



Slovenian Business & Research Association
Slovensko gospodarsko in raziskovalno združenje

Presentation of SBRA & EU project funding opportunities

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Drasko Veselinovic
President of the Management Board, SBRA
10 July 2020, Klagenfurt

- Established in 1999;
- Five employees;
- SBRA management board consists of three members: Dr. Drasko Veselinovic as the President; Dr. Boris Cizelj and Dr. Vito Turk as members.
- The management board meets four times a year, while the SBRA Council and the General Assembly convene once a year;
- 500,000 EUR annual budget; positive results;
- Connects business, research and local communities in Slovenia with the EU institutions and other public and private bodies at EU level

SBRA Members

Association of Urban Municipalities of Slovenia



University of Ljubljana



Tourism and Hospitality Chamber of Slovenia



Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts



Slovenian Innovation Hub



University of Primorska



Municipality of Slovenska Bistrica



Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Štajerska



ELES Elektro-Slovenija



GoOpti



PROJEKT dd NOVA GORICA



Cankarjev dom



Festival Ljubljana



Philip Morris International Slovenia



Envirodual



System VVE



RIKO



Jožef Stefan Institute



Port of Koper



ProQuality



Slovenian Railways



Slovenian Research Agency



Vinakoper



National Institute of Biology



Toolmakers Cluster of Slovenia



National Institute of Chemistry



SIJ Bank



SRIFT: Strategic Development and Innovative Partnership in Tourism



Forestry Institute of Slovenia



Ministrstvo za infrastrukturo



Ministry of Defence



Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, University of Maribor



L-TEK elektronika



Doctrina



Faculty of Logistics, University of Maribor



Podkrižnik



Dia Vit



Center of Business Excellence at the School of Business and Economics in Ljubljana



TITERA d.o.o.



Institute for Environmental Protection and Sensors



Center energetsko učinkovitih rešitev



Slovenian Business & Research Association

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Organisation of numerous high-level events



SBRA involved in various EU Projects: including CIMULACT & HIGHER

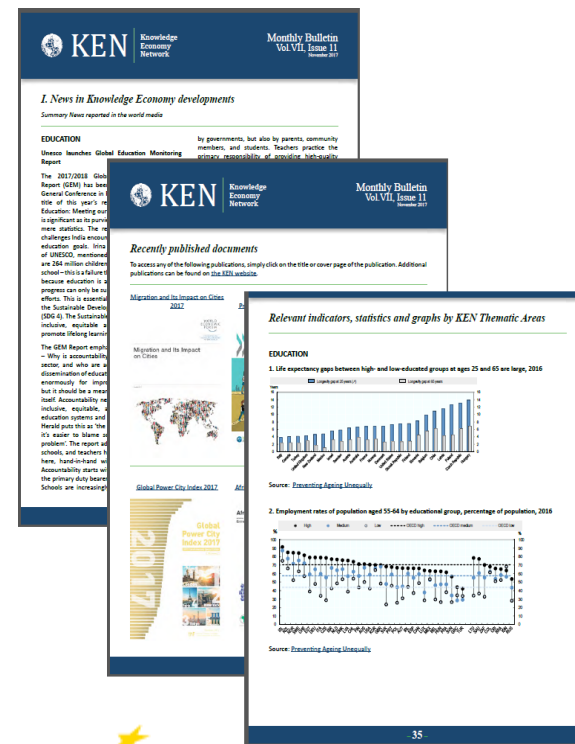
- **CIMULACT: Citizen and Multi-Actor Consultation on Horizon 2020**



- **HIGHER: Better Policy Instruments for High Innovation Projects in the European Regions**
- Previous EU Projects include: WBC-INCO.NET, BIOENERGIS, E-BUSINESS FOR CRAFT, BIS-RTD, REGIONS4RESEARCH, TASBOR, Great IST, SYCP, etc.

SBRA acts as the Secretariat of KEN and NEFI

- **KEN** - Knowledge Economy Network (aisbl, completely separate from SBRA). Established in 2011, successor of EREF (European Regional Economic Forum).
- 51 members from 14 countries (completely different members to SBRA) – i.e. the Mexican National Council of Science and Technology
- Organised conferences and workshops in Europe, but also in South Africa, Canada, Turkey.
- Information services in form of weekly briefs and monthly bulletin (not just coordination of network, but also provide content)
- **NEFI** – Network of European Financial Institutions for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises. Established in 1999.
- 18 financial institutions, follows information of financial, political and legal developments and measures adopted by the European Institutions in the fields of European economic and financial policies – with focus on SMEs' access to finance



European Green Deal Call

The **Green Deal call** will mobilise research and innovation to foster a just and sustainable societal transition aiming at 'leaving nobody behind'. Projects are expected to deliver tangible and visible results relatively quickly and show how research and innovation can provide concrete solutions for the Green Deal main priorities.

