

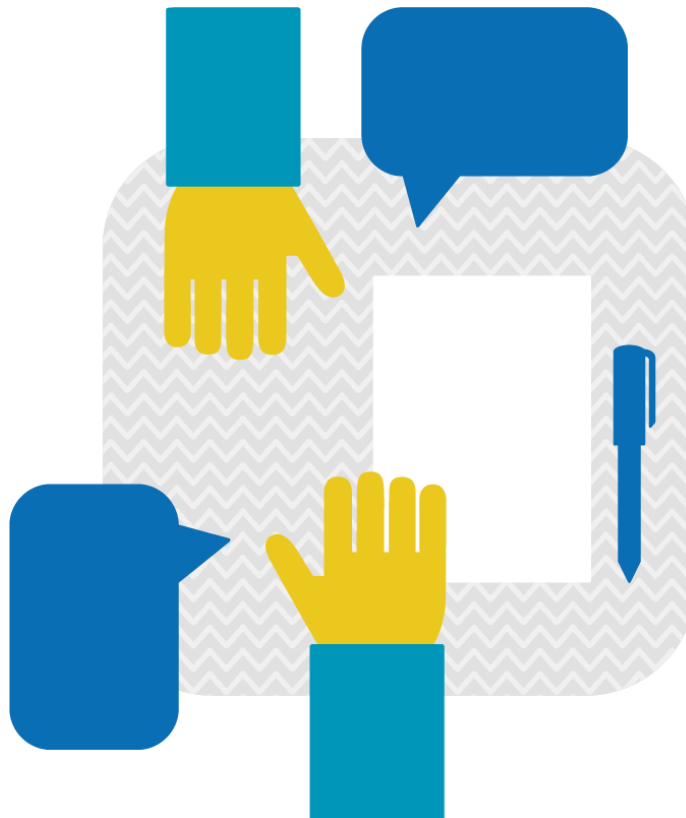
Cooperation actions: Shared knowledge towards greater impact



5-6 June 2025

Agenda

Arnhem | Netherlands





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Outlines

The programming period 2021 - 2027 has brought new challenges and opportunities for regions to extend beyond borders, reflecting the contemporary pressing needs for better synergy and cooperation between regions and funding programmes. This is reflected as well in the Investments for Jobs and Growth goal, requiring member states to include cooperation actions in each specific objective, thus expanding the range of required collaboration (Reg. EU No. 2021/1060 Art. 22 3 d) vi).

Traditionally, there has been a desire for cooperation beyond borders, but at the same time turning such ideas into real results has never been an easy path. The implementation of cooperation actions projects requires a lot of partnership effort, but also knowledge and exchange of good practices in the EU context. Oftentimes stakeholders are locked on the partnership they currently operate and lack possibilities to exchange with others, which might become the missing key for the success of their cooperation actions.

Objectives

We are reuniting to present and discuss which are the main ingredients for the successful cooperation actions recipe. It is a complex and multi-level topic, so it is important to spend some time discussing the persisting barriers and share practical solutions to overcome them. It is also important to share good practices of programmes which have already launched their cooperation actions.

During this two-day workshop, we will share practical capitalisation and communication tools and techniques, with a particular focus on setting up mechanisms for cooperation action support, discussing practical challenges related to cooperation action planning, implementation and partner identification.



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Day One

Thursday, 5 June 2025

09.00 – 09.30

Registration and Welcome Coffee / Tea

09.30 – 09.40

Greetings

Interact's Cooperation actions team and official greeting

09.40 – 10.00

Cooperation actions – state of play and key message from the European Commission

Miguel Avila, representative of DG Regional and Urban Policy, EC

Marie Croissant, representative of DG Regional and Urban Policy, EC

- Development of cooperation actions 2021-2027
- Key points from Commission's perspective

Objectives of the session: to share the common ground for cooperation actions.

