

## SFC2021 INTERREG Programme

CCI	2021TC16RFIR002
Title	Interreg VI-C Interact
Version	1.1
First year	2022
Last year	2027
Eligible from	01-Jan-2020
Eligible until	31-Dec-2029
EC decision number	C(2022)5519
EC decision date	27-Jul-2022
NUTS regions covered by the programme	FR101 - Paris FR102 - Seine-et-Marne FR103 - Yvelines FR104 - Essonne FR105 - Hauts-de-Seine FR106 - Seine-Saint-Denis FR107 - Val-de-Marne FR108 - Val-d'Oise FRB - Centre — Val de Loire FRB0 - Centre — Val de Loire FRB01 - Cher FRB02 - Eure-et-Loir FRB03 - Indre FRB04 - Indre-et-Loire FRB05 - Loir-et-Cher FRB06 - Loiret FRC - Bourgogne-Franche-Comté FRC1 - Bourgogne FRC11 - Côte-d'Or FRC12 - Nièvre FRC13 - Saône-et-Loire FRC14 - Yonne FRC2 - Franche-Comté FRC21 - Doubs FRC22 - Jura FRC23 - Haute-Saône FRC24 - Territoire de Belfort FRD - Normandie FRD1 - Basse-Normandie FRD11 - Calvados FRD12 - Manche FRD13 - Orne FRD2 - Haute-Normandie FRD21 - Eure

FRD22 - Seine-Maritime  
FRE - Hauts-de-France  
FRE1 - Nord-Pas de Calais  
FRE11 - Nord  
FRE12 - Pas-de-Calais  
FRE2 - Picardie  
FRE21 - Aisne  
FRE22 - Oise  
FRE23 - Somme  
FRF - Grand Est  
FRF1 - Alsace  
FRF11 - Bas-Rhin  
FRF12 - Haut-Rhin  
FRF2 - Champagne-Ardenne  
FRF21 - Ardennes  
FRF22 - Aube  
FRF23 - Marne  
FRF24 - Haute-Marne  
FRF3 - Lorraine  
FRF31 - Meurthe-et-Moselle  
FRF32 - Meuse  
FRF33 - Moselle  
FRF34 - Vosges  
FRG - Pays de la Loire  
FRG0 - Pays de la Loire  
FRG01 - Loire-Atlantique  
FRG02 - Maine-et-Loire  
FRG03 - Mayenne  
FRG04 - Sarthe  
FRG05 - Vendée  
FRH - Bretagne  
FRH0 - Bretagne  
FRH01 - Côtes-d'Armor  
FRH02 - Finistère  
FRH03 - Ille-et-Vilaine  
FRH04 - Morbihan  
FRI - Nouvelle-Aquitaine  
FRI1 - Aquitaine  
FRI11 - Dordogne  
FRI12 - Gironde  
FRI13 - Landes  
FRI14 - Lot-et-Garonne  
FRI15 - Pyrénées-Atlantiques  
FRI2 - Limousin  
FRI21 - Corrèze  
FRI22 - Creuse  
FRI23 - Haute-Vienne  
FRI3 - Poitou-Charentes  
FRI31 - Charente  
FRI32 - Charente-Maritime  
FRI33 - Deux-Sèvres  
FRI34 - Vienne  
FRJ - Occitanie  
FRJ1 - Languedoc-Roussillon

FRJ11 - Aude  
FRJ12 - Gard  
FRJ13 - Hérault  
FRJ14 - Lozère  
FRJ15 - Pyrénées-Orientales  
FRJ2 - Midi-Pyrénées  
FRJ21 - Ariège  
FRJ22 - Aveyron  
FRJ23 - Haute-Garonne  
FRJ24 - Gers  
FRJ25 - Lot  
FRJ26 - Hautes-Pyrénées  
FRJ27 - Tarn  
FRJ28 - Tarn-et-Garonne  
FRK - Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes  
FRK1 - Auvergne  
FRK11 - Allier  
FRK12 - Cantal  
FRK13 - Haute-Loire  
FRK14 - Puy-de-Dôme  
FRK2 - Rhône-Alpes  
FRK21 - Ain  
FRK22 - Ardèche  
FRK23 - Drôme  
FRK24 - Isère  
FRK25 - Loire  
FRK26 - Rhône  
FRK27 - Savoie  
FRK28 - Haute-Savoie  
FRL - Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur  
FRL0 - Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur  
FRL01 - Alpes-de-Haute-Provence  
FRL02 - Hautes-Alpes  
FRL03 - Alpes-Maritimes  
FRL04 - Bouches-du-Rhône  
FRL05 - Var  
FRL06 - Vaucluse  
FRM - Corse  
FRM0 - Corse  
FRM01 - Corse-du-Sud  
FRM02 - Haute-Corse  
FRY - RUP FR — Régions Ultrapériphériques  
Françaises  
FRY1 - Guadeloupe  
FRY10 - Guadeloupe  
FRY2 - Martinique  
FRY20 - Martinique  
FRY3 - Guyane  
FRY30 - Guyane  
FRY4 - La Réunion  
DE914 - Gifhorn  
DE21D - Garmisch-Partenkirchen  
DE21E - Landsberg am Lech  
DE21F - Miesbach

DE21G - Mühlendorf a. Inn  
DE21H - München, Landkreis  
DE916 - Goslar  
DE917 - Helmstedt  
DE21I - Neuburg-Schrobenhausen  
DE21J - Pfaffenhofen a. d. Ilm  
DE21K - Rosenheim, Landkreis  
DE21L - Starnberg  
DE21M - Traunstein  
DE21N - Weilheim-Schongau  
DE22 - Niederbayern  
DE221 - Landshut, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE222 - Passau, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE223 - Straubing, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE224 - Deggendorf  
DE225 - Freyung-Grafenau  
DE226 - Kelheim  
DE227 - Landshut, Landkreis  
DE228 - Passau, Landkreis  
DE229 - Regen  
DE22A - Rottal-Inn  
DE22B - Straubing-Bogen  
DE22C - Dingolfing-Landau  
DE23 - Oberpfalz  
DE231 - Amberg, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE232 - Regensburg, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE233 - Weiden i. d. Opf, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE234 - Amberg-Sulzbach  
DE235 - Cham  
DE236 - Neumarkt i. d. OPf.  
DE237 - Neustadt a. d. Waldnaab  
DE238 - Regensburg, Landkreis  
DE239 - Schwandorf  
DE23A - Tirschenreuth  
DE24 - Oberfranken  
DE241 - Bamberg, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE242 - Bayreuth, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE243 - Coburg, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE244 - Hof, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE245 - Bamberg, Landkreis  
DE246 - Bayreuth, Landkreis  
DE247 - Coburg, Landkreis  
DE248 - Forchheim  
DE249 - Hof, Landkreis  
DE24A - Kronach  
DE24B - Kulmbach  
DE24C - Lichtenfels  
DE24D - Wunsiedel i. Fichtelgebirge  
DE25 - Mittelfranken  
DE251 - Ansbach, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE252 - Erlangen, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE253 - Fürth, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE254 - Nürnberg, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE255 - Schwabach, Kreisfreie Stadt

DE256 - Ansbach, Landkreis  
DE257 - Erlangen-Höchstadt  
DE258 - Fürth, Landkreis  
DE259 - Nürnberger Land  
DE25A - Neustadt a. d. Aisch-Bad Windsheim  
DE25B - Roth  
DE25C - Weißenburg-Gunzenhausen  
DE26 - Unterfranken  
DE261 - Aschaffenburg, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE262 - Schweinfurt, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE263 - Würzburg, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE264 - Aschaffenburg, Landkreis  
DE265 - Bad Kissingen  
DE266 - Rhön-Grabfeld  
DE267 - Haßberge  
DE268 - Kitzingen  
DE269 - Miltenberg  
SK - Slovensko  
SK0 - Slovensko  
SK01 - Bratislavský kraj  
SK010 - Bratislavský kraj  
SK02 - Západné Slovensko  
SK021 - Trnavský kraj  
SK022 - Trenčiansky kraj  
SK023 - Nitriansky kraj  
SK03 - Stredné Slovensko  
SK031 - Žilinský kraj  
SK032 - Banskobystrický kraj  
SK04 - Východné Slovensko  
SK041 - Prešovský kraj  
SK042 - Košický kraj  
SKZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
SKZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
SKZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
AT - Österreich  
AT1 - Ostösterreich  
AT11 - Burgenland  
AT111 - Mittelburgenland  
AT112 - Nordburgenland  
AT113 - Südburgenland  
AT12 - Niederösterreich  
AT121 - Mostviertel-Eisenwurzen  
AT122 - Niederösterreich-Süd  
AT123 - Sankt Pölten  
AT124 - Waldviertel  
AT125 - Weinviertel  
AT126 - Wiener Umland/Nordteil  
AT127 - Wiener Umland/Südteil  
AT13 - Wien  
AT130 - Wien  
AT2 - Südosterreich  
AT21 - Kärnten  
AT211 - Klagenfurt-Villach  
AT212 - Oberkärnten

AT213 - Unterkärnten  
AT22 - Steiermark  
AT221 - Graz  
AT222 - Liezen  
AT223 - Östliche Obersteiermark  
AT224 - Oststeiermark  
AT225 - West- und Südsteiermark  
AT226 - Westliche Obersteiermark  
AT3 - Westösterreich  
AT31 - Oberösterreich  
AT311 - Innviertel  
AT312 - Linz-Wels  
AT313 - Mühlviertel  
AT314 - Steyr-Kirchdorf  
AT315 - Traunviertel  
AT32 - Salzburg  
AT321 - Lungau  
AT322 - Pinzgau-Pongau  
AT323 - Salzburg und Umgebung  
AT33 - Tirol  
AT331 - Außerfern  
AT332 - Innsbruck  
AT333 - Osttirol  
AT334 - Tiroler Oberland  
AT335 - Tiroler Unterland  
AT34 - Vorarlberg  
AT341 - Bludenz-Bregenzer Wald  
AT342 - Rheintal-Bodenseegebiet  
ATZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
ATZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
ATZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
BE - Belgique/België  
BE1 - Région de Bruxelles-Capitale/Brussels  
Hoofdstedelijk Gewest  
BE10 - Région de Bruxelles-Capitale/ Brussels  
Hoofdstedelijk Gewest  
BE100 - Arr. de Bruxelles-Capitale/Arr. Brussel-  
Hoofdstad  
BE2 - Vlaams Gewest  
BE21 - Prov. Antwerpen  
BE211 - Arr. Antwerpen  
BE212 - Arr. Mechelen  
BE213 - Arr. Turnhout  
BE22 - Prov. Limburg (BE)  
BE223 - Arr. Tongeren  
BE224 - Arr. Hasselt  
BE225 - Arr. Maaseik  
BE23 - Prov. Oost-Vlaanderen  
BE231 - Arr. Aalst  
BE232 - Arr. Dendermonde  
BE233 - Arr. Eeklo  
BE234 - Arr. Gent  
BE235 - Arr. Oudenaarde  
BE236 - Arr. Sint-Niklaas

BE24 - Prov. Vlaams-Brabant  
BE241 - Arr. Halle-Vilvoorde  
BE242 - Arr. Leuven  
BE25 - Prov. West-Vlaanderen  
BE251 - Arr. Brugge  
BE252 - Arr. Diksmuide  
BE253 - Arr. Ieper  
BE254 - Arr. Kortrijk  
BE255 - Arr. Oostende  
BE256 - Arr. Roeselare  
BE257 - Arr. Tielt  
BE258 - Arr. Veurne  
BE3 - Région wallonne  
BE31 - Prov. Brabant Wallon  
BE310 - Arr. Nivelles  
BE32 - Prov. Hainaut  
BE323 - Arr. Mons  
BE328 - Arr. Tournai-Mouscron  
BE329 - Arr. La Louvière  
BE32A - Arr. Ath  
BE32B - Arr. Charleroi  
BE32C - Arr. Soignies  
BE32D - Arr. Thuin  
BE33 - Prov. Liège  
BE331 - Arr. Huy  
BE332 - Arr. Liège  
BE334 - Arr. Waremme  
BE335 - Arr. Verviers — communes francophones  
BE336 - Bezirk Verviers — Deutschsprachige  
Gemeinschaft  
BE34 - Prov. Luxembourg (BE)  
BE341 - Arr. Arlon  
BE342 - Arr. Bastogne  
BE343 - Arr. Marche-en-Famenne  
BE344 - Arr. Neufchâteau  
BE345 - Arr. Virton  
BE35 - Prov. Namur  
BE351 - Arr. Dinant  
BE352 - Arr. Namur  
BE353 - Arr. Philippeville  
BEZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
BEZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
BEZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
BG - България  
BG3 - Северна и Югоизточна България  
BG31 - Северозападен  
BG311 - Видин  
BG312 - Монтана  
BG313 - Враца  
BG314 - Плевен  
BG315 - Ловеч  
BG32 - Северен централен  
BG321 - Велико Търново  
BG322 - Габрово

BG323 - Русе  
BG324 - Разград  
BG325 - Силистра  
BG33 - Североизточен  
BG331 - Варна  
BG332 - Добрич  
BG333 - Шумен  
BG334 - Търговище  
BG34 - Югоизточен  
BG341 - Бургас  
BG342 - Сливен  
BG343 - Ямбол  
BG344 - Стара Загора  
BG4 - Югозападна и Южна централна България  
BG41 - Югозападен  
BG411 - София (столица)  
BG412 - София  
BG413 - Благоевград  
BG414 - Перник  
BG415 - Кюстендил  
BG42 - Южен централен  
BG421 - Пловдив  
BG422 - Хасково  
BG423 - Пазарджик  
BG424 - Смолян  
BG425 - Кърджали  
BGZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
BGZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
BGZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
CH - Schweiz/Suisse/Svizzera  
CH0 - Schweiz/Suisse/Svizzera  
CH01 - Région lémanique  
CH011 - Vaud  
CH012 - Valais / Wallis  
CH013 - Genève  
CH02 - Espace Mittelland  
CH021 - Bern / Berne  
CH022 - Fribourg / Freiburg  
CH023 - Solothurn  
CH024 - Neuchâtel  
CH025 - Jura  
CH03 - Nordwestschweiz  
CH031 - Basel-Stadt  
CH032 - Basel-Landschaft  
CH033 - Aargau  
CH04 - Zürich  
CH040 - Zürich  
CH05 - Ostschweiz  
CH051 - Glarus  
CH052 - Schaffhausen  
CH053 - Appenzell Ausserrhoden  
CH054 - Appenzell Innerrhoden  
CH055 - St. Gallen  
CH056 - Graubünden / Grigioni / Grischun

CH057 - Thurgau  
CH06 - Zentralschweiz  
CH061 - Luzern  
CH062 - Uri  
CH063 - Schwyz  
CH064 - Obwalden  
CH065 - Nidwalden  
CH066 - Zug  
CH07 - Ticino  
CH070 - Ticino  
CHZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
CHZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
CHZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
CY - Κύπρος  
CY0 - Κύπρος  
CY00 - Κύπρος  
CY000 - Κύπρος  
CYZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
CYZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
CYZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
CZ - Česko  
CZ0 - Česko  
CZ01 - Praha  
CZ010 - Hlavní město Praha  
CZ02 - Střední Čechy  
CZ020 - Středočeský kraj  
CZ03 - Jihozápad  
CZ031 - Jihočeský kraj  
CZ032 - Plzeňský kraj  
CZ04 - Severozápad  
CZ041 - Karlovarský kraj  
CZ042 - Ústecký kraj  
CZ05 - Severovýchod  
CZ051 - Liberecký kraj  
CZ052 - Královéhradecký kraj  
CZ053 - Pardubický kraj  
CZ06 - Jihovýchod  
CZ063 - Kraj Vysočina  
CZ064 - Jihomoravský kraj  
CZ07 - Střední Morava  
CZ071 - Olomoucký kraj  
CZ072 - Zlínský kraj  
CZ08 - Moravskoslezsko  
CZ080 - Moravskoslezský kraj  
CZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
CZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
CZZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
DE - Deutschland  
DE1 - Baden-Württemberg  
DE11 - Stuttgart  
DE111 - Stuttgart, Stadtkreis  
DE112 - Böblingen  
DE113 - Esslingen  
DE114 - Göppingen

