

ESPON



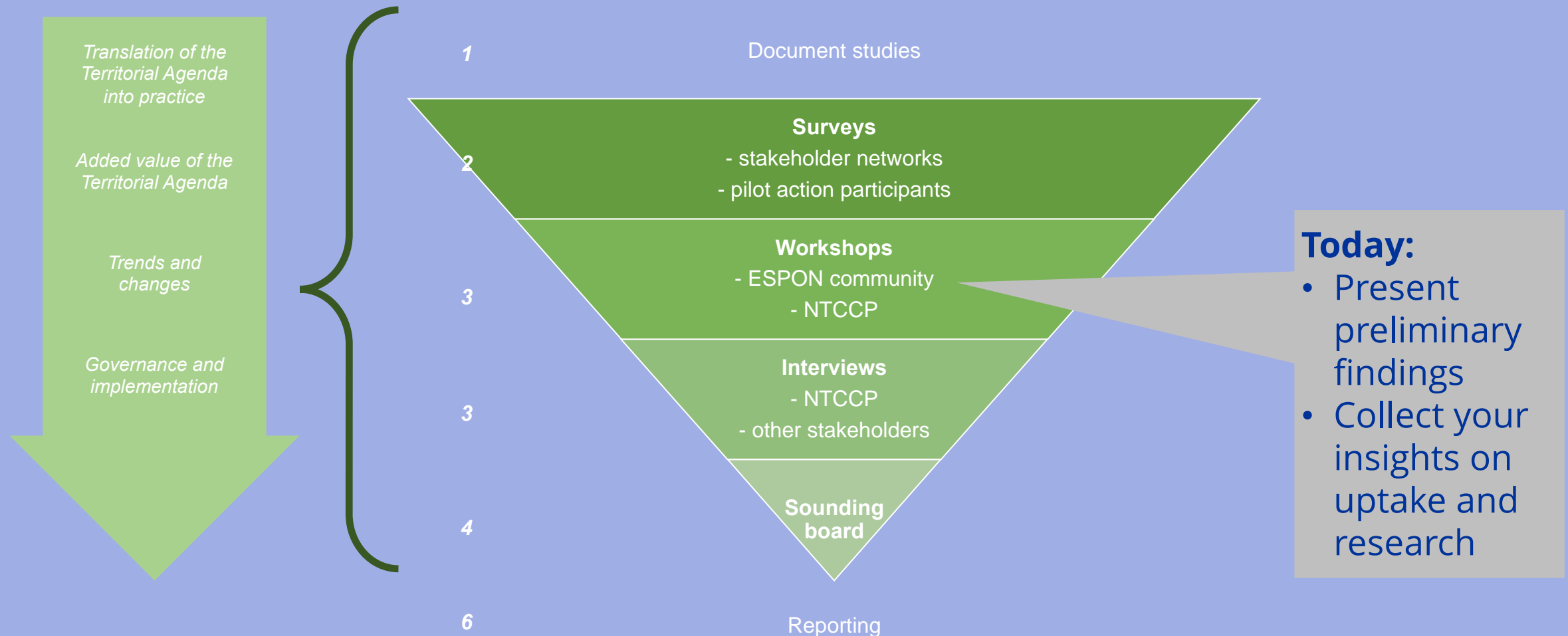
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Interreg

Stocktaking Review of the Territorial Agenda 2030

Preliminary findings

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Aim of review and meeting



Territorial Agenda 2030

Principles

Place-based approaches

- TIA
- ITI, CLLD / LEADER
- PO5
- Regional & local specificities

Stakeholder involvement

- Cross-sector
- Cross-level
- Cross-borders
- Stakeholder capacities

Priorities

A just Europe

- Balanced Europe
- Functional regions
- Integration beyond borders

A green Europe

- Healthy environment
- Circular economy
- Sustainable connections

What do research documents say?

Who?

- 37 screened publications, mainly from Portugal, Germany, Poland
- 9 with a genuine focus on the TA2030
- Mostly in field of territorial cohesion, but also some others

What?

- 14 papers address 'just' and 7 'green' priorities
- Spatial imbalances. The TA2030 has managed to reformulate it into the catchier concept of "spatial justice" or "socio-territorial cohesion" by bringing together places and societal groups.
- 22 papers on governance: more attention to TA2030 implementation

What do research documents say?

