

INTERREG IVC 2nd Call – points of attention

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SUMMARY

- 1. Features of the second Call**
- 2. Lessons learnt from the first Call**
- 3. Final recommendations**

1. Features of the second Call



Second Call for proposals

Now open!

27.10.2008 - 30.01.2009 (decisions to be taken by Autumn 2009)

Application Pack published on the www.interreg4c.eu website:

- Revised Programme Manual: additional clarifications
- Application Form (improved instructions, simplifications)
- Co-financing statement (one single template)
- All programme priorities and sub-themes are open
- The two types of intervention are also open
- No specific budget allocation per Call



2. Lessons learnt from the first Call assessment



Based on six criteria

1. **Relevance of the proposal**
2. **Coherence of the proposal**
3. Quality of results
4. Quality of management
5. **Quality of the partnership**
6. Budget and finances



Criterion 1 (relevance): guidelines

Select a relevant theme

- Is it in line with the Lisbon and Gothenburg strategies?
- Is it related to regional development policies?
- Is it in line with the competences of relevant public authorities?
- Is it of European added-value?

Adopt the right approach

- Is the theme tackled at policy level?
- Is the focus on the exchange of experience?
- Does the project aim to improve regional policies/instruments?
- Is the proposed approach clearly interregional?
- Is the proposed cooperation win-win?



Criterion 1: relevance

Importance of the two sub-categories (theme / approach)

“One won’t make it on its own”, meaning...

- **... a relevant theme is not sufficient to demonstrate the project’s relevance.**

*Example: project with a thematic focus on SME support (theme ok) ⇔
proposed activities: organisation of business fairs (approach irrelevant)*

- **...vice-versa, a relevant approach is also not sufficient without a relevant theme.**

*Example: project with a thematic focus on agriculture (theme irrelevant) ⇔
proposed activities: identification of policy good practices etc. (approach ok)*



Criterion 1: relevance

Themes to handle with care

- 'Innovation'
 - Closely related to economic development issues, i.e. RTD
 - Issues directly contributing to the competitiveness of the region
- 'Culture'
 - Cultural and creative sector (under Priority 1)
 - Cultural heritage (under Priority 2)
- 'Tourism'
 - As an economic sector related to SMEs (under Priority 1)
 - In the context of "sustainable tourism" (under Priority 2)
- 'Agriculture'

Issues directly related to the 'agriculture' theme cannot be supported under the INTERREG IVC programme, as they are already covered by the EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).



Criterion 1: relevance

INTERREG IVC = Capitalisation Programme

Focus on exchange of experience at policy level ⇒ IVC is not primarily dedicated to 'implementation' or to 'experimentation'

- ↳ Main weakness in the first call applications = misunderstanding of the programme's rationale



Requirements for activities proposed in IVC

Proposed activities have to respect 3 fundamental conditions:

➤ **Relevance to the programme**

Activities have to be clearly in line with the overall objective of the programme (i.e. contribute to the improvement of policies)

➤ **Interregionality**

Activities should be interregional. Example for pilot experimentation:

- transfer from one region to another
- pilot experimentation benefiting all the partners

➤ **Additionality**

Activities would not be supported without the INTERREG support



Criterion 2 (coherence): guidelines

Clarify the project's rationale

- Is the issue clearly stated and focused enough?
- Are project objectives and planned effects clearly described?

Ensure the coherence of the proposed methodology

- Is the overall methodology realistic and consistent?
- Can expected results be achieved through the proposed approach and planned activities?
- Are activities logically inter-linked and mentioned in the correct project component?

Pay attention to the quality of the work plan

Ensure consistency with EU horizontal policies



Criterion 2: coherence

'Integrated approach' & clear focus

- Selection of one programme's sub-theme needed, with a clear thematic focus

1.5 Sub-theme selected:

Please select the sub-theme the project focuses on. Please note that only one sub-theme can be chosen. In cases where several sub-themes are addressed (cross cutting approach), further explanation can be provided under Section 2.1.2 (Problem description/ issue addressed).

Priority: 1: Innovation and the knowledge economy

Sub-theme:

Employment, human capital and education
Entrepreneurship and SMEs
Innovation, research and technology development
The Information Society

- Projects should not address different sub-themes simultaneously ⇒ inconsistency of the methodology
- Example of appropriate 'integrated approach': project on cluster policies in the sector of renewable energy

Sub-theme addressed: 'Entrepreneurship and SMEs' but also related to the 'Energy and Sustainable Transport' sub-theme



Criterion 2: coherence

Quality of the work plan

Activities of the work plan need to be described as precisely as possible:

- To allow a proper assessment (without detailed information, the whole application remains vague and the compliance of the activities with programme's requirements cannot be checked)
- To allow a proper monitoring in case of approval (the work plan is the main basis for monitoring project's implementation)

Monitoring Committee cannot commit significant ERDF grant with high co-financing rate to vaguely defined projects



