Interreg Europe

European Union | European Regional Development Fund

Design of pilot actions

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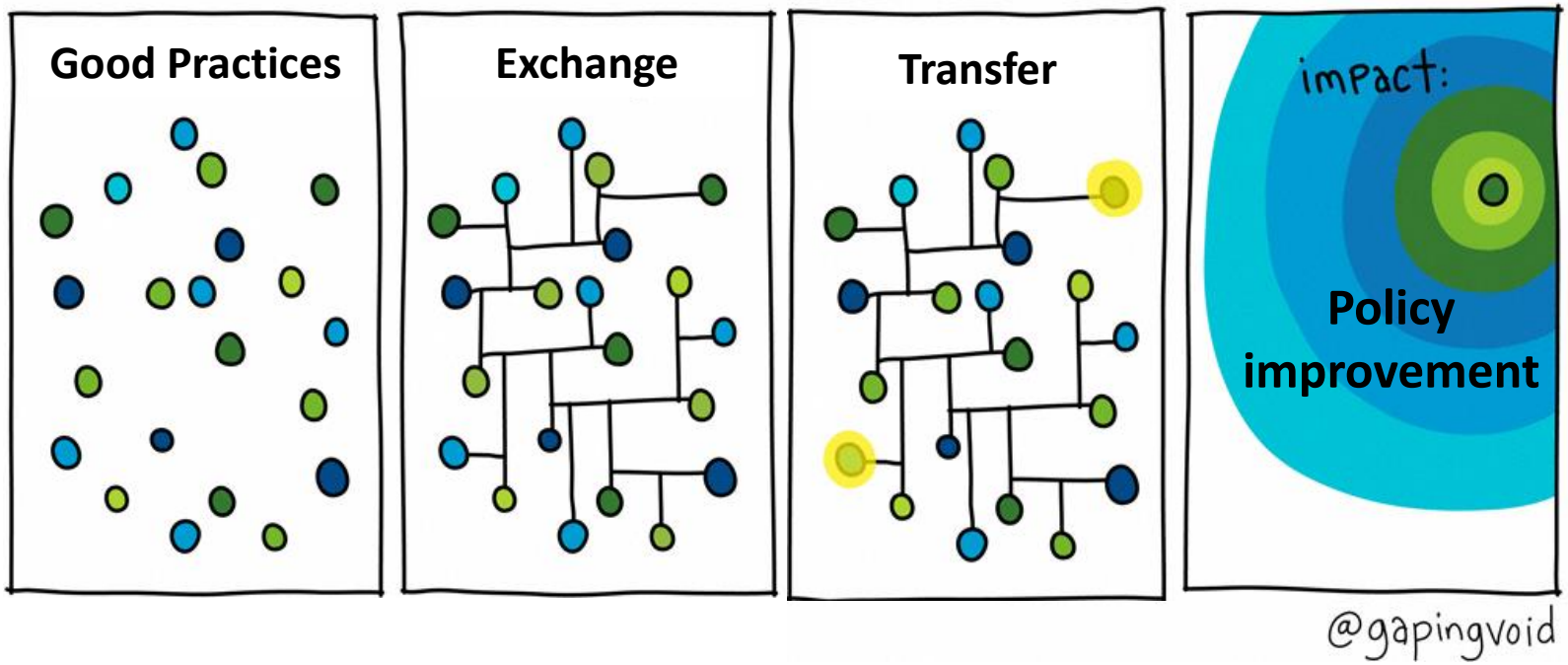
Summary

1. Context and programme expectations

2. Process to request a pilot

3. Examples of pilot actions and conclusion

Definition



Pilot actions are implementation-related activities dedicated to **testing** a new approach. This usually refers to the **transfer** of a good practice found in another region.

Context: growing experience

March 2018
First pilot action approved CISMOB Interreg Europe

81 pilot actions approved from **52 projects**

COVID-19

June 2020
Set of measures

- Adapting pilot actions in phase 2 (1st and 2nd call projects)
- Pilot action in **phase 1** (4th call projects)

April 2021 (tbc)
COVID-19 call for additional activities NEW

Programme expectations

Pilot actions need to fulfil **3 conditions**

1. Relevance and durability

- ✓ To clearly **contribute to the policy instrument** tackled in the region.
- ✓ Part of the **action plan** of that region.
- ✓ The **measures to ensure the durability** have to be precisely defined.

