

Europe, let's cooperate!

Interregional cooperation forum

15 March 2023
Stockholm

Interreg
Europe



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SMART



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SOCIAL



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GOVERNANCE

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Agenda

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 9:30-10:00 | <i>Registration</i> |
| 10:00-11:00 | Interregional cooperation and EU priorities |
| 11:00-11:30 | <i>Coffee break</i> |
| 11:30-12:30 | Launch of the second call for project proposals |
| 12:30-14:00 | <i>Lunch</i> |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 14:00-17:00 | Networking activities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interreg Europe corner• Country corner• Networking zone• Meetings with the joint secretariat• Study visits |
| 17:00-17:30 | Closing session |
| 17:30-19:00 | <i>Networking cocktail</i> |

See the full agenda and additional details on the event website

www.interregeurope.eu/event/europecooperates2023/programme

Interregional cooperation and EU priorities

Maria Eriksson, Ministry of Rural Affairs and Infrastructure (Sweden)

Estelle Roger, DG Regio, European Commission

Erwin Siweris, Interreg Europe

Daniel Leca, Hauts-de-France (video message)



Call for projects is open!



Interreg Europe in a nutshell

Ilaria Ramaglioni, Interreg Europe
Jason Martinez, Interreg Europe



European Territorial Cooperation (ETC)

Interreg 4 strands, 86 programmes, 10 bn EUR

| | | | |
|----------|-------------------|---|---|
| A | cross-border | 64 programmes EUR 6.7 billion (67%) | (including 10 IPA and 5 NEXT) |
| B | transnational | 13 programmes EUR 2.3 billion (23%) | |
| C | interregional | 4 programmes EUR 560 million (6%) | Interreg Europe Urbact, Interact, Espon |
| D | outermost regions | 5 programmes EUR 330 million (3%) | |



Each strand has its own objectives

Interreg Europe **rational**ale

Supports the identification and transfer of good practices among EU regions in order to **improve regional development policies**

Helps policy makers to find new solutions to their challenges

- Primarily dedicated to **public authorities**
- Focus on **exchange of experience**



Different from cross-border or transnational cooperation

Sharing solutions for better regional policy

€
379m
ERDF
BUDGET

1
PRIORITY

29
COUNTRIES
INVOLVED



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

Interregional cooperation projects



WHY?

To find **inspiration** and new **policy solutions** in order to solve **regional development** challenges



Partnerships of European regions



WHO?

Policy makers from different **European regions**



HOW?

Through **exchange** of **experience** activities

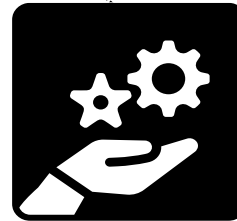
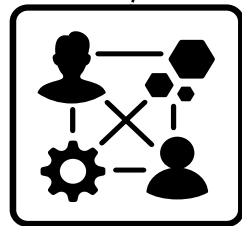
The partners work together for 4 years



