



EUROPEAN REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT FUND

Introduction to **INTERREG EUROPE**

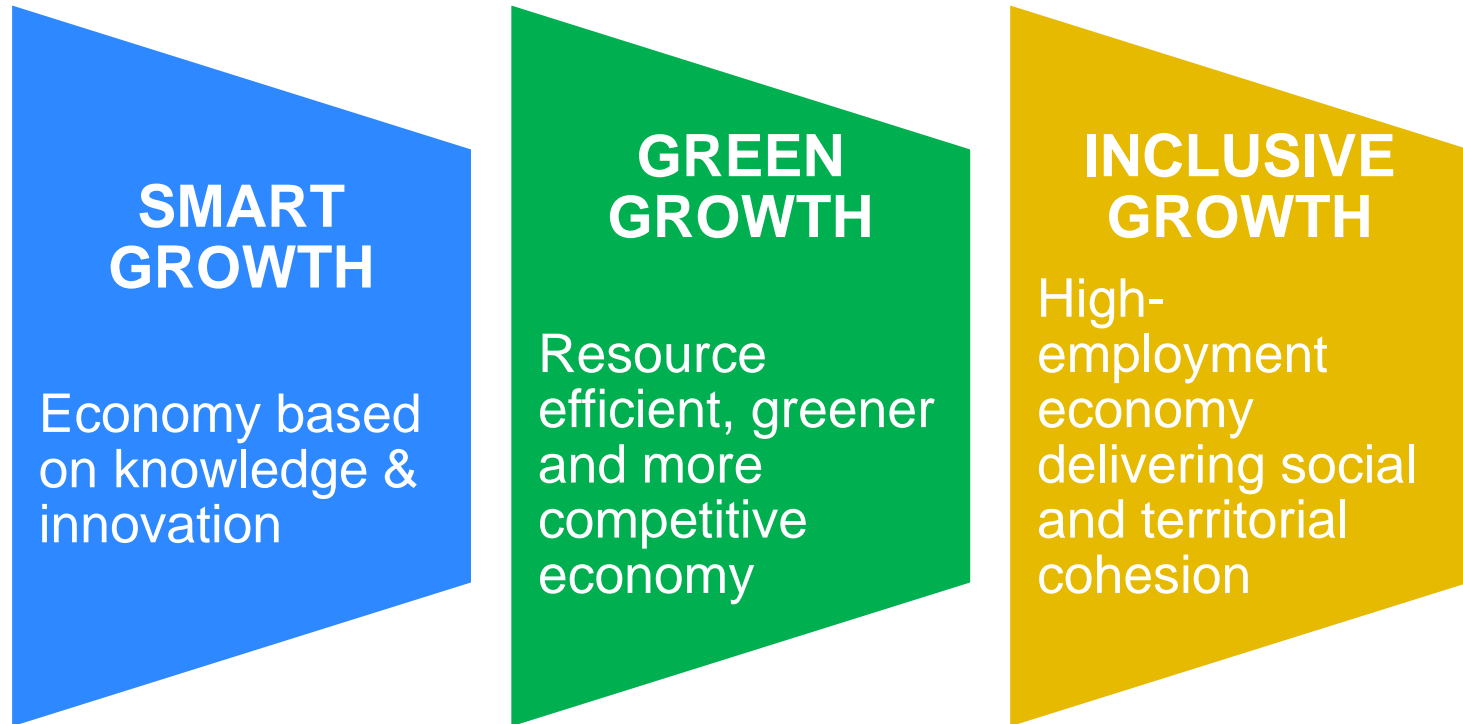
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Joint Secretariat

INTRREG EUROPE

CONTEXT

Overall strategic framework: EU2020 strategy



3 pillars translated in **11 Thematic Objectives** in 2014-2020 regulation

Context

EU cohesion policy:

Goal 1:
Investment for
growth and jobs

Goal 2:
European Territorial
Cooperation

2014 - 2020 Regulation

INTERREG
EUROPE

Objective set for
interregional cooperation

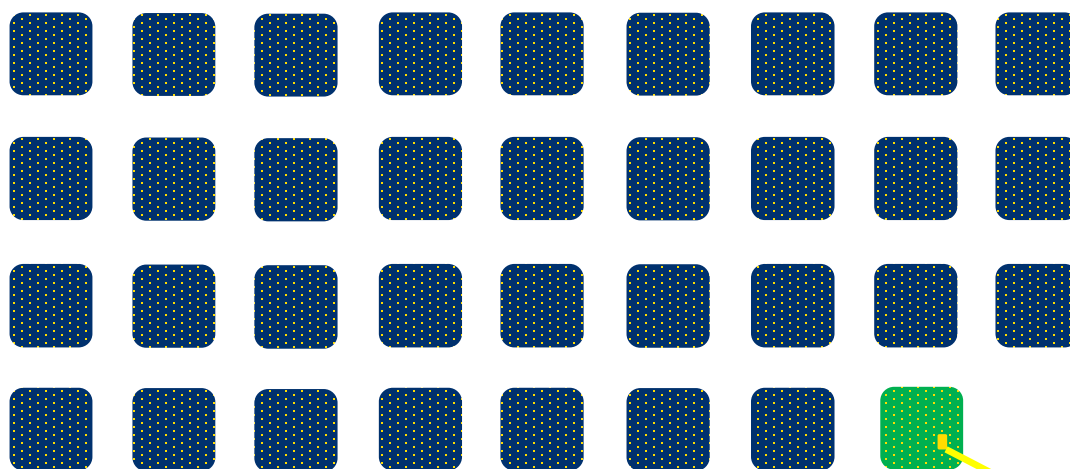
Concentration & result
orientation principles



Rationale

Exchange of experience to improve performance of policies for regional development, in particular **Structural Funds programmes**

EU Cohesion policy



Goal 1:
Investment for growth & jobs
EUR 340 billion

Goal 2:
European Territorial Cooperation
EUR 10.2 billion

INTERREG EUROPE
EUR 359 m



Eligible area

EU28 + Norway & Switzerland



Thematic focus

RESEARCH &
INNOVATION



LOW CARBON
ECONOMY



SME
COMPETITIVENESS



ENVIRONMENT &
RESOURCE EFFICIENCY



2 actions

A. Interregional Cooperation Projects



B. Policy Learning Platforms



Projects



Definition

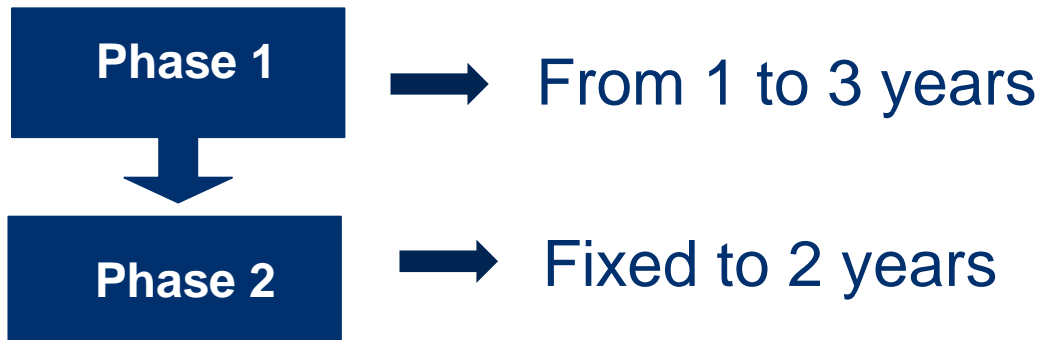
Partners from different countries working together on a shared regional policy issue (within the thematic fields of the programme)...

