Interregional Cooperation Projects

Third collection

Third and fourth call projects

September 2012
Interregional cooperation is making a real difference

As President of the Region of Nord – Pas de Calais and Managing Authority of the programme, I am pleased to be able to introduce this third and last collection of projects. It is the last in a series presenting interregional cooperation projects which have been – and continue to be – implemented by the INTERREG IVC programme and its partners. The projects are co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund within the 2007-2013 Structural Funds programming period.

First of all, 2 questions: why promote interregional cooperation and why look to partners in other European countries? Quite simply because in today’s globalised world challenges transcend national borders: it makes sense for public authorities and citizens across the EU to cooperate on European interregional projects designed to improve the standard of living and the quality of life within their regions and the EU.

Interregional cooperation brings together the economically stronger ‘competitiveness’ regions with the lower growth ‘convergence’ regions. Cooperation is a formula that works – interregional projects enable regions to share knowledge, learn from each other, discover novel approaches to the common or specific challenges they face and to exchange or transfer good practices, policies and tools in a structured way.

These 89 ambitious projects reflect the efforts being made by project partners to meet the many challenges the EU must address today: the need to foster innovation, improve conditions for business, create new jobs, take action on issues such as climate change, energy or sustainable transport and, more broadly speaking, to achieve the targets set out in the Lisbon and Gothenburg strategies.

The high number of applications received during the fourth call for proposals is testament to the programme’s success, and all programme funds have now been allocated. The total budget requested by projects submitted over the whole period was more than 7 times the budget actually available. Moreover, 90% of European NUTS-2 level regions are now partners in INTERREG IVC projects.

Through its support to 20 capitalisation projects, introduced as part of a new thematic capitalisation process, the INTERREG IVC programme is also helping to connect interregional cooperation with regional Structural Funds programmes. In this regard, the capitalisation projects, and their respective action plans, are being supported by the Managing Authorities of regional Operational Programmes. What’s more, thematic capitalisation will help to exploit project achievements even more effectively. You will be able to learn more about it in the pages of this collection.

Good practices are meant to be shared! By presenting this third collection of projects, I would like to invite all public authorities to capitalise on the existing stock of good practices and to benefit fully from the interregional cooperation programme INTERREG IVC!

Daniel Percheron
Pas-de-Calais Senator
President of the Nord – Pas de Calais Regional Council
Managing Authority of the INTERREG IVC programme
About the programme

The INTERREG IVC programme is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund within the 2007-2013 Structural Funds programming period. Its main objective is to improve regional policies through the exchange of experience and good practices. Over the course of its 4 calls for proposals the programme received 1,357 applications involving 14,000 local and regional public authorities and organisations. Out of these applications, it approved 204 projects, involving a total of 2,274 partners. The programme’s 2 priority themes – ‘Innovation and the knowledge economy’ and ‘Environment and risk prevention’ – and its 10 subthemes have all been well subscribed and it has now committed all of its funds. An overview of the programme’s key statistics is provided on pages 3 to 5.

You will find in this third collection – combined with the first and second collections – the stock of experience and good practices available within the programme in the different partners’ areas of interest. We hope that these short project descriptions will give you an overview of the diversity and quality of the policies concerned.

By publishing this collection, our goal is to share with you knowledge about policies that work, collected from across the 27 EU states, plus Norway and Switzerland, which also participate in the programme. Sharing is a key programme goal. In 2011 the first INTERREG IVC Good Practice Fair was organised. It attracted policymakers and practitioners interested in learning from the projects supported by the programme and keen to implement the good practices identified by projects in their own territories. In the coming years, the programme will continue to organise international events encouraging EU Regions to take inspiration from the good ideas generated by the projects and their partners.

The INTERREG IVC programme has also introduced a Good Practice Database, which is now available on the Programme’s website: www.interreg4c.eu. This database enables local, regional and national policymakers to review the different concepts and techniques that have already been successfully implemented by their European counterparts. It also provides contact information so that policy makers can discuss the conditions for transfer directly with the people who have the relevant experience.

In addition, the programme has recently initiated a Thematic Capitalisation process, designed to better exploit the knowledge generated in specific policy fields where several projects have tackled similar issues. Its aim is to generate policy recommendations for European policy makers and will be the subject of separate publications, as well as a series of upcoming thematic events.

On behalf of the INTERREG IVC’s programme management bodies, I warmly encourage you to make use of this opportunity to review the excellent policy development work made possible by interregional cooperation. I hope it will inspire you to continue your active involvement in the interregional exchange of experience, which provides such a rich vein of policy ideas.

Michel Lamblin
Programme Director
Overview

The present third collection is the last in the series of publications presenting interregional cooperation projects that have been co-financed by the INTERREG IVC programme and the European Regional Development Fund. This collection provides an overview of the 89 most recent projects, 7 of which were approved following the third call for proposals in 2010, and the other 82 following the fourth call for proposals in 2011.

How this publication is organised

This collection is divided into three main sections.

This first section provides an overview of the programme’s characteristics as well as key ‘Facts and Figures’ for the entire programme.

The following 2 sections are each organised around the programme’s 2 priorities: Innovation and the knowledge economy and Environment and risk prevention, and present key information about policy goals and partnerships for the projects approved by the third and fourth calls in thematic sections.

A description of each of these priorities can be found on the appropriately-tabbed page.

The themes within each priority have been colour-coded, as explained below, so that they can easily be identified.

The different themes in Priority 1 ‘Innovation and the knowledge economy’ use the following colour scheme:

- Employment, human capital and education
- Entrepreneurship and SMEs
- Information society
- Innovation, research and technology development

The different themes of Priority 2 ‘Environment and risk prevention’ use the following colour scheme:

- Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage; air quality
- Cultural heritage and landscape
- Energy and sustainable transport
- Natural and technological risks; climate change
- Waste prevention and management
- Water management
Project types

INTERREG IVC can be thought of as a capitalisation programme since it focuses on activities related to the identification, analysis, dissemination, and, under certain conditions, transfer of good practices related to regional development policies.

The programme has 2 main priorities – Innovation and the knowledge economy and Environment and risk prevention. Under both of these themes there are 2 types of project: Regional Initiative projects and Capitalisation projects.

Of the 89 projects presented in this third collection, 82 are Regional Initiative projects, and 7 are Capitalisation projects.

Regional Initiative projects are projects that are initiated by regional players themselves with a view to exchanging experience in a specific policy field. These are ‘standard’ interregional cooperation projects. They allow partners from the different EU Member States, Norway, Switzerland and even a number of other non-EU countries to work together on a shared regional policy issue. They contribute directly to achieving the programme’s overall objective of improving the effectiveness of regional policies.

The purpose of Capitalisation projects is to transfer good practices that have already been identified as such into the main Structural Funds programmes of the regions involved. The duration of this type of project is therefore shorter (2 years instead of 3) as they do not need to begin with identifying good practices, but can start immediately with preparatory work for policy transfer.

Capitalisation projects aim to have a direct impact on regional policy, which is why it is essential that the relevant regional policy-making authority is involved (e.g. the Managing Authority or Intermediate Body). Each region participating in a Capitalisation project produces an action plan detailing how it plans to implement the policy ideas or instruments exchanged during the course of the project.

Fast Track

Fast Track projects are Capitalisation projects which benefit from additional expertise from the European Commission enabling them to contribute to its ‘Regions for Economic Change’ initiative. Through this initiative, the European Commission also wishes to strengthen the ‘policy bridge’ between the good practices identified in the INTERREG IVC programme and the main regional development programmes. The European Commission has prioritised 30 policy themes for fast tracking, 23 of which are relevant to the INTERREG IVC programme. The other themes are covered by the URBACT II programme for urban development.

Fast track projects, which can be identified in this collection by the logo shown above, receive additional assistance from the European Commission’s thematic units with project implementation as well as with communicating their achievements. 2 out of the 7 Capitalisation projects approved under the third call have been selected by the European Commission to receive the ‘Fast Track’ label.

For more information:
The INTERREG IVC third call for proposals was only open to Capitalisation projects (including Fast Track projects), and ran from 9 December 2009 to 5 March 2010. 7 projects were approved out of the 29 applications submitted. 2 projects were approved under the sub-theme ‘Natural and technological risks; climate change’, and 5 under the sub-theme ‘Energy and sustainable transport’, as shown in the pie chart below.

Projects approved, by sub-theme (3rd call)

- **Energy and sustainable transport**: 5
- **Natural and technological risks**: 2

**7** = Capitalisation projects including 2 Fast Track Networks

**€ 10 million** = allocated to 3rd call projects
The fourth and last call for proposals was only open to Regional Initiative Projects (excluding mini-programmes), and ran from 1 December 2010 to 1 April 2011. 355 project applications were submitted and 82 projects were approved. As for all the previous calls, the fourth call for proposals was open to all sub-themes.

Key statistics from the fourth call are shown below. An overview of the entire programming period then follows on page 5.

Facts and figures

- **Projects approved, by sub-theme (4th call)**
  - Employment, human capital and education: 19
  - Entrepreneurship and SMEs: 19
  - Information society: 8
  - Innovation, research and technology development: 2
  - Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage; air quality: 6
  - Cultural heritage and landscape: 3
  - Energy and sustainable transport: 2
  - Natural and technological risks; climate change: 1
  - Waste prevention and management: 3
  - Water management: 1

- **Percentage of programme funds allocated to each priority (4th call)**
  - Priority 1: Innovation and the knowledge economy: 41.5%
  - Priority 2: Environment and risk prevention: 58.5%

- **Lead partners and partners of approved projects per country (4th call)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Partners</th>
<th>Number of Lead partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

82 = Regional Initiative Projects

€100 million = allocated to 4th call projects
The story so far

The figures below provide an overview of all INTERREG IVC co-financed projects, and the different project partners, following the fourth call for proposals.

Total number of projects approved, by sub-theme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-theme</th>
<th>Number of Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employment, human capital and education</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrepreneurship and SMEs</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information society</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation, research and technology development</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage; air quality</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural heritage and landscape</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy and sustainable transport</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural and technological risks; climate change</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste prevention and management</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water management</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentage of programme funds allocated to each priority (all calls)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority 1: Innovation and the knowledge economy</td>
<td>58.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority 2: Environment and risk prevention</td>
<td>41.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2274
= number of regional partners involved in projects

€ 302 million
= all funds available for the projects 2007-2013 have been committed

Partners and Lead partners in all 204 projects per country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of partners</th>
<th>Number of Lead partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sweater</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

€ 302 million
= all funds available for the projects 2007-2013 have been committed
INTERREG IVC’s Thematic Capitalisation

With 204 projects, involving 2,274 partners, the INTERREG IVC programme has already tackled a wide range of regional development issues. This represents a unique opportunity for the programme to make full use of the knowledge generated by its projects, in other words, to ‘capitalise on’ their results and achievements. The INTERREG IVC programme has therefore launched a process of ‘thematic capitalisation’. Thematic capitalisation involves collecting, analysing and disseminating the ‘theme-specific’ knowledge gained from projects working on the same theme (rather than on the interregional cooperation process). The policy insights generated will be shared with local and regional authorities all around Europe.

What are its objectives?

- To better exploit the knowledge generated by projects working on a similar theme for the benefit of local and regional authorities in Europe.
- To increase the visibility of the programme and its impact on the policy-making process at local, regional, national and European levels.
- To identify innovative approaches and make them available to all EU regions.
- To make theme-specific policy recommendations for the benefit of national and EU policymakers and INTERREG IVC projects.
- To identify synergies and complementarities among the projects and with other EU initiatives & programmes.

Implementation

In order for capitalisation to be meaningful, a critical mass of projects (minimum 5), dealing with a given theme, has been used as a selection criterion. To date, on this basis, the programme has selected 12 themes for Capitalisation. For each theme, the analytical work is conducted by an expert in the field. The expert profiles the projects, analyses their results and identifies the added value that they bring to their policy theme. The exercise is coordinated at the programme level by the Joint Technical Secretariat, with support from its Information Points. The project partners contribute by providing relevant information and by participating in thematic workshops. The Capitalisation process also involves different stakeholder groups. This way, the programme benefits from the contribution of a range of interested parties, including Member States, national & EU experts and other relevant bodies, who are able to participate and contribute to the discussions.

Capitalisation topics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority 1: Innovation and the knowledge economy</th>
<th>Priority 2: Environment and risk prevention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Innovation systems (triple helix &amp; open innovation)</td>
<td>9. Climate change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Innovation capacity of SMEs</td>
<td>10. Energy efficiency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Eco-innovation</td>
<td>11. Renewable energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Entrepreneurship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. E-government services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Demographic change</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Rural development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Innovation and the knowledge economy

By pursuing the Lisbon strategy, the European Union aims to become the most competitive knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth and generating more and better jobs. The assumption underlying the Lisbon strategy is that Europe’s economic future depends on its capacity to make the transition to a knowledge-based economy, and society, and that innovation is the motor for this economic change.

The overarching purpose of INTERREG IVC’s Priority 1 ‘Innovation and the knowledge economy’ is to enable regional and local authorities, and other stakeholders at the regional level, to improve their policies, methods and capacities in the fields of innovation and knowledge economy. A more specific goal of this priority is to make a contribution to reducing regional disparities throughout Europe by strengthening regional innovation potential and also by increasing the competitiveness of European regions overall through the pooling of expertise.

Projects approved under this priority focus on: innovative ways of enhancing labour markets and boosting job creation; promoting clustering and the internationalisation of SME business activities; developing the audiovisual sector; helping elderly people to lead active lives through the development of innovative products and services; exploring the development potential of urban-rural partnerships between major city centres and their surrounding areas; and many others.

---

**Employment, human capital and education**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CESR</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LABOUR PLUS</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micropol</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMART EUROPE</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOK-TOC</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOURAGE</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VERSO</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working4Talent</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Entrepreneurship and SMEs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOO-Games</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COGITA</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIE</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DESUR</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIFASS</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e-CREATE</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EuroScreen</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIN-EN</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health4Growth</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I4Food</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>InCompass</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INNOCRAFTS</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>InnoMot</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOCFOOD</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MESSE</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLUSTEX</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECOMMEND</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REGIO-CRAFTS</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young SMEs</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Information society**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CASA</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANTE</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-COOP</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGAGE</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRISI PLUS</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medi@TIC</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONE</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Innovation, research & technology development**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BORDWIIS+</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCIO</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLUSTERIX</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-Innovation</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAA</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECOREGIONS</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETTBio</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IN-EUR</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INN.O.V.Age</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>InnoFun</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNOW-HUB</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KTForce</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRES</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URMA</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The CesR project involves 8 public authorities and development agencies sharing common challenges relating to the rural services sector. By working together, they aim to develop policy instruments to create or reinforce sustainable employment, so that people in sparsely populated areas can make a living from their work and stay in their home areas. The project idea was born during a study visit organised under the ICER project, an INTERREG IVC second call project on the theme of eco-accommodation in rural regions. During the visit participants happened to be hosted in Gozo (MT) in self-catering accommodation providing a wide range of services. With a view to launching a new project, the Lead Partner decided to take advantage of this opportunity to conduct research to find out more about self-catering accommodation, its related services and its employment potential in rural regions.

Employment in the services sector in rural areas is mostly insecure. It is difficult for people to make a living from their work. As a result, they leave the area, which leads to the closure of local schools and public services. The economic potential of rural areas, the tourist economy, for example, and in particular self-accommodation services, remains underexploited and the demand for home-care services for the senior population has not reached the critical mass needed to generate full-time employment opportunities.

The CesR project enables its partners to exchange experience – and ultimately transfer good practices between them – in the areas of care services, tourist services and job sharing. After analysing the existing policies in the participating regions, partners identify the best of these policies and practices and evaluate their transferability. The key aspects of these policies and the policy transfer process are described in a handbook, which is available to others via the project website and distributed to the local and regional policymakers in the regions concerned, as well as to relevant national and European networks.
LABOUR PLUS
Innovative Strategies for Equal Employment

Local authorities work at the frontline of the employment policy effort and have a vital role to play in promoting more equal and inclusive labour markets.

The objective of the LABOUR PLUS project, which brings together 11 European local authorities, is to focus on innovative ways of enhancing the labour markets in partner territories and to define strategies for improving the situation of migrant groups. However, owing to the economic crisis and financial constraints, local authorities are finding it difficult to create more effective and inclusive employment strategies. All the while, it is extremely difficult for many social groups – migrants in general and Roma in particular – to enter the labour market. They are relocated to the margins of the local economy and are often stigmatised and discriminated against.

To address this issue, the LABOUR PLUS project aims, first, to understand the relationship between local labour market dynamics and patterns of migration. It achieves this by facilitating information exchange and the cross-fertilisation of ideas. This, then, serves as a platform for the interregional transfer/development of innovative policies for more inclusive and sustainable local employment. It also enables the partners to tackle discrimination and unemployment by analysing and discussing existing policies, strategies and scenarios.

In particular, the innovative policy tools generated by the project address the main problems faced by migrants and Roma populations in relation to employment, education, training and inclusion. The project also puts into practice the innovative tools developed by the ILO (International Labour Organization) for the promotion of fair employment opportunities.

Lead partner
Municipality of Nieuwegein (NL)

Contact person
Willianne van Siooten
+31307524002
www.labourplus.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,695,884.00

ERDF contribution
€1,307,691.40

Partnership
• Municipality of Nieuwegein (NL)
• Province of Padua (IT)
• European New Towns & Pilot Cities Platform (BE)
• University of Latvia (LV)
• County Council of Alt Empordá (ES)
• Antwerp Centre for Minorities (BE)
• Municipality of Nagykálló (HU)
• Mittelhessischer Bildungsverband e. V. (DE)
• Development Agency of Santa Cruz de Tenerife (ES)
• Newry and Mourne District Council (UK)
• Regional Administration of Sofia Region (BG)
MICROPOL
Smart Work Centres in Non-Metropolitan Areas

Owing to increasing unemployment in non-metropolitan areas, qualified people are moving to big cities in search of job opportunities in the knowledge economy. They leave behind them formerly thriving communities which then suffer from problems of depopulation with little possibility for development and growth. MICROPOL, which brings together 11 partners from non-metropolitan regions currently facing this EU-wide challenge of a loss of human capital, aims to take advantage of the new developments within knowledge-based business, work culture and ICT to investigate suitable solutions.

More specifically, the objective of MICROPOL is to exchange experience and good practices concerning the implementation and management of Smart Work Centres (SWCs) in non-metropolitan areas. SWCs are facilities located in rural or suburban areas which offer shared flexible office spaces, ICT facilities and other resources supporting telework and flexible work patterns.

Through a series of thematic seminars as well as a survey and study visits, the project partners contribute to the improvement of knowledge, skills and strategies for the use of SWCs in rural development and employment policies. The project results include a case study collection, a good practice guide, regional implementation plans for self-sustainable SWCs and a policy recommendation document for internal and external dissemination. These tools facilitate the creation of ‘Micropsols’, which are dynamic non-metropolitan communities combining a range of strengths and the low cost of rural life with high-quality job opportunities in the knowledge economy. Ultimately, all partners will be able to establish and manage successful, sustainable SWCs, capable of creating jobs and growth in their local areas.
SMART EUROPE
Smart strategies to create innovation-based jobs in regions of Europe

Continued and coordinated efforts by the European Commission, Member States and EU regions over the years had led to a steady increase in employment levels in many parts of Europe. The recent economic crisis, however, has broken this trend, resulting in significant job losses in all EU countries. While at the same time being faced with reductions in available funding, EU regions now need to step up their efforts to maintain jobs and boost employment opportunities.

Many regions have built their economic development strategies on promoting innovation as a driving force for economic growth. However, these innovation support schemes are not designed with job-creation as their primary objective. As a result, many regions quickly learn that their efforts to increase business innovation capacity do not automatically generate new employment.

SMART EUROPE brings together a consortium of 13 partners from 11 EU regions to exchange experience on regional policies and tools with a view to identifying and supporting the main regional stakeholders able to create innovation-based employment opportunities, thereby boosting job creation in these sectors.

The activities of SMART EUROPE include the collecting and documenting of effective policy tools in this field by partners and other stakeholders. During a series of peer reviews the partners identify the key sectors and players for stimulating innovation-based employment in each partner region, they tackle the specific challenges related to job-creation in these key sectors and then develop different regionally-tailored policy measure packages and instruments. The regions also draw up implementation plans in order to implement the proposed measures during the project.

**Lead partner**
Province of Flevoland (NL)

**Contact person**
Bob Pels
bob.pels@flevoland.nl
+31 320 265 474
www.flevoland.nl

**Duration**
01/2012 – 12/2014

**Total budget**
€1,858,015.54

**ERDF contribution**
€1,334,522.77

**Norwegian funding**
€60,032.80

**Partnership**
- Province of Flevoland (NL)
- Assembly of European Regions (FR)
- Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)
- Veneto Region (IT)
- Veneto Innovation (IT)
- Province of Bologna (IT)
- Észak-Alföld Regional Development Agency Non-profit Limited Company (HU)
- Maramures County Council (RO)
- Aimi Företagspartner Mitt AB (SE)
- Patras Science Park S.A. (EL)
- County of Sør-Trøndelag (NO)
- The Baltic Institute of Finland (FI)
- Avila County Council (ES)

Employment, human capital and education
TOK-TOC
Transfer Of Knowledge – Transfer Of human Capital

Human capital not only drives economic growth and social capital but also contributes to the development of competitive knowledge-based economies. Human capital is now more than ever having to adapt to the new economic situation. This is especially true when – so as to facilitate successful business succession – the knowledge and know-how of the growing senior workforce needs to be transferred to the next generation. An active involvement of local authorities with a view to facilitating business succession is crucial for ensuring social cohesion and regional development.

With support from local authorities in the project, TOK-TOC aims to provide the aged workforce and its successors with the skills and capacities needed for successful business continuation. The project identifies the knowledge and experience of the aged workforce and organises the exchange of good practices. It focuses on improving labour-force adaptability in fast-changing technology environments by providing workers with the knowledge and skills they need to operate effectively in knowledge-based societies.

The project explores 3 aspects:
• the way aged workers learn,
• the way they are treated by markets,
• the way knowledge, know-how and experience can be transferred effectively from this older generation of workers to the new.

7 project partners from 6 regions in 6 Member States exchange experience through workshops and study visits, and analyse the transferability of identified good practices to different social, legislative and economic environments. The partners develop a sustainable model of municipal services based on documented good practices of business transfers, tested in 2 regions. The project intends to produce a handbook on business transferability and a short video to provide municipal stakeholders and entrepreneurs with important know-how on managing business transfer.

Lead partner
Athens Chamber of Small & Medium Sized Industries (EL)

Contact person
Lilly T. Christoforidou
lchris@acsmi.gr; info@acsmi.gr; lillychristoforidou@gmail.com
+30 210 672 8068
www.tok-toc.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,722,660.80

ERDF contribution
€1,386,834.54

Partnership
• Athens Chamber of Small & Medium Sized Industries (EL)
• Municipality of Marathon (EL)
• University of Strathclyde (UK)
• Stichting Business Development Friesland / Business Development Friesland Foundation (NL)
• Barcelona Chamber of Commerce (ES)
• Municipality of Kardzhali (BG)
• Latvia Technology Park (LV)
TOURAGE
Developing Senior Tourism in Remote Regions

Although tourism is one of the largest and fastest growing industries in Europe, relatively remote regions still have an untapped development potential. Regions want to be competitive, generate growth, and create new jobs. Yet, regions must also face new challenges presented by gradual demographic changes, such as creating the conditions for healthy and active ageing. Demographic change brings challenges but also new opportunities. With the population of over 65s expected to reach 23% in Europe by 2030, senior citizens represent a substantial growing consumer group. A regional economy based on more varied and sustainable activities, including tourism, needs to develop new approaches which take this segment of population into account.

The TOURAGE partnership focuses on age-sensitive business opportunities in the tourism sector. The tourism sector does already have at its disposal many innovative tools and services that meet the needs of the elderly both as citizens and as tourists. The project enables 12 project partners from 12 regions in 10 Member States to exchange experience on the different innovative applications of such tools in their regions. Project partners share their own good practices (methods, procedures, and technologies) with each other at interregional workshops and study visits. They also carry out research to gather additional information from the public.

