

EUSBSR EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

Macroregional Strategies

- laboratories for a new Europe

19 September 2018 | ESF MAs in the Danube Region | Bratislava

Today societal challenges are more complex and can't be solved solely on local, regional or national levels but requires transnational cooperation involving stakeholders cross-sectorial and cross-borders.

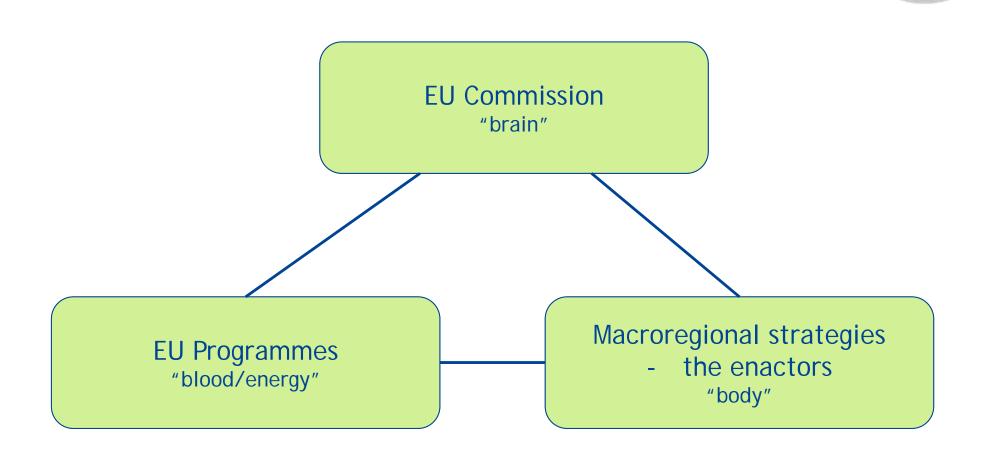
In Macro-regional strategies **transnational cooperation is integrated in joint development processes**, for example in municipalities own development processes, avoiding transnational projects to become "satellites" where projects rarely results in lasting impacts.

In Macro-regional strategies the macro-region is viewed as an interconnected system.

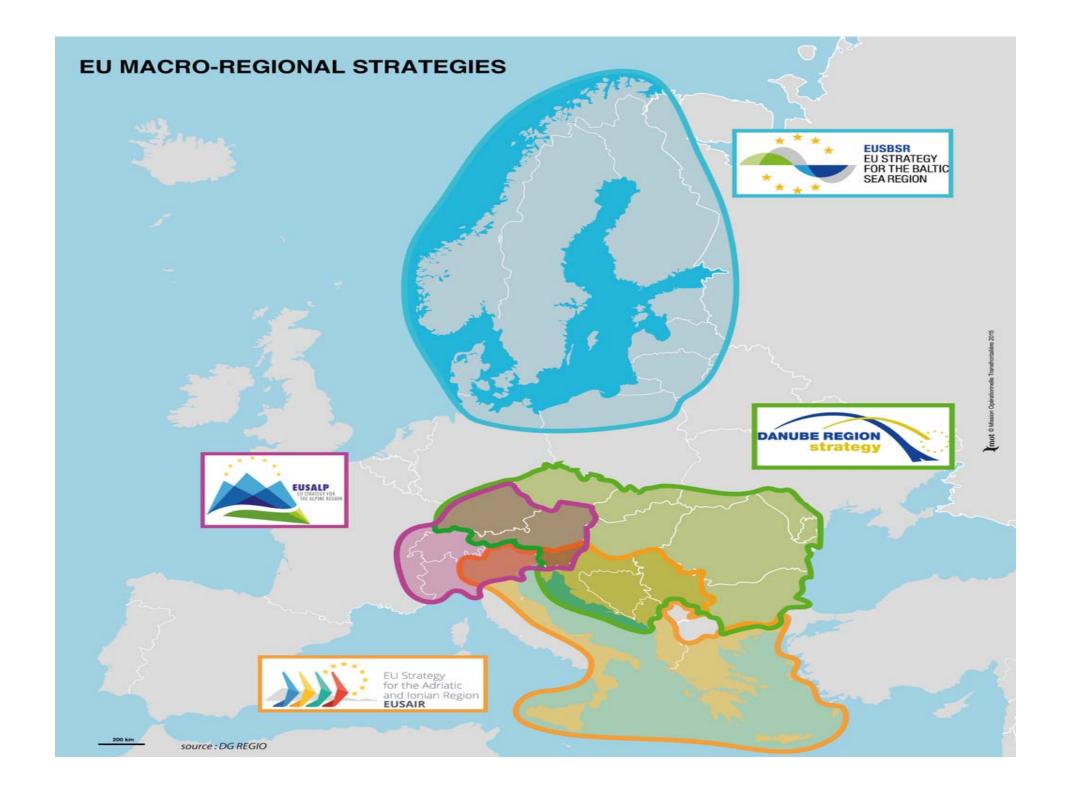


"We will not solve present problems with the same thinking that created them"

Albert Finstein



Mission now: coherence



National Coordinators
Policy Area Coordinators
Horizontal Action Coordinators

Policy Area Focal Points
Steering groups

Flagship leaders
Project developers
Project managers

Local and regional authorities, NGOs, business and academia in the Member States

Financial Programmes
Managing Authorities
Joint Technical Secretariats

National Coordinators
Policy Area Coordinators
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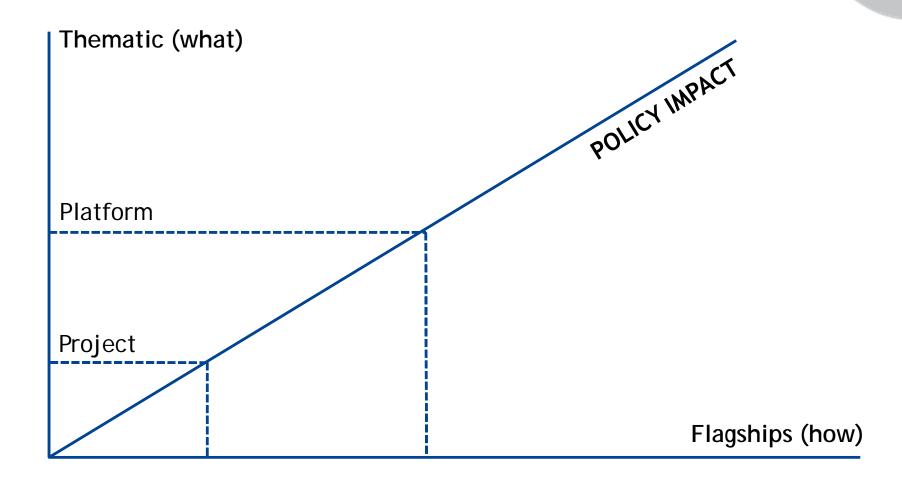
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Financial Programmes
Managing Authorities
Joint Technical Secretariats

