



Special EU Programmes Body
Foras Um Chláir Speisialta An AE
Boord O Owre Ocht UE Projects

Atlantic Area Programme Information Seminar

28th October 2015
Europa Hotel



European Regional Development Fund.



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Opening Remarks

Shaun Henry
Director, SEUPB



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Fanad Head Lighthouse, Donegal



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Sliabh Liag Cliffs



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PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Atlantic Area 2014 – 2020

Interreg VB Transnational Co-operation

<http://atlanticarea.ccd-r-n.pt/>

Filippo Compagni UK National Contact Point

filippo.compagni@communities.gsi.gov.uk - 07765896770

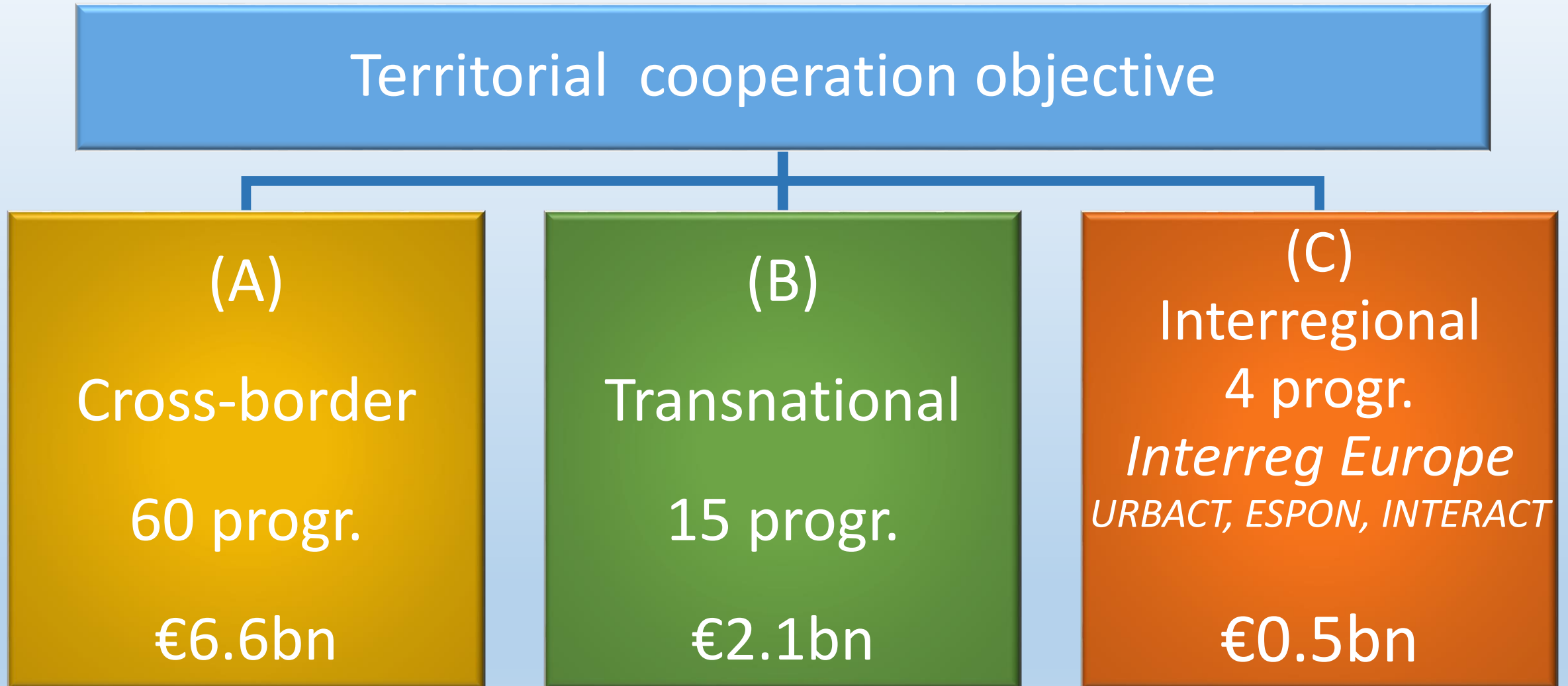
Content

- Interreg in the EU policy and funding context
- Atlantic Area Programme basic facts and structure
- Atlantic Area priorities and specific objectives
- What's next for the programme

