

**Interreg
Europe**



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Key project features

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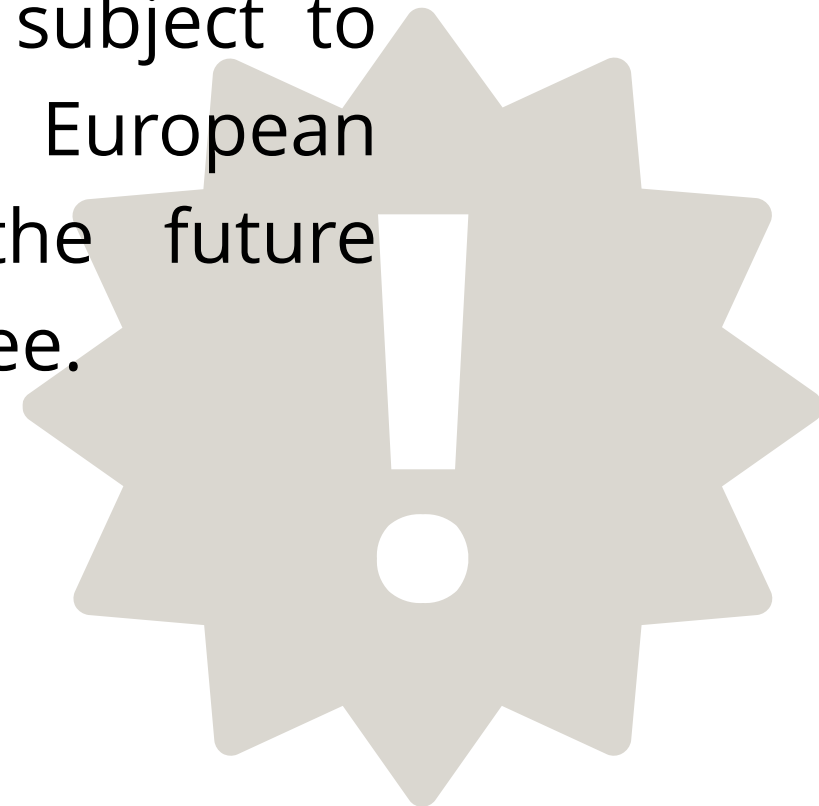
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Content

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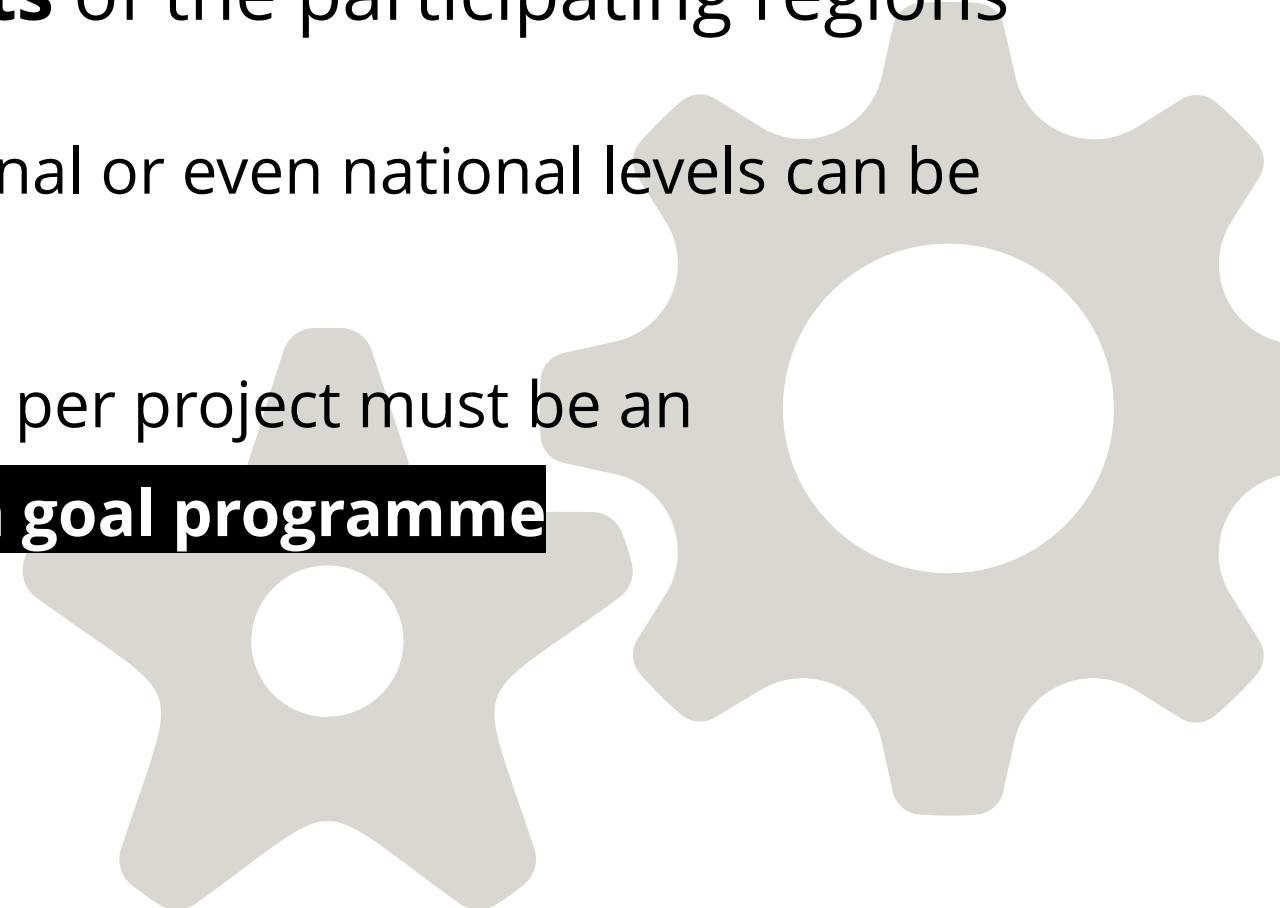
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1. Project objectives & activities

