

#forbetterregions

# Regional Development Strategy 2021+

Support for specific types of regions

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MINISTERSTVO  
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**RDS21+**  
Regional Development Strategy





# Impact of COVID on regions

- We did not monitor any striking regional impacts
- Effort to maintain continuity
- Continuous monitoring
- Ambition to assess government tools – predominantly territorial dimension of granted support (if relevant data are available)



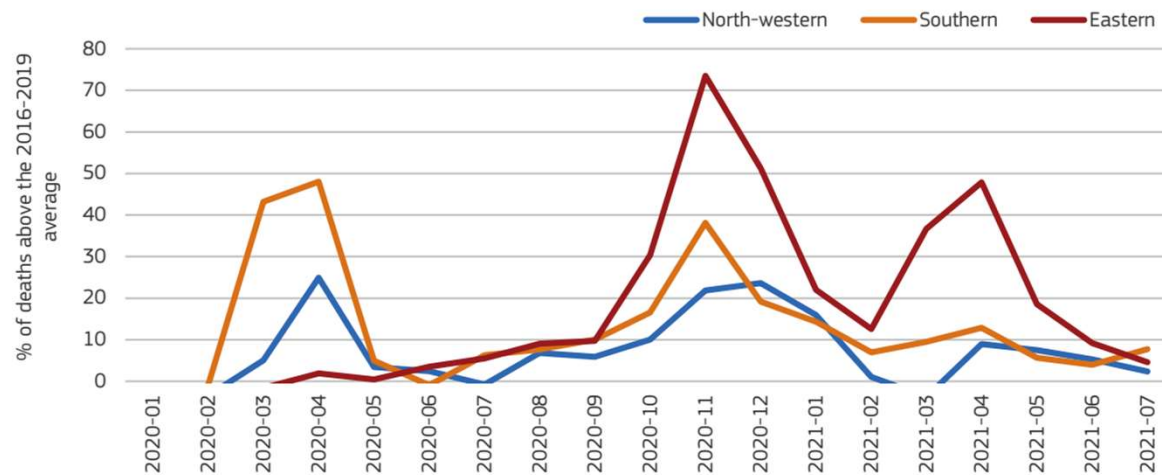
# Impact of COVID on regions

- Elaborated in **8th report** on economic, social, and territorial **cohesion**
  - Health impact of the pandemic
    - The excess mortality during the first wave mainly affected regions in Italy, Spain, France, Belgium and the Netherlands
    - During the second wave, excess mortality was predominantly highest in regions in eastern Europe — in Poland, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Czechia, Romania and Hungary
  - Economic impact of the pandemic
    - The places with stricter lockdown measures tended to experience a deeper recession
    - Some types of economic activities were much more affected than others
    - The policy response of Member States, regions and local authorities varied in scope and intensity

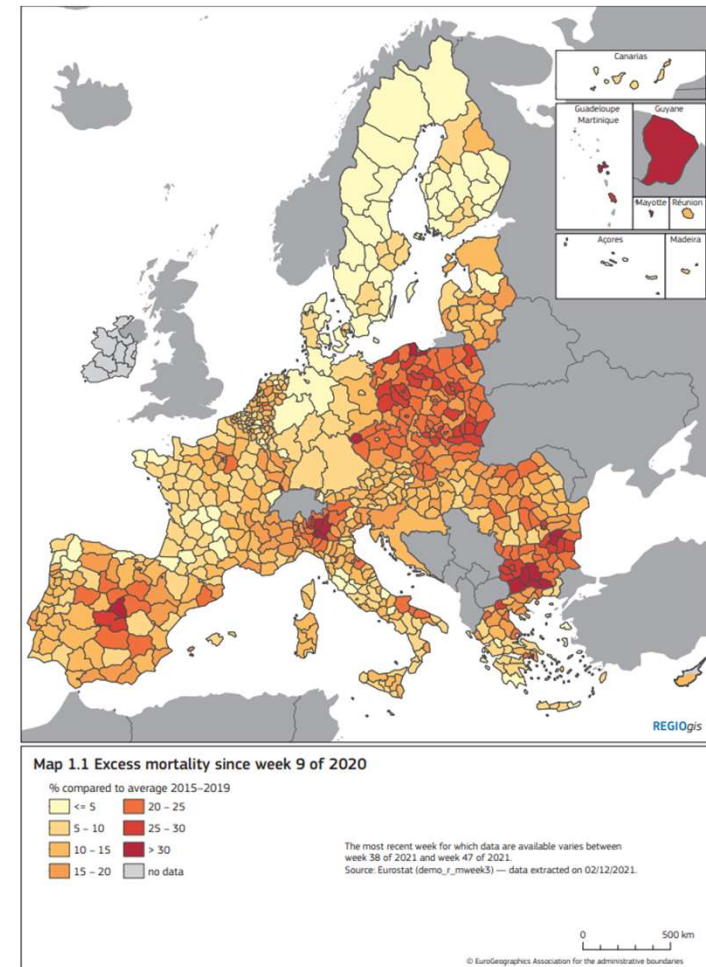


# Impact of COVID on regions – health impact

Figure 1.1 Excess mortality by geographic region in the EU, January 2020–July 2021

