

Programming | August 2026

The overall timeline for Interact support to programmes in the programming phase can be interpreted loosely as below. This is subject to revision based on the overall progress towards the future period.

Date	Early 2026	Late 2026	Early 2027	Late 2027
Interact tools	Ia: Launch of key tools (i.e. HIT)	Ia: Key tool progress	Ia: Launch of first 2028-2034 tools	Ia: Adoption and start date
Interreg "frontrunners"	Programming committees	Programming committees	Preparation of first calls	Adoption and start date

Interact's Post 2027 projects

Programming	Launched in April 2026
Intervention logic	Launched in November 2025
Performance-Based Approach	Launched in February 2026
Harmonised Implementation Tools	Launched in February 2026
Joint Electronic Monitoring System	Undergoing pre-preparation

Programming

Interact's work on Programming looks at all the phases of the programming process. It is supported by specialised work on key topics. It aims to ensure effective programming beyond individual tools or specific functions of programming.

The kick-off meeting took place on 30 April (online). The discussions in the event developed the key paper setting out the challenges and needs of programmes on this topic: [Interact | 2028-2034 Programming preparation process - challenges and needs](#)

Additional resources for Programming

The majority of Interreg programmes have an external basis for a first orientation to take forward. These take the form of:

- ESPON Border studies analysis for **Internal Cross-border programmes**: <https://www.espon.eu/news/collecting-and-analysing-data-post-27-interreg>
- EC Publication 'Interreg Transnational Programmes: needs and opportunities for the future cooperation' for all **Transnational Programmes** <https://www.espon.eu/projects/tncoop-interreg-transnational-programmes-needs-and-opportunities-future-cooperation>

The webpage with the latest information and additional resources is available here: [Interact | Programming](#)

Performance-Based Approach (P-BA)

Please note: There is speculation that the terminology of P-BA may be adjusted in the near future. We anticipate the change is to the terminology, and that the methodology developed will remain. Until a new terminology is announced, Interact will continue to work with P-BA, and payments linked to measures, with targets and milestones.

The Performance-based approach (P-BA) is the financing mechanism proposed by the draft regulatory package that will apply to Interreg in the 2028-2024 period.

For those starting with P-BA, the basic principles are summarised [here](#). Interact also holds regular P-BA in Interreg: the basics workshops. Four were held in the first half of 2026, and more are planned for after the summer break (dates to be confirmed).

Interact has been supported by a working group of programmes to consider how P-BA could apply to Interreg. An update on the group's activities was presented in [February 2026](#), and examples of measures developed by group-members were presented in [June 2026](#).

However, there are many opportunities for all programmes to participate in evolving discussions. Already events open to all programmes have taken place related to the following topics: [costing](#) and [pay-out values](#); [control and audit](#); and the [compatibility of P-BA with Interreg's features of innovation and experimentation](#). The outcomes of these events, as well as general information regarding Interact's activities on P-BA, and all upcoming events can be found on the [dedicated website page](#). The work and discussions will continue in the second semester of 2026 (after the summer break) and in 2027. All programmes are invited to join the work and the discussions.

Intervention logic

The kick-off meeting for discussions on the Intervention logic took place in November 2025. This started with a reflection on the building blocks of the intervention logic, covering both the general and specific objectives, measures, as well as output and result indicators, milestones, and targets. The [Presentation](#) and [Recording](#) of the event are available.

In the coming months the work follows two tracks. At a programme level, the development of measures and milestones as part of a programme-level Intervention strategy is being developed. On a project level work, the work is discussed within the HIT structure specified below.

Updated information about the Intervention logic is available on the [Performance-based approach webpage](#) as well as the [Programme evaluation and indicators](#).

HIT

Unlike past editions which utilised a Core Group to follow all topics, Interact is seeking to work with all interested programmes on different HIT areas, enabling programmes to choose the areas they want to be involved in developing, and the amount of time and energy they are able to contribute, without requiring an equal commitment to other aspects of HIT.

There are nine areas for discussion that are currently open, and five more waiting to launch:

HIT group	Description
Intervention logic	A first, HIT event on the intervention logic is foreseen in September.
Administrative project and partner data	Specifically data fields to identify a project and a partner within different templates based on requirements laid down in Article 63 (1). Second meeting has taken place in June 2026 a next one will be planned once there is more clarity on the regulation.
Project communication	All project communication requirements within the specific project templates. A first meeting was done in ICON in May 2026
Synergies and capitalisation	This group will work on harmonizing the sections on Synergies and capitalisation, starting with the application form.
Project relevance	Covering impact on the territory (territoriality incl. instruments), target groups and stakeholders, investments (not in the P-BA sense).
Partnership and project management	Focussing on the Application form and Assessment sections related to Partnership, as well as all project management related sections and horizontal principles. A first meeting was carried out in June 2026 a follow up meeting is planned in September
Budget and co-financing	Focussing on the project budget and co-financing. This group will start in September with the performance-based method and shall afterwards also address the traditional way at lower level.
Legal principles	Focussing on all legal principles within project management, such as antifraud, state aid, conflict of interest, public procurement, etc. This group has started with the State aid plugin during Interfin in May 2026.
Technical feasibility	Technical topics will be collected in the dedicated channel during the HIT development process, a meeting may follow.

Practitioners wishing to participate able to join the [MS Team space](#) devoted to this project.

If you wish to see a more detailed general update, [HIT 2028-2034](#) has a designated space on the website.

Jems

Interact is keen to provide a Monitoring System for the Interreg community, such as is provided by Jems in the current period. An in-principle decision has been agreed at both the [Monitoring and Programming Committee level](#), to begin the process of providing Jems.

In the first months, the project is in preparation mode, with many aspects of the work being developed to understand what can be delivered in a first phase (by the current Interact IV programme), in time for Interreg to run first calls.

A timeline is under review, which would see an updated and adapted version of Jems available to programmes in time for first calls in 2028.

It is important to note that Jems will continue to follow the approach agreed by HIT. Additionally, HIT is being updated and adapted to better reflect the process-thinking that would underpin the adapted monitoring software.

Disclaimer: Cooperation can be complex, and while Interact's job is to make it easier, Interact cannot offer assurances on the accuracy of our pan-European information in any specific context.

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 31.08.2026
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Interact



Co-funded by
the European Union
Interreg