

D.2.2.1 PEER REVIEW FINAL EVALUATION REPORT

Evaluation of three pilot governance tools and mechanisms
for scale-up

OUT4INGOV | WP2 Experimental pilot mechanisms/tool for
governance | Activity 2.2 Peer evaluation of pilot actions

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Table of contents

Table of contents.....	2
List of Tables.....	3
Document ID.....	4
Sources reviewed.....	5
1. Executive summary.....	6
1.1 Key messages.....	6
2. Purpose, scope and method.....	7
2.1 Purpose of the deliverable.....	7
2.2 Evaluation scope.....	7
2.3 Methodological note.....	7
3. Reference to pilot actions.....	8
3.1 Maribor pilot: Youth Consultative Body.....	8
3.2 Cembra Valley pilot: Cooperation Group - Casting the Net.....	8
3.3 Vesoul pilot: Permanent Observatory of Youth Migration.....	9
4. Consolidated findings from the peer review process.....	9
4.1 Overall relevance to OUT4INGOV objectives.....	9
4.2 Governance effectiveness.....	10
4.3 Stakeholder engagement and inclusiveness.....	10
4.4 Institutional responsiveness and anchoring.....	10
4.5 Innovation and added value.....	11
4.6 Main common bottlenecks.....	11
5. Pilot-by-pilot evaluation results.....	12
5.1 Maribor Youth Consultative Body.....	12
5.2 Cembra Valley Cooperation Group - Casting the Net.....	12

5.3 Vesoul Permanent Observatory of Youth Migration.....	13
6. Comparative maturity and readiness for scale-up.....	14
6.1 Interpretation of maturity levels.....	14
7. How the governance tools and mechanisms can be scaled up.....	15
7.1 Scale-up pathway 1: Local replication.....	15
7.2 Scale-up pathway 2: Regional scale-up.....	15
7.3 Scale-up pathway 3: Transnational transfer.....	16
7.4 Preconditions for scale-up.....	16
7.5 Minimum viable governance packages.....	17
8. Recommendations for the next implementation and transfer phase.....	17
8.1 Recommendations for pilot holders.....	17
8.2 Recommendations for the partnership and Lead Partner.....	18
8.3 Pilot-specific next steps.....	19
9. Conclusions.....	19
Annex 1. Comparative scale-up matrix.....	21
Annex 2. Consolidated Peer Reports.....	22

List of Tables

<u>Table 1: Youth Consultative Body Dimensions and Evaluation Results.....</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Table 2: Cembra Valley Cooperation Group – Casting the Net.....</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>Table 3: Youth Observatory Dimensions and Evaluation Results.....</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>Table 4: Comparative table of 3 instruments.....</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>Table 5: Preconditions for scale-up.....</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>Table 6: Minimum viable governance packages.....</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>Table 7: Pilot specific next steps.....</u>	<u>19</u>

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Sources reviewed

Pilot	Consolidated peer review source	Main information used
Maribor, Slovenia	Consolidated Peer Review Report - Youth Consultative Body	Pilot information, strengths, bottlenecks, transfer opportunities and maturity assessment.
Cembra Valley, Italy	Consolidated Peer Review Report - Cembra Valley Cooperation Group - Casting the Net	Pilot information, narrative/network approach, institutional engagement, bottlenecks and scale-up routes.
Vesoul Urban Community, France	Consolidated Peer Review Report - Permanent Observatory of Youth Migration	Pilot information, observatory logic, data limitations, stakeholder needs, transfer routes and maturity assessment.

1. Executive summary

This deliverable presents the final peer review evaluation of three OUT4INGOV pilot governance tools: the Youth Consultative Body in Maribor, the Cembra Valley Cooperation Group - Casting the Net, and the Permanent Observatory of Youth Migration in Vesoul. It consolidates the results of the peer review process and translates them into a cross-pilot assessment of relevance, innovation, governance effectiveness, institutional anchoring, stakeholder engagement, transferability and scale-up potential.

The three pilots address the same broad challenge - youth out-migration, territorial attractiveness and youth participation in Alpine and non-metropolitan territories - through three different governance mechanisms. Maribor tested a direct participatory governance mechanism that gives young people a structured route to formulate proposals and interact with local institutions. Cembra Valley tested an transnational-territorial youth network that connects local and expatriate young people through narrative, biographical and informal digital formats. Vesoul tested a knowledge-based governance mechanism through a local observatory combining statistical evidence, qualitative research and policy dialogue.