Policy Area Coordinator - the role as "Architect"

- Initiating the development process (start point: the Action Plan)
- Identifying stakeholders (with help of Policy Area Focal Points)
- Appoint a flagship leader
- Designing the collaboration platform (together with flagship leader) often with help of seed money
- Building the platform often starting with Interreg
- A ready platform with thematic working groups gathering stakeholders in joint development processes delivering new methods and policy recommendations (ERDF, ESF, EARDF, EMFF)

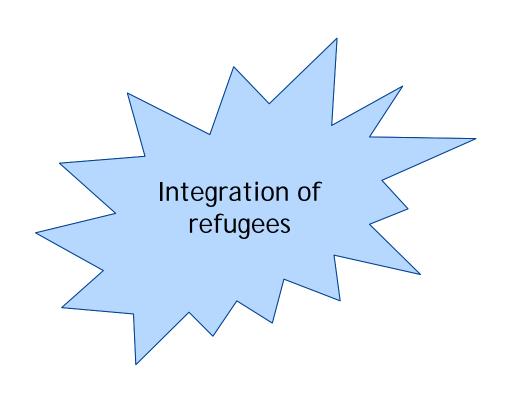
Transnational development processes are embedded in organisations /institutions' own development processes >> macro-regional strategies offer the strategic framework with platforms for co-creation.





What is the macroregional added value?



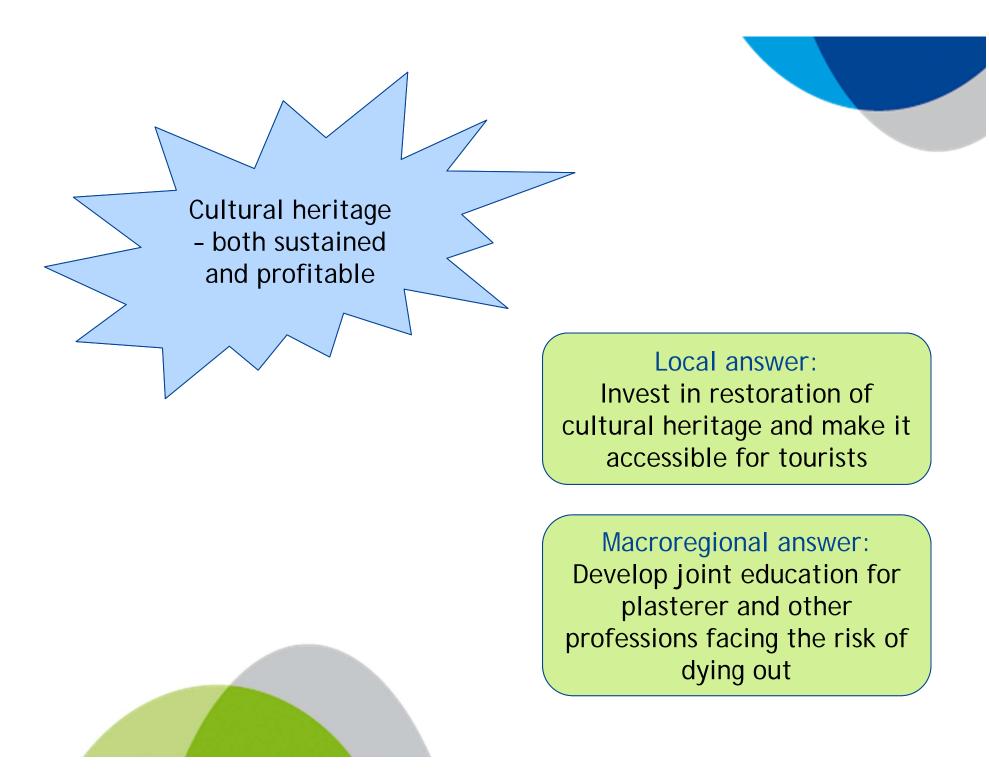


Local answer:

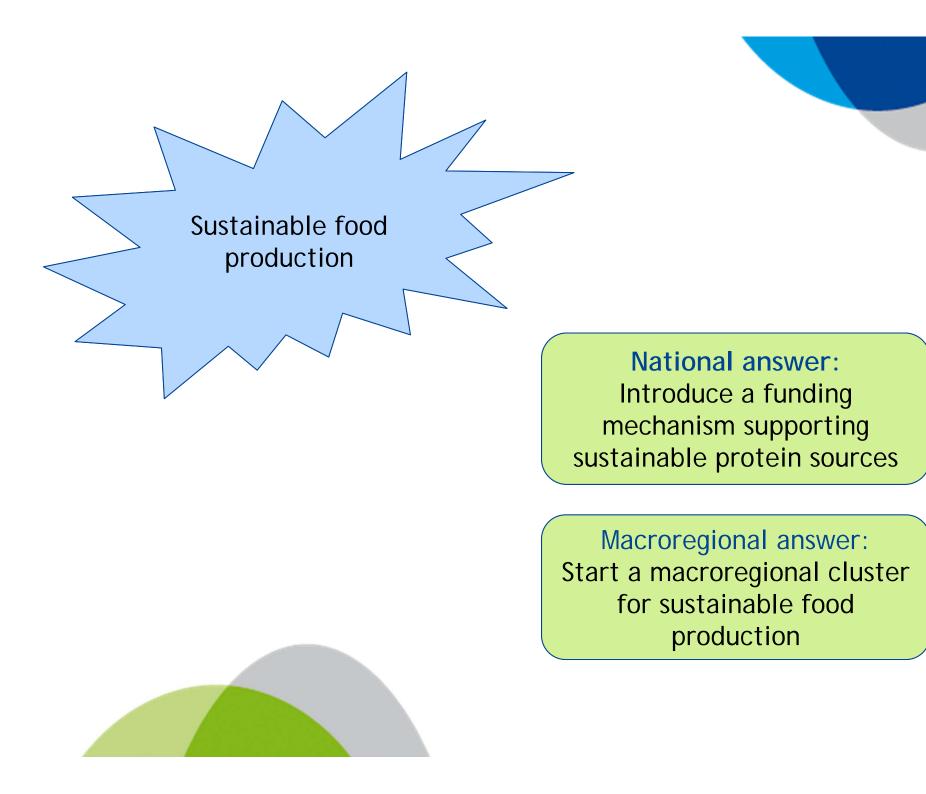
Finding accommodation for newly arrived refugees

Macroregional answer:

Developing methods for quickly learning a new language

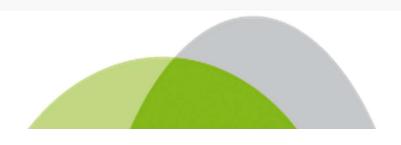








A flagship within the Baltic Sea Strategy.



