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Get ready for the
Third call

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InfoDay Moldova
Online

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At a glance – **Third call**

1. When?   **20 MARCH – 7 JUNE 2024, 12 noon** (CEST Paris time)

2. How much?   Up to **130 MEUR**

3. About what?   All **topics** open

4. From where?   All **corners** of the programme area

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Calls for proposals – **state of play**

First call	
(5 April – 31 May 2022)	
134	project proposals
72	approved projects
54%	success rate
EUR 102 million	Interreg funds allocated

Second call	
(15 March - 9 June 2023)	
146	project proposals
78	approved projects
53%	success rate
EUR 112 million	Interreg funds allocated

More than 60% of projects' budget already allocated.

Don't miss the third call!

In more details – **Third call**:

1. Project **objectives & activities**

2. **Partnership** requirements

3. **Topics** of the call

4. Project **finances**

5. **Assistance** to applicants

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1.

Project
## **objectives & activities**

Project **objective**

Remember the 3 key concepts:

- **Policy instrument**

- **Policy responsible authority**

- **Policy improvement**

Project **objective**

Improve the **policy instruments** of the participating regions

- Public interventions at **local**, **regional** or **even national** levels can be addressed

- But at least **one** policy instrument per project must be an **Investment for jobs and growth goal programme**
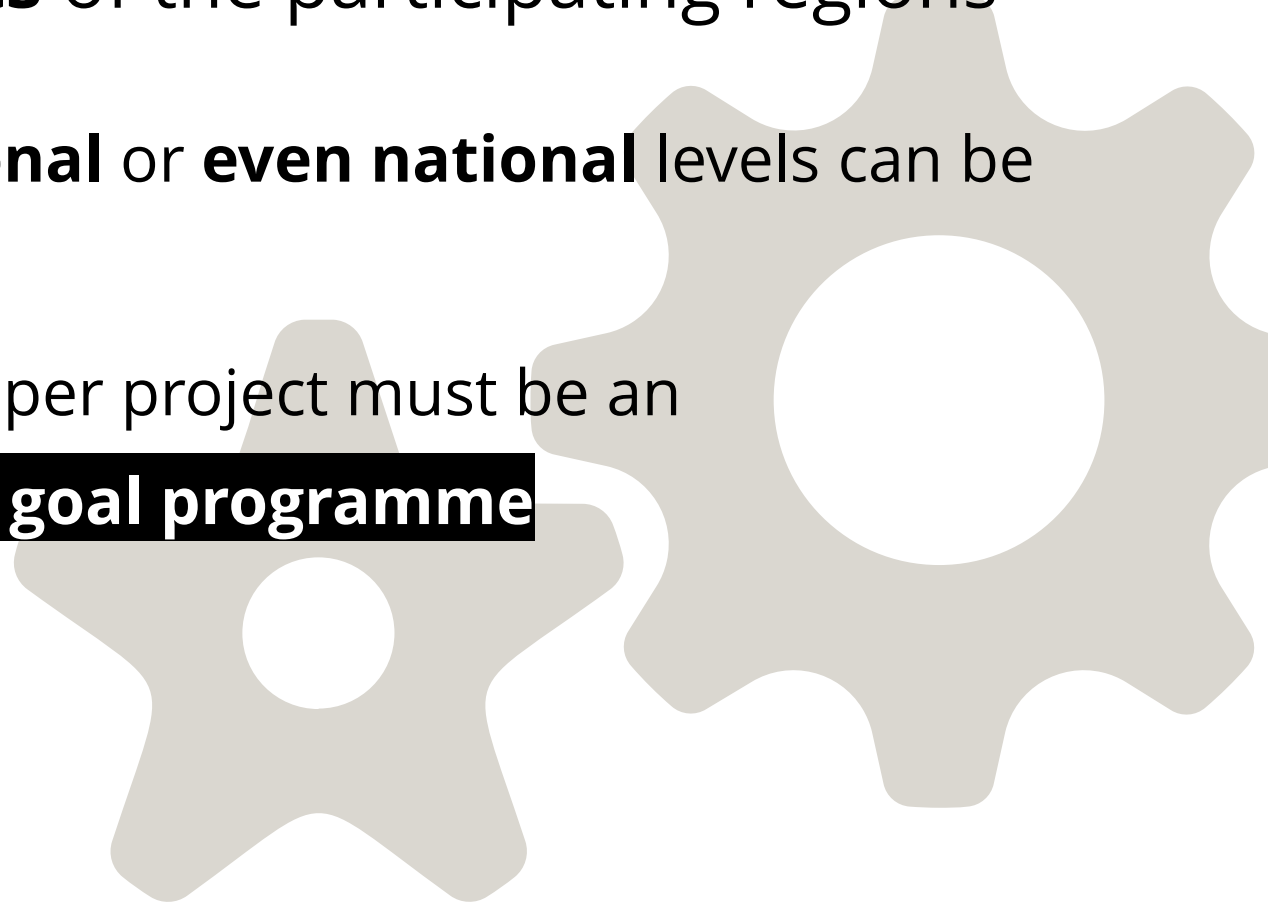
Project **activities**