The peer review confirms that all three pilots moved beyond isolated experimentation. Each developed a recognizable governance method, produced useful early results and generated lessons that can be transferred to other territories. However, the pilots are at different levels of maturity. Maribor shows the strongest readiness for methodological transfer because its modular toolkit, role-play and proposal design process can be replicated with limited institutional infrastructure. Cembra Valley and Vesoul are both in consolidation: their concepts are validated, but both still need stronger operational sustainability before full-scale replication.

The main cross-pilot conclusion is that governance tools can be scaled up when they are treated not as fixed models to be copied, but as adaptable governance packages. Each package needs a clear institutional owner, a defined role for youth, a feedback loop with decision-makers, minimum human resources, a simple and realistic toolset, and a mechanism for maintaining motivation after the project period.

1.1 Key messages

- Youth governance mechanisms need formal response channels. Without documented feedback from public authorities, participation can become symbolic and demotivating.

- Low-cost and informal tools can be effective, but only if their long-term governance function is clear and if facilitation gradually moves towards youth self-management.
- Evidence-based governance tools require more than data collection. They must produce accessible policy briefs, visual summaries and regular dialogue moments where findings are discussed and translated into decisions.
- Transferability is strongest at methodological level. The core logic of each pilot can be transferred, while legal structures, data systems, territorial scale and stakeholder constellations must be adapted locally.
- The three pilots together form a complementary youth governance toolbox: representation and proposal-making, community/network building, and evidence-informed policy support.

2. Purpose, scope and method

2.1 Purpose of the deliverable

The purpose of Deliverable D.2.2.1 is to summarise the results related to the three pilot actions and to show how the governance tools and mechanisms tested within OUT4INGOV can be scaled up. The document is based on the consolidated peer review reports prepared after the study visits and peer evaluation processes. It does not replace the individual pilot reports. Instead, it draws out common findings, transferable elements and strategic recommendations for further development.

2.2 Evaluation scope

The evaluation covers three pilot actions implemented in different territorial and institutional contexts: Maribor in Slovenia, Cembra Valley in Italy, and Vesoul Urban Community in France. The report focuses on governance relevance, process quality, innovation, stakeholder engagement, institutional responsiveness, risks, maturity and transferability. Particular attention is given to scale-up potential because the deliverable must demonstrate how the tested mechanisms can be reused, adapted or expanded beyond the original pilot territories.

2.3 Methodological note

The report uses a qualitative synthesis method. Findings from the three consolidated peer review reports were compared across common dimensions: relevance to project objectives, governance effectiveness, inclusiveness, early outputs, institutional uptake, challenges, recommendations and opportunities for transfer. The synthesis identifies both pilot-specific recommendations and cross-cutting lessons for the OUT4INGOV partnership.

The evaluation applies a practical understanding of scale-up. Scaling-up does not mean

copying a pilot exactly from one territory to another. It means identifying the transferable governance logic, defining the minimum conditions for implementation, adapting the model to the target context and ensuring that the mechanism can be sustained after the project period.

3. Reference to pilot actions

This section provides a short reference description of each pilot. It explains what the pilot is about before presenting the consolidated evaluation findings.

3.1 Maribor pilot: Youth Consultative Body

The Maribor pilot tested a Youth Consultative Body as a structured mechanism for youth participation in local governance, with a specific focus on youth migration, return migration, and the inclusion of young people with different migration experiences. The pilot was implemented in Maribor, Slovenia, by the Regional Development Agency for Podravje - Maribor. Its core purpose was to bridge the gap between young people and local institutions by creating a facilitated space where young participants, including those who had emigrated from Maribor, returned to the city, or recently moved there, could express their needs, identify priorities, learn how municipal decision-making works, and prepare concrete proposals. In this way, the Youth Consultative Body also served as a tool to support the Municipality in better understanding youth migration dynamics and improving local policies related to youth retention, return, inclusion, and participation.

The pilot followed a modular three-step methodology: priority mapping, advocacy training and proposal design. Within a short implementation period, the group produced a formal participatory budgeting proposal submitted to the Municipality. Peer reviewers highlighted the meaningful inclusivity of the process, including NEET youth, students and migrants, and the shift from general ideas to pragmatic, budget-feasible advocacy. The pilot also developed a ready-to-use open-source toolkit, including facilitation scripts and monitoring sheets, which makes it particularly relevant for transfer.