Quality of the work plan

Criterion 2: coherence

Activities Jan-Jun 2010	Creation of working group Set up of research methodology Approval of the methodology
Output(s)	1st meeting of Transnational Working group Proposal about research phase
Activities Jan-Jun 2010	T3.1:SFM will host the 5th Training Course (TC5) "FTS in urban and area mobility schemes: integration in ICT Multi-service Platform", together with SCM4. T3.2:ATL will organise the 3rd Technical visit (SV3) titled "Multi-services management" to the Multi-service Platform in Livorno. AUTH will organise the 4th Technical visit (SV4) to the DRT service for disables in Thessaloniki. The title will be "DRT transport service for people with disabilities using "light" transport systems". T3.3:RAL will host the 4th Workshop (WS4) "FTS schemes for Environment management" in Kilkenny. ATL will organise the 5th Workshop(WS5) "Role of ICT in FT services provision" in Livorno jointly with SV3 (T3.2).Volos will organise the 6th Workshop (WS6) "The FTS Organizational and operational dimensions: in real applications and good practices" in Volos. T3.4:UNIABDN will improve on the "Virtual Library" on the basis of users' feedback producing a "First year Implementation of the Virtual Library on FTS"(D5).
Output(s)	Training course 5 (TC5) host by SFM - TC5 materials on Virtual Library Technical Visit 3 (SV3) host by ATL, SV4 by AUTH Workshops 4,5,6 (WS4, WS5 & WS6) host respectively by RAL, ATL and Volos - WS4, WS5 & WS6 proceedings on Virtual Library "First year Implementation of the Virtual Library on FTS " (D5) by UNIABDN

NO!

YES!



Consistency

Criterion 2: coherence

2.1.4 Expected outputs and results of the project
Please describe the outputs and results the project intends to produce. For further information, please refer to the Programme Manual.
(Outputs are tangible deliverables and viable outcomes or products of the project. They directly result from the activities carried out in the project. Output indicators are typically measured in concrete units such as number of seminars, study visits, conferences, participants, publications, good practices identified, policies addressed.
Results are direct and immediate effects resulting from the project and from the production of the outputs. Compared to outputs, results imply a qualitative value. They should be also measured in concrete units such as the number of staff with increased capacity, the number of good practices successfully transferred, the number of policies improved.)

AF 2.1.4 Expected outputs and results

3.3 Component 3		
3.3.1 Component main features		
Title	Field depends on Type of intervention (cover sheet), please select	
Total eligible costs	0.00 €	
Responsible partner		
Planned results		
Output indicators	Indicators Target	
	N° of interregional events (seminars, workshops, study visits, etc.) organised by the project to exchange experience	
	N° of participants in these interregional events	
	Field depends on Type of intervention (cover sheet), please select	
	N° of regional/local policies and instruments addressed in the field tackled by the operation	
Possible additional output indicators		
Result indicators	Indicators	
	N° of staff members with increased capacity (awareness / knowledge / skills) resulting from the exchange of experience at interregional events	
	Field depends on Type of intervention (cover sheet), please select	
	Field depends on Type of intervention (cover sheet), please select	
	Field depends on Type of intervention (cover sheet), please select	
	N° of regional/local policies and instruments improved in the field tackled by the operation	
Possible additional result		

AF work plan, indicators

3.3.3 Detailed work plan (if no activities and outputs are planned in a semester, please indicate 'not applicable' in the relevant fields).	
Activities Jan-Jun 2008	
Output(s)	

AF work plan, list of outputs

Information (e.g. outputs) should be consistent throughout the application form



Criterion 2: coherence

Frequent contradiction on pilot projects

Pilot actions not precisely described in application form

(“will be defined during the project implementation... because not known at application stage...”)



However, pilot actions are precisely budgeted in the budget breakdown



Criterion 5 (partnership): guidelines

Ensure coherence between project objectives and partners

- Are the appropriate partners involved to solve the issue tackled?
- Are the partners in a position to directly influence policies?
- For ‘capitalisation projects’, are the MAs directly involved?

Ensure the proportionate involvement of all partners

- Is the partners’ involvement in project development/implementation clearly demonstrated?
- Is the partners’ financial contribution balanced and realistic?

Ensure a wide geographical coverage

Bring together regions with different levels of experience



Criterion 5: partnership

Direct involvement of the policy level

Section 5 of the application form

- Best option: direct involvement of relevant public authorities
- Bodies governed by public law need to demonstrate:
 - their links with the policy level
 - their capacity to directly influence policies

Please describe the relevance of this partner in the proposed project: What are the partner's competences and experiences in the field tackled? How will the partner contribute to the content of the cooperation and benefit from it?