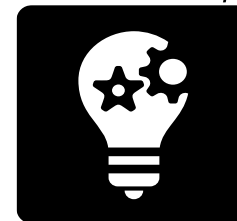
Policy Learning Platform

#policylearning

People
Meet our
community



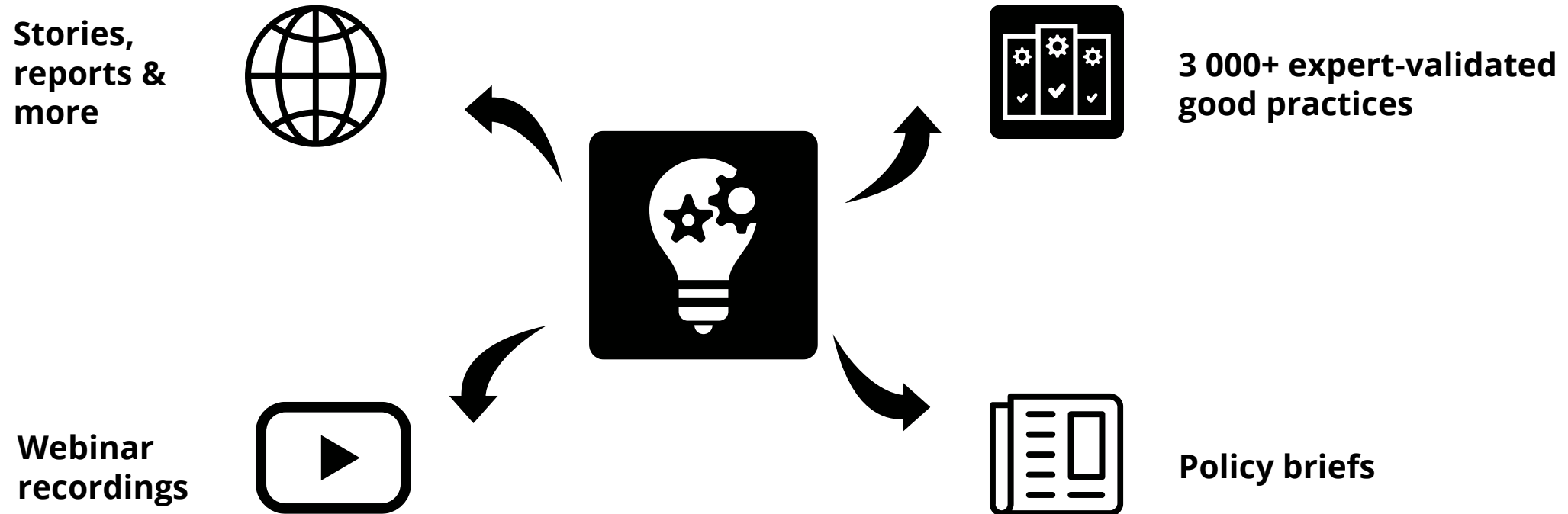
Knowledge
Find policy solutions



Expertise
Get policy advice



A wealth of **tested policy solutions**



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

Access to **expertise** and **policy advice**

📍 **49 Peer reviews**

📍 **34 Matchmaking sessions**



the “search engine” for policymakers...

