

European Regional Development Fund  
(2007 - 2013)



## **INTERREG IVC**

Commission Decision  
C(2007) 4222 of 11 September 2007

## **ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT**

**2009**



24 June 2010

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## 1 Identification and executive summary

<b>OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME</b>	<b>PRO-</b>	<b>Objective concerned</b>	Territorial cooperation
		<b>Eligible area concerned</b>	Whole EU plus Norway and Switzerland
		<b>Programming period</b>	2007-2013
		<b>Programme number (CCI No)</b>	CCI 20007 CB 163 PO 046
		<b>Programme title</b>	INTERREG IVC
<b>ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT</b>		<b>Reporting year</b>	2009
		<b>Date of approval of the annual report by the monitoring committee</b>	24 June 2010

The programme implementation was mainly focused in 2009 on the assessment of applications of the second call, the set-up and implementation of the audit system, monitoring the first incoming reports from running projects and programme and project-related communication activities.

With again almost 500 applications the programme was witness to the high demand from local and regional authorities for interregional cooperation. With 74 projects approved, almost two-thirds of the available budget has already been committed. Due to the swift commitment of funds, the Monitoring Committee decided to open in 2009 a limited call for capitalisation projects only and requested that a programme evaluation first be carried out before deciding on the next major open call for regional initiative projects.

The Group of Auditors and the Auditing Authority set up the audit system. The system check carried out in the second half of 2009 confirmed that the programme implementation system works.

Projects submitted their first project reports. Despite the very early stage of the project implementation, a few projects were already able to report first concrete achievements. 10 good practices have already been transferred and six local or regional policies improved.

The communication activities were focused around events to promote the third call, seminars for running projects and the production of documents to promote the programme.

## 2 Overview of the implementation of the Operational Programme

### 2.1 Achievement and analysis of the progress

#### 2.1.1 Information on the physical progress of the Operational Programme:

Based on the indicator system approved by the Member States of the INTERREG IVC Programme and outlined in section 4.5 of the Operational Programme (OP), the table below shows the achievements in the relevant sections until the year 2009. The baseline value for all indicators is zero.

**Table 1: Selected indicators on the physical progress of the OP**

Indicator	2007	2008	2009	Total		
<b>1. Operations' performance (Priorities 1 and 2) (total of all operations in the programme)</b>						
<b>2. Programme management performance (Priority 3)</b>						
<b>2.1 Support project generation and provide advice to project applicants</b>	<b>Output:</b> No. of "Individual Consultations" (IC) with applicants	Achievement	248	446	39	733
		Target				900
	<b>Output:</b> No. of participants in "Individual Consultations" (IC)	Achievement	620	875	74	1569
		Target				1,800
	<b>Result:</b> No. of applications submitted	Achievement	0	492	481	973
		Target				800
<b>2.2. Ensure the evaluation of applications, prepare the approval decisions and contract approved projects</b>	<b>Output:</b> No. of applications approved and contracted	Achievement	0	41	74	115
		Target				240
	<b>Output:</b> Total INTERREG IVC budget of the approved operations	Achievement	0	MEUR 88.7	MEUR 160.5	MEUR 249.2
		Target				MEUR 380
	<b>Output:</b> Average INTERREG IVC budget of the approved operations	Achievement	0	MEUR 2.2	MEUR 2.2	MEUR 2.2
		Target				MEUR 1.58
	<b>Output:</b> Total ERDF budget of approved operations	Achievement	0	MEUR 69.2	MEUR 123.6	MEUR 192.4
		Target				MEUR 302
	<b>Output:</b> % of total ERDF budget committed to operations	Achievement	0	22.9%	40.9	63.8
		Target				94 %
<b>2.3 Ensure monitoring / advice to running projects</b>	<b>Output:</b> No of project reports checked	Achievement	0	0	82	82
		Target				1,200

Indicator		2007	2008	2009	Total	
	<b>Output:</b> Average number of days needed to check one report	Achievement	0	0	29	29
		Target				30
	<b>Output:</b> No of project visits, participation to project events by MA/JTS	Achievement	0	5	11	16
		Target				240
	<b>Output:</b> Total ERDF paid out to operations	Achievement	0	0	MEUR 1.9	MEUR 1.9
		Target				MEUR 286
	<b>Output:</b> % of total ERDF budget of approved operations paid out to operations	Achievement	0%	0%	1%	1%
		Target				95%
	<b>Result:</b> % of successful implemented operations (achievement of indicated output/result indicators and budget spending) compared with approved operations	Achievement	0%	0%	0%	0%
		Target				90%
	<b>Result:</b> Amount of ERDF de-committed	Achievement	0	0	0	0
		Target				MEUR 16
<b>Result:</b> % of total ERDF de-committed (rate of decommitment)	Achievement	00	0	0	0	
	Target				5%	
<b>2.4 Ensure capitalisation of operations' results for both types of intervention;</b>	<b>Output:</b> Number of approved operations working on similar themes identified and capitalisation activities requested	Achievement	0	5	16	21
		Target				10
	<b>Output:</b> Number of operations' good practice guides available on the programme's web site	Achievement	0	0	0	0
		Target				240
	<b>Output:</b> Number of capitalisation events organised	Achievement	0	0	2	2
		Target				10
	<b>Result:</b> Number of participants in capitalisation events organised	Achievement	0	0	80	80
		Target				1000
	<b>Result:</b> Average number of downloads of each good practice guide available on the programme's web site	Achievement	0	0	0	0
		Target				40
<b>2.5 Organise meetings and events for applicants, partners, auditors, experts, Member States and other bodies to inform them about the programme, to dis-</b>	<b>Output:</b> No. of brochures (no of issues created, not no of copies printed or disseminated)	Achievement	0	1	5	6
		Target				4
	<b>Output:</b> No. of newsletters (no. of issues created, not no. of copies printed or dis-	Achievement	0	0	0	0
		Target				34

Indicator		2007	2008	2009	Total	
cuss specific aspects of its implementation, disseminate and capitalise on operations' results	seminated)					
	<b>Output:</b> No. of events organised	Achievement	7	13	5	25
		Target				80
	<b>Output:</b> No. of other events participated in (with presentations/stands etc. about the programme activities)	Achievement	14	42	46	102
		Target				50
	<b>Output:</b> Estimated no. of participants in events participated in	Achievement	1705	4901	4334	10,940
		Target				5,000
	<b>Result:</b> No. of press releases on programme activities disseminated	Achievement	2	2	5	9
		Target				20
	<b>Result:</b> No. of copies of newsletters disseminated	Achievement	0	0	0	0
		Target				10,000
	<b>Result:</b> No. of copies of brochures disseminated	Achievement	0	4,000	16,850	20,850
		Target				10,000
	<b>Result:</b> No. of articles/appearances published in the press and in other media	Achievement	9	35	63	107
		Target				20
	<b>Result:</b> Estimated no. of participants in events organised	Achievement	1395	1993	399	3787
	Target				5,500	
<b>Result:</b> Average no. of visits per month on the programme website	Achievement	37,284	35,270	36,363	36,305	
	Target				10,000	
2.6 Ensure the reporting to the Member States and the European Commission.	<b>Output:</b> No of Monitoring Committee meetings	Achievement	1	2	2	5
		Target				15
	<b>Result:</b> Average no. of visits per month on the programme intranet site	Achievement	40	200	200	120
		Target				50

## 2.1.2 Financial information (in EUR)

**Table 2: Financial information on the priority axes by source of funding (2007 to 2009)**

	Expenditure paid out the beneficiaries included in payment claims sent to the managing authority	Corresponding public contribution	For information		Private expenditure (1)	Expenditure paid by the body responsible for making payments to the beneficiaries	Total payments received from the Commission
			Norwegian contribution	Swiss contribution			
<i>Priority 1:</i> Innovation and the Knowledge Economy ERDF, Public Funding	1,546,841.73	309,368.34	2,815.94	0.00	0.00	1,198,330.95	16,785,379.04
<i>Priority 2:</i> Environment and Risk Prevention ERDF, Public Funding	964,004.23	192,800.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	743,607.72	11,902,359.68
<i>Priority 3</i> Technical Assistance ERDF, Public Funding	4,661,125.09	1,398,337.56	34,778.98	30,462.81	0.00	2,589,420.37	1,831,132.26
<b>Grand total:</b>	<b>7,171,971.05</b>	<b>1,900,506.75</b>	<b>37,594.92</b>	<b>30,462.81</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,531,359.04</b>	<b>30,518,870.98</b>
Total in transitional regions in the grand total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total in non-transitional regions in the grand total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ESF type expenditure in the grand total where the operational programme is co-financed by ERDF (2)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(1) Only applicable for operational programmes expressed in total cost							
(2) This field shall be completed where the operational programme is co-financed by the ERDF or the ESF where use is made of the option under Article 34(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006							

### 2.1.3 Information about the breakdown of use of the Funds

**Table 3: Information about the breakdown of the use of Funds 2007 to 2009**

Code (*) Dimension 1 <i>Priority theme</i>	Code (*) Dimension 2 <i>Form of finance</i>	Code (*) Dimension 3 <i>Territory</i>	Code (*) Dimension 4 <i>Economic activity</i>	Code (*) Dimension 5 <i>Lo- cation</i>	<i>Amount (**)</i>
09 Priority 1: <i>Innovation and the Knowledge Economy</i>	01	10	00	inter- regional	1,198,330.95
54 Priority 2 <i>Environment and Risk Prevention</i>	01	10	00	inter- regional	743,607.72
85 Priority 3 <i>Technical Assistance</i>	01	10	00	inter- regional	2,478,614.30***
86 Priority 3 <i>Technical Assistance</i>	01	10	00	inter- regional	784, 173.23***
<b>Total:</b>					<b>5,204,726.20</b>
(*) The categories should be coded for each dimension using the standard classification					
(**) Allocated amount of the Community contribution for each combination of categories.					
(***) The figures include technical assistance paid by the managing authority but not yet co-financed with ERDF by payments from the certifying authority (body responsible for making payments to the beneficiaries). They differ therefore from the amount indicated in table 2 under priority 3.					

### 2.1.4 Assistance by target groups

The assistance of the programme is targeted only to public bodies and bodies governed by public law.

The table below shows the amounts paid by the end of 2009 to the target groups mentioned above:

**Table 4: Assistance to target groups in ERDF 2007 to 2009**

Target Group	ERDF in EUR
Public bodies	830,935
Bodies governed by public law	1,111,004
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,941,939</b>

### **2.1.5 Assistance repaid or re-used**

No assistance was repaid or re-used during the implementation of the programme in 2009.

### **2.1.6 Qualitative analysis**

On 30 January 2009 the second call for proposals was closed. 481 applications were received asking for ERDF funding of more than EUR 752 million while the total programme budget for projects only provides EUR 302 million. 26 applicants submitted proposals for capitalisation projects, 455 were applications for regional initiative projects.

In the eligibility assessment 90, or 19 %, of the applications submitted were declared not eligible. This was about the same rate of eligibility as in the first call. Also similar to the last call, about half of the ineligible applications had problems submitting a correct co-financing statement.

The quality assessment was carried out in two steps. The JTS first evaluated the eligible applications for Capitalisation projects and then continued with the appraisal of the proposals for the regional initiative projects.

During the Monitoring Committee meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, on 4 and 5 November 2009 seven capitalisation projects and 67 Regional initiative projects were approved. They account for an ERDF funding of EUR 124 million. The European Commission labelled four of the approved Capitalisation projects as fast track projects. They will benefit from additional expertise by the European Commission in order to contribute to the Regions for Economic Change initiative. A list of all approved projects is attached in Annex 1.

On 9 December 2009 the third call for proposals was launched during the Capitalisation Conference in Gothenburg. About 150 representatives from Managing Authorities, Intermediate Bodies and bodies governed by public law from eighteen countries across Europe participated to this event. The call closed on 5 March 2010.

Besides the main activity of the JTS, i.e. the evaluation of the numerous applications of the second call and the promotion of the launch of the third call, the first progress reports of the first round approved projects arrived. In total 82 progress reports were received, giving an overview of the project implementation from the approval of the projects in 2008 till mid 2009.

Most of the reports were received on time or with a short approved delay. Despite the underspending of more than 50 %, most projects report that the implementation of activities are either in line with the initial plan or with justified delays, that would not endanger the timely finalisation of the project. It is rather common, especially in the start-up phase that the project implementation lags behind. However, almost all projects are able to catch up within two or three reporting periods. An overview of the first reports received in 2010 confirmed that most projects were able to reduce their underspending significantly.

Concerning the promotion of equal opportunities for men and women and the protection of the environment, the applicants are requested in several fields of the application form to indicate and to describe the effects of the project on these horizontal policies, but also how the day-to-day implementation affects these themes. The evaluation of these responses was taken into account when approving projects. The Monitoring Committee as the decision-making body of the programme is obliged to ensure that the requirements of equal opportunities for men and women and the protection of the environment are fulfilled, in accordance to chapter 8.3 of the programme.

73 of the 115 applications approved (63.5 %) focus on, or are regarded to be positive in terms of equal opportunities. 96 or 83.5 % of all projects have their main focus or are regarded to be positive in terms of environmental sustainability.

The programme identified during the assessment of applications in 2008 five and in 2009 another 16 projects that worked in similar fields and requested respective capitalisation activities. Two events were consequently reported that should be highlighted:

- On 24<sup>th</sup> September 2009, the first 'capitalisation' event among took place in Brussels. It was organised at the initiative of the PIKE Capitalisation Project and gathered representatives from B3 REGIONS, another running Capitalisation Project also focusing on information society issues (i.e. broadband services in remote areas). DG REGIO, DG INFO SOC and the INTERREG IVC JTS also participate in this event.
- In the interim conference of the CREATIVE GROWTH project on 3 December 2009, four other INTERREG IVC projects dealing with creative industries were also present: CITIES, CREATIVE METROPOLE, CRE.ARE and ORGANZA. This conference was therefore considered as the second capitalisation event among running projects. This event led to very lively and useful exchanges among the participating projects. At the end, the synergies between the projects were positively highlighted by all participants.

It was also suggested that further activities of this kind should be organised to ensure synergies among running projects.

Chapter 6.4 of the Operational Programme (OP) underlines the need for the Member States, where appropriate and in accordance with current national rules and practices, to organise a partnership with the respective authorities on regional, local and urban level, with economic and social partners and other appropriate bodies.

## **2.2 Information about compliance with Community law**

No problems relating to the compliance with Community law have been encountered in the implementation of the operational programme and the measures taken to deal with them.

## **2.3 Significant problems encountered and measures taken to overcome them**

With a letter of 31 October 2008 the EC informed the programme that the analysis of the management and control system was blocked due to open legal questions on or missing descriptions of first level control systems of France and Italy. As a consequence payment to the programme had been blocked.

In bilateral negotiations between the MA/JTS and the member states concerned, the missing information was provided and subsequently on 10 April 2009 the concerns of the Auditing Authority and later on 9 June 2009 the reserve of the EC were lifted.

Mid October 2009 the MA/JTS indicated to the MC substantial country specific implementation problems for Italy.

Italy was not able to set-up the first level financial control system which prevented nine Italian-led projects and therefore all their partners to report any expenditure. Several authorities, especially from the new Member States, informed the MA/JTS and the respective Member States representatives that they may not be able to continue to implement their activities in accordance with the application form if they would not receive soon any reimbursement of their costs.

The MC decided during the meeting in Stockholm from 4 to 5 November 2009 that the lead partnership of all Italian-led projects had to be changed to a partner from another country with a functioning first level control system if Italy were not able to set-up a functioning first level control system by 31 December 2009.

By end of 2009, and thus within the deadline, Italy was able to announce that the requirements set by the MC had been fulfilled. They issued the first approbation certificates for Italian first level controllers and therefore avoided the loss of the lead partnership of a number of projects.

#### ***2.4 Changes in the context of the operational programme implementation***

No changes in the context of the operational programme implementation were noted.

#### ***2.5 Substantial modification pursuant to Article 57 of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006***

No substantial modification of an operation as referred to Article 57 of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 can be reported.

#### ***2.6 Complementarity with other instruments***

During various information events and the consultations with potential partners, the staff always underlined the specific criteria of the INTERREG IVC programme. It was made clear that INTERREG IVC cannot be a substitute programme for proposals to be co-financed by ESF or other programmes.

Furthermore during the application process all applicants had to confirm in their co-financing statement that no expenditure related to their project had been or would be funded by any other EU programme. In addition the lead applicant had to confirm in the application form that the project neither in whole nor in part had nor would receive any other complementary EU funding during the whole duration of the project.

In the quality assessment, it was checked that the partnership covers a wide EU area beyond the cross-border and transnational programmes areas. In case of a limited geographical cov-

erage, justification has to be provided. The assessment of this partnership criterion allows the identification of applications that could also be submitted in a related transnational or cross-border INTERREG programmes.

For the third call, the rules for the geographical coverage were further amended. It was for example required that in an application form, a partnership includes at least one partner from each of the four information point areas and at least two of the twelve most recent EU Member States. While the purpose of these stricter requirements was to increase the quality of the applications submitted, it further avoided double applications in different INTERREG programmes and thus reduced the risks of double financing.

During the project implementation the first level controller had to check and confirm that no expenditure had been supported by any other funding (EU, regional, local or other) and also had to ensure that there are mechanisms to avoid double-financing.

**2.7 Monitoring and evaluation**

The Monitoring Committee, the JTS, the Managing Authority and the Auditing Authority set up efficient measures and procedures to ensure the implementation of the programme in accordance to the various relevant regulations and the Operational Programme.

**2.7.1 Meetings and decision of the Monitoring Committee (MC)**

In 2009 the MC held two meetings in which information on the programme implementation was given and decisions made. The Task Force set-up in accordance to § 5 of the Monitoring Committee rules of procedure met twice to prepare proposals for the MC. Further decisions were made in five written procedures. An overview of the meetings and the decisions in written procedure is provided in table 5 below.

**Table 5: Monitoring Committee meetings and decisions in written procedure**

<b>Meetings/ Written procedures</b>	<b>Date &amp; Location/ Approval date</b>	<b>Main issues</b>
Task Force Meeting	8 April 2009, Lille, France	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Description of the outcome of the second call</li> <li>▪ Explanation of the assessment procedure</li> </ul>

Meetings/ Written procedures	Date & Location/ Approval date	Main issues
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Proposal for a strategy for further calls</li> </ul>
Written procedure	16 April 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Technical assistance: Approval of the expenditure report 2008 and of the budget 2009</li> </ul>
Monitoring Committee Meeting	14/15 May 2009, Prague, Czech Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Update of the rules of procedure to include minor precisions on the wording.</li> <li>▪ Agreement on limited third call for proposals for capitalisation projects. A maximum budget of EUR 15 million was provided. Call to be opened in December 2009.</li> <li>▪ Agreement on decision making process for the second call applications.</li> </ul>
Written procedure	29 June 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approval of the annual report 2008</li> </ul>
Task Force Meeting	22 September 2009, Brussels, Belgium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lessons learnt from second call for proposals</li> <li>▪ Country specific implementation problems</li> <li>▪ Draft terms of reference of the third call for proposals</li> <li>▪ Programme capitalisation and evaluation</li> </ul>
Monitoring Committee Meeting	4/5 November 2009, Stockholm, Sweden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Agreement to update the Subsidy contract in order to clarify the requirements for projects concerning the publicity rules</li> <li>▪ Requirement to change the lead partner of Italian led projects in case that the Italian first level control was not set-up by end of 2009.</li> <li>▪ Suspension of payment to Portuguese partners in case that the respective share of Portugal on translation cost is not paid by end of 2009.</li> <li>▪ Approval of 74 projects proposals with a quality assessment score of 2.83 and above.</li> <li>▪ Approval of the terms of reference for the third call for proposals limited to capitalisation projects.</li> <li>▪ Agreement to launch an experimentation on programme capitalisation.</li> <li>▪ Set-up of a task force for the programme evaluation</li> </ul>

## **2.7.2 Monitoring procedures**

The monitoring procedures as described in the Annual Report 2008 were successfully implemented as the first progress reports arrived in April 2009 and a second wave of reports were submitted from October 2009. No changes in the procedures were made.

## **2.7.3 Programme documents, tools and Group of Auditors meetings**

Since 2007, the MC, the Managing Authority, the JTS and the Audit Authority worked towards setting up a transparent and efficient management and control system. An update of the development of the main programme documents, tools and meetings of the Group of Auditors is given below.

### **2.7.3.1 Operational programme**

The operational programme remained unchanged in 2009.

### **2.7.3.2 Rules of Procedure**

The wording of the rules of procedure was slightly changed to precise the deadlines and to tackle the issue of abstention of Member States during MC meetings. They are attached as Annex 2.

### **2.7.3.3 Management and Control System Description**

On 10 April 2009, the Audit Authority was able to lift the reserves that were expressed during 2008. The Audit Authority thus re-submitted the management and control system description with a revised compliance assessment. The European Commission reviewed and approved it on 9 June 2009. As a consequence, the first interim payment could be made in July 2009.

Nevertheless, Italy faced delays in putting in place their system. As a result, Italian partners and nine Italian-led projects and all their partners could not receive any ERDF contribution in 2009. However, in December 2009, Italy could confirm that eventually the system was settled and the first level controllers could be approved.

#### **2.7.3.4 Agreement between the EU-Member States, Norway, Switzerland, the Certifying Authority and the Managing Authority**

The last missing Agreement was signed on 16 June 2009. All Member States as well as Switzerland and Norway have thus signed the Agreement.

#### **2.7.3.5 Group of Auditors (GoA) meeting**

In 2009, the INTERREG IVC Group of Auditors (GoA) met on 18 and 19 November 2009 in Lille. During the meeting the results of the system audit were presented. For the conclusions please refer to paragraph 2.7.3.8.

This meeting also focused on the audit of projects that would take place during the first semester 2010. The template of the draft report for the audit of projects was approved and then included in the audit methodology for the programme.

The sampling method and size for the audit of projects were also discussed. It was decided that a random selection of the projects that had costs certified to the Commission in 2009 would be implemented. The sample size was set at 15% of the number of projects for which expenditure had been certified to the European Commission in 2009. For each project selected, the Lead Partner will be audited as well as a partner randomly selected<sup>1</sup>.

The Annual Control Report and the Annual Opinion were discussed (please refer to paragraph 2.7.3.6.)

The next Group of Auditors meeting will be held in Paris in November 2010 where the audit of operations reports, the irregularity rate, the remedial actions following the audits, the Annual Control Report, the Annual Opinion, the confidence level and percentage control level will be discussed.

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<sup>1</sup> It was noted when making the selection of the operations that 33 INTERREG IVC projects had expenditure certified in 2009. As a result, 5 projects have been selected for an audit in January 2010. In total, 5 Lead Partners plus 3 project partners have been selected.

### **2.7.3.6 Annual control report and annual opinion**

According to Article 62(1)(d)(i) of Regulation (EC) No1083/2006, the Audit Authority shall submit “to the Commission an annual control report setting out the findings of the audits carried out during the previous 12-month period ending on 30 June of the year concerned in accordance with the audit strategy of the operational programme and reporting any shortcomings found in the systems for the management and control of the programme”. According to this article, the second report had to be submitted by 31 December 2009 and cover the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009. The Audit Authority submitted the Annual Control Report on 23 December 2009.

Similarly, the Audit Authority also delivered on 23 December 2009 the second annual opinion in compliance with Article 62(1)(d)(ii) in which it is mentioned for the period concerned (1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009) that “it cannot formulate an annual opinion indicating whether that system functions effectively” because there was no system audit nor audit of projects during this period. However, the opinion mentioned the conclusions of the system audit that took place during the second semester of 2009. For more details on the outcome of the system audit please refer to paragraph 2.7.3.8.

### **2.7.3.7 Audit methodology**

Ernst & Young submitted a first draft of the audit methodology to the Group of Auditors in Luxembourg on 26 November 2008. The members of the Group of Auditors took the opportunity to make their comments. Additional comments were formulated by the Group of Auditors members after the meeting to amend the methodology.

Two further meetings together with the Audit Authority, Ernst & Young and the JTS took place in January 2009 to give a final touch to the documents. The methodology and the checklist for the system audits were finally submitted to the Group of Auditors members in written procedure that ended on 17 April 2009.

The Audit Authority supported by the MA/JTS made the last editorial adjustments to reach a final version of the document that was circulated on 24 June 2009. On this basis, the system audit could start on 6 July 2009.

Discussions then took place to finalise the audit of projects' methodology as from September. The methodology for the audits of projects has been finally approved during the Group of Auditors held in Lille in November 2009.

#### **2.7.3.8 System audit**

The system audit of the Managing Authority, JTS and Certifying Authority started on 6 July 2009. The draft report was submitted to the audited entities on 18 September 2009. The report was deemed as final on 4 November 2009 and was approved during the Group of Auditors in Lille on 17 and 18 November 2009.

The general conclusion of the audit was for the MA/JTS that the management and control system and the organisation worked well and minor improvements were needed (Category 1). As far as the management and control system and the organisation of the Certifying Authority were concerned, it was concluded that they worked but some improvements were needed (Category 2). The same general conclusion was expressed for the programme level.

The follow-up procedure started after the Group of Auditors meeting. By December 2009, the findings were closed for the MA/JTS. An update of the follow-up procedure will be described in the Annual Control Report to be submitted by 31 December 2010.

#### **2.7.3.9 Application Pack**

In preparation of the third call, which was limited to Capitalisation projects, the application pack, which includes the terms of reference, the programme manual, the application form, the co-financing statement and - for the third call - a letter of support from the Managing Authority/intermediate body, was updated. The changes are summarised below.

Terms of reference:

- Update of the terms of reference to include the below-mentioned stricter requirements in order to improve the quality of the applications submitted:
  - Involvement of the responsible Managing Authority in the applications was required
  - Requirement of have a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 10 countries represented.

- The geographical coverage must at least include one partner from each of the four information point areas and at least two new EU Member states have to be presented in the partnership.
- The ERDF requested has to be within one and two MEUR.

Programme manual:

- Reference made to the requirements for the third call
- Amendments in the financial sections to reflect updates in the national control systems and to increase the clarity and coherence.

Application form

- Updates to take into account requirements of the third call

Co-financing statement

- Text of the co-financing statement was frozen to avoid accidental changes
- Explanation text was merged into a footnote
- Date of the co-financing statement automatically filled
- Co-financing statement which had a higher amount than the one indicated in the application form was acceptable

Letter of support from the Managing Authority/intermediate body

- Added as a special requirement for the third call reserved only for Capitalisation projects.

### **2.7.3.10 Subsidy contract**

The subsidy contract has been updated during the MC meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, on 4 and 5 November 2009, in order to clarify the requirements for projects concerning the publicity rules. The updated version of September 2008 is attached as Annex 3.

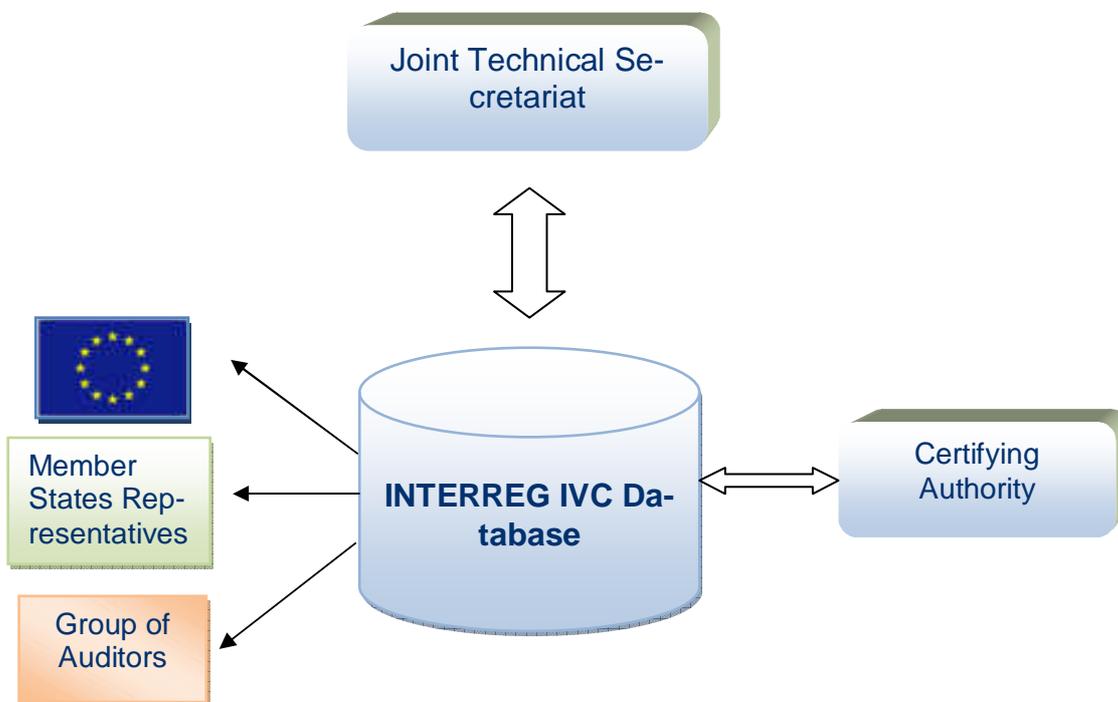
### **2.7.3.11 Partnership Agreement**

The partnership agreement template as developed during 2008 remained unchanged.

