

# Cross-border public transport in the Euregio Meuse-Rhine

Aachen, 2 October 2025

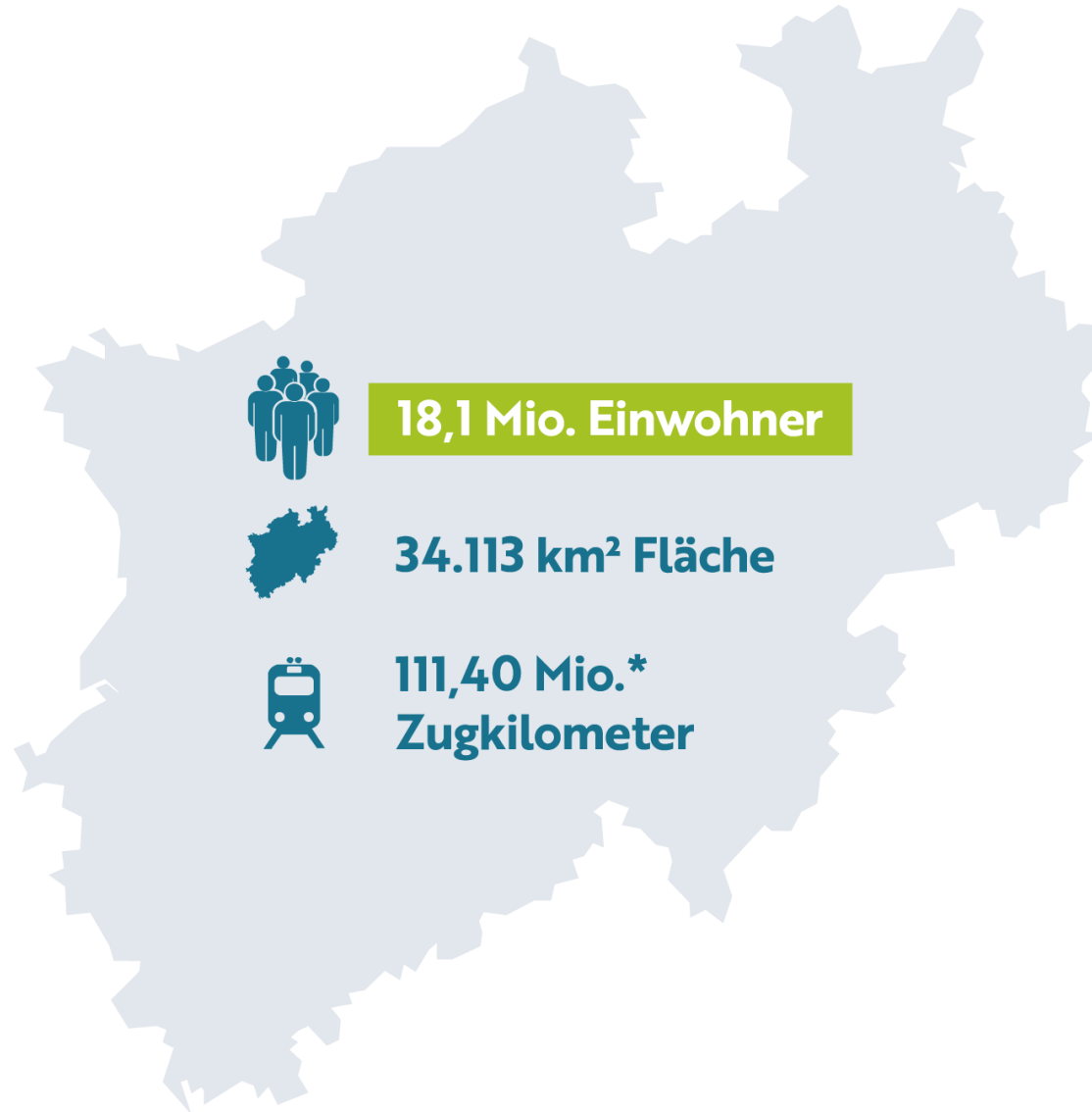
# WELCOME TO AACHEN!

## AGENDA

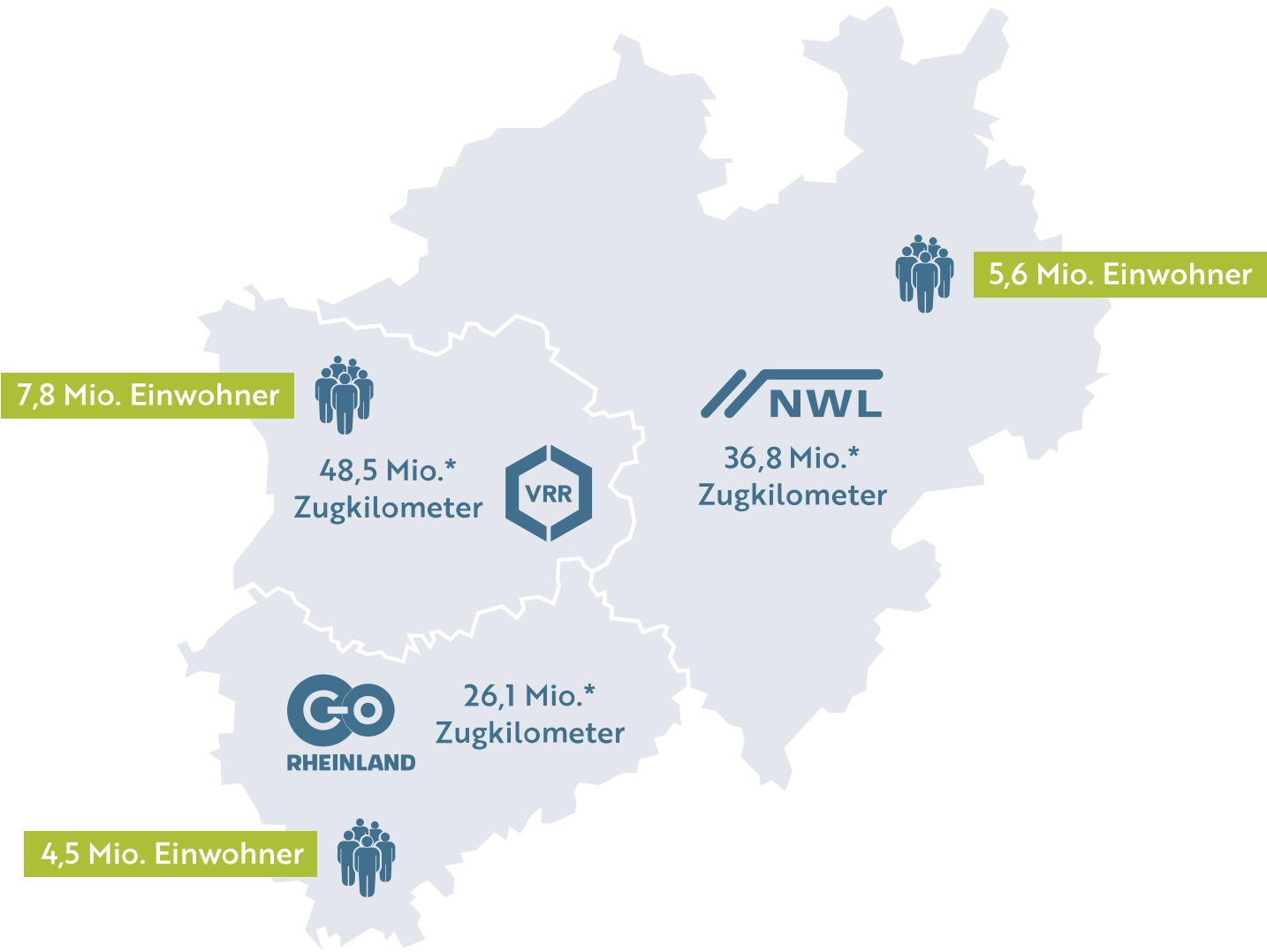
- Public transport in NRW & Aachen
- Public transport in the Euregio Meuse-Rhine
- Introduction of the department for cross-border public transport
- Current Interreg projects
- Distance-based ticketing (eezy.nrw / easyConnect)
- Regiotram Aachen



