CBC Flash news October 2015

Dear Interreg Partners,

A lifted spirit is still with us while we are heading towards new challenges, after the #Interreg Annual Event and the #interreg25 years’ Celebrations on 15-16 Sept. It was great to see many of you there!

So, back to business...

**Interreg V-A programmes adoption status**

We are approaching the finishing line in the adoption process! As of 8 October, 40 programmes of the 54 programmes followed by Unit REGIO D2 have been adopted and 14 remain to be adopted. This latest status is summarised in the map below.
**High Level Group on Simplification**

The Commission has set up a High Level Group of Independent Experts on Monitoring Simplification for Beneficiaries of the European Structural and Investment Funds. The tasks of the group of experts are to:

- Assess the uptake of simplification opportunities by Member States including Member States’ commitments to reduce the administrative burden for beneficiaries
- Analyse the implementation of simplification opportunities in Member States and regions
- Identify good practice in matters concerning the reduction of administrative burden on beneficiaries
- Make recommendations to improve the uptake of simplification measures for 2014-2020


If you have ideas that could be useful to the work of the High Level Group, please feel free to contact your desk officer here in D2: we will be more than happy to facilitate the flow of information and ideas!

... with some good memories to share...

**#Interreg Annual Event and #interreg25 years' celebrations- Re-live it!**

The two events saw an important and engaged participation, thanks to all of you for attending!

Several communication products are available, including complete footage of the event. You can find everything on the 25 Years’ event home page.

We are particularly proud of the success of the animation film, which was produced in 23 languages and is available for you to use during your events and communication ac-
activities. **Please find it here:** just click on the language version you prefer!

But we really invite you to take a look at the other wonderful products available, from the TV documentary “Le Dessous des Cartes”, to the Drawnalism production, from the video interviews to the Project Slam... yes, how to forget it! Congratulations to Greece-Bulgaria project “Intersyc” for their well-deserved final selection, but congratulations to all five finalists: it was a great show!!!

... some solid and healthy food for thought...

**Eurobarometer survey: focus on cross-border regions!**

The results of a dedicated Eurobarometer survey focused on border regions are now available online. DG REGIO conducted this first ever Eurobarometer survey measuring the perception of border citizens, their attitudes towards neighbours across the border, their reasons for travelling across the border as well as perceived obstacles in doing so. The study is a first in that the data was generated at regional level. The survey also provides border by border data for important indicators and specific maps have been produced to visualise the most interesting findings. You may want to use this important set of data to adopt a tailor-made approach in your communication work or even launch targeted calls. Please find all the relevant information on this page and the full volumes of data [here](#).
... and a call for your assistance!

Public consultation launched: have your say!

On 21 September Commissioner Corina Creţu has officially opened a 3 months' online public consultation on Overcoming Obstacles in Border Regions. You have until the 21 December of this year to participate and help us examine what obstacles remain and how they affect people, organisations, businesses and public authorities in border regions. This analysis could in the future be used to assess whether the Commission can take further action, either on its own initiative or together with national and regional authorities. The results will be available in the first quarter of 2016. So, contribute and spread the news in your regions!

Last but not least... the Senior Management Roadshow

A big organisational effort, a lot of logistical headaches, but it was all worth it: the Senior Management of DG REGIO enthusiastically engaged in a series of visit in “out of the beaten track border regions”, following the launch of the public consultation: to promote it, but also to see achievements in these regions, to listen to problems encountered and how some of them have been overcome. The icing on the cake of the 25 years anniversary: 11 border regions were visited, with enthusiastic feedback and interesting contributions from every visited area. Thanks to you, Interreg people, for your help in making this happen!

The REGIO D2 Team

#InterregCBC