5th National Contact Point Meeting
Vienna | 14 September 2017

Programme specific objectives and thematic focus of third call

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE | Joint Secretariat
Cooperating beyond borders in central Europe to make our cities and regions better places to live and work

**Priority axis 1**
Cooperating on innovation to make CENTRAL EUROPE more competitive

**Priority axis 2**
Cooperating on low carbon strategies in CENTRAL EUROPE

**Priority axis 3**
Cooperating on natural and cultural resources for sustainable growth in CENTRAL EUROPE

**Priority axis 4**
Cooperating on transport to better connect CENTRAL EUROPE

**Specific objective 1.1**
To improve sustainable images among actors of the innovation systems for strengthening regional innovation capacities in central Europe

**Specific objective 2.1**
To develop and implement solutions for increasing energy efficiency and renewable energy usage in public infrastructures

**Specific objective 3.1**
To improve integrated environmental management capacities for the protection and sustainable use of natural heritage and resources

**Specific objective 4.1**
To improve planning and coordination of regional passenger transport systems for better connections to national and European transport networks

**Specific objective 1.2**
To improve skills and entrepreneurial competences for advancing economic and social innovation in central European regions

**Specific objective 2.2**
To improve territorially based low carbon energy planning strategies and policies supporting climate change mitigation

**Specific objective 3.2**
To improve capacities for the sustainable use of cultural heritage and resources

**Specific objective 4.2**
To improve coordination among freight transport stakeholders for increasing multimodal environment-friendly freight solutions

**Specific objective 2.3**
To improve capacities for urban planning in functional urban areas to lower CO2 emissions

**Specific objective 3.3**
To improve environmental management of functional urban areas to make them more liveable places
INNOVATION

PRIORITY AXIS 1
Cooperating on innovation to make CENTRAL EUROPE more competitive
SO 1.1 Improving sustainable linkages among actors of the innovation systems

**Thematic focus of third call:**

- Bottom-up implementation of **smart specialisation strategies (RIS3)** in technology priority areas
  - Triple and quadruple helix approaches to strengthen the participation of public and civil society actors
  - **Innovative practices** such as open innovation and co-creation approaches
  - Actions for bringing **innovation closer to the market** (e.g. financing mechanisms)

"**RIS3** - national or regional innovation strategies which set priorities in order to build competitive advantage by developing and matching research and innovation own strengths to business needs..."

See **Eye@RIS3: Innovation priorities in Europe** [http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/map](http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/map)
THEMATIC FOCUS OF THIRD CALL

SO 1.1 Improving sustainable linkages among actors of the innovation systems

Challenges and potentials:
- High and mostly unexploited potential of transnational cooperation for the bottom up implementation of RIS3
- Need for reforming innovation systems and leverage research and innovation
- Common technology priority areas for central Europe
- Increased innovation capacity requires stronger links between RIS3 stakeholders (triple/quadruple helix approaches)
- Need for innovative approaches, e.g. open innovation, co-creation and to bring innovation closer to the market
THEMATIC FOCUS OF THIRD CALL

SO 1.1 Improving sustainable linkages among actors of the innovation systems

Examples of supported actions (see annex I of application manual):

- Transnational integration of RIS3 implementation
- Strengthening **regional innovation eco-systems** through improving their transnational networks, collaborative schemes, joint innovation support services etc.
- Building **transnational links and strategic collaborations** between key RIS3 actors (in particular triple helix or quadruple)
- Innovative practices such as **open innovation and co-creation approaches**
- Bringing **innovation closer to the market** and facilitating the **access to financing of innovation**
SO 1.1 Improving sustainable linkages among actors of the innovation systems

Thematic clustering of approved projects (13 projects):

**RIS3 priority areas/industrial sectors**
- Advanced manufacturing
  - 3DCentral/ AMiCE/
  - FabLabNet/ KETGATE/
  - NUCLEII/SYNERGY/
  - TRANS3NET
- Agro- and Bio-
  - Economy, 
  - Environment&Energy
  - BioCompack-CE/
  - ENTeR
- Health
  - Digital Life4CE

**Other innovation policies**
- Research and development policies
  - SMART_watch
- Public procurement/ICT
  - PPI2Innovate
- Urban innovation
  - UrbanInno
Applications not demonstrating a clear contribution to the thematic focus of SO 1.1 on RIS3 will not be supported in the third call

