



Dear reader,

with this special newsletter edition, we are featuring the European Week of Regions and Cities. The EWRC, held in Brussels from 7 to 10 October 2019, is an annual four-day event during which cities and regions showcase their capacity to implement Cohesion policy and create growth and jobs. This year, we joined the Interreg community and presented how regions of Croatia and Serbia contribute to a better EU.

We hope you'll enjoy reading,

Your Interreg IPA CBC Croatia - Serbia team.

The **European Week of Regions and Cities** event was created in 2003 and in the past years has become an EU-wide networking platform for experts in regional and local development. Dealing with topics such as social inclusion, cross-border cooperation, public-private partnerships and regional innovation, the event serves to exchange practices and form new partnerships. This year, it welcomed more than 9.000 visitors in more than 300 workshops, exhibitions, participatory labs and presentations.

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Our Programme participated at this year's EWRC as part of the **Tasting of Regions and Cities** session. Together with presenters from Mediterranean regions, we offered tastings of local and authentic food products from our cross-border area, and regions of the <a href="Interreg IPA CBC Croatia-Bosnia">Interreg IPA CBC Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro Programme</a> as well. Our idea was to present the variety of cultural, geographic and gastronomic practices of our regions. The tasting session was held at the Agora Village and it attracted several hundred visitors on day two of the EWRC.

\* Flickr photos by <u>European Week of Regions and Cities</u>: 8 October 2019, 08EU743 – Regions' evening with Mediterranean regions tasting, Belgium-Brussels-October 2019 © EU/UE (\_WW13868, \_WW13877, \_WW13904), shared under a CC BY-NC-SA 2.0 license







Our projects also made an appearance at the EWRC: representatives of the R-SOL-E project participated at the finals of the REGIOSTARS 2019 awards ceremony, together with 23 other EU-funded projects nominated for their innovativeness in addressing regional challenges. Although R-SOL-E was not selected as this year's winner in the Building climate-resilient cities category, its importance was fully recognized. Because of it, the dedication of Croatian and Serbian partners working together across borders put the project on a map of most innovative EU-funded projects of 2019.

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## About us

Interreg IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Croatia - Serbia 2014-2020 is part of the European Territorial Cooperation (ETC), better known as Interreg.

The Programme is managed by the Managing Authority and assisted by the Joint Secretariat within the Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds of the Republic of Croatia. Both the MA and JS are a team of (mostly) young and ambitious experts dedicated to supporting regions in working together across borders

The Programme covers Croatia and Serbia's cross-border area: 4 counties in Croatia and 5 districts in Serbia. It seeks to strengthen the social, economic and territorial development of the area.

The overall budget of the Programme for the 2014-2020 period is 40.344,930,00 EUR. The allocation originates from two funds: the ERDF and IPA II cover more than 34 million EUR while the remaining 6 million EUR is covered with national co-financing.









This newsletter has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the Managing Authority and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

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