



# Post 2027 Harvesting Report

## Interreg Programmes

Greece - Albania

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IPA Greece - Albania

Greece - Bulgaria

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Greece - Bulgaria

Greece - Cyprus

Interreg  Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση της ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ ΕΝΩΣΗΣ  
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Ελλάδα - Κύπρος

Greece - Italy

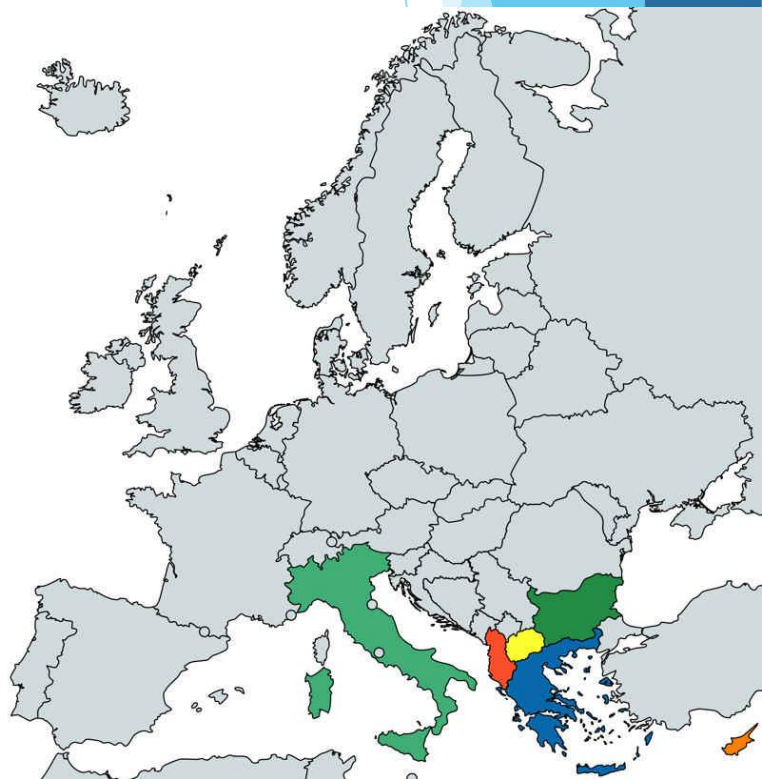
Interreg  Co-funded by the European Union

Greece - Italy

Greece - North Macedonia

Interreg  Co-funded by the European Union

IPA Greece - North Macedonia





Hellenic Ministry of Economy and Finance  
General Secretariat of Partnership Agreement (ESPA)

Managing Authority  
Ειδική Υπηρεσία

**INTERREG 2021-2027**

# Post 2027 Harvesting Report

## Consultation Methodology

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## POST 2027 Consultation Methodology

- ❑ In the context of the discussions on the future of Interreg, the EC before taking decisions, wanted to have the opinion of the EU stakeholders and citizens, with a vision to contribute to shaping the future of cooperation.
- ❑ Therefore, a public consultation took place in relation to the **Interreg Greece-Albania, Greece-Bulgaria, Greece-Cyprus, Greece-Italy and Greece-North Macedonia** Programmes, managed by the M.A. “Interreg 2021–2027” in cooperation with the Programmes’ JS.



# POST 2027 Consultation Methodology

- The consultation focuses on the future topics of Cooperation for Interreg Programmes after 2027.
- It was carried out, according to the EC guidelines, through **two different surveys** addressed to both **stakeholders** and **citizens** of the Programmes' eligible areas, inviting them to share their perspectives, ideas, concerns and suggestions.
- The target audience included youth (18-30 years old).

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Guide for Shaping together the  
Future of Interreg



## INTERREG POST 2027 Questionnaires

The questions to **stakeholders** were more specialized and targeted (16 questions), whilst to **citizens**, they were fewer in number (7 questions) and simpler. The survey consisted of two question types:

- a. **multiple-choice and drop-down menu questions** aimed to gather quantitative data and gain a better understanding of the surveyed population, whilst
- b. **open-ended text responses** captured qualitative data, allowing respondents to freely express their thoughts.

*For a better understanding and for reaching the largest possible number of people, the questionnaires, in addition to the official Programme language, were translated into the language of the Programmes' participating countries.*



# Consultation on the future of Interreg

## Methodology: Bottom-up Approach

### Stakeholders Survey:

- Duration: June – November 2024
- Digital communication to different bodies / entities (Monitoring Committee Members, Beneficiaries, Local Authorities, etc.)
- Online dissemination of information & posting of the survey:
  - ✓ Interreg 2021-2027 MA website
  - ✓ Programmes' websites
  - ✓ Social Media, etc.



