

**Interreg  
Europe**



European Union | European Regional Development Fund

# Interreg Europe: state of play

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# Content



1. Interreg Europe overview
2. Cooperation in research and innovation delivery
3. About P-IRIS
4. The future

# An accelerator for regional development



At the heart of EU cohesion policy:

- Improving regional development policies (in particular Structural Funds)
- Mix of more and less advanced regions
- High participation of peripheral regions

**Based on local needs:** Importance of stakeholders

**Focus on results**



# Interregional cooperation projects



# Outputs achieved (validated as of 1 February 2021)

**3,576**  
Good practices  
identified

**2,084**  
Good practices  
PLP

**12,604**  
Staff with  
increased capacity

**916**  
Action plans

**105 %**                      **99 %**  
— % of target in the CP reached —

**158 projects have finished phase 1**

# Improving policies (validated as of 01 February 2021)

**500**

Policy  
changes in  
155 projects

MEUR

**935**

Funds  
influenced



**2.9 x**

Leverage effect  
(322 MEUR programme's  
budget)

# Policy Learning Platform

**Community of peers**

**+ 18,000 members**



**Good practice database**

**+ 1900 good practices**



**Expert policy support**

**peer reviews, helpdesk**



**Knowledge hub**

**Policy briefs & news**



# COVID challenges – Interreg Europe solutions

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/covid-19/>

Check the new **COVID-19** section on our website in order to:

- Discover **good practices** from all across Europe that can help you mitigate the pandemic's effects;
- Join our **online thematic activities** that will inspire you and help you find solutions to common challenges;
- Request **tailored support** from our Policy Learning Platform experts;
- Find out related **news and events** published by us, our projects and other institutions.
- Possible **call for additional activities in 2021**

**COVID-19**  
keyword!

**NEW**



# Possible call for additional activities in 2021



NEW

- New opportunities to face and recover from the **COVID-19 crisis**
- Open to **258 approved projects** (but primarily relevant to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> call projects);
- Focus on **exchange of experience** activities and **pilot actions** if justified
- Monitoring Committee **final decision expected in March.**

