



EU GREEN

E U R O P E A N A L L I A N C E

Opportunities for Interreg Cooperation

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INTERREG PROGRAMMES 2021 – 2027

1. **Roundtable; your experience with the Interreg programmes.**
2. What is Interreg?
3. What types of Interreg do we have?
4. Funding priorities (INTERREG objectives).
5. Strands of Cooperation – EU GREEN partners.
6. Main transnational subprogrammes.
7. Where can I find more Interreg calls?
8. Building a relevant partnership.
9. Success stories.

COHESION POLICY

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

GOAL 1:
Investment for growth and job

GOAL 2:
European Territorial Cooperation

Interreg 

INTERREG A:
Cross-Border Cooperation
64 Programmes

10 IPA CBC programmes

5 NEXT CBC programmes

INTERREG B:
Transnational Cooperation
13 Programmes

3 IPA programmes

3 NEXT programmes

INTERREG C:
Interregional Cooperation
4 Programmes

1 IPA programme

URBACT

Interreg Europe

Interact

ESPON

INTERREG D:
Cooperation in the Outermost Regions
5 Regions

Interreg 
INTERREG OUTERMOST REGIONS

Interreg projects beyond EU borders

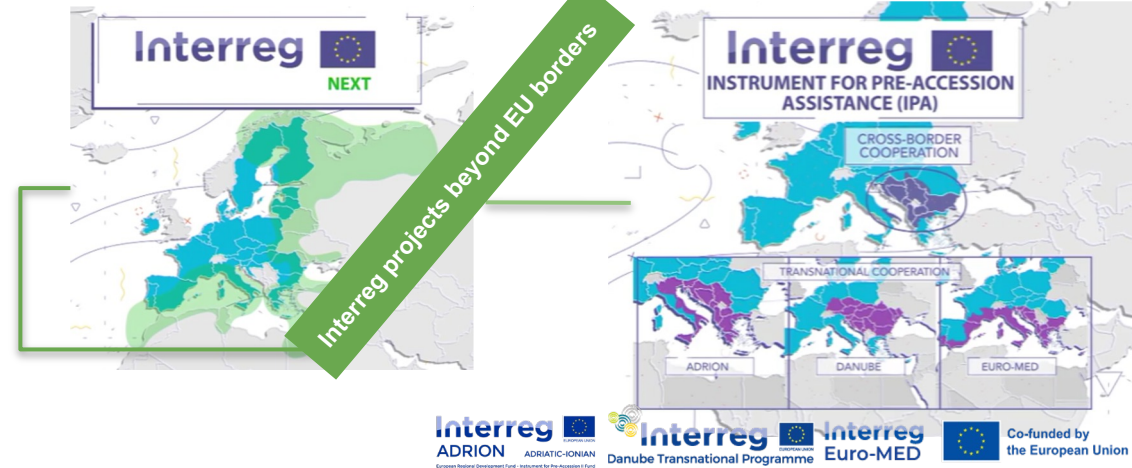


Fig. 1: Interreg structure

*IPA: Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance; Cooperation with candidate countries

*ENI: European Neighbourhood Instrument = the new programme is called "Interreg NEXT"

INTERREG PROGRAMMES 2021 - 2027



Strengthening **transnational cooperation** by taking up **common challenges**



Jointly developed **solutions**
Jointly implemented **pilot actions**
Positive change in the region















Strengthening organizations
by **practical and durable solutions** to the challenges

- **Cross border:** Turning Border Obstacles into Opportunities (64 programmes).
- **Transnational:** Supporting Larger Scale Initiatives (13 programmes).
- **Interregional:** Enhancing Cohesion Policy Effectiveness (4 programmes).
- **Outermost Regions:** the recognition of 5 regions.
- **BUDGET:** EUR 10 billion

Interreg 2021-2027 Funding priorities

7 Policy Objectives to implement EU priorities across the borders

| PO1: Smarter Europe | PO2: Greener Europe | PO3: Better connected Europe | PO4: More social Europe | PO5: A Europe closer to citizens | ISO 1: Better Cooperation governance | ISO 2: Safer and more secure Europe |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|--|
|  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • innovative and smart economic transformation enhancing research and the uptake of advanced technologies across the EU borders  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NET-ZERO carbon economy • Smart RE-USE • clean and fair energy transition • climate change mitigation   |  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • climate resilient cross-border mobility • optimized transport flows • accessibility  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • effective and inclusive employment • education • social inclusion • skills • equal access to healthcare   |  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • integrated, sustainable development • better spatially adapted governance  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sustainable democracy • strengthen mutual trust among citizens • enhance the institutional capacity of public administration   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improving access to employment • encouraging life-long learning • promoting gender balance • fostering equal opportunities  |

*PO: Policy objective
*ISO: Interreg Specific Objective

Investments in a smarter, greener, more connected and more social Europe that is closer to its citizens.