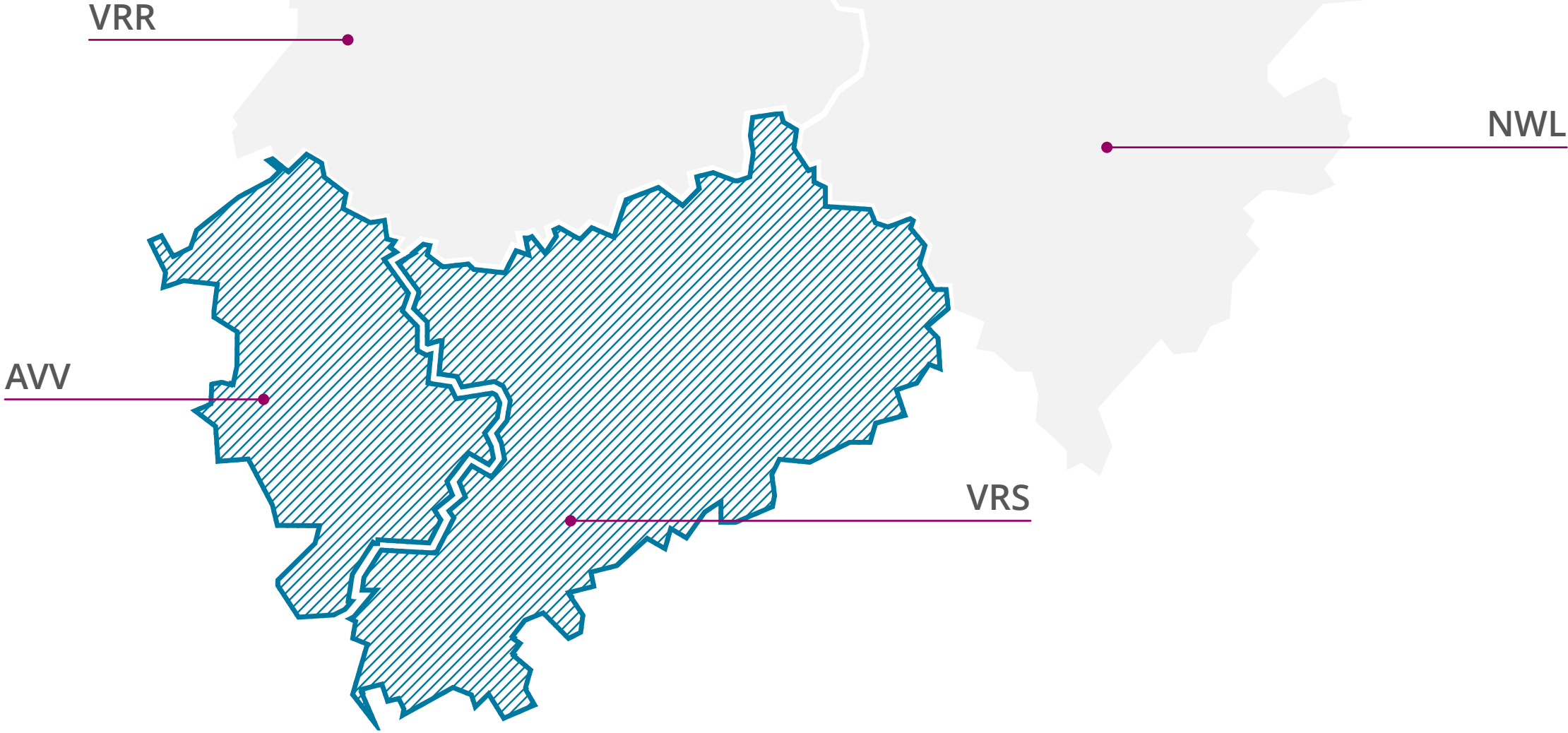
# PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN NRW & AACHEN



# PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN NRW & AACHEN



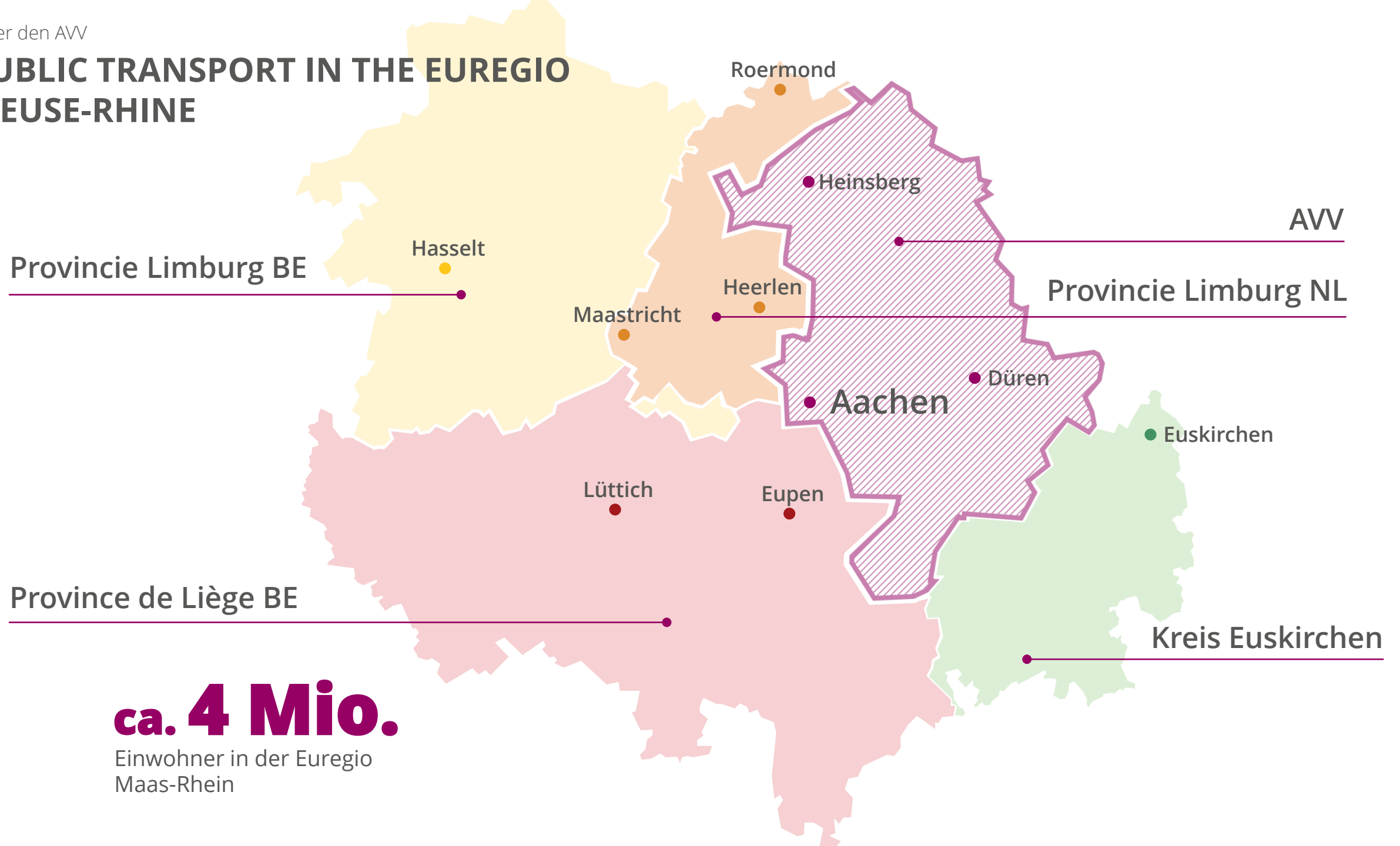
# PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN NRW & AACHEN





Über den AVV

# PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN THE EUREGIO MEUSE-RHINE



**ca. 4 Mio.**

Einwohner in der Euregio  
Maas-Rhein

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN THE EUREGIO MEUSE-RHINE: MAY 1992



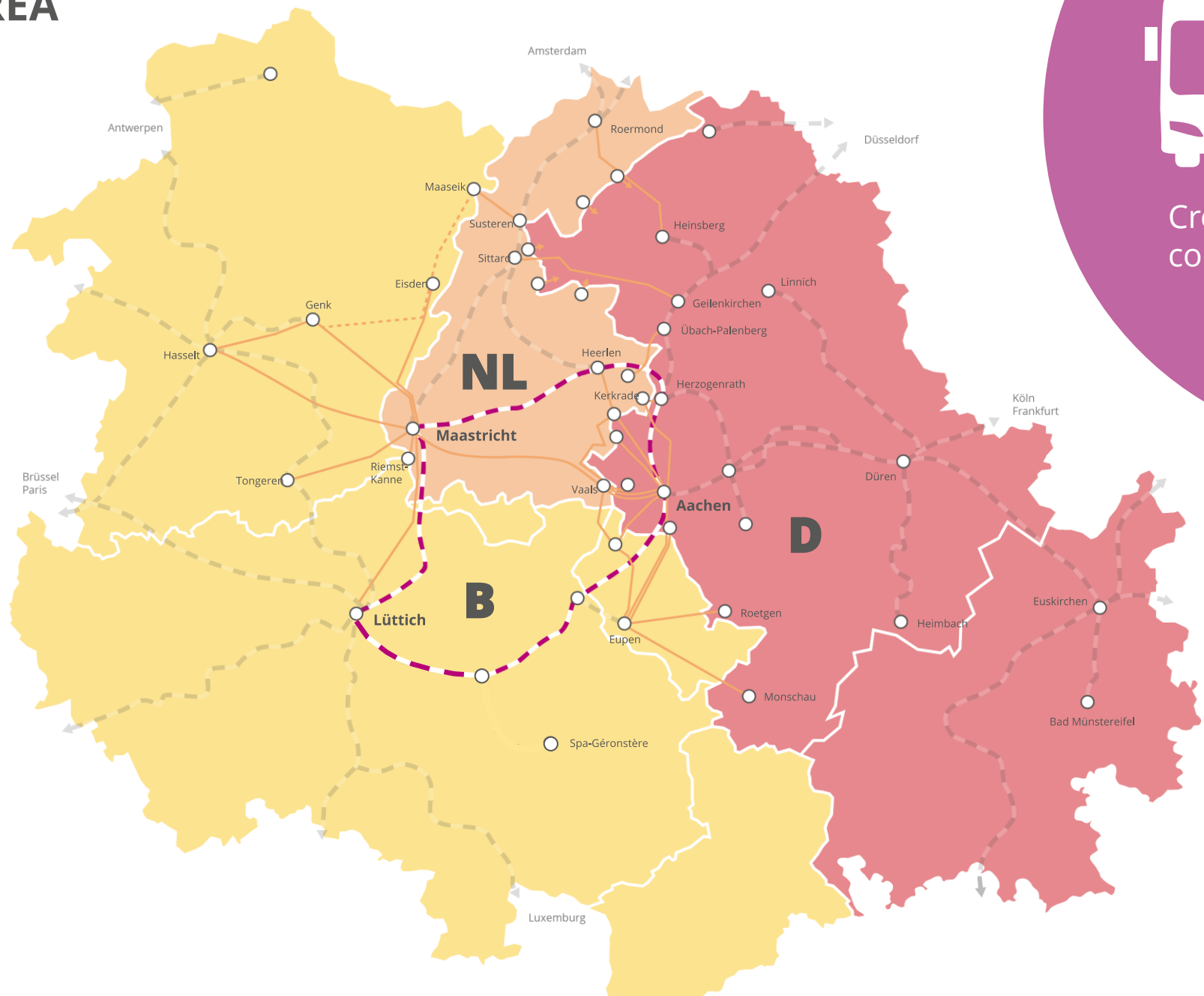


# PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN THE EUREGIO MEUSE-RHINE: AUGUST 2023





# THE EMR AREA



26

Cross-border bus connections



3

Cross-border train connection

# WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES IN CROSS-BORDER MOBILITY?



Language



Culture



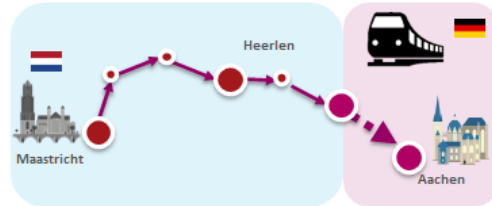
Vehicles



Responsibilities



Habits



Systems



Fares



Ticketing

How can we dismantle the barriers together and create an even more seamless experience for our customers?