TOURAGE aims to utilise the innovative tools applied in the tourism sector to benefit the economy and employment for the regions as well as ensure that tourism services are made available to all. The project helps to develop new policy tools for the regions and increase awareness of the need for ‘age-sensitive tourism products’, especially among regional policymakers. The overall objective of the project is to support active and healthy ageing and to enhance regional economies by promoting the development of senior tourism.

Lead partner
Regional Council of North Karelia (FI)

Contact person
Ulla Äänismaa
ulla.aanismaa@pohjois-karjala.fi
+358 13 265 4700
www.pohjois-karjala.fi/
maakuntaliitto

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,765,039.82

ERDF contribution
€1,438,722.56

Partnership
• Regional Council of North Karelia (FI)
• Vidzeme Planning Region (LV)
• Eszak-Alföld Regional Development Agency (HU)
• Lake Balaton Development Coordination Agency (LBDCA) (HU)
• Region of East Macedonia & Thrace (EL)
• Regional Development Agency of the Prešov Self-governing Region (SK)
• Association of Polish Communes of Euroregion Baltic (PL)
• North-West Regional Development Agency (RO)
• Bourgas Regional Tourist Association (BG)
• Podkarpackie Region (PL)
• West Regional Authority (IE)
• County Council of Granada (ES)
VERSO
Volunteers for European Employment

In March 2000, EU heads of state and government agreed on an ambitious goal: to make the EU “the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion”. It is the aim of VERSO to identify good practices and develop policy tools to pursue this ambitious goal at a regional policy level.

As an interregional project, VERSO seeks to transfer good practices and thereby enhance and further fine-tune regional employment policies. VERSO intends to provide insight into how and with what amount of added value volunteering and civic society resources can support or contribute to innovation in Local Employment Development Initiatives or employment services. VERSO does not see volunteering as an activity reserved exclusively to the young but considers all age groups as potential volunteers or recipients of volunteer services.

The VERSO partnership is composed of 8 public authorities and 4 universities. Partners work together to produce a Best Practice Catalogue and practical guidelines for European regional or local authorities interested in developing inclusive local employment policies. They analyse good practice examples, which they then use to define policy recommendations and policy assessment tools. In order to gain knowledge on how the identified good practices or policy instruments can be successfully transferred, partners (public authorities) carry out a twofold policy process. Based on the observed good practices, they generate sets of local/regional policy recommendations, which are later operationalised as implementation plans. The latter are drawn up on the basis of bilateral study visits, seminars, and networking activities within the partnership.

Lead partner
Aarhus University, Department of Education (DK)

Contact person
Niels Rosendal Jensen
nrj@dpu.dk
+45 87 16 37 09
www.verseonet.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€2,163,049.50

ERDF contribution
€1,694,766.82

Partnership
• Aarhus University, Department of Education (DK)
• Middelfart Municipality (DK)
• Region of Epirus (EL)
• University of Ioannina (EL)
• Netzwerk Lippe (DE)
• East Riding of Yorkshire Council (UK)
• Government of Catalonia (ES)
• UAB – Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (ES)
• Municipality of Zalaegerszeg (HU)
• Budapest Business School (HU)
• Municipality of Coevorden (NL)
• Sofia Municipality (BG)
**Working4Talent**

Human capital and innovation: employment policies in local and regional innovation networks for talent attraction and better job opportunities

Innovation is not just a tool for achieving competitiveness and growth. Innovation itself creates jobs. This is most evident in more advanced EU regions, where the demand for innovation has greatly increased the number of innovation related jobs. In regions with less developed innovation systems, however, the lack of innovation-based jobs has driven many talented young people to emigrate. Working4Talent partner regions wish to identify employment policy strategies that can appropriately respond to this new economic reality, successfully matching talent supply with demand. Their task is also to develop policies promoting talent creation and attraction and which seek to use talent mobility as an instrument for talent growth.

The 11 partner institutions deal with employment and innovation issues from different perspectives. This wealth of different points of view ensures a strong critical mass for study and debate. Based on common guidelines, the partners analyse the strengths and weaknesses of the employment markets linked to their local and regional innovation systems. The findings of these analyses are then further discussed at thematic workshops and seminars. These interregional events also help partners to identify good practices for inclusion in a good practice guide. Study visits are organised to allow a deeper understanding of policies that have proven to be successful in other partner areas. Partners intend to implement a limited number of pilot actions with a view to illustrating specific employment policy measures that may help better exploit the employment opportunities generated by innovation activities in a knowledge-based economy. The knowledge and insight gained from the project are compiled into a final report serving as a policy guide for European local and regional policymakers.

**Lead partner**
Fomento San Sebastián, San Sebastián Local Development Agency (ES)

**Contact person**
Elisabeth Jorge
elisabeth_jorge@donostia.org
+34 943 48 28 00
www.donostia.org

**Duration**
01/2012 – 12/2014

**Total budget**
€1,650,269.30

**ERDF contribution**
€1,133,382.64

**Norwegian funding**
€103,067.39

**Partnership**
- Fomento San Sebastián, San Sebastián Local Development Agency (ES)
- The Business Development Agency of the Karlovy Vary Region (CZ)
- South Muntenia Regional Development Agency (RO)
- Cork Institute of Technology (IE)
- Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (UK)
- Paperbank Innovation (NO)
- Sunrise Valley (LT)
- Province of Torino (IT)
- ASTER S.Cons.P.A. (IT)
- Riga City Development Department (LV)
- Pannon Business Network Association (HU)
BOO-Games
BOOsting European Games Industry

The digital games market is a fast growing market within Creative Industries: the global demand for digital games is expected to grow 10% annually in the next few years. Today, the European games industry contributes more than €3.5bn to the economy and employs more than 100,000 people, of which 60,000 are skilled jobs. Games could represent a new source of growth for the European economy but many regions are still lacking adequate policies and funding schemes which could sustain this market. Therefore, the development of strong digital and interactive media strategies is high on the agenda throughout Europe.

The aim of the BOO-Games project is to support regional development authorities in understanding the importance of the games industry for the European economy.

In particular, the project focuses on the challenges policymakers are either not yet aware of or which they already face, as game-related questions move up on the political agenda due to their economic and societal impact. The project therefore focuses on a range of policy themes, such as: public funding, private investment incentives, talent incubation, cluster development and improving the public perception of the potential of digital games as well as risk management for public authorities in the communication on game-related matters.

By bringing together more advanced regions in this field with less experienced ones, the project seeks to promote mutual learning by means of interregional cooperation, ultimately contributing to the improvement of the effectiveness of local development policies targeting digital and interactive media.

Lead partner
Coventry University Enterprises Ltd (UK)

Contact person
Soizic Tsin
s.tsin@coventry.ac.uk
+44 2 476 236 001
www.boogames.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,855,118.45

ERDF contribution
€1,414,475.36

Partnership
• Coventry University Enterprises Ltd (UK)
• Stratford On Avon District Council (UK)
• MFO Baden-Württemberg mbH (DE)
• City of Karlsruhe Economic Development (DE)
• Region Ile de France (FR)
• PREDA – Paris Region Economic Development Agency (FR)
• European Centre for Business and Innovation of Asturias (ES)
• Sviluppumibia (IT)
• Piedmont Region (IT)
• CSP – Innovation in ICT (IT)
• Utrecht School of the Arts (NL)
• Foundation Temi Zammit (MT)
• Applied Research and Communication Fund (BG)
• Innovation and Technology Transfer Salzburg Ltd. (AT)
Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), as defined by the European Commission, is “the responsibility of enterprises for their impacts on society” (COM (2011) 681). CSR has become part of the debate on the role of companies in society, on challenges to the welfare state, on governance and socio-economic development. Many public authorities have recognised the potential of CSR and have placed it on their political agendas.

However, the impact of CSR has been limited by a lack of coordination. Indeed, although official definitions highlight a joint social and environmental approach, public policy often divides CSR into disconnected segments, with separate, uncoordinated management that leads to inefficiency and duplication. The COGITA project therefore intends to promote CSR in its entirety, by identifying integrated solutions that combine social and environmental responsibility in the field of regional economic policy. Within this integrated concept, COGITA considers 5 sub-themes: raising CSR awareness and capacity; CSR in public procurement; CSR criteria in public funding; inter-firm collaboration/local supply chains; communication/branding.

COGITA was developed from a transfer group on CSR created within the INTERREG IVC capitalisation project ERIK ACTION on innovation in enterprises. The new partnership is now sharing experiences to identify and implement tools that public authorities and other public stakeholders can adapt in order to promote an integrated CSR approach in their territory.
CIE
Cleantech Incubation Europe

Cleantech Incubation Europe (CIE) focuses on supporting and stimulating entrepreneurs and SMEs working in the clean technologies, or ‘cleantech’, sector. Cleantech can be described as a diverse range of products, services, and processes that utilise renewable materials and energy sources, reduce the use of natural resources, and lower or eliminate emissions and waste. It can be used by almost any traditional industrial sector. Through their experience with promoting the development of cleantech enterprises, cities and municipalities observed that it is not only necessary to set up a cleantech incubator, but also to have complementary policies that provide a positive business climate and stimulate growth. CIE helps public authorities to choose suitable policy interventions to help them to develop their local or regional policy instruments supporting entrepreneurs and start-ups in the cleantech sector.

CIE’s partners are cities or municipalities, universities and incubators. The universities and the incubators work on a daily basis with local/regional policymakers to support cleantech SMEs with their business processes.

The project’s activities include:
• producing summaries of current local/regional policies affecting cleantech incubators,
• sharing of experiences between the inventoried cleantech incubators,
• analysis of different business models used by local/ regional governments developing incubators for other sectors (e.g. medical, ICT),
• explaining the needs of cleantech incubators to policymakers and a discussion of possible regional differences,
• producing documentation to present the project’s findings and communicating them to a wider audience.
DESUR
Developing Sustainable Regions through Responsible SMEs

European SMEs must become more environmentally friendly. However, it is not easy for them to access the resources they need to be able to adopt sustainable practices, such as respecting the natural environment, removing barriers and inequalities, lifelong learning, increasing productivity, more efficient resource usage, improving the quality of life for employees, and so on.

The DESUR project addresses this challenge by improving the existing policies, instruments and methodologies designed to promote quality employment, responsible or eco-innovation and environmental sustainability in SMEs. Specifically, DESUR applies a holistic methodology based on the 3 closely interrelated pillars of sustainability, namely: profit, people and the planet. This holistic approach ensures that the project leads to better social and environmental sustainability while at the same time improving competitiveness.

The DESUR partnership is composed of 8 local and regional representatives from 8 European countries. With a view to transferring policies, partners organise the exchange of experience, knowledge and good practices or specific policy instruments.

The transfer of policies in DESUR is achieved through implementation plans that are developed in each partner region. To ensure successful transfer, training is provided for the members of staff involved. By implementing these plans, DESUR makes a contribution to the EU’s 2020 strategy objective of creating a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy.

Lead partner
Foundation for the Development of Science and Technology in Extremadura (ES)

Contact person
Patricia de Costa Félix Bermejo
patricia@fundecyt.es
+34 924 014 600
www.desur.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 09/2014

Total budget
€1,392,019.20

ERDF contribution
€1,102,583.66

Partnership
• Foundation for the Development of Science and Technology in Extremadura (ES)
• South West Regional Authority (IE)
• Region of Western Macedonia, European Programmes Office (EL)
• Province of Bologna (IT)
• Kaunas University of Technology (LT)
• Municipality of Forest/Vorst – Brussels-Capital Region (BE)
• Pannon Business Network Association (HU)
• Labour fund Zasavje, foundation for active employment policy (SI)
DIFASS
Development of Interregional Financial Assistance to SMEs and of non-grant instruments

Innovative SMEs are encountering problems with obtaining loans. The reason is that it is difficult for banks and other credit providers to evaluate risks in ventures involving technological innovation and/or foreign markets. Moreover, SMEs often cannot provide sufficient guarantees. With the global financial crisis, the requirements for obtaining a loan have become even stricter. The problems SMEs are facing to access finance is a real challenge to the EU’s objectives for innovation and the knowledge-based economy. Meeting this challenge calls for a stronger commitment from the public sector. However, public financial resources are limited and need to be used as effectively as possible.

DIFASS aims to unlock the innovation and growth potential of SMEs by improving access to finance. This is achieved by developing interregional financial assistance to SMEs and non-grant instruments. The project creates the conditions for the transfer of 2 good practice examples: an internet-based Micro-Finance Management tool from Hungary; and a support programme for the internationalisation of SME business from Andalusia. 8 regions benefit from these transfers through pilot implementation projects.

DIFASS enables 20 regions and 26 project partners from 16 Member States to exchange experience and good practices in this policy area and also promotes the transfer of selected good practices to other regions. Participating regional authorities and development agencies cooperate on policy development, implementation and operation of revolving credit instruments and related services. Scientific partners support the project by analysing the underlying mechanisms of the selected good practice cases and the conditions for their successful transfer to other regions. All partners develop a policy implementation plan, which is applied to their own policies tackling access to finance for SMEs, innovation, internationalisation and sustainable growth.

**Partnership**
- Pannon Business Network Association (HU)
- Vaeksthus Central Denmark (DK)
- Business Development Friesland Foundation (NL)
- Tallinn Science Park Tehnopoli Foundation (EE)
- Region of Western Macedonia, European Programmes Office (EL)
- Regional Development Agency of Western Macedonia – ANKO S.A. (EL)
- Technological Educational Institute of West Macedonia (EL)
- Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Shipping of Seville (ES)
- Business Innovation Centre Asturias (ES)
- IDEPA Regional Development Agency of Asturias (ES)
- European Business and Innovation Centre of Burgos (ES)
- Zala County Foundation for Enterprise Promotion (HU)
- Territorial Pact of Oristano PTO (IT)
- Autonomous Region of Sardinia, Department for Planning, Budgeting, Credit and Territory (IT)
- WSX Enterprise (UK)
- Region Aosta Valley RAV (IT)
- Municipal Council of Beja (PT)
- Investment and Business Guarantees, Ltd. – INVEGA (LT)
- Center of Technology Western Pomerania (DE)
- The Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies (RO)
- Mineral & Energy Economy Research Institute of Polish Academy of Sciences (PL)
- Rzeszów Regional Development Agency RARR S.A. (PL)
- The Regional Development Agency Centru – RDA Centru (RO)
- Teknikdalen Foundation (SE)
- Public agency for technology of the Republic of Slovenia (SI)
- Municipality of the Capital of the Slovak Republic, Bratislava (SK)
The e-CREATE partners have identified shortcomings in public policies designed to promote tourism along cultural and historic routes. All partners share the understanding that, if tourism-related SMEs are to make good use of modern ICT and web-based customer relations tools, policy makers need to help them by introducing e-skills development policies.

e-CREATE brings together 13 partners from 9 EU Member States and Norway, who have decided to pool their resources to increase the competitiveness of enterprises in rural areas. The partners aim to work together to identify and transfer good practices with a view to improving regional and local policies. A particular focus is placed on the uptake of ICT among entrepreneurs in rural areas and along tourism routes. The project also aims to increase public servants' understanding of the potential of ICT and web tools.

The main project activities include assessing and publishing good practices, organising interregional capacity-building workshops and formulating policy recommendations. In addition, the partners implement a demonstration project where they develop and test an open-source application for smart phones, tablets and laptops. This tool provides a framework, methodology and specifications for developing applications for tourists. A prototype will be presented at the final project conference and the source code will be made openly available.

Throughout the project, the key stakeholders in rural development and along cultural routes are involved in the interregional exchange and capacity-building process. e-CREATE works towards the political endorsement of implementation plans for each partner region, better access to good practices, improved public policies and funding schemes and increased private investment.
EuroScreen
European Screen Destinations

The representation of cities and regions in different audiovisual media (such as films, TV series, advertisements or the internet) is both important for strengthening and sustaining the diverse cultures of different EU states, and is increasingly having a substantial economic impact on tourism. Therefore, the overall objective of the EuroScreen project is to maximise the economic synergies between the screen and tourism sectors, which should lead to increased innovation, competitiveness and growth of the sector in 8 regions across the EU.

The project addresses policymaker’s lack of understanding of the economic benefits of the screen sector and its positive impact on tourism. Project partners aim to develop clear linkages between the 2 sectors with a view to identifying potential economic gains and innovative frameworks for supporting cross-sector collaboration between intermediary agencies and businesses. The current lack of effective networking and collaboration between the 2 sectors is addressed by bringing together 5 regions which have advanced know-how in screen tourism (London, Ystad, Malaga, Apulia & La Valletta) with 3 which are somewhat less experienced in the field (Rzeszow, Bucharest & Maribor). Collectively, the partnership brings together institutions with a strong track record of delivering economic initiatives in support of the screen and tourism sectors with regions demonstrating less expertise but significant economic potential.

The main activities of the project are carried out in 3 stages:

• benchmarking and identification of good practices, including an assessment and improvement of one of the existing policy development tools used to measure the screen sector’s impact on tourism;
• exchange of experiences within a capacity building programme;
• a phase assessing transfer feasibility and delivery with view to piloting an enhanced and transferable methodology in 3 target regions.

Lead partner
Film London Ltd. (UK)

Contact person
Daniela Kirchner
daniela.kirchner@filmlondon.org.uk
+44 20 7613 7676
www.filmlondon.org.uk

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,983,155.36

ERDF contribution
€1,543,099.77

Partnership
• Film London Ltd. (UK)
• Acula Film Commission (IT)
• Bucharest-Ilfov Regional Development Agency (RO)
• Fondazzjoni Temi Zammit (MT)
• Rzeszow Regional Development Agency S.A. (PL)
• Municipality of Ystad (SE)
• Maribor Development Agency (SI)
• Local Public Agency for Economic Development in Malaga (ES)
• Lund University, Department of Service Management (SE)
The FIN-EN project aims to enhance co-operation between regional and national authorities across Europe on the methodologies and instruments used for implementing Financial Engineering (FE) operations financed under the EU Structural Funds without the European Investment Fund (EIF). Financial Engineering is an option offered to Member States to review ERDF/ESF disbursement procedures by using financial instruments, other than traditional grants, able to provide EU funding even after the 2013 deadline. The benefits can be manifold: optimising the use of EU funds by increasing the leverage effect and stimulating private co-investment and involvement; supporting a greater number of SMEs; speeding up the disbursement process; and reinforcing the principle of subsidiarity and mutual accountability across the EU through a direct involvement of beneficiaries in the operations.

The main goal of FIN-EN is to set up a wide and stable network in which Managing Authorities from the ‘Convergence’ and ‘Regional Competitiveness and Employment’ objective regions discuss each phase of an FE operation and its underlying financial instruments with a view to finding solutions to similar problems. FIN-EN enables an integrated exchange of experiences through which partners present their most effective financial instruments and methodologies, learn from each other, and formulate proposals for simplification with the next Structural Funds programming period in mind.

13 project partners, each representing a different region and Member State, discuss the different obstacles and challenges involved in implementing such financial instruments without the EIF. They exchange experience at study visits and disseminate information on the best instruments and methodologies identified by the partnership at regional, national and EU levels.

**FIN-EN**
Sharing methodologies on FINancial ENgineering for enterprises

---

**Lead partner**
Finlombarda SpA (IT)

**Contact person**
Paolo Zaggia

**Duration**
01/2012 – 12/2014

**Total budget**
€1,995,000.00

**ERDF contribution**
€1,567,194.00

---

**Partnership**
- Finlombarda SpA (IT)
- European Association of Public Banks and Funding Agencies (BE)
- Agency for Innovation and Development of Andalusia IDEA (ES)
- National Development Agency, Operational Programme for Economic Development Managing Authority (HU)
- Regional Council of Auvergne (FR)
- SID Bank, Inc. Ljubljana (SI)
- State Joint Stock Company Mortgage and Land Bank of Latvia (LV)
- Investment and Business Guarantees, Ltd.- INVEGA (LT)
- Central Denmark Region (DK)
- Economic and infrastructure Hessen non-autonomous institution within the Landesbank Hessen - Thüringen Girozentrale – WIBank (DE)
- ETEAN S.A. (Hellenic Fund for Entrepreneurship and Development) (EL)
- Managing Authority of COMPETE/POFC (MA COMPETE) (PT)
- Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (UK)
Health4Growth
Developing Regional Actions to Promote SMEs in the Health Sector and Stimulate Economic Growth

The ageing population, the need to ensure a healthy workforce and an emerging demand for quality health services have all boosted the economic importance of the health sector. Within European regions, health sector spending ranges from 5.5% to over 11% of regional GDP. This is a significant level of economic activity. However, due to a lack of capacity to ‘play its part’, the health sector is often forgotten from regional policy agendas. Likewise, although SMEs represent the main innovation catalysts in the health sector, they are often not sufficiently included in regional development agendas either. On realising these 2 critical points, the Municipality of Debrecen decided to launch the Health4Growth initiative.

With a view to improving their regional policies towards economic stakeholders in the local and regional health sector, and, in particular, to improve the general operational environment, the municipality joined forces with 9 other EU regions. Health4Growth enables interregional collaboration on improving the cooperation architecture for all health sector stakeholders. For instance, partners aim to identify solutions to certain regulatory problems which hinder the commercialisation of new technologies as well as solutions to ease access to finance through innovative sector-specific financial schemes.

The consortium also intends to hold a series of thematic workshops on selected good practices, with discussions informed by situation analyses on the health sectors in the partner regions, to explore the possibility of transferring these practices between them. The project then intends to draw up comprehensive implementation plans for the development of the health sector in each partner region combined with specific policy recommendations.

Lead partner
Municipality of Debrecen (HU)

Contact person
András Nyulasí
nyulasí.adph.debrecen.hu
+36 52 511 555
www.debrecen.hu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€2,140,780.05

ERDF contribution
€1,709,763.73

Partnership
• Municipality of Debrecen (HU)
• City of Turnhout (BE)
• IPN Incubator – Ideas and Businesses Incubator (PT)
• Eindhoven University of Technology (NL)
• University of Debrecen (HU)
• City of Leuven (BE)
• Innovation and Economic Development Centre, Forlì (IT)
• Vipzame Planning Region (LV)
• Maribor Development Agency (SI)
• Municipality of Varna (BG)
• Province of Turin (IT)
I4Food
Interregional cooperation for competitive and sustainable regional food industries

The European food industry has changed due to growing international trade in food and drink and as traditional markets and consumer expectations have evolved. The European food industry is struggling to develop its own capacity for innovation, competitiveness and sustainability as well as contribute to European social, economic and territorial cohesion. The food industry nevertheless offers employment opportunities in regions without high-value-added sectors. It can be a source of innovation and economic cooperation for regional SMEs. By producing safe, healthy regional food products, SMEs can reach new markets, attract investment and a skilled workforce into their regions, while preserving environmental values.

I4Food partners come from 6 regions from 6 Member States each facing such challenges. To meet them, they are developing a common understanding of the issues by analysing the key strategies and good practices of SMEs and stakeholders within their regional food industries, and through the exchange of experience during study visits. Partners aim to enhance regional strategies by drafting implementation plans for the transfer of good practice, with a view to strengthening the innovation capacity of food industry SMEs. Ultimately, they draw up policy recommendations for EU-wide implementation.

I4Food aims to improve policies designed to increase the competitiveness and sustainability of SMEs in regional food industries. The project targets 6 policy areas:
• employment and jobs,
• innovation and knowledge,
• regional business cooperation,
• access to finance and markets,
• safe and healthy food products,
• environmentally conscious SMEs.

The involvement of regional, interregional and EU policy makers ensures that the outputs of the I4Food project contribute to more effective regional development policies designed to improve the competitiveness and sustainability of food industry SMEs both at regional and EU level.