What is Interreg

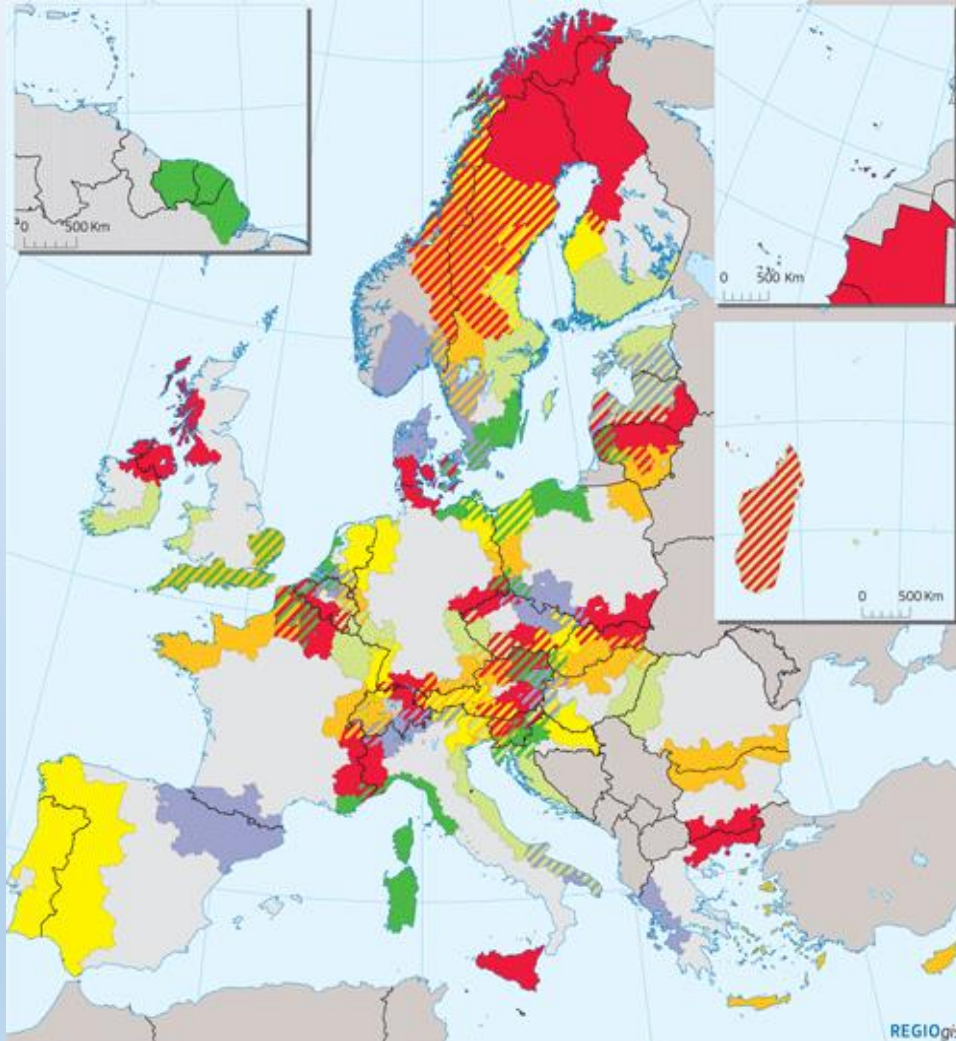
- Third Structural Funds Objective (2.8% of ESIF budget)
- European Territorial Co-operation (ETC)
- ERDF funding for problems at or caused by national borders
- Three different strands for 70+ co-operation zones
- Just starting 5th period of Interreg programmes (Interreg V)

