

**Interreg  
Europe**



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# Setting up regional funds with the European Investment Fund

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*Thematic Experts / Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform*

23 November 20223

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# Today's Speakers

**Jorge Sanz Gonzalez**  
European Investment Fund

Keynote speech: *Opportunities from the InvestEU Fund*

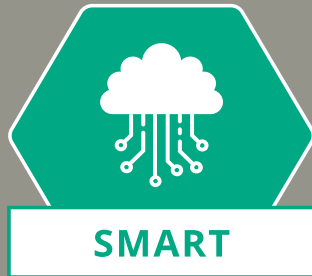
**Virginie Nouvelle**  
Wallimage

*Wallimage Entreprises*

**Inga Beiliūnienė**  
INVEGA

*Baltic Innovation Fund 1 and 2*

# Agenda



14h00

Welcome - Introduction

Keynote speech – Jorge Sanz Gonzalez  
Q&As

Presentation by Virginie Nouvelle  
Q&As

Presentation by Inga Beiliūnienė  
Q&As

Moderated Panel discussion

Final poll and closing

15h30



# Icebreaker poll

In which industrial sectors do you already have / would you most likely setup a regional investment fund in your region, if any?

*Add up to 3 answers.  
Submit each word separately.*

# Cohesion policy & Interreg programmes

- 4 strands, each strand with its own scope and objectives
- 86 programmes, 10 billion euros ERDF

<b>A</b>	Cross-border*	<b>64</b> programmes EUR 6.7 billion	
<b>B</b>	Transnational*	<b>13</b> programmes EUR 2.3 billion	
<b>C</b>	Interregional	<b>4</b> programmes EUR 560 million	Interreg Europe Urbact, Interact, Espon
<b>D</b>	Outermost regions*	<b>5</b> areas EUR 330 million	

} All EU eligible

\* Restricted geographical area

# Sharing solutions for better regional policy



# Interreg Europe **objective**

To improve **regional development policy instruments**  
(including Investment for jobs and growth goal programmes)

## How?

Through exchange of experience, innovative approaches and capacity building (in relation to the identification & transfer of good practices)

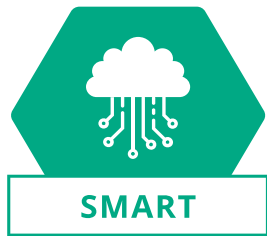
- Primarily dedicated to **policymakers**
- Focus on **exchange of experience**



Different from cross-border or transnational cooperation

# Programme scope

1 cross-cutting priority on capacity building → **six topics**



Concentration principle (80%)



# Two actions



## Projects

Limited number of regions exchanging and transferring experience on a shared regional development issue



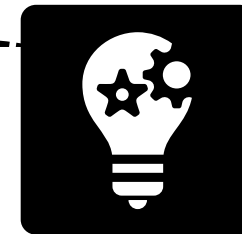
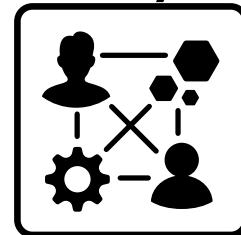
## Policy Learning Platform

Further exploiting projects' achievements and opening up the programme benefits to all

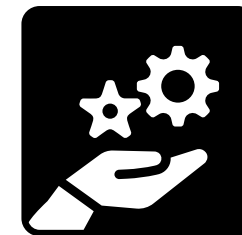
# The Platform in a nutshell

Policy-learning opportunities through access to:

**People**  
Meet our community



**Knowledge**  
Find policy solutions

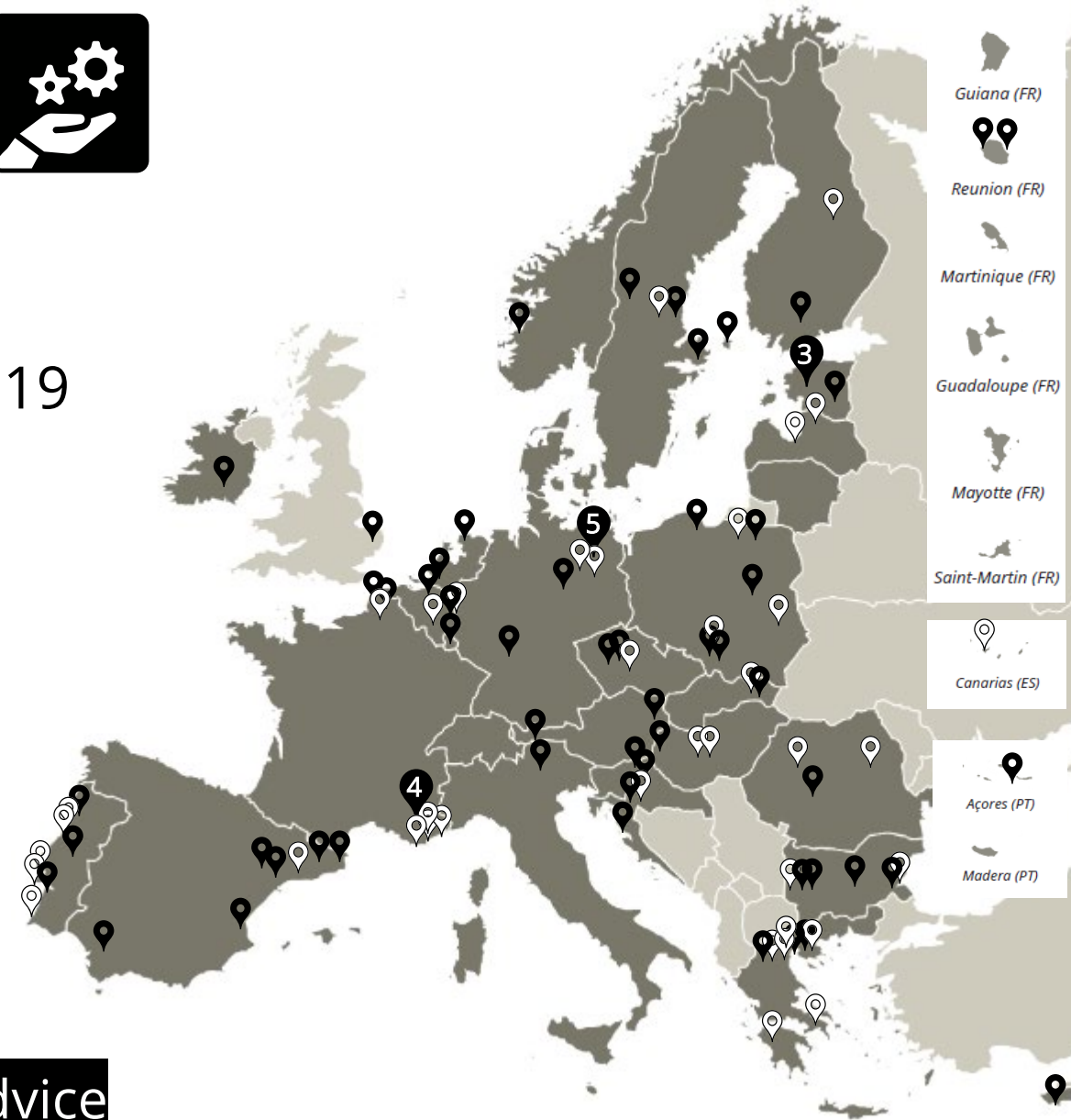


**Expertise**  
Get policy advice

# Peer learning in practice



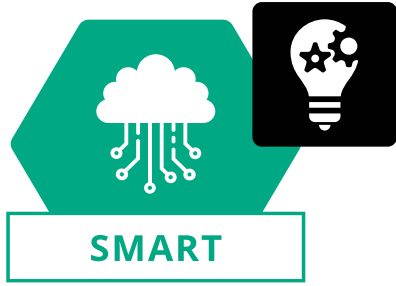
- 📍 67 peer reviews implemented since 2019  
10 peer reviews in the pipeline
- 📍 42 matchmaking sessions



<https://www.interregeurope.eu/get-policy-advice>

# The Policy Learning Platform can help:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policy-solutions>



## Good Practices



2014 - 2020

### Guarantee Action of Entrepreneurship Fund (TEPIX)

The main scope of the Action was to promote entrepreneurship, facilitate business access to finance and boost investment during the Greek economic crisis period

17 Mar 2021 | By project Innova-FI

Expert approved



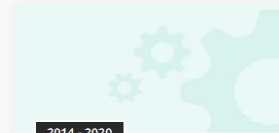
2014 - 2020

### Baltic Innovation Fund (BIF) and Baltic Innovation Fund 2 (BIF 2)

This case study describes two Fund of Funds created in the Baltic region and launched by the EIF and the Baltic national promotional institutions.

24 Feb 2021 | By project Innova-FI

Expert approved



2014 - 2020

### RIS3 One Stop Liaison Office: supporting the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ecosystem

RIS3 One Stop Liaison Office: a joint mediation structure of the Region of Central Macedonia between business and academic sectors in the region

29 Jul 2020 | By project Innova-FI

Expert approved



2014 - 2020

### EquiFund

EquiFund is a fund of funds programme providing equity financing to Greek companies and accelerating venture capital and private equity in Greece.

