#MadeWithInterreg

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Download this guide to your smartphone! Just point your camera to the code on the right.
Interreg transnational cooperation: We work for Europe!

The projects featured in the #MadeWithInterreg exhibition are funded by Interreg transnational cooperation programmes.

These programmes bring together European regions and cities located in different countries yet sharing many challenges and opportunities due to their common geography, history, and culture.

From blue growth, green energy and sustainable mobility to ageing populations, migration, and cultural heritage: Interreg transnational cooperation is fostering strong partnerships where national, regional and local authorities, academia, civil society organisations, and private sector enterprises work together to tackle today’s complex, transboundary issues.

These multi-sector alliances build on regional strengths and address real challenges that exist in real places across Europe.

The transnational projects featured here are ongoing and will only deliver their full potential towards and after their completion.

Explore these pages to see how these projects are helping transform Europe into a healthier, greener, more prosperous, and more liveable place for its citizens.

The ABC of Interreg

| A | Interreg A (cross-border) programmes support cooperation in border regions between at least two Member States. |
| B | Strand B (transnational) programmes support cooperation in larger areas involving regions from several EU Member States and in some cases non-EU countries. |
| C | Strand C (interregional) programmes work at pan-European level, covering all EU Member States. |
Interreg transnational programmes

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Interreg transnational programmes

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Interreg transnational cooperation: Project examples

In the following pages, you can explore 24 examples of transnational projects.

The 12 European transnational programmes each present two projects dealing with issues of great importance in their region.
QNeST

Promoting quality tourism based on cultural heritage

Cultural heritage is key if you want to empower local communities. QNeST - Quality Network on Sustainable Tourism - aims to promote and fulfil the economic potential of the common and exceptional features of the cultural and natural heritage of the Adriatic-Ionian area.

TACKLES Sustainable tourism development

The QNeST project will develop an Adriatic-Ionian vision and strategy for the development of new quality tourism solutions, based on co-design processes involving key stakeholders at local and higher levels and the capitalisation of existing best practices for sustainable tourism.

To preserve and promote cultural heritage, QNeST will launch a common brand for the promotion of quality sustainable tourism and will stimulate the creation of a network of Adriatic-Ionian actors and economic operators, active in or indirectly involved in the tourism sector.

QNeST fosters interaction between private and public stakeholders, such as local operators, tourism service providers, craftsmen, experts, local communities, institutions and cultural, social and environmental associations.
SUPER LNG

Advancing clean fuels for maritime transport

SUPER LNG contributes to the implementation of sustainable transport and mobility solutions by supporting safe use of LNG, as a low-carbon clean fuel. SUPER LNG helps increase the level of safety and environmental sustainability of maritime transportation in the Adriatic and Ionian seas.

TACKLES

Carbon footprint of ports and maritime transport

As a clean fuel, LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) holds great potential for reducing the carbon footprint of maritime transport. Therefore, LNG infrastructures can enhance the sustainability of port areas.

However, distribution networks and port infrastructures for the bunkering of LNG-powered ships require technologies and solutions with a high level of safety in touristic areas, avoiding trade-offs between environmental protection and the safety of passengers and personnel.

SUPER LNG aims to provide a uniform framework to support the implementation of technical systems for the distribution and supply of LNG in port areas in the Adriatic and Ionian region.
LOS_DAMA!

Green infrastructures for better living

LOS_DAMA! unleashes the potential of peri-urban green infrastructure for sustainable development in city regions by improving intermunicipal cooperation and planning.

TACKLES

Liveable cities

A number of globally attractive Alpine Space cities face common challenges: valuable green spaces in and around our cities are exposed to heavy land use pressures and a variety of demands.

LOS_DAMA! (Landscape and Open Space Development in Alpine Metropolitan Areas) focuses on these ‘unspectacular’ Alpine landscapes on our doorsteps. The project aims to protect liveable open spaces in city regions, while also connecting people and green spaces throughout the Alpine region.

The partners are collaborating with stakeholders and citizens of seven pilot areas in urban regions. Together, they are seeking ways to safeguard, enhance and manage peri-urban landscapes.

Only joint efforts can create the powerful voice needed to raise awareness and initiate change for a balanced regional development and a valorisation of these areas. Therefore, the partners founded the Metropolitan Alpine City Network, where cities and city regions even beyond the LOS_DAMA! partnership commit themselves to promote and enhance peri-urban Green Infrastructure.
CaSCo

Advancing low-carbon timber in the Alpine Space

CaSCo develops transnational low-carbon timber toolkits and policies which strengthen regional added value. By increasing the use of local wood in the Alpine space, limiting transportation and supporting innovation, the project partners foster a shift towards a low-carbon Alpine Space.