The Interreg strands and main programmes

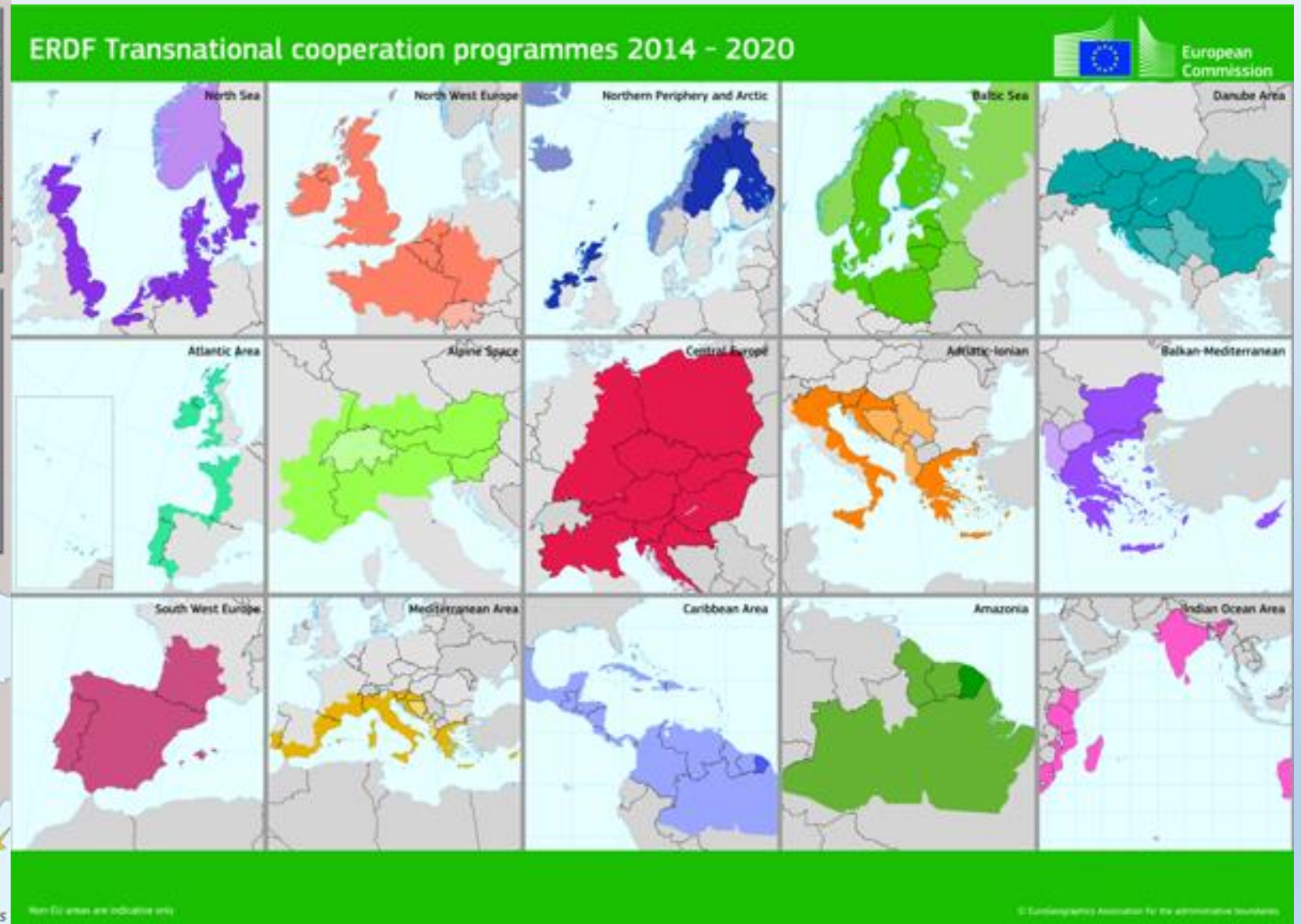


http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/images/cooperation/european-territorial/interreg-budget.png

