



Interreg 2021-2027

“Interreg programmes for local development and perspectives”

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In a nutshell...

- One of the **two goals of EU cohesion policy**
- A **cooperation framework** between national, regional and local actors from different Member States and neighbouring countries...
- With the objective of promoting a harmonious economic, social and territorial development of the Union as a whole (Treaty) and
- Stronger strategic focus **on green and digital transition** via joint actions and investments

Interreg 
EUROPEAN UNION

What makes Interreg different?

- Smaller budget, smaller programmes, smaller projects
- Cooperation between partners from different countries: **working together is key**
- **Added value EU**: catalyst for cooperation actions which normally might not take place
- Actions range from trust building to connectivity, health, safety and growth
- Special attention for small projects, e.g. people to people
- More complex governance structures as different administrative systems work together
- Central role for Joint Secretariat
- Selection of projects is done by Monitoring Committee

Interreg



Interreg



86 programmes EUR 10 billion 4 strands

64
cross-border, including 15
external (10 IPA & 5 NEXT) and
PEACE+
€6,7 bn

13
transnational,
incl. 2 external
€2,3 bn

4
interregional
€0,56 bn

5
Outermost
regions
€0,33 bn

Thematic approach



The **5** policy objectives
+
2 Interreg-specific objectives

Two new Interreg specific objectives

- **ISO1: Better cooperation governance**

Objective: to facilitate cross-border cooperation/governance (see experience pandemic)

- Institutional capacity of public authorities
- Legal and administrative cooperation
- People-to-people actions for increased trust
- Institutional capacity to manage macro-regional strategies
- Support to democracy and civil society



- **ISO2: Safer and more secure Europe**

Objective: protection and economic and social integration of third country nationals including migrants and beneficiaries of international organisations



Interreg



Key questions for potential beneficiaries:

Who do I want to cooperate with ?

Where are we all located ?

What theme do we want to cooperate on ?

= defines the most suitable programme for you

then: www.interreg.eu (currently 9 open calls for projects)

Check calls and contacts to see if there is a match

Funding foreseen as per <https://cohesiondata.ec.europa.eu/funds/interreg/21-27>

Database of cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation programmes in the EU: search [Keep.eu database](#)

Strand A: Cross-Border Cooperation

Interreg 
EUROPEAN UNION

Interreg 
Bayern – Česko
Kofinanziert von
der Europäischen Union
Spolufinancováno
Evropskou unií

For those who are located along national borders, internal or external

For those who have a mandate to act in cross-border territories

Pooling resources, sharing services, improving connectivity, looking after nature, preventing and managing risks, assisting SMEs with internationalisation, promoting joint research and innovation, developing common tourism products, etc

EACH PROGRAMME HAS ITS OWN SPECIFIC RULES

Strand B :Transnational Cooperation

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For those who are located within larger cooperation spaces, such as sea basins or mountain ranges

For those who share a common issue or want to exploit a joint potential

Mostly for soft actions such as exchanges of experience, studies, master plans, learnings

EACH PROGRAMME HAS ITS OWN SPECIFIC RULES

Interreg Euro-MED  **Co-funded by the European Union**

Strand C: Interregional Cooperation



No geographical focus

For anyone who wants to cooperate with anyone else in the EU, incl. CH and NO (accession countries in the near future for some programmes)

Only soft actions such as exchanges of experience, policy learning (labs and communities of practice)

Largely based on peer work

EACH PROGRAMME HAS ITS OWN SPECIFIC RULES



**Interreg
Europe**



Co-funded by
the European Union



Strand D : Outermost Regions' Cooperation

For the outermost regions (FR-ES-PT) and their neighbours

Soft and hard investments

EACH PROGRAMME HAS ITS OWN SPECIFIC RULES



Territorial dimension of Interreg

Focus on functional areas

- administrative boundaries do not define a functional area. Interactions and interdependencies based on functions define such areas.
- in the context of Interreg: concept of (potential) functional areas introduced in orientation papers: cross-border conurbations or different functional areas for health, education, public transport

