



CENTRAL EUROPE 2021-2027 PARTNER INVOLVEMENT REPORT

Report on outcomes of partner
involvement activities in 2020

Updated in
November 2020



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This report was prepared by the external expert Dorothea Palenberg. Information is based on stakeholder involvement activities performed by the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme between June and November 2020.

1. INTRODUCTION

In line with regulatory requirements laid down in the draft Common Provisions Regulation (CPR), the programme continued to involve relevant partners for preparing the new transnational cooperation programme for 2021-27. Following a **first involvement phase** of the comprehensive partner involvement process (completed in 2019 as defined in the partner involvement concept approved by the Working Group CE21+) more than 1 000 additional stakeholders were involved in the second half of 2020 in two additional phases.

In an overall **second involvement phase** between June and August 2020, the programme launched a two-step consultation process, which built on thematic discussions and preliminary decisions taken by the nine programme countries in the Working Group CE21+ in May 2020. The aim was to collect feedback on an early draft version of the future Interreg Programme (IP - version 0.2), which already included a sketch of transnational programme priorities, specific objectives and topics that will give direction to the funding of cooperation actions in central Europe. Partners could also provide inputs and ideas on additional topics, transnational cooperation actions and target groups.

In this involvement phase, a transnational survey first invited stakeholders from across central Europe to provide feedback and inputs on the draft IP between 10 and 24 June 2020. 556 respondents from relevant national, regional and local stakeholders had participated to the survey. They ranked the relevance of transnational topics per programme specific objective and provided several qualitative inputs.

In a joint effort of the programme's national contact point (NCP), dialogue was then further deepened with 490 public and private partners from all programme countries on the early draft IP version (version 0.2)¹. In coordination with the MA/JS, consultation measures were organised in all programme countries in June and July 2020, despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. National partner dialogues (NPD) took place in online formats such as webinars and direct mailings. They helped to collect information on actions and target groups, to consolidate inputs from the survey and to gather additional qualitative feedback.

The two measures in this second involvement phase complemented each other in the following way:

- The survey focused primarily on quantitative feedback about the relevance of transnational topics per Specific Objective (SO). In addition, respondents could include qualitative inputs on additional topics, potential transnational actions and target groups (the questionnaire template is enclosed as annex 1)
- The national partner dialogues collected in-depth, qualitative inputs from experts to complement inputs received in the transnational survey (dates and formats of NPDs are provided in annex 2).

The comprehensive partner involvement process finally concluded with the **third involvement phase**. The latest IP version (version 1²) was coordinated and consulted with transnational, interregional and cross-border Interreg programmes, European Groupings for Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) and EU macro-regional strategies (MRS) that geographically flank and overlap with the programme area. The focus of this phase

¹ IP version 0.2 included SO 2.5 ("green urban mobility") under Priority 2, whereas in IP version 1 it was shifted to Priority 3 as a new SO 3.2. Please note that despite this change, outcomes of all partner involvement phases with regard to "green urban mobility" are documented under Priority 2 in this report.

² Ditto

was to raise awareness on the future programme, to collect further inputs from qualified partners, and to coordinate potential synergies with Interreg programmes and territorially relevant instruments.

In October 2020, two surveys were launched to collect feedback from a qualified group of stakeholders at MRS and EGTCs. 25 thematic and national coordinators replied from all MRS (EUSALP, EUSAIR, EUSBSR, and EUSDR), with most answers and inputs received by EUSDR (13³) followed by EUSBSR (8) and two answers by EUSALP and EUSAIR each. In addition, also six management bodies of EGTCs located in central Europe responded to the survey. The programme's thematic fields and planned actions were all considered highly important.

A dialogue-oriented approach was taken to involve the management of overlapping transnational Interreg programmes and Interreg Europe. In a focus group on 21 October 2020, these programmes exchanged on the programming state of play and their draft strategies and intervention logics. The group also looked into potential synergies and complementarities.

This final involvement phase then concluded with a dialogue with geographically overlapping cross-border Interreg programmes in the frame of the Interact online conference "Cooperation and synergies in Central and South Eastern Europe" on 3-4 November 2020. The event fuelled discussions on cooperation between programmes in central and southeast Europe, including their contributions to the local macro-regional strategies EUSDR, EUSAIR and EUSALP.

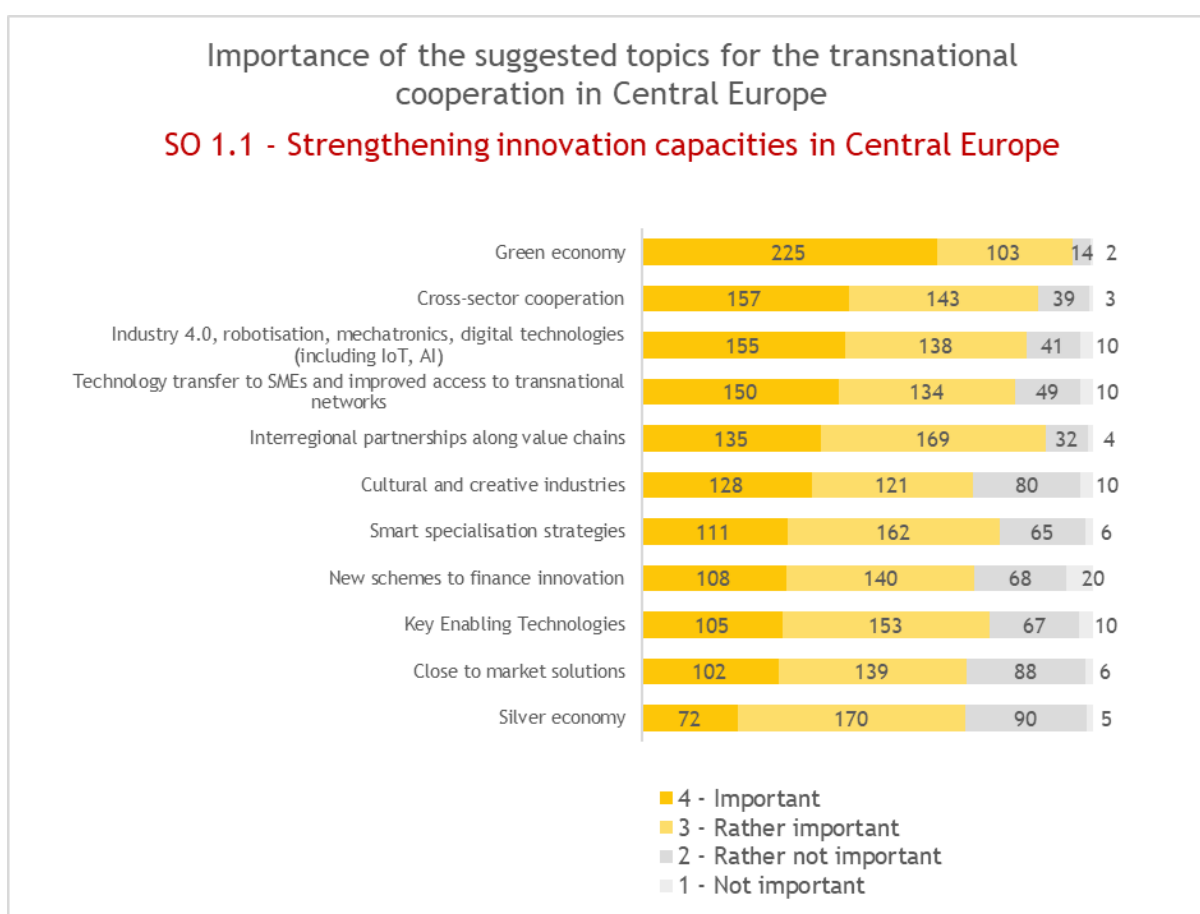
This stakeholder involvement report documents outcomes of the second and third involvement phases and serves as a valuable source of information for fine-tuning the programme strategy and intervention logic in IP version 2. Feedback and inputs received are clustered along SOs in line with the structure of IP draft version 1 from September 2020. The notable exception are outcomes from exchanges with overlapping Interreg programmes, which were overall more horizontal and thus covered in a specific chapter.

³ 12 responses were submitted in the online questionnaire, while an additional response was sent offline without rating of SOs
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2. INVOLVEMENT OUTCOMES PER SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

SO 1.1: Strengthening innovation capacities in central Europe

Ranking of topics according to the transnational survey



Results of the transnational survey _ Ranking of topics by importance

Strengthening of autarchy and minimizing dependence on international value chains and development of mechanisms to ensure long-term benefits for regional value generation

Development and/or pilot application of user-friendly technologies for older people to help overcome social isolation and to increase digital skills for carers

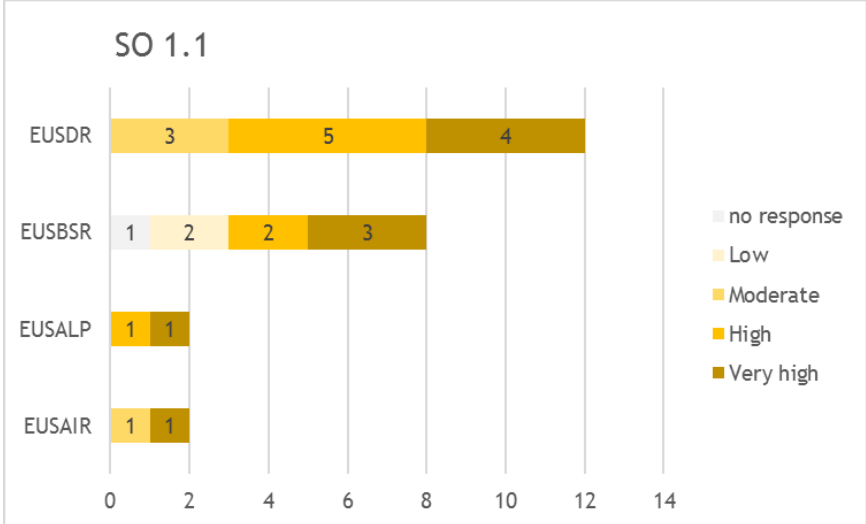
Summary of input received in survey and national partner dialogues

Thematic compliance between proposed survey topics and outcomes of partner involvement (survey response and NPDs)	good	medium	low
More detailed explanation to the above, if necessary	<p>The overall compliance and consistency between the needs expressed in the territorial analysis and the thematic preferences of the stakeholders is good.</p> <p>All topics offered in the transnational survey were rated either important or rather important by the majority of the survey participants.</p> <p>The National Partner Dialogues sustained the relevance of the topics offered and deepened the interpretation or further detailed out certain aspects through action proposals.</p>		
General aspects and remarks for further consideration in IP development	<p>A very high percentage of survey participants found it very relevant to focus - as a background that might also affect other thematic ratings - on green economic aspects and/or cross-sectoral approaches.</p> <p>Silver economy was still acknowledged as mainly “rather important”, but faced the lowest rank in the survey.</p>		
Further specific aspects with regards to additional or more specific topics and actions	<p>With regards to more specific aspects of topics and action proposals, the following aspects can be stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The relevance of social aspects was strongly underlined, especially the focus on youth, silver economy and marginalised groups, but also the focus on the general design of innovative services (social aspects of industrial innovation). - A strong connection to the procedures of exploiting and transferring existing knowledge was made. This was expressed through cooperation design such as strong integration of SMEs and universities, but also to the design of more procedural aspects such as transfer of knowledge and cooperative exploitation of knowledge e.g. through development and learning hubs. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The work along / integration of entire value chains was often underlined as especially relevant. - To consider also financing aspects such as the development of new instruments for KET financing. - Additional aspects mentioned were: cybersecurity, quadruple helix, health, user-friendliness of technology.
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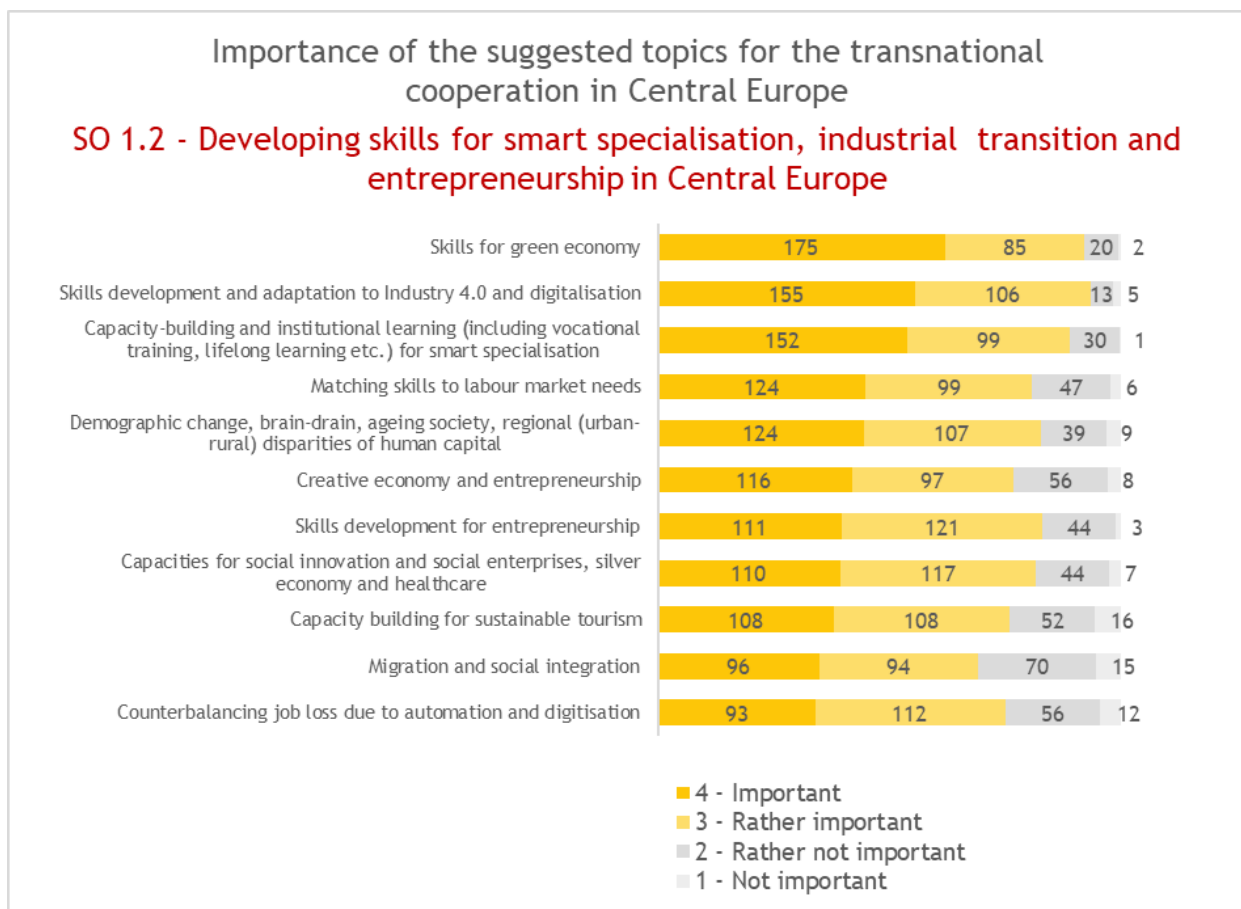
Points of attention: Feedback from EGTCs and MRSs

How did the EGTCs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions?	<table><tr><td>Very high</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>High</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>Moderate</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Low</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>2</td></tr></table> <p>Number of “no answer”: 0</p>	Very high	<div><div></div></div>	1	High	<div><div></div></div>	3	Moderate	<div><div></div></div>	0	Low	<div><div></div></div>	2
Very high	<div><div></div></div>	1											
High	<div><div></div></div>	3											
Moderate	<div><div></div></div>	0											
Low	<div><div></div></div>	2											
Interpretation / Comment to rating	<p>While 4 answers from EGTCs in Poland (Tatra Region), the multinational “Central European Transport Corridor” as well as the multinational network “Cities of Ceramics” rated the relevance “high” or “very high” for implementing their EGTC specific actions, the French/German EGTC “European Campus” as well as the territorially comparably small EGTC GO (in Gorizia-IT/Nova Gorizia-SI) did see a low importance.</p> <p>It can be stated that the multinational, industry-oriented EGTCs as well as the EGTC with a high need for innovation have rated this SO especially high.</p> <p>With regards to the “European Campus”, the geography (France is not part of the CE programme) might also play a role.</p>												
Concrete Proposals made by specific EGTCs	The Tatra Euroregion EGTC sees here the key to a better future development of the region.												

