

Implementing the Territorial Agenda 2030

Examples for a
territorial approach
in policy design and delivery



Imprint

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1 Introduction

This report contributes to the implementation and application of the Territorial Agenda 2030 as a framework for action towards territorial cohesion and a future for all places in Europe. It collects and explores projects, initiatives and instruments that provide inspirational examples for pursuing a territorial approach in policy design and delivery. Preparatory work on the Territorial Agenda 2030 has included the launch of dedicated pilot actions. This report aims to help stimulate the development of new pilot actions, by highlighting examples of on-going projects which fit the objectives and priorities of the Territorial Agenda 2030. These examples show that diversity of work going on, raise awareness of the benefits, and provide insights for pursuing the Territorial Agenda in practice.

Europe faces urgent challenges of territorial inequality and cohesion. Processes of technological progress, demographic transition and climate change offer opportunities to reset territorial trajectories but they can also exacerbate inequalities and imbalances between people and places and prompt development processes that are socially, economically and environmentally unsustainable in the long term. These processes are strongly connected and intertwined and they have an impact on all places. To be effective, policies responding to them must take account of the diversity of places in Europe and the varied development potential and challenges they have. Moreover, there is strong spatial differentiation in the spread of COVID-19, in resilience to the immediate and longer-term socio-economic impacts of outbreaks and lockdown measures and in recovery trajectories.

Against this background, the EU Territorial Agenda 2030 emphasises the importance of territorial approaches to policy design and delivery. It provides orientation for strategic spatial planning and highlights the need for strengthening the territorial dimension of sector policies at all governance levels. The Territorial Agenda sets out key priorities and pilot actions to increase awareness of the importance of place-based policies and demonstrate how the territorial dimension of regional, national and European policies can be actively addressed. Policy responses can vary in terms of thematic orientation, geographic orientation, mode of implementation etc. but common goals are to address inequalities and spatial imbalances and support societal transformation toward a carbon/climate-neutral economy.

Taking a territorial approach may appear demanding but it is important to note that significant benefits are already being achieved through the strategic use of existing resources. Governance structures can determine the optimal mix of investment priorities and achieve the necessary vertical and horizontal coordination to design and deliver integrated development strategies. Different geographical approaches, for example via functional urban areas, cross-border areas, urban-rural linkages etc., can develop innovative solutions to common challenges and unlock new potentials. Opening up the process of developing policy interventions to a broader range of territorial stakeholders can identify new ideas, financial sources and administrative capacities.

Against this background, the report highlights previous or existing projects, initiatives and instruments that pursue a territorial approach. Its objectives are to demonstrate what has already been achieved, raise awareness of the benefits gained, and provide insights for pursuing the Territorial Agenda in practice. It covers 52 examples, presented in the report's annex, that were collected across Europe from a variety of thematic, institutional and geographical contexts. These were selected to illustrate different aspects of the territorial approach in policy design and delivery and draw out key insights rather than demonstrate best practices. The examples portray the diversity of ongoing activities, yet all have implicit or explicit linkages with the objectives and priorities of the Territorial Agenda 2030.

Subsequent sections of the report explore different dimensions of the collected cases:

- Chapter 2 of the report sets out the coverage of the 52 examples of territorial approaches collected and analysed for the report and describes their general connection with the priorities of the Territorial Agenda 2030.
- Chapter 3 explains how the Territorial Agenda 2030 plays a role, in principle and in practice, encouraging such approaches. Importantly, it notes how the priorities and aims identified in the the Territorial Agenda 2030 are being pursued in existing examples. The purpose is to raise awareness among decision makers of the types of activities being pursued to strengthen the territorial dimension of policies under different headings.
- Chapter 4 assesses the features of the collected examples from the perspective of the added value or benefits they offer. These benefits are explored under four main headings (the focus on specific territorial potentials, pursuit of policy integration and synergies, introducing innovative and experimental initiatives, strengthening governance models and capacities). Case study boxes are used to demonstrate these benefits in more detail.
- Chapter 5 concludes by reviewing the cases from the perspective of practical implementation. The aim is to highlight key organising principles and practical implementation steps for those involved in managing and implementing territorial approaches 'on the ground'.

2 Coverage of territorial examples

The aim of the report is to collect and explore projects, initiatives and instruments that provide inspirational examples for using a territorial approach in policy design and delivery. A total of 52 examples have been collected as a starting set. More examples are expected to be pooled and assessed during the implementation phase of the Territorial Agenda 2030. The individual descriptions of all 52 examples are collected in the Annex. A range of factors have been taken into account in collecting territorial actions: the priorities included in the Territorial Agenda 2030, geographical coverage, the type of role or benefit of the territorial approach, the administrative levels involved, and the implementation mode (e.g. is it based on a strategy, tool, governance approach etc.). The selection process aimed at a balanced spread of topics and geographic areas that cover both the priorities of the Territorial Agenda 2030 as well as all participating countries. For each collected example, a comprehensive process of desk research established an understanding of the challenges being addressed, the rationale for taking a territorial approach, the experience of implementing the action and the benefits or impact. The research was based on existing information in the public domain rather than direct contact with those involved in designing and implementing the examples.

It is important to note that examples are drawn from both established initiatives and emerging innovative approaches. Some represent a completed phase of project work that has steered a territory in a constructive direction. Other examples represent initiatives at an earlier stage, with prospective visions of strengthened territorial cohesion. Clearly, there is more scope to assess the impact and benefits of established or completed actions. However, it is important to include new or emerging territorial actions in order to inform future work on the Territorial Agenda, to identify innovative approaches and responses to new challenges (including the recent outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic). The analysis is not based on an exhaustive study. It is envisaged as a collection of examples that provide some inspiration of how the territorial approach can be applied under the priorities of the Territorial Agenda 2030 in different contexts and the benefits that can be gained as a result.

The analysis explores the collection of examples from different perspectives. The examples are assessed in terms of how they fit with the thematic priorities of the Territorial Agenda 2030, in order to provide inspiration for future initiatives based on existing practice. In order to motivate future work, they are also analysed in relation to the added value or benefits that taking a territorial approach creates. Finally, they are studied from a practical perspective in order to develop insights and recommendations for the concrete implementation of territorial approaches. As a result, some examples are referred to more than once across the chapters of the report but the aim is to derive different types of insights that are informative to different audiences and stakeholders.

The examples collected have a range of connections with different priorities the Territorial Agenda 2030. Figure 1 visualises these connections through a grid that assigns all 52 examples to the governance levels of main impact as well as the six priorities of the Territorial Agenda 2030. As the list of examples is not exhaustive, no concrete trends can be identified with regards to the accumulation of certain examples. However, the grid perspective provides some interesting general insights.

In terms of the governance level of main impact:

- The collected examples cover the multiple governance levels at which territorial approaches can take place. In several cases there is coordination across these tiers, with the assumption that impact needs to always reach the local level. Furthermore, the examples underline that the orchestrating of a multifaceted set of governance levels is sometimes pivotal in order to achieve change for the territories.
- There is a stronger accumulation of examples at the local and regional level. This reflects that social, economic and environmental challenges and transformations are experienced most strongly ‘on the ground’ and that increasing attention is being paid to ‘place-based’ territorial responses that address the specific challenges and potentials of local areas.
- Although the examples include several cases of valuable cross-border initiatives supporting the Territorial Agenda 2030, it is important to bear in mind that it often demands specific capacities and longer timescales to introduce significant change and overcome typical barriers (e.g. different legal framework conditions).
- Transnational examples exist for most priorities of the Territorial Agenda 2030. This indicates that transnational support and coordination of concrete local and regional actions (e.g. through facilitating programmes such as Interreg), can produce leverage and incentivise cross-regional impulses.

Concerning the spread of examples across the priorities:

- Long-standing EU policy priorities (the promotion of cohesion and polycentrism, the closing of socioeconomic disparities, protecting and valorising natural heritage etc.) are well represented and an accumulation of good examples can be found under the priorities of Balanced Europe, Functional Regions and Healthy Environment.
- On the other hand, policy priorities that are comparably new (e.g. Circular Economy) are still establishing a strong territorial impact, and are worthy of particular policy attention in the future.

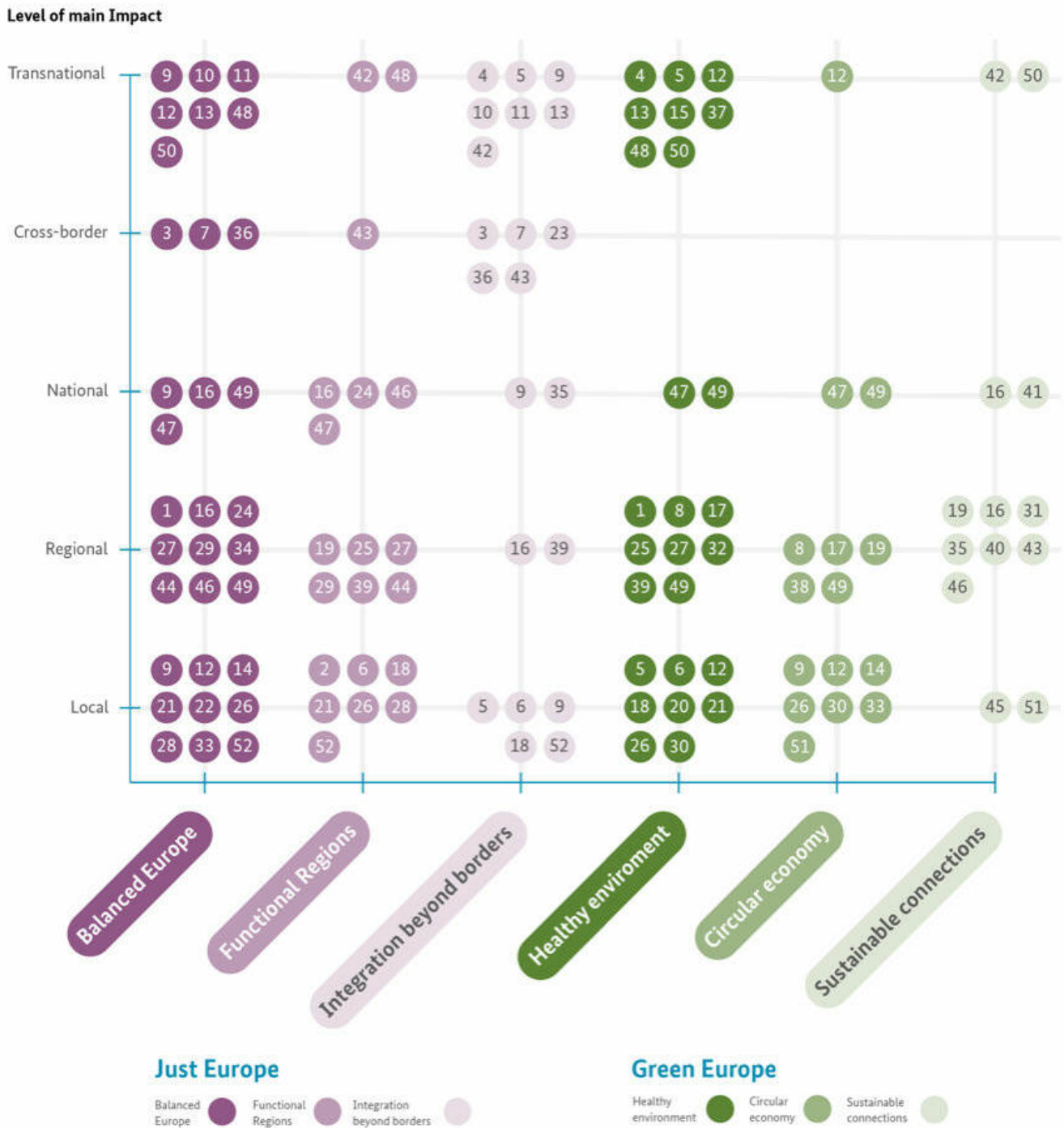


Figure 1 Example matrix showing level of impact and the thematic columns of the Territorial Agenda 2030

1. Regional Programme for Climate Change mitigation and adaptation in the Azores (PT) | A.Li.: National regional | F.Lo.t.o.: Regional ●●
2. Metropolitan cooperation through the ITI instrument (CZ) | A.Li.: Local | F.Lo.t.o.: Transnational, local ●
3. CLLD approach Interreg A Austria-Italy "Terra Raetica" (AT, IT, CH) | A.Li.: Cross-border, transnational, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●●
4. JECAMI Tool for connectivity matrix (All Countries sharing the Alpine Arc) | A.Li.: Transnational, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Transnational, regional, local ●●
5. Alpine Soil Partnership (All Countries interested) | A.Li.: Transnational, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Transnational, regional, local ●●
6. Safeguarding green spaces/peri-urban landscapes in growing cities (AT, FR, DE, IT, SL) ●●●
A.Li.: Governments of urban and metropolitan areas | F.Lo.t.o.: Transnational, local
7. TIA: Territorial Impact Assessment for cross-border regions (DE, NL, SE, NO, RO, BG, UK, IE) | A.Li.: Regional | F.Lo.t.o.: Regional; cross-border ●●
8. Creating a resilient forest (DE) | A.Li.: Local, regional | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●●
9. Partnership Hub Wadden Sea (DK, DE, NL) | A.Li.: Transnational, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Transnational, regional, local ●●●
10. NANORA: Nano Regions Alliance (FR, DE, NL, IE, LU, UK) | A.Li.: Transnational, regional | F.Lo.t.o.: Transnational, regional ●●
11. Carpathian Convention (All countries sharing the Carpathian Arc) | A.Li.: Global, EU, Transnational, National, Regional | F.Lo.t.o.: Transnational, Regional, Local ●●●
12. GEAP: Green Economy Action Programme (AT, DE, FR, IT, SL, CH) ●●●
A.Li.: Transnational, National, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Transnational, National, regional, local - with a strong focus on the activation of local change agents
13. Arctic Cooperation: Arctic Programme Cooperation (GL, FO, IE, IS, RU, SJ, UK) | A.Li.: Transnational, Regional | F.Lo.t.o.: Transnational, Regional ●●
14. Territorial Impact Assessment and territorial cohesion (IT) | A.Li.: National, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●●
15. Baltadapt: Baltic Sea Climate change adaption (DK, EE, FI, DE, LV, LT, SE) | A.Li.: Macroregional, National, Local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local macroregional ●
16. Ireland 2040: Integrated national territorial planning (IE) | A.Li.: National, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: National, regional, local ●●
17. The Cittaslow initiative in Warminsko-Mazurskie (PL) | A.Li.: Transnational, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●●
18. BeGOOD – Open Data for a smarter society (BE, FR, IE, LU, NL, UK) | A.Li.: City | F.Lo.t.o.: City ●●
19. 6 AIKA - Six City Strategy for sustainable urban development (FI) | A.Li.: National, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●●●
20. Greens in the Park (NL) | A.Li.: Local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●
21. LIFE-MICACC Project – Municipalities as Integrators and Coordinators in Adaptation to Climate Change (HU) ●●●
A.Li.: National, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local
22. Urban Lab Pilot, Inner Harbour Norrköping (SE) | A.Li.: Transnational, national, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●
23. ITI: Integrated Territorial Investments: Approach in the Interreg A Programme (IT, SL) | A.Li.: National, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●
24. Reshaping Regional Innovation Systems (IT) | A.Li.: Regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Regional ●●
25. Mainstreaming Green Economy (MT) | A.Li.: National, regional | F.Lo.t.o.: Regional ●●
26. Regenerating an innovation dock (NL) | A.Li.: Regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●●●
27. Enforcing a Pact for Employment (CZ) | A.Li.: Regional | F.Lo.t.o.: Regional ●●●
28. Reshaping Territorial Industrial Vocation (DE) | A.Li.: Regional and Local Government | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●●
29. ICT for Territorial and Social Cohesion (ES) | A.Li.: Regional | F.Lo.t.o.: Regional ●●
30. Gardens for Territorial Integration (PT) | A.Li.: Regional | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●●
31. Beyond the 'BIG BUILD' – Promoting Superfast broadband in peripheral areas (UK) | A.Li.: Regional | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●
32. Biodiversity as a territorial asset (HR) | A.Li.: National | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●
33. Place Based Rural Policy (FI) | A.Li.: National, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local Rural Areas ●●
34. Place-Based Response to Covid-19 (FRO, FI, GR, IS, IE, NR, SJM, UK) | A.Li.: Regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local Rural Areas ●
35. RAISE-IT: EGTC Rhine-Alpine (BE, FR, DE, IT, CH, NL) | A.Li.: EGTC regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Cross border cities ●
36. DenkRaumBodensee (AT, DE, CH) | A.Li.: Transnational, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Cross-border, regional ●●
37. LER: Living European Rivers (All European Countries) | A.Li.: Transnational, national, regional | F.Lo.t.o.: Regional ●
38. Aragon Circular Strategy (ES) | A.Li.: Regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Regional, local ●
39. FISU - Finnish sustainable communities (FI) | A.Li.: Regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Regional, local ●●
40. Sarantaporo - Internet for local remote communities (GR) | A.Li.: Regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●
41. Community financed FTTH Network (HR) | A.Li.: Local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●
42. EUSALP AG4 - pushing multimodal, sustainable commuter mobility on local level (AT, FR, DE, IT, SL, CH) ●●●
A.Li.: Transnational, Regional, Local, cross-border | F.Lo.t.o.: Transnational, Regional, Local, cross-border
43. Attractive Rail connections in Euregio Via salina und Zugspitze Wetterstein Karwendel (AT, DE) ●●●
A.Li.: Regional, cross-border | F.Lo.t.o.: Regional, cross-border
44. Regionale Leitplanung Nordraum Wien / Regional planning Vienna North (AT) | A.Li.: Regional | F.Lo.t.o.: Regional ●●
45. Sohjoa: physical and virtual innovation platform of autonomous last mile urban transportation (FI) | A.Li.: National, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●
46. Alley of Change - Sustainable mobility and integrated transformation in the Ruhr area (DE) | A.Li.: Regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Regional, local ●●●
47. "Convention Citoyenne pour le Climat" / Citizen's council for Climate (FR) | A.Li.: National | F.Lo.t.o.: National ●●●●
48. Cities for Climate Protection program (Global) | A.Li.: Transnational, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Transnational, local ●●●
49. My favourite River - Multi-Level Governance at the River Neckar (DE) | A.Li.: National, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Local ●●●
50. Alpine Pearls - Green Travel with Mobility Guarantee (AT, FR, DE, IT, SL, CH) | A.Li.: Transnational, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Transnational, local ●●●
51. Sharing Copenhagen (DK) | A.Li.: National authorities, city authorities | F.Lo.t.o.: Functional Urban Area ●●
52. Rurbance: For a balanced development of the relations between rural and urban areas (AT, FR, DE, IT, SL, CH) ●●●
A.Li.: National, regional, local | F.Lo.t.o.: Transnational, regional, local

* A.Li.: Administrative Level(s) involved | *F.Lo.t.o.: Focus level of the operation

3 The Territorial Agenda 2030 in principle and in practice

In order to provide the context for assessment of territorial approaches to policy design and delivery, it is important to set out the role of the Territorial Agenda and how it underlines the importance of these activities. An assessment of the collected examples demonstrates how the objectives and priorities identified in the Territorial Agenda 2030 are being pursued in existing examples, even without explicitly referring to the Territorial Agenda 2030.

3.1 The role of the Territorial Agenda 2030

It is the role of the Territorial Agenda to support territorial cohesion in Europe as a goal of the European Union (EU) introduced by the Treaty of Lisbon (Art 3.TEU). It is a strategic policy document that provides a framework for action towards territorial cohesion in Europe, encouraging policymakers at all governance levels to think and design policies that contribute to an inclusive and sustainable future. Its main objective is to strengthen territorial cohesion, an EU principle that seeks to ensure the balanced development of the EU and reduce its regional disparities. This responds to the territorial challenges posed by the global structural changes and entrenchment of disparities in the aftermath of the financial and economic crisis and the varied spatial impact of global 'megatrends': digitalisation, demographic transition and climate change. The need for territorially sensitive or place-based policy approaches is emphasised to address a series of concerns. These include the risk of social fragmentation and its spatial implications across neighbourhoods, cities, regions and countries. Moreover, geographical interdependencies mean that a broad territorial perspective is needed to take positive and negative spillovers between places into account in policy decisions. Potential functional mismatches between the impacts of these economic and societal developments and the geographical jurisdictions of decision making also creates problems of efficiency and legitimacy in political institutions, demanding strengthened territorial cooperation at all scales and sectors.

Against this background, the Territorial Agenda provides support for territorial cohesion in several ways:

- **Setting a strategic framework.** A key aim of the Territorial Agenda is to provide strategic orientations for territorial development, setting out priorities that encourage policymakers at all governance levels to identify and design policies that contribute to territorial cohesion. The Territorial Agenda 2030 defines six priorities in order to meet the challenges of social and territorial inequalities and imbalances and environmentally unsustainable development, grouped under the two main objectives of a Green Europe and a Just Europe (see Table 1).
- **Facilitating policy synergies and coordination.** The Territorial Agenda also aims to facilitate coordination and cooperation between places, sectoral policies and between groups of society. It can act as a common resource for EU Member States to cooperate and design coordinated policies at different levels in order to address territorial challenges in an integrated way. This applies to cross-sectoral integration (e.g. bringing together social, economic, environmental measures together under the territorial lens) and spatial coordination (covering functional, cross-border, transnational, inter- and intraregional spaces). It also concerns the identification and exploitation of synergies across and between regional, national and EU policies and funding streams to support territorial cohesion.
- **Inspiring, disseminating innovation and good practice.** The Territorial Agenda supports the development of experimental and innovative approaches to integrated territorial development in diverse territorial contexts. It can provide an arena to showcase innovation and good practice or pilot actions

that test and develop practices in policy instruments, design and implementation which contribute to achieving Territorial Agenda priorities. This places the focus on the development of networks and partnerships, awareness-raising, learning, sharing best practices, supporting joint working groups etc.

