

BORGERPROJEKTFOND **BÜRGERPROJEKTEFONDS**

The Danish-German People-to-People Project Fund

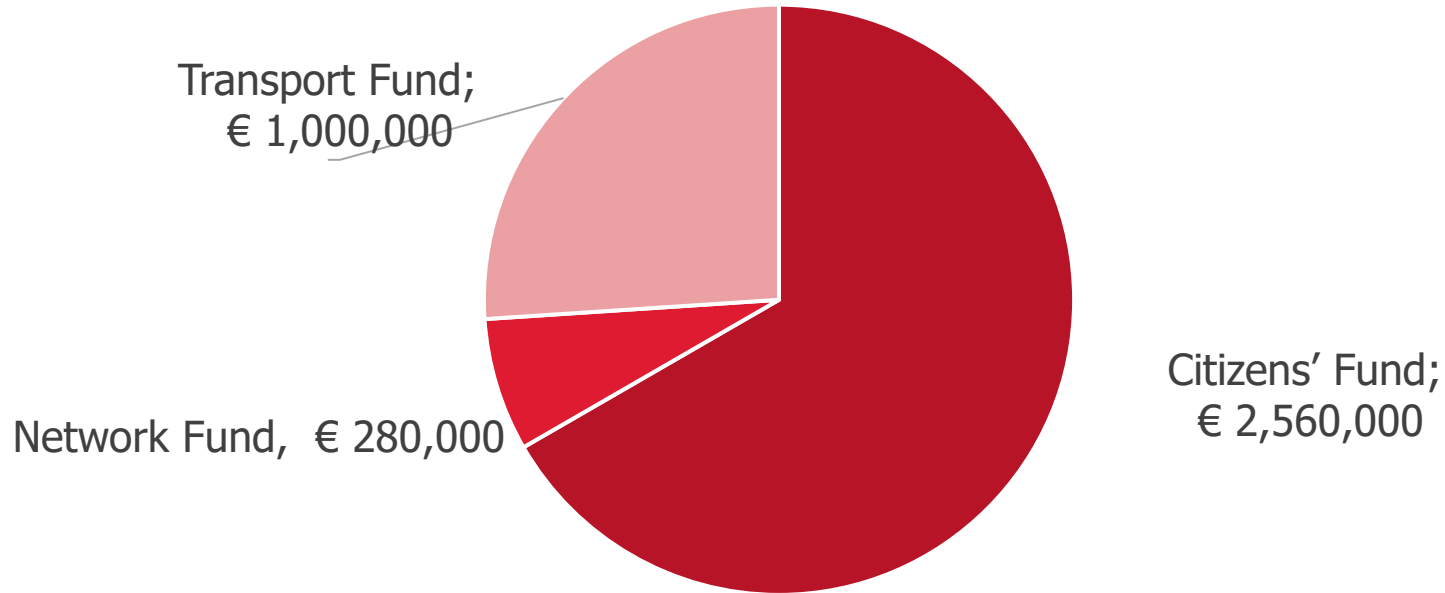
Julia Bick • Regionskontor & Infocenter • 01 December 2025

