

**Interreg
Europe**



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Leveraging European Funding in Small Urban Areas

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Thematic Experts | Citizens | Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform

8 February 2024



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Leveraging European Funding in Small Urban Areas

Welcome!

Welcome!



Astrid Severin
Thematic Expert - Citizens
Policy Learning Platform



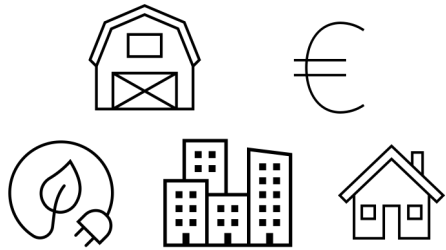
Arnault Morisson
Thematic Expert - Citizens
Policy Learning Platform



Lotte van Meijel
Web and Community Expert
Policy Learning Platform

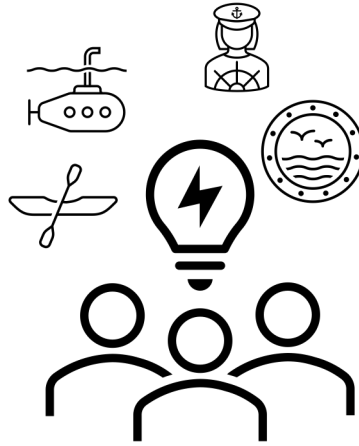
Leveraging European Funding in Small Urban Areas

Presentations



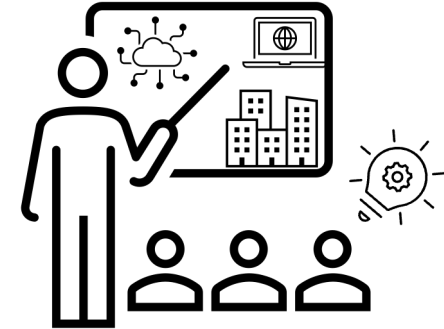
Sustainable Urban
Development for Small
Urban Areas

Carlotta Fioretti,
European Urban
Initiative Expert.



Las Palmas Ciudad del
Mar **ECORIS3**

**Andrés Caballero
Quintana,** Municipality
of Las Palmas, Spain.



Ventspils Digital Centre
(VDC) **SKILLS+**

Egons Spalans,
Ventspils City Council,
Latvia

Sharing solutions for better regional policy



Interreg Europe objective

To improve **regional development policies** (including Investment for jobs and growth goal programmes)

How?

Through exchange of experience, innovative approaches and capacity building (in relation to the identification & transfer of good practices)

- Primarily dedicated to **policymakers**
- Focus on **exchange of experience**

Two actions



Projects

Limited number of regions exchanging and transferring practices on a shared regional development issue



Policy Learning Platform

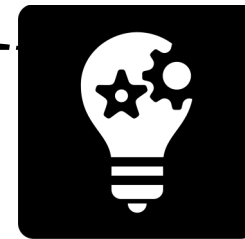
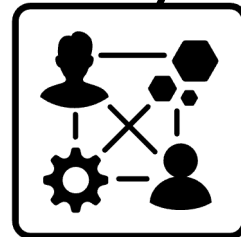
Further exploiting projects' achievements and opening up the programme benefits to all

The platform in a **NUTSHELL**

Policy-learning opportunities through **access** to:

People

Meet our community



Knowledge

Find policy solutions



Expertise

Get policy advice

www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning

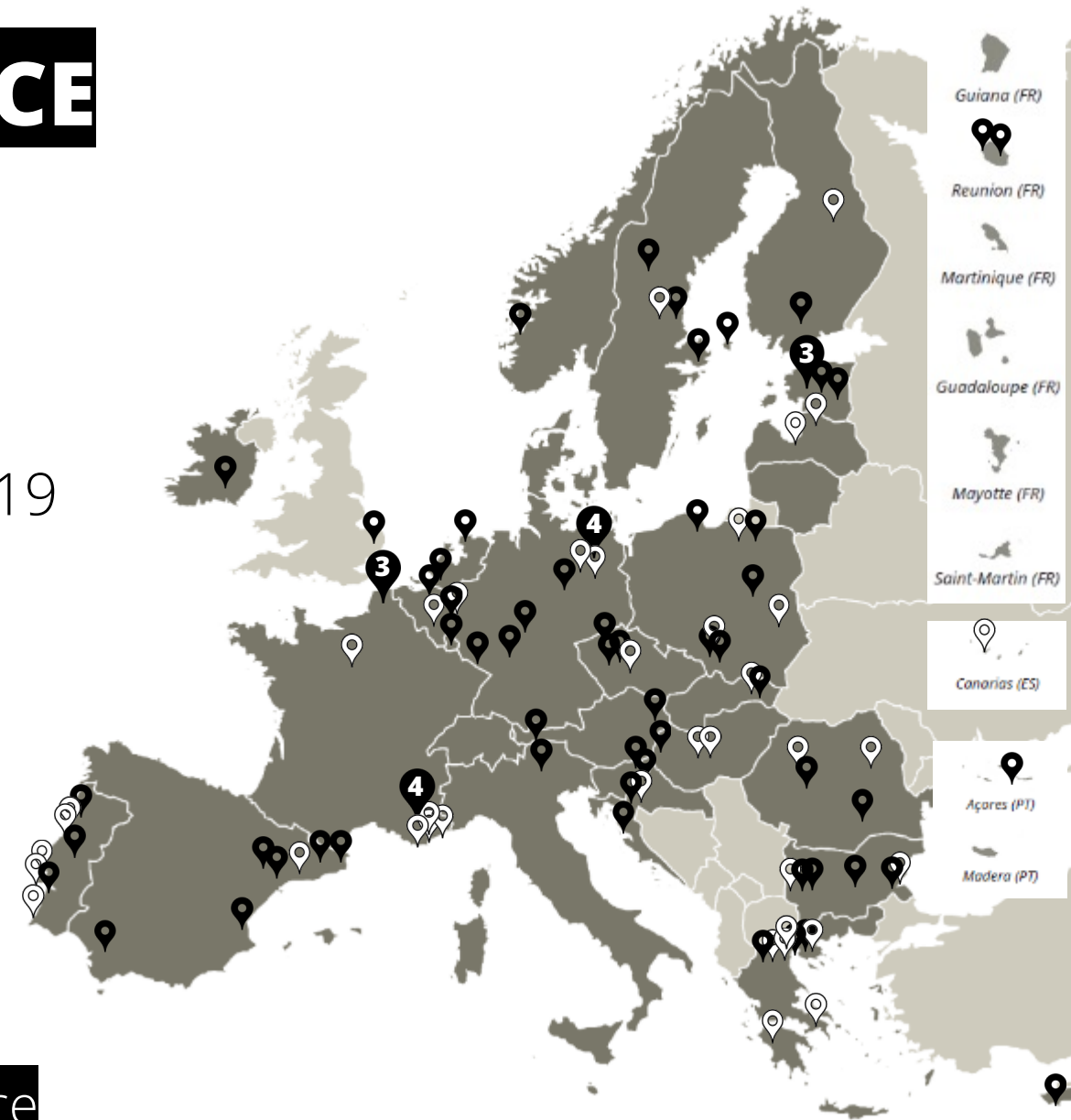
Peer learning **IN PRACTICE**

📍 **77 peer reviews** implemented since 2019
5 peer reviews in the pipeline

📍 **44 matchmaking** sessions

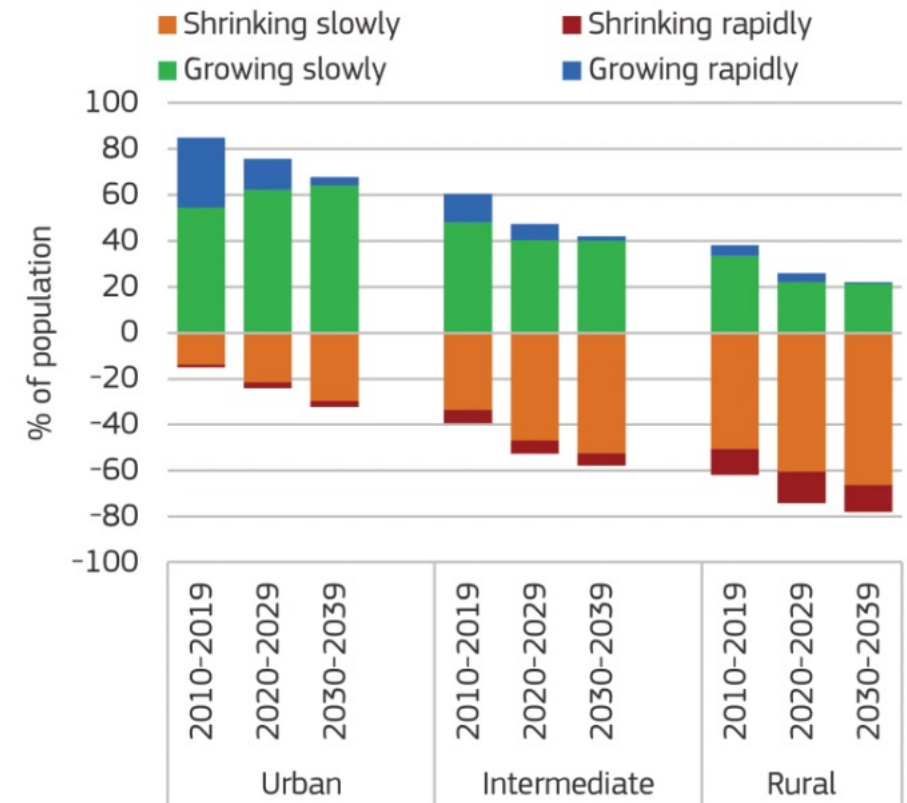
Apply to benefit from expert support any time

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/get-policy-advice>



Leveraging European Funding in **Small Urban Areas**

- Small Urban Areas (SUAs) are defined as towns with a population between 5,000 and 50,000 inhabitants
- context-dependent (Böhme et al.).
- SUAs are highly diverse and collectively house **43% of the EU's population.**
- SUAs face a broad spectrum of **societal challenges**, including an ageing population, brain drain, climate change, digital transition, and socio-economic transformation.



Source: European Commission (2022)

Population by type of demographic change by urban-rural typology, 2010-2040

Leveraging European Funding in **Small Urban Areas**

- Until recently, European policies have overlooked SUAs, leaving them feeling neglected.
- To access European funding effectively, SUAs must
 - Cultivate **leadership** capable of mobilising their communities
 - Develop institutional and legal **capacities** to punch above their weight, and
 - Cultivate **resilience** to navigate uncertainties.

slido



Are you currently residing in a Small Urban Area (SUA)?

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

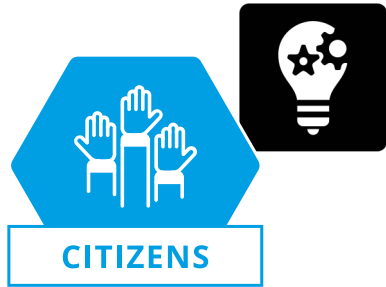
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Which European funds has your Small Urban Area (SUA) utilised?

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

The Policy Learning Platform can help



Good Practices

- Business and Shared Services Center of Fundão (INNO INDUSTRY)
- Ventspils Digital Centre (SKILLS+)



Peer Review

- Promoting gender inclusive urban policies in Valenciennes, France.



Policy Brief

- Approaches for a rural low-carbon economy

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Presentations

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