



Sustainable **S**mart **S**pecialisation for the **R**e-opening of **I**ndustrial **S**ites in the **D**anube Region (RIS4Danu)

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Objectives

→ proposing solutions for a broader social-sustainable-technological **regional transition through the revitalisation of disused industrial sites**

3 Specific Objectives

1. Development of **green** and **innovative** development plans for the revitalisation of **21 industrial sites** in **11 Danube regions**
2. Further developing the existing Smart Specialisation (S3) methodology towards **Sustainable Smart Specialisation (S4)** to facilitate “green structural change”.
3. Providing tangible **policy recommendations** on the identification of **innovation barriers** and on the creation of **synergies** with other R&I funding programmes



Novel Approach

The most common reactions to plant closure: community areas, culture or commercial centres

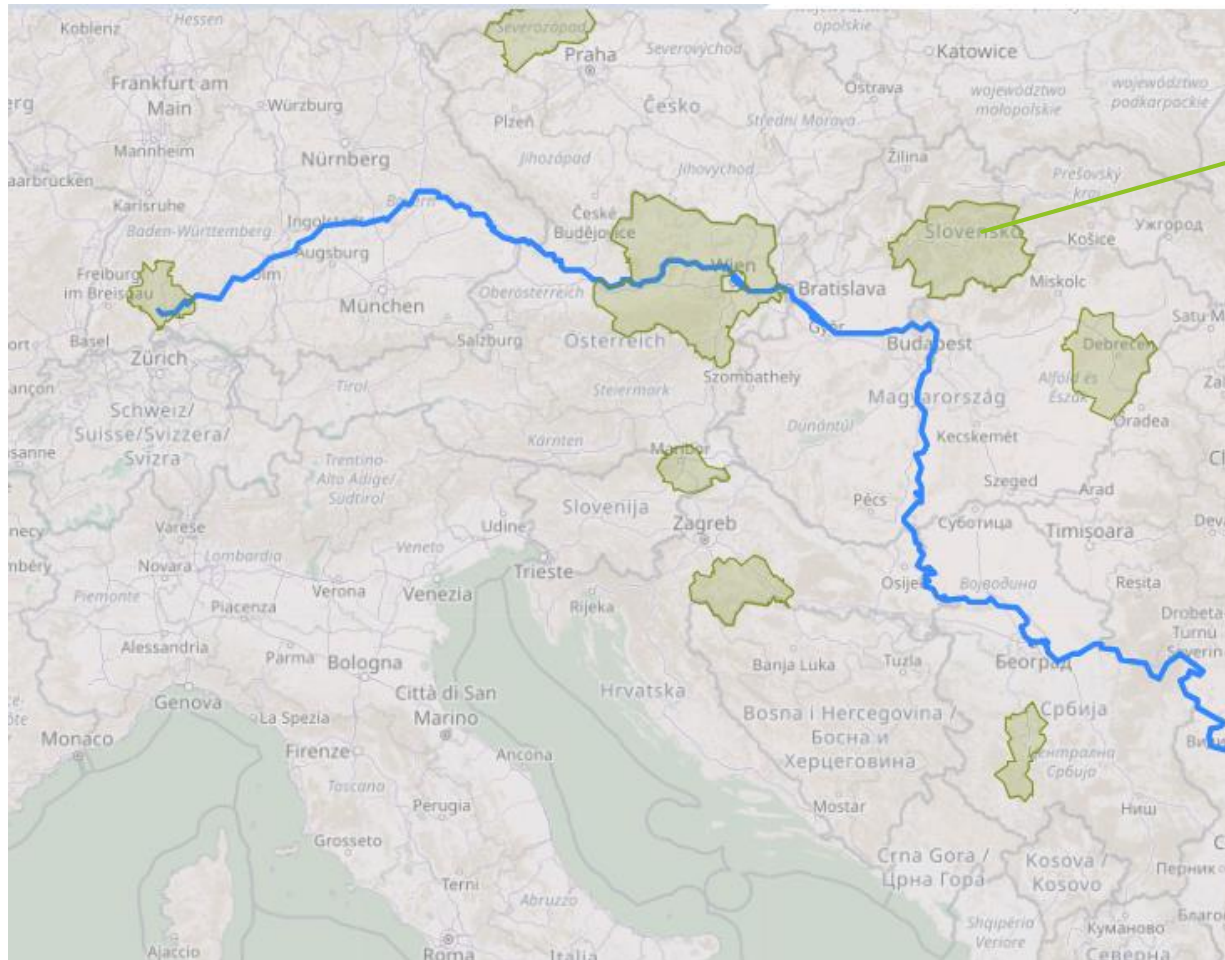
- Closed industrial sites have the potential to be transformed into **inclusive hubs for green production and research and innovation** where a wide range of regional stakeholders can bundle their activities and knowledge to develop new solutions for green and digital transition - with **positive spill-over effects for the entire region.**

Novel Workshop approach

- ▶ better alignment of **local (business) interests** with **regional strategic priorities**;
- ▶ reconciliation of **business interests** and opportunities for **green economic growth**;
- ▶ identification of and **building on existing (regional) assets and opportunities**; and
- ▶ identification of **funding synergies** and addressing **barriers to innovation.**



Impact (Example)



Wood crafting/processing Campus for wood-related materials and products, such as wooden eco-houses, furniture, natural fibre composites in automotive interiors, wood pellets for green energy production (→ JTF Funding)



Lessons Learned

- ▶ Overall the novel approach combines three dimensions of place-based policy:
 - ▶ Supporting **local communities** facing industrial plant closure in coping with the economic, environment, and social effects;
 - ▶ Facilitating **green and digital industrial transition** and sustainable growth in EU regions; and
 - ▶ Contributing towards the **convergence of European regions** that differ greatly in terms of their economic development and prosperity.
- ▶ Being a *Preparatory Action* the RIS4Danu project prepared the ground for a potentially larger roll-out of the novel approach towards industrial site revitalisation as part of a **new regional/national and/or EU funding scheme.**



Contact

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