

SURVEY RESULTS

200 complete responses

80% report policy change in their region

71% of changes were about new projects or initiatives

88% saw long-term effects in their region or territory



European Union | European Regional Development Fund

In early 2018, the Interreg Europe programme launched a study to look into the policy changes and effects of the projects funded by the programme's predecessor, INTERREG IVC. Projects running between 2008 and 2014 represent a great source of evidence about the policy changes and effects in the regions engaged in interregional cooperation. The aim of the projects was and continues to be the improvement of the implementation of regional policy instruments through exchange of good practice and mutual policy learning. This leaflet presents the key findings.



"The procurement legislation criteria adjustment would never have happened without the inspiration from the INTERREG IVC project. Awareness of the integrated construction standards would never have been accepted without the good practice from another country at the beginning and further on, the discussions with key experts and the construction association from a third country".

Ninetta Chaniotou,
Kainuun Etu Oy (Finland)
FRESH project

About the study

Interreg Europe conducted a survey among partners of 150 INTERREG IVC projects. They were selected out of the total 204 projects based on their thematic correspondence with the topics of the present programme.



37	Innovation, research and technological development
44	Entrepreneurship and SMEs
38	Energy and sustainable transport
10	Cultural heritage and landscape
9	Water management
7	Biodiversity, preservation of natural heritage; air quality
5	Waste prevention and management

The survey reached 1207 project contacts. 200 complete responses represent 117 different projects with partners from 27 countries.

The survey collected information about the policy changes in the partner regions and about the effects of the policy change(s). More than 70% of the respondents from 21 different countries reported that the policy change had a long-term effect in their region or territory.

30 survey responses were selected for an in-depth interview. 23 respondents were available to share their stories and 20 are now part of the report. They illustrate the benefits of interregional cooperation.

Key findings:

- *Interregional cooperation works and brings long term effects*
- *Interregional cooperation has a high leverage effect*

Read the report about the study with 20 project stories at:
www.interregeurope.eu/projectresults

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Effects of interregional cooperation

An insight into a study on the

INTERREG IVC projects

4

PROJECT EXAMPLES

20
success stories

The study is validated by external experts

Innovation vision

In the **PROSESC** project, an incubation support centre from Norfolk County in the **United Kingdom** developed their vision on innovation in the county, transferred a good practice in supply chain innovation support from Germany, and gradually became the county's innovation hub and a driver of the local knowledge-based economy.



Cherry heritage preserved

In the **VITOUR LANDSCAPE** project, good practices from Italy and Austria helped the World Heritage Upper Middle Rhine Valley Association in **Germany** develop activities and initiatives for better landscape heritage protection and preservation, such as work camps for heritage preservation, cherry cultivation and cherry product branding, and visual impact mapping of wind turbine construction.



Improving financial instruments

In the **FIN-EN** project, the financial institution of the Lombardy Region in **Italy** developed a new set of financial instruments, worth EUR 300 million under the Regional Operational Programme in 2014-2020, as well as a new IT system for application, reporting and monitoring of the implementation of financial instruments in the region, all thanks to a good practice transfer from the United Kingdom.

Mobility in rural areas

In the **MOG** project, the Central Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency in **Hungary** developed a new mobility scheme connecting people, goods and services from rural areas to the cities around with a fleet of electric vehicles, a good practice transferred from Germany, which contributed to the reduction in rural depopulation and environmental pollution in the region.