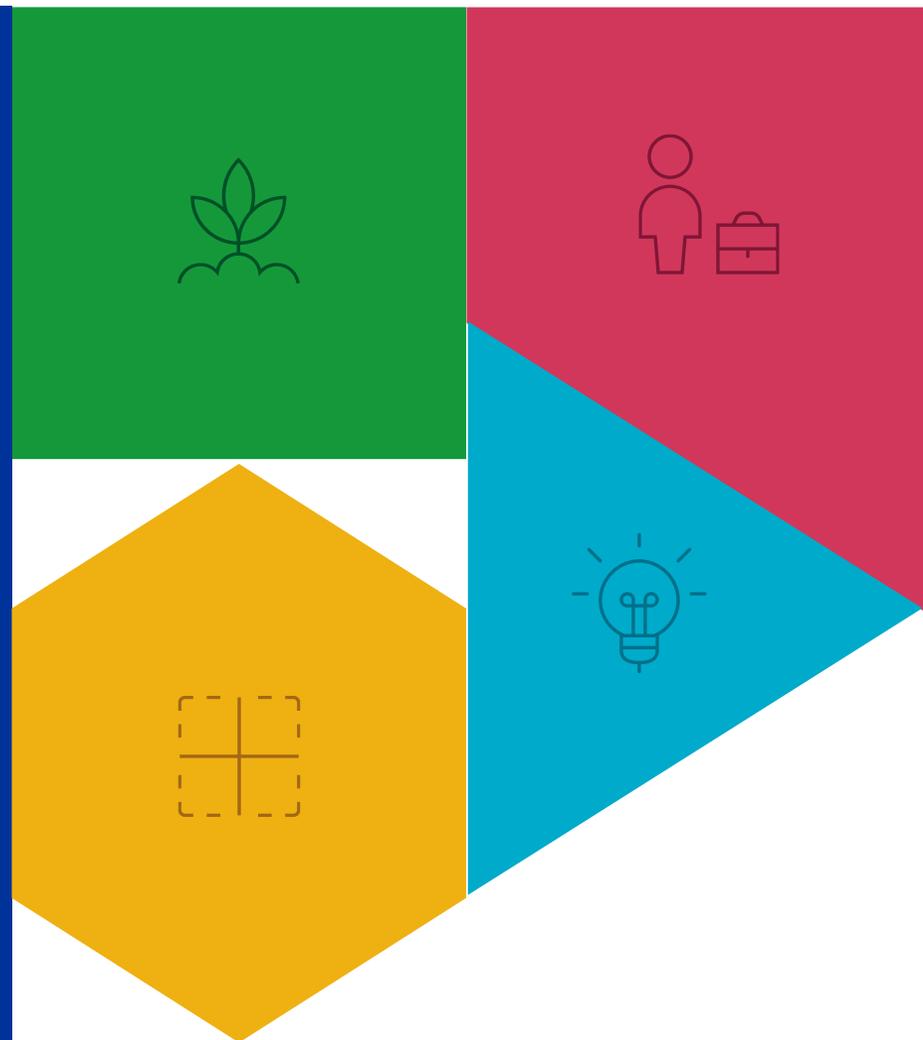




# Project partnership models in Interreg Belgium-Netherlands

23-05-2023



# Overview

1. Interreg Belgium - Netherlands
2. Evolution in partnership models
3. PPL structure (IV+V)
4. Partnership models VI
5. Questions

