

Impact Assessments - existing procedures and potentials for health and health equity

Gabriele Gruber, Daniela Antony, Sandra Ecker, Sabine Haas, Marion Weigl

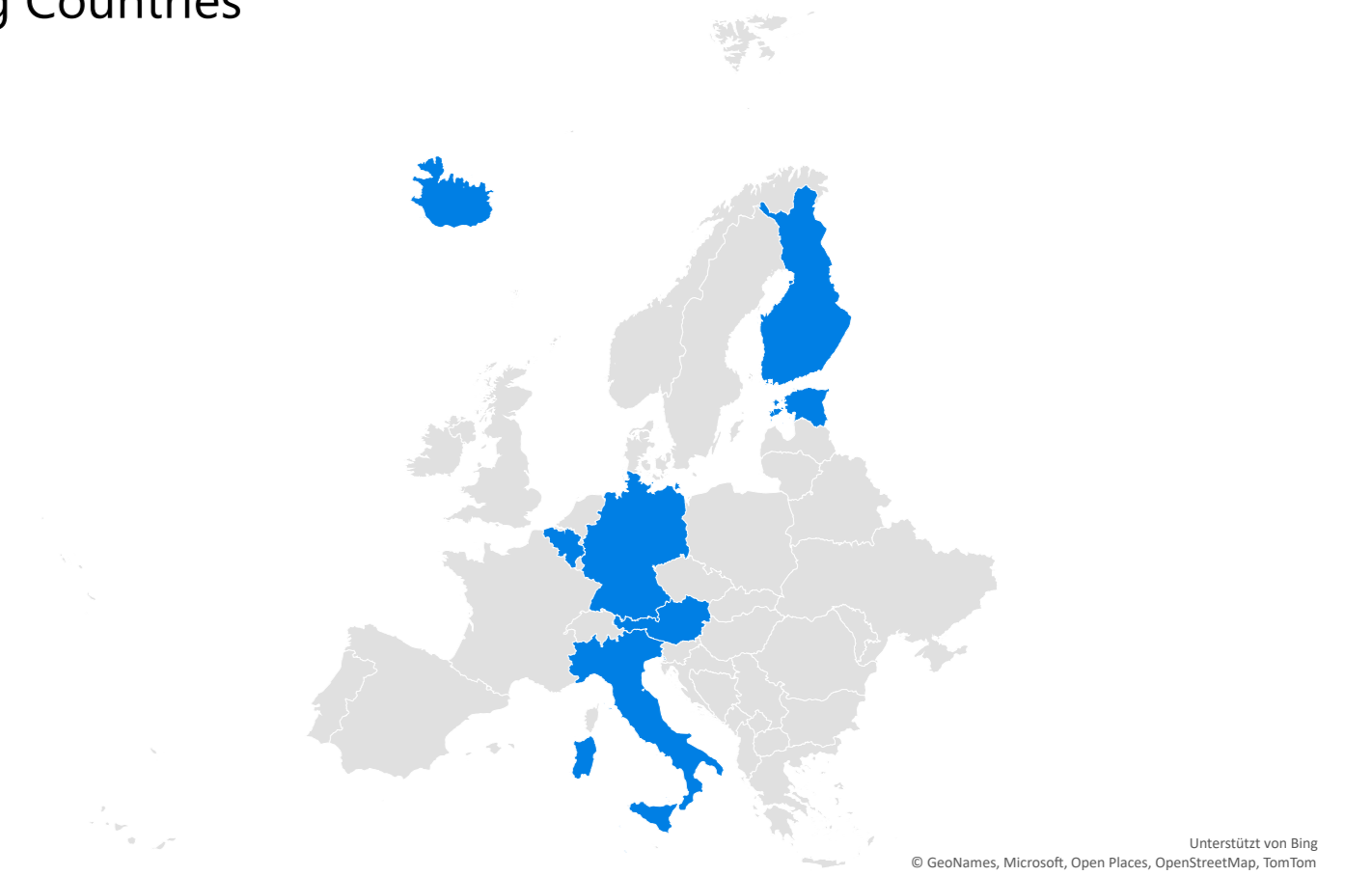
Background

Impact Assessment Tools are used in policy making all over Europe, some have a legal foundation, others were performed voluntarily for certain measures. Usually, Impact Assessment procedures are dedicated to specific policy areas or political fields, but policies often have impacts in more than one political area. Therefore, an interlinkage of Impact Assessments would be appropriate – also to foster co-benefits in policy making.