STRUCTURE

FLAGSHIP LEADER
Swedish Association of
Local Authorities and
Regions
Sweden

EARLY SCHOOL LEAVING

Knowledge platform
City of Turku
Finland

Monitoring and Evaluation

Thematic working groups

Capacity building

Projects

INTEGRATION OF REFUGEES

Knowledge platform
City of Turku
Finland

Monitoring and Evaluation

Thematic working groups

Capacity building

Projects

NEETs

Knowledge platform Norden Association Sweden

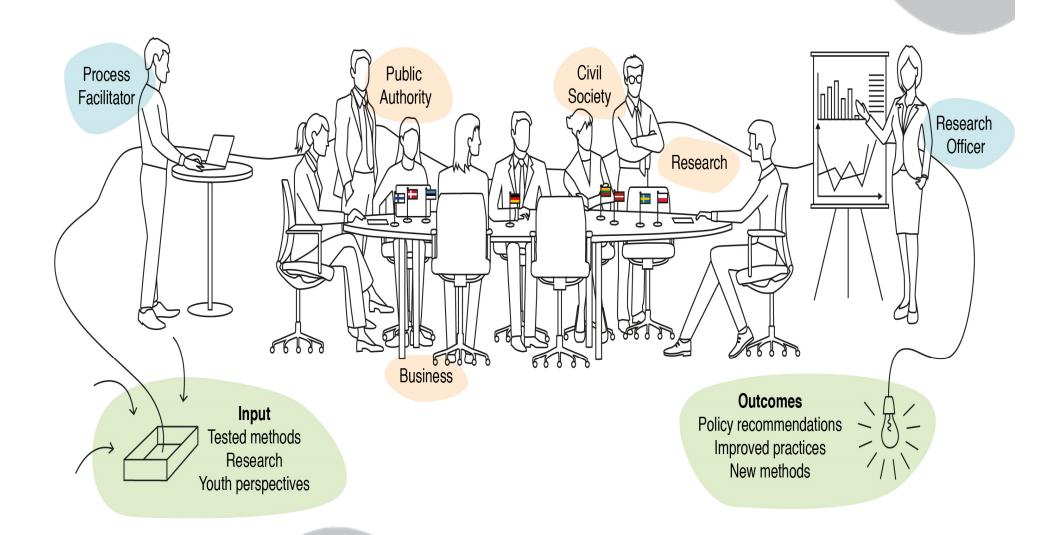
Monitoring and Evaluation

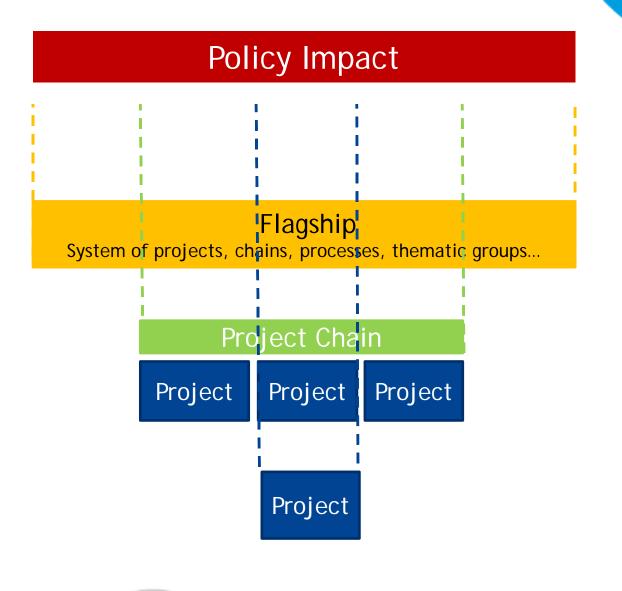
Thematic working groups

Capacity building

Projects

Method: co-creation





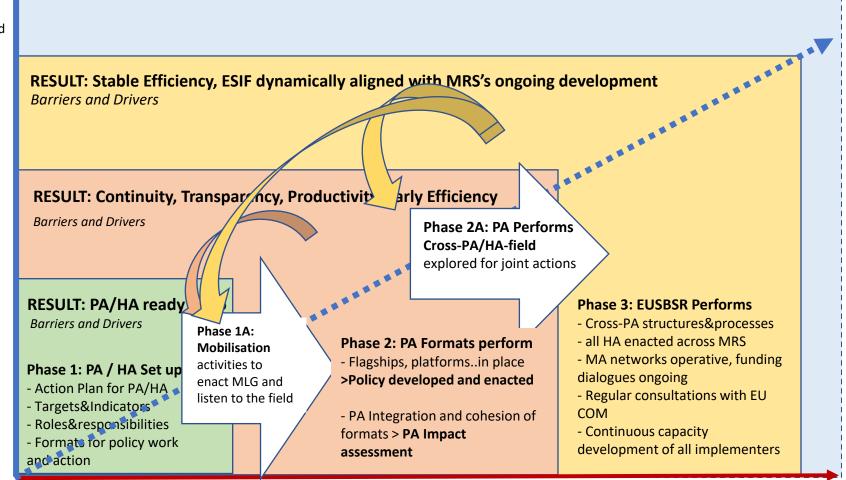
Engaged actors

External stakeholders and society at large

Cross-PA/HA actors and stakeholders join

MLG-actors join in PA/HA

PA/HA implementing actors (internal to MRS)



Macro-Region Performs

PAC / HAC Modus operandi

Macro-regional strategies as Strategic Framework for ESIF

Questions

- 1. Name three examples of societal challenges where you believe there is a macroregional added value?
- 2. What challenges do you have in relation to the project proposals you receive compared with the expected outcome of the Operational Programmes? What is missing? Are they impactful enough? Are there projects or partners missing?
- 3. Moving from single projects towards platforms for co-creation What can be funded in today's ESF programme and what changes do we need?





