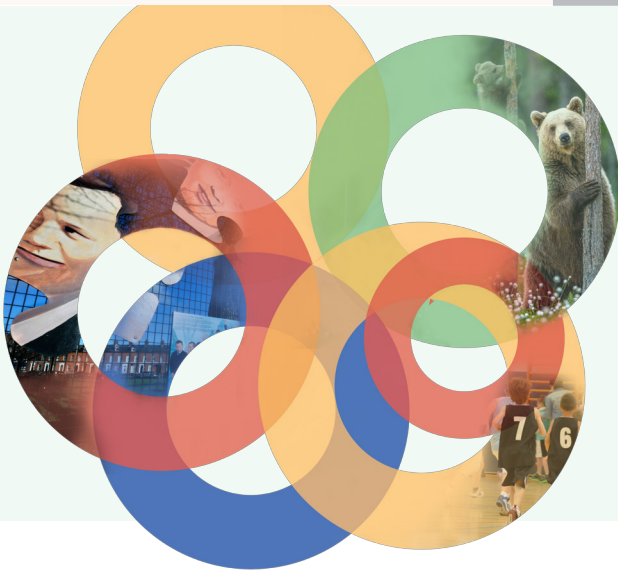




European
Commission



Interreg

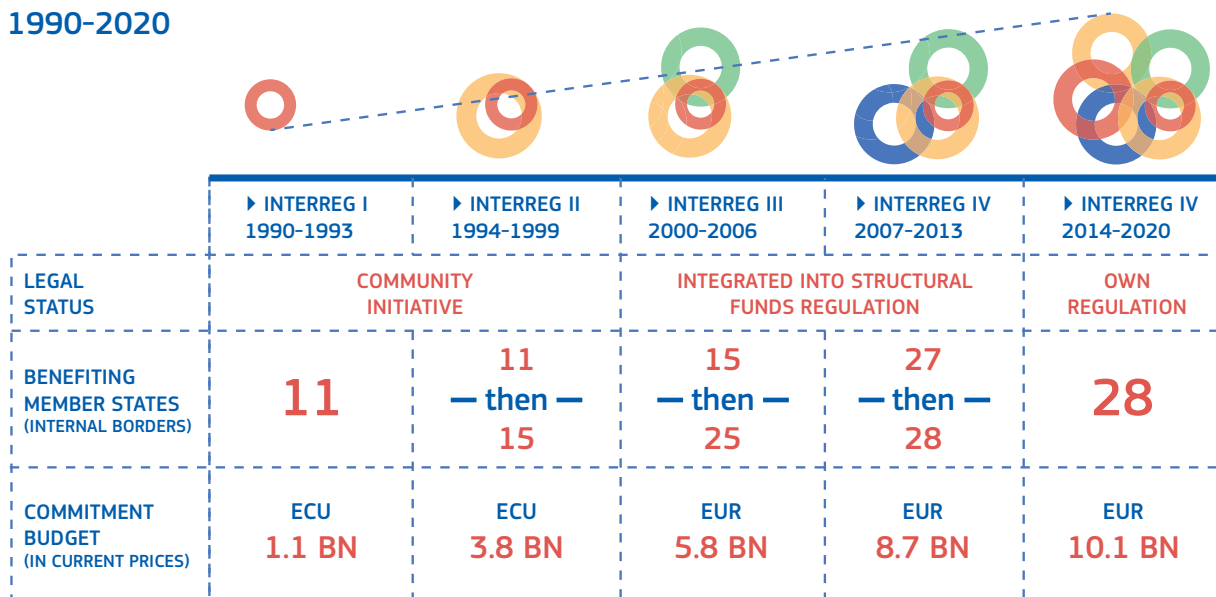
30 years of cooperation
across borders

#Interreg #Interreg30 #CohesionPolicy #NoRegionBehind

Interreg is the EU's flagship scheme for cooperation across borders at regional and national level, to the benefit of all EU citizens. Launched in 1990, it has proven that borders are not barriers and has brought Europeans closer together by helping to tackle common challenges and creating new opportunities for cooperation across borders.

Key figures

► EVOLUTION OF INTERREG 1990-2020



Regional and
Urban Policy

Interreg is about cooperation between communities, regions and countries in the EU & its immediate neighbours with:

- **60 cross-border programmes** improving citizens' lives by giving them more and better opportunities and access to services across internal borders of the EU;
- **4 interregional cooperation programmes** that foster capacity building and cooperation between urban areas and regions, across the European continent;
- **15 transnational cooperation programmes** to tackle common challenges & share good practices among countries in the same geographical area, In Europe & beyond
- **10 cooperation programmes with accession countries** (Interreg Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) Cross-Border Programmes),
- **15 cooperation programmes between EU and neighbouring countries** sharing a land border or sea crossing, (Interreg European Neighbourhood Instrument Cross-Border (ENI CBC) Programmes).

