

Interreg Programme

**Danube Region**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Thematic webinar 6

- New funding for accessible and inclusive quality services in education, training and lifelong learning

**12 Oct 2023**

**14.00 – 16.00 CEST**

# Call for proposals



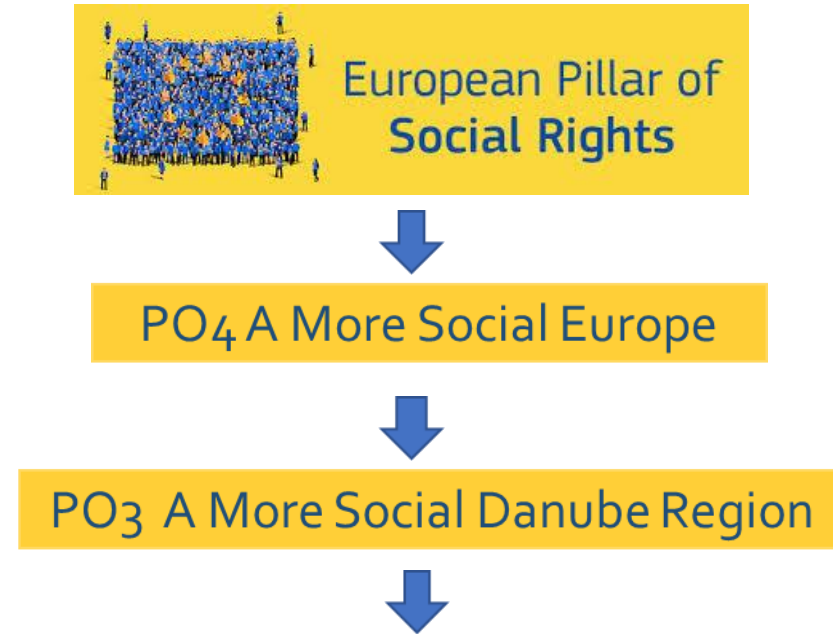


## Content

- Background – Priority 3: A more social Danube Region
- Reflections on the 1<sup>st</sup> call for proposals for SO3.2
- Progress towards the 2<sup>nd</sup> Call
- Understanding Specific Objective 3.2
  - Danube Region challenges and needs
  - Focus of SO3.2
  - Indicative activities
  - Project ideas & the intervention logic
  - Stakeholders and target groups
  - Synergy and capitalisation
- Programme support for applicants
- Closing thoughts



# Background



- 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 & the 1<sup>st</sup> Call



## First Call SO 3.2 in numbers

<b>Number of applications</b>	<b>22</b>																												
<b>Number of partners per country</b>	<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>AT</th><th>BG</th><th>CZ</th><th>DE</th><th>HR</th><th>HU</th><th>RO</th><th>SK</th><th>SI</th><th>BA</th><th>MD</th><th>ME</th><th>RS</th><th>UA</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>12</td><td>15</td><td>10</td><td>7</td><td>19</td><td>13</td><td>23</td><td>5</td><td>14</td><td>16</td><td>7</td><td>12</td><td>22</td><td>6</td></tr></tbody></table>	AT	BG	CZ	DE	HR	HU	RO	SK	SI	BA	MD	ME	RS	UA	12	15	10	7	19	13	23	5	14	16	7	12	22	6
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12	15	10	7	19	13	23	5	14	16	7	12	22	6																
<b>Number of applications moving to the 2<sup>nd</sup> step</b>	<b>2</b>																												
<b>Number of applications selected</b>	<b>?</b>																												



# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Call



	Opening date	Closing Date	Project Start
	End of October 2023	End of March 2024	Jan/Feb 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2nd Call is a one-step application procedure</li> <li>• Application via electronic submission through Jems</li> <li>• Partnership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• -LP principle</li> <li>• - Minimum of 3 financed partners from 3 countries (min 1 from EU)</li> <li>• - Associated Strategic Partners can be added</li> <li>• - The LP can be from any of the 14 countries apart from the Ukraine</li> <li>• - The inclusion of non-EU partners is encouraged</li> </ul> </li> <li>• No overall budget restrictions but typical projects are 1.5m-2.5m</li> <li>• The duration of projects must not exceed 36 months</li> <li>• EU contribution to the projects is at a co-financing rate of 80% (No pre-financing)</li> </ul>			