(e.g. RTD projects, projects focusing purely on technology transfer between research and business)
SO 1.2 Improving skills and entrepreneurial competences for advancing economic & social innovation

Thematic focus of third call:

- **Social innovation** and integration of disadvantaged groups (including migrants) and regions
  - Bottom-up **social innovation practices** (e.g. support infrastructure, services and schemes)
  - Integration of disadvantaged groups into society and the labour market
  - Social innovation **policies** (e.g. policy coordination)
  - Social entrepreneurship

“**Social innovations** - new ideas (products, services and models) that simultaneously meet social needs (more effectively than alternatives) and create new social relationships or collaborations....Fields of activity are among others work integration, social services, education and research, culture and recreation, health etc.”
THEMATIC FOCUS OF THIRD CALL

SO 1.2 Improving skills and entrepreneurial competences for advancing economic & social innovation

Challenges and potentials:

- **Important current social challenges** in central Europe (unemployment, migration, brain drain, shrinking regions, social segregation etc.)
- **Need for improving integration of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups** by supporting the development of human capital and social economy
- **Key role of social entrepreneurs** as innovators and drivers of social inclusion
- **Insufficient knowledge** on social innovation and limited support of entrepreneurship activities
SO 1.2 Improving skills and entrepreneurial competences for advancing economic & social innovation

Examples of supported actions (see annex I of application manual):

- Bottom-up social innovation practices creating/strengthening support infrastructure, services and schemes
- Strategies/tools for the integration of disadvantaged groups including migrants into the labour market
- Support services and trainings for prospective entrepreneurs with a migrant background
- Innovation of social policies to better meet the needs of the disadvantaged groups
- Strategies/tools for improving social innovation initiatives as well as competences for social entrepreneurship
SO 1.2 Improving skills and entrepreneurial competences for advancing economic & social innovation

Thematic clustering of approved projects (12 projects):

- Entrepreneurship support and skills development
  - Entrepreneurial skills
    - I-CON/CERlecon/
    - THINGS+/ROSIE/
    - CROWD-FUND-PORT
  - Qualification programmes
    - Inno Peer AVM
  - Social entrepreneurship
    - ENTER-transfer/
    - Social(i)Makers

- Social innovation
  - Disadvantaged groups/areas
    - SENTINEL/ INNO-WISEs
  - Health sector
    - Focus in CD/ INTENT
Applications not demonstrating a clear contribution to the thematic focus of SO 1.2 on social innovation will not be supported in the third call

(e.g. projects focussing purely on training, business and competence development not considering the social innovation dimension)
LOW CARBON

PRIORITY AXIS 2
Cooperating on low carbon strategies in CENTRAL EUROPE
SO 2.1 Increasing energy efficiency (EE) and renewable energy usage in public infrastructures

Thematic focus of third call:

- Energy efficiency and renewable energy usage of public infrastructure other than buildings and streetlights:
  - Transport infrastructure (railway, road, waterways, terminals etc.)
  - Water infrastructure including distribution and maintenance of water supply
  - Waste and waste water infrastructure including collection and treatment
  - ICT infrastructure including data storage and distribution systems

- Integration of renewable energy sources (excluding public buildings and streetlights)
- Financing aspects of energy efficient renovation (excluding public buildings and streetlights)

“Public infrastructure - infrastructure that is owned by the public and/or is for public use...”
SO 2.1 Increasing energy efficiency (EE) and renewable energy usage in public infrastructures

Challenges and potentials:

- High relevance and need of improving EE of public infrastructure to reach energy targets
- Need to decrease central Europe`s energy import dependency
- Clear potential for achieving a low carbon economy and combating climate change
- Disparities of knowledge and expertise of public infrastructure owners and operators on EE measures among central European regions
- Seedbed for leverage of EE investments and multiplier effects
THEMATIC FOCUS OF THIRD CALL

SO 2.1 Increasing energy efficiency (EE) and renewable energy usage in public infrastructures

Examples of supported actions (see annex I of application manual):

- Policies/strategies/solutions to improve EE in public infrastructures as well as to increase the use of renewable energies
- Innovative management approaches for improving energy performance in public infrastructure
- Application of novel energy saving technologies that will increase EE in public infrastructures
- Strengthening the capacity of the public sector on innovative energy services, incentives and financing schemes
SO 2.1 Increasing energy efficiency and renewable energy usage in public infrastructures

Thematic clustering of approved projects (7 projects):