Barriers to implementation (11 papers)

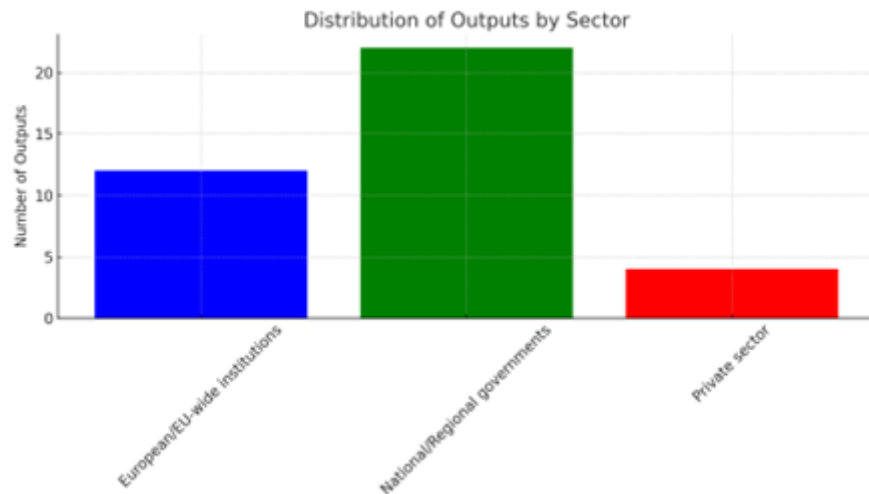
- Very general/imprecise nature of the key concepts
- Weak governance arrangements
- No proper financial instrument
- Limited funding for research

Still: potential to become a policy game-changer

What do **policy documents** say?

Top-down and bottom-up approach – work in progress.

From 30 to 38 thanks to survey respondents



- Most from Czech Republic, Romania, Sweden

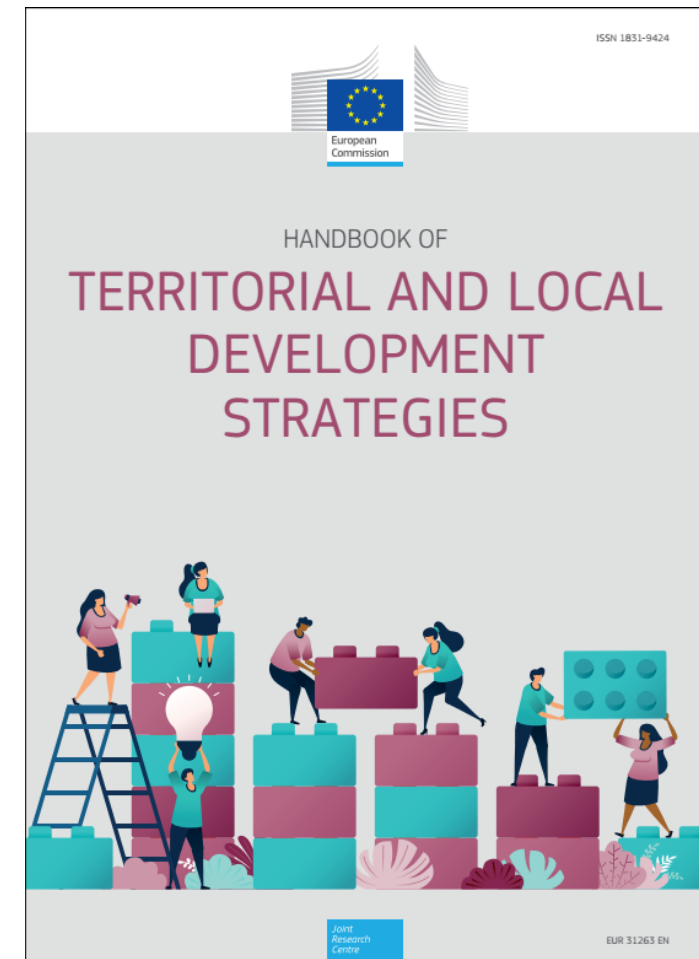
What policy fields?