Lead partner
South Transdanubian Regional Development Agency (HU)

Contact person
Pálmai Zsolt
palmazsolt@deldunantul.eu
+36 7251 3764
www.i4food.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€964,249.70

ERDF contribution
€752,637.24

Partnership
• South Transdanubian Regional Development Agency (HU)
• Province of Matera (IT)
• Regional and European Agrofood Organisation for Communication, Research, Innovation & Technology Transfer (FR)
• Regional Council of North Karelia (FI)
• CENTRU Regional Development Agency (RO)
• County Council of Granada (ES)
InCompass
Regional Policy Improvement for Financially Sustainable Creative Incubator Units

Creative Industries such as Advertising, Fashion, Graphic Design, Computer Games and Film Production all provide significant employment opportunities: the EU recognises the importance of ‘unlocking the potential of cultural and creative industries’, which in a green paper it referred to as one of “Europe’s most dynamic sectors” with strong potential to contribute to growth and job creation.

Business incubator units for start-ups in these industries act as vital support mechanisms for the development of entrepreneurship and innovation in this sector across the EU. However, due to public funding cutbacks, many are now facing serious threats to their financial survival and ability to realise their full potential.

While much research has focussed on the role and value of specific activities undertaken within creative incubator units, InCompass focuses on how the units themselves can become independently financially sustainable. By studying a number of existing incubator units across the EU, the project identifies existing and emerging innovative approaches that are already providing financial security and reduced dependency on public funding. It then examines how regional policies related to the development and financial sustainability of these units can be enhanced by adopting the successful practices identified.

In order to attain these aims, the main activities of the project include:

• study visits and reports on good practice;
• thematic seminars, the purpose of which is to share the findings within the consortium;
• regional implementation groups made up of different stakeholders to assess the transferability of good practice and make regional policy recommendations.

InCompass Regional Initiative Project
Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Lead partner
Dundee College (UK)

Contact person
Andrew Mackenzie
a.mackenzie@dundeecollege.ac.uk
+44 1382 834834
www.incompass.info

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€2,417,094.84

ERDF contribution
€1,912,583.62

Partnership
• Dundee College (UK)
• Cultural Municipal Foundation of Aviles City Council (ES)
• Delft University of Technology, OTB Research Institute for the Built Environment (NL)
• KTU Regional Science Park (LT)
• Municipality of the Capital of the Slovak Republic, Bratislava (SK)
• Western Greece Region (EL)
• University of Patras (EL)
• Dundee City Council (UK)
• Province of Milan (IT)
• BIC La Fucina (IT)
• Medway Council (UK)
• CIMBAL – Comunidade Intermunicipal Do Baixo Alentejo (PT)
• Tillväxtverket, The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth (SE)
• Pannon Business Network (HU)
• Sofia Municipality (BG)
INNOCRAFTS
INNOVating entrepreneurship policies in the CRAFTS sector

With a view to promoting the growth of SMEs and fostering entrepreneurship, the European Commission adopted in 2008 the Small Business Act, which calls for a renewed effort to enable SMEs to realise their potential. It also encourages Member States to put measures in place to support crafts businesses and micro-enterprises. Over the last decade, creative and cultural industries have become important components of knowledge-based economies. However, owing to their fragmentation within the arts sector and their self-employment nature, the economic value of Artistic and Contemporary Crafts (ACC) has remained poorly understood.

The idea of INNOCRAFTS was born out of the need of several European cities of art to explore the values that make up the identity of a sustainable city with a view to strengthening entrepreneurship policies in the field of ACC. Its main objective is therefore to promote entrepreneurship in this sector by improving the effectiveness of local/regional development policies through cooperation. The partnership includes different authorities and bodies representing cities of art and/or UNESCO World Heritage Sites that are universally recognised for their unique cultural, architectural and artistic heritage and which demonstrate a high potential influence for creative and cultural industries, if promoted properly.

The project intends to learn from successful policy actions implemented by local/regional authorities in the field of ACC by comparing different policy experiences. The partners also intend to identify and promote effective business models, improve business support services (i.e. business incubators and business parks), facilitate access for SMEs to innovation and financial assistance (through non-grant instruments), as well as promote the internationalisation of small businesses and provide support for female and/or young entrepreneurs.

Lead partner
Municipality of Florence (IT)

Contact person
Simone Tani
simone.tani@comune.fi.it
innocrafts@comune.fi.it
+39 055 3283547
+39 055 2625959
www.innocrafts.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€2,318,400.00

ERDF contribution
€1,817,300.00

Partnership
• Municipality of Florence (IT)
• National Association of Italian Municipalities Tuscany (IT)
• National Institute of Arts and Crafts (FR)
• Public Foundation The Legacy of al-Andalus (ES)
• Bistrita Municipality (RO)
• Regional Association of Municipalities “Central Stara Planina” (BG)
• Burgas Municipality (BG)
• Chamber of Commerce of Barcelona (ES)
• Aalto University School of Art and Design (FI)
• Riga City Council – Department of Education, Culture and Sports (LV)
• Vilnius Old Town Renewal Agency (LT)
• Reims City Council (FR)
• Crafts Council of Ireland (IE)
• Budapest Enterprise Agency (HU)
• Slovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SK)
InnovMot
Improving Regional Policies: promoting and motivating non-technological Innovation in SMEs

Innovation in SMEs is one of the biggest challenges facing the European economy if it is to compete in the global market. However, while different regional policies and programmes have been introduced to encourage SMEs in this direction, a lack of motivation to innovate is generally accepted to be a stumbling block by all the players in the innovation system.

For the majority of European SMEs, non-technological innovations are the most important ones. Such innovations include new business models, marketing strategies, commercialisation approaches, organisational issues, and so on. Consequently, convincing SME managers to give up some of their time to define and implement innovation policies is the key question for the development and take-up of non-technological innovations.

The 10 members of the InnoMot consortium represent regional governments, innovation agencies and innovation departments which are all actively involved in promoting innovation in SMEs. The objective of InnoMot is to pave the way for the deployment of new policies and programmes designed to support the adoption of non-technological innovations by SMEs in the partner regions. The project builds capacity – through expertise – in public administrations in order to improve current practices in the design, implementation and monitoring of innovation motivation policies.

After identifying and analysing existing good practices, the partners identify the key success factors and conditions for their transfer. All the project regions define implementation plans in order to establish the specific actions, timetable and resources to deploy the new policies after the end of the project. Finally, the transfer model is adapted in order to enable other European regions to benefit from these good practices.

Lead partner
West Sweden (SE)

Contact person
Daniel Wennerlund
daniel.wennerlund@westsweden.se
+46 31 368 55 56
www.innomot.net

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€2,274,728.00

ERDF contribution
€1,727,256.00

Partnership
• West Sweden (SE)
• TeleRegions Net (BE)
• Lodz Region (PL)
• Meath County Enterprise Board (IE)
• Regional Agency for Entrepreneurship and Innovations – Varna (RAPIV) (BG)
• European Business Innovation Centre of Navarra – CEIN (ES)
• Institute for Small and Medium Industry of the Generalitat Valenciana – IMPIVA (ES)
• North France Innovation Development (FR)
• ERVET – Emilia-Romagna Economic Development Agency Ltd (IT)
• Central Region Denmark (DK)
LOCFOOD

LOCal FOOD as an engine for local business

LOCFOOD aims to improve regional policies for food-related SMEs in rural areas, thereby enhancing rural entrepreneurship, business development, competitiveness and economic growth. This policy area is important because, by creating jobs and opportunities in rural areas, SMEs in the local food sector play an important role in limiting one of the major problems for such areas, i.e. depopulation. In addition, many local food producers are associated with the local tourism industry, which in turn makes an important contribution to local identity. The SMEs in the local food sector are however often micro-businesses characterised by a low involvement in clustering, cooperation and innovation.

LOCFOOD seeks to promote food production and consumption as a source of sustainable development. To achieve this goal, partners intend to encourage entrepreneurship and innovative approaches to the economic exploitation of local food assets, for example, the development of new business opportunities and products that could promote a higher degree of local pride and identity as well as provide secure jobs and growth.

The partnership is composed of European regions, all of which are home to a considerable number of SMEs in the local food sector. All these regions are also characterised by extensive rural and sparsely populated areas. The key activities of the LOCFOOD project include a review of the existing policies and strategies in the participating regions. This review is based on a process of policy mapping and analysing the internal and external factors influencing the local food sector. The regions share knowledge and exchange experience, thereby gaining a better understanding of the local food sector and of the characteristics of good regional policies and strategies for local SMEs specialised in the food sector. Recommendations for regional policymakers are outlined in a good practice guide.

Lead partner
Nordland County Council (NO)

Contact person
Tommy Nilsen
tommy.nilsen@nfk.no
+47775650305
www.locfood.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€2,563,416.64

ERDF contribution
€1,404,074.98

Partnership
- Nordland County Council (NO)
- Marche Region (IT)
- Intermunicipality Association from Chiva to Utiel (ES)
- Development Centre Litija (SI)
- Province of Rimini (IT)
- Canton of Jura (CH)
- Örebro Regional Development Council (SE)
- Region of West Macedonia (EL)
- BSC, Business Support Centre Ltd, Kranj (SI)
- Down District Council (UK)
- Regional Council of Västerbotten (SE)
- Euro Perspectives Foundation (BG)
- University of Ulster (UK)
MESSE
Mechanism for Enhancement of Synergy and Sustainability among Enterprises

Social entrepreneurship is a fast growing force. It is important because of its strong impact on the growth of regional economies and because of its social return on investment. The idea of working together on the improvement of regional policies for the economic and qualitative growth of social entrepreneurship was first examined within the INTERREG IVC PEOPLE project, financed in the 1st call for proposals. However, although many initiatives in this sector have been conducted in the past, they have remained relatively isolated experiences.

2 of PEOPLE’s partners, the Veneto region and the government of Andalucía, initiated the MESSE project in order to focus specifically on social entrepreneurship. The MESSE partnership represents a wide geographical area and its 9 participating regions have social entrepreneurship sectors that are characterised by varying levels of development. The project therefore benefits from a rich process of exchange of experience.

After carrying out a situation analysis of the sector in each partner territory, the partnership compiles examples of good practices related to public support for establishing synergies between social entrepreneurship, companies and public authorities (such as organisations, support services, legislative and tax instruments). The project also plans a small-scale pilot action consisting in testing existing support schemes in a new way. The validation of the project’s outputs involves local stakeholders who, besides being involved in the identification of good practices, are also consulted on the viability of transferring practices related to support services for social enterprises. The practices with greatest transfer potential are described within implementation plans together with specific actions necessary to ensure their application on the ground.

**Lead partner**
Veneto Region (IT)

**Contact person**
Nadia Ghiaretta
nadia.giaretta@regione.veneto.it
+39 0 412 795 804
www.regione.veneto.it

**Duration**
01/2012 – 12/2014

**Total budget**
€1,592,235.33

**ERDF contribution**
€1,237,011.76

**Partnership**
- Veneto Region (IT)
- Region of Attica (EL)
- Andalucian Government (ES)
- Romanian Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (RO)
- Pannon Business Network Association (HU)
- Sofia Municipality (BG)
- East Sweden Region (SE)
- Adult Education Centre of Hannover (DE)
- Community Action Hampshire (UK)
PLUSTEX
Policy Learning to Unlock Skills in the TEXtile sector

Textiles and clothing is one of the major manufacturing industries of the EU-27 in terms of production volumes, added value and jobs. This sector has been heavily hit by the recent global economic crisis and has steadily lost competitiveness over the past few years. In response to this critical situation, PLUSTEX partners are determined to bring together public authorities and sector players with a view to capitalising on each other’s proven policy solutions. PLUSTEX focuses on establishing policies to help SMEs adopt a knowledge & innovation-oriented approach towards modernisation and strategic transformation, so as to be able to adapt to global challenges.

The exchange between partners is centred on 6 policy areas:

- support young entrepreneurship and innovative business models,
- promote production diversification towards high-quality and high-tech textiles and niche products,
- increase the level of art, design and creativity in market production,
- support the clustering and internationalisation of SMEs,
- promote eco-innovation and social responsibility in the sector,
- foster business incubation and start-ups in the sector.

Each of the above areas is discussed in detail during a series of workshops and study visits. This allows partners to collect, analyse, and exchange information about good practices with a view to supporting the creation of new business models, manufacturing technologies and marketing strategies, placing greater emphasis on quality, technology, design, sustainability and user-driven production.

The knowledge generated by this learning process then informs the development of implementation plans, called ‘Partnerships for Regional Innovation’, ensuring that project outputs are ultimately incorporated into partner local/regional policy frameworks.

Lead partner
Municipality of Prato (IT)

Contact person
Alessandro Fontani
info@plustex.eu
+39 0 574 183 6075
www.plustex.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,710,000.00

ERDF contribution
€1,353,750.00

Partnership
- Municipality of Prato (IT)
- Lille Metropole (FR)
- Prato Textile Museum Foundation (IT)
- Agency for regional and economic development – Vratsa (BG)
- Lodz Region (PL)
- KTU Regional Science Park (LT)
- University of Southampton (UK)
- Pannon Business Network Association (HU)
- AMAVE – Vale do Ave Municipalities Association (PT)
RECOMMEND
Regions using ECO-Management for eco-innovation Development

EU Member States are striving to promote a sustainable economic development decoupled from the use of natural resources. Eco-innovation is an ecologically friendly way of bridging the gap between the research & development process and the end-user market. It makes innovative ideas for products, services and processes which help protect the environment ready for business and industry use. Eco-innovation demonstrates that competitive growth and environmental protection can go hand in hand. As regional authorities have such a close relationship with the SME sector, they should encourage local enterprises to implement eco-management systems as well as promote entrepreneurial eco-innovation and regional eco-efficiency.

RECOMMEND aims to stimulate demand and improve market conditions for eco-innovation. The project focuses on eco-management systems and their preliminary stages, as these systems can play a major role in meeting ecological challenges and can be used as a lever for promoting eco-innovation at the regional level. It develops new and improved policy approaches and methodologies to:

• raise individual stakeholders’ commitment to eco-management and eco-efficiency,
• set up and connect regional frameworks of eco-management and eco-innovation,
• increase the visibility of the Regions’ contribution to solving ecological challenges at the EU level.

The project consortium consists of 10 project partners from 9 regions in 8 Member States with different levels of regional support for eco-management and eco-innovation. They exchange experience and test new instruments for eco-innovation, such as eco-voucher schemes or eco-management practitioner networks, in 3 pilot actions. Partners raise awareness and disseminate project outputs among regional policymakers and stakeholders. Regional implementation plans ensure results are later incorporated into regional policies.
REGIO-CRAFTS
REGIONal Cooperation for CRAFT Development

Many European regions have a long tradition of crafts, and the craft sector contributes to a region’s uniqueness and appeal to visitors. In addition, the sector boosts the regional economy as a source of local employment as well as social and economic stability. Today, however, the craft sector is facing a range of problems, such as: (i) the fierce global competition from cheaper products; (ii) the loss of artisan skills and traditions; (iii) difficulties to enter the market; (iv) the drop in customer appeal of traditional craft products; (v) a lack of financial resources and economic capacity, as the sector is mostly dominated by micro-enterprises, self-employed or hobby-based establishments.

The REGIO-CRAFTS project has been set up to address these problems. It brings together 6 partners from 6 countries, with the overall objective of strengthening the craft sector and increasing its importance in the economy of each participating region. The project explores policy development practices and ways of strengthening the craft sector, including financial and economic support mechanisms, certification, and voucher systems.

Project activities include an analysis of regional policies and craft sector support measures, good practice exchange seminars and study visits, local and EU level dissemination activities, and consultation meetings with stakeholders. These form the basis for a case study report, describing regional methodologies and policy tools, including joint analysis and recommendations at EU, national and regional levels. To ensure that the outputs of the project are utilised effectively, implementation plans are drawn up with a view to their later incorporation into regional policies.

Lead partner
Zemgale Planning Region (LV)

Contact person
Linda Sarke-Fedjajeva
linda.sarke@zpr.gov.lv
+371 63021250
www.regiocrafts.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,145,262.62

ERDF contribution
€936,056.67

Partnership

• Zemgale Planning Region (LV)
• Public Foundation The Legacy of al-Andalus (ES)
• Foundation Kultuurele Haadstêd 2018 (NL)
• Regional Association of Municipalities “Central Stara Planina” (BG)
• Municipality of Paggaio (EL)
• Cascais Town Hall (PT)
Young SMEs
Sharing Interregional knowledge to define Supporting Programmes for Young SMEs

SMEs play a decisive role in the competitiveness of the European economy since they contribute to more than half of the total added value created by businesses in Europe. However, a recent study has shown that the survival rate of small businesses, which is 90% in the first year and 80% in the second year, drastically decreases to below 50% in the fifth year. The existing support services for entrepreneurs focus on the creation and initial phases of business development. After the first 3 years, by which time most of this support is no longer available, many SMEs still face difficulties. It may also be the case that small business owners do not have the necessary experience to successfully manage rapid growth. Consequently, additional tailor-made support and targeted services are needed.

The partners of Young SMEs strongly believe that the setting up of a form of ‘post start-up services’ to assist enterprises in moving from a protective environment to a competitive one will contribute to increasing their survival rate. The overall objective is therefore to jointly define an integrated support programme for ‘Young SMEs’ (i.e. SMEs between their third and fifth year of activity) to enhance business consolidation and thus improve the effectiveness of SME policies at European level.

During the preparatory phase, the partners identified the main factors potentially responsible for the failure of SMEs. 5 core start-up services were selected: management skills, new markets, new technologies, cooperation among SMEs and funding. 3 others were also defined as innovative areas: business with the public sector, local networking and business linkages with the academic sector. 8 working groups were created. In each of these the consortium identifies, analyses and documents the good practices. The project plans to produce a guide of best practices and to organise a creative workshop with a view to defining an ‘Integrated Support Programme’.

Lead partner
INCYDE Foundation (ES)

Contact person
Aurelio Jiménez Romero
aurelio.jimenez@cscamaras.es
+34 91 569 69 60
www.youngsmes.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,555,550.20

ERDF contribution
€1,391,482.06

Partnership
- INCYDE Foundation (ES)
- South-East Regional Authority (IE)
- Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council (UK)
- Falkirk Council (UK)
- Malta Enterprise (MT)
- Central Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency Nonprofit Ltd. (HU)
- City of Koblenz (DE)
- Regional Government of Valencia (ES)
- KTU Regional Science Park (LT)
- Torun Regional Development Agency (PL)
- Athens Tourism & Development Agency SA (EL)
- Development Centre Litija (SI)
CASA
Consortium for Assistive Solutions Adoption

Regions and governments are faced with increasing pressure on health and social care stemming from demographic changes. Since the population is ageing, citizens are also increasingly living with chronic diseases, and this has serious implications for the future provision of welfare and health services. Chronic diseases now account for an average of two thirds of healthcare costs. Yet, about 80% of such diseases are preventable.

The objective of the CASA project is to support a new generation of innovative, secure, and durable interactive health solutions for the care of the elderly, through a ‘personalised healthcare system’.

5 of the CASA projects partner regions were involved in a previous INTERREG IVC project, PEOPLE, on e-health, e-inclusion and independence. The CASA network intends to work together to search for joint solutions, access best practices and to set up a policy sounding board for the deployment of Assistive Living Solutions (AAL). The activities of the project have been divided into 9 thematic study visits, focusing on issues like ‘monitoring, safety and self management’, ‘chronic diseases’, or ‘healthy lifestyle and rehabilitation ICT’.

The CASA partners promote a ‘horizontal’ approach to policy and strategic development: it supports the implementation of policies that move away from traditional mono-domain policy design, thereby working horizontally along the supply chain and across different departments and ministries. The project also benefits from the use of social media enabling the communication and exchange of knowledge and experience. The partnership intends to formalise the CASA network to ensure long-term sustainability and to open it up to a wider European platform beyond the closure of the project.

Lead partner
The Flemish Community (BE)

Contact person
Peter Raeymaekers
peter.raeymaekers@wvgvlaanderen.be
+32 (0) 2 553 31 24

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€3,276,675.40

ERDF contribution
€2,489,060.19

Partnership
• The Flemish Community (BE)
• Province of Noord-Brabant (NL)
• Kent County Council (UK)
• South East Technologies Alliance (SEHTA) (UK)
• Local Health Authority of Verona No. 20 (IT)
• Local Health Agency n.5 – “Bassa Friulana” (IT)
• NHS 24/Scottish Centre for Telehealth and Telecare (UK)
• Region of Southern Denmark (DK)
• The Regional Centre of Social Policy in Poznan (ROPS) (PL)
• Ministry of Health of the Catalan Government, TicSalut Foundation (ES)
• Timis County Council (RO)
• Foundation IAW/ANTE, Public Foundation for the Technological Advancement and Professional Development (ES)
• New Tools for Health Association (East Sweden) (SE)
• Region Halland (SE)
DANTE
Digital Agenda for New Tourism Approach in European Rural and Mountain Areas

While facing ever greater challenges, such as climate change, tourism in rural and mountain areas still has the potential to generate growth and employment in the EU, and can contribute to the economic and social integration of rural and mountain areas, particularly, if supported by Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), which play a key enabling role for tourism-oriented SMEs. However, the adoption rate of ICT applications among such SMEs in mountain and rural territories remains relatively low. This fact should be taken into account by regional and local tourism policies, which should be promoting the tourism potential of mountain and rural areas through dedicated ICT policies.

DANTE therefore promotes a new regional policy approach by designing a knowledge-based plan for the tourism sector. By enhancing the role of ICT in the tourism industry in rural and mountain areas DANTE also improves the effectiveness of regional innovation policies.

The DANTE network involves 13 project partners, covering a wide geographic area of 10 regions from 8 Member States. The partnership includes partners with ICT experience at regional level and with experience in developing tourism strategy for rural and mountain territories. The partners exchange experience in running regional ICT projects for rural and mountain areas. They develop a plan to enable each region to address their tourism challenges using ICT tools and methodologies, and also to demonstrate the transferability of the good practices through a pilot action. The project optimises 9 innovative good practices that demonstrate the benefits of the Information Society for the competitiveness of the tourism sector in disadvantaged areas and ensures the long-term sustainability of the project’s outputs at the EU level.

---

**Lead partner**
Provincia di Torino (IT)

**Contact person**
Elena Di Bella
elena.dibella@provincia.torino.it
+39 011 861 6141
www.danteproject.eu

**Duration**
01/2012 – 12/2014

**Total budget**
€2,222,042.85

**ERDF contribution**
€1,728,295.20

**Partnership**
• Provincia di Torino (IT)
• Euromontana (FR)
• University of Crete (EL)
• Decentralized Administration of Crete (EL)
• FUNDECYT (ES)
• CSI-Piemonte (IT)
• Cybermassif (FR)
• InKnowCom (NL)
• Bauernhofferien (DE)
• Development Centre Litija (SI)
• University of Ljubljana (SI)
• Regional Development Agency Bielsko-Biała (PL)
• METROPOLI (IT)
E-COOP
DIGITAL COOPERATIVES

European citizens do not participate equally in the Information Society and there is a digital gap which has progressively shifted from infrastructures to usage. To tackle this inequality, local authorities in Europe have developed Digital Public Spaces (DPS) to promote e-inclusion. These facilities, mostly located in libraries or social centres, provide users with training on using current Internet tools as well as activities to help them participate in the Information Society. As more and more people start using digital technologies, there is a growing need to develop DPS, to renew and increase their users and to offer more innovative and collaborative services.

In this context, the ‘E-coop project’ partnership, which brings together 13 partners from 12 EU countries including local authorities, ICT related networks and other stakeholders, investigates how DPS might evolve to become ‘E-coops’ (digital cooperatives) and offer new services interacting in a more collaborative way with their digital technology users. Given its active participation in various networks, ‘E-coops’ could become a pathfinder for a new generation of DPS, one which considers users not only as consumers of public services, but more as co-designers of innovative solutions. Given the importance of ICT tools for the knowledge economy, the full participation of all citizens in the Information Society is crucial for the local and regional development of tomorrow.

