

Wildlife Economy

Nature as a viable economic alternative

Making Europe a wilder place

Thursday October 20th 2022

Maastricht



Welcome by Janine Caalders



Deputy Geert Gabriëls



Wouter Helmer



Wildlife Economies

Wilder nature as our ally in socio-economic issues



Wouter Helmer – WLE meeting Maastricht, October 2022



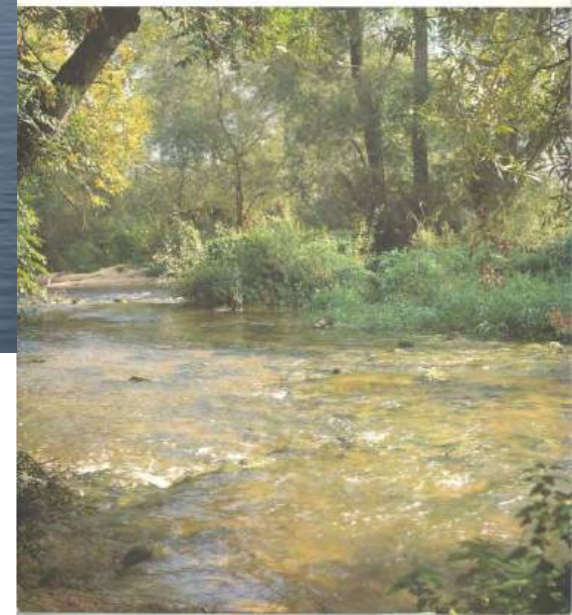
OOIEVAAR

De toekomst van het
rivierengebied

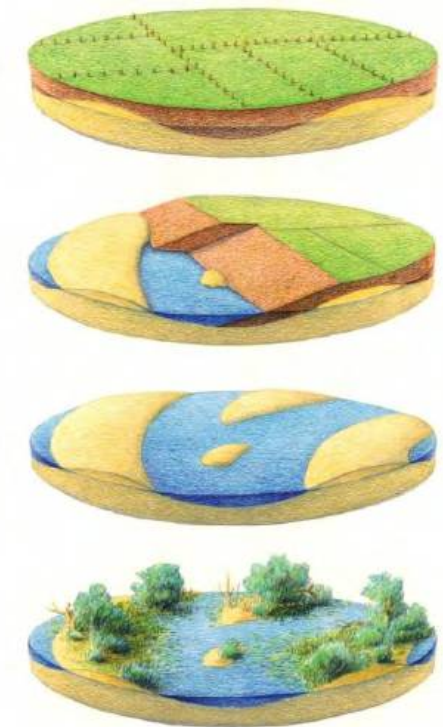


Wereld Natuur Fonds

