

## Introduction to INTERREG IVC: main features & 1<sup>st</sup> call results

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**Information Point East**

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16 December 2008 – Vienna, Austria

### SUMMARY

- 1. Reminder on the programme's main features**
- 2. Overview of the first call**

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16 December 2008 – Vienna, Austria



# 1. Reminder on the programme's main features



# 1. Programme's main features

## Eligible area

27 Member States  
 + Norway  
 + Switzerland



## Overall objective

- Improve the effectiveness of regional development policies
- Contribute to economic modernisation and increased competitiveness of Europe

by

- Enabling exchange of experiences and knowledge
- Matching less experienced with more advanced regions
- Ensuring transfer of identified good practice into mainstream programmes



## Programme Priorities

### Priority 1: Innovation and Knowledge Economy (177M€ ERDF )

- Innovation, Research & Technology Development
- Entrepreneurship & SMEs
- Information Society
- Employment, Human Capital & Education

### Priority 2: Environment and Risk Prevention (125 M€ ERDF)

- Natural & Technological Risks; Climate Change
- Water Management
- Waste Prevention & Management
- Biodiversity & Preservation of Natural Heritage; Air Quality
- Energy & Sustainable Transport
- Cultural Heritage & Landscape



## Who is eligible?

- Regional and local authorities as main 'target group'
- In justified cases, also bodies governed by public law
- In case of doubts, each MS is responsible for confirming the legal status of partners based on its territory



### ● **Bodies governed by public law**

- (a) no industrial or commercial character
- (b) legal personality
- (c) - the most part financed by the State, regional or local authorities or other bodies governed by public law or
  - management supervision of these bodies
  - or
  - administrative, managerial or supervisory board more than half of whose members are appointed by these bodies



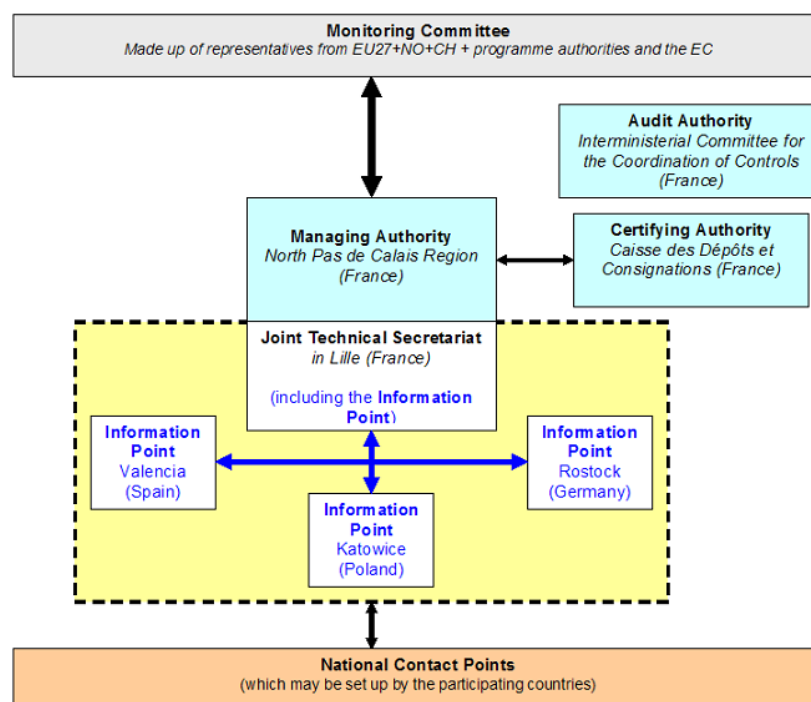
## Partners from EU-MS + Norway

75% ERDF	<b>Austria</b> , Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, UK
85% ERDF	Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia
50% NO funding	Norway



## 1. Programme's main features

### Management structures



## Information Points

- Rostock (IBSH), Germany:  
Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden, Norway;
- Katowice (MRD), Poland:  
**Austria**, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Romania;
- Valencia (GV), Spain:  
Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain
- Lille (RNPC), France:  
Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Switzerland



## Types of Interventions

IVC proposes 2 types of interventions:

- Regional Initiative Projects
- Capitalisation Projects, including Fast Track Projects



