

INTERREG IVC – A PROGRAMME FOR YOUR REGION!

INTERREG IVC – WHAT DOES IT DEAL WITH?

This is an **interregional cooperation** programme. It is a part of the European Territorial Cooperation Objective 3 of the Structural Funds policies for the period 2007-2013. It serves to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies through **the exchange, sharing and transfer of experience, knowledge and good practice among European regions**. INTERREG IVC contributes to the economic modernisation of the EU, as well as to the implementation of the EC's *Regions for Economic Change Initiative*.

INTERREG IVC – A CAPITALISATION PROGRAMME

INTERREG IVC is the interregional cooperation programme dealing with the exchange of experience at policy level. It **'capitalises on' or builds upon the experience gained under past or existing regional development programmes** to improve policy implementation.

BASIC INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAMME

- **PROGRAMME AREA**
Programme enables cooperation among regions from 27 EU Member States + Norway and Switzerland
- **TYPE OF INSTITUTIONS**
The beneficiaries are public authorities and bodies governed by public law.
- **THEMATIC SCOPE**
Priority 1: Innovation and Knowledge Economy
Priority 2: Environment and Risk Prevention
- **FUNDING**
The programme is financed from the **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)**
The programme budget for project funding amounts to 302 million EUR from European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). So far EUR 194 million ERDF has been allocated to projects approved in the two calls.
Co-financing rate: 50%, 75% or 85% depending on the Member State in which the partner is physically located (determined by its address).
- **PARTNERSHIP**
The minimum requirement is to have partners from at least 3 countries, and minimum 2 of the partners must be from UE Member States.

2 TYPES OF PROJECTS

Type 1 - Regional Initiative Projects (including mini-programmes)

Most typical type of projects, which enable regions to work together on a selected policy issue that is common to or shared by them. They focus on the exchange of experience, especially on identification, analysis and dissemination of good practices in the target policy area. Means of exchanging experience: seminars, workshops, conferences, staff exchanges, etc.

NEXT CALL FOR REGIONAL INITIATIVE PROJECTS

4th call for Regional Initiative Projects will likely be launched late 2010; dates will be announced in due time. Detailed conditions will be specified and will be available on the official programme website www.interreg4c.eu

Type 2 - Capitalisation Projects (including *Fast Track* option*)

The type of projects which focus on the transfer of the existing good practices, of which the partners must be well aware, into mainstream EU Structural Funds programmes (i.e. Convergence, Regional Competitiveness and Employment, European Territorial Cooperation Programmes). Their result is a document (Action Plan) explaining how each partner region intends to implement the identified good practices under a given mainstream programme. In Capitalisation projects it is required to involve the Managing Authorities or Intermediate Bodies of the EU mainstream programmes. However, in *Capitalisation projects* also other relevant stakeholders can participate. Then MAs and IBs should be involved indirectly. In case of indirect involvement of those authorities a *Letter of Support* signed by them is required.

**Fast Track* projects – are Capitalisation projects which benefit from additional expertise from the European Commission in order to contribute to the EC's 'Regions for Economic Change' initiative. The Commission will provide this additional expertise at its own cost.

CALL FOR CAPITALISATION PROJECTS

3rd call limited only to Capitalisation Projects; Call dates: 9.12.2009 – 5.03.2010

Budget available: EUR 15 million. In the 3rd call each project has to include at least 1 partner from each of the 4 Information Point areas and at least 2 new Member States must be represented. Number of countries represented: minimum 6 countries, maximum 10 countries.

Details regarding the 3rd call available at www.interreg4c.eu in the *Application* section.

Applications for Regional Initiative Projects will not be accepted.

Capitalisation Projects (Type 2)	
Purpose	Preparation for transfer of good practices into mainstream programmes. Development of an Action Plan for each participating region.
Involvement of Managing Authority and/ or Intermediate Body designated to carry out MA tasks	Compulsory. If direct involvement of MA/ IB not possible, Letter of support signed by them is required
European Commission support	Yes, for <i>Fast Track</i> Projects
Number of partners	Minimum number of countries represented: 6 Maximum number of countries represented: 10 At least 1 partner from each programme area At least 2 new Member States must be represented
Duration	24 months (recommendation)
Budget	Min ERDF: EUR 1 million Max ERDF: EUR 2 million
Beneficiaries	Public authorities and bodies governed by public law (as defined in section 2.3.3 of Programme Manual)

Programme official website www.interreg4c.eu

Applicants from Austria, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovenia are welcome to contact the Information Point East IP-East@interreg4c.eu Telephone: +48 32 205 32 30