




| Priority | Project name and summary | Total budget (to be confirmed) |
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|  | <p>CC Create Converge</p> <p>The Hollywood movie “Interstellar” has seen calls from eminent science journals for this to be shown in schools. Why? Because top scientists say it accurately shows wormholes in space. The partners in Create Converge are celebrating this news because more importantly, it’s a story of creative technology working in partnership with science - not just for entertainment.</p> <p>So the project is all about getting visualisation and games tech to work together and work with sectors from architecture to science. It brings together partners in four countries of the North Sea Region and taps into their wider networks to deliver on the promise of converging creative technologies (CCTs). Encompassing animation, visualisation, visual effects, virtual reality and games, these tools can be used to explore, interpret and present content and information. Beyond entertainment, they offer applications for all kinds of sectors and markets - medicine, industry, architecture - for training, service delivery and marketing.</p> <p>CC wants to strengthen and increase the existing capacity of North Sea Region companies and organisations, improve service and systems and contribute towards the North Sea Region as an internationally recognised hub for CCT services.</p> <p>Across the North Sea Region, the project will benefit production service companies operating in CCT, foster cooperation with different sectors, and benefit organisations working in those sectors with tools so they can</p> | <p>1,622,415 €</p> |




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| | better show, tell and sell. | |
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|  | <p>Lean Landing For Micro SMEs Soft landing for SMEs in the North Sea Region</p> <p>Supporting innovative and value-creating internationalisation efforts and partnerships among SMEs are essential for the future competitiveness, productivity and knowledge economy of the North Sea Region.</p> <p>In the North Sea Region however, very few SMEs are successful in their export activities in the long run, very few launch other kinds of cross-border co-operations and internationalisation than export, and very few of the non-internationalised SMEs are planning on starting such activities.</p> <p>In order to address these challenges, this project will develop and implement an innovative and lasting lean Soft Landing co-operation between 6 North Sea countries and micro SMEs, business incubators, knowledge institutions and public business development funders in each of these 6 countries.</p> <p>Via joint efforts between an extensive network of participating incubators in the 6 countries, the concept will be developed, offered to and tested on 250 SMEs that reside in the incubators. The soft landing program will have as its purpose to create profit-enhancing knowledge partnerships between SMEs in the 6 countries, as well as between SMEs and knowledge and business development insititutions. This will be done by exchanging SMEs between the incubators.</p> <p>The program results will be made publicly accessible and disseminated by being translated into a lean soft landing blue print and a North Sea Region fair for future networking and knowledge sharing between incubators and policy makers in the entire EU.</p> | <p>1,810,387 €</p> |
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|  | <p>REFRAME - Towards a Regional Food Frame</p> <p>It is predicted that 5 million rural jobs will have disappeared before 2016. These changes do not only concern farmers. In their decline all food chain related SMEs will be affected severely. New business opportunities can be found in short food supply chains. However, they can only succeed if handled professionally and on a proper scale. This presents opportunities on 4 interconnected strands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect market relevant regional data • Develop innovative specialisation strategies for SMEs • Forge new forms of regional cooperation and partnership based on common benefits and shared values. • Acquire specific skills <p>REFRAME takes up these challenges. In a living lab of 5 regional pilots, partners will demonstrate the Regional Food Frame (RFF) as an effective set of measures to scale up and accommodate urban food demands and regional supplies. New data will reveal the regions' own strengths and resources to match food demand and supply. REFRAME provides a support infrastructure for food related SMEs to develop and implement their smart specialization strategies in food chains on the urban-rural axis. On their way towards a RFF, all pilots will use a 5-step road map. A transnational learning lab will be set up in support of skill development and training of all stakeholders. REFRAME pools the know-how needed to set up these Regional Food Frames in a transnational network of experts, each closely linked and footed in its own pilot region.</p> | <p>2,595,004 €</p> |