EUSBSR EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

More information

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http://groupspaces.com/eusbsr-governance/



MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL POLICY REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA



Human Resources Development Operational Programme

New opportunities for transnational cooperation





HRD OP 2014 - 2020: Priority axes





PA 1 "IMPROVING THE ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT AND THE QUALITY OF JOBS"



PA 2 "REDUCING POVERTY AND PROMOTING SOCIAL INCLUSION"



PA 3 "MODERNISING THE INSTITUTIONS IN THE AREA OF SOCIAL INCLUSION, HEALTHCARE, EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND NON-DISCRIMINATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS"



PA 4 "TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION"



PA 5 "TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE"



PRIORITY AXIS TRANNATIONAL COOPERATION



- >19 761 375 EUR (ESF+National funding)
- ➤ All ESF Thematic objectives are covered
- > At least one partner from another EU Member State
- > Contribution to social innovation
- >Specific focus on Danube Strategy



FIRST EXPERIENCES WITHIN TNC

Operation Transnational and Danube partnerships for Employment and Growth

Objective	Interregional and transnational cooperation between partners from member states of the EU by transfer and implementation of social innovations, best practices etc.
Components	Component 1- 7 669 378 EUR
	Component 2 – 2 556 459 EUR (only Danube countries!)
Project Duration	End of 2018
Project Budget:	min. 25 565 EUR.; max. 102 258 EUR
Indicators	 Identified innovative practices – 340 Transferred innovative practices - 230



FIRST EXPERIENCES WITH TNC IN THE DANUBE REGION



- **Call launched on 3rd January 2017**
- **Deadline for submission of projects** − 5th April **2017**
- **▶**Projects submitted C 2 − 23
- > Projects approved C2 − 11
- \triangleright Contracts 10 for BGN 1 865 213 (EUR 953 668)
- >End of project activities—December 2018

* * * * * * * * * * European Union

LESSONS LEARNT







- >Specific allocation for Danube partnerships
- Extra points for projects along the Danube coast
- ➤No requirement for ESF-funded partnering project
- ➤Info campaigns in 5 big cities

- >Partner search
- ➤ Not coordinated timing under the flexible approach
- >Funding by the foreign partner
- **≻Different TCA**
- >Orphan projects



MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL POLICY **REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA**



Thank you very much for your attention!

For contacts:

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Update from the Interact Programme

EUSDR ESF network meeting 20 September April 2018 | Bratislava, Slovak Republic

Jörg Mirtl, Interact

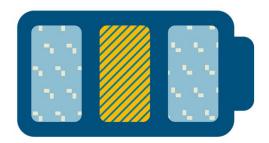






2 proposals from the Interact Programme

Insert subtitle if necessary





Proposal for a joint MRS platform on social issues

• Who?

- Thematic coordinators dealing with social affairs
- European Commission (Regio, Empl)
- ESF platforms
- Agencies and institutes dealing with the ESF/social affairs (e.g. Cedefop, ETF, AEIDL, etc.)

• When?

- June or September 2018
- Back-to-back with EUSDR ESF platform 19/20 September?



Joint meeting innovative tools/embedding platform

- What?
 - Art. 96.3: ITI, CLLD, transnational actions, MRS, joint action plans
- Who?
 - OPs (MAs, JSs) that have applied such tools, especially Interreg, and those who want to know more about it
 - Macro-regional actors
 - EC
- When?
 - 28 November 2018 in Brussels



Further reading



http://interact-eu.net/library#1752publication-new-tools-territorialdevelopment-and-cooperation

Interreg Capitalisation networks

Inclusive Growth (TO8-9-10)
Better Governance (TO11)
Migration



Capitalisation Networks



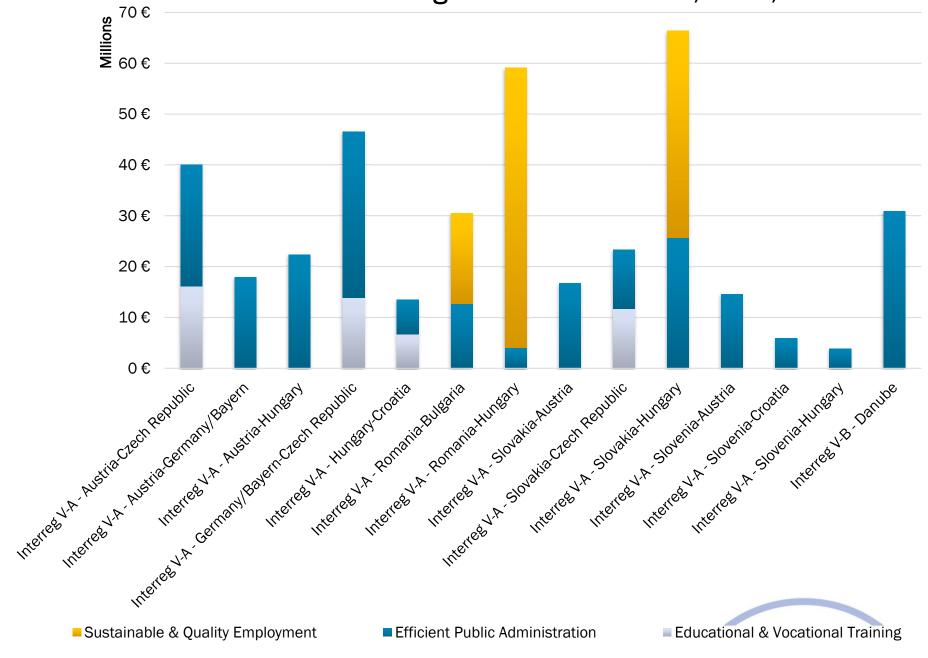
Contribution of Interreg to ESF- relevant Thematic Objectives

