

INTERREG EUROPE 2014-2020 Cooperation Programme

Funds and Programme Division

**Ministry of European Affairs and Implementation of the
Electoral Manifesto**

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29th April 2015**



Introduction

IE programme contributes to the EU2020 strategy to make the European territory more innovative, more sustainable and more inclusive.

By supporting policy learning among local and regional public authorities and other actors of regional relevance to improve the performance of policies and programmes for regional development.



Four features of INTERREG EUROPE projects

- Improving Structural Funds programmes
- Public administrations as main target group
- Mobilising stakeholders
- Capturing results

All features derive from the **result oriented approach**



1. Improving Structural Funds programmes



Why? Rationale

Main goals of EU cohesion policy

Structural Funds = ERDF + ESF

Goal 1:
Investment for growth
and jobs programmes

Goal 2:
European Territorial
Cooperation (ETC)



Why? Rationale

Goal 1:
Investment for growth & jobs
€ 340 billion

Goal 2:
European Territorial Cooperation
€ 10.2 billion

INTERREG EUROPE
€ 359 m



How will this be reflected at project level?

- The programme covers:
 - › the whole territory of the European Union (28 MS)
 - › Norway
 - › Switzerland
- It is financed through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and has a budget of €359 m for the 2014-2020 programming period.



How will this be reflected at project level?

Policy instruments addressed to be specified in application form

B.2 Main policy instruments addressed and territorial context	
How many policy instruments are addressed by the project?	
B.2.1 Policy instrument n°1	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition 	
Please describe the policy instrument addressed (e.g. name, objective, characteristics). If possible, please specify the specific measure / priority which is addressed.	

At least half of the policy instruments addressed by a project need to be related to Structural Funds programmes



2. Public administrations as main target groups



INTERREG EUROPE:

dedicated to improving **policy instruments**



Public administrations:

organisations responsible for **policy** design and implementation



Public administrations:

core target group of **INTERREG EUROPE**



How is it reflected at project level?

Participation of public administration is a **pre requisite**:

When a Structural Funds Programme is addressed, the Ministry responsible for such programme should be involved, preferably as a partner;

If the organisation responsible for the policy instrument addressed is not a partner, then it should provide a **letter of support**



A NEW CONCEPT IN IE – LETTER OF SUPPORT

a commitment to fully support and closely follow the project implementation

- Active participation as **project** partners. Important role for mobilising relevant stakeholders
- If not a partner:
 - Political endorsement as providers of letters of support
 - Participation in the stakeholder group
 - Active involvement in phase 2 of projects (roll-out of the action plan)
- Active use of policy learning **platforms**

