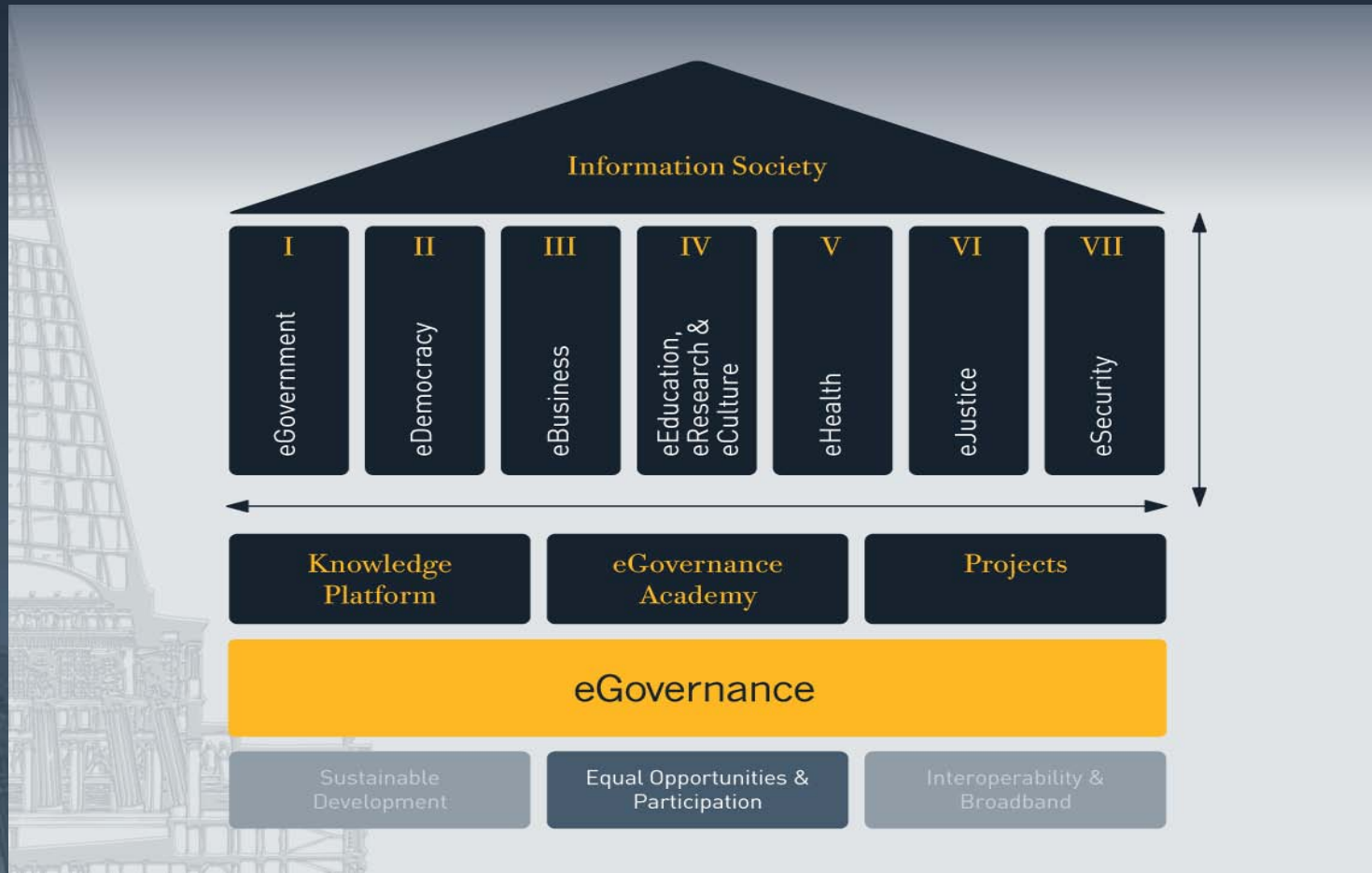
Content

- About CeGD and Information society development in SEE
- About foresight & Knowledge society
- EU Enlargement futures 2001 – 2010
- Western Balkan Futures 2010 – 2020
- WEB 2020 priority areas identified

VISION / MISSION

- Successful Development of Information Society (*that will contribute to the future of Europe*)
- As a Public Private Partnership in the field of governance development we provide education & research, transfer of knowledge co-ordination of cross - border activities.