### 2.7.3.12 Database System

From the start of the INTERREG IVC programme the MA/JTS had developed an efficient database system, which has become the core tool for the management of project applications and running projects. A general description of the functions is given below:

The database is editable by the authorised members of the JTS, Information Points, and the *Certifying Authority (CA)* only. It is accessible as read-only by the European Commission, Member State representatives, Group of Auditors, First Level Controllers as well as other occasional users like the subcontracted auditing company and external experts. Access is given upon official request to authorised bodies only. The following diagram illustrates the accessibility to the database:



For most users, the visible parts are the sections related to their function. As an example the administration section is visible only by the administrator. This is in order to optimise the clarity of the DB and avoid having an interface overcharged by unusable functions to the user.

The system keeps track of the different versions of data by creating layers whenever a new version of application form or progress report is uploaded. The dates of the operations carried out in the database are automatically stamped, along with the user name of the operator. The database reduces human errors via the pre-control of the uploaded forms. For example, a form relating to one project cannot be uploaded into another; a payment cannot be done by the Certifying Authority without signatures that approved the activities and finance, etc.

The database is also equipped with a flag system concerning the due dates of subsidy contract, fulfilment of conditions, progress report reception and progress report clarifications. The flag turns red if the due date is passed and is visible in all pages of a project in the database. Automation is applied whenever possible like reporting periods, subsidy contracts, mails, letters, selections, etc.

The structure of the database is as follows:

- Administration: to create and modify users and their roles (visible and accessible by the DB administrator only)
- User: to manage own account (passwords, contact info)
- Project Data: includes the 5 sections imported to the DB from Application Form (AF) filled by the Lead Partner (LP); those are:
  - Project summary
  - Detailed description (rationale, policy content, management)
  - Components (Preparation activities, components 1-5)
  - Budget (Budget overview, payment forecast, external expertise and experts, equipment)
  - Partnership (partner contact info, budget, legal status...)

The data in this section can be modified either by another version of the AF, following conditions of approval, or an approved Request for Changes (RfC) or an approved Progress Report (PR). A new version of the AF or RfC results in the creation of a new layer in this section. The newest layer is visible by default but the previous layers can always be consulted.

- Selection: This section covers the procedure up to contracting the project, which includes:
  - Eligibility check
  - External thematic analysis (done by external experts)
  - Quality assessment (score calculation according to predefined criteria)
  - Decision and contracting (Decision, conditions, upload of a new modified AF, generating a subsidy contract, follow up of subsidy contract)
- Monitoring: The main page of this section shows the steps of the PR monitoring (sending pre-filled PR, receiving paper and e-version, clarifications sending and receiving, approval, link to the payment section and summary of clarification requests on activities and finance). The monitoring section includes sub-sections that are:
  1. PR Data: the information filled by the LP via the pre-filled form that is sent by the JTS via the database; the project officers and/or finance officers can insert their clarification requests directly in each section; the PR data includes:

- a. Summary (on achievements of activities and finance)
  - b. General (general information on project's implementation)
  - c. Components (Total or by component)
  - d. Expenditures per partner (total or by partner)
  - e. Contact details (to report modifications of LP contacts and partners)
- 2. Payment: accessible and editable by the CA, this section shows the requested from or paid amount to the LP, scan of the Control Confirmation and the approbation certificates.
- 3. RFC (Request for Changes): includes the status of the request and the summary. The database determine if a new subsidy contract is needed (following a budget change) or not; if the legal status needs to be checked (following partnership change), or if a written procedure is needed (following an exchange of more than 2 partners)
- TA Budget: in this section, globalised monthly data by budget line has to be introduced. The real expenditures replace forecasted figures to calculate the over- or under spending. The aim of this section is to have 100% of the programme budget in the same database.
- Tools: contains:
  - Statistics: to update and download pre-programmed tables in real time
  - Bulk documents: to download in bulk templates and/or pre-filled forms and documents, it allows as well sending personalised mails with personalised attachments in bulk
  - Bulk e-mail state: shows the results of bulk mail sending, if an error occurred or not.
  - Change log: shows the logs of changes done by the users in the DB
  - Import file: to import a single file into the DB (uploading AF thus creating new project in the DB)
  - Bulk import: importing a set of files in predefined settings.
  - Bulk import results: shows if an error occurred during the bulk import as the import operation is uninterruptable by errors.
  - Call info: to insert call related information that is necessary in automated files (date of MC meeting, assigning officers to projects...)
  - Generic statistics: to create new statistics tables using online analytical processing (OLAP)

### 3 Implementation by priority

#### 3.1 Priority 1 and 2

##### 3.1.1 Information on the physical progress

Table 6: Operations' performance indicators

Indicator		2007	2008	2009	Total	
<b>1. Operations' performance (Priorities 1 and 2)</b> (total of all operations in the programme)						
<b>1.1. Contribution of operations to programme objectives</b>						
<b>1.1.1 Improvement of regional and local policies (in accordance with chapter 4.2, specific thematic objectives 1 and 2)</b>	<b>Output:</b> No. of regional/local policies and instruments addressed in the fields of	Achievement	0	0	1189	1189
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Research and technology development</li> <li>○ Support to entrepreneurship and SMEs</li> <li>○ Information Society</li> <li>○ Employment, Human Capital and Education</li> <li>○ Natural and technological risks</li> <li>○ Water management</li> <li>○ Waste prevention and management</li> <li>○ Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage</li> <li>○ Energy and sustainable public transport</li> <li>○ Cultural heritage and landscape</li> </ul>	Target	750			
	<b>Result:</b>	Achievement	0	0	6	6

Indicator		2007	2008	2009	Total	
	No of regional/local policies and instruments improved or developed in the fields of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Research and technology development</li> <li>o Support to entrepreneurship and SMEs</li> <li>o Information Society</li> <li>o Employment, Human Capital and Education</li> <li>o Natural and technological risks</li> <li>o Water management</li> <li>o Waste prevention and management</li> <li>o Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage</li> <li>o Energy and sustainable public transport</li> <li>o Cultural heritage and landscapes</li> </ul>	Target				150
<b>1.1.2 Exchange of experience and improvement of capacities and knowledge of regional and local stakeholders in particular by matching less experienced regions with regions with more experience (in accordance with chapter 4.2, specific horizontal objectives 3 and 4)</b>	<b>Output:</b> No. partners involved	Achievement	0	446	1238	1238
	o public authorities	Target				1,400
	o bodies governed by public law					
	<b>Output:</b> No. of interregional events organised by projects to exchange experience	Achievement	0	0	243	243
		Target				1,400
	<b>Output:</b> No. of participants in these interregional events	Achievement	0	0	6,174	6,174
		Target				14,000
	<b>Output:</b> % of approved operations where both 'Objective Convergence' regions and 'Objective Competitiveness' regions are involved in the partnership	Achievement	0	100%	99%	99%
		Target				80%
	<b>Result:</b> % of partners by legal status (public authorities/bodies governed by public law )	Achievement	0	55/45%	55/45%	55/45%
		Target				70/30%
	<b>Result:</b> No. of staff members with increased capacity (aware-	Achievement	0	0	820	820

Indicator		2007	2008	2009	Total	
	ness/knowledge/skills) resulting from the exchange of experience at interregional events	Target	2,800			
	<b>Result:</b> No. of new projects/activities/approaches resulting from the exchange/dissemination of experience at interregional events	Achievement	0	0	8	8
		Target	480			
	<b>Result:</b> No. of action plans developed by Objective 'Convergence' regions further to the lessons learnt from Objective 'Competitiveness' regions	Achievement	0	0	0	0
		Target	150			
1.1.3 Identification, sharing and transfer of good practices into regional policies in particular EU Structural Funds mainstream programmes	<b>Output:</b> No. of good practices identified by Regional Initiative Projects (Type 1)	Achievement	0	0	802	802
		Target	2,400			
	<b>Output:</b> No. of good practices already identified and made available to regional and local actors involved in Capitalisation, including Fast Track Projects (Type 2)	Achievement	0	0	52	52
		Target	250			
	<b>Result:</b> No. of good practices successfully transferred within Regional Initiative Projects	Achievement	0	0	10	10
		Target	200			
	<b>Result:</b> No. of action plans developed under Capitalisation, including Fast Track Projects (Type 2)	Achievement	0	0	0	0
		Target	500			
	<b>Result:</b> No. of action plans developed under Fast Track Projects	Achievement	0	0	0	0
		Target	250			
	<b>Result:</b> Amount of mainstream funds (Cohesion/ERDF/ESF) dedicated to the implementation of good practices coming from Capitalisation, including Fast Track Projects (Type 2)	Achievement	0	0	0	0
		Target	MEUR 2,500			
	<b>Result:</b> Amount of mainstream funds (Cohesion/ERDF/ESF) dedicated to the implementation of good practices coming from Fast Track Projects	Achievement	0	0	0	0
		Target	MEUR 625			

Indicator			2007	2008	2009	Total	
<b>1.1.4 Contribution to horizontal EU policies</b>	<b>Result:</b> % of operations with positive effects on equal opportunities	Achievement	0	63%	59%	59%	
		Target	10 %				
	<b>Result:</b> % of operations with positive effects on the environment	Achievement	0	54%	84%	84%	
		Target	60%				
<b>1.2. General performance of operations</b>							
<b>1.2.1 Management and coordination</b>	<b>Output:</b> Number of steering committee meetings organised by operations	Achievement	0	0	117	117	
		Target	480				
	<b>Result:</b> % of progress reports approved without additional information requested from the JTS	Achievement	0	0	0%	0%	
		Target	10%				
	<b>Result:</b> % of deviation between planned and actual ERDF payment requests by LP (“-“ under/ “+” overspending)	Achievement	0	0	-54.4	-54.4	
		Target	-5%				
	<b>1.2.2 Dissemination</b>	<b>Output:</b> No. of press releases disseminated	Achievement	0	0	452	452
			Target	960			
<b>Output:</b> No. of brochures (no. of issues created, not no. of copies printed or disseminated)		Achievement	0	0	104	104	
		Target	960				
<b>Output:</b> No. of copies of brochures disseminated		Achievement	0	0	290,773	290,773	
		Target	120,000				
<b>Output:</b> No. of newsletters (no. of issues created, not no. of copies printed or disseminated)		Achievement	0	0	103	103	
		Target	1,920				
<b>Output:</b> No. of copies of newsletters disseminated		Achievement	0	0	74,240	74,240	
		Target	120,000				
<b>Output:</b> No. of dissemination events organised		Achievement	0	0	225	225	
		Target	960				
<b>Output:</b> No. of other events participated in (with presentations/stands etc. about the operation activities)		Achievement	0	0	468	468	
		Target	1,500				
<b>Result:</b> No. of articles/appearances published in the press and in other media		Achievement	0	0	992	992	
		Target	2,400				

Indicator		2007	2008	2009	Total
Result: Estimated no. of participants in events (organised and participated in)	Achievement	0	0	23,278	23,278
	Target	160,000			
Result: Average no. of visits per month on operation's website	Achievement	0	0	836	836
	Target	1,000			

**Table 7: Commitment of funds to projects**

Priority/Sub theme	ERDF committed to projects (in EUR)	Programme Budget (in EUR)	% of programme budget
<b>1. Innovation and the knowledge economy:</b>	<b>114,690,945.33</b>	<b>176,726,969</b>	<b>64.8%</b>
• <i>Employment, human capital and education</i>			
• <i>Entrepreneurship and SMEs</i>			
• <i>Information society</i>			
• <i>Innovation, research and technology development</i>			
<b>2. Environment and risk prevention:</b>	<b>78,090,322.80</b>	<b>125,315,487</b>	<b>62.3%</b>
• <i>Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage (including air quality)</i>			
• <i>Cultural heritage and landscape</i>			
• <i>Energy and sustainable transport</i>			
• <i>Natural and technological risks (including climate change)</i>			
• <i>Waste management</i>			
• <i>Water management</i>			
<b>Total</b>	<b>192,781,268.13</b>	<b>302,042,456</b>	<b>63.8%</b>

- Commitment of funds

The second call for proposals was closed on 30 January 2009. Out of the 481 applications submitted during that call, 391 (81.3%) were eligible and 74 (7 Capitalisation Projects and 67 Regional Initiative Projects) were finally approved by the Monitoring Committee during its meeting on 4 and 5 November 2009 in Stockholm. All these projects were approved under conditions and the signature of the subsidy contracts only took place early 2010.

The 71 projects approved in priority 1 'Innovation and the Knowledge Economy' represented MEUR 114.7 or 64.9% of the budget available. In priority 2, 'Environment and Risk Prevention', 44 projects accounted for MEUR 78,1 or 62.3% of the budget provided in the pro-

gramme. The overall commitment sums up to MEUR 192.8 or 63.8% of the budget provided for projects.

The percentages indicated in the table above show that the shares of programme funds allocated to the two priorities almost perfectly match the shares of funds committed after the two first calls.

- Changes in running projects

In 2009, the JTS approved more requests for changes than in 2008 although these requests still came from the same 41 first call projects. 18 requests were received from 16 different projects (see full overview in Annex 4 attached). As in 2008, all these changes were related to the partnership which is logical considering the stage of implementation of the project (budget change or extension of duration are usually required towards the end of the project's implementation).

The reasons for these changes are varied and include:

- Internal organisational change (e.g. election, restructuration, merge between two organisations),
- Lack of commitment (i.e. 'sleeping' partner),
- Financial difficulties due to the financial crisis,
- Integration of organisations that were initially considered as 'sub-partners'.

In Article 5.1 of the Agreement between the Member States, the Managing Authority and the Certifying Authority, the MC gave the JTS the mandate to approve the following changes:

- the modification of a partnership, the withdrawal or replacement of up to two partners, or if more, up to 10% of the partners in a project,
- a reallocation of the budget by up to 20% of total costs as stated in the approved application,
- changes in activities which do not change the aim of the project,
- an extension of the duration of the project not extending the programme deadline.

As all changes were within the limits mentioned above, they were approved by the JTS. Each MC meeting is an opportunity to keep the MC informed about these changes (i.e. meeting in Prague, Czech Republic on 14 May 2009 and meeting in Stockholm, Sweden on 5 November 2009).

### 3.1.2 Qualitative analysis

A summary table for all running projects which includes information of the sub-theme tackled, the Lead Partner, budget committed and a brief description of the projects activities is attached in Annex 1.

Before going into the details of the qualitative analysis, the following points of attention which show the challenging character of evaluating the INTERREG IVC achievements have to be taken into consideration:

- Compared with 2008, it is now possible to report on some first achievements of the approved projects. In particular, the 41 first call projects are now more advanced in their cooperation. Since the deadline for the submission of their third progress report was 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010, it is possible to provide some quantitative and qualitative information on their development. However, with regard to the projects approved in the second call, the only available information is that of the application form, since their first progress report is due by October 2010. It is therefore important to highlight that the figures on which this qualitative analysis is based (i.e. figure reported in table 6 for projects performance) are a mix between 'static' figures taken from the original 115 application forms (e.g. 'number of regional/local policies addressed', 'number of public authorities involved') and more 'dynamic' figures reported in the third progress reports received from the first call projects<sup>2</sup> (e.g. 'number of interregional events organised', 'number of good practices identified'). In order to avoid any 'statistical bias', it should also be noted that each time a figure reported by a project was very far from the average figure reported by all other projects (also taking into consideration the project characteristics such as mini-programme), this specific figure was removed and is not included in the total figure reported as 2009 achievements in table 6.
- Due to its broad and strategic objective of improving regional policies and instruments, the INTERREG IVC programme differs from most other European programmes. Despite its simple structure into two thematic priorities, the programme still supports a wide diversity of projects even under the same sub-theme. All the running operations have in common their strategic approach and objective to improve

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<sup>2</sup> The present document takes into consideration the information provided in all third progress reports submitted by 25 May 2010 (i.e. 39 progress reports).

regional/local policies and instruments but often they remain very diverse, not only in terms of themes (most of the sub-themes are still broadly defined in the Operational Programme), but also in terms of approach. For instance in the sub-theme 'Innovation, Research and Technology Development',: and even if all running projects are related to regional innovation policies, certain projects have a pure sectoral focus (e.g. NANO4M on nanotechnology, I4W on health and safety, ChemClust on chemical industry); others have a particular focus on a certain aspect of innovation policies (e.g. POOLING4CLUSTERS focusing on cluster policies, CLIQ on the participation of civil society in the framework of the Quadruple Helix system); finally, some others like PERIA which exchanges experience on the interrelation between Regional Innovation Agencies and their respective regional authorities have a more process-oriented approach.

Even if this openness contributes to the programme's richness, it also makes the consolidation of results much more complex. This has to be taken into consideration when analysing the results achieved by the programme through the available quantitative data.

In order to face this challenge of consolidation, the programme has approved an experimentation on capitalisation at programme level during the Monitoring Committee meeting in Stockholm in November 2009. This experimentation will be launched in 2010. Further details of this will be reported in the next Annual Report.

- The indicators on which the projects have to report every six months can sometimes be subject to different interpretations. The notion of 'good practice' for instance is rather broad and projects have sometimes different understanding of this notion. Similarly, a policy document or a regional instrument can be interpreted slightly differently according to the project. Of course, it is the role of the JTS to ensure that a common understanding is shared on these core notions. This is also the aim of Annex 3 of the programme manual which provides a definition for each indicator. A lot of attention is also paid by the JTS to check the justification provided by projects in their progress reports: figures reported without clear and precise justification are not accepted. Nevertheless, this above challenge of harmonisation means that the consolidated figures reported in table 6 have to be analysed with a lot of care.
- The current qualitative analysis is based on the evaluation system as described in Annex 2 of the Operational Programme. Even if it is well developed, this system only

partly reflects the results of networking activities. In particular and apart from a few indicators (e.g. number of staff members with increased capacity), this system does not allow to properly report on the 'social capital' generated from cooperation activities (see chapter 4 of the INTERACT 'study on indicators for monitoring transnational and interregional cooperation programmes', March 2006<sup>3</sup>). This issue relates more generally to the complexity of monitoring intangible outcomes resulting from networking activities. These intangible outcomes should nevertheless not be underestimated and can take different aspects such as:

- changes in way of thinking on local problems through European awareness,
- contribution to creativity and innovation,
- better international visibility of actors and regions,
- new cooperation between actors who would normally compete.

In this regards, it is interesting to note that certain projects (e.g. CLIQ) are thinking about developing measures to validate more officially the increased capacity of the staff involved in the cooperation.

### **3.1.2.1 Programme Objective: Improvement of regional and local policies**

This objective improvement of regional and local policies is at the heart of the INTERREG IVC programme. This is the core purpose that all 115 running projects are supposed to achieve.

A total of 1,189 regional and local policies are addressed by all running projects. This represents an average of 10 regional or local policies addressed per project. It can be noted that this total figure of policies addressed is closely related to the total number of partners involved in the 115 projects (1,238 partners). This is in fact logical since by essence projects address the policy of each of partners' area in the field they are involved in (e.g. innovation capacity of SMEs, broadband connection in rural areas, sustainable transport and waste management). In other words, at project level, the number of policies addressed corresponds in most cases to the number of regions represented in this project (taking into consideration that a single region can be represented by more than one partner). What is more important to

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<sup>3</sup> See: [http://www.interact-eu.net/mint/pepper/orderedlist/downloads/download.php?file=http%3A//www.interact-eu.net/downloads/152/Study\\_on\\_Indicators\\_for\\_Monitoring\\_Transnational\\_and\\_Interregional\\_Cooperation\\_Programmes.pdf](http://www.interact-eu.net/mint/pepper/orderedlist/downloads/download.php?file=http%3A//www.interact-eu.net/downloads/152/Study_on_Indicators_for_Monitoring_Transnational_and_Interregional_Cooperation_Programmes.pdf)

highlight is that the total figure of policies addressed already exceeds by far the initial target figure indicated in the Operational Programme (i.e. 750). This can be explained on the one hand by the miss-estimation of this initial figure and on the other hand by the fact that the average number of partners per project is higher than initially expected.

In terms of results, the first call projects have already demonstrated that they contributed to the **improvement of 6 regional or local policies**. This may sound very little in particular since it represents less than 2% of the policies addressed (the 41 first call projects address 436 policies). Nevertheless, this core achievement is already very encouraging considering the following two points:

- Most of the first call projects (i.e. 35 Regional Initiative Projects) are only half way in their implementation and that this type of result can usually be demonstrated only towards the end or even after the end of the projects. In addition, the data of the third progress report was not exploitable for all 41 first call projects.
- Most of the projects already demonstrate in their six-month report interesting progress towards policy improvements even if the changes in policies cannot be reported yet in concrete figures (see examples of CLUSNET, GRaBS and PEOPLE below). This element is promising for the future.

The nature of the policy influenced varies significantly from project to project. For instance, the policies and strategies that are influenced can be at local level as well as regional level, and even sometimes at national level.

Even if the programme monitors closely how many policies were influenced (e.g. how many policy instruments were modified) as a direct result from the exchange of experience, the final impact of these policy changes on the territory of the concerned partners (e.g. number of new patents created; number of new firms created by academics; number of new jobs created; amount of greenhouse gas emissions reduced; number of tons of freight traffic withdrawn from road, etc.) is not known since these impacts occur only when the policies are later on concretely implemented. The fact that a policy was modified is nevertheless regarded as a success within the programme considering that the concerned policy makers would not have decided it without any clear benefits expected from it. The 6 policies improved are justified below.

- **Priority 1 – Sub-theme ‘Entrepreneurship and SMEs**

CLUSNET aims to improve the effectiveness of cluster support policies in larger European city-regions. **The project has already demonstrated 1 policy improved.** Even though very early in the project, an influence on policy was reported in the project’s second progress report (period January – June 2009). During the kick-off seminar in Stockholm on 22-24 April 2009, partner 12 (Stockholm School of Economics, Sweden) presented a proposal of ‘cluster definition model’. The approach can be summarized as follows.

Clusters are different from other types of agglomerations since the focus is on co-located firms linked through shared technologies and with a particular emphasis on innovation. Clusters involve a range of actors: 1) ‘sectors’ involving both large companies and SME’s. Private industry includes suppliers of goods and services, buyers and firms in related technologies sharing common factors. 2) Financial institutions; 3) Public actors including national, regional and local agencies involved in economic development and science and technology policy, 4) Academic actors including universities and colleges; 5) private and public-private organisations active within the cluster; 6) Media of different kinds building a brand.

Clusters are also described along four dimensions: 1) The degree of agglomeration meaning how many relevant actors are found within the territory. 2) The amount and quality of linkages between cluster actors, and linkages to external markets. 3) The life cycle of clusters closely linked to organic and inherent factors of the territory. 4) The level of planning and policy involvement in the cluster with policies playing a role in boosting emerging clusters and reconstructing old ones. To improve cluster policy in Europe, the different levels (international, national, regional, local) must interact. Cluster initiatives are organised efforts to enhance the competitiveness of a cluster, involving private industry, public authorities and/or academic institutions. A cluster initiative should involve: 1) Different member organisations (private, public and academic); 2) The cluster organisation itself with an office, cluster manager, website etc. 3) Advance forms of governance. 4) Financing measures of the initiative. Finally, cluster activities often include the following work: joint production, HR upgrading, branding and export promotion, business creation, economic intelligence, joint R&D and business environment. This is the approach that partner 6 (Göteborg Business Region, Sweden) will apply in the development in its future cluster policies. With a need to re-

design and redevelop its current cluster policy approach, this partner has decided to opt for a new policy approach based on the above CLUSNET methodology.

It should also be noted that Manchester Enterprises will use the findings and conclusions of the seminar organised in Manchester in June 2009 in the policy development discussions currently taking place in Manchester (even if no specific policy impact can be reported yet).

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme ‘Energy and sustainable transport’**

MORE4NRG aims at improving the effectiveness of renewable energies and energy efficiency regional policies. **The project has already demonstrated 1 policy improved.** Among other activities, the project organises peer reviews which consists of plenary meetings with stakeholders, field visits and discussions on the preparation of the peer review reports among expert of different regions. Such a peer review took place in the Gabrovo region (BG) in November 2009. It was carried out by experts from Lazio (partner 6, IT), Valencia (partner 5, ES), Västernorrland (partner 9, SE) and Western Greece (partner 13, EL). As a direct result of this peer review, a special section on renewable energy and energy efficiency has now been integrated in the Regional Development Strategy, Gabrovo's most important regional planning document, which is currently being updated. This is considered a major achievement, since there was never such a section in this policy document.

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme ‘Energy and sustainable transport’**

PIMMS TRANSFER aims to stimulate modal shift towards more sustainable forms of transport by increasing the implementation of high quality mobility management techniques mainly at city but also at regional levels. **The project has already demonstrated 1 policy improved.** In a project study visit organised in May 2009, partner 11 (City of Maribor, Slovenia) discovered the approach developed by partner 6 (Frankfurt Public Transport Authority, Germany) for its public transport improvement study as part of the Sustainable Urban Transport Plans Study task. The city of Maribor has used this approach observed in Frankfurt to implement changes in its own public transport system.

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme ‘Energy and sustainable transport’**

POWER is a mini-programme aimed at driving Low Carbon economies. **The project has already demonstrated 1 policy improved.** Partner 7 (Environmental Protection Agency of Emilia-Romagna, Italy) reported a policy improvements directly related to a

running sub-project called ITACA (Innovative Transport Approach in Cities and Metropolitan Areas). The draft of the ITACA sub-project proposal which was conceived at the end of 2008 and its proposed innovative method for adopting outputs was fully integrated into the Emilia-Romagna regional plan for sustainable transport ('environmentally friendly transport plan'), the planning of which began in June 2008 but which was still in progress in 2009. The transferability of this method was made possible because the transport department in the Emilia-Romagna region is involved both in the planning process of the above plan and in the ITACA sub-project.

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme ‘Natural and technological risks; climate change’**

GRABS aims to improve the regional decision and policy-making process in relation to the planning and development of new and existing urban areas in the context of climate change. **The project has already demonstrated 2 policies improved.** In this project, the key outputs which will improve specific policies and instruments are the Adaptation Action Plans, and these will be developed further in 2010. However, some partners have reported specific improvements or developments stemming from the exchange of experience and knowledge during the mentoring and study visits organised within the project.

1. Partner 7 (Regional Environment Centre for Eastern Europe, Country office, Slovakia) have applied the knowledge gained from GRaBS in preparing a policy instrument – the national standards in the field of green infrastructure and open spaces, that was coordinated by The State Institution of Urbanism and Territorial Planning ('Urbion').
2. Partner 4 (The London Borough of Sutton, UK) report that their experience at the Climate Participation Conference workshops and mentoring visits have influenced the production of three policy instruments. First, they have elaborated a Draft Community Engagement Strategy (December 2009) to set out the scope of the Council's community and stakeholder engagement activities arising from its involvement in the GRaBS project, and in particular the development of Sutton's local Adaptation Action Plan. Second, the expertise gained on adaptation measures through the mentoring and study visits (to Catania and the Netherlands) has also influenced the "Toolkit for Flood Risk Management" (November 2009) and the "Toolkit for Open Space/Landscape Management" at Hackbridge (i.e. Hackbridge is a suburb in London Borough of Sutton). Both instruments will

provide a toolkit of flood risk and landscape design measures to address the impacts of climate change within the Hackbridge Neighbourhood.

The project also reported another interesting policy development. In July 2009, the Lead Partner (Town and Country Planning Association, UK) in collaboration with Friends of the Earth (an NGO) set up a Planning and Climate Change Coalition including over 30 organisations and individuals. The aims of this cross sector Coalition were: to make recommendations for new strategic planning guidance on climate change in England, bringing together Planning Policy Statement 1 (planning and climate) and Planning Policy Statement 22 (renewable energy); to build consensus amongst a wide range of stakeholders on the benefits of new guidance; and to work with the UK Government to ensure the fastest possible implementation of the new guidance. Using knowledge and experience gained from the GRaBS project, a Planning and Climate Change Coalition Position Statement was produced, providing policy recommendations on climate change. Recommendation 2 emphasised the central role of adaptation.