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# Consultation on the future of Interreg

## Methodology: Bottom-up Approach

### Citizens Survey:

- Duration: August – December 2024
- Questionnaires were sent to the Programmes' NA
- Digital communication to different bodies / entities that engage with citizens (Monitoring Committee Members, Beneficiaries, Local Authorities, etc.)
- In person Communication at the TIF
- Reaching out to young people
- Online dissemination of information & posting of the survey:
  - ✓ Interreg 2021-2027 MA website
  - ✓ Programmes' websites
  - ✓ Social Media, etc.



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# Reaching out to Citizens at Thessaloniki International Fair (TIF)



- Participation in the 88th TIF, from 7 to 15 September 2024:
  - ✓ 1.300 exhibitors
  - ✓ 221.500 visitors
  - ✓ over 1000 business meetings
- Pavilion of the Hellenic Ministry of Economy & Finance - General Secretariat of the P.A.
- Participation of “Interreg Volunteer Youth (IVY)”
- Reaching out to a wide range of participants
- Reaching out to young people



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**IPA** Greece – Albania

# Post 2027 Harvesting Report

## Interreg IPA Greece-Albania Programme

### Results - Recommendations

# Interreg Greece - Albania

## A. Topics recommended by stakeholders & citizens for Post 2027

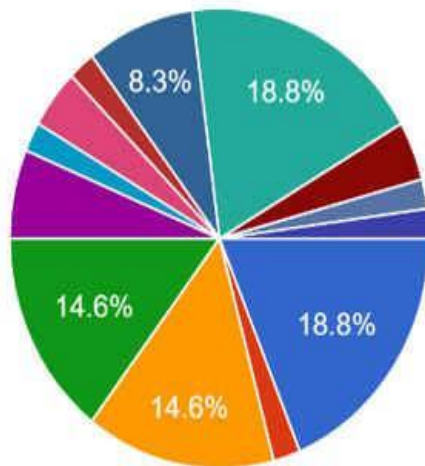
The Survey's Topics, proposed for the future of Interreg in the context of the Programme / Projects implementation are:

- Economic Development & Research and Innovation
- Environmental Protection and Natural Resources
- Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Prevention
- Cultural Heritage Protection / Sustainable Tourism
- Innovation and Digitalization
- Labor Market and Education

# Interreg Greece-Albania

## A.1. Topics proposed by stakeholders

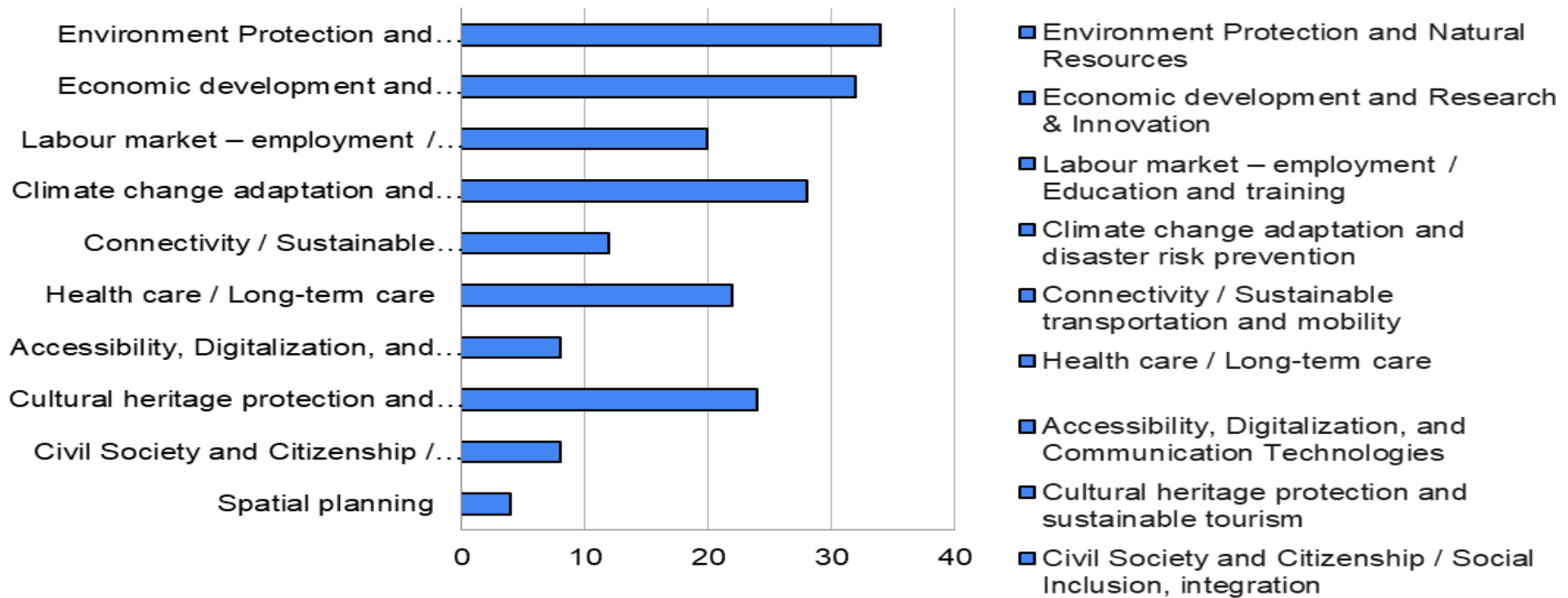
What is the key challenge in your area that should be addressed through cross-border cooperation?



