



WEBINAR
ONLINE



Action Lab 2

2

April 2025
10am – 12am



Capitalization of EUSAIR-
relevant projects



Event Report

The **ACTION LABs** are part of a wider stakeholder engagement framework designed as an **iterative process**, also building on the experience of the previous strategic project “Supporting the Governance of EUSAIR – Facility Point”.

This webinar is the second of a series of three webinars, the ultimate aim of which is to **strengthen the existing cooperation between ETC MAs in the EUSAIR area and to jointly identify common principles and criteria in order to harmonise practices and tools**.

The three ACTION LAB webinars should be seen as part of an integrated stakeholder engagement process aimed at strengthening the cooperation between ETC MAs and jointly identifying common solutions to improve the embedding of EUSAIR and the evaluation of its impact in the EUSAIR area.

Key messages

The ETC MAs participating in the ACTION LABs will aim to:

- Deepen interaction and exchange between themselves in the macro-regional area
- Harmonise ETC programmes' practices and tools
- Generate evidence for better decision making at MA level

This second webinar titled “**Capitalization of EUSAIR – relevant projects**” has the twofold objective of increasing the possibility for EUSAIR to maximise the contribution of ETC programmes and widening harmonisation among ETC programmes in order to identify more efficient solutions and increase their capacity to generate impact in the EUSAIR area.

Event Agenda

Time (CET)	Session name
10:00 - 10:05 (5 min)	Welcome and presentation of the event Marzia Legnini (Moderator t33)
10:05 - 10:10 (5 min)	Presentation of ACTION LAB 2 <i>Reporting on what has been done and main achievement of ACTION LAB 1: presentation of the working programmes of ACTION LAB 2 (objectives, participants, activities).</i> Anna Torelli, Marche Region, StEP Project Coordinator
10:10 – 10:20 (10 min)	Capitalization in the framework of ETC programmes Excursus on the different possible ways capitalization is conceived and implemented by ETC programmes, evolution of capitalization, possible best practices. Nicolas Garnier (Interact Programme)
10:20 – 10:30 (10 min)	Introduction to the activities of the webinar Presentation of participants. Reference persons of ETC MAs will be asked to introduce themselves (name, functions and programme represented) The moderator will illustrate the outcomes of the data collection activities gathered through the online survey with a focus on capitalization approaches and practices. Marzia Legnini (Moderator t33) - Participants
10:30 – 11.10 (40 min)	Exercise I – Capitalization in the EUSAIR area Presentation of the first exercise. Scope: Collecting information on how capitalization is conceived and put in practice by ETC programmes with a focus to projects/themes subjected to capitalization, specific purpose of capitalization activities (communication, knowledge transfer, enhanced impacts on territories, etc.), possible room for improving capitalization in view of the next programming period. Marzia Legnini (Moderator t33) - Participants
11.10– 11.25 (15 min)	Voices from the Programmes - Group discussion on what emerged from exercise I Sharing of experiences and of good practices implemented by the Programmes to improve capitalization in the EUSAIR area. Marzia Legnini (Moderator t33) - Participants
11.25 – 11.45 (20 min)	Exercise II – Implementing Capitalization Presentation of the second exercise. Scope: Gather concrete examples on how capitalization is implemented, especially through calls for proposals (possible beneficiaries, eligibility and selection criteria, expected results). Best practices selection. Marzia Legnini (Moderator t33) - Participants
11.45 – 11.55 (10 min)	Voices from the Programmes - Group discussion on what emerged from exercise II Sharing of ideas and experiences.

	Marzia Legnini (Moderator t33) - Participants
11.55 – 12.00 (5 min)	<p>Conclusion and closing remarks</p> <p>Conclusive information on the follow-up and subsequent ACTION LAB webinar.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Marzia Legnini (Moderator t33) – Anna Torelli, Marche Region, StEP - Project Coordinator</p>

This webinar follows the ACTION LAB 1 - held on the 14th of January – which aimed to detect triggers, obstacles and best practice in tackling embedding during the programme implementation phase and which was part of the wider StEp project’s function of reactivating and strengthening the network of ETC MAs.

Key outcomes of ACTION LAB 1 – “Embedding in practice: selection of relevant projects for the EUSAIR macro-regional strategy”

Total participants: 62, including 19 MA/JTS officers from 9 ETC programmes and 43 observers.

- **Top triggers and obstacles during project selection**
 - Top trigger: Selection criteria
 - Top obstacles: Beneficiaries’ lack of awareness on EUSAIR, generic information on project AFs

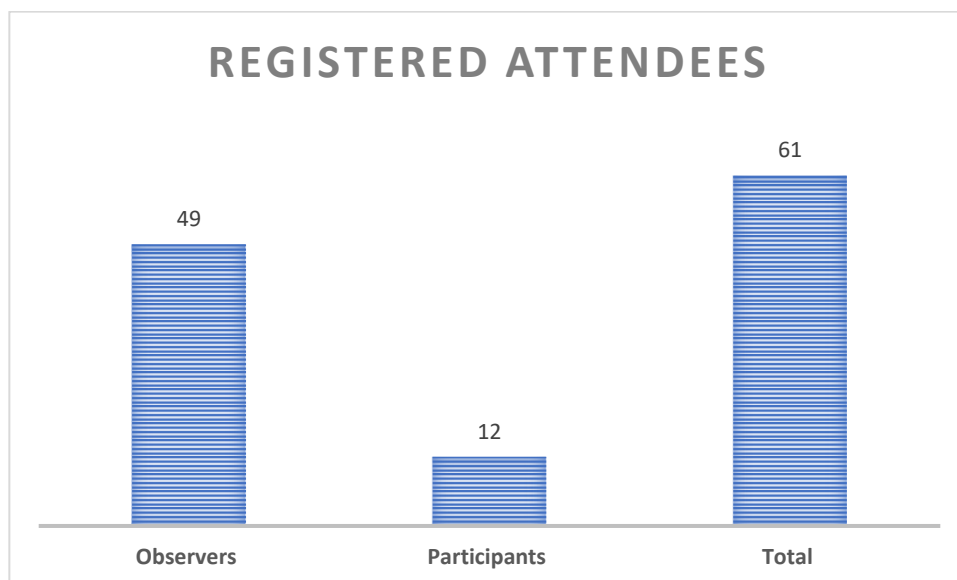
Inputs to intensify embedding cooperation