As indicated above, most of the other first call projects reports interesting policy development even if no evidence of impact can be reported yet. For instance, PEOPLE is a mini-programme dedicated to exploring the opportunities and challenges of the demographic and societal changes faced by European regions. In the last semester of 2009, PEOPLE has started interesting policy development. Since partner 5 (Marshal Office of the Malopolska Region, Poland) will update its Regional Strategy on demographic change in 2010, the other PEOPLE regions decided to elaborate recommendations for the regional policy makers earlier than planned in order to have an opportunity to include the experiences of the partners and the first achievements of the project into this policy updating process. Increased awareness of social problems and demographic changes leads Malopolska region to look for new and innovative alternatives to face demographic change challenges. Hopefully, some of the PEOPLE recommendations will be directly mainstreamed into the regional policy of the Polish partner.

### **3.1.2.2 Programme Objective: Exchange of experience and improvement of capacities and knowledge of regional and local stakeholders in particular by matching less experienced regions with regions with more experience**

As demonstrated by the consolidated figures, this objective can be considered to a large extent as achieved by all the projects approved under the first call. This is not surprising as the achievement of this objective is the minimum requirement expected from the projects.

A total of 1,238 partners are currently involved in the 115 approved projects. The average number of partners per project (10.7) is therefore slightly higher than initially anticipated.

Within the 41 first call running projects, an average number of 6 interregional events to exchange experiences were organised per project. This figure covers a wide variety of activities, from workshops to study trips, from staff exchange to thematic seminars. The figure is in line with the normal development of activities after one year of projects' implementation. In total, there were 6,174 participants in all these interregional events.

More interesting, 99% of the approved projects have a partnership composed of members coming from both 'Objective Convergence' regions and 'Objective Competitiveness' regions. This can already be considered as noticeable achievement for the programme, one of the aims of which is to match more experienced with less experienced partners. This figure also exceeds the initial target value indicated in the Operational Programme. In fact, only one approved project (i.e. PADIMA approved in the second call) has a partnership composed of regions from the same objective (i.e. 'Objective competitiveness'). It should also be noted that a few other projects have inversely a majority of 'convergence regions' involved in the cooperation. This is in particular the case of NEEBOR and of ICHNOS PLUS.

As far as results are concerned, the programme did not reach yet its initial objective in terms of percentage of public authorities involved. Instead of 70%, the participation of public authorities represents 55% of all partners although applications with direct participation of public authorities were better considered in the assessment process (as stipulated in the Operational Programme and programme manual). This percentage could partly be explained through the two following points:

- A significant number of regional development agencies (around 90) are approved in the projects (e.g. from UK and from several New Member States). Although these agencies are considered as bodies governed by public law, they are the policy

makers often directly in charge of the development of new policies and instruments as well as the management of Structural Funds programmes. If these agencies would be considered as public authorities, the ratio would increase to 62% and would almost meet the initial programme's target.

- In certain projects (e.g. NANO4M, ORGANZA), a same region is represented directly by its public authorities but also by a few other organisations relevant to the theme tackled (e.g. chambers of commerce, universities, research institutes). This kind of partnership arrangements explains why the number of bodies governed by public law is high although the core requirement of INTERREG IVC in relation to the direct participation of policy makers is met.

The exchange of experience has already contributed to increase the capacity (competence) of the staff members involved in the projects. An average of 20 people per project have increased their skills thanks to their involvement in interregional activities (820 people in total). The following extract coming from the PROMPT project is a good example on how this result indicator can be justified: *“Within the 1st Workshop/2nd Steering Committee Meeting in Macerata (Italy), the following key staff members from Civil Protection and the Fire Brigade attended the event: 1 Civil Protection Officer from partner 4 (Province of Macerata, IT), 1 Civil Protection Officer from the Lead Partner (region of Western Greece, EL) and 3 Fire Brigade Officers from partner 5 (Bielsko-Biala District Officer, PL) and Italy (Macerata). Therefore, the project can already demonstrate that 5 staff members have increased their skills and knowledge on forest fire management capacities as a direct result of their involvement in the experience exchanged at interregional events.”*

The fact that 7 projects were already able to demonstrate that new projects / activities / approaches have resulted from the interregional exchange of experiences is another noticeable result. These spin-off activities can take very diverse forms as reflected in the cases presented below:

- In NEEBOR, several partners (P12, P11, P9, P3 and LP) after getting to know each other decided to apply to a cultural call in the South-East Europe Transnational Cooperation programme together with other partners. The project title is 'Cultural Heritage Treasures of South East Europe a Click Away' and the main objective is to develop integrated strategies and instruments to promote and use the cultural heritage as a development factor for sustainable tourism and economic growth. The project underlines the global objective of the SEE Programme 2007 – 2013, that is

the improvement of the territorial, economic and social integration process and contribution to cohesion, stability and competitiveness through the development of transnational partnerships and joint actions on matters of strategic importance.

- In ERIK ACTION, due to their participation in the project, Banska Bystrica Self Governing Region and Western Macedonia have submitted a joint project proposal within 7<sup>th</sup> Framework programme on Research Driven Clusters in the Wood Sector and Forestry.
- Thanks to its participation in the DC project, the Paralimni municipality from Greece (characterised by a low rate of ICT adoption) discovered the I-NEC network (International Network of e-Communities, [www.i-nec.com](http://www.i-nec.com)) and finally decided to become of member of the international organisation. In particular, this has given the Paralimni municipality further opportunities to discuss with other cities facing the same challenges of low rates of ICT adoption.
- In CLUSNET, although it was not initially planned, the setting up of an interactive cluster mapping on the CLUSNET website ([www.clusnet.eu](http://www.clusnet.eu)) was decided. The aim was to establish a tool for inter-clustering by identifying by theme and location key cluster initiatives in Europe. The cluster mapping should identify cluster initiatives located in partner cities with precise information on their field of activity and contact details facilitating any first contacts. The mapping will be developed by the CLUSNET project and in collaboration with the EURO CITIES Clusters working group (WG). The format of the mapping will be developed in collaboration with European Cluster Observatory. The cluster mapping will also allow for further cluster policy analysis studies to be developed (again in collaboration with the EC Clusters WG) on themes linked to the CLUSNET seminars. For example, if a seminar theme is the BioTech, the information provided by the mapping on the location of European BioTech clusters would allow a more efficient mobilisation of BioTech cluster managers and this information will feed into the discussions during the CLUSNET seminars.
- In ICHNOS PLUS, following the 1st staff exchange between Ruda Slaska Business Incubator and Incubator of Vysocina Region, a new plan to establish cooperation between these two organisations was elaborated. It includes exchanges on new approaches and ideas about the different ways of working (e.g. legal issues and accounting issues; making agreements with tenants).

- In POWER, the partnership has agreed to implement a tool to encourage the dissemination of good practice in carbon reduction for the actors involved in the mini-programme, through a CO2 calculator (see also section below on management and coordination).
- In CLIQ, two spin off activities were reported. First, new services between incubators were developed. As a direct result of its involvement in the project, partner 11 (SINC: Sussex Innovation Centre, UK) has accepted the opportunity to be a partner in the Tech Park Alliance led by the Girona Incubator in Spain. This led to the Skype service in Girona, where SINC offers English Skype marketing to all incubatees. SINC in turn has promoted one incubatee's technology from Girona to its tenants through a newsletter after a Skype conversation with them. SINC also offered marketing advice via Skype to an incubatee (carbon neutral websites) in Denmark (part of the Tech Park Alliance). SINC proposed a series of marketing sessions which the Danes are currently following.

The Employment plan of the City of Cádiz (partner 17, Spain) gave impulse to a new regional project called "When I become Me", where both Lead Partner (City of Jyväskylä, Finland) and partner 4 (City of Eskilstuna, Sweden) decided to be partners. The aim is to encourage transnational or interregional experiences, activities, methodologies, procedures and products that will ultimately provide effective and innovative measures in employment to be transferred to local & regional employment policies.

Finally, at this stage of the programme implementation, it is still not possible to have any figures on the number of Action Plans developed by Objective 'Convergence' regions further to the lessons learnt from 'Objective Competitiveness' regions. Indeed, in 2009, Capitalisation projects were still working on the drafting of the Action Plans. Action Plans will be the very final result of their activities, to be delivered in 2010.

### **3.1.2.3 Programme Objective: Identification, sharing and transfer of good practices into regional policies in particular EU Structural Funds mainstream programmes**

At this stage of the programme, there is more and more evidence of identification and dissemination of good practices, which are now gathered through the progress reports submitted by the projects. In total, 802 good practices have been identified within the 35 Regional

Initiative Projects. This means an average of 23 good practices per project. With regard to the 6 Capitalisation projects, 52 good practices were already identified and made available to regional and local actors involved in the projects.

A few examples of interesting identified good practices can be found below.

- **Priority 1 – sub-theme ‘Innovation, research and technology development’**

Project: 0004R1 MINI EUROPE

Title of the good practice: Summer Design Office

Location: Mid Sweden (SE)

The Summer Design Office is a good practice from Mid Sweden. The concept raises awareness of the value of innovation and design among companies that -in most cases- have no earlier experience with design. The mix of students with different skills in industrial design, architecture, graphic design, marketing, etc. leads to unrestricted creativity. The companies can see the young people's values and the students are introduced to real world problems in real companies. The company owns the innovative results of the students' work and can use it. The students have the copyright. There are 130 Summer Design Offices (SDO) in Sweden. Up to now more than 800 companies have participated, and 62% will proceed with the results from the SDO, 85% will continue to work with design and 45% of the companies have indicated that their profit has increased. A SDO is in many cases sponsored by the local and regional government and EU funding. The companies always pay a fee. The only weakness of the concept is to arrange the financing for all the offices every year. According to the project managers, the Summer Design Office is well transferable to other regions. A good network among companies and universities is a precondition for a successful implementation. Several Mini Europe partners are interested to import the methodology.

- **Priority 1 – sub-theme ‘Entrepreneurship and SMEs’**

Project: 0117R1 SEE

Title of the good practices: Design 2005! & Design Ladder

Location: Denmark

1. Design 2005! was a Finnish design policy, which implemented a visionary design agenda. A central component of the policy was more closely integrating design into research, education, corporate product development, support for business development and internationalisation. A unique aspect of this strategy was the investment in

measures with long-term impact and the inter-connectivity of numerous stakeholders. One of these measures was the ambitious aim of building a knowledge-based country by investing in R&D. The three main goals were to improve design quality, to promote the extensive use of opportunities inherent in design with a view to improving competitiveness and employment, and to develop the quality of the living environment and promote a distinctive national culture. The close collaboration between key actors, including research centres, private companies and government ministries, has furthered the capacity of design in innovation and national competitiveness.

2. The Design Ladder was developed by the Danish Design Centre in 2003 as a tool to measure the level of design activity in Danish businesses. The Ladder, used as a framework for a survey, was the first step in developing a method to assess the economic benefits of design in Denmark. The Design Ladder is proving to be a successful tool for evaluating design promotion. This comes at a time when the absence of effective indicators to evaluate the economic benefits of design seems to be a major obstacle to discussions on an effective design policy or strategy at the regional, national or European levels. Not surprisingly, the methodology has been referred to and even adopted by initiatives in other European countries including Austria, Sweden and Switzerland. By assessing how many companies move up a rung on the Design Ladder between 2003 and 2007 once design promotion and policies have been implemented, the Danish government has a tangible assessment of the role of design in industry.

- **Priority 1 – sub-theme ‘Information Society’**

Project: 0266R1 DC

Title of the good practice: Eastserve

Location: East Manchester (UK)

Eastserve is a community broadband project in East Manchester, UK. EastServe provides local people opportunities to expand their information technology skills in order to take advantage of new ICT-focused training and employment now available with small businesses and social enterprises. The objective is to decrease the digital divide in the East Manchester area by providing a very low-cost, high speed broadband network for local residents and businesses. Today, wireless low cost (€10/month) broadband Internet connections are available for around 1,600 homes, as well as 17 local schools, 8 UK online community access centers and 10 public access points in libraries and other centers. Despite the area’s low income and high unemployment averages, broadband take-up has now reached 20% compared to 15% city-wide.

Over 40% of residents have already had basic ICT training through EastServe, which is more than double that of most city areas.

- **Priority 2 – sub-theme ‘Energy and sustainable transport’**

Project: 0154R1 SUGAR

Title of the good practice: Low Emission Zone

Location: London (UK)

Following a feasibility study on air quality in Greater London, public authorities decided to put in place a Low Emission Zone (LEZ). It is aimed to cover most of the Greater London Region –all roads and most of the motorways- while its actual objective is the decrease of air pollutants which are mostly due to road transport. Before implementation, the authorities organised consultations and media campaigns in order to inform the public, notably the shareholders. The measure is being implemented in four phases, depending on the type of vehicle (>12 tons, between 3.5 and 12 tons, vans and minibuses), two of which are already completed. It concerns access control of heavy vehicles that do not comply with Euro 3 (for the first three phases) and Euro 4 (for the final phase) standards. Vehicles that do not comply are subject to penalty charge unless they pay an expensive daily charge. The LEZ is signalled by signs when approaching, upon entering and within the zone. It is enforced by cameras that read the vehicle registration number plate. So far, the results are positive: 96% of vehicles >12 tons and 91% >3.5tons comply with the measure. The main obstacle is of course the high cost of the equipment i.e. the cameras but cheaper means of control can be implemented. This measure has not been yet fully assessed, but it is believed to be quite efficient in introducing a radical and rapid change of commercial fleets circulating in London streets. As old trucks are much more polluting and energy consuming than new trucks, the measure is efficient in air pollutants (NOx, particulates) and CO2 reductions. It is also believed that the measure can promote the modernisation of the trucking industry as small operators using very old trucks are required to reorganize their ways of doing business, or risk disappearance.

- **Priority 2 – sub-theme ‘Natural and technological risks; climate change’**

Project: 0108R1 GRABS

Title of the good practice: Thornhill Plus You

Location: Southampton (UK)

As part of a mentoring visit to Southampton in October 2009, partners from the City of Malmo, Klaipeda Institute for Coastal Research the TCPA and member of the UK government agency, CABE (Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment)

visited the Thornhill Housing Estate – a once deprived area, but now the ‘greenest’ estate in the city. Presentations were given by representatives of Thornhill Plus You – a government-funded community development organisation – on the issues and opportunities for regeneration of the estate. A discussion followed about the types of adaptation measures that could be included in regeneration schemes and techniques to involve the local community and secure support of politicians and senior decision makers. The visit highlighted techniques in achieving a well educated and empowered community as a key stage in making environmental work (such as adaptation actions) successful. A particularly relevant project was ‘Greenways’ – part of a sustainable development strategy by developing safe, green routes to move around the blocks of social housing and connect to parks and play areas. The green spaces also functioned to reduce surface water run-off.

As far as **results** are concerned, the transfer of these good practices between the partners is rarer, in particular since projects are still at a relatively early stage of implementation. However, projects were able to demonstrate that a total of **10 practices have already been successfully transferred** amongst the partners. This is in itself a noticeable achievement at the current stage of the programme’s implementation. These 10 good practices transferred are illustrated below.

- **Priority 1 – Sub-theme ‘Innovation, research and technology development’**

CLIQ focuses on creating local innovation based on local quadruple helix partnerships (i.e. universities, businesses, public authorities and civil society). **So far, two good practices were transferred within this project.**

1. The 'Super Incubation' developed by partner 11 (SINC: Sussex Innovation Centre, UK) is a service offered to businesses ready to scale up fast, in order to support them through growth. The good practice criteria are PPP - People, Product and Potential. There is a demand for the product, but the company lacks capacity to meet that demand. Super Incubation helps entrepreneurs to get the company to the next level where the right staff can be hired in and the company can continue towards its strategic targets. SINC sends its own staff to work in the newly created businesses. There is a catalogue of tools and structure that are not sector specific. SINC builds these into the company to make it grow. The Lead Partner (City of Jyväskylä, Finland) which is currently reorganising its incubation services has directly integrated several elements of the 'Super Incubation' good practice into the new services offered by the city.

2. The 'Wikinnovation' good practice developed by the Malaga Technological Park and presented during a CLIQ meeting consists of three approaches, methodologies and tools to explore new mental territories to reinforce Quadruple Helix connections putting the citizen/user/final beneficiary in the centre of the Social Innovation System:

- 1) Innovation 2.0 and Social Media tools: Use of Social Media to build bottom-up, participative and open communities to innovate at a local and regional scale according to the eMOTOtools model.
- 2) Design Thinking: Thinking like designers as a methodology for innovation to create open spaces to integrate citizens pro-actively in the Quadruple Helix. Networking based on 'weak links' and serendipity. Empathy, experimentation spaces, collaborative prototyping and integrative thinking to solve "wicked" social problems.
- 3) Hybridisation: Audacious blending of concepts, disciplines, markets, cultures and sectors as a source of disruptive innovations. Managing diversity and paradox interactions among agents that are weakly connected. This good practice is in fact closely related to the recent Open Declaration on EU Public Services (November 2009), which set out 3 core principles: Transparency, Participation and Empowerment. Criticism and openness are encouraged, although Local Governments are not always prepared for this. Further to this presentation, partner 17 (Bay of Cadiz Foundation for Economical Development, Spain) started to use social media tools by creating Facebook and Twitter space. These tools are now in use to have a closer contact with the civil society in the local area. Similarly, the CLIQ Lead Partner has also taken some steps to use social media to help in the project communication.

- **Priority 1 – Sub-theme 'Entrepreneurship and SMEs'**

CREATIVE GROWTH aims to develop the creative sector through the adoption of new knowledge and good practices into the policy making process. **So far, one good practice was transferred within this project.**

A SME from Kaunas was invited to participate by partner 7 (Kaunas County Governor's Administration, Lithuania) at the Creative Growth interim conference in December 2009 in Brussels. The director of this company attended the Thematic Working Group meeting on Incubators and presented a report on Lithuanian Theatre and Creative Industries. In return, the director discovered experiences on different 'incubator facilities' dedicated to the creative sector. Back in Lithuania, a meeting-discussion was organized with young businessmen sponsoring the culture sector. The director finally got support in founding a model of Art incubator (Theatres) in Kaunas and the concept of Kaunas Arts Incubator is currently being developed taking into consideration incubator facilities and approaches discovered within the project.

- **Priority 1 – Sub-theme ‘Entrepreneurship and SMEs’**

ICHNOS PLUS is a Capitalisation Project which focuses on the transfer into ERDF Operational Programmes of a Regional Centre of Competence for One-Stop Shops model developed in a previous INTERREG IIIC project. **So far, one good practice was transferred to two partners within this project.** Indeed, ICHNOS Plus gave rise to the creation of two new structures in two partners regions aimed at improving e-government services for citizens and entrepreneurs.

The project’s model of Regional Centre of Competence led to the creation of a Contact Centre in the Vysocina region (partner 3, Czech Republic). Its objective is to provide equal and transparent access to information, regardless of communication means, from anywhere anytime. Since June 2009, the Contact centre started to become a regional access point for citizens that will require communication with public administration for gaining any kind of information concerning the region. The Vysocina Region Contact Centre consists of the central management structure placed in the Regional Authority and the service operators which can come from municipalities, information offices or other organisations. The Contact Centre Management placed in Regional Authority manages the service operators, provide technological and content background for them, communicate with topic managers and provide all necessary back-office functions.

Similarly, based on the Regional Centre of Competence model, the City of Ruda Ślaska decided to open a one-stop-shop for all citizens and local stakeholders. For instance, all administrative procedures for business start-up are available from this one-stop-shop. Since January 2009, the partner 6 (Ruda Slaska Business Incubator, Poland) also renders all advisory services related to business start-up (e.g. what are the rules about running a business? from where to get money to start and run a business?).

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme ‘Energy and sustainable transport’**

FLIPPER focuses on the provision of cost-effective integrated public transport system in order to reduce pollution and congestion while encouraging sustainable economic growth. **So far, two good practices were transferred within this project.**

1. During the project third training course, the Lead Partner (Public Transport Authority Bologna, Italy) presented by SRM a specific practice dedicated to the improvement

of the financial balance of Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) services. Partner 8 (Livorno Transport Operator, Italy) has introduced this practice in its service scheme of the Rosignano urban area where short Mercedes Benz vehicles are used for school trips and DRT service coverage is from 9:00 to 12:00 a.m. and from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

2. Partner 4 (University of Aberdeen, UK) presented a practice to define transport service model. Municipalities and Public Authorities managing/financing public transport services are interested in the improvement of intermodal connection of public transport modalities. Partner 8 (Livorno Transport Operator, Italy) has introduced this practice in DRT service operating in the suburban area of Livorno where DRT acts as feeder service of Line 1R and Line 2 which are the most relevant lines of urban network in terms of travelling passengers and frequency peak

- **Priority 2 – Sub-theme ‘Energy and sustainable transport’**

PIMMS TRANSFER aims to stimulate modal shift towards more sustainable forms of transport by increasing the implementation of high quality mobility management techniques mainly at city but also at regional levels. **So far, four good practices were transferred within this project.**

1. Further to the practices presented by partner 6, Frankfurt Public Transport Authority, Germany), partner 10 (Klaipeda public transport authority, Lithuania) prepared the guidelines concerning a public transport organisation scheme in suburban areas of Klaipeda and in particular the readjustment plan for the bus route system, which should be implemented in February 2010.

2. Partner 2 (City of Graz, Austria) has decided to implement the practice called ‘Shared Street Space - room for everyone’ developed in Germany and in the Netherlands. In this practice, the needs of car drivers are secondary to the needs of users of the street as a whole. The street is therefore considered as a "shared space" designed to be used by pedestrians, playing children, cyclists, and low-speed motor vehicles; becoming a public place for people instead of single-purpose conduits for automobiles.

3. Partner 12 (Larnaca municipality, Cyprus) has approved a proposal for a traffic circulation and awareness park, which directly result from a practice developed by partner 8 (City of Serres, EL). The specifications provided by the City of Serres were ad-

justed to local conditions and submitted to the central government for agreement and funding. The land for the construction of the park was identified and the construction work is anticipated to start towards the end of 2010.

4. Finally, partner 6 (Frankfurt Public Transport Authority, Germany) has transferred a good practice from the Lead Partner (London Councils, UK) and more precisely from the Borough of Bromley, adapting their school campaign “Walk on Wednesday” in a different campaign for Frankfurt schools.

As far as Capitalisation Projects are concerned, the 6 first call projects made progress in their transfer process which will be finalised in 2010. The detailed achievements of these projects will therefore be presented in the next annual report based on the information provided in their final report and Action Plans. In total, 13 Capitalisation Projects are already running and the following elements are already of interest.

- 155 partners (of which 80 public authorities) are included in these 13 projects. Apart from Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg and Malta, all other EU Member States are represented in these projects.
- Several projects reported unexpected difficulties in the mainstreaming process. For instance, the good practices finally selected for transfer by a partner were not fully compatible with the characteristics of the Regional Operational Programme of this partner. Sometimes the practices required a mix of ESF and ERDF although these two funding sources were managed separately in the region. Or there was no relevant measure in which the practice could be finally financed. Other examples of difficulties relate to the decision-making process of each Operational Programme. The final decision on implementing the practices in the region has obviously to be in line with the way the concerned Monitoring Committee usually decides. Innovative solutions had sometimes to be found to face this situation. Despite these unexpected challenges, most of the first call projects remain confident that the transfer process will be finally successful.
- Finally, the data provided in the application form of the 13 running Capitalisation Projects provides an interesting illustration of the leverage effect a programme like INTERREG IVC generates. As summarised in the table below, this leverage effects comes from comparing the ERDF total budget of the 13 Capitalisation Projects (EUR 20 million) with the estimated amount of mainstream dedicated to the implementation of the practices as indicated in their application form (i.e. EUR 309 million).

ERDF budget of the 13 Capitalisation Projects	<b>Leverage effect</b>	Estimated amount of mainstream funds impacted
EUR 20 million	<b>x 15</b>	= EUR 309 million

### 3.1.2.4 Programme Objective: contribution to horizontal EU policies

#### Equal opportunities

The target value concerning the percentage of projects with positive effects on equal opportunities (10%) has been largely exceeded with an achieved value of 59% of all approved projects. This initial estimation was obviously underestimated. In addition, although the topic tackled was not directly related to equal opportunities, a high number of projects have explained that equal opportunities would be a core element in the day-to-day management of the project (e.g. in the recruitment of the coordinator). This can explain to a large extent this unexpected high percentage. Other projects have a direct focus on equal opportunities and two examples can be found below:

- Gender4Growth is a first call Regional Initiative Project addressing economic gender inequalities, in particular lower female employment rates, wages and positions, job market segmentation and lack of conciliation between career and family life. The project aims at improving partners' economic policies so that gender issues are increasingly taken into consideration at policy level. Partners exchange their experiences, organise transfer workshops and grant "Awards" to local economic initiatives that most effectively tackle gender issues.
- WINNET 8 is a second call Capitalisation Project addressing the challenges related to low employment rates among women. The combination of segregated labour markets and the lack of females in entrepreneurship, innovation and technology constitute obstacles for regional competitiveness. The project's overall objective is to contribute to regional growth by promoting female employment and counteracting horizontal gender segregation. WINNET 8 also focuses on good practices in attracting women to traditionally male fields and targets strategies to integrate gender specific actions into Structural Funds mainstream programmes.

## Environment

The programme also exceeds its initial objective as far as the percentage of projects with positive effects on the environment is concerned. 84% of the approved projects state that they will be positive or have their main focus on environmental sustainability (instead of the 60% initially targeted). This focus on environmental issues is obvious for the 44 approved projects in priority 2 (38% of all approved projects). Nevertheless, as explained above for equal opportunities, a high number of projects under priority 1 also explained how they will make sure the day-to-day implementation of their project will respect environmental constraints.

Only the results achieved within the Capitalisation Projects could be improved as the majority of these projects are approved in priority 1. Only two out of the 13 projects are related to priority 2 and both are approved under the sub-theme 'Waste prevention and management' of priority 2. There is no clear explanation to this unbalanced thematic allocation but it may reflect the importance given in Structural Funds Regional Operational Programmes to the topics of priority 1 and more generally to economic development related issues.

### **3.1.2.5 Management and coordination**

There are no major difficulties in the management and coordination activities of the running projects. All of them have set up a Steering Group or equivalent decision-making board that meets on average every six months.

When the JTS faces difficulties with certain Lead Partners (e.g. deadlines not met, poor quality of the reported information), it happens for the most serious cases (it occurred only twice in 2009) that an individual consultation is organised in Lille with the concerned projects. Most of the time, this kind of face-to-face explanations brings satisfactory results.

As mentioned above under the spin-off activities resulting from the exchange of experience, it is worth mentioning in this section the innovative initiative adopted by the POWER mini-programme in terms of management. POWER has agreed to implement a tool to encourage the dissemination of good practice in carbon reduction for the actors participating in the mini-programme, through a CO<sub>2</sub> calculator (used to gauge CO<sub>2</sub> savings across the programme). This calculator is used to assess the CO<sub>2</sub> savings (or consumption) related events not held (i.e. savings from alternative communication methods such as teleconferences) and to determine the best venue for interregional meetings and events where planned events are

scheduled. The calculator is applied by regional partners as well as all the sub-projects participants.

### **3.1.2.6 Dissemination**

As demonstrated by the indicators related to publicity activities, the 41 first call running projects are active in disseminating their projects and results. An average number of 5.5 dissemination events were organised per project. This figure includes interregional dissemination events but also the events organised in each partner area in order to ensure that the lessons learnt from the project are also available to local stakeholders. INTERREG IVC projects have also been presented in 468 'other events' (i.e. events not organised by the projects themselves). It is estimated that more than 23,000 people have already been reached through these dissemination activities.

The JTS also systematically checks project websites and publicity materials to ensure that EU publicity requirements are respected.

## **3.2 *Priority 3***

Information on the implementation of priority axes 3 (Technical Assistance) is given in the section 4 below.

#### 4 Technical Assistance

The total amount spent on Technical Assistance in 2009 amounts to EUR 2,936,844.08, which corresponds to EUR 2 016 259,02 ERDF. That is 0.6% of the total ERDF budget of the total programming period of EUR 321,321,762.

In 2009, the available technical assistance funds allowed to finance nineteen JTS staff members, for positions in the field of general management, assistance, communication, projects and finance.