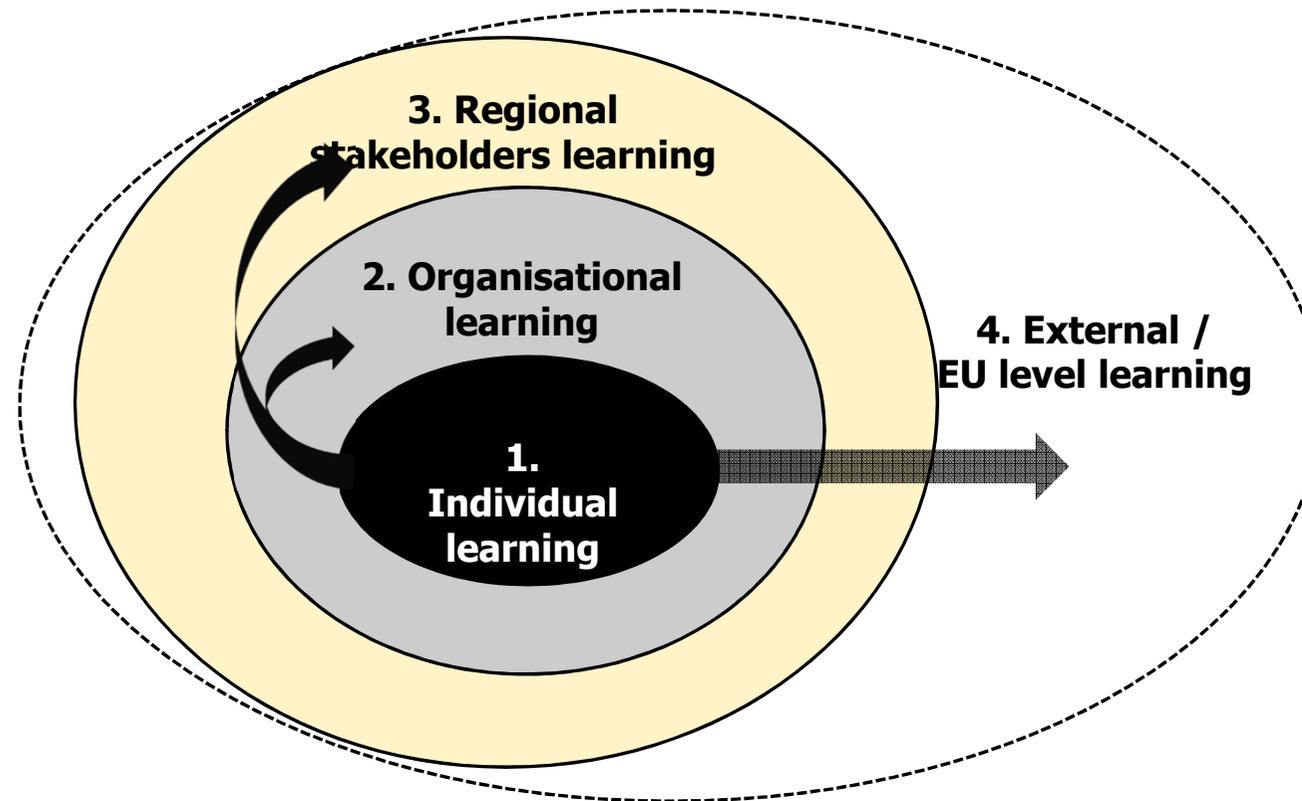


3. Mobilising stakeholders



Why? Rationale

4 levels of learning in interregional cooperation



Optimising Learning through the

Creation of stakeholder groups:

- 1 group per partner region
- Members:
 - organisations competent in the field tackled by the project (e.g. for innovation: research centres, universities, agencies, SMEs)
 - body in charge of policy instrument addressed (in case this body is not a partner)
- Involved in the interregional learning process



4. Capturing results



Why? Rationale

- Importance to demonstrate results beyond policy changes
- Impacts of cooperation can take time
- Tackle the pilot action 'paradox': pilot action cannot be known at the application stage

For this purpose, two types of actions will be supported:

- **Interregional Cooperation Projects**
- **Policy Learning Platforms and**



Projects: structure and duration

Implementation in **2 phases**

Phase 1
Learning

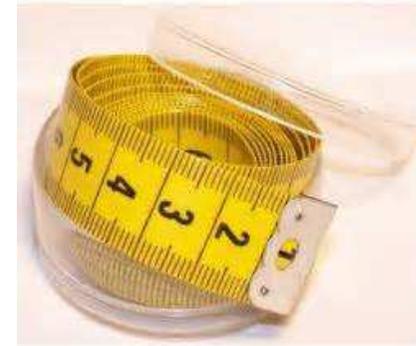


From 1 to 3 years

Phase 2
Monitoring



Fixed to 2 years



Maximum duration: **5 years**



Phase 1

**Projects: structure
'Interregional learning'**

Interregional exchange of experience

e.g. seminars, workshops, site visits, staff exchanges, peer reviews



1 Action Plan per region

Measures to be implemented
Timeframe
Work steps
Responsible players
Costs and funding resources (*if applicable*)



Projects: structure

Phase 2

'Monitoring the action plan implementation'

- Primarily **Monitor** the implementation of the different action plans
- Activities **pre-defined** by the programme (i.e. 2 partner meetings, 1 dissemination event, website update and reporting activities)
- **Pilot actions** (financed only in justified cases)



Policy Learning Platforms (PLPs)

- A policy learning platform is a service for project partners and for all other organisations involved in regional policy around Europe to promote continuous policy learning and capitalisation of good regional policy practices;
- PLP will be created for the 4 Thematic Objectives;
- PLP will be active throughout the duration of the programme;



First call for project proposals

- Timing of the call
It is expected that the call will open **mid-June 2015** and close **mid-July 2015**.
- The Interreg Europe programme is divided into four thematic objectives related to the Europe 2020 strategy. This first call for project proposals will be open for the four thematic objectives eligible under this programme.



