



Europe, let's cooperate!

24-25 NOVEMBER 2021

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European Union | European Regional Development Fund

Interreg Europe 2021-2027


Main features

25 NOVEMBER 2021

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Features in the presentation are subject to programme approval by the EC and validation by the future Monitoring Committee

Programme objective

To improve **regional development policies**,
including investment for growth and jobs programmes



Eligible area

All EU regions

Norway

Switzerland



How to achieve the objective?

Means: capacity building through identification and transfer of **good practices**

- Primarily dedicated to **policymakers**
- Focus on **exchange of experience**

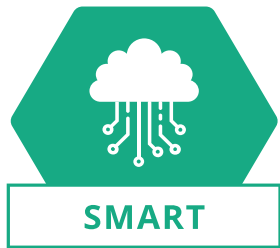


Different from cross-border or transnational cooperation



Cooperation scope

1 cross-cutting priority on capacity building → **six topics**



Concentration principle (80%)

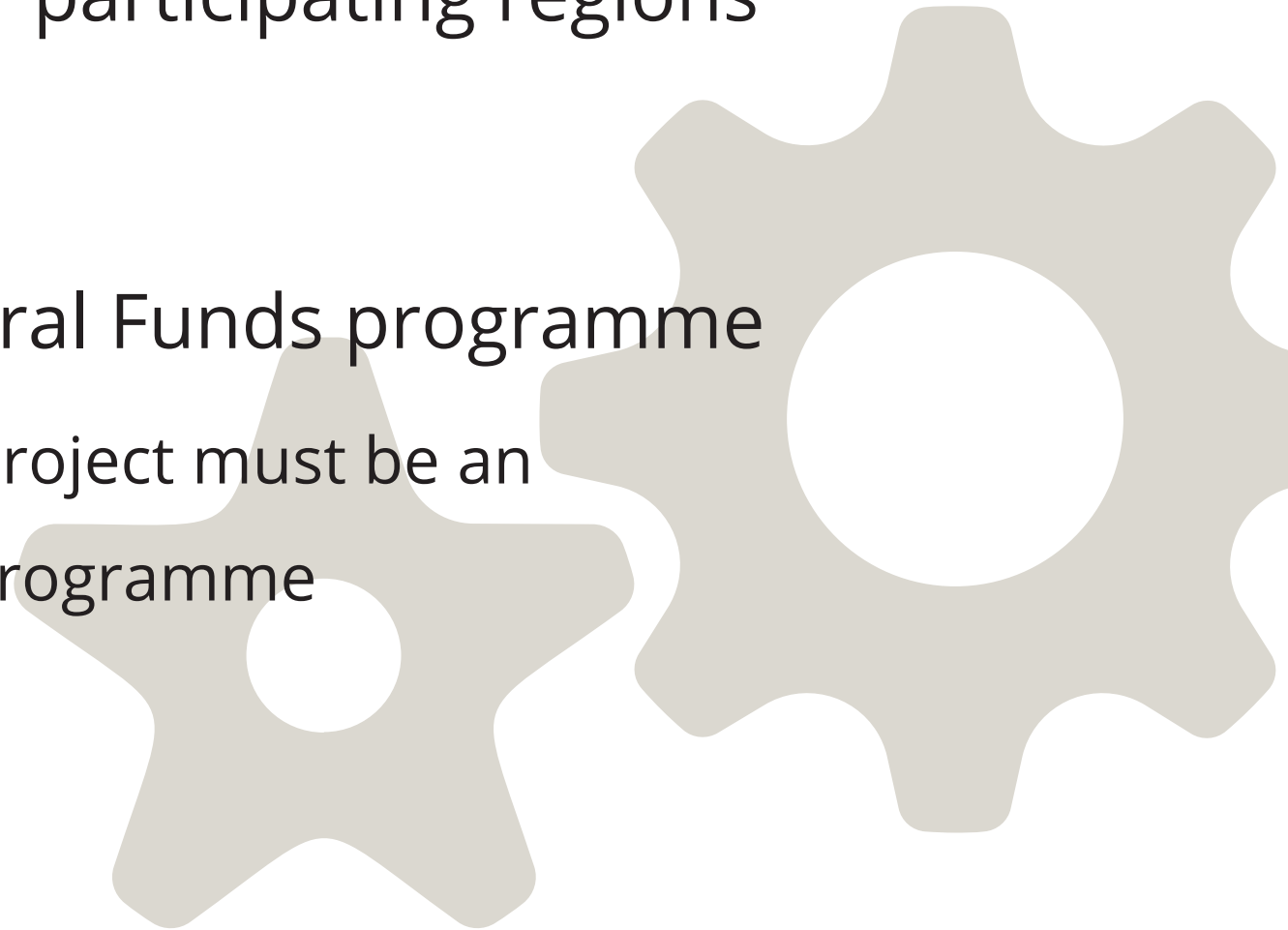


Projects' objective

- Improve policy instruments of participating regions
- Focus on 'mainstream' Structural Funds programme