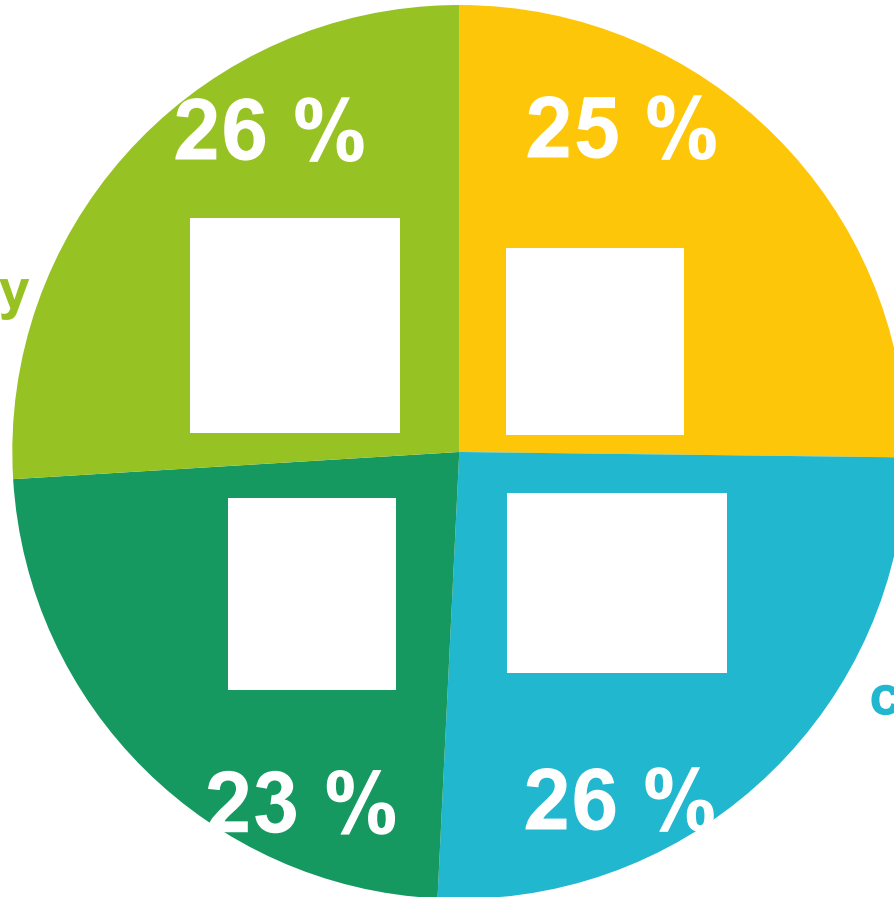
# Balanced

Environment and  
resource efficiency

67

Low-carbon  
economy

60



Research and  
innovation

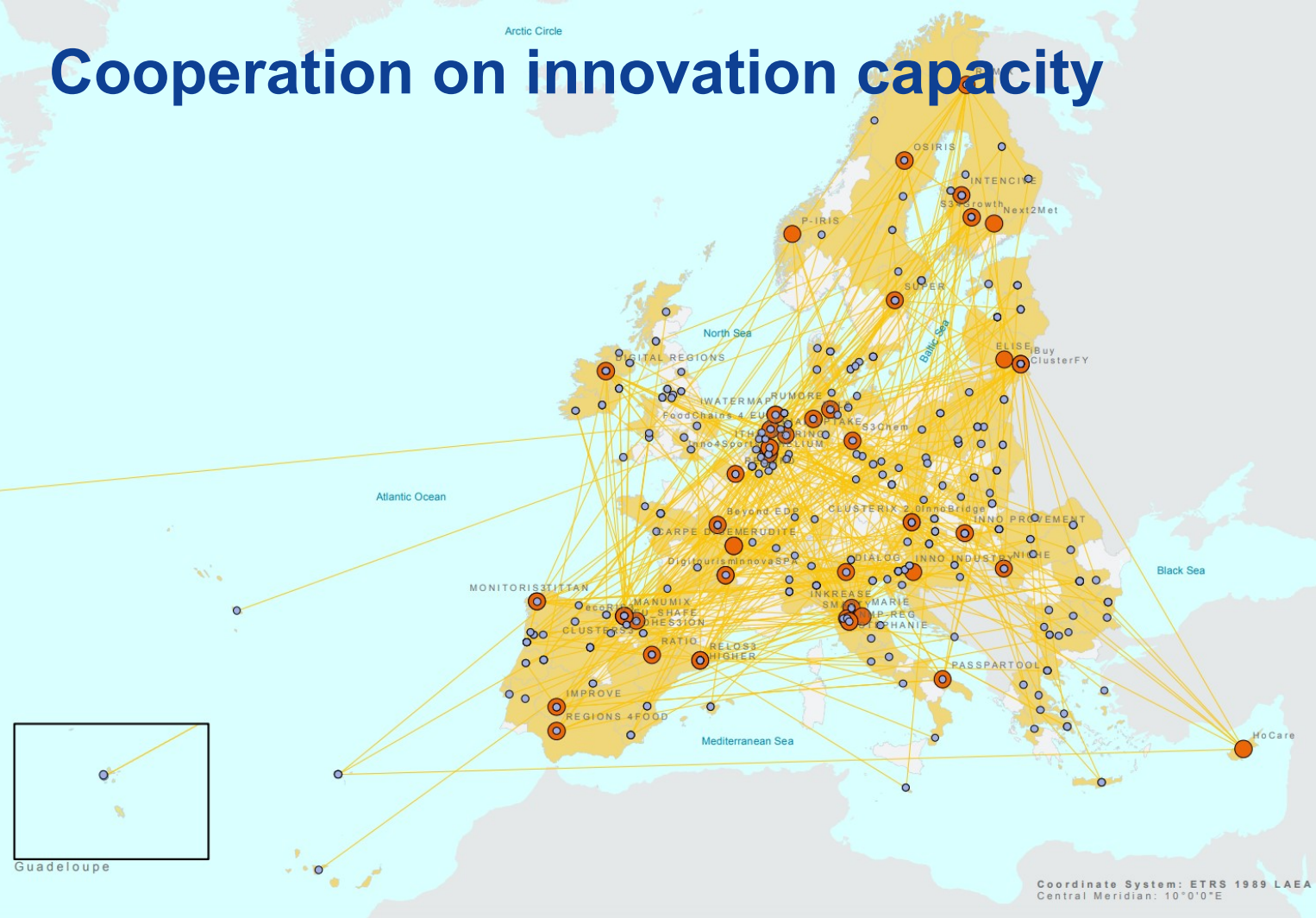
65

SME  
competitiveness

66

# Cooperation on innovation capacity

53  
Projects



# 10 projects focusing on rural areas



An interregional cooperation project for improving innovation delivery policies.

**Project Partners**

Sogn and Fjordane County Municipality (NO)  
Society for the Development of the Province of Burgos (ES)  
Regional Council of Central Ostrobothnia (FI)  
Local Development Agency FINIS (HR)  
Poliedra - Politecnico di Milano (IT)  
Development Centre of the Heart of Slovenia (SI)

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**4 other projects working on innovation : Islands of Innovation, RATIO, ERUDITE, CARPE DIGEM**

**5 other projects focusing on support for SMEs in rural areas or transport**

# Strengths of P-IRIS

- Rural development a key issue in Europe : digitalisation, support to local businesses, reinforcement of local communities
- 2 pilot actions (SI and HR) focusing on co-working spaces and skills development
- Achievements so far: 49 people with increased capacity, 3 policy improved, almost ½ million EUR influenced

# Active contribution at programme level

Stand at the Programme annual event (April 2019, Brussels)



PLP workshops in Milano and Hamburg



Peer review for Vestland County



# What about the future?

- May 2018: Interreg Europe not present in the EC draft regulations
- May 2019: EP and Council asked for Interreg Europe to be back
- December 2019: first Programming Committee meeting  
<https://www.interregeurope.eu/about-us/2021-2027>
- To be continued.... (finalisation of regulation, budget decision)



Loading

# No revolution...but evolution

## Key features remain:

1. Pan-European
2. Similar overall objective
  - Regional development policy makers as core target groups
3. Similar means to achieve the objective
  - Main focus on capacity building

## Proposals:

1. Focus on Structural Funds lightened
2. Learning by doing: pilot actions
3. Only one single priority in the programme
  - Better reflect the core nature of the programme (capacity building)



# Thank you!

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