Levende rivieren



Living Rivers



Lowering floodplains
Clay mining as a rewilding engine



Floods of 1993/1995 resulting in:
Room for Rivers



Unconventional partners



Nature for people



Rewilding and real estate value



Border Meuse – stress test 2021



Natural processes
Shaping the landscape



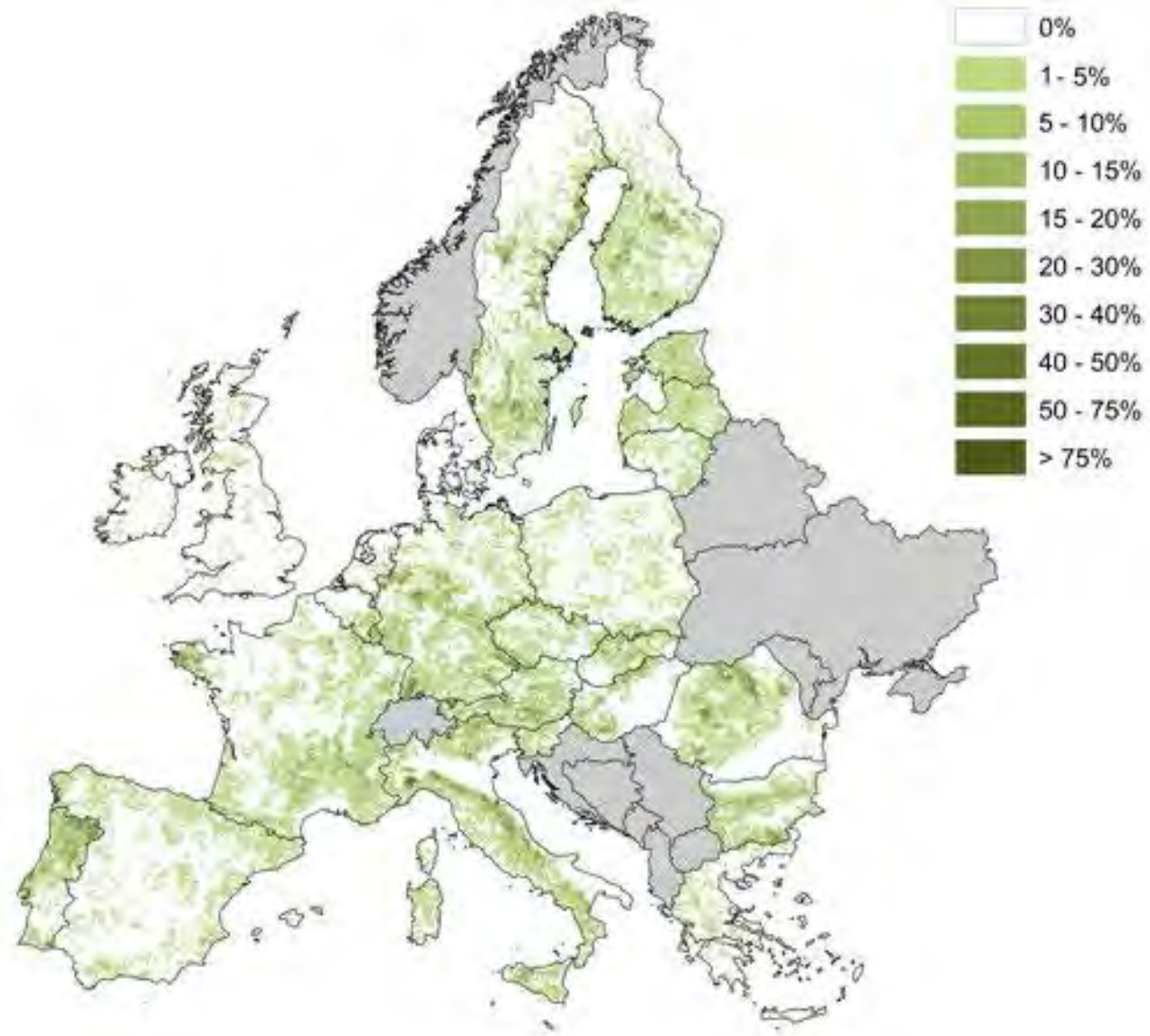
Explosion of life



New landscape patterns



Herds go international



Europe is changing...





Towards a digital landscape?