Policy Helpdesk

Apply to benefit from expert support **any time**

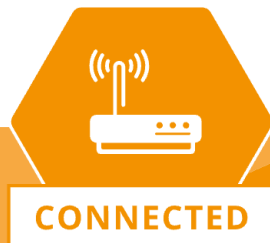
www.interregeurope.eu/get-policy-advice



Launch of the second call

Petra Geitner, Interreg Europe

Nicolas Singer, Interreg Europe

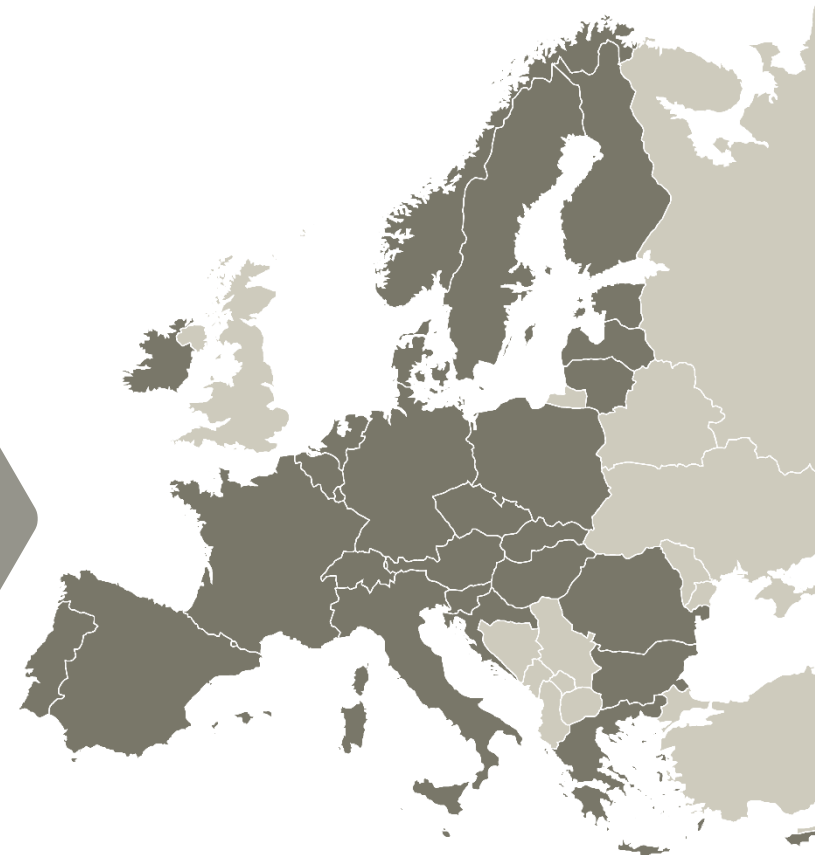


Interreg Europe

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Project objective

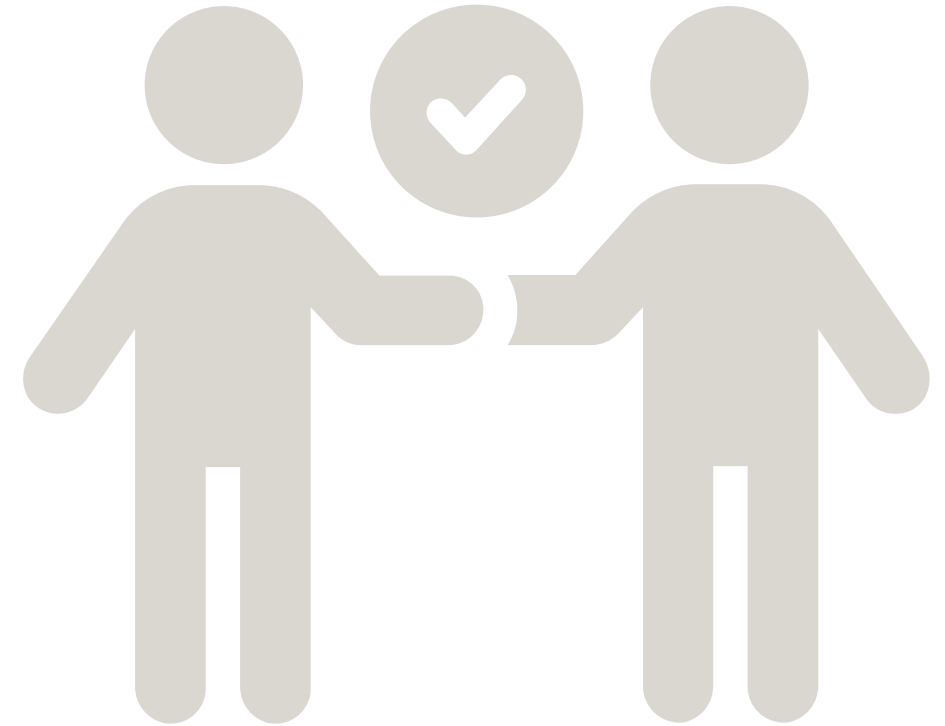
Improve the **policy instruments** of the participating regions

- 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**



Who is **eligible**?

- **Public authorities**
- **Public law bodies**
(bodies governed by public law)
- **Private non-profit bodies**



Policy relevance of partnership

Policy responsible authorities must be involved in the project:

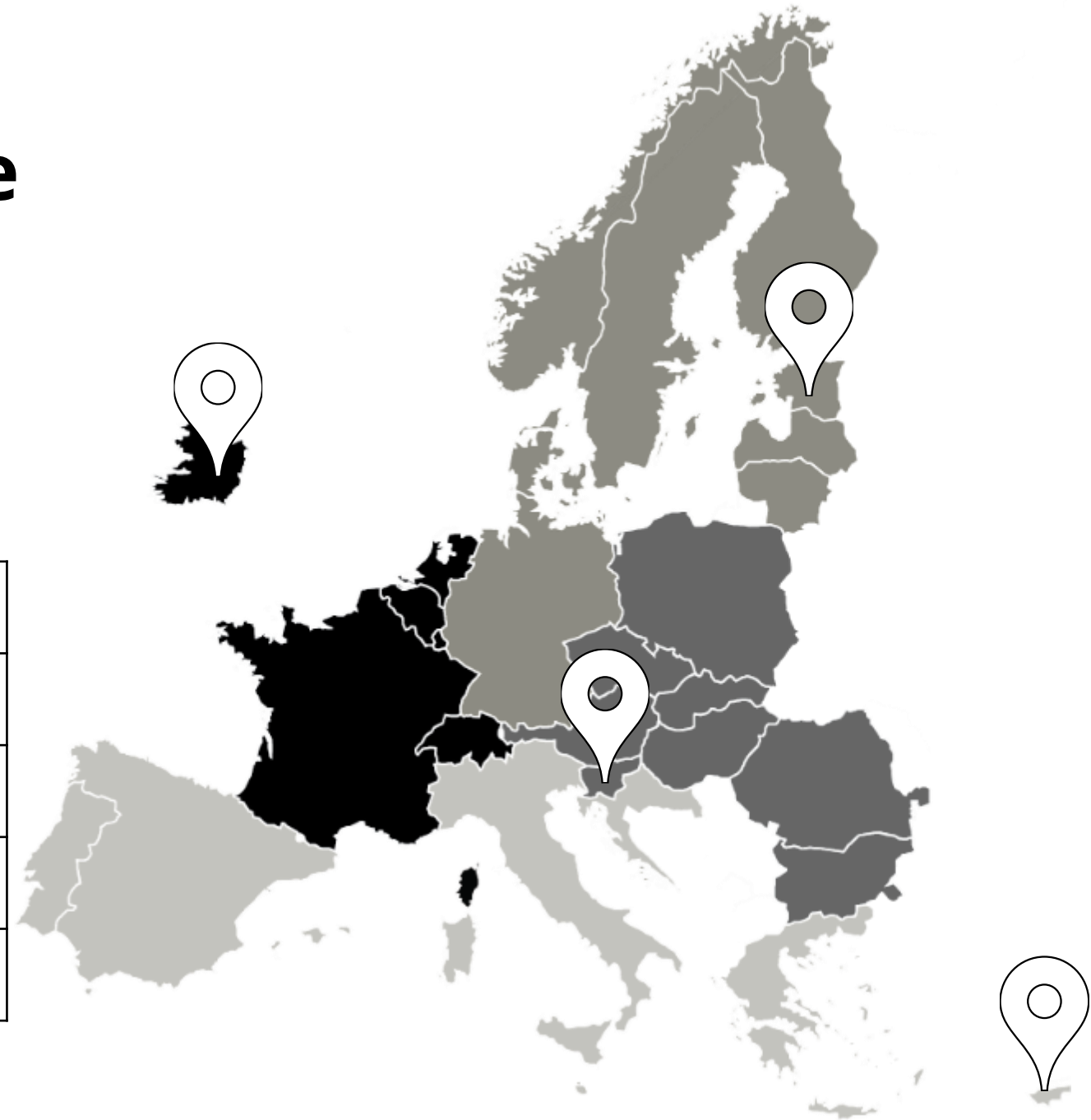
- As **partners** for at least **50%** of the policy instruments addressed
- As '**associated policy authorities**' for the remaining policy instruments



Geographical **coverage**

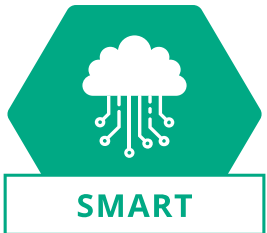
- **Four areas** to be covered
- Mix of more and less advanced regions

| 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 |



Scope of the second call

Open to all topics



Project activities

- Learning by **exchanging experience** (e.g., workshop, seminars, study visits, peer reviews) related to good practices identification & transfer
- Learning by **doing: pilot actions** from the start of the project or at mid-term (max one per policy instrument)
 - ➔ **increased capacity** of people and organisations