How did the MRSs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions?	<div><p>SO 1.1</p><table><thead><tr><th>MRS</th><th>no response</th><th>Low</th><th>Moderate</th><th>High</th><th>Very high</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>EUSDR</td><td>0</td><td>3</td><td>5</td><td>0</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>EUSBSR</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>0</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>EUSALP</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>EUSAIR</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	MRS	no response	Low	Moderate	High	Very high	EUSDR	0	3	5	0	4	EUSBSR	1	2	2	0	3	EUSALP	0	0	1	0	1	EUSAIR	0	0	1	0	1
MRS	no response	Low	Moderate	High	Very high																										
EUSDR	0	3	5	0	4																										
EUSBSR	1	2	2	0	3																										
EUSALP	0	0	1	0	1																										
EUSAIR	0	0	1	0	1																										
Interpretation / Comment to rating	<p>The majority of the respondents (74%) considered this SO of “high” or “very high” importance for implementing the MRS specific activities. They were issued by respondents with a wide variety of thematic responsibilities and functions.</p> <p>The other rankings were issued by Strategic coordinators with other thematic responsibilities than those related to this SO such as environment, energy and climate change or urban and spatial planning.</p>																														
Concrete proposals made by specific MRS	<p>The ideas for action fields that should be addressed did also touch a wide variety of topics such as “networking with research”, digitalisation and emission reduction in the shipping industry as well as innovative disaster preparedness.</p>																														

SO 1.2: Developing skills for smart specialisation, economic transition and entrepreneurship in central Europe

Ranking of topics according to the survey



Results of the transnational survey _ Ranking of topics by importance

Additional topics received (survey) - WordCloud



Selection of 10 representative actions proposed by survey and national partner dialogues

Develop systems for assurance and standardisation of e-learning and online materials that support the digital transition of SMEs, e.g. through co-creation approaches
Peer learning approaches emphasising the relevance of green economy and ecological innovation transfer
Creation of a creative “open space approach” to organising trainings and workshops on improving digital competences
Development of transnational and cross-border learning labs, tailoring knowledge transfer from universities for specific territorial needs
Development of creative solutions for labour market adjustments
Counteracting unfavourable developments such as brain drain and demographic change through innovative and creative approaches
Developing entrepreneurial attitudes among young people including digitalisation and exploitation of options in future economic developments
Conceptualising and piloting open access to digital learning environments, thereby interlinking learners and teachers with each other
Design of workable forms of collaboration between profit and non-profit industries to facilitate job inclusion of migrants, youth and women
Economically relevant approaches to integrate migrants into the regional labour market

Summary of input received in survey and national partner dialogues

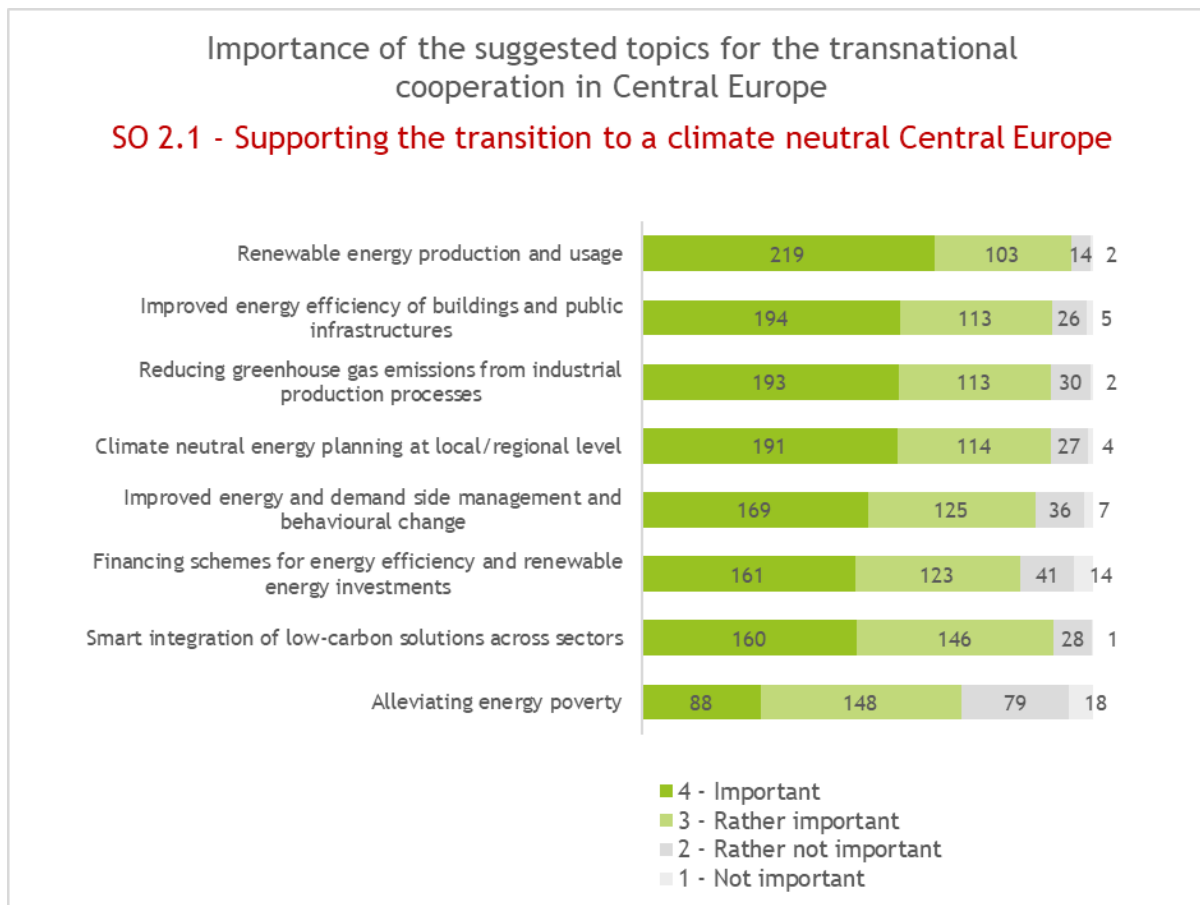
Thematic compliance between proposed survey topics and confirmation through partner dialogues (survey response and NPDs)	good	medium	low
More detailed explanation to the above, if necessary	<p>The overall compliance and consistency between the needs expressed in the territorial analysis and the thematic preferences of the stakeholders is good.</p> <p>All topics offered in the transnational survey were rated either important or rather important by the majority of the survey participants.</p> <p>The National Partner Dialogues sustained the relevance of the topics offered and deepened the interpretation or further detailed certain aspects through action proposals.</p>		
General aspects and remarks for further consideration in IP development	<p>A very high percentage of survey participants found it very relevant to focus - as a background that might also affect other thematic ratings - on green economic aspects in the survey.</p> <p>The management of migration (skill development) and social integration was acknowledged as mainly “important or rather important”, but faced the lowest ranking in the survey, together with “counterbalancing job loss due to automatization”.</p>		
Further specific aspects with regards to additional or more specific topics	<p>With regards to more specific aspects of action proposals, the following aspects can be stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The relevance of social aspects was mentioned repeatedly in different contexts, especially the focus on migrants and youth. Furthermore, the implementation of discrimination-free approaches was emphasised in particular. - Specific attention was paid to the design of new and cooperative processes of capacity-building and learning. Here, also culture and CCI were mentioned several times as possible sectors. - It was considered relevant that the action topics keep a strong focus on development of entrepreneurship. - The need to develop and agree on credible documentation and comparable certification of certain achievements was underlined (diplomas, certificates) - Additional aspects to the main thematic foci mentioned were: tourism, generational learning, situation of rural areas 		

Points of attention: Feedback from EGTCs and MRSs

How did the EGTCs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions? (No. of Answers)	<table><tr><td>Very high</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>High</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Moderate</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Low</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>1</td></tr></table> <p>Number of “no answer”: 0</p>	Very high	<div><div></div></div>	1	High	<div><div></div></div>	2	Moderate	<div><div></div></div>	2	Low	<div><div></div></div>	1													
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Low	<div><div></div></div>	1																								
Interpretation / Comment to rating	The picture is similar to SO 1.1: While the multinational, industry-oriented ETGCs (especially “Cities of Ceramics”) as well as the Tatra Region ETGC rate this SO of “moderate” to “very high” importance for the implementation of the EGTC specific objective, the German-French EGTC “European Campus” rates it “low”. Also here, a possible explanation for the latter might be the geographical location both inside and outside of the programme area.																									
Concrete Statements made by specific EGTCs	The “Cities of Ceramics” underlines especially the skill transfer to SME, mainly in the craft sector. The Tatra Region EGTC underlines the relevance of smart technologies.																									
How did the MRSs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions?	<div><div>SO 1.2</div><table><thead><tr><th>MRS</th><th>Low</th><th>Moderate</th><th>High</th><th>Very high</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>EUSDR</td><td>1</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>EUSBSR</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>EUSALP</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>EUSAIR</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	MRS	Low	Moderate	High	Very high	EUSDR	1	5	3	3	EUSBSR	1	1	4	2	EUSALP	1	1	0	0	EUSAIR	1	1	0	0
MRS	Low	Moderate	High	Very high																						
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EUSAIR	1	1	0	0																						
Interpretation / Comment to rating	The overall statistic shows a strong support of the MRSs for this SO in terms of importance for implementing MRS specific actions with 65% ratings of “very high” to “high”. Also here, the rating “low” or “moderate” were issued by stakeholders with different thematic foci, mainly “environment” or “urban and spatial planning”.																									
Concrete proposals made by specific MRS	Two aspects were underlined: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The relevance of being the frontrunner for digitalisation and automation (EUSBR)- Relevance of co-creation as a relevant method.																									

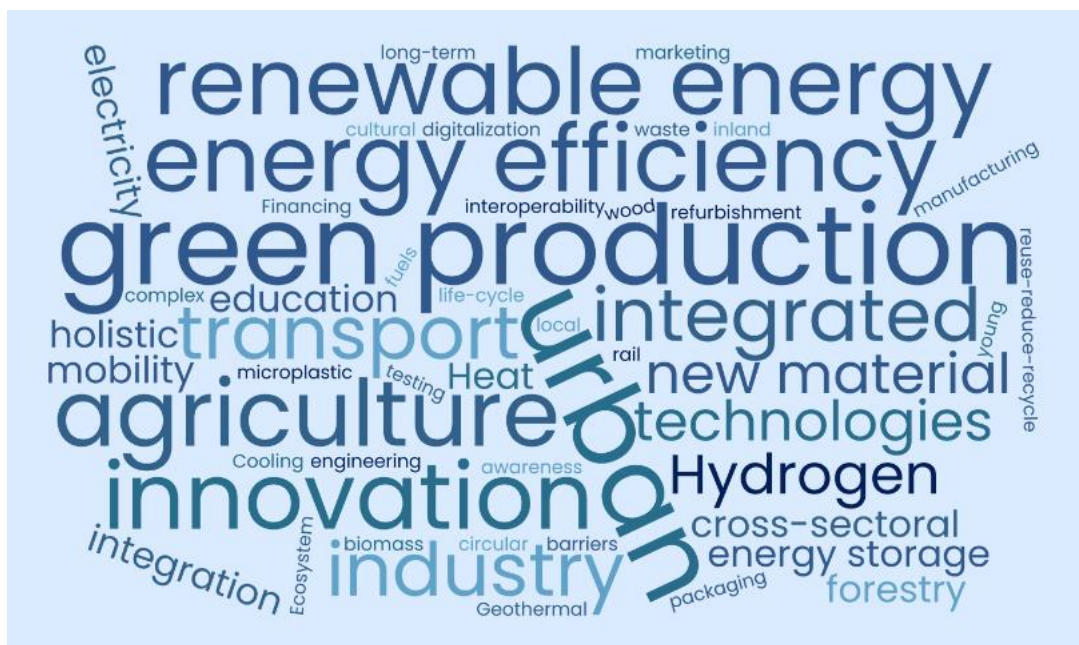
SO 2.1: Supporting the transition to a climate neutral central Europe

Ranking of topics according to the survey



Results of the transnational survey _ Ranking of topics by importance

Additional topics received (survey) - WordCloud



Selection of 10 representative actions proposed by survey and national partner dialogues

Piloting creative sources of renewable energy production for the local and regional level, e.g. energy generation from movement
Assessment and testing of practical tools and methodologies for climate friendly agricultural production, e.g. use of electric farming tools, treatment of green waste, near-natural or biological weed control etc.
Development of seamless approaches for cross-border and transnational data-based cooperation in energy efficiency management (e.g. smart street lightning, cross-border smart grids)
Development and implementation of roadmaps for harmonised energy efficiency standards in the building industry
Coordination and improved cooperation with financing institutions, thereby developing harmonised schemes and support programmes including decentralised local and regional financing schemes
Joint coordination of local territories with similar assets (e.g. climate, geographic) for developing, pooling and exchanging of approaches on climate change mitigation, e.g. the implementation of Climate action plans)
Introducing toolkits for supporting coordinated transfer of knowledge to the local and regional level about energy efficiency and energy usage
Training activities and capacity building in municipalities for strengthening competences in energy efficiency technologies to preparing follow-up investments