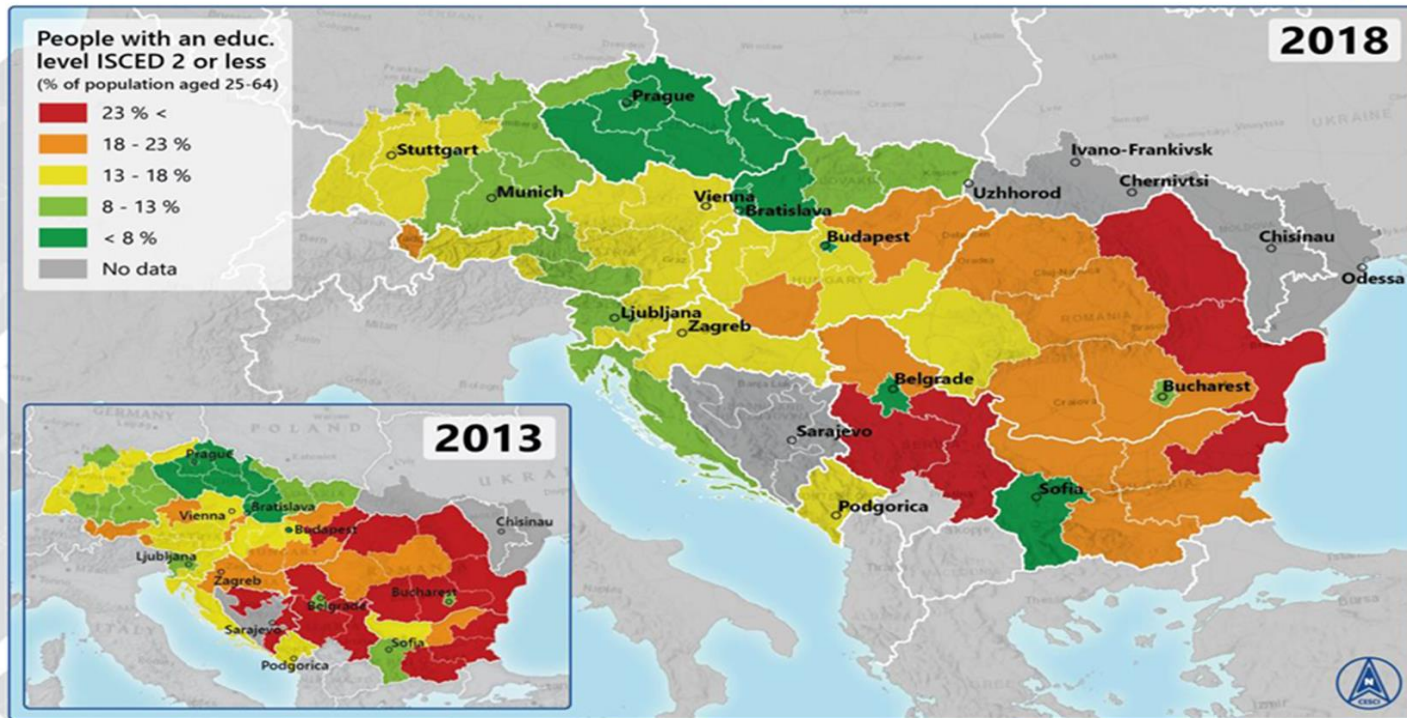
# Needs and Challenges(1)



Educational attainment levels - education and employment rates are strongly correlated



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



source: ESRI database, Eurostat, data submitted by the members  
© Central European Service for Cross-border Initiatives

0 75 150 300 450 600 Km

Early school leaving:

- Fragile socio-economic situations
- Learning difficulties
- Culture
- Health
- Disability
- Proximity to providers