- **Supporting policy implementation according to territorial cohesion principles.** Governance is a crucial dimension of territorial cohesion and the Territorial Agenda aims to encourage and facilitate approaches to policy design and delivery that capture the territorial dimension. This involves a multi-level approach and the distribution of roles and responsibilities across different governance tiers. The role of EU institutions and Member States is key but increasing emphasis is placed by the Territorial Agenda on the incorporation of ‘bottom-up’ visions, bringing the European project closer to its citizens. This advocates a strengthened role for municipalities, cities and regions and the mobilisation of stakeholders from the private and non-governmental organisations in order to integrate diverse viewpoints and secure democratic legitimacy and accountability. Capacity-building, particularly at the local level, is crucial to this model of territorial governance with specific challenges related to defining intervention areas and functional spaces, integrating territorial analyses, and utilising territorial knowledge in the design and implementation of initiatives.

The renewal of the Territorial Agenda is being informed by these challenges and potentials. The COVID-19 pandemic is changing policymaking and future development outlooks but the key components of the Territorial Agenda will be essential to recovery. In this context, the renewed Territorial Agenda 2030 identifies six key priorities and related aims (see Table 1).

Table 1: Territorial Agenda 2030 - priorities and aims

A Just Europe

that offers future perspectives for all places and people

BALANCED EUROPE: Better balanced territorial development utilising Europe's diversity

- We will take action to encourage neighbourhoods, communities, municipalities, counties, regions and Member States to cooperate on responses to global societal challenges and improving working, living and business conditions in all places as well as strengthening socio-economic prosperity, innovation capacity, positions in global value chains and global competitiveness across Europe.
- We invite policy makers from all levels to promote polycentric development models that offer a role for all places.
- We will take action to encourage decision makers at all governance levels to unleash the unique potential of territories with specific geographies and adequately address the constraints of these areas through integrated and cooperative approaches.

FUNCTIONAL REGIONS: Convergent local and regional development, less inequality between places

- We will search for dialogue with decision makers in cities and towns of all sizes to apply an integrated multilevel governance approach. This means involving people from different governance levels, in particular local and regional ones, as well as diverse policy sectors and societal groups.
- We will engage with local and regional decision makers to strengthen cooperation on long-term place-based strategies and address sustainable functional links between neighbouring areas.

INTEGRATION BEYOND BORDERS: Easier living and working across national borders

- We will take action to embed stable cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation in macro-regional, national, regional and local development strategies. We also support the development of new strategic documents, where needed, and the promotion of co-development, involving citizens across borders.
- We will intensify the dialogue with policy makers at all governance levels to coordinate national sector policies between countries and to diminish existing obstacles to cooperation.

A Green Europe

that protects common livelihoods and shapes societal transition

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT: Better ecological livelihoods, climate-neutral and resilient towns, cities and regions

- We support the development of nature-based solutions as well as green and blue infrastructure networks that link ecosystems and protected areas in spatial planning, land management and other policies, and the development of new crisis management tools to increase places' safety and resilience.
- We will respect the natural limits of Europe's common livelihoods and increase the resilience of all places impacted by climate change.
- We will concentrate on strengthening awareness and empowering local and regional communities to protect, rehabilitate, utilise and reutilise their (built) environments, landscapes, material and immaterial cultural assets and other unique values through instruments of EU Cohesion Policy, Rural Development Policy, spatial planning or any other tools enhancing integrated territorial or local development among others.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY: Strong and sustainable local economies in a globalised world

- We support Europe's transition to a circular economy and the development of place-based industrial symbiosis processes, also taking into account the need for sustainable soil and land use.
- We support the development of local and regional circular economy strategies linking local and global economies.
- We encourage the strengthening of innovation capacities in all regions, including local strategies for energy transition and measures in the building, transport and bioeconomy sectors.

SUSTAINABLE CONNECTIONS: Sustainable digital and physical connectivity of places

- We will invite stakeholders to enter into a dialogue on the need for adequate access to high-speed fixed and mobile communication networks in all places, and the need for a digital infrastructure with a low carbon footprint and low impact on human health.
- We will further improve links between regional planning and the development of Trans-European Networks (TEN), especially along core network corridors. Linking all places with major transport nodes supports international trade connections and local development opportunities.
- We invite spatial and transport planners to explore new socially and environmentally progressive models for local and regional mobility-as-a-service and to cooperate on multimodal and environmentally friendly accessibility of and within urban centres.

3.2 The Territorial Agenda 2030 in practice

The overarching priorities of the Territorial Agenda 2030 offer future perspectives to strengthen the territorial dimension of policies at all government levels. However, it is important to note initiatives that are already exploring how each of these priorities can be pursued in practice.

3.2.1 Balanced Europe

The priority of a Balanced Europe seeks to encourage all levels to cooperate on enhancing the quality for working, living and investing in all places and to strengthen EU economic prosperity. It invites policy-makers to cooperate and to develop multi-level governance arrangements to strengthen working, living and business conditions, boost innovation capacity and increase global competitiveness. Balanced development includes the promotion of polycentric development and the recognition of specific geographical contexts. This is a key objective for territorial development, illustrated by a range of initiatives underway across European territories.

Among the examples are multi-level governance frameworks operating across a range of settings. Transnational frameworks often coordinate actions that cover natural resources that cut across administrative boundaries (see Example 12 and Example 36 in Annex). With support from the EU's Interreg programmes, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands have been cooperating to protect the Wadden Sea as an ecological entity. A Partnership Hub, supported by an existing Common Secretariat, is pursuing a Nature-Business-Benefit-Cycle model in developing organisational and physical infrastructure (see Example 9 in Annex). Multi-level cooperation for balanced territorial development is also occurring between national, regional and local levels within countries, in several cases based on multi-level strategic frameworks.

A key aim of the Territorial Agenda is to promote balanced polycentric development models. This is being pursued in a variety of ways. In some contexts, it involves closer strategic coordination and coherence between economic development and spatial planning systems. For example, the Ireland 2040 framework is a multi-level strategic planning initiative, that is fully integrated with, and supported by three Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies, thus coordinating national, regional and local development and pursuing balanced, polycentric development (see Example 16 in Annex). Internet infrastructure is crucial for promoting a polycentric and balanced European territory and there are examples of strengthened connectivity between places through improved broadband access, particularly in remote areas (see Example 29 in Annex).

Promoting balanced growth means taking into account specific geographical settings and challenges. In this context, initiatives can be identified in mountainous areas, where the challenges of coordination and implementation of sustainable development policies are being addressed through the adoption of platforms for joint strategies and a multi-level forum for dialogue between stakeholders. The Rurbance initiative was a 6-country cross jurisdictional initiative, part of the EU's Interreg Programme for the Alpine Space. Its objective was linking rural and mountain communities with urban communities close to and dependant on the European Alps. It brought together rural and urban actors as equal players to address multiple challenges in environmental, social and economic dimensions (see Box 7 in Chapter 4 and Example 52 in Annex). The specific challenges faced by islands are also receiving attention (see Example 25 in Annex). The challenges facing territories with specific geographical settings have been highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The provision of public services is vital to promote a balanced settlement structure and there are examples of action plans or expert groups, supported by EU funds, that are targeting these areas in addressing the pandemic (see Box 2 in Chapter 4 and Example 34 in Annex).

3.2.2 Functional Regions

The Territorial Agenda priority of Functional Regions concerns linkages and flows of people, resources and policies between cities and towns and how this can drive intraregional growth, benefitting urban centres but also surrounding communities and rural areas. It seeks to establish a dialogue with decision-makers in all types of cities and towns to apply an integrated multilevel governance approach and engage with local decision-makers to strengthen cooperation and create functional links between neighbouring areas.

A crucial aspect of this is the development of functional transport and communication systems to facilitate sustainable and effective linkages between different places. Within the frame of the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region, an Action Group on Mobility has supported multimodal, sustainable mobility between municipalities in a transnational context. It carries out statistical and cartographic surveys of commuter flows and has developed a toolbox and guidance for companies on sustainable commuter mobility (see Example 42 in Annex). A similar initiative has been undertaken at a regional, cross-border level in Germany and Austria. Here, environmental pressures and increasing road traffic have prompted analysis of mobility patterns and the mobilisation of stakeholders to raise awareness of the attractiveness of more sustainable rail connections (see Example 43 in Annex).

More broadly, the functional approach to supporting balanced growth is part of the 'place based' regional policy model that is prominent at EU level and in several Member States. Prominent examples of this are EU-funded Integrated Territorial Investments that provide incentives to develop strategies that integrate policy sectors and stakeholders across administrative borders and levels of government from a territorial perspective. Examples of this include the Brno ITI, which is aiming to strengthen linkages between the city and its regional hinterland, particularly through multi-modal transport systems (see Box 6 in Chapter 4 and Example 2 in Annex).

3.2.3 Integration Beyond Borders

The priority of Integration beyond Borders Living focuses on how cooperation between places in different countries can harness development potentials. It encourages action to embed stable cross-border cooperation in national, regional and local development strategies and boost dialogue with policy-makers at all levels to coordinate national sector policies between countries and reduce barriers to cooperation. A significant challenge in fostering integration across borders is ensuring that cooperative arrangements are embedded and sustainable in the longer-term. Initiatives at different levels are taking a range of approaches to develop such stable, durable links.

In some instances, governance structures have been established to embed cooperation across national borders. Since 2007, the Terra Raetica initiative has supported transnational and cross-border cooperation among regional political representatives from Austria and Italy under one single management structure. The areas of cooperation encompass culture, protection and valorisation of the environment, socioeconomic aspects, mobility and tourism. EU-funded Community Led Local Development in the area is established on the basis of the Austrian principle of Interreg Councils, representing a regional territorial governance approach to plan and coordinate projects across the border (see Example 3 in Annex).

Another approach to embedding integration beyond borders is the establishment of conventions or treaties, committing partners to cooperation. For instance, the Carpathian Convention was adopted and signed by seven countries in 2003. It is the only multi-level governance mechanism covering the whole of the Carpathian area and, besides the Alpine Convention, the second sub-regional treaty-based regime for the protection and sustainable development of a mountain region worldwide (see Example 11 in Annex).

A further solution for fostering long-term integration across borders is to link with broader, established networks. An example of this is the Alpine Soil Partnership that seeks to overcome the fragmentation of knowledge in this sector across national boundaries. It brings together experts and practitioners from different countries to exchange knowledge and expertise at the transnational level. It is a voluntary association but it is embedded in the broader system of the Global and European Soil Partnership, opening the network up to additional sources of knowledge and support (see Example 5 in Annex).

The development of guidance, tools and other resources can also contribute to the longevity of integrated approaches across borders. For example, a Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) methodology is being applied to five Interreg cross-border programmes across Europe (covering Germany-Netherlands, Sweden-Norway, Romania-Bulgaria, United Kingdom-Ireland, Spain-Portugal see Box 12 in Chapter 4 and Example 7 in Annex) and regions in Italy (see Box 12 in Chapter 4 and Example 14 in Annex). TIAs enable the monitoring and measurement of socioeconomic changes in a given territory but up to now it has proven challenging to develop TIAs for cross-border settings. The methodology being applied enables cross-border regions to align their data collection and monitoring approaches and receive a clear picture of the improvements induced by cross-border programmes. Being able to demonstrate the benefits of integration across borders increases the chances of long-term cooperation.

3.2.4 Healthy Environment

The Healthy Environment priority supports the development of nature-based solutions and green infrastructure networks in spatial planning and commits to strengthening the resilience of all places to climate change. It also focuses on increasing awareness and empowering local communities to protect and reutilise their environments, landscapes and cultures.

The importance of a healthy environment and the prominence of the issue of climate change is reflected in a range of initiatives operating across all administrative levels and territorial scales. For instance, broad strategies that cover regions from several countries are targeting the issue of climate change. The Baltadapt Strategy seeks to foster cooperation and information sharing in the region, connecting key strategic actors, to assist in the implementation of local, national, and EU climate change actions. The project has already been able to provide guidance and input to the national adaptation strategies in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland (see Example 15 in Annex). Instances can also be found of regional level initiatives, for instance bringing together regional stakeholders under a regional programme to adapt planning to the challenges posed by climate change (see Example 1 in Annex). Some environmental initiatives are covering functional areas, for instance through frameworks to coordinate regional and local investments in economically and environmentally sustainable improvements in shared river basins (see Box 15 in Chapter 4 and Example 49 in Annex). The Greater Porto metropolitan area has introduced a comprehensive strategy, focused on decreased production of organic waste and on the promotion of home composting (see Example 30 in Annex).

In several examples, networks of cities and towns are increasingly active in promoting a healthy environment. A prominent instance of this is the Cities for Climate Protection program (CCP), one of three major global, transnational municipal networks aimed at reducing urban greenhouse gas emissions (see Example 48 in Annex). Other transnational networks of towns or cities are developing tools and guidance to protect urban green spaces and peri-urban landscapes (see Example 6 in Annex) or green mobility and sustainable tourism (see Example 50 in Annex).

A prominent feature in several of these initiatives is a focus on active stakeholder participation and citizen engagement. As well as informing environmental or climate change initiatives, participative approaches are helping to raise broader awareness of the issues involved. In some cases, an explicit aim has been to change the perception of local stakeholders at a micro-level to see biodiversity as an asset. Taking the example of the COAST project in Croatia, the key to success was the creation of a wide network of local stakeholders and engagement of the private banking sector in co-financing green business ideas, pilot and demonstration activities (see Box 1 in Chapter 4 and Example 32 in Annex). At a similar localised scale, a participative approach has been used in a CLLD project transforming derelict land in the Hague, involving social enterprises and volunteers in the development of a green urban area (see Box 5 in Chapter 4 and Example 20 in Annex). In France, the recently established Council of Citizens is supporting citizen involvement in national climate policy at the national level (see Example 47 in Annex). It should also be noted that the development of innovative tools is facilitating this type of engagement. JECAMI is an online application, supported by Interreg investment that facilitates the analysis of ecological connectivity in the European alpine region. Users can zoom to their area of interest and discover the values of different connectivity indicators in the menu, allowing interactive use for both professionals and ordinary citizens (see Example 4 in Annex).

3.2.5 Circular Economy

The renewed Territorial Agenda's support of the circular economy seeks to reduce pressure on the environment, while increasing the competitiveness of places in a globalised economy. This encourages the diversification of local economies and strengthened capacity to innovate.

Though still an emerging priority, regions are increasingly adopting circular economies into their development strategies. For instance, Aragón Circular is an economic strategy that aims to boost the circular economy in the entire region, redefining and reorganising its economic strategy to adapt regional value chains. Its objective is to create a political, economic, and social framework that will allow Aragón to move towards an innovative circular economy, retaining businesses in the region to contribute to future oriented and resilient products (see Box 10 in Chapter 4 and Example 38 in Annex). Similar approaches can be identified in city networks, where project piloting and exchange of experience can encourage innovation. The network of six Finnish cities involved in the 6Aika Sustainable Urban Development Strategy funded by an Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI) mechanism are committed to directing at least 25% of activities to the development of the circular economy and low-carbon solutions (see Box 14 in Chapter 4 and Example 19 in Annex). Individual cities are also increasingly active. 'Sharing Copenhagen' is a green partnership, which includes private sector partners and a co-creation platform in Greater Copenhagen. This platform has resulted in several projects that have contributed to the city's sustainable development (e.g. cloudburst management, new technologies for better plastic-waste separation etc.) (see Box 11 in Chapter 4 and Example 51 in Annex).

The circular economy is also being pursued outside of larger urban centres. The diversification and resilience of smaller local economies and rural areas is crucial. The Cittaslow network, founded in Italy in 1998, currently comprises 264 (often smaller) cities across 30 countries and territories. It promotes an approach to urban development that focuses on diversity, implementing pro-social and pro-environmental measures, while striving to preserve the unique character of smaller towns and cities (see Box 4 in Chapter 4 and Example 17 in Annex). The municipality of Kaufering in Germany has been active in creating a regional economic cycle through building of a municipal power plant that is fuelled by the municipality's forests (see Example 8 in Annex).

3.2.6 Sustainable Connections

By prioritising sustainable connections, the renewed Territorial Agenda highlights the need to support inclusiveness. It invites relevant players to a dialogue on the need for adequate access to high-speed internet and mobile telephone networks in all places. Action to improve the link between regional planning and trans-European networks is also supported, with spatial and transport planners being encouraged to explore new models for local and regional mobility.

High-speed internet and mobile telephone networks are a priority for sustainability as well as balanced polycentric development as part of a balanced Europe. The Superfast Cornwall programme has been conceived as an integrated strategy for boosting the sustainable economic growth and wellbeing of the local community of Cornwall and Isles of Scilly through territorial connectivity. The core of the Programme is a major investment in a digital infrastructure but it includes a wide range of supplementary activities addressed to stimulate the demand for the broadband and to provide businesses and households with the right skills to take full advantage of faster connections (see Example 31 in Annex).

It is worth noting that in numerous cases the initiative for the strengthening of internet connectivity has had to come from the 'bottom up'. In Croatia, the absence of provision of fast connectivity from large telecom operators in the rural areas of Drnje prompted the municipality to co-finance Fiber to the home (FTTH) rollout for its inhabitants, in cooperation with a small company from the northern part of Croatia (see Example 41 in Annex). Similarly, the Sarantaporo project to establish internet access in the remote Thessaly mountains in Greece has been led by a small group of young people from the area (see Example 40 in Annex).

Sustainable connectivity is also being developed for transport networks. In some cases, this is based on multi-level and transnational governance models. For instance, the RAISE-IT project allows cities and regions along the Rhine-Alpine corridor to improve connectivity within and between urban nodes, and promotes local and regional perspectives related to corridor development. The project includes research on bottom-up corridor development by applying a multi-scale approach from a local-regional perspective (see Example 35 in Annex). Innovative technologies are also contributing to the development of sustainable transport connections. The EU-funded Sohjoa Baltic initiative envisages robot buses being used as part of a public transport system's connection between a major node on the transport system, such as a stop on the metro service, and the passenger's destination. Improvements at this stage of the journey could boost the use of public transport, help to curb congestion in urban areas and contribute to greater sustainability (see Example 45 in Annex).

It should also be noted that sustainable transport connectivity is increasingly based on active participation from citizens. Innovative applications of technology are being used to inform travellers, to raise awareness of more sustainable transport modes and to inform public authorities of the changing needs and ideas of users for more efficient service provision (see Box 3 in Chapter 4 and Example 46 in Annex; see also Box 17 in Chapter 4 and Example 18 in Annex).

4 The benefits of taking a territorial approach

Beyond raising awareness of how the priorities set out in the Territorial Agenda can be pursued, the additional benefits of taking a territorial approach to policy design and delivery must be demonstrated to mobilise support among policymakers and stakeholders. This section identifies different types of benefit, illustrated with more detailed assessment of examples in case study boxes. Putting the Territorial Agenda into practice involves a wide range of activities. These can vary according to spatial coverage, issues addressed, thematic orientation, the mix of strategies and instruments involved, and governance models. However, assessment of the collected examples, coupled with insights from the literature, produces a general categorisation of benefits associated with taking a territorial approach. Table 2 sets out these headings, alongside examples drawn from the collection of examples of territorial approaches, which are explored in more detail below.

Table 2: The benefits of territorial approaches

	Benefits	Examples
Strategic territorial focus	Strategic, spatial lens identifies specific combinations of challenges and potentials that influence the development of different places.	Urban areas (sustainable urban mobility, urban fabric and land use) Rural and remote areas (identifying growth drivers, digital connectivity) Areas with specific geographical endowments (islands) Functional areas (metropolitan areas, urban-rural linkages) Cross-border areas (integrated territorial investment in public services)
Policy integration & synergies	Cross-cutting issues viewed beyond single sectoral or institutional boundaries, allowing more sophisticated responses. Combines support from different sources. Allows synergetic cooperation and exchange between different territories.	Cross-sectoral perspectives in the circular economy Integrating public and private sector contributions. Cooperative approach of towns and cities with similar challenges to develop and preserve the multifunctionality of the green spaces.
Innovation & experimentation	New, experimental approaches are often required in addressing territorial challenges and these are often a source of innovative solutions to complex issues.	Geo-spatial tools, mapping, Territorial Impact Assessment Experimentation and piloting processes Territorial networks for innovation
Governance models & capacities	Territorial approaches strengthen governance structures and cultures, boosting capacities particularly at the local level.	Vertical, multi-level coordination between national, regional and local administrations Strengthened horizontal coordination and cooperative dynamics, especially at the local level Increasing citizen participation in territorial governance

4.1 Strategic territorial focus

Even in a globalised world, place-specific traditions, needs, natural assets, skills, identities remain valuable development assets. Addressing these territorial needs and unlocking these potentials requires the development of an explicit, 'place based' approach, underlining the territorial (rather than sectoral) dimension of development. Exploiting this potential means identifying and developing territories' specific competitive advantages, maximising the use of local knowledge, and tailoring the mix of interventions to specific needs and development opportunities. Territorial approaches add value by applying a strategic, spatial lens that captures the specific combinations of social, institutional, economic and environmental challenges and potentials that influence the development of all types of territory.

4.1.1 Rural and peripheral areas

In rural and peripheral areas, territorial approaches support a focus on the opportunities and challenges of initiating and maintaining sustainable development, often in the face of declining resources and traditional economies, shifting demographics, and the development of transportation, information and communications technologies (see Box 1).

