



COOPERATION IS CENTRAL FOR A MORE COHESIVE EUROPE

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Conference on 22 March 2023

Livestream Agenda

Conference Outline

In August 2022, Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE celebrated an important anniversary: For 25 years, transnational cooperation has contributed to changing central Europe. In these years, we have financed hundreds of transformative project ideas beyond borders. Partners from across central Europe have cooperated to realise innovative solutions, pilot actions and investments based on trustful cooperation.

In the morning session of our programme conference, we will reflect on this success story and look ahead. We will discuss the future of transnational cooperation with central European policy and decision makers as well as renowned experts and project partners. How can cooperation contribute to a more cohesive central Europe challenged by the green and digital transitions? Why will cooperation be central also beyond 2027?

If you have a project idea and want to get funded, you should also join our conference livestream: We will launch the second call for proposals. We will present our expectations and look back at our first call for proposals, which resulted in more than 50 newly funded projects that will make our programme area smarter, greener, more connected and better governed.

Please note: The afternoon sessions of the conference will take place onsite only. In a series of workshops, our newly funded project partners will have the opportunity to get to know each other, exchange with experts from other financing instruments and identify potential collaborations in the same thematic fields.

Conference Format

The programme conference will take place in a hybrid format online and in Vienna (on invitation only) on 22 March 2023. You can [register for online participation here](#).

The plenary sessions in the morning will be livestreamed on the digital programme community. Participation onsite is limited to 150 persons on invitation only. Guests will include policy makers from various governance levels, partners of the newly funded projects, and selected thematic experts.

The event will be hosted in English without translation.



Agenda | 22 March 2023

09.00

Registration

09.30

Opening and Welcome

Mr Roland Arbter, Deputy Director, Directorate Coordination Regional Policy and Spatial Planning,
Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions, and Water Management

09.45

“Cooperation Is Central for a More Cohesive Europe In Transition”

This session will look into reasons why cooperation is central for a more cohesive central Europe. Following a political keynote speech and an expert input, a panel of policy makers and practitioners from the ground will talk about future scenarios for EU cohesion policy and the role of transnational cooperation.

Keynote Speech

“How Cohesion Policy Helps to Transform Croatia”

Mr Šime Erlić, Minister of Regional Development and EU Funds of the Republic of Croatia

Expert Input

“The Future of Cohesion Policy and Territorial Cooperation”

Mr Kai Böhme, Expert for European Regional and Territorial Research and Policies, Spatial Foresight

Panel Discussion

“Reflections on Territorial Cooperation Today and Tomorrow”

Mr Slawomir Tokarski, Director for European Territorial Cooperation, European Commission

Mr Roland Arbter, Deputy Director, Directorate Coordination Regional Policy and Spatial Planning,
Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions, and Water Management

Ms Francesca Campomori, Associate Professor at Philosophy and Cultural Heritage Department, University of Venice

Mr František Kubeš, Head of Department Strategic Development and Cooperation, Statutory City of Brno

11.00

Coffee Break



11.30

“Let’s Get the Money on The Ground!”

This session will reflect on first call outcomes and provide information on the launch of the second call. The presentations and interviews will be followed by a Q&A session.

Ms Nadja Kobe, Chair of the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Monitoring Committee

Ms Christiane Breznik, Head of the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Managing Authority

Mr Luca Ferrarese, Head of the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Joint Secretariat

The conference livestream ends at 12h30

12.30

Networking Lunch

14.00

“Strengthening the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Community”

Community-building workshops (along the specific funding objectives) will be organised in two rounds and facilitate thematic exchanges to identify potential future collaborations. Attendance will be open to all onsite participants in both workshop rounds. However, participants can also retreat to an open networking space.

Thematic Roundtable Meetings (Round 1)

- Strengthening Innovation Capacities - Health and Social Care (SO 1.1)
- Strengthening Innovation Capacities - Business Development, Industry4.0 and Beyond (SO 1.1)
- Supporting Climate-Neutral Energy Transition (SO 2.1)
- Increasing Climate Change Resilience (SO 2.2)
- Greening Urban Mobility (SO 2.5)

15.30

Coffee Break



16.00

“Strengthening the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Community”

Thematic Roundtable Meetings (Round 2)

- Developing Smart Skills (SO 1.2)
- Taking Circular Economy Forward (SO 2.3)
- Safeguarding the Environment (SO 2.4)
- Improving Rural and Peripheral Transport (SO 3.1)
- Strengthening Governance for Integrated Territorial Development (SO 4.1)

17.30 -20.00

Networking Reception