



State of Interreg Report 2024

April 2024

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Furthermore, understanding and knowledge evolves throughout the programming period. If you spot something out of date or inconsistent, please contact us at communication@interact.eu

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Publisher Interact Programme

Date updated 15 March 2024

Primary knowledge area: Monitoring, Evaluating, Reporting

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**Co-funded by
the European Union**
Interreg

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1. Executive summary

In 2023, Interact published the first State of Interreg Report, creating a detailed basis for reviewing the potential of Interreg in the 2021-2027 period. The report included two sets of data. The official programme composition, budget and Policy Objectives. It further contained information about the 4.5 billion of EU funding that programmes had already made available in more than 150 calls.

The 2024 Report, with its publication delayed to support the Interreg GO event in March 2025, follows the implementation of programmes further, **finding 52% of Interreg funds, around 5.5 billion euros had been allocated to projects** by December 2024. This figure further confirms that the amount identified in the 2023 report was a useful benchmark of the early progress of programmes.

Of course, from allocation, there are still steps to take, both contracting and spending are required, before funds are reclaimed and appear in the official figures of implementation. However, the State of Interreg reports seek to explain a different position on implementation, namely that progress has been made in good time.

There are many factors that influence how quickly programmes are able to move forward with calls. The report does not seek to offer an opinion on the correct speed, or what the ideal position of programmes should be at this point in time. Instead, while the debate about the Post 2027 period moves forward, the report supports the challenge to the narrative that low spending rates means low use of EU Funding.

We are grateful to all Interreg programmes for their cooperation and sharing of data. Unfortunately, the data still represents a best effort at collecting information available in different formats. We cannot guarantee the accuracy of any programmes' own data – despite best efforts.

The keep.eu and Open Data platforms provide further information and enable analysis on data.

2. Overall implementation

2.1. Implementation compared to 2014-2020

First calls in the 2021-2027 period started in spring 2022. As such 2024 marks the end of the second full year of implementation. However, many programmes did not start until later in 2022, or even until early 2023. Therefore 2024 can still be regarded as ‘early’ in the period, despite being on paper the mid-point.

To estimate the overall position, it is possible to compare only the official spending data, which shows a comparable low level of spending to date. The most certain data is, as ever, the amount of EU funding spent, as it reflects the end of the process. However, especially in the first years of the period, the spending rate is low.

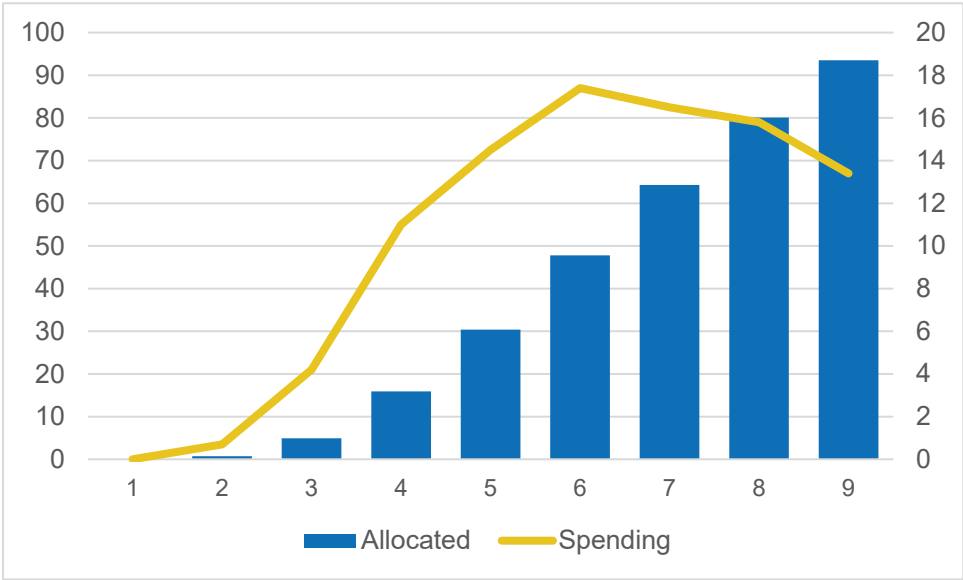
When comparing the 2014-2020 period, and the 2021-2027 period¹ based on official data, there is a similar position. Based on the available data, it does take some time to start selection and spending. Of course, comparing year-to-year is unhelpful when programmes do not have a fixed start point, and an operational year may be one-month, or twelve-months.

