

# List of Projects

## Ambre Maucorps

### **Carbon Intensive Regions in Transition - Unravelling the Challenges of Structural Change (CINTRAN)**

*European Commission, Horizon 2020*

*May 2020 - April 2024*

In order to meet the climate change mitigation objectives of the European Union as well as the objectives of the Paris Agreement, it is inevitable that the European Union phases out fossil fuel consumption in the power sector and decarbonizes fossil-fuel dependent industries. However, if not managed well, such a structural change may cause serious economic impacts, societal upheaval, aggravated social inequalities and hardship. To minimize such consequences it is necessary to better understand the patterns and dynamics of structural change in response to decarbonization at the regional level, to understand which parameters determine the pace of transformation as well as the capacity of regional actors to adapt and pro-actively create alternative structures. This project aims to enable these activities through highly integrated, inter- and transdisciplinary research working in close collaboration with regional stakeholders. It combines quantitative model-based research with qualitative in-depth analysis. The qualitative research will focus on four highly fossil-fuel dependent regions: Western Macedonia (Greece), Silesia (Poland), Ida-Virumaa (Estonia) and the Rhenish mining area (Germany). The diversity of these regions will enable the project to derive generalizable insights about the patterns and dynamics of decarbonization and the corresponding structural adjustments that hold relevance for all carbon-intensive regions in the EU and its neighbouring countries.

### **Impact Evaluation of the Interreg Central Europe Programme**

*Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE*

*September 2020 - March 2023*

The Interreg Central Europe Programme is one of the 15 transnational programmes established in the framework of the EU Cohesion Policy for the programming period 2014-2020. It promotes regional cooperation among nine central European countries, with the aim to develop smart solutions to regional challenges. The underlying impact evaluation assesses the effects of the Interreg Central Europe programme implementation by following a theory-based approach. It concentrates on the immediate outcomes, results and the changes achieved by the programme and its projects in the fields of innovation, low-carbon economy, environment, culture and transport. In particular, the evaluation aims to answer three guiding research questions: - What change can be observed in relation to the objectives of the programme? - To what extent can the observed changes be attributed to the implementation of the programme? - What mechanisms of programme implementation have delivered the observed impact?

### **Effects, opportunity costs and spillovers of EU Cohesion Policy**

*Anniversary Fund of the Oesterreichische Nationalbank*

*September 2018 - June 2020*

This project aimed at contributing to the discussion on the future, post-2020 EU Cohesion Policy (CP). In the past, CP has been the main tool to promote growth and convergence across the EU, thus having positive direct effects on the net recipient countries and also indirect ones on the net payer countries. Still, there is a never-ending debate on the rationale of CP, partly in favour of it, partly doubting its usefulness. The 2021-2027 EU budget funds to be expected will likely become scarcer, not only because of the Brexit but also because of the emergence of new priorities such as migration and security. In respect of these forthcoming challenges the debate on the effects, opportunity costs and spillovers of CP becomes fundamental. A quantitative estimation permits a more balanced assessment of the costs and benefits of CP for net paying Member States (MS) and a broader view of CP support to EU growth in general. Against this background the project aimed to: a) estimate the effects of CP on regional GDP

growth; b) analyse the opportunity costs of CP investments (by investment priorities and geographical distribution); c) analyse the macroeconomic spillovers of CP investments in one country on the development in other EU MS; and d) analyse these spillovers at the regional level.