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CREADIS3
Interreg Europe



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Survey: Number of people with increased professional capacity thanks to their participation in interregional cooperation activities.

Results and Analysis

INTRODUCTION

CREADIS₃ has been addressing the issue of innovation driving territorial development through non-technological forms of innovation. The main objective is to align territorial public policy agendas to support the development of more efficient Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs) policies in territories, aiming to generate innovation and economic development in European regions. After carrying out **different learning activities financed by the Interreg Europe programme**, the time has now come to assess to which extent the project has contributed to **improve the participants' professional competence**. Professional competence refers to the thematic skills gained in the topic of the project. For this, **75 answers obtained from an online conducted survey** (you can check it [here](#)) are analysed. The survey as well as its results and analysis are structured in 3 different parts:

1. Respondents' profile or information,
2. Evaluation of the learning process and,
3. Other comments or Conclusions.



Of the **75 respondents**, **74 people** acknowledge that they **have increased their professional capacity** thanks to their participation in the project: **43 people** consider that they have done so **to a small degree** and **31 to a large degree**.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

1. RESPONDENTS PROFILES

The first set of questions aimed to collect different specific details about the respondents. The **participating regions are six** (CREADIS₃ project partnership), as it can be seen in figure 1.

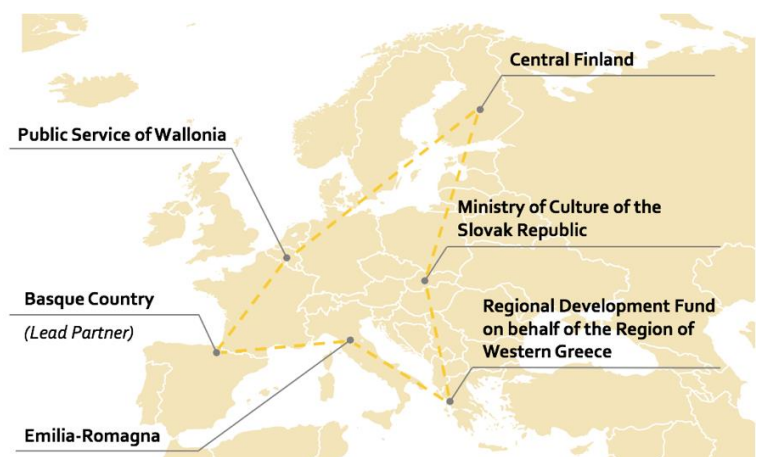


Figure 1 CREADIS3 participating regions

The **participation by region** is one of the variables obtained from this first section of the questionnaire. Basque Country is the one with the highest rate of participation (26,7%) and is closely followed by Western Greece (25,3%). Each of the remaining regions (Wallonia, Slovak Republic, Emilia-Romagna Region and Western Greece Region) account for a similar rate of participation, ranging from 10 to 13,5% .

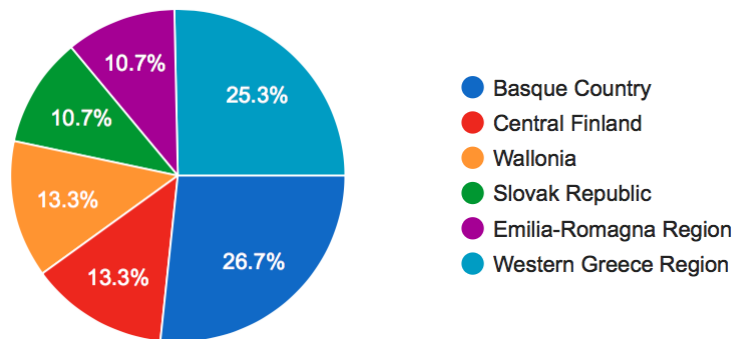


Figure 2 CREADIS3 participation by region

From each region, a **wide range of organisations have participated** in the survey. Starting by the Basque Country, the region with the highest number of responses, 13 different organisations have participated. This range from **public bodies** (e.g. government, development agencies), **foundations, cultural societies or private consultants**. When it comes to Western Greece Region, **public institutions** from the region or Patras city (both from municipality and university) have been part of the survey, as well as the Olympia International Film Festival or a consulting firm, among others. The capital of Emilia-Romagna, Bologna, has accounted for several of the answers mainly coming from the **municipality or academia sectors** (e.g. Università' di Bologna or Accademia di Belle Arti di Bologna). From Central Finland, the participants come mainly from the **Regional Council** but we have answers also from **education organisations** (e.g. Jamk university or Jyväskylä Educational Consortium Gradia). **Public entities** (Ministry of Culture or Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport) together with **associations, commissions and societies** (e.g. Game Developers Association, Film Commission and Architects society) are the main respondents from the Slovak Republic. Finally, when analysing the 10 participants from Wallonia, almost half of the answers come from **public bodies** (e.g. Public Service of Wallonia, Wallonie Design or ST'ART).

From all the respondents, the majority are members of a **stakeholder group (58,7%)** and **non-directly responsible for the policy instrument addressed by the project (61,3%)**. From the around 40% of people that are indeed responsible, half of them are **organisations responsible for other regional development policies** and the rest **managing authorities** or a **intermediate bodies of a structural funds operational programme**.