Besides the staff costs mentioned above, the JTS also assisted the programme in carrying out the following activities financed from the technical assistance budget:

- Providing assistance to project applicants and after the approval of project to the lead partners (advice given by e-mail, phone and through lead applicant seminars/lead partner seminar, by individual consultations)
- Organisation and implementation of programme meetings – two Monitoring Committee meetings, one Group of Auditors meeting, two Task Force meetings, one finance seminar for Lead Partners and their first level controllers.
- Costs related to communication and dissemination in relation with the INTERREG IVC programme such as organising one INTERREG IVC Partner Search Forum, setting up the website, and developing and printing programme information brochures
- coordination and implementation of accounting, paying and certifying procedures with the legal employer of the Secretariat (GEIE GECOTTI) and also with the Certifying Authority.
- JTS office-related expenditure for office material such as office equipment, stationery, maintenance and utilities.
- IT related expenditures (office IT equipment such as hardware and software as well as the development of a project administration database).

The 2009 Technical Assistance expenditure also included expenditure for running the four Information Points to cover their staff and travel costs as well as the costs for the organisation of regional Lead applicant/Lead partner seminars. In total, EUR 408,646.61 was reimbursed to the Information Points North, East and South for these purposes. The information point West is part of the JTS and thus included in the expenditure directly paid by the JTS.

## **5 Information and publicity**

Communication activities for the year 2009 were book-ended by calls for proposals. The second call for proposals closed in February 2009, while the third call for Capitalisation projects opened in December 2009.

Given the particularities of the third call, a specific communication strategy was developed in conjunction with the Information Points and the National Contact Points, to promote this type of project as widely, and as relevantly as possible.

In addition to the calls, communication began on the first series of approved projects, beginning to develop their content.

### **5.1 Events**

#### **5.1.1 Capitalisation conference**

The main event of 2009 was the Capitalisation conference held in Gothenburg, Sweden, on 8 and 9 December. Following the Monitoring Committee decision to hold a 3rd call exclusively for capitalisation projects, a Capitalisation event was organised for Lead Partners of approved capitalisation projects of the 1st and 2nd calls, along with a partner search forum for the Capitalisation call.

The call for projects being restricted to Capitalisation projects, with a limited budget of EUR 15 million to be allocated, the process of Capitalisation itself being unfamiliar to most Managing Authorities, and additional economic or administrative end-of-year travel difficulties for some of them explain the difference in turnout between the Gothenburg conference and past annual events. A total of 150 participants attended to the conference, half of whom had never submitted an INTERREG project, thus limiting the number of 3rd call projects that would follow-up on previous projects.

The central part of the conference was the launch of the third call for proposals for Capitalisation projects. The key elements of the application pack were presented to the attendees in a plenary session, focusing on the specificities of the Capitalisation call and on how it affected the application process. Three workshops and a round table discussion were organised in order to make Capitalisation more explicit to the participants, answering some of the

central questions: how to build on good practices, how to develop partnerships, how to mainstream the practices, and what is the role of Managing Authorities in the projects. Speed-dating sessions that were introduced in the 2009 annual event were held, and parallel thematic networking sessions were organised in order to help partner search. One morning was dedicated to ongoing capitalisation projects with the help of DG REGIO. Projects were clustered thematically so that projects update one another on their progress, discuss their potential for exchanging, and share challenges and tips. A stand area offered ongoing project partners the possibility to present their project.

## **5.1.2 Information seminars**

### **5.1.2.1 Lead Applicants seminar**

Originally planned for the winter 2009, this event was carried over to January 2010 due to the 3rd call for projects being held in December 2009.

### **5.1.2.2 National Contact Points seminar**

Prior to the annual event, a National Contact Points seminar was held in Gothenburg on 7 December 2009 in the presence of 40 INTERREG IVC National Contact Points. It was the opportunity for the JTS to inform the NCPs on several points concerning the 3rd call, such as the terms of reference, partnership requirements, geographical coverage, and budget requirement.

National Contact Points were trained on Capitalisation projects assistance, and more specifically on identifying good practices and helping with partnership-building and Managing Authority involvement. They were then given a presentation on communication strategy for the Capitalisation call, a targeted communication to the Managing Authorities including a brochure that was developed specifically for this call so as to reach the targeted audience. In order to deepen the partnership with the National Contact Points, it was decided to send to the National Contact Points an extended feedback of each consultation or project assistance form, and to invite National Contact Points to individual consultation whenever possible. Finally, the National Contact Points were given an update on financial issues such as the organisation of first level controls and second level audits simplification.

### **5.1.2.3 Lead Partner seminar for 2nd call approved projects**

The Lead Partner seminar for Regional Initiative and Capitalisation Projects was held in Brussels on 26 November 2009. Individual consultations were organised on 25-27 November at the same venue. The JTS team and representatives of the Information Points welcomed the Lead Partners of 74 projects (67 Regional Initiative and 7 Capitalisation Projects) approved by the fifth Monitoring Committee meeting in Stockholm, Sweden on 5 November 2009.

The Lead Partner seminar was the opportunity for the JTS and Information Points to assist newly-approved projects by giving their representatives detailed information on project activities, management, financial requirements and communication issues.

Additionally, a specific meeting was held for the Lead Partners of Capitalisation projects, during which John Walsh from DG REGIO spoke about Fast Track Networks and also about the assistance the European Commission provides to the 5 projects from the first call and would provide for the 4 projects from the second call labelled as Fast Track.

Finally, a discussion of the conditions set for contracting was organised on 25-26-27 November at the same venue, where representatives of the each Lead Partner could discuss these conditions with the Project and Finance Officers or the Information Points later responsible for the monitoring of the projects.

### **5.1.2.4 Communication seminar for running projects**

Lead Partners and communication officers from the first call approved projects were invited to participate in a communication seminar, in Valencia, Spain, on 22 and 23 October. The seminar consisted of a short plenary session followed by practical workshops. Organising events, creating effective messages, and working with the media, were some of the topics covered within the working groups. The training was provided by Pinnacle, a Public Relations and communication company. The aim of the input was to introduce a range of ideas, tactics and tools that participants can include in their communications activities. In total, 33 participants, representing 21 projects took part in this seminar. Feedback from the participants was very positive overall, and the demand for further such seminars, earlier on in the project life-cycle was noted.

### **5.1.2.5 Financial seminar for running projects**

A Finance seminar for the Lead Partner finance staff and controllers of running IVC projects was held at the EU-Representation of Saxony-Anhalt in Brussels, Belgium, on 11 and 12 June 2009. INTERREG IVC welcomed 61 participants, representing 36 approved projects and 11 first level controllers.

On the first day the JTS presented the legal framework of financial management, focusing on the subsidy contract and its principles, and underlined the importance of the programme manual, which provides further details for planning and implementing an INTERREG IVC project. Participants were reminded of the procedures and deadlines of reporting, eligibility and budget flexibility rules. The JTS' Finance Officers then gave a presentation on what is expected from first level control at Project Partner Level and on the tasks of the Lead Partner's controller.

The second day was more interactive with case studies for participants to solve. The case studies covered staff costs, administration costs, public procurement and publicity requirements.

### **5.1.3 Participation in events**

In the course of promoting the programme, the Information points participated in 18 events, while the JTS participated in 20 events, either with a presentation, stand or both.

## **5.2 Project Consultations**

Considering the decision by the Monitoring Committee to launch a call restricted to Capitalisation projects, the number of individual consultations carried out by the Information Point Advisers was reduced, in comparison to previous calls. A total of 39 consultations were given face-to-face, while a total of 58 project idea forms were commented on. The majority of consultations took place in the North and West area (28 out of 39).

### **5.3 Printed and promotional material**

#### **5.3.1 “Interregional cooperation projects – First collection” brochure**

The first collection of interregional cooperation projects was published in May 2009. It was part-financed by the INTERREG IVC programme and the European Regional Development Fund. Arranged by priority and theme, this brochure is the first global vision of the 41 projects approved following the first call for proposals. It includes all the most relevant data concerning project funding and partnership, along with a summary of what the project aims to achieve.

5000 copies of the first collection brochure were printed out for a wide distribution to stakeholders, and to the general public. The Committee of the Regions’ Head of Unit of the Communication, Press and Protocol Directorate, Wolfgang Petzold, was one of the many who congratulated INTERREG IVC on the good balance between content, information and design.

The brochure was also published online:

[http://www.interreg4c.net/load/First\\_collection\\_final\\_LowRes.pdf](http://www.interreg4c.net/load/First_collection_final_LowRes.pdf)

#### **5.3.2 Key Features of Capitalisation Projects**

In preparation for the launch of a call dedicated specifically to Capitalisation Projects, the programme agreed that a specific communication strategy was required to ensure that potential applicants fully understood the requirements and implications of this type of project. A booklet entitled “Key features of Capitalisation projects”, published in November 2009, was a key output of this strategy.

The booklet describes the philosophy and reasoning behind Capitalisation projects, and goes into detail on the main features that distinguish this type of project from Regional Initiative projects. Real-life examples of the challenges faced by running projects, along with solutions found, aimed to provide a very practical and pedagogical guide to developing these projects for the third call.

The brochure was enlivened with interviews from DG REGIO Head of Unit, Mikel Landabaso, from the Managing Authority of a regional operational programme, and from the senior project officer of the INTERREG IVC programme who dealt with common questions.

The brochure was edited in 2000 copies and was sent to a mailing list of all national and regional managing authorities identified by the programme's Information Points, distributed during the Capitalisation conference in Gothenburg, and published online: [http://www.interreg4c.net/load/Capitalisation\\_brochure\\_2009.pdf](http://www.interreg4c.net/load/Capitalisation_brochure_2009.pdf)

### **5.3.3 Experience-Cooperation-Development: Regions of Enlarged Europe Sharing Solutions. East Area Perspective**

On the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the biggest European Union enlargement process, the Information Point East produced a brochure focusing on the experiences of mainly these countries in cooperation projects. The objective was to show how regions who have participated in INTERREG IIIC and IVC projects have gained benefits for their region, and to stimulate interest among the newest member states in cooperation.

450 copies were initially printed of this brochure in June 2009, distributed to the National Contact Points and Monitoring Committee Members of the East area; to other cooperation programmes covering these territories, and to the other Information Points for wider distribution. Demand was such that another 400 copies were reprinted and distributed during national and international events.

The publication is available online:

[http://www.interreg4c.net/load/2009\\_Eastbrochure\\_screen\\_version.pdf](http://www.interreg4c.net/load/2009_Eastbrochure_screen_version.pdf)

### **5.3.4 INTERREG IVC leaflet**

The small leaflet providing an overview of the main programme features, produced in 2008, was distributed in January 2009 (5000 copies), and reprinted in June 2009, for a total of 5000 copies.

In addition to being sent to Information Points and National Contact Points, the material was also used at every event organised, and sent directly to many nationally-organised events.

It is available for download online: [http://www.interreg4c.net/load/2009\\_leaflet.pdf](http://www.interreg4c.net/load/2009_leaflet.pdf)

### **5.3.5 “Communication guidelines” for approved project partners**

This guide is a practical tool for partners to help them effectively communicate about their project. It covers such areas as messages, press releases, contacts with the press, stakeholder mapping, and more. It was produced with the help of an external PR agency in December 2009, following input from the Communication Seminar for partners held in Valencia in October 2009. The printing and distribution of the guide took place in 2010. It can be consulted online: [http://www.interreg4c.net/load/Comm\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.interreg4c.net/load/Comm_handbook.pdf)

### **5.3.6 Promotional material**

Becoming a yearly fixture, the programme produced an updated version for 2010 of the INTERREG IVC Calendar, produced and sent in December 2009 along with greeting cards to our stakeholders. In total, 1000 calendars were produced, distributed also during the Capitalisation Conference in Gothenburg (December 2009).

To meet the needs of the many meetings participated in, two further roll-up banners were produced using the programme’s graphic identity. Furthermore, notepads, document folders and pens were produced for the seminars and events organised by the programme.

### **5.3.7 Website & Newsletters**

A website developer was contracted late 2008, however the development during 2009 faced several setbacks. Key features of the approved project database, an interactive country map and an improved partner search database caused some development delays. Concurrently, the website on [www.interreg4c.eu](http://www.interreg4c.eu) was regularly updated with news, publications and documents for download, particularly concerning the Country Specific information ([http://www.interreg4c.net/programme.html#\\_555](http://www.interreg4c.net/programme.html#_555)) and the information for running projects ([http://www.interreg4c.net/projects.html#\\_111](http://www.interreg4c.net/projects.html#_111)).

The website attracts a steady stream of visitors, with peak months around the time of open calls, as might be expected.

### **5.3.8 Media relations**

During the course of 2009, a total of five press releases were sent to media contacts. These concerned the closure of the second call, announcing almost 500 applications; the announcement of the call for Capitalisation projects; and three press releases as part of the

media campaign surrounding the Capitalisation Conference. As the media strategy of INTERREG IVC is developed mainly around large international events, a dedicated media campaign was carried out with a Swedish news agency. The 30 most important media were contacted explaining the purpose of the conference in November. On 7 December, a press kit was sent to Swedish and international media in Swedish and English. A press release was sent to all conference participants, and a reminder sent to the media on 8 December. A further press release was issued on the first day of the conference, to Swedish media. The possibility of holding a press conference was discussed, but finally dismissed when it became known that the Swedish State Secretary could not participate. No other high-level figure (in media terms) replaced him.

The media fall-out from the conference remained rather limited (6 web articles in total). This was due to the targeted nature of the conference, the limited audience, the lack of direct interest to companies, ordinary media viewers. In addition, the conference suffered from direct competition with the UN Climate Change conference in Copenhagen, and an informal ministerial meeting held in Kiruna (Sweden) under the Swedish presidency.

Notwithstanding, INTERREG IVC gained a total of 63 press mentions throughout the year, as far as we can identify. There are inherent difficulties in monitoring the press coverage of 27 EU Member States, plus Norway and Switzerland, not only in terms of language, but also in terms of the extremely high cost of a media monitoring service that could cover all these countries. Research was carried out on the most cost-efficient method for press monitoring, and the decision was made to carry on ad-hoc monitoring, assisted by the National Contact Points and their national press monitoring service if they have one available within their organisations.

## **Annexe 01: Approved projects**

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Projects approved under INTERREG IVC first call for proposals

Year of approval: 2008

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Mail Address	Contact Person	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested	Summary of Project Description
<b>PRIORITY 1: INNOVATION AND THE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY</b>										
Employment, human capital and education	PEOPLE	INNOVATION FOR SOCIETAL CHANGE	Government of Andalusia. Ministry for the Equality and Social Welfare	miguel.presencio@juntadeandalucia.es	Miguel Presencio Fernández	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 2 942 936,00		EUR 3 856 320,00	This mini-programme's overall objective is to improve policy responses to demographic and societal change, such as ageing population, new family structures, immigration and emergence of new and vulnerable social groups. The project involves 7 regions from 7 different EU member states.
Employment, human capital and education	Gender4Growth	Gender4Growth	Region Ile-de-France	vincent.callies@iledefrance.fr	vincent Callies	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 317 116,15		EUR 1 689 094,20	The project seeks to exchange experience on 2 major issues: growth and gender equity. The project objective is to update partner's economic policies with enough consideration to gender issues. Sub-goals will be to identify the appropriate economic policies that integrate full contribution of gender, make adequate supports available on them, initiate their transfer to partners, and develop enough targeted communication so as to provide higher level decision-making influence that will ease adoption of adequate measures. The partnership consists of 8 partners coming from 7 countries.
Employment, human capital and education	IES	Implementing Employment Service	Regional Labour Agency of Sardinia	ispissu@regione.sardegna.it	Luca Spissu	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 313 188,74		EUR 1 931 197,18	The IES project's main goal is to improve the efficacy of implementing Employment Policies at regional level, supporting the accomplishment of the Employment Local Strategies and increasing the quality of the Employment Policies in Europe. This challenge will be tackled by a total of 10 partners from 6 European countries and Switzerland, who will contribute to improve the quality and the implementation of their own regional policies.
Employment, human capital and education	ESF6 CIA	Capitalising Innovative Approaches towards Demographic Change	Aufbauwerk Region Leipzig GmbH	rueckert@aufbauwerk-leipzig.com	Silvana Rückert	2: Capitalisation Project	EUR 1 124 016,00		EUR 1 445 248,00	Best practices on tackling demographic change – notably a falling birth rate and increasing life span – are the subject of this project, capitalising on experiences gained under the Innovative Actions programme (article 6 – demographic change). The eleven partners, representing eight countries, will benefit from the various experiences of each partner. This project will benefit from Fast Track assistance from the EC.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	Creative Growth	Creative Growth	Ostsam Regional Development Council	office@ostsam.se	Anna Jacobson	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 479 267,20		EUR 1 921 108,00	The aim of the Creative Growth project is to contribute to European competitiveness and accelerate regional economic growth through the development of the creative sector as a new business sector. By mainstreaming new knowledge and good practices into the policy making process, the project will influence policy development on regional and local level. The partnership consists of 11 partners from 9 EU countries.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	CASTLE	CASTLE - Cooperation Among SMEs Toward Logistic Excellence	Institute for Transport and Logistics Foundation	rrosini@regione.emilia-romagna.it	Rino Rosini	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 804 250,00		EUR 2 275 000,00	The project's overall objective is to improve local and regional policies in logistics for SMEs through the exchange of experience and the transfer of these experiences into the strategies of the participating regions. The 10 partners come from 8 European countries.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	NEEBOR	Networking for Enterprises in the Eastern External Border Regions	Eszak-Alföld Regional Development Agency	ebalazsy@eszakalfold.hu	Eszter Balázsy	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 106 530,90		EUR 1 336 703,65	The project has grown out from the Network of Eastern External Border Regions linking former non-EU countries from Central and Eastern Europe that share common challenges and seek joint solutions. The partnership of the project includes the regional authorities/bodies in 10 regions from 8 European countries and is oriented to Priority 1 of the programme - Innovation and knowledge economy. What binds the partners is the confidence that cross border business cooperation with non-European neighbouring countries, as well as better structures of access to knowledge and access to finance for SMEs in peripheral areas are the core elements of successful SME development and innovation policies. The partners will address these issues through exchange of experience in the development of key strategies for SME innovation, preparation of joint methodologies and policy recommendation aimed at deepening the relations among the external border regions and upgrading their networking capacity.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	CITIES	Creative Industries in Traditional Intercultural Spaces	Klaipeda City Municipality Administration	elona@klaipeda.lt	Elona Jurkeviciene	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 369 207,19		EUR 1 714 100,00	The CITIES project tackles the improvement of regional and local policies concerned with the promotion and support of creative and cultural industries. The overall benchmarking analysis of the creative and cultural industries in 9 countries, the 12 partners will identify successful approaches and methods.

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Mail Address	Contact Person	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested	Summary of Project Description
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	EuroPROC	EU Regional Cooperation for SMEs access to Public Procurement	Consortium for the Trade Promotion of Catalonia (COPCA)	cooperacio@copca.com	Maria Orobitg	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 198 516,51		EUR 1 513 780,10	The overall objective of the EuroPROC project is to increase the competitiveness of EU regions and SMEs when participating in EU tendering systems. Key points will be to fill the existing gap among the different EU regions involved, contributing to the catching up process in Central and Eastern Europe. This will be done through a balanced partnership of 11 partners coming from 10 EU member states.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	SEE	Sharing Experience Europe - policy innovation design	Design Wales - UWIC	graulik@designwales.org.uk	Gisele Raulik Murphy	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 198 682,66		EUR 1 577 024,41	The SEE project will share information on policies that have been successful in using design to boost innovation, entrepreneurship, sustainability or economic development. The project has a partnership of 11 organisations, which targets SMEs and their lack of resources for implementing design practice and innovation into their business.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	PASE	Public policies And Social Enterprises	Marche Region	mauro.terzoni@regione.marche.it	Mauro Terzoni	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 408 923,00		EUR 1 834 412,00	The overall objective of the project is to enforce the effectiveness of the regional public policies in promoting and supporting social entrepreneurship as an asset for local economic development and territorial competitiveness. In this project interregional cooperation is promoted among 9 partners coming from 7 different EU member states.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	CLUSNET	Clusters & Cities Network	Greater Lyon	pjustesen@grandlyon.org	Per Justesen	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 369 845,40		EUR 1 816 260,00	The objective of the project is to improve the effectiveness of cluster support policies in larger European city-regions. Through the analysis of cluster policies in large European city-regions the partnership of 12 bodies will produce policy recommendations targeting each partner city on how to strengthen their cluster support policies. The project will also facilitate the creation of links between clusters from partner's cities in order to improve criteria of critical mass and cluster competitiveness.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	CREATIVE METROPOLES	Public Policies and Instruments in Support of Creative Industries	Riga City Council	diana.civle@riga.lv	Diāna Čivle, Head of the Department of Culture	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 717 928,60		EUR 2 442 176,00	By exchanging experience and good practices, the CREATIVE METROPOLES project aims to strengthen the capacity and effectiveness of public support to unlock and support the economic potential of the creative economy. The project will address the following policy fields: structure of public support for creative industries; business capacity and internationalisation of creative businesses; space and creative city districts; funding for creative businesses; and demand for creative industry products and services. The partnership of the project is constituted by municipalities and development agencies of 11 metropolitan cities of Europe.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	MITKE	Managing the Industrial Territory in the Knowledge Era	SPRILUR S.A	moregi@sprilur.com	Mikel Oregi, Juan Domingo Olabari	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 480 943,13		EUR 1 925 799,89	MITKE focuses on providing a platform and mechanisms for collection, exchange and transfer of experiences and views among the partner regions in order to find and test better solutions and tools for intervention and thus contribute to an improved management of Business Areas and Industrial Parks (BAIPs) across Europe. MITKE pays special attention to matching less experienced regions with the ones with more experience as it reflected in the consortium.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	ICHNOS PLUS	Innovation and Change: Network of One-stop Shops for Business - PLUS	ANCITEL SARDINIA	info@ancitel.sardegna.it	Pier Paolo Falco	2: Capitalisation Project	EUR 909 322,25		EUR 1 124 747,00	ICHNOS PLUS aims to roll-out the models of one-stop shops for businesses developed under the INTERREG IIIC project (ICHNOS) to mainstream regional programmes. Through this, they aim to improve entrepreneurship policies by simplifying red tape for business start-ups. The seven partners, from seven different countries, are dedicated to implementing the models developed in their own region.
Innovation, research and technology development	ERIK ACTION	ERIK ACTION - Upgrading the innovation capacity of existing firms	Regional Government of Tuscany	simone.sorbi@regione.toscana.it	Simone Sorbi	2: Capitalisation Project	EUR 1 464 640,00		EUR 1 893 784,00	Improving the effectiveness of regional innovation support services is the objective of this Italian-led project, leading to an upgrade in the innovation capacity of businesses. Building on four years of networking experience within the ERIK network (DG REGIO's Innovative Actions programme), the project partners aim to transfer the good practices already identified in the Erik database into regional mainstream programmes. The eleven partners in this project represent 10 countries, all of whom have identified innovation as a key priority in regional development. The project will therefore produce 11 regional action plans to ensure the successful transfer of these practices into regional policy. This project will benefit from Fast Track assistance from the EC.

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Mail Address	Contact Person	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested	Summary of Project Description
Innovation, research and technology development	MINI EUROPE	Mainstreaming INnovative Instruments for SME development in Europe	Province of Flevoland	bob.pels@flevoland.ni joan.algra@flevoland.ni	Bob Pels & Joan Algra	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 556 420,25		EUR 1 991 639,00	The project aims to exchange and develop regional policies in SME development, focussing on the main themes of promoting entrepreneurship and providing infrastructure for innovation to SMEs. In particular it will address the issues of increasing involvement of under-represented groups in entrepreneurship and developing regional financial infrastructures to support regional entrepreneurs. The MINI EUROPE partnership combines the experience of 8 regions.
Innovation, research and technology development	CLIQ	Creating Local Innovation through a Quadruple Helix	City of Jyväskylä	laura.ahonen@jkl.fi	Laura Ahonen	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 492 107,85		EUR 1 951 637,00	CLIQ focuses on the role of local authorities in medium sized cities in driving innovation, highlighting the importance of local quadruple helix partnerships to bring together universities, business, civil society and local authorities. The CLIQ partnership includes 17 partners from 11 EU countries.

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Mail Address	Contact Person	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested	Summary of Project Description
Innovation, research and technology development	I4W	Innovation for Welfare	CIDEM - Centre for Innovation and Business Development	msanza@cidem.gencat.net	Mariona Sanz	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 3 732 570,90		EUR 4 804 754,00	The objective of the I4W project is to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies that stimulate technology-driven innovation in the field of health and safety. The project involves partners representing 6 regions across Europe, who want to forge new coalitions between business, knowledge institutes and public welfare organisations to stimulate the uptake of these innovations.
Innovation, research and technology development	RAPIDE	REGIONAL ACTION PLANS for INNOVATION DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE	South West of England Regional Development Agency	maria.ioannou@southwestrda.org.uk	Maria Ioannou	2: Capitalisation Project	EUR 1 430 473,71		EUR 1 810 099,37	This project deals with the role of the public sector in stimulating innovation in regions, in particular helping mainly small businesses bring innovative products to market more quickly. By focusing on the good practices already identified in partner regions, gathered under the various national and European development programmes, the partners aim to develop robust, workable Action plans that each Region will implement. Thirteen partners from eleven Member States will thus stimulate innovation in regions, increase economic growth and therefore contribute directly to the EU agenda for Innovation and Knowledge economy. This project will benefit from Fast Track assistance from the EC.
Innovation, research and technology development	NANO4M	Nanotechnology for Market	Regional Development Agency of Asturias	paz@idepa.es	Paz Palacio	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 384 419,00		EUR 1 845 892,00	NANO4M aims at improving strategies and building networks to design nanotechnology for market. In this project 11 partners from 4 countries tackle the challenges identified in relation to the functioning of the regional innovation systems. The partners wish to improve the regions' innovation infrastructure, strengthen interregional collaboration, improve the efficiency of regional innovation policies as well as to shorten the gap between R&D and market testing innovation processes.
the Information Society	B3 Regions	Regions for Better Broadband connection	Piedmont Region	roberto.moriond@regione.piemonte.it	Roberto Moriondo	2: Capitalisation Project	EUR 2 826 181,94		EUR 3 495 380,69	This project tackles a key theme for the development of the knowledge economy: implementing broadband connections in remote or disadvantaged areas. Based on the analysis that only about 60% of businesses and households in the remote and rural areas of the EU15 had access to broadband in 2005, compared with over 90% of urban areas, the project aims to transfer existing good practices in this domain to regions involved. Based on a partnership of 17 bodies representing eight countries, this project will contribute to the economic modernisation and increased competitiveness of Europe. This project will benefit from Fast Track assistance from the EC.
the Information Society	DC	DIGITAL CITIES: A network for rapid and sustainable ICT regional adoption	Municipality of Trikala	oraptis@e-trikala.gr	Odiseas Raptis	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 498 500,00		EUR 1 810 000,00	The main objective of the Digital Cities (DC) project is to tackle the very low rate of ICT (Information Communication Technologies) penetration at local level by providing the organizational structures, strategies/policies and tools (called altogether DC model) for enabling the rapid and sustainable adoption of ICT at local level and the development of digital cities in a broad European level. The general objectives of the DC project include the development and evaluation of the DC Model and the establishment of an open, sustainable cooperation/coordination Network for sharing knowledge, exchanging best practices/experiences and developing synergies among local authorities. The final outcome of the project is
the Information Society	EVITA	Exchange, Valorisation and Transfer of regional best policy measures for SME support on IT and e-business Adoption.	Greek Research and Technology Network (GRNET)	hatzakis@grnet.gr	Hatzakis Ilias	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 386 976,80		EUR 1 703 110,00	EVITA builds on a number of recognized good practices developed under different regional and interregional development programs, in order to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies in the area of the access of SMEs, to knowledge, e-business practices and the global economy, in regions with low ICT and e-business take-up. The partnership involves 10 partners from 8 EU countries.
the Information Society	PIKE	Promoting Innovation and the Knowledge Economy	ERNACT EEIG	rocio.rubio@ernact.net	Rocio Rubio Centeno	2: Capitalisation Project	EUR 1 284 668,87		EUR 1 665 523,00	Building on the experiences shared under the INTERREG IIIC-funded project BRISE, this project seeks to stimulate the successful uptake of Information Society policies at regional level, particularly in the area of broadband and internet access, and eGovernment practices. This project will benefit from Fast Track assistance from the EC.