Year	Allocated	Spent
2015	7.9%	0.0%
2016	34.9%	0.7%
2017	56.9%	4.9%
2018	76.9%	15.9%
2019	93.7%	30.4%
2020	102.5%	47.8%
2021	106.4%	64.3%
2022	107.5%	80.1%
2023	107.4%	93.5%

Year	Allocated	Spent
2023	21.8%	0.3%
2024	49.9%	3.3%
2025		
2026		
2027		
2028		
2029		
2030		

¹ [Open Data Portal for the European Structural Investment Funds - European Commission | Cohesion Open Data](#)

One thing to note in the 2014-2020 period, is that it takes four years to spend 15% of the funds, while the next four years (Year 5, 6, 7 and 8) almost match that total figure and see more than 60% of the funding allocated. In effect, starting takes time, but spending followed during the middle years of the programme.



Of course, it remains to be seen whether some of the simplification measures, such as Simplified Cost Options, will enable the spending rate to closer follow the allocation rate in the 2021-2027 period.

2.2. Number of projects

Another way to anticipate the position of Interreg in relation to the 2021-2027 period is to review the number of projects funded by Interreg in the past few funding periods. In total, there have been around 10,000 projects in the last three funding periods, since the year 2000 which is the start date of the keep.eu dataset.

The data gathered as part of this report identified a total of 3,876 potential projects². This is a slightly lower figure of 38.76% of projects compared to the allocated figure, but may reflect the selection of larger financial volume projects to support decommitment, Technical Assistance flat rates and other incentives (intended or otherwise) that the funding conditions create.

Furthermore, it should be noted that the selection of Small Projects creates even more variables when reviewing programme data. Sometimes the Operation of a Small Project Fund appears as the sole project on the programme level, in reality it will fund many, many projects.

² Potential projects are understood as projects selected by Monitoring Committees and allocated funding, but not yet contracted. As such, they cannot all be referred to as projects, as some are contracted, some are not yet contracted.

3. Programme performance to date

3.1. Introductions and limitations of data

The intention of this chapter is to highlight that there is still funding opportunities available in many geographies. In creating this data, Interact has sought to correctly identify the volume of ERDF funding (whether including or excluding third-country national contributions) available. Often this meant referring back to the official programme documents which anticipated Technical Assistance amounts, and as well as funding from non-EU Member States.

Furthermore, it should be noted that 100% is not necessarily the target for allocation. In the 2014-2020 period, the allocation was 107.4% of the total available funds. Each programme will have a target allocation amount, which enables it to reach its spending target. For some programmes this is close to 100%, in others it is higher.

In presenting the programmes in approximate bands, it is done to show an approximate position. More accurate positions are only possible in comparing spending data, or by a larger focus on Open Data approaches in Interreg. It remains the case that much of this data is available only in PDF format, and that there is no singular approach to filing this information on the more than 80 Interreg programme websites.

3.2. More than 80% allocated | 9 programmes

There are more than 9 programmes which 80% or more of the money available to projects is allocated. They include three of the four Strand C programmes who follow a very different logic to the Strand A, B, and D programmes.

Strand	Programmes more than 80% allocated	
Stand A Cross border cooperation	Austria - Hungary	Romania - Hungary
	NEXT Italy - Tunisia	
Stand B Transnational cooperation	Baltic Sea Region	North Sea
	South West Europe (SUDOE)*	
Stand C Interregional Cooperation	ESPON 2030	Interact
	Interreg Europe	

* Programme which had a call that closed in the second half of 2025, which are not likely to be included in the figure above

It is especially noteworthy that Interreg NEXT Italy – Tunisia achieved such significant progress and is the highest allocated external programme. In addition to its external factors, it is also a smaller budget programme, an honour shared with Austria-Hungary. Both these cross-border programmes have budgets of under 50 million euros.

On the other side of the financial spectrum, Romania-Hungary has also achieved the higher than 80% rate, with a larger budget of more than 140 million euros. As have three of the large Transnational programmes, as well as Interreg Europe.

Additionally, ESPON and Interact enjoy the advantage of a bespoke set up – with one and five beneficiaries respectively, which makes allocating the funds for these programmes fairly quick. The beneficiaries, of course, still have the same spending challenges as other programmes.

