

Interreg post 2027 Harvesting Reports

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Interreg 
EUROPEAN UNION



Interreg



**Citizen and Stakeholder
Consultation**

**Interact Programme
Consultation**

Interreg GO

Final Reporting

Almost
100
reports



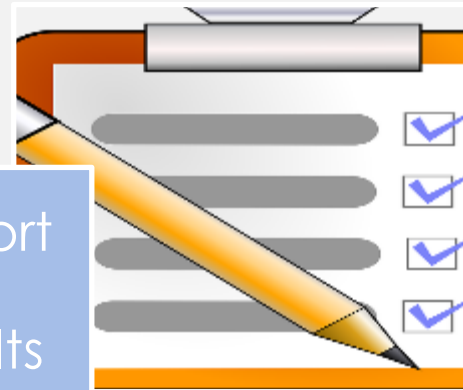
Read all
the
reports!!



Neutral
position



Report
of
results



POINTS TO NOTE...

Quality

High quality reports

Clear on methods

Comparability

Different programmes

Slightly different questions

Different methods

Readable

So much information!!!

Short time

Readable report...

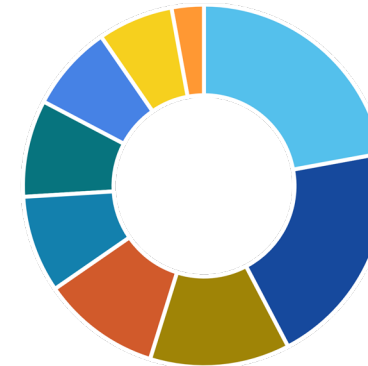
BORDER AREAS AS A POSITIVE RESOURCE

- Positive views of people living in border regions
- Open to opportunities
- People-to-people links, cultural exchange, access to leisure and cultural facilities
- Economic opportunities, shopping, access to markets
- Environmental quality and quality of life
- Wider access to transport, education and services



...ALSO CHALLENGES, OBSTACLES, AND BARRIERS

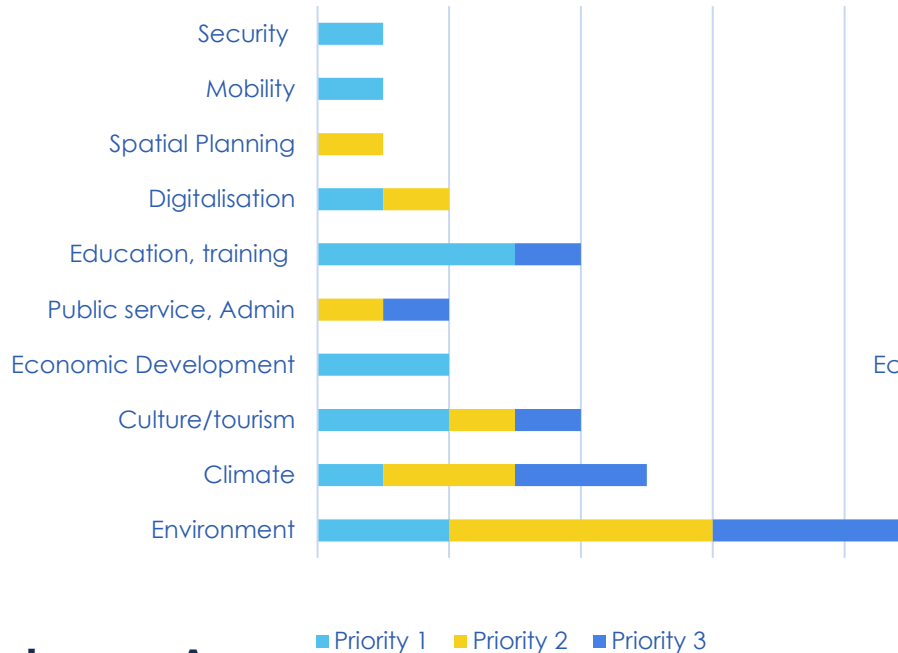
- Recognition of barriers...
(and potential to act to address them...)
 - Cultural and linguistic
 - Regulatory and bureaucratic
 - Capacity
 - Peripherality