This is why the call will support

- pilot applications, demonstration projects and innovative products
- innovation for better governance of the green and digital transition
- social and value chain innovation

In addition to technological development and demonstration, the call encourages experimentation and **social innovation** for new ways to engage civil society and empower citizens.

In relation to the **current pandemic**, the call will contribute to the green and digital recovery and to increasing societal resilience for example in agriculture, biodiversity acceleration of renewables, clean transport and modernisation towards a clean and circular industry.



The call contains 11 areas ([next slide more details](#))

Eight thematic areas reflecting the key work streams of the European Green Deal. In each area, one or more topics addresses the challenges outlined in the respective stream. Topics target specific, high-impact technological and societal innovations that can help advance the sustainable transition relatively quickly.

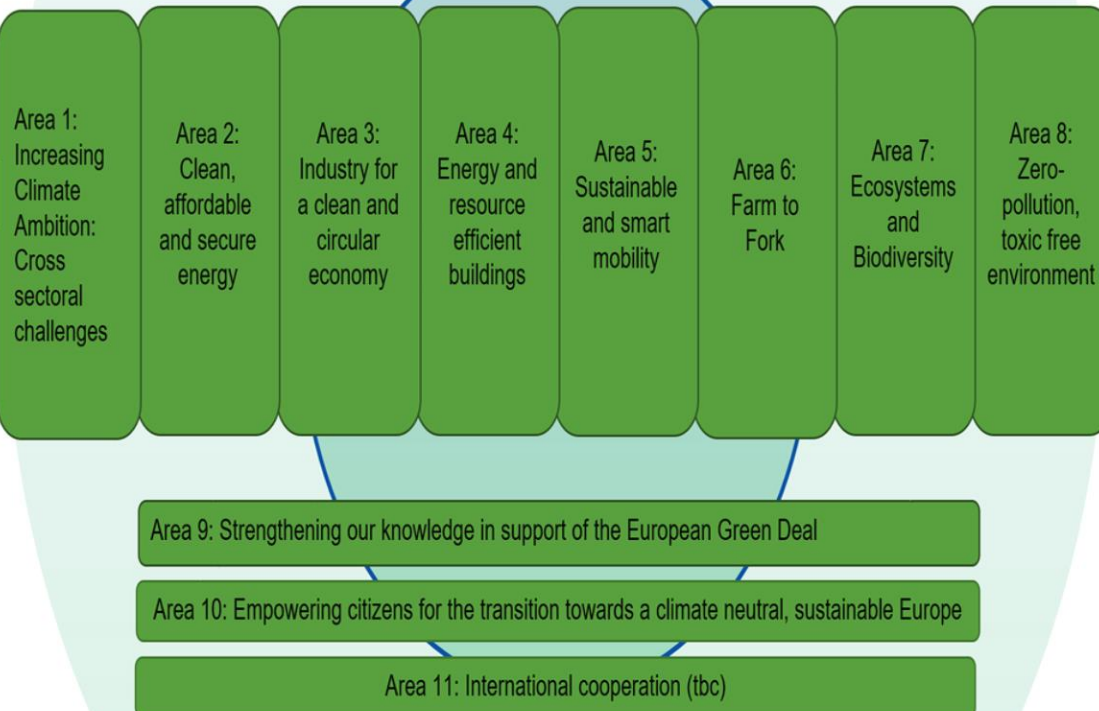
Three horizontal areas (strengthening knowledge; empowering citizens; and international cooperation) that cut across the eight thematic areas and offer a longer-term perspective in achieving the transformations set out in the European Green Deal.

Green Deal Call Thematic and Horizontal Areas & Timeline

Timeline

- **3 June 2020**
Deadline for giving your online feedback for the call
- **mid-September 2020**
Formal adoption of Green Deal call as amendment to Horizon 2020 work programme 2018-20
- **mid-September 2020**
Publication and opening of the call
- **22-24 September 2020**
Opportunity to find potential project partners at the [EU R&I Days](#)
- **end January 2021**
Deadline for submitting project proposals

MAIN PART OF THE CALL FOCUSING ON INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS AND DEMONSTRATIONS



Missions in **Horizon Europe**

Partly inspired by the Apollo 11 mission to put a man on the moon, European research and innovation missions aim to deliver solutions to some of the greatest challenges facing our world.

