

REGIO initiatives on citizens participation

DIALOGUE WITH CPR PARTNERS 2021-2027 13 December 2023

> REGIO.E.1 – Administrative Capacity Building and Solidarity Instrument Stefan APPEL – Head of Unit

Introduction

- REGIO competence centre on administrative capacity works with Member States to improve administrative capacity to manage EU funds for EU coehsion polilcy
- Studies and pilot projects allow to explore new challenges and the related administrative capacity needs
- A '<u>EU Cohesion Policy for the citizens but also with citizens</u>' requires new forms of governance and new tools for participation
- Participation of youth is a specific challenge within citizens participation



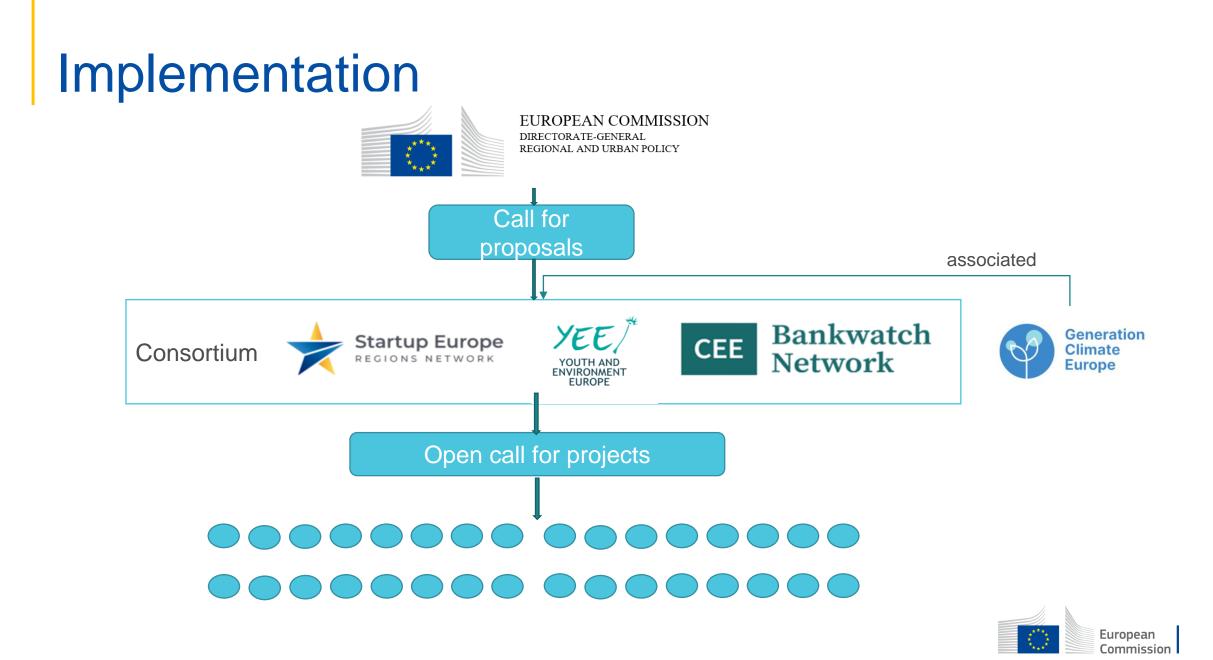
EUTeens4Green A new generation of youth ambassadors for inclusive green transition



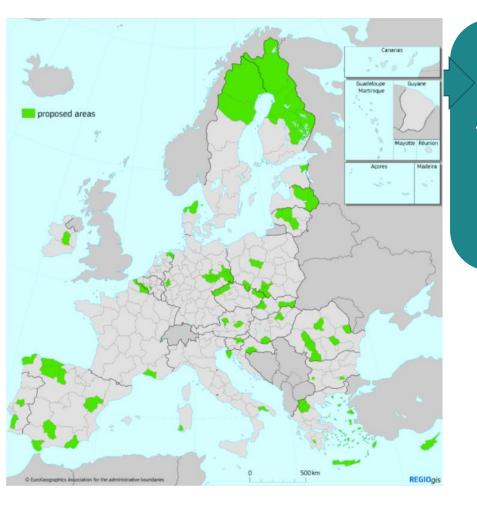
Objectives

- Explore willingness of young people to participate in shaping EU cohesion policy
 - Focus of young people (15-24 years old) living in Just Transition territories
- Investigate on their capacity to participate
 - Identify people at risk of exclusion from the green transition and implement solutions for inclusion
- Understand the conditions for attract their interest and motivate to participate
 - Evaluate youth capacity to implement projects of value EUR10.000 in 12 months.