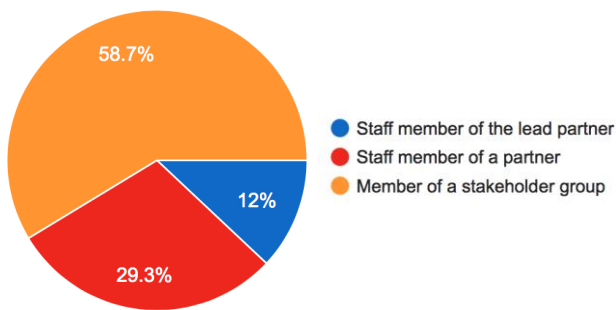


Figure 3 CREADIS3 participation by role.

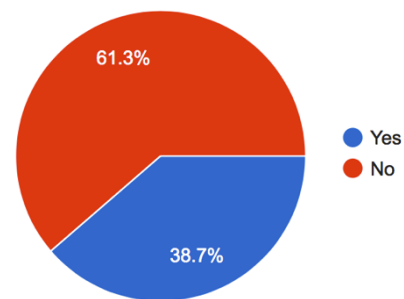


Figure 4 CREADIS3 participation by responsibility

2. EVALUATION OF THE LEARNING PROCESS

More than half of the respondents **agree** on the fact that they were **needing of increase their professional capacity before the participation in the project**. Nevertheless, almost one third **disagrees** with this statement. On the other hand, **94%** of the surveyed group felt like they came across **interesting practices and ideas from the other regions** during the project activities. Among the different activities carried out throughout the project, the **study visits** are, by far, the ones that are found most useful for learning from other regions. Two other activities that stand out are **stakeholder group meetings** and **thematic seminars or workshops** with between 15 and 20% of the votes. On the other hand, **speed meetings or visit from experts from other regions** are ranked as the least interesting with just 1% each.

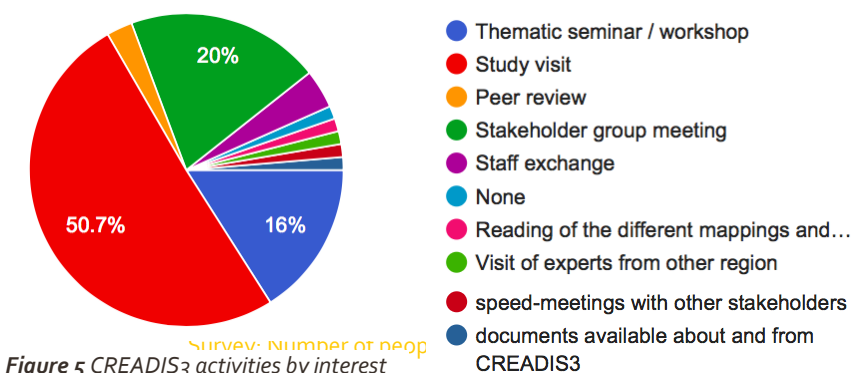


Figure 5 CREADIS3 activities by interest

When asking the participants to share which are the **specific practices or ideas** they found more interesting during these activities some concrete answers were given. A total of 46 insights were provided, and some of the more relevant ones are presented here:

“ Creative Industry Košice (Slovak Republic), Creative Valley Hub (Wallonia), Mosaic (Western Greece) and Comptoir des ressources créatives (Wallonia). These are extremely interesting for the function of intermediaries between the actors of the creative cultural ecosystem. Click’Living Lab (Wallonia) for the connection of creative industries and technology, digital innovation “ *Partner Staff, Emilia-Romagna region*

“ The Basque RIS3 Pilot Group gathering both public authorities and stakeholders (multilevel administration governance and multi sectors), the ART-ER agency in Emilia Romagna coordinating the main innovation and research stakeholders in partnership with the Region, the organization of the S3 also in Emilia Romagna, with the sectors that are the current pillars of the economy and the sectors that are considered with high potential “ *Partner Staff, Wallonia*

“The practice I found the most interesting was the speed-meeting session that took place during the Study Visit in July 2018, in Bilbao. We had the opportunity to know, first-hand, how different organizations work in their countries of origins. Although, there were various profile stakeholders, some of them, having more in common with the organization I work for, than others. I found the encounter very useful and interesting. I would underline the speed meeting held with Jyväskylä Education Consortium Gradia, Central Finland “ *Stakeholder group, Basque Country*

“I had the chance to have hear in deep about Greece and France, but what I found interesting is the similar pattern of problems that all the participants in the study visit in Bologna have about booster creative professionals and how to connect them with the traditional sectors “ *Stakeholder group, Emilia-Romagna region*

“We also realize the importance of cooperation between national authorities and regional authorities that can stimulate the development of the creative industries by different activities besides building infrastructure. In this matter, Emilia Romagna is paying attention to the regional particularities as important elements for increasing competitiveness in regional development is a great inspirational source “ *Partner Staff, Slovak Republic*

From these, one can get the general opinion on the **importance of learning from other regions and of bringing together different levels of experts to achieve a great learning outcome**. Other common gains are noted from several answers, like **extroversion or expansion of network**.

