



**Welcome** to 'INTERREGional News' from the Special EU Programmes Body. This newsletter aims to bring you up to date with developments in the **INTERREG VB** Programmes that are relevant to Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland (the Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme, the North West Europe Programme and the Atlantic Area Programme) as well as the **INTERREG VC 'Europe'** Programme for the new programming period from 2014-2020. All of the programmes are at varying stages of development but we would encourage you to begin thinking about project ideas and discussing these with us at the earliest opportunity.

### ***New transnational and interregional programmes 2014 –2020***

Programme planning is progressing well for the new INTERREG VB and VC Transnational and Interregional programmes. For 2014-2020, Northern Ireland will be eligible to participate in three INTERREG VB programmes: **the Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme, the North West Europe Programme, the Atlantic Area Programme** and in INTERREG VC programme: **INTERREG EUROPE Programme**. The Cohesion Policy Regulations were approved and published in the European Official Journal in December 2013. For the 2014-2020 funding period, cohesion policy concentrates on supporting the goals of the Europe 2020 strategy. Europe 2020 aims to turn the EU into a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy delivering high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion. All regulations for Cohesion Policy 2014-2020 are available at [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/information/legislation/index\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/information/legislation/index_en.cfm)

#### ***North West Europe Programme & Atlantic Area***

The **North West Europe** and the **Atlantic Area Programmes** are currently under development for the new programming period—a public consultation on the new programmes will follow later this year. It is anticipated that the first call for the North West Europe programme will run in the first half of 2015. Further information and updates are available on the NWE Programme website — [http://www.nweurope.eu/index.php?act=page&page\\_on=about&id=1576](http://www.nweurope.eu/index.php?act=page&page_on=about&id=1576)

Further information for the Atlantic Area programme is available at <http://atlanticarea.ccdr-n.pt/presentation/2014-2020>

#### ***Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme***

The **Northern Periphery Programme** is being renamed for the new programming period as the Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme. The development of the programme is ongoing—the Priorities are likely to be set around Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Protecting, Promoting and Developing Cultural and Natural Heritage. Further information is available on the Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme Website — <http://www.northernperiphery.eu/en/content/show/&tid=238> or by contacting the NI Regional Contact Point, Declan McGarrigle on 02890266678 or at [declan.mcgarrigle@seupb.eu](mailto:declan.mcgarrigle@seupb.eu)

### ***INTERREG Europe Programme***

In the next programming period 2014 –2020 the INTERREG IVC programme will continue under the name **INTERREG EUROPE!** This new programme aims to improve the implementation of regional development policies and programmes, in particular programmes for Investment for Growth and Jobs and European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) programmes. The themes of the new programme are likely to be set around Research and Innovation, SME Competitiveness, Low Carbon Economy and Environment and Resource efficiency. A Europe-wide online consultation process ended on the 21st March, however, further consultations will be held once the final draft Operational Programme is available. Further updates will be available on the INTERREG Europe Website <http://www.interreg4c.eu/programme/2014-2020/>



## Transnational and Interregional Programmes 2007-2013—Update

The INTERREG IVB and IVC, 2007-2013 programmes entered the final stage and all projects expenditure for the current programmes should be completed by 2015. In order to celebrate the successes of the current programmes, a number of events will be organised. Details of events will be provided in the 'Upcoming Events' section in the newsletter.

### NPA Programme 'How to Apply Seminar'—March 2014

Northern Ireland preparatory project Lead Partners attended the '**How to Apply Seminar**' in Copenhagen on the 20th March which was the last event ahead of the preparatory projects closing on the 31st March 2014. The event was attended by partners from across the NPA region and heard updates from the programme secretariat on the main project application and assessment process.

Presentations from the event are available to download at the following web address: <http://www.northernperiphery.eu/en/events/show/&tid=68>

### NPP Project 'Creative Edge-Creative Hubs' Awards Success!

The Northern Periphery Project 'Creative Edge-Creative Hubs' won the 'Best European Funded Initiative' at the annual NILGA AGM in February. Craigavon and Newry & Mourne are the Northern Ireland partners in the project along with partners in the West of Ireland, Lapland in Finland and Vasterboten in Sweden. The development of 4 Creative Hubs (for work, display and networking, learning and development, selling locally and exporting) has enabled 11 creative businesses to access unused commercial spaces in our town centres resulting in a range of regeneration and business benefits. For more details please go to the project website at <http://www.creative-edge.eu/activities-2/creative-hub-lurgan/>

### Upcoming Events.....

Northern Periphery Programme—'**Recruit and Retain Project**' Final Conference, **6th May 2014** in Enniskillen.

*If you have any events that you would like to publicise in this newsletter please contact*

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Northern  
Periphery  
Programme  
2007-2013



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