

European Regional Development Fund  
(2007 - 2013)



## **INTERREG IVC**

Commission Decision  
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## **ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT**

**2011**



26 June 2012

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## 1 Identification and executive summary

<b>OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME</b>	<b>Objective concerned</b>	Territorial cooperation
	<b>Eligible area concerned</b>	Whole EU plus Norway and Switzerland
	<b>Programming period</b>	2007-2013
	<b>Programme number (CCI No)</b>	CCI 20007 CB 163 PO 046
	<b>Programme title</b>	INTERREG IVC
<b>ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT</b>	<b>Reporting year</b>	2011
	<b>Date of approval of the annual report by the monitoring committee</b>	26 June 2012

In respect of programme implementation, 2011 saw the following noteworthy developments: the full commitment of funds, better results from running projects, the start of the thematic programme capitalisation process and preliminary discussions and ideas on a future programme.

When the assessment procedure for the fourth Call for projects was closed, the total budget request from good quality projects exceeded the remaining available funds. A general budget reduction for all recommended fourth call projects and a slight over commitment of funds were therefore necessary to make it possible to approve all good quality applications.

The monitoring of running projects demonstrated the added value of interregional cooperation for the European regions: by analysing only closed first Call and advanced projects from the second Call, more than 100 policy improvements have been reported so far, and 110 good practices have been transferred. The thematic programme capitalisation process will, with the help of external experts, methodologically analyse each of these good practices and policy improvements, identify innovative approaches and will make them available to all European regions. This strategic programme extension will also group together similarly themed projects with a view to generating policy recommendations for the national and European level.

With an error rate of well below the 2% ceiling, the initial results of the second level control confirm the proper functioning of the financial monitoring system.

In 2011, communication activities shifted their emphasis from the promotion of calls to the presentation of the first project results.

## **2 Overview of the implementation of the operational programme**

### **2.1 *Achievement and analysis of the progress***

#### **2.1.1 Information on the physical progress of the operational programme:**

Based on the indicator system approved by the Member States for the INTERREG IVC Programme and outlined in section 4.5 of the operational programme (OP), the table in annex 01 shows the achievement in the different sections up to the year 2011. The baseline value for all indicators is zero.

## 2.1.2 Financial information (in EUR)

**Table 1: Financial information by priority and by source of funding (2007 to 2011)**

	Expenditure paid out the beneficiaries included in payment claims sent to the managing authority	Corresponding public contribution	For information		Private expenditure (1)	Expenditure paid by the body responsible for making payments to the beneficiaries	Total payments received from the Commission
			Norwegian contribution	Swiss Contribution			
<i>Priority 1:</i> Innovation and the Knowledge Economy ERDF, Public Funding	43,854,621.28	43,854,621.28	214,165.34	0.00	0.00	33,996,386.89	35,083,697.02
<i>Priority 2:</i> Environment and Risk Prevention ERDF, Public Funding	25,080,569.06	25,080,569.06	33,671.03	0.00	0.00	19,374,709.98	20,064,455.25
<i>Priority 3</i> Technical Assistance ERDF, Public Funding	10,245,553.15	10,245,553.15	133,919.72	66,959.86	0.00	7,171,887.13	7,171,887.13
<b>Grand total:</b>	<b>79,180,743.49</b>	<b>79,180,743.49</b>	<b>149,580.36</b>	<b>45,239.17</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>60,542,984.00</b>	<b>62,320,039.40</b>
Total in transitional regions in the grand total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total in non-transitional regions in the grand total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ESF type expenditure in the grand total where the operational programme is co-financed by ERDF (2)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(1) Only applicable for operational programmes expressed in total cost							
(2) This field is completed where the operational programme is co-financed by the ERDF or the ESF where use is made of the option under Article 34(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006							

### 2.1.3 Information about the breakdown of the use of funds

**Table 2: Information about the breakdown of the use of funds 2007 to 2011**

Code (*) Dimension 1 <i>Priority theme</i>	Code (*) Dimension 2 <i>Form of finance</i>	Code (*) Dimension 3 <i>Territory</i>	Code (*) Dimension 4 <i>Economic activity</i>	Code (*) Dimension 5 <i>Location</i>	<i>Amount (**)</i>
09 Priority 1: <i>Innovation and the Knowledge Economy</i>	01	10	00	inter-regional	33,996,386.89
54 Priority 2 <i>Environment and Risk Prevention</i>	01	10	00	inter-regional	19,374,709.98
85 Priority 3 <i>Technical Assistance</i>	01	10	00	inter-regional	5,865,246.96***
86 Priority 3 <i>Technical Assistance</i>	01	10	00	inter-regional	2,353,406.30***
<b>Total:</b>					<b>61,589,750.13</b>
(*) The categories are coded for each dimension using the standard classification (**) Allocated amount of the Community contribution for each combination of categories. (***) The figures include technical assistance paid by the managing authority but not yet co-financed with ERDF by payments from the certifying authority (body responsible for making payments to the beneficiaries). They differ therefore from the amount indicated in table 1 under priority 3.					

Further financial information regarding ERDF commitments and payments by year can be found in Annex 02.

### 2.1.4 Assistance by target groups

The assistance of the programme is only targeted at public bodies and bodies governed by public law. The table below shows the amounts paid by the end of 2011 to these target groups:

**Table 3: Assistance to target groups in ERDF 2007 to 2011**

Target Group	ERDF in EUR
Public bodies	26,707,201.58
Bodies governed by public law	26,663,895.29
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,371,096.87</b>

### **2.1.5 Assistance repaid or re-used**

No assistance was repaid or re-used in 2011.

### **2.1.6 Qualitative analysis**

The fourth call for proposals was launched on 1 December 2010. Capitalisation projects and proposals for mini programmes could not be submitted since time for full implementation of this type of project was no longer available. The related partner search event with about 500 participants took place in Budapest, Hungary, on 3 and 4 February 2011.

More than 1,200 persons attended the various events organised by the JTS and the four Information Points, and about 1,100 individual consultations were given. The main information tool, i.e. the website, had a much greater impact than initially expected: with about 33,000 visits per month. Further information is provided in Chapter 5.

When the call closed on 1 April 2011, 355 applications had been submitted. The requested ERDF funding was around EUR 532 million. A total of 49, or 14 % of the applications were declared ineligible in accordance with the eligibility assessment process, with most of these ineligible due to incorrect co-financing statements. The JTS briefly checked the quality of these ineligible applications and concluded that 42, or 85 % of them, had been poorly prepared. At the end of the quality assessment process, carried out by the JTS between May and November 2011, 82 out of the remaining 306 eligible applications were recommended for approval. Based on the total number of 355 submitted applications, the recommendation rate was 23%, almost a quarter. This high recommendation rate can be explained by several factors:

- The rationale of the programme was better understood by potential applicants thanks to the communication effort undertaken by the programme and by Member States and thanks to the numerous individual consultations given.
- The stricter terms of reference for the fourth call further ensured that only applications that met minimum quality requirements were submitted and therefore approved.

During the Monitoring Committee (MC) meeting in Warsaw, Member States were willing to approve all recommended project applications. However, while the total budget for all recommended projects amounted to MEUR 124.2, only MEUR 102.3 remained in the budget re-

served for operations. The MC therefore agreed to a reduction of 5% from the budgets of all recommended applications. As this measure was still insufficient to bring the requested funds in line with the available financial resources, the MC and the Managing Authority (MA) agreed to commit about 5% more funds to the projects than actually available in the programme budget. Experience from the previous programme and from the first projects coming to a close in the current programme showed that, on average, projects spent less than 90 % of their budget. The risk that the overall request for funding might exceed available funds by the end of the programme was therefore minimal. A list of all approved projects is attached in annex 03.

Another important landmark event for the programme was the start of the programme's thematic capitalisation activities. As with most other territorial cooperation programmes, the INTERREG IVC programme had initially limited its activities to supporting the exchange of experience between local and regional authorities participating in funded projects. While partners participating in a given funded project gained from the exchange and transfer of knowledge, European regions outside the specific project would not benefit directly. Through thematic programme capitalisation activities, however, INTERREG IVC aims, on the basis of methodological policy analysis, to make tried and tested policy solutions available to all European regions. A further aim of capitalisation is to identify innovative policy solutions in projects working in the same thematic areas and to enable these projects, their partners and other EU actors to work together with a view to generating policy recommendations for the national and European levels. Further information is provided in chapter 2.7.4.

The JTS also continued to monitor approved projects. As well as checking incoming progress reports twice a year, monitoring was also achieved through: participating in project final conferences, participating in mini programme steering groups, various email and telephone consultations, and, when necessary, by inviting project representatives to meet the JTS at its premises in Lille.

The average underspend of running projects, which, during the start-up phase of the projects is quite high, has been reduced to about 33.4 % in 2011, while in 2010 we had to report an average project underspend of 40.1 %. Thanks to the n+3 rule, the programme has not to date had to face the risk of de-commitment of funds at the programme level.

The programme is now spending an increasing amount of time on processing requests for changes. One reason for the increase in such requests is the natural implementation cycle. The final budget needed to implement the activities only becomes clear towards the end of



the project. As a budget change is only possible once during a project's life time, the Lead Partners only adjust their budgets in the final months of the project. Another factor has been the financial crisis. Many partner organisations have been restructured or merged with others to reduce costs, while others have lost the financial capacity to participate in projects. A replacement partner is usually found, however, in some cases, the existing partnership takes over the activities as well as the budget of the leaving partner.

In respect of promoting equal opportunities for men and women and the protecting the environment; several fields of the application form require applicants to indicate and describe the effects of the project 'on the ground', and also how the day-to-day implementation of the project takes account of these requirements. The programme's decision making body, the Monitoring Committee, is obliged to ensure that the requirements regarding equal opportunities for men and women and the protection of the environment are fulfilled, in accordance with chapter 8.3 of the programme.

These responses were evaluated and taken into account when assessing and approving projects. 64 % of all approved projects focus on, or are regarded to be positive in terms of equal opportunities. More than 84 % of all projects place the main focus on or are regarded to be positive in terms of environmental sustainability.

Chapter 6.4 of the operational programme (OP) specifies the need for the Member States, where appropriate, and in accordance with current national rules and practices, to organise a partnership with the respective authorities at regional, local and urban levels, and with economic and social partners and other appropriate bodies.

## ***2.2 Information about compliance with community law***

No problems relating to the compliance with community law were encountered in the implementation of the operational programme in 2011.

## ***2.3 Significant problems encountered and measures taken to overcome them***

The programme did not encounter any significant problems. However, as mentioned above the financial crisis did have an impact on the capacity of partners to continue their participation in projects. In most cases a replacement partner was found.

## ***2.4 Changes in the context of the operational programme implementation***

No changes in the context of the operational programme implementation were noted in 2011.

## ***2.5 Substantial modification pursuant to Article 57 of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006***

No substantial modification of an operation as referred to in Article 57 of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 is to be reported.

## ***2.6 Complementarity with other instruments***

During various information events and the consultations with potential partners, INTERREG IVC staff systematically underlined the specific nature of the INTERREG IVC programme. It was made clear that INTERREG IVC cannot be a substitute for the ESF or other EU programmes.

Furthermore, during the application process all applicants were required to confirm, in their co-financing statement, that no expenditure related to their project had been or would be funded by any other EU programme. In addition, the lead applicant was required to confirm in the application form that neither their project, nor any part of it, had received, or would receive, any other complementary EU funding during the whole duration of the project.

In the quality assessment, one of the criteria checked was whether the partnership covers a wide EU area beyond the cross-border and transnational programme areas. If there was only a limited geographical coverage, justification had to be provided. The assessment of this partnership criterion allows the identification of applications that could also be submitted under related transnational or cross-border INTERREG programmes.

For the third and fourth Calls, the rules on geographical coverage were amended. It was for example required that on the application form, a partnership includes at least one partner from each of the four information point areas and at least one (for the fourth Call) or two (for the third Call) from the twelve most recent EU Member States. While the purpose of these stricter requirements was to increase the quality of the applications submitted, it was also a

further safeguard to avoid double applications to different INTERREG programmes and thus reduced the risks of double financing.

Throughout the project, the first level controller had to check and confirm that no expenditure had been supported by any other EU funding source and also had to ensure that there were mechanisms in place to avoid double-financing.

## **2.7 Monitoring and evaluation**

The Monitoring Committee, the JTS, the Managing Authority and the Auditing Authority set up efficient measures and procedures to ensure that the programme is implemented in accordance with the various relevant regulations and the operational programme.

### **2.7.1 Meetings and decision of the Monitoring Committee (MC)**

In 2011, the MC held three meetings in which information on the programme implementation was given and decisions were made. Further decisions were made in five written procedures. An overview of the meetings and the decisions in written procedure is provided in table 4 below.

**Table 4: Monitoring Committee meetings and decisions in written procedure**

<b>Meetings/ Written procedures</b>	<b>Date &amp; Location/ Approval date</b>	<b>Main issues</b>
Monitoring Committee Meeting	02 February 2011 Budapest, Hungary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approval of technical assistance expenditure 2010</li> <li>▪ Approval of the principles and the purpose of thematic programme capitalisation.</li> <li>▪ Approval of recommendations of the programme evaluators.</li> <li>▪ Update of the MC on financial control and audit, the financial situation of the programme and the decommitment risk</li> </ul>
Written procedure	15 February 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Technical assistance: Approval of the budget 2011</li> </ul>
Monitoring Committee Meeting	15-16 June 2011 Oslo, Norway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Information on the state of play of programme implementation (human resources, financial issues, fourth call for</li> </ul>

Meetings/ Written procedures	Date & Location/ Approval date	Main issues
		<p>proposals, running projects and a project presentation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approval of the 2010 annual report</li> <li>▪ Approval of the communication strategy</li> <li>▪ Approval to start thematic programme capitalisation</li> <li>▪ Follow-up on recommendations of the mid-term evaluation for the future programme</li> <li>▪ First reflections on the future interregional cooperation programme 2014-2020</li> </ul>
Written procedure	03 August 2011	<p>Update of MC Rules of procedure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clarifications on reaching a quorum</li> <li>▪ Reinforcement of impartiality rules</li> </ul>
Written procedure	09 September 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approval of the updated operational programme</li> </ul>
Written procedure	25 October 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Agreement with Norway and Switzerland on a financial contribution to the cost of thematic programme capitalisation activities</li> </ul>
Written procedure	25 November 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Agreement on partnership change in the project SuPorts</li> </ul>
Monitoring Committee Meeting	15/16 December 2011 Warsaw, Poland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ General strategy – programme update on management issues, results of past written procedures, JTS and IP activities</li> <li>▪ Communication activities</li> <li>▪ Online reporting form</li> <li>▪ Finances – update TA budget and expenditure, national contributions, decommitment risk, control and audit, quality check</li> <li>▪ Project presentation and added value of capitalisation projects for regions – example Provincie Noord Brabant</li> <li>▪ Update on project implementation</li> <li>▪ Fourth call – methodology of the quality assessment, strategy and final approval of project proposals</li> <li>▪ Thematic programme capitalisation – thematic topics and next steps</li> <li>▪ Programming future</li> </ul>

## **2.7.2 Monitoring procedures**

As described in the 2008 Annual Report, the monitoring procedures were successfully implemented. The MC and the EC both approved the simplification of administration cost reporting on 12 November 2010 and 31 May 2011 respectively by introducing a flat rate of 12% of the partner staff costs for administration costs. Project applications to the fourth call, which closed on 1 April 2011, were already required to calculate their administration costs budget based on the simplified administration cost option. Further details on the calculation and implementation of the flat rate were outlined in the 2010 annual report.

In 2011, the programme took a major step by further simplifying and streamlining the reporting of projects. The previous standard report using an excel file format was replaced by direct on-line reporting into the programme database. The main advantages of this are as follows:

- Elimination of compatibility problems between different excel versions
- As the Lead partner can provide access to the coordinator, the finance manager and also to the partners, the completion of the form can be shared between different parties and thus accelerated
- The form is required to be fully completed before it can be sent to the JTS. The Lead Partner gets a detailed error message if there are problems. Unnecessary exchanges (for clarification purposes) and delays in the progress report approval process will be significantly reduced.

In June 2011, the programme began testing the online reporting form with three projects. Following adjustments, the system was introduced as the main reporting form for all projects at the end of 2011.

## **2.7.3 Programme documents, tools, first level control and Group of Auditors**

Since 2007, the MC, the Managing Authority, the JTS and the Audit Authority worked towards setting up a transparent and efficient management and control system. An update of the development of the main programme documents, tools, first level control system and meetings of the Group of Auditors is given below.

### **2.7.3.1 Operational programme**

The MC updated the operational programme on 9 September 2011 mainly in order to incorporate adjustments related to the inclusion the thematic programme capitalisation activities into the programme strategy. The EC however suspended the approval of the OP since

changes in the financial figures were expected with the approval of the fourth and last call for projects.

### **2.7.3.2 Rules of Procedure**

As already outlined in table 4 above, on 4 August 2011, the MC approved updated rules of procedure to clarify questions on reaching the quorum and to tighten the programme's impartiality rules.

### **2.7.3.3 Management and Control System Description**

The 'Management and Control System Description' was updated in the context of the annual control report 2010/2011. These updates concerned changes in the first level control system and in the Group of Auditors. For further details please refer to the Annual Control Report, Chapter 2.1.

### **2.7.3.4 Agreement between the EU-Member States, Norway, Switzerland, the Certifying Authority and the Managing Authority**

The Agreement between the EU-Member States, Norway, Switzerland, the Certifying Authority and the Managing Authority remained unchanged.

### **2.7.3.5 First Level Control System**

In 2006, the Commission published the then new set of Regulations for the current programming period. One of the new items in these Regulations was the introduction of Article 16 in Regulation (EC) No. 1080/2006. Some uncertainty initially existed about how to apply this article in practice and especially in a decentralized first level control system. The idea of the first level control approbation body was therefore born and proposed to the EC. The approbation body serves as single contact point towards the MA/JTS on all first level control matters. Furthermore, this body either establishes a shortlist of authorized first level control bodies or approves the first level controllers that are proposed by the project partner.

The system of decentralized first level control co-exists with the centralized first level control. An almost equal number of Member States have opted for either a centralized or a decentralized control system. Now that the INTERREG IVC management and control system has

been in place for four years, the INTERREG IVC programme decided to reconvene the INTERREG IVC First Level Control approbation bodies and centralized First Level Controllers. Two meetings on first level control were convened in 2011.

- The first took place on 17 October 2011 and brought together IVC FLC approbation bodies from 15 Member States and Norway. The aim of the meeting was twofold. Firstly, it was to initiate an exchange among the FLC approbation bodies on their different roles and practices. Secondly, it was to evaluate the current system and gather feedback on its strengths and weaknesses, which would be beneficial for the future.
- The second meeting was held on 27 October 2011 between the 15 MS. For the centralised first level controllers, the aim was the exchange on common IVC first level control challenges (such as on-the-spot vs. administrative checks, the interpretation of some European and programme rules, control documentation, lessons learnt from IVC second level audit). Additionally, it was to evaluate the current system and gather feedback on its strengths and weaknesses, which would be beneficial for the future.

Over the course of the two events it became clear that the work of First Level Control approbation bodies and centralised first level controllers includes a wide variety of tasks that goes beyond designating controllers or carrying out the first level control as per Article 16 in Regulation (EC) No. 1080/2006. In a decentralized system, the approbation bodies often function as a First Level Control helpdesk, they also provide training, take further quality assurance measures and follow-up on results of second level audits if necessary. Moreover, in addition to checking partner's expenses, first level controllers make an effort to train project partners to ensure that the first level control subsequently runs more smoothly.

Following these meetings, the EC invited Member States to regularly provide information on this diverse range of tasks included in the work of FLC approbation bodies and centralised first level controllers. From the EC's experience, such information can also be very helpful in view of programme closure procedures. The JTS therefore sent out questionnaires to Member States. The results of the questionnaires are presented in annex 04. They confirm the impression gained during the above mentioned meetings: FLC approbation bodies and centralised first level controllers undertake significant efforts to support project partners and decentralised first level controllers and to ensure an adequate quality of first level control in the interests of both the programme and Member States. For instance, to complement programme guidance, Member States reply to controllers' and project partners' questions on an ad-hoc basis, publish national guidelines and establish templates and model documents. Numerous training sessions have been organised to date (43 seminars) and quality checks have been carried out. The efforts undertaken by Member States are proportional to the

number of partners involved in INTERREG IVC, and the results from past and current second level audits indicate that neither system is superior to the other. Rather, they confirm the useful co-existence of both.

#### **2.7.3.6 Group of Auditors meeting**

The 2011 IVC Group of Auditors (GoA) meeting which took place in Luxembourg on 14 and 15 November 2011 was again a joint meeting with the representatives of the ESPON and URBACT programmes to create synergies, to avoid overlaps and to save time for the GoA members, who are mostly the same for each programme.

The meeting covered the following points:

- The audit findings from the 2011 round of audits of operations and the state of play of the follow-up were presented. The state of play of the follow-up work carried out and yet to be carried out in relation to the 2010 round of audits of operations was also presented, in particular in relation to the Dutch VAT action plan and monitoring of the UK FLC system.
- The sampling size for audits of operations to be carried out in 2012 has been set at 8% (compared to 10% last year). A complementary sample might also be taken if there is a need to increase the control rate of expenditure and geographical coverage.
- The common plenary session of the GoA meeting focused on the addition of a new step in the approval of the draft audit reports. This new step is a validation of the draft report by the Audit Authority in addition to the verification of the report by the GoA member concerned and the JTS. This verification will take place before the draft report is sent out to the project for a contradictory procedure.

The next IVC GoA meeting will take place in 2012 in Lille during the week beginning 12 November. It will again be a joint meeting with the representatives of the ESPON and URBACT programmes.

#### **2.7.3.7 Annual control report and annual opinion**

According to Article 62(1)(d)(i) of Regulation (EC) No1083/2006, the Audit Authority shall submit to the Commission an annual control report setting out the findings of the audits carried out during the previous 12-month period ending on 30 June of the year concerned in accordance with the audit strategy of the operational programme and reporting any shortcom-



ings found in the systems for the management and control of the programme. According to this article, the fourth report had to be submitted by 31 December 2011 and cover the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011. The annual control report was submitted to the EC on 22 December 2011.

Similarly, with the annual control report, the Audit Authority also delivered the annual opinion in compliance with Article 62(1)(d)(ii). The opinion expressed by the Audit Authority for the period concerned (1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011) was an unqualified one without any limitations.

#### **2.7.3.8 Audit methodology**

The Group of Auditors (GoA) meeting in Luxembourg on 14 and 15 November 2011 resulted in two amendments to the audit methodology:

- One change concerned the GoA's methodology for reviewing draft audit reports. It is now planned that the Audit Authority (AA) will intervene in more detail before the draft report is sent to the contradictory phase. Previously the AA input came after the contradictory phase. This amendment should allow time to be gained later. The GoA's rules of procedure were thus amended to reserve 5 working days for the Audit Authority's comments in addition to the 5 working days for the GoA member's and JTS' review of the draft report. The objective of this amendment is to improve the quality of the draft operations audit report.
- In addition to this amendment and specifically to address a request from the EC, the Audit Authority proposed to circulate a checklist concerning public procurement and state aid issues sometime in December 2011. All GoA members, Ernst & Young and the JTS were asked to review this checklist and ensure that the points included in it are covered within the existing checklists currently used by E&Y for the second level audits and by the programme for first level control purposes.

#### **2.7.3.9 Audit strategy**

The audit strategy was not amended in 2011.

### **2.7.3.10 System audit**

The first system audit began on 6 July 2009. The final report was approved by the French representative at the Group of Auditors Meeting on 4 November 2009, presented and discussed on 18 November 2009 during the GoA meeting in Lille 2009. The follow up on the findings was carried out between November 2009 and June 2010 in order to put into practice auditors' recommendations and revise the rating of the system. All system audit findings were closed in 2010. The system audit rating at programme level is now category 1 (= "Works well; only minor improvements needed. There are no deficiencies or only minor deficiencies. These deficiencies have no significant impact on the functioning of the key requirements / authorities / system."). The level of confidence in the system is therefore high.

### **2.7.3.11 Audits on projects**

Audits on projects in 2011 were carried out during the first semester of 2011. They revealed a total ineligible expenditure of EUR 3,298.37. Of this amount, EUR 1,568.34 related to expenditure findings detected in the random sample. The remaining EUR 1,730.03 related to findings detected in the complementary sample. The error rate relates only to the findings detected in the random sample and is 0.24% while the error rate for the complementary sample is 0.58%. Both are below the 2% tolerated by the EC.

While all follow-up work relating to findings resulting from the 2011 audits of operations is now concluded, the amounts remain to be deducted from the certification to the EC. Once this has been done, at the beginning of 2012, all findings can then be closed.

In relation to the Dutch VAT action plan, the situation is as follows:

- For one of the projects selected in the 2010 round of audits, the Dutch partner had reported VAT (EUR 3,411.26) although this partner may recover VAT. Dutch local and regional authorities are able to recover VAT through a special compensation fund. This error was considered as potentially systemic and could concern all the Dutch public partners involved in INTERREG IVC projects.
- In coordination with the Audit Authority and the Dutch First Level Control approbation body, the MA/JTS updated the information in the Dutch section of Country Specific Information on the INTERREG IVC website with the following text to reduce the probability of errors related to recoverable VAT recurring, "Dutch local and regional authorities are able to reclaim VAT from a Compensation Fund. This has existed since

the start of the programming period and even before. VAT does not constitute eligible expenditure unless it is genuinely and definitively borne by the partner. VAT which is recoverable by whatever means cannot be considered as eligible even if it is not actually recovered by the partner.”

- Furthermore, in coordination with the Audit Authority and the Dutch First Level Control approbation body, the MA/JTS compiled a list of all Dutch partners of approved projects classified as local and regional public authorities and contacted them to submit a VAT specific partner control confirmation signed by the first level controllers. All listed partners have submitted the VAT specific partner control confirmation.
- The Dutch FLC approbation body as well as the JTS are expected to continue to ensure Dutch project partners are aware of the ineligibility of VAT recoverable from the VAT compensation fund. Future audits on Dutch project partners will allow the Audit Authority to verify that the inclusion of recoverable VAT for Dutch partners no longer persists.

In relation to the follow-up of the UK FLC system the situation is as follows:

- For one of the projects selected in the 2010 round of audits, second level expenditure findings challenged the quality of FLC controls. In the 2010 annual control report, it was stated that remedial action has to be followed up by monitoring the quality of the FLC system in the UK in view of upcoming audits of operations.
- It was confirmed that the FLC concerned by the finding was not involved in any other project for INTERREG IVC. Furthermore, insofar as monitoring the quality of the UK FLC system is concerned, the following should be noted: The results of a CA quality check carried out on the UK LP of the RAPIDE project reported a total EUR 48.89 ineligible i.e. 0.01% of expenditure covered by the quality check.
- In order to have additional assurance on the proper functioning of the system, further measures were stipulated by the Audit Authority. In particular, the UK FLC approbation body was asked to verify the work carried out by two UK first level controllers through a quality check on two project partners selected by the Audit Authority. As the external audit company assisting the Group of Auditors, E&Y will be in charge of then verifying this quality check to give certainty to the FLC approbation body on the method used for future quality checks.

Concerning the sampling method for the audit of operations taking place in 2012 it was decided that an 8% sample would be drawn for audits of operations as opposed to the 10% sample that was drawn for previous audits in 2011 and 15% in 2010. The lowering of the rate reflects the good audit results of the two previous years. Additionally, in order to guarantee a

sufficient geographical coverage and a sufficient control rate of expenditure additional operations might be selected for an audit by way of a complementary sample. In both samples, for each operation selected, the LP is automatically selected and another partner is then selected randomly.

The IVC programme undertook the last certification for 2011 on 31 October 2011. Data which forms the basis for drawing the sample was forwarded to the AA on 7 November 2011. The sample was agreed by the GoA at the beginning of 2012. Audits can be carried out from January onwards. Results of the audits of operations (incl. contradictory phase) will be finalised by 30 June 2012.

According to the sampling data submitted to the AA by the JTS, 122 operations had their expenditure certified in 2011. A minimum of 10 projects will thus be audited i.e. 8%. In total, at least 10 LPs + 10 project partners will be checked (+ a complementary sample if decided).

#### **2.7.3.12 Application Pack**

In preparation of the fourth and probably last open Call, the application pack, which includes the terms of reference, the programme manual, the application form, the co-financing statement, was last updated in 2010. Details are available in the 2010 Annual Report.

#### **2.7.3.13 Subsidy contract**

The subsidy contract was updated during the MC meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, on 4 and 5 November 2009. No further update was carried out in 2010 and 2011.

#### **2.7.3.14 Partnership Agreement**

The partnership agreement template as developed during 2008 remained unchanged.

#### **2.7.3.15 Database System**

From the start of the INTERREG IVC programme the MA/JTS had developed an efficient database system, which has become the core tool for the management of project applications and running projects. A general description of the functions was given in the 2009 Annual

Report. As described in section 2.7.2, an important change from the excel format to an online reporting format was introduced. Further improvements of functions and new exportable data were also made available.

#### **2.7.4 Thematic programme capitalisation**

By 2009, the Member States had realised that there was a need for further reflection on the state of play of the programme before rushing into the next calls. In addition to the decision to carry out a programme evaluation (see section 2.7.5 below) it was also decided to have a deeper thematic analysis of the running projects. Based on a proposal made by the JTS during MC meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, on 4 and 5 November 2009, the MC agreed to carry out an experiment on thematic capitalisation in the subtheme 'Innovation, Research & Technology Development'. Further information was provided in the annual report 2010.

The outcome of the analysis revealed that there were indeed numerous common issues tackled by the projects (i.e. commercialisation of new ideas, enhancing relations between universities and enterprises, supporting start-ups and involving key stakeholders) which could be the building blocks of further mutual learning and capitalisation. Project representatives involved had also expressed their interest in participating in future capitalisation activities. The final report of the experiment (including further recommendations) and the fact sheets of the 21 involved projects are available for download from the Programme website [http://i4c.eu/focus\\_capitalisation\\_sept10.html](http://i4c.eu/focus_capitalisation_sept10.html).

In its meeting on 28 and 29 June 2010, the Monitoring Committee agreed that the generalisation of the capitalisation experiment i.e. extension to other sub-themes (thematic sub-objectives under a given programme priority) should be carried out and gave the JTS the mandate to elaborate a further detailed proposal on future steps. This proposal was presented during the MC meeting in Budapest, Hungary, on 2 February 2011. During this meeting the Member States agreed on the principles of programme capitalisation. They however asked the JTS to undertake further work on the detailed proposal in relation to implementation and financing.

During the meeting of the Monitoring Committee in Oslo/Norway on 15 and 16 June 2011 the Member States agreed to start the programme's thematic capitalisation activities and to reinforce the JTS with one additional position, the programme capitalisation officer, whose responsibility is to implement and follow-up on programme capitalisation activities. Details of

the agreed programme capitalisation concept are attached in annex 05. The budget provided was limited to EUR 984,000 to capitalise on a maximum of 12 topics for a period of two years. An extension until mid 2015 would be possible after an additional decision of the Monitoring Committee.

It was further decided that a stakeholder group composed of MC Members, national experts, JTS/IPs, external experts and interested EC experts for each topic should be formed. These groups should follow, monitor and contribute, within the overall framework, their ideas to the thematic capitalisation process. The Stakeholder group will be included in the relevant information flow between JTS/IPs and external expert and it will be invited to internal meetings, workshops, project visits and thematic conferences.

### **2.7.5 Programme evaluation**

During the meetings in Prague, Czech Republic, on 14 and 15 May 2009 and further in Stockholm, Sweden, on 4 and 5 November 2009, the MC decided to carry out a programme evaluation before committing any of the remaining funds. A task force on programme evaluation was set up and met in Brussels, Belgium, on 2 March 2010 to propose an evaluation plan, content and schedule. These proposals were approved by the MC in a written procedure on 26 March 2010.

The evaluation plan proposes that an intermediate programme evaluation should be carried out during 2010, with a budget of EUR 114,000. An additional evaluation is planned during 2012 with a maximum budget of EUR 57,000.

The draft final report dated 4 October 2010 was presented, discussed and endorsed with some minor requests for adjustments during the MC meeting in Bern on 25 and 26 October 2010. The final document was delivered on 10 November 2010 and is available for download on the programme website [http://i4c.eu/about\\_the\\_programme\\_evaluation.zip](http://i4c.eu/about_the_programme_evaluation.zip).