DE115 - Ludwigsburg  
DE116 - Rems-Murr-Kreis  
DE117 - Heilbronn, Stadtkreis  
DE118 - Heilbronn, Landkreis  
DE119 - Hohenlohekreis  
DE11A - Schwäbisch Hall  
DE11B - Main-Tauber-Kreis  
DE11C - Heidenheim  
DE11D - Ostalbkreis  
DE12 - Karlsruhe  
DE121 - Baden-Baden, Stadtkreis  
DE122 - Karlsruhe, Stadtkreis  
DE123 - Karlsruhe, Landkreis  
DE124 - Rastatt  
DE125 - Heidelberg, Stadtkreis  
DE126 - Mannheim, Stadtkreis  
DE127 - Neckar-Odenwald-Kreis  
DE128 - Rhein-Neckar-Kreis  
DE129 - Pforzheim, Stadtkreis  
DE12A - Calw  
DE12B - Enzkreis  
DE12C - Freudenstadt  
DE13 - Freiburg  
DE131 - Freiburg im Breisgau, Stadtkreis  
DE132 - Breisgau-Hochschwarzwald  
DE133 - Emmendingen  
DE134 - Ortenaukreis  
DE135 - Rottweil  
DE136 - Schwarzwald-Baar-Kreis  
DE137 - Tuttlingen  
DE138 - Konstanz  
DE139 - Lörrach  
DE13A - Waldshut  
DE14 - Tübingen  
DE141 - Reutlingen  
DE142 - Tübingen, Landkreis  
DE143 - Zollernalbkreis  
DE144 - Ulm, Stadtkreis  
DE145 - Alb-Donau-Kreis  
DE146 - Biberach  
DE147 - Bodenseekreis  
DE148 - Ravensburg  
DE149 - Sigmaringen  
DE2 - Bayern  
DE21 - Oberbayern  
DE211 - Ingolstadt, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE212 - München, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE213 - Rosenheim, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE214 - Altötting  
DE215 - Berchtesgadener Land  
DE216 - Bad Tölz-Wolfratshausen  
DE217 - Dachau  
DE218 - Ebersberg  
DE219 - Eichstätt

DE21A - Erding  
DE21B - Freising  
DE21C - Fürstenfeldbruck  
ES416 - Segovia  
ES417 - Soria  
ES418 - Valladolid  
ES419 - Zamora  
ES42 - Castilla-La Mancha  
ES421 - Albacete  
ES422 - Ciudad Real  
ES423 - Cuenca  
ES424 - Guadalajara  
ES425 - Toledo  
ES43 - Extremadura  
ES431 - Badajoz  
ES432 - Cáceres  
ES5 - Este  
ES51 - Cataluña  
ES511 - Barcelona  
ES512 - Girona  
ES513 - Lleida  
ES514 - Tarragona  
ES52 - Comunitat Valenciana  
ES521 - Alicante/Alacant  
ES522 - Castellón/Castelló  
ES523 - Valencia/València  
ES53 - Illes Balears  
ES531 - Eivissa y Formentera  
ES532 - Mallorca  
ES533 - Menorca  
ES6 - Sur  
ES61 - Andalucía  
ES611 - Almería  
ES612 - Cádiz  
ES613 - Córdoba  
ES614 - Granada  
ES615 - Huelva  
ES616 - Jaén  
ES617 - Málaga  
ES618 - Sevilla  
ES62 - Región de Murcia  
ES620 - Murcia  
ES63 - Ciudad de Ceuta  
ES630 - Ceuta  
ES64 - Ciudad de Melilla  
ES640 - Melilla  
ES7 - Canarias  
ES70 - Canarias  
ES703 - El Hierro  
ES704 - Fuerteventura  
ES705 - Gran Canaria  
ES706 - La Gomera  
ES707 - La Palma  
ES708 - Lanzarote

ES709 - Tenerife  
ESZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
ESZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
ESZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
FI - Suomi/Finland  
FI1 - Manner-Suomi  
FI19 - Länsi-Suomi  
FI193 - Keski-Suomi  
FI194 - Etelä-Pohjanmaa  
FI195 - Pohjanmaa  
FI196 - Satakunta  
FI197 - Pirkanmaa  
FI1B - Helsinki-Uusimaa  
FI1B1 - Helsinki-Uusimaa  
FI1C - Etelä-Suomi  
FI1C1 - Varsinais-Suomi  
FI1C2 - Kanta-Häme  
FI1C3 - Päijät-Häme  
FI1C4 - Kymenlaakso  
FI1C5 - Etelä-Karjala  
FI1D - Pohjois- ja Itä-Suomi  
FI1D1 - Etelä-Savo  
FI1D2 - Pohjois-Savo  
FI1D3 - Pohjois-Karjala  
FI1D5 - Keski-Pohjanmaa  
FI1D7 - Lappi  
FI1D8 - Kainuu  
FI1D9 - Pohjois-Pohjanmaa  
FI2 - Åland  
FI20 - Åland  
FI200 - Åland  
FIZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
FIZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
FIZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
FR - France  
FR1 - Ile-de-France  
FR10 - Ile-de-France  
DE26A - Main-Spessart  
DE26B - Schweinfurt, Landkreis  
DE26C - Würzburg, Landkreis  
DE27 - Schwaben  
DE271 - Augsburg, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE272 - Kaufbeuren, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE273 - Kempten (Allgäu), Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE274 - Memmingen, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE275 - Aichach-Friedberg  
DE276 - Augsburg, Landkreis  
DE277 - Dillingen a.d. Donau  
DE278 - Günzburg  
DE279 - Neu-Ulm  
DE27A - Lindau (Bodensee)  
DE27B - Ostallgäu  
DE27C - Unterallgäu  
DE27D - Donau-Ries

DE27E - Oberallgäu  
DE3 - Berlin  
DE30 - Berlin  
DE300 - Berlin  
DE4 - Brandenburg  
DE40 - Brandenburg  
DE401 - Brandenburg an der Havel, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE402 - Cottbus, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE403 - Frankfurt (Oder), Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE404 - Potsdam, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE405 - Barnim  
DE406 - Dahme-Spreewald  
DE407 - Elbe-Elster  
DE408 - Havelland  
DE409 - Märkisch-Oderland  
DE40A - Oberhavel  
DE40B - Oberspreewald-Lausitz  
DE40C - Oder-Spree  
DE40D - Ostprignitz-Ruppin  
DE40E - Potsdam-Mittelmark  
DE40F - Prignitz  
DE40G - Spree-Neiße  
DE40H - Teltow-Fläming  
DE40I - Uckermark  
DE5 - Bremen  
DE50 - Bremen  
DE501 - Bremen, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE502 - Bremerhaven, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE6 - Hamburg  
DE60 - Hamburg  
DE600 - Hamburg  
DE7 - Hessen  
DE71 - Darmstadt  
DE711 - Darmstadt, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE712 - Frankfurt am Main, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE713 - Offenbach am Main, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE714 - Wiesbaden, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE715 - Bergstraße  
DE716 - Darmstadt-Dieburg  
DE717 - Groß-Gerau  
DE718 - Hochtaunuskreis  
DE719 - Main-Kinzig-Kreis  
DE71A - Main-Taunus-Kreis  
DE71B - Odenwaldkreis  
DE71C - Offenbach, Landkreis  
DE71D - Rheingau-Taunus-Kreis  
DE71E - Wetteraukreis  
DE72 - Gießen  
DE721 - Gießen, Landkreis  
DE722 - Lahn-Dill-Kreis  
DE723 - Limburg-Weilburg  
DE724 - Marburg-Biedenkopf  
DE725 - Vogelsbergkreis

DE73 - Kassel  
DE731 - Kassel, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE732 - Fulda  
DE733 - Hersfeld-Rotenburg  
DE734 - Kassel, Landkreis  
DE735 - Schwalm-Eder-Kreis  
DE736 - Waldeck-Frankenberg  
DE737 - Werra-Meißner-Kreis  
DE8 - Mecklenburg-Vorpommern  
DE80 - Mecklenburg-Vorpommern  
DE803 - Rostock, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE804 - Schwerin, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE80J - Mecklenburgische Seenplatte  
DE80K - Landkreis Rostock  
DE80L - Vorpommern-Rügen  
DE80M - Nordwestmecklenburg  
DE80N - Vorpommern-Greifswald  
DE80O - Ludwigslust-Parchim  
DE9 - Niedersachsen  
DE91 - Braunschweig  
DE911 - Braunschweig, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE912 - Salzgitter, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE913 - Wolfsburg, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE91A - Peine  
DE91B - Wolfenbüttel  
DE91C - Göttingen  
DE92 - Hannover  
DE922 - Diepholz  
DE923 - Hameln-Pyrmont  
DE925 - Hildesheim  
DE926 - Holzminden  
DE927 - Nienburg (Weser)  
DE928 - Schaumburg  
DE929 - Region Hannover  
DE93 - Lüneburg  
DE931 - Celle  
DE932 - Cuxhaven  
DE933 - Harburg  
DE934 - Lüchow-Dannenberg  
DE935 - Lüneburg, Landkreis  
DE936 - Osterholz  
DE918 - Northeim  
DE937 - Rotenburg (Wümme)  
DE938 - Heidekreis  
DE939 - Stade  
DE93A - Uelzen  
DE93B - Verden  
DE94 - Weser-Ems  
DE941 - Delmenhorst, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE942 - Emden, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE943 - Oldenburg (Oldenburg), Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE944 - Osnabrück, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE945 - Wilhelmshaven, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DE946 - Ammerland

DE947 - Aurich  
DE948 - Cloppenburg  
DE949 - Emsland  
DE94A - Friesland (DE)  
DE94B - Grafschaft Bentheim  
DE94C - Leer  
DE94D - Oldenburg, Landkreis  
DE94E - Osnabrück, Landkreis  
DE94F - Vechta  
DE94G - Wesermarsch  
DE94H - Wittmund  
DEA - Nordrhein-Westfalen  
DEA1 - Düsseldorf  
DEA11 - Düsseldorf, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA12 - Duisburg, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA13 - Essen, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA14 - Krefeld, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA15 - Mönchengladbach, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA16 - Mülheim an der Ruhr, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA17 - Oberhausen, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA18 - Remscheid, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA19 - Solingen, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA1A - Wuppertal, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA1B - Kleve  
DEA1C - Mettmann  
DEA1D - Rhein-Kreis Neuss  
DEA1E - Viersen  
DEA1F - Wesel  
DEA2 - Köln  
DEA22 - Bonn, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA23 - Köln, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA24 - Leverkusen, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA26 - Düren  
DEA27 - Rhein-Erft-Kreis  
DEA28 - Euskirchen  
DEA29 - Heinsberg  
DEA2A - Oberbergischer Kreis  
DEA2B - Rheinisch-Bergischer Kreis  
DEA2C - Rhein-Sieg-Kreis  
DEA2D - Städteregion Aachen  
DEA3 - Münster  
DEA31 - Bottrop, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA32 - Gelsenkirchen, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA33 - Münster, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA34 - Borken  
DEA35 - Coesfeld  
DEA36 - Recklinghausen  
DEA37 - Steinfurt  
DEA38 - Warendorf  
DEA4 - Detmold  
DEA41 - Bielefeld, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA42 - Gütersloh  
DEA43 - Herford  
DEA44 - Höxter

DEA45 - Lippe  
DEA46 - Minden-Lübbecke  
DEA47 - Paderborn  
DEA5 - Arnsberg  
DEA51 - Bochum, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA52 - Dortmund, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA53 - Hagen, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA54 - Hamm, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA55 - Herne, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEA56 - Ennepe-Ruhr-Kreis  
DEA57 - Hochsauerlandkreis  
DEA58 - Märkischer Kreis  
DEA59 - Olpe  
DEA5A - Siegen-Wittgenstein  
DEA5B - Soest  
DEA5C - Unna  
DEB - Rheinland-Pfalz  
DEB1 - Koblenz  
DEB11 - Koblenz, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEB12 - Ahrweiler  
DEB13 - Altenkirchen (Westerwald)  
DEB14 - Bad Kreuznach  
DEB15 - Birkenfeld  
DEB17 - Mayen-Koblenz  
DEB18 - Neuwied  
DEB1A - Rhein-Lahn-Kreis  
DEB1B - Westerwaldkreis  
DEB1C - Cochem-Zell  
DEB1D - Rhein-Hunsrück-Kreis  
DEB2 - Trier  
DEB21 - Trier, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEB22 - Bernkastel-Wittlich  
DEB23 - Eifelkreis Bitburg-Prüm  
DEB24 - Vulkaneifel  
DEB25 - Trier-Saarburg  
DEB3 - Rheinhessen-Pfalz  
DEB31 - Frankenthal (Pfalz), Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEB32 - Kaiserslautern, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEB33 - Landau in der Pfalz, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEB34 - Ludwigshafen am Rhein, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEB35 - Mainz, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEB36 - Neustadt an der Weinstraße, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEB37 - Pirmasens, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEB38 - Speyer, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEB39 - Worms, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEB3A - Zweibrücken, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEB3B - Alzey-Worms  
DEB3C - Bad Dürkheim  
DEB3D - Donnersbergkreis  
DEB3E - Germersheim  
DEB3F - Kaiserslautern, Landkreis  
DEB3G - Kusel  
DEB3H - Südliche Weinstraße

DEB3I - Rhein-Pfalz-Kreis  
DEB3J - Mainz-Bingen  
DEB3K - Südwestpfalz  
DEC - Saarland  
DEC0 - Saarland  
DEC01 - Regionalverband Saarbrücken  
DEC02 - Merzig-Wadern  
DEC03 - Neunkirchen  
DEC04 - Saarlouis  
DEC05 - Saarpfalz-Kreis  
DEC06 - St. Wendel  
DED - Sachsen  
DED2 - Dresden  
DED21 - Dresden, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DED2C - Bautzen  
DED2D - Görlitz  
DED2E - Meißen  
DED2F - Sächsische Schweiz-Osterzgebirge  
DED4 - Chemnitz  
DED41 - Chemnitz, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DED42 - Erzgebirgskreis  
DED43 - Mittelsachsen  
DED44 - Vogtlandkreis  
DED45 - Zwickau  
DED5 - Leipzig  
DED51 - Leipzig, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DED52 - Leipzig  
DED53 - Nordsachsen  
DEE - Sachsen-Anhalt  
DEE0 - Sachsen-Anhalt  
DEE01 - Dessau-Roßlau, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEE02 - Halle (Saale), Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEE03 - Magdeburg, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEE04 - Altmarkkreis Salzwedel  
DEE05 - Anhalt-Bitterfeld  
DEE06 - Jerichower Land  
DEE07 - Börde  
DEE08 - Burgenlandkreis  
DEE09 - Harz  
DEE0A - Mansfeld-Südharz  
DEE0B - Saalekreis  
DEE0C - Salzlandkreis  
DEE0D - Stendal  
DEE0E - Wittenberg  
DEF - Schleswig-Holstein  
DEF0 - Schleswig-Holstein  
DEF01 - Flensburg, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEF02 - Kiel, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEF03 - Lübeck, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEF04 - Neumünster, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEF05 - Dithmarschen  
DEF06 - Herzogtum Lauenburg  
DEF07 - Nordfriesland  
DEF08 - Ostholstein