Through studies, thematic exchange seminars, study visits and conferences, the project provides policymakers and interested stakeholders with comparative analysis and recommendations on the digital mediation practices identified within the partner territories. It also identifies ways of enhancing local/regional public policies for implementing ‘E-coops’.

Lead partner
Gironde County Council (FR)

Contact person
Marianne Baudouin
Solenne Corrand
m.baudouin@cg33.fr
s.corrand@cg33.fr
+33 5 56 99 69 33 /
+33 5 56 99 35 07
www.gironde.fr

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€2,286,192.15

ERDF contribution
€1,793,580.87

Partnership
• Gironde County Council (FR)
• City of Termini (IT)
• Computer Technology Institute and ‘Diophantus’ (CTI) (EL)
• Association of Local Authorities in Västernorrland County, ALAV (SE)
• Municipality of Iasi (RO)
• West-Pannon Region and Economy Development Supplier Public Nonprofit Ltd. (HU)
• City of Jyväskylä (FI)
• Cambridgeshire County Council (UK)
• Mazovian Agriculture Advisory Centre (MODR) (PL)
• Barcelona Provincial Council (ES)
• University of Economics in Bratislava. The Faculty of Business Economics with seats in Košice (SK)
• ERNACT EEIG (IE)
• Observatory of Digital Territories (FR)
ENGAGE
Enhancing ‘Next Generation Access’
Growth in Europe

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) play an increasing role in the European socio-economic environment. The adoption and use of ICT accounts for 40% of productivity and 25% of GDP growth in the EU. ICT could be a key factor in helping rural areas to develop and sustain their economy and population. However, there is still a significant rural-urban gap as regards broadband coverage.

ENGAGE aims to help rural regions across Europe to better understand and address the building of High Speed Broadband (HSB) networks at an efficient cost. The investments required are significant, and the technical issues are highly complex. Now, more than ever, there should be greater cooperation between regions to share knowledge, ideas, innovations and creativity.

ENGAGE enables the participating regions to speed up the establishment and implementation of HSB policies, with full consideration of the significance and strategic importance of next generation access networks and cost effective solutions.

The ENGAGE partnership consists of 12 national, regional and local authorities and public agencies with delegated ICT competence, including partners in the PIKE capitalisation project on e-government and wireless broadband access.

Project methodology:
• initial identification of good practice,
• improve knowledge of good practice, through interregional thematic workshops, study visits and staff exchanges,
• commitment of regional decision-makers to implement project policy recommendations,
• dissemination of results through a sustainable network of experts in HSB.

Lead partner
Niverlan Joint Authority (FR)

Contact person
Jean-Dimas Malot
jd.malot@niverlan.fr
+33 3 86 61 82 66

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,393,639.69

ERDF contribution
€1,074,109.76

Partnership
• Niverlan Joint Authority (FR)
• University of Bremen – Center for Computing and IT (DE)
• ERNACT EEIG (IE)
• Kent County Council (UK)
• Globalgarve-Cooperation and Development, SA (PT)
• Harghita County Council (RO)
• Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (SI)
• University of Ljubljana (SI)
• Regional Council of South Ostrobothnia (FI)
• Suupohja Economic Development Agency – SEK- (FI)
• Self-government of the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship (PL)
• GPEX Extremadura Public Government Holding Company, S.A.U (ES)
GRISI PLUS
Geomatics Rural Information Society Initiative PLUS

Over 56% of the EU population live in rural areas, which cover 91% of the EU territory. Rural territories are facing many difficulties: a declining and ageing population, weak local economies and a lack of innovation. In the context of globalisation and rapid urbanisation, rural areas have to face new challenges stemming from fierce competition between territories. According to EC forecasts, 5 million jobs will be lost by 2014. The rural development policy of the EU and the EU’s Cohesion Policy both share the objective of diversifying economic activities and improving the quality of life in rural territories.

In order to address these issues, GRISI PLUS introduces cutting-edge policy development approaches in EU rural areas, mainly based on the results achieved in the development and implementation of geomatics tools within the GRISI project (INTERREG IIIC) and by welcoming practices within the SOHO SOLO project (INTERREG IIIB).

The main objective of the project is to improve the effectiveness of economic development policies in rural areas by increasing the use of geographical information and geomatics tools in order to make decision-support tools available to key public stakeholders and policymakers. To achieve this goal, partners exchange experience as well as identify and transfer good practices in 2 areas of common interest relating to the revitalisation of rural territories:
- increasing the appeal of rural territories in order to attract new inhabitants,
- promoting local tangible and intangible goods and services.

GRISI PLUS brings together 14 partners from 11 Member States including regions, provinces, associations of municipalities and territorial development agencies. It is therefore able to address a range of governance scales and policy areas.

**Lead partner**
Gers Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FR)

**Contact person**
Michel Debord
michel.debord@wanadoo.fr
+33 5 62 60 88 86
www.grisiplus.eu

**Duration**
01/2012 – 12/2014

**Total budget**
€1,629,550.56

**ERDF contribution**
€1,328,737.62

**Partnership**
- Gers Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FR)
- West Regional Authority (IE)
- Galway County Council (IE)
- Vidzeme Planning Region (LV)
- Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments (LV)
- Larnaca District Development Agency (CY)
- Local Councils’ Association (MT)
- Regional Development Agency of Usti Region, PLC (CZ)
- Sinerija Development Agency Ltd. (SI)
- The Regional Development Agency Centru (RO)
- National Association of Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria (BG)
- Tartu Science Park (EE)
- Territorial Initiative for Employment & Entrepreneurship of Sintiki-Iraclia (EL)
- Region of Crete (EL)
MEDI@TIC
Regional Policies for Information Society & ICT development in the audiovisual sector

With the advent of the Internet, mobile technology, live streaming or 3D, the Information Society has drastically changed the way that consumers access audio-visual products. As a result, the recent arrival of the Digital Era has created a substantial technology gap for the traditional audio-visual industries in Europe, which are slowly adapting to these technological changes. As a consequence, certain Public Authorities in Europe, aware of this problem, have been supporting the audio-visual and media sectors concerned by implementing a range of policies, such as grant schemes, the creation of Film Commissions or the provision of land/areas for specialised use, but they have failed to adapt their policies to the new ICT reality.

In light of their importance as a source of socio-economic development for certain EU regions, the MEDI@TIC project aims to overcome this technology gap through the identification and transfer of good practices dealing with the development of Information & Communication Technologies (ICTs) in the audio-visual and media sectors.

MEDI@TIC brings together 10 partners from 8 countries, working together in the identification, analysis and evaluation of different measures and innovative ways of supporting the development of audio-visual content in the digital era. Medi@TIC focuses on activities based on the exchange of experiences and aims to produce documents and tools with the goal of improving ICT policy and implementation in the audio-visual sector.

Lead partner
Sevilla Global – Urban Agency for Comprehensive Development – Seville City Council (ES)

Contact person
Pedro Maestre
pmaestre@sevillaglobal.es
+34 955 47 87 87
www.mediaticproject.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,747,721.40

ERDF contribution
€1,189,224.25

Norwegian funding
€102,335.00

Partnership
• Sevilla Global – Urban Agency for Comprehensive Development – Seville City Council (ES)
• San Sebastian Local Development Agency (ES)
• Cork Institute of Technology (IE)
• Vidzeme Planning Region (LV)
• Local Councils’ Association (MT)
• Regional Development Agency Bielsko-Biala (PL)
• Municipality of Genoa – Cultural Heritage Research and University Department – Cultural Policies Office (IT)
• ERNACT EEIG (IE)
• Municipality of Kristiansand (NO)
• Derry City Council (UK)
ONE
Observatory Network to Enhance ICT structural funds absorption

Access to Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructures and related services is a prerequisite for better exploiting the innovative potentials of regions, including regions that may be disadvantaged or rural areas. However, public authorities often find it challenging to tailor ICT interventions to specific regional needs, and thus the absorption rate of ICT funds remains rather low.

The ONE project aims to improve regional capacity for planning investments in ICT by setting up a network of regional ICT ‘observatories’ in Poland, Germany, Italy, the Czech Republic, the UK, France and Cyprus. These observatories will help partner regions to improve the framework conditions for innovation by documenting the ICT penetration process, making data available to public administrations and innovation stakeholders, thereby helping the evaluation of ICT initiatives.

Project partners also address the framework conditions for the generation of knowledge and the development of new ICT products and services. This requires taking into consideration the different framework factors, be they institutional, organisational, technical, or relational. Thanks to the work of ICT observatories, ONE will enable decision-makers to make informed decisions about ICT investment based on ex-ante and ex-post analyses of their territories.

Study visits and thematic workshops allow ONE partners to exchange experience and know-how. In-depth analysis and transfer of expertise is further ensured through staff exchange. ONE enables partners to develop guidelines on how to set up and exploit ICT observatories, thereby helping to optimise regional ICT investment planning across Europe’s regions.
BORDWIIS+
BOosting Regional Development with ICT-Innovation-Strategies

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is crucial to European competitiveness, innovation and industrial development, especially as innovation is often made possible by developments in advanced ICT and their applications. However, new policies and strategies are required to maximise the opportunities and meet the challenges that the rapid developments in ICT create. Policymakers need support to develop policies that take into account regional strengths and assets. The partners’ goal is to design public policies and tailor them to region-specific circumstances.

BORDWIIS+ tackles this challenge through smart specialisation strategies. The consortium, consisting of 10 partners from 8 Regions with different ICT competencies and policies, aims to create the best environment for ICT innovation and business opportunities in strategic sectors for their respective regions, which will then become a blueprint for European regions in general. Each region is represented by the partner responsible for ICT innovation policy.

Project activities include an analysis of regional policies, preparation of regional ICT inventories, a comparative analysis of the different regional knowledge bases and capabilities, as well as a final publication: “ICT innovation Strategy for European Regions: Recommendations for Regional Specialisation”. In parallel, partners exchange experiences on collaborative models for open innovation and organise study visits.

Lead partner
Regional Development Agency of Asturias (ES)

Contact person
Jason Martinez
jasonmg@idepa.es
+34 9859 80020
www.bordwiis.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 06/2014

Total budget
€1,207,787.76

ERDF contribution
€943,074.51

Partnership
• Regional Development Agency of Asturias (ES)
• CTIC – Information and Communication Technology Center (ES)
• Regional Council of Lorraine (FR)
• National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control (FR)
• Region of Tuscany (IT)
• Tartu Science Park (EE)
• IFKA Public Foundation for the Development of Industry (HU)
• South-East Regional Development Agency (RO)
• University of Wuppertal (DE)
• Lund University (SE)
Globalisation is currently stripping away the protectionism once prevalent in many countries, and the global economic crisis is putting additional pressure on the public sector through budget deficits and fiscal restraints. If this situation was not challenging enough, most EU innovation surveys and analyses still focus solely on the innovation performance of the private sector. Against this backdrop, the need to rethink how local and regional governments can stimulate the knowledge economy has become crucial.

The CCIC partnership believes that new ideas that work to create public value are at the heart of public sector innovation, and that such ideas merit being collected, analysed and further disseminated. That is why 13 different partner regions have set themselves the clear objective of increasing the level of innovation in the public sector. Partners exchange good practices with a view to addressing a set of interlinked challenges related to innovation in the public sector which are currently facing public authorities. They tackle specific areas such as public finance for innovation, public authorities as innovators and innovation stimulators, public attitudes to innovation and public procurement to support innovation. Selected practices are the subject of study visits and deeper analysis. The findings of this interregional exchange are further discussed in each partner region through local and regional stakeholder group meetings, thereby preparing the ground for the future implementation of the selected practices designed to stimulate public sector innovation in their regions. With the aim of contributing to the implementation of the EU’s flagship initiative, the ‘Innovation Union’, the CCIC project also works on EU Innovation Policy Recommendations addressed to the different levels of governance in EU regions.
CLUSTERIX
Clusters for European Innovation Cross-Linking

With smart specialisation now at the top of the regional policy agenda, policy makers face the challenge of detecting – at an early stage – new technological developments and trends that offer high potential for boosting regional economic growth. Experience tells us that new technological developments are likely to emerge at the interface between existing industries, through the cross-linking of existing technologies. Regional authorities, which have set up and developed clusters in certain sectors, therefore need to reflect on the future strategic orientation of their cluster policy: they must think ‘cross-cluster’.

The overall objective of CLUSTERIX is to increase the competitiveness of European regions and their innovation potential by improving and strategically re-orientating their cluster policies. The project aims to help regional authorities identify, analyse and explore the potential for strategic cluster development that lies in the cross-linking of existing industrial and technological fields of strength. The project focuses on the exchange of experience and good practices in this regard, as well as a number of other cluster-related issues, including:
- funding cluster support, its political/strategic orientation and impact,
- boosting emerging industries through cluster development,
- creating a framework for cross-linked cluster collaboration among regions.

9 CLUSTERIX partners from 8 Member States represent regions which have deployed clustering as a mainstream instrument for regional economic development, supporting innovative collaboration within and among industries. They exchange their experience with cluster policy through study visits, staff exchanges and peer-group meetings. Organised in small groups for efficiency, they share and analyse identified good practices in terms of their relevance and feasibility for other partner regions. The know-how that is generated serves to develop regional implementation plans.

Lead partner
ecoplus. The Business Agency of Lower Austria (AT)

Contact person
Simone Hagenauer
s.hagenauer@ecoplus.at
+43 2742 9000/19657
clusterix.info

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,687,872.00

ERDF contribution
€1,296,064.20

Partnership
- Lund University (SE)
- Region of Southern Denmark (DK)
- ERAI (FR)
- Economic Development Karlsruhe (DE)
- West-Pannon Region- and Economy Development Supplier Public Non profit Ltd. (HU)
- TIS – Techno Innovation South Tyrol SpcA (IT)
- INMA Bucharest National Institute of Research – Development for Machines and Installations Designed to Agriculture and Food Industry (RO)
- Tillväxtverket – Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth (SE)
Cross-Innovation
Promoting Cross-Innovation in European Cities and Regions

The Cross-Innovation project aims to promote collaborative and user-driven innovation across sectoral, organisational, technological and geographic boundaries. It focuses on policies and support measures that enable cross-innovation and creative spill-overs between creative sectors and other industries. The partnership consists of 11 selected European metropolitan cities with the potential to place cross-innovation at the top of local and regional policy agendas: Birmingham, Amsterdam, Rome, Berlin, Tallinn, Warsaw, Vilnius, Stockholm, Linz, Lisbon, and Plzen.

The project focuses on practices under 4 sub-themes:

- **Smart Incentives** – innovative types of finance that enable cross-innovation,
- **Culture-based Innovation** – schemes that unlock innovation in businesses and the public sector by introducing artistic and creative practices,
- **Brokerage** – services that build bridges between sectors by connecting cross-innovation enablers with beneficiaries,
- **Spatial Cross-Collaboration** – services offered to companies in co-working spaces, incubators, fab-labs, science parks and local clusters.

Each partner champions such practices in their respective city. To learn more about these practices, the partnership is planning a participative programme of experience exchange events, including ‘cross-innovation policy clinics’ to improve local policies. In addition, the project also develops cross-innovation with SMEs. It examines how local support can enable businesses operating in co-working spaces, creative clusters and incubators to work together to develop their products and services for other markets and overcome EU market fragmentation.

The main project outputs include an online knowledge base of good practices, a toolkit on implementing cross-innovation instruments and 11 city-level implementation plans.

**Lead partner**

Birmingham City University (UK)

**Contact person**

Steve Harding
stev.harding@bcu.ac.uk
+44 121 3315606
www.cross-innovation.eu

**Duration**

01/2012 – 12/2014

**Total budget**

€2,246,242.16

**ERDF contribution**

€1,760,943.58

**Partnership**

- **Birmingham City University (UK)**
- Amsterdam Innovation Motor (NL)
- Province of Rome, Department of Innovation and Enterprises (IT)
- Berlin Senate Department for Economics, Technology and Women’s Issues (DE)
- Tallinn City Enterprise Board (EE)
- City of Warsaw (PL)
- Vilnius City Municipal Government Administration (LT)
- City of Stockholm, Hägersten-Liljeholmen City Council (SE)
- City of Linz, Economic Service (AT)
- Municipality of Lisbon (PT)
- Pilsen 2015 (CZ)
Design led Innovations for Active Ageing

Demographic ageing is identified by the EU2020 Strategy as one of the main long-term challenges Europe is facing. Europe needs innovative solutions and improved policies that enable better social and health care services with less money and fewer caretakers.

The DAA consortium is a network of cities that need to find economic and innovative, yet sustainable solutions for senior care. The aim of the project is to find design-led sustainable solutions for senior care through innovative processes, so that elderly people can live actively and with the care they need for as long as possible.

The partners take a hands-on approach to understand the opportunities and challenges innovative solutions can offer. Innovation is about improved services, processes and products but also about making the most with the least financial cost. Innovations in technology, ICT, housing, procurement processes and public-private partnerships in the area of senior care all create major potential for Europe’s competitiveness. The method for innovation creation in DAA is to combine the expertise of senior care specialists in cities with the expertise of service designers. Combining design with social innovation is a novel approach, and by doing so the project contributes to creating innovative products and services with new opportunities for EU businesses.

The partners learn from established innovative services and solutions, improve the innovation capacity of their city administrations, and improve public sector policies. The main outputs of the project include 8 city implementation plans, a guidebook entitled ‘Design-Led Innovations on Active Ageing’ and a set of strategic and service design procurement guidelines for the public sector.

Lead partner
City of Helsinki (FI)

Contact person
Iina Ollinki
iina.ollinki@hel.fi
+358 9 310 23116
www.daaproject.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 06/2014

Total budget
€2,022,699.83

ERDF contribution
€1,384,883.15

Norwegian funding
€104,500.00

Partnership
• City of Helsinki (FI)
• Design Flanders (BE)
• City of Stockholm, Normalm City Department (SE)
• Care Company Antwerp (BE)
• Culminatum Innovation Ltd (FI)
• Sofia Development Association (BG)
• Municipal Undertaking for Social Service Buildings (NO)
• IDZ | International Design Center Berlin (DE)
• City of Warsaw (PL)
• Barcelona Design Centre (ES)
ECOREGIONS

The ECOREGIONS project was born out of a common need among regional authorities participating in the Rur@ct European network. A number of the network partners, and others who joined the project, shared the same objective: to enhance their governance of eco-innovation and green technologies. The project focuses on 2 main areas: firstly, on eco-innovation, including, both technological and non-technological green innovations and, secondly, on green technologies that are comparatively less harmful for the environment than others. Both these areas are of high interest for the EU.

The project brings together 11 partners from 10 countries in a joint effort to meet the project’s 2 objectives:

- to identify successful good practices favouring both eco-innovation and green technologies. These practices focus on themes such as: sustainable forms of energy (biomass, wind, biofuels, photovoltaic solar energy, geothermal energy); measurement and monitoring systems; industrial process optimisation; low carbon vehicles; green chemistry; eco-housing; waste recycling and re-use; electric energy storage / batteries; CO₂ recapture.
- to prepare the implementation plans to integrate these good practices into regional policy systems, thereby involving key policy stakeholders, so as to ensure the improvement of local and regional policies and strategies.

ECOREGIONS is innovative in its approach to good practice transfer (seeking, ultimately, to improve policies) on several accounts: in the way it involves policy-makers, by designing ambitious implementation plans; seeking local ownership of project results through the involvement of local stakeholders; and by integrating into the partnership various & complementary partner profiles which have a good chance of directly contributing to the improvement of policies.

---

Lead partner  
Picardie Region (FR)

Contact person  
Anick Michon  
amichon@cr-picardie.fr  
+33 3 22 97 28 86  
www.picardie.fr

Duration  
01/2012 – 09/2014

Total budget  
€1,482,814.00

ERDF contribution  
€1,321,884.99

Norwegian funding  
€75,000.00

Partnership  
- Picardie Region (FR)  
- Region of Jamtland (SE)  
- ENEREA Eszak-Alfold Regional Energy Agency Nonprofit Llc. (HU)  
- District Office Bamberg (DE)  
- Hordaland County Council (NO)  
- Kainuu Etu Ltd (FI)  
- Regional Council of Limousin (FR)  
- Cremona Chamber of Commerce (IT)  
- State Development Corporation of Thuringia (DE)  
- Malta Intelligent Energy Management Agency (MT)  
- ERRIN – European Regions Research and Innovation Network (BE)
ETTBio
Effective Technology Transfer in Biotechnology

ETTBio addresses the challenging issue of the untapped economic potential which exists within research institutes and universities. This untapped potential is a source of innovation which, in turn can enhance regional economic development. The project focuses on biotechnology as the key sector, as this is considered to be the key enabling technology in 21st century Europe. The sector has very specific characteristics, which, if the process is to be successful, must be carefully taken into account when designing a technology transfer strategy. The potential of biotechnology is, however, being held back by lack of experience and deficiencies in existing policies.

The ETTBio project tackles such deficiencies. By identifying, exchanging and sharing good practices, it aims to enable more successful and effective technology transfer in biotechnology and, by the same token, improve local and regional policies. Improved policies can then lead to a higher number of new companies, the creation of new jobs, higher tax income, as well as strengthen regional innovative capacity and economic performance.

In order to achieve these goals, 10 project partners from 7 Member States collect and analyse good practices in biotechnology policy transfer, they exchange know-how, adapt selected good practices to their regional contexts and develop regional implementation plans for good practice transfer. The project benefits from a wide range of partners: in terms of their geography; their level of experience in technology transfer policies in the biotechnology sector and their link to the policy-making process. The diversity of the partnership makes it possible to pool all the relevant information on the subject. Ultimately, the partners use the findings from the project to generate new policy actions.
IN-EUR
Measuring INnovation within EURopean Subregions

Across the EU, although statistical data related to innovation can be found at regional level, NUTS-3 level information is almost impossible to find. As a result, local policy makers are faced with a lack of reliable macroeconomic data which would allow them to better define and orientate their public innovation investment.

The IN-EUR partnership is committed to finding a solution to this problem, which can then be shared with other local authorities across Europe. IN-EUR builds on the experience from the INTERREG IIIC project INNODEC, in which a methodology for monitoring innovation performance was developed. It comprised a mix of statistical and self-assessment indicators and benefited from the close engagement of innovation stakeholders. In the IN-EUR project, this particular methodology is critically compared with other innovation monitoring systems with a view to defining the most useful indicators and elements for an innovation measurement system that can be applied at sub-regional level. Thanks to in-depth information gained from interregional exchange, the existing methodologies are regularly enhanced and updated. New plans for local policy design and monitoring are also being developed for less experienced partners. IN-EUR partners are working jointly to develop a common tool for measuring local innovation performance, i.e. the Advanced Local Balance of Innovation (ALBI) model.

3 partner regions, all with different innovation characteristics, intend to test this model to ensure its effectiveness, flexibility and adaptability to different economic environments. It is likely that the ALBI model can be easily adopted by other EU local authorities. It will remain available online beyond the project’s lifetime as a benchmark tool which local authorities can use to measure and compare their innovation strategies, thereby learning from each other.

Lead partner
South-East Regional Development Agency (RO)

Contact person
Adriana Vaida
adriana.veida@adrse.ro
+40 339 401 018
www.in-eur.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,381,701.88

ERDF contribution
€1,105,502.71

Partnership
• South-East Regional Development Agency (RO)
• Province of Lucca (IT)
• Lithuanian Innovation Centre (LT)
• Local Councils’ Association Malta (MT)
• Development Centre Litija d.o.o. (SI)
• Bautzen Innovation Centre (DE)
• Chamber of Commerce and Industry Marseille Provence (FR)
• Roscommon County Council (IE)
• WESTBIC – Business and Innovation Centre (IE)
INN.O.V.Age

Improving the effectiveness of regional development policies in eco-INNovation for smart hOme and independent liVing to increase the quality of life of Ageing people

The ageing society presents challenges for traditional political and economic systems, for sustainable public finances and, in particular, for the financing of health care and pensions. Yet, at the same time, it offers new opportunities for research and innovative businesses. INN.O.V.Age considers the Research & Innovation driven cluster model (R&IDC) as offering the most efficient way to accelerate research, development and the market deployment of innovations and by the same token pool expertise and resources with a view to tackling major societal challenges. R&IDC also explores and further defines the Quadruple Helix model in innovation and policy practices, based on a user-need centred approach.