The 4 Thematic Objectives.....

- Strengthening **research, technological development and innovation** (T01).
- Enhancing the **competitiveness of SMEs** (T03).
- Supporting the shift towards **a low-carbon economy** in all sectors (T04).
- Protecting the **environment** and promoting **resource efficiency** (T06).



IE: Investment Priorities TO 1

- 1a - enhancing research and innovation (R&I) infrastructure [...] and capacities to develop R&I excellence and promoting centres of competence, in particular those of European interest.
- 1b - promoting business investment in innovation and research, and developing links and synergies between enterprises, R&D centres and higher education.



IE: Investment Priorities TO 3

- 3d - Supporting the capacity of SMEs to engage in growth in regional, national and international markets, and in innovation processes.



IE: Investment Priorities TO 4

- 4e - Promoting low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas, including the promotion of sustainable multi-modal urban mobility and mitigation relevant adaptation measures.



IE: Inv. Priorities TO 6

- 6c - conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage.
- 6g - supporting industrial transition towards a resource-efficient economy, promoting green growth, eco-innovation and environmental performance management in the public and private sectors.



Geographical coverage

- Projects have to involve partners from at least three countries, of which at least two must be from EU Member States and financed by the Interreg Europe programme;
- A partnership between 5 to 10 partners appears to be the best configuration.



Who can apply?

Beneficiaries eligible to receive funding are:

- National, regional or local public authorities;
 - Bodies governed by public law;
 - Private non-profit bodies.



Bodies governed by public law are:

- established for the specific purpose of meeting the needs of a general interest, not having an industrial or commercial character;
- have a legal personality and
- financed, for the most part, by the State, regional or local authorities, or other bodies governed by public law; or are subject to the management supervision by those authorities or bodies;
- or having an administrative, managerial or supervisory board, more than half of whose members are appointed by the State, regional or local authorities, or by other bodies governed by public law.



Private non-profit bodies:

- not having an industrial or commercial character;
- having a legal personality;
- not financed, for the most part, by the State, regional or local authorities, or other bodies governed by public law; not subject to management supervision by those bodies;
- not having an administrative, managerial or supervisory board, more than half of whose members are appointed by the State, regional or local authorities, or by other bodies governed by public law.



Funding available and co-financing rate

- One third of the overall ERDF budget (approximately EUR **107.5** million) of the new Interreg Europe Programme shall be made available for the first call for proposals;
- Interregional Cooperation Projects co-financing rate is of 85% to public partners as well as to public law bodies. A co-financing rate of 75% will be applied to private non-profit bodies.



Comparisons to INTERREG IVC Prog.

	INTERREG IVC	INTERREG EUROPE
Rationale	Regional development policies	Regional development policies, principally SF programmes
Area	EU-27, NO+CH	EU-28, NO+CH
Eligibility	Public & public law bodies No private	Public & public law bodies Private non-profit bodies
Co-financing	75%-85% (country)	85% public or equivalent 75% private non-profit
Actions	1-phase project + CAP	2-phase project + PLP



Application process

The application pack for the first call is available on the programme website (www.interregeurope.eu) and includes the following:

- terms of reference
- programme manual
- online application system www.iOLF.eu
- partner declaration model
- letter of support model



Application process

- Project applicants who would like to submit a proposal must complete an application form in English, as it is the working language of the programme. Applications submitted in another language will be considered ineligible.
- The application has to be submitted online (www.iOLF.eu) at the latest by the last day of the call.
- In addition, an unbound hard has to be sent to the joint secretariat in France at the latest by the last day of the call.



Thank you
for your attention

For any further information
please contact FPD staff in
Sta Venera