Cross-Border

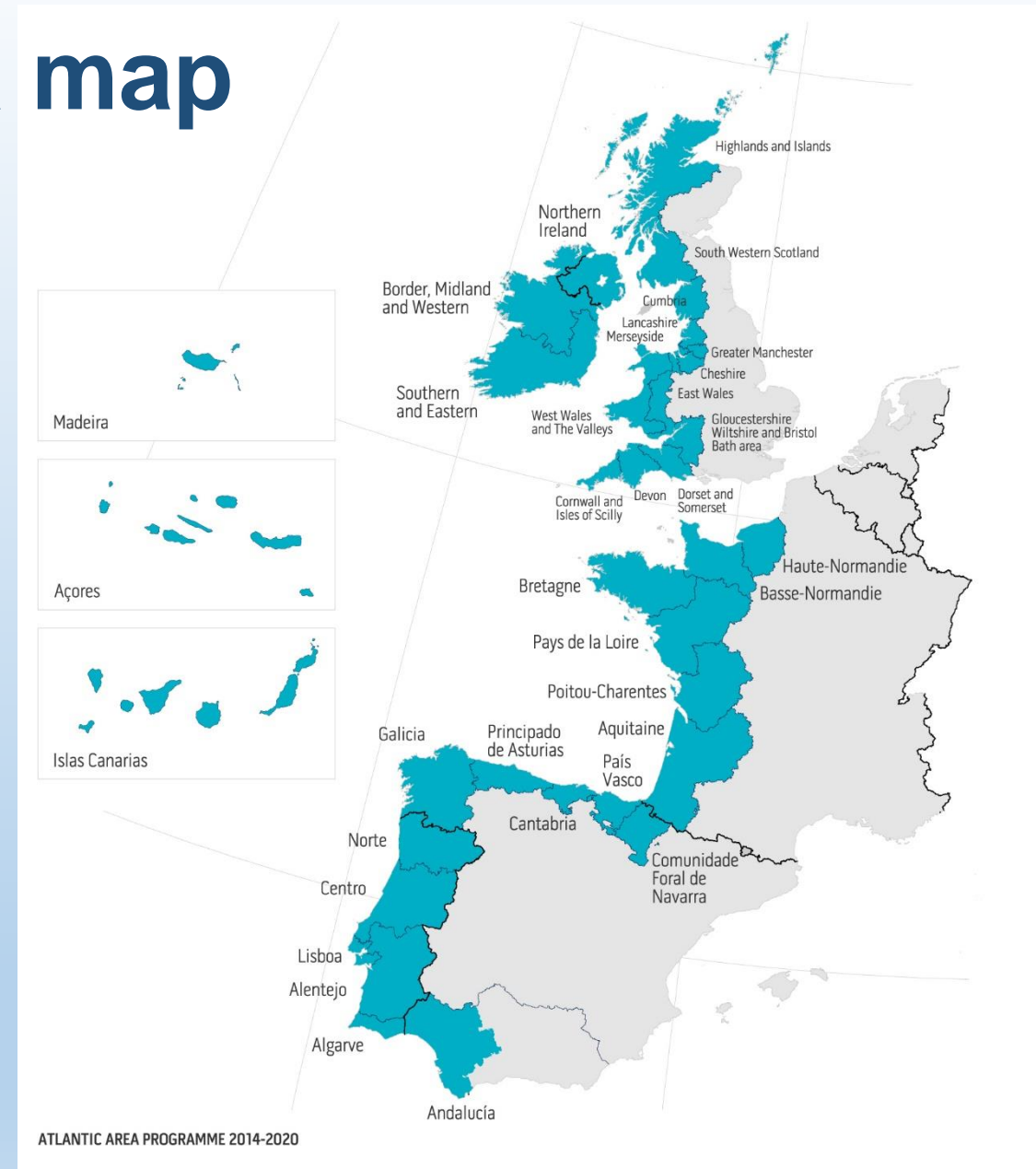


Transnational



Atlantic Area map

- **5 Countries:**
Portugal, Ireland, *Spain, *France, *UK
 - Madeira (PT), the Azores (PT), and Canaries Islands (ES)
 - (*parts of)
- **United Kingdom:** Northern Ireland, Highlands and Islands, South Western Scotland, North West of England, Wales, South West of England
- **Out of area partners:**
Only if indispensable to achieve the project objectives



Atlantic Area - Facts and Figures

- **Population:** 58.96 million inhabitants (2012)
 - AA: 84 inhab./km², EU28 116 inhab./km² (Eurostat)
- **GDP:** € 1,486,301€ million (2011)
 - Approx. €25,000 pp but clear divide North / South
- **Total programme value:** €185,366,649
(of which: €140,013,194 ERDF)
- **Intervention rate:** 75%

SWOT

Weaknesses & Threats

- Low innovation and R&D levels
- Econ. Dev. mostly in urban areas
- Low employment rates
- High exposure to climate change
- Low levels of accessibility
- North / South gap
- Coastal / In-land gap

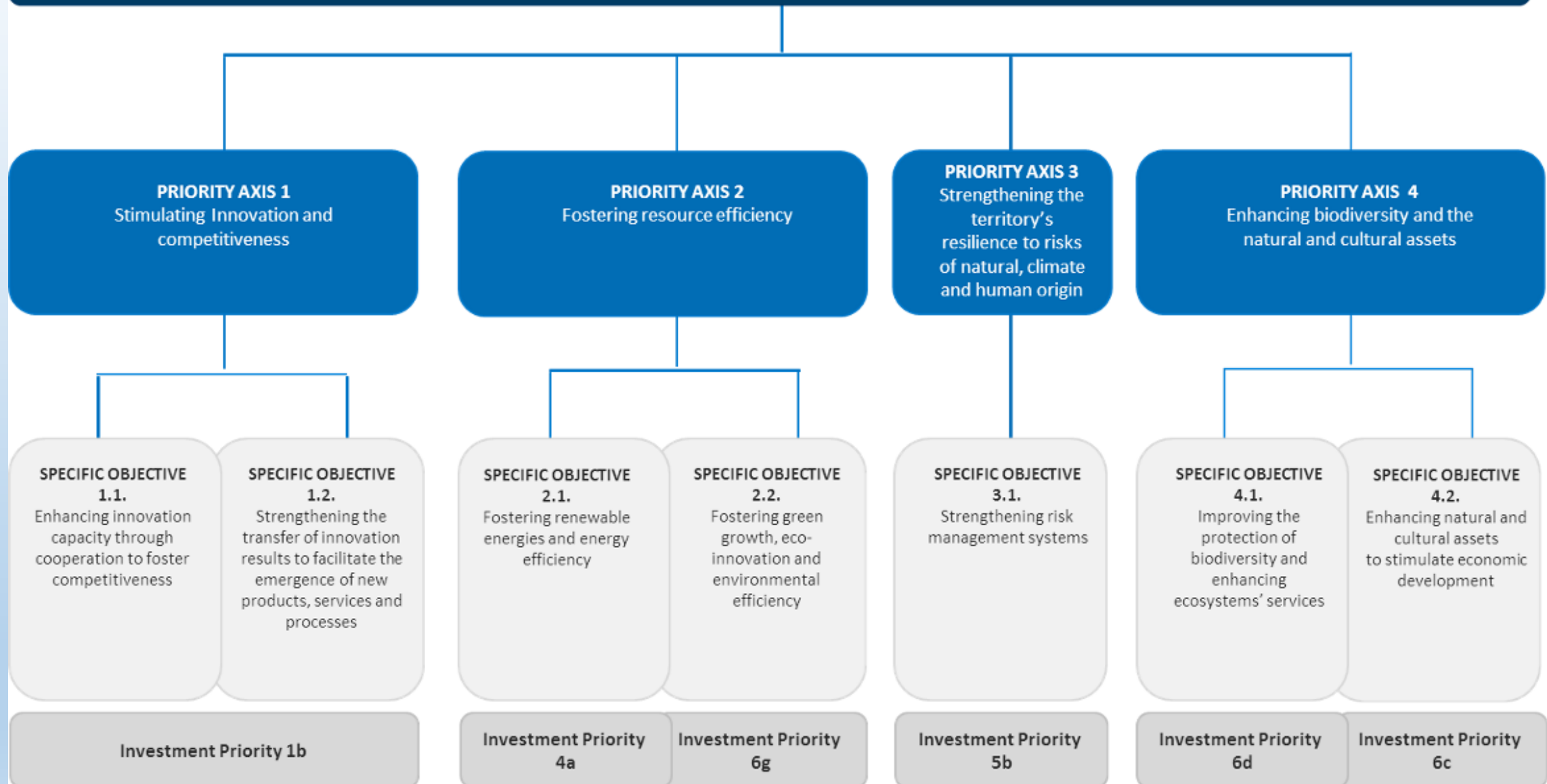
Strengths & Opportunities

- Dynamism of urban areas
- Renewable energy potential
- Strong maritime dimension
- Well preserved natural resources
- Some peripheral regions with high productivity
- Cultural heritage

