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Interreg NW Europe

Where we are now

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Cooperation Area Characteristics

- 21% of the EU territory
- 180 million inhabitants
- 39.5% of the EU population
- 307 inhabitants/km² (that's high!)
- 75% of the population lives in densely populated, urban areas
- High levels of industrialisation & economic activity
- Connectivity problems & issues

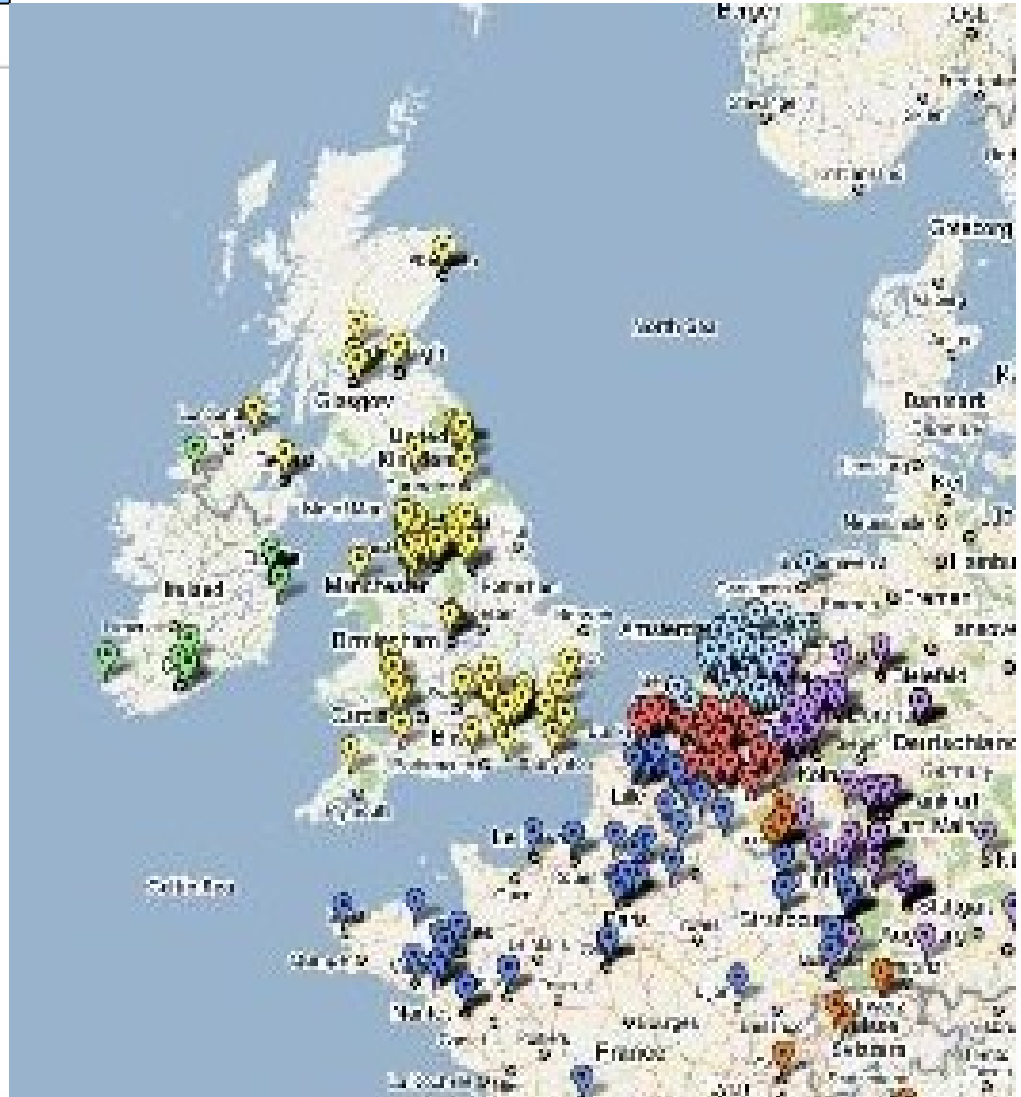




The story so far

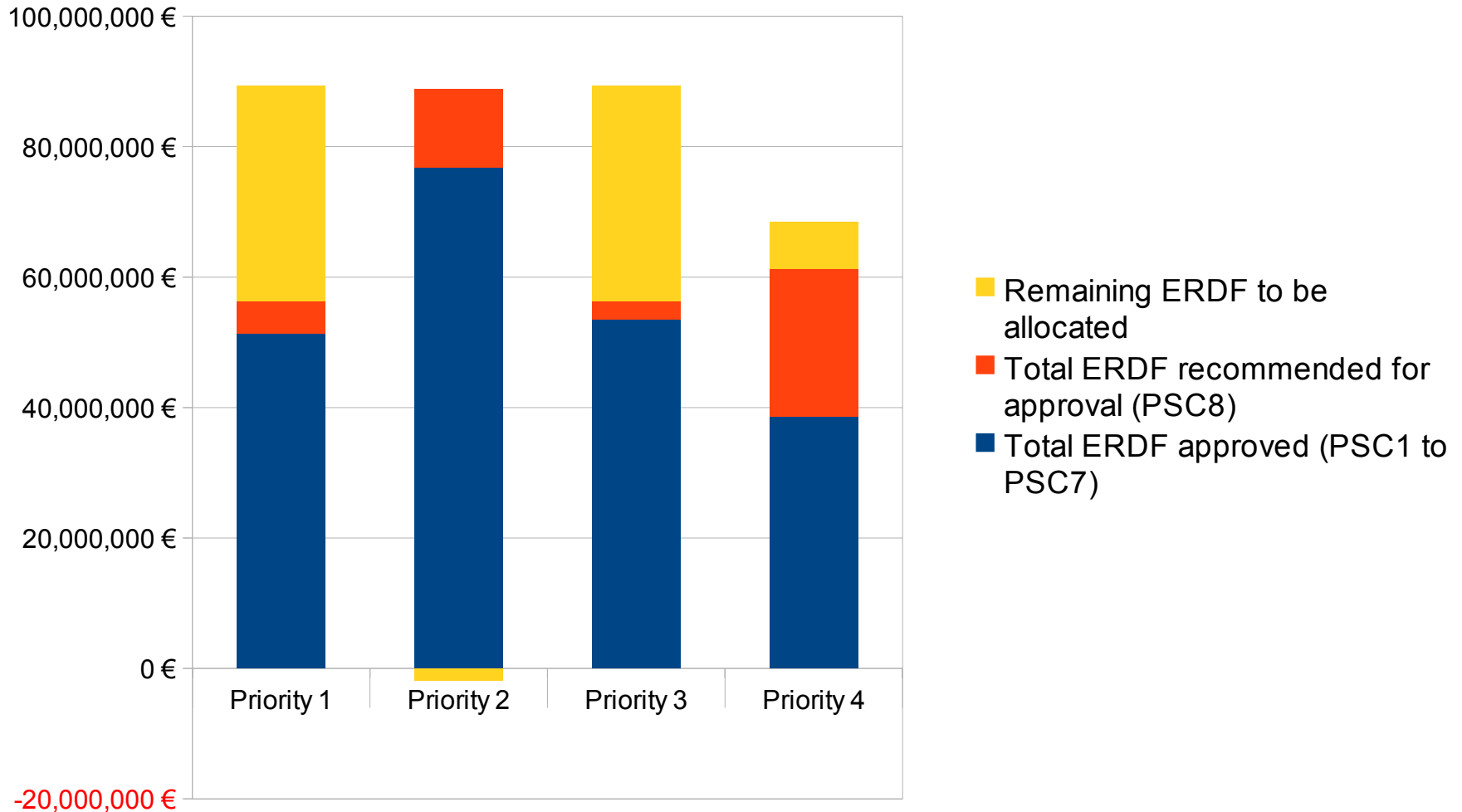
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- 77 projects approved
- Eight calls held to date
- 79% of the budget committed
- Over 600 partners
- Every NW Europe region has project partner(s)
- Average project size €3.4m ERDF