Over all, almost all respondents agree to some extent that **they have increased their professional competence thanks to the participation in the CREADIS3 Project**. As we stated before, except one respondent, all participants acknowledge the increase of professional capacity due to their participation in the project: **43 people** consider that they have done so **to a small degree** and **31 to a large degree**.

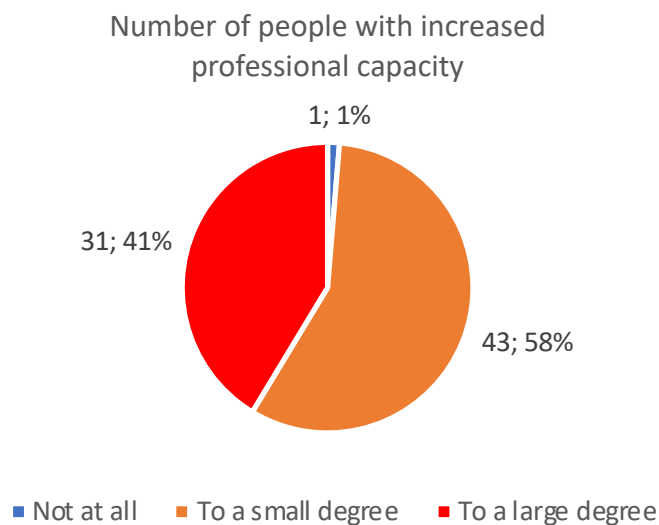


Figure 6 Number of people with increased professional capacity due to their participation in CREADIS3 project

When asked to further explain how that impacts their daily work, these are some of the detailed answers among the 36 received:

“ Being invited at the Bratislava meeting I had the occasion to discover that the Slovak delegates were working on similar questions that we are. So we continued to talk together after the seminar and now they are involved in a new Interreg Plan with us called ALICE for Animation League for Increased Coopération in Europe ” *Stakeholder group, Wallonia*

“ Have wider view of possibilities of European co-opeation. More confidence to speak for good practices what we can also implement ” *Stakeholder group, Central Finland*

“ Concerning CCIs of my region, absolutely important, as the exchange of experience with other partners and experts and their good practices' statements, have inspired our local CCIs' in charge people ” *Partner Staff, Western Greece Region*

“ My technical competences about CCI's were increased. I have now a better view of the CCI's ecosystem in our own territory and I discovered some interesting best practices on which we will inspire for the implementation of the LAP. It was a continuous learning process from the beginning of the CREADIS3 project ” *Partner Staff, Wallonia*

“ My professional experience has been developed in the Cultural Heritage world, not in the Creative Industries one; so, the inclusion of our team as stakeholders in this project was unexpected, as I thought they were separated worlds. Now I think that this point of view, Cultural Heritage as Cultural Industry, can give me a different approach to the way I develop my work and, maybe, offer some new opportunities of activities that help in the diffusion of Heritage as a Cultural Industry, meaning a Cultural business ” *Stakeholder group, Basque Country*

“ In many ways good practices confirmed us already planned actions that we want to realize and they provide us also other possibilities that we can implement in the future. In this way the project has extended our knowledge and experience on our common topic of cultural and creative industries. We could have compared different concepts of CCIs and better understand the creative ecosystem also in a practical way. It allowed us to set our measures more effective. Besides that I appreciate the possibility to gain more personal working experience in the field of project management focused on CCIs ” *Partner Staff, Slovak Republic*

“ I wouldn't be able to detail in which way I have gained professional competence, although it is worth saying that these type of practices give you a broad idea of how other countries fulfill projects, so you can learn and try to implement methodologies or tools in your own activities ” *Stakeholder group, Basque Country*

A **great impact on the competences** is noticed from these answers. CREADIS3 has widened **project approaches**, has increased **collaboration between participants** and has brought together groups with **similar problematics** to be solved.

3. CONCLUSIONS

This survey have confirmed that the participation in CREADIS3 project **has increased the professional capacity of the participants during the interregional cooperation activities**. Of 75 respondents, **74 people** consider that they have increased their capacity: **43 people** response that they have done so **to a small degree** and **31 to a large degree**.

Additionally, after analysing the results that participants with different roles within the project and from different regions have provided, it can be noticed that the **exchange between peers from different backgrounds and countries has been a great way to learn from different practices**. The organization of **conferences and study visits** have ensured an enrichment of all participants. Moreover, from the feedback received, is believed that the **participants will stay in touch with their partners** even after the end of the project and will be always **looking forward to further extend their knowledge about cultural and creative industries** through the many tools of the Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform in the future.

Also from the respondents' insights, it has been noticed that they believe that, in the field of CCIs, people from different regions and backgrounds **face common problems and similar challenges**. Therefore, it is crucial that **learning activities** such as the ones in the CREADIS3 project occur, so these people can learn from each other on how to overcome their problems and how to **form a more effective strategies** for enhancing all actors of CCIs to cooperate. Finally, more in-depth **exchange exercises** like **staff exchanges or policy roundtables** have been suggested to ensure a greater impact of the learning process.