The main governance risk is that the body remains consultative only. Without a municipal decree, formal feedback loops and a predictable response from public authorities, youth engagement may become symbolic and motivation may decline.

3.2 Cembra Valley pilot: Cooperation Group - Casting the Net

The Cembra Valley pilot tested the Cembra Valley Cooperation Group - Casting the Net in Val di Cembra, Province of Trento, Italy, under the responsibility of the Autonomous Province of Trento. The pilot aims to connect young people living in the valley with young people who have left or are internationally mobile. It therefore works as an ultra-territorial governance and community mechanism, keeping youth connected to the territory regardless of their current place of residence.

The pilot uses life stories, biographical exchanges, podcasts, digital aperitifs and

lightweight communication tools such as WhatsApp. Its innovation lies in transforming youth migration from a purely technical or statistical issue into a shared emotional and narrative dialogue about leaving, staying, returning and belonging. Local institutions are strongly interested in the results and the network is seen as a potential sounding board for local authorities.

The main challenge is sustainability. The network still depends heavily on external facilitation and has not yet become self-activating. Participation is discontinuous and concentrated in a small core group. A clearer institutional function is also needed: the group must decide whether it is primarily a peer-to-peer support network or a structured channel for institutional co-governance.

3.3 Vesoul pilot: Permanent Observatory of Youth Migration

The Vesoul pilot tested the Permanent Observatory of Youth Migration in the Vesoul Urban Community, Bourgogne-Franche-Comte, France, under the responsibility of Communauté d'Agglomération de Vesoul. The observatory is designed as a knowledge-based governance mechanism that collects, analyses and disseminates evidence on youth mobility trajectories, with a focus on young people aged 15-35.

The pilot combines statistical and documentary review, mapping of available data sources, qualitative interviews, focus groups and expert input. Its added value lies in creating local territorial knowledge where national statistics are too aggregated to fully support local policymaking. The observatory aims to help local authorities understand why young people leave, stay, arrive or return, and how these trajectories relate to higher education, employment, housing, mobility, quality of life and territorial attractiveness.

The main limitation is access to local-level, disaggregated and longitudinal migration flow data. The observatory is methodologically strong, but its operational effectiveness depends on formal anchoring within CAV, formal structure of the observatory needs to be better defined, in particular who manages the observatory (the Municipality of Vesoul), who is responsible for data processing, who will validate the final analyses, which stakeholders will be involved, data partnerships, a dedicated coordinator, a realistic annual work programme and regular translation of findings into policy outputs.

4. Consolidated findings from the peer review process

4.1 Overall relevance to OUT4INGOV objectives

All three pilots are strongly relevant to the OUT4INGOV objective of improving governance responses to youth migration, territorial attractiveness and youth participation in Alpine and non-metropolitan territories. They respond to the same structural challenge from different angles: direct participation, territorial belonging and evidence-informed policy support.

Maribor demonstrates how young people can be brought into local decision-making through a structured proposal pathway. Cembra Valley demonstrates how territories can maintain relationships with young people who leave or move internationally. Vesoul demonstrates how a local authority can build an evidence base to better understand youth mobility and inform policy in order to develop new policy for youth migration. Together, these pilots show that youth out-migration is not only a demographic issue but also a governance issue requiring participatory, relational and analytical responses.

4.2 Governance effectiveness

The pilots show different forms of governance effectiveness. Maribor is effective because it produced a concrete participatory budgeting proposal within a short timeframe. Cembra Valley is effective because it created an accessible relational infrastructure between local and expatriate youth and therein is a close connection and interest of all the 7 municipalities of Cembra Valley for future development. Vesoul is effective because it developed a structured methodology for gathering and interpreting youth mobility evidence.

At the same time, peer reviewers identified a shared concern: **effectiveness depends on whether the mechanism is connected to real institutional action.** A consultative body must receive formal responses. A youth network must know how its feedback reaches municipalities. An observatory must translate data into policy briefs, meetings and decisions. The key evaluation lesson is that governance tools become effective only when participation, dialogue or knowledge production are linked to a defined decision pathway.

4.3 Stakeholder engagement and inclusiveness

The three pilots generated meaningful engagement, but all need broader or more stable participation. Maribor reached a diverse group, including young people who are often less represented in formal participation channels. However, the regular group remained relatively small. Cembra Valley connected local and expatriate youth, but participation remained discontinuous and gender balance requires improvement. Vesoul involved institutions, researchers and young people, but future work should further include vocational students, early-career workers, lower-qualified profiles, commuters, returners and less engaged youth.

