An accelerator for regional development
30 countries

28 EU Member States, Switzerland and Norway
Interreg Europe helps **regional and local governments** across Europe to **develop and deliver better policy**. We create a unique environment for sharing solutions by and for regions, to ensure that government investment, innovation and implementation efforts lead to more sustainable impact on the ground.

€359m

*Financed by the European Regional Development Fund*
Emphasis on improving regional policies & programmes

Interreg Europe aims to improve the implementation of regional development policies and programmes, in particular Investment for Growth and Jobs and European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) programmes.

**Four topics** were selected in order to make the best use of limited funds. The more focused the actions, the higher the chances they deliver effective results.
Partners in this topic can work on:
1. Strengthening research and innovation infrastructure and capacities.
2. Innovation delivery through regional innovation chains in the chosen ‘smart specialisation’ field.

**e.g.**

- improving financial instruments for innovation support
- increasing commercialisation of R&D results
This topic allows regions to improve their policies in supporting SMEs in all stages of their life cycle to develop and achieve growth, and engage in innovation.

\[\text{e.g.}\]

- creating and boosting entrepreneurial spirit
- responding to obstructions to business growth
Cooperation here addresses the transition to a low-carbon economy in all sectors.

This could be through policies aimed at raising the share of renewable energy sources in the energy mix or promoting sustainable transport.

*e.g.*

- increasing energy performance of public buildings
- promoting alternative mobility behaviour
Two distinct fields are open for cooperation:
1. Protection & development of natural and cultural heritage.
2. Transition to a resource-efficient economy, promoting green growth and eco-innovation.

e.g.

• *improving management of regional nature parks*
• *making the transition to circular economy*
2 actions
Public organisations from different regions in Europe work together for 3 to 5 years on a shared policy issue.

An action plan, specific for each region, will ensure that the lessons learnt from the cooperation are put into action. Regional partners will monitor how far the action plans are implemented.

Calls for project proposals are launched throughout the programming period.
2. POLICY LEARNING PLATFORMS

Policy learning platforms open up the programme’s knowledge for the benefit of all the project partners and the whole community of regional policy makers. There is one policy learning platform for each of the four topics covered by Interreg Europe.

The main aim is to provide a space for continuous learning, to improve regional development policies in Europe without engaging in a project.

This community of peers features a knowledge bank, networking and partnering opportunities and expert support.
Who can participate?

Organisations responsible for Structural Funds programmes:
find tried and tested measures to implement in your programme.

National/regional/local authorities:
share and implement good practices coming from across Europe.

Agencies, research institutes, thematic and non-profit organisations:
get involved with your policymaker and contribute to better policy implementation.
How can I be involved?

Become a project partner
Join a stakeholder group
Sign up for the platforms

Share good practices, ideas, learn from the others. Find solutions to improve your regional development strategies.