**Public buildings**
- Municipal/ Administrative buildings
- BOOSTEE-CE/eCentral
- Schools
  - FEEDSCHOOLS/Energy@School/TOGETHER

**Other public infrastructure**
- Transport infrastructure
  - DYNAMIC LIGHT
- Waste/ water water infrastructure
  - REEF2W
Applications not demonstrating a clear contribution to the thematic focus of SO 2.1 will not be supported in the third call

(i.e. projects addressing public buildings and streetlights)
SO 2.2 To improve territorially based low-carbon energy planning strategies and policies supporting climate change mitigation

**Thematic scope (fully open within third call):**

- Supporting innovative local and regional energy planning strategies
- Facilitating the transition towards ‘Sustainable Energy Regions’
- Linking of approaches between demand and supply sides
- Mobilising investment for low-carbon measures at territorial level

“Energy planning at the territorial level provides a framework linked to policies and economic development which considers specific local/regional patterns of energy needs and resources serving as a tool to mitigate climate change and enhancing sustainability.”
SO 2.2 To improve territorially based low-carbon energy planning strategies and policies supporting climate change mitigation

Challenges and potentials:
- High potential of renewable resources in central Europe
- Degree of exploitation varies largely between MS
- Development and implementation of local/regional energy strategies and action plans still at a low level
SO 2.2 To improve territorially based low-carbon energy planning strategies and policies supporting climate change mitigation

Examples of supported actions (see annex I of application manual):

- Integrated territorial strategies/plans to increase the use of endogenous renewable energy potentials and improve regional energy performance
- Territorial strategies/tools to improve the energy management in both the public and the private sector (especially in SMEs)
- Demand-focused strategies and policies to reduce energy consumption
- Strategies/solutions for improved interconnections and coordination of energy networks, smart grids development and deployment, energy storage
- Promoting the role of energy prosumers in achieving the vision of the Energy Union
SO 2.2 To improve territorially based low-carbon energy planning strategies and policies supporting climate change mitigation

Thematic clustering of approved projects (5 projects):

- Energy planning
  - Good governance: CitiEnGov
  - Renewable energy resources: RURES, GeoPLASMA-CE
  - Energy financing: FIRECE
  - Waste heat: CE-HEAT
SO 2.3 To improve capacities for mobility planning in functional urban areas to lower CO2 emissions

CLOSED WITHIN THE THIRD CALL

Thematic clustering of approved projects (6 projects):

- Clean freight management
  - SULPiTER
- Low-emission zones
  - SOLEZ
- Airpassengers mobility
  - LAirA
- Low-carb mobility planning
  - LOW-CARB / MOVECIT / SMART-COM
ENVIRONMENT AND CULTURE

PRIORITy AXIs 3
Cooperating on natural and cultural resources for sustainable growth in CENTRAL EUROPE
SO 3.1 To improve integrated environmental management capacities for the protection and sustainable use of natural heritage and resources

Thematic scope (fully open within third call):

- Integrated environmental management approaches and uptake into the public and private sector
- Reducing current and avoiding future usage conflicts
- Resource efficiency as guiding principle
- Capitalising on location factors

“Integrated environmental management - Comprehensive approach to natural resource planning and management encompassing ecological, social, and economic objectives. It considers interrelationships among different elements and incorporates concepts of carrying capacity, resilience and sustainability.”
SO 3.1 To improve integrated environmental management capacities for the protection and sustainable use of natural heritage and resources

Challenges and potentials:

- Very rich natural heritage including important eco-systems of central Europe
- Natural heritage as important location factor and driver for economic development
- Numerous pressures and usage conflicts including climate change
- Need for protection measures and ecological restoration
- Limited capacities for integrated environmental approaches
SO 3.1 To improve integrated environmental management capacities for the protection and sustainable use of natural heritage and resources

Examples of supported actions (see annex I of application manual):

- Integrated strategies/tools for sustainable management of protected or environmentally highly valuable areas
- Integrated strategies/tools to sustainably use natural resources for regional development, thus avoiding potential use conflicts
- Innovative technologies/tools for effective integrated environmental management
- Efficient management of natural resources in public institutions and enterprises
- Harmonising concepts/tools for environmental risk management and reducing negative climate change impacts
SO 3.1 To improve integrated environmental management capacities for the protection and sustainable use of natural heritage and resources

Thematic clustering of approved projects (9 projects):