Interreg 2021-2027 Strands of Cooperation

I N T E R R E G

I N T E R R E G

**INTERREG
A: Cross-
Border
Cooperation**
64
Programmes

**POCTEP (Spain-
Portugal)**

**PEACE PLUS
(Northern Ireland -
Ireland)**

Central Baltic

Romania-Hungary

EU GREEN partner
located in the
Programme area



Cross - Border Cooperation

Interreg cross-border cooperation, known as Interreg A, supports cooperation between NUTS III regions from at least two different Member States lying directly on the borders or adjacent to them.

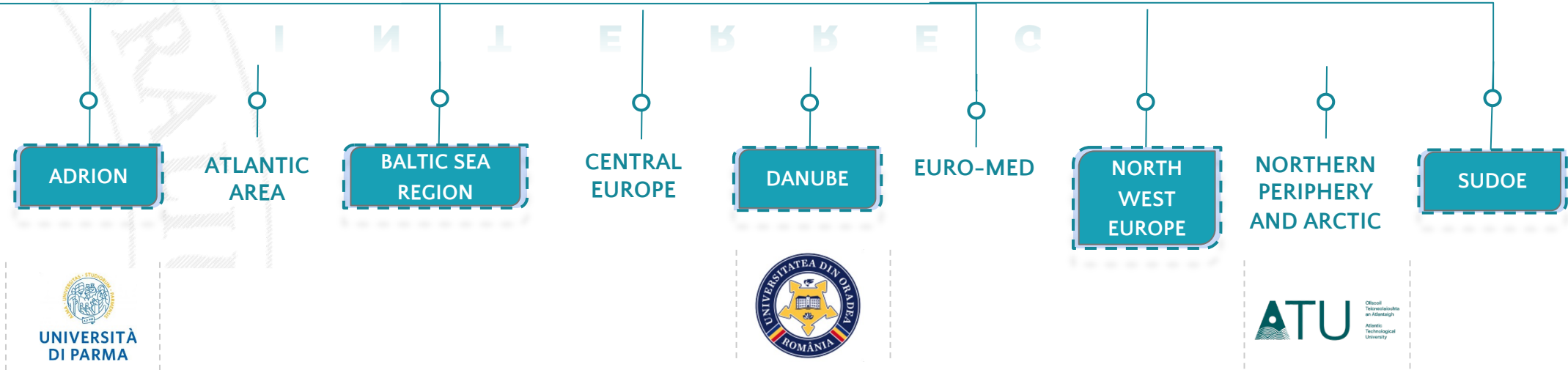
[LIST OF PROGRAMMES](#)



Interreg 2021-2027 Strands of Cooperation

**INTERREG
B:**
Transnational
Cooperation
13
Programmes

I N T E R R E G



**1 EU GREEN
partner**



**2 EU GREEN
partners**



**3 EU GREEN
partners**





Strengthening **transnational cooperation** by taking up **common challenges**



Jointly developed and implemented **strategies and action plans**
Jointly developed **solutions**
Jointly implemented **pilot actions**



Strengthening organizations by joint **solutions put into practice**

INTERREG ATLANTIC AREA 2021 - 2027



- Project duration: up to 36 months
- ERDF co-financing of 75%
- At least 4 partners from different countries located in the Programme area
- Programme area: northwestern & western France, Ireland, Portugal, Spain: northern coast, Andalucia, Canary Islands

EU GREEN partners



INTERREG ATLANTIC AREA 2021 – 2027

4 Programme Thematic Objectives



PO1:
Blue innovation and competitiveness (Smarter Europe)

Specific objective 1.1:
Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies

Specific objective 1.2:
Reaping the benefits of digitalisation for citizens, companies, research organisation and public authorities