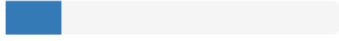

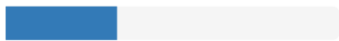
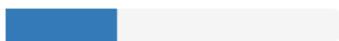
Local and regional deployment of hydrogen strategy, hydrogen cell and fuel developments as well as renewable energy sources
Exchange of best practices to ensure access to suitable renewable energy sources in specific territories

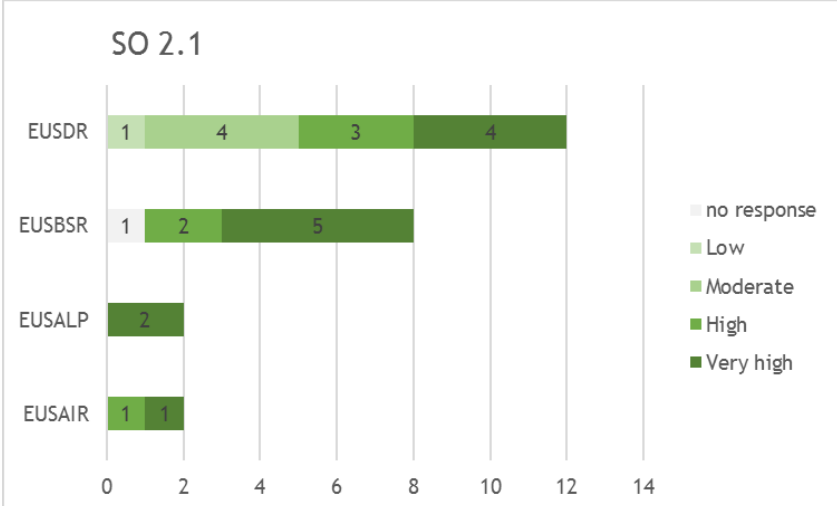
Summary of input received in survey and national partner dialogues

Thematic compliance between proposed survey topics and confirmation through partner dialogues (survey response and NPDs)	good	medium	low
More detailed explanation to the above, if necessary	<p>The overall compliance and consistency between the needs expressed in the territorial analysis and the thematic preferences of the stakeholders is good.</p> <p>All topics offered in the transnational survey were rated either important or rather important by the majority of the survey participants.</p> <p>Generally speaking, since the different specific objectives of priority 2 are partly interconnected, stakeholders provided several inputs which could be assigned also to other SOs.</p> <p>The assessment of the National Partner Dialogues revealed that the contributions sustained the relevance of the topics offered and deepened the interpretation or further detailed certain aspects through action proposals.</p>		
General aspects and remarks for further consideration in IP development	<p>The specific objective summarises several energy aspects and can be applied to a wide range of possible sectors. This broadness is reflected in the proposals and comments made.</p> <p>It is relevant to keep a clear focus on the energy aspects and to have a clear distinction between SO 2.1 and SO 2.2.</p> <p>The production and usage of renewable energies as well as the increase of energy efficiency were rated very high.</p> <p>The aspects of “alleviating energy poverty” were ranked lowest in the survey, which might be explainable by the abstract character of the topic.</p>		
Further specific aspects with regards to additional or more specific topics	<p>With regards to more specific aspects of action proposals, the following aspects can be stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The relevance of revisiting industrial procedures regarding energy efficiency, especially in manufacturing and production, was underlined. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The relevance of actions in urban areas for the achievement of climate resilience was repeatedly emphasised - A stronger connection between the energy demand and production side was emphasised, often in line with capacity building and trainings. - The relevance of data management in relation to energy efficiency was highlighted. - The relevance of the territorial aspect was highlighted repeatedly, namely both in terms of specific territories such as rural areas, but also with reference to the relevance of the local level. - Additional aspects mentioned were: hydrogen, embedding of energy efficiency and renewable energy in agricultural operations, energy storage.
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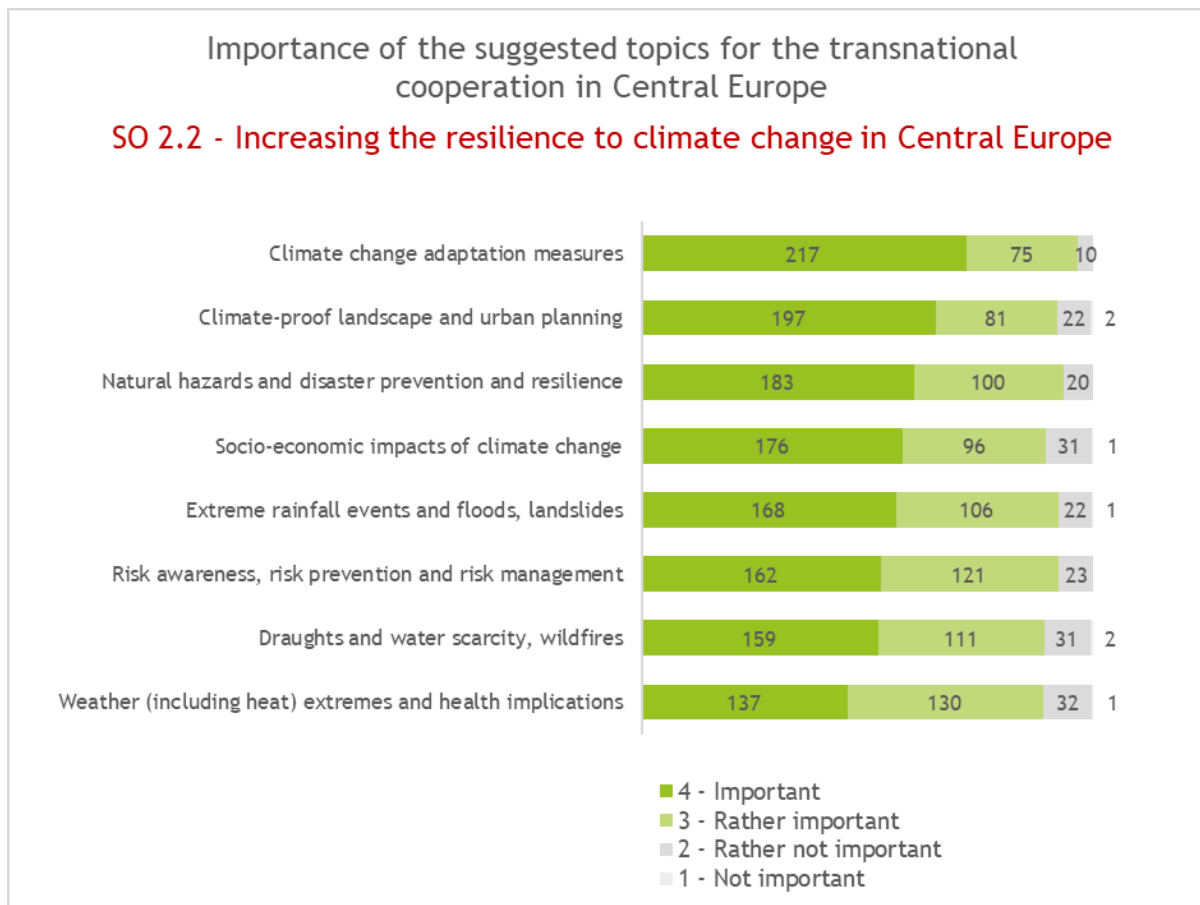
Points of attention: Feedback from EGTCs and MRSs

How did the EGTCs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions? (No. of Answers)	Very high		1
	High		1
	Moderate		2
	Low		2
	<i>Number of "no answer": 0</i>		
Interpretation / Comment to rating	<p>The overall picture does indicate that - except for the ratings from the Tatra Region EGTC - the SO is not considered of specific importance for implementing the EGTC's specific activities.</p> <p>The other EGTCs rated this SO "moderate" to "low" importance for the EGTC activities. This might be explainable through the lack of topical closeness of the EGTCs, because of their specific thematic profile.</p>		
Concrete Statements made by specific EGTCs	Especially the Tatra Region EGTC underlined the general and overall relevance of the energy transition.		

How did the MRSs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions?	<div><p>SO 2.1</p><table><thead><tr><th>MRS</th><th>no response</th><th>Low</th><th>Moderate</th><th>High</th><th>Very high</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>EUSDR</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>EUSBSR</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>2</td><td>5</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>EUSALP</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>2</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>EUSAIR</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	MRS	no response	Low	Moderate	High	Very high	EUSDR	0	1	4	3	4	EUSBSR	1	0	2	5	0	EUSALP	0	0	0	2	0	EUSAIR	0	1	1	0	0
MRS	no response	Low	Moderate	High	Very high																										
EUSDR	0	1	4	3	4																										
EUSBSR	1	0	2	5	0																										
EUSALP	0	0	0	2	0																										
EUSAIR	0	1	1	0	0																										
Interpretation / Comment to rating	<p>The support of the MRSs to the SO is very high with 78% ranking the topic “high” or “very high” importance for implementing specific MRS actions. Support was issued by all MRS.</p>																														
Concrete proposals made by specific MRS	<p>The following statements were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Emphasis on the fact that the topic should enter all working routines “it is our everyday task”- Urgency of the climate issue- Need to explore further potentials of renewable energies.																														

SO 2.2: Increasing the resilience to climate change in central Europe

Ranking of topics according to the survey



Results of the transnational survey _ Ranking of topics by importance

Additional topics received (survey) - WordCloud



Selection of 10 representative actions proposed by survey and national partner dialogues

Transnational promotion of the transition to close-to-nature, carbon neutral and climate-smart management of forests and agriculture with benefits for local communities
Promoting and piloting of water efficiency in households, land management and industry
Restoration and re-establishment of agro-forestry systems to increase climate resilience and biodiversity of landscape
Coordinated strategies for climate proofing of urban and metropolitan areas (FUAs) and spatial planning and reduction of soil sealing, increase of green areas, sustainable cooling mechanisms and urban micro-climate
Coordination and deployment of financing schemes for climate change adaptation measures
Joint and cross-disciplinary assessment of the vulnerability of regions to climate induced natural hazards and local/regional climate change forecasts
Co-design and joint implementation of trainings, education and new approaches to local and regional response to natural hazards and climate induced risks
Development of strategies for adapting the cultural heritage management to climate change effects

Integrated actions for supporting social resilience and counteracting socio-economic impacts of climate change through facilitating e.g. ecosystem services

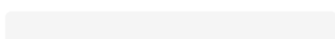
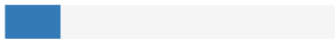
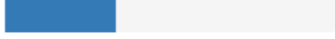

Transnational planning and implementation of local education and awareness raising among citizens with a focus on individual self-responsibility in the context of climate resilience

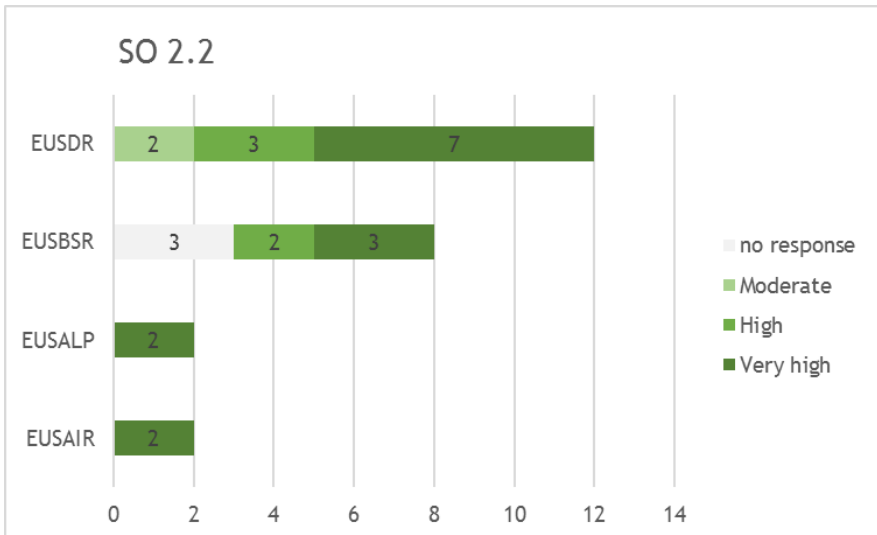
Summary of input received in survey and national partner dialogues

Thematic compliance between proposed survey topics and confirmation through partner dialogues (survey response and NPDs)	good	medium	low
More detailed explanation to the above, if necessary	<p>The overall compliance and consistency between the needs expressed in the territorial analysis and the thematic preferences of the stakeholders is rated “good”.</p> <p>If the ratings “important” and “rather important” are summarised, more or less all topics were considered as of similar relevance.</p>		
General aspects and remarks for further consideration in IP development	<p>The rather broad thematic topic of “climate change adaptation measures” received the highest ranks in the category “important”, while “weather (including heat) extremes and health implications” received lower rankings in the survey. However, it needs to be emphasised that all topics were considered important.</p>		
Further specific aspects with regards to additional or more specific topics	<p>With regards to more specific aspects of action proposals, the following aspects can be stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The relevance of the procedural aspects of implementation, trainings, diagnosis and assessment, coordination and financing of climate change adaptation measures were mentioned repeatedly. - The promotion of behavioural change was repeatedly mentioned. - The use of nature-based solutions for a better climate resilience as well as the seizing of ecosystem services and their integration into the overall socioeconomic planning was underlined. - Topics that circled around the theme of water were mentioned repeatedly and in various contexts: water scarcity, water re-use and efficiency, extreme weather and water runoff, etc. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional aspects mentioned were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Forecasting and “Nowcasting” of extreme weather events o Climate induced release of contaminants and deterioration of drinking water due to extreme weather events o existence of multiple, climate-induced hazards at the same time o safeguarding of cultural heritage against climate risks o social impacts of climate change o financing schemes for climate change adaptation o climate change impacts on agriculture, forestry and agro-forestry
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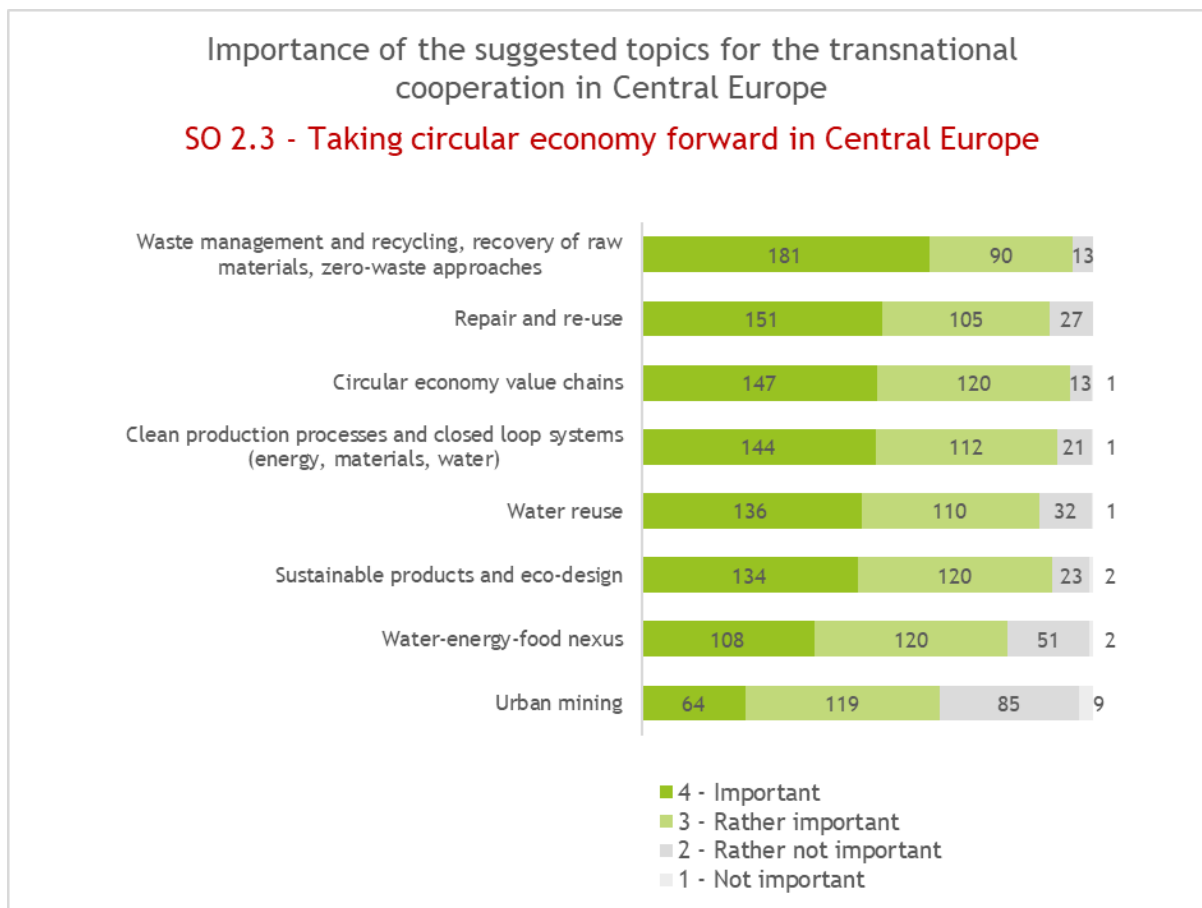
Points of attention: Feedback from EGTCs and MRSs