Box 1: Biodiversity as territorial asset - the COAST project in Dalmatia (Example 32)

The COAST Project in Dalmatia, supported by the *United Nations Development Programme*, promoted the idea that natural assets are not an obstacle but an opportunity for development. The project mainstreamed sustainable biodiversity use in the territory through key activities in the agriculture, fisheries and tourism sector. Most of the concerned activities were small and micro-scale, many undertaken by family units. The project has made a significant impact in proposing innovative green business initiatives based on sustainable exploitation of natural and landscape values with the key goal of economic revival of the project area and improving the quality of life. For example, organic farming expanded significantly in the area in the course of the initiative.

Source: <https://www.thegef.org/project/conservation-and-sustainable-use-biodiversity-dalmatian-coast-through-greening-coastal>

Digital connectivity remains a crucial issue for rural and peripheral areas. There are still large gaps in terms of digital connectivity between urban and rural areas. The provision of digital infrastructure has to address low population densities and geographical challenges. The importance of access to digital technologies in ensuring business continuity, scope for remote learning and working and access to services, including telemedicine, in rural and peripheral areas has been emphasised by the COVID-19 pandemic (see Box 2).

Box 2: E-health in the Northern Periphery – the NPA COVID-19 Response Group (Example 34)

The NPA COVID-19 Response Group is an informal group of experts working on an e-health project under the *EU Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme*, which covers nine countries. The group looks at ways in which trans-national cooperation can effectively help address the multiple challenges posed by this crisis to remote areas. Six themes have been identified where joint efforts could be productive: clinical aspects (comparing the different response measures taken by the respective countries, mapping the rate of infections and observe differences eg. in rural vs urban areas; the impact of self-isolation on people and their mental health (including elderly people and other vulnerable groups who already suffer isolation); and the development of e-health solutions (fast-tracking innovation and technology, access to broadband) etc.

Source: <http://www.Interreg-npa.eu/covid-19/npa-covid-19-response-group/>

4.1.2 Urban areas

In urban areas, initiatives with an explicit territorial perspective are addressing a variety of key issues. This includes sustainable urban mobility. Initiatives are exploring how urban transport networks can be rebalanced to give more priority to non-motorised travel, in order to reduce carbon emissions and improve health of the citizens. An example of this is the Alley of Change initiative in the Ruhr area (see Box 3).

Box 3: Sustainable mobility & integrated transformation in the Ruhr – Alley of Change (Example 46)

The Alley of Change initiative is a key element of the integrated strategy *Green Infrastructure Ruhr*, supported by the ESIF Operational Programme North Rhine Westphalia. Local and regional blue-green infrastructures are combined with green urbanism, a network of bicycle lanes and local initiatives for climate protection and adaptation. Software for the project was created by a local start-up company with the help of secondary school pupils. A smartphone app provides information along the bicycle lane, explains urban transformation, the change from coal to renewable energies and aims to encourage young people to protect nature.

Source: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/projects/germany/ruhr-valley-on-the-right-path-to-greener-mobility

Supporting smaller towns as key growth drivers and contributors to territorial cohesion is another key focus for territorial approaches. Territorial initiatives include a focus on the need to build on existing strengths in these smaller urban centres and in order to develop their economies (see Box 4).

Box 4: The CITTASLOW network - revitalising small towns in Eastern Poland (Example 17)

Cittaslow is an international network of small provincial towns that strive to achieve the goal of sustainable development through a place-based identity approach. Their policies promote local diversity and economic and cultural strengths, building on historic resources and traditions. For instance, in the Polish region of Warminko-Mazurskie, a *Supra-local revitalisation programme of the Cittaslow town network* receives financial support from the Cohesion policy Regional Operational Programme (ROP) in 2014-2020. Funded projects target smaller provincial towns with the aim of restoring social, economic and cultural functions, preventing social exclusion and tackling unemployment.

Source: https://www.cittaslow.org/sites/default/files/content/network/files/12/cittaslow_eng_okladka.pdf

Territorial approaches are also considering how to address issues of urban fabric, land use and the development of blue-green space. This can involve preserving and enhancing high-value urban landscapes, 'greening' urban areas, countering degraded and derelict areas and addressing the challenges and opportunities of polycentric urban growth and sprawl (see Box 5).

Box 5: CLLD safeguarding urban green spaces in the Hague - Greens in the Park (Example 20)

Community Led Local Development (CLLD) is used to bring community members together to transform derelict land in the neighbourhood of Scheveningen in The Hague. The CLLD supports small local projects, including the Greens in the Park project. This involves the local government, neighbourhood and commercial partners working together to revitalise derelict land, creating a better environment with vegetable gardens. The gardens are maintained by the *Green Gardens Foundation*, which supervises volunteers and people with disabilities. They work alongside a team who produce organic vegetables and fruit for an on-site restaurant.

Source: www.greensinthepark.nl

4.1.3 Functional areas

Territorial approaches are also identifying potentials and needs and informing policy decisions and actions that reach beyond administrative borders. This is happening in different contexts, including metropolitan areas or city-regions where territorial perspectives are connecting core cities and their surrounding functional urban areas (see Box 6).

Box 6: Focusing on the functional urban area – ITI in metropolitan areas in Brno (Example 2)

A basic challenge to territorial planning in the Czech context has been the fragmented pattern of public administration boundaries, particularly at the local level (the country has 6,258 municipalities). The introduction of the Cohesion policy Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI) instrument has provided a new impulse for mutual collaboration. The ITI strategy has enabled the creation of new partnerships at mezzo-regional level. In order to formally confirm the cooperation under ITI, a memorandum on cooperation was signed between Brno City, the South Moravian Region and the five largest municipalities in the metropolitan area. The Integrated Strategy defines the metropolitan area according to key indicators such as commuting patterns, education, migration, transport and accessibility. As well as providing a metropolitan framework for the implementation of EU-funded ITI projects in 2014-2020, it is anticipated that this framework will provide the basis for the future cooperation and coordination between the municipalities and the regional authorities on key metropolitan development issues.

Source: <https://iti.brno.cz/en>

Urban-rural linkages and interactions are an increasing focus of attention for national, regional and local governments, planners and development agencies. This recognises the reciprocal relationship across areas in the urban-rural continuum and the gains to be made in terms of creating synergies and in strengthening the functional integration of territories and regions (see Box 7)

Box 7: Strengthening urban-rural links in the European Alps – the Rurbance project (Example 52)

The Rurbance initiative was a 6-country cross jurisdictional initiative, part of the EU's *Territorial Cooperation Programme for the Alpine Space*. Its objective was linking rural and mountain communities with urban communities close to and dependant on the European Alps. It brought together rural and urban actors as equal players to address multiple challenges in environmental, social and economic dimensions. Issues include: landscape degradation, lack of water and soil quality, loss of biodiversity, territorial fragmentation, abandonment of the territory, intense use of resources, social problems, quality of life degradation. Participatory processes of co-visioning, co-development and co-creation for balanced urban and rural territorial development established a legislative framework for multiple levels of local, regional and national regulations.

Source: http://www.alpine-space.org/20072013/fileadmin/media/Running_Projects/Rurbance/RURBANCE_Final_project_booklet_Short_edition_eng.pdf

Cross-border initiatives aims to tackle common challenges identified jointly in the border regions and to exploit the untapped growth potential in border areas, while enhancing the cooperation process for the purpose of the overall harmonious development (see Box 8). Again, the specific challenges and opportunities apparent in cross-border, transnational territories have been underlined by the COVID-19 crisis.

Box 8: Interreg supporting Integrated Territorial Investment at the Italian-Slovenian border (Example 23)

The *Interreg OP Italy-Slovenia* applies the Integrated Territorial Investment approach to develop an integrated cross-border strategy for the twin cities of Nova Gorica - Gorizia – Šempeter Vrtojba, which are also acting as a European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation. The ITI tool allows delivering a long-term territorial strategy aimed at facing common social and economic challenges for a well-defined geographical area that spans national borders. The ITI strategy includes 2 pilot projects from different priority axes of the INTERREG OP. The first aims at supporting the river Isonzo/Soča through sustainable tourism, environmental protection and green growth. The project develops an integrated cross-border network of cycling and walking paths to establish the first urban cross-border park. The second builds a network of integrated services providing a joint use of the healthcare services in the EGTC area. The project supports a new IT network, providing the opportunity for a wider range of healthcare services at cross-border level, a benefit that is underlined by the current COVID crisis.

Source: <https://euro-go.eu/en/programmi-e-progetti/piani-strategici/>

4.1.4 Areas with specific geographical endowments

Tailored territorial initiatives are also crucial to address the needs and potentials of areas with particular geographical features. This includes coastal zones, islands, river valleys and lake basins etc. Specific potentials can be developed and problems tackled jointly by actors from different states or regions in an integrated way (see Box 9).

Box 9: A local sustainable development strategy for the island of Gozo - ecoGozo (Example 25)

The ecoGozo Regional Development Directorate was established by the Ministry for Gozo in 2009 as the local sustainable development strategy for the island of Gozo. The ecoGozo concept has since developed into a set of tangible actions spanned around the pillars of sustainable development – economy, environment, society and culture and identity. In line with these goals, ecoGozo has been collaborating with other directorates within the Ministry and many other stakeholders, to spearhead major environmental projects and initiatives in water conservation, renewable energy, biodiversity and agriculture. Examples include: a water stewardship programme and promotion of renewable energy in government buildings and social housing.

Source: <https://www.sustaineurope.com/ecogozo---sustainability-in-action-010620174.html>

4.2 Policy integration & synergies

Territorial approaches offer the benefits of taking an integrated approach to addressing complex challenges that cut across policy fields. By combining inputs from different funds, priorities or programmes, these strategies can create more sophisticated responses to issues that have related social and economic components. Complex problems need to be viewed in an integrated way, recognising the role played by different policy areas and different types of stakeholders. Bridging of different sectoral fields or administrative cultures requires the integration of people, organisations and procedures. This is true for a single territory in which different stakeholders and policies coordinate their roles in the development process but this also applies for cooperative approaches among territories with similar challenges and settings to increase impact as well as expand the portfolio of possible solutions. Problems are viewed beyond the bounds of single policy areas and knowledge institutions, businesses and government representatives are incentivised to work together. It is important to note that strengthened coordination and pursuit of synergies does not inevitably involve investment of additional human or financial resources. Indeed, achieving synergies can result in a more efficient use of existing resources.

The complexity and interconnections between economic, social, environmental and political dimensions of territorial development requires approaches that understand and enhance **cross-sectoral perspectives**. Issues such as sustainability, climate change and demographic change demand coherent territorial responses that cut across traditional policy domains. Responses are often coordinated through an integrated regional or local strategic framework. For example, circular economy strategies that aim to decouple resource use from economic activity represent an opportunity for comparative advantage for organisations establishing cross-sector collaborations at different territorial scales (see Box 10).

Box 10: Cross-sectoral perspectives in a regional strategy - Aragón Circular (Example 38)

Aragón Circular is an economic strategy that aims to boost the circular economy in the entire region of Aragón. Its objective is to create an integrated political, economic, and social framework that will allow Aragón to move towards an innovative circular economy. The strategy integrates measures across a range of policy fields: infrastructure development for sustainable mobility, strengthening the role of social enterprises in recycling of goods, increasing the number of 'green' jobs and developing a regional market for recycled products etc.

Source: <http://aragoncircular.es/>

The benefits of integrated perspectives that join up public and private sector contributions are also clear, both financially and also in terms of skills and capacities. This type of integration can be challenging but when public authorities successfully stimulate private sector activities to complement their own efforts, they are able to raise investment levels in a context of increasing pressures on public spending and unlock a valuable source of expertise. A clear example of this the unlocking of low-carbon investment from the private sector (see Box 11).

Box 11: Combining public-private perspectives - Sharing Copenhagen (Example 51)

The Sharing Copenhagen initiative involves several measures that combine public and private sector contributions, especially in climate adaptation. The aim is to combine forces to come up with green solutions for the city, sharing resources, competences, ideas, responsibility, and initiative. One initiative for cloudburst management involves total investment of over DKK 10 billion over 20 years, split between the publicly-owned utility companies, the City of Copenhagen and private landowners. The private sector is also involved in the establishment of Copenhagen Solution Lab (CSL) that will be the venue for innovation of as part of the Smart City agenda. A public-private partnership between researchers, private companies and the City of Copenhagen has also been formed for the project of new technologies for better plastic-waste separation.

Source: <https://www.kk.dk/artikel/sharing-copenhagen>

4.3 Innovation & experimentation

New, experimental approaches are often required in addressing territorial challenges and these are a source of innovative solutions to complex issues. There is growing interest in the potential processing and networking capabilities of ICT to open up new methods of working within and across territories. New sources of knowledge related to territories can be accessed through so-called 'big data', including censuses, household, transport, environment and mapping surveys, social media and commissioned interviews and focus groups. New ways for policymakers to connect with stakeholders and citizens to improve territorial development interventions are being explored. This encourages an active role for them in the definition of indicators for their territories as well as increased scope to participate in the collection and consideration of data and deliberation in policy options.

There are several examples of initiatives drawing on a broadening range of tools and sources to monitor and measure the efficiency and impact of measures and investments. Geospatial data gathered from online and

mobile sources allied to new econometric and mapping tools and qualitative research are helping not only to track flows, but also to spot unintended effects and pick up on previously unrecognised complementarities. This includes the evolution of Territorial Impact Assessments that employ innovative methods and tools to support policy makers and practitioners with identifying potential territorial impacts of new legislation and policies (see the two examples in Box 12).

Box 12: Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) in Italian regions and in cross-border areas (Examples 14 & 7)

The Italian National Research Project (2017-2019) *Territorial Impact Assessment of the territorial cohesion in Italian regions* supported the development of a place-based model to support assessing policies devoted to the green economy in inner and metropolitan peripheries, supported the use of an innovative TIA method and GIS tool to analyse territorial impact of policy activities, and helped develop new indicators for territorial cohesion and set out recommendations for policies to support environmentally sustainable economic development in peripheries.

Similarly, the ESPON project *Territorial Impact Assessment for Cross-Border Cooperation* is a targeted analysis tasked with the development of an innovative methodology to assess the territorial impact of any cross-border-cooperation (CBC) programme across the EU in an ex post setting. The project is driven by the CBC programme stakeholders' need for evidence on the impact of their programme as contribution to the programme evaluation. The project developed a methodological proposal within case studies, which were represented by the project stakeholders of the five CBC-programmes across Europe.

Sources: <http://www.princoesione.uniroma2.it/>; <https://www.espon.eu/TIA-CBC>

Experimentation and piloting are key components in several initiatives. This involves 'learning by doing', testing innovative ideas, assessing what does (not) work in different territorial contexts and selecting the most promising ideas. In many cases, this experimental phase provided an important opportunity to discuss innovative approaches or tools, identify key stakeholders and raise public awareness (see Box 13).

Box 13: Piloting innovative territorial tools: The Baltic Urban Lab in Norrköping, Sweden (Example 22)

The Inner Harbour Norrköping pilot was part of the Baltic Urban Lab project (2015–2018) funded by the *Central Baltic Interreg Programme*. It was one of five project cities that developed and tested new integrated planning approaches and implemented public-private-people partnership models for brownfield sites. A key aim was to find innovative ways to involve different stakeholders, e.g. citizens, developers, experts, landowners, businesses and NGOs in the planning and work on developing common visions. Norrköping piloted new innovative technologies in 3D visualisation and developed a tool called Earth Autopsy. This provides the opportunity to show and explain how the conditions are underground and how pollution has occurred and how the site will evolve in the future. The new tool can be used in the spatial planning and decision-making process as a platform for communication between different stakeholders (citizens, planners, developers, politicians).

Source: <http://www.balticurbanlab.eu/sites/inner-harbour>

Experimentation and piloting processes benefit from a network-based approach. The value of co-production, co-creation and partnership to solve complex challenges is especially clear for territorial initiatives. Collaborative networks that go beyond territorial as well as organisational boundaries help to pool resources and experiences, leads to knowledge exchange, and increases the scope for eventual transferability of innovation across territories. For instance, this has been a key organising principle in Finland's Six City Strategy (6Aika), which is used to implement its EU-funded Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Strategy (ISUD, see Box 14).

Box 14: Territorial networks for innovation – the 6 City ITI Strategy in Finland (Example 19)

In Finland, EU-funded ISUD is based on a single Integrated Territorial Investment implemented jointly by the six largest cities in Finland: Helsinki, Espoo, Vantaa, Oulu, Tampere and Turku. This represents an innovative type of operational cooperation between six cities, emerging from their joint needs and interests. The instrument promotes cooperation between the cities, companies, research & development organisations and citizens, increasing awareness of investment opportunities and the formation of links that can facilitate private funding for specific, innovative types of actions. This involves customer-centred co-creation, using urban environments as platforms for testing new products and services. Key features of this approach are flexibility to address emerging challenges over time; innovating through experiments and pilots - small steps towards ambitious targets; building stakeholder commitment; synergies between the projects by co-learning in the city network; and transferability of solutions. For instance, Project Sohjoa addressed the challenges of new economic growth industries as well as sustainable intelligent transportation development by bringing autonomous small electric buses to operate in 6Aika areas as part of pilot innovation platforms.

Sources: <https://6aika.fi/en/frontpage/>; https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/projects/finland/moving-ahead-with-robot-buses

4.4 Governance models & capacities

New governance structures, cultures and capacities are being established through these territorial initiatives. There are examples of strengthened vertical and horizontal coordination and, as part of this, an increasing role for local authorities, local communities, NGOs and other sub-national bodies that can, in the longer term, help to strengthen capacities for implementing territorial development.

Governance models for territorial approaches often involve vertical, multi-level dimensions. Specific territorial issues may be perceived in different ways at different levels of public administration and uncoordinated and potentially contradictory territorial strategies and plans can create serious implementation challenges, lengthy delays and wasted resources. An integrated, multi-scalar approach to governance can combine investments from different levels, mobilising a range of policy levers, funds and administrative resources (see Box 15).

Box 15: Multi-level governance in action - My Favourite River project at the River Neckar (Example 49)

Against the backdrop of climate change, the German government is investing funds in extending and upgrading the Neckar waterway as an important transport route. In addition to this comes the obligation to implement the Water Framework Directive. At the same time, municipalities along the river are planning and investing in its littoral zones with a view to improving the ecology, recreational quality and attractiveness of the river region. An *EU LIFE+* project is supporting the interface between the areas for which central government and local authorities are responsible along the river shoreline, strengthening balanced and coordinated approaches. The German government, as owner of the Neckar waterway, the Verband Region Stuttgart and the local municipalities are all involved in the project. Strengthened coherence of planning frameworks and merging of different investments in a multi-scalar approach leads to sustainable and long-lasting improvements of the riverfronts that attract local visitors and gives more space for river development (flood prevention).

Source: https://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=search.dspPage&n_proj_id=3768

Strengthened horizontal coordination and cooperative dynamics are evident, particularly at the local level. These respond to common potentials or risks and address traditional fragmentation and rivalry (e.g. between core city municipalities and surrounding areas) in designing and implementing territorial initiatives. For example, horizontal coordination to manage and connect ecological, landscape and cultural values across territories,

including joint risk management, is an essential condition for long term sustainable development. Horizontal governance increases the adaptive capacity of municipalities, leading to resilient and balanced natural areas (see Box 16).

Box 16: Municipalities coordinating in response to climate change – LIFE-MICACC in Hungary (Example 21)

The LIFE-MICACC's project, supported by the *EU LIFE* programme, aims to improve the climate resilience of vulnerable municipalities in Hungary by reducing their risks stemming from climate change. It introduces and fosters the integration of sustainable ecosystem-based water management approaches into local governments' natural resources management strategies and land-use planning practice. The project also aims to strengthen the coordination role of local municipalities in climate change adaptation planning and recognition of risks. Using 5 pilot municipalities it is building local partnerships and capacity, creating smart IT tools and linking local governments to broader EU networks.

Source: <https://vizmegtartomegoldasok.bm.hu/en>

It is important to note the potential role of these initiatives in increasing citizen participation in governance, including through direct engagement in the design and implementation processes. Open, co-created databases and online platforms are being used to generate and share data and maps between public authorities, the private sector, citizens and broader territorial networks (see Box 17).

Box 17: Digital citizen dialogue to optimise public services - the BeGOOD project in Glasgow (Example 18)

The BeGood project, part of the *Interreg North-West Europe Programme* in 2014-2020, links the use of geospatial data and public services use/delivery. One of the projects work packages tackled the issue of public transport in the city of Glasgow. An innovative citizen focussed approach was taken, which also made connections between the use of public transport and of other city services. Through an app, users are encouraged to share what services they have and haven't decided to use and why, making it easier to identify problems with access to public services and decide how to better connect people to places and services.

Source: <https://www.nweurope.eu/projects/project-search/begood/>

5 Organising principles & ‘take home’ messages

In order to strengthen the effectiveness and sustainability of these territorial initiatives in the longer term, it is important to consider how their benefits and innovations can be implemented and embedded in practice. Analysing the collected examples from this perspective, several organising principles and practical insights can be identified for practitioners involved in design and implementation of territorial approaches ‘on the ground’.

5.1 Organising principles

Establishing dedicated governance structures and mechanisms that are appropriate to a specific territorial context can help embed practice. Ensuring a balanced, integrated mix of actions and the active participation of a range of stakeholders is important. A key issue is exploring options for the leverage of different public and private resources. Including more space for innovation and experimentation in territorial initiatives increases their effectiveness. Network-based exchange of knowledge and dissemination of good practices increases the chance of broader, more lasting impact beyond specific locales. In assessing experience and achievements so far, it is possible to identify some basic organising principles that cut across these practices and can support effectiveness in the long-term.