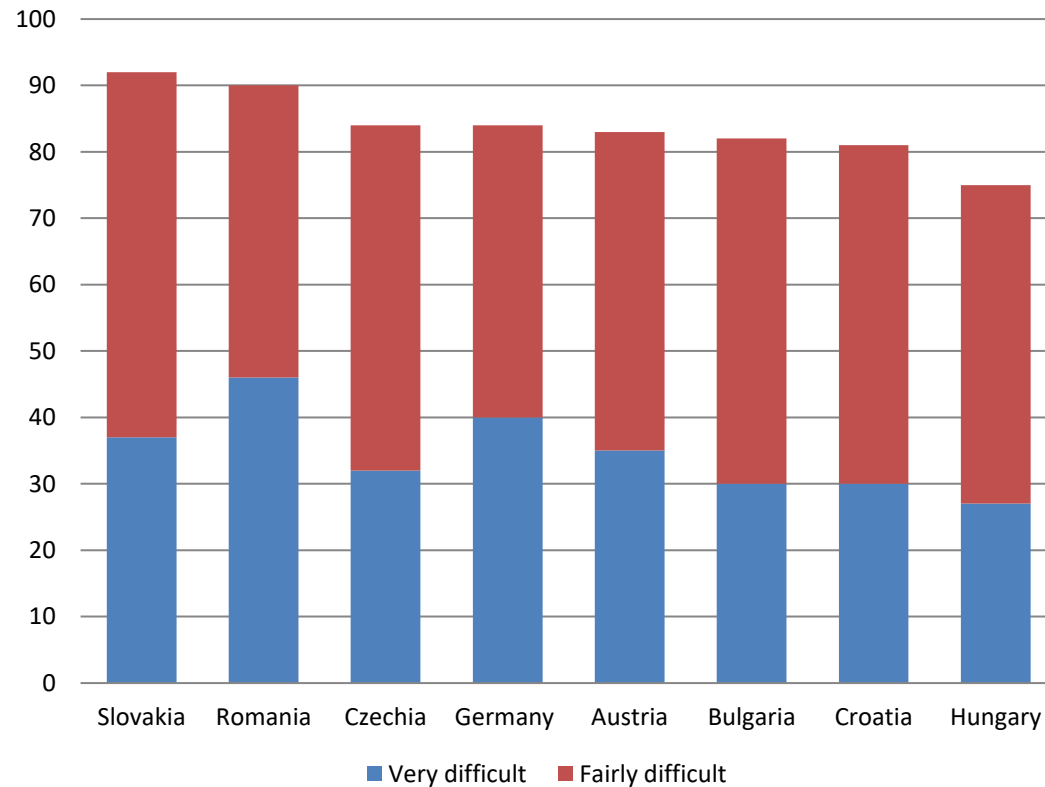


# Needs and Challenges(2)



## Meeting the needs of society and industry

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

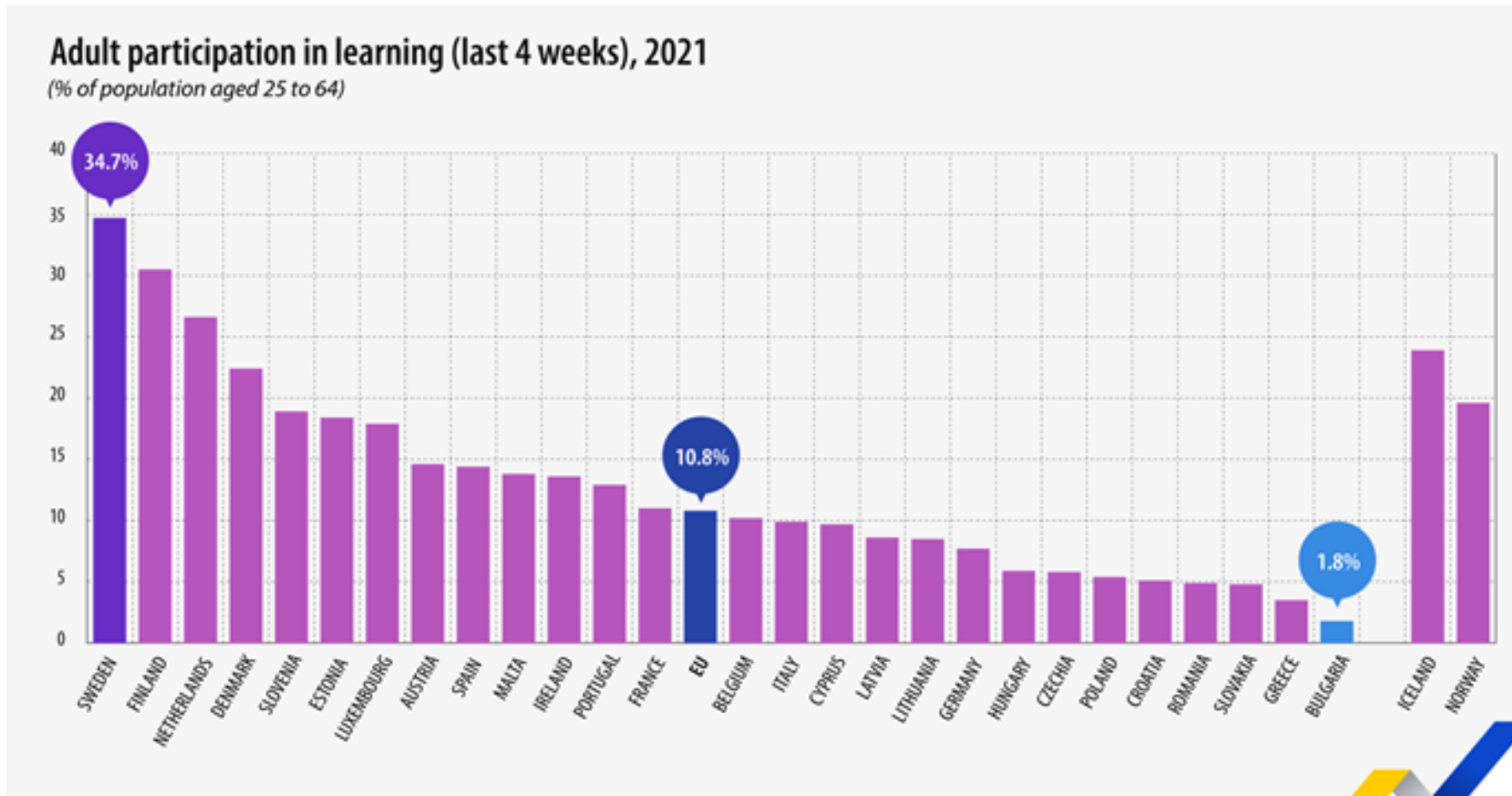


### Skills shortage

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



## Lifelong learning







## SO 3.2: Accessible and inclusive quality services in education, training and lifelong learning

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



## SO 3.2 : Accessible and inclusive quality services in education, training and lifelong learning

<b>Activity 1</b>	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
<b>Activity 2</b>	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
<b>Activity 3</b>	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