Funds committed, funds available

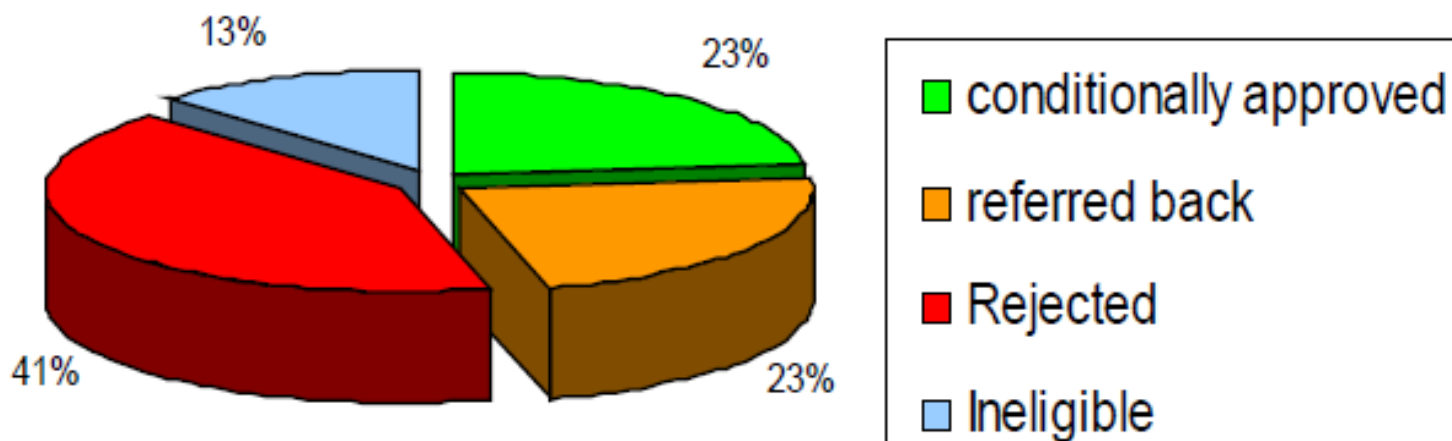




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Success rates for first 7 calls

Interreg NW Europe results, calls 1-7





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What does a NW Europe project look like?

- Minimum of 2 partners in 2 countries, but the average is 8-10 partners in 4-5 countries
- Average budget €3.4m of ERDF
- Grant rate 50% maximum
- End date anytime to mid-2015
- Start date backdated one year to allow for preparation costs
- Common structure:

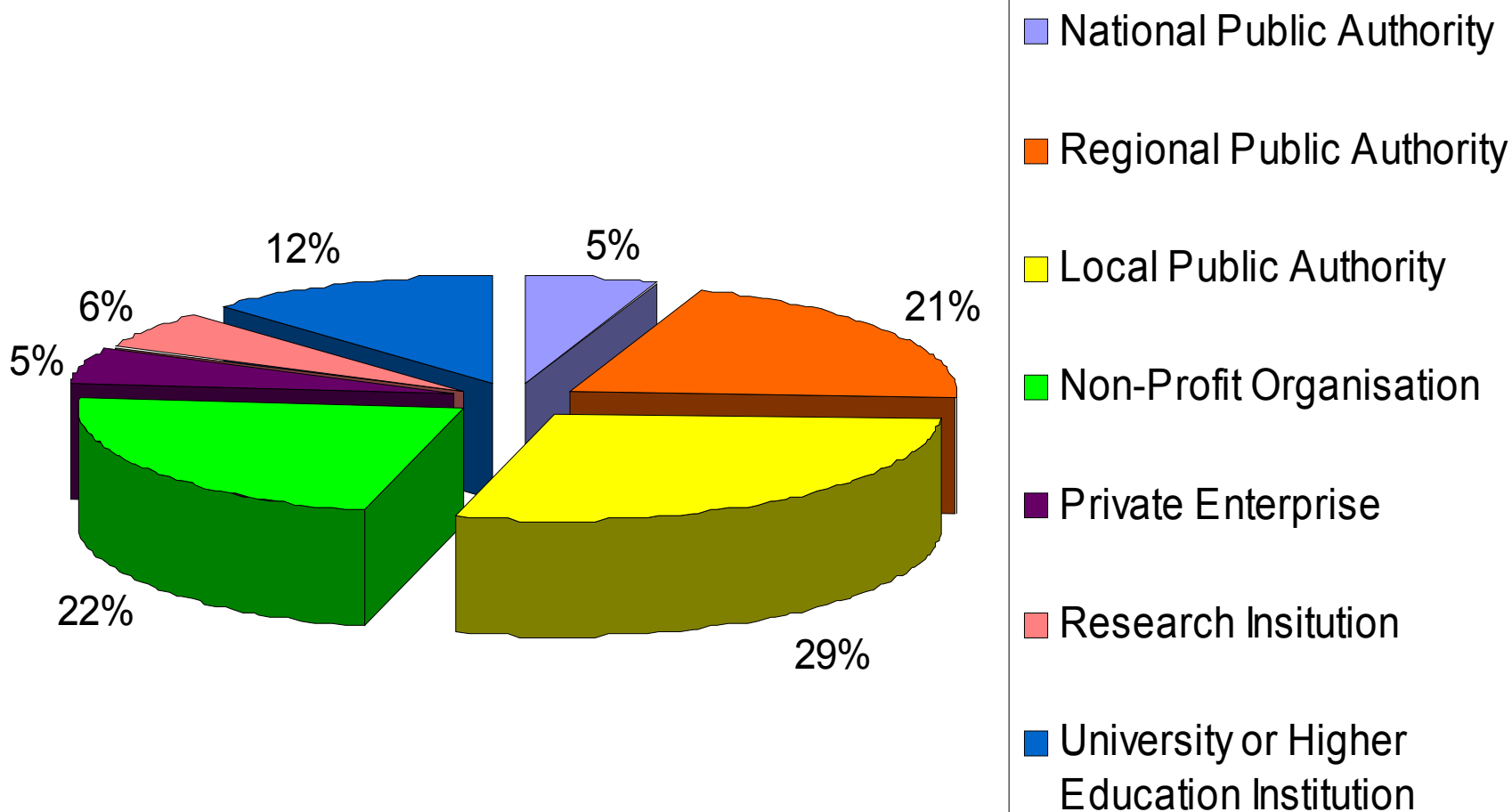
Objectives ⇒ Work packages ⇒ Results





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Who gets involved? Partners in approved projects by sector





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Remaining programme gaps: *Priority 1*

- Around €33m remaining (10-12 average sized projects?)
- Gaps identified:
 - Cross sector innovation, promoting NWE innovative clusters
 - Innovation policy and spatial development, to even out regional disparities (e.g. to attract the right labour force to NWE and to create and retain the right skills within the NWE)
 - Improved horizontal coordination of public and private actors involved in innovation and territorial development across NWE

Remaining programme gaps:

Priority 2

- Priority now fully allocated
- Gaps identified:
 - Enhancing biodiversity
 - Eco-innovation and management tools for green technology, lifecycle thinking and cleaner production processes
 - Sustainable Waste Management (including minimisation, recycling and disposal for energy generation)
 - Hazard and risk management (except flood management)
 - Soil and noise pollution



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Remaining programme gaps: *Priority 3*

- Around €33m remaining (8-10 average sized projects?)
- Gaps identified:
 - By-pass effect of major rail transport connections as HST lines on secondary centres.
 - Maximize the economic potential of regional airports and port gateways (in balance with environmental impacts).
 - Innovative approaches to the use of ICT to reduce the need to travel and to reduce physical mobility through virtual exchanges



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Remaining programme gaps: *Priority 4*

- Around €7.2m remaining (2-4 average sized projects?)
- Gaps identified:
 - Strengthening secondary towns
 - Reduce impact of commuting on cities, town and rural areas
 - Integration of skilled labour
 - Entrepreneurship in under-represented groups : women /migrants / minority ethnic groups
 - Rural and peripheral transnational challenges
 - Improve institutional capacity for transnational exchange