DEF09 - Pinneberg  
DEF0A - Plön  
DEF0B - Rendsburg-Eckernförde  
DEF0C - Schleswig-Flensburg  
DEF0D - Segeberg  
DEF0E - Steinburg  
DEF0F - Stormarn  
DEG - Thüringen  
DEG0 - Thüringen  
DEG01 - Erfurt, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEG02 - Gera, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEG03 - Jena, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEG04 - Suhl, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEG05 - Weimar, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEG06 - Eichsfeld  
DEG07 - Nordhausen  
DEG09 - Unstrut-Hainich-Kreis  
DEG0A - Kyffhäuserkreis  
DEG0B - Schmalkalden-Meiningen  
DEG0C - Gotha  
DEG0D - Sömmerda  
DEG0E - Hildburghausen  
DEG0F - Ilm-Kreis  
DEG0G - Weimarer Land  
DEG0H - Sonneberg  
DEG0I - Saalfeld-Rudolstadt  
DEG0J - Saale-Holzland-Kreis  
DEG0K - Saale-Orla-Kreis  
DEG0L - Greiz  
DEG0M - Altenburger Land  
DEG0N - Eisenach, Kreisfreie Stadt  
DEG0P - Wartburgkreis  
DEZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
DEZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
DEZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
DK - Danmark  
DK0 - Danmark  
DK01 - Hovedstaden  
DK011 - Byen København  
DK012 - Københavns omegn  
DK013 - Nordsjælland  
DK014 - Bornholm  
DK02 - Sjælland  
DK021 - Østsjælland  
DK022 - Vest- og Sydsjælland  
DK03 - Syddanmark  
DK031 - Fyn  
DK032 - Syddanmark  
DK04 - Midtjylland  
DK041 - Vestjylland  
DK042 - Østjylland  
DK05 - Nordjylland  
DK050 - Nordjylland  
DKZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1

DKZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
 DKZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
 EE - Eesti  
 EE0 - Eesti  
 EE00 - Eesti  
 EE001 - Põhja-Eesti  
 EE004 - Lääne-Eesti  
 EE008 - Lõuna-Eesti  
 EE009 - Kesk-Eesti  
 EE00A - Kirde-Eesti  
 EEZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
 EEZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
 EEZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
 EL - Ελλάδα  
 EL3 - Αττική  
 EL30 - Αττική  
 EL301 - Βόρειος Τομέας Αθηνών  
 EL302 - Δυτικός Τομέας Αθηνών  
 EL303 - Κεντρικός Τομέας Αθηνών  
 EL304 - Νότιος Τομέας Αθηνών  
 EL305 - Ανατολική Αττική  
 EL306 - Δυτική Αττική  
 EL307 - Πειραιάς, Νήσοι  
 EL4 - Νησιά Αιγαίου, Κρήτη  
 EL41 - Βόρειο Αιγαίο  
 EL411 - Λέσβος, Λήμνος  
 EL412 - Ικαρία, Σάμος  
 EL413 - Χίος  
 EL42 - Νότιο Αιγαίο  
 EL421 - Κάλυμνος, Κάρπαθος – Ηρωική Νήσος  
 Κάσος, Κως, Ρόδος  
 EL422 - Άνδρος, Θήρα, Κέα, Μήλος, Μύκονος,  
 Νάξος, Πάρος, Σύρος, Τήνος  
 EL43 - Κρήτη  
 EL431 - Ηράκλειο  
 EL432 - Λασιθί  
 EL433 - Ρέθυμνο  
 EL434 - Χανιά  
 EL5 - Βόρεια Ελλάδα  
 EL51 - Ανατολική Μακεδονία, Θράκη  
 EL511 - Έβρος  
 EL512 - Ξάνθη  
 EL513 - Ροδόπη  
 EL514 - Δράμα  
 EL515 - Θάσος, Καβάλα  
 EL52 - Κεντρική Μακεδονία  
 EL521 - Ημαθία  
 EL522 - Θεσσαλονίκη  
 EL523 - Κιλκίς  
 EL524 - Πέλλα  
 EL525 - Πιερία  
 EL526 - Σέρρες  
 EL527 - Χαλκιδική  
 EL53 - Δυτική Μακεδονία

EL531 - Γρεβενά, Κοζάνη  
EL532 - Καστοριά  
EL533 - Φλώρινα  
EL54 - Ήπειρος  
EL541 - Άρτα, Πρέβεζα  
EL542 - Θεσπρωτία  
EL543 - Ιωάννινα  
EL6 - Κεντρική Ελλάδα  
EL61 - Θεσσαλία  
EL611 - Καρδίτσα, Τρίκαλα  
EL612 - Λάρισα  
EL613 - Μαγνησία, Σποράδες  
EL62 - Ιόνια Νησιά  
EL621 - Ζάκυνθος  
EL622 - Κέρκυρα  
EL623 - Ιθάκη, Κεφαλληνία  
EL624 - Λευκάδα  
EL63 - Δυτική Ελλάδα  
EL631 - Αιτωλοακαρνανία  
EL632 - Αχαΐα  
EL633 - Ηλεία  
EL64 - Στερεά Ελλάδα  
EL641 - Βοιωτία  
EL642 - Εύβοια  
EL643 - Ευρυτανία  
EL644 - Φθιώτιδα  
EL645 - Φωκίδα  
EL65 - Πελοπόννησος  
EL651 - Αργολίδα, Αρκαδία  
EL652 - Κορινθία  
EL653 - Λακωνία, Μεσσηνία  
ELZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
ELZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
ELZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
ES - España  
ES1 - Noroeste  
ES11 - Galicia  
ES111 - A Coruña  
ES112 - Lugo  
ES113 - Ourense  
ES114 - Pontevedra  
ES12 - Principado de Asturias  
ES120 - Asturias  
ES13 - Cantabria  
ES130 - Cantabria  
ES2 - Noreste  
ES21 - País Vasco  
ES211 - Araba/Álava  
ES212 - Gipuzkoa  
ES213 - Bizkaia  
ES22 - Comunidad Foral de Navarra  
ES220 - Navarra  
ES23 - La Rioja  
ES230 - La Rioja

ES24 - Aragón  
ES241 - Huesca  
ES242 - Teruel  
ES243 - Zaragoza  
ES3 - Comunidad de Madrid  
ES30 - Comunidad de Madrid  
ES300 - Madrid  
ES4 - Centro (ES)  
ES41 - Castilla y León  
ES411 - Ávila  
ES412 - Burgos  
ES413 - León  
ES414 - Palencia  
ES415 - Salamanca  
FRY40 - La Réunion  
FRY5 - Mayotte  
FRY50 - Mayotte  
FRZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
FRZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
FRZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
HR - Hrvatska  
HR0 - Hrvatska  
HR02 - Panonska Hrvatska  
HR021 - Bjelovarsko-bilogorska županija  
HR022 - Virovitičko-podravska županija  
HR023 - Požeško-slavonska županija  
HR024 - Brodsko-posavska županija  
HR025 - Osječko-baranjska županija  
HR026 - Vukovarsko-srijemska županija  
HR027 - Karlovačka županija  
HR028 - Sisačko-moslavačka županija  
HR03 - Jadranska Hrvatska  
HR031 - Primorsko-goranska županija  
HR032 - Ličko-senjska županija  
HR033 - Zadarska županija  
HR034 - Šibensko-kninska županija  
HR035 - Splitsko-dalmatinska županija  
HR036 - Istarska županija  
HR037 - Dubrovačko-neretvanska županija  
HR05 - Grad Zagreb  
HR050 - Grad Zagreb  
HR06 - Sjeverna Hrvatska  
HR061 - Međimurska županija  
HR062 - Varaždinska županija  
HR063 - Koprivničko-križevačka županija  
HR064 - Krapinsko-zagorska županija  
HR065 - Zagrebačka županija  
HRZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
HRZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
HRZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
HU - Magyarország  
HU1 - Közép-Magyarország  
HU11 - Budapest  
HU110 - Budapest

HU12 - Pest  
HU120 - Pest  
HU2 - Dunántúl  
HU21 - Közép-Dunántúl  
HU211 - Fejér  
HU212 - Komárom-Esztergom  
HU213 - Veszprém  
HU22 - Nyugat-Dunántúl  
HU221 - Győr-Moson-Sopron  
HU222 - Vas  
HU223 - Zala  
HU23 - Dél-Dunántúl  
HU231 - Baranya  
HU232 - Somogy  
HU233 - Tolna  
HU3 - Alföld és Észak  
HU31 - Észak-Magyarország  
HU311 - Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén  
HU312 - Heves  
HU313 - Nógrád  
HU32 - Észak-Alföld  
HU321 - Hajdú-Bihar  
HU322 - Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok  
HU323 - Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg  
HU33 - Dél-Alföld  
HU331 - Bács-Kiskun  
HU332 - Békés  
HU333 - Csongrád  
HUZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
HUZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
HUZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
IE - Éire/Ireland  
IE0 - Ireland  
IE04 - Northern and Western  
IE041 - Border  
IE042 - West  
IE05 - Southern  
IE051 - Mid-West  
IE052 - South-East  
IE053 - South-West  
IE06 - Eastern and Midland  
IE061 - Dublin  
IE062 - Mid-East  
IE063 - Midland  
IEZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
IEZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
IEZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
IT - Italia  
ITC - Nord-Ovest  
ITC1 - Piemonte  
ITC11 - Torino  
ITC12 - Vercelli  
ITC13 - Biella  
ITC14 - Verbano-Cusio-Ossola

ITC15 - Novara  
ITC16 - Cuneo  
ITC17 - Asti  
ITC18 - Alessandria  
ITC2 - Valle d'Aosta/Vallée d'Aoste  
ITC20 - Valle d'Aosta/Vallée d'Aoste  
ITC3 - Liguria  
ITC31 - Imperia  
ITC32 - Savona  
ITC33 - Genova  
ITC34 - La Spezia  
ITC4 - Lombardia  
ITC41 - Varese  
ITC42 - Como  
ITC43 - Lecco  
ITC44 - Sondrio  
ITC46 - Bergamo  
ITC47 - Brescia  
ITC48 - Pavia  
ITC49 - Lodi  
ITC4A - Cremona  
ITC4B - Mantova  
ITC4C - Milano  
ITC4D - Monza e della Brianza  
ITF - Sud  
ITF1 - Abruzzo  
ITF11 - L'Aquila  
ITF12 - Teramo  
ITF13 - Pescara  
ITF14 - Chieti  
ITF2 - Molise  
ITF21 - Isernia  
ITF22 - Campobasso  
ITF3 - Campania  
ITF31 - Caserta  
ITF32 - Benevento  
ITF33 - Napoli  
ITF34 - Avellino  
ITF35 - Salerno  
ITF4 - Puglia  
ITF43 - Taranto  
ITF44 - Brindisi  
ITF45 - Lecce  
ITF46 - Foggia  
ITF47 - Bari  
ITF48 - Barletta-Andria-Trani  
ITF5 - Basilicata  
ITF51 - Potenza  
ITF52 - Matera  
ITF6 - Calabria  
ITF61 - Cosenza  
ITF62 - Crotone  
ITF63 - Catanzaro  
ITF64 - Vibo Valentia

ITF65 - Reggio di Calabria  
ITG - Isole  
ITG1 - Sicilia  
ITG11 - Trapani  
ITG12 - Palermo  
ITG13 - Messina  
ITG14 - Agrigento  
ITG15 - Caltanissetta  
ITG16 - Enna  
ITG17 - Catania  
ITG18 - Ragusa  
ITG19 - Siracusa  
ITG2 - Sardegna  
ITG2D - Sassari  
ITG2E - Nuoro  
ITG2F - Cagliari  
ITG2G - Oristano  
ITG2H - Sud Sardegna  
ITH - Nord-Est  
ITH1 - Provincia Autonoma di Bolzano/Bozen  
ITH10 - Bolzano-Bozen  
ITH2 - Provincia Autonoma di Trento  
ITH20 - Trento  
ITH3 - Veneto  
ITH31 - Verona  
ITH32 - Vicenza  
ITH33 - Belluno  
ITH34 - Treviso  
ITH35 - Venezia  
ITH36 - Padova  
ITH37 - Rovigo  
ITH4 - Friuli-Venezia Giulia  
ITH41 - Pordenone  
ITH42 - Udine  
ITH43 - Gorizia  
ITH44 - Trieste  
ITH5 - Emilia-Romagna  
ITH51 - Piacenza  
ITH52 - Parma  
ITH53 - Reggio nell'Emilia  
ITH54 - Modena  
ITH55 - Bologna  
ITH56 - Ferrara  
ITH57 - Ravenna  
ITH58 - Forlì-Cesena  
ITH59 - Rimini  
ITI - Centro (IT)  
ITI1 - Toscana  
ITI11 - Massa-Carrara  
ITI12 - Lucca  
ITI13 - Pistoia  
ITI14 - Firenze  
ITI15 - Prato  
ITI16 - Livorno

ITI17 - Pisa  
 ITI18 - Arezzo  
 ITI19 - Siena  
 ITI1A - Grosseto  
 ITI2 - Umbria  
 ITI21 - Perugia  
 ITI22 - Terni  
 ITI3 - Marche  
 ITI31 - Pesaro e Urbino  
 ITI32 - Ancona  
 ITI33 - Macerata  
 ITI34 - Ascoli Piceno  
 ITI35 - Fermo  
 ITI4 - Lazio  
 ITI41 - Viterbo  
 ITI42 - Rieti  
 ITI43 - Roma  
 ITI44 - Latina  
 ITI45 - Frosinone  
 ITZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
 ITZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
 ITZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
 LT - Lietuva  
 LT0 - Lietuva  
 LT01 - Sostinės regionas  
 LT011 - Vilniaus apskritis  
 LT02 - Vidurio ir vakarų Lietuvos regionas  
 LT021 - Alytaus apskritis  
 LT022 - Kauno apskritis  
 LT023 - Klaipėdos apskritis  
 LT024 - Marijampolės apskritis  
 LT025 - Panevėžio apskritis  
 LT026 - Šiaulių apskritis  
 LT027 - Tauragės apskritis  
 LT028 - Telšių apskritis  
 LT029 - Utenos apskritis  
 LTZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
 LTZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
 LTZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
 LU - Luxembourg  
 LU0 - Luxembourg  
 LU00 - Luxembourg  
 LU000 - Luxembourg  
 LUZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
 LUZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
 LUZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
 LV - Latvija  
 LV0 - Latvija  
 LV00 - Latvija  
 LV003 - Kurzeme  
 LV005 - Latgale  
 LV006 - Rīga  
 LV007 - Pierīga  
 LV008 - Vidzeme

LV009 - Zemgale  
LVZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
LVZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
LVZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
MT - Malta  
MT0 - Malta  
MT00 - Malta  
MT001 - Malta  
MT002 - Gozo and Comino/Ghawdex u Kemmuna  
MTZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
MTZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
MTZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
NL - Nederland  
NL1 - Noord-Nederland  
NL11 - Groningen  
NL111 - Oost-Groningen  
NL112 - Delfzijl en omgeving  
NL113 - Overig Groningen  
NL12 - Friesland (NL)  
NL124 - Noord-Friesland  
NL125 - Zuidwest-Friesland  
NL126 - Zuidoost-Friesland  
NL13 - Drenthe  
NL131 - Noord-Drenthe  
NL132 - Zuidoost-Drenthe  
NL133 - Zuidwest-Drenthe  
NL2 - Oost-Nederland  
NL21 - Overijssel  
NL211 - Noord-Overijssel  
NL212 - Zuidwest-Overijssel  
NL213 - Twente  
NL22 - Gelderland  
NL221 - Veluwe  
NL224 - Zuidwest-Gelderland  
NL225 - Achterhoek  
NL226 - Arnhem/Nijmegen  
NL23 - Flevoland  
NL230 - Flevoland  
NL3 - West-Nederland  
NL31 - Utrecht  
NL310 - Utrecht  
NL32 - Noord-Holland  
NL321 - Kop van Noord-Holland  
NL323 - IJmond  
NL324 - Agglomeratie Haarlem  
NL325 - Zaanstreek  
NL327 - Het Gooi en Vechtstreek  
NL328 - Alkmaar en omgeving  
NL329 - Groot-Amsterdam  
NL33 - Zuid-Holland  
NL332 - Agglomeratie 's-Gravenhage  
NL333 - Delft en Westland  
NL337 - Agglomeratie Leiden en Bollenstreek  
NL33A - Zuidoost-Zuid-Holland