Selection



197 **applications** from 22 MS

75 projects in 44 JustTransition regions in21 Member Statesselected

At least one project per Member State with positive evaluation



Some statistics

21 EU MEMBER STATES AND 44 JT TERRITORIES REPRESENTED

COUNTRIES WITH THE MOST PROJECTS:

- Greece (13)
- Spain (12)
- Romania (9)
- Bulgaria (7)
- Poland (5)

€





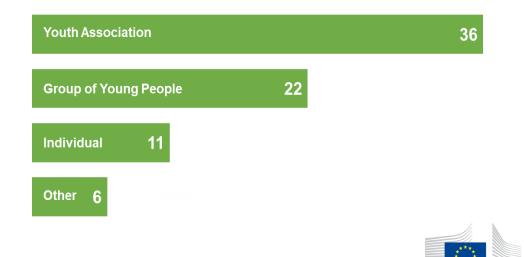


ALL PROJECTS BEGAN ON APRIL 1, 2023.

Projects ' duration vary between 3 to 12 months!



36 APPLICANTS COUNT ON THE SUPPORT OF A YOUTH ASSOCIATION



European Commission

1st project completed

Current status

75

75 PROJECTS SELECTED - 723.184,00€

Financial support to third parties was increased to 75 projects / 723.184,00€ to provide the Consortium with a leeway if Project's cannot financially execute at 100% or in case of withdrawals

THREE PROJECTS HAVE <u>WITHDRAWN</u>FROM THE PROCESS OF SIGNATURE



69

72 PROJECTS HAVE SIGNED THE PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

The first payment has been transferred to 72 beneficiaries.

3 PROJECTS CANCELLED:

EUD's Gronnefremtid | Denmark - 9.060,00€ Groningen Goes Green | Netherlands - 10.000€ Grow Together | Latvia - 10.000€

69 PROJECTS ACTIVE - 664.624,00€

19 COUNTRIES



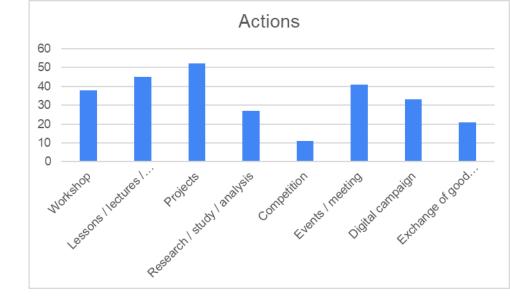


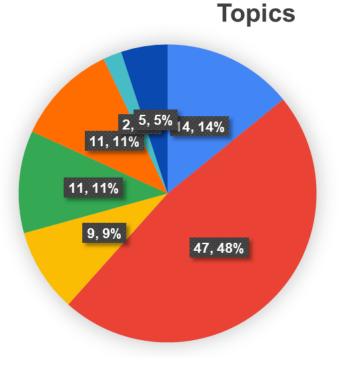
EUTeens4Green @EuTeens4Green · 18 lug

The project in **#ireland** – 'Midland Youth Conference on Green Deal & Cilmate Justice' creates a platform for young people to have an equal voland to raise awareness about the **#SDGs**, Green Deal, Cilmate Justice an to rethink how we live in the Midland region of Ireland.



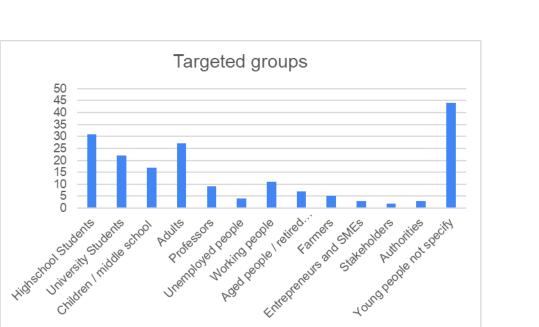
Projects description





Sustainable development

Climate and environmental changes / Just Transition
Pollution
Energy
Circular economy
Mobility
Biodiversity





The actors around the young people

A Think Tank composed of **57 experts of the** youth field and/or environmental organisations provided insights and identified needs and expectations within the youth field.