- Higher engagement with EUSAIR pillar coordinators
- Promoting inter-programmes coordination (networking meeting, Action Labs, platforms to share programmes’ experiences)
- Increase MRS potential (increase capacity of mobilise territorial network, strengthen the potential of MRS for integrated investments)

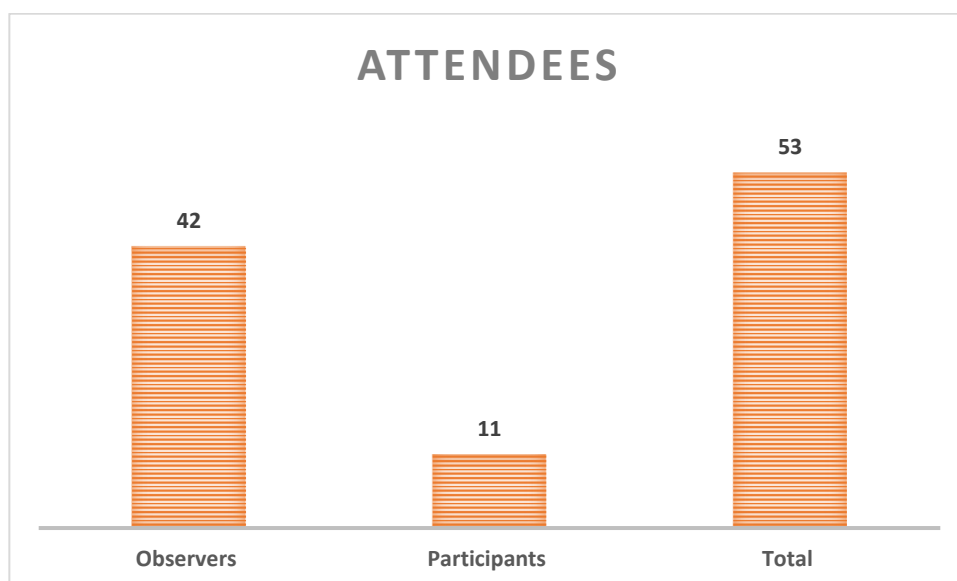
- **Measures to be put in place in the next the future**
 - Future calls: Strategic calls (GAP analysis, capitalization)
 - Monitoring: Monitoring of projects’ contribution to EUSAIR, focus on reporting (final and progress reports)
 - Evaluation: *Ad hoc* evaluations, EUSAIR’s assessment with specific evaluation questions, focus on strategic projects evaluation

The numbers of the event

A total of 61 attendees registered for the second ACTION LAB, from which 12 participants¹ and 49 observers. The participants represented 10 different programmes, highlighting a diverse and multi-programme representation at the event.

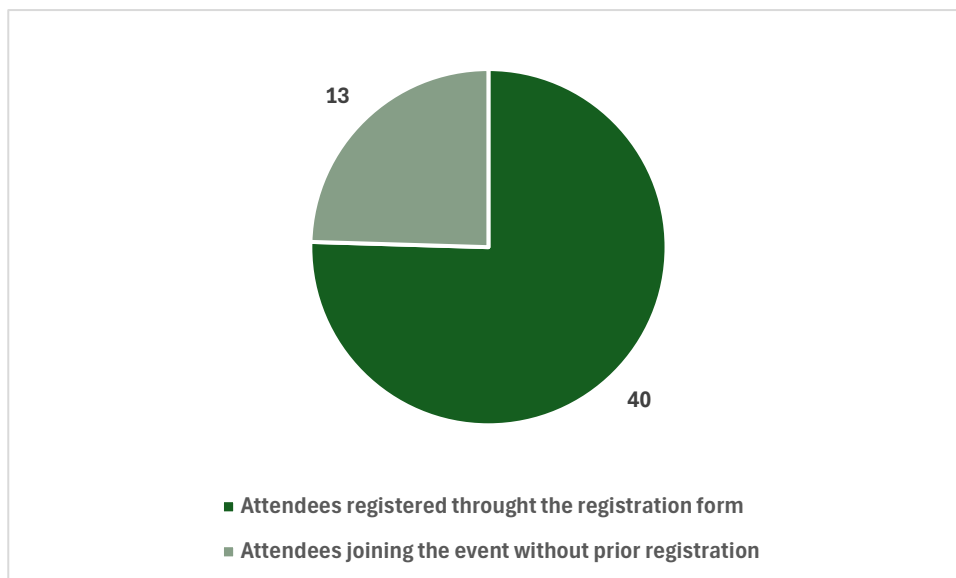


A total of 53 people participated in the second ACTION LAB, including 11 participants from 9 different programmes and 42 observers.



¹ Participants are members from MA/JTS of Cooperation Programmes participating to the exercise.

Out of the 53 total attendees at the second ACTION LAB, 40 were registered beforehand, while 13 attended without prior registration through the registration form, made available on the ESP Community platform.