They are an integral part of the **Horizon Europe framework programme beginning in 2021**.

Each mission is a mandate to solve a pressing challenge in society within a certain timeframe and budget.

Missions will

- be bold, inspirational and widely relevant to society
- be clearly framed: targeted, measurable and time-bound
- establish impact-driven but realistic goals
- mobilise resources
- link activities across different disciplines and different types of research and innovation
- drive a systemic change and transform landscapes rather than fix problems in existing ones
- make it easier for citizens to understand the value of investments in research and innovation

**Adaptation to climate
change, including societal
transformation**



**5 mission
areas**

**Healthy
oceans,
seas, coastal
and inland
waters**



Cancer



**Climate-neutral
and smart cities**



**Soil health
and food**



Mission area: Cancer

The importance of cancer research

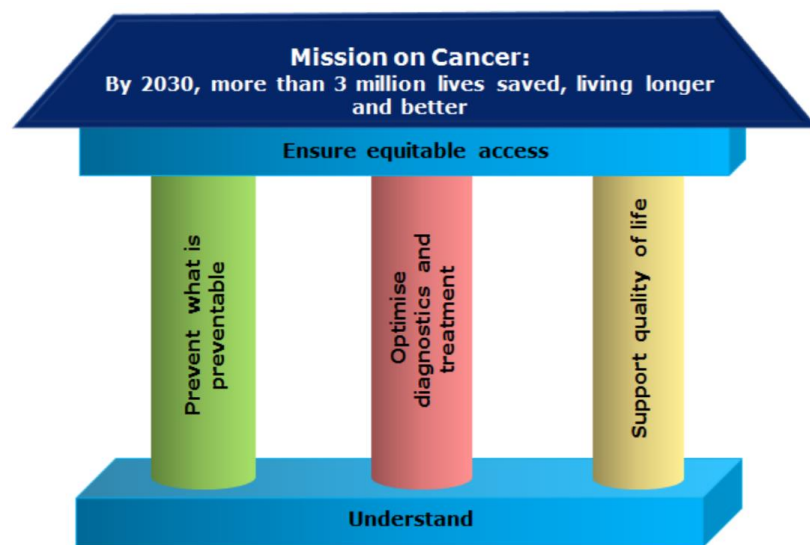
Cancer affects everyone regardless of age, gender or social status and represents a tremendous burden for patients, families, and societies at large.

If no further action is taken, the number of people newly diagnosed with cancer every year in Europe will increase from the current 3.5 million to more than 4.3 million by 2035.

Aims of missions in this area

A mission in this area will help set common goals aiming to reverse these frightening trends in cancer.

By joining efforts across Europe, more people would live without cancer, more cancer patients would be diagnosed earlier, would suffer less and have a better quality of life after treatment.



Mission area: Adaptation to climate change including societal transformation

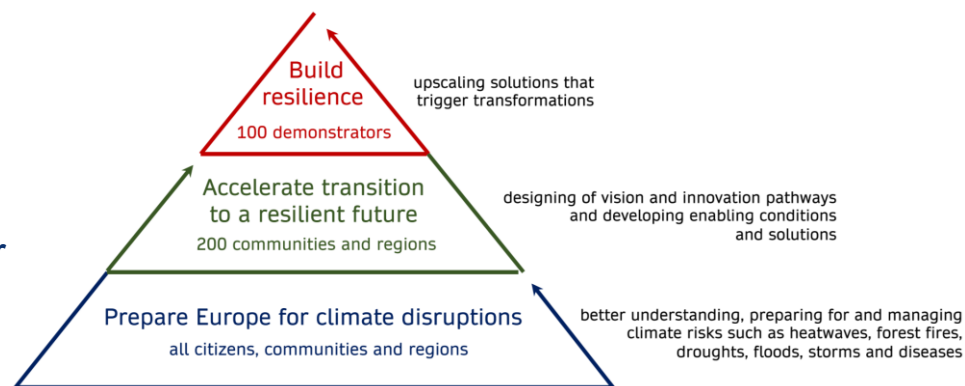
The importance of climate adaptation

Climate adaptation is the process of adjustment to actual or expected climate and its effects. The mission area will support this process by connecting citizens with science and public policy.

Why this mission area was chosen

A mission in this area will help maximise the impact of the EU's support to research and innovation and demonstrate its relevance for society and citizens.