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Mail Address	Contact Person	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested	Summary of Project Description
<b>PRIORITY 2: ENVIRONMENT AND RISK PREVENTION</b>										
Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage (including air quality)	COMMONS	Common Land for sustainable management	Corsica Region Environment Office	patrimoine@oec.fr	Charles Antoine Pasqualini	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 168 561,00		EUR 1 615 240,00	The project intends to reassess the value of the uncultivated common lands - forest based common lands to distinguish from rural common lands – as an instrument for preserving natural resources and valorise natural products in order to both preserve the natural heritage and to reduce depopulation. The partnership is composed of 10 partners who will exchange their experiences in order to improve local policies.
Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage (including air quality)	CITEAIR II	Common Information to European Air	Airparif	karine.leger@airparif.asso.fr	Karine Leger	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 517 395,45		EUR 1 986 697,00	This project builds on the CITEAIR project which was funded under the INTERREG IIC programme. The main achievement of this project was the development, testing and application of good practices to collect and deliver information on air quality in a comparable and easy understandable way to inform the public and facilitate exchange of experience between air quality managers. The aim of CITEAIR II is "To jointly identify, test and transfer a set of good practices through the exchange of experiences and to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies in the area of air quality protection, sustainable transport and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions". The extended partnership includes 11 partners.
Cultural heritage and landscape	CeRamiCa	Ceramics and CRafts Industries' Increased Cooperation	Municipality of Hódmezővásárhely	csaki.imre@hodmezovasarhely.hu	Mr Imre Csáki	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 760 682,30		EUR 2 117 734,00	CeRamiCa is the result of a long cooperation between the Hungarian Municipality of Hódmezővásárhely and eleven other cities from 6 EU countries, having a common cultural heritage background and facing the same difficulties. The cooperation is based on the eagerness to preserve and promote the ceramic and small crafts sector in Europe through exchange of positive experience. The objectives of CeRamiCa define it as a Priority 2 action, clearly addressing the issue of promoting cultural assets as potential for the economic development of partner regions. The project partners will be involved in activities leading to the elaboration of local and regional development strategy recommendations and instruments to support and boost the ceramics and small crafts sector in the partner regions. The transfer of best practices will provide a unique opportunity to learn from each others' experiences, acquire new methodologies, processes or techniques which can help in the development of new products, opening up to new markets, identifying effective marketing and training tools and, potentially, creating new jobs and enterprises.
Cultural heritage and landscape	PRESERVE	Peer Reviews for Sustainable Eco-Regions via Europe	Assembly of European Regions	secretariat@aer.eu	Céline Dawans	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 222 160,23		EUR 1 589 281,22	The aim of the project is to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies, specifically focusing upon cultural heritage and landscape policies as endogenous factors of economic development. The French lead partnership gathers 14 regional and local representatives from 11 different countries in order to exchange experience and discuss the difficulties the partners faced when implementing cultural heritage and landscape policies.
Energy and sustainable transport	MORE4NRG	MORE4NRG	Province of Flevoland	henk.kuiper@flevoland.nl	Henk Kuiper	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 032 084,05		EUR 1 326 559,00	The objective of the project is to strengthen the delivery of regional strategies for renewable energy sources and energy efficiency by exchanging best practices on sustainable energy policies and jointly developing an integrated monitoring tool for measuring the effect of regional sustainable energy strategies. The partnership builds on the experience of 11 regions of the EU.
Energy and sustainable transport	FLIPPER	Flexible Transport Services and ICT platform for Eco-Mobility in urban and rural European areas	SRM – Networks and Mobility (Public Transport Authority Bologna)	dora.ramazottti@srbologna.it	Dora Ramazzotti	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 2 093 025,00		EUR 2 696 700,00	The FLIPPER proposal addresses a key factor of eco-sustainable and competitive development and social cohesion of European areas and Regions, through the investigation, experience exchange, good practices transferring and profitable co-operation on FTS in relation to mobility in cities, rural areas and small towns. By capitalising on real results, experiences and good practices gained in previous EU site applications and EU Projects (IV-VI FP and Regional Cooperation) FLIPPER aims at establishing a Knowledge Transfer Network among different EU areas and Authorities in the domain of FTS. Moreover FLIPPER objective is to achieve capability-building environmental, sustainable and innovative solutions in the Public Transport domain by evaluating the viability and real impacts and by gathering the good practices identified at site level.

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Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Mail Address	Contact Person	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested	Summary of Project Description
Energy and sustainable transport	MMOVE	Mobility Management oVer Europe: Changing Mobility Patterns	Municipality of Reggio Emilia	raffaello.tupputi@municipio.re.itreggio.mondo02	RAFFAELLO TUPPUTI	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 438 007,60		EUR 1 859 321,23	MMOVE supports interregional exchange on sustainable mobility policies for medium sized European cities. The project involves 11 partners from 8 EU countries and aims to influence regional authority policy-making by providing mobility management solutions which will help small and medium sized cities make best use of their mobility infrastructure and services.
Energy and sustainable transport	SUGAR	Sustainable Urban Goods logistics Achieved by Regional and local policies	Emilia-Romagna Region	AgMobilitaetrasporti@regione.emilia-romagna.it	F. Saverio Di Ciommo	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 2 884 348,75		EUR 3 641 565,00	SUGAR focuses on addressing the problem of inefficient and ineffective management of urban freight distribution, a critical component of the overall urban transport system and a primary source of vehicle pollutant emissions. To accomplish this, SUGAR promotes the exchange, discussion and transfer of policy experience, knowledge and good practices in the field of urban freight management, with regards to policy and planning levers between and among advanced and less experienced sites. SUGAR bases its approach on the study of EU good practices for the development of tools to support policy making.
Energy and sustainable transport	CAPRICE	Capital regions integrating collective transport for increased energy efficiency	Public Transport Authority of Berlin-Brandenburg	ross@vbbonline.de	Juergen Ross	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 885 467,95		EUR 1 110 367,95	The goal of CAPRICE is to exchange experiences and to identify and promote good practice in the field of organisation of a sustainable and energy efficient integrated public transport in Capital regions and other regions with dense population. The project comprises a network of actors from 5 European Capital regions who are responsible for public transport.
Energy and sustainable transport	PIMMS TRANSFER	TRansferring Actions iN Sustainable mobility For European Regions	London Borough of Bromley	Emma.Owen@bromley.gov.uk	Emma Owen	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 2 823 234,19		EUR 3 567 748,57	The project build on the "transfer methodology" developed under INTERREG IIC which identified the Critical Success Factors behind best practice case studies in mobility management. PIMMS TRANSFER aims to stimulate modal shift towards more sustainable forms of transport by increasing the implementation of high quality mobility management techniques and policies in European regions and to extend, deepen and promote best practice in mobility management. The partnership is composed of 15 partners coming from 15 countries.
Energy and sustainable transport	POWER	POWER	South East England Development Agency	kathyvuillaume@seeda.co.uk	Kathy Vuillaume	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 4 432 604,80		EUR 5 789 856,00	The POWER mini programme will explore ways to move towards a low carbon economy at regional level, in particular by re-formulating regional development strategies and policy instruments and identifying effective forms of sub-regional action which also contribute to regional competitiveness. The seven participating regions will work toward achieving long-term policy objectives of fossil free Europe, Kyoto Protocols, Energy targets by 2020, renewed Sustainable Development Strategy by developing appropriate road-maps, finding the best path together in response to these future challenges.
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	FUTUREforest	FUTUREforest - Woodlands for Climate Change	Ministry of Rural Development, Environment and Consumer Protection	MichaelEgidius.luthardt@mluv.brandenburg.de	Dr. Michael-Egidius Luthardt	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 492 182,92		EUR 1 900 000,00	The project aims to ensure that future European forests continue to deliver multiple benefits and to leave future generations forests that are well adapted and resilient to natural risks, including effects of climate change. The partnership consists of three regional public forestry authorities and four national public forestry authorities from seven EU Member States.
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	GRaBS	Green and Blue Space Adaptation for Urban Areas and Eco Towns	Town and Country Planning Association	gideon.amos@tcpa.org.uk	Gideon Amos	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 2 430 198,75		EUR 3 182 929,00	The Green and Blue Space Adaptation for Urban Areas and Eco Towns (GRaBS) project aims to improve the regional decision and policy making process in relation to the planning and development of new and existing urban areas in nine EU member states in the content of climate change. GRaBS partnership gathers 14 partners coming from 8 countries.

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Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Mail Address	Contact Person	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested	Summary of Project Description
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	REGIOCLIMA	Regional cooperation towards adaptation to climate change	Larnaca District Development Agency	anetel@cytanet.com.cyeloizou@anetel.com	Eleftherios Loizou	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 621 793,50		EUR 1 999 970,00	The REGIOCLIMA project aims at enhancing cooperation among selected EU regions to facilitate the elaboration of climate change adaptation strategies and to implement policy guidelines. The overall objective of the project is to assist societies to adapt to the new climate conditions both by minimising the risk of damage and exploiting the new opportunities arising from a changing climate. The partnership consists of 8 partners from 8 different countries.
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	RSC	Regions for Sustainable Change	The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe	BWiszniewska@rec.org	Ms. Beata Wiszniewska; Regional Director for the new member states	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 661 380,72		EUR 2 099 980,64	The Regions for Sustainable Change (RSC) project is a partnership of 12 bodies from 8 countries helmed by the Regional Environment Center For Central and Eastern Europe (Hungary). Development of the potential of regional development programmes and stimulating mitigation and adaptation to climate change is the subject of the RSC action. Building upon the experience of the previous INTERREG III C programme the partners will direct their actions to integrating climate change issues into regional policies and practices in order to deliver sustainable socio-economic development for the partner regions. The RSC project will address this issue by analysing current regional practices, developing benchmarks, criteria, and indicators for regions, as well as preparing a methodological handbook instructing regions how to integrate climate change issues into regional development plans, how to move towards low carbon economy and use the environment as an economic driver. The action will also offer partners the chance to carry out pilot actions, such as the preparation of a carbon footprint of regional development programmes.
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	PRoMPt	Proactive Human Response to Wildfires Breakout: Measure and Prepare for it	Region Western Greece	smichos@ptapde.gr	Stefanos Michos	1: Regional Initiative Project	EUR 1 244 847,80		EUR 1 517 423,30	The aim of the suggested project is to exchange experiences and good practices in order to improve regional policies for coping with fires right after their outbreak in very sensitive areas, like the forest ones. Since regional policies in terms of environmental protection and risk prevention constitute a vital issue towards the accomplishment of the Gothenburg Strategy, local and regional authorities in EU need to further work towards a more close and effective cooperation on such issues. This project, based on previously related activities focused on risk management, intends to move further and deal with exchange of experiences and good practices on methods, action plans or even tools, addressing the forest fires danger and crisis management right after the outbreak of a fire, and in particular, a wild one.

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Mail Address	Contact Person	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested	Summary of Project Description
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Projects approved under INTERREG IVC second call for proposals

Year of approval: 2009

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Contact Person	Email address	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested (EUR)	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested (EUR)	Summary of Project Description
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PRIORITY 1: INNOVATION AND THE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY

Employment, human capital and education	UNICREDS	University Collaboration in Regional Development Spaces	Cornwall County Council	Mr Brian Shipman	bshipman@cornwall.gov.uk	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 710 860,90		2 173 658,00	UNICREDS brings together deprived peripheral regions that view the development of decentralised, multi-university campuses in their territories as the key to their full participation in regional development through the knowledge economy. The core objective of the network is to further develop and demonstrate how the triple helix model can assist the transformation of failing peripheral regions into centres of excellence in research and innovation and to propose this approach as a model for future EU regional development programmes.
Employment, human capital and education	SolidarCity	The role and involvement of local authorities in employment rate increase	Efxini Poli	Mrs Evgeria Zarokosta	epolis@efxini.gr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 233 785,00		1 523 100,00	The idea of the project SolidarCity has been developed in continuity of 3 EQUAL Projects implemented during the period 2001 – 2006 by EFXINI POLI. The main objective of the SolidarCity project, is to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies by enhancing the role and involvement of local & regional authorities and civil society in employment rate increase through exploring the parameters which burden the active participation into the local labor market and finding ways to create more and better jobs at local level.
Employment, human capital and education	Brain Flow	Brain Flow and Knowledge Transfer fostering Innovation in Border Regions	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy of the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia	MR'in Ingeborg Puschmann	ingeborg.puschmann@mwmn.nrw.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	2 270 000,00	200 000,00	3 435 000,00	The "Brain Flow" partnership represents 8 border regions from 7 different countries (ES – CH – NL – NO – SE – LT – DE) being affected by the so-called "brain-drain/brain-gain" phenomenon due to their specific socio-economical and geographical characteristics. Through the joint project implementation authorities and other regional/local actors in the partner regions will be enabled to exchange best practices and experiences on interregional level in order to develop and introduce new or improved instruments to avoid or minimise brain-drain and
Employment, human capital and education	PADIMA	Policies Against Depopulation in Mountain Areas	PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF TERUEL	Maria Pilar Julian	mpjulian@dpteruel.es	1: Regional Initiative Project	787 875,00	197 402,00	1 445 304,00	The PADIMA project main aim is to contribute to the improvement of the Regional Policies against depopulation in mountain areas (PADIMAs) through the exchange of good practices for maintaining and increasing population in mountain areas. A partnership covering a diversity of areas facing depopulation will facilitate the exchange of innovation as some of the policies implemented in the far Northern region of Buskerud in Norway are fully innovative in the Southern Spanish region of Teruel and vice versa.
Employment, human capital and education	DART	Declining, Ageing and Regional Transformation	InvestitionsBank des Landes Brandenburg	Perti Hermannek	perti.hermannek@ilb.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 579 941,50		2 050 098,00	Declining, Ageing and Regional Transformation (DART), demographic and economic change is a great challenge for about 30% of EU regions and this amount will increase up to 50% in 2030. Within the DART regions there are several projects dealing with special fields of policy. But most of them focus on sector-specific and are only insular solutions. The purpose of DART is to achieve an adjustment of policies relating to demographic change.
Employment, human capital and education	TOOL QUIZ	Employability and knowledge based economy : tools for innovative culture	North-Pas de Calais Regional Council	Donato GIULIANI	d.giuliani@nordpasdecalais.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 086 940,25	75 000,00	1 586 380,60	The project will contribute to strengthening the cultural and creative sector, and to identify it as a full economic sector, and more largely, as a key sector of a knowledge-based economy. It will contribute to developing a cross-cutting approach around this sector, to integrate it in development policies and to define more suitable strategies, policies and tools, at regional and European level. It will also contribute to enlarging the reflections on this sector, still more focused on the industrial and entrepreneurial issues, and less on human capital. In this framework, one of the
Employment, human capital and education	WRC FTN	Women Resource Centre Fast Track Network	Municipality of Álvdalen	Karin Ljudén, Gunnar Barke	karin.ljuden@alvdalen.se, sara.markus@mora.se	2: Capitalisation Project	1 835 850,65		2 356 778,55	WRC FTN addresses the problems with low employment rates among women in combination with horizontally segregated labour markets and the lack of women in entrepreneurship, innovation and technology. Problems constituting obstacles for regional competitiveness. WRC FTN involves local and regional authorities, Managing Authorities, research institutes and NGOs. The overall objective is to contribute to regional growth by enhancing the labour market participation among women and especially promotes women in entrepreneurship, innovation and

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Mail Address	Contact Person	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested	Summary of Project Description
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	B2N	Business to Nature - Interregional Approach to SMEs and Entrepreneurship Policies in Natural Areas	Polish Tourism Development Agency	Malgorzata Steckiewicz	malgorzata.steckiewicz@part.com.pl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 551 489,69		1 948 407,81	B2N project (BUSINESS TO NATURE – INTERREGIONAL APPROACH TO SMEs AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN NATURAL AREAS) aims at contributing to the endogenous development of European regions by promoting entrepreneurship in underdeveloped areas building on local skills, the attractiveness of the natural environment and best practices in entrepreneurial initiatives that have already proved to be successful. B2N is willing to provide a model policy framework to support SME's development in vulnerable natural
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	CREA.RE	CREATIVE REGIONS	Cultural department - Regional government authority Upper Austria	Dr. Reinhard Mattes, Mag. Anneliese Geyer	anneliese.geyer@ooe.gv.at	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 832 897,61		2 372 165,47	Within CREA.RE the know-how, good practice and policy experience in the field of creative economy will be exchanged aiming at enhancing the effectiveness of each partner's – current & future - EU Regional programmes. Summarizing the specific experiences made by all partners, the CREA.RE toolkit "How to integrate Creative Sector potential into EU regional development in a sustainable and feasible way?" will be published and presented during the EU-wide final conference of the project.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	ENSPIRE EU	Entrepreneurial Inspiration for the European Union	Esbjerg Municipality	Frank Rosengreen Lorenzen and Johnny Killerup Pedersen, Director	frl@southdenmark.be	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 391 074,56		1 776 963,94	The key paradox between good conditions for entrepreneurship but poor desire to become entrepreneurial is the key focus of ENSPIRE EU. By focusing on the development of a European entrepreneurial mindset by development/promotion of entrepreneurial inspiration, it's mainstreaming and durability into the regional policy sphere and structural funds system, ENSPIRE EU will improve the effectiveness of regional development policies thereby contributing to the economic modernisation and increased competitiveness of the EU.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	RURALAND	RURALAND: RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLAYERS	Regional ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture	Hermínia Martínez	herminia.martinez@juntadeandalucia.es	1: Regional Initiative Project	2 286 191,25		2 994 143,00	Ruraland is the result of a high level of understanding between a series of European regions which have a long-standing tradition in cooperation between each other and with other territories. Ruraland was set up after various meetings with different entities sharing the wish to promote innovative and competitive regional rural development policies.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	INNOHUBS	Innovation Hubs for Edge Cities	Municipality of Nacka	Ingegård Angström	ingegard.angstrom@nacka.se	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 189 103,75		1 542 705,77	The Edge Cities Network (ECN) brings together cities on the edge of the major capitals of Europe. They have in common economic, cultural and social challenges derived of this geographic situation. The general objective of this project is to identify and exchange Good Practices about support and promotion of local entrepreneurship and innovative SMEs among the partner Edge Cities, taking into account their specific framework and existing Innovation Support Systems, as a way to maintain their integrity as living environments and contribute
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	YES	Youth Entrepreneurship Strategies	Ostergötland County Administrative Board	Anna Jacobson	anna.jacobson@lansstyrelsen.se	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 168 559,25		1 521 199,00	The overall aim of YES, Youth Entrepreneurship Strategies, is to increase the number of entrepreneurs and accelerate European competitiveness. The method for reaching the objectives is integrating an entrepreneurial perspective in the one forum that gathers all European youth, the education system. The result will be improved policies regarding integration of entrepreneurship in the education system. The long term impact of the project will be an increased number of entrepreneurs and SMEs in partner regions.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	ICER	Innovative Concept of Eco-accommodation approach in rural Regions: Public support policies for eco-investors	Regional Committee for Tourism Development of Auvergne	Thomas Ducloutrier	thomas.ducloutrier@crdt-auvergne.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 634 043,75		2 086 205,00	In the medium-long run, the ICER project will lead to increased awareness among the relevant decision-makers for innovative tourist concepts of public policies aiming at strengthening the attractiveness and competitiveness of their rural areas. Even if the economic dimension is the key issue of the project, there are clear side-effects on the environment through the selection of Eco-friendly investors intending to create accommodation SMEs which deal with values such as environment protection and valorisation, high services quality.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	OSAIS	OBSERVATORY ON STATE AID IMPACT	Veneto Region - Regional Council	Gianlorenzo Martini	gianlorenzo.martini@regione.veneto.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 592 043,05		1 996 175,00	OSAIS affects basically two aspects: 1) analysis of the macroeconomic impact of the regional subsidy policy in terms of effectiveness. 2) analysis of the impact in terms of efficiency, trying to identify among the different financial tools (grants, interest rate rebates, guarantees, capital injections, accelerated depreciation allowances etc.) the most effective practice (i.e. the best practices).

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Entrepreneurship and SMEs	<b>ORGANZA</b>	ORGANZA - Network of Medium Sized Creative Cities	Municipality of Arnhem	Esther Ruiten	Esther.Ruiten@arnhem.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 493 066,33		1 959 881,25	ORGANZA's objective is to systematically collect and exchange policy experiences of local and regional authorities regarding creative industries. ORGANZA focuses on medium size regions and cities that lack critical mass and face brain drain of creative talent. The challenge is to dynamize entrepreneurship but also to foster industrial change. ORGANZA brings together cities and regions with different profiles of creative sectors, which enables capitalisation from the project results.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	<b>CREATOR</b>	Creative regional policies addressing economic development opportunities related to aging societies	County Administrative Board of Västerbotten	Mr Mats-Rune Bergström	mats-rune.bergstrom@lansstyrelsen.se	1: Regional Initiative Project	3 821 300,00		4 926 000,00	Creative regional policies addressing economic development opportunities related to aging societies is the goal of CREATOR. CREATOR's overall approach is innovative, as the project brings together European regions having accentuated differences with respect to their awareness about / capacities for addressing economic development opportunities emerging from new needs of a further aging society.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	<b>SMART+</b>	Mini-Programme for Entrepreneurship and SME Innovation	Aragonese Federation of Municipalities, Regions and Provinces	Romina Magni	rmagni@famcp.org	1: Regional Initiative Project	2 728 524,50		3 376 592,00	SMART+ origins from the INTERREG IIIC RFO "SMART" that initiated a network of regions striving for identification and transfer of innovative approaches of regional development in the context of economic restructuring processes and globalisation. SMART+ builds upon a joint strategy of the participating regions attaching the utmost relevance to SMEs as the key force for the transition of economy based on traditional industries towards the knowledge-based economy.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	<b>IMAGEEN</b>	Improvement of Methodologies and Governance of European Entrepreneurship Network	Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Lyon	Claire Delsuc	delsuc@lyon.cci.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	985 012,50		1 291 050,00	The key objective of IMAGEEN is to benchmark best practice governance models and support methodologies. IMAGEEN will build an EU-wide network dedicated to the improvement of entrepreneurship policies and tools. One expected output of IMAGEEN is a concrete network methodology to enable IMAGEEN partner network sustainability and bring in new EU partners.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	<b>PROSPECTS</b>	To promote and support entrepreneurship to create new SMEs	Association of Mining Communities of France	Patrice DELATTRE	acom.france@nordnet.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 407 862,40		1 793 582,00	PROSPECTS aims to promote the entrepreneurship regional policies in the current or former regions heavily dependent on mining or traditional industry. This project is built on a partnership coming from both Regional Competitiveness and Convergence regions. The 10 Partners, located inside a "United Kingdom-Spain-Slovenia-Poland" quadrilateral, provide different levels of know-how and knowledge in the field of the SMEs promotion. The project partners will focus their works on 4 strategic themes inter reacting in connection with the overall
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	<b>Robinwood PLUS</b>	Apply participatory forest planning for sustainability: Robinwood Plus	Liguria Region - Environment Department	Mrs Daniela Minetti	daniela.minetti@regione.liguria.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	2 358 322,67		3 063 463,56	The project idea was born out of previous successful Interreg III C projects (Robinwood, RURAL Innova, etc) devoted to sustainable rural development. Whilst the previous projects have allowed the project partners to increase their knowledge on this issue and have allowed the local stakeholders to start activating locally, there is now a need to keep momentum, to promote a more systematic approach (in terms of policy and governance) to the revitalization of rural areas and to pave the way for future investments.
Entrepreneurship and SMEs	<b>ENTREDI</b>	Entrepreneurial Diversity	Kompass	Ellen Bommersheim, Managing Director	ellen.bommersheim@kompassfrankfurt.de	2: Capitalisation Project	1 081 195,50		1 386 650,00	Fostering entrepreneurship with (semi) public funding contributes to a more prosperous regional economy and can reduce the unemployment rate significantly. The experiences of the project partners as well as acknowledged studies show that entrepreneurial initiatives are successful if different types of services are provided for latent nascent entrepreneurs, nascent entrepreneurs and young entrepreneurs: Assessment, Training, Ongoing Consultation, Facilities and Networks.
Innovation, research and technology developmen	<b>POOLING4CLUSTERS</b>	Best shared services for regional cluster initiative needs	Economic Office of the Province of Namur	Vincent VAN BREUSEGEM	vvb@bep.be	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 160 543,62		1 456 216,69	The POOLING4CLUSTERS (Best shared services for regional cluster initiative needs) project will focus on the links between Development Agencies and Cluster Initiatives in their environment. The project will analyse and share experiences regarding value added services provided by DAs in order to help CIs to be more efficient and to boost their contribution to the success of regional development objectives.

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Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Mail Address	Contact Person	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested	Summary of Project Description
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>FRESH</b>	Forwarding Resgional Sustainable Environmental Hierarchies	Kainuun Etu ltd	Ninetta Chaniotou	ninetta.chaniotou@kainuunetu.fi	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 639 547,30		2 156 704,00	The overall objective of the FRESH project is to strengthen development based on sustainable value creation at regional level and to contribute to the implementation of the Environmental Technologies Action Plan (ETAP-COM 38/2004). Key results: strengthened sustainable value creation at regional level; improved regional frameworks for sustainable value creation; improved instruments for eco-design and eco-innovation; enhanced regional implementation of ETAP; development of development based on
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>Know-Man</b>	Knowledge Network Management in Technology Parks	Leibniz-Institute for Regional Development and Structural Planning	Prof. Dr. H.J. Kujath	KujathH@irs-net.de; PirkH@irs-net.de; SchmidtS@irs-net.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 684 562,66		2 154 268,66	Know-Man improves regional development and spatial innovation policies by exchanging and transferring regional approaches, competencies and instruments of knowledge network management (KNM) to strengthen the region's global competitiveness. The project supports and initiates regional innovation impulses and strengthens each region's competitiveness. Furthermore, the project develops KNM policies and instruments that can be transferred to other European regions.
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>PERIA</b>	Partnership on European Regional Innovation Agencies	CARINNA-Champagne-Ardenne Research and Innovation Agency	Bernard STREE	bernard.stree@carinna.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 277 809,35		1 669 642,63	PERIA focuses on regional innovation policy and on the tools used for implementing innovation: the Regional Innovation Agency (RIA). The objectives of PERIA are to develop within regions with a common interest their proficiency in regional innovation policy, in innovation management techniques and in fostering of Research-Development-Innovation relationships.
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>ECREIN+</b>	European Clusters and Regions for Eco-Innovation Network Plus	Regional Council of Rhone-Alpes	Florence Charnay	fcharnay@rhonealpes.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 583 660,25		2 063 419,00	In 2006, 6 European regions (Rhone-Alpes, Andalusia, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Ile de France, Lombardy, and Malopolska) decided to work together to propose innovative financial instruments to support eco-innovation and SMEs at the regional level. The ECREIN network (European Clusters and Regions for Eco-investments Network) was created with the support of the DG ENV G3 Unit within the European Environmental Technologies Action Plan (ETAP).The ECREIN+ project submitted to INTERREG IVC as a regional initiative project will
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>IPP</b>	Interregional Partnership Platform	Ministry of Economy and Labour Saxony-Anhalt	Catrin Gutowsky	catrin.gutowsky@mw.sachsen-anhalt.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	890 565,00		1 137 700,00	Public innovation intermediaries play a crucial role in providing innovation support measures, creating partnerships and also providing finding innovative solution. Public innovation intermediaries, such as business parks, innovation centres and innovation policy units at local and regional level play an important role in raising the rate of innovation. The Interregional Partnership Project would like to step in here to identify successful access models in the partner regions to increase the outward orientation of innovation intermediaries in the region
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>ChemClust</b>	Improving Innovation Capacity in European Chemical Clusters	Ministry of Economy and Labour of Saxony-Anhalt	Catrin Gutowsky	catrin.gutowsky@mw.sachsen-anhalt.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 342 200,00		1 762 400,00	The project Chemclust is a cooperation between 10 chemical regions from 7 Member States with the objective to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies in the area of innovation and cluster policies for the chemical sector by means of interregional cooperation and exchange of best-practice. The cooperation is based on the partnership of the European Chemical Regions Network and a result of the discussion in the framework of the High Level Group for the competitiveness of the chemical industry in Europe, chaired by the Vice-President of the Commission.
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>INNOPOLIS</b>	Innovation Policy in University City Regions	University of Salford, Centre for Enterprise & Innovation Research	Prof Christos Kalantaridis	c.kalantaridis@salford.ac.uk	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 249 465,58		1 585 410,12	INNOPOLIS aims to identify regional best policy practice in the field of knowledge exchange between universities & enterprises. Having done so, INNOPOLIS will develop a simulation & an e-learning toolkit (a user-friendly electronic repository of the project's key outputs) that can be used by regional authorities in transferring best policy practice, and thus actively supporting knowledge co-creation between universities & enterprises. The activities of INNOPOLIS focus on university city-regions, defined here as localities with at least three multi-departmental
Innovation, research and technology development	<b>DISTRICT+</b>	Disseminating Innovative STRategies for Capitalization of Targeted Good Practices	Tuscany Region	Albino Caporale	albino.caporale@regione.toscana.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	3 550 000,00		4 600 000,00	The objective of the project will be the exchange of experiences and good practices (GPs) among regional partners to improve the effectiveness of regional policies in the areas of innovation, research and technological development. The project will build upon the experiences gained by the partners through their regional development programmes and former european projects such as the Interreg IIC DISTRICT RFO to capitalise consolidated GPs.

