



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, upcoming 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 below.

Northern Periphery Programme - 6th call currently open

The Sixth Call for applications **is open now** and will close on **14th of October 2010**. **The Sixth call is a targeted call** where projects should demonstrate their potential to fight the severest impacts of the economic crisis, creatively seek to the creation of jobs and businesses that prevent unemployment and develop innovative solutions for finding new ways out of the economic crisis. Projects should seek to turn the economic crisis into opportunities by combining technological sectors with non-technological sectors, even taking risks to be different and collaborate where traditional and creative industries can meet. The main focus will be on business development activities related to priority 1, where there is allocated financial resources available. However, the following programme gaps have been identified:



1. urban-rural partnerships for new service solutions (*alternative wording: new services for rural areas linked to towns or services provided by organisations based in towns and distributed to a wider surrounding rural area.*)

The following gap is still present and project proposals are welcomed:

2. maritime safety in relation to remote areas with arctic, harsh conditions

In addition, proposals for the following four themes could be more strongly addressed:

3. exchange of best practice and establishment of cooperation networks between R&D institution and SMEs to increase the capacity for innovation, facilitate the design of innovation systems and strengthen competitiveness

4. cooperation and exchange of best practice between SMEs on how to address and reach markets with existing and new products

5. increased use of ICT to overcome distance

6. developing innovative product and service solutions for developing and maintaining transport infrastructure with regard to roads, railways, airports and ports under harsh climatic conditions

For more details and to download the application form please go to the website <http://www.northernperiphery.eu/en/content/show/&tid=210>

North West Europe - call closing this week

The **7th Call** for applications is open now and will close on **24 September 2010**. For last minute advice, please contact Teresa Lennon. The decision on the projects submitted to this call will be taken at the next Programme Steering Committee meeting on **02 – 03 December 2010**. The Annual Event will take place in **Manchester on 6 – 7 December 2010**. The event will explain how innovation applies to the North West Europe Programme across its four priorities and in particular to Priority 1- Capitalising on Innovation. The conference will also promote the impact of the Programme in North West Europe so far and offer networking opportunities for potential and current project promoters and other stakeholders for all four priorities. More information will follow in next edition.

What's New - Atlantic Area Programme

A Programme Monitoring Committee meeting is scheduled for end of October and following this, we expect to receive details of the next call to the programme. See next edition for an update.

What's New - INTERREG IVC programme

The next call for INTERREG IVC projects will open end-Jan or beginning Feb 2011 and will close end of March or early April. The INTERREG IVC Monitoring Committee has decided that all themes will in principle be open for submissions. It will be no longer possible to submit Capitalisation projects or mini-programmes. Around EUR 100 million ERDF remains for project funding.



NPP Preparatory Projects – Urban-Rural Call Now Open

The Programme Monitoring Committee of the Northern Periphery Programme has identified the programme gap “Urban-rural partnerships for new solutions” as not sufficiently addressed. Therefore, in order to address this gap, the Secretariat has opened an ongoing call for preparatory projects. In order to assist project applicants to address this objective, the following points of reference have been identified and are complementary to the project theme:

- Projects including rural multi-service centres with urban linkages leading to improved accessibility and availability of services in rural areas
- Projects enabling cross-sectoral urban/rural involvement with young people are welcomed; especially if addressing the challenges of youth out-migration through business and organisation support mechanism
- Projects should place a strong emphasis on an appropriate mix of private, public and voluntary sector partnerships from an early stage
- Projects should demonstrate their innovative, enterprising, and entrepreneurial solutions involving links between urban and rural centres

The main purpose of preparatory projects is to generate high-quality main project applications. They should mobilise broad and well-balanced transnational partnerships and facilitate the development of joint project plans on themes that correspond to the objectives of the programme. They also assist with committing partners to specific contributions and reducing risks connected to main projects. Finally, another purpose of a preparatory project is to further develop the indicative products and services and their features into viable solutions that can be implemented by a main project. In order to apply for a preparatory project, two partner organisations are required from two participating countries. The maximum grant to a Preparatory project is 18 000 EUR, up to 60% of eligible costs (30 000 EUR total budget). This is on condition of public match funding, confirmed through match funding commitment forms, and a project plan. The application form and guidance can be downloaded from website <http://www.northernperiphery.eu/en/content/show/&tid=221>

Northern Periphery Programme Annual Conference

The Northern Periphery Programme held the Annual Conference in Bunratty, Ireland on 9 September 2010. The main purpose of the Annual Conference which was entitled ‘Stimulating Growth, Social Inclusion and Equal Opportunities in rural areas through enhanced rural business development and core service provision’ was to assist main projects to implement the horizontal principle of equal opportunities in their approved projects. The conference was attended by over 90 participants and speakers from a range of organisations in Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland made presentations on topics such as ‘stimulating rural business innovation’, good practice in rural service provision and the business case for equality.



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

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