

# **PROGRAMME COMPLEMENT**

## **INTERREG IIIA 2000 – 2006**

### **Austria – Slovenia**

Based on Commission decision C (2001) 2043 of 6<sup>th</sup> August 2001  
revised by Commission Decision C (2002) 1703 of 27<sup>th</sup> July 2002,  
considering the comments of the Commission D (2002) 310340 of 24<sup>th</sup> April 2002 and  
D (2002) 310858 of 24<sup>th</sup> October 2002  
revised by a decision of the Commission C (2004) 4154 of 19<sup>th</sup> October 2004, revised by a  
decision of the Commission K (2005) 4971 of 5<sup>th</sup> December 2005



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Following the accession of Slovenia to the European Union on 1st May 2004 the former Interreg IIIA/Phare CBC programme on the external border Austria-Slovenia has now been converted into a full Interreg IIIA programme on an internal EU border. The Community Initiative Programme (CIP) that has been revised by the decisions of the Commission C(2004) 4154 of 19<sup>th</sup> October 2004 and K(2005) 4971 of 5<sup>th</sup> December 2005 forms the basis for the presented amended Programme Complement.

Besides the CIP the following listed documents build the legal frame for the given Programme Complement:

the EU regulations laying down provisions for the Structural Funds, in particular Council Regulations (EC) No. 1257/1999 of 17.5.1999, No. 1260/1999 of 21.6.1999 and No. 1263/1999 of 21.6.1999, Regulations (EC) No. 1783/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12.7.1999, Commission Regulations (EC) No. 1681/1994 of 11.7.1994, No. 643/2000 of 28.3.2000, No. 1159/2000 of 30.5.2000, No. 438/2001 of 2.3.2001 and No. 2355/2002 of 27.12.2002, No. 448/2004 of 10.3.2004 and Commission Staff Working Paper on "Guidelines on the criteria and modalities for the use of structural funds in electronic communications" SEC(2003)895 of 28 July 2003.

The structure of the document has not been changed.

The main changes in the document are to be found in the following sections:

Chapter 3: the detailed description of the measures has been streamlined to an internal Interreg IIIA programme also indicating that Priority 4 (Special support for Border Regions) does only apply on the Austrian side;

Chapter 4: Project selection has been amended following the recommendations of the mid-term and the on-going programme evaluation

Chapter 5: Communication plan has been up-dated

Chapter 6: Data exchange has been up-dated

Chapter 7: Financial Plan has been amended

The Ex-ante evaluation has been omitted.

All Phare related information has been omitted. As the Phare CBC Programme will still be in place for some time all relevant regulations remain valid and can be looked up at the version from 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2002 of the Programme Complement. This version of the Programme Complement as well as the JPD still build the legal basis for the implementation of the Phare CBC Programme Austria-Slovenia whereas the CIP and this revised version of the Programme Complement are valid for the implementation of the Interreg IIIA Programme Austria-Slovenia.

End of 2003 the Mid-term evaluation was carried out. The mid-term evaluation stated that the experience gained so far in implementation did not show shortcomings which would require a change at the level of objectives. The recommendations of the Ex-ante evaluation were either already incorporated in the final versions of the programme documents or they have been taken into account during implementation. Therefore, the chapter on the Ex-ante evaluation has been omitted from this document.

As there are no substantial changes of the SWOT analysis the Ex-ante evaluation is still valid. Thus the decision of the programme authorities to maintain the programme's objectives and structure (priorities and measures) is considered to be still valid and the revised programme complement is in line with the findings of the mid-term evaluation.



## 2. OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME STRUCTURE BY PRIORITY

The programme consists of four priority axes comprising a total number of 12 measures. Technical Assistance, the fifth priority, is employed in all four priorities.

Figure 1:

**Overview of the Programme Structure by Priority**

Economic Co-operation	Human Resources and Regional Co-operation	Sustainable Spatial Development	Special Support for Border Regions
PI/M1: Economic Development	P2/M1: Human Resources Development – Labour Market	P3/M1: Spatial Development and Transport	P4/M1: Support for Border Regions
P1/M2: Tourism	P2/M2: Regional Co-operation	P3/M2: Sustainable Spatial and Environmental Development	
P1/M3: Rural Development	P2/M3: Co-operation in Education and Cultural Affairs	P3/M3: Environment and Energy Management	
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE			

Networking activities and small projects are supported in all measures and are therefore not mentioned in any of the following chapters.

Priority 4 is treated under a separate budget line. The funds for this additional priority have been allocated entirely for the year 2002 (see Financial Table) and can be spent only at the Austrian side of the border until the end of 2004.



### 3. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE MEASURES

#### Priority Axis 1 / Measure 1: Economic Development

##### 1 Contents / Object of the Measure

The measures in this field are focused on:

The promotion of business start-ups primarily in high-grade technological sectors is to be strengthened by a specific start-up infrastructure. This infrastructure will be organised in a cross-border context forming a cross-border network of existing and new technology parks on both sides of the border. In addition the technology parks will also offer services for enterprises in surrounding areas. Cooperation of enterprises and support institutions of the border regions aiming to improve enterprise competitiveness will be supported.

Possible co-operation in specific fields of technology and industry: automotive sector, vehicle production, electronics, environmental technologies, wood and wood processing, metal and metal processing and machinery and systems construction. Strategic cross-border clustering by creating a network of intensified enterprise cooperation in research, education & training and production-oriented services will help to stimulate important synergies in the entire area of the axis Graz – Maribor and the triangle Klagenfurt – Villach – Kranj and to improve existing initiatives. Especially the technology initiative "Silicon Alps" is to be mentioned here.

The implementation of a business-related cross-border database (companies, experts), the joint presentation of companies, networks and platforms to create a forum for cross-border business partners to meet and development of cross-border ancillary industries will help to promote the integration of this economic area and to strengthen its competitiveness. The programme also addresses investment measures within the context of the co-operation projects of enterprises. With regard to sustainability, priority should be given to the revitalisation of existing sites, industrial buildings and plants. The measure will also support cross border cooperation among business zones and improvement of management of business zones.

Relying on the options listed in the CIP projects with the focus in the following areas will be supported:

Promotion of business co-operation

Enterprise development (bilateral start-ups) and co-operation (e.g. joint ventures)

Financial co-operation

Co-operation between institutions, representing the business sector

Aid to investment and provision of supporting services and facilities, in particular for technology transfer and for marketing for small and medium sized enterprises

Development of networks and clusters

Databases (companies, experts), co-operation profiles

Development and management of business sites

Strengthening of regional added-value chains

Networking of suppliers

Research co-operation

Establishment and operation of cross-border oriented business centres (e.g., business innovation and information centres, competence centres, technology transfer centres, impulse centres, science parks, cross-border impuls centres); providing business services to SMEs, in particular by means of monetary assistance, strengthening of the capital base and supporting SMEs with cross-border economic activities

**2 Goals**

<p>Improve competitiveness in cross-border region on regional, national and international level</p> <p>Promote employment</p> <p>Development of cross-border networks of economic relations between SMEs</p> <p>Development of an integrated economic area</p> <p>Improve cross-border access to finance, credit and business services</p> <p>Development of cross-border financial instruments</p> <p>Extension of market bases (procurement and sales)</p> <p>Higher investments in capital goods</p> <p>Development of business service infrastructure that is oriented towards the specific needs of enterprises</p>
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**3 Beneficiaries**

Austria	Slovenia
<p>In particular:</p> <p>Local and regional authorities</p> <p>Organisations operating regional impulse centres and technology/industrial parks</p> <p>Enterprises, enterprise co-operation projects and networks</p> <p>Economic development agencies in Kärnten, such as BABEG, Kärntner Wirtschaftsförderungsfonds (KWF: Carinthian Economic Promotion Fund), Kärnten Technologie GmbH – Center for Technology and Business Development, KIZ, and other</p> <p>Steirische Wirtschaftsförderungsgesellschaft (Styrian Business Promotion Organisation), Steirische Innofinanz</p> <p>Chambers of Commerce and Industry, industrial and trade associations</p> <p>Research institutions</p> <p>AC Styria, microelectronics cluster</p> <p>Regional development associations</p>	<p>Non-profit legal persons established by public or private law for the purposes of public interest or specific purpose of meeting needs of general interest having their headquarters or an organisation unit in the programme area :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Government bodies on local or regional level</li> <li>b. Municipalities and other municipal units registered as legal persons such as e.g. local communes</li> <li>c. Public funds, public agencies and public institutes co-established by the state or municipalities, such as e.g. business related research, technology and development institutions, business and economy related schools, university, faculties and institutions, regional development agencies, public institutions for adult education, etc.</li> <li>d. Public economic institutes, public companies or other legal entities where the majority in the management boards is represented by the public sector, such as e.g. regional and local development agencies, training organisations, incubators, etc.</li> <li>e. non-government organisations, such as associations and foundations in the field of economy, research, technology</li> <li>f. Non-profit legal entities established by private law, such as technology parks, training and research organisations, etc.</li> </ol>

**4 Pre-assessment Criteria for EU Co-financing**

<p>See Chapter 4 of the Programme Complement</p>
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**5 Specific Criteria for the Project Selection**

<p>See chapter 4 of the Programme Complement</p>
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**6 Eligible Costs**

<p><b>As a general rule:</b></p> <p>Studies, planning, surveys, (feasibility) concepts</p> <p>Personnel, consulting, management</p> <p>Establishment and support of networks of enterprises and technology parks, including marketing measures</p> <p>Building up and furnishing of regional impulse centres and technology parks (investment costs relating to construction, technology and communications equipment)</p> <p>Publications, exchanges for establishing business contacts</p> <p>Establishment of and service support for information networks, operational expenditure, technology-oriented business databases, software, presentations, co-operation meetings, participation in fairs</p> <p>Workshops, seminars, exchanges for establishing co-operation contacts, start-up events</p> <p>Technology and co-operation oriented impulse/information events</p> <p>Transfer of technology/know-how, technology marketing</p> <p>Investments in business operations in connection with co-operation projects</p> <p>Fair co-operation projects</p>
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**7 Type and Amount of EU Assistance**

<p>Unrecoverable assistance, according to programme 50% at max. in Austria and 75% at max. in Slovenia.</p> <p>Maximum amount of assistance according to EU competition law must not be exceeded.</p>
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**8 Implementation Instruments – Legal Basis**

- a) Legal basis for the granting of the EU funds
- b) Legal basis for the granting of national funds

Austria	Slovenia
<p>a)</p> <p>Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark</p> <p>Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006</p> <p>Direct commissioning by public institutions</p> <p>b)</p> <p>Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark</p> <p>Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006</p> <p>Direct commissioning by public institutions</p> <p>Allgemeine Rahmenrichtlinie für die Gewährung von Förderungen aus Bundesmitteln (BMF.-Z.01 3301/7-II/3/77 of 5 May 1977, as amended)</p> <p>KWF-Guidelines: "Gewerbe und Industrie" (commerce and industry), "Forschung und Entwicklung" (R&amp;D), "Technologiefonds" (technology fund), "Kooperation" (co-operation), "Information, Beratung und Qualifikation" (information, consulting and qualification), "Unternehmensdynamik" (enterprise dynamics), "Regionale Impulsförderung RIF 2000-2006" (Regional impulse promotion 2000-2006), " EU-Gemeinschaftsinitiativen und sonstige EU-Förderprogramme" (EU community initiatives and other EU promotion programmes)</p> <p>Richtlinien für die Durchführung und Förderung der Aktion Orts- und Regionalentwicklung (ORE, Guidelines for the Implementation and Assistance for local and regional development)</p>	<p>a) and b)</p> <p>The Decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (No. 916-04/2002-3 of 25 Sept. 2003) on the Community Initiative INTERREG III</p> <p>Decree on implementation of the structural policy assistance in the Republic of Slovenia (OG RS 30/04 and 48/04)</p> <p>Public Finance Act (OG RS 79/99, 124/00, 79/01, 30/02, 56/02, 110/02)</p> <p>Biannual Acts on the Execution of the Budget of the Republic of Slovenia</p> <p>Regulation on procedures for the Execution of the Budget of Republic of Slovenia (OG 47/03, 67/03)</p> <p>Subsidy contract concluded between the NARD and the final beneficiary</p> <p>Commission Regulation (EC) 69/01 on de minimis rule</p>

**9 Competent Authority / Contact Point for SF Grants**

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>Steiermark:</b>                      Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung                      Abteilung 16 – Landes- und Gemeindeentwicklung                      Referat für grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit                      Stempfergasse 7                      8010 Graz                      Phone: ++43 (0) 316 877 2170                      Fax: ++43 (0) 316 877 3711                      e-mail: johann.klug@stmk.gv.at</p> <p>In co-operation with federal and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector</p> <p><b>Kärnten:</b>                      Amt der Kärntner Landesregierung                      Abteilung 20 – Landesplanung                      Wulfengasse 13                      9020 Klagenfurt                      Phone: ++43 (0) 463 536 32061                      Fax: ++43 (0) 463 536 32007                      e-mail: kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at</p> <p>In co-operation with federal or national authorities and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector.</p>	<p>National Agency for Regional Development (NARD)                      Kotnikova 28                      1000 Ljubljana                      Phone: ++ 386 1 478 36 70                      Fax: ++ 386 1 431 33 60                      e-mail: arr@gov.si</p> <p>with</p> <p>NARD, Regional Office Maribor                      Trubarjeva 11                      2000 Maribor                      Phone: ++ 386 2 234 10 24                      Fax: ++ 386 2 234 10 50                      e-mail: amna.potocnik@gov.si</p>

**10 Code Numbers for Assistance from the Structural Funds**

**163, 164, 183, 324**

**11 Desired Effects on the Integration of the Border Region**

Intensified cross-border co-operation among businesses – partner search, co-operative structures, division of labour in production processes

Improving joint business services infrastructure

Cross-border extension of networks

**12 Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluation**

<b>Impact Indicators:</b>	
Expansion of the market / integrated development of offerings, marketing and external image	
Integrated production (factor combinations), product and service development, building up of supply and delivery relationships	
Intensifying partner searches, and the development and creation of co-operation projects and networks at the enterprise level and across enterprises	
Know-how and technology transfer, consulting, common services for enterprises	
To create and expand cross-border business information and communication, and business service structures	
To improve the overall conditions for building up cross-border co-operation between and among businesses as well as co-operation networks	
<b>Output Indicators:</b>	
Number of projects providing support for building up or furnishing regional impulse centres and technology parks	
Number of projects providing support for information networks, operational expenditure, technology oriented business databases, software, presentations cooperation meetings, participation in fares	
Number of cooperation networks created; Number of partners (SMEs) involved in cooperation networks	
Number of projects providing business advisory services	
Number of projects creating networks or services for knowledge transfer	
<b>Cooperation Indicators:</b>	
5 phases of crossborder cooperation; planned / achieved	
<b>Gender mainstreaming Indicator:</b>	
the project: has equality between the sexes as its main focus, is positive in terms of male-female equality or is neutral in terms of such equality	
<b>Environmental Indicator:</b>	
the project: has the environment as its main focus; is environmental friendly; is environmentally neutral	
<b>Location Indicator:</b>	
the project is: urban; rural; not geographically delimited	

**13 Financial Plan**

In EUR	
<b>Total cost of the measure</b>	9,263,128
<b>EU funds</b>	4,915,346
<b>National co-financing</b>	4,347,782
Public funds	2,027,782
Private funds	2,320,000

## **Priority Axis 1 / Measure 2: Tourism**

### **1 Contents / Object of the Measure**

This measure involves the joint cross-border promotion of tourism in the following sectors:

The development of thermal spas in southeastern Styria and in North Eastern Slovenia has triggered a dynamic development in the tourist industry. These assets constitute a major driving force and potential for further complementary developments; hence, particular emphasis should be placed on developing the existing resources in thermal and wellness tourism.

The Graz – Maribor axis is likely to receive positive impulses thanks to Graz' nomination as world cultural heritage and the initiatives launched in the course of its role as cultural capital in the year 2003. On the Slovene side due attention should be paid to the importance of the Lent Festival in Maribor as a starting point for further actions. Regional and cross-border co-operation as well as co-ordinated marketing strategies should help to create a unique and competitive profile.

An emphasis should be put on developments in the field of electronic marketing. In the Austrian programming area, related actions should focus on tourist facilities in the fields of cycling, hiking (trekking) tourism and horseback riding, in combination with local attractions and completed by winter sports activities in Carinthia. Networking activities should be centred around wine and events related to the winegrower's which can be seen as one of the main regional trade marks. Complementary products and services profiles should be developed in order to stimulate further development in the mountainous and lake region of southern Carinthia and North Western Slovenia. The tourist potential of Carinthia's and Gorenjska's lakes, the area of Karavanke, the Logarska Valley, ethnological characteristics of the countryside and the offer of the town centres and in the field of cultural/business trips should be considered as the basis on which to define the further approach directed at the gradual upgrading of these main offers and paralleled by increasing efforts towards cross-border integration and the involvement of complementary actors. Environmentally friendly recreational activities together with the development of cross-border nature and national parks can be seen as a promising basis for the development of mountainous border areas and the winegrowing districts.

Another major issue is the promotion of cross-border tourist infrastructure by defining concepts and formulating project-oriented approaches as well as by restructuring and re-defining tourist programmes grouped around major themes or headings and subsequently putting them together to competitive packages. Integrated packages should include natural and cultural potentials, agricultural (including forestry) and craft products of the region and marketing strategies focussing on these local resources.

Finally the completion and modernisation of tourism infrastructure is a crucial issue. The issue here are especially regional needs in terms of training and qualification but also to investment needs. Such an approach should help to improve the currently weak supply of accommodation and catering, particularly in the peripheral micro-regions near the border.

Relying on the options listed in the CIP projects with the focus in the following areas will be supported:

Further development of existing tourism approaches (e.g. spa/cultural/nature parks and wine-related tourism; tourism focusing on cycling/hiking/horseback riding, winter sports) as a field of strength and development potential of the border region

Preparation and development of complementary border-crossing products and services in the fields of sports, leisure, culture

Use, preparation and development of potentials offered by landscape and culture; integrating this approach in entrepreneurial activities at the enterprise level

Profiling of tourist offerings into marketable products as well as marketing at the national and international level

Extension and qualitative development of marketing structures and appropriate implementation strategies

Creation of joint cross-border co-operation and marketing structures

Building up of new partnerships (agricultural tourism, cultural tourism, networking of protected area)

Priorities: Active holiday and leisure time activities (cycling, hiking, riding, golf), health tourism, regional cuisine and wine culture, cultural tourism

## 2 Goals

Qualitative development and adaptation of tourism structures/organisations as regards tourist offerings and marketing with a view to the increasing national and international competition

Development of new tourist products and services

Development and integration of local units of cross-border tourist offerings

Development of the tourism sector into a decisive economic pillar of the border region

## 3 Beneficiaries

Austria	Slovenia
<p>In particular:</p> <p>Local and regional authorities</p> <p>Tourism or cultural/sports organisations (associations) at the regional and local level</p> <p>Regional development agencies and interest group associations</p> <p>Departments of the individual Länder and cities</p> <p>Product associations and promotional groups</p> <p>Co-operation partnerships of tourism, sports and cultural organisations/associations</p> <p>Consulting and support facilities</p>	<p>Non-profit legal persons established by public or private law for the purposes of public interest or specific purpose of meeting needs of general interest having their headquarters or an organisation unit in the programme area :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government bodies on local or regional level</li> <li>Municipalities and other municipal units registered as legal persons such as e.g. local communes</li> <li>Public funds, public agencies and public institutes co-established by the state or municipalities, such as e.g. tourism related research and development institutions, Triglav National Park, museums, tourism related schools, university and its faculties, regional or local development agencies, Chamber of agriculture and forestry, Institute for protection of natural and cultural heritage, tourism institutes, tourist information centres, public institutions for adult education etc.</li> <li>Public economic institutes, public companies or other legal entities where the majority in the management boards is represented by the public sector, such as e.g. local tourism organisations, tourism information centres, regional development agencies, tourism training organisations, etc.</li> <li>non-government organisations such as e.g. tourism, cultural, sports and other associations,...</li> <li>non-profit entities established by private law such as e.g. research and training organisations, other organisations in the field of tourism, etc.</li> </ol>

**4 Pre-assessment Criteria for EU Co-financing**

See Chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

**5 Specific Criteria for the Project Selection**

See chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

**6 Eligible Costs**

**As a general rule:**

Planning and consulting, designs, studies in the field of product development, marketing, joint marketing strategies

Tourist infrastructure, investment and construction measures, signs, investments in business operations in connection with co-operation projects

Project-related personnel and material costs

Market research

Development and training programmes for specific profiling approaches, know-how transfer

Joint marketing activities (events, advertising media, etc.), information and advertising efforts

Publications, promotional materials and public relations work, electronic marketing

Demand-oriented tourist information networks

Building up of information and marketing structures and services for actors

Actions/Events

Co-operation consulting and support

**7 Type and Amount of EU Assistance**

**ERDF**

Unrecoverable assistance, according to programme 50% at max. in Austria and 75% at max. in Slovenia.

