



**Interreg
Europe**



European Union | European Regional Development Fund

INTERREG EUROPE

Info Day in Slovenia

Erika Fulgenzi | *Project officer*
Interreg Europe Secretariat
27 May 2015

- 1. Context and main features**
- 2. Zooming in on Interreg Europe**
 - a. Improving Structural Funds programmes**
 - b. Public administrations as main target groups**
 - c. Mobilising stakeholders**
 - d. Capturing results**

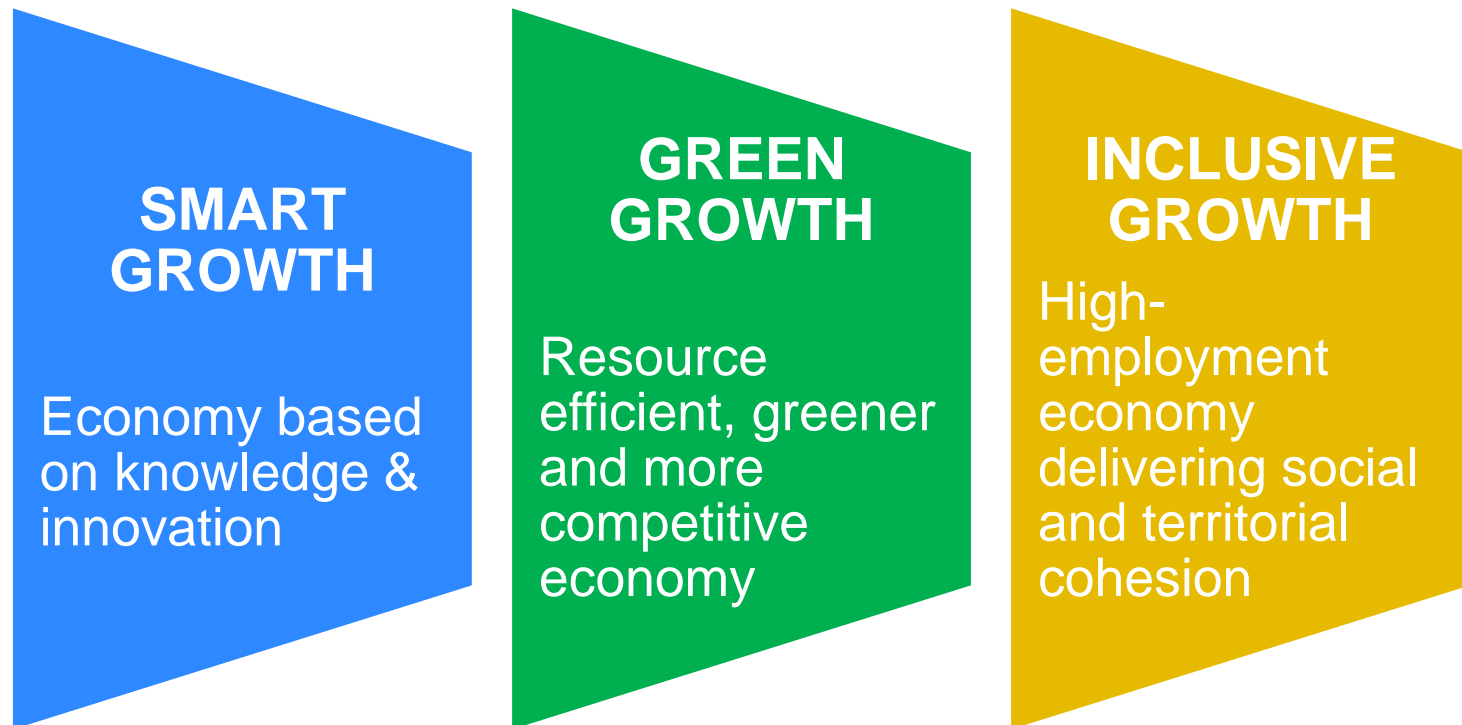




1. Context and main features

Context

Overall strategic framework: EU2020 strategy



3 pillars translated in **11 Thematic Objectives** in 2014-2020 regulation

Few principle from the new regulations

- Concentrate resources to order to optimise the impact



- Result orientation





Objective set in the ETC Regulation - Article 2(3)(a) for interregional cooperation:

‘to reinforce the effectiveness of cohesion policy’

‘identification and dissemination of good practices with a view to their transfer principally to operational programmes under the Investment for growth and jobs goal but also, where relevant to cooperation programme’



INTERREG EUROPE is about...