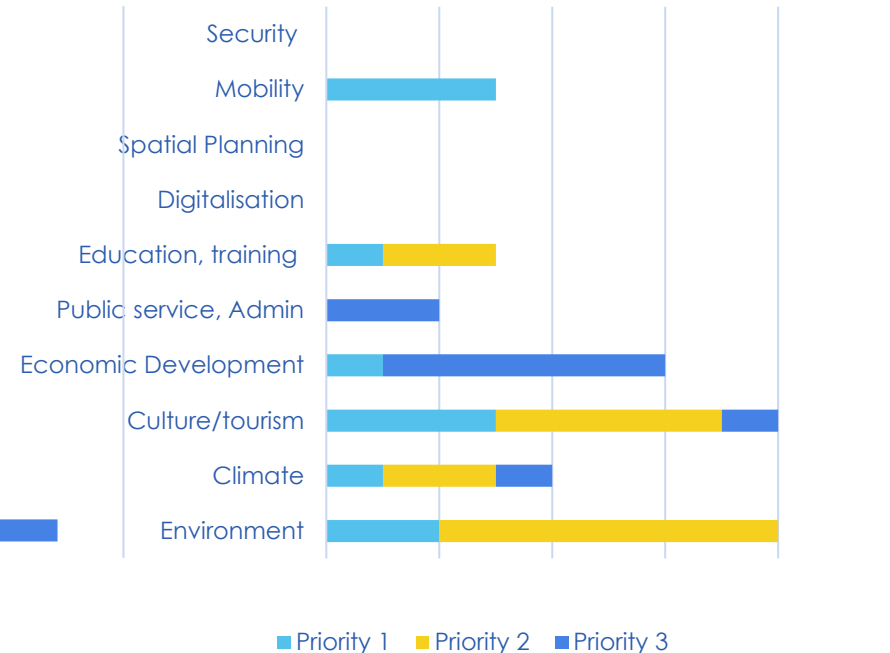
- Language and culture
- Negative stereotypes
- Lack of knowledge/capacity
- Border tensions
- Employment & labour market
- Pressure on natural resources
- Peripheralities
- Access to services and infrastructure
- Regulations