PO2:
Blue and green environment (Greener Europe)

Specific objective 2.1:
Promoting energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Specific objective 2.2:
Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention, resilience, taking into account eco-system based approaches

Specific objective 2.3: Promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy

Specific objective 2.4: Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution



PO4: Blue sustainable tourism and culture (Social Europe)

Specific objective 3.1:
Enhancing the role of culture and tourism in economic development, social inclusion and social innovation



ISO 1: A better governance for cooperation

*PO: Policy objective
*ISO: Interreg Specific Objective



Strengthening **transnational cooperation** by taking up **common challenges**



Jointly developed and implemented **strategies and action plans**
Jointly developed **solutions**
Jointly implemented **pilot actions**



Strengthening organizations
by joint **solutions put into practice**

INTERREG CENTRAL EUROPE 2021 - 2027



- Project duration: usually 30-36 months
- ERDF co-financing of 80%
- At least 3 partners from different EU countries and at least two located in the Programme area
- Programme area: Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, eastern part of Germany, Hungary, northern Italy, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia

EU GREEN partners



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OTTO VON GUERICKE
UNIVERSITÄT
MAGDEBURG



UNIVERSITÀ
DI PARMA

INTERREG CENTRAL EUROPE 2021 - 2027

4 Programme Thematic Objectives



PO1:
**Cooperating for
a smarter central
Europe**

**Specific objective
1.1:** Strengthening
innovation capacities
in central Europe

Specific objective 1.2:
Strengthening skills for
smart specialisation,
industrial transition and
entrepreneurship in
central Europe



PO2:
**Cooperating
for a greener
central Europe**

**Specific objective
2.1:** Supporting the
energy transition to a
climate-neutral
central Europe

Specific objective 2.2:
Increasing the resilience to
climate change risks in
central Europe

**Specific objective
2.3:** Taking circular
economy forward
in central Europe

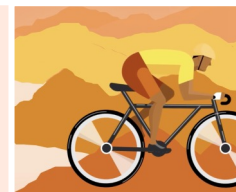
**Specific objective
2.4:** Safeguarding
the environment
in central Europe

Specific objective 2.5:
Greening urban
mobility in central
Europe



**PO3: Cooperating for a better
connected central Europe**

Specific objective 3.1:
Improving transport
connections of rural and
peripheral regions in central
Europe



**ISO 1: Improving governance for
cooperation in central Europe**

Specific objective 4.1:
Strengthening governance
for integrated territorial
development in central
Europe

*PO: Policy objective
*ISO: Interreg Specific Objective

Interreg
Euro-MED



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Strengthening **transnational cooperation** by taking up **common challenges**



Jointly developed and implemented **strategies and action plans**
Jointly developed **solutions**



Strengthening organizations by joint **solutions put into practice**

INTERREG EURO-MED 2021 - 2027

INTERREG B:
Transnational
Cooperation
13 Programmes

- ERDF co-financing of 80%
- At least 4 partners from different countries located in the Programme area and at least 2 partners based in the EU
- Programme area: Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, southern France, Greece, Italy (apart from Trento, Bolzano-Bozen), Malta, Montenegro, southern¢ral Portugal, North Macedonia, Slovenia, southern, south-central & eastern Spain

EU GREEN partners



INTERREG EURO-MED 2021 - 2027

Interreg Euro-MED's missions

Strengthening an innovative sustainable economy



SO 1.1

SO 2.6

SO 6.6

Protecting, restoring and valorising the natural environment and heritage



SO 2.4

SO 2.7

SO 6.6

Promoting green living areas



SO 2.4

SO 6.6

Enhancing sustainable tourism



SO 1.1

SO 2.4

SO 2.6

SO 2.7

SO 6.6

Missions cover the **specific objectives** of the Programme:



**PO1:
Smarter
Mediterranean**

Specific objective 1.1:
Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies



**PO2:
Greener
Mediterranean**

Specific objective 2.4:
Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention, resilience, taking into account eco-system based approaches

Specific objective 2.6: Promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy

Specific objective 2.7: Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution



**ISO 1:
Mediterranean
Governance**

Specific objective 6.6:
Actions to support better cooperation governance



*PO: Policy objective
*ISO: Interreg Specific Objective

Interreg 2021-2027

Where can I find more Interreg calls?