Policy learning among public authorities

to improve performance of policies & programmes for regional development,
in particular **Structural Funds programmes, and where relevant, European
Territorial Cooperation programmes**



Eligible area

EU28 + Norway &
Switzerland



Thematic focus 4 priority axis

...S3

innovation
infrastructure
innovation
chains...

...creation,
development,
growth of
SMEs...



Research and
innovation



SME
competitiveness



Low-carbon
economy



Environment and
resource efficiency

...energy
efficiency
renewable
energies
sustainable
transport...

...natural
heritage
cultural heritage
resources
efficiency...

2 actions

A. Interregional Cooperation Projects



B. Policy Learning Platforms



Projects

Definition

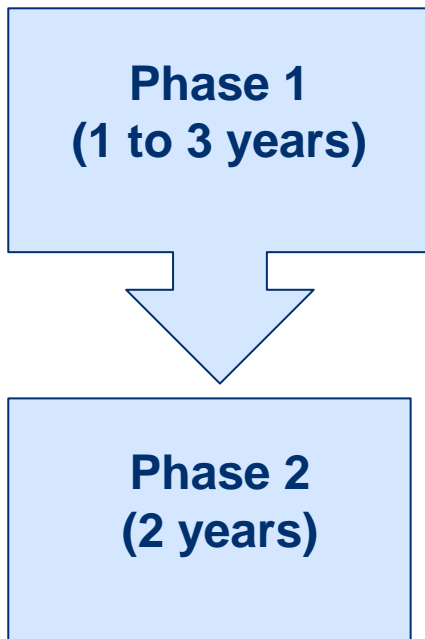
Partners from different countries working together on a shared regional policy issue (within the thematic fields of the programme)...

Objective

....to improve the effectiveness of the policies of the regions involved in the project (in particular their **Investment for Growth and Jobs goal programmes**)



Project organised in 2 phases



Exchange of experience ending up with the production of 1 action plan / policy instrument addressed

Monitoring of the action plan implementation
+ possible pilot actions

Projects partnership: who is eligible?

- **Public bodies (the main target group)**
(e.g. local, regional, national authorities)
- **Bodies governed by public law**
(Directive 2004/18/EC)
- **Private non profit bodies**



Confirmation of the eligibility status:
check with your contact point

Projects partnership features

- From at least 3 countries, from which at least 2 partners from EU-MS
- Recommendation: **between 5 to 10 partners**
- Advisory partners:
 - ✓ offer a particular competence that can facilitate the project's implementation
 - ✓ do not address a policy instrument and therefore do not need to develop an action plan.
- *Stakeholder group: one per policy instrument*



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 Norway
Swiss funding	Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Switzerland



Platforms: what is it?



Research and
innovation



SME
competitiveness



Low-carbon
economy



Environment and
resource efficiency

A **service** provided per priority axis via:

Online collaborative tool

With relevant functionalities

+

Expert team

Content and coordination role

Origin

INTERREG IVC
capitalisation
exercise



S3 platform
Seville



Objective

Objective: To contribute to policy learning across EU in particular on Structural Funds implementation

- ➡ Better exploiting projects' results
- ➡ Opening up programme results to anyone interested