Developing a sense of community starts at a young age. Thanks to the **Interreg Volunteer Youth (IVY)** launched in 2017, around **400** volunteers between 18 and 30 years old have participated in cooperation programmes and projects. IVY is also part of the European Solidarity Corps.

Going beyond Interreg, Macro Regional Strategies also help boosting cooperation in Europe, and in particular in the Baltic (EUSBSR), the Danube (EUSDR), the Adriatic-Ionian (EUSAIR) and Alpine (EUSALP) areas, with the specific objective to tackle common challenges, multiply funding opportunities, and concentrate resources.

Success stories

Safeguarding peace between regions that have a history of conflict & preserving cultural heritage to remember lessons from the past

Historically, European border areas have been conflict areas. Interreg has helped many of these places overcoming their historic conflicts and join forces to ensure peace.



In Northern Ireland, the Interreg programme PEACE IV supports the "Conflict Transformation Project". Led by the Bloody Sunday Trust, this project provides support, resources and expertise to people and organisations who wish to build on the experience gathered in Derry/Londonderry, a city which has years of experience in addressing the issues and legacy related to "Bloody Sunday". Since many similar issues remain unresolved and continue to cause social tension elsewhere in Northern Ireland, the project plans to use the example of Derry/Londonderry as a model for bottom-up conflict resolution.



Programme: PEACE IV
EU-funding: €456,207.7

The First World War has left its marks, also in the Danube region. In their effort to honour the past and the lessons learnt, 12 EU Member States and 2 neighbouring countries (Slovenia, Czechia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Austria, Romania, Croatia, Slovakia and Bosnia and Herzegovina) joined forces to preserve First World War cultural heritage and combine it with quality cultural tourism.



Programme: Danube Transnational Programme
EU-funding: €1,588,988.29

Fostering unity and social inclusion

Interreg is also about protecting people and making sure that no one is left behind.

The project “Basket Academy”, in the cross-border region of Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg and France, does not only aim at training young basketball players, but also to open up the sport to as many young people as possible, including disabled persons or migrants, living in these four countries.



Programme: Grande Region
EU-funding: €664,674.16



The “AgriGo4Cities” project uses urban agriculture to tackle socioeconomic exclusion and stimulate sustainable urban development in cities in the Danube region. This is also a way to design and test participatory methodology in order to strengthen public institutional capacity and integrate citizens into public decision-making processes.



Programme: Danube Transnational Programme
EU-funding: € 1,253,061

Protecting biodiversity and ecosystems

Ecological issues know no borders. This is why Interreg is the ideal instrument to tackle environmental challenges.



Slovenia and Croatia share a large and unique area of continuous transboundary forests, which is the habitat of important groups of big carnivores, including 600 bears, 50 wolves and 20 lynxes. With the help of the Interreg “Carnivora Dinarca” project, the countries work together to protect these animals and their habitat. This, in turn, ensures that the biodiversity and the ecosystems in the area are being preserved.



Programme: Slovenia-Croatia
EU-funding: €1,983,897.45

The “Migra Miño – Minho” project has as a general objective to improve the protection and conservation of the river habitat of the Miño river at the border between Galicia, Spain, and the North region of Portugal. This responds to the political-social demands to improve the conservation status of migratory fish species, which will also contribute to the preservation of traditional fishing.



Programme: Spain-Portugal
EU-funding: 1.516.909,91

Promoting sustainable mobility

Being it for work, education or leisure, cross-border mobility is very frequent in Europe where one-third of the population live in border areas. Interreg helps simplifying border crossing sustainably.

The project “Mentor” aims to change the mobility of the territories of Merano and Brig-Glis through “Mobility-as-a-Service”, which provides users access to the various integrated mobility services through ICT applications.



Programme: Italy-Switzerland
EU-funding: € 989.487,34

Boosting innovation and supporting business

Interreg helps boosting innovation and technological development by overcoming border obstacles and maximising business opportunities.

The project “Ecodesign Circle” successfully introduced ecodesign thinking and acting to design centres and numerous design companies in five countries around the Baltic Sea. The project contributes to circular economy in Europe as an eco-designed product is designed in a way that it lasts long, can be easily repaired and at the end of its life, it can be rapidly disassembled and its materials can be managed through existing recycling systems without leaving behind harmful waste.



Programme: Interreg Baltic Sea Region
EU-funding: € 1,537,894.66