

Let's practice capitalisation!

Let's practice capitalisation: from theory to practice, paving the way for consolidating results in 2014-2020 period 7-8/June/2017 Rome, Italy

Summary

1. Capitalisation: state of play in Interreg programmes and outlook

Agency for territorial cohesion (Italy): we have to extend our vision to a broader concept of "capital" that can be human, social and territorial, considering the heritage of relations, innovations, methods and tools, that are at the core of Interreg.

The first part of the meeting aimed at taking out the best of the very first capitalisation experiences from 2007-2013 programmes:

- Programmes' capitalisation processes need to be structured and integrated from the start of the programming period,
- There is a real need for an effective re-use of thematic knowledge generated by projects and programmes,
- Programmes need more support for a better result orientation,
- Capitalisation is more effective when other stakeholders, other than usual projects or programmes practitioners, are involved.



European Regional Development Fund



Understanding and expectations of Interreg programmes

Understanding of the concept of capitalisation represents the first challenge for all programmes willing to explore this kind of approaches. It is true that there are several ideas and concepts, but the application to Interreg programmes, especially in the previous programming period, proved that:

- 1. Capitalisation is about gathering, organising and building upon existing programme and projects results, within specific fields.
- 2. Capitalisation could concern data about the implementation of programmes, projects, impacts and methods used in order to make this knowledge generated by Interreg (capital) more accessible and usable for other programmes, projects or stakeholder groups.
- 3. Capitalisation (of results) looks into specific results in thematic fields in order to get new and improved oness, to boost performance, delivery and to multiply the effects of achievements delivered.

As a confirmation of the different aims that a capitalisation process could serve, participants expressed what their programmes aim for capitalisation:

- Gathering knowledge and results => analysis (projects) 35%
- Promotion and dissemination of results *32%*
- Re-use of results (validation/follow-up, effects) 19%
- Influence policies link with public decisions, modifying legislations 14%

Points of view on importance and experiences of capitalisation

European Commission: capitalisation is to turn the information into knowledge to improve policies Furthermore, from the EC side, the objective of capitalisation is to show what Interreg does and to justify what are the needs in terms of European territorial cooperation. One crucial question that should lead the use of the practice of capitalisation is: how to develop the capitalisation process in a consistent way across Europe? For sure, the implementation of a new capitalisation process should take into consideration the experience gained by the four pan-European programmes, even though they have different backgrounds, scopes and needs.

Overview of on-going capitalisation practices

Practices	Key features and first lessons learnt				
National capitalisation in France	 Initiative for the identification, analysis and valorisation of the outcomes of the capitalisation processes of ETC projects and ETC programmes Scope of capitalisation: 21 ETC programmes involving France Objectives: 1) Improve the visibility of ETC outcomes and results; 2) Use ETC as a means for the improvement of public policies Two axes for the analysis of the capitalisation approach of the ETC programmes : a) effectiveness analysis ; b) usefulness analysis Expected output: A general panorama of the capitalisation processes highlighting: the types of objectives, the means dedicated, the outcomes / results A global judgment on the production and on the means for transferring towards new contexts A global judgment on the usefulness of ETC capitalisation for the sake of the "mainstream" programmes (Investment for growth and jobs goal) See presentation: http://www.interact-eu.net/download/file/fid/7088 				
Interreg Med	 Based on first initial capitalisation activities during the 2007-2013 period. Importance of the <i>on-going</i> evaluation. A lot of work done at internal level to reshuffle the capitalisation strategy with increased incentive to bring projects (naturally) together A totally new programme architecture was put in place for the 2014-2020 period: Individual modular projects' results are transformed into "policy-making material" Horizontal projects provide a support for a better implementation - Partners are not working just in their project but in an integrated and interconnected community Specific priority axis dedicated to capitalisation The ambition is to take the most of the community of projects. Preparation of the programme's mid-term conference in 2018 with one core question: "How individual results for the citizens and the decision- makers? It is a continuous process, not a recipe. 				