2. Interregionality

- ✓ Pilot actions need to be clearly **related to the interregional learning process**.

3. Additionality

- ✓ The region proposing a pilot action should explain why this action **cannot be financed by the relevant local, regional or national funds.**

Process to request a pilot:

Pre-check with JS

- Important **to optimise process** (no need to complete full template for pilot actions with no potential).
- Can take place during the **mid-term review** meeting or by **phone/email.**
- Related to core criteria mentioned in programme manual: **Relevance, Interregionality, Additionality**
- **A positive pre-check does not ensure that the pilot action is finally recommended**.
- **Max: One pilot per partner region**
- Budget Between **EUR 10,000** and **EUR 80,000**.

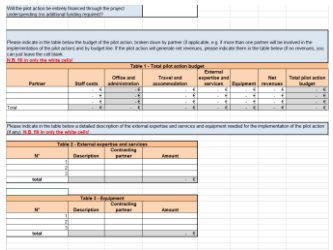
Pre-check with JS

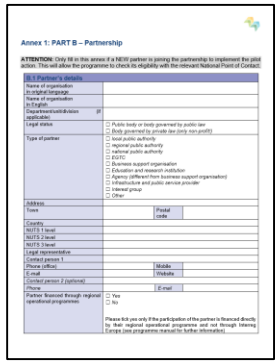
YES

NO

LP sends the pilot request **template** to JS

JS informs LP partner why the pilot action is not relevant





PO + FO assessment

Not in line with the programme requirements

Pilot action assessment

1.1 Relevance

Context of the pilot action
✓ Is the pilot action clearly related to the issue addressed by the project? ✓ Is the pilot action contributing to the achievement of the project's objectives?
Nature of the pilot action
✓ Is the action clearly defined and with an implementation character? ✓ Is the testing character of the pilot action clear?
Policy relevance and durability
✓ Is it confirmed that the pilot action is a full part of the action plan for the region(s) concerned? ✓ Is the pilot action clearly linked to the policy instrument addressed in the application form or to another policy instrument addressed in the action plan? ✓ Does the pilot action clearly contribute to this policy instrument? ✓ Is it explained how the pilot action will be mainstreamed (in case of success) and how its durability will be ensured? Ideally, is this reflected in the work plan?

Pilot action assessment

1.2 Additionality

Additionality
✓ Is it clearly explained why other local, national, regional funds cannot be allocated in order to support the implementation of the pilot action?

1.3 Interregionality

Link between the pilot action and the interregional learning activities
✓ Does the pilot action clearly derive from the exchange of experience process? ✓ In case the pilot action refers to the transfer of a good practice or lesson learnt from a different region, are the transferred elements clearly described?

1.4 Feasibility

Feasibility
✓ Are the planned activities feasible in terms of scope and timing? ✓ Is the budget adequate for the implementation of the pilot action proposed? (**FO check**) ✓ Is it confirmed that the pilot action is not state aid relevant? (**FO check**) ✓ If new organisations are involved in the implementation of the pilot actions, are they eligible to the Interreg Europe programme?

Recommendation and approval

1. **JS final recommendations**

State aid relevance		Yes	No
1/ Does the pilot action represent a service which allows to make profit and for which a market exists (i.e. is it considered as an economic activity in the meaning of the Commission notice on the notion of State Aid (n° 2016/C 262/01)?			X
2/ Could the financial situation of the concerned partner(s) improve as a result of the pilot (i.e. could the pilot action potentially distort the competition)?			X
3/ Will there be any economic benefit to third parties? (indirect state aid relevance)			X
Conclusion	**This pilot action is not State aid relevant.**		

	Yes	No
Additional funding requested?		X

Fulfilment of criteria?	Yes	No
1/ Relevance	X	
2/ Additionality	X	
3/ Interregionality	X	
4/ Feasibility (including finance)	X	
Final recommendation	**Recommended for approval**	

Monitoring Committee approves:

During a **meeting or** via **written procedure**

Notification letter

Request for Changes

Examples of pilot actions

NICHE
Interreg Europe

iEER
Interreg Europe

RESOLVE
Interreg Europe

CISMOB
Interreg Europe

Green Pilgrimage
Interreg Europe

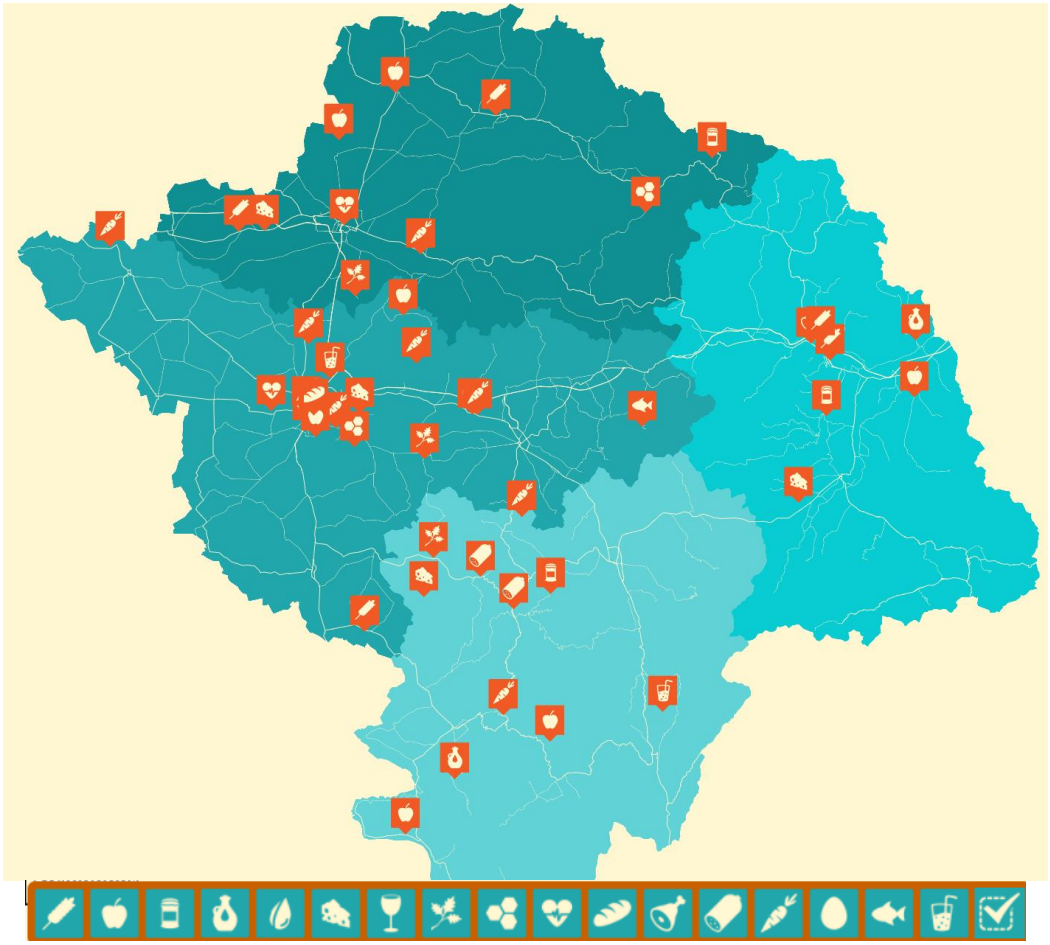
Eat Local

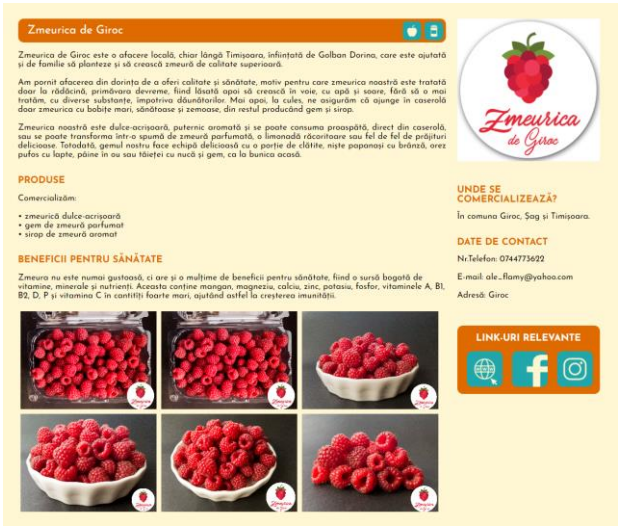
Regional Development Agency West Region (RO)
from Donegal (IE) & Crete (EL)

Eat Local

REGIUNEA VEST ROMÂNIA

NICHE Interreg Europe





https://aromeproprii.ro

Aula Emprende

Helsinki-Uusimaa (FI), Westpomerania (PL), Brandenburg (DE), Marche Region (IT), Hauts-de-France (FR), Northern Ireland (UK), Region of Southern Denmark (DE), Donegal (IE) & Crete (EL)
From Valencia (ES)