- Economic development, research & development and innovation
- Digitisation, digital connectivity, information & communication technologies
- Environment protection and natural resources
- Climate change, disaster management and protection
- Smart energy systems, energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Circular and resource efficient economy
- Water management
- Zero-carbon / sustainable transport and mobility

# Interreg Greece-Albania

## A.2. Topics proposed by citizens



# Interreg Greece-Albania

## B. Suggestions for Improvement

The suggestions for improvement in the context of Programme & Projects implementation are as follows:

- Simplification of Procedures
- Flexibility and Support
- Capacity Building
- Improved Communication and Networking
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Funding Mechanisms

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Greece – Bulgaria

# Post 2027 Harvesting Report

## Interreg Greece-Bulgaria Programme

### Results - Recommendations

# Interreg Greece - Bulgaria

## A. Topics recommended by stakeholders & citizens for Post 2027

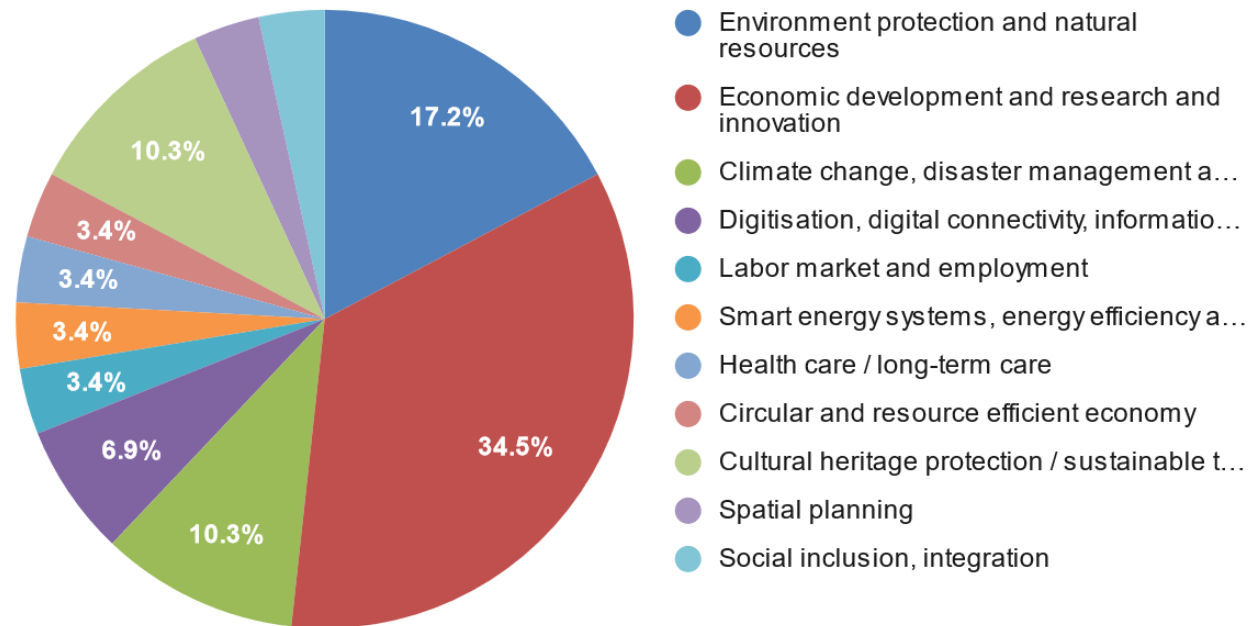
The Survey's Topics, proposed for the future of Interreg in the context of the Programme / Projects implementation are:

- Economic Development & Research and Innovation
- Environmental Protection and Natural Resources
- Climate Change adaptation and Disaster Risk Prevention
- Labor Market – Employment / Education and Training