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|  | <p>SHINE Shared value creation in the Healthcare economy through INtegrated business modElS</p> <p>The changing demography in the North Sea Region pose social and economic challenges within its communities. The challenges in healthcare require innovative and sustainable solutions. Driven by transnational and cross-sector co-operation in the health care economy, new economic activities can be developed that create international opportunities for SMEs and disseminates the most innovative healthcare solutions across the North Sea Region.</p> <p>The project wants to implement integrated business models for the healthcare economy based on the regions' smart specialisation strategy. To support their setup, a methodology to build complex partnerships, inspired by the quadruple helix model, will be developed.</p> <p>Through a network of smart specialists, best practices can be internationally adopted, resulting in regional economic valorisation. A detailed roadmap for transnational valorisation of best practices is part of the project scope and will be used to scale up best practices.</p> <p>The project also aims to create spin-off in the regional healthcare institutions. A practical manual for spin-off based on shared value creation in the healthcare economy will be written. The regions will use this guidance to create spin-offs.</p> <p>To sustain the exchange of knowhow, innovation and best practices, the project encompasses the setup of transnational partnerships in the healthcare economy. As a network of regions with a smart specialisation, these partnerships will lead to innovation and economic growth.</p> | <p>1,228,283 €</p> |
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|  | <p>SCALE-UP Supporting Clean-tech innovators in Accessing Large Enterprises through Unlocking Procurement</p> <p>SCALE-UP supports the greening of the economy through better exploitation of North Sea Region Clean Tech (CT) innovations, aiming at international uptake of 25 novel, green products and services by large corporate buyers.</p> <p>While the North Sea Region globally leads in CT innovations, still too few of those reach international markets. Large buyers may be unaware of innovations available across the region, or find start-ups unsuitable as providers. Innovators have difficulties accessing large buyers abroad or have little experience with corporate procurement processes.</p> <p>In SCALE-UP, the CT cluster organisations CTD (NL), CLEAN (DK), Cambridge CT (UK), iCTFlanders (BE) and CTINN (SE) will offer a set of new transnational services aimed at enabling business development between innovators and buyers. At the core are tailored Meet the Buyer events, professional expertise development programmes for innovators focusing on reaching corporate buyers, and a voucher system to support international travel. SCALE-UP will deliver;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 established clusters connected, providing new transnational business development services • 50 transnational events, matching technology buyers with innovators • 250 innovators financially supported in transnational business development • 300 innovators provided with skills to serve industrial markets <p>The clusters that will develop those new services and anchor their collaboration in the European Strategic Cluster the International Cleantech Network.</p> | <p>2,503,538 €</p> |
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|  | <p>DUAL Ports Developing Low carbon Utilities, Abilities and potential of regional entrepreneurial Ports</p> <p>DUAL Ports aims to decarbonise Regional Entrepreneurial Ports' (REPs) resources through a shared eco-innovation port programme that minimises their environmental footprint.</p> <p>The objective is to specifically develop sustainable utilities and abilities of REPs. This will be achieved by collaboratively piloting and managing technologies and processes that tackle targeted measurable direct/indirect emission/pollution sources.</p> <p>The project will ultimately enhance ports organizational/operational (energy) efficiency and performance, facilitating port low carbonization at reduced cost and with knowledge/investment added value. As demonstrated by last years´ offshore wind energy developments in EU and beyond, ports can be key centres of innovation, testing and uptake of emerging technologies, leveraging participation and multiplier effects, e.g. by triggering value-for-money clustered activities that generate employment and benefit the environment.</p> <p>A transnational approach will be adopted to allow the DUAL small and medium size ports capitalise on this potential, overcoming their individual limited staff, funding and capability to identify the most effective solutions on their own.</p> <p>Only few measures have been selected due to the project duration and size of the partnership, but they are expected to have a considerable impact on the way ports can act as facilitators between enterprises, research centres and public authorities to enable user-driven eco-innovation in the North Sea area.</p> | <p>2,602,025 €</p> |