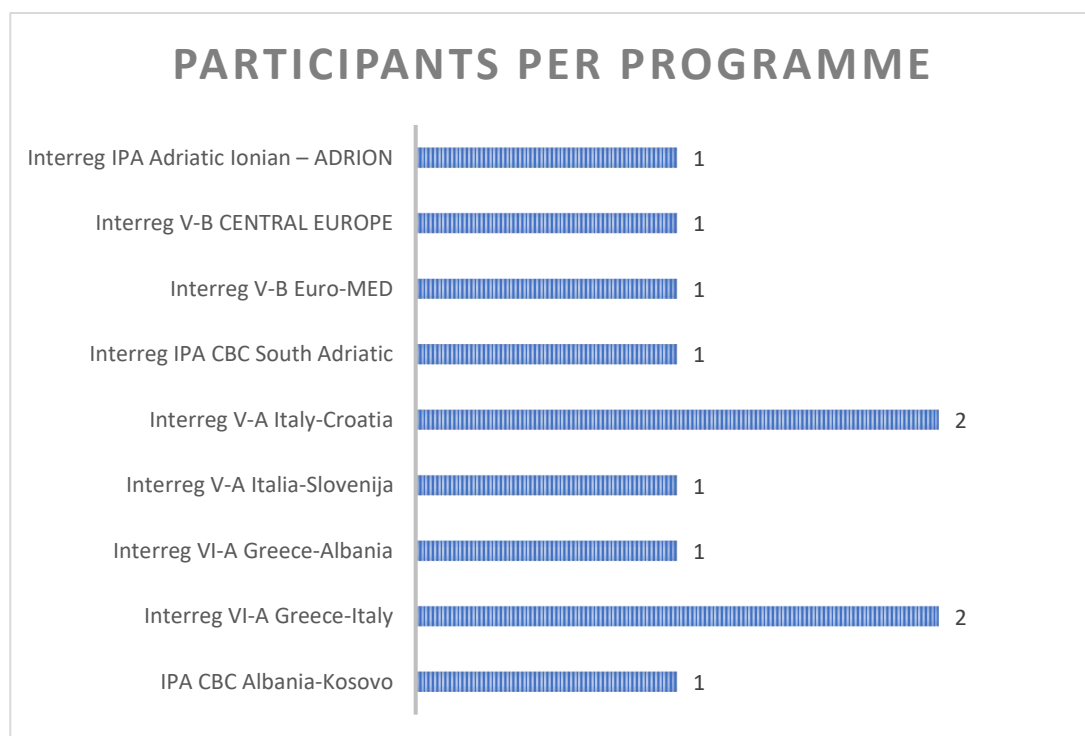


All 10 registered ETC programmes actively contributed to the preparation of the second ACTION LAB by filling in the online survey for the data collection (however the Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia programme did not manage to participate at the event). The programme Interreg VI-A Greece-Albania did not actively participate to the exercises of the ACTION LAB but still followed the carrying out the activities during the webinar.



10 ETC Programmes belonging to the EUSAIR area filled in the online survey

- 3** Transnational programmes
Interreg IPA ADRIAN, Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE, Interreg EURO-Med
- 7** Cross-border programmes
Interreg IPA South Adriatic, Interreg Italy-Croatia, Interreg Italy-Slovenia, Interreg Slovenia-Croatia, Interreg Greece-Albania, Interreg Greece-Italy, IPA CBC Albania-Kosovo



The table below provides a detailed list of participants for each Programme.

Name	Programme	Number of representatives per Programme
Di Piazza Barbara	Interreg IPA Adriatic Ionian - ADRION	1
Ferrarese Luca	Interreg V-B CENTRAL EUROPE	1
Ventura Florence	Interreg V-B EURO-Med	1
Campanile Chiara	Interreg IPA CBC South Adriatic	1
Comiati Silvia	Interreg V-A Italy-Croatia	2
Miletic Marin		
Sibilla Francesca	Interreg V-A Italy-Slovenija	1
Tsamouri Katerina	Interreg VI-A Greece-Albania	1
Maria Trabace	Interreg VI-A Greece-Italy	2
Maristella Mantuano		
Sonila Kora	IPA CBC Albania-Kosovo	1

The map below illustrates the coverage of the EUSAIR area based on the programmes that participated, represented at the NUTS 2 level. It provides a visual overview of the geographical scope and distribution of the programmes involved, highlighting their alignment with the EUSAIR framework.



Source: t33 own elaboration

Among the **observers**, notable attendees included the EUSAIR Pillar 1 Coordinator for Blue Growth, as well as representatives from wide range of institutions, mainly national and regional public administrations responsible for cohesion policy, European integration, regional development, and sectoral areas such as tourism, environment, and energy. Both EU Member States and IPA countries were represented, including ministries from Croatia, Italy, Greece, Serbia, and Montenegro. Regional authorities such as Emilia-Romagna Region and Friuli Venezia Giulia Region also took part, alongside actors like the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion, technical agencies, and a small number of private entities.

As **preliminary activities**, propaedeutical to the preparation of the ACTION LAB, the technical assistance team has conducted:

- **Desk analysis of ETC programmes' available information and documentation**, namely: ETC Programmes and relating implementation manuals. Particular attention was paid to call for proposals, selection criteria, indicator systems, most recent annual reports and ongoing evaluations focusing on capitalization.
- **Elaboration of primary data collection tools** through a **short survey** (3-4 questions) launched through the Alchemer platform. This activity has allowed to both inform participants on the themes that have been handled during the webinar and to involve them in the preparation of the meeting. A synthesis of the information gathered from programmes' contributions have been presented during the webinar as a basis for discussion and exchange of experience.

Introduction

In the introductory part, **Mrs Anna Torelli** (Marche Region), project coordinator, presented the StEp Project, which is one of the three EUSAIR strategic projects entitled to ensure the governance of the EUSAIR Strategy for this current programming period.

SteP is the acronym for **Stakeholder Engagement Point** meaning that the main topic assigned to this project is focussed on stakeholder engagement.

Ms Torelli emphasised the pivotal role of Managing Authorities, as key institutional actors entrusted with the allocation of financial resources essential to the implementation of the EUSAIR Strategy. She positioned the Action Labs as a core component of a broader, iterative stakeholder engagement process, drawing on the experience of the previous Facility Point project. After a first session dedicated to embedding, this second Action Lab shifts the focus to the capitalization of EUSAIR-relevant projects—an area recognised for both its strategic importance and its inherent complexity.

Mr Nicolas Garnier (Interact) officially opened the proceedings of the webinar. His presentation focused on “The Capitalization in Interreg”, in fact Interact has long supported programmes in developing solutions to better exploit and build upon the results generated through Interreg funding.