Its focus will be on solutions and preparedness for the impact of climate change to protect lives and assets. It will include behavioural changes and social aspects by addressing new communities beyond usual stakeholders, which help lead to a societal transformation.



The importance of healthy oceans, seas, coastal and inland waters

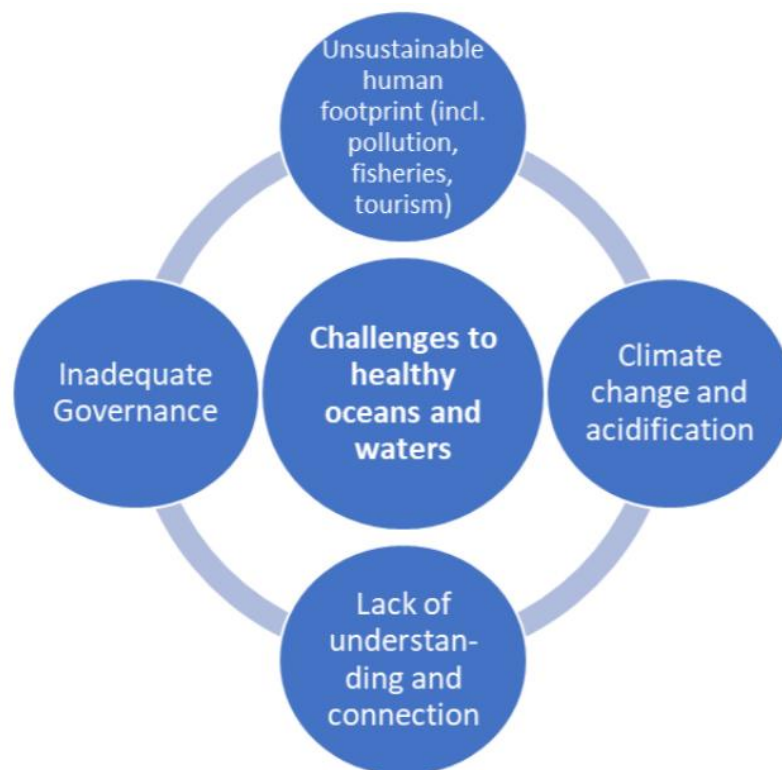
Healthy oceans, seas, coastal and inland waters are vital for our societies and the future of our planet. They are the lungs of our planet, producing half of the oxygen we breathe. They are a source of healthy food, contributing 16% of the animal protein we eat. They are the planet's largest carbon sink and have absorbed 26% of anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution. They are home to the richest biodiversity on our planet.

They are the source of all life on Earth and our planet's life-support system. They supply freshwater, renewable energy and provide benefits associated with our well-being, cultural values, tourism, trade, and transport.

Aims of missions in this area

A mission in the area of healthy oceans, seas, coastal and inland waters will be a powerful tool to raise awareness of their importance among citizens and help develop solutions on a range of issues. These include

- systemic solutions for the prevention, reduction, mitigation and removal of marine pollution including plastics
- transition to a circular and blue economy
- adaption to and mitigation of pollution and climate change in the ocean
- sustainable use and management of ocean resources
- development of new materials including biodegradable plastic substitutes, new feed and food
- urban, coastal and maritime spatial planning
- ocean governance
- ocean economics applied to maritime activities



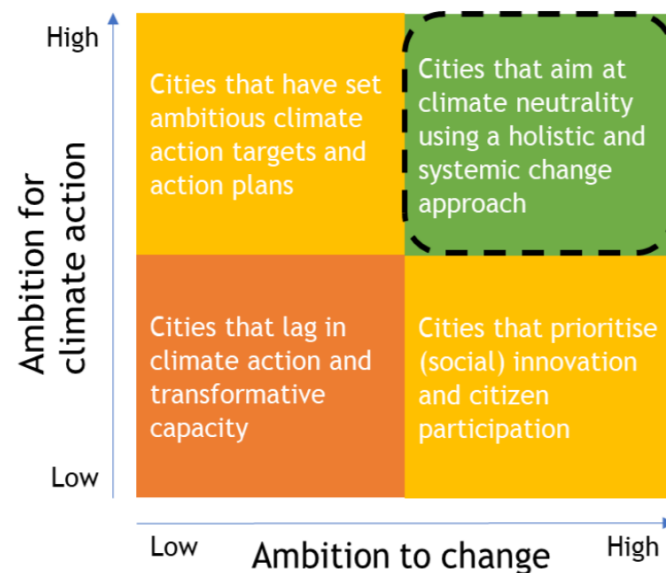
The importance of climate-neutral and smart cities

More than half of the world's population now lives in urban areas. This is expected to reach 80% by 2050. Cities and metropolitan areas are centres of economic activity, knowledge generation, innovation and new technologies.