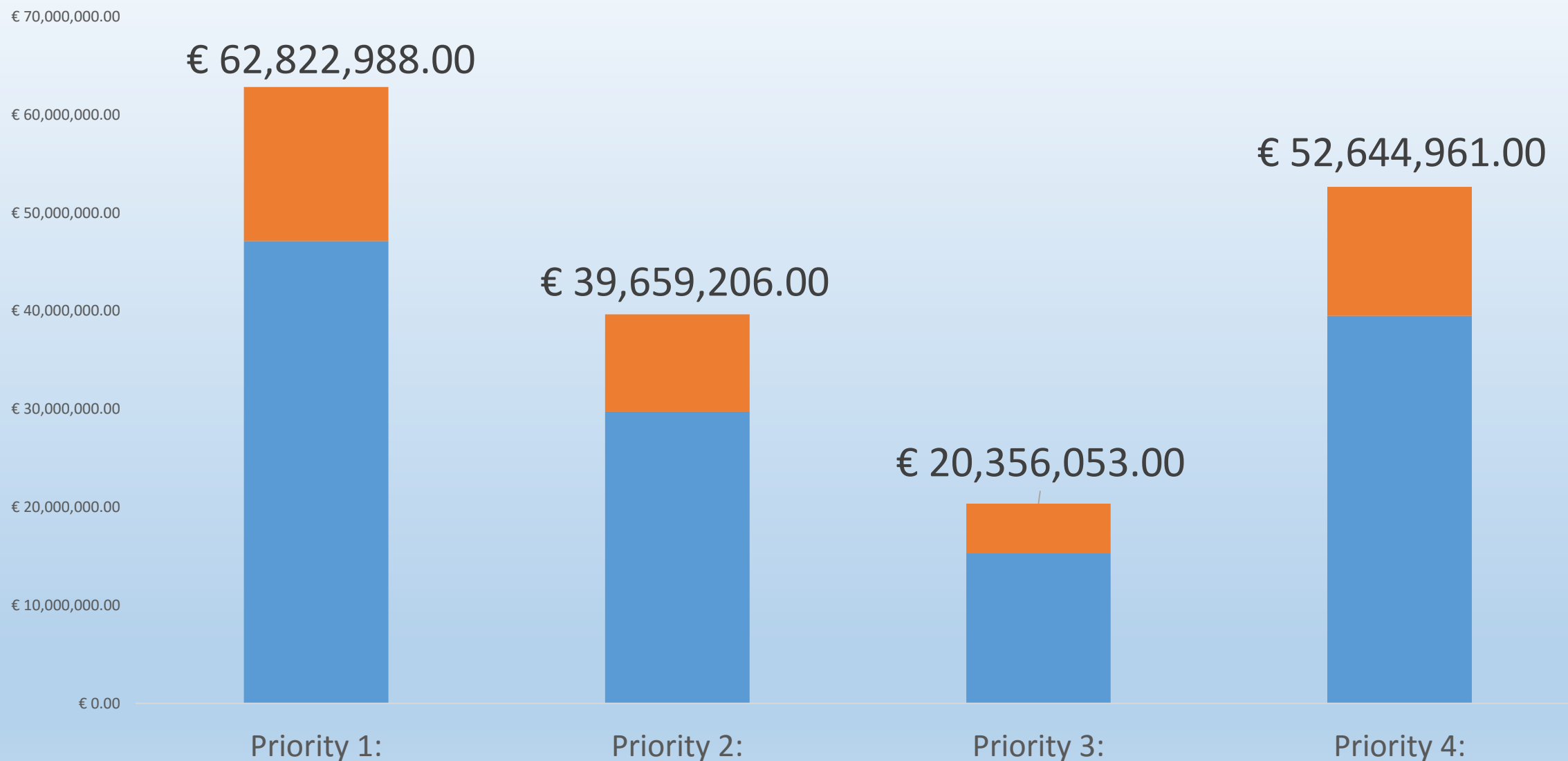
Key challenges

- Accelerating intelligent growth through co-operation
- Fostering renewable energy
- Supporting eco-efficient economy, incl. green and blue growth
- Improve capacity of natural risk management
- Promote and enhance natural and cultural assets

ATLANTIC AREA OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME 2014-2020



Indicative financial allocation per priority



Priority 1 - Stimulating innovation and competitiveness

Specific Objective 1.1: Enhancing innovation capacity through cooperation to foster competitiveness

