EU Budget for the future

The Future of Interreg

Interreg Annual Meeting
19 June 2018

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#CohesionPolicy #EUinmyRegion
**Principles**

1. Creation of a more stand-alone regulation – but not completely stand-alone
2. Simplification of regulation content, for programme authorities and beneficiaries
3. Better structured regulation
4. Integrate external dimension
5. Require a more strategic approach in programming, linked to effective functional areas
6. Ensure continuation of support for peace and reconciliation on the island of Ireland
Changes

1. Cross-border programmes: from fund distributors to centres of strategic planning
2. Member States, third and partner countries, OCTs on equal footing
3. Integration of external cross-border cooperation
4. Maritime co-operation goes from CBC to sea-basin level
5. Specific component for the outermost regions
6. Interregional innovation investments
7. European Cross-Border Mechanism
5 Components of Interreg

- Terrestrial cross-border cooperation (component 1)
- Transnational cooperation and maritime cooperation (component 2)
- Outermost regions cooperation (component 3)
- Interregional cooperation (component 4)
- Interregional innovation investments (component 5)
Policy and specific objectives for Interreg

1. All ERDF and Cohesion Fund policy and specific objectives available

2. Under the policy objective ‘A more social Europe’
   - ERDF scope enlarged to cover ESF–type actions
   - Derogation for PEACE PLUS
Policy and specific objectives for Interreg

Two ‘Interreg-specific objectives’:

3. 'A better Interreg governance'
   - support for capacity building, addressing cross-border legal and administrative challenges
   - support for institutional capacity to support macroregional strategies
   - support for trust-building, people-to-people, civil society

4. 'A safer and more secure Europe'
   external borders: support for border crossing management, mobility and migration management, including the protection of migrants
## THEMATIC CONCENTRATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components 1, 2 and 3</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>On what?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At least 60%</td>
<td>Maximum of 3 out of 5 policy objectives</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components 1, 2 and 3</th>
<th>Another 15%</th>
<th>Better Interreg governance or Safer and more secure Europe</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transnational programme supporting a strategy</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Objectives of the strategy</td>
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<tr>
<th>Maritime programme supporting a strategy</th>
<th>At least 70%</th>
<th>Objectives of the strategy</th>
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Programming (1)

Partnership Agreement
→ only list of Interreg programmes

Content of Interreg programmes

- Summary of the main development challenges and strategy for contribution to policy objectives
- Justification for selection of policy objectives and specific objectives
- Priorities - each priority corresponds to a single policy objective
- Financing plan
- Communication and visibility
- Partnership
Programming (2)

Programming process

- Pre-commitment of participating countries
- Submission: entry into force + nine months (excl: external CBC)
- Programming for years 2021-2025
- Approval 6 months; observations 3 months
- Amendment of programmes 6 months; observations 3 months
Additional new aspects

- Co-financing rates: 70% at programme level; 85% for external border programmes
- Eligibility rules integrated into regulation
- Small project fund definition included
- Programming, Monitoring Committee, transmission of data fully included in regulation
- Mid-term review process
- Travel and accommodation flat rate
Simplification elements

- Flat-rate technical assistance approach
- Certain programme modifications without Commission decision
- New rules on VAT eligibility
- No requirements for revenue-generating projects
- Single error rate approach for Interreg programmes
- Elimination of certifying authority
- No more annual reports
- Combination of pre-financing and annual pre-financing