Summarising, the evaluators came to the following conclusions:

- *The strategic-level objectives (overall, thematic & horizontal objectives) and the operational objectives for the sub-themes remain in general valid in a medium-term perspective despite the major changes which occurred since 2008 in the wider socio-*

*economic context. Due to this, there is no need to revise the current main programme orientations.*

- *The delivery of the programme management and implementation tasks is well under way and most of the initial targets will be achieved or even surpassed by the end of the programming period.*
- *The “Communication Strategy” concerns all aspects which are important for the INTERREG IVC programme.*
- *The recently initiated experimentation on programme-level capitalisation can be considered successful, although not all of the initial objectives were fully met in the final outcome.*
- *Seen as a whole, we consider the overall volume of resources for Technical Assistance (TA) as being sufficient for an effective implementation of the INTERREG IVC programme. However, for the TA-heading “staff”, more funding is needed at the JTS-level.*
- *Our horizontal analysis of the current project portfolio revealed imbalances:*
  - *in the coverage of the ten priority-level sub-themes,*
  - *in the geographical representation of countries,*
  - *between the main types of operations supported (i.e. regional initiative & capitalisation projects) as well as between the specific sub-types of operations (i.e. normal regional initiative projects / mini-programmes & simple capitalisation / fast track capitalisation projects).*
- *As regards the “expected” outputs/results achieved by the currently approved projects, one can observe a positive performance under the Priorities 1 and 2 of the INTERREG IVC programme by the end of 2009.*
- *Most projects also generate “additional and unexpected outcomes” which originate in general from synergy effects and creative processes.*
- *The currently approved projects are coherent with the wider objectives of the INTERREG IVC programme.*

- *A new interregional co-operation programme should actively contribute - within the limits of its future means and possibilities - to achieve the Treaty's new territorial cohesion objective. It should also be focused on the three mutually reinforcing priorities of the "Europe 2020 Strategy" (i.e. smart, sustainable and inclusive growth) and maintain the current high level of EU-support for interregional co-operation projects (i.e. 75 % & 85 %).*

Furthermore, the evaluators presented 18 recommendations. Further details were provided in the 2010 annual report.

During the meeting in Budapest on 2 February 2011, the Monitoring Committee made follow-up decisions on the recommendations made by the evaluators. Details are provided in annex 06.

#### **2.7.6 Future programme**

Based on the recommendations of the programme evaluation and additional preliminary ideas from the JTS on the possible adjusted strategy of a future programme, the Member States held preliminary discussions during the Monitoring Committee in Oslo on 15 and 16 June 2011. Without prejudice to the decision rights of a future programming committee, the following proposals were regarded rather positively in the group discussions:

##### **2.7.6.1 Compulsory mainstreaming component**

The current two types of interventions are closely related, since Capitalisation Projects can be considered to be a specific type of Regional Initiative Project. To simplify the programme, there should only be a single type of project in the future. This would have similar features to the current Regional Initiative Project with one additional mandatory characteristic: a mainstreaming component to better ensure the wider impact of the exchange of experience. Following the approach adopted for Capitalisation Projects, this component would ultimately lead to the production of an action plan per region. This action plan would need to be politically endorsed so as to ensure, as much as possible, its binding character.



### **2.7.6.2 Two step implementation**

This idea is to go further than allowed for by current measures in terms of impact monitoring. Future projects could consist of two main phases. The first phase would relate to the normal exchange of experience process for two to three years, as is already the case in the current programme. A second phase would be introduced to monitor the impact of the networking activities and in particular the implementation of the action plans. Within this second phase, which could last between one and two years, the interregional cooperation programme would only finance 'light-touch' monitoring of the actions undertaken in each region to implement the lessons learnt from the cooperation. This would still be on the basis of the Lead Partner principle even if no major interregional activities are carried out during this second phase. The approach would give a systematic insight into the mid- or even long-term effects of inter-regional cooperation.

### **2.7.6.3 Support letter requirement**

In order to better focus on public decision-makers and consequently ensure coherence with the 'regional strategy', letters of support from the relevant regional policymakers should be submitted together with the applications each time the region represented in the project is not directly represented by these policy makers. This requirement would be feasible only if the policies addressed by the project are much more precisely defined in the application. This would mean that each region represented in a project would be asked to specify which policy is addressed and which regional organisation is in charge of this policy. In cases where the partner involved is not this organisation, a letter of support would need to be provided from that organisation. The National Contact Point would also have a stronger role in advising applicants on this issue as well as in carrying out a policy relevance check based on the information provided in the application.

### **2.7.6.4 Priorities of EU 2020 Strategy**

Since, at the time of the meeting, the EU had already issued its EU2020 Strategy, a possible future interregional cooperation programme would have to focus on the themes contained in this strategy.

### **2.7.6.5 An additional priority on governance issues**

Even before the draft regulations were published, the Member States had indicated their support for integrating a priority on governance issues into a future programme; for the reason that territorial cohesion is obtained through a reinforced territorial dimension in the design and implementation of public policies at all levels. Such a dimension would allow exchange on: process-related matters (e.g. regarding the way regions manage their own regional OP and/or the monitoring/evaluation of their policies or the way they design regional strategies); exchange on governance and planning; and exchange between urban, peri-urban and rural areas.

### **2.7.6.6 Support management of interregional cooperation projects from Regional Operational Programmes**

The goal of this proposal is to create closer links between the interregional cooperation programme and the cooperation that regions are able to engage in independently. At the moment a number of regional programmes have the funds and the option to support interregional cooperation projects within their regional programme, however, many do not have the knowledge and tools to do so effectively. INTERREG IVC has tried and tested tools which could be offered to these regional programmes for this purpose.

### **2.7.6.7 Support to EU2020 thematic networks**

Regions and/or MAs will be invited in the future programme period to select a number of thematic objectives from those set out in the EU2020 strategy. This would automatically lead to the emergence of networks of Regions concerned with similar issues. A formal organisation of such “clubs” of Regions or ROP MAs could lead them to develop interregional cooperation and appeal to the network for support with methods, tools and partner search. The approach adopted within INTERREG IVC for thematic programme capitalisation could form a basis for the organisation of these large networks.

#### **2.7.6.8 Other ideas**

The Member States presented the following additional ideas:

- A spatial planning principle and a stronger link with the territorial agenda should be considered. A territorial evidence based programming and project development process with possible links to tools developed by the ESPON programme were proposed.
- Relevant private organisations could receive financing if support letters as outlined above under point 2.7.6.3 were provided - it would allow, for example, chambers of commerce to participate in the programme, even if their status is regarded in some countries as private.
- A further pre-selection of project ideas is to be considered.

During the MC meeting in Warsaw on 15 and 16 December 2011, the Member States also agreed to hold the first task force meeting on the future programming in spring 2012.

### 3 Implementation by priority

#### 3.1 Priorities 1 and 2

##### 3.1.1 Information on the physical progress

It should be noted that certain figures reported in the 2011 column of the performance table in annex 01 reflect only the **first semester of 2011**. This is the case for all the indicators related to each project's implementation since they were extracted from the progress report submitted by the 122 first, second and third call projects in October 2011.

#### - Commitment of funds

**Table 6: Commitment of funds to projects (as of 15 May 2012)**

Priority/Sub theme	ERDF committed to projects (in EUR)	Programme Budget (in EUR)	% of programme budget
<b>1. Innovation and the knowledge economy:</b>	<b>180,748,090.81</b>	<b>176,726,969.00</b>	<b>102,3%</b>
• Employment, human capital and education	28,893,933.35	N/A	N/A
• Entrepreneurship and SMEs	62,678,458.18	N/A	N/A
• Information society	28,974,645.66	N/A	N/A
• Innovation, research and technology development	59,751,618.10	N/A	N/A
• Thematic programme capitalisation	449,435.52	N/A	N/A
<b>2. Environment and risk prevention:</b>	<b>131,581,105.60</b>	<b>125,315,487.00</b>	<b>105%</b>
• <i>Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage, air quality</i>	10,599,034.61	N/A	N/A
• <i>Cultural heritage and landscape</i>	15,181,758.43	N/A	N/A
• <i>Energy and sustainable transport</i>	61,185,997.12	N/A	N/A
• <i>Natural and technological risks (including climate change)</i>	21,570,912.81	N/A	N/A
• <i>Waste management</i>	7,824,446.21	N/A	N/A
• <i>Water management</i>	14,943,495.94	N/A	N/A
• <i>Thematic programme capitalisation</i>	275,460.48	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>312,329,196.41</b>	<b>302,042,456.00</b>	<b>102,3%</b>

As highlighted in the 2011 Annual Report, during its meeting in November 2010, the Monitoring Committee decided to organise a fourth call for proposals dedicated to Regional Initiative Projects (excluding mini-programmes since the time required for a full implementation of this type of project was no longer available). Capitalisation Projects were not relevant to this call since it would be too late for these projects to influence the 2007-2013 Structural Funds programmes.

This fourth call was launched on 1 December 2010 and closed on 1 April 2011. The Monitoring Committee members decided on the following specific features for this call:

- No thematic restrictions (all sub-themes were open)
- The entire remaining ERDF budget was made available (around 100 MEUR)
- An obligation for each region to prepare an 'implementation plan' at the end of the cooperation
- A new eligibility rule related to geographical coverage. Specifically, 'the four Information Points areas as well as at least 1 'new' Member State have to be represented in the partnership'.

Concerning the eligibility assessment, the Monitoring Committee rejected a proposal to make the rules of the fourth call more flexible (i.e. applications with only one incorrect co-financing statement would still be declared eligible).

In 2011, the JTS Project Officers team together with the Information Points were mainly occupied with the assessment of fourth call applications. This period was particularly challenging since the regular monitoring of Progress Reports (115 reports submitted in April 2011 and 122 in October 2011) had to be carried out at the same time.

- Out of 355 applications submitted during the fourth call, 306 (86.2%) were eligible and 82 were finally approved with conditions by the Monitoring Committee during its meeting on 15 December 2011 in Warsaw. On that occasion, and as reflected in table 6, the Managing Authority agreed to slightly over-commit the programme's funds. This over commitment is reflected in the last column of table 6 above. It should also be highlighted that, even after the result of the fourth call, and with the slight over commitment of funds, the shares of programme funds allocated to the two priorities are almost perfectly equal to the shares of funds committed after the three first calls. A more qualitative overview of the fourth call results can be found in annex 07.

## - **Changes in running projects**

In 2011, the number of requests for changes approved by the JTS increased compared with the 52 requests processed in 2010. Indeed, 75 requests (related to 99 changes as one request can cover more than one change) were approved from 63 different projects (see full overview in annex 08). This increase is due to the fact that the changes are now requested from projects from three different calls for proposals, i.e. 35 first call projects (excluded the capitalisation projects that are now closed), 74 second call projects and 7 third call projects. All four types of changes occurred in 2011: Partnership, Budget/Finances, Duration and Activities.

The percentage of change requests relating to **partnership** decreased from 86% in 2010 to 47% in 2011. This trend is logical and reflects the life cycles of the projects. More and more projects are now closed or are in their finalisation phase, and it is towards the end of the cooperation that changes related to duration or budget are requested. Despite this decrease, the partnership changes still account for nearly half of all the changes. The reasons for partnership changes are varied and include:

- Internal organisational change (e.g. election, restructuration, merger between two organisations),
- Lack of commitment (i.e. 'sleeping' partner),
- Financial difficulties due to the financial crisis,
- Integration of organisations that were initially considered as 'sub-partners' by the project.

Accounting for 23% of all requests, changes in **duration** increased compared with previous years. Extensions of project duration were mainly requested by first call Regional Initiative Projects (22 requests). An increase of requests for changes in respect of **budgets** is also noteworthy (24% of the requests). These changes are always made in compliance with the 20% flexibility rule stipulated in the subsidy contract. Again, these changes occurred mainly to first call projects (20 requests) and second call Capitalisation Projects (4 requests out of 7 projects). Again, this development in the nature of the requests for changes is, as mentioned above, logical, considering the stage of implementation of the projects. In particular, the first call Regional Initiative Projects and the second call Capitalisation Projects were finalising their activities in 2011.

Finally, 5 'one-off' changes in **activities** were approved for the following projects: REGIOCLIMA, PASE, PRoMPt, IMMODI, ORGANZA.

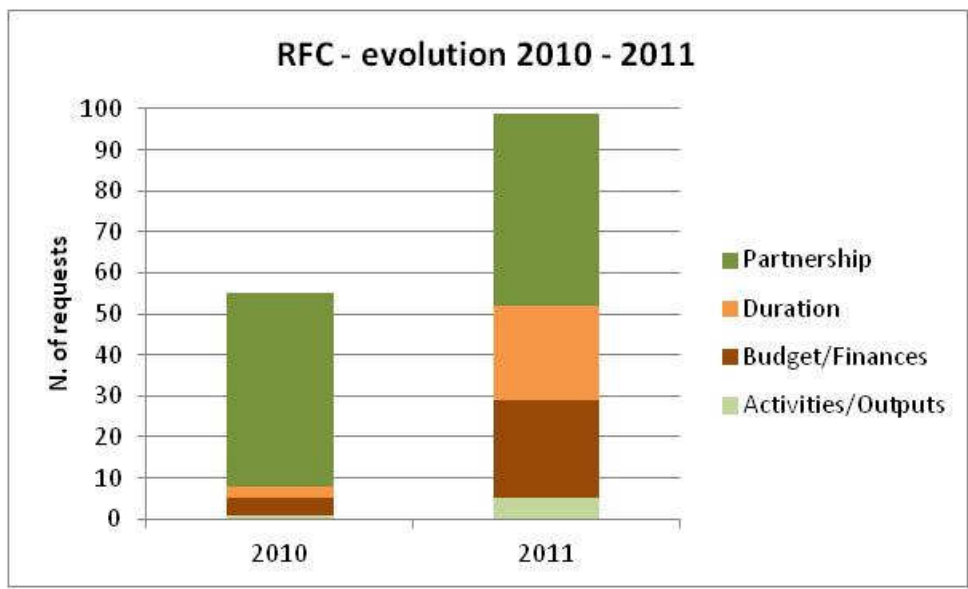
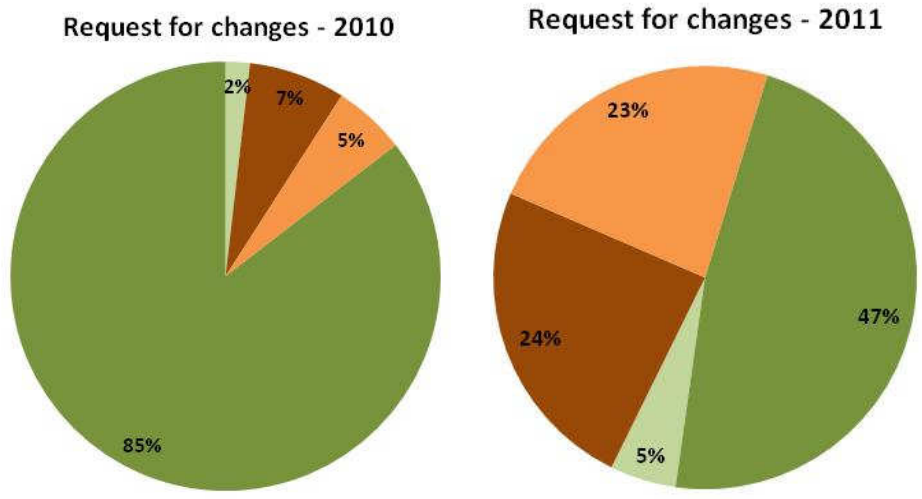
In the vast majority of cases, changes in activities are tackled through the deviation section of the progress reports. When changes in activities entail more significant modifications to the work plan and budget, it may be decided, for reasons of transparency, and in agreement with the finance team, to proceed to an official request for change. However, it is important to note that these changes had no impact on the core objectives of the projects concerned.

In Article 5.1 of the Agreement between the Member States, the Managing Authority and the Certifying Authority, the Monitoring Committee (MC) gave the JTS the mandate to approve the following changes:

- the modification of a partnership, the withdrawal or replacement of up to two partners, or if more, up to 10 % of the partners in a project,
- a reallocation of the budget by up to 20 % of total costs as stated in the approved application,
- changes in activities which do not change the aim of the project,
- an extension of the duration of the project not extending the programme deadline.

As all changes except one were within the limits mentioned above, they were approved by the JTS. Each MC meeting was an opportunity to keep the MC informed about these changes (i.e. meetings in Oslo, Norway, on 15 June 2011 and in Warsaw, Poland, on 15 December 2011). The only change that went beyond the JTS mandate was requested by the SuPorts project, which had to change 3 partners. This change was approved through written procedure on 5 December 2011.

The following pie charts and graph show the developments in the nature of the requests for changes from 2010 to 2011. Confirming the information provided above, the total number of requests increased. However, requests for changes in partnership decreased compared to 2010, whereas requests for extension of duration and changes in budget/finances significantly increased. Changes in activities/outputs still represent the smallest proportion of the changes.



**3.1.2 Qualitative analysis**

The main features of all running projects (i.e. sub-theme tackled, partnership, budget committed and brief description of the projects activities) are available on the ‘approved projects’ database on the programme website: [www.interreg4c.eu/approved\\_projects.html](http://www.interreg4c.eu/approved_projects.html)

All details related to the project’s achievements (outputs and results) can be found in the INTERREG IVC monitoring database (<http://db.interreg4c.eu>). In particular, the information provided for all results indicators (e.g. details on good practices transferred, policies improved, spin-off activities) are available in the progress reports as well as in data included in clarification forms. Most of the illustrations provided in this qualitative analysis are extracted from this monitoring database.



INTERREG IVC is one of the rare ETC programmes which is based on a coherent intervention logic with a fully integrated monitoring system (i.e. indicators described in the Operational Programme used to assess the achievement of the programme's objectives are reflected in the application form of all the projects and are also included in the progress reports submitted by these projects). Such a system provides a fairly good picture of the programme's achievements and success, as reflected in the present chapter.

**One of the main outcomes of the following qualitative analysis is that, compared with the previous Annual Reports, the programme is starting to reach critical mass in terms of its achievements (e.g. 3,596 staff members with increased capacity, 110 good practices transferred, 102 policies improved, 88 spin-off activities). This demonstrates the usefulness and leverage effect of INTERREG IVC which, financial speaking, represents only 0.1% of the cohesion policy budget.**

A new initiative was also developed in 2011 with regard to the analysis of the projects' results. The idea is to try to form a geographical picture of these results by locating them per country. For some results, which are not always precisely located (e.g. staff with increased capacity, spin-off activities), this geographical allocation had to be carried out based on a certain number of assumptions (e.g. for the staff members with increased capacity, the total number was equally shared among the partners involved). This work resulted in the table presented in annex 09. From now on, this table will be regularly updated. An earlier version of the document was also presented to the Monitoring Committee meeting of December 2011 in Warsaw. Several Member States highlighted the importance of this table in particular for demonstrating the usefulness and practical nature of the outcomes of interregional cooperation in their country. This table complements the qualitative analysis below.

#### **Important information regarding the qualitative analysis**

Before going into the details of the analysis, the following four points, which show the challenging character of evaluating the INTERREG IVC achievements, need to be taken into consideration:

1. The first remark relates to the **characteristics of the data** exploited in this qualitative analysis. In order to avoid any misunderstanding for the reader, a certain number of points are usefully emphasised.

The figures on which this analysis is based are a mix between 'static' figures taken from the original 204 application forms (e.g. 'number of regional/local policies addressed', 'number of public authorities involved') and more 'dynamic' figures reported in the progress reports received from the first, second and third call running projects (e.g. 'number of interregional events organised', 'number of good practices identified'). As far as the 'static' picture is concerned, the data provided in this report is more or less final since all funds were committed in 2011 to 204 projects (from now on, this picture will change only slightly, in particular due to partnership changes). This makes this Annual Report particularly interesting compared with previous reports, in which the picture was still only a partial one.

In order to avoid any '**statistical bias**', when a figure reported by a project is significantly different to the reported all-project average (also taking into consideration the project characteristics, such as whether it is mini-programme, and although this figure was carefully checked by the officers in charge of the project), this 'outlier' was often removed and not included in the totals reported as 2011 achievements. This procedure applies mainly to the indicators of component 2 (communication related indicators) but not to the three core result indicators of component 3 (i.e. good practices transferred, policies improved and spin-offs activities) which are subject to a particular procedure within the programme (in particular with regard to harmonisation as explained in the third bullet point below).

Last but not least, this analysis takes into consideration the reports submitted up to October 2011 (i.e. sixth report of first call projects and third progress report of second call projects and second report of third call projects). In other words, due to the time gap of the reporting procedures, only the **activities carried out and results achieved up to June 2011** are covered in this analysis. In addition, the qualitative information (in particular the results reported within component 3) comes almost exclusively from the first two calls' projects. This means that this information (e.g. total number of policies improved, good practices transferred) relate to 115 running projects (and not 204).

2. The second remark refers to the **diversity of information** to be exploited. Despite its simple structure into two thematic priorities and the fact that all running projects have in common their strategic approach and objective to improve regional/local policies and instruments, there is still a high heterogeneity of the projects supported within INTERREG IVC. This heterogeneity has multiple sources:

- In terms of thematic focus

The programme supports a wide diversity of projects even under the same sub-theme. These sub-themes are indeed broadly defined in the Operational Programme. For instance, in the sub-theme 'Innovation, Research and Technology Development', and even if all running projects under this sub-theme are related to regional innovation policies, certain projects have a purely sectoral focus (e.g. NANO4M on nanotechnology, I4W on health and safety, ChemClust on chemical industry); others have a particular focus on a certain aspect of innovation policies (e.g. POOLING4CLUSTERS focusing on cluster policies, CLIQ on the participation of civil society in the Quadruple Helix system); finally, some others like PERIA, which exchanges experience on the interrelation between the regional innovation agencies and their respective regional authorities, have a more process-oriented focus.

- In terms of partners

First, all territorial levels are eligible within the programme. It goes from the local level (municipalities, cities, districts), to the regional level (counties, provinces, regions) up to the national level. Second, the partners can be of different nature (e.g. public authorities or bodies governed by public law such as associations, academic organisations, development / environment agencies, business support organisations).

- In terms of intensity of cooperation

Beyond the traditional 'networking' projects, INTERREG IVC allows a variety of approaches and activities such as pilot actions or sub-projects (in mini-programmes).

Even if this flexibility contributes to the programme's richness, it also makes the consolidation of results much more complex. This has to be taken into consideration when analysing the results achieved by the programme through the available quantitative data.

In this context, in 2012 the INTERREG IVC programme will launch thematic capitalisation activities at programme level, which should also contribute to a better exploitation of programme results from the thematic point of view.

3. Third, the indicators on which the projects have to report every six months can sometimes be subject to **different interpretations**. This issue is compounded by the diversity described above (the interpretation of an indicator may differ according to the characteristics of the project and in particular the issue tackled). The notion of 'good practice' for instance is rather broad and can refer to different realities depending on the project. Similarly, a policy document or a regional instrument can

be interpreted differently. This is true at project level but also at programme level. To tackle this challenge, the seriousness in checking the information provided in the progress report is crucial. It is estimated that, in terms of project monitoring, more than half of the time of the Project Officers is devoted to checking the indicators and their justification. The justification provided for the core result indicators are usually insufficient and the programme has to go back to the Lead Partners for further clarifications. In most cases, this means that, at the end of the clarification process the figure reported under these indicators is removed or at least reduced. The example of ESF 6CIA (first call Capitalisation Projects) is a good example of this demanding process. The amount of mainstream funds allocated to the implementation of good practices was initially estimated at EUR 158 million for the Bulgarian partner in the final report. After numerous exchanges with the Lead Partner, it was finally agreed to reduce this amount to EUR 51.3 million. Apart from this individual monitoring, the following measures were also developed in 2011 to ensure a better harmonisation of result monitoring:

- Taking into consideration the experience gained in monitoring indicators, the programme regularly improves the definition of the indicators in annex 3 of the programme manual. In the most recent version of the manual, the differences between the practice level and the policy level (version to be approved in 2012) is also explained with concrete examples provided.
- At the end of 2011, a new format for the Lead Partner Seminar (which took place in January 2012 for the 82 fourth call projects) was introduced. In addition to the plenary sessions, parallel workshops, which include practical exercises on indicators of components 2 and 3, were included. One of the aims was to raise the Lead Partners' awareness as early as possible on the importance of these indicators and the necessity to precisely understand them.
- Last but not least, the results reported under the two core indicators (i.e. good practices transferred and policies improved) are usually checked by more than one person. The most interesting and tricky cases are also presented during the weekly Project Team meeting in order to ensure a learning process among the officers regarding how to monitor these core achievements.

4. The last remark refers to the **limits of the monitoring system**. The present qualitative analysis is based on the monitoring and evaluation system as described in section 6.3 and annex 2 of the Operational Programme. Despite its qualities, this system does not provide an exhaustive picture of the programme's achievements. First, the evaluation of project results stops at the end of the programme's funding although a significant part of the results often occurs after the exchange of experience has taken place (see the examples below of ERIK ACTION and RAPIDE). Second, and apart from a few indicators (e.g. staff members with increased capacity, spin-off activities), this system only partly reflects the 'social capital' generated from cooperation activities (see chapter 4 of the INTERACT 'study on indicators for monitoring transnational and interregional cooperation programmes', March 2006<sup>1</sup>). This second issue relates more generally to the complexity of monitoring intangible but real achievements resulting from networking activities. These intangible outcomes should nevertheless not be underestimated and can take different forms such as:

- changes in way of thinking on local problems through European awareness,
- contribution to creativity and innovation,
- better international visibility of actors and regions,
- new cooperation between organisations that would normally compete.

The programme is able to identify some of these outcomes through information provided in the reports (in particular under the spin-off activities) or during the final conference. A few examples are also provided below.

Concerning social capital, it is interesting to note that certain projects (e.g. CLIQ) have considered developing measures to more officially validate the increased capacity of the staff involved in the cooperation. Similarly, the approach of SCINNOPOLI to assess the additional competences of the people involved in the project is worth mentioning (see illustration provided for 'staff with increased capacity' under the second programme objective of this qualitative analysis).

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.interact-eu.net/mint/pepper/orderedlist/downloads/download.php?file=http%3A//www.interact-eu.net/downloads/152/Study\\_on\\_Indicators\\_for\\_Monitoring\\_Transnational\\_and\\_Interregional\\_Cooperation\\_Programmes.pdf](http://www.interact-eu.net/mint/pepper/orderedlist/downloads/download.php?file=http%3A//www.interact-eu.net/downloads/152/Study_on_Indicators_for_Monitoring_Transnational_and_Interregional_Cooperation_Programmes.pdf)

### 3.1.2.1 Programme Objective: Improvement of regional and local policies

This objective is at the heart of the INTERREG IVC programme. It is the core objective that all 204 running projects are designed to achieve. As highlighted above, the achievement of this objective has significantly progressed compared with last year's annual report in which 50 improved policies were reported.

A total of 2,024 regional and local policies are addressed by the 204 running projects. The approval of fourth call projects in December 2011 had no impact on the average number of policies addressed per project which remains at '10'. This total figure of policies addressed is closely related to the total number of regions represented in these projects, which is logical since by definition projects address the policy field in question in each of the partners' regions (e.g. innovation capacity of SMEs, broadband connection in rural areas, sustainable transport, and waste management). In other words, at project level, the number of policies addressed corresponds in most cases to the number of regions represented in the project (taking into consideration that a single region can be represented by more than one partner). What is more important to highlight is that the total figure of policies addressed by far exceeds the initial target figure indicated in the operational programme (i.e. 750). This can be explained, on the one hand, by an underestimation of this figure initially and, on the other hand, by the fact that the average number of partners per project is higher than initially expected.

In terms of results, 34 projects (26 from the first call and 8 from the second call) have already demonstrated that they directly contributed to the **improvement of 102 regional or local policies** in the following areas of regional development:

- 67 policies improved in Priority 1: Innovation and the knowledge economy
  - 31 under 'Innovation, research and technology development'
  - 19 under 'Entrepreneurship and SMEs'
  - 12 under 'Information Society'
  - 5 under 'Employment, human capital and education'
- 35 policies improved in Priority 2: Environment and risk prevention
  - 14 under 'Natural and technological risks; climate change'
  - 3 under 'Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage'
  - 17 under 'Energy and sustainable transport'
  - 1 under 'Cultural heritage & landscape'

90% of these policies improved (91 out of 102) were demonstrated by first call projects. This is logical considering that the long-term effects of project cooperation can only be seen towards its latter stages. This statistic is also very encouraging for the future. If one considers the number of first call projects (41), the above achievements mean an average of 2.2 policies improved per project, which could lead, with 204 projects, to more than 400 policies improved by the end of the programme. This would by far exceed the Operational Programme's target value of 150 improved policies.

Another important point to mention in comparison with the previous annual report is the progress achieved under the programme's second priority. Only 8 policies related to the 'environment and risk prevention' priority were reported in 2010. By 30 June, this priority had generated 35 improved policies, which represents an increase of more than 400%. Hopefully, the first policy achievements in the fields of water and waste management (where only few projects are approved), will also be reported in the next annual report.

The 6 first call Capitalisation Projects have reported very good results in terms of policy improvement as highlighted in the previous Annual Report. Within Capitalisation Projects, the successful production and signature of an action plan is not sufficient to consider the policy of a region as improved. The first call Capitalisation Projects had a tendency to confuse the successful production of an action plan with the improvement of policy. In fact, a regional policy was only considered as improved in the two following cases:

1. when a structural change occurs and has a long-term effect (e.g. the modification of a policy document such as the Structural Funds Regional Operational Programmes),
2. when at least the level 2 of the implementation stage (see page 4 of the project's final report) is reached (meaning that the first measures to implement the action plan must have started).

Despite this demanding approach, these 6 projects generated 34 improved policies out of the 56 addressed. In other words, more than 60 % of the policies tackled by the first call Capitalisation Projects were finally improved thanks to the two-year cooperation project. This can be considered as a remarkable achievement of the programme.

Even if the programme closely monitors how many policies were influenced (e.g. how many policy instruments were modified) as a direct result of the exchange of experience, the ultimate impact of these policy changes on the territory of the partners concerned (e.g. number of new patents created; number of new firms created; number of new jobs created; reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; number of tons of freight traffic withdrawn from the road, etc.)

is rarely known since these impacts only occur when the policies are subsequently implemented. The fact that a policy was modified is nevertheless regarded as a success within the programme for the reason that the policymakers concerned do not modify a policy without expecting to obtain clear benefits.

Compared with the previous Annual Report, new interesting developments were identified from two first call Capitalisation Projects:

## **1. ERIK ACTION**

Within the context of the project, partner 5 (Bretagne Innovation, FR) has imported three practices and among them 'Innovation Assistance', imported from Lower Austria (AT), and Fabrica Ethica, from the Tuscany region (IT). These two transfers had further policy impact in the French region, as described below.

The Innovation Assistance was first imported as an initiative called 'Innov'acteur'. This initiative was so successful that it has now become a core programme of the Regional Innovation Strategy under the acronym 'SIDE' ([www.bdi.fr/notre-action/programmes](http://www.bdi.fr/notre-action/programmes)). This programme is managed by Bretagne Développement Innovation (created through the merger of Bretagne Innovation and the Regional Development Agency in 2011). It is developed within the Regional Innovation Network (150 business advisers from more than 40 organisations) and is the backbone of the regional innovation system in Bretagne. It is co-financed by ERDF through the Regional Operational Programme.

The Fabrica Ethica practice has also led to a structural change in the Bretagne region. Thanks to this first experience gained through policy transfer and the long-standing willingness of the Regional Council to develop 'social innovation' expertise in the territory, a dedicated team in charge of developing a strategy on social innovation and Corporate Social Responsibility has now been created within Bretagne Développement Innovation. This strategy will be fully integrated into the region's future Smart Specialisation Strategy: 'Regional Strategy for Development and Innovation' (Stratégie Régionale de Développement et d'Innovation, SRDEI).

## **2. RAPIDE**

Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP) approaches were among the good practices transferred within this project. PCP is actively promoted by DG Enterprise as a new way to foster innovation. Through PCP, public procurers can drive innovation from the demand side. This enables European public authorities to innovate faster in the provision of public services and creates opportunities for companies in Europe to take in-



ternational leadership into new markets. According to the EC, reducing time to market by developing a strong European home market for innovative products and services is key to Europe's creating growth and jobs. Thanks to the RAPIDE project, the Észak-Alföld Region (partner 12) is the first region in the new Member States that has attempted to implement a PCP approach and the first in the whole EU in which such an approach has been implemented through its Regional Operational Programme.

It should be noted that the above developments were identified only by chance. It was through the participation of the JTS in certain events that it was possible to obtain this information. This demonstrates the limits of the current monitoring system. In order to more precisely estimate the level of achievements after the cooperation projects, the programme may in future launch an 'ex post' evaluation of the six first call Capitalisation Projects.