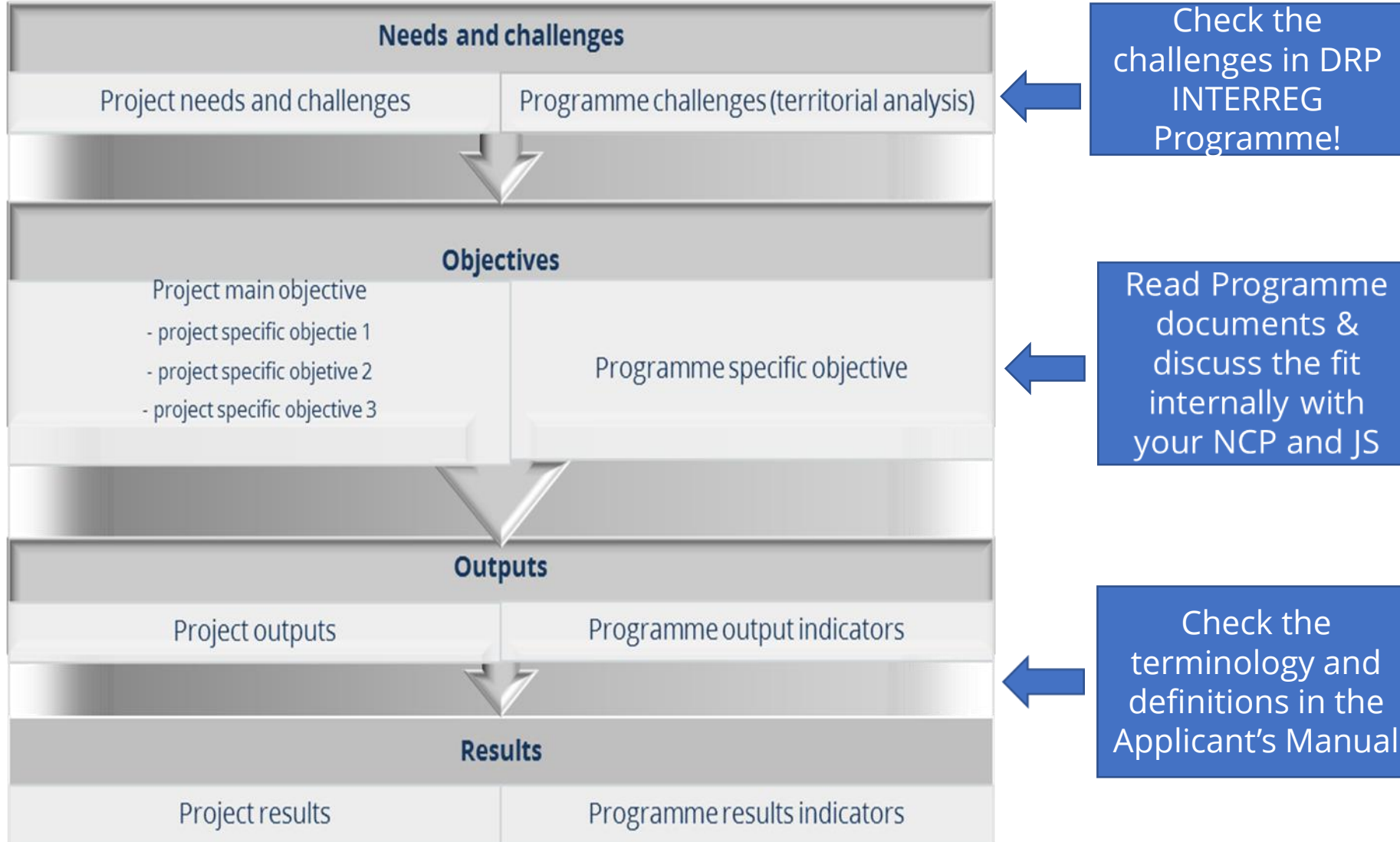


### SO 3.2: Accessible and inclusive quality services in education, training and lifelong learning

<b>Activity 4</b>	Innovative digital and remote education with e-solutions to mitigate rural disadvantage, provide employment related training and combat brain drain
<b>Activity 5</b>	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.



# Project ideas and the Intervention logic (IL)



Applicant's Manual (section II. 7 - and Annex 1) & webinar on IL



# Stakeholders & target groups



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				



# Synergy and capitalisation in SO3.2



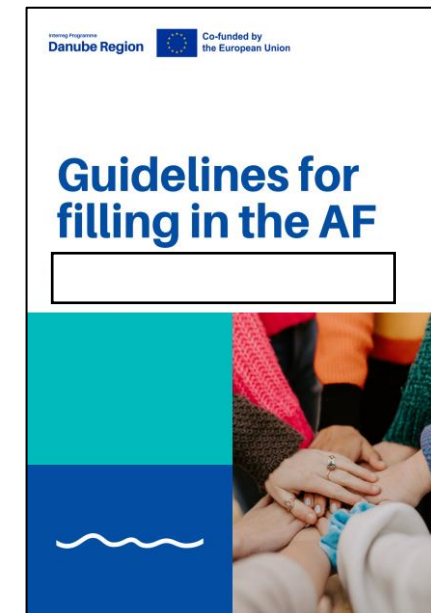
- Danube Region Strategy (EUSDR) PA 9: People and Skills
- Interreg Programmes
- ESF+
- Erasmus+
- Horizon Europe
- National/regional/local
- Other



# Programme support for applicants



- Programme website  
<http://www.interregdanube.eu>
- SO and LA webinars
- Consultations with project officers
- Matchmaking
- National Contact Points
- National level events
- EUSDR Priority Areas





# Closing thoughts



- Transnationality - minimum of 3 countries with at least 1 EU **but** it means more than this...
- Added value
- Transferability and durability

## AVOID

- Equipment and small investments unless it is essential for your idea and of clear added value
- Training replication – piloting towards a tested solution should be sought
- Main focus being towards research and studies





## Contact



Stephen Halligan  
Senior Project Officer, DRP

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

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