As highlighted in his valuable contribution, Nicolas stressed that in the context of Interreg, **capitalization** refers to the **use of knowledge generated by projects** — including solutions, tools, and policies — and how to **manage, valorise, and build upon these results**. It is about having a process in place to **support the transfer of results to new places and sectors**, to achieve a **lasting impact** not only within the programme area, but also beyond. It is a way to maximise public funding by ensuring that **high-quality outcomes are reused and further developed**.

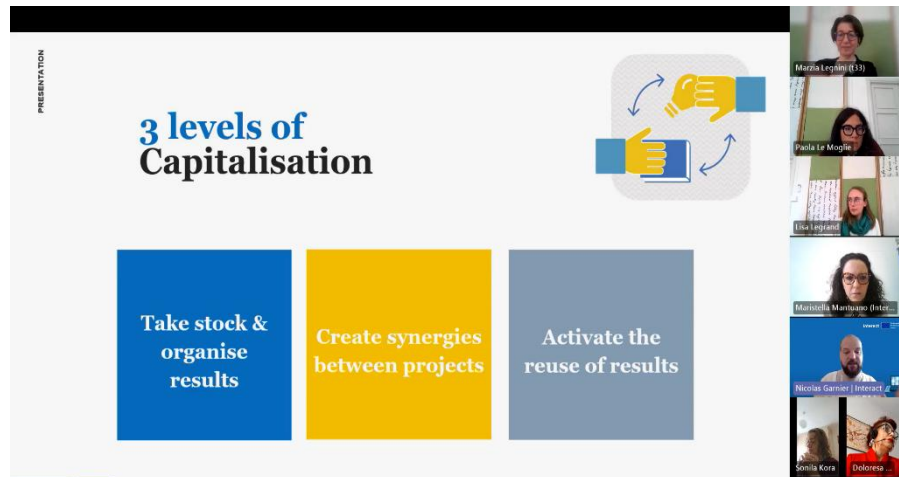
Despite its recognised added value, capitalization is still often perceived as a complex or secondary activity. Several challenges persist, such as **limited resources**, the **difficulty of engaging beneficiaries and stakeholders**, **unclear identification of exploitable results**, and

weak communication mechanisms. These barriers are common across programmes and represent structural limitations to the full realisation of capitalization's potential. These obstacles are compounded by a perception that capitalization is an ‘add-on’ rather than a core mission.

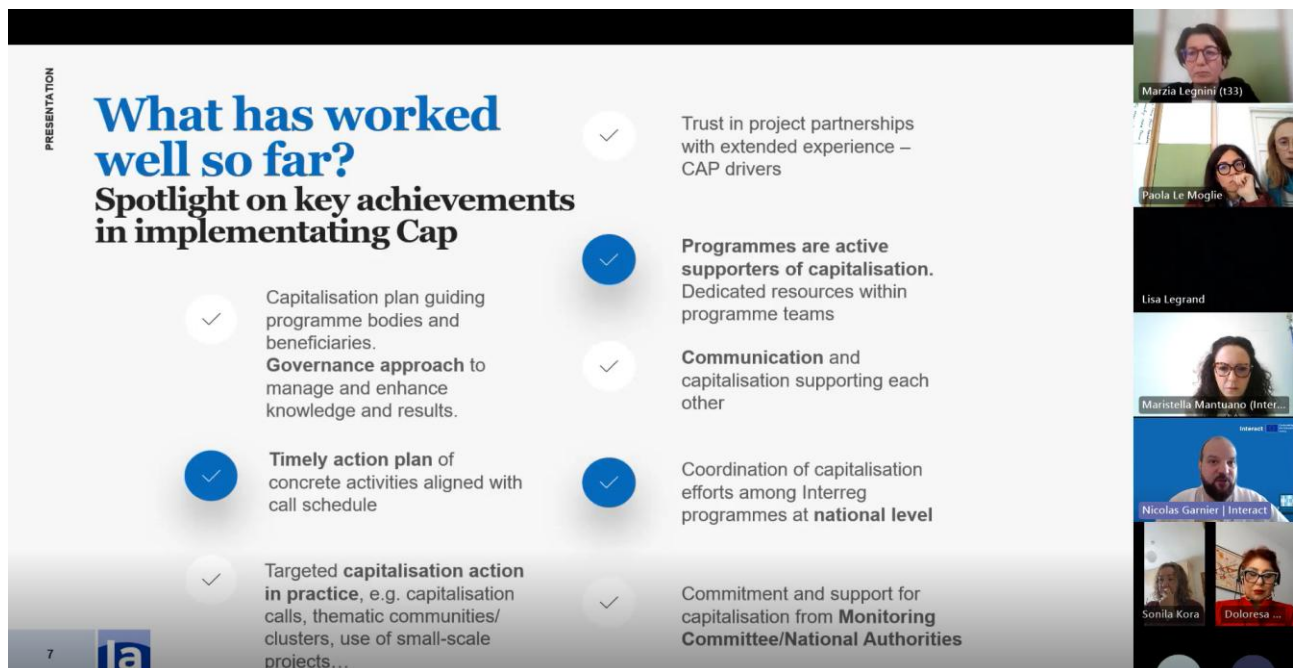
Capitalisation challenges

- Too complicated / Not for me
- Lack of resources
- Which results?
- Communication constraints
- Engage stakeholders
- Engage beneficiaries

To overcome these limitations, a **three-level model** was proposed: (1) Inventory and organization of project results, ensuring they are **accessible, understandable and visible** (ex. Project libraries, etc.); (2) **Interconnection and synergy between projects**, through communities of practice, clusters, or targeted calls; (3) Activate the reuse of results by stakeholders outside of the initial partnership.



