



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND

# Interregional cooperation

*State of play and perspectives*

***SUSTAIN final conference – 18 September 2012***

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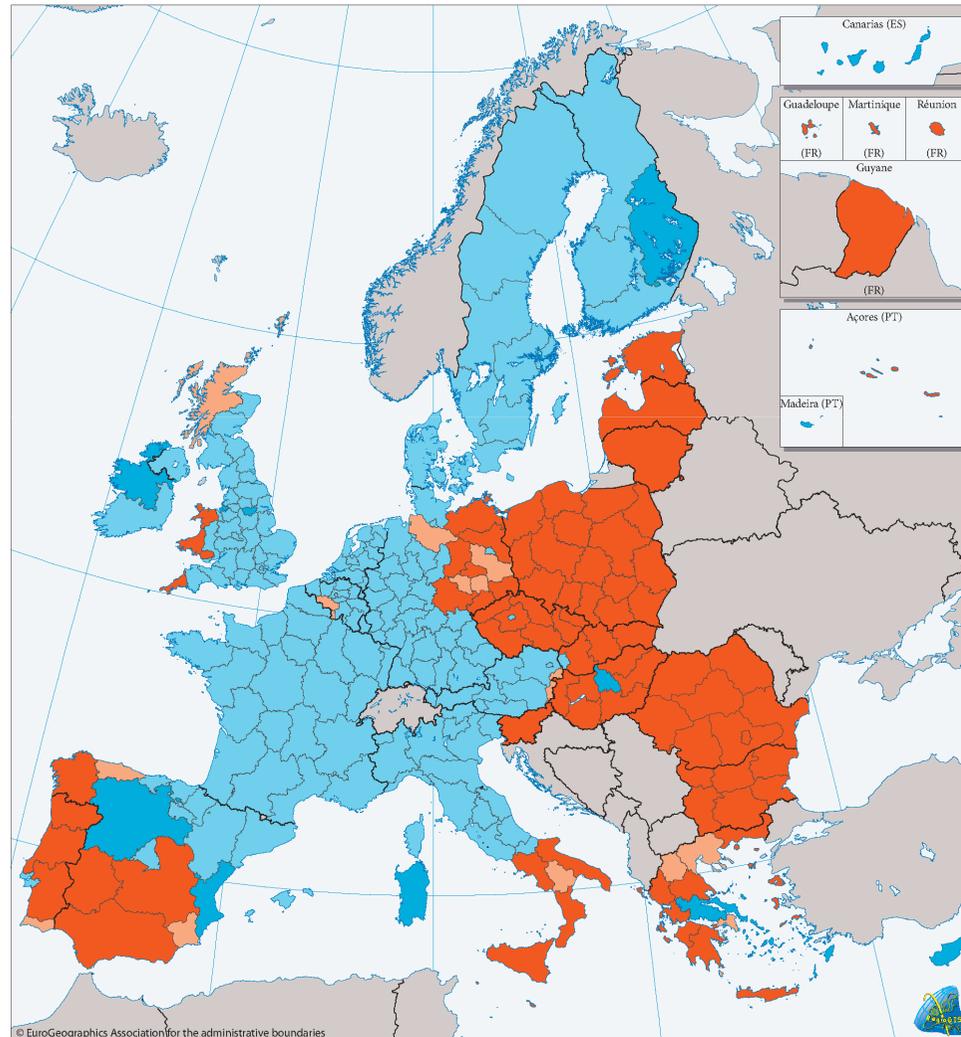
1. Programme context
2. Programme state of play
3. Water management in INTERREG IVC
4. Future of interregional cooperation



# EU Cohesion and Regional Policy

*Reducing disparities*

-  Convergence Regions
-  Phasing-out Regions
-  Phasing-in Regions
-  Competitiveness and Employment Regions



## Overall objective

to improve

**the effectiveness of regional development policies**

by

matching less experienced and more advanced regions  
enabling **exchange of experiences** and knowledge