Capacity-building is a crucial component in territorial approaches, especially at the local level. This relates to public authorities in developing and implementing strategies, projects, drawing in human resources (dedicated staff), structures (secretariats, working groups); tools (guidance, e-tools) etc. Beyond specific structures or tools, it is important to consider building an institutional culture that supports the territorial approach. There is value in more intensive, applied exchange of knowledge and experience among practitioners to create opportunities for learning through peer-to-peer interaction. It is also important to consider capacity-building within local communities and citizens. Lasting impacts are achieved when initiatives build in provisions to support active participation from communities and citizens. For example, in Andalusia the Guadalinfo telecenters network boosted public broadband access, targetting remote and peripheral communities. This was based on collaboration between regional and local authorities and it aimed to encourage the uptake of IT services as a means of helping social cohesion and regional development. Internet access was managed by a local facilitator (dinamizador) who raised awareness in local communities and encouraged citizens to participate. Ten years after the implementation of Guadalinfo, the region has seen a marked improvement in IT literacy, particularly benefitting people in rural areas and those with traditionally more difficulties in accessing ICT (see Example 29 in Annex).

Place leadership is also key in these initiatives. This includes the motivational attributes of leaders and the ability to collaborate and work together for the effective implementation of initiatives mutually benefitting the area in question. In several cases, the success of these initiatives relies on the vision and dynamism of individuals or groups of actors. For instance, the Sarantaporo.gr project, co-funded under the EU FP7 programme, was based on the work of a group of volunteers who created a wireless community network for almost 3,500 people in 12 isolated mountain villages in central Greece. To stimulate demand and uptake, the project’s volunteers provided training and support in the local communities (see Example 40 in Annex). It is also important that leadership is embedded in the cultural values and norms of the places and communities being served, in order to ensure a ‘bottom-up’ dynamic in territorial approaches. EU LEADER and Community Led Local Development (CLLD) instruments have in some cases been important in supporting and structuring local action groups to articulate and drive initiatives. Support, accountability and external representation by political leaders is also vital for effectiveness and longevity. An example of this is the commitment in 2007 of the governors of Tyrol and South Tyrol and the Graubünder government council to establish the Interreg Council Terra Raetica as a single common

management structure. The objective of regional political representatives was to enhance cross-border cooperation and stronger integration of the Interreg projects between the participating regions or countries. This has developed further with the use of CLLD in the area in the 2014-20 period (see Example 3 in Annex).

There is also a clear emphasis in these examples on ‘boundary spanning’ or brokerage, where key individuals and agencies are willing to engage beyond their own sectoral, administrative or professional networks. This is important for territorial approaches: places and the individuals within them benefit from brokerage as a result of informational asymmetry based on preferential access to goods, services or knowledge. For instance, the Baltic Sea Region Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (Baltadapt) pursued a knowledge brokerage process between political decision makers and researchers in order to improve the knowledge base and strengthen institutional capacity. The Baltic Window, a one-stop-shop information portal compiled all available information on climate change in the Baltic Sea Region, serving as a hub for decision makers from the Baltic Sea Region and influencing policies, programmes and regulations (see Example 15 in Annex).

Strengthening the evidence base is also important. Monitoring and evaluation of territorial issues is challenging. However, this is integral in terms of designing appropriate measures, assessing progress and identifying what is and is not working, and demonstrating the value of territorial approaches to local communities and wider audiences. Building quantitative and qualitative data helps identify territorial potentials and challenges and supports exploration of innovative ways to exploit local assets. Moreover, it provides important opportunities for interactive participation of practitioners from diverse backgrounds and engagement of citizens (for instance through policy labs and web-based social media applications and platforms).

5.2 Practical steps and ‘take home’ messages for practitioners

Besides broad organising principles, the individual examples collected offer a wide variety of practical messages that can inform territorial approaches at different levels. Figure 2 presents a range of insights that can be derived from the individual examples. They all recognise that the territorial approach is a dynamic procedural roadmap rather than a static, thematic framework. These ‘take home’ messages are designed to inspire practitioners and other key stakeholders at all levels that strive for a successful implementation of the territorial approach. The collected cases are heterogeneous but an assessment of the ‘take home’ messages emerging from them collected reveals some basic categories or lessons that are relevant across all contexts. (see Table 3).

Summing up, the report supports the emphasis of the Territorial Agenda 2030 on the urgency of taking a territorial approach in addressing current challenges of inequalities and imbalances between people and places and the risks of unsustainable development processes. It also supports the contention that these challenges are experienced in all places and that territorial responses to them can be pursued in different contexts. This report has highlighted how well-established and emerging initiatives are pursuing the Agenda and gaining benefits under different thematic priorities, at different stages in the policy process, and in different territories. Looking forward, it has set out some of the key organising principles and practical steps required to design and implement territorial approaches. Rather than depending on the investment of new, substantial financial or administrative resources, these often involve a change in approach to identify and draw on existing territorial potentials.

Table 3: Overview of clusters of ‘take home messages’

Clusters of ‘take home messages’	Short explanation
Add visions to a programme	Some socioeconomic or environmental support programmes are connected to a European wide strategy, but stay rather detached and abstract from the perspective of the targeted territory. The development and communication of an overarching strategic vision for a territory mobilises commitment and facilitates coordinated implementation.
Complement each other’s capacities	Administrative or economic sectors often work in parallel siloes. The same is true for different governance levels. Bringing those levels or sectors together on a personal level of “good collegueship” can strengthen efficiency in implementation.
Co-operate with your neighbour	There can be different types of “neighbours”: administrative cross-border counterparts, neighbouring municipalities or colleagues from different sectors. Territorial development, being an integrated process, involves strong cooperation between these different types of “neighbours”.
Develop comprehensive and integrated approaches	Developments are easier if the participants from different levels and sectors understand their role in a wider context. A comprehensive approach includes all sectors and levels.
Establish working routines for developing territories	A transfer of successful working routines can lower the barriers to sustainable territorial development in less developed regions.
Experiments, embedded in existing structures	Trying out new innovative approaches creates more territorial impact if identified solutions can be applied in well-established structures.
Focus on the specifics of the smallest	In order to avoid elaborating general solutions for larger areas that are not suitable for specific target groups, it is important to focus on the local level and particular, concrete issues.
Framing international co-operation	In order to kick-start cooperation for a wider, transnational area, a steering network of representatives with a clear and jointly developed strategy is needed.
Increase impact through the coordination of efforts	The development of solutions for local or regional challenges often faces capacity barriers. Transnational cooperation facilitates the identification and introduction of solutions.
Invest in the most needed	If there is a multitude of territorial challenges, priority should be placed on fundamental needs (e.g. infrastructure or capacity) before moving on to other issues.
Make the helix work for the territory	The triple-/quadruple- or quintuple innovation helix needs to be connected to the local territory to generate benefit there. This requires bottom-up involvement of actors on-site or the rearrangement of value chains.
Practical implementation meets strategic expertise	Transnational or supra-region networks can pool expertise that is needed to stimulate local initiatives. This brings together strategic expertise and local knowledge in a mutually beneficial way.
Provide customised framework services	Barriers to local implementation action are often rooted in capacity problems. In such cases, a regional service-platform can provide management and guidance and stimulate local empowerment.
Seize local expertise and capacities	The most effective solutions to territorial challenges can often be generated where the impact is most desired. Asking or empowering local stakeholders and motivating self-responsibility often stimulates transformation.
Understand concrete territorial potential	Territorial development requires insight about the specific territorial potential of regions. Initial assessments such as “TIA – Territorial Impact assessment” can generate this understanding.
Use nature-based solutions more efficiently	Nature is connected to the territory. Hence, nature-based solutions can unfold specific benefits for specific territories.
Visualise and develop options	Human beings are guided by visualisations to foster the tackling of complex, integrated processes. In the field of territorial development, such visualisations and accessibility of information are essential.

Figure 2: Pursuing the Territorial Agenda – key ‘take home messages’ (four pages)

Add a joint visions to your structural programme ¹

Identify and agree on new ways of working together ²

Provide a coordinated service framework for supporting the implementation of local action ³

Use tools to visualise your strategic options ⁴

Connect transnational pooling of expertise with local implementation actions ⁵

Leave unnecessary formalism and use informal cooperation models ⁶

Use existing strategic formats to vitalise cooperation ⁷

Just do it for a long time ⁸

Stimulate entrepreneurship in a specific strategic context ⁹

Combine regional skills and capacities in a transnational product ¹⁰

Framing international coordination of a transnational region ¹¹

Provide a menu of options that point in the same strategic direction ¹²

Programmes with similar purpose need to find smooths ways of coordinate and increase their efforts ¹³

Seize territorial capital in different sectors ¹⁴

1. Regional Programme for Climate Change mitigation and adaptation in the Azores (PT) | Level of main impact: regional
2. Metropolitan cooperation through the ITI instrument (CZ) | Level of main impact: local
3. CLLD approach Interreg A Austria-Italy “Terra Raetica” (AT, IT, CH) | Level of main impact: cross-border
4. JECAMI Tool for connectivity matrix (All Countries sharing the Alpine Arc) | Level of main impact: transnational
5. Alpine Soil Partnership (All Countries interested) | Level of main impact: local AND transnational
6. Safeguarding green spaces/peri-urban landscapes in growing cities (AT, FR, DE, IT, SL) | Level of main impact: local
7. TIA: Territorial Impact Assessment for cross-border regions (DE, NL, SE, NO, RO, BG, UK, IE) | Level of main impact: cross-border
8. Creating a resilient forest (DE) | Level of main impact: regional
9. Partnership Hub Wadden Sea (DK, DE, NL) | Level of main impact: local AND transnational AND national
10. NANORA: Nano Regions Alliance (FR, DE, NL, IE, LU, UK) | Level of main impact: transnational
11. Carpathian Convention (All countries sharing the Carpathian Arc) | Level of main impact: transnational
12. GEAP: Green Economy Action Programme (AT, DE, FR, IT, SL, CH) | Level of main impact: local AND transnational
13. Arctic Cooperation: Arctic Programme Cooperation (GL, FO, IE, IS, RU, SJ, UK) | Level of main impact: transnational
14. Territorial Impact Assessment and territorial cohesion (IT) | Level of main impact: regional

- Bringing stakeholders together under a new umbrella¹⁵
- Develop an integrated, comprehensive plan for a wider territory¹⁶
- Aggregate and merge scattered challenges towards a coordinated initiative*¹⁷
 - Develop interactive tools to better plan public infrastructure¹⁸
 - Coordinated development of services and support¹⁹
 - Trigger long-lasting local benefits through concrete and community - based developments²⁰
- Increase climate resilience through empowerment of local municipalities*²¹
 - Explore and pilot new technologies to explain options²²
- Develop Integrated and cross-border infrastructure and services²³
 - Find ways for the innovation helix actors to develop direct benefits for SME and municipalities*²⁴
- Integrating environmental quality into economic decision-making²⁵
 - Develop routine procedures for participative and interdisciplinary territorial developments²⁶
- Define bottom-up development pathways under the same strategic umbrella²⁷
 - Join forces for a common structural goal*²⁸

- 15. Baltadapt: Baltic Sea Climate change adaption (DK, EE, FI, DE, LV, LT, SE) | Level of main impact: transnational
- 16. Ireland 2040: Integrated national territorial planning (IE) | Level of main impact: regional and national
- 17. The Cittaslow initiative in Warminsko-Mazurskie (PL) | Level of main impact: regional
- 18. BeGOOD – Open Data for a smarter society (BE, FR, IE, LU, NL, UK) | Level of main impact: local
- 19. 6 AIKA - Six City Strategy for sustainable urban development (FI) | Level of main impact: regional
- 20. Greens in the Park (NL) | Level of main impact: local
- 21. LIFE-MICACC Project – Municipalities as Integrators and Coordinators in Adaptation to Climate Change (HU) | Level of main impact: local
- 22. Urban Lab Pilot, Inner Harbour Norrköping (SE) | Level of main impact: local
- 23. ITI: Integrated Territorial Investments: Approach in the Interreg A Programme (IT, SL) | Level of main impact: cross-boarder
- 24. Reshaping Regional Innovation Systems (IT) | Level of main impact: regional
- 25. Mainstreaming Green Economy (MT) | Level of main impact: regional
- 26. Regenerating an innovation dock (NL) | Level of main impact: local
- 27. Enforcing a Pact for Employment (CZ) | Level of main impact: regional
- 28. Reshaping Territorial Industrial Vocation (DE) | Level of main impact: local

- Integrate local administrations into regional developments²⁹
- Establish sustainable local examples under a wider strategic umbrella³⁰
 - Serious investments into the most needed infrastructure*³¹
 - Seize the socioeconomic opportunities of nature³²
 - Combine local capacities with national targets to develop rural areas*³³
- Prepare for swift and coordinated responses to upcoming problems*³⁴
 - Develop cooperation between hubs of infrastructure and knowledge³⁵
 - Create an informal space to think and exchange³⁶
 - Develop and pursue a vision through a network of actors*³⁷
 - Revisit existing value chains and working structures³⁸
 - Coordinated mobilisation of local efforts³⁹
 - Pull together for realising a common need⁴⁰
 - Initiate and realise territorial developments through local, creative, initiatives⁴¹
- Use macroregional strategies to push sustainable developments⁴²

29. ICT for Territorial and Social Cohesion (ES) | Level of main impact: regional

30. Gardens for Territorial Integration (PT) | Level of main impact: local

31. Beyond the 'BIG BUILD' – Promoting Superfast broadband in peripheral areas (UK) | Level of main impact: regional

32. Biodiversity as a territorial asset (HR) | Level of main impact: regional

33. Place Based Rural Policy (FI) | Level of main impact: local

34. Place-Based Response to Covid-19 (FRO, FI, GR, IS, IE, NR, SJM, UK) | Level of main impact: regional

35. RAISE-IT: EGTC Rhine-Alpine (BE, FR, DE, IT, CH, NL) | Level of main impact: regional

36. DenkRaumBodensee (AT, DE, CH) | Level of main impact: cross-border

37. LER: Living European Rivers (All European Countries) | Level of main impact: transnational

38. Aragon Circular Strategy (ES) | Level of main impact: regional

39. FISU - Finnish sustainable communities (FI) | Level of main impact: regional

40. Sarantaporo - Internet for local remote communities (GR) | Level of main impact: regional

41. Community financed FTTH Network (HR) | Level of main impact: local

42. EUSALP AG4 - pushing multimodal, sustainable commuter mobility on local level (AT, FR, DE, IT,SL,CH) | Level of main impact: transnational

*Design concrete projects to connect territories*⁴³

Multilevel governance at an early stage⁴⁴

Introduction of new tools into established cooperation systems⁴⁵

Participative steering of transformation processes⁴⁶

*Introduce participative decision-making into national politics*⁴⁷

Push implementation through coordination of expertise and mutual motivation⁴⁸

Coordinate investment sources for multiple interests under a common goal⁴⁹

Push sustainable local developments through a joint brand⁵⁰

Let greater visions trickle down to the neighbourhood level⁵¹

Urban and rural communities co-managing their dependencies⁵²

43. Attractive Rail connections in Euregio Via salina und Zugspitze Wetterstein Karwendel (AT, DE) | Level of main impact: cross-border

44. Regionale Leitplanung Nordraum Wien / Regional planning Vienna North (AT) | Level of main impact: regional

45. Sohjoa: physical and virtual innovation platform of autonomous last mile urban transportation (FI) | Level of main impact: local

46. Alley of Change - Sustainable mobility and integrated transformation in the Ruhr area (DE) | Level of main impact: regional

47. "Convention Citoyenne pour le Climat" / Citizen's council for Climate (FR) | Level of main impact: national

48. Cities for Climate Protection program (Global) | Level of main impact: transnational

49. My favourite River - Multi-Level Governance at the River Neckar (DE) | Level of main impact: regional and national

50. Alpine Pearls - Green Travel with Mobility Guarantee (AT, FR, DE, IT, SL CH) | Level of main impact: transnational

51. Sharing Copenhagen (DK) | Level of main impact: local

52. Rurbance: For a balanced development of the relations between rural and urban areas (AT, FR, DE, IT, SL, CH) | Level of main impact: regional

ANNEX: Collection of 52 examples

Example 1 Regional Programme for Climate Change mitigation and adaptation in the Azores (Portugal)

Title	Regional Programme for Climate Change mitigation and adaptation in the Azores
Keywords	Climate Change, Mitigation, Adaptation, Quantification
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Balanced Europe
Priority	Green Europe: Healthy environment
Summary	
Location	Azores, Portugal
Area type	Islands
Admin. level(s) involved	National, regional
Focus level of the operation	Regional
Policy framework	National research project co-funded by EU Regional Operational Programme Azores 2020
Timescale	Research conducted 2015-2017, plan approved in 2019
Status	Active
Implementing body	Azores Autonomous Region
Description	The Autonomous Region of the Azores has identified climate change as one of the biggest challenges to its development and has been working on defining a policy that allows to face the major challenges and opportunities this poses. In this context, the Regional Programme for Climate Change (PRAC), approved by the regional government in November 2019, constitutes an essential tool for planning public policies. The mission of PRAC is to support the Azores including: achieving a low-carbon development, with greater efficiency and lower consumption of natural and energy resources; adapting and increasing resilience to climate change impacts; and monitoring of greenhouse gas emissions. To this end, the following objectives have been defined: establishing climate change scenarios for the Azores in 2050; estimating regional greenhouse gas emissions and projections for 2030; defining, planning and evaluating measures to reduce GHG emissions and adapt to climate change; and, identifying funding mechanisms for the defined measures. Work on the PRAC has been supported by the PO Azores 2020, a Cohesion policy programme co-financed by the Community structural funds ERDF and ESF, for the programming period of 2014-2020, implemented in the Autonomous Region of the Azores.
Benefit of territorial approach	Regional programme supported by Cohesion policy to quantify and minimise greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, reduce vulnerability and exposure to climate risks, increase resilience to extreme weather events and improve emergency response capacity. The programme integrates various sectors of the regional society and economy to enhance the region's territorial cohesion and reinforce the safety and protection of its population.
EU Instruments used	EU Regional Operational Programme Azores 2020
Links	https://www.azores.gov.pt/Gra/srrn-ambiente/menus/secundario/PRAC/

Example 2

Metropolitan cooperation through the ITI instrument (Czech Republic)

Title	Metropolitan cooperation through the ITI instrument
Keywords	ITI - Integrated Territorial Development; Metropolitan areas
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Functional regions
Summary	
Location	City of Brno, Czech Republic
Area type	Metropolitan area, city authorities
Admin. level(s) involved	Local
Focus level of the operation	Transnational, local
Policy framework	EU-funded Sustainable Urban Development Strategy under the Integrated Territorial Investment mechanism.
Timescale	2014-2020
Status	Active
Implementing body	Brno City Authority
Description	<p>A basic challenge to territorial planning in the Czech context has been the need to overcome the fragmented pattern of public administration boundaries, particularly at the local level (the country has 6,258 municipalities). While the Brno City Authority had already undertaken activities to develop cooperation across its functional metropolitan area, the introduction of the Cohesion policy Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI) provided a new impulse for mutual collaboration. One of the key benefits of the ITI is the scope it entails to finance and coordinate projects from several Cohesion policy programmes and priorities to generate synergy effects for the metropolitan area. Further, the ITI strategy has enabled the creation of new partnerships at mezzo-regional level. The process of establishing an Integrated Strategy for the Brno Metropolitan Area was led by Brno City Authority and coordinated by a steering committee comprising representatives of key actors (representatives of city and regional elected bodies and administrations, the South Moravian Innovation Centre, universities, NGOs, economic chamber of commerce, association of cities and municipalities). In order to formally confirm the cooperation under ITI, a memorandum on cooperation was signed between Brno City, the South Moravian Region and the five largest municipalities in the metropolitan area. Simultaneously, Brno City Authority outsourced the elaboration of the Integrated Strategy to the local university. The Integrated Strategy defines the metropolitan area according to key indicators such as commuting patterns, education, migration, transport and accessibility. It is anticipated that this framework will provide the basis for the future cooperation and coordination between the municipalities and the regional authorities on key metropolitan development issues, as well as providing a metropolitan framework for the implementation of EU-funded ITI projects in 2014-2020.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	<p>Catalyst for metropolitan cooperation and has enabled broad agreement on, and funding for, integrated strategic projects covering the metropolitan territory.</p> <p>Strengthening and expansion of metropolitan cooperation frameworks and initiatives in strategic territorial planning in the post-2020 period.</p>
EU Instruments used	ESIF Integrated Territorial Investment supporting Sustainable Urban Development
Links	https://iti.brno.cz/en

Example 3

CLLD approach Interreg A Austria-Italy “Terra Raetica”, (Triangle Austria, Italy, Switzerland)

Title	CLLD approach Interreg A AT-IT Terra Raetica
Keywords	Three Country Triangle; Integrated, community led development, various cooperation topics: culture, environment, socioeconomic aspects
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Balanced Europe
Priority	Just Europe: Integration beyond borders various thematic aspects on project level
Summary	
Location	Three country triangle of Austria, Switzerland and Italy
Area type	Alpine
Admin. level(s) involved	Cross-border, transnational, regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	Community Led Local Development as form of governance offered by the structural funds regulation
Timescale	Since 2007
Status	Active with vital working routines
Implementing body	Interreg Council as head of the Community led local development
Description	<p>"Terra Raetica" is the Roman term for a multi-national territory in the Alpine Area. Today, Terra Raetica faces new relevance, as the regions in the triangle area move closer together. Since 2007, the regional political representatives have aimed to foster cross-border cooperation under one single management. The areas of cooperation encompass culture, protection and valorisation of the environment, socioeconomic aspects, mobility and tourism.</p> <p>The CLLD developed on the basis of the Austrian principle of the so-called "Interreg councils" that represented a regional territorial governance approach to plan and coordinate Interreg projects in the region. Based on this, the cross-border approach under the CLLD-governance developed in in the EU funding period 2014-2020.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Improved coordination- Improved involvement of local level- Improved cross-border identity of citizens
EU Instruments used	Interreg A Italy-Austria 2014-2020
Links	https://www.terraraetica.eu/de/terra-raetica/willkommen.html