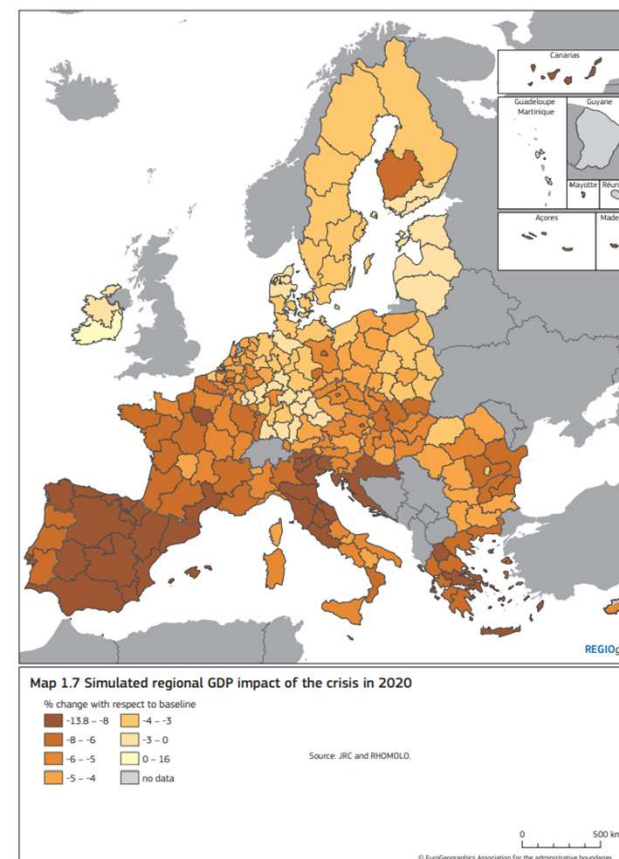
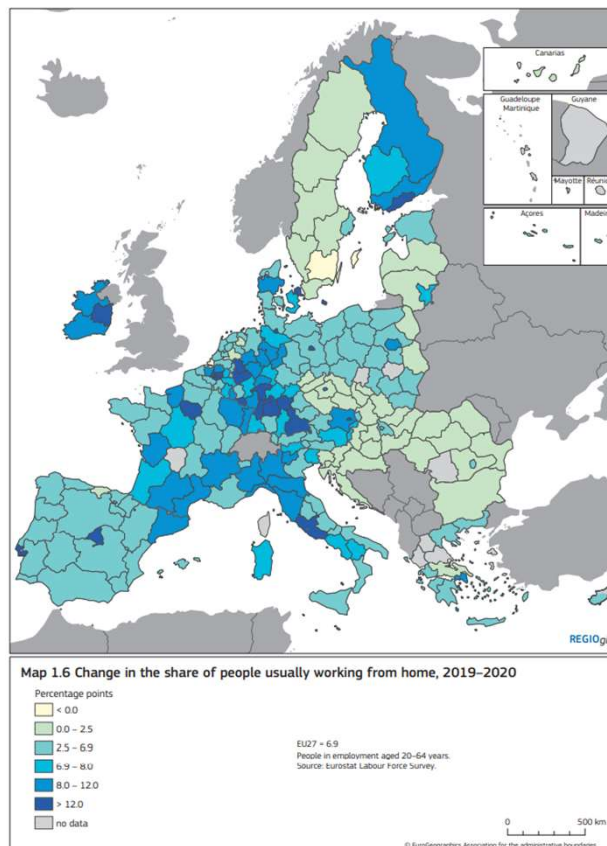
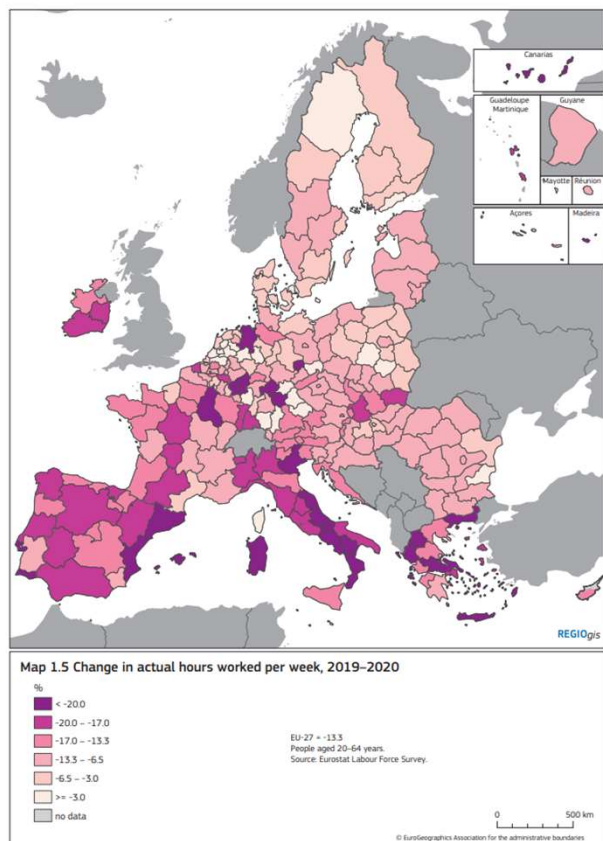