*"Aula Emprende pilot has successfully involved **31** universities, trained **352** teachers and professors and taught **1101** students in nine regions replicating the Motivem model."*

Real time information for bus passengers

University of Aveiro and Municipality of Agueda (PT)
from Ploiesti and Timisoara (RO), Stockholm (SE), Extremadura (ES)

CISMOB
Interreg Europe

universidade de aveiro

ÁGUEDA
CÂMARA MUNICIPAL

Parklets

Maribor Municipality (SI) and Transport for Greater Manchester (UK) from Rotterdam (NL)

Photo courtesy of Humankind - www.humankind.city

Parklets

MESTNA OBČINA MARIBOR

RESOLVE
Interreg Europe

Parklets

MESTNA OBČINA MARIBOR

RESOLVE
Interreg Europe

Parklets

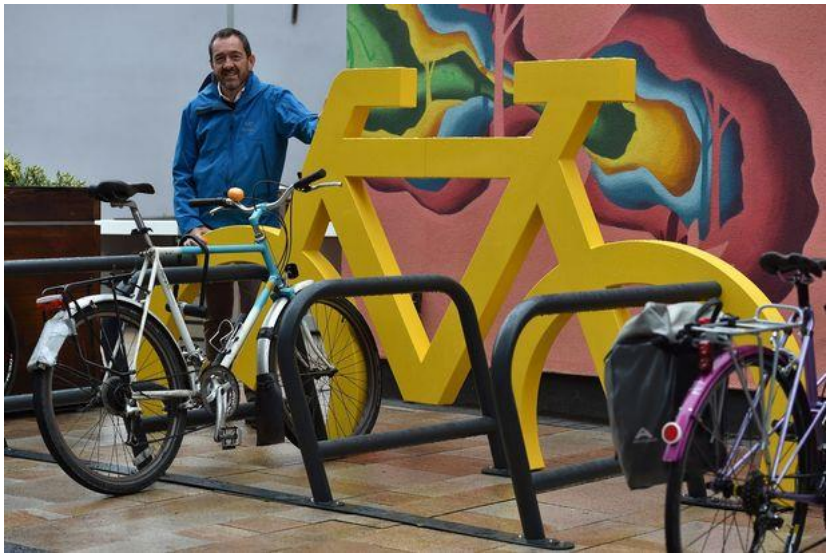
MESTNA OBČINA MARIBOR

RESOLVE
Interreg Europe

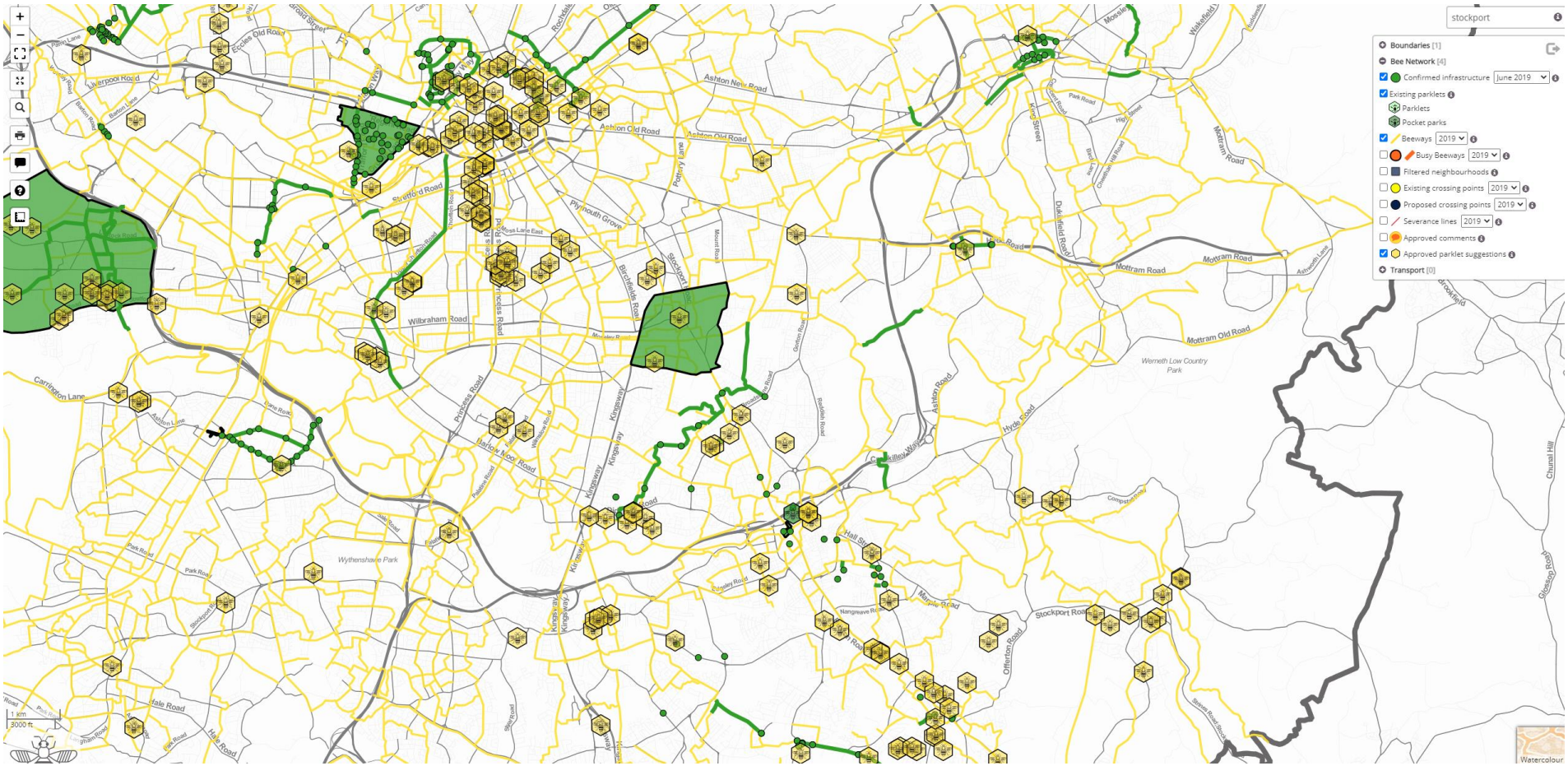
Parklets

Transport for Greater Manchester

RESOLVE Interreg Europe



Parklets



Bee Network map

Greater Manchester cycling and walking infrastructure proposal

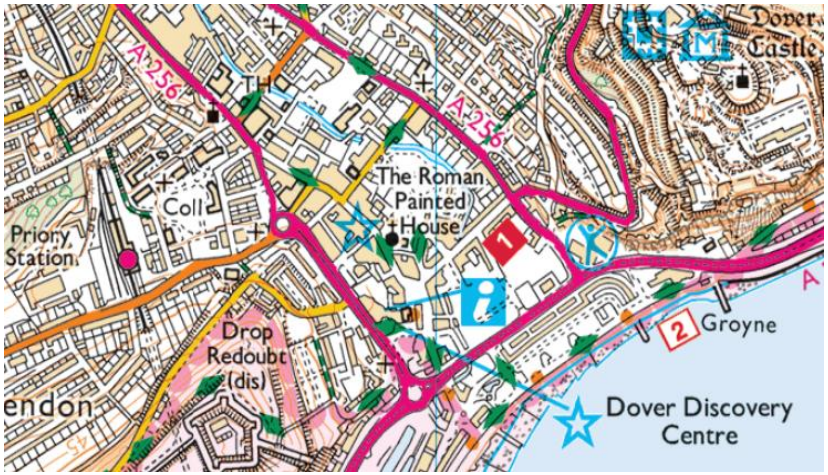
UK Via Francigena Route

Kent County Council (UK)

from Tuscany and Puglia (IT), Trodheim (NO) and Galicia (ES)