# 1. Interreg Belgium - Netherlands

- Context:
  - 10 million inhabitants
  - 23.746 km<sup>2</sup>



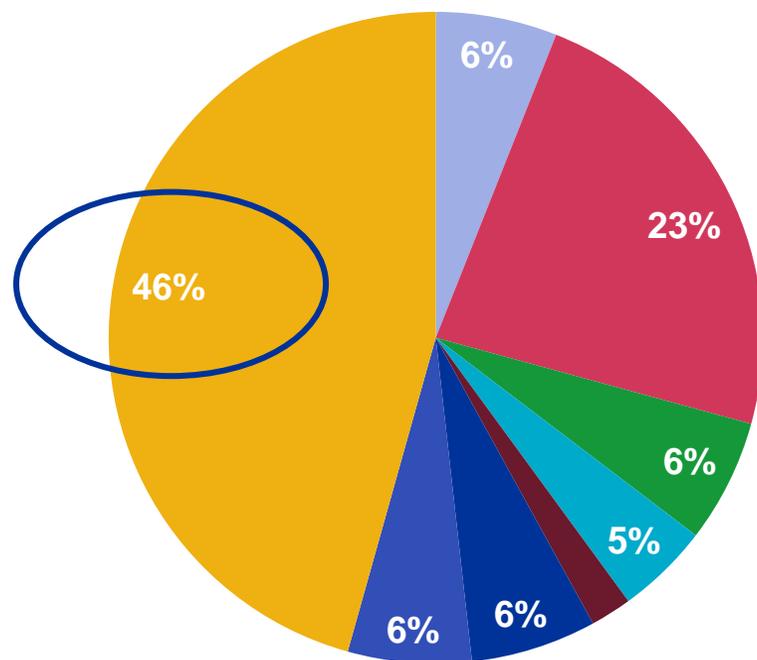
# 1. Interreg Belgium - Netherlands

- Budget and projects Interreg V
  - 150 million EUR ERDF
  - 95 projects
- Budget and projects Interreg VI
  - 200 million EUR ERDF
  - 12 projects approved so far
  - 50 projects in 'stage two'



# 1. Interreg Belgium - Netherlands

Total



- civil society (sectoral or employer associations, environmental organizations,...)
- education or research institution

■ large enterprise

■ local authority

■ national or regional authority

■ other type of organization

■ provincial authority

■ SME



## 2. Evolution in partnership models

- Up to Interreg III: only 'regular' partnerships
- Interreg IV+V: regular + 'project partners light (PPL)'
- Interreg VI: regular + open + SPF



### 3. PPL structure - origin

- project CrossRoads
- 07/2010 – 12/2014
- Executed by regional development agencies
- € 3,5 million ERDF
- 25 innovation subprojects by SMEs
- Max. € 150.000 ERDF / subproject
- Model copied + direct successors

### 3. PPL structure - characteristics

- Project application by initial partnership
- Specific budget for PPLs + description of tasks PPLs
- PPL manual:
  - = regulatory framework (e.g. selection procedure, max. ERDF,...)
  - to be approved by MA
- Partnership selects the PPLs and signs cooperation agreement
- After selection PPL acts as 'regular partner', but with separate eligibility period



### 3. PPL structure - use

- managing subsidy funds (cfr. SPF) *Interreg IV + V*
- Adding partners with 'minor' tasks in project (e.g. SMEs joining a project lead by universities) *only Interreg V*
- Interreg V: 10/95 projects

### 3. PPL structure – main lessons learned

- + successful formula for attracting SMEs
  - extra layer in project management/monitoring: risk of confusion, conflicting interpretations, delays in information flow and checks (e.g. undertaking in difficulty),...
- > Interreg VI: Crossroads operated by JS + simplification open partnership



## 4. Partnership models Interreg VI

- Regular
- Open partnership
- SPF

## 4. Partnership models Interreg VI - open

- 9/62 projects
- Content-oriented cooperation between initial partners and later joining ones
- Simplifications:
  - ~~PPL manual~~
  - ~~Separate eligibility period~~

## 4. Partnership models Interreg VI - SPF

- 1/62 projects
- One beneficiary manages the fund
- No content-oriented cooperation between the beneficiary and final recipients
- SPF manual + separate eligibility period remain
- CrossRoads: parallel 'regular' project by regional development agencies+JS for acquisition and communication

## 4. Partnership models Interreg VI – Why both?

- SPF:
  - Legal certainty (article 25 Interreg regulation)
  - Fits ‘Crossroads’
- Open:
  - SPF doesn’t fit other PPL usages (one beneficiary/max. 20%)
  - Signals that open partnerships are not forbidden
  - Room for administrative simplifications for ‘small open partnerships’

Questions?