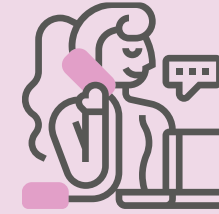


## About us

The department for cross-border public transport



# DEPARTMENT FOR CROSS-BORDER PUBLIC TRANSPORT

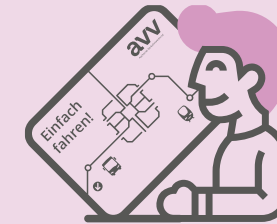


**MARKETING AND  
PASSENGER  
INFORMATION**



**ACQUISITION AND  
IMPLEMENTATION  
OF (EU-) FUNDED  
PROJECTS**

**DEPARTMENT FOR  
CROSS-BORDER  
PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

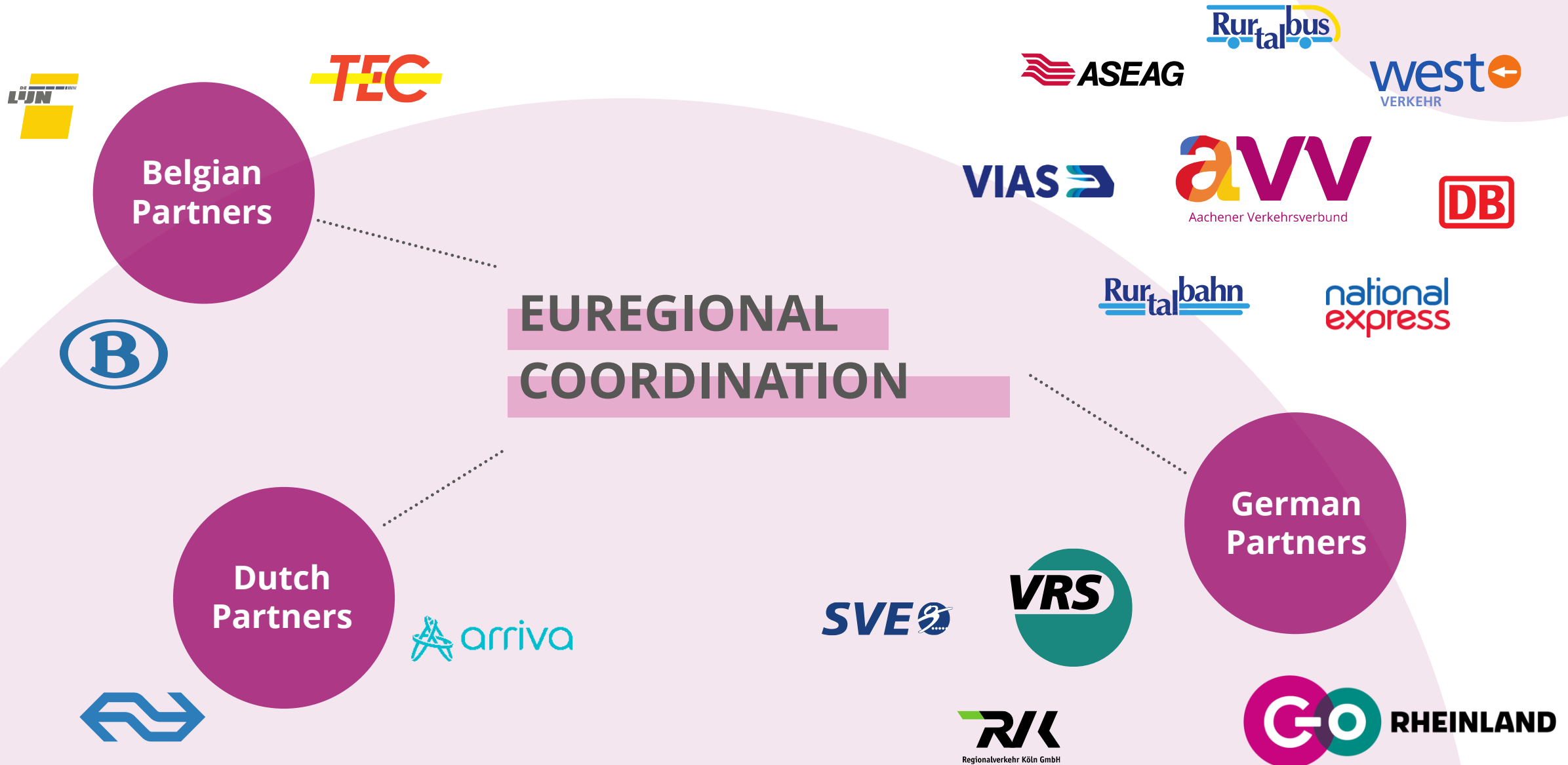


**CROSS-BORDER  
TARIFFS AND  
TICKETING**

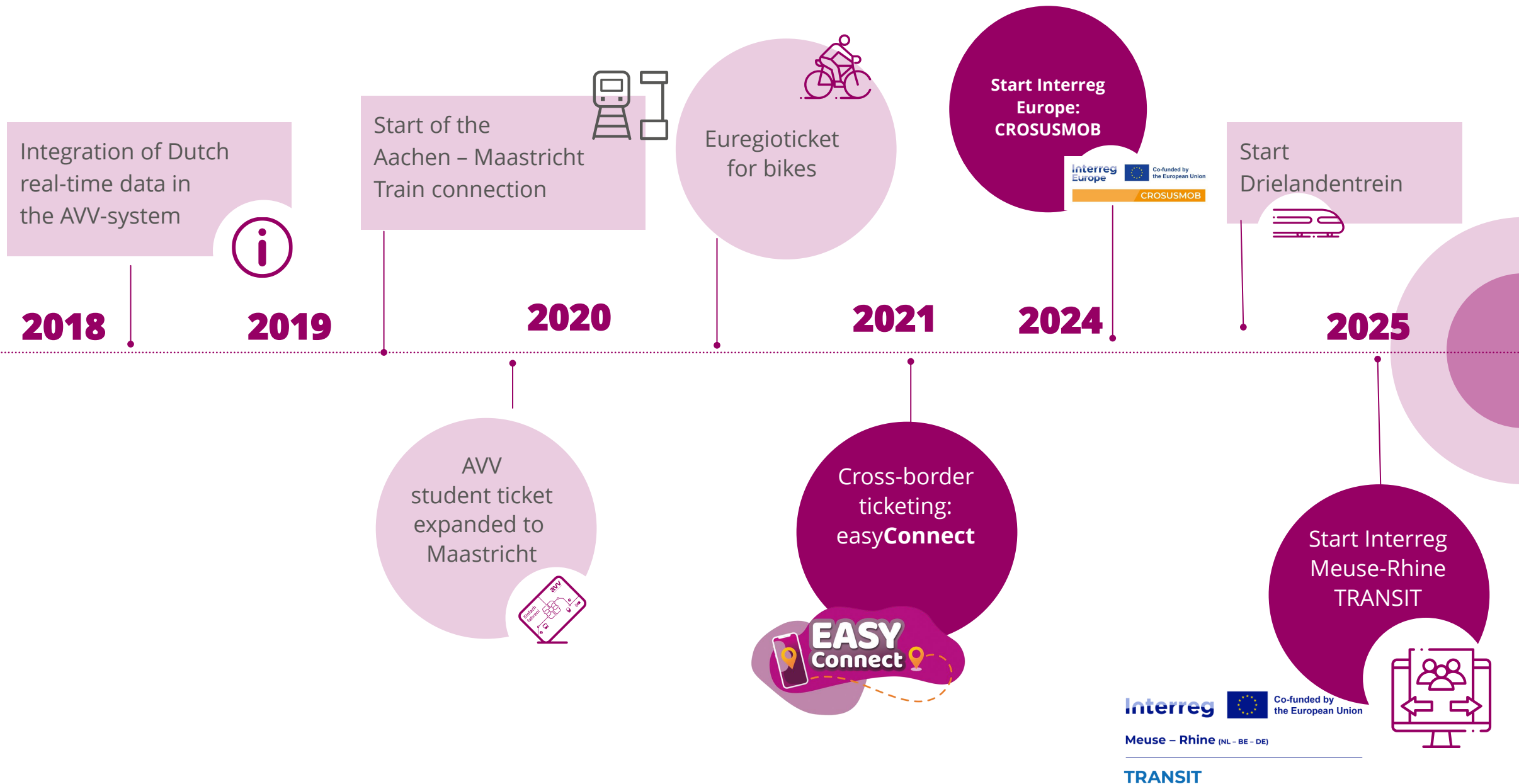


**CROSS-BORDER  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

# DEPARTMENT FOR CROSS-BORDER PUBLIC TRANSPORT



# HISTORY OF EUREGIONAL COOPERATION





Interreg



Co-funded by  
the European Union

Meuse – Rhine (NL – BE – DE)

TRANSIT

**TRANSIT**  
Interreg Meuse-Rhine





# INTERREG MEUSE-RHINE: TRANSIT (JANUARY 2025 – DECEMBER 2027)

Lead Partner: Aachener Verkehrsverbund GmbH



Germany









Belgium







Netherlands





## GOALS



### Strengthening cross-border governance

- Capacity building and networking
- Establishing efficient structures of decision-making



### Strengthening cross-border public transport

- Increased attractiveness and ease of use
- More sustainable transport for cross-border commuters
- More accessible digital information tools



# ACTIVITIES

## TRANSIT



### WP 1: Better Governance for cross-border mobility

- Corporate mobility management
- Networking events
- Best Practice Workshops
- Institutional training scheme



### WP 2: Strengthening cross-border connections

- Feasibility studies for potential future rail connections
- Data analysis: traffic flows in the EMR



### WP 3: Digital Solutions

- Development of an AI-based passenger information module
- Digitalisation of customer data and legal analysis of cross-border requirements



### WP 4: Monitoring and Evaluation

- Continuous academic monitoring of cooperation process
- Keeping track of project goals and achievements