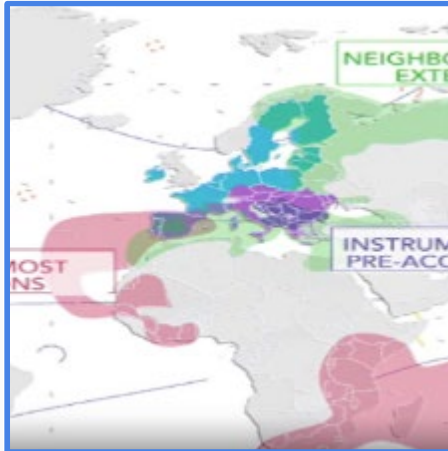
NEED AND DEMAND FOR COOPERATION

Top three priorities for territorial cooperation:
stakeholders



Top three priorities for future territorial
cooperation: citizens





External

- Environment and climate
- Cultural Heritage
- Infrastructure and transport



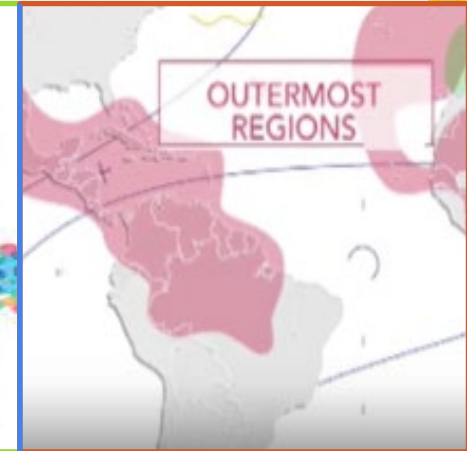
Interreg B

- Innovation
- Social/community
- Governance
- Blue growth



Interreg C

- Capacity
- Engagement
- Shared/common challenges



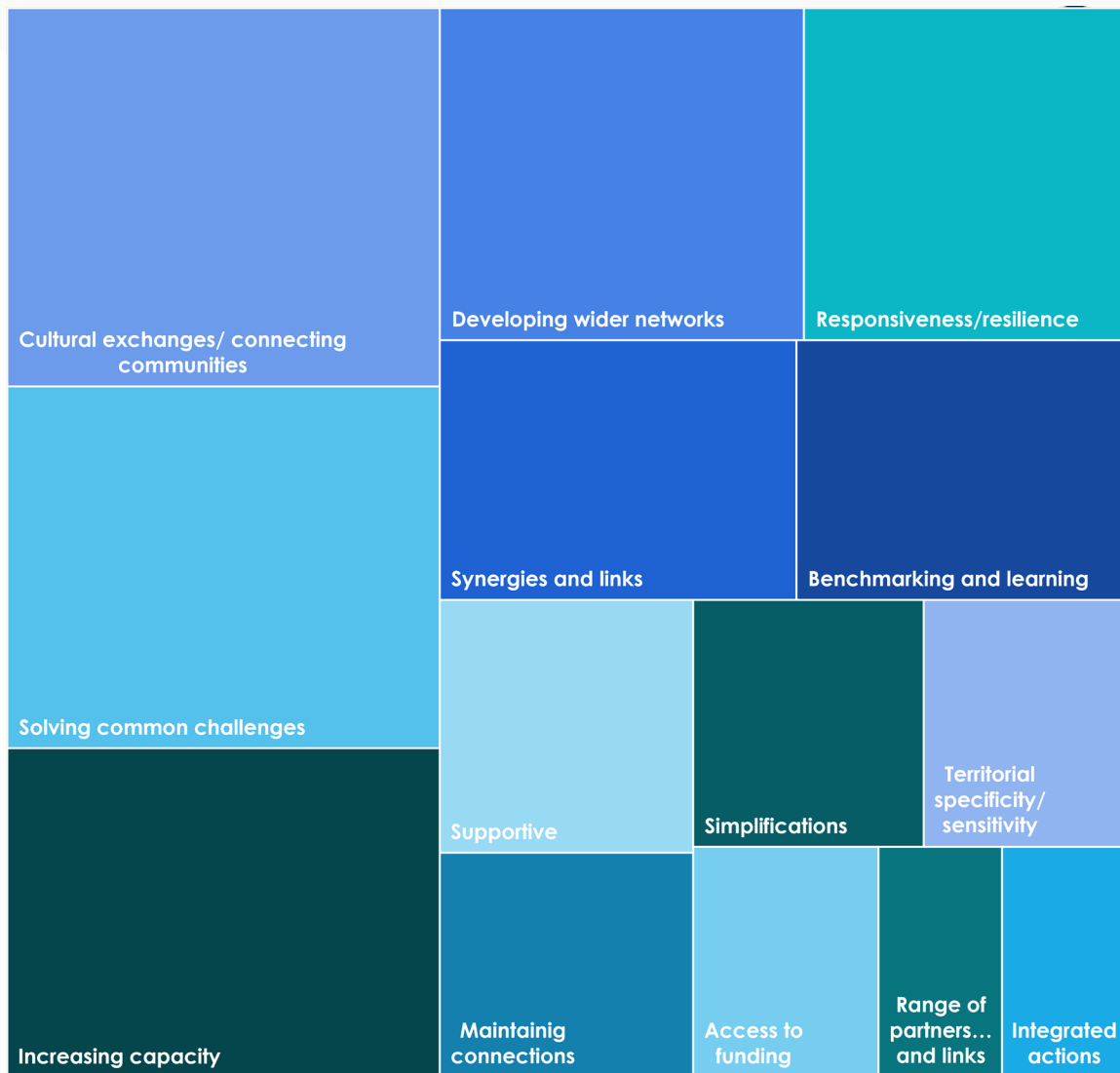
Interreg D

- Climate
- Environmental protection
- Exchanges
- Training



INTERREG ADDING VALUE

- Connecting people
- Common challenges
- Territorially relevant
- Strategic framework
- Learning and capacity
- Responsive