Increasing material flows along processing chains in the timber industry considerably contribute to climate change.

However, there is a great but unexploited potential for the reduction of CO2 emissions. With a unique transnational approach, the CaSCo project provides decision-makers and stakeholders with the right tools to develop such solutions.

The project has developed a transnational toolkit to foster low-carbon timber processing chains in the Alpine Space. Related policy guidelines are being developed for implementation by public authorities, and the partners also conduct tailored training sessions empowering SMEs, professionals and decision-makers.

Pilot approaches are tested as input for long-term strategies in Alpine regions to further foster usage of low-carbon wood in innovative products.
AYCH

Building the creative and technological skills of young people
The AYCH project will unlock the creative, entrepreneurial potential of young people focusing on key themes such as innovation, co-creation of products, social entrepreneurship, and employability. As a result, more young people will be able to pursue careers or education pathways in the creative sector.

TACKLES
Youth employability & entrepreneurship

Atlantic Youth Creative Hubs (AYCH) is a project designed to integrate best practice and knowledge, supporting young talents and their education, entrepreneurship and employability through the development of creative and technological skills.

The project will develop an innovative model to reinforce the entrepreneurship of young people under education or looking for a job, by targeting the attractive field of the creative industries.

Within multidisciplinary workspaces (creative hubs), AYCH enables youngsters from different horizons to work together and to meet agents that facilitate entrepreneurship and support young people and their creative talent.
CleanAtlantic

Protecting biodiversity by reducing marine litter

CleanAtlantic aims to protect biodiversity and ecosystem services by improving regional cooperation and capabilities to prevent, monitor and remove marine litter in the Atlantic Area.

TACKLES Marine litter

Marine litter is a severe pollution threat with environmental, human health, safety and socioeconomic impacts and demanding regional collaboration.

CleanAtlantic addresses this challenge and aims to protect biodiversity and ecosystem services in the Atlantic Area by improving capabilities to monitor, prevent and remove (macro) marine litter.

A picture of the current situation, existing knowledge, data and initiatives in the Atlantic regions will be drawn and gaps will be defined.

Current systems to monitor and record marine will be reviewed, and protocols, tools and indicators will be delivered to fill monitoring needs.

The project will also contribute to raise awareness and change attitudes among stakeholders and to improve marine litter managing systems.
InnoPlatform

Improving regional competitiveness

InnoPlatform advances existing knowledge on business model innovation and develops tools and services for SMEs, empowering them to tap into opportunities of innovation and enhanced market access.

This will be done by:
- Developing common knowledge and understanding of business model innovation with a special focus on internationalisation in the region;
- Developing a series of innovation tools, services and guidelines to strengthen the capacity of SMEs to introduce process and product innovations;
- Establishing an infrastructure of Centres of Excellence, located in 5 countries, for providing SMEs with innovation knowledge and expertise.

The main beneficiaries of the InnoPlatform project are SMEs, BSOs, research centres, institutes and universities, and policymakers from the Balkan-Mediterranean area.
DISARM

Building resilience to drought and wildfires

The DISARM project uses an integrated transnational approach to build a common prevention/mitigation framework for the vulnerable south-eastern Mediterranean region to address the challenges arising from drought and wildfires.

The network works to develop:

- a wildland fire risk assessment tool that will include long-term and short-term fire danger forecasting;
- a near real-time observatory of wildland fire activity;
- a rapid-response wildland fire modelling tool supporting operational fire suppression activities;
- an observatory and early warning system on droughts that will enable improved drought risk management; and
- a tool for the assessment of climate change impacts on droughts and wildland fires.

These tools form an integrated service that goes beyond existing practices and serves as a common reference in response to the need for climate change resilience and sustainable development.
Innovating for the elderly

Partners from nine countries develop furniture and smart tools for the elderly, supporting companies in developing products tailored to seniors and improving their comfort of life.

TACKLES Innovation for ageing populations

Despite the progressing age of communities in the Baltic Sea region, producers of furniture and home equipment are currently not addressing the needs of the elderly to a sufficient degree. The Interreg project BaltSe@nior offers companies opportunities to develop more suitable products for the elderly.