**>50% of Europe's flora and fauna
at risk**



Natura 2000
Only 9-19% of financing needs covered



A new movement
With a more entrepreneurial approach



Making Europe a wilder place



Towards 11 showcases



Wildfire prevention



Carbon storage



Nature tourism



New Wetland Economies in the delta's





Water buffering upstream



River restoration

dam removal



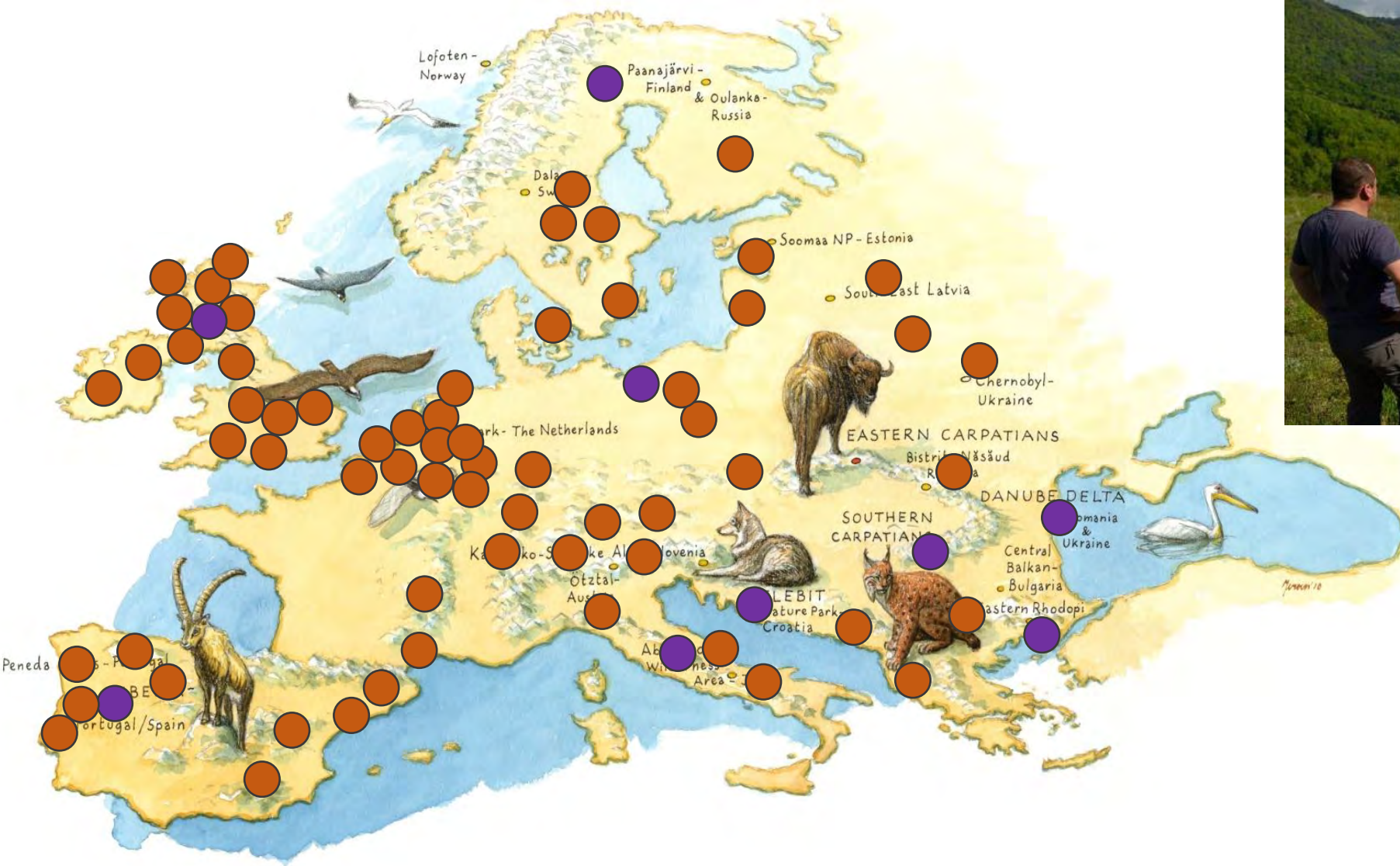
From hunting -> Wildlife watching



Repairing the foodchain

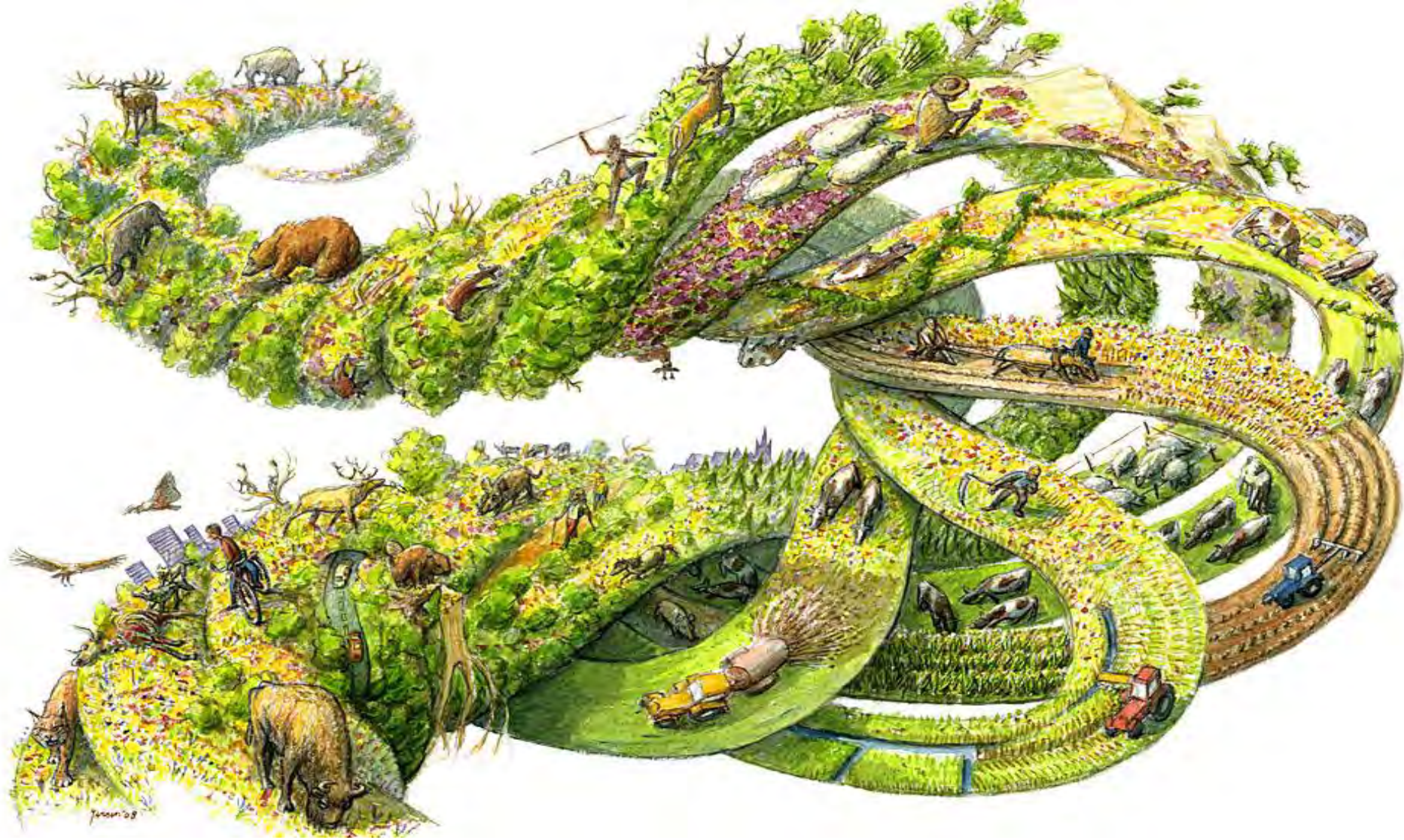


Healthy Nature



European Rewilding Network

Exchange of knowledge and experiences



**Reconnecting wilder nature
with modern society**

Thank you



Coffee break for 20 minutes



Wildlife Economy The Movie



Wildlife Economy Panel Discussion



Joint Secretary Etienne Verhelle



**Interreg
Europe**



Co-funded by
the European Union

Interreg Europe overview

Etienne RODZINKA-VERHELLE
Policy Officer | Interreg Europe Secretariat

**20 OCTOBER 2022 |
10 Minutes**

WLE final conference
Maastricht, NL

Follow us on social media



Content

1. Interreg Europe **state of play**
2. **Environment and resource efficiency & WLE project**
3. Interreg Europe **2021-2027**