The peer review therefore points to a common requirement for future implementation: outreach strategies must move beyond already active youth groups. Pilots should combine open invitations with targeted recruitment through schools, vocational training, youth organisations, employment services, migrant networks, local associations and informal youth spaces.

4.4 Institutional responsiveness and anchoring

Institutional responsiveness is one of the most decisive conditions for sustainability.

Maribor requires adoption of the municipal decree and formal written responses to youth proposals. Cembra Valley requires a clearer structured relationship with local governance, preferably through existing youth policy frameworks such as Piani Giovani di Zona. Vesoul requires formal CAV ownership, a dedicated coordinator, a steering/scientific committee and data partnerships.

The consolidated finding is that institutional anchoring should not be postponed to the end of the pilot. It must be built into the mechanism from the start through mandates, responsibilities, response timelines, small budgets, regular meetings and named contact persons. Otherwise, the pilots risk remaining successful temporary project activities rather than durable governance mechanisms.

4.5 Innovation and added value

The innovation of the pilots lies less in creating entirely new institutions and more in changing how young people, knowledge and territories are connected. Maribor's innovation is a modular and practical pathway from youth priorities to budget-feasible proposals. Cembra Valley's innovation is the ultra-territorial model, where young people who leave remain active contributors to territorial development. Vesoul's innovation is the combination of limited statistical data with qualitative interpretation and structured territorial dialogue.

The added value of OUT4INGOV is therefore the creation of a multi-method governance toolbox. Each pilot fills a different governance gap: lack of direct youth voice, weak connection with mobile/expatriate youth, and lack of local evidence for policy decisions.

4.6 Main common bottlenecks

- Weak formal decision pathways: all pilots need stronger mechanisms ensuring that youth input, network insights or observatory findings are considered by public authorities.
- Dependence on facilitation or coordination: pilots require dedicated staff, facilitators or coordinators, at least during the consolidation phase.
- Risk of participation fatigue: engagement can decline when participants do not see visible outputs, responses or concrete follow-up.
- Representativeness gaps: future implementation should reach beyond already active or available participants.
- Need for tangible outputs: toolkits, policy briefs, dashboards, maps, podcasts, mini-guides and annual workshops help make pilot value visible.
- Sustainability beyond the project: each pilot requires a post-project institutional, financial or organisational arrangement.

5. Pilot-by-pilot evaluation results

This section provides a detailed breakdown of the peer review evaluation for each of the three pilot actions. Drawing on the consolidated peer review reports, it assesses each pilot across key dimensions: main strengths, innovative aspects, identified bottlenecks, and specific recommendations for improvement. It also evaluates their scalability potential and current level of maturity, recognizing that they represent different types of governance mechanisms—direct representation, community networking, and evidence-informed policy—at varying stages of readiness for transfer.

5.1 Maribor Youth Consultative Body

The Maribor pilot tested a direct participatory governance mechanism designed to bridge the gap between young people and local institutions. By guiding a diverse group of youth through a modular process - from priority mapping to advocacy training and proposal design. The Youth Consultative Body mechanism aims to translate youth priorities into concrete, budget-feasible policy proposals.

Table 1: Youth Consultative Body Dimensions and Evaluation Results

Dimension	Evaluation result
Main strengths	The pilot produced tangible outputs quickly, including a participatory budgeting proposal. It reached a diverse cohort and supported political learning by moving youth from broad ideas to pragmatic advocacy.
Innovation	The modular three-step method and role-play exercises create a transferable learning process. The open-source toolkit makes the pilot usable by other cities, schools, youth centres or EU projects.
Challenges	The body has no direct decision-making authority. The rejection of the proposal without a stronger negotiation pathway risks demotivation. Regular attendance is concentrated around a small core group.
Key recommendations	Adopt the municipal decree, create closed feedback loops, provide a small flexible budget, broaden promotion channels and introduce peer mentoring for newcomers.
Scale-up potential	High at methodological level. The toolkit can be transferred to other local contexts if a municipal official or local organisation is willing to host the process and respond to youth proposals.
Maturity assessment	Ready for methodological transfer, with institutional sustainability still dependent on formal anchoring and documented municipal response procedures.