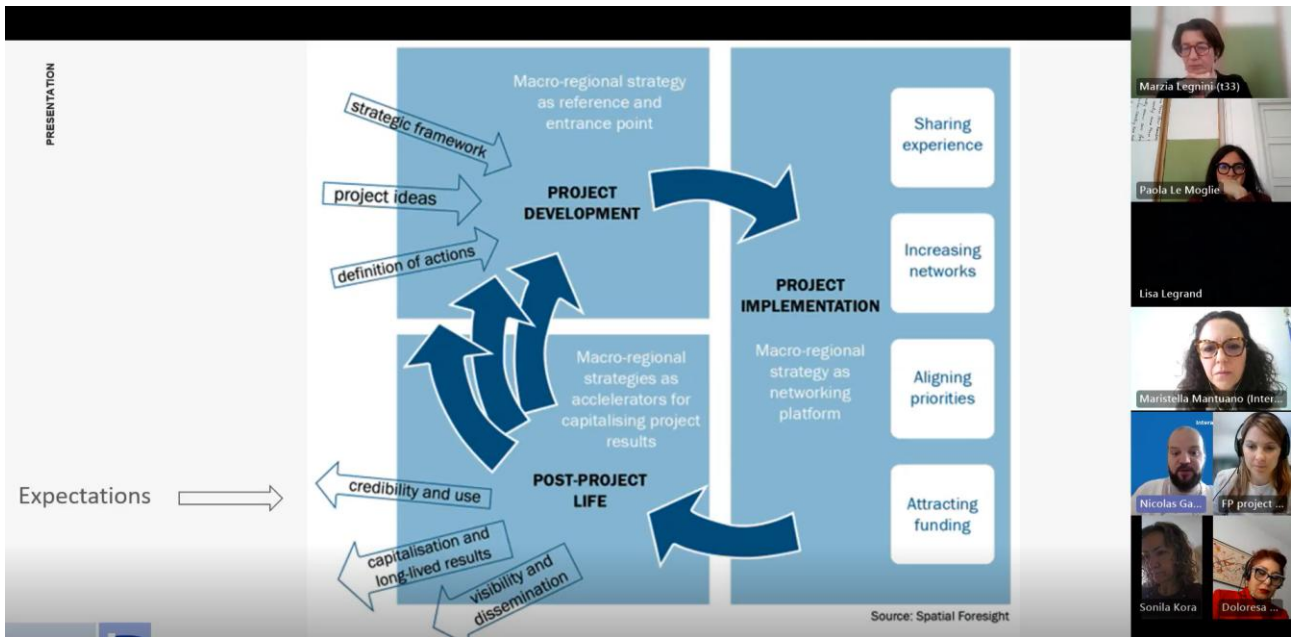
In preparation to the next programming period, Interact launch a consultation last year, from which key statements emerged from programmes. An important analytical dimension was the role of **small-scale projects** and **capitalization calls** as flexible tools to enable experimentation, support replication of solutions, and engage new actors. These instruments were seen as valuable entry points to operationalise capitalization within programme governance structures. Furthermore, the roles of programmes bodies has been highlighted as important in implementing and embedding capitalization in the programmes.



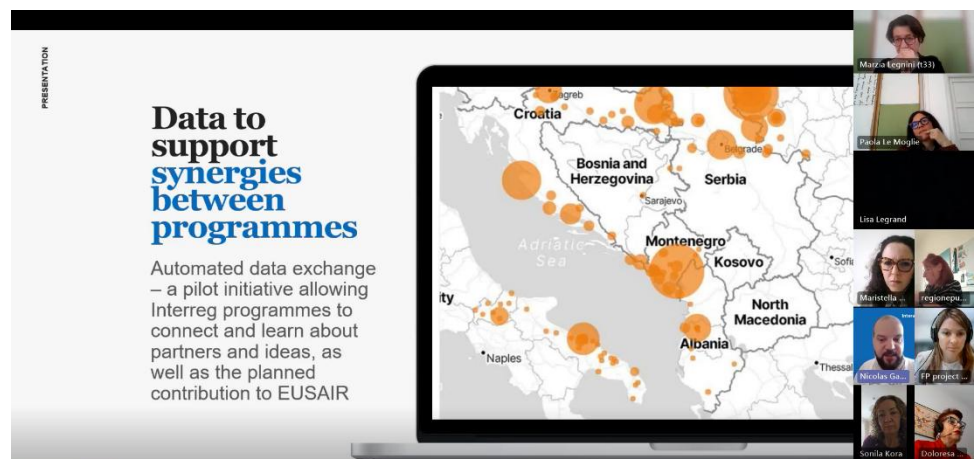
Examples of good practices were presented, where programmes connected capitalization to the macro-regional level with the example of the transnational Interreg programme Baltic Sea Region which aligned with the EUSBSR² and with several cross-border programme.

Furthermore, different examples were provided on how EUSAIR could support programmes capitalizations efforts. In fact EUSAIR can play a strategic role in amplifying and giving visibility to project outcomes. Programmes are encouraged to align thematically with macro-regional objectives and use the strategy as a lever to foster result uptake.

² European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region



Initiatives like **the Index Tool**, currently piloted by Interact, were cited as innovative instruments to map and visualise programme contributions across the macro-regional space.



Working session

At the end of Mr Garnier's presentation, Mrs. Marzia Legnini (t33), the moderator of the meeting, started the actual proceedings.

The 9 participating programmes were invited to speak and introduce themselves. At the end of the introductions, Mrs. Legnini gave an update on the state of capitalization through the presentation of the results of the survey sent to programmes in the weeks preceding this second ACTION LAB.

The survey revealed a wide range of interpretations of capitalization, confirming that it remains a multifaceted concept. Some programmes see it as a means to improve visibility, enhance the financial sustainability of projects/programmes results. Others focus more on the operational aspect of capitalization, viewing it as a process that enables the identification of good

practices and the transfer of useful knowledge — particularly in relation to management procedures and implementation methods — to other sectors and actors. One noteworthy contribution from the Interreg Euro-MED programme defined capitalization as a strategic process aimed at embedding project results into public policies and building synergies to the operation selection phase.

