

# Cooperation actions: How to bring down barriers to build sustainable partnerships among EU IJG Goal Managing Authorities



02-03 July 2024

Agenda

Palermo | Italy





## **Cooperation actions: How to bring down barriers to build sustainable partnerships among EU IJG Goal Managing Authorities**

**02-03 July 2024**

Palermo | Italy

### **Outlines**

In a time when regional challenges extend beyond borders, the need for joint efforts is more pressing than ever. Traditionally, there has been a desire for better synergy and cooperation between regions and funding programmes, but turning these plans into real results has often been a tough challenge. The programming period from 2021 to 2027 has highlighted this goal, requiring member states to include cooperation actions in each specific objective, thus expanding the range of required collaboration (Reg. EU No. 2021/1060 Art. 22 3 d) vi).

However, the implementation of cooperation actions projects requires a lot of partnership effort and also knowledge and exchange of good practices in the EU context. Oftentimes stakeholders are locked on the partnership they currently operate and lack possibilities to exchange with others, which might become the missing key for the success of their cooperation action.

We are reuniting to present and discuss different ways how to bring down barriers to build sustainable partnerships with cooperation actions. It is a complex and multi-level topic, so it is important to spend some time discussing your persisting barriers and share practical solutions to overcome them. It is particularly important as programmes are now briskly stepping into the implementation of the current programming period.

During this two-day workshop, we will share practical capitalisation and communication tools and techniques, with a particular focus on setting up mechanisms for cooperation action support, discussing practical challenges related to cooperation action planning, implementation and partner identification.

### **Objectives**

This workshop aims to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and foster collaboration among programme officers managing Investment for Jobs and Growth programmes, specifically those responsible for coordinating cooperation actions and having their role in embedding cooperation.

Through these dynamic sessions, we aim to address common challenges, encourage you to make the most of Interest's tools supporting the cooperation actions - Interactive map tool, coaching and expert assistance, Guidelines on cooperation actions and publication on current good practices in the field. It will also serve as a basis for further coordination and harmonisation of the approach to cooperation actions, and as a good occasion to meet your future partner.

The event is intended towards Managing Authorities of national or regional programmes of the Investment for Jobs and Growth goal with the intention to start building-up active cooperation action partnerships in 2024 and 2025, and proceed with their implementation in 2025.



## Cooperation actions: How to bring down barriers to build sustainable partnerships among EU IJG Goal Managing Authorities

02-03 July 2024

Palermo | Italy

### Day One

**Tuesday, 02 July 2024**

**09.30 – 10.00**

Registration and Welcome Coffee / Tea

**10.00 – 10.15**

#### **Greetings**

*Interact's Cooperation actions team and official greeting from Renato Schifani, President of the Sicily Region*

**10.15 – 11.00**

#### **Cooperation actions in the 2021-2027 context**

*Stoyan Kanatov and Ilze Ciganska, Interact and European Commission*

- Blitz interview with Miguel Avila, representative of DG Regional and Urban Policy, EC
- Cooperation actions approach – Open discussion on strategic practical steps

Objective of the session: to share the common ground for cooperation actions

**11.00 – 12.00**

#### **Cooperation actions in Italy: an evolving approach**

*Antonio Bernardo, Managing Authority of the ERDF OPs of Basilicata, Italy*

- The pioneer experience in 2014-2020 for the implementation of cooperation actions within the ERDF Basilicata Regional Programme

*Monica Bellisario and Viviana Russo, Department for cohesion policies and Southern Italy, Presidency of the Council of Ministries*

- The support to cooperation actions at national level and the “Synergies” pilot project

Enhancing cooperation through synergies between funds:

- Tips from EU regions
- Q&A

Objectives of the session: to share good practices of implemented cooperation actions, lessons learned and inspiration stories

**12.00 – 13.00**

#### **Lunch break**

**13.00 – 14.00**

#### **Tools for cooperation – services by Interact**

*Stoyan Kanatov and Ilze Ciganska, Interact*

- Introduction of what Interact has to offer to support cooperation actions
- Practical experience
- Group work



## Cooperation actions: How to bring down barriers to build sustainable partnerships among EU IJG Goal Managing Authorities

02-03 July 2024

Palermo | Italy

Objective of the session: To promote Interact's tools and services supporting cooperation actions

14.00 – 14.30

### How to find the right approach for supporting cooperation actions?

*Stoyan Kanatov and Ilze Ciganska, Interact*

- How to define objectives for the cooperation with other regions, and find the most suitable approach
- What are the steps to make it happen
- Open discussions

Objectives of the session: Based on group reflections, share views on how to build cooperation with partners in other regions, steps to be taken.

14.30 – 15.00

### Coffee break

15.00 – 16.30

### Supporting cooperation actions in practice

*Thorsten Kohlisch and Nicolas Singer, Interreg Europe*

*(TBC) Mieszek Jagiello - Ministry of Finance and for European Affairs, Brandenburg*

- Showcasing tools for support from Interreg Europe
- Stories of cooperation for inspiration

### Cooperation actions and macro-regional strategies

*Ilze Ciganska, Interact*

- Link between cooperation actions and macro-regional strategies - How we can learn lessons from both

### Role of National contact points

*Ninka Besiana, Interact*

- Possibilities to receive support with the National contact points network. How they can support your partner search or even search for capitalisation/synergies
- Practical information for the network

Objectives of the session: To share practical tools and services outside of Interact, supporting cooperation actions

17.00 - 18.00

### Networking time (TBC - tour, visit or cultural offer)

Day Two

Wednesday, 03 July 2024

09.30 – 10.30

### Partner search forum

*Stoyan Kanatov and Ilze Ciganska, Interact*



## Cooperation actions: How to bring down barriers to build sustainable partnerships among EU IJG Goal Managing Authorities

02-03 July 2024

Palermo | Italy

- Grouping participants according to their potential partner's profile
- Role-play game of Speed dating

Objectives of the session: To support the participants in finding their future partner

**10.30 – 11.00**

**Coffee break**

**11.00 – 12.45**

**The future of cooperation actions**

*Miguel Avila, DG Regio, European Commission and Monica Bellisario/Viviana Russo, Department for cohesion policies and Southern Italy, Presidency of the Council of Ministries*

- Place of cooperation actions in the future regulation – what do we need to change
- Next steps to make it happen
- Open discussion

Objectives of the session: Based on group reflections, share views on how cooperation actions should be considered in the next programming period

**12.45 – 13.00**

**Wrap up**

*Interact's cooperation actions team*

### Venue

**Riso Palace - Contemporary Art Museum of Sicily | CoopCulture in Palermo, Italy**

Address: **Via Vittorio Emanuele, 365, 90134 Palermo PA**

Map link: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/VrXnreXomxpucvpP9>



## Cooperation actions: How to bring down barriers to build sustainable partnerships among EU IJG Goal Managing Authorities

02-03 July 2024

Palermo | Italy