Interreg Danube	 Capitalisation is a three and it consists in feeding the roots of the three Experience taken into consideration: 122 projects co-financed as part of the South East Europe programme 2007-2013 Main objectives for 2014-2020: valorise knowledge and fill knowledge gaps by linking actors It is done through the development of 11 thematic poles (TPs), in line with Priority areas of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR); this is a way to streamline activities with the EUSDR TPs have 2 co-leaders: one from a selected project and one from the EUSDR working groups Roadmap created by each pole to identify synergies with similar initiatives in the area, as well as other programmes JS support in terms of communication, coordination and monitoring the TPs Main tools: project webpages within the DTP website: it is useful for monitoring + library in progress
Interreg IPA- CBC Greece- Albania	 Approach of capitalisation: it is about the responsible use/exploitation of outputs and results of previous projects. The core idea is to boost projects with strong capitalisation elements: Two types of actions that will be defined in the following calls: a) In the preparation phase (separate presentations on capitalisation during Info-days) b) Through communication activities (promotion of projects practices) See presentation: https://goo.gl/qibw5j

Q&A – Key points

- According to several ETC programme managers, KEEP has improved and has become much more user-friendly; it is an essential tool for many capitalisation activities
- Link between a transnational programme and the respective EU macro-regional strategy where possible is crucial to reach the decision-makers. Invite also the CBC programmes to establish a link between their programme and the relevant EU macro-regional strategy
- The link between the ETC and mainstream programmes under the "Investment for growth and jobs" goal should be more systematically developed (e.g. mapping of areas where there are more opportunities to create links between the two)
- The long-lasting effects of the projects are rarely evaluated 2 to 3 years after their end. The EC could boost the process of capturing the results and effects after the end of the project with a complemented monitoring system, to better influence the decision-making process
- In most programmes capitalisation is linked to the communication issue, while it should be also content-related because of its focus and its "content" nature

- The capitalisation strategies developed by transnational programmes are not necessarily replicable at CBC scale because of limited number of projects, because of the different focus on equipment and infrastructures that limits the possibility for visible impacts
- Drawing out a capitalisation strategy should ideally come from both the MA/JS and the Monitoring Committee. According to programmes' experiences, it is not possible to do a lot with limited TA budget or specific priorities. It needs the definition of other ways/activities (e.g. horizontal projects and Priority Axis 4 in Interreg MED), as well as the need to take on board the high level decision-making process
- A learning process & a teaching process for potential beneficiaries should be promoted by programmes to raise the consciousness of capitalisation at project level.

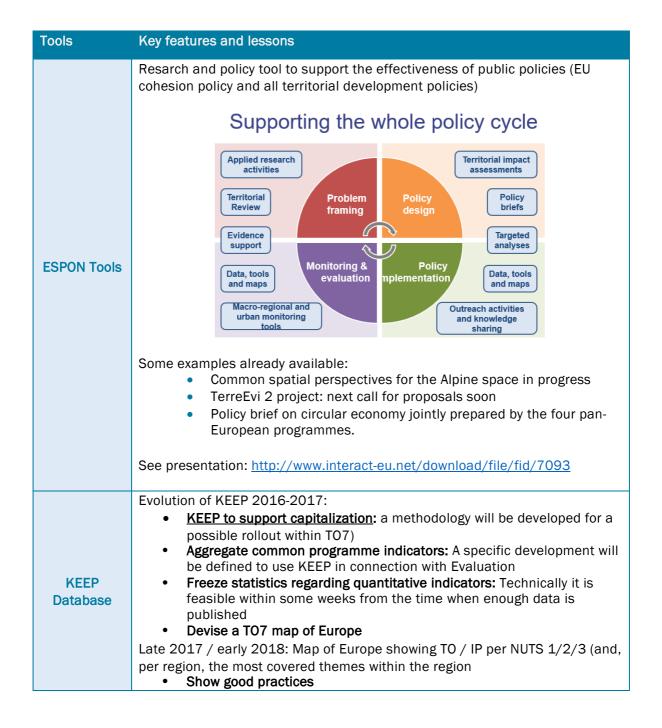


2. Common challenges and tools needed

Capitalisation at Pan-European level: examples from Interregional Programmes:

Programmes	Key features and first lessons learnt
Urbact	 Capitalisation and capacity building programme; its main aim is to improve the capacity of cities to manage sustainable urban policies A tool for capitalisation under Urbact III: transfer networks (transfer a practice from one city to another one) with a two-step approach: Step 1: call for good practices - collect from cities in Europe the way they tackled issues (270 practices received in the 1st call – 50% of these cities were new respect to the previous programme) Step 2: specific call for the identification of "good practice city" wanting to share the experience as a "mentor". What is URBACT capitalisation? Cluster and exploit knowledge coming from networks Both 'bottom-up' and 'programme-led' Upscale URBACT knowledge to the higher policy level Taking account of wider initiatives Effectively categorise knowledge on URBACT.eu to make it a knowledge hub For those who know what they are looking for, and those who don't know what they don't know The situation until now: High quality production under URBACT II capitalisation (2/3 of users, 'used' knowledge) BUT: many didn't know about URBACT products/publications Format chosen for URBACT products was not easy to react to current hot topics Moving from 'publication' of products/document to 'participation' in the definition and drafting
Interreg Europe	 It is a programme for policy-makers with two types of actions: a) interregional cooperation projects, b) policy learning platform There are four policy learning platforms: their main aim is to facilitate continuous policy learning across the EU by creating a community of policy makers & practitioners to improve regional policies Each platform rests on three pillars: 1) community; 2) expertise; 3) knowledge. Key features of this approach: Involve all regions in the Interreg Europe programme, not only project partners. Facilitate peer learning, moving away from top-down pushing and simple analysis of information. Provide well-evidenced and expert-validated good practices, going beyond creating a simple repository.

	 Operate an expert helpdesk to provide tailor-made advice and guide users through the services on offer. Collaborate with other priority platforms in the thematic community who target the same beneficiaries.
	The whole content of the platforms shall be online by October 2017. See presentation: <u>http://www.interact-eu.net/download/file/fid/7097</u>



	 To be used in connection with output repository and library. One possibility: Programmes signal good practices, which become a search criterion in KEEP Provide statistical charts on maps: a specific rollout is currently going to be defined, for a release probably in 2018 See presentation: <u>http://www.interact-eu.net/download/file/fid/7098</u>
The CBC Review – European Commission	 The EC can support the capitalisation process by providing a new set of data/policy solutions available thanks to the Cross-border review launched in September 2015. 1. Focus on legal & administrative obstacles in EU border regions 2. Three pillars: Study on legal and administrative obstacles in EU border regions (2015-2016) - A database of 200+ border obstacles and the solutions provided to overcome them, Stakeholder dialogue – workshops (2015-2016), Public consultation (2015). 3. Communication from the Commission due in September 2017. See presentation: http://www.interact-eu.net/download/file/fid/7096

Q&A – Key points

- Requests for a specific area on the Interact website with good practice in terms of capitalisation
- Recent or totally new ETC programmes, especially at cross-border scale, are conscious that they should catch up at short notice and would like Interact to organise meetings between the beginners and more advanced programmes on capitalisation
- Specific activities should be developed for the CBC programmes because transnational experiences can't be transferred as such to CBC programmes
- Joint activities linking communication and capitalisation have to be encouraged; pure communication and dissemination activities are not sufficient
- CBC can facilitate the link with mainstream and ETC programmes across Europe
- Importance to check the awareness of other stakeholders and to develop specific actions to better identify them to arise their potential interest, in order to influence local and regional policies
- How can we better streamline a capitalisation process? This could be useful for Interreg programmes
- The involvement of externals is important to ensure a demand-driven process and to focus on the choices in terms of thematic poles or clustering of projects

3. Capitalisation activities developed by Interact as of 2017



Challenges (for Interreg programems)	Aims of capitalisation approaches	Interact activities answering to programmes' challenges (examples)			
Thematic concentration and better quality of projects	Gathering	 KEEP Factsheets on capitalisation approaches Capitalisation conference 			
Avoiding double funding	information	 Capitalisation Networks (ICNs): Desk analysis and reports Programmes' peer-to-peer exchanges 			
Focus on results 2014-2020	Providing thematic expertise and	 Capitalisation Networks (ICNs): Desk analysis and reports 			
Lack of thematic expertise	analysis	- Programmes' peer-to-peer exchanges			

Raising awareness and communication	Promotion, transfer and re-use of results	 Synergies with others EU-wide networks (within ICNs) Capitalisation conference CapCom Training Interreg Talks
Influencing policies	Advocacy/influ encing Interreg stakeholders and beyond	 ICNs CapCom Training Interreg Talks

4. How might capitalisation look like post 2020?

This discussion opened some reflection on how capitalisation could serve at the preparation and definition of Interreg post 2020:

- Capitalisation should start at the beginning of the next programming period, as a mandatory element to be recognised,
- Capitalisation could help in developing a centralised platform where all the projects and information could be better exploited and use: KEEP is a good basis that could evolve in this sense,
- An important factor will be the involvement and dialogue with citizens, as essential element beyond the political and technical levels.