Maximum amount of assistance according to EU competition law must not be exceeded.

**8 Implementation Instruments – Legal Basis**

- a) Legal basis for the granting of the EU funds
- b) Legal basis for the granting of national funds

<b>Austria</b>	<b>Slovenia</b>
<p>a)</p> <p>Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006 Direct commissioning by public bodies</p> <p>b)</p> <p>Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006 Direct commissioning by public bodies Allgemeine Rahmenrichtlinie für die Gewährung von Förderungen aus Bundesmitteln (BMF.-Z.01 3301/7-II/3/77 of 5 May 1977, as amended) KWF-guidelines: "Tourismus" (tourism), "Information, Beratung und Qualifikation" (information, consulting and qualification), "Unternehmensdynamik" (enterprise dynamics), "Ziel 2-Programm Kärnten sowie EU-Gemeinschaftsinitiativen und sonstige EU-Förderprogramme" (Objective 2 Programme for Kärnten as well as EU Community initiatives and other EU promotion programmes) Richtlinien für die Durchführung und Förderung der Aktion Orts- und Regionalentwicklung (ORE, Guidelines on the Implementation and Promotion of the Local and Regional Development Initiative)</p>	<p>a) and b)</p> <p>The Decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (No. 916-04/2002-3 of 25 Sept. 2003) on the Community Initiative INTERREG III Decree on implementation of the structural policy assistance in the Republic of Slovenia (OG RS 30/04 and 48/04) Public Finance Act (OG RS 79/99, 124/00, 79/01, 30/02, 56/02, 110/02) Biannual Acts on the Execution of the Budget of the Republic of Slovenia Regulation on procedures for the Execution of the Budget of Republic of Slovenia (OG 47/03, 67/03) Subsidy contract concluded between the NARD and the final beneficiary Commission Regulation (EC) 69/01 on de minimis rule</p>

**9 Competent Authority / Contact Point for SF Grants**

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>Steiermark:</b>                      Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung                      Abteilung 16 – Landes- und Gemeindeentwicklung                      Referat für grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit                      Stempfergasse 7                      8010 Graz                      Phone: ++43 (0) 316 877 2170                      Fax: ++43 (0) 316 877 3711                      e-mail: johann.klug@stmk.gv.at</p> <p>In co-operation with federal and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector.</p> <p><b>Kärnten:</b>                      Amt der Kärntner Landesregierung                      Abteilung 20 – Landesplanung                      Wulfengasse 13                      9020 Klagenfurt                      Phone: ++43 (0) 463 536 32061                      Fax: ++43 (0) 463 536 32007                      e-mail: kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at</p> <p>In co-operation with federal or national authorities and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector.</p>	<p>National Agency for Regional Development (NARD)                      Kotnikova 28                      1000 Ljubljana                      Phone: ++ 386 1 478 36 70                      Fax: ++ 386 1 431 33 60                      e-mail: arr@gov.si</p> <p>with</p> <p>NARD, Regional Office Maribor                      Trubarjeva 11                      2000 Maribor                      Phone: ++ 386 2 234 10 24                      Fax: ++ 386 2 234 10 50                      e-mail: amna.potocnik@gov.si</p>

**10 Code Numbers for Assistance from the Structural Funds**

**164, 171, 172, 173, 324**

**11 Desired Effects on the Integration of the Border Region**

Enhanced attractiveness and diversification of tourist, cultural and natural offerings

Development and extension of cross-border products and services, especially those related to quality and environmentally friendly tourism

Increasing demand for overnight stays and day visitors

Better capacity utilisation of tourism enterprises

Create jobs and added value in tourism

Enhanced competitiveness of the region on international markets

**12 Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluation**

**Impact Indicators:**

Expansion of the market / integrated development of offerings, marketing and external image

Development of services and integrated production (factor combinations)

Intensifying partner searches, and the development and creation of co-operation projects and networks at the enterprise level and across enterprises

Know-how transfer, consulting, common services for enterprises

Creating and expanding a jointly used tourism infrastructure

To improve the overall conditions for building up cross-border co-operation in tourism as well as co-operation networks

**Output Indicators:**

Km of cycling/hiking/horseback riding paths constructed

Number of cooperation networks created; Number of partners (SMEs) involved in cooperation networks

Number of projects providing support for crossborder products and services in the fields of sport, leisure, culture

**Cooperation Indicators:**

5 phases of crossborder cooperation; planned / achieved

**Gender mainstreaming Indicator:**

the project: has equality between the sexes as its main focus, is positive in terms of male-female equality or is neutral in terms of such equality

**Environmental Indicator:**

the project: has the environment as its main focus; is environmental friendly; is environmentally neutral

**Location Indicator:**

the project is: urban; rural; not geographically delimited

**13 Financial Plan**

In EUR

<b>Total cost of the measure</b>	10,492,007
<b>EU funds</b>	5,750,505
<b>National co-financing</b>	4,741,502
Public funds	1,997,502
Private funds	2,744,000

## Priority Axis 1 / Measure 3: Rural Development

### 1 Contents / Object of the Measure

This measure aims at the preparation and implementation of a cross-border programme for innovative and supplementary activities centred around farming and forestry (including hunting) in the following areas:

- a programme of quality certification and common marketing of the region's wines,
- a joint programme for the development of high quality rural tourism including the production of high-quality food and wine products,
- the further development of bio-farming, specialised cultivation of crops and animals
- the reactivation of alpine pastures as well as the promotion of traditional pasture products such as special dairy products, wool, skins, herbs and honey
- the development of forestry with a view to downstream industries such as wood processing and energy generation (use of renewable energy).

Relying on the options listed in the CIP projects with the focus in the following areas will be supported:

Development of high-quality products

Establishment and further development of new co-operation-oriented procedures and communication forms

Know-how transfer

Joint processing and marketing activities

Common forms of farming/cultivation

Processing of regional renewable resources

Measures in the field of local and regional development

Co-operation in the agricultural service sector

Further development of bio-farming in protected area.

### 2 Goals

Contributing to an improved quality of life in the border region

Facilitate cross-border marketing activities (fairs, markets, exhibitions, etc.)

Improving the viability and competitiveness of agriculture

Ensuring the income of the rural population, diversification of the agricultural production

Strengthening the ecologically-oriented agriculture, especially in water protected area

Establishment of partnerships

Contributing to the maintenance/enhancement of agricultural and forestry structures close to borders

Diversification of activities to promote new employment opportunities to generate supplementary incomes for the rural population

Co-operation between urban and rural areas to promote sustainable development

Cross-border development through marketing and promotion of quality products

### 3 Beneficiaries

Austria	Slovenia
<p>In particular:</p> <p>Local and regional authorities</p> <p>Group organisations representing agricultural and forestry interests (e.g. associations of all types)</p> <p>Chambers of agriculture</p> <p>(Further) training and research facilities, agricultural and forestry schools</p> <p>Local and regional cultural initiatives</p> <p>Associations of the agricultural and forestry sector</p> <p>Forestry and alpine-pasture cultivation co-operatives</p> <p>Co-operation arrangements directly serving agricultural and forestry interests (e.g. beekeepers, hunting licenses)</p> <p>Agricultural and forestry enterprises, co-operation projects and networks of agricultural and forestry enterprises</p> <p>Agricultural group associations</p> <p>Regional organisations</p>	<p>Non-profit legal persons established by public or private law for the purposes of public interest or specific purpose of meeting needs of general interest having their headquarters or an organisation unit in the programme area :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Government bodies on local or regional level</li> <li>b. Municipalities and other municipal units registered as legal persons such as e.g. local communes</li> <li>c. Public funds, public agencies and public institutes co-established by the state or municipalities, such as e.g. research, technology and development institutions in the field of rural development, nature park authorities, agriculture schools, university and its faculties, Chamber of agriculture and forestry, Veterinary and Stockbreeding Institutes, regional and local development agencies, Institutes for forestry, etc...</li> <li>d. Public economic institutes, public companies or other legal entities where the majority in the management boards is represented by the public sector, such as e.g. regional development agencies, training organisations in the field of rural development, etc.</li> <li>e. non-government organisations, such as associations of rural youth, rural women, etc.</li> <li>f. non-profit entities established by private law such as e.g. rural development cores, etc.</li> </ol>

### 4 Pre-assessment Criteria for EU Co-financing

See Chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

### 5 Specific Criteria for the Project Selection

See chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

### 6 Eligible Costs

#### As a general rule:

Studies, planning, surveys

Consulting and support, operating expenses during the start-up phase of projects (personnel and material costs)

Marketing activities (e.g. joint advertising media and activities, publications), promotional activities, public relations work

Development of regionally branded products with supporting services, development of distribution channels and producer networks

Presentation of products and participation in fairs

Investments in joint equipment, quality-improving measures, cross-border use of renewable resources

Joint measures in forestry and alpine pasture cultivation

Events, seminars, workshops, training programmes, know-how transfer

Creating information and communication alliances

Creation and administration of sectoral databases

Investments within the framework of local and regional development

Investments in joint processing and marketing equipment

**7 Type and Amount of EU Assistance**

Unrecoverable assistance, according to programme 50% at max. in Austria and 75% at max. in Slovenia.  
Maximum amount of assistance according to EU competition law must not be exceeded.

**8 Implementation Instruments – Legal Basis**

- a) Legal basis for the granting of the EU funds
- b) Legal basis for the granting of national funds

Austria	Slovenia
<p>a)</p> <p>Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006 Direct commissioning by public bodies</p> <p>b)</p> <p>Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006 Direct commissioning by public bodies Allgemeine Rahmenrichtlinie für die Gewährung von Förderungen aus Bundesmitteln (BMF.-Z.01 3301/7-II/3/77 of 5 May 1977, as amended) Agricultural promotion guidelines by the Land of Kärnten Special Guidelines by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (BMLFUW) concerning agricultural and forestry promotion Richtlinien für die Durchführung und Förderung der Aktion Orts- und Regionalentwicklung (ORE, Guidelines on the Implementation and Promotion of the Local and Regional Development Initiative)</p>	<p>a) and b)</p> <p>The Decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (No. 916-04/2002-3 of 25 Sept. 2003) on the Community Initiative INTERREG III Decree on implementation of the structural policy assistance in the Republic of Slovenia (OG RS 30/04 and 48/04) Public Finance Act (OG RS 79/99, 124/00, 79/01, 30/02, 56/02, 110/02) Biannual Acts on the Execution of the Budget of the Republic of Slovenia Regulation on procedures for the Execution of the Budget of Republic of Slovenia (OG 47/03, 67/03) Subsidy contract concluded between the NARD and the final beneficiary Commission Regulation (EC) 69/01 on de minimis rule Community Guidelines for State Aid in the Agricultural Sector (2000/C 28/02) Council Regulation (EC) 1257/99 Community Guidelines for State Aid for Advertising of Products Listed in Annex I to the EC Treaty and of certain non-Annex I Products (2001/C 252/03) Commission Regulation (EC) 1/04 on the Application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to State Aid to Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Active in the Production, processing and Marketing of Agricultural products</p>

**9 Competent Authority / Contact Point for SF Grants**

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>Steiermark:</b>                      Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung                      Abteilung 16 – Landes- und Gemeindeentwicklung                      Referat für grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit                      Stempfergasse 7                      8010 Graz                      Phone: ++43 (0) 316 877 2170                      Fax: ++43 (0) 316 877 3711                      e-mail: johann.klug@stmk.gv.at</p> <p>In co-operation with federal and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector</p> <p><b>Kärnten:</b>                      Amt der Kärntner Landesregierung                      Abteilung 20 – Landesplanung                      Wulfengasse 13                      9020 Klagenfurt                      Phone: ++43 (0) 463 536 32061                      Fax: ++43 (0) 463 536 32007                      e-mail: kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at</p> <p>In co-operation with federal or national authorities and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector.</p>	<p>National Agency for Regional Development (NARD)                      Kotnikova 28                      1000 Ljubljana                      Phone: ++ 386 1 478 36 70                      Fax: ++ 386 1 431 33 60                      e-mail: arr@gov.si</p> <p>with</p> <p>NARD, Regional Office Maribor                      Trubarjeva 11                      2000 Maribor                      Phone: ++ 386 2 234 10 24                      Fax: ++ 386 2 234 10 50                      e-mail: amna.potocnik@gov.si</p>

**10 Code Numbers for Assistance from the Structural Funds**

**13, 114, 164, 181, 122,123**

**11 Desired Effects on the Integration of the Border Region**

Extended markets for specialised products or regional brands  
 Intensified (institutional) co-operation of enterprises and institutions  
 Know-how transfer in the field of common marketing and bio-farming

**12 Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluation**

<p><b>Impact Indicators:</b>                  Expansion of the market / integrated development of offerings, marketing and external image                  Integrated production (factor combinations), product and service development with diversification                  Intensifying partner searches, and the development and creation of co-operation projects and networks at the enterprise level and across enterprises                  Know-how transfer, consulting, common services for farming enterprises                  To improve the overall conditions for building up cross-border co-operation in agriculture as well as co-operation networks</p> <p><b>Output Indicators:</b>                  Number of cooperation networks created; Number of partners (SMEs) involved in cooperation networks                  Number of projects creating networks or services for knowledge transfer                  Number of projects improving processing and marketing of agricultural products and bio-farming                  Number of projects improving harvesting, processing and marketing of forestry products</p> <p><b>Cooperation Indicators:</b>                  5 phases of crossborder cooperation; planned / achieved</p> <p><b>Gender mainstreaming Indicator:</b>                  the project: has equality between the sexes as its main focus, is positive in terms of male-female equality or is neutral in terms of such equality</p> <p><b>Environmental Indicator:</b>                  the project: has the environment as its main focus; is environmental friendly; is environmentally neutral</p> <p><b>Location Indicator:</b>                  the project is: urban; rural; not geographically delimited</p>
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**13 Financial Plan**

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In EUR	
<b>Total cost of the measure</b>	5,966,376
<b>EU funds</b>	3,077,782
<b>National co-financing</b>	2,888,594
Public funds	1,832,594
Private funds	1,056,000

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**Priority Axis 2 / Measure 1: Human Resources Development – Labour Market**

**1 Contents / Object of the Measure**

This measure should support the establishment of structures and foundations for a future (post-accession) labour market with higher levels of integration. This includes e.g. building up and running cross-border (bilingual) data bases and monitoring systems for cross-border movements of the labour force. Furthermore information systems for vocational offers are to be created. Clarifications with regard to the mutual acknowledgement of professions and certificates as well as the co-operation of training institutes with development of new training opportunities should be strived. The measures have to be coordinated with the Community Initiative EQUAL.

Relying on the options listed in the CIP projects with the focus in the following areas will be supported:

Co-operation in the area of labour market policy, e.g. cross-border joint job info center

Improvement of the basis of information

Training measures (incl. Vocation training, training and education in environmental sector)

Demand-oriented training

Exchange of experiences

Creation of educational alliances

Harmonisation of certificates issued by educational institutions

Development and implementation of new forms of working (e.g. teleworking)

Innovative employment projects

Support to efficient transfer of knowledge to the business sector

Introduction of modern human resource management methods

**2 Goals**

Reduction of unemployment in border areas

Strengthening of the qualifications to improve career opportunities and development

Higher degree of cross-border integration in the labour market

Improved access for the local population to cross-border facilities

Civil protection

**3 Beneficiaries**

<b>Austria</b>	<b>Slovenia</b>
<p>In particular:</p> <p>Local and regional authorities</p> <p>Employment service</p> <p>Employment initiatives</p> <p>(Vocational) training centres, universities</p> <p>Associations of all types</p> <p>Interest groups</p> <p>Enterprise co-operation projects and other forms of co-operations</p> <p>Regional organisations</p>	<p>Non-profit legal persons established by public or private law for the purposes of public interest or specific purpose of meeting needs of general interest having their headquarters or an organisation unit in the programme area :</p> <p>a. Government bodies on local or regional level</p> <p>b. Municipalities and other municipal units registered as legal persons such as e.g. local communes</p> <p>c. Public funds, public agencies and public institutes co-established by the state or municipalities, such as e.g. research and development institutions in the field of human resource development and labour market, employment services, schools, university and its faculties, regional and local development agencies, public institutions for adult education, etc.</p> <p>d. Public economic institutes, public companies or other legal entities where the majority in the management boards is represented by the public sector, such as e.g. human resource development centres, regional development agencies, training organisations, etc.</p> <p>e. non-government organisations such as associations and foundations in the field of human resource development</p> <p>f. non-profit entities established by private law</p>

**4 Pre-assessment Criteria for EU Co-financing**

See Chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

**5 Specific Criteria for the Project Selection**

See chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

## 6 Eligible Costs

### **As a general rule:**

Studies, surveys

Personnel and material costs

Monitoring

Special qualification measures (e.g. language courses)

Model projects: joint employment and training projects, internships, pilot projects, innovative employment projects, development of vocational qualifications, development of training programmes adapted to the needs of specific target groups on the labour market

Participant, accommodation and organisational costs

Development and consulting for employees and enterprises

Build-up and support of information systems (e.g. job placements)

Development of Joint Services

Networking of actors

Creation of educational exchanges

Public relations work, marketing Measures for health promotion

Investments in equipment for the joint services and innovative employment projects

## 7 Type and Amount of EU Assistance

Unrecoverable assistance, according to programme 50% at max. in Austria and 75% at max. in Slovenia.

Maximum amount of assistance according to EU competition law must not be exceeded.