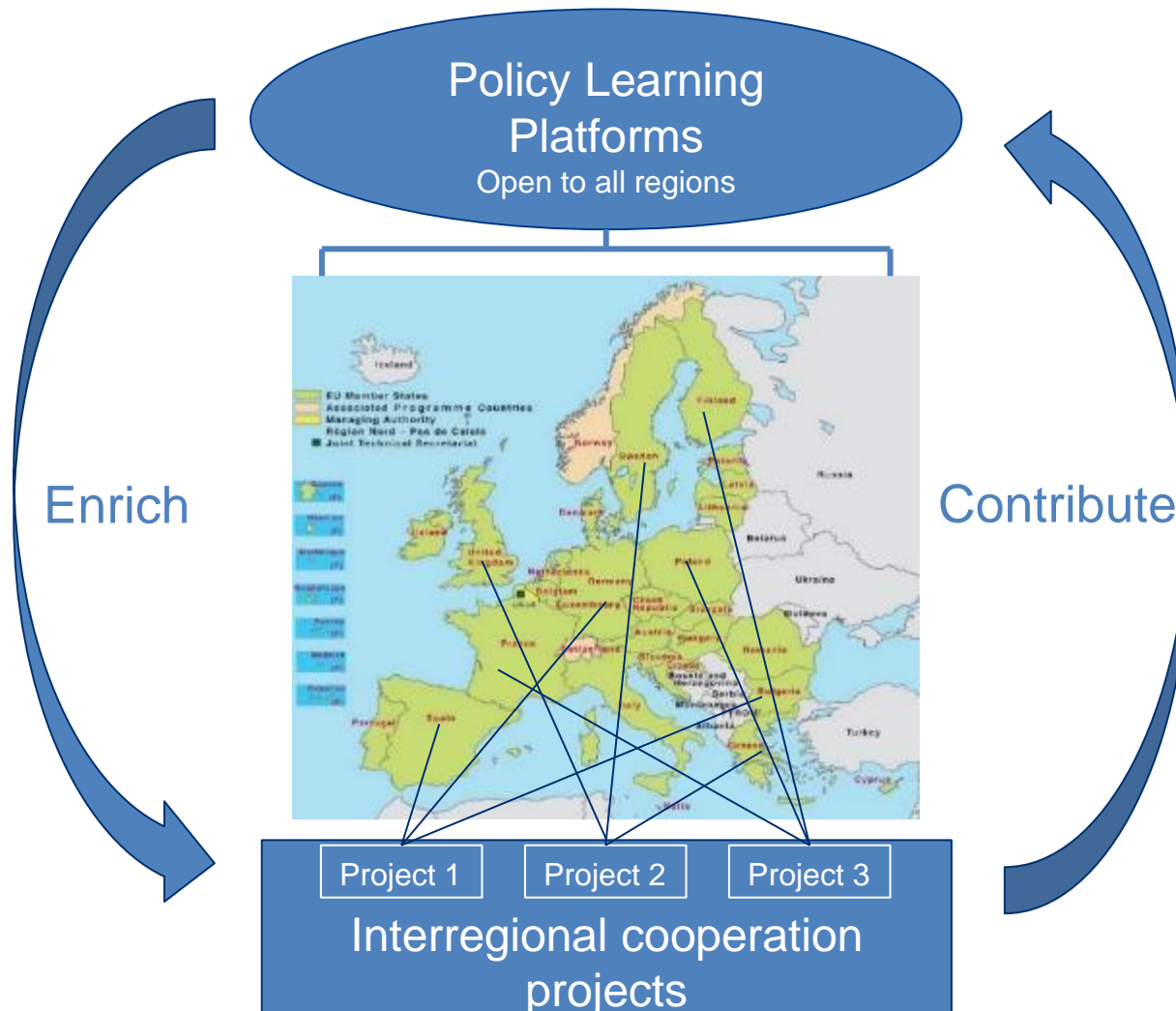
Platforms

Examples of services

- ❑ **Advice** regional stakeholders and running projects
- ❑ Organise and facilitate **peer reviews** among regions
- ❑ Organise and facilitate **thematic workshops**
- ❑ Analyse and disseminate the **content of projects** through dedicated events & publications
- ❑ Facilitate **knowledge sharing** and networking among regions on the collaborative tool



2 interrelated actions



Funding

- Programme ERDF budget: MEUR 359
 - ERDF budget for platforms: MEUR 15.3 (max)
 - ERDF budget for projects: **MEUR 322.4** equally shared over 4 priority axis (MEUR 84)
- ERDF budget recommended per project:
between MEUR 1 to 2