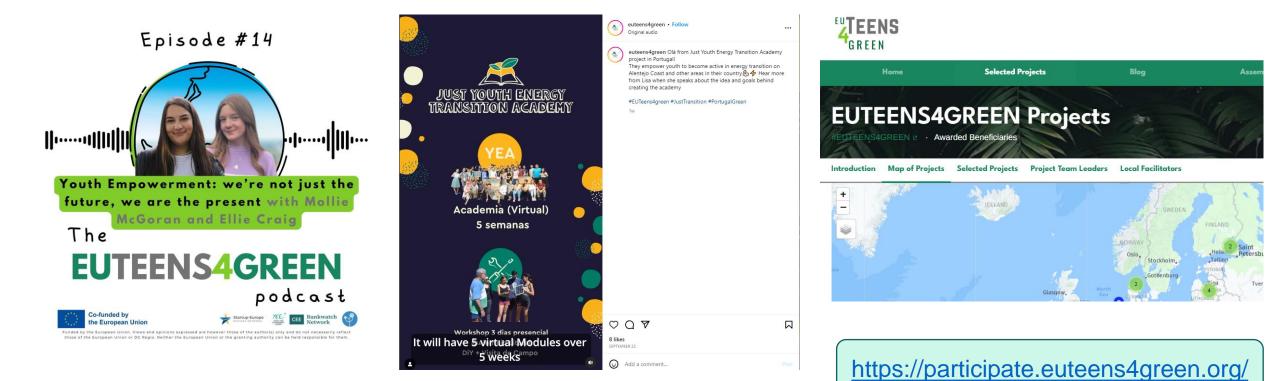
The consortium, SERN-YEE-Bankwatch informed about the application form, helped with the signature of the participation agreement and project reporting, organize exchanges. Furthermore, it organizes interviews and other communication activities. It also collect evidence for monitoring and evaluation.

Local facilitators provide support to individuals or groups with their application process (already done), including language or logistics support, and in the implementation of their projects. Additionally, they keep in touch with the awarded projects to mentor young people in organising local actions in their countries and monitor their progress.

School teachers, pupil, university students, citizens are involved in workshop, events, training, projects and others activities Local stakeholders and government could also provide their support and give visibility to these activities.



How to follow EUTeens4Green



@EUTeens4green on social media



Final event – 19 April 2024 (Brussels)

- Presentation of reccomendations for involvement of young people in EU cohesion policy and in particular in JTF
- Dialogue of EUTeens4Green project leaders with:
 - Commissioner Sinkevičius about inclusion in green transition
 - Commissioner Ferreira on a panel debate with presidents of EU regions on youth participation on policy-making.



Innovative implementation of partnership principle



Objectives

- test and assess the application of innovative citizen participation:
 - Testing deliberative processes (e.g. citizens' jury, voting, budgeting) to design, implement and monitor cohesion policy investments (ERDF, JTF, Cohesion Fund)
- identify conditions, actions and resources necessary to build strong and long-lasting partnerships to promote citizen participation in cohesion policy
 - Focus on cooperation between public authorities, e.g. managing authorities, and civil society organisation



Innovative implementation of the Partnership Principle

Completed: Banská Bystrica (SK) tested a digital platform for citizen participation and decided for its comprehensive deployment for preparing, updating, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the Integrated Territorial Strategy of the Functional Urban Area of Banská Bystrica

On-going: Citizens' Jury in **GZM (PL)** on design of rail transport and Students' Assembly in the **Appenino Reggiano (IT)** on territorial strategy

Panel preparation: Citizens' voting in Dambovita County (RO) on territorial strategy, citizens' jury in Ramincu Valcea (RO) on urban mobility, citizens' budgeting in Catalunya (ES) on cohesion policy priorities

Berlin Londres Paris /ienne Rom

Preparation: Citizens' commission and feed-back mechanism in **Cantabria (ES)** in ITI, Civic monitoring in **Lazio (IT)** on urban strategies, testing of toolbox on participatory methodology in **Brussels (BE)** on 15 municipal projects.



Thank you for the attention