Some examples of policy improvements achieved since the last Annual Report are provided below.

- **Priority 1 - Sub-theme 'Innovation, research and technology development'**

**MINI EUROPE** on infrastructures for innovation support to SMEs

<http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53358>

The two following policy improvements can be noted:

- For partner 4 (Maramures County Council, RO), the interregional exchange of experience has raised awareness among both politicians and entrepreneurs about the importance of clustering. The key organisations in the region have integrated these lessons in an 'Innovation action plan' for the region. This action plan itself (including cluster development) was then integrated into the 'Plan for sustainable development of Maramures County 2007-2013'. Partner 4 also plans to continue the strategy within the future County Plan for the period 2014-2020.
- In North West England (represented by partner 2), Tameside College improved their educational curriculum on entrepreneurship by obtaining National accreditation for the 'Summer Entrepreneurship' programme in the UK via the NCFE Level 1 accreditation in Exploring Enterprise. This policy improvement in their education system can be entirely attributed to the interregional exchange within MINI EUROPE. Moreover, North West England will in turn work together with Mid Sweden (partner 4) to find out whether the accreditation of Summer Entrepreneur could also improve the Summer Entrepreneur initiative

in Sweden. Accreditation of the programme could solve the search for funding problem that Mid Sweden faces every year.

- **Priority 1 - Sub-theme 'Entrepreneurship and SMEs'**

**EuroPROC** on support to SMEs in international public procurement

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53460](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53460)

The two following policy improvements can be noted:

- The EuroPROC partner in Budapest (partner 11, ITD-Hungary) is a key organisation in the government's Business Support Policy system. Most of the EuroPROC activities held in Budapest were also organised jointly or in collaboration with the Hungarian Public Procurement Council and with the attendance of the key organisations in this sector. As a result, and based on the lessons learnt from the project, the National Government and Regional Administration of Budapest have approved new rules improving SMEs access to Public Procurement. The main measure relates to the introduction of Electronic Platforms for the management of public procurement.
- In March 2001, partner 9 of EuroPROC (Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Vratsa, BG) in cooperation with partner 8 (Vratsa Regional Administration, BG) contributed to the EC Consultation on Public Procurement. The Chamber proposed substantive changes to the Bulgarian Public Procurement Law. This proposal derives from the policy brief recommendations organised within EuroPROC in numerous consultations and public discussions with other branch organisations, NGOs and public authorities. Finally, the Bill amending the Public Procurement Law was adopted by the Bulgarian National Assembly at first reading in July 2011. Some of the legislative improvements it contains include proposals which were put forward by the Vratsa Chamber of Commerce on the basis of EuroPROC activities. Such Improvements include: 1. more effectiveness, reduced administrative burden; 2. standardisation of documents and samples; 3. a new system of preventive control entirely by the Public Procurement Agency.

- **Priority 1 - Sub-theme 'Entrepreneurship and SMEs'**

**SEE** on promotion of the design sector

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53472](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53472)

After attending the SEE events and exchanging thoughts with the other partners, representatives from the Welsh Assembly Government realised that policy support in the field of design for industry, services (private and public sector) and society (social in-

novation) needed to be further developed in their region. Although they had a strong design-oriented infrastructure supporting SMEs in Wales, this priority was not set out in a policy document. There was also a risk that, with the next change of government, design for SMEs could be excluded from government support services because of budget reductions. Consequently, the policymakers that attended the SEE project events included both innovation and design in the new Welsh Assembly Government strategy 'Economic Renewal: A New Direction' published in July 2010. Despite design being included in the Economic Renewal strategy, awareness and understanding among Welsh politicians and policymakers about the strategic role of design for industry, services (private and public sector) and society (social innovation) was still low. Consequently, the Lead Partner developed the Design Wales Manifesto to raise awareness and understanding. The manifesto received overwhelming support from Welsh politicians and policymakers. In October 2010, in a debate on stimulating innovation in the National Assembly for Wales, Mark Isherwood (Assembly Member) directly quoted the Design Wales Manifesto and raised an amendment to accept the Manifesto's recommendation to 'harness the power of design for innovation in industry, services and society'. After the debate, the Assembly Members voted, and the motion proposed by Mark Isherwood was unanimously accepted by all the Assembly Members in the Chamber, which is an incredibly rare occurrence. To build on this momentum, Design Wales set up a petition obtaining 369 signatures, and which was then accepted by the National Assembly's Petitions Committee. It is currently under review by the Deputy First Minister for Innovation.

- **Priority 1 - Sub-theme 'Entrepreneurship and SMEs'**

**CeRamiCa** on support to the ceramic sector

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53503](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53503)

In CeRamiCa, each partner had to draft local/regional policy recommendations and an action plan (either completely new based on the findings and experiences in CeRamiCa or through a modification of previously existing policy documents, taking into consideration the lessons learnt within the cooperation project). These documents were discussed and approved by each level of decision making within the municipalities and finally approved officially by the municipal council or, in case of non-city partners, by the board of the organisation. The following three policies improvements have been achieved so far:

- Through its municipal Resolution n°208/2011, the Lead Partner (Municipality of Hódmezővásárhely, HU) approved its action plan, including measures related to economic development (e.g. developing an economy development service sys-

tem; initiating the setting up a local representative forum of craftsmen with municipal support), to tourism (e.g. supporting the development of a "Hódmezővásárhely Brand") and to education (e.g. establishment of institutional craftsman-student bridge in order to sustain the handicraft industry). A certain number of new instruments were introduced through this plan. This is for instance the case of a new programme dedicated to raising children's awareness of the handicraft sector. This programme, entitled "Every day Culture!" was launched for the school year 2011/12 in all kindergartens, elementary and high-schools of the city. A new vocational training scheme in the field of ceramics and crafts was also introduced in September 2011 in Hódmezővásárhely through cooperation with the local University.

- Through its Local Council Decision Nr. 126/21.07.2011 Partner 3 (Municipality of Turda, RO) approved both a strategic document called 'Public policy recommendations for revitalisation of local ceramic sector' and its action plan for short/medium and long-term measures. This action plan was included into the Local Development Strategy and was also submitted to the Romanian North-West Regional Development Agency to be included in the regional strategy for 2014-2020. It gave rise to new instruments and approaches such as:
  - a flexible financial scheme to support local producers in the ceramic sector
  - an association bringing together artists, artisans and craftspeople so that the sector can better adapt to the market
  - the reintroduction of optional classes for traditional handicrafts into initial education.
- Through its Local Council Resolution no. 198/2011, the Local Council of Baia Mare (Partner 8, RO) recognised the establishment of the Proceramica Association (association of local ceramist and craftspeople) and approved the strategy and action plan to support and promote the Baia Mare ceramic sector. The action plan includes several measures such as support to entrepreneurship and support to prospect for new sales opportunities and more generally a closer involvement of the public authority in the ceramic sector. For instance, the Municipality has ordered 10 wooden display stands/booths to support and promote the Baia Mare ceramic sector. These booths can be used by ceramists, other craftspeople and artists in various commercial fairs, festivals and local/regional events to promote their traditional, authentic products. This particular initiative was inspired by the lessons learnt during the exchange of experience visits within CeRamICa.

- **Priority 1 - Sub-theme 'Entrepreneurship and SMEs'**

**MITKE** on the development of business areas and industrial parks (BAIPs)

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53652](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53652)

To build on the lessons learnt in the project, each region involved in MITKE has to produce a Plan for the improvement of Business Areas and Industrial Parks. This plan has already contributed to improving the policy of partner 6 (West Regional Development Agency, RO).

First, the know-how gained through MITKE, particularly with regard to specific instruments for planning, designing and developing added-value services in BAIP management has enabled the Romanian partner to support the setting-up and operational upgrade of a recently established BAIP in the West Region, namely, the Industrial Park 'Valea Terovei' in Resita. This, and a resulting document focusing on the ways to improve the management performance of this BAIP, are part of the overall process of know-how transfer and skills improvement facilitated by MITKE.

In addition, moving beyond the improvement of this individual BAIP, this Romanian partner's 'Plan for the Improvement of BAIPs' introduced a coherent and innovative policy approach for developing industrial zones in the West Region. At the regional level, this strategic document should therefore lead to structural changes in the context for BAIP in the West Region. Several important improvements can already be observed, in particular regarding policy planning for BAIPs, and an improvement in the competitive position of BAIPs in the West Region.

As a result of the MITKE process, and in particular of the regional policy reflection exercise, several BAIPs, and other key stakeholders, now have a shared vision and common priorities with regard to the future development of BAIPs in the West Region.

- **Priority 1 - Sub-theme 'Information Society'**

**I-SPEED** on ICT based public services in the tourism economy

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54305](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54305)

The SWOT analysis carried out through the I-SPEED project led to the development of a new e-marketing strategy for partner 6 (Powys County Council, UK). The new strategy played an integral part in one of the Council's tenders to deliver a project entitled 'Sustainable Tourism Powys', which is now funded through the Rural Development Plan 2007-2013, 'Business Plan 2', administered by the Welsh Assembly Government.

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme ‘Natural and technological risks; climate change’**

**FUTUREForest** on the adaptation of forest management to climate change

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53438](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53438)

The three following policy improvements can be noted:

- In the Republic of Latvia, Partner 6, the Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for devising amendments to the Forest law. In order to take into consideration the lessons of the project, the two following chapters of the Forest law have been amended to include references to climate change:
  - Chapter IX on ‘Protection of Nature in a Forest’, Section 35 (enacted since 01.01.2012.)
  - Chapter XI on ‘Transformation of Forest Land’, Section 42 (to be enacted in 01.01.2013.)

- The policy developments that occur within the Lead Partner (Ministry for Infrastructure and Agriculture of Brandenburg, DE) are also noteworthy. Brandenburg’s forestry programme was introduced in 2003 and needed adaptation, in particular with regard to multifunctional forestry management and adaptation strategies for climate change. FUTUREforest supported a discussion process with experts in its climate platform meetings (one of these meetings took place in the Brandenburg parliament). It also enabled the forestry unit in the Ministry for Infrastructure and Agriculture to develop two policy documents. Published at the end of 2011, the first is a new version of the forest programme (also published in English at:

[http://www.mil.brandenburg.de/cms/media.php/lbm1.a.3310.de/Waldprogramm\\_englisch.pdf](http://www.mil.brandenburg.de/cms/media.php/lbm1.a.3310.de/Waldprogramm_englisch.pdf)).

It covers two major themes: forests as an economic source and forests in need of protection. It underlines Brandenburg’s political will to develop climate resilient forests through a multifunctional forestry management approach that does not only follow economic targets, but also strives to preserve nature and create societal benefits.

The second policy document is Woodland Vision 2030. It focuses on the forests managed by the (German) state’s forest enterprise. ([http://www.mil.brandenburg.de/sixcms/media.php/4055/waldvision\\_2030.15725726.pdf](http://www.mil.brandenburg.de/sixcms/media.php/4055/waldvision_2030.15725726.pdf)). It presents a new view of woodlands, referring for instance to the importance of soil protection, the necessity to create value while protecting nature and the special role of woodlands in tourism, in particular in rural regions like Brandenburg.

- In the Auvergne region (partner 3), the regional forest management plan was adapted according to suggestions from the project (amendments taking effect from 1 January 2012). The Auvergne office of the National Forest Institute (ONF), together with their partner organisations from municipal forest owners, shared FUTUREforest's ideas with other relevant stakeholders. This consultation process has resulted in the production of 'orientations régionales forestières' (regional forestry orientations). The Forest Regional Orientations are developed by regional committees which include all stakeholders involved in forests and forest products. They are then validated by the Ministry in charge of forests. This document is the key reference for regional forest policy. During the dialogue and meetings organised to draft this document, the ONF Auvergne firmly advocated the necessity of taking into account the issue of climate change by presenting the issues faced by Auvergne and its European partners. The result of these exchanges appears in the part 'Suggested orientations', where a chapter is dedicated to climate change. Auvergne also introduced aspects of biodiversity preservation, which originated in the analysis carried out within FUTUREforest (e.g. educational programme for forest managers) into the regional Forest plan.
- Priority 2 – Sub-theme 'Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage'**

**PERIRUBAN** on biodiversity in periurban areas  
[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54014](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54014)

The project had an impact on the Plan for Territorial Direction of the Lead Partner region (Tuscany Region, IT). The Plan is related to the creation and protection of the Parco della Piana, as well as to the extension of the local airport (located in the area of the park). This Plan was updated in 2011 to ensure these initiatives could each be carried out while limiting adverse consequences to both. In the revised text, the Tuscany region took into consideration the lessons learnt from the other partners; PERIURBAN even being explicitly mentioned in the updated version of the Plan.
- Priority 2 – Sub-theme 'Energy and sustainable transport'**

**CAPRICE** on mobility policies in small and medium sized cities  
[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53689](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53689)

The General Council of Bucharest Municipality (partner 4, RO) decided in its session on 27 July 2011 to create a Bucharest Metropolitan Transport Authority (ATMB). It is expected that ATMB will be effective from 2012, under the conditions that all necessary regulations with regard to the functioning of the institution are clarified in due

course. The activities carried out within CAPRICE and the development of networking opportunities with the Association of European Metropolitan Transport Authorities (EMTA) facilitated this process significantly. CAPRICE therefore contributed to the creation of this new authority.

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme ‘Energy and sustainable transport’**

**MMOVE** on mobility policies in small and medium sized cities

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53516](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53516)

Two policy improvements were achieved within MMOVE.

- The Municipal Development Plan 2007-2013 of partner 9 (Municipality of Razlog, EL) was amended as a direct result of the project. The revised Plan includes references:
  - to recent issues and needs relating to mobility management in Europe,
  - to the good practices observed within the project,
  - to the implementation of measures analysed within the project’s Feasibility / Transferability Study,
  - to the active participation of the municipality in future transnational and interregional cooperation projects.

In terms of implementation, the Plan will lead to the building of bicycle routes within the municipality and bicycle paths for mountain biking in the surroundings of the city.

- In the case of partner 7 (City of Ulm, DE), a feasibility study carried out in the context of the project aimed to implement a system of e-biking (Pedelec). The experience gained thanks to the MMOVE project and the results of this study have finally been incorporated in the municipal policy called “FahrRad” (Go by bike). The overall objective of this policy is to promote the use of bicycles within the city.

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme ‘Cultural heritage and landscape’**

**PRESERVE** on regional policies for sustainable tourism

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53546](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53546)

During the action planning workshop, partners' regional policies for sustainable tourism, and ways to improve them, were the subject of substantive discussions with a view to drawing up detailed action plans (for the hosts of the peer reviews) and mini-action plans (for the peers themselves). Based on the peer reviews and their reports, the feasibility of implementing the proposed recommendations was considered, obstacles identified, and possible actions developed. This preparatory work informed



the drafting of the action plans and mini-action plans (self-evaluations) aimed at improving partners' regional tourism policies. On this basis, partners have started to update their current tourism strategies with a view to improving them through a more sustainable approach, including the preservation of natural and cultural heritage. This process has already resulted in real policy impact for partner 8 (Eszak Alföld Regional Development Agency, HU).

In this partner region, peers suggested that the inhabitants of smaller communities should be more involved in the strategic tourism planning process. The involvement of local stakeholders into strategy making had therefore been ensured at the time of the social consultations for the design of the next action plan (2011-2013) of the Regional Operational Programme (ROP) 2007-2013.

Peers also suggested fostering co-operation among local stakeholders. In the 2011-2013 ROP action plan, a special call for proposals was designed to set up and operate Tourist Destination Management. The aim was to ensure efficient cooperation and coordination between local tourism industry stakeholders. Peer's recommendations were taken into consideration when drafting the call.

As reflected in the above examples, most of the policy achievements occur at the local and regional levels. But in 2011, more and more links and synergies were identified between the projects and the **EU level**; a few projects like CITEAIR II or C2CN having even influenced strategies developed at EU level. An illustration of these synergies is provided below.

### **Under Priority 1**

On 28 October 2011, DG Enterprise organised a second policy workshop related to the Regional Innovation Monitor ([www.rim-europa.eu](http://www.rim-europa.eu)). The Regional Innovation Monitor (RIM) is a European Commission funded initiative led by Technopolis group, the Fraunhofer Institute and Maastricht University. It aims to provide a reference framework for the development of more effective and efficient regional innovation strategies. The workshop was an opportunity to present the project's mid-term results. During the workshop, the experts in charge of the initiative provided three different examples of interesting projects. All these examples were in fact INTERREG IVC projects approved under priority 1 (i.e. **SCINNOPOLI**, **EUROPROC** and **RAPIDE**). Even if the experts may not have realised that all the examples provided were from the same programme, it is a good sign of the quality of the INTERREG IVC projects, and their capacity to inspire the EU level.

**EuroPROC** is a first call Regional Initiative Project addressing the access of SMEs to International Public Procurement (IPP) markets. Since its start, the project has adopted a very efficient communication strategy. It has also worked closely with DG Enterprise, which has a particular interest in this topic.

As a result, DG Enterprise was so interested in the EuroPROC final good practice guide (see link below) that, at the end of 2011, this DG was negotiating the ownership rights of the guide with the Lead Partner (Catalonia Competitiveness Agency, ES) so that it could become a DG Enterprise publication.

[www.europroc.eu/public/docs/europroc\\_good\\_practices\\_guide\\_new\\_42yl.pdf](http://www.europroc.eu/public/docs/europroc_good_practices_guide_new_42yl.pdf)

**ESPIRE EU** and **YES** are both second call projects dealing with entrepreneurship issues. Both projects have built good relationships with DG Employment and, as a result of these fruitful exchanges, both projects are now mentioned on the following page of DG Employment website: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=952&langId=en>

**WINNET 8** is a second call Capitalisation Project. It aims to improve women's participation in the labour market, focusing in particular on horizontal segregation, the lack of women working in the field of innovation and technology, and the lack of women entrepreneurs. The project was invited to present its aims and activities at a meeting of the High Level Group for Gender Equality of the European Parliament on 18 March 2011. The following month, WINNET8 was also presented at the Regional Committee of the European Parliament. The presentations of the project made at the highest levels of the European Institutions are a first step in raising awareness on the actions being undertaken in favour of gender equality across Europe, and are designed to be a source of inspiration for the work of the EU. The recognition of the relevance of the project at the EU level was further confirmed in 2012 and will be described in the next Annual Report.

## **Under Priority 2**

**CITEAIR II** aims to improve regional policies for air quality protection, sustainable transport and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. It cooperates on a continuous basis with the European Environment Agency (EEA). This cooperation first developed within the PAQ project. This EEA funded project aimed to provide an air quality platform where air quality indices are calculated from the European database AIRBASE. Secondly, cooperation is also ongoing within the 'AirWatch' system. The EEA has established a strategic partnership with Microsoft and developed Airwatch as part of their Eye-on-earth initiative. This initiative/system (see <http://eyeonearth.cloudapp.net>) was officially launched during the COP15 Summit in

November 2009 in Copenhagen. When developing this system, the **EEA decided to adopt the CITEAIR Air Quality Index (CAQI) to present Air Quality information to the public in Europe**. In January 2010, a meeting with the EEA took place in Rome in which the latter presented AirWatch (on which CITEAIR II gave its feedback). In June 2010, the EEA also took part in a CITEAIR II workshop. The fact that the EEA adopted the CAQI as the European standard to inform the public about air quality is an excellent way of ensuring the long-term use of the CITEAIR II results.

**C2CN** is a second call Capitalisation Project dealing with the Cradle to Cradle approach to waste management and prevention. As a Fast Track initiative, the project was closely followed up and monitored by DG Regio, in cooperation with DG Environment. During the final conference in Maastricht on 7 December 2011, DG Regio explained the importance of projects like C2CN which work well work and which develop the potential of innovative solutions for environmental sustainability. The Commission considers that C2CN demonstrates the involvement of local and regional authorities in cutting-edge innovations on the ground, in particular in the implementation of actions stemming from the work carried out during the Fast-Track project. According to DG Regio, the C2CN project in particular has helped the Commission to better understand the concept of 'cradle to cradle' and has also contributed to introducing the concept of a 'circular economy' into the 2014-2020 cohesion policy.

To conclude on the policies improved, it should be highlighted that, even when no evidence of improvement can be reported so far, a majority of projects nonetheless demonstrate interesting developments at policy level. The following examples from the PEOPLE mini-programme are good illustrations of these developments, which are not reflected under any indicator:

**PEOPLE** focuses on the adaptation of the labour market to the ageing population and changes in family structure. The conference organised in Malopolska (partner 5, PL) on 18 October 2010 on the Silver economy and the publication of a policy recommendation White Paper on 'Challenges for Malopolska in the context of demographic change' were the last steps in a fruitful interregional cooperation that started in March 2010 within PEOPLE. Over 100 people participated in the Conference, mostly regional and national experts, to discuss important silver economy issues. Although the Malopolska region will suffer from the consequences of demographic change in coming decades, there are still opportunities for stable economic growth, and the silver economy can be one of the solutions. Different aspects of these problems were presented by numerous scientists and experts with practical experience and three

PEOPLE's sub-projects (Tcares, Diversia, Silver Academy) also presented their goals and achievements in the context of the silver economy.

On 8 and 9 November 2010, the Regional Minister for Equality and Social Welfare of Andalusia (partner 1, ES), Mrs. Micaela Navarro, held several meetings with Malopolska policymakers in Poland. Specifically, on 8 November 2010, at the regional government offices, the Regional Minister met Mr. Roman Ciepela, vice-Marshall of Malopolska Voivodship and regional officers responsible for the PEOPLE project, as well as other representatives of the International Cooperation Office and the Regional Development Department of the Presidency. The main issues discussed concerned the importance of the social economy as a fundamental key for social services, the importance of interregional cooperation in the field of reconciliation and equal opportunities between women and men, the incorporation of ethnic minorities and the implementation of measures for combating gender violence.

#### **3.1.2.2 Programme Objective: Exchange experience and improve the capacities and knowledge of regional and local stakeholders in particular by matching less experienced regions with more experienced regions**

As demonstrated by the consolidated figures and apart from the spin-off activities, this objective can to a large extent be considered as achieved. This is not surprising as the achievement of this objective is the minimum requirement expected from the projects.

A total of 2,274 partners are currently involved in the 204 approved projects. The average number of partners per project (11.1) is therefore higher than initially anticipated. After the fourth call results, this average has even risen slightly.

Within the 122 running projects from the 3 first calls, an average number of 10 interregional events to exchange experiences were organised per project (1,210 interregional events in total for these projects). This figure covers a wide variety of activities, from workshops to study trips, from staff exchanges to thematic seminars. The figure is in line with the normal development of activities after almost two years of project implementation. In total, there were almost 30,000 participants in these interregional events (an average of 25 participants per event). This figure has been multiplied almost by three since the last annual report.

**More than 99% of all approved projects have a partnership composed of members coming from both 'Objective Convergence' regions and 'Objective Competitiveness'**

**regions.** The fourth call did not change this statistic since all approved projects in this last call involved both Objective convergence and Objective competitiveness regions. This can be considered a noticeable programme achievement, one of the aims of which is to match more experienced with less experienced partners. This figure also exceeds the initial target value indicated in the Operational Programme. In fact, only one approved project (i.e. PADIMA, approved in the second call) has a partnership composed of regions from the same objective (i.e. 'Objective competitiveness'). PADIMA is anyway particularly relevant to the EU cohesion policy since it focuses on mountainous areas. A few other projects involve a majority of 'convergence regions'. This is in particular the case of NEEBOR and ICHNOS PLUS.

The geographical area covered by the projects grew after the fourth call. All EU Member States are represented in the 204 approved projects. More importantly, with an additional 15 NUTS 2 regions after the fourth call, 89.7% of the NUTS II level in Europe is now represented (i.e. 243 out of 271 NUTS II). Norway is represented by 21 partners (one of them being a Lead Partner) and Switzerland by 3 partners. Finally, an additional third country is represented thanks to the Albanian partner involved in the fourth call project NOSTRA. In total, 7 third countries (i.e. Albania, Belarus, Croatia, Iceland, Serbia, Russia and Ukraine) are represented by 8 partners (two of them are from Croatia).

As far as results are concerned, the programme will not reach its initial objective in terms of percentage of public authorities involved. Instead of the initial objective of 70 %, public authorities only account for 50.5% of all partners (i.e. 1149 out of 2274) even though, as stipulated in the operational programme and programme manual, applications with direct participation of public authorities were considered more favourably in the assessment process.

As already highlighted in the previous annual report, the high percentage of bodies governed by public law has three main causes:

- The definition of a body governed by public law reflects different realities according to the situation and the country. It is clear that, although they are both considered to be bodies governed by public law, an association of local authorities would be more relevant in INTERREG IVC than a local incubator without any policy relevance. It may also be the case that bodies governed by public law are in fact the relevant policy-makers in the region. For instance, a significant number of regional development agencies (more than 120) are approved in the projects, in particular from several newer Member States like Hungary, Bulgaria or Romania. Although these agencies are considered to be bodies governed by public law, they are often the policymakers directly in charge of the development of new policy instruments and of the

implementation of Structural Funds Operational Programmes. If these agencies were to be considered to be public authorities, the ratio would increase to 56%. The same applies in France to the public bodies organising cooperation between local authorities (e.g. 'intercommunalities', such as urban communities). Although these organisations have policy power, they are considered to be bodies governed by public law according to the Directive 2001/18/EC.

- In a significant number of projects (e.g. NANO4M, ORGANZA), the same region is represented directly by its public authorities but also by other organisations relevant to the topic tackled (e.g. development agencies, universities, research institutes). This means that out of the 3 or 4 partners involved from the same region only one is a public authority. This kind of partnership arrangement explains why the number of bodies governed by public law may in reality be considerably higher. In any case, the core requirement of INTERREG IVC in relation to the direct participation of policymakers is still met.
- Finally, there are cases where a body governed by public law is involved in a cooperation designed not to address a specific policy but to bring its specific knowledge and competences which are required for the success of the project (e.g. thematic expertise, dissemination skills). Numerous examples can be provided: the ERRIN network in the MKW project, the Stockholm School of Economics in the CLUSNET project and the LUCI association in the PLUS project.

Within the 122 projects from the three first calls, the exchange of experience has already contributed to increasing the capacity (skills) of **3,596 staff members** involved in the projects. This represents an average of 29.5 people per project who have enhanced their skills thanks to their involvement in interregional activities.

Concerning this indicator, the following quote from SCINNOPOLI (second call Capitalisation Projects) is edifying for two reasons. First, it gives an interesting example on the way the project tries to monitor the increased capacity of the partners involved. Second, it demonstrates that this indicator only partially reflects the results of the project since it takes no account of the capacity-building effect on the local / regional stakeholders not involved as partners.

*“12 additional staff members from Lower Austria (Lead Partner, AT), WTSH (partner 3, DE), WTRDA (partner 4, HU), ARTI (partner 6, IT) and MT (partner 7, FR) increased their knowledge due to active participation in interregional events. Increased capacity is also documented by the self-assessments which are filled out by the participants for the interregional transfer workshops: on the question “Has the meeting provided new ideas/ insights for your*

*job and increased your knowledge about monitoring?” the participants evaluated the meeting in Rennes with 3.4, in Marseille with 3.6 and in Bari with 3.2 on a scale from 1 = insufficient to 4 = very good.*

*As SCINNOPOLI is a Capitalisation project, the active involvement of regional stakeholders in the development of the Regional action plan is also essential – and thus also their increase of capacity in terms of knowledge/skills/expertise. So far 18 regional and national stakeholders have actively participated in interregional events and increased their capacity in the 3 semesters.”*

Concerning spin-off activities, the programme is under performing. Up to the end of June 2011, only **88 new projects / activities / approaches resulting from the interregional exchange of experiences** had been reported by 28 projects (84% being first call projects). This represents 65 additional spin-offs compared with the previous Annual Report. Even if the programme is still considered to be at an early stage (82 projects have not yet started their activities), the above figure is very far from the 480 spin-off activities envisaged in the Operational Programme. This under-performance is frustrating since it does not seem to be related to a lack of tangible results in that domain. According to the programme’s experience and as is also demonstrated by the mid-term evaluation, it actually seems to be related to a lack of awareness on the part of projects regarding this specific indicator. For instance, when INTERREG IVC officers participate in project final conferences, it is often the case that they discover, through the presentations or through the discussions with the partners, numerous unexpected benefits gained from the cooperation project, yet these benefits are never reported in the progress reports. The programme certainly has its part to play in this lack of awareness. But this is also due to the fact that the ‘number of new projects / activities / approaches’ is the only project related indicator that does not appear in the application form (i.e. by definition, projects cannot be asked at the application stage to estimate unexpected results). Lead Partner awareness on this indicator is therefore very low, and most LPs do not understand its meaning when they see it for the first time in the progress report. To address this weakness, the importance of this indicator was highlighted during the Lead Partner seminar organised for the fourth call project. Hopefully, the efforts of the programme to better communicating on this indicator will be reflected in future Annual Reports.

As the examples in the 2009 Annual Report demonstrate, these spin-offs can take very diverse forms, such as:

1. the submission of new applications in other EU programmes (e.g. NEEBOR in South East Europe transnational cooperation programme, ERIK ACTION in FP7)

2. the adoption of new tools (e.g. CLUSNET with interactive cluster mapping, POWER with a carbon reduction tool)
3. the development of new joint services (e.g. CLIQ on incubators inter services)
4. the adoption of a new cooperation convention (e.g. B3 Regions with new agreement between Piedmont, Sardinia and Catalonia on ICT observatory)
5. joining an existing EU network (e.g. DC with the I-NEC network)

However, the detailed analysis of these 88 spin-offs shows that more than 40% are related to the development of new projects between partners often in the context of EU programmes (e.g. FP7, Leonardo, CIP, cross-border / transnational or interregional cooperation).

This indicator reflects the variety of results that can emerge from the interregional exchange of experience process. But, as highlighted in the introductory part of this analysis, the monitoring of these spin-offs is only a first attempt to assess the intangible but real achievements resulting from cooperation activities. It reflects only partially the richness of the 'indirect outcomes' deriving from interregional cooperation. The progress reports submitted by projects sometimes include very interesting information which cannot be reflected in any of the current programme's predefined indicators. The extract below from the progress report submitted by the MiSRaR project is a good illustration of this richness:

*"The partners all have created a network of public bodies in their region that are closely related to the disaster mitigation work and therefore highly relevant to the project. Most of these bodies often provide input for the project, make presentations, provide best practices, assist in the organisation of field visits etc. Even though these partners are not co-financed by the programme, they play an integral and very important part in the development of the project and its activities. Since these public bodies are so closely involved in the disaster mitigation practice, the exchange of experiences in this field has a spill-over effect to these bodies as well. One of the major "not planned" effects of the project is that their involvement has increased the quality of the public-public cooperation in the field of disaster mitigation in the participating regions to a great extent."*

A few examples of interesting recent spin-offs are provided below:

- **Priority 1 – Sub-theme 'Innovation, research and technology development'**

**MINI EUROPE** on infrastructure for innovation support to SMEs

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53358](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53358)

Thanks to the cooperation established within the project, partner 3 (Észak-Alföld Regional Development Agency, HU), partner 2 (North West England) and the Lead



Partner (Province of Flevoland, NL) have begun cooperation within the Leonardo programme in order to exchange young professionals between their organisations. The first exchange between the Hungarian and UK partner has already taken place.

- **Priority 1 – Sub-theme ‘Entrepreneurship and SMEs’**

**EuroPROC** on support to SMEs in international public procurement

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53460](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53460)

The European and African partners of the PROINVEST Project on Public Procurement have decided to use the EuroPROC Guide of Good Practices to implement new tools and services in their own organisations.

- **Priority 1 – Sub-theme ‘Information Society’**

**I-SPEED** on ICT based public services in the tourism economy

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54305](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54305)

The tourism team of partner 6 (Powys County Council, UK) was successful in their bid to deliver a 2.4 million pound project. The project called ‘Sustainable Tourism Powys’ aims to create strong, vibrant tourism businesses within Powys, businesses that are able to compete globally in an attempt to aid community regeneration. The project consists of different actions related to visitor transport, Green Tourism, sense of place, ICT (continuation of Powys Connections dedicated to the tourism industry), cluster development, development of digital marketing (for 400,000 pounds) which includes e-trails, apps, new ‘super site’, e-newsletters, sms, touch screens, etc. I-SEED played an important role in the development of the tender to win this 2.4 million pound contract and it now continues to influence the project’s direction in relation to the use of ICT.

- **Priority 1 – Sub-theme ‘Information Society’**

**RTF** on telemedicine services

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54105](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54105)

In 2010, Partner 3 (Estonian eHealth Foundation) developed a new INTERREG IVA application called ‘e-Medic’. This project, which received a positive financing decision in April 2011, aims to pilot already successful telemedicine solutions within diabetes care by replicating the most innovative telemedicine services from other European regions. The RTF project Good Practice Guidelines of telemedicine services for chronic patients with diabetes will be used as a reference throughout the e-Medic cross border project.