- Creation of an innovation-friendly environment

Specific Objective 1.2: Strengthening the transfer of innovation results to facilitate the emergence of new products, services and processes

- Transforming R&D&I into high profit products, processes and services

Indicative types of actions

- Development of regional innovation chains
- Development of technology transfer initiatives
- Enhancement of intersectoral cooperation

Priority 2 - Fostering resource efficiency

Specific Objective 2.1: Fostering renewable energies and energy efficiency

- Foster renewable energy by assisting the development of an adequate environment

Specific Objective 2.2: Fostering green growth, eco-innovation and environmental efficiency

- Support the introduction of eco-innovation in services and products
- Foster the green growth economy

Indicative types of actions

- Practical 'on-the-ground' demonstrations of new techniques
- Improvement of spatial management to enhance the use of renewable energies

Priority 3 - Strengthening the territory's resilience to risks of natural, climate and human origin

Specific Objective 3.1: Strengthening risk management systems

- Improved cooperation framework contributing to reduce risks and their impact

Indicative types of actions

- Networking of technical and scientific resources available in the area
- Development of capacity-building initiatives
- Development of environmental monitoring and prevention systems

Priority 4 - Enhancing biodiversity and the natural and cultural assets

Specific Objective 4.1:

Improving the protection of biodiversity and enhancing ecosystems' services

- To develop a more integrated environmental approach, considering economic and social issues

Specific Objective 4.2:

Enhancing natural and cultural assets to stimulate economic development

- To promote cooperation in order to generate new sources of wealth and a sustainable development

Indicative types of actions

- Harmonisation and coordination of environmental management strategies
- Initiatives to preserve and protect the natural species, landscapes and sites

What's next for the Atlantic Area

- Programme approval by 2015, first call expected early 2016
- Start preparing project ideas and look for partners
- Focus on: needs, objectives, impact, results, real change
- Develop a realistic budget (value for money)
- Put together an effective partnership: sector, skills, capacity
- Get in touch with National Contact Point for support



THANK YOU!

Atlantic Area 2014 – 2020

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Comfort Break



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Michael Doran

28th October 2015

Overview

- About Action Renewables
- Involvement in EU Projects
- BATTERIE
- REPUTE
- Getting Started
- Building a Consortium
- Developing a successful application
- Overall Experience

Action Renewables



- Not for Profit; Energy, Renewables, Climate Change
- 18 staff; turnover approximately £800k
- Governed by Board of Executive and Non-Executive Directors
- 12 Years in operation
- 20% income from EU projects
- 80% from other activities
 - *Feasibility Studies*
 - *ROC Trading*
 - *RHI accreditation*
 - *Micro Generation Certification*
 - *Energy Advice*
 - *Small scale SPV*

Vision / Mission

Vision:

The partner of choice for Renewable Energy Solutions

Mission:

The leading provider of Renewable Energy Expertise

Past Involvement in EU projects



Bioenergy Proliferation and Deployment



European Union
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Better Accessible Transport To Encourage Robust Intermodal Enterprise



European Union

European Regional
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BATTERIE – What was it?

- The project was about transport
- It was about connectivity in transport and reducing co2 emissions
- The Batterie project was designed to help local and regional government, to help the community make the shift from carbon intensive fuel to greener more sustainable forms of fuel
- It addressed Atlantic Area priority 3.1; Improve accessibility and internal links
- Promote interoperability and continuity of existing transport networks, and sea/road/rail/air intermodality



How was it funded?

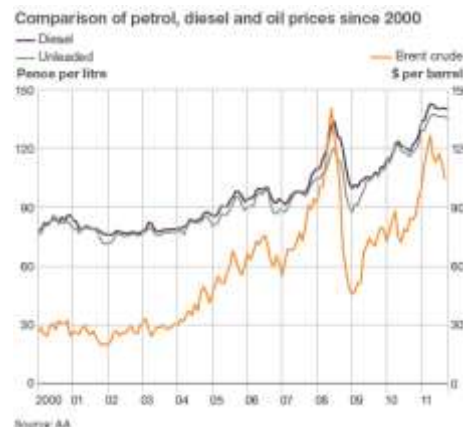


- **Atlantic Area** is a transnational cooperation programme in the framework of the "European Territorial Cooperation" objective financed by the European Commission through the European Regional Development Fund (**ERDF**)
- The Atlantic Area covers Ireland and the Atlantic regions of **Spain, France, Portugal** and the **United Kingdom**
- **BATTERIE** had a budget of **€3.4m**
- It started on **1st Jan 2012**; completed on **31st Dec 2014**



Context

- A huge rise in interest in **alternative fuels** and **smart technology**
 - EU 2020 vision, EU Targets, National and Regional CO2 reduction targets, the rising cost of oil and petrol
- The **industry** shows interest and are investing hundreds of millions in this area.
- Lack of good **journey planners**
 - Alternative fuels
 - Cross border
 - Multimodal



Aims

- The overall aim is to establish **better accessible and sustainable transport** which will in turn encourage and secure **more effective and smooth operation of existing transport infrastructure** in the Atlantic Area. This will include;
 - Effective interconnection between all intermodal networks
 - How to introduce smart technologies
 - Identifying the alternative fuel sources available
- By examining how effectively all the current intermodal networks operate, and by examining the impact of smart technology and alternative fuels an objective is to establish and share best practice, in making the alternative models available and commercial sustainability.