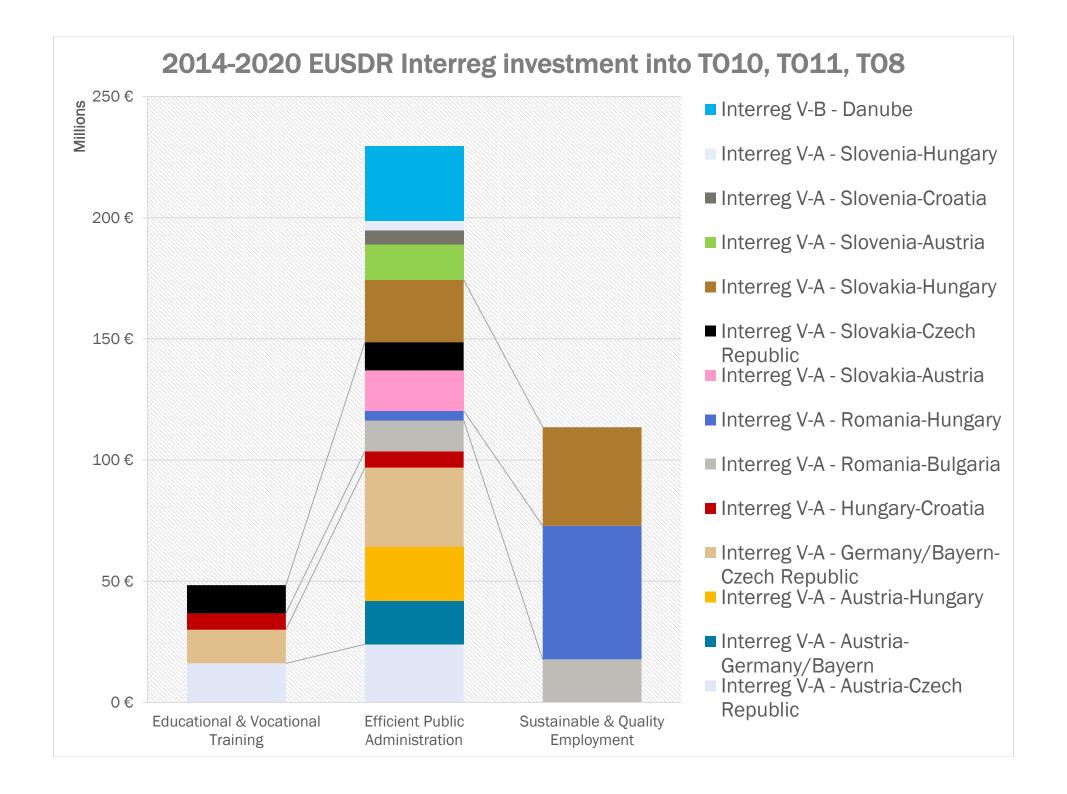
TO8: Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility

TO10: Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning

TO11: Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration

2014-2020 EUSDR Interreg investment into T08, T010, T011







Interreg Inclusive Growth Network

- Some facts about Inclusive Growth and Cooperation programmes.
- Interreg programmes are financing projects to overcome social challenges difficult situations; more specifically, in this period Europe is allocating 1.4 billion euros to foster inclusive growth through Interreg programmes.
- More than 56.000 citizens in cross-border areas will benefit from labour mobility initiatives and training. And 62.000 others are already participating in joint local employment actions across borders.
- Check out this video to find out more: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7180B7XsXQ
- Next meeting: 13-14 November, Dornbirn (Austria)
- Join the Interreg <u>online community</u> on inclusive growth!



Back to the Future – the new MFF

 EC legislative proposals





Social policies in Interreg and Interact

- Policy Objective 4: a more social Europe implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights;
- While ERDF is to focus primarily on social infrastructure, the Interreg OPs focus on:
 - 3. In addition to the specific objectives for the ERDF as set out in Article [2] of Regulation (EU) [new ERDF], the ERDF and, where applicable, the external financing instruments of the Union may also contribute to the specific objectives under PO 4 as follows:
 - (a) enhancing the effectiveness of labour markets and improving access to quality employment across borders;
 - (b) improving access to and the quality of education, training and lifelong learning across borders with a view to increasing the educational attainment and skills levels thereof as to be recognised across borders;
 - (c) enhancing the equal and timely access to quality, sustainable and affordable healthcare services across borders:
 - (d) improving accessibility, effectiveness and resilience of healthcare systems and long-term care services across borders:
 - (e) promoting social inclusion and tackling poverty, including by enhancing equal opportunities and combating discrimination across borders.





Interact's role?
Interreg regulation proposal
COM(2018)/374

- (4)interregional cooperation to reinforce the effectiveness of cohesion policy ('component 4') by promoting:
- (a) exchange of experiences, innovative approaches and capacity building in relation to:
- (i) the implementation of Interreg programmes;
- (ii) the implementation of Investment for jobs and growth goal programmes, in particular with regard to interregional and transnational actions with beneficiaries located in at least one other Member State



Planned components of Interreg

Component	Comment	Funds
1. Cross-border cooperation	InternalExternal (with third countries; IPA or NDICI)	4,44 billion
2. Transnational & maritime cooperation	2 A: Larger transnational territories2 B: Sea basins	2,6 billion
3. Outermost regions		270 million
4. Interregional Cooperation	Interact & ESPON	100 million
5. Interregional investments	New instrument	970 million



In a nutshell...

- Interact support alignment of funding to macroregional strategies → Event for innovative cooperation methods on 28 November in Brussels
- 2. Interact Capitalisation Network "Inclusive Growth"
 → Event on 13-14 November in Dornbirn (Austria)
- 3. Conference "Migration flows and integration policies" → Interact conference, 24 November in Athens
- Interact with a potential focus on IJG programmes/transnational actions in the upcoming period



Cooperation works

All materials will be available on:

www.interact-eu.net





The Added Value of Transnational Cooperation

Bratislava, 19th September 2018

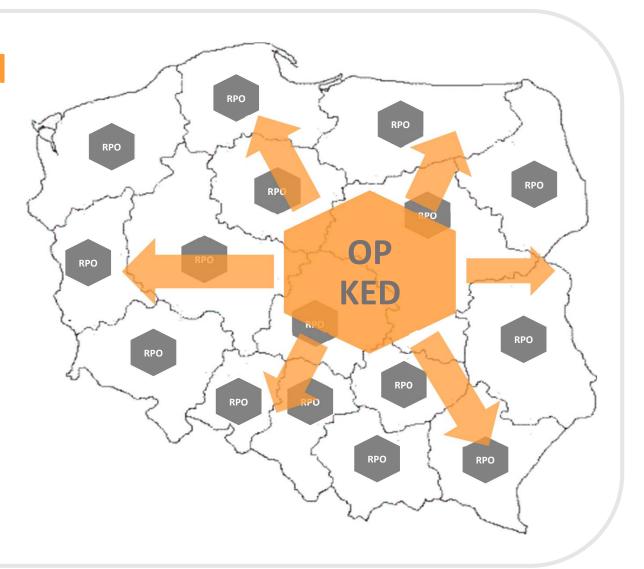








ESF in Poland in 2014-2020











National level 34% EFS – OP KED 4,7 bln euro

Improving the framework for the sector policies

Higher education

Young people (between the age of 15-24) on the labor market (NEET)

Social innovations and transnational cooperation – 711 mln euro

Regional level 66% EFS – ROPs 8,5 bln euro

Direct support for the people in order to improve their situation on the market







Support areas of TNC in Poland

- development of transnational cooperation between Polish entities and foreign partners (e.g. development of new solutions or adopting the solutions in Poland which are successfully applied by other countries);
- implementation of the transnational mobility programmes to strengthen professional and key competences of the participants (e.g. projects complementary with Erasmus+; aimed at the professional activation of young persons at risk of social exclusion; for people who want to increase their competences and skills necessary to maintain or take up employment).