5.2 Cembra Valley Cooperation Group - Casting the Net

The Cembra Valley pilot tested an "ultra-territorial" youth network aimed at connecting young people living in the valley with those who are internationally mobile or have moved away. Using a narrative approach that includes life stories, podcasts, and digital

formats, this mechanism transforms the issue of youth migration into an active dialogue about territorial belonging and community development.

Table 2: Cembra Valley Cooperation Group – Casting the Net

Dimension	Evaluation result
Main strengths	The pilot connects local and internationally mobile youth in a single community. Its narrative and experiential approach creates emotional belonging and keeps expatriate youth connected to the valley.
Innovation	The ultra-territorial model adds the expat perspective to local youth policy. Life stories, podcasts and digital aperitifs turn migration into a dialogue on belonging rather than a purely technical issue.
Challenges	The network depends strongly on external facilitation and has limited spontaneous activation. Participation is intermittent, gender balance should be improved and practical outputs are still limited.
Key recommendations	Define a member-owned roadmap, introduce bridge person roles, consolidate tools, produce at least one tangible output, broaden outreach and clarify the network's institutional function.
Scale-up potential	Medium to high, especially for mountain valleys and peripheral territories with active diaspora. Scaling should be coordinated through existing youth policy frameworks and supported by skilled facilitation.
Maturity assessment	Consolidation. The concept is validated, but the network must become more self-activating and institutionally structured before full replication.

5.3 Vesoul Permanent Observatory of Youth Migration

The Vesoul pilot established a knowledge-based governance mechanism to better understand youth mobility trajectories. By combining statistical evidence with qualitative research and expert input, the Observatory seeks to create a localized evidence base and a territorial dialogue platform that supports informed decision-making on education, employment, housing, and territorial attractiveness.

Table 3: Youth Observatory Dimensions and Evaluation Results

Dimension	Evaluation result
Main strengths	The observatory has strong relevance and methodological grounding. It combines statistical review, qualitative interviews, focus groups and expert input to understand youth mobility trajectories.
Innovation	The pilot creates a local evidence base where national statistics are too aggregated. Its strongest added value is combining data with territorial dialogue and policy interpretation.
Challenges	Local-level, disaggregated and longitudinal migration data are limited. Stakeholder mobilisation, sample diversity,

	digital platform purpose and operational sustainability need further consolidation.
Key recommendations	Anchor the observatory within CAV strategies, appoint a coordinator, create a steering/scientific committee, formalise data partnerships, launch a recurring youth mobility survey and produce accessible policy outputs.
Scale-up potential	Medium to high at methodological level. The observatory logic can be replicated locally or regionally if each territory adapts data sources, legal constraints, stakeholder roles and annual policy questions.
Maturity assessment	Consolidation. The methodology is transferable, but the governance mechanism needs operational anchoring, regular updates and a clear route from findings to decisions.

6. Comparative maturity and readiness for scale-up

The three pilots are not at the same stage of readiness. This is expected because they test different types of governance mechanisms. Maribor is closest to transfer because its method can be packaged and used by other organisations. Cembra Valley and Vesoul have strong concepts but require consolidation before full replication because they depend on sustained facilitation, coordination, data partnerships and institutional anchoring.

Table 4: Comparative table of 3 instruments

Pilot	Governance tool type	Current maturity	Strongest transferable component	Main condition before scale-up
Maribor Youth Consultative Body	Direct youth participation and proposal-making mechanism	Ready for methodological transfer; institutional anchoring still needed	Modular toolkit: priority mapping, advocacy training, proposal design, role-play and monitoring sheets	Municipal decree, formal feedback loops and a small operational budget
Cembra Valley Cooperation Group	Ultra-territorial youth network linking local and expatriate youth	Consolidation	Narrative method, life stories, podcasts, digital aperitifs and bridge people approach	Self-activation, clearer governance function, tangible outputs and facilitator succession
Vesoul Observatory of Youth Migration	Evidence-informed governance and territorial dialogue mechanism	Consolidation	Method for combining data mapping, qualitative evidence and policy dialogue	Formal CAV ownership, coordinator, data partnerships and recurring policy outputs

6.1 Interpretation of maturity levels

Ready for methodological transfer means that the pilot has a sufficiently clear process, toolkit or facilitation logic to be reused by another territory. It does not necessarily mean that the original pilot is fully institutionalised. Consolidation means that the core concept is validated, but additional work is needed to secure sustainability, resources, roles and policy uptake.