Cross - Border Cooperation

Interreg cross-border cooperation, known as Interreg A, supports cooperation between NUTS III regions from at least two different Member States lying directly on the borders or adjacent to them.

[LIST OF PROGRAMMES](#)



Transnational Cooperation

Interreg transnational cooperation, known as Interreg B, involves regions from several countries of the EU forming bigger areas where it aims to promote better cooperation and regional development within the Union by a joint approach to tackle common issues.

[LIST OF PROGRAMMES](#)



INTERREG A:
Cross-Border Cooperation
64 Programmes

INTERREG B:
Transnational Cooperation
13 Programmes

Interreg 2021-2027

Where can I find more Interreg calls?

Interregional Cooperation

Interreg has 4 interregional cooperation programmes, known as Interreg C : Interreg Europe, Interact, Urbact and Espon. The interregional programmes are geographically “pan-European” covering vast areas.

[LIST OF PROGRAMMES](#)



INTERREG C:
Interregional
Cooperation
4
Programmes

Interreg NEXT Cooperation

A total of 15 programmes are implemented under ENI CBC. They cover 12 land borders, one sea crossing and three sea basins, stretching from Finland and Russia in the north, to countries like Hungary and Ukraine in the east, and Italy, Northern Africa and the Middle East in the south.

Following the Russian military aggression against Ukraine and in line with the EU restrictive measures, the Commission is suspending the cooperation with Russia and Belarus and their participation in the 2021-2027 Interreg NEXT programmes.

[LIST OF PROGRAMMES](#)



Interreg 2021-2027 Building a relevant partnership

**PROBLEM
ISSUE**

COMMON CHALLENGE

= IMPROVES THE TERRITORIAL SITUATION

Local
Regional
National

**SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHICAL
COVERAGE**

WHO can change it?

= PARTNERS

• *partners competent in the topic*

*group composition varies: public authorities,
research institutions, regional agencies, SMEs,
NGOs...*

TO BE CONSIDERED:

*Can the partner influence the **policy instrument**?*

*What can the partner bring to the **cooperation**?*

*Partner's **capacity** to actively participate in project.*

WHO else to involve?

• *core target groups*
• *stakeholder groups*

*What do I want to change?
What is the overall regional
development issue addressed by the
project?*

*Be coherent with the
specific policy objective you
selected.
How could it be improved by
means of cooperation?*

Theory of change

SOLUTION

Interreg 2021-2027

Building a relevant partnership

PROBLEM ISSUE

eg.:

- i) to improve natural and cultural heritage management;
- ii) to improve policy support for raw materials resilience, responsible domestic mining, and further development of secondary markets.

RESEARCH - RESEARCH RESULTS - SOLUTIONS

or
SOLUTIONS - RESEARCH - BETTER SOLUTIONS

SOLUTION

Clear result orientation.
eg. *procedures, services, tools...must be interlinked with pilots, should be ideally be deployed and taken up during the project, done jointly*

How to sustain the results?