Recognising the important role of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for tackling these challenges, the INN.O.V.Age project intends to increase the effectiveness of regional development policies in the field of eco-innovation applied to independent living solutions for elderly people through networking, mentoring and clustering activities at regional and interregional level.

To do this, the partners focus on improving independent living, looking for solutions to help elderly people to live independently and for longer in their homes, in other words, increasing their autonomy and assisting them with their daily activities. In addition, the consortium studies how eco-innovation can contribute to smarter and more sustainable care facilities. By making smart choices, the home becomes more accessible for elderly people and can make a valuable contribution to minimising the impact of their daily life on the environment.
InnoFun
Funding Policies to Bring Innovation to Finance/Market/People

The project consortium consists of 14 partners with different levels of experience in innovation policies. They represent 10 regions from 9 Member States. Innofun partners are involved in the development of their regional innovation policies either directly, as regional governments, or as intermediaries with the full support of their regional governments. They all wish to speed up the ‘from Research to Sale’ process, which implies helping innovators to access public funding more easily, but they also realise that funding innovation is not always straightforward.

There are a number of explanations for this funding problem. For example, the selection criteria for public funds are too rigid and risk averse. Another reason is related to the fact that innovative ideas are difficult to understand for public fund managers and thus need ‘translating’. The ‘translators’ of research and innovation ideas for the public funds are often institutional intermediaries, such as innovation agencies, foundations or universities.

InnoFun aims to improve regional policies for the funding of innovation by adopting improved decision-making procedures for the selection of innovative ideas – ideas with the highest business potential. The project focuses in particular on ‘translation’ methodologies between innovators and regional public funding providers. It has adopted this focus in order to reduce the communication gap and assist in the:
• selection of innovative start-ups for seed funding;
• identification of research needs for businesses;
• identification of innovative ideas for society.

The partners analyse and exchange good practices within the partnership and discuss them with stakeholders and experts with a view to designing methodologies for improving their regional policies in the area of innovation funding. They test these methodologies in pilot actions before developing regional implementation plans.

Lead partner
South Bohemian Agency for Support to Innovative Enterprising (CZ)

Contact person
Petra Vachová
info@jaip.cz
+420 385 310 032
www.innofun-project.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,924,121.68

ERDF contribution
€1,521,969.28

Partnership
• South Bohemian Agency for Support to Innovative Enterprising (CZ)
• National Agency for Development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SK)
• University of Cyprus (CY)
• Flemish government, Department of Economics, Science and Innovation (EWI) (BE)
• UK Centre for Economic & Environmental Development (UK CEED) (UK)
• Opportunity Peterborough (UK)
• Kemi-Tornio University of Applied Sciences (KTUAS) (FI)
• Foundation Tecnalia Research & Innovation (ES)
• Méditerranée Technologies (FR)
• Larnaca District Development Agency (CY)
• The Region of South Bohemia – Regional Authority (CZ)
• IBBT – Institute for Broadband Technology (BE)
• Tartu Science Park Foundation (EE)
• Tartu City Government (EE)
KNOW-HUB
Enhancing the regional competences in strategic management of innovation policies

Many European regions lack capacity, and therefore capabilities, in innovation governance. The KNOW-HUB project harnesses the potential of interregional cooperation as an input to innovation governance and as a unique source for the creation of innovative competitive advantage.

KNOW-HUB partner regions differ in size, geographical characteristics, level of governance autonomy and in terms of their respective innovation policy histories. This diversity makes it possible for partners to look at a given problem from different angles and to compare different solutions. The cooperation is also a mutual learning process in which partners peer-review each other’s innovation policies and make recommendations for future improvements. This review process allows for the identification of good practices, which are then further discussed in joint workshops to make them more ‘transferable’. In terms of content, the project focuses on 2 themes: ‘smart regional specialisation strategies and policies’ and ‘effective innovation policy instruments’. Project outputs on these themes are summarised in 2 handbooks.

KNOW-HUB partners also involve all key regional innovation stakeholders in the project, addressing, in the process, a need for better connectivity between them. Stakeholders therefore play a full part in the production of region-specific action plans that capture the knowledge generated within the project and tailor it to the needs of each partner region.
KTForce
Knowledge Transfer for efficient innovation policies

Local, regional and national authorities in Europe increasingly need to ensure that their investments in research have an optimal socio-economic impact. This is why some of them have started to support initiatives which promote innovation and knowledge transfer with a view to achieving a strong impact on local economic development (for instance, public funding for incubator facilities in science parks). However, these initiatives do not necessarily take into account the experience of key players, such as universities and industry stakeholders.

The KTForce partnership brings together teams comprising a public authority and a Knowledge Transfer office from each of the participating regions in order to ensure that discussions on how to increase the efficiency of knowledge transfer policies and practices cover both top-down and bottom-up perspectives. Moreover, the partnership consists of both ‘modest and moderate innovator’ regions (Lithuania, Portugal and Romania), as well as ‘Innovation follower and leader’ regions (France, Germany and Ireland) (according to EU 2010 Innovation Scoreboard). This combination guarantees mutually beneficial cooperation.

KTForce partners join forces to contribute to a more collaborative innovation environment – one which facilitates knowledge transfer and promotes innovation. They focus their attention on 3 main areas: technology licensing, spin-off creation & entrepreneurship, and university-industry relations. Existing policies and practices in knowledge transfer in the partner regions are mapped, benchmarked and their impact is evaluated. The collected information is used to draw up a set of strategic recommendations for future innovation policies in the partner regions.

Lead partner
University of Porto (PT)

Contact person
Maria Oliveira
mariaoliveira@reit.up.pt
+351 22 040 8077
www.ktforce.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 06/2014

Total budget
€1,428,222.73

ERDF contribution
€1,134,826.99

Partnership
• University of Porto (PT)
• Innovation Agency, Porto (PT)
• Waterford Institute of Technology (IE)
• South-East Regional Authority (IE)
• National Institute of Research and Development for Mechatronics and Measurement Technique (RO)
• Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (RO)
• University Joseph Fourier Grenoble 1 (FR)
• City of Grenoble (FR)
• Centre of Technology Structure Development (DE)
• Aufbauwerk Region Leipzig GmbH (DE)
• Sunrise Valley (LT)
Towards Regional spEcialisation for Smart growth spirit

Europe is going through a period of transformation characterised by globalisation, pressure on resources and demographic change. Such transformations create challenges for regional development and call for an in-depth analysis of regional capacities and prioritisation in the regional innovation policy effort. The TRES project aims to optimise this effort through smart specialisation.

Smart specialisation promotes the efficient, effective and synergetic use of public investments and supports countries and regions in strengthening their innovation capacity by focusing the policy effort on a certain number of areas where a global competitive advantage can be identified. It aims to support the smart growth of the participant regions and, by the same token, ensure diversity and complementarities across Europe.

TRES partners have brought together a coherent multi-dimensional partnership representing different innovation contexts. They aim to share expertise and know-how in smart specialisation. The broad goal is to revisit existing strategies and strengthen policy rationales for the next round of policies. To this end, project partners review certain new policy concepts, such as open and user-driven innovation. User-driven innovation, which is often expressed as the living-lab approach, enables partners to identify the most promising or emerging areas of business specialisation in their regions.

Strategies and action plans will be drawn up with a view to delivering smart regional innovation policies in such promising areas. The partners’ action plans are then peer-reviewed by living-lab experts. The results of the interregional exchange and lessons learnt are integrated into a ‘Contemporary Innovation Policy Recipe Book’. This publication will presents a list of recommendations for putting new innovation concepts into practice as well as policy case studies.
URMA
URban-rural partnerships in Metropolitan Areas

Reducing regional disparities and being competitive at the same time is a challenge for all regions in Europe. The URMA project explores the potential of urban-rural partnerships between major city centres and their wider surrounding areas by analysing the supra-regional situation and by cooperating in strategic areas of action.

The 9 partners from 6 EU Member States represent differently constituted urban-rural regions, from strong interconnected metropolitan areas to smaller city regions. Together, they identify different types of regional innovation systems, exchange experiences on urban-rural cooperation and ultimately help to improve the effectiveness of regional and local policies in the field of innovation. These activities will make it possible to establish regional, national and European policy agendas relating to the sustainable development of metropolitan areas as well as a new decentralised territorial cohesion approach. The key advantage to the URMA approach is that urban and rural areas can both benefit on equal terms through cooperation.

The partners exchange experience through various conferences, workshops and study visits as well as 3 pilot actions. The basis for this exchange is formed by urban-rural cooperation schemes developed and tested in the partner regions – for instance, in the Metropolitan region of Hamburg. The cooperation is supported by a common toolkit used to identify and describe best practices, a concise lexicon, and a Good Practice Guide. The project intends to generate recommendations for the whole partnership regarding regional innovation systems as well as for the future European cohesion policy on urban-rural partnerships. The setting up of a knowledge-providing stakeholder network, including businesses and the public sector, will ensure policy improvement in all participating regions.

Lead partner
HafenCity University Hamburg (DE)

Contact person
Jörg Knieling
joerg.knieling@hcu-hamburg.de
+49 40 42827 4519
www.urma-project.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,939,528.44

ERDF contribution
€1,506,430.68

Partnership
• HafenCity University Hamburg (DE)
• State Ministry of Urban Development and Environment, Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg (DE)
• Westpomeranian Voivodeship (PL)
• Tuscany Region (IT)
• Lombardy Region (IT)
• Department for Town Planning and Territorial Strategies Madrid (ES)
• Institute of Urban Development Krakow (PL)
• Municipality of Borne (NL)
• Pleven Regional Administration (BG)
The European Union’s Gothenburg strategy placed a strong emphasis on environmental issues and initiated a commitment to sustainable development. Sustainable development entails finding a new framework for economic growth that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Bruntland report ‘Our Common Future’, 1987). In practical terms, this implies conserving biodiversity, limiting pollution and mitigating climate change.

The different themes of Priority 2 ‘Environment and risk prevention’ address these common issues by co-financing and supporting projects that, through the exchange of experience at policy level, help regions across Europe to develop environmental policies and to adjust their regional policies with a view to making them more environment-friendly. By improving the quality of life locally, projects funded under this Priority will also increase the economic and social attractiveness of all European regions.

More specifically, the projects presented over the next few pages aim, for example, to conserve biodiversity, protect European fortified heritage sites, develop sustainable tourism, promote geothermal energy, and to encourage the use of Intelligent Transport Systems in sustainable urban policies; as well as others.

**Environment and risk prevention**

The European Union’s Gothenburg strategy placed a strong emphasis on environmental issues and initiated a commitment to sustainable development. Sustainable development entails finding a new framework for economic growth that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Bruntland report ‘Our Common Future’, 1987). In practical terms, this implies conserving biodiversity, limiting pollution and mitigating climate change.

The different themes of Priority 2 ‘Environment and risk prevention’ address these common issues by co-financing and supporting projects that, through the exchange of experience at policy level, help regions across Europe to develop environmental policies and to adjust their regional policies with a view to making them more environment-friendly. By improving the quality of life locally, projects funded under this Priority will also increase the economic and social attractiveness of all European regions.

More specifically, the projects presented over the next few pages aim, for example, to conserve biodiversity, protect European fortified heritage sites, develop sustainable tourism, promote geothermal energy, and to encourage the use of Intelligent Transport Systems in sustainable urban policies; as well as others.

**Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage; air quality**
- GreenInfraNet .........................................................p.55
- NOSTRA .................................................................p.56

**Cultural heritage and landscape**
- AT FORT .................................................................p.57
- CERTESS .................................................................p.58
- CHARTS .................................................................p.59
- HISTCAPE ...............................................................p.60
- Hybrid Parks .............................................................p.61
- ZEN .................................................................p.62

**Energy and sustainable transport**
- 4 POWER ............................................................p.63
- CO2FREE (fast track) ..............................................p.64
- CycleCities ..............................................................p.65
- D-AIR .................................................................p.66
- ECOTALE ...............................................................p.67
- EPTA .................................................................p.68
- EU 2020 going local ...............................................p.69
- GEO.POWER ..........................................................p.70
- GreenITNet ............................................................p.71
- IMAGINE ...............................................................p.72
- IMEA .................................................................p.73
- INVOLVE .................................................................p.74
- MOG .................................................................p.75
- PIMMS CAPITAL ....................................................p.76
- PLUS .................................................................p.77
- POLITE .................................................................p.78
- POSSE .................................................................p.79
- Regions4GreenGrowth (R4GG) ........................................p.80
- RE-GREEN .............................................................p.81
- RENERGY ...............................................................p.82
- RITS-Net .................................................................p.83
- SERPENTE ...............................................................p.84
- STEP .................................................................p.85
- SUM PROJECT ..........................................................p.86

**Natural and technological risks; climate change**
- CLUE .................................................................p.87
- EFFMIS .................................................................p.88
- ERCIP .................................................................p.89
- EUFOFINET ..............................................................p.90
- HERITPROT ............................................................p.91

**Waste prevention and management**
- R4R .................................................................p.92

**Water management**
- Aqua-add .............................................................p.93
- LakeAdmin ..............................................................p.94
- TRAP .................................................................p.95
Policies relating to biodiversity conservation have traditionally been developed and implemented within the Nature Conservation Sector, and the responsibility to implement these policies mainly lies with local and regional authorities. However, this presents the authorities with several challenges:

- land use is increasing in extent and intensity,
- much of the biodiversity outside Natura 2000 sites is subject to less strict or no formal protection,
- conserving biodiversity in the long-term requires the maintenance of ecosystem functions,
- climate change will lead to geographical shifts in species populations, but the locations of currently protected areas are fixed.

With a view to meeting these challenges the GreenInfraNet partnership, which brings together 12 organisations, aims to conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem services across the different territories by working in a ‘joined-up’ way with other policy measures, such as those relating to agriculture, urban development, transport, leisure and climate change adaptation.

The main objective of the project is to support the development and promote the implementation of the green infrastructure concept in EU regions. This is achieved by exchanging and disseminating of expertise and experience between the partners, tackling both general aspects (analytical methodologies and policies) and 4 specific fields (urban areas, natural areas, rural land use and climate change adaption).

The project’s long-term contribution is assured through good practice transfers, the creation of action plans, the preparation of a Green Infrastructure Action Toolkit and the establishment of a permanent European Green Infrastructure Knowledge Network.
The straits of Europe are confronted with a wide range of common issues (transport, economic development, maritime safety, etc.), which all have an impact on their natural heritage. These issues present all the straits with the challenge of establishing the foundations for economic growth in an environmentally friendly way.

The NOSTRA project aims to show how integrated bi-national governance tools can help to improve the way strait areas are managed. The main objective is to ensure the economic development of the territory without endangering its biodiversity or natural environment. The preservation of biodiversity has been pinpointed as the common challenge at the heart of all the issues faced by the straits. For this reason, it is considered that an integrated management of these areas is the most appropriate way of effectively tackling the many challenges facing the local authorities bordering them.

The project also addresses the impact of human activities (such as economic development, transport or tourism) on coastal and marine spaces. It also aims to establish a dialogue with the stakeholders involved in activities around the straits. The project, therefore, facilitates the exchange of experience and the implementation of joint governance tools in the strait areas in order to establish an integrated and sustainable development of the coastal territories concerned – in a way which preserves their biodiversity and natural heritage.

The NOSTRA project is composed of 15 partners bordering 8 European straits and a research institute from the Danube delta to share experience, good practices and analyse governance tools. In addition, NOSTRA also provides a springboard to enhance the actions of the European Straits Initiative launched in November 2010.
AT FORT
Atelier European Fortresses –
Powering Local Sustainable Development

The historic built environment of Europe is one of its greatest assets and an effective means of reconciling the needs of citizens, economy, community, environment and society in general. Our built heritage is valuable and vulnerable, and securing its benefits now and in the future demands focused actions and investments from society, from the heritage sector, and above all, from public authorities.

The AT FORT project highlights the importance of European fortified heritage sites. Project partners share the belief that the preservation of these sites, coupled with their economic exploitation, can only be achieved by joint creative thinking and by building on the exchange of experience.

The overall objective of the project is to facilitate the adaptive re-use of fortified heritage sites by exploring ideas for establishing ‘enabling conditions’ and creating better exploitation frameworks.

Partners have identified common categories of challenges that represent stumbling blocks for the effective exploitation of these heritage assets, and within the AT FORT project, they focus on 3 key categories:

- the identification and improvement of solutions and tools addressing the enabling conditions for the adaptive re-use of fortified heritage sites,
- an investigation of the transferability potential of various existing redevelopment models for the multifunctional use of fortified heritage sites,
- the development of effective governance models taking into account innovative PPP solutions, legal issues and models for branding.

In its work to achieve these objectives, AT FORT uses the integrated ‘Conservation through development’ approach, which means it organises the involvement of the relevant stakeholders and seeks to capitalise on different partners’ experiences.
CERTESS
European Cultural Routes – Transfer Experiences, Share Solutions

What have come to be known as European Cultural Routes are defined by the Council of Europe as “historical lines interconnecting one or more regions and organised around themes whose historical, artistic or social interest proves to be European, either because of the geographical layout of the route, or due to its contents and significance”. The CERTESS project aims to establish a common methodological framework for developing, managing and enhancing European Cultural Routes (ECRs).

However, most of the ECRs identified to date, and the regions intersected by them, lack the comprehensive methodologies, governance instruments and innovative ideas needed to implement effective strategies at regional level.

With a view to tackling these issues – at all spatial and governance scales – the CERTESS project plans to:
• adopt best practices which identify, structure and add value to local cultural and natural heritage assets,
• develop and adopt appropriate governance tools,
• promote local enterprises and products along the routes by adopting innovative services including ICT.

CERTESS project activities include the transfer of experience between the participating regions and joint policy development. With the support of local stakeholders, partners plan to develop governance instruments at regional level and to draw up multi-sectoral governance action programmes, as well as local route implementation plans designed to be officially adopted as strategic regional programmes for the promotion of ECRs.

In the long term, CERTESS partners plan to incorporate their implementation plans into the wider European Cultural Routes strategy, which aims to make Europe the “leading cultural tourism destination in the world”.

Lead partner
European Institute of Cultural Routes (LU)

Contact person
Sorina Capp
sorinacapp@culture-routes.lu +352 24 12 50

Duration
01/2012 – 11/2014

Total budget
€1,835,495.00

ERDF contribution
€1,504,526.95

Partnership
• European Institute of Cultural Routes (LU)
• Lazio Region (IT)
• Department of Local Government (MT)
• Salzburg Research (AT)
• Tourism Agency of the Balearic Islands (ATB) (ES)
• Regional Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Sport-Junta de Andalucia (ES)
• Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (DE)
• Zlín Region (CZ)
• Administrative District of Gorlice (PL)
• Ministry of Culture Luxembourg (LU)
• Sibiu County Tourism Association (RO)
• JAMK University of Applied Sciences (FI)
CHARTS
Culture and Heritage Added value to Regional policies for Tourism Sustainability

European regions have a wide range of cultural heritage and landscape assets. Today, they are facing a number of threats, such as climate change and the economic crisis. As a result, specific protection and enhancement measures are needed if they are to continue to contribute to a sustainable tourism sector.

In this respect, the CHARTS project tackles the protection and preservation of cultural heritage sites and the environment through the introduction and promotion of sustainable tourism strategies, as well as ‘Responsible Tourism’ initiatives. CHARTS builds on existing experiences from previous INTERREG III projects (ECTN and CultMark) and IIIB CADSES (CHIRON) with the objective of capitalising on, that is to say, incorporating any relevant available past or present initiatives from these programmes into current policies and strategies in culture, heritage and sustainable tourism development.

CHARTS is composed of 13 partners from 11 EU countries, which work together and share experiences on how, through enhanced sustainable regional development policies, an improved management of cultural tourism destinations contributes to tourism sustainability and the Lisbon & Gothenburg Agendas. The main areas addressed are climate change, accessibility to heritage, effective partnerships, host communities, quality criteria, visitor information, place marketing, cultural routes, railway heritage, mobilising volunteers, traditional skills and bicycle use for sustainable tourism.

The project’s ultimate goal is to contribute to the formulation and delivery of added value to regional strategies designed to promote a sustainable tourism based on culture and heritage, as well as to the incorporation of its results into local, regional, national and EU policies.

**Lead partner**
Municipality of South Pelion (EL)

**Contact person**
Manos Vogoukas
charts.mcui@yahoo.com
+30 24230 54219

**Duration**
01/2012 – 06/2014

**Total budget**
€1,856,740.00

**ERDF contribution**
€1,491,591.00

**Partnership**
- Municipality of South Pelion (EL)
- Welsh Government (UK)
- European Cultural Tourism Network – ECTN (BE)
- Midland Regional Authority (IE)
- Region Västra Götaland (SE)
- Pafos Regional Board of Tourism (CY)
- Veneto Region – Department of Tourism (IT)
- Vidzeme Tourism Association – VTA (LV)
- National Institute for Research and Development in Tourism, Romania – NIRDT (RO)
- Mallorca Council – Environment Department (ES)
- Union of South-East Region Local Authorities, Bulgaria (BG)
- Greek National Tourism Organisation – GNTO (EL)
- IBERTUR – Network of Heritage, Tourism and Sustainable Development / University of Barcelona (ES)
Historic towns and their landscapes are a unique part of Europe’s identity. While Europe’s population is concentrated in larger settlements, 80% of its territory is rural. These rural landscapes are home to a scattered pattern of smaller historic towns and villages. Once focal points for economic and community activity, these smaller historic places have come under serious threat over recent decades. Changing patterns of economic activity have led to depopulation, a lack of investment and loss of facilities and services.

HISTCAPE addresses this challenge by focusing on the sustainable management of historical assets in small rural towns. Through interregional workshops, study visits and a special online forum for the stakeholders involved, the project aims to identify and establish effective plans and policies for the sustainable management of cultural heritage assets and related landscapes.

The project uses a carefully defined methodology. First, partners identify good practice and jointly define a methodology for developing policies. In the second stage, the viability of implementing those policies is tested through 6 pilot actions in the partner regions. The final stage is dedicated to developing an implementation plan for each project region and to training for partners – ensuring these plans are successfully carried out after the end of the project. The plans serve as ready-to-implement strategies for improving the effectiveness and sustainability of rural cultural heritage management across Europe.

To create added value at the European level, HISTCAPE partners intend to present the results of their cooperation in a guide on the sustainable preservation of rural heritage assets. The guide will include best practices and guidelines for implementation.

**Lead partner**
Rural Development Styria (AT)

**Contact person**
Alexandra Kulmer
alexandra.kulmer@landentwicklung.com
+43 (0) 316 824 846
www.histcape.eu

**Duration**
01/2012 – 12/2014

**Total budget**
€1,748,757.40

**ERDF contribution**
€1,360,261.46

**Partnership**
- Rural Development Styria (AT)
- Castilla y Leon Regional Authority (ES)
- Northern Cultural Regional Direction (PT)
- Marche Region (IT)
- Region of Western Macedonia (EL)
- General Direction for the Cultural Heritage of Rhineland-Palatinate (DE)
- Alytus District Municipality Administration (LT)
- Saaremaa Local Governments Association (EE)
- Vidzeme Planning Region (LV)
- Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of Republic of Slovenia (SI)
- Tecnalia Research & Innovation (ES)
- European Association of Historic Towns and Regions (EAHTR) (UK)
Hybrid Parks
Combining abilities, creating synergies and enhancing the performance of parks for sustainable local and regional development policies

Parks, both historical and modern, are intensively-managed, high-quality environments providing many functions. They can contribute to economic development or rural diversification. They can protect cultural heritage, the landscape and the environment and can also support urban renewal. They also add to the attractiveness and success of cities and regions and to the quality of life of their citizens and visitors. Moreover, as green corridors, parks are an important part of risk prevention strategies to mitigate climate change.