Between these 9 programmes, over 1.1 billion of EU funding has been allocated to more than 600 projects.

3.3. More than 60% allocated | 17 programmes

A further 17 programmes have allocated between 60% and 80% of the budget available to projects by the end of 2024.

Strand	Programmes with between 60% and 80% allocated	
Stand A Cross border cooperation	Belgium-France (Wallonie-Vlaanderen-France)	Belgium-The Netherlands (Vlaanderen-Nederland)
	Estonia - Latvia	Germany - Denmark
	Italy - Slovenia	Poland-Denmark-Germany-Lithuania-Sweden (South Baltic)*
	Poland-Slovakia	Slovakia-Czechia
	Sweden-Denmark-Norway (Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak)	IPA Croatia-Serbia*
	NEXT Poland - Ukraine	
Stand B Transnational cooperation	Alpine Space*	Central Europe*
	North West Europe	Northern Periphery and Arctic
	IPA Adriatic-Ionian*	
Stand C Interregional Cooperation	URBACT IV	

* Programme which had a call that closed in the second half of 2025, which are not likely to be included in the figure above

This list of programmes again crosses the budget spectrum, from Interreg IPA Croatia Serbia (around 30 million euros) to North West Europe (around 210 million euros). In total, these programmes have allocated 1.5 billion of EU Funding to almost 1,100 projects.

They also still have significant potential, with more than 550 million euros available to allocate to forthcoming projects. The transnational programmes Interreg Central Europe, and Northern Periphery and Artic, have long published timelines for final calls in autumn 2025. Individual programme website, and Interreg.eu, are of course the best source of current information.

3.4. More than 50% allocated | 11 programmes

A further 11 programmes have allocated more than 50% of their funding available for projects. Between them, they have allocated more than 1.3 billion euros to 702 projects.

They also still have a significant potential for new projects still, with almost 900 billion not yet allocated to projects.

Strand	Programmes with between 50% and 60% allocated	
Stand A Cross border cooperation	Austria-Czechia	France-Belgium-Germany-Luxembourg (Grande Région/Großregion)
	Czechia-Poland	Germany/Saxony-Czechia
	PEACE PLUS Ireland-Northern Ireland/United Kingdom	Italy-Croatia*
	Slovenia-Austria*	Sweden-Norway
	NEXT Hungary - Slovakia - Romania - Ukraine	
Stand B Transnational cooperation	Danube	EURO Mediterranean (EURO MED)*

* Denotes programme which had a call that closed in the second half of 2025, which are not likely to be included in the figure above

3.5. More than 40% allocated | 18 programmes

A further 750 million euros of EU funding has been allocated by 18 programmes, to almost 900 projects by the 18 programmes which have allocated between 40% and 50% of funding available to projects. They still have around 1 billion euros yet to be allocated to projects – according to the research undertaken.

While this may seem to indicate the tipping point of opportunity, where more money is available than spent, it is not necessarily the case. Money in calls at the end of 2024, but not yet allocated to projects is not counted in the data, which becomes an increasingly significant factor in the following sub-sections.

Strand	Programmes with between 40% and 50% allocated	
Stand A Cross border cooperation	Austria-Germany/Bavaria*	France-Germany-Switzerland (Upper Rhine)
	France-Italy (ALCOTRA)	Germany-Austria-Switzerland-Liechtenstein (Alpenrhein-Bodensee-Hochrhein)
	Germany/Brandenburg-Poland	Germany-The Netherlands*
	Greece-Bulgaria	Hungary-Slovakia*
	Poland-Germany/Saxony	Slovenia-Croatia
	Slovenia-Hungary*	Spain-France-Andorra (POCTEFA)*
	Spain-Portugal (POCTEP)*	IPA Bulgaria - North Macedonia
	IPA Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina – Montenegro*	IPA Romania - Serbia*
Stand B Transnational cooperation	Atlantic Area	
Stand D Outermost regions	Madeira-Azores-Canary Islands (MAC)	

* Programme which had a call that closed in the second half of 2025, which are not likely to be included in the figure above

3.6. More than 25% allocated | 14 programmes

The largest remaining funding opportunities may be found among these 14 programmes.