Source: Eurostat [demo\_mexrt] and DG REGIO calculations.



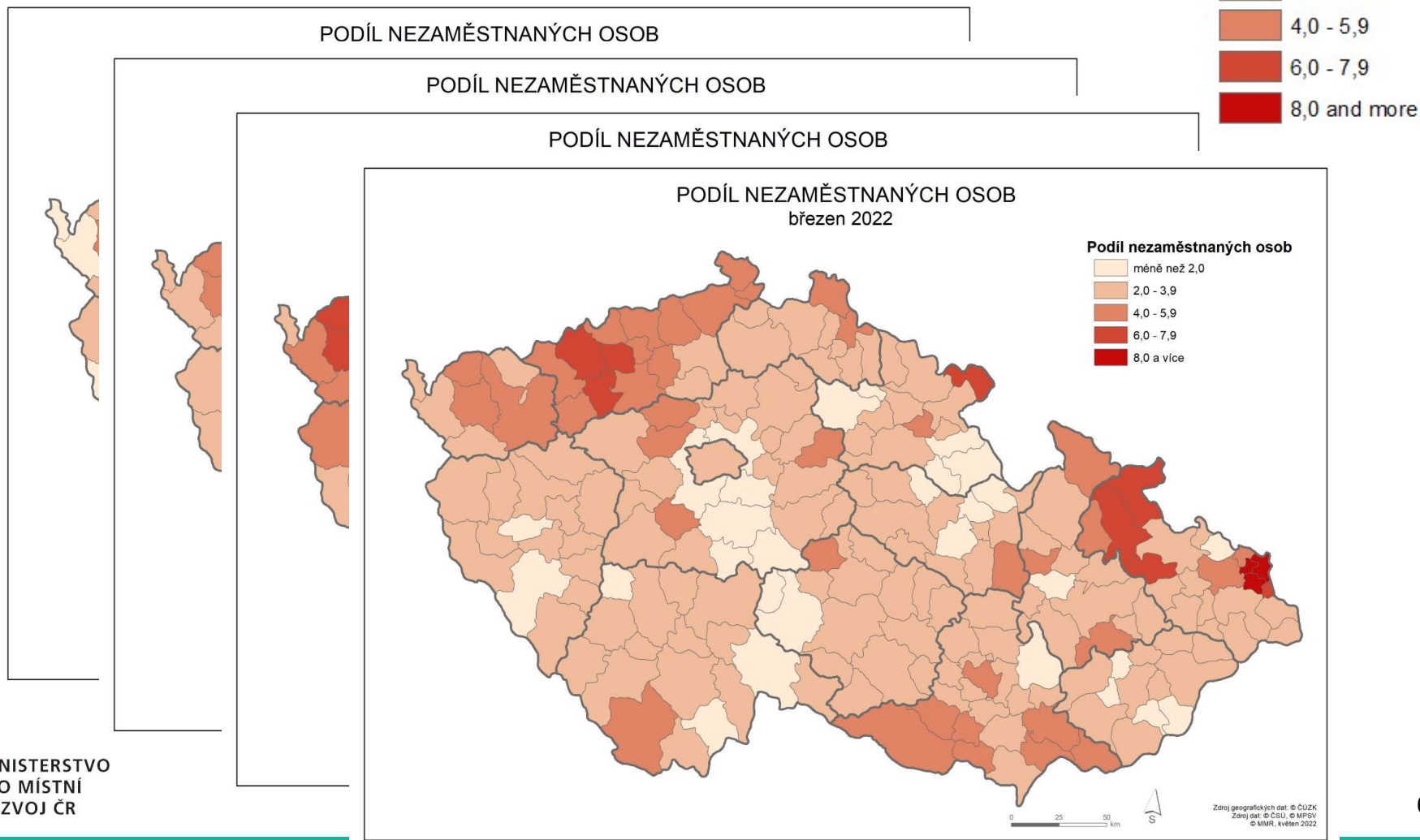


# Impact of COVID on regions – economic





# Share of unemployed persons





# National recovery plan (NRP)




- Formally "*Recovery and resilience plan for Czechia*"
- EU reaction on COVID -> RRF (Recovery & Resilience Facility)
- Themes and financing of the whole NRP (next slide)
- Sub-committee for territorial dimension
  - Deals with territorial aspects of implementation of particular components
- Components managed by MoRD (brownfields)