10.00 – 10.30

Think East Netherlands - Interregional cooperation based on regional innovation agenda provinces Gelderland and Overijssel

Karolien de Bruine, East Netherlands Development Agency

10.30 – 11.00

Vanguard Initiative and Vinnovate - MA regional ERDF East Netherlands (provinces Gelderland and Overijssel)

Murad Bicici, Programme manager EFRO, Provincie Gelderland

11.00 – 11.30

Cooperation actions and embedding – experiences from the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

Anders Bergström, Policy Area Coordinator PA Education

11.30 – 12.00

The support to cooperation actions at national level and the “Synergies” pilot project

Monica Bellisario, Department for cohesion policies and Southern Italy, Presidency of the Council of Ministers

12.00 – 13.00

Lunch break

13.00 – 13.30

Bauhaus EUROACE - Villages for the Future

Sandra Jorge, Coordination and Regional Development Committee of Alentejo

13.30 – 14.00

Innovation Villages

Tiago Teotónio Pereira, Executive Director, Steering Committee of the Regional Programme Alentejo 2030



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14.00 – 14.15

Cooperation actions – the support of Interreg Europe

Thorsten Kohlisch – Lead Manager of the Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform

14.15 – 14.45

**Study visit to the [MA regional ERDF](#) East Netherlands
(provinces Gelderland and Overijssel)**

14.45 – 15.10

Coffee/Tea break

15.15 – 15.45

**Introduction to Interact's map tool for cooperation actions and harnessing AI
for streamlined thematic analysis**

Stoyan Kanatov, Interact

- Cooperation actions's support as an ongoing development
- Demonstration of the map tool
- How AI can help us with analysis of projects and setting up topics for cooperation actions

Objectives of the session: to inform about Interact's ongoing support

15.45 – 16.15

**Exchange on cooperation actions in the regions – what works well,
challenges and reflections on mid-term review**

Ilze Ciganska, Interact

16.15 – 16.45

Bringing cooperation actions into focus – the role of targeted communication

Nebojsa Nikolic, Interact

16.45 – 17.15

Other forms to support cooperation actions – transfer of Interreg know-how

Besiana Ninka, Interact

17.15 – 17.20

Wrap-up

19.00 – 20.00

Network dinner provided by the Province of Gelderland

Restaurant Karakter situated at: Jansplein 49, 6811 GD Arnhem

Day Two

Friday, 6 June 2025

09.00 – 09.30

Registration and Welcome Coffee / Tea

09.30 – 10.00

Introduction to Interact's consultancy service

Stoyan Kanatov, Interact

- Providing support in setting up management systems
- Consultancy to planning cooperation actions



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Filip Miličević, ESF+ MA, Croatia and Marko Opančar, Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds, Croatia

- Practical example and testimony

Objectives of the session: to introduce the benefits from Interact's service and showcase the possibility it provides for programme support

10.00 – 11.30

What are the key elements for successful cooperation action and how to transfer them post 2027 – Open discussion

