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Danube Region
Programme



Co-funded by
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*Discover new
funding opportunities*

A more social Danube Region

7 June 2022, 9.30 – 11.30 CET
online seminar

Specific objective 3.2

**Accessible and inclusive quality
services in education, training and
lifelong learning**



Presentation content

- Transnational cooperation and the Danube Region
- The funding opportunity: context, priority 3 and SO_{3.2}
- Needs and challenges
- The funding opportunity SO 3.2 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



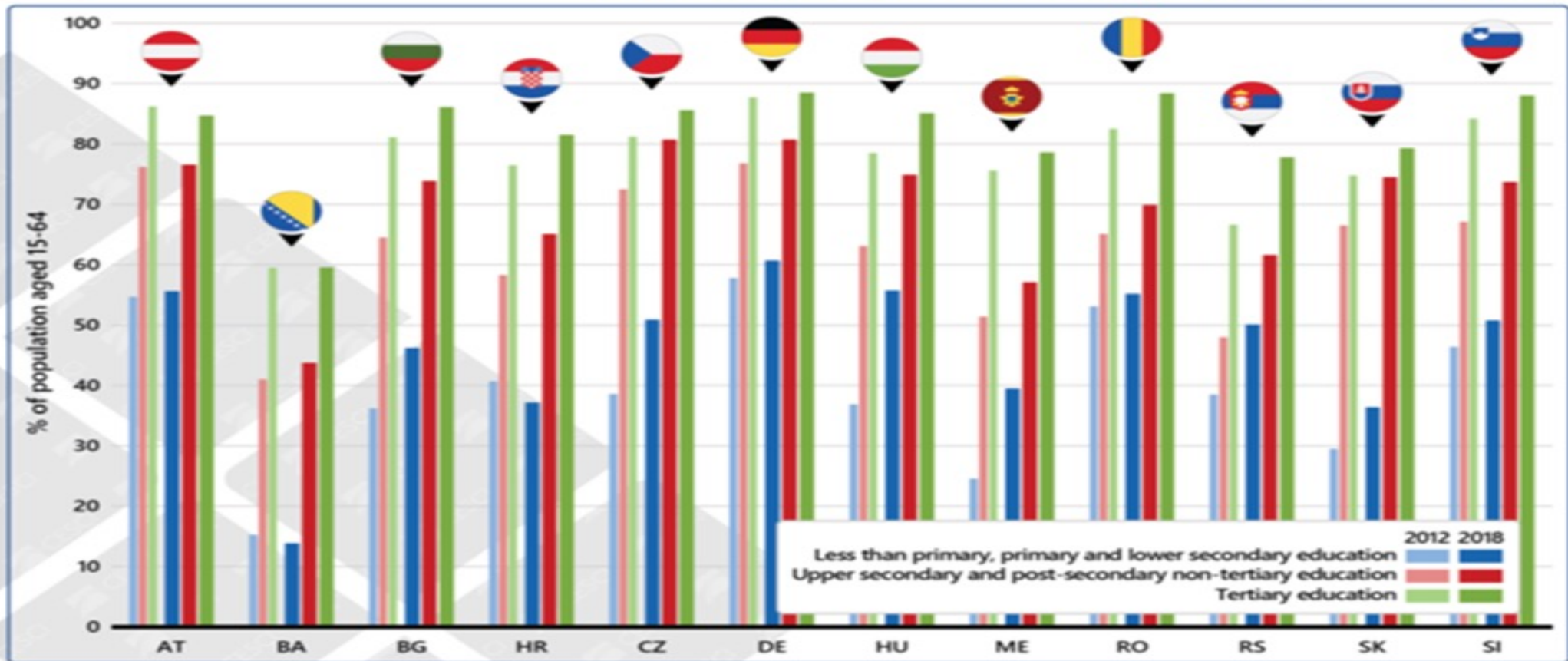
- SO 3.1 - Accessible, inclusive and effective labour markets
- **SO3.2 - Accessible and inclusive quality services in education, training and lifelong learning**
- SO3.3 - Socio-economic development through heritage, culture and tourism