**Total Budget: 3.14 Million € (50% EFRE)**



An aerial photograph of a city, likely in Europe, showing a dense urban landscape with various buildings and a high-speed train traveling on a multi-arched brick viaduct in the foreground. The train is white with red and black accents. The background shows a sprawling city with many residential and commercial buildings under a clear sky.

**Interreg  
Europe**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

**CROSUSMOB**

**CROSUSMOB: Fostering cross-border sustainable mobility**



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# CROSUSMOB

Interreg  
Europe



Co-funded by  
the European Union

CROSUSMOB

## Goals:

Knowledge exchange between stakeholders from the field of public transport active in different cross-border regions in Europe

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## Partner institutions:

Basque Railways ETS (Spain), AVV GmbH (Germany), Provincie Drenthe (NL), Region Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (France), KTI Institute for Transport Sciences and Logistics (Hungary), Institute of Traffic and Transport Ljubljana (Slovenia)

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## Activities:

Field visits and introduction of best practice cases, regional diagnosis study on the conditions of public transport in every project region, adjustment of regional policies and strategies

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## Budget:

1,5 Mio €

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## Project period:

01 April 2024 – 30 June 2028

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# CROSUSMOB: EUROPE-WIDE KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE



Interreg  
Europe



Co-funded by  
the European Union

CROSUSMOB







eezy.nrw

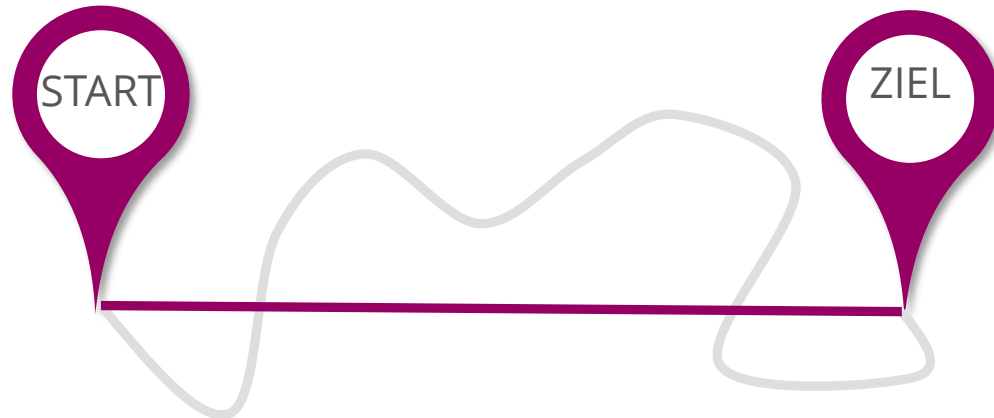
# Distance-based ticketing in NRW and across the border to the Netherlands





## THE EEZY SYSTEM IN NRW

- Digital ticketing scheme for public transport in place since December 2021
- **Passengers pay by "Check-In / Check-Out" on their smartphone**
- A final price is calculated after each trip
- The price is calculated in a central back-end and based on the direct distance (Luftlinie) between the starting point of the journey and the destination. Additionally, a starting price applies for every trip.