Data compiled about seniors from the region is used to design tailored furniture and to develop prototypes of intelligent tools, such as a 3D printable age simulator which imitates physical limitations related to senior age and a mirror displaying personalised messages.

Enterprises in the Baltic Sea region apply knowledge and approaches developed through transnational cooperation to better align their products to the needs of the elderly. Increasing competitiveness in the region goes hand-in-hand with improving the standard of life for the elderly.
SUBMARINER

Building a blue economy around the Baltic Sea
SUBMARINER promotes innovative and sustainable use of marine resources. This flagship of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region has sparked new activities in marine aquaculture, maritime cultural heritage, bio-technology and blue growth in smart specialisation strategies in the Baltic Sea Region.

TACKLES  Sustainable use of marine resources

The former Interreg project SUBMARINER (2010-2013) is a flagship of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR), which evolved into a permanent network as a European Economic Interest Grouping (EEIG) to further promote innovative and sustainable use of marine resources.

To date, the SUBMARINER Network has brought about four other EUSBSR flagships to foster marine aquaculture (Baltic Blue Growth project), to turn maritime cultural heritage into touristic attractions (BalticRIM project), to boost blue bio-technology (ALLIANCE project) and to anchor blue growth in smart specialisation strategies in the Baltic Sea Region (Smart Blue Regions project).
FabLabNet

Encouraging inclusive innovation

FabLabNet links FabLabs, collaboration hubs that bring innovative businesses and schools together.

TACKLES

Inclusive innovation

FabLabs, or fabrication laboratories, offer a place for collaboration among innovators and society at large.

The FabLabNet project supports local laboratories in various countries by uncovering and sharing effective resources among the network.

This helps FabLabs to develop innovative services for local communities, business and educational institutions.

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ECRR

Following the reformation around Europe

The ECRR project links reformation heritage sites and creates a new cultural route across several central European countries.

TACKLES  Sustainable tourism

- The Reformation left an indelible mark on Europe's history and geography.
- The ECRR project will establish a European Culture Route of Reformation, linking heritage sites that were important during the Reformation.

The partners will create a new cultural route across various countries in central Europe by engaging local stakeholders and by seeking recognition from the Council of Europe.
The Mura, Drava and Danube rivers form a highly valuable and free-flowing river corridor spanning 700 kilometres and connecting almost one million hectares across Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary and Serbia.

This area is recognised as a true European treasure, known as the ‘Amazon of Europe’. Stunning river landscapes host an amazing biological diversity and are a hotspot of rare species and natural habitats such as large floodplain forests, river islands, gravel and sand banks. Rivers do not know national borders as their waters flow and transport sediment cross borders. Animal species cross national boundaries during their daily search for food and people living along these rivers experience the impacts of upstream and downstream developments first-hand. Therefore, the river management also needs to be done on the transboundary level.

The coop MDD project works towards harmonisation of Protected Areas management and develops a joint management programme for the future 5-country UNESCO Biosphere Reserve ‘Mura-Drava-Danube’.
DANUBEparksCONNECTED

Bridging Danube protected areas towards a Danube Habitat Corridor

The DANUBEparksCONNECTED project works to counteract fragmentation of wildlife habitats along the Danube River.

TACKLES

Wildlife habitat fragmentation

The Danube River is a green lifeline for biodiversity. Whilst the Network of Danube Protected Areas preserves the most valuable sites, habitat fragmentation limits efforts to preserve a cohesive ecosystem.

DANUBEparksCONNECTED has initiated the Danube Habitat Corridor campaign to counteract fragmentation. It offers Danube-wide strategies and exemplary activities aiming to restore and maintain connectivity in all habitat elements: Water, Air, Fire & Land.

The ongoing experience and knowledge exchange of project partners from 10 Danube countries and the cross-sectorial approach between water management, energy, nature conservation and policy drivers enable long-term capitalisation of the Danube Habitat Corridor.

The transnational DANUBEpARKS Network’s know-how and experience on the ground ensure that the project is well-equipped to implement an innovative project building on existing policies.
BLUEMED

Discovering and protecting underwater patrimony
The Mediterranean Sea is a world rich in incredible underwater treasures. Many of them are still undiscovered and many factors threaten their existence. The BLUEMED project aims at protecting underwater patrimony in the Mediterranean Sea and creating a more sustainable tourism model.