**Interreg
Europe**

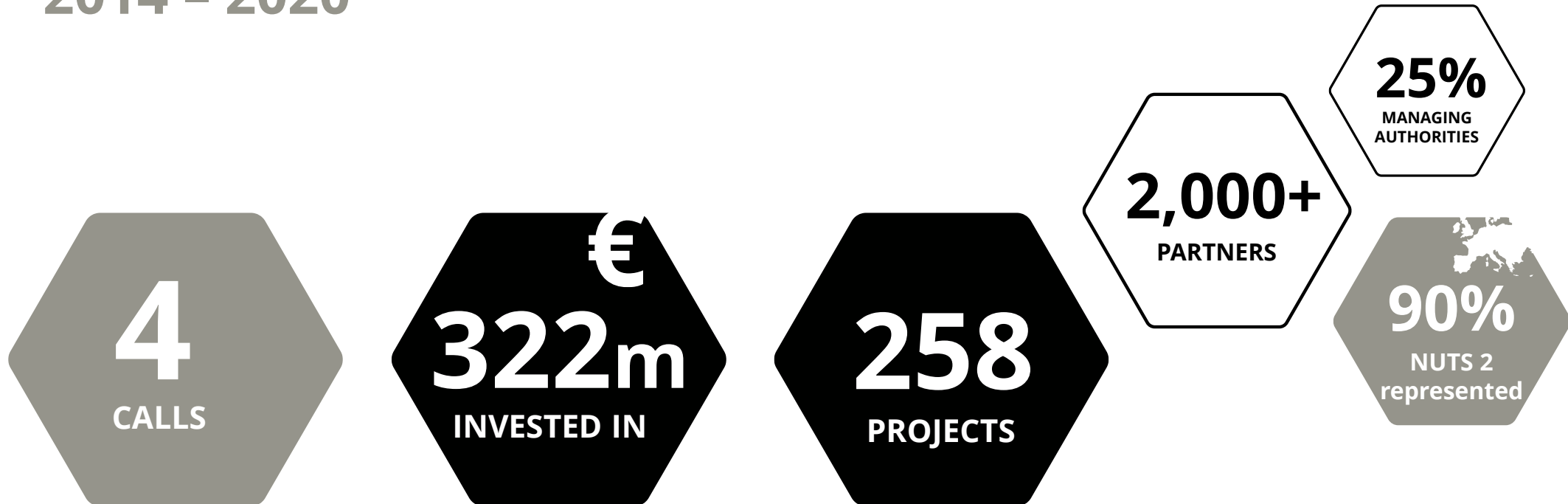


Co-funded by
the European Union

1. Interreg Europe **state of play**

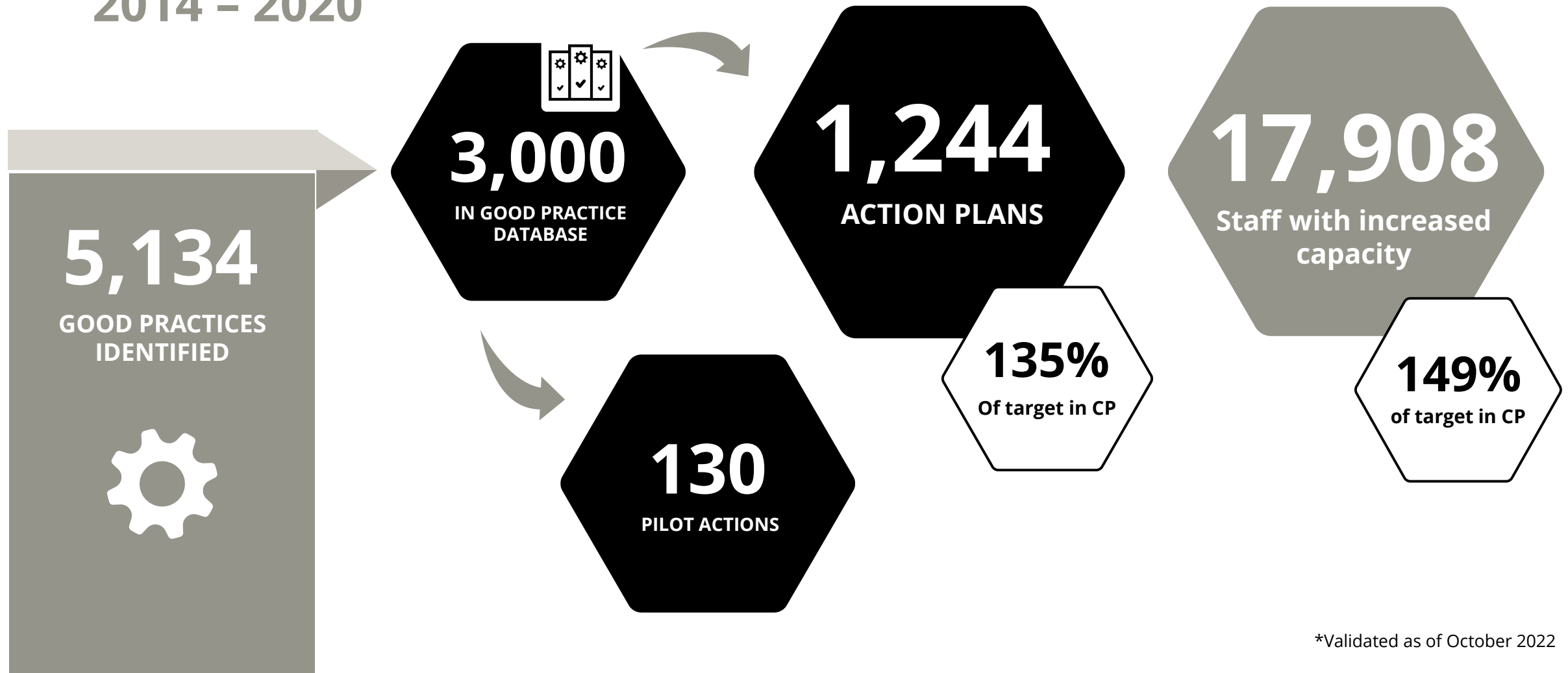
Interregional cooperation **projects**

2014 - 2020



Project* achievements

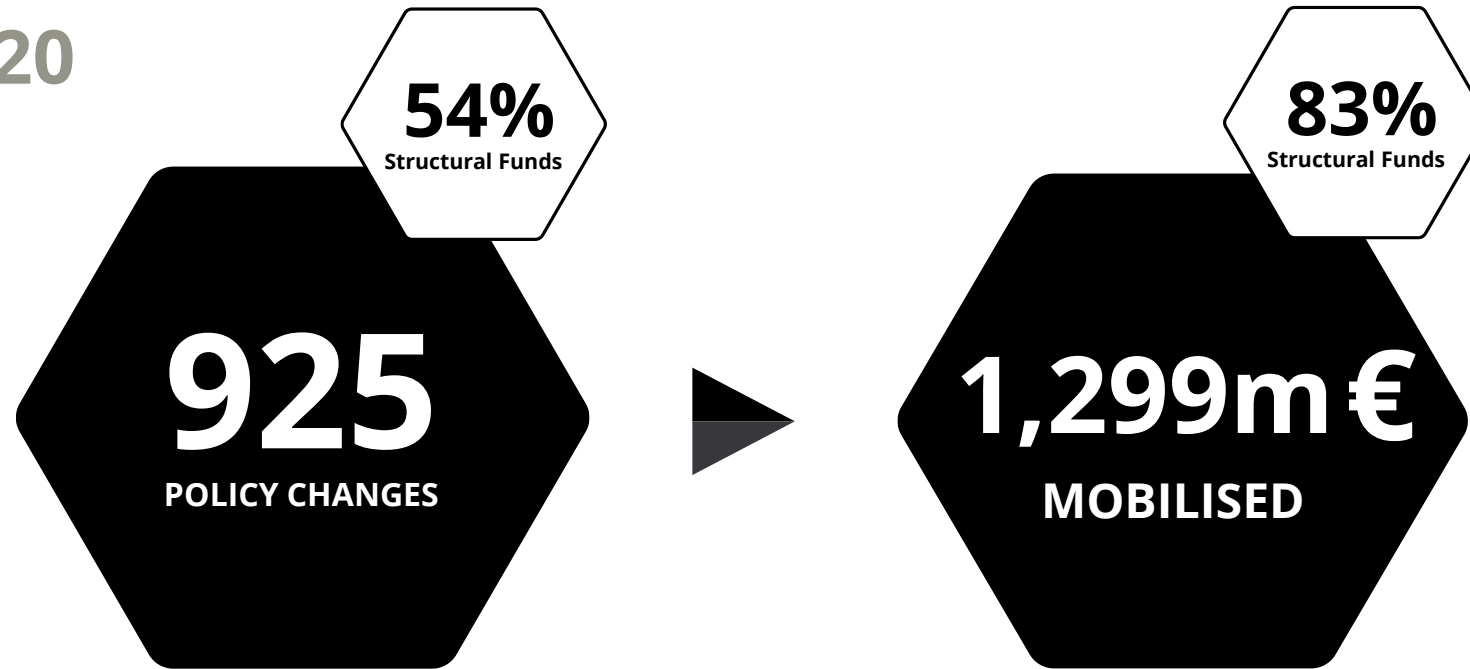
2014 - 2020



*Validated as of October 2022

Results achieved* by projects

2014 – 2020



*Validated as of October 2022

2. Environment and resource efficiency

WLE

Balanced allocation of projects per priority

Environment and
resource efficiency

67



Low-carbon
economy

60



Research and
innovation

65

SME
competitiveness

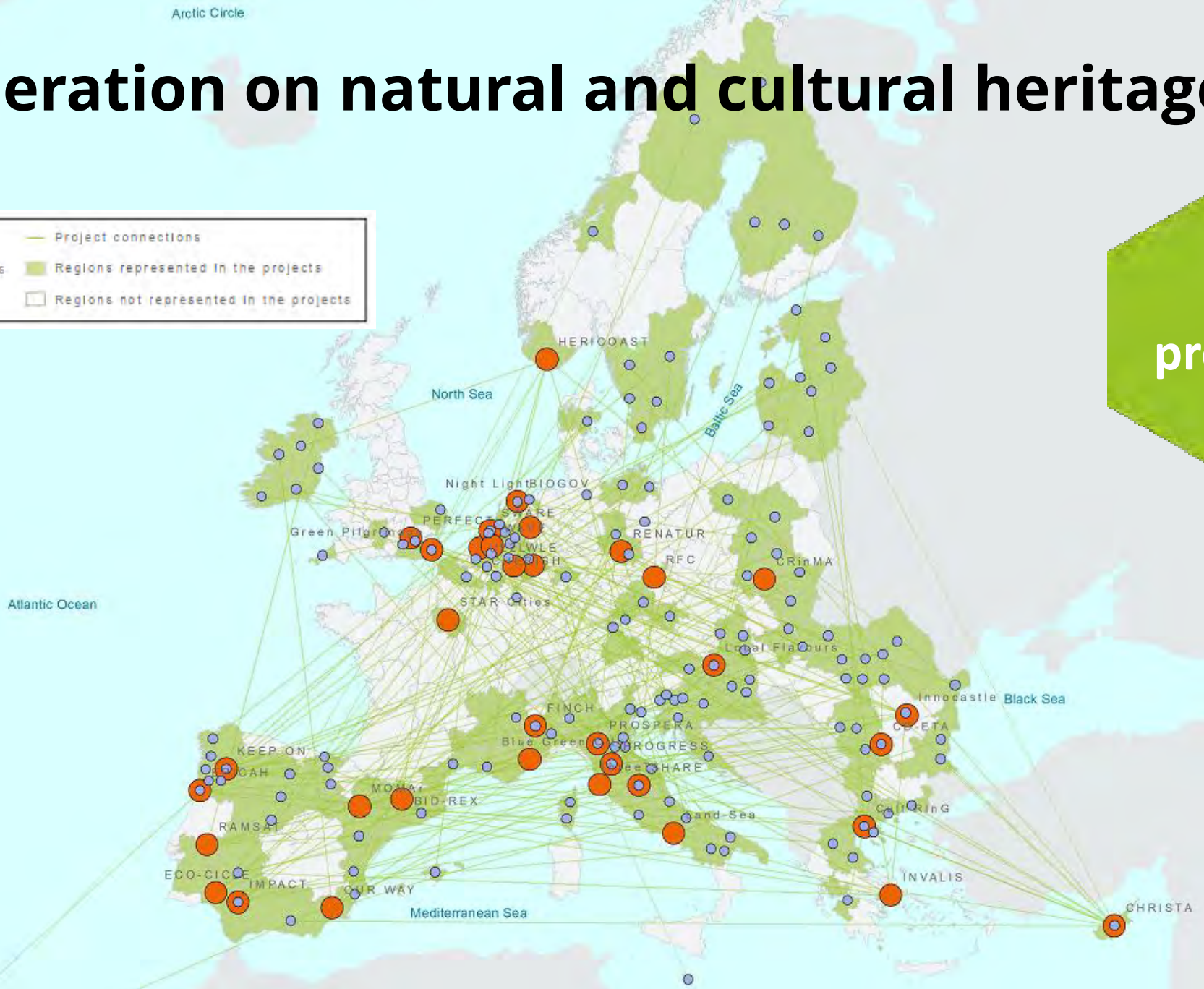
66

Arctic Circle

Cooperation on natural and cultural heritage

Partner role	— Project connections
● Lead partners	■ Regions represented in the projects
● Partners	□ Regions not represented in the projects

36 projects



Ecosystem services



WLE
Interreg Europe



WLE seeks to help EU regions deliver sustainable growth using the wildlife economy approach as an innovative economic strategy.