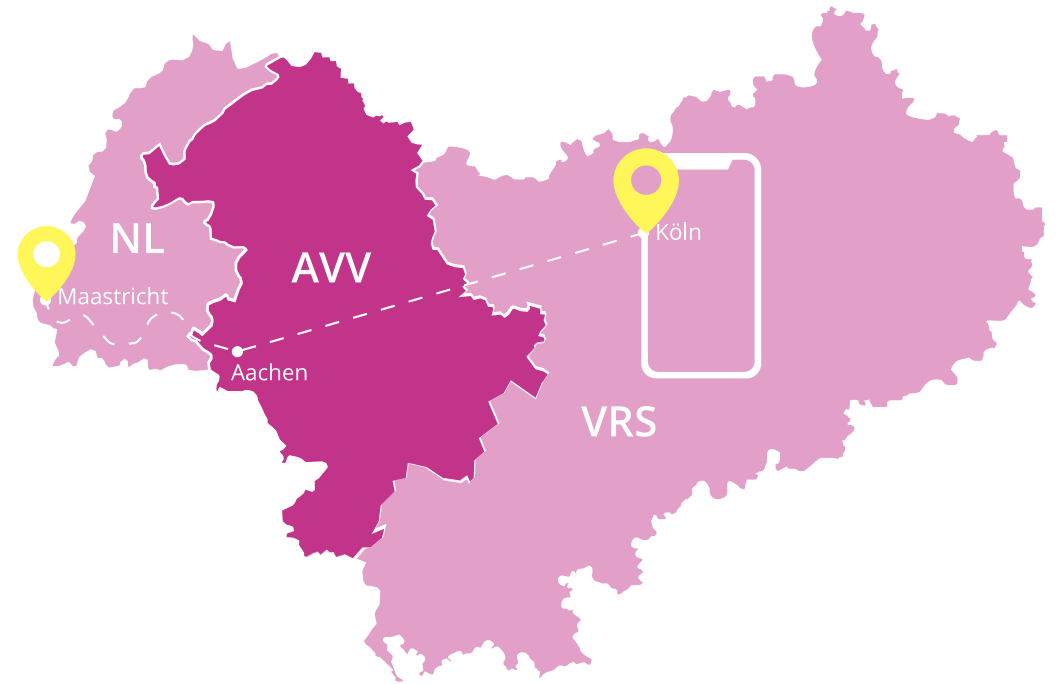


# EASY CONNECT: CROSS-BORDER INTEROPERABILITY

**Two countries**

**One app**

**One price**



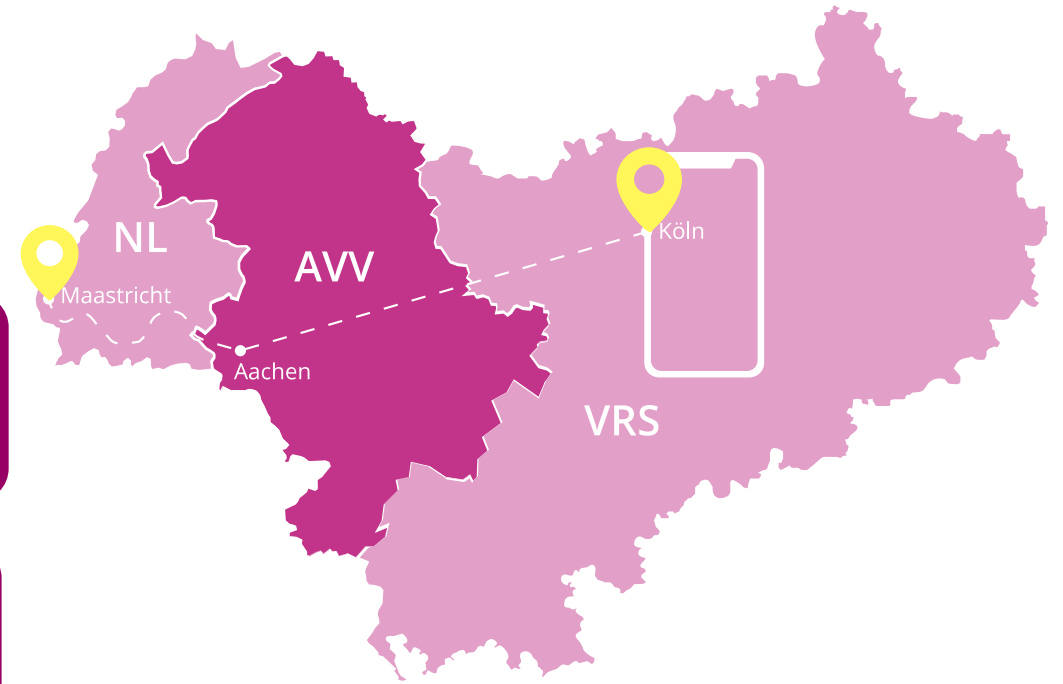
# EASY CONNECT: GRENZÜBERSCHREITENDE ERWEITERUNG VON EEZY.NRW

Funded by the NRW Ministry of public transport with an amount of 2,2 Mio €

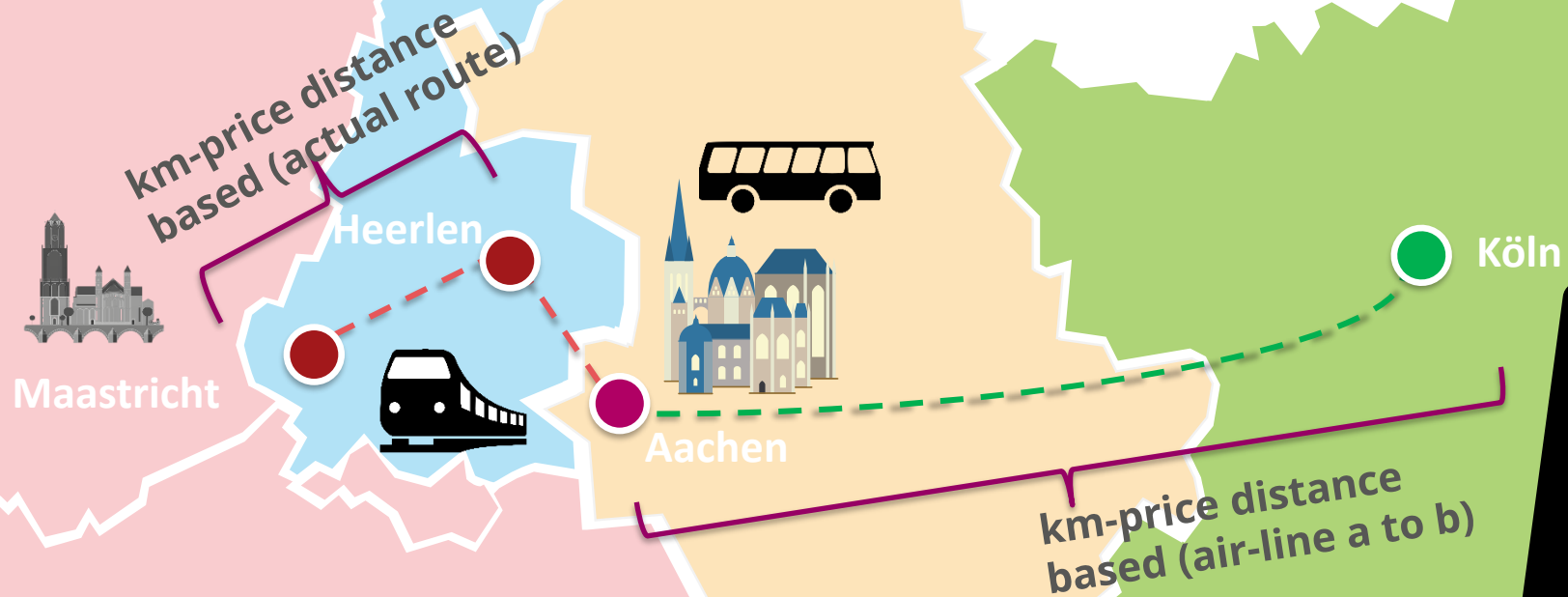
