



2007–2013 programme and project success factors

A strong focus on Innovation

Innovation is recognised as a key factor in driving the economies of the region and there is a strong focus on the knowledge-based economy and how innovation can help to achieve this. Projects need to consider this at the planning stage.

Policy level involvement

In order to maximise impact and secure support for the individual projects it is important to incorporate policy level planning in the early stages of projects.

Long lasting results and outcomes

Projects should have a natural life after the funding period is over. The funding period should be regarded as a starting phase of a project, when the foundations are laid for a long future implementation.

The 4 priorities of the programme

PRIORITY 1 Building on our capacity for innovation

PRIORITY 2 Promoting the sustainable management of our environment

PRIORITY 3 Improving the accessibility of places in the North Sea Region

PRIORITY 4 Promoting sustainable and competitive communities

There are a total of 14 areas of intervention for the programme, spread over the 4 priorities. Please consult the programme website for the latest and most in-depth information about the priorities and the areas of intervention.

The application procedure

Project applications under the programme can be submitted during the Calls for Applications. There will be 2 calls for applications each year during the first 3 years of the programme. A technical assessment will be carried out by the secretariat for consideration by the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee, made up of national and regional representatives of the participating countries, will approve or reject each application by consensus. They will meet at least twice a year for the first 3 years of the programme.

Contact information

Please check the programme website for the latest updates and information about the development of the programme.

Do not hesitate to get in contact with the secretariat if you have any questions regarding the programme or any of its projects.

www.northsearegion.eu

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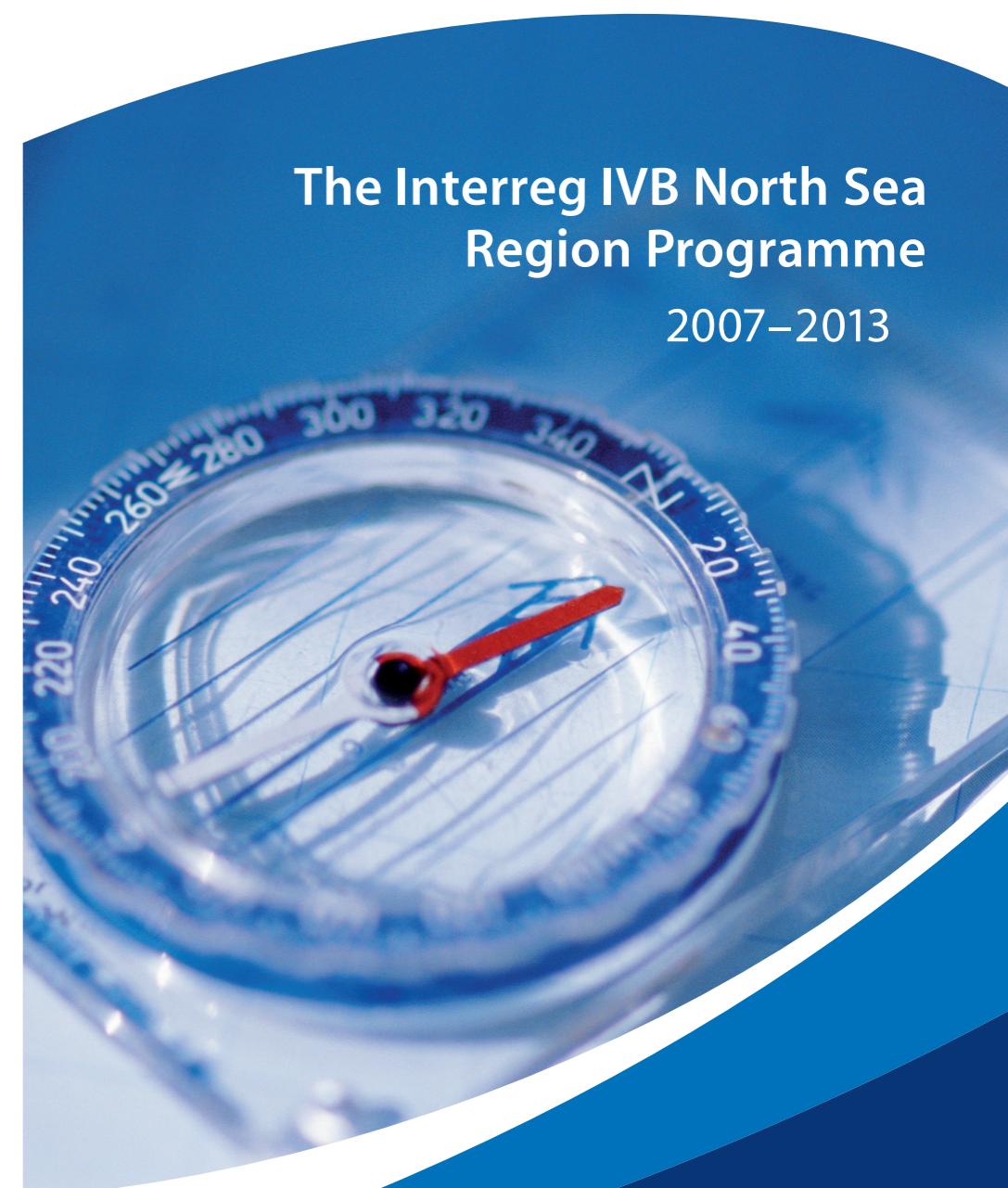


The Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme



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2007–2013



*Investing in the future
by working together for a
sustainable and competitive region*



Projects for the future

The Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme works with cutting edge policy areas in regional development through transnational projects.

A principal aim of the programme is to expand the scope of transnational cooperation and focus on high quality projects in innovation, the environment, accessibility, and sustainable and competitive communities.

The 2007–2013 programme will build on the experiences made in the previous programmes, incorporating policy level planning and the long lasting and tangible effects of projects. These are the foundations of the future transnational projects, which will create added value to partner regions and beyond.



The region, its challenges and the programme

The aim of the new North Sea Region Programme is to make the region a better place to work, live and invest in.

An in-depth analysis of the opportunities and challenges of the North Sea region are the foundation on which the programme priorities and areas of intervention are based. There are 4 priorities and 14 areas of intervention in total and they correspond with a number of key issues that the programme preparation group has decided are important to address in order to contribute to the prosperity and sustainable growth of the region for the future.

More information about the strategy of the programme and its background can be found on the programme website.

The geographical area

The region is connected by the North Sea, and the programme area is made up of regions in the 6 member states and Norway that border the North Sea. In size the region covers an area of 664.000 km², 14% of the EU25 area and a population of approximately 60 Million, 13% of the EU25.



Principles of assistance

A number of principles have been identified as important in the 2007–2013 programme period. Each project application will be assessed according to how well it corresponds to these principles.

PROJECTS SHOULD

- contribute to the sustainable development of the North Sea region
- promote innovation and the transition to a knowledge-based economy
- work to promote territorial cohesion across the North Sea region
- enhance equal opportunities for all, equality between genders and non-discrimination
- demonstrate the added value of undertaking the proposed actions on a transnational basis

– Projects will only be selected at the application stage if they produce outputs that cannot be accomplished without support from the programme.