WORKING WITH INTERREG

- **Opportunities**

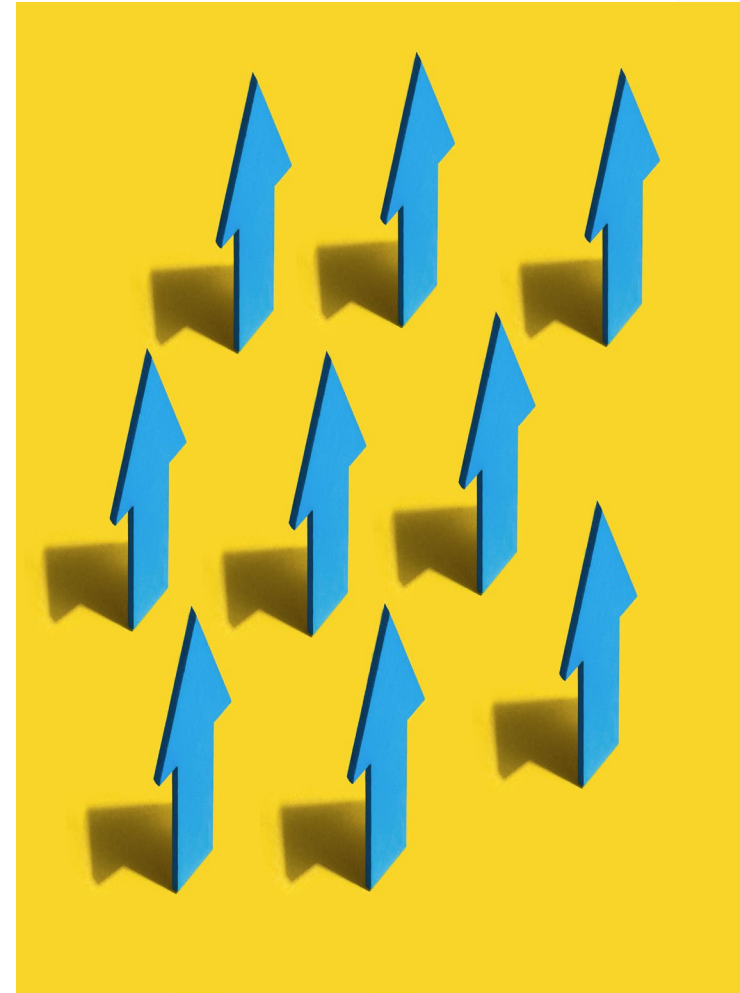
- Framework
- Maturity/established

- **Improvements**

- Progress
 - Advanced institutional resources and expertise
- Solutions
 - Simplified Costs, Small Projects Fund, JeMS

- **Challenges**

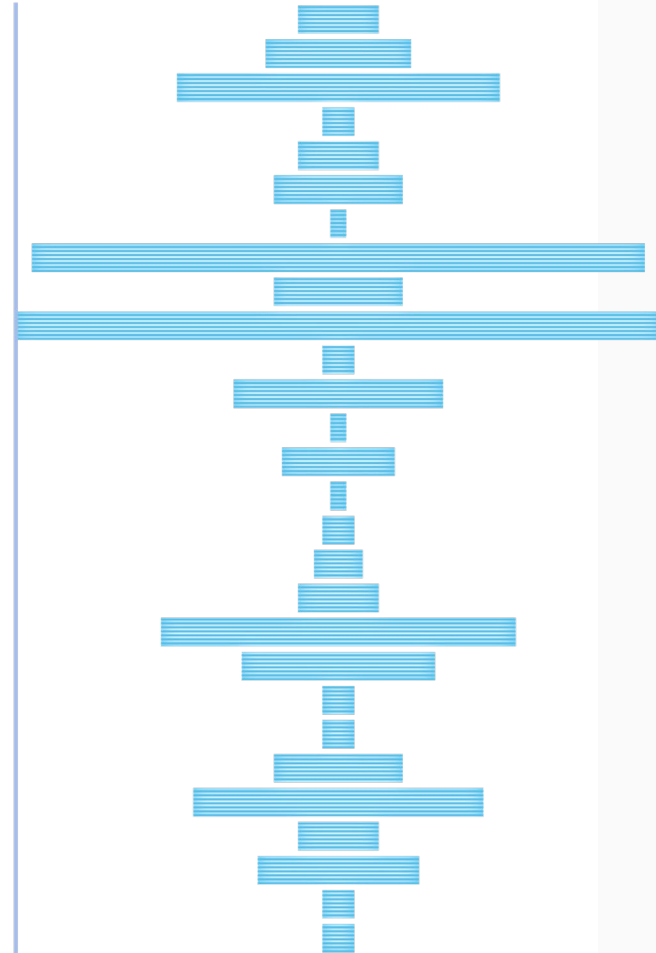
- Inherently complex process
- Points to work on...



