

Thematic workshops

PO2 – „a greener and low-carbon Europe”

CB Joint Strategy project

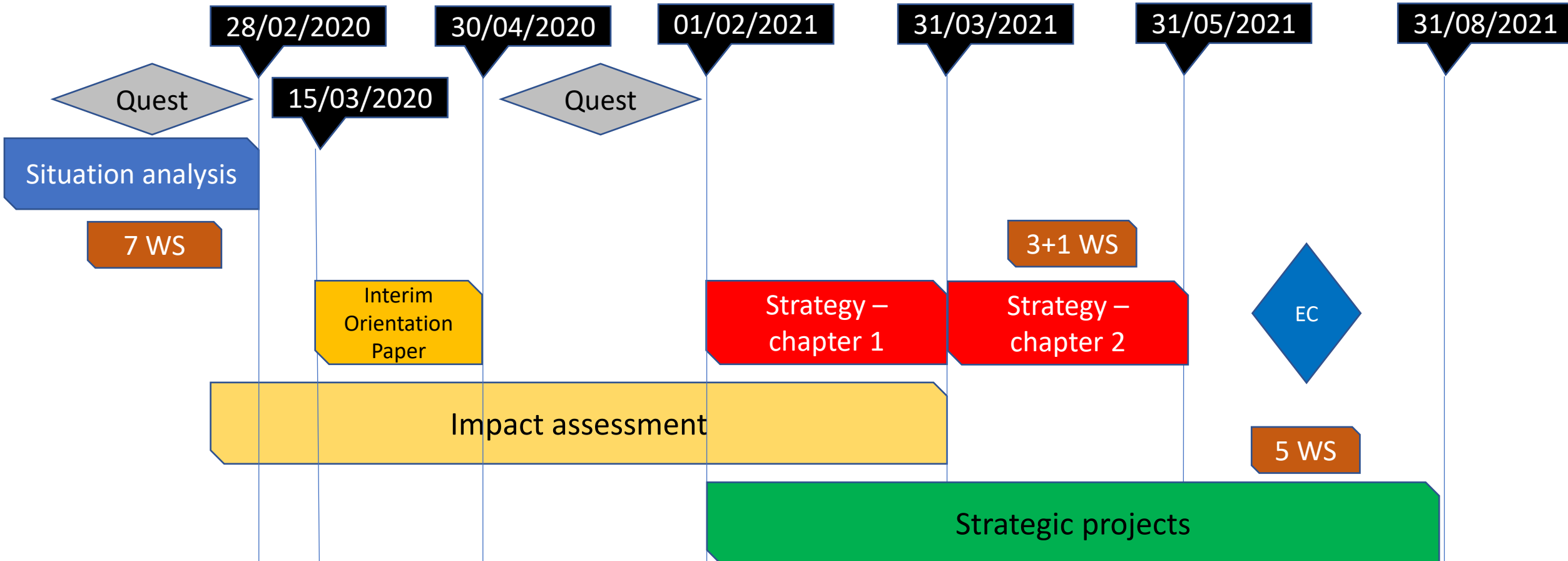
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- Dissemination about the selected policy objectives (PO) and specific objectives (SO) of the future Interreg Programme Hungary-Croatia 2021-2027;
- Sharing experience of the ongoing Interreg V-A Hungary-Croatia Cooperation Programme – related to the selected thematic fields;
- Collecting valuable input for the in-depth elaboration of the new programme.