# Interreg Greece - Bulgaria

## A.1. Topics proposed by stakeholders

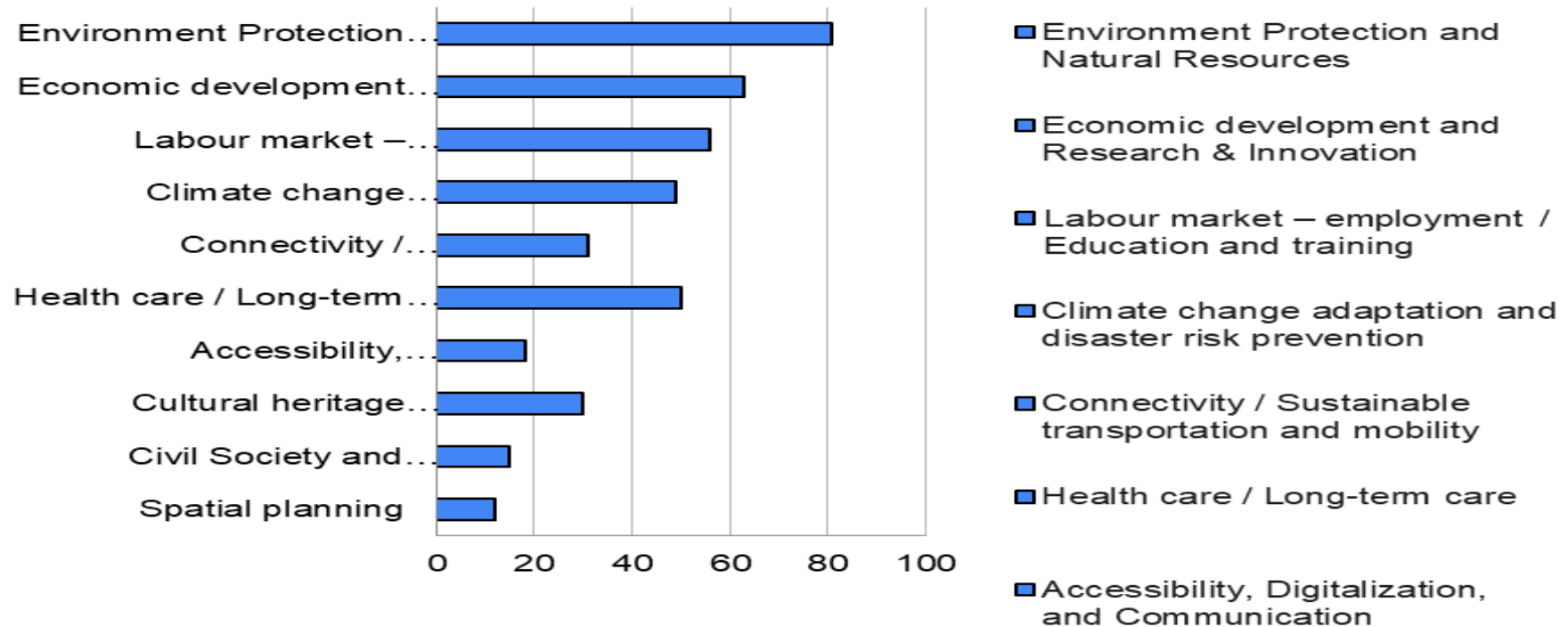
What is the key challenge in your area that should be addressed through cross-border cooperation?





# Interreg Greece - Bulgaria

## A.2. Topics proposed by citizens



# Interreg Greece - Bulgaria

## B. Suggestions for Improvement

The suggestions for improvement in the context of Programme & Projects implementation are as follows:

- **Building relations between partners** of both participating countries, enhancing mutual respect and understanding and bridge the gap between cultural barriers.
- Establishing a **less bureaucratic system** by minimising states' institutional framework
- Increasing funding / defining VAT as eligible
- Extending the projects' duration

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της ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ ΕΝΩΣΗΣ  
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**Ελλάδα – Κύπρος**