SO 3.2 – Danube Region context



Territorial differences in employment rates by educational attainment level in the Danube Region, 2012, 2018

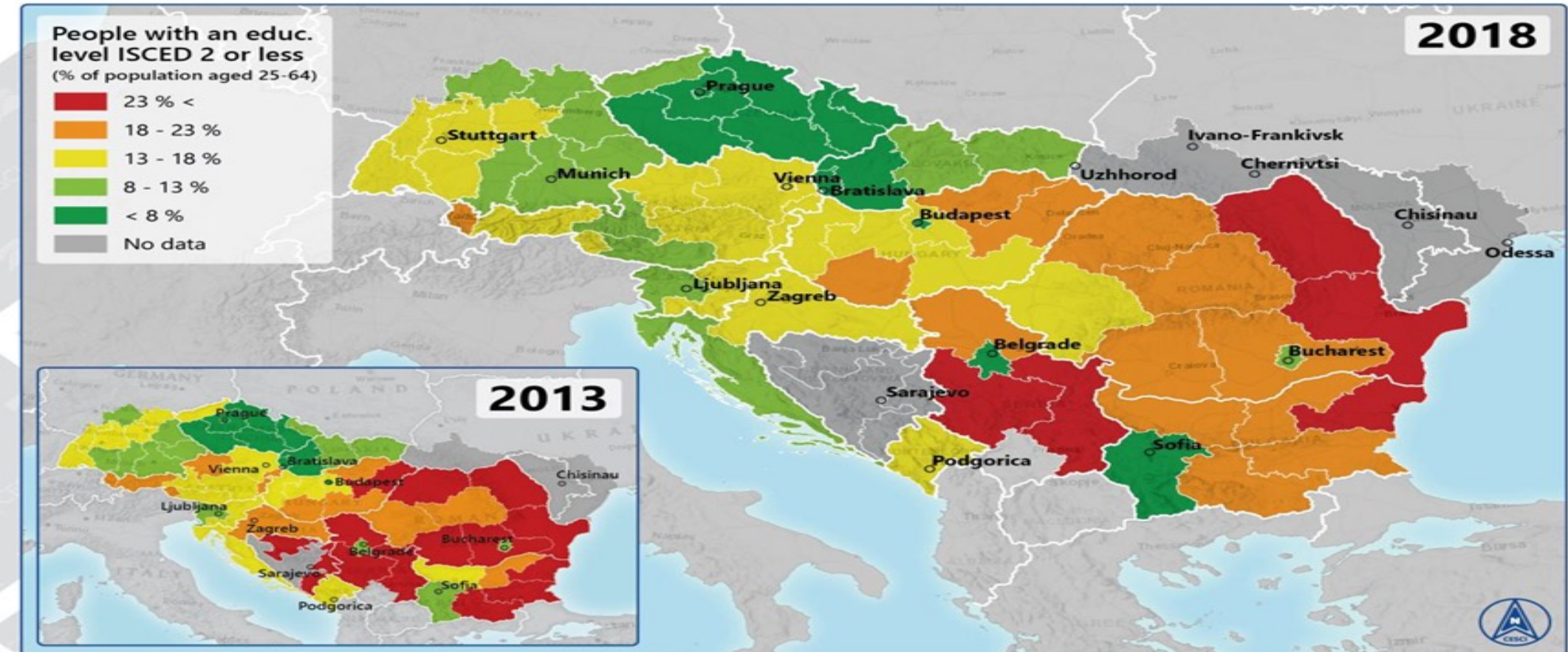


source: Eurostat, flags: Freepic
© Central European Service for Cross-border Initiatives