## KEY MEASURES TO SUPPORT CZECHIA'S DIGITAL TRANSITION

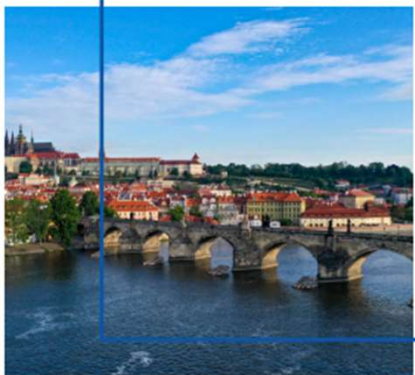
**22%** of the plan's total allocation for reforms and investments supports digital objectives



-  **Digital skills for the digital age:** revamping the digital curricula in education, providing digital equipment and training to schools, new university programmes in fast-growing digital fields, upskilling and reskilling in digital skills. **€585 million**
-  **E-services:** investing in the digital transformation and cyber-security of public administration, the justice system and health care. **€450 million**
-  **Fostering the digital transition of the economy:** supporting digital transformation of businesses, digital innovation hubs and the deployment of very high-capacity networks and 5G networks. **€650 million**

## KEY MEASURES TO SECURE CZECHIA'S GREEN TRANSITION

**42%** of the plan's total allocation for reforms and investments supports climate objectives






-  **Energy efficiency:** financing large-scale renovation programmes to increase the energy efficiency of residential and public buildings, childcare and long-term care facilities. **€1.6 billion**
-  **Renewable energy sources:** supporting the installation of renewable energy sources for businesses and households. **€480 million**
-  **Sustainable mobility:** financing of more than 5,000 low-emission vehicles for the public and business sector, promoting the deployment of over 4,500 electric charging stations, improving railway infrastructure and 90 km of cycling pathways. **€1.1 billion**
-  **Circular economy:** investing in recycling infrastructure and support for circular economy solutions and water savings in businesses. **€141 million**



## KEY MEASURES TO REINFORCE CZECHIA'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESILIENCE



-  **Ensuring equal access to education:** increasing access to affordable childcare, reinforced support for disadvantaged children, training for teachers and additional tutoring for children at risk of failure. **€393 million**
-  **Increasing the resilience of healthcare services:** building new hospitals, acquiring new medical equipment, strengthening cancer screening programmes, rolling out e-Health and focusing on long-term care. **€823 million**
-  **Improving the business environment:** improving access to finance for companies, especially SMEs, accelerating construction licencing procedures, reinforcing anti-corruption measures and boosting cooperation between public and private research. **€222 million**

Source: European Union, 2021



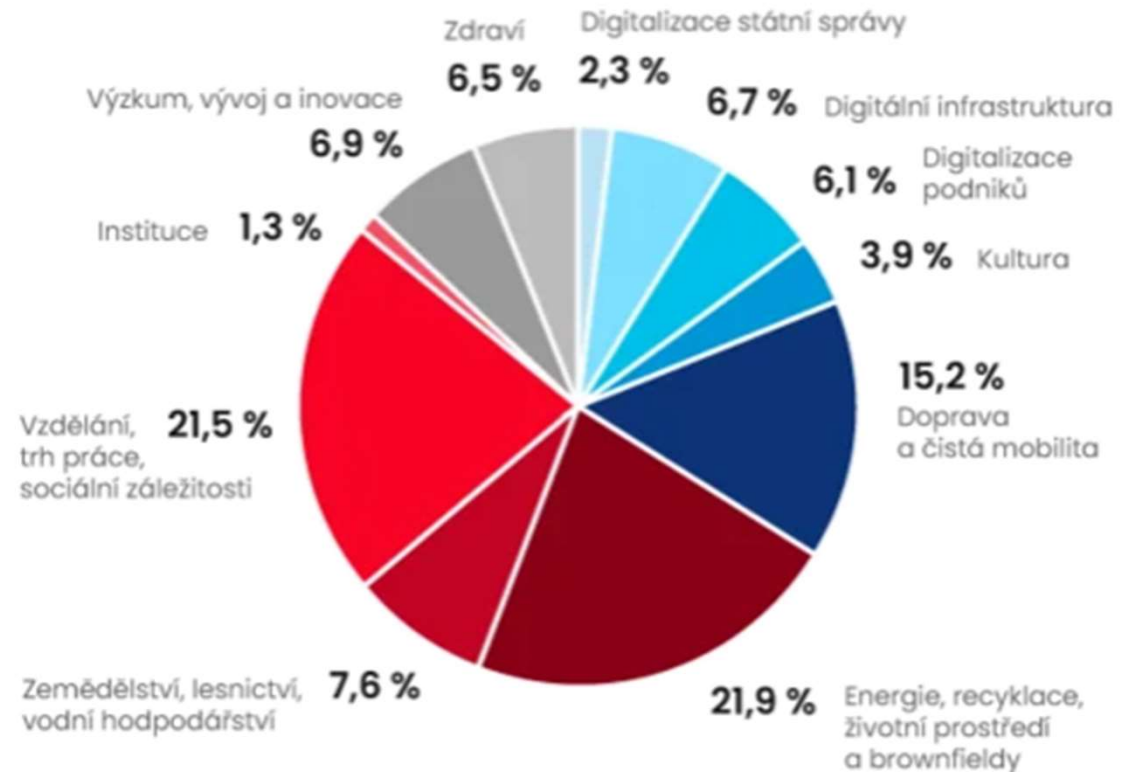


# National recovery plan

## Focus on

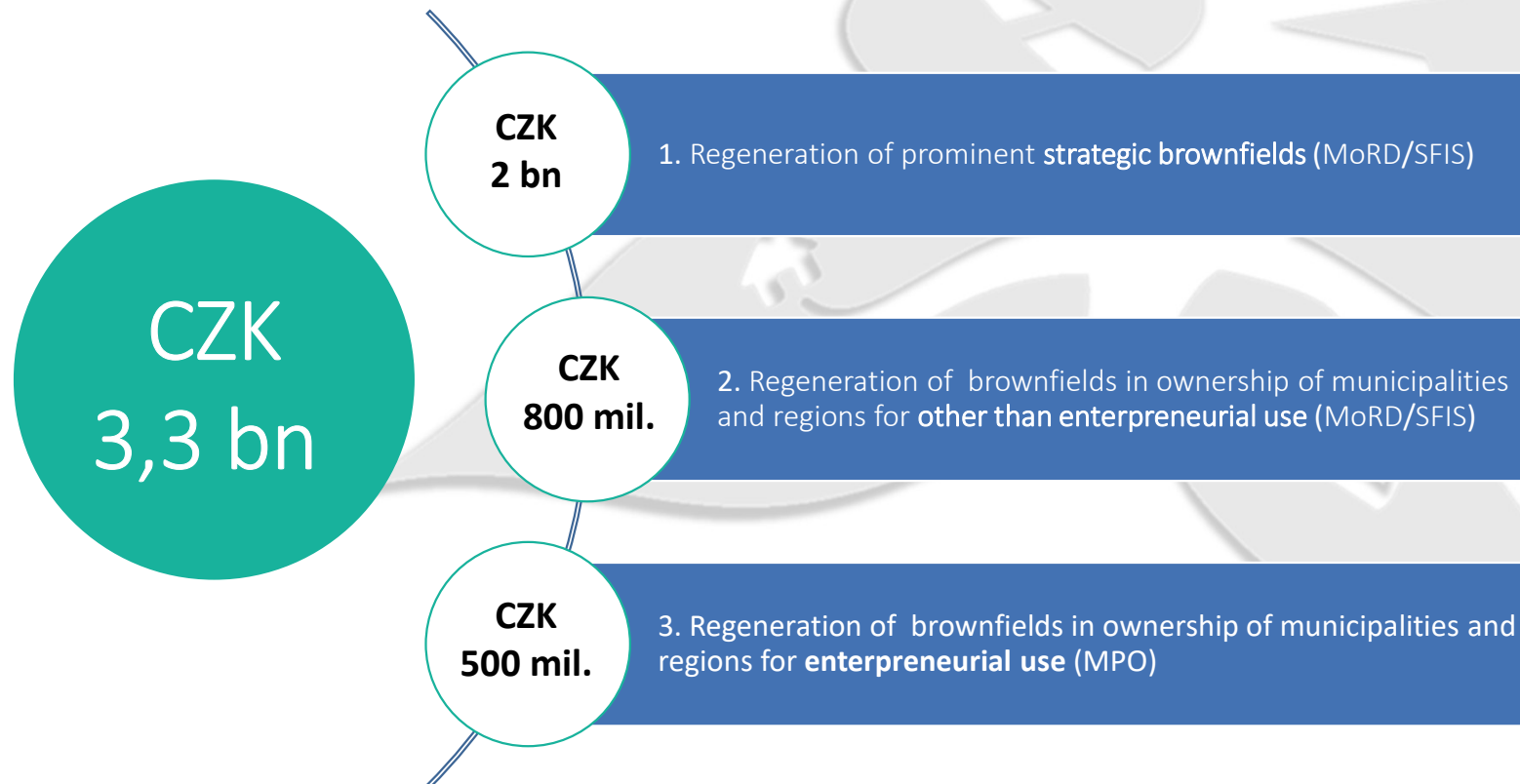
- smart power industry
- decarbonisation
- digitisation
- education
- labour market, social services
- clean mobility and transport
- science
- health prevention