How did the EGTCs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions? (No. of Answers)	Very high		0
	High		1
	Moderate		2
	Low		3
	Number of “no answer”: 0		
Interpretation / Comment to rating	<p>The overall picture does not indicate a full support of the relevance of this SO for the implementation of specific EGTC activities, except for the ratings from the Tatra Region EGTC.</p> <p>The other EGTCs rated this SO “moderate” to “low” importance for the implementation of specific EGTC activities. This might be explainable through the lack of topical closeness of the EGTCs, because of their specific thematic profile. Furthermore, the energy intensive sectors such as transport or ceramics are considering future challenges.</p>		
Concrete proposals made by specific EGTCs	No specific proposals made		

How did the MRSs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions?	<div><p>SO 2.2</p><table><thead><tr><th>MRS</th><th>no response</th><th>Moderate</th><th>High</th><th>Very high</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>EUSDR</td><td>0</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>EUSBSR</td><td>3</td><td>0</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>EUSALP</td><td>0</td><td>2</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>EUSAIR</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>2</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	MRS	no response	Moderate	High	Very high	EUSDR	0	2	3	7	EUSBSR	3	0	2	3	EUSALP	0	2	0	0	EUSAIR	0	0	2	0
MRS	no response	Moderate	High	Very high																						
EUSDR	0	2	3	7																						
EUSBSR	3	0	2	3																						
EUSALP	0	2	0	0																						
EUSAIR	0	0	2	0																						
Interpretation / Comment to Rating	<p>Also here, the support to the SO with regards to the implementation of MRS specific objectives is very high (90%).</p> <p>It is also interesting to point out that the three respondents not providing an answer to this rating originated mainly from experts with different thematic foci.</p>																									
Concrete Proposals made by specific MRS	<p>Specifically, the vulnerability of the region and hence also the relevance of the topic was expressed by EUSAIR.</p> <p>In addition, the differentiation between “adaptation” and “mitigation” was considered relevant and the prioritisation of “adaptation” vs. “mitigation” was emphasised.</p>																									

SO 2.3: Taking circular economy forward in central Europe

Ranking of topics according to the survey



Results of the transnational survey _ Ranking of topics by importance

Additional topics received (survey) - WordCloud



Selection of 11 representative actions proposed by survey and national partner dialogues

Integrated approaches to minimising (food) waste and cooperative (food-)waste management
Circular approaches to waste management on local level (recycling communal and industrial waste and by-products) including local waste prevention actions
Shortening of supply chains especially for rural areas, based on transnational cooperation and exchange towards more local economic circles, e.g. for food production.
Integrating the circular economy thinking into product development (from the level of university education to training of professionals)
Integrating circular economy approaches in other policies, e.g. related to innovation, business development, renewable energies
Reducing waste produced by manufacturing - developing clean production at factory level
Working towards the elimination of water intensive materials that are used only once
Harmonised incentive schemes and pilot programmes for local and regional waste prevention
Coordinated revitalisation of post-industrial areas with circular economy approaches
Promoting of repair and reuse by legal or alternative value generation mechanisms for the production side, e.g. through servicing
Developing innovative technologies for recycling of end of life products

Summary of input received in survey and national partner dialogues

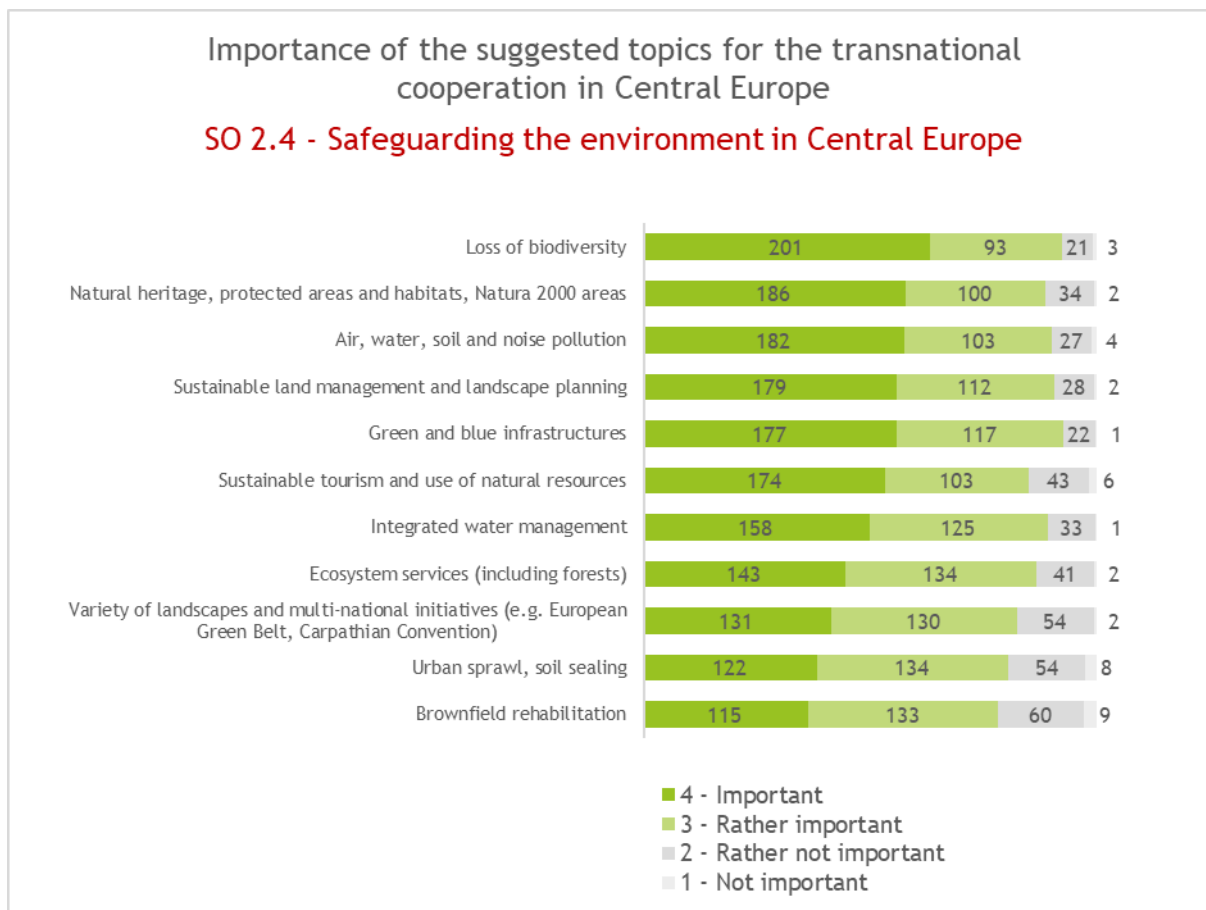
Thematic compliance between proposed survey topics and confirmation through partner dialogues (survey response and NPD)	good	medium	low
More detailed explanation to the above, if necessary	<p>The overall compliance and consistency between the needs expressed in the territorial analysis and the thematic preferences of the stakeholders is good.</p> <p>All topics offered in the transnational survey were rated either important or rather important by the majority of the survey participants. The National Partner Dialogues sustained the relevance of the topics offered and deepened the interpretation or further detailed out certain aspects through action proposals.</p>		
General aspects and remarks for further consideration in IP development	<p>The specific objective offers a lot of entry points, both thematically (waste, technology, etc.) or procedural (closing of existing economic cycles from production to re-use or development of new and green economic cycles, rearrangement of value chains, etc.) This wide range is reflected in the multitude of interpretations and proposals given. This is explainable through the different stages in which central European regions are tackling the topic of circular economy and the different sectors with the strongest territorial needs.</p> <p>Waste-related topics were rated the highest which is also reflected through the high amount of waste-related action proposals.</p> <p>The topics “urban mining” and “water-energy-food-nexus” received the lowest ranks in the survey, which might be further explainable by the complexity of the topic.</p>		
Further specific aspects with regards to additional or more specific topics	<p>Waste related topics were strongly connected to the local and regional level.</p> <p>Furthermore, the relevance of behavioural change and their support were often mentioned in connection with thematic aspects.</p> <p>Although complex and integrated topics such as “water-energy-food-nexus” were not rated highest, many proposals and comments made references to the importance of an overall connection and integrated approach between different topics and sectors.</p>		

Points of attention: Feedback from EGTCs and MRSs

How did the EGTCs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions? (No. of Answers)	<table><tr><td>Very high</td><td><div></div></td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>High</td><td><div></div></td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Moderate</td><td><div></div></td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Low</td><td><div></div></td><td>2</td></tr></table> <p>Number of “no answer”: 0</p>	Very high	<div></div>	0	High	<div></div>	2	Moderate	<div></div>	2	Low	<div></div>	2																		
Very high	<div></div>	0																													
High	<div></div>	2																													
Moderate	<div></div>	2																													
Low	<div></div>	2																													
Interpretation / Comment to rating	The result of the ranking shows a mixed picture with regards to the importance of EGTC specific activities. While the EGTC “Central European transport corridor” does not consider this SO a top-priority for its further work (rating “low”), the EGTC “Cities of ceramics” does presumably consider the SO as highly relevant for its activities. This might be related to the potential for using regional value chains and that the thematic focus of the EGTC “Central European transport corridor” is on transport and mobility management.																														
Concrete proposals made by specific EGTCs	Similar to SO 1.2, the EGTC “Cities of Ceramics” underlines the relevance of skill transfer to SME.																														
How did the MRSs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions?	<div><p>SO 2.3</p><table><thead><tr><th>MRS</th><th>no response</th><th>Low</th><th>Moderate</th><th>High</th><th>Very high</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>EUSDR</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>6</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>EUSBSR</td><td>3</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>EUSALP</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>EUSAIR</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	MRS	no response	Low	Moderate	High	Very high	EUSDR	0	1	3	6	2	EUSBSR	3	0	1	4	0	EUSALP	0	1	1	0	0	EUSAIR	0	1	1	0	0
MRS	no response	Low	Moderate	High	Very high																										
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EUSBSR	3	0	1	4	0																										
EUSALP	0	1	1	0	0																										
EUSAIR	0	1	1	0	0																										
Interpretation / Comment to rating	The importance of this SO for implementing MRS specific actions was mainly ranked “high” to “very high” (71%) with a significant number of “moderate” rankings (5).																														
Concrete proposals made by specific MRS	It was considered specifically relevant to encourage “green procurement”.																														

SO 2.4: Safeguarding the environment in central Europe

Ranking of topics according to the survey



Results of the transnational survey _ Ranking of topics by importance

Additional topics received (survey) - WordCloud



Selection of 10 representative actions proposed by survey and national partner dialogues

Awareness raising and triggering of behavioural change to understand the socioeconomic impact of the loss of biodiversity
Local and regional contributions to policy networks ensuring transnational connectivity of habitats (e.g. Green Belt, Carpathian Convention, Alpine Soil Partnership)
Safeguarding and developing geo-heritage and geodiversity
Rethinking NATURA-2000 territories (flood protection, changes in forest composition, effects of climate change, etc.)
Managing and monitoring sustainable tourism in natural protected areas i.e. innovative tools for low-impact sustainable tourism
Integrated strategies for green recovery, monitoring measures and the assessment of socioeconomic impacts from COVID 19 or comparable threats on local level
Collect and apply good practices for raising awareness and promoting an evidence-based approach to knowledge transfer, like eco-museums and landscape observatories
Cross-sectoral and multidisciplinary approaches for sustainable land management and the prevention of urban sprawl

Improvement of holistic models for cultural landscape management as a way for integrated sustainable use of local natural and cultural resources

Elaborating practical methods and tools for the evaluation of eco-system services for local and regional communities

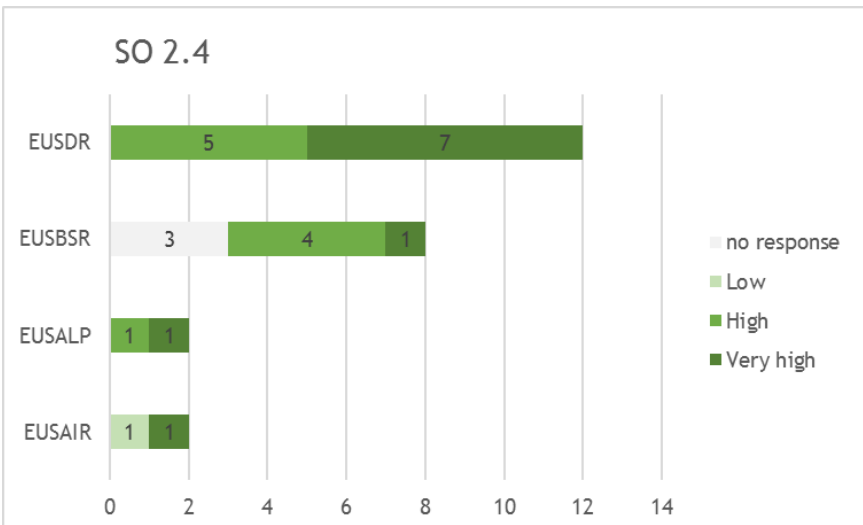
Summary of input received in survey and national partner dialogues