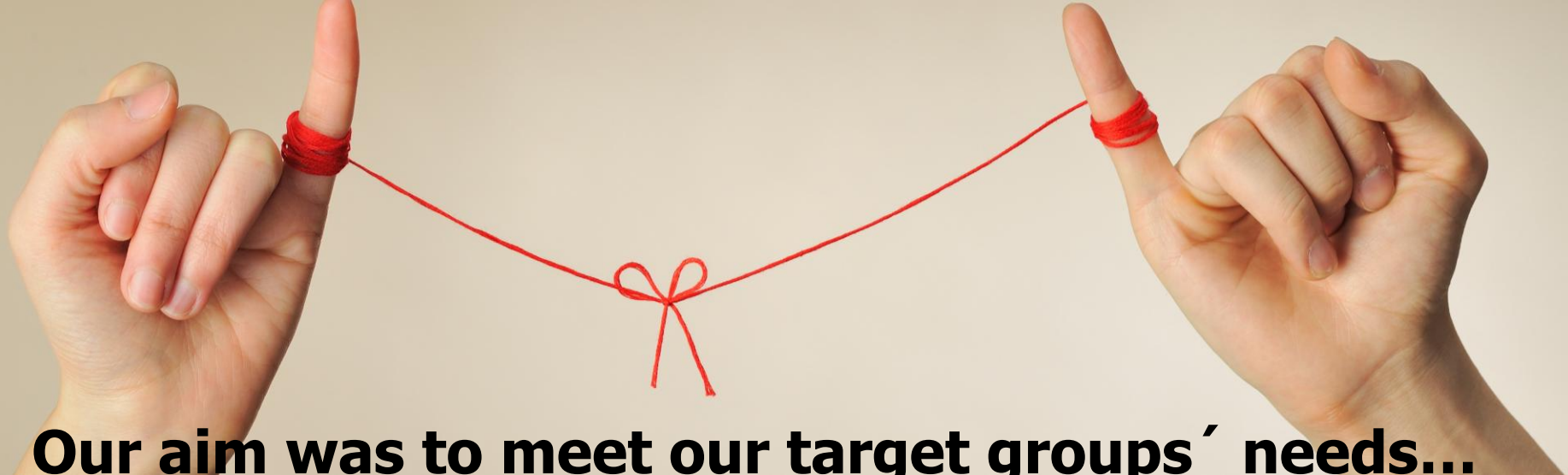
Why?

- Building trust through people-to-people action
- Mobilizing civil society and newcomers
- Highlighting the everyday benefits of living in a border region
- Strengthening connections between neighbours



With a total funding budget of € 3.84 million from 2023 to 2029, the fund is divided into three streams.





Our aim was to meet our target groups' needs...

- Small and/or new players require a specific type of projects
- Simple rules – small actors don't read handbooks
- As little paperwork as possible
- Specific SCO's
- Short timeframe – no lengthy application process
- Consider varying geographical conditions (land and maritime borders)

The Citizens' Fund

- Small-scale projects involving Danish and German citizens
- Projects up to € 100,000
- 10% co-financing requirement, which can include volunteer hours or staff time
- Draft budget -> lumpsum
- Monthly grant approval sessions for grants under € 25.000 and 2 annual calls for grants over € 25.000





How did it work out so far?



What went well

- High demand: 63 projects, 72 % of the funding allocated
- Many new players
- Applicants appreciate the simplified reporting process and the use of SCO's

Challenges/Regrets

- Small project $\neq$ small workload
- Quality assessment of draft budgets requires still too many resources
- The administrative budget leaves little room for outreach activities: parts of the program area are still underrepresented
- The maximum project budget is set too high

Transport Fund

Children and young people up to 26 years old:

1. Meetings between children and young people across the border – application with a partner institution
2. Trips to the neighbouring country – application without a partner, focusing on conveying the neighbouring country's culture, nature, society, and language





- Limited to certain cost categories: transport, accommodation, activities
- Flat rates vary according to kilometers traveled and group size
- Simple application form
- Monthly grant approval sessions



How did it work out so far?



What went well

- High demand: 400 projects, 59 % of the funding allocated
- Many new players
- Almost 17.000 children participated in crossborder activities
- Applicants appreciate the simple application process

Challenges/Regrets

- Almost none — the Transport Fund is a real success story
- But again: the administrative budget leaves little room for outreach activities – parts of the program area are still underrepresented

Network Fund

Fosters collaboration between adult groups such as clubs and associations:

- New Danish-German networks
- First cross-border experience exchange
- Planning meeting for citizen fund applications





- Limited to certain cost categories: transport, accommodation, meeting costs, and interpreters
- Unit costs
- Simple application form
- Monthly grant approval sessions



How did it work out so far?



What went well

- Medium demand: 33 cross-border exchanges and network meetings, 17 % of the funding allocated (*delayed start, fund opened in 2024*)
- Many new players
- Applicants appreciate the simple application process
- Helps to balance geographical differences: higher demand in the eastern program area, where the Fehmarn Belt must be crossed in order to meet

Challenges/Regrets

- Again, again: the administrative budget leaves little room for outreach activities – parts of the program area are still underrepresented

Interreg



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For more information:

<https://www.interreg-de-dk.eu/wir-foerdern/buergerprojektfonds/>

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