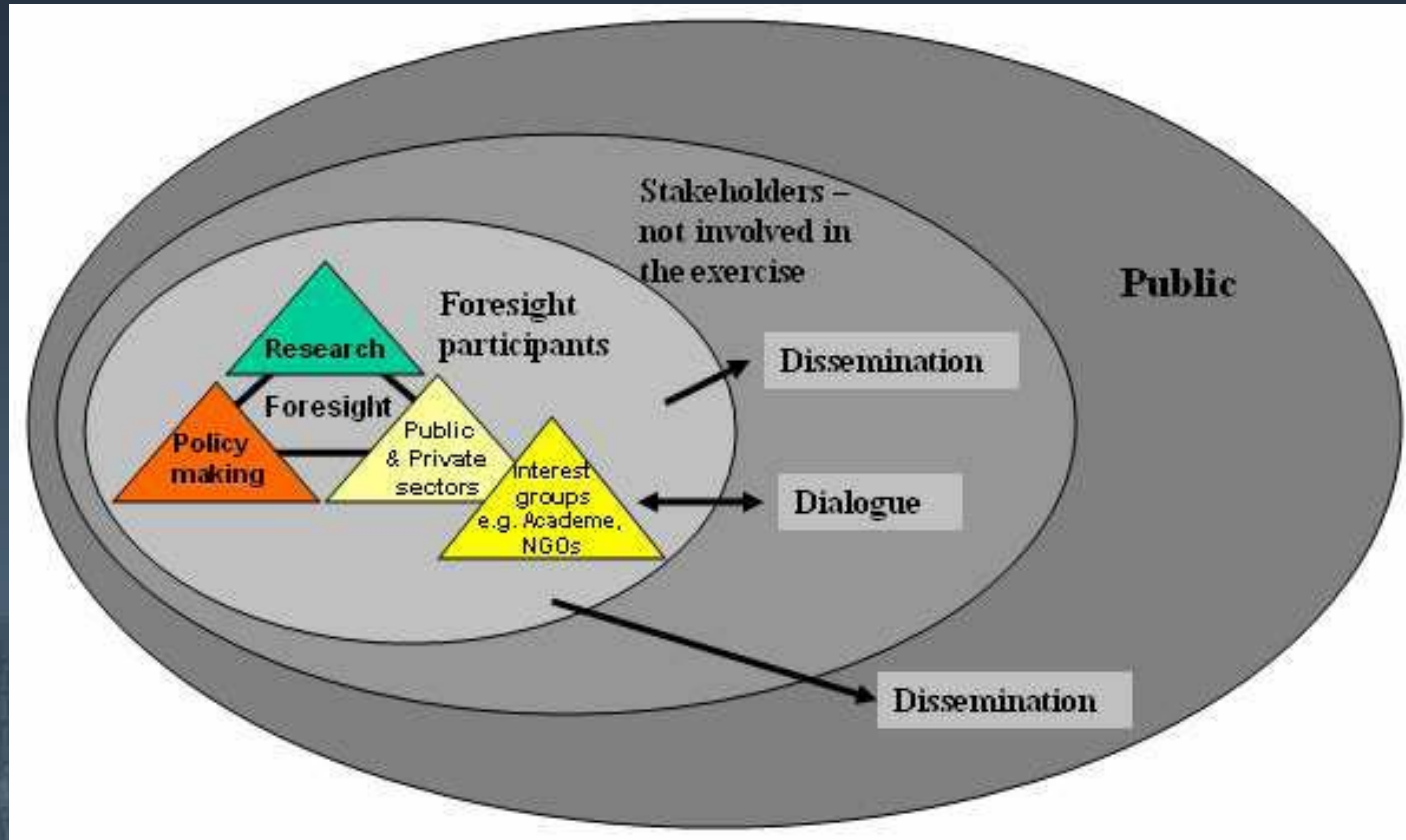
CeGD 7 ePillars Model of Single Information Society



About Foresight

- A tool to support stakeholders to develop visions of the future and pathways towards these visions (*European Commission*)
- Foresights work makes a critical contribution to meeting important challenges of the 21st Century (*UK Gov*)

Participation and communication in Foresight landscape



Source: Saritas *et al.* (2007)