They have allocated 500 million euros of funding, into more than 500 projects, but still have almost 900 million euros left to allocate. Included in this data set is at least one programmes that include small scale projects at a programme level, rather than counting the singular Small Project Fund. This creates the illusion that more projects have smaller budgets.

Strand	Programmes between 25% and 40% allocated	
Stand A Cross border cooperation	Finland-Estonia-Latvia-Sweden (Central Baltic)	Germany/Bavaria-Czechia
	Germany/Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania/Brandenburg-Poland	Italy-France (Maritime)
	Italy-Austria	Latvia-Lithuania*
	Maas-Rijn/Meuse-Rhin/Maas-Rhein (Netherlands-Belgium-Germany)	Romania-Bulgaria*
	Sweden-Finland-Norway (AURORA)	IPA Hungary Serbia
	IPA Italy Albania Montenegro (South Adriatic)*	NEXT Romania – Ukraine
Stand B Transnational cooperation	NEXT Black Sea Basin	
Stand D Outermost regions	Caribbean	

* Programme which had a call that closed in the second half of 2025, which are not likely to be included in the figure above

3.7. Less than 25% allocated | 17 programmes

The remaining 17 programmes include both programmes where it is challenging to get data, as well as programmes that have healthy calls in progress, or recently closed (as of December 2024). Therefore, this list should be carefully checked against programme own sources for current information.

It is noticeable, that in spite of the strong performance of many small budget programmes, some of the smallest overall budgets are on this list, reflecting the least amount of TA to manage implementation often in challenging geographies – such as the Outer Most Regions

In theory at least, these programmes have around 1 billion euros available to allocate. Between what is already allocated (60 million) as well as what is already known to be under assessment (almost 300 million) the actual amount of funding available may actually be much smaller than in some of the above programmes.

Strand	Programmes less than 25% allocated	
Stand A Cross border cooperation	Greece-Cyprus	Greece-Italy
	France-Switzerland	Hungary-Croatia
	Italy-Malta	Italy-Switzerland
	Lithuania-Poland	Slovakia-Austria
	IPA Bulgaria Serbia	IPA Bulgaria Türkiye
	IPA Greece Albania	IPA Greece North Macedonia
	NEXT Romania - Rep.Moldova	
Stand B Transnational cooperation	NEXT Mediterranean Sea Basin (NEXT MED)*	
Stand D Outermost regions	Amazonia	Indian Ocean
	Mozambique Channel	

* Programme which had a call that closed in the second half of 2025, which are not likely to be included in the figure above

4. Interreg in 2025

4.1. Interreg activities in 2025

Whilst closing the 2014-2020 period, consulting on the Post 2027 period, 2025 will also be a crucial year for implementation. In addition to the anticipated spending outlined in Chapter 2, there are more than 70 calls planned in 2025.

The calls, noted with indicative closing date, show that Interreg is continuing to press on with the implementation of the current period.

4.2. Spring 2025

During the research for this report, the following indicative plans for calls were shared by programmes, which plan to open or have a submission deadline in Spring 2025.

Programme (Short name)	Indicative deadline
France - Italy ALCOTRA	January 2025
Germany - The Netherlands	January 2025
Germany (Saxony) - Czechia	January 2025
Hungary - Slovakia	January 2025
North West Europe	January 2025
Poland - Germany (Saxony)	January 2025
Slovenia - Hungary	January 2025
Upper Rhine	January 2025
Atlantic Area	February 2025
EURO MED	February 2025
Poland - Slovakia	February 2025
Slovenia - Croatia	February 2025
South Baltic	February 2025
Sweden - Norway	February 2025
IPA Croatia - Serbia	February 2025

Austria - Czechia	March 2025
Belgium - France (Wallonie-Vlaanderen-France)	March 2025
Belgium - The Netherlands (Vlaanderen-Nederland)	March 2025
Greece - Italy	March 2025
PEACE PLUS (Interreg)	March 2025
France - Italy ALCOTRA	April 2025
France - Switzerland	April 2025
Germany - The Netherlands	April 2025
Italy - France (Maritime)	April 2025
POCTEFA (Spain - France - Andorra)	April 2025
POCTEP (Spain - Portugal)	April 2025
IPA Greece - Albania	April 2025
IPA Greece - North Macedonia	Spring 2025

Please note, this list is indicative only. Programmes retain the right to modify or cancel such calls. Please consult individual programme websites for more information.