NL33B - Oost-Zuid-Holland  
NL33C - Groot-Rijnmond  
NL34 - Zeeland  
NL341 - Zeeuwsch-Vlaanderen  
NL342 - Overig Zeeland  
NL4 - Zuid-Nederland  
NL41 - Noord-Brabant  
NL411 - West-Noord-Brabant  
NL412 - Midden-Noord-Brabant  
NL413 - Noordoost-Noord-Brabant  
NL414 - Zuidoost-Noord-Brabant  
NL42 - Limburg (NL)  
NL421 - Noord-Limburg  
NL422 - Midden-Limburg  
NL423 - Zuid-Limburg  
NLZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
NLZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
NLZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
NO - Norge  
NO0 - Norge  
NO02 - Innlandet  
NO020 - Innlandet  
NO06 - Trøndelag  
NO060 - Trøndelag  
NO07 - Nord-Norge  
NO071 - Nordland  
NO074 - Troms og Finnmark  
NO08 - Oslo og Viken  
NO081 - Oslo  
NO082 - Viken  
NO09 - Agder og Sør-Østlandet  
NO091 - Vestfold og Telemark  
NO092 - Agder  
NO0A - Vestlandet  
NO0A1 - Rogaland  
NO0A2 - Vestland  
NO0A3 - Møre og Romsdal  
NO0B - Svalbard og Jan Mayen  
NO0B1 - Jan Mayen  
NO0B2 - Svalbard  
NOZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
NOZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
NOZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
PL - Polska  
PL2 - Makroregion południowy  
PL21 - Małopolskie  
PL213 - Miasto Kraków  
PL214 - Krakowski  
PL217 - Tarnowski  
PL218 - Nowosądecki  
PL219 - Nowotarski  
PL21A - Oświęcimski  
PL22 - Śląskie  
PL224 - Częstochowski

PL225 - Bielski  
PL227 - Rybnicki  
PL228 - Bytomski  
PL229 - Gliwicki  
PL22A - Katowicki  
PL22B - Sosnowiecki  
PL22C - Tyski  
PL4 - Makroregion północno-zachodni  
PL41 - Wielkopolskie  
PL411 - Pilski  
PL414 - Koniński  
PL415 - Miasto Poznań  
PL416 - Kaliski  
PL417 - Leszczyński  
PL418 - Poznański  
PL42 - Zachodniopomorskie  
PL424 - Miasto Szczecin  
PL426 - Koszaliński  
PL427 - Szczecinecko-pyrzycki  
PL428 - Szczeciński  
PL43 - Lubuskie  
PL431 - Gorzowski  
PL432 - Zielonogórski  
PL5 - Makroregion południowo-zachodni  
PL51 - Dolnośląskie  
PL514 - Miasto Wrocław  
PL515 - Jeleniogórski  
PL516 - Legnicko-głogowski  
PL517 - Wałbrzyski  
PL518 - Wrocławski  
PL52 - Opolskie  
PL523 - Nyski  
PL524 - Opolski  
PL6 - Makroregion północny  
PL61 - Kujawsko-pomorskie  
PL613 - Bydgosko-toruński  
PL616 - Grudziądzki  
PL617 - Inowrocławski  
PL618 - Świecki  
PL619 - Włocławski  
PL62 - Warmińsko-mazurskie  
PL621 - Elbląski  
PL622 - Olsztyński  
PL623 - Ełcki  
PL63 - Pomorskie  
PL633 - Trójmiejski  
PL634 - Gdański  
PL636 - Słupski  
PL637 - Chojnicki  
PL638 - Starogardzki  
PL7 - Makroregion centralny  
PL71 - Łódzkie  
PL711 - Miasto Łódź  
PL712 - Łódzki

PL713 - Piotrkowski  
PL714 - Sieradzki  
PL715 - Skierniewicki  
PL72 - Świętokrzyskie  
PL721 - Kielecki  
PL722 - Sandomiersko-jędrzejowski  
PL8 - Makroregion wschodni  
PL81 - Lubelskie  
PL811 - Bialski  
PL812 - Chełmsko-zamojski  
PL814 - Lubelski  
PL815 - Puławski  
PL82 - Podkarpackie  
PL821 - Krośnieński  
PL822 - Przemyski  
PL823 - Rzeszowski  
PL824 - Tarnobrzski  
PL84 - Podlaskie  
PL841 - Białostocki  
PL842 - Łomżyński  
PL843 - Suwalski  
PL9 - Makroregion województwo mazowieckie  
PL91 - Warszawski stołeczny  
PL911 - Miasto Warszawa  
PL912 - Warszawski wschodni  
PL913 - Warszawski zachodni  
PL92 - Mazowiecki regionalny  
PL921 - Radomski  
PL922 - Ciechanowski  
PL923 - Płocki  
PL924 - Ostrołęcki  
PL925 - Siedlecki  
PL926 - Żyrardowski  
PLZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
PLZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
PLZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
PT - Portugal  
PT1 - Continente  
PT11 - Norte  
PT111 - Alto Minho  
PT112 - Cávado  
PT119 - Ave  
PT11A - Área Metropolitana do Porto  
PT11B - Alto Tâmega  
PT11C - Tâmega e Sousa  
PT11D - Douro  
PT11E - Terras de Trás-os-Montes  
PT15 - Algarve  
PT150 - Algarve  
PT16 - Centro (PT)  
PT16B - Oeste  
PT16D - Região de Aveiro  
PT16E - Região de Coimbra  
PT16F - Região de Leiria

PT16G - Viseu Dão Lafões  
PT16H - Beira Baixa  
PT16I - Médio Tejo  
PT16J - Beiras e Serra da Estrela  
PT17 - Área Metropolitana de Lisboa  
PT170 - Área Metropolitana de Lisboa  
PT18 - Alentejo  
PT181 - Alentejo Litoral  
PT184 - Baixo Alentejo  
PT185 - Lezíria do Tejo  
PT186 - Alto Alentejo  
PT187 - Alentejo Central  
PT2 - Região Autónoma dos Açores  
PT20 - Região Autónoma dos Açores  
PT200 - Região Autónoma dos Açores  
PT3 - Região Autónoma da Madeira  
PT30 - Região Autónoma da Madeira  
PT300 - Região Autónoma da Madeira  
PTZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
PTZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
PTZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
RO - România  
RO1 - Macroregiunea Unu  
RO11 - Nord-Vest  
RO111 - Bihor  
RO112 - Bistrița-Năsăud  
RO113 - Cluj  
RO114 - Maramureș  
RO115 - Satu Mare  
RO116 - Sălaj  
RO12 - Centru  
RO121 - Alba  
RO122 - Brașov  
RO123 - Covasna  
RO124 - Harghita  
RO125 - Mureș  
RO126 - Sibiu  
RO2 - Macroregiunea Doi  
RO21 - Nord-Est  
RO211 - Bacău  
RO212 - Botoșani  
RO213 - Iași  
RO214 - Neamț  
RO215 - Suceava  
RO216 - Vaslui  
RO22 - Sud-Est  
RO221 - Brăila  
RO222 - Buzău  
RO223 - Constanța  
RO224 - Galați  
RO225 - Tulcea  
RO226 - Vrancea  
RO3 - Macroregiunea Trei  
RO31 - Sud-Muntenia

RO311 - Argeş  
RO312 - Călăraşi  
RO313 - Dâmboviţa  
RO314 - Giurgiu  
RO315 - Ialomiţa  
RO316 - Prahova  
RO317 - Teleorman  
RO32 - Bucureşti-Ilfov  
RO321 - Bucureşti  
RO322 - Ilfov  
RO4 - Macroregiunea Patru  
RO41 - Sud-Vest Oltenia  
RO411 - Dolj  
RO412 - Gorj  
RO413 - Mehedinţi  
RO414 - Olt  
RO415 - Vâlcea  
RO42 - Vest  
RO421 - Arad  
RO422 - Caraş-Severin  
RO423 - Hunedoara  
RO424 - Timiş  
ROZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1  
ROZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2  
ROZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3  
SE - Sverige  
SE1 - Östra Sverige  
SE11 - Stockholm  
SE110 - Stockholms län  
SE12 - Östra Mellansverige  
SE121 - Uppsala län  
SE122 - Södermanlands län  
SE123 - Östergötlands län  
SE124 - Örebro län  
SE125 - Västmanlands län  
SE2 - Södra Sverige  
SE21 - Småland med öarna  
SE211 - Jönköpings län  
SE212 - Kronobergs län  
SE213 - Kalmar län  
SE214 - Gotlands län  
SE22 - Sydsverige  
SE221 - Blekinge län  
SE224 - Skåne län  
SE23 - Västsverige  
SE231 - Hallands län  
SE232 - Västra Götalands län  
SE3 - Norra Sverige  
SE31 - Norra Mellansverige  
SE311 - Värmlands län  
SE312 - Dalarnas län  
SE313 - Gävleborgs län  
SE32 - Mellersta Norrland  
SE321 - Västernorrlands län

	SE322 - Jämtlands län SE33 - Övre Norrland SE331 - Västerbottens län SE332 - Norrbottens län SEZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1 SEZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2 SEZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3 SI - Slovenija SI0 - Slovenija SI03 - Vzhodna Slovenija SI031 - Pomurska SI032 - Podravska SI033 - Koroška SI034 - Savinjska SI035 - Zasavska SI036 - Posavska SI037 - Jugovzhodna Slovenija SI038 - Primorsko-notranjska SI04 - Zahodna Slovenija SI041 - Osrednjeslovenska SI042 - Gorenjska SI043 - Goriška SI044 - Obalno-kraška SIZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 1 SIZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 2 SIZZZ - Extra-Regio NUTS 3
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1. Joint programme strategy: main development challenges and policy responses

1.1. Programme area (not required for Interreg C programmes)

Reference: point (a) of Article 17(3), point (a) of Article 17(9)

Not applicable for Interact.

1.2 Joint programme strategy: Summary of main joint challenges, taking into account economic, social and territorial disparities as well as inequalities, joint investment needs and complimentary and synergies with other funding programmes and instruments, lessons-learned from past experience and macro-regional strategies and sea-basin strategies where the programme area as a whole or partially is covered by one or more strategies.

Reference: point (b) of Article 17(3), point (b) of Article 17(9)

According to point (c) of Article 3(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1059 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 on specific provisions for the European territorial cooperation goal (Interreg) supported by the European Regional Development Fund and external financing instruments ('Interreg Regulation'), the objective of interregional cooperation is to reinforce the effectiveness of the cohesion policy.

As such, Interact's main contribution is in the administrative capacity building for the institutions and stakeholders managing the Cohesion Policy investments in Interreg. With its interventions Interact directly contributes to the European Commission focus area on quality of governance and institutions as its impact on the effectiveness of how these programmes are managed. In this sense, Interact will contribute indirectly to all Cohesion Policy objectives and Specific Objectives, including the ones, where climate actions are in focus.

As such, Interreg programmes are the main target group of the Interact IV Programme. Other cooperation stakeholders such as macro-regional strategy actors, actors in the context of Article 22(3), point (d)(vi) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and financial rules for those and for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy (Common Provisions Regulation, 'CPR'), and other policy actors implementation cooperation will also receive Interact support. Instead of a territorial analysis approach, this section shall focus on the needs of these target groups (Interact "customers").

### **Interreg SWOT analysis**

It is first relevant to understand Interreg as policy tool, its 'Strengths' and 'Weaknesses' and to consider the 'Opportunities' and 'Threats' (SWOT) in the context of 2021-2027 period. The below analysis was conducted with the support of Interact's core stakeholders, including Member States through the Programming Task Force, Programming Committee (PC) and with Interreg programmes, as part of the Interact IV programming process. Through this analysis, Interact is able to build proposed areas of intervention to support programmes as they seek to tackle joint challenges, respond to joint investment needs and find complimentary and synergies with other funding programmes and instruments. The SWOT analysis revealed areas where target groups may need specific help and support in order for Interreg to become an even more effective tool, and to be recognised as such, within cohesion policy and beyond.

As ex-ante evaluations are no longer required, Interact sought additional insight to cross reference the SWOT analysis with other European Union (EU)-level documents. These documents included but were not limited to: the 7th Cohesion Report; Ex-post evaluations of programming period 2007-2013; Boosting growth and cohesion in EU border regions; and Strengthening Innovation in Europe's Regions – Strategies for resilient, inclusive and sustainable growth. While there are many possible additional ideas from these documents, the below is a summary which defines the approach of the Interact IV Programme.

The full SWOT analysis can be found in Strategic Orientation Paper for Interact IV, which is available on request.

### *Strengths*

The added value of Interreg, especially in the European integration context, is recognised in the main documents reviewed. Furthermore, when fundamental questions are asked about ‘the European project’, cooperation and European territorial cooperation (ETC) in particular are core parts of the answer; how cooperation brings neighbours, as well as people and EU institutions closer together. Supported by 30 years of experience, Interreg programmes are established as stable structures to manage multi-annual funding for cooperation actions within a territory. There is a reason why macro-regional strategies (MRS), sea-basin strategies (SBS) and initiatives, as well as other territorial strategies seek Interreg support, not only in terms of funding but in experience as well. At the same time, a link to such a strategy can give Interreg programmes additional strategic recognition within given policy or territory.

These territorial focuses also encourage Interreg to avoid sectoral silos and provide a place where different competences (and interests) can meet to solve common challenges in innovative ways. This is why Interreg programmes and projects are seen as innovation and learning incubators, where stakeholders from multiple layers and regions can participate in the co-creation process in order to improve public governance and service to citizens. Interreg benefits from a motivating work environment, where structures to promote EU policies to citizens exist and have widespread support, such as European Cooperation Day, and the Regio Stars Awards.

Another important strength of Interreg is the active community, the human capital. It has driven the development of these programmes during these 30 years. Interreg can be proud of the way those implementing cooperation show enormous capacity to learn from each other, to adapt their work and approaches within a constantly changing environment. The ability to find innovative solutions amid a complex structure with multiple legal frameworks, including with local interpretations of the same European level rules, is especially noteworthy.

### *Weaknesses*

The complexity (of interests, stakeholders, ideas, structures, rules, etc.) in Interreg has a high impact on the strategic level. The fact that the programmes bring together such diversity creates an ownership challenge in terms of strategic steering and the implementation of the programmes and the projects. On one extreme, it can lead to conflicts due to differing visions or understanding, and on the other, a laissez-faire attitude where ‘nobody’ really feels responsible for taking on the leadership role. There are still examples where projects seem to define the programme, and not the other way around. While all programmes find their way to manage this complexity, in the long term all these ‘challenges’ may be too difficult to understand for EU policy stakeholders. While cooperation, and Interreg specifically, is seen as a serious policy tool, without the shared vision for cooperation, the importance of this work in contrast to other funding mechanisms means it may not get proportionate prioritisation, particularly when it comes to funding.

The number of programmes, each funding a number of projects does not make it easy to tell the story of cooperation at accumulated policy level. Each project is an individual success telling its own local story, but these do not naturally find each other in order to tell the more comprehensive story at an EU level. This EU level storytelling is vital in order to satisfy the political logic of policy accountability at EU level. The disconnect between territorial successes of Interreg and sector specific policy logic may create an

unbridgeable gap.

The lack of a clear strategic vision for cooperation at the EU level poses further challenges to Interreg, in order to develop a strategically recognised policy monitoring system (indicators) that would enable the story of cooperation to reach EU level policy makers in a right way. To date, attempts are bottom up, educated guesses as to political requirements. The fact that Interreg results are normally long-term, and that better cooperation may sometimes be a result in itself, does not always fit into the wider political and policy narrative. In effect, instead of appreciating the cooperation for what it is, other objectives are added, leading to goal congestion and a confusion of focus. The absence of a structured learning cycle from evaluation process (operational and impact) as a standard practice in all programmes does not help programmes respond to this challenge either.