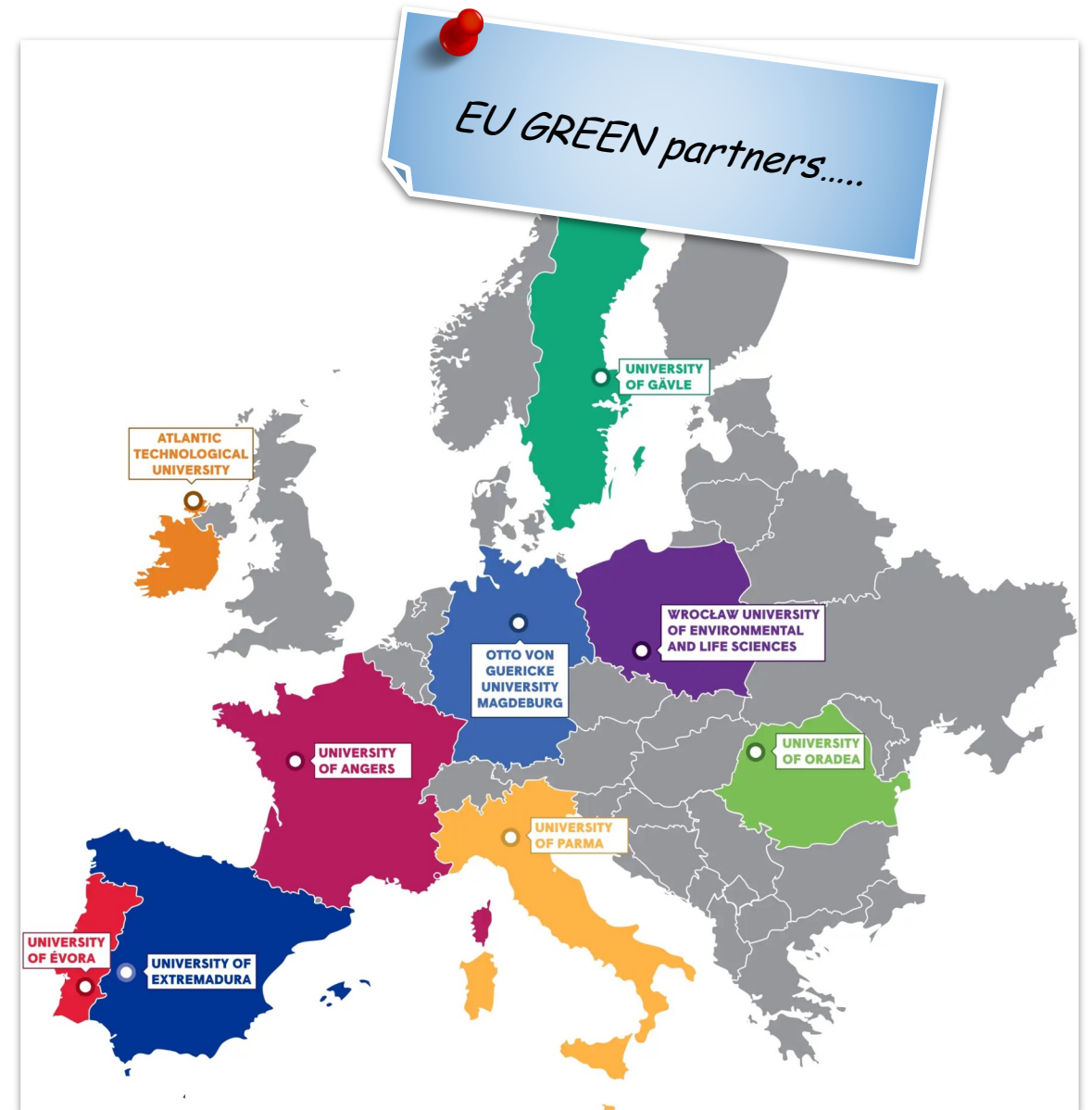
- *jointly developed*
- *tailored*
- *tested in real life*
- *transferable*
- *innovative!*

CHANGE!
in the Programme area

- Pilot actions to develop/test/optimize solutions
- Strategies and action plans for implementation of solutions

SUCCESS STORIES

Success Story



INTERREG CENTRAL EUROPE 2014-2020

SUCCESS STORY



 PRIORITY: NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES



Priority:

NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES



STREFOWA

Strategies to Reduce and Manage Food Waste in Central Europe

The STREFOWA project wanted to find and design new ideas dealing with food waste. The aim was to reduce food waste or to treat it in a better, more useful way, along the whole supply chain.

Partners:

LEAD PARTNER: University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Austria

1 territorial development agency, 1 local authority, 1 university (UPWr), 1 association, 1 SME, 3 non-profit companies from 5 countries

Target groups:

Farmers, retailers, wholesales, charitable organisations, food banks, students, teachers, consumers, social media experts, hoteliers

Project in numbers:

16 pilot actions, 1 online tool, 13 roadshows and 5 hackatons in 5 countries, 5 guidelines and 1 handbook and many more...

Project achievements:

The biggest success of the project were many variable pilot actions implemented in direct collaboration with schools (*both pupils and teachers*), food banks, hotels, farmers – many experiences gained, lots of feedback from the target groups, training materials evaluated and optimized.