18 Mar 2020 | By project Innova-FI

Expert approved



2014 - 2020

### Portugal Ventures - Venture Capital Fund

Portugal Ventures is a public venture capital fund, that leverages on European Structural Funds to address a market failure in the support of SMEs in Portugal.

27 Jan 2020 | By project Innova-FI

Expert approved



2014 - 2020

### Co-investment Fund II

"Co-investment Fund II" is a risk capital instrument.

14 Oct 2019 | By project Innova-FI

Expert approved



2014 - 2020

### Apulia Film Commission Foundation

Apulia Film Commission Foundation aims at promoting and boosting the development of the region through the cinema and, more broadly, the audio-visual sector.

18 Jun 2021 | By project ALICE

Expert approved



2014 - 2020

### EDITORIAL Writing and Development program

A new selective funding programme created by Pictanovo and the Hauts-de France Region, supporting the writing and development of a slate of 2 to 5 projects,

17 Jun 2021 | By project ALICE

Expert approved



2014 - 2020

### Decision making process

Creating and consulting cultural and creative industries professionals associations at a regional level to improve the policy making process.

17 Jun 2021 | By project ALICE

Expert approved



2014 - 2020

### A Funding Programme for Animated Projects

ICEC (Catalan Institute for Cultural Companies), implemented a specific line of support for animation audiovisual productions.

10 Jun 2021 | By project ALICE

Expert approved



2014 - 2020

### A Funding Program for TV Pilots

An innovative program intended to support the development activities for TV formats (non-scripted shows)

09 Jun 2021 | By project ALICE

Expert approved



2014 - 2020

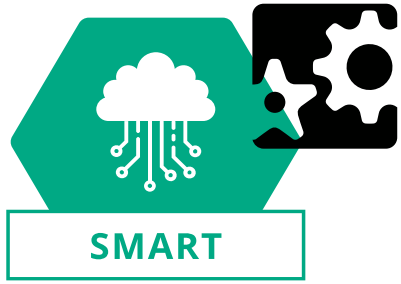
### Wallimage Entreprises, Wallonia's fund dedicated to audiovisual companies

Wallimage Entreprises is an investment fund supporting Wallonia-based audio-visual and gaming companies.

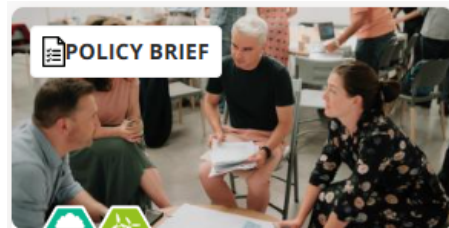
07 Jun 2021 | By project ALICE

Expert approved

# The Policy Learning Platform can help: <https://www.interregurope.eu/policy-solutions>



## Policy briefs



### Circular transition in SMEs

Explore the Interreg Europe community's experience regarding regional circular economy strategies and roadmaps, circular economy hubs and collaborative frameworks in this policy brief!

18 September 2023 | By Platform



### Innovation procurement

Explore the role of innovation procurement, as an important policy tool, for regional development in this policy brief.

01 March 2023 | By Platform



### Spaces for innovation

Explore the importance of five types of spaces for innovation for local and regional development in this policy brief!

02 December 2022 | By Platform



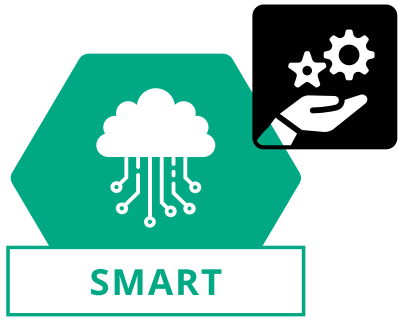
### Vouchers for the competitiveness of SMEs

This policy brief focuses on the use of vouchers to foster SME competitiveness and aims at providing a comprehensive overview of the good practices and the policy improvements based on voucher schemes in those projects.

08 April 2021 | By Platform

# The Policy Learning Platform can help:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policy-solutions>



## Expert support



### Improve regional branding for attracting tech-savvy visitors: key learnings

The Policy Learning Platform organised a peer review for the Põlva County Development Centre, Estonia. The peer review was held in Carrick-On-Shannon, Leitrim County, Ireland on the 17th and 18th of October 2023. Discover the key learnings.

