

EUROPEAN COMMISSION Regional Policy

# European Territorial Co-operation 2007-2013

## The New Agenda

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#### **European Territorial Cooperation INTERREG**

• Policy easy to explain

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• European value added is clear

• Now upgraded to Objective



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Fills gaps and addresses issues or problems that are difficult for MS/regions to tackle alone:

- pollution (air, water)
- natural risks, emergency situations: floods, avalanches, forest fires, maritime accidents
- climate change
- energy
- communication/accessibility gaps
- enterprise initiatives: science parks, clusters, RTD and innovation



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Potential to address need

- to reduce effects of borders
- to share ideas across borders
- to have impact on big questions



### **Transnational Co-operation**

### **Focus on 4 priority themes**

- Innovation, RTD, enterprises

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- Environment, water management, risk prevention, incl. maritime safety
- Improved accessibility, transport, information and communication technology
- Sustainable urban development



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## **North Sea Priorities**

- 1. Building on our capacity for innovation
- 2. Promoting the sustainable management of our environment
- 3. Improving the accessibility of places in the NSR
- 4. Promoting sustainable and competitive regions



## **Transnational cooperation**

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- Projects with some investments leading to tangible results having transnational impact
- Strategic and well planned projects
- Networking, plans and studies only to prepare for concrete projects



8

## Regional Policy Successful transnational projects

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- Produce innovative concrete results and outputs of benefit and relevance to entire programme area
- Contribute significantly to meeting the objectives of programme
- Have broad and deep project partnerships, involving both regional and national authorities
- Have Lead partners with the right skills and experiences
- Where relevant, link up to other programmes, e.g. Convergence and Competitiveness



## **Important principle**

Joint approach, supported by:

- <u>4 criteria</u>: joint development / joint implementation / joint staffing / joint financing
- <u>Lead partner principle</u>: LP responsible for implementing the whole project and concludes agreement with MA and with the partners participating in the project



### **Strategic role of Monitoring Committe**

Important ambassadors of programme:

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- Assist in passing on message that IVB is different from IVB
- Assist in raising quality IIIB→IVB
- Active involvement: Programme driven by strategy or by demand? Targeted or open calls?
- Represent interests of programme area

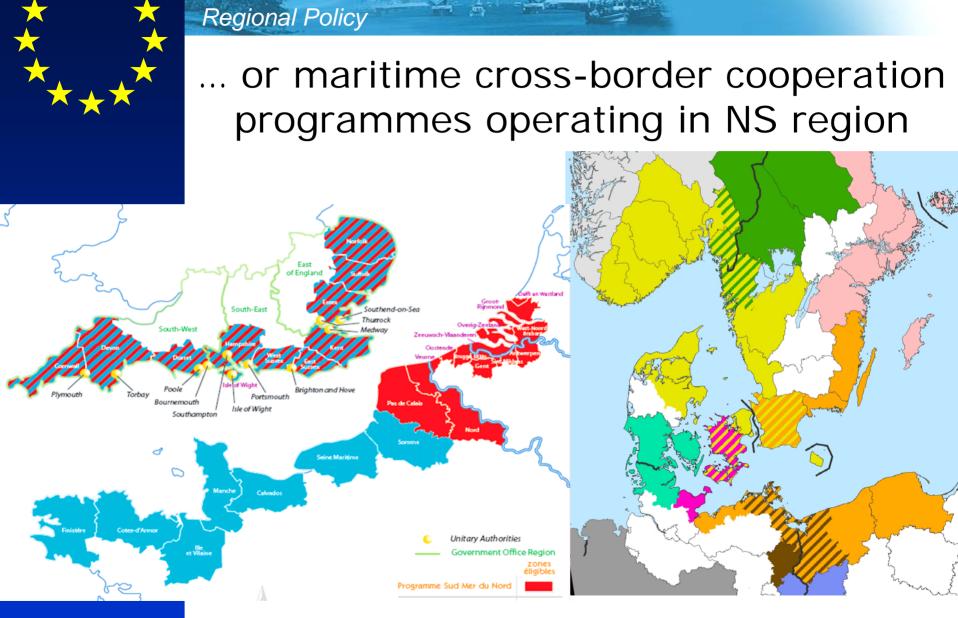


Synergies and complementarity with other programmes

## For example: other transnational cooperation programmes

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- Partly overlapping geographically: *Baltic Sea Region, Northern Periphery and North West Europe*
- 7 other programmes with maritime character



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#### Transnational co-operation Financing flexibility

- 20% may be granted for operations which include partners **outside the area** in duly justified cases
- 10% may be used **outside the EU**, if of benefit for EU regions (responsibility for expenditure lies on EU lead beneficiary and certifying authority)



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#### **Challenge in near future**

## Review of EU financial perspectives, end 2008

We need to deliver...

- Prove added value of cooperation
- Produce concrete /tangible results



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#### Thank you for your attention!