

**Interreg
Europe**



European Union | European Regional Development Fund



*Sharing solutions
for better regional policies*

An introduction to Interreg Europe and its first call

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I. What's new?



What's new?

1. Programme rationale
2. Thematic focus
3. Who is eligible?
4. Co-financing
5. Actions
6. Finances



1. Rationale

Specific mission of improving Structural Funds programmes



**Goal 1:
Investment for growth and jobs
EUR 340 billion**

Goal 2:
European Territorial Cooperation
EUR 10.2 billion

Why? Objective set in ETC Regulation – Article 2(3)(a)



Improving Structural Funds?

Different possibilities

- Implement **new projects**
- Change programme **governance**
- Change programme **content**

} may not require
funding!



Implement new projects



Practice

Research & development Card: advisory & financial support to SMEs for the development of innovative products

From: Västra Götaland (SE)



To: Lower Silesia (PL)



5.4 million zł (MEUR 1.35) financed from the ESF Operational Programme of Lower Silesia



Change programme governance

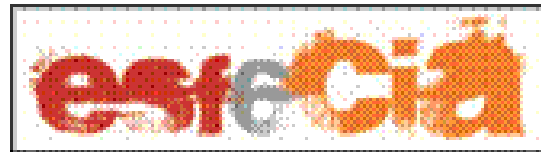


Modification of the monitoring system for the evaluation of the innovation measures in the ROP of:

- Bretagne (FR)
- PACA (FR)
- Puglia (IT)
- Wielkopolska (PL)



Change programme content



Partner: Bulgarian Ministry of Labour and Social Policy

Policy improved: Bulgarian ESF development programme

ESF 'Development' programme tackling unemployment after mass redundancies in enterprises.

Thanks to project, modification of the programme to include preferential treatment to people age 50+



2. Thematic focus

4 priority axes



- No longer directly covered:
- ICT
 - Employment & education
 - Demographic change
 - Climate change
 - Risk prevention



3. Who is eligible?

Private non profit bodies



Examples (depending on country)

- Chambers of Commerce
- Cluster representatives
- Trade Unions
- Employers associations
- NGOs
-

Why? Integration of Regions of Knowledge programme
Triple helix principle



4. Co-financing rates

Co-financing rates		According to legal status or location
85% ERDF		Public or public equivalent from EU
75% ERDF		Private non-profit from EU
50% Norwegian funding		Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from NO
Swiss funding		Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from CH

High co-financing rates for all, no longer related to partner location

- Why?**
- Priority to public (public equivalent) bodies
 - Incentive for public administrations to cooperate (no investment)



5. Actions

Projects

- 2 phases
- Action Plans
- Stakeholder groups



Platforms

- Closely related to projects







6. Finances



Harmonisation & simplification



- Online Application Form 
- No financial reporting per component, more budget flexibility 
- No reconfirmation of partnership cost on lead partner level (one control step less) 
- Flat rate admin costs + lump sum preparation costs 

- Lower administrative effort

+ More resources dedicated to content & results

What's new?



	INTERREG IVC	Interreg Europe
1. Rationale	Regional policies	Regional policies, in particular SF programmes
2. Focus	2 priorities, 10 sub-themes	4 priority axes
3. Eligibility	Public & public law bodies No private	Public & public law bodies Private non-profit bodies
4. Co-financing	75%-85% (country)	85% public or equivalent 75% private non-profit
5. Actions	1-phase project + CAP	2-phase project + PLP
6. Finances	Low error rate - rules understood/applied	No fundamental changes but simplification + harmonisation



II. First call for proposals



Terms of reference

1. Provisional timing
 - 22 June: launch
 - 22 July: closing
2. No thematic restrictions
3. One third ERDF budget available
4. Procedure: on-line system



First lessons learnt from assistance

Relevance of the topic addressed

- Be focused on **one** specific objective
- Be specific and tailored to the regions
- Demonstrate innovative character
- Pay particular attention to certain themes:
 - Innovation / social innovation
 - ICT
 - Employment
 - Agriculture



First lessons learnt from assistance

Relevance of the proposed approach

- Start with policy instruments
- Focus on exchange of experience
- Take on board programme requirements (2 phases, action plans, stakeholder groups)
- Don't include pilot actions in phase 1



First lessons learnt from assistance

Quality of the partnership

- Involve directly policy makers (letters of support should not be the rule!)
- Go beyond transnational cooperation area and mix regions with different levels of development
- “Small is beautiful”

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Thank you!

Time for questions