Outputs

- Contribute to providing an easier transition between modes of transport, and improved connectivity between road, rail, air and sea
- Deliver a web-based journey-planning tool to facilitate intermodal journeys across the Atlantic Area maximising the use of smart technology and alternative fuels
- For smart technology and alternative fuels we will map and model availability and future development, costs and environmental impact (reducing CO2 emissions)
- Design scenarios and models of changes to policy, behaviour and transnational strategies
- Pilot Journey
- Deliver a pilot network conference



Who are the Partners?



Who were the Partners?

1. Action Renewables (UK)
2. South West College (UK)
3. Pure Energy Centre (UK)
4. European Automotive Strategy Network (UK)
5. Udaras Reigiunach An Lar Dheiscirt (South West Regional Authority) (IE)
6. Inteli - Inteligencia em Inovacao - Centro de Inovacao (PT)
7. Comunidade Intermunicipal do Oeste (PT)
8. Esigelec (FR)
9. Centro Nacional de Energias Renovables – CENER (SP)
10. Denokinn - Centro Vasco de Innovacion, Emprendizaje y Desarrollo de Nuevos Negocios (SP)
11. Fundacion Asturiana de La Energia (FAEN) (SP)
12. ESB (IE)
13. Oxford Brookes University (UK)

REPUTE

Renewable Energy in PUBlic Transport Enterprise

OVERVIEW

REPUTE will create an Atlantic Area framework for encouraging innovation in enterprises promoting the use of renewable energy in public transport.

REPUTE builds on the work done in previous transport projects concerning energy, to support interoperability, intermodality and continuity of existing transport networks.

OVERVIEW

REPUTE will establish the following:

1. **REPUTE Guide**
2. **REPUTE Workshops**
3. **REPUTE Pilot Tests**
4. **REPUTE Conference**
5. **REPUTE Literature**



VISION

“REPUTE promotes innovation and engagement in the efficient use of energy in public transport by means of information provision, enterprise stimulation, and policy change recommendations.”

FUNDING



Funders: Atlantic Area (ERDF)

Budget: €1.46m

Duration: Jan 2014 – June 2015

PARTNERS



Getting Started

- Why make an application?
 - Profit / Income / Employment
 - Extending capacity
 - Building partnerships
 - Developing expertise
- Choosing an appropriate fund
 - Interreg (a,b,c – Cross Border / Transnational)
 - NPP
 - NWE
 - North Sea
 - Atlantic Area
 - H2020
- It all depends on the programme objectives v's company objectives v's local government objectives. If they all match then it's a winner!

Building a Consortium

- Getting help
 - Barrroso
 - SEUPB
 - Dept EU Officers
- Networking
 - Other Companies
- Building a partnership
 - Associate Partner
 - Full Partner
 - Lead Partner

Developing a Successful Application

- Calls for Projects
- Who is going to write the application?
- Understanding the rules
- Understanding the language
- Understanding the finance
 - Forward planning
 - Audits
 - Intervention rates
 - Match funding
 - Claim periods
 - Payment

Benefits

- Funding
- Employment
- Better understanding issues
- Project outputs
- Experience
- Partnerships
- Project after-life

New Application Autumn 2015

SUNROOF

REPUTE 2 – Sunroof (Promoting Solar Sunroofs for EV's)

RESOURCE EFFICIENCY Priority Call - €39.6m

Resource Efficiency; S01 Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency; S02 Green Growth, eco-innovation and environmental efficiency

CONTACT

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PROJECT DEVELOPMENT - MAIN ASPECTS

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<http://atlanticarea.ccdr-n.pt/>

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Content

- Strategic approach and policy context
- Ideas development & programme fit
- Practical aspects and considerations
- Support & further reading