- Exchange of experience & **capacity building** through identification and transfer of **good practices**

- **Pilot actions** possible from the start of the project or at mid-term (but maximum one per policy instrument)

What is a **good practice**

?

- A **policy-related** initiative
- Proved to be **successful** in a region
- Potential **source of inspiration** for other regions

What is a **pilot action**

?

Implementation-related activities dedicated to **testing** a new public intervention approach.

Possible only under certain conditions:

- Clear contribution to policy improvements
- Clear interregional & testing character

Implementation of activities

2 phases over 4-year implementation

CORE	FOLLOW UP
3 years	1 year
Exchange of experience to achieve policy improvements	Monitor policy improvements

2. Partnership
requirements

Who is **eligible?**

- **Public authorities**

- **Public law bodies** (bodies governed by public law)

- **Private non-profit bodies**
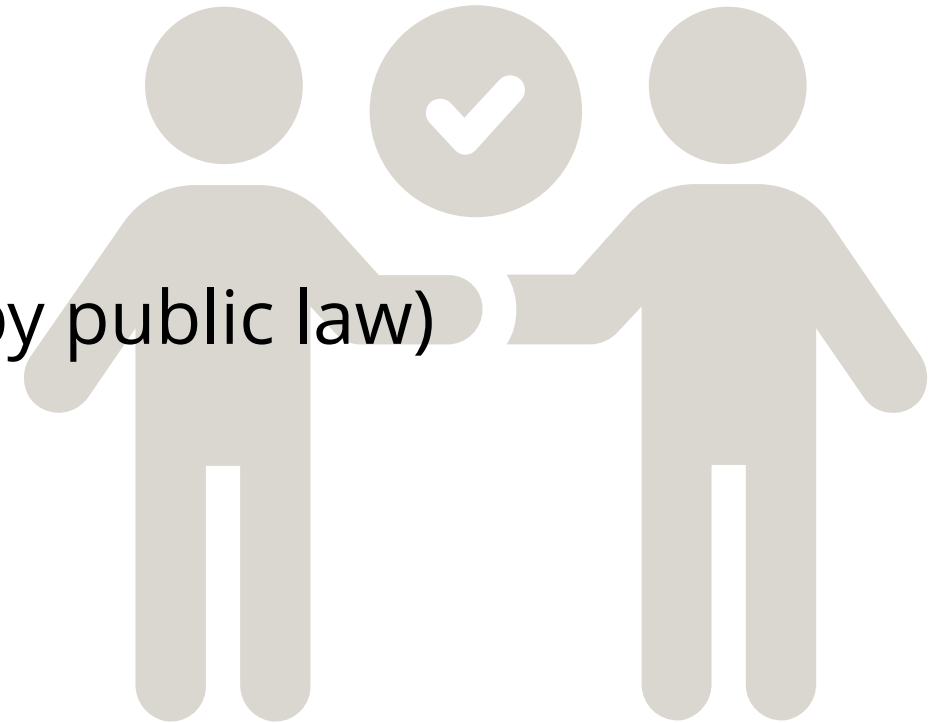
What type of **involvement?**