KEY BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES

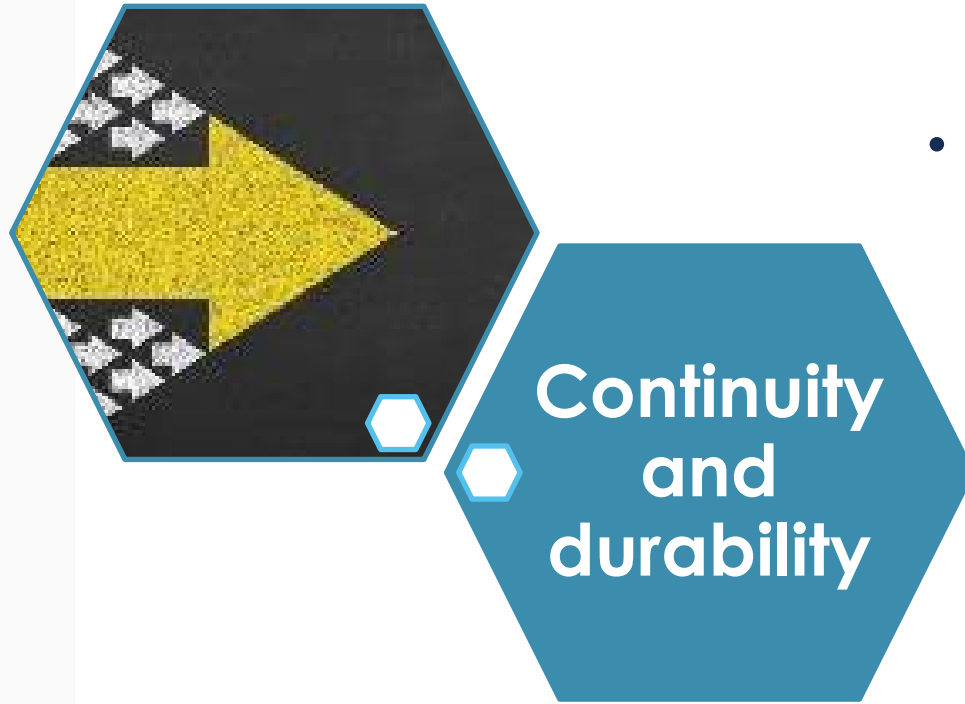
- Linguistic and cultural barriers
- Lack of understanding of the 'the other side'
- Weak political support
- Capacity

Political will
 Staff capacity
 Lack partners
 Weak local engagement
 Cultural barriers
 Lack of time
 Lack joint strategies
 Administrative culture and...
 Excessive control
 Administrative complexity
 Simpler and faster application
 High amount of bureaucracy.
 Lack of clarity
 Restrictive priorities and...
 Lack of long term projects
 Aversion to innovation
 Weak synergies (between...
 Limited partnership access...
 Limited funding
 Lack of prefinancing
 IT barriers
 Weak indicators
 Challenges for small& less...
 Lack of awareness
 Weak follow up
 Poor communication
 Overlapping programme...
 Weak impact from projects