Example 4

JECAMI Tool for connectivity matrix (All Countries sharing the Alpine Arc)

Title	JECAMI Tool for connectivity matrix
Keywords	Ecological continuity for species and habitats; Interactive Tool
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Integration beyond borders Green Europe: Healthy environment
Summary	
Location	Alpine Area (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Liechtenstein, Slovenia, Switzerland)
Area type	Alpine Area
Admin. level(s) involved	Transnational, regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Transnational, regional, local
Policy framework	Software under administration;
Timescale	Since 2013
Status	Active
Implementing body	n/a
Description	<p>JECAMI is an online application that facilitates the analysis of ecological connectivity in the European alpine region. Zoom to your area of interest and discover the values of different connectivity indicators in the layers' menu.</p> <p>It has been developed in the course of two subsequent transnational Interreg-Projects. It represents a strong leap in the understanding of territorial connectivity. While the usual wording within environmental policy refers often to "ecological corridors", JECAMI embraces the paradigm of a multi-country "connectivity matrix" that allows an interactive use for both professionals and non-professionals. The landscape is considered as a matrix, in which each part or patch promotes ecological connectivity to different degrees. The CSI-Tool is not thought as a planning tool, but rather provides a first impression of the initial situation.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	Allows a deeper understanding of the territory in terms of "permeability" for different species.
EU Instruments used	Interreg B Alpine Space 2007-2014: ECONNECT Interreg B Alpine Space 2014-2020: ALPBIONET2030
Links	http://www.econnectproject.eu/cms/?q=homepage/en ; https://www.alpine-space.eu/projects/alpbionet2030/en/home ; https://www.jecami.eu/

Example 5 Alpine Soil Partnership (All Countries interested)

Title	Alpine Soil Partnership
Keywords	Transnational linking of soil expertise and data; Soil based ecosystem services; Memorandum of understanding
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Integration beyond borders
Priority	Green Europe: Healthy environment
Summary	
Location	Alpine Region as area of interest
Area type	Alpine Region
Admin. level(s) involved	Transnational, regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Transnational, regional, local
Policy framework	Voluntary association based on membership; embedded in the system of the Global and European Soil Partnership; Introduced as "topical partnerships" that cover areas with a specific territorial profile
Timescale	Since 2017
Status	Active
Implementing body	Hosted by project partners, especially, the Tyrolean Government and the Climate Alliance Tyrol, the AlpSP is in the area of responsibility of the Alpine Convention.
Description	<p>The Alpine Soil Partnership (AlpSP) joins forces of soil experts on the hand and those applying soil knowledge (authorities, practitioners, NGO's, etc.) on the other, to improve the integration of soil protection in land management practices and promote an Alpine-wide cooperation on soil protection & soil ecosystem services management. AlpSP links experts on horizontal and vertical levels: public authorities and soil experts have the opportunity to understand gaps & needs of soil conservation better to integrate solutions and created tools in their day-to-day work as a new standard. Fragmented soil knowledge will be linked and reconciled at the transnational level.</p> <p>The AlpSP is open for membership by both individuals and institutions. A memorandum of understanding forms the basis for a common understanding and shared values.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	<p>Allows development and application of place-based expertise; Soil functions are key to improve agriculture, forestry, spatial planning, etc.</p> <p>The overarching framework of the Sustainable Development Goals show that soil contributes to at least 10 indicators.</p>
EU Instruments used	Interreg B Alpine Space 2014-2020: Project "Links4Soils"
Links	https://alpinesoils.eu/aboutalpinesoilspartnership/

Example 6

Safeguarding green spaces/peri-urban landscapes in growing cities (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia)

Title	Safeguarding green spaces/peri-urban landscapes in growing cities
Keywords	Green urban infrastructure; Transnational network of cities
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Functional regions
Priority	Just Europe: Integration beyond borders Green Europe: Healthy environment
Summary	
Location	Munich, Germany; Vienna and Salzburg, Austria; Ljubljana, Slovenia; Turin, Italy; Grenoble, France;
Area type	Urban
Admin. level(s) involved	Governments of urban and metropolitan areas
Focus level of the operation	Transnational, local
Policy framework	Local
Timescale	2017-2020
Status	Products remain active and "ready to use"
Implementing body	City of Munich and partners in close cooperation with EUSALP Action Group 7
Description	<p>Growing and attractive cities, such as those around the Alpine Arc face common challenges due to land use pressure. "LOS_DAMA!" stands for the Bavarian Expression "Let's get to work" and primarily targets local approaches between cities and the surrounding communities.</p> <p>Valuable green spaces in and around our cities are exposed to heavy pressures and a variety of demands. Safeguarding the urban green infrastructure helps to maintain the quality of life as well as the climate change resilience. The network developed toolboxes and recommendations to protect liveable open spaces while connecting people and green spaces on a local, regional and transnational level.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	Implementation of practical tools to realise the safeguarding of green urban infrastructure in a cooperative approach including all stakeholders.
EU Instruments used	Interreg B Alpine Space: Project "LOS_DAMA!"
Links	https://www.alpine-space.eu/projects/los_dama/en/hello-this-is-us

Example 7

TIA: Territorial Impact Assessment for cross-border regions (Germany-Netherlands, Sweden-Norway, Romania-Bulgaria, United Kingdom-Ireland, Spain-Portugal)

Title	TIA: Territorial Impact Assessment for cross-border regions
Keywords	Territorial impact assessment methodology for cross-border programmes
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Balanced Europe
Priority	Just Europe: Integration beyond borders
Summary	
Location	Case-study areas in cross-border areas (Germany-Netherlands, Sweden-Norway, Romania-Bulgaria, United Kingdom-Ireland, Spain-Portugal)
Area type	Cross-border region
Admin. level(s) involved	Regional
Focus level of the operation	Regional; cross-border
Policy framework	Cross-border cooperation programmes
Timescale	Since 2018
Status	Active; methodology is available
Implementing body	ESPON and stakeholders
Description	To date, there is no elaborated territorial impact assessment - TIA – methodology or model, respectively, that has proven to be well-suited for assessing the ex-post impacts of CBC programmes. This initiative is developing a step-by-step methodology, describing how to determine the ex-post impact of cross-border cooperation (CBC) programmes on the territorial development of the border regions. A test of the methodology will also be performed in five stakeholder territories by providing evidence on how the elaborated methodology works in practice. Data will be stem mainly from the 2007–2013 programming period with a focus on five Interreg A programmes. The objective of this activity is to develop and test a methodology specifically tailored to assess ex-post territorial impacts of CBC programmes. The methodology will allow policy makers and practitioners to obtain evidence on the territorial impact of CBC programmes and thus help to develop better-informed cross-border policies. The activity will also improve the understanding of data needs to carry out ex-post territorial impact assessment of CBC programmes.
Benefit of territorial approach	TIAs enable the monitoring and measurement of socioeconomic changes in a given territory. The methodology enables cross-border regions to align their data collection and monitoring approaches and receive a clear picture of the improvements induced by CBC-programme interventions.
EU Instruments used	ESPON; Joint secretariats of CBC-case study regions, Ministries of participating countries
Links	https://www.espon.eu/TIA-CBC

Example 8 Creating a resilient forest (Germany)

Title	Creating a resilient forest
Keywords	Climate-change resilient forestry; living soil as basis for healthy forest
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Green Europe: Healthy environment Green Europe: Circular economy
Summary	
Location	Municipality of Kaufering; (Germany)
Area type	Rural
Admin. level(s) involved	Local, regional
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	Initiative of association of municipalities
Timescale	Since 1995
Status	Active
Implementing body	Municipality of Kaufering, further replication in Landsberg and other neighbouring municipalities
Description	<p>The municipality of Kaufering has been exceptionally active in 1) increasing the mixture of trees in its local forests for an improved climate-change resilience, as well as 2) creating a regional economic cycle by means of building of a municipal power plant that is fuelled by the municipalities' forests. The main success factor is a living soil concept.</p> <p>By now, most of the forest area in the municipality and the neighbouring region is already subject to transformation or the owners have committed themselves to such change.</p> <p>Kaufering has transferred these sustainable practices in the region and is an active contributor to the Alpine Soil Partnership.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	Enabling climate resilience and circular economy on local level in the wood sector.
EU Instruments used	Own funds; Interreg B Alpine Space; LIFE
Links	https://www.kauferring.de/wirtschaft-und-infrastruktur/boden-und-klima/

Example 9 Partnership Hub Wadden Sea (Denmark, Germany, Netherlands)

Title	Partnership Hub Wadden Sea
Keywords	Nature-Business-Benefit-Cycle - NBBC Wadden Sea World Heritage
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Integration beyond borders
Priority	Green Europe: Healthy environment Green Europe: Circular economy
Summary	
Location	Wadden Sea, (Shared by Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands)
Area type	Wadden Sea
Admin. level(s) involved	Transnational, regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Transnational, regional, local
Policy framework	Organisational and physical infrastructure within the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation
Timescale	Since 2018
Status	Developing
Implementing body	The responsible ministers of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation (TWSC) instructed the Wadden Sea Board to develop a partnership scheme among the partner networks across the Wadden Sea Region (Leeuwarden Declaration, May 2018, Art. 1+2). The work is coordinated by the CWSS - Common Wadden Sea Secretariat
Description	<p>The Wadden Sea World Heritage is a multifaceted dynamic natural system. It is also a complex transboundary site in terms of its protection, management, and governance, as well as the number of stakeholders involved, different languages and cultural backgrounds. As the many organizations and people who have a stake in the Wadden Sea World Heritage form a strong and united society, that allows for a beneficial mix of ideas, expertise, competence, initiatives and resources, there is much to be gained by working together.</p> <p>The Partnership Hub of the Wadden Sea World Heritage aims to pool and strengthen existing skills and experiences of multiple stakeholders under one umbrella, to ensure the protection and preservation of the Wadden Sea, whilst fostering sustainable regional development within the entire Wadden Sea Region.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	- Improved integration of SME into the transnational implementation of UNESCO world heritage protection through generating a functioning "NBBS.
EU Instruments used	Interreg B North Sea: Project's PROWAD and PROWAD LINK
Links	https://waddensea-worldheritage.org/partnership-hub-partnering-wadden-sea-world-heritage

Example 10

NANORA – Nano Regions Alliance (France, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Luxembourg, United Kingdom,)

Title	NANORA: Nano Regions Alliance
Keywords	Transnational value chains; Cooperative commercialisation; Nanotechnology
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Balanced Europe
Priority	Just Europe: Integration beyond borders
Summary	
Location	Network of regions led by the German Federal State of Hesse (France, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Luxembourg United Kingdom,)
Area type	n/a
Admin. level(s) involved	Transnational, regional
Focus level of the operation	Transnational, regional
Policy framework	Voluntary network of regions
Timescale	Since 2010
Status	Active, but in need of revitalisation
Implementing body	Ministry for Economy of the German federal State of Hessen
Description	NANORA – Nano Regions Alliance is a transnational cooperation network of strong European nanotechnology regions. Its members include regional or national organisations, technology transfer and business development agencies, industry associations, as well as research and technology centres and clusters that are active in supporting nanotechnology research and business activities by implementing regional support programmes and offering services to small and medium companies and/or research institutions. Having started out as a funded Interreg project (2011-2015) under the lead of the Ministry of Economics of Hessen, NANORA now, as of mid-2016, counts 17 Members from Germany, France, Belgium, Ireland, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and Sweden. As of early 2016 high-ranking political decision-makers from several involved regions (Wallonie, BE; Hessen, DE; Saarland, DE; Nord-Pas de Calais, FR; Ireland; North-West England) have pledged their support to the network and its objectives, thus adding the support of SMEs concerned with nanotechnology as a priority to the political agenda.
Benefit of territorial approach	Nanotechnology requires complex value chains, e.g. in quality control or production. In many cases, regions have potential, but are lacking 1 block within the value chain. Transnational cooperation can coordinate functioning value chains.
EU Instruments used	Interreg B North West Europe 2007-2013
Links	www.nanora.eu

Example 11

Carpathian Convention (All countries sharing the Carpathian Arc)

Title	Carpathian Convention
Keywords	Transnational Convention; Alignment of policies; Cooperative planning and implementation of sustainable policy action
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Balanced Europe
Priority	Just Europe: Integration beyond borders Green Europe: All
Summary	
Location	Secretariat: Vienna, Austria; Multi-Country area across the entire Carpathian Arc (Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Ukraine)
Area type	Carpathian Mountains
Admin. level(s) involved	Global, EU, Transnational, National, Regional
Focus level of the operation	Transnational, Regional, Local
Policy framework	Multi-Country Convention
Timescale	Since 2003
Status	Active
Implementing body	UN Environment Vienna Programme - Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention
Description	<p>The Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (Carpathian Convention) was adopted and signed by the seven Parties (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Ukraine) in May 2003 in Kyiv, Ukraine, and entered into force in January 2006. It is the only multi-level governance mechanism covering the whole of the Carpathian area. It is further the second sub-regional treaty-based regime for the protection and sustainable development of a mountain region worldwide (besides the Alpine Convention).</p> <p>The common vision of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention is to pursue a comprehensive policy and cooperation in order to guarantee the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians. Consequently, the improvement of the quality of life, the strengthening of local economies and communities, and the conservation of natural values and cultural heritage should go hand in hand in the Carpathian area.</p> <p>The Convention provides a framework for cooperation and multi-sectoral policy coordination, a platform for joint strategies for sustainable development, and a forum for dialogue between all stakeholders involved, from local communities and NGO's up to the regional and national Governments, and Institutions of the European Union and the United Nations.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	Better coordination and implementation of sustainable policies in the transnational region of the Carpathians.
EU Instruments used	National funding; Interreg B CADSES
Links	http://www.carpathianconvention.org/

Example 12

GEAP – Green Economy Action Programme (Austria, Germany, France, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland)

Title	GEAP: Green Economy Action Programme
Keywords	Voluntary Action Catalogue; Green Economy
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: All Green Europe: All
Summary	
Location	Alpine Region (Austria, Germany, France, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland)
Area type	Alpine Region
Admin. level(s) involved	Transnational, National, regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Transnational, National, regional, local - with a strong focus on the activation of local change agents
Policy framework	Voluntary Programme hosted by Multinational Convention
Timescale	Since 2019 (Alpine Conference of Ministers)
Status	Active
Implementing body	Alpine Convention (Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention)
Description	The XIVth Alpine Conference in Grassau entrusted the Green Economy Advisory Board, led by UBA, with the task of elaborating the GEAP until the next Alpine Conference in 2019. The purpose of the GEAP is to further develop and specify the recommendations given in the Sixth Report on the State of the Alps (RSA6), and to identify specific fields of action and relevant actors for the implementation. The main aim is to deliver a stakeholder-driven, feasible and broadly supported programme that builds on existing achievements, responds to business needs and pushes innovative initiatives towards a truly transnational, common approach.
Benefit of territorial approach	Activation of local stakeholders and change agents through transnational support.
EU Instruments used	none
Links	https://www.alpconv.org/en/home/news-publications/publications-multimedia/detail/action-programme-for-a-green-economy-in-the-alpine-region/

Example 13

Arctic Cooperation – Arctic Programme Cooperation (Greenland, Faroe Islands, Ireland, Iceland, Russia, Svalbard, United Kingdom)

Title	Arctic Cooperation: Arctic Programme Cooperation
Keywords	Multi-Programme transnational Initiative; Coordinated territorial development
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Integration beyond borders
Summary	
Location	European Arctic (Greenland, Faroe Islands, Ireland, Iceland, Russia, Svalbard, United Kingdom)
Area type	Remote, peripheral, border
Admin. level(s) involved	Transnational, Regional
Focus level of the operation	Transnational, Regional
Policy framework	Interreg
Timescale	Since 2016
Status	Active
Implementing body	The cross-programme collaboration is coordinated by the Northern Periphery and Arctic Transnational Programme. Participating programmes are Interreg Botnia-Atlantica, Interreg Nord, Kolarctic CBC, and Karelia CBC.
Description	<p>The Arctic is subject to rapid change and increased policy attention. The common pressures, demands and opportunities of this region have led to European Territorial Cooperation programmes operating within the Arctic that aim to work more closely together. These Programmes are working on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a more informed/coordinated project selection and thereby a better allocation and better use of the programme funding • clearer and more integrated information for potential applicants about funding opportunities, and a wider network of potential collaboration partners • more precise and relevant project outputs meeting the needs of Arctic stakeholders, and an improves involvement of these stakeholders. • a better promotion of results, i.e. more targeted, on a more aggregated level, and to a wider audience • a more efficient programme management, by means of pooling resources and achieving a wider impact • a more strategic approach to impact policy development, positioning the programmes for the post-2020 period, and potentially having a common priority based on Arctic values. <p>The collaboration is mandated by the European Commission and the EU High Representative in their Joint Communication 'A New integrated EU Policy for the Arctic' (2016). Participating programmes are the Interreg Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme, Interreg Botnia-Atlantica, Interreg Nord, Kolarctic CBC, and Karelia CBC. The Programme also ensures a high level of complementarity with other policy initiatives and stakeholder organisations operating in the Arctic.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	<p>Bringing together programmes working in the Arctic territory to better support coordinated regional development.</p> <p>Support of a more coordinated, strategic approach to supporting territorial development initiatives both through practical actions and maximising strategic links and connections to key regional stakeholders and the European Commission.</p>
EU Instruments used	Interreg B, A and CBC
Links	http://www.Interreg-npa.eu/arctic-cooperation/

Example 14 Territorial Impact Assessment and territorial cohesion (Italy)

Title	Territorial Impact Assessment and territorial cohesion
Keywords	Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) and territorial cohesion (Italy)
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe Green Europe: Circular economy
Summary	
Location	Italy
Area type	Inner peripheries
Admin. level(s) involved	National, regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	National funding for scientific and technological research in Italy under the 'Research Projects of National Interest' (PRIN) scheme
Timescale	2014-2020
Status	Active
Implementing body	Network of academic units from different universities in Italy
Description	The Italian National Research Project (2017-2019) "Territorial Impact Assessment of the territorial cohesion in Italian regions" relates to the development and application of indicators and a TIA model to analyse and inform the use of Cohesion policy. Rather than a purely spatial approach, this TIA model focuses on the added value on a territorial scale that is realized by different types of embedded territorial 'capital' (environmental, economic, social, cultural). Using the STeM Approach (which combines social and economic dimensions to analyse territorial cohesion) as a methodological framework, it develops a specific measurement of Territorial Cohesion, applying TIA ex ante and ex post, as well as a dedicated GIS tool. The model is being applied to Italian regions and sub-regional territories with specific reference to internal areas and inner metropolitan areas with a particular focus on green economy issues. The project involves 10 academic units who are in close dialogue with Italian ministries, the Agency of Territorial Cohesion, the Committee of Italian Regions and regional/local stakeholders. The approach is coherent with EU evaluation expectations and is producing: a critical review of the Italian policy framework from a territorial cohesion perspective, shared definitions, surveys, a synthesis of concepts with a selection of 73 indicators to be used when mapping Italian NUTS 2 and 3 level territories and developing 7 territorial typologies, as well as an ex post assessment of policies at the regional level (up to 2020) and policy recommendations.
Benefit of territorial approach	Development of a place-based model to support assessing policies devoted to the green economy in inner and metropolitan peripheries. Use of an innovative TIA method and GIS tool analyse territorial impact of policy activities, Develop new indicators for territorial cohesion and set out recommendations for policies to support 'green' economic development in peripheries.
EU Instruments used	National funds used
Links	http://www.princoesione.uniroma2.it

Example 15 **Baltadapt – Baltic Sea Climate change adaption (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden)**

Title	Baltadapt: Baltic Sea Climate change adaption
Keywords	Transnational climate change adaptation strategy
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Green Europe: Healthy environment
Summary	
Location	Baltic Sea Region (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden),
Area type	Macroregional
Admin. level(s) involved	Macroregional, National, Local
Focus level of the operation	Local macroregional
Policy framework	Baltic Sea Macroregional Strategy
Timescale	2007-2013
Status	Active
Implementing body	Danish Meteorological Institute
Description	The Baltadapt Strategy linked to the concept of a 'connected territory' with informed actors on all governance levels responding to climate change. The core element of the approach has been cooperation and information sharing in the region and connecting key strategic actors, which will assist in the implementation of local, national, and EU strategies and action plans. By involving a multitude of policy makers and stakeholders in the development of the Baltadapt Strategy and Action Plan, the project has already been able to provide guidance and input to the national adaptation strategies in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland.
Benefit of territorial approach	Preparation of the way for strategic change and engaging with key strategic stakeholders. Delivering a knowledge process between political decision makers and researchers, providing the operational basis for implementing a BSR-wide Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and influencing policies, programmes and regulations.
EU Instruments used	Interreg
Links	www.baltadapt.eu

Example 16 Ireland 2040 – Integrated national territorial planning (Ireland)