The BLUEMED project aims to protect underwater natural and cultural heritage in accordance with UNESCO 2001, by raising public awareness of this topic and improving tourism attractiveness in the Mediterranean Sea.

The project advocates the use of new solutions such as planning, testing and coordinating underwater museums and diving parks, with the dual objective of conducting site restorations and conservation, and to create knowledge awareness centres in pilot sites. This will make the underwater treasures accessible to people who do not dive.

The project targets competent government authorities in the development of strategies, plans and policies for local coastal and island economies throughout the Mediterranean region.

In a wider perspective, BLUEMED’s initiatives and results will foster a more balanced and sustainable tourism development in the region.
LOCATIONS

Decongesting traffic at Mediterranean cruise destinations

Mediterranean tourist destinations experience a growing number of traffic jams caused by cruise tourism. The LOCATIONS project promotes a wider use of new transport solutions to help decongest the traffic and decrease greenhouse gas emissions.

TACKLES

Traffic jams in port cities caused by cruise tourism

- Cruise tourism is growing fast in Mediterranean ports and is now commonly causing traffic jams in these destinations.

Partners from seven Mediterranean port cities in five countries have joined forces to overcome this challenge by developing Low Carbon Transport Plans. The plans help to better connect passengers and goods between the port area and the city.

LOCATIONS contributes to decongest the traffic of cruise destinations and to decrease greenhouse gas emissions. Once implemented, the Low Carbon Transport Plans will improve the quality of life of both passengers and local citizens. Also, smoother city transport will contribute to make Mediterranean cruise destinations even more attractive.
Building with Nature explores and showcases how natural landscape structures can help flood-prone areas build resilience to the more frequent and severe flooding episodes that are foreseen to result from climate change. This is of special importance in the North Sea Region with its many low-lying areas.

Expanding sand dunes to bolster coastal areas against flash floods or re-meandering rivers to prevent flooding downstream: There are many ways of using nature’s own forces to improve the safety of people living in flood-prone areas.

The project’s living labs generate the evidence base that is currently lacking to incorporate nature-based solutions in national policy and investment. Involving partners in seven countries, it demonstrates nature-based solutions at 13 sites in coastal zones, estuaries, rivers and lakes.

Joint transnational monitoring programmes and analyses of economic and societal benefits help improve designs and underpin the case for nature-based solutions.
SHARE-North

Making an impact with shared mobility
SHARE-North promotes shared mobility as a pillar of sustainability and a vital part of integrated transport planning. Schemes such as car-sharing provide viable and convenient transport options for citizens and help reduce congestion, air pollution and accessibility issues in cities and regions.

TACKLES
Congestion and air pollution

SHARE-North demonstrates how cities and regions in the North Sea Region can advance shared mobility solutions by making them visible, convenient, accessible and incorporating them into their transport strategies.

One example of what the project promotes is the concept of shared mobility hubs (also known as mobilpunkte/mobihubs). Shared mobility hubs were first developed in the City of Bremen, Germany, by the precursor of SHARE-North, the CARE-North project. It involves a dense network of many small mobility hubs which link carsharing, walking, cycling and sometimes public transport to make attractive alternatives to individual car ownership accessible close to the citizens’ own doorsteps.
SHARE-North has created several breakthroughs and brought the popularity of the mobilpunkt concept to a new level. Via the transnational cooperation, the concept is spreading to municipalities in Norway, Flanders, the Netherlands and perhaps even the UK, creating space for sharing and making a positive impact on reducing car ownership rates and meeting mobility needs of citizens.
Community and technology driven innovation

IMPROVE aims to create a step-change in the region’s innovation capacity by focusing on new technology and promoting a new, participatory approach.

TACKLES Public service innovation

IMPROVE aims to increase technology-driven public service innovation in six peripheral regions. It seeks to develop technology-based services in the fields of healthcare and spatial planning and to guide regions in the process of co-producing new services with the community in a living lab environment.

IMPROVE adapts a novel living labs-driven approach to maximise knowledge transfer between regions and stakeholders. Real communities will demonstrate the approach by using it to co-produce six services and develop tools and methodologies for use by other regions to implement the results of the project.
The APP4SEA project addresses a growing need for environmental risk management in the Arctic region, due to changes driven by climate change and societal trends. The 21st century has brought unprecedented interest in Arctic resources, turning the region from the world’s periphery to a centre of global attention. Driven by global climate change and industrial and economic activities, the habitual environment and traditional lifestyle of Arctic coastal communities are set to undergo severe changes within the next 50 years. By 2025, we expect increased human activity in the Arctic, including amongst others coastal and intercontinental traffic, the fishing, oil and gas industries, maritime tourism, and research.