5. Final considerations

As farmed fruits, participants expressed their views and considerations:

- Even if capitalisation can't be developed in a uniform way across ETC strands, it has a common important factors: it allows creating a better understanding of what Interreg programmes are doing and it allows generating new synergies and impacts.
- Capitalisation is both linked to communication and to evaluation; it should be reflected in the developed programme management approaches and practices as an important tool for programme implementation and a better communication.
- Capitalisation has a key role in bringing programmes and projects' contents closer to EU citizen's needs.
- One major expectation from programmes is that Interact continues its support to programmes, developing tailored models and services, as well as templates for the definition of the capitalisation strategies.

Find all the presentations, videos and materias of this event HERE: <u>http://www.interact-eu.net/#o=events/lets-practice-capitalisation</u>.



6. Networks' session:

Interreg response to migration challenges

The workshop of the Interreg response to migration challenges started with a presentation on the current state of the art of its implementation: <u>http://www.interact-eu.net/download/file/fid/12096</u>. The main points raised during this workshop are:

- the importance to provide more guidance on the type of actions that Interreg Programmes can implement in this field, especially in line with the proposed Action Plan for EUUA Agenda and its partnership on migrants and refugees;
- the need for a concrete framing and recognition in the legislator framework,
- the need of finding good stories and promote what programmes did
- the need for a study related to the application of small project funds for specific actions in this field,
- sharing more experience from programmes in order to support an action plan of Interreg measures in this field.





As a result of the discussion, the network will plan and organise a specific conference to involve possible beneficiaries and programmes, to discuss together what is possible and could be feasibly done by Interreg; furthermore, this conference will involve, as well, regional actors, programmes' stakeholders and the related institutions at EU level (EC DG EMPL, EU Presidency, etc.).

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Climate Change and Risks Network

The workshop of the Network on Climate Change and risks started with a presentation by Interact on how this topic was tackled in the previous programming period, and how it is structured in the 2014-2020 period: <u>http://www.interact-eu.net/download/file/fid/7091</u>. The results of the Interact Capitalisation survey were also presented. Participants introduced themselves, the programme they represented, and a mapping

Participants introduced themselves, the programme they represented, and a mapping exercise was jointly produced by explaining the axis of interest within TO5 (axis a, axis b, general topics, or other). The result of the mapping is as follows:

	1	ro 5	
(5) Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management	Sa) supporting [] investment for adaptation to climate change;	5b) promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems;	OTHERS
CBC ITALY - FRANCE (Maritime)	CBC SPAIN-FRANCE-ANDORRA (POCTEFA)	CBC GREECE - BULGARIA	IPA CBC BULGARIA SERBIA
CBC HUNGARY CROATIA		CBC SLOVENIA - CROATIA (flood risks)	IPA CBC ROMANIA SERBIA
CBC ITALY - CROATIA		IPA CBC BULGARIA - TURKEY	DANUBE TRANSNATIONAL PROGRAMME (natural resources + ecological corridors)
IPA CBC ITALY ALBANIA MONTENEGRO nvironment protection and risks			
IPA CBC GREECE - ALBANIA			
SUDOE TRANSNATIONAL PROGRAMME			
DANUBE TRANSNATIONAL PROGRAMME			

Once the mapping was completed, the participants produced a **list of topics of their interest**:

- Water management + Floods management
- Fires prevention (at EU level and fire brigades (i.e. in T011)
- Invasive species
- Waste and waste water management
- Adaptation to Climate Change: in agriculture and in people's lives
- Coastal risks management and prevention of risks from the sea.
- Enhancing and protecting biodiversity and natural habitats
- Sustainable use of natural resources
- Protection of forests



- Education and Raising awareness on Climate Change
- Innovative approaches (i.e. communication)
- Links to smart cities
- Twinning and peer-learning
- Horizontal approaches towards Climate Change (growth, health, SMEs, mainstream programmes)