Thematic compliance between proposed survey topics and confirmation through partner dialogues (survey response and NPDs)	good	medium	low
More detailed explanation to the above, if necessary	<p>The overall compliance and consistency between the needs expressed in the territorial analysis and the thematic preferences of the stakeholders is good.</p> <p>All topics offered in the transnational survey were rated either important or rather important by the majority of the survey participants. The rehabilitation of brownfields received the lowest rank in this context and the loss of biodiversity highest.</p> <p>The National Partner Dialogues sustained the relevance of the topics offered and deepened the interpretation or further detailed out certain aspects through action proposals.</p>		
General aspects and remarks for further consideration in IP development	<p>Besides specific action proposals, the overall description and interpretation of the SO showed two aspects, which are considered both equally important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The relevance of “traditional” forms of consequent and impactful protection of species and habitats. In this context, the consequent halt of a further loss of biodiversity was repeatedly underlined. - The relevance of integrating environmental protection policies with other sectors was underlined. In this context, the socioeconomic valorisation of ecosystem services or measures that focus on the impact of specific sectors such as agriculture was highlighted. <p>Furthermore, many comments emphasised the relevance to establish a strong and useful connection to multi-national political networks such as the Carpathian Convention.</p>		
Further specific aspects with regards to additional or more specific topics	<p>A wide range of additional aspects were proposed that could be considered in the specific objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of proper wilderness stewardship 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Green Recovery subsequent to COVID-crisis - Light pollution as equally relevant compared to other forms of pollution - Valorising of Geo-Heritage - Management of invasive species
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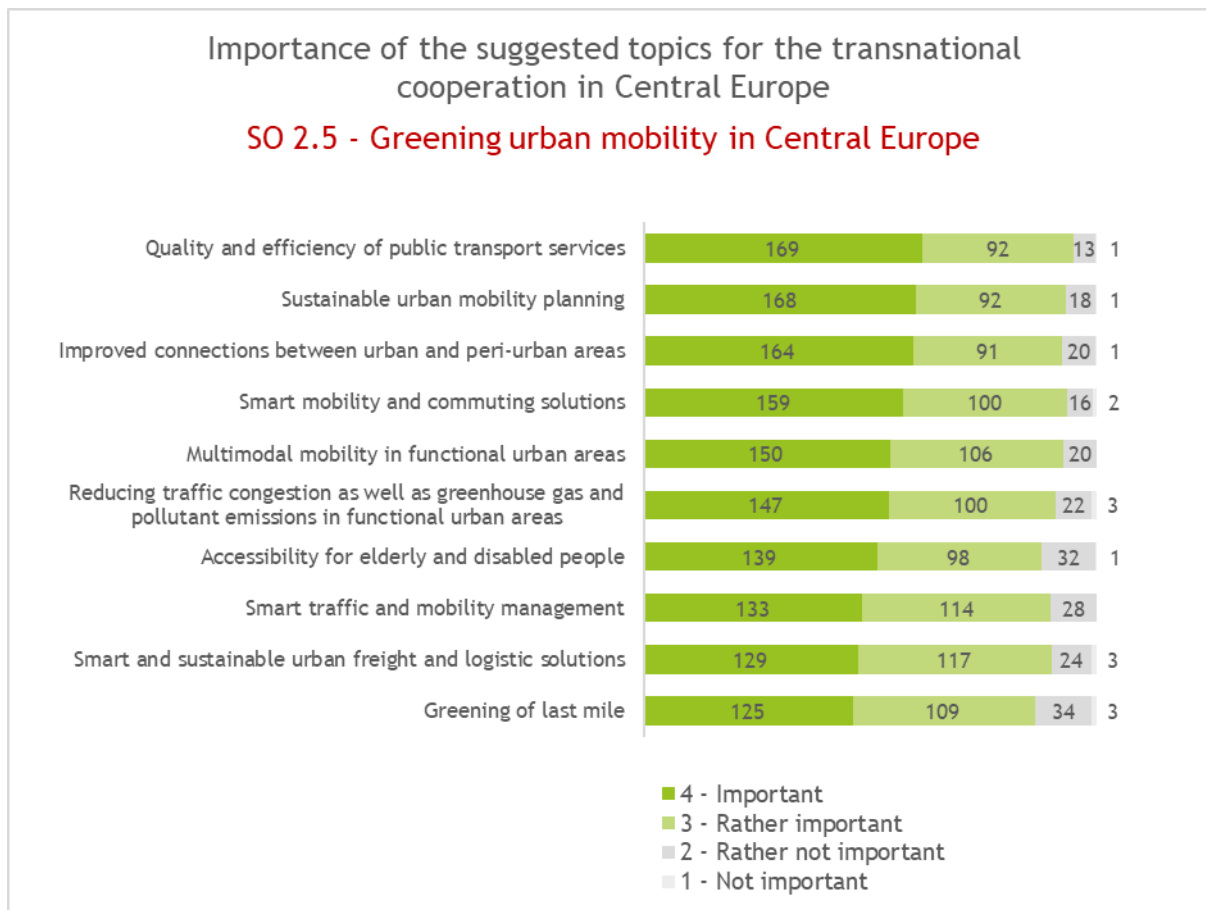
Points of attention: Feedback from EGTCs and MRSs

How did the EGTCs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions? (No. of Answers)	<table><tr><td>Very high</td><td><div></div></td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>High</td><td><div></div></td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Moderate</td><td><div></div></td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>Low</td><td><div></div></td><td>2</td></tr></table> <p>Number of “no answer”: 0</p>	Very high	<div></div>	0	High	<div></div>	1	Moderate	<div></div>	3	Low	<div></div>	2
Very high	<div></div>	0											
High	<div></div>	1											
Moderate	<div></div>	3											
Low	<div></div>	2											
Interpretation / Comment to rating	<p>The rating shows a mixed picture with regards to the importance of this SO for implementing EGTC specific actions with a tendency to “moderate” and “low” and only with the Tatra Region EGTC rating the SO of “high” importance. This might be explainable with the specific thematic profile of EGTCs that is not focused on environmental protection and valorisation. On the other side, the rather integrated territorial approach of the Tatra Region EGTC action programme that also includes aspects of nature-related tourism might explain the high ranking given to this SO.</p>												
Concrete proposals made by specific EGTCs	<p>No specific proposals were made</p>												

How did the MRSs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions?	<div><p>SO 2.4</p><table><thead><tr><th>MRS</th><th>no response</th><th>Low</th><th>High</th><th>Very high</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>EUSDR</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>5</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>EUSBSR</td><td>3</td><td>0</td><td>4</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>EUSALP</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>EUSAIR</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	MRS	no response	Low	High	Very high	EUSDR	0	0	5	7	EUSBSR	3	0	4	1	EUSALP	0	1	1	0	EUSAIR	0	1	1	0
MRS	no response	Low	High	Very high																						
EUSDR	0	0	5	7																						
EUSBSR	3	0	4	1																						
EUSALP	0	1	1	0																						
EUSAIR	0	1	1	0																						
Interpretation / Comment to Rating	All MRSs issued proposals of overwhelming support of the importance of this SO (95%) for implementing MRS specific actions with three “non-answers” that arose from participants with other backgrounds.																									
Concrete proposals made by specific MRS	<p>Especially the EUSALP representatives underlined the relevance of “Green infrastructure” and its role as provider of economically valuable ecosystem services.</p> <p>Furthermore, it was underlined that this “ecosystem service knowledge” needs to be transferred into policy making. Here, also the valorisation of Ecosystem Services for maintaining the tourism industry was mentioned.</p> <p>In addition, the reduction and monitoring of pollution was highlighted by EUSDR, mentioning a wider range of pollutant and hazardous substances such as micro-plastic, PFOS (Perfluorooctane / Perfluorooctyl Sulfonate, etc.). It was underlined that urban wastewater treatment should be upgraded and wastewater treatment in small settlements should be further enabled.</p>																									

SO 2.5 (IPv1 3.2): Greening urban mobility in central Europe

Ranking of topics according to the survey



Results of the transnational survey _ Ranking of topics by importance

Additional topics received (survey) - WordCloud



Selection of 10 representative actions proposed by survey and national partner dialogues

Harmonization of ticketing and information systems of green urban mobility solutions
Integrating urban development governance concept with sustainable urban mobility concepts, leading to redistribution of public space, promoting of zero-emission transport modes (cycling, walking) and encourage local recreation (in the immediate vicinity)
Influencing urban mobility behaviour through educational campaigns
Exploiting MaaS (Mobility as a Service) as a new concept to integrate, manage and distribute private and public mobility alternatives using intelligent digital technologies and its future implications for the local and FUA level
Green solutions to commuting, based on a cooperative reflection of the FUA approach
Counteracting transport poverty through multimodal combinations of public transport services for urban areas in context of their wider surroundings.
Green City logistics considering delivery services etc.
Promotion of zero-emission urban mobility through cycling or walking
Strategies for an affordable adaptation of improving accessibility for elderly and disabled people to public transport systems in urban areas

Supporting smart urban mobility models, including viable solutions for municipalities that cannot afford to become smart cities

Summary of input received in survey and national partner dialogues

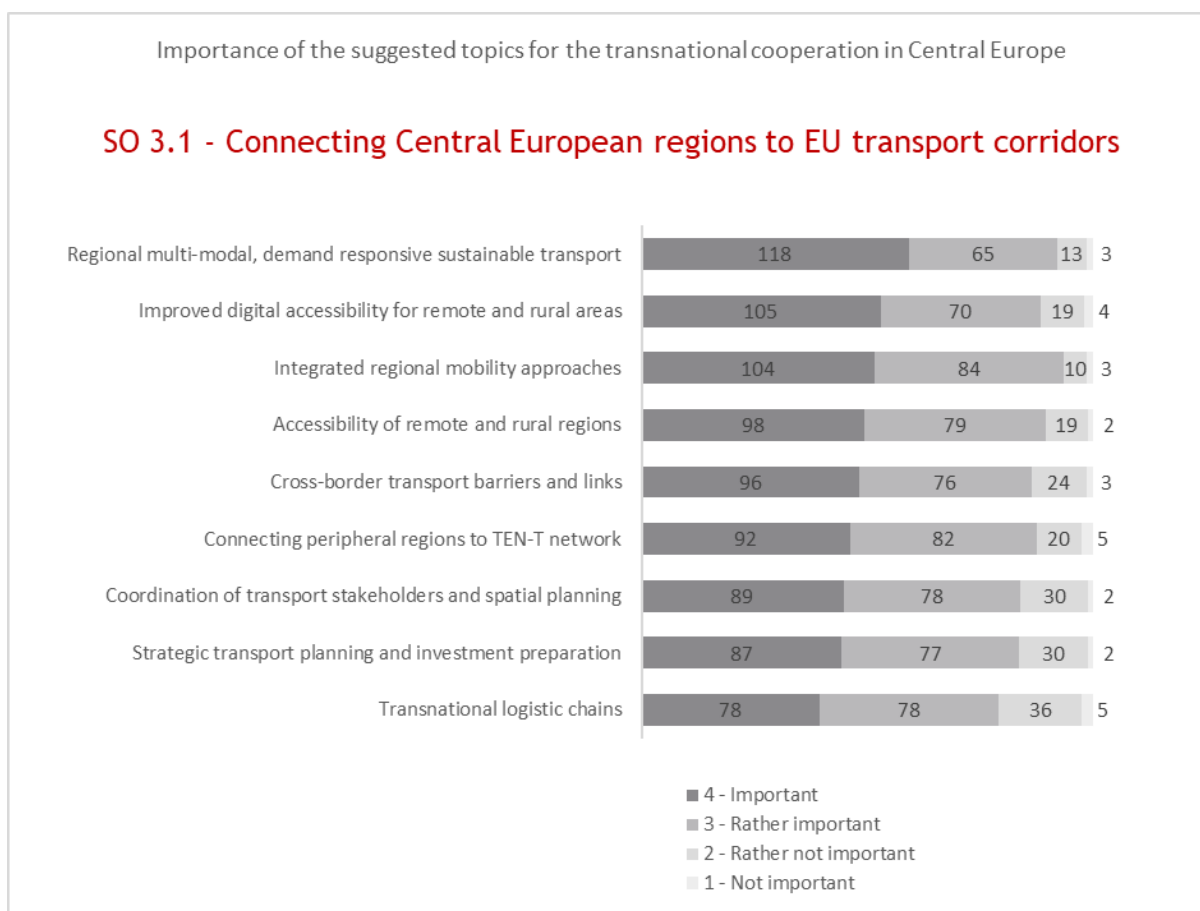
Thematic compliance between proposed survey topics and confirmation through partner dialogues (survey response and NPDs)	good	medium	low
More detailed explanation to the above, if necessary	<p>The overall compliance and consistency between the needs expressed in the territorial analysis and the thematic preferences of the stakeholders is good.</p> <p>All topics offered in the transnational survey were rated either important or rather important by a very high majority of the survey participants.</p> <p>The National Partner Dialogues sustained the relevance of the topics offered and deepened the interpretation or further detailed certain aspects through action proposals.</p>		
General aspects and remarks for further consideration in IP development	<p>The general topic of managing commuters and rethinking commuting was considered very relevant and was highlighted multiple times. A relevant aspect in this context is the strong connection of this topic to further sectors such as IT-based technologies, but also city planning.</p>		
Further specific aspects with regards to additional or more specific topics	<p>A wide range of additional aspects were proposed that could be considered under the specific objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The use of hydrogen - Zero-emission urban transport - Noise reduced ways of transport - Concept of “Mobility-as-a-service” - Concepts of financial incentives for green urban mobility solutions - Concepts for influencing behavioural change of urban mobility - Affordable commuting 		

Points of attention: Feedback from EGTCs and MRSs

How did the EGTCs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions?	<table><tr><td>Very high</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>High</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Moderate</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Low</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>2</td></tr></table> <p>Number of “no answer”: 0</p>	Very high	<div><div></div></div>	2	High	<div><div></div></div>	1	Moderate	<div><div></div></div>	1	Low	<div><div></div></div>	2																		
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Low	<div><div></div></div>	2																													
Interpretation / Comment to rating	<p>This ranking shows the most diverse distribution of feedback, although the reasons are quite self-explanatory. The EGTCs “European Campus” as well as the “Cities of Ceramics” had rated the importance of this SO “low” regarding their EGTC specific activities, but this is explainable through the thematic focus of those two EGTCs. On the other hand, ratings of regional EGTCs (Tatra Region and “GO”/SI-IT) do emphasise the relevance of this SO for the implementation of their EGTC specific actions.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Central European Transport Corridor Limited Liability EGTC has a specific profile and the SOs 3.1 and 3.2 (initially SO2.5) are at the core of its activities and therefore of highest importance.</p>																														
Concrete proposals made by specific EGTCs	Especially the Italian-Slovenian EGTC “GO” underlined the potential for tourism that comes with an improvement and a digitalisation of urban mobility.																														
How did the MRSs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions?	<p>SO 2.5/3.2</p> <table><thead><tr><th>MRS</th><th>no response</th><th>Low</th><th>Moderate</th><th>High</th><th>Very high</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>EUSDR</td><td>0</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>EUSBSR</td><td>3</td><td>0</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>EUSALP</td><td>0</td><td>2</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>EUSAIR</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table>	MRS	no response	Low	Moderate	High	Very high	EUSDR	0	2	3	4	3	EUSBSR	3	0	3	2	0	EUSALP	0	2	0	0	0	EUSAIR	0	1	0	1	0
MRS	no response	Low	Moderate	High	Very high																										
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EUSALP	0	2	0	0	0																										
EUSAIR	0	1	0	1	0																										
Interpretation / Comment to rating	This SO is rated by 71% of “high” or “very high” importance for implementing the MRS specific actions.																														
Concrete Proposals made by specific MRS	Specifically mentioned were the topic of hydrogen-fuelled mobility as well as the sustainable multi-modal mobility for the entire functional area, based on commuter patterns.																														

