



The future of Interreg

Interreg



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Presentation

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European Territorial Cooperation 2014-2020

2

European Territorial Cooperation after 2020

3

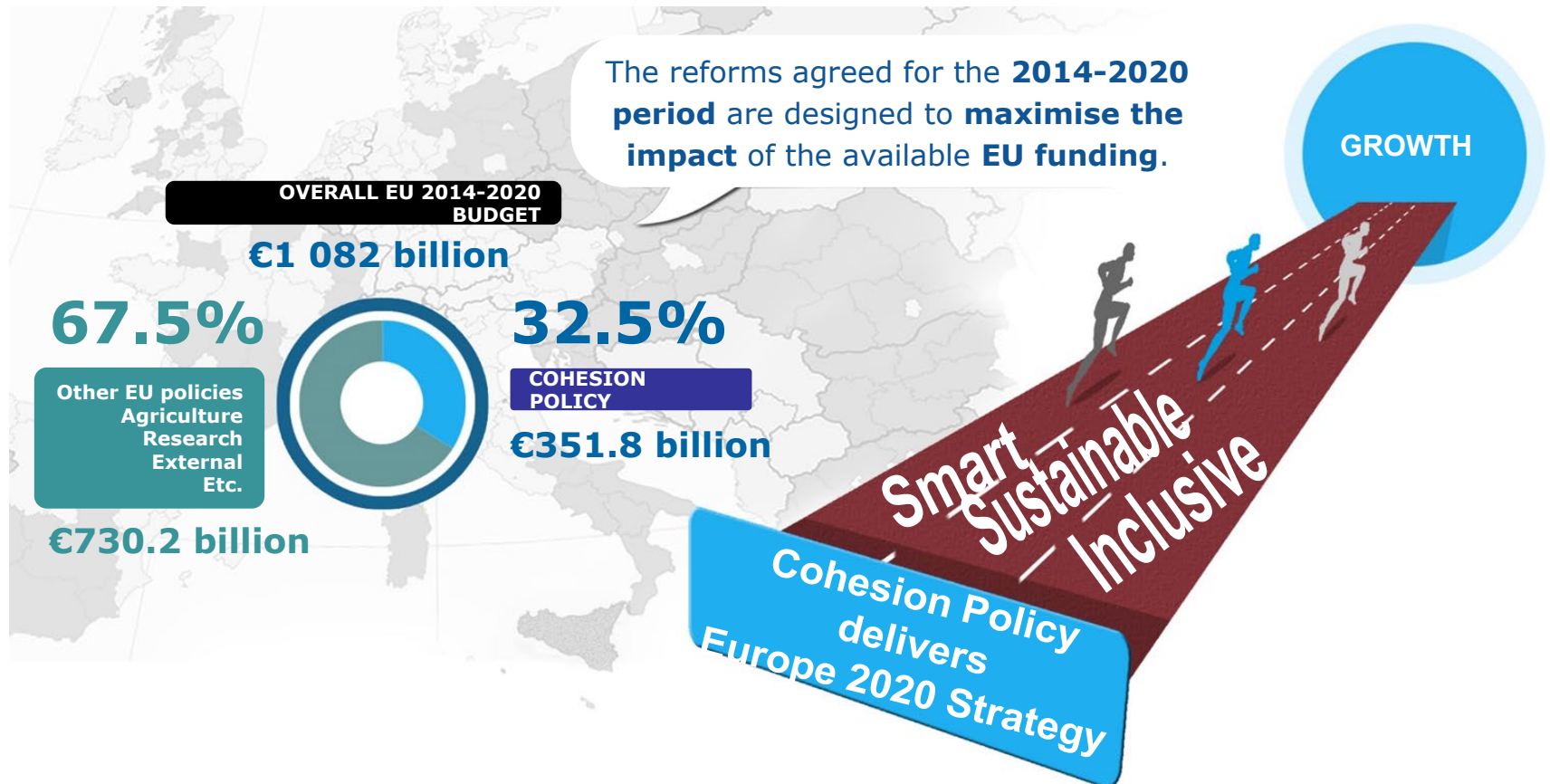
Support to cooperation, beyond funding



European Territorial Cooperation 2014-2020

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EU Cohesion Policy 2014-2020: 1/3 of the EU budget