The Schedule

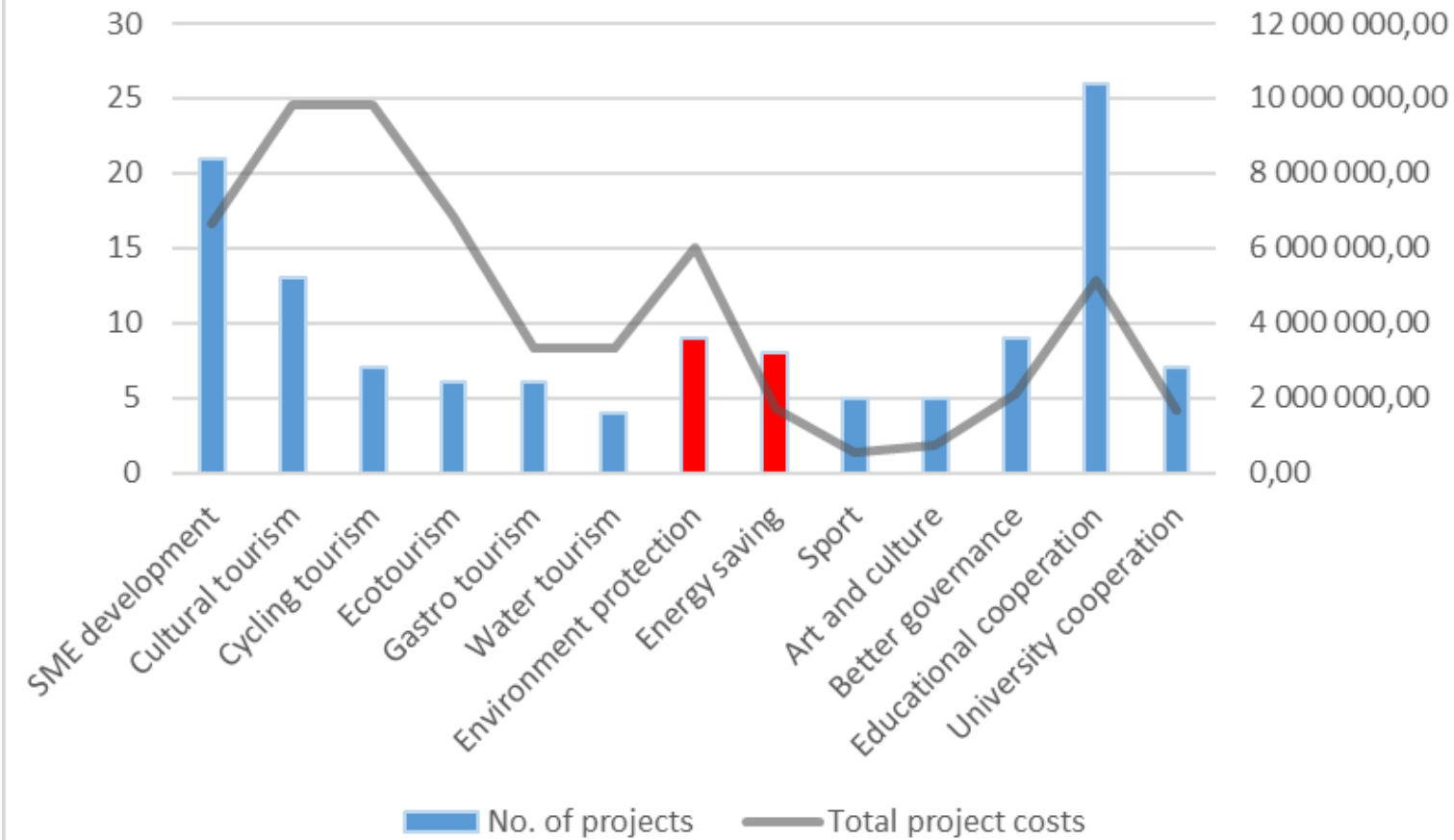


- Analysis phase (2020)
 - Online questionnaire survey (Jan-Feb 2020);
 - Stakeholder interviews (10 pax – Feb 2020);
 - Territorial workshops (7 counties) in each border county (HU and HR – Feb 2020).
- Strategy phase (2021):
 - Online questionnaire survey (Dec 2020–Jan 2021);
 - Stakeholder interviews for strategy and assessment (11 pax – Mar 2021);
 - Thematic workshops (4 topics – Apr 2021).