The Commission publication ‘Easing legal and administrative obstacles in EU border regions’ (2017) raised the importance of cooperation between all key stakeholders for a given obstacle to be removed, and consequently for the desired benefit to be realised. Interreg programmes have a relatively high entry costs for new beneficiaries, due to their complex structure, and have a tendency towards gold plating resulting from the prevailing ‘zero-risk’ culture. As such, other funding sources may be ‘an easier catch’ for newcomers, and therefore the presence of typical subjects and long-term project partners generally prevail in Interreg.

With resources often focused on the real, or perceived, complexity of administration, the strategic work on establishing and enhancing real connections within the territory and in tackling the identified joint challenges may be neglected. Connections between Interreg programmes are weak, and the connection between Interreg and the Investment for Jobs and Growth (IJG in 2021-2027, or IGJ in 2014-2020) programmes are even weaker. As a result, Interreg may be re-financing the same ideas and on a higher level, and miss the opportunity to anchor programmes and project results in policy frameworks that make them more sustainable. This focus on administration-first makes it difficult to invest real resources in developing internal policy expertise in the relevant fields for the programme.

Last but not least, the cycle returns to resources and the structural challenge Interreg programmes experience in financing daily operations with cash on account. The ‘financial flows’ logic of structural funds apply to Interreg programmes without additional considerations. This makes the Technical Assistance (TA) resources, the sole funding for programme staff, vulnerable and not always in-sync with programme needs at the various points in the programme life-cycle. Coupled with relative low use of simplified cost options (SCOs), it also requires beneficiaries to be able to long term pre-finance their own activities. This further raises challenges for new beneficiaries, and may even prohibit the participation of beneficiaries without the financial resources to wait for repayments.

### *Opportunities*

The new programming period carries a substantial hope for simplification. The legislative package has been substantially reduced and should function as the integrated framework for all Cohesion Policy funds. There should be less secondary legislation in the form of guidance, which exploded in the 2014-2020 period and further complicated the understandings of the legal statuses. The initial idea of ‘no guidance’ has moved to ‘less guidance’, which avoids the risks of total void on clarification, where it is needed.

Some of the simplification proposals go further than what has been on the table so far, such as the single audit sample, risk based management verifications, and the amplification of SCOs. The accounting function can (but does not have to) be fully integrated into the Managing Authority, and programmes can

work outside eligible area without the need to monitor specific limits. Taken together this should substantially reduce the focus (and resources) on the administrative side of programme management.

The increased pressure on resources may create a positive environment to take a new approach. With less resources, there is an opportunity to test a new models of coordinating interventions between programmes in overlapping territories, regardless of the programme strand (i.e. cross-border and transnational). This 'opportunistic' thinking, without a regulatory requirement to do it, could be used to re-think programme niches in such overlapping geographies for all programmes. This can be taken even further if innovative initiatives like repayable assistance are again put on the table, during the programming process.

These simplification and reinvention efforts could be an opportunity to make cooperation more attractive and more approachable for stakeholders beyond Interreg, such as new beneficiaries. In particular, the Commission's 'Strengthening Innovation in Europe's regions – Strategies for resilient, inclusive and sustainable growth' publication promotes cooperation as a tool for dialogue, learning, inspiration and investment initiatives/projects. Interreg should profit from this spotlight attention as an 'incubator of cooperation' in Europe.

This should of course go beyond a pure marketing stunt and be link to a strategic agenda. Anchoring at least some Interreg activities into the challenge of permanently solving certain border obstacles identified in the above-mentioned publication could be a way of achieving this. This may call for much stronger political leadership and commitment of participating Member States and other stakeholders within the multi-level governance model, which would need to lead and sustain an active dialogue between institutions having the key role in removing the given obstacle. At the same time, calls for a renewed Territorial Agenda 2030 emphasise the need to come back the place-based approach and highlight the role of the territorial cooperation and governance of functional areas. Both are the strengths of Interreg.

Last, but not least, the common result indicators should lead to the effective capturing of accumulated Interreg contribution to the Cohesion Policy, even if we do not feel that they fully represent Interreg core added value. This in turn could help communicate Interreg even more strategically and respond to the European Council call on making Cohesion Policy more visible.

### *Threats*

The logic of the legislative proposal 2021-2027 was presented rather as an evolution than a revolution. Although it can be noted that this view is not held by all stakeholders. However one perceives these individual changes, the accumulated change with some of the new, more revolutionary, proposals may still be draining resources towards administration of these changes. In this way, the opportunity to focus resources on content may not be realised. As with most of the interests and interactions in cooperation, the accumulated change process will require resources to be actively managed. In effect, the perceived and/or real complexity of Interreg will remain and the new potential Interreg beneficiaries may still find it easier to go to the 'simpler' funding sources. In an extreme case, even the usual suspects in the Interreg context, may choose to change to another fund, as indicated in a number of studies, including the European Parliament (EP) research paper 'Gold plating in the European Investment funds'.

Clearly, some of the proposals are revolutionary enough that the success can go both ways. The single audit sample may be a huge simplification and reduction of administrative burden, if programmes can be brought on board. Programmes may also face some (political) objections to trust the new system. These changes may also create unexpected consequences for the overall management and control system of individual programmes. Certainly, the risk of negative unpredicted consequences exists and will need

management. Similarly, the reduced co-financing rate coupled with flat rate on TA reimbursements may lead to lack of resources in some stages of programme life-cycle.

The suggestion to introduce component 5 in Interreg was quite a surprise, but it can be seen as a recognition of cooperation being able to solve some of the strategic challenges of Europe. Following negotiations, this was removed from the Interreg structure, but there is potential that the idea will have a longer-term impact. If it is successful, due to its political appeal, it may further detract resources from Interreg in subsequent funding periods. If it is not, the failure may (justifiably or not) be ‘blamed’ on cooperation and Interreg may be thrown into the same ‘unsuccessful bag’. In the same manner, the scale of expectations towards Interreg support to MRS, if not realistic, may lead to disappointment on delivery from the strategic stakeholders.

This mismatch of expectations and Interreg capacity may be a symptom of a bigger general issue of a lack of common understanding and acceptance of what to measure in cooperation programmes. We may continue a conflict between the political need for an immediate and tangible result and the Interreg reality, where results have a more long-term impact and are less tangible in nature. The scale of this conflict is always tested between programming periods, and particularly in setting resources in the Multi Annual Financial Framework. The challenge of the reduction in the Interreg 2021-2027 budget amplifies the challenge of seeking to create larger, politically attractive results through diminished resources.

### **Cooperation actors in the context of Article 22 CPR**

In addition to Interact IV’s core target audience, the programme is tasked to work on harmonising and simplifying possible cooperation actions, that is to say “interregional, cross-border and transnational actions with beneficiaries located in at least one other Member State or outside the Union, where relevant” and financed by IJG programmes (Article 22(3), point (d)(vi) CPR).

In preparations for the new programming period, in 2019 Interact informally approached a number of actors responsible for drafting the new IJG programmes in order to understand their ideas on the implementation of the requirements of Article 22(3), point (d)(vi) of the CPR. This was done to respond to a request from the Interact III Programme Monitoring Committee to explore interest and envisaged support to establish cooperation with IJG programmes. Through these discussions, Interact observed that interest and preparedness to make use of this article varies between programmes and Member States. While the approach in 2019 was perhaps too early for programmes to offer considered feedback, key observations from that meeting included:

- Several responses that pointed to ‘business-as-usual’ scenario – i.e. no plans to accommodate the provisions in national/regional programmes.
- Programmes highlighting that the application of the Article 22(3), point (d)(vi) CPR should be based on real needs and not to merely satisfy the regulations to avoid the ‘tick-box’ effect. They also pointed to difficulties in defining ex-ante transnational actions, and concerns based on the experience of implementing transnational actions across Member States.
- Some programmes that had already started programming, with no specific thought or awareness of what the article means in practice. They were open to learn more, including about possible Interact support.
- For some, the perception associated with high administrative obstacles for implementing measures with beneficiaries from other Member States needs to be tackled. Support from Interact to harmonise and simplify the application of the article would be welcome.

- Issues of eligibility of transnational actions, the differences in administrative and control systems, as well as the application procedures. These issues were a concern for some Member States even when thematic cooperation made sense.
- Specific opportunity provided by the article in the context of embedding MRS into mainstream programmes as best as possible.
- Specific idea on organising a national exchange on the article as a pilot for interested Member States.

Based on the gathered feedback and considering Interact experience and observation, one can conclude that there is a clear need for awareness raising and capacity building in this area. Until it becomes a habit and a tradition – cooperation requires constant and continuous support effort. Specifically, forcing cooperation on those not convinced of the benefits it brings, or perceiving it as an administrative and institutional burden, will not lead to good cooperation, and good results. Interact soft interventions contribute to the Commission efforts in the context of European Semester, where cooperation actions are included in annex D.

### **Synergies with other programmes**

Interact will continue its long-term cooperation with the other three interregional programmes (URBACT, ESPON and Interreg Europe) by exchanging information, sharing know-how and create synergies especially in the field of joint capitalisation and dissemination activities (e.g. joint workshop during European Week of Regions and Cities). Whereas the focus of all four programmes is different (they have different objectives and serve different target groups), it is important that they can identify fields of cooperation and feed into each other's work (e.g. ESPON experts providing their specific knowledge in Interact events). The four programmes use their regular meetings to coordinate and organise joint activities.

Interact will also seek synergies, complementarities and collaboration opportunities as much as possible with EU programmes outside of Interreg, such as Horizon Europe, Erasmus+, Digital Europe Programme, Connecting Europe Facility (CEF Digital). Last but not least, Interact will support Interreg programmes in developing efficient synergies with the above programmes – as already done during Interact III.

### **Interact SWOT**

The above review paints a picture of the reality of Interact's customers and their potential needs. In order to understand the capacity of Interact IV to address the challenges, and best tailor our service portfolio, a similar SWOT analysis was conducted. It was based on the joint work of the Programming Task Force, Interact team and the evaluations available at the time.

The full SWOT analysis can be found in Strategic Orientation Paper for Interact IV, which is available on request.

#### *Strengths*

Since the start of Interact, in the 2000-2006 period, it has supported changes of practice in programme authorities and cultures ('mindsets'), which contribute to the achievement of wider impacts on the efficiency and effectiveness of programme implementation. This was a key finding of the Case-based

Impact Evaluation (2019) conducted by the Centre for European Policy Studies, University of Strathclyde. In the 2014-2020 period, Interact's role was further solidified by linking the contribution of the programme to thematic objective 11 "Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and efficient public administration".

A reflection on Interact's history shows that the programme has been constantly evolving to address the needs of the target groups. In this process, Interact's team has taken on many new and challenging tasks and this has led to numerous debates and discussions. Interact continues to take on an expanding role in finding, defining and voicing the opinion of the Interreg community, and ensuring that the Interreg specificities are recognised and given appropriate attention during policy making and implementation.

A core success of the programme is engaging Interreg actors in networks of expertise. Over the years Interact has looked at Interreg from a 360-degree perspective, all practices and requirements related to programming and implementation have been scrutinised, relevant target groups identified and engaged in specialist networks. These practices are far-reaching and are not restricted to management aspects alone. Increasingly, Interact has built capacity in working with programmes on thematic issues, MRS actors, European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) practitioners, etc. Results from the Case-based Impact Evaluation highlight that Interact has "clearly enhanced the culture of inter-programme cooperation", and "has shaken the habits of programme authorities". In view of the provisions made in the Interreg regulation related to the new tasks for the programme, an important strength is that Interact staff can develop further knowledge and experience with tailoring services to the needs of strategic framework actors as well as other cooperation programmes and mechanisms. Even if the results are often soft or intangible in nature, the exchanges between these actors were evaluated as "invaluable" for promoting strategic structures and processes. They have also supported work to establish a foundation for better governance of the strategies.

A key immediate result of Interact's work can be linked to enhancing the administrative and institutional capacity of the Interreg actors to implement and manage their programmes. As the evaluation has concluded, in all five cases evaluated there is evidence of changes to structures and processes in Interreg, changes to staff skills and organisational culture as well as changes to systems and tools. There is also evidence that these have triggered changes at the project level as well. For example, Interact's tools have contributed to reducing the administrative burden for applicants and have led to other operational improvements, such as better calls for proposals by programmes, and supporting the applicant capacity to develop projects suitable for Interreg.

Interact has something to offer to everyone, regardless of their prior experience in Interreg. A quick review of the target groups covered by Interact services reveals that the programme relies on the broad engagement of a wide range of actors within and outside Interreg. This is also due to the broad expertise developed within the team on issues such as capitalisation, coordination and cooperation, programme management, SCOs, MRS and SBS implementation support, EGTC and many others. Developing tools and services for the implementation of the programmes and the policy in the 2021-2027 period will require even closer collaboration with these actors to ensure deeper matches between services and needs.

Feedback from stakeholders indicates that Interact is a respected and trusted partner in discussions. Independent, unbiased views and neutrality of discussions are signature characteristics from Interact in such discussions. These statements are supported by the expanding scope of the target groups for Interact beyond Interreg. For example, actors of newer MRS have been engaged in existing networks and the network of audit authorities has developed into an active community. Interact has also reached the European citizen. Analysis of the 2020 edition of the European Cooperation Day campaign showed that it reached over two million people, particularly through increased social media activities. The potential use of and further developing of joined branding, strengthening capitalisation and better utilising

dissemination channels can further boost these successes. Such approach can be also very useful when promoting the uptake of new initiatives in the Interreg community, such as Green Deal or New European Bauhaus.

Some of the primary benefits of Interact can be linked to effectiveness, efficiency and free availability of resources, which support the resilience of programmes. Interact holds a small fraction of the Interreg budget and the conclusions from the Case-based Impact Evaluation show that this money is well-spent. It is a great success that Interact has supported programmes to save money and human resources. Interact's electronic Monitoring System (eMS) alone has led to a saving of up to EUR 20 million compared to a non-cooperative approach. Other initiatives such as keep.eu, the joint branding and Harmonised Implementation Tools (HIT) have also led to time and resources saving for individual programmes in a range of areas where implemented.

Interact's tools and services provide a "common basic standard for programme management". Improved efficiency is paired with improvements in quality of programme management, such as increase in legal certainty for programme authorities. Such certainty stems from the wide consultation during service delivery and product development stages, as well as the wide use and application of these solutions among the community and beyond. Facilitating uniformity of interpretations is another distinct benefit of Interact's services delivery. Interact services were also often seen by the ENI CBC programmes as an example for consideration, in spite of their alternative regulatory framework.

A key strength of Interact is that it has contributed to building an Interreg community and making this community visible and known among key policy makers and institutions (outside Regional Policy as well). Interact has actively supported the identification and promotion of Interreg achievements, and the awareness of Interreg amongst wider EU policymaking stakeholders has also increased. The European Commission, the EP and Member States alike have increasingly acknowledged these results. This helps position Interreg in the policy tapestry.

The identity of a system or an organisation is rooted in its history. Interact has created a valuable data platform, keep.eu that collects thousands of examples of best cooperation practises and cross-border problem solutions across Europe and beyond and which serves a historical evidence and memory of Interreg achievements. The richness of Interreg has been preserved, spanning across several programming periods, to provide a solid and reliable knowledge base.

The strengths of Interact are rooted in the expertise, the professionalism, and personal drive of the Interact staff. They are also reliant on the strong culture of the programme to innovate and be pro-active towards the target groups. Over the years, Interact's structure has supported flexibility of service and strong customer orientation.

### *Weaknesses*

One of the key strengths and perceptions of Interact, of being a trusted, neutral facilitator, is also linked to one of the weaknesses, i.e. efficiency gains for the Interreg community could be even more pronounced should Interact have stronger facilitation role, especially to enhance final decisions during discussions as part of delivery of larger service packages. The wide participatory approach, in some cases, could be paired with a stronger decision-making role to save time. The Case-based Impact Evaluation showed that this is particularly relevant for the development of big projects such as HIT, eMS and the joint Interreg brand. It has been acknowledged that extensive consultation can lead to, as one participant in the Case-based Impact Evaluation put it, a "complication" of the final product due to Interact striving to take

every opinion on-board. Furthermore, Interact could benefit from more direct links to key legislators and decision-makers, and in particular from participation in their specialised expert networks. This would enable the establishment of a smoother flow of information and experience, as well as more targeted and efficient communication both upwards (towards e.g. the Commission) and downwards (i.e. towards the programmes).

