



Welcome to 'INTERREGional News' from the Special EU Programmes Body. This newsletter aims to bring you up to date with developments on the **INTERREG VB Programmes** (the Northern Periphery and Arctic (NPA) 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 and implementation but we would encourage you to begin thinking about project ideas and discussing these with us at the earliest opportunity.

NPA PROGRAMME MONITORING COMMITTEE IN BELFAST

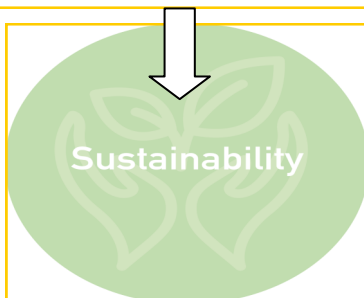
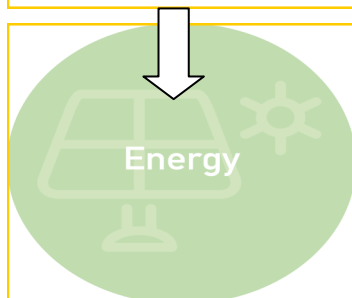
Members from each of the Member States and Regions that participate in the NPA Programme gathered in Belfast for a two day Monitoring Committee meeting on the 8th and 9th June to discuss Programme implementation and also to make decisions on the applications submitted under the Second Call.

In total, members agreed to allocate approximately 6.8 million EUR to 6 projects, bringing the total commitment up to 35% of the programme funding. 2 of the approved projects have Northern Ireland partners—GREBE and RECENT. Further information on the projects approved can be found on the [Programme's website](#).

NOTICE NPA THIRD CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

At its meeting in June the NPA Monitoring Committee agreed that the Third Call for Applications under the Programme should open on the 30th September and close on the 30th November 2015.

Members also agreed that the call is open for priority axes 3 (Energy Efficiency) and 4 (Protecting Cultural & Natural Heritage) only.



INTERREG EUROPE PROGRAMME - FIRST CALL NOW CLOSED

The First Call for Applications under the Interreg Europe Programme opened on the 22 June and closed on the 31 July 2015. A total of 237 applications were submitted to the Programme by the closing date all of which covered one of the topics below:



The Programme has set aside around a third of the total programme budget—**EUR 107.5 million of ERDF**—to allocate to projects who are successful under the First Call. Further news on the successful projects will be available by the end of 2015.

NORTH WEST EUROPE PROGRAMME - LATEST NEWS

The North West Europe Programme Monitoring Committee met in July to consider the 82 applications submitted under the first stage of the first call.

A total of 19 projects were approved to Stage 2 including 3 projects with Northern Ireland Partners. Further information on the projects that have been approved can be found on the [Programme website](#).

The 1st Stage of the Second Call for Applications will close on the 30th November 2015.

OPEN DAYS 2015 - EUROPEAN WEEK OF THE REGIONS AND CITIES

The 13th Annual Open Days—European Week of the Regions and Cities, will take in Brussels from 12 - 15 October 2015. With the headline of '**Europe's regions and cities: partners for investment and growth**' the Open Days will provide a forum for national and regional managing authorities, final beneficiaries and EU institutions to exchange information and facilitate networking on approaches for implementing EU Programmes. To register please visit the [Open Days website](#).



PROJECT FOCUS - TARGET PROJECT

The **TARGET Project** is an NPA Programme funded project led by the South West College in partnership with organisations from Finland, Norway, Iceland, Sweden and Ireland. It will develop tools to enhance the capacity of manufacturing companies in the NPA region to adapt and embrace new technologies and innovation. The 'toolbox' developed will consist of subsets such as digital manufacturing, new ideas and thinking (human centred and environmental thinking), business models and modern product innovation. The total project cost is just over 2 Million EUR with a total grant from the programme of over 1.2 million EUR.

For further information on 'TARGET', please contact Edel. McCusker@swc.ac.uk



International delegates pictured at the two day 'TARGET' event at the SWC Centre in Enniskillen

INTERREG INFORMATION DAY - 11TH JUNE 2015



An INTERREG Information Day was held on the 11th June 2015 in Tullamore, Co Offaly. Over 250 delegates attended the event which was held to provide information on the various INTERREG Programmes relevant to Ireland and Northern Ireland. Presentations were provided on each of the INTERREG VA, B & C Programmes with one to ones held in the afternoon to discuss specific project ideas and concepts. The event was organised jointly by the Northern and Western Regional Assembly (NWRA) and the Southern Regional Assembly (SRA). The presentations are available to download from the [NWRA website](#).

NPA PROGRAMME - NI WORKSHOP

A workshop was held on the 24th June in Belfast for Northern Ireland partners approved to date under the Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme. The event provided an opportunity for partners to hear about other projects funded under the Programme within the region.

However, the main focus of the day was to provide partners with guidance on eligibility of expenditure as well as the verification and claims process. Further workshops will be held with successful partners throughout the lifetime of their programme.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND KEY DATES!!

- [NPA Programme Annual Conference](#) — 30 September 2015 Kuopio, Finland
- **NPA Lead Partner Seminar**—1 October 2015 Kuopio, Finland
- **Open Days** — 'European Week of the Regions and Cities' 12 - 15 October 2015 in Brussels
- **NPA Third Call** — Opens on the 30 September 2015
- **North West Europe Programme Second Call (1st Stage)** - Closes on the 30 November 2015

To discuss INTERREG VB or VC in further detail or any specific project ideas that you have please contact:

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