At least, 1 policy instrument per project must be an

Investment for jobs and growth programme



Project activities

“Exchange of experience, innovative approaches and capacity building”

Article 3 of Interreg regulation

- **Pilot actions** (innovative approaches) possible:
 - From the start
 - At mid-term



Project implementation

- **2 phases** over 4-year implementation

CORE	FOLLOW UP
3 years	1 year
Exchange of experience to achieve policy improvements	Monitor policy improvements



Project implementation

- More **flexibility** between the phases

Follow-up phase:

- Up to each project to decide activities
 - Exchange of experience still possible
-
- **Action plans** only for regions which did not achieve results by the end of core phase



Project partnership

Eligible institutions

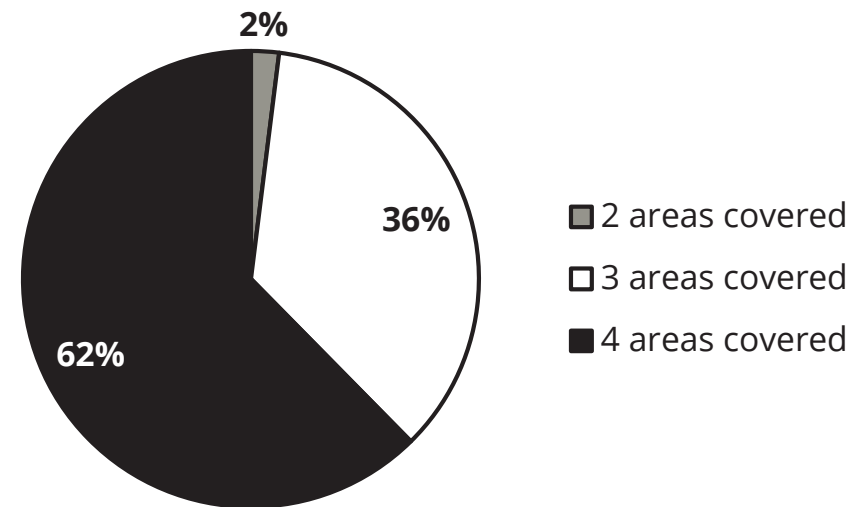
- Public authorities
- Public law bodies (bodies governed by public law)
- Private non-profit bodies



Project partnership

- **Geographical coverage** of approved projects (2014-2020)

Geographical areas	Countries covered
North	Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden
East	Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia
South	Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain
West	Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland



Only 3 projects (out of 258) covering two zones:

- GROW RUP & RESOR (participation of outermost regions)
- PROMETEUS (only policy responsible authorities involved)

Project partnership

Geographical coverage

- To be eligible, **minimum area to be covered**



Project partnership

Core target group: **policy responsible authority**

Lessons learnt from 2014-2020:

- Lack of policy relevance of partners = main source of **failure** at application
- 60% of project results **indirectly** attributed to the programme's intervention

Programme evaluation recommendation:

- Policy responsible authorities should be **partners**



Project partnership

- **Policy responsible authorities as partners**

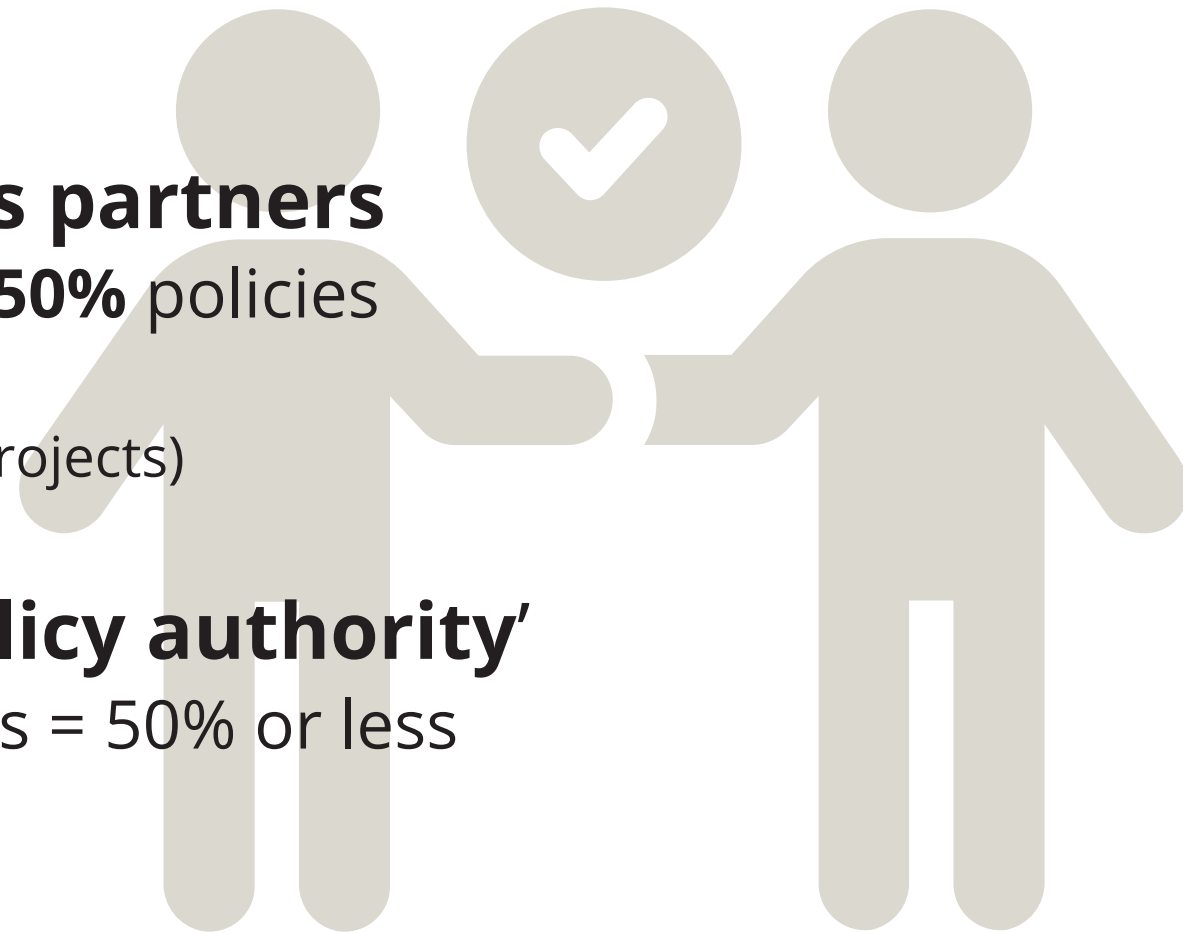
Participation **compulsory** for at least **50%** policies addressed by the project

(40% participation as partners in 2014-2020 projects)

- Involvement as an '**associated policy authority**'

Compulsory for the remaining policies = 50% or less

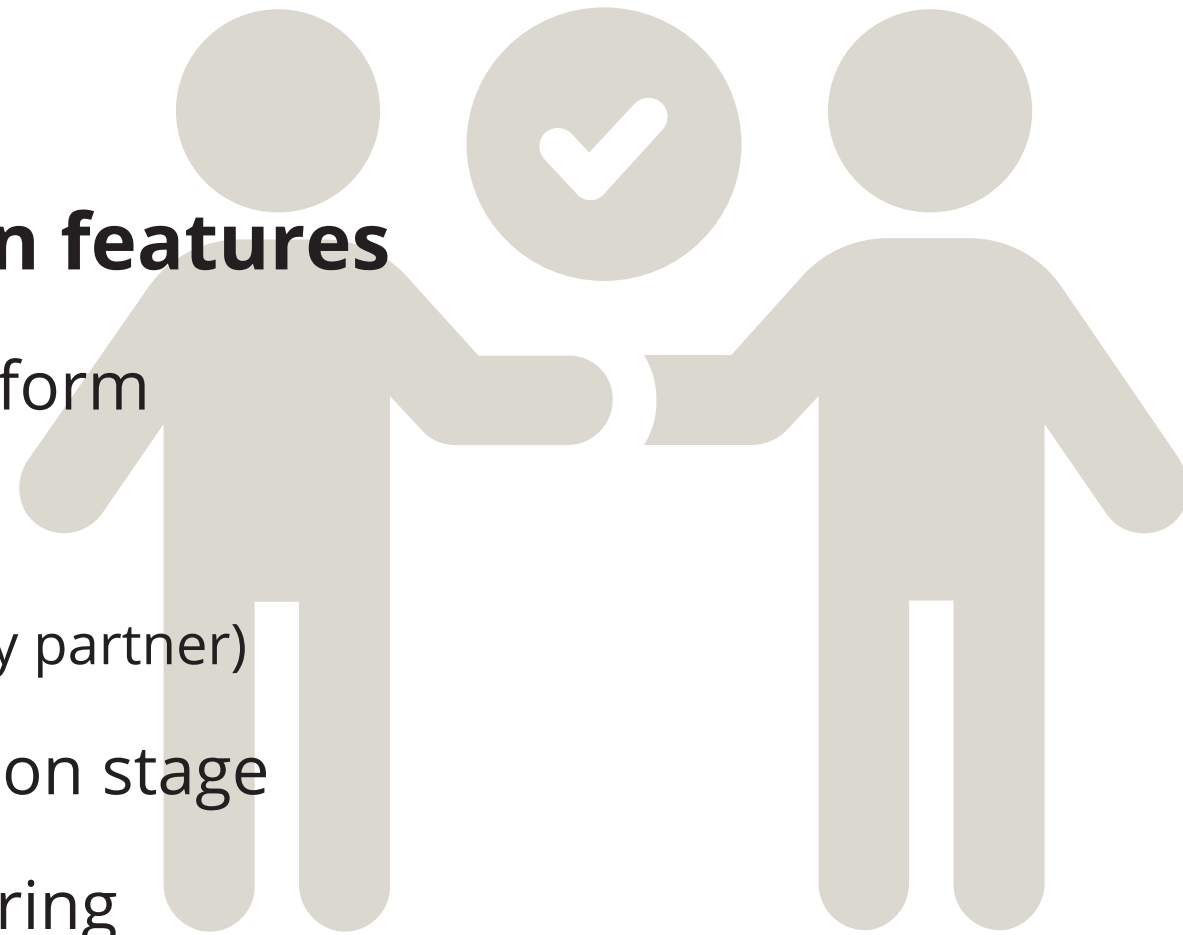
(New status)



