

# Regulatory structure

Continuation with 3 layers of legislation (points 1 and 2 are Council-Parliament Regulations):

## 1. Horizontal MFF Regulations:

- MFF Regulation (accompanied by political communication)
- **Performance framework** (intervention fields, indicators, visibility requirements...)  
– **NEW!**

## 2. Regulations addressing cohesion and Interreg:

- **NRPP Regulation** (equivalent of 21-27 CPR)
- **ERDF-Cohesion Fund Regulation, incl. Interreg** (equivalent of 21-27 ERDF-CF Reg.)

## Regulatory structure

### 3. Interreg Plan

- Commission implementing act(s) – **Interreg plan**
- General part – where appropriate, detailed arrangements covering the the specific implementation modalities of Interreg to ensure a consistent approach; identification of geographic areas and allocation breakdown for each cooperation chapter
- Second part – summary chapters – **one chapter is a summary of each existing cooperation programme**



## Budget structure

Two parts of the budget:

**1. National and regional partnership plans – 44% of the budget**

I. NRPP – one per MS

II. One Interreg plan

**2. Global Europe - 10% of the budget; has to co-finance „proportionately Interreg on the EU external borders**



## Main differences with the 21-27

- a. architecture:** Interreg Plan + chapters (one per programme, 8 pages, the rest in the programme document/s); each time modification of the whole document; financing agreements remain
- b. no thematic concentration** but very strict discipline imposed by the Performance Regulation
- c. no expenditure-based approach:** you are not paid because you spent but because you achieved what you promised to achieve (EC-Programme level)



# Intervention logic

The programme has to be driven by a strong intervention logic instead of bottom-up ideas and initiatives:

- a. What do I want to change in the area? Requires solid SWOT analysis.
- b. Is the Interreg the best tool to do it? If yes,
- c. How can I do it? – selection of specific objectives
- d. Programmes (chapters) are built around measures, that include milestones and targets and a total estimated costs of the measures (we are paying for achieved output indicators). They have to be set up in such a way that the programme has the financial flow ensured.
- e. The Performance Regulation is the basis for indicators setting, monitoring and expenditure tracking (for each policy area there are established intervention fields with fixed output and result indicators)

## Funding and strands

- Total funding = EUR 10.264 billion in current prices (EUR 8.9 in 21-27)
- Allocation methodology proposed is identical to the 21-27
- Full continuity – 4 strands (A, B, C, D)
- Any demand for new programmes or changed geographies will be dealt with case by case



## Chapter authorities

- A single Managing Authority, a single Audit Authority and a Joint Secretariat for each chapter
- Group of auditors per chapter
- No separate accounting function any more
- One Monitoring Committee per chapter with the same role as currently (with list of tasks to be included in the Interreg Plan)
- No mention of National Authority for external border chapters, but will be included in the Interreg Plan

## Co-financing and pre-financing

- Levels retained but presentation reversed to show „national contribution rate”, not EU rate
- EU co-financing = max. 80% for Interreg, 85% for CBC on external borders
- Flate rate approach retained for technical assistance
- 10% for cooperation on external borders
- Pre-financing for programmes co-financed by Global Europe is still under discussion



## External border funding integration

- Same approach as for 21-27
- Funding from Global Europe to be provided in proportionate amounts to Interreg programmes
- Financing agreements required
- Public procurement – new possibility to apply national rules by non EU states, if agreed and included in the Financing Agreements



## State of play

- July 2025 – first draft of Regulations proposed by the EC followed by formal and informal negotiations/comments by MS
- January 2026 – first compromise proposal on ERDF/Interreg reg.
- Under Cyprus presidency:
  - beginning of March – how PBA will be applied on Interreg
  - end of March – second compromise proposal on ERDF/Interreg reg. – what from NRPP will be applied on Interreg
- 16 Specific objectives from NRPP are applicable to Interreg + 3 Interreg Specific objectives