SO 3.1: Connecting central European regions to EU transport corridors (IPv1: Improving transport connections of rural and peripheral regions in central Europe):

Ranking of topics according to the survey



Results of the transnational survey _ Ranking of topics by importance

Additional topics received (survey) - WordCloud



Selection of 10 representative actions proposed by survey and national partner dialogues

Connection and integration of isolated and scattered public transport services
Sustainable, climate-friendly and smart complementary developments concepts and plans related to the CEF programme
Coordinated removal of cross-border transport barriers and combination of multiple border crossings in a transnational context
Development of intelligent/smart transport systems, including multimodal terminals (hubs), their development and modernization of freight transport
Integrated solutions to connect peripheral areas and to seize socio-economic benefits
Assess, define and exploit relations between TEN-T axes and local nodes (considering e.g. ITC, environmental issues) to ensure that infrastructure nodes are intertwined with the urban nodes
Coordinated improvement of secondary transport networks in a wider transnational context
Improve navigation and traffic management to make better use of the existing infrastructure (e.g. improve the availability of fairways in a transnationally coordinated way)
Reaching more strategic solutions in favour of the use of railway freight transport
Assessing and seizing socio-economic potentials for secondary ports as drivers of development

Summary of input received in survey and national partner dialogues

Thematic compliance between proposed survey topics and confirmation through partner dialogues (survey response and NPD)	good	medium	low
More detailed explanation to the above, if necessary	<p>The overall compliance and consistency between the needs expressed in the territorial analysis and the thematic preferences of the stakeholders is good.</p> <p>All topics offered in the transnational survey were rated either important or rather important by a very high majority of the survey participants.</p> <p>The National Partner Dialogues sustained the relevance of the topics offered and deepened the interpretation or further detailed certain aspects through action proposals.</p>		
General aspects and remarks for further consideration in IP development	<p>No substantial differences of ranking could be diagnosed between the topics offered in the survey. The positioning of the SO with regards to the investment-heavy aspects of further realisation and implementation is calling for a particularly close coordination with other funding instruments. In this regard, the programme could e.g. support the preparation and development of sustainable transport investment plans.</p>		
Further specific aspects with regards to additional or more specific topics	<p>A wide range of additional aspects were proposed that could be considered under the specific objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relevance of rural and remote areas - Relevance of ports - Cross-border transport - Planning of the last mile - Digitalisation and data management of logistic chains and transport hubs 		

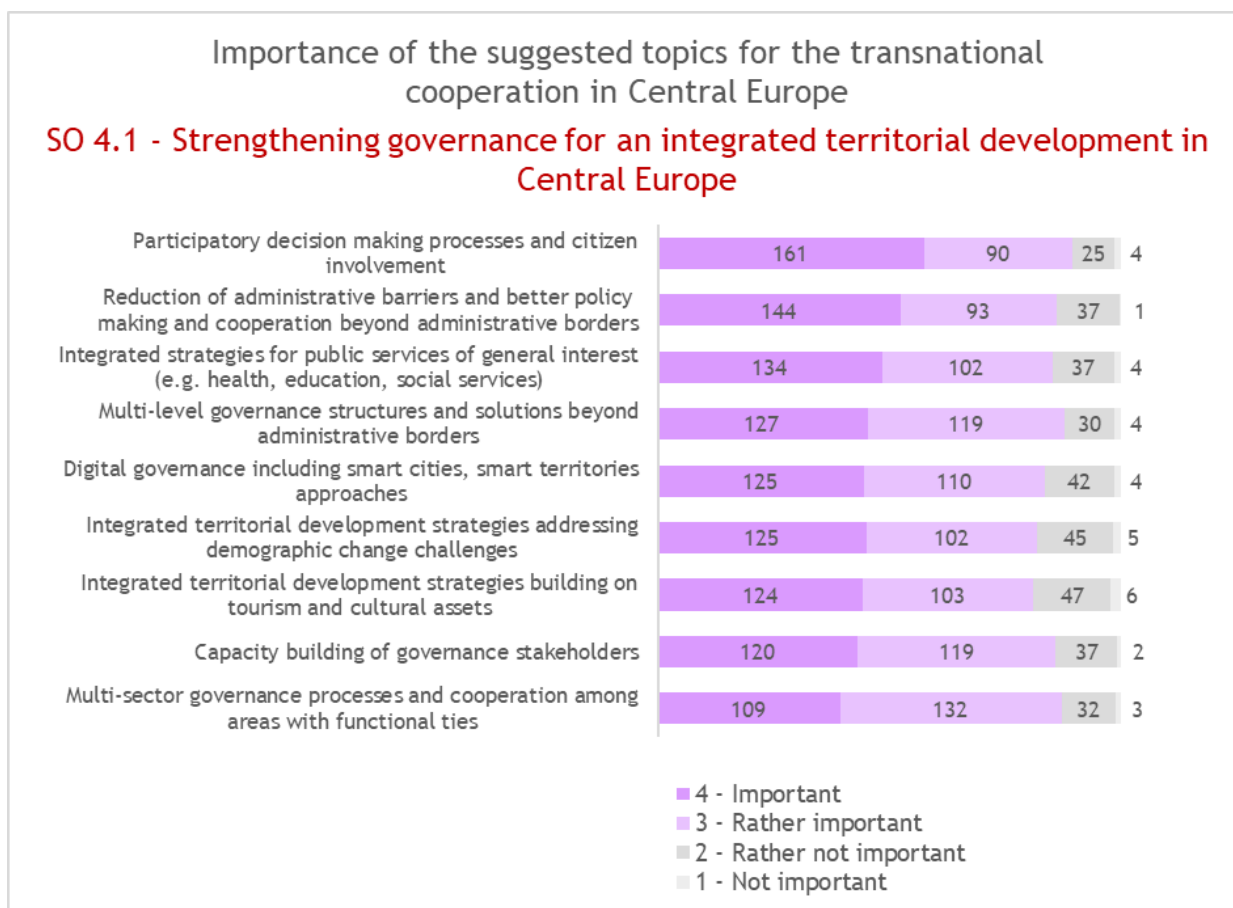
Points of attention: Feedback from EGTCs and MRSs

How did the EGTCs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions?	<table><tr><td>Very high</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>High</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Moderate</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Low</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>2</td></tr></table> <p>Number of “no answer”: 0</p>	Very high	<div><div></div></div>	2	High	<div><div></div></div>	2	Moderate	<div><div></div></div>	0	Low	<div><div></div></div>	2
Very high	<div><div></div></div>	2											
High	<div><div></div></div>	2											
Moderate	<div><div></div></div>	0											
Low	<div><div></div></div>	2											
Interpretation / Comment to rating	<p>This SO has received very high ratings in terms of importance from EGTCs that are connected to transport and mobility: The EGTCs “Central European Transport Corridor”, “ETGC GO” as well as the Tatra Region ETGC (more detailed explanations in the next box).</p> <p>Furthermore, the EGTC “European campus” has rated this SO of “low” importance for its actions, presumably due to a lack of topical closeness as well as the geographical position both outside and inside of the central European programme area.</p>												
Concrete proposals made by specific EGTCs	<p>The specific and differentiated proposals were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Tatra Region EGTC highlighted the relevance of “Involving those who live in rural or peripheral regions in central Europe” being a main key to economic development.- Furthermore, the geographically small and cross-border-oriented EGTC underlines the relevance of all forms of connectivity (cross-border, urban interconnectivity” as relevant, thereby emphasising the tourism aspects in the region.												
How did the MRSs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions?	<div><div>SO 3.1</div><div><div><div>EUSDR</div><div><div>1</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>1</div><div>3</div></div></div><div><div>EUSBSR</div><div><div>3</div><div>1</div><div>3</div><div>1</div><div></div></div></div><div><div>EUSALP</div><div><div></div><div>2</div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div><div><div>EUSAIR</div><div><div>1</div><div>1</div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div></div><div><div>no response</div><div>Low</div><div>Moderate</div><div>High</div><div>Very high</div></div></div>												

Interpretation / Comment to rating	The rankings showed a high or very high relevance of the SO for 55% of the participants. Even though this percentage is slightly lower than for other SOs, the very positive feedback comes from representatives of all four MRS. Four survey participants (most of them from EUSBR) did not rate this SO, due to their different thematic background.
Concrete proposals made by specific MRS	It was underlined to that the programme should aim at counteracting negative effects of regional development. For example, the programme should make sure that effects of regional development of e.g. increasing urbanisation should not negatively impact the connected periphery.

SO 4.1: Strengthening governance for integrated territorial development in central Europe

Ranking of topics according to the survey



Results of the transnational survey _ Ranking of topics by importance

Improving the impact of transnational policy networks such as the Carpathian Convention or the ICPDR as instruments for coordinated governance processes and for regional and local policy making

Summary of input received in survey and national partner dialogues

Thematic compliance between proposed survey topics and confirmation through partner dialogues (survey response and NPDs)	good	medium	low
More detailed explanation to the above, if necessary	<p>Although the SO allows a wider range of topics to be covered, the overall compliance and consistency between the needs expressed in the territorial analysis and the thematic preferences of the stakeholders is good.</p> <p>All topics offered in the transnational survey were rated either important or rather important by a very high majority of the survey participants.</p> <p>The National Partner Dialogues sustained the relevance of the topics offered and deepened the interpretation or further detailed certain aspects through action proposals.</p>		
General aspects and remarks for further consideration in IP development	<p>A wide range of contextual frames were proposed: multinational policy networks, forms or organisation (e.g. EGTC), thematic governance issues such as for disaster response or health issues as well as procedural aspects such as methodologies of participation.</p> <p>It needs to be emphasised that the SO should address actions focusing on multi-sectoral, territorial and integrated governance aspects</p>		
Further specific aspects with regards to additional or more specific topics	<p>A wide range of additional aspects were proposed that could be considered under the specific objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thematic areas: Demography, health, urban (and urban-rural) issues, tourism & culture - Improvement of organisational governance frameworks: EGTCs, management of FUAs - Organisational aspects: cross-border cooperation, complex planning issues, participative procedures, un-bureaucratic and informal ways of cooperation for relevant issues, such as participatory governance of e.g. of small villages - Cooperation with and within large political networks: e.g. Carpathian Convention, ICPDR, Alpine Convention. 		

Points of attention: Feedback from EGTCs and MRSs

How did the EGTCs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions?	<table><tr><td>Very high</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>High</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Moderate</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Low</td><td><div><div></div></div></td><td>2</td></tr></table> <p>Number of “no answer”: 0</p>	Very high	<div><div></div></div>	2	High	<div><div></div></div>	1	Moderate	<div><div></div></div>	1	Low	<div><div></div></div>	2																		
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High	<div><div></div></div>	1																													
Moderate	<div><div></div></div>	1																													
Low	<div><div></div></div>	2																													
Interpretation / Comment to rating	The relevance of this SO for implementing activities envisaged by EGTCs covered a wide range from “very high” to “low” importance.																														
Concrete Proposals made by specific EGTCs	<p>The Slovenian-Italian EGTC “GO” underlined the set-up of common interregional services and the joint valorisation of cultural infrastructure.</p> <p>The EGTC “Cities of ceramics” highlighted the skill transfer to both SME and Public administration for the craft sector.</p>																														
How did the MRSs rate the importance of the SO to implement specific actions?	<p>SO 4.1</p> <table><thead><tr><th>MRS</th><th>no response</th><th>Low</th><th>Moderate</th><th>High</th><th>Very high</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>EUSDR</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>3</td><td>6</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>EUSBSR</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>EUSALP</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>EUSAIR</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table>	MRS	no response	Low	Moderate	High	Very high	EUSDR	0	0	3	6	3	EUSBSR	3	1	3	1	0	EUSALP	0	1	1	0	0	EUSAIR	0	1	1	0	0
MRS	no response	Low	Moderate	High	Very high																										
EUSDR	0	0	3	6	3																										
EUSBSR	3	1	3	1	0																										
EUSALP	0	1	1	0	0																										
EUSAIR	0	1	1	0	0																										
Interpretation / Comment to rating	The SO received a ranking that expressed importance for implementing MRS specific actions (76%).																														
Concrete proposals made by specific MRS	It was emphasised to also support the MRSs themselves, either through interesting project ideas or the support of the governance of the EUSALP itself.																														

Coordination and synergies with partially overlapping and neighbouring transnational Interreg programmes and Interreg Europe

Focus group meeting with partially overlapping transnational Interreg programmes and Interreg Europe

An online focus group was organised and all partially overlapping transnational Interreg programmes as well as Interreg Europe were invited. The meeting was held on 21 October 2020 and representatives of the following programmes participated:

- Alpine Space Programme
- Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme
- Danube Transnational Programme
- Interreg MED Programme
- Interreg North-West Europe Programme
- Interreg North Sea Region Programme
- Interreg Europe

The focus group focused on the following main three objectives:

- Exchange of information on the state of play of programming
- Inform neighbouring transnational programmes and Interreg Europe on the draft Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE programme strategy and intervention logic
- Identify potentials for synergies between programmes

As a preparatory activity, a general overview table was compiled, depicting the choice of Policy Objectives and ERDF specific objectives of the respective programmes. The first phase of the workshop was dedicated to the joint update of the state-of-play with regards to the thematic choices as well as the challenges encountered and the time line for the IP preparation.