The EU Joint Action Prevent NCD aims to promote various policies to prevent NCDs and cancer, whereas Health in All Policies and the use of Health (in) Impact Assessments is one approach to follow up on. Therefore, a specific task was established, which consists of seven countries and started in early 2024 with its first subtask (see below).

For more information of the Joint Action Prevent NCD see <https://preventncd.eu/>

Participating Countries



Identification of impact assessments tools and procedures in place

Activities / Method:

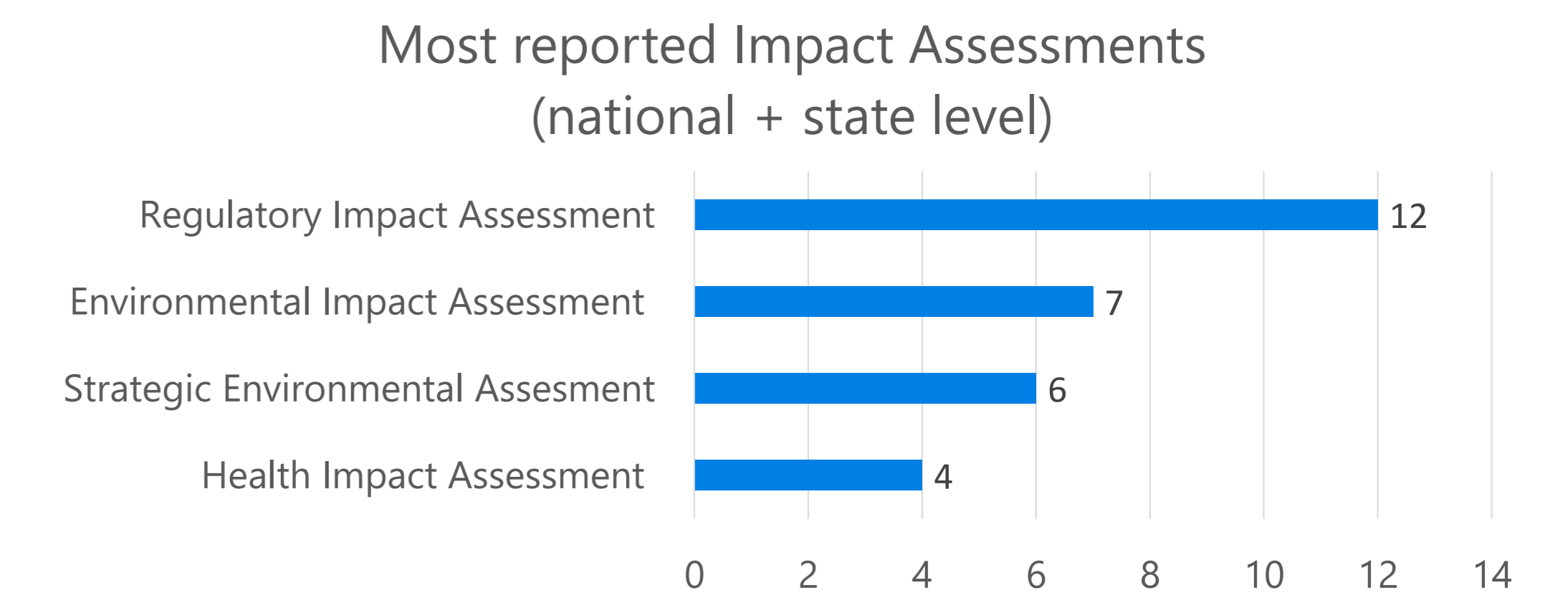
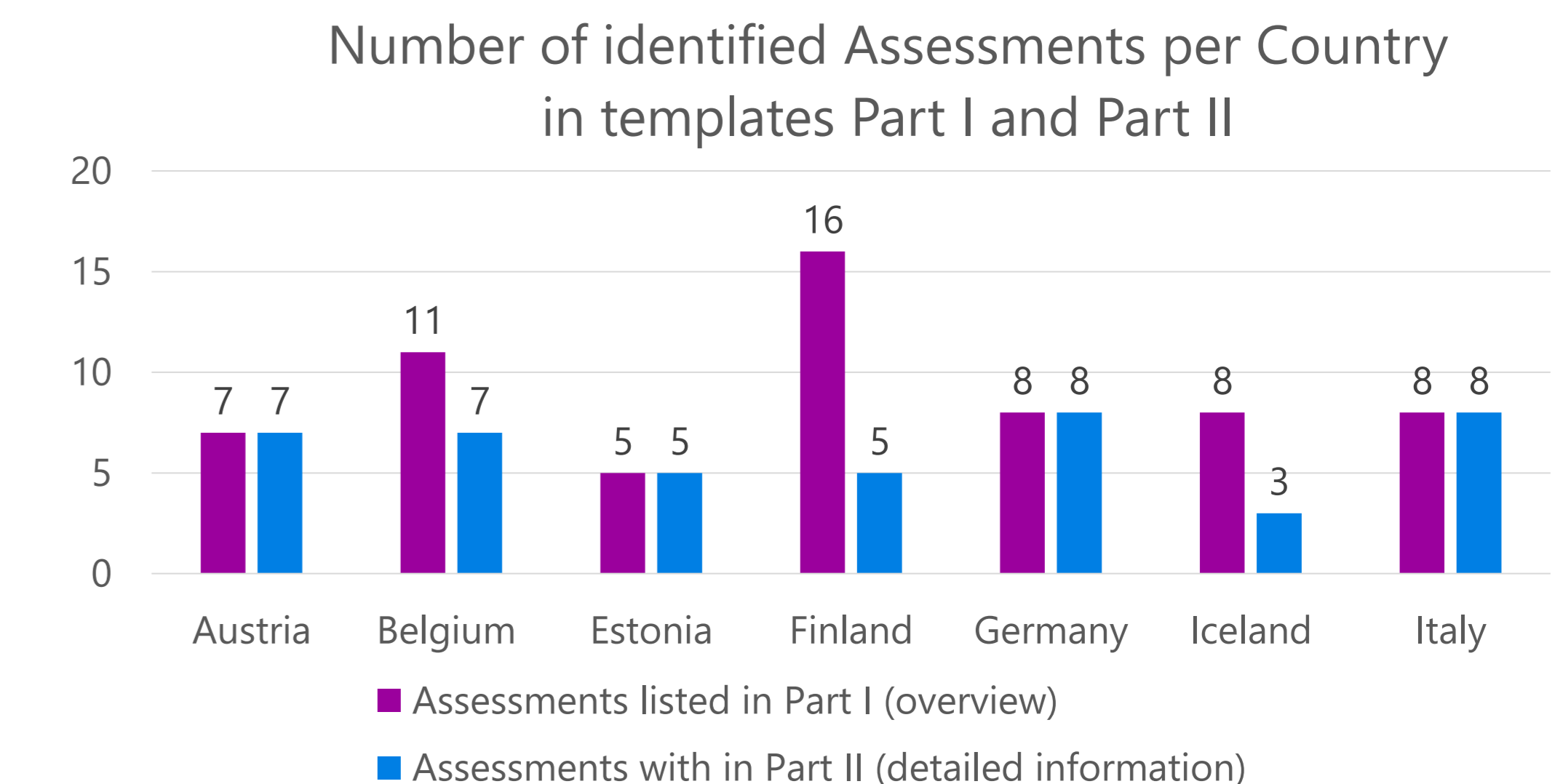
- Internet research in national languages through search engines like Google and on specific national websites for Impact Assessments in place on national and state level that were performed regularly (no pilots or single use cases)
- Assessment phase: 6/2024-9/2024
- Documentation in templates (Part I for an overview, Part II for detailed information)
- Presentation and discussion of results at in-person Workshop in October 2024

Preliminary results:

- In total, 43 Impact Assessments were described in detail (via template Part II)
- 30 Impact Assessments were categorized as mandatory/regulatory
- Guiding materials are available for nearly all Impact Assessments (39 out of 43)
- Health and wellbeing was mentioned (contained as words) in 34 guiding materials, often focusing on physical aspects (23). 12 guiding materials mentioned health equity in impact assessment. Most of the time, it is not further elaborated how health and wellbeing should be considered in detail

Next steps:

- 2nd round of research on Impact Assessments that were identified by other countries and detailed information, e.g. controlling mechanisms and monitoring aspects



Gesundheit Österreich GmbH, Stubenring 6, 1010 Wien www.goeg.at