Interreg Europe 2014-2020 Programme

1st call for project proposals

General information

The Territorial Cooperation Unit within the Funds and Programmes Division would like to inform interested parties that a European-wide information campaign pertaining to the Interreg Europe 2014-2020 Programme has been launched in relation to the first call for project proposals under this Programme. It is important to note that although the official call is expected to open upon the endorsement of the European Commission (approximately mid-June 2015), all documentation pertaining to the first call has been made available in draft form. Given that no major changes are expected on such documentation, prospective applicants are being encouraged to go through the documents so as to obtain further information about the Interreg Europe Programme as well as find out what is expected from project proposals and hence be in a position to draft the necessary groundwork in preparation for this call.

Priority Axes and budgetary allocation

The call for proposals, which shall remain open formally for one month only, focuses on interregional cooperation projects i.e. ‘classic’ interregional cooperation projects comparable to those funded under the Interreg IVC programme. The budget allocated for this call amounts to €107.5 million. Projects may be submitted under the four priority axes addressed under this programme namely:

1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation;
2. Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs;
3. Supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy in all sectors and
4. Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency.

Co-financing rates

Under the Interreg Europe 2014-2020 Programme, the eligible project activities are co-financed by the ERDF at a rate of either 75% or 85% depending on the legal status of the project partner as follows: public bodies and bodies governed by public law from all 28 European Member States are eligible for a co-financing rate amounting to 85% whereas private non-profit bodies may receive 75% co-financing.

Eligible area

The eligible cooperation area under Interreg Europe covers the entire territory of the European Union, together with Norway and Switzerland. Under this call, projects have to involve partners from at least three countries of which at least two partners must be from EU Member States.

Eligible entities

The Interreg Europe 2014-2020 Programme supports policy learning among local and regional public authorities and other actors of regional relevance so as to improve the performance of policies and programmes, eventually leading to regional development. In this regard, public authorities, public law bodies and private non-profit bodies may participate in Interreg Europe projects. It is important to note that private non-profit bodies cannot take on the role of a lead partner in such projects. The
participation of competent authorities is essential to maximise the impact of the programme on regional and local policies across the EU. The direct involvement of these authorities responsible for the policy instruments addressed by the project is therefore a prerequisite for applying to the programme. If the relevant authorities are not involved directly as partners in the project, their contribution to the project has be explained in the Application Form and a standard letter of support from the relevant authorities must also be provided.

**Submission of the Application Form (by the Lead Partner)**

It is important to note that any project proposals including all relevant documentation have to be submitted online (www.iOLF.eu) within the stipulated timeframe. In addition, an original unbound hard copy carrying the original wet ink signature also has to be sent to the Programme’s Joint Technical Secretariat within the deadline at the following address: Interreg Europe Programme, Les Arcuriales, Entre D-5e etage, 45 rue de Tournai, 59000 Lille, France.

The respective documentation may be downloaded from the Programme website: www.interregeurope.eu or from the Funds and Programmes Division’s website: https://eufunds.gov.mt

It is advised that potential applicants review such documentation thoroughly before submitting any proposals / joining any project proposal.

**National Contact Point**

Should you require further information on the above mentioned call or on the INTERREG EUROPE 2014-2020 Programme in general, kindly contact the Territorial Cooperation Unit within the Funds and Programmes Division, MEAIM (Ms. Caroline Debattista) either by phone 2200 1142 or by email caroline.debattista@gov.mt.