Output factsheet: Strategies and action plans

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| Project index number and acronym | CE1277 Arrival Regions |
| Lead partner | Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography |
| Output number and title | O.T1.1 Transnational strategy |
| Responsible partner (PP name and number) | PP11 Westpomeranian Region |
| Project website | www.interreg-central.eu/Arrival-Regions |
| Delivery date | March 2020 |

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| Summary description of the strategy/action plan (developed and/or implemented) |
| The Transnational Strategy concentrates on topics related to the integration of non-EU in rural Central Europe and deals primarily with non-EU nationals which are defined as legitimate EU residents without EU’s citizenship.  The Strategy in 4 chapters presents ideas for providing non-EU nationals with rights, services and opportunities identical to those enjoyed by the local population, drawing from good practices of the regions of the Project Partners, and other EU states (e.g., Spain, Sweden and Norway). The Strategy, in its essence, advocates equal rights for non-EU nationals participating in the life of local communities, based on the immigrants’ right to enjoy an established long term migration status and all other rights including access to health care, labour protection, education and housing. Thus, the key message of this Strategy is the claim that the development of social innovations for the integration of non-EU nationals (particularly young people) to rural communities in Central Europe can take place through bilateral collaboration expressed by the migrants’ adoption of the will to integrate within local communities and, on the other hand, by the offering of the full package of regional civic opportunities by these communities, regional governments and other stakeholders (enterprises, NGOs, educational institutions).  Multilateral cooperation of various entities and inhabitants, including emigration circles, determines the success of integration activities. Providing support in situations of misunderstandings, conflicts and threats of social exclusion is one of the key elements and is a response to the real needs. Presented in the Strategy activities should be implemented within the framework of public-social partnerships, with the participation of business and academic communities. The effectiveness of the actions will be increased by establishing and maintaining international cooperation and network partnerships. |

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| NUTS region(s) concerned by the strategy/action plan (relevant NUTS level) |
| The strategy addresses all regions in Central Europe, especially non-urban areas (NUTS 1, NUTS 2, NUTS 3). |

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| Expected impact and benefits of the strategy/action plan for the concerned territories and target groups |
| The strategy addresses both public administration and civil society stakeholders, outlines how social innovation can be used to foster the social and economic integration of non-EU nationals. The document emphasizes the benefits of successful integration of non-EU nationals in the light of demographic change and labor market demands. It also promotes social innovations approaches that enable effective integration of non-EU nationals in rural areas by enhancing skills and knowledge of the stakeholders in the spheres of employment and by driving social integration of non-EU nationals. Recommendations building on social innovation and based on the belief that everybody should have access to education and that the development of social competences is an essential element of integration processes are address both public and private actors. |

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| Sustainability of the developed or implemented strategy/action plan and its transferability to other territories and stakeholders |
| The Transnational strategy can be universally applied to all non-urban areas where local stakeholders aim to promote the social and economic integration of non-EU nationals.  The integration of non-EU nationals in working age is one of the ways for reversing the depopulation trend in rural areas of many regions of Central Europe. These activities can effectively lead to the renewal of public services, creation of new jobs, improvement of the level of education in the region and development of the local economy.  The continuous process of integration – defined as a facilitating approach, willingness to sustain own cultural heritage, openness and involvement in the life of the receiving community – is essential for effective implementation of social innovations |

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| Lessons learned from the development/implementation process of the strategy/action plan and added value of transnational cooperation |
| The Transnational strategy builds on good practices which partners of the Arrival Regions project have identified in the result of both desk research and study visits. These good practices originate from different parts of Europe, including regions in Sweden or Spain which have a long history of migration than most rural territories of Central Europe. Additional transnational cooperation helped to compare how integration processes are tackled in different member states today and to identify the potentials of social innovation to the benefit of success.  The document has noted that both opportunities for, and concerns among, local communities and migrants are more or less identical. Both are anxious about a misunderstanding, domination of one of the parties, language barrier, and cultural and religious disaccord. Nevertheless, both parties can win because of the improvements  in the education system, health care, labour market or infrastructure. |

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| References to relevant deliverables and web-links  If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex |
| On the Arrival Regions website, the complete strategy, the catalogue of identified good practices and short reports about undertaken study trips can be found.  Links:  [Transnational strategy](http://interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/Arrival-Regions/The-Transnational-Strategy.html)  [Good practices](https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/Arrival-Regions.html#Documents)  [Study trip reports](https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/Arrival-Regions.html#Documents) |