Based on the peer review evidence, the partnership should avoid presenting all pilots as equally ready for replication. A more credible approach is to describe the pilots as a portfolio of transferable methods at different maturity levels. This allows other territories to choose the mechanism that best fits their needs and to understand the minimum conditions required before adaptation.

7. How the governance tools and mechanisms can be scaled up

The scale-up potential of the three pilots lies in transferring their governance logic rather than copying their exact institutional form. Each pilot can be scaled through a minimum viable governance package composed of: a clear purpose, an institutional host, a youth engagement method, a feedback mechanism, facilitation or coordination capacity, visible outputs and an evaluation loop.

7.1 Scale-up pathway 1: Local replication

Local replication is the most immediate pathway. It involves adapting the pilot mechanism to another municipality, valley, neighbourhood, school, youth centre or local development context. For Maribor, this means using the toolkit to create a youth consultative process in another city or local institution. For Cembra Valley, it means creating a local-expat youth network in another mountain valley or peripheral territory with an active diaspora. For Vesoul, it means establishing a small observatory or youth mobility monitoring function in another local authority.

Local replication should remain simple. The receiving territory should start with a small core group, one responsible host organisation, a limited set of outputs and a clear feedback process. The mistake to avoid is over-institutionalising the model before testing whether youth and institutions are willing to engage.

7.2 Scale-up pathway 2: Regional scale-up

Regional scale-up is possible when several local pilots use a comparable framework. Maribor's method could become a regional youth participation toolkit used by multiple municipalities or youth organisations. Cembra Valley's network could be coordinated through provincial youth policy frameworks, creating sub-groups connected to different valleys. Vesoul's observatory model could become a network of local observatories using comparable indicators and shared survey questions, allowing regional comparison

of youth trajectories.

Regional scale-up requires a coordinating body. This can be a regional authority, development agency, provincial youth policy framework, university or inter-municipal structure. The role of this body is not to centralise all activities, but to provide guidance, common tools, quality assurance, training and cross-territorial learning.

7.3 Scale-up pathway 3: Transnational transfer

Transnational transfer is realistic across Alpine Space territories, but it requires adaptation to different administrative systems, youth policy traditions, data availability and institutional cultures. The most transferable elements are the methods: Maribor’s participatory toolkit, Cembra Valley’s narrative diaspora engagement model, and Vesoul’s observatory methodology combining evidence and dialogue.

At transnational level, the three pilots could be presented as an Alpine youth governance toolbox. Each tool would include a short description, purpose, required resources, facilitation steps, risks, output templates and adaptation questions. This would make the results usable for partners, municipalities and organisations beyond the original project territories.

7.4 Preconditions for scale-up

Before any governance mechanism can be successfully transferred or scaled up, several foundational elements must be in place across all contexts. This section outlines the universal preconditions required to ensure long-term sustainability and impact. Key requirements include securing a dedicated institutional owner, establishing closed feedback loops so youth input receives formal responses, ensuring adequate facilitation capacity, and adapting the mechanism to local constraints rather than merely copying institutional forms.

Table 5: Preconditions for scale-up

Precondition	Why it matters	Application across pilots
Institutional owner	Someone must host the process, convene stakeholders and maintain continuity.	Municipality, development agency, provincial youth framework, CAV or similar authority.
Defined youth role	Youth participants need to know whether they are co-designers, advisors, storytellers, data contributors or proposal-makers.	Clarifies expectations and prevents symbolic participation.
Closed feedback loop	Participation becomes credible only when public authorities respond and explain what happens next.	Written responses, negotiation sessions, annual workshops or policy briefs.
Facilitation/ coordination capacity	The mechanisms require human resources to animate participation, maintain data and prepare outputs.	Community worker, part-time coordinator, youth worker, researcher or municipal officer.

Visible outputs	Outputs demonstrate value and maintain motivation.	Proposals, toolkits, podcasts, maps, policy briefs, dashboards and mini-guides.
Adaptation to local context	Legal systems, data access, youth structures and local problems differ.	Transfer should adapt tools rather than copy institutional forms.

7.5 Minimum viable governance packages

To facilitate practical replication, this section translates the three pilot actions into "minimum viable governance packages." Rather than duplicating the exact institutional structures of the original projects, these packages define the essential core components—such as specific roles, methodological tools, and necessary outputs—required to successfully adapt and implement each specific governance mechanism (the Consultative Body, the Cooperation Group, or the Observatory) in a new territorial context.