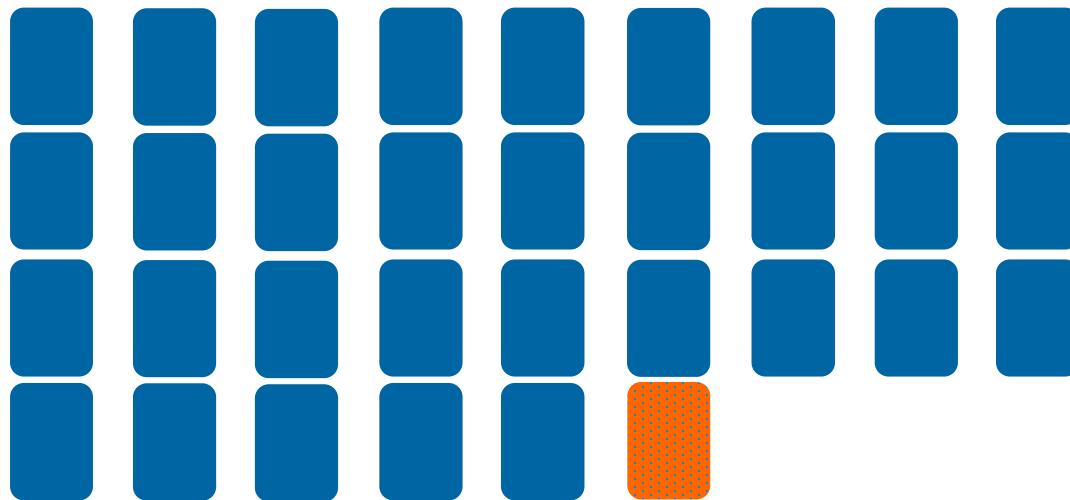




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And Interreg?

Cohesion policy 2014-2020



Goal:
Investment for growth &
jobs
EUR 340 bn

Goal:
European Territorial
Cooperation
EUR 10 bn

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□ The European Territorial Goal of Cohesion

- ✓ **Cohesion policy 2014-2020, 2 goals:**
Investment for **G**rowth & **J**obs
and **E**uropean **T**erritorial **C**ooperation or "**Interreg**"
- ✓ **Interreg V = 107** Territorial Cooperation Programmes
for 2014-2020 with a budget of EUR 10.1 billion



* ERDF Contribution to IPA (enlargement) and ENI (neighbourhood)