Project **objective**

Improve the **policy instruments** of the participating regions

- Public interventions at local, regional or even national levels can be addressed
- But at least **one** policy instrument per project must be an **Investment for jobs and growth goal programme**



What is a **policy instrument**



A means for **public intervention**:

- a strategy, programme or law
- developed by public authorities
- applied to improve a specific territorial situation

Investment for jobs and growth goal programmes are policy instruments.

Example of a **policy instrument**

policy responsible authority



eTrøndelag strategy is the policy for the digital development of the **Sør-Trøndelag County Council** in Norway. It was launched 10 years ago and is part of the Unit for Regional Development. It contributes to the use and exploitation of ICT across industries and sectors and consists of four areas: Digital Infrastructure, Digital Municipality, Digital Innovation and Digital Literacy.



What is a **policy improvement**



Our projects report **three types of results:**

- New projects
- Change in governance
- Change in the policy instrument itself

Example of a **policy improvement**



eTrøndelag strategy

The County Authority launched two new projects related to digitalization of local economy:

1. Industry 4.0 Trøndelag: Increasing digital skills in small and micro businesses
2. The Library: a local digital technology hub

Funds influenced: 1.5 MEUR

Inspiration from:

Peer review visit in Germany with the presentation of ICT Strategy of Saxony-Anhalt & ICT Cluster Central Germany + good practice from Latvia (Ventspils Digital Centre).

Project **activities**

- Exchange of experience & **capacity building** through identification and transfer of **good practices**
- **Pilot actions** possible from the start of the project or at mid-term (but maximum one per policy instrument)

What is a **good practice**



- A **policy-related** initiative
- Proved to be **successful** in a region
- Potential **source of inspiration** for other regions

Example of a **good practice**



'Be Circular, Be Brussels'

Launched by the Government of the Brussels Region, the project focuses on 4 sectors: food, 3R (reuse/ repair/ recycling), new business models, and **construction**.

Every year within the construction field, **calls for proposals** are launched inviting private or public actors to put forward initiatives/ projects supporting durable activities. The objective is to avoid demolition where possible and promote the **reuse of building materials** and components. Selected actors benefit from financial help (€30,000/ project), extra visibility and specific assistance in business support services at regional level.

The construction programme receives **€250,000/ year** and counts 2 full-time employees.



What is a **pilot action**



Implementation-related activities dedicated to **testing** a new public intervention approach.

Possible only under certain conditions:

- Clear contribution to policy improvements
- Clear interregional & testing character

Example of a **pilot action**



DIY kit for mini vertical gardens

The pilot action is based on experiences from partners in Greece, Spain and Portugal. It aims at improving the **SofiaGREEN Programme** by promoting **urban farming** for more efficient use of resources in urban environment.

Four **vertical garden models** are designed and built by students and teachers from the University of Architecture at the local Makerspace in Sofia (Bulgaria). The gardens are installed in **6 demo sites** and planted with herbs, spices, seeds and seedlings of vegetables and fruits.