The proposed POs and SOs

| PO | SO | Priority | Components |
|---|---|---|---|
| PO 1 – a smarter Europe... | <p>(i) <i>developing and enhancing research and innovation...</i></p> <p>(iii) <i>enhancing sustainable growth and competitiveness of SMEs...</i></p> | 1. Enhancing innovative business cooperation and cross-border trade | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Fostering cross-border and international trade ➤ Joint innovative developments |
| PO 2 – a greener, low-carbon Europe... | <p>(i) <i>promoting energy efficiency...</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>promoting renewable energy...</i></p> | 2. Greener and low-carbon border region | ➤ Joint energy saving initiatives |
| PO 2 – a greener, low-carbon Europe... | <p>(iv) <i>promoting climate change adaptation...</i></p> <p>(vii) <i>enhancing protection and preservation of nature...</i></p> | | ➤ Protection of natural assets |
| PO 4 – a more social and inclusive Europe... | (v) <i>enhancing the role of culture and sustainable tourism...</i> | 3. Economic development based on culture and tourism | ➤ Development of sustainable nature and culture-oriented tourism of international relevance |
| PO 4 – a more social and inclusive Europe... | (ii) <i>improving access to inclusive and quality services in education...</i> | 4. Raising competitiveness of education | ➤ Joint educational initiatives |
| ISO 1 – a better cooperation governance | <p>(b) <i>enhance efficient public administration...</i> or</p> <p>(f) <i>other actions to support better cooperation governance</i></p> | 5. A cooperative border region | ➤ Fostering governmental cooperation |
| ISO 1 – a better cooperation governance | (c) <i>build up mutual trust, in particular by encouraging P2P actions</i> | | ➤ Supporting civil cooperation |

Thematic distribution of projects



- Share of funding:
 - Environment: 10.3%
 - Energy: 3.0%
- Share of projects:
 - Environment: 9 out of 126
 - Energy: 8 out of 126
- No dedicated energy saving objective:
 - Included in Component 3.1.1
 - Most popular theme of institutional cooperation

Lessons learnt from the ongoing Interreg V-A programme

Main result indicators:

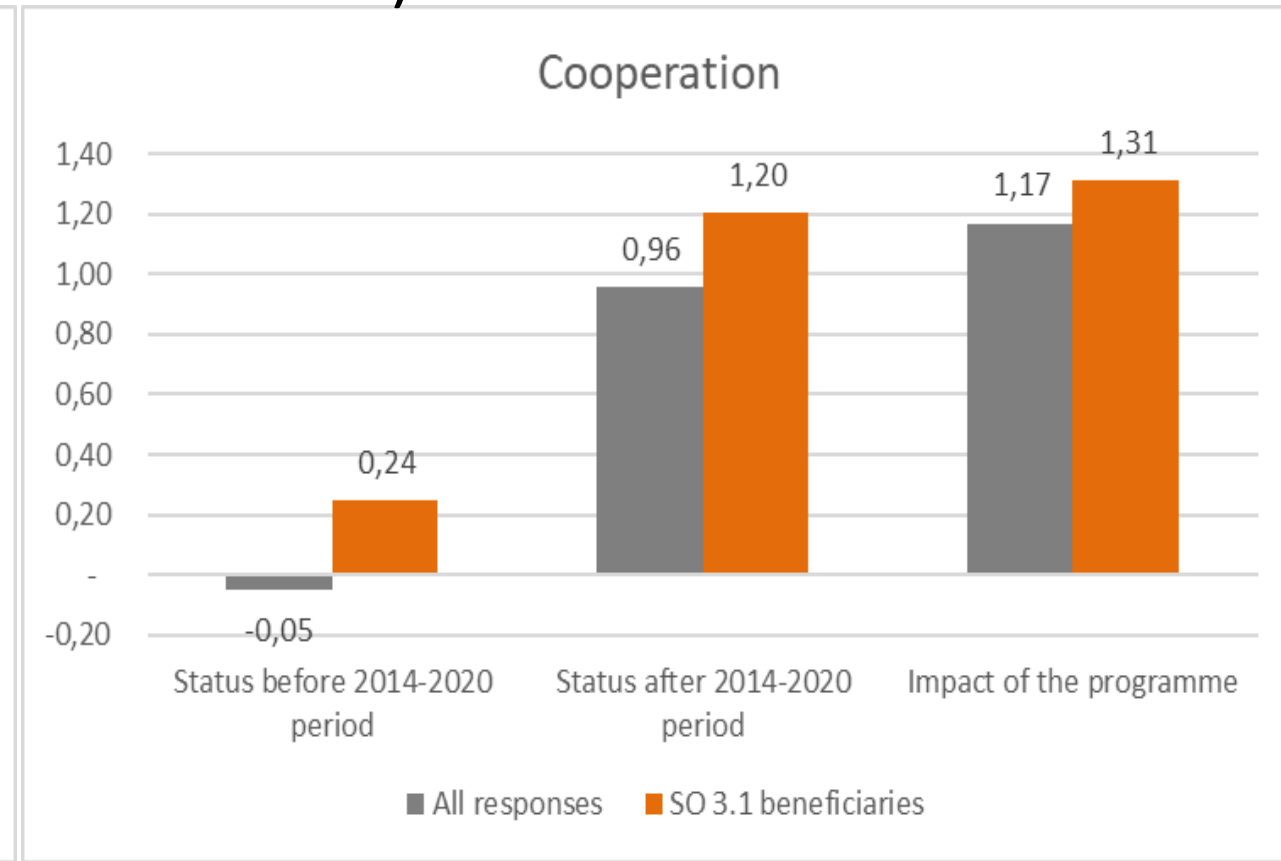
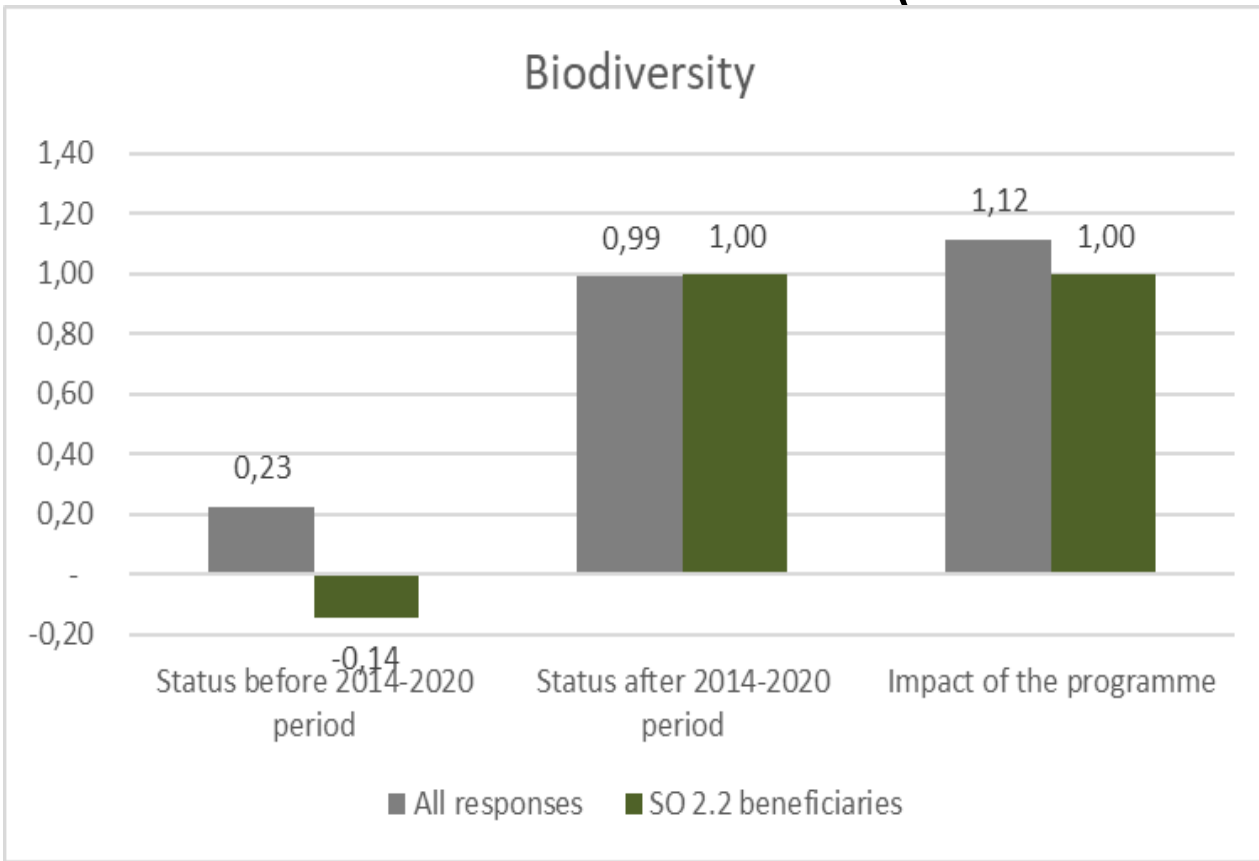
- SO 2.2 Habitats with excellent conservation status:
 - 2023 target: 7% increase
 - 2021 value: 6.4% increase
- SO 3.1 Entities involved in cross-border cooperation
 - 2023 target: 36% increase
 - 2021 value: survey based indicator with uncertain results