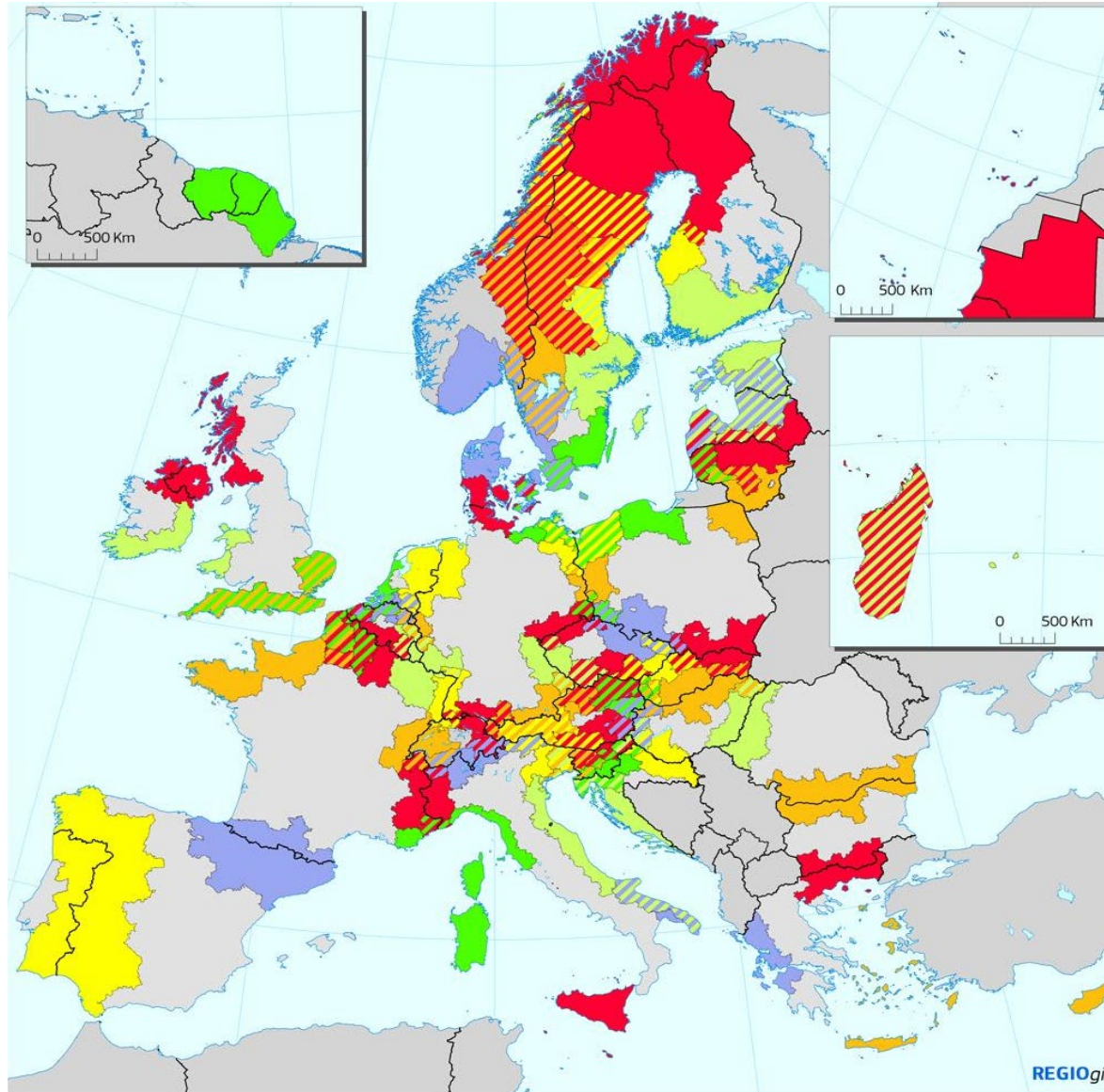


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Interreg A: Cross-border co-operation:

Eligible zones:

- NUTS III + maritime borders (max. 150 km)
- 60 programmes (incl. outermost regs.)
- Also 12 IPA CBC
- Usually: 2 MS



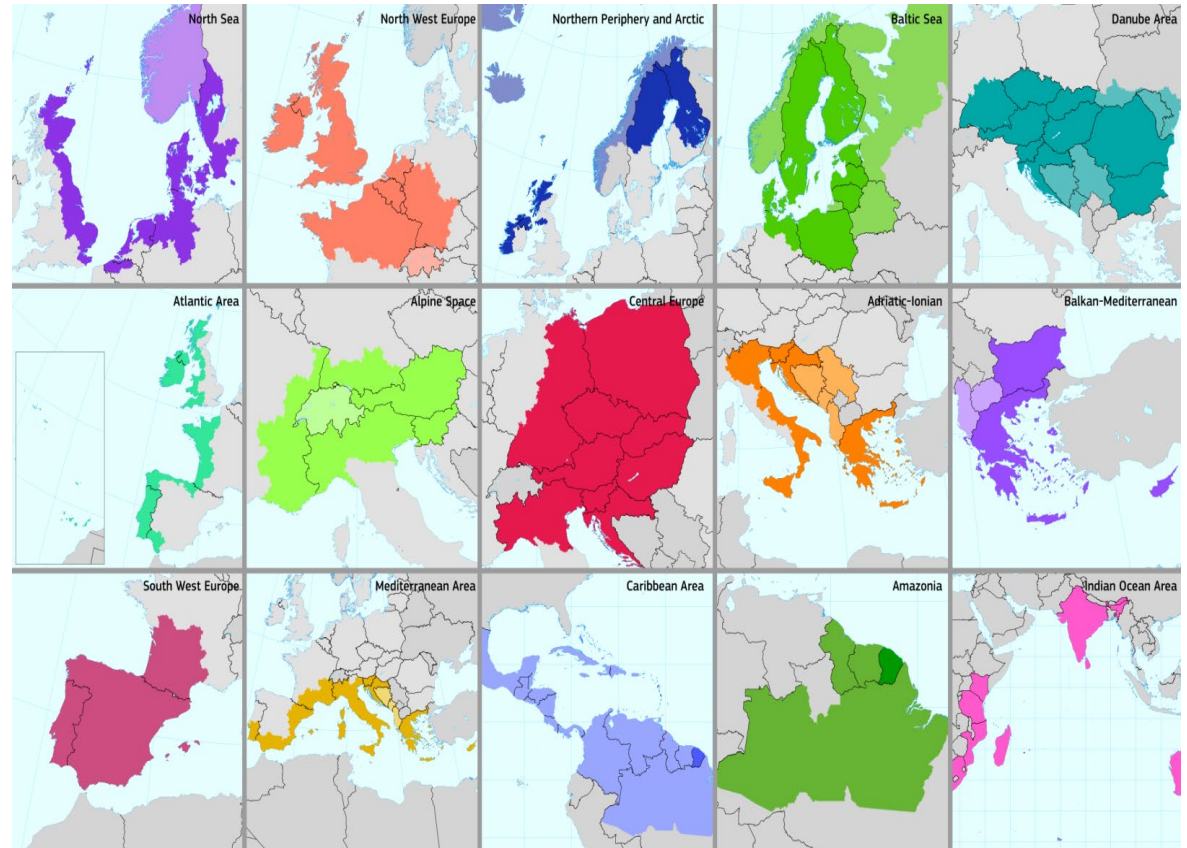


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Interreg B: Transnational co-operation:

Eligible zones:

- NUTS II
- Objective: Strategic actions for a larger functional region
- 15 programmes
- Several MS



C: Interregional – Four "networking" programmes

ESPON

European Observation Network for Territorial Development and Cohesion (studies, spatial planning)

URBACT

Exchange between Europe's cities on integrated urban development.

INTERACT

Cooperation and exchange network for territorial Interreg programmes.