Flexibility for support outside programme areas

Policy objective “Europe closer to citizens” (PO5): rather limited take up by programmes, but concept of functional areas is widely integrated



Coordination and embedding of cooperation

Interreg programmes do not operate in isolation

✓ **Seek better coordination and complementarities**

- Link with Macro Regional Strategies
- Link between different Interreg strands (examples of Mediterranean, Adriatic Ionian, Baltic Sea)

✓ **Cooperation is not the sole responsibility of Interreg**

- Embedding of cooperation in mainstream programmes
- Benefits: more ambitious projects, new partners, good project pipeline, visibility



The image shows the 'Interreg' logo in a blue, sans-serif font, followed by the European Union flag (a blue rectangle with twelve yellow stars in a circle) and the text 'EUROPEAN UNION' in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font. The entire logo is enclosed in a thin yellow rectangular border.

Actions for citizens: local development

✓ People-to-people

- Directly between citizens
- Trust-building (people know each other) as a basis for cooperation
- Europe closer to citizens
- Explore possibilities for extension of CLLD type of actions

✓ Small Projects Fund

- Simpler (less administrative burden for the programme authorities)
- More targeted assistance to the small projects
- Simplified procedures and requirements for final recipients



External dimension of Interreg

Interreg IPA, Interreg NEXT and strand D (outermost) programmes:

Funding both from ERDF and external funds (IPA and NDICI)

Contributing both to Cohesion policy and to enlargement and neighbourhood policies

Fully integrated in Interreg family and mostly under cohesion policy

Some specificities due to external dimension (financial management, financing agreements, political dimension...)

Politically sensitive environment (coordination with other services)

Some programmes strongly impacted by regional conflicts, but also enabling unique cooperation

Links with macro-regional strategies (third countries as partner countries in MRS)

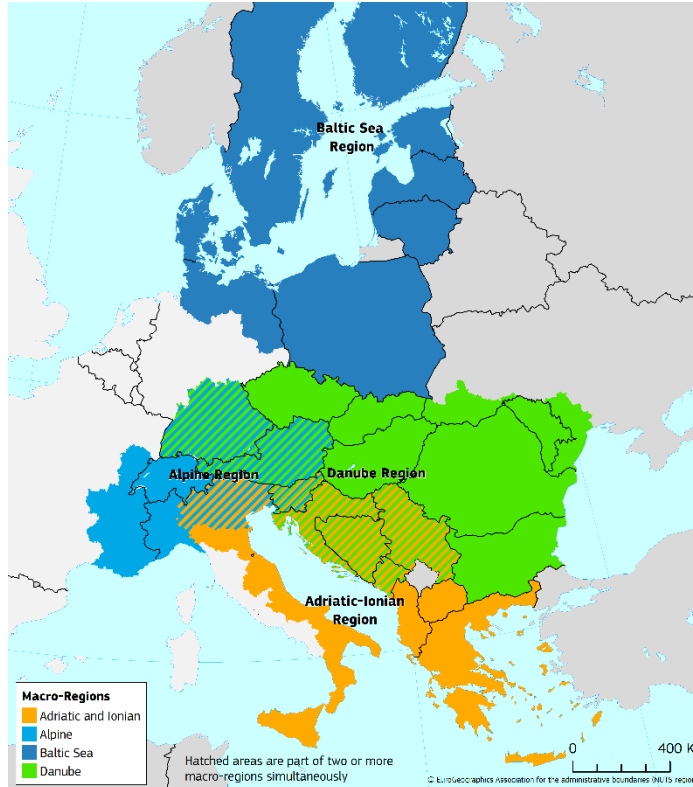


Cooperation beyond funding

The 4 macro-regional Strategies

Supported by 4 transnational programmes

- Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme
- Interreg Danube Region Programme
- Interreg ADRION Programme
- Interreg Alpine Space Programme



Political dialogue for strategic cooperation actions

Thank you