- **Priority 1 – Sub-theme ‘Employment, human capital and education’**

**PEOPLE** on labour market adaptation to the ageing population and changes in family structure

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53569](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53569)

For partner 4 (Province of Noord-Brabant, NL), one of the direct outcomes of participating in PEOPLE in relation to E-health and social/e-Inclusion was the development of new international activities. The region is now involved in several European networks like the Association of European Regions (AER) and the Ambient Assisted Living network (AAL). Noord-Brabant together with the regions of Kent (UK) and Flanders (BE) has also initiated a new European Community of Regions for Assisted Living (CORAL) related to Ambient Assisted Living.

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme ‘Energy and sustainable transport’**

**POWER** on low carbon economy

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53752](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53752)

POWER’s sub-projects led to several spin-off activities:

- The GENERATION sub-project submitted a proposal called BUILDING2ZERO, which is based on the sub-project results and its Simplified Energy Assessment (SEA) tool.
- Participants in the TIMBER sub-project worked together on the development of a project proposal for the Intelligent Energy for Europe Programme’s 2011 Call. The project, entitled ‘Re-establishing the Relation between Energy Consumption and Production’ (REPCO) is based on the sub-project partnership and used most of the TIMBER results to build a system in which regions will be able (each based on their own scale, needs and circumstances) to produce and use as much of Renewable Energies as possible (especially biomass).
- As part of the SEECA sub-project the County Administrative Board in Uppsala discovered a requirement for additional research into the development and implementation of educational programmes aimed at the promotion of efficient use of larger diesel driven working vehicles used in the construction, agriculture and forestry sectors. The team at the County Administrative Board in Uppsala, along with local partners, the Swedish Institute of Agricultural and Environmental Engineering (JTI), the Energy Agency in Malardalen AB (Energi kontor) and the Swedish Agricultural University (SLU) applied for and were successful in winning additional funding for a study in this domain. The study will enable Uppsala to become a pilot County for this approach.

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme ‘Energy and sustainable transport’**

**MMOVE** on mobility policies

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53516](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53516)

Several spin-off activities were also identified within the MMOVE project.

- A new cooperation was created between the City of Ulm (partner 7, DE) and the Girona City Council (partner 3, ES). An expert from the German city was invited to Girona to present one of the practices in mobility management presented during a local event held in Ulm in September 2010. This was the basis for the development of new joint activities.
- MMOVE also generated new projects for partner 11 (Metropolitan Agency of Brasov, RO), which is now involved in 2 new EU projects under INTERREG IVC and Lifelong Learning Programmes. MMOVE has also resulted in the creation of a small workgroup/think-tank in Brasov with the goal to create viable scenarios for the development of the metropolitan transport system. The Metropolitan Agency of Brasov, together with the Municipality, has also initiated an application to develop inter-modal transfer infrastructure and more user friendly ICT-based ticketing systems, fleet management and tracking systems, which will be submitted under the 2012-2014 Regional Operational Programme and implemented.
- Partner 9 (Municipality of Razlog, BG) is now involved in a new project on sustainable mobility with the Association of the South-Western Municipalities, which is funded by the Operational Programme for Regional Development.

To conclude on this second programme objective, as far as the 6 first call Capitalisation Projects are concerned, **a total of 32 action plans have been developed by ‘Objective Convergence’ regions further to the lessons learnt from “Objective Competitiveness” regions.** This represents half of the total number of action plans developed by these projects. Some of the most remarkable results particularly in terms of amount of mainstreaming funds committed to the implementation of the practices have been achieved in convergence regions. The following quote from the Bulgarian partner of ESF6 CIA (i.e. Vasil Asenov from the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy) is interesting in this regard:

*“In the beginning, the ESF ‘Development’ programme was designed only to tackle unemployment after mass redundancies in enterprises. The foreseen budget was EUR 75 million. Thanks to ESF6 CIA, we were able to redesign the programme and include preferential treatment to people age 50+. It helped a lot, as it gave us a good idea how people in these target groups could be included in trainings.”*

Another core lesson learnt from the first call Capitalisation Projects is that the cooperation was also very useful for the regions of the 'old' 15 EU. Apart from a few cases, the process ended with the introduction of new practices into the Operational Programmes concerned. This reflects the added-value of the win-win cooperation supported within INTERREG IVC.

### **3.1.2.3 Programme Objective: Identification, sharing and transfer of good practices into regional policies, in particular into EU Structural Funds mainstream programmes**

If one considers the targets of the Operational Programme, its objectives are already partly achieved. The number of good practices identified by Regional Initiative Projects continues to increase. In total, **2,675 good practices have been identified** within the 115 Regional Initiative Projects of the two first calls. This means an average of 23 good practices per project. This already exceeds the initial target value of 2,400 which was clearly underestimated. To a certain extent, this can also be explained by the average number of partners per project (more than 11), which has also exceeded the programme's expectations.

With regard to the 20 Capitalisation Projects, 254 good practices had already been identified at the application stage and made available to regional and local stakeholders involved in the projects. This figure almost perfectly matches the initial target value of 250.

In 2011, a new good practice database was launched on the INTERREG IVC website:

<http://www.interreg4c.eu/findGoodpractices.html>

This new tool allows any interested parties to find examples of practices identified by the INTERREG IVC projects.

As far as results are concerned, more and more examples of good practice transfer are provided by the first and second call Regional Initiative Projects. A total of **110 practices have now been successfully transferred** amongst the partners. This represents significant progress compared with 2010 when a total of 29 good practices transferred were demonstrated. The 110 good practices (GP) were transferred in the following areas of regional development distributed equally between the two priorities:

- 55 GP transferred into Priority 1: Innovation and the knowledge economy
  - 26 under 'Innovation, research and technology development'
  - 21 under 'Entrepreneurship and SMEs'

- 7 under 'Information Society'
- 1 under 'Employment, human capital and education'
- 55 GP transferred into Priority 2: Environment and risk prevention
  - 28 under 'Energy and sustainable transport'
  - 16 under 'Natural and technology risks; climate change'
  - 7 under 'Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage'
  - 2 under 'Cultural heritage & landscape'
  - 2 under 'Water management'

The above allocation is interesting since, in the previous Annual Report, the 29 first good practices to be transferred were reported in only three sub-themes. These 3 sub-themes ('Innovation, research and technology development', 'Entrepreneurship and SMEs', 'Energy and sustainable transport') have remained successful as they still account for 68% of all good practices transferred (75 out of 110). Importantly, there has been a significant improvement in terms of thematic scope compared with 2010 since results have now been reported in 9 out of the 10 sub-themes (only the 'waste management' sub-theme is not represented and only 5 projects are approved under that topic). With regard to thematic scope, there are two additional noteworthy points:

- Transfers are starting to be reported even under sub-themes which are relatively poorly covered in the programme (e.g. only 10 projects in 'cultural heritage & landscape', 9 projects in 'water management' and 7 in 'biodiversity & natural heritage'),
- A high number of transfers have been reported for the first time under the 'Information Society' and 'Natural & technological risks and climate change' sub-themes.

Compared with the results described in the previous Annual Report (50 policies improved, 29 practices transferred), the number of transfers (110) now exceeds the number of policies improved (102). This is a remarkable achievement of the programme, in particular considering the way the transfer is defined in the programme (see annex 3 of the programme manual). Since this result indicator is related to the number of practices identified, it refers to the number of practices and not to the number of transfers. In other words, if the same practice is transferred to several partners (e.g. in Mini-Europe, Summer Entrepreneur was transferred from Mid-Sweden to Flevoland and to North West England), only a figure of '1' is reported under the indicator. Moreover, a transfer can be reported to the programme only when implementation has already started in the territory of the importing region. The intention to transfer is therefore not sufficient alone, and evidence of implementation in the territory is required. Moreover, this approach is very demanding and explains why only 25 projects have

demonstrated transfers to date, although most of the 115 Regional Initiative Projects of the two first calls have already been able to report interesting lessons learnt from the cooperation.

As for policies improved, a majority of good practices transferred (92 out of 110 or 83%) were demonstrated by first call projects. This is again logical considering that this kind of result occurs more often towards the end of the project. This statistic is also encouraging for the future. If one considers the number of first call Regional Initiative Projects (35), the above achievement means an average of 2.6 practices transferred per project which could lead, with 184 Regional Initiative Projects, to more than 450 transfers by the end of the programme. This would exceed the 200 practices transferred target value laid down by the Operational Programme.

Although the number of practices transferred is now significant, these results have been demonstrated by only 25 projects (out of 102 Regional Initiative Projects from the two first calls); 8 of these projects having achieved 7 or more transfers (i.e. FLIPPER, MORE4NRG, PIMMS TRANSFER, CLIQ, MINI-EUROPE, CeRamiCa, CITEAIR II). To a certain extent, it is regrettable that these results are not spread out more evenly among all the projects, but hopefully the next Annual Report will show improvement in this regard.

In the two previous Annual Reports, the 29 good practices transferred were all described. Due to the high number reached in 2011, this is no longer possible in 2011 where 81 additional good practices were transferred. However, a sample of interesting cases is provided below.

- **Priority 1 – Sub-theme ‘Innovation, research and technology development’**

- **MINI EUROPE** on infrastructure for innovation support to SMEs

- [www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53358](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53358)

Several good practices were successfully transferred in 2011.

- The ‘Future Entrepreneur’ initiative is the ‘for adults’ version of the ‘Summer Entrepreneur’ good practice. As reported in the previous Annual Report, the Summer Entrepreneur practice was successfully transferred from Mid Sweden (partner 5) to Flevoland (Lead Partner, NL). This experience was such a success that Flevoland wished to organise a similar event for adults, again following the Mid Sweden approach. Therefore, after an exchange visit in November 2010, a pilot project started in Flevoland in February 2011 with 20 partici-

pants, 18 of whom have started a business and registered at the Chamber of Commerce.

- The North West England (partner 2) good practice entitled 'Cluster Supports Environment Model' developed a handbook on the internationalisation of clusters. Several clusters in Észak-Alföld (partner 3, HU) stated that such a handbook would be very helpful for them. As a result of the exchange between both partners the handbook was further developed by North West England, in consultancy with the Hungarian clusters. Most of the handbook was then translated into Hungarian and made available to all regional clusters. This cooperation led to improved methodologies on cluster development in the Hungarian region.
- Higher Level Skills pathfinder is another good practice from North West England. This practice provides a structure to improve the matchmaking between SMEs' training needs and the training provided by educational institutes. The aim is to better meet the high level skills needs of SMEs by providing tailor-made training programmes. As a result of an exchange on this good practice, a new body named 'Innovation Transfer Office' was created at the University of Patras in Western Greece (partner 9). The office aims to adapt the UK practice to the Greek Region with the development of similar matchmaking activities.
- Two other practices were transferred from North West England to Western Greece. The first is named IDEAS (Innovation Design Entrepreneurship and Science) and it relates to a collaborative project between different business and management schools in North West England and Imagination Lancaster. The aim of IDEAS is to help set up and enhance the performance of firms by putting new ideas into practice through research and knowledge transfer. Based on this experience, the University of Patras has established a new mission in its administration dedicated to such collaboration. Along with the IDEAS consortium, a project proposal will also be submitted under the FP7 programme.
- The second transfer is related to the Women's Entrepreneurs Organisation (WEA), which is very active in North West England. The founders of this organisation exchanged experiences with Western Greece through several MINI EUROPE meetings. As a result, the Achaia Chamber of Commerce has established a women's association in Western Greece which will join the national Greek women's network.

- The 'I-CREO' practice was transferred from partner 6 (Institute for Small and Medium Sized Industrial Firms of the Valencian Government, ES) to Western Greece. I-CREO is a network of experts from the main Valencian industrial sectors that aims to promote innovation and business opportunities. The concept of expert network will be adopted in Western Greece within the Competitiveness Regional Operational Programme. A dedicated project proposal was approved within this programme to implement the practice.
  - The practice called 'Genomnanotech Regional Knowledge Center' was transferred from Észak-Alföld to the Veneto Region (partner 7, IT). Thanks to the exchange made on this practice, Veneto gained the know-how to create an innovation management and evaluation system. This system, inspired by the Hungarian approach, is now used by the University of Veneto to improve their internal evaluation system. The Innovation Agency of Veneto has also carried out a feasibility study to create a Technology Transfer Office in the region.
- **Priority 1 – Sub-theme 'Entrepreneurship and SMEs'**

**SEE** on promoting the design sector

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53472](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53472)

Based on Design Wales' experience (Partner 1, UK) with its Service Design Programme, the regional authority for Silesia in Poland, the Silesian Marshall's Office (partner 9, PL), wished to develop service design capabilities for public services. Design Wales was therefore invited to share their expertise and help to build service design capacity with Design Silesia and the Marshall's Office in the industrial city of Katowice. It was clear that recent developments and projects had had a positive impact on the public pride and perception of Katowice. The recent application for European Capital of Culture is visible on almost every street, a previously run-down district is now a thriving night scene, and yet further European funding is flowing into the region. Design Wales led a workshop on design-led service innovation in public services. It was attended by representatives from the city hospital, library and city council, among others. The workshop presented the case for taking a design approach to service innovation and showed how to develop a programme for service design in public services. Techniques such as customer journey mapping, combined with empathy and prototyping activities show the participants the quick, low-cost and effective techniques that service design can bring. Interestingly, Silesia shares many similarities with Wales. This is reflected in an existing memorandum of understanding between the two regions. The clearest comparison is with its industrial past and heavy coal mining that continues to be a major driving force for the economy. Thanks to this



close collaboration between the two partners, the Marshall's Office decided to develop a service design programme for public services in their region.

- **Priority 1 - Sub-theme 'Entrepreneurship and SMEs'**

**CerAmICa** on support to the ceramic sector

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53503](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53503)

Several good practices were transferred within the CeRamiCa project.

The Abruzzo Region's (partner 4, IT) good practice with regard to the 'Association of Castelli' has been adopted by two partners: the Romanian municipality of Turda (partner 3, which has established a professional association, "Traditions' Keepers" running since March 2011) and the Socieconomic Promotion Association for Hoya Buñol Chiva Region (partner 6 from Spain, which has facilitated the setting up of an association of craftswomen called 'La Filigrana'). Finally, the Municipality of Baia Mare (partner 8, PT) has set up an association of ceramists called the 'Proceramica Association. It is partly based on the Abruzzo experience but also on the practice developed by ADERE (partner 9, PT) on the 'Arte da Terra' and the 'Association of Woman Artisans in Ponte da Barca<sup>4</sup>. This 'Proceramica' association is a support scheme for ceramists and craftspeople fostering cooperation and joint commercial activities. Among its founding members, It includes ceramists and local leaders/experts (the Local Council, the Museum of Ethnography and Folk Art, consultants, teachers from the Art Highschool, professional artists, etc.). Through this association, the Municipality has created local/international partnerships. Firstly, among the members of the association, and secondly between the 'Proceramica Association" and other similar structures (for example: joint actions with the Union of Plastic Artists, organised in 2011; participation in the monthly crafts fairs organised by the Turda Municipality; invitation by the Artigianato Artistico Abruzzese to take part in the annual exhibition of 2012, organised on the 9th-12th of August 2012 in Guardiagrele, Italy). .

Another practice from the Abruzzo Region (i.e. the organisation of the 'Guardiagrele' Fair) has been adopted by the Municipality of Turda which has developed a monthly ceramics and crafts fair to better promote the sector and create new marketing possibilities.

- **Priority 1 - Sub-theme 'Entrepreneurship and SMEs'**

**MITKE** on the development of business areas and industrial parks (BAIPs)

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53652](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53652)

Partner 4 (Rzeszow Regional Development Agency, PL) has adopted the good practice called 'Endeavour', developed by partner 9 (Shannon Development Company, IE). The Podkarpackie Region is strongly focused on developing BAIPs and attracting highly innovative technologies to the region. The purpose of the good practice is to increase awareness about the industrial parks in society, especially among students and graduates. It is also to encourage them to study and gain experience in the field of innovative technology. Endeavour consists in providing students and graduates from University of Technology in Rzeszów with one-week training courses run by experts from different fields and companies.

- **Priority 1 – Sub-theme 'Information Society'**

**RTF** on telemedicine services

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54105](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54105)

Several good practices were successfully transferred in 2011.

- In addition to RTF events, bilateral meetings between the Fundació Ticsalut / Clinic in Catalonia (partner 2, ES) and the Odense University Hospital in the Region of Southern Denmark (partner 1) have taken place with the aim to transfer experience of telemedicine services for COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) patients. As a result of this exchange of experience, Catalonia has decided to include video transmission in the regional telemedicine solution for chronic patients with COPD, based on the Danish experience of video transmission with the telemedicine service within COPD at Odense University Hospital. Additionally, the two regions have begun to implement identical clinical protocols for the telemedicine services of COPD.
- Similar bilateral study visits have been carried out between the Norrbotten Region (partner 6, SE) and the University Hospital of North Norway (partner 8) with the aim to transfer experience in the field of telemedicine services within diabetes, cardiovascular disease and other related diseases. As a result, the Norrbotten Region has now included the use of video transmission for telemedicine service within dermatology/diabetes in the work plan of the Division of Medicine and Primary Care of Sunderby Hospital. This video transmission will be included in the telemedicine service of the Norrbotten Region in the same way as in Northern Norway.

- Specialists from the Moulins-Yzeure Hospital in Auvergne (partner 4, FR) attended the RTF Kick-off Conference and Thematic Workshop in June 2010. During this meeting, they had valuable discussions with Odense University Hospital regarding remote monitoring of chronic patients with COPD. To deepen the exchange of experience, the French specialists decided to visit the Odense University Hospital in order to get further details of the Danish good practice. A first result is the launch by the Moulins-Yzeure Hospital of a questionnaire for their COPD patients using the Danish approach and questions. The Auvergne Region has also adopted the Danish evaluation model for telemedicine services into their regional planning for evaluating telemedicine services at hospital level.
  - At the RTF event in Edinburgh in March 2011, a good practice involving the remote monitoring of implantable devices of patients with cardiovascular diseases (CVD) was presented by partner 9 (Veneto Region) and discussed in detail. Based on this practice, the Odense University Hospital in Denmark has initiated a new telemedicine service within CVD: the remote monitoring of implantable devices of CVD patients. Throughout the introduction of this service, the Odense University Hospital (OUH) was inspired by experiences from the Veneto Region. For instance, the clinical study at OUH is similar to the study developed in the Veneto Region for the remote monitoring of implantable devices of CVD patients.
- **Priority 2 - Sub-theme 'Natural and technological risks'**

**GraBS** on adaptation of urban development to climate change

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53446](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53446)

The good practice called 'Green Space Factor' developed by the City of Malmö (partner 6, SE) was adopted by several partners. It was first integrated by the Northwest Regional Development Agency (partner 15, UK) into a Green Infrastructure toolkit which was produced in 2011 to accompany the Sustainability for the Built Environment policy. It was also transferred to Southampton City Council (partner 12, UK) which has developed a Green Space Factor Tool to improve green infrastructure within development sites. Finally, the London Borough of Sutton (partner 4, UK) has also integrated the Green Space Factor approach into their methodology for ensuring that a minimum amount of appropriate green space is incorporated into existing or new developments.

The Amsterdam City (partner 3, NL) approach to community participation in climate change adaptation strategy was adopted by the Northwest Regional Development

Agency in their approach to community adaptation training. In particular, it was incorporated into their training materials which were finalised in December 2010. Feedback from GRaBS community and regional stakeholder network events was also used.

The London Borough of Sutton integrated several practices from the GRABS project (e.g. microclimate/small-scale measures; green roofs and walls, transport corridors from the case study n°6, Malmo adaptation measures) into its Green Infrastructure Toolkit developed at the end of 2010. This toolkit sets out measures to improve the amount and performance of green spaces in the Hackbridge redevelopment area. It provides guidance for developers and informs other planning policy framework documents within the Borough.

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme ‘Natural and Technological risks’**

**MiSRaR** on risk management in spatial planning

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54338](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54338)

The risk assessment approach developed by the Lead Partner (Safety Region South Holland South, NL) is now used by the two Portuguese partners: the municipalities of Mirandela (partner 4) and Aveiro (partner 5). This practice was shared during the first three seminars organised in 2010 and intensive discussion on its adaptation to the Portuguese partners took place during the fourth seminar in Forli, Italy.

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme ‘Natural and technological risks’**

**F:ACTS!** on prevention of hazards resulting from climate change

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54086](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=54086)

Several good practices were successfully transferred in 2011.

- The methodologies and tools for stakeholder involvement/public participation developed by partners 1 (DLG, NL) and 2 (Flemish Land Agency, BE) have been adopted by partner 6 (General Directorate for Agriculture and Rural Development of Portugal) and partner 4 (Regional Ministry of Rural Affairs, Government of Galicia, ES). Specifically, methods for stakeholder analysis and plan design for public participation are now used through pilot projects in Spain and Portugal. In both places, it was the first time that participatory workshops were held in planning phases of integrated territorial strategies at local level (O Carrio in Galicia and Baixo Vouga in Portugal). Methodologies for stakeholder analysis and the use of facilitators during the meetings were put in place. In both cases, results were very satisfactory, since many public as well as private agents participated and promoters recognised the benefits of hav-

ing such approach compared to the top-down, sectoral style previously followed for designing the plans. These first experiences have already improved the communication process among different departments of public bodies responsible for rural space, with clear benefits for territorial activities.

- The Lead Partner (DLG) has established a structured programme for staff training in public participation strategies and methods (good practice n° 14). This approach has been adopted by partner 15 (Development Enterprise of Achaia Prefecture, EL). Following the Dutch approach, in 2011, partner 15 trained some key regional players (the Management Body of NEA, representatives of Achaia region and Ministries' counsellors) on the methods and tools for effective stakeholder involvement. Apart from the increased capacities among these key players, the main outcome has been the heightened awareness among relevant agents regarding the importance of involving a range of stakeholders when implementing territorial strategies, especially in areas of high environmental value, like those in the Strofilia area.

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme 'Energy and sustainable transport'**

**MMOVE** on mobility policies in small and medium sized cities

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53516](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53516)

Feasibility studies on the transferability of best practices started at the end of 2010 and were mostly completed by mid-2011. The Municipality of Razlog (partner 9, BG) which concluded its study at the beginning of 2011 has started to implement actions aimed at increasing parking efficiency. It draws on a mix of good practices coming from two other Greek partners (partner 10, the municipality of Kavala, with a practice called 'Bollards' and partner 8, the Volos Municipal Enterprise Volos, with its 'city centre traffic calming plan') and from the Spanish partner (partner 4, Girona City Council, with a practice on recovering public spaces). Based on these practices, and on the feasibility study recommendations for the extension of the paid parking zone, Razlog carried out several urgent interventions: the paid parking regime was extended to one more street in the town centre, another free parking lot was organised and the hourly fee for vehicles at the most intensive parking zone was raised. In addition to this, some public works were carried out, including the installation of a video surveillance system for the parking lots, the rehabilitation of roads and streets and the improvement of different types of highway signage through the installation of new road signs and markings.

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme 'Energy and sustainable transport'**

### **CAPRICE** on sustainable metropolitan transport

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53689](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53689)

In 2011, the transfer of the 'door-to-door travel planner' from Berlin (partner 1, DE) to Warsaw (partner 3, PL) was successfully completed. With this modern, up-to-date ITS solution, a high quality of travel information on public transport is delivered to the inhabitants of the Warsaw metropolitan area and contributes to the provision of seamless mobility in public transport. The desire to realise this transfer of knowledge in this area was one of the core motivations for the project, and the complex process of transfer was successfully tackled through interregional cooperation. Based on the experience of the Lead Partner, a process of clarification was carried out as a first step to specify the scope of the pilot system to be used in Warsaw (March-June 2009). After the compilation of the necessary data, the pilot system was launched, and subsequently it was improved and customised through an iterative process. This included integration with the EU-spirit network, which enables the delivery of interregional travel information. After one year of preparation and joint evaluation, the system was officially launched in June 2010. Two promotion campaigns followed and, through a professional survey, further user needs and improvements were identified. These improvements were made before the end of the first semester of 2011. The number of customers and requests to the system has been growing continuously and reached around 170,000 individual visitors and nearly 300,000 visits in the last month before the end of the project. In effect, the travel planner has become an important part of the City of Warsaw's marketing and information strategy.

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme 'Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage'**

#### **CITEAIR** on air quality

[www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53769](http://www.interreg4c.eu/showProject.html?ID=53769)

CITEAIR II provides interesting examples of transfers since these transfers did not occur from one partner to another partner.

- The first transfer relates to 'gas emission inventories'. Starting from the identified good practice 'CollectER' developed by the European Environment Agency, partner 2 (DCMR, NL) as leader on this topic within CITEAIR II, decided to test this tool and adapted it to its own needs (including enhancements made to the software) to establish an Integrated Emission Inventory. This tool has been applied to the greater area of Rotterdam with real data. Data evaluation has demonstrated the practical applicability of the tool, which takes the form of a database in Microsoft Access and is associated with a handbook that describes its uses. The Integrated Emission Inventory will be further ap-

plied by DCMR and will be available for other European Cities. In particular, partner 8 (City of Maribor, SI) has expressed its intention to adopt this tool.

- The second transfer relates to 'air quality forecasting'. Forecasting air quality in urban areas is a challenging task that requires specific expertise, a wealth of input data and human resources. Not all cities have the ability to produce their own forecast. To address the different needs of cities, a methodology for urban area forecasts with three levels of complexity have been defined. The starting point for this work was the PrevAir system that has delivered a European wide Air Quality forecast since 2003. This forecast methodology has been used and adapted to the needs of European Cities. The most important part of this work is the level 1 forecast that comprises a statistical model that is calibrated against observation data from monitoring stations and provides a reliable air quality forecast for the urban background and for the roadside conditions. This good practice was transferred to the cities of Rotterdam (partner 2, NL), Seville (partner 9, ES) and Gdansk (partner 12, PL) and will be implemented on the web platform developed within CITEAIR II ([www.airqualitynow.eu](http://www.airqualitynow.eu)).
- The third transfer relates to 'traffic and mobility indicators'. Monitoring and benchmarking the urban traffic as well as making the results visible is a challenge for European cities. The starting point for this work, and the first hypotheses, came from different sources ranging from literature review to past research projects. During the first year of the project, it became clear that none of the identified methodologies would meet the needs of cities. It therefore became necessary to invest more time and resources and create a consistent methodology that would have the potential to be applied by a large number of cities in the future. The work to define, test and apply the methodology was driven by Rome Mobility (partner 3, IT) and was the result of intense cooperation between the project partners. The latter not only contributed to the work with their know-how and experience, but they also ensured that exchange with experts from outside the project took place in order to enrich the quality and applicability of the methodology itself. In addition, large amounts of real-life traffic data for testing purposes were provided by Rome, Paris (Lead Partner, FR) and Maribor. Thanks to this intensive cooperation, a robust methodology comprising 12 indicators to analyse both the status of the transport network and the related effect on the environment is now available. In particular, a first set of indicators (from 1 to 7) are aimed at the description of the traffic and mobility situation (both for private car and for public trans-

port); while the second set of indicators (from 8 to 12) aims to cover the environmental impacts of urban traffic in terms of exposure to adverse air quality and total emissions of main pollutants. The methodology was applied using large traffic data sets gathered in Rome and Paris, which is considered a successful transfer of the methodology. In addition, the methodology has been embedded in a separate webpage that allows the analysis of each single indicator over different time periods (hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, annual) or different zones of the city.

As already highlighted in the previous Annual Report, a certain number of lessons can be learnt from the good practices so far transferred within the projects:

- The notion of transfer is not as straightforward as it may seem from the definition provided in annex 3 of the programme manual. Usually, a transfer of practice means that a specific initiative developed by one partner has attracted the interest of another partner who then implements it on their territory. However, in the case of CLUSNET for instance (see example provided in the previous Annual Report), it is the joint input of the partners on a specific local case study which finally resulted in the implementation of new actions in the concerned territory. It is therefore not one specific practice that is transferred but a variety of inputs provided by different partners on a precise local issue. In the above case of CITEAIR II, the practice comes from another source (the European Environment Agency) or is developed by the partners in the course of the project and is adopted by certain partners.
- On the whole, the projects that are able to demonstrate an actual transfer of practices are projects with a low level of intensity of cooperation (e.g. CLUSNET, CLIQ, MINI EUROPE, MORE4NRG, and SEE).  
The success of projects with a low level of intensity of cooperation is the best evidence for the usefulness and efficiency of networking activities. These transfers also represent a form of mainstreaming into policies since transfer implementation of the practices was not funded by INTERREG IVC but by other public sources at local, regional or national levels,
- The win-win character of the cooperation is also demonstrated in the successful transfers. Even if in a majority of cases, it is the less advanced region that benefited from the most advanced region, there are examples where the transfer goes in the other direction (example of MINI EUROPE where the Veneto region takes inspiration from the Hungarian Regional Knowledge Centre).



- Projects often have the tendency to confuse the notion of practice transfer with that of policy improved. Even if a good practice transfer is a tangible result, it usually remains a one-off which does not necessarily lead to a structural change. In comparison, a policy improved (e.g. modification of a strategy or of a policy document) is designed to be sustainable and to have a long-term impact. In MINI EUROPE, the way Flevoland has tackled the Summer entrepreneur initiative is a perfect example of the core difference between practice transfer and policy improved. Initially, the summer entrepreneur initiative was organised once in Flevoland following the experience developed in Mid Sweden. There was no particular plan to make it an on-going measure within the region and the Flevoland region had to find specific funding to organise the event. At that stage, this result was correctly reported to the programme as a good practice transferred. In a second step, and due to the success of the first event organised in the Netherlands, the new policy of Flevoland for the period 2010-2013 was finally modified to include the Summer Entrepreneur initiative as core measure for promoting young entrepreneurship in the region. Only this second achievement through its long term impact was reported to the programme as a policy improved.

The results achieved by Capitalisation Projects have not changed since the last Annual Report since the final outcomes of the second call Capitalisation Projects will only be presented in the next Annual Report. As a reminder, a total of 20 Capitalisation Projects were approved and the following elements are of interest.

1. 244 partners (of which 132 public authorities) are included in these 20 projects. Apart from Malta, all other EU Member States are represented in these projects.
2. Certain of these projects have faced difficulties in the mainstreaming process. For instance, the good practices finally selected for transfer by a partner were not fully compatible with the characteristics of the Regional Operational Programme of this partner (Emilia Romagna in PIKE). Sometimes the practices required a mix of ESF and ERDF although these two funding sources were managed separately in the region. Or there was no relevant measure under which the practice could be finally financed. Other examples of difficulties relate to the decision-making process of each Operational Programme. The final decision on implementing the practices in the region must obviously be in line with the rules of procedures of the concerned Monitoring Committee.

Finally, a few third call Capitalisation Projects like MKW informed the JTS that the ERDF of the current operational programme was already fully allocated to a few

regions. In such cases, the JTS checks carefully with each project which strategy could be adopted to cope with this situation.

Despite the above difficulties and as demonstrated in this chapter, the 6 first call Capitalisation Projects which finalised their activities in 2010 can be considered as very successful in their mainstreaming process. **A total of 63 Actions Plans were produced by these projects.** This represents an average of one action plan per participating region apart from RAPIDE where 17 action plans were produced. Indeed, the regions involved in RAPIDE decided to produce an action plan per practice transferred, which means that several regions (e.g. South West UK, Észak-Alföld Regional Development Agency HU) worked on more than one action plan.

In addition to the policies improved described in the previous Annual Report; their remarkable achievements are summarised in table 7 below, which is based on the mainstreaming funds dedicated to the implementation of the practices:

**Table 6: Achievements of the first call capitalisation projects**

Projects	IVC ERDF spent (EUR)	Leverage effect	Amount dedicated to the implementation of practices (EUR)
B3 Regions	1,525,947	x 307	= 468,612,500
ERIK ACTION	1,418,440	x 17	= 24,561,200
ESF6 CIA	935,661	x 55	= 51,300,000
ICHNOS PLUS	734,183	x 0.9	= 687,800
PIKE	1,146,295	x 6	= 7,272,900
RAPIDE	1,194,558	x 18	= 21,210,460
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,955,084</b>	<b>x 82</b>	<b>573,644,800</b>
<b>TOTAL (without B3 Regions)</b>	<b>5,429,137</b>	<b>x 19</b>	<b>105,032,300</b>

This table is a good illustration of the leverage effect of interregional cooperation. The ERDF budget of EUR 7 million that was invested in the six first call Capitalisation Projects may have an impact on EUR 571 million of national / regional funds (mainly ERDF). This means a leverage effect of 82. Of course, the results of B3 Regions play a major role in this huge leverage effect. But without this specific project, the leverage effect would still be 19.