Interreg Europe




Capitalisation among all EU regions

□ 11 thematic objectives for a European economy that is :

smart

-  Research and Innovation
-  Information and Communication technologies
-  Competitiveness of SMEs
-  Low-carbon economy

sustainable

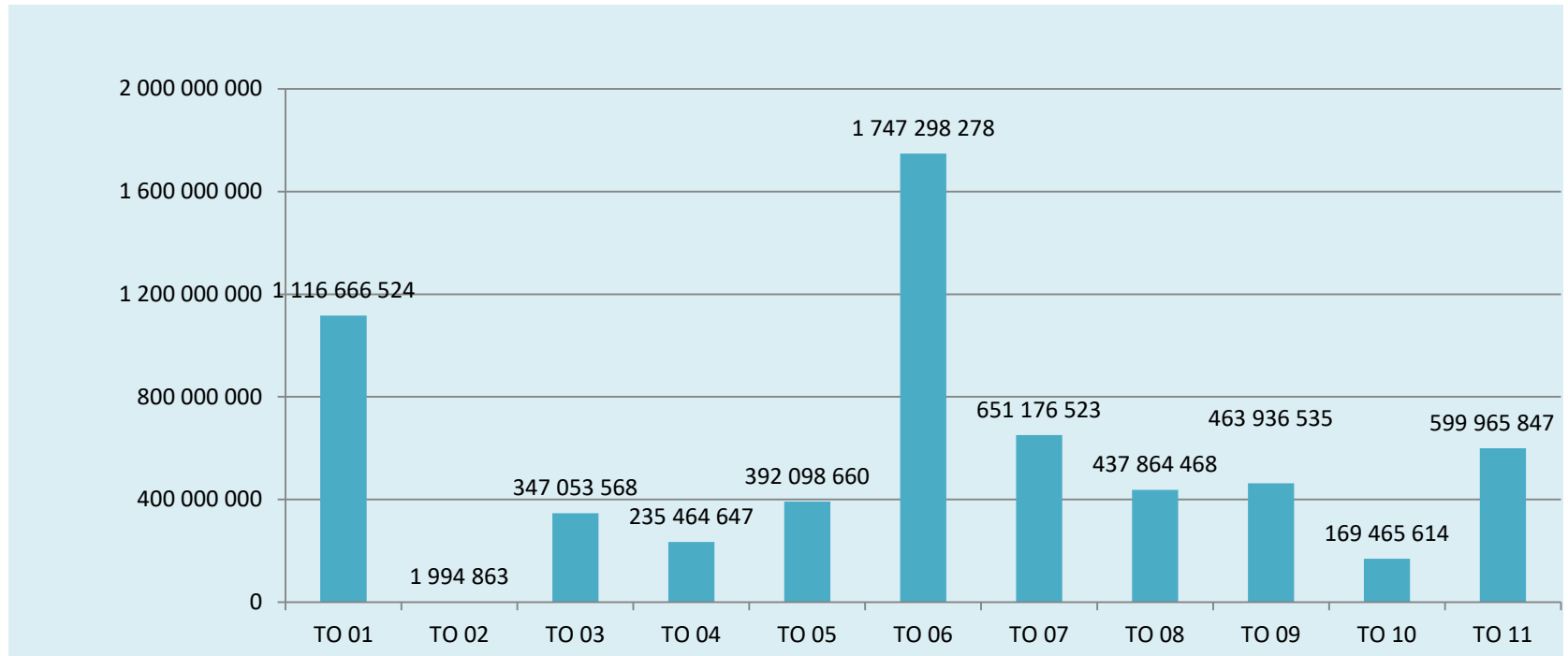
-  Combating climate change
-  Environment and resource efficiency
-  Sustainable transport

inclusive

-  Employment and Mobility
-  Social inclusion
-  Better education, training
-  Better public administration

Thematic concentration

Cross border ERDF allocation to thematic objectives





European Territorial Cooperation after 2020

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Cohesion Policy 2021-2027

- Less budget: difficult negotiations Multi Financial Framework
 - **EC proposal: Cohesion Policy € 331 bn, ETC: € 8.9 bn (2.5%)**
- Stronger strategic focus
 - **Focus on transition to smart, low carbon economy**
 - **Less policy objectives, stronger link to European Semester**
- Concentration
 - **Focus on impact and result orientation (indicators!)**
- Simplification and flexibility
 - **80 simplification measures proposed**

Five policy objectives:

1. **A smarter Europe** (innovative & smart economic transformation)
2. **A greener, low-carbon Europe** (including energy transition, the circular economy, climate adaptation and risk management)
3. **A more connected Europe** (mobility and ICT connectivity)
4. **A more social Europe** (the European Pillar of Social Rights)
5. **A Europe closer to citizens** (sustainable development of urban, rural and coastal areas and local initiatives)