www.interregeurope.eu/wle

An interregional cooperation project for improving natural and cultural heritage policies.

Project Partners

- Province of Limburg (NL)
- Regional Landscape Kampen and Maasland (SE)
- Environmental Action Germany (DE)
- Municipal Community Europaregion Pomerania reg. Ass. (DE)
- Alava Provincial Council (ES)
- Rewilding Europe (NL)
- Rewilding Europe - Sweden (SE)
- County Administrative Board of Norrbotten (SE)

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European Union
European Regional
Development Fund



IMPACT
Interreg Europe



PROGRESS
Interreg Europe

Strengths of WLE

- **Topic relevant for many regions in Europe**
- **Clear focus on cross-border programmes**
(3 out of 4 policy instruments)
- **Achievements so far: 36 people with increased capacity,
9 good practices, 14 policy events**

Participation in PLP / programme activities



[Home](#) > [Policy solutions](#) > [Story](#) > [The return of wild salmon](#)

The return of wild salmon

By Platform

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The return of wild salmon

STORY

25 March 2022 | By Platform



Credits: EUREGA

Europe's migratory freshwater fish population has fallen by 93% over the past fifty years. According to a [report](#) by a coalition of environmental organizations, including the World Fish Migration Foundation and the World Wide Fund for Nature, it is the highest population decline in the world.

3. Interreg Europe **2021-2027**



Sharing solutions for better regional policy

€
379m
PROGRAMME
BUDGET

1
PRIORITY
capacity building

29
COUNTRIES
INVOLVED



Interreg Europe **objective**

To improve **regional development policy instruments**
(including Investment for jobs and growth goal programmes)

How?

Through exchange of experience, innovative approaches and capacity building (in relation to the identification & transfer of good practices)

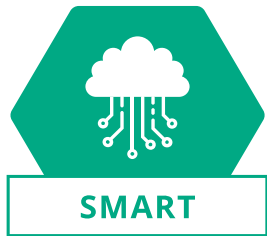
- Primarily dedicated to **policymakers**