Most project level indicator targets are already reached or will be met

No energy related indicators were established

Lessons learnt from the ongoing Interreg V-A programme

2021 survey: Change of status and overall programme impacts
(scale between -3 and +3)



- Supported types of action, their contribution to the specific objectives, macro-regional strategy (EU Strategy for the Danube Region);
- Definition of indicators (output and result) – pre-defined menu;
- Target groups;
- Specific territories targeted;
- Indicative breakdown of funding.

Priority 2.1: Joint energy saving initiatives

- Why?
 - Increasing consumption vs. low level of energy consciousness;
 - Outdated building stock;
 - Dominance of fossils.
- What?
 - Local renewable potentials should be promoted and utilised: biomass, solar, geothermal;
 - Cooperation, knowledge and experience exchange;
 - Awareness raising, energy consciousness, energy poverty, joint capitalisation projects, pilot investments.
- How?
 - Open calls;
 - Public and private non-profit institutions.

Priority 2.1: Joint energy saving initiatives

Dilemmas, questions:

- Which PO to choose:
 - (i) promoting energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions;
 - (ii) promoting renewable energy in accordance with Renewable Energy Directive (EU) 2018/2001, including the sustainability criteria set out therein.
- Indicator difficulties:
 - soft indicators (no. of dwellings, settlements, m², Interreg-specific)
 - vs. hard quantifiable targets (MW, t of CO₂);
 - depend on nature of supported projects.
- Priority project/large infrastructure project: are there priority issues and/or solutions relevant for the whole border area?

Priority 2.2: Promotion of natural assets

- Why?
 - Relatively good environmental quality, abundance of natural assets;
 - Mura-Drava-Danube Transboundary UNESCO Biosphere Reserve;
 - Climate change may affect both the natural and the built environment.
- What?
 - Cooperation in green and blue land use;
 - Protection and improvement of the status of water bodies;
 - Restoration of natural habitats;
 - Mitigation of climate change: joint disaster management;
 - Awareness raising on biodiversity, reduction of pollution, circular economy etc.
- How?
 - Open calls and priority (large infrastructure projects);
 - Public and private non-profit (NGO) institutions.

