



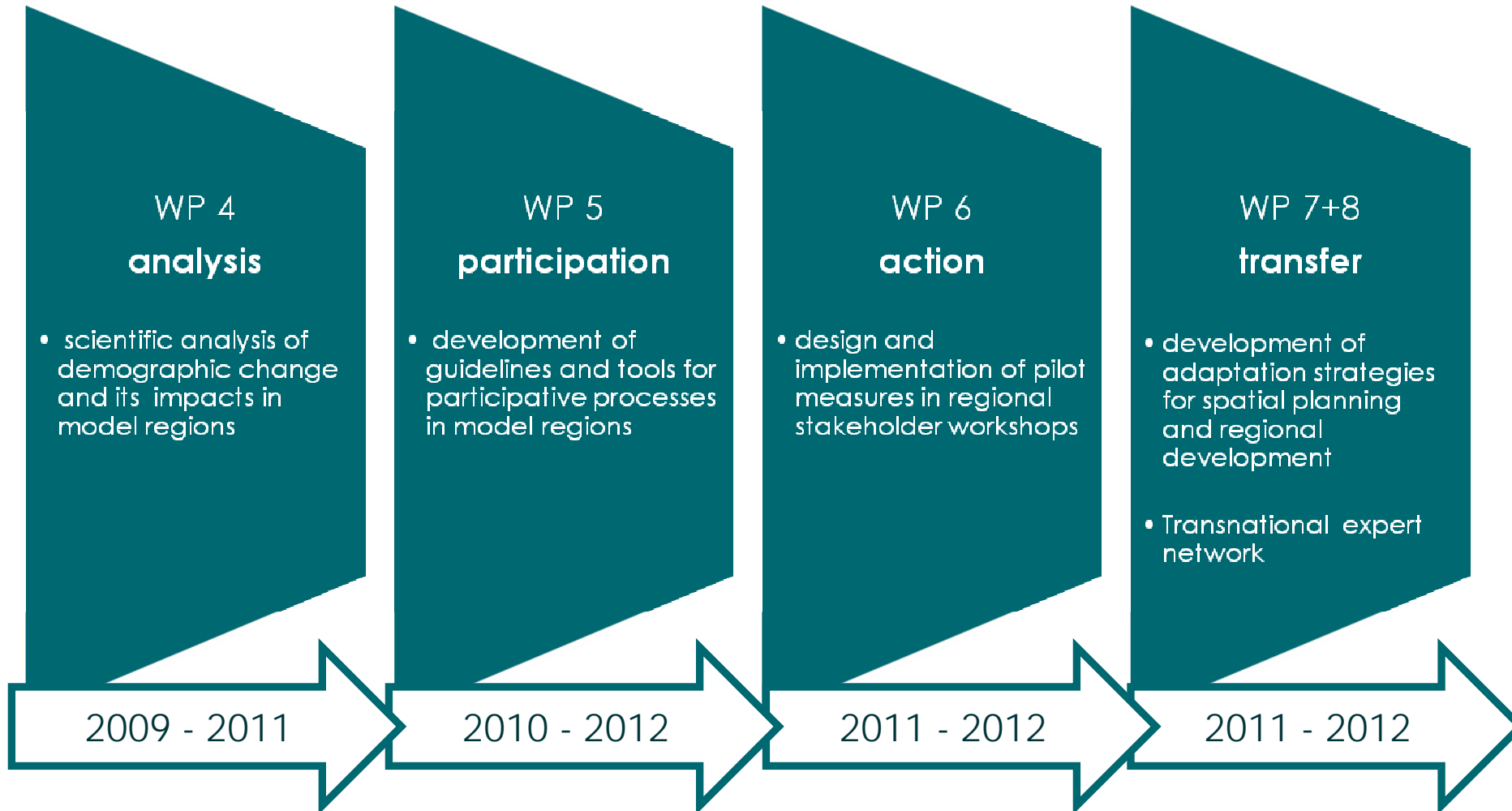
Coping with Demographic Change - Shaping Policies

Workshop Session 1: Economic Centres & Peripheries

An overview on DEMOCHANGE:
Demographic Change in the Alps: Adaptation Strategies
for Spatial Planning and Regional Development



Overview on project phases





Specific demographic patterns in peripheral Alpine regions today

- out-migration
 - Youngsters seeking higher education
 - young adults seeking (better) job opportunities

 - in-migration
 - retirees seeking pleasant landscapes
 - 30+ adults (some with kids) seeking country life
- in total: migration pattern intensifies demographic change



Specific demographic change issues in peripheral Alpine regions

- Recruiting trainees and qualified employees is difficult:
 - smaller (motivated and well educated) local potential
 - competition for young people in (also aging) wider region
 - low payment in key economies (tourism, health, agriculture)
 - little social appreciation of key economy employees
- Framework for young families is difficult:
 - high housing costs – low income opportunities
 - flexible working hours in key economies – inflexible child care



A future key issue of demographic change in shrinking peripheries

- Identity of a region is defined by its **immaterial cultural heritage**:
 - traditional cultivation of landscape, handicraft and architecture, cooking and medicine
 - cultural traditions (language, clothing, celebrations, music, art)

less young people = less opportunities to cultivate this heritage

→ **sinking identification** with home region

→ **sinking competitiveness** in key economies such as tourism, health or food production