- Focus on **exchange of experience**



Different from cross-border or transnational cooperation

Programme **scope**

1 cross-cutting priority on capacity building → **six topics**



Concentration principle (80%)

Two actions



Projects

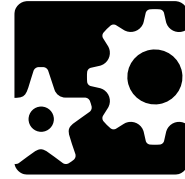
Limited number of regions exchanging and transferring experience on a shared regional development issue



Policy Learning Platform

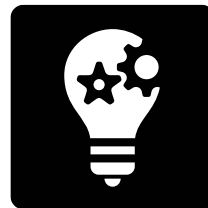
Further exploiting projects' achievements and opening up the programme benefits to all

Platform in a nutshell

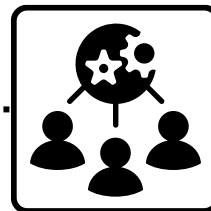


Provides **continuous policy-learning** opportunities
through access to:

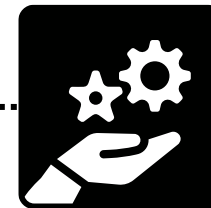
Knowledge



People



Expert support



#policylearning

Calls for project proposals

First call closed on 31 May 2022

134	project proposals
1,073	partners coming from all partner states
EUR 1.4 million	average budget per project proposal
EUR 192 million	total ERDF budget requested