Project partnership

Associated policy authority - main features

- Officially included in the application form
- No budget
(travel & accommodation costs covered by partner)
- Declaration provided at the application stage
- Involvement regularly monitored during implementation



Budget



TOTAL BUDGET

+ Norwegian funding



**Average project
budget**

* ERDF – European Regional Development Fund



Co-financing rates

Co-financing rates	According to legal status or location
80% ERDF*	Public or public equivalent from the EU
70% ERDF*	Private non-profit from the EU
50% Norwegian funding	Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Norway (NO)
Swiss funding	Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Switzerland (CH)

* ERDF – European Regional Development Fund

Simplified financial rules

Cost categories	Simplification
Preparation costs	Lump sum €17,500
Staff	Fixed % applied to salary costs
Office & administration	Flat rate of 15% of staff costs
Travel	Flat rate of 15% of staff costs
External Expertise and Services	
Equipment	
Infrastructure and Works	For pilots only

More simplification:

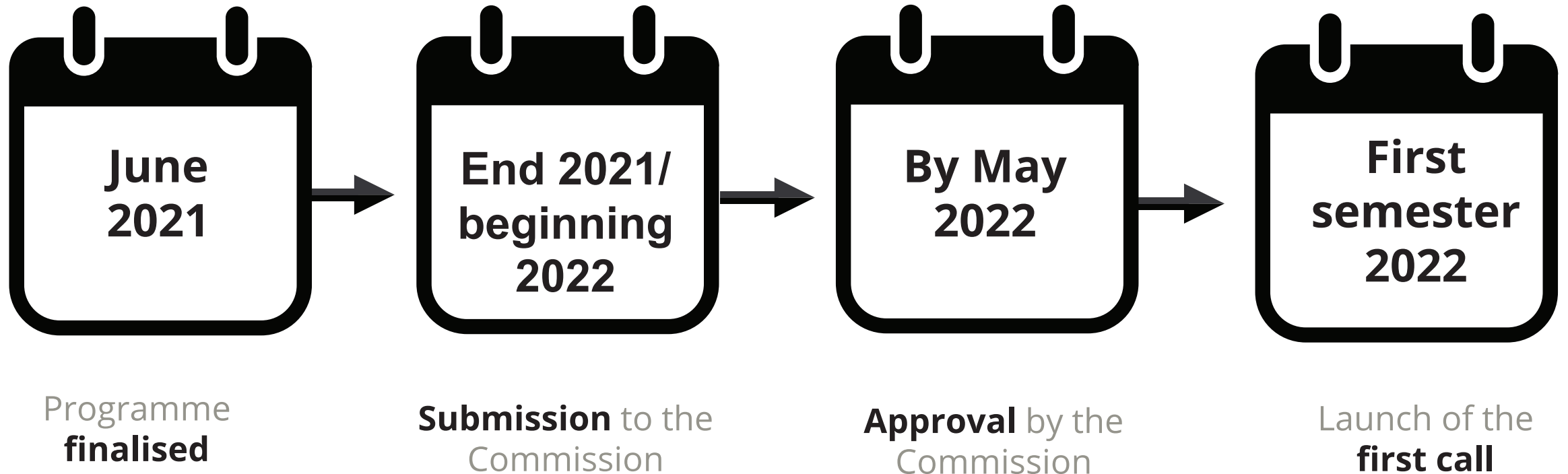
- Simplified reporting, faster payments to projects
- Less control (sampling, risk-based verifications)

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Provisional **timeline**



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