## Type 1 'Regional Initiative Projects' Definition & Main Characteristics

- Interregional cooperation projects focusing on the exchange of experiences and the identification, analysis, dissemination and possible transfer of good practices
- Intensity of cooperation from networking activities to intensive joint development (e.g. mini-programmes)
- Regardless of the intensity, one core requirement for all: specific focus on the interregional exchange of experience at policy level



## Type 1 'Regional Initiative Projects' Recommendations' overview

<p><b>Size of the partnership</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended number of partners depends on the level of intensity of cooperation e.g. basic level: max of 20 medium level: max of 15</li> <li>• Exception for mini-programmes: <b>must</b> not exceed 8 partners</li> </ul>
<p><b>Duration</b></p>	<p>36 months (up to 48 months for mini-programme)</p>
<p><b>Budget</b></p>	<p>Min ERDF: EUR 500,000 Max ERDF: EUR 5 million (only in <u>exceptional</u> case) Expected average ERDF budget of IVC projects: <b>between EUR 1 and 2 million</b></p>



## Type 2 'Capitalisation Projects' Definition and Main Characteristics

- Cooperation projects dedicated to the transfer of good practices into EU Structural Funds mainstream programme of the participating regions (i.e. Convergence, Competitiveness & European Territorial Cooperation)
- Two prerequisites for applying to Capitalisation Projects
  1. Existence of good practices ready to be transferred
  2. Involvement of the relevant Managing Authorities



## Type 2 'Capitalisation Projects' Definition and Main Characteristics

Expected results: one '**Action Plan**' for each participating region

**Action Plan:** strategic document defining precisely how the good practices will be implemented in the Operational Programme of each region involved in the project

To be signed by relevant stakeholders (political endorsement)

↳ **binding character**



## Type 2 'Capitalisation Projects' Overview of Recommendations

<b>Size of the partnership</b>	Min n° of countries represented: <b>6</b> Max n° of countries represented: <b>10</b>
<b>Duration</b>	24 months
<b>Budget</b>	Min ERDF: EUR 300,000 Max ERDF: EUR 3 million



## Type 2 'Capitalisation Projects' Fast Track Projects

Fast Track Projects = Capitalisation projects benefiting from additional assistance by the European Commission in order to contribute to the “Regions for Economic Change” initiative

Further information on:

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/cooperation/interregional/ecochange/themes\\_en.cfm?nmenu=3](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperation/interregional/ecochange/themes_en.cfm?nmenu=3)



**Regional Policy - Info regio**  
European Commission - Regional Policy

**Regions for economic change**  
Exchanging good practice between Europe's regions

**Themes and Networks**

The 30 themes identified in the *Staff Working Paper* that accompanied the Communication in November 2006 were grouped into specific policy fields identified in the Community Strategic Guidelines on Cohesion 2007-2013 as indicated below:

- making Europe and its regions more attractive places to invest and work;
- improving knowledge and innovation for growth;
- more and better jobs;
- the territorial dimension of European Cohesion Policy.

These 30 themes are being integrated into the scope of the relevant 2007-2013 programmes for *interregional cooperation* and *association/business 2008*.

The Commission has designated 15 out of the 30 themes as a priority to be looked at in the first call for proposals. 11 of these themes are covered under the INTERREG IVC programme. The Commission informed the Joint Technical Secretariat of its intentions with a *letter*. In the same letter the Commission also provided the *assessment questions* it will use when labelling a project as a fast track project. This exercise is independent from the approval process of projects, which will remain the sovereign right of the INTERREG IVC Monitoring Committee.

Because the description of the themes in the staff working paper is rather broad, the Commission has attempted to specify the areas in which it would be particularly interested in



Activities should be organised logically into three core components:

Component 1: Management and Coordination – *deals with activities related to the administrative, legal and financial activities which are necessary to run an INTERREG IVC project*

Component 2: Communication and Dissemination – *activities aimed at disseminating the project's achievements*

