25 - 27 June 2014 Aberdeen City and Shire, Scotland



# VB NORTH SEA REGION PROGRAMME

# How and when to develop a good application

Aberdeen, 25 June, 2014



## **THE NORTH SEA**Conference 2014

### Achievements from the past

- 4 priorities: no significant gaps in content delivery
- Almost 100% of available funding allocated to 83 projects (10 calls)
- To date: 1030 project partners
- 3 main project types: call 1 to 8 projects ('normal') & clusters and small initiatives on future perspectives + communications
- Average of 2m EUR funding with a range of <1m to 5.6m
- Promoted in Europe and around the world
- Open for policy developments
- 33 projects completed
- Pilots, trials, demonstrations have led to lasting results and additional investments - making an impact on the region and beyond





#### Lessons from the past

#### All projects must be:

- + Based on the shared or complementary needs of all partners
- Reliant on joint implementation
- + Focused on delivering progress on core programme goals
- Implementing EU policy
- Innovative
- + Based on demonstrating and proving what is possible
- + Limited and specific in the changes they seek to generate
- + Inspiring national and regional policy and practices

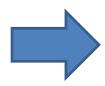


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#### How it works









Shared challenges and shared ideas for solutions

Jointly develop, test and learn from 'new' solutions

Success = Better solutions available and in use for the whole programme area





Share learning with the wider programme area





#### What will be in the application?

- + Builds on the 2007-2013 form
- + With attempts to clarify and simplify
- + In line with EU-wide efforts to harmonise
- + Will be electronic only
- + Will have automatic tools to prevent the most common errors
- + Not yet finalised but...





#### Application preview

- Project summary
- Partnership including relevance and motivation of all partners
- Common challenges, joint approach and need for transnational cooperation
- Objectives, results and main outputs
- Link to other strategies, policies, initiatives and projects
- 'Horizontal principles': Equality, non-discrimination and sustainable dev.
- Work packages, activities and deliverables
- Timeplan (by work package)
- Specification investments and external contracts
- Budget (by partner, by period, by budget line)

ALL SUBJECT TO FINAL DECISION



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Shar shared Don't get side-tracked on details. Keep focus on the bigger cooperation picture

Success = Better solutions available and in use for the whole programme area





Share learning with the wider programme area



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# Application procedure for the new programme

3 main discussion strands:

- A) Pre-assessment and full application (as is)
- B) Two-step application (step 1: idea description step 2: invitation only)

C) Project idea proposals and full applications (mixture of A & B)



## Application procedure: main motivations

- Having an option for submitting a mini-proposal (as first step)
- To get formal feedback on whether the proposal fits the programme
- Getting the Steering Committee's views already at idea stage
- Aim to avoid time and resources used on inappropriate applications
- Providing preparation costs at an early stage
- To open the door wide for newcomers





### Timeline for applications

#### September 2014

17-18 Transnational Project Development Seminar and Partner Search: Getting ready for the new programme

#### October 2014

- 06 Launch of application and guidance materials (tbc)
- 20 Opening of the online application system for project development (tbc)

#### Depending on the debate about future projects and application procedure:

First call: To be confirmed

Deadline for proposals: To be confirmed

Approval of first applications: To be confirmed

Updates on www.northsearegion.eu







It's 106 miles to Chicago, we got a full tank of gas, half a pack of cigarettes, it's dark... and we're wearing sunglasses.





#### NSRP 2014-2020

- + Total ERDF contribution to the programme EUR 167.253.971 + Norway EUR 10.000.000
- + The Grant rate will remain at 50%

New is 15% overhead flat-rate on staff costs

No documentation requirements, it is just added to the eligible salary automatically.





#### IVB VS VB -changes to the new programme

Interreg North Sea Region IVB – current programme	Interreg North Sea Region VB – working with the Harmonised Implementation Tools
12 Budget Lines	5 Budget Lines: 1. Staff costs, 2. Office and accomodation, 3. External services and experts, 4. Travel and Accommodation and 5. Equipment and investment
Hourly rate calculation – as per Instruction Note from October 2012	Possibility of standard regulation for accepted # of annual working hours





#### Changes continued...

Interreg North Sea Region IVB current programme	Interreg North Sea Region VB – working with the Harmonised Implementation Tools
No Programme Rules	Possibility of programme rules to promote standardisation and common understanding/approach
Financial Reporting – Appendix 6, 8, 8a and 9	First Level Control Report, Checklist and Certificate as per the HIT Tools
Payments to projects — follow up by JTS until all open issues are resolved often leading to delay in payments	90 days rule for processing request for payments according to new EC Regulations





## New Online Monitoring System (OMS)

+ All communication through the OMS

Communication portal Including First level control

+ Flexible user interface

Design your own dashboard

+ Easier administration

Only-once encoding principle
No paper copies





## Practical advice to applicants

+ Private partners

#### + Advice to applicants

Minimum number of partners Maximum number of partners Material Investments Shared costs





## Thank you!