4.3. Summer 2025

During the research for this report, the following indicative plans for calls were noted in Summer 2025.

Please note, this list is indicative only. Programmes retain the right to modify or cancel such calls. Please consult individual programme websites for more information.

Programme (Short name)	Indicative deadline
Alpine Space	May 2025
Germany (Saxony) - Czechia	May 2025
Germany/Bavaria - Czechia	May 2025
Greece - Bulgaria	May 2025
Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak	May 2025

PEACE PLUS (Interreg)	May 2025
Slovenia - Austria	May 2025
IPA Romania - Serbia	May 2025
NEXT MED	May 2025
Austria - Germany/Bavaria	June 2025
Italy - Switzerland	June 2025
Mozambique Channel	June 2025
POCTEP (Spain - Portugal)	June 2025
URBACT	June 2025
IPA Adriatic-Ionian	June 2025
IPA Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina - Montenegro	June 2025
NEXT Romania - Ukraine	June 2025
Italy - Austria	July 2025
Italy - Croatia	July 2025
Maas-Rhien	July 2025
NEXT Romania - Rep.Moldova	July 2025

4.4. Autumn 2025

During the research for this report, the following indicative plans for calls were noted in Autumn 2024, or before the end of the year.

Please note, this list is indicative only. Programmes retain the right to modify or cancel such calls. Please consult individual programme websites for more information.

Programme (Short name)	Indicative deadline
Austria - Czechia	September 2025
Austria - Germany/Bavaria	September 2025
Austria - Hungary	September 2025

Central Baltic	September 2025
Germany - The Netherlands	September 2025
Germany (Brandenburg) - Poland	September 2025
Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak	September 2025
POCTEP (Spain - Portugal)	September 2025
Slovakia - Austria	September 2025
Sweden - Norway	September 2025
AURORA	October 2025
Baltic Sea Region	October 2025
Germany (Saxony) - Czechia	October 2025
Northern Periphery and Arctic	October 2025
Czechia - Poland	November 2025
France - Switzerland	November 2025
Germany - Denmark	November 2025
Grande Région/Großregion	November 2025
IPA South Adriatic	November 2025
NEXT Hungary - Slovakia - Romania - Ukraine	Autumn 2025
Danube	Autumn 2025
Greece - Italy	Autumn 2025
Italy - Malta	Autumn 2025
Germany/Bavaria - Czechia	December 2025
Central Europe	End 2025

Annex 1 | Article 49, Common Provisions Regulation

Article 49

Responsibilities of the managing authority

1. The managing authority shall ensure that, within 6 months of the decision approving the programme, there is a website where information on programmes under its responsibility is available, covering the programme's objectives, activities, available funding opportunities and achievements.
2. The managing authority shall ensure the publication on the website referred to in paragraph 1, or on the single website portal referred to in point (b) of Article 46, of a timetable of the planned calls for proposals, that is updated at least three times a year, with the following indicative data:
 - (a) geographical area covered by the call for proposal;
 - (b) policy objective or specific objective concerned;
 - (c) type of eligible applicants;
 - (d) total amount of support for the call;
 - (e) start and end date of the call.

Annex 2 | Interreg calls in late 2023

Programme	Indicative date	Additional Information
Adriatic - Ionian	Mid 2024	
Alpine space	Mid 2024	Small Scale Projects
Austria – Germany(Bavaria)	July 2024	Submission deadline Major projects
Hungary - Slovakia	July 2024	15 million
EURO MED	Summer 2024	51 million
Italy - Croatia	Summer 2024	27 million
Latvia - Lithuania	Summer 2024	
POCTEFA	Summer 2024	PO5 call
POCTEP	Summer 2024	
Germany - The Netherlands	16 September	Submission deadline
Central Europe	Autumn 2024	
IPA Romania - Serbia	Autumn 2024	8.8 million
South Baltic	December 2024	
IPA Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina - Montenegro	End 2024	25 million
IPA Croatia - Serbia	End 2024	
Italy - Croatia	End 2024	18 million
POCTEFA	End 2024	
POCTEP	End 2024	
Slovenia - Austria	End 2024	Standard projects
Slovenia - Hungary	End 2024	Standard projects
SUDOE	End 2024	5.3 million ISO1

IPA South Adriatic	2024	
NEXT MED	2024	Green transition
Romania - Bulgaria	2024	15 million PO4