ETC intervention principles

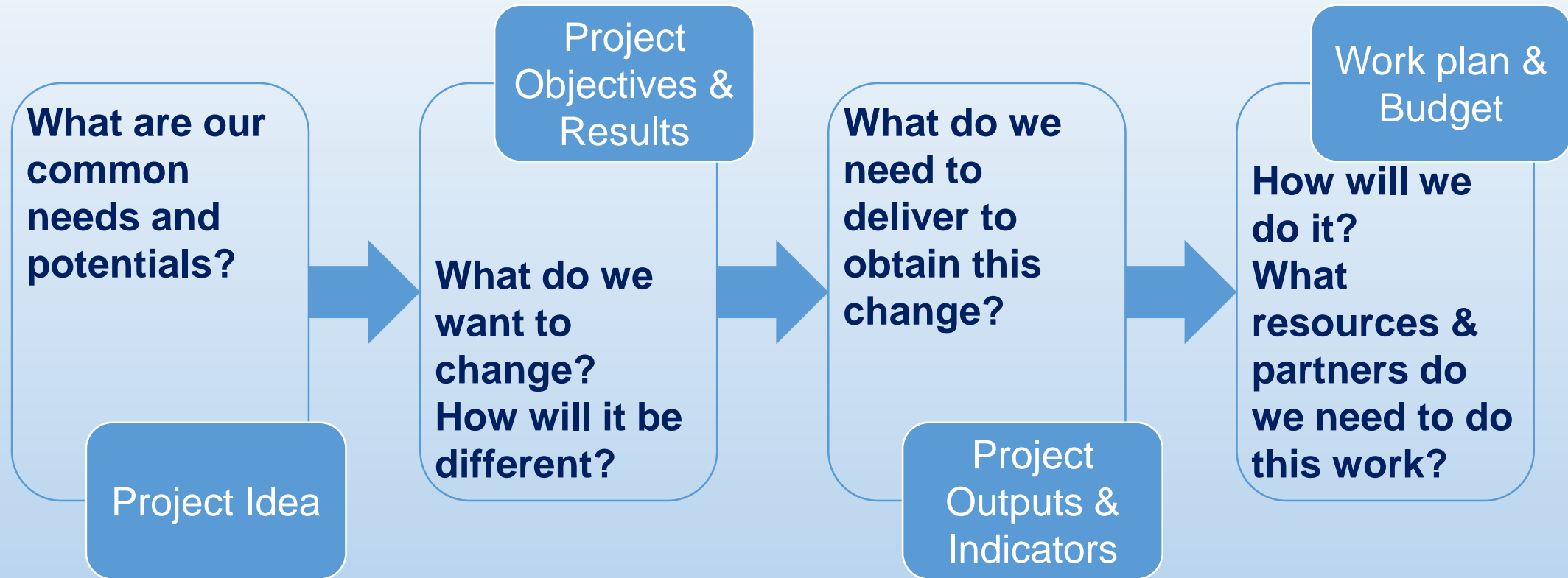
Across all ETC Programmes the UK has been working to ensure:

- Maximum impact on growth and focussing on results and value for money
- Promote economic development through innovation to support jobs and growth
- Tackling shared challenges on climate change and resilience
- Projects need to be genuinely cross-border / transnational / inter-regional

EU Policy Context

- Atlantic Area Cooperation programme
- Action Plan for a Maritime Strategy in the Atlantic area
- Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) (<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/home>)
- Europe2020 (Smart, Sustainable, and Inclusive growth)
- Territorial Agenda EU2020
- Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)
- Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) Directive
- 6th Report on Economic, Social and Territorial Cohesion (EU)

Project intervention logic



Types of achievements

Outputs – products of the activities funded

- Number of reports, seminars held, innovation centres opened

Results – immediate advantages of carrying out activities

- Number of regional policy changes, number of new business start ups etc.

Impacts – Sustainable long term benefits of any activity

- Fall in number of long term unemployed, increased regional GDP etc.



Partnership



- Relevant to objectives and delivery, all contribute, enough capacity
- Public and private sector, including universities and SMEs
 - watch out for State Aid implications and revenue generation
- Lead partner principle: financial and legal responsibility
- EU minimum requirement: 3 partners from 2 countries
 - Partnerships often include 3 countries min. (transnational vs cross border)
- Out of area partners are eligible if indispensable
 - Results delivered within the AA area
 - Easier if within MS, i.e. central agencies, ministries
 - From MS outside programme, need agreement

Financial aspects

- **Budget lines:** Staff; Office and Admin, Travel and Accommodation; External expertise; Equipment; Small infrastructure
- **Procurement:** adhere to EU, national, and internal rules
 - It is ERDF = public money
- **Match funding:** staff time (not in-kind); cash; in-kind
- **Audit:** 100% check on each line of expenditure, FLC
- **Cash-flow:** can be up to 9 or 12 months

(all TBC by MS in the programme manual)

Horizontal principles

Sustainable development

- Assessed in applications
- Implemented and monitored in projects
- Use of green procurement

Equal opportunities and non-discrimination

- Assessed in applications
- Implemented and monitored in projects
- Concerns people as well as communities

Equality between men and women

- Assessed in applications
- Implemented and monitored in projects

Final tips

- Review your project idea against the selection criteria (when they will be published)
- Trans-national partnership meetings (preparation costs?)
- Set up communication mechanisms (internal and w/partners)
- Plan monitoring and evaluation procedures from the start
- Enough staff/capacity/skills and right internal procedures
- Political/senior management buy-in
- Support other partners/manage conflict/different cultures
- Timescales for signatures

Support & Readings & Partners

- SEUPB
- National Contact Points
- Websites (previous projects, partner search, other programmes)
- Joint Secretariat (JS) in Portugal
- Look at relevant EU regulations and strategies
- ESPON (<http://www.espon.eu>) & Eurostat (<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/>)
- http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/cooperation/european-territorial/
- Contact relevant networks, Brussels offices, universities

THANK YOU!

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Q&A



Atlantic Area

European Regional Development Fund.



EUROPEAN UNION



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Lunch & Networking Opportunity



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