However, the above table has to be analysed with a lot of care, taking into consideration the following points:

- Even if the vast majority of action plans are finalised and signed by the relevant policymakers (there are only a few exceptions like the Greek region of Sterea Ellada in PIKE where the Managing Authority was unable to sign the plan due to the restructuring of the National Reference Framework), most of these action plans are not implemented yet. In other words, most of the funding indicated in the last column is not spent yet and sometimes it is not even secured. A noticeable exception is the PIKE project where EUR 3 million (out of the EUR 7.3 million included in the action plans) has already been secured.
- The amount of mainstream funds depends a lot on the issue addressed by the project. For instance, the amount reported by B3 Regions may appear extremely high (it accounts for 82 % of all the funds alone) but it can be explained by the fact that this project deals with broadband in rural areas. It therefore relates to infrastructures which may require heavy investment. In comparison, the results of ICHNOS PLUS may appear modest. But since ICHNOS PLUS deals with soft measures related to SMEs support, the amount of mainstream funds reported by the project is in fact very satisfactory.
- Despite the name of this result indicator, the amount dedicated to the implementation of practices is not exclusively related to ERDF. For various reasons, regions were not always in a position to focus on Structural Funds and when this was the case they sought to mainstream the practices into other sources of funding at local, regional or national levels.

In the first part of their final report, the projects are asked to explain how interregional cooperation has contributed to the project's achievements. The following extract from the "B3 Regions" final report is of particular interest:

*'During the proposal submission stage, B3 Regions partners had identified 8 good practices at EU level regarding different approaches or methodologies linked to broadband deployment. The good practices collected were grouped in different categories: we shared knowledge related to management procedure of structural funds or, to technological aspects or to economic investment models.*

*During the organisation of the workshops, the partners effectively tested how challenging and complex was the broadband topic and the drafting of a consistent broadband strategy, requiring so many information, varying from pure technological expertise to social, economic or legal skills, to acquaintance with structural funds management procedures. Partners clearly*

*understood that their capitalisation objective required different and complex types of expertise because their broadband strategy dealt with technological, legal, administrative or economic know-how.*

*Without the interregional cooperation methodology and framework each single regional or national government partner would have found very difficult to be supported in the broadband design strategy. All partners fully recognised that such a complex and crucial European strategy required a blend of different know-how that only under an interregional framework such as INTERREG IV C had the chance to be effectively shared in a learning framework lasted 20 months.'*

### **3.1.2.4 Programme Objective: contribution to EU horizontal policies**

#### Equal opportunities

The target value concerning the percentage of projects with positive effects on equal opportunities (10%) is largely exceeded with an achieved value of 63.7% of all approved projects. The initial estimation was clearly underestimated. A significant number of projects demonstrate that the topic they address has some connection with equal opportunities. For instance, the PEOPLE mini-programme explores the opportunities for new employment and ways of reinforcing cohesion and well-being in the context of demographic and societal changes faced by European regions. Equal opportunities is an important issue in most of the six sub-topics tackled by the mini-programme: 1- Social and e-inclusion. 2- Silver economy. 3- Civil society capacity building. 4- ICT for Health and dependency. 5- Social entrepreneurship. 6- Work-life balance.

In addition, although their topic may not be directly related to equal opportunities, a high number of Lead Partners (and partners) have explained that equal opportunities were part of their internal organisation's policy anyway. This internal policy has to be applied to all projects they are involved in, including European initiatives such as INTERREG IVC projects. Equal opportunities approaches would therefore apply to the day-to-day management of the project (e.g. in the recruitment of the coordinator). This can explain to a large extent the unexpectedly high percentage indicated above.

Other projects have a direct focus on equal opportunities, and four examples can be found below:

- **Gender4Growth** is a first call Regional Initiative Project addressing economic gender inequalities, in particular lower female employment rates, wages and positions, job market segmentation and inability to balance career and family life. The project aims at improving partners' economic policies so that gender issues are increasingly taken into consideration at policy level. Partners exchange their experiences, organise transfer workshops and grant 'Awards' to local economic initiatives that most effectively tackle gender issues.
- **WINNET 8** is a second call Capitalisation Project addressing the challenges related to low employment rates among women. The combination of segregated labour markets and the lack of women in entrepreneurship, innovation and technology constitute obstacles for regional competitiveness. The project's overall objective is to contribute to regional growth by promoting employment of women and counteracting horizontal gender segregation. WINNET 8 also focuses on good practices in attracting women to traditionally male occupations and targets strategies to integrate gender specific actions into Structural Funds mainstream programmes.
- **ENSPIRE EU** is a second call Regional Initiative Project addressing entrepreneurship for disadvantaged groups. More particularly, the project has three target groups: 1) Disadvantaged People: without the same opportunities as the average European (e.g. female, migrants). 2) Disconnected People: disconnected from the labour Market (long-term unemployed or people with a low-level education). 3) Discouraged People: young people at secondary level of education discouraged with the education system. Project partners all recognise the relevance and challenge of developing and promoting entrepreneurial inspiration. The partners have all focused on entrepreneurial inspiration and have developed a lot of practices and know-how in this field. However, the partners have done this in different ways, for different stakeholders and with varying level of success. The projects aim to exchange good practices between the partners and to develop a unique strategic policy framework by mainstreaming new knowledge into the policy sphere.
- **LABOUR PLUS** is a fourth call Regional Initiative Project addressing the labour market inclusion of migrants in general and Roma in particular. Through interregional transfer of knowledge and practices, the project aims to create and stimulate more inclusive and sustainable employment policies. It also enables the partners to tackle discrimination and unemployment by analysing and discussing existing policies, strategies and scenarios.

## Environment

The programme has also exceeded its initial objective as far as the percentage of projects with positive effects on the environment is concerned. 83.8% of the approved projects state that they will be positive or have their main focus on environmental sustainability (instead of the 60% initially targeted). This focus on environmental issues is evident for the 85 approved projects in priority 2 (41.7% of all approved projects). Nevertheless, as explained above for equal opportunities, a high number of projects under priority 1 also explained how they will make sure that the day-to-day implementation of their project will respect environmental constraints. The integrated approach adopted by certain of these projects (e.g. 7 projects deals with eco-innovation) also explains why the topics tackled under priority 1 can directly relate to environmental considerations.

As demonstrated in the previous Annual Report, the thematic overview of the 20 Capitalisation Projects is balanced, with 55 % approved in priority 1 and 45 % approved in priority 2.

### **3.1.2.5 Management and coordination**

All approved projects have set up a Steering Group or equivalent decision-making board that meets on average every six months. Management and coordination is progressing smoothly for the majority of projects.

The JTS still faces difficulties with certain Lead Partners (e.g. deadlines not met, poor quality of the reported information). For the most serious cases, individual consultations with the projects concerned are organised in Lille. Most of the time, this kind of face-to-face discussion brings satisfactory results.

The operational programme's target value of 10% for the percentage of progress reports approved without clarification requests from the JTS is still not reached since all progress reports submitted up to the end of 2011 were subject to such requests. Despite this statistic, the overall reporting process in the programme usually works properly, even if there are also delays in the treatment on the reports. The JTS also considers the clarification request as a way to communicate and exchange with the Lead Partners. As far as the activity monitoring is concerned, the Lead Partners are systematically encouraged to provide as many details as possible on their progress and in particular on the results achieved. Often, the remark made by the JTS is not a request for immediate clarification but a simple recommendation to im-

prove the quality of the reporting for future periods. The rationale behind each request (e.g. importance of justifying the indicators, of providing qualitative information) is also explained. The aim is to contribute to a mutual understanding and to ensure that Lead Partners feel committed to the programme's success. In the same spirit, each year the JTS sends the present qualitative analysis to all Lead Partners.

Some projects have developed their own IT monitoring system through an intranet which allows all partners to report their costs and sometimes even their activities and achievements. Some of these systems can be very sophisticated, such as in the **PEOPLE** and **POWER** mini-programmes.

POWER is also interesting for another reason: project management. This mini-programme, which deals with the low carbon economy, has adopted an innovative tool in their day-to-day management. The POWER partners have agreed to use a CO2 calculator to encourage the dissemination of good practice in carbon reduction for the actors participating in the mini-programme (used to gauge CO2 savings across the programme). This calculator is used to assess the CO2 savings (or consumption) related to events not held (i.e. savings from alternative communication methods such as teleconferences) and to determine the best venue for the interregional physical meetings / events planned within the project. The calculator is applied by regional partners as well as all participants in sub-projects.

### **3.1.2.6 Dissemination**

For the first time, the figures presented for the dissemination refer to the 122 projects of the first three calls. As demonstrated by the indicators related to publicity activities, these projects continue to be very active in disseminating their projects and results. In fact, most of the target values set in the Operational Programme have already been exceeded.

340 brochures were published and more than 1,000 dissemination events were organised in 2011. The number of events organised can vary differently depending on the projects. This figure includes interregional dissemination events but also the events organised in each partner area in order to ensure that the lessons learnt from the project are also available to local stakeholders. A majority of projects have organised fewer than 10 dissemination events but, for a few projects (e.g. WINNET 8, ENTREDI, REVERSE, PIMMS TRANSFER) with a special focus on local dissemination, this figure can exceed 20 events. The effort in promoting the projects and their results is also reflected in the fact that the projects have now been

presented in more than 2,000 'other events' (i.e. events not organised by the project but where the project is proactively promoted by means of a presentation or a stand). Thanks to all these dissemination efforts, projects have already reported more than 4,000 appearances in the press and media. Around 150,000 people were also reached through the different dissemination events organised.

As part of the progress report monitoring, the JTS also systematically checks project websites and publicity materials to ensure that EU publicity requirements are respected.

Two particular innovative examples of internal and external communication are provided below:

- **RETS** ('Renewable Energies Transfer System') is a second call Regional Initiative Project. One of the principle objectives of the project is to facilitate communication and access to knowledge through the integration of internet technologies and applications as a key component of the project. The Lead Partner (ADEC, FR) has wide experience in the organisation and use of Web 2.0 technologies and it has initiated a transfer of these practices to the project partners for both the project management and the project activities. A major element has been the setting up of the project wiki: ([www.rets-community.eu](http://www.rets-community.eu)). The wiki, which is only open to registered members, has two main sections: a project management section which brings together all the internal project administrative, financial and communication aspects of the project, and a dedicated section for project activities (good practices related to renewable energy, seminars, study visits, competitive intelligence). All partners have the possibility to consult, create and modify information within the wiki application. Another technology that ADEC has deployed for the project partners is a competitive intelligence service, which sources and collects new and up-to-date information on renewable energy related issues from all over the web. This information is then validated by the expert partners before being used in dedicated thematic newsletters and diffused to the local authorities.
- The **PEOPLE** mini-programme is a first call Regional Initiative Project. PEOPLE decided from its start to adopt an interactive communication approach, using, for example, social media. This approach had a large influence on the communication policy of the department in charge of PEOPLE within the province of Noord-Brabant (partner 4, NL). Because of the valuable experience gained within the mini-programme, the use of different types of social media within this department increased significantly, not only for the participants like policymakers, management and board but also in terms



of the use of new applications and the creation of new accounts and groups on Twitter and LinkedIn. It has become a process of open innovation in which everyone learns from each other. The regional coordinator of PEOPLE is considered as the initiator of this process of innovation. His experience is now even shared outside the department. The PEOPLE coordinator gave several master classes about the use of social media in the social domain inside the provincial organisation and to partners in the regional 'Smart Care' programme. The products developed within PEOPLE (twitter account, twitter conference, policy forum, wiki and LinkedIn group) are always provided as interesting examples during these master classes.

### **3.2 Priority 3**

Information on the implementation of priority axe 3 (Technical Assistance) is given in the section 4 below.

#### **4 Technical assistance**

In 2011, an amount of EUR 4,578,624.47 was spent on Technical Assistance. This amount corresponds to EUR 3,666,433.38 ERDF.

In 2011, the available technical assistance funds allowed the financing of 22 JTS staff members in Lille/France (incl. IP West) and 10 IP staff members in Katowice/Poland, Rostock/Germany, Valencia/Spain, occupying positions in the areas of general management, assistance, IT, communication, projects, finances and financial control and audit.

In addition to the staff costs mentioned above, the JTS and IPs also assisted the Programme in carrying out the following activities financed with funds from the technical assistance budget:

- Providing assistance to project applicants before the submission of the project application and after the project approval (advice given by e-mail, phone and during lead applicant seminars/Lead Partner seminars, by individual consultations, through participation in project meetings and conferences),
- Organisation and facilitation of programme meetings (Monitoring Committee and Group of Auditors meetings),
- Expenditure related to communication and dissemination regarding the INTERREG IVC programme, such as the continued development of the website, and creation and printing of programme information brochures,
- Organisation of two main communication events (Interregional Cooperation Forum in Budapest/Hungary in February 2011 and the Good Practice Fair in Krakow/Poland in October 2011),
- Organisation of information seminars such as those further outlined in section 5.1.2 below, (mainly a lead applicant seminar for fourth call project applicants, a finance seminar for first level controller approbation bodies from countries with a decentralised first level control system as well as a finance seminar for first level controllers from Member States with a centralised FLC system),
- Coordination and implementation of accounting, paying and certifying procedures with the legal employer of the Secretariat (GEIE GECOTTI) and also with the Certifying Authority,
- JTS office-related expenditure for office rental and material such as office equipment, stationery, maintenance and utilities,

- IT-related expenditure (office IT equipment such as hardware and software as well as the continued development of a project administration database and especially of the project online reporting tool),
- Payment of the external audit firm responsible for carrying out the audits on projects, preparing the content of the GoA meeting and drafting the annual control report and annual opinion 2010/2009 under the Group of Auditor's and Audit Authority's responsibility and supervision.

## **5 Information and publicity**

The last call for proposals remained open until April 2011, and the Joint Technical Secretariat together with four Information Points continued to organise various events targeted at the potential beneficiaries to promote the funding opportunities available to them until this date (also see Annual Report 2010). By this time, projects which had been approved during the first Call for proposals were coming to a close, and the communicational focus started to shift to publicising the results of these projects. This was also the main reason for changing the format of the main annual communication action: partner search forums made way for a good practice fair, which could notably present projects' outputs and achievements. The launch of the online 'good practice' database was likewise designed to serve the same purpose. Additionally, the programme was actively involved in the external events that will now be described in the next chapters.

### **5.1 Events**

#### **5.1.1 Events related to the fourth call for proposals**

In 2011, the Programme continued a cycle of events that were devoted to the fourth call for proposals (see also Annual Report 2010) like information seminars, lead applicant seminars, and the fourth EU Interregional Cooperation Forum.

##### **5.1.1.1 Information days**

- 13 January - Helsinki (FI): Finland National Information Seminar (49 participants)
- 13 January - Brno (CZ): Czech National Information Seminar (50 participants)
- 13 January - Ljubljana (SI): Slovenian National Information Seminar (45 participants)
- 14 January - Stafford (UK): UK regional Information Seminar (60 participants)
- 17 January - Oslo (NO): Norwegian National Information Seminar (14 participants)
- 19 January - Enschede (NL): Dutch National Information Seminar (80 participants)
- 20 January - Vilnius (LT): Lithuania National Information Seminar (36 participants)
- 20 January - Warsaw (PL): Polish National Information Seminar (90 participants)
- 21 January - Riga (LV): Latvian National Information Seminar (51 participants)
- 24 January - Valencia (ES): Spanish National Information Seminar (133 participants)
- 24 January - Brussels (BE): Belgian National Information Seminar (60 participants)
- 25 January - Bucarest (RO): Romanian National Information Seminar (90 participants)
- 26 January - Luxemburg (LU): Luxembourgish National Information Seminar (15 participants)
- 27 January - Sofia (BG): Bulgarian National Information Seminar (80 participants)
- 9-10 February - Stockholm (SE): INTERREG IVC Workshop at the Swedish III (80 participants)

- 4 March, Newry (IE): Irish (Ireland and Northern Ireland) National Information Day (25 participants)

Together with the National Contact Points and/or the Member States representatives, 16 National Information Seminars were organised in 2011 (4 were organised in 2010, *for more information see Annual Report 2010*). Events were open to all bodies interested in, and eligible for, the INTERREG IVC programme. Special attention was paid to the regions not yet represented by the programme at that time, based on a geographic analysis carried out by the Information Points. The seminars provided information about the main features of the programme, the specific requirements of the fourth call, along with information specific to the particular national context. During the events, participants were very active and asked numerous questions related to the project development, the partnership, the eligibility or the relevance of project ideas. Furthermore, during the Information Days, several representatives from running projects also shared their experiences with the participants, which included advice on how to build a partnership and outlined the major mistakes to be avoided during the application stage etc. Additionally, all these events served as a partner search tool enabling participants to exchange their ideas or look for additional partners or join projects then in preparation.

#### **5.1.1.2 Lead Applicant Seminars**

- 20 January - Valletta (MT) South (48 participants)
- 27 January - Helsinki (FI) North (24 participants)
- 8 February - Lisbon (PT) South (74 participants)
- 17 February - Frankfurt am Main (DE) North (43 participants)
- 23 February - Amsterdam (NL) West ( 55 participants)
- 3-4 March - Vienna (AT) East (35 participants)

Lead Applicant seminars were targeted at persons who had taken on the role of lead applicant/partner in a proposed project under development. They focused on practical exercises on how to complete the application form, organised in each Information Point area.

#### **5.1.1.3 Fourth EU Interregional Cooperation Forum**

- **3-4 February 2011 - Budapest (HU)**

Almost 500 participants, from all the 29 countries, took part in the fourth EU Interregional Cooperation Forum, held in Budapest, on 3-4 February 2011. The forum, organised by the INTERREG IVC programme and the Hungarian Presidency of the EU, was aimed at informing participants about the latest developments in the programme, and provided opportunities

for networking and partner search for people developing cooperation projects. The EU Commissioner for Regional Policy, Johannes Hahn, and the President of the Committee of the Regions, Mercedes Bresso, were both present to open the proceedings.

Over the two days, panel discussions between regions and cities currently cooperating, in addition to workshops and presentations from INTERREG IVC staff, produced a full spectrum of possible results, thanks to interregional cooperation.

Networking was facilitated by a unique system called 'Spot-me', allowing participants to easily find the people from a particular region or theme that they were interested in contacting. Almost 2500 contact details were exchanged using this system.

84% of the participants considered the networking to be fruitful. 86% thought the workshops were “very good” or “excellent”. 91% of the participants deemed the general organisation of the forum “very good” or “excellent”.

### **5.1.2 Events for First Level Control Bodies**

During the course of the year 2011, two seminars were organised for the First Level Control (FLC) approbation bodies:

- 6 October - Amsterdam (NL): Meeting of INTERREG IVC First Level Control Bodies in decentralised systems - 19 participants
- 27 October - Prague (CZ): Meeting of INTERREG IVC First Level Control Bodies in centralised Systems - 26 participants

The aim of these seminars was to bring together, First Level control Approbation Bodies and Centralised First Level Controllers on separate occasions to initiate an exchange among participants as regards their different roles and practices, aimed at a possible standardisation and improvement of the current system (if appropriate or necessary). The objective was to evaluate the current system and gather feedback on its strengths and weaknesses that could be utilised in the future.

The meeting of the FLC approbation bodies was also a good opportunity to exchange thoughts on the different roles assumed by the approbation body in the decentralised first level control system. The approbation body is not, as such, included in the regulations, but was set up to comply with the stipulation of Article 16 of Regulation 1080/2006 in a decentralised context. The meeting made apparent that, in practice, the approbation bodies' functions

go well beyond the designation of first level controllers and include additional tasks such as FLC support, training, quality checks to help to secure the system – This is of course in Member States' own interest, considering the fact that final financial responsibilities lie with individual Member States. The EC invited participants to systematically report on the various activities undertaken by the approbation bodies– a suggestion that the JTS will follow-up on: it intends to propose a system to the Monitoring Committee designed to report on these activities in the context of the annual implementation reports. The documents from the seminars as well as the reports can be found in the news section of the INTERREG IVC website.

To eliminate the risk of de-commitment for 2012 and to ensure that projects approved following the fourth Call for proposals would be able to submit expenditure by October 2012, the seminars were also used as an occasion to discuss measures with the two types of bodies. The approbation bodies were invited to follow closely the appointment of FLCs and to approve them in a timely manner before 30 June 2012 so that all fourth call projects would be in a position to submit their report by 1 October 2012. In order to avoid delays, the centralised first level controllers were advised to set clear deadlines for the submission of documents, for the sending of reminders and for providing guidance and training for projects. This could help to ensure that projects meet deadlines and include all the necessary supporting documents, thereby accelerating payment being made to projects.

The first event targeted at representatives from countries (in total 16) having decentralised the first level control system under INTERREG IVC welcomed 26 participants from Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, the UK, as well as from the European Commission, the INTERREG IVC Audit Authority and Managing Authority/JTS.

The second event brought together 19 participants from 10 of the 15 countries having opted for a centralised first level control system under INTERREG IVC: the Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, and the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland.

### **5.1.3 The first INTERREG IVC Good Practice Fair 2011**

The first event purely aimed at the achievements of INTERREG IVC projects was named the INTERREG IVC Good Practice Fair 2011. It brought together more than 200 local and regional stakeholders from across Europe attracted by the opportunity to share ideas and experience on how to improve regional development policies. Detailed, practical case studies on what some regions have put into practice were presented in six workshops devoted to the topics of innovation, use of waste land, entrepreneurship, energy efficiency, demographic

change and climate change. An exhibition area with 27 project stands offered networking possibilities to gather more information on how these practices work. The INTERREG IVC Cinema screened selected short project videos to give more information about the projects themselves as well as the issues they cover, showing what challenges are being faced and what solutions have been found. The INTERREG IVC library showcased the collection of good practice guides produced by the projects.

The significance of the event was acknowledged by three special political figures – Dirk Ahner, Director General at DG Regio; Magdalena Jasińska, Deputy-director of the ETC department at the Polish Ministry of Regional Development; and Stanisław Sorys, Vice-Marshal of Małopolska region (PL). Dirk Ahner emphasised the importance of interregional cooperation for the success of cohesion policy. He highlighted that INTERREG IVC is important as it is well-received, worthwhile and challenging. He also took time to visit the stands of the projects and suggested a similar event be organised in Brussels during the Open Days 2012.

All participants acknowledged that the event met with their expectations (from 3 to 5 points). 98% of the participants felt a need for such events and said that they would attend them. 82% of the participants said that the timing of the event was very good or excellent. Participants of the event agreed that the event was a good opportunity to hear about the outputs of other projects, to discuss issues faced and solutions found, to meet others working in a similar field, and to learn more about the different policies.

A detailed report including a video from the event is published on the INTERREG IVC website.

#### **5.1.4 Events for approved projects**

In July-August 2011, the Joint Technical Secretariat and IPs drew up a questionnaire on the needs to be addressed by the communication seminar. 80 questionnaires were returned representing 64 projects. More than half of all of the respondents confirmed that they wished to have the communication seminar during the first quarter of 2012. The lead partners expressed a need for trainings on media relations, stakeholder mapping, effective project communication, internal communication and writing skills. Such needs have been taken into account in the planning of the communication seminar for all approved projects in 2012.



As 82 projects from the fourth call had been approved on 15-16 December in Warsaw (PL), the Lead Partner seminar was scheduled for 16-17 January 2012. Finance seminars for the fourth call approved projects were also scheduled for 2012.

### **5.1.5 Briefing to the National Contact points**

#### **- Questionnaire for the National Contact Points**

The Joint Technical Secretariat together with four Information Points prepared the questionnaire for the National Contact Points in December 2011. The aim of the questionnaire was to evaluate the support of the Information Points to NCP, to find out about the INTERREG IVC promotion possibilities in each of the member states and prepare the questions for the discussions for the next meeting of the National Contact Points. Representatives from all National Contact Points provided answers. The communication and support from IPs was evaluated as good (4/5). 72% of the respondents expressed the wish to have the next NCP meeting alongside the MC meeting in 2012. Additional questions included in the questionnaire provided information on the events organised in the member states during which the INTERREG IVC programme could potentially be promoted. The results of the questionnaire highlighted a need for country specific information for each Member State, and this is planned to be produced during 2012.

### **5.1.6 Briefing to the National Contact points**

In addition to the events organised by the JTS and the Information Points, the staff also participated in events organised by external stakeholders.

#### **- *Regions for Economic Change – Brussels (BE), 23-24 June 2010***

The INTERREG IVC programme and four information points were represented at the event with a stand. 20 projects replied to the invitation to send materials (good practice guides, brochures, etc.) to the JTS to be distributed during the event. In addition to this, three INTERREG IVC projects were invited to give presentations in either one of the workshops on “Interregional networks” and “Networks for sustainable regions: green infrastructure and ecosystems”:

- SURFNATURE:** Peter Torkler, WWF Germany, Investing in Green Infrastructure and ecosystems

- **GRABS:** Diane Smith, European & Corporate Affairs Manager, Town and County Planning Association, London
- **MKW:** Richard Tuffs, European Regions Research and Innovation Network

In 2011, two INTERREG IVC projects, FLIPPER and SEE, were among the 21 finalists for the RegioStars award 2011.

CLIQ, a project dealing with innovation policy, and GRaBS, a project designed to adapt urban planning to climate change, have both been submitted by INTERREG IVC Managing Authority to compete for a Regio Stars Awards 2012. On the 8 December 2011, it was announced that the project GraBS was in the list of finalists.

- **XXI. Economic Forum / Forum of Regions on 7-9 September 2011 in Krynica (PL) (250 participants)**

Pursuing the promotion of the INTERREG IVC programme in less experienced regions, the programme took the opportunity to participate in this Forum. This high level event, styled as the 'Davos of the East' brought together politicians and representatives of business and public administration. Thanks to the fruitful cooperation with the main organiser, the Warsaw Institute for Eastern European Studies, following a positive experience from last year, the INTERREG IVC programme co-organised two panel discussions: a plenary session on 'The Future of the European Regions - The Strategy of the Regional Development 2020' and a panel discussion on 'Cohesion Policy - Driving Force of Regional Economic Growth'.

Other events:

- presentation at the CoR in the meeting of Commission for Territorial Cohesion Policy – 19 May, Brussels (BE) (over 120 elected members (presidents of regions, mayors of a major city or county councilors) from all EU regions)
- presentation on Interregional co-operation in EU Cohesion Policy during the mini-hearing at the EP Committee on Regional Development on 12 July, (BE) 2011 (over 100 elected Parliament members, their substitutes or assistants).
- Joint TransNational Conference organised by all transNational programmes – 15-16 September, Katowice (PL)
- IV Forum of Economic Policy on 29-30 September, Wisla (PL)
- Open days on 10-13 October in Brussels (BE)

- presentation at the conference 'Learning from European partners - experience with INTERREG IVC in Berlin and Brandenburg' on 27-29 October, Potsdam (DE) (50 participants)

## **5.2 *Project consultations***

Individual consultations were organised alongside information events, but also at their own dedicated times in each Information Point area. In addition, written feedback was also provided on request using the project assistance form. 1094 individual consultations took place at the beginning of the year for the fourth call, which closed on 1 April 2011.

## **5.3 *Printed and promotional material***

### **5.3.1 *Promotional objects***

In order to ensure effective visibility during events, 10 vertical exhibition banners were produced in the programme's graphic identity style for the fourth EU Interregional Cooperation Forum in Budapest. There was one stand for each programme sub-theme.

Two vertical exhibition banners were produced in the programme's graphic identity style for the INTERREG IVC Good Practice Fair in Krakow. One stand was designed to promote the programme, the second one promoted the good practice database. The stand is an easy to set up portable structure that allows good visibility, providing clear programme information.

Other promotional materials produced:

- Umbrellas (in 3 colours), shopping bags (in 4 colours), USB keys
- Folders (reprint), business cards, headed paper

### **5.3.2 *Printed material***

The following material that had been previously produced was reprinted in 2011:

- promotional flyers – 1000 ex.
- First Collection of INTERREG IVC projects – 1000 ex.

New publications produced in 2011:

- **Better Policies through Interregional Cooperation: Experience and Good Practice from North area countries (February 2011) – 600 ex.**

This brochure (edited by the Information Point North) focuses on the good practices already identified by projects involving partners from the eight countries of this area. Given the large overlap with the Baltic Sea macro-region area, it outlines the possible synergies between this programme and EU strategy. The introductions to the brochure were written by Colin Wolfe, Head of European TransNational and Interregional Cooperation Unit, DG Regional Policy, European Commission.

- **Solidarity works! How Regions improve thanks to cooperation – 5000 ex.**

This brochure shows how interregional cooperation benefits both 'advanced' and 'less-advanced' regions and presents numerous specific examples of good practice transfer. The publication, which was produced by the Information Point East, is the first 'results' brochure for INTERREG IVC projects. The editorial was written by Elzbieta Bienkowska, the Minister of Regional Development Republic of Poland.

- **Achievements so far (June 2011), printed version – 1000 ex.**

This short leaflet was produced for the Monitoring Committee meeting in Madrid, June 2010 to give member states and the EC some concrete examples of results that could already be seen in INTERREG IVC projects. It was updated with examples of improved policies taken from the annual report 2010 and printed for a wider dissemination in 2011.

#### **5.4 Website and news alerts**

During 2011, there were additional developments to the INTERREG IVC website: [www.interreg4c.eu](http://www.interreg4c.eu). These include the 'Good practices database' module (<http://www.interreg4c.eu/findGoodpractices.html>). Launched in November 2011, this searchable online database is a collection of good practices that have been identified during the course of INTERREG IVC projects. Descriptions of good practices are drafted by the project partners themselves, and updated quarterly. The main objective of this database is to allow local, regional and national policymakers to access the ideas and techniques that have been successfully implemented by their European counterparts, and to contact the relevant people in the organisation to get further details on the conditions for transfer.

In September 2011, the website, up to then hosted by developers (<http://interreg4c.eu/>), was transferred to the programme server ([www.interreg4c.eu](http://www.interreg4c.eu)) ensuring better and faster accessibility to the information for users. It is not possible to provide detailed statistics about the number of visitors to the website in 2011, owing to the technical problems affecting the website in March 2012 which caused the loss of all data on the number of visitors.

The INTERREG IVC programme does not produce a printed newsletter, however news alerts are sent by email to the database contacts. The newly developed 'newsletter' module on the website now allows the sending of an automatically generated newsletter to the list of subscribers. The newsletter is generated from the focus article, latest news and events published on the website.

Since August 2011, five focus articles have been prepared and placed on the main page of the website. These monthly updated focus article present EU topics related to the programme topics and provide examples of the INTERREG IVC projects if needed:

- Forests for people
- Good Practice database
- Waste reduction
- Getting Europe moving
- Programme Capitalisation on innovation

Three news alerts and five such newsletters were sent out in 2011, to almost 5000 contacts.

## **5.5 Media & institutional relations**

Press releases were sent out to the media on major news items related to the implementation of INTERREG IVC programmes, such as the INTERREG IVC hearing at the EP, the launch of the Good practice database, the first INTERREG IVC Good Practice Fair, etc. In most cases, information from the press releases was also published on the DG-Regio news pages.

An online monitoring system using Google alerts, in addition to assistance from National Contact Points and Information Points revealed 15 mentions of the programme in National and regional press and news portals. The news items were related to the co-financed projects or the newly launched good practice database.

