



## 8<sup>th</sup> Interreg Europe Programming Committee Meeting 24-25 February 2021

### Online

**Chaired by:** Portugal (PT)  
**Participants:** See Participants' List (Annex 01).  
**Decision notes:** Interreg Europe JS

<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome, opening and approval of the agenda</b>
	<p><b>PT chair</b> opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.</p> <p><b>Decision</b> The agenda of the 8<sup>th</sup> programming committee (PC) meeting was approved (Annex 02).</p>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Presentation of new PC members</b>
	New PC member from <b>DE</b> presented herself to the committee.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Update programme preparation &amp; post 2020 negotiations</b>
	The <b>EC</b> informed the programme about the (preliminary) budget of 379 MEUR and that the shares among the four pan-European programmes stayed more or less the same. The Regulations are under linguistic and technical revisions for finalisation and are expected to be published by beginning of June.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Update on SEA</b>
	<p>The <b>SEA expert</b> presented the SEA state of play (Annex 03.1). Then the <b>MA</b> presented the changes in the French legislative framework regarding SEA and confirmed that Interreg Europe will be exempted from the SEA, through a decree expected to be published in May 2021 (Annex 03.2).</p> <p><b>Conclusion</b> <b>JS</b> will provide <b>EC</b> with a text to be confirmed by the EC (DG Environment) that the French law applies to all Partner States (PS) and that the SEA can stop in all of them.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Cooperation Programme, Version 4 (CP V4): presentation and approval process</b>
	<p>The <b>experts</b> presented the overview of version 4 of the CP and its approval process (Annex 04).</p> <p><b>JS</b> announced that a consultation webinar will take place on 24 March. PC members are welcome to participate. The main target groups are the lead partners and the partner institutions in Brussels. The webinar tool has a limitation of 500 participants, but there will be a solution if more participants register. The aim of the webinar is to explain the changes in the programme compared to 2014-20, allow for exchange with the audience, and promote the survey that will be launched.</p>



<b>6.</b>	<b>CP V4 preliminary approval: performance framework and section 2.1.1.2</b>  <b>JS</b> presented the updated proposal for the performance framework of the new Cooperation Programme and opened the discussion for comments (Annex 05).  <b>Decision</b> The performance framework was approved.
<b>7.</b>	<b>CP V4 preliminary approval: remaining sections excluding Section 3 on Financing plan</b>  <b>Chapter 1 - Programme strategy</b>  The <b>experts</b> presented the updated contents of Chapter 1 and the latest comments sent by PS before the PC meeting.  <b>Conclusion</b> Following the compromise approach, the <b>Chair</b> and the <b>JS</b> suggested to delete the following reference 'issues directly related policy instrument implementation are part of group 2'. Instead, the decision to which group a project dedicated to such a topic belongs, will be made by the MC in a later stage.  All <b>PS</b> agreed to the proposal and therefore chapter 1 was preliminarily approved.  <b>Chapters 2 – Priorities, 4 – Involvement of programme partners, and 5 – Communication and Visibility.</b>  The <b>experts</b> presented the updates in these chapters.  <b>Decision</b> There were no additional comments at the PC meeting and the 3 chapters were preliminarily approved.  <b>Chapter 6 – Support to small-scale projects</b>  The <b>experts</b> presented the updates in the chapter.  <b>Decision</b> The following revised text was proposed and preliminarily approved during the meeting. <i>“Although this paragraph does not apply to Strand C Interreg programmes, Interreg Europe will still support smaller scale cooperation initiative through the Policy Learning Platform and the participation of smaller scale organisations in projects (e.g. through the stakeholder groups). It will not use small project funds (as defined in Article 24 of the ETC Regulation) which are not adapted to the programme’s overall objective, types of supported actions and geographical scale of project partnerships.”</i> <b>NB:</b> It will be uploaded in SFC if this possibility exists.  <b>Chapter 7 - Implementing provisions</b>  The <b>experts</b> presented the updates in chapter 7.  <b>Decision</b> Chapter 7 of the version 4 of the cooperation programme was preliminary approved.  <b>Chapter 8 - Use of unit costs</b>  The <b>experts</b> presented the chapter.



	<p><b>Decision</b> Chapter 8 was preliminary approved.</p> <p><b>Summary of the preliminary decision</b> Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 were preliminarily approved with the integration of modifications as discussed and concluded above.</p>
<b>8.</b>	<b>CP V4 preliminary approval: section 3. 'Financing plan'</b>
	<p>The <b>JS</b> presented the financing plan and underlying assumptions (Annex 07).</p> <p><b>Decision</b> The programming committee preliminarily approved:</p> <p>1) The following co-financing rates for interregional projects and private funding allocation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 80% ERDF co-financing rate for public and public law bodies</li><li>- 70% ERDF co-financing rate for non-profit private partners</li><li>- 10.2 MEUR of national project funding from private sources</li></ul> <p>2) A budget of 17 MEUR for Policy Learning Platform financed at 100% from the ERDF.</p> <p>It was agreed to postpone to the next meeting the decision on 3) TA budget principle and national contributions (TA budget corresponding to 8% of the project budget and financed at 80% from the ERDF and 20% from national contributions).</p>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Update on Programme monitoring system</b>
	<p><b>JS</b> updated the PS that a tender to select an IT company for the development of the future Interreg Europe monitoring system was launched on 7 December 2020 and was closed on 8 January 2021. The finalisation of the selection and the notification of award is expected in March and the PS will be updated accordingly.</p>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Timeline (update)</b>
	<p><b>JS</b> presented the provisional timeline for the next steps (Annex 08).</p> <p><b>Decision</b> An ad-hoc PC meeting will be organized on Thursday 27 May to allow sufficient time for discussion of TA and other pending strategic points e.g. monitoring system as needed. The timeline will also be updated accordingly.</p>
<b>11.</b>	<b>Any other business</b>
	<p>There was no any other business.</p> <p><b>JS</b> and <b>Chair</b> thanked the participants for this fruitful meeting.</p>
	<p><b>End of Meeting</b></p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> To ensure transparency of the Programming Committee meetings, the decision notes are published on the Interreg Europe's website. Annexes as mentioned in the notes can be requested by email: <a href="mailto:info@interregeurope.eu">info@interregeurope.eu</a></p>