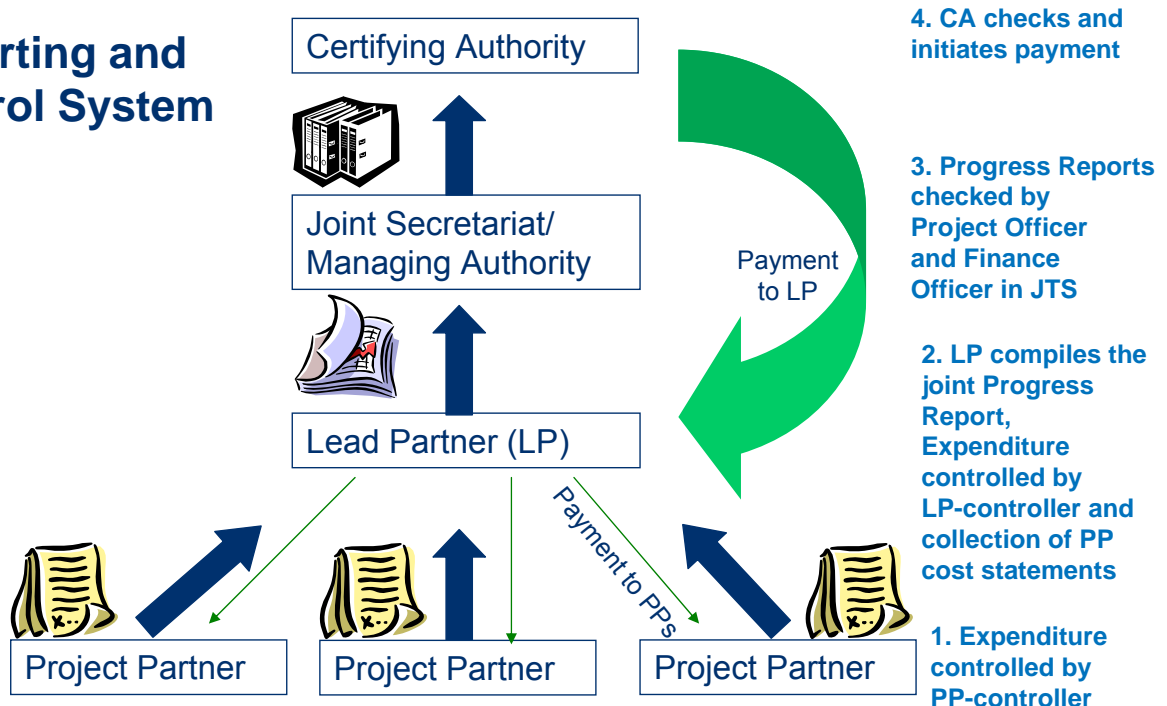
Component 3: Exchange of experience – *depends on the choice of the type of intervention*

- **Regional Initiative Projects** – *exchange of experiences dedicated to the identification and analysis of good practices*

- **Capitalisation Projects** – *exchange of experience dedicated to the transfer of good practices into the Structural Funds mainstream programmes*



Reporting and Control System



## General Principles

- Increase transparency and awareness of EU funds
  - Let the public know that EU money is being well spent
- Helping others to benefit from your activities, good practices and results achieved
  - Ensure maximum benefit by multiplying the effects of EU funding
- Creating awareness of project activities and results
  - Why is what you are doing important?