- **Project partner** (addressing a policy instrument)

- **Advisory partner** (bringing additional knowledge to the entire partnership)

- **Discovery partner** (reserved to organizations coming from the 7 candidate countries)

Discovery partner

NEW
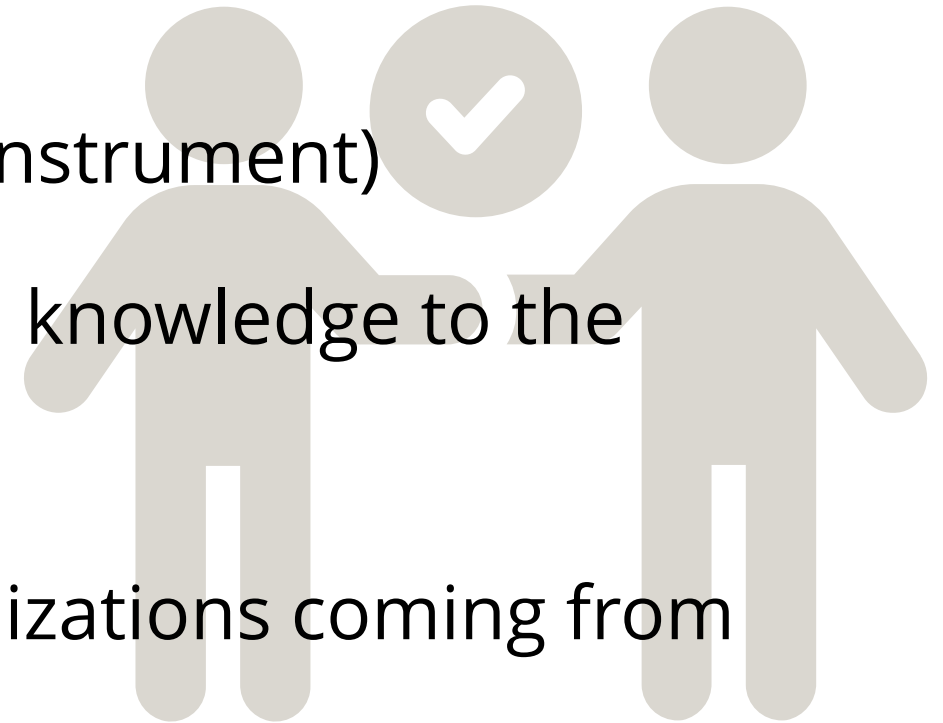
Rationale: facilitate participation from the 7 new countries

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Ukraine

Main characteristics:

- Lighter form of involvement: no need to address a policy instrument

- Aim: to discover interregional cooperation and learn from others

- Recommendation: max 2 per project

Policy relevance of partnership

Policy responsible authorities must be involved in the project:

- As **partners** for at least **50%** of the policy instruments addressed

- As **'associated policy authorities'** for the remaining policy instruments

Creation of a **stakeholder group** in each region

What is an **'associated policy authority' (APA)**

?

Main features:

- Officially included in the application form

- No budget - travel & accommodation costs covered by relevant project partner

- Declaration provided at the application stage

- Involvement regularly monitored during project implementation

* APA is not a project partner but a 'golden stakeholder'

Geographical coverage

- **Broad** coverage required

- **Mix** between more and less advanced regions

- **4 out of 5 areas** must be covered by the partnership

Geographical areas	Countries covered
North	Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden
East	Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia
South	Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain
West	Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland
EU candidates	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Ukraine

