



# A more social Danube Region

**2 June 2022, 9.30 – 11.30 CET**  
**online seminar**

**Specific objective 3.1**

**Accessible, inclusive, and  
effective labour markets**



# Presentation content

- Transnational cooperation and the Danube Region
- The funding opportunity: context, priority 3 and SO<sub>3.1</sub>
- Needs and challenges
- The funding opportunity SO 3.1 focus and types of activities
- Partnership
- Budget
- Progressing towards the call and beyond
- Q & A



# Transnational Cooperation – Interreg B

- An instrument of EU Cohesion Policy 
- Financially support cooperation projects beyond national level
- In a geographically defined area addressing common needs and challenges
- Complement mainstream programmes
- Bring together policy makers, academia, research, civil society and private actors



## A region of barriers but with opportunities

- Heterogeneous being diverse in terms of natural environment, socio-economic & cultural features
- Highly fragmented political and administrative set up
- Highest number of countries (14) - highest number of borders
- EU and non-EU countries but the region includes EU measures for stronger cohesion with accession & neighbourhood policies
- A unique situation with the opportunity to develop a better integration of the Danube space



# Funding opportunity

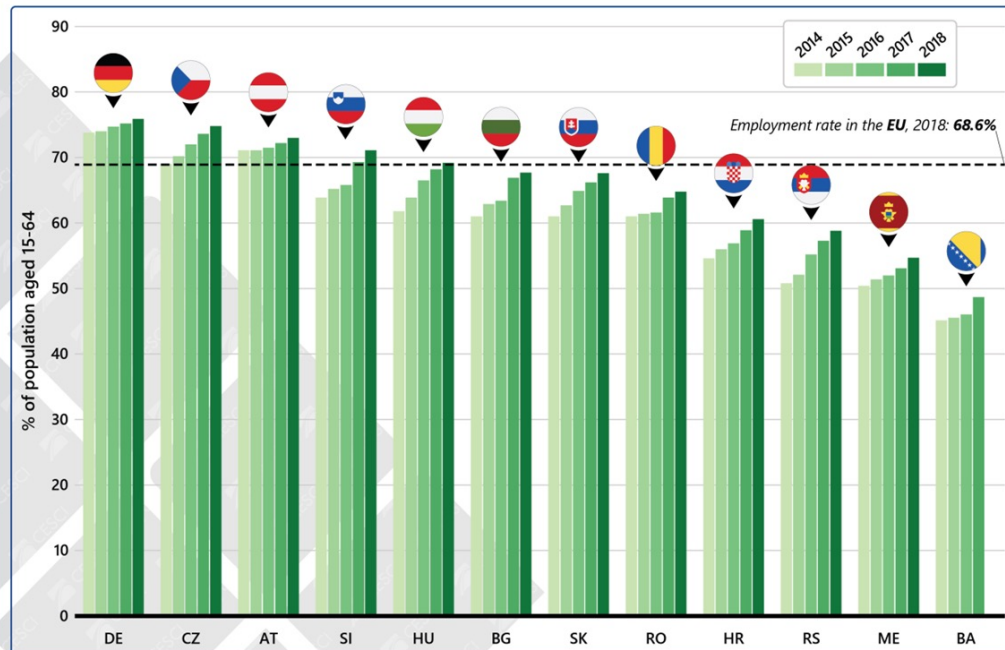


- **SO 3.1 - Accessible, inclusive and effective labour markets**
- SO3.2 - Accessible and inclusive quality services in education, training and lifelong learning
- SO3.3 - Socio-economic development through heritage, culture and tourism

# SO 3.1 - Needs and challenges (1)



Territorial differences in **employment rate**  
in the Danube Region, 2014 - 2018



source: Eurostat, data submitted by the members  
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In case of Germany data represents the whole country not just the regions affected  
by the Danube Region. In case of Moldova and Ukraine data is missing.

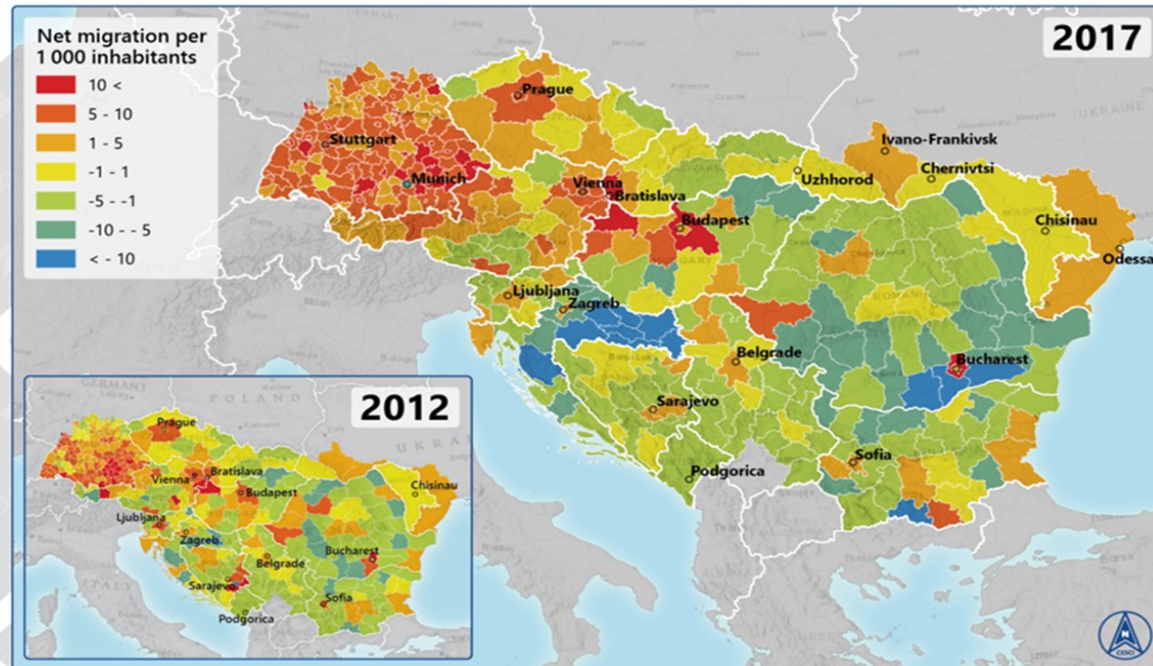
## Recent trend of increasing employment rates and lower unemployment rates but:

- Low employment rates for parts of the DR with vulnerable groups in society at disadvantage across the DR
- Long term unemployment
- Industrial change
- Demographic change

# SO 3.1 – Needs and challenges(2)



Spatial distribution of **net migration** in the Danube Region



- Labour market migration
- Demand side skills gaps
- Covid; war; supply chains; economic cycles
- Changing ways of working
- Employment services capacity to develop and react to change



## SO 3.1 - Focus

- The integration of vulnerable groups into the labour market, with special attention on regions that display high proportions of disadvantaged
- Retaining skilled labour and developing a more sustainable migration of educated people
- Capacity building for employment support bodies (information and data systems; coordination; training e.g. in social economy)





## SO 3.1 Activities supported (1)

- Joint coordination of policies and planning aimed at integrating disadvantaged groups to support inclusive employment in regions that display high proportions of disadvantaged populace
- Support for designing innovative policies and planning to retain skilled labour and a more sustainable migration of educated people
- Creation of an information system and support for the provision of information and data about life events connected to periodic and permanent migration of workforce, caused by labour market inequalities between the eastern and the western parts of the macro region



## SO 3.1 – Activities supported (2)

- Coordinated policies and strategies to tackle active ageing (e.g. by social entrepreneurship) in regions and cities of the macro region affected by a high level of ageing
- Developing cooperation and innovative planning between bodies responsible for labour market integration and the private sector towards enhancing the inclusion of the disabled in the labour market
- Build-up of a “Danube observatory system” about labour migration and its impacts on cohesion; involving public bodies responsible for monitoring & evaluation, academia and civil society



## SO 3.1 Activities supported (3)

- Developing models to explore and demonstrate the effectiveness of remote working towards developing employment inclusiveness and meeting regional social and economic goals
- Restructuring and diversification of employment by the implementation of territorially integrated action plans for employment with a special focus on enhancing the spreading of innovative structures targeting mono-functional (e.g. agricultural, industrial) regions. This could include green jobs development



## SO 3.1 Activities not supported

- Cooperation on transnational level is not sufficiently demonstrated
- Pre-dominant focus on infrastructure
- Pre-dominant focus on technical solution development without application by target users
- Pre-dominant focus on research /data collection without translating it into applied solutions / policy; strategies; action plans



- Minimum requirement: 3 financing partners from 3 DRP countries
  - Number of countries to be involved – ensuring broad territorial impact in DR;
  - Number of PPs - ensuring thematic and territorial relevance and competence in a coherent and balanced way
- Integration of non-EU countries - utmost importance!!!
- „INTERREG funds“ = equal participation of non-EU partners
  - no differentiation of PPs by ERDF, IPA and NDICI funds;
  - opening Lead Partner status for partners from all DRP countries.



# Potential partners/stakeholders

Public	Social/Community	Education/Research	Employer/ Employee Orgs	Example Other
<b>Public Employment Services (PES). National, regional and local bodies</b>	Community and community service organisations (including youth, women and aged related)	Universities	Federation of industries	Relevant International organisations e.g. International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Labour market/ employment responsible ministries	Minority support organisations	Labour market research institutes	Chambers of commerce	PES Network
Ministries responsible for diversity and inclusion (incl. minorities and disabled)	Disability support organisations	Social innovation institutes	Trade union federation/organisations	
Ministry responsible for social welfare	Health supporting organisations	Education and Training support is primarily related to 3.2 but there could be a case for education boards along with VET providers and other education and training providers being part of 3.1 partnerships	Local Employment Partnerships	
Ministry responsible for rural affairs	Social enterprise associations		Economic chambers	
Regional public administration bodies	Associations focusing on social inclusion			
Local public administration bodies/municipalities	Cooperatives			
Labour market data & statistics agencies				



# Budget

- Total Programme budget: 213,103,953.00 EUR
- „INTERREG funds“ – ERDF, IPA and NDICI funds in a single pot
- EU contribution part: 80%
- Priority 3 total budget: 51,302,804 EUR
- 50% of budget available in 1st Call for Proposals
  
- No advance payment of Interreg contribution!!!
- Reimbursed on periodically reported PP's cost-basis!!!
- Project Partners need sufficient cash-flow capacities!!!



- DTP website:
  - general information;
  - (draft-) Danube Programme document;
  - Call for Proposals announcement.
- DRP events (e.g thematic webinars; kick-off event; Lead Applicant Seminar)
- DTP National Contact Points
- National events (e.g. national info days)
- MA/JS Project Officer (e.g. bilateral consultations)
- EUSDR PAs e.g. Priority Area 9, People & Skills



**Danube Region  
Programme**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Contact



[stephen.halligan@interreg-danube.eu](mailto:stephen.halligan@interreg-danube.eu)

<https://www.interreg-danube.eu/about-dtp/new-funding-2021-2027>