The Design Centre Rhone-Alps (CDRA) was founded by the Rhone-Alps regional government in 1991 in order, among other things, to help SMEs implement and use design. From 1 January 2008, CDRA is part of the Regional Agency for Innovation and Development (ARDI), also founded by the regional government. CDRA is partly financed by regional representatives of the Ministries of Industry and Research, with whom it has regular contact. CDRA will inform them of the progress and findings of the SEE project, with the aim of positively influencing innovation and design policy in the region. In its daily work, the Design Centre is also in close contact with 3 departments of the regional government. Economic Development: vice president M. Jean-Louis Gagnaire and department head Mrs. Rachel Haak; Higher Education and Research: vice president M. Roger Fougères and department head Mrs. Lucette Dixon; Environment and Risk Prevention: vice president Mrs. Héliène Blanchard and

department head M. Jean-Philippe Moysé. CDRA is responsible for informing regional government of what is happening with regional SMEs so that they are informed on this issue when working on new policies etc. CDRA also proposes actions to the regional government with the aim of improving the performance and innovation of SMEs. The Design Centre will be responsible for organising the workshop on improving the capacity of regions for research and innovation via the practical application of creativity. It has some experience and knowledge in this area as it is a part of the Creative District network. Representatives from other creative districts will be invited to share their experiences. CDRA anticipates that they will benefit from the combined knowledge and experience that this diverse partnership will provide. As well as improving their links to policy makers and exchanging best practice in the field, the project will enable CDRA to strengthen its own delivery and position.



Criterion 5: partnership

Special requirements for mini-programmes

Importance of the nature of the involved partners:

- participation of regional authorities highly recommended (public legitimacy)
- partners should directly represent a territory (determination of the eligible area of the call)



Criterion 5: partnership

Special requirements for Capitalisation projects

Importance of the Managing Authorities' involvement:

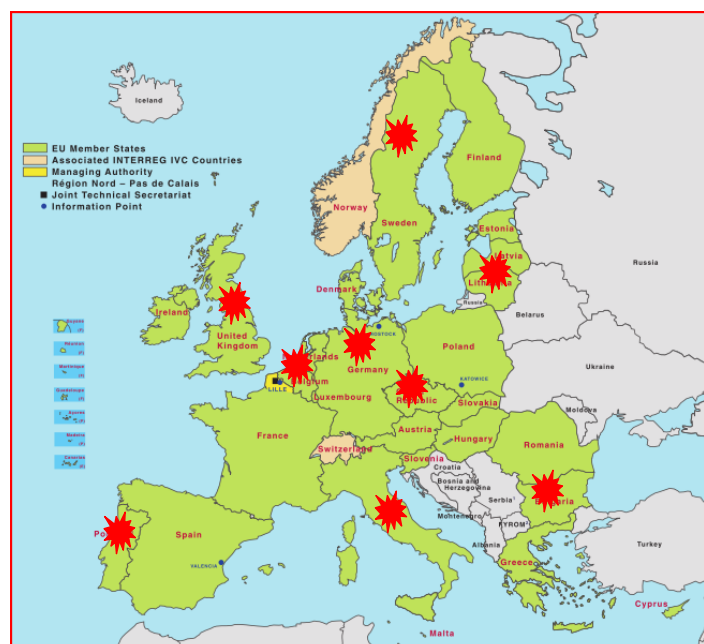
- Ideally as main partners of the project
- If not, involvement should be clearly described in the application form



Criterion 5: partnership

Wide geographical coverage of the partnership

- INTERREG IVC is the only INTERREG programme covering all EU
- This principle should be reflected also in the financial arrangements



3. Final recommendations



Always keep in mind the programme's rationale

Strategic objective of the programme: improvement of regional policies

- **INTERREG IVC = 'capitalisation' programme**
- Interregional cooperation ≠ cross-border cooperation
- Interregional cooperation ≠ transnational cooperation

Capitalisation: process of optimising the results achieved in a specific domain of regional policy. Capitalisation activities consist of the collection, analysis, dissemination and transfer of good practices in a certain policy area.



Always keep in mind the programme's rationale

Key elements derives from this programme's rationale:

- **Local & regional authorities** = 'natural' target group of IVC
Other bodies may be involved only if their link with regional and local policies is clearly demonstrated
- **Exchange of experiences** = core activities of all IVC projects
Pilot actions / experimentations possible but only under very strict conditions



Good example n°1

- A group of **local authorities exchanging experiences on strategies/policies** dedicated to fostering the innovation capacity of SMEs in the automotive sector
- Study trips, seminars, workshops
- **Policy recommendations**



Bad example n°1

- Technological parks and Universities directly implementing measures to tackle the lack of innovation of SMEs in the automotive sector
- Mainly implementation oriented activities
- Lack of interregionality and additionality
- Lack of exchange of experience at policy level



Good example n° 2

- A group of **local authorities exchanging experiences on strategies/policies** dedicated to the use of public transport (in order to save energy and reduce pollution by reducing the number of cars in the traffic)
- Study trips, seminars, workshops
- **Policy recommendations**



Bad example n° 2

- Public transport companies proposing local actions/awareness campaigns to promote the use of public transport
- Mainly local activities
- Lack of interregionality
- Lack of exchange of experience at policy level



Reference Documents

- Operational Programme
- Programme Manual
- Application Pack
- FAQ List

Assistance

- Individual Consultations, Project Assistance Forms
- Project Idea Database
- Advice by phone and e-mail



Thank you for your attention

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