Title	Ireland 2040: Integrated national territorial planning
Keywords	Integrated national development strategy; multi-programme transnational initiative
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe
Summary	
Location	Ireland
Area type	Country
Admin. level(s) involved	National regional local
Focus level of the operation	National, Regional local
Policy framework	National Development Policy
Timescale	2019 - 2040
Status	Active
Implementing body	Department of Public Expenditure and Reform
Description	In a change from previous approaches, the Ireland 2040 framework is fully integrated with, and supported by three Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies, as well as a new National Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2026. The NDP sets out an investment of almost 116 billion Euro to deliver the objectives that are set out in the NPF. Ireland 2040 has a strong emphasis on working towards more balanced development, foreseeing among others that 75 percent of growth will take place outside of Dublin and its suburbs, and a strong regional dimension to the Framework including: targeting a level of combined growth in the country's Northern and Western and Southern Regions; improving regional accessibility; recognising the role of 'regional centres'; supporting future growth through a better management of Dublin's growth; building 'compact growth' and making better use of under-utilised land and buildings.
Benefit of territorial approach	Promotion of a more balanced development, regional connectivity and competitiveness, as well as environmental sustainability and equality. The initiative supports a more coordinated, strategic approach to long-term strategic planning. An important dimension of this is the concept of managing the sustainable growth of compact cities, towns and villages to create more attractive places to live and work.
EU Instruments used	Links to Cohesion policy and other EU funding
Links	http://npf.ie/

Example 17 The Cittaslow initiative in Warminsko-Mazurskie (Poland)

Title	The Cittaslow initiative in Warminsko-Mazurskie
Keywords	Small towns, sustainable development, international network
Territorial Agenda 2030	Green Europe: Healthy environment
Priority	Green Europe: Circular economy
Summary	
Location	Poland
Area type	Small towns
Admin. level(s) involved	Transnational, regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	Cohesion policy funding provided through Regional Operational Programme Warminsko-Mazurskie 2014-2020
Timescale	2014-2020
Status	Active
Implementing body	Marshall Office Regional Operational Programme Warminsko-Mazurskie 2014-2020 (programme Managing Authority)
Description	<p>The Cittaslow network, founded in Italy in 1998, currently comprises 264 (often smaller) cities across 30 countries and territories. It promotes an approach to urban development that focuses on diversity, implementing pro-social and pro-environmental measures, while striving to preserve the unique character of cities. Cittaslow cities pursue shared aims and adopt common targets in order to improve the quality of life for their inhabitants. In the Polish region of Warminsko-Mazurskie, 14 cities are members of the "Polish Cittaslow" association and a "Supra-local revitalisation programme of the Cittaslow city network of the Warminsko-Mazurskie Region" receives financial support from the Cohesion policy Regional Operational Programme (ROP) for Warminsko-Mazurskie 2014-2020. The Cittaslow programme informs ROP project generation and selection. Funded projects target these smaller cities with the aim of restoring social, economic and cultural functions of degraded urban areas, adapting existing buildings and renovating monuments, preventing social exclusion and strengthening socio-professional activation of the unemployed. The ROP has allocated EUR 51.1 million for these projects, including EUR 44.7 million from the European Regional Development Fund and EUR 6.4 million from the European Social Fund. For the period of 2019-2030, it is planned to continue these activities aimed at strengthening the development of these smaller towns, emphasizing the quality of life of residents through supporting the development of their functions as local centres (educational, social services) and the development of entrepreneurship using the economic heritage of multicultural communities in the region.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	<p>Sustainable development of an international network of smaller towns based on balanced approach to economic growth, environmental care and cultural heritage, improving the quality of life of residents.</p> <p>In Warminsko-Mazurskie, a programme for revitalisation of Cittaslow cities in the region informs project generation and selection for Cohesion policy support, provided by the Regional Operational Programme in 2014-2020.</p>
EU Instruments used	ESIF-funded Regional Operational Programme (combining ERDF and ESF)
Links	Regional Operational Programme Warminsko-Mazurskie 2014-2020

Example 18

BeGOOD – Open Data for a smarter society (Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United Kingdom)

Title	BeGOOD – Open Data for a smarter society
Keywords	Open Data, Big Data
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Functional regions
Priority	Green Europe: Healthy environment
Summary	
Location	North West European Countries (Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United Kingdom)
Area type	Urban areas
Admin. level(s) involved	City
Focus level of the operation	City
Policy framework	Interreg NWE
Timescale	2016-2020
Status	Running
Implementing body	Ministry of infrastructure and water & Rijkswaterstaat, Netherlands
Description	The project not only works on the commercial aspect of extracting commercial data from public sector information, but also works with the public sector and local authorities to open up citizen engagement in the design of public services, working with key stakeholders across different territories. Following up on that, one of the project's work packages tackled the issue of public transport in the city of Glasgow. An innovative citizen focussed approach was used, which connected the use of public transport to other city services. By means of an app, users were encouraged to share what services they have and haven't decided to use and why, making it easier to pinpoint where public transport is directly responsible for any disconnections.
Benefit of territorial approach	The projects focus on geospatial data and public services speaks for its demonstration value as a good example of how existing data can be used to support better territorial planning and decision making. As an example, the issue of access to public transport in the city of Glasgow was tackled and uses citizen engagement and dialogue to understand how needs can be met and how services in the city can be improved.
EU Instruments used	Interreg B NWE
Links	https://www.nweurope.eu/projects/project-search/begood/

Example 19

6 AIKA – Six City Strategy for sustainable urban development (Finland)

Title	6 AIKA - Six City Strategy for sustainable urban development
Keywords	Circular economy, energy efficiency, Sustainable urban development, Smart Specialisation
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Functional regions Green Europe: Circular economy Green Europe: Sustainable connections
Summary	
Location	Cities of Helsinki, Espoo, Tampere, Vantaa, Oulu and Turku (Finland)
Area type	Urban area, city authorities
Admin. level(s) involved	National, local
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	EU-funded Sustainable Urban Development Strategy under the Integrated Territorial Investment mechanism.
Timescale	2014-2020
Status	Active
Implementing body	City Authorities
Description	The Finnish Six Cities (6Aika) Sustainable Urban Development Strategy is funded by the EU Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI) mechanism. It represents an innovative type of operational cooperation between six cities (Helsinki, Espoo, Tampere, Vantaa, Oulu and Turku), emerging from their joint needs and interests. The instrument promotes cooperation between the cities, companies, research & development organisations and citizens, increasing awareness for investment opportunities and the formation of links that can facilitate private funding for specific, innovative types of actions. This involves customer-centred co-creation, using urban environments as platforms for testing new products and services. Over 4200 companies have participated in 6Aika projects. Among those, 513 developed and piloted new or improved products or services, while 149 new innovation platforms have been created. The cities are committed to directing at least 25% of the activities to the development of circular economy and low-carbon solutions. Project examples include: Energy Wise Cities (energy-efficient housing, zero energy construction, diversified energy systems etc.), carbon neutral and resource-wise industrial areas and low-carbon transport mobility hubs. Key features of this approach include: flexibility to address emerging challenges over time; innovating through experiments and pilots; “small steps” towards ambitious targets; building stakeholder commitment; synergies between the projects through co-learning in the city network; and scalability of the solutions from the beginning.
Benefit of territorial approach	Coordinated implementation of urban sustainability across 6 Finnish urban centres.
EU Instruments used	ESIF Integrated Territorial Investment supporting Sustainable Urban Development
Links	https://6aika.fi/in-english/

Example 20 Greens in the Park (Netherlands)

Title	Greens in the park
Keywords	CLLD; Transformation of derelict land, involvement of local residents
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Green Europe: Balanced Europe
Summary	
Location	City of Scheveningen, The Hague, (Netherlands)
Area type	Urban area, city district
Admin. level(s) involved	Local
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	EU-funded Community Led Local Development initiative
Timescale	2016-2019
Status	Active
Implementing body	The subsidy is provided by the municipality of The Hague which is an intermediate body, with the municipality of Rotterdam as the Management Authority. A foundation (Stichting initiatief voor Scheveningen, SIOS) was established in 2015. It is responsible for the management and implementation of the CLLD strategy. The foundation relies almost completely on volunteers.
Description	CLLD is used to bring community members together to transform 3 400m ² of derelict land in the neighbourhood of Scheveningen in the Hague. A key focus is social inclusion and the empowerment of the local population in policy making. The CLLD supports small local oriented projects, including the 'Greens in the Park' project. This involves the local government, neighbourhood and commercial partners working together to revitalise derelict land, creating a better environment by means of vegetable gardens. The gardens are maintained by the Greens Gardens Foundation, which supervises volunteers and people with disabilities. They work alongside a team of 20 members, who produce organic vegetables and fruit for an on-site restaurant, Greens in the Park. This social enterprise offers a menu based on the fresh vegetables and herbs from the garden and organises events linked to environmental and social responsibility. The restaurant adds an entrepreneurial attitude and financial sustainability to the project, reinvesting part of its proceeds in the garden's upkeep. Twelve jobs have been created (20 are foreseen with around 40 volunteers mobilised) with total project costs of €189 900.
Benefit of territorial approach	Greening of urban areas in cooperative approach and embedded in an integrated strategy.
EU Instruments used	EU structural funds
Links	www.greensinthepark.nl

Example 21

LIFE-MICACC Project – Municipalities as Integrators and Coordinators in Adaptation to Climate Change (Hungary)

Title	LIFE-MICACC Project – Municipalities as Integrators and Coordinators in Adaptation to Climate Change
Keywords	Climate change adaptation; Coordination on local level
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe Just Europe: Functional regions Green Europe: Healthy environment
Summary	
Location	Hungary
Area type	The focus is on the municipal level – association of municipalities and 5 specific municipalities are project partners
Admin. level(s) involved	National, regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	Project in EU LIFE programme
Timescale	2017-2021
Status	Active
Implementing body	Coordinator is Ministry of Interior of Hungary, partners are association of municipalities, 5 specific municipalities, water management directorate, Hungary WWF, innovation firm.
Description	LIFE-MICACC's main goal is to improve the climate resilience of vulnerable municipalities in Hungary by reducing their risks stemming from climate change. It introduces and fosters the integration of sustainable ecosystem-based water management approaches into local governments' natural resources management strategies and land-use planning practice. The project also aims to strengthen the coordinating role of local municipalities in view of climate change adaptation planning and the recognition of risks through awareness raising activities, testing of measures, building local partnerships and capacity, creating smart IT tools and linking local governments to broader EU networks.
Benefit of territorial approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Managing and connecting ecological, landscape and cultural values of regions, including joint risk management as an essential condition for long term sustainable development.• Increased adaptive capacity of municipalities, leading to resilient, adaptive and balanced natural areas.• Improved knowledge of decision-makers in local governments on climate-induced water risks, ecosystem-based adaptation and funding sources.• Local actors and decision-makers taking part in trainings and e-learnings.• Online tools available to improve understanding and tackle water risks.• Use of five pilot municipalities to test innovative responses.• An adaptation guide focusing on ecosystem-based methods.• Better cooperation among municipalities and stakeholders, with a strengthened coordination role for leading municipalities in managing local issues.• Useful example for municipalities looking to build water management capacity as part of measures to address climatic problems.
EU Instruments used	EU LIFE Programme
Links	https://vizmegtartomegoldasok.bm.hu/en

Example 22 Urban Lab Pilot, Inner Harbour Norrköping (Sweden)

Title	Urban Lab Pilot, Inner Harbour Norrköping
Keywords	Tools, Planning, Interreg
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe
Summary	
Location	City of Norrköping, Inner Harbour (Sweden)
Area type	Harbour district in city
Admin. level(s) involved	Transnational, national, regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	Cross-border cooperation project in Interreg Central Baltic Programme 2014-2020 that aims at improving urban planning in the Baltic Sea region.
Timescale	2015-2018
Status	Active, but vitalisation would be useful
Implementing body	Project lead partner union of the Baltic cities sustainable cities commission
Description	The Inner Harbour Norrköping pilot is part of the Baltic Urban Lab project (2015–2018) funded by the Central Baltic Interreg Programme. It is one of five project cities that have developed and tested new integrated planning approaches and implemented public-private-people partnership models for brownfield sites. The key aim was to find new ways to involve different stakeholders such as citizens, developers, experts, landowners, businesses and NGOs in the planning and work on developing common visions with them. Norrköping explored and piloted new innovative technologies in 3D visualisation and developed a tool called Earth Autopsy. This provides the opportunity to show and explain how the conditions are underground, how pollution has occurred and how the site will evolve in the future. The new tool can be used in the spatial planning and decision-making process as a platform for communication between different stakeholders (citizens, planners, developers, politicians).
Benefit of territorial approach	Example of how EU policy through the Interreg programme contributes to the development of a new spatial planning instruments (a visualizing tool) that facilitates new spatial planning practices including new possibilities for enhanced citizen participation and communication between public and private. It is also a project that facilitates cross-border learning (i.e. Between Tallinn, Riga, Turku, and Norrköping). Of interest to urban areas aiming to revitalise abandoned and underutilised districts.
EU Instruments used	Interreg B Baltic Sea Region
Links	http://www.balticurbanlab.eu/sites/inner-harbour

Example 23

Integrated Territorial Investments – Approach in the Interreg A Programme (Italy, Slovenia)

Title	ITI: Integrated Territorial Investments: Approach in the Interreg A Programme
Keywords	Integrated Territorial Development, Cross-border
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Integration beyond borders
Summary	
Location	Cross-border area Italy-Slovenia
Area type	Cross-border area
Admin. level(s) involved	National, regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	ITI strategy as part of cross-border cooperation programme in Italy-Slovenia 2014-2020
Timescale	2017 - 2021
Status	Active
Implementing body	EGTC implements the ITI as “sole beneficiary” of both projects. It acts also as Intermediate Body for the ITI as part of the Interreg OP. A functionally separated unit was established within the EGTC GO to avoid any conflicts of interest.
Description	The Interreg OP Italy-Slovenia applies the Integrated Territorial Investment approach to develop an integrated cross-border strategy for the twin cities of Nova Gorica Gorizia – Šempeter Vrtojba, which are also acting as EGTC since 2011. The ITI tool allows to deliver a long-term territorial strategy aimed at facing common social and economic challenges for a well-defined geographical area that spans national borders. The ITI strategy includes 2 pilot projects from different priority axes of the Interreg OP. The first one aims at supporting the river Isonzo/Soča through sustainable tourism, environmental protection and green growth. The project develops an integrated cross-border network of cycling and walking paths to establish the first urban cross-border park. The second one builds a network of integrated services providing a joint use of the healthcare services in the EGTC area. At the moment, Italian and Slovenian informative systems are not connected raising challenges for citizens. The project supports a new IT network, providing the opportunity for a wider range of healthcare services at a cross-border level.
Benefit of territorial approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Territorial integration in cross-border and transnational functional regions as a key factor in global competition facilitating better utilisation of development potentials and the protection of the natural environment. • Improving territorial connectivity for individuals, communities and enterprises as an important precondition of territorial cohesion (e.g. services of general interest). • A strong factor for territorial competitiveness and an essential condition for sustainable development. • The ITI strategy shows how cross-border investments and services can be connected and applied through a European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC). In this case, the EGTC has widened the perspective of the municipalities and enabled services and investments benefitting the whole region rather than a single municipality. Prior to the project, development plans of the three municipalities were never merged. This has now been achieved, along with a joint tourism marketing plan for the Isonzo Soča cross-border park. • ITI has not been applied widely in Interreg and this provides an interesting example of what can be implemented.
EU Instruments used	Interreg A IT-SI 2014-2020
Links	https://euro-go.eu/en/programmi-e-progetti/piani-strategici/

Example 24 Reshaping Regional Innovation Systems (Italy)

Title	Reshaping Regional Innovation Systems
Keywords	Innovation, ensuring global competitiveness, research and development
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe Just Europe: Functional regions
Summary	
Location	Region of Apulia, Italy
Area type	Focus is placed on regional and local level
Admin. level(s) involved	Regional & local
Focus level of the operation	Regional
Policy framework	
Timescale	2005
Status	Active
Implementing body	Regional government of Apulia
Description	Since 2005, an integrated and long-term strategy for innovation has been developed by the regional government of Apulia in line with the TA2020 priority of ensuring global competitiveness and according to a place-based approach. The overall goal of this strategy is to strengthen the research and innovation potential of the regional economy, by combining resources and efforts of large enterprises, SMEs, public authorities, universities and centres of research, concentrating them towards a common long-term development objective of smart specialisation. The strategy, which has been formalised in April 2009, is indeed succeeding in reshaping the regional innovation system. Territorial dialogue is taking place in the context of a new and more effective governance system. Regional and local actors, who know best what is needed at a local level, are capable to set up innovative solutions and design support instruments according to a user-oriented approach, and thus contribute to the design and implementation of an effective innovation strategy. By incorporating research and innovation issues within a wider regional development strategy that is fully tailored to regional needs and specificities, the case of Apulia shows that a place-based strategy relying on a coordinated and multi-stakeholder governance, offers the best guarantees to unleash regional development potentials.
Benefit of territorial approach	Increased innovation within the Puglia region leading to increased socio-economic development.
EU Instruments used	EU Structural Funds
Links	https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/regional-innovation-monitor/report/innovation/regional-innovation-report-puglia

Example 25 Mainstreaming Green Economy (Malta)

Title	Mainstreaming Green Economy
Keywords	Environmental challenges, sustainability and development
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Functional regions Green Europe: Healthy environment
Summary	
Location	Malta
Area type	National level, although focused regionally on Gozo
Admin. level(s) involved	National and regional
Focus level of the operation	Regional
Policy framework	
Timescale	From 2008
Status	Active
Implementing body	Maltese Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Culture
Description	After years characterised by a lack of strong political drive, appropriate legislation and financing in the environment sector, the need to ensure compliance with EU targets raised the pressure for more strategic intervention in environmentally sustainable development as a key territorial asset. The commitment to mainstream environmental quality and sustainability in all decision-making processes aims to exploit the links between the environmental pillar, sustainable economic development, as well as quality of life and resulted in an integrated plan for greening Malta's economy. Subsequent to a pilot experience, addressing the island of Gozo, a strategy for environmental sustainability has been outlined since 2008, targeting the whole country, which has been designed in line with a place-based approach, where sectoral integration, an open governance system and wide public consultation constitute key elements. Thanks to this strategy, a sustainable and healthy environment is recognised today as a key enabler and catalyst for attracting investment and improving Malta's standard of living.
Benefit of territorial approach	The adoption and implementation of an integrated strategy. In a country as small as Malta it is easier to detect local needs and specificities and, above all, to ensure wide participatory approach with relatively limited efforts. In this regard, it is indicative that a very small work group within the Ministry for Tourism, Environment and Culture managed to organize all the different phases of public consultation around the NEP. Moreover, the centralisation of the political/decision-making power and its proximity to the administrative level (Local Councils) help in being more acquainted to the wishes and urgencies of citizens due to lack of redundant intermediate agencies as well as geographical closeness. The approach could be less feasible for large countries, with a high degree of power decentralisation, unless communication between the different governance levels is extremely fluid and the sharing of responsibilities clear.
EU Instruments used	EU Structural Funds
Links	https://www.sustaineurope.com/ecogozo---sustainability-in-action-010620174.html

Example 26 Regenerating an innovation dock (Netherlands)

Title	Regenerating an innovation dock
Keywords	Regeneration, smart, sustainable and inclusive growth
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe Just Europe: Functional Regions Green Europe: Healthy environment Green Europe: Circular economy
Summary	
Location	City of Rotterdam (Netherlands)
Area type	Local
Admin. level(s) involved	Regional and Local
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	
Timescale	2008-2012
Status	Complete
Implementing body	Rotterdam Municipality, the Port Authority, the University of Rotterdam and Albeda College
Description	The RDM campus project originated from the need to recover an industrial brownfield to its old livelihood and involved a number of stakeholders with related urgencies. It addresses the TA2020 priority of integrated development in cities and the wider need to improve competitiveness and foster smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, and shows a successful case, in which the challenges of the decline of existing industries were turned into an opportunity of territorial development. The close-by neighbourhood of Heijplaat was at risk of becoming a peripheral no-go area, isolated from the city centre when, upon the request of Rotterdam Municipality, the Port Authority, the University of Rotterdam and the Albeda College, developed a strategy to regenerate the area. After a trial period with cultural events, expositions and concerts, the industrial buildings have been renovated to host labs for students and equip spaces for innovative start-ups. Although showing most of the features of a traditional urban regeneration plan, it shows interesting aspects of how to develop an innovation and cultural hub triggering positive economic and social effects on the target territory.
Benefit of territorial approach	The open governance model has proven to be a successful one in the development of the RDM campus, but this would have not been possible without a clear identification of long-term goals and the strong effort by the main actors to attract partners and guide a dialogue with stakeholders on the different options. The long term collaboration between the Port Authority and the City Administration, which has placed the port at the centre of a long term development strategy, generated trust, transparency, and a concentration of interests and investments which supported the project.
EU Instruments used	ERDF
Links	https://www.aeidl.eu/images/stories/50bestpractices/nl_rotterdam_analytical-fiche.pdf

Example 27 Enforcing a Pact for Employment (Czech Republic)