- Rural development
- Partnership Agreements and regional development programmes
- Interreg Programmes and Strategies
- Urban and spatial planning policy

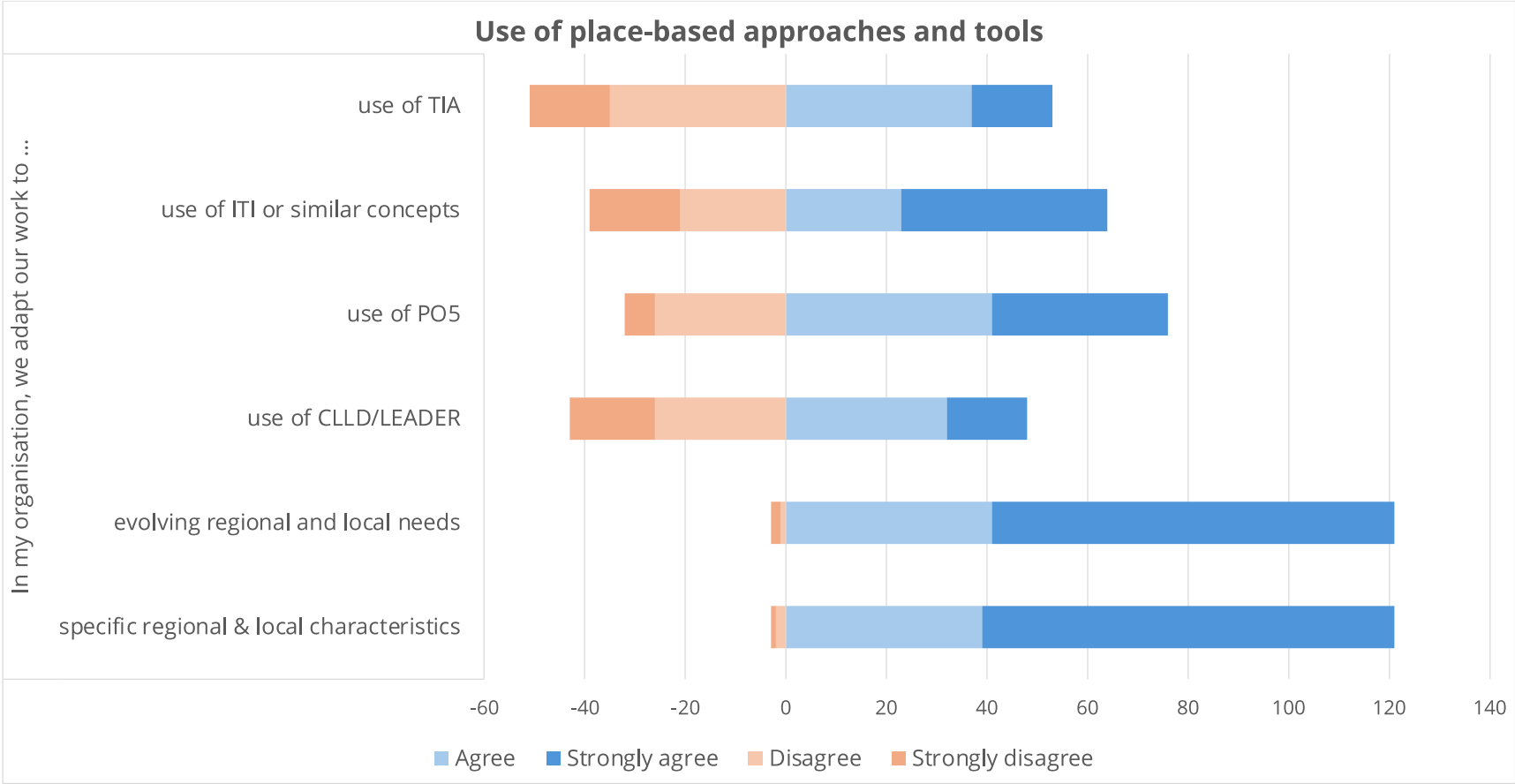
What do **policy documents** say?

How?