They impact upon the quality of life of citizens who live and/or work in them and they are major contributors to global challenges.

Aims of missions in this area

A mission in this area will help us meet the goals and targets set out by international policy frameworks such as the COP21 Paris Agreement, the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (notably SDG11), the Urban Agenda for the EU and the Habitat III New Urban Agenda as cities play a key role in all of them.



The importance of soil health and food

Land and soils are essential for all life-sustaining processes on our planet. They are the basis for the food we grow as well as for many other products such as feed, textiles, or wood.

Soils also provide a range of ecosystem services which are important for clean water, supporting biodiversity or for cycling nutrients and regulating climate.

Soils are highly dynamic and fragile systems - and they are a finite resource. It can take up to 1,000 years to produce 1cm of soil.

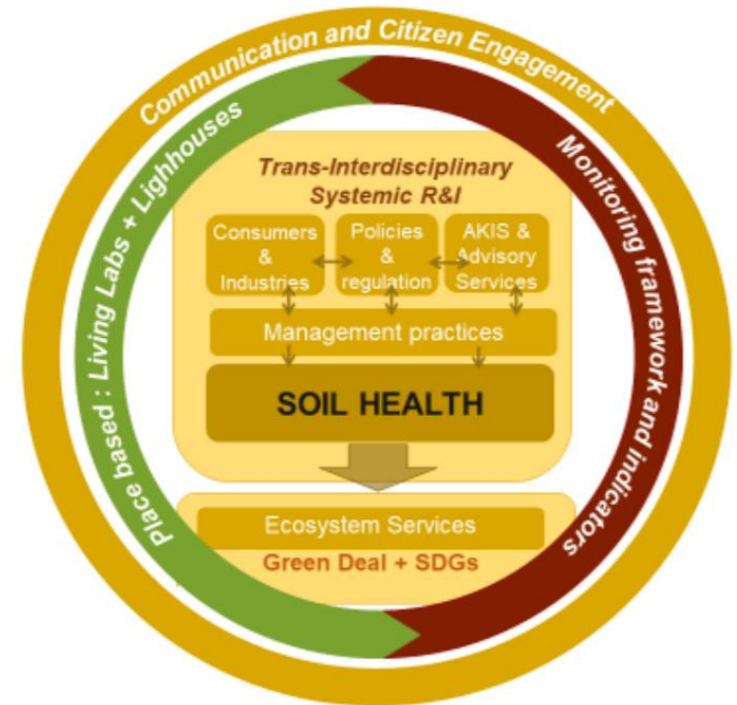
Soils are facing pressures from an increasing population with demands on land for production, settlement and industries. Soils are also heavily affected by climate change, erosion and sea level rises. Approximately 33% of our global soils are degraded and in the EU, erosion is affecting 25% of agricultural land.

Aims of missions in this area

A mission in the area of soil health and food will provide a powerful tool to raise awareness on the importance of soils, engage with citizens, create knowledge and develop solutions for restoring soil health and soil functions.

This will allow full use of the potential of soils to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Results will have a direct impact on the success of the new European Commission's Green Deal and its ambition to progress on climate, biodiversity and sustainable food.



The European Innovation Council (EIC) was introduced by the European Commission to support the commercialization of **high-risk, high-impact technologies** in the European Union. Currently in its pilot phase, the European Innovation Council will be fully implemented from 2021 under Horizon Europe.

EIC Enhanced Pilot 2019-2020. Building on the initial pilot, it introduces targeted calls for future and emerging technologies (**Pathfinder**), Programme Managers for flexible management of the portfolio of projects, and an option to apply for blended finance (a combination of grant and equity) under the **EIC Accelerator Pilot**. The budget provisions have been increased to €1028 million in 2019 and €1228 million in 2020.



The Commission has proposed to dedicate €10 billion to the EIC under Horizon Europe for support to innovators through two main funding instruments – the **Pathfinder for advanced research (for early-stage research)** and the **Accelerator, a blended financing model (grants plus equity)**.

On 30 June 2020 the Board published its Vision and Roadmap for Impact. This independent expert report provides a set of concrete recommendations addressed to the European Commission, which also aim at showcasing the EIC potential to innovation communities across the continent.