Title	Enforcing a Pact for Employment
Keywords	Tackling labour market challenges induced by globalisation
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Balanced Europe
Priority	Just Europe: Functional regions Green Europe: Healthy environment
Summary	
Location	Region of Moravia-Silesia, Czech Republic
Area type	Mixed-Old industrial
Admin. level(s) involved	Regional
Focus level of the operation	Regional
Policy framework	
Timescale	2011
Status	Active
Implementing body	Regional Office of Moravia Silesia
Description	Inspired by similar initiatives abroad, the Moravia-Silesia Employment Pact (MSEP) was established in 2011 as a bottom-up initiative that has been adapted to the region specificities. It is an example of a genuine place-based approach initiated by local actors via a multi-stakeholder partnership in response to the increased exposure to globalisation and structural changes, which have been induced by the global economic crisis.. Its main objective is to tackle severe and long-term problems in the labour market of this structurally affected region by creating more and better jobs and by fostering intensive cooperation among key stakeholders such as schools and enterprises. The largest asset and basic prerequisite for the success of this initiative is the unusually strong sense of partnership that has been formed in a step-by-step process among regional stakeholders. The partnership has been facilitated by a previous cooperation among some of the stakeholders, by strong leadership from MSEP managers, by a sense of regional identity, and by several innovative approaches. The MSEP has succeeded in designing 10 types of integrated projects reflecting regional assets and needs. The effectiveness and efficiency of these integrated projects have been already proven within the territorial dialogue.
Benefit of territorial approach	Until now, 42 projects covering all 10 types of integrated projects have been prepared, and one-third of them have already been successfully completed. Importantly, all 10 types of integrated projects, which represent the core activities of the MSEP, have been endorsed by regional actors in a special seminar and through continuous discussions between the managers of the MSEP and stakeholders about particular types of projects. Despite the young age of the MSEP, preliminary results can be identified, such as a better alignment of educational institutions with enterprises in the region via provision of career consultancy by labour market experts to more than 3,000 pupils in elementary schools and 500 students in secondary schools and the training of about 300 teachers and 7,000 pupils in soft skills, including entrepreneurship, through a tailor-made programme.
EU Instruments used	EU Structural Funds
Links	http://www.grincoh.eu/media/serie_6_spaces_territories_and_regions/grincoh_wp6.03.01.03_blaek_bei_cov.pdf

Example 28 Reshaping Territorial Industrial Vocation (Germany)

Title	Reshaping Territorial Industrial Vocation
Keywords	Territorial connectivity, global competitiveness
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe Just Europe: Functional regions
Summary	
Location	Duisburg (Germany)
Area type	Local
Admin. level(s) involved	Regional and Local Government
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	
Timescale	Phase 1:1995-2005 Phase 2: 2005-2008
Status	Finished
Implementing body	Duisburg City Gov and the ERDF
Description	For more than a century, economic well-being in the city of Duisburg was closely connected to the development in the mining and steel industry. When one of the best-known steel factories was closed down, the State and city officials joined forces and decided to use this as an opportunity as a catalyst for the transformation towards logistics as a new local and regional lead industry. The development of a tri-modal traffic infrastructure (port, railway and road) on the former industrial site created a unique asset as international logistics location. The key to this development was the recognition of the geographical and infrastructural specificities of the territory as main asset for a place-based approach of strategic transformation. Today, a leading international logistics cluster has emerged with strong linkages to science-based and academic stakeholders and institutions, while the local port is now the largest inland port in Europe.
Benefit of territorial approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater collaboration and networking among various stakeholders and partners. • More than 4,000 additional jobs have been created by 50 firms across the area, which means that today more workers are employed on the area than in the last years of the steel mill. • A wide range of different logistics firms is located from electronics distribution of Hewlett Packard to car components of Audi. • The local port increased the turnover of containers between 2000 and 2013 from 670 twenty-foot equivalents (TEU) to 3,000 TEU. Three times a week, freight trains connect Duisburg with Chongqing in China along a route of 10,300 kilometres. • The investment in this logistics area remarkably improved the connectivity between Duisburg/Rhine-Ruhr Area with all parts of the world and supported the establishment of a new leading industry in an old-industrial environment.
EU Instruments used	ERDF
Links	n/a

Example 29 ICT for Territorial and Social Cohesion (Spain)

Title	ICT for Territorial and Social Cohesion
Keywords	Improving broadband access, promotion of polycentric and balanced territorial development
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe Just Europe: Functional regions
Summary	
Location	Region of Andalusia (Spain)
Area type	Regional
Admin. level(s) involved	Regional
Focus level of the operation	Regional
Policy framework	
Timescale	2002-2013
Status	Complete
Implementing body	Collaboration between the Andalusian regional and local government
Description	Guadalinfo telecenters network offers public broadband access to the whole region of Andalusia, including the most remote areas. It targets all Andalusian municipalities with fewer than 20,000 inhabitants, typically located in the most under-populated and disadvantaged areas of the region, and it aims to encourage the uptake of IT services as a means of helping social cohesion and regional development. In particular, it helps to minimise the urban-rural digital divide and exclusion in the processes of innovation and, ultimately, contributes to a polycentric and balanced territorial development, in conformity with the summons of the TA2020. Since its launch, Guadalinfo has become one of the largest Spanish government interventions to achieve public access to broadband Internet in collaboration with the regional and local administration, being today one of the most advanced and widespread European projects, tailored to rural areas in their ICT capacities. It is recognized as an open space for social innovation, both in its role as a meeting place for the town, and , as a transformation- and interaction-point for all users of the Guadalinfo Network. Knowledge of territorial needs and exploitation of territorial capital are the key principles featuring Guadalinfo as a programme designed from the beginning in compliance with the Place-Based Approach.
Benefit of territorial approach	Guadalinfo has been able to implement a total of 756 telecentres in Andalusia (692 in municipal areas and 64 in suburbs) making it the most extensive ICT network of Spain. Each centre provides internet access for free and is managed by a local “facilitator” (dinamizador) who encourages citizens to participate, promotes activities and provides individual attention to users. According to the mid-term evaluation of the programme (2011), today, 10 years after the implementation of Guadalinfo, the region has seen a marked improvement in IT literacy, particularly benefitting people in rural areas and those with traditionally more difficulties in view of ICT access.
EU Instruments used	ERDF
Links	https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/archive/innovation/pdf/programme/2006_andalucia.pdf

Example 30 Gardens for Territorial Integration (Portugal)

Title	Gardens for Territorial Integration
Keywords	Environmental protection and sustainability, social inclusion, urban land regeneration
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Green Europe: Healthy environment Green Europe: Circular economy
Summary	
Location	Porto Region (Portugal)
Area type	Urban
Admin. level(s) involved	Regional
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	INitiative
Timescale	2003-present
Status	Active
Implementing body	LIPOR (- Intermunicipal Waste Management of Greater Porto)
Description	Developed over the last 10 years, "Horta à Porta" gathers different types of stakeholders engaged in various fields such as environmental protection, social inclusion of disadvantaged groups and education in a network with the aim to implement a strategy for the Grande Porto region focusing on home composting and the promotion of organic farming. The project, which encompasses the creation of a network of gardens for citizens as well as the provision of training activities and the creation of local organisations in order to support the established network, was conceived as an initiative pursuing a set of interlinked objectives ranging from environmental sustainability and urban land regeneration to improvement of citizen's quality of life and social cohesion. In recent years, responding to the new needs that arose due to the economic crisis, the initial focus of the project has been slightly re-directed towards issues such as social responsibility and family livelihood. This initiative owes much of its success to the integrated and coherent approach pursued, the established interactions among the various government levels and civil society and to the participation and relations between different partners and final users, who were fully in line with the place-based approach.
Benefit of territorial approach	Integrating a more comprehensive strategy for Greater Porto, focused on decreased production of organic waste and on the promotion of home composting, the initiative emerges as an exemplary case of a place-based approach. The integration of environmental, social and educational components, the participation of all stakeholders in decision-making processes and promoting partnerships between institutional actors (local authorities), economic (enterprises, which includes the coordinating entity) and social (NGO, parish centres,...) aspects in the initiative design, implementation and management, are some of the main elements characterising the PBA of the initiative.
EU Instruments used	ERDF
Links	https://www.letsrecycle.com/news/latest-news/lipor-porto-an-example-for-southern-europe/

Example 31

Beyond the 'BIG BUILD' – Promoting Superfast broadband in peripheral areas (United Kingdom)

Title	Beyond the 'BIG BUILD' – Promoting Superfast broadband in peripheral areas
Keywords	Improving territorial connectivity
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Green Europe: Sustainable connections
Summary	
Location	Cornwall (United Kingdom)
Area type	Rural
Admin. level(s) involved	Regional
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	
Timescale	2010-2015
Status	Complete
Implementing body	Cornwall Council
Description	Since its design the Superfast Cornwall programme has been conceived as an integrated strategy for boosting the economic growth and improving the wellbeing of the local community of Cornwall and Isles of Scilly by improving territorial connectivity. The core of the Programme is a major investment in a digital infrastructure, using fibre-based solutions enabling a connection speed up to 330 Mbps. It further includes a wide range of supplementary activities in different sectors and policy areas, addressed to stimulate the demand for the broadband and to provide businesses and households with the right skills for taking full advantage from a fast connection. In line with the TA2020, the Programme fully addresses the territorial dimension of connectivity and succeeds in increasing businesses' productivity and improving the quality of life for citizens. From the design to the implementation phases, the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders has made it possible to identify the crucial local needs and tailor Programmes' activities accordingly. Territorial dialogue is being ensured by a centralised body, the Cornwall Development Company, which is in charge of delivering and coordinating the whole program, by enabling interactions among the different stakeholders (e.g. private and public sectors, industry and universities, voluntary organisations, etc.).
Benefit of territorial approach	Four years after the start of the project, and one year before completion, 235,000 premises (around 90% of the target) have access to a faster broadband. Over 50,000 have been connected (with speeds of up to 100 Mbps), including 6,000 businesses. According to a recent evaluation report increasing the efficiency of working practices, improving access to the markets and productivity, the Superfast Cornwall has allowed the safeguarding of a total of 1,040 jobs and the creation of around 788 jobs. The increase of productivity from jobs created and safeguarded has been estimated to be around £80 million. The Programme is also influencing the decision of consumers to start-up a business and has certainly improved the social wellbeing (e.g. new type of entertainment for households, learning opportunities, more efficient online public services, improved health services, access to social networks, etc.).
EU Instruments used	The Green European Foundation
Links	http://www.hr.undp.org/content/dam/croatia/docs/legal/environment_and_energy/UNDP%20COAST TE FINAL clean 3JUN13.pdf

Example 32 Biodiversity as a territorial asset (Croatia)

Title	Biodiversity as a territorial asset
Keywords	Sustainable biodiversity, ecological network
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Green Europe: Healthy environment
Summary	
Location	Croatia
Area type	Coastal
Admin. level(s) involved	National
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	National initiative
Timescale	2007-2013
Status	Complete
Implementing body	Croatian Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection
Description	The value of Dalmatia's natural resources is reflected in the number of existing protected areas and the fact that around 40% of its territory is designated as part of the Natura 2000 ecological network, one of the highest shares in Europe. The key goal of the COAST Project is to promote the idea that such natural assets are not an obstacle to development; on the contrary, they can become an extraordinary growing opportunity. The project aims to mainstream sustainable biodiversity use in the project area into key economic activities: agriculture, fisheries and tourism sector. Most of the concerned activities are small and micro-scale, many undertaken by family units. In this context, biodiversity has always been seen as a limit rather than a potential for development. The key to the project success was the creation of a wide network of local stakeholders and engagement of the private banking sector in co-financing green business ideas, pilot and demonstration activities by reducing investment risk through innovative mechanisms.
Benefit of territorial approach	The value of Dalmatia's natural resources is reflected in the number of existing protected areas and the fact that around 40% of its territory is designated as part of the Natura 2000 ecological network, one of the highest shares in Europe. The key goal of the COAST Project is to promote the idea that such natural assets are not an obstacle to development; on the contrary, they can become an extraordinary growing opportunity. The project aims to mainstream sustainable biodiversity use in the project area into key economic activities: agriculture, fisheries and tourism sector. Most of the concerned activities are small and micro-scale, many undertaken by family units. In this context, biodiversity has always been seen as a limit rather than a potential for development. The key to the project success was the creation of a wide network of local stakeholders and engagement of the private banking sector in co-financing green business ideas, pilot and demonstration activities by reducing investment risk through innovative mechanisms.
EU Instruments used	The Green European Foundation
Links	http://www.hr.undp.org/content/dam/croatia/docs/legal/environment_and_energy/UNDP%20COAST_TE_FINAL_clean_3JUN13.pdf

Example 33 Place Based Rural Policy (Finland)

Title	Place Based Rural Policy
Keywords	Rural development
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe Green Europe: Circular economy
Summary	
Location	Finland
Area type	Rural
Admin. level(s) involved	National, regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Local Rural Areas
Policy framework	
Timescale	1995
Status	Active
Implementing body	Rural Policy committee (composed of 31 members from 27 organisations)
Description	The rural development policy in Finland aims at enhancing rural life, making it more attractive by offering working places and services for the people living in, or considering moving to the countryside. It is a very good example of place-based approach characterised by an intense cooperation among different levels of government. Activities and projects carried out in rural areas and villages are selected by local action groups, implemented by SMEs, associations and NGOs and reflect both grass-roots development priorities and nationally set targets. The place-based approach avails itself of a long and vivid tradition of village activity ensuring commitment around shared objectives, which is turning out to be a decisive advantage for identifying and valorising new local assets at the basis of rural development. Also, a strong governance system enables coordination and participation of wide array of stakeholders. On these grounds, local action groups have been thriving, keeping traditions alive while opening new avenues for development. Because the boundaries of rural areas are blurred in Finland, this approach has considerable potential for a broader implementation all over the country and across sectors.
Benefit of territorial approach	The Finnish rural policy is a good and acknowledge example of place-based approach characterized by a series of distinctive factors, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rural policy stems from the recognition of the Finland's rural character and the heterogeneity in terms of challenges and opportunities of different rural areas. • An intense cooperation among different levels of government. • A balance between levels of intervention, concerning the orientation of sectoral policies on the one hand and dealing with specific programs to promote rural development on the other. • A strong participatory approach assured both at high strategical level and ground level. • A successful adoption of the LEADER approach advocating the strong participation of Local Action Groups in planning local development. <p>As a result, thanks to these key features the Finnish model of rural policy has been quite successful in achieving coherence among sectoral policies oriented to rural areas as well as in tailoring specific programmes/projects to promote rural development which, in turn, have contributed to revitalize rural areas, and facilitate and disseminate innovative ideas.</p>
EU Instruments used	ERDF
Links	https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/archive/innovation/pdf/programme/2006_andalucia.pdf

Example 34

Place-Based Response to Covid-19 (Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Ireland, Norway, Svalbard, United Kingdom)

Title	Place-Based Response to Covid-19
Keywords	Remote and Peripheral communities
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe
Summary	
Location	Northern Periphery and Arctic (Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Ireland, Norway, Svalbard, United Kingdom)
Area type	Remote
Admin. level(s) involved	regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Local Rural Areas
Policy framework	Northern Periphery Programme
Timescale	2020 +
Status	Active
Implementing body	NPA programme
Description	<p>The “NPA COVID-19 response group” is an informal group of experts who have participated in, or led an NPA e-health project. All members believe that working together is a valuable approach, much needed in times of crisis. The following areas of expertise are covered: clinicians, including rural GPs, and public health specialists, health service managers, experts in digital technology, mental health, and social science. These stakeholders look at ways in which cooperation can effectively help addressing the multiple challenges posed by this crisis. Six themes are being explored, where joint efforts could be productive:</p> <p>Clinical aspects – comparing the different response measures taken by the respective countries, map the rate of infections and observe differences in comparison to national and local COVID strategies e.g. in rural vs. urban areas.</p> <p>The impact of self-isolation on people and their mental health, including elderly people and other vulnerable groups who already suffer from isolation will be impacted even worse from this situation.</p> <p>What e-health solutions already exist and what should be put in place?</p> <p>How can technology be brought to those people who need it and/or don't know how to use it?</p> <p>What are the technologies with the lowest threshold?</p> <p>How can we fast track innovation? Community response – Small peripheral communities are more self-sufficient, what lessons can they share?</p> <p>What will be the impact on the public health system now and next year?</p> <p>In what ways have our societies and economies been transformed already? And in the medium and long term?</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	<p>The emerging long-term impacts of the COVID-19 crisis will impact different territories in different ways. Extremely remote and peripheral regions face specific challenges in addressing the various challenges that the crisis has presented, e.g. in relation to access to services, mental health, and long-term economic impacts.</p> <p>Working on a transnational basis across regions with shared territorial characteristics is showing potential as a way to develop innovative responses to dealing with the impacts of the crisis.</p>
EU Instruments used	EU Structural Funds
Links	http://www.Interreg-npa.eu/covid-19/npa-covid-19-response-group/

Example 35

RAISE-IT – EGTC Rhine-Alpine (Regions along the Rhine-Alpine Corridor in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Netherlands)

Title	RAISE-IT: EGTC Rhine-Alpine (Regions along the Rhine-Alpine Corridor)
Keywords	Connectivity between urban nodes
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Green Europe: Sustainable connections
Summary	
Location	Region and Cities (Ports) along the Rhine-Alpine Corridor (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Netherlands)
Area type	Central
Admin. level(s) involved	EGTC regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Cross border cities
Policy framework	Connecting Europe Facility
Timescale	2020 +
Status	Active
Implementing body	Rhine Alpine Corridor EGTC
Description	The RAISE-IT project allows cities and regions along the Rhine-Alpine corridor to improve connectivity within and between urban nodes, and promote local and regional perspectives related to corridor development. The project is based on a recommendation of the CODE24 Interreg project (2010-2015) to increase access by means of a high-speed rail along the Rhine-Alpine corridor. This raised the question of what can and needs to be done to improve rail transport and create alternatives to flights.
Benefit of territorial approach	<p>The project includes research on bottom-up corridor development by applying a multi-scale approach from a local-regional perspective.</p> <p>The partners jointly work on different issues that are relevant at local, regional and transnational level but which would not be addressed from a local-regional perspective without the involvement of the EGTC.</p> <p>Although the project content focuses on the Rhine-Alpine corridor, the project approach, partnership structure and methodology could also be used in other TEN-T core network corridors.</p>
EU Instruments used	EGTC and CEF
Links	EGTC good practice booklet (2018); European Committee of the Regions

Example 36 DenkRaumBodensee (Austria, Germany, Switzerland)

Title	DenkRaumBodensee
Keywords	Connectivity between urban nodes
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe Just Europe: Integration beyond borders
Summary	
Location	Trinational Area of Lake Constance (Austria, Germany, Switzerland)
Area type	Central
Admin. level(s) involved	Transnational, Regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Cross-border, Regional
Policy framework	Financed by 6 Universities in the area
Timescale	2020 +
Status	Active
Implementing body	Cooperation platform of participating Universities
Description	DenkRaumBodensee establishes a link between science and practical implementation for the specific territory. It transfers key results from science into regional practice and identifies mutually concrete needs for more evidence in the region. The following key questions represent the main focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the current challenges that have strong implications for the future of the region? • Do we already experience consequences from future challenges?
Benefit of territorial approach	The platform provides an opportunity to adapt up-to-date scientific evidence to the territory and mutually allows to identify needs for evidence to solve upcoming challenges.
EU Instruments used	Interreg V A "Alpenrhein-Bodensee-Hochrhein
Links	https://denkraumbodensee.org/aktuelles/

Example 37 LER – Living European Rivers (All European Countries)

Title	LER - Living European Rivers
Keywords	Mobilising readiness for nature-based solutions for European Rivers
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Green Europe: Healthy environment
Summary	
Location	European River Basins (All European Countries)
Area type	Floodplains
Admin. level(s) involved	Transnational, National, Regional
Focus level of the operation	Regional
Policy framework	Network of European WWF offices
Timescale	2020+
Status	active
Implementing body	WWF
Description	Within the Living European Rivers Initiative, WWF is working to shift how we see and manage rivers to ultimately shift their status. Together with local communities, authorities, scientists, business and investors, WWF aims at creating and maintaining a movement across Europe that will introduce nature-based solutions in European River Basins by means of active dialogue, cooperation and campaigning in European regions.
Benefit of territorial approach	<p>The initiative fosters the reintroduction of free-flowing rivers, thereby generating nature-based solutions. The resulting ecosystem services increase not only flood resilience, but also facilitate an improved water availability for agriculture and climate resilience.</p> <p>More than 30,000 dams and a still unknown number of obstacles aggravate the provision of ecosystem services by rivers and wetlands. Working for the protection of these habitats, different WWF partners have joint forces to reduce threats from poor management and infrastructure development for hydropower, navigation, agriculture or flood-risk.</p>
EU Instruments used	Own resources (focus on WWF NL), various funding programmes, e.g. LIFE (application ongoing)
Links	https://wwf.panda.org/our-work/water/freshwater-initiatives/living-european-rivers-initiative/

Example 38 Aragon Circular Strategy (Spain)

Title	Aragon Circular Strategy (Spain)
Keywords	Regional Transformation towards Circular economy
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Green Europe: Circular economy
Summary	
Location	Spain, Region of Aragon (Spain)
Area type	diverse region
Admin. level(s) involved	regional, local
Focus level of the operation	regional, local
Policy framework	Regional Authorities
Timescale	2020+
Status	active
Implementing body	Government of Aragón
Description	Aragón Circular is an economic strategy that aims to boost the circular economy in the entire region of Aragon. Its objective is to create a political, economic, and social framework that will allow Aragon to move towards an innovative circular economy. Furthermore, this strategy will generate high-quality employment and providing the economic backbone for the territory.
Benefit of territorial approach	The territorial benefit involved redefining, reorganising, and adapting regional value chains. As a benefit, the participating SMEs will increasingly remain in the area and contribute to future oriented and resilient products.
EU Instruments used	National and regional level resources
Links	https://aragoncircular.es/

Example 39 FISU – Finnish sustainable communities (Finland)