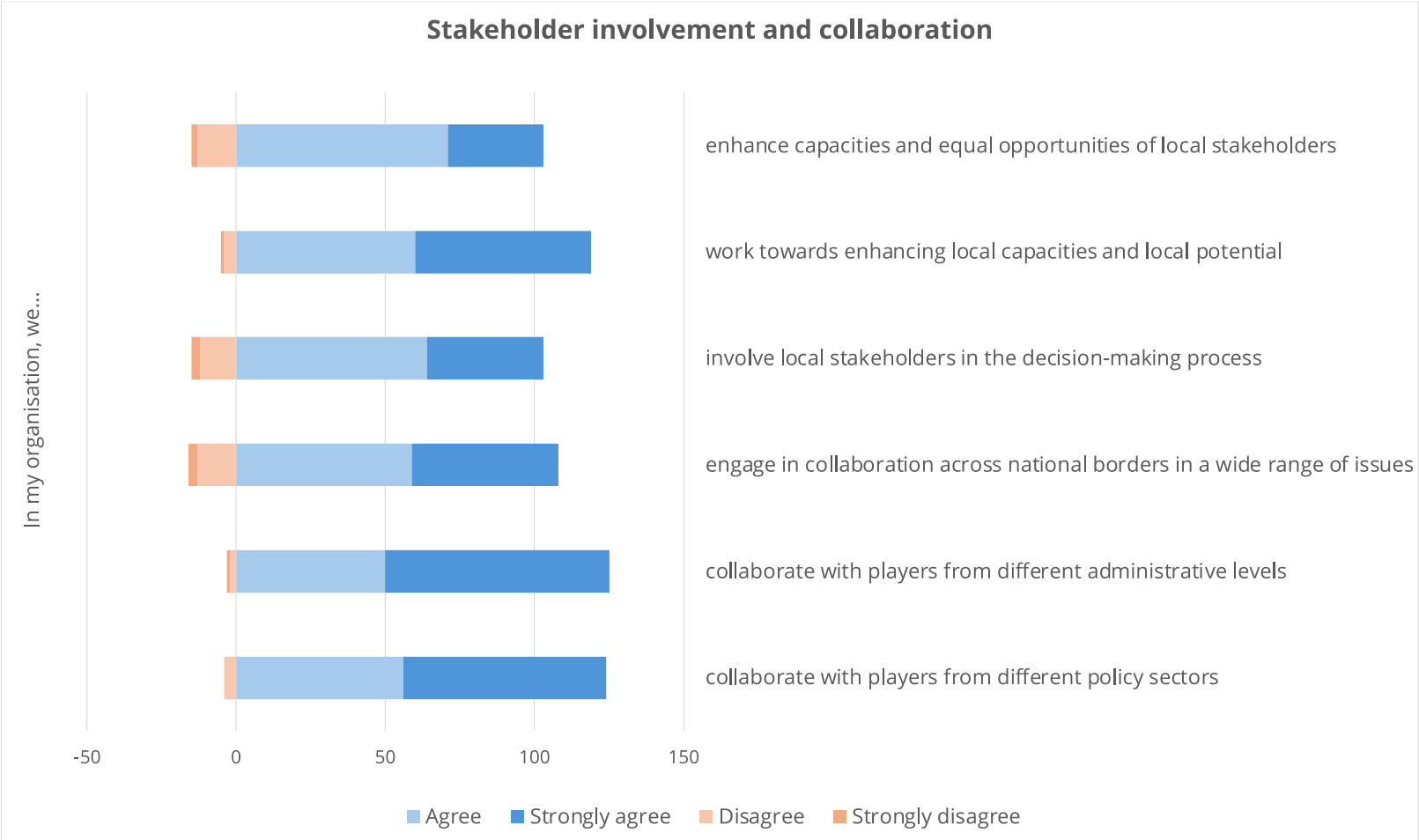
- Vast majority as a reference
- Topics: territorial dimension of sectoral policies, TIA, place-based approach, multi-level governance framework, strategic orientations for territorial development, pilot actions
- Guidance documents from JRC and Interact actively promote its application
- The European Parliament resolution advocates an inclusion of the TA2030 priorities in the future Cohesion Policy.