Articles were requested and published in a variety of publications, such as:

- Public Service Review: European Science & Technology
- European Territorial Cooperation – Building bridges between the people

Institutional communication

- INFORM May & December 2011 (moderation of the workshop 'Reaching target groups in European Territorial Co-operation programmes')

## **Annexe 01: Projects' and Programme management performance table**

## Annex 01 to Annual Report 2011: Projects' and Programme management performance table

Indicator		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total	
<b>1. Projects' performance (Priorities 1 and 2) (total of all projects in the programme)</b>								
<b>1.1. Contribution of projects to programme objectives</b>								
<b>1.1.1 Improvement of regional and local policies (in accordance with chapter 4.2, specific thematic objectives 1 and 2)</b>	<b>Output:</b> No. of regional/local policies and instruments addressed in the fields of	Achievement	0	0	1,176	78	770	2,024
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Research and technology development</li> <li>○ Support to entrepreneurship and SMEs</li> <li>○ Information Society</li> <li>○ Employment, Human Capital and Education</li> <li>○ Natural and technological risks</li> <li>○ Water management</li> <li>○ Waste prevention and management</li> <li>○ Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage</li> <li>○ Energy and sustainable public transport</li> <li>○ Cultural heritage and landscape</li> </ul>	Target						750
	<b>Result:</b> No of regional/local policies and instruments improved or developed in the fields of	Achievement	0	0	6	44	52	102
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Research and technology development</li> <li>○ Support to entrepreneurship and SMEs</li> <li>○ Information Society</li> <li>○ Employment, Human Capital and Education</li> <li>○ Natural and technological risks</li> <li>○ Water management</li> <li>○ Waste prevention and management</li> <li>○ Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage</li> <li>○ Energy and sustainable public transport</li> <li>○ Cultural heritage and landscapes</li> </ul>	Target						150



Indicator		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total	
1.1.2 Exchange of experience and improvement of capacities and knowledge of regional and local stakeholders in particular by matching less experienced regions with regions with more experience (in accordance with chapter 4.2, specific horizontal objectives 3 and 4)	<b>Output:</b> No. partners involved o public authorities o bodies governed by public law	Achievement	0	448	793	91	942	2,274
		Target						1,400
	<b>Output:</b> No. of interregional events organised by projects to exchange experience	Achievement	0	0	243	316	651	1,210
		Target						1,400
	<b>Output:</b> No. of participants in these interregional events	Achievement	0	0	6,174	7,425	16,380	29,979
		Target						14,000
	<b>Output:</b> % of approved projects where both 'Objective Convergence' regions and 'Objective Competitiveness' regions are involved in the partnership	Achievement	0	98%	99%	99%	99%	99%
		Target						80%
	<b>Result:</b> % of partners by legal status (public authorities/bodies governed by public law )	Achievement	0	55/45%	55/45%	54/46%	51/49%	51/49%
		Target						70/30%
	<b>Result:</b> No. of staff members with increased capacity (awareness/knowledge/skills) resulting from the exchange of experience at interregional events	Achievement	0	0	820	1,072	1,704	3,596
		Target						2,800
	<b>Result:</b> No. of new projects/activities/approaches resulting from the exchange/dissemination of experience at interregional events	Achievement	0	0	8	15	65	88
		Target						480
<b>Result:</b> No. of action plans developed by Objective 'Convergence' regions further to the lessons learnt from Objective 'Competitiveness' regions	Achievement	0	0	0	32	0	32	
	Target						150	
1.1.3 Identification, sharing and transfer of good practices into	<b>Output:</b> No. of good practices identified by Regional Initiative Projects (Type 1)	Achievement	0	0	802	456	1,417	2,675
		Target						2,400

Indicator			2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total	
regional policies in particular EU Structural Funds mainstream programmes	<b>Output:</b> No. of good practices already identified and made available to regional and local actors involved in Capitalisation, including Fast Track Projects (Type 2)	Achievement	0	53	102	99	0	254	
		Target							250
	<b>Result:</b> No. of good practices successfully transferred within Regional Initiative Projects	Achievement	0	0	10	19	81	110	
		Target							200
	<b>Result:</b> No. of action plans developed under Capitalisation, including Fast Track Projects (Type 2)	Achievement	0	0	0	63	0	63	
		Target							500
	<b>Result:</b> No. of action plans developed under Fast Track Projects	Achievement	0	0	0	57	0	57	
		Target							250
	<b>Result:</b> Amount of mainstream funds (Cohesion/ERDF/ESF) dedicated to the implementation of good practices coming from Capitalisation, including Fast Track Projects (Type 2)	Achievement	0	0	0	573,644,800	0	573,644,800	
		Target							MEUR 2,500
	<b>Result:</b> Amount of mainstream funds (Cohesion/ERDF/ESF) dedicated to the implementation of good practices coming from Fast Track Projects	Achievement	0	0	0	572,957,000	0	572,957,000	
		Target							MEUR 625
	1.1.4 Contribution to horizontal EU policies	<b>Result:</b> % of projects with positive effects on equal opportunities	Achievement	0	71%	59%	43%	64%	64%
			Target						
<b>Result:</b> % of projects with positive effects on the environment		Achievement	0	83%	84%	100%	84%	84%	
		Target							60%
<b>1.2. General performance of projects</b>									
1.2.1 Management and coordination	<b>Output:</b> Average number of steering committee meetings organised by operations per year	Achievement	0	0	2	2	2	2	
		Target							480
	<b>Result:</b> % of progress reports approved without additional information requested from the JTS	Achievement	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	
		Target							10%

Indicator			2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
	<b>Result:</b> % of deviation between planned and actual ERDF payment requests by LP ("-" under/ "+" overspending)	Achievement	0	0	-54%	-40.1%	-33.4%	-33.4%
		Target						
1.2.2 Dissemination	<b>Output:</b> No. of press releases disseminated	Achievement	0	0	452	589	1,160	2,201
		Target						
	<b>Output:</b> No. of brochures (no. of issues created, not no. of copies printed or disseminated)	Achievement	0	0	104	98	138	340
		Target						
	<b>Output:</b> No. of copies of brochures disseminated	Achievement	0	0	105,924	24,696	176,324	306,944
		Target						
	<b>Output:</b> No. of newsletters (no. of issues created, not no. of copies printed or disseminated)	Achievement	0	0	103	89	328	520
		Target						
	<b>Output:</b> No. of copies of newsletters disseminated	Achievement	0	0	74,240	70,756	387,189	532,185
		Target						
	<b>Output:</b> No. of dissemination events organised	Achievement	0	0	225	260	601	1,086
		Target						
	<b>Output:</b> No. of other events participated in (with presentations/stands etc. about the project activities)	Achievement	0	0	468	328	1,238	2,034
		Target						
	<b>Result:</b> No. of articles/appearances published in the press and in other media	Achievement	0	0	992	1,195	1,852	4,039
		Target						
	<b>Result:</b> Estimated no. of participants in events (organised and participated in)	Achievement	0	0	23,278	45,722	80,000	149,000
		Target						
<b>Result:</b> Average no. of visits per month on project's website	Achievement	0	0	836	303	340	340	
	Target							1,000

Indicator		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total		
<b>2. Programme management performance (Priority 3)</b>									
<b>2.1 Support project generation and provide advice to project applicants</b>	<b>Output:</b> No. of "Individual Consultations" (IC) with applicants	Achievement	248	446	39	32	794	1,559	
		Target						900	
	<b>Output:</b> No. of participants in "Individual Consultations" (IC)	Achievement	620	875	74	50	1,042	2,661	
		Target						1,800	
	<b>Result:</b> No. of applications submitted	Achievement	0	492	481	29	355	1,357	
		Target						800	
<b>2.2. Ensure the evaluation of applications, prepare the approval decisions and contract approved projects</b>	<b>Output:</b> No. of applications approved and contracted	Achievement	0	41	74	7	82	204	
		Target						240	
	<b>Output:</b> Total INTERREG IVC budget of the approved projects	Achievement	0	MEUR 83.9	MEUR 241.4	MEUR 253.9	MEUR 402.3	MEUR 402.3	
		Target						MEUR 380	
	<b>Output:</b> Average INTERREG IVC budget of the approved projects	Achievement	0	MEUR 2.0	MEUR 2.1	MEUR 1.8	MEUR 1.8	MEUR 1.8	
		Target						MEUR 1.58	
	<b>Output:</b> Total ERDF budget of approved projects	Achievement	0	MEUR 62.9	MEUR 185.5	MEUR 195.4	MEUR 311.6	MEUR 311.6	
		Target						MEUR 302	
	<b>Output:</b> % of total ERDF budget committed to projects	Achievement	0	20.8%	61.4%	64.7%	103.2%	103.2%	
		Target						94 %	
	<b>Result:</b> % of approved applications compared with submitted applications (success rate)	Achievement	0	8.3%	15.4%	24.1%	23.1%	15.0 %	
		Target						40 %	
	<b>2.3 Ensure monitoring / advice to running projects</b>	<b>Output:</b> No of project reports checked	Achievement	0	0	38	101	192	331
			Target						1,200
<b>Output:</b> Average number of days needed to check one report		Achievement	0	0	29	45	55	37	
		Target						30	
<b>Output:</b> No of project visits, participation to project events by MA/JTS		Achievement	0	5	11	30	50	46	
		Target						240	
<b>Output:</b> Total ERDF paid out to projects		Achievement	0	0	MEUR 1.9	MEUR 17.4	MEUR 53.3	MEUR 53.3	
		Target						MEUR 286	

Indicator			2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total	
	<b>Output:</b> % of total ERDF budget of approved projects paid out to projects	Achievement	0%	0%	0.6%	5.6%	17.1%	17.1%	
		Target	95%						
	<b>Result:</b> % of successful implemented projects (achievement of indicated output/result indicators and budget spending) compared with approved projects	Achievement	0%	0%	0%	0%	78.6%	78.6%	
		Target	90%						
	<b>Result:</b> Amount of ERDF decommitted	Achievement	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Target	MEUR 16						
	<b>Result:</b> % of total ERDF decommitted (rate of decommitment)	Achievement	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Target	5%						
	2.4 Ensure capitalisation of projects' results for both types of intervention;	<b>Output:</b> Number of approved projects working on similar themes identified and capitalisation activities requested	Achievement	0	5	16	0	18	39
			Target	10					
<b>Output:</b> Number of projects' good practice guides available on the programme's web site		Achievement	0	0	0	1	0	1	
		Target	240						
<b>Output:</b> Number of capitalisation events organised		Achievement	0	0	2	2	1	5	
		Target	10						
<b>Result:</b> Number of participants in capitalisation events organised		Achievement	0	0	80	50	220	350	
		Target	1000						
<b>Result:</b> Average number of downloads of each good practice guide available on the programme's web site		Achievement	0	0	0	228	N/A	228	
		Target	40						
2.5 Organise meetings and events for applicants, partners, auditors, experts, Member States and other bodies to inform them about the pro-		<b>Output:</b> No. of brochures (no of issues created, not no of copies printed or disseminated)	Achievement	0	1	5	4	2	10
			Target	4					
	<b>Output:</b> No. of newsletters (no. of issues created, not no. of copies printed or disseminated)	Achievement	0	0	0	0	5	5	
		Target	34						
	<b>Output:</b>	Achievement	7	13	5	14	17	56	



# INTERREG IVC

INNOVATION & ENVIRONMENT  
REGIONS OF EUROPE SHARING SOLUTIONS

Indicator			2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
programme, to discuss specific aspects of its implementation, disseminate and capitalise on projects' results	No. of events organised	Target						80
	<b>Output:</b>	Achievement	14	42	46	26	20	148
	No. of other events participated in (with presentations/stands etc. about the programme activities)	Target						50
	<b>Output:</b>	Achievement	1,705	4,901	4,334	4,078	963	15981
	Estimated no. of participants in events participated in	Target						5,000
	<b>Result:</b>	Achievement	2	2	5	3	3	15
	No. of press releases on programme activities disseminated	Target						20
	<b>Result:</b>	Achievement	0	0	0	0	12,935	12,935
	No. of copies of newsletters disseminated	Target						10,000
	<b>Result:</b>	Achievement	0	4,000	16,850	18,550	5,120	44,520
	No. of copies of brochures disseminated	Target						10,000
	<b>Result:</b>	Achievement	9	35	63	28	15	150
	No. of articles/appearances published in the press and in other media	Target						20
	<b>Result:</b>	Achievement	1,395	1,993	399	810	2188	6,785
Estimated no. of participants in events organised	Target						5,500	
<b>Result:</b>	Achievement	37,284	35,270	36,363	33,612	-	35,632	
Average no. of visits per month on the programme website	Target						10,000	
2.6 Ensure the reporting to the Member States and the European Commission.	<b>Output:</b>	Achievement	1	2	2	2	3	10
	No of Monitoring Committee meetings	Target						15
	<b>Result:</b>	Achievement	40	200	200	200	300	188
	Average no. of visits per month on the programme intranet site	Target						50



## **Annexe 02: Commitments and payments 2007 -2011**

INTERREG IVC - ERDF commitments and certified payments by year during the period 2007 to 2011

Financial plan (ERDF) whole period	Budget in EUR	ERDF 2007				ERDF 2008				ERDF 2009				ERDF 2010				ERDF 2011				ERDF 2007-2011 Total			
		committed		paid		committed		paid		committed		paid		committed		paid		committed		paid		committed		paid	
Priority		in EUR	in %	in EUR	in %	in EUR	in %	in EUR	in %	in EUR	in %	in EUR	in %	in EUR	in %	in EUR	in %	in EUR	in %	in EUR	in %	in EUR	in %	in EUR	in %
Priority 1: Innovation	176 726 969	0	0%	0	0%	40 855 604	23%	0	0%	73 098 327	41%	1 198 331	1%	0	0%	9 903 505	6%	66 779 661,89	38%	22 894 551	13%	180 733 593	102%	33 996 387	19%
Priority 2: Environment	125 315 487	0	0%	0	0%	27 381 522	22%	0	0%	50 233 723	40%	743 608	1%	9 953 138	8%	5 588 544	4%	44 027 220,52	35%	13 042 559	10%	131 595 604	105%	19 374 710	15%
Priority 3: Technical Assistance	19 279 306	269 479	1%	269 479	1%	977 049	5%	977 049	5%	1 553 966	8%	1 553 966	8%	2 044 949	11%	2 044 949	11%	2 326 443	12%	2 326 443	12%	7 171 887	37%	7 171 887	37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>321 321 762</b>	<b>269 479</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>269 479</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>69 214 175</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>977 049</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>124 886 016</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>3 495 905</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>11 998 087</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>17 536 998</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>113 133 326</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>38 263 552</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>319 501 084</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>60 542 984</b>	<b>19%</b>

(paid) relates to expenditure paid by the body responsible for making payments to the beneficiaries

(%) relates to budget amount by priority (or total budget for last row)

in case of TA: (committed) indicated as corresponding to (paid), commitment of TA budget done through annual approval



## **Annexe 03: Projects approved under INTERREG IVC fourth call for proposals**

Annex 03 to Annual Report 2011: Projects approved under INTERREG IVC fourth call for proposals									
Year of approval: 2011									
Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Contact Person	Email address	Type of intervention	ERDF requested (EUR)	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested (EUR)
<b>PRIORITY 1: INNOVATION AND THE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY</b>									
Entrepreneurship and SMEs		Boosting European Games Industry	COVENTRY UNIVERSITY ENTERPRISES LTD	Ms Sozic Tsin	s.tsin@coventry.ac.uk	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 414 475,36	0,00	1 855 118,45
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>BORDWIIS+</b>	Boosting Regional Development with ICT-Innovation-Strategies	Regional Development Agency of Asturias	Paz PALACIO	paz@idepa.es	1: Regional Initiative Project	943 074,51	0,00	1 207 787,76
the Information Society	<b>CASA</b>	Consortium for Assistive Solutions Adoption	The Flemish Community	Peter Raeymaekers Advisor Flanders' Care	peter.raeymaekers@wvg.vlaanderen.be	1: Regional Initiative Project	2 002 154,39	0,00	2 635 999,32
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>CCIC</b>	"COMPLEX CHALLENGES, INNOVATIVE CITIES"	Sofia Municipality	Dr. Nadia Nikolova-Deme	nnikolova@sofia.bg	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 599 579,85	0,00	2 036 969,35
Employment, human capital and education	<b>CesR</b>	Cooperatives of Employment and Services in Rural areas	Regional Committee for Tourism Development of Auvergne	Thomas Ducloutrier	thomas.ducloutrier@crdt-auvergne.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 109 067,40	0,00	1 378 280,00
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	<b>CIE</b>	Cleantech Incubation Europe	Delft University of Technology	Pauline van der Vorm	p.a.h.vandervorm@tudelft.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	994 691,49	0,00	1 303 328,24
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>CLUSTERIX</b>	Clusters for European Innovation Cross-Linking	ecoplus. The Business Agency of Lower Austria	Simone Hagenauer	s.hagenauer@ecoplus.at	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 296 064,20	0,00	1 687 872,00
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	<b>COGITA</b>	Corporate Social and Environmental Responsibility through Public Policy	CISE - Centre for Innovation and Economic Development - Agency of Forlì-Cesena Chamber of Commerce	Giulia Bubbolini	gbubbolini@ciseonweb.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 973 144,09	0,00	2 547 790,71
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>Cross-Innovation</b>	Promoting Cross-Innovation in European Cities and Regions	Birmingham City University	Dr. Steve Harding	steve.harding@bcu.ac.uk	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 760 884,01	0,00	2 246 242,16
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>DAA</b>	Design led Innovations for Active Ageing	City of Helsinki	Matti Ollinkari	ina.ollinki@hel.fi; matti.ollinkari@hel.fi	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 384 883,15	104 500,00	1 813 699,83

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Contact Person	Email address	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested (EUR)	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested (EUR)
the Information Society	DANTE	Digital Agenda for New Tourism Approach in European Rural and Mountain Areas	Provincia di Torino	Elena Di Bella	elena.dibella@provincia.torino.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 728 295,20	0,00	2 222 042,85
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	DESUR	Developing Sustainable Regions through Responsible SMEs	Foundation for the Development of Science and Technology in Extremadura	Patricia da Costa Félix Bermejo	patricia@fundecyt.es	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 102 583,66	0,00	1 392 019,20
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	DIFASS	Development of interregional financial assistance to SMEs and of non-grant instruments	Pannon Business Network Association	Mátyás Lazary	lazary@pbn.hu	1: Regional Initiative Project	2 474 026,20	0,00	3 077 054,52
the Information Society	E-COOP	DIGITAL COOPERATIVES	Gironde County Council	Marianne Baudouin & Solenne Corrand	m.baudouin@cg33.fr, s.corrand@cg33.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 793 580,67	0,00	2 286 192,15
Innovation, research and technology development	ECOREGIONS	ECOREGIONS	Picardie Region	Anick Michon	amichon@cr-picardie.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 021 884,99	75 000,00	1 332 814,00
the Information Society	e-CREATE	Cultural Routes Entrepreneurship and Technologies Enhancement	Ministry of Regional Development and Transport Saxony - Anhalt	Mr Frank Thäger	frank.thaeger@mlv.sachsen-anhalt	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 312 969,60	118 042,00	1 681 462,00
the Information Society	ENGAGE	Enhancing 'Next Generation Access' Growth in Europe	NIVERLAN Joint Authority	Jean-Dimas MALOT	j.d.malot@niverlan.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 074 109,76	0,00	1 393 639,69
Innovation, research and technology development	ETTBio	Effective Technology Transfer in Biotechnology	Dresden University of Technology (LP)	Oliver Uecke	oliver.uecke@tu-dresden.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 717 461,75	0,00	2 206 047,84
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	EuroScreen	EUROPEAN SCREEN DESTINATIONS	Film London Ltd.	Daniela Kirchner	daniela.kirchner@filmlondon.org.uk	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 543 099,77	0,00	1 983 155,36
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	FIN-EN	sharing methodologies on FINancial ENgineering for enterprises	Finlombarda SpA	Paolo Zaggia	paolo.zaggia@finlombarda.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 567 194,00	0,00	1 995 000,00
the Information Society	GRISI PLUS	Geomatics Rural Information Society Initiative PLUS	Gers Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Gers CCI)	Michel Debord	michel.debord@wanadoo.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 328 737,62	0,00	1 629 550,56

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Contact Person	Email address	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested (EUR)	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested (EUR)
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	<b>Health4Growth</b>	Developing Regional Actions to Promote SMEs in Health Sector and Stimulate Economic Growth	Municipality of Debrecen	Nyulasi András	nyulasi.a@ph.debrecen.hu	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 709 763,73	0,00	2 140 780,05
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	<b>IFood</b>	Interregional cooperation for competitive and sustainable regional food industries	South Transdanubian Regional Development Agency	Mr. PÁLMAI Zsolt	palmai.zsolt@deldunantul.eu	1: Regional Initiative Project	752 637,24	0,00	964 249,70
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	<b>InCompass</b>	Regional Policy Improvement for Financially Sustainable Creative Incubator Units	Dundee College	Andrew Mackenzie	a.mackenzie@dundeecollege.ac.uk	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 912 583,62	0,00	2 417 094,84
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>IN-EUR</b>	Measuring INnovation among EUROpean Subregions	South-East Regional Development Agency	Adriana Vaida	adriana.vaida@adrse.ro	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 105 502,71	0,00	1 381 701,88
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>INN.O.V.Age</b>	Improvement the effectiveness of regional development policies in eco-INNovation for smart hOme and independent lIVING to increase the quality of life of Aging people	Marche Regional Authority	Rolando Amici	rolando.amici@regione.marche.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 949 759,88	0,00	2 467 511,20
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	<b>INNOCRAFTS</b>	INNOvating entrepreneurship policies in the CRAFTS sector	Municipality of Florence	Simone Tani	simone.tani@comune.fi.it; innocrafts@comune.fi.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 817 300,00	0,00	2 318 400,00
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>InnoFun</b>	Funding Policies to bring Innovation to Finance/market/people	South Bohemian Agency for Support to Innovative Enterprising	Petra Vachová	info@jaip.cz	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 521 969,28	0,00	1 924 121,68
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>InnoMot</b>	Improving Regional Policies promoting and motivating non-technological Innovation in SMEs	West Sweden	Daniel Wennerlund	daniel.wennerlund@westsweden.se	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 727 256,00	0,00	2 274 728,00
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>KNOW-HUB</b>	Enhancing the regional competences in strategic management of innovation policies	Adam Mickiewicz University Foundation, Poznan Science and Technology Park	Elzbieta Książek	elzbieta.ksiazek@ppnt.poznan.pl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 708 919,17	0,00	2 172 032,31
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>KTForce</b>	Knowledge Transfer joint forces for efficient innovation policies	University of Porto	Maria Oliveira	mariaoliveira@reit.up.pt	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 134 826,59	0,00	1 428 222,73
Employment, human capital and education	<b>LABOUR PLUS</b>	INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES FOR EQUAL EMPLOYMENT	Municipality of Nieuwegein	Ms. Willianne van Slooten	w.vanslooten@nieuwegein.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 307 691,40	0,00	1 695 884,00

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Contact Person	Email address	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested (EUR)	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested (EUR)
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	LOCFOOD	Local food as engine for local business	Nordland County Council	Tommy Nilsen	tommy.nilsen@nlfk.no	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 404 074,98	260 255,00	1 787 271,44
the Information Society	Medi@TIC	Regional Policies for Information Society & ICT development in the audiovisual sector	SEVILLA GLOBAL - URBAN AGENCY FOR COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT - Seville City Council	Pedro Maestre	pmaestre@sevilaglobal.es	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 189 224,25	102 335,00	1 543 051,40
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	MESSE	Mechanism for Enhancement of Synergy and Sustainability among Enterprises	Veneto Region	Nadia Giaretta	nadia.giaretta@regione.veneto.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 237 011,76	0,00	1 592 235,33
Employment, human capital and education	Micropol	Smart Work Centres in Non-Metropolitan areas	North Denmark Region	Jane Ribergaard Holm	jarh@rn.dk	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 484 522,90	0,00	1 891 598,00
the Information Society	ONE	Observatory Network to Enhance ICT Structural Funds Absorption	Piedmont Region	Roberto Moriondo	roberto.moriondo@regione.piemonte.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 662 227,74	0,00	2 134 284,99
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	PLUSTEX	Policy Learning to Unlock Skills in the TEXTile sector	Municipality of Prato	Alessandro Fontani	a.fontani@comune.prato.it;	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 353 750,00	0,00	1 710 000,00
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	RECOMMEND	Regions using ECO-Management for eco-innovation Development	Lower Austrian Regional government office Department of environmental economics	Mag. Barbara Nährer	post.ru3@noel.gv.at	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 089 996,68	0,00	1 352 264,80
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	REGIO-CRAFTS	Regional cooperation for crafts' development	Zemgale Planning Region	Linda Sarke-Fedjajeva	linda.sarke@zpr.gov.lv	1: Regional Initiative Project	936 056,67	0,00	1 145 262,62
Employment, human capital and education	SMART EUROPE	Smart strategies to create innovation-based jobs in regions of Europe	Province of Flevoland	Mr. Bob Pels	bob.pels@flevoland.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 334 522,77	60 032,80	1 737 949,94
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	TOK-TOC	Transfer Of Knowledge - Transfer Of Human Capital	ATHENS CHAMBER OF SMALL & MEDIUM SIZED INDUSTRIES	Dr. Lily T. Christoforidou	lchris@acsmi.gr; info@acsmi.gr; lilychristoforidou@gmail.com	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 386 834,54	0,00	1 722 660,80
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	TOURAGE	Developing Senior Tourism in Remote Regions	Regional Council of North Karelia	Ulla Aänismaa	ulla.aanismaa@pohjois-karjala.fi	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 438 722,56	0,00	1 765 039,82

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Contact Person	Email address	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested (EUR)	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested (EUR)
Innovation, research and technology development	TRES	Towards Regional specialisation for Smart growth spirit	Tecnalia Research & Innovation Foundation	Begoña Sánchez	begona.sanchez@tecnalia.com	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 113 197,00	0,00	1 439 912,69
Innovation, research and technology development	URMA	Urban-rural partnerships in metropolitan areas	HafenCity University Hamburg	Prof. Dr. Jörg Knieling	joerg.knieling@hcu-hamburg.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 506 430,68	0,00	1 939 528,44
Employment, human capital and education	VERSO	Volunteers for European Employment	The Department of Education, Aarhus University	Niels Rosendal Jensen	nrj@dpu.dk	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 694 766,82	0,00	2 163 049,50
Employment, human capital and education	Working4Talent	Human capital and innovation: employment policies in local and regional innovation networks for talent attraction and better job opportunities	San Sebastián Local Development Agency	Elisabeth Jorge	elisabeth_jorge@donostia.org	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 133 382,64	103 067,39	1 444 134,51
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	Young SMEs	Sharing Interregional knowledge to define Supporting Programmes for Young SMEs	INCYDE Foundation	Aurelio Jiménez Romero	aurelio.jimenez@cscamaras.es	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 555 520,20	0,00	1 991 482,06
<b>PRIORITY 2: ENVIRONMENT AND RISK PREVENTION</b>									
Energy and sustainable transport	4 POWER	Policy and Public-Private Partnerships for Offshore Wind Energy	Province of Groningen	Peter Smale	p.smale@provinciegroningen.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 228 472,22	0,00	1 570 879,69
Water management	Aqua-add	Deploying the added value of water in local and regional development	Municipality of Eindhoven	Frank van Swol	f.van.swol@eindhoven.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 443 216,41	0,00	1 815 439,81
Cultural heritage and landscape	AT FORT	Atelier European Fortresses - Powering Local Sustainable Development	New Dutch Waterline / Government Service for Land and Water management	Mr Peter Ros	P.G.M.Ros@MINLV.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 692 578,37	0,00	2 170 753,80
Cultural heritage and landscape	CERTESS	European Cultural Routes - Transfer Experiences, Share Solutions	European Institute of Cultural Routes	Sorina CAPP	sorinacapp@culture-routes.lu	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 504 526,95	0,00	1 935 495,00
Cultural heritage and landscape	CHARTS	Culture and Heritage Added value to Regional policies for Tourism Sustainability	Municipality of South Pelion	Konstantinos Papamarkakis, Vice Mayor	charts_mcu@ymail.com, dimos.notiou.piliou@gmail.com	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 491 591,00	0,00	1 856 740,00
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	CLUE	Climate Neutral Urban Districts in Europe	City of Stockholm City Planning Administration	Christina Lefman	christina.lefman@stockholm.se	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 439 142,83	0,00	1 895 431,36

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Contact Person	Email address	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested (EUR)	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested (EUR)
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>CycleCities</b>	European cities for integrating cycling within sustainable mobility management schemes	MUNICIPALITY OF PIRAEUS	DOIKOS Pavlos	doikos@piresnet.gr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 304 743,90	0,00	1 599 859,48
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>D-AIR</b>	Decarbonated Airport Regions	City of Eindhoven	Mr Ron Nohlmans	r.nohlmans@eindhoven.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 801 213,92	0,00	2 358 948,40
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>ECOTALE</b>	External Costs of Transport and Land Equalisation	Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna DAPT	Simona Tondelli	simona.tondelli@unibo.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 216 714,59	0,00	1 543 662,66
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>EPTA</b>	European model for Public Transport Authority as a key factor leading to transport sustainability.	SRM - Networks and Mobility	Dora Ramazzotti	dora.ramazzotti@srbologna.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	968 776,62	61 699,60	1 223 048,80
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	<b>ERCIP</b>	European River Corridor Improvement Plans	London Borough of Lewisham	Mr Paul Chapman	paul.chapman@lewisham.gov.uk	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 046 463,49	0,00	1 318 863,48
Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage (including air quality)	<b>GreenInfraNet</b>	Green Infrastructure Network	Province of Flevoland	Ms. Sandra van der Vegt	vegt@flevoland.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 270 221,77	0,00	1 585 165,04
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>GreenITNet</b>	Green IT Network Europe	Riga City Council	Majja Rubina	majja.rubina@riga.lv	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 390 027,70	0,00	1 777 099,10
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	<b>HERITPROT</b>	Fire Risk Prevention and Improvement of the Fire Exinction Systems of the Historic Town Centers of Cities named Word Heritage	Tenerife's Consortium for Risks Prevention, Firefighting & Rescue	Juan Antonio Nieto Barco	gerencia@bomberostenerife.com	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 267 670,40	34 270,00	1 577 488,00
Cultural heritage and landscape	<b>HISTCAPE</b>	HISTorical assets and related landsCAPE	Rural Development Styria	Alexandra Kulmer	alexandra.kulmer@landentwicklung.com	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 360 261,46	0,00	1 748 757,40
Cultural heritage and landscape	<b>Hybrid Parks</b>	Hybrid Parks: Combining abilities, creating synergies and enhancing the performance of parks for sustainable local and regional development policies	Schloss Dyck Foundation, Centre for Garden Art and Landscape Design	Jens Spanjer	j.spanjer@stiftung-schloss-dyck.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 858 523,40	0,00	2 411 182,00
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>IMAGINE</b>	IMAGINE Low Energy Cities	Energy Cities	Stéphane Dupas	stephane.dupas@energy-cities.eu	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 026 576,01	0,00	1 357 038,95

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Contact Person	Email address	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested (EUR)	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested (EUR)
Energy and sustainable transport	IMEA	Integrated Measures for an Energy Efficiency Approach	Nicis Institute	Fleur Boulogne	imea@nicis.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 322 432,14	0,00	1 652 888,48
Energy and sustainable transport	INVOLVE	Involving the private sector in Mobility Management	traffIQ – Public Transport Authority Frankfurt	Mr Michael Dewes	m.dewes@traffiq.de; j.korn@traffiq.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 440 911,84	0,00	1 849 617,80
Water management	LakeAdmin	Regional administration of lake restoration initiatives	Finnish Environment Institute	Ari Mäkelä	ari.makela@ymparisto.fi	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 480 883,75	0,00	1 862 333,00
Energy and sustainable transport	MOG	MOVE ON GREEN	PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT TERUEL	Luis Muñoz Gregorio	lmunoz@dpteruel.es, lgasconherrero@dpteruel.es, programasue@dpteruel.es	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 288 640,93	0,00	1 621 360,05
Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage (including air quality)	NOSTRA	Network of STRAits	Pas-de-Calais County Council	Jean-Luc Lods / Pauline Gessant	gessant.pauline@cg62.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 797 600,89	0,00	2 362 251,13
Energy and sustainable transport	POLITE	Policy Learning in Information Technologies for Public Transport Enhancement	Calabrian Regional Administration (CRA)	Rocco Mercurio	g.pavone@regcal.it; r.mercurio@regcal.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	997 099,25	0,00	1 272 679,00
Energy and sustainable transport	POSSE	Promotion of Open Specifications and Standards in Europe	Reading Borough Council	Ruth Leuillette	ruth.leuillette@reading.gov.uk	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 241 295,03	113 451,43	1 613 378,71
Waste management	R4R	Regions for Recycling	Ile-de-France Region Waste Management Observatory	Jean-Benoit BEL	jb.bel@ordif.com	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 632 948,61	0,00	2 108 789,17
Energy and sustainable transport	Regions4GreenGrowth (R4GG)	Regional policy instruments and approaches for improving access to finance and speeding up investments in sustainable energy.	Province of Flevoland	Mr Bob Pels	bob.pels@flevoland.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 621 843,26	0,00	2 090 576,58
Energy and sustainable transport	RE-GREEN	Regional policies towards GREEN buildings	INTELI - Intelligence in Innovation, Innovation Centre	Inês Vilhena da Cunha	ines.c@inteli.pt	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 133 146,08	0,00	1 425 448,40
Energy and sustainable transport	REENERGY	Regional Strategies for Energy Conscious Communities	Province of Potenza	Mr Dr Alessandro Attolico	alessandro.attolico@provinciapotenza.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 720 889,54	0,00	2 210 186,70



INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Contact Person	Email address	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested (EUR)	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested (EUR)
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>RITS-Net</b>	Regions for ITS solutions Network	Marche Region	Roberta Ruggeri	roberta.ruggeri@regione.marche.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 167 900,00	0,00	1 462 424,00
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>SERPENTE</b>	Surpassing Energy Targets through Efficient Public Buildings	Florentine Energy Agency	Sergio Gatteschi	info@sergiogatteschi.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 531 970,80	0,00	1 960 985,44
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>STEP</b>	Improving Communities' Sustainable Energy Policy Tools	"STRIA" South Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency Non-for-profit Ltd.	Rita Temesvári	rita.temesvari@gmail.com	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 226 655,64	0,00	1 576 530,61
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>SUM PROJECT</b>	Sustainable Urban Mobility	Municipality of Vigo	Francisco Javier Gutierrez Orue	paco.orue@vigo.org	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 259 308,40	0,00	1 604 086,15
Water management	<b>TRAP</b>	Territories of Rivers Action Plans	Kainuun Etu Ltd	Ninetta Chaniotou	ninetta.chaniotou@kainuunetu.fi	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 512 530,14	0,00	1 935 936,60
Cultural heritage and landscape	<b>ZEN</b>	Zero-Impact Cultural Heritage Event Network	Sviluppumbria - Regional Development Agency for Economic Promotion	Chiara Dall'Aglio	c.dallaglio@svilupumbria.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 252 456,14	0,00	1 571 760,40

## **Annexe 04: Overview of Activities carried out by First Level Control Approbation Bodies and Centralized First Level Controller to Secure the Management and Control System**

## **Annex 04 to Annual Report 2011**

### **Overview of Activities carried out by First Level Control Approbation Bodies and Centralized First Level Controller to Secure the Management and Control System**

	Austria	Belgium			Bulgaria	Cyprus	Czech Republic	Denmark
		Brussels Capital	Flanders	Wallonia				
<b>Nb of Partners</b>	43	60			77	22	43	33
		37	18	5				
<b>FLC System</b>	Decentralised first level control through an authorized controller from short list (control through Federal Chancellery, Federal Ministries or “Land” depending on the question under whose authority, financing and responsibility the partner is participating)	Decentralised first level control through an independent internal or external controller proposed by the project partner and approved at national level	Decentralised first level control through an independent internal or external controller proposed by the project partner and approved at national level	Centralised first level control through a public administrative body	Decentralised first level control through an external controller selected from short list	Decentralised first level control through an independent internal or external controller proposed by the project partner and approved at national level	Centralised first level control through 7 regional offices under the responsibility of a national public administrative body	Decentralised first level control through an external controller proposed by the project partner and approved at national level
<b>Support to FLC and/or PP</b>	<b>No information provided</b>	Ad-hoc help desk guidance documents: <i>FLC manuals, templates for terms of reference for procuring a first level controller</i>	Ad-hoc help desk + guidance documents: <i>FLC manuals, terms of reference for procuring a FLC</i>	Guidance documents: <i>Walloon eligibility rules, guidance on public procurement</i>	Ad-hoc help desk + guidance documents: <i>National rules for eligibility of expenditures</i>	Ad-hoc helpdesk + guidance documents: <i>Manual of National Procedures</i>	Guidance documents ( <i>including guidelines for public procurement</i> )	Ad-hoc helpdesk + guidance documents ( <i>national guidance</i> )
<b>Quality Assurance of PP/FLC work</b>	<b>No information provided</b>		Training (1 seminar) + Ad-hoc controls	Training (1 seminar)	Trainings (2 seminars) Check on FLC	Training (2 seminars) Quality Checks on FLC work / Project on spot check (sample basis) (1)	Training (3 seminars)	Check on FLC (frequency taking into consideration results of second level audits of DK PPs)

	<b>Estonia</b>	<b>Finland</b>	<b>France</b>	<b>Germany</b>	<b>Greece</b>	<b>Hungary</b>	<b>Ireland</b>	<b>Italy</b>
<b>Nb of Partners</b>	37	66	134	134	133	106	54	260
<b>FLC System</b>	Centralised first level control at Member State level through a public administrative body	Decentralised first level control through an external controller proposed by the project partner and approved at national level	Decentralised first level control through an independent internal or external controller proposed by the project partner and approved by one regional body acting as national authority	Decentralised first level control through an independent internal or external controller proposed by the project partner and approved by 16 regional authorities (depending on Federal State in which PP is located)	Centralised first level control at Member State level through a public administrative body	Centralised first level control at Member State level through a public administrative body	Centralised first level control at Member State level through two a Regional Assemblies depending on which region the partner is located in	Decentralised first level control through an independent internal or external controller proposed by the project partner and approved through ad-hoc committee hosted by Ministry of economic development
<b>Support to FLC and/or PP</b>	Ad-hoc helpdesk + guidance documents ( <i>reporting templates, guidance for calculations methods</i> )		Ad-hoc helpdesk + guidance documents: explanatory guide of procedure for the selection of a controller, an analysis grid, a bid analysis template, a terms of references template	Ad-hoc practical and procedural information	Ad-hoc helpdesk + guidance documents: <i>national regulation manuals</i>	Ad-hoc helpdesk + guidance documents: <i>national control guidelines, regulation manuals etc</i>	Ad-hoc help desk + guidance documents: <i>FLC Guidance document and Eligibility Rules for Territorial Cooperation Programmes</i>	
<b>Quality Assurance of PP/FLC work</b>	Training (3 seminars)	Training (3 seminars)	check on FLC	Training (2 seminars)	Training (1 seminar)	Training (2 seminars)	N/A	

Nb of Partners	Latvia	Lithuania	Luxembourg	Malta	Netherlands	Norway	Poland		Portugal
	39	40	3	23	81	21	121	0	63
<b>FLC System</b>	Centralised first level control at Member State level through a public administrative body	Decentralised first level control through an external controller proposed by the project partner and approved at national level	Centralised first level control at Member State level through a public administrative body	Centralised first level control at Member State level through a public administrative body	Decentralised first level control through an independent internal or external controller proposed by the project partner and approved at national level	Decentralised first level control through an independent internal or external controller proposed by the project partner and approved at national level	Centralised first level control at Member State level through a public administrative body	Decentralised first level control through an internal controller proposed by the project partner and approved at national level <i>(Does not yet apply to any Polish PPs)</i>	Decentralised first level control through an external controller proposed by the project partner and approved at national level
<b>Support to FLC and/or PP</b>	Ad-hoc helpdesk + guidance documents: <i>National guidelines</i>	Ad-hoc helpdesk + guidance documents: <i>Rules on the implementation of ETC programmes</i>	Ad-hoc helpdesk	Ad-hoc helpdesk + documents: <i>national eligibility rules.</i> Invitation to PP for bi-lateral meeting after approval	Ad-hoc help desk + guidance documents	<b>No information provided</b>	Ad-hoc help desk + guidance documents: <i>national guidelines and templates for calculation methods</i>	<b>N/A</b>	Ad-hoc help desk + guidance documents: <i>Manual to the external controllers and project partners</i>
<b>Quality Assurance of PP/FLC work</b>	Training (2 seminars)	Training (2 seminars) + check on FLC		Training (4 seminars)	Training (2)	<b>No information provided</b>	Training (4 seminars)	<b>N/A</b>	Training (11 seminars for all ETC progr.) + Validation of each report by national level + Quality Check on FLC

	Romania	Slovakia	Slovenia	Spain	Sweden	United Kingdom		Total <sup>(2)</sup>
						All UK except Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland	
<b>Nb of Partners</b>	97	31	64	218	101	159		2263
<b>FLC System</b>	Centralised first level control at Member State level through a national public administrative body supported by 8 territorial units	Centralised first level control at Member State level through a public administrative body	Centralised first level control at Member State level through a public administrative body	Decentralised first level control through an internal or external controller proposed by the project partner and approved at national level	Centralised first level control at Member State level through a public administrative body	Decentralised first level control through an independent internal or external controller proposed by the project partner and approved at national level	Centralised first level control at Member State level through a public administrative body	<b>Decentralised systems: 17</b> <b>Centralised systems: 15</b>  <i>*Some Member States have more than one type of first level control system</i>
<b>Support to FLC and/or PP</b>	Ad-hoc help desk + guidance documents: <i>dissemination of FLC working documents for guidance</i>	Ad-hoc help desk + guidance documents: <i>Internal Manual for INTERREG IVC Programme</i>	Guidance documents: <i>Internal Guidance and Forms</i>	Ad-hoc help desk guidance documents: <i>guidance manual</i>	Ad-hoc help desk + guidance documents: <i>Downloadable Information folder</i>	Ad-hoc help desk	Ad-hoc help desk	
<b>Quality Assurance of PP/FLC work</b>		Training (6 seminars)	Training (3 seminars)	Training (1 seminar) Validation of each report	Training (4 seminars)	Check on FLC	Individual meetings with new partners at start of project	

## **Annexe 05: Concept Thematic programme capitalisation**



## **1. THE CONCEPT OF 'THEMATIC PROGRAMME CAPITALISATION'**

### **1.1 Background**

The interregional cooperation programme INTERREG IVC aims to improve regional policies through the exchange of experience between local and regional authorities. The overall logic of the programme is mainly bottom-up as it is up to the local and regional authorities to define their needs within the programme thematic framework and to propose applications based on these needs. In this logic, a project is considered as successful if the participating regions are able to renew their policies thanks to the knowledge gained through the cooperation.

The success of each individual project will obviously contribute to the programme's overall success. But **the programme's success will also depend on its capacity to exploit and consolidate the projects' results and make them understandable to a wider audience.** This is touched upon in the Operational Programme. For instance, in the 'General orientation and area of the programme' (section 2.4), it is stated the following:

*"Compared with the INTERREG IIIC programme, the range of topics for cooperation is more restricted and the programming becomes more strategic, with a stronger involvement of the Monitoring Committee at various stages in order **to facilitate the process of capitalisation** on best practice throughout Europe and beyond."*

This general orientation is then reflected more precisely in the Operational Programme under Priority 3 on Technical Assistance which briefly tackles programme capitalisation. In particular, the general purpose and operational objective (sections 5.4.1 and 5.4.2) of Technical Assistance refers to the capitalisation "of operation's results for both types of interventions." The way this form of programme capitalisation has to be carried out is then summarised in the indicators of annex 2 (section 2.4) of the operational programme. It mainly consists of the following two tasks:

- Making the projects' work and outputs available (e.g. development of a good practice database and publication of the projects main publications on the programme website),
- Organising thematic events.

**While these tasks are obviously of added-value, and will be carried out in any case by the programme, they are unfortunately not sufficient to tackle the programme challenge as described in the following section.**

### **1.2 Programme challenge**

With the approval of 204 projects, certain regional development issues are already tackled by a significant number of projects (e.g. creative industries, renewable energy). Although this was not anticipated in the Operational Programme, **these topics represent a high potential for programme capitalisation.** Indeed, when a topic is covered by a sufficient number of projects, it is very likely that additional results and lessons learnt can be obtained through the benchmarking and detailed analysis of these projects. A topic which is tackled by a critical mass of projects allows macro-analyses that are not possible when an issue is covered by only one project.

The activities which are currently planned under Technical Assistance will contribute to a certain form of capitalisation at programme level, primarily descriptive in nature. But as the programme has advanced, so has the demand from stakeholders for macro-level results: analysing the project's results within a particular thematic context, and drawing conclusions. Since this was not foreseen from the beginning of the programme, the current measures for capitalisation are not sufficient for exploiting the above mentioned 'potential'. In particular, the competences available at MA/JTS level are not in line with the skills required for deep content analysis and thematic results consolidation.

Without any proper measure, the programme would therefore lose a unique opportunity to exploit this richness. It was for this reason that the INTERREG IVC Monitoring Committee (MC) launched an experiment on thematic programme capitalisation that was carried out in the first semester of 2010. Following the success of this experimentation and taking into account lessons learned the MC decided in June 2011 to generalise the capitalisation exercise first for two year with a possible extension until the end of the programming period.

### 1.3 Main features of thematic programme capitalisation

#### - Definition

It seems important, if not essential, to define the meaning of capitalisation, especially since the word is used at different levels in the programme.

The process of capitalisation can generally be defined as **collecting, analysing, disseminating and transferring good practices** (Operational Programme, section 4.4.2; Programme Manual, section 1.7). This concept is broadly interpreted in the INTERREG IVC programme in general, described in the programme manual as a 'capitalisation programme'.

**This definition, applied at the project level**, describes the actions within all INTERREG IVC projects. Here, the regions themselves are the main drivers of analysing good practices and adapting them to their own regional context. This is the core aim of the project's Component 3 dedicated to the exchange of experiences at policy level. However, it has also been applied with a particular meaning (and perhaps confusingly) to the second type of intervention: Capitalisation projects. These projects focus solely on the '(analysis and) transfer' aspect of the capitalisation process.

**This definition can also be applied to the programme level.** Going beyond the consolidation of indicators from individual projects, which is carried out at programme level and which provides the results of the programme overall (no. of policies improved; no. of staff with increased capacity), **thematic programme capitalisation focuses on collecting, analysing and disseminating the thematic knowledge gained from projects working on the same topic.** Here, the programme is the main driver, but requires the assistance of thematic expertise to analyse and fully exploit the knowledge gained within a topic.

#### - Objectives

The overall objective of thematic programme capitalisation is to increase the impact of the programme and the three main sub-objectives can be defined as follows:

- To better exploit the knowledge resulting from projects working on a similar topic,
- To make the programme achievements more visible,
- To increase the impact of the programme on the policy making process at regional, local, national and European levels.

#### - Beneficiaries

The thematic programme capitalisation should benefit:

- The projects themselves and more generally the **local and regional authorities in Europe**, who are the main targets of Cohesion Policy.

The identification of valuable experiences within a specific field of regional development will be of added-value for the local and regional authorities interested in that field. It could also lead to possible synergies and mutual enrichment among running projects.

- The members of the Monitoring Committee  
MC members will have a clearer insight into the programme thematic achievements; which could also lead to a better strategic governance of the programme.

- National and European policy levels

The screening and information on regional policy issues and solutions will provide national and European

policy-makers a better insight into the programme achievements. It could even have an influence on the shaping of certain of these policies.

- **Expected results**

There are two main interrelated results expected from thematic programme capitalisation:

- an **increased understanding and visibility of the programme's thematic achievements,**
- an **increased influence of INTERREG IVC on the policy-making process at regional, national and EU levels** (for the concerned topics).

The above objectives would be achieved mainly through the promotion and dissemination of thematic publications. For the beneficiaries, there will be no need to look project by project, policy by policy, to identify the valuable knowledge gained within a particular topic. In each topic, the knowledge will be benchmarked, and validated by an expert, with the contextual elements that make them 'ready to use' by the policy-makers.

Few possible indicators related to the expected results are already listed below:

1/ Increased understanding and visibility:

- N° of thematic policy recommendations resulting from programme capitalisation
- N° of appearances of programme capitalisation in press and media
- N° of thematic publications downloaded from the programme website,

2/ Increased influence on the policy making process

- N° of policy documents at regional, national or EU levels referring / taking into consideration the lessons learnt from the capitalisation
- N° of EU programmes adopting the approach of thematic programme capitalisation.

## 1.4 Points of clarification

- **Why does capitalisation on content mainly rely on external expertise?**

By definition, this form of capitalisation focuses on content. The persons involved would need not only to analyse the practices and policies addressed within the selected topics but they should also be able to identify what is of added-value compared with the state-of-the-art in each specific domain. For instance, the persons would need to answer the following questions:

- What are the common features / challenges / difficulties / successes among the projects of the same topic?
- In particular, do these projects have similar good practices in common? If yes, what are these good practices? Are they easily transferable to other regions? Should they be further disseminated for the benefit of other regions?
- Did the partner regions find different solutions to the same issue?
- Does one region have a particular interesting or innovative approach which would deserve to be further disseminated?
- Do the participating regions identify core pre-requisites for a successful implementation of their regional policy in the domain tackled?
- Depending on the expert's knowledge, are there some possible synergies between the concerned projects and initiatives undertaken in other EU programmes?
- Based on the answer to all the above questions, which overall lessons learnt / policy recommendations can be drawn that could be useful for policy makers at regional, national and/or European levels?

Only people with sufficient knowledge in the domain tackled can answer the above questions and can assess the European relevance of thematic practices and policies. These particular skills are not available within the JTS/IP and therefore require thematic external expertise.

- **What is the difference between thematic programme capitalisation and clustering activities undertaken in certain cross-border or transnational cooperation programmes?**

Based on the feed-back from the MC members, it seems that there is confusion between thematic

programme capitalisation as proposed by INTERREG IVC and clustering activities as carried out by some INTERREG A or B programmes. This may be due to the fact that they both deal with projects working in similar fields.

Nevertheless, the logic between these two initiatives is fundamentally different. The core aim of clustering activities is to create synergies among projects addressing similar issues. This initiative consists of supporting the development of joint activities among running projects (such as joint events or joint publications). This means that the drivers (and main beneficiaries) of these clustering activities are the projects themselves.

In comparison, and as developed in the definition above, thematic programme capitalisation is not driven by the projects but it is managed directly by the MA/JTS/IP. Its primary aim is to better exploit the programme's thematic achievements for the benefit of the programme's stakeholders. As demonstrated above and due to this logic, it relies mainly on specialised external expertise.

The rationale behind the INTERREG IVC capitalisation on content is therefore much closer to that of the URBACT II thematic poles than to that of any other ETC clustering initiatives.

## 1.5 Conclusions on the concept

The assumptions on which this proposal is based are the following:

- Demand is present from EU / national / programme stakeholders to get macro-analysis of programme results for the topics that are widely covered by projects.
- It is not the purpose of 'project-led clustering' to provide such macro-analysis.
- Expert-led analysis is crucial to ensure the quality and thematic relevance of the final products.

## 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THEMATIC PROGRAMME CAPITALISATION

### 2.1 Topics

Based on the lessons learnt from the experimentation, and as explained in section 1, this type of capitalisation applies only to topics that are tackled by a sufficient number of projects. Taking into consideration the results of the fourth call for proposals, the MC decided that the thematic programme capitalisation has to be developed on the categorisation by topic defined in annex 1 of the present document.

Consequently, **in 2012, on the basis of the MC decision, the following 12 topics would be open for capitalisation:**

#### Priority 1

1. Innovation systems (triple helix & open innovation)
2. Innovation capacity of SMEs
3. Eco-innovation
4. Creative industries
5. Entrepreneurship
6. E-government services
7. Demographic change
8. Rural development

#### Priority 2

9. Climate change
10. Energy efficiency
11. Renewable energy
12. Sustainable transport

It is worth highlighting that the 12 topics identified are **clearly in line with the EU2020 strategy**.

	Topics proposed by INTERREG IVC	EU2020 Priorities
Priority 1	1/ Innovation systems (triple helix & open innovation)	Smart growth: Innovation
	2/ Innovation capacity of SMEs	
	3/ Eco-innovation	
	4/ Creative industries	Sustainable growth: Competitiveness
	5/ Entrepreneurship	
	6/ E-government services	Smart growth: Digital society
	7/ Demographic change	Inclusive Growth: Skills
	8/ Rural development	Sustainable growth: Competitiveness
Priority 2	9/ Climate change	Sustainable growth: Combating climate change
	10/ Energy efficiency	Sustainable growth: Clean and efficient energy
	11/ Renewable energy	
	12/ Sustainable public transport	

## 2.2 Actors involved

The core actor for this form of capitalisation would be a **specialised expert** to be selected per topic. The selection would mainly be based on the expert's knowledge in the domain tackled but it would also take into consideration his/her experience in regional development policies and cooperation. The terms of reference would include all the tasks and deliverables to be carried out as well as a list of questions (see also section 1.4) on which the experts would have to answer during his/her contract with the programme.

The thematic programme capitalisation would be coordinated at JTS level by the capitalisation officer with the support of the IPs. The **JTS/IP** would ensure that the same approach and methodology is followed within the different thematic groups. They would also check the overall quality of the outputs produced.

Finally, on the **projects** side, people dealing with the thematic issues at Lead Partner and partners' level would be asked to contribute. This contribution would however remain reasonable. It should be highlighted that this form of capitalisation should not represent any additional burden to the projects, the main actor remaining the external expert. This contribution would mainly consist of the following:

- Answering possible questions from the experts and providing him/her with all relevant information (apart from the documents which can directly be provided by the JTS/IP such as the application form, progress reports and main promotional materials),
- If necessary, welcoming the expert for a more in-depth discussion (maximum once per year),
- Participating in the annual topic workshops. Obviously, there would be no obligation for partners to participate in the workshop but the experimentation has shown that the vast majority of projects are interested in such thematic exchange. In addition, the programme manual (page 16) clearly states that projects have to be ready to participate in events organised at programme level.

## 2.3 Activities

Per topic, the activities would mainly consist of:

- collection of data (e.g. thematic good practices, policies addressed)
- analysis/validation of the data by external experts with the support of JTS/IPs;
- *organisation of topic workshops to share results and contribute to mutual enrichment (apart from the participation of experts, these costs are covered within the normal TA budget),*
- dissemination of the outputs through programme website, dedicated publications, thematic surveys, participation in thematic conferences, etc.

The thematic programme capitalisation would not only focus on running projects. The results of already-closed projects would also be examined based on their final reports, the documentation available and the project websites (projects have to keep their website running for at least five years after their closure). Project partners from closed projects would still be invited to workshops and the thematic expert could also visit closed project partners.

Thematic programme capitalisation would continuously be enriched by the most recent findings and lessons learnt from the running projects. In addition, experts will need time to analyse interesting practices and policies considering that an average of 10 regions are represented per project (50 possible sources of information for a group constituted of 5 projects). This is the reason why this kind of capitalisation has to be developed as an on-going measure until the end of the programming period.

Indicatively, the following deliverables are envisaged per thematic group:

Deliverables	
N° of topic workshops per year	1
N° of annual topic reports	1
N° of annual topic publication	1
N° of presentations made at other conferences (e.g. programme events, EU events) per year	1

Activities are envisaged only for half a year at the end of the programming period as the JTS will need time to close the programme and finalise all payments. In this last stage the experts would take into account the final project results in order to produce a final report on the concerned topics. As all projects would be closed, no topic workshop would be organised the last year.

A core deliverable would be the annual topic report. It would contain the following sections:

- background information about the topic tackled, including new developments trends,
- activities carried out during the year,
- links established between projects within and outside the programme,
- regional policies and good practices identified,
- relevance of findings for other regions in Europe,
- policy recommendations for national and European level.

Based on this report, an annual comprehensive publication and presentations will be produced summarising the results.

## **Annexe 06: Follow-up Programme Evaluation**



## Annex 06 to Annual Report 2011: Follow-up Programme Evaluation

Recommendation		Follow -up
Nr	Text	Decision MC
1	<p><b>An “accompanying note” should be issued for the 4th call</b> for applications in order to achieve that future projects ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... address more adequately the observed context changes (for “innovation, research &amp; technology development”; “entrepreneurship &amp; SMEs”; “employment, human capital &amp; education”);</li> <li>... tackle policy-relevant issues which are better in line with the respective programme objectives (for “cultural heritage &amp; landscape”);</li> <li>... explore more intensively issues in a cross-cutting perspective.</li> </ul>	Proposal was rejected during the MC meeting in Bern
2	<p>If a reference to the new Treaty objective on territorial cohesion is introduced in <b>the INTERREG IVC programme</b>, only the <b>overall objective should be modified</b> as follows: To improve, by means of interregional cooperation, the effectiveness of regional development policies in the areas of innovation, the knowledge economy, the environment and risk prevention as well as to contribute to economic modernisation, increased competitiveness, <b>sustainable development and the territorial cohesion</b> of Europe.</p>	Yes, should be modified accordingly
3	<p>The INTERREG IVC Monitoring Committee should already now <b>start a discussion</b> which critically examines the current separation of EU-support for inter-regional co-operation (i.e. between the current Interregional Co-operation Programme &amp; the regional Convergence/Competitiveness programmes) and <b>which leads to the adoption of an</b></p>	Yes, the development of a concrete proposal by the MC would ease the internal discussion within



Recommendation		Follow -up
Nr	Text	Decision MC
	<b>own position regarding the future of inter-regional co-operation</b> (i.e. continuation or end of this approach; level of funding required for a future inter-regional co-operation programme).	the Member States on the future of territorial cooperation programmes
4	<p><b>During the remaining time</b> of the period 2007-2013, the INTERREG IVC programme should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... further <b>strengthen the staff-capacity</b> of the JTS for delivering project assessment tasks in a time-efficient manner after a closure of the 4th call and for ensuring a more adequate performance under a number of other tasks (i.e. financial management, programme-level capitalisation, communication &amp; dissemination, coordination/guidance of IPs &amp; animation of NCPs);</li> <li>... further <b>improve the performance of the individual IPs</b> in delivering tasks related to project development. project assessment appraisal and project monitoring (esp. by providing further training &amp; guidance to IP-staff by the JTS) and carry out a comprehensive IP-performance assessment towards the end of the current programming period;</li> <li>... <b>allocate to the NCPs</b> – where possible and desired - <b>a more important role</b> in communicating and disseminating the programme towards the respective target groups;</li> <li>... further <b>intensify the interaction between the four IPs</b>, one the one hand, <b>and the JTS and the NCPs</b>, on the other hand, in order to fully benefit from possible efficiency gains in the overall management and implementation process.</li> </ul>	<p>Yes, see further detailed proposal in annex 1</p> <p>Yes, ongoing as the IPs will now be involved in the monitoring of projects</p> <p>NCPs are already fully involved in the current period. Recommendation will be considered for the future programme</p> <p>Yes, see also proposal in annex 1</p>

Recommendation		Follow -up
Nr	Text	Decision MC
5	The INTERREG IVC programme should <b>revise the Communication Strategy</b> (where necessary) in order to include a wider range of new actions which need to be carried out during the remaining time of programming period. For delivering more adequately and effectively the current work programme as well as the new activities, also the JTS-staff in charge of communication & dissemination activities should be further increased.	Yes, already partly implemented. A revised Communication Strategy should be presented to the MC alongside the Annual report 2010.
6	<p><b>During the remaining time</b> of the programming period, the INTERREG IVC programme should ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... continue to respond to the strong need for <b>further exploring and developing the capitalisation process at programme level</b> and take the lessons on board from the experiment;</li> <li>... create an adequate framework in order to <b>secure that the knowledge resulting from the projects is most optimally exploited</b> (e.g. by thematically clustering projects &amp; by creating a pool of thematic experts assisting the process);</li> <li>... <b>create a new Priority 4 on programme-level capitalisation</b>, to which appropriate funding for this process is allocated.</li> </ul>	MC agreed in principle on the need to carry out a capitalisation process. However, no agreement could be reached on the details, especially on how to finance the generalisation of programme capitalisation.
7	During the remaining time of the INTERREG IVC programming period, <b>pragmatic solutions</b> should be explored and tested in <b>order to better cope with the continuing size-related challenges of the Monitoring Committee</b> . The main objective of this “organisational learning process” would be to achieve a more efficient organisation and realisation of MC meetings taking place during the rest of the period 2007-2013.	Yes, already implemented by adding task force meetings prior to important MC decisions (generalisation of capitalisation) and by successfully testing group discussion formats dur-

Recommendation		Follow -up
Nr	Text	Decision MC
		ing the Bern MC meeting.
8	For further <b>improving the connection between INTERREG IVC and other European programmes</b> during the remaining time of the programming period, targeted communication & dissemination measures should be implemented which make widely known the programme results to regional/local political decision-makers, to administrations implementing the Convergence and Competitiveness programmes and to important “programme-external multipliers” such as EU-level institutions or European associations and networks established by territorial authorities.	Yes, partly already implemented (last INTERREG IVC Forum in Gothenburg). Further adjustments in a revised Communication Strategy (see point 5 above)
9	To ensure an effective management and implementation of the INTERREG IVC programme should <b>during the remaining time</b> of the period 2007-2013 ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... <b>more funding should be made available for the JTS</b> (i.e. TA-budget line “staff for project assessment, financial management, programme-level capitalisation, communication &amp; dissemination, co-ordination/guidance of IPs &amp; animation of NCPs) and for a continuation of the programme-level capitalisation process, through shifting funds from other TA-budget lines currently registering underspending (“external expertise”, “office costs”; “Information Points”);</li> <li>... <b>use left-over funding under other under-spending TA-headings</b> (esp. “travel costs of JTS staff” &amp; “programme studies”) <b>for improving the effectiveness of the current programme monitoring process</b> (e.g. more “on-the-spot visits” to projects) and for preparing a more adequate future monitoring process (e.g. specific studies &amp; evaluations).</li> </ul>	Yes, MC agreed to the proposals made with the exception to employ a capitalisation officer, as the MC could not yet reach an agreement on how to implement the proposed programme capitalisation.
10	In view of the future <b>4th call for applications</b> , the INTERREG IVC programme should... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... in principle <b>leave open all of the current sub-themes</b>, but also particularly em-</li> </ul>	Partly implemented (all

Recommendation		Follow -up
Nr	Text	Decision MC
	<p>phasise those sub-themes which are up to now weakly covered by the approved projects (Priority 2) or show a medium level of coverage (Priority 1 &amp; 2);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... make an attempt to indirectly <b>achieve a better geographical balance</b> as regards the involvement of partners in the approved operations (i.e. specific mobilisation effort to be made by IPs &amp; NCPs which cover countries showing a still weak representation);</li> <li>... <b>apply a number of “soft” direct steering tools</b> (e.g. increased quality requirements &amp; thematic orientations; mandatory notification of upcoming ideas &amp; pre-screening, pre-assessment on ground of meta-level criteria) in order to reduce at a certain extent the number of future applications and the associated assessment workload at the level of the JTS/the IPs.</li> </ul> <p><b>After the closure</b> of the call and the final approval of projects, still <b>left-over funding</b> should be dedicated to a limited number of running and finalised operations <b>for initiating specific activities</b> which are of an added value for them and for the programme as a</p>	<p>sub-themes are open but a particular emphasis on certain sub-themes was rejected during the MC in Bern)</p> <p>Implemented through the organisation of communication events in under represented regions and through the new geographical coverage requirements set for the call</p> <p>Partly implemented through the new requirement set for the call on the elaboration of ‘implementation plans’. Mandatory notification was rejected during the MC in Bern.</p> <p>Yes, to take into consideration in case of left-over funding.</p>

Recommendation		Follow -up
Nr	Text	Decision MC
	whole (e.g. cross-thematic exchange & work processes; in-depth assessment of effects & impacts).	
11	<p>During the <b>remaining time of the period</b> 2007-2013, the INTERREG IVC programme should...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ... take care that the <b>gaps observed in terms of result achievement are eliminated</b> for those indicators where this is still possible;</li> <li>• ... make <b>further efforts for better explaining the project-level capitalisation concept</b> and its practical benefits (but also its current weaknesses) to regional/local authorities and also launch a discussion within the Monitoring Committee on the experiences made with this approach in order to identify future implications;</li> <li>• ... carefully <b>monitor that a successful transfer of good practices actually unfolds its expected full range</b>;</li> </ul>	<p>Due to the novelty of certain programme's features, a few initial target values indicated in the OP (e.g. 500 Action Plans developed) were obviously over estimated. These values would need to be corrected in case the OP is revised.</p> <p>Already implemented with Regional Initiative Projects when the transfer occurs within the project lifetime. For other cases and in particular Capitalisation Projects, the JTS may propose further measures such as dedicated surveys or questionnaires.</p> <p>Already implemented through the individual monitoring of projects and through the introduc-</p>

Recommendation		Follow -up
Nr	Text	Decision MC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... more pro-actively <b>encourage the currently operating and future projects (i.e. 4<sup>th</sup> call projects) to become durable</b> in nature if the wider policy impact of the INTERREG IVC programme is expected to further increase.</li> </ul>	tion of the ‘implementation plans’ for the fourth call projects.
12	<p>The INTERREG IVC programme should already <b>now launch the following initiatives</b> for further improving the current monitoring and reporting procedure (2007-2013) and for preparing a more appropriate monitoring approach for the future of interregional co-operation programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The current INTERREG IVC programme and the involved Member States should <b>“push” the European Commission (i.e. DG REGIO) to initiate</b> a comprehensive and also methodologically sound <b>discussion on a more appropriate monitoring of the outcomes achieved by future territorial co-operation programmes</b>, which also leads to an identification / suggestion of feasible approaches (quantitative &amp; qualitative) for achieving this.</li> <li>In the current INTERREG IVC form for a <b>six-monthly progress reporting, additional/larger and also more adequate reporting boxes</b> should be created under all content-related Components which allow to better describe/explain the qualitative dimension of the expected results (e.g. a new space under the result indicators) as well as the additional or unexpected outputs/results achieved by a project (e.g. a new open space for “unforeseen outputs/results”).</li> </ul>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes and already partly implemented with the indicator ‘N° of new projects / activities / approaches’ which is now clearly defined in the updated programme manual</p> <p>Yes, proposal to be pre-</p>