## 8 Implementation Instruments – Legal Basis

- a) Legal basis for the granting of the EU funds  
b) Legal basis for the granting of national funds

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>a)</b> Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006 Direct commissioning by public bodies</p> <p><b>b)</b> Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006 Direct commissioning by public bodies Allgemeine Rahmenrichtlinie für die Gewährung von Förderungen aus Bundesmitteln (BMF.-Z.01 3301/7-II/3/77 of 5 May 1977, as amended) KWF-guidelines: "Information, Beratung und Qualifikation" (information, consulting and qualification), "EU-Gemeinschaftsinitiativen und sonstige EU-Förderprogramme" (EU Community initiatives and other EU promotion programmes) Richtlinien für die Durchführung und Förderung der Aktion Orts- und Regionalentwicklung (ORE, Guidelines on the Implementation and Promotion of the Local and Regional Development Initiative)</p>	<p>a) and b) The Decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (No. 916-04/2002-3 of 25 Sept. 2003) on the Community Initiative INTERREG III Decree on implementation of the structural policy assistance in the Republic of Slovenia (OG RS 30/04 and 48/04) Public Finance Act (OG RS 79/99, 124/00, 79/01, 30/02, 56/02, 110/02) Biannual Acts on the Execution of the Budget of the Republic of Slovenia Regulation on procedures for the Execution of the Budget of Republic of Slovenia (OG 47/03, 67/03) Subsidy contract concluded between the NARD and the final beneficiary Commission Regulation (EC) 69/01 on de minimis rule Community Guidelines for State Aid in the Agricultural Sector (2000/C 28/02) Commission Regulation (EC) 1/04 on the Application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to State Aid to Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Active in the Production, processing and Marketing of Agricultural products</p>

## 9 Competent Authority / Contact Point for SF Grants

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>Steiermark:</b> Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung Abteilung 16 – Landes- und Gemeindeentwicklung Referat für grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit Stempfergasse 7 8010 Graz Phone: ++43 (0) 316 877 2170 Fax: ++43 (0) 316 877 3711 e-mail: johann.klug@stmk.gv.at In co-operation with federal and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector</p> <p><b>Kärnten:</b> Amt der Kärntner Landesregierung Abteilung 20 – Landesplanung Wulfengasse 13 9020 Klagenfurt Phone: ++43 (0) 463 536 32061 Fax: ++43 (0) 463 536 32007 e-mail: kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at In co-operation with federal or national authorities and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector.</p>	<p>National Agency for Regional Development (NARD) Kotnikova 28 1000 Ljubljana Phone: ++386 1 478 36 70 Fax: ++386 1 431 33 60 e-mail: arr@gov.si with: NARD, Regional Office Maribor Trubarjeva 11 2000 Maribor Phone: ++386 2 234 10 24 Fax: ++386 2 234 10 50 e-mail: amna.potocnik@gov.si</p>

**10 Code Numbers for Assistance from the Structural Funds**

2, 32, 113, 128, 164, 167, 174

**11 Desired Effects on the Integration of the Border Region**

Better access to information  
Networks of labour-market institutions  
Cross-border job centres  
Development of specific regional educational offers

**12 Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluation**

**Impact Indicators:**

Reduction of specific organisational and legal barriers, of information deficits and mental barriers  
Building up and intensification of collaboration between the labour market and social policy institutions as well as social partners  
Development of new, cross-border-adjusted occupational fields and qualifications  
Contribution to the development of instruments and cross-border labour market and social policy/development and observation  
Development/implementation of education and qualification modules with a cross-border focus and multi-/dual lingual educational programmes and teaching materials  
Mutual recognition of curricula and degrees  
Development and implementation of cross-border education and qualification offerings

**Output Indicators:**

Number of vocational training and training projects (rural development, forestry, tourism, SMEs, information society),  
Number of trainees  
Number of cooperation networks created; Number of partners involved in cooperation networks

**Cooperation Indicators:**

5 phases of crossborder cooperation; planned / achieved

**Gender mainstreaming Indicator:**

the project: has equality between the sexes as its main focus, is positive in terms of male-female equality or is neutral in terms of such equality

**Environmental Indicator:**

the project: has the environment as its main focus; is environmental friendly; is environmentally neutral

**Location Indicator:**

the project is: urban; rural; not geographically delimited

**13 Financial Plan**

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In EUR

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**Total cost of the measure** 3,564,502

**EU funds** 1,908,376

**National co-financing** 1,656,126

Public funds 1,354,126

Private funds 302,000

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## Priority Axis 2 / Measure 2: Regional Co-operation

### 1 Contents / Object of the Measure

The establishment of co-operative structures that will facilitate the establishment of cross-border co-operation at the project level and sectoral issues must be developed and made operational by the actors involved within the framework of their specific competencies. These may be cross border tourist management structures, business platforms, co-operation between cities, common use of infrastructures and micro-regional co-operative structures, i.e. the neighbourly relations in the border areas should be embedded in multi-annual thematic work structures.

**Multi-sectoral projects** and pilots covering more than mere economic development are also part of this area of action. They should initiate a co-operation between different sectors and should have an initiative character for the regions development. In addition, the development of cross-border projects with effects on the regional economy should be supported (e.g. in the context of the Carinthian local and regional development).

Relying on the options listed in the CIP projects with the focus in the following areas will be supported:

Co-operation structures at the regional / local level

Creating of platforms

Public relations work

City-to-city and regional co-operation

General planning, preparation of cross-border spatial development schemes

Development of cross-sectoral pilot projects

City and region marketing

Activation, consulting and process monitoring of measures for spatial development

Regional development measures

### 2 Goals

Institutionalisation of professional forms of co-operation

Creating regional co-operation structures

Initiation and promotion of joint cross-border projects for a sustainable development of the border region

**3 Beneficiaries**

Austria	Slovenia
<p>In particular:</p> <p>Local and regional authorities</p> <p>Euregio associations,</p> <p>(Sub)regional associations of all types</p> <p>Regional entities organising projects</p> <p>Consulting and support facilities</p> <p>Sectoral (enterprise) platforms</p> <p>Interest representation associations</p> <p>Regional management</p>	<p>Non-profit legal persons established by public or private law for the purposes of public interest or specific purpose of meeting needs of general interest having their headquarters or an organisation unit in the programme area :</p> <p>a. Government bodies on local or regional level</p> <p>b. Municipalities and other municipal units registered as legal persons such as e.g. local communes</p> <p>c. Public funds, public agencies and public institutes co-established by the state or municipalities, such as e.g. regional development agencies, research and development institutes, schools, university and its faculties,</p> <p>d. Public economic institutes, public companies or other legal entities where the majority in the management boards is represented by the public sector, such as e.g. regional and local development agencies, training organisations,</p> <p>e. non-government organisations such as e.g. associations of local communities, towns and municipalities, other associations and foundations,</p> <p>f. non-profit entities established by private law</p>

**4 Pre-assessment Criteria for EU Co-financing**

See Chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

**5 Specific Criteria for the Project Selection**

See chapter 4 of the Programme Complement
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**6 Eligible Costs**

**As a general rule:**

Personnel, equipment, material costs of regional and sectoral co-operation facilities (e.g. regional manager)

Monitoring

Management costs

Activation and consulting of target groups

Events/actions to foster cross border links

Studies, surveys

Reporting and evaluation

Online services, (bilingual) publications, translations, public relations work

Marketing and PR activities, preparation of promotional materials and publications

Information networks

Consulting and support services

Complementary cross-border investment measures (e.g. in the field of regional development)

Integrative projects aiming at regional development

Idea competitions

Know how transfer

**7 Type and Amount of EU Assistance**

**ERDF**

Unrecoverable assistance, according to programme 50% at max. in Austria and 75% at max. in Slovenia.

Maximum amount of assistance according to EU competition law must not be exceeded.

## 8 Implementation Instruments – Legal Basis

- a) Legal basis for the granting of the EU funds  
 b) Legal basis for the granting of national funds

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>a)</b>                      Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten                      INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark                      Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006                      Direct commissioning by public bodies</p> <p><b>b)</b>                      Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten                      INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark                      Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006                      Direct commissioning by public bodies                      Allgemeine Rahmenrichtlinie für die Gewährung von Förderungen aus Bundesmitteln (BMF.-Z.01 3301/7-II/3/77 of 5 May 1977, as amended)                      KWF-guidelines: "Technologiefonds" (technology fund), "Kooperation" (co-operation), "Information, Beratung und Qualifikation" (information, consulting and qualification), "EU-Gemeinschaftsinitiativen und sonstige EU-Förderprogramme" (EU community initiatives and other EU promotion programmes)                      Richtlinien für die Durchführung und Förderung der Aktion Orts- und Regionalentwicklung (ORE, Guidelines for the Implementation and Assistance for local and regional development)                      Agricultural Guidelines by the Land of Kärnten</p>	<p>a) and b)                      The Decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (No. 916-04/2002-3 of 25 Sept. 2003) on the Community Initiative INTERREG III                      Decree on implementation of the structural policy assistance in the Republic of Slovenia (OG RS 30/04 and 48/04)                      Public Finance Act (OG RS 79/99, 124/00, 79/01, 30/02, 56/02, 110/02)                      Biannual Acts on the Execution of the Budget of the Republic of Slovenia                      Regulation on procedures for the Execution of the Budget of Republic of Slovenia (OG 47/03, 67/03)                      Subsidy contract concluded between the NARD and the final beneficiary                      Commission Regulation (EC) 69/01 on de minimis rule</p>

## 9 Competent Authority / Contact Point for SF Grants

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>Steiermark:</b>                      Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung                      Abteilung 16 – Landes- und Gemeindeentwicklung                      Referat für grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit                      Stempfergasse 7                      8010 Graz                      Phone: ++43 (0) 316 877 2170                      Fax: ++43 (0) 316 877 3711                      e-mail: johann.klug@stmk.gv.at                      In co-operation with federal and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector</p> <p><b>Kärnten:</b>                      Amt der Kärntner Landesregierung                      Abteilung 20 – Landesplanung                      Wulfengasse 13                      9020 Klagenfurt                      Phone: ++43 (0) 463 536 32061                      Fax: ++43 (0) 463 536 32007                      e-mail: kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at                      In co-operation with federal or national authorities and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector.</p>	<p>National Agency for Regional Development (NARD)                      Kotnikova 28                      1000 Ljubljana                      Phone: ++ 386 1 478 36 70                      Fax: ++ 386 1 431 33 60                      e-mail: arr@gov.si</p> <p>with                      NARD, Regional Office Maribor                      Trubarjeva 11                      2000 Maribor                      Phone: ++386 2 234 10 24                      Fax: ++386 2 234 10 50                      e-mail: amna.potocnik@gov.si</p>

**10 Code Numbers for Assistance from the Structural Funds**

164

**11 Desired Effects on the Integration of the Border Region**

Improvement of development and decision-making processes  
Better access to information  
Further development of an organisational core for cross-border co-operation based on a broad basis/participation – Euregios/regional managements

**12 Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluation**

**Impact Indicators:**

Reduction of information deficits and mental barriers at the local and regional levels  
Networking of private and/or public services  
To create and expand cross-border co-operation networks and structures (incl. pre-stages)  
Creation or reinforcement of structures for the regular, mutual exchange of information for project collaboration  
To create and expand support structures and services for cross-border projects

**Output Indicators:**

Number of cooperation networks created; Number of partners involved in cooperation networks  
Number of regional and sectoral cooperation facilities supported  
Number of studies, regional development concepts etc. supported

**Cooperation Indicators:**

5 phases of crossborder cooperation; planned / achieved

**Gender mainstreaming Indicator:**

the project: has equality between the sexes as its main focus, is positive in terms of male-female equality or is neutral in terms of such equality

**Environmental Indicator:**

the project: has the environment as its main focus; is environmental friendly; is environmentally neutral

**Location Indicator:**

the project is: urban; rural; not geographically delimited

**13 Financial Plan**

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In EUR

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**Total cost of the measure** 7,721,865

**EU funds** 3,923,995

**National co-financing** 3,797,870

Public funds 2,581,063

Private funds 1,216,807

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### **Priority Axis 2 / Measure 3: Co-operation in Education and Cultural Affairs**

#### **1 Contents / Object of the Measure**

This measure involves the creation of networks of primary, secondary and vocational schools in Southern Austria and in Northern Slovenia and cultural exchanges. These actions could include competitions for the development of virtual or real travelling exhibitions, cross-border cultural information systems, local radio projects, exchanges between pupils and teachers, language courses, co-ordinated curricula concerning certain parts of modular educational systems, sports activities and the creation of supplementary third level qualifications such as language, culture, geography, history and (common) culture. Initiatives of the Slovene minority aiming at cultural exchange and providing a bridge among the border region population shall be supported. The provision of the necessary equipment to facilitate these exchanges must also be included in order to enable a comparable electronic exchange on both sides.

Relying on the options listed in the CIP projects with the focus in the following areas will be supported:

Co-operation projects of facilities and institutions in the fields of culture and sports

School co-operation projects

Public relations work

Joint events

Adaptation and establishment of cultural institutions (e.g. museums)

Cultural exchange

#### **2 Goals**

Building of a basis of mutual understanding and trust

Enhanced neighbourly atmosphere

Improved knowledge of each other on a mutual basis, better communication

Reduction of historically grown resentments

Creation of a community awareness

Protection and preservation of the cultural heritage

Protection and furthering of cultural identity

**3 Beneficiaries**

<b>Austria</b>	<b>Slovenia</b>
<p>In particular:</p> <p>Local and regional authorities</p> <p>Regional school organisations in the area of general education and vocational training, other educational establishments (in particular bilingual schools), universities</p> <p>Regional organisations</p> <p>Interest representation associations</p> <p>Cultural institutions, cultural associations of all types</p> <p>Sports clubs/associations</p>	<p>Non-profit legal persons established by public or private law for the purposes of public interest or specific purpose of meeting needs of general interest having their headquarters or an organisation unit in the programme area:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Government bodies on local or regional level</li> <li>b. Municipalities and other municipal units registered as legal persons such as e.g. local communes</li> <li>c. Public funds, public agencies and public institutes co-established by the state or municipalities, such as e.g. education and culture research and development institutions, museums, theatres, galleries, libraries, media, schools, music schools, university and its faculties, culture and tourism information centres, regional development agencies, public institutions for adult education, etc.</li> <li>d. Public economic institutes, public companies or other legal entities where the majority in the management boards is represented by the public sector, such as e.g. regional and local development agencies, local media, culture organisations and centres,</li> <li>e. non-government organisations such as e.g. culture, sports, youth and other associations, foundations</li> <li>f. non-profit entities established by private law such as e.g. culture and training organisations</li> </ol>

**4 Pre-assessment Criteria for EU Co-financing**

See Chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

**5 Specific Criteria for the Project Selection**

See chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

**6 Eligible Costs**

**As a general rule:**

General project and support costs, material costs

Studies and research projects

Minor investment measures

Media projects

Course and seminar costs, grants for travel and accommodation expenses arising from school or school-related events

Special expenditure for the harmonisation of curricula, project classes and other school events, language courses

Exchange programmes (pupils, teachers, artists)

Information on programmes and how to apply

Cultural events (also organisation, marketing) as limited by the Guideline

Information systems, exhibition projects

Public relations work, marketing, promotional materials and publications

Exchanges for establishing contacts, events for fostering cross border links

**7 Type and Amount of EU Assistance**

Unrecoverable assistance, according to programme 50% at max. in Austria and 75% at max. in Slovenia.  
Maximum amount of assistance according to EU competition law must not be exceeded.

**8 Implementation Instruments – Legal Basis**

- a) Legal basis for the granting of the EU funds  
b) Legal basis for the granting of national funds

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>a)</b> Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006 Direct commissioning by public bodies</p> <p><b>b)</b> Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006 Direct commissioning by public bodies Allgemeine Rahmenrichtlinie für die Gewährung von Förderungen aus Bundesmitteln (BMF.-Z.01 3301/7-II/3/77 of 5 May 1977, as amended) Richtlinien für die Durchführung und Förderung der Aktion Orts- und Regionalentwicklung (ORE, Guidelines on the Implementation and Promotion of the Local and Regional Development Initiative) Agricultural promotion guidelines by the Land of Kärnten</p>	<p>a) and b) The Decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (No. 916-04/2002-3 of 25 Sept. 2003) on the Community Initiative INTERREG III Decree on implementation of the structural policy assistance in the Republic of Slovenia (OG RS 30/04 and 48/04) Public Finance Act (OG RS 79/99, 124/00, 79/01, 30/02, 56/02, 110/02) Biannual Acts on the Execution of the Budget of the Republic of Slovenia Regulation on procedures for the Execution of the Budget of Republic of Slovenia (OG 47/03, 67/03) Subsidy contract concluded between the NARD and the final beneficiary Commission Regulation (EC) 69/01 on de minimis rule</p>

**9 Competent Authority / Contact Point for SF Grants**

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>Steiermark:</b> Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung Abteilung 16 – Landes- und Gemeindeentwicklung Referat für grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit Stempfergasse 7 8010 Graz Phone: ++43 (0) 316 877 2170 Fax: ++43 (0) 316 877 3711 e-mail: johann.klug@stmk.gv.at</p> <p>In co-operation with federal and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector</p> <p><b>Kärnten:</b> Amt der Kärntner Landesregierung Abteilung 20 – Landesplanung Wulfengasse 13 9020 Klagenfurt Phone: ++43 (0) 463 536 32061 Fax: ++43 (0) 463 536 32007 e-mail: kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at</p> <p>In co-operation with federal or national authorities and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector.</p>	<p>National Agency for Regional Development (NARD) Kotnikova 28 1000 Ljubljana Phone: ++ 386 1 478 36 70 Fax: ++ 386 1 431 33 60 e-mail: arr@gov.si</p> <p>with NARD, Regional Office Maribor Trubarjeva 11 2000 Maribor Phone: ++ 386 2 234 10 24 Fax: ++ 386 2 234 10 50 e-mail: amna.potocnik@gov.si</p>

**10 Code Numbers for Assistance from the Structural Funds**

32, 36, 164, 171, 173

**11 Desired Effects on the Integration of the Border Region**

Reduction of resentments, reservations and fear  
Sustainable co-operation structures  
Joint cultural productions and offerings as well as marketing  
Intensified cross-border cultural participation

**12 Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluation**

**Input Indicators:**

Reduction of specific information deficits and mental barriers  
Ongoing collaboration and exchange of information between education, science and cultural institutions, creation of co-operation structures  
Development/implementation of education and qualification modules with a cross-border focus and multi-/dual lingual educational programmes and teaching materials  
Development and implementation of cross-border education and qualification offerings targeted at cross-border business relationships  
Development and implementation of exchange programmes with long-term and sustainable effects  
Development of cross-border products and services in the fields of education and culture

**Output Indicators:**

Number of culture or sport facilities supported  
Number of cooperation networks created (school, education); Number of partners involved in cooperation networks  
Number of information systems, exhibition projects supported

**Cooperation Indicators:**

5 phases of crossborder cooperation; planned / achieved

**Gender mainstreaming Indicator:**

the project: has equality between the sexes as its main focus, is positive in terms of male-female equality or is neutral in terms of such equality

**Environmental Indicator:**

the project: has the environment as its main focus; is environmental friendly; is environmentally neutral

**Location Indicator:**

the project is: urban; rural; not geographically delimited

**13 Financial Plan**

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In EUR

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**Total cost of the measure** 3,792,125

**EU funds** 1,927,594

**National co-financing** 1,864,531

Public funds 978,531

Private funds 886,000

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## Priority Axis 3 / Measure 1: Spatial development and Transport

### 1 Contents / Object of the Measure

This field of action encompasses cross-border **strategies and concepts in the field of spatial planning**. The joint planning process should be stimulated in particular within the 'triangle' Klagenfurt – Villach – Kranj – Ljubljana and in the areas Völkermarkt / Wolfsberg / Bleiburg – Ravne / Dravograd / Slovenj Gradec / Velenje as well as for the central axis Graz – Maribor and the micro-regions Radkersburg, Deutschlandsberg.