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 |

Co-financing rates

| Co-financing rates | According to legal status or location |
|-----------------------|--|
| 80% ERDF* | Public or public equivalent from the EU |
| 70% ERDF* | Private non-profit from the EU |
| 50% Norwegian funding | Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Norway (NO) |
| Swiss funding | Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Switzerland (CH) |

* ERDF – European Regional Development Fund

Simplified financial rules

| Cost categories | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Preparation costs | Lump sum €17,500 |
| Staff | Fixed % applied to salary cost |
| Office & administration | Flat rate of 15% of staff costs |
| Travel | Flat rate of 15% of staff costs |
| External Expertise and Services | |
| Equipment | |
| Infrastructure and Works | for pilots only |

More simplification:

- Simplified reporting
- faster control: less to check, more sampling (risk-based approach)
- Faster payments to projects

First call **results**

- Call was open between 5 April and 31 May 2022



First call - **lessons learned**

Pay particular attention to:

- the **policy instruments** addressed
(including the **Investment for growth & jobs** goal programme)
- the '**policy responsible authority**' status of organisations involved
- the **geographical coverage**: to clearly go beyond transnational cooperation areas
- **pilot actions**: to be included only if they can be precisely defined

Eligibility

Quality



Tips for project preparation

Giulia Bubbolini, Centro per l'innovazione e lo sviluppo economico (Italy)
Harri Kuusela, Regional Council of Päijät-Häme (Finland)



Second **call**

12 weeks

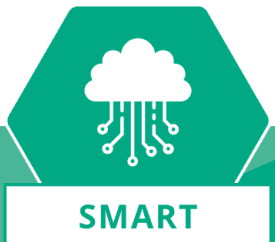
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Closing: **9 June 2023 at 12:00 CEST**

Decision: **end of 2023**

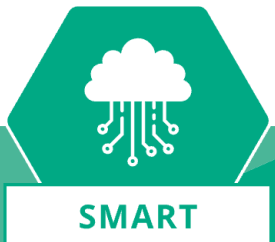
Application pack available

All topics open



Assistance and support for project development

Anne-Cécile Renard, Interreg Europe



Programme assistance - online tools

Discover the programme

Look for funding

Approved projects

Get policy advice

Find policy

Next call for projects

Discover our terms of reference



1. Check project relevance

Use our self-assessment tool



2. Get inspired

See approved projects and project ideas



3. Share your project idea

Explain what you want to do with your project



4. Find partners

Look for relevant organisations



5. Ask for feedback

Get guidance before applying



6. Apply for the call

Submit your project proposal

Country specific information

Check your country rules

Programme assistance - other tools

- **Programme manual**
- **Second call documents**
 - Terms of reference
 - Application form and declaration template
- **Website** (FAQ, questions form, contact form)
- **Points of contact**



Programme assistance - events



Info days

Various dates **across Europe**

Online Q&A sessions

24 Mar, 5 Apr, 21 Apr, 5 May, 17 May, 2 Jun: **Q&A sessions** (at 10:00 AM / Paris time)

Lead applicant webinar week

24-27 Apr: **Webinar series on project development** (at 10:00 AM / Paris time)

Keep up with **our news**

- Join our **online community**

www.interregeurope.eu/user/register

- Sign up to our **newsletter**

www.interregeurope.eu/#block-newsletterblock



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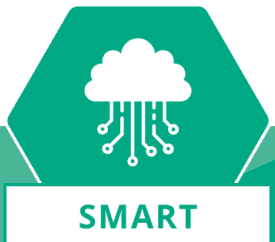
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All topics open



Closing remarks

Erwin Siweris, Interreg Europe



Thank you!



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