Regarding the capitalization strategy, several programmes declared that they have developed formal approaches. In fact, four programmes reported the existence of dedicated capitalization plans. The South Adriatic programme has also structured its efforts through a roadmap and specific calls. Central

Europe shared its use of capitalization-dedicated calls and thematic round tables bringing together projects with similar objectives. The Euro-MED programme mentioned similar mechanisms designed to consolidate and amplify results.

Capitalization definition

	Greece Albania	Greece-Italy	Italy-Slovenija	Italy-Croatia	South Adriatic	Slovenia-Croatia	Central Europe	ADRION	Euro-MED	Albania-Kosovo
Capitalization enables to improve the visibility of projects/programmes results			x		x			x	x	
Capitalization allows to identify good practices and to transfer their gained knowledge and results in terms of management procedure and implementing modalities to other sectors/beneficiaries	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		
Capitalization guarantees the (financial) sustainability of projects and durability of their results			x		x		x			x
Capitalization highlights programmes' impacts and future positioning								x	x	
None of the above. Please, specify other definitions									x	

Programme capitalization strategy



In terms of content, the programmes identified a broad spectrum of thematic areas that worth to be capitalized at macro-regional level. These include sustainable tourism, biodiversity, blue growth, climate adaptation, innovation, SME development, mobility, and also the effective reuse of results achieved in the 2014–2020 period. Overall, capitalization is seen as



particularly relevant in areas where a strong concentration of good results and stakeholder interest has already emerged — and where communication and knowledge-sharing can further enhance impact.

The suggestions offered by respondents indicate a need for structured support mechanisms. Manuals, standardized templates, and the integration of transferability criteria into evaluation procedures could help harmonize practices and clarify expectations. Moreover, digital platforms and thematic events could play a key role in reinforcing cooperation and knowledge



exchange. Providing direct support to beneficiaries for the production of capitalizable outputs would further facilitate the process. Finally, several contributions emphasized the strategic value of strengthening links between Interreg programmes and EUSAIR governance. Capitalization, in this view, is not only a technical process but a lever for embedding cooperation outputs into policy agendas. When well supported, it becomes a bridge between project implementation and multi-level governance, fostering continuity, visibility, and long-term impact.

...most relevant fields/themes worth to be capitalized at the macro-regional level

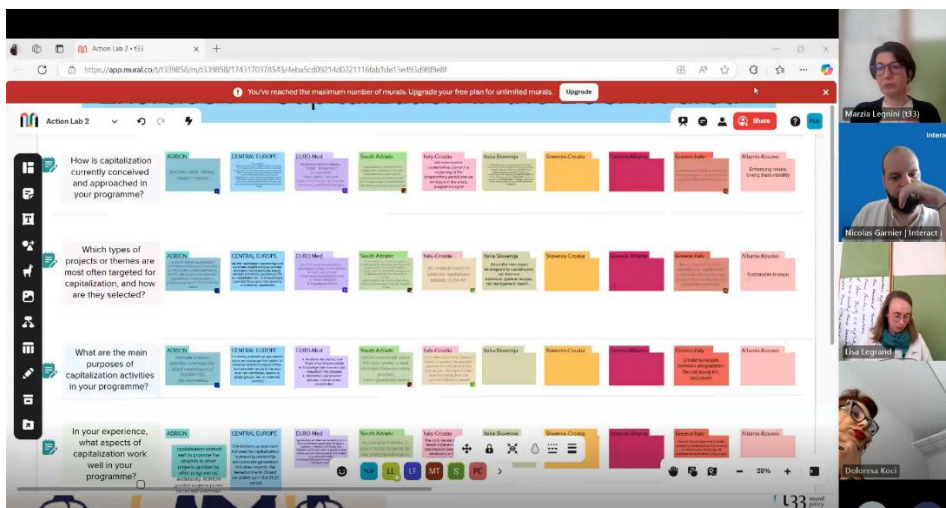
- Sustainable tourism / Tourism
- Environment / Biodiversity / Blue growth
- Climate adaptation
- SMEs internationalisation
- Mobility / Connectivity (transport and energy networks)
- Innovation
- Transferability and visibility of 2014–2020 outputs
- Any theme with a critical mass of good results and stakeholder interest
- Communication / Sharing of experiences

Hints for implementing capitalization in the EUSAIR area

- Capitalisation manuals
- Standardised formats for calls for proposals / Cluster calls / Integration of transferability criteria in calls
- Ad hoc meetings and thematic events
- Digital capitalisation platform
- Coordination with stakeholders and other initiatives
- Support to beneficiaries to produce capitalisable outputs
- Synergies with other programmes and strategic projects
- Alignment with EUSAIR governance structures

Exercises

In the first exercise, the participating programmes were asked to provide information on how they conceived and put in practice capitalization, with a focus on projects/themes subjected to capitalization, specific purpose of capitalization activities (communication, knowledge transfer, enhanced impacts on territories, etc.) and possible room for improving capitalization in view of the next programming period. Participants provided valuable insights, in fact it appears that **capitalization is increasingly viewed by ETC programmes as a strategic tool to enhance the reuse, transfer, and visibility of project results. It is implemented through various mechanisms, such as dedicated calls, application form requirements, thematic clustering, and knowledge-sharing platforms. Capitalization targets a wide range of themes, often focusing on mature outputs or areas with strong policy relevance. Its main purposes include fostering knowledge transfer, supporting policy development, strengthening cooperation, and ensuring the continuity of successful initiatives.** However, challenges remain, particularly in terms of beneficiary understanding, resource needs, and the need for clearer strategic focus. **Strengthening guidance, coordination, and alignment with macro-regional strategies will be key to improving capitalization in the next programming period.**