02 November 2023 | By Platform



### Regional innovation governance: key learnings

The Policy Learning Platform organised a peer review for the Regional Council of Päijät-Häme in Lahti, Finland, held on 17-18 October 2023. Discover the key learnings.

25 October 2023 | By Platform



### ERDF for interregional innovation projects: key learnings

The Policy Learning Platform organised a peer review for the Ministry of Finance and for European Affairs of Brandenburg, in Potsdam, Germany in October 2023. Discover the key learnings.

24 October 2023 | By Platform



### Better governance for Cultural and Creative industries

Explore the recommendations from the peer review that took place in Marseille on creative economy issues.

05 July 2023 | By Platform



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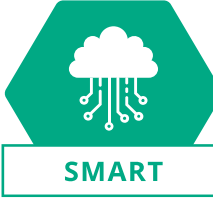
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# Today's webinar...



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# European policy context

## Innovative financial instruments

- participation in **equity** (risk capital) funds
- **guarantees** to local banks lending to a large number of final beneficiaries, for instance SMEs
- **risk-sharing** with financial institutions to boost investment in large infrastructure projects (e.g. the Europe 2020 project bonds initiative or the connecting europe facility financial instruments)

Aim: to **boost the real economy** through increasing the access to finance for enterprises and industry producing goods and services.

Alternative to grants or subsidies as **delivery mode of Structural Funds**.



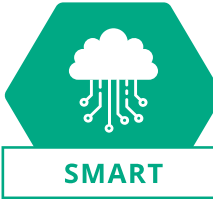


# European policy context

## Motivation for using innovative financial instruments

- Moving away from a grants culture, very much established in the RTDI and innovation field (also on **policy level**)
- Increase the accessibility of private equity for SMEs with high growth potential
- Leveraging private investments
- Support to specific sectors
  - Organic food production (SME ORGANICS)
  - Cultural and creative industries (ALICE, CRE:HUB, RCIA)
- Creating cross-border instruments (Innova-Fi)

C



# European policy context

## Panel evidence from the SAFE survey (EC – February 2023)

- Data from 2009 to 2021
- Firm's size and profit level improve firm's performance
- Firm's age decreases innovation performance
- Effectiveness of different financing instrument varies strongly depending on innovation type (product, process, organisation, marketing)
  - Grants exert largest positive effect on firm's likelihood to innovate
  - EU innovative firms rely largely on internal resources to finance innovation due to difficulties in accessing external financing resources

→ Need for simplifying and harmonising EU's banking system

→ Need for promoting financial innovation

European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Mitra, A., Di Girolamo, V., Canton, E., *Financing instruments and challenges for innovation in the EU – Panel evidence from the SAFE survey*, Publications Office of the European Union, 2023, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/019319>

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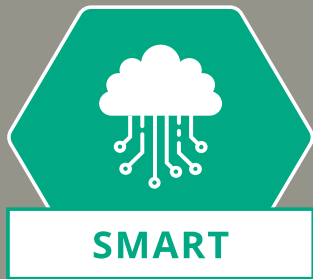
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# Presentations!

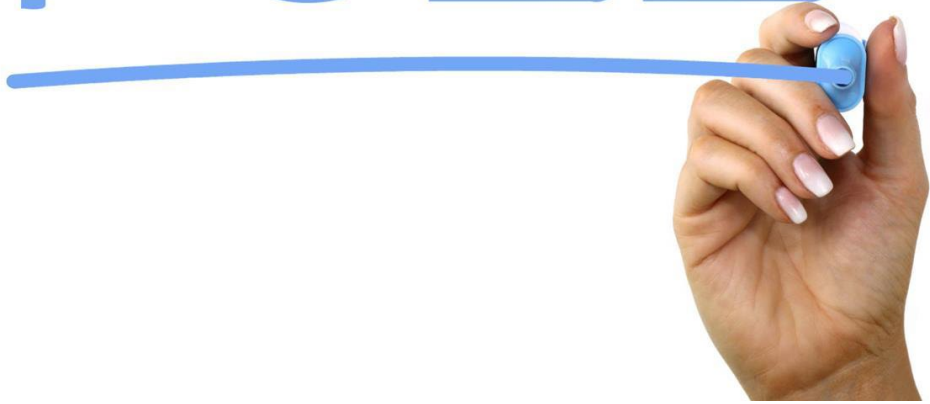
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# Moderated Panel Discussion



# POLL



## Final poll

What's one key takeaway or lesson from today's webinar that you might/would like to apply in your regional policy making?

Please describe it in **a few words**

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# Thank you!

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