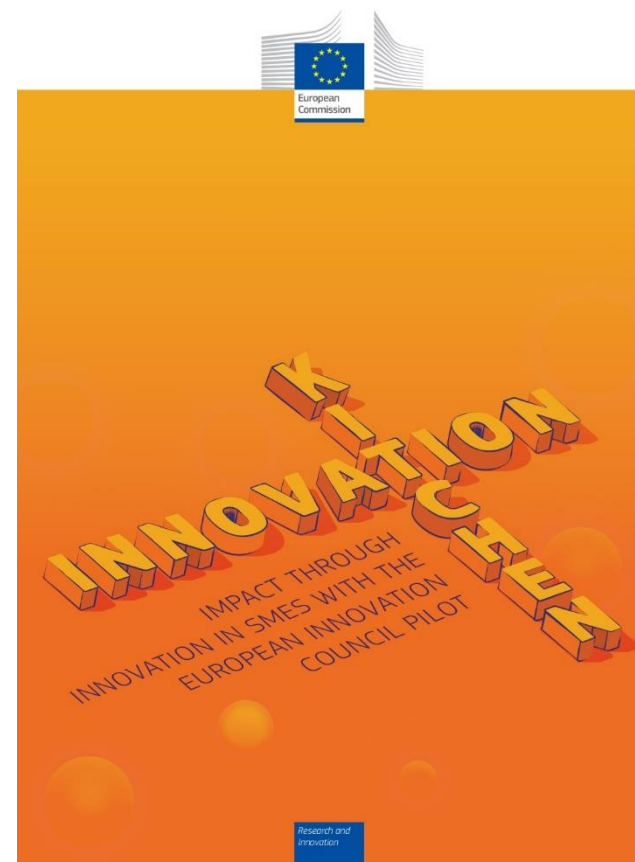
The Vision and Roadmap for Impact constitute a stepping stone towards a fully-fledged EIC that will help European innovators lead the next wave of technological transformations.

The **EIC Accelerator pilot** – previously known as the **SME Instrument** – carefully selects the best innovators in Europe and bridges the critical investment gap in early-stage innovation, making the companies an ideal investment opportunity for follow-up investment from private entities.

Since the start of the programme in 2014 the EIC Accelerator pilot (SME Instrument) has helped over 4400 companies get a head start in the race to the market. The programme offers up to € 2.5 million in funding, innovation coaching and business acceleration services.

More than two-thirds of the companies have placed their product on the market, since they received support from the EIC pilot. 17 companies float on the stock exchange market, 33 have been acquired and a total of € 3 billion of extra private follow-up investment has been leveraged.

Over 75% of the companies funded have increased their operating revenues. Companies have also grown in size as around 67% of them have increased their headcount since the grant.



Each EIC Horizon Prize has an ambitious goal to solve a major challenge facing society, without detailing how this should be achieved or who should achieve it.

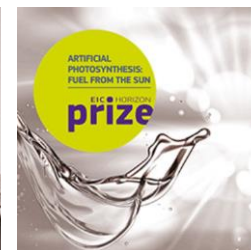
These prizes are open to anyone willing to think outside the box across sectors and disciplines. The prize is awarded to whoever best meets the challenge.

Previous Horizon Prizes:

- Affordable High-Tech for Humanitarian Aid, Prize value: €5 million
- Blockchains for Social Good, Prize value: €5 million

Currently open Horizon Prizes:

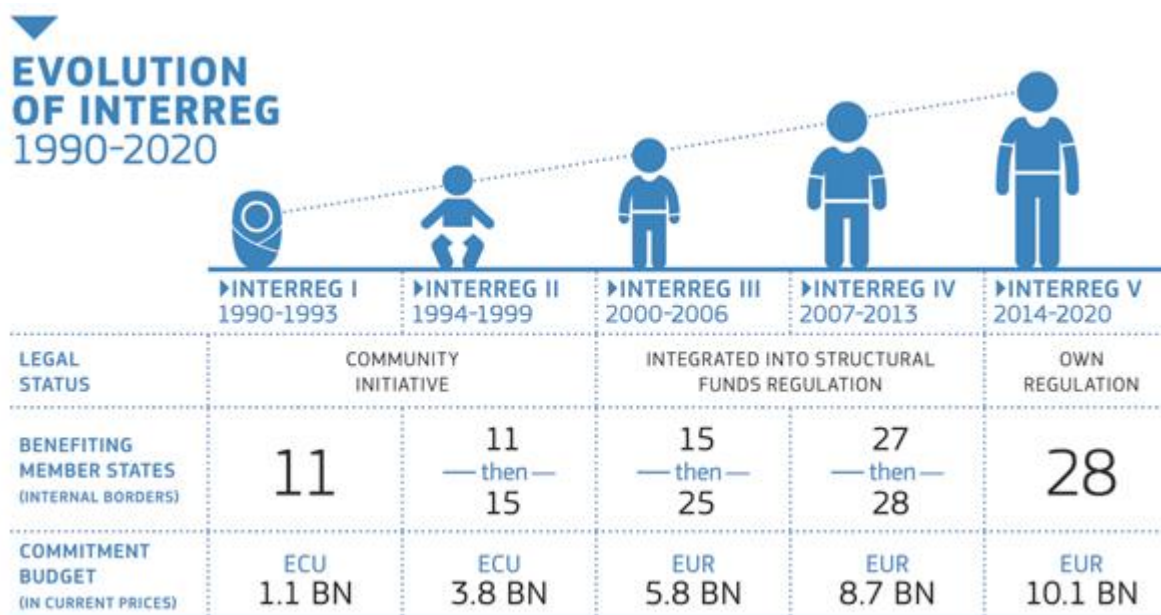
- Fuel from the Sun: Artificial Photosynthesis, Prize value: €5 million
- Innovative Batteries for eVehicles, Prize value: €10 million
- Early Warning for Epidemics, Prize value: €5 million
- Low-Cost Space Launch, Prize value: €10 million



European Territorial Cooperation (ETC), better known as Interreg, is one of the two goals of cohesion policy and provides a framework for the implementation of joint actions and policy exchanges between national, regional and local actors from different Member States. The overarching objective of European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) is to promote a harmonious economic, social and territorial development of the Union as a whole. Interreg is built around three strands of cooperation: cross-border (Interreg A), transnational (Interreg B) and interregional (Interreg C).

Five programming periods of Interreg have succeeded each other:

INTERREG I (1990-1993) - INTERREG II (1994-1999) - INTERREG III (2000-2006) - INTERREG IV (2007-2013) - INTERREG V (2014-2020)

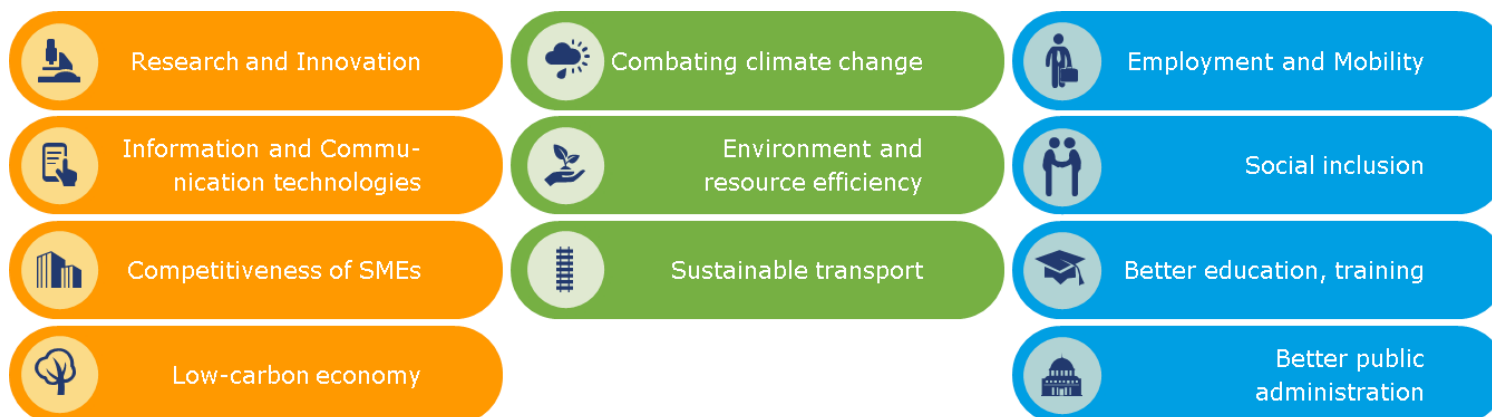


2014-2020 period – Interreg V

In accordance with the new design of the European Cohesion Policy 2014-2020 and the targets set out in Europe 2020, Interreg has significantly been reshaped to achieve greater impact and an even more effective use of the investments. Key elements of the 2014-2020 reform are:

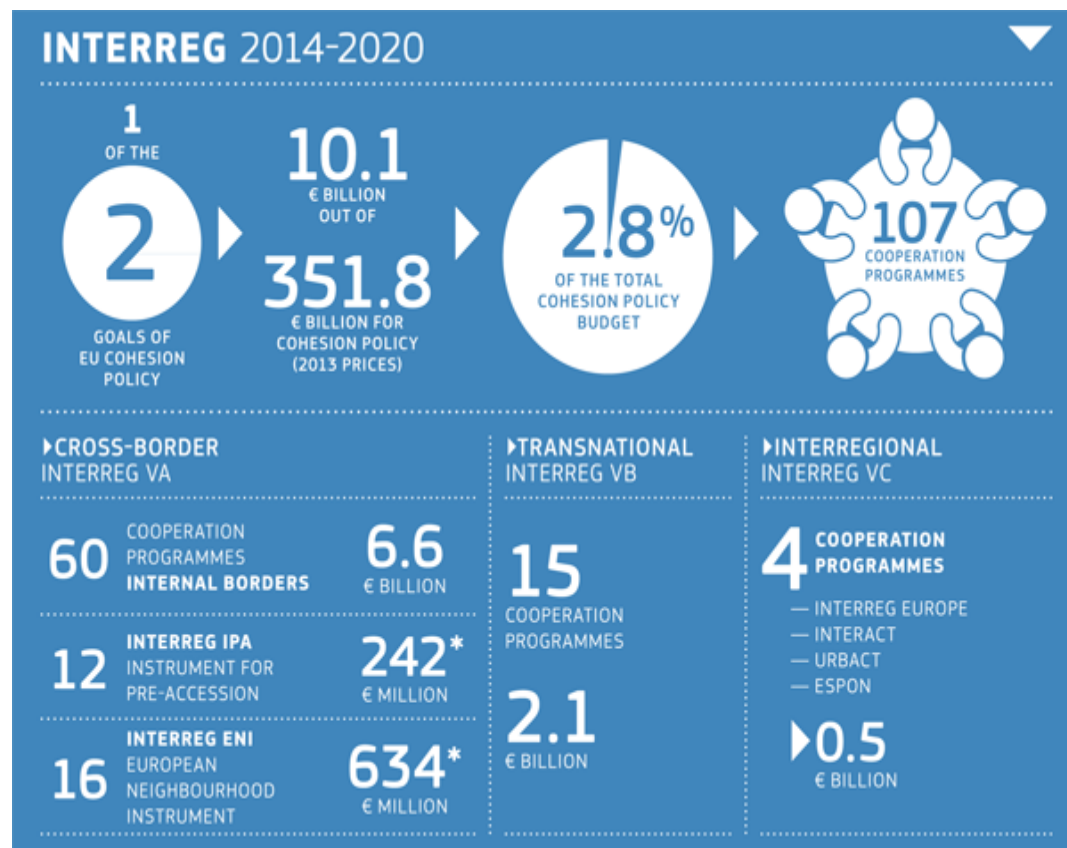
- Concentration
- Simplification
- Results orientation

The fifth period of Interreg is based on 11 investment priorities laid down in the ERDF Regulation contributing to the delivery of the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. At least, 80% of the budget for each cooperation programme has to concentrate on a maximum of 4 thematic objectives among the eleven EU priorities:



The fifth programming period of Interreg has a budget of EUR 10.1 billion invested in over 100 cooperation programmes between regions and territorial, social and economic partners. This budget also includes the ERDF allocation for Member States to participate in EU external border cooperation programmes supported by other instruments (Instrument for Pre-Accession and European Neighborhood Instrument).

- 60 Cross-border – Interreg V-A, along 38 internal EU borders. ERDF contribution: EUR 6.6 billion.
 - 12 IPA Cross-border: Instrument for Pre-Accession and European Neighborhood Instrument
 - 16 ENI Cross-border :International Cooperation and Development
- 15 Transnational – Interreg V-B, covering larger areas of co-operation such as the Baltic Sea, Alpine and Mediterranean regions, as well as some non-EU countries. ERDF contribution: EUR 2.1 billion.
- The interregional co-operation programme, INTERREG Europe, and 3 networking programmes (Urbact III, Interact III and ESPON) covering all Member States of the EU, as well as Norway and Switzerland and in case of URBACT also Iceland and Lichtenstein. They provide a framework for exchanging experience between regional and local bodies in different countries. ERDF contribution: EUR 500 million.



Thank you!

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