This involvement activity revealed that the main areas of common interest belong to ERDF PO1, PO2 and ISO1. Most programmes will be thematically concentrated on these. For each of these POs and ISO1 a more in depth discussion took place, focusing on potential synergies and complementarities. The results were summarised in real time and the main conclusions are shown in the following table:

Policy Objective	Key issues discussed
General remarks applicable to all POs	Generally spoken, thematic discussion and exchange between programmes during programming and especially during implementation are considered helpful and crucial for the identification of synergies and complementarities.

	Some exchange targeted the degree of focus of the SOs. One approach is to develop the IP as a thematic framework and to then further focus the calls (e.g. specific topics, territory types etc.).
PO1	<p>PO1 activities aim in several programmes at supporting the innovation process towards a greener society.</p> <p>It was considered relevant to establish a link between PO1 and the SO on circular economy in PO2.</p> <p>The development of skills within PO1 is foreseen in several programmes, but each programme area faces specific territorial challenges to be addressed due to its own geography.</p> <p>Some thematic fields (tourism, culture, digitisation) are subject to options of either being addressed in PO1 or horizontally.</p>
PO2	<p>PO2 is considered the backbone and main focus of most programmes, concerning the thematic foci as well as the planned fund allocation. PO2 bears a good potential for synergies between the programmes.</p> <p>Many topics were commonly addressed, e.g. energy transition, renewables, climate change adaptation, biodiversity and water management.</p> <p>The objective of a societal and economic transition towards a circular economy was considered either as a specific SO or integrated into other SOs, but generally relevant for all programmes.</p> <p>In a comparison, territories and target groups to be addressed will make the difference between the programmes.</p>
ISO1	<p>ISO 1 is still under development and further fine-tuning is needed for many of the programmes. The development foci cover a wide range of options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordination of programmes - Capitalisation platforms - Thematic communities and networks - Support of a better policy uptake and mainstreaming - Strengthening of multilevel governance - MRS governance support and enhancement of the capacities of MRS stakeholders.

Overall, the following could be concluded from the exchange:

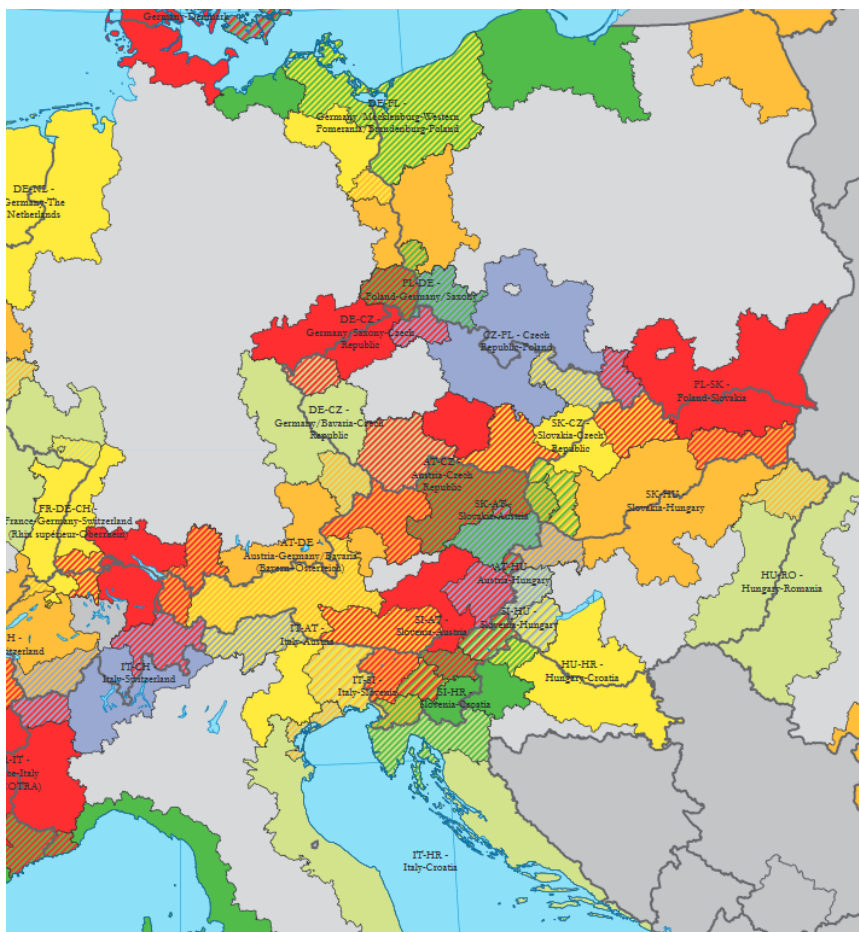
- Territorially based approaches, focusing on peculiarities and needs of the various areas addressed, represent the backbone for complementarity.
- A further exchange - especially between “thematic” JS staffs - is welcomed, also in view of having a common understanding of types of actions.

- The sharing of ideas on cross-cutting topics (e.g. digitalisation, social dimension, tourism) is considered promising.

Interreg CE will further pursue exchange and further reflect on how to integrate results into the programme in order to strengthen synergies.

Exchange on potentials for cooperation and synergies with partially overlapping cross-border Interreg programmes

The following picture⁴ shows that the geographic area of the Interreg CE Programme covers 18 partially or fully overlapping cross-border programmes:



Exchanges with CBC programmes took place in the framework of the Interact conference on “Cooperation and Synergies in Central and South Eastern Europe”⁵ on 3-4 November 2020. The event was dedicated to discussions on possible cooperation between programmes in central and south-eastern Europe, including contributions to the macro-regional strategies.

Interreg CE contributed to the conference with a testimonial on the programme approach to synergies and coordination, also presenting experiences made in the current funding period 2014-2020.

A wide variety of insights could be collected, the most interesting ones being the following:

⁴ More information at: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/graph/poster2014/cbc/eu28_cbc_2014_2020.pdf

⁵ <http://www.interact-eu.net/events/cooperation-and-synergies-central-and-south-eastern-europe-area>

- Trustful, personal, effective and efficient cooperation routines are a success factor
- The most relevant starting point is the reflection of the common territory and therefore also common needs.

The two days of exchange revealed, that it is promising to further explore options for cooperation in order to increase territorial impact. It was agreed to further pursue networking opportunities and to focus on concrete exploitation of synergies.

ANNEX 1 - Survey questionnaire



Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE 2021-27: Partner Involvement Survey

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE has supported transnational cooperation in central Europe for more than 20 years.

Our funding helps regions and cities to become stronger and more resilient without reinventing the wheel. We are building trust beyond borders and connect people in the fields of [innovation](#), [low carbon](#), [natural and cultural heritage](#) as well as [transport and mobility](#).

Now the time has come to take our successful transnational cooperation forward, together with you! In May 2020, representatives from all programme countries agreed on a set of preliminary programme priorities and specific objectives that are deemed most relevant for transnational cooperation in central Europe.

With this survey we invite stakeholders from the European, national, regional and local levels to provide us with feedback and inputs on our draft programme strategy. We want to collect inputs and ideas for future transnational actions and target groups from experts on the ground.

Before filling in the survey, we recommend to read the attached summary of the draft programme strategy and to watch the short presentation video. We expect that filling in the survey will take about 10-15 minutes.

For more information on your possible involvement in the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE programming process, please refer also to our website at www.interreg-central.eu/CE21-27.

>> Watch introductory video

(8 minutes)

>> Download

Summary of Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE 2021-27 Draft Programme Strategy

[Summary.pdf](#)

>> Download

Presentation from the introductory video

[Presentation.pdf](#)

Personal information

*** Which country are you from?**

- ☐ Austria
- ☐ Croatia
- ☐ Czechia
- ☐ Germany
- ☐ Hungary
- ☐ Italy
- ☐ Poland
- ☐ Slovakia
- ☐ Slovenia
- ☐ Other

*** Please specify:**

*** Which type of organisation do you represent?**

- ☐ Local/regional public institution
- ☐ National public institution
- ☐ Sectoral agency
- ☐ Infrastructure and (public) service provider
- ☐ Interest group including NGO
- ☐ Higher education and research institution
- ☐ Education/training centre or school
- ☐ Large enterprise
- ☐ Small and medium enterprise (SME)
- ☐ Business support organisation
- ☐ European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation (EGTC)
- ☐ International organisation or European Economic Interest Grouping (EEIG)
- ☐ Other

*** Please specify:**

*** Have you been previously involved in Interreg projects? (Multiple choice possible)**

- ☐ CENTRAL EUROPE projects approved in the 2007-2013 period
- ☐ Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE projects approved in the 2014-2020 period
- ☐ Projects of other Interreg programmes
- ☐ No

*** Are you considering applying for funding in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme?**

- ☐ Yes

- ☐ No
☐ Maybe

Priority 1: A smarter central Europe through cooperation

* Specific Objective 1.1

Strengthening innovation capacities in central Europe

Please rate the level of your expertise in this specific field

If you choose "high" or "rather high" you will be asked to rate the importance of topics relevant for this field

- ☐ High
☐ Rather high
☐ Rather low
☐ Low
☐ None

Suggested Topics

Please rate the importance of these topics for transnational cooperation in central Europe

	1 - Not important	2 - Rather not important	3 - Rather important	4 - Important
Interregional partnerships along value chains	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Smart specialisation strategies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Industry 4.0, robotisation, mechatronics, digital technologies (including IoT, AI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Key Enabling Technologies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Technology transfer to SMEs and improved access to transnational networks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cross-sector cooperation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New schemes to finance innovation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Close to market solutions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Green economy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Silver economy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cultural and creative industries	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are any additional topics relevant for transnational cooperation in this specific objective? If yes, please list them below (Optional)

250 character(s) maximum

Which transnational actions do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

500 character(s) maximum

Which target groups do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

Priority 1: A smarter central Europe through cooperation

* Specific Objective 1.2

Developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship in central Europe

Please rate the level of your expertise in this specific field

If you choose "high" or "rather high" you will be asked to rate the importance of topics relevant for this field

- ☐ High
- ☐ Rather high
- ☐ Rather low
- ☐ Low
- ☐ None

Suggested Topics

Please rate the importance of these topics for transnational cooperation in central Europe

	1 - Not important	2 - Rather not important	3 - Rather important	4 - Important
Capacity-building and institutional learning (including vocational training, lifelong learning etc.) for smart specialisation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Skills development and adaptation to Industry 4.0 and digitalisation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Skills for green economy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Matching skills to labour market needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Skills development for entrepreneurship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Creative economy and entrepreneurship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Counterbalancing job loss due to automation and digitisation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Capacities for social innovation and social enterprises, silver economy and healthcare	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Demographic change, brain-drain, ageing society, regional (urban-rural) disparities of human capital	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Migration and social integration	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Capacity building for sustainable tourism	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are any additional topics relevant for transnational cooperation in this specific objective? If yes, please list them below *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

Which transnational actions do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

500 character(s) maximum

Which target groups do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

Priority 2: A greener central Europe through cooperation

* Specific Objective 2.1

Supporting the transition to a climate neutral central Europe

Please rate the level of your expertise in this specific field

If you choose "high" or "rather high" you will be asked to rate the importance of topics relevant for this field

- ☐ High
- ☐ Rather high
- ☐ Rather low
- ☐ Low
- ☐ None

Suggested Topics

Please rate the importance of these topics for transnational cooperation in central Europe

	1 - Not important	2 - Rather not important	3 - Rather important	4 - Important
Improved energy efficiency of buildings and public infrastructures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from industrial production processes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Renewable energy production and usage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Financing schemes for energy efficiency and renewable energy investments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Alleviating energy poverty	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Climate neutral energy planning at local /regional level	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improved energy and demand side management and behavioural change	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Smart integration of low-carbon solutions across sectors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are any additional topics relevant for transnational cooperation in this specific objective? If yes, please list them below *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

Which transnational actions do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

500 character(s) maximum

Which target groups do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

Priority 2: A greener central Europe through cooperation

* Specific Objective 2.2

Increasing the resilience to climate change in central Europe

Please rate the level of your expertise in this specific field

If you choose "high" or "rather high" you will be asked to rate the importance of topics relevant for this field

- ☐ High
- ☐ Rather high
- ☐ Rather low
- ☐ Low
- ☐ None

Suggested Topics

Please rate the importance of these topics for transnational cooperation in central Europe

	1 - Not important	2 - Rather not important	3 - Rather important	4 - Important
Risk awareness, risk prevention and risk management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Climate change adaptation measures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Natural hazards and disaster prevention and resilience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Draughts and water scarcity, wildfires	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Extreme rainfall events and floods, landslides	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Weather (including heat) extremes and health implications	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Climate-proof landscape and urban planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Socio-economic impacts of climate change	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are any additional topics relevant for transnational cooperation in this specific objective? If yes, please list them below *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

Which transnational actions do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

500 character(s) maximum

Which target groups do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

Priority 2: A greener central Europe through cooperation

* Specific Objective 2.3

Taking circular economy forward in central Europe

Please rate the level of your expertise in this specific field

If you choose "high" or "rather high" you will be asked to rate the importance of topics relevant for this field

- ☐ High
- ☐ Rather high
- ☐ Rather low
- ☐ Low
- ☐ None

Suggested Topics

Please rate the importance of these topics for transnational cooperation in central Europe

	1 - Not important	2 - Rather not important	3 - Rather important	4 - Important
Circular economy value chains	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clean production processes and closed loop systems (energy, materials, water)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water-energy-food nexus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sustainable products and eco-design	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Repair and re-use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Waste management and recycling, recovery of raw materials, zero-waste approaches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Urban mining	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water reuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are any additional topics relevant for transnational cooperation in this specific objective? If yes, please list them below *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

Which transnational actions do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

500 character(s) maximum

Which target groups do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

Priority 2: A greener central Europe through cooperation

* Specific Objective 2.4

Safeguarding the environment in central Europe

Please rate the level of your expertise in this specific field

If you choose "high" or "rather high" you will be asked to rate the importance of topics relevant for this field

- ☐ High
- ☐ Rather high
- ☐ Rather low
- ☐ Low
- ☐ None

Suggested Topics

Please rate the importance of these topics for transnational cooperation in central Europe

	1 - Not important	2 - Rather not important	3 - Rather important	4 - Important
Natural heritage, protected areas and habitats, Natura 2000 areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Loss of biodiversity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Green and blue infrastructures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Variety of landscapes and multi-national initiatives (e.g. European Green Belt, Carpathian Convention)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ecosystem services (including forests)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sustainable land management and landscape planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Urban sprawl, soil sealing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Air, water, soil and noise pollution	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Integrated water management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Brownfield rehabilitation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sustainable tourism and use of natural resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are any additional topics relevant for transnational cooperation in this specific objective? If yes, please list them below (Optional)

250 character(s) maximum

Which transnational actions do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? (Optional)

500 character(s) maximum

Which target groups do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

Priority 2: A greener central Europe through cooperation

* Specific Objective 2.5

Greening urban mobility in central Europe

Please rate the level of your expertise in this specific field

If you choose "high" or "rather high" you will be asked to rate the importance of topics relevant for this field