All 16 project partners from 14 regions in 10 Member States acknowledge that parks are truly unique resources. They advocate their full use across a raft of policy contexts and their enhancement to serve economic, social and environmental purposes. Hybrid Parks aims to create policies that ensure that the different functions in parks work hand-in-hand, thereby creating synergies, in a similar way to hybrid cars, in which the individual advantages of one source of energy enhance the performance of the other.

The partnership conducts good practice studies of the following 3 themes:
- Economy: tourism and urban (re)development
- Society: reaching a larger audience
- Environment: public awareness

It also conducts Hybrid Parks workshops to investigate how to combine these approaches, to create synergies, with a view to increasing the contribution of parks to sustainable development policies and to the mitigation of climate change.

The project partners produce a report including good practice case studies and develop the ‘Hybrid Parks Model’ for an integrated management of parks as part of wider sustainable development and climate change policies.
ZEN
The Zero-impact cultural heritage Event Network

Across the whole of Europe, events and festivals held in historic centres and cultural heritage sites are making their positive effects felt on tourism, cultural diversity and the local economy. Usually, however, such events also have a negative impact on the local environment, contributing to problems such as noise and water pollution, land damage or generating additional waste. Surveys show that people believe it is the responsibility of local authorities to minimise such problems and to protect vulnerable cultural heritage.

In order to meet these expectations, 12 European partners have formed the Zero-impact Cultural Heritage Event Network (ZEN), aimed at developing a shared methodology to reduce the impact of events and festivals on historic centres and cultural heritage. This consortium aims to produce a roadmap for managing and protecting cultural heritage on the occasions of open-air events that attract a large number of participants.

As well as interregional partner meetings, local communities from the partner territories are also involved in the project. Both public and private stakeholders have the opportunity to actively take part in the ZEN debate on how to achieve this ‘zero-impact’ approach. Each partner region defines a territory-specific implementation plan based on the discussed measures. These plans then form the basis of policies that are to be adopted by the local or regional governments at the end of the project. A handbook providing advice on how to organise events in cultural heritage sites, with a view to minimising any negative effects, is also to be produced and will be made available to other public authorities in Europe.
4 POWER
Policy and Public-Private Partnerships for Offshore Wind Energy

The 4 POWER project focuses on the role of regions in developing offshore wind energy (OSW). OSW has an enormous potential as a renewable energy source: the European Energy Agency has calculated that it is economically feasible to generate over 60 to 70% of the EU’s total energy demand using OSW by 2020. Regions are crucial for further OSW development not only for practical reasons, i.e. electricity cables must come ashore in coastal regions but also because of the political and strategic role they can play, e.g. enabling Triple Helix linkages and stimulating business networks.

With a view to creating a common understanding on current and future regional challenges in OSW development, 4 POWER organises knowledge exchange between regions at different stages of their own OSW development efforts. This exchange is facilitated by involving partners from each of the different components of the Triple Helix: local and regional authorities, specialised public energy institutes, public-private business organisations and knowledge institutions.

4 POWER partners plan to cooperate on 2 themes:
• creating an efficient regional policy framework,
• promoting a favorable business and innovation climate for the development of OSW.

The project has 3 phases: divergence (regional consultation rounds, comparative analysis documents), convergence (mainstreaming session, good practice examples, thematic guidelines), and translation into strategy (local/regional strategies, project implementation plan and EU OSW regional charter). The implementation plan intends to serve as a mini-guidebook for regions planning to develop OSW. The policy charter includes practical policy recommendations designed to inform the EU policy-making level on how to increase regional knowledge and capacity, in other words, how to enable regions to pursue OSW, and by so doing create a level EU playing field for OSW development.

Lead partner
Province of Groningen (NL)

Contact person
Peter Smale
p.smale@provincegroningen.nl
+31(0)50-3184784
www.provinciegroningen.nl

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,570,879.69

ERDF contribution
€1,228,472.22

Partnership
• Province of Groningen (NL)
• Province of Rimini (IT)
• Sustainable Industries Institute, Dundee College (UK)
• Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments (LV)
• Rostock Business and Technology Development GmbH (DE)
• Maritime Institute in Gdansk (PL)
• AZORINA – Society for Environment Management and Nature Conservation (PT)
• Municipality of Corfu (EL)
• Malta Intelligent Energy Management Agency (MT)
• City of Emden (DE)
• German Offshore Wind Energy Foundation (DE)
The idea for CO2FREE stemmed from the need identified by the partner regions to address the problem of climate change and the dependency on fossil fuels, and to seek ICT-based solutions. The partnership sprang from the ERNACT network, which has an established track record in developing knowledge economy solutions in a regional context, and from the previous INTERREG IVC PIKE project on e-government and wireless broadband access.

The aim of CO2FREE is to develop ICT based instruments in order to address the challenge of energy efficiency and to make transport more sustainable. The partners have decided to tackle these issues through the exchange of good practice and then later through the incorporation of these practices in the Operational Programmes of the participant regions.

CO2FREE partners identified 4 sub-objectives:

- to translate best practices into regional action plans to be implemented under the Operational Programmes of the EU Structural Funds in each region;
- to involve regional and local stakeholders in the preparation of regional action plans;
- to obtain political commitment from the regional stakeholders and the Managing Authorities of the Operational Programme in order to implement the action plans;
- to disseminate information about the project, its objectives, its approach, results and lessons learnt to a large audience at local, regional, national and EU levels.

The main activities include selecting good practices, adapting them (study visits, good practices transfer roadmaps, thematic seminars) and finally establishing the commitment of regional stakeholders to implementing these good practices (Local meetings with Managing Authorities, presentations to regional Operational Programmes Monitoring Committees).

**CO2FREE**

Cooperating to Foster Renewables and Energy Efficiency

Lead partner
European Regions Network for the Application of Communications Technology (IE)

Contact person
Caitriona Strain
caitriona.strain@ernact.eu
+353 74 9168212
www.co2free-project.eu

Duration
10/2010 – 12/2012

Total budget
€1,645,549.36

ERDF contribution
€1,254,385.51

Partnership
- European Regions Network for the Application of Communications Technology (IE)
- Donegal County Council (IE)
- Derry City Council (UK)
- Association of Local Authorities in Västernorrland County, ALAV (SE)
- Agency for Regional Development and Innovations (BG)
- Fomento de San Sebastian (ES)
- Regional Council of North Karelia (FI)
- The Institute for Technology and Alternative Mobility (AT)
- Regional Development Agency West Region (RO)
- Avila County Council (ES)

Capitalisation Project
CycleCities
European cities for integrating cycling within sustainable mobility management schemes

Owing to the high number of cars, European cities are suffering from traffic congestion, noise, air pollution and less available public space. The systematic integration of cycling into urban mobility management schemes could bring many benefits to European cities. A 15-minute bike ride, for example, can significantly reduce traffic congestion by replacing car trips under 5 km and, at the same time, even improve productivity, as fewer work hours are wasted in traffic jams. Increased cycling can reduce expenditure on road construction and maintenance, as well as reduce the carbon footprint of urban transport systems. Cycling can limit land consumption, bring public health benefits, and encourage investment in urban revitalisation. Cycling can thus significantly enhance the sustainable regional development of European cities.

CycleCities aims to generate knowledge, exchange experience and transfer good practices among European cities on the integration of cycling into urban mobility management schemes. The project explores policies contributing to sustainable European mobility management and aims to build consensus on them. It compiles a European multilingual freely-accessible knowledge base and raises awareness of the issue among urban policy makers.

8 project partners from 7 Member States form the CycleCities partnership. 7 large and medium-sized European cities, supported by an organisation specialised in mobility management analysis, conduct surveys on the use of bicycles and evaluate the existing infrastructure, regulations and strategic policies affecting cycling, and bike-sharing schemes. They prepare good practice guides on land use planning, city mobility management strategies, on citizen participation, and cycling infrastructure. They exchange experience during workshops and site visits, with a view to producing 7 regional implementation plans.

Lead partner
Municipality of Piraeus (EL)

Contact person
Pavlos Doikos
doikos@pireasnet.gr
+30 213 202 2760
www.cyclecities.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,599,859.48

ERDF contribution
€1,304,743.90

Partnership
• Municipality of Piraeus (EL)
• London Borough of Merton (UK)
• Municipality of Genoa (IT)
• Lisbon Municipality (PT)
• The City of Gdansk (PL)
• Regional Development Agency of Gorenjska, BSC Business Support Centre, Kranj (SI)
• Regional Development Agency for the Region of Leipzig (DE)
• National Technical University of Athens (EL)
Airports have a positive influence on regional economic ecosystems. However, the economic benefits generated by expansion need to be weighed up against the adverse environmental impacts. Emissions from civil aviation, for example, have increased significantly over recent decades. In addition, forecasts predict that air traffic will more than double by 2020. Unless appropriate environmental measures are taken, greenhouse gas emissions from aviation, as well as from the surface transport linked to it, will only rise further.

D-AIR therefore seeks to convert airports into environmentally sustainable transport hubs. To help achieve this, it focuses on two main areas of airport operations which often fall under the responsibility of public authorities and public bodies, namely, the CO₂ neutrality of airport operators’ activities and the sustainable surface accessibility of airport zones. The project also seeks to more effectively involve business and R&D communities in the process of creating well connected green airports by contributing to new innovative products and services which can provide usable solutions on the ground.

To ensure success, the D-AIR project fosters multi-stakeholder cooperation between airports, airlines, manufacturers, knowledge institutes and regions and enables the contribution of each partner in their own sphere of competence. The project’s 2 priorities – CO₂ neutrality and sustainable access – include the following measures:

- **CO₂ neutrality:** to identify solutions to establish CO₂ neutral airport terminals. Project partners have identified measures designed to lower emissions from airport activities, such as energy efficient buildings, efficient fuel transport, and vehicles running on alternative fuel.
- **Sustainable accessibility of airport zones:** to reshape transport arrangements from and to airport areas, by increasing the occupancy rate of collective transport, creating new means of transport and transport links where necessary, increasing the use of alternative power sources and supporting service innovation (modal split, charges and fees, transport planning, legal framework).

**Lead partner**
City of Eindhoven (NL)

**Contact person**
Ron Nohlmans
r.nohlmans@eindhoven.nl
+31 40 238 6073

**Duration**
01/2012 – 12/2014

**Total budget**
€2,358,948.40

**ERDF contribution**
€1,801,213.92

**Partnership**
- City of Eindhoven (NL)
- Eindhoven Airport NV (NL)
- Airport Regions Conference (BE)
- Agglomeration Community/Lands of France (FR)
- Greater Stockholm Public Transport Authority (SE)
- Stockholm-Arlanda Airport / Swedavia (SE)
- City of Leipzig, Economic Development Office (DE)
- Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding (DE)
- City of Vienna, Environmental Department (AT)
- Province of Bologna (IT)
- City Council of El Prat de Llobregat (ES)
- Transport Malta (MT)
- Mazovia Voivodship (PL)
- Prague Airport Region (CZ)
ECOTALE
External Costs Of Transport And Land Equalisation

The internalisation of the environmental, spatial and social costs generated by the transport sector has been a policy objective for the EU for more than a decade. According to the ‘polluter pays’ principle, ‘internalisation’ refers to the transferring of the majority of these costs onto transport users. Internalisation can already be seen where pricing schemes, such as road tolls, tax discs, parking fees or vehicle and fuel taxes, are introduced.

However, as such measures are not widely or are only partially applied and are inadequately linked to modal policies, there is a consequent lack of fairness in spatial planning and infrastructural strategy. Moreover, such schemes do not improve the long-term sustainability of the overall transport system.

Besides transport pricing policies, ECOTALE therefore focuses on planning and investment decisions based on overall transport costs, which can constitute a ‘preventive’ and more strategic approach to cost internalisation, thereby improving the equity and sustainability of transport systems. The ECOTALE project promotes the exchange, sharing and transfer of policy experience, as well as of knowledge and good practices in this area and combines disciplinary and inter-disciplinary approaches. It also covers the entire policy cycle, from problem or needs analysis through to designing solutions and implementation by partners.

For the project, 9 project partners from 7 regions in 7 Member States work together to develop practical guidelines for the internalisation of transport costs with special focus on the relationship between overall transport costs and land use planning. As well as formulating policy recommendations, they pay close attention to the way the proposed methodologies and procedures can be adapted to their regional/national regulatory contexts.

Lead partner
Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna DAPT (IT)

Contact person
Simona Tondelli
simona.tondelli@unibo.it
+39 051 209 3165
www.ecotale.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 06/2014

Total budget
€1,543,662.66

ERDF contribution
€1,216,714.59

Partnership
• Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna DAPT (IT)
• Emilia Romagna Region (IT)
• Aalto University Foundation (operating as Aalto University) (FI)
• Institute for Urban Planning and Development of Paris Île-de-France Region (FR)
• Mancomunitat de la Ribeira Alta (ES)
• Thessaloniki Public Transport Authority (THEPTA) (EL)
• Institute of Logistics and Warehousing (PL)
• City of Poznan (PL)
• Central Transdanubian Regional Development Agency Non profit Company (HU)
EPTA
European model for Public Transport Authority as a key factor leading to transport sustainability

The EU has a policy goal of creating a more sustainable transport system. Owing to the complexity of meeting the mobility needs of all citizens, a clear vision and effective and coordinated governance is required. To enhance transport sustainability, policymakers and local governments need to coordinate the competencies of different stakeholders within a proper policy framework. To this end, some regions have set up specific authorities – Public Transport Authorities or Organising Authorities, be they centralised or decentralised – to act in the public interest and to ensure a well-functioning, integrated transport system within their territory.

The EPTA project aims to improve the sustainability of public transport by identifying a public transport authority ‘success model’, while keeping a special focus on environmental, energy and economic aspects of governance. The project analyses different aspects of public transport governance and compares the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of 7 key related activities (i.e. regulation, planning, public procurement, integration, promotion, management, and control). It intends to set guidelines for a transferable and customisable “public transport authority model” which could be deployed to successfully implement or re-organise a public mobility system.

With 11 project partners from 9 regions in 8 Member States and from Norway, the EPTA consortium brings together the main competencies involved in mobility governance as well as different perspectives on the issue. The project partners exchange experience and share good practices on public transport authority development and operations. They also promote policy tools and regulatory guidelines for establishing and organising public transport at a local, regional and national levels.

The other outputs of the EPTA project include workshops, training courses, staff exchanges, studies and guidelines.

Lead partner
SRM – Networks and Mobility (IT)

Contact person
Dora Ramazzotti
dora.ramazzotti@srmbologna.it
+39 051 361 328
www.eptaproject.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 06/2014

Total budget
€1,346,448.00

ERDF contribution
€968,776.62

Norwegian funding
€61,699.60

Partnership
• SRM – Networks and Mobility (IT)
• Region Emilia-Romagna (IT)
• Almada City Council (PT)
• Rogaland County Council (NO)
• The University Court of The University of Aberdeen (UK)
• POLIS – Promotion of operational links with integrates services, International Association (BE)
• Razlog Municipality (BG)
• Brasov Metropolitan Agency (RO)
• The PTA – Thessaloniki Public Transport Authority (EL)
• Province of Cremona (IT)
• Municipality Council Praha-Suchdol (CZ)
EU 2020 Going Local
From detached Lisbon and Gothenburg Strategies to a regionalised indigenous EU 2020

The EU 2020 Going Local project contributes to the effective implementation of the current Lisbon and Gothenburg strategies and the new EU 2020 strategy at local and regional levels. The idea for the project originated from a common understanding that successful implementation of EU policies requires policies to be adapted to specific local needs and circumstances, which in turn requires the active participation of all stakeholders, such as politicians, public authorities, administrative bodies, development agencies and the local population. In the implementation of European policies, this participation represents a challenge, one which can be referred to as a problem of ‘vertical dialogue’ or of ‘multi-level governance’. The participating regions have considerable experience in this area.

To meet the challenge of multi-level governance, 14 project partners from 9 EU Member States are pursuing a sophisticated communication approach, involving regional policymakers and other stakeholders at national and EU level in accordance with the ‘Sörmland Strategy’. This entails:

- the full involvement of elected politicians in order to ensure the political ownership of the project;
- dissemination and awareness-raising activities directed at citizens;
- an early and full involvement of European bodies in order to place and position the regions within the EU 2020 strategy.

As a capitalisation project, EU 2020 Going Local focuses on the transfer of good practices into the Structural Funds programmes of the partner regions. The exchange of experience is organised through a number of workshops, conferences and partner meetings. This in-depth exchange forms the basis of an action plan for each partner region, specifying how the good practices – in this project in the energy and sustainable transport fields – are to be transferred and implemented within regional programmes.

**Lead partner**
Sörmland Regional Council

**Contact person**
Göran Norberg
goran.norberg@region.sormland.se
+46 155 77898
www.eu2020goinglocal.eu

**Duration**
10/2010 – 09/2012

**Total budget**
€1,546,194.62

**ERDF contribution**
€1,203,457.36

**Partnership**
- Sörmland Regional Council (SE)
- Örebro Regional Development Council (SE)
- Ministry of Economic Affairs, Energy, Building, Housing and Transport, NRW (DE)
- City of Duisburg (DE)
- Regional Development Agency of the Ljubljana Urban Region (SI)
- Riga Planning Region (LV)
- Zemgale Planning Region (LV)
- Stoke-on-Trent City Council (UK)
- Municipality of Schaerbeek (BE)
- Ministry for Sustainable Development and Infrastructure (LU)
- Province of Gelderland (NL)
- Regio Achterhoek (NL)
- Local Government Yorkshire and Humber (UK)
- Cartaxo Municipality (PT)
Geothermal energy to address energy performance strategies in residential and industrial buildings

Geothermal energy, that is to say, the thermal energy extracted from heat generated and stored in the earth, is one of the most environmental-friendly and cost-effective energy sources available and has the potential to help mitigate global warming and replace fossil fuels. In order to better exploit and build upon various existing practices of low-enthalpy geothermal energy generation, the Province of Ferrara (IT) has brought together a consortium of 12 partners from 9 EU countries. The GEO.POWER consortium runs a two-year capitalisation project aimed at evaluating the reproducibility of practices for the utilisation of low-enthalpy energy, mainly related to ground-coupled heat pumps (GCHP).

The project looks at successful policy initiatives in the fields of residential energy supply (private and public buildings), as well as geothermal energy use in industry and agriculture. Partners examine together the technical, economic and environmental parameters with a view to determining the optimum performance conditions for low-enthalpy geothermal energy systems (incl. GCHP). The systems are optimised by taking into consideration the partners own specific territorial contexts.

This evaluation process is followed by careful preparation for the transfer of well-defined long-term strategies which support large scale GCHP investments in the partner regions. The necessary implementation measures are outlined in action plans to be later financed through regional and national mainstream programmes or future regional financial instruments. This enables partner regions to fill any legislation gaps relating to energy performance and to fulfil the requirements of the EU Building Performance Directive. GEO.POWER regions actively contribute to achieving the EU ‘20-20-20’ objective as well as the international climate agreements signed in Kyoto and Copenhagen.
Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) have become a driving force for the economy and society, sustaining growth and prosperity. However, in light of their sizeable carbon footprint, which currently accounts for 8% of electricity consumption in urban areas, they have also been singled out as a fast growing consumer of energy.

The main objective of GreenITNet is to support the development of green ICT (including infrastructures). In a number of cities and regions the energy consumption of ICT is today the focus for a range of policies targeting greater energy efficiency and the use of renewable energies. This concerns both the energy efficiency of ICT infrastructures and opportunities to deploy ICT as an enabler to develop new, ‘smart’ solutions for a more energy efficient society. A smart energy infrastructure is a condition for supporting local renewable energy generation by individual households: it has been estimated that ‘smart’ deployment of ICT can decrease the use of electricity by a factor of 5 or more.

For regional governments, the development of effective policies designed to incentivise Green IT actions has become a major new area of activity. The 10 partner regions of the project each draw up a Green IT policy framework and also select a number of good practices and effective policies. The project organises a process of systematic exchange and assessment of Green IT policies and assesses a wide range of actions, policies and policy instruments in order to explore, develop and implement Green IT. GreenITNet partners work together to ensure that existing policies deploying ICT designed to promote energy efficiency or as a means to combat climate change are mainstreamed into the principal regional policy programmes. With the active participation of a large number of stakeholders in the project, its outputs will endure well beyond the life time of the project.
Energy and sustainable transport

IMAGINE
IMAGINE Low Energy Cities

Energy has historically been seen as a matter for economists or engineers. Today, this has changed. Energy is now an important issue for territorial governance, and indeed for citizens. From a territorial perspective, cities are facing the important challenge of having to engage in the transition towards a low energy future, while at the same time offering a high quality of life for all. This transition needs the involvement of numerous stakeholders and the co-development of innovative and integrated solutions.

The IMAGINE project addresses these challenges through interregional exchanges of knowledge and experience. Ultimately, it seeks to enable cities to review and assess their own transition strategy leading to the production of Local Energy Roadmaps 2050, thanks to the engagement of local stakeholders alongside local authorities.

In order to reach the objectives of the project, the main activities focus on:
• the development and testing of a methodology to assess local energy transition strategies from a governance perspective, as well as from a territorial and multi-stakeholder perspective;
• the identification of success factors and opportunities with a view to reproducing successful activities and addressing any challenges;
• the identification of existing participative tools and methods.

The partnership consists of 8 local authorities from across Europe, in cooperation with the European Energy Cities network, which acts as lead partner, and the University of Hamburg, as academic partner. Project partners focus on the promotion of dialogue between local stakeholders and the joint development of a long-term vision of the energy future of a city. The outputs of this project include a better understanding of governance processes and will ultimately inform local authorities’ policies and action plans.

Lead partner
Energy Cities (FR)

Contact person
Stéphane Dupas
stephane.dupas@energy-cities.eu
+49 (781) 205 511 94
www.energy-cities.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,357,038.95

ERDF contribution
€1,026,576.01

Partnership
• Energy Cities (FR)
• City of Munich (DE)
• Dobrich Municipality (BG)
• City of Lille (FR)
• Milton Keynes Council (UK)
• Municipality of Odense (DK)
• Bistrita Municipality (RO)
• City Council of Figueres (ES)
• City of Modena (IT)
• HafenCity University Hamburg (DE)
IMEA
Integrated Measures for an Energy Efficiency Approach

One of the key challenges in the transition towards European sustainable communities is the implementation of energy efficiency measures. This is especially true in Eastern Europe and in deprived urban areas where a high percentage of the housing stock has very poor energy performance.

Attaining energy efficiency in a built-up environment is a relatively low-cost, high-value opportunity. 2 important points must be borne in mind, however: 1) Economies of scale tend to drive most policy activity towards large-scale projects (such as public buildings, schools or hospitals). 2) Although the residential market (housing) represents large potential savings, it is disparate and fragmented. Local and regional public authorities need to play a key role in achieving the EU’s energy ambitions, but they are faced with another challenge: even if policy frameworks and technological solutions are available, there are still a number of barriers (cognitive and economic) making the implementation of such solutions particularly difficult.

In this context, the IMEA project aims to support local and regional authorities to enable them to take a pro-active role in improving energy efficiency in the built-up environment. IMEA partners collaborate to enhance the effects of their strategic plans and policies with a view to promoting energy efficiency. These goals are to be achieved through the following core activities:

- Exchange of good practices to raise awareness on energy efficiency and energy efficient behaviour (tackling cognitive barriers);
- Exchange of viable business models to create local/regional economic spin-offs (tackling economic barriers);
- Development of change strategies and implementation plans with SMART projects with a view to putting the policy ideas into practice;
- Dissemination of good practices to all public authorities in the EU, thus facilitating exchange at the international scale.