Title	FISU - Finnish sustainable communities
Keywords	Integrated and sustainable municipal development
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Functional regions
Priority	Just Europe: Integration beyond borders
Summary	
Location	Network of communities (Finland)
Area type	Town and cities
Admin. level(s) involved	Regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Regional, local
Policy framework	Hosted by the Finnish Environment Institute SYKE and Motiva Ltd; Financed by Finnish Innovation Fund
Timescale	2020+
Status	Active
Implementing body	Finnish Environment Institute SYKE and Motiva Oy.
Description	<p>Fisu (Finnish Sustainable Communities) is a network of Finnish municipalities committed to working towards becoming carbon neutral and waste-free and curbing overconsumption by 2050. Today, the network consists of 11 municipalities: Forssa, Hyvinkää, Ii, Joensuu, Jyväskylä, Kuopio, Lahti, Lappeenranta, Riihimäki, Turku and Vaasa.</p> <p>The Fisu network is a competence community of resource-smart pioneer cities and municipalities, whose members develop new low-emission operating methods and solutions that create sustainable wellbeing and growth based on local strengths.</p> <p>The municipality, businesses and other local operators build a common vision and roadmap to achieving these goals. They identify new ways of working and cooperation. The idea is to strengthen the municipal and regional economy, to create jobs and to promote sustainable wellbeing.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	<p>The territoriality of the approach allows a place-based integrated development that is not standardised, but assesses the individual strengths of each participating city. By focusing on the support on the local level, jobs and quality of life are developed and maintained in the territory.</p> <p>A common FISU service centre supports a common development procedure and ensures efficient implementation through networking, data provision, pooling of solutions and tools.</p>
EU Instruments used	n/a
Links	https://www.fisunetwork.fi/en-US

Example 40 Sarantaporo – Internet for local remote communities (Greece)

Title	Sarantaporo - Internet for local remote communities
Keywords	Access to Internet for remote communities
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Green Europe: Sustainable connections
Summary	
Location	Greece
Area type	Mountainous, remote
Admin. level(s) involved	Regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	Community initiative, supported by 10 national, regional, private or academic institutions
Timescale	Founded as self-initiative in 2010
Status	Active
Implementing body	Non-profit organisation
Description	<p>The Sarantaporo.gr project began when a small group of young people, from the remote Thessaly mountains in central Greece, returned home to realise that their village still had no internet access. Telecom companies had no interest in investing to bring the necessary infrastructure there, so the group set out to create a wireless community network for almost 3,500 people in 12 isolated mountain villages. To stimulate demand and uptake, the project's volunteers provide training and support. The €156,000 project was 59% EU-funded and won a European Broadband Award in 2019.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	<p>Run by volunteers and local champions, the project's larger goals are to improve economic opportunities and quality of life for the area's population, encouraging both the younger and older generations to stay. The benefits comprise the visit of doctors and prescriptions online, grandchildren visit longer, local farmers have access to new markets.</p>
EU Instruments used	Broadband award
Links	<p>https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/remote-greek-mountain-community-creates-award-winning-broadband-project-eu-funds</p> <p>https://www.sarantaporo.gr/en/</p>

Example 41 Community financed FTTH Network (Croatia)

Title	Community financed FTTH Network
Keywords	Access to Internet
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Green Europe: Sustainable connections
Summary	
Location	Croatia
Area type	Remote
Admin. level(s) involved	Local
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	Community / Municipal
Timescale	2020+
Status	Active
Implementing body	Municipality with local company
Description	Based on the fact that no provision of fast connectivity was provided by big telecom operators in the rural areas of Croatia, the Community of Drnje decided to co-finance the Fiber to the home (FTTH) rollout for its inhabitants. They joined forces with Pro-PING, a small company from the northern part of Croatia, that is building FTTH. Pro-PING started to deploy the FTTH network in April 2019 and by September 2019 the implementation had already reached 70%. Two out of three villages in the Community Drnje are already covered and Triple-Play FTTH services are already activated. For the third village more complex construction works are planned (passage under the rail tracks). The plan is to finish the rollout until middle of 2020.
Benefit of territorial approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to internet• Secure access to a wide variety of services and support• Increase of the inhabitant's wellbeing through access to the global community, relatives and friends.
EU Instruments used	n/a
Links	https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/rural-croatian-community-council-co-finances-high-speed-fibre-home-network

Example 42

EUSALP AG4 – pushing multimodal, sustainable commuter mobility on local level (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland)

Title	EUSALP AG4 - pushing multimodal, sustainable commuter mobility on local level
Keywords	Sustainable cross-border commuter mobility
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Functional regions
Priority	Just Europe: Integration beyond borders Green Europe: Sustainable connections
Summary	
Location	Member Regions of the EUSALP (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland)
Area type	Municipalities, urban
Admin. level(s) involved	Transnational, Regional, Local, cross-border
Focus level of the operation	Transnational, Regional, Local, cross-border
Policy framework	Macroregional Strategy initiative focusing on local level
Timescale	2018-2019
Status	Finalised with leverage in AG4
Implementing body	EUSALP AG4
Description	<p>As the Alpine Region accounts for almost half of all European cross-border commuter flows, it is considered crucial to have compiled this statistical and cartographic overview for the region.</p> <p>Within that context a toolbox that encompassed concrete measures for enterprises to encourage sustainable commuter mobility has been developed, with the focus on (1) organizational measures and incentive systems, (2) infrastructure measures and (3) information, actions and campaigns.</p> <p>Surveying mobility behaviours is the first step towards the definition of adequate measures of enterprise mobility management and to assess the success of initiatives as well as to raise awareness among employees. The toolbox proposes several best practice examples and implementation guidelines to support sustainable commuter mobility in companies, e.g. management of parking spaces, collaboration with public transport providers, logistical measures, etc.</p> <p>Within their ARPAF project CrossBorder, project partners from AG4, AG5, and CIPRA International have been working on sustainable mobility solutions for the local level from a commuter's perspective.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	With the macroregional strategy EUSALP coordinating individual cross-border assessments on transnational level, an effective multi-level governance can be initiated to push local implementation.
EU Instruments used	ARPAV fund
Links	https://www.alpine-region.eu/news/changing-views-changing-thoughts-changing-behaviour-towards-more-sustainable-mobility

Example 43

Attractive Rail connections in Euregio Via salina und Zugspitze Wetterstein Karwendel (Austria, Germany)

Title	Attractive Rail connections in Euregio Via salina und Zugspitze Wetterstein Karwendel
Keywords	Attractive regional rail connection
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Functional regions
Priority	Just Europe: Integration beyond borders Green Europe: Sustainable connections
Summary	
Location	Cross-border area (Austria, Germany)
Area type	Mountainous
Admin. level(s) involved	Regional, cross-border
Focus level of the operation	Regional, cross-border
Policy framework	Funded project led by Transport association of Tyrol LtD
Timescale	2019-2020+
Status	Active
Implementing body	Transport association of Tyrol LtD, Municipalities, Regional Mobility Associations
Description	The "Außenfernerbahn" and the "Mittenwaldbahn/Werdenfelsbahn" cover and ensure accessibility and connectivity across the rural areas in the cross-border EUREGIO and with cities such as Innsbruck, Munich and Kempten. The regional railroads faced severe competitive disadvantages due to the travel duration. However, due to changing environmental awareness and increasing car traffic on the respective streets, the regional parliament of Tyrol decided to push for an increase of attractiveness of those sustainable connections. A Stakeholder-driven, participatory process and a thorough analysis of mobility behaviour have been part of this cooperation. The mutual awareness was intensified and deepened and will hopefully lead to an increase of passengers.
Benefit of territorial approach	Cross-border railroad connections do not allow many alternatives besides a territorial approach. A deepening of the mutual understanding and the awareness of shared challenges have the potential to lead to more effective promotion and service of those connections in the future.
EU Instruments used	Interreg A cross-border Austria-Germany /Bavaria
Links	https://www.alpine-pearls.com/en/

Example 44

Regionale Leitplanung Nordraum Wien – Regional planning Vienna North (Austria)

Title	Regionale Leitplanung Nordraum Wien / Regional planning Vienna North
Keywords	Early and focused cooperation between municipalities and region
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Balanced Europe
Priority	Just Europe: Functional regions
Summary	
Location	Metropolitan Area of Vienna (Austria)
Area type	Urban
Admin. level(s) involved	Regional
Focus level of the operation	Regional
Policy framework	Regional multilevel governance Planning Initiative
Timescale	2012
Status	Still valid / active
Implementing body	Government of Lower Austria in cooperation with municipalities
Description	The northern wider area around Vienna ranges among the fastest growing urban areas in Austria. In order to seize opportunities and prevent negative developments at an early stage, the objective of this project involved a joint strategy that is in compliance with both economy and ecology. The guiding model and the according plan address settlement development, economic areas, regional landscape planning as well as functions such as accessibility, services. For Austria, this approach is a novelty that is characterized by an early and preventive dialogue between the municipalities and the federal state.
Benefit of territorial approach	An early example of multilevel governance planning cooperation.
EU Instruments used	n/a
Links	https://www.ots.at/presseaussendung/OTS_20120522_OTS0053/regionale-leitplanung-nordraum-wien

Example 45

Sohjoa – physical and virtual innovation platform of autonomous last mile urban transportation (Finland)

Title	Sohjoa: physical and virtual innovation platform of autonomous last mile urban transportation
Keywords	Autonomous urban vehicles; last mile mobility-as-a-service
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Green Europe: Sustainable connections
Summary	
Location	Finland
Area type	Urban
Admin. level(s) involved	National, local
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	Project within the ERDF national fund
Timescale	2016 - 2018
Status	Unclear
Implementing body	Metropolia University of applied Science - Helsinki
Description	<p>Sohjoa envisages robot buses being used as part of a public transport system's 'last mile' service, i.e. the connection between a major node on the transport system, such as a stop on the metro service, and the passenger's destination. Improvements at this stage of the journey could boost the use of public transport, help to curb congestion in urban areas and contribute to greater sustainability. They could also reduce operating costs.</p> <p>The knowledge generated by Sohjoa has sparked off a number of new initiatives.</p> <p>The project's bid to take such buses forward benefits from a particularity of Finnish law, which doesn't specify that the driver of a vehicle has to actually be inside it. Given the potential safety benefits and risks of automated vehicles, trials are actively encouraged. They can involve a driver operating the car remotely.</p> <p>For the time being, Sohjoa's trials do still have a driver on stand-by in the bus, who can take control if needed. In Helsinki and Espoo, they were conducted in mixed traffic on open roads used by conventional vehicles, while the Tampere trial was held in a pedestrian area.</p> <p>The main outcomes of these trials include the extended know-how of the realities of robot bus operation. The tests have also helped to boost public awareness of the technology not just in the areas where they were conducted, but also much farther afield, as the project has attracted considerable media interest.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The territoriality of the approach can be described in the place-based trial assessments and furthermore, might have a nation-wide snowball effect.• The trials managed to find a variety of place-based solutions in different urban spaces (pedestrian zone, "normal" road, etc) to drive the vehicle.• Furthermore, it generated acceptance on behalf of the citizens. In the long term, it will mobilise people in a sustainable way and contribute to increase such services.
EU Instruments used	European Regional Development Fund // "Sustainable growths and jobs 2014-2020 - Structural Funds programme of Finland (ERDF)"
Links	https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/projects/finland/moving-ahead-with-robot-buses

Example 46

Alley of Change – Sustainable mobility and integrated transformation in the Ruhr area (Germany)

Title	Alley of Change - Sustainable mobility and integrated transformation in the Ruhr area
Keywords	Regional green mobility, Transformation
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe Just Europe: Functional regions Green Europe: Sustainable connections
Summary	
Location	Ruhr area (Germany)
Area type	Urban, regional
Admin. level(s) involved	Regional, local
Focus level of the operation	Regional, local
Policy framework	Structural funds project
Timescale	2009-2016
Status	Results are active
Implementing body	n/a
Description	<p>Industrial regions throughout Europe are reinventing themselves as attractive places to live and work, where sustainability actively contributes to a high quality of life. The ongoing transformation of the Ruhr region in Germany is an excellent example of this. The integrated strategy will boost environmentally-friendly mobility within the Ruhr region and help connect potential new sectors of economic and sustainable growth.</p> <p>Within the Alley-of-Change-Project, a former mining railway track has been transformed into a 10 km bicycle lane. An app for the Alley of Change project was created by a local start-up company with the help of secondary school pupils. The app provides information along the lane, explains urban transformation, the change from coal to renewable energies and aims to encourage young people to protect nature.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	<p>The Alley of Change is a key element of the integrated strategy "Green Infrastructure Ruhr" in which local and regional blue-green infrastructures are combined with green urbanism, a network of bicycle lanes (for low emission mobility) and with local initiatives for climate protection and adaptation.</p> <p>Through the territorial approach, the mobility and thereby work and life patterns of the citizens of the Ruhr area cities become increasingly sustainable.</p>
EU Instruments used	Operational Programme "North Rhine Westphalia"
Links	https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/projects/germany/ruhr-valley-on-the-right-path-to-greener-mobility

Example 47

"Convention Citoyenne pour le Climat" – Citizen's council for Climate (France)

Title	"Convention Citoyenne pour le Climat" // Citizen's council for Climate
Keywords	Citizen involvement in national climate policy
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Balanced Europe
Priority	Just Europe: Functional regions Green Europe: Healthy environment Green Europe: Circular economy
Summary	
Location	France
Area type	Diverse
Admin. level(s) involved	National
Focus level of the operation	National
Policy framework	National Convention
Timescale	2019+
Status	Active
Implementing body	French Governmental Action
Description	Triggered by the protests of the "maliots jaune", president Emmanuel Macron set up a Council of Citizens. The starting point has been the nation-wide protests due to the planned ecological tax and the increase of fuel prices, which would represent a burden for commuters in rural areas. The protest reflected a wide societal spectrum. Amongst difficult and sometimes violent times, specific activities were also requested, including a Citizen Council. Following up on this, 150 participants were randomly selected, balancing out gender, age, location, education and migration background. The Convention of the Citizens Council has now presented a 500 pages "citizens analysis", comprising proposals that should help to reduce the CO2 emission by 40% until 2030.
Benefit of territorial approach	The approach is at the same time a bottom-up, participatory one, but also a newly set up governance level with significant influence on the territories. The citizens represent all French places and regions, thereby reflecting the territory when developing their ideas.
EU Instruments used	n/a
Links	https://www.energiezukunft.eu/politik/wie-buerger-klimapolitik-machen/

Example 48 Cities for Climate Protection program (Global)

Title	Cities for Climate Protection program
Keywords	Territorial effect transnational networking of local level strategies
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Balanced Europe
Priority	Just Europe: Functional regions Green Europe: Healthy environment
Summary	
Location	Global
Area type	Diverse
Admin. level(s) involved	Transnational, local
Focus level of the operation	Transnational, local
Policy framework	City network
Timescale	Since 1993
Status	Still valid as it influenced the perspective on integrated territorial action against climate change
Implementing body	ICLEI // UNEP
Description	The Cities for Climate Protection program (CCP) is one of three major global transnational municipal networks aimed at reducing urban greenhouse gas emissions. Established in 1990 by the International Union of Local Authorities and the United Nations Environment Programme, one of the largest global transnational networks, the International Council for Local Environment Initiatives (ICLEI), presented a framework to represent local government environmental concerns internationally. ICLEI strives to 'establish an active and committed municipal membership... that promotes environmental and sustainable development initiatives within...[a] framework of decentralised cooperation'. In 1993, subsequent to an ICLEI successful pilot scheme, the Urban CO2 Reduction Project, the CCP program was established during the post-Rio Earth Summit era. The CCP program illustrates itself within local climate policy, as a transnational governance network.
Benefit of territorial approach	Established in 1993, the CCP program houses more than 650 municipal governments representing over 30 participatory countries. The CCP program assumes that whilst single local government efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) may be reasonably modest, by working together as a network of authoritative bodies, local authorities can significantly influence efforts to reduce GHG emission.
EU Instruments used	n/a
Links	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cities_for_Climate_Protection_program

Example 49

My favourite River - Multi-Level Governance at the River Neckar (Germany)

Title	My favourite River - Multi-Level Governance at the River Neckar
Keywords	Multi-Level Governance and merged investments
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe Green Europe: Healthy environment Green Europe: Circular economy
Summary	
Location	Region of Baden-Württemberg (Germany)
Area type	River area
Admin. level(s) involved	National, Regional, Local
Focus level of the operation	Local
Policy framework	EU funded project
Timescale	2009-2015
Status	Project finalised, results still valid and in use
Implementing body	Stuttgart directorate of the Waterways and Shipping Administration, together with two municipalities and the regional association of the Stuttgart region
Description	<p>Medium-sized and large rivers flowing through densely populated urban areas typically fall under more than one jurisdiction in Germany. The national level acts as the guardian of waterways development and security, whilst the local municipality has the responsibility over local requirements. Their interests can overlap and compete in the management of rivers.</p> <p>A local preference for environmentally sound nature restoration measures and attractive riverfronts may for example be counterproductive to the preference at the national level, which might aim for exploiting the river's function as a transport route. Uncoordinated and sometimes contradictory planning leads to significant disadvantages, heavy delays and wasted resources.</p> <p>The project coordinated concurrent investment plans at municipal, regional and national level in order to achieve a unified, environmentally sustainable and durable river management approach. It thus aimed to ensure the appropriate and sustainable maintenance and development of the river Neckar as an important waterway.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	The merging of different concurring investments in a multilevel approach has led to sustainable and long-lasting improvements of the riverfronts that attract local visitors, give more space for river development (flood prevention) and allow to maintain the waterway Neckar.
EU Instruments used	EU funding programme LIFE
Links	https://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=search.dspPage&n_proj_id=3768

Example 50

Alpine Pearls – Green Travel with Mobility Guarantee (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland)

Title	Alpine Pearls - Green Travel with Mobility Guarantee
Keywords	Last Mile, Travel with public transportation, transport at site
Territorial Agenda 2030	Just Europe: Balanced Europe
Priority	Green Europe: Healthy environment Green Europe: Sustainable connections
Summary	
Location	Alpine Area (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland)
Area type	Mountainous
Admin. level(s) involved	Transnational, local
Focus level of the operation	Transnational, local
Policy framework	Network of
Timescale	2010+
Status	Active
Implementing body	Network of 21 Alpine towns and cities with various cooperation partners such as national railroads.
Description	<p>“Alpine Pearls” stands for car- and carefree holidays. It comprises 21 villages in the Alps that commit themselves to restful, stress-free and fun leisure time for soft and sustainable tourism. And it stands for exceptional environmental friendliness and green mobility.</p> <p>The participating cities are spread across the entire Alpine area of Germany, Austria, Italy, Slovenia and Switzerland and engage in continuous cooperation and branding. What they all have in common is a concern for the environment and a method to protect it. With regards to mobility, this includes services such as comforting from the start of the railroad trip and guaranteeing for green mobility options at the site.</p>
Benefit of territorial approach	The territorial approach offers individual solutions for every destination under a joint umbrella. Furthermore, it offers outreach already to the travel planning in cooperation with the surrounding national railroad connections.
EU Instruments used	In 2006, Alpine Pearls was established by 17 member villages, the “Pearls of the Alps”. The Association was the result of two successive EU projects (Alps Mobility and Alps Mobility II). Both of these projects originated in an initiative by the Austrian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment, and Water Management. The idea behind the Alpine Pearls was to create innovative tourist packages that protect the environment. The results of these EU projects were implemented by creating the transnational umbrella organization Alpine Pearls for the entire Alpine region.
Links	https://www.alpine-pearls.com/en/

Example 51 Sharing Copenhagen (Denmark)

Title	Sharing Copenhagen
Keywords	Climate adaptation; public-private partnership
Territorial Agenda 2030	Green Europe: Healthy environment
Priority	Green Europe: Sustainable connections
Summary	
Location	Greater Copenhagen Area (Denmark)
Area type	Urban
Admin. level(s) involved	National authorities, city authorities
Focus level of the operation	Functional Urban Area
Policy framework	Domestic initiative
Timescale	Since 2014
Status	Ongoing
Implementing body	Copenhagen municipality
Description	Initiated by the municipal authority as part of Copenhagen's role as European Green Capital in 2014, 'Sharing Copenhagen' is a green partnership, which includes private sector partners and a co-creation platform in the greater Copenhagen area. This platform resulted in many projects that contributed to the city's development (e.g. cloudburst management, sustainable urban mobility, new technologies for better plastic-waste separation etc).
Benefit of territorial approach	Combining forces, including inputs from public, private and science communities, to come up with green solutions for the city, sharing resources, competences, ideas, responsibility, and initiative.
EU Instruments used	
Links	https://www.kk.dk/artikel/sharing-copenhagen

Example 52

Rurbance – For a balanced development of the relations between rural and urban areas (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland)

Title	Rurbance
Keywords	Urban-rural partnership; governance; polycentric development.
Territorial Agenda 2030 Priority	Just Europe: Balanced Europe Just Europe: Functional regions Just Europe: Integration beyond borders
Summary	
Location	Alpine space (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland)
Area type	Rurban and rural spaces in mountainous territories, transnational context
Admin. level(s) involved	National, regional and local
Focus level of the operation	Transnational, regional and local
Policy framework	EU Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013
Timescale	2007-2013
Status	Completed
Implementing body	Regional and municipal authorities across six countries.
Description	The Rurbance initiative was a 6-country cross jurisdictional initiative, as part of the EU's Territorial Cooperation Programme for the Alpine Space. Its objective was to link rural and mountain communities with urban communities, which are located close to and dependent on the European Alps. It has managed to bring rural and urban actors together as equal players to address multiple challenges in environmental, social and economic dimensions. Issues included: landscape degradation, lack of water and soil quality, loss of biodiversity, territorial fragmentation, abandonment of the territory, intense use of resources, social problems, quality of life degradation.
Benefit of territorial approach	Participatory processes of co-visioning, co-development and co-creation for balanced urban and rural territorial development established a common framework for multiple levels of local, regional and national regulations. A balanced development cannot be achieved with sectorial interventions but only by crossing the segmentation of the territorial policies. Therefore, Rurbance is developing cooperative and integrated governance models
EU Instruments used	EU Territorial Cooperation Programme for the Alpine Space 2007-2013
Links	http://www.alpine-space.org/2007