- ☐ High
- ☐ Rather high
- ☐ Rather low
- ☐ Low
- ☐ None

Suggested Topics

Please rate the importance of these topics for transnational cooperation in central Europe

	1 - Not important	2 - Rather not important	3 - Rather important	4 - Important
Sustainable urban mobility planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Smart mobility and commuting solutions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Multimodal mobility in functional urban areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improved connections between urban and peri-urban areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Smart traffic and mobility management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Smart and sustainable urban freight and logistic solutions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Greening of last mile	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quality and efficiency of public transport services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Accessibility for elderly and disabled people	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reducing traffic congestion as well as greenhouse gas and pollutant emissions in functional urban areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are any additional topics relevant for transnational cooperation in this specific objective? If yes, please list them below (Optional)

250 character(s) maximum

Which transnational actions do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? (Optional)

500 character(s) maximum

Which target groups do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? (Optional)

250 character(s) maximum

Priority 3: A more connected Europe through cooperation

*** Specific Objective 3.1 (decision pending)**

Connecting central European regions to EU transport corridors

Please rate the level of your expertise in this specific field

If you choose "high" or "rather high" you will be asked to rate the importance of topics relevant for this field

- ☐ High
- ☐ Rather high
- ☐ Rather low
- ☐ Low
- ☐ None

Suggested Topics

Please rate the importance of these topics for transnational cooperation in central Europe

	1 - Not important	2 - Rather not important	3 - Rather important	4 - Important
Connecting peripheral regions to TEN-T network	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Accessibility of remote and rural regions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regional multi-modal, demand responsive sustainable transport	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Integrated regional mobility approaches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Strategic transport planning and investment preparation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Coordination of transport stakeholders and spatial planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Cross-border transport barriers and links	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transnational logistic chains	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improved digital accessibility for remote and rural areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are any additional topics relevant for transnational cooperation in this specific objective? If yes, please list them below *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

Which transnational actions do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

500 character(s) maximum

Which target groups do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

Priority 4: A better governance for cooperation in central Europe

* Specific Objective 4.1

Strengthening governance for an integrated territorial development in central Europe

Please rate the level of your expertise in this specific field

If you choose "high" or "rather high" you will be asked to rate the importance of topics relevant for this field

- ☐ High
- ☐ Rather high
- ☐ Rather low
- ☐ Low
- ☐ None

Suggested Topics

Please rate the importance of these topics for transnational cooperation in central Europe

	1 - Not important	2 - Rather not important	3 - Rather important	4 - Important
Multi-level governance structures and solutions beyond administrative borders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Multi-sector governance processes and cooperation among areas with functional ties	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Capacity building of governance stakeholders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Integrated territorial development strategies addressing demographic change challenges	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Integrated territorial development strategies building on tourism and cultural assets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Integrated strategies for public services of general interest (e.g. health, education, social services)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Digital governance including smart cities, smart territories approaches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reduction of administrative barriers and better policy making and cooperation beyond administrative borders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participatory decision making processes and citizen involvement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are any additional topics relevant for transnational cooperation in this specific objective? If yes, please list them below *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

Which transnational actions do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

500 character(s) maximum

Which target groups do you consider most relevant in this specific objective? *(Optional)*

250 character(s) maximum

ANNEX 2 - Formats and dates of NPDs

Country	Format	Date
Austria	Online event	22 June 2020
Croatia	Direct mails	August 2020
Czech Republic	Online event + direct mails	29 June 2020
Germany	4 online events	During July 2020
Hungary	Direct mails	June-July 2020
Italy	2 online events	30 June and 2 July 2020
Poland	Online event	30 June 2020
Slovakia	Online event	8 July 2020
Slovenia	Direct mails	June-July 2020

ANNEX 3 - Questionnaire EGTC survey



Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE 2021-27: Involvement of EGTC actors

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation (EGTCs) are key stakeholders for transnational cooperation in central Europe. In line with requirements set out in the regulatory framework for EU cohesion policy 2021-27, we therefore seek concrete inputs specifically from your organisation to further fine-tune the draft intervention logic for the new Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme.

With this survey we provide you with an opportunity to comment on and further inspire our future funding. We are looking forward to hearing from you about additional transnational actions that you deem important in the frame of our latest [draft strategic framework](#).

PLEASE FILL IN THIS SURVEY BEFORE 12 OCTOBER 2020 (EOB).

- * Please indicate which EGTC you are involved with:

- * Please indicate in which country your EGTC is established:

- ☐ Austria
- ☐ Croatia
- ☐ Czech Republic
- ☐ Germany
- ☐ Hungary
- ☐ Italy
- ☐ Poland
- ☐ Slovakia
- ☐ Slovenia
- ☐ Other

- * Please specify below:

Specific objectives

Please rate the importance of the following [specific objectives of Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE 2021-27](#) for implementing actions planned in your EGTC:

Specific objective 1.1

Strengthening innovation capacities in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any strategically important (field of) action should be addressed at the transnational level in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme to support actions planned in your EGTC and explain why:

500 character(s) maximum

Specific objective 1.2

Developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any strategically important (field of) action should be addressed at the transnational level in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme to support actions planned in your EGTC and explain why:

500 character(s) maximum

Specific objective 2.1

Supporting the energy transition to a climate-neutral central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any strategically important (field of) action should be addressed at the transnational level in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme to support actions planned in your EGTC and explain why:

500 character(s) maximum

Specific objective 2.2

Increasing the resilience to climate change in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any strategically important (field of) action should be addressed at the transnational level in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme to support actions planned in your EGTC and explain why:

500 character(s) maximum

Specific objective 2.3

Taking circular economy forward in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any strategically important (field of) action should be addressed at the transnational level in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme to support actions planned in your EGTC and explain why:

500 character(s) maximum

Specific objective 2.4

Safeguarding the environment in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any strategically important (field of) action should be addressed at the transnational level in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme to support actions planned in your EGTC and explain why:

SDG objective(s)/ maximum

Specific objective 3.1

Improving transport connections of rural and peripheral regions in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any strategically important (field of) action should be addressed at the transnational level in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme to support actions planned in your EGTC and explain why:

SDG objective(s)/ maximum

Specific objective 3.2

Greening urban mobility in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any strategically important (field of) action should be addressed at the transnational level in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme to support actions planned in your EGTC and explain why:

SDG objective(s)/ maximum

Specific objective 4.1

Strengthening governance for integrated territorial development in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

4

Please indicate whether any strategically important (field of) action should be addressed at the transnational level in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme to support actions planned in your EGTC and explain why:

SDG objective(s)/ maximum

ANNEX 4 - Questionnaire MRS survey



Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE 2021-27: Involvement of the EU macro-regional strategies actors

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

The programme area of Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE geographically overlaps in large parts with territories of all four existing EU macro-regional strategies. For more than 20 years, our programme has offered financing and support for transnational cooperation on common challenges and needs in central Europe. Nearly all of our projects already contribute to realising cooperation actions that are prioritised by the EU macro-regional strategies.

Now, we want to take the fruitful coordination between our transnational programme and EU macro-regional strategies forward into the new programming period. In line with requirements set out in the regulatory framework for EU cohesion policy 2021-27, we are seeking concrete inputs specifically from thematic experts in macro-regional strategies to further fine-tune our draft programme intervention logic for the new programme.

With this survey we provide you with an opportunity to comment on and further inspire our future funding. We are looking forward to hearing from you about additional transnational actions that you deem important in the frame of our latest [draft strategic framework](#).

PLEASE FILL IN THIS SURVEY BEFORE 12 OCTOBER 2020 (EOB).

* Please indicate which macro-regional strategy you are involved with: *(multiple choice)*

- ☐ EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR)
- ☐ EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP)
- ☐ EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBR)
- ☐ EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)

* Please indicate your role in this macro-regional strategy:

- ☐ Strategy coordinator (e.g. PAC, HAC, etc.)
- ☐ National coordinator
- ☐ Other

* Please specify below:

• Please indicate your field of expertise: *(multiple choice)*

- ☐ Innovation
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Energy and climate change
- ☐ Transport
- ☐ Urban and spatial planning
- ☐ Other

• Please specify below:

Specific objectives

Please rate the importance of the following [specific objectives of Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE 2021-27](#) for implementing actions planned in your macro-regional strategy:

Specific objective 1.1

Strengthening innovation capacities in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any **additional** (field of) action from your macro-regional strategy's action plan should be addressed in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme and explain why.

(please include a reference to the specific objective and action in the MRS action plan):

500 character(s) maximum

Specific objective 1.2

Developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any **additional** (field of) action from your macro-regional strategy's action plan should be addressed in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme and explain why.

(please include a reference to the specific objective and action in the MRS action plan):

500 character(s) maximum

Specific objective 2.1

Supporting the energy transition to a climate-neutral central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any **additional** (field of) action from your macro-regional strategy's action plan should be addressed in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme and explain why.

(please include a reference to the specific objective and action in the MRS action plan):

500 character(s) maximum

Specific objective 2.2

Increasing the resilience to climate change in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any **additional** (field of) action from your macro-regional strategy's action plan should be addressed in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme and explain why.

(please include a reference to the specific objective and action in the MRS action plan):

500 character(s) maximum

Specific objective 2.3

Taking circular economy forward in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any **additional** (field of) action from your macro-regional strategy's action plan should be addressed in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme and explain why.

(please include a reference to the specific objective and action in the MRS action plan):

500 character(s) maximum

Specific objective 2.4

Safeguarding the environment in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any **additional** (field of) action from your macro-regional strategy's action plan should be addressed in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme and explain why.

(please include a reference to the specific objective and action in the MRS action plan):

500 character(s) maximum

Specific objective 3.1

Improving transport connections of rural and peripheral regions in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any **additional** (field of) action from your macro-regional strategy's action plan should be addressed in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme and explain why.

(please include a reference to the specific objective and action in the MRS action plan):

500 character(s) maximum

Specific objective 3.2

Greening urban mobility in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any **additional** (field of) action from your macro-regional strategy's action plan should be addressed in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme and explain why.

(please include a reference to the specific objective and action in the MRS action plan):

500 character(s) maximum

Specific objective 4.1

Strengthening governance for integrated territorial development in central Europe

- ☐ Very high
- ☐ High
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Low

Please indicate whether any **additional** (field of) action from your macro-regional strategy's action plan should be addressed in the future Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Programme and explain why.

(please include a reference to the specific objective and action in the MRS action plan):

500 character(s) maximum

ANNEX 5 - Agenda of the focus group meeting with transnational Interreg programmes and Interreg Europe

TIME	ITEM
9:30	<p>Welcome and meeting objectives</p> <p>This meeting is organised by the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE MA and JS in the context of partner dialogues in compliance with Article 6 of the draft CPR and Article 17(4)(h) of the draft Interreg Regulation. Main objectives of the meeting are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exchange information on the state of play of programming ▪ Inform neighbouring transnational programmes and Interreg Europe on the draft Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE programme strategy and intervention logic ▪ Identify potentials for synergies between programmes
9:40	<p>State of play of programming</p> <p>In a tour de table, participants will inform about their programmes’:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State of play of the programming process and current challenges ▪ Thematic orientation (ERDF POs and SOs selected/under discussion) ▪ Possible timeline for programme submission to EC
10:00	<p>Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE 2021-27: Introduction to programme intervention logic, synergies and complementarities in the programme area</p> <p>A brief presentation by Interreg CE JS will set the frame for the ensuing thematic discussion.</p>
10:10	<p>Programme intervention logic: Exchange on “PO1 - Innovation”</p> <p>Participants will exchange on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Possible thematic areas addressed within the concerned PO and selected SOs ▪ Possible approaches for designing the “types of actions” to be included in the IP ▪ Potential synergies and complementarities
10:50	<p>Courtesy break</p>
11:00	<p>Programme intervention logic: Exchange on “PO2 - Environment”</p> <p>See above</p>
11:50	<p>Programme intervention logic: Exchange on “ISO1 Cooperation governance”</p> <p>See above</p>
12:15	<p>Conclusions and way ahead for synergies and complementarities in central Europe</p> <p>The Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE MA/JS will summarise the outcomes of the thematic discussions, trying to also identify potential synergies and complementarities between programmes.</p>
12:30	<p>End of meeting</p>

ANNEX 6 - Agenda of conference on “Cooperation and synergies in Central and South Eastern Europe”



Cooperation & synergies in CE and SEE 03 – November 2020 (10:00-13:00 CET) Online

November 3rd

The first day of our event is dedicated to discussion and reflection on:

- Options to cooperate and reap benefits from synergies along the Policy Objectives (PO) respectively the Interreg-specific Objectives (ISO)

We consider it also as testing ground for Interact: Could it make sense to develop a network (either topical or MRS-related) in a larger zone supporting cross-programme cooperation?

09.30 – 10.00	Check-in to virtual meeting room and technical settings Please join the virtual meeting room in good time to test and ensure that the technical settings enable you to actively participate in the meeting. The room will be open half-an-hour before the meeting will start. If you have any technical question, please use the chat function (in the virtual meeting room) to contact the organisers.
10.00 – 10.30	Introduction Building the context and clarifying expectations and meeting objectives, Introductory reflections on cooperation and synergies
10.30 – 11.15	Programme testimonial(s) Brief testimonial(s) on programme approaches to harvest synergies through cross-programme cooperation. Q & A
11.15 – 11.45	Group work along PO(s) We assume that it is the most popular POs where synergies will most likely materialise ...
11.45 – 12.30	Lunch break
12.30 – 13.15	Definition of anchor points to continue Elaboration on which types of cooperation would make most sense
13.15 – 13.30	Wrap-up and next steps



Cooperation & synergies in CE and SEE **03 – November 2020 (10:00-13:00 CET)** **Online**

November 4th

On the second day of the event we will explore the options to strengthen the ties between programmes and macro regional strategies (MRS). We will make use of the results from Day 1:

- 09.30 – 10.00 Check-in to virtual meeting room and technical settings**

Please join the virtual meeting room in good time to test and ensure that the technical settings enable you to actively participate in the meeting. The room will be open half-an-hour before the meeting will start. If you have any technical question, please use the chat function (in the virtual meeting room) to contact the organisers.
- 10.00 – 10.45 Introduction to context and objectives**

Brief introduction to meeting approach and objectives

Key note on MRS by Commission representative
- 10.45 – 11.45 Work in strategy rooms**

We will set up three break-out rooms for the three Strategies, i.e. MRS EUSDR, EUSALP and EUSAIR and we invite you to join the discussion.

In each of the rooms a representative of the Strategy as well as a representative of the "leading" transnational programme will provide a key note on embedding and the alignment between programme and strategy and then we invite you to brainstorm, discuss and reflect with us!
- 11.45 – 12.30 Lunch break**
- 12.30 – 13.15 Findings and definition of anchor points to continue**

We will try to distill the main findings from the discussions and together with our discussants from the Strategies and the TN programmes we will try to define a limited number of anchor points to continue our support to "synergy-building".
- 13.15 – 13.30 Wrap-up and next steps**

Brief overview on Interact activities related to MRS