! Two additional specific objectives for Interreg: 1) better Interreg governance and 2) a safer and more secure Europe



ETC (Interreg) 2021-2027

- Stronger territorial dimension : **functional areas** (hence more strategic outlook)
- More attention for **better governance**: Specific objective (%15 per programme)
- Cooperation not limited to Interreg (see ERDF reg): **Embedding**
- New dimension : **maritime** co-operation at sea-basin level
- Integration of **external** cross-border cooperation
- New legal tool: European Cross Border Mechanism (**ECBM**)



Proposal EC for ETC (Interreg) Architecture

- Terrestrial cross-border cooperation – internal and external borders **(component 1: 53%)**
 - Only land borders
- Transnational cooperation and maritime cooperation **(component 2: 31%)**
- Outermost regions cooperation **(component 3: 1.2%)**
- Interregional cooperation **(component 4: 3.3%)**
 - ESPON, Interact
- Interregional innovation investments **(component 5: 11.5%)**



Progress negotiations trilogues (EC, EP, Council)

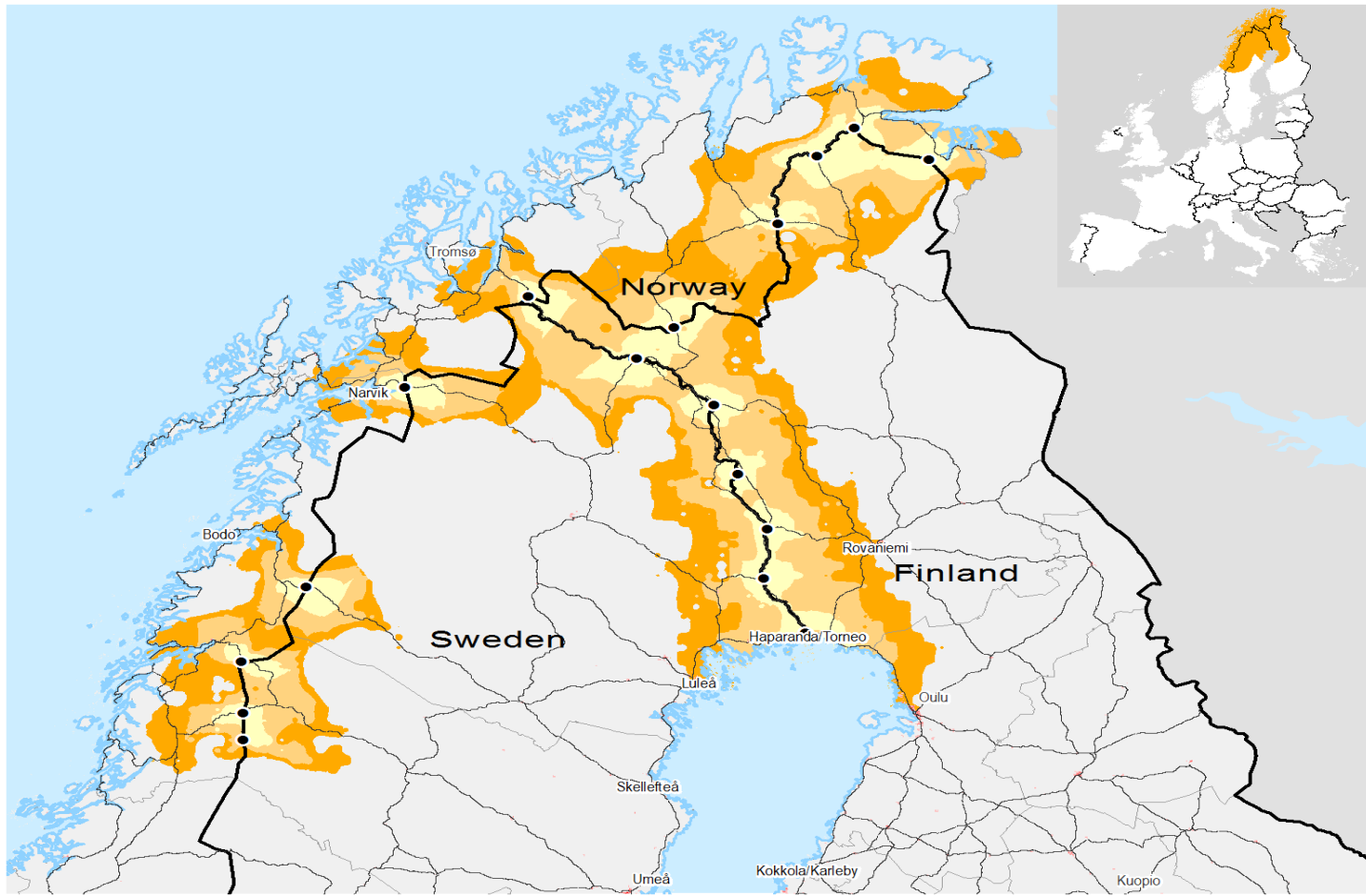
- Keep maritime cooperation under component 1 (as separate programmes) and not part of transnational programmes (component 2)
- Keep 4 programmes under Interregional cooperation: ESPON, Interact, Urbact and Interreg Europe
- Interregional innovation investments (component 5): support on substance but not under Interreg
- Thematic concentration for specific objectives?
- EP: more budget for Interreg