Finally, the participants agreed on a <u>list of issues and expectations</u> to be achieved by this Capitalisation Network:

- Collect common challenges such as:
 - o Best practices
 - o Good examples (including influence on policy-makers)
- Specific knowledge and training on capitalization
 - o Toolkit
 - o Ad-hoc expertise
- Involve real experts in climate change and also people form the ground (i.e Moldavia – prevention of natural resources)
 - How to influence the decision-making process and lobby.
 - Tips on how to influence the political level
 - o Involvement of ministries, MEPs and other political entities
 - o Need to lobby. Information and experiences.
 - How to know scope of projects?
- Create a list of stakeholders per topic and typology (associations, NGOs, private companies, etc..)
- Involvement of some of the projects in Interreg institutions such as beneficiaries that have been working on this topic.
 - Ensure communication on specific topics:
 - o Media
 - Society / local stakeholders
 - o Policy-makers
- Use of hashtags and keywords (to see information from other projects)
- More communication activities in general
- Interact should lead the communication on this topic (i.e events and publications)

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Inclusive Growth Network (TO 8, 9, 10)

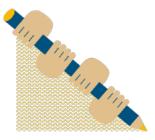
The Inclusive growth network is addressed to the Interreg community, thematic experts, stakeholders and other EU co-funding programmes that are interested in working on several matters, such as employment and self-employment, labour mobility, social inclusion, improving professional skills and lifelong learning. This platform will focus on making available relevant data, facilitating the exchange of practices and gaining knowledge about the current experiences and themes, with the aim to support a common Interreg response to the EU Inclusive Growth policy.

A. Introduction

The Inclusive Growth Network workshop introduced the topic with a presentation by Interact on how this topic was tackled in the previous programming period, and how it is structured in the 2014-2020 period: <u>http://www.interact-eu.net/download/file/fid/7094</u>. The results of the Interact Capitalisation survey were also presented.

B. Objectives of the Inclusive Growth Network.

- 1. To share past experiences
- 2. To identify relevant topics for 2014-2020
- 3. To define needs + expectations
- 4. To agree on commitments, wishes & next steps.



C. Mapping.

While the programmes introduced themselves they mapped their areas of expertise in the previous period as well as areas of interest for the current period.

Inclusive growth TO 8_Employment and Labour Mobility

	Current Experience (2014 - 2020)	Past experience(2007-2013)
	Interreg RO-RS PA1 1-1 employment and labour mobility	
Employment & labour mobility	CBC Upper Rhine employment for handicapped people (trainings, mobility)	CBC Upper Rhine Common trainings in order to make our 3 labour markets match together (very different employment rate)

	CBC BG-EL				
8a) self-employment and	entrepreneurship				
business creation	IPA CBC EL-AL				
8b) employment-friendly growth conversion of declining industrial regions					
8c) local development initiative	es and aid for neighborhood				
services to create new jobs	_				
8d) investing in infrastructure	for public employment services				
8e) ETC-specific CBC: integrating cross-border labour markets, including cross-border motility, joint local employment initiatives and joint training	CBC RO-BG PA4: A skilled and inclusive region → initiatives that activate workforce mobility (?) trainings and educative schemes, networks, job fairs, employment initiatives CBC Upper Rhine SMEs cooperation (economic & juridical barriers) CBC Upper Rhine Employment at very local level				
others	SUDOE : horizontal approach competitiveness of SMEs (employment) environment → cultural heritage initiatives for eco- social development innovation → eco-social development IPA CBC RO-RS PA1 employment promotions and basic services strengthening for an inclusive				





Interreg projects 2007-2013 dealing with TOs 8 , 9 and 10

Inclusive growth TO 9_Social Inclusion and Poverty

Current Experience (20014- 2020)	Past Experience (2007- 2013)
IPA RO-RS	
1-3 social and cultural inclusion	
SI-HR Health accessibility (Slovenia National Authorities)	
IT-SI EGTC/Health cooperation	
CBC EL-BG health – primary and emergency	
eration	
CBC EL-BG Social entrepreneurship Il projects approved	
***************************************	tunities across borders, as
ion across borders	
Horizontal issues IPA CBC RO-RS PA 1 employment promotion and basic services strengthening for inclusive growth	
	2020) IPA RO-RS 1-3 social and cultural inclusion SI-HR Health accessibility (Slovenia National Authorities) IT-SI EGTC/Health cooperation CBC EL-BG health – primary and emergency eration CBC EL-BG Social entrepreneurship Il projects approved ng gender equality and equal opport on across borders Horizontal issues IPA CBC RO-RS PA 1 employment promotion and basic services