Recommendation		Follow -up
Nr	Text	Decision MC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The INTERREG IVC programme should <b>launch two own-initiatives for exploring (1) how the monitoring and reporting of qualitative/intangible outcomes</b> associated to inter-regional co-operation can be further improved and <b>(2) how an evaluation of the policy impacts achieved by projects could be carried out in practice.</b> On each issue, a specific study should be commissioned which identifies innovative and also future-oriented practical solutions for addressing the respective issue at stake.</li> </ul>	sent in 2012
13	<p>For contributing in a pro-active manner to an achievement of the Treaty's territorial cohesion objective <b>during the programming period 2013-2020, future inter-regional co-operation should be allocated a complementary and transversal role within the wider context of territorial co-operation.</b> This role should involve a joint development/identification and a testing/implementation of innovative territorial development actions as well as a Europe-wide dissemination of these experiences through a systematic programme-level capitalisation process. In addition, a future inter-regional co-operation programme should also be endowed with more ERDF-funding in order to adequately "fill out" its further widened role.</p>	Yes, to be taking into consideration during discussion of a future programme
14	<p>The <b>future inter-regional co-operation programme should be focussed on the three mutually reinforcing priorities of the "Europe 2020 Strategy" (i.e. smart, sustainable and inclusive growth)</b> and identify seven main co-operation themes which are clearly related to the seven "flagship initiatives". Also a number of indicative sub-topics should be selected among the wide range of issues mentioned under these "flagship initiatives", which illustrate the kind of actions that should be implemented in the context of regional and local territorial development policies. Also inter-regional co-operation over common priority themes or subtopics of the two other types of European Territorial Co-operation (transnational &amp; crossborder co-operation) should be made possible in order to</p>	Yes, see point 13 above

Recommendation		Follow -up
Nr	Text	Decision MC
	initiate an “ETC-mainstreaming process”.	
15	<p>To provide a <b>direct stimulus for achieving</b> qualitatively more demanding and also tangible co-operation <b>outcomes, the future ERDF co-financing rates should only be linked to the envisaged co-operation intensity of future operations</b> (and not to the country-origin of partners):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partners involved in operations with <b>high co-operation intensity</b> should in general be supported at a level of <b>85%</b>.</li> <li>• Partners involved in operations with <b>co-operation intensity below</b> the level of high should in general be supported at a level of <b>75%</b>.</li> </ul>	Yes, see point 13 above
16	<p>For establishing a <b>mature and also qualitatively more demanding inter-regional co-operation approach after 2013</b> which helps making the effects and the impact of projects visible, a future programme should ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ... <b>maintain the current two main types of interventions</b> due to the different rationale and purpose of capitalisation and regional initiative projects (i.e. no single type of intervention merging both approaches);</li> <li>• ... further develop these two main types of intervention in operational terms so that <b>only operations with a medium- or high co-operation intensity will be supported</b>;</li> <li>• ... be <b>open for public administrations from various government levels</b>, semi-public organisations, private actors and organisations representing the civil society;</li> <li>• ... enable and verify that <b>only “purpose-oriented partnerships” are established</b> (i.e. the most adequate &amp; policy-specific constellation of stakeholders) in order to make future project-level co-operation more efficient and result-oriented;</li> </ul>	Yes, see point 13 above



Recommendation		Follow -up
Nr	Text	Decision MC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... motivate future <b>operations to continue inter-regional co-operation</b> among their partners <b>beyond the existence of EU-funding</b> (i.e. promoting the establishment of durable networks).</li> </ul>	
17	The provision of stronger evidence on the achievements and on the added value of inter-regional co-operation requires <b>the establishment of a fundamentally revised monitoring and evaluation approach (at the programme &amp; project levels) and of a more systematic and ongoing capitalisation process at programme level</b> , which are closely and also vertically/horizontally linked to each other.	Yes, see point 13 above
18	The <b>system for strategic decision-making, management and implementation of a future inter-regional co-operation programme should be drawn up</b> in a way which carefully considers the experiences (and especially the shortcomings) made during the period 2007-2013, the current stakeholder demand for future improvements (esp. further simplifications at programme & at the project level) and also the additional needs stemming from our above made recommendations on the future of inter-regional co-operation after 2013.	Yes, see point 13 above

## **Annexe 07: Qualitative overview 4<sup>th</sup> call results**

**Annex 07 to Annual Report 2011**

# **Fourth call for proposal Insight into the thematic results**

## Recommended applications per sub-theme

Priority 1	Submitted	Recommended	
<b>Innovation &amp; RTD</b>	48	14	
<b>Entrepreneurship &amp; SMEs</b>	75	19	
Information Society	31	7	
Employment & Human Capital	46	8	
<b>Subtotal 1</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>ERDF: 74.09 MEUR NF: 0.78 MEUR</b>
Priority 2	Submitted	Recommended	
<i>Natural &amp; Technological Risks</i>	29	3	
Water Management	16	3	
Waste Management	13	1	
Biodiversity & Natural Heritage	23	2	
<b>Energy &amp; Sustainable Transport</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>19</b>	
Cultural Heritage & Landscape	36	6	
<b>Subtotal 2</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>ERDF: 50.07 MEUR NF: 0.21 MEUR</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>ERDF: 124.16 MEUR NF: 0.99 MEUR</b>

## Sub-theme coverage (approved/recommended)

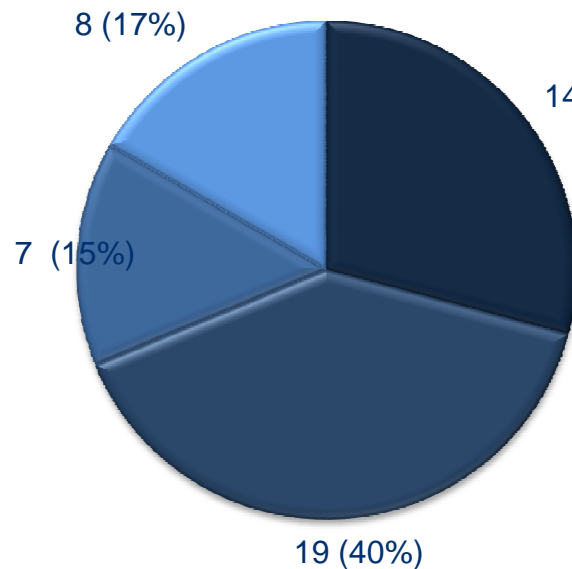
Most popular sub-themes	1st call	2nd call	3rd call	4th call	All calls
Entrepreneurship & SMEs	12	15	0	19	<b>46</b>
Energy & sustainable transport	7	7	5	19	<b>38</b>
Innovation & RTD	6	15	0	14	<b>35</b>
Average sub-themes					
Information Society	4	8	0	7	<b>19</b>
Employment, human capital and education	3	7	0	8	<b>18</b>
Natural and technological risks	5	6	2	3	<b>16</b>
Least popular sub-themes					
Cultural heritage and landscape	2	3	0	6	<b>11</b>
Water management	0	6	0	3	<b>9</b>
Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage	2	3	0	2	<b>7</b>
Waste management	0	4	0	1	<b>5</b>

# No. of approved/recommended projects

## Priority 1

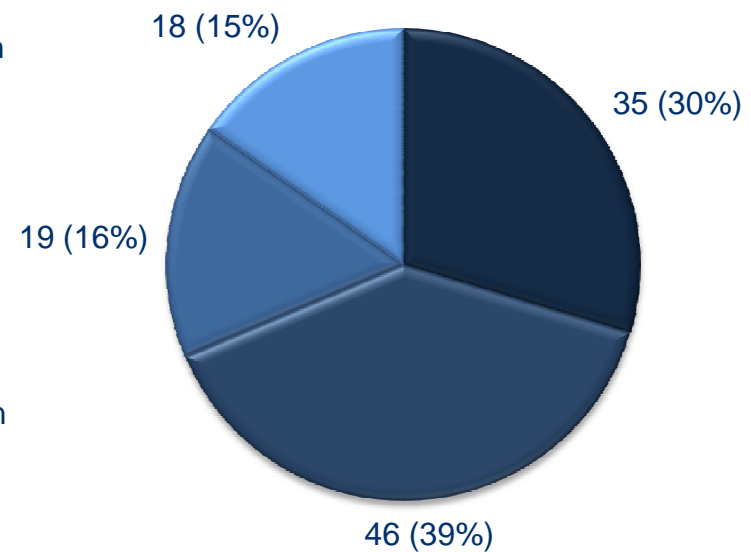
### 4th call

48 out of 82 projects  
(58,5%)



### All calls

118 out of 204 projects  
(57,8%)

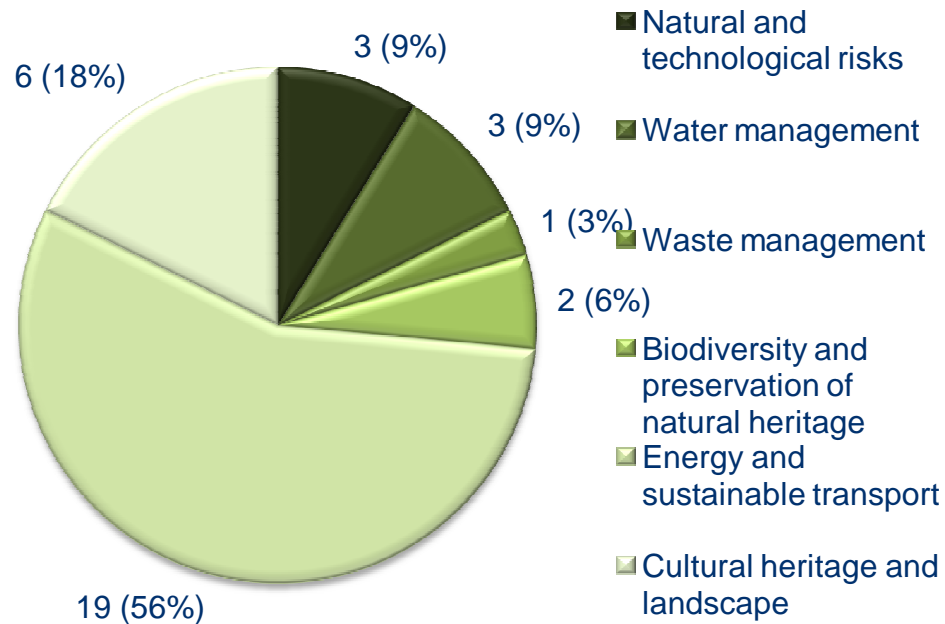


# No. of approved/recommended projects

## Priority 2

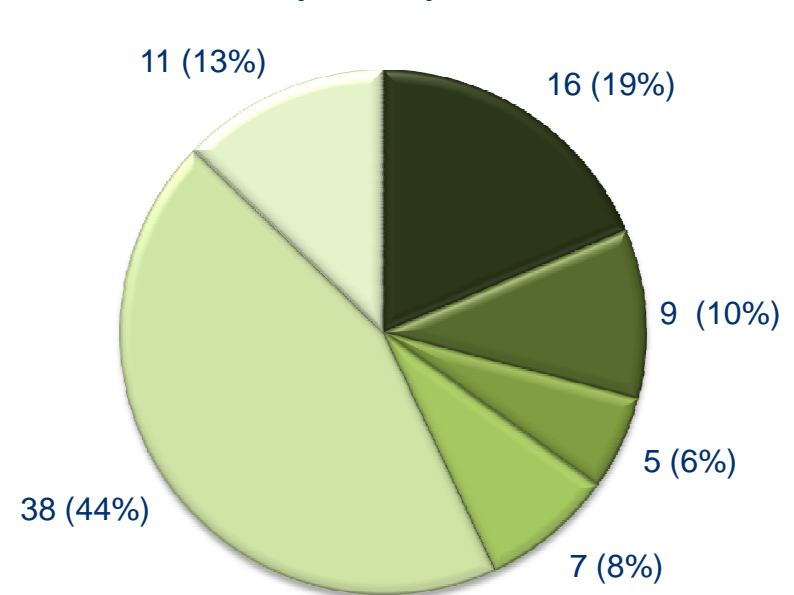
### 4<sup>th</sup> call

34 out of 82 projects  
(41,5%)



### All calls

86 out of 204 projects  
(42,2%)



## New 'topics' from 4<sup>th</sup> call

### 7 new topics under priority 1

- Innovation in public sector
- Smart specialisation strategies
- SME access to finance (*2 projects*)
- Territorial marketing
- ICT policy monitoring
- Reuse of digital public services
- Innovation based employment



## New 'topics' from 4<sup>th</sup> call

### 8 new topics under priority 2

- Fire management (historic centres)
- Greening infrastructure
- Management of heritage parks
- Water management (spatial planning)
- River management (*2 projects*)
- Sustainable management of straits
- Sustainable management of cultural events
- Regeneration of fortified heritage

## New thematic trends emerging from the 4<sup>th</sup> call



By Ambro

### Innovation for ageing population:

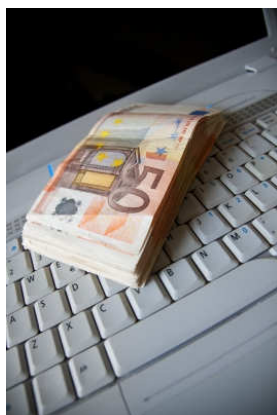
- DAA
- CASA
- INN.O.V.Age

### Smart Specialisation Strategies

- TRES
- BORDWIIS+
- KNOW-HUB



By Nokhoog buchachon



By Graur razvan ionut

### SME access to finance

- DIFASS
- FIN-EN

## New thematic trends emerging from the 4<sup>th</sup> call

### Role of ICTs in rural development

- e-CREATE
- DANTE
- GRISI PLUS



*By Tom Curtis*



### Intelligent transport system

- POSSE
- POLITE
- RITS-NET

# 1322R4 CCIC

## Complex challenges, Innovative Cities

**Sub-theme:** innovation research and technology development

**Lead Partner:** Sofia Municipality, BG

**Countries involved:** BG, EE, ES, FI, IT, PL, RO, UK

**Topic:** Innovation in the public sector

The project aims to define a common approach for regional/local policies that enables efficient innovation in the fields of financial instruments, public procurement, publicly owned enterprises, civil society inclusion, and removal of local/regional blind-spots

# 1322R4 CCIC

## Complex challenges, Innovative Cities

Extract from section 3.3.2 (component 3):

*“In most advanced Western nations the public sector employs on average **around 20% of the population and produces around 15% of the country’s material goods every year.** A study of public sector innovation requires an understanding of the relationship between public sector performance and the overall performance of the economy. This represents a new perspective on the role of the public sector in economy, which sees it as an integrated part and an important element of the functional development of the economy. “*

## 1109R4 Euro Screen European Screen Destinations

**Sub-theme:** entrepreneurship and SMEs

**Lead Partner:** Film London Ltd., UK

**Countries involved:** ES, IT, MT, PL, RO, SE, SI, UK,

**Topic:** territorial marketing and economic development through the optimisation of the relation between the screen sector (international media coverage) and tourism business

The project aims to measure and maximise the screen sector's economic impact on tourism and to foster the dialogue between the different policy makers across these sectors

## 1109R4 Euro Screen European Screen Destinations

Extract from section 1.6 'Brief summary':

*“The longest running example in the EU is The Sound of Music. 40 years after of the film's release, an estimated 300,000 fans visit Salzburg to see locations from the film. Recent similar successes include Notting Hill, which attracted a huge influx of tourists to London's Notting Hill and has resulted in the area becoming established as a new must-see.”*

*“The TV series and film Wallander had a substantial economic effect upon Ystad (Sweden) where it was shot. The number of visitors increased 34% from 2008 to 2009, tourism turnover increased 50% over 6 years, and a positive impact was experienced upon job creation.”*

## 1335R4 FIN-EN

### Financial engineering instruments for enterprises

**Sub-theme:** Entrepreneurship and SMEs

**Lead Partner:** Finlombarda SpA, IT

**Countries involved:** BE, DK, FR, DE, EL, HU, IT, LV, LT, PT,  
SI, ES, UK

**Topic:** exchange on methodologies and instruments used for implementing Financial Engineering operations (e.g. JEREMIE) in the framework of EU Structural Funds; reviewing ERDF/ESF disbursement procedures by using financial instruments (as opposite to traditional grants) with the aim to maximise the use of EU funds



# 1115R4 ONE

## Observatory Network to Enhance ICT Structural Funds Absorption

**Sub-theme:** the information society

**Lead Partner:** Piedmont Region, IT

**Countries involved:** BE, CY, CZ, DE, FR, IT, PL, UK

**Topic:** better tailoring ICT interventions towards specific regional needs, thus enhancing the absorption rate of ICT funds.

The project aims to increase regions' capacity to plan, assess and manage Structural Funds investments in one of the strategic field of innovation (ICT)

## 1242R4 TOK-TOC

### Transfer of Knowledge – Transfer of Human Capital

**Sub-theme:** employment, human capital and education

**Lead Partner:** Athens Chamber of Small and Medium sized industries, EL

**Countries involved:** BG, EL, ES, NL, LV, UK

**Topic:** business transfer between generations.

The project aims to provide the ageing workforce and their successors with the skills and capacity to successfully transfer businesses

## 1129R4 ECOTALE

### External Costs of Transport and Land Equalisation

**Sub-theme:** energy and sustainable transport

**Lead Partner:** University of Bologna, IT

**Countries involved:** EL, ES, FI, FR, IT, HU, PL

**Topic:** internalisation of external cost of transport with better planning and investment decisions based on global transport cost

The project aims at improving the traditional approach based on the “economic” (or market-based) internalisation of external costs (i.e. pricing measures) by introducing criteria and policies for a **wider internalisation approach considering also land use and environmental planning.**

# 1093R4 ZEN

## Zero-Impact Cultural Heritage Event Network

**Sub-theme:** cultural heritage and landscape

**Lead Partner:** Umbria Development Agency, IT

**Countries involved:** IT, EL, LT, LV, UK, BG, SI, RO, ES, NL

**Topic:** sustainable impact of seasonal events in historical towns and centers, especially in terms of mobility, transport, waste and resources.

The project aims to improve the management of cultural heritage and historic center in occasion of seasonal events, in order to reduce their impact on the local urban setting and contributing towards a more general 'zero impact' policy.

## **Annexe 08: Change in running projects**

## Annex 08 to Annual Report 2011: Changes in running projects (2011)

Index	Acronym	Closed	Number	Type Of Change	Description	Financial Implications	Approval Date
0003R1	Creative Growth	No	2	Budget/Finances	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract).	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	29.03.2011
0003R1	Creative Growth	No	3	Duration	The project duration has been extended by 2 months until 30/11/2011.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	02.09.2011
0004R1	MINI EUROPE	No	2	Budget/Finances;Duration	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The project duration has	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 1,500.00.	29.11.2011
0006R1	MORE4NRG	No	2	Budget/Finances	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract).	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 1,395.10.	17.10.2011
0018R1	CASTLE	No	1	Budget/Finances;Duration	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The project duration has	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	28.04.2011
0045R1	NEEBOR	No	3	Duration	The project duration has been extended by 3 months until 31/12/2011.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	10.08.2011
0098R1	FUTUREforest	No	1	Budget/Finances;Duration	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The total budget has	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 160.10.	28.11.2011
0108R1	GRaBS	Yes	1	Budget/Finances	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract).	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 2,000.00.	30.09.2011
0111R1	EuroPROC	No	2	Duration	The project duration has been extended by 3 months until 30/11/2011.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	05.05.2011
0126R1	FLIPPER	No	2	Duration	The project duration has been extended by 3 months until 30/11/2011.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	18.02.2011
0126R1	FLIPPER	No	4	Budget/Finances;Partnership	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The total budget has	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	30.09.2011
0138R1	CeRamICa	No	1	Partnership	Partner Municipality of Milies (EL) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Municipality of South Pelion (EL) has been	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 0.01.	18.07.2011
0138R1	CeRamICa	No	2	Budget/Finances;Duration	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The total budget has	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 600.00.	29.11.2011
0147R1	MMOVE	No	2	Budget/Finances;Partnership;Duration	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). Partner Volos Municipal	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 0.01.	06.06.2011
0180R1	PRESERVE	No	3	Budget/Finances;Duration	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The total budget has	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 43,727.32.	03.10.2011
0192R1	REGIOCLIMA	No	1	Activities/Outputs;Duration	Planned activities / outputs have been changed in components 3, 4. The project duration has been extended by 3 months until	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	31.08.2011
0216R1	PEOPLE	No	1	Budget/Finances;Partnership	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). Partner Stockholm Region	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	20.05.2011
0226R1	EVITA	No	2	Budget/Finances;Partnership;Duration	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The total budget has	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 67,932.63.	17.08.2011
0259R1	PASE	No	1	Activities/Outputs;Partnership;Duration	Planned activities / outputs have been changed in components 2, 4. Partner Municipality of Rome, Councilorship for the Peripheral Areas	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 0.01.	21.02.2011
0266R1	DC	No	2	Budget/Finances;Duration	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The total budget has	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 144,500.00.	19.10.2011
0271R1	CREATIVE METROPOLES	No	1	Duration	The project duration has been extended by 1 months until 30/10/2011.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	17.10.2011
0279R1	MITKE	No	1	Budget/Finances	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract).	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	01.08.2011
0301R1	RSC	No	1	Duration	The project duration has been extended by 3 months until 31/12/2011.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	10.02.2011
0323R1	PIMMS TRANSFER	No	1	Duration	The project duration has been extended by 2 months until 31/12/2011.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	04.08.2011
0326R1	NANO4M	No	1	Budget/Finances;Duration	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The project duration has	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	20.07.2011
0340R1	COMMONS	No	3	Duration	The project duration has been extended by 3 months until 31/12/2011.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	26.01.2011

## Annex 08 to Annual Report 2011: Changes in running projects (2011)

Index	Acronym	Closed	Number	Type Of Change	Description	Financial Implications	Approval Date
0340R1	COMMONS	No	4	Partnership	Partner Prefectural Authority of Drama – Kavala - Xanthi (EL) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Region of East	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 31,331.00.	04.04.2011
0340R1	COMMONS	No	5	Budget/Finances	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The total budget has	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 76,022.51.	05.12.2011
0355R1	PRoMpt	No	2	Budget/Finances;Activities/Outputs;Partnership	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The total budget has	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 79,794.93.	06.06.2011
0355R1	PRoMpt	No	3	Duration	The project duration has been extended by 3 months until 31/12/2011.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	29.06.2011
0376R1	POWER	No	1	Budget/Finances	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The total budget has	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 199,257.29.	20.06.2011
0405R1	IES	No	2	Budget/Finances;Duration	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The project duration has	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 0.01.	23.06.2011
0408R1	CITEAIR II	No	2	Budget/Finances;Duration	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The total budget has	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 29,811.10.	30.11.2011
0497R2	SUSTAIN	No	1	Partnership	Partner Baltic Energy Forum (DE) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	16.03.2011
0500R2	REVERSE	No	2	Partnership	Partner PREFECTURAL AUTHORITY OF DRAMA – KAVALA - XANTHI (EL) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Region of	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 0.01.	29.04.2011
0513R2	DLA	No	3	Partnership	Partner Euregio Pskov-Livonia, section Estonia (EE) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner VÖRU COUNTY GOVERNMENT	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 0.01.	06.06.2011
0524R2	EnercitEE	No	1	Partnership	Partner Region of Crete (EL) has withdrawn from the project partnership.	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 347,579.70.	19.10.2011
0539R2	SIGMA for Water	No	1	Partnership	Partner PREFECTURE OF MAGNESIA (EL) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Region of Thessaly (EL), University of	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	30.06.2011
0557C2	MKW	No	2	Budget/Finances;Partnership	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The total budget has	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 29,568.35.	30.09.2011
0574R2	PERIURBAN	No	2	Partnership	Partner Common profit Enterprise of Municipality of Zografou (EL) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Larnaca District	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 0.01.	19.12.2011
0587C2	IMMODI	No	2	Activities/Outputs;Partnership	Planned activities / outputs have been changed in components 2, 3. Partners Region of Thessaly (EL), Region of Peloponnese (EL) have	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 106,996.35.	06.12.2011
0596R2	ECREIN+	No	1	Partnership	Partners Green Building Cluster (BE), Advantage West Midlands (UK) have withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Coventry	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 111,937.50.	28.07.2011
0602R2	IPP	No	2	Partnership	Partner Regional Vice Ministry for Territorial Cohesion and European Affairs (ES) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	08.03.2011
0610R2	RTF	No	1	Partnership	Partner Northern Norway Regional Health Authority (NO) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner University Hospital	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	21.02.2011
0610R2	RTF	No	2	Partnership	Partner Veneto Region (IT) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Local Health Trust N°9 Treviso (IT) has been	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	09.05.2011
0610R2	RTF	No	3	Partnership	Partner Scottish Centre for Telehealth (UK) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner National Health Service 24 (UK) has	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	29.08.2011
0619R2	CATCH_MR	No	1	Partnership	Partner Budapest Transport Association Co. (HU) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner BKK (integrated transport-	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	21.07.2011
0637R2	SolidarCity	No	1	Partnership	Partner London College of Communication (University of the Arts London) (UK) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	08.04.2011
0648R2	SuPorts	No	2	Partnership	Partners Mediterranean SOS Network (MedSOS) (EL), DANETH-Intermun. Dev. Co. of the Prefecture of Thessaloniki (EL), EcoPorts	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	29.11.2011
0698R2	OSAIS	No	1	Partnership	Partner Municipality of Heraklion (EL) has withdrawn from the project partnership.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	19.12.2011
0723R2	eCitizen II	No	1	Partnership	Partners Sheffield City Council (UK), South West Regional Authority (IE) have withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Kerry	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 5,289.08.	31.03.2011
0729C2	ENTREDI	No	2	Budget/Finances	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract).	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	19.10.2011

## Annex 08 to Annual Report 2011: Changes in running projects (2011)

Index	Acronym	Closed	Number	Type Of Change	Description	Financial Implications	Approval Date
0729C2	ENTREDI	No	3	Duration	The project duration has been extended by 2 months until 29/2/2012.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	28.11.2011
0733R2	I-SPEED	No	2	Partnership	Partner Municipality of Plovdiv (BG) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner National Association of Municipalities in the	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 405.01.	09.05.2011
0744R2	INNOPOLIS	No	2	Partnership	Partner Manchester Knowledge Capital (UK) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Manchester City Council (UK) has been	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 0.01.	09.12.2011
0757R2	ORGANZA	No	2	Activities/Outputs	Planned activities / outputs have been changed in components 2, 3, 4.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	28.10.2011
0763R2	MISRaR	No	1	Partnership	Partner Prefecture Thesprotia (EL) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Region of Epirus (EL) has been newly	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 0.01.	30.05.2011
0777R2	PADIMA	No	1	Partnership	Partner IREALP - Research Institute for the Ecology and the Economy applied to Alpine Areas (IT) has withdrawn from the	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	28.09.2011
0784R2	CLIMACTREGIONS	No	2	Partnership	Partner Fundaciòn Comunidad Valenciana Región Europea (ES) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner CEAM Foundation	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 0.01.	30.09.2011
0787R2	DISTRICT+	No	2	Partnership	Partner UK Trade and Investment - West Midlands (UK) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Birmingham	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	16.06.2011
0793R2	VITOUR LANDSCAPE	No	1	Partnership	Partners World Heritage Association of Historic Wine Region of Tokaj (HU), Regional Directorate for the Environment (PT) have	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 0.02.	17.10.2011
0842C2	SCINNOPOLI	No	2	Budget/Finances;Partnership	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). Partner Bretagne	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 3,800.01.	18.10.2011
0863C2	WINNET 8	No	1	Budget/Finances;Partnership	The budget has been reallocated according to the 20% flexibility rule (article 2.2b of the Subsidy Contract). The total budget has	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 56,811.00.	19.07.2011
0865R2	CivPro	No	1	Partnership	Partner Evros Prefecture (EL) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Region of East Macedonia and Thrace (EL) has	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	04.04.2011
0874R2	BIO-EN-AREA	No	1	Partnership	Partner Kosice Self-Governing Region (SK) has withdrawn from the project partnership.	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 55,630.00.	29.04.2011
0945R2	INOLINK	No	1	Partnership	Partner Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Essonne, CCI Essonne (FR) has withdrawn from the project partnership.	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 64,937.69.	31.10.2011
0980C3	PIMMS CAPITAL	No	1	Partnership	Partner Herefordshire Council (UK) has withdrawn from the project partnership.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	31.01.2011
0980C3	PIMMS CAPITAL	No	2	Partnership	Partner Region of Western Greece (EL) has withdrawn from the project partnership.	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 2,725.19.	11.05.2011
0987C3	PLUS	No	1	Partnership	Partner Municipality of Plovdiv (BG) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Foundation 'Sofuia Development Association'	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	25.05.2011
0992C3	GEO.POWER	No	1	Partnership	Partner Local Union of Municipalities and Communities of Prefecture Chios / TEDK Chios (EL) has withdrawn from the project	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	20.07.2011
0998C3	EUFOFINET	No	1	Partnership	Partner DG for Nature Heritage and Biodiversity of the Region of Murcia (ES) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	27.01.2011
0998C3	EUFOFINET	No	2	Partnership	Partners Region of Western Greece (EL), Region of Ionia Nisia (EL) have withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner REGION OF	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	12.10.2011
1000C3	EFFMIS	No	1	Partnership	Partner Kaunas Regional Innovation Centre (LT) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner Institute of Forestry,	Further to these changes, the ERDF decreased by EUR 0.01.	30.03.2011
1000C3	EFFMIS	No	2	Partnership	Partner Baiao Municipality (PT) has withdrawn from the project partnership. Partner BATALHA MUNICIPALITY (PT) has been newly	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	11.10.2011
1002C3	EU 2020 going local	No	1	Partnership	Partner West Midlands Leaders Board (UK) has withdrawn from the project partnership.	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	22.03.2011



## Annexe 09: Achievements per country



## Annex 09 to Annual Report 2011: Achievements per country

Country	Number of LP	Number of PP (incl LP)	Number of projects with partners from this country	ERDF Funds committed	Number of staff members with increased capacity	Number of transfers of good practices	Number of policies improved	Number of new projects/activities /approaches resulting from the exchange	CAP Projects: Mainstream funds dedicated to GP implementation
AT	7	43	35	6 842 388,98	83	4	3	1	0,00
BE	3	60	49	8 200 296,31	81	3	3	0	0,00
BG	1	77	66	7 614 984,07	129	4	10	2	0,00
CY	1	22	20	2 763 730,03	33	1	2	1	0,00
CZ	1	43	36	5 159 323,65	56	1	3	1	0,00
DE	21	134	94	21 714 436,63	188	5	7	5	0,00
DK	5	33	28	5 500 100,27	36	1	2	0	0,00
EE	0	37	32	4 975 951,13	51	0	2	3	0,00
EL	11	133	86	18 510 562,15	236	15	6	3	0,00
ES	21	217	147	32 829 509,60	381	12	8	7	0,00
FI	7	66	48	9 811 926,55	111	3	7	3	0,00
FR	25	134	93	21 209 843,37	190	3	1	3	0,00
HU	7	106	79	13 823 555,75	132	3	5	3	0,00
IE	2	54	39	6 943 282,24	63	4	0	0	0,00
IT	33	260	153	39 556 628,08	454	17	10	6	0,00
LT	1	40	35	4 056 630,17	63	1	0	0	0,00
LU	1	3	2	297 799,50	2	0	0	0	0,00
LV	3	39	35	4 044 996,98	33	0	0	0	0,00
MT	0	23	23	2 470 014,00	20	0	1	1	0,00
NL	23	81	65	16 188 959,41	133	11	4	7	0,00
PL	2	121	96	16 303 456,13	187	9	5	6	0,00
PT	3	63	49	7 407 243,28	84	12	0	3	0,00
RO	1	97	81	10 105 009,77	163	10	7	4	0,00
SE	9	101	72	15 774 501,83	207	7	6	11	0,00
SI	0	64	57	8 006 435,90	76	2	3	0	0,00
SK	0	31	28	3 067 906,25	67	1	4	2	0,00
UK	15	159	118	25 444 003,72	250	8	8	9	0,00
NO	1	21	19	1 988 458,49	24	0	0	0	N/A
CH	0	3	3	N/A	4	0	0	0	N/A
other	0	8	6	N/A	14	0	0	7	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>2273</b>		<b>318 623 475,75</b>	<b>3549</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>0,00</b>