Dilemmas, questions

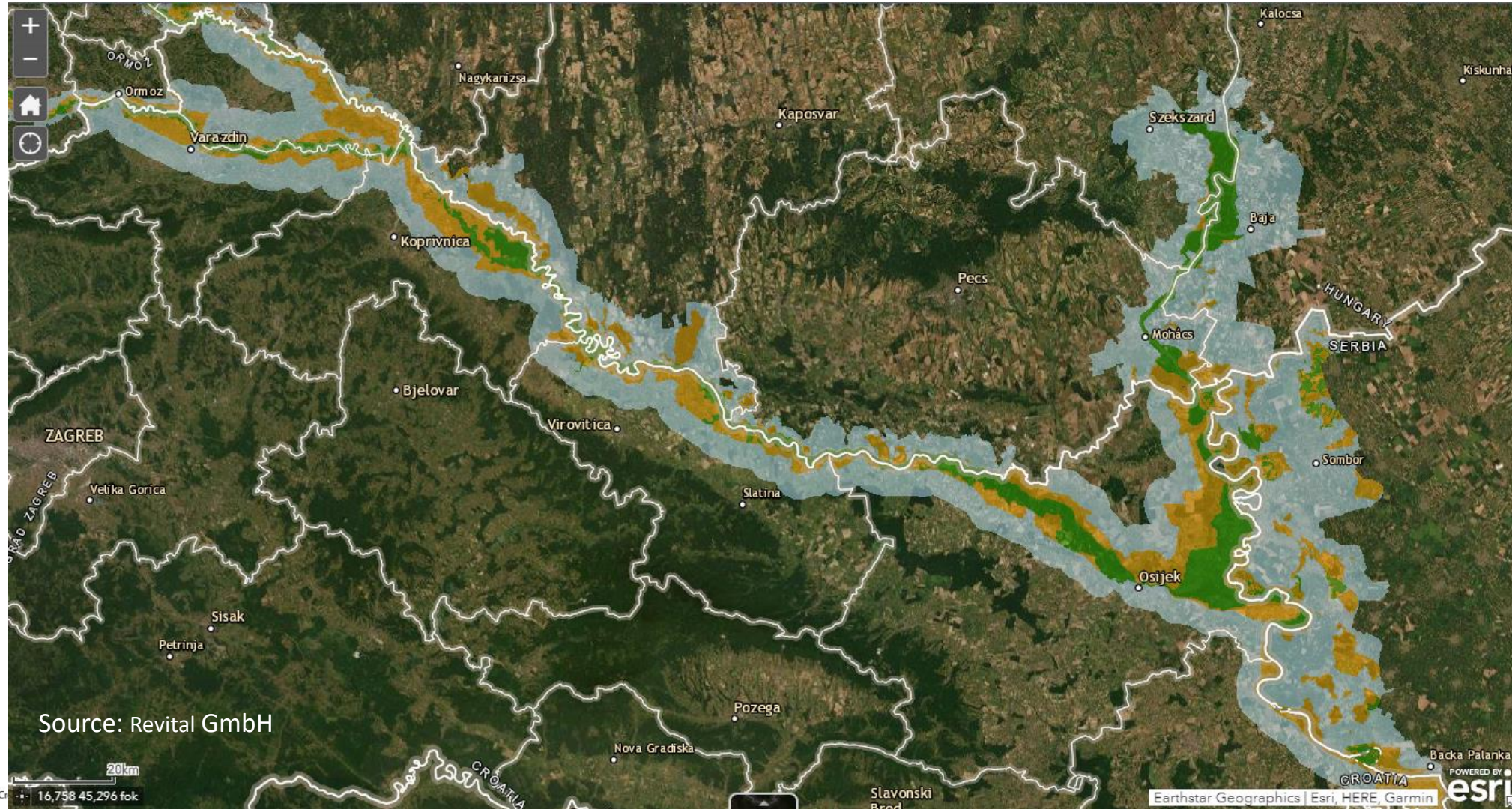
- Selected SOs:
 - (iv) promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention, resilience, taking into account eco-system based approaches;
 - (vii) enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution.
- What to do with projects not compatible with these SOs?
 - Water management, circular economy, sustainable mobility (urban bicycle infrastructure)?
- Priority projects and/or open calls?
- Different project size categories for investment-related and soft projects?

Experiences 2014-2020: 2.2.1 Restoring the ecological diversity in the border area

- Low number of projects (=7) but a relatively high number of partner beneficiaries (=27);
- More partners and funding on the Croatian side (due to organisational differences);
- Only 2 projects with beneficiaries completely from the direct border zone (≤ 25 km), the rest from Zone B ($25 <$ but ≤ 40 km);
- Most of activities are concentrated in the direct border zone;
- Joint activities vary in projects;
- Rather compatible project partners (state forest, water management companies, regional bodies, local governments).
- Budget sizes significantly vary (298–1 340 k €);
- Higher investment-orientation on the Croatian side (35 vs. 45%)