Table 6: Minimum viable governance packages

Pilot model	Minimum package for transfer
Youth Consultative Body	Host organisation; youth recruitment plan; three-step workshop method; simple facilitation guide; proposal template; municipal response protocol; small activity budget; monitoring sheet.
Cooperation Group - Casting the Net	Active local and expatriate youth group; facilitator; lightweight communication channel; narrative method; annual or quarterly meeting with local administrators; tangible output such as podcast, map or mini-guide; succession plan for youth self-management.
Youth Migration Observatory	Institutional lead; coordinator; data mapping template; small indicator set; qualitative interview/survey module; steering/scientific committee; annual work programme; policy brief and dialogue workshop.

8. Recommendations for the next implementation and transfer phase

As the peer review process highlights, the greatest challenge for these pilot actions is transitioning from temporary, project-based experimentation to permanent governance routines. To ensure long-term sustainability and successful scale-up, this section outlines actionable recommendations. It provides specific directives for individual pilot holders to consolidate their mechanisms locally, as well as strategic guidance for the broader OUT4INGOV partnership to facilitate the transfer of these tools across the Alpine Space.

8.1 Recommendations for pilot holders

The successful transition from a temporary experimental phase to a permanent governance routine requires deliberate action at the local level. This section outlines key recommendations for individual pilot holders to consolidate their mechanisms. The focus is on securing formal institutional anchoring, allocating essential coordination resources, broadening youth outreach beyond already active groups, and producing tangible outputs to demonstrate the ongoing value of the governance tools

1. Move from pilot activity to governance routine. Each mechanism should define what happens annually or quarterly after the project ends.
2. Formalise the institutional interface. This may be a municipal decree, a written protocol, a steering committee, a memorandum of cooperation or an annual meeting with documented responses.
3. Secure a minimum coordination resource. Even low-cost governance tools need someone responsible for follow-up, communication, facilitation and output preparation.
4. Produce one visible output before the end of the project period. This should be easy to share and should demonstrate the practical value of the pilot to youth and institutions.
5. Broaden outreach beyond already active youth. Target less visible groups through schools, vocational pathways, migrant networks, employment services and informal youth channels.
6. Document the method in a practical transfer format. Each pilot should produce a short step-by-step guide, including resources needed, templates, risks and adaptation questions.

8.2 Recommendations for the partnership and Lead Partner

Beyond the success of individual local pilots, the broader OUT4INGOV partnership and the Lead Partner have a strategic role in enabling the transnational transfer and scale-up of these mechanisms. The following recommendations focus on consolidating collective learnings by structuring the pilot outcomes into a cohesive "Alpine youth governance toolbox," establishing shared monitoring frameworks for transfer, and facilitating cross-territorial learning to support other regions in adopting these models

1. Present the pilots as a complementary Alpine youth governance toolbox rather than as three separate local experiments.
2. Use a common scale-up template for all pilots, covering purpose, target users, minimum resources, implementation steps, outputs, risks, adaptation needs and maturity level.
3. Organise a cross-pilot learning session focused specifically on institutional

feedback loops and sustainability after the project.

4. Support partners in preparing short policy briefs or visual summaries that elected officials and administrators can easily understand.
5. Develop a shared monitoring framework for transfer, including participation diversity, number of institutional responses, outputs produced, policy uptake and post-project continuity.
6. Distinguish between methodological transfer and full operational replication. This will make the deliverable more credible and help future users understand what is already ready and what still needs consolidation.

8.3 Pilot-specific next steps

While overarching recommendations guide the broader partnership, securing the long-term sustainability of the tested mechanisms requires targeted action at the local level. This section outlines the immediate, priority next steps tailored specifically for Maribor, Cembra Valley, and Vesoul. These actionable steps focus on resolving each pilot's unique operational and institutional bottlenecks - such as adopting municipal decrees, formalizing networks, or establishing steering committees - to ensure they successfully transition from the consolidation phase into permanent governance routines.