## Specific objectives applicable to Interreg

- (i) fostering the attractiveness of territories to support the right to stay including by supporting strategies for the integrated development of urban and rural areas, including support for territorial services and infrastructure;
- (ii) strengthening the Union's industrial base, resilient supply chains and boosting sustainable and competitive manufacturing, in particular in the areas of net zero and critical raw materials technologies, with special attention to the competitiveness of small- and medium-sized enterprises, by fully integrating environmental and climate ambitions to accelerate a clean industrial transition;
- (iii) supporting a just transition towards the Union's 2030, 2040 and 2050 targets for energy and climate, in particular by prioritising support for clean energy generation and infrastructure, promoting energy efficiency and decarbonisation, storage and technology, developing smart energy systems and domestic transmission and distribution grids also taking into account the Trans-European Network (TEN-E) and technology and promoting a circular economy, ensuring that all territories and everyone can contribute and benefit from the clean transition;

## Specific objectives applicable to Interreg

- (iv) supporting the digital transformation towards the Digital Decade targets and objectives set out in the Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030, thereby contributing to the achievement of a digitally sovereign, secure, and inclusive Union, and promoting the development and use of advanced technologies, including AI secure and trusted digital infrastructure and services, basic and advanced digital skills, digital public services, and ICT connectivity, while addressing the digital divide;
- (v) supporting research, development and innovation, including the diffusion of innovation across all regions;
- (vi) supporting measures, including reforms to further the Saving and investments Union and foster the development of market-based funding options;
- (vii) supporting social and affordable housing;

## Specific objectives applicable to Interreg

- (viii) enhancing Union transport infrastructure and contributing to the completion of the trans-European network for transport, in particular on the core and extended core network, while decarbonising and improving connectivity, security and accessibility for remote, peripheral and less connected areas; support the green and digital transition of transport;
- (ix) support for tourism, including sustainability;
- (x) supporting efficient water management, quality and resilience, environmental protection, climate adaptation, climate resilience and enhancing biodiversity, soil quality and natural resources, promoting circularity, bioeconomy and wider resource efficiency, strengthening pollution prevention, control and remediation, preserving and restoring nature and enhancing biodiversity and natural resources, as well as promoting the New European Bauhaus solutions in the built environment;

## Specific objectives applicable to Interreg

- (xi) supporting employment, equal access to the labour market, fair and quality working conditions and labour mobility;
- (xii) enhancing labour supply and improving education and lifelong acquisition of skills, in particular by promoting upskilling and reskilling;
- (xiii) promoting equal opportunities for all, supporting strong social safety nets, fostering social inclusion and fighting poverty and homelessness, and supporting investment in social infrastructure;
- (xiv) facilitating access to services and associated infrastructure, including modernization, digitalization and strengthening the quality and resilience of healthcare systems, child and long-term care services;

## Specific objectives applicable to Interreg

- (xv) addressing the challenges of demographic change across the EU, which include labour shortages and disparities between generations and regions;
- (xvi) addressing the social impacts of the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions.

**+ “better cooperation governance”, “a safer and more secure Europe” and “more resilient regions bordering Russia, Belarus and Ukraine”.**



## Planning of the new programme

- 1Q 2026 – preparation of ToR for territorial analysis and support in programming
- 2Q 2026 – start of the procurement procedure/set up the PTF
- 3Q 2026 – start of the contract (2 years)
- 1Q 2027 – elaboration of the results of territorial analysis, selection of the specific objectives
- 2Q – 4Q 2027 – drafting the intervention logic using PBA and drafting the chapter/ SEA?
- 4Q 2027/1Q 2028 – first submission to EC
- 2Q 2028 – comments by EC if needed or approval of chapter
- 3Q 2028 – first steps of programme implementation (setting up the MC, establishing programme rules/agreements)
- 4Q 2028 – preparation and launching the first Call

Interreg



Co-funded by  
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IPA Croatia – Bosnia and  
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# Thank you for your attention!

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