



INTERREG IV...

the EU's Programme of structural funding for strengthening social and economic cohesion throughout Europe by supporting projects and actions in three axes:

A - Cross-border B - Transnational C - InterRegional

Updated
March 2008

Citizen-First@mwra.ie
for comment

GETTING TO WHERE WE ARE NOW

INTERREG is a well-established rolling programme. INTERREG IV (2007-2013) is underway and comprises three strands:

- **INTERREG IVa** promoting co-operation between terrestrial and maritime border regions in the European Union *to be launched in 2008*
- **INTERREG IVb** promoting co-operation on a transnational basis between wider groupings of European regions
- **INTERREG IVc** promoting the sharing of knowledge and experience on an inter-regional basis across the whole of the EU

INTERREG IVa

Programmes commenced

A 50% co-financing rate is offered. The North programme will be managed by the Regional Council for Nord-Pas de Calais based in Lille

and the South programme by the Regional Council for Upper Normandy based in Rouen.

The North programme will fund projects in three priorities:

- **Priority 1:** Supporting an economically competitive, attractive and accessible area (including the maritime economy, innovation, research, entrepreneurship and tourism)
- **Priority 2:** Promoting and enhancing a safe and healthy environment (including integrated coastal zone management, natural and technological risks, renewable energies, water and waste management)
- **Priority 3:** Improving Quality of Life (including heritage, culture, health, education and social cohesion)



The South programme will fund projects in four priorities:

- **Priority 1:** Reinforce the sense of belonging to a common space of citizenship and raise awareness of common interests (including mutual learning of language, culture and reinforcing mutual understanding)
- **Priority 2:** Build partnerships for cross-border economic development and centres of excellence (including business and research, new enterprises and maritime activities)
- **Priority 3:** Build an attractive region to live in and visit (including social inclusion, culture, heritage and tourism)
- **Priority 4:** Ensure a sustainable environmental development of the common space (including renewable energies, environmental and risk management)

A common priority will also allow projects including partners from both IVa programme areas to work on themes of a common interest to both eligible areas.

Facts about INTERREG

The Interreg Community Initiative, adopted in 1990, was intended to prepare border areas for a Community without internal frontiers.

Interreg III aimed to stimulate interregional co-operation in the EU between 2000-06. It is financed under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

Citizen First fiches are published and maintained by the Mid-West Regional Authority of Ireland, mcollins@mwra.ie
Practitioners are invited to contribute experiences, news and comment to Citizen-First@mwra.ie

the other INTERREG strands

INTERREG IVb

North Sea Region (NSR) Programme

The aim of this programme is to support transnational co-operation projects in innovation, the environment, accessibility and sustainable and competitive communities. The programme is worth some €150m. Projects will be funded at a rate of 50% and must include partners from the eligible area in at least two of the following countries: Sweden, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, the Flemish Region of Belgium, the UK and Norway. Organisations (local authorities, universities etc) can develop projects under the following priorities:

- **Priority 1:** Building on our capacity for innovation
- **Priority 2:** Promoting the sustainable management of our environment
- **Priority 3:** Improving the accessibility of places in the NSR
- **Priority 4:** Promoting sustainable and competitive communities

For more information, please visit the [North Sea Region website](#)

North West Europe (NWE) Programme

The North West Europe programme aims to improve territorial development and cohesion in the North West Europe area. The eligible area includes the UK, Ireland, Belgium and parts of the Netherlands, France, Germany and Switzerland. All projects must include partners (local authorities, universities etc) from at least two countries. The programme is worth some €330m and will part-finance projects under the following priorities:

- **Priority 1:** Developing the NWE knowledge-based economy by capitalising on our capacity for innovation
- **Priority 2:** Sustainable management of natural resources and of natural areas and technological risks
- **Priority 3:** Improving connectivity in NWE by promoting intelligent and sustainable transport and ICT solutions
- **Priority 4:** Promoting strong and prosperous communities at transnational level

For more information, please visit the [North West Europe website](#).

INTERREG IVc

The 2007-2013 INTERREG IVc programme covers the whole of the European Union (27 Member States) as well as Switzerland and Norway. It aims to promote the exchange and transfer of knowledge and good practices between European regions. Public authorities (regional and local authorities in particular) are eligible to apply for projects involving partners from at least three European countries. The total programme budget is €302m and individual projects may receive a rate of up to 75% funding. The programme is split into two main priorities and supports projects on the following themes:

- Innovation and Knowledge economy
- Environment and Risk prevention

For more information, please visit the [INTERREG IVc website](#)



Contacts:

[Www.nordpasdecalais.fr](http://www.nordpasdecalais.fr)
[Www.region-haute-normandie.com](http://www.region-haute-normandie.com)
[Www.northsearegion.eu](http://www.northsearegion.eu)
[Www.nweurope.org](http://www.nweurope.org)