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Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Mail Address	Contact Person	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested	Summary of Project Description
Innovation, research and technology development	EURIS	European Collaborative and Open Regional Innovation Strategies	DG Enterprise, Department of Innovation, Business and Employment, Navarra Government	Mr. Rafael Mugerza	rafael.mugerza.eraso@cfnavarra.es	1: Regional Initiative Project	3 240 460,80		4 130 511,30	EURIS addresses the Lisbon Strategy's challenge of shifting towards a Knowledge based economy, if EU is to become the more competitive world economy, from 2 complementary perspectives: 1) The lack of many EU regions of a critical mass on the RTDI field, opposed to the increasing globalisation of RTDI (Global Networks of Innovation) and the enormous potential to build on the complementary strengths of EU regions. 2) The "Closed" and outdated concept of Innovation, versus the "Open Innovation" (OI), demanding the co-opetition
Innovation, research and technology development	PROSESC	Producer Services for European Sustainability and Competitiveness	Stuttgart Region Economic Development Cooperation	Reha Tözün	reha.toezuen@region-stuttgart.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 002 311,20		1 295 594,12	The project aims to establish a network of regional and local policy-makers and development authorities, which will improve the European public support strategies and policies regarding environmental sustainability and competitiveness of road transport by supporting knowledge-intensive producer services sector. The network shall stimulate improvement of regional strategies and policies through the exchange of know-how and good practices. It will lead to a better understanding innovation dynamics of road transport sector and accommodate the transfer
Innovation, research and technology development	INOLINK	Connecting the territory through the innovation network	The Andalusian Technology Network (R.E.T.A.)	Carmen Porras	mcporras@reta.es	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 545 615,00		1 985 078,00	The INOLINK project focuses on regional policies and practices for the diffusion of innovation. It tackles the issue of innovation activities being usually concentrated on a limited number of innovative firms, typically concentrated in some geographical areas, while most of the European firms, generally SMEs, never undertake innovation. The overall objective of the INOLINK project is improving the reach of regional innovation policies, through a better connection of actors within the regional innovation system, especially of those located in the most
Innovation, research and technology development	ERMIS	Effective Reproducible Model of Innovation Systems	Chamber of Commerce French Riviera	Angèle MARTINEZ	angele.martinez@cot-e-azur.cci.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 675 357,00		2 152 580,00	SME's are a key part of the economic fabric of the ERMIS regions and it has faced tremendous social and economic transformation over the last two decades, suffering increased competitiveness in the global economy. The ERMIS objective is to jointly develop effective and transferable governance models for Local Innovation Systems (LIS) dedicated to fostering value innovation in SMEs.
Innovation, research and technology development	MKW	Making Knowledge Work	Brainport Foundation	Ton van Lier	lier@brainport.nl	2: Capitalisation Project	1 674 209,04		2 204 488,07	The Making Knowledge Work (MKW) consortium consists of 12 ambitious regions wishing to improve their regional innovation capacity. MKW overall objective is to transfer and mainstream good practices to improve the innovation capacity of regions, by bridging gaps within the innovation chain. The focus will be on the link between RTD and the final stage of innovation: MKW will mainstream activities, policies and measures that stimulate the take up of innovative ideas and knowledge to transform them into chances for economic value added.
Innovation, research and technology development	SCINNOPOLI	SCanning INNOvation POLICY Impact	Lower Austrian Government, Dept. Economic Affairs, Tourism, Technology	Irma Priedl, head of area innovation and technology	irma.priedl@noel.gva.t	2: Capitalisation Project	1 391 435,75		1 816 413,00	SCINNOPOLI is a Capitalisation Project based on the insights and Good Practices of 4 interregional projects on 'Regional Innovation Policy Impact Assessment and Benchmarking' (Specific Support Action "Research and Innovation" activity area, Sixth Framework Programme) and further Good Practices of the partner regions in impact assessment of regional innovation policy. The partnership consists of 9 regions from 8 countries spread over Europe with a good mixture of advanced regions and catching up regions.
the Information Society	DLA	Common methodology for the implementation of Digital Local Agenda and its impact on regional digital policies	North Regional Development and Coordination Commission	Dr. Nuno Almeida	nuno.almeida@ccdr-n.pt; gisela.ferreira@ccdr-n.pt	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 208 872,00		1 491 456,00	A DLA is a common strategy, shared with citizens, for the development of the Information Society which bears in mind socio-economic, cultural and institutional factors. The main objective of the project is to improve regional policies in the fields of DLA for developing new actions related to the application of the IS to public services.
the Information Society	DE-LAN	Digital Ecosystems - Learning Applications Network	Welsh Assembly Government	Nigel Graddon	Nigel.Graddon@Wales.Gsi.Gov.uk	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 930 546,50		2 468 702,00	This Project supports the INTERREG IVC Programme's profoundly-important objective of improving the effectiveness of regional development policies for the advancement of the knowledge economy. It will result in enhanced policies for increased regional competitiveness, job creation and growth - both at project partner level and across all EU regions - via the development, deployment and exploitation of emerging, innovative information and communication technologies (ICTs) and eBusiness models such as Digital Business Ecosystems,

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the Information Society	RTF	Regional Telemedicine Forum	Region of Southern Denmark	Hasse Petersen	hasse.petersen@regi onyddanmark.dk	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 359 723,25	101 500,00	1 359 723,25	The RTF partners are proposing to establish a Regional Telemedicine Forum to deliver innovation at regional level. Despite the benefits and technical maturity of the applications, the use of telemedicine services is still limited in Europe.
the Information Society	eCitizen II	Towards citizen-centred eGovernment in European cities and regions	The Baltic Institute of Finland	Minna Hanhijärvi, Project Director	minna.hanhijarvi@ta mpere.fi	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 462 837,64		1 886 738,47	eCitizen II is designed to support European cities and regions in their joint efforts to accelerate eGovernment through exploiting established networks, gained experiences and good practices to improve interaction between citizens and public authorities, better involving citizens in local decision-making and contributing to change in operational culture and attitudes within public administrations. The project will involve decision- and policy-makers, demonstrate benefits of the eGovernment and the best eParticipation practices in different public sectors and
the Information Society	I-SPEED	Information Society Policies for Sustainable European Economic Development	City of Venice	Paola Ravenna	international.relations @comune.venezia.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	972 307,23	83 550,00	1 402 130,84	The main issues tackled by I-SPEED are the lack of awareness among policy makers about the Information Society potential to improve public services and foster growth (towards Lisbon Agenda goals) and the loss of competitiveness of European Tourism Economy. The partners have been brought together on the basis of experiences and interest in the Information Society potential to promote competitive and sustainable Tourism Economy. The consortium is formed of partners covering a wide EU area matching less experienced local authorities with more
the Information Society	ICT-VN	Promotion of ICTs usage by SMEs as an enabler of Value Networks	Dedalo Foundation for the information Society	Rodrigo Zardoya Lapeña	info@fundaciondedal o.org	1: Regional Initiative Project	2 003 172,00		2 548 320,00	The project relies on the cooperation among 10 partners, from 9 countries willing to increase the impact of regional strategies for the Information Society and ICT promotion and development in SMEs in order to promote networking and contribute to the improvement of their regional economic competitiveness. New strategies will focus on three key sectors: agrifood, commerce/services and tourism.
the Information Society	OSEPA	Open Source software usage by European Public Administrations	CENTRAL UNION OF MUNICIPALITIES AND COMMUNITIES OF GREECE	KOUGIANOS GAVRILIS	info@kedke.gr, kougianos@kedke.gr, giannakopoulou@ked ke.gr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 473 599,04		1 847 686,21	Public administrations can play a unique role as a catalyst force in demonstrating the value of FOSS and in removing legal and organisational obstacles and inhibitors by acting as early adopters. OSEPA aims to explore this potential through interregional cooperation and to cultivate a debate among public administrations in this direction
the Information Society	IMMODI	IMPLEMENTING MOD	Association TECLA	Mrs. Laura LENTINI	l.lentini@tecla.org	2: Capitalisation Project	1 633 770,85		2 104 929,00	IMMODI is a capitalisation of results project bringing together 14 partners coming from 8 different Countries, addressing a regional policy issue of shared relevance to the partnership as it is the access and development of e-government and e-health services in mountainous and rural regions and territories of the EU. The overall project objective will be to reduce the cultural and human gap characterizing the less accessible areas, helping to reduce the isolation of mountain/rural areas through the use of innovative technological tools and spreading the use of ICTs and
<b>PRIORITY 2: ENVIRONMENT AND RISK PREVENTION</b>										
Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage (including air quality)	REVERSE	REgional exchanges and policy making for protecting and valorising biodiVERsity in Europe	REGIONAL COUNCIL OF AQUITAINE	Michel Chanut	michel.chanut@aquit aine.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 992 730,11		2 543 927,88	REVERSE aims to improve, by means of interregional cooperation, the effectiveness of regional development policies in the area of biodiversity conservation and valorisation, in order to REVERSE biodiversity loss on their territories. Partners will exchange experiences and knowledge on biodiversity conservation and valorisation measures.
Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage (including air quality)	PERIURBAN	Periurban Parks - Improving Environmental Conditions in Suburban Areas	Regional Government of Tuscany	Marco Gamberini	marco.gamberini@re gione.toscana.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 805 640,10		2 288 528,00	PERIURBAN is a regional initiative project, of medium level cooperation intensity, which uses interregional exchange of experiences to improve policies on management of natural suburban areas. PERIURBAN focuses specifically on policy and management solutions to mitigate pressures on biodiversity. PERIURBAN is an integration of 2 European initiatives: GreenLink led by Regione Toscana and CityNature promoted by FEDENATUR. Partners all have experience in and competencies to manage suburban areas, but are at different

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Biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage (including air quality)	<b>SURF-Nature</b>	Sustainable Use of Regional Funds for Nature	Federal Environment Agency Austria	Maria Tiefenbach	Maria.Tiefenbach@umweltbundesamt.at	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 261 937,00		1 591 750,00	The Sustainable Use of Regional Funds for Nature (SURF – Nature) project is a partnership of 14 authorities and public bodies (or bodies under public law) working together to optimise regional policies and practices with regard to promotion and preservation of natural heritage, biodiversity, and nature conservation through improving opportunities for and the impacts of financing these measures from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The SURF-Nature partnership will carry out a series of activities aimed at the
Cultural heritage and landscape	<b>B-TEAM</b>	Brownfield Policy Improvement Task Force	Belfast City Council	Keith Sutherland	sutherlandk@belfastcity.gov.uk	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 532 598,25	33 879,00	2 046 791,00	B-Team is a collaborative effort to influence existing and future policies on Brownfields through examples derived from successes and experiences of the partners. The partnership was developed to include a variety of cities and academic institutions across Europe. The objectives of B-Team clearly address the issue of improving and transferring Brownfield policies in partner regions and beyond.
Cultural heritage and landscape	<b>VITOUR LANDSCAPE</b>	Innovative sustainable development policies and strategies for the effective safeguarding and innovative enhancement of European "UNESCO World heritage" wine growing landscapes	Cinque Terre National Park	Giuliana Biagioli	euprojects@parconazionale5terre.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 543 000,00		2 010 000,00	VITOUR LANDSCAPE Project partners will focus during the first 20 months, with 11 technical seminars in each partner area on the exchange, description and analysis of good practices in various fields of interest for the global theme "landscape preservation and enhancement". Then, starting from July 2011, the partners will verify locally/regionally the feasibility of transferring selected good practices to their areas, with studies, analyses and participatory planning processes, where at the end at least 5 partners will provide for the first tools for a concrete
Cultural heritage and landscape	<b>EUROSCAPES</b>	Green management plans for European urban and peri-urban Landscapes	Intermunicipal authority of Marne-la-Vallée Val Maubuée	Charlotte Dessandier	c.dessandier@san-valmaubuee.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 767 790,00		2 217 400,00	EUROSCAPES is a shared vision of 14 partners coming from 13 EU Member States on the necessity to tackle natural and cultural landscapes' management issues in urban and peri-urban areas at an interregional level and in a sustainable way. Partners of EUROSCAPES have the ambitious objective of offering a new management model for these landscapes, as a milestone policy instrument to implement the European Landscape Convention treaty objectives.
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>EnercitEE</b>	European networks, experience and recommendations helping cities and citizens to become Energy Efficient	Saxon State Ministry for the Environment and Agriculture	Werner Sommer	werner.sommer@smul.sachsen.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	3 965 732,00		5 116 696,00	In contrast to its INTERREG IIC forerunner project energy/regio, EnercitEE will move on to address a new but underestimated consumer target group: the citizens. Therefore it has a new but underestimated focus than the forerunner project but builds upon energy/regio's experiences and existing interregional networks which have been established. All regions stressed a pressing need that more innovative energy efficiency policies and instruments for citizens and the private sector need to be developed. EnercitEE will be carried out as a mini-programme.
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>CATCH_MR</b>	Cooperative approaches to transport challenges in Metropolitan Regions	Joint Spatial Planning Department Berlin-Brandenburg	Frank Segebade	frank.segebade@g.l.b-erlin-brandenburg.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 716 427,25	120 500,00	2 458 903,00	CATCH_MR will explore and adapt sustainable transport solutions for metropolises and their regions. 12 partners will take part in the project, representing 7 Metropolitan Regions (MRs). The overall objective for CATCH_MR is to promote sustainable transport solutions across whole MRs. This means both reducing transport needs without impairing mobility, and increasing the share of environmentally friendly transport.
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>LoCaRe</b>	Low-Carbon Economy Regions	Region of Southern Denmark	Vita Jokumsen	vita.jokumsen@regionyddanmark.dk	1: Regional Initiative Project	3 235 502,87		4 226 111,00	The project's activities are designed to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies through interregional cooperation and thereby contribute to economic and environmental modernisation as well as increased competitiveness in Europe. The regions will focus on 3 cross-cutting themes: "New Climate", "New Energy", and "New leadership". The sub-projects, in which the municipalities play an important role, will deal with "Use of Renewables in Local Energy systems", "Carbon Sinks & Carbon Capture", "Procurement
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>RENREN</b>	Renewable Energy Regions Network	Federal State of Schleswig-Holstein	Wolfgang Schulz	Wolfgang.Schulz@wi.mi.landsh.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 667 549,21		2 191 271,85	RENREN grew out of a collaboration of 6 core regions concerned to play their part in global climate action and security of energy supply, and seeking to improve regional policy-making to nurture renewable energy sources (RES). The overall objective of RENREN is the improvement of regional policies in a way that existing regional frameworks are optimized with regard to fostering and strengthening RES.

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Energy and sustainable transport	<b>RETS</b>	Renewable Energies Transfer System	ADEC	Catherine Ledig / Alison Garnier-Rivers	alison.rivers@adec.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 484 054,25		1 908 715,00	The "RETS: Renewable Energies Transfer System" project has grown up out of a local experience of economic development through renewable energies (RES) in Northern Alsace (France). The project aims to tackle the challenges of renewable energies for local and regional authorities (and in particular those with less than 25,000 inhabitants) in association with the expertise of existing competency centres that produce research and provide services on RES. The main objective of RETS is to improve the knowledge and competencies of local and regional policymakers
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>PORT INTEGRATION</b>	Multi-modal Innovation for Sustainable Maritime & Hinterland Transport Structures	Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, State Ministry for Economic and Labor Affairs	Michael Stange	michael.stange@bwa-hamburg.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 115 512,50		1 472 250,00	Port Integration - Multi-modal innovation for sustainable maritime & hinterland transport structures is designed to identify, exchange & transfer best practices in the transport sector with the aim of an overall integration of related policies. Port Integration will contribute to the development of such a political environment following a 3-staged approach of firstly identifying, secondly exchanging and finally transferring best practices between partners on policy level, e.g. by supporting appropriate multi-modal EDI concepts.
Energy and sustainable transport	<b>BIO-EN-AREA</b>	Improve regional policies for bio-energy and territorial development	Department of Environment, Regional Government of Castilla y Leon	Alvaro Picardo Nieto	picnieal@jcyf.es	1: Regional Initiative Project	2 500 000,00		3 160 000,00	The BIO-EN-AREA project is a mini-programme aimed at exchanging and transferring experiences in order to increase the capacities of EU regions to favour and optimize the use of bio-energy. The whole project's activities are dedicated to this objective, focusing on the elaboration of Regional Biomass Action Plan (BAP). An important expected impact is the promotion of "pioneer bio-energy areas" in each partner region. At wider level, the constitution of an EU BIO-EN-AREA network with other regions and bodies interested in bio-energy will
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	<b>DeltaNet</b>	Network of European Delta Regions - Sustainable Delta Governance	Province of East Flanders	Maja Verbeeck	maja.verbeeck@oost-vlaanderen.be	1: Regional Initiative Project	913 113,09		1 156 142,98	The overall objective of DeltaNet is to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies in Delta Regions through interregional cooperation in the areas of environmental risk prevention, specifically through the development of appropriate coordinated spatial planning measures in geographically sensitive areas. The innovative approach is furthermore that Delta regions are generally not yet considered as geographical entities with particular problems and solutions and are not yet cooperating.
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	<b>F:ACTS!</b>	Forms for: Adapting to Climate Change through Territorial Strategies!	Government Service for Land and Water Management (DLG)	Mr. Frank van Holst	F.vHolst@minlnv.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 805 000,00		2 286 000,00	F:ACTS! means 'Forms for: Adapting to Climate change through Territorial Strategies'. The big gap between the increasing body of scientific research and the concrete and necessary preparation at regional and local level is the main rationale for F:ACTS! It brings together a partnership of 14 organisations, many of them experienced and committed to interregional learning and developing. The partnership considers the developments as 'FACTS' and it will look very structured and creatively F(or concrete):ACT(ion)S! F:ACTS! is focused on risk
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	<b>FLOOD-WISE</b>	Sustainable flood management strategies for cross border river basins	Euregio Meuse-Rhine	Alfred Evers	ajgm.evers@prvlmburg.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 526 090,00		2 003 900,00	The FLOOD-WISE project stimulates a joint approach in sustainable flood management in 6 international river basins (Meuse, Roer, Elbe, Sava, Western Bug and Tisza-Somes) represented by 15 selected partners. Overall objective of the project is identification, sharing and transfer of good practices on sustainable cross-border flood management in European river basins, using the instruments of the Flood Risk Management Directive (FRMD).
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	<b>MISRaR</b>	Mitigating Spatial Relevant Risks in European Regions and Towns	Region South Holland South	dhr. Van Os	nvanos@veiligheidsregiozhz.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 000 049,18		1 252 646,88	The MISRaR project is about protecting people, environment and property against the destructive impact of natural and technological hazards. The ambition of this project is to exchange experiences and best practices with partners from around Europe that have incorporated the corner stones of mitigation - risk assessment and risk management - in their daily spatial planning practice. To make sure that other European towns and regions can profit from the exchange activities the project will produce a number of brochures on risk assessment
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	<b>CLIMACT</b>	Regions for Climate Protection: toward Governance, from Knowledge to Action	Regional Council Rhone-Alpes	Etienne GHEWY	eghewy@rhonealpes.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 627 476,40		2 133 000,00	The objective of the project is to improve the capacity of regions to build and apply greenhouse gases reduction policies, in order to contribute to climate protection. The three areas of the project are: 1) monitoring and observing greenhouse gases, 2) developing regional policies and action plans for greenhouse gas mitigation, 3) regional governance, from knowledge to action. The project will elaborate assessment methodologies and produce manuals on the three areas, based on the exchange of experience on best practices identified by the partners that can

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Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Mail Address	Contact Person	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested	Summary of Project Description
Natural and technological risks (including climate change)	<b>CivPro</b>	Regional Strategies for Disaster Prevention	Secretariat of Civil Protection, Ministry of Interior	Dr. Kelly Saini	ksaini@gscp.gr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 567 979,00		1 892 220,00	The main objective of CivPro is to exchange and share know-how on the development of regional policies and on a strategic approach and model to prevent and reduce any potential threat and damage inflicted on people, property, environment and society as a whole by accidents and disasters, including both natural and manmade disasters. The project is focussed on developing improved governance models to introduce cross-cutting thinking and approaches into disaster prevention in order to establish comprehensive regional policy approaches in terms
Waste management	<b>W2E</b>	Waste to Energy	Ostergötland County Administrative Board	Kerstin Konitzer	ostergotland@lansstyrelsen.se	1: Regional Initiative Project	837 744,30		1 063 874,00	The W2E project will focus on the potential to improve the sustainable management of waste in Europe's regions, and to produce energy from waste. Its objective is to exchange knowledge and good practice about regional policies for sustainable waste management, by changing the perception of waste as a potential resource, and to increase energy recovery from waste. The project will lead to the development of regional action plans to improve sustainable waste management and levels of energy recovery in partner regions. The project will
Waste management	<b>Pre-waste</b>	Improve the effectiveness of waste prevention policies in EU territories	Marche Region	Isarema Cioni	isarema.cioni@regione.marche.it	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 437 335,00		1 866 230,00	Pre-waste project is designed to improve the effectiveness of waste prevention policies in EU territories in order to significantly reduce waste production and hazardousness, through the close collaboration of local and regional authorities, public entities and other stakeholders. Pre-waste sub-objectives are: the definition of a common methodology for efficient regional waste prevention policies, the exchange of Good Practices (GPs), the assessment of waste prevention actions efficiency and monitoring.
Waste management	<b>C2CN</b>	Cradle to Cradle Network	Province of Limburg	Harma Albering	h.albering@prvlimburg.nl	2: Capitalisation Project	1 905 167,98		2 479 234,37	Cradle to Cradle (C2C) (metaphor, antagonism cradle to grave) approach on waste, waste = food, offers a breakthrough in waste prevention and production in closed loops. The Cradle to Cradle concept envisages a challenging future, where the emphasis is on creating eco-effective solutions. The power of C2C lies in its ability to mobilise and inspire. The Cradle to Cradle Network (C2CN) is a capitalisation network which, aims at reducing raw materials' utilisation, generation of less waste and less environmental pollution, as well as enhancing innovation and
Waste management	<b>SufalNet4EU</b>	Sustainable use of former and abandoned landfills network for you	Province of Noord-Brabant	Rene Beijnen	rbeijnen@brabant.nl	2: Capitalisation Project	2 042 420,98		2 632 939,99	SufalNet4EU is an INTERREG IVC Capitalisation project that aims to provide regional and local authorities from various EU countries with specific instruments to redevelop closed and abandoned landfills in their territories, by developing Action Plans that will be implemented through mainstream Structural Funds programmes in each participating region. The core activity of SufalNet4EU is the development of regional Action Plans for redevelopment of one or more closed landfill sites.
Water management	<b>SUSTAIN</b>	Assessing sustainability and strengthening operational policy	The Coastal and Marine Union (EUCC)	Alan Pickaver	a.pickaver@eucc.net	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 485 644,60		1 884 204,00	The key objective of SUSTAIN is to have in place, at the end of three years, a fully implementable policy tool, applicable for all 22 coastal states of the EU, which will ensure that the integrated management of coastal issues will be sustainable. This entails the agreement within the project, of a set of criteria which are readily measurable and which cover both the threats of an unsustainable development and the opportunities provided by a sustainable future which faces all coastal authorities and communities throughout Europe.
Water management	<b>SIGMA for Water</b>	Sustainable InteGral Management Approaches for Water areas	Province of Fryslân	mrs. Alina Ypma-Lordanescu	a.ypma@fryslan.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 973 272,00		2 482 640,00	The problem that all partners in this project face is twofold: due to past human activity water quality and environmental quality of selected areas within the partnership decreased significantly; in addition all partners wish to be able to deal with anticipated changes in the climate which poses the partnership with the challenge to deal with future changes in water quantity. The solution is found identifying existing good practices within the partnership and from there jointly developing integrated master plans focused on the development of NEW lakes and wetland
Water management	<b>WATER CoRe</b>	Water scarcity and droughts; coordinated actions in European regions	Ministry of Environment, Rural Affairs and Consumer Protection of Hessen	Barbara Ehrle-Manthey, Dr. Arnold Quadflieg	Barbara.ehrle-manthey@umwelt.hessen.de; Arnold.quadflieg@umwelt.hessen.de	1: Regional Initiative Project	2 002 884,24		2 547 858,98	Water CoRe intends to provide an exchange platform for water scarcity and drought issues on regional and local level for all European regions. It will function as a kind of market place for participating regions where good practice examples can be 'bought or sold' from one region in order to adapt these to the local/regional situation in another region. Special attention will be given to regions in central and eastern Europe by establishing a focal point on water scarcity and droughts in Hungary.

INTERREG IVC Projects approved by theme

Sub Theme	Acronym	Project title	Lead Partner	Mail Address	Contact Person	Type of Intervention	ERDF requested	Norwegian funding (EUR)	Total budget requested	Summary of Project Description
Water management	SuPorts	Sustainable Management for European Local Ports	Seine-Maritime County Council (SMCC)	Thibaut LESPAGNOL	thibaut.lespagnol@cg76.fr	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 654 644,05		2 135 024,66	This project will help smaller ports and the local authorities managing them to address environmental issues. The aim of "SuPorts" is to help local ports to design better environmental strategies and to have easy access to suitable environmental management tools in order for them to remain competitive and to contribute to a more sustainable EU. To sum it up, "SuPorts" aims at promoting "Sustainable management in European local Ports".
Water management	WF	Waterways Forward	Dutch Recreational Waterways Foundation	N.A.W. van Lamsweerde	srn@srrn.nl	1: Regional Initiative Project	2 043 171,33	70 375,00	2 810 211,33	The main objective of the project is to improve the management of regional inland waterways and the regions adjacent to these waterways by promoting an integrated, sustainable and participatory approach. The project aims at developing recommendations for improved and state of the art governance models that will create a sound basis for more integrated regional policies to boost the socio/economic development of inland waterways and adjacent areas in a balanced way, through respecting nature and environment. By creating better conditions
Water management	SHARP	Sustainable Hydro Assessment and Groundwater Recharge Projects	Competence Network Water Resources GmbH	Hans ZOJER	hans.zoer@joanneum.at	1: Regional Initiative Project	1 868 400,25		2 382 199,00	SHARP focuses on the exchange of innovative technologies to protect groundwater resources for future generations by considering the climate change and the different geological and geographical conditions of regions involved. Partners will exchange practical know-how and also determine know-how demands concerning SHARP's key contents: general groundwater management tools, artificial groundwater recharge technologies, groundwater monitoring systems, strategic use of groundwater resources for drinking water, irrigation and industry,

## Annexe 02: RoP Final Updated



## **Rules of Procedure of the INTERREG IVC Monitoring Committee**

### **Preamble**

The 27 EU Member States (MS), Norway and Switzerland,

on the basis of

- Council Regulations (EC) No 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006, Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2006;

and

- the INTERREG IVC Operational Programme (OP), approved by the European Commission (EC) on 11 September 2007 (Decision number CCI 2007 CB 16 3 PO 046)
- in agreement with the Région Nord–Pas de Calais (F), as Managing Authority (MA) of the programme,

decide to establish a joint Monitoring Committee (hereinafter referred to as "MC") for the implementation of the INTERREG IVC Operational Programme (OP).