## 2. Overview of the first call

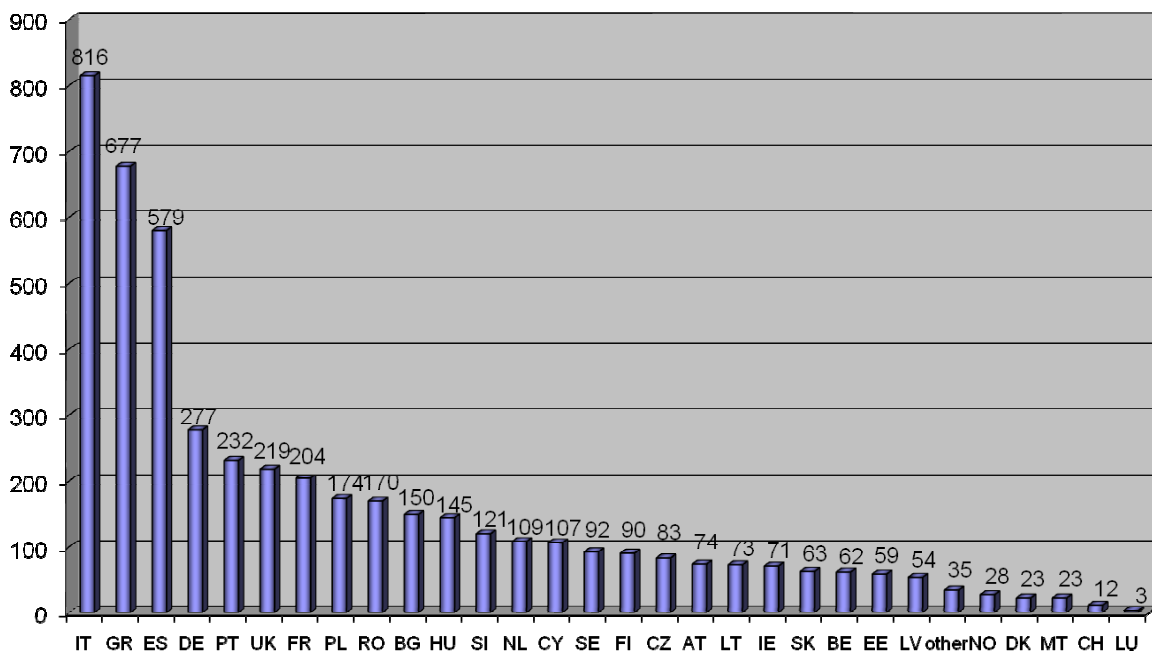


**1<sup>st</sup> call launched on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2007**  
**closed on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2008**

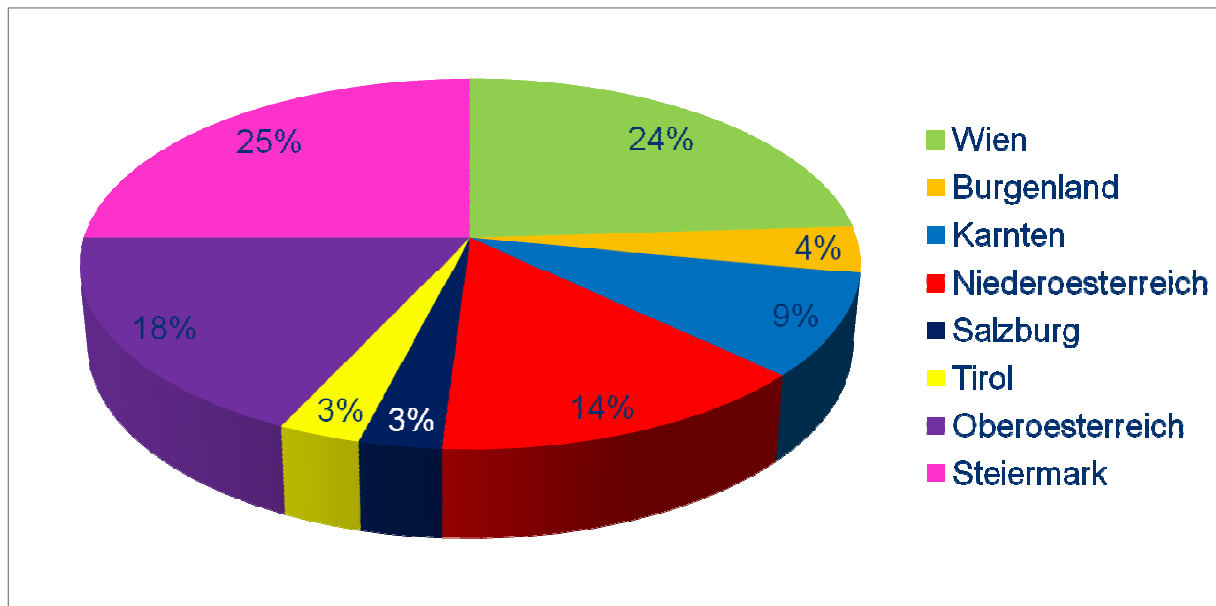
**492 applications received**



**Received by partners**



## Number of Austrian partners by region: 74



## Assessment process

1 phase: Eligibility check – *March 2008*

2 phase: Quality assessment

- *April 2008* Capitalisation projects
- *September 2008* Regional Initiative projects