2. Zooming in on INTERREG EUROPE



- a. Improving Structural Funds programmes**
- b. Public administrations as main target groups**
- c. Mobilising stakeholders**
- d. Capturing results**



a. Improving Structural Funds programmes



(ERDF + ESF = **Structural Funds**) + Cohesion Fund
= **The Funds** + EAFRD + EMFF = **ESI Funds**
(European Structural and Investment Funds)



Why? rationale



**Objective set in the ETC Regulation - Article 2(3)(a)
for interregional cooperation:**

‘to reinforce the effectiveness of cohesion policy’

‘identification and dissemination of good practices with a view to their transfer principally to operational programmes under the Investment for growth and jobs goal but also, where relevant to cooperation programmes’



Goal 1: Investment for growth & jobs EUR 340 billion

**Goal 2:
European Territorial Cooperation
EUR 10.2 billion**



**INTERREG EUROPE
EUR 359 m**

How is it 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	
• 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

NB. Advisory partners won't address any policy instrument

How do you improve policies?

- Support **new projects**
- Change programme **governance**
- Change programme **structure**



b. Public administrations as main target groups



Why? Rationale

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: pre requisite

e.g. When Structural Funds programme addressed,
Managing Authorities (MA) / Intermediate Bodies (IB)
should be involved

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

*a commitment to fully support and closely follow the project
implementation*

Letter of support

Required for a partner when:

- Structural Funds programme is addressed, but the MA/IB (or other relevant bodies) in charge of the management of this Structural Funds programme is not directly involved in the project as a partner
- Another policy instrument (outside Structural Funds) is addressed, but the organisation responsible for this instrument is not directly involved in the project