# **Post 2027 Harvesting Report**

## **Interreg Greece - Cyprus Programme**

### **Results - Recommendations**

# Interreg Greece - Cyprus

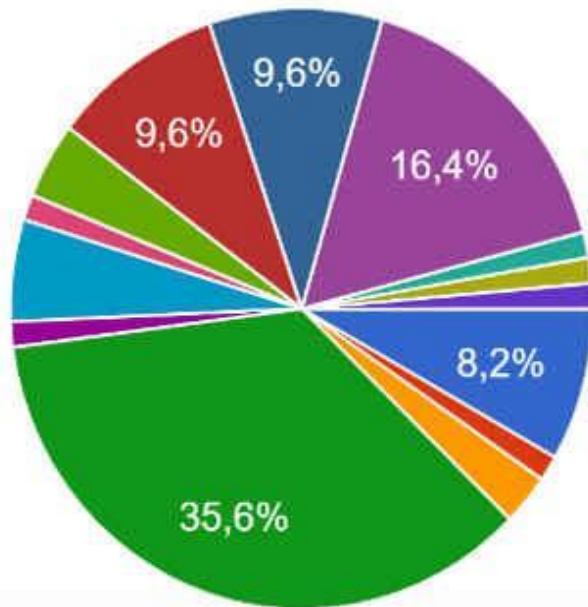
## A. Topics recommended by stakeholders & citizens for Post 2027

The Survey's Topics, proposed for the future of Interreg in the context of the Programme / Projects implementation are:

- Cultural heritage protection and sustainable tourism
- Infrastructure Improvement and Spatial Planning
- Climate Change adaptation and Disaster Risk Prevention
- Environmental Protection and Natural Resources
- Digitisation, Information and Communication Technologies.

# Interreg Greece - Cyprus

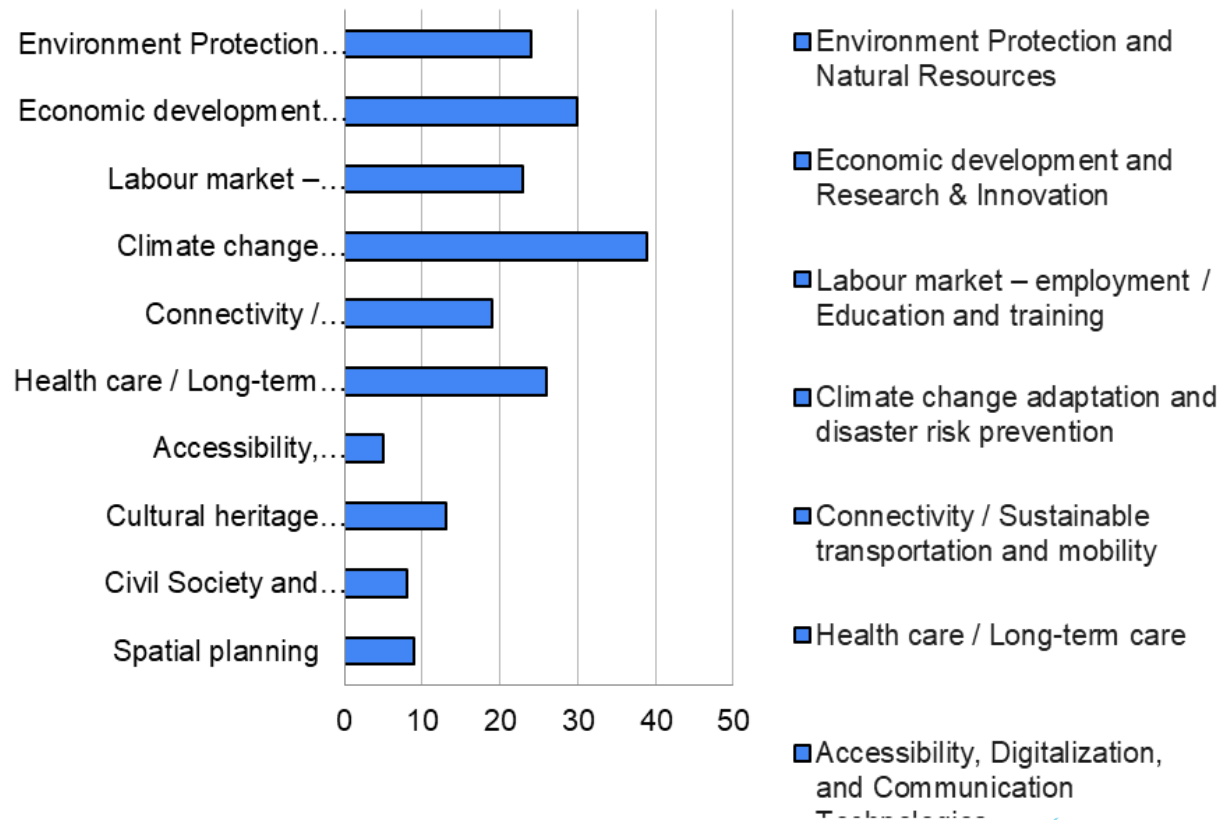
## A.1. Topics proposed by stakeholders



- Labor market and employment
- Health care / long-term care
- Social inclusion / integration
- Cultural heritage protection / sustainable tourism
- Spatial planning
- Sector policy planning
- Civil society and citizenship
- Lack of connectivity (roads, public transport)

# Interreg Greece - Cyprus

## A.2. Topics proposed by citizens



# Interreg Greece - Cyprus

## B. Suggestions for Improvement

The suggestions for improvement in the context of Programme & Projects implementation are as follows:

- To be cofinanced more pilot actions as well as more innovative, sustainable and social inclusion investments
- To overcome bureaucratic obstacles through standardizing, speeding up and simplifying procedures
- Communication and network meetings in relation to (potential) beneficiaries as well as good practices promotion.