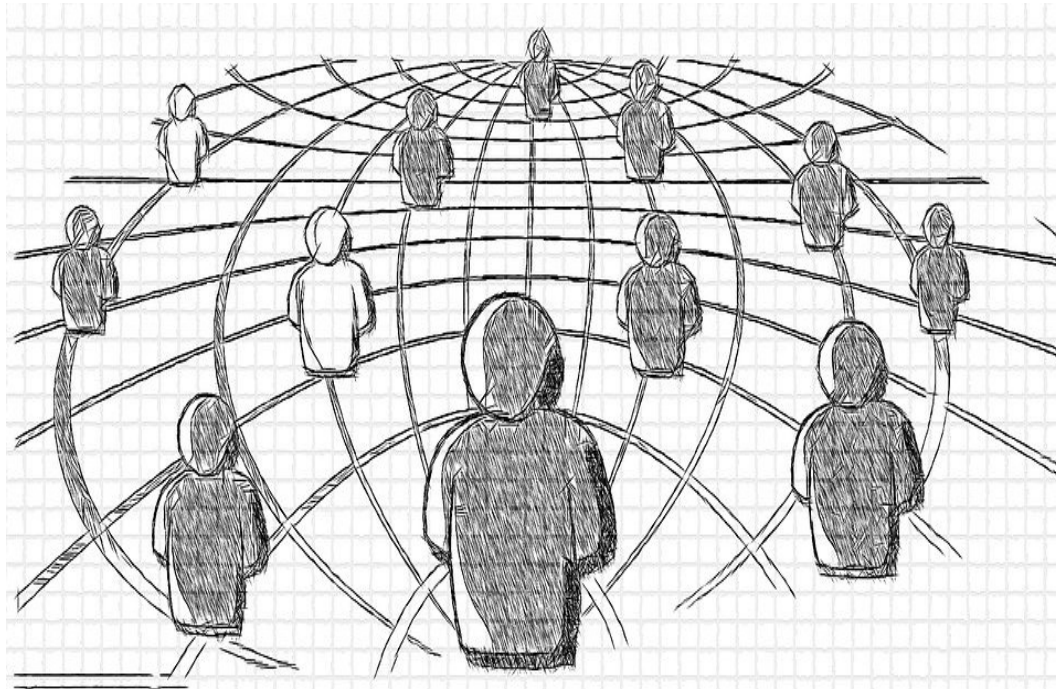
In case of Germany data represents the whole country not just the regions affected by the Danube Region. In case of Moldova and Ukraine data is missing.



Spatial distribution of people with less than primary, primary and lower secondary education level in the Danube Region