Technical pilot project

Close cooperation with Arriva Nederland and further stakeholders

Project partners: AVV GmbH, ASEAG, go.Rheinland, VDV eTicket Service, DB Regio AG, Kompetenzzentrum Digitalisierung NRW



## EASY CONNECT: PILOT PHASE 2



2

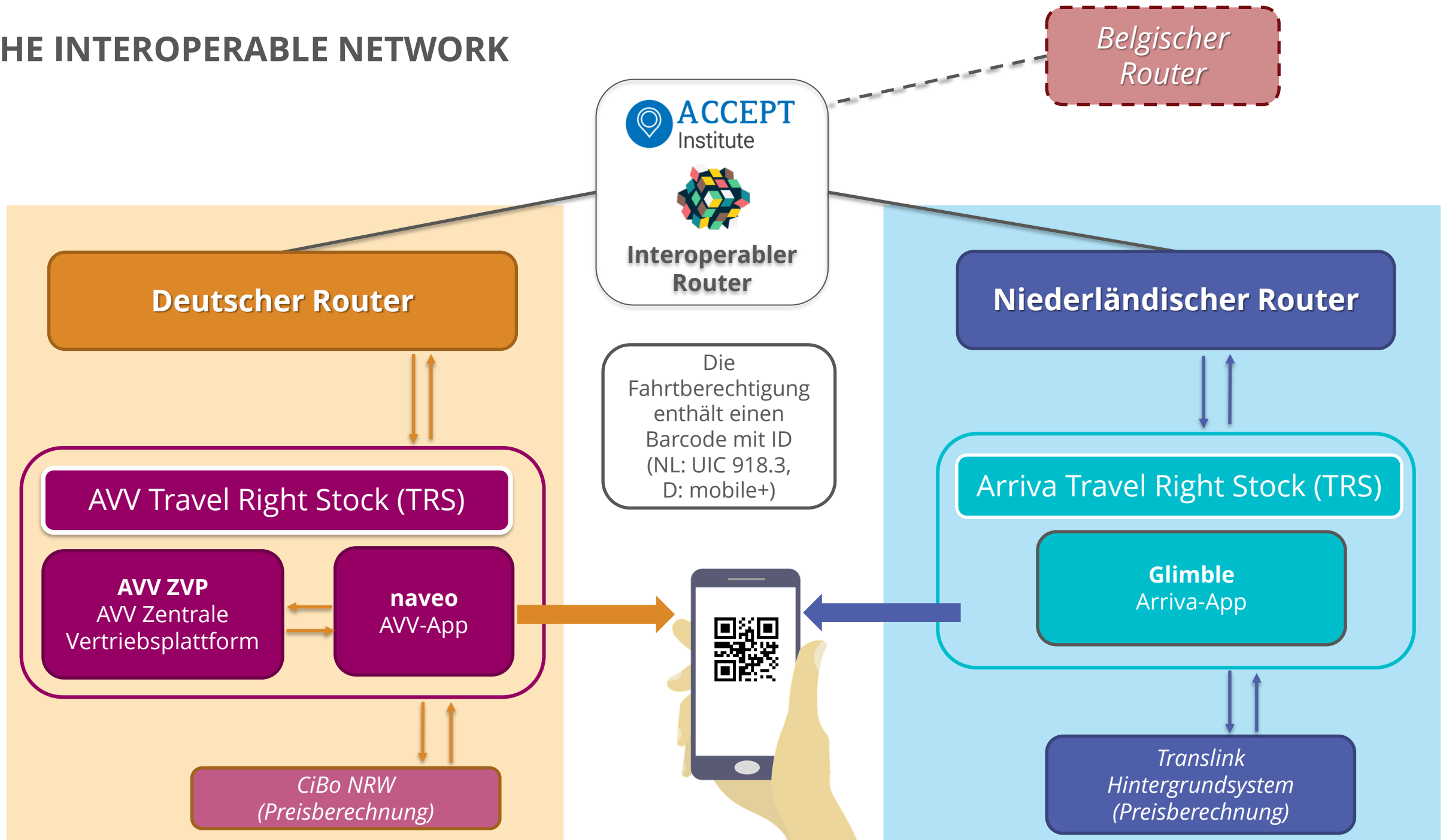
**Check-In / Check-Out (gps based)**  
Maastricht – Aachen – Cologne

Start: October 2024





# THE INTEROPERABLE NETWORK





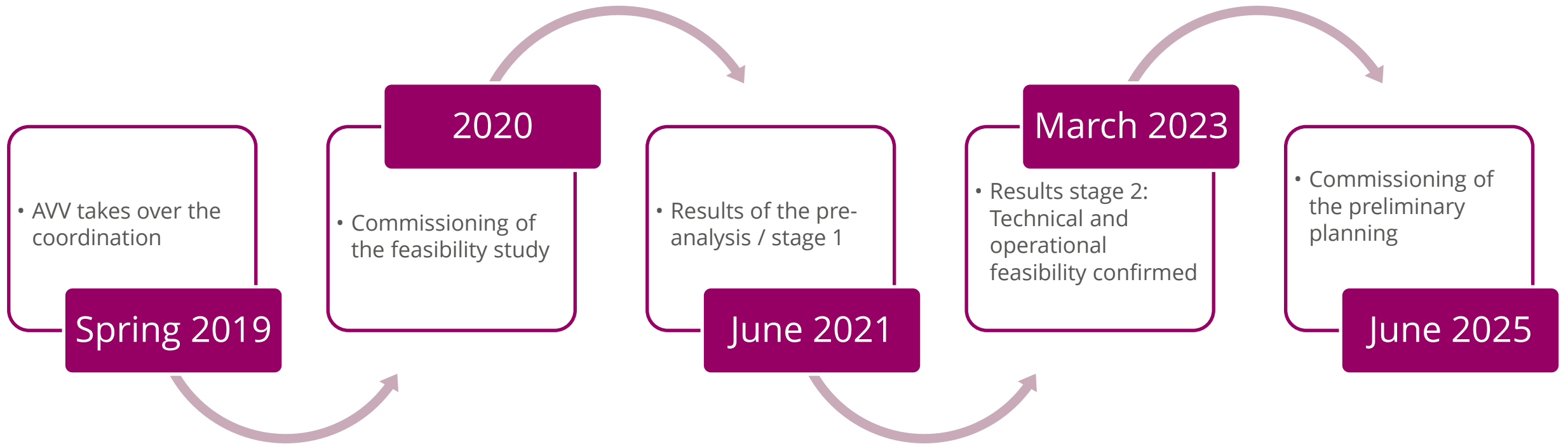


Regiotram Aachen





# REGIOTRAM AACHEN



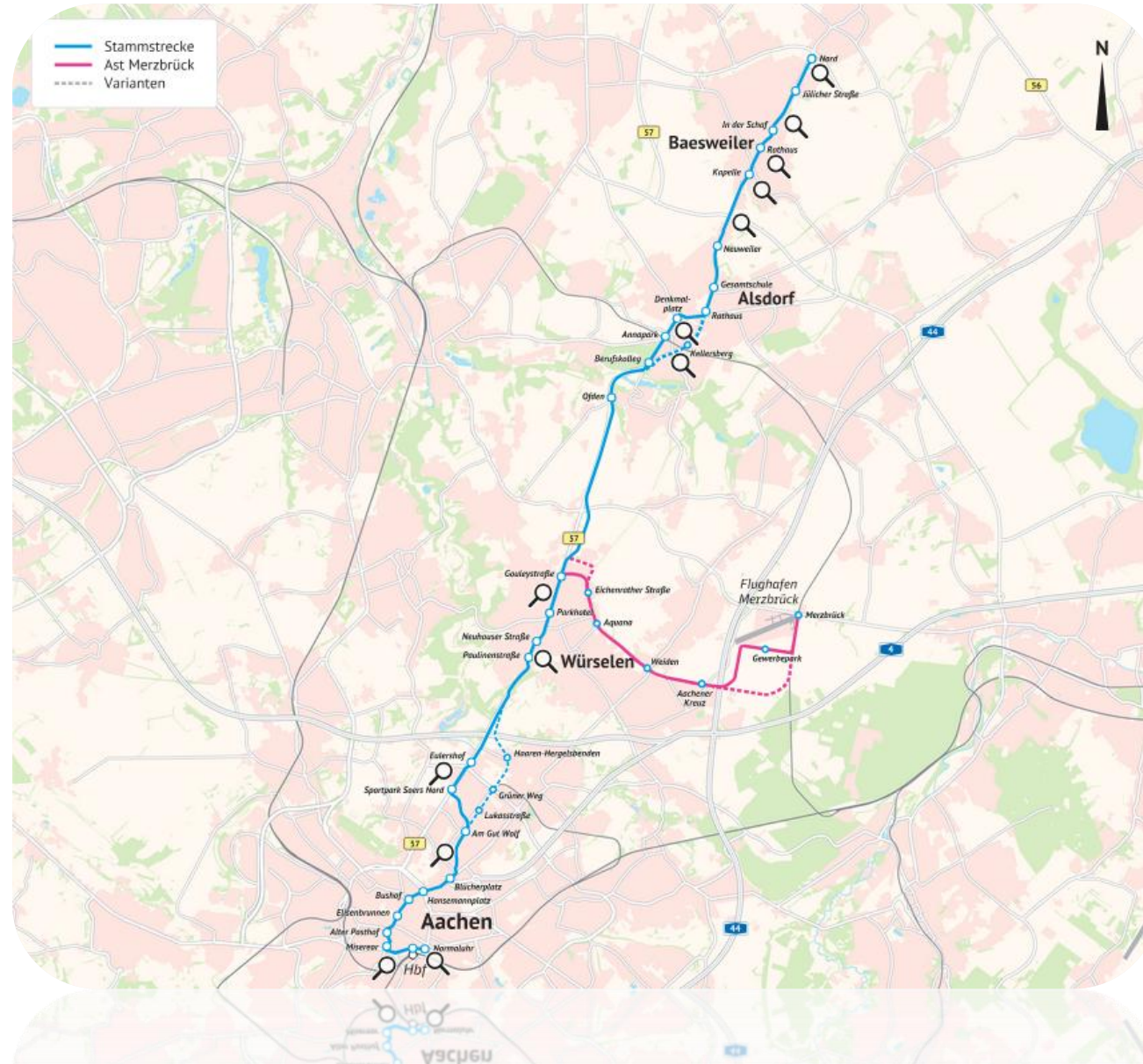


# REGIOTRAM AACHEN

Currently 70.000 commuter trips per day

Aachen > Baesweiler:  
approx. 35 minutes by tram

(57 minutes by bus and  
31 minutes by car)



# REGIOTRAM AACHEN

- Project lead: AVV GmbH
- Contract for the detailed preliminary planning awarded to a consortium of renowned planning offices in June 2025
- Costs of 5.5 million € funded by the STARK programme (70% national funds, 20% NRW, 10% Stadt Aachen & Städteregion)
- Continuous citizen engagement through information markets, planning workshops etc.

Gefördert durch:



aufgrund eines Beschlusses  
des Deutschen Bundestages

Gefördert durch:

Die Landesregierung  
Nordrhein-Westfalen





# REGIOTRAM AACHEN

- Next step: commissioning of the following planning phase (expected June 2027)
  - Draft and approval planning & public participation (3–5 years)
  - “Planfeststellungsverfahren” (2–3 years)
  - Construction (4–5 years)
- Estimation of total construction costs: 330 Million Euros
  - Public funding possible
    - Up to 95% of the costs could be covered by national and federal funds (*Gemeindeverkehrsfinanzierungsgesetz*)





**Bedankt.**  
**Merci.**  
**Dankeschön.**