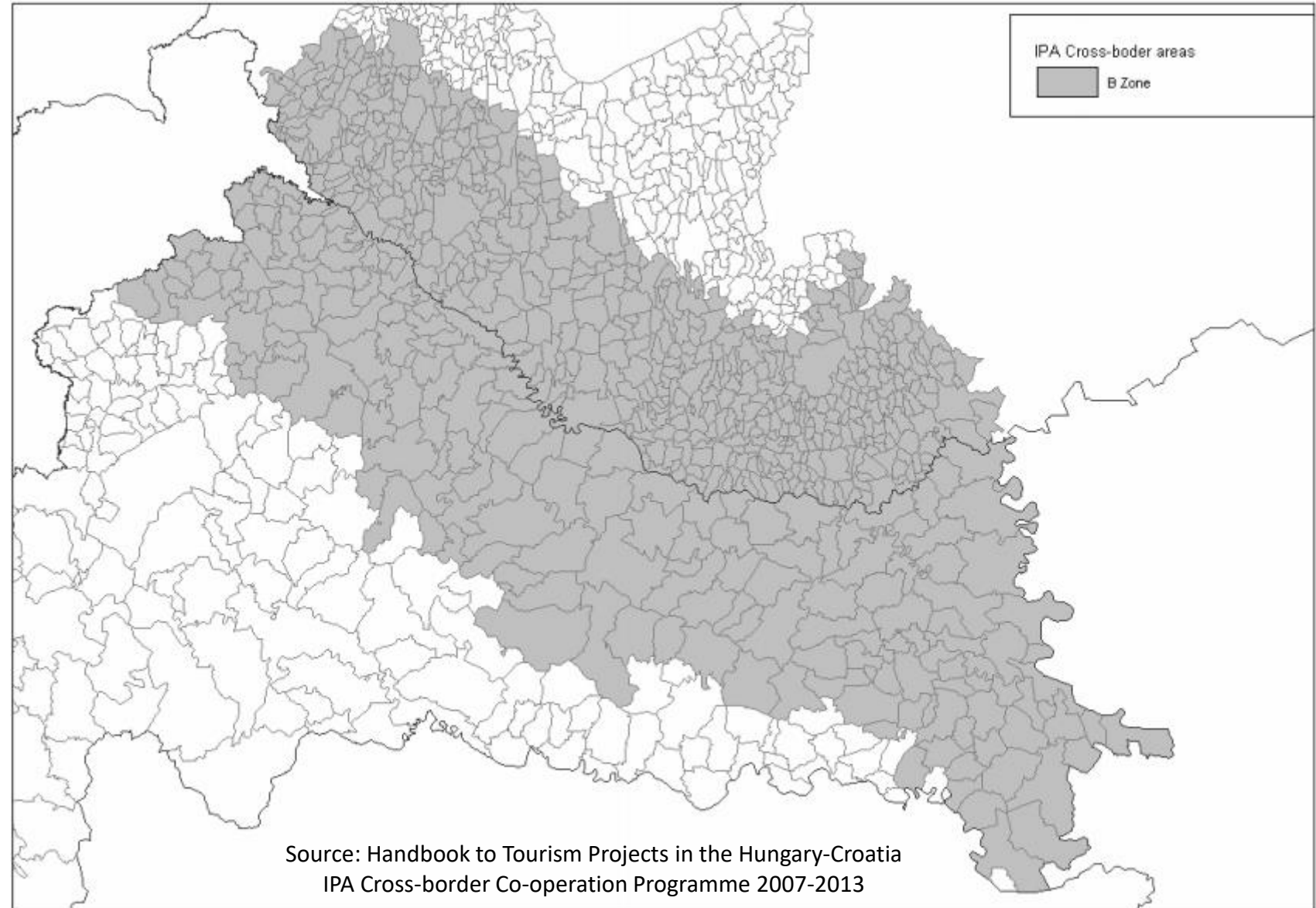
Priority 2.2: Promotion of natural assets

Possible territorial focus –
The UNESCO Transboundary Biosphere Reserve



Priority 2.2: Promotion of natural assets

Possible territorial focus –
Tourism Handbook „Zone B”



Source: Handbook to Tourism Projects in the Hungary-Croatia
IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme 2007-2013

Thank you for your active participation!