

# Citizen's summary

## Interact III 2014-2020 programme annual report 2022

### What is the Interact III cooperation programme (Interact III) about?

The European Union cohesion policy has made substantial amounts of financial support available in the 2014-2020 programming period, most of which is used to finance national and regional programmes under the Investment for Growth and Jobs goal. In addition, a smaller amount is available for the second goal of the cohesion policy; namely, European Territorial Cooperation (ETC, also called Interreg).

Interreg is a key instrument in addressing the common challenges and obstacles existing at border regions, transnational and interregional cooperation areas, in sharing experiences, and in elaborating common development strategies within the EU cohesion policy. Interact III is one of these Interreg programmes.

Compared to national or regional programmes, Interreg programmes operate in a multi-national environment. There is a great deal of lessons that Interreg programmes can learn from each other. Harmonised and simplified programme management approaches can enhance their effectiveness.

And this is exactly where Interact III supports the other Interreg programmes. The overall objective of our programme is therefore to exchange experience and identify and transfer good practises in implementing territorial cooperation. In doing so, we focus on improving three specific areas:

- The management and control capacity of Interreg programmes;
- Interreg's capacity in capturing and communicating programme results;
- The capacity to implement innovative approaches to cooperation (e.g. through European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation, macro-regional strategies and cooperation with national or regional programmes).

Interact has four decentralised offices around Europe in Turku (Finland), Valencia (Spain), Viborg (Denmark) and Vienna (Austria) that are in charge of providing the above-mentioned support to our target groups. Our management bodies (Managing Authority and interact Secretariat, Certifying Authority and Audit Authority) are based in Bratislava, Slovakia.

## What did we do in 2022?

In 2022 – more precisely from January until November, when implementation of the programme ended – we delivered to our target groups, the bodies responsible for managing Interreg programmes:

- 123 events (from tailor-made advisory services on specific issues through trainings, seminars, workshops and network meetings), 30 of which were in situ and 93 online.
- 59 tools (such as handbooks, studies, document templates, software, online information, databases, training videos, EU-wide promotional campaigns, etc.).

We also operate a number of online communities where Interreg programme managers can seek answers for their operational or strategic issues, share their experiences and good practises.

## Some examples

Here are some examples of our outputs from 2022:

**Joint Electronic Monitoring System (Jems):** Three major new releases of the new Interact Monitoring System for the 2021-2027 period were published in 2022. Jems provides a purpose built monitoring system, which is a requirement for EU funding, on a free-license basis for Interreg programmes. Interact developing and delivering this software on behalf of Interreg saves individual programmes time and financial resources to develop their own system responding to the same legal requirements.

**Harmonised Implementation Tools (HIT) package:** HIT is a giant package of document templates, checklists, plugins, fact sheets and guidance documents developed based on the EU legislation applicable with the involvement of other cooperation programmes from all strands, aimed to help managers of cooperation programmes simplify and harmonise their processes and documentation.

**keep.eu:** The online database of cooperation programmes, projects, project partners went through quite a rework to make it more informative, user friendly and responsive. Keep.eu currently includes more than 26 thousand projects, more than 50 thousand documents from 281 cooperation programmes.

To learn more, check out our [Events calendar](#) where you can learn about our past and future events as well as our easily searchable [Library](#) with all our publications, event reports, presentations and videos.

## What about spending?

The total expenditure of the programme certified from 2016 until the end of 2022 amounts to EUR 41,618,773.43 (89.8% of our total budget of EUR 46,344,229).

**Do you need further information?**

Should you need further information about Interact III, please don't hesitate to visit our [website](#) or get in touch with us at [interact@interact-eu.net](mailto:interact@interact-eu.net).