

**Interreg  
Europe**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# AI for local authorities and policymakers

Marc Pattinson and Laura Varisco  
*Thematic Experts | Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform*

07 November 2023



Follow us on social media:





**Marc Pattinson**  
Thematic Expert



**Laura Varisco**  
Thematic Expert



# WELCOME!



**Lotte van Meijel**  
Web Expert

# Today's Speakers



## **Guido RINK**

**Vice-Mayor of the Municipality of Emmen  
and Alternate of the European  
Committee of the Regions, Commission  
for Social Policy, Education, Employment,  
Research and Culture**

**Keynote speech: *Latest milestones  
towards a European legal framework for AI***



## **Margaret QUINN**

**ERNACT**

***Frontrunner initiatives across the EU:  
ENAIBLER project***



## **Christina KOCH**

**Austria Wirtschaftsservice**

***Good practices within public funding  
programmes to foster the trustworthy use of AI***



# Icebreaker poll

If you had to describe artificial intelligence in just three words, what would they be?  
*Submit each word separately.*



# Sharing solutions for better regional policy

€  
**379m**  
PROGRAMME  
BUDGET

**6**  
TOPICS

**29**  
COUNTRIES  
INVOLVED

+7 new  
countries!



# 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

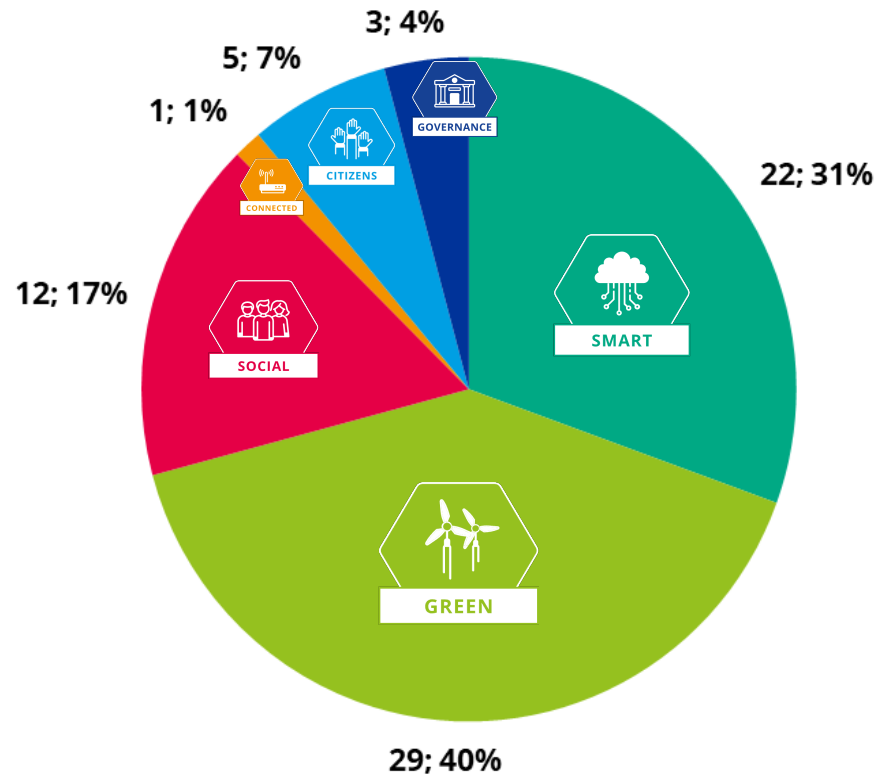


## **Policy Learning Platform**

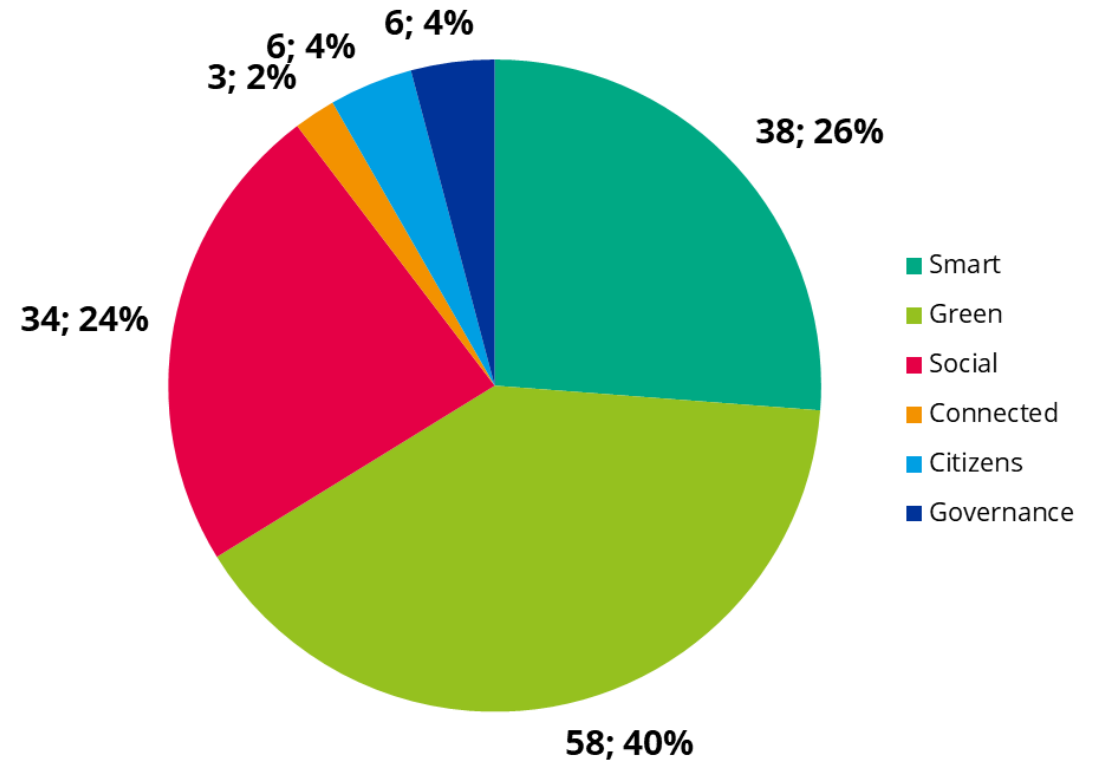
Further exploiting projects' achievements and opening up the programme benefits to all



# First and second call for project proposals

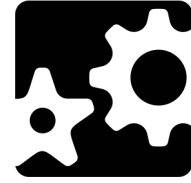


- Open from 5 April to 31 May 2022
- 134 proposals submitted
- **72 projects approved**



- Open from 15 March to 9 June 2023
- **145 proposals submitted**

# Platform in a nutshell

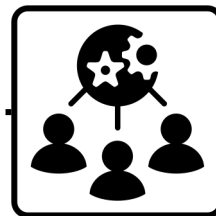


Provides **continuous policy-learning** opportunities  
through access to:

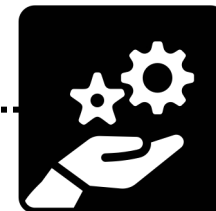
**Knowledge**



**People**



**Expert support**

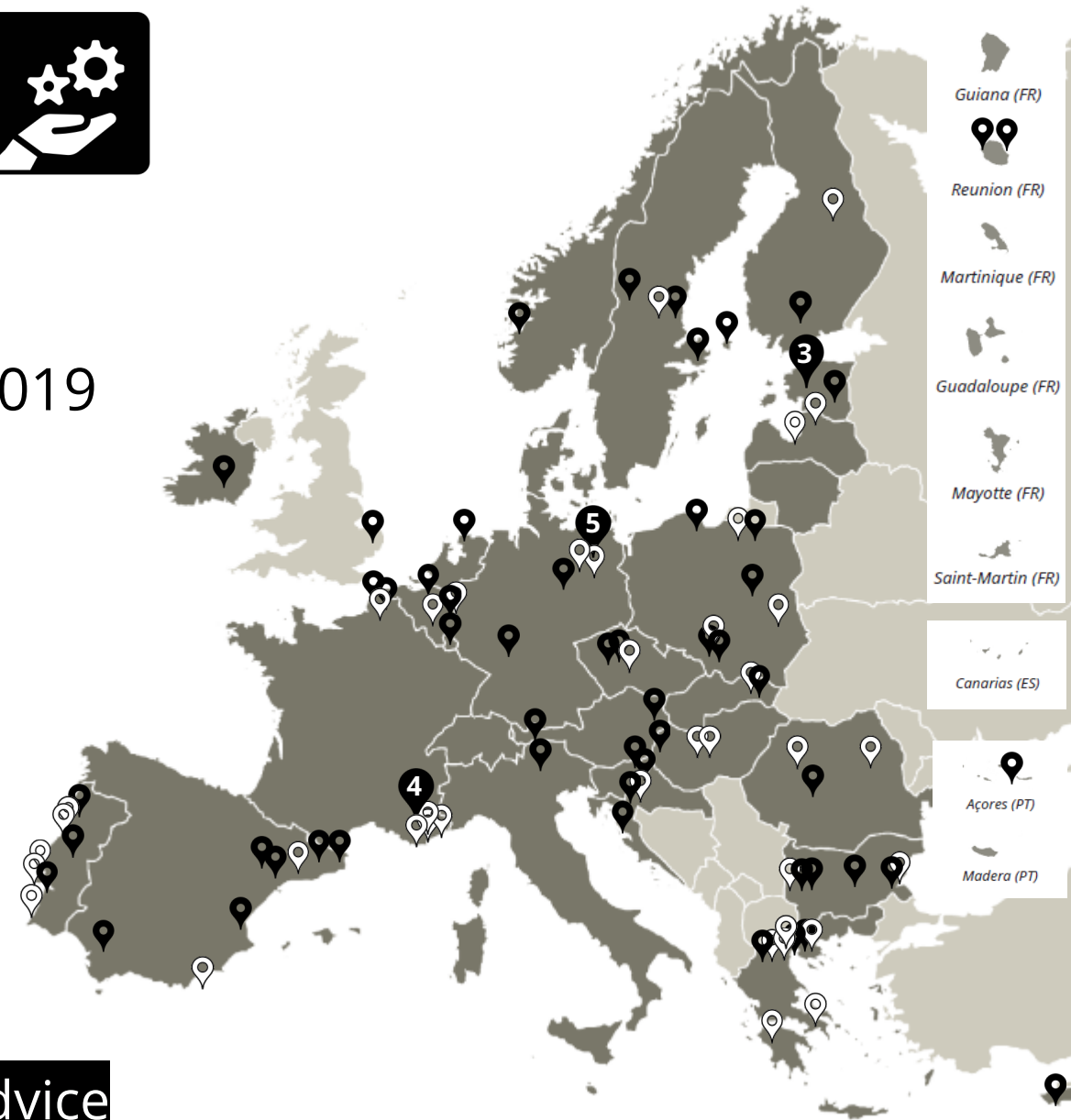


#policylearning

# Peer learning in practice



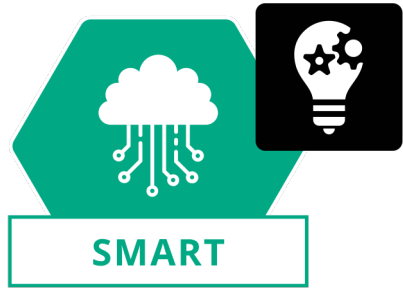
- 📍 **63 peer reviews** implemented since 2019  
11 peer reviews in the pipeline
- 📍 **42 matchmaking** sessions



<https://www.interregeurope.eu/get-policy-advice>

# The Policy Learning Platform can help:

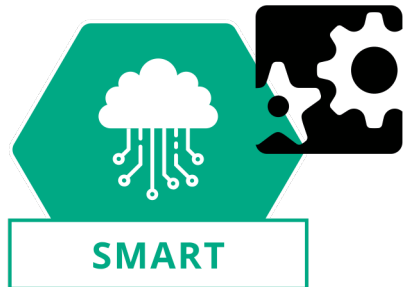
<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policy-solutions>



Good Practices



AI Foundation Certificate for Public Servants



Policy Brief

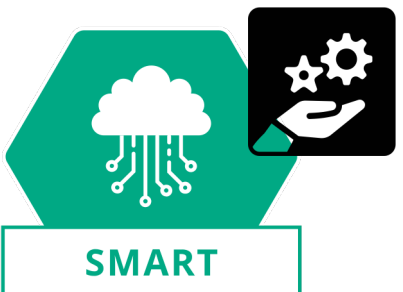
- Digital innovation hubs and demonstrators
- Digitalization of the Public sector (to be published in January 2024)

Digital innovation hubs and demonstrators



A Policy Brief from the Policy Learning Platform on SME competitiveness

OCTOBER 2022



Peer Reviews

- Establishing trustworthy artificial intelligence in Austrian companies - Austria Wirtschaftsservice

**Interreg  
Europe**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Today's webinar...



Follow us on social media:





# Unlocking the potential of AI for local authorities

- When harnessed **effectively**, AI has the potential to deliver **advantages** for local authorities through a great range of policy domains:
  1. enhancing the formulation of **policies** (using AI and data analytics can help interpret demographic, consumption, behavioral data and other trends)
  2. transforming the provision of **services** (i.e., traffic management optimisation modeling, climate mitigation measures, public safety etc.)
  3. optimising operational **processes** (i.e., AI-enabled procurement processes)

Consequently, this technology can enable governments to **more effectively address the demands of their citizens** whilst also improving the utilisation of public funds.



# Unlocking the potential of AI for local authorities



- One of the **potential risks** is the possibility of **algorithmic bias**, which can result in unfair or **discriminatory decisions**...
- The European Union has taken several significant steps to address these issues through a combination of **policy initiatives, regulatory frameworks, and guidelines** :
  - Ethics Guidelines for Trustworthy AI
  - “AI Act” Regulatory framework
  - GDPR applied to AI systems
  - European AI Strategy



**Interreg  
Europe**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Presentations!

Follow us on social media:



# POLL



## Final poll

What's one key takeaway or lesson from today's webinar that you plan to apply in your work or daily life?

Please describe it in **one word**

**Interreg  
Europe**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Thank you!

Follow us on social media:

