# **Programme objective**

The overall objective of the INTERREG IVC Programme is to *improve the effectiveness of regional development policies and instruments* in the areas of innovation & the knowledge economy, and environment & risk prevention, in order to contribute to the economic modernisation and increased competitiveness of Europe. This objective will be achieved through the exchange, sharing and transfer of policy experience, knowledge and good practices.

The INTERREG IVC Programme is an exchange and capitalisation programme which is fundamentally different from cross-border (A) and transnational (B) cooperation programmes. In particular it is not primarily dedicated to implementation or to experimentation but to the **exchange of experience at policy level**.

## **Programme priorities**

The INTERREG IVC programme priorities are closely linked to the focus at EU level on sustainable growth, innovation and employment, known as the renewed Lisbon Strategy:

### Innovation & the knowledge economy

- innovation, research and technological development;
- entrepreneurship and SMEs;
- the information society;
- employment, human capital and education.

### Environment & risk prevention

- natural and technological risks; climate change;
- water management;
- waste prevention & management;
- biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage; air quality;
- energy and sustainable transport;
- cultural heritage and landscape.

# **Contact information**

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Four Information Points, coordinated by the Joint Technical Secretariat, assist potential applicants develop their proposals, depending on the location of the lead applicant.

Information Point North (Rostock, Germany): Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden, and Norway IP-North@interreg4c.eu Tel: +49 381 45484 5292

Information Point East (Katowice, Poland): Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bulgaria and Romania IP-East@interreg4c.eu Tel: +48 32 205 32 30 Information Point West (Lille, France): Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United Kingdom and Switzerland IP-West@interreg4c.eu Tel: +33 328 144 104

Information Point South (Valencia, Spain): Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal and Spain IP-South@interreg4c.eu Tel: +34 96 315 33 19





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European Union European Regional Development Fund



## Who can apply?

National, regional and local public authorities, and in justified cases, bodies governed by public law\*.

\*Please refer to the programme manual for a definition of "bodies governed by public law".

# Funding available

The programme has a budget of up to $\in$ 321 million from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).	
$\in$ 302 million ERDF is available for project funding, of which $\in$ 71.2 million has already been allocated to projects approved in the first call for proposals.	
Norwegian national funding: €2.64 million.	
Additional national funding is available for Swiss partners – contact the Swiss National Contact Point for further details.	
Programme co-financing rate	

	85% (ERDF)	For partners from Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia.
	75% (ERDF)	For partners from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and UK.
	50% (Norwegian national funding)	For partners from Norway.

- these are cooperation projects between partners on a shared regional policy issue within the thematic priorities of the programme.
- the intensity of Regional Initiative Projects varies from networking to intensive joint development of policy instruments and mini-programmes (i.e. projects including subprojects).
- regardless of this intensity, all Regional Initiative Projects must have a particular focus on the exchange of experience.



## Types of interventions

Two types of action are possible under INTERREG IVC

#### **Regional Initiative Projects**

#### **Capitalisation Projects**

- these are cooperation projects dedicated to the transfer of good practices into the EU Structural Funds mainstream programmes of the participating regions.
- they build on existing good practices, involve policy makers, and develop an 'Action Plan'.
- Some of the Capitalisation Projects will be labelled 'Fast Track Projects' and benefit from additional expertise from the European Commission as part of the Regions for Economic Change initiative.