Great chance for development  
the „Smart City“ of potential



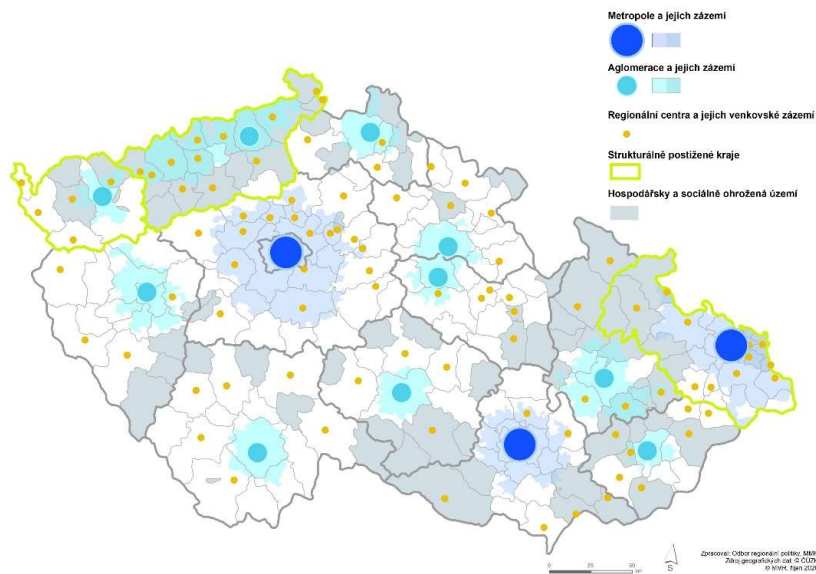


## NPO 2.8 Regeneration of Brownfields (€ 130 mil.)



# Regional Development Strategy 2021+

- Particular regional development topics geographically distributed into  
**6 strategic goals**



- Internationally competitive **metropolitan areas**
- Agglomerations** using their growth potential
- Economically stabilized **regional centres**
- Revitalized and economically **restructuralized regions**
- Good quality of life in **economically and socially vulnerable territories**
- High-quality regional development **planning**



## Basic strategic direction of RDS 21+

1. Ensure tailored-made solutions for regions
2. Take into account territorial dimension in sectoral policies
3. Develop strategic planning on the basis of functional regions
4. Strengthen cooperation of actors in regional development
5. Improve coordination of strategic and spatial planning
6. Develop smart solutions
7. Improve data management in regional development







## Scheme of involvement of partners





# Metropolitan areas

examples of proposed types of measures



- **Development of Regional innovation systems**

- » Development of innovation ecosystem in metropolitan areas and increase of technology and knowledge transfer



- **Improvement of connections to European metropolitan areas**

- » Betterment of fast railway connections among Czech metropolitan areas and central European metropolitan areas
- » Increase of capacity at the airports
- » Pushing transit transport outside of city centres



# Agglomerations

examples of proposed types of measures



- **Support of development and economic position of agglomerations**
  - » Development of research and development centres including cooperation with business and non-business actors (R&D parks)
- **Effective transport management in order to limit negative impacts**
  - » Solution of poor quality of air, noise, and dustiness caused by high density of individual automobile transport
  - » Implementation of intelligent transport systems
  - » Decrease of transport emissions



# Regional centres and their hinterland

examples of proposed types of measures



- **Diversification of economic activities in regional centres and its hinterland**

- » Targeted support of entrepreneurs, and small and medium enterprises
- » Stabilization and development of businesses in regional centres and its hinterland



- **Sustainable management of land and waters**

- » Prevention of water shortage connected to climate change
- » Improvement retention capacity (forests, agriculture land, ...)