**Lead partner**
Nicis Institute (NL)

**Contact person**
Fleur Boulogne
Fleur.Boulogne@nicis.nl
+31 70 3440888
www.nicis.nl

**Duration**
01/2012 – 06/2014

**Total budget**
€1,652,888.48

**ERDF contribution**
€1,322,432.14

**Partnership**
- Nicis Institute (NL)
- Ministry of Regional Development and Tourism (RO)
- Oradea Metropolitan Area (RO)
- VÁTI Hungarian Nonprofit Limited Liability Company for Regional Development and Town Planning (HU)
- Mid-Pannon Regional Development Company (HU)
- Municipality of Assen (NL)
- Danish Building Research Institute (DK)
- City of Copenhagen, Urban Design Department (DK)
- GEBALIS – Management of Lisboa Social Housing, EEM (PT)
- Spatial Planning and Urban Development General Directorate (PT)
INVOLVE
Involving the private sector in Mobility Management

Sustainable transport is a high priority for the EU as it can reduce pollution and increase the quality of life. Mobility management is one way of contributing to the EU’s sustainable transport goals because it is capable of decreasing car-user rates. However, to deliver results, public authorities need the active participation of the private sector. Major employers or managers of large establishments, where large numbers of people work, shop or enjoy recreational activities, for example, need to be involved in the management process. Some regions have already developed good practices in this respect. However, the adoption of such good practices is far from widespread.

The INVOLVE project aims to build on the existing good practices and to improve cooperation between public authorities and the private sector. Such cooperation can encourage a shift towards more sustainable modes of transport to/from and within business districts in European regions. The project identifies and analyses available good practices with regard to private sector involvement in mobility management and shares them not only within the partnership but also with regional stakeholders on a wider level.

12 partners from 11 regions in 10 Member States form the project consortium. Each regional partner establishes a ‘regional consortium’, with key decision-makers from relevant regional organisations involved at key stages of the project. One partner with research experience and practical experience of working at the public/private interface provides expertise in these areas. Project partners exchange experience, develop a good practice methodology and promote the transfer of selected good practices. All partners develop their regional implementation plans in close cooperation with regional authorities.

Lead partner
traffiq – Public Transport Authority Frankfurt (DE)

Contact person
Michael Dewes
m.dewes@traffiQ.de
j.korn@traffiQ.de
+49 692 122 2804
www.involve-project.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,849,617.80

ERDF contribution
€1,440,911.84

Partnership
• traffiq – Public Transport Authority Frankfurt (DE)
• Klaipeda public transport authority (LT)
• Regional Transport Consortium of Madrid (ES)
• ANATOLIKI S.A– Regional Energy Agency of Central Macedonia (REACM) (EL)
• Municipality of Reggio Emilia (IT)
• ATL – Livorno Transport Operator (IT)
• Municipality Council Prague 9 (CZ)
• Energy Agency of Podravje – Institution for sustainable energy use (SI)
• CENTRO (West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority) (UK)
• Municipality of Roermond (NL)
• City of Warsaw – Public Transport Authority (PL)
• Erasmus University Rotterdam (NL)
Sustainable transport is vital for maintaining the environmental and economic health of rural areas. It must also ensure people have access to key services such as employment, education, and healthcare. Rural area policy makers understand far too well that a lack of sustainable methods of transport severely hampers all initiatives for environmental, social, and economic development, for instance, in the areas of education, tourism promotion, or the local economy in general. The introduction of sustainable transport schemes by European rural areas should, in the long term, have a significant positive impact on both the environment and the social and economic conditions of rural territories.

10 Member States represented by 13 project partners, including extreme rural areas with various limiting factors, cooperate within MOVE ON GREEN on the issue of implementing sustainable transport solutions in rural areas. 12 regional decision-making bodies from low-density European areas with a high environmental value work together with Euromontana on feasible strategies and policies for sustainable transport. The partnership intends to produce a collection of best practices on sustainable transport from the regions involved, a set of policy guidelines for sustainable transport in rural areas and 13 regional implementation plans.

MOVE ON GREEN aims to improve regional policies through the exchange of experience on how to best promote sustainable mobility in rural areas in environmental, social, and economic terms. The project also intends to raise awareness of the issue among local authorities, stakeholders, and citizens. The project’s outputs are designed to be valuable for other European rural areas, as the MOG solutions are likely to be transferable to other rural areas facing less critical challenges than those within the MOG partnership.

**MOG**

**MOVE ON GREEN**

Lead partner
Provincial Government Teruel (ES)

Contact person
Luis Muñoz Gregorio
lmunoz@dpteruel.es
lgasconherrero@dpteruel.es
programasue@dpteruel.es
+34 978 647 409
www.moveongreen.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,621,360.05

ERDF contribution
€1,288,640.93

Partnership

- Provincial Government Teruel (ES)
- SODEBUR – Society for the Development of the Province of Burgos (ES)
- Region of Thessaly, Regional Development Fund (EL)
- Region of Epirus (EL)
- Shetland Islands Council (UK)
- Euromontana (FR)
- Central Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency Nonprofit Ltd. (CTRIA) (HU)
- Regionalmanagement Burgenland Ltd. (AT)
- BSC Business Support Centre Ltd. Kranj (SI)
- West-Pannon Region – and Economy Development Supplier Public Nonprofit Ltd. (HU)
- Vidzeme Planning Region (LV)
- Podkarpackie Region (PL)
- Ministry for Infrastructure and Agriculture (DE)
PIMMS CAPITAL
Capitalising on Partner Initiatives in Mobility Management Services

Throughout the EU, excessive reliance on cars has resulted in high levels of traffic congestion and pollution, leading to economic, environmental and health problems in regions and cities. Mobility management aims to address these issues by encouraging commuters to use other methods of transport. By employing ‘soft’ measures (e.g. information or coordination of existing transport services), mobility management techniques augment the effectiveness of ‘hard’ traffic planning measures (e.g. new tram lines, new roads, or new cycle paths). Novelty and low visibility, however, make mobility management techniques difficult to implement.

PIMMS CAPITAL, which capitalises on the experience of previous PIMMS and PIMMS TRANSFER projects, aims to promote the implementation of high quality mobility management techniques and policies in European regions. The project seeks to stimulate a modal shift towards more sustainable methods of transport.

16 project partners from 12 regions in 10 Member States share and exchange experience with a view to developing action plans for the sharing of 14 good mobility management practices with each other. In the project, the partners involve an extensive range of relevant stakeholders at municipal and sub-regional levels. They demonstrate how mobility management can add substantial value to the ERDF-funded capital investment in ‘hard’ measures of traffic planning, especially in public transport in Convergence regions. Ultimately, the project partners contribute to the development of more efficient and free-flowing transport systems, which can boost economic competitiveness in their regions.

Lead partner
traffiQ – Frankfurt Public Transport Authority (DE)

Contact person
Michael Deves
m.deves@traffiQ.de
+49 692 122 2804
www.pimms-capital.eu

Duration
10/2010 – 11/2012

Total budget
€1,761,710.23

ERDF contribution
€1,381,608.77

Partnership
• trafiQ – Frankfurt Public Transport Authority (DE)
• Rhein-Main Passenger Transport Association Service Company (DE)
• Basilicata Region (IT)
• Veneto Region – Community Programme Department (IT)
• Province of Treviso (IT)
• Southern & Eastern Regional Assembly (IE)
• Regional Council of Moravia-Silesia Cohesion Region (CZ)
• Central Transdanubian Regional Development Agency (HU)
• West-Transdanubian Regional Development Agency (HU)
• CENTRO (UK)
• Worcestershire County Council (UK)
• Patras Municipal Enterprise for Planning & Development S.A. (EL)
• Computer Technology Institute & Press Diophantus (EL)
• Swedish Transport Administration (SE)
• Larnaca Municipality (CY)
• Sofia Municipality (BG)
PLUS
Public Lighting Strategies for Sustainable Urban Spaces

The lighting of public space accounts for 60% of public energy use in an average city. It is clear that any reduction that can be achieved will have a significant impact on total energy use and therefore on CO₂ emissions, not to mention the positive effects on public finances.

Lighting technologies have seen major developments over the last decade, offering cities new perspectives and possibilities for the development of their urban lighting strategies. The PLUS project capitalises on existing urban lighting good practices in European cities with the aim of helping cities develop their lighting policies and strategies, enabling them to implement energy efficient lighting solutions.

Due to the multi-faceted nature of public lighting, lighting strategies in public spaces can only be designed and implemented in an integrated way, taking into account aspects such as urban lighting pollution, citizens’ sense of safety, traffic regulation, social cohesion & city marketing. By focussing on new ways of addressing the issue of urban public lighting through the utilisation of technological innovation, the project contributes to energy efficiency and, ultimately, to sustainability and economic success.

Under the leadership of the Municipality of Eindhoven, 13 partners have come together to meet the objectives of the project, namely:

- to promote the development, testing and use of sustainable lighting by using public spaces as test areas;
- to explore solutions to lower electricity consumption in partner cities;
- to contribute to the development of improved and integrated public lighting strategies and implementation plans for each partner city;
- to increase awareness amongst policymakers about the benefits of a sustainable, innovative, low-carbon based policy approach to public lighting.

![Lead partner](Eindhoven Municipality (NL))

**Lead partner**
Eindhoven Municipality (NL)

**Contact person**
Rik van Stiphout
r.van.stiphout@eindhoven.nl
+31 40 238 63 39
www.luciassociation.org/Home.html

**Duration**
10/2010 – 12/2012

**Total budget**
€1,689,508.00

**ERDF contribution**
€1,303,313.00

**Partnership**
- City of Lyon (FR)
- Nice Cote d’Azur Urban Community (FR)
- Strategic Plan City of Burgos (ES)
- Municipal Enterprise for Planning and Development of Patras S.A. (EL)
- Iasi Municipality (RO)
- Municipality of Bassano del Grappa (IT)
- Birmingham City Council (UK)
- Municipality of Tallinn (EE)
- City of Leipzig (DE)
- Municipality of Plovdiv (BG)
- Lighting Urban Community International (LUCI) (FR)
- Foundation ’Sofia Development Association‘ (BG)
POLITE
Policy Learning in Information Technologies for Public Transport Enhancement

In recent years, public transport policies have developed a wide range of new services for citizens. One such service is ‘infomobility’, which provides travellers with information on the public transport services available in their location. However, not all EU regions use exactly the same infomobility services, which makes it difficult to roll out their use to different geographic areas. In this context, POLITE aims to increase the use of public transport by increasing the awareness of infomobility services, providing travellers with adequate and detailed information on the options available to them.

POLITE partners work together in order to exchange and transfer experiences and to improve their policies, knowledge & good practices in regard to infomobility services in their regions. The project’s overarching goal is to improve the public transport information systems in the partner regions. In addition, POLITE plans to establish links with other regions from outside the partnership with experience in this area, and can provide support for bilateral exchange on selected infomobility topics.

The POLITE partnership approaches the issue of traveller information systems in a holistic and innovative way by focusing on travellers and the information they may need at different geographic scales. The information generated by the project intends to serve as an input to the development of public policies in such a way that it enables interoperability among information systems and consequently increases the attractiveness of public transport for citizens.

Lead partner
Calabrian Regional Administration (IT)

Contact person
Rocco Mercurio
r.mercurio@regcal.it
+39 0961 752054
Nicola Mayerà
n.mayera@regcal.it
+39 0961 852056
www.polite-project.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,272,679.00

ERDF contribution
€997,099.25

Partnership
• Calabrian Regional Administration (IT)
• Province of Ferrara (IT)
• Promotion of Operational Links with Integrated Services – POLIS (BE)
• Reading Borough Council (UK)
• Institute of Logistics and Warehousing (PL)
• Transport Research Centre (CZ)
• Latvian Transport Development and Education Association (LV)
POSSE
Promotion of Open Specifications and Standards in Europe

POSSE aims to encourage the use of ITS (Intelligent Transport Systems) in sustainable urban policies and to support the implementation of appropriate Europe-wide open specifications and standards.

Urban ITS are a key element in the delivery of sustainable transport policies at the local level. They contribute to the development of EU promoted Urban Mobility Plans and address the issues of congestion, safety and accessibility. ITS can be used to promote and maintain more sustainable methods of transport and to reduce environmental impacts by prioritising the highway for public transport, walking and cycling; by fostering better management of the networks so as to reduce congestion; and by providing information about all available travel methods to allow commuters to make informed choices.

However, the lack of open specifications and standards means that sustainable transport policies are more difficult to develop. As a result, it is difficult for less experienced authorities to introduce coherent and cost-effective ITS. This then leads to supplier dependency and reduces the scope of the market for innovation.

POSSE has been developed to provide a platform to raise awareness and increase knowledge about the benefits of implementing open specifications and standards in an Urban ITS environment as well as to build capacity. The initiative came from a meeting facilitated by Polis, which brought together partners from 2 key initiatives in Europe on open urban ITS: UTMC in the United Kingdom and OTS in German speaking parts of Europe. These partners lead the knowledge exchange process, focussing on the British town of Reading, one of the UTMC demonstrator towns, but partners will also learn from other exemplar cities. The project’s outputs will inform the development of detailed implementation plans.

Lead partner
Reading Borough Council (UK)

Contact person
Ruth Leuillette
ruth.leuillette@reading.gov.uk
+44 (0)118 937 2069

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,840,281.57

ERDF contribution
€1,241,295.03

Norwegian funding
€113,451.43

Partnership
• Reading Borough Council (UK)
• Klaipeda City Municipality Administration (LT)
• Strategic Planning City of Burgos (ES)
• Municipality of La Spezia (IT)
• Pisamo Spa (IT)
• Transport Research Centre (CDV) (CZ)
• POLIS -Promotion of Operational Links with Integrated Services (BE)
• UTMC Ltd (UK)
• OCA e.V. (DE)
• Norwegian Public Roads Administration (NO)
Regions4GreenGrowth
Regional policy instruments and approaches for improving access to finance and speeding up investments in sustainable energy

The EU has defined ambitious energy strategies – fixing strict targets to increase the share of renewable energy sources – to enhance energy efficiency and lower carbon emissions, with a view to making Europe’s energy supply sustainable and future proof. However, one important obstacle to the wide-spread introduction of measures on renewable energy production capacity and energy efficiency is linked to the limitations of the ‘funding market’. Regions whose ambition it is to be leaders in sustainable energy must therefore develop the innovative instruments needed to generate the necessary investment finance independently.

Regions4GreenGrowth is an initiative of a number of EU regions with ambitious sustainable energy plans designed to overcome this obstacle. The overall objective of the project is to equip the partner regions with different regional policy instruments, mechanisms and approaches so as to improve access to finance and speed up investments in sustainable energy projects (e.g. measures on renewable energy generation capacity or energy efficiency) in their territories.

Project activities include the collecting and documenting of effective policy instruments from partners and other sector players. Peer reviews allow the partners to tackle the specific challenges of each partner region and present them with tailor-made packages of policies and instruments to speed up sustainable energy investments. Moreover, a specific method for the setting up of a public-private cooperation structure for investments in sustainable energy, developed by Flevoland, is also to be shared with other partners in master classes and is to be implemented in 3 partner regions.

Lead partner
Province of Flevoland (NL)

Contact person
Bob Pels
bob.pels@flevoland.nl
+31 320 265 474
www.regions4greengrowth.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€2,090,576.58

ERDF contribution
€1,021,843.26

Partnership
• Province of Flevoland (NL)
• County Council of Norrbotten (SE)
• Maramures County Council (RO)
• Region Abruzzo (IT)
• Valencia Energy Agency (ES)
• Lazio Region (IT)
• Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Agency “AE3R Piole ti-Prahova” (RO)
• Västernorrland County Council (SE)
• PATRAS SCIENCE PARK S.A. (EL)
• Center for Sustainable Regional Development -Gabrovo (BG)
• Province of Noord-Brabant (NL)
• Assembly of European Regions (FR)
• Észak-Alföld Regional Development Agency
• Non-profit Limited Company (HU)
• Oldham Council (UK)
• Energy Technology Institute (ES)
RE-GREEN
REgional policies towards GREEN buildings

Over the last 2 years, the concept of ‘green economy’ has become part of the mainstream international and European policy discourse. The greening of economies has indeed the potential of being a new driving force for growth, contributing to sustainable economic development, job creation, social equity and poverty reduction. Therefore, it is essential to produce new and appropriate policy instruments to foster green growth in certain critical sectors. The European Commission’s 2011 Energy Efficiency Plan considers that the greatest energy saving potential lies in the building sector, due to the fact that almost 40% of the final energy consumption occurs in buildings (e.g. houses, offices, shops).

In this context, the aim of the project is to help regions improve, develop and implement green building policies designed to enhance energy efficiency and to use renewable energies as a means of contributing to the development of green regions. By promoting innovative policy solutions for green buildings, through green public procurement, the project intends to support regions with the renovation and retrofitting of not only public but also private buildings. This implies considering public authorities as key players in the process of moving towards a greener economy, acting as leading examples of how energy efficiency measures can be applied to publically-owned buildings.

The main actions of the RE-GREEN project include the exchange of experience, with a view to identifying and transferring good practices and enabling the development of new policy tools. This consists of study visits to locations regarded as benchmark sites as defined by the project’s objectives. Site visits are complemented by interregional workshops to allow participants to discuss lessons learnt and improve their understanding on key practices.

Lead partner
INTELI – Intelligence in Innovation, Innovation Centre (PT)

Contact person
Inês Vilhena da Cunha
ines.c@inteli.pt
+351 217 112 210
www.re-green.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,133,146.08

ERDF contribution
€1,425,448.40

Partnership
• INTELI – Intelligence in Innovation, Innovation Centre (PT)
• University of Potsdam (DE)
• Municipality of Dabrowa Gornicza (PL)
• Tartu Regional Energy Agency (EE)
• Nordregio: Nordic Centre for Spatial Development (SE)
• Directorate General for Environmental Evaluation and Quality, Regional Government of Extremadura (ES)
• Building for the Future Limited (UK)
• Local Energy Agency Spodnje Podravje (SI)
• City of Mizil (RO)
• City Architects, Dublin City Council (IE)
RENERGY
Regional Strategies for Energy Conscious Communities

EU and national energy strategies are essential for setting targets, objectives and a clear line of direction. However, to improve the prospects for long-term success, integrative, inclusive and smart actions at local/regional level are needed in order to devise policy packages and initiatives which are tailored to the local needs, resources, capacities and infrastructural setting. A new approach to policy-making which includes close cooperation between local communities, energy producers/suppliers and public authorities would promote better energy efficient behaviour and optimise local Regional Energy Strategies (RES).

In this context, RENERGY partners have decided to focus on aspects which can really be influenced by local action and policies. They have identified the barriers which hinder the uptake of Regional Energy Strategies at local level and which block effective Energy Efficiency (EE) measures. The main objective now is to improve the effectiveness of local/regional sustainable energy policies, in response to overarching EU strategies and commitments, notably the Energy 2020 Strategy and EU 2020, by:

- demonstrating the relevance of a holistic, integrative, bottom-up process which takes into account local community needs, demands, cultural and infrastructural characteristics;
- stressing the crucial role of the energy business sector in RES uptake and EE management;
- emphasising the role of local/regional governance bodies in developing/implementing sustainable energy policies and also providing these bodies with sufficient competences, powers and knowledge.

The partners evaluate their own region in terms of RES/EE through thematic case studies and ‘Energy Labs’, which is a completely new platform concept for local energy action ensuring continuous dialogue and cooperation between experts, producers, suppliers and end-users. The outputs are to be used to draw up a model implementation plan which includes policy recommendations.

Lead partner
Province of Potenza (IT)

Contact person
Alessandro Attolico
alessandro.attolico@provinciapotenza.it
+39 0971 417290
www.provincia.potenza.it

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€2,210,186.70

ERDF contribution
€1,270,089.84

Partnership
- Province of Potenza (IT)
- National Research Council of Italy – Institute of Methodologies for Environmental Analysis (IT)
- City of Tuln (AT)
- INTELI – Intelligence in Innovation, Innovation Centre (PT)
- City of Worms (DE)
- Durham County Council (UK)
- The Association of Municipalities Polish Network “Energie Cités” (PNEC) (PL)
- Kaunas University of Technology (LT)
- Municipality of Avrig (RO)
- Sheffield City Council (UK)
- Municipality of Slagelse (DK)
- Municipality of Szentes (HU)
RITS-Net
Regions for Intelligent Transport Solutions Network

Current trends in regional development call for a higher sustainability of existing transport policies through the use of Transport Telematics or Intelligent Transport Systems (generally known as ITS) solutions at a regional level. European policymakers have recently adopted legislation for the deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems in the field of road transport, placing more emphasis on the use of ITS as a management tool for transport policies. While examples of local ITS implementation do already exist in some European cities, more often than not, such ITS cannot operate alongside other transport systems once they spread out beyond administrative urban boundaries.

In this context, RITS-Net aims to promote the integration of ITS into regional mobility planning, with a view to improving transport policies and assuring the harmonisation of local ITS applications with ITS Country plans as required by the EC Directive (2010/40/EU) on Intelligent Transport Systems in the field of road transport.

The 9 partners from 9 different EU countries share their mobility policies and practices as well as experience on utilising ITS applications in order to meet mobility challenges. This exchange is facilitated by a balanced mix of interregional workshops, training and practice exchange sessions and the objective is to bring together the best ITS solutions in use in the form of a digital Toolbox. The goal is for partner regions to exploit the full potential of ITS solutions in the planning and implementation process of their own regional mobility strategies, taking into account both technical and non-technical aspects and creating their own ITS plans adapted to their specific local contexts.

Lead partner
Marche Region (IT)

Contact person
Roberta Ruggeri
roberta.ruggeri@regione.marche.it
+39 071 806 3447
www.rits-net.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,462,424.00

ERDF contribution
€1,167,900.00

Partnership
• Marche Region (IT)
• South Dublin County Council (IE)
• Mallorca Transport Consortium (ES)
• Anatoliki SA-Regional Energy Agency of Central Macedonia (REACM) (EL)
• Vidzeme Planning Region (LV)
• Development Centre Litija (SI)
• Evroregion Pleven – Olt (BG)
• Municipality of Eger (HU)
• AustriaTech – Federal Agency for Technological Measures Ltd. (AT)
SERPENTE
Surpassing Energy Targets through Efficient Public Buildings

Reducing harmful emissions and using resources efficiently are vital for long-term sustainable development. 10% of possible energy savings needed to be made by 2020 could result from applying already existing legislation in the transport, heat generation and building sectors. Publicly owned or managed buildings – which account for a significant proportion of the European building stock – represent a huge potential for reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. Public authorities thus play a leading role in implementing EU energy and climate policy. However, this is not an easy task, and public authorities face various challenges related to funding, justification of up-front costs, user motivation and awareness, and policy coordination.

The main focus of the SERPENTE project is on improving energy efficiency in different types of publicly owned or managed buildings. It brings together 10 European regions each with their own different climates, histories and building stocks. The project focuses on existing buildings, and addresses public policymaking from a top-down (policymakers) as well as a bottom-up (citizen involvement) perspective.

Partners aim to identify and analyse good practices related to energy efficiency in historical buildings, social housing, sports facilities, schools and offices. After the first exchange of experience, 5 partners then test the project findings in their region by selecting aspects of the identified good practices and applying them to publicly owned or managed buildings with a view to reducing energy consumption. The tests are supported by peer review groups made up of experts. The outputs, which include summaries of lessons learnt, are to provide input for implementation plans.
STEP
Improving Communities’ Sustainable Energy Policy Tools

EU Member States have committed themselves to imposing climate and energy targets, known as the ‘20-20-20 targets’. To reach these targets, however, national and regional policies need to be applied more efficiently at a local authority level. The STEP project follows this approach by promoting local energy efficiency policies.

The partnership aims to reduce energy consumption and CO₂ emissions in the partner territories and to increase the use of renewable energy sources. In addition, partners promote regional energy self-efficiency and diversification and also exchange policy practices within thematic seminars and study visits. In order to ensure the effectiveness of certain practices, 3 of the partner regions serve as a testing ground for simplified pilot actions.

One very important aspect is that STEP partners involve local authorities throughout the implementation of the project. The project therefore serves as a platform for partner local and regional authorities to exchange with energy sector players, thereby increasing their capacity in the field of sustainable energy planning and implementation. STEP partners intend to produce several thematic policy guides which include recommendations in 3 areas:

- better implementation of sustainable energy policies at a local level,
- development of sustainable energy management systems,
- financing tools for sustainable energy investments.