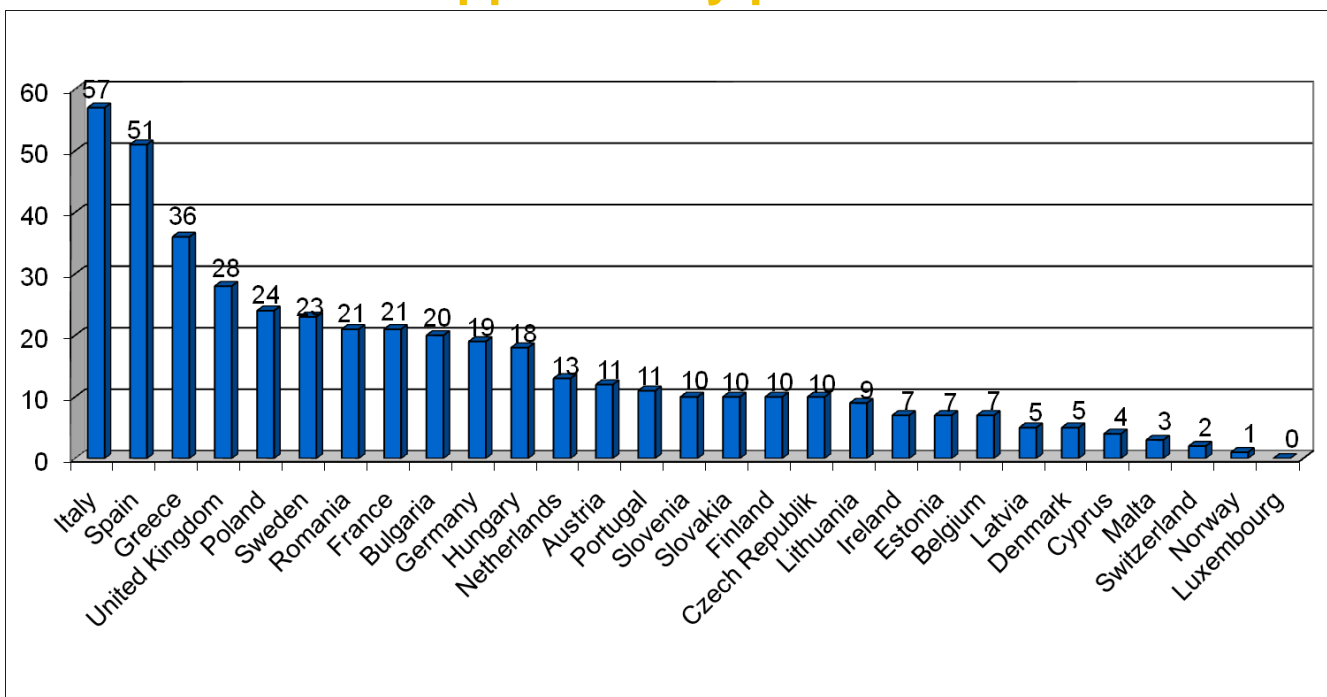
## Results from the assessment

41 projects approved under conditions:

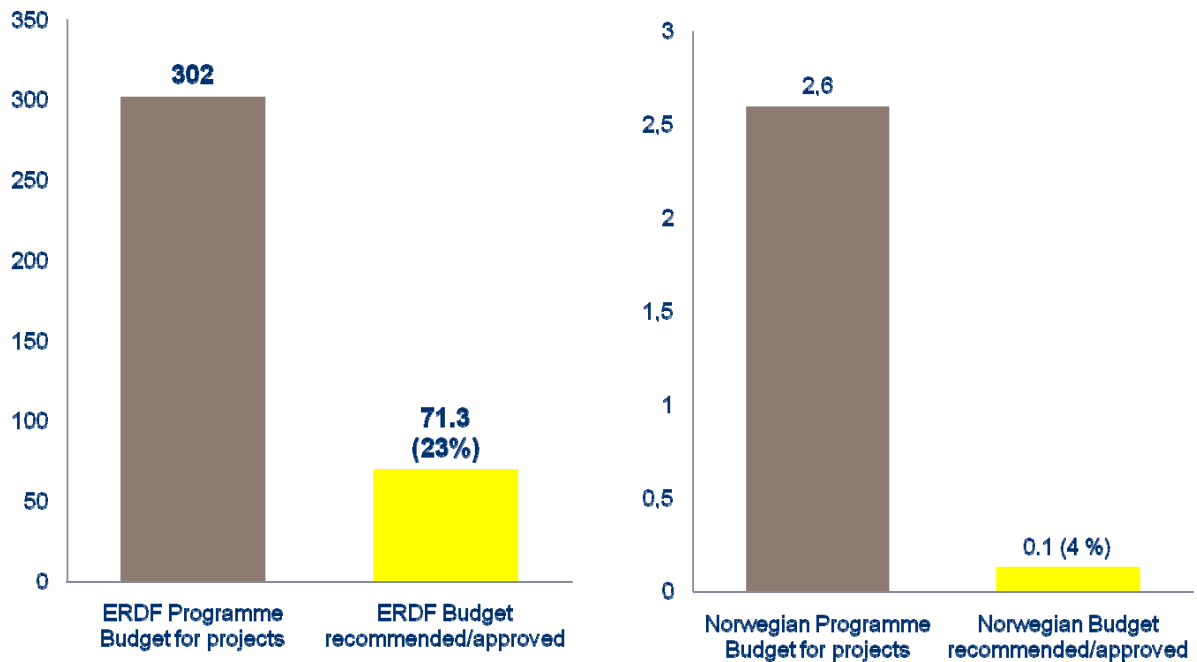
- 6 Capitalisation projects
- 35 Regional Initiative Projects