The Northern Periphery and Arctic region will see:
- More oil and gas deposit fields opened for licensing
- More trade and tourism ships crossing the ocean
- More industrial projects.

These activities will bring increased risk of hazardous events. To keep up with this development, there is a clear need to step up risk preparedness.
Current retrofit measures are piecemeal and not integrated to deliver whole-house warranted performance. This trend is driven by the lack of holistic policies & compartmentalised funding.

E=0 is based on the successful Energiesprong programme in the Netherlands, delivering net zero energy (E=0) retrofits with a 30+ years performance warranty; installed within one week at a cost paid off by the guaranteed energy savings and maintenance costs.

This game-changing approach is based on aggregating demand from the housing supply side and letting them procure a performance-based product meeting this new standard. This challenges the industry and their supply chain to innovate. To widen the opportunity for supply chain integration, this E=0 retrofit market must scale up to the North West Europe region.
eMEN

Building electronic mental health services

eMEN develops a transnational, e-mental health innovation and implementation platform in North-West Europe.

TACKLES

Mental ill-health

Mental ill-health presents a huge and growing economic and social burden for society, accounting for 20% of the disease burden.

Innovative and high-quality e-mental health services play an important role in tackling mental illnesses in North West Europe. eMEN is a six-country e-mental health project funded by the Interreg North-West Europe Programme. The project aims to address the increased demand for mental health care in Europe. E-mental health technology can play an important role in keeping mental health care services accessible and affordable for all European citizens. This can be done by promoting ‘blended care’ in which face-to-face and online therapy are used.

eMEN is a multidisciplinary project with activities in research, product development and piloting, policy and communications. It aims to create a transnational e-mental health platform that will continue to implement and promote e-mental health care.

One of its pilots is Moodbuster, an innovative ICT and mobile platform for depression treatment.
ClimACT

Fostering climate-smart schools for a greener Europe

ClimACT improves energy efficiency at schools through smarter management of buildings and awareness raising of children.

TACKLES

Low-carbon economy

ClimACT promotes the green energy transition by promoting low-carbon management of schools.

By means of smart energy management, use of renewable energy, and behavioural changes, ClimACT improves the energy efficiency of buildings. This reduces the schools’ environmental expenses as well as their risks related to health and safety.

Harnessing the potential of the educational sector to raise awareness, ClimACT also carries out educational activities, games and presentations that make youngsters aware of the importance of the low-carbon economy.
Smart management of historic towns facilitates owners’ decision-making and accelerates tourism development. However, smart urban planning processes rarely include the specific issues that apply to cultural heritage and historic towns. Harnessing new technology, Smart Heritage City has developed a solution to anticipate heritage preservation needs and to facilitate dissemination. It supports managers by providing precise diagnoses and by fostering knowledge exchange between specialists. In addition, it supports tourism via a digital app that disseminates facts and data, raising awareness amongst visitors and citizens on the importance of heritage preservation.

Thus, this innovative solution contributes to smart and efficient management of the rich cultural heritage found across Southern Europe. It provides owners and managers with accurate data which is key for strategic decision-making and resources optimisation, effective promotion, and enhanced tourist experiences. It also contributes to the preservation of historic heritage as part of European citizens’ collective memory and identity - a key factor in the social cohesion of the European Union.

Strengthening our sense of belonging to Europe through smart built heritage preservation

Smart Heritage City applies new technologies to ensure smart city management approaches to cultural heritage in south-western Europe and to promote our sense of belonging to Europe.
ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION.

This publication is produced as part of the

#MadeWithInterreg

exhibition at the EU Week of Regions and Cities 8-11 October 2018.

The exhibition is a joint effort of the 12 European Interreg transnational programmes, which have also jointly prepared the contents of this publication.

Whilst all efforts have been made to ensure that the information is correct, we cannot guarantee that there are no errors or omissions.

The 12 Interreg transnational programmes

- Interreg ADRION
- Interreg Alpine Space
- Interreg Atlantic Area
- Interreg Balkan-Mediterranean
- Interreg Baltic Sea Region
- Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE
- Interreg Danube Transnational Programme
- Interreg Mediterranean
- Interreg North Sea Region
- Interreg North-West Europe
- Interreg Sudoe

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