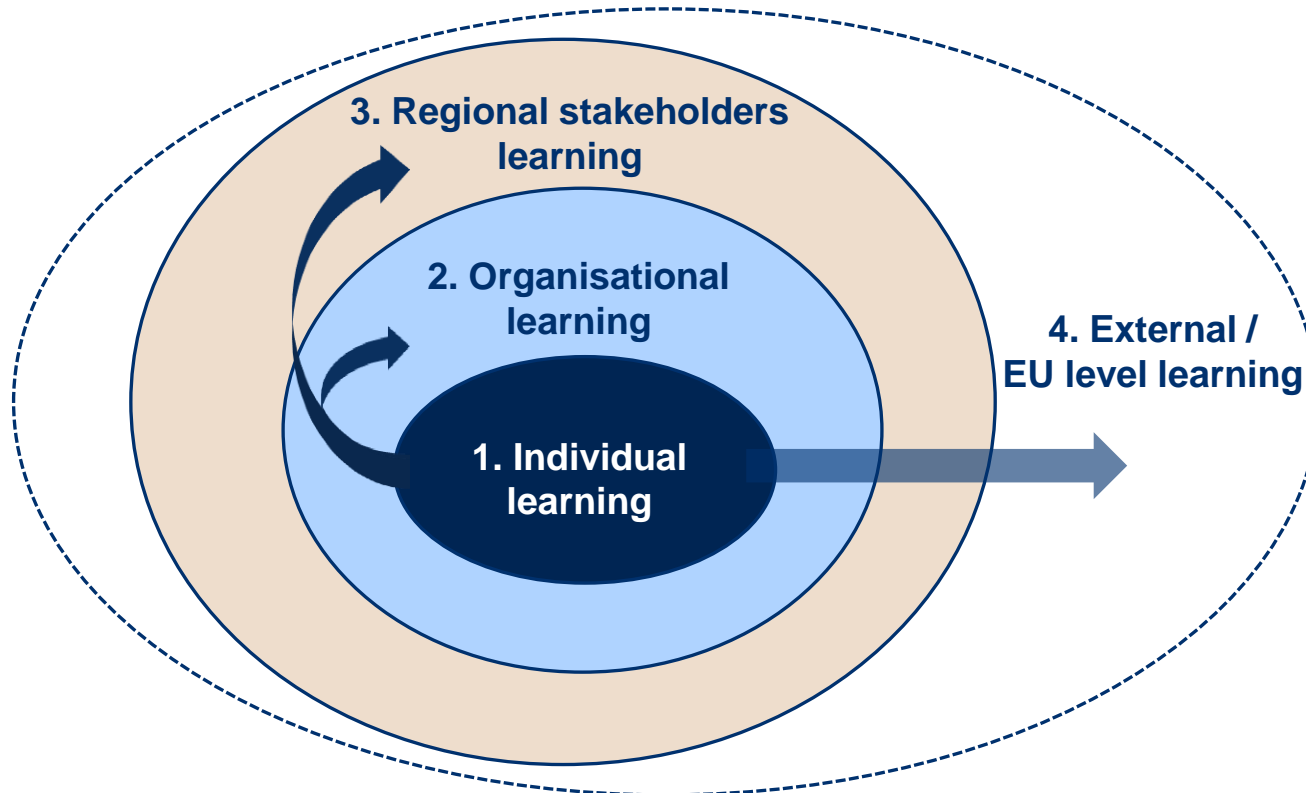


c. Mobilising stakeholders



Why? Rationale

4 levels of learning in interregional cooperation



Key success factor to interregional learning: to go beyond individual / organisational learning

How to optimise learning?

Creation of stakeholder groups:

- 1 group per policy instrument addressed

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



d. 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



Projects: structure and duration

Implementation in **2 phases**

Phase 1 (exchanging and 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 policy instrument addressed

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

Projects: structure



Phase 2

‘Monitoring the action plan implementation’

- **Monitor** the implementation of the different action plans
- Pilot actions (only in justified cases)

Insight into phase 2

- Primarily dedicated to monitoring the Action Plan implementation
- Activities pre-defined by the programme (i.e. 2 partner meetings, 1 dissemination event, website update and reporting activities)



First call for proposals



- 1. Calendar**
- 2. Terms of reference**
- 3. Support for projects**



mid-January 2015

Project idea feedback form available online
Scheduling for individual consultations open

1st half 2015

National information days
Individual consultations

April 2015

Launch of Information campaign on First call

June 2015

Lead applicant workshop

**mid-July 2015
(tbc)**

First call for project proposals closed
Submit application

First call for proposals – terms of reference

- **Provisional timing:**
 - April – June – 1st call information campaign
 - June – July – 1st call for proposals open (tbc)
- No **thematic** restrictions: call open to all Investment priorities
- No specific requirement in terms of **geographical** coverage
- One third **ERDF** budget available
- Procedure: **on-line system**



Partner search tool

Project idea database

Programme feedback

Application pack

Events



Hello!

Welcome to the INTERREG EUROPE community pages. This is the place to exchange the contacts, find potential project partners, post your project ideas and check what ideas others have.



It's your time to say hello to Europe! Join our community pages and get in contact with others.

Login error

LOGIN

If you do not have your account yet, you can register [here](#).

Interested what ideas others have, check the [project ideas section](#). Please note that we publish all ideas submitted without checking their relevance to the new topics of INTERREG EUROPE.

European Regional Development Fund

Our events

Capitalisation

JOIN OUR
COMMUNITY

REGISTER NOW

PROJECT
IDEAS

SEE MORE

Search :

go!



Approved projects
database



Good practices database



Country map



Calendar



Glossary



Contact form



RSS feed

[Homepage](#) • [Search](#)

INTERREG EUROPE PROJECT IDEA DATABASE

We want to help you share your ideas and find partners for INTERREG EUROPE projects.

Here you can have a look at project ideas posted by people like you. By clicking on a project idea, you can see more information about it: its objective, planned activities, partners already involved and partners searched.

If you want to contact the owner of a project idea or post your own, you have to register and become a member of the INTERREG EUROPE community. Those, who posted the ideas are already members.

If you are already registered, just log in and go to 'My Projects' section at the top of your profile page. Fill in all the fields to describe your project idea and submit. We will have a quick look and approve it, so that other people can see it.

With your registration you will also get access to more detailed information about the other people in the INTERREG EUROPE community.