The second exercise aimed to collect concrete examples on how capitalization is implemented, especially through calls for proposals (possible beneficiaries, eligibility and selection criteria, expected results). Insights from programmes highlighted that **capitalization is**

increasingly integrated into programme architecture through dedicated calls, specific selection criteria, tailored sections in application forms, and the inclusion of capitalization activities in project work plans. These mechanisms aim to encourage the reuse of existing results, foster synergies, and align projects with macro-regional strategies. Expected outputs include the adaptation and transfer of project results, stronger territorial networks, joint action plans, and policy uptake. Good practices are identified through a mix of bottom-up initiatives and structured tools such as thematic platforms, dedicated events, or communities of practice. Nonetheless, **further efforts are needed to strengthen output monitoring, promote exemplary approaches, and better support beneficiaries in translating capitalization into practice.**

As planned, the participating programmes were given a few minutes to work independently on the content of the exercise. At the end of the allotted time, participants were asked to comment and share their observations and analyses with others. During the discussion, **participants highlighted capitalization**

as a key mechanism for increasing project visibility, continuity, and impact beyond programme boundaries. It was seen as a catalyst for new partnerships, policy uptake, and the reuse of results under other funding instruments. Some underlined the importance of fostering collaboration between beneficiaries across different programming periods. Capitalization was also viewed as a way to bridge the gap between project results and their effective use, particularly after project closure. To this end, selection criteria were considered crucial for ensuring the relevance, adaptability, and transferability of outputs, with attention given to credible partnerships and the potential to influence new policies or sectors. Participants also emphasised the added value of structured tools, such as evaluation systems or dashboards, to monitor and guide capitalization efforts more effectively.

Main outcomes from the exercises are shown in the figures below. However, due to the many insights provided by the programmes during the Action Lab, a PDF document compiling the complete results of both exercises has been created to ensure a comprehensive understanding.

Exercise I – Capitalization in the EUSAIR area



How is capitalization currently conceived and approached in your programme?

ADRION

thematic-wise; library; cluster creation

CENTRAL EUROPE

In 2016, the project started the preparation of a call for proposals for capitalization activities. The call was open to all EUSAIR clusters and the deadline for submission was 30th June 2016. The call was successful and several projects were funded.

EURO-Med

Result amplification strategy: EUSAIR TRANSGEST/ COORDINATE Table Library / Academy Governance Projects for Thematic Community and Policy Dialogue

South Adriatic

Capitalization is embedded in programme framework, through dedicated calls and specific selection criteria for dedicated call. For strategic projects capitalization has been included in the workplan.

Italy-Croatia

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.

Italia-Slovenija

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Slovenia-Croatia

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.

Greece-Albania

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Greece-Italy

Capitalization is one of the more interesting goals of a programme with more than 20 years of history.

Albania-Kosovo

Enhancing results Giving them visibility



Which types of projects or themes are most often targeted for capitalization, and how are they selected?

ADRION

projects attend capitalization activities on a voluntary basis part of the clusters' clusters defined by the 20 sub-clusters also possible depending on the number of projects dealing with the same sub-topic

CENTRAL EUROPE

We offer capitalization opportunities to all our funded projects along our priorities: Innovation, culture, environment, energy, development and healthy governance. For our capitalization call, we focused on a study identifying topics that promising or suitable for capitalization.

EURO-Med

All our projects are targeted for capitalization through our 4 missions:

- Green Living Areas
- Innovative Sustainable Economy
- Natural Heritage
- Sustainable Tourism

South Adriatic

By now we have not selected topics for capitalization, we expect results, but we are going to publish on the website an open call for 2023 and we will be looking for a call with the selection of topics.

Italy-Croatia

All our projects are targeted for capitalization through our 4 missions:

- Green Living Areas
- Innovative Sustainable Economy
- Natural Heritage
- Sustainable Tourism

Italia-Slovenija

About the main topics developed by capitalization call, they are transversal: greener Europe, risk management, health...

Slovenia-Croatia

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.

Greece-Albania

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.

Greece-Italy

Mostly projects could be capitalization, in particular the projects that are funded in more than one programming periods.

Albania-Kosovo

Sustainable tourism



What are the main purposes of capitalization activities in your programme?

ADRION

promote projects activities; envisage the direct involvement of EUSAIR TSG representatives

CENTRAL EUROPE

It is mostly a bottom up approach in which we encourage the holders of existing results to engage further and take their results to the next level (new territories, sectors or target groups, new or improved policies)

EURO-Med

Facilitate the sharing and reuse of our project results

- Encourage their creation and integration into policies
- Strengthen coordination between mediterranean stakeholders

South Adriatic

spread knowledge about the main results; create synergies between other projects; match givers and takers

Italy-Croatia

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.

Italia-Slovenija

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Slovenia-Croatia

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Greece-Albania

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Greece-Italy

Create synergies between programmes, do not losing the successes and the best practices of the projects.

Albania-Kosovo

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.



In your experience, what aspects of capitalization work well in your programme?

ADRION

capitalization worked well to promote the projects to other projects granted by other programmes, additionally, ADRION granted projects joined forces and submitted other proposals to other programmes (e.g. Horizon)

CENTRAL EUROPE

The bottom up approach followed for capitalization is ensuring ownership and concrete generation of further impacts. We funded in the 14-20 and we scaled up in the 21-27 period

EURO-Med

Capitalization activities are necessary for our Thematic Projects participation in Europe Academy Thematic Community and Policy Dialogue. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.

South Adriatic

in principle it works; in practice the projects do not understand how to do it

Italy-Croatia

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.

Italia-Slovenija

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.

Slovenia-Croatia

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.

Greece-Albania

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.

Greece-Italy

Greece Italy programme already created a Capitalization Community to improve the exchange of experiences and ideas with groups on feedback and events in person and online.

Albania-Kosovo

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.



What could be improved in your capitalization approach in view of the next programming period?

ADRION

currently we are working on it

CENTRAL EUROPE

More support is needed to programme authorities, also financially, since to engage in concrete capitalization that makes results more impactful requires resources

EURO-Med

Continue to strengthen cooperation and cooperation with other mediterranean stakeholders

South Adriatic

selection of specific topics to empower capitalization approach

Italy-Croatia

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.

Italia-Slovenija

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Slovenia-Croatia

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Greece-Albania

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.