in the fields of

**Innovation and the  
knowledge economy**

**Environment and risk  
prevention**



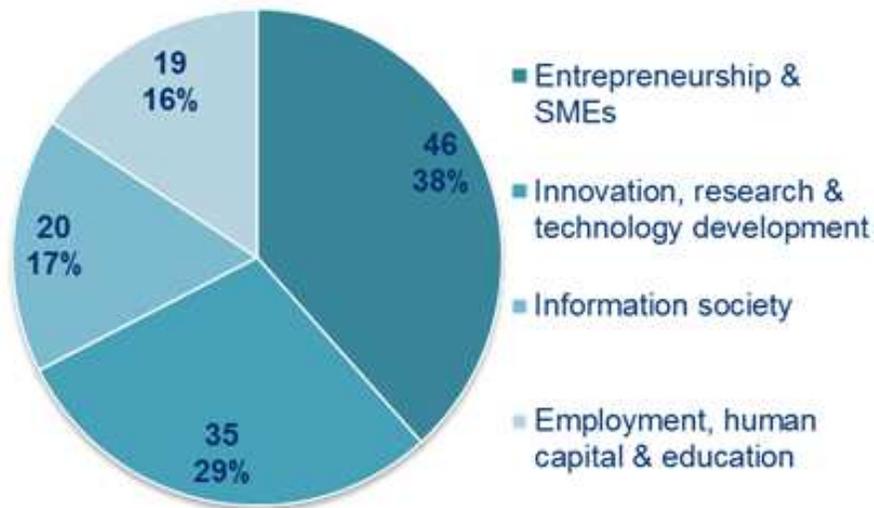
# Overview approved projects

**204**  
projects

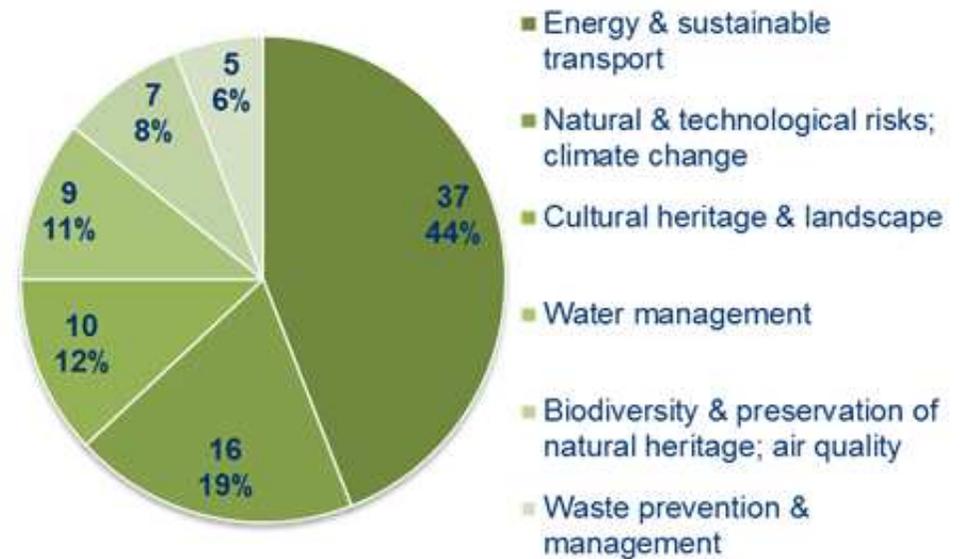
**2 274**  
partners

**All budget committed**

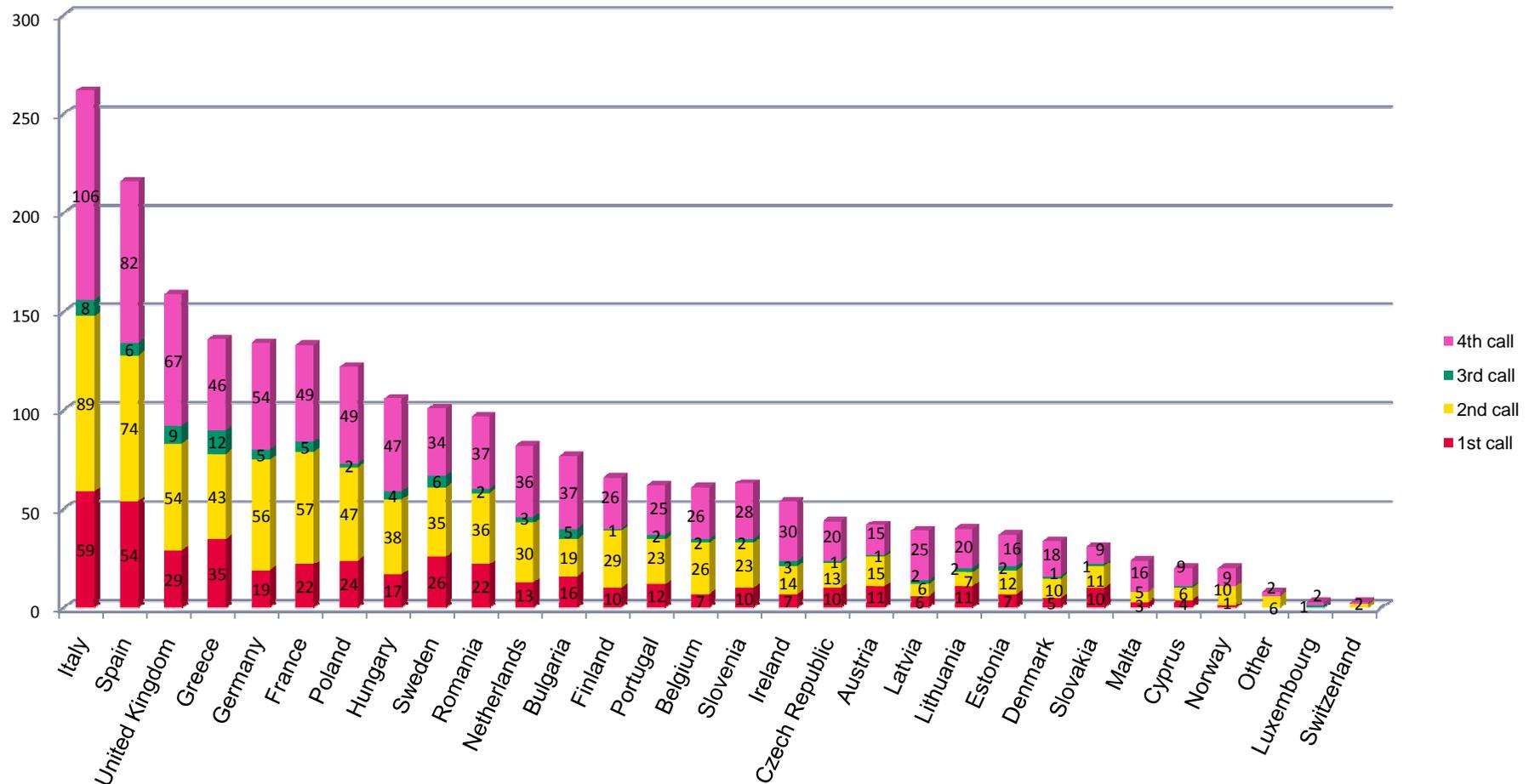
### Innovation & knowledge economy



### Environment & risk prevention



### Project partners per country – all calls



### Results achieved (as of June 2011)

Objective:  
**EU wide exchange of  
experience / capacity building**

**90%** of EU  
NUTS 2  
regions  
covered

**3,549**  
staff with  
increased  
capacity

**88**  
'spin-off  
activities'

Objective:  
**Identification / sharing /  
transfer of good practices**

**2,835**  
good practices  
identified



**151**  
successfully  
transferred

Overall objective:  
**Improvement of regional and  
local policies**

**1,250**  
policies  
addressed



**118**  
policies  
improved

## Water CoRe

**Water scarcity and droughts -  
coordinated actions in European  
regions**



- Successful GP transfer between Hessen and Romania
- Educational materials for children
- „Adventures of a Travelling Water Droplet” & „Plitsch and Platsch – Brook Adventures”



## WF - Waterways Forward

### Integrated management of regional inland waterways



- Preparation of Regional Action Plans & GP transfers
- Ireland/Northern Ireland: restoration of Ulster Canal
- Draft planning documents enhanced by environmentally sensitive restoration practices of British Waterways



- Preserving groundwater reservoirs for future generations
- Joint spin-off activity between Lower Silesia and Saxony
- Modeling of climate change impact on transboundary river basin – recommendations for sustainable cbc water management
- Supported by ETC CBC programme PL-Saxony in 2012-2014

## APPROACH

Networking project  
achieving tangible results

## MANAGEMENT

close and results-oriented  
cooperation with the JTS/IP



## PROGRAMME

contribution to programme  
activities (GP Fair, exchange  
of experience seminar)

## PARTNERSHIP

geographical coverage  
benefit for small communities  
high policy relevance, emphasis on direct  
involvement of policy-makers