You can find more information about the new programme, its themes and specific priorities on our [website](#).

We also encourage you to join our [LinkedIn discussion group](#). There you can promote your project idea or search actively for partners.

☒ Research and Innovation

☒ Competitiveness of SMEs

☒ Low carbon economy

☒ Environment and resource efficiency

--- Country ---

Fulltext search

SUBMIT

INNOVATIVE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IN WATER MANAGEMENT

Research and Innovation

Member States had to recently transpose the directive 2014/24/EC into national law. It has the objective of giving more incentive for taking up innovation into calls for tenders. Public calls for tenders account for 80% of SME's business. Developing innovative technologies, products or services is also an EU and national/regional priority to enhance SME's competitiveness. The objective is therefore to understand, how, in a context of budget constraints, local authorities, water resources managers and other public bodies in charge of water management will transpose the new rules so that it can stimulate greater uptake of innovation within the framework of water resources management, it can encourage SMEs to better invest in innovation. The rationale of this project could be the exchanges of best practices in Europe to compare, benchmark, and learn about existing and future practices to transpose EU law into an incentive for innovation; and identify the elements of success that could be transferred.



DESTINATION SMES

Competitiveness of SMEs

The aim of the project is to improve the competitiveness of the SMEs of the tourism sector which are beneficiaries of the mainstream programmes (mainly ERDF), by supporting the deployment of these programmes through the implementation of destination management policies.

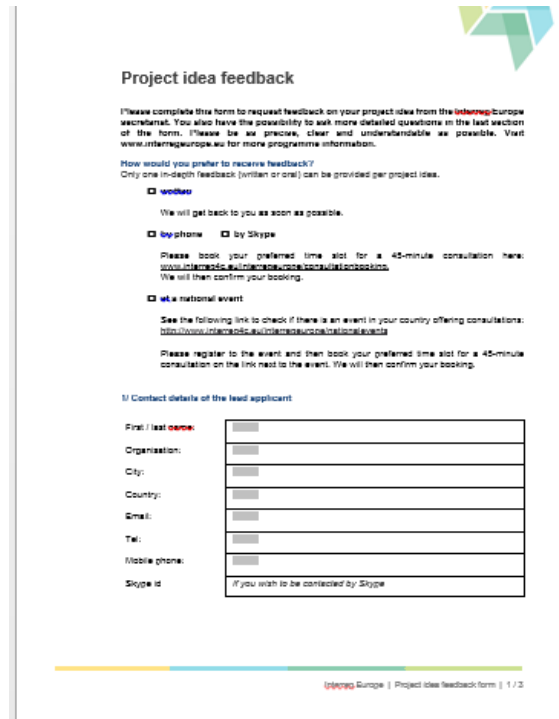


Feedback on your project idea

We recommend that you check if your project idea is relevant for Interreg Europe by filling in the project idea feedback form and sending it to the Joint Secretariat by email.

You can decide how you would like to receive feedback - written, by phone or Skype, or in person, if this option is proposed alongside national events - but you can only choose one!

Download project idea feedback form



Project idea feedback

Please complete this form to request feedback on your project idea from the Interreg Europe secretariat. You also have the possibility to ask more detailed questions in the last section of the form. Please be as precise, clear and understandable as possible. Visit www.interreg.europa.eu for more programme information.

How would you prefer to receive feedback?
Only one in-depth feedback (written or one) can be provided per project idea.

☐ **written**
We will get back to you as soon as possible.

☐ **by phone** ☐ **by Skype**
Please book your preferred time slot for a 45-minute consultation here:
www.interreg.europa.eu/interreg-europe-consultations
We will then confirm your booking.

☐ **at a national event**
See the following link to check if there is an event in your country offering consultations:
<http://www.interreg.europa.eu/interreg-europe-national-events>
Please register to the event and then book your preferred time slot for a 45-minute consultation on the link next to the event. We will then confirm your booking.