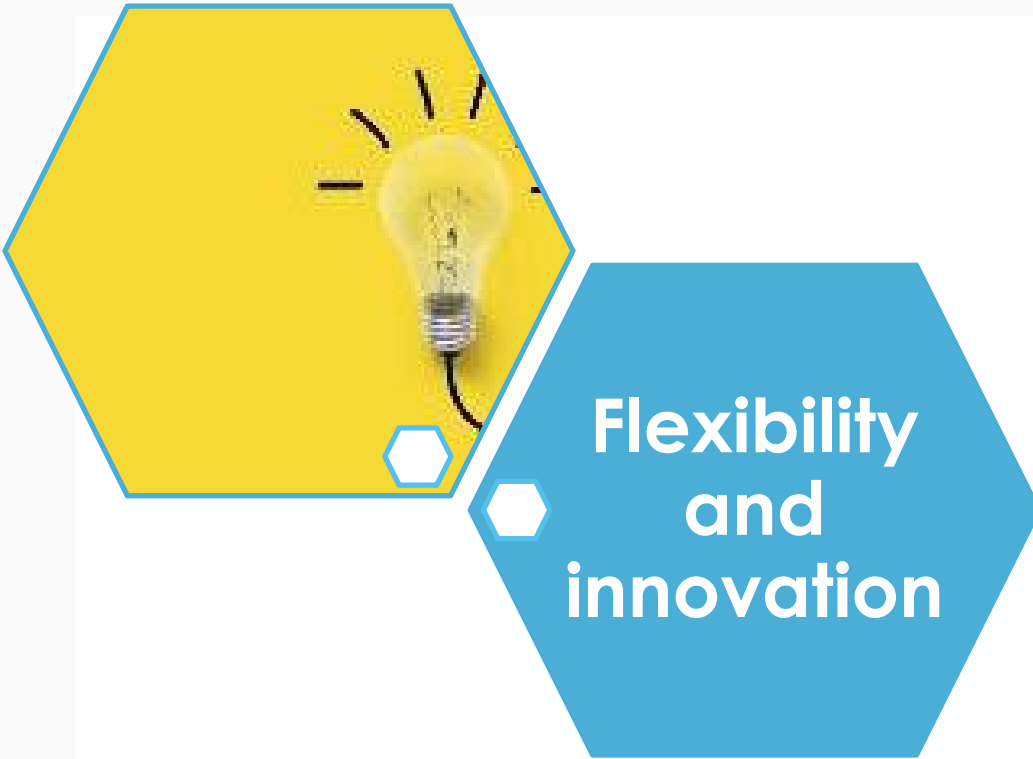


MAXIMISING PERFORMANCE





- Recognition of change and need to continually improve, but especially during periods of complex and rapid change continuity is also valued
 - Geographic
 - Thematic
 - Core implementation elements
 - Projects



- Current programme arrangements as an anchor point from which to build capacity for flexibility and innovation
 - Geographic
 - Thematic
 - Risk taking
 - Project scale
 - Partnerships



Coordination and synergies

- No one-size fits all solution and retaining flexibility is important
- Value in synergies
- Operationalisation
 - Capacity demands
 - Communication to promote and develop links