- **Natural heritage**
  - Biodiversity & habitats: 3Lynx / CEETO / MaGICLandscapes / SUSTREE

- **Natural resources**
  - Water management: FramWat / PROLINE-CE / RAINMAN
  - Air quality: InAirQ
  - Circular economy: CIRCE2020
SO 3.2 Improving capacities for the sustainable use of cultural heritage and resources

Thematic focus of the third call:

- Cultural and creative industries (CCI):
  - CCI entrepreneurship
  - CCI policies
  - linking CCI to other sectors and innovative technologies (cross-sectorial cooperation)

“Cultural industries - producing and distributing goods or services which at the time they are developed are considered to have a specific attribute, use or purpose which embodies or conveys cultural expressions, irrespective of the commercial value they may have. Besides the traditional arts sectors (performing arts, visual arts, cultural heritage - including the public sector), they include film, DVD and video, television and radio, video games, new media, music, books and press.”

“Creative industries - use culture as an input and have a cultural dimension, although their outputs are mainly functional. They include architecture and design, which integrate creative elements into wider processes, as well as sub-sectors such as graphic design, fashion design or advertising.”
SO 3.2 Improving capacities for the sustainable use of cultural heritage and resources

Challenges and potentials:

- Great diversity of cultural heritage and resources in central Europe
- Clear potential of cross-sectorial cooperation between cultural heritage actors and the different creative sectors
- High relevance of cultural and creative entrepreneurship
- Need for strengthening small creative businesses
THEMATIC FOCUS OF THIRD CALL

SO 3.2 Improving capacities for the sustainable use of cultural heritage and resources

Examples of supported actions (see annex I of application manual):

- Strategies and policies for valorising the potentials of CCI
- Integrated territorial development strategies/concepts building on CCI
- Tools and approaches for a better promotion of the CCI sector and fostering of CCI entrepreneurship
- Enhancing cross-sectorial cooperation and linkages of CCI to other sectors and/or innovative technologies
SO 3.2 Improving capacities for the sustainable use of cultural heritage and resources

Thematic clustering of approved projects (16 projects):

- **Heritage sites & historic buildings**
  - Management of historic buildings/sites
  - RESTAURA/RUINS/ BhENEFIT/ ProteCHT2save
  - Archeological sites
  - VirtualArch
  - Museums and parks
    - COME-IN/HICAPS/ CULTURECOVERY

- **Intangible cultural heritage**
  - Industrial culture
    - InduCult2.0
  - Culture routes
    - ECRR/ NewPilgrimAge
  - Crafts and traditions
    - SlowFood-CE/ ARTISTIC/ YouinHerit

- **Cultural and creative industries**
  - Re-use of neglected spaces
    - FORGET HERITAGE/ REFREsh
Applications not demonstrating a clear contribution to the thematic focus of SO 3.2 on CCI will not be supported in the third call (e.g. projects focusing on cultural routes linking historic sites)
SO 3.3 To improve environmental management of functional urban areas to make them more liveable places

Thematic scope (fully open within third call):

- Integrated environmental management to tackle urban environmental problems related to both core areas and their hinterlands
- Cross-sectoral and multilevel governance for better planning, management and decision making
- Triggering follow-up investments for improving the quality of the urban environment

“Functional urban areas - economic unit characterised by densely inhabited “urban cores” and “hinterlands” whose labour market is highly integrated. This spatial delimitation beyond administrative borders is relevant for a multitude of thematic fields, e.g. transport, economic development, environment, social.”
SO 3.3 To improve environmental management of functional urban areas to make them more liveable places

Challenges and potentials:

- Land use conflicts and environmental challenges due to urbanization
- Urban environmental problems of increased soil sealing, poor air and water quality, high levels of ambient noise, large volumes of waste and waste water, vulnerability to climate change and urban sprawl
- Need for integrated environmental management considering both urban cores and hinterlands (functional urban area)
SO 3.3 To improve environmental management of functional urban areas to make them more liveable places

Examples of supported actions (see annex I of application manual):

- Strategies/tools to manage environmental quality and tackle natural and man-made risks in functional urban areas
- Strengthening the capacity for environmental planning and management at the level of functional urban areas
- Integrated strategies, policies and tools to reduce land-use conflicts in functional urban areas
- Integrated strategies and pilot applications for the rehabilitation and reactivation of brownfield sites
- Concepts and environmental pilot applications to support the development towards smart cities
SO 3.3 To improve environmental management of functional urban areas to make them more liveable places