11.30 – 12.00

Wrap-up

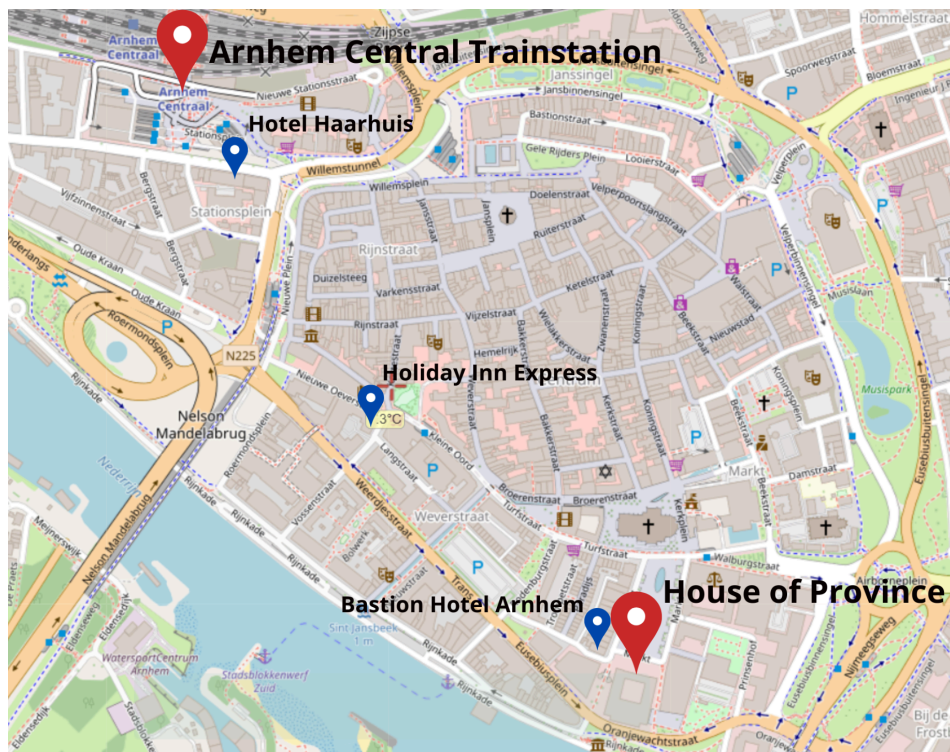
12.00 – 13.00

Coffee/Tea break

Practicalities

Venue

Point of meeting: Markt 11, 6811 CG, Arnhem, the Netherlands





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Travel

Train station Arnhem Centraal (Central) is easily accessible with a direct connection to and from the train station of Amsterdam Schiphol Airport. There are two options to get from train station Arnhem Centraal to the House of the Province, via public transport (bus) and on foot (approx. 15 min walk).

The House of Province is accessible via bus on multiple different lines, bus stop 'Eusebiuskerk' is closer to the House of Province, but has less connections from the train station.

- Bus 12 (towards IJsseloord 2), exit at busstop Eusebiuskerk
- Bus 43 (towards Apeldoorn Station via Dieren), exit at bus stop Eusebiuskerk
- Bus 2 (towards De Laar West via Kronenburg), exit at bus stop Airborneplein
- Bus 3 (towards Het Duifje), exit at busstop Airborneplein

Look for the current travel advice on www.9292.nl.

The House of Province is also easily accessible on foot. It is possible to walk through the centre of Arnhem or around it, both walks are between 15 and 20 minutes. The walk through the centre follows this route: Stationsplein – Willemsplein – Jansstraat – Grote Oord – Weverstraat – Broerenstraat – Turfstraat – Markt. Around the centre it follows: Stationsplein – Nieuwe Plein – Oeverstraat – Kleine Oord – Turfstraat – Markt. For up-to-date information about the route enter the address "Markt 11" in any map application and select walking.

Accommodation

For your stay in Arnhem we recommend one of these hotels:

- [Bastion Hotel Arnhem](#)

Address: Eusebiusplein 1A, 6811 HE, Arnhem, the Netherlands

The Bastion hotel is located right next to the House of Province which makes the location ideal for your visit to Arnhem. The hotel is easily accessible with the same options that apply to the House of Province itself, explained above.

- [Hotel Haarhuis](#)

Address: Stationsplein 1, 6811 KG, Arnhem, the Netherlands

Hotel Haarhuis is located opposite the train station Arnhem Centraal (Central). This makes the location of Hotel Haarhuis ideal with the arrival and departure of the visit to Arnhem, because there is close to no travel time to and from the train station. The location requires a small walk in the morning to get to the House of Province.

- [Holiday Inn Express Arnhem](#)



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Address: Nieuwe Oeverstraat 50, 6811 JB, Arnhem, the Netherlands

Holiday Inn Express is located in the center of Arnhem almost exactly in between the train station and House of Province. The hotel is accessible by foot from the train station. The walk from the hotel to the House of Province is 5 minutes.

Other Information

Gelderland is active in many (international) projects and cooperates a lot with the province of Overijssel via [Think East Netherlands](#). Think East Netherlands is a collaboration promoting innovation and economic growth in the Eastern Netherlands, focusing on Gelderland and Overijssel. It emphasizes sectors like health tech, sustainability, agrifood, and energy, showcasing regional projects internationally through platforms like Horizon Europe.

[Vinnovate](#) is an interregional funding mechanism launched by the Vanguard Initiative, promoting collaboration between SME's and research centres. It focuses on industry-led innovation projects across all regions, aiming for a smarter, more sustainable and autonomous industries. Gelderland participates as part of the Think East Netherlands.

[Visit Arnhem](#) is the official tourism organization promoting the city of Arnhem and its surroundings. Arnhem is known for its rich history and stunning nature is to be found just outside the city. Visit Arnhem focuses on sustainable tourism combined with local experiences, encouraging visitors to enjoy regional product, green initiatives and the surroundings of the city itself.