Community connections

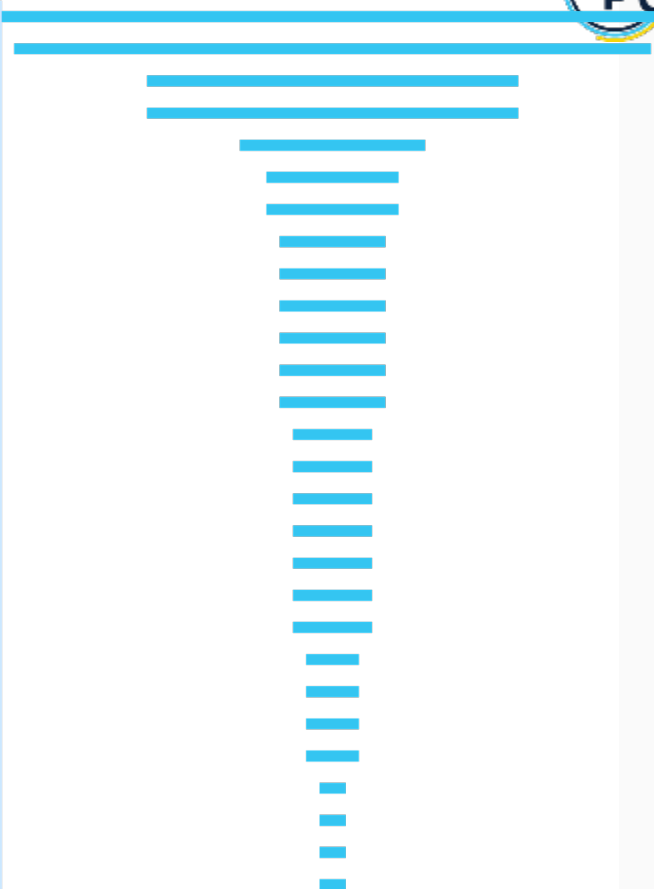
- Even more citizen participation, engagement and awareness of territorial cooperation
 - Diversifying participation
 - Youth engagement
 - Social inclusion theme
 - Links to territorial instruments
 - Public information tools
 - Study visits
 - Small Projects



Operationalisation

- Wide range of issues
- all framed within a desire for simpler and easier ways to use systems and structures

Low threshold access
 More project development...
 Pre-finance or seed money
 Simpler applications
 More SCO flat rates
 On line training
 More Digitalisation
 Reduce Audit pressures
 More consistent...
 Value of contact points
 Strengthening the...
 More frequent calls or long...
 More NGO...
 Increased harmonisation
 Higher cofinancing rates
 Better use of Evaluations
 Conceptual clarity and...
 Use English as a standard
 Scope for mentoring
 Earlier announcement of...
 More opportunities for...
 More Q&A
 Better decision making
 Project managers 'pool'
 More funding for program...
 Eligibility rule too complex
 Targeted calls
 Stronger Results focus
 Better defined roles
 Better Interreg data...
 Tailored support
 Direct incentives for...