NEW

Partnership example

B Partners / associated policy authorities

Overview partners

Partner number	Organisation	Role	Country	Geographical area	ERDF/Norwegian	Total partner contribution	Total partner budget
1	Regional Council of Päijät-Häme	Lead Partner	Finland (Suomi/Finland)	North	353,761.60	88,440.40	442,202.00
2	Innovation & Management Centre CLG T/A WestBIC	Partner	Ireland (Éire/Ireland)	West	179,156.80	44,789.20	223,946.00
3	Northern and Western Regional Assembly	Partner	Ireland (Éire/Ireland)	West	63,616.00	15,904.00	79,520.00
4	Grand E-nov+	Partner	France (France)	West	167,152.00	41,788.00	208,940.00
5	Apulia Region - Department of Economic Development	Partner	Italy (Italia)	South	156,640.00	39,160.00	195,800.00
6	Marshal's Office of the Silesian Voivodship	Partner	Poland (Polska)	East	136,304.00	34,076.00	170,380.00
7	Regional Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Government of Cantabria	Partner	Spain (España)	South	52,848.00	13,212.00	66,060.00
8	European Projects Office of the Government of Cantabria	Partner	Spain (España)	South	127,867.20	31,966.80	159,834.00
					1,237,345.60	309,336.40	1,546,682.00

ERDF distribution across geographical regions

■ North ■ East ■ South ■ West ■ Other ■ Outermost

North 29%	East 11%	South 27%	West 33%
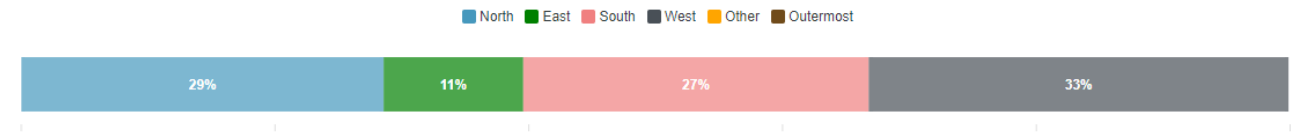
Overview associated policy authorities

Organisation	Country
Region Grand Est	France (France)

Partnership example

D Main policy instruments addressed

Overview main policy instruments addressed

Number	Name of the policy instrument	Name of the policy responsible authority	Involvement of the policy responsible authority	Investment for Jobs and Growth programme	Country
1	Renewing and Competent Finland 2021-2027 / ERDF programme	Regional Council of Päijät-Häme	Partner	Yes	Finland (Suomi/Finland)
2	Smart Specialisation Strategy (S3) Grand Est (2021-2027)	Region Grand Est	Associated Policy Authority	No	France (France)
3	Smart Puglia 2030: Smart Specialisation Strategy / S3	Apulia Region - Department of Economic Development	Partner	No	Italy (Italia)
4	Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES)	Northern and Western Regional Assembly	Partner	No	Ireland (Éire/Ireland)
5	European Fund for Silesia 2021-2027 (with RIS for the Silesian Voivodeship 2030).	Marshal's Office of the Silesian Voivodship	Partner	Yes	Poland (Polska)
6	Cantabria Operational Programme 2021-2027, Priority 5.B "Territorial integration", Specific Objective (i) "Rural-urban dynamisation".	Regional Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Government of Cantabria	Partner	Yes	Spain (España)

Overview pilot actions

Number	Title	Policy instrument(s) concerned
No pilot actions found.		

3.

Topics
of the call

Topics of the call

All topics open

SMART   GREEN   CONNECTED   SOCIAL   CITIZENS   GOVERNANCE
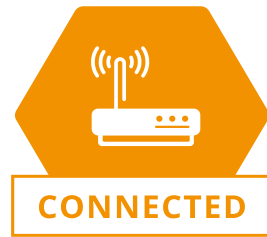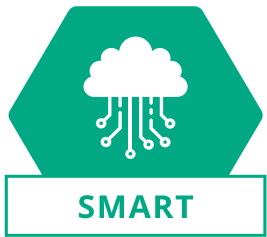
Concentration principle (80%)

Insight into **topics**

SMART
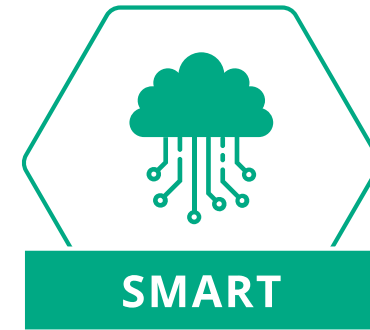
- **Research and Innovation** capacities, uptake of advanced technologies