Knowledge Society

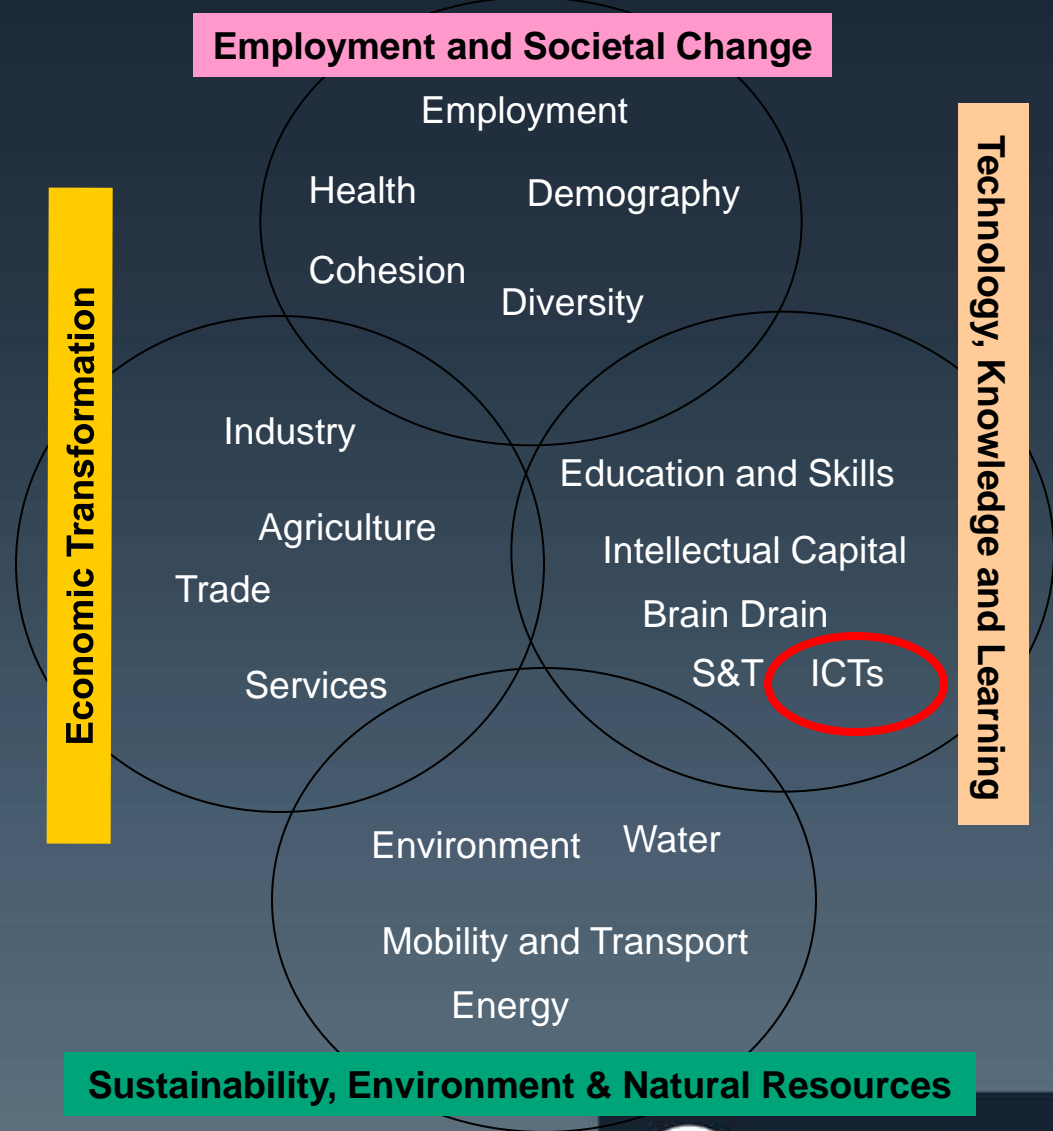
KS involves intersection of development of:

- Information Society based on new ICTs
- Innovation
- Service economies
- Knowledge management

In the context of Globalization, Demographic structures, Cultural practices & Environmental affairs

The Enlargement Futures Project

The Panels and issues



Western Balkans Futures 2020

- Involvement of Stakeholders
- CONTEXT of Foresight / EU Enlargement
- Complementarity with running and planned KBS activities in the region and in the EU 2020 Strategy / ERAB 2030
- Regional Cooperational Council five priority areas, EU Danube strategy (OECD Competitiveness study / WEB Research Strategy)
- Bled Forum on Europe (2010)

Western Balkans Futures 2020

OBJECTIVES

- Development of Knowledge Society in the region
- Identify priority areas for social & economic development
- Open opportunities for sectoral development (WEB and SEE in the global economy)

Western Balkans Futures 2020

BENEFITS

- Bottom up identification of long term priorities of WEBs
- Enforcement of good governance principles
- Contribution to the future development of the European Union during the WEB accession to the EU

WEB 2020 priority areas

- **Focus 1: Institutional strengthening and good governance**

- Rule of law
- Human rights
- Fight against corruption
- Heightened security

Actors: ReSPA, Regional Anticorruption Initiative, CeGD

Focus 2: Competitive Western Balkans economies in the global marketplace

- Sound business and investment environment
- High employment
- Elevated innovation capacity
- Identified and incentivised key regional competitiveness
- High value added industry
- Single market
- **Actors:** CEFTA, RCI, SEE Investment Committee

Focus 3: Integrated and Cross Sectoral infrastructure Development

- Provision of regional infrastructure
- Actors: Energy community, South East Europe Transport Observatory, European Common Aviation Area Agreement

Focus 4: Building Knowledge Based Society

- Improved education system
- Appropriate reserach and development policy
- Developed information society
- Culture and heritage
- **Actors:** Regional Strategy for Research and Development for Innovation for WEB, Novi Sad initiative, eSEE

Instead of conclusion

- Western Balkans potentials and SEE
- The role of stakeholders
- Vision building process with a purpose of meeting a concrete actions
- Reinforcing and supporting champions for prosperity