



# **INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION 2007 - 2013**

**Reference Group Meeting, Kosice, 5 April 2006**  
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**STRUCTURAL FUNDS  
2007 - 2013**

**Objective Programmes  
307,6 Bill. €**

**Objective Convergence**  
(now Objective 1)

81,7%  
251,3 Bill. €

**Obj. Regional Competitiveness  
and Employment**  
(now Objective 2 and 3)

15,8 %  
48,8 Bill. €

**Objective Territorial  
Cooperation**  
(now INTERREG III)

2,4%  
7,5 Bill. €

**Cross-border Cooperation**  
(now INTERREG IIIA)

**Transnational Cooperation**  
(now INTERREG IIIB)

**Interregional Cooperation + Networks**  
(now INTERREG IIIC; INTERACT/ESPON / URBACT)



## Objective Territorial Cooperation

7,5 Bill. €

### Cross-Border Cooperation (now INTERREG IIIA)

77%

5,8 Bill. €

### Transnational Cooperation (now INTERREG IIIB)

19%

1,4 Bill. €

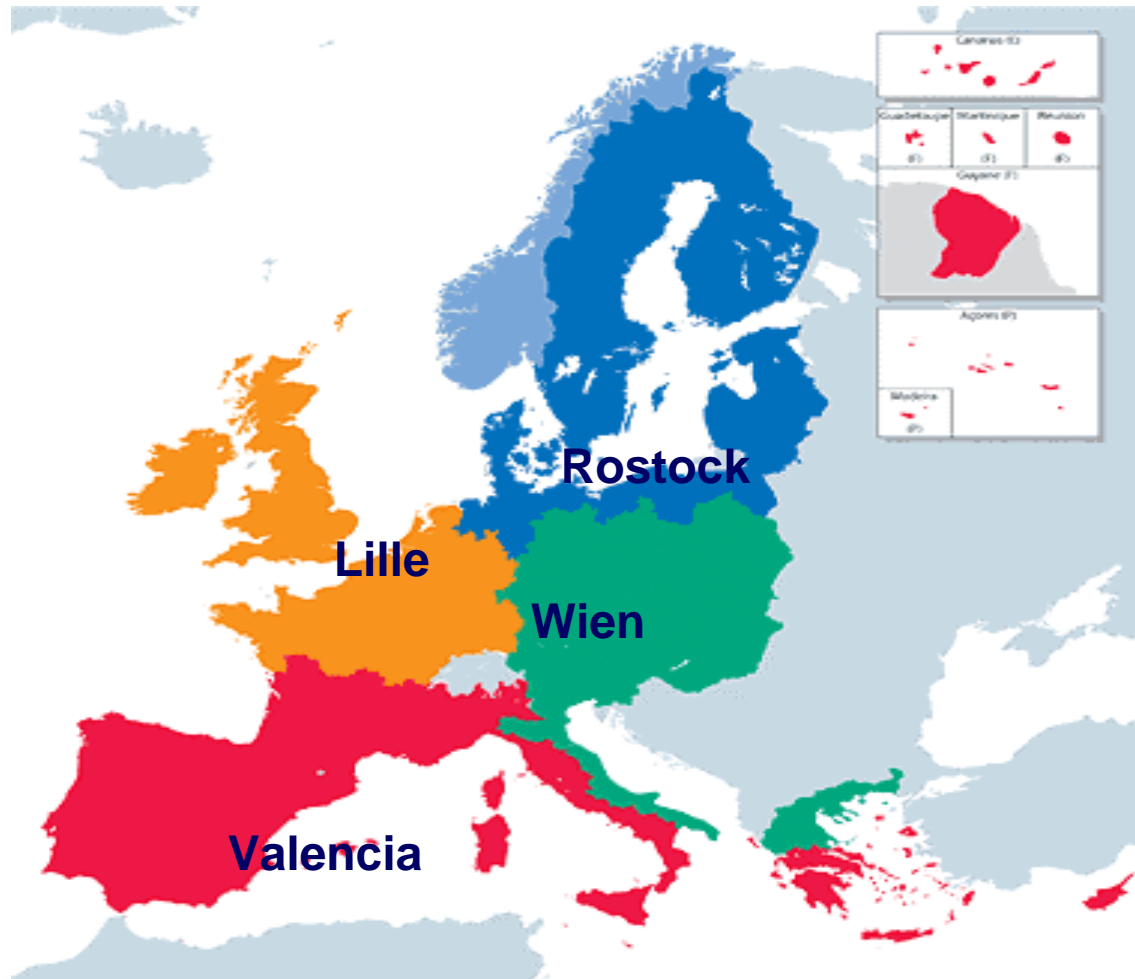
### Interregional Cooperation + Networks (now INTERREG IIIC, INTERACT, ESPON, URBACT)

4%

0,3 Bill. €



## INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION - today



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## The next generation of Structural Fund programmes

- Regional policy from 2007 onwards will focus strongly on promoting jobs and growth
- Technology, innovation and knowledge is seen as being of crucial importance for future competitiveness
- Proposal for earmarking of a share of all the Structural Fund programmes to be used for the Lisbon objectives



## **Interregional co-operation under the new Objective 3**

- Main purpose should be to reinforce the effectiveness of regional policy by promoting networking and exchange of experience
- Strong emphasis on encouraging a learning process from which regions can benefit - easy access to best practice
- Focus should be on regional policy issues that are difficult to implement



## **The Commission is likely to propose one interregional co-operation programme and three networking programmes**

- One thematic interregional co-operation programme focusing on Lisbon and Gothenburg priorities
- A framework programme for the exchange of experiences on urban renewal (developed on the basis of URBACT)
- A programme for the identification, transfer and dissemination of best practice in management of co-operation programmes (developed on the basis of INTERACT)
- A programme for studies and data collection, observation and analysis of development trends (developed on the basis of ESPON)



## The thematic interregional co-operation programme

- Strong focus on Lisbon and Gothenburg agendas (in line with the topics of the "Regional competitiveness and employment" objective)
- Simple, transparent and consistent programme framework for project applicants
- Systematic analysis of project results and dissemination for improved regional policy design

# Topics for thematic interregional co-operation programme

The draft Regulation for the ERDF defines:

- Innovation and the knowledge economy
- Environment and risk prevention



## Funding for thematic interregional co-operation programme

- Financial allocation still to be defined (app. € 300 Mio. ERDF from the last negotiating box – which also will cover the ESPON, INTERACT and URBACT programmes)
- The whole EU territory is eligible
- Rate of assistance is up to 75 %

## **Structure of the thematic interregional co-operation programme**

- EC proposal of one programme covering the entire EU
- Reduction of management structure to take account of smaller programme budget
- Calls for proposals by co-operation theme
- Stronger involvement of thematic experts for project assessment



## **Interregional co-operation in Objective 1 + 2**

- A specific priority for interregional co-operation in Objective 1 and 2 programmes can be included (optional)
- Will allow co-operation between objective 1 and 2 regions and between regions of the same objective
- Interregional co-operation can cover common topics of the regional programmes concerned
- Each project partner funds own activities from respective programme
- Modalities will be organised by the authorities of the programmes concerned



# Thank you for your attention!

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