Border Orientation Papers (BOP's)

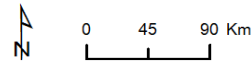
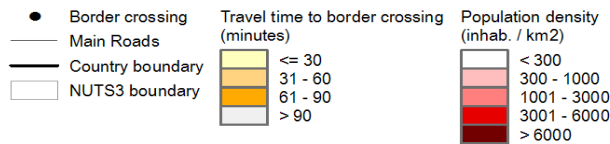
- 38 BOP's were issued in May 2019: one for **Nord (SE-FI-NO)**
- 3 maritime cross border orientation papers in Q4 2019/Q1 2020: **one for the Baltic Sea**
- Not negotiation papers, but input to informal dialogue: orientations for debate
- Based on studies and data analysis
- Also proposals for further coordination and efficiency
- **Baltic paper:** possible scenario to merge Interreg Nord and Botnia-Atlantica programmes, with sufficient flexibility for sub-programmes

Territorial dimension: Functional areas

- Territorial continuity as a key vector of development
- Cross-border territories to be seen as "single spaces" for further development
 - **Better integration of labour markets**
 - **Mobility: missing links in public transport services and infrastructure**
 - **Reaching critical mass for boosting the circular economy**
 - **Strengthening the knowledge economy**
 - **Provision of daily services of general interest like e.g. health and education**



Cross border region: Sweden - Finland - Norway

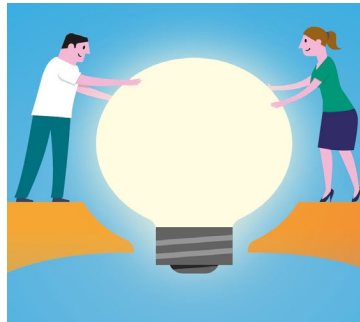


Notes:
 Travel time by car to transnational border crossings (paved roads).
 Road network data: TomTom Mullinet© 2017.
 Population data: LUISA population grid 2011.
 Administrative boundaries: Eurogeographics©.

Elaboration:
 European Commission, Joint Research Centre 2018.

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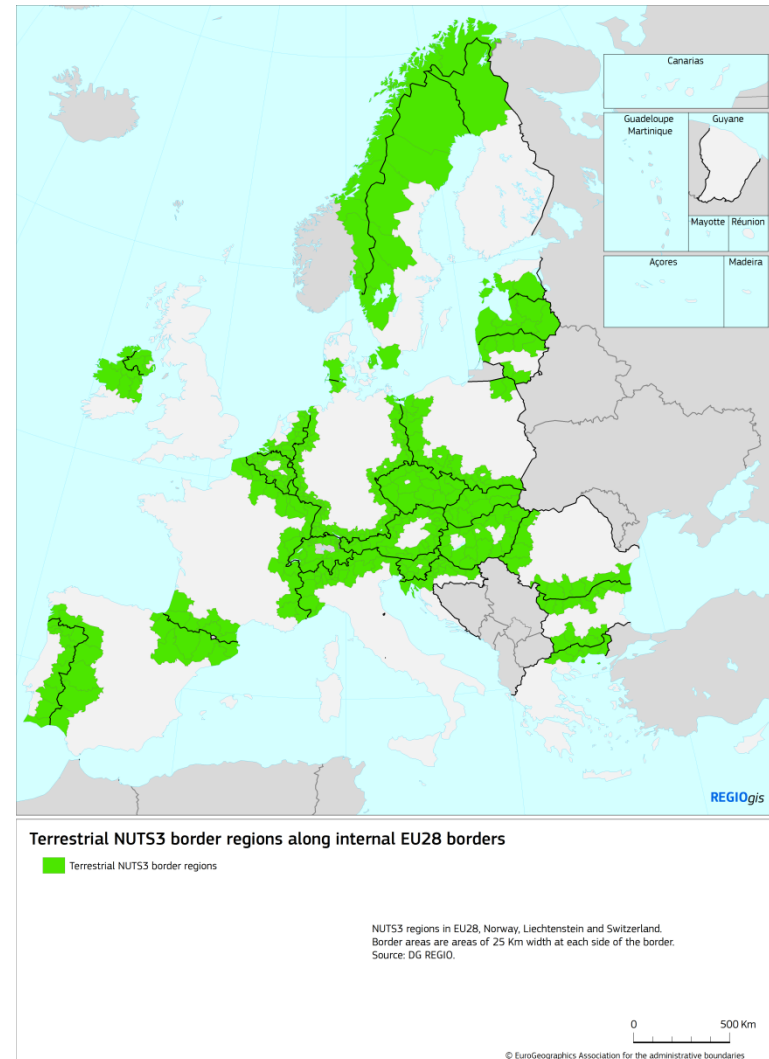
**Support to cooperation,
beyond funding**