Objective

....to improve the effectiveness of the policies of the regions involved in the project (in particular their **Investment for Growth and Jobs goal programmes**)

Projects: structure and duration

Implementation in **2 phases**



Maximum duration: **5 years**

Projects: structure

Phase 1

‘Interregional learning’

Interregional exchange of experience

e.g. seminars, workshops, site visits, staff exchanges, peer reviews

1 Action Plan per region

- ✓ measures to be implemented
- ✓ timeframe
- ✓ work steps
- ✓ responsible players
- ✓ costs and funding resources (*if applicable*)



Projects: structure

Phase 2

'Monitoring the action plan implementation'

- **Monitor** the implementation of the different action plans
- Pilot actions (only in justified cases)

Projects: partnership composition

- Primary target group: **bodies in charge of the policies addressed** within the project
If not involved, **letter of support** required
- Creation of one **stakeholder group** per region



Platforms features

Origin

INTERREG IVC
capitalisation
exercise



S3 platform
In Seville



Objective

To contribute to policy learning across EU in particular on Structural Funds implementation

- Better exploiting projects' results
- Opening up programme results to anyone interested

Platforms: what is it?



A **service** provided per priority axis via:

Online collaborative tool

With relevant functionalities

Expert team

Content and coordination role

Platforms: examples of services

- ❑ **Advice** regional stakeholders and running projects
- ❑ Organise and facilitate **peer reviews** among regions
- ❑ Organise and facilitate **thematic workshops**
- ❑ Analyse and disseminate the **content of projects** through dedicated events & publications
- ❑ Facilitate **knowledge sharing** and networking among regions on the collaborative tool

Platforms

Stakeholders involved in the implementation of **Growth & Jobs** or **cooperation** programmes