- **Digitisation** for citizens, companies, research organisations and public authorities

- Sustainable growth and **competitiveness of SMEs** and job creation in SMEs, including by productive investments

- **Skills** for smart specialisation, industrial transition & entrepreneurship

- Digital **connectivity**

Insight into **topics**

GREEN

- **Energy efficiency** and reduction of greenhouse emissions

- **Renewable energy**

- **Smart energy systems**, grids and storage

- **Climate change** adaptation, disaster risk prevention, resilience

- Access to **water** and sustainable water management

- Circular and **resource efficient** economy

- Protection and preservation of **nature and biodiversity**, green infrastructures, pollution reduction

- **Sustainable urban mobility** for zero carbon economy

Insight into **topics**

SOCIAL

Within 80%

- Effectiveness and inclusiveness of **labour market**, access to quality employment, social economy

- Equal access to **health care**, health systems resilience, family-based and community-based care

- **Culture and tourism** for economic development, social inclusion and social innovation

Insight into **topics**

SOCIAL

- Accesses to **education, training** and lifelong learning, distance and on-line education and training
- Inclusion of **marginalised communities**, low-income households and disadvantaged groups
- Socio-economic **integration** of third country nationals, including **migrants**

CONNECTED

- **Climate resilient**, intelligent, secure, sustainable and intermodal **TEN-T**
- **Sustainable**, climate resilient, intelligent and intermodal **national, regional and local mobility**

CITIZENS

- Sustainable **integrated territorial development**, culture, natural heritage, sustainable tourism and security

Insight into **topics**

GOVERNANCE

'Non-thematic' topics related to implementation of regional development policies

For example:

- evaluating and monitoring public intervention

- management of public procurement

- management of state aid

- management of financial instruments

Innovative character

What is the **added value** of your project?

Remember to check:

www.interregeurope.eu/approved-projects

4.
Project
finances

Projects **co-financing** rates

Co-financing rates	According to legal status or location
80% Interreg fund*	Public or public equivalent from the EU & 7 candidate countries*
70% Interreg fund*	Private non-profit from the EU & 7 candidate countries*
50% Norwegian fund	Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Norway (NO)
Swiss fund	Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Switzerland (CH)

* Subject to revised CP approval

Simplified financial rules

Cost categories	Simplification
Preparation costs	Lump sum €17,500
Staff	Fixed % of the real gross employment cost
Office & administration	Flat rate of 15% of staff costs
Travel & accommodation	Flat rate of 15% of staff costs (real cost reporting only in specific justified cases)
External Expertise and Services	
Equipment	
Infrastructure and Works	For pilots only

Plus:
- Simplified reporting, faster payments to projects
- Less control (sampling, risk-based verifications)