The disadvantaged

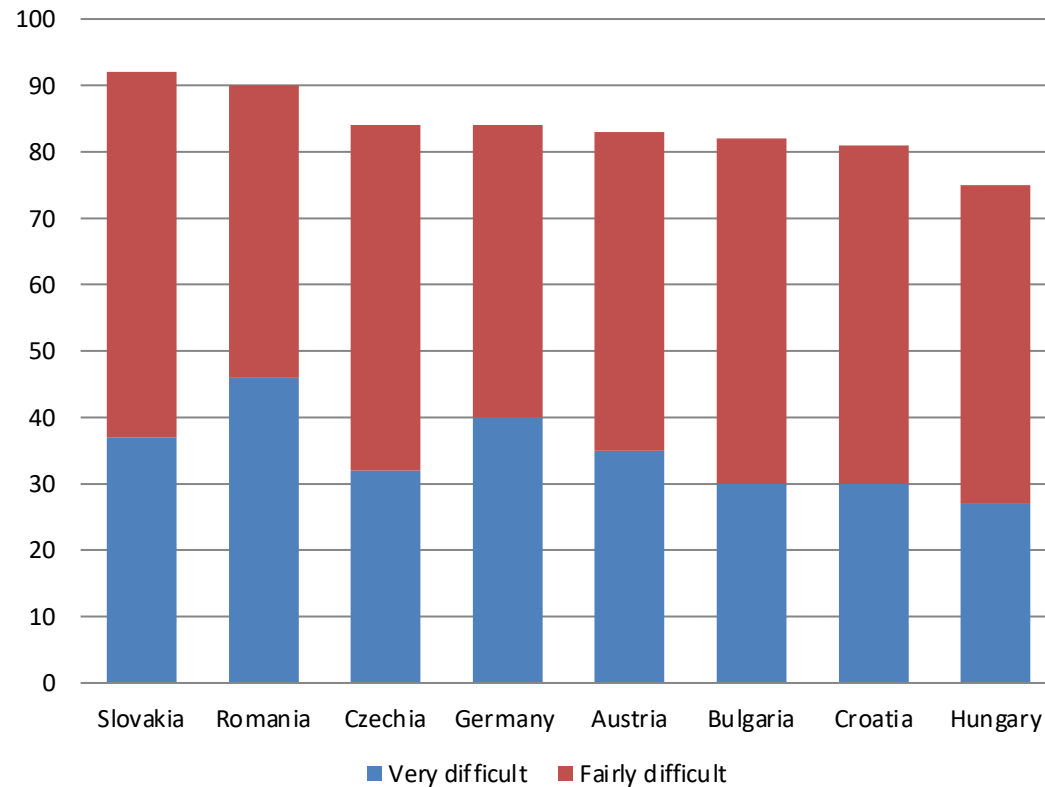


- Early school leavers
- Minorities
- Disabled
- Rural



SO3.2 Danube Region context

Proportion of establishments with 10 or more employees having difficulty in recruiting employees with required skills 2019 (%)



- Skills shortage
- Skills gaps (gap between the skills an employee has and the skills needed)
- Skills mismatch (mismatch between skills and jobs)



Needs and challenges

- Educational attainment
- Inclusion and integration
- Migration & brain drain
- Demography
- Skills challenge (shortage; gaps; mismatch)
- Industrial transition to a greener economy
- Digitalisation
- Educational institutional capacity & adapting to change



SO 3.2 - Focus

1. Developing innovative educational models, programs, practical tools and materials for disadvantaged learners, including early school leavers
2. Maximising the use of existing knowledge and experience to develop best practices in inclusive education policy and advancing education and policy reform
3. Innovative approaches to encourage and improve inclusive vocational education and training and life long learning



SO 3.2 Activities supported (1)

- Development of joint innovative educational models, programs, practical tools and materials to support accessible and inclusive education for disadvantaged learners. The expected approach to develop on from model regions within the Danube region and with mutual learning developed from pilot regions
- Developing best practices in education policy, gathering and disseminating knowledge and advancing education and policy reforms at the national and regional level across the Danube Region
- Establishment or development of existing scientific and educational networks to combat brain drain, whereby educated and skilled individuals leave regions for better prospects. Networks should bring existing knowledge and research together and develop concrete outputs



SO 3.2 – Activities supported (2)

- Innovative digital and remote education with e-solutions to mitigate rural disadvantage, provide employment related training and combat brain drain
- Knowledge exchange and the sharing of experience in elaborating and developing accessible and inclusive vocational education and training models and systems. This should lead to concrete outputs e.g. the development of work based training schemes which better support relevant skills development to match the needs of the labour market.



SO 3.2 Activities not supported

- Cooperation on transnational level is not sufficiently demonstrated
- Pre-dominant focus on infrastructure
- Large scale training
- 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; models ; 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	Employers/ Employee Orgs	Example Other
Ministries responsible for education/VET/digital learning/lifelong learning/skills gaps	Minority support organisations	Universities	Sector councils	European Agency for Special Needs and Inclusive Education
Ministries responsible for diversity and inclusion (incl. minorities and disabled)	Disability support organisations	Institutes of education sciences/research institutes	Sector skills bodies	
Ministries responsible for social welfare; families; youth; aged	Community and community service organisations (including youth, women and aged related)	Institutes/providers for Vocational Education and Training	Chambers of commerce	
National/regional/local associations for special needs	Health supporting organisations	Social innovation institutes	Trade union federation/organisations	
Public Employment Service (PES) at national, regional & local levels	Associations/ organisations focusing on social inclusion	School education boards	Federation of industries	
Regional public administration bodies	Special needs support associations	Education & training boards	Associations of employer and training providers	
Regional education councils		General public and education, teaching councils/unions	Apprenticeship network providers	
Local public administration bodies/municipalities				
Qualification bodies				



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**



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