A harmonised and comparable **data base** as well as planning materials are prerequisites for the coordinated development and last but not least for specific cross-border projects. Bilaterally adopted principles, visions and projects facilitate and shorten planning and decision-making processes hence increasing cross-border dynamics in development. Therefore, the measure encompasses the formation of respective databases, the exchange of data and plans in regional development, studies (or experts' reports) concerning specific parts or aspects of regions, cross-border regional development programmes (concepts) especially the co-operation of cities on both sides of the border, or co-operation between cities and their bordering municipalities if these efforts include cross-border aspects.

Closely linked with spatial development are measures in the field of **transport**. In the pre-accession and accession phase of Slovenia, the transport flows will increase considerably hence making the need for specific assistance in cross-border areas obvious. Co-operation between the neighbouring countries is particularly important with respect to organisation and logistics for cross-border public passenger and freight transport. Measures in road transport should be restricted to the completion of missing network links in the immediate border area. Planning and development of large-scale infrastructure projects do not exclusively deal with transportation but include a co-operative infrastructure development in a broader sense, e.g. business-oriented infrastructure and development of certain locations, as far as these efforts are not part of priority 1, economic cohesion.

The process of catch-up in the field of **telecommunications** (cross-border network links) should also assist to prepare, put into operation and use sustainable cross-border information systems (databases, geographical information systems etc.).

Relying on the options listed in the CIP projects with the focus in the following areas will be supported:

- Co-ordination and adaptation of border-crossing data and information systems, joint databases, development planning
- Cross-border development of infrastructure (in particular public passenger and freight transport and communications)
- Tariff models for the transport sector, schemes as regards organisation and logistics
- Preparation and implementation of cross-border telematics applications
- Cross-border investment measures (for public passenger and freight transport) and completion of missing links in infrastructure networks
- Project management, monitoring and support of implementation measures for spatial development
- Promoting environmentally friendly means of transport
- Elimination of bottlenecks
- Connections to the Trans-European networks
- Removing obstacles to public transport, particularly between towns near borders

**2 Goals**

An improved information and planning basis to facilitate and speed up decision-making and the implementation of regional policy activities  
 Improvement of public transport  
 Improvement of cross-border transport and telecommunications infrastructures, e.g. in connection with TEN and PAN-European Networks

**3 Beneficiaries**

Austria	Slovenia
<p>In particular:                      Local and regional authorities                      Interest groups                      Regional associations                      Transport operators, transport alliances                      Enterprise co-operation projects                      Enterprise co-operation projects                      Other infrastructure operators                      Departments of the individual Länder</p>	<p>Non-profit legal persons established by public or private law for the purposes of public interest or specific purpose of meeting needs of general interest having their headquarters or an organisation unit in the programme area :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Government bodies on local or regional level</li> <li>b. Municipalities and other municipal units registered as legal persons such as e.g. local communes</li> <li>c. Public funds, public agencies and public institutes co-established by the state or municipalities, such as e.g. spatial development and transport research institutes, university and its faculties, foundations, regional and local development agencies, etc.</li> <li>d. Public economic institutes, public companies or other legal entities where the majority in the management boards is represented by the public sector</li> <li>e. non-government organisations</li> <li>f. non-profit entities established by private law</li> </ol>

**4 Pre-assessment Criteria for EU Co-financing**

See Chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

**5 Specific Criteria for the Project Selection**

See chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

**6 Eligible Costs**

**As a general rule:**

Data management and data transfer

Studies, planning and design

Feasibility studies, environmental impact assessment

Location schemes

Demand assessments, efficiency analyses

Project-related personnel and material costs

Project-related qualitative development support programmes

Seminars and workshops

Publications, public relations work

Project development and consulting

Project-related investment costs (e.g., construction, infrastructure, development, machinery, hard/software)

**7 Type and Amount of EU Assistance**

**ERDF**

Unrecoverable assistance, according to programme 50% at max. in Austria and 75% at max. in Slovenia.

Maximum amount of assistance according to EU competition law must not be exceeded.

## 8 Implementation Instruments – Legal Basis

- a) Legal basis for the granting of the EU funds  
 b) Legal basis for the granting of national funds

Austria	Slovenia
<p>a)</p> <p>Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten                      INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark                      Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006                      Direct commissioning by public bodies</p> <p>b)</p> <p>Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten                      INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark                      Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006                      Direct commissioning by public bodies                      Allgemeine Rahmenrichtlinie für die Gewährung von Förderungen aus Bundesmitteln (BMF.-Z.01 3301/7-II/3/77 of 5 May 1977, as amended)                      KWF-guidelines: "Technologiefonds" (technology fund), "Kooperation" (co-operation), "Information, Beratung und Qualifikation" (information, consulting and qualification), "Unternehmensdynamik" (enterprise dynamics), EU-Gemeinschaftsinitiativen und sonstige EU-Förderprogramme" (EU community initiatives and other EU promotion programmes), "Regionale Impulsförderung RIF 2000–2006" (Regional impulse promotion 2000-2006)                      Richtlinien für die Durchführung und Förderung der Aktion Orts- und Regionalentwicklung (ORE, Guidelines on the Implementation and Promotion of the Local and Regional Development Initiative)                      Agricultural promotion guidelines by the Land of Kärnten</p>	<p>a) and b)</p> <p>The Decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (No. 916-04/2002-3 of 25 Sept. 2003) on the Community Initiative INTERREG III                      Decree on implementation of the structural policy assistance in the Republic of Slovenia (OG RS 30/04 and 48/04)                      Public Finance Act (OG RS 79/99, 124/00, 79/01, 30/02, 56/02, 110/02)                      Biannual Acts on the Execution of the Budget of the Republic of Slovenia                      Regulation on procedures for the Execution of the Budget of Republic of Slovenia (OG 47/03, 67/03)                      Subsidy contract concluded between the NARD and the final beneficiary                      Commission Regulation (EC) 69/01 on de minimis rule</p>

## 9 Competent Authority / Contact Point for SF Grants

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>Steiermark:</b>                      Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung                      Abteilung 16 – Landes- und Gemeindeentwicklung                      Referat für grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit                      Stempfergasse 7                      8010 Graz                      Phone: ++43 (0) 316 877 2170                      Fax: ++43 (0) 316 877 3711                      e-mail: johann.klug@stmk.gv.at</p> <p>In co-operation with federal and regional authorities in charge of the respective sector</p> <p><b>Kärnten:</b>                      Amt der Kärntner Landesregierung                      Abteilung 20 – Landesplanung                      Wulfengasse 13                      9020 Klagenfurt                      Phone: ++43 (0) 463 536 32061                      Fax: ++43 (0) 463 536 32007                      e-mail: kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at</p> <p>In co-operation with federal or national authorities and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector.</p>	<p>National Agency for Regional Development (NARD)                      Kotnikova 28                      1000 Ljubljana                      Phone: ++ 386 1 478 36 70                      Fax: ++ 386 1 431 33 60                      e-mail: arr@gov.si</p> <p>with</p> <p>NARD, Regional Office Maribor                      Trubarjeva 11                      2000 Maribor                      Phone: ++ 386 2 234 10 24                      Fax: ++ 386 2 234 10 50                      e-mail: amna.potocnik@gov.si</p>

**10 Code Numbers for Assistance from the Structural Funds**

164, 181, 311, 312, 314, 317, 318, 319

**11 Desired Effects on the Integration of the Border Region**

Higher quality and topicality of information and decision supports, better access to information  
Orientation and guidelines on functional, sectoral and cross-sector integration across borders  
Acceleration of cross-border project development and implementation  
Improvement of the cross-border transport system regarding time and space  
Completion of missing links in the border-crossing telecommunications infrastructure

**12 Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluation**

**Impact Indicators:**

Reduction of organisational and legal barriers, and of information deficits  
(Preparation of) Improvements to cross-border infrastructure, faster and improved transportation links  
(Preparation of) links to international transportation routes  
Contribution to shifting traffic loads (from roads) through the harmonised/integrated use of transportation infrastructure and means  
Improving the services and products, and integrated use of information technology and telecommunications infrastructure  
Harmonisation of spatial development, especially settlement and infrastructure development, social and economic development of locations

**Output Indicators:**

Number of research and planning projects supported (dealing with improvement of rail, roads, airports, urban transport, multimodal transport, intelligent transport systems)  
Number of cooperation networks created; Number of partners involved in cooperation networks

**Cooperation Indicators:**

5 phases of crossborder cooperation; planned / achieved

**Gender mainstreaming Indicator:**

the project: has equality between the sexes as its main focus, is positive in terms of male-female equality or is neutral in terms of such equality

**Environmental Indicator:**

the project: has the environment as its main focus; is environmental friendly; is environmentally neutral

**Location Indicator:**

the project is: urban; rural; not geographically delimited

**13 Financial Plan**

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In EUR

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**Total cost of the measure** 7,412,126

**EU funds** 3,737,594

**National co-financing** 3,674,532

Public funds 3,664,532

Private funds 10,000

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## Priority Axis 3 / Measure 2: Sustainable Spatial and Environmental Development

### 1 Contents / Object of the Measure

This measure involves the **conservation of bio-diversity and genetic resources** in the border region. This means conservation and protection of the natural heritage by providing assistance to a number of sensitive areas of considerable environmental value, particularly in the endangered ecosystem of Alpine areas and Drau/Drava, Mur/Mura rivers. The co-operation focuses on common water resources in particular the rivers Mur/Mura and Drau/Drava, and cross-border traditional landscapes such as the viniculture regions in Styria and Slovenia, cross-border systems of barrier woodlands or alpine areas in the Karawanken/Karavanke mountains.

The measure also involves **management and awareness-raising with regard to natural resources**, cultural heritage and the development of appropriate and sustainable forms of tourism under the heading of nature parks and existing national parks in the programming area and may be seen as an important 'base for increasing cross-border co-operation and the tourist development of peripheral and alpine regions. Possible areas of action are the development of joint criteria for economic activities in protected areas and joint demonstrator projects for sanitation of mountain cabins (sanitary equipment). Of special importance in this case is the partnership between the Hohe Tauern and Triglav National Park, and the partnership developing the Karawanken/Karavanke Nature Park.

Cross-border co-operation shows in particular the following key areas: joint research projects, studies and concepts for nature and landscape protection, the expansion of information systems and the general exchange of information. Additional measures for the implementation of public and private partnerships in nature protection as well as measures in the fields of preservation and management of cross-border protected areas could be also supported within this action. It also encompasses cross-border activities for the development and upgrading of nature parks and existing national parks in the fields of planning, game preservation and management, the implementation of study results, visitor information systems, visitor guidance or visitors' exchange programmes. Game management is also an important issue outside of protected areas.

In the fields of public relations and training activities, measures such as broader information initiatives concerning nature management (in journals, internet, advertisement, exhibitions) could be supported, but also initiatives and exchange programmes in training.

Relying on the options listed in the CIP projects with the focus in the following areas will be supported:

- Planning (and programmes) in line with environmental and landscape protection objectives and projects (e.g. contract-based nature conservation)
- Projects for securing natural and cultural landscape
- Cross-border cultivated-land research oriented on implementation
- Biotope alliance and protection measures
- Game and forest management
- Foundations of and prerequisites for sustainable forms of "gentle" tourism (socially and environmentally compatible)
- Cross-border management plans for valuable landscape areas, nature reserves and national parks
- Information and visitor guidance systems
- Exchange programmes for experts and visitors

### 2 Goals

- Maintenance and sustainable development of natural resources and the traditional landscape of the border regions
- Maintenance and improvement of functionally connected border-crossing ecosystems and landscape areas (including species protection)
- Co-operation arrangements in the area of nature and landscape protection

## Programme Complement

### 3 Beneficiaries

Austria	Slovenia
<p>In particular:</p> <p>Local and regional authorities</p> <p>Interest groups</p> <p>Associations, private limited companies</p> <p>Association of forest owners</p> <p>Alpine associations, nature protection organisations</p> <p>National park organisations and associations (fund)</p> <p>Departments of the individual Länder</p> <p>Nature park associations</p> <p>Regional development interest group associations/agencies</p> <p>Other co-operation projects</p>	<p>Non-profit legal persons established by public or private law for the purposes of public interest or specific purpose of meeting needs of general interest having their headquarters or an organisation unit in the programme area :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Government bodies on local or regional level</li> <li>b. Municipalities and other municipal units registered as legal persons such as e.g. local communes</li> <li>c. Public funds, public agencies and public institutes co-established by the state or municipalities, such as e.g. spatial and environmental development related research centres and institutes, Institutes for environment protection, Institute for protection of natural and cultural heritage, nature park managements, Triglav National Park, foundations, schools, university and its faculties, forestry institutes, regional and local development agencies, etc...</li> <li>d. Public economic institutes, public companies or other legal entities where the majority in the management boards is represented by the public sector,</li> <li>e. non-government organisations such as nature protection organisations and associations, Alpine associations, etc.</li> <li>f. non-profit entities established by private law</li> </ol>

### 4 Pre-assessment Criteria for EU Co-financing

See Chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

### 5 Specific Criteria for the Project Selection

See chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

### 6 Eligible Costs

**As a general rule:**

Investigations, measurements, basic studies

Planning, design

Model projects, research projects

Consulting, project support

Project-related personnel and material costs

Specialised events, workshops, exchange programmes in trainings

Small-scale investment and landscape protection measures (e.g. renaturation, biotope management)

Joint data and monitoring systems

PR activities, public relations work

Small investments to upgrade the ecological standard in the border regions and achieve nature protection objectives

**7 Type and Amount of EU Assistance**

Unrecoverable assistance, according to programme 50% at max. in Austria and 75% at max. in Slovenia.  
Maximum amount of assistance according to EU competition law must not be exceeded.

**8 Implementation Instruments – Legal Basis**

- a) Legal basis for the granting of the EU funds  
b) Legal basis for the granting of national funds

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>a)</b> Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006 Direct commissioning by public bodies</p> <p><b>b)</b> Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006 Direct commissioning by public bodies Nature conservation programme of the Land of Kärnten National park Act of the Land of Kärnten Allgemeine Rahmenrichtlinie für die Gewährung von Förderungen aus Bundesmitteln (BMF.-Z.01 3301/7-II/3/77 of 5 May 1977, as amended) Richtlinien für die Durchführung und Förderung der Aktion Orts- und Regionalentwicklung (ORE, Guidelines on the Implementation and Promotion of the Local and Regional Development Initiative)</p>	<p>a) and b) The Decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (No. 916-04/2002-3 of 25 Sept. 2003) on the Community Initiative INTERREG III Decree on implementation of the structural policy assistance in the Republic of Slovenia (OG RS 30/04 and 48/04) Public Finance Act (OG RS 79/99, 124/00, 79/01, 30/02, 56/02, 110/02) Biannual Acts on the Execution of the Budget of the Republic of Slovenia Regulation on procedures for the Execution of the Budget of Republic of Slovenia (OG 47/03, 67/03) Subsidy contract concluded between the NARD and the final beneficiary Commission Regulation (EC) 69/01 on de minimis rule Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 Community Guidelines for State Aid in the Agricultural Sector (2000/C 28/02) Commission Regulation (EC) 1/2004 on the Application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to State Aid to Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Active in the Production, processing and Marketing of Agricultural products</p>

**9 Competent Authority / Contact Point for SF Grants**

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>Steiermark:</b> Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung Abteilung 16 – Landes- und Gemeindeentwicklung Referat für grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit Stempfergasse 7 8010 Graz Phone: ++43 (0) 316 877 2170 Fax: ++43 (0) 316 877 3711 e-mail: johann.klug@stmk.gv.at In co-operation with federal and regional authorities in charge of the respective sector</p> <p><b>Kärnten:</b> Amt der Kärntner Landesregierung Abteilung 20 – Landesplanung Wulfengasse 13 9020 Klagenfurt Phone: ++43 (0) 463 536 32061 Fax: ++43 (0) 463 536 32007 e-mail: kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at In co-operation with federal or national authorities and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector.</p>	<p>National Agency for Regional Development (NARD) Kotnikova 28 1000 Ljubljana Phone: ++386 1 478 36 70 Fax: ++ 386 1 431 33 60 e-mail: arr@gov.si with NARD, Regional Office Maribor Trubarjeva 11 2000 Maribor Phone: ++386 2 234 10 24 Fax: ++ 386 2 234 10 50 e-mail: amna.potocnik@gov.si</p>

**10 Code Numbers for Assistance from the Structural Funds**

127, 164, 181, 1312, 1308, 353

**11 Desired Effects on the Integration of the Border Region**

Higher quality and relevance of information  
Better flow and access to information  
Increased environmental awareness  
Higher standards in the management of nature areas  
Sustainable co-operation structures  
Cross-border harmonisation in the implementation of nature protection objectives

**12 Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluation**

**Impact Indicators:**

Reduction of organisational and legal barriers, and of information deficits  
Contribution to the development and implementation of joint (environmental) standards  
Integration and joint protection/use of ecologically valuable zones and natural heritage  
Co-ordinated management of nature and national parks, creation and expansion of co-operation structures  
Improving the standard and joint use of environmental infrastructure and technology  
Partner searches and the development of cross-border cooperation projects and networks among institutions, NGOs, etc.  
Cross-border development of services in the field of environmental protection

**Output Indicators:**

Number of cooperation networks created; Number of partners involved in cooperation networks  
Number of research and planning projects supported (dealing with biodiversity, protection measures, securing natural and cultural landscape, water resources management etc.)  
Number of small scale landscape protection measure projects

**Cooperation Indicators:**

5 phases of crossborder cooperation; planned / achieved

**Gender mainstreaming Indicator:**

the project: has equality between the sexes as its main focus, is positive in terms of male-female equality or is neutral in terms of such equality

**Environmental Indicator:**

the project: has the environment as its main focus; is environmental friendly; is environmentally neutral

**Location Indicator:**

the project is: urban; rural; not geographically delimited

**13 Financial Plan**

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In EUR

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**Total cost of the measure** 3,665,128

**EU funds** 2,116,346

**National co-financing** 1,548,782

Public funds 1,457,782

Private funds 91,000

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### Priority Axis 3 / Measure 3: Environment and Energy Management

#### 1 Contents / Object of the Measure

The general level of **environmental pollution** within the programming region is **rather low**. Punctual and linear pollution occur due to transport flows and its environmental impacts, punctual pollution and risks endangering groundwater resources and punctual negative impacts of tourist flows in alpine areas. To maintain traditional landscapes under the current retreat of agricultural cultivation is among the core problems of the whole region. In general, the protection of resources facing increasing risk levels from pollution refers to rather small parts such as Pomurska region which is challenged by increasing transport volumes or Leibnitzerfeld with conflicting land use patterns.

Cross-border **environmental problems concentrated in certain hot spots**: in particular the ecosystems and hydrological systems of the border rivers Mur/Mura and Drau/Drava and linear pollution sources along cross-border transport links. Hot spots are also areas polluted by heavy industries or a few areas under stress through industrial use in Slovenia, especially in Ravne na Koroškem, Šoštanj Tri and Jesenice as well as the lead-mill Mezica. Other punctual hot spots occur along strongly polluted rivers and as risks for ground water resources due to agricultural practice and also in some places due to intensive activities in tourism.

Impacts of the current use of the river Mur/Mura for the generation of energy are reduced deposit volumes, lowering of the river bed and changes of the eco system. These factors are influencing the conditions for agricultural production, the water household as well as the potentials for recreation and further energetic use. Within the frame of INTERREG II comprehensive analysis and scenarios have been elaborated, under the current programme these proposals should be the base for further cross-border development and implementation.

Possible fields of action following the major river systems in the programme region include the preparation and implementation of measures in water management, integrated measures for an improvement of water quality, protection and management of eco-systems and habitats.

Additional major measures are the development of a common methodological approach and of a system for the protection of drinkable ground water resources in the Alpine area, in particular in the Karawanken/Karavanke.

Further actions should cover the fields of **development and use of renewable energy resources, common waste water and waste management, water supply and general requirements of environmental protection**: i.e. to support studies, plans and concepts, monitoring systems, meetings and exchange of information but also investment projects addressing genuine cross-border issues. Negative impacts caused by cross-border transport flows should be addressed by actions under measure 1 of this priority. The measure comprises also activities and studies which aim at the prevention and reduction of air pollution. All in all, together an analysis of the environment and energy situation as well as the development for its improvement in the sense of sustainability can be supported.

Relying on the options listed in the CIP projects with the focus in the following areas will be supported:

- Further development, strengthening and management of cross-border rivers
- Water management research (e.g. hydrological, hydro-geological, ground water, surface waters)
- Identification of areas for carrying out widening and construction measures
- Construction measures to improve the running water systems close to the border, protection measures applied to border-area rivers
- Schemes and projects aiming at a sustainable improvement of soil, water, air
- Schemes for the cross-border use of renewable energy potentials and pilot projects
- Development and implementation of jointly used waste disposal and recycling plants

Cross-border exchange of experiences as regards environmental and nature issues

## 2 Goals

Sustainable development and improvement of the environmental elements soil, water, air

Sustainable development and improvement of ecosystems alongside the border-crossing river systems

Stabilisation and improvement of the framework conditions in the areas of water management and water ecology

Development and implementation of an integrated ecological, water management and energy use (e.g. increased use of bio-energy forms)

## 3 Beneficiaries

Austria	Slovenia
<p>In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local and regional authorities</li> <li>Water management associations</li> <li>Waste management associations</li> <li>Energy supply services</li> <li>Regional energy agencies</li> <li>Associations</li> <li>Regional organisations</li> <li>Other co-operation projects and private organisations</li> <li>Departments of the individual Länder</li> </ul>	<p>Non-profit legal persons established by public or private law for the purposes of public interest or specific purpose of meeting needs of general interest having their headquarters or an organisation unit in the programme area :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Government bodies on local or regional level</li> <li>b. Municipalities and other municipal units registered as legal persons such as e.g. local communes</li> <li>c. Public funds, public agencies and public institutes co-established by the state or municipalities, such as e.g. environment and energy related research centres and institutes, foundations, schools, university and its faculties, regional development agencies, etc.</li> <li>d. Public economic institutes, public companies or other legal entities where the majority in the management boards is represented by the public sector,</li> <li>e. non-government organisations such as environmental associations, other associations,</li> <li>f. non-profit entities established by private law</li> </ul>

## 4 Pre-assessment Criteria for EU Co-financing

See Chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

## 5 Specific Criteria for the Project Selection

See chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

## 6 Eligible Costs

### As a general rule:

Investigations, measurements, basic studies  
 Planning, design  
 Model projects, research projects  
 Consulting, project support  
 Project-related personnel and material costs  
 Specialised seminars, workshop on environmental issues  
 Water management and landscape protection measures  
 Common data and monitoring systems, exchanges for searching partners  
 PR activities, public relations work

## 7 Type and Amount of EU Assistance

Unrecoverable assistance, according to programme 50% at max. in Austria and 75% at max. in Slovenia.  
 Maximum amount of assistance according to EU competition law must not be exceeded.

## 8 Implementation Instruments – Legal Basis

- a) Legal basis for the granting of the EU funds  
 b) Legal basis for the granting of national funds

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>a)</b>                      Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten                      INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark                      Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006                      Direct commissioning by public bodies</p> <p><b>b)</b>                      Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten                      INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark                      Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006                      Direct commissioning by public bodies                      Allgemeine Rahmenrichtlinie für die Gewährung von Förderungen aus Bundesmitteln (BMF.-Z.01 3301/7-II/3/77 of 5 May 1977, as amended)                      Water engineering subsidy law                      Energieförderungsrichtlinie des Landes Kärnten                      Fernwärmeförderungsrichtlinie des Landes Kärnten</p>	<p>a) and b)                      The Decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (No. 916-04/2002-3 of 25 Sept. 2003) on the Community Initiative INTERREG III                      Decree on implementation of the structural policy assistance in the Republic of Slovenia (OG RS 30/04 and 48/04)                      Public Finance Act (OG RS 79/99, 124/00, 79/01, 30/02, 56/02, 110/02)                      Biannual Acts on the Execution of the Budget of the Republic of Slovenia                      Regulation on procedures for the Execution of the Budget of Republic of Slovenia (OG 47/03, 67/03)                      Subsidy contract concluded between the NARD and the final beneficiary                      Commission Regulation (EC) 69/01 on de minimis rule</p>

**9 Competent Authority / Contact Point for SF Grants**

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>Steiermark:</b>                      Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung                      Abteilung 16 – Landes- und Gemeindeentwicklung                      Referat für grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit                      Stempfergasse 7                      8010 Graz                      Phone: ++43 (0) 316 877 2170                      Fax: ++43 (0) 316 877 3711                      e-mail: johann.klug@stmk.gv.at</p> <p>In co-operation with federal and regional authorities in charge of the respective sector</p> <p><b>Kärnten:</b>                      Amt der Kärntner Landesregierung                      Abteilung 20 – Landesplanung                      Wulfengasse 13                      9020 Klagenfurt                      Phone: ++43 (0) 463 536 32061                      Fax: ++43 (0) 463 536 32007                      e-mail: kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at</p> <p>In co-operation with federal or national authorities and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector.</p>	<p>National Agency for Regional Development (NARD)                      Kotnikova 28                      1000 Ljubljana                      Phone: ++386 1 478 36 70                      Fax: ++ 386 1 431 33 60                      e-mail: arr@gov.si</p> <p>with</p> <p>NARD, Regional Office Maribor                      Trubarjeva 11                      2000 Maribor                      Phone: ++386 2 234 10 24                      Fax: ++ 386 2 234 10 50                      e-mail: amna.potocnik@gov.si</p>

**10 Code Numbers for Assistance from the Structural Funds**

**164, 181, 353**

**11 Desired Effects on the Integration of the Border Region**

Improvement of the ground-water balance and the water quality  
 Maintenance, improvement and dynamics of the meadows and woodlands of border rivers  
 Functional co-ordination of management and monitoring systems  
 Common and functionally integrated infrastructures  
 Decreased pollution of surface and underground waters  
 Identification of border-crossing protection areas (e.g. water protection areas)

**12 Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluation**

**Impact Indicators:**

Reduction of organisational and legal barriers, and of information deficits  
 Contribution to the development and implementation of joint (environmental) standards and monitoring  
 Co-ordinated environmental and resource management, creation of co-operation structures  
 Utilisation of renewable energy resources and natural resources  
 Improvement of environmental status/reduction of emissions  
 Partner searches and the development of cross-border cooperation projects and networks among institutions, NGOs, etc.  
 Cross-border development of services in the field of water and energy management  
 Infrastructure/investments in the area of water management

**Output Indicators:**

Number of cooperation networks created; Number of partners involved in cooperation networks  
 Number of research and planning projects supported (renewable energy, hydrology, river and water management, waste treatment and recycling etc.)  
 Number of projects supporting preventive measurements

**Cooperation Indicators:**

5 phases of crossborder cooperation; planned / achieved

**Gender mainstreaming Indicator:**

the project: has equality between the sexes as its main focus, is positive in terms of male-female equality or is neutral in terms of such equality

**Environmental Indicator:**

the project: has the environment as its main focus; is environmental friendly; is environmentally neutral

**Location Indicator:**

the project is: urban; rural; not geographically delimited

**13 Financial Plan**

In EUR	
<b>Total cost of the measure</b>	7,339,824
<b>EU funds</b>	3,717,209
<b>National co-financing</b>	3,622,615
Public funds	3,221,615
Private funds	401,000

#### **Priority Axis 4: Special Support for Border Regions**

On 25th July 2001, the Commission passed the so-called „Community Action for Border Regions“ [KOM(2001) 437 final version], i.e. a document describing the impacts the upcoming enlargement of the European Union will have on the regions bordering on accession countries. This action plan suggests a number of measures for the benefit of these regions to help them prepare for the enlargement of the European Union. The Commission proposed to add the financial resources dedicated to this purpose to the INTERREG programmes in the form of a single common priority called "special support for regions bordering on accession countries". Therefore, this priority is valid only for the Austrian border region, the funds are available only for the year 2002 and have to be spent until end of 2004.

#### **Objectives**

The financial resources are dedicated to supporting activities serving to ensure a smooth transition in the Austrian border regions and sustainable acceptance of the enlargement of the European Union by the general public. The new priority is intended to support environmentally favourable projects that are directly associated with the enlargement of the European Union and will improve the competitive strength of the border regions.

#### **Strategies**

Support will in particular be granted for:

- Activities to support those small and medium-sized enterprises that will be particularly affected by the enlargement of the EU so as to enhance cross-border economic cooperation.
- Expansion of cross-border traffic routes to ensure sustainable and environmentally friendly development of potentials in the fields of tourism and nature on both sides of the respective border.
- Educational measures and intercultural cooperation, including measures to promote the integration of other cultural and language groups so as to reduce cultural and language barriers.

## 1 Contents / Object of the Measure

### a) Small and medium-sized enterprises that are particularly affected by the EU enlargement

This measure contains target-oriented preparation of and support for those small and medium-sized enterprises that are particularly affected by the upcoming enlargement of the EU so as to enable them to adapt to the impending modifications of the economic framework conditions. Full opening of the borders, free movement of persons and goods and freedom of establishment will completely change the economic framework conditions even though the full scope of these changes will, as a consequence of the transition periods to be agreed, not be felt immediately. Small and medium-sized enterprises, in particular, are often subject to limitations in terms of human resources and time, and therefore find it difficult to engage to a significant degree in research, development, cooperation projects and measures to improve their market situation without external support.

### b) Development of the cross border transport network

This measure comprises cross-border projects in the field of traffic, especially to improve the utilization of potentials in the field of tourism and nature.

Establishing the region as a cycling region is one of the major objectives of the border regions in the field of tourism to attract bicycle tourism to the region, especially during the low season. Bicycle routes will allow agricultural and rural small and medium-sized enterprises to benefit from touristic infrastructure and will strengthen the economic infrastructure of rural border areas. Special attention will in this respect be given to traffic safety.

Creating, expanding and reactivating border crossing points is intended to reduce the barrier function of the border between the countries, especially in the context of small-scale cross-border activities, and to improve the framework conditions for cross-border tourism.

### c) Training activities and intercultural cooperation

Activities to promote cultural exchange and intercultural cooperation (e.g. cross-border events, exhibitions) (e.g. joint events, exhibitions).

Cooperation projects involving minorities.

(Further) development of cross-border organizational structures and cooperation networks as well as theme-specific networks (culture marketing, media platform).

Projects to improve minority language skills (e.g. in small and medium-sized enterprises).

## 2 Goals

### a) Increasing the innovative power and competitiveness of enterprises (esp. SMEs) in the light of the EU enlargement

Support of set-up platforms and networks to increase business links

Improvement of cross-border information about offer and demand in the labour sector.

Strengthening enterprises that engage in cross-border activities in the field of environmental protection and make a sustainable contribution to improving the environmental situation in the border area.

Creation of a business-related infrastructure that properly responds to the needs of enterprises.

Intensified business co-operation projects (esp. SMEs) in the border area for strengthening the region's economic power and fostering export activities

Initiation of cross-border language and management training facilities for small and medium-sized enterprises.

### b) Reducing the barrier function of the state border, especially in the context of small-scale cross-border activities and cross-border tourism.

Improving the framework conditions for cross-border tourism.

Improvement of traffic safety.

Strengthening tourism-related and economic infrastructure in the border region.

### c) Initiation of cross-border exchange projects in the field of culture and languages.

Development of networks to enhance cross-border integration and intensification of economic, social and cultural contacts.

Promoting the preservation of minority languages.

Improving acceptance of the neighbours, especially with a view to the upcoming enlargement of the EU.

**3 Beneficiaries**

In particular:

- Local and regional authorities
- Organisations operating regional impulse centres and technology/industrial parks
- Enterprises, enterprise co-operation projects and networks
- Economic development agencies in Kärnten, such as BABEG, Kärntner Wirtschaftsförderungsfonds (KWF: Carinthian Economic Promotion Fund), Kärnten Technologie GmbH – Center for Technology and Business Development, KIZ, and other
- Steirische Wirtschaftsförderungsgesellschaft (Styrian Business Promotion Organisation), Steirische Innofinanz
- Chambers of Commerce and Industry, industrial and trade associations
- Research institutions
- AC Styria, microelectronics cluster
- Regional development associations
- Interest groups
- Transport operators, transport alliances
- Other infrastructure operators
- Departments of the individual Länder
- Natural and legal persons under private und public law and partnerships under civil law

**4 Pre-assessment Criteria for EU Co-financing**

See Chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

**5 Specific Criteria for the Project Selection**

See chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

**6 Eligible Costs**

**As a general rule:**

**a) b) Project-related material costs and operating expenses**

Personnel costs

Planning costs

Project-related investment costs (e.g., construction, infrastructure, development, machinery, hard/software)

Consulting expenses

**c) Personnel, equipment, material costs of regional and sectoral co-operation facilities (e.g. regional manager)**

Monitoring

Management costs

Activation and consulting of target groups

Events

Studies, surveys

Reporting and evaluation

Online services, (bilingual) publications, translations, public relations work

Marketing and PR activities

Information networks

Consulting and support services

Complementary cross-border investment measures (e.g. in the field of regional development)

Integrative projects aiming at regional development

Idea competitions

**7 Type and Amount of EU Assistance**

Unrecoverable assistance, ERDF-participation according to programme 50% at max.

Maximum amount of assistance according to EU competition law must not be exceeded.

## 8 Implementation Instruments – Legal Basis

- a) Legal basis for the granting of the EU funds
- b) Legal basis for the granting of national funds

<p>a)</p> <p>Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten</p> <p>INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark</p> <p>Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006</p> <p>Direct commissioning by public institutions</p> <p>b)</p> <p>Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten</p> <p>INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark</p> <p>Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006</p> <p>Direct commissioning by public institutions</p> <p>Allgemeine Rahmenrichtlinie für die Gewährung von Förderungen aus Bundesmitteln (BMF.-Z.01 3301/7-II/3/77 of 5 May 1977, as amended)</p> <p>KWF-Guidelines: "Gewerbe und Industrie" (commerce and industry), "Forschung und Entwicklung" (R&amp;D), "Technologiefonds" (technology fund), "Kooperation" (co-operation), "Information, Beratung und Qualifikation" (information, consulting and qualification), "Unternehmensdynamik" (enterprise dynamics), "Regionale Impulsförderung RIF 2000-2006" (Regional impulse promotion 2000-2006), " EU-Gemeinschaftsinitiativen und sonstige EU-Förderprogramme" (EU community initiatives and other EU promotion programmes)</p> <p>Richtlinien für die Durchführung und Förderung der Aktion Orts- und Regionalentwicklung (ORE, Guidelines for the Implementation and Assistance for local and regional development)</p> <p>Agricultural Guidelines by the Land of Kärnten</p>
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## 9 Competent Authority / Contact Point for SF Grants

<p><b>Steiermark:</b> Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung Abteilung 16 – Landes- und Gemeindeentwicklung Referat für grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit Stempfergasse 7 8010 Graz Phone: ++43 (0) 316 877 2170 Fax: ++43 (0) 316 877 3711 e-mail: <a href="mailto:johann.klug@stmk.gv.at">johann.klug@stmk.gv.at</a></p> <p>In co-operation with federal and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector</p> <p><b>Kärnten:</b> <u>Amt</u> der Kärntner Landesregierung Abteilung 20 – Landesplanung Wulfengasse 13 9020 Klagenfurt Phone: ++43 (0) 463 536 32061 Fax: ++43 (0) 463 536 32007 e-mail: <a href="mailto:kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at">kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at</a></p> <p>In co-operation with federal or national authorities and regional agencies in charge of the respective sector.</p>
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**10 Code Numbers for Assistance from the Structural Funds**

a) 162, 163, 164, 165, 167; b) 311-319, 1712, 1713; c) 1732, 1714, 22, 23

**11 Desired Effects on the Integration of the Border Region**

- a) Cross-border co-operation projects of enterprises, networks and clusters  
Enhanced attractiveness of the location area on both sides of the border  
Cross-border know-how transfer
- b) (Preparation of) Improvements to cross-border infrastructure, faster and improved transportation links  
Creating and expanding a jointly used tourism infrastructure  
To improve the overall conditions for building up cross-border co-operation in tourism as well as co-operation networks
- c) Reduction of information deficits and mental barriers at the local and regional level  
Networking of private and/or public institutions with an intercultural focus  
Development and implementation of intercultural education and qualification offerings (with a focus on minorities)  
Promotion of minority language facilities with cross-border effects  
Development and implementation of cultural exchange programmes with longterm effects

**12 Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluation**

**Impact indicators:**

- a) Creation and expansion of infrastructure facilitating cross-border activities and responding to the needs of enterprises and establishment and expansion of business-related services.  
Improvement of framework conditions for the establishment of cross-border cooperation between enterprises and on a superordinate level as well as enhancement of cooperation networks.  
Common presence vis-à-vis third parties / integrated marketing of the region.  
Elimination of legal and technical barriers.
- b) (Preparation of the) improvement of cross-border infrastructure, faster and improved transportation links  
Improving the services and products and the joint use of tourism infrastructure, especially cycling and hiking paths and horseback-riding trails
- c) Continuous cooperation and exchange of information between educational and scientific institutions, establishment of cooperation structures.  
Development and implementation of education and qualification modules with a cross-border focus and bilingual/multilingual training courses / teaching materials.  
Establishment or consolidation of structures facilitating regular mutual intercultural exchange of information.  
Establishment and expansion of structures serving to maintain and accompany cross-border intercultural projects.

**Output-Indicators:**

- a) Number of projects providing physical support for SME ( plant and equipment etc.) [number of jobs created]  
Number of projects providing financial support to introduce environmental technologies or to develop eco-products  
Number of projects providing business advisory services  
Number of projects providing support for information networks, operational expenditure, technology oriented business databases, software, presentations, cooperation meetings, participation in fares etc.  
Number of projects creating networks or services for knowledge transfer  
Number of vocational training and training projects (SMEs); number of trainees
- b) Number of projects providing support for the improvement of rail, road, airport, urban transport, ports, multimodal transport intelligent transport systems;  
km of biking / hiking / horseback riding path constructed
- c) Number of vocational education and training projects (number of participants).  
Number of projects supporting intercultural networks and exchange programmes.

**13 Financial Plan**

In EUR	Austria
<b>Total cost</b>	1,700,010
<b>EU funds</b>	850,005
<b>National co-financing</b>	850,005
Public funds	641,005
Private funds	209,000

## Technical Assistance

According to Article 23 of Regulation (EU) Nr. 1260/1999, technical assistance has the propose of aiding the preparation, support, evaluation and control work involved in the programme and is subdivided by Rule 11 of Regulation (EC) Nr. 448/2004 into two areas:

TA-1: Administration, implementation, support and control activities (pursuant to Rule 11, par. 2), and

TA-2: Other activities within the scope of technical assistance (pursuant to Rule 11, par. 3)

### Technical Assistance-1: Administration, implementation, support and control activities (pursuant to Rule 11, par. 2 Regulation (EC) 448/2004)

#### 1 Contents / Object of the Measure

Relying on the options listed in the CIP projects with the focus in the following areas will be supported:

- Activities in connection with the preparation, selection, evaluation and support of interventions and operations
- Activities involving meetings of the Monitoring Committees and Steering Committees in connection with the intervention, including the Technical secretariat as well as costs of experts and third-country participants pursuant to Rule 11 par. 2.1. Regulation (EC) Nr. 448/2004.
- Examination and on-site checks of operations
- Draw up of the obligatory reports on the progress of the programme (annual implementation report, progress report)
- Preparation of the programme of the following SF-period
- Running and management of a monitoring database for the management and monitoring of the programme
- Specific measures pursuant to number 52 of the INTERREG III guideline with a view to the creation and development of common structures

#### 2 Goals

- Efficient and in-time technical programme implementation
- Co-ordination of the cross-border co-operation at the programme level
- Exchange of experiences

#### 3 Beneficiaries

Austria	Slovenia
Local and regional authorities Other authorities in charge of programme support	National Agency for Regional Development and its regional office.

#### 4 Pre-assessment Criteria for EU Co-financing

See Chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

#### 5 Specific Criteria for the Project Selection

- Relevant for an efficient implementation of the intervention
- Compatibility of the single-project to the overall-planning of the TA of the Managing Authority/National Authority

**6 Eligible Costs**

<p><b>As a general rule:</b>                  Installation and operation of a technical secretariat                  Personnel and material costs                  Consultation fee                  Actions/events beneficial to fostering cross-border links                  Studies (feasibility, evaluation, educational, training or environmental)                  Research programmes (through the use of experts; can include regional design projects and local area development projects)                  Preparation of promotional materials or publications                  Joint Services                  Staff Exchanges (between institutions)                  Costs related to training and similar activities                  Supplies</p>
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**7 Type and Amount of EU Assistance**

<b>ERDF</b>
Unrecoverable assistance, according to programme 50% at max. in Austria and 75% at max. in Slovenia. Maximum amount of assistance according to EU competition law must not be exceeded.

**8 Implementation Instruments – Legal Basis**

- a) Legal basis for the granting of the EU funds
- b) Legal basis for the granting of national funds

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>a)</b>                      Individual decision of the Federal Chancellery in its function as management authority                      Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten                      INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark                      Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006                      Direct commissioning by public bodies</p> <p><b>b)</b>                      Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten                      INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark                      Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006                      Direct commissioning by public bodies                      Allgemeine Rahmenrichtlinie für die Gewährung von Förderungen aus Bundesmitteln (BMF.-Z.01 3301/7-II/3/77 of 5 May 1977, as amended)                      Richtlinien für die Durchführung und Förderung der Aktion Orts- und Regionalentwicklung (ORE, Guidelines for the Implementation and Assistance for local and regional development)</p>	<p>a) and b)                      The Decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (No. 916-04/2002-3 of 25 Sept. 2003) on the Community Initiative INTERREG III                      Decree on implementation of the structural policy assistance in the Republic of Slovenia (OG RS 30/04 and 48/04)                      Public Finance Act (OG RS 79/99, 124/00, 79/01, 30/02, 56/02, 110/02)                      Biannual Acts on the Execution of the Budget of the Republic of Slovenia                      Regulation on procedures for the Execution of the Budget of Republic of Slovenia (OG RS 47/03, 67/03)                      Public Procurement Act (OG RS 39/00, 2/04)</p>

**9 Competent Authority / Contact Point for SF Grants**

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>Republic of Austria</b>, Bundeskanzleramt Abteilung IV/4 Hohenstaufengasse 3 A-1010 Vienna Phone: ++43 1 531 15 – 2910 Fax: ++43 1 531 15 – 2180 e-mail: <a href="mailto:iv4post@bka.gv.at">iv4post@bka.gv.at</a></p> <p><b>Steiermark:</b> Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung Abteilung 16 – Landes- und Gemeindeentwicklung Referat für grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit Stempfergasse 7 8010 Graz Phone: ++43 (0) 316 877 2170 Fax: ++43 (0) 316 877 3711 e-mail: <a href="mailto:johann.klug@stmk.gv.at">johann.klug@stmk.gv.at</a></p> <p><b>Kärnten:</b> Amt der Kärntner Landesregierung Abteilung 20 – Landesplanung Wulfengasse 13 9020 Klagenfurt Phone: ++43 (0) 463 536 32061 Fax: ++43 (0) 463 536 32007 e-mail: <a href="mailto:kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at">kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at</a></p>	<p>National Agency for Regional Development (NARD) Kotnikova 28 SI-1000 Ljubljana Phone: ++386 1 478 36 70 Fax: ++ 386 1 431 33 60 e-mail: <a href="mailto:arr@gov.si">arr@gov.si</a></p> <p>with</p> <p>NARD, Regional Office Maribor Trubarjeva 11 2000 Maribor Phone: ++386 2 234 10 24 Fax: ++ 386 2 234 10 50 e-mail: <a href="mailto:amna.potocnik@gov.si">amna.potocnik@gov.si</a></p>

**10 Code Numbers for Assistance from the Structural Funds**

411

**11 Desired Effects on the Integration of the Border Region**

Efficient common decision-making procedure  
Contribute to the agreement on and transparency in project selection  
Contribute to the strengthening of the joint development process  
Co-ordinated programme adjustments on a regular basis

**13 Financial Plan**

In EUR

<b>Total cost of the measure</b>	2,245,224
EU funds	1,216,418
National co-financing	1,028,806
Public funds	1,028,806
Private funds	0

**Technical Assistance-2: Other activities within the scope of technical assistance  
(pursuant to Rule 11, par. 3 Regulation (EC) 1185/2000)**

**1 Contents / Object of the Measure**

Relying on the options listed in the CIP projects with the focus in the following areas will be supported:  
Collection, processing and documentation of data, acquisition and installation of computerised systems for management, monitoring and evaluation  
Information and disclosure activities of the programme  
Programme evaluation  
Preparation of studies as well as realisation of seminars – in connection with the implementation of the intervention

**2 Goals**

Guarantee of an efficient and in-time technical programme implementation  
Broad information of the public  
Activation of potential project-owners through information- and disclosure activities

**3 Beneficiaries**

<b>Austria</b>	<b>Slovenia</b>
Local and regional authorities Other authorities in charge of programme support	National Agency for Regional Development and its regional office

**4 Pre-assessment Criteria for EU Co-financing**

See Chapter 4 of the Programme Complement

**5 Specific Criteria for the Project Selection**

Relevant for an efficient implementation of the intervention  
Compatibility of the single-project to the overall-planning of the TA of the Managing Authority/National Authority

**6 Eligible Costs**

<p><b>As a general rule:</b>                  Installation and operation of a technical secretariat                  Personnel and material costs                  Consultation fee                  Actions/events beneficial to fostering cross-border links                  Studies (feasibility, evaluation, educational, training or environmental)                  Research programmes (through the use of experts; can include regional design projects and local area development projects)                  Preparation of promotional materials or publications                  Joint Services                  Staff Exchanges (between institutions)                  Costs related to training and similar activities                  Supplies</p>
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**7 Type and Amount of EU Assistance**

<p>Unrecoverable assistance, according to programme 50% at max. in Austria and 75% at max. in Slovenia.                  Maximum amount of assistance according to EU competition law must not be exceeded.</p>
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**8 Implementation Instruments – Legal Basis**

- a) Legal basis for the granting of the EU funds
- b) Legal basis for the granting of national funds

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>a)</b>                  Individual decision of the Federal Chancellery in its function as management authority                  Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten                  INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark                  Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006                  Direct commissioning by public bodies</p> <p><b>b)</b>                  Individual decision of the Länder of Steiermark and Kärnten                  INTERREG guideline of the Land of Steiermark                  Guidelines of the Land of Kärnten for the Community Initiative of the European Union INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006                  Direct commissioning by public bodies                  Allgemeine Rahmenrichtlinie für die Gewährung von Förderungen aus Bundesmitteln (BMF.-Z.01 3301/7-II/3/77 of 5 May 1977, as amended)                  Richtlinien für die Durchführung und Förderung der Aktion Orts- und Regionalentwicklung (ORE, Guidelines for the Implementation and Assistance for local and regional development)</p>	<p>a) and b)                  The Decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (No. 916-04/2002-3 of 25 Sept. 2003) on the Community Initiative INTERREG III                  Decree on implementation of the structural policy assistance in the Republic of Slovenia (OG RS 30/04 and 48/04)                  Public Finance Act (OG RS 79/99, 124/00, 79/01, 30/02, 56/02, 110/02)                  Biannual Acts on the Execution of the Budget of the Republic of Slovenia                  Regulation on procedures for the Execution of the Budget of Republic of Slovenia (OG RS 47/03, 67/03)                  Public Procurement Act (OG RS 39/00, 2/04)</p>

**9 Competent Authority / Contact Point for SF Grants**

Austria	Slovenia
<p><b>Republic of Austria</b>, Bundeskanzleramt Abteilung IV/4 Hohenstaufengasse 3 A-1010 Vienna Phone: ++43 1 531 15 – 2910 Fax: ++43 1 531 15 – 2180 e-mail: iv4post@bka.gv.at</p> <p><b>Steiermark:</b> Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung Abteilung 16 – Landes- und Gemeindeentwicklung Referat für grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit Stempfergasse 7 8010 Graz Phone: ++43 (0) 316 877 2170 Fax: ++43 (0) 316 877 3711 e-mail: johann.klug@stmk.gv.at</p> <p><b>Kärnten:</b> Amt der Kärntner Landesregierung Abteilung 20 – Landesplanung Wulfengasse 13 9020 Klagenfurt Phone: ++43 (0) 463 536 32061 Fax: ++43 (0) 463 536 32007 e-mail: kurt.rakobitsch@ktn.gv.at</p>	<p>National Agency for Regional Development (NARD) Kotnikova 28 SI-1000 Ljubljana Phone: ++386 1 478 36 70 Fax: ++ 386 1 431 33 60 e-mail: <a href="mailto:arr@gov.si">arr@gov.si</a></p> <p>with NARD, Regional Office Maribor Trubarjeva 11 2000 Maribor Phone: ++386 2 234 10 24 Fax: ++ 386 2 234 10 50 e-mail: <a href="mailto:amna.potocnik@gov.si">amna.potocnik@gov.si</a></p>

**10 Code Numbers for Assistance from the Structural Funds**

412, 413, 414, 415

**11 Desired Effects on the Integration of the Border Region**

Efficient common decision-making procedure and implementation of the intervention  
Improvement of knowledge of the programme  
Co-ordinated programme adjustments on a regular basis

**13 Financial Plan**

In EUR

Total cost of the measure	534,216
EU funds	283,662
National co-financing	250,554
Public funds	250,554
Private funds	0

#### 4. PROJECT SELECTION: CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES

*The joint project selection for the Interreg IIIA Austria – Slovenia Community Initiative Programme will be performed by the bodies indicated in section 10.1.2 of the CIP. The following outline contains the **methodological framework for the project selection criteria** to be applied in the joint selection process. These criteria – according to Council regulation 1260/99 (article 35 (3) lit. b) – will have to be approved or adapted by the MC. These criteria have to be distinguished from **pre-assessment criteria**, the fulfilment of which will have to be checked by the Intermediate Bodies **before** they reach the joint selection process (cf. process description in chapter 10). The pre-assessment of project proposals based on criteria defined in the Programme Complement will be executed by the respective Intermediate Bodies. After pre-assessment, joint bilateral working groups will be organised in order to discuss the projects and to prepare joint recommendations for funding. The report with joint recommendations for funding will be sent by respective Intermediate Bodies to JTS via Central Monitoring System. The JTS will prepare a joint proposal with recommendations for co-financing for the joint project selection at SC. The project proposals will be approved by the SC.*

As the development of common projects under INTERREG IIIA shall be intensified, the mutual exchange of information on project ideas already before the formal application is of crucial importance. In this respect, besides regular information exchange between the Intermediate Bodies, regional managements and regional development agencies, also info days and joint forums on project ideas will be organised for potential project owners.

As in Slovenia calls for proposals will be published, the Intermediate Bodies of both partner states will harmonise the milestones for submission of project applications and coordinate the pre-assessment process as to ensure selection of all projects submitted in the same period of time at the same Steering Committee meeting. This shall be of great importance especially for the joint and mirror projects, allowing synchronised implementation.

In the course of implementation of the INTERREG III A programme, the following types of projects are expected:

- **Joint projects:** the project is developed jointly and foresees joint implementation of activities by participating project partners in large parts at the same time. The project partners shall nominate a functional lead partner responsible for the coordination of project activities. The project application is pre-assessed jointly and joint recommendation for ERDF funding is given by Intermediate Bodies. If the project is approved by Steering Committee, two separate subsidy contracts are concluded with the Final Beneficiaries in Austria and Slovenia.
- **Mirror projects:** the projects are developed in co-operation, planning complementary activities to be implemented on both sides of the border but must not necessarily take place at the same time. Different project applications are submitted by project owners to the respective Intermediate Body in Austria and Slovenia. Mirror projects can be approved to already existing projects.
- **Other projects:** projects must show clear cross border impact, though they are financed only from one side with an ERDF subsidy contract.

In general, the selection of projects shall be done in the following steps:

- In the pre-assessment phase the fulfilment of formal criteria is checked. The Intermediate Bodies examine the applications according to: a. administrative criteria, b. eligibility criteria, and c. quality of the project application.
- The Intermediate Bodies evaluate the project also according to: (1) a core selection criteria-standardised survey of the cross-border-quality in the projects' development and implementation and (2) a survey and typology of the projects expected impacts on functionally integrated regional development.

- The pre-assessment phase done by the Intermediate Bodies is followed by discussion on the pre-assessment results in the bilateral working groups. The purpose of bilateral discussions is agreement on and preparation of joint recommendations for the funding.

The pre-assessment of project proposals is executed by the respective Intermediate Bodies and the results with joint recommendations for funding are sent to JTS via Monitoring System.

- The JTS prepares materials for the Steering Committee to take decision on project selection and the ERDF funding. It examines the project applications as to whether they are complete and meet the selection criteria and provides project sheets to the members of the Steering Committee.
- The formal decision on the granting of the assistance is taken on by the Steering Committee on the basis of project selection criteria and the specific regulations applying to the Structural Funds. The Steering Committee selects projects for ERDF funding on the basis of the project selection criteria and recommendations prepared by the IBs/JTS following the Rules of Procedure. The criteria for this selection phase are described in detail in the graph below.
- Finally, the Intermediate Bodies set up the subsidy contract and make checks of the project implementation. Also the responsibility for the payments lies with these bodies.

#### **4.1 Pre-assessment of project proposals**

The project applications submitted to the Intermediate Bodies are pre-assessed for compliance with the following criteria:

##### **a. Administrative Compliance**

- application was submitted in due time
- application form is properly filled in and requested documents are attached

##### **b. Eligibility Compliance**

- secured financing, appropriateness of the ratio between own funds and public assistance (taking into account the possible ERDF co-financing as well as any other national public funds applied for, already granted)
- compliance with the specific INTERREG IIIA assistance requirements pursuant to the CIP and Programme Complement
- compliance with ERDF assistance requirements pursuant to Council Regulation 1783/99 and the eligibility rules for Structural Funds co-financing pursuant to Commission Regulation 448/2004
- compliance with other relevant national and EU legislation and policies (State aid legislation, rules for the awarding of public procurement, environmental law, etc.)

##### **c. Quality of the project application:**

###### *Relevance*

- problem and needs are clearly described and relevant to the programme area
- the project objectives are clearly defined and in line with programme/measure objectives defined in the CIP
- compliance with the regional development programmes and sectoral policy objectives (including if required, statements of other administrative bodies concerned)
- complementarity with other regional or national Structural Funds Programmes
- expected project results provide value added to the programme area

#### *Feasibility*

- coherence between project objectives, activities, outputs and results
- clear and realistic work-plan and time-schedule
- quality of the cross-border project partnership

#### *Sustainability*

- effects of the project results on the programme area
- support to sustainable development of the programme area

#### *Budget*

- amount and the appropriateness of the project costs

#### *Financial and Operational Capacity*

- experience of the project owner in similar programmes and projects
- economic, professional and management capacities of the project owner.

The result of the pre-assessment shall be discussed at the bilateral working groups.

## **4.2 Project Selection Procedure**

The project selection procedure planned, which is a sequence of activities flowing from the regional level of the Intermediate Body and the Technical Secretariat to the Steering Committee and the individual steps, are illustrated in the table below. Please note that the **entire** INTERREG IIIA selection process is contained only in the right side of the table, while the examination of compliance with directives and the co-financing eligibility of a project runs parallel in the preparatory phase.

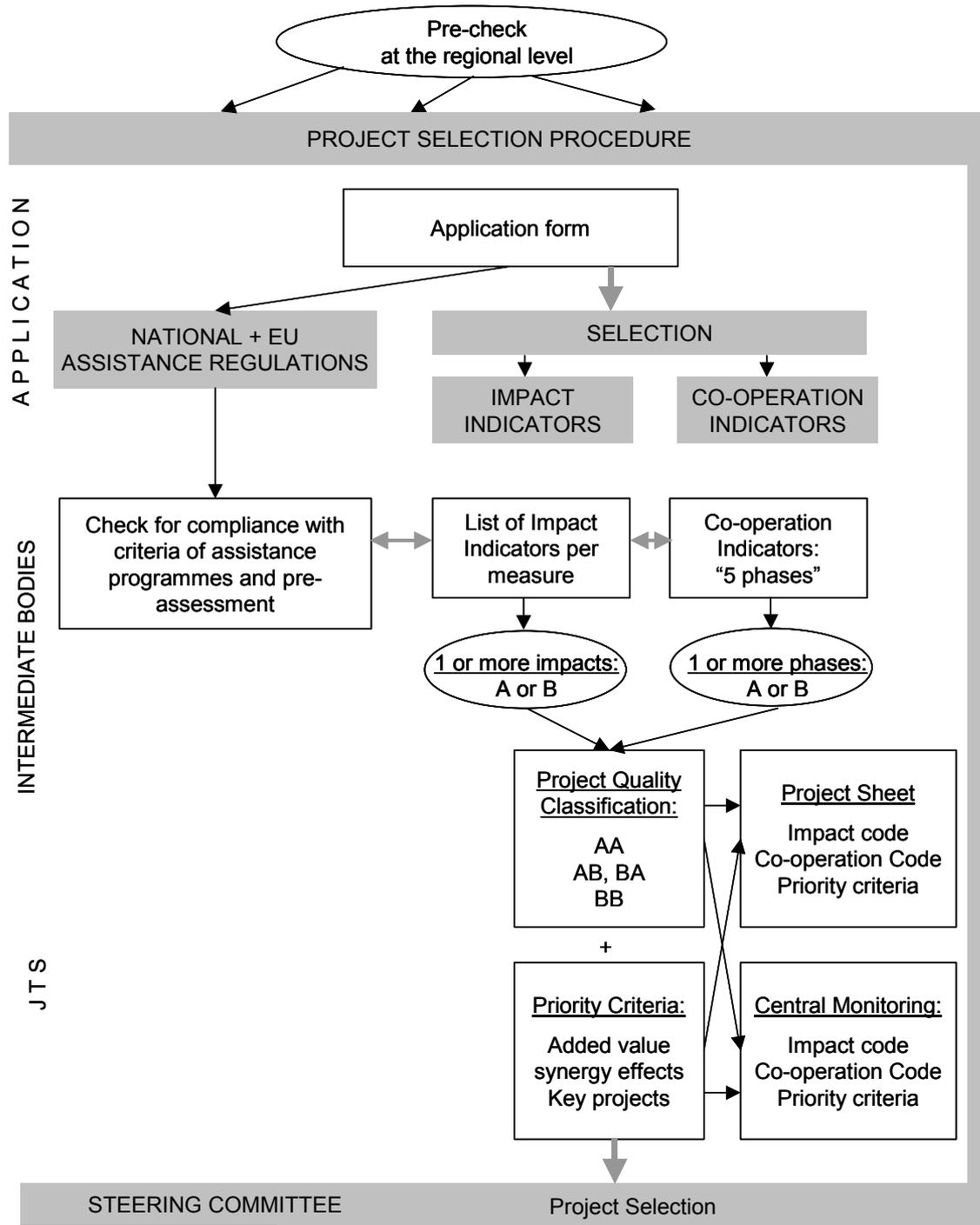
The INTERREG IIIA project selection process is based on two pillars, as described in the programming document:

- On the one hand, it is based on the project impact with respect to the superordinate goals of regional integration of border regions, differentiated by measures and qualitatively captured in so-called **impact indicators** (see 4.3.1) and
- On the other hand, on the assessment of cross-border co-operation intensity in the creation and implementation of projects, which are captured by so-called **cooperation indicators** by project phase.

Both types of indicators are evaluated for each project based on the project applications by the Intermediate Body and summarised in a project sheet. The assessment allows a classification of the quality according to AA (2 or more impact indicators, 2 or more phases of project co-ordination), AB (only one co-operation phase), BA (only one impact) to BB (one impact, one cooperation phase).

Moreover, in order to obtain a more detailed selection within the quality classes, a supplementary rating was proposed for the subsequent selection step using so-called **priority criteria** (see 4.4). Finally, the draft is accompanied by a summary **project sheet** in German and Slovene language (see 4.5).

**Project Selection Procedure**



### 4.3 Project Selection Criteria

*The following outline contains the **methodological framework for the project selection criteria** to be applied in the joint selection process. These criteria – according to Council regulation 1260/99 (article 35 (3) lit. b) – will have to be approved or adapted by the MC. These criteria have to be distinguished from **pre-assessment criteria** the fulfilment of which will have to be checked by the Intermediate Bodies **before** they reach the joint selection process (see section 4.2).*

#### 4.3.1 Impact Indicators

The concept of evaluating impacts with respect to the project goals and the superordinate goal of regional integration of border areas is based on the **qualitative assessment** by the Intermediate Body, which sees **significant impacts** triggered in **one or several** areas considered **important** for a measure.

The judgement of whether an impact is significant or not and the formulation in so-called impact indicators is a multi-phase process. The long list contained in the following two pages of impact indicators, was drafted on the basis of an expert opinion, two statements and three workshops of the involved Austrian Intermediate Bodies and agreed-on by consensus. The impact indicators were also agreed with Slovene representatives.

Discussions in this context have resulted in the following agreement regarding the future application of the long list:

If, in the course of a project's implementation it becomes apparent that certain project types would be worthy of receiving assistance which at the time of programming were not recognised as such or insufficiently, and based on the existing impact indicators were evaluated as non-eligible, then the following **procedure** shall apply:

1. Presentation of a proposal for supplementary indicators,
2. Detailed explanations of the grounds given by the authority applying
3. Presentation by the administrative authority to the Monitoring Committee

**“Long list” of impact indicators**

Priorities and Measures	No.	Impact indicators at the project level: Impacts on the (cross-border) integration of border regions
<b>P1 – Cross-border economic co-operation</b>		
<b>M 1 Economic development</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>1</b> Expansion of the market / integrated development of offerings, marketing and external image
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>2</b> Integrated production (factor combinations), product and service development, building up of supply and delivery relationships
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>3</b> Intensifying partner searches, and the development and creation of co-operation projects and networks at the enterprise level and across enterprises
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>4</b> Know-how and technology transfer, consulting, common services for enterprises
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>5</b> To create and expand cross-border business information and communication, and business service structures
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>6</b> To improve the overall conditions for building up cross-border co-operation between and among businesses as well as co-operation networks
<b>M 2 Tourism</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>7</b> Expansion of the market / integrated development of offerings, marketing and external image
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>8</b> Development of services and integrated production (factor combinations)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>9</b> Intensifying partner searches, and the development and creation of co-operation projects and networks at the enterprise level and across enterprises
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>10</b> Know-how transfer, consulting, common services for enterprises
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>11</b> Creating and expanding a jointly used tourism infrastructure
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>12</b> To improve the overall conditions for building up cross-border co-operation in tourism as well as co-operation networks
<b>M 3 Rural development</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>13</b> Expansion of the market / integrated development of offerings, marketing and external image
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>14</b> Integrated production (factor combinations), product and service development with diversification
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>15</b> Intensifying partner searches, and the development and creation of co-operation projects and networks at the enterprise level and across enterprises
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>16</b> Know-how transfer, consulting, common services for farming enterprises
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>17</b> To improve the overall conditions for building up cross-border co-operation in agriculture as well as co-operation networks

**P2 – Human resources and regional cooperation**

- |  |                          |           |   |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|---|
| <b>M 1 Development of human resources, Labour market</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>18</b> | Reduction of specific organisational and legal barriers, of information deficits and mental barriers  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>19</b> | Building up and intensification of collaboration between the labour market and social policy institutions as well as social partners                              |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>20</b> | Development of new, cross-border-adjusted occupational fields and qualifications  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>21</b> | Contribution to the development of instruments and cross-border labour market and social policy/development and observation                                       |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>22</b> | Development/implementation of education and qualification modules with a cross-border focus and multi-/dual lingual educational programmes and teaching materials |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>23</b> | Mutual recognition of curricula and degrees   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>24</b> | Development and implementation of cross-border education and qualification offerings  |
| <b>M 2 Regional cooperation</b>                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>25</b> | Reduction of information deficits and mental barriers at the local and regional levels  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>26</b> | Networking of private and/or public services  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>27</b> | To create and expand cross-border co-operation networks and structures (incl. pre-stages)   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>28</b> | Creation or reinforcement of structures for the regular, mutual exchange of information for project collaboration   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>29</b> | To create and expand support structures and services for cross-border projects  |
| <b>M 3 Cooperation in education and culture</b>          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>30</b> | Reduction of specific information deficits and mental barriers  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>31</b> | Ongoing collaboration and exchange of information between education, science and cultural institutions, creation of co-operation structures                       |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>32</b> | Development/implementation of education and qualification modules with a cross-border focus and multi-/dual lingual educational programmes and teaching materials |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>33</b> | Development and implementation of cross-border education and qualification offerings targeted at cross-border business relationships                              |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>34</b> | Development and implementation of exchange programmes with long-term and sustainable effects  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>35</b> | Development of cross-border products and services in the fields of education and culture  |
-

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<b>P3 – Sustainable spatial development</b>	
<b>M 1 Spatial development and transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>36</b> Reduction of organisational and legal barriers, and of information deficits</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>37</b> (Preparation of) Improvements to cross-border infrastructure, faster and improved transportation links</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>38</b> (Preparation of) links to international transportation routes</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>39</b> Contribution to shifting traffic loads (from roads) through the harmonised/integrated use of transportation infrastructure and means</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>40</b> Improving the services and products, and integrated use of information technology and telecommunications infrastructure</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>41</b> Harmonisation of spatial development, especially settlement and infrastructure development, social and economic development of locations</li> </ul>
<b>M 2 Sustainable spatial development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>42</b> Reduction of organisational and legal barriers, and of information deficits</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>43</b> Contribution to the development and implementation of joint (environmental) standards</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>44</b> Integration and joint protection/use of ecologically valuable zones and natural heritage</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>45</b> Co-ordinated management of nature and national parks, creation and expansion of co-operation structures</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>46</b> Improving the standard and joint use of environmental infrastructure and technology</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>47</b> Partner searches and the development of cross-border cooperation projects and networks among institutions, NGOs, etc.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>48</b> Cross-border development of services in the field of environmental protection</li> </ul>
<b>M 3 Environmental and energy management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>49</b> Reduction of organisational and legal barriers, and of information deficits</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>50</b> Contribution to the development and implementation of joint (environmental) standards and monitoring</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>51</b> Co-ordinated environmental and resource management, creation of co-operation structures</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>52</b> Utilisation of renewable energy resources and natural resources</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>53</b> Improvement of environmental status/reduction of emissions</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>54</b> Partner searches and the development of cross-border cooperation projects and networks among institutions, NGOs, etc.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>55</b> Cross-border development of services in the field of water and energy management</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>56</b> Infrastructure/investments in the area of water management</li> </ul>

**P4 – Special Support for Border Regions**

- |  |                          |           |   |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|---|
| a) <b>Support for small- and medium-sized enterprises particularly affected by the enlargement</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>57</b> | To create and expand cross-border business information and communication, and business services structures                                |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>58</b> | To improve the overall conditions for building up cross-border co-operation between and among businesses as well as co-operation networks |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>59</b> | Know-how and technology transfer, networking with science, R&D facilities   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>60</b> | Common external image / integrated marketing of border regions  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>61</b> | Reduction of legal and technical barriers   |
| b) <b>Development of the cross-border transport network</b>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>62</b> | (Preparation of) cross-border infrastructure, faster and improved transportation links  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>63</b> | (Preparation of) links to international transportation routes   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>64</b> | Cross-border networking of business locations   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>65</b> | Creating and expanding a jointly used tourism infrastructure (e.g. hiking paths, cycling- and horse riding tracks)                        |
| c) <b>Training activities and intercultural cooperation</b>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>66</b> | Reduction of information deficits and mental barriers at the local and regional level   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>67</b> | Networking of private and/or public institutions with an intercultural focus  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>68</b> | Development and implementation of intercultural education and qualification offerings (with a focus on minorities)                        |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>69</b> | Promotion of minority language facilities with cross-border effects   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>70</b> | Development and implementation of cultural exchange programmes with longterm effects  |

**Austrian Institute for Regional Studies and Spatial Planning**

### 4.3.2 Indicators for the Quality of Co-operation in Project Development and Implementation (Cooperation Indicators)

In developing and implementing INTERREG projects, the diverse project phases and steps can be differentiated (preparation, implementation, etc.), with each of these steps being possible cross-border or independently. The **project evaluation and selection** will be based on the **cross-border quality of the individual steps of the project development and implementation**, which are to be recorded in the project application.

INTERREG-Phases	Project phases	Cooperation indicator
Application	1. Preparation until application	<input type="checkbox"/> Project concept with partners from the neighbouring country Proof: Partners, contribution to project development
	Approval	
	2. Planning the implementation / tender	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning the implementation with partners from the neighbouring country Proof: Partners, contribution to planning the implementation
	3. Implementation / construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Implementation with partners from the neighbouring country Proof: Partners, contribution to the implementation ( according to project milestones)
Project end	4. Financing	<input type="checkbox"/> Financing with partners from the neighbouring country Proof: Partners, financing contribution
	5. Use / operation after completion of project	<input type="checkbox"/> Use of results/installations by persons/institutions/firms from the neighbouring country Proof: User, type of use

#### 4.4 Priority Criteria for Project Selection

In accordance with the classification of the projects submitted by impact and quality of the cooperation in project development and implementation, as well as the grouping by AA AB, BA, BB, the next project selection step is taken. This is done with a view to the fulfilment of the goals and target criteria of the programme. These are defined in content in the light of the goals aimed at and also of the project quality such as its subsequent impact on other later projects. The following criteria are proposed within the scope of the INTERREG IIIA project selection:

- **Additional impact/added value:** Positive effects in other areas that also meet the project goals, synergy effects with other projects and/or measures of the programme
- **Assessment as a key project:** A main project goal is to motivate further projects in areas which meet the programme goals. This priority criterion will be used in case that two projects are assessed as equal.
- **Special impacts relating to the implementation of EU policies:** positive effects with respect to a sustainable environmental and economic development, social justice and equality, and/or gender mainstreaming.

Compliance with the criteria mentioned in selecting the project is designed to attain a higher overall impact of the INTERREG IIIA Programme than otherwise possible. By taking account of the mutual impacts with respect to other programme areas, additional synergy effects may/should be exploited and increased.

#### 4.5 Minimum requirements of information on project level

The project sheet presented below contains the minimum requirements of information on project level, which is presented to the Steering Committee. In general, this information is exchanged between Intermediary Bodies and the Joint Technical Secretariat via Monitoring System. In case the Monitoring System is not functioning properly, the presented project sheet shall be used for information exchange.

Projektblatt / Projektni list  <b>INTERREG IIIA</b> <b>Österreich – Slowenien</b> <b>Avstrija – Slovenija</b>  <b>Projektnummer Datenbank</b>	LA-Nummer: -----
	Zaporedna št: -----
	Förderstelle eingelangt: -----
	Vročn na zbirno mesto: -----
	Status: -----
	Aktenzeichen Förderstelle: -----
	Oznaka v arhivu: -----
Abgelehnt/bewilligt in LA am: -----	
Zavrnljen/sprejet na UO dne: -----	
EFRE-Fördervertrag am: -----	
ESRR-pogodba z dnem: -----	

<b>Förderstelle/ Posredniško telo</b>	-----		
<b>Projekt-Code / Projektna koda</b>	Land,Region / Dežela, regija: -----	Priorität/ Prednostna naloga: -----	Maßnahme/ Ukrep: -----
<b>Projektbeschreibung/Opis projekta</b>	Akronym/Akronim: -----		
<b>Titel/Naslov projekta:</b>	-----		

<b>Träger/Nosilec:</b>	-----
Anschrift/Naslov	-----
Ansprechpartner/Kontaktna oseba	-----
Rechtspersönlichkeit/Pravna oblika	-----
<b>Projektpartner im Nachbartsaat /Projektni partner v sosednji državi</b>	-----
Anschrift/Naslov	-----
Ansprechpartner/Kontaktna oseba	-----
Land/Region / dežela/regija	-----
Rechtspersönlichkeit/Pravna oblika	-----
<b>Weitere Projektpartner/drugi projektni partnerji</b>	-----
Anschrift/Naslov	-----
Ansprechpartner/Kontaktna oseba	-----
Rechtspersönlichkeit/Pravna oblika	-----

**Zusammenfassende Projektbeschreibung (Ausgangslage, Projektziele, Aktivitäten, angestrebte sichtbare Resultate)**  
**Povzetek projekta (izhodišče, cilji, aktivnosti, pričakovani rezultati):**

**Ausgangslage:**

-----

**Izhodišče:**

-----

**Projektziele:**

-----

**Cilji projekta:**

-----

**Aktivitäten:**

-----

**Aktivnosti:**

-----

<b>Wichtigste Meilensteine/ Pomembni mejniki</b>	-----
--	-------

<b>Räumlicher Wirkungsbereich/ Območje izvajanja/vpliva projekta:</b>	-----
---	-------

<b>Projektbeginn – ende (Datum)/ Začetek - konec projekta (datum):</b>	-----
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Gesamtkosten indicative Aufteilung Celotni stroški Indikativna razdelitev	EUR	SIT	Anmerkungen/ Opombe
Personalkosten/Stroški osebja:	0,0	0,0	-----
Sachkosten/Materialni stroški:	0,0	0,0	
Externe Dienstleistungen: Zunanje storitve:	0,0	0,0	
Investitionen/Investicije:	0,0	0,0	
Öffentlichkeitsarbeit: Odnosi z javnostmi:	0,0	0,0	
<b>Gesamtkosten/Skupno stroški:</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	
<b>Einnahmen: Prihodki</b>			
<b>EFRE förderbare Kosten: ESRR upravičeni stroški</b>			
<b>EFRE kofinanzierte Kosten: ERDF Priznani stroški:</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	-----

Finanzierung Financiranje	EUR	SIT	Anmerkungen/ Opombe
<b>EU-EFRE: EU-Evropski sklad za regionalni razvoj:</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	-----
<b>Nationale Beteiligung gesamt: Nacionalno sofinanciranje skupaj:</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	
Bund/zvezna (centralna raven)	0,0	0,0	
Land/Dežela:	0,0	0,0	
Gemeinde/Občina:	0,0	0,0	
sonstige öffentliche Mittel: Druga javna sredstva:	0,0	0,0	
Private Mittel/Zasebna sredstva:	0,0	0,0	
<b>Gesamtfinanzierung: Celotno financiranje:</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	
<b>Gesamtförderquote %: Celotni delež sofinanciranja:</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	-----
<b>EU-Beteiligung in %: EU-sofinanciranje v %:</b>	<b>0,0%</b>	<b>0,0%</b>	

**Ergebnis der Projektprüfung/Rezultat preverjanja projekta**

<b>1. Formale Kriterien / Formalni pogoji in merila</b>	Erfüllt / izpolnjeni <input type="checkbox"/>	nicht erfüllt / niso izpolnjeni: <input type="checkbox"/>
Anmerkungen/Opombe	-----	

**2. Grenzüberschreitende Kriterien/ Čezmejna merila**

Wirkungsindikatoren/ Kazalniki vpliva		Kooperationsindikatoren/ kazalniki sodelovanja	
Wesentliche Projektwirkungen/ Bistveni vplivi projekta:	Nr. des Indikators / Št. kazalnika:	5 Projektphasen / 5 projektnih faz	Durchführung mit Partner / Izvedba s partnerjem
	(vgl. Langliste) / (glej listo)	1 Konzept, Antrag / Konzept, projektna vloga	<input type="checkbox"/> ja
Wirkung 1/Vpliv 1:	-----	2 Planung d. Umsetzung / Načrtovanje izvedbe	<input type="checkbox"/> ja
Wirkung 2/Vpliv 2:	-----	3 Umsetzung, Investition / Izvedba, investicija	<input type="checkbox"/> ja
Wirkung 3/Vpliv 3:	-----	4 Finanzierung / Financiranje	<input type="checkbox"/> ja
Anzahl der erwarteten Wirkungen/ Število pričakovanih učinkov:	-----	5 Nutzung nach Ende / Raba po zaključku	<input type="checkbox"/> ja
Integrationswirkung gesamt/ vplivi povezovanja – skupno	A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/>	Kooperationsintensität/ Intenzivnost sodelovanja	A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Prioritätskriterien / Prednostna merila:</b>	Zusatzwirkungen, Synergien: Dodatni vplivi, sinergije: <input type="checkbox"/> ja	Schlüsselprojekt: Ključni projekt: <input type="checkbox"/> ja
---	---	---

**Projektbezogenen Indikatoren/kazalniki na ravni projekta:**

Interventionscode	
Kategorisierung po področjih pomoči	-----
Logische Indikatoren:	-----
Logični kazalniki	-----
Numerische Indikatoren:	-----
Numerični kazalniki:	-----
	-----
	-----

**Auswirkung auf horizontale EU-Politiken/vplivi na horizontale EU politike**

Chancengleichheit/Enake možnosti	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> +	<input type="checkbox"/> ++
Nachhaltigkeit/Trajnost	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> +	<input type="checkbox"/> ++

**Zusammenfassung/Povzetek**

Stärken/Prednosti	Schwächen/Slabosti	Auflagen/Pogoji
Gemeinsames Projekt ja/nein		
Skupni projekt da/ne	-----	-----
Spiegelprojekt ja/nein		
Zrcalni projekt da/ne		

**Empfehlung durch die IB/Priporočilo IB:**

<input type="checkbox"/> abzulehnen / zavrnuti: -----
<input type="checkbox"/> zu genehmigen ohne Auflagen / brezpogojno odobriti: -----
<input type="checkbox"/> zu genehmigen mit folgenden Auflagen/ odobriti pod naslednjimi pogoji: -----

**Stellungnahme durch das Gemeinsame Technische Sekretariat/Stališče skupnega tehničnega sekretariata**

Projektbeschreibung/opis projekta: -----
Kosten und Finanzierung/stroški in financiranje: -----
Meilensteine/mejniki: -----

Project selection: Criteria and procedures

Grenzüberschreitende  
Kriterien/čezmejna merila: -----  
Sonstiges/drugo: -----

**Empfehlung durch den Lenkungsausschuß/Priporočilo Skupnega upravnega odbora**

- abzulehnen / zavrniti: -----  
 zu genehmigen ohne Auflagen / brezpogojno odobriti: -----  
 zu genehmigen mit folgenden Auflagen/ odobriti pod naslednjimi pogoji: -----

## **5. PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION PLAN**

**(Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1159/2000 of 30 May 2000 on information and publicity measures to be carried out by the Member States concerning assistance from the Structural Funds)**

### **5.1 General**

The information and publicity measures for the interventions of the Structural Funds are aimed at publishing the actions of the European Union, increasing transparency and creating a uniform image of the interventions throughout all member states.

The information and publicity measures are presented in the form of a publicity and information plan in the Programme complement. Their implementation shall be the responsibility of the respective administrative body responsible for the interventions.

The publicity and information plan contains information on

- the goals and target groups;
- the content and the strategy of the communication and information measures;
- an indicative budget;
- the administrative bodies or institutions responsible for their implementation;
- the evaluation criteria used for assessing the measures implemented.

(Compare with the implementation regulations on information and publicity for interventions under the Structural Funds pursuant to the Annex to Regulation (EC) No. 1159/2000).

### **5.2 Goals and target groups**

The information and publicity measures within the scope of the Interreg IIIA Community Initiative Programme Austria – Slovenia are designed

a) to target potential and final beneficiaries as well as

- regional and local authorities and other public bodies,
- professional associations and business communities,
- economic and social partners,
- non-governmental organisations, especially bodies to promote equality between men and women, and bodies working for the protection and improvement of the environment,
- project operators and promoters,

and serve the purpose of informing on the possibilities offered by the European Union, Slovenia and Austria and guaranteeing the transparency of the joint interventions;

b) to inform the general public of the role that the European Union plays together with Austria and Slovenia in the respective interventions and of their results.

### 5.3 Content and strategy

The information and publicity measures within the scope of the Interreg IIIA Community Initiative Programme Austria – Slovenia are primarily designed:

a) *to guarantee transparency vis-à-vis potential project owners and final beneficiaries*

- general information on the Community Initiative Interreg IIIA
- publication of abbreviated versions of the joint planning documents (priorities and measures) indicating the participation of the corresponding fund
- to give an overview of competencies, organisation and project selection procedures
- standardised information on project applications (application authority, contacts at the national, regional and local levels)
- announcement of selection criteria and valuation mechanisms for tenders and project applications

This information will be available for downloading on the respective programme websites (see Annex 2).

b) *to inform the public*

- Announcements on the start of the programme in the media, giving an appropriate presentation of the participation of the European Union
- Ongoing communication on the stages of a project's implementation throughout the entire programme planning period
- Project-specific information in accordance with the provisions in the Annex to the Regulation (EC) No. 1159/2000 figure 3.2.2.2
- Presentation of the final results of the Interreg IIIA Community Initiative Programme Austria – Slovenia 2000-2006

The general strategic goal of the information and publicity measures within the scope of Interreg IIIA Programme Austria – Slovenia is to promote a uniform public image which should achieve the status of a brand name or a “corporate identity” in time. To this end, a common logo was designed and is used on printed matter, publications, in the printed and electronic media.

For the strategic implementation of the contents listed above, the following shall be used apart from the information and publicity means mentioned in the Annex to the Regulation (EU) 1159/2000 figure 6 (billboards, commemorative plaques, notification to beneficiaries):

- A programme-specific website [www.at-si.net](http://www.at-si.net) (see Annex 2) providing ongoing information to the general public, potential and final beneficiaries as well as structured networks in the Internet, which are to be prepared by the Joint Technical Secretariat in close cooperation with the Intermediate Bodies of the Länder Steiermark and Kärnten and of Slovenia;
- Information material in the form of leaflets, information binders and brochures
- The publication of periodical magazines at the Länder level
- Ad hoc press releases, press conferences to inform the national, regional and local media (e.g. on the start of the programme in Slovenia, best practices, project completions, Monitoring Committee meetings, annual implementation reports)
- Regional and local information events and networking of project organisers, financing institutions and funding bodies (information events at the regional level)
- Contributions to special-interest events, articles in special-interest magazines

The application of the above-mentioned information and publicity measures are differentiated within the programme planning period (2000 to 2006) by three phases each of which having different requirements:

**(a) Information on the start and the announcement of the Interreg IIIA Programmes Austria – Slovenia**

The goal of this phase is to spread the information as widely as possible (potential and final beneficiaries as well as the general public) and to inform in general about the programme, contact partners, info points, procedures and decision-making structures, etc. The focus in the period from 2004 will be especially to raise awareness on the INTERREG III A programme in the Slovene border area.

*Communication means:* Kick-off event in Steiermark and Kärnten; press conferences, press releases on the start of the programme (as fast as possible after the programme is approved by the EC), presentations to potential beneficiaries and wider public at the start of the INTERREG III A programme in Slovenia.

**(b) Ongoing information, communication and presentation**

In this phase, the public is regularly informed on the current status of the implementation of the programme and on the completion of successful projects.

Furthermore, clear information (homogenous) at the regional and local level on the administrative procedures and information on the selection criteria and valuation mechanisms are provided.

Regular information and networking events by project organisers, financing institutions and funding bodies are crucial in this phase for the implementation of the joint programme planning document.

*Communication means:* Brochures, information events, organisation of events to share experiences among project owners and project partners, press releases on the status of the implementation.

**(c) Presentation of results and review**

As of the end of the programming planning period, a presentation of the completed projects and a review of the cooperation projects created is given.

*Communication means:* Brochures, final events, etc.

## **5.4 Indicative budget**

In accordance with the joint programme planning document, all measures projected for the communication action plan are covered by Technical Assistance 2 (other activities within the scope of Technical Assistance pursuant to Rule 11, paragraph 3). All in all, for TA 2 a sum of EUR 534,216 is available as an indicative budget, thereof 30% will be made available for information and publicity measures.

## **5.5 Competent authority**

The Managing Authority for carrying out the information and publicity measures as set out in the Regulation is:

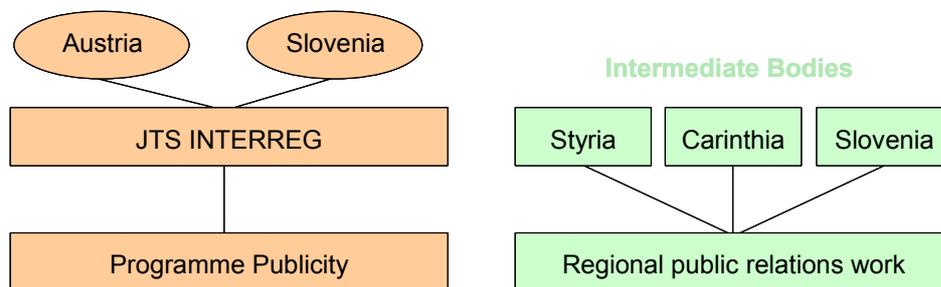
Federal Chancellery, Dept. IV/4, Hohenstaufengasse 3, A-1010 Vienna  
Phone: ++43 1 53115-2910, Fax: -2180,  
e-mail: iv4post@bka.gv.at.

## **5.6 Evaluation criteria**

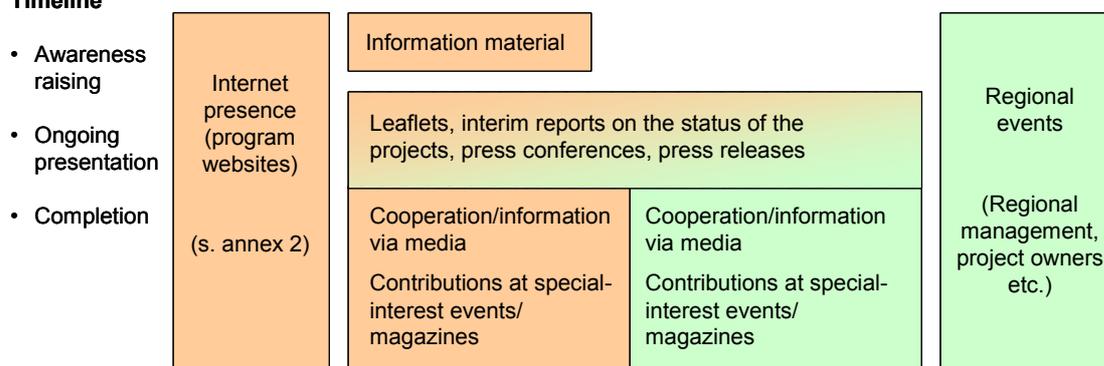
The evaluation criteria for the efficiency of the information and publicity measures are:

- Increase in the recognition rate of the opportunities available through the common interventions of the European Commission and of Member States for potential final beneficiaries and project organisers;
- Information measures on the role of the EU in the assistance provided by the Structural Funds;
- Increase in the level of knowledge of the programme among the general public;
- Communication of a homogenous “corporate identity”.

**Annex 1: Overview of the communication means used**



**Timeline**



## **Annex 2: Programme website [www.at-si.net](http://www.at-si.net)**

A website for the Interreg IIIA Programme Austria-Slovenia is the fastest and most efficient way of reaching the primary target group, namely, the interested public and providing quick, detailed information on Interreg IIIA Programme Austria-Slovenia. The website is on-line since February 2002 in German, Slovene and English. Continuous up-date of the website is done by the Joint Technical Secretariat. Monthly webreports are available at the JTS.

Furthermore a secured internal area (so-called Backoffice area) was installed and became operative under [www.at-si.net/Service/Intern](http://www.at-si.net/Service/Intern): at the end of 2002.

From December 2002 onwards the JTS offered all Committee members an information repository which can be accessed through the programme website. Basically it consists of a personal calendar and a File Manager which contains all necessary internal programme information such as invitations to meetings and documents in a download section. A detailed user manual was elaborated and disseminated to all potential users.

Thus, the website serves ...

- as a platform for all relevant programme issues and information of the Technical Secretariat (e.g. general targets of the programme, contacts, success stories to date, programme news, etc.)
- as a distribution centre for all relevant programme documents (e.g. Community Initiative Programme, Programme Complement, project application forms, the logo for downloading, etc.)
- as a means of communication to the “outside” (e.g. platform for partner searches via e-mail, list of interesting and relevant links, etc.)
- and as a means of “internal” communication (e.g. provision of documents for meetings of the monitoring committee)

The information on the Web is offered ...

- ... for persons and institutions directly involved in the programme or in the project as well as for other interested website visitors and
- ... for partners and interested parties from the Länder/regions involved as well as for interested parties from other Länder/regions

In the course of the accession of Slovenia to the EU the programme website will be adapted for an even more intensive use for the programme partners and the interested public. The focus in the period 2004-2006 will be given to the promotion of the website to Slovene target groups and to increase the use of the website.

## **6. DESCRIPTION OF THE AGREEMENT ON DATA EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE EC AND THE MANAGING AUTHORITY**

### **Monitoring and electronic data exchange**

As a supplement to the presentation of monitoring and electronic data exchange given in the Community Initiative Programme INTERREG IIIA Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006, we would like to add the following explanations as part of the Programme Complement:

The centralised nationwide, standard monitoring procedure of the implementation of the programme for all Austrian Objective programmes and the INTERREG IIIA programme shall be carried out by the ERDF Monitoring Authority that belongs to the federal agency assigned to the corresponding fund or by the Paying Authority (Federal Chancellery).

The central ERDF monitoring system is built on a relational database that allows the clearly structured storage of the data (as recommended also by the EC in the context of electronic data exchange). The programme structure approved by the EC and by the competent Monitoring Committee for INTERREG IIIA Austria-Slovenia (pursuant to the CIP and the Programme Complement) has been used as the basis for clearly structuring and defining the hierarchies of the database.

The collection of data (1 record per project) is done decentralised in line with the federal administration structure in Austria by the competent Intermediate Bodies and the data is sent in regular intervals to the central ERDF Monitoring Authority. The reporting authority is responsible for the correctness of the data sent. The data sent to the Monitoring Authority shall be considered official data. Information that deviates from the official data on the programme implementation may be used for controlling purposes, but shall not be valid for official reports.

The main fields of the records are:

- Name of recipient of funds (name, address, etc.)
- Information on the amount of the funds approved broken down by source of the funds (ERDF, national, Länder, other)
- Information on the amount of the subsidies paid out (broken down in the same manner as the approved subsidies)
- Information on approved projects (eligible project costs, project locations, etc.)
- Information on project-related indicators (collected at the individual project level) pursuant to the Programme Complement (broken down by output, result and impact), defining as a minimum the standard core indicators

Indicators that cannot be collected at the individual project level (a note is to be made in the description of the measure), shall not be collected by the central monitoring system, but must be collected separately (e.g. together with the evaluation)

The monitoring system is designed to collect data per Structural Fund intervention area with an EC-assigned intervention code (e.g. 161 = assistance for SMEs and trades, subgroup material investments) and to link these to the indicators compiled at the individual project level.

Note on the indicators: The detailed indicators relating to measures and projects (pursuant to Art. 18 par. 3 letter a of Council Regulation No. 1260/99) shall be given for each description of the measures. The issues of environment, equal opportunity and geographical regional classification shall follow the classification given as requested by the EC for the implementation of EU projects, which differs from the core indicator list. The following information shall be reported: whether the project a) has the environment as its main focus, b) is environment-friendly or c) is environmentally neutral; whether the project a) has equality between sexes as its main focus, b) is positive in terms

of male-female equality or c) is neutral in terms of such equality; whether the location of the project is a) urban, b) rural or c) not geographically delimited.

As all monitoring data for the ERDF area are stored in a relational database, the data may be easily aggregated, thus providing a continuous overview of the current stage of implementation. The overview is updated every three months in the central monitoring system relating to the financial status of the implementation.

The fund-specific data of the central Monitoring Authority shall be available without restrictions to the Managing Authority and the Joint Technical Secretariat to assist them in their monitoring work for all programmes receiving subsidies from several different funds. The updated status of the monitoring of the measures shall be made available to the Managing Authority, National Authority and the Joint Technical Secretariat as well as to the Federal Ministry of Finance, the competent authorities in the EC, and if necessary, to the financial auditing bodies.

The Austrian authorities shall be responsible for taking the necessary steps to enable the electronic exchange of data relating to measures between the EC and Austria. For this purpose, the already existing electronic and functioning reporting systems set up for the Structural Fund period 1995-1999 shall be adapted and expanded.

The electronic exchange of data for the ERDF shall be based on the ERDF monitoring system centrally installed in Austria. As all the data are stored centrally in a relational database, it is possible to export specific data for specific needs. It is also possible to create flat-file formats as defined by the GD Regio in 1999.

The feasibility of this concept was proven during the Structural Fund period 1995-1999 based on the aggregated implementation status data received (commitment of funds, expenditure (actually) incurred) relating to measures using flat-file formats (for each EU programme, one flat file). The test phase conducted between Austria and the GD Regio regarding the electronic exchange of data was successfully completed in 1999 and the relevant offices of the GD Regio confirmed that the system in Austria is reliable.

Upon the request of the EC (EC document of 20 Oct. 2001 on the subject of "Structural Funds 2000-2006 – Electronic Data Exchange between Member States and the European Commission (File interface description)" the electronic exchange of data between the EC and Austria should take place in at least five areas (optional in six areas). The list below names the areas and the competent authority for transmitting the data electronically in Austria:

Type of information:	Contact
<b>1. Information on the programming (= financing plan)</b>	<b>Joint Technical Secretariat / ERDF Monitoring Authority</b>
<b>2. Expenditure confirmations (payment requests)</b>	<b>ERDF Paying Authority</b>
<b>3. Preview of payables</b>	<b>ERDF Paying Authority</b>
<b>4. Annual implementation report/final report</b>	<b>Joint Technical Secretariat / ERDF Monitoring Authority</b>
<b>5. Information on the commitment of the funds and expenditure (optional)</b>	<b>ERDF Paying Authority / Monitoring Authority</b>
<b>6. Earmarked funds and expenditure by EC</b>	<b>EC</b>

The use of the monitoring data is subject to the provisions of Austrian data protection laws.

## 7. FINANCING PLAN

### INTERREG IIIA Austria - Slovenia 2000-2006 Financing Plan 2000-2006 total (amounts in EURO, current prices)

decommitment P4 2002				EU-contribution	ERDF	national	public	private
		total costs	total	ERDF <sup>1</sup>	%	cofinancing	cofinancing <sup>2</sup>	cofinancing
		a=b+f	b=c+e	c		d=e+f	e	f
<b>1.</b>	<b>Economic Co-operation</b>	<b>25.721.511</b>	<b>19.601.511</b>	<b>13.743.633</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>11.977.878</b>	<b>5.857.878</b>	<b>6.120.000</b>
	1.1: Economic Development	9.263.128	6.943.128	4.915.346	53%	4.347.782	2.027.782	2.320.000
	1.2: Tourism	10.492.007	7.748.007	5.750.505	55%	4.741.502	1.997.502	2.744.000
	1.3: Rural Development	5.966.376	4.910.376	3.077.782	52%	2.888.594	1.832.594	1.056.000
<b>2.</b>	<b>Human Resources and Regional Co-operation</b>	<b>15.078.492</b>	<b>12.673.685</b>	<b>7.759.965</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>7.318.527</b>	<b>4.913.720</b>	<b>2.404.807</b>
	2.1: Human Resources Development – Labour Market	3.564.502	3.262.502	1.908.376	54%	1.656.126	1.354.126	302.000
	2.2: Regional Co-operation	7.721.865	6.505.058	3.923.995	51%	3.797.870	2.581.063	1.216.807
	2.3: Co-operation in Education and Cultural Affairs	3.792.125	2.906.125	1.927.594	51%	1.864.531	978.531	886.000
<b>3.</b>	<b>Sustainable Spatial Development</b>	<b>18.417.078</b>	<b>17.915.078</b>	<b>9.571.149</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>8.845.929</b>	<b>8.343.929</b>	<b>502.000</b>
	3.1: Spatial Development and Transport	7.412.126	7.402.126	3.737.594	50%	3.674.532	3.664.532	10.000
	3.2: Sustainable Spatial and Environmental Development	3.665.128	3.574.128	2.116.346	58%	1.548.782	1.457.782	91.000
	3.3: Environment and Energy Management	7.339.824	6.938.824	3.717.209	51%	3.622.615	3.221.615	401.000
<b>4.</b>	<b>Special Support for Border Regions</b>	<b>1.700.010</b>	<b>1.491.010</b>	<b>850.005</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>850.005</b>	<b>641.005</b>	<b>209.000</b>
	4.1. Special Support for Border Regions	1.700.010	1.491.010	850.005	50%	850.005	641.005	209.000
	<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<b>2.779.440</b>	<b>2.779.440</b>	<b>1.500.080</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>1.279.360</b>	<b>1.279.360</b>	<b>0</b>
	Technical Assistance 1	2.245.224	2.245.224	1.216.418	54%	1.028.806	1.028.806	0
	Technical Assistance 2	534.216	534.216	283.662	53%	250.554	250.554	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>63.696.531</b>	<b>54.460.724</b>	<b>33.424.832</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>30.271.699</b>	<b>21.035.892</b>	<b>9.235.807</b>