The above shortcomings may be also linked to another challenge, associated mainly with the uptake of Interact services and implementation of the service as set by Interact. Products developed by Interact have been used to a varying degree by various stakeholders. It is also common (e.g. in the case of HIT, eMS, Interreg branding) that changes to final products were made by programmes who had not participated in the process of developing the tools, and decision making at key stages. The danger in these cases is that certain logic and rationale may be distorted, and, in the worst case, the main gain can be lost, such as the benefit of harmonisation of specific programme practices. Again, this has an effect on the simplification efforts made on behalf of the whole community and could have negative resonance with the applicants and beneficiaries.

Interact has built a powerful reputation among the Interreg programme management bodies. Since Interact's inception, a strong sense of community and belonging has been built amongst the Interreg community, and Interact is part of this community. Nevertheless, the role of Interact in leading some of the strategic projects for the Interreg community is not well-known or acknowledged in policy-making circles and institutions. Interact can increase its presence among these actors and work harder to engage national authorities and Member States in promoting the services and achievements. This will be particularly relevant in view of the new tasks of engaging with IJG programmes as stated in the regulations.

The above implies that there is also an important task for Interact in addressing the above weakness. The strength of knowing the strategy and cooperation actors can be deepened within the Interact staff. There is also room for improving the internal exchange and knowledge of relevant actors outside the Interreg community. According to the evaluation, there is "great potential for Interact to do more"... "if proportionate resources are allocated". There is also a need for a "clear strategy" and "mandate" to help strengthen the service delivery.

The de-centralised structure of Interact is a strength as it has defined the flexible, customer-oriented culture of Interact. At the same time, some organisational challenges can be attributed to this setting.

Products and services are often developed by virtual teams, as those working on certain topics do not necessarily share the same office – a pre-existing situation further exacerbated during in the COVID-19 pandemic by home-office requirements. The rich multi-cultural background of Interact staff makes service delivery more robust, at the same time different cultural, working and institutional backgrounds of the staff can lead to prolonged discussions to reach understanding and consensus. This is present on both the service delivery and management levels of the programme.

The wide service portfolio covered by Interact implies that not everyone can be engaged in everything. Indeed, there has been some office specialisation and leadership in dealing with certain fields. While this was often done to promote efficiency of service – i.e. as coordination among members from one office can be easier to organise and decision-making can be faster – it also reflects procurement realities in some cases. However, this can also facilitate the creation of silos, both on personal and office level, as well as within project teams. The risk exists that knowledge is concentrated in a few members of staff or an individual, and knowledge sharing and learning from each other can be inefficient.

Such silos make the programme vulnerable to sudden departure of staff and to loss of key knowledge and expertise. There could be also lack of staff for development and delivery of specialised services required by the target groups. Time to fully on-board Interact colleagues can also be long, with around six months required, before a new staff member is fully operational in their position. Clearer focus and orientation of the programme in the new period will address some of these concerns. The Case-based Impact Evaluation also stated that projects, such as HIT, eMS, and support to MRS also need proportionate resource allocation, this point is also relevant for other significant projects not included in the evaluation such as capitalisation and online learning.

### *Opportunities*

There is a distinct opportunity for Interact to play a key role in supporting simplification. Firstly, in promoting simplification during programming to ensure that simplification provisions are taken up by programmes, and secondly in implementation to ensure that the solutions are interpreted and followed in an appropriate manner. There is also an opportunity to develop tools for the implementation of the programmes based on the simplification principle. Such efforts will lead to distinct gains in effectiveness and efficiency. Simplification, paired with transparency, should also reduce the risks of gold plating.

There is the opportunity for Interact to continue its leadership role in engaging Interreg actors in expert networks, and to further expand and deepen the relationship with some target groups. For example, with the Interreg programmes, Interreg-IPA CBC programmes and Interreg NEXT programmes all sharing the same regulatory framework, Interact will have a stronger role to play in supporting the whole Interreg community, including IPA CBC, NEXT and outermost regions (OMR). It is anticipated that the engagement of Interact with IJG actors will be more pronounced in the new period, as set out in the Intervention logic matrix (Appendix 6) and in 2.1.1.3 below. This provides an opportunity for Interact to build new knowledge on the cultural and administrative context of these programmes and to foster closer links with national and programme authorities. There is an opportunity in strengthening the engagement with MRS and SBS in the future, which is also part of the strategic decision for the programme. Such expanded target group base implies that tools and services developed by Interact will have an effect beyond the Interreg community.

This will require a well-defined scope for engagement with different actors, coupled with a proper understanding of their needs, in order to provide bespoke and relevant services. This should also inspire an opportunity to be more focused on seeking to achieve the maximum benefit from Interact's interventions. Developing and delivering more integrated services, making greater use of online learning, and promoting digitalisation can lead to resource savings for the target groups. In some cases, this could mean bringing the programmes even closer since many have different limitations (e.g. staff, time, ability to travel, etc.) and thus are disadvantaged in using Interact's services.

Sustained engagement and leadership of various expert networks can have a far-reaching effect. Experience in the period 2014-2020 showed that bringing actors together, unifying their views and opinions and channelling these to the right institutions/fora, at the right time, can influence decision and policy making. As Interact is more and more recognised as the hub for Interreg discussions, there is a greater opportunity for this role to be strengthened. As the Case-based Impact Evaluation reflected, Interact is often in the position of a change agent as initiatives implemented trigger changes for the whole community.

There are many important opportunities for Interact to develop into a more efficient and leaner organisation. For example, simplification provisions (e.g. flat rates) should be also adopted by Interact to ensure greater efficiency of internal processes and procedures. More targeted promotion of Interact's

achievements at all stages of programme implementation is needed to increase recognition of the solutions, and of Interact as the author of them. As discussed under weaknesses, such recognition among target groups, and with a particular view of engaging new target groups, should lead to stronger support for the programme and in particular to stronger ownership of the results. While the role of Interact in initiating and promoting cooperation and coordination among actors within and beyond Interreg is key, an important success in the future can be achieved if some networks and processes become more durable. As pointed out by the evaluation, with regards to MRS, this would imply working with stakeholders to ensure self-sustaining nature of the activities in the future.

### *Threats*

Using the experience from the 2014-2020 period, it is necessary to maintain the same principle of coordination within the interregional strand: By establishing a clear division of roles between all the four programmes, programmes' stakeholders remain confident that each programme has its genuine role, adds value, that overlaps are avoided, and synergies are capitalised on throughout the interregional strand.

Discussions between Member States actors during the preparation of the programme have made it clear that Interact's primary focus should not deviate from Interreg actors. The concern is also linked to loss of specific niche for Interact in this case. Interact plans to develop a targeted service portfolio for engagement with IJG programmes based on the experiences gained to date with MRS, Article 96 (of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006) and in consultation with the IJG and other relevant stakeholders. While this can be treated as an opportunity for the future, it is necessary that associated risks are identified (depending on the scope of work) and a strategy is set in place on how to alleviate these. For example, the need for new profiles and competences of staff has to be understood. Advice and input from national authorities and Member States will be particularly valuable in this context.

In the 2021-2027 period, proposals for reduced co-financing rate coupled with flat rate on TA reimbursements may lead to lack of resources in Interreg at least in some stages of the programme life-cycle. It can be anticipated that this, in turn, may reduce participation in Interact services (seminars, workshops, networks, etc.), especially those of face-to-face nature. Interact needs to prepare for such scenario and invest more resources in providing alternative solutions to face-to-face meetings. Such a scenario also brings a benefit in helping to reduce the carbon-footprint of Interact activities, and support the Green Deal. Interact's existing platform of online events and tools, enhanced by the experiences of online service delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic and supported by new skills and technology, means that Interact IV is well placed to offer virtual services to the Interreg community.

Online learning and Interact's online platform have become important tools in this respect. Interact is also analysing its cooperation partners, those who provide complementary services, and those whose service mechanism and target groups bare resemblance to those of Interact. The argument that Interact's products are free of charge should not be taken for granted as other institutions are also developing/have developed knowledge in Interreg. It is reassuring that according to the analysis of programme participation in Interact events in 2020, all programmes have been engaged in the activities. It is however key for Interact to continue to innovate, remain close to its target groups and strive for excellence of service.

Finally, the political context within which Interact operates has also an effect on the programme. Interact

cannot be separated from Interreg and political developments that have an effect on Interreg also effect Interact as well. In the 2014-2020 period, both Brexit and the COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the political and economic climate, in addition to COVID-19's traumatic health impact and the tragic loss of life.

#### **Note on strategic environmental assessment**

Exchange of experiences, innovative approaches and capacity building are Interact's main fields of work. In line with the Slovak Republic legislation, namely Act No. 24/2006 Coll. on the assessing of influences upon the environment, MA requested an opinion from the responsible authority, Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic, if strategic environmental assessment shall be conducted. The ministry examined the proposed actions and confirmed that the programme would not have direct impact on the environment and was therefore not subject to a strategic environmental assessment.

#### **Use of public procurement as a strategic tool**

During the implementation of the Programme the Managing Authority will promote the strategic use of public procurement to support Policy Objectives (including professionalisation efforts to address capacity gaps). Beneficiaries will be encouraged to use more quality-related and lifecycle cost criteria. When feasible, environmental (e.g. green public procurement criteria) and social considerations as well as innovation incentives should be incorporated into public procurement procedures.

1.3. Justification for the selection of policy objectives and the Interreg-specific objectives, corresponding priorities, specific objectives and the forms of support, addressing, where appropriate, missing links in cross-border infrastructure

Reference: point (c) of Article 17(3)

Table 1

Selected policy objective or selected Interreg specific objective	Selected specific objective	Priority	Justification for selection
6. Interreg: A better Cooperation Governance	ISO6.1. Enhance the institutional capacity of public authorities, in particular those mandated to manage a specific territory, and of stakeholders (all strands)	1. Service delivery	The selection of policy objective is limited to one in case of Interact IV in line with Interreg regulation, focusing on boosting the effectiveness of cohesion policy across the Union in particular in the Interreg programmes, but also beyond. This kind of increased effectiveness is reached by capacity building, particularly by identifying and facilitating the transfer of good practices, providing guidance and expertise in solving implementation bottlenecks, as well as promoting the use of innovative approaches, for example but not limited to Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI), Community-lead Local Development (CLLD), Interregional Innovation Investments Instrument (I3), cooperation under Article 22(3), point (d) (vi) CPR, New European Bauhaus, promoting EGTC and strengthening the visibility of Interreg. As stated above in the note on the strategic environmental assessment, Interact should not have any negative impact on the environment. Due to its size and nature of intervention its direct impact on climate actions can only be negligible and therefore are not in the main focus in its interventions. Still, considering its leader role in Interreg community, Interact will promote all policy relevant interventions to Interreg programmes. Form of support: grants. The chosen form of support is the most suitable for achieving programme goals. Interact supported operations do not generate revenue which does not allow the use of financial instruments. Also the complexity of interregional programmes makes the setting up of a financial instrument across 29 participating countries technically not feasible.

## 2. Priorities

Reference: points (d) and (e) of Article 17(3)

### 2.1. Priority: 1 - Service delivery

Reference: point (d) of Article 17(3)

2.1.1. Specific objective: ISO6.1. Enhance the institutional capacity of public authorities, in particular those mandated to manage a specific territory, and of stakeholders (all strands)

Reference: point (e) of Article 17(3)

Enhance institutional capacity of public authorities, in particular those mandated to manage a specific territory, and of stakeholders.

2.1.1.1 Related types of action, and their expected contribution to those specific objectives and to macro-regional strategies and sea-basin strategies, where appropriate

Reference: point (e)(i) of Article 17(3), point (c)(ii) of Article 17(9)

Within the Interreg Specific Objective "A better Governance" Interact has identified three perspectives which target the enhancement of institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders for effective implementation of Interreg programmes and other cooperation actions. These perspectives seek to: Manage processes and procedures better and more effectively; Work better in a cooperation context; and, Improve the evidence base and visibility of Interreg.

Building on the experience of promoting cooperation and coordination across various implementing stakeholders of MRS, and more recently SBS, Interact intends to continue to support existing territorial frameworks, their actors and their outward orientation whenever they benefit Interreg and promote cooperation as effective policy tool. This includes capacity-building approaches, staff exchange methods, cooperation models and experiences for actors within and outside of Interreg. These actions are embedded in the perspectives identified below.

#### **A) Increasing efficiency: Strengthening the management capacity of Interreg programmes and other cooperation actors**

Reducing inefficiencies in the management of Interreg programmes and, through pilots, in cooperation actions as well.

Proposed actions are clustered under three categories:

- Harmonisation of approaches, focusing on interpretation and harmonisation of rules, information flows and procedures for Interreg programmes from different strands and other cooperation stakeholders in line with Interact's mandate, including harmonisation pilots (e.g. harmonising procedures such as ongoing reporting and project modifications, business intelligence dashboard, capitalisation toolkit) for supporting cooperation actions as named above.
- Simplification of approaches, pursued in structures governing the Interreg programmes in rules and procedures for programme and project management and information flows, and through pilot processes in cooperation actions as named above.
- Efficient programme management to support leaner management, clearer delineation of roles and responsibilities, better internal communication, and transparency of flows.

Within these three categories Interreg programmes will be the main target group, while the support to cooperation actions will be implemented based on pilot projects.

Actions should seek to alleviate bottlenecks in Interreg and promote gains from optimising the management of the programmes. Some will lead to budget savings, others to reduction of bureaucracy and will target a shift from administration to quality, i.e. less time spent on developing tools/procedures and more time for quality checks. This will require effective engagement with the target groups. To what extent our actions are successful will be established through the Interact quality management tools (e.g. surveys) and impact evaluation.

Under this perspective, the focus is not on the individual but on collaboration between programmes and specific programme management functions to support system change. It is about mobilising and facilitating networks of experts to engage practitioners, legislators and decision-makers alike in resolving the identified bottlenecks. For example, by developing joint tools for programme and project management. In specific cases, networks will be complemented by targeted events, which specifically seek to exchange, inspire and disseminate best practice and tools, as well as on-demand advisories for specific programmes for targeted support on specific implementation issues.

## **B) Enabling individuals: Strengthening the capacity to work in cooperation programmes and context**

Enabling actors involved in the management and implementation of Interreg programmes and, through pilots, in cooperation actions to cooperate, and to steer the programmes/actions and the human resources in an improved, more inspired or visionary way.

Proposed actions are clustered under three categories:

- Institutional knowledge and competence to support learning and development of those working in the Interreg programmes and in cooperation context at large. It seeks to develop the skills to better manage the implementation of programmes and projects, and to strengthen skills and expertise to find new ways of managing cooperation, developing synergies between programmes/funding instruments (including those mentioned under ‘Synergies with other programmes’ in section 2.1).
- Strengthen cooperation and coordination skills among Interreg programme actors (incl. EGTC actors) and of those actors involved in the management and implementation of territorial governance frameworks and initiatives such as MRS and SBS. Pilot actions will also target the IJG goal.
- Innovative approaches, to support actions that promote innovative tools and methods in a cooperation context and for cooperation purposes.

The starting point is to strengthen the skills of the individual professionals who compose organisations. The focus is on development and support of individuals to do their job better or work in a different way, use innovativeness and creativity not only in the context of Interreg but in other cooperation frameworks and actions as well. By that, shifts in organisational/ institutional culture are targeted as well. In order to achieve this, activities that support training and experimentation are required, Interact will also need to develop tools to support this. Trainings, both in person and online, will address the particular needs of individual professionals, as well as across functions for continuous learning and development. Targeted working groups and peer-to-peer actions will test and elaborate new methods, tools, and approaches in cooperation context and programmes.

