



**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.

### Northern Periphery Programme— Only 2 further calls

At the recent Programme Monitoring Committee meeting has been agreed that two strategic projects and four main projects has been approved. This include **five** projects with **seven** Northern Ireland project partners and the first project with a Northern Ireland lead partner has been approved for funding. To date 95% of the funding has been committed and only a two further calls are expected.

The **Eighth call** will be open for main projects and will be open from **5 September 2011** until **14 October 2011**. It is expected that only up to 2 main projects will be funded in this call. As the programme period is nearing the end, the maximum project period is 2.5 years, ending no later than 30th June 2014. The Eighth call will open under priority 1:

**Promoting innovation and competitiveness in remote and peripheral areas** and will focus only on the following areas:

- Increased use of ICT to overcome distance
- Developing innovative product and service solutions for developing and maintaining transport infrastructure with regard to roads, railways, airports and ports under harsh climatic conditions
- Maritime safety in relation to remote areas with arctic, harsh conditions
- Building the capacity to respond to and prepare for emergencies and natural disasters to which the Northern Periphery is exposed

The Application pack for the Eighth Call will be available on the NPP website from 5 September 2011 and if you are interested in developing a project for this call, the Secretariat is organising a 'How to Apply Seminar' on **13 September 2011** in Copenhagen, Denmark. More information is available at: [http://www.northernperiphery.eu/files/archive/Downloads/Application\\_Pack/Main\\_Projects/Eight\\_Call/Pre-Announcement\\_8th\\_Call.pdf](http://www.northernperiphery.eu/files/archive/Downloads/Application_Pack/Main_Projects/Eight_Call/Pre-Announcement_8th_Call.pdf)

The **Ninth call** will be open to strategic call and will open from **January to March 2012**. This will focus on:

- Renewable energy solutions adapted for remote areas and to the scale of sparsely populated areas
- Responding to climatic change in the Northern Periphery

The Preparatory call will run from **July 2011 and is** specifically addressing project themes that will lead to strategic projects being developed and submitted in March 2012. For more information please go to: <http://www.northernperiphery.eu/en/news/show/&tid=210>

### NW Europe — Next Calls

The Programme Steering Committee (PSC) of the North West Europe Programme approved 13 projects at its meeting in Wallonia on 28-29 June 2011. To date, 79% of the funding has been committed so it is anticipated that the programme will only have a further two calls. The next call, which will be the **Ninth Call** will open in September 2011 and will close in October 2011 and will open across all priorities. Approximately €33 million remains in Priority 1 — Developing the NWE knowledge-based economy by capitalising on our capacity for innovation; Priority 2 is fully committed, however some funding may be moved to this priority if there are really good projects which fit with specific gaps; €33 million remains for Priority 3— Improving connectivity in NWE by promoting intelligent and sustainable transport and ICT solutions and €7.2 million remains for Priority 4 — Promoting strong and prosperous communities at transnational level. A tenth call is anticipated in Spring 2012. For more information see overleaf and go to the programme website: <http://www.nweurope.eu/>

### Transnational Conference, September

For the first time the thirteen transnational programmes currently operating under European Regional Development Fund in the EU have come together to arrange a conference on how transnational co-operation can help to improve the future in European regions. The conference will take a place 15 and 16 September 2011 in Katowice, Poland. It is arranged in co-operation with the Silesian Region in Poland and will be part of the Polish EU Presidency. The event will have a strong focus on results for the future and feature an interactive exhibition and video coverage to highlight success stories and point to the future potential of transnational programmes. It will showcase the results and outcomes of the 13 transnational programmes to date and take out-set in these findings to discuss the future prospects for transnational co-operation to help the implementation of the the EU 2020 Strategy. If you wish to register for this conference please go to: at <http://www.transnational-cooperation.eu/>



## Northern Periphery Programme and North West Europe Project Development Workshop

The Special EU Programmes Body, together with the BMW Regional Assembly hosted a project development workshop for the Northern Periphery and North West Europe Programmes on 04 July 2011 in Derry City Council. SEUPB acts as the Regional Contact Point for Northern Ireland for the Northern Periphery Programme and the BMW Regional Assembly acts as the Regional Contact Point for this programme in Ireland. The RCPs were joined by Ian Hill, the UK Contact Point for the North West Europe programme.

Chaired by Teresa Lennon of the Special EU Programmes Body, the main focus of the workshop was to provide organisations in Northern Ireland and Ireland with an overview of the North West Europe Programme and Northern Periphery Programme and to provide information on how to further develop their applications and how to find partners, with a particular focus on next and final calls to both these programmes (see other articles).

The workshop was attended by 20 people from a range of public sector organizations, mainly from the North West of the region. Participants had the opportunity to discuss their ideas with the contact points and it is hoped that participants will be able to submit proposals during the next calls which will be taken in September/October 2011 and in Spring 2012. Click on the link below to download the workshop presentations:

<http://www.seupb.eu/programmes2007-2013/interreg-overview/Events.aspx>

### Specific gaps in North West Europe

The North West Europe programme has allocated 79% of its funding so around 71.3 million ERDF remains to be allocated. As outlined overleaf, gaps remain in priorities 1, 3 and 4. Within **Priority 1**, the identified gaps are specifically in relation to cross sector innovation and promoting innovative clusters. There is also scope for projects which aim to attract the right labour force to the North West Europe area and that will create and retain the right skills within the programme area. The programme is also keen to fund projects which will improve co-ordination of public bodies involved in innovation. €33 million is available across priority 1 and the programme envisages funding 10—12 average sized projects. Whilst **Priority 2** is fully allocated, there still remains gaps, so the programme will consider, on receipt of good projects, moving funding to this priority. The gaps identified include: enhancing biodiversity, eco-innovation, sustainable waste management, soil and noise pollution and hazard and risk management (expect flood management). The gaps in **Priority 3**, where €33 million is available for about 8—10 average sized projects, relate to: the by pass effect of major rail transport connections, maximising the economic potential of regional airports and port gateways, innovative approaches to the use of ICT to reduce the need to travel. Priority 4 has around €7.2 million available for about 2– 4 average sized projects and the gaps relate to: strengthening secondary towns, reducing the impact of commuting on cities, towns and rural areas, integration of skilled labour, entrepreneurship in under represented groups, such as women, migrants and addressing rural transnational challenges and improving the capacity for transnational exchanges. If you have a project idea that will address any of these gaps, please contact SEUPB to discuss this further.

**Summer  
break!!!**

**This is summer  
edition of  
INTERREGional  
news.**

**The next publi-  
cation will be  
issued in  
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Boord O Owre Ocht UE Projects