Thematic clustering of approved projects (8 projects):

Environmental management at FUA level

- Waste & resource efficiency
  
  STREFOWA / SURFACE

- Soil & brownfields
  
  LUMAT / GreenerSites

- Water management
  
  AMIIGA

- Air quality
  
  AIR TRITIA / AWAIR

- Green spaces
  
  UGB
PRIORITY AXIS 4
Cooperating on transport to better connect CENTRAL EUROPE
SO 4.1 To improve planning and coordination of regional passenger transport systems for better connections to national and European transport networks

**Thematic scope (fully open within third call):**

- Improving connections to the TEN-T network and transport nodes, especially for peripheral regions/areas
- Focus on sustainable public transport at regional level
- Increasing planning and implementation capacity in the field of integrated passenger transport systems
- Improving regional and transnational coordination between stakeholders

“**Regional passenger transport system** - combination of vehicles, infrastructure and operations that enable the movements or satisfy the travel demand of people within a defined region.”
SO 4.1 To improve planning and coordination of regional passenger transport systems for better connections to national and European transport networks

Challenges and potentials:

- Weak local, regional and transnational accessibility especially outside of agglomerations and in eastern parts of central Europe
- Limited integration between modes of transport
- Low quality of public transport in peripheral areas and insufficient linkages to TEN-T corridors and transport nodes
- Need for reducing disparities of knowledge on integrated passenger transport systems and increasing coordination
SO 4.1 To improve planning and coordination of regional passenger transport systems for better connections to national and European transport networks

Examples of supported actions (see annex I of application manual):

- Strategies (including innovative financing and investment models) to link sustainable passenger transport in particular in peripheral areas to the TEN-T network and transport nodes
- Coordinated strategies, tools and pilot applications to improve regional public transport systems for passengers in particular across borders
- Pilot applications for smart regional mobility
- Coordinated concepts, standards and tools for improved mobility services in the public interest
SO 4.1 To improve planning and coordination of regional passenger transport systems for better connections to national and European transport networks

Thematic clustering of approved projects (6 projects):

- **Planning and coordination of transport systems**
  - Integrated passenger transport in peripheral and border regions
    - CONNECT2CE / Peripheral Access / RUMOBIL / SubNodes / TRANS-BORDERS
  - Smart regional mobility/Intelligent transport systems
    - SHAREPLACE
SO 4.2 To improve coordination among freight transport stakeholders for increasing multimodal environmentally-friendly freight solutions

**Thematic scope** (fully open within third call):

- Enhancing efficiency, reliability and quality of **greener freight transport** modes (e.g. rail, river or sea transport) and services
- Strengthening capacities in **multimodal logistics management**
- Overcoming discontinuities of **logistic chains and services across borders** and optimising freight flows
- Paving the way for designing and implementing **future freight transport infrastructure**

“**Multimodal transport** - Carriage of goods by at least two different modes of transport. Thereby environmentally friendly transport solutions are those allowing a significant reduction of emissions of CO2, NOx and particulate matter as well as of noise.”
SO 4.2 To improve coordination among freight transport stakeholders for increasing multimodal environmentally-friendly freight solutions

Challenges and potentials:

- Regional disparities in multimodal accessibility in central Europe
- Need for optimisation of individual transport modes and their combination in multi-modal freight transport chains
- Lack of shared standards and procedures
- Limited coordination poses a barrier to more streamlined, flexible and sustainable multimodal freight transport
SO 4.2 To improve coordination among freight transport stakeholders for increasing multimodal environmentally-friendly freight solutions

Examples of supported actions (see annex I of application manual):

- Coordinated strategies (including innovative financing and investment models) for strengthening the multimodality of environmentally-friendly freight transport systems
- Coordination and collaboration mechanisms between multimodal freight transport actors
- Coordinated concepts, management tools and services for increasing the share of environmentally friendly logistics through optimised freight transport chains
- Coordinated strategies and concepts for “greening” the last mile of freight transport
SO 4.2 To improve coordination among freight transport stakeholders for increasing multimodal environmentally-friendly freight solutions

Thematic clustering of approved projects (3 projects):

- **Multimodal environmentally freight transport**
  - **Modal shift for chemical logistics** *ChemMultimodal*
  - **Eco-performance of ports and inland terminals** *TalkNET*
  - **Cross-border transport** *TRANS TRITIA*