

Interact IV programming timeline & tasks

May 2020

The timeline presented below is based on the objective, that the programme shall be approved by European Commission by December 2021 and Interact IV launched at 1 July 2022.

Meetings so far:

Meeting	Date	Place
1 st Interact IV PTF meeting	6 September 2018	Bratislava
2 nd Interact IV PTF meeting	5 November 2018	Sofia
3 rd Interact IV PTF meeting	3 April 2019	Brussels
4 th Interact IV PTF meeting	27 May 2019	Salzburg
5 th Interact IV PTF meeting	16 October 2019	Madrid
6 th Interact IV PTF meeting	30 March 2020	online
1 st Interact IV PC meeting	4 December 2019	Bucharest

COM request regarding transparency

European Commission approached all Member States with the following request: “To enhance the transparency of the preparation and adoption process of the future programming documents, we would like to invite you to make publicly available all draft and official programming documents on the webpages of the relevant authorities.” Please see the full letter as Annexe 1 to this document.

We suggest to share the draft Cooperation Programme text once it is available and later on its updated versions with the public.

UK – principle of non-participation

Interact Managing Authority had an email exchange regarding UK participation in the programming of Interact IV programme and the response was, that “in line with the ‘principle of non-participation’ included in the Withdrawal Agreement (Article 7(1)) agreed by EU27 Member States, persons representing the UK, or nominated or appointed by the UK, should no longer participate in meetings where the post-2020 period is discussed. Therefore, the UK should not be part of task forces/programming committees preparing the 2021-27 programmes.” Please find the full email exchange as Annexe 2.

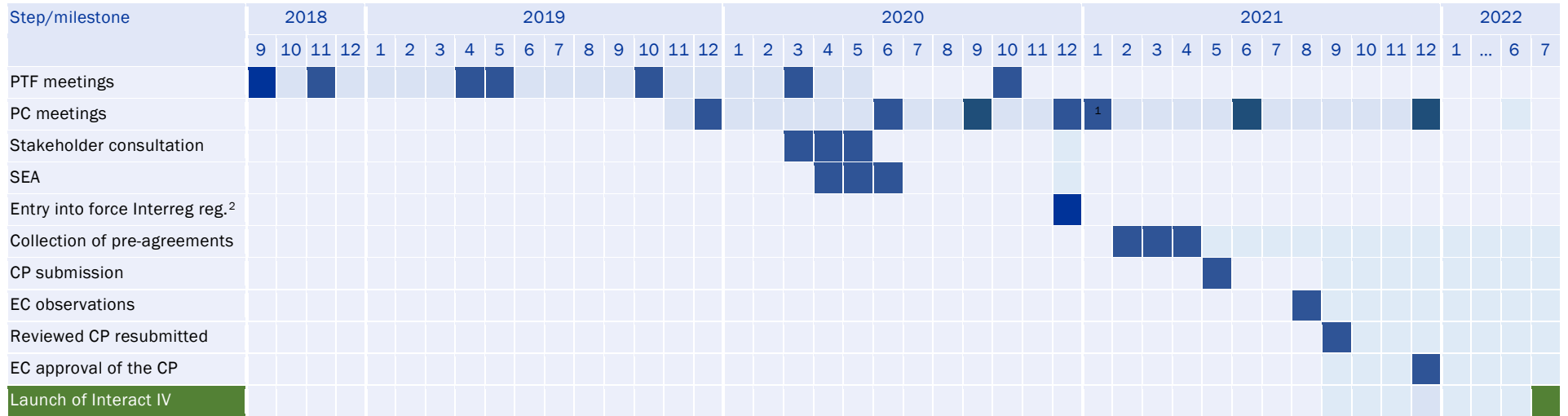
Timeline and tasks		
Date	Task/meeting	Remark
January – December 2020	Negotiations with NO, SUI to participate in the Interact IV Programme	SUI letter of interest received on 5 May 2020
January – December 2020	Once the situation is clear, to approach UK and negotiate its participation in the Interact IV Programme	Please see email exchange with COM (Annexe 2)
30-31 March 2020	6 th Programming Task Force/2 nd eMS Steering Group meeting, online	
25 June 2020	2 nd Programming Committee meeting, online	Back-to-back to the Interact III MC meeting (24 June 2020)
September - October 2020	Strategic Environmental Assessment	To be checked, if SEA is necessary
September 2020	Public consultation	On the draft Cooperation Programme
September 2020 (date tbc)	3 rd Programming Committee meeting, Helsinki or online	Back-to-back to the Interact III MC meeting
October 2020	7 th Programming Task Force/3 rd eMS Steering Group meeting, venue tbc or online	
December 2020	4 th Programming Committee meeting, Croatia or online	Back-to-back to the Interact III MC meeting
January 2021	Written procedure to approve the text of the Cooperation Programme	If necessary
February – April 2021	Collection of MS agreements to the contents of the programme	Prior to the submission of the programme document to the European Commission (Article 16.5. draft Interreg regulation)

Timeline and tasks		
Date	Task/meeting	Remark
May 2021	Submission of the programme document to the Commission	The deadline is the date of entry into force of the Interreg regulation plus nine months (Article 16.4. draft Interreg regulation)
May/June 2021	5 th Programming Committee meeting, Germany or online	Back-to-back to the Interact III MC meeting
August 2021	European Commission assessment of the programme document	(Article 18.1. draft Interreg regulation) and formulation of observations: within three months of the date of submission of the programme document (Article 18.2. draft Interreg regulation)
September 2021	Review of the programme document by MSs and third countries and approval by MC via written procedure; resubmission to European Commission	Taking into account the observations of the Commission (Article 18.3. draft Interreg regulation)
November/December 2021	European Commission approval of the programme document	No later than six months after the date of submission of the programme document (Article 18.4. draft Interreg regulation).
November/December 2021	6 th Programming Committee meeting or 1 st Interact IV MC, Portugal or online	Back-to-back to the Interact III MC meeting
1 July 2022	Launch of Interact IV Programme	

Annexes:

1. Letter from European Commission regarding partnership and transparency
2. Email exchange between Interact MA and European Commission regarding UK involvement in the programming process

Chart 1. Indicative timeline of Interact IV programming – assuming that the programme will be approved by COM in December 2021



¹ Written procedure (if necessary) – approval of draft PC

² Assumption based on the entry into force month of the 2014-2020 regulations (i.e. December 2013)