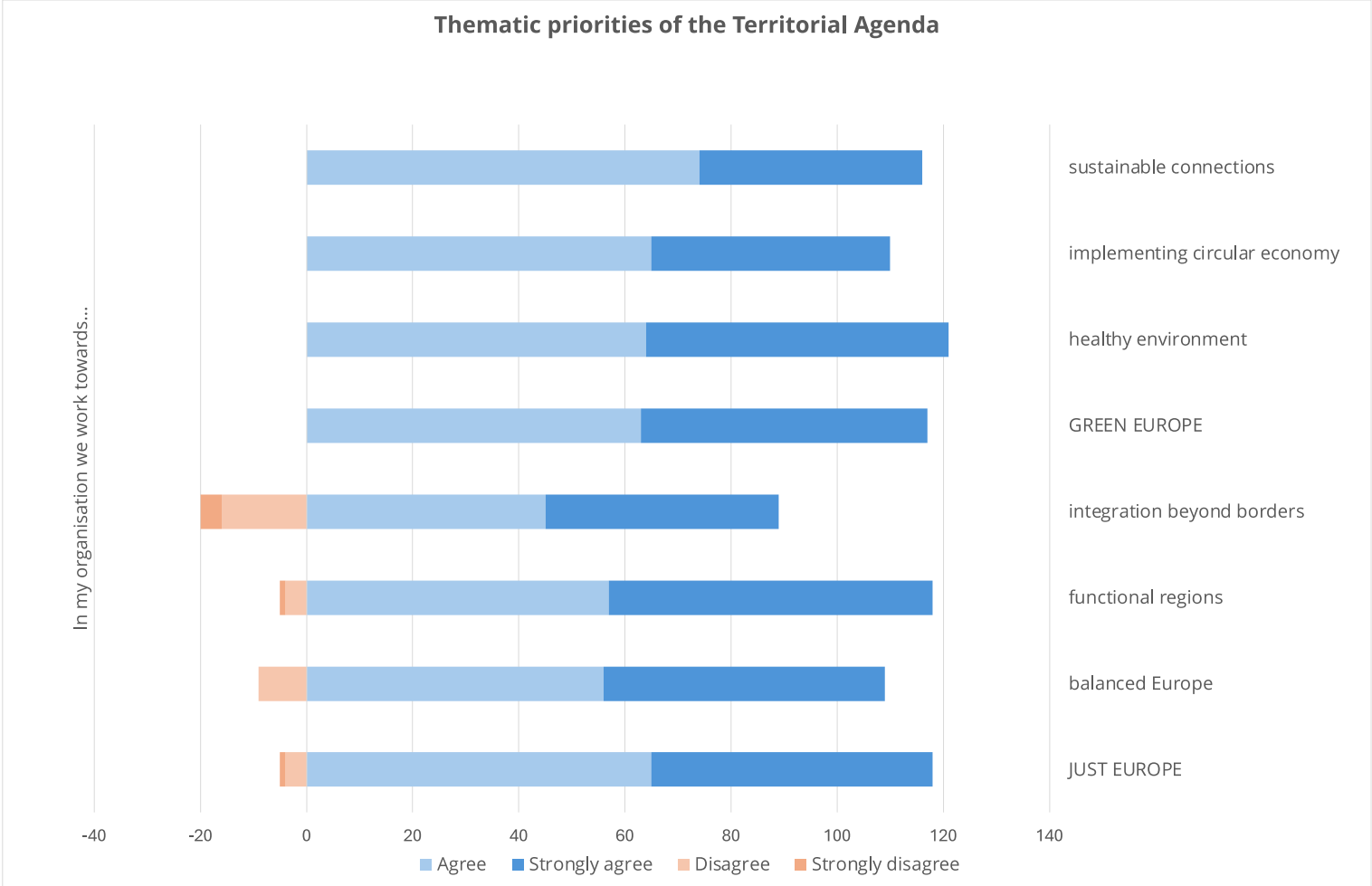
Survey: What do **survey respondents** say?



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Towards preliminary conclusions

So far, the review points to some preliminary conclusions:

- Crucial question: What if there were no Territorial Agenda?
- Territorial Agenda is also a learning process for the ministries in charge.
- No one size fits all solutions - territorial, administrative and governance diversities.
- A lot of implicit / invisible application of the Territorial Agenda (principles & priorities).
- Question of funding, i.e. not dedicated funding for the Territorial Agenda application.

Food for thought

So far, the review points to some preliminary recommendations

- Focus on principles which are stable for a long time, rather than short term policy aims.
- Improve communication and stakeholder understanding.
- Leverage existing initiatives, develop joint pilot projects, and strengthen multi-level governance.
- Need for more transformative & visible actions.
- Advocate EU White Paper on Territorial Cohesion.
- Develop topical addendums to the Territorial Agenda 2030 to address current affairs and development.
- Advocate a strengthening of the place-based approach in Cohesion Policy, incl. TIAs of programmes.
- Advocate cost-benefit analysis of place-based approaches in sector policies.
- Advocate an analysis of barriers to Territorial Agenda application by types of places.

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Thank you!

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#TerritorialAgenda
A future for all places