Other stakeholders relevant to the **topics**

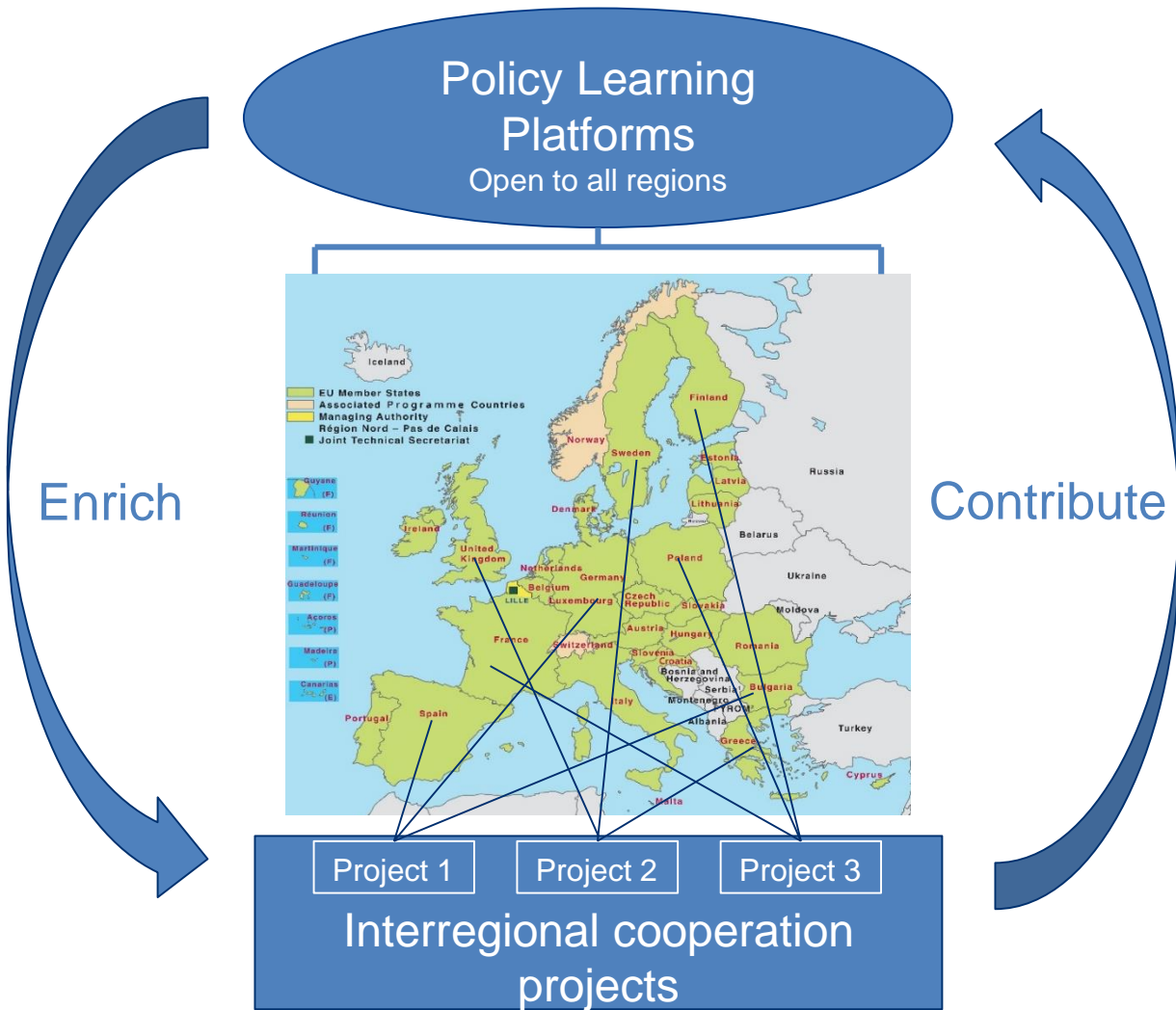
Targets groups



Implementation

- Sub-contracting arrangement
- Through **procurement procedure**
- Launched in the course of 2015

2 interrelated actions



Platforms



Projects



Projects partnership: who is eligible?



- **Public bodies**
(e.g. local, regional, national authorities)
- **Bodies governed by public law**
(Directive 2004/18/EC)
- **Private non profit bodies**



Confirmation of the eligibility status: Partner States' responsibility

Projects partnership features

- From **at least** 3 countries, from which at least 2 partners from EU-MS
- Lead partner: public or public equivalent only from EU countries or Norway
- Recommendation: **between 5 to 10 partners**



Funding

- Programme ERDF budget: MEUR 359
 - ERDF budget for **platforms**: MEUR 15.3 (max)
 - ERDF budget for **projects**: **MEUR 322.4** equally shared over 4 priority axis (MEUR 84)
- ERDF budget recommended per project:
between MEUR 1 to 2



Project funding

Co-financing rates	According to legal status or location
85% ERDF	Public or public equivalent from EU
75% ERDF	Private non-profit from EU
50% Norwegian funding	Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Norway
Swiss funding	Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Switzerland

Project budget

Building on positive IVC experience

Low error rate in INTERREG IVC –
rules understood and applied



No fundamental changes in INTERREG EUROPE
(5 Budget lines: staff, administration, travel &
accommodation, external expertise, equipment)



Project eligible costs

- Staff
 - Administration
 - Travel and Accommodation
 - Equipment
 - External Expertise
- } for personnel employed
by partners in project

Rules and procedures for projects

Decreasing project management and control costs

Harmonisation & simplification

- Online Application Form
- No financial allocation per component
- Flat rate administration costs (15% of staff costs)
- Lump sum preparation costs (EUR 15,000 total budget)



- **Lower administrative effort**
- + **More resources dedicated to content & results**

Next step: First call for proposals

- **Provisional timing:** April 2015 - September 2015
- No **thematic** restrictions: call open to all Investment priorities
- No specific requirement in terms of **geographical** coverage
- One third **ERDF** budget available: MEUR28 priority axis



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Thanks for your attention!