Inclusive Growth TO 10_ Education and training

	Current 2020)	Experience	(20014-	Past 2013)	Experience	(2007-
(10) Investing in education, sk	ills and lif	elong learning	g by develo	ping edu	cation and tra	iining
infrastructure						
10 ETC-specific for cross-	IPA CBC	RO-RS				
border cooperation: PA1			IPA-CBC RO-RS			
developing and	1-2 health and social		health & social infrastructure		structure	
implementing joint education	infrastructure		trainin	g in health		
and training schemes	training	training in health				
	PA5: An	efficient				
	entrepreneurship, regional					
	\rightarrow cross	border mecha	anism			

	agreements, networks, studies, policies, strategies, information exchange tool to enhance cooperation capacity through training	
others	IPA CBC RO-RS PA1 employment promotion and basic services strengthening for inclusive growth	

D. Summary:

1. Previous experiences:

- People to people activities (health equipment). CBC IPA EL/AL.
- e-Health projects. CBC RO/SR.
- Common trainings in order to make our 3 labour markets match together (very different employment rate) CBC FR/DE/CH Upper Rhine.

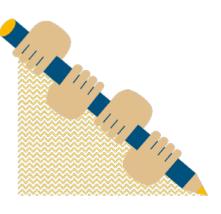
2. Areas of interest for 2014-2020

- Social innovation
- Eco social development
- Employment
- Social cultural inclusion (including minorities)
- Accessibility health cooperation
- Training in health issues
- Training in entrepreneurship
- Training in enhancing cooperation

3. Needs and expectations

- to bring in knowledge of other organizations, such as UN or civil societies
- to exchange methods: focus not only on best practices but also share <u>worst</u> practice, in order to learn from the mistakes
- to organize target group activities (e.g. citizens dialogue or mainstreaming)
- to discuss post-2020 input
- to prepare a policy paper
- to organize a state aid training
- to carry out thematic studies: including both TN and CBC programmes
- Better administration.

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Better Administration Network

The network dealing with TO11 was kicked off at the occasion of this conference. It was attended by more than 10 actors from both cross-border and transnational programmes, as well as government representatives. Interact gave a presentation on institutional capacity and how TO11 is related to the EU2020 Strategy (alignment of funding): <u>http://www.interact-eu.net/download/file/fid/12098</u>.

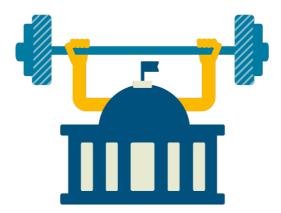
The network identified two main discussion strands, which are

- 1) investment into institutional capacity under TO11 and
- 2) general challenges within the governance of Interreg.

The group discussed specific issues related to capitalisation in the field of institutional capacity, such as how to communicate the results of good projects, how to convince politicians about the added-value of Interreg. Moreover, transnational programmes brought up the dimension of macro-regional strategies. The participants agreed on cooperating in the future and to develop a policy paper with recommendations stemming from the respective capitalisation processes in the programmes. Interact holds **a workshop at the European Week of Cities and Regions on 10 October 2017** related to institutional capacity, with representatives of DG Regio, DG Empl, The Danube Strategy and Danube Transnational programme.

The following topics were addressed by the network:

- Identification of good projects that work and share knowledge about them;
- Synergies with mainstream funds and institutions relevant for the topic outside Interreg (e.g. OECD, World Bank);
- Development of a pool of contacts;
- How to share added value of Interreg to the institutions;
- Discuss the lack of resources to implement projects;
- Discuss the reduction of bureaucracy;
- Connection to the political level that is of particular importance for TO11;
- Support for macro-regional strategies (under T011);
- Connection with EGTCs.





An additional **questionnaire** to further develop the network and identify challenges, needs and opportunities will be sent by Interact by early September 2017.

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