These guides are to form the framework for 8 regional implementation plans, which will be drawn up at the end of STEP. These will both sustain the project’s outputs over the longer term and ensure the regional and local transfer of identified policy tools.

Lead partner
“STRIA” South Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency Non-for-profit Ltd. (HU)

Contact person
Rita Temesvári
rita.temesvari@ddnu.hu
+36 72 511 676
www.ddnu.hu/htmls/international_projects.html

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,576,530.61

ERDF contribution
€1,226,835.64

Partnership
- “STRIA” South Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency Non-for-profit Ltd. (HU)
- Kainuu Etu ltd (FI)
- Saxon Energy Agency (DE)
- ARGEM – Regional Management Agency of Energy – Region of Murcia (ES)
- SODEMASA, Ministry of Environment of the Government of Aragon (ES)
- ARLEG – Regional Development Agency, Legnica (PL)
- Midland Regional Authority (IE)
- Mid-West Regional Authority (IE)
- Local Government of Mohács (HU)
SUM PROJECT
Sustainable Urban Mobility

Sustainable Urban Mobility policies need to tackle 3 important issues: greenhouse gas emissions, notably CO₂, energy dependence leading to economic and political instability, as well as air pollution in urban centres, which has serious consequences for health and quality of life. The SUM Project addresses these 3 concerns in an integrated way and aims to promote and consolidate sustainable urban methods of transport within the participating regions.

The SUM Project consists of 15 public authorities from 9 EU countries, which, working together in the field of Sustainable Urban Mobility, share knowledge and expertise on regional practices. By analysing the different transport alternatives available as well as the effectiveness of information and awareness campaigns, the partners identify the most effective practices for ensuring that citizens adopt sustainable urban mobility behaviours. During the SUM Project, regions with less experience with new, green methods of transport, work with those that are more knowledgeable in the field.

The specific objectives of the SUM Project are to provide guidelines for citizens, to raise their awareness about sustainable urban mobility and, through a coordinated strategy for sustainable mobility, to enable traditional vehicles to be gradually replaced by electric ones or by other greener methods of transport in European cities.

In the SUM Project, each partner region initiates an implementation plan outlining all the actions required to enhance their urban mobility policies. These Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans incorporate the experience gained and knowledge shared through participating in this interregional project.

Lead partner
Municipality of Vigo (ES)

Contact person
Francisco Javier Gutierrez Orue
paco.orue@vigo.org
+34 986 810 311
www.sumproject.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 06/2014

Total budget
€1,604,086.15

ERDF contribution
€1,259,308.40

Partnership
• Municipality of Vigo (ES)
• ARGEM- Regional Management Agency of Energy – Region of Murcia (ES)
• Regional Agency for Energy and Environment in the Algarve (PT)
• Municipality of Messina (IT)
• Municipality of Reggio Calabria (IT)
• Municipality of Reggio Emilia (IT)
• Riga City Council (LV)
• City of Katowice (PL)
• Municipality of Vratsa (BG)
• Sofia Municipality (BG)
• Regional Energy Agency of Pazardjik (BG)
• Amiens City council (FR)
• The Skåne Association of Local Authorities (SE)
• Energy Agency for Southeast Sweden (SE)
• Essex County Council (UK)
Cities in Europe are facing many challenges in delivering sustainable solutions for a future with 9 billion people globally. This includes the need to decrease the carbon footprint of cities. For example, Stockholm aims at being a 100% fossil fuel free city by 2050, and similar goals can be found across Europe. New urban districts, like the Stockholm Royal Seaport, Vienna’s Aspern+ and the 22@ District in Barcelona, are designed to be at the technological forefront and a showcase for sustainable urban development with emphasis on climate mitigation and climate neutral development.

CLUE tackles the challenges faced by modern sustainable cities. Its objective is to increase local and regional policy development capacity for assessing and delivering new policy solutions and technologies for a low carbon economy in urban areas. The consortium brings together local and regional authorities as well as universities from 9 European countries, which are all developing climate neutral urban districts. A climate neutral urban district makes use of innovative new technology and building techniques to reduce its carbon footprint.

CLUE explores best practices in planning and implementation of systems, solutions and technologies for climate neutral urban districts as well as methods for measuring, monitoring, reporting, verifying and assessing climate mitigation efforts. The project aims to produce best practice guides and policy recommendations on the integration of a climate component in the urban development process. In addition, CLUE partners intend to develop guidelines for measuring, reporting, verifying and assessing climate neutral technology as well as implementation plans for all participating regions.
EFFMIS
European Forest Fire Monitoring using Information Systems

EFFMIS aims to pool good practices on the use of information systems for early detection, efficient management and handling of forest fires, damage assessment, and forest regeneration. The project focuses on the exchange and transfer of good practices among the Regions and it seeks to develop regional action plans for each partner region in order to improve their use of information systems to protect their natural resources against fire and help each region align its national policy with the EU legislation on forest fires.

Forest fires are a major problem for many European societies, threatening human lives and property, and having a disastrous impact particularly at the wild land-urban interface. Apart from preventive measures, the only effective way to minimise the damage caused by forest fires is their early detection and fast reactivity. Great efforts are, therefore, made to achieve early forest fire detection, which is traditionally based on human surveillance. In recent years, a more advanced approach to human forest fire surveillance has been adopted, one which is based on information systems.

11 project partners from 9 Member States use tested tools and methodologies to exchange good practices with each other on the subject: notably, through site visits, taking stock of existing conditions (environmental, meteorological, or geographical), potential pilot actions, and joint preparation of a good practice catalogue. The partners also envisage implementing targeted dissemination actions in key areas for forest fire detection and management. Finally, each partner prepares a detailed regional action plan.
**ERCIP**

**European River Corridor Improvement Plans**

The management of river corridors in Europe is a story of fragmented responsibilities and multiple agency involvement. This has resulted in conflicting policies and missed opportunities to address the dual concerns of environmental protection and economic growth in one of the most prevalent geographically sensitive landscapes across the EU.

River Corridor Improvement Plans (RCIP) provide a model for a responsible, joint-agency approach to address the complex and interdependent demands along river corridors. These jointly developed co-owned policy documents allow regional agencies concerned about environmental protection to work with local authorities, which primarily have economic growth and jobs in mind.

The ERCIP partnership consists of 4 regional agencies and 5 local authorities from 6 regions in 5 Member States with an interest in better managing river corridors. Each partner represents a river corridor with specific geographical challenges: the pressures of development in flood plains; the effects of major riverside industrial sites; the impacts of pollution; and managing large scale man-made water storage systems.

The ERCIP project is centred around 6 exchange visits providing a platform for an informed exchange of experience in this area, leading to development of a River Corridor Improvement Plan for each region, which consists of the following stages:

- Formal framework for co-operation between the 2 agencies representing a region
- Development/improvement of a River Corridor Improvement Plan as the basis and focus for continued joint work
- Development of the Plan into a statutory planning document (or national equivalent)

Lessons learnt are to form the basis of a European RCIP Good Practice Guide, and 5 regional implementation plans will ensure continued development beyond the life of the project.

---

**Lead partner**
London Borough of Lewisham (UK)

**Contact person**
Paul Chapman
paul.chapman@lewisham.gov.uk
+44 20 8314 8525
www.ercip.eu

**Duration**
01/2012 – 12/2014

**Total budget**
€1,318,863.48

**ERDF contribution**
€1,046,463.49

**Partnership**
- London Borough of Lewisham (UK)
- Erft River Association (DE)
- Rhine-Erft-Kreis District Administration (DE)
- Municipality of Teramo (IT)
- Province of Teramo (IT)
- Geological Institute of Romania (RO)
- Town of Harsova (RO)
- Region of Western Macedonia (EL)
- Municipality of Servia – Velvento (EL)
Fires are well known for causing severe damage to the environment as well as, more often than not, human casualties. Every summer, owing to hot and dry weather conditions, there is a major fire risk in the south of Europe, but risks also exist in northern regions as a consequence of forests being abandoned in rural areas. In addition, forest fires sometimes spread beyond national borders, and many countries do not have the resources to tackle them. The frequency of fires can be reduced by an effective fire management policy and close cooperation between the national, regional and local authorities concerned.

Under the project EUROFINET, 5 good practices have been identified and earmarked as top priority. In addition, studies, exchange visits and technical seminars are organised around the following 3 thematic fields:

- Fire intervention strategy (i.e. intervening when fires start);
- Innovative technologies/Cartography (i.e. training with simulation tools; territorial surveillance, detection and prevention strategies; risk and hazard cartography);
- Burnt area restoration

The project intends to establish a European Network of Experts in Forest Fire Prevention – a crucial undertaking for Europe.

**EUROFINET**
European Forest Fire Networks

Fires are well known for causing severe damage to the environment as well as, more often than not, human casualties. Every summer, owing to hot and dry weather conditions, there is a major fire risk in the south of Europe, but risks also exist in northern regions as a consequence of forests being abandoned in rural areas. In addition, forest fires sometimes spread beyond national borders, and many countries do not have the resources to tackle them. The frequency of fires can be reduced by an effective fire management policy and close cooperation between the national, regional and local authorities concerned.

Under the project EUROFINET, 5 good practices have been identified and earmarked as top priority. In addition, studies, exchange visits and technical seminars are organised around the following 3 thematic fields:

- Fire intervention strategy (i.e. intervening when fires start);
- Innovative technologies/Cartography (i.e. training with simulation tools; territorial surveillance, detection and prevention strategies; risk and hazard cartography);
- Burnt area restoration

The project intends to establish a European Network of Experts in Forest Fire Prevention – a crucial undertaking for Europe.
HERITPROT
Fire Risk Prevention and Improvement of the Fire Extinction Systems of the Historic Town Centers of Cities named World Heritage

Over the last 2 decades, fires at World Heritage Sites have presented specific challenges to Fire and Rescue Services, not only because of the loss or damage of historical value caused, but also because of the specific difficulties affecting fire-fighting and rescue. Yet, while UNESCO, for example, recognises the outstanding universal value of urban sites, such as buildings or monuments – seeing them as repositories of universal culture, or history – their maintenance is the responsibility of their owners, which often means city or local authorities, which often have very low budgets.

In fire prevention issues, some cities have a fire plan in place for historic sites. Nevertheless, in these plans, there are no provisions for protection against fire. To fill this gap, HERITPROT promotes the prevention of fire risk in the historic centres of European cities with World Heritage Site status. Within this project, representatives from public authorities and from firefighting and civil protection institutions from 9 EU countries, as well as Norway, are working together to find solutions that can be adapted and transferred to their territories. Some of them have suffered fires in buildings or sections of their ‘old quarters’, which have destroyed their heritage; others are interested in putting in place preventative measures to avoid future disasters.

With a view to developing a joint analysis of potential hazards and prevention measures for the old quarters of World Heritage Sites, all partners participate in workshops, thematic seminars and study visits. The strategies they identify are to be compiled in a manual, serving as a basis for a common method for fire prevention and action in the event of fire, with specific approaches for different categories of buildings. To test and validate the method developed, a simulation exercise is to be carried out at the end of the project.

Lead partner
Tenerife’s Consortium for Risks Prevention, Firefighting & Rescue (ES)

Contact person
Carlos González Segura
gerencia@bomberos.tenerife.com
+34 922533487
www.heritprot.com

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,646,028.00

ERDF contribution
€1,267,670.40

Norwegian funding
€34,270.00

Partnership
• Tenerife’s Consortium for Risks Prevention, Firefighting & Rescue (ES)
• City of Sighisoara (RO)
• City Council of Cuenca (ES)
• Riga City Council City Development Department (LV)
• City of Warsaw (PL)
• Vilnius Old Town Renewal Agency (LT)
• Municipality of Hollókő (HU)
• City of Bergen (NO)
• Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service (UK)
• Civil Protection Service of the Azores (PT)
The R4R project aims to enhance the regional contribution to the European Recycling Society. It achieves this goal by encouraging local and regional authorities to improve their recycling performance and prevent waste generation.

If we are to create a European Recycling Society, the full involvement of regional and local authorities is indispensable because they are responsible for many of the relevant policy areas. Yet local authorities face many new challenges. For example, while the quantity of waste generated is continuously rising, local authorities must comply with stricter legislation and put in place more complex waste management systems which encourage a more active involvement of the population.

The R4R project capitalises on the initiatives designed to improve the monitoring of regional performance in waste recycling that were taken by the Association of Cities and Regions for Recycling and Sustainable Resource Management (ACR+). Its main objectives are to optimise data collection and benchmark recycling performances as well as to combine them with legal, economic, educational, technical and organisational waste management tools. The project focuses primarily on economic instruments which improve recycling performances, such as ‘pay as you throw’ systems, tax on disposal, incentives and extended producer responsibility schemes.

To promote the project and its outputs more widely and also to facilitate the collection and exchange of data, a free-to-use online tool is to be developed for European local and regional authorities. This will also allow users to input data, assess recycling performances and have access to tailored benchmarking and good practices.

Each partner formulates an implementation plan setting out how lessons learnt within the project can be translated into action. This involves either transferring identified good practices or promoting more efficient local policy instruments.

Lead partner
Ile-de-France Region Waste Management Observatory (FR)
Contact person
Jean-Benoit Bel
jb.bel@ordif.com
+33 1 45 65 50 25
Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014
Total budget
€2,108,789.17
ERDF contribution
€1,832,948.61

Partnership
• Ile-de-France Region Waste Management Observatory (FR)
• Association of Cities & Regions for Recycling and for sustainable Resource management (ACR+) (BE)
• OVAM (BE)
• Odense Waste Management Company, Ltd. (DK)
• Lisbon city council (PT)
• Efizi Puol (EL)
• Limerick County Council (IE)
• Styrian Provincial Government – Specialized Division 19D, Waste and Material Flow Management (AT)
• Tallinn City Government, Environment Department (EE)
• Waste Agency of Catalonia (ES)
• Municipality of Sofia (BG)
• City of Zagreb, Croatia, City Office for Energy, Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development (HR)
• Ilfov County Council (RO)
Aqua-add
Deploying the added value of water in local and regional development

European regions and cities face important water management challenges, such as: storage and discharge (particularly after heavy rainfall), quality and periodic water stress. In order to address these challenges, it is evident that water must become an integral part of spatial development policies and their implementation.

However, until now, water management issues have often been of secondary importance. Water issues have to compete with other public concerns, and this has resulted in insufficient public and political support. Aqua-add partners have observed that stakeholders in the public arena are often unaware of the added value efficient water management can bring to spatial development. While water management may represent an added cost, it does allow areas to be better protected against flooding and to be more attractive. Moreover, it generates economic benefits and contributes to quality of life.

The Aqua-add project aims to better exploit the potential of water (economically, socially and environmentally) in urbanised landscapes and to promote the incorporation of water in spatial development.

The partnership comprises a carefully selected combination of public authorities and knowledge institutions from 8 different countries. In order to reach the main objectives of the project, partners exchange experiences and good practices on the following themes:
- Stakeholder involvement;
- The added value of ‘blue spaces’ in urbanised landscapes with a view to achieving better informed decision-making;
- Successful business models for water-projects.

Lead partner
Municipality of Eindhoven (NL)

Contact person
Frank van Swol
f.van.swol@eindhoven.nl
+31 40 238 61 26
www.aqua-add.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,815,439.81

ERDF contribution
€1,443,216.41

Partnership
- Municipality of Eindhoven (NL)
- Trans-Tisza Region Environmental, Nature Protection and Water Inspectorate (HU)
- University of Debrecen Centre for Environmental Management and Policy (HU)
- Municipality of Imperia (IT)
- University of Genoa (IT)
- Bremerhaven Municipality (DE)
- City of Copenhagen (DK)
- Municipality of Sofia (BG)
- Aveiro Region Intermunicipal Community (PT)
- University of Aveiro (PT)
- Greater Lyon (FR)
LakeAdmin
Regional administration of lake restoration initiatives

The economic values of clean and safe water are well established. Lakes, ponds and reservoirs provide water for drinking, irrigation, recreation, fish, natural and cultural uses and other ecosystem services. However, despite remarkable investments in wastewater treatment, the quality of many water bodies is still affected by internal and external factors such as sediments, agriculture and other diffuse sources. These problems can be tackled by lake management and restoration measures.

LakeAdmin follows up on the INTERREG IIIC North project LakePromo, which in 2004-2007 presented an overview of lake restoration practices. Before drawing up plans for practical measures, however, the LakeAdmin partners see a need to review the different case studies in more detail.

The objective of LakeAdmin is to improve the way goals are set and to enhance the quality of lake restoration in regions that have acknowledged the importance of lakes for their economic development. The project aims to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies related to water, focusing on the management of lakes, ponds and reservoirs.

LakeAdmin’s 10 partner organisations are sharing and transferring good water management practices and are developing implementation plans to help the adoption of good practices in their Regional Operational Programmes. At the same time, LakeAdmin is helping partner regions to comply with the environmental standards for lakes set by the Water Framework Directive.

The project aims to disseminate good practices beyond the partnership by establishing open access guidance material available to lake managers, regional authorities and stakeholders. The main outputs of the project include a communication platform, good practice guidelines and the LakeAdmin Archive – a European lake restoration database.
TRAP
Territories of Rivers Action Plans

The TRAP project addresses the challenge of integrated river and river basin management. The aim of the project is to identify and transfer good practices which incorporate the protection of aquatic and cultural heritage landscapes into regional sustainable growth policies.

10 partners from 8 countries are involved in the project, which focuses on improving regional policy resources and instruments in order to improve and sustain river basin quality as well as stakeholder involvement and commitment to maintaining good water quality. Moreover, TRAP promotes products, plans and tools that combine landscape protection with diversified and comprehensive river territory development and growth.

TRAP not only develops tools that improve the implementation of the Water Framework Directive, thereby preventing avoidable risks and ensuring water quality in the long term, but goes further, as it also aims to ensure the economic self-sustainability of river basin protection measures.

In addition, the project takes into account the European Landscape Convention and the Europe 2020 strategy by improving regional development plans, notably those relating to tourism and the environment. TRAP partners also liaise with the Natura 2000 ecological network of protected areas.

Through study visits as well as local and interregional meetings, the partners analyse good practices in the field of integrated river and river basin management. Capitalising on the knowledge gained through the transfer of good practice, TRAP partners plan to develop a transferable integrated management model combining cultural and environmental protection with attractive regional growth.

Lead partner
Kainuu Etu ltd (FI)

Contact person
Ninetta Chaniotou
ninetta.chaniotou@kainuunetu.fi
+358 8 617 8119
www.trapproject.eu

Duration
01/2012 – 12/2014

Total budget
€1,335,935.60

ERDF contribution
€1,512,530.14

Partnership
• Kainuu Etu ltd (FI)
• Shannon Development (IE)
• Mid-West Regional Authority (IE)
• The Rivers Trust (UK)
• Soca Valley Development Centre (SI)
• South-West Regional Authority (IE)
• National Institute of Research Development for Mechatronics and Measurement Technique – INCDMTM (RO)
• Regional Development Agency of Western Macedonia SA (EL)
• Zemgale Planning Region (LV)
• Waterboard Noorderzijlvest (NL)
# Index of project acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index of project acronyms</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 POWER</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aqua-add</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AT FORT</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOO-Games</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BORDWIIS+</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASA</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCIC</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CERTESS</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CESR</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHARTS</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLUE</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLUSTERIX</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO2FREE (Fast Track)</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COGITA</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-Innovation</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIE</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CycleCities</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-AIR</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAA</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANTE</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DESUR</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIFASS</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-COOP</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e-CREATE</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECOREGIONS</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECOTALE</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EFFMIS</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGAGE</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPTA</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERCIP</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETTBio</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU 2020 going local</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EUFOFINET</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EuroScreen</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIN-EN</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEO.POWER</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GreenInfraNet</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GreenITNet</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRISI PLUS</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health4Growth</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HERITPROT</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HISTCAPE</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid Parks</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I4Food</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMAGINE</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMEA</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IN-EUR</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>InCompass</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INN.O.V.Age</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INNOCRAFTS</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>InnoFun</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>InnoMot</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INVOLVE</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNOW-HUB</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KTFORCE</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LABOUR PLUS</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LakeAdmin</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOCFOOD</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medi@TIC</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MESSE</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micropol</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOG</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOSTRA</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONE</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIMMS CAPITAL (Fast Track)</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLUS</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLUSTEX</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLITE</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSSE</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R4R</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RE-GREEN</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECOMMEND</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REGIO-CRAFTS</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regions4GreenGrowth (R4GG)</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RENERGY</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RITS-Net</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERPENTE</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMART EUROPE</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEP</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUM PROJECT</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOK-TOC</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOURAGE</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAP</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRES</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URMA</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VERSO</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working4Talent</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young SMEs</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZEN</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Country acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country acronyms</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AT – Austria</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BE – Belgium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BG – Bulgaria</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CY – Cyprus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CZ – Czech Republic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DK – Denmark</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE – Estonia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EL – Greece</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ES – Spain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FI – Finland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FR – France</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE – Germany</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HU – Hungary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IE – Ireland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IT – Italy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LV – Latvia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LT – Lithuania</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LU – Luxembourg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT – Malta</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NL – Netherlands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO – Norway</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL – Poland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT – Portugal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RO – Romania</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI – Slovenia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SK – Slovakia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE – Sweden</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH – Switzerland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK – United Kingdom</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH – Switzerland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK – United Kingdom</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Credits and acknowledgements

This collection was produced and published by the Joint Technical Secretariat of the INTERREG IVC Programme 2007-2013.

We would like to thank all the project partners who helped to produce this collection and provided their logos and pictures.

Printing and downloading of extracts from this collection is permitted provided that the source is quoted. No content may be used for any commercial purposes.

Photo credits:
Fotolia.com: p.9
Wikimedia commons: p.14
Stock.xchng: p.16/p.33/p.34/p.52/p.90
Jorrit Lousberg: p.16
www.freeimages.co.uk: p.19
J.F Renard: p.20
Metapontum Agrobios Plant Phenomics Platform: p.24
RGBStock: p.23/p.42
Krissy Venosdale: p.27
Terje Rakke: p.28
Prato textile Museum Foundation: p.30
Julio Vergne: p.39
Flickr Creative Commons: p.40
Mars Discovery District: p.41
Irwin Leullier: p.46
©iStockphoto.com/Alexander Raths: p.47
Judith Bornhorst: p.54
Srdjan Stefanovic: p.55
Philippe Frutier: p.56
Martin van Lokven: p.57
Manos Vougiokas: p.59
Harry Schiffer: p.60
Pohl & Gruessen: p.61
Siemens Press Picture: p.63
Thanos Vlastos, National Technical University of Athens: p.65
Shutterstock: p.72/p.73
Oskars Rozenbergs: p.75
iStockphoto.com/ollo: p.78
Reading Borough Council: p.79
Lars Sundström: p.80
www.eltis.org: p.83
Sergio Valdivieso: p.85
Gianfranco Scipilliti: p.86
©BDP/Commission Air: p.89
D. Guillermo Pozuelo: p.91
ORDIF: p.92
Joel Kook: p.94

Editing: INTERREG IVC JTS,
Richard Conlin and Paul Webster
Design & printing: POPLAR, info@poplar.be
Printed in September 2012.
Joint Technical Secretariat
Région Nord-Pas de Calais
Les Arcuriales Entrée D, 5e étage
45 rue de Tournai – 59000 Lille - France
T: +33 (0)3 28 14 41 00 • F: +33 (0)3 28 14 41 09
info@interreg4c.eu • www.interreg4c.eu

Four Information Points:

- **North – Rostock (DE)**
  IP-North@interreg4c.eu
  T: +49 (0)381 454 84 5284 / 5292

- **East – Katowice (PL)**
  IP-East@interreg4c.eu
  T: +48 (0)32 205 32 30

- **South – Valencia (ES)**
  IP-South@interreg4c.eu
  T: +34 96 315 33 19

- **West – Lille (FR)**
  IP-West@interreg4c.eu
  T: +33 (0)3 28 14 41 04