

Interreg Europe RFC

Interregional Thematic Workshop 4 REPORT

Name of the reporter	Name of the reporter's organisation
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Event name	Name of the event organiser (organisation)
Interregional Thematic Workshop 4 – on-line meeting, exMagdeburg, DE	Ústí Region, CZ
Date of the Event	Location of the event
26/1/2021	Partner offices

Interregional Thematic Workshop Agenda

 <p>European Union European Regional Development Fund</p>	 <p>RFC Interreg Europe</p>
<p>RFC Interregional Thematic Workshop 4</p>	
<p>Topic</p> <p>Reconstructions, Financing Mechanisms</p>	
<p>Objective of the TWS</p> <p>Interregional Thematic Workshops represent the specific part of project interregional learning, i.e. exchange of experience among project partners that contributes to individual, institutional and stakeholders learning by exchange of experience among partners. The Interregional session is targeted on sharing the experience within the partnership on preservation, development and exploitation of cultural heritage with the aim to support the policy improvement /change in partner areas.</p>	

Agenda

Introductory Presentations:

1. 'PMV as financing solution for Bomvrije Kazerne (Military Base) Dendermonde' <https://www.pmv.eu/en> ; Tim Electeur, BE
 2. ERDF Financing possibilities in the new financing period – Ministry for Regional Development of the CR – Managing Authority of the Integrated Regional Operational Programme, Ms. Martina Fišerová
 3. INTERREG programmes 21+, COVID_19 possible call for additional activities in 2021- INTERREG EUROPE Contact point of the CR, Mr. Pavel Lukeš
- Partner Contributions
 - Comments, Recommendations, Discussion

Summary of the event

4th Interregional Thematic Workshop of the RFC project was held again as on-line event, due to the persisting restrictions related with COVID-19 epidemic. Regarding the topic – Financing mechanisms, number of stakeholders participated.

The workshop was designed to cover the basic financing systems – private sources and funds and grants. Focus was given to the new financing period (2021 – 2027) in SF funding possibilities, special attention on INTERREG EUROPE 21+ priorities and updates on the programme.

The 1st presentation, provided by Mr. Tim Electeur, investment manager of PMV (providing **funding for promising companies businesses**), investor of funds handling also with heritage projects. The company is participating in financing the businesses and projects, has experience in collaboration with public and private partners. Company acts as an active shareholder, supports public entities, the work is based on public procurements, but never invests 100% of the total investment. Tim presented the possible way of evaluation of the potential of the historical building on the example of the old building in Dendermonde, which is currently undergoing the process.

To develop a profitable project, it is necessary to take on mind the price and the potential of the site and to develop a realistic financial plan. The work is based on development of quality Market Strategy. This is based on research, provided by independent external specialists on technical matters, evaluation of the profitability of the planned project, setting up the financial plan and calculations, definition of income streams – rental incomes, field research, of possible scenarios for development drafting. The priority is to bring the business to the site.

All work is based on the agreement signed by the company and the city board – an example of public x private partnership.

The workshop continued with a presentation of Ms Martina Fišerová, representing of the Ministry for Regional Development of the CR – Managing Authority of the Integrated Regional Operational Programme, giving participants the view to the financing possibilities in the period 21+. Unfortunately is envisaged less money for culture, there are not adopted regulations and programmes at the moment. Cultural projects are possible to implement under Priority 4: More Social Europe and Priority 5: Europe Closer to Citizens.

The workshop continued with a presentation of representative of IE Contact point of the CR, Mr. Pavel Lukeš. The current status of the IE programme, COVID-19 possible call for additional activities in 2021, and future development of programmes were introduced.

Specific Call COVID_19 for additional activities is announced by the project secretariat – there are still money in the programme budget, as result of the restrictions – there are no travels, catering, renting of premises. 4th Call IE projects can apply for additional activities related to COVID. The decision and instructions will be issued by the JS at the end of March, applications to be submitted in summer and start of the projects is planned in 2021. Partnership has to remain the same, focus on exchange of experience and pilot projects, and on period 21+, strong support of on-line activities is envisaged. IE programme 2021-2027 – regulation is approved, programme will focus on regional policies improvement, involvement of Managing Authority and stakeholders is crucial.

5 policy objectives are to be followed:

PO1: Smarter Europe

PO2: Greener Europe

PO3: More Connected Europe

PO4: More Social Europe

PO5: Europe Closer to Citizens

Funding will be aimed on PO1, PO2, PO4.

No more action plans to be developed, emphasis is put on policy improvement. Cofinancing rate 80%, 1st Call planned to be launched in 2022.

The workshop continued with project partner contributions:

PP7 – Magdeburg introduced financial approaches to project implementation on the example of the volunteer restoration project “Sanierungsverein Ravelin 2 e. V.”. The volunteers put their own resources and working hours into the project (civic engagement). The fortifications are redeveloped in cooperation with the city of Magdeburg/ monument protection authorities. In order to cover own contributions of the grants the association organises cultural fundraising events, merchandise, guided tours and e.g. crowdfunding for sanitary facilities. Financial support derives from e.g. state fund “Sachsen Anhalt Regio”, the national funding programme „Stadtumbau Ost“, the ERDF, criminal fines, Lotto funds and donations (private and local companies). The money is used for windows, roofs, facades restorations, drying the basement etc. – change of the atmosphere of the site (graffiti removal).

PP6 – financing mechanisms in Teruel – 5 possibilities exist in the moment, problems are caused by the complicated administration, needs of the coordination of funding – this is demanding, lack of existing and updated quality Master plans, so the reconstruction works are limited.

PP5 – manager of castle Stará Lubovňa, Dalibor Mikulík introduced the interesting example of historical site, producing the income of 200 000 EUR/year – open air museum, operating in summer, complemented by cultural programmes.

Mixing of available funds targeted on different actions significantly supported the reconstructing and maintenance works.

PP4 – ROP implementation in North-West development Region, RO, is the successful story, 13 monuments were restored, (out of 26 under implementation), majority of them were religious constructions, more than 40 million of EUR were invested. Based on good quality planning procedure in 2014 – 2016, public procurement arrangement in 2016 – 2017, and in 2018 the reconstructions started.

Experience shared – public procurement – the lowest price is the best, but this does not work, during the realisation the prices of the wages increased, in archaeological research the lack of skilled people – education of local people seems to be the way. Bureaucratic burdens.

PP3 – shared experience with rehabilitation of byzantine fortresses. The result was combination of different levels of funding and different sources. The approach practised was based on key persons, national actors, master plan, citizen's involvement, public x private partners. Problem is the coordination of actors and harmonisation of funds.

PP2 – Crowdfunding as instrument for public involvement; networking instrument, communication tool, small amounts invested by different participants, transparent utilisation of money, Good project story development – video is important, 30-90 days of campaign, regular updates are to be published.

PP1 – mixing of different projects and funds on example of hospital and municipality of Kuks. 15 million EUR invested in reconstruction of the hospital, simultaneously the redevelopment of the village was provided – cycloroute, nature path, tourist infocentre, websites – 250 000 tourists per year are visiting the site, new life for the village, business occasions, new working places.

Conclusions:

- Financing is the crucial issue
- Mixing of different financing sources – way to success, despite the complications raising from coordination of funds
- Searching for the new possibilities, PPP projects, applying for grants is not the only way
- If there is always the conflict between the original way of utilisation of the site, efforts to find the new possibility, how to include the historical site into the life of the City – by increase of its attractiveness, IT tools, new ways of utilisation – focus on private business involvement, creative industries
- Crowdfunding