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Priority:

**EDUCATION, NUTRITION,
HEALTH**

NETSUS

Nutrition Education Network for Sustainable Development in the Euroregion Neisse

The NETSUS equalises educational opportunities for residents and creates conditions for making offers and activities on the subject of sustainable nutrition to various social groups

Partners:

LEAD PARTNER: 1 association Christlich-Soziales Bildungswerk Sachsen e.V. (CSB), 1 university (UPWr), 10 schools (5 PL, 5 DE), 1 PL food bank, 10 local business

Target groups:

children, young people, teachers, educators, schools, food banks, local associations, local food producers, gastronomy,

Project in numbers:

partnership of 10 schools, 320 trained children and about 500 to be trained in the next 2 years, 10 trained educators, 4 roadshows, 1 educational platform

Project achievements:

The most significant success of the project was establishing cooperation and joint lessons within the area of nutrition, health, respect for food, respect for tradition and breaking food stereotypes.



INTERREG CENTRAL EUROPE 2021-2027

SUCCESS STORY



Interreg
CENTRAL EUROPE



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HUMANITA



Priority:
Cooperating for a greener central Europe
2.4 Safeguarding the environment

HUMANITA

Human-Nature Interactions and Impacts of Tourist Activities on Protected Areas

The HUMANITA project develops evidence-based and participatory management tools that allow regions to better monitor and evaluate the impact of tourism in protected areas.

Partners:

LEAD PARTNER: University of Žilina, Department of Geotechnics, 2 local, 1 regional and 1 national authorities, 4 universities (UNIPR one of the partners), 5 SMEs/enterprises, from 5 countries, + 14 Associated partners

Target groups:

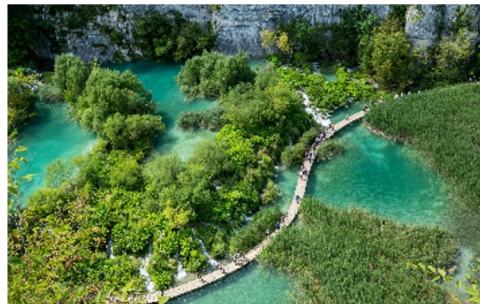
Tourists; Local public authority; Regional public authority; National public authority; Sectoral agency; Infrastructure and (public) service provider; Interest groups including NGOs; Higher education and research organisations; SME; EGTC; Geopark Karawanken; International organisation, EEIG; General public; Education/training center and school;

Project in numbers:

5 pilot actions

Project achievements: [started 01.04.2023]

The project focuses on the joint development of new complementary tools and methods of tourists' impact assessment to better evaluate environmental conditions and trends, take explicit managerial responses and actions, develop information for national and EU policymakers, and the public. Jointly developed PAs and solutions will demonstrate the use of innovative approaches to measuring the environmental impacts of tourism of the project area.



HUMANITA

Sheltering protected areas
for and with tourists



INTERREG NORTH WEST EUROPE 2014-2020

SUCCESS STORY



Priority: SO1:

To enhance innovation performance of enterprises throughout NWE regions



Enter to Transform

Transformational Entrepreneurship Hubs for Recognized Refugee Re-starters

The Enter to Transform project helped to solve the challenges of increasing the capacity of recognised refugee entrepreneurs to start viable businesses in their host countries utilising existing structures and social innovation techniques. The overall objective was to accelerate the number of successful startups and businesses by supporting and increasing entrepreneurship capacity of recognised refugees; and also the capacity of institutions dealing with recognised refugees in business creation through a new approach improving the performance of the existing business support infrastructure in NWE region including Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands and France.

Partners:

LEAD PARTNER: University of Twente (the Netherlands), 3 business support organisations, 4 universities, 3 NGOs (refugee support organisations) from 4 countries

Target groups:

Refugee entrepreneurs, business support organisations, SMEs, local authority, regional authority, national public authority, refugee support agencies.

Project in numbers:

4 pilot actions implemented, 12+ tools developed, 1 action plan adopted, 200 people trained,

Project achievements:

Improving the landscape for refugee entrepreneurs across North West Europe and supporting the successful startup of dozens of businesses.



