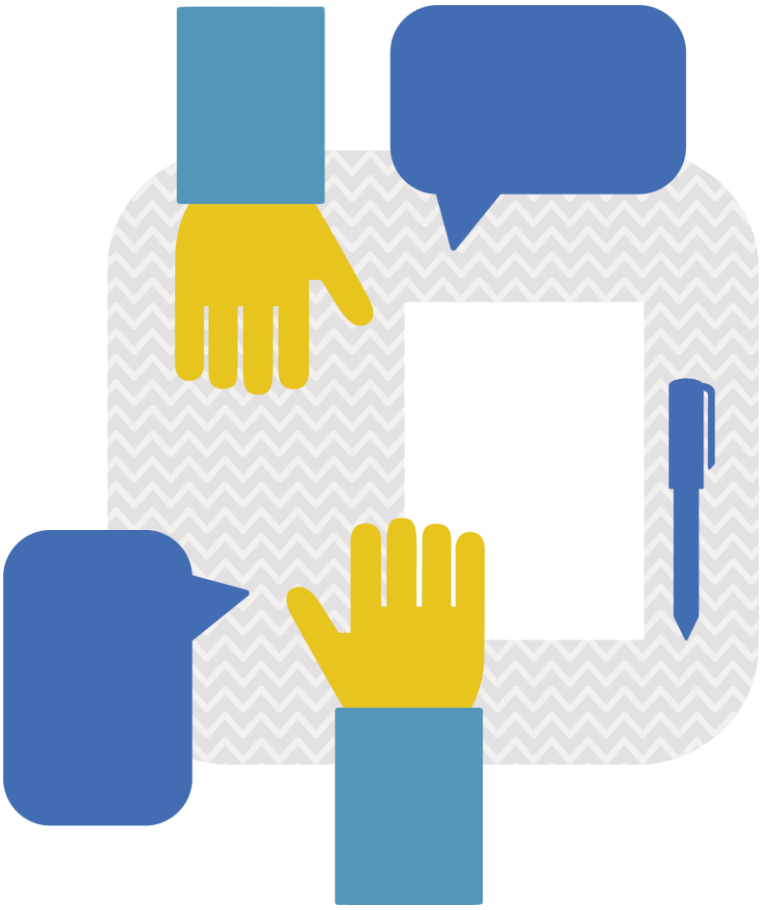
Interact

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3rd Interreg IPA Finance Meeting

24 – 25 November 2026
Vienna | Austria

Agenda





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Outline

Interact is excited to announce the 3rd Finance Meeting for Interreg IPA programme practitioners, which will take place in Vienna from 24 to 25 November 2026.

Building on the success of two previous editions, this year's event will again provide a dedicated platform for practitioners involved in the financial management of Interreg IPA programmes - namely financial officers from managing authorities and joint secretariats, representatives of national authorities, as well as controllers and audit authorities (primarily from non-member states) involved in Interreg IPA programmes.

Over one and a half intensive days, the meeting will feature interactive sessions led by Interact experts and experienced practitioners from various Interreg IPA programmes. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss recent developments in financial management with representatives from the European Commission, share experiences and lessons learned, and engage in problem-solving activities.

A key focus will be the outlook to the 2028-2034 programming period. For Interreg IPA programmes this means two big changes at once – a new set-up for cohesion funding with a performance focus and a new instrument for pre-accession support. The meeting offers an early, practical look at what both could mean for financial management.

By bringing together practitioners from different programmes and countries, the IPA Finance Meeting aims to create a collaborative learning environment where knowledge is shared, challenges are addressed collectively and innovative approaches are explored.

Objectives

The event facilitates the exchange of practical experience in the financial management of Interreg IPA programmes. It addresses the everyday challenges financial managers face and offers a space to work through concrete solutions together, while building participants' skills through interactive, hands-on sessions. The emphasis throughout is on practice rather than theory, empowering participants to manage their responsibilities effectively.



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Day One — Tuesday, 24 November 2026

08:30 – 09.00 Registration

09.00 – 09.15 **Welcome and Introduction**
Interact

09.15 – 09:45 **Introduction by DG Regio**
Moray Gilland, European Commission, DG Regio, Head of Unit D1

09.45 – 11.00 **Management Verifications in Interreg IPA programmes: comparing risk-based approaches**
Interact and Interreg IPA programmes
This session explores how programmes carry out risk-based management verifications with particular attention to where member-state and non-member-state setups still differ, and what each side can learn from the other.

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee/Tea break

11.30 – 12.30 **Eligibility of expenditure and SCOs**
Interact and Interreg IPA programmes
This session takes stock of the eligibility questions in Interreg IPA programmes, and what SCOs are actually delivering in practice.

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch break

13.30 – 14.45 **Improving financial performance together**
Interact and Interreg IPA programmes
Good financial performance means spending on time without creating problems later. In this interactive workshop, participants will look at the performance of their own programmes and best practices to improve it.

14:45 – 15:15 Coffee/Tea break

15.15 – 16.30 **2028-2034: new rules for Interreg**
Interact
The 2028-2034 MFF proposals reshape cohesion delivery with a shift to a performance framework. The pre-accession support moves into the new Global Europe instrument. This session maps the emerging framework and what it could mean in practice for financial management.



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Day Two — Wednesday, 25 November 2026

09.30 – 12.30 **Roles and responsibilities in Interreg IPA programmes**

Interact and Interreg IPA programmes

This interactive workshop focuses on the roles and responsibilities in Interreg IPA programmes: managing authorities, joint secretariats, national authorities, and the control and audit functions. Together, we will look at how roles and responsibilities are set up in the current period and what makes programme implementation work well.

Building on Day One, we will discuss how the new legislative framework may change these roles. We will also look at how programme bodies can work together across borders to deliver results and ensure sound financial management from the start of the new period.

Incl. Coffee/Tea break

12.30 – 13.00 **Wrap-up, Next steps and Closure of the event**