

**Interreg  
Europe**



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# Key project features

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# Content

1. Project **objectives & activities**
2. **Partnership** requirements
3. Project **finances**

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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 level addressed
- But at least **one** policy instrument per project must be

**Investment for jobs and growth goal**



# 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**



## **Climate Toolkit 4 Business**

This online toolkit **for SMEs** was developed in Ireland by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment with the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications. It was launched in late 2021.

The toolkit provides SMEs with advice on **how to limit their environmental footprint**. It helps them consider the main pollution components of their business activity (energy, travel, materials, water) and break down their green transition into smaller components. The tool automatically generates an **action plan** for individual SME based on their consumption data.

Since its launch, close to **ten thousand users** viewed an individual climate action report for their business.

The tool development, promotion, maintenance and staff cost around **EUR 154,000**.

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/good-practices/climate-toolkit-4-business>

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**AccelerateGDT**

# 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**



## **Autonomous shuttle service**

The aim of this pilot action is to **improve the transport connectivity of suburban areas** in Vilnius and to provide access to public transport stops located outside of people's walking reach.

The pilot action will test in **three selected suburban areas** of Vilnius a 12-seat L4 autonomous electric shuttle service to escort children to/from local schools and connect adults to/from bus stops. It will **test the viability of the service**.

The Vilnius City Municipality will explore many aspects of the service before deciding **whether to scale up the solution** and include it in their **SUMP**. They will explore, for example, the vehicle model selection criteria, the impact of adverse weather conditions, the infrastructure requirements, optimal charging and routes, or operational costs.

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**EMBRACER**

# Implementation of activities

**2 phases** over 4-year implementation

<b>CORE</b>	<b>FOLLOW UP</b>
<b>3 years</b>	<b>1 year</b>
Exchange of experience to achieve policy improvements	Monitor policy improvements

# Implementation of activities

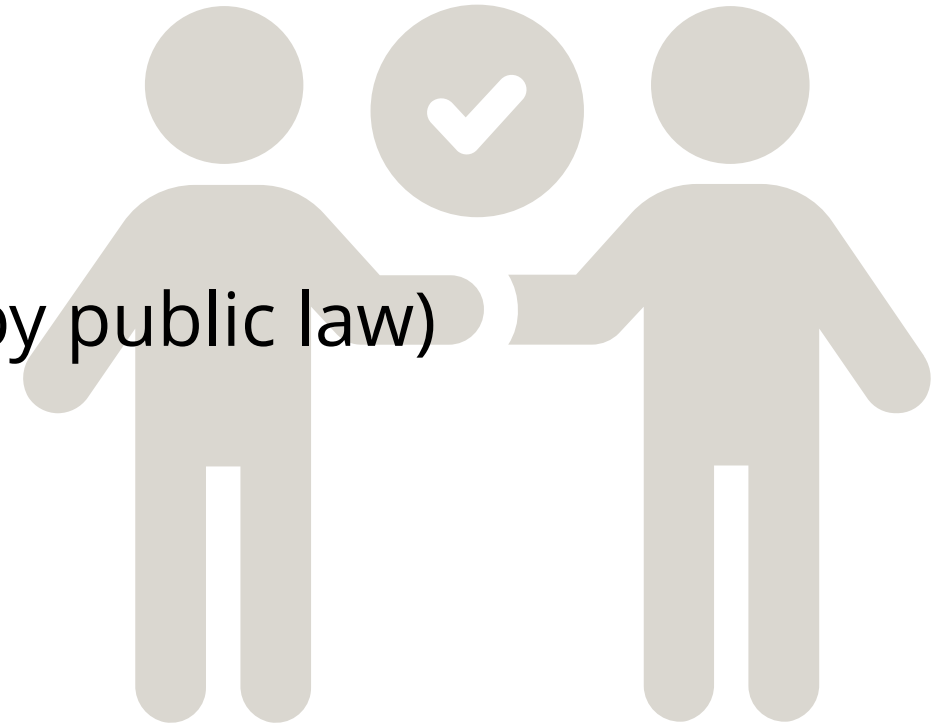
- **Action plans** no longer needed (only for regions which do not achieve results by end of core phase)
- Some **flexibility** in the follow-up phase:
  - Up to each project to define the exact activities
  - Exchange of experience still possible

# 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 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

# Discovery partner



**Rationale:** facilitate participation from the 7 new countries

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Ukraine

## **Main characteristics:**

- Lighter form of involvement: no need to address a policy instrument
- Aim: to discover interregional cooperation and learn from others
- Recommendation: max 2 per project



# Geographical coverage

- **Broad** coverage required
- **Mix** between more and less advanced regions
- **Five areas**



Geographical areas	Countries covered
<b>North</b>	Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden
<b>East</b>	Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia
<b>South</b>	Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain
<b>West</b>	Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland
<b>EU candidates</b>	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Ukraine

# 3

- Project  
**finances**

# Projects **co-financing** rates

Co-financing rates	According to legal status or location
<b>80% Interreg fund*</b>	Public or public equivalent from the EU & 7 candidate countries*
<b>70% Interreg fund*</b>	Private non-profit from the EU & 7 candidate countries*
50% Norwegian fund	Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Norway (NO)
Swiss fund	Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Switzerland (CH)

\* Subject to revised CP approval

# Simplified financial rules

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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