



Welcome to '*INTERREGional News*' from the Special EU Programmes Body. This newsletter will keep you up to date with developments in the **INTERREG IVB** programmes that are relevant to Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland (the Northern Periphery Programme, the North West Europe Programme and the Atlantic Area Programme) as well as the **INTERREG IVC** Programme. The newsletter will cover information on programme priorities, up-coming calls for projects and news from the programme secretariats. Please send us any information you would like to see included in the newsletter to the email address overleaf.

North West Europe - Call Now Open

The 8th Call for applications to the North West Europe programme is currently open and will close on **1 April 2011**. This call is open for all priorities of the programme which includes innovation, the environment, connectivity and strong and prosperous communities. This programme funds 50% of total eligible costs and partners are required from at least 2 of the participating countries (Ireland, UK, Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Switzerland, parts of France and Germany). However, it should be noted that an average partnership normally consists of up to 5 participating countries. The updated Guidance Notes are available on the NWE website www.nweurope.eu

Good news for potential applicants! A flat rate for administration costs has been introduced for all new projects to be approved during this call. This will simplify the reporting and the first level control as no supporting evidence will be required to back up the administration cost amount. **The application form for this call** automatically calculates the **administration budget as 11%** of the total budgeted staff costs. This flat rate is the same for partners from all Member States. All applications must be submitted in English completed, dated, stamped and signed, together with annexes and Letters of Support from partners. Applications must arrive by Friday 1 April 2011 at 12 noon at the Secretariat: **INTERREG IVB NWE Joint Technical Secretariat**, Les Arcuriales, 6th floor, 45/D rue de Tournai, 59000 Lille, France.

Atlantic Area - 3rd Call

The 3rd Call for applications to the **Atlantic Area programme** is currently open and will close on **30 April 2011**. Project applications must be submitted using the electronic application form, which together with the applicants handbook, can be found on the programme website <http://www.coop-atlantico.com/>

As the programme is currently 70% committed, this call is only open for the following priorities: **1.2** Enhance competitiveness and innovation capacities in maritime economy niches of excellence. **2.1** Improve maritime safety. **2.2** Exploit the renewable energy potential of the marine and coastal environment. **3.1** Promote interoperability and continuity of existing transport networks, and sea/road/rail/air intermodality. **3.2** Promote short sea shipping and co-operation between ports. The remaining funding to the value of € 23,057,055 of ERDF is available for this call and it is anticipated that this will be the last call to this programme.

The ERDF rate is 65% of eligible project costs and at least 2 participating countries are required to work together, however, it should be noted that the average partnership consists of 3-4 countries. The Secretariat is suggesting project duration of approximately 2 years and is requesting that any project intending to have run for 3 years will have to demonstrate its actual capacity to start activities at the beginning of 2012.

NW Europe and NPP — Dates to Remember

North West Europe Programme—8th Call is currently open and will close on **01 April 2011**

Northern Periphery Programme - 7th Call is currently open and will close on **21 March 2011**

Atlantic Area and INTERREG IVC — Dates to Remember

Atlantic Area—3rd Call is currently open and will close on **30 April 2011**

INTERREG IVC—4th Call currently open until **01 April 2011**



INTERREG IVC - Information Seminar

The Special EU Programmes Body, together with the BMW Regional Assembly, hosted an Information Seminar on 04 March 2011 in Newry. The event was held as part of the support offered by both organisations for applicants to the current call to the INTERREG IVC programme.



INTERREG IVC is an interregional programme, specifically for local and regional authorities, which aims to improve the effectiveness of regional policies and instruments, by the exchange of experiences and the transfer of good practices between participating partners responsible for the development of local and regional policies. The third call for INTERREG IVC is currently open and will close on 1 April 2011.

The areas of support are innovation and the knowledge economy, environment and risk prevention. Typical tools for exchange of experience are networking activities such as thematic workshops, seminars, conferences, surveys, and study visits. Project partners cooperate to identify and transfer good practices. Possible project outcomes include for example case study collections, policy recommendations, strategic guidelines or action plans. INTERREG IVC also allows light implementation or piloting, but only if these complement the exchange of experience activities.

The information seminar provided over 30 local and regional authorities in Northern Ireland and Ireland with an overview of the programme, presented by Michael O'Brien, National Contact Point for Ireland. A range of opportunities to join established partnerships were presented by Teresa Lennon, SEUPB. Mr Akos Szabo from the INTERREG IVC Info Point West provided an overview of the requirements of the current call and Sabine Kalke from Belfast City Council and Colm McColgan from ERNACT in Donegal outlined their experiences of being involved in the INTERREG IVC programme.

Days for ENERMAT - "Bringing together researchers and industrials in the field of materials for energy"

ENERMAT is a European project focused on developing transnational partnerships around European centers of excellence. Its primary objective is to create or reinforce cooperation between international companies and research centers with the aim to design new materials—or improve the characteristics of existing ones—for producing, transmitting, converting, storing or even saving energy. ENERMAT project invites to participate in the business meeting on 13 and 14 April 2011 in Caen. The main goal of this event is to gather SMEs and research centers specialized in the field of materials for energy. For more details please go to <http://www.enermat.eu/site/>

If you would like to discuss INTERREG IVB or IVC please contact:

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