### **§ 1 Tasks**

- 1) In accordance with Article 65 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, the MC shall satisfy itself as to the effectiveness and quality of the implementation of the operational programme, in accordance with the following provisions:
  - a) it shall consider and approve the criteria for selecting the projects financed within six months of the approval of the operational programme and approve any revision of those criteria in accordance with programming needs;
  - b) it shall periodically review progress made towards achieving the specific targets of the operational programme on the basis of documents submitted by the Managing Authority;
  - c) it shall examine the results of implementation, particularly the achievement of the targets set for each priority axis and the evaluations referred to in Article 48(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006;
  - d) it shall consider and approve the annual and final reports on implementation referred to in Article 67 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006;
  - e) it shall be informed of the annual control report, or of the part of the report referring to the operational programme concerned, and of any relevant comments the Commission may make after examining that report or relating to that part of the report;

- f) it may propose to the Managing Authority any revision or examination of the operational programme likely to make the attainment of the Funds' objectives referred to in Article 3 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 or to improve its management, including its financial management;
- g) it shall consider and approve any proposal to amend the content of the Commission decision on the contribution from the Funds.
- h) it shall decide on the launch of calls for proposals and the approach chosen for the project application process (e.g. one-step or two-step approach);
- i) it shall approve all individual project applications under both types of interventions on the basis of the assessment of projects and decide on the use of the available EU Structural Funds;
- j) it shall decide how the evaluation during the programming period (Article 47 of Regulation (EC) 1083/2006 ) shall be carried out;
- k) it shall examine the results of evaluations carried out during the programming period;
- l) it shall decide on the implementation of the Technical Assistance;
- m) it shall agree on the publicity and information tasks mentioned in Chapter II Section 1 of the Commission Regulation (EC) N° 1828/2006;
- n) it shall harmonise procedures with the actions for interregional cooperation under the Convergence and Competitiveness objectives;
- o) it shall liaise with other relevant Community programmes;
- p) it shall approve the work plan of the Joint Technical Secretariat;
- q) it shall examine and approve the manuals prepared by the Managing Authority/Joint Technical Secretariat.

## **§ 2**

### **Composition**

1. The Monitoring Committee is made up of:
  - a) up to three representatives per country (EU 27, Norway, Switzerland). These representatives should come from both national and regional levels of the States represented to ensure efficiency and broad representation, in coherence with their administrative system and institutional organisation.
  - b) representatives of the European Commission, the Committee of the Regions (CoR), the Managing Authority, the Joint Technical Secretariat and, where necessary, the Certifying Authority and the Audit Authority in an advisory capacity.
2. The Chair shall have the right to invite guests and/or experts to the MC meetings. She/He shall inform the MC members before the meeting.

### § 3 Chairmanship and Meetings

1. The MC Chair and a Vice-Chair shall be appointed for half a year by the respective Member States as follows:

Year/Semester		Chair	Vice-Chair
2007	1 <sup>st</sup> semester	Germany	Portugal
	2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	Portugal	Slovenia
2008	1 <sup>st</sup> semester	Slovenia	France
	2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	France	Czech Republic
2009	1 <sup>st</sup> semester	Czech Republic	Sweden
	2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	Sweden	Spain
2010	1 <sup>st</sup> semester	Spain	Belgium
	2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	Belgium	Hungary
2011	1 <sup>st</sup> semester	Hungary	Poland
	2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	Poland	Denmark
2012	1 <sup>st</sup> semester	Denmark	Cyprus
	2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	Cyprus	Ireland
2013	1 <sup>st</sup> semester	Ireland	Lithuania
	2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	Lithuania	Greece
2014	1 <sup>st</sup> semester	Greece	Italy
	2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	Italy	Latvia
2015	1 <sup>st</sup> semester	Latvia	Luxembourg
	2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	Luxembourg	Netherlands

2. The Chair shall:
- convene the MC at least once a year or at the written request of one or more of its members in agreement with the Task Force as mentioned in § 5;
  - draw up a provisional agenda with reference to the specific tasks of the MC, which shall be sent together with other necessary documents to the members of the MC and their deputies at least three weeks in advance. The invitation shall be sent one month prior to the meeting if possible;
  - chair the meetings, e.g. declare the opening and closing of each meeting, direct the discussion, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote, announce the decisions, rule on points of order, and pursuant to these rules of procedure, have control of the proceedings;
  - be responsible for the proper functioning of the MC.
3. In preparing the meetings, the Chair shall co-operate closely with the Vice-Chair.
4. The meetings of the MC shall, unless otherwise decided by the Committee, be hosted in the country chairing the Committee. At the request of the hosting country, the JTS shall also

assist with practical arrangements for meetings.

5. On behalf of the Chair, the JTS shall send the decision notes to the MC for comments within three weeks following the meeting. If no objections are raised within two weeks of receipt of the decision notes, they are considered as approved. If objections are raised, the JTS shall revise the decision notes accordingly, agree on a final version in consultation with the Chair and send it to the MC.

#### **§ 4 Decision-Making**

1. Each country has in principle one vote. In justified cases and with agreement of the Chair votes may be delegated to other countries. The corresponding mandate must be communicated to the Secretariat and to the Chair.
2. At any meeting of the MC, the presence of at least two-thirds of the programme area Partner States shall constitute a quorum.
3. Decisions on issues related to programme management and implementation are made in principle by consensus. In case a consensus cannot be reached, decisions should be made on the basis of a five-sixths majority of the votes expressed.
4. Decisions on projects to be financed require a two-thirds majority of the votes expressed. Any Member State can reject the participation of partners on their territory for whatever reason without rejecting the whole project proposal. Approved project proposals in which one or more partners are rejected will be requested to find suitable replacements. The new partners will have to be approved by the Member States in which the partners are located.
5. In cases where the required majority is not reached the Chair decides with a clear justification whether the motion is postponed once or defeated.
6. If a decision needs to be taken before the next MC meeting the Chair can initiate a decision-making process in writing. In this case the JTS on behalf of the Chair shall send the draft decision to all members of the MC by e-mail. Delegations of the participating states shall have three weeks from dispatch of the proposal to respond in writing.
7. If a sufficient number of written objections to the procedure or to the draft decision are raised, the matter shall be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the MC. Delegations of the participating states can withdraw their objection at any time. If the sufficient number of objections is not reached by the specified time, the proposal is considered as approved.
8. The MS, Norway and Switzerland can propose amendments or editorial changes in the documents sent by written procedure. In consultation with the Chair the remarks proposed should be incorporated as long as they neither change the content's meaning nor have a negative impact on the Partner States' rights. In any other case either a new written procedure shall be initiated or the matter shall be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the MC.
9. After the three weeks time limit has expired, the JTS shall immediately inform all members on whether the decision is deemed to be taken or what objections have been raised.

## **§ 5 Task Force**

The Monitoring Committee may be assisted by a Task Force composed of the previous, present and future Chairs of the Monitoring Committee (the Troika), the Commission and the Managing Authority, assisted by the Joint Technical Secretariat. The Chair may invite other participants to take part in the Task Force meetings if necessary. The Monitoring Committee will be informed about the meetings and the results of the Task Force. The Task Force can make proposals to the Monitoring Committee on issues related to programme implementation. The Task Force has no decisions rights.

## **§ 6 Impartiality**

With regard to the tasks of the MC laid down in § 1 it shall be ensured that any assessment and/or decision of the MC will be free from bias and must not be influenced by partial interest of any of the individual members of this committee. In case of partial interest the respective Member of the MC has to inform the Chair at the beginning of the meeting. The particular representative will be excluded from the item concerned.

## **§ 7 Managing Authority and Joint Technical Secretariat**

1. The MC will be supported by the INTERREG IVC JTS under the responsibility of the MA. In particular the JTS is responsible for the preparation of all documentation relating to MC meetings.
2. The MC can be contacted through the Secretariat:

INTERREG IVC JTS  
Les Arcuriales – Entrée D - 5<sup>e</sup> Etage  
45 rue de Tournai  
59000 Lille  
France  
Phone: +33 3 28144100  
Fax: +33 3 28144109  
E-mail: [info@interreg4c.eu](mailto:info@interreg4c.eu)

## **§ 8 Working language**

Working language of the MC shall be English. This rule also applies for the official documents of the MC.

## **§ 9 Revision**

After their adoption, the Rules of Procedure may be amended in accordance to the provisions laid down in § 4 above.

Adopted on 14 May 2009



## **Annexe 03: Subsidy Contract Updated**



## Subsidy Contract/Contrat de Subvention

for the implementation of the  
INTERREG IVC project

pour la mise en œuvre du  
projet INTERREG IVC

μprojectReferenceμ μprojectTitleμ  
(μprojectAcronymμ)

The following contract between

Le contrat ci-dessous conclu entre

**Région Nord-Pas de Calais**  
**Hôtel de Région, 151, avenue du Président Hoover, 59555 LILLE Cedex, France**

acting as Managing Authority of the European Territorial Cooperation programme INTERREG IVC, hereinafter referred to as MA (assisted by the INTERREG IVC Joint Technical Secretariat, hereinafter referred to as JTS) and

agissant en tant qu'Autorité de gestion du programme européen de coopération territoriale INTERREG IVC, ci-après dénommée AG (assistée par le Secrétariat technique conjoint INTERREG IVC, ci-après dénommé STC), et

μpartnerInstEngl1μ with its office at  
μpartnerAddress1μ  
μpartnerPostalCode1μ  
μpartnerTown1μ  
μpartnerCountry1μ

μpartnerInstEngl1μ ayant son siège à  
μpartnerAddress1μ  
μpartnerPostalCode1μ  
μpartnerTown1μ  
μpartnerCountry1μ

acting as Lead Beneficiary as referred to in article 20 of Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006 amended by Regulation (EC) 397/2009 of 6 May 2009 (OJ L 126, 21.5.2009, p. 3), and hereinafter referred to as **Lead Partner (LP)**, .

agissant en tant que Bénéficiaire chef de file comme décrit à l'Article 20 du règlement N°1080/2006, modifié par le règlement N°397/2009 du 6 mai 2009 (JO L 126, 21.5.2009, p. 3), et ci-après dénommé **Chef de file (CF)**,

is concluded on the basis of

est conclu sur la base de ce qui suit :

- the EU Regulations laying down provisions on the Structural Funds, in particular Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 (OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 25), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1989/2006 of 21 December 2006 (OJ L 411, 30.12.2006, p. 6) and amended by Regulation (EC) 284/2009 of 7 April 2009 (OJ L 94, 8.4.2009, p. 10), Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2006 (OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 1) amended by Regulation (EC) 397/2009 of 6 May 2009 (OJ L 126, 21.5.2009, p. 3), Commission Regulation (EC) No 1828/2006 of 8 December 2006 (OJ L

- les règlements européens portant dispositions sur les Fonds structurels, et en particulier le règlement (CE) N°1083/2006 du Conseil du 11 juillet 2006 (JO L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 25) tel qu'amendé en dernier lieu par le règlement (CE) N° 1989/2006 du 21 décembre 2006 (JO L 411, 30.12.2006, p. 6), modifié par le règlement 284/2009 du 7 avril 2009 (JO L 94, 8.4.2009, p. 10), le règlement (CE) N° 1080/2006 du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 5 juillet 2006 (JO L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 1), modifié par le règlement 397/2009 du 6 mai 2009 (JO L 126, 21.5.2009, p. 3), le



371, 27.12.2006, p. 1) amended by Regulation (EC) 846/2009 of 1 September 2009 (OJ L 250, 23.9.2009, p. 1), No 643/2000 of 28 March 2000 (OJ L 78, 29.03.2000, p. 4)

règlement (CE) N° 1828/2006 de la Commission du 8 décembre 2006 (JO L 371, 27.12.2006, p. 1), modifié par le règlement 846/2009 du 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2009 (JO L 250, 23.9.2009, p. 1) et le règlement N° 643/2000 du 28 mars 2000 (JO L 78, 29.03.2000, p. 4) ;

- the EU legislation laying down provisions on public procurement, in particular Directive 2004/17/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 (OJ L 134, 30.4.2004, p. 1–113), as last amended by Council Directive 2006/97/EC of 20 November 2006 (OJ L 363, 20.12.2006, p. 107–128), Directive 2004/18/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 (OJ L 134, 30.4.2004, p. 114–240) as last amended by Council Directive 2006/97/EC of 20 November 2006 (OJ L 363, 20.12.2006, p. 107–128), Commission Regulation (EC) No 1564/2005 of 7 September 2005 (OJ L 257, 1.10.2005, p. 1–126), as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1792/2006 of 23 October 2006 (OJ L 362, 20.12.2006, p. 1–66), Commission Directive 2005/51/EC of 7 September 2005 (OJ L 257, 1.10.2005, p. 127–128), Council Directive 92/13/EEC of 25 February 1992 (OJ L 76, 23.3.1992, p. 14–20) as last amended by Council Directive 2006/97/EC of 20 November 2006 (OJ L 363, 20.12.2006, p. 107–128), Council Directive 89/665/EEC of 21 December 1989 (OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 33–35) as last amended by Council Directive 92/50/EEC of 18 June 1992, OJ L 209, 24.7.1992, p. 1–24.
  - the European Territorial Cooperation Operational Programme INTERREG IVC (Document No CCI 2007 CB 16 3 PO 046), approved by the European Commission on 11 September 2007
  - the agreement between the EU Member States, Norway and Switzerland, the Managing Authority (Région Nord-Pas de Calais) and the Certifying Authority (Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations) on the implementation of the INTERREG IVC programme.
- la réglementation communautaire portant dispositions sur les marchés publics, et en particulier la Directive 2004/17/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 31 mars 2004 (JO L 134, 30.4.2004, p. 1–113) telle qu'amendée en dernier lieu par la Directive 2006/97/CE du Conseil du 20 novembre 2006 (JO L 363, 20.12.2006, p. 107–128), la Directive 2004/18/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 31 mars 2004 (JO L 134, 30.4.2004, p. 114–240) telle qu'amendée en dernier lieu par la Directive 2006/97/CE du Conseil du 20 novembre 2006 (OJ L 363, 20.12.2006, p. 107–128), le règlement (CE) N°1564/2005 de la Commission du 7 septembre 2005 (JO L 257, 1.10.2005, p. 1–126), telle qu'amendée en dernier lieu par le règlement (CE) N°1792/2006 de la Commission du 23 octobre 2006 (JO L 362, 20.12.2006, p. 1–66), la Directive 2005/51/CE de la Commission du 7 septembre 2005 (JO L 257, 1.10.2005, p. 127–128), la Directive 92/13/CEE du Conseil du 25 février 1992 (JO L 76, 23.3.1992, p. 14–20) telle qu'amendée en dernier lieu par la Directive 2006/97/CE du Conseil du 20 novembre 2006 (JO L 363, 20.12.2006, p. 107–128), la Directive 89/665/CEE du Conseil du 21 décembre 1989 (JO L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 33–35) telle qu'amendée en dernier lieu par la Directive 92/50/CEE du Conseil du 18 juin 1992, JO L 209, 24.7.1992, p. 1–24.
  - le programme opérationnel européen de coopération territoriale INTERREG IVC (Document N°CCI 2007 CB 16 3 PO 046), approuvé par la Commission européenne le 11 septembre 2007
  - l'accord entre les États membres de l'UE, la Norvège et la Suisse, l'Autorité de gestion (Région Nord-Pas de Calais) et l'Autorité de certification (Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations) sur la mise en œuvre du programme INTERREG IVC

- Programme-specific guidance laid down in the programme manual including the control guidelines as approved by the Monitoring Committee (hereinafter referred to as MC).
- l'orientation spécifique au programme définie dans le manuel du programme comprenant les lignes directrices de contrôle approuvé par le Comité de suivi (ci-après dénommé CS).

### Article 1 Award of subsidy

1. In accordance with the decision of the MC of the programme, dated  $\mu\text{meetingDate}\mu$ , and the amendments as referred to in Article 2(2)(b) of this contract, an earmarked subsidy is awarded to the LP for the project  $\mu\text{projectReference}\mu$ ,  $\mu\text{projectTitle}\mu$  from funds of the European Territorial Cooperation programme INTERREG IVC.

Approved European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) contribution/  
Contribution Fonds European de développement régional (FEDER)  
approuvée:

EUR  
 $\mu\text{projectERDFFund}\mu$

Approved Norwegian funding/  
Financement national norvégien approuvé:

EUR  
 $\mu\text{projectNorwegianFund}\mu$

**Maximum amount of funding awarded**  
**Montant maximum du financement accordé:**

EUR  
 $\mu\text{projectTotalFund}\mu$

**Approved INTERREG IVC budget of the project /**  
**Budget INTERREG IVC du projet approuvé:**

EUR  
 $\mu\text{projectIVCBudget}\mu$

Average grant rate of the funding (ERDF + Norwegian Funding) / Taux d'octroi moyen du financement (FEDER + financement norvégien):

$\mu\text{projectcoFinRate}\mu$  %

2. The grant rate of the funding is understood as being the percentage rate which results from dividing the funding awarded from the programme (ERDF funding + Norwegian funding) by the INTERREG IVC budget of the project (ERDF funding + national cofinancing by EU Member States + Norwegian funding + Norwegian national cofinancing).

The grant rate can change in the course of the implementation of the project. However the maximum amount of approved ERDF contribution and the maximum amount of approved Norwegian funding cannot be exceeded.

### Article 1 Octroi de la subvention

1. Conformément à la décision du CS du programme, en date du  $\mu\text{meetingDate}\mu$ , et aux amendements mentionnés à l'Article 2(2)(b) du présent contrat, une subvention est accordée au CF pour le projet  $\mu\text{projectReference}\mu$ ,  $\mu\text{projectTitle}\mu$  en provenance des fonds du programme européen de coopération territoriale INTERREG IVC.

2. Le taux d'octroi désigne le pourcentage obtenu en divisant le financement octroyé par le programme (financement FEDER + financement norvégien) par le budget INTERREG IVC du projet (financement FEDER + cofinancement national par les États membres de l'UE + financement norvégien + cofinancement national norvégien).

Le taux d'octroi peut varier au cours de la mise en œuvre du projet. Cependant, le montant maximal approuvé de contribution FEDER et le montant maximal approuvé de financement norvégien ne peut pas être dépassé.

3. Based on Article 53 of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 and on Chapter 7.4 of the IVC Operational Programme, the grant rate for the project is up to 85% of the eligible expenditure for partners of the following EU Member States: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

The grant rate for the project is up to 75% of the eligible expenditure for partners of the following EU Member States: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, UK.

For partners from Norway, the grant rate is 50%.

4. Disbursement of the subsidy is subject to the condition that the European Commission and, if Norwegian partners are participating in the project, the Kingdom of Norway make the funds available to the extent described above.
5. If the European Commission and/or the Kingdom of Norway fail to make the funds available, the MA is entitled to terminate this contract and any claim by the LP against the MA for whatever reason is excluded.
6. Disbursement of the subsidy is subject to the condition that this subsidy contract is signed by all parties to this contract.

## **Article 2**

### **Object of use, eligibility of expenditure, reallocation**

1. The subsidy is awarded exclusively to the project as it is described in the latest version of the Application Form approved by the MC. The approval decision including its annexes forms an integral part of this contract.

Expenditure, which qualifies for a subsidy pursuant to Article 1(1), exclusively consists of eligible expenditure as listed in the latest approved version of the

3. Sur la base de l'Article 53 du règlement (CE) N° 1083/2006 et du Chapitre 7.4 du programme opérationnel IVC, le taux d'octroi pour le projet peut atteindre 85% des dépenses éligibles pour les partenaires des États membres de l'UE suivants : Bulgarie, Chypre, Estonie, Grèce, Hongrie, Lettonie, Lituanie, Malte, Pologne, Portugal, République tchèque, Roumanie, Slovaquie et Slovénie.

Le taux d'octroi pour le projet peut atteindre 75% des dépenses éligibles pour les partenaires des États membres de l'UE suivants : Allemagne, Autriche, Belgique, Danemark, Espagne, Finlande, France, Irlande, Italie, Luxembourg, Pays-Bas, Royaume-Uni, Suède.

Pour les partenaires établis en Norvège, le taux d'octroi est de 50%.

4. Le paiement de la subvention est soumis à la condition que la Commission européenne et, si des partenaires norvégiens participent au projet, le Royaume de Norvège, versent effectivement les fonds décrits ci-dessus.
5. Si la Commission européenne et/ou le Royaume de Norvège ne versent pas les fonds, l'AG aura le droit de résilier le présent contrat, et toute réclamation du CF à l'encontre de l'AG pour quelque motif que ce soit sera exclue.
6. Le paiement de la subvention est soumis à la condition que le présent contrat de subvention soit signé par toutes les parties au présent contrat.

## **Article 2**

### **Objet de l'utilisation, éligibilité des dépenses, réaffectation**

1. La subvention est octroyée exclusivement au projet telle qu'elle est décrite dans la plus récente version du formulaire de candidature approuvé par le CS. La décision d'approbation et ses annexes font partie intégrante du présent contrat.

Les dépenses qui peuvent faire l'objet d'une subvention en vertu de l'Article 1(1) sont exclusivement les dépenses éligibles qui sont mentionnées dans la plus récente

Application Form. The eligibility of expenditure for ERDF and Norwegian funding are regulated in Article 56 of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, in Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006, in Article 48 to 53 of Regulation (EC) No 1828/2006, national regulations and rules laid down in the latest version of the INTERREG IVC Programme Manual. In case of contradictions between the rules mentioned above, the stricter rule applies.

Activities and related expenditure for the project are eligible if they are carried out and paid from  $\mu\text{meetingDate}\mu$  (date of approval by the MC) to the end of the month quoted as "finalisation month" in the latest approved version of the Application Form. Preparation costs can only be eligible if they were incurred on or after 1 January 2007 and before the date on which the first Application Form has been submitted. These costs must be paid out by the end of the first reporting period.

2. Changes in budget lines, component budgets and partner budgets are allowed as long as the maximum amount of ERDF and Norwegian funding awarded as stipulated in Article 1(1) is not exceeded.

a) Without prior notification of the MA, the LP is entitled to exceed the budget lines, the component budgets and the budgets of partners, as stated in the latest approved version of the Application Form. The excess spending is limited to a maximum of EUR 20,000, or 10% of the original amount in the respective budget line, component or partner budget, whichever is greater.

b) Only once during the project period and in duly justified cases, the LP is entitled to reallocate the budget between budget lines, components and partners up to 20 % of the total budget as stated in the latest approved version of the

version du formulaire de candidature. L'éligibilité des dépenses à un financement FEDER ou norvégien est régie par l'Article 56 du règlement (CE) N° 1083/2006, par l'Article 7 du règlement (CE) N° 1080/2006, par les Articles 48 à 53 du règlement (CE) N° 1828/2006, par la réglementation nationale et par les règles stipulées dans la version la plus récente du Manuel du Programme INTERREG IVC. En cas de contradiction entre les règles mentionnées ci-dessus, les règles les plus strictes s'appliquent.

Les activités et les dépenses correspondantes pour le projet sont éligibles si elles ont été effectuées et payées à partir de la date du  $\mu\text{meetingDate}\mu$  (date de leur approbation par le CS) et jusqu'à la fin du mois désigné comme "mois de finalisation" dans la plus récente version approuvée du formulaire de candidature. Les coûts de préparation ne sont éligibles que s'ils ont été encourus entre le 1<sup>er</sup> janvier 2007 inclus et avant la date à laquelle le premier formulaire de candidature a été soumis. Ces coûts doivent être payés au plus tard à la fin de la première période d'avancement.

2. Des modifications dans les lignes budgétaires, les budgets des composantes et les budgets des partenaires sont autorisées à condition de ne pas dépasser le montant maximal de financement FEDER et norvégien octroyé, comme stipulé à l'Article 1(1).

a) Sans notification préalable à l'AG, le CF a le droit de dépasser les lignes budgétaires, les budgets des composantes et les budgets des partenaires mentionnés dans la plus récente version approuvée du formulaire de candidature. Le dépassement budgétaire est limité à un montant maximal de 20 000 euros, ou 10% du montant initial de la ligne budgétaire, du budget de composante ou du budget de partenaire correspondant, selon celui qui est le plus élevé.

b) A une seule reprise pendant la durée du projet et dans des cas dûment justifiés, le CF aura le droit de réaffecter le budget entre des lignes budgétaires, des composantes et des partenaires, jusqu'à 20% du budget

Application Form; such reallocation requires a request for approval from the MA. It will enter into force only after approval by the MA/JTS.

total mentionné dans la plus récente version approuvée du formulaire de candidature ; une telle réaffectation doit faire l'objet d'une demande d'autorisation auprès de l'AG. Elle n'entrera en vigueur qu'après avoir été approuvée par l'AG/le STC.

### **Article 3 Request for payments**

### **Article 3 Demandes de paiements**

1. The LP may only request payments by providing proof of progress of the project as described in the latest approved version of the Application Form, in particular as described in the individual components of the latest approved version of the Application Form. Therefore the LP has to present progress reports, consisting of an activity report and a financial report, to the MA/JTS. The MA/JTS will provide reporting forms which must be used by the LP. Instructions as laid down in the reporting forms, in the latest version of the Programme documents must be observed.
  2. Twice a year progress reports shall be submitted by the LP to the MA/JTS. These reports shall be submitted by 1 October for the reporting period of January to June and by 1 April of the following year for the reporting period of July to December. The progress report shall be submitted in both electronic and paper form to the JTS. The paper version is duly signed and stamped by the LP and the LP's controller.
  3. The LP and LP's controller shall, in compliance with Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006, Article 20 (1) d, ensure that expenditure of its partners has been independently verified and confirmed in accordance with their Member State control requirements, as indicated on the INTERREG IVC website.
  4. In addition, the progress reports shall be accompanied by the partners' individual controller's confirmations.
1. Le CF ne peut demander des paiements qu'en fournissant des preuves de l'avancement du projet telle qu'elle est décrite dans la plus récente version approuvée du formulaire de candidature, en particulier comme elle est décrite dans les composantes individuelles de la plus récente version approuvée du formulaire de candidature. Par conséquent, le CF doit soumettre à l'AG/au STC des rapports d'étape, composés d'un rapport d'activité et d'un rapport financier. L'AG/le STC fourniront des formulaires de rapport qui devront être utilisés par le CF. Les consignes figurant dans les formulaires de rapport, dans la plus récente version des documents du programme, devront être respectées.
  2. Deux fois par an, le CF devra soumettre les rapports d'étape à l'AG/au CF. Ces rapports devront être soumis au plus tard le 1<sup>er</sup> octobre pour la période allant de janvier à juin et au plus tard le 1<sup>er</sup> avril de l'année suivante pour la période allant de juillet à décembre. Le rapport d'étape doit être soumis au STC sous format électronique et sous format papier. La version papier doit être dûment signée et tamponnée par le CF et par le contrôleur du CF.
  3. Le CF et le contrôleur du CF doivent, conformément au règlement (CE) N° 1080/2006, Article 20 (1) d, s'assurer que les dépenses des partenaires ont été vérifiées et confirmées de manière indépendante en conformité avec les exigences de contrôle de leur État membre, comme indiqué sur le site internet INTERREG IVC.
  4. De plus, les rapports d'étape devront être accompagnés des attestations de chacun des contrôleurs des partenaires.

5. Preparation costs as defined in section 2 of the latest version of the INTERREG IVC programme manual shall be reported in the first progress report of the project.
6. Based on the fact that payments by the European Commission will only be made in accordance with the corresponding budget commitments (Title VII in conjunction with Articles 75(1) to 76(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006), the LP must request the payments as indicated in the following table:
5. Les coûts de préparation, tels que définis dans la section 2 de la plus récente version du manuel du programme INTERREG IVC, doivent être déclarés dans le premier rapport d'étape concernant le projet.
6. Compte tenu du fait que les paiements effectués par la Commission européenne ne le seront que par rapport aux engagements budgétaires correspondants (Titre VII combiné aux Articles 75(1) et 76(2) du règlement (CE) N° 1083/2006), le CF doit faire ses demandes de paiement en conformité avec le tableau ci-dessous :

<b>Year: reporting deadline Année : période de rapport</b>	<b>Expected total eligible expenditure to be reported Dépenses totales éligibles prévues à inclure dans le rapport</b>	<b>Expected funds (ERDF + Norwegian funding) to be claimed* Fonds attendus (FEDER + financement norvégien) à demander*</b>
2008	$\mu_{\text{costsYear2008}}$ EUR	$\mu_{\text{fundsYear2008}}$ EUR
2009	$\mu_{\text{costsYear2009}}$ EUR	$\mu_{\text{fundsYear2009}}$ EUR
2010	$\mu_{\text{costsYear2010}}$ EUR	$\mu_{\text{fundsYear2010}}$ EUR
2011	$\mu_{\text{costsYear2011}}$ EUR	$\mu_{\text{fundsYear2011}}$ EUR
2012	$\mu_{\text{costsYear2012}}$ EUR	$\mu_{\text{fundsYear2012}}$ EUR
2013	$\mu_{\text{costsYear2013}}$ EUR	$\mu_{\text{fundsYear2013}}$ EUR
2014	$\mu_{\text{costsYear2014}}$ EUR	$\mu_{\text{fundsYear2014}}$ EUR

\* based on an average grant rate of  $\mu_{\text{projectcoFinRate}}$  %

Payments not requested in time and in full as indicated in the payment forecast above may be lost.