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|  | <p>BWN Building with Nature</p> <p>The most serious threat facing the North Sea Region is climate change, increasing flood and coastal erosion risk from storm surges in coastal and estuarine areas and heavy rain causing flooding of rivers and lakes inland.</p> <p>The Building with Nature (BwN) project demonstrates BwN solutions that utilize natural processes to deliver flood risk and coastal erosion management whilst enhancing ecosystem services. However, the performance of BwN solutions is uncertain and hampers wider uptake across the North Sea Region. A common transnational evidence base is needed to justify investments and optimise the effectiveness of BwN solutions (EC, 2015).</p> <p>The overall objective of the BwN project is to make coasts, estuaries and catchments of the North Sea Region more adaptable and resilient to the effects of climate change. BwN will demonstrate BwN-based climate change adaptation solutions at 7 coastal target sites in NL, D, DK, SE (sand nourishment at North Sea Coasts and Wadden Sea barrier islands) and at 6 catchment scale sites in B, NL, SE, SCO (e.g. river restoration).</p> <p>BwN creates joint transnational monitoring programmes, uses state-of-the-art analysis methods, develops improved designs and business cases. The laboratories generate the evidence-base to incorporate BwN in national policy and investment programmes of each of the North Sea Region countries (worth >€200M/y). BwN gathers (national) governments that manage most of the North Sea coast, Wadden Sea and river basins and thus provide critical mass for major uptake.</p> | <p>3,420,000 €</p> |
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|  | <p>FAIR Flood infrastructure Asset management and Investment in Renovation, adaptation and maintenance</p> <p>Flooding is a major risk for loss of life and economic damage in the North Sea Region. Flood protection is the cornerstone of our strategy to reduce these risks with benefit-cost ratio of 6:1. The >100Bn Euro worth infrastructure assets that protect us from flooding in the North Sea Region, such as dykes, sluices and dams are ageing (many are 70-100y old) and often its performance is no longer at the desired level. The flood protection infrastructure needs renovation, adaptation, and maintenance all across the North Sea Region.</p> <p>The overall objective of the FAIR project is to reduce flood risk across the North Sea Region by demonstrating climate change adaptation solutions to improve the performance of flood protection infrastructure. FAIR demonstrates improved approaches for cost-effective upgrading and maintenance, optimising investments across national-system-asset levels, as well as applying adaptive, innovative technical designs.</p> <p>FAIR builds upon IVB results (ia MARE, SAWA) and state-of-the-art EU research from its partners (Deltares, TUHH, Sayers). FAIR guides the full-scale implementation of reinforcement, upgrade and maintenance programmes of dykes, sluices, dams, flood gates and pumping stations at target sites in UK, B, NL, D, DK, SE worth >1Bn/y until 2020. A transnational approach is vital to accelerate learning, as there is no budget or time for 'trial and error'. FAIR gathers the major asset owners in the North Sea Region (eg RWS, LSBG, MOW), the first international collaboration of its kind.</p> | <p>2,296,875 €</p> |
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|  | <p>TOPSOIL Top soil and water - The climate challenge in the near subsurface</p> <p>The values of society are tied to the uppermost subsurface and climate change has a rapid impact here.</p> <p>In the WaterCAP projects (Interreg IVB) the TOPSOIL partnership has performed an extensive consultation with the EU commission, waterworks, farmers, city planners and public bodies across the North Sea Region. Five shared climate adaptation challenges related to the top soil and groundwater were revealed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Groundwater flooding in towns and agricultural areas 2. Saltwater intrusion into freshwater reserves 3. The need for a groundwater buffer to store excess rain water for later use 4. Better management of soil conditions, to strengthen the resilience to extreme rain events and improve water quality 5. An unused capacity to break down nutrients and hazardous pollutants in the uppermost layers <p>These challenges will be addressed in 16 pilot areas to develop and test solutions for managing uppermost 20-30 m of the sub-surface. This will lead to a strong improvement of climate resilience in and across pilot areas,</p> <p>The project will improve e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protection against groundwater flooding • groundwater storage for irrigation and drinking water inland and in coastal areas • less leaching of nutrients and pollutants along with improved yields <p>New investigation and management methods will be developed through transnational joint approach techniques</p> | <p>3,671,110 €</p> |
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| | <p>and management will be transferred between the countries.</p> <p>The partnership is strongly committed to bridging science, practice and countries.</p> | |