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Greece – Italy

# Post 2027 Harvesting Report

## Interreg Greece - Italy Programme

### Results - Recommendations



# Interreg Greece - Italy

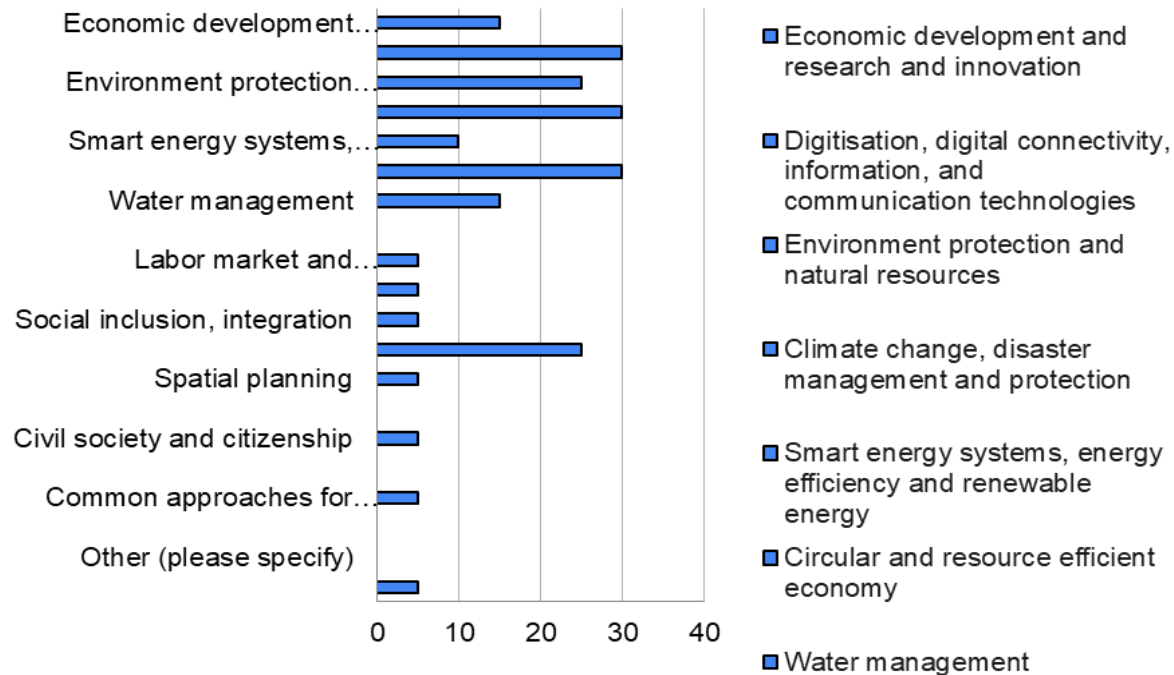
## A. Topics recommended by stakeholders & citizens for Post 2027

The Survey's Topics, proposed for the future of Interreg in the context of the Programme / Projects implementation are:

- Climate change, disaster management and protection
- Environmental Protection and Natural Resources
- Economic development & Research and Innovation
- Digitization, digital connectivity, Information, and Communication Technologies
- Cultural Heritage protection / Sustainable Tourism