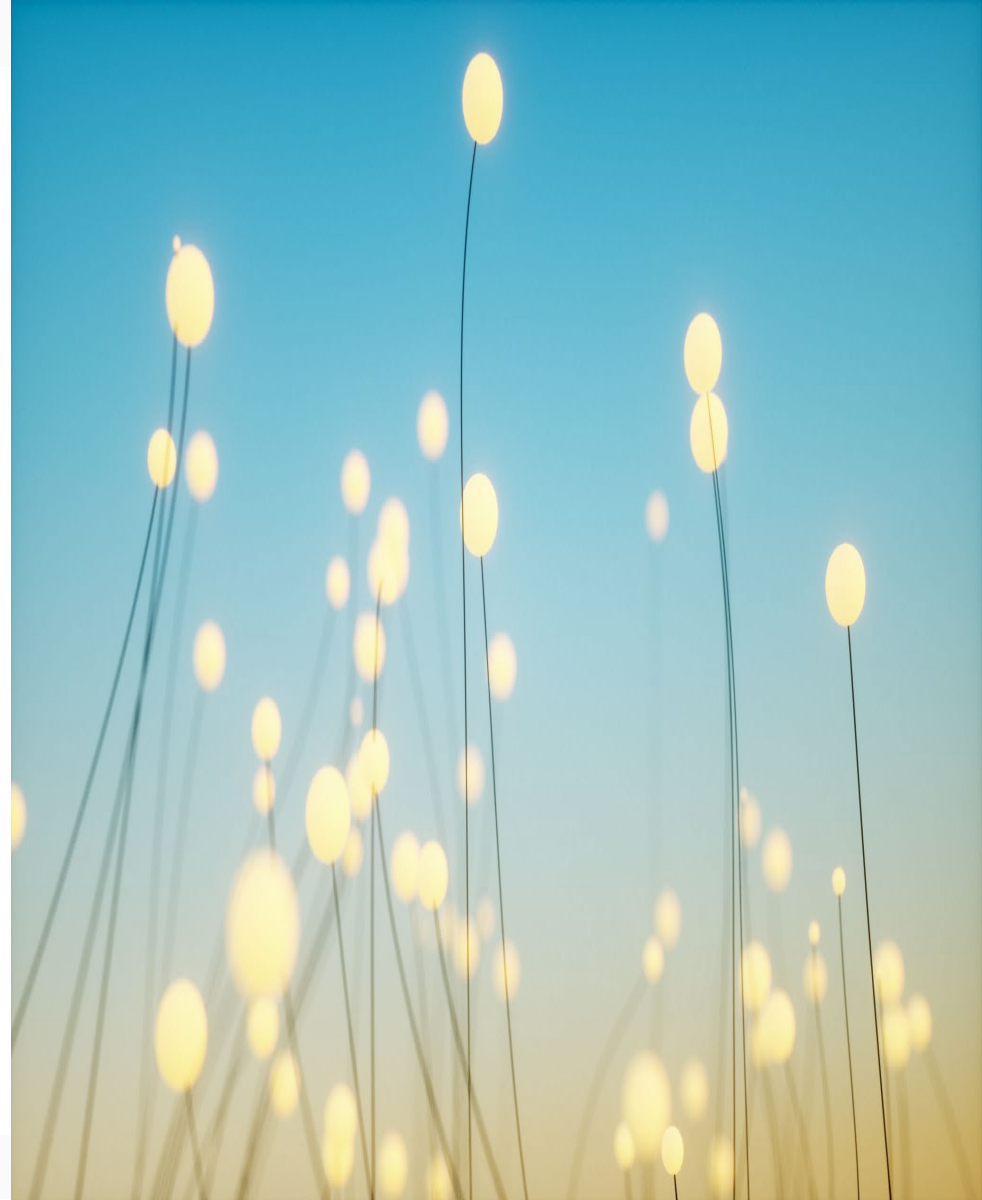
Impact

- More money
- Capacity building
- Digitalisation and tech opportunities
- Capitalisation
- Longer term perspectives
- Clarity on 'soft impacts'
- Indicators need to 'fit' Interreg



INTERREG DREAMS...

Volume and range
of ideas reflects
the wider interest
and commitment
to pursuing
territorial
cooperation in the
future...







“Initiatives to promote cultural understanding and democratic values are desired”



"Ambitious initiatives to combine the excellence of both countries in key areas such as research”



“Resilience issues ... includes crisis preparedness work, supply security, food security etc.”

Interreg GO!

27-28 March 2025

#interreg



GO! 2025
NEW TERRA TERRA

interreg



Co-funded by
the European Union

- New challenges and tensions mean that Interreg has to be stronger. Interreg is responsive and up to new challenges –
- Interreg has already proven to be a responsive tool that can adapt to change and drive positive change.
- There are challenging negotiations ahead, but support from the conference speakers highlights support for a strong Interreg.

- “strengthening the single market, competitiveness, and reform”
- “potential for more cooperation and reducing border obstacles in the future”
- “takes big ideas to communities and deliver actions on the ground on key issues like health, energy environment, emergency response and security”

- “lasting success and reaffirm that cross-border cooperation remains a core objective”
- delivering ‘a start’ and ‘up scaling projects’; builds trust but also ‘gives trust’ and empowers local communities

- “transformational power”; “adapting EU priorities to local circumstances”, “right environment for integrating economic cultural and other exchanges”; ‘win-win’ relationship” “delivering real Cohesion” ‘living labs’ for integration

- “consultation as the sign of strong local engagement in Interreg”

- “territorial cooperation is in the DNA of EU”; “essential tool to break down barriers” “solid bridges between communities”

LOTS OF IDEAS AND OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

“There are still so many dream projects to be realised in such diverse domains and with such diverse target groups and partnerships that listing them all is an impossible task. Interreg [...] is prepared to put in the work to make all these dream projects come true!”



**Thank you for your attention and for
all the input from the reports!**