|  | <p>NorthSEE A North Sea Perspective on Shipping, Energy and Environment Aspects in MSP</p> <p>The North Sea is both an environmental asset and a source for value generation for different maritime sectors. Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) is a tool to help balance the often competing user interests as well as environmental protection aims. However, MSP can only be effective, if national Maritime Spatial Plans are coordinated and not contradictory. A lack of MSP coordination leads to spatial inefficiencies, higher costs for maritime industries and compromised environmental objects.</p> <p>NorthSEE launches a sea-basin wide coordination process among MSP authorities in the North Sea Region. In this context, NorthSEE aims at achieving greater coherence in MSP across the North Sea Region for three transnational topics: Environmental aspects, shipping routes and energy infrastructure. Planners compare existing national MSP plans and approaches. In addition, future scenarios are jointly developed by planners and stakeholders in the framework of the “MSP Challenge 2050” simulation. This improved informational basis allows planners to identify current and future synergies and mismatches of national planning solutions and approaches as well as to come to planning solutions for selected sites with incompatibilities.</p> <p>Findings are synthesised in reports and maps. These will inform national MSP processes, whereby increased MSP coherence will be reached. Recommendations on an MSP coordination process in the North Sea Region set the basis for an ongoing transnational MSP dialogue beyond the project’s lifetime.</p> | <p>2,024,789 €</p> |



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|  | <p>WaterCoG Water Co-Governance for sustainable ecosystems</p> <p>The natural environment is dependent on water to provide society with many essential benefits or “ecosystem services” (e.g. drinking water, biodiversity, food production, recreation, carbon sequestration). A number of EU directives aim to protect and improve the delivery of these services. However, successful implementation and integration of the different directives at a local level is a major shared challenge in the North Sea Region. Understanding how this can be achieved is fundamental to delivering long-term sustainable ecosystem-based management strategies for the North Sea Region and the focus for the WaterCoG project.</p> <p>The project will demonstrate through the adoption of new participatory, ecosystem service based approaches that implementation and integration of different water management frameworks can be achieved at the same time as providing additional social, economic and environmental benefits not currently being realised.</p> <p>A strong transnational component will identify and incorporate common, transferable elements of different approaches into an up-scaling toolbox that will extend the impact of the project and build capacity for delivering improved sustainable management strategies for North Sea Region ecosystems.</p> <p>The projects’ output aims for a change in working practice that will improve the integration between top-down implementation of European and national directives and bottom-up, participatory developed solutions for improving the quality and sustainable management strategies of North Sea Region ecosystems.</p> | <p>1,690,275 €</p> |
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|  | <p>SHARE-North Shared Mobility Solutions for a Liveable and Low-Carbon North Sea Region</p> <p>The challenges of sustainable transport in the North Sea Area cannot be met by technical solutions alone – it needs also requires behavioural changes. Shared mobility modes and their potential to address these challenges are the focus of the SHARE-North project. This includes developing, implementing, promoting and assessing car sharing, bike sharing, ride sharing and other forms of shared mobility in urban and rural areas and employment clusters.</p> <p>The planned living labs will integrate modern technology with activities to support changes in mobility behaviour. The objectives are manifold: resource efficiency, improving accessibility (incl. non-traditional target groups), increased efficiency in the use of transport infrastructure, reduction of space consumption for transport, improving quality of life and low carbon transport.</p> <p>A strong partnership of public authorities, NGOs and research institutions in the project consortium is supplemented by numerous supporting organisations including the OECD International Transport Forum. The partnership stands for transnational cooperation, which is necessary for creating political support, and represents a high level of innovation as shared mobility is not yet widely employed as a part of integrated transport strategies. The Mobility Academy will be involved for dissemination purposes as its annual World Collaborative Mobility Congress will give SHARE-North and its themes a global platform to demonstrate the impacts of shared mobility.</p> | <p>1,754,280 €</p> |
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