# Interreg Greece - Italy

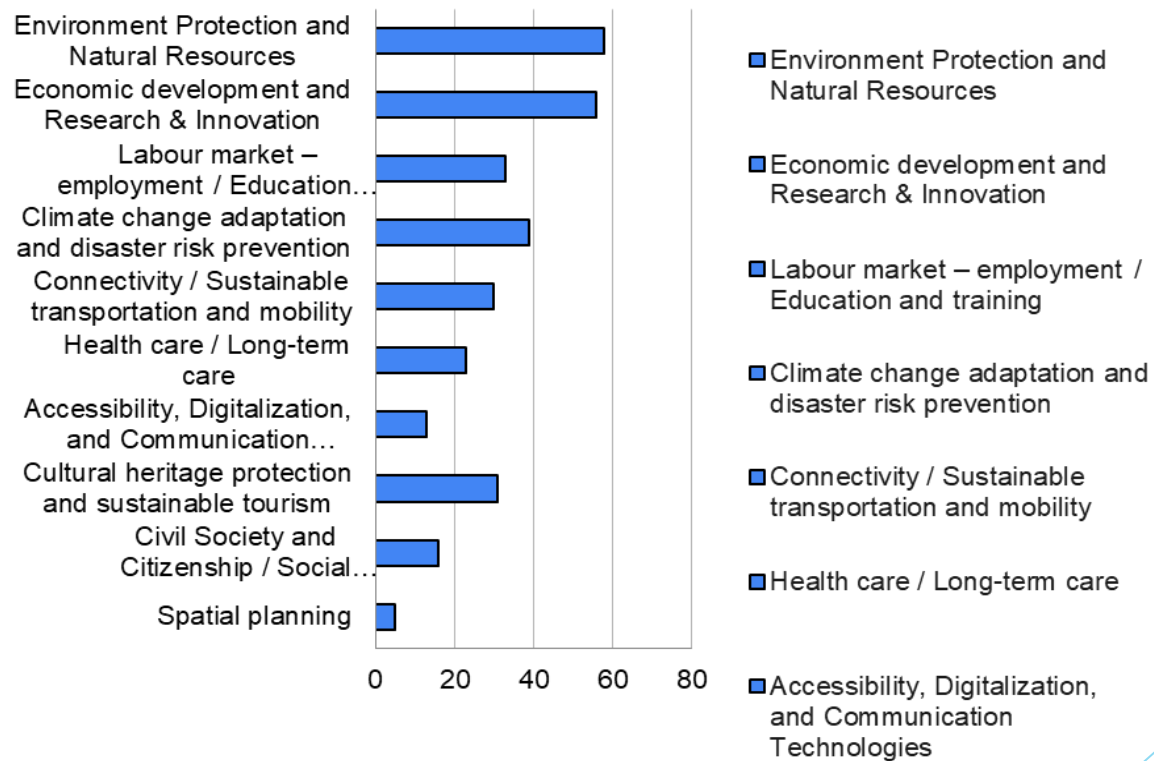
## A.1. Topics proposed by stakeholders



*There were more than one answer choice*

# Interreg Greece - Italy

## A.2. Topics proposed by citizens



# Interreg Greece - Italy

## B. Suggestions for Improvement

The suggestions for improvement in the context of Programme & Projects implementation are as follows:

- Simplification of Bureaucratic Process
- Increased budget for Technical Assistance
- Overcoming administrative challenges
- Leveraging Digital Platforms
- Awareness

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**IPA** Greece – North Macedonia

# Post 2027 Harvesting Report

## Interreg IPA Greece - North Macedonia Programme

### Results - Recommendations

# Interreg Greece - North Macedonia

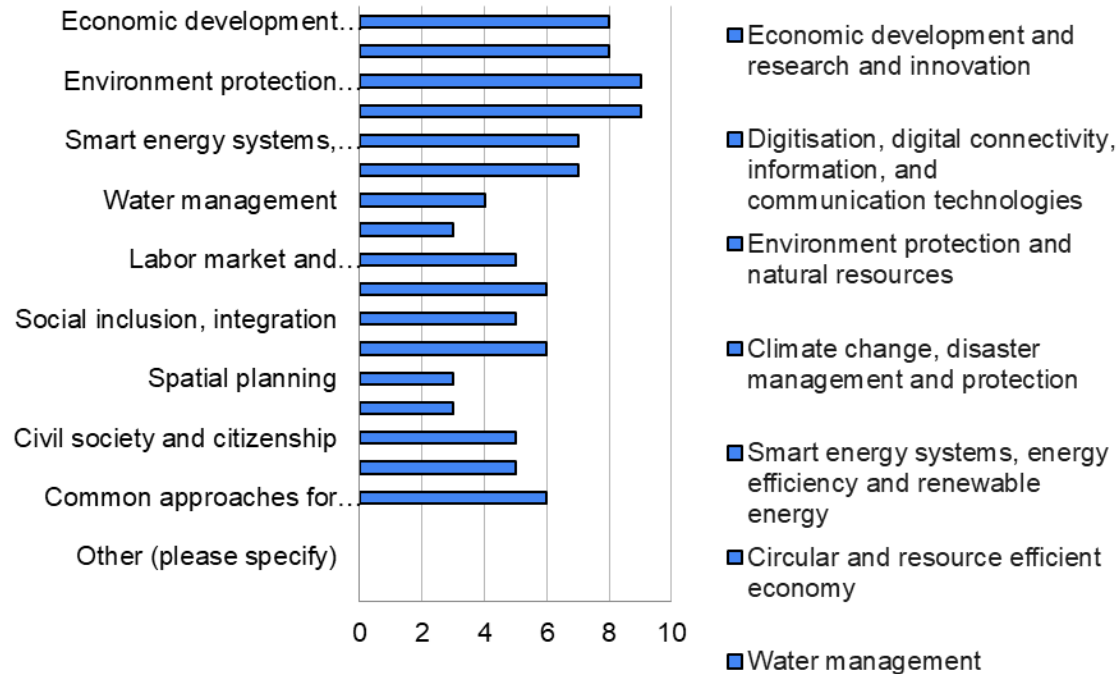
## A. Topics recommended by stakeholders & citizens for Post 2027