5.
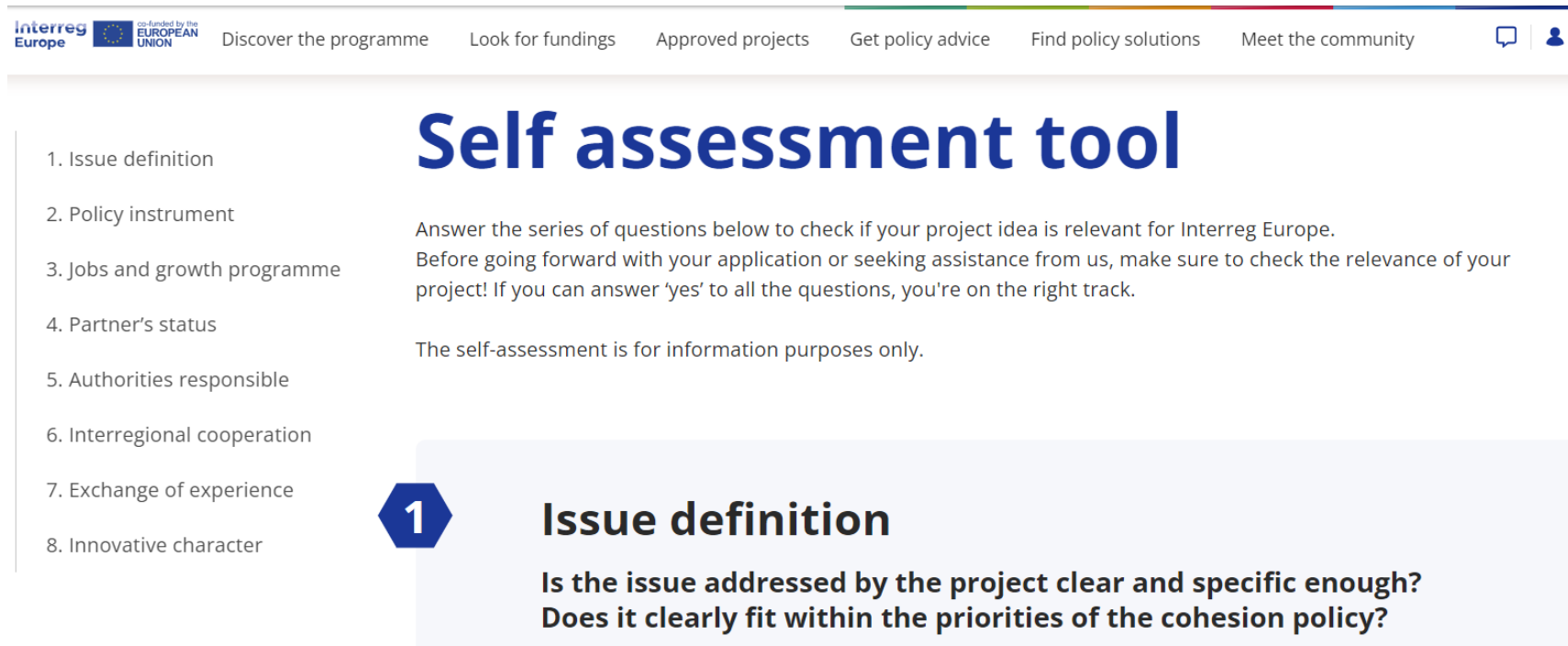
Assistance
to applicants

Support for all steps of project development

1. Check **relevance**

2. Get **inspired**

3. Share **project idea**

4. Find **partners**

5. Ask for **feedback** (available only when call is open)

Check **relevance**

Self-assess your idea before asking for our feedback

www.interregeurope.eu/check-project-relevance

Get **inspired** by other project ideas

Check what project ideas already exist and search for partners

www.interregeurope.eu/project-ideas

Share **project idea**

Publish your project idea on our website to tell others:

$\Rightarrow$ what you'd like to do

$\Rightarrow$ what partners you are looking for

Find **partners**

Search for people or organisations to find project partners

www.interregeurope.eu/community/members

Ask for feedback from the joint secretariat

- Once the **call is open** and your project idea is clear

$\Rightarrow$ ask for **programme's feedback** (one feedback per idea and call)

Our officers can give you feedback:
- In writing
- On the phone/ online
- At events (check agendas carefully)

Time for questions ?

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First and second calls - **lessons learned**

On eligibility

- Ensure that at least one instrument is an **Investment for growth & jobs** goal programme

- Check carefully the **'policy responsible authority' status** of the organisations involved in the project

- Don't prepare documents (e.g., declarations) at the last minute

First and second call - **lessons learned**

On quality assessment

- **Partnership** is key
  - Broad geographical area (e.g., AL, BA, BG, ME, MK, SI and part of FR also in MED)
  - Balanced partnership (e.g., country representation, mix between more & less advanced regions)
  - Policy relevance of partners
- Quality of **results**
  - Innovative character (especially when partners come back on similar topic)
  - Expected policy improvements

Please justify when **programme recommendations** are not followed

Key to **successful application**

- Thorough **preparation**
  - Read carefully programme documents (e.g., the manual)

- **Assistance** tools
  - Use self-assessment tool
  - Ask for JS feedback (during open call)
  - Join assistance events

- Get to know our **selection process**
  1. Eligibility = ineligible proposals get **no further assessment**
  2. Quality criteria = meet programme expectations

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Thank you!

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