Implementation of the coordinated transnational call

Challenges & success factors

- ☐ How to:
- ✓ encourage more countries to take part in the coordinated call
- ✓ elaborate general rules and agree on common themes for transnational call
- ✓ match partners from different countries (eg. transnational partner search forum; partner database)
- ☐ Timing
- **□** Capacity of project promoters









The added-value of transnational cooperation for the projects – the benefits of TNC

- ☐ allows accessing new ideas & sharing & discussing your own in a wider context
- ☐ mutual learning & possibility of working in the international environment
- ☐ encourages using international experience & expertise to test & improve existing materials and to develop new products
- □ continuation of the cooperation with partners afterwards either within next projects or any other joint initiatives
- ☐ mainstreaming transferring new ideas, tools, methods, good practise, know-how on the local, regional or even national level









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Challenges encountered by transnational partnerships

- ☐ They take time and dedication to develop
- ☐ Identification of the most appriopriate transnational partners
- ☐ Negotiation of a **common transnational work programme**
- ☐ Working in partnership requires **flexibility & willingness to compromise**
- Can be risky if creative and innovative results are to be achieved
- ☐ Recquire **financial and human resources**
- ☐ Difficulties with **changing partners** in the course of cooperation









Key factors for transnational cooperation

- ☐ Good preparation
- ☐ Building a partnership team
- ☐ Finding the right partners
- ☐ Decision on the size of transnational partnership (how many partnes?)
- □ A coherent transnational work programme (inc. Transnational Agreement, organisation& decision-making, communication, financial planning)
- ☐ Monitoring & Evaluation









The added-value of transnational cooperation – the role of MAs

How to mobilise project partners for TNC cooperation?

- ☐ Encouragement
- Matching
- ☐ Educational work with project promoters

to get relevant number of quality projects (meetings, seminars, workshops, forums etc.)

An active role in **dissemination & promotion** of the results of **TNC projects** as well as of added value **of TNC itself**









The added-value of TNC – the role of Baltic Sea Network-European Social Fund (BSN-ESF)

OBJECTIVE

☐ Facilitation & strenghtening of the TNC between project promoters/projects in the ESF in the Baltic Sea Region

ACTIVITIES

- □ Dissemination of best practice examples
- ☐ Ensuring better follow up & evaluation of the projects where the Baltic Sea Region perspective is presented

RESULTS

- ✓ Information & mobilization seminars on TNC in the ESF, linked to the BSRS for project promoters
- ✓ Partner search forums for project promoters
- ✓ Agreement on common themes for TNC under the Common Framework









The added-value of TNC – projects implemented

Project Title

Broaden your horizons – transnational mobility to activate young unemployed people

Beneficiary

Vocational Education Centre in Bialystok

Transnational Partner

BizCare (Stockholm, Sweden)

Project value & duration: 675 000 EUR; 01/02/2016 to 31/01/2018

Target group: Young people (aged 18-25) belonging to the NEET group, long-term unemployed for at least 6 months.

Objective: efficient integration with the job market or educational system through participation in foreign traineeships which will enhance mobility of young people, increase their self-esteem and motivate to professional activity.









The added-value of TNC – projects implemented

Project Title

Developing the counselling methods & efficiency of employment institutions

Beneficiary

Imago Foundation

Transnational Partner

Spangar Negotiations (Finland)

Project value & duration: 230 000 EUR; 01/05/2017 to 31/12/2019

Objective:

to increase efficiency of 15 employment institutions through trensferring & implementation of the innvoative method of vocational counselling







The added-value of TNC – projects implemented

Project Title

Time2Grow

Beneficiary

Dobre Kadry. Research & training centre

Transnational Partner

Xamk – South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences (Mikkeli, Finland)

Project value & duration: 125 000 EUR; 01/04/2017 to 31/012/2019

Objective: to test & implement new solutions aimed at preventing proffesional burnout syndrone through lifelong learning









Procedure BG05M9OP001-4.001, "Transnational and Danube Partnerships for Employment and Growth" under the Operational Program "Human Resources Development" 20142020 co-funded by the European Union through the European Social Fund

Project BG05M9OP001-4.001-0100-C01 "Social innovations for a more efficient social inclusion of disadvantaged Roma women"











Total project cost - 101 788 € European funding (ESF) – € 96 698 National co-financing - 5 090 €

Project start: October 18, 2017

Project end: December 31, 2018









The partnership

- Dated from 2006
- ☐ Integro Association, Bulgaria www.integrobg.org
- □ the International Network of Mother Centres for Empowerment, Germany Mine

www.mine.cc









Overall Project Objective

Contribution to improving the well-being and social inclusion of vulnerable Roma women by creating and testing an innovative model in three Roma communities where Roma women become more motivated to improve their social and work skills.









Specific objectives of the project

- 1. Exploration of two innovative practices and transfer after their appropriate adaptation to the specific needs of vulnerable Roma women from Bulgaria;
- 2. Gain of basic knowledge and skills for structured work by Roma women on creating attractive social space for other Roma women from their communities to improve their social and labour skills.
- 3. Raise awareness of regional and local authorities on the social innovations and encourage them to plan appropriate measures in their municipal action plans for Roma integration to address the specific needs of Roma women









Project activities

Activity 1 Exploration and analyzing the experience of the two innovative practices "Mother Centre" in Germany and "Social Orientation" in Belgium

Activity 2 Adaptation of the researched innovative practices and their pilot application in Roma communities from three municipalities in Bulgaria









Project activities

Activity 3 Enhancing the capacity of project partners and stakeholders to implement, monitor and evaluate innovative practices and approaches

Activity 4 Evaluation of the results achieved in terms of feasibility of innovative elements of the project