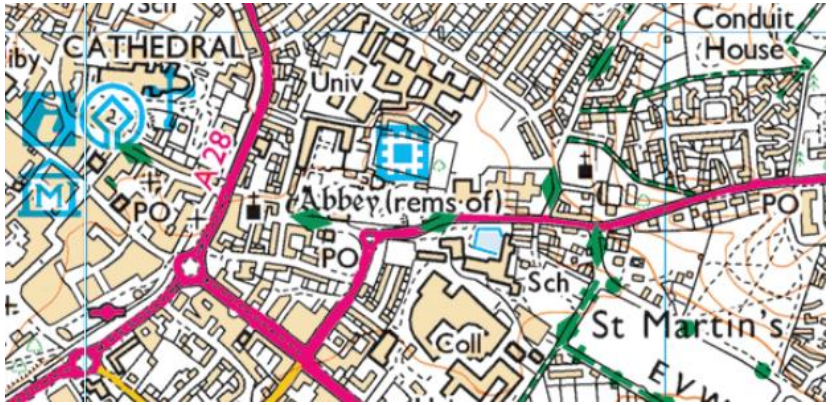
Green Pilgrimage
Interreg Europe

VIA
FRANCIGENA
VIA FRANCIGENA 2006
VIA FRANCIGENA
ROMA
SANTIAGO
LA VIA FRANCIGENA


A256
The Roman Painted House
Priory Station
Coll
Drop Redoubt (dis)
Groyne
Dover Discovery Centre
Dover Castle

North Downs Way
ROME
CANTERBURY
Via Francigena

North Downs Way
Via Francigena


CATHEDRAL
Univ
Conduit House
A28
Abbey (rems of)
PO
Sch
Coll
St Martin's

Conclusion

Elements for a good pilot action

- It is related to the **improvement of a policy instrument** (relevance)
- It is linked to the **exchange of experience** process (interregionality)
- **Testing** is precisely defined (activities + beneficiaries)
- It is **feasible** (one year to implement)

It is useful for your territory…..and will therefore be **mainstreamed** (Durability)

Wrap up

- **Dedicated article**
  "Testing new approaches with pilot actions" (06.04.2020)
- **Programme manual**
  "4.2.2 Phase 2 – monitoring of the action plan implementation"
- **Programme website**
  https://www.interregeurope.eu/projects/implement-a-project

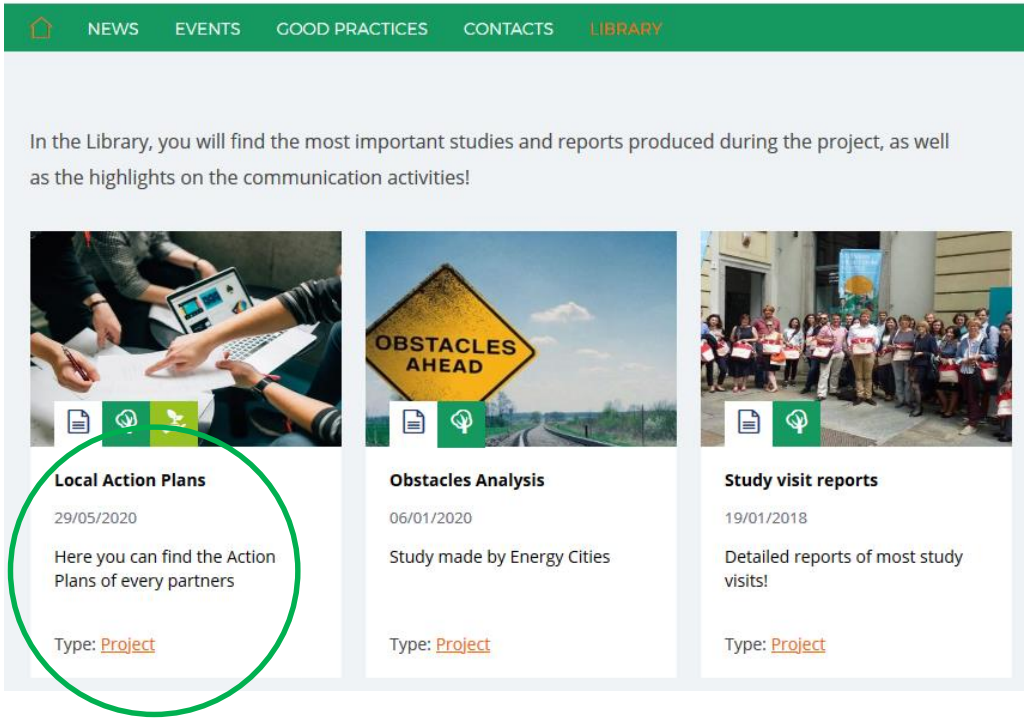
Guidance ➔ Pilot actions

Programme manual and templates ➔ Pilot action request template

+ **List of approved pilot actions**

Get inspiration from others

1. Check the **list of approved pilots**
2. Ask your **Policy Officer** for good examples
3. Over **900 Action Plans** available on project websites



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Thank you!

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