Table 7: Pilot specific next steps

Pilot	Priority next steps
Maribor	Adopt the municipal decree; create documented municipal response procedures; organise negotiation sessions after rejected proposals; transfer the toolkit to local organisations such as youth centres; maintain outreach to underrepresented youth.
Cembra Valley	Formalise the network through a light statute or agreement; define bridge person roles; organise working sessions with administrators and citizens; produce a podcast, map or mini-guide; diversify recruitment and reduce dependence on the community worker.
Vesoul	Anchor the observatory in CAV strategies; appoint a coordinator; establish a steering/scientific committee; define the first annual work programme; launch a recurring survey or mobility module; produce the first policy brief/dashboard and annual workshop.

9. Conclusions

The peer review process confirms that the three OUT4INGOV pilots produced valuable and complementary governance learning. Maribor shows how youth can be supported to formulate concrete proposals and engage with municipal processes. Cembra Valley shows how territories can maintain relationships with young people who leave and transform migration into a dialogue about belonging and contribution. Vesoul shows how

local authorities can build a more informed evidence base on youth mobility and connect it to territorial policy dialogue.

The pilots also show that youth governance cannot rely only on enthusiasm, data or informal goodwill. It requires defined roles, accessible methods, institutional commitment and visible follow-up. Across all three cases, the main challenge is not the lack of ideas, but the transition from project-based experimentation to regular governance practice.

For scale-up, the most important lesson is that each pilot should be transferred as an adaptable method with clearly stated preconditions. Maribor is ready for methodological transfer as a toolkit for youth participation. Cembra Valley is a promising model for mountain and peripheral territories with active diaspora, but it requires further consolidation of self-management and institutional function. Vesoul is a strong model for evidence-informed governance, but it requires data partnerships, coordination capacity and regular policy outputs.

Together, the three pilots can form an Alpine youth governance toolbox that helps municipalities, regions and local organisations respond to youth out-migration, strengthen territorial belonging and create more structured channels for youth voice in public decision-making.

Annex 1. Comparative scale-up matrix

The following Comparative Scale-up Matrix provides a consolidated side-by-side overview of the three tested governance mechanisms: the Maribor Youth Consultative Body, the Cembra Valley Cooperation Group, and the Vesoul Youth Migration Observatory. This matrix serves as a strategic reference guide, summarizing each pilot's primary purpose, core methodology, and main outputs. Furthermore, it clearly outlines the specific bottlenecks, minimum resource requirements, and designated scale-up routes for each tool, offering a quick and comprehensive assessment of their current maturity and readiness for transfer across the Alpine Space.

Evaluation dimension	Maribor - Youth Consultative Body	Cembra Valley - Cooperation Group	Vesoul - Observatory
Primary purpose	Give youth a structured route to identify priorities and prepare proposals for local institutions.	Maintain and activate connections between local and expatriate youth around belonging and territorial development.	Produce and interpret evidence on youth mobility to support local policy decisions.
Core method	Priority mapping, advocacy training, role-play and proposal design.	Life stories, podcasts, digital aperitifs, WhatsApp communication and bridge people model.	Data mapping, statistical/documentary review, interviews, focus groups, expert input and policy dialogue.
Main output	Participatory budgeting proposal and transfer toolkit.	Youth network and potential podcast/map/mini-guide output.	Evidence base, policy briefs, dashboards, annual reports and dialogue workshops.
Main strength	Concrete outputs in short time and high practical transferability.	Strong emotional connection, ultra-territorial innovation and institutional interest.	Strong methodological basis and clear policy relevance for territorial attractiveness.
Main bottleneck	Consultative role without guaranteed decision response.	Dependence on external facilitation and low spontaneous activation.	Limited local-level data and need for operational anchoring.
Scale-up route	Toolkit replication in municipalities, schools, youth centres or EU projects.	Replication in mountain valleys or peripheral territories with active diaspora; provincial coordination recommended.	Replication through local or regional observatories using shared survey questions and adapted data sources.
Minimum resource	Facilitator, municipal contact person, meeting space and small activity budget.	Community worker/facilitator, youth bridge roles, simple digital tools and	Coordinator, data partners, research support, steering/scientific

		institutional meeting point.	committee and annual work programme.
Readiness	High for methodological transfer; governance permanence still conditional.	Consolidation before full replication.	Consolidation before full operational transfer.

Annex 2. Consolidated Peer Reports

Annex 2.1 Consolidated Peer Review Report Youth Consultative Body (Maribor)

Annex 2.2 Consolidated Peer Review Report Cembra Valley Cooperation Group – Casting the Net (Trento)

Annex 2.3 Consolidated Peer Review Report Permanent Observatory of Youth Migration (Vesoul)