# Structurally weak regions

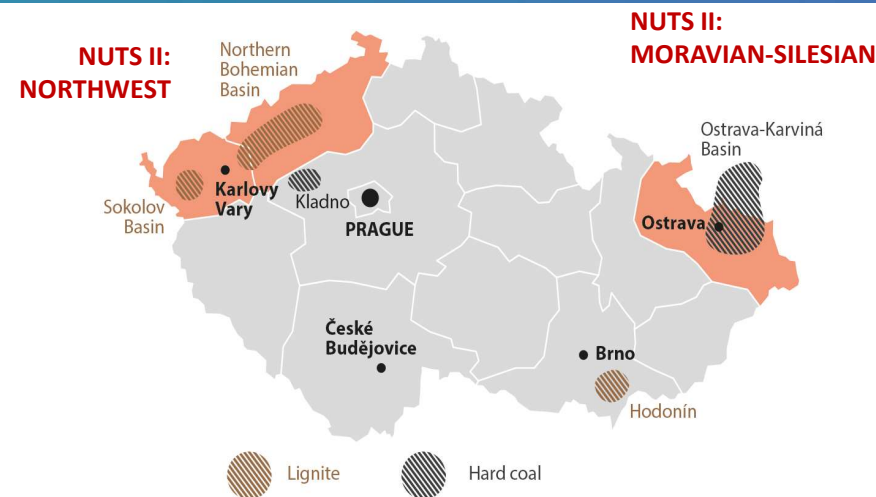
examples of proposed types of measures



- **Regeneration of specific brownfields**
  - » Large areas of different background (industrial, transport, ...)
  - » Creation of new programs for regeneration of specific brownfields
  - » Development of new activities in regenerated areas
- **Specific research and innovation support**
  - » Development of research capacities
  - » Support of innovation potential growth
  - » Reaching applicable outcomes



# RE:START Strategy - Challenges



## Economic

- economically lagging behind other CZ regions (KVR + UR)
- the highest unemployment rate
- lack of qualified people
- sectors affected by transition

## Social

- brain drain
- depopulation (KVR + MSR)
- socially excluded localities
- Unfavourable educational structure of the population
- low regional image and regional identity

## Environmental

- Large post-mining areas
- Old environmental burdens
- Air pollution problems

# RE:START Strategy

**2014** – coal regions asked for government support to help strengthen their economies in the face of declining coal production.

**2017** - The **RE:START Strategic Framework** (updated in 2020) – type measures that reflect needs and challenges.

**2018 – Action plans**  
(2019, 2020, from 2021 two year period of AP)

**2015-2016** – regional analysis of the situation in coal regions (challenges and needs).

- Action plan – contains **measures** that are going to be implemented.
- Strategy has no its own financial resource -> tool for government support from existing resources.
- EU funds –special treatment for coal regions within selected OPs („extra points/bonuses in assesment“)
- Reallocation in favour of the coal regions in the last programming period (low emission public transport).
- Restart team – initiator of national subsidy programs (e.g. on brownfields)
- Just Transition Mechanism -> JTF -> New OP JT. (MoE) – new specific fin. resource for support of coal regions with their coal phase-out.

# Economically and socially vulnerable areas (ESVA)

examples of proposed types of measures



- **Support of small business and small and medium enterprises**
  - » Support of small business and small and medium enterprises contributing to creation of stable local jobs



- **Ensuring basic public services**
  - » Support of public services (elementary schools, social services, health care) and alternative tools such as mobile public and commercial services (shops)





**SRR21+**

strategie regionálního rozvoje 2021+

#prolepšíregiony

# Systemic ESVA coordination

- Help ESVA through activities targeted at **challenges** and **solution of long-term problems**
- Functional communication nastavít komunikaci and getting a real feedback from particular territories
- AP RDS 2021–2022 activities fulfilment and information for creation of subsequent APs



Information



Activation



Evaluation

## Timetable

**1**  
Oct – Dec 21

### Contacts acquisition and knowledge of territ.

- Transfer of information from national level
- AP RDS fulfilment, SDR, use of EU funds programmes
- Identification of problems and potentials, „desk research“

**2**  
Jan – Mar 22

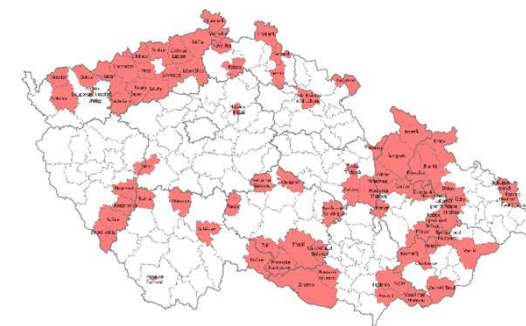
### Proposal of solution and formulation of needs

- Communication with stakeholder (verification of findings)
- Transfer of information / demands on the national level
- Promotion of good / bad practice

**3**  
Apr – Jun 22

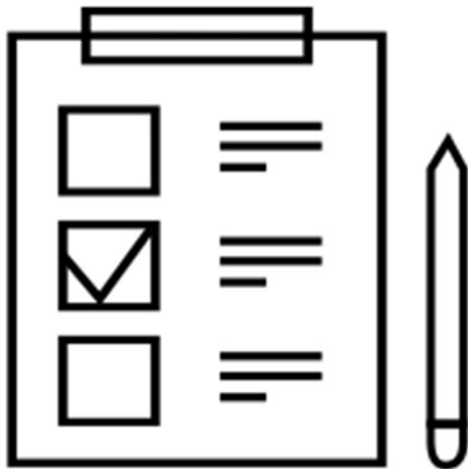
### Creation of a relevant tool

- Active involvement in AP RDS 23–24
- Discussion of proposed solutions on national level