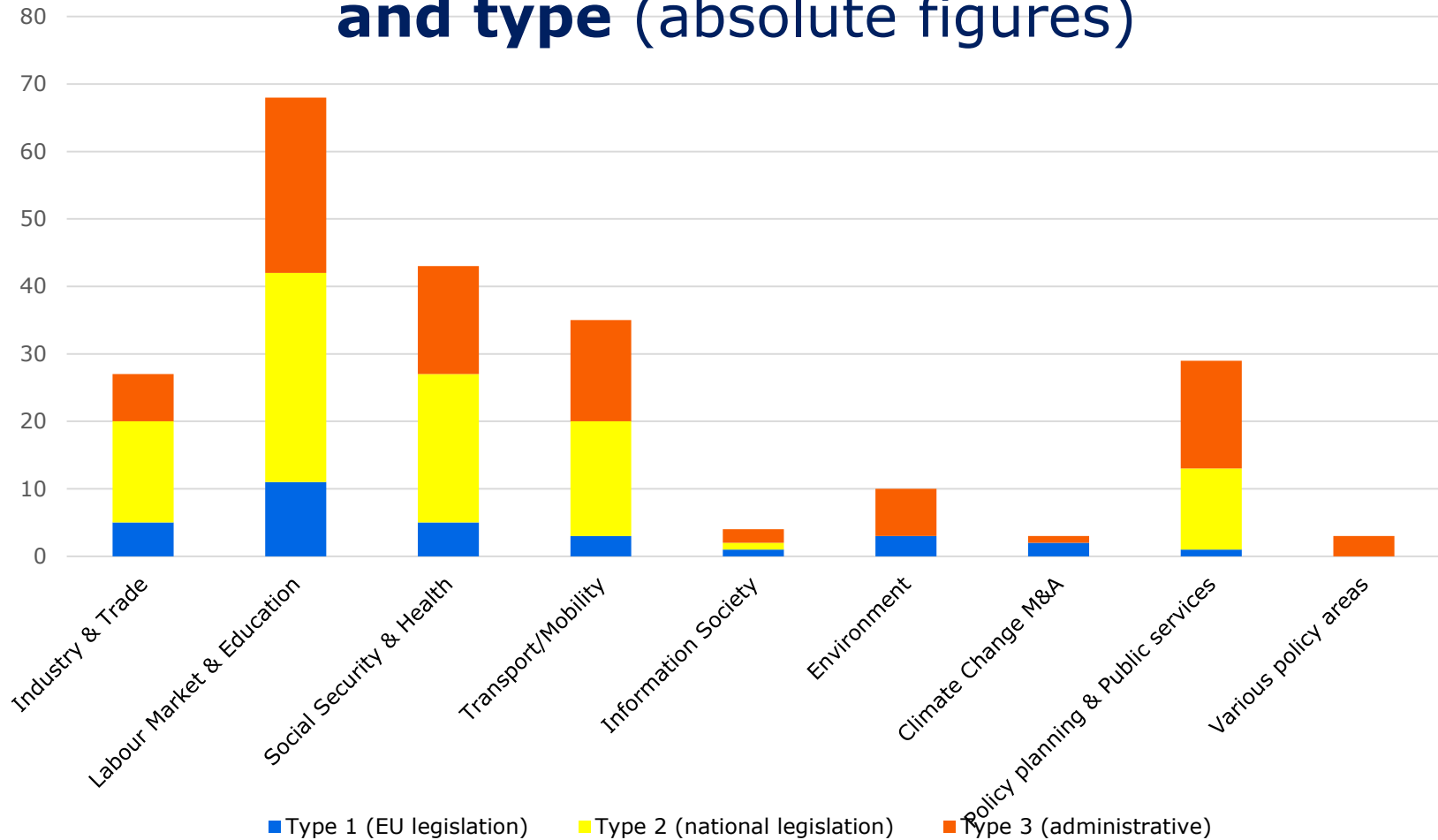
Geographical scope and key words

*Cross-
border*

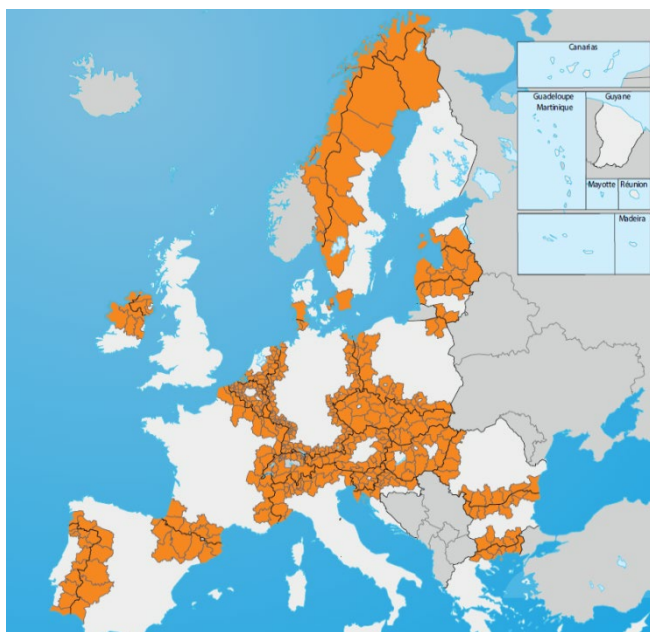
*Border
obstacle*



Inventory: Obstacles by policy area and type (absolute figures)



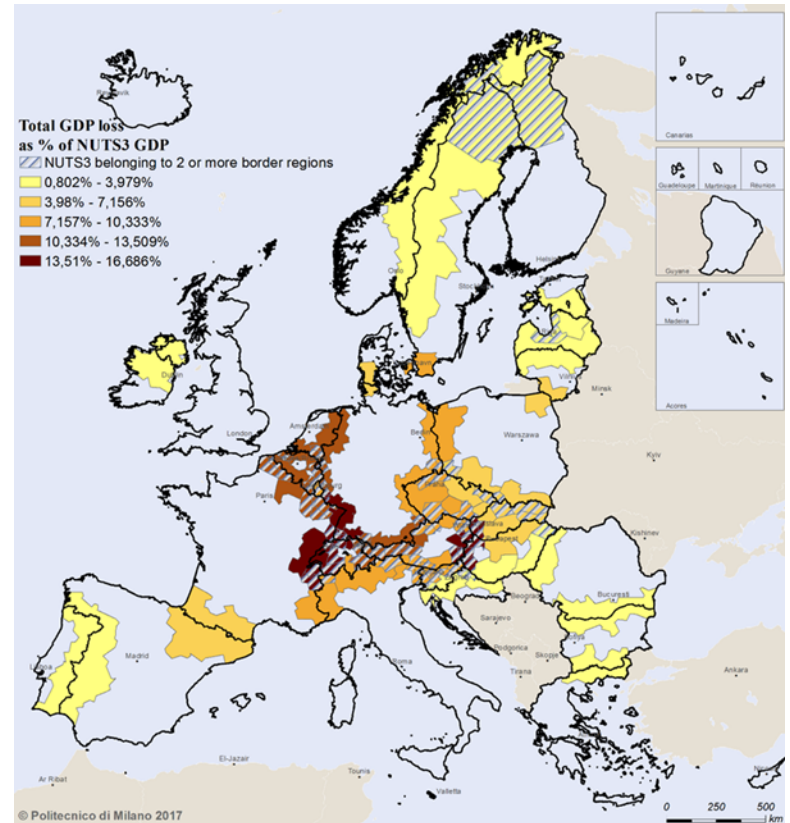
EC Communication 2017: Boosting growth and cohesion in EU border regions



- ❑ Importance of border regions: 40% EU territory; 30% EU population (150 million), 30% EU GDP
- ❑ **BUT** less economically developed, lower access to public services
- ❑ Navigating different legal and administrative systems is still complex, long and costly

"Border Effect" – Unused potential

- Border obstacles lead to lost potential GDP;
- Removing 1/5 of all obstacles could lead to +2% GDP in border regions;
- Corresponding to 1 million new jobs
- Problems are more deeply felt where there is a greater level of interaction



BORDER FOCAL POINT Action Plan



deepen cooperation and exchanges



improve the legislative process



support cross-border employment



promote border multilingualism



facilitate cross-border accessibility



e-government to enable
cross-border public administration



provide reliable and understandable
information and assistance



promote greater pooling of health
care facilities



consider the legal and financial
framework for cooperation



build evidence for better
decision-making



References to follow-up

<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/border-regions> - Online Professional Platform

<http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/1/2018/EN/COM-2018-373-F1-EN-MAIN-PART-1.PDF> – ECBM – European CB Mechanism proposal

<https://portal.cor.europa.eu/egtc/about/Pages/platform.aspx> - EGTC platform

<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/health/building-cooperation-cross-border-healthcare-new-study-published> - Study on CB health cooperation

<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/transport/comprehensive-analysis-existing-cross-border-rail-transport-connections-and-missing-links> - Study on missing rail links

And The Communication and all preparatory materials:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/communications/2017/boosting-growth-and-cohesion-in-eu-border-regions

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/cooperation/european-territorial/cross-border/review/

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Thank you for your attention!

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https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.cfm

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30 years
together