Activity 5 Information and communication









Outputs

- 1. A desk research conducted, 2 reports elaborated with analyses and conclusions for the social innovative practices.
- 2. Three women groups were created that initiated Mother Centres (MC) in Razgrad, Byala Slatina and Vazovo. Nine MCs leaders were appointed in the MCs
- 3. Needs assessment of Roma women implemented and a theoretical model of a Roma MC elaborated
- 4. Coaching and monitoring visits held to the MCs to apply and adapt the innovative practices in the context of Roma communities























- A workshop held in Stuttgart, Germany, a workshop held in Razgrad, Bulgaria and an offside training held to increase the competencies of the MC teams to organise and manage MCs.
- MCs equipped for IGA and skills building initiated in tailoring, cosmetics & hairdressing, baking and pastry
- Space for children organized in the MCs Toy library, Reading clubs, Preparation of homework









Activities of the MCs



















Outcomes

- Number of Roma women applied to continue their education some to finalize primary, others secondary, third higher education
- Other women started apprenticeship in hairdressing, in pastry, in tailoring









Space for children and families



















Off-side training of MC leaders



















Workshop in Stuttgart















Lessons learnt

✓ A challenge was to cope with the requirement of the procedure to not cover the expenditures of the partner organisation for their participation in the project activities. It was helpful for our partner the available opportunity to apply to their MA in Baden-Wurttemberg. Thus, they managed to provide additional funding to start one more Roma MC in municipality in Bulgaria, which was not targeted by the project of Integro from OPHRD.







Lessons learnt

- ✓ There is a shortage of skills, knowledge, approaches and working methods at local level to implement effective Roma social inclusion. Transnational cooperation is a good base to provide Roma social inclusion with innovative approaches and methods of work at local level.
- ✓ Social innovative practices need long term support until be well embedded in the new contexts to new target groups. In the context of a Roma community they need even longer time and more efforts. Support from the state or ESF is needed longer.









Thank you

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EUSDR Priority Area 9 "People and Skills" & Priority Area 10 "Institutional Capacity and Cooperation"

Shaping the Future of Transnational Cooperation

4th Meeting of the ESF Managing Authorities in the Danube Region 19-20 September 2018 | Bratislava





















Strengthening social cohesion in the Danube Region

Providing a framework for cooperation across borders

Grasping the needs and dynamics of social policies in the region

Providing a platform to disseminate/ transfer results and translate projects into policy processes

Providing concrete ressources for innovative ideas/solutions

Increasing capacities of beneficiaries

Facilitating to test ideas and to produce tangible results













Implementing social cohesion in the EU Strategy for the Danube Region











Priority Area 9 "People and Skills" – Actions related to the ESF

Related Targets of PA9:

- Contribution to a higher employment rate in the Danube Region (youth and long-term unemployment)
- Contribution to improved educational outcomes and relevant skills and competences
- Contribution to increased quality and efficiency of education, training and labour market systems
- Contribution to ensuring inclusive education and training and promoting inclusive labour markets, equal opportunities and non-discrimination
- Closer cooperation between educational, training, labour market and research institutions

Activities:

- Coordination: Establishing and maintaining a network of stakeholders, identifying further relevant stakeholders etc.
- Implementation: Initiating new projects and initiatives, providing assistance to project managers, organising thematic (policy) workshops to strengthen the know-how exchange etc.
- Communication: Providing relevant information to the stakeholders and to civil society etc.









Priority Area 10 "Institutional Capacities and Cooperation" – Actions related to the ESF

Content

- Action: To combat institutional capacity and public service related problems in the Danube Region
 - → Increasing the quality/efficiency/resilience/scope of public social service provision
 - → Increasing know-how of civil servants for better public service provision
 - → Developing needs-based services
- **Action:** To facilitate the administrative cooperation of communities living in border regions.
 - → Regional labour market inclusion
 - → Joint vocational training
- Action: To ensure sufficient information flow and exchange at all levels
 - → Improving communication and exchange between public authorities and private stakeholders (NGOs/CSOs, agencies, research institutions)
 - → Fostering communication and exchange between national, regional and local level

Structure/Framework

- Action: To review bottlenecks relating to the low absorption rate of EU funds and to ensure better coordination of funding.
 - → Setting a financial/programme framework that supports innovative ideas and needs-based solutions
 - → Developing programmes that take into account the actual challenges and real-life environment of (potential) project partners.
 - → Providing/Building the capacities to implement programmes and projects in due time.

















Thank you for your attention!

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www.danube-capacitycooperation.eu/ www.danube-region.eu/



www.facebook.com/EUSDRPA10/



https://twitter.com/pa10 eusdr



ESF Transnational Platform

Conditions for transnational cooperation – Lessons from the ESF **Transnational Platform**