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## Existing tools for ESVA + ones under construction



Investment incentives for firms and entrepreneurs

Respect to ESVA needs in current support tools (Cohesion Policy programmes, MoRD support, SFIS)

RDS21+ / AP RDS21+ / TDOP

Workshop EWRC 2021 + 2022

A special national support to ESVA

Government regulation No. 560 for programme financing (consideration of territorial dimension in national ministerial support, authors: MoF + MoRD)

Research Building of innovative environment in ESVA (ESPON)

CZ PRES

# Public administration in regional development

examples of proposed types of measures



- **Positive motivation for joint strategic planning**

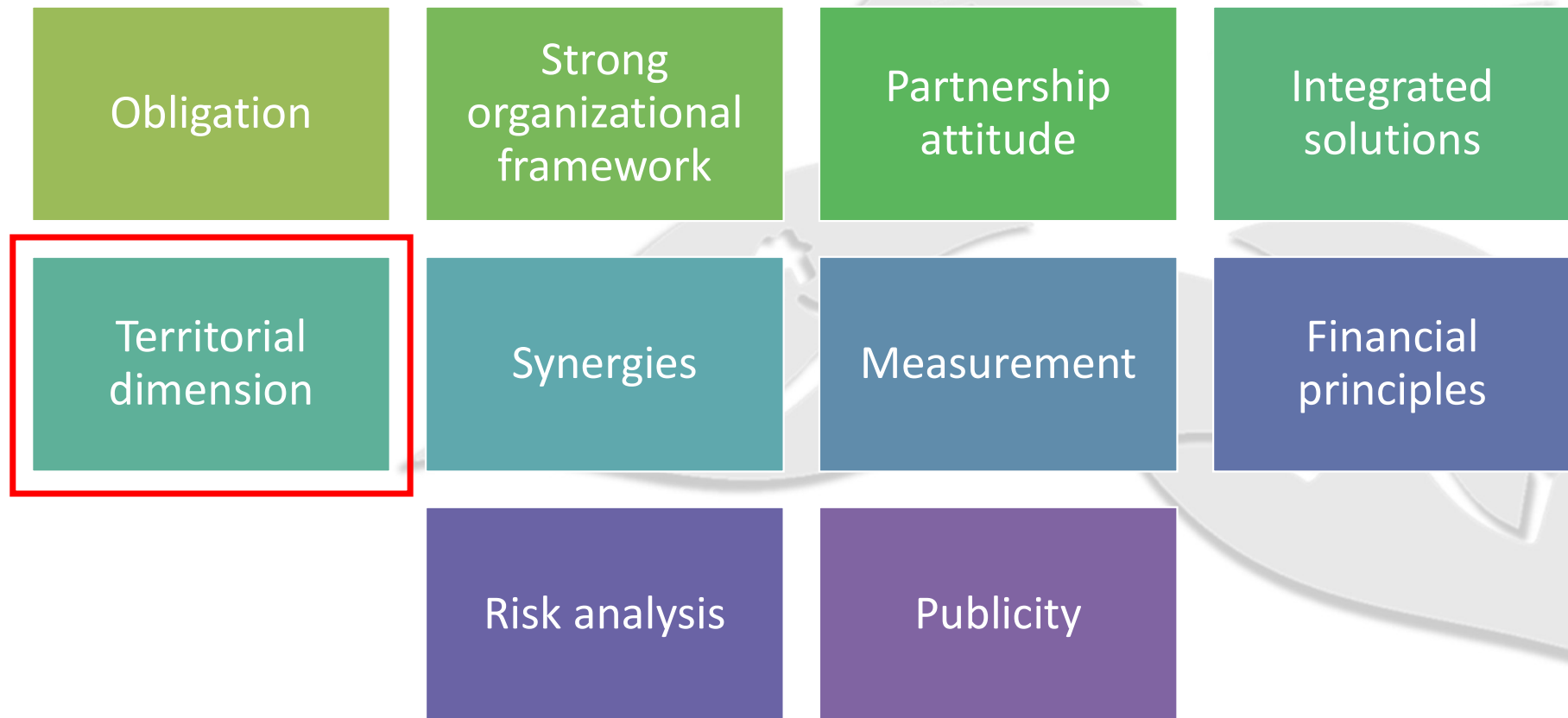
- » Creating of tools to motivate municipalities for joint strategic and territorial (land-use) planning and municipal cooperation



- **Cross-border cooperation in public administration**

- » Cooperation among national, regional, and municipal authorities and local initiatives
- » Stabilization and development of established structures of cooperation

# Implementation principles





# Thank you for your attention



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