Greece-Italy

Select specific topics and criteria to find the most opportune projects to be capitalized

Albania-Kosovo

Capitalization is included in the workplan for all projects. Capitalization is considered as a key element of the project and is supported by the project budget. Capitalization is also supported by the project budget.

Exercise II – Implementing Capitalization

How has capitalization been integrated into calls for proposals in your programme?

ADRION
we have asked beneficiaries to describe some resources for future activities. No dedicated call on capitalization envisaged at the moment

CENTRAL EUROPE
We have a dedicated call on capitalization envisaged as being the starting point for other calls in the next 2-3 years. The call is currently open and we are looking for projects to be selected. The call is currently open and we are looking for projects to be selected. The call is currently open and we are looking for projects to be selected.

EURO-Med
Dedicated call for Governance Projects at the beginning of the programming. 8 Gov projects were selected. Gov projects objective is to amplify results of our Thematic projects.

South Adriatic
strategic pr. - inclusion of cap activities in WPs SSP - 40 projects selected to capitalize previous achieved results
standard call - selection criteria

Italy-Croatia
In the AF there is a specific question about the capitalization of 14/20

Italy-Slovenija
specific call devtd to capitalisation

Slovenia-Croatia

Greece-Albania

Greece-Italy

Albania-Kosovo

What eligibility or selection criteria are used to support capitalization in calls?

ADRION
NA

CENTRAL EUROPE
In the capitalisation call projects will have to capitalize results from at least 2 Interreg CE and 2 CBC projects.

EURO-Med
Mandatory capitalisation activities in calls for project: contribution to Library, Academy, participation in Thematic Community, etc.

South Adriatic
5 points for relevant capitalization actions; other 10 points for synergies and EUSAIR link

Italy-Croatia
In the AF there is a specific question about the capitalization of 14/20

Italy-Slovenija
2 specific sections of the AF: C.2.5 How does the project contribute to wider strategies and policies? C.2.6 How will your project take advantage of synergies with the EU and with other projects or initiatives?

Slovenia-Croatia

Greece-Albania

Greece-Italy
There was a specific criteria with assignment of points

Albania-Kosovo

What kind of outputs or results are expected from capitalization-focused projects?

ADRION
NA

CENTRAL EUROPE
Existing outputs and results expected to be tailored to the 'takers'.

EURO-Med
Main outputs/results from Governance Projects: animate thematic community, organise thematic working group between projects, contribution to Library, Academy, valuate and transfer results from Thematic Projects.

South Adriatic
joint action plan and clusters

Italy-Croatia
As the Programme is set to launch a dedicated capitalisation call in 2024, we aim to, through the collaboration with the AF, to ensure that the projects are identified and selected in a way that is aligned with the objectives of the call. This will involve a series of meetings and workshops to discuss the call and to ensure that the projects are identified and selected in a way that is aligned with the objectives of the call.

Italy-Slovenija
re-use of the outputs, transferability and sustainability of projects

Slovenia-Croatia

Greece-Albania

Greece-Italy
to strengthen the partnerships and improve the territorial network

Albania-Kosovo

How does your programme identify and promote best practices for capitalization?

ADRION
based on previous experience: bottom up approach

CENTRAL EUROPE
We believe that the bottom up approach is key for impactful capitalization. Projects in some cases are spontaneously doing effective capitalization and synergies and such experiences are taken as model and example for others

EURO-Med
Main projects results / best practices from projects are identified and promoted through the Library and through Community Thematic events, thematic online networking platform, institutional dialogues, Living Lab, Policy Hub...

South Adriatic
we are going to set up a monitoring action on projects implemented at programme level which will be done in a bottom up approach. We are going to set up a monitoring action on projects implemented at programme level which will be done in a bottom up approach.

Italy-Croatia
The Programme identifies and promotes best practices for capitalization through the AF, through the collaboration with the AF, through the collaboration with the AF, through the collaboration with the AF.

Italy-Slovenija
the ADRIANCYCLE TOUR strategic Project which contributes to develop, at EUSAIR level, an innovative and attractive cross-border/transnational tourism product on the ADRIATIC-COASTAL Cycle Route

Slovenia-Croatia

Greece-Albania

Greece-Italy
specific knowledge, experiences and best practices of each project

Albania-Kosovo

Conclusion

The second Action Lab marked another important step in deepening cooperation among ETC Managing Authorities within the EUSAIR area, this time with a focus on capitalization. **The session confirmed that capitalization is increasingly understood as a strategic process to maximise the value and visibility of project results, foster synergies, and support policy integration at macro-regional level. It also highlighted the need for more coherent and structured approaches across programmes to ensure that capitalization efforts translate into meaningful territorial impacts.**

Discussions revealed that while several tools and practices are already in place—such as dedicated calls, thematic clustering, and capitalization strategies —programmes continue to face challenges, particularly in ensuring beneficiary engagement, aligning actions with macro-regional priorities, and systematically identifying transferable results. The exercises and exchanges showed a shared interest in reinforcing mechanisms that facilitate the reuse of outputs, promote inter-programme collaboration, and improve stakeholder coordination, especially beyond the Interreg community.

One key insight was the need for stronger selection criteria and evaluation frameworks to ensure that capitalised outputs are not only relevant but also adaptable to new contexts. Participants also stressed the importance of combining bottom-up practices with structured support, such as dashboards, thematic platforms, and guidance tools, to enhance consistency and visibility.

By fostering a space for practical exchange, this second Action Lab helped clarify the operational dimensions of capitalization and reinforced its value as a bridge between implementation and policy. **It confirmed the strategic potential of EUSAIR in amplifying results and aligning efforts across programmes. The dialogue also underlined the importance of continued mutual learning and the need to align capitalization practices with the broader EUSAIR governance framework to ensure long-term coherence and impact.**

The meeting concluded with closing remarks from the moderator and the StEP project coordinator, who reiterated the value of these exchanges and invited participants to prepare for the third and final Action Lab, which will focus on the **evaluation of ETC programmes' contribution to the EUSAIR strategy**