## RESULTS

6 good practice transfers  
1 policy improvement  
3 spin-offs

# 4. Future of interregional cooperation



### **Proposed investment priorities for the programming period 2014 – 2020**

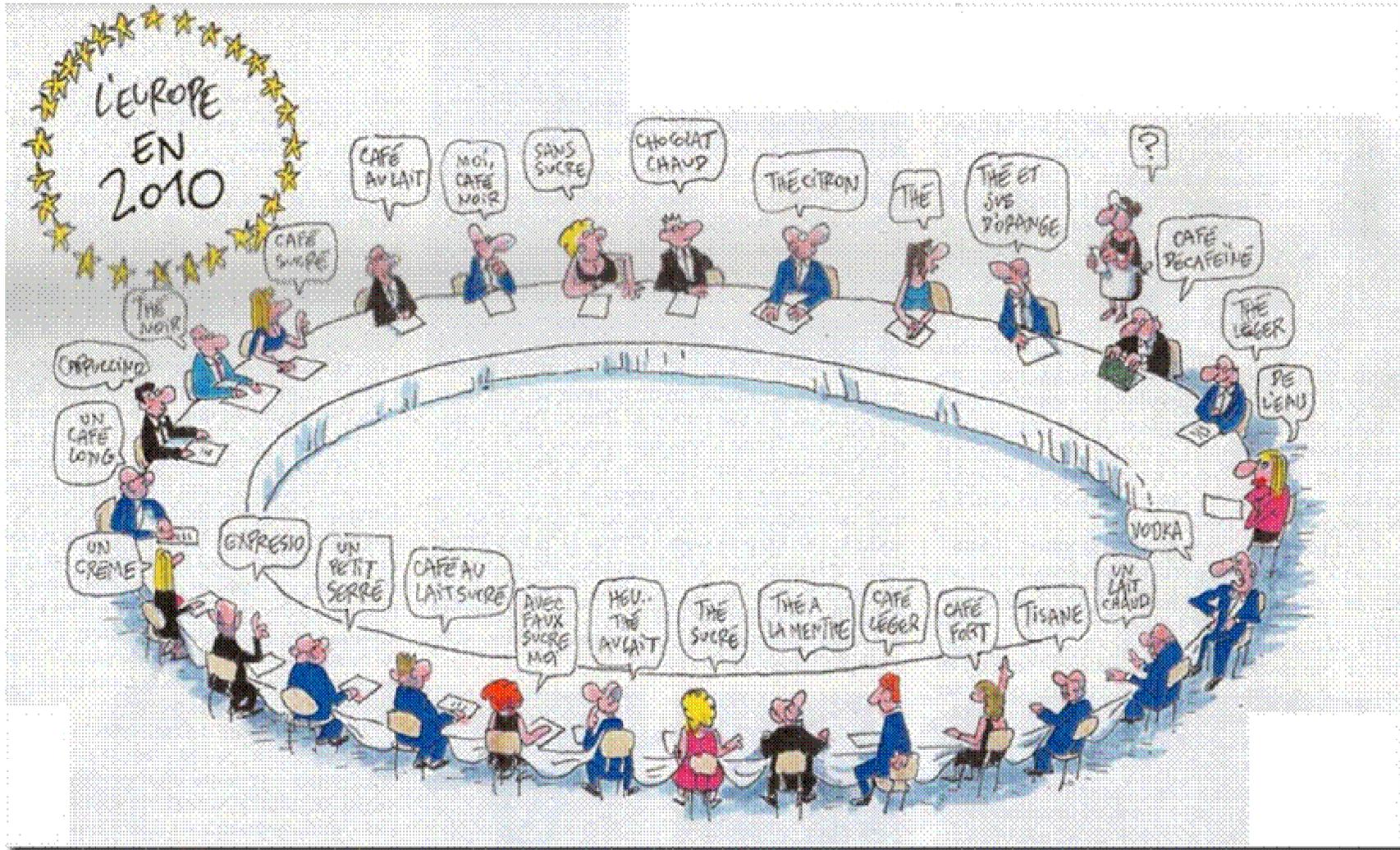
1. strengthening research, technological development and innovation
2. enhancing access to and use and quality of ICTs
3. enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs (...)
4. supporting the shift towards low-carbon economy in all sectors
5. promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management
6. protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency
7. promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key networks
8. promoting employment and supporting labour mobility
9. promoting social inclusion and combating poverty
10. investing in education, skills and lifelong learning
11. enhancing institutional capacity and an efficient public administration

# Draft regulation for ETC 2014-2020 on interregional cooperation

- **Link to EU cohesion policy** reinforced  
Transfer good practices into “*operational programmes under the Investment for growth and jobs goal*”
- Role to play in **capacity building**  
“*institutional capacity & efficient public administration*”  
(11<sup>th</sup> investment priority)
- **Thematic concentration?**

### **2 scenarios currently discussed (scenarios not mutually exclusive)**

- 1. Improved integrated programme (similar to IVC)**
  - No revolution: INTERREG philosophy kept
  - Improvements & simplification (e.g. 1 type of projects only)
  
- 2. Support programme to national / regional Operational Programmes under the investment for growth and jobs goal**
  - More fundamental change (less bottom up)
  - ‘Service provider’ to Managing Authorities (similar to the Smart Specialisation Platform in Seville)



## Regions of Europe sharing solutions!



**[www.interreg4c.eu/findGoodpractices.html](http://www.interreg4c.eu/findGoodpractices.html)**