\* sur la base d'un taux d'octroi moyen de  $\mu_{\text{projectcoFinRate}}$  %

Les paiements qui n'auront pas été demandés en temps et en heure par rapport aux prévisions de paiement ci-dessus pourront être perdus.

7. The funds will be disbursed in Euro (EUR; €) only and transferred to an account indicated by the LP without delay. Any exchange rate risk will be borne by the LP.

7. Les fonds seront payés uniquement en euros (EUR, ou €) et transférés sans délai sur un compte indiqué par le CF. Tout risque du taux de change sera supporté par le CF.

**Article 4**  
**Project partnership**

Partners are listed in the latest approved version of the application form. Only expenditure paid and borne by organisations listed as partners in the approved latest version of the application form are eligible for ERDF and Norwegian funding. The only exception concerns the expenditure of participants in sub-projects of mini-programme which will be included in the expenditure of the main partner on whose territory the sub-project participant is located.

In accordance to Article 20 of Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006 the partnership shall be governed by a partnership agreement signed by all partners.

**Article 5**  
**Representation of partners,  
liability**

1. The LP shall, in compliance with Article 20(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006 for each project:
  - a) be responsible for ensuring the implementation of the entire project
  - b) be responsible for transferring the ERDF and Norwegian funding to the partners participating in the project as soon as possible after receiving the payment from the Certifying Authority.
2. The LP guarantees that it is entitled to represent all partners participating in the project and that it will establish with the partners the division of the mutual responsibilities in the form of a partnership agreement. The LP guarantees furthermore that it has complied with all requirements under the law which applies to the LP and to its partners and that all necessary approvals have been obtained.
3. The LP is liable towards the MA for ensuring that all of its partners have a legal status that is in line with the definition given in the INTERREG IVC Operational Programme and in the latest version of the Programme Manual. Moreover the LP is liable towards the MA for ensuring that its

**Article 4**  
**Partenariat du projet**

Les partenaires sont énumérés dans la plus récente version approuvée du formulaire de candidature. Seules les dépenses payées et encourues par les institutions figurant dans la liste des partenaires qui se trouve dans la plus récente version approuvée du formulaire de candidature sont éligibles à un financement FEDER et norvégien. La seule exception concerne les dépenses de participants à des sous-projets d'un mini-programme, qui seront incluses dans les dépenses du partenaire principal sur le territoire duquel le participant au sous-projet est basé.

Conformément à l'Article 20 du règlement (CE) N° 1080/2006, le partenariat doit être régi par un accord de partenariat signé par tous les partenaires.

**Article 5**  
**Représentation des partenaires,  
responsabilité**

1. Pour chaque opération, le CF a la responsabilité, conformément à l'Article 20(1) du règlement (CE) N°1080/2006 :
  - a) de s'assurer de la mise en œuvre de l'intégralité du projet ;
  - b) de transférer les fonds FEDER et norvégiens aux partenaires participant au projet le plus rapidement possible après avoir reçu le paiement de la part de l'Autorité de certification.
2. Le CF garantit qu'il a le droit de représenter tous les partenaires qui participent au projet et qu'il effectuera avec les partenaires au projet une répartition des responsabilités mutuelles sous la forme d'un Accord de partenariat. Le CF garantit en outre qu'il s'est conformé à toutes les exigences de la réglementation qui s'applique au CF et à ses partenaires et que toutes les autorisations requises ont été obtenues.
3. Le CF est responsable vis-à-vis de l'AG de s'assurer que tous ses partenaires ont un statut juridique conforme à la définition qui se trouve dans le programme opérationnel INTERREG IVC et dans la plus récente version du Manuel du Programme. De plus, le CF est responsable vis-à-vis de

partners fulfil their obligations under this contract. The LP is also liable towards the MA for infringements of obligations under this contract by its partners in the same way as for its own conduct.

4. If the MA demands repayment of subsidy funds in accordance with this contract (Article 8), the LP is liable towards the MA for the total amount of the subsidy.

l'AG de s'assurer que ses partenaires remplissent leurs obligations découlant du présent contrat. Le CF est également responsable vis-à-vis de l'AG des manquements aux obligations découlant du présent contrat de la part de ses partenaires tout comme de sa part.

4. Si l'AG exige un remboursement des subventions en vertu du présent contrat (Article 8), le CF est responsable vis-à-vis de l'AG pour le montant total de la subvention.

### **Article 6 Additional obligations**

In addition to the obligations of the LP as already stated the LP undertakes:

1. to implement the project according to the description in the latest approved version of the Application Form by the MC. The project activities may start on the date of approval by the MC.
2. to inform the MA/JTS immediately if costs are reduced, or one of the disbursement conditions ceases to be fulfilled, or circumstances arise which entitle the MA/JTS to reduce payment or to demand repayment of the subsidy wholly or in part;
3. to inform the MA/JTS through the six monthly progress reports on changes in the contact information, the rescheduling of activities and on budget deviations as regulated in Article 2 (2a);
4. to request approval from the MA if there are changes to: the partnership; the actions as described in the individual components in the latest approved version of the Application Form; or, in cases not regulated in Article 2(2), the budget of the project on which this contract is based;
5. to comply with the regulations referred to in the preamble to this contract as well as

### **Article 6 Obligations supplémentaires**

En plus des obligations du CF mentionnées ci-dessus, le CF s'engage :

1. à mettre en œuvre le projet conformément à la description qui se trouve dans la plus récente version du formulaire de candidature approuvée par le CS. Les activités du projet peuvent démarrer à compter de la date d'approbation par le CS.
2. à informer immédiatement l'AG/le STC si les coûts sont réduits ou si l'une des conditions de paiement cesse d'être remplie, ou si des circonstances qui donnent le droit à l'AG/au STC de diminuer le paiement ou d'exiger un remboursement partiel ou total de la subvention se produisent.
3. à informer l'AG/le STC, par le biais des rapports d'étape semestriels, des changements concernant les données de contact, la reprogrammation d'activités et les écarts budgétaires visés à l'Article 2 (2a) ;
4. à demander l'approbation de l'AG lorsque des changements sont apportés : au partenariat ; aux actions telles qu'elles ont été décrites dans les composantes individuelles qui se trouvent dans la plus récente version approuvée du formulaire de candidature ; ou, dans les cas non prévus par l'Article 2(2), au budget du projet sur lequel est basé le présent contrat.
5. à respecter la réglementation mentionnée dans le préambule du présent contrat ainsi

with relevant national legislation.

6. to invite the MA/JTS in case of a mini-programme to their Steering Group meetings as an observer. Minutes of these meetings have to be sent to the MA/JTS.
7. to ensure that the partners report expenditure checked and confirmed according to their Member State control requirements.

que la législation nationale pertinente.

6. dans le cas d'un mini-programme, à inviter l'AG/le STC, en tant qu'observateur, aux réunions du Groupe de pilotage. Les comptes rendus de ces réunions devront être envoyés à l'AG/au STC.
7. à s'assurer que les partenaires fournissent des dépenses vérifiées et confirmées conformément aux exigences de contrôle de leur État membre.

### **Article 7 Publicity**

1. Unless the MA requests otherwise, any information and publicity measures aimed at beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries and the public must specify that the project has received a subsidy from the programme funds as defined in Article 1(1) within the framework of the European Territorial Cooperation programme INTERREG IVC. Provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1828/2006 of 27 December 2006, Chapter II, Section 1 (in particular articles 8 and 9) relating to information and publicity measures concerning assistance from the Structural Funds and the MA/JTS' guidelines as provided in the latest version of the programme manual and on the website must be observed.
2. Furthermore, it must be clearly stated that the project has been co-financed by ERDF through the INTERREG IVC programme in addition to using the European flag and programme logo and slogan.
3. The MA is not liable for any information published by the beneficiary.
4. The MA/JTS shall be authorised to publish, in whatever form and on or by whatever medium, including the Internet, the following information:
  - the name of the LP and its partners,
  - the purpose of the subsidy,
  - the amount granted and the proportion of the total cost of the project accounted for by the funding,
  - the geographical location of the

### **Article 7 Publicité**

1. A moins que l'AG n'en décide autrement, toutes les mesures d'information et de publicité visant des bénéficiaires, des bénéficiaires potentiels et le grand public doivent indiquer que le projet a reçu une subvention des fonds du programme tels que définis à l'Article 1(1) dans le cadre du programme européen de coopération territoriale INTERREG IVC. Les dispositions du règlement (CE) N° 1828/2006 du 27 décembre 2006, Chapitre II, Section 1 (et en particulier les Articles 8 et 9) relatives aux mesures d'information et de publicité concernant l'assistance des fonds structurels et les lignes directrices de l'AG/du STC qui se trouvent dans la plus récente version du manuel du programme et sur le site internet doivent être respectées.
2. En outre, il doit être clairement indiqué que le projet a été cofinancé par le FEDER dans le cadre du programme INTERREG IVC, en plus de l'utilisation du drapeau européen et du logo et du slogan du programme.
3. L'AG ne peut en aucun cas être tenue responsable des informations publiées par le bénéficiaire.
4. L'AG/le STC est autorisé à publier, sous quelque forme et par quelque moyen que ce soit, y compris l'Internet, les informations suivantes :
  - le nom du CF et de ses partenaires,
  - l'objectif de la subvention,
  - le montant octroyé et pourcentage du coût total du projet couvert par le financement,
  - l'emplacement géographique du projet,

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>project,</li> <li>• progress reports including the final report,</li> <li>• whether and how the project has previously been publicised.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• rapports d'étape, y compris le rapport final,</li> <li>• si le projet a fait l'objet d'une publicité antérieure et sous quelle forme.</li> </ul>   |
| <p>5. The project undertakes to send three (3) copies of the main publicity and information material produced to the JTS. The project furthermore authorises the JTS, MA and the European Commission to use this material to showcase how the subsidy is used.</p> | <p>5. L'opération s'engage à envoyer au STC trois (3) exemplaires des principaux matériels publicitaires et d'information réalisés. En outre, le projet autorise le STC, l'AG et la Commission européenne à utiliser ce matériel pour montrer comment la subvention est utilisée.</p> |
| <p>6. Any information, media appearance, or other publicity of the project shall be communicated to the JTS for potential website updates or showcases.</p>  | <p>6. Toute information, toute apparition dans les médias ou toute publicité du projet doit être communiquée au STC pour des éventuelles mises à jour des sites Internet ou des vitrines.</p>   |
| <p>7. The project shall ensure that at least one member of the MA/JTS will be invited to present the programme during the project's Final Conference or other closing event.</p>   | <p>7. L'opération doit s'assurer qu'au moins un membre du AG/STC est invité à présenter le programme à l'occasion de la Conférence finale du projet ou de tout autre événement de clôture.</p>  |
| <p>8. Projects are requested to appoint a permanent contact for information and publicity purposes.</p>  | <p>8. Les projets doivent nommer une personne de contact permanente pour les questions d'information et de publicité.</p>   |

**Article 8**  
**Right of termination**

1. In addition to the right of termination as laid down in Article 1(5) the MA is entitled, in whole or in part, to terminate this contract and to demand repayment of subsidy, if
- a) the LP has obtained the subsidy through false or incomplete statements; or
  - b) the project has not been or cannot be fully implemented by achieving the planned outputs and results, or it has not been or cannot be implemented in due time; or
  - c) the LP has failed to countersign this subsidy contract, or to submit required reports or proofs, or to supply necessary information, provided that the LP has received a written reminder setting an adequate deadline and explicitly specifying the legal

**Article 8**  
**Droit de résiliation**

1. En plus du droit de résiliation défini à l'Article 1(5), l'AG a le droit, en totalité ou en partie, de résilier le présent contrat et d'exiger le remboursement de la subvention, si :
- a) le CF a obtenu la subvention grâce à des déclarations fausses ou incomplètes ; ou
  - b) le projet n'a pas été entièrement mis en œuvre, ou ne peut pas l'être, en obtenant les résultats et les livrables prévus, ou elle n'a pas été ou ne peut pas être mise en œuvre en temps et en heure ; ou
  - c) le CF n'a pas signé le présent contrat de subvention, ou n'a pas soumis les preuves ou rapports requis, ou n'a pas fourni les informations requises, à condition que le CF ait reçu un rappel écrit fixant une date butoir appropriée et précisant de manière explicite les

consequences of a failure to comply with requirements, and has failed to comply with this deadline; or

conséquences juridiques d'un non-respect des exigences, et qu'il n'ait pas respecté cette date butoir ; ou

d) the LP has failed to immediately report events delaying or preventing the implementation of the project funded, or any circumstances leading to its modification; or

d) le CF n'a pas signalé immédiatement les événements retardant ou empêchant la mise en œuvre du projet financé, ou toute circonstance entraînant sa modification ; ou

e) the LP has impeded or prevented the auditing (Article 9); or

e) le CF a entravé ou empêché l'audit (Article 9) ; ou

f) the subsidy awarded has been partially or entirely misapplied for purposes other than those agreed upon; or

f) la subvention octroyée a été partiellement ou totalement détournée pour des buts autres que ceux convenus ; ou

g) insolvency proceedings are instituted against the assets of the LP or insolvency proceedings are dismissed due to lack of assets for cost recovery, provided that this appears to prevent or risk the implementation of the programme objectives, or the LP closes down; or

g) des procédures d'insolvabilité sont ouvertes à l'encontre des actifs du CF ou des procédures d'insolvabilité sont rejetées du fait d'un manque d'actifs par rapport aux montants à recouvrer, à condition que cela semble empêcher ou mettre en danger la mise en œuvre des objectifs du programme, ou si le CF ferme ; ou

h) subject to the provisions of Article 10(2) and (3) - the LP wholly or partly sells, leases or lets the project to a third party; or

h) sous réserve des dispositions de l'Article 10(2) et (3) – le CF vend, cède ou loue tout ou partie du projet à un tiers ; ou

i) it has become impossible to verify that the final progress report is correct and thus the eligibility of the project for INTERREG IVC funding; or

i) il est devenu impossible de vérifier que le rapport d'étape final est correct, et donc de contrôler l'éligibilité du projet à un financement par le fonds INTERREG IVC ; ou

j) the LP has failed to fulfil any other conditions or requirements for assistance stipulated in this contract and the provisions it is based on, notably if these conditions or requirements are meant to guarantee the successful implementation of the programme objectives.

j) le CF n'a pas rempli toute autre condition ou exigence en matière d'assistance stipulée dans le présent contrat et les dispositions sur lesquelles il se base, notamment si ces conditions ou exigences ont pour but de garantir la réussite de la mise en œuvre des objectifs du programme.

2. If the MA exercises its right of termination, the LP is obliged to transfer the requested repayment of funds to the MA. The repayment of funds is due within one month following the date of the letter by which the MA asserts the repayment claim; the due date will be stated explicitly in the order for recovery.

2. Si l'AG exerce son droit de résiliation, le CF sera obligé de transférer à l'AG le remboursement des fonds demandé. Le remboursement des fonds doit être effectué dans le mois qui suit la date de la lettre dans laquelle l'AG demande le remboursement ; la date butoir sera explicitement indiquée dans la demande de remboursement.

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| <p>3. If the MA exercises its right of termination, the LP is only entitled to offset undisputed claims against the MA.</p>  | <p>3. Si l'AG exerce son droit de résiliation, le CF n'aura le droit de déduire que les montants non contestés par l'AG.</p>   |
| <p>4. If the MA exercises its right of termination, the amount repayable shall be subject to interest, starting on the day the payment was made and ending on the date of actual repayment. The interest rate will be determined in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, Article 102.</p> | <p>4. Si l'AG exerce son droit de résiliation, le montant remboursable sera productif d'intérêts qui courront du jour où le paiement a été effectué à la date du remboursement effectif. Le taux d'intérêt sera déterminé conformément à l'Article 102 du règlement (CE) N° 1083/2006.</p> |
| <p>5. If any of the circumstances indicated in Article 8(1) occurs before the full amount of subsidy has been paid to the LP, payments may be discontinued and there shall be no claims to payment of the remaining amount.</p>  | <p>5. Si l'une quelconque des circonstances indiquées à l'Article 8(1) se produit avant que l'intégralité du montant n'ait été payée au CF, les paiements pourront être interrompus et il ne pourra pas y avoir de demandes de paiement pour le montant restant.</p>                       |
| <p>6. Any further legal claims shall remain unaffected by the above provisions.</p>  | <p>6. Toute autre revendication juridique ne sera pas affectée par les dispositions ci-dessus.</p>   |

#### **Article 9**

##### **Audit rights, evaluation of the project**

1. The responsible auditing bodies of the EU (notably the European Court of Auditors) and, within their responsibility, the auditing bodies of the participating EU Member States and the Kingdom of Norway or other national public auditing bodies as well as the MA/JTS/CA/AA are entitled to audit the proper use of funds by the LP or by its partners or arrange for such an audit to be carried out by authorised persons.
2. The LP and its partners will produce all documents required for the audit, provide necessary information and give access to their business premises. The LP and its partners are at all times obliged to retain for audit purposes all files, documents and data about the project on customary data storage media in a safe and orderly manner for a minimum period of three years after the payment of the final balance by the European Commission to the INTERREG IVC programme. This balance will only be transferred in an as yet unspecified period of time after 2015, when the programme implementation is

#### **Article 9**

##### **Droits d'audit, évaluation du projet**

1. Les organismes d'audit européens responsables (notamment la Cour des comptes européenne) et, pour ce qui relève de leur compétence, les organismes d'audit des États membres de l'UE participants et du Royaume de Norvège ou tout autre organisme d'audit national public ainsi que le STC, l'AG, l'AC et l'AA ont le droit d'auditer la bonne utilisation des fonds par le CF ou ses partenaires, ou de faire en sorte qu'un tel audit soit effectué par des personnes autorisées.
2. Le CF et ses partenaires devront produire tous les documents requis par l'audit, fournir les informations nécessaires et donner accès à leurs locaux. Pour les besoins des audits, le CF et ses partenaires ont l'obligation de conserver de manière permanente tous les fichiers, documents et données relatifs au projet, sur des supports de stockage de données habituels et d'une manière sûre et ordonnée, pendant une période minimale de trois années après le paiement du solde final par la Commission européenne au programme INTERREG IVC. Ce solde ne sera transféré qu'au bout d'une durée

finalised. This period shall be interrupted either in the case of legal proceedings or at the duly motivated request of the Commission. Other possibly longer statutory retention periods, as might be stated by national law, remain unaffected.

non encore définie après 2015, lorsque la mise en œuvre du programme aura été finalisée. Cette période sera interrompue soit en cas de procédures juridiques, soit sur demande expresse dûment motivée de la part de la Commission. Cette disposition n'affecte pas les éventuelles autres durées de conservation légale plus longues spécifiées par une réglementation nationale.

3. According to Article 48 of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 the LP undertakes to provide independent experts or bodies carrying out project evaluation with any document or information necessary to assist the evaluation.
4. The LP is obliged to guarantee that both the LP and all of its partners fulfil the duties stipulated above.

3. Conformément à l'Article 48 du règlement (CE) N° 1083/2006, le CF s'engage à fournir aux organismes ou experts indépendants chargés de l'évaluation des projets du programme tous les documents ou informations requis pour permettre une telle évaluation.
4. Le CF est obligé de garantir que le CF et tous ses partenaires satisfont aux obligations susmentionnées.

**Article 10**  
**Assignment, legal succession**

1. The MA is entitled at any time to assign its rights under this contract. In case of assignment the MA will inform the LP without delay.
2. The LP is allowed to assign its duties and rights under this contract only after prior written consent of the MA and the MC.
3. In case of legal succession, e.g. where the LP changes its legal form, the LP is obliged to transfer all duties under this contract to the legal successor. The LP shall notify the MA about any change beforehand.

**Article 10**  
**Cession, succession légale**

1. L'AG a le droit de céder à tout moment ses droits aux termes du présent contrat. En cas de cession, l'AG informera sans délai le CF.
2. Le CF ne peut céder ses droits et devoirs découlant du présent contrat qu'après y avoir été autorisé par écrit par l'AG et le CS.
3. En cas de succession légale, par exemple, si le CF modifie sa forme juridique, le CF est obligé de transférer tous ses devoirs découlant du présent contrat au successeur légal. Le CF devra au préalable informer l'AG de toute modification.

**Article 11**  
**Concluding provisions**

1. All correspondence with the MA/JTS under this contract must be in the English language and has to be sent to the following address:

**Article 11**  
**Dispositions conclusives**

1. Toute correspondance avec l'AG/le STC entrant dans le cadre du présent contrat doit être adressée en anglais à l'adresse suivante :

**INTERREG IVC**  
**Joint Technical Secretariat**  
**Les Arcuriales –**  
**Entrée D, 5ème étage**  
**45, rue de Tournai**  
**59000 Lille**  
**France**

**INTERREG IVC**  
**Secrétariat technique conjoint**  
**Les Arcuriales –**  
**Entrée D, 5ème étage**  
**45, rue de Tournai**  
**59000 Lille**  
**France**

2. If any provision in this contract should be wholly or partly ineffective, the parties to this contract undertake to replace the ineffective provision by an effective provision which comes as close as possible to the purpose of the ineffective provision.
2. Si une quelconque partie du présent contrat devait s'avérer partiellement ou totalement inapplicable, les parties au présent contrat s'engagent à remplacer la disposition inapplicable par une disposition applicable qui sera la plus proche possible de l'objectif de la disposition inapplicable.
3. Amendments and supplements to this contract must be in written form.
3. Les amendements et ajouts au présent contrat doivent être formulés par écrit.

**Article 12**  
**Applicable law - Disputes**

**Article 12**  
**Droit applicable - Litiges**

1. This contract is governed by French law.
1. Le présent contrat est régi par le droit français.
2. Any dispute between the parties which could not be resolved amicably concerning their contractual relationship and, more specifically, the interpretation, performance and termination of this contract, shall be referred to the Administrative Tribunal of Lille (Tribunal administratif de Lille) which shall have exclusive jurisdiction.
2. Tout litige entre les parties qui ne pourrait être résolu à l'amiable concernant leurs rapports contractuels et, plus précisément, l'interprétation, l'exécution et la résiliation du présent contrat, sera porté devant le Tribunal administratif de Lille, qui aura compétence exclusive.
3. According to French law No 94-665 of 4 August 1994, a French version of the contract shall also be provided. The English and French versions of the present contract shall be deemed authentic. The contracting parties will be able to avail of both versions.
3. Conformément à la loi française N°94-665 du 4 août 1994, une version française du contrat doit également être réalisée. Les versions anglaise et française du présent contrat font foi. Les parties contractantes pourront se prévaloir des deux versions.

**Article 13  
Signatures**

This Subsidy Contract is issued in three copies. Each copy must be countersigned by the LP. To be considered valid, two copies of this subsidy contract shall be returned to the JTS, and one copy shall be kept by the LP.

.....  
(Place + Date)

.....  
(Name(s) Signer(s) Lead Partner)

.....  
(Signature + Stamp, if exists)

**Article 13  
Signatures**

Le présent Contrat de subvention est réalisé en trois exemplaires. Chaque exemplaire doit être signé par le CF. Pour qu'il soit considéré comme valable, deux exemplaires du présent contrat de subvention doivent être envoyés au STC, et un exemplaire conservé par le CF.

.....  
(Place + Date)

.....  
(Name(s) Signer(s) MA)

.....  
(Signature + Tampon, si il existe)

## **Annexe 04: Changes in Running Projects**

## Changes in running projects

Acronym	Index	Type of change	Description of the change	Financial implications	Date of approval
<b>CERAMICA</b>	0138R1	Partnership	Withdrawal of partner 4 (Municipality of Corund, RO); Integration of partner (Abruzzo Region Development Agency, IT)	Further to this change, the ERDF decreased by EUR 11,445.	20/07/2009
<b>CITIES</b>	0081R1	Partnership	Replacement of partner 5 (Agency for Economic Promotion & Employment, Gijon City Council – ES) with the Municipal Center of Enterprises – ES.  Withdrawal of partner 7 (Union of Bulgarian Black Sea Local Authorities, UBBSLA – BG).  Replacement of partner 9 (Regional Development Agency Celje L.T.D. – SI) with the Institution for Cultural Events and Tourism CELEIA Celje – SI.  Withdrawal of partner 4 (Canterbury City Council, UK)	The budget was reallocated to the partners taking over.  The budget was reduced accordingly  Part of the budget was reallocated to the partners taking over. The rest went back to the programme.  Further to this change, the ERDF decreased by EUR 50,181.	09/01/2009       10/08/2009
<b>COMMONS</b>	0340R1	Partnership	Withdrawal of partner 9 (ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Institute of Sustainable Development – CH).	The budget was reduced accordingly.	23/03/2009

Acronym	Index	Type of change	Description of the change	Financial implications	Date of approval
<b>DC</b>	0266R1	Partnership	Withdrawal of Lead Partner (Municipality of Trikala, GR) and partner 10 (Town Skalica, SK); Integration of Lead Partner (e-Trikala Municipality's SA, GR) and partner 12 (Municipality of Brasov, RO)	Despite this change, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	27/07/2009
<b>EVITA</b>	0226R1	Partnership	Replacement of partner 6 (Supercomputing center of Galicia (CESGA) – ES) with the Supercomputing Centre of Galicia Foundation - e-Business Dept. - Galicia e-Commerce Leveraging Centre – ES.  Withdrawal of partner 3 (Swedish Agency for Economic Regional Growth - NUTEK, SE); Integration of partner 11 (Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth - TILLVAXVERKET, SE)	The budget was reallocated to the partner taking over.  Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	18/02/2009  07/07/2009
<b>FLIPPER</b>	0126R1	Partnership	Replacement of partner 9 (Maillorca Train Services S.F.M. - ES) with the Insular Council of Formentera – ES.	The budget was reallocated to the partner taking over.	15/04/2009
<b>GRaBS</b>	0108R1	Partnership	Withdrawal of partner 11 (SEEDA – South East England Development Agency, UK); Integration of partner 15 (NWDA – Northwest Regional Development Agency, UK)	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	03/07/2009
<b>ICHNOS PLUS</b>	0415C1	Partnership	Replacement of partner 2 (Supercomputing center of Galicia (CESGA) – ES) with the Supercomputing Centre of Galicia Foundation - e-Business Dept. - Galicia e-Commerce Leveraging Centre – ES.	The budget was reallocated to the partner taking over.	13/02/2009

Acronym	Index	Type of change	Description of the change	Financial implications	Date of approval
<b>IES</b>	0405R1	Partnership	Replacement of partner 10 (Regional Development Center – SI) with the Regional Labour Fondation of Podravje – SI.  Withdrawal of partner 11 (InnoPark Switzerland – CH).	The budget was reallocated to the partner taking over. This budget was even increased in compliance with the conditions for approval.  The budget was reduced accordingly.	06/01/2009
<b>MINI EUROPE</b>	0004R1	Partnership	Integration of partner 9 (Veneto Innovation, IT)	Despite this change, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	24/09/2009
<b>MMOVE</b>	0147R1	Partnership	Withdrawal of partner 9 (City of Bydgoszcz, PL); Integration of partner 12 (Metropolitan Agency for Sustainable Development of Brasov, RO)	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	18/06/2009
<b>MORE4NRG</b>	0006R1	Partnership	Replacement of partner 11 (Gabrovo Region - BG) with the Euro Perspectives Foundation – BG.	The budget was reallocated to the partner taking over.	02/02/2009
<b>NANO4M</b>	0326R1	Partnership	Withdrawal of partner 8 (Regional Council of Rhône-Alpes, FR) and partner 9 (INSA Lyon, FR); Integration of partner 12 (Regional Council of Lorraine, FR), partner 13 (International Joint Unit Georgia 2958 Tech-CNRS, FR) and partner 14 (Institut Jean Lamour, FR)	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	30/07/2009
<b>PIMMS TRANSFER</b>	0323R1	Partnership	Replacement of the Lead Partner (London Borough of Bromley – UK) with the London Councils – UK.	The budget was reallocated to the partner taking over.	03/02/2009

<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Index</b>	<b>Type of change</b>	<b>Description of the change</b>	<b>Financial implications</b>	<b>Date of approval</b>
<b>RSC</b>	0301R1	Partnership	Withdrawal of partner 2 (Cornwall County Council, UK) and partner 11 (Community Energy Plus, UK); Integration of partner 13 (Cornwall Council, UK) and partner 14 (Cornwall Development Company, UK)	Despite these changes, the ERDF budget remains unchanged.	07/07/2009
<b>SEE</b>	0117R1	Partnership	Replacement of partner 4 (Estonian Association of Designers – EE) with the Estonian Design Centre – EE.	The budget was reallocated to the partner taking over.	09/01/2009