

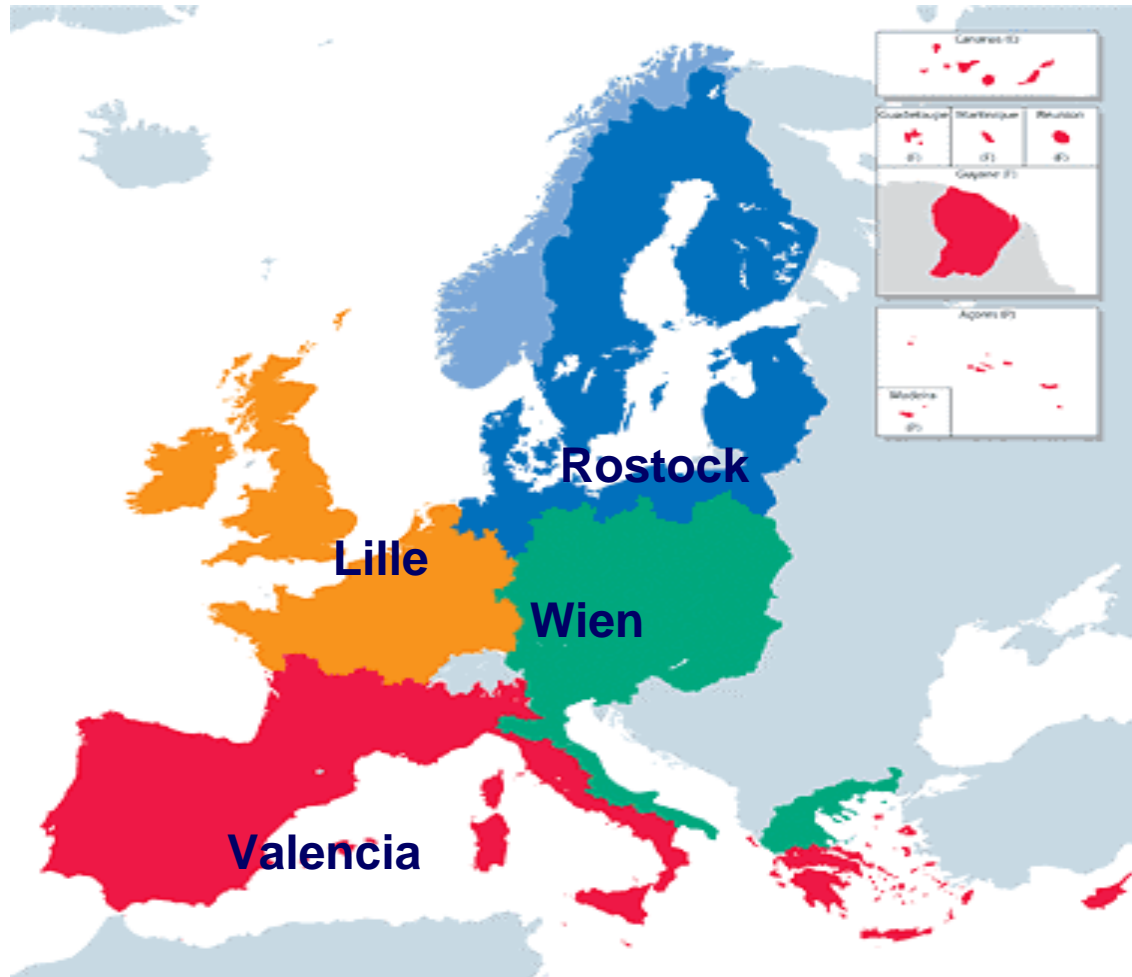


INTER-REGIONAL COOPERATION from INTERREG IIIC to Objective 3

**Reference Group Meeting
Thessaloniki, 11 May 2006
*Brigitte Obiltschnig, JTS INTERREG IIIC East***



Programme zones





Approved operations

	Total	East Zone
Operations:	267	74
Partners:	2663	687
ERDF funds:	315 Mio. €	70 Mio. €