Programme online contents shall be made accessible to all people, including persons with disabilities as foreseen in the EU Web Accessibility Directive ((EU) 2016/2102). The programme will ensure the accessibility of venues where Interact events are organised.

### **C) Interreg visibility: Strengthening the capacity to capture and communicate programme and project results and to increase visibility**

Increasing the evidence base of Interreg results (e.g. keep.eu, Interreg.eu, Interact web) and making achievements and the cooperation process more visible to all target groups, including citizens and decision makers.

Proposed actions are clustered under three categories:

- Building and gathering thematic knowledge and result awareness, aggregation and analysis of Interreg results, and promote coordination and capitalisation as a mainstream management process in programmes.
- Communication of results, where integration of communication in the programme life-cycle, communication and promotion of results and building knowledge of what to promote and to whom are sought.
- Visibility of Interreg, where promoting strategic communication, deploying joint initiatives to reach out to relevant actors, overall visibility of Interreg in relevant fora, and the conceptualisation of cooperation processes are sought.

The actions identified take as a starting point Interreg as a whole. The focus is not on an individual, a body, a function or an organisation but on the instrument as a whole. This requires activities that reinforce the aim. Raising the overall profile and visibility through performing targeted analysis, leading thematic networks to deepen the understanding of results and the added value of Interreg in the bigger picture of cohesion policy, are at the core. Targeted stakeholder outreach through conferences, web tools, promotion campaigns and other solutions supporting visibility, and empowering capitalisation and strategic communication as integrated functions through seminars and workshops are promoted.

Where relevant, Interact will make available datasets resulting from the actions as open data, in line with the EU Open Data Directive ((EU) 2019/1024).

The types of actions of the programme have been assessed as compatible with the do no significant harm principle as they are not expected to have any significant negative environmental impact due to their nature.

## 2.1.1.1b. Definition of a single beneficiary or a limited list of beneficiaries and the granting procedure

Reference: point (c)(i) of Article 17(9)

The extensive knowledge and expertise gained by Interact since its inception is its foremost asset and key to its successes. To keep this knowledge, Interact beneficiaries shall be kept and enhanced. No additional operations and beneficiaries shall be selected, in the meaning of the Regulation i.e. recipients of grants. Interact IV will continue with a limited set of beneficiaries. Exclusively the four decentralised beneficiaries identified for the previous Interact III programme. The permanent Interact Offices with their seats in Turku, Valencia, Viborg and Vienna will implement the programme's service delivery, involving all target groups. All four offices have been part of Interact almost from its launch and have proven over the years that they have the capacity to deliver high quality services and that they can quickly adapt to face new challenges. In addition to the four Interact Offices, the Interact Secretariat, based in Bratislava will be engaged in service delivery coordination. Interact IV will not select and implement projects in its usual Interreg meaning, instead all activities shall be run by these offices. These activities shall be set in an annual work plan, which is based on the needs of the target groups, and this plan shall be approved and monitored by the Interact Monitoring Committee. Therefore, Interact beneficiaries may be defined as those public institutions, which are entrusted by Member States to implement the whole programme, through activities carried out by their four regional offices, in respect of the management functions of the Interact Managing Authority. The joint human resources policy among Interact Offices shall also be focused on keeping and developing knowledge and skills as its foremost asset.

In relation to the geographically decentralised beneficiaries, the Audit Authority will be authorised to carry out its functions on the entire territory covered by the programme (and including the countries of the Interact IV beneficiaries).

### 2.1.1.2. Indicators

Reference: point (e)(ii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iii) of Article 17(9)

Table 2 - Output indicators

Priority	Specific objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Milestone (2024)	Target (2029)
1	ISO6.1	RCO81	Participations in joint actions across borders	participations	4590	17850
1	ISO6.1	RCO85	Participations in joint training schemes	participations	612	2380
1	ISO6.1	RCO116	Jointly developed solutions	solutions	90	350

Table 3 - Result indicators

Priority	Specific objective	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline	Reference year	Target (2029)	Source of data	Comments
1	ISO6.1	RCR81	Completion of joint training schemes	participants	0.00	2020-2029	2,009.00	Interact IV monitoring tools (database)	
1	ISO6.1	ISR01	Institutions using knowledge/ skills acquired through Interact services	Percentage (%) of institutions	0.00	2020-2029	70.00	Survey	
1	ISO6.1	ISR02	Institutions using solutions developed through Interact services	Percentage (%) of institutions	0.00	2020-2029	70.00	Survey	

### 2.1.1.3. Main target groups

Reference: point (e)(iii) of Article 17(3), point (c)(iv) of Article 17(9)

While Interact has been serving the Interreg community since the 2000-2006 period, the 2014-2020 iteration (Interact III) introduced new wider target groups to the programme. This was a natural development as the strategic involvement of Interact engaged the programme with the new target groups, having the thematic scope or the stakeholders beyond Interreg. The strategic involvement of these stakeholders has been important, sharing a bigger picture of European cooperation, and again it will continue to be crucial to Interact and Interreg's success in the future.

One good example of this is Interact's work on the preparation for the 2021-2027 period, when Interact brought Interreg programmes, Member States, the Commission and other relevant stakeholders together for the 'better future' of European cooperation. However, there are numerous other examples, where the development and evolution of Interact's relationships with the new stakeholder groups have produced positive results.

Interact will continue to focus on the service delivery for its main target audience – Interreg programme bodies – in the 2021-2027 period. Strong links, trust and commitment has been built during the previous programming periods. As the Interreg family will be extended to include the Interreg NEXT programmes, it is anticipated that these programmes will more intensively seek to join Interact's services. Interact starts the 2021-2027 period with an already expanded core target audience, the wider Interreg community. At the same time, Interact is ahead of new ambitions and challenges, the CPR calls for Interact to support cooperation in wider terms, including the IJG actors under Interact's service portfolio, in explicitly and carefully selected targeted activities.

In general, the target groups considered in Interact's context as the most relevant actors that either will receive the Interact service, or be engaged by Interact, being part of the change agents' community. Therefore, in addition of being the recipient of the service, there are also two other relevant roles for the target groups, having the role of influencers or ambassadors. The target groups naturally reflect the nature and context of what Interact plans to deliver within its service portfolio during 2021-2027 period.

Involvement of the target groups in the future service delivery is reflected against the three perspectives (in 2.1.1.3 above). Some target groups will be heavily involved in all three perspectives, having different roles (receiver, influencer, ambassador of service). On the other hand, some of the target groups may have limited or no involvement in certain perspectives. The list below is the generic overview. For the more specific relationship between Interact IV perspectives and the target groups, please see the Interact IV Intervention logic matrix.

Interact IV will engage with and involve the three main stakeholder groups:

A) Interreg programme bodies (Interreg, Interreg-IPA CBC, Interreg NEXT); with their specific role as the core receiver of Interact service delivery. They

have often heavy involvement in service delivery, as sparring partners within the exchange of experiences, or ambassadors, linked to strategic policy results. This target group covers more explicitly:

- Managing Authorities
- Joint Secretariats
- National controllers
- Bodies responsible for Accounting function
- Audit Authorities
- Representatives of Monitoring Committees.

B) National/ regional co-operation stakeholders, with their specific role as the receiver of Interact service delivery, quite often with more limited involvement as the target group above. This target group has also the role of sparring partners, “influencers” within the exchange of experiences, sharing practices and promoting achievements of cooperation, linked to strategic policy results. This target group covers more specifically:

- IJG actors (national and regional programmes)
- National/Regional Coordination bodies, National contact persons/points
- Macro-regional/Sea basin strategies’ actors and other actors involved in cooperation instruments
- EGTC
- Key cooperation partners on specific themes, CLLDs, ITIs and other territorial tools (ref. Article 22 CPR).

C) Wider policy actors, with specific roles as strategic ambassadors and influencers. The involvement of this target group is very heterogeneous, from being the key stakeholders in service delivery to the very limited or often indirect involvement. The key element is the role as providers of policy interpretations and partners in strategic change. More specific examples of some of these actors will include:

- European Commission, in particular DG REGIO
- European Commission, other DGs
- Committee of the Regions (CoR)
- Other EU institutions

- European-wide associations, cross-border organisations
- EU-wide financing institutions and programmes, EU-wide financial engineering stakeholders
- Interreg project partners, EGTCs managing projects
- Target groups of cooperation promotion (e.g. local authorities, citizens, wider public, media, universities).

Target group involvement will be reviewed, and where necessary further specified in accordance with emerging needs of Interreg programmes.

Interact will ensure respect for fundamental rights and compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. Horizontal principles in line with Article 9 CPR (gender equality, equal opportunities, equal treatment and sustainable development) will be observed in the preparation, implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the programme (please see Appendix 5).

2.1.1.4. Indication of the specific territories targeted, including the planned use of ITI, CLLD or other territorial tools

Reference: Article point (e)(iv) of 17(3)

Not relevant for Interact.

2.1.1.5. Planned use of financial instruments

Reference: point (e)(v) of Article 17(3)

Not relevant for Interact.

2.1.1.6. Indicative breakdown of the EU programme resources by type of intervention

Reference: point (e)(vi) of Article 17(3), point (c)(v) of Article 17(9)

Table 4 - Dimension 1 – intervention field

Priority	Specific objective	Fund	Code	Amount (EUR)
1	ISO6.1	ERDF	173. Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders to implement territorial cooperation projects and initiatives in a cross-border, transnational, maritime and inter-regional context	41,166,667.00

Table 5 - Dimension 2 – form of financing

Priority	Specific objective	Fund	Code	Amount (EUR)
1	ISO6.1	ERDF	01. Grant	41,166,667.00

Table 6 - Dimension 3 – territorial delivery mechanism and territorial focus

Priority	Specific objective	Fund	Code	Amount (EUR)
1	ISO6.1	ERDF	33. Other approaches - No territorial targeting	41,166,667.00

### 3. Financing plan

Reference: point (f) of Article 17(3)

#### 3.1. Financial appropriations by year

Table 7

Reference: point (g)(i) of Article 17(3), points (a) to (d) of Article 17(4)

Fund	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
ERDF		7,687,358.00	7,810,840.00	7,936,792.00	8,065,263.00	6,683,043.00	6,816,704.00	45,000,000.00
Total		7,687,358.00	7,810,840.00	7,936,792.00	8,065,263.00	6,683,043.00	6,816,704.00	45,000,000.00

### 3.2.Total financial appropriations by fund and national co-financing

Reference: point (f)(ii) of Article 17(3), points (a) to (d) of Article 17(4)

Table 8

Policy objective	Priority	Fund	Basis for calculation EU support (total eligible cost or public contribution)	EU contribution (a)=(a1)+(a2)	Indicative breakdown of the EU contribution		National contribution (b)=(c)+(d)	Indicative breakdown of the national counterpart		Total (e)=(a)+(b)	Co-financing rate (f)=(a)/(e)	Contributions from the third countries
					without TA pursuant to Article 27(1) (a1)	for TA pursuant to Article 27(1) (a2)		National public (c)	National private (d)			
6	1	ERDF	Public	45,000,000.00	41,166,667.00	3,833,333.00	11,250,000.00	11,250,000.00		56,250,000.00	80.000000000000%	162,801.00
	Total	ERDF		45,000,000.00	41,166,667.00	3,833,333.00	11,250,000.00	11,250,000.00		56,250,000.00	80.000000000000%	162,801.00
	Grand total			45,000,000.00	41,166,667.00	3,833,333.00	11,250,000.00	11,250,000.00		56,250,000.00	80.000000000000%	162,801.00

4. Action taken to involve the relevant programme partners in the preparation of the Interreg programme and the role of those programme partners in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation

Reference: point (g) of Article 17(3)

The identification of the relevant stakeholders is in the hands of the MA, in consultation with the participating countries. Building the partnership between Interact and the participating countries is based on the programme priorities and territorial specificities, and in turn, this helps to define the specific needs of programmes from Interact. The organisations included should either be able to contribute to the programme or Interact will potentially have an impact on them.

Interact established the below guiding principles:

1. Relevance of the potential partners for the programme objective, i.e. ‘A better cooperation governance’
2. Territorial specificities and
3. Proportionality of the approach.

In Interact IV, where no projects in the usual Interreg sense are financed, and services are offered to the Interreg community and beyond, the majority of the members of our partnership are our target groups (see 2.1.1.3).

### **Relevance of partners in view of the programme objective**

Interact IV focusses on ‘better cooperation governance’ and therefore, the type of partners will be institutions such as public authorities and administration.

The members of the partnership should be the authorities in charge of the management and control of Interreg programmes. In addition, external cooperation programmes and in specific cases, IJG programmes could also be members of the partnership.

Specific entities to be involved include MAs, JSs, management verification bodies, audit bodies, national representatives, and indirectly project beneficiaries. This includes also specific cooperation stakeholders such as the coordinators of the macro-regional and sea-basin strategies, Commission, EP, CoR, EGTCs and others.

Interact also creates linkages with similar European bodies including the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière (MOT), Association of European Border Regions (AEBR), Technical Support to the Implementation and Management of ENI CBC programmes (TESIM) and Cross Border Institution Building (CBIB+).

### **Territorial specificities**

Interact IV is a programme for the entire EU and the associated, candidate and neighbouring countries. Interact IV covers the EU plus Norway and Switzerland as the financing countries and also offers services for EU external cooperation programmes – such as Interreg-IPA CBC, Interreg NEXT, and OMR – based

on pre-identified needs. Interact IV will seek to involve partners from involved non-MSs, where they are directly relevant for the implementation of Interreg programmes.

### **Proportionality of the approach**

The application of this principle is sought to help to reduce the number of potential partners in proportion to the programme size and budget. In defining a proportionate approach, the balance between allowing a diversity of representation, and in ensuring an engaged and effective structure needs to be found.

In the implementation phase, Interact IV will seek to maintain a large number of partners involved. However, given the programme covers all EU Member States (MSs) as well as many neighbouring countries, participation in the MC meetings shall be limited to the representation of umbrella organisations at EU level.

### **Actions taken to facilitate a wide involvement of the partners in the preparation of the programme**

Interact conducted a public consultation in November 2020 with the aim to understand if there were any errors, issues or omissions in the framing of the programme document. Following numerous communication actions to ensure the consultation was well published, individuals and organisations had the opportunity to comment on the draft programme in a three-week window. Comments could be made through an online event, or through a survey. The responses received through this survey have been carefully reviewed and the feedback has been considered alongside comments from the PC, which both highlighted specific concerns in the work towards wider cooperation actors. The new Intervention logic matrix has further clarified the focus of Interact and responds to the main concerns raised. Other comments have been retained for future consideration.

### **Partner involvement during implementation**

Interact aims to take on board the partners' opinion in its implementation and evaluation. Their feedback will be included in the various proposals to be discussed when planning, assessing and evaluating Interact activities.

In case an Interreg programme or another stakeholder would like to input to the work of the MC, they should contact the National Contact Point (NCP), the relevant MC member or the MA, who will collect the inputs from the respective territories or stakeholder(s). This supports the proportionality approach as set out above.

The MC will be composed of 1-3 representatives per participating country (EU Member States, Norway and Switzerland) to enable representation from all governance levels (state level, regional level, etc.) based on the respective participating country needs. Participants in an advisory capacity will be representative(s) of the European Commission, the Managing Authority, Interact Secretariat, Interact Offices; Paying Authority and representatives of the Audit Authority as an independent observer. The MC may invite also representatives of national and European institutions or persons to MC meetings as observers.

The needs of the Interreg community shall be regularly assessed through needs assessment surveys, feedback collected during events and daily contacts with programmes. All partners will be given the

opportunity to participate in the annual needs assessment to support the development of targeted services. Finally, partners will be considered for the participation in the evaluation process (via targeted surveys).

Next to these options to have a say in the Interact IV delivery system the MC members often represent institutions in charge of the coordination of the Interreg community in their respective country. Thus they are well aware of the specific needs and practices.

## **Regional approach**

Bearing in mind the ambitions set in the perspectives (see 2.1.1.1), a close and more personal relationship with our key target groups will form a crucial role in ensuring Interact achieves the intended successes. Thus Interact will seek to strengthen its regional approach without breaking the overarching inclusive approach.