The Survey's Topics, proposed for the future of Interreg in the context of the Programme / Projects implementation are:

- Climate change, Disaster Management and Protection
- Environment Protection and Natural Resources
- Economic Development & Research and Innovation
- Digitization, digital connectivity, information, and communication technologies
- Connectivity / Sustainable transportation and mobility
- Smart energy systems
- Labour market and employment

# Interreg Greece - North Macedonia

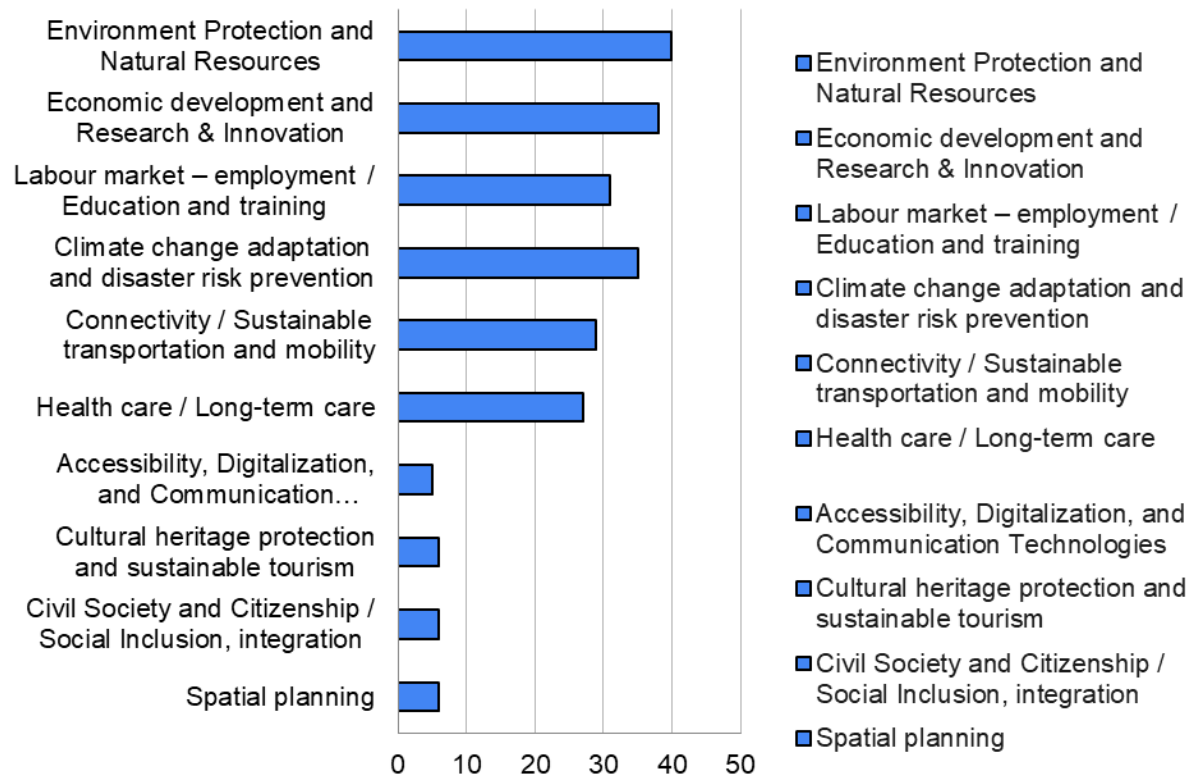
## A.1. Topics proposed by stakeholders



*There were more than one answer choice*

# Interreg Greece - North Macedonia

## A.2. Topics proposed by citizens





# Interreg Greece - North Macedonia

## B. Suggestions for Improvement

The suggestions for improvement in the context of Programme & Projects implementation are as follows:

- Exchanging best practices and networking among regions facing similar challenges.
- More meetings, online database
- Simplifying bureaucratic process
- Building administrative capacity in regions to ensure more efficient fund transfers and faster implementation of projects.



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