INTERREG ATLANTIC AREA 2014-2020

SUCCESS STORY



Priority: PO1:

Innovation & Competitiveness



SAFER

Lead Partner: European Regions Network for the Application of Communications Technology (IE)

Duration: 2017-2023

Total budget: 2.24 M€

www.saferatlantic.eu

SAFER

Smart Atlantic Seafood Clusters

The SAFER project helped to improve the innovation performance of the seafood sector by increasing technology adoption and transnational cooperation giving response to the challenges of a sector identified as high potential for the smart growth of the participant regions. The overall objective was to create an innovation platform to sustain an effective transnational network of seafood clusters to drive innovation across the Atlantic area. The platform promotes technology transfer and collaboration methods by jointly implementing and evaluating Living Lab pilots.

Partners:

LEAD PARTNER: ERNACT Network (Ireland), 3 regional authorities, 3 government agencies, 1 university, 2 SMEs, 3 special interest groups (sea clusters) from 6 countries

Target groups:

Seafood growers and producers in the Atlantic Area region.

Project in numbers:

7 living lab pilot actions implemented, 1 platform, 1 network.

Project achievements:

SAFER developed a transnational network of smart seafood clusters able to drive innovation across the Atlantic area. The partnership piloted actions in 5 Atlantic regions to test the network and its suite of innovation services in real living labs within the seafood sector.

INTERREG NORTH WEST EUROPE 2021-2027

NON-SUCCESS STORY



Priority: Transition towards a socially inclusive and resilient society

SO 4.1: Enhancing the effectiveness and inclusiveness of labour markets and access to quality employment through developing social infrastructure and promoting social economy



EVERGREEN

Enhancing Transregional “Green” Female Entrepreneurship

The Enter to Transform project aimed to support female entrepreneurs to start green businesses or ‘green’ existing businesses. The overall objective was to facilitate the exploitation of green female entrepreneurship across NWE to drive regional economic development toward green and inclusive growth by combining the previously unconnected fields of female entrepreneurship, green economy, and greening established female business.

Partners:

LEAD PARTNER: Atlantic Technological University (Ireland), 6 business support organisations, 3 universities, 3 special interest groups from 5 countries

Target groups:

Female entrepreneurs (at any stage of business), business support organisations, local authority, regional authority.

Project in numbers:

1 Joint Action Plan (JAP), 5 Transnational Pilot Actions, 1 Digital Ecosystem (DECO)

Stage: Project was approved at Step 1, however it was rejected at Step 2

What went wrong:

Consortium: 12 core partners that were constituted of too many small business support organisations and no government authorities/municipalities as core partners, only as associate partners.

Interreg Europe 2014 - 2020

SUCCESS STORY



Priority:
Research & Innovation

Beyond EDP How can we make Europe more innovative?

The Beyond EDP project helped to solve the challenges of the implementation of the RIS respectively for the participating regions. The overall objective is to strengthen the entrepreneurial discovery process (EDP) in Europe and boosting the Regional Innovation smart specialisation strategy of participating regions.

Partners:

LEAD PARTNER: Centre-Val de Loire Regional Innovation Agency, France

4 local, regional and national authorities, 2 SMEs/enterprises, 1 business support organisation, 2 universities, higher education institutions and research centres and 1 NGOs / local communities and associations from 11 countries

Target groups:

European businesses, knowledge institutes, relevant partners, local and regional authorities

Project in numbers:

Three pilot actions implemented, one tools developed, one action plans adopted, 109 stakeholders involved, 62 people trained,

Project achievements:

The biggest success of the project was a joint innovation approach that led to different new network formats as our „Unternehmer Brunch“ and the establishment of a academic think Tank called DYNA at the Otto-von-Guericke-university.



How to resolve the main Entrepreneurial Discovery Process challenges?

Synthesis report of the three taskforces on EDP Management as part as Beyond EDP project – 2nd version



Are you considering applying for Interreg Funding?

- Have you developed your project idea?
- Have you identified a relevant programme for funding?
- Have you checked the eligibility criteria?
- Have you formed a consortium (full/partial)?
- Have you consulted with potential target groups & stakeholders?
- Have you contacted your Local Interreg Programme Contact Point?

Take-away message

Take-away message



The project must be coherent with the specific policy objective/s.

Concrete and operational responses to the challenges and needs of target groups / end-users.

Synergy and collaboration with other projects.

Importance of cooperation and interdisciplinarity.

Replicability, transferability and sustainability of solutions.

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION!



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EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY:
RESPONSIBLE GROWTH, INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENT

EU GREEN RESEARCH WEEK
Angers, June 26th– June 29th

Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences
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