1/ Contact details of the lead applicant

First / last name:

Organisation:

City:

Country:

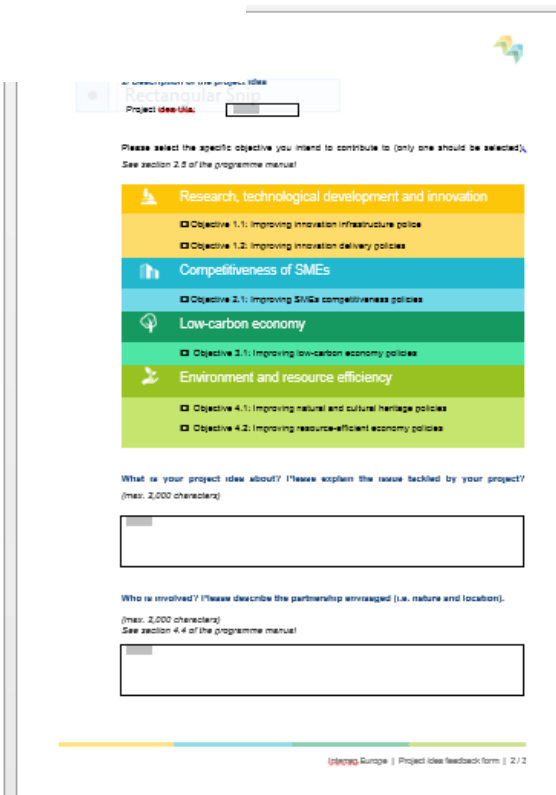
Email:

Tel:

Mobile phone:

Skype id: (if you wish to be contacted by Skype)

Interreg Europe | Project idea feedback form | 1 / 3



Rectangular grid
Project idea title:

Please select the specific objective you intend to contribute to (only one should be selected).
See section 2.5 of the programme manual

☒ **Research, technological development and innovation**
☐ Objective 1.1: Improving innovation infrastructure policies
☐ Objective 1.2: Improving innovation delivery policies

☐ **Competitiveness of SMEs**
☐ Objective 2.1: Improving SMEs competitiveness policies

☐ **Low-carbon economy**
☐ Objective 3.1: Improving low-carbon economy policies

☐ **Environment and resource efficiency**
☐ Objective 4.1: Improving natural and cultural heritage policies
☐ Objective 4.2: Improving resource-efficient economy policies

What is your project idea about? Please explain the issue tackled by your project?
(max. 2,000 characters)

Who is involved? Please describe the partnership envisaged (i.e. nature and location).
(max. 2,000 characters)
See section 4.4 of the programme manual

Interreg Europe | Project idea feedback form | 2 / 3

The application pack

First of all - the documents provided here are DRAFTS. They have been approved by the Interreg Europe programming committee and are disseminated as information to help applicants prepare for the first call for proposals. The monitoring committee of Interreg Europe - which will be established as soon as the European Commission approves the programme - have to formally agree on the application pack, so there may be some slight changes in the final documents. That's why each document has a disclaimer on it, and watermarked as 'draft'. **These documents are for information only, and cannot be used to submit an application to the programme!**

The application pack is made up of:

- the [terms of reference](#) of the first call for proposals
- the programme manual
- a pdf version of the online application
- the model partner declaration
- the model letter of support

Download the application pack:

- [Interreg Europe terms of reference Draft.pdf](#)
Terms of reference
- [Interreg Europe programme manual Draft.pdf](#)
Programme manual
- [Interreg Europe Letter of support Draft model.pdf](#)
Letter of support model
- [Interreg Europe Partner declaration Draft model.pdf](#)
Partner declaration model
- [Interreg Europe Application form Draft.docx](#)
Application form draft



National information events

- For local participants
- Information about the programme & funding opportunities
- Inspiration from local project partners

Lead applicant seminars

- 2 events per call for proposals
(Prague 2-3 June 2015 &
Brussels 10-11 June 2015)
- For lead applicants in projects upon submission of relevant PIF
- Guidance for submitting the application
- Usually with individual consultations





**interreg4c.eu/interreg-europe
interregeurope.eu**



facebook.com/interregeurope



twitter.com/interregeurope



changing-regions.eu



Thank you for your attention!