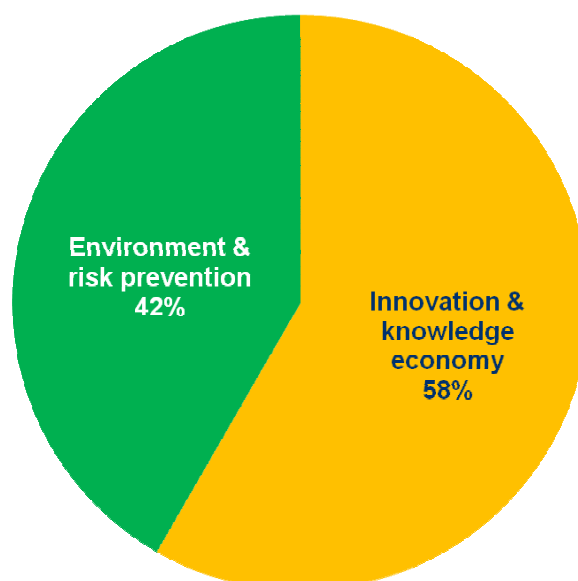
## Approved by partners



### Budget approved

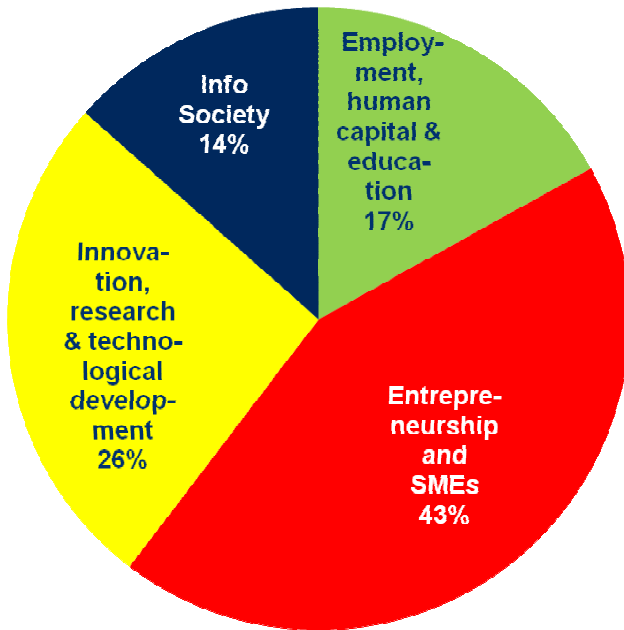


### Budget approved by priority

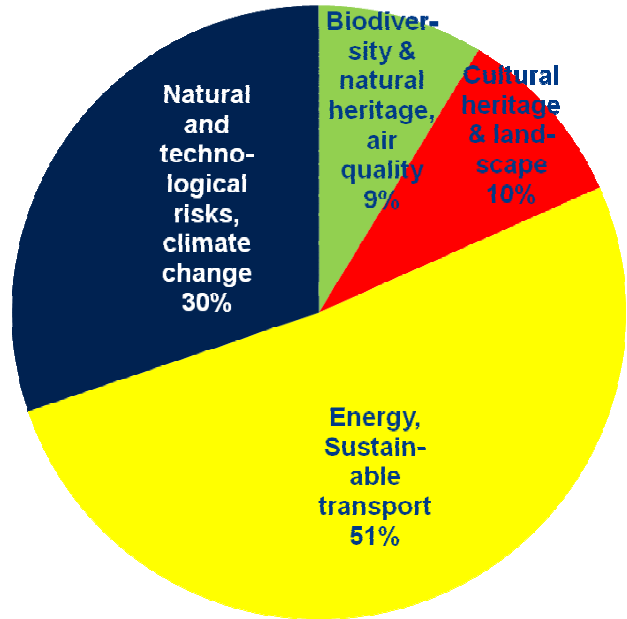


## Budget approved by sub-theme

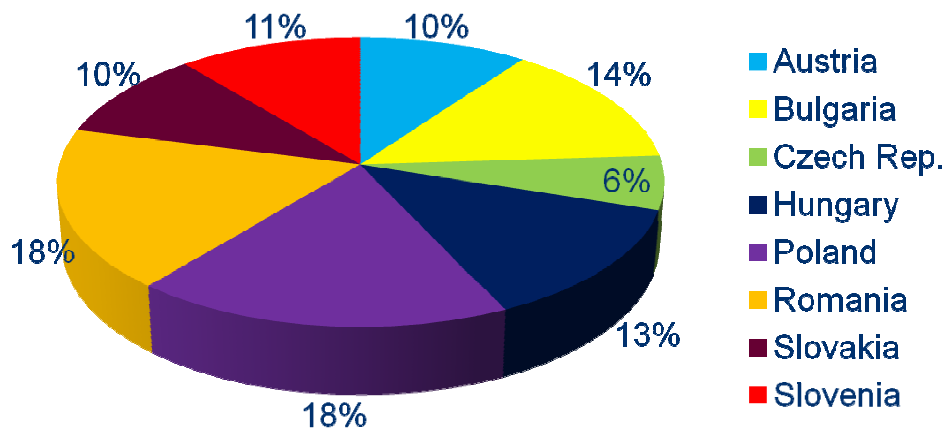
**Innovation & knowledge economy**



**Environment & risk prevention**



## Number of recommended projects from the East area



**Austrian partners in already APPROVED interregional projects**

- ✓ **CASTLE** (RIP type, Sub-theme *Entrepreneurship and SMEs*): **Development Agency of Carinthia**
- ✓ **ERIK ACTION** (Capitalisation Project, Sub-theme *Entrepreneurship and SMEs*): **Lower Austrian Government, Dept. of Economic Affairs, Tourism and Technology**
- ✓ **FLIPPER** (RIP type, Sub-theme *Energy and sustainable transport*): **BOKU – Institute for Transport Studies, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (Vienna); Municipality of Purbach**
- ✓ **PRESERVE** (RIP type, Sub-theme *Cultural heritage and landscape*): **Office of the Carinthian Government, Dept. Of Spatial Development; Internationalisationcenter Styria**
- ✓ **RSC** (RIP type, Sub-theme *Natural and technological risks, climate change*): **Regionalmanagement Burgenland**
- ✓ **GRaBS** (RIP type, Sub-theme *Natural and technological risks, climate change*): **Provincial Government of Styria, Dept. of Spatial Planning**

**Austrian project partners in interregional projects APPROVED UNDER CONDITIONS**

- **I4W** (RIP type, Sub-theme *Innovation, research & technol. development*): **Austrian Technology and Marketing Company, Linz**
- **PIMMS TRANSFER** (RIP type, Sub-theme *Energy and sustainable transport*): **City of Graz**
- **IES** (RIP type, Sub-theme *Employment, human capital and education*): **FH Joanneum University of Applied Sciences**



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !

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