In case of success, the city of Sofia will integrate this initiative into the revision of their new SofiaGREEN Programme for 2022-2023.



Implementation of activities

2 phases over 4-year implementation

CORE	FOLLOW UP
3 years	1 year
Exchange of experience to achieve policy improvements	Monitor policy improvements

Implementation of activities

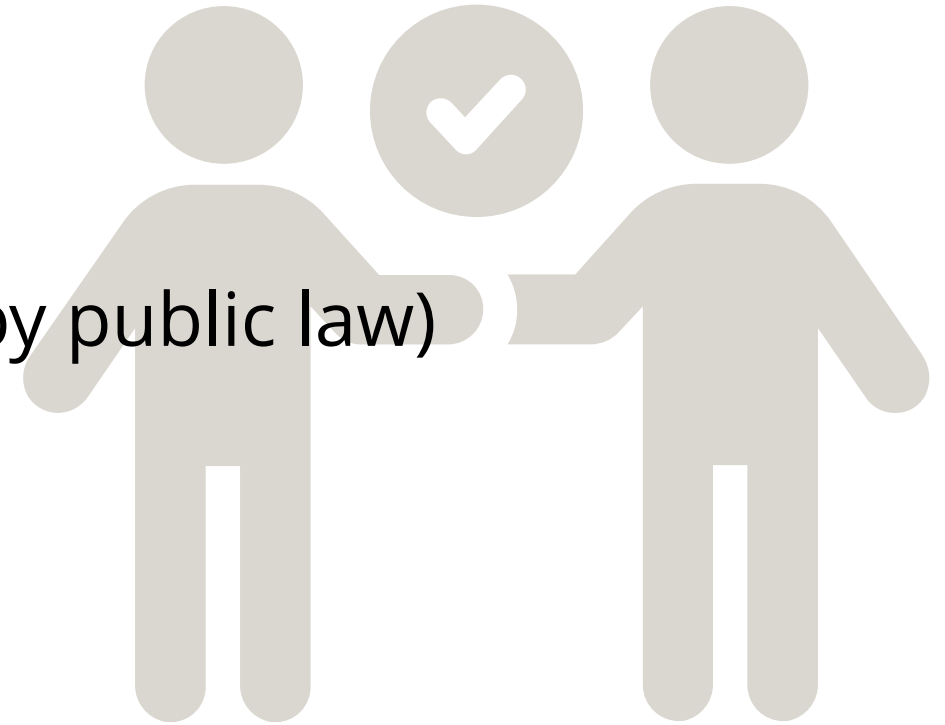
- **Action plans** only for regions which did not achieve results by end of core phase
- Some **flexibility** in the follow-up phase:
 - Up to each project to define the exact activities
 - Exchange of experience still possible

2

- Partnership
requirements

Who is **eligible**?

- **Public authorities**
- **Public law bodies** (bodies governed by public law)
- **Private non-profit bodies**



Policy relevance of partnership

Policy responsible authorities must be involved in the project:

- As **partners** for at least **50%** of the policy instruments addressed
- As **'associated policy authorities'** for the remaining policy instruments

Creation of a **stakeholder group** in each region

What is a '**policy responsible authority**'



- The **organisation in charge** of the elaboration and/or delivery of a specific **policy instrument**
- In most cases, a **public** institution

What is an **associated policy authority**



Main features:

- Officially included in the application form
- No budget - travel & accommodation costs covered by relevant project partner
- Declaration provided at the application stage
- Involvement regularly monitored during project implementation

Geographical coverage

- Broad coverage required
- Mixed between more and less advanced regions



3

- Project
finances

Co-financing rates

Co-financing rates	According to legal status or location
80% ERDF*	Public or public equivalent from the EU
70% ERDF*	Private non-profit from the EU
50% Norwegian funding	Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Norway (NO)
Swiss funding	Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Switzerland (CH)

* ERDF - European Regional Development Fund

Simplified financial rules

Cost categories	Simplification
Preparation costs	Lump sum €17,500
Staff	Fixed % of the real gross employment cost
Office & administration	Flat rate of 15% of staff costs
Travel & accommodation	Flat rate of 15% of staff costs (real cost reporting only in specific justified cases)
External Expertise and Services	
Equipment	
Infrastructure and Works	For pilots only

Plus:

- Simplified reporting, faster payments to projects
- Less control (sampling, risk-based verifications)

Time for questions



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