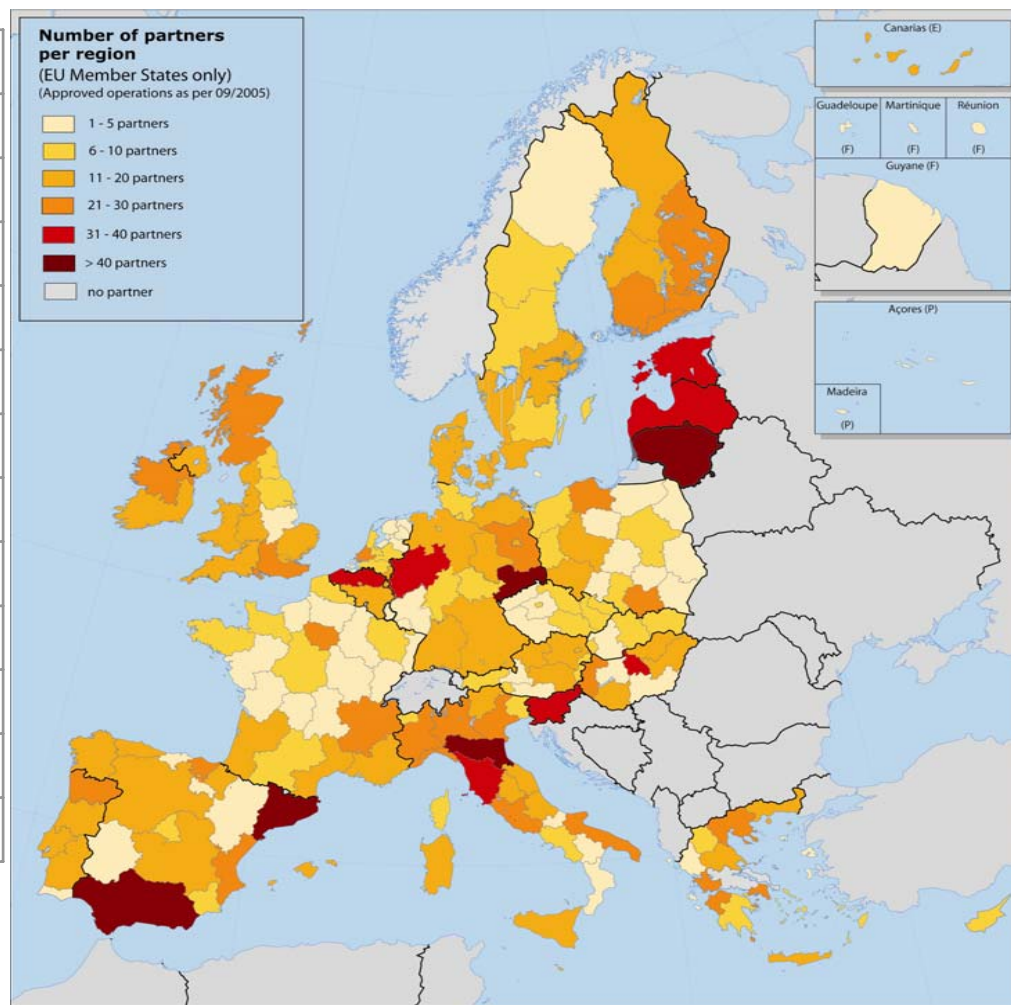
Participation of EU Member States





Most active regions

ANDALUCÍA (ES)	62
EMILIA-ROMAGNA (IT)	59
CATALUÑA (ES)	51
LIETUVA	48
SACHSEN (DE)	46
EESTI	39
SLOVENIJA	39
VLAAMS GEWEST (BE)	35
LATVIJA	35
TOSCANA (IT)	33
NORDRHEIN-WESTFALEN (DE)	32
KOZEP-MAGYARORSZAG (HU)	32
ATTIKI (GR)	30





**STRUCTURAL FUNDS
 2007 - 2013**

Objective Programmes
 307,6 Bill. €

Objective „Convergence“
 (now Objective 1)

81,7%
 251,3 Bill. €

Objective „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. €



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

Objective 3: interregional co-operation and networking

- **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

- 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!

**Joint Technical Secretariat
Interreg III C East**

**Museumstrasse 3/III/A
1070 Vienna – Austria
east@interreg3c.net**