Working with programme procedures and in general management structures with the view of making them more efficient and effective requires a good understanding of these processes in their local context. This local context may define a boundary to which harmonisation stops being possible, and good knowledge will help Interact understand the real boundaries to which harmonisation and simplification can be applied in specific contexts.

Additionally, encouraging cooperation and coordination between Interreg and IJG actors will require a strong regional and national perspective. It is always done in context of territorial and/or policy framework (e.g. given policy objectives, Smart Specialisation Strategies, territorial and local development strategies implemented through ITI, CLLD and other territorial tools ref. to Article 22 CPR). Knowing these frameworks will help to identify the synergies, and the greatest potential for cooperation that can benefit Interreg.

In line with the place-based approach, most of the programme results will have a local/regional impact and context. Understanding this regional diversity should help understand the results better and thus identify good communication material.

Therefore, we believe that a regional approach, as used in Interact III, can also be used to a large extent in Interact IV.

Where appropriate, the programme could further strengthen its coordination with NCPs and national authorities in view of a more effective integration and harmonisation of capacity building and coordination initiatives carried out at interregional and national level. The NCPs may also be supported with specific tools (e.g. based on SCOs) or expertise to more effectively address the new target group of mainstream programmes. Improved communication and knowledge sharing from and to these groups could also enable specific regional/national good practices to be identified and shared with other regions. Such an approach could also make it easier to evaluate how Interact covers specific area needs and support the involvement of all areas of Europe.

## **Principles**

- Balance effort/cost/benefit

As Interact resources are limited, services are devoted to a certain region, MS or number of programmes only when this is the best method of providing the service for the needs of these stakeholders. A balance between regional approach and exchange across EU will be kept when planning activities addressed to specific areas. Programme managers of a regional area should have the possibility to exchange with programmes of other areas to promote cross-fertilisation.

- Language and backgrounds balance

In the Interact team, the balance of different languages and backgrounds across offices is overall assured. Nonetheless, it is not possible that Interact teams cover all languages in all fields of expertise. The programme language is English, and services shall be provided in English language. Regional/national advisories in national languages are still possible, in cooperation with NCPs, within the limits of resources and knowledge available in Interact.

- Build up regional knowledge

Interact Offices build up knowledge of the programmes and national networks in the area that is also useful in horizontal services.

- Open networks

A knowledge network is necessarily open, because in principle there is very limited knowledge creation/sharing in closed circles. The regional/national networks shall also benefit from Europe-wide knowledge provided either by Interact or externally. Thus, any geographically focused service will include examples from outside the geography as well. Participation in network meetings shall be kept open as a general rule, in order to allow for real knowledge exchange.

- Interest-based work

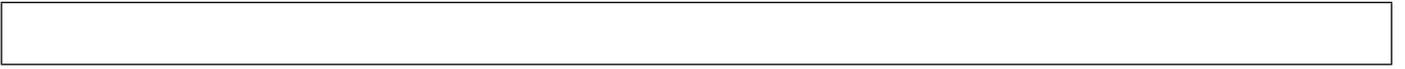
The basic principle to make regional networks work well, is that they have an actual need and interest in working together and exchanging. Therefore, the key of success is based on the topics, to be agreed by both Interact and the network members, considering the needs and interest of more and less experienced Interreg staff.

### **Geographical coverage**

Interact shall assure that all participating countries and programmes will benefit from their involvement in Interact IV.

Additionally:

- Analysis of programmes participation shall include the territorial aspects;
- Evaluation plan will include regional analysis and measures;
- Communication plans will include an analysis and specific measures for the regions/countries (e.g. the ones not sufficiently participating or using Interact services).



5. Approach to communication and visibility for the Interreg programme (objectives, target audiences, communication channels, including social media outreach, where appropriate, planned budget and relevant indicators for monitoring and evaluation)

Reference: point (h) of Article 17(3)

Interact offers specialist services to stakeholders, including other programmes. This chapter sets out how Interact will approach its communication and visibility actions, in order to ensure the effectiveness of its work, and the work of the target audiences.

## **Objectives**

The principle focus of the communication objectives are to complement the delivery of the programme's overall objective, as well as the identified specific objectives.

In order to do this, Communication objectives shall be set in order to:

- Promote Interact and the use of key tools and services that support cooperation, including Interact's projects of strategic importance (see appendix 3).
- Support the wider dissemination of best practice and knowledge amongst target audiences.
- Demonstrate that 'Cooperation Works!';
- through the achievements of Interact.
- through the collated achievements of Interreg.
- through sharing knowledge with other cooperation actors.

The focus of communication shall vary throughout the period, and shall be regularly reviewed. At the start of the period, supporting relationship building with new audiences, as well as ensuring the dissemination of shared interpretations of new cooperation rules will be among the priorities.

## **Target audiences**

Interact's target audiences are set out above (2.1.1.3). Interact's primary target audiences already work in cooperation, but may not be aware of all the resources and tools that can support them. A key specific focus in the next period shall be to ensure Interact reaches out beyond existing relationships, particularly where new audiences are to be engaged.

Interact communication shall also prioritise working with wider policy actors, to further develop partnerships and create Interact ambassadors. These ambassadors will need up to date knowledge and information on solutions developed by Interact, in order to share relevant work with third parties.

Interact shall have regard for the opportunity to use the aggregated achievements of Interreg programmes to promote pan-European cooperation towards citizens, and to support programmes in more effectively reaching their target audiences. Through these activities, Interact shall support the communication of Interreg towards European citizens.

## **Communication channels**

Interact shall maintain a website, which will be the primary source of information and resources for Interact's target audiences. Interact shall also maintain an exchange platform, with easy access from the website, which enables peer-to-peer exchange.

In promoting Interact's work, effective electronic communication tools shall be used. Maintaining an up to date contact database will provide an effective tool to reach key audiences via regular email newsletters. In addition, other electronic communication tools will be utilised.

Interact shall also create and utilise opportunities to share relevant related information, such as during events. While the vast majority of Interact efforts shall be electronic, key items may be printed. In particular, for large scale EU events, which offer special opportunities to raise the awareness of Interact and Interreg.

## **Social media outreach**

Interact has built an effective presence on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. While the audiences on the three platforms vary, all three tools offer effective outreach for the programme. Interact will continue to monitor other social media platforms to understand where there are effective opportunities to reach out on a professional basis to target audiences.

In addition to Interact's own accounts, Interact shall continue to manage and organise other accounts which promote Interreg.

## **Planned budget**

Interact shall plan to spend approx. 500,000 euro (0.9% of the programmes total budget) on communication. This shall ensure the provision of an effective programme website, branded templates for materials and promotional materials, as well as other printed and digital materials to support the work of the programme.

## **Monitoring and evaluation**

In addition to social media statistics and website analytics, which provide some insights into the effectiveness of communication generally, more specific evaluations will take place as part of Interact's monitoring and evaluation work.

In essence, Interact's aim is to ensure information is available and easy to find. Questions will be developed to be asked at intervals in the period to assess the awareness of services offered, as well as the extent to which users can easily find information offered by Interact.

6. Indication of support to small-scale projects, including small projects within small project funds

Reference: point (i) of Article 17(3), Article 24

Not relevant for Interact.

## 7. Implementing provisions

### 7.1. Programme authorities

Reference: point (a) of Article 17(6)

Table 9

Programme authorities	Name of the institution	Contact name	Position	E-mail
Managing authority	Bratislava Self Governing Region / Interact department	Petra Masáčová	Head of Interact department, head of Managing Authority	petra.masacova@region-bsk.sk
Audit authority	Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic / Section of audit and control	Ing. Vladimíra Zacharidesová		vladimira.zacharidesova@mfsr.sk
Body to which the payments are to be made by the Commission	Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic	Ing. Katarína Vallová		katarina.vallova@mfsr.sk

## 7.2. Procedure for setting up the joint secretariat

Reference: point (b) of Article 17(6)

The MA will be assisted by a small joint secretariat (Interact Secretariat, IS) and will contract the decentralised implementing bodies, henceforth called the Interact Offices, which actually deliver the programme to the target groups.

Strong collaboration will be ensured between the Managing Authority, the Interact Secretariat and the Interact Offices concerning the joint elaboration and the implementation of annual and multi-annual work plans.

Due to the nature of the programme, Interact IV will not implement projects within the usual Interreg sense, instead a limited set of beneficiaries throughout the whole implementation of the programme and as such, there is no need to provide information to beneficiaries. Accordingly, the small secretariat unit, set up within the MA, in the organisational structure of the Bratislava Self Governing Region, shall mainly assist the MA and the MC in carrying out their respective functions, fulfilling both coordination (under Priority 1) and technical management functions and primarily being responsible for the below tasks:

- Setting up the framework of service delivery: elaborating and further developing programme-level procedures and related templates (e.g. related to annual work planning) and key documents (e.g. the strategic multiannual document and internal guidance);
- Coordinating the actual implementation of programme-level processes, including facilitating the annual work planning exercise, compiling on the basis of Interact Offices' inputs the annual work plans, as well as organising and following up coordination meetings, etc.;
- Collecting and compiling inputs of Interact Offices into programme-level documents;
- Contributing to the content and financial monitoring tasks under the responsibility of the MA;
- Contributing to and fulfilling programme-level reporting obligations;
- Providing (setting up, maintaining and further developing) the joint IT infrastructure of the programme, including the programme monitoring system, online collaborative work platform, etc.

7.3. Apportionment of liabilities among participating Member States and where applicable, the third or partner countries and OCTs, in the event of financial corrections imposed by the managing authority or the Commission

Reference: point (c) of Article 17(6)

For Interact IV, beneficiaries are understood as the hosting institutions of the Member States hosting Interact Secretariat and Interact Offices. The beneficiaries are liable for any irregularity they may have caused. Any unduly paid amounts are recovered from the specific beneficiary by the Managing Authority.

If the Managing Authority does not succeed in securing repayment from one of the beneficiaries, the Member State, on whose territory the beneficiary concerned is located, shall reimburse the Managing Authority any amounts unduly paid to that beneficiary. Each participating Member State hosting the specific beneficiary, by signing Interreg regulation Article 16(5) agreement explicitly agrees to have this subsidiary liability and to timely pay back any unduly paid amount to the account of the programme. The Managing Authority is responsible for reimbursing the amounts concerned to the general budget of the Union. Any such occurrences and measures will be timely discussed and agreed upon in the first subsequent meeting of the Monitoring Committee.

When any relevant authority of the Member State detects an irregularity, it will timely inform the Managing Authority and the Audit Authority.

In case of suspension of payments by the European Commission, due to errors, irregularities or even external factors, such as cash flow gaps at European level, the Managing Authority shall inform the beneficiaries and the MC about the suspension and the reasons for it immediately after being notified.

With this information the Managing Authority shall also convene all bodies directly affected by the suspension, in particular the beneficiaries, in order to develop a plan to address the causes of the suspension, in line with the indications provided by the European Commission. The Monitoring Committee shall be informed in all steps, in particular on the measures agreed with the European Commission, on the progresses and on the consequences of the suspension in the service delivery by Interact.

Even though Member States not hosting an Interact body will not be beneficiary of programme funding, they will share the benefit from programme services. In accordance with point (c) of Article 17(6) of the Interreg Regulation, the programme shall set out apportionment of liabilities among the participating Member States and, where applicable, third partner countries or OCTs, in the event of financial corrections imposed by the Managing Authority or the Commission.

For Interact IV, all Member States have therefore agreed to share liability in proportion to their share of co-financing, but not exceeding the amount of their respective national contribution, in case of flat rate corrections, caused by decisions made by the programme Monitoring Committee. Programme bodies and/or beneficiaries and/or hosting Member States are liable for irregularities, including those ones having a systemic nature, they caused.

8. Use of unit costs, lump sums, flat rates and financing not linked to costs

Reference: Articles 94 and 95 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 (CPR)

Table 10: Use of unit costs, lump sums, flat rates and financing not linked to costs

Intended use of Articles 94 and 95 CPR	Yes	No
From the adoption, the programme will make use of reimbursement of the Union contribution based on unit costs, lump sums and flat rates under the priority according to Article 94 CPR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
From the adoption, the programme will make use of reimbursement of the Union contribution based on financing not linked to costs according to Article 95 CPR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Appendix 1

### A. Summary of the main elements

Priority	Fund	Specific objective	Estimated proportion of the total financial allocation within the priority to which the simplified cost option will be applied in %	Type(s) of operation covered		Indicator triggering reimbursement		Unit of measurement for the indicator triggering reimbursement	Type of simplified cost option (standard scale of unit costs, lump sums or flat rates)	Amount (in EUR) or percentage (in case of flat rates) of the simplified cost option
				Code(1)	Description	Code(2)	Description			

(1) This refers to the code for the intervention field dimension in Table 1 of Annex 1 CPR

(2) This refers to the code of a common indicator, if applicable

Appendix 1

B. Details by type of operation

C. Calculation of the standard scale of unit costs, lump sums or flat rates

1. Source of data used to calculate the standard scale of unit costs, lump sums or flat rates (who produced, collected and recorded the data, where the data is stored, cut-off dates, validation, etc):

--

2. Please specify why the proposed method and calculation based on Article 94(2) is relevant to the type of operation:

3. Please specify how the calculations were made, in particular including any assumptions made in terms of quality or quantities. Where relevant, statistical evidence and benchmarks should be used and, if requested, provided in a format that is usable by the Commission:

--

4. Please explain how you have ensured that only eligible expenditure was included in the calculation of the standard scale of unit cost, lump sum or flat rate:

5. Assessment of the audit authority or authorities of the calculation methodology and amounts and the arrangements to ensure the verification, quality, collection and storage of data:

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## Appendix 2

### A. Summary of the main elements

Priority	Fund	Specific objective	The amount covered by the financing not linked to costs	Type(s) of operation covered		Conditions to be fulfilled/results to be achieved triggering reimbursement by the Commission	Indicator		Unit of measurement for the conditions to be fulfilled/results to be achieved triggering reimbursement by the Commission	Envisaged type of reimbursement method used to reimburse the beneficiary or beneficiaries
				Code(1)	Description		Code(2)	Description		

(1) This refers to the code for the intervention field dimension in Table 1 of Annex 1 to the CPR and Annex IV to the EMFAF Regulation.

(2) This refers to the code of a common indicator, if applicable.

## B. Details by type of operation

Interact has a number of projects which deliver significant benefits for its service users which should be considered Operations of Strategic Importance (OSI). They can be considered under two headings:

### **Harmonisation and Simplification**

Interact's wide work on harmonisation and simplification has two flagship operations which provide significant additional capacity to target audiences.

Harmonised Implementation Tools (HIT) are co-created with Interreg programmes harmonise and simplify programme management to form best practice. The tools form the foundation of shared programme management and make effective the exchange of best practice.

From HIT, Interact has developed Jems, the new monitoring system for 2021-2027 Interreg programmes. It is available to interested programmes on a free-license basis and first modules are already in use.

The communication of both HIT and Jems is a high priority before, and at the start of, the programming period.

### **Communication and Capitalisation**

Interact's role in promoting pan-European Interreg results is set out in perspective 3. This will be achieved in part through two flagship operations, as well as wider work on capitalisation:

The purpose of the Interreg.eu is to be a one-stop-shop for communication of the whole Interreg community and its contribution to the Cohesion Policy. It is intended to be the future home of European Cooperation Day, the annual celebration of Interreg which so far has reached 13.5 million citizens. A new portal shall be developed, in cooperation with Interreg, and delivered early in the programme period and be promoted throughout.

keep.eu is the only source of aggregated information on cooperation projects and beneficiaries under Interreg. It is inclusive of all Interreg participating countries, with programme, project, partner data and more from 2000 onwards. It is being adapted for the 2021-2027 period and will be promoted throughout the period.

Capitalisation is a method to have a more effective impact on a territory. To support programmes build on future results Interact will develop and deliver capitalisation activities. Specific communication support will promote this work with the objective of increasing the visibility of Interreg in Cohesion Policy.