ESF Managing Authorities in the Danube Region Bratislava, 19 September 2018

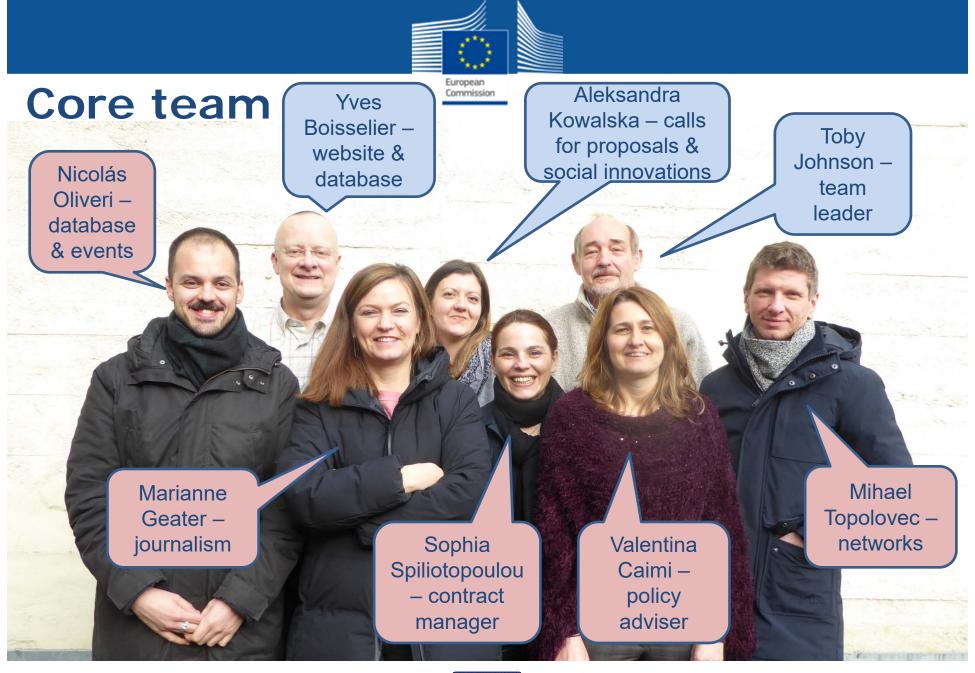
Toby Johnson, Team Leader

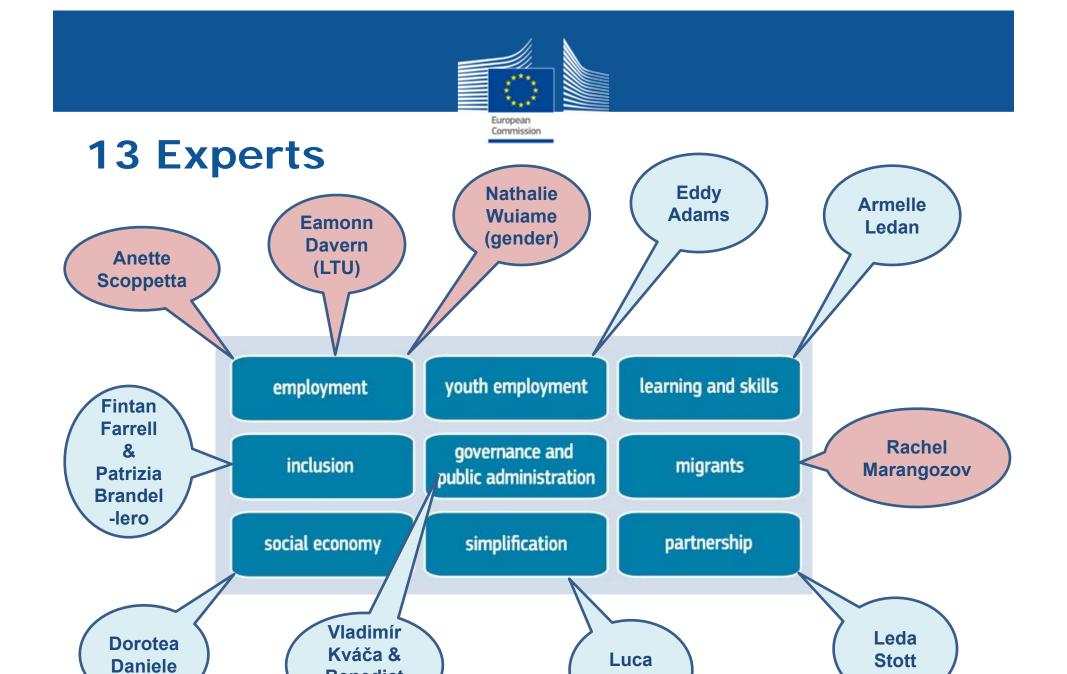












Social Europe

Santin

Benedict

Wauters



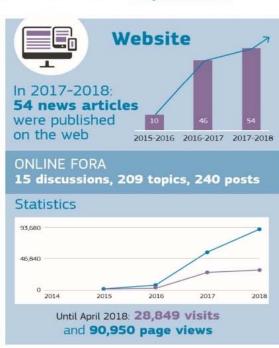
ESF TRANSNATIONALITY - **AN UPWARD TREND**

www.transnationality.eu

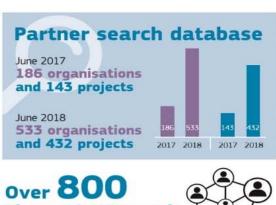


230 people attended June 2017 conference

93% said it met their expectations













Average participant
evaluation of Thematic
Network meetings:
Good/Very good

9 Thematic Networks

Employment

Youth employment

Governance & public administration

Learning & skills

Migrants

Social economy Simplification

Partnership



Latest network activities

- Employment TN conference on women's (un)employment, Trento
- Inclusion TN conference on homelessness, Warsaw
- Youth TN study visit to Glasgow, NEET prevention: collaboration with schools and entrepreneurship
- Learning & skills TN meeting on digital skills, Madrid
- Social economy TN conference on collaboration with conventional firms, Brussels
- Governance TN meeting on the Once-Only Principle, Crete
- Partnership TN mini-peer review, Partnership in Action project visit in Poznań
- Migrants TN meeting on co-ordination of different programmes and funds for migrants, Helsinki





Recent outputs

Dossiers on: Integrated services – Co-production
 Systems thinking – Risk profiling of LTU – ECCP review – Women's (un)employment

Download:

https://ec.europa.eu/esf/transnationality/library

- 3 videos:
 - Employer's role in migrant integration in Essen
 - Interview of Obada Otabashi, entrepreneur
 - So Stay hotel, Gdańsk (integration of young care leavers)





Coming Thematic Network meetings

https://ec.europa.eu/esf/transnationality/content/meetings-timetable

EMP: age and transitions 8-10 Oct, Madrid

YTH: digital outreach 23-24 Oct, Athens

SEN: public procurement 17-18 Oct, Brussels

PAG: leadership + joint with Interreg 23-24 Oct, Brussels

SIM 25-26 Oct, Lisbon

EMP, L&S, PTN: Joint meeting on the 11 Dec, Brussels

Future of Work

MIG 15-16 May 2019, Rome





Practice transfers

- Inclusion €11m call for homelessness projects in Poland, following TN meeting
- Youth employment Flemish peer review of Ohjaama youth outreach model from Finland. Also interest in Spain.
- Social economy peer review influenced social enterprise legislation in Cyprus and Czech Republic
- Governance TN meeting led to social innovation project in Czech Republic

















Social Europe



- Themes:
 - original 8 set by Common Framework (agreed by TNC LN & ESF Committee)
 - Migrants added
 - Impact Task Force created to fill gap
- **People** MAs, policy specialists, stakeholders
- Partnerships EAPN, FEANTSA ...
- Size too big → sub-groups (small can work well)





- Expertise many MAs representatives are not policy specialists
- Connections experts should bring these
- **Strong co-ordination** try bottom-up agendasetting, but have your own agenda too
- Lead MS volunteers / rotating / sub-groups
- Rhythm 3 meetings per year
- Individuality within consistent framework





- Technology:
 - web meetings?
 - Website (fora 🚬 vs. library 😬)





- social media
- Travelling circus?
 - Study visits peer review method
- **Dissemination** regions, national networks





- Visibility:
 - Europa & EU-login
 - Twitter #ESFtransnationality #ESFTP18
 - Video
- Events:
 - Sli.do
 - Visuality
 - Kahoot



